

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Sacramental Coordinator: Jane Tatam 07930 510218

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.30-6.00pm and by appointment



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

5th November 2017

Keep my soul in peace before you O Lord

Our readings this week are both a harsh criticism of how some aspects of established religion can lead us to pride, and also a gentle teaching on simplicity and humility.

In the **First Reading**, Malachi (1:14 – 2: 2, 8–10) has hard words for the priests who have strayed and led others to stumble.

Jesus, too, in the **Gospel** (Matthew 23:1–12) criticizes the leaders who lay heavy burdens on the people – those who only think of their own importance, rather than of teaching God's word and care for others.

However, the words of St Paul to the Thessalonians (1 Thess. 2: 7–9, 13); in the **Second Reading** are in great contrast. He reveals a maternal affection for his people, and is willing to give up everything for them so as to spread the Good News. He is full of thanksgiving for God's work in them.

The **Psalms** (130) is a beautiful prayer of humble trust in the Lord, with the image of a child resting in his mother's arms. We are encouraged to hope in God whatever comes. Perhaps this week, awareness of our closeness to God will lead us to humble prayer rather than empty practice.

Opening Prayer Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. Amen.

Remembrance Book and Envelopes for the Holy Souls: This will be available at the back of the Church for you to write the names of your loved ones. Envelopes will be placed on the altar and prayed over during Masses in November.

November – Blessing of Graves Today, Sunday 5th November, Fr Martin will bless graves of loved ones at Crow Lane Cemetery, Romford at 2.00pm. Next Sunday, 12th November at Upminster Cemetery, Corbets Tey at 2.00pm (please gather near the chapel) and Eastbrook Cemetery, Dagenham Road on Sunday 19th November at 2.00pm.

St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar will have a Winter Wonderland theme this year and take place on Saturday 2nd December 1.00pm-4.00pm. There will be ice skating, Santa's Grotto, BBQ, craft stalls and more! We are looking for donations of bottles, toiletries, **new** toys & gifts and also volunteers to help the evening before and on the day. Please contact Gemma 07872 607971 if you think you can help. Donations should be left in the church porch (bottles to the office). Please come along to join the fun!

Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School 6th Form Open Evening: Thursday 9th November. Refreshments available from 6.30 p.m. Headteacher's Address 7.00pm. Subject advice available following the Head's talk.

Confirmation: Those young people who are interested in being confirmed in the Parish are invited with their parents to attend a meeting on Wednesday 8th November at 8.00pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring your completed application form, baptism certificate and two photos of yourself.

Repository Shop: We need someone to run the Parish Repository. If you are interested please see Fr Martin or call the Parish Office.

Gift Aid Volunteers: We are looking for people to help us with recording the Gift Aid donations. Full training will be given and it won't take up too much time. If you think you can help please talk to Fr Martin.

Interested in the Catholic Faith (RCIA) Why not come and see? We meet on ***Mondays at 7.30pm until 9pm*** in the Van Meenen Room (room jutting out from church in the car park). Contact Fr Martin or Eileen Jonas or enquire at the Parish office. You are most welcome. Bring a friend!

Alone this Christmas? Why not join the St. Mary's Christmas dinner being held at St. Mary's School Hall, 12.45pm-4.30pm. Transport can be provided if necessary. Everyone welcome irrespective of faith. A small donation of £10 is appreciated towards the day. Please contact Josie or Peter for more information on 01708 457549.

New Years Eve 2017: Please join us for our New Year's Eve Party at St. Mary's Parish Hall from 8.00pm-1.00am. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets £15 per family, £5 per adult, £3 per child. For tickets & more information please contact Nicci on 07957 411546

100 Club: The winners for the last few months are No.33 July, No.111 in August and No.104 for September. Please collect your prize from the Parish Office.

Parish Coffee Shop: Helpers needed to run a once a month coffee shop in parish hall after 9.30 mass on a rota - helpers will only need to help once every four months. The money raised by this helps us put on free events for the elderly in our parish. Please contact Brenda on 01708 452442.

Pass It On! Every first Saturday, 2-4pm in the parish hall. This is a free social event for older generations to pass on stories, skills and advice to younger generations. All welcome! If you require help with transportation or for more info call Joanne on 01708 747026.

Quiz Night in the parish hall Saturday 11th November, 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Tickets £5 each, bring your own drinks and nibbles, there will also be a raffle. Max. tables of 10 and please no children under 10. To book a table or for more details call Joanne on 747026.

Iona Social Club family atmosphere, close to Church. Club is available to members and non-members for non-exclusive functions during the weekday, for weddings, funerals and parties, alongside our existing programme. Phone the Iona on 01708 442453 for bookings, membership and general enquiries.

Summer Lourdes 2018, 22nd – 29th July 2018: For those wishing to book a place on our Summer Lourdes pilgrimage next year, we are now taking applications and will continue to take these until 31st January 2018. After this date places will be allocated to ensure young people from as many schools and parishes are able to enjoy this magnificent pilgrimage. For more information and prices, and to apply please visit www.bcys.net. **All applications must be made online.** The pilgrimage is open to all those currently in school year 10 and above.

Advent Retreat, 1st – 3rd December, Walsingham House: From 1st – 3rd December our Walsingham House team will be running an Advent Retreat for those in years 11-13. This will be our last retreat at Canvey Island so will be an extra special way to start the Advent season. We are also now taking applications online for this event, please visit the website www.bcys.net/events for more details.

Abbotswick – Mass for the Holy Souls: In particular remembrance of those whose ashes are interred at Abbotswick, Mass will be offered at **2.30pm on Sunday 19th November**, in our “building works chapel” in the coach house at Abbotswick (Navestock Side, Brentwood, CM14 5SH). The Mass will be followed by tea and cakes. All are welcome, and if you would like to stroll the grounds before Mass, please feel welcome to arrive any time from 1.00pm. You can just turn up, but it will help to know if you are coming: please call Fr Dominic on 01277 373959 or email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Happy School Bag Collection: The Happy School Bag collection is coming around again. It is the same principle as Cash for Clothes but run by the PTA. Donations are to be dropped outside the Van Meenan Room (without blocking the side door to the church) at all masses on Sunday 12th November 2017. Unfortunately we **cannot accept** curtains, duvets or towels.

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.

Charismatic Prayer Group: Wednesdays at 8.00pm in the Van Meenen Room.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: *Every Thursday 2.30 – 5.30pm & every First Friday from 9.00am – 7.00pm.*

RCIA Journey in Faith: Mondays 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 Mary’s Prayer Hotline: Call Betty (daytime) on 01708 720834 with any prayer requests.

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 Roseleen Ammerman, Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Phil Clerkin, Joyce Cougill, Patricia Crudgington, Sharon De Giorgio, Joan Dowding, Leo Duffy, William Fernandez, Alan Fisher, Kevin Hartie, Baby Nathan Howe, Evelyn Hughes, Mary Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Betty Long, Mary McCarthy, Dinah McMahan, Patrick Medlin, Joseph Mifsud, Patricia Mills, Richard Mole, Sheila Murphy, Maureen O’Neill, Kathleen Payne, Molly Peters, Anthony Picton, Jill Ridley, Paul David Ridley, Oliver Roome, Maura Shanney, Jane Stevenson, Anne Sullivan, John Sullivan, Alex Taylor, Pat Taylor, Marie Tweedie, 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.**

WEEKEND 11th / 12th November 2017:

Readers:

Sat. 6.30pm
Sun. 8.00am
9.30am
11.30am

Warren James / Mary Keen
Joshua Duah / Albert Mathew
Emma McMillan / Ella Donald
Maria Adeseha / Maureen Boorman

Coffee Morning Rota: 100 Club

Offerings 29.10.17: Envs: £1,171.40

Church Cleaning: Group 3

Loose: £1,034.43 Total: £2,205.83

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	4 th Nov	12.00pm	Deceased Brothers KSC Romford Council / Holy Souls
<small>St Charles Borromeo</small>		6.30pm	Thomas Fay RIP / Holy Souls
Sunday	5 th Nov	8.00am	Jisma Joseph RIP / Christine O'Mahoney RIP
		9.30am	Mary Tuite RIP / Terri Webb Int
		11.30am	Sam Farrugia RIP / Michael Harris RIP
Monday	6 th Nov	8.30am	Betty Barker RIP / Mamie Tuite RIP
Tuesday	7 th Nov	8.30am	Maurice Meyer RIP / Mamie Tuite RIP
Wednesday	8 th Nov	7.30pm	Vincent Sergio & Henry Harry Aqualina RIP
Thursday	9 th Nov	8.30am	Joseph Fanning RIP / Cath Breen RIP
<small>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</small>		2.30–5.30pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	10 th Nov	8.30am	Eileen Jonas Int / Jean Horan RIP
<small>St Leo the Great</small>			
Saturday	11 th Nov	12.00 noon	Patrick McGoldrick RIP / Holy Souls
<small>St Martin of Tours</small>		6.30pm	Colette & Paddy, Niamh Kavanagh RIP
Sunday	12 th Nov	8.00am	Jimmy O'Toole RIP / Paul Lodge Int
		9.30am	Brian Bush RIP / Willie Cunningham RIP
		11.30am	Josephine Camilleri RIP / Holy Souls

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 in this newsletter!