

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens / Assistant secretary: Charlie Taplin

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



Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

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18th June 2023

This week's liturgy reminds us of who we are, whose we are, what has been done for us, and then, how we might feel drawn to respond.

For the people of Israel, relations with neighbouring tribes always offered tempting religious alternatives. The Exodus story (**First Reading** Exodus 19: 2–6) was a constant reminder of their covenant with God, in which the whole nation was called to be made holy.

St Paul writes to the Christians in Rome, teaching that their concerns should not, ultimately, be about what they are doing for God, but about what God has done, and is doing, for them. (**Second Reading** Romans 5: 6–11)

St Matthew (**Gospel** Matthew 9: 36–10: 8) portrays Jesus as the compassionate shepherd of his suffering people. Jesus is concerned not only with their spiritual and practical needs, but also about ensuring there are enough 'labourers' on the ground to reach every 'lost sheep'.

As I pray this week, I might ponder:

Are there tempting alternatives getting in the way of my own covenantal relationship with the Lord?

What has God done for me is God doing for me ... will God do for me?

How is my relationship with the Good Shepherd, to whom I belong?

In what ways am I able to labour alongside Christ in today's world?

HAPPY FATHERS DAY!

YOUTH CLUB: Looking ahead to the new academic year, there will be a REGISTRATION EVENING in the Parish Hall on **Friday 23rd / 30th June** for St. Mary's School Leavers' 2023, those in Year 6. One parent or carer ONLY can come anytime between 8 – 9.15pm & be prepared to register the same evening! This should take no more than 15-20 mins, & the forms will be given to you on arrival. To register on time, you MUST bring along £5 cash & 2 x passport type photos (NOTE: they don't need to be passport photos, just that size, & be a headshot of the youngster). Current members of the YC who are in years 7,8,9 & above who wish to rejoin still need to be registered by a parent/carer, also on Friday 23rd / 30th June - NOTE Youth Club at normal time for current members. (Late registrations will be dealt with after all other applications have been processed & a waiting-list will be set-up if numbers dictate).

THE CHAMPION SCHOOL OPEN EVENING: For the admission of boys (in current Year 5) in September 2024 will be held at the school on Thursday, 29th June 2023 from 4.30 pm to 7 pm. Talks from the Headteacher will be at 5.15 pm and 6.30 pm. For more details please see their website.

BCCS RELAY 100, 2023: Frances + Brian Rodgers are taking part in Relay 100 again this year. We are walking from St. Alban's, Elm Park to St Edward's, Romford via St. Mary's this week, and from English Martyrs to La Salette later this month. BCCS is an established children's charity delivering vital mental health and emotional wellbeing services in schools across Essex and East London. Please support us and BCCS Relay 100 with a prayer and, if you can, a penny or two via <https://www.justgiving.com/page/bccs-relay100> (naming our Parish) or via the Parish Office in an envelope addressed "Relay 100". Thank you.

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI EXHIBITION: The National Gallery are holding a Saint Francis of Assisi exhibition until 30th July 2023. Come face-to-face with one of history's most inspirational and revered figures in the first major UK art exhibition to explore Saint Francis of Assisi's life and legacy.

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

CHURCH CLEANERS: If you are available on a Friday morning, please come and help clean the church from 9am – 9.30am. More hands make light work.

BISHOP ALAN LISTENS: Bishop Alan would love to hear from you! Do you, or someone you know, no longer go to Mass or feel that you belong in the Church? Bishop Alan would love to hear your story and listen to your experience, via this online survey. PLEASE ASK your friends or family, your neighbours and colleagues who no longer come to Church to complete the survey so that we might hear from as many people as possible (the link is clickable in the online newsletter): www.cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Gn08WXvvKfwJts

CHURCH EVENTS: For more information on any of the events listed below please contact the Parish office.

Children's Liturgy: Sundays in term time for children in years 1 & 2 at the 9.30am mass.

Baptism course: Please take a Baptism form from the back of the church.

Exploring Your Faith: Last Tuesday of every month. 8-9.30pm in the Van Meenen room. All welcome.

RCIA Journey in Faith: Mondays at 7.30pm in the Van Meenan room. See Fr Martin.

Rosary: After all weekday masses and on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in church. All welcome.

Confession: Saturday evenings at 5.30-6pm in the church.

Pass it on!: First Saturday of every month (closed in August) in the parish hall from 2-4pm. Free to all.

Parent & toddler group: Tuesdays during term time in the parish hall 2 – 3pm.

Coffee morning: After 9.30am mass during term time in the parish hall. All welcome.

Youth Club: Friday evenings 7.30-9.30pm in the parish hall. (members only).

Children's choir: During 9.30am mass – meet in the choir loft. All children welcome.

Adult choir: Please come and join us during 11.30am mass. All welcome.

Catholic fellowship: Saturdays 9-1pm in the parish hall. (members only).

St Vincent de Paul Society: Meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7pm in the Van Meenen room.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Thursday 9.45am -12 noon in church.

Foodbank: Donation box is located in the porch of the church. All donations go to Rainham foodbank.

Church cleaning: Every Friday morning at 9am during term time. Helpers needed.

Repository: Beautiful gifts and cards available. Open after all weekend Masses.

FINANCES: 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 Name: St. Mary Mother of God

Account Number: 51019058

Sort Code: 40-13-22

If you have a gift aid number, please use that as a reference when you make your donation. Any donations are very gratefully received.

STANDING ORDERS: It is becoming increasingly hard to bank cash. If at all possible, please support the work, running and mission of the parish by setting up a standing order via your online banking or by picking up a standing order form from the back of the church.

If you are part of the parish Gift Aid scheme, please quote your Gift Aid box number as a reference when making the payment.

The parish account details are listed at the top of this page. If you have any queries, please contact the parish office.

CASHLESS DONATIONS: You can also donate by scanning a QR code below on your phone. Open the camera on your smart phone, hold the camera over the QR code and click on the link that appears. Please note Gift Aid cannot be used when donating through the QR codes.



To donate £5



To donate £10



To donate £20

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS John Marlor RIP, Margaret Mee RIP & Marie-Claire Greenan 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, Malcolm Hiltion, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Carly Menon, Bridget O'Sullivan, Phil & Tony Reid, 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 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."

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 The Immaculate Heart of Mary	17 th June	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Mrs W.J Sullivan RIP / Daphne Reid RIP
Sunday Eleventh Sunday in ordinary time	18 th June	8.00am	Ollie Gilsenan RIP / Marylyn Whaymond Int
		9.30am	Year 4 Going Forth Mass All Parishioners
		11.30am	Jack Hughes RIP / Selby Tweedie RIP
Monday	19 th June	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Michelle Miranda Int
Tuesday	20 th June	9.15am	All Holy Souls / Frank Everett RIP
Wednesday St Aloysius Gonzaga	21 st June	7.30pm	Kevin Onwuka Int / Kenneth Ideh Int
Thursday SS John Fisher & Thomas More	22 nd June	9.15am	Sheryl Gowan RIP / Joe Curtin Int
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	23 rd June	8.15am	Ollie Gilsenan RIP / Honora Heaphy RIP
Saturday Nativity of St John the Baptist	24 th June	2.00pm	First Holy Communion
		5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Confirmation Going Forth Mass John & Pauline McGlade RIP / Matthew Ward RIP / The Bray Family Int
Sunday Twelfth Sunday in ordinary time	25 th June	8.00am	First Holy Communion Lilian Taylor RIP / Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP
		9.30am	First Holy Communion All Parishioners
		11.30am	First Holy Communion Eamon Commins RIP / Rita Kyrou RIP / Suresh Salian 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.