

ADVENT CONCERT Sunday 6 December 4pm, and throughout Advent on YouTube

Featuring favourite carols, with music led by Art from Brentwood Cathedral, as well as Gabi, Felishia and Erin from the BCYS and Walsingham House team, along with readings and poems, the concert will be a prayerful and delightful way to journey through Advent. And, of course, you can sing along to your heart's content at home! Free to watch, with donations welcome: money raised will be split between the Trussell Trust, supporting food banks across the Diocese, and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. Full details and links: www.bcys.net/events/adventcarols

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts, CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. While we have the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown here, we can still be good neighbours to our sisters and brothers overseas by giving World Gifts as Christmas presents to family and friends. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let's spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas. Visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

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, including . . .

Mary O'Leary who died on Wednesday 2 December. Her Funeral Service is at Forest Park on Thursday.

Those whose anniversaries are recalled at this time . . .

12-18 Dec: Edith Daley, Peter Welcome, Stanislaw Poniatowski, Hannah Ayers, Margaret Secker, Joe O'Donoghue, Ken Deal, Bernadette Mallon, Ted Repecki, Teresa Noble and Kath Jukes.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of **Our Lady** is in memory of Teresa Noble.

The light in honour of **Saint Joseph** is in memory of Peter Welcome.

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.



MASS INTENTIONS

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 12 Dec : 6.30 pm Peter Welcome RIP (Kate)

Sunday 13 Dec : 9.00 am Members of Our Parish Community

11.30 am Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life (Romford Knights of St Columba)

Monday 14 Dec : 9.00 am Margaret and family (Nigel & Michael)

Tuesday 15 Dec : 9.00 am Fran Sherlock RIP (Pat)

Wednesday 16 Dec : 9.00 am Joseph Duggan RIP (Peter)

Thursday 17 Dec : 9.00 am Larry Dunne RIP (McCabe)

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 19 Dec : 6.30 pm Lilah Forster RIP (Forster family)

Sunday 20 Dec : 9.00 am Maureen & John McCarthy RIP (McCarthy family)

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

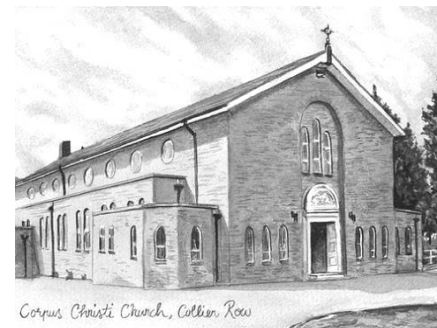
☎01708-749050

✉collierrow@dioceseofbrentwood.org

to contact Church House:

Third Sunday of Advent

12-13 December 2020



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

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Friday : 7.30 pm

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

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

LOCKDOWN LIFTED - BUT

The Tier 2 restrictions state that indoors (in church) "you can only interact with your own households, but outdoors you can interact in groups of up to six".

MASS AT CHRISTMAS – BOOKING REQUIRED

Because of the restrictions placed on us due to the pandemic, Christmas will be somewhat different here this year. **Singing is not allowed indoors;** if you want to sing 'Away in a manger' – you will have to do it outdoors or in the shower. **Seating is severely restricted,** which presents a problem for some of the Masses where, in previous years, attendance has been very high (sometimes 600 or more people). At present we can only accommodate about 150 people at each Mass – so this Christmas you will need to book a place for the Mass of your choice. These will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. We have been permitted to celebrate an additional Vigil Mass this year, with adequate time allowed for sanitising the church between the Masses. There will be five Christmas Masses to choose from; **please note that the Christmas Eve Mass at 4.30 pm is now fully booked.**

Christmas Eve: 4.30 pm Vigil Mass | 6.30 pm Vigil Mass | 10.00 pm Mass during the Night.

Christmas Day: 9.00 am Mass of the Dawn | 11.30 am Mass of the Day.

Booking forms are available from the church after all Masses. They should be completed and returned to the church; your tickets will be available for collection the following day.

CHURCH REPOSITORY - a message from Michael Chadwick

This weekend and next, Christmas cards, Christmas candles, calendars, etc., will be on sale, some at reduced prices. Please note, sale of items can only be made **after** each Mass. It is vital that we continue to remain Covid-safe and therefore you will see that similar items are displayed at both ends of each of two tables at the back of the Church, with a third table in the Porch.

To ensure that everyone remains socially distant, if necessary please go to another table, then take your purchases and pay for them at the Repository cupboard. Please try to have the right money and continue to wear face covering until you leave the Church. Many thanks.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last month's standing orders amounted to £2661.75

SUPPORTERS OF MISSIO – a message from Kate Welcome

Many thanks to all those who have contributed recently to Missio. I appreciate fully the difficult circumstances many of us are in during this most challenging of times. I have been notified by Missio that an end of year total needs to be submitted before Christmas, therefore I must tally and bank contributions you have so kindly made by Friday 18th December. Any monies can be given to me or put in an envelope and posted through the letterbox at the Church House. Alternatively, you may wish to donate by direct debit to Missio. Their contact details are: Missio, 23 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1NU, Telephone 020-7821 97855, redbox@missio.org.uk Missio also accept Mass Intentions. Missio calendars are available at the back of our Church. Please be assured every penny counts towards supporting needy communities in countries such as The Philippines, South Africa and Myanmar. Thank you for your support which demonstrates your kindness and a willingness to continue the work which Jesus began in his own ministry by both prayer and action.

COLLIER ROW FOODBANK

At the moment, the Foodbank could do with these items: Tins of: custard, rice pudding, sponge puddings, fruit, potatoes, fish. Tomato ketchup, instant coffee, teabags, instant mash, long-life fruit juice, dried rice, biscuits, chocolate. Toiletries: toothpaste, toothbrushes, shower gel, deodorant, shampoo. *They have plenty of the following:* pasta, baked beans, soups, cereals.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Monday is the **Memorial of St John of the Cross** – one of the many saints who came forward after the Reformation upheaval. With St Teresa of Avila he renewed the great Carmelite Order. His poems and other writings – spiritual classics – are still widely read.

Pope Francis, Angelus Address, Sunday 17 December 2017

In recent Sundays the liturgy has emphasized what it means to assume an attitude of vigilance and what preparing the way of the Lord entails, concretely. On this Third Sunday of Advent, called the “Sunday of joy”, the liturgy invites us to welcome the spirit with which all this happens, that is, precisely, joy. Saint Paul invites us to prepare for the coming of the Lord, by assuming three attitudes. Listen carefully: three attitudes. First, constant joy; second, steadfast prayer; third, continuous thanksgiving. Constant joy, steadfast prayer and continuous thanksgiving.

The first attitude, constant joy: “Rejoice always” (1 Thess 5:16), Saint Paul says. This means always being joyful, even when things do not go according to our wishes; but there is that profound joy, which is peace: that too is joy; it is within. And peace is a joy “at the ground level”, but it is a joy. Distress, difficulties and suffering pass through each person’s life, we are all familiar with them; and so often the reality that surrounds us seems to be inhospitable and barren, similar to the desert in which the voice of John the Baptist resonated, as today’s Gospel passage recalls (cf. Jn 1:23). But the very words of the Baptist reveal that our joy rests on a certainty, that this desert is inhabited: “among you” — he says — “stands one whom you do not know” (v. 26). It refers to Jesus, the Father’s envoy who comes, as Isaiah stresses, “to bring good tidings to the afflicted; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour” (61:1-2). These words, which Jesus will speak in his discourse at the synagogue of Nazareth (cf. Lk 4:16-19), clarify that his mission in the world consists in the liberation from sin and from the personal and social slavery that it produces. He has come to the earth to restore to mankind the dignity and freedom of the Children of God — which only he can communicate — and thereby to give joy.

The joy which characterizes the awaiting of the Messiah is based on steadfast prayer: this is the second attitude. Saint Paul says: “pray constantly” (1 Thess 5:17). By praying we can enter a stable relationship with God, who is the source of true joy. A Christian’s joy is not bought; it cannot be bought. It comes from faith and from the encounter with Jesus Christ, the reason for our happiness. And when we are rooted in Christ, the closer we are to Jesus, the more we find inner peace, even among everyday contradictions. For this reason a Christian, having

encountered Jesus, cannot be a prophet of misfortune, but a witness and herald of joy. A joy to share with others; an infectious joy that renders the journey of life less toilsome.

The third attitude Paul points to is continuous thanksgiving, which is grateful love towards God. Indeed, he is very generous to us, and we are invited to always recognize his beneficence, his merciful love, his patience and goodness, thus living in unceasing thanksgiving.

Joy, prayer and gratitude are three attitudes that prepare us to experience Christmas in an authentic way. Joy, prayer and gratitude.

MINISTRY ROTA

With a more simplified liturgy, due to restrictions currently in place, each Mass requires just two Readers and one Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Hence the need for a revised, temporary rota, which will frequently be updated.

You will find it on the website, in the ‘Rotas’ section.

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

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.

The first Reader listed will be responsible for the First Reading and Psalm; the second Reader for the Second Reading and leading people in the Gospel Acclamation.

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
12-13 Dec		
6.30 pm	Margaret Smith Eileen Rogan-Hill	Graham Rogan-Hill
9.00 am	Wally Barnes Roger King	Andrew Walker
11.30 am	Carleen Heath Les Hislop	Pat Smithers
19-20 Dec		
6.30 pm	Connor Furniaux Sue Butcher	David Elliott
9.00 am	Mary Brennan Charles Gallen	Liz Carthy
11.30 am	Nuala Doherty Stephen Doherty	Louise Seaton
26-27 Dec		
6.30 pm	Mary O’Driscoll Frank Smith	Carmelina Fulton
9.00 am	Lisa Walker Maria Green	Andy Fay
11.30 am	Attracta Caulfield-Ross Catharine Welcome	Martin O’Regan
2-3 Jan		
6.30 pm	Jean Capps Vanessa Thompson	Caroline Ramstead
9.00 am	Aimee Peters Pat Pridham	Tricia Rogan
11.30 am	Susan Smithson Onyema Agbebi	Barbara Binder
9-10 Jan		
6.30 pm	Kim Pritchard Doug Mongan	Chantelle Makamba
9.00 am	Lorna Lyons Ken Hay	Katie Fernandes
11.30 am	Triston Osuji Shirley Hay	Margaret Moffat

We have been asked by Kevin Cole, the Club Chairman, to include this notice:

The Club will re-open on Wednesday 9 December.

In line with the Government’s requirements the Club will be run as a restaurant. Opening times: Monday to Friday: 7.00 to 10.00 pm | Saturday: 12 noon to 10 pm | Sunday: 12 noon to 9.30 pm