

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](https://www.instagram.com/stmaryshornchurch)

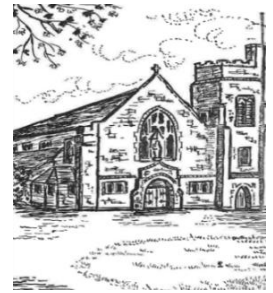
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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The readings for this sixth week of Eastertide are full of joy! They celebrate the light and grace of the Holy Spirit who reveals God's love to all of us. In the First Reading, the apostles' ministry to the Samaritans signals a new phase in the early Church where the gospel message is not just for the Jews but extended to everyone. Joyful celebration is the theme of the Psalm too. We are reminded of the many wondrous works of God, his boundless mercy, and his responsiveness to our prayers. Peter teaches the community what it means to be a Christian in the Second Reading: to honour the Christian message with gentleness and respect, even in the face of criticism and rebuke. The Gospel reminds us of the unbreakable bond between us and Christ, expressed through love for God and for each other, and through obedience to his commandments. During this special Easter period, may we be strengthened, comforted and inspired by the Holy Spirit to know what it is to be called children of God.

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD – ON THURSDAY

At the end of His earthly life, Jesus ascended triumphantly into heaven. The Church acclaim Him in His holy humanity sitting at His Father's right hand and sharing His glory. But Jesus has ascended, not to distance himself from us, but so that we, his children, might be confident of following where he has gone before. Filled with an immense hope, the Church looks up towards her leader, who precedes her into the heavenly home and takes her with Him in His own person: "for the Son of God, after incorporating in Himself those whom the devil's jealousy had banished from the earthly paradise, ascends again to His Father and takes them with Him" (St. Leo). We celebrate this great **Feast of the Ascension** on Thursday. It's a **Holy Day of Obligation** for Catholics, so there will be 3 Masses available – 1) 7.30pm on Wednesday (Vigil Mass), 2) 9.15am on Thursday, and 3) 7.30pm on Thursday.

ALPHA COURSE: We begin the first of our Alpha courses here at St Mary's on Monday and we would be very grateful for your prayers. We pray that the course will help the participants to encounter Christ in a relaxed and supportive environment. The current course is full, but there will be another course here in the autumn, which we'll start advertising for at the beginning of July.

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 9:

Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, today we consider the participation of the faithful in Jesus Christ's priestly, prophetic and royal offices, as presented by the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*. Through the sacrament of baptism, each of us are called to share in Christ's royal priesthood (1 Pt 2:9) and to worship him in spirit and truth, especially through our participation in the Eucharist. We also partake in Jesus' prophetic mission, for we are called to bear witness to the truth of the faith. Indeed, the Council Fathers taught that "the whole body of the faithful ... cannot be mistaken in belief. It shows this characteristic through the entire people's supernatural sense of faith when, from the bishops to the last of the faithful, it manifests a universal consensus in matters of faith and morals" (*LG*, 12). Along with these gifts shared by all members of the Church, the Holy Spirit continues to allot special graces to the faithful in order to enrich and build up the body of Christ. It is important that we recognize these manifold gifts and express our gratitude to God for allowing us to be partakers in his work of salvation.

MONTH OF MAY, MONTH OF MARY

The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1). So, during this month of May, the Church encourages Catholics to take out their rosary beads and pray through the intercession of our Blessed Mother for the different needs we have- for ourselves, our families, our community and for those in any kind of help.

SECOND COLLECTION- NEXT WEEKEND: next weekend there will be a collection for World Communications Day.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM– 23rd May 2026. For those who have already signed up, the coach will depart at **6.45am sharp** from the church. Please bring a packed lunch for the day.

PARISH SUMMER FETE: The Parish will be holding a summer fete on Saturday 13th June. Last year was a wonderful community day for the whole Parish and we want to make this year even better! We are delighted to announce that the Scoops will be providing live music throughout the day and we have a great range of inflatables - wrist bands on sale after all Masses at £5 each. We already have a selection of food stalls, ice cream, beverages and fancy good stalls booked, but if anyone runs a small business or has a hobby and would like a stall, please contact the Parish office as we would like to support our whole community. Finally, we are in need of volunteers to help with marshalling, setting up and clearing away on the day. If you are able to help in any way, please contact the Parish office directly.

COFFEE EVENING – Following 6.30pm Mass on 16th May 2025. The Confirmation candidates warmly invite all parishioners to join them for tea, coffee and cakes following the 6.30pm Mass 16th May; they would particularly like to welcome their prayer partners, as this will be a lovely opportunity to meet in person and thank you for your prayers and support. Refreshments will be provided free of charge; however, the candidates will be raising money for a Youth Cancer charity, so any donations would be greatly appreciated. Please do come along – we would love to see you there.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL HAS FALLEN: The assisted suicide Bill has failed to pass all stages in the House of Lords. This means that Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill has fallen and will not become law. This is a major milestone, but the battle is not over. Assisted suicide campaigners have said they are going to try to bring the Bill back in the next parliamentary session and use the Parliament Acts to bypass the Lords. To find out more about this significant milestone and what comes next, visit: <https://righttolife.org.uk/LeadbeaterBillFalls>

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 +44 797 338 0443

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

BCYS YOUTH MASS: The next Youth Masses will take place at Brentwood Cathedral on Thursday 4th June and 2nd 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

RECENTLY BAPTISED CHILDREN: We Welcome Aaliyah Hooper and Guim, Biel & Bruna Moncanut, who were Baptised recently and are now beloved members of God's Family.

PLEASE PRAY FOR Philippa Grima, who passed away recently. We pray for the repose of her soul and the comfort and consolation of her family. Philippa's funeral will take place on Tuesday 2nd June 11.00am here at st Mary's.

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	9 th May	6.30pm	All Parishioners
Sunday Sixth Sunday of Easter	10 th May	8.00am	Alayne Bone RIP
		9.30am	Michael Olayiwola Olaniyan Int
		11.30am	Giuseppe & Filomena Oddi RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday	11 th May	9.15am	Maureen Shannon RIP
Tuesday St John Houghton,Pr,M	12 th May	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, baby Norie, Laura & Nana Donovan Int
Wednesday St Erconwald,Bp Vigil Mass	13 th May	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Maura Bowes RIP
Thursday The Ascension of the Lord	14 th May	9.15am	Bridget O'Sullivan RIP
		7.30pm	People of the Parish
Friday	15 th May	9.15am	Dec'd members of St Mary's SVP RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	16 th May	9.15am	Mary & Phil McManus 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	Florence Olanike Olaniyan Int
Sunday Seventh Sunday of Easter	17 th May	8.00am	Jim Walsh RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commins 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.