

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

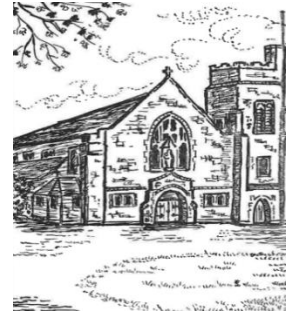
Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens / Assistant secretary: Charlie Taplin

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



Christ The King Year A – Page 95 26th November 2023

The second reading from Corinthians reminds us that Christ is the first to be raised from the dead, setting the stage for all who follow Him. In a world burdened by mortality and imperfection, the resurrection signifies Christ's power over even the most formidable of foes: death. His reign continues until every opposing force is subdued, making Him the ultimate King whose sovereignty is unassailable.

Paul outlines a sequence: First Christ, then those who are His at His coming, and finally the end where every authority is destroyed. It's a cosmic recapitulation where everything starts and ends with God. Christ hands the kingdom back to the Father, marking the culmination of a divine plan set in motion with the first sin. In Christ, humanity finds both its origin and its destiny.

As we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King Year A, we should consider what it means for our lives. Christ's reign promises not a kingdom of worldly power but one of eternal life. Our role, then, is to align ourselves with Him, participating in the defeat of death and sin in our own lives. As we do, we prepare for the time when God will be "all in all."

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY – 26th November 2023

World Youth Day is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church. There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, and any money raised on will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running these events, such as the monthly Youth Masses, provide support and training to those working with young people and so much more. You will also see posters around the church with details on how you can get involved or donate online, and please pray for all our young people and those who work with them. Please do pray for the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service and Walsingham House, for all young people and those who work with them, and to donate online, please visit www.bcys.net/donate

ENVELOPES FOR HOLY SOULS:

The Envelopes for the Holy Souls are now available at the back of the church ready for the month of November when we remember and pray for all our loved ones who have gone before us. Please write the names of your loved ones who have died on a piece of paper and then place them in the envelope. Any money that you put in the envelope will be given to *Aid To The Church In Need* who will ensure that Masses for the Holy Souls are said in different churches around the world who are struggling financially. The lists of your loved ones will be placed in a basket at the foot of the altar during November. **Please hand the envelopes to Fr Mark or to the Parish office but please do not put them directly in the basket – as the money in them may be stolen.**

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS' WED. AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (8):

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on missionary zeal, we now consider the teaching of Saint Paul VI in his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, on evangelization in the modern world. Pope Paul insisted that evangelization is primarily a personal witness to the Gospel and its saving truth. For this reason, he stressed the importance, in all the baptized, of a living faith in the triune God, manifested in a life of holiness fully consistent with the message we proclaim. Holiness of life, grounded in the gift of the Holy Spirit received in baptism, is the source of our zeal to share with others the treasure of new life and hope that is ours. Pope Paul went on to say that the Church not only evangelizes, but is herself evangelized, that is, constantly called to conversion and interior renewal in the Spirit. A Church that evangelizes is entirely turned to God, the source of our salvation, and, at the same time, entirely engaged in a creative dialogue with the world, cooperating with the Lord's gracious plan for the unity and peace of our human family.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS:

Father Mark will be signing Certificates of Practice for Primary school applications on Tuesday 2nd January from 7pm to 8pm in the church and on Monday 8th January from 7pm to 8pm in the church. 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.

CAR PARK:

The Church car park will be closed to all cars on Wednesday 6th, Thursday 7th and possibly Friday 8th due to having the potholes repaired. Masses will be said as normal – but you will not be able to park in the car park on these days.

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL:

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

HELPERS WANTED TO WRAP PRESENTS!:

Every year the school PTA gives each child at the school a selection box for Christmas and these are lovingly wrapped by members of our parish. This year we would like to bring back the old tradition of wrapping them together. If you are willing and able to help, we will be meeting in the Van Meenan room on Wednesday 29th November at 9am. Hot drinks, biscuits, and Christmas music will be provided. No need to bring anything other than your good selves.

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS' ANGELUS MESSAGE ON 33rd SUNDAY OF YEAR (A) (19th November):

In his reflections addressed to the pilgrims and visitors gathered in Saint Peter's Square for the Sunday Angelus, Pope Francis looked at the day's Gospel reading which recounts the parable of the talents noting how we can observe two different ways of approaching God. A short while earlier, the Pope presided over the Mass for the World Day of the Poor taking place in Saint Peter's Basilica.

Fear vs. trust

The first approach is marked by fear, lack of belief or trust in God's goodness, the Pope observed in describing the person in the parable who buries the talent he received from his master because he was afraid of him and the responsibility involved. The Pope said this person has a distant and mistaken idea of God that blocks him from carrying out the mission he has received.

Trust that leads to courage, freedom, joy

The other two protagonists in the parable of the talents on the other hand repay their master's gifts to them through their trust in him, said the Pope. This trust led them to take risks, to invest everything given to them, the Pope added, because they believed in the understanding and goodness of their master and the skills they had been given.

In the "crossroads we face with God" whether to fear or to trust as described in the parable of the talents, the Pope said a key to putting our gifts to work is trust in the Lord, which "frees our hearts, makes us active and creative in goodness." Trust eliminates the paralyses created by fear, the Pope explained."

Creating a climate of trust

The Pope said as a Church community as well, we should examine how we can cultivate a climate of trust and mutual respect that helps us move forward together and allows the creativity of love to flourish in everyone. "*May the Virgin Mary help us to overcome fear...and have trust in the Lord.*"

Pope Francis also mentioned that today marks the seventh World Day of the Poor, dedicated to the theme, "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor." He offered words of thanks to all those in dioceses and parishes around the world promoting solidarity initiatives with people and families struggling to survive.

CAMPION SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY:

As the Christmas season approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to invite your parishioners to our annual Senior Citizens' Party at The Champion School on Sunday, 17th December 2023 between 12.30 pm and 5.00 pm, with lunch served at 1.30pm. As you may be aware, the party has become increasingly popular and unfortunately, we have had to limit the number of guests to fifteen per parish. If you are interested in attending, a list is on the table in the entrance of the Church for you to put your name and telephone number on and the parish office will be in touch with you to confirm your place.

HELPERS OF GODS PRECIOUS INFANTS:

Please join us for our next monthly prayer vigil on Saturday 9th December at Holy Trinity School Woodford. We will begin with mass at 10am celebrated by FR. Tansi CFR, followed by a peaceful, prayerful procession to Marie Stopes, abortion facility. There we will hold a vigil of prayer whilst trained counsellors offer help to women entering the clinic. Return procession around 1pm with prayers and hymns. Refreshments afterwards. Please see flyer on noticeboard.

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

On Tuesday 12th December there will a Christmas Reconciliation service at 7pm in the church. All are welcome.

BCYS YOUTH MASS – Thursday 7th December 2023, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral:

Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, and an Advent Reconciliation service in the Cathedral before Mass.

Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! Email info@bcys.net

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – July 2024 (exact dates TBC)

Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. The week is spent serving the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assisting the elderly and infirm, alongside times of retreat, reconciliation, visiting the baths, taking part in the beautiful Processions, an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese. The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend) www.bcys.net/events/sl24

RAINHAM FOODBANK:

We will be distributing Christmas items with our food parcels during December. If you are able to donate items such as Christmas cake, mince pies, Christmas sauces, crackers, gravy granules, Christmas biscuits and chocolates. Please leave your donations in the box at the back of the Church.

ADVENT TALK ON THE PROPHET ISAIAH:

In preparation for the beginning of Advent Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and Scripture scholar, will be giving a talk on the Prophet Isaiah at 7 pm on Wednesday 29th November in the parish hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is free and is in person, and it will also be live-streamed on www.whatgoodnews.org. No booking necessary.

CALAIS LIGHT:

This will be the 25th time a volunteer convoy has been organised by Mary Stretch, who founded the charity over seven years ago. “We’ve asked each volunteer for this milestone trip to ask family, friends and colleagues to sponsor them with donations via GoFundMe on the Calais Light website. It all takes cash and effort – and we really need people to show their faith in this work.” If you would like to donate to the charity, please go to www.calais.light.com

SILENT WEEKEND RETREAT FRI 8TH - SUN 10TH DECEMBER:

Organised by Allegra Mutanda. Venue: Sion Community, Brentwood. Our theme focuses on the need to learn the 'art' of being still and at rest in the midst of a busy and noisy society. Guest speaker: Grace Nowakowska, full-time lay missionary member of Sion Community. This silent weekend retreat during Advent offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, spiritual guidance & prayer ministry included. For more information or to book, visit <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/> or email allegra.mutanda@gmail.com

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Marie Edgley RIP, Pat O'Shea RIP and James Hiles 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, Fr Francis Coveney, John Dawson, David Donovan, Anna Gawlik, Malcolm Hilton, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Eileen McCaffery, 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 FOR PEACE:

God of peace, bearer of hope, we seek your help for the people of the Middle East.
Quiet the clamour of war and guide us towards peace.
Where there is hatred and division sow seeds of calm and openness.
Where there is destruction help us to rebuild.
Where children are crying bring an end to tears.
Shelter your people and protect them.
Guide them and keep them from harm.
Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear
and breathe whispers of hope.
Amen.

**PARISH CENTRE CO-ORDINATOR AT ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
CATHOLIC CHURCH, ROMFORD:**

A wonderfully refurbished parish centre is due to open in early 2024; could you be the person to co-ordinate bookings, keep the centre clean and tidy, and welcome those interested in hiring the place? 7 hours/week, £11.95/hour, with the potential for additional hours as usage grows. For more information email frdominic@brcdt.org, call 01708740308, or look at <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>. Start: January 2024. Closing date for applications: 8th December 2023.

OFFICE CLERK – CATHEDRAL HOUSE:

To provide effective and efficient support in relation to administration requirements at Cathedral House. 21 hours per week 9am-5pm Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Start date December/January £13 per hour. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter to hr@brcdt.org

PARISH SECRETARY – RAYLEIGH:

To provide general administrative support. 10 hours per week. Start date February 2024. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter to rayleigh@brcdt.org

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.

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.

NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL:

If you would like the latest newsletter delivered right to your screen every week, simply email hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org and we will add you to our mailing 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 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. FREE

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, 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.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass	25 th November	6.30pm	Stanley & Annie Crow RIP
Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ the King	26 th November	8.00am	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commins RIP
Monday	27 th November	11.00am	FUNERAL – Requiem Mass Patrick O’Shea RIP
Tuesday	28 th November	9.15am	Norah Lenehan RIP / Mr Raimondo & Family RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Wednesday	29 th November	7.15pm 7.30pm	<i>Evening Prayer</i> Grant Cambridge RIP / Barbara Tormey RIP
Thursday St Andrew	30 th November	11.00am	FUNERAL – Requiem Mass Marie Edgley RIP
Friday	1 st December	9.15am	Ken, Sheila, John & Terry Coy RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	2 nd December	9.15am	Manzo Ausilia, Siciliano Luigi, Oliva Carmena, Oliva Angela & Mango Antonio Int
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Catherine & Hugh Lennon & Rita Kyrou RIP
Sunday First Sunday of Advent	3 rd December	8.00am	Marie Edgley RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Sam Farrugia 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.