



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.

CAFOD CHRISTMAS WORLD GIFTS

Do take a copy of CAFOD's World Gifts catalogue – alternative Christmas ideas that capture the true spirit of Christmas giving and will help change, or even transform the lives of people in the developing world or in places experiencing crisis.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Margaret Roche.

The light in honour of Saint Joseph is in memory of Conceisao Fernandes.

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, 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 . . .

2-8 Dec: Doreen Macgregor, Louise Edwards, Mary O'Leary, Jack McCabe, Veronica Thorne, Kerrie Middleton, Anne Kavanagh, Reginald Blake, Malcolm Dudney, Mary Westrop, Michel (Ben) Farruad, Richard Tabram, Frank Parkin, Neil Barron, Eve Fearon, Mary Milano, Alfred Tidey. Stanley Ford, Christopher Pye and Johanna Murphy.



MASS INTENTIONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 2 Dec : 6.30 pm In Thanksgiving (Onyiuke)

Sunday 3 Dec : 9.00 am Members of Our Parish Community
11.30 am Michael Noble RIP (Taylor)

Monday 4 Dec : 9.15 am Margaret Roche RIP (Butcher)

Tuesday 5 Dec : 9.15 am Father Richard Moroney RIP (PACT Northampton)

Wednesday 6 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

Thursday 7 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

Friday 8 Dec : 9.15 am Holy Souls

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 9 Dec : 6.30 pm Kathleen Nee RIP (Conneely)

Sunday 10 Dec : 9.00 am Chris Pye & Ed Corcoran RIP (Pye)

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

First Sunday of Advent 2-3 December 2023



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

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

RETIRING COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

After all Masses next weekend members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVP) will be taking up a retiring collection to help those in need in our Parish. During this cost of living crisis every donation, however small, will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE ~ Wednesday 13 December at 7.00 pm

We prepare for Christmas with our annual Liturgy of Forgiveness and Reconciliation: a Liturgy of the Word followed by the opportunity for simple individual confession and absolution.

PARISH OFFERINGS

Last weekend your Parish Offerings amounted to £788.81 (£393.00 of this was gift aided). The collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service came to £256.77 (£194.87 of this was gift-aided). Thank you for your continued support and contributions to our parish.

CHURCH REPOSITORY

On sale in the church porch: religious Christmas cards, Advent calendars and other calendars all at last year's prices, together with other gifts.

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

The 2024 Missio Calendar is available in the porch – please help yourself to a copy. If your Red Box could do with being emptied, please take a brown envelope (also in the porch), write your name and contact details on it, empty your box into it and return it to the church (best to bring it to the Sacristy – the room where Father prepares for Mass and puts on his vestments).

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Wednesday is the **Solemnity of the Dedication of the Church** – we recall the day in 1979 when our church was dedicated by Bishop Patrick Casey. We give thanks for this building, for those pioneers who had the inspiration and worked so hard to create it and for all who have built up the community that is the People of God, the Church, here at Corpus Christi.

In the Universal Calendar, Wednesday is also the **Memorial of Saint Nicholas** – according to tradition, a fourth century bishop in what is now Turkey. He is still popular in parts of Europe where children receive presents on his feastday. 'Santa Claus' is derived from a form of his name.

Thursday is the **Memorial of St Ambrose** – a fearless defender of the Faith, who became Bishop of Milan in the year 374 and was very much a pastor to his people. He had a great deal to do with the conversion of St Augustine of Hippo – one of the most influential theologians in the history of the Church.

Friday is the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – from the very first moments of her existence in the womb of St Anne, her mother, Our Lady was preserved from the state of Original Sin: she was 'full of grace'. Saint Pope Paul VI wrote that this feast, falling as it does early in Advent, is also the 'basic preparation for the coming of the Saviour, as well as the happy beginning of the Church, without spot or wrinkle'.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE COLLIER ROW CATHOLIC CLUB

Friday 8 December: Freddie Mercury Tribute Night : Tickets £10.

New Year's Eve: Tickets now on sale to members : £10.

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.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE VOLUNTEER RETREAT TEAM

Applications for the Walsingham House at Abbotswick volunteer retreat team are now open. If you are aged between 18-23 and are considering a Gap Year then please consider the Walsingham House Team. The volunteer teamwork with around 5000 young people from across the diocese running retreats for Yr5-Yr13 students. For more information please see our website: <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

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.

VACANCY : INTERIM CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE NEW ROMFORD PARISH CENTRE

The role of Interim Parish Centre Co-ordinator is essential to help the smooth beginning and running of the new facilities, for the first year of operation. Hours: 7 hours per week. (Including some unsociable hours) (Note: There is potential for the number of hours to grow during the year). Start Date: January 2024. Salary-£11.95 per hour. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to rdominic@brcdt.org Closing date for applications is noon on 8th December 2023

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

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

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

2-3 December		GROUP 7
6.30 pm	1. 2. Kammaluuna Onyekonwu 3.	Clare Scott Maria Smith David Elliott
9.00 am	1. Pat Pridham 2. Adekemi Ogunro 3. Catharine Welcome	Liz Carthy Susana Gracia Maria Green
11.30am	1. Ify Okoye 2. 3.	Adam Beddoe
9-10 December		GROUP 8
6.30 pm	1. Hanyeolisa Onyekonwu 2. Jean Capps 3. Mick Doolan	Liz Lawrence Lili Gargiulo Thomas Kim Ayling
9.00 am	1. Diane McCarthy 2. 3. Kim Pritchard	Auxilia Rayan Roger King Alison Greene
11.30am	1. Onyema Agbebi 2. Oluwajuwon Emmanuel 3. Terence Osuji	Alexandra Burt-Allen Nuala Doherty
16-17 December		GROUP 1
6.30 pm	1. Margaret Smith 2. Ngozi Obiakonwa 3.	Donna Hector Frank Smith Dylan Scott
9.00 am	1. 2. 3.	Jacklin De Lima Noel Foley Olivia Paton
11.30am	1. Shirley Hay 2. Debbie Cullis 3. Carleen Heath	Louise Seaton Barbara Binder
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