

# ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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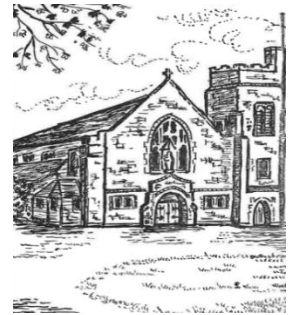
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Website: [www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens / Assistant secretary: Charlie Taplin

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



## **28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A – Page 82 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

In the readings for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A, we find striking parallels that delve deep into God’s graciousness and the nature of divine invitation. Isaiah speaks of a grand feast prepared by the Lord, one that promises sustenance and joy, a removal of sorrow and a lifting of burdens. Matthew, on the other hand, offers the parable of the wedding banquet, where a king invites guests to celebrate his son’s wedding. The interconnectedness between these passages reflects the continuity of God’s love and outreach throughout the scriptures.

The rejection by the invited guests in Matthew’s parable can be seen as a mirror to those in Isaiah’s time and even our own, who often overlook or dismiss God’s offerings due to distractions or worldly concerns. The feast in Isaiah represents the promise of salvation and eternal joy, yet many miss out on this divine opportunity. Similarly, in Matthew, the king’s invitation, representing God’s call, is ignored or treated with disdain, highlighting human tendencies to neglect spiritual wealth for fleeting worldly gains.

Drawing these passages together, it’s evident that God’s benevolent invitation remains constant, spanning across time and testament. The challenge posed to us, both as individuals and as a collective, is to recognize, accept, and prepare for these divine moments. Whether it’s the grandeur of Isaiah’s feast or the solemnity of the wedding banquet in Matthew, both underscore the importance of being spiritually ready and receptive to God’s eternal call.

## **OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY:**

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on 7<sup>th</sup> October. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. So, may we turn to our Lady of the Rosary as we look for her protection in our lives and in the lives of others.

## **PRISONERS' SUNDAY:**

Prisoners' Sunday is the National Day of Prayer and action for prisoners and their dependants as marked by the Catholic Church and across the Christian denominations. It is a day to direct our thoughts and prayers to prisoners, their families, and children. Prisoners' Sunday is the time to reflect on how we as individuals, as a Church and as a community are serving those affected by imprisonment.

Prisoners' families, prisoners and people with previous convictions often find themselves on the margins of society due to the social stigma associated with imprisonment. They are often forgotten or come lower down on the list of causes to 'hold a hand out to'. But the gospel of Matthew 25: 36 reminds us of our duties towards them: *I was in prison, and you came to see me.*

Pact's work (Prison Advice and Care Trust) embodies the Christian value of mercy and belief in the innate dignity of every human being. Through this campaign we ask you to engage with a core element of Catholic social teaching and put our faith into action.

Bishop Richard Moth, Catholic Liaison Bishop for Prisons, writes to all parishes to encourage support for this time of reflection, prayer and action on Prisoners' Sunday.

Pact are grateful to parishes who are able to hold a second collection to support the work of Pact – and to individuals who may send a donation at this time.

***There will be a second collection for Prisoners' Sunday this weekend.***

## **SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS' WEDNESDAY AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (2):**

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, the desire to share with others the joy of the Gospel, we now look to its model and source: the example of Jesus himself. As the eternal Word of God, made flesh for our salvation, Jesus' entire life was devoted to communicating and dialoguing with others, first with his heavenly Father in profound prayer, and then with others, especially the poor, the outcast and sinners. He proclaimed the coming of God's Kingdom not only by his preaching, but also by his ministry of healing, reconciliation and forgiveness. As the Good Shepherd, the model for all pastors in the Church, Jesus was completely committed to the welfare of his flock, protecting the fold yet also setting out in search of the lost sheep. Following his example, may we, in our daily lives, draw joy and strength from our union with the Father in prayer, allow our hearts to be shaped by pastoral zeal for the word of God, and strive, in all our words and actions, to share with others its saving message of joy, hope and new life.

## **YEAR 5 CHILDREN- MASS ATTENDANCE:**

A register is now in place, so can the children with their parents, present themselves to the designated person at the end of the Mass, who will then mark them as present at that Mass.

## **NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD MISSION DAY:**

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people.

There will be a second collection after all weekend Masses next weekend, or you can donate by scanning the QR code below or there are envelopes at the back of the Church to send directly to Missio.

## **CONFIRMATION:**

If your child is in Year 9 or above and they would like to make their Confirmation in 2024, please email the parish office to register your interest by Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October at the latest. After this date, a register will be in place for Mass attendance from the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> November. A preparatory meeting for parents and young people will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Hall and the course will begin in January. Only those who sign up by 29<sup>th</sup> October and are present at weekly Mass from then will be eligible for the course. The maximum number of young people that we can have on the course is 90 and if applications exceed that number, we will prioritise those in Year 10 or above.

When registering your interest, please include your child's full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates.

We will then be in contact with you directly once full programme details become available.

## **PRAYER PARTNERS:**

Our young people will be starting their faith journey through Confirmation which will take place on Pentecost Sunday. With this in mind, they need your support, and we ask if you could do this with your prayers. We are looking for members of the parish to become their prayer partners. All that would be required of you is to put your name on the list in the porch; we will then allocate a young person to your name and ask if you would pray for them during this time. Our Confirmation candidates are hoping to host a coffee morning before their Confirmation which you would be invited to.

## **YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!:**

We are looking to build a vibrant and diverse group of catechists that truly represent our Parish family to help our teenage Confirmation candidates grow in their faith, could this be for you? If so, please contact Jo Luxton on 07961037786

## **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.

## **BCYS YOUTH MASS:**

Takes place on the first Thursday of every month at Brentwood Cathedral, beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, an hour of input, workshops, youth led prayer and formation from different organisations each month, and Youth Mass celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome - no need to book!

### **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 mid January.

### **CHURCH CLEANING:**

If you are available to help clean the church on a Friday morning at 9.45am please pop along and lend a helping hand.

### **CATECHISTS TRAINING AND RESOURCES DAY:**

Saturday 4th November at Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School in Upminster This training and resources day is open to all First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as those who look after the children's liturgy. It includes input from David Wells and is a superb opportunity to hear about fresh resources. Reserve your place at [www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23](http://www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23)

### **FLOWER ARRANGING:**

If you are able to help with the flower arranging for the Church, please contact Angela on 07974417007. The flowers are normally done on a Friday morning/afternoon.

### **BABY & TODDLER GROUP:**

Join us at St Mary's Baby and Toddler Group each Tuesday 2pm in the Parish Hall (Please ring buzzer on school gate for entry.) Term time only. First session free then £2 per family. All welcome.

### **CHILDRENS LITURGY:**

Every Sunday at 9.30am Mass for children in Years 1 and 2 to learn and understand the Gospel through activities.

### **ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN EVENING:**

St. Mary's Primary School will be holding their open evening on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 5.30pm-7pm for reception intake 2024.

### **CAMPION SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING:**

Sixth form open evening for external students for entry in September 2024.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Headteachers talk at 6.30pm & 7.30pm.

### **PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK:**

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is hosting a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co Mayo from November 9 to 14 to Pray for the Holy Souls. It will be led by the Marian Fathers. Package includes: Return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow Airport, half board, 5 nights, accommodation in en suite twin rooms, hand-luggage (10 kgs), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The Retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

### **RAINHAM FOODBANK:**

Thank you from Rainham Foodbank for your donations! They are short of tins of tuna, rice pudding and fruit, toiletries and toilet rolls. Other items are listed in the porch. All donations are welcome and gratefully received. Thank you for your generosity.

### **CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP DISABILITY NETWORK:**

Each Saturday morning, in the Parish Hall, we hold a social gathering for people with special needs. Where necessary we arrange transport for those attending. We have a rota of drivers who kindly offer to pick up or return individuals, all of whom live locally. We are looking to supplement our pool of drivers, if you can help kindly contact Helen Wilson on 07368316716 or email wilsonhdp12@gmail.com

If you know anyone with special needs who would like to join us each Saturday morning, please contact us, as above, all are very welcome.

### **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:**

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford, are looking for a Parish Administrator for 16 hours per week working Monday to Friday. Contact hr@brcdt.org Closing date is 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

### **NEWHAM PARTNERSHIP YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR:**

A successful applicant will build and develop a Partnership Youth Leadership Team. Hours: 35 hours per week (to include evening and weekend work) Salary: £25,000 – £30,000 pa (depending on experience) Contract is a fixed 3 year. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to frdanielkelly@brcdt.org. Closing date for applications is 28th October 2023.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

John (Sean) O'Sullivan RIP who has died recently. Please keep his family 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, Gina Mifsud, 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 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."

### **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

### **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.

### **WORLD MISSION DAY:**

To donate to World Mission Sunday, simply scan this QR code using your phone. To give a gift, you can also visit Missio's website: [missio.org.uk/wmsdonate](http://missio.org.uk/wmsdonate)



SCAN ME

## **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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7pm in the Van Meenen room.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Every Thursday 9.45am -12 noon in church, and Saturday from 9.45am – 11.15am.

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

**Church cleaning:** Every Friday morning at 9.45am during term time. Helpers needed.

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

## **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Saturday Vigil Mass	14 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>6.30pm</b>	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri RIP / Smith- Rodriguez Family Int
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time	15 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>8.00am</b>	All Parishoners
		<b>9.30am</b>	Olga & Arturo Casali RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Marie Tweedie RIP / Francis Brownston RIP
		<b>5.00pm</b>	Holy hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP
Tuesday St Ignatius of Antioch	17 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>9.15am</b>	Sinead O'Connor RIP
Wednesday St Luke	18 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>7.30pm</b>	Cathy O'Dea Int
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>9.15am</b>	Geoff Needham RIP Suli Aliyu Int
		<b>9.45-12noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>11.15am</b>	FUNERAL- Requiem mass John O'Sullivan RIP
Saturday    Vigil Mass	21 <sup>st</sup> October	<b>9.15am</b>	Maria O'Neill Int
		<b>9.45-11.15am</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		<b>10.30-11.15am</b>	Confessions
		<b>5.30-6pm</b>	Confessions
		<b>6.30pm</b>	All Parishioners
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	<b>8.00am</b>	Eileen Jonas 80th Birthday Int
		<b>9.30am</b>	Sheryl Gowan RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Patricia Church RIP

**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.*