

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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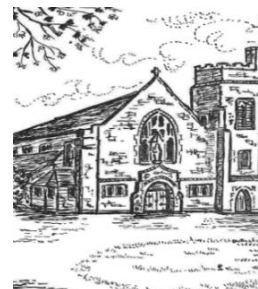
Instagram: @stmaryshornchurch

Parish Priest: Father Mark Reilly

Parish office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm

Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297

Parish Administrator: Christelle St Mart



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday 13th September 2026 – Page 128

This Sunday's readings focus on forgiveness, reminding us that there is no limit to God's mercy and unconditional love. We cannot repay God's forgiveness, but we can imitate God's free, unearned mercy by forgiving others with patience and compassion. The First Reading warns against anger, telling us to not keep a record of grudges. Letting go of anger restores peace to ourselves. We are to live by the commandments, overlooking errors and forgiving our neighbour. The Psalmist praises the depth of the Lord's compassion and mercy, telling of God's care for us. There is no end to his forgiveness nor love. St Paul, in the second reading, explains that we belong to the Lord both in life and death. Christ died and rose because of his great love for us. We, too, are called to live not for ourselves but for others, showing love and mercy. Jesus, in the Gospel, teaches about forgiveness through the parable of a servant forgiven a large debt by a merciful king; the servant then refuses to forgive a much smaller debt. Jesus warns that people should not expect mercy from God if they do not show mercy to others. We are called always to forgive others wholeheartedly. This week, we pray for one another and ask for the grace to forgive, welcoming the healing and reconciliation forgiveness brings.

EDUCATION SUNDAY:

Message from Rt Rev Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds. Chairman of the Catholic Education Service

"This year, the Catholic Church in England and Wales will observe Education Sunday on 13th September, the Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time.... On Education Sunday, we give thanks to the Lord for the vocations of all who work within the Catholic sector: the teaching and support staff, chaplains, school leaders and governors. It is through their commitment and hard work that pupils and students in our schools, colleges and universities can thrive and contribute to society, through their formation and education.

In the academic year ahead, let us endeavour to give witness to the message of forgiveness, reconciliation and peace in the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to pray that our Catholic schools, colleges and universities will be beacons of His good news in our communities."

This weekend there will be a **second collection** for **Education Sunday** to support the work of the Catholic Education Service.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: Request from the Diocese. 13th September marks Education Sunday, a time when we celebrate and pray for the brilliant work of our Catholic schools. These schools rely heavily on good governance, and on this special day we are asking if you, or anyone you know, may be able to support our schools by becoming a foundation governor. There is more information in the church porch. Please contact sandramoss@brcdt.org if you would like to have a conversation about becoming a school governor. Basic requirements are that you are a practicing Catholic and in good standing with the Church.

ALPHA AT ST MARYS: Our first Alpha course was a great success and a number of the participants from the course will give their testimony about their experience at the end of our Sunday Masses at some point in September. The next Alpha course will begin on Monday 28th September at 7pm and last for about 8 weeks. Alpha has been described as a course where people can have an open and honest 'faith conversation', without the pressure of having all the answers. If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, please let Fr Mark or the parish Office know.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: we realise that there might be people in the parish who are sick and housebound, or in Care homes, or in Hospital. Please do let us know if you know of someone in this situation, so that we can provide them with pastoral care. You may not be aware of this, but we can bring the Sacraments (e.g. Holy Communion and the Anointing of the Sick) to where they are, so that they can be aided by God's grace and Christ can help them to carry their cross in difficult times.

CARITAS BRENTWOOD TALKS: Join Caritas Brentwood this autumn for three special gatherings across the Diocese exploring Catholic Social Teaching in action. Hear from inspiring speakers, connect with other parishioners and discover how local parishes are living out our faith. Saturday 26 September: Brentwood Cathedral on Environment, Saturday 17 October: St Alban's, Elm Park on Homelessness and Saturday 14 November: St Anne Line, South Woodford on Refugees. To register, and find out more go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/caritas-brentwood-events-4458423>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Volunteers are needed to help with the Children's Liturgy at the 9.30am Mass. This will be on a rota basis, so you will not be required every week. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the parish office for more information.

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.

MARRIAGE IN A RUT? Or need help with deeper issues? **Retrouvaille** has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd – 4th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info. Tel: 0788 7296983

MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS – GUILD OF ST STEPHEN (Brentwood Diocese): The Guild of St Stephen – Brentwood Diocese warmly invites all altar servers and their families to the Mass for Altar Servers on Saturday 19 September 2026 at 11.30am, taking place at St Joseph the Worker, Hutton (CM13 1BJ). Servers are asked to arrive by 11.15am and to bring their own alb. Following Mass, refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall. This special Mass will be offered for all altar servers across the Diocese and in thanksgiving for John McCormack, marking 36 years of dedicated service as Chairman of the Guild. If you would like to attend the Altar Servers' Mass, please email guildofststephenbrentwood@gmail.com by 13 September 2026, as this will assist us in planning for numbers. All are warmly welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR: **Brian Little** and **Philomena Crowe** who have passed away recently. We pray for the repose of their souls and the comfort and consolation of their families. Philomena Crowe's funeral will take place on Tuesday 22nd September at 11 am at St Mary's church. Brian Little's funeral will take place on Tuesday 29th September at 11 am at St Mary's church

YOUTH CLUB: We are starting back on Friday 18th September at 7:30pm for all those who signed up & registered before the summer break. This will be a welcome / information meeting for the joining youngster only & 1 parent / carer. Membership cards will also be handed out at this meeting. Note: no youngster can join YC without attending this meeting first. Late registrations / applications can now be made & a waiting-list will be set-up as numbers dictate.

CONFIRMATION 2026/27: If your child is in Year 9 or above (from September) and they would like to make their Confirmation in 2027, please email the parish office to **register your interest as soon as possible**. A meeting for parents and young people will take place on **Saturday 19th September 2026 at 4.30pm in the Parish Hall** followed by **the Welcome Session** for the young people **at 5pm** and **the Enrolment Mass at 6.30pm** to be attended by both young people and parents. When registering your interest, please include your child's full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates. We will then be in contact with you directly once full programme details become available. The minimum expectations for the course are attendance at the Confirmation sessions and attendance at weekly Mass on Sunday or Saturday night.

CATHOLIC TEACHING IN THE WORLD OF AI: Pope Leo has recently published *Magnifica Humanitas*, an encyclical letter on 'safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence'. Fr Hugh MacKenzie, chaplain at Westminster Cathedral, is an expert on AI. He will be giving a presentation on the topic on Saturday 26th September 2026 at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park, beginning at 11 am. The event is in-person but is also available live-stream from www.whatgoodnews.org.

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, Bernard Frederick, Denis Fallon, and Maureen O'Brien.

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



This QR code will take you straight to the Dona machine.

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	12 th September	6.30pm	John McMillan RIP
Sunday 24 th Sunday in Ordinary time	13 th September	8.00am	Frank Owens RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Helen Taylor RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	14 th September	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Mr & Mrs Edgley RIP, Bernadette & Martin Cornish Int
Tuesday Our Lady of Sorrows	15 th September	9.15am	Frank Mollaghan RIP
Wednesday Ss, Cornelius, P & Cyprian, Bp,M	16 th September	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Patsy Kerrigan RIP
Thursday	17 th September	9.15am	Kathleen Mollaghan RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	18 th September	9.15am	Catherine & Hugh Lennon RIP
Saturday In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass	19 th September	9.15am	Rosemay Loughon RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	<i>Confessions</i>
		5.30-6pm	<i>Confessions</i>
		6.30pm	Deceased members of the Correa family RIP
Sunday Evangelium Gaudium Sunday	20 th September	8.00am	Pat Donnelly RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commings 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.