

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

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



4th Sunday of Lent

Year C

31st March 2019

Rejoice! This child of mine was lost and is found!

Laetare ('Rejoice!') Sunday is a day of joyful celebration in the middle of our Lenten journey. Today we rejoice in God's outpouring of compassion and forgiveness for us, as we remember that we are *loved* sinners.

In the **First Reading** (Joshua 5: 9–12) the Israelites celebrate Passover in the Promised Land. Though they no longer need the manna they ate in the wilderness, they are still totally dependent on the God who provides for them.

The **Psalms** (33) invites us to taste and see the Lord's goodness – to glorify the One who hears us, frees us and rescues us from our distress.

St Paul tells how God has reconciled himself with the whole of humanity through Christ, who has taken on our sinfulness so we might show God to others. Our task now is to be ambassadors – to continue God's great work of reconciliation by sharing the good news. (**Second Reading** - 2 Cor. 5: 17–21)

In the **Gospel** (Luke 15: 1–3, 11–32) story of the Prodigal Son, Jesus gives a wonderful picture of that same loving reconciliation in action, as we see the height and depth of a father's compassion for his penitent child. This is how much God loves us, too: so much that he yearns and waits to welcome us home with joy when we turn to him in repentance.

As Lent continues, let's pray that we might become increasingly aware of God's compassionate gaze on us, and to ask for his help in seeing others with that same generous, loving regard, regardless of who they are.

HAPPY MOTHERS' DAY

Dear Lord, I approach you to give thanks to all mothers who so generously and freely give love, comfort, and guidance to their children every day. I ask you, Lord, to give them strength to carry on doing their work. Give them patience and let them see that they are loved, appreciated and respected. I thank you for the sacrifice each mother makes every day. And I pray you bless them and touch them with your Grace. I pray this is your mighty name. Amen.



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.

Second Collection: There will be a second collection this weekend to support the disaster relief following Cyclone Idai in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Sundays in Lent: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church with evening prayer followed by Benediction from 3.00pm-4.00pm.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays during Lent at 7.30pm.

Lent Confessions and Exposition: Saturdays in Lent there will be opportunity for confessions between 11.00am-11.50am where the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and 5.30pm-6.00pm.

Lenten Project: This year the Parish and the school will be supporting CAFOD as our joint Lenten project. **Please do not return your boxes until after Easter!**

Parish Mission. There will be a parish mission, led by Fr Kieran Brady a Redemptorist priest, between May 18th to 22nd. Fr Kieran will visit and talk at all masses on the weekend of 6th and 7th April and on Monday 8th he will lead an assemble in the school.

RCIA: The next stage for those preparing to be received into the Church at Easter will take place this weekend at the 11.30am mass and on the 5th Sunday's of Lent at 11.30am mass.

FHC children – Stations of the Cross: the First Holy Communion children will be doing the Stations of the Cross to raise money for CAFOD on Friday 5th April at 7.30pm. Please do come along and support the children.

Missio red box collection: Could parishioners kindly bring in their red box (Missio) collections to the church office by 31st March.

Pauline McGlade RIP: Pauline sadly died recently. Her funeral is on Thursday 11th April at 10.15am. Please keep Pauline and her family in your prayers.

Repository: We now have a great selection of cards and gifts for **Mothers' Day** (31st March), **Easter** (21st April), **First Communion** (June) and **Baptism**. Also cards for various other occasions. Come and see!

Church Cleaners: We are in DESPERATE need of people to join the Church cleaning rota. If you think you can spare an hour every four weeks on a Thursday morning, please contact the Parish office.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers: New rotas are ready to collect from the sacristy.

Diocesan Vision Document: Shaping our Future: It is now nearly four months since publication of the Diocesan Vision Document: Shaping our Future. Please find attached an e-bulletin with an update for you to share in the work we are doing together and also

gain access to the information on the website. Here is the link for those who would like to view it: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development/stewards-of-the-gospel/current-e-bulletin/>

Sponsored Sleepout: Many thanks to all who have generously sponsored our Parish Partnership group taking part in the BCYS sponsored sleepout on the 12th April. With your amazing donations we have raised over £1000. There's still time to join us on the night, see www.bcys.net/events for details or call Stephanie on 07736847187 to be part of our Parish Partnership group. To make a donation click on www.bcys.net/sleepout-donations.

Divine Mercy Sunday: The Billericay Padre Pio Prayer invites you to a Day of Devotion to the Divine Mercy at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, near Brentwood, CM14 5SH on Mercy Sunday, 28th April 2019. Arrival from 10.30 am for 11 am start. Mass will be at 12 noon. Confession available. The day will end at 3.30pm. Tea and coffee will be available but please bring a packed lunch. Ring Claire Wallis on 01277 658783 if you require further information. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Havering Singers Spring Concert is on Saturday April 13th @ St Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood, RM3 0QA. They are performing Hadyn Harmonie Messe & Mozart Requiem. Tickets are £15.00 on the door or £13.00 if purchased early. Ticket hotline: 01708 341265 or haveringsingers.org.uk. It would be lovely to see you there.

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 6th / 7th April 2019:

Readers:	Sat.	6.30pm	Jane Hull / Sarah O'Connor
	Sun	8.00am	Seb Hough / Sergio Cantoni
		9.30am	Narcisse Tshimanga / Katie Sutton
		11.30am	Matthew Leigh / John Hawes

Bidding Prayers: Pat How **Church Cleaning:** Group 1 **Coffee Morning:** Team 12
Offerings 17.03.19: Envs: £1,247.83 Loose: £1,259.05 Total: £2,506.88

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	30th March	11.00am	Confessions and Exposition
		12.00pm	James & Thomas Monaghan RIP
		5.30-6.00pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Ena Cadden RIP Maureen & Michael Harrington RIP
Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent	31st March	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP
		9.30am	Colin Moore RIP
		11.30am	All Parishioners
		3.00-4.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)
Monday	1 st April	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP/John O'Neil RIP
Tuesday	2 nd April	8.30am	Nora Maguire RIP/Jack Louro RIP / Fr Christopher Kelly 100th birthday
Wednesday	3 rd April	7.30pm	Communion Service
Thursday	4 th April	8.30am	Simon Smith RIP / Jisma Joseph RIP
		2.30-5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	5 th April	8.30am	Mathew Ward RIP / Kathleen Whelton RIP
		7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	6 th April	11.00am	Confessions and Exposition
		12.00pm	Eileen Heneghan RIP/Julie Henson RIP
		5.30-6.00pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Michael Scott / Kathleen Neiland RIP
Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent	7 th April	8.00am	Gerald & Teresa Goonan Int.
		9.30am	Parishioners
		11.30am	Sam Farrugia RIP / Trisha Edwards Int.
		3.00-4.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (Church)

***Hospital: Are you going into hospital this week for surgery?
Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after all Sunday Masses.***