

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

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



Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year A

26th January 2020

'The Lord is my light and my help'

Pope Francis has designated today as the **Sunday of the Word of God**, when we are reminded that the Lord is in constant dialogue with his people through his Holy Word. Let us ask to hear the Lord and enter more deeply into relationship with him as we pray.

In the **First Reading** (Isaiah 8: 23–9:3), Isaiah foretells of the Lord coming among his people, describing him as a light who will guide them through darkness, easing their burden and bringing them joy.

The **Second Reading** (1 Cor. 1:10–13:17) is a heartfelt call for unity, made to the early church in Corinth. It is a timely reminder for today's Church that we are all united though the Good News we are called to proclaim. Christ is one and cannot be divided up: we are all one in him.

Isaiah's ancient prophecy of the Messiah as a light in the darkness is repeated in today's **Gospel** (Matthew 4: 12–23), where Matthew links it to the start of Jesus's mission. On hearing that John the Baptist has been arrested, Jesus sets out and begins to preach, using the same call to repentance as John did. Just as John had gathered a small group of followers, so Jesus invites the first of his disciples.

As we pray, let's remember that we, too, are called to follow Jesus. We do not pray alone but belong to a community of believers united by our baptism. We share the same hope of which the psalmist sang and are guided by the same light that Isaiah spoke of. May we seek and build the unity that Paul longed for.

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

Pax Christi: There will be a **second collection next weekend** for Pax Christi.

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

Confirmation Catechists: We really need help with our Confirmation programme as we have over 50 young people who wish to be confirmed this year but we do not have enough catechists. If you can help in any way, please see Father Martin asap or Mary Redmond or call the parish office,

This Monday we welcome Year Three 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.

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!

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!

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.

Youth Club Quiz Night: Raising funds for Youth Club members going to Lourdes. Saturday 28th 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 – tickets cost £5.00pp. Any donations for raffle prizes greatly appreciated! Come and have some fun raising money for a good cause.

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS: Our third study day for the Year of the Word will be held at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Brentwood Road, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) at 10.30 on Saturday 29th February, when Fr Victor Darlington, lecturer on John's Gospel at St John's Seminary, Womersley, will give two talks entitled 'John Among the Gospels', providing a fresh reading of the Fourth Gospel. The day will conclude at 3 p.m. Admission is free, but please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914. During the day there will be the chance to buy copies of the 'Revised New Jerusalem Bible' at the discounted price of £30 (RRP £39.99). Refreshments will be available but please bring your own packed lunch.

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.

Youth Masses take place at the Cathedral every first Wednesday of the month at 8pm to which all are welcome.

The Sponsored Sleepout (3rd-4th April 2020) is a powerful experience for individuals of all ages, and for groups of young people, including Confirmation Groups. Last year 70 people slept out and raised an amazing £10,000 for homeless charities in the Diocese. Group booking info (a simple summary of numbers, and the details of group leaders) should be emailed to frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org; individuals should register on www.bcys.net

Lenten Reflection and Revision Retreat (27th-29th March 2020); we are more and more aware that young people can find it hard to find quiet places to study. We are therefore offering a retreat in Lent for those in school years 11-13 (GCSE and A-level years) which will be a mix of periods for personal study, interwoven with reflective prayer times and social times. All details on <https://bcys.net/events/lenen-retreat-2020/>. The £35 cost is being subsidised from the National Youth Sunday collection.

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.

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 1st / 2nd Feb January 2020:

Readers:	Sat	6.30pm	Peter Amey / Joanne Roberts
	Sun	8.00am	Brian Rodgers / Seb Hough
		9.30am	Alan Sabu Mathew / Adrian Bell
		11.30am	John Hawes / Mathew Leigh

Bidding Prayers: Gail Pitchley **Coffee Morning:** Team 5 **Cleaning:** Group C

Offerings 19.01.2020: Envs: £1,023.89 Loose: £970.90 Total: £1,994.79

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday The Conversion of St. Paul	25 th Jan	12.00pm	Bridget Gardner RIP / Jolanta Betkowski RIP
		6.30pm	Bernie O'Mahoney RIP / The Candon Family
Sunday Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	26 th Jan	8.00am	The Rowley Family Int / Raphael Abikoye Babayo RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Marie Tweedie RIP / Bridget Maloney RIP
Monday	27 th Jan	9.15am 5.00pm	Norah Lenehan RIP / Donovan Family RIP Reception of Body: Patrick Doherty RIP
Tuesday St. Thomas Aquinas	28 th Jan	8.30am 12.30pm	Kathleen O'Sullivan RIP / Cornish Family RIP Requiem Mass: Patrick Doherty RIP
Wednesday	29 th Jan	7.30pm	Andrew Almeida RIP / Norine & Duncan Bradbury RIP
Thursday	30 th Jan	8.30am	The Lunney Family RIP / Willson Family RIP
Friday St. John Bosco	31 st Jan	8.30am 12.30pm	The O'Shea Family RIP / Maureen O'Neill RIP Requiem Mass: John Lawrence RIP
Saturday	1 st Feb	12.00pm	Michael Francis Int / Martin Keane RIP
		6.30pm	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP / Bernie O'Mahoney RIP
Sunday The Presentation of the Lord	2 nd Feb	8.00am	Jisma Joseph RIP / Khoulood Lesters RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Sam Farrugia RIP / Sheila Murphy Int

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