

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.



Palm Sunday
Year A – Page 92
2nd April 2023

As we begin Holy Week, our readings take us from the joy and Hosannas of Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem to a profound contemplation of his suffering and death.

In the First Reading (Isaiah 50: 4–7) from Isaiah we meet the suffering servant: the disciple who suffers without offering resistance but is supported by God so that he can bring life to others.

The Psalm (22) will accompany us through the week, as well as being quoted by Matthew in our Gospel. It foreshadows Jesus's sufferings but also hints at his future glory.

The Second Reading (Philippians 2: 6–11) is a wonderful hymn which underlines Jesus's divinity, but also his obedience and suffering before his exaltation and glory.

In the Gospel (Matthew 26: 14 – 27: 66) we hear the Passion narrative of St Matthew, in which Jesus is betrayed, mocked, denied, accused and crucified. His body is laid in the tomb, and a guard is placed to secure it.

This week, may we follow Christ in his Passion, holding each other, and our suffering and tortured world, in prayer. May Mary be with us in this journey and help us understand the value of following the example of her Son.

EASTER OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Just a reminder that the Offertory collection taken at the Easter Masses is your personal gift to your Priest. Together with the Offertory taken at Christmas this provides a major part of his income for the year. Your generosity, as always, is greatly appreciated.

EASTER MASS TIMES:

Wednesday 5 th April	Chrism Mass at Brentwood Cathedral	11.00am
Thursday 6 th April	Holy Thursday – Last Supper Mass Followed by watching until 12 midnight	8.00pm
Friday 7 th April	Good Friday Walk of Witness from St Andrew’s Church, Hornchurch	9.45am
Friday 7 th April	Children’s Stations of the Cross	12.00pm
Friday 7 th April	Commemoration of the Lords’ Passion	3.00pm
Saturday 8 th April	Easter Vigil	8.00pm
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday	8.00am
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday	9.30am
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday	11.30am

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS: All Eucharistic ministers and readers of the Parish are invited to renew their commitment to their ministry at the Mass of The Last Supper on Thursday 6th April at 8pm.

CHURCH CLEANING: Volunteers are needed to clean the church for Easter. If you can spare 30 minutes, please come along, and help on Monday 3rd April at 9.45am.

EASTER RECEPTION: Please keep in your prayers those who are being prepared to be received into the Church at Easter

WALK OF WITNESS: On Good Friday 7th April the Walk of Witness will start at 9.45am outside St. Andrews Church in Hornchurch and will take the usual route to Queen’s Theatre Green.

ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED: If anyone would like to be an altar server, please see Fr Martin or contact the Parish office.

RAINHAM FOODBANK: – Please donate one item – a tin of meat, vegetables or fruit to the foodbank for Easter. Either put it in the box in the Church porch or any Supermarket. Thank you for your help.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA – GOOD FRIDAY – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:

The Divine Mercy Novena will be said each day from Good Friday 7th April to Divine Mercy Sunday 16th April. Good Friday after 3pm service. Saturday 8th April at 3pm. Easter Sunday 9th April after 11.30am Mass. Monday 10th April – Friday 14th April after morning Mass. Saturday 15th April at 10am. Sunday 16th April at 3pm.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023: Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/brentwood-lourdes Of course, you may wish to make your own travel/hotel arrangements for Lourdes, while still participating fully in the Diocesan pilgrimage. Just inform me if this is your plan. What matters most is this opportunity to make this pilgrimage as a diocese with our Bishop.

PARISH CHOIR: Please come and join us at 11.30am mass, all are welcome.

FIRST COMMUNION / CONFIRMATION: We have beautiful gifts and cards on display: pop into the Repository and have a look! But if you don’t see what you want you can browse through our catalogue, and we can order it for you!

PTA THEATRE TRIP: St. Mary’s PTA trip to see the musical TINA at the Aldwych Theatre (stall seats) plus coach on Wednesday 7th June. £55 per person. See poster at rear of church or message Ashley on 07984267182

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.

NEW YEAR GIFT AID BOXES: If you are a member of the gift aid scheme, please collect your box of envelopes for the new financial year 2023-24 – they are in alphabetical order on the table near the entrance to the church. Please collect soon as these are to be used for first time on Easter Weekend. For any issues or if you wish to join, please contact our Parish Office. Thank you to **ALL** donors – your support is very much needed and appreciated.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Kevin McNamara RIP and Mark McDonagh 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, Ruth Carroll, Martin Cornish, John Dawson, Mary Devlin, David Donovan, Arturo Garzon, Anna Gawlik, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, 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.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDRENS SOCIETY: The Northern Irish classical singing trio ‘The Priests are in concert in aid of the BCCS on Friday 30th June 2023 at Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. Tickets are £30 - bookings: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567> Full details: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: The Dioceses and Ethnic Chaplaincies of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster invite you to a celebration of the annual Mass for Migrants on Monday, 1st May 2023, at 12pm. Banner bearers are invited to gather at St Bonaventure’s Secondary School at 11:15am for refreshments and preparations ready for the banner procession at 12pm.

The Mass will be hosted by the Diocese of Brentwood at St Antony of Padua Church, Forest Gate E7 9QB with Bishop Alan Williams, sm as celebrant and Fr Dominic Howarth preaching. You are kindly invited to attend in person to celebrate the significant contribution made by migrants to the life of our Dioceses.

LONDON MARATHON 2023: PJ McEvoy is running the London Marathon on Sunday 23rd April for Children with Cancer UK Charity. If you would like to donate please see his just giving page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/PJMcevoy?utm_source=copyLink&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=PJ-Mcevoy&utm_campaign=pfp-share&utm_term=9924021d29b143c4b179a94a43f1563e

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard 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.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	1 st April	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Paula McGovern RIP / Helen Bray Int
Sunday	2 nd April	8.00am	Jim & Andrew Shanahan RIP / Janet Barrow RIP / Nora Maguire RIP / Mark McDonagh RIP
<i>Palm Sunday of the passion of the Lord</i>		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	(Mass starts in Parish Hall) John Irwin RIP / Sam Farrugia RIP
Monday	3 rd April	9.15am	Jack Louro RIP / Norah Lenehan RIP
<i>Monday in Holy Week</i>			
Tuesday	4 th April	9.15am	Norel Fasbery RIP / Helen Bray Int
<i>Tuesday in Holy Week</i>			
Wednesday	5 th April	9.15am	Shaila John RIP / Johnny Manning RIP
<i>Wednesday in Holy Week</i>		11.00am	Chrism Mass at Brentwood Cathedral
Maundy Thursday	6 th April	8.00pm	Mass of the Last Supper Followed by watching until Midnight Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP / Chad Nkemjika Rafua RIP
Good Friday	7 th April	12 noon	Childrens station of the Cross
		3.00pm	Commemoration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday	8 th April	8.00pm	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri RIP / Nicky Bayley RIP / Helen Thomson RIP
<i>Easter Vigil</i>			
Easter Sunday	9 th April	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP / Rev Bro Benignus McKechnie CP RIP
<i>The Resurrection of the Lord</i>		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Bina McCarthy RIP / Helen Ging & brother Chris 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. If a loved one is in hospital and would like pastoral care, please contact Helen Miranda on 01708477890*

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.