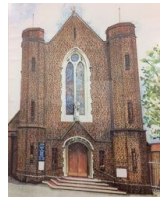




St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi
Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

30TH / 31ST MAY 2026

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY (A) - Mass Book Pg 288

A week after Pentecost, though officially back in 'Ordinary Time', we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. There is a pattern in the calendar that a week after a great feast day, we celebrate a related feast. Trinity Sunday follows the celebration of the third person of the Trinity. Pentecost marked the beginning of the church's proclamation to the world of the Triune nature of God, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. In a sense we don't need a celebration of the Trinity because everything we do is fundamentally Trinitarian; all our worship begins and ends with our invocation of the one God in three persons. But so central is this doctrine, concerning as it does the very nature of God himself and our relation to him, that local celebrations of the Trinity which had emerged to counter heresies were adopted by the universal church in the 14th century.



A century later, and in a church tragically separated from communion with the successor of Peter, the artist Andrei Rublev created the most famous depiction of the Holy Trinity. His icon presents three angelic figures: the angels who visited Abraham at the Oak of Mamre (Genesis 18). But the symbolic elements of this icon point to that other subject which it is most chiefly associated, the communion of three divine persons that we call the Trinity.

No human art, however inspired, can possibly depict the mysterious reality of the God who exists outside his creation. God is not a collection of angels or human persons, for he is not a 'thing' (still less a collection of 'things') that

exist within creation. But this icon captures something of that mysterious, eternal communion between Father, Son and Holy Spirit. There is a circularity in the composition and the gaze of the eyes of each figure. At the heart of the composition is a bowl of food, the hospitality offered by Abraham but also hinting at sacrifice and even the eucharist. For the composition also seems to invite us, the observer, into that fellowship. And this is the extraordinary truth that we celebrate: not only that God is Trinity, one God in three persons bound in an eternal communion of love; but that we, his creatures, are drawn into that communion through the incarnation of the second person, the Son and Word of God.

God bless, Fr Matthew

CORPUS CHRISTI: On the Sunday after Trinity Sunday (that is, next Sunday), we celebrate the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, or the Body and Blood of Christ, transferred in this country from Thursday. At the 11am Mass we will have a eucharistic procession, including the children who have recently made their first holy communion.

RIP: Please pray for the repose of the souls of William Brannan and Sue Kelly, a teaching assistant at St Joseph's Primary School. William's funeral will be held here on Thursday 11th June at 12.30pm. May William and Sue rest in the eternal peace of Christ.

EXAM PRAYERS: As public exams resume after the half-term break, please continue to pray for all those sitting GCSE, A Level and other exams, as well as those marking them!

ST PETER'S UPDATE: Now that this has been announced to their own congregation, we can share the news that the trustees of the diocese have agreed to the sale of St Peter's Cranham to Romford Elim Pentecostal Church, subject to contract. There was a great deal of interest in the site and a competitive bidding process, and the amount achieved by the sale will go along way towards our building project. To mark the end of our use of this building, we are holding a bring and share lunch on Sunday 5th July, from 1pm. All welcome.

RAINHAM FOOD BANK CDOT VOICES CONCERT: CDOT Voices is raising money for Rainham Foodbank on Friday 12th June. Venue: La Salette Church Hall at 7.45pm. Tickets: £10 adult £2 children over 5 from Bernadette in The Repository or phone 07825235717.

CAMPION SCHOOL OPEN EVENING – YEAR 5 STUDENTS - The Campion School would like to warmly invite parents/carers and year 5 boys to our Open Evening on Thursday, 25th June from 4.30 pm to 7 pm. The Headteacher's talk will be at 4.30 pm and repeated at 6.30 pm. Please visit our school website for more details www.thecampionschool.org.uk

BRENTWOOD URSULINE - MUSICAL APTITUDE ASSESSMENTS FOR MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS & PLACES - YEAR 7 ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2027 Is offering 17 of the Year 7 places for admission in September 2027, on the basis of musical aptitude. Parents wishing to apply should submit the appropriate form (available to download from the website www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk or direct from the school). Completed forms must be sent to the school by Friday, 17th July 2026. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

BCYS YOUTH MASS: The next Youth Masses will take place at Brentwood Cathedral on Thursday 4th June and 2nd July. It is open to any young people from around the Diocese to enjoy pizza, prayer, workshops and celebrate Mass together! For more information, please visit www.bcys.net/events

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 (SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA) - Be part of something extraordinary at World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. Travel with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service to join hundreds of thousands of young Catholics from around the world, gathered with Pope Leo for this global celebration of faith. Open to those currently in Year 13 and above. Details and applications: www.bcys.net/events/wyd27

A DAY WITH MARY PILGRIMAGE 2026: Pilgrimage to Italy (Tuesday, 1st to Thursday, 10th September 2026). Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> Closing date 23rd June 2026.

ST MARY'S HORNCHURCH PARISH SUMMER FETE: The Parish will be holding a summer fete on Saturday 13th June 1-5pm .We are delighted to announce that the Scoops will be providing live music throughout the day and we have a great range of inflatables - wrist bands on sale on the day £5 each. We have a selection of food stalls, ice cream, beverages and fancy good stalls booked.

THE LEGACY OF ST FRANCIS: A fully edited version of the recent talk given by Fr Alban McCoy OFM Conv to mark eight hundred years since the death of St Francis of Assisi is now available free of charge from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org The talk was given at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park on 2nd May.

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 30th May 5.30pm—6.15pm 6.30pm	THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY NO ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS People of the parish
Sun 31st May 9.00am 11.00am	THE MOST HOLY TRINITY For the friends of Mary-Anne Madden Paul Merrick RIP (Sheridan)
Mon 1st June 9.15am	DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST MARY & ST HELEN, BRENTWOOD Len Jones RIP Anniv. (Carter / Jones)
Tues 2nd June 9.15am	Winifred & Ronald Threadgill RIP (Threadgill)
Wed 3rd June 9.15am 12 noon—1pm	ST CHARLES LWANGA & COMPS, MM, M For the intentions of Vocations (Davin) ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS
Thur 4th June 9.15am	Patrick Holden's 70th Birthday Intentions (Margaret) (With our Year 4 children)
Frid 5th June 9.15am	ST BONIFACE, BP, M For Patricia's Intentions (Mary & Pat Slattery)
Sat 6th June 5.30pm—6.15pm 6.30pm	ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS People of the parish
Sun 7th June 9.00am 11.00am	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST Kevin Fahy RIP (Paul) Simon Murphy RIP (Catton)

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 7.30am-6pm) 07983-859090 / 07807-700900

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