

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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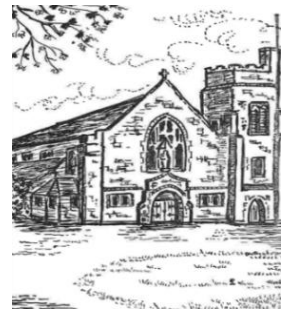
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Website: [www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297



## **8<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 – Page 144

On the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, Jesus teaches about humility and self-examination. In Luke 6:41-42, He tells us to look at our own faults before judging others. This practice leads to true humility and helps us grow closer to God.

We often judge people based on their appearance, wealth, or status. But what really matters is the condition of their hearts. Our conversations reveal our true beliefs and values. What we say shows what is inside us.

Our words can impact our relationships deeply. When we speak with love and humility, we build others up. But if we are proud and critical, we can harm relationships. We must be aware of our own weaknesses and strive to improve.

Pride blinds us to our own faults. We become hypocrites, thinking we are better than others. This pride is a barrier to holiness and prevents us from leading others to Christ. Self-examination helps us recognize our own sins and grow in humility.

On this 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time, let's focus on removing the plank from our own eye. Let's strive for humility and seek to improve ourselves before judging others. By doing so, we can follow Christ more closely and help others on their spiritual journey.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** Lent begins on Wednesday when there will be Mass & distribution of the ashes at 9.15am and 7.30pm. Ash Wednesday is also a day of fasting and abstinence from meat. Please pick up a Lenten leaflet which tells you what's going on in the Parish over Lent. 'Walk with me' booklets are available in the porch of the church at one pound each and there are also free Lenten Calendars for the children.

**POPE FRANCIS:** We continue to pray for Pope Francis. At the time of writing, the Holy Father is still in hospital but with signs of improvement. We entrust him to the loving care of our Blessed Mother, Mary.

**PRAYER EVENING FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR:** The first of two Prayer evenings to be run by Liz, Karen, Kathy & Teresa will take place on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March** in the parish hall at 7pm. The first evening is entitled 'Prayers of Hope- May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace as you trust in him'. Take this time for prayer during this period of Lent. Refreshments available. All are welcome.

## **POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE' 10**

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church, we now turn to the sacrament of marriage. Within the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit is the bond of love between the Father and the Son. As a sacrament of loving union between a man and a woman, Christian marriage is a reflection of that eternal relationship between the Divine Persons, a mutual self-giving that gives rise to profound and enduring joy. Let us ask the Spirit to sustain married couples and families in their vocation to be joyful signs of God's eternal love, Christ's sacrificial love for the Church and the promise of that love to bring lasting peace to our broken world.

**GIFT AID CHANGES:** For the tax year 2025-2026 we have been asked by the Diocese to change some of our gift aid numbers, to a lower number. If your current number is 281 or higher, you will be given a new number. There is a list of the changes in the church porch. If you pay by standing order, please remember to change the reference to your new number from 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**GIFT AID can be applied to all regular and one-off donations, and it makes a huge difference.** If you are a taxpayer (including a pensioner paying tax) we can claim an extra 25% on your donation at **no extra cost to you**. Forms are available at the back of the church or you can speak to the parish office for more information. It's really easy to join.

Thank you for any donations that you give.

## **PILGRIMS OF HOPE THROUGH HISTORY:**

Deacon Ken Carleton and Br Christopher Dyczek OFM will be giving talks at St Alban's in Elm Park for the Jubilee Year. The first is on 12<sup>th</sup> March entitled '*Hope in a time of discord: St Augustine and the struggle for faith*', the second on 19<sup>th</sup> March, entitled '*Hope in a time of martyrdom: the Catholic Church in England in penal times*' and the third on 26<sup>th</sup> March entitled 'Hope in a time of need: Frederick Ozanam and the creation of the SVP'. Each of the three talks is on a Wednesday and starts at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall at St Alban's.

**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND:** 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 4-6 April at the Sion Community, Essex; for further details please contact: Mary: 07730 884315, or email [BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com](mailto:BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com)

**COFFEE MORNING:** The next dates for coffee morning after 9.30am Mass on a Sunday are 2<sup>nd</sup> March & 16<sup>th</sup> March. Everyone welcome, free for all.

**STEWARDS AT MASS:** If you could lend a helping hand at any of the weekend Masses, please contact the parish office. We especially need help at the Sunday 9.30am Mass.

**CARITAS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER:** This new role within the Diocese will help develop and strengthen our charitable action and ministry. Working alongside the Director of Caritas, the successful applicant will have excellent digital media, organisation and presentation skills, and a heart for Catholic Social Teaching, helping to share this valuable work in schools and parishes, supporting existing volunteers. £24,000 - £27,000pa depending on experience. Full time, including some evenings and weekends. Closing date 31<sup>st</sup> March at noon. More information and application details: [caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**SCHOOL VACANCIES:** Headteacher - St Peter's Primary School, Romford. Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Monday 17th March 2025

**SAVE THE DATE....FOR OUR PARISH SUMMER FETE** The Parish will be holding a summer fete on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June. This is the first time we have held this event since Covid and we are really looking forward to bring the Parish together on what will hopefully be a beautiful sunshine filled day. Please look out for updates over the next few weeks.

**PARISH SUMMER FETE:** Calling all small business people, crafters, bakers and entrepreneurs.....we would like to welcome you to set up a stall selling your wares and advertising your business at this years summer fete. Booking is essential and full details can be obtained through the Parish office.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 24TH MAY 2025:** Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope. 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 contact Kathy O’Dea on 07932762608.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS:** Please save the date for the upcoming Life in the Spirit Seminars which are being held in Brentwood Cathedral Large Hall over 6 Tuesday evenings (29th April - 3rd June). Come along to hear inspiring speakers, be filled with the Holy Spirit and travel through your own '*Holy Door*' as we celebrate this Jubilee Year. More details will follow shortly.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Fiona Quigley RIP who has died recently. Please keep her family and all who knew her in your prayers. Her funeral will take place here on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 11am.

We also remember in our prayers Simon Cox who passed away recently- we pray for the comfort and consolation of his family.

**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, Bernard Lenehan, Bill, Paul & Margaret Lodge, Lyndsey McCauley, Luiz Eduardo Mota, Eileen Newman, Margeruite Nolan, Eleanor O’Connell, Bridget O’Sullivan, Claire Ramm, Phil & Tony Reid, Paul & Jill Ridley, Greta Shanahan, Anne Sullivan, & 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

## **SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b> Vigil Mass	1 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>6.30pm</b>	All Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time	2 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>8.00am</b>	Frank McDonagh RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	Eddie O'Mahoney Int
		<b>11.30am</b>	Bridget & John Reilly & grandchildren RIP
<b>Monday</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
<b>Tuesday</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	David Nicholson Int
<b>Wednesday</b>  ASH WEDNESDAY	5 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Marcus Olaniyan RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP
		<b>9.45-12 noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Friday</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	Evelyn Ward RIP
		<b>7.00pm</b>	Stations of the Cross <i>plus Adoration until 8pm</i>
<b>Saturday</b>     Vigil Mass	8 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	Chris Murphy 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>	Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri & Sam Farrugia RIP
<b>Sunday</b> First Sunday of Lent	9 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>8.00am</b>	George, Joaquina & John DeSouza RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Joyce Rafferty 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. 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.