

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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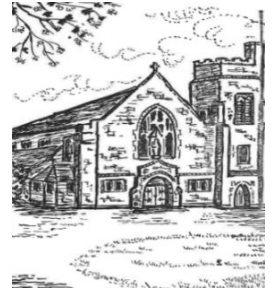
Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

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



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 17th May 2026 – Page 275

The Seventh Sunday of Easter comes between the Ascension of Jesus and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It is a time when the Church remembers what it means to wait on God's promise.

First Reading – Acts 1:12-14: After Jesus' ascension, the apostles returned to Jerusalem and gathered in an upper room with Mary and other women. They devoted themselves to prayer while waiting for the promised Holy Spirit to come.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 27: This psalm expresses the author's unwavering faith in God's goodness and protection, and their deep desire to dwell in His presence and contemplate His beauty. The psalmist calls upon the Lord to hear their prayer and have mercy upon them.

Second Reading – 1 Peter 4:13-16: Christians should find joy in their sufferings, as it aligns them with Christ's own suffering and ultimately leads to sharing in His glory. Additionally, believers are encouraged to live unashamedly for Christ, even if it results in persecution.

Gospel – John 17:1-11: Jesus prays to the Father, asking for His own glorification so that He may glorify the Father, and also asking for the protection of His disciples as they continue His work in the world. Jesus speaks of the unity between Himself and the Father, and prays for His disciples to be united in the same way.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY: Today is World Communications Day, and today, we remind ourselves of the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. Vital to this is good communication – through our websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops' Conference works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people. **Today** we have a **Second Collection** to help with this engagement with the media in this country.

PENTECOST SUNDAY- NEXT WEEKEND: We pray for a renewal in the Holy Spirit, and we pray, in particular, for all those young people who will be confirmed at the 9.30am Mass next Sunday here at St Mary's: *Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 10:

Dear brothers and sisters, In our ongoing catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, today we reflect on the teachings of the Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium* concerning the hierarchical structure of the Church. In this regard, it is helpful to bear in mind that the Church is not something we invented, but is a divine institution established by Jesus himself. Christ appointed the apostles, placing Peter at their head, and sent them out to continue his salvific mission until his return in glory. To perpetuate this same mission, ministers were invested with sacred power to be the successors of the Apostles as Bishops, in whose ministry priests and deacons likewise participate through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Sharing in the ministry of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, they are consecrated to serve the faithful, build up the Church and ensure the fruitful transmission of the faith. Let us therefore ask the Lord to continue to bless his Church with shepherds after his own heart.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Congratulations to all those children who made their First Holy Communion over the last two Saturdays, and grateful thanks to their parents and catechists who have accompanied them on this journey. We pray that their friendship with Jesus will grow each week as they receive Him in Holy Communion.

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.

NEW FRONTALS FOR THE ALTAR AND LECTERN: The altar is the most central and sacred item of furnishing in the church. As such the Church has from time immemorial adorned it with cloths and coverings. We are in the process of getting 'frontals' for both the altar and lectern on the sanctuary. Frontals are decorative cloths that hang at the front of the altar or lectern; they come in different colours in accordance with the liturgical season (white, red, purple or green). The frontal for the altar is of particular importance as the altar itself is a symbol of Christ and so the frontal pays due honour to that reality. The frontals will also bring some much needed colour to the sanctuary. These frontals will be of noble fabric as befits the altar, and so are not inexpensive; so if anyone would like to make a donation in this regard, we would be very grateful.

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.

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP- MOST HOLY REDEEMER - On Wednesday 27th May, during half-term week, Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill will be hosting light refreshments and workshops for children, including drama, flower art, and music. A donation of £1 is requested. For further details, please contact Theresa at the Parish Office on 01708 343492.

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

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: invites you to a wonderful charity two-course luncheon at the beautiful grade II listed Georgian house, the Lawn in Rochford. Friday June 19th-13.00-15.30- tickets are £38.59 per person. To book go to <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events-campaigns/>

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR Billy Myers and Philippa Grima, who have passed away recently. We pray for the repose of their souls and the comfort and consolation of their families. 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	16 th May	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
Monday	18 th May	9.15am	Holy Souls
Tuesday	19 th May	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Bishop Thomas McMahan RIP
Wednesday	20 th May	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Bray family Int
Thursday	21 st May	9.15am	Ethna Hennesy RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	22 nd May	9.15am	Olga & Arturo Casali RIP
Saturday Vigil Mass	23 rd May	9.15am	Jeanette Ridley 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	Brian Grant Int
Sunday Pentecost	24 th May	8.00am	Nelson De Souza RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Novella & Courtney Brown Int
		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.