

# MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Sacramental Coordinator: Jane Tatam - 07415 602774

Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 9am-1pm



## Second Sunday of Advent Year C 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021

*'Prepare a way for the Lord.'*



Today's readings offer the gift of joy, and the invitation to hear and respond to God who is reaching out to draw us ever closer.

In the First Reading, the Prophet Baruch (Baruch 5: 1–9) reminds us that, despite all the challenges to our faith and hope in the Lord, we are called to follow God by the light of salvation.

Today's Gospel (Luke 3: 1–6) puts this salvation of the Lord in a specific political, historical and geographical setting. By firmly anchoring the ministry of John the Baptist to a particular point in history, St Luke also gives weight to the reality of Jesus in a time and place. (Some scholars have deduced from these historical references that Jesus was baptised in the October of AD 27 – just after his 30th birthday – and was crucified on 3rd April AD 30). In addition, Luke introduces us to 'the voice' that will announce the Saviour with insistence and urgency.

St Paul (Second Reading Philippians 1: 4–6, 8–11), writing this letter of gratitude to the church at Philippi from prison, acknowledges his confidence in the one who, in us, will complete these good work of faith.

In the coming week, how may I be a 'voice crying in the wilderness'? How can I more fruitfully respond to Christ's wonderful call? How will I continue to discern what is always best?

Throughout this Advent season, let us remember each other in prayer, and ask for the grace to be able to make time to become silent and still.

**In the silence, let us watch and wait for the Lord.**

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

**Christmas Masses:**

<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Reconciliation service</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Carol service followed by Mass</b>	<b>6.00pm 6.30pm</b>
	<b>Carol service followed by Midnight Mass</b>	<b>8.30pm 9.00pm</b>
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>8.00am</b>
	<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
	<b>Christmas Day Carol service followed by Mass</b>	<b>11.00am 11.30am</b>
<b>Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary &amp; Joseph</b>	<b>8am, 9.30am &amp; 11.30am</b>

**St**

**Mary's Catholic Primary School - Reception Intake - September 2022**

To make an application to St Mary's Catholic Primary School, you will need to complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which is returned to the school and complete the on-line local authority form. The closing date for September 2022 admissions is 15th January 2022. Please visit our website at [www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk) and click on 'Admissions' for further information, relevant documents and to view our virtual tour. For those people who do not have access to e-mail, we will also accept completed application forms brought into school on:

**Monday 6th December 2021      9.30-11.00am      Parish Hall**  
**Friday 14th January 2022      9.30-11.00am      Parish Hall**

**Certificate of Catholic Practice – Reception Intake:** Father Martin will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice **in the Church** on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December 7.15pm–8.30pm and Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December from 3.45 – 5.30pm. Please bring your child with you, along with their Baptism certificate and proof of your address and a pen.

**Children’s Christmas Eve choir practice:** On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 5pm-6.30pm all children are invited in to the Church for choir practice in preparation for the Christmas Eve Mass.

**Year 5 Mass attendance cards:** Mass attendance cards will be available from this weekend. Those children in Year 5 please see Father Martin after Mass.

**Havering Singers ‘Music for Christmas’ Concert:** Saturday 18th December 2021 at 7.30pm at Holy Cross Church, 260, Hornchurch Road. Start time 7.30pm. Ticket prices: £12 Adult, £5 Children. Tickets available on 01708 341265, [www.haveringsingers.org.uk](http://www.haveringsingers.org.uk) or you can also buy on the door that evening.

**Rosary Thursday 7.30pm:** The Rosary will be said in the Church. Please enter through the side door of the Church by the Van Meenan room. All are welcome to come and join us.

**Confirmation 2021 - 2022:** There will be a meeting for all young people of our Parish with their parents / guardians who wish to be Confirmed and are in Year 10 and above. This will take place on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 8pm in the Parish Hall. There will be an enrolment Mass on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. Application forms are available in the porch of the Church. We look forward to seeing you all.

**Youth Club:** We are currently preparing the membership lists, entry cards, & helpers' rota for the new intake. The start date is likely to be the 2nd or 3rd Friday in January '22 - the exact date tba in the new year.

**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.

**SVP:** The SVP would like to offer their thanks for the most generous donations we have recently received.

**Please remember in your prayers** Beatrice Akwaboah RIP, John Carpenter RIP and Wendy Durack RIP who have died recently. Please remember the sick and housebound of the parish and those in hospital in your prayers. If anyone is seriously ill and needs the priest, please ring the Presbytery.

**Please pray for the sick in our Parish** at home and in hospital, especially: Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Grant Cambridge, Martin Chandler, Martin Cornish, John Dawson, David Donovan, Arturo Garzon, Betty Gemba, Sharon De Giorgio, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Patricia Johnson, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Mary Pickton, Phil & Tony Read, Paul Ridley, Susan Squires, 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.**

**Prayer to Our Lady – The Memorare Prayer**

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 St. Michael the Archangel**

"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. Amen."

**Synodal Pathway Prayer:**

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,  
As we gather together in Your Name.  
With you alone to guide us,  
Make Yourself at home in our hearts;  
Teach us the way we must go  
And how we are to pursue it.  
We are weak and sinful;  
Do not let us promote disorder.  
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path  
Nor partially influence our actions.  
Let us find in You our unity  
So that we may journey together to eternal life  
And not stray from the way of truth  
And what is right.  
All this we ask of You,  
Who are at work in every place and time,  
In the communion of the Father and the Son,  
Forever and ever. Amen

# MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>5.30-6pm</b>	Confession
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Holy Souls All Parishioners
Sunday <i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>	5 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>8.00am</b>	Mary McCarthy RIP / John Gormily RIP / John Carpenter RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	Mass of thanksgiving / Elaine Yellop RIP / Beatrice Akwaboah RIP
		<b>11:30am</b>	Sam Farrugia RIP / Ernie Annesley RIP
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP / Jim Leggett RIP
Tuesday <i>St Ambrose</i>	7 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.15am</b>	Sheila Brunton RIP / John Walsh Int
Wednesday <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	8 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>7.30pm</b>	Mrs Hayes RIP / Mr & Mrs Oddy RIP
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>9.15am</b>	John Gormily RIP / Ollie Gilsenan Int
		<b>9.45–12 noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>8.15am</b>	Joshua Darryl RIP / Mr & Mrs Jefferies RIP
Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>5.30-6pm</b>	Confession
		<b>6:30pm</b>	Joyce Rafferty RIP / Josephine, Anthony & Paula Camilleri RIP
Sunday <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>	12 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>8.00am</b>	Helen Thomson (nee Taylor) RIP / Jim & Andrew Shanahan RIP / Martha Sheridan RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11:30am</b>	Eamon Commins RIP / Lena Ferguson RIP / Angela & Tony Bennett Int

**Hospital: If you are going in to hospital this week for surgery Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after all Sunday Masses.**

**The Rosary will be said after all weekday morning Masses**

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*The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies. Please note the location of the fire exits.*