

### 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).



*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 (in hospital following a fall), 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 8 January at 5 pm and the Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 9 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.

**Claire McGeary** died on Friday 13 December; her Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Friday 27 December at 12.30 pm followed by the Service of Committal at Forest Park Crematorium. We keep Claire and her husband John in our prayers.

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

**21-27 Dec:** Edward (Eamon) Lynott, Paddy Lehane, Thelma Burbidge, Henry Tunkin, Doris Meanley, Elizabeth (Lilah) Forster, Madge Hayes, Kathleen Murray, Gary Truman, Norman Barnard, Len Burfield, Frederick Ibbunson, Kevin O'Leary, Jack Moir, Roy Brown, Isabel Moyses, Norah Connelly, Annie Hay and Peter Newman.



### MASS INTENTIONS

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 21 Dec : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 22 Dec : 9.00 am Madeline Ritchie RIP (Peters)

11.30 am Brigid Rosewarne RIP (Dalley)

Monday 23 Dec : 9.15 am Dominic Kelly RIP (O'Driscoll)

Tuesday 24 Dec : 9.15 am Norman Barnard RIP (Mary)

#### CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30 pm In Thanksgiving for Blessed Carlo Acutis (Micallef)

10.00 pm Claire McGeary RIP (McGeary family)

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday 25 Dec : 9.00 am John O'Driscoll RIP (O'Driscoll family)

11.30 am Members of Our Parish Community

Thursday 26 Dec : 9.15 am Joseph & Sabina Fernandes RIP (Rose)

Friday 27 Dec : 9.15 am Roland & Alice Gear RIP (Chadwick)

12.30 pm Requiem Mass for Claire McGeary

#### FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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)

# 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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

21-22 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

#### MASSES ON ORDINARY WEEKDAYS

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](http://www.corpuschristicollierrow.org)

## CHRISTMAS AT CORPUS CHRISTI



#### CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30 pm

10.00 pm

#### Tuesday 24 December

Mass of the Vigil

Mass during the Night

#### CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00 am

11.30 am

#### Wednesday 25 December

Mass of the Dawn

Mass of the Day

#### MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

*Ave Maria* – the words of the Hail Mary in Latin, set to music taken from the All-Night Vigil by Rachmaninov.

#### CHRISTMAS POSTERS

As is their tradition, the Knights of St Columba have sent a supply of Christmas Posters for our homes – do take one and display it prominently in your window as an act of Christian witness.

#### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Our Offerings at Christmas are a personal gift to our priest; these form a significant proportion of a parish priest's income for the year ahead. Christmas Offering envelopes, available in the porch. If you are in the Gift Aid scheme, please use your numbered envelope or include it with your offering.

#### 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.

### YOUR OFFERINGS LAST WEEKEND

Parish Offerings last weekend amounted to £1099.73 (£615.80 of this was gift aided). Thank you for your continuing support for the life and ministry of our church and its community.

### 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).

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

Money collected in 2024 has to be paid in to the *Missio* bank account before the end of the year. It would be really helpful if you could take a brown *Missio* envelope from the porch, empty your box into the envelope and return it to the church before Christmas. Thank you to those who have already done so and thank you for your ongoing support for the missions.

### SERVICE OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS in Brentwood Cathedral

on Sunday 22 December at 4pm. This is a most beautiful Service of Music and Readings for Advent and Christmas (lasting about an hour and a quarter) and perhaps the high point of the Cathedral Choir's Choral Year.

### THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Thursday is the **Feast of St Stephen, first martyr** – this deacon's final glorious spoken witness to Christ is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The first martyr of the Church: his last words and death are typical of many martyrs since then. It is worth remembering that the word '*martyr*' means 'witness': in his death, Stephen gave the ultimate witness to Christ.

Friday is the **Feast of St John, apostle and evangelist** – the word 'love' sums up his New Testament writings: God's love for us, our love for him in return, and the love we should have for one another.

### 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

21-22 Dec		GROUP 6
6.30 pm	1. Shantay Charles 2. Eileen Collier 3. Mary O'Driscoll	Caroline Ramstead Kulangara Johnson Sue Butcher
9.00 am	1. Mary Brennan 2. 3. Eileen Jonas	Wally Barnes Alex Hinton Peter Hale
11.30am	1. Michael Chadwick 2. 3.	Margaret Moffat Stephen Doherty
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

### SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The lamp in honour of Our Lady is for members of the Gray family.

The lamp in honour of Saint Joseph is given in memory of John O'Driscoll.

*Bookings for 2025 can be made now – the list of the few dates still available is in the porch, together with the envelopes for donations.*

### 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.