

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

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



**5th Sunday of Lent (C)  
7<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Give me justice ...O God, you are my strength.**

This Sunday's liturgy invites us to ponder the great gifts of life and salvation, the 'marvels worked for us by the Lord' (**Psalm 125**).

The readings are full of encouragement as we come nearer to the end of our Lenten journeys. These 'marvels', these 'new deeds', are given freely so as to fill us with joy and gladness. But they come at a cost, in the sufferings and the pattern of Christ's death, through which we are 'captured', that we might be able to receive the prize of resurrection (**Second Reading** Philippians 3: 8-14).

This eternal prize puts our earthly wealth, even our own difficulties and struggles, into perspective. It can give us freedom. We can be free, also, from sin and from guilt, and today's **First Reading** (Isaiah 43: 16-21), from the time of exile, shows how God's own intervention wipes out the failures of the past.

Ultimately, it is Christ's work alone to forgive and heal (**Gospel** John 8: 1-11). We are not able to earn the prize, nor could we ever deserve it, but he shows that he is ever ready to give it out of love, for he is 'all tenderness and compassion'.

Let's pray, this week, that we live, not from the past, but fully in the present as people formed by Christ for Christ.

**Collect** By your help we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death.

Welcome to Fr Kieran Brady a Redemptorist priest, who joins us this weekend.

Our Parish Mission will be 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May with Fr Kieran.

**Spread the Word!**

*Please note the location of the fire exits*

**Easter Offertory Collection:** Just a reminder that the Offertory collection taken at the Easter Masses is your personal gift to your Priest. Together with the Offertory taken at Christmas this provides a major part of his income for the year. Your generosity, as always, is greatly appreciated.

**Gift Aid Envelopes** are now available for you to collect from the back of the Church.

**Sundays in Lent:** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church with evening prayer followed by Benediction from 3.00pm-4.00pm.

**Stations of the Cross:** Fridays during Lent at 7.30pm.

**Lent Confessions and Exposition:** Saturdays in Lent there will be opportunity for confessions between 11.00am-11.50am where the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and 5.30pm-6.00pm.

**Lenten Project:** This year the Parish and the school will be supporting CAFOD as our joint Lenten project. **Please do not return your boxes until after Easter!**

**Palm Sunday next weekend:** Palms will be blessed at all masses. The 11.30am mass begins in the Parish Hall with blessing of palms and procession.

**Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for Holy Week:** Please volunteer to serve at least once during the Easter Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil) by putting your name (CLEARLY!) on the list in the Church Porch.

**Eucharistic Ministers & Readers** are invited to renew their commitment to their ministries in our Parish at the mass of the Last Supper on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm.

**Confirmation Meeting:** There will be a meeting for all those who were recently confirmed by Bishop Alan, on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

**Parish Partnership Meeting:** The next meeting will be on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00pm in the presbytery. The subject will be 'Youth'.

**Parish Mission.** There will be a parish mission, led by Fr Kieran Brady a Redemptorist priest, between May 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>. Fr Kieran will visit and talk at all masses this weekend and on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> he will lead an assembly in the school.

**RCIA:** The next stage for those preparing to be received into the Church at Easter will take place this weekend at the 11.30am mass.

**Coffee Morning: Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30am – Parish Hall:** Please come and show your support this Sunday to the coffee morning that's run by parents from our parish. This week we have a special guest, Jack Troutt, coming along with cake, biscuits, tea and coffee, in the hope to raise donations for his upcoming marathon run in aid of the Papworth Trust. It would be amazing to show what a great community we are. Come along have a chat with some friendly faces, show your support and enjoy tea and treats.

**Mass Intentions:** If you wish for a mass to be said on a particular date, please let us know in plenty of time to avoid disappointment!

**Pauline McGlade RIP:** Pauline sadly died recently. Pauline's body will be received into the Church on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April at 5.00pm and her funeral is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 10.15am. Please keep Pauline and her family in your prayers.

**Applications for FHC Programme 2019 / 2020:** Parents of children currently in Year 2 and above can apply for the FHC programme next year. Application forms will be available from the Parish office on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 8.30am-12.00pm and after 6.30pm mass on 27<sup>th</sup> April from the Van Meenan Room.

**Repository:** We have a great selection of cards and gifts for **Easter** (21<sup>st</sup> April), **First Communion** (June) and **Baptism** plus cards for lots of other occasions. Come and see!

**Youth Club Quiz Night – Thank you!** Thanks to all those who came along and supported our quiz night on Saturday. It was a great success and we raised a fantastic amount!

**Diocesan Vision Document: Shaping our Future:** It is now nearly four months since publication of the Diocesan Vision Document: Shaping our Future. Please find attached an e-

bulletin with an update for you to share in the work we are doing together and also gain access to the information on the website. Here is the link for those who would like to view it:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development/stewards-of-the-gospel/current-e-bulletin/>

**Sponsored Sleepout:** Many thanks to all who have generously sponsored our Parish Partnership group taking part in the BCYS sponsored sleepout on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. With your amazing donations we have raised over £1000. There's still time to join us on the night, see [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events) for details or call Stephanie on 07736847187 to be part of our Parish Partnership group. To make a donation click on [www.bcys.net/sleepout-donations](http://www.bcys.net/sleepout-donations).

**Divine Mercy Sunday:** The Billericay Padre Pio Prayer invites you to a Day of Devotion to the Divine Mercy at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, near Brentwood, CM14 5SH on Mercy Sunday, 28th April 2019. Arrival from 10.30 am for 11 am start. Mass will be at 12 noon. Confession available. The day will end at 3.30pm. Tea and coffee will be available but please bring a packed lunch. Ring Claire Wallis on 01277 658783 if you require further information. ALL ARE WELCOME.

### **HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2019 SERVICES**

#### **Palm Sunday 14th April**

**6.30pm:** Saturday Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday

Mass: **8.00am, 9.30am, 11.30am**

Palms will be blessed at all Masses

#### **Monday 15th April**

**7.30pm:** Reconciliation Service

#### **Holy Thursday 18th April**

**7.30pm:** Mass of Last Supper and Washing of Feet

Procession to Altar of Repose and Vigil until Midnight

#### **Good Friday 19th April**

**9.45am:** Walk of Witness starting at St. Andrew's Church

**12.00pm:** Children's Station of the Cross

**3.00pm:** Celebration of the Lord's Passion and Veneration of the Cross

#### **Holy Saturday 20th April**

**8.00pm:** Vigil Mass of the Resurrection

#### **Easter Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

Mass: **8.00am, 9.30am, 11.30am**

**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 13<sup>th</sup> / 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019:

<b>Readers:</b>	Sat.	6.30pm	Kathleen Brooker / Maureen O'Brien
	Sun	8.00am	Brian Rodgers / Susan Squire
		9.30am	Feny William / Aaron Scammell
		11.30am	Joanne Roberts / Ray John

**Bidding Prayers:** Jackie Donald    **Church Cleaning:** Group 2    **Coffee Morning:** 100 Club

**Offerings 24.03.19:**    Envs: £1,126.55    Loose: £953.94    Total: £2,080.49

**Cyclone Idai:** £1,146.63    A big thank you for your generosity!!

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>11.00am</b>	Confessions and Exposition
		<b>12.00pm</b>	Eileen Heneghan RIP / Julie Henson RIP
		<b>5.30-6.00pm</b>	Confessions
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Michael Scott / Kathleen Neiland RIP
Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent	7 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.00am</b>	Gerald & Teresa Goonan Int / Private Int
		<b>9.30am</b>	Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Sam Farrugia RIP / Trisha Edwards Int
		<b>3.00-4.00</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP / William Fernandes RIP
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.30am</b>	Bridget O'Connell RIP / Arthur Rosario RIP
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Reception of Body: Pauline McGlade RIP</b>
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Jim O'Connell RIP / Patrick Brennan RIP
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.30am</b>	NO MASS
		<b>10.15am</b>	<b>Requiem Mass: Pauline McGlade RIP</b>
		<b>2.30-5.00pm</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.30am</b>	Brid Whelan RIP / Mary Murphy RIP
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>11.00am</b>	Confessions and Exposition
		<b>12.00pm</b>	<b>Thanksgiving for Our Lady / Teresa Deacy Int</b>
		<b>5.30-6.00pm</b>	Confessions
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Michael O'Sullivan RIP / Josephine & Anthony Camilleri RIP
Sunday Palm Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.00am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>9.30am</b>	Billy Fahy RIP / May Sheehan RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Christopher Andrew RIP / Eamon Commins RIP
			(Mass begins in the Parish Hall with blessing of the palms)
	<b>3.00-4.00</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)	

***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!