

ST 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, Wed (closed), Thurs & Fri 9am-1pm



Second Sunday of Easter (C)

Divine Mercy

24th April 2022

'Peace be with you!'

The outpouring of God's love and mercy flows throughout this Sunday's liturgy. In the First Reading (Acts 5: 12–16), we hear how the early Church, filled with the Holy Spirit, gather together to worship, bringing the risen Lord's healing to all who seek it.

St John, writing from the place where he was imprisoned for his beliefs, describes a vision of God's endless living love (Second Reading Apocalypse 1: 9–13.17–19). The risen Christ is the Alpha and the Omega: the Eternal One stands with us, encouraging us to not be afraid.

Shortly after the death and resurrection of Jesus, the disciples are hiding, fearful of what might happen to them (Gospel John 20: 19–31). Jesus appears among them in the midst of their fear, his presence bringing them peace. Thomas is not there and cannot believe what he is told. Eight days later, Jesus stands among them again, and the reality of the resurrection is revealed to Thomas, too.

Today, Jesus stands alongside us, tenderly drawing us out from doubt and disbelief. He has breathed his Holy Spirit upon us. Just as he sent the disciples two thousand years ago, today he sends us out, to bring peace and healing to a fractured, hurting world. Let us pray for that peace that only Christ can bring, in our hearts, in our communities and in our world. At this time we especially remember the people of Ukraine and eastern Europe.

A big thank you! Fr Martin would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to prepare for Easter – church cleaners, stewards, altar servers, musicians, flower ladies and readers. Also, a big thank you to everyone for their most generous Easter offerings. God bless you.

Father Bob Hamill: Please keep Father Bob Hamill, who is a priest of the Diocese, in your prayers as he is unwell in hospital.

Gift Aid: If you wish to join the Gift Aid scheme, please contact the Parish office.

Assistant School keeper Required: St Mary's is seeking to recruit an enthusiastic and motivated Assistant School keeper with previous experience of working in a school or a similar 'hands on' background, beneficial, but not essential. Hours – 20 hours per week - working pattern 2.00-6.00pm each day, with the possibility of additional hours, which may include some week-end work. Closing date for applications is Monday 9th May @ 4.00pm. For an application form and/or to arrange a visit, please contact Mrs McLeavy on 01708 448430, in our friendly school office.

Clare McGill RIP: The McGill family will be holding a celebration of Clare's life on Saturday 30th April. The Mass will be at 3.30pm. We would be delighted to see any of Clare's friends who would like to join us. If you wish to get in touch with the family, please call Nicola on 07731945644.

Pass it On!: This is a multigenerational social group, bringing older and younger people together. The group meets monthly in St Mary's Parish hall, Hornchurch on a Saturday 2pm - 4pm. This is free group, open to all and refreshments are provided. If you've never been before, come along and try it, it's a great opportunity for the children to socialise with the older people in our community while taking part in a range of fun activities. Also, if you have an older friend, relative or neighbour that might want to try something different on a Saturday afternoon, then please tell them about the group. The next meeting is Saturday 7th May, but if you have any specific queries or if you require any assistance with travel, please contact Joanne on 07985 496196."

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. Everyone welcome.

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

Day Pilgrimage to Walsingham: A Parish Pilgrimage to our National Catholic Shrine in Walsingham is being arranged for Friday 13th May 2022. We will be travelling by coach. For anyone that is interested please write your name and telephone number on the sheet at the back of the Church or call the Parish office. More details to follow.

Refugee Community Support Group: A volunteer group is being set up here at St John Payne, in conjunction with the Diocese of Brentwood and Caritas Brentwood, to raise funds and provide practical support for a refugee family, to be housed in Colchester. Anyone interested in becoming involved or finding out more is warmly invited to attend a meeting, chaired by Fr Dominic Howarth, on Saturday 7th May 2022 at 1.30pm, at St John Payne Catholic Church Hall, Blackthorn Avenue, Colchester CO4 3QD. Please email SJPRRefugeeProject@gmail.com for more information.

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.

Please pray for the sick in our Parish at home and in hospital, especially:

Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Grant Cambridge, Ruth Carroll, Martin Chandler, 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."

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace,
Whose son Jesus Christ taught us
To love our neighbour as ourselves,
Give your strength to the people of Ukraine,
Give your wisdom to the leaders of the world,
Give your love to all of us who pray for peace –
Peace that will transform,
Peace that will heal,
Peace that will last,
For the sake of the same Jesus Christ,
The Prince of Peace,
Amen.

Mass Intentions:

Saturday	23 rd April	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Holy Souls / James Kane RIP
Sunday <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	24 th April	8.00am	Sheila & Hector Brunton RIP / Charlie Ginty RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Jack Hughes RIP / Eamon Commins RIP
Monday <i>Saint Mark</i>	25 th April	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Bernard Lenehan Int
Tuesday <i>St George</i>	26 th April	9.15am	Patsy Fowley RIP / Noel Fosbery RIP
Wednesday	27 th April	7.30pm	Desmond O'Brien RIP / Debbie Hoskinson Int
Thursday	28 th April	9.15am	Sheila Brunton RIP / Rita Kyrou RIP
		9.45-12 noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday <i>St Catherine of Siena</i>	29 th April	8.15am	Rev Fr Gerard Kerr RIP / Peggy Irwin RIP
Saturday	30 th April	3.30pm	Clare McGill RIP
		5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	All Holy Souls & the dying / Noel Edward Eddie Walsh RIP
Sunday <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i>	1 st May	8.00am	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Wendy Chalker RIP / Bernie O'Donovan RIP
		11.30am	Breda & Larry Ryan RIP / Teresa Woods RIP

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.