

ST. MARY

MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

213 Hornchurch Road, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 4TF

Tel: 01708 447761

Email: hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org

Website: www.stmaryshornchurch.org.uk

Instagram: @stmaryshornchurch

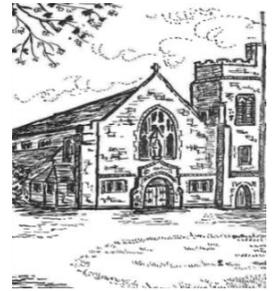
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday 29 March 2026 – Page 176

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

Dear brothers and sisters, in our catechesis on the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum*, today we considered the profound and vital connection between the Word of God and the Church. Sacred Scripture, which has been entrusted to the Church and is guarded by her, reveals its meaning and manifests its strength in the life and faith of the Church, above all in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. For this reason, the Church continually meditates upon and interprets Scripture because it is the means by which we come to know the incarnate living Word of God who is Jesus Christ. Indeed, praying with Scripture opens the door for an intimate relationship with God who through these sacred writings invites us into conversation with him. As Saint Jerome rightly points out, ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of God. With this in mind, I encourage you to read and contemplate the inspired word of God daily. May the Word of God nourish our hearts and minds and lead us to the fullness of life.

SVP: We raised a total of £684.93, Many thanks for all your contributions.

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.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING – BIG EASTER CLEAN: If you can spare 30 minutes, please come along, and help on Good Friday 3rd April at 9am.

REPOSITORY: for a wide range of 1st Communion and Confirmation cards, plus a selection of gift ideas, please come and have a look!

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE: Lourdes Pilgrimage

A few last-minute places are still available for the BCYS Lourdes pilgrimage this July, for anyone in school year 10+. A powerful experience of faith, service, and community. Funding available. All information can be found at www.bcys.net/events/sl26

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

School Business Manager- Sacred Heart of Mary. Upminster:

Deadline for application: 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	28 th March	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
Monday	30 th March	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, baby Norie, Laura & Nana Donovan Int
Tuesday	31 st March	9.15am	Jim & Andrew Shanahan RIP
Wednesday	1 st April	11.00am	Chrism Mass at Brentwood Cathedral
		7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Igwemadu family Int
Thursday Maundy Thursday	2 nd April	8pm	Nora Maguire RIP
Friday Good Friday	3 rd April	12noon	Children's Stations of the Cross
		3pm	The Passion of the Lord
		7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday Holy Saturday Vigil Mass	4 th April	9.30 am	Office of Readings
		11.30-12.30pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		8.00pm	Oliver Gilsenan & Joseph Ma RIP
Sunday Easter Sunday	5 th April	8.00am	Terry Inkersole RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Mary Magadelene Adaeke Rafua RIP

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

Registered Charity No. 234092 Private circulation only.

The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies. Please note the location of the fire exits.