

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES 2023

Applications are now open for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 23rd – 30th July 2023! The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage to assist the elderly and infirm, and for those travelling with the BCYS, the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, the chance to visit the baths, a trip to a UNESCO World Heritage site, social nights and party as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Open to anyone in school year 10 and above, all information and details on how to apply can be found at www.bcys.net/events/sl23

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

Every Wednesday 1 – 3 pm at Tweed Community Hall, Tweed Way, Rise Park RM1 4AZ. Donation: £5.

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill . . .

Neil Abrahams, Isabella Ayres, Cristiana Bianco, Lesley Carroll, Betty Casey, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Gary Martindill, Maureen Mongan, Marjorie Moores, Helen Murray, Jim Peters, Sue Read, Stephen Smithers, Sue Spelling and Mary Treston.

Those who have died recently . . .

Pat McCarthy died on Tuesday 29 November; his Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Wednesday 21 December at 11.15 am followed by Committal at Forest Park Crematorium.

Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

17-23 Dec: Kath Jukes, Mary McCarthy, Brendan Mallon, Edward (Eamon) Lynott, Paddy Lehane, Thelma Burbidge, Henry Tunkin, Doris Meanley and Elizabeth (Lilah) Forster.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Maurice Joseph.

The light in honour of Saint Joseph is in memory of Timothy O'Driscoll.

Thanks to many generous donations, the shrine lights are being maintained for the whole of this year. A list in the porch gives the few dates that are still available for 2023; envelopes are available in the porch should you wish to contribute to the upkeep of Our Lady's or St Joseph's lights.



MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 17 Dec : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 18 Dec : 9.00 am Violet Duggan RIP (Peter)

11.30 am Gill Hislop RIP (Wilson)

Monday 19 Dec : 9.15 am Patricia Chandler RIP (Smithers)

Tuesday 20 Dec : 9.15 am Diane Duggan RIP (Peter)

12.45 pm Requiem Mass for Kieran Bunyan

Wednesday 21 Dec : 9.15 am Intentions of the Donor

11.15 pm Requiem Mass for Patrick McCarthy

Thursday 22 Dec : 9.15 am John Dobinson RIP (Dolby)

Friday 23 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Saturday 24 Dec : 6.30 pm Norman Barnard RIP (Mary)

10.00 pm Roy Brown RIP (Connie)

Sunday 25 Dec : 9.00 am Dominic Kelly RIP (O'Driscoll)

11.30 am Members of Our Parish Community

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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

Parish Priest:

Father Philip Denton

☎01708-749050 ✉collierrow@dioceseofbrentwood.org

to contact Church House:

Fourth Sunday of Advent

17-18 December 2022



Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row

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

MASS DURING THE WEEK

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday : 9.00 am – 12.00 noon

CHRISTMAS AT CORPUS CHRISTI



CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30 pm

10.00 pm

Saturday 24 December

Vigil Mass

Mass during the Night

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00 am

11.30 am

Sunday 25 December

Mass of the Dawn

Mass of the Day

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last Sunday the Parish Offerings amounted to £677.13 (£331.90 of this was gift aided). In the past month we have received £2849.25 in Standing Orders and £115 via the Card Reader. Thank you for your kind giving.

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. If you are in the Gift Aid scheme, please use your numbered envelope; for everyone else, there are Christmas Offering envelopes, available in the porch.

CHRISTMAS POSTERS

The traditional Christmas Posters, provided by the Knights of St Columba, are available in the porch; do take one to display in the window of your home.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

The 2023 edition of the Diocesan Yearbook is available in the porch, priced £2.95. If you wish to purchase one, please place your payment in the wall safe labelled "Diocesan Directories".

VISIT TO ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

If you have a child born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 – they are due to start school in September 2023. St Patrick's would like you and your child to come and visit our Reception Class. Please call or e-mail the school office to book your place on the visit on Wednesday 11 January at 2.00 pm: 01708-745655 or office@saint-patricks.org.uk *We are looking forward to meeting you and your child.*



PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

The annual diocesan pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Monday 24 – Saturday 29 July. All are welcome, including those of us who need assistance. Details regarding booking and costs will follow soon.

THE COLLIER ROW FOODBANK

Donations of the following would be much appreciated:

items of food in tins or jars: eg meat, fish, vegetables, coffee, fruit, custard, long life milk or fruit juice
items for personal hygiene: deodorant, shower gel, soap, shampoo, toothpaste
cleaning products, especially: washing up liquid, clothes detergent (liquid or similar, not too big)

Pope Francis, *Angelus Address*, St Peter's Square, 22 December 2019

Dear brothers and sisters,

on this fourth and final Sunday of Advent, the Gospel (cf. Mt 1: 18-24) guides us towards Christmas through the experience of Saint Joseph, a figure seemingly in second place, but whose attitude encapsulates all Christian wisdom. He, together with John the Baptist and Mary, is one of the characters whom the liturgy proposes to us for the time of Advent; and of the three he is the most modest. He is one who does not preach, does not speak, but tries to do God's will; and he does it in the style of the Gospel and the Beatitudes. Let us think of: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven" (Mt 5: 3). And Joseph is poor because he lives on what is essential, he works, he lives by his work; it is the poverty typical of those who are aware that they depend on God for everything and place all their trust in Him.

Today's Gospel passage presents a situation that is in human terms embarrassing and conflicting. Joseph and Mary are betrothed; they do not yet live together, but she is expecting a child by the work of God. Joseph, faced with this surprise, is naturally disturbed but, instead of reacting in an impulsive and punitive manner – as was the custom, the law protected him – he seeks a solution that respects the dignity and integrity of his beloved Mary. The Gospel says so: "And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly" (v. 19). Joseph knew that if he denounced his betrothed, he would expose her to serious consequences, even death. He had full faith in Mary, whom he chose as his bride. He does not understand, but he seeks another solution.

This inexplicable circumstance leads him to question their bond; therefore, with great suffering, he decides to detach himself from Mary without creating scandal. But the Angel of the Lord intervenes to tell him that the solution he proposes is not the one desired by God. On the contrary, the Lord opened a new path for him, a path of union, love and happiness, and said to him: "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife. For that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit" (v. 20).

At this point, Joseph trusts God totally, obeys the Angel's words and takes Mary with him. It was precisely this unshakable trust in God that enabled him to accept a humanly difficult and, in a certain sense, incomprehensible situation. Joseph understands, in faith, that the child born in Mary's womb is not his child, but the Son of God, and he, Joseph, will be its guardian, fully assuming its earthly paternity. The example of this gentle and wise man exhorts us to lift up our gaze and push it further. It is a question of recovering the surprising logic of God which, far from small or great calculations, is made up of openness towards new horizons, towards Christ and His Word.

May the Virgin Mary and her chaste husband Joseph help us to listen to Jesus Who comes, and Who asks to be welcomed in our plans and in our choices.

ADVENT SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION

Monday 19 December

Chadwell Heath, St Bede Romford, St Edward

Reconciliation Service at 8.00 pm
 Holy Hour 6.00 to 7.00 pm, Reconciliation Service at 7.00 pm

Tuesday 20 December

Goodmayes, St Cedd Upminster, St Joseph

Reconciliation Service at 7.30 pm
 Reconciliation Service at 7.30 pm

MINISTRY ROTA

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

We have tried to include as many people as possible who were on the rota in 'normal times'. If you have returned to Mass, are not on the rota and would like to be included – please let John know.

As usual, 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 (at 9.00 am the Acclamation is usually sung by the choir and people).

3 = Universal Prayer

17-18 December			D
6.30 pm	1. Carol O'Kane 2. Vanessa Thompson 3. Shantay Charles	Caroline Ramstead	
9.00 am	1. Alex Hinton 2. 3. Pat Pridham	Andrew Green	
11.30 am	1. Terence Osuji 2. Humma Gill 3. Nuala Doherty	Kath Cason	
24-25 December			E
6.30 pm	1. Hanyeolisa Onyekonwu 2. Kim Pritchard 3. Ngozi Obiakonwa	Liz Lawrence	
10.00 pm	1. 2. 3. Mary O'Driscoll		
9.00 am	1. Maria Green 2. Eileen Jonas 3.	Olivia Paton	
11.30 am	1. Oluwajuwon Emmanuel 2. Stephen Doherty 3. Catharine Welcome	Michael Chadwick	
31 December-1 January			A
6.30 pm	1. Ngozi Obiakonwa 2. Gabrielle Gill 3. Margaret Smith	Chantelle Makamba	
9.00 am	1. Charles Gallen 2. Mary Brennan 3.	Alison Greene	
11.30 am	1. Shirley Hay 2. Carleen Heath 3.	Alexandra Burt-Allen	
7-8 January			B
6.30 pm	1. 2. Mick Doolan 3. Sue Butcher	David Elliott	
9.00 am	1. Roger King 2. Wally Barnes 3. Ken Hay	Liz Carthy	
11.30 am	1. Nicole Osuji 2. Triston Osuji 3. Stephen Doherty	Remika Quintus	