



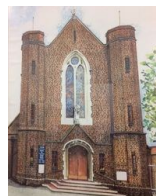
St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

upminster@brcdt.org / 01708 222432



PARISH NEWSLETTER

11TH / 12TH OCTOBER 2025

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C) - Mass Book Pg 149

(2 Kings 5:14-17, 2 Timothy 2:8-13, Luke 17:11-19)

If you are travelling to another country and don't know any of the language, if you don't learn anything else you might try and learn 'thank you', 'please', and 'sorry' – along with some form of greeting. Those three expressions are not just social convention; they are vital to any relationship as they ensure we are not taking the other person for granted. They are also a necessary and basic part of our relationship with God, expressed in prayer, and provide a simple structure for our daily prayers, at any age.

Over the next three weeks, our gospel readings point to each dimension of prayer in turn, more or less explicitly. This week, we are given the example of the nine lepers who fail to give thanks for their healing, and the one to returns to Jesus to show his gratitude.

A lack of gratitude suggests a gift may not have been fully appreciated, or even not received. We don't always recognise God's initiatives of grace in our lives. We don't always realise when our prayers have been answered in an unexpected way. We can be quicker to ask for something, than to say thank you.

The nine ungrateful lepers are still healed, but Jesus says to the one who came back, 'your faith has made you well'. The word Luke often typically uses can also be rendered 'saved' instead of 'made you well'. Perhaps we could say, 'made you whole'. For this man has been healed of more than his leprosy, because he was able to receive what the Lord wanted to give him.

Last week's gospel was all about faith: how we should ask for it, but also understand that it is a matter of being able to trust fully in God, and the good he desires in his infinite love for us, rather than simply being convinced



intellectually of his existence. In faith, we open our hearts to him, and are made whole.

When we ask for our faith to be strengthened, let us also ask for greater awareness of what God is already doing in us, and deeper gratitude for all the ways in which he has blessed us. Let us not forget that the word 'Eucharist' means 'thanksgiving'. As the leper went back to Jesus to give thanks, so in the Mass we come to God, to worship him with grateful hearts, and in doing so we are able to receive even more from his goodness.

God bless, Fr Matthew

BECOMING A CATHOLIC? If you are thinking about joining the Catholic church, whether baptised in another church, never baptised, or even a baptised Catholic who missed out on first communion/confirmation, Fr Matthew will explain the process after all Masses **this weekend**. Simply stay behind (and move to the front) after the final hymn.

NEXT FORTNIGHT: Please note there is no Wednesday lunchtime Holy Hour on 23rd or 30th October, and no Saturday Holy Hour on 18th or 25th October.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: The Diocese now requires every parish to have a designated Health and Safety representative, who, like the parish Safeguarding representative, can assist the parish priest in making sure we comply with statutory and diocesan requirements, with the aim of ensuring our parish environment is a safe for everyone. If you think you could contribute your time, willingness to undergo training and some practical skills to this role, please approach Fr Matthew or email the parish office.

CONFIRMATION: Do you want the gifts of the Holy Spirit to help you live your faith as a follower of Jesus Christ? Registration is now open for this year's confirmation programme for those in year 10 or above: tinyurl.com/stjconfirm26

THANK YOU to all who took part in last week's pilgrimage to Brentwood. It was wonderful to see so many people of all ages coming together for this. There are some photos on our Facebook page.

RAINHAM FOODBANK: Thank you for all your donations over the summer. During August and September, our parish gave 110Kg of food and essential groceries. During the winter months, there is an even greater need for **NON PERISHABLE** items, so please continue to be generous. Just a reminder that we cannot accept alcohol, powdered baby formula milk or perishable items. Please place in the large container at the back of the church. Many thanks. Margaret.

CWL: The CWL Wednesday lunch club will be closed for one week only on Wednesday 29th, October, this coincides with the children's October half term. We will reopen on Wednesday 5th, November.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR: Do you enjoy singing? Have you ever wanted to sing as part of a group? Then why not join St Joseph's Church Choir. We come together twice a year and rehearse for about ten weeks before singing at the Christmas and Easter Masses. We are always looking for new members to swell our numbers, and singers of all abilities are welcome. Our rehearsals for Christmas will be in the Church on Mondays at 7.30pm, starting on **Monday 13 October**. If you are interested, please contact Mark on 07763 210946 or mark142857@hotmail.com for more details.

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MUMS' NIGHT OUT: Friday 17 October 7:30pm at the St. Joseph's Catholic Club. All welcome but please book a free ticket at <https://buytickets.at/stjosephscatholicclubupminster/1871979>

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? Next programme starts 17th October
www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296 983.

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES: Irene Acott, Cornelius O'Mahoney, Muriel Brown, Terence Smith, Kevin Danagher, Bernadette Humphreys, Eileen Cooke, Catherine Goddard, Anne Blaney, Maureen Faughnan, Gerry Presland, Elizabeth Widger, Patrick O'Shea, David Tarplett, Veronica McKeone, George Williams, David Perry, Catherine Ferguson, Victor Hughes, Caroline Saunders, Rosemary O'Hallaran, Sylvia Kinghorn, Isabella Markham, James Harkins, Rose McKeown, Sheila Higgs, Margaret Storey, Fred Regan, Jessie Burns, Margaret Ratcliffe, Michael Markham, Lauren Dixon, David Steward, Irene Ritchie, Sabrina Roberts, Stephen Barrable, Robin Clist, Gwendoline Coate, Barbara O'Brien, Lynne Salmon, Bridget Martin, John Foy, Maureen Pereira, Maria Judge, Kathleen Butters, Peggy McKeown, Joseph Cyril Pereira, Rose Mary James, William Shave, Christina Pinder, Colin Baker, Alan George Best, Catherine Gillespie, Marie Pearce, David Lawless, William Croly, Margaret Casey, Cornelius Coughlan, John Street, Joseph Barrett, Sarah Dailey, Joseph Burke, Madeleine Ferry, Danny (Desmond) Jones, Fr Clay, John Rix, David Judge, Katelyn Hope Henry, Agnes Mason, June Gilson, Margaret O'Donoghue, George Gurney, Eileen McCheyne, Jessie Rapp, Fred James, June Gilson, Patrick Curtin, Emilia Taylor, Peggy Hill, Moira Valma Kennedy, James Leonard, Frank Hosey, Mary Clark, Marie Barrett, Jane Winn, Theresa Saunders, Cyril Henden, William Hudson, Joan Behan, Eileen Furzer, Maureen Baillache, Edith Emily Keene, Patrick Hinchin, Margaret Kennedy, Daniel Corigan, Margaret Connolly, Roma Young, Christine Wright & Winifred Walker.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 11th Oct

5.30pm—6.15pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

6.30pm Mon & Noel Lynch RIP Anniv. (Keefe)

Sun 12th Oct

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am People of the parish

11.00am Alf Driscoll RIP B'day (Family)

Mon 13th Oct

9.15am Rose Powell RIP Anniv. (Margaret)

Tues 14th Oct

9.15am Eileen Newman RIP (Bill & Mary Warner)

Wed 15th Oct

ST TERESA OF JESUS, V,D

9.15am Patricia Danagher RIP (Pavitt)

12 noon—1pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Thur 16th Oct

9.15am Terry Smith RIP Anniv. (Ita & Family) (with our Year 3 children)

Frid 17th Oct

ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, BP, M

9.15am Catherine Osho's Birthday Intentions (Bridget)

Sat 18th Oct

ST LUKE, EV

5.30pm—6.15pm ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

6.30pm People of the parish

Sun 19th Oct

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

9.00am John Street & Marie Pearce RIP. Anniv.

11.00am Robin Clist RIP Anniv. (Family)

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/pastoral need): 07356 292542

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.

St Joseph's Pre-School —available with wraparound (7.30am—6pm)
07983859090/07807700900.

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**