



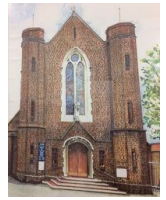
# St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

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## PARISH NEWSLETTER

15TH / 16TH JUNE 2024

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) - Mass Book Pg 30**

(Ezekiel 17:22-24, 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, Mark 4:26.34)

On Thursday of last week we held the first of a series of Masses and social gatherings to celebrate different forms of service within our parish community. I have spoken about the church's primary mission of making disciples; a disciple is someone who has come to know Jesus Christ and seeks to live in an ever-deepening friendship with him. We hear in the gospels – even before the events of Jesus' death and resurrection – how the followers of Jesus spent time with him, as well as going to different places on his behalf to speak of the coming Kingdom. Christ must be at the heart of our community and at the centre of everything we do. We come together not only to meet with one another – valuable though that is – but to meet with him, to be fed and formed by him, and then to be sent out into the world by him. The first major document from the Second Vatican Council reminds us that "Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations." Specifically, he is present through the ministry of the priest and the gathering of the people united in prayer. "He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church." And in a unique way he is present in the Blessed Sacrament, Christ's own body and blood given to us in Holy Communion.

This Thursday's Celebration of Service is focused on those who help us encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament – those who read at Mass, and those who assist with the distribution of holy communion in church and in the homes of the sick and housebound. I'd like to reflect briefly on these ministries now and the part all of us have to play in facilitating this privileged encounter with Christ.

Firstly, the Word. You may recall from the story of the Road to Emmaus how the Risen Lord, unrecognised at first, prepared the two disciples fleeing Jerusalem by explaining the scriptures. Later, after recognising him in the breaking of bread, they said 'did our hearts not burn within us!'. The Bible is God's Word, communicated to us by a great many human authors, inspired by the Holy Spirit, using many different genres and arising from different contexts and periods in history. It is good for us to read the bible, but in the liturgy it is more important for us to *hear* the bible and allow God to speak to us. The selection of readings helps us understand how the whole of scripture points to God's ultimate self-revelation in the Word Made Flesh, Jesus Christ. Through the bible, we not only learn about God, but we come to know him in a personal way. It may help us listen better during the Liturgy of the Word if we have found time to read and reflect on the upcoming readings beforehand. If you don't

have a missal you can find the readings on the Universalis website, and there are weekly reflections for adults and children on the Wednesday Word site. NB I will say more about the new translation for readings at Mass nearer to its launch in Advent, but missals are available to pre-order from the repository and online (don't buy the current version by mistake!).

Secondly, and of even greater importance, the food with which Christ feeds us in Holy Communion, which I wrote about recently for the feast of Corpus Christi. As the experience of lockdown showed us, there is no substitute for a real, face-to-face encounter. We can participate in Mass, and even hear the word of God, remotely, but in Holy Communion we have an intimate encounter with our risen Lord that is mediated through something material. Whether you receive communion from a priest or deacon (an 'ordinary' minister) or a lay 'extraordinary' minister, it is Christ who is feeding you. As we approach the altar, let us pray that every obstacle to this encounter may be lifted so that we may receive everything he wants to give us. Those of us who are able to gather in church, and those of us who receive the eucharist at home, not only receive life-giving nourishment, but are truly united with one another and with Christ, in what should be the high-point of our week.

Thank you to those who share in the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and to all who serve our parish community.

God bless, Fr Matthew

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**CELEBRATIONS OF SERVICE:** During the months of June and July there will be a series of special Masses to celebrate the different forms of service within our parish community. This Thursday (20<sup>th</sup>) it is for those who help us encounter Christ in Word and Sacrament (i.e. readers and extraordinary ministers). Mass at 7.30pm, followed by social time in the club. All welcome. Next week (Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>) is the turn of those who help form the young: Baptism, Children's Liturgy, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, and the staff and governors of our schools.

**MUSIC AT MASS:** If you have any feedback regarding music at Mass, including the choice of hymns (or any favourites you would like), the mass setting, or the amount of singing, please do contact Fr Matthew or the parish office. Thank you for the feedback already received. It is helpful to be as specific as possible and indicate what Mass you usually attend.

**SECOND COLLECTION DAY FOR LIFE:** Please note that we will be holding a second collection after all masses this weekend 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> June in aid of Day for Life. Please use your special collection envelopes if you are a registered gift aider.

**MISSION APPEAL:** Next weekend we will be welcoming two religious sisters of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus, who will speak at mass and make an appeal on behalf of their order's missionary work.

**RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eleanor Geraghty (mother of Greg Geraghty) aged 92 who died this week while in HSE care in County Cork. Although a former parishioner of SS Peters and Pauls Ilford for nearly 40 years while residing in Ilford many of her remaining friends live around Uppminster and attend St Josephs services.

**DOM'S ITALIAN SUPPER NIGHT 13 JUL 2024 AT 8PM IN THE SOCIAL CLUB** - If you wish to attend please place cash or a cheque in an envelope with names listed on the front and marked ITALIAN SUPPER. £10 a head. Drinks are available for purchase at the bar which operates a card only payment system.

**CDOT:** Voices presents its Summer Concert at St. Peter's: Saturday 6th July in aid of two homeless charities: 'The Passage' and 'Only A Pavement Away' as part of our Live Simply campaign to support those in need. Once again we will be joined by the choir from St. Joseph's Primary School. Adult tickets - £10/Children - £1/ under 5s free. Choir family tickets from St. Joseph's school. Other tickets from Bernadette in the Repository or 07825235717.

**NEW EDITION OF THE SUNDAY MISSAL:** The Missals are now available for pre-order from the repository at £19.95. Payment with order please.

**THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE LONDON:** We are holding a Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat on Saturday 13 July 2024 from 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm at St Mary Mother of God, 213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call millie on 07957594646 for more information.

**ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CLUB:** Please consider joining or renewing your membership via: <https://membermojo.co.uk/stjosephscc/> Please email any questions regarding online membership to: [stjosephs.cc.upminster@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephs.cc.upminster@gmail.com) We will be showing England's 3 group stage football matches - please book free tickets here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stjosephscatholicclubupminster/>

**YOUTH MASS, THURSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024, BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL:** Bishop Alan will celebrate Mass and commission all those travelling to Lourdes this Summer. Meet in the Parish Hall from 6pm for pizza, refreshments and a time to reconnect and relax with friends before the Summer. Mass in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. If you wish to sing, play an instrument, read or serve then please bring along your alb or instrument, and let us know as you arrive. Absolutely everyone is very welcome!

**BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE, 20<sup>TH</sup> – 27<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024:** A couple of last minute places have become available if anyone in school year 10+ still wishes to join this pilgrimage with the BCYS. Full details on the pilgrimage and how to apply can be found at [www.bcys.net/events/sl24](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl24) or email [gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org](mailto:gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org)

**WALSINGHAM HOUSE ANNIVERSARY MASS, 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK:** We invite anyone who may have been involved with Walsingham House over the years to celebrate 40 years of volunteer teams with us, beginning with Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12pm and followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

**ST JOSEPH'S, UPMINSTER - RECEPTION CLASS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024:** There are currently vacancies in the Reception Class starting this coming September 2024. If you know of any families looking for a Reception space for September, please advise them to contact the school office. Some families who are not practising, may have chosen not to apply as they could not complete the Catholic Practice certificate. They would be very welcome to apply. Call 01708220277 for any information or for help with applying.

# MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 15th June  
5.30pm—6.15pm

6.30pm

## ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Fr John Taylor RIP (Pauline Sheridan)

Sun 16th June

9.00am

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Ronald Robinson's Intentions (Christine)

11.00am

Henry Christopher Nye RIP B'Day (Family)

Mon 17th June

9.15am

Henry Christopher Nye RIP B'Day (Family)

Tues 18th June

9.15am

Larry Fennessy RIP (Carroll) (With our reception children)

Wed 19th June

9.15am

Eileen Clarke RIP (Healy)

12 noon—1pm

## ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Thur 20th June

9.15am

Hanna Hale RIP (Mary)

Frid 21st June

9.15am

## ST ALOYSIUS, GONZAGA, REL

Pat Monaghan RIP Anniv. (Sheila)

Sat 22nd June

5.30pm—6.15pm

6.30pm

## SS JOHN FISHER, BP AND THOMAS MORE, MM

## ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Margaret Pain RIP (Pain Family)

Sun 23rd June

9.00am

## TWELTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

11.00am

People of the parish

James Shanahan & Andrew Shanahan RIP B'Day. (Marion)

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**EUCHARISTIC 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](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**