

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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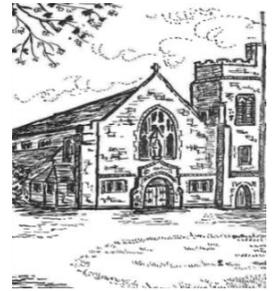
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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 OF LENT

Sunday 22nd March 2026 – Page 170

From the Gospel of the Fifth Sunday of Lent, Year A: Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, He will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.” Martha said to him, “I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus told her, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.” (John 11: 21-27)

'Out of the depths I call to you O Lord: Lord hear my cry. Listen to the sound of my pleading!' (Ps 129:1-2). The Church invites us to turn our attention to the realities that are perhaps the most 'scandalous' in human experience, the death of a loved one. But, in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, we see that Jesus has power even over death, and ultimately, through his own death and resurrection, offers us the possibility of new life with him in heaven.

Previously called "Passion Sunday," this Fifth Sunday of Lent marks the beginning of Passiontide, a deeper time of Lent. During this period, the Church allows the practice of covering crosses and images from this Sunday. Crosses remain covered until the end of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, but images remain covered until the beginning of the Easter Vigil. This is also the third Sunday of the Scrutinies for the preparation of adult converts, and the final Sunday of Lent before the beginning of Holy Week.

SVP: This 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.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Will take place on Tuesday 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.

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

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 4:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the Dogmatic Constitution Dei Verbum, we reflect on the divine and human authorship of Scripture. God is the principal author of Scripture and he chooses to reveal himself by using human language. Indeed, the various authors of Scripture are not passive instruments, but are divinely inspired to communicate the word of God by utilizing literary forms and creative methods that incorporate images and examples of their time. While Scripture is a text rooted in historical truth, it also contains a limitless spiritual depth that speaks to people of all times and places, communicating above all God's love and God's desire to save us. Let us thank God for his word that nourishes our lives, illumines our paths and reminds us of the promise of eternal life.

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.

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.

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS: The Walk of Witness will take place on Good Friday 3rd April. Meet outside St Andrew's Church, Hornchurch at 10.00am 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.

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

FLAME 2027- SATURDAY 6TH MARCH, WEMBLEY ARENA: Almost 1,000 young people from the Diocese are already registered. A limited number of early bird tickets (£30) remain available. To book, please complete the form:
<https://forms.office.com/e/KTevSZwGQH>

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.

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 GBP250.00. 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:

Deputy Headteacher – St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Tilbury

Deadline for application: 12:00 noon Friday 10th April 2026

PLEASE PRAY FOR Elizabeth Kelly, who passed away recently. We pray for the repose of her soul and the comfort and consolation of her family, 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	21 st March	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
Monday	23 rd March	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Kevin & Tracy Lenehan Int
Tuesday	24 th March	9.15am	Fr John Hayes RIP
		7.00pm	Reconciliation Service
Wednesday The Annunciation of the Lord	25 th March	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Terry & Rita Thompson RIP
Thursday	26 th March	9.15am	Peter John Perry RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	27 th March	9.15am	Desmond & Laura O'Brien Int
		7.00pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
		7.30pm	Joe Bellotti RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	28 th March	9.15am	Andrew Onwuka & family 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	Terry Inkersole RIP
Sunday Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	29 th March	8.00am	Jacky Hannan RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eileen O'Sullivan 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.