

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Tuesday is the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** – Candlemas Day – we celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, as he enters the Temple. This joyful feast is tinged with sorrow as we recall the words of Simeon to Our Lady: 'a sword will pierce your own soul', foretelling her future sorrows.

Wednesday is the **Diocesan Memorial of St Anne Line, martyr** – born at Dunmow, a convert, she was hanged at Tyburn in 1601 for the crime of harbouring priests. We have a window in her honour, close to the sacristy, the gift of the Catholic Women's League. St Anne was canonised in 1970 as part of that representative group known as the 'Forty Martyrs'. It is important for us to remember that there were many, many thousands of faithful Catholics who died during the penal times – the vast majority during the reign of Elizabeth I ('Good Queen Bess'). Their place in history was covered up by the authorities in their attempt to create the impression that the English wanted to throw off the yoke of Catholicism and eagerly embrace the Protestant Reformation.

Friday is the **Memorial of St Agatha, virgin martyr** – martyred in Sicily, she was much venerated from about the third century. Very little is known for certain about this virgin-martyr – but she has been included in the Roman Canon since the earliest centuries. As she was martyred, her breasts were cut off; in iconography, she is often shown holding them in a dish. She is patron saint of bell ringers.

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill . . .

Neil Abrahams, Isabella Ayres, Mary Brennan, Lesley Carroll, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Eddie Margot, Gary Martindill, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Sue Read, Rose Sheridan, Stephen Smithers, Sue Spelling and Mary Treston.

Those who have died recently . . .

Mary Hegarty died on Wednesday 30 December; we remember Mick and their family in our prayers.

Those whose anniversaries are recalled at this time . . .

30 Jan – 5 Feb: Allison Hughes, Terry Brown, Rose Byott, Father Joseph Burns (*second parish priest of Corpus Christi*), Patrick Sheehan, John Mongan, Teresa Ennis, David Hamilton, Thomas O'Neill, John Kavanagh, John McNamara, Doris Stevens, Josephine Arias, Marie Krysztofek, Luigi Dellamura, Bessie Page, Sheila Chater and Henry Spencer.



MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 30 Jan : 6.30 pm Phyllis Trotman RIP (Butcher)
Sunday 31 Jan : 9.00 am Members of Our Parish Community
11.30 am Joan Baker RIP (New)

Monday 1 Feb : 9.00 am Teresa Ennis RIP (Kim & Nigel)
Tuesday 2 Feb : 9.00 am Norman Barnard RIP (Steward)
Wednesday 3 Feb : 9.00 am Deceased Members of the Sammut Family (Micallef)
Thursday 4 Feb : 9.00 am Peter Smith RIP (Butcher)
Friday 5 Feb : 9.00 am Norman Barnard RIP (O'Driscoll)

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 6 Feb : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community
Sunday 7 Feb : 9.00 am Nora Appleby RIP (Marcia)
11.30 am Stephen & Joyce Chadwick RIP (Michael)

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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

Parish Priest:

Father Philip Denton

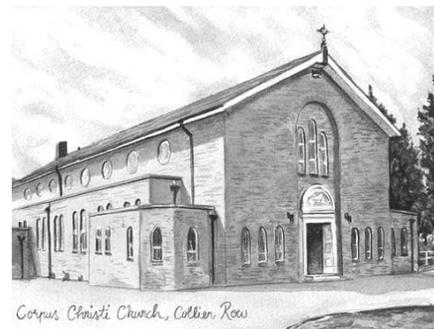
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✉collierrow@dioceseofbrentwood.org

to contact Church House:

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30-31 January 2021



Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday : 9.00 am – 12.00 noon

SUNDAY MASSES

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

MASS DURING THE WEEK

Monday to Friday : 9.00 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

THE CHURCH IS OPEN

every morning for private prayer:

9.00 am to 12 noon.

PARISH WEBSITE

www.corpuschristicollierrow.org

STREAMING

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

PARISH OFFERINGS

The parish offerings last Sunday amounted to £515.92 (of which £234.50 was gift-aided). Thank you for your continued generosity.

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 until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas), which is celebrated on Tuesday.

DONATIONS USING QR CODES

It is now possible to make donations using your mobile phone and QR codes. There are notices in the porch for contributions to the parish and to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (crib offerings).

KEEPING THE CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER – HELP REQUIRED

In order to keep the church open (currently from 9.00 am to 12 noon) we are required to have at least two people on duty as "Church Stewards". The main role is simply to be a presence in the building and to sanitise the places any visitors have sat or knelt. We are grateful to those who are already doing this and for those who, last weekend, volunteered to join the rota. A few more volunteers would be good. If you could commit to giving a set hour every week – have a look at the rota in the porch to see if you could fill one of the gaps. It may be that there are no visitors during your hour on duty; but often people come in to spend time in this sacred place. For yourself - bring a book (possibly religious), say a prayer and enjoy the peace and tranquillity.

SUNG VESPERS – the evening prayer of the Church

Singers from Brentwood Cathedral, under the direction of Andrew Wright, will be here for Sung Vespers on **Friday 12 February at 5.30 pm**. The Service lasts for approximately 30 minutes – do come or watch on livestreaming.

MINISTRY ROTA

You will also find this rota on the website, in the 'Rotas' section.

Readers and Communion Ministers should come to the Sacristy to sign in.

READERS

1 = First Reading and Responsorial Psalm

2 = Second Reading and Gospel Acclamation.

Readers will need to collect a pair of disposable gloves from the Sacristy.

They remove their face covering just before reading and replace it immediately afterwards.

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Communion Ministers will need to sanitise their hands once they have received Holy Communion.

Hand gel is available on the Credence Table.

	Readers	Communion Minister
30-31 Jan		
6.30 pm	1. Sue Butcher 2.	David Elliott
9.00 am	1. Mary Brennan 2. Charles Gallen	Liz Carthy
11.30 am	1. Stephen Doherty 2. Nuala Doherty	Louise Seaton
6-7 Feb		
6.30 pm	1. Frank Smith 2. Mary O'Driscoll	Dylan Scott
9.00 am	1. Maria Green 2. Lisa Walker	Andrew Green
11.30 am	1. Catharine Welcome 2.	Barbara Binder
13-14 Feb		
6.30 pm	1. Vanessa Thompson 2. Jean Capps	Kim Ayling
9.00 am	1. Pat Pridham 2.	Wally Barnes
11.30 am	1. Susan Smithson 2. Onyema Agbebi	Elaine New
20-21 Feb		
6.30 pm	1. 2.	Henrietta Oppong
9.00 am	1. Ken Hay 2. Lorna Lyons	Auxilia Rayan
11.30 am	1. Shirley Hay 2. Triston Osuji	Margaret Moffat
27-28 Feb		
6.30 pm	1. 2. Nicola Charles	Caroline Ramstead
9.00 am	1. 2. Eileen Jonas	Olivia Paton
11.30 am	1. Terence Osuji 2. Michael Chadwick	Victoria Cassettari
6-7 March		
6.30 pm	1. Margaret Smith 2. Eileen Rogan-Hill	Frank Smith
9.00 am	1. Wally Barnes 2. Roger King	Tricia Rogan
11.30 am	1. Carleen Heath 2. Les Hislop	Helene Ward

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

The text below is a further extract from the Apostolic Letter *Patris corde* in which Pope Francis declared this to be a year of special devotion to St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church:

An Obedient Father

As he had done with Mary, God revealed his saving plan to Joseph. He did so by using dreams, which in the Bible and among all ancient peoples, were considered a way for him to make his will known.

Joseph was deeply troubled by Mary's mysterious pregnancy. He did not want to "expose her to public disgrace", so he decided to "dismiss her quietly" (Mt 1:19).

In the first dream, an angel helps him resolve his grave dilemma: "Do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Mt 1:20-21). Joseph's response was immediate: "When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him" (Mt 1:24). Obedience made it possible for him to surmount his difficulties and spare Mary.

In the second dream, the angel tells Joseph: "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him" (Mt 2:13). Joseph did not hesitate to obey, regardless of the hardship involved: "He got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod" (Mt 2:14-15).

In Egypt, Joseph awaited with patient trust the angel's notice that he could safely return home. In a third dream, the angel told him that those who sought to kill the child were dead and ordered him to rise, take the child and his mother, and return to the land of Israel (cf. Mt 2:19-20). Once again, Joseph promptly obeyed. "He got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel" (Mt 2:21).

During the return journey, "when Joseph heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. After being warned in a dream" – now for the fourth time – "he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth" (Mt 2:22-23).

The evangelist Luke, for his part, tells us that Joseph undertook the long and difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered in his family's town of origin in the census of the Emperor Caesar Augustus. There Jesus was born (cf. Lk 2:7) and his birth, like that of every other child, was recorded in the registry of the Empire. Saint Luke is especially concerned to tell us that Jesus' parents observed all the prescriptions of the Law: the rites of the circumcision of Jesus, the purification of Mary after childbirth, the offering of the firstborn to God (cf. 2:21-24).

In every situation, Joseph declared his own "fiat" – like those of Mary at the Annunciation and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.

In his role as the head of a family, Joseph taught Jesus to be obedient to his parents (cf. Lk 2:51), in accordance with God's command (cf. Ex 20:12).

During the hidden years in Nazareth, Jesus learned at the school of Joseph to do the will of the Father. That will was to be his daily food (cf. Jn 4:34). Even at the most difficult moment of his life, in Gethsemane, Jesus chose to do the Father's will rather than his own, becoming "obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). The author of the Letter to the Hebrews thus concludes that Jesus "learned obedience through what he suffered" (5:8).

All this makes it clear that "Saint Joseph was called by God to serve the person and mission of Jesus directly through the exercise of his fatherhood" and that in this way, "he cooperated in the fullness of time in the great mystery of salvation and is truly a minister of salvation."

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of John Mongan.

The light in honour of Saint Joseph is in memory of Father Joseph Burns.

The light in honour of Our Lady has been generously supported by donations for the whole of 2021. If you would like to help with the upkeep of the light in the Chapel of Saint Joseph; envelopes are available in the church porch.