

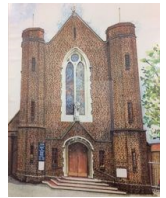


St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward
upminster@brcdt.org / 01708 222432



PARISH NEWSLETTER

13TH / 14TH JANUARY 2023

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) - Mass Book Pg 54

(1 Samuel 3:3-10.19, 1 Corinthians 6:13-15.17-20, John 1:35-42)

With the Christmas season coming to an end we enter a short period of Green - the season we call 'Ordinary Time'. This year Easter is almost as early as it can be, so the time before Lent is barely a month. We've finished the first week of Ordinary time – the weekdays following immediately from the feast of the Baptism of the Lord – so this Sunday, the first day of a new week by our reckoning, is designated the Sunday of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time.

Soon we will begin our journey through Mark, the gospel for year B which we are now in. This Sunday, however, we are given another 'epiphany' moment when Jesus' identity is revealed to us. The one whose birth we celebrated three weeks ago is proclaimed, thirty or so years after his birth, as the 'Lamb of God' by his cousin John the Baptist. This title, which we hear every time we come to Mass, is very significant. For a first century Jew, and even more for the son of a priest, a lamb was associated with sacrifice and above all with the Passover. The meaning is clear: this man who is God has come to be our Passover, to give his life as a perfect offering to set us free from slavery to sin and death.

Although we are back in green, Christmastide continues in a sense until the Feast of the Presentation - Candlemas - 40 days after Christmas. Our crib will remain in place complete with all the visitors to Bethlehem bearing their prophetic gifts (not least the lamb brought by the shepherds). Let us continue to contemplate the mystery of God living as one of us, and the wonderful exchange this has made possible - God becoming man, so that we can become like God. And let us not be afraid to point him out to others, as John the Baptist did, so that others may come to know this extraordinary truth.

Last week we heard Bishop Alan's Pastoral Letter, in which he renewed his call for the diocese to implement the vision set out at the conclusion of the discernment process led by the Stewards of the Gospel. Bishop Alan emphasises the need for wider collaboration within and between parishes, and suggests that pastoral councils in each parish and/or partnership may play a key part in this. In lieu of a parish council I have invited contributions from the whole parish at open meetings, to encourage a sense that we are all responsible for the life and mission of our parish. This week I will be meeting with our co-Stewards Simon and Bernadette to consider

the next steps in the light of the bishop's directions, which will undoubtedly include further opportunities to hear from all parishioners. May we strive to live out our calling to be followers and faithful witness to the Lamb of God who has come to share his life with us.

God bless, Fr Matthew.

JANUARY OFFER: We have a limited stock of parish centenary mugs still available in the repository. This month, while stocks last, a 2024 parish diary will be given to anyone purchasing a mug for £5. Diaries are still available by themselves for £1.

SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE: Join us for tea or coffee in the social centre after the 9am Mass or before the 11am Mass. This week (resuming after the Christmas break) coffee is hosted by Children's Liturgy.

WEDNESDAY HOLY HOUR: This will not take place this week due to a funeral.

COLD SYMPTOMS: Particularly at this time of year, with a number of vulnerable people in the parish, you are asked to be mindful of any cold or flu-like infections and consider taking precautions such as using hand sanitiser, wearing a face mask, avoiding physical contact with others and not receiving from the chalice.

RIP NOTICES: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Clare Argent-Hall, Joan Henderson, Mary Clancy, Patricia Burwood and Derek Cavalier. Clare-Argent Hall's funeral will be here on Tuesday 16th January at 11am. Joan Henderson's funeral will be on Wednesday 17th January at 10.30am. Mary Clancy's funeral will be on Tuesday 23rd January at 11am and Patricia Burwood's funeral will be at 11.30am on 30th January at South Essex Crematorium. May Clare, Joan, Mary, Patricia and Derek rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

FR JOSEPH FARRELL GOLDEN JUBILEE: Congratulations to Fr Joseph Farrell who will be celebrating his Golden Jubilee on Friday 19th January. A mass will be offered for his intentions at 9.15am on the same day.

CWL WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB: Our next lunch club will be on 17th January in the social centre at 12pm. If you are unable to make lunch, why not join us for a cup of tea/ coffee in the morning after mass. Will be lovely to welcome both old and new friends.

A FIRE IN MY HEART - A CONVERSATION WITH BIBLICAL FRIENDS: On Saturday 3rd 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@brcdt.org. The event is under the auspices of the Catholic Biblical Association of Great Britain.

PRAYER MINISTRY: Members of our parish prayer ministry team will be available after mass on the first weekend of each month to listen to and pray with anyone who wishes to receive this support.

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – July 2024: (exact dates TBC in due course) Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. The week is spent serving the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assisting the elderly and infirm, alongside times of retreat, reconciliation, visiting the baths, taking part in the beautiful Processions, an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese. The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

DO YOU ENJOY SINGING? HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO SING AS PART OF A GROUP? THEN WHY NOT JOIN ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH CHOIR: We come together twice a year and rehearse for about ten weeks before singing at the Easter and Christmas Masses. We are always looking for new members to swell our numbers, and singers of all abilities are welcome. Our rehearsals for Easter will be in the Church at 7.30pm, starting on Monday 22 January. Hope to see you there!

BCYS YOUTH MASS: Thursday 1st February, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a speaker from the SVP joining us to help prepare for the start of Lent. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming – just email info@bcys.net

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES: Winifred Walker, Wilfred Hartley, Morgan Furze, Agnes Tarrant, Stella Michalkiewicz, Peggy Fagg, Geoffrey Scott, Kathleen Judge, Keith Fletcher, Edward Butler, Arthur McCaffrey, John Waters, Michael Judge, Kathleen Hibbert, Mary Keane, Hilary Rowley, Ronald Hart, Tadeusz Wichary, Joseph Conway, Henry Patience, Irene McDougall, George Cush, Margaret O'Neil, Maureen Hourihan, Morgan Madden, Louise Watts, Dorothy Keilich, Joan Christmas, Sidney Willis, Alice Cole, Violet Willis, George Hume, Besmir Gjoni, John Edward Tarplett, Sr Frances Egan, Charles Geeves, Lawrence Mooney, Patrick McCue, Terry Sullivan, Michael Francis, Carmel O'Shea, David Redden, Margaret Josephine Raftery, Julia Manning, Pamela Goddard, June Nickelson, Edward Chelebik, Elizabeth Healy, Ellen Millett, Kathleen Brazeley, Nora Sheridan, Winifred Threadgill, Reginald Hammond, Mary Fox, Richard DePol, Marie Nurse, John Callanan, Clive Judge, Veronica Rafferty, Winifred Slade, Florence Bell, Donald Paveley, Elizabeth Brady, Derry Lydon, Stanley Downey, Jean Morrell, Philomena Johnson, Thomas Murphy, Walter Gould, Richard McKeone, Rose Newman, Martha Greenwood, David Anderson, William Boxhall, Constantin Titus, Ian Kelly, Nellie Cantwell, Mary Cooney, Eileen Wilson, Peggy Bolton, Harry Gallagher, Sydney Stubbs, Fr David Donnelly, Terence Hill, Frederick Cagney, Kathleen Ridley, Anne Fox, Patrick Palmer, Albert Green, Bridget Claydon, Patrick Connaughton, James Maguire, Francis Dempsey, William Kendrick, Ian Lamont, Simon Thomas, Hilda Lawrence, Angela Connor, Sarah Murphy, Evelyn Sharp, Desmond Bennett, Katherine Phillips, Kevin Twohig, Joyce Jones, Nicolina Bastianelli, Thomas Molloy, Leonard Hale, Bridget Durham, Henry Nye, Philip Bleeze, John Kane, Veronica Deacon, Patrick Duggan, Jeffrey Woods, Lawrence Burke, Ciaran Moloney, Kathleen Finn, Neville Doyle, Ellen Barrett, Joan Finigan, Ellen Murphy, Mary Murphy, Rosina Lummis, Susan Lewis, Beryl Parker, Kathleen Hall, John Bardwell, Mary Turner, Jacqueline Cooper, Hilda Bailey, Mary Collis, Thomas & Kathleen Tevenan, Anthony Savory, Thomas McGonigle & Margaret De St Jorre.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 13th Jan

5.30pm—6.15pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

6.30pm

Irene & Ronald Robinson's Intentions (Christine)

Sun 14th Jan

SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am

Sonny & Kathleen Brennan RIP. Anniv.

11.00am

People of the parish

Mon 15th Jan

9.15am

Brian & Maureen Springham's Intentions (Springham)

Tues 16th Jan

9.15am

Felicity Bemand-Qureshi's Intentions (Bemand-Qureshi)
(With our Reception children)

11am

Funeral—Clare Argent-Hall

Wed 17th Jan

ST ANTHONY, AB

9.15am

Joe Sullivan RIP (Eileen Regan & Family)

10.30am

Funeral Joan Henderson

12 noon—1pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK

Thur 18th Jan

9.15am

Nora & Teddy O'Brien RIP (Biggs)

Frid 19th Jan

9.15am

In Celebration of Fr Joseph Farrell's Diamond Jubilee

Sat 20th Jan

5.30pm—6.15pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

6.30pm

Mary Kane & Anne & Colm Keane's Intentions (Lynch)

Sun 21st Jan

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am

Barbara Steele RIP (St Joseph's Governors)

11.00am

People of the parish

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).

Fr Matthew (emergencies—voice only): 020 3332 0486

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

**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**