

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

Email: hornchurchstmmg@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

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



Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year A – Page 64

12th February 2023

The readings today are all concerned with the law and commandments of Moses. They reflect on the happiness which can be ours if we keep to the spirit of the law and not just its letter.

In the **First Reading** from the book of Ecclesiasticus (15: 15–20), the author stresses that we are given absolute freedom to choose to keep the commandments or not.

St Paul is keen to tell the Corinthians that wisdom comes from God. We cannot fully understand God's purpose for us but need the help of the Spirit to really appreciate the depths of God (**Second Reading** 1 Cor. 2: 6–10).

Finally, in the **Gospel** (Matthew 5: 17–37), we hear Jesus telling his disciples that he has come to complete the law, not to abolish it. He is the fulfilment of the law. Using a few everyday examples, he shows how we need to go beyond the letter of the commandments and truly understand what is behind them. This week, we might pray for all law makers, ecclesiastical or secular, that they always work for the greater good of all.

We also pray that the Spirit will be with all those who have the power to bring greater peace in the world.

The 22nd February is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent.

It is a day of fasting and abstinence.

There will be Mass and distribution of the ashes at 9.15am and 7.30pm.

Fridays in Lent – Stations of the cross at 7pm followed by Mass.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR TURKEY & SYRIA: Next weekend there will be a second collection for the 'CAFOD & Disasters Emergency Committee – Turkey & Syria Appeal'. Devastating earthquakes have hit Turkey and Syria, killing thousands of people, and reducing buildings to rubble. Please give whatever you can to help those in need.

SVP SECOND COLLECTION: On the weekend of 25th / 26th February, there will be a second collection for the SVP Society. The St Vincent de Paul Society is part of an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need. Please give whatever you can to support the most vulnerable in our local community.

ASH WEDNESDAY: On 22nd February Mass & distribution of the ashes at 9.15am and 7.30pm.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: During Lent, there will be stations of the cross every Friday evening at 7pm followed by Mass.

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.

The next meeting is Saturday 4th March. If you have any specific queries or if you require any assistance with travel, please contact Joanne on 07985 496196.

EXPLORING YOUR FAITH: A monthly drop-in group for tea, biscuits and chatting about your faith, all are welcome! Next session is on Tuesday 28th February 8-9.30pm in The Van Meenan Room with Liz, Karen & Teresa. For more information call Liz on 07801708017.

BAPTISM: Our next Baptism course will take place on 7th & 14th March. 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.

FOODBANK: Please leave your donations for the foodbank at the back of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: 23rd July - 30th July. Travel alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage to assist the elderly and infirm, as well as joining them for social time, retreat, reconciliation, the baths, a trip to the stunning mountain town of Gavarnie, social nights and party as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Open to all those in school year 10 and above. For all information and to apply, visit our website www.bcys.net/events/sl23 - Applications open until the end of January!

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND: 5th – 12th September 2023, with All Saints Travel Ltd and Fr John Moloney. Be face to face with the world of Jesus and His Gospel, lived out before your eyes. The beautiful, tried and tested 8-day itinerary promises to bring the faithful pilgrim an unforgettable and life-changing experience. This pilgrimage will include a non-stop return flight from the UK to Tel Aviv with Israel's national airline, EL AL (in-flight meals included), all meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner every day), an executive touring coach, a professional local Christian guide, all entrance fees, all tips and gratuities. You will stay at a 5-star hotel in Jerusalem for 4 nights and in a 5-star hotel set on the Sea of Galilee with stunning views and private beach access for 3 nights. £2,967. For full details <https://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/HL0756/>

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: Gift Aid is a tremendous way for any taxpayer (including pensioners who pay tax) to support the parish. It is simple: you complete just one form (located at the back of the church), and after that 25% of whatever you give is added to your donation.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Bridie McDonagh RIP, Betty Gemba RIP, Margit Baan RIP, Anne Humphrays RIP, Carmen Blackett RIP and Jim Carroll RIP who have died recently. Please keep their families in your prayers.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially: Ashley Baptist, Angelina Bush, Ruth Carroll, Martin Cornish, John Dawson, Mary Devlin, David Donovan, Arturo Garzon, Anna Gawlik, Victor Guy, Fr Bob Hamill, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Pauline Joyce, Bertha Samuels, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, 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 TURKEY AND SYRIA

We pray for the people of Turkey and Syria.

We pray for everyone who is affected by the earthquake, those who have lost loved ones, and all who have lost their homes.

May they be comforted by so many people reaching out to offer support.

Lord, bless the efforts of rescuers and medical staff, and all agencies trying to help.

Move our hearts with compassion.

May our sisters and brothers know that they are loved and find their hope restored.

Amen.

Mass Intentions:

Saturday <i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	11 th February	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri RIP / Madge McNally Int
Sunday <i>Sixth Sunday in ordinary time</i>	12 th February	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP / John Dennehy RIP
		9.30am	Frank McDermott RIP / Mr & Mrs Medley RIP
		11:30am	All Parishioners
Monday	13 th February	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Rev Fr William Boat RIP
Tuesday <i>SS Cyril & Methodius</i>	14 th February	9.15am	Agnes Jones RIP / Rev Fr Robert CP RIP
Wednesday	15 th February	7.30pm	Don Bannister RIP / Billy Delahunty RIP
Thursday	16 th February	11am	FUNERAL Anne Humphrays RIP
Friday	17 th February	8.15am	Pauline Fennessy RIP / The Allegri Family RIP
Saturday	18 th February	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday <i>Seventh Sunday in ordinary time</i>	19 th February	8.00am	Greg Little RIP / Rowland Harriss RIP
		9.30am	Agnes Farrell RIP / Jim O'Connell RIP
		11.30am	Johnny McDonagh RIP / John & Anna McGuirk Int

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

Registered Charity No. 234092 Private circulation only.
The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies. Please note the location of the fire exits.