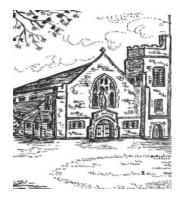
# ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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 Terrance Parish Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-3pm



## **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER** Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Page 135

As we journey through the Easter season, the readings for the 3rd Sunday of Easter Year B invite us to reflect deeply on the themes of repentance, forgiveness, and the power of the Resurrection. The call to turn back to God and the assurance of His forgiveness are central messages that resonate throughout the readings, offering us a path to renewal and hope.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter addresses the people with a powerful message of repentance. He acknowledges that both the people and their leaders acted in ignorance when they rejected Jesus and chose a murderer instead. However, Peter's words are not of condemnation but of invitation. He invites his listeners to repent and turn back to God so that their sins may be wiped out. This passage highlights a fundamental truth of the Christian faith: God's mercy is greater than our sins, and His desire is always to bring us back into full communion with Him.

The theme of repentance and forgiveness is further developed in the Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Easter Year B. Here, the risen Jesus appears to His disciples, offering them peace and dispelling their fears. By showing His hands and feet and sharing a meal with them, Jesus demonstrates the reality of His physical resurrection. He then opens their minds to understand the Scriptures, showing how His suffering, death, and resurrection were all part of God's salvific plan. This moment is not just a revelation of the mystery of the Resurrection but also an invitation to the disciples to become witnesses to the forgiveness of sins through Jesus' name.

The call to repentance is not a mere acknowledgment of wrongdoing. It is an invitation to a change of heart, to turn away from sin and toward God's loving mercy. The assurance of forgiveness that follows repentance is a gift of God's infinite love, a promise that no matter how far we have strayed, there is always a way back to Him.

#### SUMMARY OF POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON APOSTOLIC ZEAL (23)

Dear brothers and sisters: 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 life of Saint Charles de Foucauld, whose passionate love of Christ led him to settle in the Sahara Desert and to become a brother and friend to the poor. Following his conversion, Charles visited the Holy Land and was moved to devote his life to bringing Christ to others as Mary did at the Visitation: in silence and by example. Dwelling as a hermit among the Tuareg people, he bore witness to the Lord above all by a life of poverty and humility centred on quiet prayer before the Eucharist, with utter confidence in its power to draw hearts to Jesus. By identifying completely with the poor, he sought to become a "universal brother" and in this way to share with them the joy of the Gospel. May the example of Saint Charles de Foucauld inspire us, in the circumstances of our daily lives, to bear quiet and joyful witness to the Lord, and to see and honour him in each of our brothers and sisters.

**<u>GIFT AID BOXES:</u>** This year's new gift aid boxes are now available for you to collect at the back of the Church. If you pay online, your box will only include second collection envelopes.

**<u>PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD</u>**: English Martyrs are arranging a trip to Aylesford in Kent on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024. The coach will be leaving English Martyrs at 9am and will return at 7pm – the cost of this will be £18 per person. For more information, please contact Michael Okafor on 07956586370

**HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS:** Please join us for our next monthly prayer vigil on Saturday 20th April at Holy Trinity school, Sydney Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 0TB. We will begin with mass at 10am, followed by a peaceful, prayerful procession to Marie Stopes abortion centre. 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.

**YOUTH 2000 LONDON RETREAT DAY:** Come and See. Youth 2000 are running a retreat day for young adults (16-35) on 11<sup>th</sup> May at Sacred Heart Parish in Wimbledon. It is jampacked one day event, where people come together as a community of young adults in prayer and friendship. The retreat is an invitation to come as you are, and to come and see who Jesus is and what He can do in your life. The cost £25 and more information can be found at: https://www.youth2000.org/events/london2024

**AWAKE LONDON:** A Catholic Bible convention and Healing ministry on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 from 11am to 5 pm led By Fr. David Waller 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 (<u>www.afcmuk.org</u>). Free car parking available.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, SUMMER 2024** Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Friday 19 – Friday 26 July). Book at https://www.tangneytours.com/tours-and-pilgrimages/diocese-brentwood/. Bursary support is available for those in financial hardship. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please contact Kathryn Young: 07941 471503 kathrynyoung@mail.com

**VOLUNTEERS AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP**, from  $27^{th}$  July –  $3^{rd}$  August, help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. Details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Josephine 'Jo' Brown RIP,

Charlotte Johnson RIP & Daniel McCarthy 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, John Dawson, David Donovan, Anna Gawlik, Malcolm Hilton, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Danny McCarthy, 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.



### **CHURCH EVENTS:**

Children's Liturgy: Sundays in term time for children in years 1, 2 & 3 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. RCIA Journey in Faith: Thursdays 7.00pm 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. Toddler group: Tuesdays during term time in the parish hall 2 – 3pm. FREE 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. St Vincent de Paul Society: Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 7pm in the Van Meenen room. **Foodbank:** Donation box is in the porch of the church. 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: Contact Angela on 07974417007. The flowers are normally done on a Friday.

## SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> April	6.30pm	Anthony, Josephine & Paula
Vigil Mass	_		Camilleri & Alfred Farrugia RIP
<b>Sunday</b> Third Sunday of Easter	14 <sup>th</sup> April	8.00am	Martin McDonagh RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Denis O'Meara RIP
Monday	15 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am	Eileen Grannell RIP
Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> April	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	William Elliott RIP
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am	Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
		9.45am-12 noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	19 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am	Helen Thomson RIP
		7.00pm	Suresh Salian RIP
Saturday	20 <sup>th</sup> April	9.15am	Anne & John Murray RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
Vigil Mass		6.30pm	All Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b> Fourth Sunday of Easter	21 <sup>st</sup> April	8.00am	Clive McDonagh RIP
		9.30am	KSC Vocations to Priesthood & Religious life
		11.30am	Eamon Commins RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction

<u>Hospital:</u> 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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#### **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.