

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.

SHRINE LIGHTS THIS WEEK

The lamp in honour of Our Lady is given in memory of Vincent Harrison.

The lamp in honour of Saint Joseph is given in memory of Canon Patrick Sammon.

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 . . .

13-19 Sept: Ron Fearn, Lucy Jones, Anthony Saliba, Doreen Sheppard, Tony Carr, Lorraine Shoetan, Kath Bishop, Eileen Brown, George Stride, Vincent Harrison, Canon Patrick Sammon (*former assistant priest at Corpus Christi*), Marie Brown, Douglas Dunn, Eddie Lind, William Hill and Peter Lyons.



MASS INTENTIONS

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Saturday 13 Sept : 6.30 pm Veronica Nolan RIP (Conneely)
Sunday 14 Sept : 9.00 am Thanksgiving for Our Community (Pye)
11.30 am Members of Our Parish Community

Monday 15 Sept : 9.15 am Peter McGoay RIP (Carroll)
Tuesday 16 Sept : 9.15 am Keith Lamb RIP (Jonas)
Wednesday 17 Sept : 9.15 am Peter McGoay RIP (Margot)
Thursday 18 Sept : 9.15 am Ger O'Brien RIP (Butcher)
Friday 19 Sept : 9.15 am Members of Our Parish Community

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)

Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

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

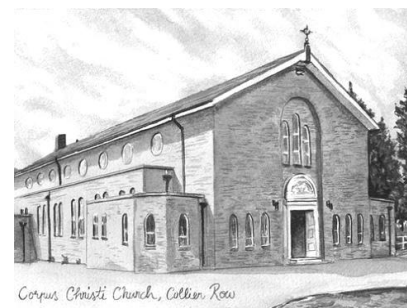
Parish Priest:

Father Philip Denton

to contact Church House:

☎ 01708-749050 ✉ collierrow@brcdt.org

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross 13-14 September 2025



Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row

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 £925.16 (£377.27 of this was gift-aided). Thank you for your on-going financial support for the life and ministry of our parish.

TAX REFUND ON GIFT AIDED DONATIONS

We have received a very welcome refund from His Majesty's Revenue & Customs amounting to £16,225.80. Thanks to all who gift aid their donations to the parish – every £1 you give brings in an extra 25p from the government and, as you can see, over the course of a year it represents a really substantial extra income.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH IN MEMORY OF PETER MCGOAY

At his family's request the collection in memory of Peter McGoay, which was taken following his Requiem Mass, has been given to the parish and came to £493.00. Our thanks to them for this kind gift.

SECOND COLLECTION

As you leave Mass today, there is a basket at the back of the church for donations to help finance the work of the Catholic Education Service as it supports the education departments and schools in the dioceses of England and Wales.

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.

WHAT GOOD NEWS STUDY DAY – Saturday 20 September : 11.00 am to 2.00 pm

"VATICAN II AND ITS POPES" – celebrating sixty years of the Council

The vast majority of Catholics are unaware of the story of Vatican II and its importance. This study day considers the contribution of a series of Popes to the work of the Council. Taking place at the Catholic Church

of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Tea and coffee available from 10.30 am; please bring a packed lunch. A further study day 'From Vatican II to a Synodal Church' will be held on 11 October.

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.

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.

Pope Francis, *Angelus Address*, St Peter's Square, 14 September 2014

On 14 September the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Some non-Christian person might ask: why "exalt" the Cross? We can respond that we do not exalt *any* cross whatsoever or *all* crosses: we exalt *the Cross of Jesus*, because in it God's love for humanity was fully revealed. That's what the Gospel of John reminds us of in today's liturgy: "God so loved the world that He gave his only Son" (3:16). The Father "gave" the Son to save us, and this resulted in the death of Jesus, and his death on the Cross. Why? Why was the Cross necessary? Because of the gravity of the evil which enslaved us. The Cross of Jesus expresses both things: all the negative forces of evil, and all of the gentle omnipotence of God's mercy. The Cross would seem to decree Christ's failure, but in reality it signals His victory. On Calvary, those who mocked him said to him, "If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross" (cf. Mt 27:40). But the opposite was true: it was precisely because Jesus was the Son of God, that He was there, on the Cross, faithful to the end to the loving plan of the Father. And for this very reason God "exalted" Jesus (Phil 2:9), conferring universal kingship on Him.

When we look to the Cross where Jesus was nailed, we contemplate the sign of love, of the infinite love of God for each of us and the source of our salvation. The mercy of God, which embraces the whole world, springs from the Cross. Through the Cross of Christ the Evil One is overcome, death is defeated, life is given to us, hope is restored. This is important: through the Cross of Christ hope is restored to us. The Cross of Jesus is our one true hope! That is why the Church "exalts" the Holy Cross, and why we Christians bless ourselves with the sign of the cross. That is, we don't exalt crosses, but the glorious Cross of Christ, the sign of God's immense love, the sign of our salvation and path toward the Resurrection. This is our hope.

While we contemplate and celebrate the Holy Cross, we think with emotion of so many of our brothers and sisters who are being persecuted and killed because of their faith in Christ. This happens especially wherever religious freedom is still not guaranteed or fully realized. It happens, however, even in countries and areas which, in principle, protect freedom and human rights but where, in practice, believers, and especially Christians, encounter restrictions and discrimination. So today we remember them and pray for them in a special way.

On Calvary, there at the foot of the Cross, was the Virgin Mary (cf. Jn 19:25-27). She is Our Lady of Sorrows, whom we shall celebrate tomorrow in the liturgy. To her I entrust the present and the future of the Church, so that we may all always be able to discover and welcome the message of love and salvation of the Cross of Christ.

CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is looking for people to join our small team of volunteers who visit local schools to inspire children and young people and raise their awareness on issues of global poverty and Catholic social teaching. CAFOD provides full- training and support and welcomes applications from people with a range of experience. For more information contact Chris Driscoll at cdriscoll@cafod.org.uk or call 07776 493 162.

AFRO-CARIBBEAN SOCIETY

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

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

A motet in honour of the Holy Cross, *Nos autem gloriamur*, by the Portuguese composer Frei Manuel Cardoso (c1566-1650); he spent his life as a member of the Carmelite order attached to the Convento do Carmo at Lisbon.

Nos autem gloriamur oportet in cruce Domini nostril Jesu Christi in quo est salus, vita, et resurrectio nostra.

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ – he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Monday is the **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows** – traditionally seven in number, the sorrows begin with Simeon's words to Our Lady in the Temple: 'A sword will pierce your own soul' (Luke 2:35).

Tuesday is the **Memorial of SS Cornelius and Cyprian, martyrs** – Pope Cornelius and Bishop Cyprian lived and died for the Faith in the first half of the third century.

Wednesday is the **Memorial of St Robert Bellarmine, bishop and teacher of the faith** – a leader in the Church's effort to recover from the Reformation, he lived from 1542 to 1621. He was a Jesuit who became Archbishop of Capua in southern Italy, and a Cardinal. His translated writings played a significant part in keeping the knowledge of the Faith alive in England and Wales during penal times.

Friday is the **National Memorial of St Theodore of Canterbury, bishop** – an Asiatic Greek, he was educated at Tarsus, spent some time in Athens and was a monk at Rome. At the age of 66 he was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in the year 666. He is rightly regarded as the second founder (after Augustine) of the See of Canterbury and the first Primate of All England. He visited all parts of the country, consolidated dioceses, promoted learning, opened schools and held the first national council at Hertford in 672. He has a claim to be considered one of the greatest figures in English history.

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

13-14 September		GROUP 4
6.30 pm	1. Hanyeolisa Onyekonwu 2. Lili Gargiulo Thomas 3. Mick Doolan	Kim Ayling Liz Lawrence Jean Capps
9.00 am	1. Roger King 2. Diane McCarthy 3. Maria Green	Kim Pritchard Auxilia Rayan Alison Greene
11.30am	1. Oluwajuwpn Emmanuel 2. Terence Osuji 3. Nuala Doherty	Onyema Agbebi
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

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)