



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.

SINGING FOR THE BRAIN

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

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The light in honour of **Our Lady** is in memory of Edith O'Dell.

The light in honour of **Saint Joseph** is for all the members of our parish community.

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 or housebound . . .

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 . . .

6-12 Jan: Tony McCartan, Terry Harrington, Valerie Hammond, David Hart, Derek Wilson, John Allen, Nora Knight, Henry McDermott, Catherine Spurling, Alfred Bines, Tony Eyley, Violet Fordham, Patrick Hunt, Andy Carr, Jeanette Moss, Francis Byrne and Nell Merritt.



MASS INTENTIONS

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday 6 Jan : 6.30 pm William Doran RIP (Butcher)
 Sunday 7 Jan : 9.00 am Members of Our Parish Community
 11.30 am Bridget & James Casey RIP (Wilson)

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Monday 8 Jan : 9.15 am Pauline Burgess RIP (Chadwick)
 Tuesday 9 Jan : 9.15 am Freda Smyth int
 Wednesday 10 Jan : 9.15 am Freda Smyth int
 Thursday 11 Jan : 9.15 am Luke Hedderman & Carmen Frendo RIP (Butcher)
 Friday 12 Jan : 9.15 am Joyce & Stephen Chadwick RIP (Michael)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 13 Jan : 6.30 pm Members of Our Parish Community
 Sunday 14 Jan : 9.00 am John O'Driscoll RIP (O'Driscoll family)
 11.30 am Agnes & Logan Kelly RIP (Gray)

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

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord 6-7 January 2024



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 Parish Offerings amounted to £776.51 (£382.50 of this was gift aided). Thank you for your continued support and contributions to our parish.

CRIB OFFERINGS

As is the 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.

RETIRING COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

There will be a retiring collection after all Masses next weekend – supporting the work of Pax Christi – the national branch of the international organisation that works to promote peace.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2024 – HURRY WHILE STOCKS LAST!

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 – end of year

If you haven't already done so, please empty your Red *Missio* Box using one of the special brown envelopes (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).

CAITLIN'S CHARITY FUNDRAISER – A BINGO NIGHT WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Caitlin Charles is running in the London Marathon for the National Autistic Society – this fundraising bingo night is being held in the Parish Centre Hall on Friday 26 January: 7.30 for an 8.00 pm start. £10 entry per adult includes one bingo book – more will be available on the night if you wish. The Club bar will be open; fell free to bring your own nibbles. To purchase tickets please message Caitlin: email at caitlincharles3@gmail.com or text on 07398 279039.

A FIRE IN MY HEART - A CONVERSATION WITH BIBLICAL FRIENDS

On Saturday 3 February from 11 am until 2 pm (coffee at 10.30 am), at the church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, will be in conversation with professor Nuria Calduch-Benages, secretary of the Pontifical Biblical

Commission, and Carlos Castillo Mattasoglio, archbishop of Lima, Peru. The event coordinator is Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz, vice-rector of Allen Hall. The speakers will be present in-person, but this free event is also live-streamed on www.whatgoodnews.org. If attending in person please book your place at gideapark@brcd.org. The event is under the auspices of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK

Monday is the **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord** – or Theophany, is the feast day commemorating the baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. Originally the baptism of Christ was celebrated on the Epiphany, which commemorated three 'epiphanies': the coming of the Magi, the baptism of Christ, and the wedding at Cana.

From Tuesday we begin the **Season of Ordinary Time before Lent**; as the Diocesan Calendar explains, this season "does not celebrate any particular aspect of the mysteries of Christ, but rather the mystery of Christ himself in his fullness is recalled, especially on Sundays".

Friday is the **National Memorial of St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot** - born in the north of England in 1109, he became master of the household of King David of Scotland. In 1133 he joined the Cistercian community at Rievaulx in Yorkshire. Soon he was made abbot, first of Revesby, then of Rievaulx itself. Austere with himself, he was, we are told, remarkably gentle with his monks. His ascetical treatises, especially that *On Spiritual Friendship*, are full of charm.

AN EPIPHANY BLESSING FOR THE HOME

The Feast of the Epiphany is usually celebrated on the twelfth day after Christmas, 6th January, which falls on a Saturday this year and is transferred in England & Wales to Saturday evening and Sunday. This short ceremony is a traditional way of marking our homes, with sacred signs and symbols, as we ask God's blessing upon those who live, work or visit throughout the coming year:

All: From the east came the Magi to Bethlehem to adore the Lord; and opening their treasures they offered precious gifts: gold for a great King, incense for the true God, and myrrh as a symbol of His burial.

Using chalk, the following signs are marked upon or above the main door:

20 + C + M + B + 24

All: Lord God, you once used a star to show to all the world that Jesus is your Son. May the light of the star that guided the wise men to his birth, now guide us to recognise him in the epiphanies of the daily experiences of our lives. As we go about our work, our study, our play, keep us in its light and in your love. May all who enter here find your gracious hospitality, for Christ has come to dwell in this house and in these hearts. May Christ bless our home. Amen.

What the signs mean:

*The letters have two meanings. They are the initials of the customary names of the Magi: **C**aspar, **M**elchior and **B**althasar. They are also an acronym for: "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" - "May Christ bless this house". The year (2024) is divided before and after these letters. The crosses represent the blessing and protection of Christ.*

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.

VACANCY AT SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS' SCHOOL

Assistant School Keeper - see details on the porch noticeboard; closing date: Friday 12 January.

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

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
13-14 January		GROUP 5
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
20-21 January		GROUP 6
6.30 pm	1. Mary O'Driscoll 2. Shantay Charles 3. Eileen Collier	Sue Butcher Caroline Ramstead Kulangara Johnson
9.00 am	1. Eileen Jonas 2. Mary Brennan 3.	Peter Hale Wally Barnes Alex Hinton
11.30am	1. Nicole Osuji 2. Michael Chadwick 3. Triston Osuji	Stephen Doherty Margaret Moffat
27-28 January		GROUP 7
6.30 pm	1. Kammalunna Onyekonwu 2. 3.	Maria Smith David Elliott Clare Scott
9.00 am	1. Adekemi Ogunro 2. 3. Pat Pridham	Susana Gracia Maria Green Liz Carthy
11.30am	1. Debbie Cullis 2. Ify Okoye 3.	Adam Beddoe