

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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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



## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year B

11<sup>th</sup> February 2018

‘If you want to, you can cure me ...’

‘Of course, I want to, be cured!’

In the Roman Catholic Church, 11 February is the 26th World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Pope Francis invites us to pray for all who are isolated and marginalised by ill health:

*The image of the Church as a ‘field hospital’ that welcomes all those wounded by life is a very concrete reality ... The Church’s mission is a response to Jesus’s gift, ...she must bring to the sick the Lord’s own gaze, full of tenderness and compassion.* (Message for the 26th World Day of the Sick 2018)

It is this same compassion the Lord shows towards the leper in today’s **Gospel** (Mark 1: 40–45), by breaking down all the social and cultural barriers of his time. As the Jews around Jesus were observing the guidelines for self-preservation concerning lepers prescribed in the Old Testament (**First Reading** Lev. 13: 1–2, 44–46). So the unfortunate man has to come himself and beg Jesus for a cure. Once healed, however, the leper cannot stop himself sharing his news with others – and in this way, Jesus himself is now considered ‘unclean’, and also becomes isolated.

We too, in praying the **Psalm** (31), can ask the Lord to cure us from all that separates us from others, by acknowledging our failings.

In the **Second Reading** (1 Cor. 10: 31 – 11: 1) Paul similarly encourages us not to separate ourselves from those who do not know Christ. We should avoid behaving in a way that might shock them, and instead model ourselves on the Lord.

This week, then, I may want to pray especially for all those around me who are suffering and feel isolated, asking the Lord to cure them in body and mind.



**Lent begins this week on Ash Wednesday. There will be Mass and distribution of ashes – 9.00am and 7.30pm.**

**Stations of the Cross:** Every Friday during Lent at 7.00pm, starting this Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February.

**Evening Mass on Fridays** at 7.30pm during Lent.

**Saturdays in Lent** Exposition and Confessions from 11.00am to 12.00 noon. Mass at 12.00 noon (except for Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March due to a wedding).

**Requiem Mass – Alan Fisher:** Alan's requiem mass will take place this Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February at 10.00am, then on to Upminster Crematorium. Please keep Alan & his family in your prayers

**Lenten Project – StreetInvest:** This year, the Parish and the school will take on the Lenten project to support StreetInvest who work with children on the street. This is a global charity founded by Fr Patrick Shanahan, a missionary priest for over 40 years. Details can be found on [www.streetinvest.org](http://www.streetinvest.org). Further details as to how you can donate will follow.

**Selection of Easter Eggs** are now on sale in the repository shop.

**Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund:** There will be a second collection this **weekend** for the Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund.

**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...

**APF – Red Boxes:** Going forward we will only be counting the red boxes twice a year, in April & October. Please check the newsletter for when to hand in your red box

**Children in Year Five:** Will the children in year 5 please see Fr Martin after mass, tell him your name and which class you are in.

**Rite of Welcome:** Please pray for our 11 candidates who will be going to Brentwood Cathedral next Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, ahead of them being received into the Church at Easter.

**Medugorje 2018:** a small group of parishioners are going on an annual pilgrimage to Medugorje from 7<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> August. Places are limited so if anyone is interested in coming with us please contact Kathy on 07932 762608.

**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!

**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.

**World Youth Day, January 16<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2019:** Travel with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service to Costa Rica and Panama; gather with over a million young people from across the world, together with our Pope. Age 17(school year 12)-27 when we travel. Cost £1,750. More details of this “once in a lifetime” opportunity at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net), email [frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or come to the information evening on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 5.00-8.00pm, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Nr Brentwood, CM14 5SH. Places are very limited.

**Vocations App:** The National Office for Vocations has produced a new App for Catholics between 16 and 35 who are discerning their vocation. <http://www.ukvocation.org/?p=2535> has information on how to access the App. Even if this is not for you please share this with someone you think it might be relevant for.

**The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society Annual Charity Ball** is their largest and most glamorous event of the year and takes place this year at **The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge** on **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March**. Tickets are on sale now, costing £55 per person, which will include a drinks reception and three course dinner along with a full evening of entertainment. Guests will be seated on tables of 12, making it the perfect opportunity to get together with friends, family or colleagues, have a fantastic night out whilst at the same time raising vital funds for bccs. As tickets for this event sell

out quickly, please contact Julie ASAP to avoid disappointment: 01268 784544 / 07912277413 / [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk)

**Mass for Deceased Altar Servers at St Vincent de Paul Church, Becontree:** On Saturday 10th March 2018 at 11am (please arrive by 10.30am. Vesting and entrance procession will be from St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, Burnside Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2JN). Please bring your own alb / cassocks and cottas. Light lunch and refreshments will be provided after Mass. Great opportunity to meet your fellow Altars Servers in the Diocese. Everyone is welcome. Please let them know if you wish to attend on 020 8590 7222.

**St. Helen's Catholic Primary School, 110 Years:** St Helen's Catholic Primary School in Canning Town, Newham is appealing to all past pupils or their relatives. They are seeking copies of old school photographs, reports and records as part of the preparations for their 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The school is particularly looking for photographs and information from 1907-1941 as original documents were destroyed in the blitz. Please contact 020 7476 1785 or email: [info@st-helens.newham.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-helens.newham.sch.uk).

**Community Coffee Morning** at Romford Care Centre, 107 Neave Crescent, RM3 8HW. Please join us for coffee morning open to all every Thursday morning 10am-12noon. We specialise in dementia and nursing care. It is very social and we welcome all from the community. Contact Fiona 01708 379022.

**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.

#### **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, Patricia Crudginton, 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, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Betty Long, Mary McCarthy, Dinah McMahon, 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, 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 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018:

<b>Readers:</b>	Sat.	6.30pm	Maureen O'Brien / Kathleen Brooker
	Sun	8.00am	Joshua Duah Albert Mathew
		9.30am	Alan Sabu Mathew / Albert Sabu Mathew
		11.30am	Donna Coy / Ray John

**Bidding Prayers:** Maureen Boorman

**Coffee Morning Rota:** Group 4

**Offerings 04.02.18:** Envs: £1,215.13

**Church Cleaning:** Group 1

Loose: £953.21      Total: £2,168.34

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>12.00pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	Sean Lyons RIP Josephine Camilleri RIP
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b> <b>9.30am</b> <b>11.30am</b>	David & Florence Armstrong Tony Ohene-Djan / Anne Emmery RIP Betty Quirke RIP
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time			
Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>9.00am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP / Harry Hawkes RIP
Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>9.00am</b> <b>10.00am</b>	<b>NO MASS</b> Requiem Mass – Alan Fisher
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>9.00am</b> <b>7.30pm</b>	Margaret Faye Int / Don Bowen RIP Joan Prior / James Barrett RIP
Ash Wednesday			
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>9.00am</b> <b>2.30pm</b>	Sandro Pellany RIP <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>9.00am</b> <b>7.00pm</b> <b>7.30pm</b>	The Delahunty Family RIP Stations of the Cross Gladys Elphinstone Int
Saturday	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>11.00am</b>  <b>12.00pm</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Confession</b> Desmond O'Grady RIP David & Florence Armstrong
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b> <b>9.30am</b> <b>11.30am</b>	All Parishioners Eileen Mahoney & Family Int Jack Hughes RIP
First Sunday of Lent			

***Hospital: Are you going into hospital this week for surgery?  
Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick  
after all Sunday Masses.***