

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

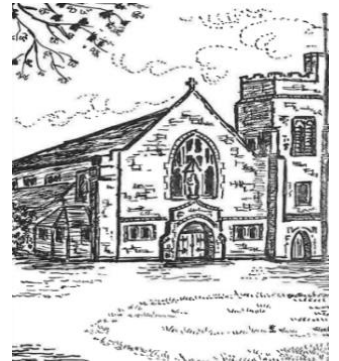
Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Priest: Father Jerold Savio

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens

Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-2pm (closed next week)



First Sunday in Lent

Sunday 18th February 2024 – Page 75

The proclamation of the Kingdom of God by Jesus in the Gospel for 1st Sunday of Lent Year B is a message of hope and an invitation to transformation. He calls us to repentance and belief in the Good News, signaling a new era of divine closeness and the possibility of a renewed relationship with God. This message is at the heart of the Lenten season. It encourages us to turn back to God, to embrace the transformative power of the Gospel, and to participate actively in the unfolding of God's kingdom.

This transformative call extends beyond personal renewal to encompass the whole of creation. We are invited to be agents of change in the world, embodying the hope and renewal that Jesus preaches. By living out the values of the Gospel—love, justice, and peace—we contribute to the realization of the Kingdom of God on earth.

Our Lenten practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving become means through which we engage with the world, seeking not only our own conversion but also the healing and restoration of all creation.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place twice a week during Lent, on Tuesdays after the morning Mass as well as Fridays at 7pm. Please make a very special effort to attend at least one *Stations of the Cross* during Lent. 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. We are very grateful to the *Confirmandi* who led the Stations so beautifully last Friday.

PARISH OFFICE: The Parish office will be closed next week and will reopen on 26/2/24.

SUMMARY OPOPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (16)

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, we now turn to Saint Therese of Lisieux, the universal patroness of the missions. At an early age, Therese discerned a vocation to enter the Carmel and to devote her life to prayer for the Church's work of evangelization. She adopted several foreign missionaries as a "spiritual sister", writing them letters of encouragement and supporting them by her prayers and daily sacrifices. Saint Therese longed for all people to open their hearts to the saving love of Jesus. She interceded fervently for the conversion of sinners, even those most hardened. In her final illness, she promised to continue that intercession even after her death. Saint Therese reminds us that charity and intercessory prayer, even more than projects and programmes, are essential to the spread of the Gospel. Let us ask her to intercede for an outpouring of missionary zeal upon the Church in our day, so that the name of Jesus may everywhere be known and loved.

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY SECOND COLLECTION: Next weekend there will be a second collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day. This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give today using the envelope (located at the back of the Church) or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

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

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.

CARITAS DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD: Is inviting you to take part in several activities during Lent. We have a photo challenge for all ages, Stations of the Cross for teenagers, a Giving Calendar to help collections for local foodbanks, suggestions on how to raise awareness for the homeless within Essex and East London and some great resources from charities such as SVP and CAFOD. All information and resources can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent or by emailing sianthomas@brcdt.org

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.

BCCS: Will be hosting a special Anniversary Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 23rd April 2024** at 1pm for service at 1.30pm. They are delighted that Bishop Alan, BCCS President, will be attending as guest of honour. Tickets for the event are £34.00 per person and should be purchased before Monday 8th April directly from their event webpage: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/ Once you have purchased your tickets, please advise Julie of any special dietary requirements or seating requests by contacting her by email jabbott@bccs.org.uk or call her on 07912 277413. Guests will be seated at tables of 12.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS William Duggan 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, 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, Claire Ramm (Shanahan), 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

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.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass	17 th February	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
Monday	19 th February	9.15am	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	20 th February	9.15am	Des O'Brien Anniversary RIP & Breffni O'Brien RIP <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>
		7.00pm	Cornelius O'Sullivan Int
Wednesday	21 st February	7.15pm 7.30pm	<i>Evening prayer</i> Jisma Jospeh RIP
Thursday The Chair of St Peter The Apostle	22 nd February	9.15am	Pat O'Shea RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	23 rd February	9.15am 7.00pm	Pat Mills RIP <i>Stations of the Cross</i> followed by <i>Mass</i> Elaine Boyle Int
Saturday Vigil Mass	24 th February	9.15am	Lucille Waskett RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Muriel Gargano RIP
Sunday Second Sunday of Lent	25 th February	8.00am	Pat & Ann Harrington RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Leslie Brewster 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.

Registered Charity No. 234092 Private circulation only.

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