

ST. MARY

MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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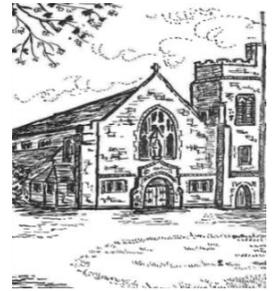
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT - LAETARE SUNDAY

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‘As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, “Go wash in the Pool of Siloam” — which means Sent —. So, he went and washed, and came back able to see.’ (John 9:1, 6-7)

Today is the halfway mark of the Sundays of Lent. This Sunday is known as ***Laetare Sunday*** for the first word of the Introit or Entrance Antiphon *laetare* (rejoice); it is a Sunday of joy. The celebrant has the option to wear rose-colored vestments. This is also the Second Scrutiny in preparation for the baptism of adults at the Easter Vigil.

The Church’s liturgy, on this the Fourth Sunday of Lent, invites us to retrace one of the fundamental dynamics of our baptismal re-birth through the Gospel account of the healing of the ‘man born blind’. It is the passage from the darkness of sin and error to the Light of God, who is the Risen Christ.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: Today is also Mothering Sunday when we pray in a special way for all mothers both living and deceased, and give thanks for their selfless love.

40 HOURS DEVOTION: Many thanks to all those who were able to take part in the 40 Hours devotion. I am sure that many graces will flow from it for us individually as well as for our community and beyond.

LENT PRAYER SESSIONS: Lent is a special time for reflection and prayer. The second of our two prayer sessions will be held on Monday 16th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to join us on this journey. Liz, Karen, Teresa & Kathy

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: will take place twice a week during Lent, on Tuesdays after the morning Mass and on Fridays at 7pm followed by Mass or a period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

POPE LEO XIV @Pontifex: ‘Let us continue to pray for peace in Iran and throughout the Middle East, especially for the many civilian victims, including many innocent children. May our prayer offer comfort to those who suffer and a seed of hope for the future.’

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 3:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our catechesis on the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*, today we considered the relationship between Scripture and Tradition. In the passage we just heard from John's Gospel, Jesus says he will send the Holy Spirit to guide the Apostles to remember, apply and proclaim everything he taught. Sacred Scripture, the inspired word of God, and Sacred Tradition, the living memory of the Church, are intimately bound together and form the one Deposit of Faith. This deposit which contains the entirety of our faith — doctrine, worship, morality, etc. — is not static but dynamic for it develops and is more profoundly understood by the Church over the centuries, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Entrusted to the Church, who preserves and interprets it in Jesus' name, this deposit helps us to navigate the complexities of life to reach our eternal home in heaven. May we become living and faithful witness to God's word in Scripture and Tradition.

SVP: Next weekend, there will be a second collection to support the SVP. Money raised will go towards supporting them in their ongoing work within the parish.

SUNDAY 9.30am MASS NEXT WEEKEND there will be a coffee morning after Mass.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Will take place on Tuesday 24th March at 7pm. This is a graced opportunity to experience the mercy and healing that only God can give us. There will be a number of priests to hear confessions.

LENTEN TALKS AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: Rev Msgr John Armitage to give a talk at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7.30pm entitled "The uniqueness of Catholicism for British Society." All are welcome.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM— 23rd May 2026: A sign up sheet is in the back of church 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.

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 17th - Friday 24th July. Please visit <https://tangney-tours.com/brentwood> for further information and to book, or contact Deirdre Pembroke, lourdes@brcdt.org if you have any questions. Paper booking forms to follow.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE & CO. MAYO LED BY BISHOP ALAN: Monday 15th June 2026 to Friday 19th June 2026. 4 nights in Knock House Hotel, with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Visit Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre. Price of ?799.00 per person Package includes: Return flight from Lon Stansted – 10kg check in bag. 4 nights Dinner, B&B in Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours. Assistance from Knock Pilgrimages representative. Single room supplement ?250.00. Maximum 3. Contact: Patricia Tel: 01268 762 278 Mob: 07740 175 557 knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

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

SVP and CAFOD Work Experience: The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The experience will run from 21st – 26th June in London. Candidates must be aged 18-25 years old, but priority will be given to those in their first or second year at university. Apply here Applications close on the 6th April. For any queries, please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

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.

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!

VACANCIES:

Class Teacher – St Antony's Catholic Primary School, Woodford Green

Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon Thursday 19th March 2026

Deputy Headteacher – Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, Chelmsford

Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon Friday 20th March 2026

PLEASE PRAY FOR Terence Whithington and Elizabeth Kelly, who passed away recently. We pray for the repose of their souls and the comfort and consolation of their families. Terence's funeral will take place on Tuesday 17th March at 12noon and Elizabeth's funeral will take place Tuesday 7th April at 11am.

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 and Bernard Frederick.

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	14 th March	6.30pm	Dec'd members of the Ireton & How families RIP
Sunday Fourth Sunday of Lent	15 th March	8.00am	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Frank McDonagh RIP
		11.30am	Vocation to the Priesthood & Religious life
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday	16 th March	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, baby Norie, Laura & Nana Donovan Int
		5.00pm	Reception of the body- Terence Whithington
Tuesday St Patrick,B, Patron of Ireland	17 th March	9.15am	Joe O'Mahoney RIP <i>plus Stations of the Cross</i>
		12 noon	Requiem Mass -Terence Whithington
		7.00pm	St Anthony Devotions plus Adoration until 8pm
Wednesday	18 th March	7.15pm	Evening Prayer
		7.30pm	William Curtin RIP
Thursday St Joseph,	19 th March	9.15am	Patricia Hunt RIP
Friday	20 th March	9.15am	Joyce Rafferty RIP
		7.00pm	Stations of the Cross led by Confirmandi
		7.30pm	Carole Martin RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	21 st March	9.15am	Martin & Bridie Barry RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	<i>Confessions</i>
		5.30-6pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		6.30pm	Colette Dawson RIP
Sunday Fifth Sunday of Lent	22 nd March	8.00am	Mark McDonagh RIP
		9.30am	Micheal Lynch RIP
		11.30am	All Parishioners
		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.