

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

Email: [hornchurchstmmg@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

Website: [www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk)

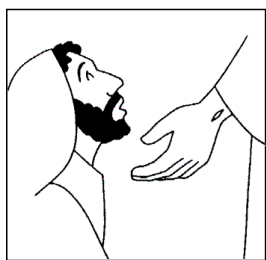
Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Sacramental Coordinator: Jane Tatam 07930 510218

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.30-6.00pm and by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 8.15am-4.00pm



## Second Sunday of Easter

Year B

8<sup>th</sup> April 2018

### Divine Mercy Sunday

Since 2000, at the instigation of Pope John Paul II, the Roman Catholic church has kept the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter. The readings, however, are still bathed in the joy of the Resurrection.

In the **First Reading** (Acts 4: 32–35) we see the effect the Risen Lord has on the life of the young Christian communities, led and guided by the Apostles. The **Psalms** (117) joyfully shows that Jesus, through his Resurrection, is the rejected cornerstone first mentioned by Isaiah (Isaiah 28: 16).

St John in his letter (**Second Reading** -1 John 5: 1–6) reminds his readers that the true believer is the one who loves God by keeping his commandments – that is, by loving one another as he loved us. Jesus, fully man and fully God, was baptised by water but shed his blood for us.

In the multi-faceted **Gospel** (John 20: 19–31) text, we encounter the Risen Lord twice, as well as the Holy Spirit and the disbelieving Thomas. We are reminded of Jesus's patience and infinite mercy; we are also able to witness at first-hand the transformation of Thomas and his deep act of faith as he comes to believe that the Lord is truly risen.

This week, I may want to pray particularly for all the 'Doubting Thomases' around me, and ask the Risen Lord that, in his mercy, he shows them his hands and feet so they may come to believe too.

**A big thank you!** Fr Martin would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to prepare for Easter – church cleaners, altar servers, choir, musicians, flower ladies etc. Also, a big thank you to everyone for their most generous Easter offerings. God bless you.

**Divine Mercy Novena:** will take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 10.45am.

**Lenten Project – StreetInvest:** We will have a **second collection** for StreetInvest next weekend. Please return your box contributions after this.

**Gift Aid Envelopes:** If you have not done so already, please collect your Gift Aid envelopes from the back of the Church.

**Kathleen McMonagle:** Kathleen's funeral will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 12.20pm. Please keep Kathleen and her family in your prayers. May she Rest In Peace.

**Christmas Bazaar – Thank you!** Thanks to all who came to the Christmas Bazaar – we raised a fantastic £5,181.72. A special thanks to the PTA who put in such a tremendous effort to make it such a great success.

**Readers & Eucharistic Ministers:** Your new rotas are available for collection from the Sacristy.

**Quiz night** in the parish hall Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30pm for an 8pm start. Tickets £5 each, bring your own drinks and nibbles and there will also be a raffle. Max. tables of 10 please and please no children under 10. To book a table or for more details call Joanne on 01708 747026.

**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 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Unfortunately we **cannot accept** curtains, duvets or towels.

**Memorial Plaques** Would you like a memorial plaque placed on one of our pews for a much missed love one? Application forms in the church porch or ring Brenda on 01708 452442. £200 per plaque.

**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.

**Can you help?** We are looking to build a team of parishioners who are willing to work on a flexible rota basis in helping Fr Martin by carrying out some of the essential but unseen tasks that we all take for granted. These range from putting out new candles and clearing away the old used ones, through to preparing vestments generally and ensuring the altar and sacristy is left tidy after Mass. If you are able to give **any** help, please contact Jack How 0774 0778 723 ([john.how@ntlworld.com](mailto:john.how@ntlworld.com)) for more information. Many hands...

**Concert for Bosco – thank you!** On behalf of the St. John Bosco Children's Camp, Joe and Jacques would like to thank all who contributed to the Concert for Bosco. The final figure raised was an incredible £4225.86. The Parish sends special thanks to Jacques and Joe Allen and all the other artists for their great efforts. Well done!

**Jacques Allen Seeks New Piano Students:** Fancy learning a new instrument? Experienced piano teacher of all ages, is looking for additional pupils. Has achieved ABRSM Grade 8 Piano. 9:30 Sunday Mass Pianist, and organiser of the recent Concert for Bosco. £10 per ½ hour. To find out more, or to book a slot, contact: 07804690824.

**BRASIL:** In 1993 Kerry Meola, on behalf of St. Mary's Justice and Peace group, wrote to a priest in a parish in Sao Paulo. Padre Ticao responded & this began a dialogue of Solidarity, Fellowship, Friendship, and Prayer which still continues. Fran Marshall was the first individual to visit the parish of St. Francisco de Assis in 1994 and this led to a group of 12 visiting 20 years ago in February 1998 and an amazing group from Ermelino coming here in 2000. It is the 40th Jubilee of Father Ticao's ordination on 8th July and there is an open invitation to anyone who wishes to attend. If you are interested in meeting together to

remember, share or discuss our past, present or future solidarity with this parish please contact Lily Thomson on 07790505881.

**Walsingham House at Abbotswick –Fundraising & Official Opening:** Over £320,000 has been raised, including £90,000 from parish collections and parishioners' donations. **Thank you.** There is £200,000 left to raise – if 500 people each donated £400, our refurbishment debt would be cleared. Could you do that? **Every penny is being invested in our young people, and in Abbotswick as a house open to all.** Contact [Frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:Frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org), call 01277 373959, post cheques to Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, near Brentwood, Essex CM14 5SH, or look at [www.bcys.net/WHabbotswick/donations](http://www.bcys.net/WHabbotswick/donations) to make an online donation. We love receiving visitors to enjoy the grounds and chapel. You will find pictures and information at [www.bcys.net/WHabbotswick](http://www.bcys.net/WHabbotswick). The date of the “official opening” is Saturday September 1<sup>st</sup>, when you are very welcome to Midday Mass with Bishop Alan, and then to stay for the afternoon, enjoying the beautiful grounds. Do save the date!

**Sacred Heart Alumni:** We wish to warmly invite you to a Reunion to be held at the school on Saturday 7th July 2018 between 2pm and 5pm. Come back, meet up with some old friends and teaching staff and have a look around the school to spark fond memories! Please save the day in you diary and spread the word to any past pupils you may still be in contact with. Check the school website for details of how to join us and how to buy a ticket.

**Deanery Vocations Holy Hour:** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm, St. Edward the Confessor, Romford. All are welcome, whether you are discerning a vocation to the priesthood or want to pray for those that are. This event will include a vocations testimony from Fr Graham Smith, the Vocations Director of the Diocese.

#### **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 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, Sharon De Giorgio, Joan Dowding, Leo Duffy, Margaret Faye, William Fernandez, Bernadette Haddle, Kevin Hartie, Baby Nathan Howe, Evelyn Hughes, Mary Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajj Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Mary McCarthy, Dinah McMahan, Patrick Medlin, Joseph Mifsud, Patricia Mills, Richard Mole, Sheila Murphy, Maureen O'Neill, Kathleen Payne, Philomena Perry, Molly Peters, Anthony Picton, Jill Ridley, Paul David Ridley, Oliver Roome, Maura Shanney, Jane Stevenson, Anne Sullivan, Edna 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 14<sup>th</sup> / 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018:**

**Readers:** Sat. 6.30pm  
Sun 8.00am  
9.30am  
11.30am

**Bidding Prayers:** Maureen Boorman

**Coffee Morning Rota:** Group 8

Mary Keen / Sharon Flevin  
Sergio Cantoni / Alex Rowley  
Alan Sabu Mathew/Albert Sabu Mathew  
Philip Rodgers / Eddie Allen

**Church Cleaning:** Group 2

## **MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April **12.00pm**  
**6.30pm**

Andy & Kathleen Coughlan RIP  
Josephine & Anthony Camilleri

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April **8.00am**  
Second Sunday of Easter **9.30am**  
**11.30am**

All Parishioners / Margie Smith Int  
Martin Doherty RIP  
Eamon Commins RIP

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April **9.00am**  
The Annunciation of the Lord

Norah Lenehan RIP / The Hooper Family RIP

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April **9.00am**

Michael Fabb RIP / James Griffin RIP

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April **7.30pm**  
St. Stanislaus

Glenda Barnett RIP / Noel Ryan RIP

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April **9.00am**  
**2.30pm**

**EUCCHARISTIC SERVICE**  
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April **9.00am**  
**11.00am**

**NO MASS**  
**Requiem Mass – Simone Mescall**

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April **12.00pm**  
**6.30pm**

Hubert Ward RIP / Raymond Grant RIP  
Stephen Slattery RIP / Elizabeth Tang RIP

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April **8.00am**  
Third Sunday of Easter **9.30am**  
**11.30am**

Frank McDonagh  
Ted Rackham RIP  
All Parishioners / Selby Tweedy 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 in this newsletter!