

# 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 Ordinary Time Year C

10<sup>th</sup> February 2019

*“Here I am Lord, Send me...”*

This week’s readings are full of reassurance and inspiration. However aware we are of our own human limitations, God never stops believing in us, and he needs us to be his messengers. We only need to find the courage to respond to his invitation.

The **First Reading** (Isaiah 6: 1–8) describes Isaiah’s mystical vision before the divine court in the Temple. Before God’s glory and holiness, Isaiah feels lost and unworthy. But once his lips have been cleansed, he hears God’s call for a messenger and offers himself as the one to be sent out.

The **Psalmist** (Psalm 137) also imagines himself adoring with the angels in the Temple, as he glories in the God who hears us, loves us, and saves us.

St Paul sees himself as the least of the apostles, but he has complete faith in the risen Lord and in the gift of God’s grace working within him. (**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 15: 1–11)

Peter agrees rather unwillingly to ‘put out into deep water’ (**Gospel** Luke 5: 1–11) and is then overwhelmed as he witnesses God’s power at work in the miraculous catch of fish. But Jesus tells him to set aside his fears and sense of unworthiness, for even greater work now awaits him. The other disciples, too, leave everything to follow Jesus.

This week, we pray that God will help us to listen to his call as courageously as did Isaiah and Peter, and then be generous in offering ourselves fully for whatever work he needs us to do.

**Second Collection:** There will be a second collection **this weekend** for the Lourdes Sick & Helpers Pilgrimage Fund. There will be a second collection **next weekend** for Racial Justice Sunday.

**Parish Meeting** will be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 8.00pm in the presbytery, to which all are welcome. We will be looking at the wonderful response to the Parish Questionnaire (over 400 of you responded individually or as families!) and this gathering is to consider your suggestions and discuss how we might take them forward as a Parish Partnership, along with St. Joseph's (Upminster) and English Martyrs (Hornchurch).

**Bishop's Visit:** There will be a visit from the Bishop on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Bishop Alan will be at the 9.30am mass and the 11.30am mass, where he will be confirming some of our young people. There will also be refreshments after the 11.30am mass in the Parish Hall to which all are welcome.

**Confirmation Meeting:** The next meeting will be on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February, beginning with Mass in the Church at 7.30pm.

**Chewing gum:** A reminder that there should be NO chewing gum in Church. There has been a number of occasions where it has been found stuck to the floor and benches, meaning someone has to scrape it off!

**Summer Fayre Meeting:** There will be a meeting regarding the Summer Fayre on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. Please do come along and join the committee to help organise this year's summer fayre – any help is much appreciated!!

**Children's Choir – 9.30am Mass:** Children are invited to join the children's choir at the 9.30am mass. Please come and sit at the front of the Church. You will be most welcome.

**Are you getting married this year?** Please speak to Fr Martin if you are thinking of getting married either in this Parish or a Catholic Church outside of this Parish this year, as you will need to give at least six months' notice. This process can take longer if you wish to marry abroad as they can be more complicated depending on the country. A marriage preparation course for engaged couples is part of the requirement for marriage. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

**Prayer in the Home:** The next meeting will take place Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30pm-8.30pm at 34 St. Leonards Way. Do come along – all are welcome. The evening consists of the Rosary and other prayers. A statue of Our Lady will be brought to the home to remind us that Our Lady, Mary, is the Mother of the Home.

**Quiz Night:** The Youth Club will be holding a quiz night on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March in the Parish Hall to raise funds for the young people going to Lourdes. More details to follow – all are welcome!

**St Mary's Toddler Group** every Tuesday 2.00pm-3.10pm during term time only. Held in the Parish hall which is located on the school playground, (buzz bell at school gate and advise you are here for toddler group). £2.50 per family, first session FREE. Tea, coffee, biscuits and juice all included in the price. Everyone welcome! For more details call Jo Challis on 07985 496196.

**Interested in the Catholic Faith (RCIA)** If you wish to know more, please see Fr Martin or Eileen Jonas or enquire at the Parish office.

**Sponsored Sleepout:** This winter, Catholics are leading projects providing 45,000 nights of care, warmth and shelter for the homeless in Essex and East London. Join 1000 people from across the Diocese sleeping outside for the night at Walsingham

House at Abbotswick on 12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> April. No tents! Just you and a sleeping bag. Open to all ages, from 15+. Sponsorship target of £100/participant. Why not ask your company to match fund your sponsorship? Money will help local homeless charities and the work of the BCYS with young people. Mass at 11.15pm, sleep out Midnight – 7am. Full details and sponsor forms <https://bcys.net/events/sponsored-sleepout-walsingham-house-abbotswick/>

**Tea Dance:** The next Tea Dance is on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 1.45 – 4.30pm at St Albans Parish Hall, Langdale Gardens, RM12 5LB. Dancing to the very popular Finbar Black, playing music to suit all tastes. Refreshments will be available. Admissions £5.00, all proceeds to parish funds. For further information, please contact John O'Connor on 07903 366992

**The Annual Mass with the Bishop for Catholic Fellowship** is on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019 at 3.00pm, Brentwood Cathedral, followed by a reception in the hall. Everyone is welcome to attend, most especially, People with Special Needs and their Carers.

**To all couples who married in St. Helen's Church, Westcliff on Sea:** St. Helen's will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and we are asking any couples who married in the church to please contact the Parish Office 01702 342324 with date of marriage, full names and a wedding photo. These will be displayed and the couples invited to attend a mass for a special blessing.

#### **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 & each Sunday afternoon 3.00pm-4.00pm in the Van Meenen Room.

**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

## WEEKEND 16<sup>th</sup> / 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019:

<b>Readers:</b>	Sat.	6.30pm	Janet James / Peter Amey
	Sun	8.00am	Seb Hough / Sergio Cantoni
		9.30am	Susie Jerram / Ella Donald
		11.30am	John Hawes / Mathew Leigh

**Bidding Prayers:** Jackie Donald    **Church Cleaning:** Group 2    **Coffee Morning:** Team 6  
**Offerings 02.02.19:**    Envs: £1,217.46    Loose: £970.30    Total: £2,187.76

### MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>12.00pm</b>	Eileen Heneghan RIP / Special Int / Martin Thomson RIP
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Josephine Camilleri RIP / Learco Fermi RIP
Sunday Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>9.30am</b>	Ann & John O'Connor Int / Eileen Curtin Int
		<b>11.30am</b>	Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life (KOC) / Selby Tweedie RIP
		<b>3.00-4.00pm</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (VMR)
Monday Our Lady of Lourdes	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP / Thomas Joseph RIP
Tuesday	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Paul Forrester RIP / Paraic Durkin RIP
Wednesday	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>7.30pm</b>	David Orchard RIP / C Bennett Int
Thursday SS Cyril & Methodius	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Carmel & Dennis Davin RIP / James Barrett RIP
		<b>2.30-5.00pm</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Christopher Andrew RIP / Ella Richardson RIP
Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>12.00pm</b>	Cyril McCarthy RIP / Michael Hughes Int
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Eileen Heneghan RIP / Ena Cadden RIP
Sunday Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b>	Michael Kennedy RIP / Mary McCarthy RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Ena Cadden RIP / Eamon Commings RIP
		<b>3.00-4.00pm</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (VMR)

***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!