

By joining the people who ask John for the Baptism of conversion, Jesus shares with them the deep desire for inner renewal. And the Holy Spirit, who descends upon him “in bodily form, as a dove” (v. 22), is a sign that with Jesus a new world is being initiated, a ‘new creation’ in which all those who welcome Jesus into their life participate. The words of the Father are also addressed to each of us, that we may be reborn with Christ in Baptism: “Thou art my beloved son; with thee I am well pleased” (v. 22). This Fatherly love, which all of us received on the day of our Baptism, is a flame that was lit in our heart, and needs to be kindled by means of prayer and charity.

The second element emphasized by Luke the Evangelist is that, after his immersion in the people and in the waters of the Jordan, Jesus ‘immerses’ himself in prayer, that is, in communion with the Father. Baptism is the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry, of his mission in the world as the envoy of the Father in order to manifest his goodness and his love for mankind. This mission is fulfilled in constant and perfect union with the Father and with the Holy Spirit. The Church’s mission too, and that of each of us, in order to be faithful and fruitful, is called to ‘graft’ ourselves onto that of Jesus. It means regenerating continually in prayer, evangelization and the apostolate, in order to bear a clear Christian witness not according to human designs, but according to the plan and style of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a propitious opportunity to renew with gratitude and conviction the promises made at our Baptism, by committing ourselves to live in harmony with it daily.

May Jesus, who saved us not for our own merits but in order to realize the immense goodness of the Father, make us merciful toward all. May the Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy, be our guide and our model.

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill . . .

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

Those whose anniversaries are recalled at this time . . .

8-14 Jan: Henry McDermott, Catherine Spurling, Alfred Bines, Tony Eyley, Violet Fordham, Patrick Hunt, Andy Carr, Jeanette Moss, Francis Byrne, Nell Merritt, Chris Rumford, Albert Twomey, Joyce Chadwick and William Hay.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Luke Hedderman.

The light in honour of Saint Joseph is for the intentions of Antony Rajan.

The lights in honour of Our Lady and St Joseph are being generously supported by donations for much of 2022; a list of dates that are still available is in the porch.



MASS INTENTIONS

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday 8 Jan : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 9 Jan : 9.00 am Holy Souls

11.30 am Holy Souls

Monday 10 Jan : 9.15 am Joan & Roy Hope int (Welcome)

Tuesday 11 Jan : 9.15 am Luke Hedderman & Carmen Frendo RIP (Butcher)

Wednesday 12 Jan : 9.15 am Anthony Fernandes RIP (Hilda)

Thursday 13 Jan : 9.15 am Joyce & Stephen Chadwick RIP (Michael)

Friday 14 Jan : 9.15 am Agnes & Logan Kelly RIP (Gray)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 15 Jan : 6.30 pm Fiona Vettath Thanksgiving (Vettath family)

Sunday 16 Jan : 9.00 am John Kelly RIP (Catherine)

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

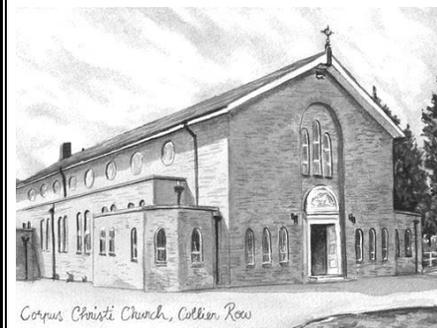
☎01708-749050

✉collierrow@dioceseofbrentwood.org

to contact Church House:

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

8-9 January 2022



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 : 9.15 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

THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Daily until 6.00 pm



EPIPHANYTIDE CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 16 January at 6.30 pm

here at Corpus Christi Church

(led by the choir of St Edward’s, Romford Market Place)

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

If you are not a Catholic Christian and would like to explore the possibility of becoming one – there will be a brief introductory meeting for you on Sunday 23 January at 5.00 pm in the church. The meeting will last for about half an hour and we will explain what it would involve.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last Sunday the Parish Offerings amounted to £955.74 (£608.00 of this was gift aided). Thank you for your generous and continued giving.

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) on Tuesday 2 February.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022

Copies are available in the porch – priced £2.80, please put money in the wall safe.

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.

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY: THE EVOLUTION OF THE MASS

On Saturday 15 January Professor John Morrill will lead a Study Day on 'The Evolution of the Mass', tracing the development of the Eucharistic liturgy from the earliest centuries to the present day. He will explore in particular the teaching of Trent and Vatican II, and the latest papal instructions on the celebration of Mass. To access this free live stream event simply go to www.whatgoodnews.org The event begins at 11.00 GMT and ends by 13.30. No prior registration is needed. To be added to our mailing list, simply follow the instructions on the home page of the website.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTIONS - What is the point of canon law?

These sessions will be given by Fr Gary Dench, assistant priest at Brentwood Cathedral on Sundays 9th and 16th January 4.00 - 5.00 pm. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

THE COLLIER ROW FOODBANK : items of particular use at present . . .

instant coffee • long life milk • tinned custard • tinned carrots, peas, sweetcorn
chocolate & crisps • long life fruit juice
deodorant • shower gel • shampoo
washing up liquid • clothes detergent (liquid or similar, not too big)

Our thanks to all who frequently bring generous donations and leave them in the church porch – your kindness is much appreciated by the volunteers who run the Foodbank and by those people it assists. As a parish community we are grateful to Liz Lawrence, who is responsible for delivering your donations to the Foodbank each week.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Wednesday is the **Memorial of St Aelred of Rievaulx** – born in the north of England in 1109, he became master of the household of King David of Scotland. In 1133 he joined the Cistercian community at Rievaulx in Yorkshire. Soon he was made abbot, first of Revesby, then of Rievaulx itself. Austere with himself, he was, we are told, remarkably gentle with his monks. His ascetical treatises, especially that *On Spiritual Friendship*, are full of charm.

Thursday is the **Memorial of St Hilary**, Bishop and Doctor of the Church: a fourth century bishop of Poitiers; his writings make it quite plain that Jesus is both man and God.

BE PART OF THE WALSHINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 2022/23

If you are 18+ and looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young Catholic Community, working with thousands of young people from Essex and East London. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and are also looking to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge. For more information please contact Joseph Beattie, manager of Walsingham House, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is more information about our work on our website (www.bcys.net) and social media @Brentwoodcys

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS AND YOUTH MINISTRY

The Bishop's Certificate is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. The course is online and taught through engaging, short videos with expert interviews. The course will begin on the evening of 24th February, with an introduction and welcome evening, held at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For more information please see our website: <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/> or email your expression of interest, by Monday 22 February, to bishopscertificate@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

MINISTRY ROTA

The full version of this rota is 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'.

At present, we do not need as many Communion Ministers as Readers – this will only change when it is safe to restore the chalice.

If you have returned to Mass, are not on the rota and would like to be included – please let John know.

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*

3 = *Universal Prayer*

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

8-9 January		
6.30 pm	1. Margaret Smith 2. 3.	Caroline Rmastead
9.00 am	1. Mary Brennan 2. Charles Gallen 3.	Auxilia Rayan
11.30 am	1. Michael Chadwick 2. Shirley Hay 3. Carleen Heath	Adam Beddoe
15-16 January		
6.30 pm	1. Sue Butcher 2. Kerry Truman 3. Mick Doolan	Clare Scott
9.00 am	1. Ken Hay 2. Roger King 3. Wally Barnes	Andrew Green
11.30 am	1. Stephen Doherty 2. 3. Triston Osuji	Barbara Binder
22-23 January		
6.30 pm	1. Mary O'Driscoll 2. Jean Capps 3. Frank Smith	Chantelle Makamba
9.00 am	1. Lisa Walker 2. Maria Green 3. Colin Smith	Olivia Paton
11.30 am	1. Les Hislop 2. Onyema Agbebi 3. Catharine Welcome	Margaret Moffat
29-30 January		
6.30 pm	1. Vanessa Thompson 2. 3.	Dylan Scott
9.00 am	1. Eileen Jonas 2. Alex Hinton 3. Pat Pridham	Alison Greene
11.30 am	1. Nuala Doherty 2. 3. Terence Osuji	Catherine Burnett

Pope Francis, from the *Angelus Address*, St Peter's Square, 13 January 2019

Today, at the conclusion of the Liturgical Season of Christmas, we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. The liturgy calls us to more fully get to know Jesus, whose birth we have just celebrated; and for this reason the Gospel (cf. Lk 3:15-16, 21-22) illustrates two important elements: Jesus' relationship with the people and Jesus' relationship with the Father.

In the narrative of the Baptism, administered to Jesus by John the Baptist in the waters of the Jordan, we see first and foremost the role of the people. Jesus is in the midst of the people. This is not just background scenery, but is an essential component of the event. Before immersing himself in the water, Jesus 'immerses' himself in the crowd; he joins it, fully taking on the human condition, sharing everything, except sin. In his divine holiness, full of grace and mercy, the Son of God became flesh precisely to take upon himself and take away the sin of the world: taking on our miseries, our human condition. Thus today's event is also an epiphany, because by going to have himself baptized by John, in the midst of the repentant people, Jesus manifests the logic and meaning of his mission.