

### SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The lamp in honour of Our Lady is for the intentions of Christina.

The lamp in honour of Saint Joseph is given in thanksgiving from the Musiwa family.

There are still a few weeks available in 2025 for St Joseph's Shrine – see the list in the porch.



Donations of any long-life products are always very welcome and can be left in the church porch. At the moment, the following items are especially needed:

**Tins, bottles or jars of:** meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, custard, jam, honey, marmalade, cooking oil, long-life milk and fruit juice (including low sugar).

**Bags or boxes of:** flour, sugar, cereal, biscuits, tea bags.

**Items for personal hygiene & cleaning products:** deodorant, shower gel, soap, shampoo, toothpaste, washing up liquid, clothes detergent (liquid or similar, not too big).

*Please remember in your prayers*

#### Those who are ill or housebound . . .

Mary Barnard, Jackie Burr, Lesley Carroll, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Ken Hay, Gloria Jackson, Ray Lobendhan, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Stephen Smithers, June and Sue Spelling, Mary Treston, Kate Welcome and Yvonne Wilson.

#### Those who have died recently . . .

**Robert Dick** died on Tuesday 8 October. His body will be brought to the church on Wednesday 15 January at 5 pm and his Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 16 January at 10.30 am followed by burial at St Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone. We continue to keep him and his wife Anne in our prayers.

#### Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

**28 Dec-3 Jan:** Roland Gear, John Breheny, Margaret Eves, Celia Richardson, John Enright, Hannah Culff, Sean Flaherty, Ivor Patrick (Pat) Macgregor, Jane Spencer, Mary Hegarty, Bernard McCarthy, Teresa Cunningham, Ivy Sullivan, Doris Tidey, Josie Allen, Tony Conway, Frances Jay, Daniel Hennessy, Betty Tunkin, Frances Larkin, Patrick Riordan and Ian Moffat.



### MASS INTENTIONS

#### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Saturday 28 Dec : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 29 Dec : 9.00 am Emmanuela Giordmaina RIP (Borg)

11.30 am James Roast RIP (Donohue)

Monday 30 Dec : 9.15 am Thanksgiving (Vettath)

Tuesday 31 Dec : 9.15 am Tony Conway RIP (Margaret)

#### SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

Wednesday 1 Jan : 9.15 am Josephine Walsh RIP (Micallef)

Thursday 2 Jan : 9.15 am Edward Murphy RIP (John)

Friday 3 Jan : 9.15 am Sammut family members RIP (Micallef)

#### SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday 4 Jan : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 5 Jan : 9.00 am Jimmy Peters RIP (Our Lady's Prayer Group)

11.30 am Thanksgiving (Onyuke)

# Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

Lowshoe Lane, Collier Row, Romford, Essex RM5 2AP

#### Parish Priest:

Father Philip Denton

#### to contact Church House:

☎01708-749050 ✉ collierrow@brcdt.org

## Feast of the Holy Family

28-29 December 2024



THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Daily until 6.00 pm

#### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday : 6.30 pm, Sunday : 9.00 am and 11.30 am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Friday : 9.15 am

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday : 5.30 – 6.30 pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday : 6.00-6.30 pm or any other time on request

#### DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Friday : 9.45 am

#### STREAMING

Live and recorded streaming of Mass can be accessed from the Home page of the parish website

#### PARISH WEBSITE

www.corpuschristicollierrow.org

### CHRISTMAS THANKS AND NEW YEAR WISHES

My sincere thanks to you for your generosity to me, personally, this Christmas: your cards, good wishes, gifts and kind offerings; for all of them, I am most grateful. Wishing you a happy New Year and every blessing for 2025 - *Father Philip*

### PARISH AND CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Last weekend your Parish Offerings amounted to £810.97 (£376.00 of this was gift aided). Thank you for your continued support and contributions to our parish. Your generous Christmas Offerings for Father Philip amounted to £5,465.00 (of which £3,270.00 was gift-aided).

### CRIB OFFERINGS

As is our custom in this diocese – our offerings made at the Crib go to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The Crib will remain in place from Christmas Eve until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) on Friday 2 February.

### MASS ON NEW YEAR'S EVE

Tuesday 31 December: 10.45 pm at St Edward the Confessor, Park End Road, Romford.

### MISSIO END OF YEAR – FINAL EMPTYING OF THE RED BOXES IN 2024

Thanks to those who emptied their boxes in the weeks leading up to the end of the year; a further £296.09 was collected, bringing the total for 2024 to £785.31.

### MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

*The Cherry Tree Carol* – a very old ballad, possibly from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, which relates a legendary incident that is said to have occurred while the Virgin Mary, heavily pregnant, was travelling to Bethlehem with Joseph for the census. In the most popular version, the two stop in a cherry orchard, and Mary asks her husband to pick her some cherries. Joseph spitefully tells Mary to get the child's father to pick the cherries. At this point in most versions, the infant Jesus, from the womb, speaks to the tree and commands it to lower a branch down to Mary, which it does. Joseph, witnessing this miracle, immediately repents his harsh words.

## DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2025

The new edition of the Diocesan Directory is available in the porch, priced at £3.20. Packed with information about the Church in Essex and East London, it also includes articles written by newly-ordained clergy and obituaries of the nine priests who have died during the year (eight Diocesan and one Franciscan).

### THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Wednesday is the **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God** - the divine maternity of Mary was proclaimed as a belief and teaching of the Church at the Council of Ephesus in 431; in more recent times, the Second Vatican Council (1962-65) made the meaning explicit: "that Christ should be recognised, in the truest sense, as the Son of God and the Son of Man". Before this feast was inserted into the revised Roman calendar, the first day of the year had been dedicated to the remembrance of the circumcision of the Lord, which took place eight days after his birth, as prescribed by Jewish law.

Thursday is the **Memorial of SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bishops and teachers of the faith** - Basil the Great, a Father of the Greek Church, struggled against the Arian heresy and was the principal monastic legislator of the East. He lived in Cappadocia (in modern Turkey) from 328 to 379. His cult was brought to the West by Greek monks as well as by St Benedict, who was profoundly inspired by 'our holy father Basil'. Gregory grew up in a family of pious Christians, son of the bishop of Nazianzus (also in Cappadocia). A lifelong friend of St Basil, he joined him in the struggle against Arianism. One of the fathers of the Greek Church, he was already bishop of Nazianzus when the Emperor Theodosius sent him to Constantinople to bring that city back to orthodoxy. Greeted with stones, he eventually succeeded.

### ISLAM STUDY DAY

In 2025 we mark sixty years since the promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*, the inter-faith document of Vatican II. We are delighted to welcome Sidra Naeem, distinguished teacher and chair of Havering Interfaith, who will speak about Islam. The talk will take place on Saturday 18 January 2025 from 11.00 in the hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, in Gidea Park. The talk will also be available by livestream free of charge at [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and will be available subsequently on the same website. Please bring a packed lunch. Coffee available from 10.30. Do join us.

### BISHOP'S VISIT AND THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Bishop Alan will be visiting our parish on Sunday 6 July 2025; during the Visit he will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for any young people in Year 11 (or older). Information about the programme of preparation will be available soon after Christmas; look out for the announcement in the newsletter.

### BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Come along to find comfort, support and understanding at our welcoming and informal bereavement support group. Sheila Delander and Liz Hill will lead the group. We invite you to join us as we navigate through grief together. Meetings are scheduled for the first Wednesday of every month at 2pm in St. Anthony's Hall at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill. All are welcome. Tea/Coffee and Cake will be provided.

### TONY MOORE'S AWAKE in the Collier Row Catholic Club

Friday 3 January 2025 – arrive by 8 pm – show begins at 8.30 pm. Advance tickets available from the Bar: £5.00, on the door: £7.00

### FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCIES

Vacancies for Foundation Governors have arisen at a number of Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interest are being sought from practising, committed Catholics for this ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Our schools would benefit from people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration. Anyone interested in the role and mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience.

Appropriate training is available during the period of service. If you are interested in becoming Foundation Governor, please email your expression of interest to: [governanceappointments@brcdt.org](mailto:governanceappointments@brcdt.org)

### ROME & ASSISI OCTOBER 2025

St Joseph's Upminster is organising a pilgrimage for the Jubilee Year, departing Sunday 26 October 2025 for 5 nights. For more information, brochure and booking form please visit [https://www.tailored-travel.co.uk/stjosephs\\_rome\\_2025](https://www.tailored-travel.co.uk/stjosephs_rome_2025) To book, please print and complete the booking form and return to Rome Pilgrimage, St Joseph's Presbytery, Champion Road, Upminster RM14 2SY, with your deposit (payable to the agent) as soon as possible.

### WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 2025/2026

Applications are now open for the volunteer retreat team at Walsingham House. If you are in Yr13 or finishing university and enjoy working with young people, then a year on the retreat team could be the perfect next step. Live and work as part of a young Catholic Christian community, sharing your faith and helping to run retreats for the young people of Brentwood diocese. See the website for more information: [www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/](http://www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/) or email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)

### COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CAMP NEXT SUMMER?

Applications are now open for anyone aged 17+ to volunteer for a week at the end of July 2025. From helping in the kitchen to running sports and other activities, your skills will mean that 100 children have a wonderful holiday. For most of the children, it is their only summer holiday. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Brentwood. More information - including training date and DBS requirements, along with volunteering FAQs - can all be found at [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). Applications for children to come to Camp will open in the spring.

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage next year, led by Bishop Alan, will be from Friday 18 to Friday 25 July 2025. The flights will be Southend to Lourdes. Details, including how to book, will follow.

### MINISTRY ROTA

The Rota is available on the parish website – in the 'Rotas' section.

The newsletter only lists those ministering this week and next. Readers & Communion Ministers should come to church in good time and sign in on the list in the Sacristy.

### READERS

- 1 = First Reading and Responsorial Psalm
- 2 = Second Reading and Gospel Acclamation (at 9.00 am the Acclamation is usually sung by the choir and people).
- 3 = Universal Prayer

28-29 Dec		GROUP 7
6.30 pm	1. 2. Kammalunna Onyekonwu 3.	David Elliott Clare Scott
9.00 am	1. Pat Pridham 2. Adekemi Ogunro 3.	Andrew Green Liz Carthy Susana Gracia
11.30am	1. Ify Okoye 2. Debbie Cullis 3.	Robert Hale
4-5 Jan		GROUP 8
6.30 pm	1. Hanyeolisa Onyekonwu 2. Mick Doolan 3. Jean Capps	Lili Gargiulo Thomas Kim Ayling Liz Lawrence
9.00 am	1. Kim Pritchard 2. Diane McCarthy 3. Roger King	Maria Green Auxilia Rayan Alison Greene
11.30am	1. Onyema Agbebi 2. 3. Oluwajuwon Emmanuel	Nuala Doherty

### SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

Every Wednesday 1 – 3 pm at Tweed Community Hall, Tweed Way, Rise Park RM1 4AZ.

### AFRO-CARIBBEAN SOCIETY

For anyone of African or Caribbean descent; contact: Martha – 07533 340622 or Chi – 07463 247424.

### OUR LADY'S PRAYER GROUP

Monday evenings (except Public Holidays) 7.30-9.00 pm at 10 Norman Close, RM5 3EJ. We pray the rosary together; children over First Communion age also welcome. Contact Eileen Jonas (07442 173956).