

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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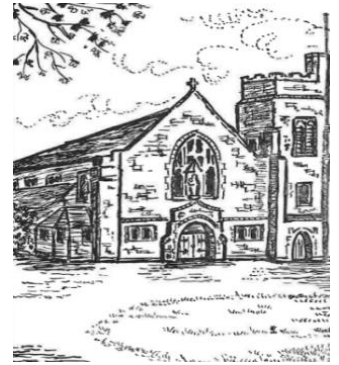
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Priest: Father Frank Westcott

Parish Manager: Laura Stevens

Parish office opening hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am-3pm

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710 926297



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 8th September 2024 – Page 69

In the first reading from Isaiah today, on this 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B, God promises to deliver and heal His people. He will turn barren landscapes into flourishing life. The eyes of the blind will be opened and the ears of the deaf unsealed. As Christians, we are called to trust in God's promises. When we face challenges, we remember that God has the power to bring healing and new life. Just as He promised to the people in Isaiah's time, He promises us the same today.

In the Gospel reading from Mark, Jesus heals a deaf man with a speech impediment. We can all suffer from spiritual deafness at times. Sometimes we don't want to hear God's voice or the opinions of others. Just as He healed the deaf man, Jesus can heal us, if we are open to him. To overcome our spiritual deafness, we need to spend more time in prayer. Listening to God, rather than just speaking, we need open our hearts to His spiritual healing. Jesus will heal us, if we humbly ask Him to do so.

Today, we ask the Lord to open our ears to hear His voice and our hearts to receive His inward grace. We ask him to guide us to live out our faith in all that we do. Amen.

EDUCATION SUNDAY

Today marks the 176th celebration of Education Sunday for the Church in England and Wales. As we commence the beginning of a new academic year, let us entrust to Almighty God all who are involved in the provision of Catholic education in our schools, colleges and universities. We pray that Christ the Teacher will strengthen their faith and fill their hearts with courage and hope. Today, there will be a second collection for The Catholic Education Service.

WELCOME TO FR FRANK WESTCOTT

Today, we are very happy to welcome Fr Frank Westcott to St Mary's as our new Assistant Priest. This is his first appointment as a priest, having only recently been ordained, so, please give him a big welcome and keep him in your prayers. We pray that he will soon feel at home and that his time here will be truly grace-filled.

POPE FRANCIS WED. GENERAL AUDIENCE ON VIRTUES AND VICIES 8

In our reflections on the vices and virtues, we now consider *acedia* or *sloth*, which, although associated in English with laziness, is above all a deep spiritual apathy, manifested by discontent and aversion to attentive prayer and growth in our relationship with God. According to the monastic tradition, this “noonday devil” is best overcome by the patience of faith. This includes accepting the poverty or dark night of faith, which then enables us, by God’s grace, to sense the divine presence and to continue to reach out to God. The saints themselves show us that perseverance in time of temptation leads us to set practical goals, however small, for our daily life and moves us to lean on Jesus, who always remains with us.

POPE FRANCIS Pope Francis has arrived in Jakarta at the start of the longest trip of his papacy and a tour that aims to showcase not only his affinity for the regions he will be visiting, but also his desire to advance the cause of peace and unity amid vast cultural and religious diversity. His overall trip from 2-13 September, including stops in Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, East Timor and Singapore, and will cover more than 20,000 km in total, all of which makes this the longest and most taxing international voyage done by the now 87-year-old pontiff during his 11-year papacy. Please pray for Pope Francis as he brings the Good News of Jesus Christ to this region.

RELOCATION OF THE TABERNACLE The work relating to the relocation of the tabernacle has begun this week, and is expected to take 3 to 4 weeks. Most services in the church will be unaffected by the work, apart from a limitation to the numbers of altar servers at Mass, the suspension of Adoration on Thursdays, and the Rosary after morning Mass.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY: Helpers are desperately needed for the children’s liturgy sessions that take place during 9.30am Mass, term time only. We currently do not have enough helpers to run the sessions. Please contact the office if you are able to help.

YOUTH CLUB: Is reopening on Friday 20th September 7.30pm-9.30pm. Helpers to arrive at 7pm. There will be a short information meeting at 7.30pm for parents & youngsters followed by signing in and collection of membership cards before the session.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: Next week there will be a second collection for Home Mission Sunday.

CONFIRMATION 2024/2025: If your child is in Year 9 or above (from September) and they would like to make their Confirmation in 2025, please email the parish office to **register your interest by Sunday 22nd September 2024 at the latest**. A preparatory meeting for parents and young people will take place on Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the parish hall and the course will formally begin with a Welcome Session and Mass on Saturday 28th September. When registering your interest, please include your child’s full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates. The minimum expectations for the course are attendance at the Confirmation sessions and attendance at weekly Mass on Sunday or Saturday night. The Bishop will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on this occasion.

BCCS: Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is celebrating its 40th year, and they will be giving an update about their work and selling their anniversary draw tickets after each Mass on Saturday 21st September and Sunday 22nd September to help support their work with children’s mental health. Thank you.

SAFEGUARDING NOTICE: If you have been sent a reference form from the safeguarding representative, could you please return it as soon as possible, as our clubs / sessions will be starting up again soon. Thank you.

RCIA / JOURNEY IN FAITH PROGRAMME: We begin a new Journey of Faith programme on Thursday 19th September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. It is designed for adults, falling into 3 categories i) for those who are not Catholics but who are interested in becoming one *or* just want to find out a bit more, ii) for those who are Catholics but who have not yet been Confirmed, and iii) for Catholics who would like to revisit their faith from the ground-up. Please let the Parish Office know if you are interested stating which category you fall into - just email us on hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: Due to the relocation of the Tabernacle taking place, the altar serving training is now being moved to a date in October. A new date will be advised when we have a clearer idea on when the work will be completed. To register your interest, please email the parish office. All children in Years 4 and above are welcome.

PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Our Christmas bazaar will take place on **Saturday 7th December** in the Parish Hall. We are looking for donations of bottles of drink (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), new and unused gifts, toys and books. All donations can be given in to the Parish Office. Helpers are needed, so please contact the Parish Office.

HELPERS OF GOD'S PRECIOUS INFANTS: Our next monthly prayer vigil will be on Saturday 21st September. It will begin with mass at 10am at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 6 Knowle Close, Brixton Rd, Brixton SW9 0TQ. This will be followed by a prayerful, peaceful procession to the Marie Stopes clinic where the rosary will be prayed and trained counsellors will be available to help those considering abortion. Return procession to the church for tea and get together. See notice in church porch.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Hannah Haughey and Michael Hull, who have died recently.

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, Gina Mifsud, Luiz Eduardo Mota, Bridget O'Sullivan, Claire Ramm (Shanahan), Phil & Tony Reid, Paul and Jill Ridley, Anne Sullivan, Melona Vigo, Josie Walsh and Evelyn Ward.

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: Catholic Church Hornchurch St. Mary Mother of God

Account Number: 51019058

Sort Code: 40-13-22



To donate £5



To donate £10



To donate £20

SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass	7 th September	6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday 23 rd Sunday in ordinary time	8 th September	8.00am	Mary & Danny McCarthy RIP
		9.30am	Danny McCarthy RIP
		11.30am	Eamon Commins RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday	9 th September	9.15am	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
Tuesday	10 th September	9.15am	Marie O'Neill Int
		11am	FUNERAL – Requiem Mass Hannah Haughey RIP
Wednesday	11 th September	7.15pm	<i>Evening prayer</i>
		7.30pm	Ania Wigley RIP
Thursday	12 th September	9.15am	Manzo Ausilia RIP
Friday St John Chrysostom	13 th September	9.15am	Samson Vincent D'Souza RIP
		7.00pm	Michael Reilly RIP
Saturday The Exaltation of The Holy Cross Vigil Mass	14 th September	9.15am	Helen Thomson RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	Confessions
		5.30-6pm	Confessions
		6.30pm	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri & Alfred Farrugia RIP
Sunday 24 th Sunday in ordinary time	15 th September	8.00am	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Danny McCarthy RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and 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.