

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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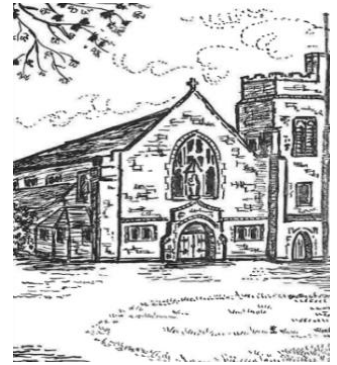
Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Parish Manager: Laura Stevens

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

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Sunday 12th January 2025 – Page 118

In the Baptism of the Lord Year C, we reflect on the special event of Jesus' baptism. Jesus, though sinless, chose to be baptized by John the Baptist, who called people to repent. Why did Jesus, who had no need to repent, decide to be baptized?

One reason is that Jesus wanted to show his support and understanding for us. He wanted to share in our humanity and weaknesses. By being baptized, Jesus stood with those who were seeking forgiveness and a new start. He showed that he was not distant from us but very close, sharing in our struggles.

Another reason is that Jesus' baptism was a way to begin his mission. It was a public sign that he was ready to do God's work. The heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit came down like a dove. A voice from heaven said, "You are my beloved Son; with you, I am well pleased." This showed that Jesus was chosen by God for a special purpose.

Through Jesus' baptism, we see how much God loves us. Jesus showed that he is with us in our joys and our difficulties. He came to save us and to show us the way to God. By being baptized, Jesus showed that he was one of us, sharing in everything we go through. And through our own baptism, we start to share in Jesus' life; the Holy Spirit is poured into our hearts so that we become children of God, sharing in Divine life and able to call God 'Abba' Father.

RECENTLY BAPTISED: We welcome Abel Atedzoe, Monique Atedzoe Tamiam, Kailen Hall, Kingsley Anyaka, Lucia Alvares & Ellis Kenny who were Baptised recently and are now beloved members of God's Holy Family.

FR MARK is away for a week from Monday and is very grateful to Fr Josph Farrell and Fr Mariusz Fura who will be covering all the Masses next week.

POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON ‘THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE’ 3

Today, in our continuing catechesis on the Holy Spirit and the Bride, we reflect on the action of the Holy Spirit in Divine Revelation, specifically in Sacred Scripture. God, who inspired Scripture, in turn inspires the Church, the Bride of Christ, through his holy word, making of her its authoritative interpreter. The Spirit also communicates with us personally within this ecclesial reality, whether through *lectio divina*, which is a meditative reading of a Scripture passage, or above all, in the Liturgy. In whatever the setting, there is always one word that is meant especially for us. Like a musical composition, Sacred Scripture carries throughout an underlying theme, which Saint Augustine and Saint Gregory the Great call God’s love. May we “learn to know the heart of God through the words of God” and allow them to breathe that love into our daily lives.

JUBILEE YEAR – PILGRIMS OF HOPE

On Sunday 29th December, the Feast of the Holy Family, Bishop Alan inaugurated the Holy Year in the diocese during the 11.30 Mass at the Cathedral. The theme for the Holy Year is Pilgrims of Hope.

In the Diocese of Brentwood Holy Doors will be opened in-

- The Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood,
- The National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, Clacton,
- Saint Antony of Padua, Forest Gate.

The Bishop explained that in Acts of the Apostles we hear how God opens doors of faith to gentiles and others. The astonishing truth at the heart of every successful Holy Year is that we can learn through experience that God’s mercy and forgiveness are always utterly generous. When pilgrims walk through a Holy Door- a door of faith- we will be astonished about how straightforward our reconciliation with God is- ‘Almighty God... in this year of grace... bound to Christ the rock of our salvation, may we happily attain the goal of blessed hope’. [cf Collect from the Mass of Holy Year].

DAY WITH MARY: The Day with Mary team will be with us here at St Mary Mother of God on Saturday 15th February –*Save the Date- more information about this to come.*

CRIB OFFERINGS: Many thanks to those who have donated to the crib offerings so far. A reminder that the money will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society.

COFFEE MORNING: The next dates for coffee morning after 9.30am Mass on a Sunday are 12th Jan, 26th Jan, 9th Feb, 2nd March & 16th March. Everyone welcome, free for all.

WORLD FOOD NIGHT: We will be holding a ‘World Food Night’ on Saturday 1st Feb. in the Parish Hall after 6.30pm Mass. We are asking for parishioners to bring a dish that is special to their family, large enough to share with others. Plates, bowls and cutlery will be provided, but please bring your own drinks. The event is free, though we are planning on holding a small raffle for a local charity. Please email the parish office if you would like to bring a dish.

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI: St Joseph's Upminster are organising a pilgrimage for the jubilee year. There are just a few places remaining. We depart on Sunday 26th October 2025 for 5 nights, at a basic price of £1299 per person. The brochure and booking form is available online at www.tailored-travel.co.uk/stjosephs_rome_2025

WEBSITE: We need some help updating our website, if this is something you could help with please speak to Fr Mark or email the parish office.

SION COMMUNITY: Our next Maranatha will be on Thursday 16th January at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX at 7pm for Mass, Praise and Worship and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is welcome, so do join us for what has come to be a very blessed evening.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Eileen Ronan RIP and William Myers RIP who have died recently. Please keep their families and all who knew them in your prayers.

Eileen Ronan's funeral will take place here on Friday 24th January at 11am.

William Myers' funeral will take place here on Friday 31st January at 11.15am.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially:

Ashley Baptist, Angelina Bush, Ruth Carroll, John Dawson, Anna Gawlik, Malcolm Hilton, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Bill Lodge, Paul Lodge, Margaret Lodge, Lyndsey McCauley, Luiz Eduardo Mota, Eileen Newman, Margeruite Nolan, Greta Shanahan, Bridget O'Sullivan, Claire Ramm, Phil & Tony Reid, Paul and Jill Ridley, Anne Sullivan, and Josie Walsh.

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

CHURCH EVENTS:

Children's Liturgy: Sundays in term time for children in years 1, 2 & 3 at the 9.30am mass.

Baptism: Please take a Baptism form at the back of the church and hand it in through the red door.

Exploring Your Faith: Last Tuesday of every month. 8-9.30pm in the Van Meenen room.

RCIA Journey in Faith: Thursdays 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Please email the Parish office

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 to all.

Coffee morning: After 9.30am Mass on 12th Jan, 26th Jan, 9th Feb, 2nd March & 16th March.

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 2nd and 4th 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 10am during term time. Helpers needed.

Repository: Beautiful gifts and cards available. Open after all weekend Masses.

Flower arranging: Contact Angela on 07974417007 no experience needed.

Adoration: from 8.15am – 8.45am on Mon/Tues/Thurs & Fri

SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

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|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Saturday Vigil Mass | 11 th January | 6.30pm | Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri & Sam & Connie Farrugia RIP |
| Sunday The Baptism of The Lord | 12 th January | 8.00am | Mary & Danny McCarthy RIP |
| | | 9.30am | Peggy O’Riordan RIP & Melanie Todd Int |
| | | 11.30am | All Parishioners |
| Monday | 13 th January | 9.15am | Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP |
| Tuesday | 14 th January | 9.15am | Mary Whyte RIP |
| Wednesday | 15 th January | 7.15pm | <i>Evening Prayer</i> |
| | | 7.30pm | All Souls |
| Thursday | 16 th January | 9.15am | John Cheeseman RIP |
| | | 9.45am-12 noon | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Friday St Antony | 17 th January | 9.15am | Gael Graham Zebrowska Int |
| Saturday Vigil Mass | 18 th January | 9.15am | Edmund Broadbent RIP |
| | | 5.30-6pm | Confessions |
| | | 6.30pm | Seamus McDermot RIP |
| Sunday Second Sunday in ordinary time | 19 th January | 8.00am | Derek Little RIP |
| | | 9.30am | Zina Roseline D’Souza RIP |
| | | 11.30am | All Parishioners |

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 and we will add you to our mailing list.