

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, formerly referred to as "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living, and organizes his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's kingship over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

The institution of the feast of the Kingship of Christ, then, was intended to be a rallying-call to all Christians to acknowledge the sovereignty of Christ, not only over all Christians and all men but over all of creation. He is king of all creation because, as the second reading today says, "through him, by him and in him all things subsist." Therefore, he is the sovereign Master, Ruler, Protector and Judge of all created things. The title of King was chosen to express all these prerogatives, because he himself, in his moment of deepest humiliation, admitted to Pilate that he was King. He is given this title in most of the Old Testament prophecies concerning him.

So, today let us renew our loyalty to Christ our King. We are privileged and proud to be his subjects. As members of his Church on earth we are as yet in the preparatory stage of that kingdom. If we do the little that he asks of us, during this period of preparation, we are assured of being full citizens in his eternal kingdom of happiness and peace.

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY- celebrating the young people of our Church. There will be a **second collection** to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, helping young people grow in faith through retreats, pilgrimages, and leadership opportunities. You can donate in the parish this weekend, or online at www.bcys.net/donate , and please keep all young people in your prayers.

PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR – SATURDAY 6th DECEMBER: Preparations are well under way, but we need your help please. We have been receiving lots of wonderful donations of bottles, new toiletries and new toys and we really need those to keep coming in please. Can we also ask for any donations of boxes of chocolates/sweets and boxes of biscuits. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Church porch for anyone that is able to help set up the night before or at stages during the day. Finally, don't forget to buy your raffle tickets, they are on sale every week after Mass.

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'JESUS OUR HOPE' JUBILEE 2025:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the Jubilee theme of “Jesus Christ our Hope,” we continue to contemplate the mystery of Holy Saturday. It is the day within the Paschal Mystery when Jesus descends into the realm of the dead to bring the Good News of the Resurrection to all who dwell in darkness. When he makes this descent — which is by no means a defeat — he reveals his radical love for humanity and that death is not the final word. His love is a powerful light that penetrates the thickest darkness to reach our brothers and sisters who seem to be completely lost. This is not only an event of the past, but applies to each of us today. Christ enters our own struggles and touches our deepest sins with his mercy. May this remind us that if we allow Jesus to enter into our own dark places, he is able to create a new life in each of us and we become beacons of hope that radiate the message of salvation for all peoples.

FR JUDE is away on retreat next week. Let's keep him in our prayers, as he will most certainly keep us in his.

PRAYER PARTNERS FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES: a message for those who agreed to be Prayer Partners for our Confirmation Candidates: please pick up your prayer partner cards in the porch of the church detailing the name of the candidate you have been assigned to support with your prayers. Your name will be on the front of the card.

STARS ON THE CHRISTMAS TREE: Wooden decoration stars are available to buy from the Repository after all weekend Masses, £2 each. We ask the children to decorate the stars and hand them back to us so we can use them to decorate the Church for Christmas.

ADVENT TALK ON THE PROPHETS- Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, will be giving a short talk at 7 pm on Wednesday 3rd December at the Catholic parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest, in Gidea Park. The topic is the Prophets. You may attend in person free of charge, or watch livestream at www.whatgoodnews.org The talk will be available subsequently on the same website.

RECENTLY BAPTISED CHILDREN: We Welcome Azariah Brown & Carlos Alvarez Blake who were Baptised recently and are now beloved members of God's Holy Family.

KNOW YOUR FAITH CORNER

Understanding the Holy Mass

The Holy Mass is the highest act of Christian worship. It is both a meal and a sacrifice, rooted in the mystery of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. The Mass has two inseparable parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, together forming one single act of worship.

1. **The Liturgy of the Word:** In this part, God speaks to His people through the Scriptures. We listen to His voice in the readings, psalm, and Gospel. The homily helps us to understand and apply the Word of God in our daily lives.
2. **The Liturgy of the Eucharist:** Here, the Word becomes flesh again among us. The bread and wine offered are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ. The same sacrifice of Calvary is made present in a sacramental way; not repeated but re-presented.

So, each time we come to Mass, let us listen to the Word with open hearts and unite ourselves with Christ's sacrifice on the altar. The Lord who speaks to us in Scripture is the same Lord who gives Himself to us in the Eucharist. – **Fr Jude**

ST MARY'S PARENT, BABY AND TODDLER GROUP: Every Tuesday during term time 2.00-3.00pm in St Mary's Parish Hall. Tea & Coffee available. Free Entry. All welcome! Access: Please buzz on the school gate and tell the staff you are attending Parent Baby & Toddler Group.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 26/27: applications are now open for the Walsingham House Team 26/27. Being on the team is a wonderful opportunity to work with young people from across the diocese, live in community and to share and deepen our faith. Applications are open to those aged 18-23 (current Yr13 and above). For more information including the application form please see the website <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email michaelkearns@brcdt.org. Applications close on Friday 16th January 2026.

SCHOOL VACANCIES:

1. Headteacher-St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Romford. Deadline for applications: noon 06/01/26.
2. Higher level teaching assistant- St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay. Closing date is Midday on 24th November 2025.
<https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=114585>
3. Headteacher- Holy Family Primary School. Deadline for application 09:00 28th January 2026.
4. New foundation governors-St Joseph Catholic primary school Canvey Island. Please contact Joanna on jfleming@stjosephscanvey.net.
5. Midday Assistant- St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay, closing date 3rd December 2025. www.essexschooljobs.co.uk/vacancies/details.aspx?vacanyld=114935

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Maura Bowes, Joe O'Mahoney and Anthony Hope who have died recently. Please keep their families and all who knew them in your prayers. May they rest in the peace of Christ. Maura Bowes funeral will be here at St Mary's on Monday 1st December 11.00am.

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

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.

SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday Vigil Mass	22 nd November	6.30pm	Frances Brownston RIP
Sunday Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the universe (Youth Sunday)	23 rd November	8.00am	Micheal & Maureen Harrington RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Brian Spicer RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday St Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr. & Comps, Mm Memorial	24 th November	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan Family & the Dowding Family RIP, the Stevens Family Int
Tuesday	25 th November	9.15am	Stanley & Annie Crow RIP
		7.00pm	<i>St Anthony Devotions followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Wednesday	26 th November	7.15pm	Evening Prayer
		7.30pm	Boo Brazwski Int
Thursday	27 th November	9.15am	Gael Graham Zebrowska Int
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	28 th November	9.15am	David Ruddiman RIP
Saturday In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass	29 th November	9.15am	Simon McCarthy Int
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	<i>Confessions</i>
		5.30-6pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		6.30pm	Joseph Ma RIP
Sunday First Sunday of Advent	30 th November	8.00am	Jimmy & Bridget O'Loughlin RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Dec'd brothers of the KSC Romford council RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction

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.