

On Sunday 9 August at the 10am Solemn Mass we will be keeping our celebration of our Parish Feast of Title S. John Vianney.

By the grace of God and by his pastoral zeal S. John Vianney won many souls for Christ. He ministered in the shadow of the anti-clericalism of the French Revolution, a very difficult time to be a Catholic Christian. He also struggled with his studies and found it very difficult to convince the bishop to ordain him. Nevertheless, finally made a priest and sent to the village of Ars, he brought great life and renewal to his parish, so much so that after his canonisation Pope Pius IX declared him Patron of Parish Priests.

In our own day the Church is under much pressure from militant secularism as well as proselytising threats from other religions. Add to this the great damage caused by the present pandemic. There is much work to do! Much rebuilding of our parish communities will be needed when the present restrictions are over; there is an urgent need for sacrificial and spirit-filled mission to announce the good news to a generation that either has not been touched by the Gospel or has for one reason or another rejected the claims of the Church.

Today let us offer our lives and our gifts to the Lord and let us ask once more for the powerful protection and intercession of S. John Vianney as we continue to live out and seek to spread the Good News.

SJV Gift Day

As you know, we cannot this year hold our usual parish BBQ so instead we are holding a Gift Day. You can simply make a stand-alone donation or attach it to the offering of a Mass and/or the burning of the lamp by the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. I have also set up a Shrine of S. John Vianney and you may light candles to burn before his image.

There are four ways in which you can make your donation:

1. Bring your offering to church and place it in the Gift Day basket at the Shrine of S. John Vianney.
2. Post it to us.
3. Make your donation online at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=clayhall – please state ‘Gift Day’ under ‘Fund’
4. By bank transfer to our HSBC account, sort code 40-13-22, account no 41576704.

If you make the donation online or by bank transfer, please let me know that you have done so. If you would like it attached to a Mass, please let me have details.

During the month of August I will offer a Mass for all who have made a donation to this project.

Beirut

Please hold the nation of the Lebanon and in particular the people of Beirut in your prayers after this week’s terrible explosion.

Face covering in Church

This weekend the law has changed *again* meaning face coverings are now a legal requirement in places of worship. So if you have a mask and are not exempt then bring it with you. Please note that celebrants are not required to wear masks in the sanctuary, nor are clergy or anyone else in the congregation responsible for policing this policy. If someone is not wearing a mask respect this and assume they have a good reason.

The circumstances in which a face covering is not required include:

- children under the age of 11
- if you cannot put on, wear or remove a face covering because of illness, impairment or disability
- where putting on, wearing or removing a face covering will cause severe distress
- if you are speaking to or providing assistance to someone who relies on lip reading or facial expressions to communicate
- to avoid harm or injury, or the risk of harm or injury, to yourself or others
- to eat or drink if reasonably necessary
- to take medication.

The full list of exemptions is on our noticeboard and you can also read it [here](#)

The guidance also states that those who are not wearing a face covering should not routinely be asked to give written evidence, this includes exemption cards. No person needs to seek advice or request a letter from a medical professional about their reason for not wearing a face covering. However some people might feel more comfortable showing a card.

FHC and Confirmation

Our children's postponed First Holy Communion Mass will take place on Saturday 5 September at 10.30am,

Our Confirmation Mass will be on Saturday 12 September at 10.30am.

Live Streaming

From a date during the coming week we will finally be able to live stream worship from SJV. The 10am Sunday Solemn Mass and the weekday Masses along with the periods of Eucharistic Adoration will be live streamed to our YouTube channel which you can find either via YouTube or embedded in our parish website at sjv-clayhall.uk. Again many thanks to those who by their generosity have made this possible.