

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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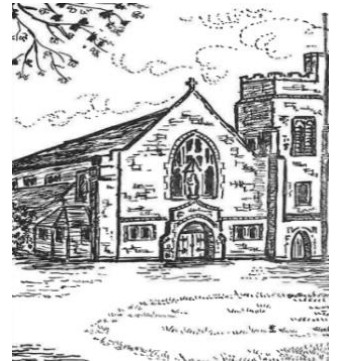
Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Priest: Father Jerold Savio

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-2pm



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 11th February 2024 – Page 63

In the Gospel for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, Mark 1:40-45, we witness a profound moment where Jesus, moved by compassion, heals a man afflicted with leprosy. This encounter isn't just a miraculous healing; it's a testament to Jesus' radical approach to love and inclusion. By reaching out to touch the leper, Jesus breaks societal norms and religious laws that dictate purity.

This act is revolutionary, signifying that no person is beyond the reach of God's love. Jesus' willingness to become "unclean" to restore another's health and dignity challenges us to reconsider our own attitudes towards the marginalized and the outcast in our society. It invites us to ask ourselves: Are we willing to extend our hands and hearts, even if it means crossing the boundaries of our comfort zones?

ASH WEDNESDAY: On Wednesday 14th February there will be Mass & distribution of the ashes at 9.15am and 7.30pm. Ash Wednesday is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal – a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving). Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, many Catholics consider it important to receive ashes on this day. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a period of 40 days (Sundays excluded) in which Catholics prepare for Eastertide. This period also represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert as well as the 40 years that the Israelites spent in exile. The ashes themselves come from the burned palms from last year's Palm Sunday celebration: thus bringing us full circle to our last celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we are called to turn away from sin, to repent and to believe the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS' WED. AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (15)

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, we now turn to Matteo Ricci, one of the early Jesuit missionaries to the Far East, who fulfilled the dream of Saint Francis Xavier and entered China. Father Ricci patiently mastered the difficult Chinese language and immersed himself in the country's culture. Thanks to his writings in Chinese and his knowledge of mathematics and astronomy, Matteo Ricci became known and respected as a sage and scholar. His vast learning and his ability to engage in sincere and respectful dialogue were employed in the service of the Gospel, which he made known not only in his writings but by his example of religious life, prayer and virtue, which attracted many of his Chinese disciples and friends to embrace the Catholic faith. Matteo Ricci was the first foreigner permitted by the Emperor to be buried on Chinese soil. In our day, Father Matteo Ricci can serve as an outstanding model for the inculturation of the Gospel. He also remains an inspiration for relations between the Church and China, and for dialogue between the cultures of East and West in the service of peace and fraternity among peoples.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE 2024 Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Friday 19 – Friday 26 July). To book, please go online: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: Lourdes@brcdt.org

SVP MENS CLOTHES DONATIONS: SVP are looking for donations of used, good condition, clean, warm mens clothing (all sizes)... T-Shirts, jumpers, joggers, jeans, trainers, jackets etc for men leaving prison, the majority being aged 20-40. Please bring any donations to the Van Meenan room during this weekends Masses **10th /11th February** only. Many thanks

SECOND COLLECTION: Last weeks second collection for the Lourdes fund raised £355.

CRIB DONATIONS: The total raised from the crib donations is £883.77. This has been donated to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fr Mark understands that in previous year's different groups have led the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent. Please let him know as soon as possible if your group would like to lead the Stations this year, and then he will let you know which date is available.

CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS: Thank you for those who attended our coffee morning. We have raised a fantastic £150 which will be going to the Confirmation candidates chosen charity and we hope you can join us at the next coffee morning on Sunday 5th May.

LENTEN LECTURE: On 20th February at 7pm in St James' Church, Spanish place, London, Monsignor James Shea, President of the University of Mary (Bismark, North Dakota) and co-author of *From Christendom to Apostolic Mission* will deliver our Lenten Lecture on effective strategies to engage our own time and culture with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. *Please email info@guild-ransom.co.uk for ticket.*

ST JOSEPH'S CANTERBURY WALK 2024 DISCO FUNDRAISER: Join us at the St Joseph's Social Club on Saturday 24th February at 7.30pm for a night of family fun all in support of the upcoming Canterbury Walk. Adults: £10pp Kids: FREE. Email upminster@brcdt.org for more info.

APPRENTICESHIPS AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE: Walsingham House are offering a two year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Mary's University, Twickenham. For more information please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR LENT: Commentary on every Scripture reading from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, is available free of charge on www.whatgoodnews.org Click on 'Scripture Readings' and 'Lent Readings'. The commentaries are also available in book form from Darton, Longman and Todd www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 25TH MAY 2024: Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. If you would like to come please contact the Parish office.

AWAKE LONDON: A Catholic Bible convention and Healing ministry on Saturday 17th February 2024 from 11am to 5 pm led By Fr. David Waller, Fr. Tijo Xavier and Anointing Fire Catholic Ministry UK at Catholic Parish of Christ The King, 455 Chingford Road London, E4 8SP. Convention includes: Praise and Worship, Holy Mass, confession, Healing service and Eucharistic Adoration, spiritual sharing, sessions for children www.afcmuk.org

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, Lyndsey McCauley, Carly Menon, Gina Mifsud, Bridget O'Sullivan, Phil & Tony Reid, Paul Ridley, Anne Sullivan, Josie Walsh, Evelyn Ward and for all our family and friends who are ill.

FINANCES:

You can make a payment into our bank account, either as a one off, by a regular Standing Order or by scanning the below QR codes. The details are as follows:

Account Name: St. Mary Mother of God

Account Number: 51019058

Sort Code: 40-13-22

All payments are gratefully received.



To donate £5



To donate £10



To donate £20

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday St Scholastica Vigil Mass	10 th February	6.30pm	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri & Alfred Farrugia RIP
Sunday Sixth Sunday in ordinary time	11 th February	8.00am	Mary McCarthy RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commins RIP
Monday	12 th February	9.15am	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	13 th February	9.15am	Kathleen & Paddy Mollaghan RIP
Wednesday ASH WEDNESDAY	14 th February	9.15am 7.30pm	People of the Parish Steven Taylor Int
Thursday	15 th February	9.15am	Pat O'Shea RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	16 th February	9.15am 7.00pm	Colette Dawson RIP Stations of the Cross followed by Mass Rita Thompson RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	17 th February	9.15am	Ollie Gilsean RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Terry Littlepage & Michael Redmond RIP
Sunday First Sunday of Lent	18 th February	8.00am	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Pat O'Shea RIP
		11.30am	Sheila McCarthy RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary & Benediction

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.

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.