

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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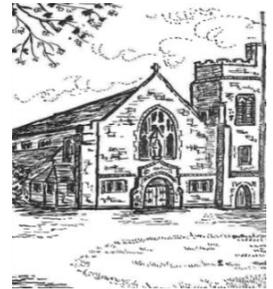
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Assistant Parish Priest: Father Jude Kurumeh

Parish office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297

Parish Administrator: Christelle St Mart



## **FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Page 133

Today's readings encourage us to be bold in our actions. When we share and welcome those in need, and protect that which builds loving community, we bring God's light into dark places, lifting the gloom of isolation (First Reading). The Psalmist says that those who imitate God's light will be remembered and honoured forever. For St Paul, knowledge of Christ crucified was everything – it was the light for his way and revealed how the power of the Spirit was at work in the world (Second Reading). The Gospel reminds us that, in service of the Kingdom, our good works cannot and should not be hidden. By our acts of loving service, we live as salt; by our faithful trust in God's love, we live as light. And all so that God might be glorified. Let's pray that our coming week might be full of good works, and that through them, God's glory might be revealed.

**LOURDES FUND APPEAL: Second collection today.** On Wednesday we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, patroness of our diocese. Each summer a large group of pilgrims from our diocese visits the place where Our Lady appeared to St Bernadette. The collection that is taken up throughout our diocese today makes it possible for people to go on pilgrimage who would be unable to spend this time in Lourdes without support from our team of doctors, nurses and helpers, or without financial assistance. As well as the retiring collection at Mass, you can give online at <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations> (specify 'Lourdes Fund' in the 'Other' box). Thank you for your support.

**NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK:** Please pray for all those living out the vocation to marriage and couples preparing to marry. Support is available for those who need it, and your parish priest can point you in the right direction. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, please let your parish know so that you can be invited to the Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral on Saturday 11th July.

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office will be closed from the 13<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> February

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

Dear brothers and sisters, in today's catechesis, we continue our reflection on the Jubilee theme of "Jesus Christ our Hope," by considering death in the light of the Resurrection. As human beings, we are aware that our life here on earth will one day come to an end. Our present culture tends to fear death and seeks to avoid thinking about it, even turning to medicine and science in search of immortality. The Gospel invites us to look forward to the dawn of the Resurrection. Jesus has passed from death to life as the first fruit of a new creation. The light of his victory illuminates our own mortality, reminding us that death is not the end, but a passing from this life into eternity. Therefore, death is not something to be feared, but rather a moment to prepare for. It is an invitation to examine our lives and so live in such a way that we may one day share not only in the death of Christ, but also in the joy of eternal life.

**MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR JOHN HAYES RIP:** There will be a Memorial Mass for Fr John Hayes (previous Parish Priest at St Mary's from 1994 to 2011) on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm, hopefully with some light refreshments afterwards. Mgr Kevin Hale will be the Main Celebrant and Canon Andrew Headon will be preaching. The chosen date of 24<sup>th</sup> February would have been Fr John's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, and so, is an appropriate date to celebrate this special Mass for him.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2026:** Mass intention diary is now open for the months of May to August 2026.

**RACIAL JUSTICE:** The second collection last weekend raised £393.35, many thanks.

**ST MARY'S PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME/ASSISI:** Pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi will take place from 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> October 2026 (6 nights). Package Prices from £1,270 per pilgrim sharing a room. Places are going fast. If you are interested, please send an email *immediately* and Fr Mark will send you further information.

**DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** Would you like to join our bishop and parishioners and clergy from around the diocese on our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer? The dates are Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July. Please visit <https://tangney-tours.com/brentwood> for further information and to book, or contact Deirdre Pembroke, [lourdes@brcdt.org](mailto:lourdes@brcdt.org) if you have any questions. Paper booking forms to follow.

**CHURCH CLEANERS VOLUNTEERS:** If you can help Friday mornings for about an hour from 10am, please contact the parish office.

**HELPERS FOR THE REPOSITORY:** We are delighted to be able to open the Repository shop after more Masses now, but we need a few more helpers please. Don't worry if you haven't done anything like this before, you will be fully supported and working in small groups. If you are interested, please contact the Parish office.

**TABLE TOP SALE:** Will be held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February from 2pm - 4pm in the Parish Hall. This will be a wonderful sale of pre-loved items; fancy goods, books, toys, you name it! The Parish will have several large tables but if you fancy selling your own items, you are welcome to reserve a table through the Parish office. Refreshments will also be available. Volunteers are needed to set up from 12.30pm on the day and also to help on stalls. If you are able to help, please contact the Parish office.

**COFFEE MORNING VOLUNTEERS:** If you would like to join the rota to help out at weekly coffee mornings after the 9.30am Mass, please contact the Parish office. It's a great way to socialise and meet people. No experience necessary!

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM– 23rd May 2026:** Please save the date. Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham. 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. More information to follow.

**ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDRENS'S CAMP:** If you are in school year 12 or student age (or any age over 17!) you are very welcome to apply at [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). The application process includes references and a DBS check, which we can help with, as well as a training and support before and during Camp. The Camp provides over 100 children a week with a summer holiday – for many their only holiday. As a volunteer you use your skills in assisting with different sporting and fun activities, as well as the practical aspects of camp life. **Volunteer for 25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August or 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August.** The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood and also seeks financial donations – all information on the website.

**VACANCY:** The Governors of St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Hornchurch, are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Head Teacher. **Closing date: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 5pm / Interview Date: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026.** Enquiries can be made by email to [admin@stmcps.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmcps.co.uk), or phone 01708 448430.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR** Bridget O'Sullivan, Carole Martin and Phil Reid, who passed away recently. We pray for the repose of their souls and the comfort and consolation of their families. Bridget's funeral will take place at St Mary's on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 10.15am, and Carole's funeral will take place at English Martyrs church on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm.

**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, Claire Ramm, 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](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org) and we will add you to our mailing list.

## **SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:**

<b>Saturday</b> Vigil Mass	7 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>6.30pm</b>	Eamon Commins RIP
<b>Sunday</b> Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time	8 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>8.00am</b>	Donal Bergin RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	Pat Fells RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>5.00pm</b>	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
<b>Monday</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, baby Norie Donovan, Melissa Golding & Aman Bhargava Int
<b>Tuesday</b> St Scholastica,V	10 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Joseph Kurian RIP
			<i>No St Anthony Devotions this week</i>
<b>Wednesday</b> Our Lady of Lourdes, principal patroness of the diocese	11 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>7.15pm</b>	Evening Prayer
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Bridget Ginty RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Oliver Gilsenan RIP
		<b>9.45-12noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Friday</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Joe O'Mahoney RIP
<b>Saturday</b> St Cyril, M & St Methodius, B  Vigil Mass	14 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>9.15am</b>	Maxine Beaufond RIP
		<b>9.45-11.15am</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		<b>10.30-11.15am</b>	<i>Confessions</i>
		<b>5.30-6pm</b>	<i>Confessions</i>
		<b>6.30pm</b>	Frank Mollaghan RIP
<b>Sunday</b> Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time	15 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>8.00am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>9.30am</b>	Sam & Connie Farrugia RIP
		<b>11.30am</b>	Roisin Byrne RIP
		<b>5.00pm</b>	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.