

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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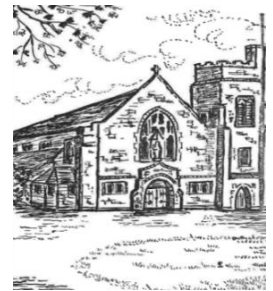
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Website: [www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297



## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Page 184

The reading for the procession for Palm Sunday tells the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where he is greeted with shouts of "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" The people were excited and hopeful that Jesus would be the one to liberate them from Roman rule and restore the glory of Israel. However, when we get to the Passion reading, we see that things did not turn out as they had hoped.

In these later passages, we witness Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion. He is betrayed by one of his own disciples, denied by another, and abandoned by most. He is mocked, beaten, and ultimately killed on a cross.

As we reflect on these two passages together, we are reminded of the fickle nature of human beings. The same people who welcomed Jesus with open arms, were the ones who turned on him. They allowed their own expectations and desires to cloud their judgment, and they failed to see the true mission and message of Jesus.

This can serve as a warning to us as well. It is easy for us to get caught up in our own desires and expectations, and to lose sight of the bigger picture. We may think that we know what is best for ourselves and for the world, but in reality, our knowledge and understanding are limited.

The readings for Palm Sunday remind us that God's ways are not our ways, and that sometimes we must be willing to let go of our own expectations and trust in God's plan. Jesus' death on the cross was not the end, but rather the beginning of new hope and new life. It was through his sacrifice that we are saved, and it is through our own willingness to surrender our own desires and follow him that we can experience true freedom and salvation.

Let us reflect on these passages for Palm Sunday with humility and openness, recognizing our own limitations and weaknesses, and trusting in the infinite wisdom and love of God. May we be willing to let go of our own expectations and desires, and follow Jesus with faith and courage, even when the road ahead seems uncertain or difficult.

## **POPE FRANCIS' WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SPIRIT AND THE BRIDE' 14**

Dear brothers and sisters: In our catechesis on the Holy Spirit in the life of the Church, we now turn from the Spirit's work of sanctification to his building up the Body of Christ through the outpouring of charismatic gifts. Charisms, in all their rich variety, are special graces bestowed on individuals for the upbuilding of the Church in unity and holiness. The Second Vatican Council spoke of the importance of the particular charisms granted to the laity, by which they, and women in particular, contribute to the Church's mission. Saint Paul reminds us that these gifts, great and small, are at the service of charity, the love of Christ which is their source and to which they are directed. Let us thank the Spirit for adorning the Church with these manifold gifts and ask him to continue to bestow them in abundance.

**EASTER FLOWERS:** If you are available to give a couple of hours help with the Easter floral decorations on Holy Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April from 10.15am please contact the parish office.

**CHURCH CLEANING – BIG EASTER CLEAN:** If you can spare 30 minutes, please come along, and help on Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 9am.

**GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS:** The Walk of Witness will take place on Good Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April. Meet outside St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch at 10.15 am and then walk as a group through Hornchurch and to the Queen's Theatre, Billet Lane for an open-air service. All are welcome to either join us on the walk or meet us at the Queen's Theatre for the service.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** On Easter Sunday after the 9.30am Mass (weather permitting) we will be holding an Easter egg hunt for the children on the field behind the church.

**ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL:** The important vote for all MPs on the assisted suicide legislation, known as the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill*, is likely to take place on 25<sup>th</sup> April. The charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to allow people to contact their Member of Parliament and it only takes a few moments to submit a message to ask an MP to stop assisted suicide being *rushed* into law. It can be accessed here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/asvote>. Right to Life is also distributing postcards to parishes for the faithful to send to their MPs on this subject. We have also been approached by the Care Not Killing Alliance advertising their work in defeating the proposed legislation on Assisted Suicide. If you would like more information please see: [www.carenotkilling.org.uk](http://www.carenotkilling.org.uk). Further resources on opposing assisted suicide is available here: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide/>

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:** Headteacher *Required* from 1st September 2025. Our new Head Teacher will lead a team that strives together in the best interest of all of our children. Deadline for applications: 5pm on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025. We welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school. Information and application packs are available at [admin@stmcp.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmcp.co.uk) and completed applications should be sent to this address also. Further information is available from the school website.

**GIFT AID:** New 2025/2026 gift aid boxes are available in the porch to collect. Please also remember to change your standing order reference if your gift aid number has been changed.

**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 bringing 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 year's summer fete. Booking is essential and full details can be obtained through the Parish office.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS:** The *Life in the Spirit Seminars* Registration is now OPEN. The Seminars are being held over 6 Tuesday evenings from 29th April - 3rd June inclusive and are open to all. You are warmly invited to 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 as '*Pilgrims of Hope*'. To register: [mostholyredeemerchurch.churchsuite.com/-/forms/8gdpluwl](http://mostholyredeemerchurch.churchsuite.com/-/forms/8gdpluwl)

**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 or put your name and contact number on the sign-up sheet, located in the church porch.

**COFFEE MORNING:** The next dates for coffee morning after 9.30am Mass on a Sunday are 27<sup>th</sup> April, 11<sup>th</sup> May & 25<sup>th</sup> May. Everyone welcome, free for all.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** If you have a specific date in mind, please book at least 5 months in advance to avoid disappointment. We currently have no availability until October and no Sunday Masses available for the rest of this year.

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:** Please remember Mike Bowes and Josie Walsh who have died recently. Please keep their families and all who knew them in your prayers. Josie's funeral will take place here on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 11am. Mike's funeral will take place at St Joseph's, Bishop Stortford on 28<sup>th</sup> April at 11.30am.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH** at home and in hospital, especially: Ashley Baptist, Donal Bergin, Angelina Bush, Ruth Carroll, Anna Gawlik, Malcolm Hilton, Evelyn Hughes, James Goldfinch, Sajy Joseph, Bill, Paul & Margaret Lodge, Lyndsey McCauley, Luiz Eduardo Mota, Eileen Newman, Margeruite Nolan, Eleanor O'Connell, Baby Shae Christy O'Donoghue, Bridget O'Sullivan, Claire Ramm, Phil & Tony Reid, Paul & Jill Ridley, Greta Shanahan, & Anne Sullivan.

### **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><br>Vigil Mass                             | 12 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>6.30pm</b>        | Anthony, Josephine & Paula Camilleri & Sam, Connie & Alfred Farrugia RIP |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>Palm Sunday                              | 13 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>8.00am</b>        | Mary & Danny McCarthy RIP  |
|   |                        | <b>9.30am</b>        | Jim Kane RIP   |
|   |                        | <b>11.30am</b>       | All Parishioners   |
|   |                        | <b>5.00pm</b>        | Holy Hour with Rosary & Benediction                                      |
| <b>Monday</b>   | 14 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>9.15am</b>        | Norah, Mary & Paddy Lenehan RIP<br>John Dawson RIP & Baby Donovan Int    |
| <b>Tuesday</b>  | 15 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>9.15am</b>        | Denis O'Meara RIP  |
| <b>Wednesday</b>  | 16 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>11.00am</b>       | <i>Mass of Chrism at Brentwood Cathedral</i>                             |
|   |                        | <b>7.15pm</b>        | <i>Evening prayer</i>  |
|   |                        | <b>7.30pm</b>        | Josephine Babaoye Int  |
| <b>Thursday</b><br>Maundy Thursday                        | 17 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>8.00pm</b>        | <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i><br>John Windley RIP                     |
| <b>Friday</b><br>Good Friday                              | 18 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>10.15am</b>       | Ecumenical Walk of Witness   |
|   |                        | <b>12 noon</b>       | Children's Stations of the Cross   |
|   |                        | <b>3.00pm</b>        | <i>Commemoration of the Lords' Passion</i>                               |
|   |                        | <b>6.45pm</b>        | Divine Mercy Chaplet   |
|   |                        | <b>7.00pm</b>        | Stations of the Cross  |
| <b>Saturday</b><br>Holy Saturday<br><br>Easter Vigil Mass | 19 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>9.30am</b>        | Office of Readings   |
|   |                        | <b>11.30–12.30pm</b> | Confessions  |
|   |                        | <b>8.30pm</b>        | Helen Taylor RIP   |
| <b>Sunday</b><br>Easter Sunday                            | 20 <sup>th</sup> April | <b>8.00am</b>        | Clive McDonagh RIP   |
|   |                        | <b>9.30am</b>        | William Elliott RIP  |
|   |                        | <b>11.30am</b>       | 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](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org) and we will add you to our mailing list.