



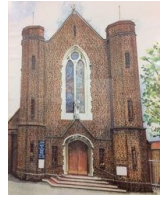
St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

upminster@brcdt.org / 01708 222432



PARISH NEWSLETTER

6TH / 7TH JULY 2024

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) - Mass Book Pg 37

(Ezekiel 2:2-5, 2 Corinthians 12:7-10, Mark 6:1-6)

The eucharist has been described in church documents as 'the source and summit of our Christian life'. It is the highest expression of our desire for union with God, and everything else that we do flows from it. Worship is a fundamental human activity, and Christian worship is centred on an encounter with the one who comes close to us to give us a share in his life.

In our worship it is right that we give of our very best to God. This week we conclude our series of 'Celebrations of Service' by recognising those who enrich our liturgy, through music and through service at the altar. The word 'liturgy' is a Greek word meaning 'service', and it carries the full range of meanings that this English word does. Our liturgy is an offering of ourselves and all that we are to God, but it is not something we do for him. We cannot add to his greatness. Rather, it is something he makes possible for our sake. Our worship of God lifts us beyond the limited horizons of our present existence, so that we may fulfil our God-given potential.

The worship of God that we offer in the sacred liturgy – pre-eminently the Mass – should not be a matter of doing the bare minimum. Nor is it a matter of being entertained. Rather, we enter into the liturgy as active participants, not passive spectators. 'Active participation' takes many forms – it can certainly include prayerful silence, and it can include being lifted heavenwards by the singing of others, as well as the whole congregation joining together in song. St Augustine famously declared 'whoever sings prays twice' – it is important that singing in church is never a performance to impress others, but an offering of my best to God, something that engages our whole being. There is also emerging evidence that singing is good for us – physically, mentally, and spiritually! We are blessed with some very talented and generous musicians in our parish – organists, instrumentalists, singers whether as cantors or members of the choir – and our liturgy is richer for it.

Our liturgy is also enriched by our altar servers. Some of the tasks they carry out make my task as celebrant easier or allow it to be a little more dignified. Sometimes it is a case of adding to the solemnity of worship, through the use of candles and occasionally incense, both of which have a long history of use in church and bear rich meaning. At the high points of the liturgical year, especially Holy Week and Easter, it would be difficult to do justice to the celebrations that lead us more deeply into the Paschal mystery without the assistance of our altar servers. Those who serve will be aware of the great privilege of being up-close and involved in the action of the liturgy – altar serving has over the years been a route which has led many to contemplate a

vocation to the priesthood or religious life. But, as with other areas of service in our community, it also requires generosity of time and commitment. The albs which the servers wear (from the Latin word for white) and the small linen cloths used in the liturgy also need regular cleaning, and I am grateful to those who assist behind the scenes with this essential task.

It is appropriate that we finish our celebration of service with the liturgy, not because these roles are more important than anything else, but because for all of us the liturgy is at the heart of our faith, truly the 'source and summit' of everything. Sincere thanks to all those who contribute in any way to the life of our parish community, in all the areas we have been celebrating over the past few weeks.

God bless, Fr Matthew

PARISH OFFICE: Please note that the Parish Secretary will be away from 8th – 23rd July. It will not be possible to respond to any hall booking enquiries or Mass requests during this period.

CELEBRATIONS OF SERVICE: During the months of June and July we have been holding a series of special Masses to celebrate the different forms of service within our parish community. This Thursday (11th) we conclude this series recognising those who enrich our liturgy for the glory of God: servers, musicians and those who clean albs and linens. All are welcome. Mass is at 7.30pm, followed by a fellowship in the Social Centre.

LOURDES COFFEE MORNING: Some of the young people of our parish travelling to Lourdes this month with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will be hosting this Sunday's coffee morning, and the rest will be doing so next Sunday. There will be a collection basket in the hall, and any proceeds will be shared by the young people as a contribution to the costs of the trip.

SATURDAY HOLY HOUR: For the next two Saturdays (13th and 20th July) there will not be a holy hour before the vigil Mass.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME OCTOBER 2025: Next year is a Jubilee year. Would you be interested in joining a parish pilgrimage to Rome during October half term 2025? We are looking at 5-6 nights, estimated in the region of £1200 per person. To proceed, we need expressions of interest – no commitment at this stage but those who do sign up will have priority access to bookings. Please visit <https://tinyurl.com/stjrome25>

MOTHERS PRAYERS: Please note that our last meeting before the summer break will be on Tuesday 16th July.

RAINHAM FOODBANK: A big thank you. Since Easter our parish has donated the huge amount of 163kg of food and other groceries. Well done! It is sad that there is still a great need for food banks, so please keep donating. You can place items in the black bin at the back of the church, where there is a list of suggestions for donations. Margaret Holden.

WEEKDAY READERS: During the school holidays we will need a few more readers for 9.15am mass. Any students on holiday from school or university would be especially welcome if they wanted to try our this important form of service. Training is available from Margaret if you would like. Please send an email the parish office—Upminster@brcdt.org

SECOND COLLECTION: Please note that there is a second collection after all masses next weekend in aid of Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea).

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. To finalise seating plans and catering requirements the list for the supper closes Wed 10 Jul 2024 .

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES! The Catholic Fellowship Disability Network (CFDN) has supported individuals with disabilities and their families across Essex and East London since 1962. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers of all ages, especially younger people, to bring new ideas and experiences to our charity. **Why Volunteer?** You will not only make a difference in your community, gain valuable experience and be part of a supportive network, but share your ideas, experience and skills in helping us maintain our charitable legacy. To get involved, please visit: www.cfdn.org.uk/volunteer or contact us at info@cfdn.org.uk

OPEN HOUSE BILLERICAY: SATURDAY, 12TH OCTOBER 2024: On Saturday 12th October the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay will be hosting a day focusing on parish renewal with talks and workshops designed to help parishes transition from maintenance to mission. Bishop Alan will also be presiding at the Midday Mass. Get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of transformation. Hear what they are learning and dream about the change that could be possible in your own parish. The day will last from 9.30am to 5pm and the cost is £20 per person. In order to attend you need to register in advance by following this link: <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

THE DIVINE MERCY APOSTOLATE, LONDON: We will be 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.

CAFOD: We are offering 1-hour training sessions on Zoom for anyone interested in building their confidence for public speaking. Designed for beginners and anyone who needs to make announcements, ask for volunteers or speak on behalf of a charity or a parish appeal at Mass. Come along to learn new skills, practise, and discover how you can inspire our congregation. It'll be inviting, relaxed and fun! Register here https://cafod.formstack.com/forms/speaking_at_mass_training to receive the link. Date and time: Saturday 13 July, 11am-12pm and Tuesday 16 July, 7pm-8pm.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL 2024: Our annual youth 2000 summer festival will take place from Friday 23rd August - Monday 26th August in the beautiful surroundings of Ampleforth Abbey, North Yorkshire. This festival is an opportunity for young people (aged 16-35) from across the UK to grow in their relationship with God, form friendships and be inspired to live out their faith! The programme will include input from incredible speakers, a wonderful variety of workshops, and loads of opportunities to be with Jesus and encounter His love. Visit www.youth2000.org/events for information and tickets (which include food and accommodation).

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 6th July

5.30pm—6.15pm

12 noon

6.30pm

Sun 7th July

9.00am

11.00am

Mon 8th July

9.15am

Tues 9th July

9.15am

Wed 10th July

9.15am

12 noon—1pm

Thur 11th July

9.15am

Frid 12th July

9.15am

Sat 13th July

5.30pm—6.15pm

6.30pm

Sun 14th July

9.00am

11.00am

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Wedding—Richard Mensah & Sandra Dallah

People of the parish

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Eileen Furzer RIP B'Day (Laura)

Dympna (Dinkie) Burke RIP B'Day. (Burke)

Fr John Taylor RIP (Byrne)

Frank & Marion Dearson RIP (Cantwell)
(With our Year 3 children)

Clare Argent-Hall RIP (Cantwell)

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

ST BENEDICT, AB

Derek & Jan Cavalier RIP (Cantwell)

Eileen McCardle RIP (Watson)

NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS THIS WEEK

People of the parish

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Veronica Hughes RIP (Healy)

Katie Prior RIP Anniv. (Nicholson)

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**