

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



Feast of Epiphany

Year A

5th January 2020

Arise, shine out, for your light has come.

We are coming to the end of Christmastide and the feast of the Epiphany not only celebrates the birth of Christ but also

deepens our understanding of the purpose of his Incarnation—the ‘epiphany’ or revelation of God through his Son Jesus. Christ appears as a great light bursting through the darkness. All nations and races come to him and we accept him as our Saviour and King.

Our **1st reading** (Isaiah 60: 1-6) from Isaiah is full of hope—the exiles will return to Jerusalem and God’s glory will shine out.

Psalm 71 describes how God will be worshipped by all peoples. He will reign in justice and compassion, with special care for the poor.

St Paul in the **2nd reading** (Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6) reiterates the message that we are all, Jews and non-Jews alike, brothers and sisters in Christ, forming one body in him.

The **Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12)** tells us the story of how the wise men followed the star and how their journey led them to the infant king.

Perhaps this feast of the Epiphany will allow us to see a star, to journey with the wise men, to discover Christ present in our own lives.

A Big Thank You: Fr Martin & Fr Matthias would like to thank everyone who helped in anyway to prepare for Christmas – church cleaners, altar servers, choir, musicians, flower ladies, crib builders etc. It was truly a wonderful Christmas celebration. Also a big thank you to everyone for their most generous Christmas offerings, plus cards and gifts. God Bless You.

Christmas Bazaar: Our recent Christmas Bazaar raised a fantastic **£5,547.66!** These events couldn't run without all the volunteers who give up their time to help so a very special thanks to all of those who not only help out on the day but also work so hard in the run up to the Bazaar. Thank you also to all who came along to enjoy the fun and gave so generously.

Crib Offerings: Once again this Christmas, we will be raising money for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Please do give what you can.

Parish Council: The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd January at 8.00pm in the Presbytery. All are welcome.

Confirmation Meeting: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 29th January at 7.45pm in the Parish Hall.

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 Medugorje's call to prayer. Refreshments afterwards, everyone welcome.

Happy School Bag Collection: Please bring any unwanted clothes, shoes and soft toys in bin bags on the morning of Sunday 12th January to be dropped at the Van Meenan Room, from 8.00am until 12.45 pm. Collection will be on Monday morning between 1.00pm-3.00pm. Please DO NOT block the side access door to the church or leave bags anywhere else other than at the Van Meenan Room.

Recently Deceased:

Jolanta Betkowska RIP: Jolanta's body will be received into the Church on Tuesday 7th January at 5.00pm and her requiem mass will take place on Wednesday 8th January at 12.00pm followed by a burial at Romford Cemetery.

Maureen O'Neill RIP: Maureen's body will be received into the Church on Wednesday 15th January at 5.00pm and her requiem mass will take place on Thursday 16th January at 11.00am followed by a committal at South Essex Crematorium.

Barbara Andrews RIP: Barbara's requiem mass will take place on Thursday 16th January at 2.00pm followed by a committal at South Essex Crematorium.

Joan Corbett RIP: Joan's requiem mass will take place on Thursday 17th January at 2.15pm followed by a committal at South Essex Crematorium.

John Lawrence RIP: John's requiem mass will take place on Friday 31st January at 12.30pm followed by a committal at South Essex Crematorium.

Please pray for them and their families. May they Rest In Peace.

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

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: Please collect your new rota from the sacristy.

Catechists: Would you like to be a catechist in our parish or know more about the role of a catechist, then please speak to Fr Martin or Jane Tatam.

Musicians: If you are a musician or you know someone who is, please speak to Fr Martin.

Applications for the BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage CLOSE at midnight on Friday 10th January. The pilgrimage is a wonderful way to experience Lourdes in the company of other young people, serving the ill and elderly, and with tremendous experiences of prayer, reflection and social time. The cost is £600, with bursary funds available. To apply go online to www.bcys.net, create a free account, then register for Summer Lourdes. Places will be allocated on 15th January. Any questions, please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW: Fr

Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Matthew, the lectionary gospel for Sundays in 2020, from 7 pm until 8.30 pm on Wednesday 15th (changed from 22nd) January, and Wednesday 29th January at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Admission is free, but please book your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Copies of the recently published ‘Revised New Jerusalem Bible’ will be on sale for £30 (reduced from the normal price of £39.99). Full details and video of earlier talks available on www.whatgoodnews.org

AN HOUR OF PRAYER at St. Joseph's Social Centre St. Mary's

Lane Upminster Tuesday 7th January at 8pm. We will thank God, praise Him, have prayers of petition and an opportunity for private prayer for healing. For details contact Richard & Frances Healy 01708 250717.

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

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 11th / 12th January 2020:

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|-----------------|-----|---------|---------------------------------|
| Readers: | Sat | 6.30pm | Jane Hull / Sarah O'Connor |
| | Sun | 8.00am | Susan Squire / Angela Joseph |
| | | 9.30am | Ella Donald / Bernadith Marimon |
| | | 11.30am | Matthew Leigh / John Hawes |

Bidding Prayers: Brian Rodgers **Coffee Morning:** 100 Club **Cleaning:** Group 4

MASS INTENTIONS

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|--------------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| Saturday | 4 th Jan | 12.00pm 6.30pm | Bridget Shea Int Pilar Celedonia Leon Werle Int |
| Sunday | 5 th Jan | 8.00am 9.30am 11.30am | Tony D'Arcy RIP / Jisma Joseph RIP All Parishioners Sam Farrugia RIP / Michael Francis Int |
| The Epiphany of the Lord | | | |
| Monday | 6 th Jan | 9.00am | Norah Lenehan RIP / Frank Harrington RIP |
| Tuesday | 7 th Jan | 8.30am 5.00pm | Brian Maguire Int / Michael McGovern RIP Reception of Body: Jolanta Betkowska RIP |
| Wednesday | 8 th Jan | 12.00pm 7.30pm | Requiem Mass: Jolanta Betkowska RIP Ena Cadden RIP / Jenny Mapleseden RIP |
| Thursday | 9 th Jan | 8.30am | Kevin Dolan RIP / John Waiman RIP |
| Friday | 10 th Jan | 8.30am | Marie Tweedie RIP / Hugh McCafferty RIP |
| Saturday | 11 th Jan | 12.00pm 6.30pm | John & Bridget Cody RIP / Brian Fahy Mrs Tweedie RIP / Bernie O'Mahoney RIP |
| Sunday | 12 th Jan | 8.00am 9.30am 11.30am | Mary McCarthy RIP / Dawn Whelan Smith RIP Patricia Cunningham RIP / Stephen Kerby RIP All Parishioners |
| The Baptism of the Lord | | | |

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