

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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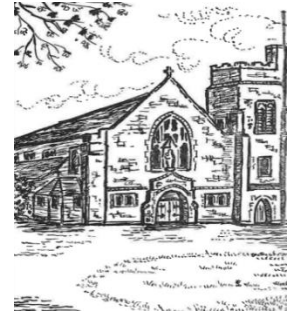
Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens / Assistant secretary: Charlie Taplin

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



Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A – Page 73 17th September 2023

The parable of the Unforgiving Servant in the Gospel for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 18:21-35) conveys a significant lesson about forgiveness. Though the details of slavery and debt bondage may seem distant, the core message resonates with contemporary readers: God's mercy is abundant, and we must pass that mercy on to others. Just as the king forgives the servant's debt, we too have been forgiven by God, and we are called to extend that same grace to others.

The parable takes a serious turn when the forgiven servant fails to show mercy to another. This harsh act is met with severe consequences, reflecting a spiritual truth: If we do not forgive others, we hurt ourselves and risk losing God's grace. The Gospel calls Catholics to be mindful of how we treat others, recognizing that our actions reflect our relationship with God. Forgiveness is not optional but a necessary expression of our faith.

Lastly, the Gospel challenges the tendency to quantify or limit forgiveness. Peter's question about how many times to forgive is answered by Jesus with a call to unlimited mercy. God's forgiveness is not constrained by numbers or conditions; it's a boundless grace that transforms us. For Catholics, this is a reminder to approach others with the same unlimited compassion and forgiveness, reflecting God's own boundless love in our daily lives.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend there will be a second collection for Evangelii Gaudium Day- previously known as Home Mission Sunday.

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.

SECONDARY SCHOOL FORMS: Please come along with your child on Monday 2nd October between 6pm & 8pm or on Monday 9th October between 6pm & 8pm, when Fr Mark will be issuing Certificates of Catholic Practice. If you have not been coming to Mass and do not have a full number of stamps in the card, he will not be able to sign it. Please bring with you the child's Baptism certificate, First Holy Communion certificate and Mass attendance form.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS: Father Mark will be signing Certificate of Practice for Primary school applications at the beginning of January- dates to be advised. Please ensure you are coming to Mass and saying hello to Father Mark, so he knows who you are and so as to avoid disappointment.

FATHER MARTIN'S FAREWELL MASS & SOCIAL EVENT: Father Martin's Farewell Mass will take place **next weekend** on Saturday 23rd September at 6.30pm followed by a Parish social get together in the school hall. **In view of that, we would be very grateful for any donations of cakes and biscuits which can be deposited on the day.**

INDUCTION MASS FOR FATHER MARK: On Wednesday 11th October at 7.30pm there will be an Induction Mass for Father Mark followed by tea and cakes (or something a little stronger) in the Parish Hall. We would be grateful for any volunteers who can help with the reception.

MASS INTENTIONS: *Please note* –the Diocese has reminded us that there should be only one parishioner's intentions per Mass. All previously booked Masses will be honoured, however new Mass bookings will adopt the new approach. If you have a specific date in mind, please book at least 4 months in advance to avoid disappointment. We currently have no availability until December.

RCIA / JOURNEY IN FAITH PROGRAMME: We begin a new Journey of Faith programme with Fr Mark on Thursday 21st 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.

YOUTH CLUB: is reopening on Friday 22nd September from 7.30pm-9.30pm. Membership cards will be available to collect on arrival the first session onwards. For any new applications, please be aware, Youth Club is full, & a waiting list is in place.

CHURCH CLEANING: If you are available to help clean the church on a Friday morning at 10.15am please pop along and lend a helping hand.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to Emily Birtles & Ross Kersey who were married here at St Mary's this weekend.

HOUSEKEEPER VACANCY BASILDON: Our Lady & All Saints in Basildon are looking for a part time Housekeeper for Holy Trinity Presbytery and Hall, St Therese Hall and occasionally in St Basil's Presbytery in Basildon Parish. The post will be part-time (approximately 15 hours per week – Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). Application forms can be obtained by contacting Father Sabu via the Parish email address: basildon@dioceseofbrentwood.org Closing date for applications is 27th September 2023.

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.

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 Roy Pook RIP, Mary Devlin RIP, Breda O'Sullivan RIP, Arthur Peace RIP and Patricia Church 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, 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.

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 at 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: Thursdays 7.30pm starting 21st September in the Parish Hall.

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

Pass it on!: First Saturday of every month 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 10-12pm 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 10.15am during term time. Helpers needed.

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

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday Ss Cornelius and Cyprian Vigil Mass	16 th September	6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time	17 th September	8.00am	Evelyn O'Neil RIP / George & Joaquina de Souza RIP
		9.30am	Seamus Carter RIP / Heather & Michael Simmons Int
		11.30am	Patrick O'Leary RIP / Robert & Joseph Suet Int
		5pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday	18 th September	10.00am	FUNERAL – Requiem Mass Roy Pook RIP
Tuesday	19 th September	9.15am	Patrick Lenehan RIP / Peggy & Danny Duggan 60 th Wedding anniversary
Wednesday St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & Paul Chong Ha-sang	20 th September	7.00pm	Rosary
		7.30pm	Ray Grant RIP / Mr & Mrs Anthony Rachman RIP
Thursday St Matthew	21 st September	9.15am	Rev Fr William Looby RIP / Helen Ging RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	22 nd September	9.15am	Sheryl Gowan RIP / Private intention
Saturday St Pius of Pietrelcina Vigil Mass	23 rd September	9.15am	John Power RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Father Martin Fletcher Int
Sunday Twenty Fifth Sunday in ordinary time	24 th September	8.00am	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP / Michael Maguire Int
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commins RIP / Frank & Bernie Nash 40 th wedding anniversary

Hospital: If you are going into hospital this week for surgery Fr Mark 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 let Fr Mark know or contact Helen Miranda on 01708477890

Morning Prayer will be said before all weekday morning Masses at 9am as well as the Rosary after Mass.

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The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies. Please note the location of the fire exits.