

# ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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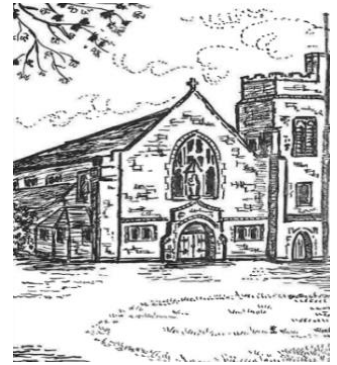
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Priest: Father Frank Westcott

Parish Manager: Laura Stevens

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

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297



## **OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Page 93

The Solemnity of Christ the King Year B helps us understand Jesus' eternal rule. In the first reading from Daniel 7:13-14, we see a vision of "one like a Son of man" coming with the clouds of heaven. This figure receives all authority, glory, and a kingdom that will never end. This vision points to Jesus and His eternal kingship. Jesus' kingdom is different from any earthly kingdom. Earthly kings come and go, but Jesus' rule is everlasting. He has all power and authority given by God. His kingdom is one of peace, justice, and love that will never fade away. Daniel's vision shows all people, nations, and languages serving Jesus. This universal reign of Christ includes everyone. Jesus invites all of us into His kingdom, regardless of our background. His kingship is for everyone who believes and follows Him. Unlike earthly kings who take and rule by power, Jesus rules with love and service. His kingdom is eternal and unshakable. We can find true peace and joy by being part of His everlasting kingdom.

The Gospel shows Pilate judging Jesus by the world's standards. We often judge others the same way. We look at their clothes, status, and actions. This reveals what we think is important. Pilate saw kingship as earthly power and control. When the Israelites asked for a king in the time of Samuel, God warned them of the heavy burdens a human king could bring. Worldly kings can take from their people and rule through fear and power. They demand service and take what they want. Jesus' kingship is different. He gives rather than takes. At the Last Supper, Jesus washed His disciples' feet, showing that true kingship means serving others. Jesus does not seek to be served, but to serve. He is humble and preaches truth, not manipulating through fear. Christ the King does not need human respect. His humility is a model for us. Imagine how free we would be if we were like Him, motivated only by our relationship with God. We would seek to please the Father above all else.

**This weekend is WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY** - a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church. There will be a **second collection** to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, as well as the opportunity to hear more about their work. Find out more at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net), searching @brentwoodcys or if you are able to, you can donate online at [www.bcys.net/donate](http://www.bcys.net/donate). Thank you.

## **POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON VIRTUES AND VICIES 16**

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the virtues, we now turn from the cardinal to the theological virtues. As we have seen, the cardinal virtues are essential elements of a good life. Yet the fullness of life in Christ to which we are called - our final end - is possible only with the infused virtues of faith, hope and charity bestowed on us by God. Called theological because they place us into a dynamic relationship with the Triune God, these virtues animate and shape our exercise of all the other virtues and are thus the foundation of the Christian moral life, enabling us to merit the gift of eternal life (CCC 1813). May we open ourselves anew each day to the power of the Holy Spirit, and ask that he revitalize our faith, reawaken our hope and soften our hearts with his love.

## **NEW LECTIONARIES AND NEW PARISH MASS BOOKS**

A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent 2024 (Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December). It will use the *English Standard Version—Catholic Edition* of the Bible for the scripture readings and the *Abbey Psalms and Canticles* for the Responsorial Psalms. This also means that we will have new Parish Mass books from the first Sunday of Advent.

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025 – PILGRIMS OF HOPE:** The Holy Father has decided that 2025 will be a year of Jubilee, something which happens every 25 years. The theme is “Pilgrims of Hope”, and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. The 2025 Jubilee year will officially open on 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2024 with a Mass presided over by Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025:** We have been invited by the Parishes of Leigh-on-Sea and Southend to join them on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes to mark the Jubilee year. This group is part of the overall Diocesan Pilgrimage, but it arranges its own accommodation through a Tour Operator called Anam Cara Travel. This means that the package is cheaper than the Diocesan Pilgrimage and we can stay at the very nice 4 star *Grande Hotel Moderne Soubirous* (closest to the Sanctuary). However, even though the cost is less than the main pilgrimage, however, it still works out at £895 (per person sharing) for a 5-night package from Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July to Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> July. At the moment, I am trying to gauge interest. If you are interested, please email the parish office by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December and we will send you more information. I am not sure how many places are available, so it will be a case of first come first served.

**OPPOSE ASSISTED SUICIDE:** For us as Catholics, the legalisation of assisted suicide undermines the sanctity and dignity of human life. The Catholic Bishops are urging all Catholics to become better informed about the serious problems associated with the legalisation of assisted suicide and calling on Catholics in England and Wales to unite in prayer and compassionate action to oppose it. Catholics are asked to contact their MPs to voice their opposition to this latest attempt to legalise assisted suicide via a simple online mechanism made available by the charity Right to Life UK. It takes little more than a few minutes to input your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop assisted suicide being rushed into law – the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Bill in Parliament is 29<sup>th</sup> November.

**THE BIG CHRISTMAS CLEAN:** On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 10.30am, we will be cleaning the church ready for Christmas. Teas, coffees and mince pies will be provided. Please come and help if you can, more hands make light work.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Our Christmas bazaar will take place on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December** in the Parish Hall. **Please save the date.** We are looking for donations of bottles of drink (alcoholic and non-alcoholic), cakes, new and unused gifts, toys and mince pies.

All donations can be given in to the Parish Office.

**Please can cake donations be brought in to the office on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> or to the hall on the morning of Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>.**

*Raffle tickets will be sold after all weekend Masses during the month of November - £1 a strip.*

**TOY DONATIONS:** We are low on donations of toys for the bazaar, so if you are having a pre-Christmas clear out at home, please keep us in mind and donate any unwanted toys or gifts.

**HELPERS FOR THE BAZAAR:** Thank you to those that have already signed up to help with the bazaar, please check the sheet in the porch to see where you will be helping on the day. We are desperately looking for help for the second half 2pm-4.30pm. If you can help in any way, please pop your name in a yellow box on the sheet which is in the porch.

**STARS ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE:** Wooden decoration stars are available to buy from the Repository after all weekend Masses, £2 each. We ask the children to decorate the stars and hand them back to us so we can use them to decorate the Church for Christmas.

**FLOWER ARRANGING:** Our wonderful flower arranging team provide beautiful floral displays on the altar, and around the church. They desperately need more help, so even if you have never arranged a flower in your life, but would like to try, you are very welcome.

**TODDLER GROUP:** After 14 years Brenda has decided to step away from the running of the toddler group. We would like to invite anyone who would be interested in running the toddler group to please contact the parish office. Toddler group will continue to run on Tuesday afternoons 2-3pm in the Parish Hall up until Christmas.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE:**

Last week our First Holy Communion children placed stickers on our Christmas tree which is now displayed on the board. Each sticker represents a meal given to a family in need. They raised a total of £189.55 for CAFOD. Well done to all of you!

**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, Luiz Eduardo Mota, Margeruite Nolan, Greta Shanahan, Bridget O'Sullivan, Claire Ramm, Phil & Tony Reid, Paul and Jill Ridley, Eileen Ronan, 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:**

<b>Saturday</b> Vigil Mass	23 <sup>rd</sup> November	<b>6.30pm</b>	Brian Spicer RIP
<b>Sunday</b> Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe	24 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>8.00am</b>	Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Eamon Commins RIP
<b>Monday</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
<b>Tuesday</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>9.15am</b>	Stanley & Annie Crow RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>7.15pm</b>	<i>Evening prayer</i>
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Mick Willis RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>9.15am</b>	David Ruddiman RIP
		<b>9.45-12 noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Friday</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>9.15am</b>	Mr F Fitzpatrick RIP
<b>Saturday</b> St Andrew    Vigil Mass	30 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>9.15am</b>	Siciliano Luigi RIP
		<b>9.45-11.15am</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		<b>10.30-11.15am</b>	Confessions
		<b>5.30-6pm</b>	Confessions
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Mick, Sue & Marie O'Donnell RIP
<b>Sunday</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent	1 <sup>st</sup> December	<b>8.00am</b>	John Dennehy RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Sam & Connie Farrugia RIP
		<b>5.00pm</b>	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.  
Also, there is Adoration from 8.15am – 8.45am on Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri*

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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](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org) and we will add you to our mailing list.