

MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

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



6th Sunday in Ordinary time
Year C
13th February 2022

“Happy are those who trust in the Lord”

The theme of this Sunday’s readings can be summarised in two words: Happiness and Trust.

Looking for happiness has always been at the core of people’s preoccupations. In the **First Reading** (Jeremiah 17: 5–8), Jeremiah tells his audience that they need to make a clear choice: they either trust only in people, or only in God. With striking images from nature, Jeremiah contrasts dry, wild wastelands with a luxurious tree growing by the waterside.

Using similar imagery, the **Psalm** makes the same point: trusting in the Lord will bring happiness. It starts with a ‘beatitude’ which is also at the core of the **Gospel** (Luke 6: 17, 20–26), this year read in Luke’s version. Luke’s Beatitudes are shorter than those in Matthew’s Gospel, and also include warnings for those who have made the wrong choices: ‘*Alas for you ...*’

For Paul in the **Second Reading** (1 Cor. 15: 12, 16–20), it is Christ’s resurrection which is the source of our hopes and happiness. If he had not risen, we would have remained the most unfortunate of all people.

So our prayer this week may well centre around the choices we have made, do make, and will make, as we try to find happiness – not just for ourselves, but also for those around us or for the world at large. We can perhaps also ask the Lord for greater trust in him.

Year of St Joseph
Patron of the Universal Church

Face Masks in Church: We require everyone to wear a face covering in Church and to sanitize their hands as they come in.

Bishop Alan visit & Confirmation: A big thank you to all who helped make our Bishops visit to our Parish on Wednesday a special day. The Bishop received a warm welcome in our Parish School during which he met children and staff. In the evening he celebrated a Mass at which he Confirmed 46 young men and women of our Parish. It was truly a joyful celebration. A big thank you to all who helped prepare for this Mass and a special thanks to our Catechists for their generous support and goodness.

Red Boxes (APF): We are looking for some volunteers who would undertake the responsibility of looking after the red boxes, through which people are able to support missionary priests for their work in developing countries. Please speak to Father Martin or contact the Parish Office.

Confirmation Going Forth Party: A reminder to all Confirmed recently of a get together on Saturday 5th March at 5pm in the Hall at which we have a guest speaker, followed by the Going Forth Mass at 6.30pm.

White Flower Appeal: A fantastic sum of £492.68 was raised last weekend for the White Flower Appeal. Thank you all for your generosity.

Youth Club: Will re-start on Friday 11th March at 7.30pm. Membership cards will be given out on arrival.

Food Bank: A reminder to please donate non-perishable food in the basket in the porch of the Church and we will take it to Rainham food bank.

First Holy Communion: Please pray for our First Holy Communion children and their families as they make their reconciliation (confession) this weekend.

Repository: We are now open after each Sunday morning Mass. Do come and have a browse through our selection of cards and gifts for all occasions, especially Confirmation and First Holy Communion, as well as Mass cards, sympathy cards, children's books, rosaries, crucifixes, etc.

Children in Year Five: Will the children in year 5 please see Fr Martin after mass.

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.

Private Prayer and Adoration: Every Thursday after the 9.15am Mass until 12 noon.

Sponsored Sleepout 2022: Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people from the night of April 8th to the morning of April 9th, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout; Raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout or by emailing sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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.

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 remember in your prayers Charles Ginty RIP, Gerolamo Manzoni RIP and Christopher Nye 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, Ann Clarke, Martin Cornish, John Dawson, David Donovan, Arturo Garzon, Betty Gemba, Sharon De Giorgio, Victor Guy, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, John Loftus, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Mary Picton, Phil & Tony Reed, Paul Ridley, Susan Squires, Elaine Sullivan, Paddy Sullivan, 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."

Mass Intentions:

Saturday	12 th February	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Paul Carroll RIP / Thomas Carpenter Int
Sunday <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	13 th February	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Betty Kennan Int
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11:30am	Terry Doherty RIP / Rita Thompson RIP
Monday <i>SS Cyril & Methodius</i>	14 th February	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Kathleen & Paddy Mollaghan RIP
Tuesday	15 th February	9.30am	Funeral Charles Ginty RIP
Wednesday	16 th February	9.45am	Funeral Gerolamo Manzoni RIP
		7.30pm	Marie Adeasager RIP / Joe Hollis & Family RIP
Thursday	17 th February	9.15am	Mr. Brokenshire RIP / Kathleen Toolis RIP
		9.45–12 noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	18 th February	8.15am	Nora Maguire RIP
Saturday	19 th February	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Tom (Chris) Murphy RIP
Sunday <i>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	20 th February	8.00am	Teresa Woods RIP
		9.30am	Vi Fegan RIP / Charlie Ginty RIP
		11.30am	All Parishioners

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.