

# ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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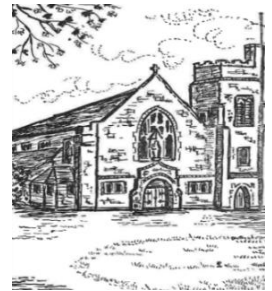
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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



## **THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER** Sunday 19<sup>TH</sup> April 2026 – Page 258

On this Third Sunday of Easter, the Gospel takes us on the road to Emmaus. Two disciples are leaving Jerusalem, disheartened and confused by the events of Good Friday. They are walking away from the community, looking down in sadness, unable to recognize the stranger walking alongside them.

How often do we find ourselves on our own "road to Emmaus"? We walk through life dealing with disappointment, worry, or darkness, failing to recognize that Jesus is right there with us.

The disciples only recognized Jesus in the "breaking of the bread." The Risen Lord is not a memory; He is a living presence, especially in the Eucharist. When we gather for Mass, our hearts, like the disciples', can "burn within us" as the Scriptures are opened and the Bread of Life is broken. Let us pray for the grace to recognize Him—not just at the altar, but in the stranger, in our families, and in our daily struggles.

**NEW PARISH INITIATIVES:** At each of the Sunday Masses over the weekend, Fr Mark will be speaking about a couple of new Parish Initiatives on the horizon. The first is Alpha (in a Catholic context) and the second is a Parish Mission. The Alpha course will hopefully be run twice a year, with the first course starting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May and running for about 8 weeks; and the Parish Mission will take place during the first week of March next year. Please let Fr Mark know if you would like to be part of the Alpha course starting on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM– 23rd May 2026.** Please know that there are still places available on the coach for Walsingham and for those who have already signed up could a cash payment of £25 be paid to the parish office or Kathy O’Dea.

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

**NEXT WEEKEND:** there will be a second collection for Promotion of Vocations.

**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.

**POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 6:**

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, we have reflected upon various aspects of Divine Revelation. In particular, we have seen how God chose to reveal himself, making known the loving mystery of his divine plan to unite all people to him through his Son, Jesus Christ. Indeed, it is only within this mystery that we can understand both the origin and the mission of the Church. In this light, we turn today to consider *Lumen Gentium*, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, which presents the Church as both a sign and an instrument of this plan of salvation. A sign because the Church community makes the unity established by Christ through his Cross and Resurrection visible to the world today. An instrument because it is through the Church that God achieves his goal of uniting people to himself and bringing them together. As we journey through a world still marked by division, let us ask the Lord to continue to guide his Church in the mission of sanctification and reconciliation.

**MARRIAGE SUPPORT:** From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

**ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP, SUMMER 2026.** Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August or 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly – apply asap.

**THE LEGACY OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI:** As we mark 800 years since the death of St Francis (3<sup>rd</sup> October 1226), Fr Alban McCoy OFM Con will speak about how Francis changed the Church of his day, and can help us to renew the Church in our own times. The event will take place in the hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) from 11 am until 1 pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Available by live stream on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**KNOWING YOUR FAITH CORNER**

**Why should we stay until the final blessing at Mass?**

Staying until the final blessing at Mass is not just about “completing a routine”. It is about fully entering into the worship of God and receiving what the liturgy is meant to give.

The Mass does not end after Holy Communion. The final blessing and dismissal are an essential part of the liturgy. In the blessing, the priest calls down God’s grace upon us, strengthening us for the week ahead. To leave early is to miss that gift.

The dismissal “Go forth, the Mass is ended”, reminds us that we are sent out on a mission to live what we have celebrated. So, leaving early means missing this important moment of grace and mission. By staying until the final blessing, we fully participate in the Mass and go forth united, renewed, and blessed to serve the Lord in our daily lives.

Finally, remaining until the end is a sign of reverence and unity. We worship as one body, and leaving early can disrupt that sense of communal prayer and respect for the sacred action taking place. – Fr Jude.

**BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** A small number of last-minute places are now available for the BCYS Youth Service Pilgrimage to Lourdes, open to young people currently in Year 10 and above. There are a number of funding opportunities available. Find out more and apply at: [www.bcys.net/events/sl26](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl26)

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027 (Seoul, South Korea):** Be part of something extraordinary at World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea. Travel with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service to join hundreds of thousands of young Catholics from around the world, gathered with Pope Leo for this global celebration of faith. Open to those currently in Year 13 and above. Details and applications: [www.bcys.net/events/wyd27](http://www.bcys.net/events/wyd27)

**BCYS YOUTH MASS:** The next Youth Masses will take place at Brentwood Cathedral on Thursday 7th May, 4<sup>th</sup> June and 2<sup>nd</sup> July. It is open to any young people from around the Diocese to enjoy pizza, prayer, workshops and celebrate Mass together! For more information, please visit [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events)

**BCYS DIOCESAN WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE– Saturday 23rd May:** Representatives from the BCYS will be joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, and we would like to invite other young people to join and assist with the liturgy. Please contact [gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org](mailto:gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org) if you are interested.

**VACANCIES:**

Deputy Headteacher - Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Benfleet

Deadline for applications: 23:59 Thursday 30th April 2026

Headteacher - St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanford Le Hope

Deadline for applications: 23:59 Thursday 30th April 2026

Headteacher – St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Hornchurch

Deadline for applications: 17:00 pm 1st May 2026

Headteacher - St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School, Colchester

Deadline for applications: 09:00 am Tuesday 5th May 2026

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

## SERVICES/ MASS INTENTIONS:

<b>Saturday</b> Vigil Mass	18 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>6.30pm</b>	Eamon Commins RIP
<b>Sunday</b> Third Sunday of Easter	19 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.00am</b>	Clive McDonagh RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Helen Taylor RIP
		<b>5.00pm</b>	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
<b>Monday</b>	20 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>9.15am</b>	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Marion & David Donovan & Billy Burke Int
<b>Tuesday</b>	21 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>9.15am</b>	Patricia Okafor RIP
<b>Wednesday</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	<b>7.15pm</b>	Evening prayer
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Dareca & Mark Tomasso Int
<b>Thursday</b> St George,M	23 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>9.15am</b>	Amy Tam RIP, Tam family Int
		<b>9.45-12 noon</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>Friday</b> St Mellitus,Bp	24 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>9.15am</b>	Brian Murray & Paula Tucker Int
<b>Saturday</b> St Mark, Ev  Vigil Mass	25 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>9.15 am</b>	Maxime Beaufond RIP
		<b>9.45-11.15</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>	Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious life
<b>Sunday</b> Fourth Sunday of Easter	26 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>8.00am</b>	Jean Angel RIP
		<b>9.30am</b>	All Parishioners
		<b>11.30am</b>	Eleanor, Gerald, Bernard Ratchman 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**

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