ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297



6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sunday 16th February 2025 – Page 139

The readings for the 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C teach us to find true happiness by trusting in God and believing in Jesus' resurrection. Jeremiah warns us not to rely only on human strength. Those who put their trust in man are like dry shrubs in the desert, without life or growth. But those who trust in God are like trees planted by water. They are always green, bearing fruit. This image shows that only God can give us the support and strength we need.

In the second reading, Paul emphasizes the hope of the resurrection. He teaches that if Jesus did not rise from the dead, our faith would be empty. But because Jesus was raised from the dead, we have hope for eternal life. This hope in the resurrection gives us strength and purpose, even in hard times.

The Gospel of Luke contrasts the blessings of the poor and hungry with the woes of those who are rich and satisfied now. Jesus warns that those who find their joy in earthly comforts may miss true happiness. Instead, Jesus calls us to look beyond this life and seek happiness in God.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY: Today is Racial Justice Sunday when we pray in a special way for an end to any form of prejudice or racism that is present in our society.

God of our past, present and future, you created each one of us in your image and likeness, help us to recognise you in each person. As we pray for end to suffering caused by racism lead us this day to walk with one another, pray with one another and work together, so that we create a future based on justice and healing, where all can fulfil the hope you have for all peoples. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

There is also a **Second Collection** today for Racial justice. The proceeds will be used to raise awareness of the responsibility of the church to eradicate racial discrimination in all its forms within the church and wider society.

POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SPRIT AND THE BRIDE' 8:

Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the Holy Spirit, we now turn to the account of Pentecost in the Book of Acts, which describes the Apostles as being "filled with the Holy Spirit" and sent forth to proclaim the Gospel to the world. In every age, the Spirit guides the Church in her mission to embrace all peoples in the unity of the Body of Christ. Let us ask the Spirit to confirm the Church in fidelity to her unity and universality by drawing all peoples closer to Christ and to one another through the preaching of the Good News of our salvation.

LOURDES SECOND COLLECTION: Last week we raised £548.42 for the Lourdes sick & helpers pilgrimage fund. Thank you for your support.

ROLAND KIVLEHAN: Congratulations again to Roland Kivlehan who received the Bene Merenti award for his long service to the parish and diocese last Sunday at the 9.30am Mass.

RECENTLY BAPTISED: We welcome Oliver Rogers, Rosie Bass, Abel Atedzoe & Monique Tamiam who were Baptised recently and are now a beloved members of God's Holy Family.

COFFEE MORNING: The next dates for coffee morning after 9.30am Mass on a Sunday are 2nd March & 16th 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.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: Is delighted to host a Shrove Tuesday Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel in Southend-on-Sea on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 1pm. Tickets are £35 per person www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/ If you have any dietary or seating requirements, please contact jabbott@bccs.org.uk

SCHOOL VACANCIES:

Headteacher - Holy Family Primary School, Witham. Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), Thursday 27th February 2025

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

Deputy Headteacher - Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School, Upminster. Deadline for applications: 25 February 2025 at 10am

<u>JOB VACANCY:</u> Parish Secretary – Billericay. The successful applicant will need to have excellent communication and administration skills. 20 hours per week, £12.46 per hour Please send your CV and cover letter by email to billericay@brcdt.org Closing date: 25th February 2025

<u>DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – 24TH MAY 2025:</u> 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.

INTER FAITH DIALOGUE: This year marks sixty years since *Nostra Aetate*, the document on relations with other Faiths of the Second Vatican Council. Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald worked for decades in this area, particularly in the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. Cardinal Michael will be speaking on 'Inter Faith Dialogue' at 11 am on Saturday 22nd February at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. You are invited to attend free of charge. Refreshments will be available from 10.30. Please bring a packed lunch. The event is also available live stream free of charge at www.whatgoodnews.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH at home and in hospital, especially: Ashley Baptist, Angelina Bush, Ruth Carroll, Simon Cox, 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

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.

Pass it on!: First Saturday of every month in the parish hall from 2-4pm. Free to all.

Coffee morning: After 9.30am Mass on 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: No experience needed. Please contact the Parish office.

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

Toddler Group: Tuesday's during term time, 2-3pm in the Parish Hall. All sessions are free.

SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

| Saturday Vigil Mass | 15 th February | 6.30pm | Mary Harrington RIP |
|--|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Sunday 6 th Sunday in ordinary time | 16 th February | 8.00am | Michael & Maureen Harrington RIP |
| | | 9.30am | Peter Newell RIP |
| | | 11.30am | All Parishioners |
| | | 5.00pm | Holy Hour with Rosary & Benediction |
| Monday | 17 th February | 9.15am | Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP |
| Tuesday | 18 th February | 9.15am | Evelyn Ward RIP |
| Wednesday | 19 th February | 7.15pm | Evening Prayer |
| | | 7.30pm | Frank Mollaghan RIP |
| Thursday | 20 th February | 9.15am | Desmond & Breffni O'Brien RIP |
| | | 9.45-12 noon | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament |
| Friday | 21st February | 9.15am | Bernard Lenehan Int |
| Saturday The Chair of St Peter the Apostle | 22 nd February | 9.15am | Heather Jefferies 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 |
| Sunday 7 th Sunday in ordinary time | 23 rd February | 8.00am | Mary & Danny McCarthy RIP |
| | | 9.30am | Mort Sullivan RIP |
| | | 11.30am | Veronica Oddi 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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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.