

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK 14/08/23—19/08/23

<b>Monday 14th Aug</b> 9.15am	<b>ST MAXIMILIAN KOLBE, PR, M</b> Richard Mahony RIP (Corrigan)
<b>Tuesday 15th Aug</b> 10am 8pm	<b>THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</b> Barbara Hammond RIP (Reg Hammond) People of the parish
<b>Wednesday 16th Aug</b> 9.15am	Annie & Patrick Doherty RIP (Etchells)
<b>12 noon—1pm</b>	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b>
<b>Thursday 17th Aug</b> 9.15am	Jeanette's Intentions (Upminster Nursing Home)
<b>Friday 18th Aug</b> 9.15am	In Thanksgiving (Rebecca Bedding)
<b>Saturday 19th Aug</b> 5.30pm—6.15pm 6.30pm	<b>NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS TODAY</b> Mary & Bob Collins RIP (Mason)

### 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)

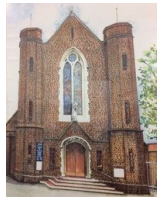
**PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE EMERGENCY FIRE EXIT DOORS IN THE CHURCH, AND PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SILENCED BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS**



## 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

**5TH / 6TH AUGUST 2023 TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD (A) - Mass Book Pg 96**  
(Daniel 7:9-10.13-14, 2 Peter 1:16-19, Matthew 17:1-9)

**12TH / 13TH AUGUST 2023 NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A) - Mass Book Pg 53**  
(1 Kings 19:9.11-13, Romans 9:1-5, Matthew 14:22-23)



This week's newsletter covers two weeks, beginning with the Feast of the Transfiguration which is celebrated on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August, followed a week later by the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary time.

We always hear an account of the transfiguration of Our Lord on the second Sunday in Lent: it is an important moment of encouragement on the journey to Jerusalem where Jesus' passion is to take place. As a significant event in the life of our Lord it has its own feast day. It also has a decade in the rosary, as one of the mysteries of light (or luminous mysteries) given to the church by Pope St John Paul II. Unlike most saint's days, this feast trumps the ordinary 'green' Sunday celebration when it falls on a Sunday, as it does this year. We are therefore given an extra opportunity to contemplate this mystery – and mystery is surely the best word to describe an event as strange and puzzling as this.

The picture on the cover is by the Dominican friar and artist Fra' Angelico, painted for the convent of St Mark in Florence to which he belonged. You might notice that this image includes two additional figures who weren't there (a common feature of religious art): Our Lady and St Dominic. We might consider that they represent the church as a whole, including those members like ourselves who were not present but whose faith in Christ is nevertheless strengthened by this event.

During Lent, we tend to focus on our need for change and conversion. We are called to become more like Christ. Whereas Christ did not actually change at his Transfiguration, but revealed who he really is, we *do* need to change in order to become who we are made to be. The call to conversion is of course not just for Lent, but at the heart of discipleship, a constant part of giving ourselves more fully to Christ and resisting all that pulls us in different directions. However we might consider another dimension of this mystery today: namely the encounter with Christ that is also at the heart of discipleship.

We are privileged to know, as a truth of our faith, what the disciples were struggling to grasp: that Jesus Christ is not merely an inspiring and inspired teacher and an impressive healer, but truly the eternal Son of God, who shared our humanity so that we might share his divinity. The ultimate confirmation of this truth – his resurrection from the dead – still lay in the future, whilst the necessity of his sacrificial death remained a stumbling block for his followers. Nevertheless, they were able to experience something first hand that we can only experience with the eyes of faith. A mountain was seen as a place of encounter with God, and such an encounter were typically a terrifying experience. Thunder and lightning, clouds, and intense light are all associated with the presence of the divine.

There might be moments for us when our faith is weak and we would like some sort of sign to reassure us – though perhaps we might be content with something less unsettling than an actual vision! We might have been blessed with moments of consolation – a sense of God's presence, a word of scripture that resonates with us, something happening that seems too much of a coincidence. But these are rare, if we experience them at all. Similarly, for the three disciples, this vision of our Lord's divine splendour was a brief moment in a more challenging journey of discipleship. Peter's un-thought-through suggestion of erecting tents for Jesus, Moses and Elijah hints at a desire to preserve this moment, and we too naturally want to hold on to moments of consolation and reassurance. In the great adventure of discipleship, however, we can't stay on the mountain top, and the absence of such experiences is an opportunity to cultivate a deeper faith, in which we know God is close even when we can't sense his presence. What we do have, is the opportunity to spend time in Our Lord's presence in

**BCYS YOUTH GATHER, 21<sup>ST</sup> – 22<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER, ESSEX OUTDOORS ON MERSEA ISLAND** A brilliant event for all those in Year 9 – Year 13, featuring the amazing singer Adenike, plus a wide range of outward bound activities. Have a look at the full details, and apply now at [www.bcys.net/events/yg23/](http://www.bcys.net/events/yg23/). The cost is £70 – if that is not affordable for you, please speak in confidence to Fr Dominic, as support can readily be offered.

**YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR:** The Diocese of Brentwood require a for parishes in the Newham Partnership. Based in East London, 35 hours per week (to include evening and weekend work). A fixed 2 year contract starting October 2023 and salary £25,000pa. Full details on the diocesan website. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [frdanielkelly@brcdt.org](mailto:frdanielkelly@brcdt.org). Closing date 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK 05/08/23—13/08/23

<b>Sat 5th August</b> <b>5.30pm—6.15pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b> Irene Robinson's Intentions (Christine)
<b>Sun 6th August</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</b> People of the parish Ronald Robinson's Intentions (Christine)
<b>Mon 7th August</b> <b>8.30am</b>	Bob Scranney's 90th birthday intentions
<b>Tues 8th August</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>ST DOMINIC, PR</b> Richard Mahoney RIP (Leonard)
<b>Wed 9th August</b> <b>9.15am</b> <b>12 noon—1pm</b>	<b>ST TERESA BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS, V, M</b> Oliver Hancock's Intentions (Catton)
<b>Thur 10th August</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS TODAY</b> <b>ST LAWRENCE, DEACON, M</b> Thanksgiving (Leonard)
<b>Frid 11th August</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>ST CLARE, V</b> John Joe Harkin RIP (Etchells)
<b>Sat 12th August</b> <b>5.30pm—6.15pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b> In thanksgiving for the life of Meg Nellist (Nicky)
<b>Sun 13th August</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> People of the parish Maurice & Mary Gregan RIP

**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.

**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)

**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.bcys.net/events/](http://www.bcys.net/events/) or email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)

**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)*

**CATHOLIC POLICE GUILD:** We will be celebrating on 100th Annual Requiem Mass at Westminster Cathedral Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 2pm. Please come along and join us in this celebration. Priority given to Guild Members.

**SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS SCHOOL UPMINSTER CLEANER:** We are looking to appoint a part time cleaner to work 52 weeks a year. 20hrs per week 6am—8am and 3.30pm—5.30pm daily. £12.87—£13.08 per hour. For more info please contact Kerry Jones [kjones@mary.havering.sch.uk](mailto:kjones@mary.havering.sch.uk)

**BCYS ALUMNI FRIENDS AND FAMILY PICNIC:** Are you or have you ever been part of the BCYS or Walsingham House? If so, you are invited to join us, with your family and friends, for an afternoon in the grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Monday 28th August arrivals from 11.30am. Mass at 12 noon and finish at 4pm. Please bring a picnic to enjoy the beautiful grounds. There will be soft drinks and ice creams to purchase as well as a bouncy castle and games for all the family.

**“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.

the sacrament of the Eucharist – at Mass, and in times of prayer before the tabernacle in church or when the sacrament is exposed for adoration on the altar. The inscription above the altar reminds us that on the cross – unlike Mount Tabor – Our Lord's divinity was hidden from view. At Mass his humanity is hidden as well. Only with the eyes of faith, trusting in his word, can we be certain that the same Lord is truly present among us. As Peter rightly stated, 'it is good for us to be here'.

I will be spending some days this week on retreat, something all priests are expected to do every year so that our priestly ministry might be nourished by a real closeness to the Lord. Though we might not all have the opportunity to dedicate a block of time like this, we should endeavour to set aside some time each day, and perhaps a little longer on a weekly or monthly basis, to be with the Lord in prayer. We may not be granted a religious 'experience' when we do so – famously Mother Teresa felt nothing of God's presence for many years despite the many hours she spent in prayer – but this time is important and we should persevere with it as she did. One day, pray God, our life's journey will take us to the greatest mountain top of all, where we shall see God as he really is, and we will never need to come down.

I will keep those who are travelling, and those who are awaiting public exam results, in my prayers.

God bless, Fr Matthew

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**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** This month, Wednesday lunchtime holy hours will take place as usual on 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August, but not on 9<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Saturday eucharistic adoration will take place each weekend except 19<sup>th</sup> August.

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** Bishop Alan will be making a pastoral visitation on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at the 11am Mass and due to the number of candidates there will be limited space for those other than candidates, sponsors and family; others who normally come at 11 are encouraged to come to one of the other weekend Mass instead. It is expected that the Bishop will also preside at the 9am Mass.

**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.

**PARISH MISSION:** Please take some of the 'save the date' cards for our parish mission "Reconnect, Rediscover, Rejoice!" to give to those who might be interested. More information about the content will be announced soon via the newsletter and website.

**BRING-AND-SHARE LUNCH:** To celebrate the centenary of our parish and the conclusion of our mission week all are invited to a parish lunch at St Peter's Cranham on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October. We hope that those who can will bring a dish to share – the more variety the better! All are welcome.

**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.

**RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ron Frost and Alice Briody and who have died recently and all who mourn. Ron's funeral will be held here at St Joseph's on Thursday 17th August at 11am followed by a burial at Upminster Cemetery at 12 noon. May Ron rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Parents of children moving into year 3 or above hoping to make their first holy communion next summer are asked to sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/stjfhc> There will be an initial meeting early in October, and details will be sent to those who have signed up as well as being announced in the newsletter nearer the time.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION:** On Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August we celebrate the Assumption of Our Lady. This is a holy day of obligation, when we are expected to be present at Mass. Following our usual holy day schedule, Mass will be celebrated at 10am and 8pm.

**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.

**BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS:** Congratulations to Caelan Bradley Egan-McNally, Elsie-Leigh O'Donovan-Burke and Cillian McNamee-O'Donovan who are being received into the parish this weekend through the sacrament of baptism.

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES:** Fr Eric Grace, Monica Goold, Robert Watson, Christina Kelliher, Amy Atkins, Monica Pugh, Daniel Casey, Giuseppe Biagioni, Madge Everett, Beryl Mattis, Patricia Lane, Annie Hawes, Thomas Stenson, Jean Stubbs, Thomas Brennan, Anthony Gregory, Sr Raphael, Cyril Cooke, Anne McGreevy, Timothy Clarke, James Davis, Elsie Milburn, Beryl Gallagher, John Parish, Aileen McGovern, Daisy Mowatt, Rose Gooch, Anne Wells, Irene Waters, John O'Sullivan, Ivy Partridge, Mary Lynch, Anne Richards, Mary Tylar, Colin Brooks, Sr Columba, Georgette Horlock, Sr Dorothy Clinton, Freda Hallum, James Griffin, Michael (Jack) Murphy, Eileen Finigan, Patrick Walsh, Thomas Bailey, Henry McKeown, Patrick Kelly, Ethel Cave, Elizabeth Leech, Ronald Hope, Michael Rogers, Catherine Gricks, Olga Marchetti, Elsie Rogers, Keith Dagnall, George Farrell, Eileen Shave, Stephan Grubb, Lilian O'Donnell, Henry Rochford, Maxwell Lightbody, Sylvia Ford, Tony Faughnan, Jane Megoran, Mary McCarthy, Roland Stables, Hugh Farrell, Billy Murphy, Thomas Halligan, Phyllis Burke, Michael Kinchin, Edward White, Douglas Black, Marjorie Copland, Daniel Barclay, Bernard Gallagher, Teresa Payne, Jack Crowley, David Clohesy, Molly Ramsay, Rose Taylor, Winifred Pavitt, William McCarthy, Jessie Callaghan, Nicholas Anfiligoff, Thomas Pearson, Margaret Garvan, Rose Ann Murphy, Dennis Richards, Mary Precieux, Cornelius Scully, John Haran, Patricia Kingsman & Margaret Caldon. May they and all the faithfully departed rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL—VISIT OF THE HOLY RELICS** of Saint Columba, Saint Margaret of Scotland and Saint Andrew the Apostle takes place this August throughout Great Britain. On Sunday 6th August the relics will be received at the 6.30 p.m. Mass here and remain in the Cathedral until Tuesday 8th August. We thank the Knights of St Columba for arranging this visit and for stewarding this event. Please see the Cathedral noticeboard for the full timetable of the visits.

**VESPERS FOR UKRAINE** On Wednesday 23rd August at 6.30 p.m., the eve of Ukraine's National Day, Brentwood Cathedral will be holding a special Vespers for Ukraine in the Cathedral. This will be an opportunity to join in prayer with the Ukrainians who have been welcomed into our town and the people of Ukraine. It will feature Ukrainian and English music and hymns with a dual language service book available.

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (BCCS)** is looking for a part time Finance Assistant to join the team working from their head office in Billericay High Street. Job specification and application form available at <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/>. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Fiona Reading [freading@bccs.org.uk](mailto:freading@bccs.org.uk)

**VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS:** <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**MARYVALE INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM-** Study part-time, by distance learning for a Bachelor of Divinity (BDiv) or a Licence in Divinity The Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS) is the only ecclesial institute of this kind in the English-speaking world. The Ecclesiastical BDiv is a five-year part-time, collaborative-learning degree programme in Catholic theology providing a comprehensive exposition and analysis of Christian doctrine based on the study of the sacred Scriptures, the works of the Fathers and Doctors of the Church, and the documents of the Magisterium. The Licence in Divinity: Pathway in Catechetical Sciences is another qualification of the Holy See, distinct from an STL, it is a three-year, part-time, programme aimed at those in leadership positions in catechetics and in other positions of responsibility. Contact: Admissions tutor, Deacon Dr Harry Schnitker at: [researchcentre@maryvale.ac.uk](mailto:researchcentre@maryvale.ac.uk)

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES** The Jumbulance Trust is delighted to be able to offer a new pilgrimage date for Lourdes 2023 for those who would love the opportunity to travel with us. We are able to take children, young people and adults of all ages, who may need assistance of any kind. We are also looking for helpers, with or without experience, but willing to be trained and able to help with assisting others. Some funding is available to help if the cost is prohibitive and fund-raising ideas may also help you to meet such costs. The dates are 29 September - 6 October 2023 and the cost is £1,100, inclusive of travel and half board accommodation. Please contact Caroline Southgate for more information on 07775773805 or [info@jumbulance.org.uk](mailto:info@jumbulance.org.uk)

**CATHEDRAL HOUSE VACANCY - SITE MANAGER:** The successful applicant will identify and carry out effectively, routine and reactive maintenance tasks, regular health and safety checks and other general duties associated with the management of buildings and grounds comprising the Cathedral House and the Brentwood Parish. Hours 35 per week, salary: £23,000 - £27,000 p/a depending on experience for a start date ASAP. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) [recruitment@brcdt.org](mailto:recruitment@brcdt.org) The closing date for applications is 14th August 2023.