

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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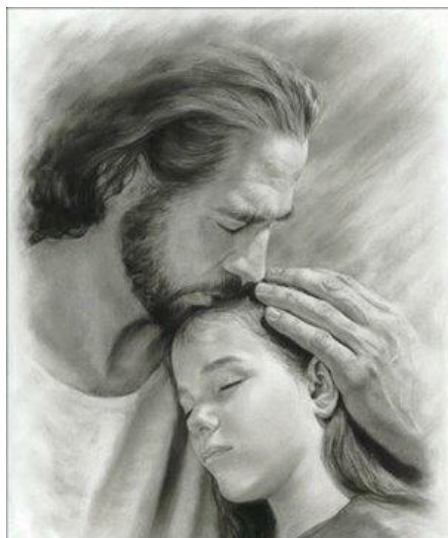
Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

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



## 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019

The Lord is compassion and love

This week's readings speak about the compassion, love and mercy of God, and of our calling as Christians to allow the love he has given us to be expressed in our thoughts, words and actions.

In the **First Reading** (1 Sam. 26: 2.7–9.12–13.22–23), David has been pursued by King Saul, who intends to kill him. By chance, he and his men come upon Saul asleep in a cave. Saul is totally in their power, but David chooses not to kill God's anointed king. Instead he simply removes Saul's weapon from him. By his actions, David makes his righteousness clear to everyone.

The **Second Reading** (1 Cor. 15: 45–49) speaks of our human nature. We are created by God, as was Adam, in finite bodily form that lives on this earth. In Christ Jesus we find our true eternal being, made in his image. We are called to live our lives according to his likeness.

The **Psalms** 102 speaks of the ways in which God loves and heals us. He does not treat us according to our faults, but with mercy and compassion.

"Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate", Jesus urges us (**Gospel** Luke 6: 27–38). His sayings are challenging and perhaps seem hard to live out. But we need not be sad: our recognition of weakness is also a cause for joy. We cannot live the life of a Christian without his help but need to rely on him, allowing him to deepen his life in each one of us.

This week I pray for the grace to depend more fully on Jesus, that his compassion, mercy and love may be shown in my life.

*Please note the location of the fire exits*

**Second Collection:** There will be a second collection **next weekend** for the SVP  
**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 session will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, beginning with Mass in the Church at 7.30pm.

**Parish Meeting:** The next Parish Meeting will be on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 8.15pm after evening mass. The topic will be to discuss the timetable.

**Lenten Project:** This year the Parish and the school will be supporting CAFOD as our joint Lenten project.

**Recently Deceased:** Hugh Vassallo's requiem mass will be on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30am. Please pray for Hugh and his family; may he rest in peace.

**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 it 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.

**Lourdes/Youth Club Quiz Night:** Raising funds for Youth Club members going to Lourdes. Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March in the Parish Hall. 7.30pm for 8.00pm start. Tables of 6-8 only. Hosted by Kevin Walsh - acclaimed quiz master! Raffle on night. Bring your own drinks & nibbles. Call 07817 913663 or drop into Parish Office during opening hours. Any donations for raffle prizes greatly appreciated! Come and have some fun raising money for a good cause.

**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!

**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. £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/>

**St. Cedd's Catholic Club** has music and dancing every Sunday evening from 8.00pm. Please do come along and join the fun!

**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

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019:

|                 |      |         |                                    |
|-----------------|------|---------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Readers:</b> | Sat. | 6.30pm  | Maureen O'Brien / Kathleen Brooker |
|                 | Sun  | 8.00am  | Angela Joseph / Susan Squire       |
|                 |      | 9.30am  | Lucy May / Deirdre Winnett         |
|                 |      | 11.30am | Philip Rodgers / Maureen Boorman   |

**Bidding Prayers:** Susan Squire    **Church Cleaning:** Group 4    **Coffee Morning:** Team 8  
**Offerings 17.02.19:**    Envs: £1,061.40    Loose: £968.68    Total: £2,030.08  
**Racial Justice Sunday:** £357.90

### MASS INTENTIONS

|   |                       |  |   |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|
| Saturday<br>St. Polycarp                  | 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb  | <b>12.00pm</b><br><b>6.30pm</b>  | Pat Mills RIP / Canile Sagesse RIP<br>Maureen Bothamley / Brid Daly RIP   |
| Sunday<br>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time | 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | <b>8.00am</b><br><b>9.30am</b><br><b>11.30am</b><br><b>3.00-4.00pm</b> | All Parishioners<br>Bridget & John Riley RIP / Hughes Children Int<br>Patrick McDonagh RIP /<br>Laz & Bernie Fennessey Int<br>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (VMR) |
| Monday                                    | 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | <b>9.15am</b>  | Norah Lenehan RIP / Special Int   |
| Tuesday                                   | 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | <b>8.30am</b>  | John Coughlan RIP /<br>Rev Sr Bernadette Hallinan RIP   |
| Wednesday                                 | 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | <b>7.30pm</b>  | Christine Dale Int / Cyril McCarthy RIP   |
| Thursday                                  | 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | <b>8.30am</b><br><b>2.30-5.00pm</b>                                    | Jim Shanahan RIP / James Smith RIP<br>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament   |
| Friday<br>St David                        | 1 <sup>st</sup> March | <b>8.30am</b><br><b>10.30am</b><br><b>12.00-7.00</b>                   | <b>NO MASS</b><br><b>Requiem Mass: Hugh Vassallo RIP</b><br>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament   |
| Saturday                                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> March | <b>12.00pm</b><br><b>6.30pm</b>  | Aiden Candon RIP / Martin Keane RIP /<br>Ena Cadden RIP<br>Jim O'Connell RIP / Danny Dandin Int<br>Gabrielle Cassidy RIP  |
| Sunday<br>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> March | <b>8.00am</b><br><b>9.30am</b><br><b>11.30am</b><br><b>3.00-4.00pm</b> | Jisma Joseph / Sheila Brunton Int<br>All Parishioners<br>Sam Farrugia RIP / Kate Broden RIP<br>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!