

# ST. MARY

# MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

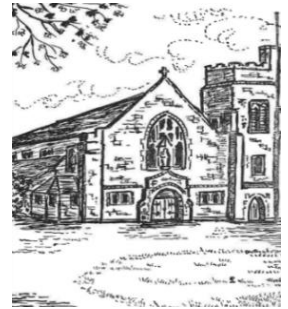
Email: [hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org)

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



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

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025 – Page 141

The Gospel today teaches us about being faithful to Jesus' call. Jesus tells us to love our enemies, which goes against the way our world usually works. Today, we often see competition, especially in politics and on social media, where getting ahead seems most important. Imagine how different things could be if we truly loved our enemies and showed forgiveness and mercy to everyone.

Jesus' message is clear. We are called to a life of mercy, just like David showed mercy to Saul in the first reading today. Mercy means choosing kindness over revenge. It means forgiving others, even when it is hard. This path is not easy, but it brings us closer to living like Jesus.

Forgiveness is something we all need. We might think it is just for those who have wronged us, but we also need it for ourselves. Holding grudges can harm us and prevent us from finding peace. Jesus reminds us that we should forgive to be forgiven.

Healing from wounds takes time. When someone hurts us, the pain doesn't disappear overnight. We can pray for God's help in healing our hearts. Asking for the strength to let go of our need for revenge and for the desire to forgive can lead us to true peace.

On this 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C, let's remember Jesus' teachings. By choosing love and mercy over revenge, and by seeking forgiveness, we can live a life that reflects Jesus' love. This change in our hearts can make the world a better place.

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

### **POPE FRANCIS WED. AUDIENCE ON ‘THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE’ 9:**

Dear brothers and sisters: Today we continue our catechesis on the Holy Spirit who is present and at work in the life of the Church. As we proclaim in the Creed, the Holy Spirit is “the Lord, the giver of life.” Within the life of the Blessed Trinity the Holy Spirit is “consubstantial,” equal in divinity with the Father and the Son. As “giver of life,” he gives us a share in Christ’s own life and victory over sin and death. He thus gives us hope amid the suffering and injustices of our world. Let us ask the Spirit to strengthen our belief in the power of Christ’s Resurrection to transform our lives and the world in which we live.

**RACIAL JUSTICE SECOND COLLECTION:** Last week’s second collection raised £297.07.

**BRENTWOOD URSULINE:** To mark our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we invite past and present staff and students to attend an anniversary Mass at Brentwood Cathedral at 11.15am on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025, followed by a community celebration at Brentwood Ursuline, from 1pm-5pm. For further details and to book a place at the event, please refer to the school's website: [www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk](http://www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk)

**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.

**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 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 1pm. Tickets are £35 per person [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/)  
If you have any dietary or seating requirements, please contact [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk)

**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 - 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

**JOB VACANCY:** 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](mailto:billericay@brcdt.org) Closing date: 25th February 2025

**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.

**HOLY WEEK TOUR TO KNOCK:** 13<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025. £849.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights’ hotel, full board. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

**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 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 2<sup>nd</sup> March & 16<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Donna Coy via 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:**

<b>Saturday</b> Vigil Mass	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	<b>6.30pm</b>	All Parishioners
<b>Sunday</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in ordinary time	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>8.00am</b>	Mary & Danny McCarthy RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	Mort Sullivan RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Veronica Oddi RIP
<b>Monday</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP
<b>Tuesday</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Pat Harrington RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>7.15pm</b>	<i>Evening Prayer</i>
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Evelyn Ward RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Denis O'Sullivan RIP
		<b>9.45-12 noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Friday</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Patrick McDonagh RIP
<b>Saturday</b> St David  Vigil Mass	1 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>9.15am</b>	Tom Walsh Int
		<b>5.30-6pm</b>	Confessions
		<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

**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.