

OUR LADY'S PRAYER GROUP

Monday evenings (except Public Holidays) 7.30-9.00 pm at 10 Norman Close, RM5 3EJ. We pray the rosary together; children over First Communion age also welcome. Contact Eileen Jonas (07442 173956).

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

AFRO-CARIBBEAN SOCIETY

For anyone of African or Caribbean descent; contact: Martha – 07533 340622 or Chi – 07463 247424.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The lamp in honour of Our Lady is given in memory of Ian Sheridan.

The lamp in honour of Saint Joseph is given in memory of Sister Aquinas Frayne.

A number of people have booked the lights at the shrines of Our Lady or St Joseph for weeks in 2026, often in memory of loved ones or for special occasions. Dates that are still available are listed on a notice in the porch. If you have a particular date in mind and would like to sponsor one of the lights, it would be worth booking it fairly soon.



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).

Please remember in your prayers

Those who are ill or housebound . . .

Jackie Burr, Lesley Carroll, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Alfred Falzon, Gloria Jackson, Ray Lobendhan, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Stephen Smithers, June and Sue Spelling, Mary Treston, Kate Welcome and Yvonne Wilson.

Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

20-26 Sept: Elizabeth Donovan, Clecia Patricia Seeger, Blanche Spring, Bridget Rowan, Ethel Henshaw, Molly Hammersley, Eileen Mulhearn, Nancy Foote, Margaret Campbell, Florrie Kemzura, Michael Lyons, Father Ninian McNamara SJ (*formerly of The Campion School*), Josephine Flaherty, Sister Aquina Frayne (*first Headteacher of St Patrick's*), Green (Joe) Joseph.



MASS INTENTIONS

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 20 Sept : 6.30 pm Jimmie Dillane RIP (Hardy)

Sunday 21 Sept : 9.00 am John Williams RIP (Caroline)

11.30 am Vincent Harrison RIP (Doherty)

Monday 22 Sept : 9.15 am Peter McGoay RIP (Kennedy)

Tuesday 23 Sept : 9.15 am Ian Sheridan RIP (O'Driscoll)

Wednesday 24 Sept : 9.15 am Peter McGoay RIP (Chadwick)

Thursday 25 Sept : 9.15 am SVP int

Friday 26 Sept : 9.15 am Peter McGoay RIP (Lobendhan)

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 27 Sept : 6.30 pm Jackie Anderson RIP (Conneely)

Sunday 28 Sept : 9.00 am Joyce Barnes RIP (Smithers)

11.30 am Thanksgiving (Onyuke)

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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

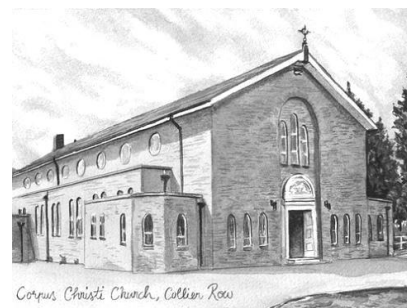
Parish Priest:

Father Philip Denton

to contact Church House:

☎ 01708-749050 ✉ collierrow@brcdt.org

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 20-21 September 2025



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

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

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last weekend your offerings amounted to £1,303.33 (£482.00 of this was gift-aided). The collection for the Catholic Education Service came to £270.84 (£227.70 of which was gift-aided). Thank you for your on-going financial support for the life and ministry of our parish.

SECOND COLLECTION

As you leave Mass today, there is a basket at the back of the church for your donations on Evangelii Gaudium (*The Joy of the Gospel*) Sunday – helping spread the gospel in our land.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING – Sunday 21 September : 10 am – 1.30 pm

Please support our parish event by joining us for "Coffee and Cakes". Donations of cakes, finger foods and goods for a Table Top Sale will all be very welcome – on Saturday evening 20 September or on Sunday morning 21 September. Items for the tombola can be left in the porch or ring Jean on 07591 655635 or Marianne 07950 634423. All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Care.

MISSION TODAY

For Red Box holders and anyone interested in the missionary activity of the Church – the autumn edition of the *Missio* magazine "Mission Today" is available in the porch – do take a copy.

MINISTRY ROTA

Altar Servers, Readers and Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The new rota is available on the parish website (in the Rotas section). The rota covers three months, concluding with the weekend 6-7 December. Paper copies of the complete rota are available in the Sacristy – if you need one, please help yourself.

COLLIER ROW CATHOLIC CLUB – forthcoming events

Friday 26 September Charity Night in aid of "The Indee Rose Trust"

with Gelvis and Russ and their MUSIC BINGO. £10 each. 7pm (tickets available from the bar or on the door).

Friday 3 October

Gary Godmaze as FREDDIE MERCURY. £5 each (tickets available from the bar or on the door).

Saturday 13 December

EXPOSE £5 each - tickets to be ordered on-line (details to follow)

Pope Francis, *Angelus Address*, St Peter's Square, 18 September 2022

The parable in the Gospel of today's liturgy (cf. *Lk* 16:1-13) seems a bit difficult to understand for us. Jesus tells a story about corruption: a dishonest manager who steals, and then after being discovered by his master, acts shrewdly to get out of the situation. We ask ourselves: what is this shrewdness — the one who uses it is corrupt — and what does Jesus want to tell us?

In this story we see how the corrupt manager ends up in trouble because he took advantage of his master's goods. Now he must give an account, and he will lose his job. But he does not give up, he does not resign himself to his fate and does not play the victim. On the contrary, he acts immediately with *shrewdness*, he looks for a solution and is creative. Jesus uses this story as a way to put before us an initial provocation: "The sons of this world", he says, "are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light" (v. 8). It happens, that is, that those who move in darkness, by certain worldly standards, know how to get by even when in trouble, they know how to be more shrewd than others. Instead, Jesus' disciples, namely ourselves, sometimes are asleep or naive, not knowing how to take the initiative to find ways out of difficulties (cf. *Evangelii gaudium*, 24). For example, I am thinking of times of personal or social crisis, but also of ecclesial crisis: sometimes we allow discouragement to overcome us or we start to complain and play the victim. Instead, Jesus says we could also be *clever* in following the Gospel, *awake and attentive* to discern reality and *creative* to find good solutions for us and others.

But there is another teaching that Jesus gives us. Indeed, what is the shrewdness of the manager about? He decides to give a discount to those who are in debt, and so they become his friends and he hopes they can help him when his master fires him. Before, he was accumulating wealth for himself, but now he uses it — in the same way: by stealing — to make friends who can help him in the future. Jesus, thus, gives us a teaching on how we *use material goods*: "Make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous mammon, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal habitations" (v. 9). To inherit eternal life then, there is no need to accumulate goods in this world, but what matters is the love we will have expressed in our fraternal relations. This therefore, is Jesus' invitation: do not use the goods of this world only for yourselves and for your selfishness, but use them to create friendships, to create good relationships, to act with charity, to promote fraternity and to show care for the weakest.

Brothers and sisters, even in our world today there are stories of corruption like the one in the Gospel: dishonest conduct, unfair policies, selfishness that dominates the choices of individuals and institutions, and many other murky situations. But we Christians are not allowed to become discouraged, or worse, to let go of things, remaining indifferent. On the contrary, we are called to be creative in doing good with the prudence and the cleverness of the Gospel, using the goods of this world — not only material but all of the gifts we have received from the Lord — not to enrich ourselves, but to generate fraternal love and social fellowship. This is very important: creating social friendship through our behaviour.

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

A communion motet *Fratres ego enim accepi*, by the Italian composer Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina. This year marks the five hundredth anniversary of his birth in the town of Palestrina near Rome. Much of his life was spent in the service of successive Popes working in St Peter's, the Sistine Chapel, St John Lateran (the Pope's cathedral) and St Mary Major. He died in 1594.

*Fratres eg enim accepi a Domino, quod et tradidi vobis, quoniam Dominus Jesus,
in qua nocte tradebatur, accepit panem: et gratias agens fregit, et dixit:
Accipite et manducate, hoc est corpus meum. Hoc facite in meam commemorationem.*

Brothers, I have received from the Lord that which I handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus,
The same night that he was betrayed took bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said:
Take and eat, this is my body. Do this in memory of me.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

Come along to find comfort, support and understanding at our welcoming and informal bereavement support group; Sheila Delander and Liz Hill will lead the group. We invite you to join us as we navigate through grief together. Our meetings are held at 2 pm on the first Wednesday of the month in St. Anthony's Hall at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill. All are welcome; tea/coffee and cake provided.

VACANCIES IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Headteacher - St Peter's Primary School, Romford Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), 29 Sept 2025

Deputy Headteacher – St Peter's Primary School, Billericay. Deadline for applications: 15:00, Tues 30 Sept 2025

Headteacher - St Mary's Primary School, Hornchurch. Deadline for applications: 17:00, Mon 6 Oct 2025

KS2 Class Teacher and Phase Leader – St Mary's Primary School, Chingford. Deadline for applications: 17:00, Wed 6 Oct 2025

Headteacher – Holy Family Primary School, Benfleet. Deadline for applications: 09:00 Wed 15 Oct 2025

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Tuesday is the **Memorial St Pius of Pietrelcina, priest** – perhaps better known as Padre Pio, Francesco Forgione was born in 1887 at Pietrelcina, northeast Naples. He became a Capuchin friar, choosing the name Pius. Ordained priest in 1910, in 1916 he was transferred to the friary of San Giovanni Rotondo, where he spent the rest of his life. He was active in caring for the needy and revealed gifts as a miracle worker. In 1918 he received the stigmata, a sign of communion with the passion of Christ. He died in 1968 and was canonised in 2002.

Wednesday is the **National Memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham** – in 1061 the Lady Richeldis received a vision of Our Lady, asking her to build a replica of the home of the Holy Family, here in the village of Walsingham. The shrine became known as England's Nazareth and was one of the most frequented places of pilgrimage in medieval Europe. Destroyed at the Reformation, it was restored in the 20th century by both Anglicans and Catholics as a place of devotion to the Mother of God.

Friday is the **Memorial of SS Cosmas and Damian, martyrs** – 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

MINISTRY ROTA

The complete rota is available on the parish website; there are a few paper copies in the Sacristy.

The newsletter only lists those ministering this week and next.

Readers & Communion
Ministers should come to church in good time and sign in on the list in the Sacristy.

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

20-21 September		GROUP 5
6.30 pm	1. Margaret Smith 2. Carleen Heath 3. Frank Smith	Donna Hector Dylan Scott Ngozi Obiakonwa
9.00 am	1. Shirley Hay 2. 3. Andrew Shaw	Noel Foley
11.30am	1. Isabel Hegarty 2. Toke Aina 3.	Pam Hale Louise Seaton Barbara Binder
27-28 September		GROUP 6
6.30 pm	1. Mary O'Driscoll 2. Shantay Charles 3. Eileen Collier	Sue Butcher Kulangara Johnson
9.00 am	1. Eileen Jonas 2. 3. Mary Brennan	Peter Hale Marie Joseph Alex Hinton
11.30am	1. Nicole Osuji 2. Michael Chadwick 3. Triston Osuji	Stephen Doherty Margaret Moffat