



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 the church porch here.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of **Our Lady** is in memory of Christopher, Rose & Dominic Kelly.

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

There are still a few dates available in 2024, these can be found on a list in the porch.

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill . . .

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

Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

23-29 Dec: Paddy Lehane, Thelma Burbidge, Henry Tunkin, Doris Meanley, Elizabeth Forster, Madge Hayes, Kathleen Murray, Gary Truman, Norman Barnard, Len Burfield, Frederick Ibbunson, Kevin O'Leary, Jack Moir, Roy Brown, Isabel Moyses, Norah Connelly, Annie Hay, Peter Newman, Roland Gear, John Breheny, Margaret Eves, Celia Richardson, John Enright, Hannah Culff and Sean Flaherty.



MASS INTENTIONS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 23 Dec : 6.30 pm Eileen Collier int (Our Lady's Prayer Group)

Sunday 24 Dec : 9.00 am Dominic Kelly RIP (O'Driscoll)

Sunday 24 Dec : 11.30 am Norman Barnard RIP (Mary)

CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday 24 Dec : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 24 Dec : 10.00 pm John O'Driscoll RIP (O'Driscoll family)

CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday 25 Dec : 9.00 am Members of Our Parish Community

Monday 25 Dec : 11.30 am Winifred & Humphrey Long RIP (Long family)

Tuesday 26 Dec : 9.15 am In Thanksgiving (Vettath family)

Wednesday 27 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

Thursday 28 Dec : 9.15 am Roland & Alice Gear RIP (Chadwick)

Friday 29 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday 30 Dec : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 31 Dec : 9.00 am Tony Conway RIP (Margaret)

11.30 am Edward Murphy RIP (John)

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

Fourth Sunday of Advent

23-24 December 2023



Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row

THE CHURCH IS OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Daily until 6.00 pm

USUAL SUNDAY MASSES

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

USUAL WEEKDAY MASSES

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

Wishing you joy, peace and contentment as we celebrate the Feast of the Lord's Nativity – giving thanks that "the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us".
Father Philip

CHRISTMAS AT CORPUS CHRISTI



CHRISTMAS EVE

6.30 pm

10.00 pm

Sunday 24 December

Mass of the Vigil

Mass during the Night

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.00 am

11.30 am

Monday 25 December

Mass of the Dawn

Mass of the Day

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last weekend your Parish Offerings amounted to £895.23 (£459.00 of this was gift aided). Thank you for your continued support and contributions to our parish.

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. Christmas Offering envelopes, available in the porch. If you are in the Gift Aid scheme, please use your numbered envelope or include it with your offering.

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 Friday 2 February.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024

Copies are available in the church porch, priced at £2.95 – any money for these should be placed in the wall safe – as you leave the church, on the right.

MISSIO RED BOX HOLDERS

As the year draws to a close, please empty your Red Missio Box using a brown envelope (available in the porch), write your name and contact details on it and bring it to the church (best to leave it in the Sacristy – the room where Father prepares for Mass and puts on his vestments).

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Tuesday is the **Feast of St Stephen, first martyr** – this deacon's final glorious spoken witness to Christ is recorded in the Acts of the Apostles. The first martyr of the Church: his last words and death are typical of many martyrs since then. It is worth reminding ourselves that the word *'martyr'* means 'witness': in his death, Stephen gave the ultimate witness to Christ.

Wednesday is the **Feast of St John, apostle and evangelist** – the word 'love' sums up his New Testament writings: God's love for us, our love for him in return, and the love we should have for one another.

Thursday is the **Feast of the Holy Innocents** – the Gospel reading of this day recounts the heart-breaking story of their slaughter on the orders of King Herod.

Friday is the **National Feast of St Thomas of Canterbury** – surely everyone knows how Thomas was murdered by four knights in his own cathedral at Canterbury. Less generally acknowledged is his undoubted personal holiness as a priest, and his care for his people as their archbishop. He is rightfully patron of the parish clergy of England.

DUTCH CHOIR VISITING BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL

We are much looking forward to TRAJECTI VOCES, a Dutch Choir, returning to Brentwood Cathedral on their Christmas Tour of East Anglia. Their Choir of 77 will be performing here on Saturday 30th December at 12 noon. Come and listen to a variety of Festive Choral Music including Rutter, Bach and Willcocks. You are also invited to sing along to well-known and much-loved carols. The Recital will last 45 minutes and parking is available in the Cathedral on the basis of first come first served.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE COLLIER ROW CATHOLIC CLUB

New Year's Eve: Tickets now on sale to members : £10; non-members : £15.

AFRO-CARIBBEAN SOCIETY

We want to encourage everyone who is of African or Caribbean descent to join; our goal is to showcase our cultures and encourage members to attend Mass and church activities. If you would be interested in joining this new venture, contact: Martha – 07533 340622 or Chi – 07463 247424.

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

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.

SAHARA DESERT RETREAT 26 February – 11 March 2024

Including a day visiting Marrakesh and 9 full days in the Desert. With Fr Arnaud and Deacon Vladimir from St Antony's in Forest Gate. Designed for young adults, open to all adults able to hike 4 - 6 hours a day for 9 full days in the desert. £952 (plus flight). www.desert-retreat.com or phone Catherine at 07807 348223.

RETOUVAILLE : A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 8 - 11 February 2024 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 14-16 June 2024, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

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

23-24 December		GROUP 2
6.30 pm	1. Shantay Charles 2. Sue Butcher 3. Eileen Collier	Kulangara Johnson Caroline Ramstead Mary O'Driscoll
9.00 am	1. Alex Hinton 2. Wally Barnes 3.	Peter Hale Eileen Jonas Mary Brennan
11.30am	1. Nicole Osuji 2. Stephen Doherty 3. Triston Osuji	Margaret Moffat Michael Chadwick
30-31 December		GROUP 3
6.30 pm	1, Kammalunna Onyekonwu 2, 3,	David Elliott Maria Smith Clare Scott
9.00 am	1. Maria Greene 2. Adekemi Ogunro 3. Pat Pridham	Susana Gracia Liz Carthy Catharine Welcome
11.30am	1. Ify Okoye 2. Debbie Cullis	Adam Beddoe
6-7 January		GROUP 4
6.30 pm	1. Mick Doolan 2. Hanyeolisa Onyekonwu 3. Lili Gargiulo Thomas	Kim Ayling Liz Lawrence Jean Capps
9.00 am	1. Diane McCarthy 2. 3. Roger King	Kim Pritchard Auxilia Rayan Alison Greene
11.30am	1. Terence Osuji 2. Nuala Doherty 3. Oluwajuwon Emmanuel	Onyema Agbebi Alexandra Burt-Allen
6.30 pm	1. Margaret Smith 2. Frank Smith 3.	Donna Hector Dylan Scott Ngozi Obiakonwu
9.00 am	1. 2. 3.	Noel Foley Jacklin De Lima Olivia Paton
11.30am	1. Shirley Hay 2. 3. Carleen Heath	Louise Seaton Barbara Binder