

ST. MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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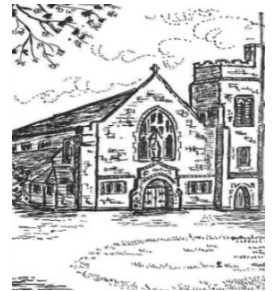
Instagram: @stmaryshornchurch

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-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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This week, the readings focus on God's generosity, even if it is sometimes difficult for us to accept that God's ways are not our ways. In the First Reading, Isaiah encourages the people of Israel to seek the Lord and turn to him, so that they can experience his forgiveness and compassion. The Psalm promises kindness and mercy to all who call on the Lord. St Paul, in the second reading, speaks of his dilemma. He wants to be with Christ but also realizes that he is needed on earth to continue to preach the Gospel around him. Of two good things, he chooses the better: that is, to remain alive for the sake of the new Christians. The Gospel further illustrates that God's ways are not our ways, and that God's generosity is without bounds. Here, Jesus tells the parable of the vine workers: all will be paid the same amount, regardless of the number of hours they have spent in the field. This story helps us understand that in God's eyes, those who turned to God later in life are worth just as much as those who have followed him from the beginning. In our prayer this week, we may like to meditate further on God's unconditional love and generosity for us all, and remind ourselves that his ways are not our ways.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY:

Those with long memories will be familiar with Home Mission Sunday. It is the title given to the day we ask our parishes to pray for the work of evangelization and to support this vital work through a second collection. A few years ago, this day was re-named Evangelii Gaudium Sunday after Pope Francis's Apostolic Exhortation the 'Joy of the Gospel'. Now, in 2026, we revert to using the original name – Home Mission Sunday. On Home Mission Sunday, the bishops of England and Wales ask the faithful of our countries to look for ways in which we can all do our part in sharing the beauty and joy of knowing Jesus Christ. When we speak of 'Home Mission' we are not neglecting our sisters and brothers around the world (World Mission Sunday gives due attention to this important work), but we recognise that we are called to witness to Christ in our homes, at work, in our friendships and in every aspect of our daily life. Being part of the family of God means we should feel 'at home' but this also challenges us to be missionary disciples in England and Wales so that we can make a home for all who hunger and thirst for the God who loves them and wants them to come home to him.

This weekend there will be a **second collection** for Home Mission Sunday.

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 18:

Dear brothers and sisters, as we continue our series of catechesis on the Second Vatican Council, today we consider the celebration of the Eucharist as presented by the Constitution on the Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. This sacred mystery is described in the second chapter of the document as “a sacrament of love, a sign of unity, a bond of charity, ‘a paschal banquet in which Christ is received, the mind is filled with grace, and a pledge of future glory is given to us’” (n. 47). The Constitution also emphasises that at Mass, the faithful are not passive spectators. Rather, all are encouraged to offer themselves in union with Jesus Christ, the spotless victim, to the Father, through the hands of the priest and together with him. Participation in the Eucharistic sacrifice also means being formed by God’s word and nourished at the table of the Lord’s body. Indeed, these two parts of the Mass, the Liturgy of the Word and the Eucharistic Liturgy, “are so closely connected with each other that they form but one single act of worship” (n. 56). Brothers and sisters, as we seek our nourishment from this abundant source of divine life, let us allow ourselves to be transformed by the mystery we celebrate.

ALPHA AT ST MARYS: 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. We still have available places.

BABY & TODDLER GROUP: restarts next Tuesday, 22nd Sept at 2.00pm in Parish Hall.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICE: Last weekend, we raised a total amount of £316.73. Many thanks for your generosity and support.

CHILDREN IN YEAR 5 FROM SEPTEMBER: The parents of Year 5 children who are applying for Secondary Schools next year (October 2027) are invited to enrol for the Year 5 Mass attendance register which will begin the weekend of 24th/25th October. The register facilitates a fair approach to the signing of Certificates of Practice which confirm that a family is coming to Mass each Sunday/or Saturday night in accordance with the teaching of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of the enrolment this year, we ask you to email us the following details – child’s name, parents’ names, contact number, photo of Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates no later than Monday 19th October. For the sake of transparency, the register itself will be strictly applied. More information will be supplied once families have enrolled.

BCCS RAFFLE TICKETS: The Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society (BCCS) will be selling their annual draw tickets after all Masses next weekend on Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th September. Funds raised will support their vital work in supporting the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people in schools and with families across the Diocese. Thank you for your kind support.

QUIZ NIGHT AT THE CAMPION SCHOOL: Friday 9th October. Doors open 7pm, quiz starts at 7.30pm. Teams of 10 max. £5 per person, BYO drinks and nibbles. For details of how to pay and to register your team, email pachair@thecampionschool.org.uk.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS: Request from the Diocese. 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.

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, and discover how local parishes are living out our faith. Sat. 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

PLEASE PRAY FOR: **Danny Duggan, 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

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	19 th September	6.30pm	Deceased members of the Correa family RIP
Sunday 25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	20 th September	8.00am	Pat Donnelly RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Eamon Commings RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday St Matthew	21 st September	9.15am	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Bridget O'Sullivan RIP, St Mart family Int
Tuesday	22 nd September	9.15am	Sam & Connie Farrugia RIP
		11.00am	Requiem Mass – Philomena Crowe RIP
Wednesday St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)	23 rd September	7.15pm	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Patsy Kerrigan RIP
Thursday Our Lady of Walsingham	24 th September	9.15am	Bridie Hayes RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	25 th September	9.15am	Klaude Ndoja & family Int
Saturday In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass	26 th September	9.15am	Holy Souls 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	Souls of D'Cruz family RIP
Sunday 26 th Sunday in ordinary time	27 th September	8.00am	Guy Smith RIP
		9.30am	All Parishioners
		11.30am	Patrick & Eileen Sullivan 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.