

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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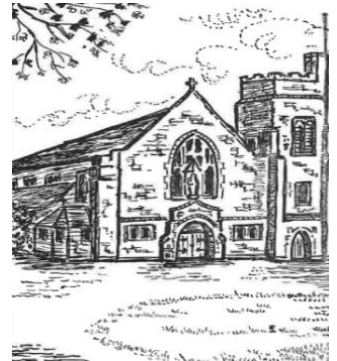
Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Priest: Father Jerold Savio

Parish secretary: Laura Stevens

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



Third Sunday in Lent Sunday 3rd March 2024 – Page 81

The gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B takes place in the temple. We must understand that the temple in Jerusalem was considered the most holy place for the Jewish people, and it was a place where they would come to offer sacrifices and worship God. The Israelites believed God was really present in the temple. The sales going on there enabled people traveling from afar to purchase animals for sacrifice. This was a great convenience. However, the presence of the merchants and money changers had turned the temple into a marketplace, which was not only disrespectful but also a distraction from the true purpose of the temple. Jesus, as the Son of God, recognized this and was filled with a righteous anger that compelled him to drive out the merchants and money changers.

In a similar way, we are called to reflect on this Gospel reading for the 3rd Sunday of Lent Year B and ask ourselves how we may have turned our own lives into a marketplace, where we prioritize material possessions and worldly pursuits over our relationship with God. Like the merchants and money changers, we may have allowed distractions and temptations to take over our lives, causing us to lose sight of what is truly important.

Social activities and youth sports activities are not bad in themselves, but they should not interfere with our attendance at Mass. Our focus must be on the Eucharist. We must give time and space in our hearts for the worship of God.

We must also recognize that the temple in Jerusalem was a foreshadowing of the true temple, which is the body of Christ. As Catholics, we believe that Jesus is present in the Eucharist, and that every time we participate in Mass, we are entering into the presence of God. Let us approach the Eucharist with reverence and awe, just as the Jewish people approached the temple in Jerusalem. Let us also strive to make our own bodies and hearts a worthy dwelling place for Christ, so that we may be a true reflection of his love and mercy to the world.

SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (18)

In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, we have been reflecting on the spread of the Gospel through the witness of men and women of every time and place. Today we consider the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe to Blessed Juan Diego, an event that contributed decisively to the evangelization of the Americas. By appearing to Juan Diego in native attire and speaking his language, the Blessed Virgin showed herself a Mother, the very Mother of God, and invited the indigenous peoples to take refuge beneath her mantle. The miracle of the roses that bloomed in mid-winter, and the appearance of Our Lady's image on the fabric of Juan Diego's cloak, speak eloquently of God's preferential love for the poor and Mary's maternal cooperation in the extension of his Kingdom. They also remind us of the important role of mothers and grandmothers in spreading the Gospel message, and, as in the case of Juan Diego, of our need as Christians for perseverance in the faith of our baptism. May the Mother of God, whose loving presence is felt in Guadalupe and in countless Marian shrines throughout the world, continue to draw hearts to Jesus her Son and to the saving truth of the Gospel.

SVP COLLECTION next weekend. At masses on the weekend of 9th and 10th March, there will be a second collection for the Society of St Vincent De Paul (SVP). Money raised will go towards supporting them on their ongoing work within the Parish, that is, their outreach to those who are poor and in need.

LENTEN TALK AT ST MARY'S. Fr Mark will give a talk on Thursday 14th March at 7pm entitled 'Embracing the Cross' as he explores 'how' we should respond to the suffering in our lives, as well as looking at the 'why' of suffering. The talk will end with a short period of Adoration, followed by Benediction. Afterwards teas and coffees will be available in the hall.

THE LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE will take place on Tuesday 19th March at 7pm. This is a graced opportunity to experience the mercy and healing that only God can give us, especially during this season of Lent. There will be a number of priests to hear confessions.

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 leave your name & contact telephone number on the list at the back of the Church.**

CHILDRENS LITURGY: Will recommence this weekend and is now open to children in School years 1, 2 and 3 during the 9.30am Mass on Sundays.

VOLUNTEERS AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP, from 27th July – 3rd August, help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, and now is the time to apply. Details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

CONCERT FOR ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP: Come and enjoy an exciting variety show of music and entertainment, to raise money for the camp, which provides holidays for over 100 children. The camp is restarting in 2024. The fundraising concert is on Saturday 13th April 2024 - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Wine and refreshments included. Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details: www.boscocamp.co.uk/events

ASK YOUR MP TO SUPPORT THE ABORTION TIME LIMIT REDUCTION

AMENDMENT: Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Take action: Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. This next programme will be held on 12-14 April in Brentwood; for further details please contact: Mary: 0208 647 4760, or Maura: 07795 498445, or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

RETROUVAILLE is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together and helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is a virtual programme coming up very soon (8th-11th Feb) and an in-person programme later in the year. Visit <https://www.retrouvaille.org.uk/>

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

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS. Please join us for our next monthly prayer vigil on Saturday 9th March at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Grove Crescent Road, Stratford E15 1NS. We will begin with Mass at 10am, followed by a peaceful, prayerful procession to the BPAS centre. There we will hold a vigil of prayer whilst trained counsellors offer help to women entering the clinic. Return procession around 12 noon with prayers and hymns. Refreshments afterwards. Please see flyer on noticeboard.

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, 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 and Jill Ridley, Anne Sullivan, Josie Walsh, Evelyn Ward, Hannah Haughey 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 Vigil Mass	2 nd March	6.30pm	Dympna Bowes RIP
Sunday Third Sunday of Lent	3 rd March	8.00am	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Sam & Connie Farrugia RIP
		11.30am	Bridget & John Reilly & Grandchildren RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary & Benediction
Monday	4 th March	9.15am	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	5 th March	9.15am	Frank Mollaghan RIP Followed by stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	NO MASS
Wednesday	6 th March	7.15pm 7.30pm	<i>Evening prayer</i> Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP
Thursday	7 th March	9.15am	James & Moyra How RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	8 th March	9.15am 7.00pm	Pat O'Shea RIP Stations of the Cross followed by Mass Mary McDermott Int
Saturday Vigil Mass	9 th March	9.15am	Joyce Rafferty RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent	10 th March	8.00am	Frank McDonagh RIP
		9.30am	Pat O'Shea RIP
		11.30am	The Ford Family 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.

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.