



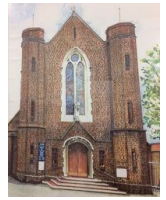
St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

16TH / 17TH NOVEMBER 2024

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B) - Mass Book Pg 77

(Daniel 12:1-3, Hebrews 10:11-14.18, Mark 13:24-32)

As the liturgical year draws to a close, we hear a rather alarming warning from Our Lord about the signs that will indicate the end of the world. In a sense the liturgical year turns full circle, as the season of Advent will soon be upon us, a season when we contemplate our readiness for Our Lord's second coming, as well as the celebration of his first coming at Bethlehem.

Along with the onset of winter, the shortening of days and the falling of leaves, our preoccupation with remembrance and prayer for the dead and the remembrance of our own mortality at this time of year might incline us to a certain gloominess and even despair. That is not for us! The word which best sums up our Christian worldview is hope. It is not a fanciful hope that everything will turn out all right, despite all the signs to the contrary, but a hope founded on the victory that has already been won – a hope not limited to the improvement of our present circumstances, but hope of an entirely new existence.

Hope is a gift, like faith, and it is not something that we are meant to hold on to just for ourselves. Rather, as followers of Christ we are called to be signs of hope and light in a world beset by darkness and despair. We are also able to point to a truer basis for hope. In a year marked by significant elections, we may recall how easily politicians speak of hope when seeking to be elected; yet there is in reality little they can offer in the way of real hope. Only Jesus Christ – whose kingship we celebrate next Sunday – can provide the newness and fullness of life that people seek without lifting their eyes beyond the horizons of this finite world.

Next year (that is, next liturgical year, beginning in two weeks time) is a Jubilee Year – a special year in the life of the Church. Jubilees have their origin in the Old Testament custom of proclaiming freedom from servitude and the cancelling of dates every 50th year – an extension of the sabbath and the sabbatical year rests. Pope Boniface VIII instituted the first holy year to be celebrated throughout the church in 1300. At first every hundred, then every fifty years, the pattern emerged of a Jubilee year ordinarily every quarter-century, though occasionally an extraordinary Jubilee may be proclaimed such as the Jubilee of Mercy in 2016. Pope Francis has chosen as the theme for this coming Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope" – recognising that hope is indeed a great gift that the church has to offer the world. Recognising also, that we, the pilgrim people of God, are journeying together to a place where our hopes may

be fulfilled beyond this present world. This journey is one of constant conversion, as we learn to live more fully for the kingdom of God, seeking his will rather than our own in all things. In this way the light of God will shine through us; people will see the difference that our faith makes to our lives, and want to share the hope that we have. As part of this year, let us also be more prepared, as St Paul urges us, to be able to give a reason for the hope we have in Christ.

God bless, Fr Matthew.

ADVENT MEAL AND FAITH TALK: On Tuesday 3rd December there will be an evening meal in the social centre (free of charge) followed by a talk on relating to the season of Advent: how the Word of God prepares us for the coming of the Word Made Flesh.

HOLY HOUR: Please note the Wednesday lunchtime Holy Hour will be shortened, finishing at 12.30pm. Next week there will not be a Wednesday lunchtime Holy Hour. In both cases this is due to funerals taking place in Church.

DEANERY REQUIEM: On Thursday 28th November we are hosting the annual Requiem Mass for the Deceased Clergy of the Havering Deanery: the Mass will be at 10.30am in place of the regular morning Mass, and all are welcome.

NEW LECTIONARY: the new translation of the lectionary (the readings we hear at Mass), based on the English Standard Version, is to be used from Advent Sunday. We already have a beautiful set of new books to be used by those proclaiming the word of God from the Ambo. These have been generously donated by a parishioner in memory of a family member. New editions of the Parish Mass Book, which are given out by the welcomers, are on order. Each volume costs £5 - we have ordered 250 (including some large print editions). Since there are two volumes per year this will cost £7500 over three years. If you would like to donate £30 to dedicate a set of 6 volumes in memory of someone please contact the parish office.

ROME & ASSISI OCTOBER 2025: We have now received the official brochure and booking forms for our parish pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome, departing Sunday 26th October 2025 for 5 nights. Please complete the booking form (copies in porch or online at https://www.tailored-travel.co.uk/stjosephs_rome_2025) and return to the **parish office** with your deposit (**payable to the agent**) as soon as possible.

SVP COLLECTION THANK YOU: On behalf of all those people that we are able to help, as a result of the generous retiring collection last weekend of £1067.35, we thank you so much, and can assure you, that we will spend your money wisely in support of those suffering from any form of poverty.

MARY-ANNE MADDEN CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please note that Mary-Anne has moved to Moreland House, 5-7 Manor Avenue, Gidea Park, RM11 2EB. Parking can be a problem but the 370 bus stops really close.

LIVE STREAM: Visit is.gd/sjuptv in any web browser to access live streamed and recorded Masses. Visit our website for more information.

RIP NOTICE: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Margaret O'Donoghue, Roma Young, Edith Keene, Rose Mary Jones and Patrick Fahy who died recently. Margaret's funeral will be held here on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at 10.30am. Edith's funeral will be held here on Monday 18th November at 1.45pm, Rose's funeral will be held here on Wednesday 20th November at 1pm and Roma's funeral will be held here on Tuesday 26th November at 10.30am. Patrick's funeral will be held here on Wednesday 27th November at 11.15am. May Margaret, Roma, Edith Rose and Patrick rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

PRAYER FOR THE DEAD: You are invited to place a list of your own departed friends and family in the basket in front of the altar and they will benefit from daily prayers and occasional Masses offered for the holy souls in this month dedicated to their honour.

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SAVE THE DATE! CANTERBURY WALK 2025 CHRISTMAS DISCO

FUNDRAISER: Date: Friday, 6th December. Time: 7:30pm - 11:30pm. Venue: St Joseph's Catholic Club. Tickets: £10pp (under 13yr go free). Buy your tickets from: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stjosephscatholicclubupminster/1411667> Raffle and prizes available, please join us for a night full of festive cheer.

CAMPION SENIOR CITIZENS' PARTY –SUNDAY DECEMBER 15th: The Senior Citizens' Party at the Campion School will be held between 130pm and 5pm on Sunday 15th December 2024 with lunch served at 130pm. St. Joseph's has been allocated 15 places. Transport can be provided if necessary. Please phone or text with your details, letting me know of any allergies and those preferring vegetarian or vegan options. Peter Jones - 07932 539106.

CDOT CHRISTMAS CONCERT: In aid of the youth of the parish. Saturday 30th November at 7pm. St. Peter's Cranham. Once again we will be joined by the Year 3/4 choir from St. Joseph's Primary School. Refreshments and raffle. Adults - £10 and Children - £1. Tickets from St. Joseph's School or Bernadette in the Repository or 07825235717.

SPENDING CHRISTMAS DAY ALONE? The New Windmill Hall will be providing Christmas dinner, live entertainment, carol singing and much more. Travel can be provided. For more information and to book please call 01708220242.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CLUB EVENTS: Saturday 16th November - CAFOD FUNdraiser, Friday 22nd November- St Joseph's PFA Social - all parents/carers welcome, Friday 6th December - Canterbury Walk Disco with DJ Adam Grace, Saturday 21st December - Club Christmas Party with Chris Graves & Friends. All tickets available here: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/stjosephscatholicclubupminster>

A DAY WITH MARY: Is taking place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Saturday 14 December (10.15am to 5.15pm). Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark Diocese, John Wilson. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 16th Nov 5.30pm—6.15pm 6.30pm	ST EDMUND OF ABINGDON, BP ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS People of the parish
Sun 17th Nov 9.00am 11.00am	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR Jenny Maplesden RIP Anniv. (Paul) Leesa Otero RIP Anniv. (Gibbs/Quinn)
Mon 18th Nov 9.15am 13.45pm	The Intentions of the Fowley Family (McCardle/Corcoran) Funeral—Edith Emily Keene
Tues 19th Nov 9.15am 10.30am	Raymond Francis Watson RIP (Watson) (With our year 6 children) Funeral—Margaret O'Donoghue
Wed 20th Nov 9.15am 12 noon—12.30pm 1pm	Tony Stock RIP Anniv. (Monica) ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS Funeral—Rose Mary James
Thur 21st Nov 9.15am	THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY Barney O'Neill RIP (Nicholson)
Frid 22nd Nov 9.15am	ST CECILIA, V, M Martin Walsh RIP (Michelle & Chris Milner)
Sat 23rd Nov 5.30pm—6.15pm 6.30pm	ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS Thomas Gallagher RIP (Connolly)
Sun 24th Nov 9.00am 11.00am	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Michael Maguire Jr RIP (Maguire) 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.

**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**