

# 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



## First Sunday of Lent

Year B

18<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love

As we begin Lent, we are invited to follow Jesus into the silence of the wilderness and join with him in prayer and fasting. Throughout Lent, the Old Testament readings guide us through the history of our salvation. This Sunday we begin with God's Covenant with Noah and his descendants (**First Reading** - Genesis 9: 8–15). The rainbow in the sky is a reminder of that loving Covenant, which foreshadows the promises God will later make to Abraham.

The first letter of St Peter (**Second Reading** - 1 Peter 3: 18–22) teaches that just as the waters of the flood in Noah's day led to a new life and Covenant with God, the waters of our baptism lead to new life in Christ.

In the **Gospel** (Mark 1:12–15), after Jesus has been baptised and received the Holy Spirit, he is drawn by the Spirit into the desert. After forty days of fasting and testing in the wilderness, he immediately returns to Galilee and begins to spread the Good News, calling people to repent and turn back to God

The story of both God's Covenant with Noah and today's **Psalm** (24) would have been well known to Jesus. Perhaps we can imagine him praying the psalm and taking comfort from its words: "*Lord make me know your ways. Lord teach me your paths. Make me walk in your truth.*" Let this be our prayer, too, as we begin our Lenten journey. May Jesus be our guide as we learn to follow his path.

**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 – Derrick Smith:** Derrick's requiem mass will take place this Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February at 11.15am, then on to Upminster Crematorium. Please keep Derrick & his family in your prayers

**Confirmation Meeting:** A reminder that there will be a confirmation meeting this Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February, starting with mass at 7.30pm in the Church.

**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.

**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

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

**The Venerable Margaret Sinclair:** There will be a Mass to celebrate the 93<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of the Venerable Margaret Sinclair's Religious Profession on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm in the Marillac Chapel, Eagle Way, Warley. Devotions to Margaret Sinclair will be at 2.15pm. The theme will be Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life and Beatification of The Venerable Margaret Sinclair. All are welcome.

**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.

**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.

**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 McMahan, 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 24<sup>th</sup> / 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018:

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

Peter Amey / Pat Martin  
Seb Hough / Angela Joseph  
Michael Olaniyan / Tilly Allen  
Eddie Allen / Philip Rodgers

**Bidding Prayers:** Gail Pitchley

**Coffee Morning Rota:** Group 5

**Offerings 11.02.18:** Envs: £1,166.31

**Lourdes Sick & Helpers Fund:** £228.83

**Church Cleaning:** Group 2

Loose: £921.10 Total: £2,087.41

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Confession</b>
		<b>12.00pm</b>	Desmond O'Grady RIP
		<b>6.30pm</b>	David & Florence Armstrong
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b>	All Parishioners
First Sunday of Lent		<b>9.30am</b>	Eileen Mahoney & Family Int
		<b>11.30am</b>	Jack Hughes RIP
Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	The Raleigh Family RIP / Don Bowen RIP
Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	<b>11.15am</b>	REQUIEM MASS - Derrick Smith
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Jisma Joseph RIP / Desmond O'Brien RIP
Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
The Chair of St. Peter		<b>2.30pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	<b>8.30am</b>	John & Pat Watson RIP
		<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Derrick Smith RIP / Donald Rosemeyer RIP
Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Confession</b>
		<b>12.00pm</b>	Edith & George Thompson
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Patrick McDonagh Anniversary
Sunday	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<b>8.00am</b>	The Hughes Children & Grandparents
Second Sunday of Lent		<b>9.30am</b>	Len Rice RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Mary Oram 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.***