

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

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Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30am-2.00pm



Feast of All Saints

Year A

1st November 2020

Think of the love that the Father has lavished upon us!

The feast of All Saints celebrates the true life in Christ that we are all called to live.

The **First Reading (Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14)** is a vision of the heavenly realm. It reminds us of the community of Saints who have gone before us, those inspirational people who embodied their love of Christ through their words and deeds.

The **Psalms (23)** celebrates a vision of the world vibrant with the reality of God's presence in creation and his people. We are blessed when we are able to see the Lord throughout the whole of creation.

In St John's letter, we are encouraged to think of the love that has been lavished upon us by being called God's children. This is a truth that we need to pause and ponder upon to let it truly transform how we see ourselves and each other. (**Second Reading**) (1John 3:1-3)

Today's **Gospel (Matthew 5:1-12)** is Jesus's teaching on the Beatitudes: a teaching that finds holiness both in the depths of human experience of loss, poverty and persecution, and in the expressions of compassion in response towards these sufferings. The lives of the Saints and of countless others have been transformed by their deep truth.

These teachings speak to the difficult realities of our times too. Many live in poverty, or are innocent victims of war; many mourn lives cut short by the Covid virus; others are persecuted for their beliefs. Let us hold all of these members of our human family in our prayer this coming week and pray for each other, that we may awaken to our true selves as lavishly loved children of God.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

Mass Times: Please note our current mass times are as follows:

| Day | Time | Group |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Sunday | 8.00am | Public Mass – please book |
| Sunday | 9.30am | <i>FHC children & families only</i> |
| Sunday | 11.30am | Public Mass – please book |
| Monday | 9.15am | Public Mass – all welcome |
| Tuesday | 9.15am | Public Mass – all welcome |
| Wednesday | 7.30pm | Public Mass – all welcome |
| Friday | 7.00pm | Public Mass – all welcome |
| Saturday | 6.30pm | Public Mass – please book |

There are three weekend masses open to all:

Saturday: 6.30pm Sunday: 8.00am Sunday: 11.30am

Importantly, if you wish to attend one of these three weekend masses, please contact the Parish office by email or telephone to book a place, **stating which mass you would like to attend**. If calling, please try and call before 7.00pm. We will not ring or email you back so please take it that you are booked in. For all other masses, please just bring along a piece of paper with your name and telephone number on. We are also requesting that people wear **face masks** where possible.

Monday 2nd November is Holy Souls Day. There are two masses in commemoration of all the faithful departed (Holy Souls). Masses are at 9.15am and 7.30pm.

November - Month of the Holy Souls: We will pray for all loved ones who have died during November. There will be a candle lit in front of the altar at every mass to remember those who have died this year and may have not had the opportunity for a full funeral service. Offering envelopes are available at the back of the Church in which to place the names of loved ones and they will be placed on the altar during November.

FHC 2020 / 2021: Thank you to all of those who have submitted their applications for their children to make their First Holy Communion in 2021. There will be a prayer session & meeting for **parents** on **Tuesday 3rd November at 7.00pm** in the Church. Please could only one parent from each family attend this meeting and no children.

Finances: Please feel free to drop an offering into the presbytery or alternatively, you can make a payment into our bank account, either as a one off or by a regular Standing Order. The details are as follows:

Account Number: 51019058

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Name: St. Mary Mother of God

If you have a gift aid number, please use that as a reference when you make your donation.

Any donations are very gratefully received.

NHS COVID Track & Trace: Please note St. Mary's now has a QR code that can be scanned on to the NHS Track & Trace app. If you are able, please scan this code every time you attend the Church / mass. For those who do not have the app, please continue to complete a form in the porch with your name and telephone number on for track and trace purposes.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & private prayer take place each Thursday 11.00am-1.00pm. We do ask that if people are able, they assist with sanitising the Church afterwards.

Carlo Acutis: Carlo died at 15 in 2006 and he was beatified last Sunday in Assisi. I recommend you look him up on you tube and the web.

Sister Clare Crockett: The inspiring story of Sr. Clare who died in 2016 at the age of 33 can be found on YouTube.

Gift Aid Envelopes are now ready to collect from the back of the Church. If your envelopes are not there, please contact the Parish Office.

RCIA Journey in Faith: For those that are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please speak to Father Martin or contact the Parish Office.

Please pray for all the children and their families making their First Holy Communion over the next two weekends.

Congratulations to all our young people who are made their confirmation over the last two weekends. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

PTA Happy Bag drop off Sunday 22nd November 10am -12pm in the school playground. Parishioners will have the opportunity to donate bags of unwanted clothes, paired shoes etc. Thank you for your help

Memorial Mass for young people who have died: On Wednesday 4th November the Youth Mass from the chapel at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, streamed at 8pm via Instagram, will commemorate young people who have died. You will find more details at www.bcys.net. If you would like the name of a young person to be read during the Mass, and a candle lit for them, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org, before 2nd November.

Memorial Mass for those commemorated at Abbotswick: On Sunday 8th November, at 3pm, there will be a Memorial Mass on the BrentwoodCYS YouTube channel. Those commemorated with plaques and benches at Abbotswick will be named, and a candle lit for each of them. If you are connected to Abbotswick, and are not sure if we already have the name of your loved one, or if someone has passed away recently, please email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org before 5th November.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2021 is planned for Sunday 25 – Friday 30 July. However, because of Covid-19 it is not possible to know yet whether a pilgrimage will be practical or in what form. Therefore, any decisions and announcements regarding the Diocesan Pilgrimage, and our young people intending to travel with the BCYS, will be made in January. Until then, do keep the dates for the pilgrimage in your diaries.

ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN AND THE FIRST VATICAN COUNCIL: 2020 marks 150 years since the First Vatican Council and the solemn definition of papal primacy and infallibility. In this live streamed event Professor John Morrill, emeritus professor of history at the University of Cambridge, will take as his theme 'St John Henry Newman and Vatican I'. John will explore the reaction to the Council in the writings of Newman and set it in today's context. The study day will take place on Saturday 21st November from 11 am. Due to coronavirus this will only be a live streamed event. To access go to www.ssppilford.org.uk and click on live stream remote services.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially: Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Grant Cambridge, Joe De Abreu, Joe Gilligan, Sharon De Giorgio, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Brian Spicer, Josie Walsh, Evelyn Ward, 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.**

Prayers

God has created me to do him some definite service; he has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another. I have my mission – I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do his work; I shall be a preacher of truth in my own place, while not intending it, if I do but keep his commandments and serve him in my calling.

*Saint John Henry Newman
Canonised 13th October 2019*

Memorae

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

Prayer to the Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard to rule and guide. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Saturday | 31 st Oct | 10.30am | Holy Souls <i>First Holy Communion Only</i> |
| | | 6.30pm | Paddy & Mary Harrington |
| Sunday | 1 st Nov | 8.00am | Jim Shanahan RIP |
| All Saints | | 9.30am | Holy Souls / All Parishioners <i>First Holy Communion Only</i> |
| Holy Day of Obligation | | 11.30am | Jack Hughes RIP |
| Monday | 2 nd Nov | 9.15am | Norah Lenehan RIP |
| All Souls | | 7.30pm | Holy Souls |
| Tuesday | 3 rd Nov | 9.15am | Holy Souls |
| Wednesday | 4 th Nov | 7.30pm | Jisma Joseph RIP |
| St. Charles Borromeo | | | |
| Thursday | 5 th Nov | Intention 11.00-1.00 | Charlie Bowdler RIP Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Friday | 6 th Nov | 7.00pm | Brian Bush RIP |
| Saturday | 7 th Nov | 10.30am | Helen Ward Thanksgiving <i>First Holy Communion Only</i> |
| | | 6.30pm | Dolly & Dan Leahy RIP |
| Sunday | 8 th Nov | 8.00am | Holy Souls |
| Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time | | 9.30am | All Parishioners |
| | | 11.30am | Sam Farrugia RIP |

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The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies!

Please note the location of the fire exits