

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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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, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.15am-2.30pm



Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year A

19th January 2020

'I will make you the light of the nations!'

As we begin the New Year, whatever our mood or life-situation, our readings give us hope and comfort as we celebrate Jesus Christ's life of service and ministry.

In the so-called 'Servant Song', Isaiah writes of the mysterious servant of the Lord God. Christians have long identified him with Jesus, who was formed by God in the womb and sent into the world as 'the light of the nations' (**First Reading** Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6).

The words of the Psalmist (**Psalm 39**) would fit well on the lips of the Servant. He worships God with 'an open ear', and with a spirit that delights in generous service.

In the **Gospel** (John 1: 29-34), we encounter not only Jesus as he begins his public ministry, but also John the Baptist, who witnesses to Jesus's baptism. John hears the voice of the Father and sees the Spirit descend and rest on Jesus: a revelation of the three persons of the Trinity. In the **Second Reading** (1 Corinthians 1. 1-3), Paul wishes the Corinthians the grace and peace of Christ; a grace that implies everything associated with God's free gifts to us in Christ. We, too, like the Corinthians, have a calling to be holy and to lead a life of prayer.

This week, we might pray for the grace of an 'open ear' and an open heart and ask for continued faithfulness in our Christian ministry this coming year.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society: There will be a talk at mass and a second collection **next weekend** for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

Parish Council: The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd January at 8.00pm in the Presbytery. All are welcome.

Confirmation Meeting: The next meeting will be on Wednesday 29th January at 7.45pm in the Parish Hall.

Crib Offerings: A big thank you to all who donated – we raised a wonderful £722.84 which will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

This Monday we welcome Year Two to mass.

Children in Year Five should see Father Martin after mass.

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 Medugorje's call to prayer. Refreshments afterwards, everyone welcome.

Recently Deceased:

Patrick Doherty RIP: Patrick's body will be received into the Church on Monday 27th January at 5.00pm and his requiem mass will take place on Tuesday 28th January at 12.30pm followed by a burial at Mark's Gate Cemetery.

John Lawrence RIP: John's requiem mass will take place on Friday 31st January at 12.30pm followed by a committal at South Essex Crematorium.

Please pray for them and their families. May they Rest In Peace.

RCIA Journey in Faith: The RCIA group meets every Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Van Meenen Room. All are welcome!

Catechists: Would you like to be a catechist in our parish or know more about the role of a catechist, then please speak to Fr Martin or Jane Tatam.

Musicians: If you are a musician or you know someone who is, please speak to Fr Martin.

Pilgrimage to Medugorje 2020: Our Parish pilgrimage to Medugorje this year is from 29th September to 6th October. For more information please call Kathy on 07932 762608.

Mary Queen of Peace Day of Prayer: Come and join us at St. Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch, for a day of prayer on Saturday 22nd February 10.00am-4.00pm. Rosary, Adoration and talk given by Fr. Svetozar, Franciscan priest from Medugorje. Bring packed lunch along – everyone welcome!

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW: Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Matthew, the lectionary gospel for Sundays in 2020, from 7 pm until 8.30 pm on Wednesday 15th (changed from 22nd) January, and Wednesday 29th January at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Admission is free, but please book your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Copies of the recently published 'Revised New Jerusalem Bible' will be on sale for £30 (reduced from the normal price of £39.99). Full details and video of earlier talks available on www.whatgoodnews.org

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage: Bishop Alan, supported by our Youth Service, will lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 26 - 31 July, flying from Southend Airport. This is a wonderful opportunity, including for the frail and those with needs, to pray at the Grotto, grow in faith, and enjoy the company of fellow pilgrims. Some brochures and booking forms are available in the parish or you can contact the tour operator, Tangney Tours, directly: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood or 01732 886885.

The Annual Lourdes Mass will be celebrated at Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 16 February at 3 pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for graces received in Lourdes and to seek

prayers for the sick. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is holding its **Annual Charity Ball** at **The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge** on **Saturday 7th March from 7pm**. 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

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

May the courage of Our Lady, St. Joseph & the English Martyrs inspire us to work together to develop the new relationship of our Parish Partnership

WEEKEND 25th / 26th January 2020:

Readers:	Sat	6.30pm	Joanne Roberts / Janet James
	Sun	8.00am	Seb Hough / Sergio Cantoni
		9.30am	Albert Sabu Mathew / Adrian Bell
		11.30am	Ray John / Donna Coy

Bidding Prayers: Maureen Boorman **Coffee Morning:** Team **Cleaning:** Group B
Offerings 12.01.2020: Envs: £1,326.86 Loose: £1,031.52 Total: £2,358.38

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	18 th Jan	12.00pm 6.30pm	Mary Harrington Int / Mary Driscoll RIP All Parishioners
Sunday	19 th Jan	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	Mrs Tweedie RIP / Joyce Coughlan Int Christine O'Mahoney RIP / Frank Harrington RIP Jack Hughes RIP / Vocations to Priesthood & Religious Life
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time			
Monday	20 th Jan	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / David Orchard RIP
Tuesday	21 st Jan	8.30am	Craighton Meyer RIP / Mr & Mrs Swan RIP
St. Agnes			
Wednesday	22 nd Jan	7.30pm	Eileen Trinaman RIP / Brigid Fitzpatrick RIP
Thursday	23 rd Jan	8.30am	Patrick Lenehan RIP / Frank Harrington RIP
Friday	24 th Jan	8.30am	Lizzie & Anthony Doherty RIP / Fr Frank Davin RIP
St. Francis de Sales			
Saturday	25 th Jan	12.00pm 6.30pm	Bridget Gardner RIP / Jolanta Betkowski RIP Bernie O'Mahoney RIP / The Candon Family
The Conversion of St. Paul			
Sunday	26 th Jan	8.00am 9.30am 11.30am	The Rowley Family Int / Rachael Abioyke Baboye RIP All Parishioners Marie Tweedie RIP / Bridget Maloney RIP
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time			

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