

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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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, & Thurs 9.15am-2.30pm



Second Sunday in Lent Year A 8th March 2020

Stand up, do not be afraid!

Traditionally, on the second Sunday of Lent, we read and pray with the Transfiguration of Jesus: the event that Matthew, Mark and Luke tell us took place up a high mountain. It gives us a glimpse of both Jesus's humanity and his divinity. Here Jesus is also able to reassure his friends – and us – that there is no need to be afraid, even as we witness such extraordinary events. (**Gospel** Matthew 17: 1–9)

Before the Gospel, we hear of the Lord speaking to Abram, telling him to leave everything he knows with the promise of great blessings. (**First Reading** Genesis 12: 1–4)

The **Psalm** (33) reflects on the faithfulness of God's word. He will be our help and shield if, like Abram, we place our hope in him.

Both Abram's call and the disciples' witnessing of the Transfiguration do not occur as a reward, but by 'God's own purpose and grace' (**Second Reading** 2 Timothy 1: 8–10). Paul encourages Timothy to accept the hardships he encounters and rely on the power of God, strengthened by the grace of the appearing of Jesus Christ.

This week, then, as we continue our Lenten journey, we might want to focus our prayer on all those who are afraid, asking that they place their hope in the Lord and experience his comforting love.

SVP Second Collection will take place **next weekend**. Please do give what you can.

Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday in Lent at 7.30pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament each Saturday in Lent at 11.00am with the opportunity to go to Confession.

Lenten Project: During Lent we will be supporting the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Boxes will be available to collect from the Church from this weekend. Please keep these at home and give what you can, then return after Easter. Many thanks for your generosity.

Confirmation Stations of the Cross: The Confirmandi will be running the Stations of the Cross on Friday 13th March at 7.30pm. All candidates are expected to attend with their families.

Gift Aid Envelopes are now ready to collect from the back of the Church. Those who have Standing Orders will have their envelopes next week. If your envelopes are not there, please contact the Parish Office.

Children in Year Five should see Father Martin after mass.

This Monday we welcome Year Two to mass.

Looking for Help: If anyone can help to keep the Church grounds tidy, please see Father Martin or contact the Parish Office.

SVP Foodbank: Since Christmas 2012 the SVP has been collecting food from the parishioners and school at St Mary's for the Rainham Foodbank. We received a thank you letter from them last week advising that St Mary's has donated 3.67 tonnes of food to date. Your continued generosity in response to this need is greatly appreciated and most kind. SVP, St Mary's.

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.

RCIA Journey in Faith: We have eleven adults who are preparing to be received into the Church at Easter. Please keep them in your prayers.

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.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 23rd May. This year is a very special year for the Catholic Shrine at Walsingham as the Bishops of England and Wales re-dedicate England as the Dowry of Mary for the first time since the Reformation. For more information please see the poster in the porch.

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

Handel's Messiah performed by Havering Singers and the Concordia Orchestra under the direction of Jonathan Rathbone, takes place on Saturday 4th April 7.30 pm @ St. Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, RM3 0QA. Tickets: £13.00 if bought before 1st April, £15.00 after this date. Children ages 5 – 17 - £5.00. Tickets are available from Hotline: 01708 341265/on our website www.haveringsingers.org.uk or on the door. Come and join us at this special event.

Brentwood Cathedral "God Who Speaks" Lenten Lectures Wednesday 11 March at 7.30 pm in Cathedral parish hall. *Reading the Bible: the challenges of interpretation* to be given by Professor John Barton, Oriel & Laing Emeritus Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture, University of Oxford. Free Entry. All welcome. For more information go to www.cathedral-brentwood.org

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

WEEKEND 14th / 15th March 2020:

Readers:	Sat	6.30pm	Mary Keen / Sharon Flevin
	Sun	8.00am	Sergio Cantoni / Brian Rodgers
		9.30am	Bernadith Marimmon / Brian Rodgers
		11.30am	Eddie Allen / Nonita Emilianus

Bidding Prayers: Gail Pitchley **Coffee Morning:** 100 Club **Cleaning:** Group A
Offerings 01.03.2020: Envs: £1,268.24 Loose: £764.77 Total: £2,033.01

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	7 th March	11.00am 12.00pm 6.30pm	Exposition & Confessions Mary O'Brien RIP / Sammy McCarthy RIP James Duggan RIP / Jackie Willans RIP
Sunday Second Sunday of Lent	8 th March	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	All Parishioners Curtin Family RIP / Robert Cheevers RIP Joe Gilligan Int / Yvonne Walsh RIP
Monday	9 th March	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Ted Connor RIP
Tuesday	10 th March	8.30am	Joyce Cougill RIP / Egan Family RIP
Wednesday	11 th March	7.30pm	James Duggan RIP / The Bray Family Int
Thursday	12 th March	8.30am 2.30-5.00pm	Marie Tweedie RIP / Clive Goble RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	13 th March	8.30am 7.30pm	Jackie Fisher RIP / Marie & Selby Tweedie RIP Stations of the Cross
Saturday	14 th March	11.00am 12.00pm 6.30pm	Exposition & Confessions Bridie McMenamin RIP / John & Lesley Int All Parishioners / Joan Carroll RIP
Sunday Third Sunday of Lent	15 th March	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Frank McDonagh RIP Eric & Dorothy Dodkins RIP / Yvonne Walsh RIP Eamon Commins RIP / Benedict Gilligan Int

***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