

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).

Donations of **children's toys and clean clothing** (adults and children) are also required – these would need to be taken in person to the Foodbank at The Ascension Church Hall, Collier Row Road on Friday mornings. Please do not leave them in our church porch.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Vincent Harrison. **The light in honour of Saint Joseph** is in memory of Ian Sheridan.

Thanks to generous donors, the lights at the Shrines of Our Lady and St Joseph are being maintained throughout 2023. Dates available in 2024 can be found on a list in the porch.

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill . . .

Isabella Ayres, Francesco Bianco, Michael Brennan, Jackie Burr, Lesley Carroll, Betty Casey, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Gloria Jackson, Maureen Mongan, Marjorie Moores, Helen Murray, Jim Peters, Sue Read, Stephen Smithers, June Spelling, Mary Treston and Yvonne Wilson.

Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

23-29 Sept: Florrie Kemzura, Michael Lyons, Father Ninian McNamara SJ *(former chaplain at The Campion School)*, Josephine Flaherty, Sister Aquinas Frayne *(first headteacher of St Patrick's School)*, Green (Joe) Joseph, Sheila Oxby, Bridget (Barbara) Dobson, Pope John Paul I, Mick Clark, Michael Smith, Bamidele Suleiman, John Rowan, Harry Hopkins, James Kennedy and Ted Lampey.

X

MASS INTENTIONS

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 23 Sept : 6.30 pm Jean Capps int (Connie & Eileen) Sunday 24 Sept : 9.00 am Stephen Taylor RIP & Madeleine James RIP (Barwell) 11.30 am Members of Our Parish Community

Monday 25 Sept : 9.15 am Alice Ragan RIP (Bartlett) Tuesday 26 Sept : 9.15 am Green Joseph RIP (Marie & family) Wednesday 27 Sept : 9.15 am SVP int Thursday 28 Sept : 9.15 am Pam & Les Patterson int (Hay/Pridham) Friday 29 Sept : 9.15 am Tony & Justine Knight RIP (Cast)

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 30 Sept : 6.30 pm In Thanksgiving (Nkem & family) Sunday 1 Oct : 9.00 am David Barwell RIP (Barwell 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 **to contact Church House: ☎**01708-749050 ⊠ collierrow@brcdt.org

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 23-24 September 2023



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

THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER Daily until 6.00 pm PARISH WEBSITE www.corpuschristicollierrow.org

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last weekend your Parish Offerings amounted to £867.89 (£489.45 of this was gift aided). The collection for Evangelii Gaudium Day came to £278.74 (£179.50 of this was gift-aided). Thank you for your continued support and contributions to our parish.

SPIRITUAL AND PASTORAL CARE AT THE QUEEN'S HOSPITAL

If anybody is going into The Queen's Hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or a visit from one of the team, please contact Helen Miranda on 01708 477890. If you want to see a priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) or the Sacrament of the Sick, the ward staff should be able to page the Duty Catholic Chaplain to arrange for him to visit you.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNINGS - raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support FRIDAY 29 SEPTEMBER : 9.20 to 10.20 am

Hosted by St Patrick's School - We would like to invite the Parishioners of Corpus Christi to join us in our fundraising coffee morning at St Patrick's. If you are able to attend, please come through the gate nearest the Church. If the weather is fine, we will be hosting the event in a marquee on our field; otherwise it will be held in our school hall. Looking forward to seeing you there.

From the children and staff at St Patrick's

SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER : 10.00 am to 1.00 pm

Outside the church – tea and coffee, savouries and cakes available. Help needed to set up and serve, also to provide cakes and savouries. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Marianne 07950 634423 or Jean 07591 655635.

LOVE THE STRANGER ~ STUDY DAY AT GIDEA PARK ON 7 OCTOBER

Earlier this year the Bishops of England and Wales produced a document on Migrants and Refugees, entitled 'Love the Stranger: A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees'. Liam Allmark, who works at the Bishops' Conference, will present the document at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) on Saturday 7 October from 11 a.m. Refreshments will be available from 10.30. Ample parking available and local eateries. Five minutes' walk from the Elizabeth Line. This free event is both in-person and live-stream. Please go to www.whatgoodnews.org for details. A recording of the study day will be made available on the website.

BCYS YOUTH GATHER - Sat 21st - Sun 22nd October, at Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island

Open to absolutely anyone in year 9 and above, this is a weekend of outdoor activities (climbing, high ropes, archery, zip wire) as well as prayer, reflection and input from the amazing Adenike, who was a semi-finalist on "The Voice" (many will remember her from Flame in March!) There will be coaches picking up from 6 different locations around the Diocese, and this is included in the cost of the weekend, as well as all food, accommodation, 2 outdoor activities, workshops from Adenike and the SVP and so much more! This is always a popular event, so do ensure to apply for your place now at www.bcys.net/events/yg23

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

CHILD AND FAMILY COUNSELLING SERVICE

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their centre in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Donna Booth dbooth@bccs.org.uk who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child. There is a charge for this service, but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: www.bccs.org.uk

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday is the **Memorial of SS Cosmas & Damian** – these brothers lived in Cilicia, southern Turkey, between the third and fourth centuries. They were doctors who treated the sick without asking for payment, and both died as martyrs during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian. In art, they are always depicted together, with containers of drugs and medical instruments. Patrons of doctors, surgeons, dentists, pharmacists, midwives, barbers and hairdressers; they are invoked against the plague, glandular inflammations, kidney problems, gallstones and distemper.

Wednesday is the **Memorial of St Vincent de Paul** – the SVP honours this saint by bearing his name. St Vincent founded the Vincentian Fathers and, also, shared in founding the world-renowned Sisters of Charity. He died in 1660.

Thursday is the **Memorial of St Wenceslaus** – born in 907 near Prague, he was raised as a Christian by his grandmother and became Duke of Bohemia in 922 at a time of pagan and anti-German reaction. He met this with patience and tolerance but was assassinated in 929 at the door of the church at Stara-Boleslav by his brother Boleslav. He is patron of the Czech Republic. The incidents related in the carol 'Good King Wenceslaus' are fictional.

Friday is the **Feast of SS Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, archangels** – each of these archangels plays an important part in sacred scripture and in the life of the Church. Their names are Hebrew: Michael meaning 'Who is like God?', Gabriel – 'Strength of God' and Raphael – 'The Healing of God'.

Extracts from Pope Francis, Angelus Address, St Peter's Square, 20 September 2020

Today's passage from the Gospel (cf. Mt 20:1-16) recounts the parable of the labourers called to put in a day's work by the owner of the vineyard. Through this narrative, Jesus shows us the surprising way God acts, represented by two of the owner's attitudes: the call and the recompense.

First of all, the call. Five times the owner of the vineyard goes out and calls people to work for him: at six, at nine, at twelve, at three and at five in the afternoon. The image of this owner, who goes out numerous times to look for day labourers for his vineyard, is touching. That owner represents God who calls everyone and calls always, at any hour. Even today, God acts this way: he continues to call anyone, at whatever hour, to invite them to work in his Kingdom. This is God's way, which, in our turn, we are called to receive and to imitate. He does not stay shut in within his world, but "goes out": God always goes out, in search of us; he is not closed up — God goes out. He continually seeks out people, because he does not want anyone to be excluded from his loving plan ...

The owner's second attitude, representing God's, is his way of compensating the workers. How does God pay? The owner agrees to "one denarius" (v. 2) with the first workers he hired in the morning. Instead, to those he

hired later, he says: "Whatever is right I will give you" (v. 4). At the end of the day, the owner of the vineyard orders that everyone be given the same pay, that is, one denarius. Those who had worked since morning are outraged and complain against the owner, but he insists: he wants to give the maximum pay to everyone, even to those who arrived last (vv. 8-15). God always pays the maximum amount: he does not pay halfway. He pays everything. Here we understand that Jesus is not speaking about work and fair wages — that is another problem — but about the Kingdom of God and the goodness of the heavenly Father who goes out continually to invite, and he pays everyone the maximum amount.

In fact, God behaves like this: he does not look at the time and at the results, but at the availability; he looks at the generosity with which we put ourselves at his service. His way of acting is more than just, in the sense that it goes beyond justice and is manifested in Grace. Everything is Grace. Our salvation is Grace. Our holiness is Grace. In giving us Grace, he bestows on us more than what we merit.

| | 23-24 Sept | ember | GROUP 5 |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | 1. Frank Smith | Ngozi Obiakonwu |
| | 6.30 pm | 2. Margaret Smith | Dylan Scott |
| | | 3. | Donna Hector |
| Y | 9.00 am | 1. | Olivia Paton |
| | | 2. Ken Hay | Noel Foley |
| | | 3. | Jacklin De Lima |
| | 11.30am | 1. Carleen Heath | Barbara Binder |
| | | 2. Shirley Hay | Louise Seaton |
| rota, | | 3. Arno Bastiampillai | |
| groups, | 30 Septem | ber-1 October | GROUP 6 |
| tering weeks. | 6.30 pm | 1. Eileen Collier | Kulangara Johnson |
| | | 2. Mary O'Driscoll | Sue Butcher |
| | | 3. Shantay Charles | Caroline Ramstead |
| le on the | | 1. Mary Brennan | Wally Barnes |
| e – | 9.00 am | 2. | Peter Hale |
| ction. | stoo am | 3. Eileen Jonas | Alex Hinton |
| copies ty. 11.3 | | 1. Triston Osuji | Margaret Moffat |
| | 11.30am | 2. Nicole Osuji | Stephen Doherty |
| | 11.500 | 3. Michael Chadwick | |
| | 7.9 Octobe | | GROUP 7 |
| rs and | 7-8 UCLODE | | GROUP / |
| rs and rs should | 7-8 Octobe | | |
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MINISTRY ROTA

On the current rota, you will be in two groups, reading or ministering once every four weeks.

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

There are paper copies in the Sacristy.

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