

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

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Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Assistant Priest: Father Matthias Baidoo

Sacramental Coordinator: Jane Tatam 07415 602774

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.30-6.00pm and by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.15am-2.30pm



Presentation of the Lord

Year A

2nd February 2020

My eyes have seen the light of salvation.

Forty days after Christmas, we observe the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple (the feast of Candlemas), when we celebrate Christ as the light of the world. In many places candles are blessed in church and carried in procession to welcome him. This day also marks the end of Christmastide, and the slow return of longer daylight hours.

Today's **First Reading** (Malachi 3: 1–4) is a prophecy in which we can recognise the Messiah. His coming will be a challenge, but also good news for those who welcome him. We sing the **Psalm** (24) as we follow the Lord, our King of glory.

Christ has come to live among us as one of us. (**Second Reading** Hebrews 2: 14–18) Although he is God's Son, he was tempted in every way that we are, and so able to help us in our temptations.

The **Gospel** (Luke 2: 22–40) reminds us of the first time the Lord entered the Temple, with Mary and Joseph. There he meets Simeon, an old man who recognises Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah; together with Anna, a prophetess who tells everyone she meets about him.

As we read Simeon's warning to Mary that her Son will be rejected, and that a sword will pierce her own soul, we might bring to mind and pray for all mothers, particularly those who witness and suffer the loss of their children, whether we know them personally or not.

Pax Christi: There will be a **second collection this weekend** for Pax Christi.

Lourdes Sick & Helpers Pilgrimage Fund: There is a **second collection next weekend** to support this fund.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society: Many thanks to all of those who donated to the BCCS last weekend. We raised a fantastic £851.34!

Confirmation Youth Mass: The Confermandi will be going to the Youth Mass at Brentwood Cathedral this coming Wednesday 5th February. Please meet at the Church at 7.00pm for the coach to leave at 7.15pm. The coach will return at 9.45pm.

Confirmation Volunteers: We really need help with our Confirmation programme as we have over 50 young people who wish to be confirmed this year but we do not have enough helpers. If you can help in any way, please see Father Martin or Mary Redmond or call the parish office asap. Thank you

This Monday we welcome Year Four to mass.

Children in Year Five should see Father Martin after mass.

Pray Pray Pray! Come and join us every Thursday at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Chapel for rosary and adoration in response to our Lady of Medjugorje's call to prayer. Refreshments afterwards, everyone welcome.

Mary Queen of Peace Day of Prayer: Come and join us at St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch, for a day of prayer on Saturday 22nd February 10.00am-4.00pm. Rosary, Adoration and talk given by Fr. Svetozar, Franciscan priest from Medugorje. Bring packed lunch along – everyone welcome!

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Please join us this first Friday of the month where Jesus is exposed on the altar 11.00am-7.00pm. All are welcome.

RCIA Journey in Faith: The RCIA group meets every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Van Meenen Room. All are welcome!

Pilgrimage to Medugorje 2020: Our Parish pilgrimage to Medugorje this year is from 29th September to 6th October. For more information please call Kathy on 07932 762608.

Lourdes Quiz Night: Raising funds for Youth Club members going to Lourdes. Saturday 28th March in the Parish Hall. 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Tables of 6-8 only. Hosted by Kevin Walsh - acclaimed quiz master! Raffle on night. Bring your own drinks & nibbles. Call 07817 913663 or drop into Parish Office during opening hours – tickets cost £5.00pp. Any donations for raffle prizes greatly appreciated! Come and have some fun raising money for a good cause.

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: Our third study day for the Year of the Word will be held at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Brentwood Road, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) at 10.30 on Saturday 29th February, when Fr Victor Darlington, lecturer on John's Gospel at St John's Seminary, Womersley, will give two talks entitled 'John Among the Gospels', providing a fresh reading of the Fourth Gospel. The day will conclude at 3 p.m. Admission is free, but please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914. During the day there will be the chance to buy copies of the 'Revised New Jerusalem Bible' at the discounted price of £30 (RRP £39.99). Refreshments will be available but please bring your own packed lunch.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage: Bishop Alan, supported by our Youth Service, will lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 26 - 31 July, flying from Southend Airport. This is a wonderful opportunity, including for the frail and those with needs, to pray at the Grotto, grow in faith, and enjoy the company of fellow pilgrims. Some brochures and booking forms are available

in the parish or you can contact the tour operator, Tangney Tours, directly: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood or 01732 886885.

Youth Masses take place at the Cathedral every first Wednesday of the month at 8pm to which all are welcome.

The Sponsored Sleepout (3rd-4th April 2020) is a powerful experience for individuals of all ages, and for groups of young people, including Confirmation Groups. Last year 70 people slept out and raised an amazing £10,000 for homeless charities in the Diocese. Group booking info (a simple summary of numbers, and the details of group leaders) should be emailed to frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org; individuals should register on www.bcys.net

Lenten Reflection and Revision Retreat (27th-29th March 2020); we are more and more aware that young people can find it hard to find quiet places to study. We are therefore offering a retreat in Lent for those in school years 11-13 (GCSE and A-level years) which will be a mix of periods for personal study, interwoven with reflective prayer times and social times. All details on <https://bcys.net/events/lenen-retreat-2020/>. The £35 cost is being subsidised from the National Youth Sunday collection.

The Annual Lourdes Mass will be celebrated at Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 16 February at 3.00pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for graces received in Lourdes and to seek prayers for the sick. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated.

CHURCH EVENTS:

Children's Liturgy: Sundays for children at the 9.30am Mass.

Baptism Course: First and second Thursday of the month.

Baptisms: Last Sunday of the month.

Rosary & Adoration Prayer Group: Thursdays at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Chapel

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Thursday 2.30 – 5.30pm & every First Friday from 9.00am – 7.00pm & each Sunday afternoon 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Van Meenen Room.

RCIA Journey in Faith: Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Van Meenen Room.

Rosary: Wednesdays at 7.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Weekdays after 8.30am Mass in Our Lady's Chapel. Saturdays after 12 noon Mass in Our Lady's Chapel.

St Vincent de Paul Society: Meets every second and fourth Thursday of the month in the Van Meenen Room. New members always welcome. If you, or anybody you know, would like/need a visit or help from the SVP please contact us through the church office.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially: Barbara Andrews, Roseleen Ammerman, Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Betty Compton, Joyce Cougill, Sharon De Giorgio, Leo Duffy, Mary Emmery, William Fernandez, Frances Hardy, Bernadette Heddle, Kevin Hartie, Baby Nathan Howe, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Bina McCarthy, Clare McGill, Patrick Medlin, Carly Menon, Richard Mole, Sheila Murphy, Molly Peters, Anthony Picton, Jill Ridley, Paul David Ridley, Oliver Roome, Anne Ruddiman, Jane Stevenson, Anne Sullivan, John Sullivan, Maria Wallace, Mary Wallace, Josie Walsh, David Wells, Maureen Williams and for all our family and friends who are ill. **Please inform us if there is someone seriously ill and let us know if anyone on the list is no longer ill so we can remove their name from our list.**

May the courage of Our Lady, St. Joseph & the English Martyrs inspire us to work together to develop the new relationship of our Parish Partnership

WEEKEND 8th /9th February 2020:

Readers:	Sat	6.30pm	Janet James / Peter Amey
	Sun	8.00am	Angela Joseph / Susan Squire
		9.30am	Amanda Thompson / Paul Chappel
		11.30am	Nonita Emilianus / Eddie Allen

Bidding Prayers: Pat How **Coffee Morning:** 100 Club **Cleaning:** Group D
Offerings 26.01.2020: Envs: £1,219.38 Loose: £913.04 Total: £2,132.42

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	1 st Feb	12.00pm 6.30pm	Michael Francis Int / Martin Keane RIP Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP / Bernie O'Mahoney RIP
Sunday	2 nd Feb	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Jisma Joseph RIP / Khoulood Lesters RIP All Parishioners Sam Farrugia RIP / Sheila Murphy Int
Monday	3 rd Feb	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Paul Forrester RIP
Tuesday	4 th Feb	8.30am	Maureen O'Neill RIP / Joe Duffy RIP
Wednesday	5 th Feb	7.30pm	Gretta Loughnane RIP / Maureen O'Neill RIP
Thursday	6 th Feb	8.30am 2.30-5.30pm	Carmel Davin RIP / Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	7 th Feb	8.30am 11.00-7.00pm	Dennis Davin RIP / Patrick Lenehan RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday	8 th Feb	12.00pm 6.30pm	Rita Andrew Int / Ann Wallace RIP Bernie O'Mahoney RIP / Betty Kennan Int
Sunday	9 th Feb	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Sheila Murphy RIP All Parishioners Patricia McDonnell RIP / Derry Lyndon RIP

***Hospital: Are you going into hospital this week for surgery?
Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after all Sunday Masses.***

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The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies!
Please note the location of the fire exits