

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

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).

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 Ellen Morrissey.

The lamp in honour of Saint Joseph is given in thanksgiving and for the good health of Andre Cardozo.

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.



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: meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, pudding, custard, jam, honey, marmalade, cooking oil, coffee, long-life milk and fruit juice (including low sugar), cooking sauces.

Bags/boxes: flour, sugar, cereals, biscuits, tea bags, instant mashed potato.

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, Alan Clark, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Gloria Jackson, Ray Lobendhan, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Stephen Smithers, June and Sue Spelling, Mary Treston, Kate Welcome and Yvonne Wilson.

Those who have died recently . . .

Alfred Falzon died on Thursday 16 October; his Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Tuesday 11 November at 10.30 am followed by burial at the City of London Cemetery.

Those whose memory we keep at this time . . .

25-31 Oct: Nancy Ripley, Sidney Scott, Maria Da Graca Sobral, Dorothy Cox, Mary Clancy, Maria Quinn, David Kelly, Luigi Bedani, Walter (Wally) Howell and Michael Smerdon.



MASS INTENTIONS

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 25 Oct : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community

Sunday 26 Oct : 9.00 am Nancy Ripley RIP (Cochrane)

11.30 am Eileen Drislane RIP (Michael)

Monday 27 Oct : 9.15 am Pam Fitzpatrick RIP (Mary & Sioban)

Tuesday 28 Oct : 9.15 am John Dolby RIP (Anne)

Wednesday 29 Oct : 9.15 am Thanksgiving for Andre Cardozo (Hilda)

Thursday 30 Oct : 9.15 am Ellen Morrissey RIP (O'Driscoll)

Friday 31 Oct : 9.15 am Hannah Hart RIP (O'Driscoll)

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

Saturday 1 Nov : 6.30 pm Lewis Bennett RIP (Michael)

Sunday 2 Nov : 9.00 am Matilda Fernandes RIP (De Lima)

11.30 am Imo Ita Patterson RIP (McCarthy)

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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

Parish Priest:

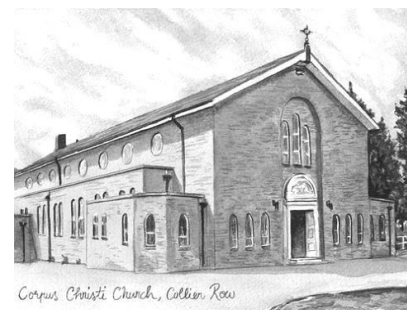
Father Philip Denton

to contact Church House:

☎01708-749050 ✉ collierrow@brcdt.org

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

25-26 October 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

OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

On this, the final Wednesday of October, the Rosary will be prayed in the Chapel of Our Lady at 7 pm.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome Lottie Knight into the Christian community through Holy Baptism; we pray that she and her family will grow daily in the knowledge and love of God.

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Afro-Caribbean members of our community are providing coffee after the 11.30 am Mass this Sunday; do join them if you are able to do so.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last weekend your offerings amounted to £922.43 (£508.00 of this was gift-aided). Thank you for your on-going financial support for the life and ministry of our parish.

WORLD MISSION DAY COLLECTION

The special collection last weekend, on World Mission Sunday, raised £288.10 (£255.00 of this was gift-aided).

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month when we especially remember our dead and their influence on us, the living. We also pray for them and offer Masses for the repose of their souls in the eternal life of God. Our custom here, for many years, is to leave the names of our loved ones before the altar throughout the month. Envelopes for this purpose are available in the porch; please place them in the offertory baskets, put them through the letter box at Church House or hand them in to the sacristy. Any offerings you make will help to provide Masses for the Holy Souls, celebrated during November and throughout the year.

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.

ST ANTHONY DEVOTIONS

at St Mary, Mother of God, Hornchurch on Tuesdays at 7pm followed by Mass at 7.30pm with veneration of a relic of St Anthony.

HARRY CAMBRIDGE IS LUTHER a **Campion charity fundraiser**

This exciting charity evening is to take place at Campion School in Hornchurch on 31 October. Harry Cambridge, well-known for his breathtaking celebration of Luther Vandross, will perform to raise money for charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young) and the James Patterson Memorial Fund, which pays for cardiac testing of students each year. Doors open at 7 pm with a support act at 7.30 pm (some of the school's talented 6th form) and then Luther UK at 8.30. Tickets are £25 which includes five raffle tickets. A full bar will be available. Email: LLuff@thecampionschool.org.uk for tickets.

from the *Angelus Address*, **Pope Francis**, St Peter's Square, 23 October 2022

The Dear brothers and sisters,

The Gospel of today's Liturgy presents us a parable with two protagonists, a pharisee and a publican (cf. *Lk* 18:9-14), that is, a religious man and an avowed sinner. Both of them go up into the Temple to pray, but only the publican truly lifts himself up to God, because he humbly descends within his true self and presents himself as he is, without a mask, with his own poverty. We could say, then, that the parable lies between two movements, expressed by two verbs: *to ascend* and *to descend*.

The first movement is *to ascend*. Indeed, the text begins by saying: "Two people went up into the temple to pray" (v. 10). This aspect recalls many episodes in the Bible, where in order to encounter the Lord, one goes up to the mountain of his presence: Abraham goes up on the mountain to offer the sacrifice; Moses goes up Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments; Jesus goes up the mountain where he is transfigured. To "go up", therefore, expresses the heart's need to detach itself from a dull life in order to go towards the Lord; to lift oneself up from the plateaus of our ego, to ascend towards God, freeing oneself of one's own "I"; to gather what we live in the valley, so as to bring it before the Lord. This is "ascending", and when we pray, we ascend.

But in order to live the encounter with him and be transformed by prayer, to rise up to God, a second movement is necessary: *to descend*. Why? What does this mean? In order to ascend towards him, we must descend within ourselves: to cultivate the sincerity and humility of the heart that give us an honest outlook on our frailties and our inner poverty. Indeed, in humility, we become capable of bringing what we really are to God without pretence: the limitations, the wounds, the sins and the miseries that weigh down our hearts, and [capable] of invoking his mercy so that he may restore us, heal us, and raise us up. It will be he who raises us up, not us. The more we descend with humility, the more God raises us up.

Indeed, the publican in the parable humbly stops at a distance (cf. v. 13) — he does not come close, he is ashamed — he asks for forgiveness, and the Lord raises him up. Instead, the Pharisee exalts himself, self-assured, convinced that he is fine: standing up, he begins to speak with the Lord only of himself, praising himself, listing all the good religious works he does, and disdaining others: "I am not like that person there...". Because this is what spiritual arrogance does. "But father, why are you talking to us about spiritual arrogance?" Because we all run the risk of falling into this trap. It leads you to believe that one is righteous and to judge others. This is spiritual arrogance: "I am fine, I am better than the others: this person does this, that one does that...". And in this way, without realizing it, you adore your own ego and obliterate your God. It revolves around oneself. This is prayer without humility.

Brothers, sisters, the Pharisee and the publican concern us closely. When we think of them, let us look at ourselves: let us confirm whether, in us, as in the Pharisee, there is the intimate presumption of being righteous (cf. v. 9) that leads us to despise others.

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

An anthem by the Welsh-born composer Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656), written while he was master of the choristers at Worcester Cathedral:

Be strong and of a good courage, and observe the commandments of our God
to walk in his ways and keep his ceremonies, testimonies and judgments;
and Almighty God prosper thee whithersoever thou goest.
The Lord is thy ruler, therefore thou shalt want nothing.

SANTA MARTA GROUP WITH CARITAS

All welcome at a Caritas event on "What is Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?" with the Santa Marta Group at St Edward the Confessor Catholic Church Hall, Romford, RM1 4AT on 6 Nov from 6pm to 8pm. Sign up at <https://CARITAS-SM-25.eventbrite.co.uk>

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY - BECOME A TRUSTEE

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is currently seeking new Trustees with expertise in fundraising and marketing to help us expand our reach and strengthen our impact. Your skills and experience could play a vital role in shaping the future for children and young people, ensuring we continue providing essential services to children and families in need. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity or know someone who might be a great fit, please do not hesitate to contact our Director, Bernadette Fisher, at bfisher@bccs.org.uk. She will be delighted to hear from you.

COLLIER ROW CATHOLIC CLUB

Saturday 13 December EXPOSÉ £5 each - tickets to be ordered on-line (details to follow).

HEADTEACHER VACANCIES

Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Benfleet. Closing date 10/11/25 Start date April 2026
<https://assiscatholictrust.com/holy-family-headteacher/>

Our Lady Immaculate School, Chelmsford Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Thursday 20 November 2025

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Tuesday is the **Feast of SS Simon and Jude, apostles** - in the New Testament, Simon is only referred to in the lists of apostles as the 'Zealot'. The traditions concerning his career after the Resurrection are conflicting and nothing is known about his life. In art, he is sometimes depicted as being sawn in half lengthways – presumably the method of his martyrdom. Jude was the brother of James the Less and was, therefore, related to Jesus. One of the letters in the New Testament is attributed to him. The traditions concerning his later life are confused and unreliable, including the one that he was martyred in Persia with Simon; this has led to them sharing their feastday. Jude is the patron of difficult or hopeless cases or problems (read his brief letter in the New Testament - the reason for this will become clear).

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

25-26 October		GROUP 2
6.30 pm	1. Shantay Charles 2. Sue Butcher 3. Eileen Collier	Mary O'Driscoll Kulangara Johnson
9.00 am	1. Alex Hinton 2. Marie Joseph 3.	Mary Brennan Peter Hale Eileen Jonas
11.30am	1. Cairon Kumatia 2. Nicole Osuji 3. Stephen Doherty	Margaret Moffat Michael Chadwick
1-2 November		GROUP 3
6.30 pm	1. Kammalunna Onyekonwu 2. Sienna Spinola 3.	David Elliott Clare Scott Peter Duggan
9.00 am	1. Pat Pridham 2. Adekemi Ogunro 3.	Susana Gracia Andrew Green Liz Carthy
11.30am	1. Ify Okoye 2. Tsitsi Brooks 3. Debbie Cullis	Robert Hale Hilda Fernandes