

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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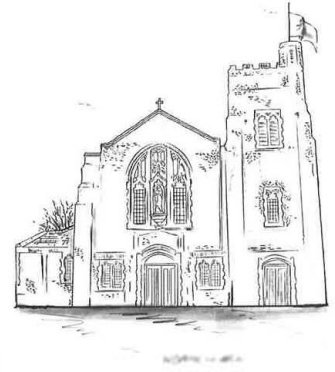
Website: [www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Sacramental Coordinator: Jane Tatam

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Reconciliation: Saturday 5.30-6.00pm and by appointment



## Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mother's Day) Year A 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017

*"I was blind and now I can see!"*

God's loving vision is a light that guides us out of darkness and heals our spiritual blindness. God sees the potential in us through his loving gaze. His judgements are based on compassion and love, and not on our human standards.

In the **First Reading** (1 Samuel 16:1, 6–7, 10–13) Samuel is surprised that God chooses the simple shepherd boy David to be the King of Israel, when his brothers all seemed so much more suitable. In time, David's descendant Jesus will become the true Good Shepherd: The Servant King who opens the eyes of the blind.

**Psalm 22 (23)** is the "Good Shepherd" Psalm. Its words of comfort describe how God tenderly cares for his people, giving them rest, guiding them through darkness, and richly anointing them with love.

St Paul's letter to the **Ephesians** (5:8–14) calls us to wake from our sleep so that we can see ourselves as God sees us. We are children of light! Darkness no longer has a hold over our lives, and as children of light we are called to share fully in the life of the Risen Christ.

Today's **Gospel** (John 9:1–41) describes the healing of a man from lifelong blindness. It shows how his eyes are opened not just physically but spiritually too, so that he can see who he truly is. He is now able to recognise Christ and declare his belief in Him. Just as Samuel was surprised at God's choice of a king for his people, the Pharisees cannot believe that Jesus chooses a "sinner" to be healed. Their judgements make them blind.

**Second Collection Next Week** for St. Vincent de Paul (SVP).

**Meditation presents 'The Journey'** A Lenten reflection on the life of Jesus with readings and songs led by Michael Wigley at St Mary's Church, Hornchurch.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 8.00pm, immediately after the 7.30pm Mass. Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

**Confirmation Session** on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March from 7.30 – 9.30pm. **Session begins in the Parish Hall.**

**Easter Offertory Collection** **Easter Offertory Collection** Just a reminder that the Offertory collection taken at the Easter Masses is your personal gift to your Priest. Together with the Offertory taken at Christmas this provides a major part of his income for the year. Your generosity, as always, is greatly appreciated.

**Stations of the Cross** Every Friday during Lent at 7.00pm.

**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.

**Reconciliation Service in preparation for Easter** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm.

**CaFE Evening** As a Catholic would you like to know more about our Catholic faith? Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Van Meenen Room. Refreshments provided.

**Year Five Children** Will children and parent/s of those in Year *Five* at school say 'hello' to Fr Martin as you leave church. Thank you.

**Holy Communion** Welcome Rainbows to your session.

**Readers & Eucharistic Ministers for Easter** There is a list in the porch for any Reader or Eucharistic Minister to volunteer for the Easter Triduum services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil). Please read the notes at the top of the list!

**Lent – CAFOD** The CAFOD boxes with your Lenten donation can be handed in after Easter on Divine Mercy Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April.

**May Queen Procession with Sunday Mass** Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 10.30am. That weekend Masses will be 6.30pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May and 8.00am and 10.30am on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May. (Please note the normal 9.30am & 11.30am are amalgamated that Sunday only).

**Repository Shop** Easter Eggs on sale which includes the 'Real meaning of Easter story' - charity donation from every egg sold. £3.50 each.

**Memorial Plaques** Would you like a memorial plaque placed on one of our pews for a much missed love one? Applications forms in the church porch or ring Brenda on 01708452442. £200 per plaque.

**Gift Aid Envelopes for tax year 2017-18** are now in the church porch. Please take your box and start using them from Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April. If you would like to Gift Aid your offertory offerings, please take a form from the church porch, fill it in and return it to the parish office. Thank you.

**Sacramental Co-ordinator** Please note that Jane's mobile phone is not in operation at the moment. Please contact the Presbytery if you need to speak to her.

**The SVP** will be collecting good quality second hand baby and toddler clothes, towels and toys for local refugee pregnant women and young families. There is a box in the church porch for your donations. If you would like to help us in our work or would like further details on this appeal please contact Paul on 07778 031489. Thank you.

**St Mary's 100 Club Winners** December No. 100, January No. 69, February No. 31.  
**Medugorje – St Mary's** Our annual pilgrimage to Medugorje 2017 will be from 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October. If you are interested, ring Kathy on 01708 620832/07932 762608.

**Holy Week Services:**

**Palm Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> April.** Masses at 6.30pm on Saturday, 8.00am, 9.30am & 11.30am on Sunday. The 11.30am Mass will begin with a procession from the Parish Hall. Palms will be blessed at all Masses.

**Maundy Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> April.** Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8.00pm followed by watching 'til Midnight. The Eucharistic Ministers and Readers will be recommissioned during this Mass.

**Good Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> April.** 12.00 noon - Children's Statons of the Cross.  
3.00pm - Commemoration of the Lord's Passion.

**Easter Vigil, 15<sup>th</sup> April.** Mass at 8.30pm.

**Easter Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> April.** Masses at 8.00am, 9.30am and 11.30am.

**Pilgrimage to The Holy Land** 26<sup>th</sup> June – 5<sup>th</sup> July. £1,745 half board. Please let Fr Paul Fox know in writing inc. your contact details - email, telephone, address. Tel. 01268 742229, Our Lady of Ransom, 50 London Hill, Rayleigh, Essex SS6 7HP.

**Iona Social Club** Members 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:** Tuesdays at 8.00 – 9.30pm 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 Mary's Prayer Hotline:** Call Betty (daytime) on 01708 720834 with any prayer requests.

**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 Crudgington, Sharon De Giorgio, Joan Dowding, Leo Duffy, Alan Fisher, Kevin Hartie, Jean Horan, Evelyn Hughes, Mary Hughes, Josie Humphreys, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Betty Long, Mary McCarthy, Dinah McMahon, Patrick Medlin, Joseph Mifsud, Patricia Mills, Sheila Murphy, Maureen O'Neill, Kathleen Payne, Molly Peters, Anthony Picton, Jill Ridley, Paul David Ridley, Oliver Roome, Maura Shanney, Bridget Stapleton, Jane Stevenson, Anne 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 1<sup>ST</sup>/2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL MARCH 2017:

**Readers:** Sat. 6.30pm Maureen O'Brien/Kathleen Brooker  
Sun. 8.00am Susan Squire/Sergio Cantoni  
9.30am Michael Olaniyan/Tilly Allen  
11.30am Maureen Boorman/Maria Adesegha

**Bidding Prayers:** Liz Allen **Coffee Morning Rota:** Group 7  
**Church Cleaning:** Group 1

**Offerings 19.03.17:** Envs: £1,120.49 Loose: £1,030.25 Total: £2,150.74

### MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	6.30pm	John McGlade RIP Bday
<small>The Annunciation</small>			
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8.00am	Bill Lodge Int/Ben Haswell Int
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Tom, Hannah Haughey 50 Wedding Anniv Josie Walsh Bday Int
Monday	27 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8.30am	Eamonn O'Mahony RIP Caruso Monteiro Int
Tuesday	28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8.30am	<b>NO MASS – Funeral at 10.30am</b>
Wednesday	29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	7.30pm	Nancy Hayes RIP/Jean Tilley RIP
Thursday	30 <sup>th</sup> Mar	8.30am	Tom, Eileen & Joe Swan RIP Paddy Dowding RIP
		<b>2.30-5.30pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>
Friday	31 <sup>st</sup> Mar	8.30am	Denis Davin RIP/Mr B Ryan RIP
		<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Kathleen Mullen RIP
Saturday	1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Exposition and Confessions</b>
		12.00 noon	Peggy Curran RIP
		6.30pm	Simon Smith RIP Anniv Patrick Brennan RIP Anniv
Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> April	8.00am	Nora Maguire RIP Anniv/Jimmy Long RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Sam Farrugia RIP/Eamon Commins 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. Please see either of them.***