

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



**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year C**

4th September 2022

True Discipleship

Our readings this week lead us to contemplate Christ's self-sacrificing love. We are asked to follow him, the Wisdom of God incarnate.

The First Reading (Wisdom 9: 13-18) states bluntly that we have enough difficulty grasping the world around us, so how can we understand the mind of God? Only through the gift of Wisdom might we begin to do so.

The Psalm (90) expresses confidence in the Lord. Despite the transience of life, may God give us 'wisdom of heart'.

Paul, in his letter to Philemon, appeals to him to welcome back a runaway slave. May he do this in a real spirit of Christian brotherhood. (Second Reading Philemon 9-10.12-17)

The Gospel (Luke 14: 25-33) gives us Jesus's teaching on true discipleship. This requires total commitment and will affect our nearest and dearest.

This week, may we consider our freedom as children of God, and not be enslaved by our desires. We continue to pray for the peace of the world, and for all who suffer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION YEAR 4 PARENT MEETING: The first parents meeting for children in year 4 and above who have registered on the course will take place on **Monday 12th September at 7pm in the church.** It is very important that all parents attend this meeting.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN IN YEAR 3: Application forms for the Year 3 First Holy Communion course are available to collect from the back of the Church. Please note this will be separate from the Year 4 course.

All application forms need to be handed in by 16th September.

CATHOLIC FAITH: If you or someone you know is interested in finding out about the Catholic Faith and perhaps becoming a Catholic, then you are invited to the RCIA / Journey in Faith Programme. There will be an introductory gathering on Monday 19th September at 7.30pm in the Van Meenan room which is located on the left hand side of the church.

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> there is also a promotional video which can be viewed through this link <https://youtu.be/PFRMlvD9Ail>

RECENTLY BAPTISED CHILDREN: We welcome Andre Rowe, Madeline May, Logan Lewis, Harry Lya & Emily Cottle who were Baptised recently and are now beloved members of God's Holy Family.

BAPTISM COURSE: Our next Baptism course will take place on 6th & 13th September – 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.

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. **The next meeting is Saturday 10th September.** If you have any specific queries or if you require any assistance with travel, please contact Joanne on 07985 496196."

EXPLORING YOUR FAITH: This is a new group where we meet monthly to talk about anything related to the Catholic faith. All are very welcome, if you are interested contact Liz Hill 07801708017 or Karen Gannon 07876753029.

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.

RAINHAM FOOD BANK: Thank you St. Mary's for your donations. They have listed some urgently needed items. If you feel you can donate, please put your item in the basket the porch. Urgent items include long-life milk, jam, tinned fruit and tinned meat as well as non-food items like toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, personal care items, nappies and toilet rolls. Thank you for your generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS: To Clare & Charlie How and Kevin & Trudi Balding who were married here at St Mary's during the summer.

YOUTH CLUB: Is reopening on Friday 23rd September from 7.30pm-9.30pm. Membership cards for those that have already registered will be available to collect on arrival. Youth Club is now full, with a waiting list in place.

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 Anthony O'Reilly RIP, Cathy Lennon RIP, Muriel O'Flynn RIP, Mary Corcoran RIP, Lourdes Lilley RIP, Liam Johnstone RIP, Mary Fielder RIP, Mary Picton RIP, Sheila Murphy RIP, Susan Curtis RIP & Michael Ryan RIP who have all died over the summer. 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, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Bridget O'Sullivan, Mary Picton, 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 Gregory the great</i>	3 rd September	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Martha Sheridan RIP / Victoria Adams RIP
Sunday <i>23rd Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	4 th September	8.00am	Clive McDonagh RIP / Private Intention / Sheila & Hector Brunton RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11:30am	Frank Mollaghan RIP / Patrick Irvine RIP / Kathleen McLoughlinn RIP
Monday	5 th September	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Moya Armstrong RIP
Tuesday	6 th September	9.15am	Wally Ainscough RIP / Mrs Hunt RIP
Wednesday	7 th September	7.30pm	David Shannon RIP / Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP
Thursday <i>The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	8 th September	9.15am	Peter McKay & Family RIP / Bill Hayes RIP
		9.45-12 noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	9 th September	8.15am	Joseph Ma RIP / Maria Molloy RIP
Saturday	10 th September	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Reg Smith RIP / Mary Murphy RIP / Andrew & Helen McEvoy Int
Sunday <i>24th Sunday in Ordinary time</i>	11 th September	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Helen Byrne Int
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Ania Wigley RIP / Regina Lavery 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.