

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

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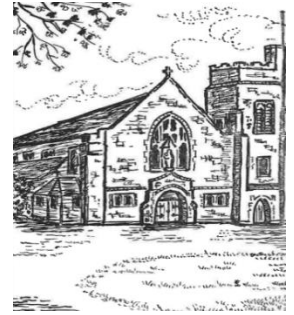
Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

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.



Sixteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A – Page 56 23rd July 2023

God's mercy and compassion are the themes running through today's readings. The First Reading (Wisdom 12: 13, 16–19) offers a description of God's divine nature. The author emphasises God's universal care and patience as signs of strength: characteristics that stand at odds with worldly values.

In the Second Reading (Romans 8: 26–27), St Paul tells of the consequences of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in Christian prayer. Even when prayer is difficult for us as finite and limited human beings, Paul encourages us to hand over our struggles to the Spirit who prays deeply in our hearts to our Father.

The Gospel (Matthew 13: 24–43) shares three parables about growth, each seen from a different perspective. The first tells of the wheat and the weeds. It challenges us to recognise that sometimes we must learn to live with situations we don't like, because the effort to remove or change them would do more harm than good. This is a shrewd picture of the patience and compassion needed to live with the ambiguities and complexities of human life.

Let us pray this week for a spirit of self-compassion in our frailty and limitations. We ask for the grace of deep humility and freedom to give of our best, and also to have faith in the God of surprises.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024: If your child is going into Year 3 or above in September and they would like to make their First Holy Communion in 2024, please email the parish office to register your interest. Please include your child's full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism certificate. We will then be in contact with you directly once programme details become available.

FATHER MARTIN FAREWELL MASS & SOCIAL EVENT: In response to many requests from Parishioners, the Parish council, together with the school are making preparations for a farewell Mass for Father Martin on Saturday 23rd September at 6.30pm. This will be followed by a Parish social get together in the school hall. More details will follow. We have also been approached by many people asking how they can contribute to a leaving gift for Father Martin, and so we will be arranging a second collection for this during the weekend of 2nd/3rd September.

RCIA / JOURNEY IN FAITH PROGRAMME: We begin a new Journey of Faith programme with Fr Mark on Thursday 14th September at 7.30pm in Parish Hall. It is designed for adults, falling into 3 categories i) for those who are not Catholics but who are interested in becoming one or just want to find out a bit more, ii) for those who are Catholics but who have not yet been Confirmed, and iii) for Catholics who would like to revisit their faith from the ground-up. Please let the Parish Office know if you are interested stating which category you fall into - just email us on hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org.

Fr Mark will celebrate his first Mass here on Tuesday 5th September at 6pm.

HOLY RELICS OF ST COLUMBA, ST MARGARET OF SCOTLAND AND ST ANDREW THE

APOSTLE: The Holy Relics are being toured throughout Great Britain by the Knights of St Columba and will visit your parish from Sunday 30th July, mid-afternoon, until Wednesday 2nd August, leaving late morning. The relics will be available for veneration before Mass on Monday and Tuesday and for ninety minutes after Mass. On Wednesday morning the church will be open from 9am until 11am for veneration, the Holy Relics will then travel to St Anthony of Padua, Forest Gate. We sincerely hope you are able to visit the Relics to venerate and enjoy the amazing peace and serenity that surrounds them.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION 15th AUGUST: After the 9.15am mass, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 4pm. Please sign up if you can spend 30 minutes or more in the church to ensure someone is in the church at all times. There is a list in the porch to sign up.

MISSIONARY APPEAL: There will be a missionary appeal by the Missionaries of St Paul who work in Africa and other parts of the world on the weekend of 26th/27th August and there will be a second collection for their work.

CHURCH LINEN: We need some helpers to wash church linen. If you can help, please speak to Father Martin or the Parish office.

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.

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: For people with special needs Saturdays 9-12pm in the parish hall new members welcome

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.

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 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.

WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME: World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can’t attend the main event, why not join WYD in London run by the Religious of the Assumption - a day celebration on Saturday 5th August 2023 from 11am-5pm in the church by Leicester Square. Programme: music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. To register a group or individually, fill in the form: [//bit.ly/wydlondon](https://bit.ly/wydlondon)

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 St Mary Magdalene	22 nd July	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Sheryl Gowan RIP / Vera Coughlan RIP
Sunday Sixteenth Sunday in ordinary time	23 rd July	8.00am	Mr. Cyril Fernandes RIP / Vidal Salem RIP / Olivia Howard RIP
		9.30am	Angela Aherne RIP / Ollie Gilsenan RIP
		11.30am	All Parishioners
Monday	24 th July	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Evelyn Ward Int
Tuesday St James	25 th July	9.15am	Eileen Sheehan RIP / Paul Wallace Int
Wednesday SS Joachim & Anne	26 th July	7.30pm	Grant Cambridge RIP / Paul Whelton RIP
Thursday	27 th July	9.15am	Sophie Fitzpatrick RIP / Tom Murphy RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	28 th July	9.15am	Eddie O'Donaghue RIP / Barbara & Vincent Payne Int
Saturday SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus	29 th July	5.30-6pm	Confession
		6.30pm	Michael McDonagh RIP / George Finch Int
Sunday Seventeenth Sunday in ordinary time	30 th July	8.00am	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP / Samantha Sheridan – Sellers RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Jack Hughes RIP / Eamon Commins 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.