

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9am-1pm – Wednesday closed



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C, Page 82
2nd October 2022

Today's readings demonstrate our need for the gift of faith and the patience of faithfulness, to give us a new vision and understanding of the world.

In the **First Reading** (Habak. 1: 2–3; 2: 2–4) the prophet Habakkuk looks at the evil all around him and the suffering of innocent people. He asks God, 'What's the point of praying?', when God does not appear to hear. The Lord offers no direct answer, but simply reassures him that the just person lives by faith in God – the One who sees the whole picture.

The **Psalms** (94) urges us: 'O that today you would listen to his voice!' For us, 'today' means our own lives, as they are lived in the present moment. Despite his imprisonment, Paul is confident in the Lord and dares to speak without fear. He reminds Timothy that faith is never possessed definitively but must be continually aroused. He also needs the power of God: the gifts of the Holy Spirit must be the driving force in his life (**Second Reading** - 2 Tim. 1: 6–8. 13–14).

The disciples are keen to learn and to grow and ask Jesus to increase their faith (**Gospel** - Luke 17: 5–10). However, it is very clear that the way of the disciple is hard. It involves dying to ourselves and our self-promoting needs. Jesus's parable reminds them that faith is ultimately a gift from God.

Let's pray this week to deepen our faith and our faithfulness; knowing that it is not based on our own efforts, but on our growing surrender to the gifts of the Holy Spirit within.

SVP: The St Vincent de Paul (SVP) group here at St Marys are looking to recruit new members. At this weekend's Masses, SVP members will be available at the end of each mass if you would like to find out more about what is involved in being part of the group.

YEAR 5 MASS ATTENDANCE CARDS: Father Martin will be handing out Mass attendance cards to children in Year 5. Please see him after Mass.

SECONDARY SCHOOL FORMS: If your child and your family are known to Fr Martin and the child is from a Catholic family who attends Mass regularly, please come and see him along with your child during the dates and times below where he will issue a Certificate of Catholic Practice.

Please bring with you the child's Baptism certificate, First Holy Communion certificate, Mass attendance form and proof of address.

Fr Martin will be available on Saturday 8th October 7.30-8.30pm, Monday 10th October 3.30-5pm and Wednesday 12th October 8-9pm. The dates for Primary School forms will follow in due course.

YEAR 3 FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE: The first parents meeting for the year 3 First Holy Communion course will be on Monday 17th October at 7pm in the church. It is important that all parents attend this meeting.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN EVENINGS: *Sacred Heart* – Thursday 6th October 6pm-8pm, *All Saints* – Wednesday 5th October 4.30pm-7pm.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – World Food Crisis Appeal: Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. Donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today or start a monthly gift to CAFOD or you can donate at cafod.org.uk/fastday

VISIT OF RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE OF LOURDES: The relics will be at Brentwood Cathedral from 11am on Sunday 16th until Monday 17th October at 12 noon. Those wishing to attend should register through the tour website in order to manage numbers safely, the website to do this is <https://stbernadette.org.uk>

SILENT WEEKEND RETREAT - 'My Lord and my God'. Fri 4th - Sun 6th November 2022.

Led by Fr Martin Boland, Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. Venue: Sion Community, Brentwood. Our theme focuses on how closeness to Christ enables us to develop a deeper level of intimacy with Him.

This silent weekend retreat offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, guidance & ministry

included. For more information or to book, visit <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/> or email allegra.mutanda@gmail.com

TODDLER GROUP: Toddler Group in the Parish Hall is from 2pm – 3.10pm term time only. We are urgently looking for helpers to help put out and put away toys at the start and end of each weekly session, if you could help please contact Jo on 07961037786

RAINHAM FOODBANK: Thank you from Rainham Foodbank for your donations! They are short of tins of tuna, rice pudding and fruit, toiletries and toilet rolls. Other items are listed in the porch. All donations are welcome and gratefully received. Thank you for your generosity.

BAPTISM COURSE: Our next Baptism course will take place on 8th and 15th November – parents need to attend both sessions. If you would like to attend this course, please fill in a Baptism form which is located at the back of the church and hand it in to the Parish office.

RECENTLY BAPTISED CHILDREN: We welcome Emmie-Grace Thomas who was Baptised recently and is now a beloved member of God's Holy Family.

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.

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.

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Joan McGurk RIP, Susanna O'Donnell RIP and Irene Rogers RIP who have all died recently.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

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, Ruth Carroll, Martin Cornish, John Dawson, David Donovan, Arturo Garzon, Anna Gawlik, Betty Gemba, Victor Guy, Christine Harris, Fr Bob Hamill, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Sajy Joseph, Pauline Joyce Bertha Samuels, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Bridget O'Sullivan, Phil & Tony Reed, Paul Ridley, Susan Squires, Anne 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 <i>St Therese of the Child Jesus</i>	1 st October	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Vivian Johnson RIP / Vincent Keegan RIP
Sunday <i>Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	2 nd October	8.00am	Rev Fritz O'Kelly RIP / Cathy Lennon RIP
		9.30am	Rita Kyrou RIP / Helen Ging RIP
		11.30am	All Parishioners
Monday	3 rd October	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Patrick Cremin RIP / Luke Maguire Int
Tuesday <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>	4 th October	9.15am	Mr & Mrs Tarling RIP / Pat Herbert Int / Archie Ampofo Int
Wednesday	5 th October	7.30pm	Eucharistic service
Thursday	6 th October	9.15am	Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP / Scott Cheesman RIP / Baby Thomas RIP
		9.45-12 noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday <i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	7 th October	8.15am	Rosemary Bray RIP & Bray Family Int / Joseph Ma RIP / Tom Delahuntey RIP
Saturday <i>St Osyth</i>	8 th October	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday <i>Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	9 th October	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Jim & Andrew Shanahan RIP / Jack & Nancy Allan RIP
		9.30am	Tom Millar RIP / George & Joaquina DeSouza RIP / Trevor Magson RIP
		11.30am	Francis Bransdon RIP / Helen Ging RIP

Hospital: If you are going into 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.