

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster





PARISH NEWSLETTER 5TH / 6TH JULY 2025

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C) - Mass Book Pg 105

(Isaiah 66:10-14c, Galatians 6:14-18, Luke 10:1-12, 17-20)

Over the past few weeks we have been celebrating some important feasts at the heart of our faith which have eased us into ordinary time following the great season of Easter. Though green has been in use on weekdays, this weekend is the first time we will see it on a Sunday since March. Ordinary time is not 'nothing' time, but simply the large part of the year



which is not devoted to a particular season or celebration, rather to the mystery of Christ in all its fullness. Each Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection – the Lord's Day – which is why our gathering week-by-week to worship together is so important. The word 'ordinary' is related to the 'ordinal' or sequential numbers we use to describe the weeks 'through the year' (which is the other designation for this period).

A recognisable pattern of liturgical colours – albeit with local variations – emerges in the early centuries of the second millennium. The use of green, the colour used more than any other, is likely explained by the ready availability of greenish dye produced from plants. Later generations have seen a symbolic resonance here, for the colour green brings to mind the growth of plants, a reminder that we are called to grow in holiness through our participation in the sacred liturgy. The emergence of green shoots after winter is also a sign of hope: hope that is rooted in what we celebrate; hope that lifts our horizons beyond the possibilities of this world, to live instead for eternal life in Christ; hope which is not wishful thinking, but something we can be utterly certain of; hope which rests on a victory that has already been won. Thus the season of ordinary time is a

good chance to ponder the significance of the present Jubilee Year and the particular theme given to us by Pope Francis, 'Pilgrims of Hope'.

On these ordinary Sundays we follow the gospel of the year – Luke – more or less continuously. We always miss a bit due to those feasts we have just celebrated, so we take up the story again at the point in Luke's gospel where Jesus sends 72 of his followers out on mission. By now Jesus is intent on journeying to Jerusalem, where he will accomplish the work of our redemption. The 72 are going ahead of him with a message of peace, but are warned this peace may be rejected, for it is the peace that only comes when we are fully aligned with God. The 72 go with his authority and share in those works by which God's kingdom is manifested and true peace restored. This gospel might prompt us to consider the ways in which we proclaim the peace of God's kingdom in the circumstances of our ordinary lives, for we too are called and sent out. We should not give up hope when we seem to be going against the tide, with a message and way of life which challenges those who live by quite different values. Let us not forget that the word Mass itself comes from the very last part of our liturgy, when we are literally sent out on mission: and we go out into the world equipped with the only thing we need, Christ himself abiding in us.

God bless, Fr Matthew

DIOCESAN MOVES: As Parish Priests (from September): Fr Britto Belevendran from Wickford to Upton Park; Fr Rick Fernandez from Lexden to Becontree; Fr Matthias Baidoo from South Woodham Ferrers/Danbury to Lexden; Fr Angelus Houle from Upton Park to South Woodham Ferrers/ Danbury; Fr Philip Okoli Colchester from Assistant to Parish Priest; Fr Damien Wade from Assistant, Chelmsford to Wickford; Fr Frank Westcott as Parochial Administrator of Ongar; Fr Gary Dench as Parochial Administrator of Ingatestone (also Parish Priest of Hutton); Fr Cherian John (Syro-Malankara) from Kerala to Hornchurch English Martyrs as Priest-in-Charge. Mgr Chris Brooks, Canon Peter Conor and Fr Gerry Drumond are retiring from Colchester, Ingatestone and Rochford respectively. As Assistant Priest: Fr Michael Barwick from Walthamstow to Chelmsford. Assistant Priests from outside the diocese have been appointed to Hornchurch St Mary, Walthamstow, Colchester and Westcliff/Rochford, subject to confirmation. Please pray for all those who are moving, and for the parishes involved.

THIS WEEK: Please note there is no holy hour this Wednesday, nor for the next two Saturdays. Mass will be celebrated as usual on days when Fr Matthew is away, with grateful thanks to Fr Gerry Gostling, and priests from the Friars of the Renewal in Canning Town.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Our children's liturgy team are now on a wellearned summer break. The Children's Liturgy during the 9am Mass will resume in September. Many thanks to all our catechists for their hard work. If you are interested in joining them, please email the parish office or talk to one of the catechists after Mass.

SACRED HEART OF MARY NEW YEAR 7 FAMILY MIXER: Saturday 27th September 7.30pm—10pm. £10 per ticket for a family of 4. Bring your own drinks and snacks. Raffle on the night.

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES: Ronald Threadgill, Len Jones, Pauline Duncan, Violet Marsh, Ernest Phillips, Michael Reed, Betty Wellings, Dawn Ney, Mary Singleton, Joseph McConalogue, Teresa Faherty, Laurens Pynnenburg, Annie Allen, Kim Bateman, Dan Coakley, Annette Collier, Maureen Lockwood, Eileen Wennell, Francis Hartley, Alfred Allen, Charles Allen, Edward Caldon, Hanna Hale, Dorothy Moss, Patience Jones, James Cantwell, Ron Gillespie, Patrick McDonnell, Peter Casey, Peter Mc Comish, Paddy O'Shea, Robert Steeden, Maria Wayne, Michael Hogan, David Murphy, Patricia Hogg, Bernard Goodall, Kathleen Mansell, Frances Thurgood, Barbara Patullo, Ethel Kirk, Pamela Bailey, Margaret Baker, Patrick O'Shea, Hugh Scullion, Mildred Freel, Ellen Ivens, Anita Wolski, Alfred Best, Clorinda Pesci, Hannah Rynne, Dr Kevin McAndrew, Isabel Coleman, Mary Cooper, James Reid, Cornelius Barrett, Michael Mahoney, Beatrice Jordan, Marion McKenzie, Eileen Gedes, Grace Waterman, John Scanlon, Joy Ramsden, Eddie O'Sullivan, Clive Gleeson, Moya Armstrong, Bishop Wall, Denis O'Connor, Eileen Busby, Meryl Gibbs, Jeanette Cavalier, Anne Tunstill, Betty Moore, Anna Gallagher, Shirley Hartley, Ellen Sharp, Mary Falconer, Sydney Cooper, Catherine Turck, Michael Neary, Joan Heelan, Christina Ritchie, Patrick Monaghan, Christine Mathurin, Eileen James, Margaret Garwood, Nancy Moncriefe, Henry Benjamin, Michael Ferrell, William Cates, Mary Doreen Clark, Rachel Ferrie, Joyce Croly, Patricia Gilbert, James Jinks, Thomas Tinney, Patrick Murray, Roy Hale, John Wooster, Joan Henry, Annie Dawson, Grace Connelley, Tony Nellist, Patsy Fowley, Leonard Tylar, James Cronin, Doris Newman & Kit Murdock. May they all rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 5th July

5.30pm—6.15pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS Eileen Furzer RIP B'day (Ferreira)

Sun 6th July FOURTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am Jenny Maplesden RIP (Family)

11.00am People of the parish

Mon 7th July

9.15am Maureen Springham RIP (Brian)

Tues 8th July

9.15am Tom Flatley RIP (Bridget) (With our Year 3 children)

Wed 9th July

9.15am Kay McEvoy RIP (Armstrong)

12 noon—1pm NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Thur 10th July

9.15am Bridget Moyles' Intentions (Bridget)

Frid 11th July ST BENEDICT, AB

9.15am June Main's Intentions (Family)

Sat 12th July

5.30pm—6.15pm NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

6.30pm People of the parish

Sun 13th July FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am Pat Judge RIP (Family)

11.00am Linda Travell & John & Delia Sammon RIP (Sammon)

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 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