

firmly separates the Apostles from the multitudes, as if to say: but you, who are with me every day and know me personally, what more have you understood? The Master expects from his own a lofty response different from that of public opinion. And indeed, such an answer gushes forth from the heart of Simon, called Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (v. 16). Simon Peter finds on his lips words greater than he, words that do not spring from his natural faculties. Perhaps he did not attend elementary school, and [yet] he is capable of saying these words, stronger than he! But they are inspired by the Heavenly Father (cf. v. 17), who reveals Jesus' true identity to the first of the Twelve: he is the Messiah, the Son sent by God to save mankind. And from this answer, Jesus understands that, thanks to the faith given by the Father, there is a solid foundation upon which he can build his community, his Church. Thus, he says to Simon: You, Simon, "you are Peter"- that is, stone, rock - "and on this rock I will build my Church" (v. 18).

With us too, today, Jesus wants to continue building his Church, this house with solid foundations but where cracks are not lacking, and which is in constant need of repair. Always. The Church always needs to be reformed, repaired. We certainly do not feel like rocks, but only like small stones. However, no small stone is useless; indeed, in Jesus' hands the smallest stone becomes precious, because he picks it up, gazes at it with great tenderness, fashions it with his Spirit, and positions it in the right place that he had always had in mind and where it can be more useful to the whole structure. Each of us is a small stone, but in Jesus' hands participates in the building of the Church. And all of us, as small as we are, are rendered "living stones" because when Jesus takes his stone in hand, he makes it his own; he infuses it with life, full of life, full of life from the Holy Spirit, full of life from his love. And thus we have a place and a mission in the Church: she is a community of life, made up of very many stones, all different, which form a single edifice as a sign of fraternity and communion.

Moreover, today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus also wanted Peter as a visible centre of communion for his Church - he too, is not a great stone; he is a small stone, but taken up by Jesus, he becomes the centre of communion.

#### CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD – Development Officer

If you are passionate about supporting local volunteers, and have strong experience in training and networking in the charitable sector, this could be your perfect job! The deadline to apply is 2 October 2020 and the start date is January 2021. For the Job Description and full details of this significant new role, which will help enhance our Gospel mandate to serve and recognise Christ in the poor, and in those on the edges.

Please visit: [www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/developmentofficer/](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/developmentofficer/)

#### CHAPEL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

This week, the light in honour of Our Lady is in memory of Father Seán Sheils.

*A number of people have 'planned ahead' and booked dates for 2021; envelopes are available in the porch if you would like to be sure of a particular week next year.*



#### MASS INTENTIONS

##### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 22 August : 6.30 pm Lilah Forster RIP (Hatch)

Sunday 23 Aug : 9.00 am Teresa Lee Smith RIP (P Smith)

11.30 am Winifred Long RIP (Long family)

Monday 24 Aug : 9.00 am Mgr John Coghlan RIP (PACT Westminster)

Tuesday 25 Aug : 9.00 am Holy Souls

Wednesday 26 Aug : 9.00 am Caetano Fernandes RIP (Delima)

Thursday 27 Aug : 9.00 am Fr Joseph McGovern RIP (PACT Nottingham)

Friday 28 Aug : 9.00 am Darren Margot RIP (Teresa)

##### TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 29 Aug : 6.30 pm Don Philliston RIP (Gardner)

Sunday 30 Aug : 9.00 am Johnny McCarthy RIP (Dolby)

11.30 am Members of Our Parish Community

# Catholic Church of Corpus Christi

Lowshoe Lane, Collier Row, Romford, Essex RM5 2AP

**Parish Priest:**

Father Philip Denton

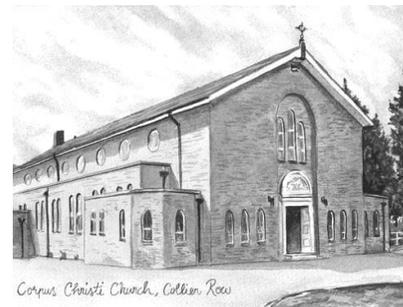
☎01708-749050

✉collierrow@dioceseofbrentwood.org

**to contact Church House:**

## Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

22-23 August 2020



*Corpus Christi Church, Collier Row*

#### PARISH WEBSITE

[www.corpuschristicollierrow.org](http://www.corpuschristicollierrow.org)

#### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday : 9.00 am – 12.00 noon

#### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday : 6.30 pm, Sunday : 9.00 am and 11.30 am

#### MASS DURING THE WEEK

Monday to Friday : 9.00 am

#### MORNING PRAYER

Monday to Friday : 8.45 am

#### NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

Friday : 7.30 pm

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday : 5.30 – 6.30 pm

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday : 6.00-6.30 pm

or any other time on request

*The church is open at the following times:*

Monday to Saturday

9.00 am to 12 noon and 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

#### COVID AND THE CHURCH

*Some important points and reminders:*

**Face masks or coverings must be worn** in all places of worship (some people are exempt on medical or other grounds). We have a small supply of disposable masks for anyone that forgets to bring one.

**Just before you approach to receive Holy Communion**, you will need to lower, unloop or remove the covering briefly. Replace it as you return to your seat.

**Please sit in the places that are clearly marked:** for individuals, two persons from the same household or for family groups of three or more. In some churches, where you sit is decided for you by ushers and there are many that require you to book a seat on-line (not sure what you do if you don't use the internet). We do not want to do any of this here, if it can be avoided; but we all need to do our bit! If you must sit at the end of a pew, you will need to allow others to squeeze past to get to vacant places.

**Try to be on time** – once Mass has begun, it is very difficult to spot places that are free and because seating is limited, it can be very disruptive. Our Sunday Masses begin at 6.30 pm (Saturday), 9.00 am and 11.30 am (Sunday).

**You really must maintain social distancing** when chatting with people from outside your household (or bubble), before or after Mass. If you are wearing a mask this means a minimum of one metre distance. If you are not wearing a mask: two metres distance is essential.

#### CHURCH CAR PARK

During the school holiday the church car park will be open for use for those coming to weekday Mass. However, because of anti-social behaviour there during the past few months, the car park will be closed for the rest of the day. It will be open for weekend Masses as usual.

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

This weekend we welcome Levi Allen into God's family, the Church. May he and his family grow in the knowledge and love of God within our community of faith.

## PARISH OFFERINGS

Your offerings last weekend came to: £814.05 (of which £344.90 was gifted aided). Thank you for your continued support.

## REPOSITORY

The Repository is being kept closed at present. If there is something you need, please ask and it will be opened for you.

## KEEPING THE CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

Thanks to our team of 'church stewards' we are able to have the church open during the day for private prayer; we are required to have two stewards on duty all the time we are open. If you are in the area, do take the opportunity to pay a visit and spend some time in the peace and tranquillity of our church. If the opening times are not convenient, it may be possible to open the church for you at another time of day – please 'phone Father Philip to see if this can be arranged.

## SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION

Do Catholics have to go to Mass on Sunday? In ordinary times, the answer would be: yes, we are obliged to keep the Sabbath holy by participating in Sunday Mass. However, during this health crisis the obligation has been lifted. So, you might like to consider coming to a weekday Mass instead – a quieter celebration that allows for ample social distancing.

## THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Monday is the **Feast of St Bartholomew** – the call of this apostle to follow the Lord is told in the Gospel of today's liturgy. According to tradition he died a martyr's death by being flayed alive. There is a particularly graphic and gruesome statue of him in the Pope's cathedral in Rome (St John Lateran) holding up his complete skin (including facial features) and the knife used to skin him.

Wednesday is the **Memorial of Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God** – an Italian Passionist priest who spent eight years on mission work in England in the nineteenth century. It was he who received St John Henry Newman into the Church. Blessed Dominic died in 1849 and his body lies in its shrine at the church in Sutton, St Helens – until recently the home of the Passionists on Merseyside.

Thursday is the **Memorial of St Monica** – the pious mother of St Augustine, she is said to have shed tears for her son, 'dead to the Faith until his conversion'.

Friday is the **Memorial of St Augustine** – this convert became, as Bishop of Hippo in north Africa, one of the greatest ever leaders, thinkers and teachers of the Faith. The story of his conversion is told in the classic spiritual book now known as *The Confessions of St Augustine*. He died in 430.

*Please remember in your prayers*

### Those who are ill . . .

Neil Abrahams, Isabella Ayres, Mary Brennan, Lesley Carroll, Tom Coddington, Pat and Janet Defreitas, Brenda Duke, Compton Glasgow, Eddie Margot, Gary Martindill, Maureen Mongan, Helen Murray, Sue Read, Rose Sheridan, Stephen Smithers, Sue Spelling and Mary Treston.

### Those whose anniversaries are recalled at this time . . .

**22-28 Aug:** Father Seán Sheils, Anna Valentini, Teresa Smith, Charles Snoxell, Eileen O'Boyle, Margaret Willbourne, Cyril Thorne and Mary Anne Flazon.

*"Be what you are and be it well, all to the glory of God"* - St Francis de Sales

This text was often quoted by Father Tom Jordan and was included in his Funeral Mass on Wednesday.

## REVISED TEMPORARY MINISTRY ROTA

	Readers	Communion Minister
<b>22-23 August</b>		
6.30 pm	Mary O'Driscoll Vanessa Thompson	David Elliott
9.00 am	Lisa Walker Maria Green	Linda Withers
11.30 am	Attracta Caulfield-Ross Catharine Welcome	John McKie
<b>29-30 August</b>		
6.30 pm	Jean Capps Frank Smith	
9.00 am	Aimee Peters Pat Pridham	Tricia Rogan
11.30 am	Susan Smithson Onyema Agbebi	Victoria Cassettari
<b>5-6 September</b>		
6.30 pm	Kim Pritchard Doug Mongan	Carmelina Fulton
9.00 am	Lorna Lyons Ken Hay	Katie Fernandes
11.30 am	Michael Chadwick Triston Osuji	Alexandra Burt-Allen
<b>12-13 September</b>		
6.30 pm	Nicola Charles Sophie Pritchard	Gail Furniaux
9.00 am	Alex Hinton Eileen Jonas	Alison Greene
11.30 am	Terence Osuji Shirley Hay	Michaela Henkel
<b>19-20 September</b>		
6.30 pm	Eileen Rogan-Hill Margaret Smith	Henrietta Oppong
9.00 am	Roger King Wally Barnes	Auxilia Rayan
11.30 am	Les Hislop Carleen Heath	Catherine Burnett
<b>26-27 September</b>		
6.30 pm	Sue Butcher Connor Furniaux	Chantelle Makamba
9.00 am	Charles Gallen Mary Brennan	Roger King
11.30 am	Stephen Doherty Nuala Doherty	Elaine New

*With a more simplified liturgy due to restrictions currently in place each Mass requires just two Readers and one Extra-Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion.*

*Hence the need for a revised, temporary rota, which will frequently be updated. You will find it on the website, in the 'Rotas' section.*

*Readers and Communion Ministers should come to the Sacristy to sign in.*

*Readers will need to collect a pair of disposable gloves from the Sacristy.*

*They remove their face covering just before reading and replace it immediately afterwards.*

*The first Reader listed will be responsible for the First Reading and Psalm; the second Reader for the Second Reading and leading people in the Gospel Acclamation.*

*Communion Ministers will need to sanitise their hands just before distributing Holy Communion. Hand gel is available on the Credence Table.*

an extract from **Pope Francis**, *Angelus Address, St Peter's Square, 27 August 2017*

This Sunday's Gospel (Mt 16:13-20) takes us back to a key juncture along Jesus' journey with his disciples: the moment in which he wants to assess the extent of their faith in him. First, he wants to know what the people think of him; and the people think that Jesus is a prophet, which is true, but they do not grasp the centrality of his Person; they do not understand the centrality of his mission. Then he asks the disciples the question closest to his heart, that is, he asks them directly: "But who do you say that I am?" (v15). And with that 'but' Jesus