

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 29th July	Ss MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS
5.30pm—6.15pm	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS
6.30pm	James Loudon RIP (Anniv)
Sun 30th July	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR
9.00am	Sam Wingrove RIP (B'day)
11.00am	People of the parish
Mon 31st July	ST IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, PR
9.15am	George Hance RIP (Bemand-Qureshi)
Tues 1st August	ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI, BP, D
9.15am	Mary Fielder RIP. 1st Anniv. (Family)
Wed 2nd August	
9.15am	Private Intentions (Talbot)
12 noon—1pm	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS
Thur 3rd August	
9.15am	Carlos Viera RIP (Carolina)
Frid 4th August	ST JOHN VIANNEY (CURE OF A RS), PR
9.15am	Richard Mahony RIP (Talbot)
Sat 5th August	
5.30pm—6.15pm	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS
6.30pm	Irene Robinson's Intentions (Christine)
Sun 6th August	TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
9.00am	People of the parish
11.00am	Ronald Robinson's Intentions (Christine)

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS:** Saturday evening 5.30-6.15pm and Wednesday 12 noon-1pm. Confessions also available on request when Fr Matthew is available or by appointment.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Mon-Fri 9am-12.30pm (except Wednesdays).

**St Joseph's School** - School office 01708-220277

**Sacred Heart of Mary School** - School office 01708-222660

**Baptisms & weddings** - please speak to Fr Matthew after Mass

**Repository:** Saturdays before & after Mass, and Sundays after the 9am Mass until 10.55am

**Queen's Hospital:** If someone staying in the hospital would like Holy Communion, please contact the lay chaplaincy coordinator Helen Miranda on 01708 477890. In an emergency ask the ward staff to request the on-call Catholic priest via switchboard.

**Facebook:** [stjosephschurchupminster](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephschurchupminster) **Web:** [www.stjosephschurchupminster.com](http://www.stjosephschurchupminster.com)

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE EMERGENCY FIRE EXIT DOORS IN THE CHURCH, AND PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SILENCED BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS**



## St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

[upminster@brcdt.org](mailto:upminster@brcdt.org) / 01708 222432



### PARISH NEWSLETTER

29TH / 30TH JULY 2023

**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A) - Mass Book Pg 49**

(1 Kings 3:5.7-12, Romans 8:28-30, Matthew 13:44-52)

I have been privileged to spend the past week in Lourdes, accompanying the youth service group as part of the diocesan pilgrimage. Today's gospel speaks of a treasure which is worth giving our all to obtain. Not, of course a material or worldly treasure, but something of an entirely different order that can nevertheless be experienced even as we live in that world. Something of that heavenly treasure is visible in Lourdes, a place where we see God's love in action. It is evident in the way each individual person is treated as a person of immense value, no matter how frail or weak. It is evident in the generosity with which people give of themselves to help others, and by learning to see that person as a sister or brother, rather than simply an object of pity, receiving much from them. It is evident in the love of God which permeates everything: for Lourdes is ultimately not about the good we do, but about God's initiative in making his presence felt amongst those the world often prefers to forget about. It is no coincidence that Mary chose to appear to a poor, sickly child, at a rubbish dump on the outskirts of an insignificant village. Everyone is precious to God – and the treasure of his love is to be found in all sorts of places.

When the kingdom of God makes its presence felt in our world, it is something joyful, but it also challenges us to become the people we were made to be: open-hearted and willing to make a gift of ourselves so that we can become more fully alive in him. When we pray 'thy kingdom come' we are not simply asking that the whole world may become more like Lourdes – wonderful though that would be – we are looking forward to a new heaven and new earth where the very best we experience on earth is raised to an unimaginable degree, and we are also praying for a transformation that begins in our hearts, so that we may be ready to live in that kingdom.

August is a time of rest or at least a change of pace for many of us, especially those whose lives are shaped by the school year. It is a chance to reflect on what is important and – especially for the young – to reflect on what God is asking of us. For families, this month can be an opportunity to spend more time together. It is also a time of waiting for those who have just sat public exams, and a time to make plans for the future. In all this let us not forget that we are made for eternity. Jesus calls us to follow him now so that we can life with him for ever, and to help us on this journey he gives his mother to us as our mother, who loves us with a mother's love and never stops praying for us. However much we might be looking for social-media worthy experiences, in our hearts we know that what is most important is our relationships.

We are made for communion, and heaven is place of perfect communion, perfect love. The greatest blessings of this life, including times of rest and relaxation and time spent with friends and family, are a foretaste of the incomparably greater joy that awaits us. I myself will be away for some of this month, enjoying a break with my family as well as a few days on retreat. If you are travelling, then I encourage you to look up local Mass times in advance as part of your holiday preparation, and if attending Mass in another language – a wonderful way of experiencing the universality of our faith – then you may find it helpful to look up the Mass readings for the week on [universalis.com](http://universalis.com). God bless, Fr Matthew.

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**“RECONNECT : REDISCOVER : REJOICE!”** A week focused on living and sharing our faith, led by the Sion Community Mission Team, taking place here at St Joseph’s from Saturday 30th September to Sunday 8th October. There will be a celebratory bring-and-share lunch on the final Sunday. Please take a few invitation cards to help you spread the word and remind you to save the date. More information to come soon.

**CAN YOU HELP?** During the Parish Mission week (see above) we wish to offer a meal every evening. If you would like to help by taking charge of the catering for one evening please contact Simon Darvill on 07909 060653 or [simondarvill99@hotmail.com](mailto:simondarvill99@hotmail.com). There will also be a bring and share parish lunch on the closing Sunday (8<sup>th</sup> October), so even if you can’t cater for an evening the contribution of a dish for the lunch will be appreciated.

**ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC CLUB IS SHUT ON SATURDAYS IN AUGUST:** It remains open on Thursday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Membership for 2023/24 is now due and can be paid at the bar for £10 or online (+£2 admin) here: <https://st-josephs-catholic-club.mailchimpsites.com/store> - Save the date: Saturday 14th October RETRO DISCO with DJ Adam Grace.

**RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Nimmy Henry who died recently and all who mourn. May Nimmy rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

**ST JOSEPH’S KNITTING /CRAFT GROUP:** The next knitting/craft group will be on 14th August 12.30 - 2.30 in the social club. New members welcomed. Yvonne Dickens. Tel. 01708 228087

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:** Michael Coady, Reuben Jack Dodd (Lacey), Emilia Gunn, Deborah & Paul Bussutil, Christopher Noel Ashford, Joan Spoor, Margaret Munnely, Liam O’Byrne, Tom Martin, Maureen Peek, Frances Oskis, Maggie Ollington, Maureen Springham, Joseph Furzer, Martyn Oliver, James Nickelson, Len Rawlings, Stella Rogers, Wenda Cordell, Irene Stubbings, Janet Martin, Tony White, Nora Delor, Maureen Pain, Ian Laidlaw, Julie Cordell, Stella Owen, Patrick Rodgers, Mary Smith, Frank Hamilton, Christine Sejas, Anna Gawlik, Maureen Anderson, Patricia Mylod and Lisa Bostock.

**SVP CHARITY SHOP UPMINSTER:** We are in need donations - anything from clothing, bric-a-brac, electrical items, books, DVD’s, cd’s & toys. All donations very much appreciated.

**LONDON MARATHON 2024** Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the LONDON MARATHON taking place on SUNDAY 21st April 2024. If you are an experienced runner or someone who would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event please contact Damian Dillon for further details on 07912 308000 / [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk).

**WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME:** World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can’t attend the main event, why not join **WYD in London** run by the Religious of the Assumption - a day celebration on **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2023** from 11am-5pm in the church by **Leicester Square**. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. To register a group or individually, fill in the form: [//bit.ly/wydlondon](http://bit.ly/wydlondon)

**YOUNG ADULTS FORMATION:** The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) is offering an opportunity to Catholic men and women aged 18 - 35 to live alongside their community in Norfolk for a week this summer. As well as joining community prayers, meals and activities, young adults will receive formation on topics such *Prayer, Scripture, Discernment and the Spirituality of Walsingham*. There are two choices of dates: 14th - 21st August or 30th August - 6th September. To find out more, please enquire by 31st July by emailing the COLW Sisters at [freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org](mailto:freetobe@walsinghamcommunity.org) *Community of Our Lady of Walsingham, House of the Divine Will, Neatherd Moor, Dereham, Norfolk, NR20 4AZ. Tel. 01362 421442. [www.walsinghamcommunity.org](http://www.walsinghamcommunity.org)*

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS FAYRE:**  
**Stallholders needed for Christmas Craft & Gift Fair:** We are seeking stallholders for their Christmas Craft and Gift Fair being held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on Sunday 5th November from 10.30-4pm. Pitches are £30 and all profits made on the day are the stallholders’ own. For further information please contact Damian: [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk) / 07912 308000.

**HOLY RELICS OF ST COLUMBA, ST MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND ST ANDREW THE APOSTLE VISIT HORNCHURCH:** The Holy Relics are being toured throughout Great Britain by the Knights of St Columba and will visit the parish of St Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch, from Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July, mid-afternoon, until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, leaving late morning. The relics will be available for veneration before Mass on Monday and Tuesday and for ninety minutes after Mass on both days. On Wednesday morning the church will be open from 9am until 11am for veneration, the Holy Relics will then travel to St Anthony of Padua, Forest Gate. We sincerely hope you are able to visit the Relics to venerate and enjoy the amazing peace and serenity that surrounds them. May St Columba, St Margaret of Scotland and St Andrew intercede on your behalf and may your prayers be answered.

**YEAR 13 RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE:** Made for a purpose. Will you be in Yr13 in September 2023? Are you currently making decisions about your next steps? Would you like some time to step back, reflect, pray and think about the different pathways ahead of you? Then if so, the Yr13 retreat at Walsingham House is just the opportunity to do that. There will be two retreats on offer, either 13th-15th Sept or 22nd-24th Sept. The cost is £35 more information at [www.bccs.net/events/](http://www.bccs.net/events/) or email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)

**CATHOLIC LISTENERS:** We are a confidential telephone helpline service set up for those returning Catholics who want to return to the faith and need a safe space to be heard. A Diocese of Westminster initiative, the helpline is staffed by a team of volunteers who are welcoming, friendly, empathic and non-judgemental. The helpline is based on the Landings ethos of compassionate listening. Operating three days a week from 4pm -7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays calls are free to the helpline on 0800 448 0704 or by email at [Catholiclisteners@gmail.com](mailto:Catholiclisteners@gmail.com)