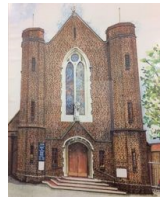




# St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi  
Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward  
upminster@brcdt.org / 01708 222432



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

21ST / 22ND SEPTEMBER 2024

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) - Mass Book Pg 60**

(Wisdom 2:12.17-20, James 3:16-4:3, Mark 9:30-37)

This Sunday afternoon there will be an important open parish meeting at 4pm in Church, to discuss future plans for our parish and the material resources including buildings that will further our mission. Sunday afternoon is of course precious family time (for me too!) but I think it is also the time when we might hope to get the biggest turnout. For the same reason, I don't want to repeat the meeting but for those who can't make it I will record my presentation, and publish it alongside a summary of what is said in the subsequent discussion. When we have a follow-up meeting at a later date I will make sure that is at a different time. I don't want to give too much away but I will be presenting ideas for the future in the context of a vision for the parish which I have been formulating over the past few months:

- A **community** of men and women of all ages who aspire to follow **Jesus Christ** within the fellowship of his church, local and universal
- Who **support** each other, **welcome** newcomers, and **share responsibility** for the life and mission of our community according to their ability and resources
- Committed to the path of discipleship, with the **Mass as the source and summit** of all we do
- Seeking to **deepen our faith**, so we can better **share** it with others through words and actions in our workplaces and homes
- Trusting that **anything is possible** to God, if we seek **his will** in all things

It isn't a vision statement as such, but an outline of what I think the parish should be aiming to be. Not that it isn't already in many respects, but it is important to acknowledge that we – individually and as a community – are works in progress. To make this vision more and more a reality, above all we need grace, and all the gifts of the Holy Spirit that enable us respond boldly and generously to God's will.

My hope is that this afternoon and in the coming weeks, months and years we can

have an open and honest discussion about what resources we need to grow into this vision, and keep growing, as part of that shared responsibility. If we are to make the kind of investment I think we need, we will need to raise quite a bit of money. But we will also need creative ideas, enthusiasm, a commitment to making this happen shared by as many people as possible, and above all prayer. I've been here two years now – many of you have been here a lot longer than that I know, though we've also welcomed lots of new parishioners recently. We are all on this journey together, and I pray that our sense of purpose will grow ever stronger as we set ourselves upon the next stage of our journey as the pilgrim people of God.

In the light of this Sunday's gospel, let us remember that we are all God's children, utterly dependent on him who is the source of all being, life and goodness, and whose Fatherly love knows no limits, even to the extent of sending his own eternal son to redeem us when we had gone astray. We must seek his glory in everything we undertake, not our own.

God bless, Fr Matthew

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**WELCOME** to all visitors and anyone who is new to our parish. If you would find it helpful to have a card with the words for Mass please ask one of the welcome team. If you are new to the parish, please complete one of our New Parishioner cards or register online via our website. Do come for coffee in the social centre after the 9am Mass (or before the 11am)

**CHILDREN:** In the light of today's gospel, a reminder that children are a very important part of our parish family. There are books and soft toys for children in the porch, and we have children's liturgy during the 9am Mass in term-time. Please suggest anything we might do to support young families in our parish.

**PARISH MEETING:** There will be an open parish meeting at 4pm on the afternoon of Sunday 22nd September, primarily to discuss future plans for our parish and the material resources including buildings that will further our mission. All welcome.

**LIVE STREAMING:** We will soon be installing equipment to facilitate the regular live streaming of Mass and other events in church, with the aim of helping those who cannot be at Mass to feel more part of our community. The live stream, as well as recordings of previous Masses, will be accessible in any web browser. More details to follow.

**SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:** Fr Matthew will be issuing Certificates of Catholic Practice to support secondary school applications during two slots in the second week of October, in advance of the school deadlines: 5-7pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> and 4-6pm on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup>. No appointment necessary, just come and wait in the church. This is for those who have a regular pattern of weekly Mass attendance; others can still apply for a place without the Certificate. Supporting letters for other schools will be signed at the same time. Please note that a Certificate of Catholic Practice is no longer relevant to primary school applications in this deanery. If you need a Baptism Certificate please apply to the church where the baptism took place (if here, email the parish office).

**RIP NOREEN HARRIS:** please pray for the repose of the soul of Noreen Harris who died recently. Noreen's funeral will be held here at St Joseph's on Tuesday 24th September at 10.30am. Her body will be received into church at 4pm on Monday 23rd. May Noreen rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

**CWL MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING:** Friday 27th September in the social centre, 10am until 12. Homemade cakes welcome, please bring along on the day. Please come along and help support this vital and much needed charity.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Parents of children now in year 3 who wish to be prepared for first reconciliation and first holy communion in the coming year are asked to register as soon as possible (and certainly by the end of the month) at [tinyurl.com/stjfhc](https://tinyurl.com/stjfhc). Details of an introductory meeting will be sent to those who register.

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME OCTOBER 2025 - UPDATE:** We have some more information regarding plans for our parish pilgrimage to Rome during October half term 2025 for the jubilee year. This has been emailed to those who expressed interest, and information is also available on our website and flyers in the porch. If you haven't done so yet please add your name to our list of potential pilgrims (no commitment at this stage) - visit [https://tinyurl.com/ stjrome25](https://tinyurl.com/stjrome25)

**FOREIGN COINS:** We are happy to pass foreign coins on to charities who are able to bank them, however please do not put them loose in the offertory collection bags as they get stuck in the coin sorting machine.

**QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF THE S.V.P:** Saturday 19th October at 8pm in the Social Centre. Tables up to 8 people. £ 8 per person. Table snacks. Drinks to be purchased from the bar. Please put the money and names in an envelope into the presbytery marked Quiz Night - S.V.P. Thank you—Bernadette Tsocos and Dominic Argent-Hall.

**BCYS YOUTH MASS:** First Thursday of the Month, Brentwood Cathedral, from 6pm. Join the BCYS to celebrate Youth Mass each month with other young Catholics from all around the Diocese. There will be pizza in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a different input each month - speakers, workshops, prayer and worship, Reconciliation or more! Youth Mass is then celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Next date: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

**CATECHIST TRAINING AND RESOURCES DAY:** We would like to invite anyone working with young people in the Diocese of Brentwood, to join us for our annual Catechist Training and Resources Day on Saturday 9th November, run by the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. For more information, including a proposed timetable for the day, please visit [www.bcys.net/events/catechist-training-and-resources-day-2024](http://www.bcys.net/events/catechist-training-and-resources-day-2024). *The venue (new for this year) is Brentwood Ursuline Convent School, Queen's Road, Brentwood.* To reserve your place, email [gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org](mailto:gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org)

**YOUTH GATHER, ESSEX OUTDOORS, EAST MERSEA, 26<sup>TH</sup> – 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER:** For anyone in year 9 and above, join us for a weekend of speakers, workshops, prayer, the chance to try archery or climbing, socialise with friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith. **Applications are now open** and you can apply and find all information at [www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/](http://www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/)

**YEAR 13 RETREAT - MADE FOR A PURPOSE:** Walsingham House are running a retreat for young people in Yr13, giving them the opportunity to step back and take some time to discern what is next in their lives and what God might be calling them to do. The retreat will be a mix of prayer times, discussions and games, with time for personal reflection as well as making new friends from across the diocese. The dates are 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Oct (arriving late afternoon and finishing shortly after lunch). For more information and to apply please visit the website: [www.bcys.net/events/year13/](http://www.bcys.net/events/year13/)

## MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

<b>Sat 21st September</b> <b>5.30pm—6.15pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>ST MATTHEW, AP, EV</b> <b>ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b> Jackie Presland RIP (Wedding Anniv). Gerry
<b>Sun 22nd September</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF YEAR</b> People of the parish Susan Carol Grant RIP (Braidwood)
<b>Mon 23rd September</b> <b>9.15am</b> <b>4pm</b>	<b>ST PIUS OF PEITRELCINA (Padre Pio), PR</b> Private Intention (Anon) Reception of the body of Noreen Harris
<b>Tues 24th September</b> <b>9.15am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	<b>OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM</b> Annie (Dotie) Kilroy RIP (Burke) (With our year 5 children) Requiem Mass—Noreen Harris
<b>Wed 25th September</b> <b>9.15am</b> <b>12 noon—1pm</b>	Philip Rogers RIP (Murphy) <b>ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b>
<b>Thur 26th September</b> <b>9.15am</b>	Michael Armstrong RIP (Pavitt)
<b>Frid 27th September</b> <b>9.15am</b>	<b>ST VINCENT DE PAUL, PR</b> John Fowley's Intentions (Manning)
<b>Sat 28th September</b> <b>5.30pm—6.15pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS</b> Mon & Noel Lynch RIP (Keefe)
<b>Sun 29th September</b> <b>9.00am</b> <b>11.00am</b>	<b>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b> People of the parish Seamus Burke RIP (Burke)

### 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](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**