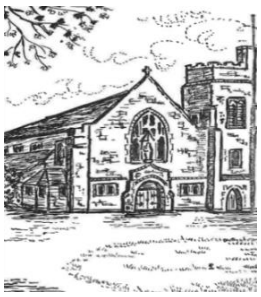
ST. MARY
MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Assistant Parish Priest: Father Joseph Soosai Marian sac
Parish office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm
Safeguarding Representative: Donna Coy – 07710926297
Parish Administrator: Christelle St Mart

ALL SAINTS

Sunday 1st November 2026 – Page 184

Today's feast is an occasion for great thanksgiving, honouring all the saints, both known and unknown, those who offer us memories and models of holiness. We, too, are called to holiness; to be saints. The Communion of Saints prays for us, willing us on to join them. We can try to do this by following the message and example of Jesus, as portrayed in the Gospel. Here Jesus teaches the disciples God's law in a new way. His values and attitudes, summed up in the Beatitudes, are a map comprised of eight different paths. By following them, we align our lives with the heart of God and 'holiness'.

The First Reading from the Book of Revelation gives us a vision of heaven. Those who belong to the Lord are marked with a seal and kept safe: 'an innumerable number from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages'. In the Second Reading, John addresses us as 'beloved', reminding us that we are children of God. Although today's world may misunderstand God's Way, we are promised eternal life when we will see God as he is. The Psalmist sings of the created world and all dwelling in it. Those who seek the Lord's face with clean hands and a pure heart will receive his blessing.

So, today, we celebrate and give thanks for all the Saints in heaven and, for the rest of the month of November, we remember and pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Catechism teaches: "All who die in God's grace and friendship but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death, they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." (CCC 1030). So, November is an ideal time to help the Holy Souls in Purgatory through prayer and acts of love and charity. Our prayers will assist them on their journey to heaven, where they will assuredly pray for us on our journey to God as well. November is also a good time to remember that we are sinners and that by God's grace we must strengthen our own souls so that we too may enter heaven.

PARISH MISSION – SAVES THE DATE(S) – Monday 1st March to Friday 5th March 2027

POPE LEO'S WED. AUDIENCE ON 'THE SECOND VATICAN COUNCIL' 22:
Dear brothers and sisters, in this final catechesis on the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, we recall the reasons the Council Fathers promoted a liturgical reform. When the Church carries out a reform of the liturgy — a constant process of development across the centuries — there is an important distinction to be made between the divine, immutable elements, and the human elements, which may undergo various modifications. The need arose for the faithful to celebrate the liturgies more consciously and actively, not "as strangers and silent spectators," but participating fully in the salvific mystery. In this way, the Christian people learn to recognize sacred realities, offer themselves with and through the hands of the priest, and become more open to receiving God's grace. At every celebration of the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, let us ask for God's help to be strengthened on our journey and to enter into a deeper relationship with the Lord.

ENVELOPES FOR HOLY SOULS: The Envelopes for the Holy Souls are now available at the back of the church ready for the month of November when we remember and pray for all our loved ones who have gone before us. Please write the names of your loved ones who have died on a piece of paper and then place them in the envelope. Any money that you put in the envelope will be given to ***Aid To The Church In Need*** who will ensure that Masses for the Holy Souls are said in different churches around the world who are struggling financially. The lists of your loved ones will be placed in a basket at the foot of the altar during November. **Please hand the envelopes to Fr Mark or to the Parish office but please do not put them directly in the basket.** We also invite you to bring a photo of your loved ones who have died, so that we can put them up in the church as a way of remembering them. Perhaps avoid bringing your best photographs as we are likely to put them up using *BluTack.*

AUNTUMN MASS COUNT 2026: We have just completed a count over 4 weekends (20/9-11/10) of the number of people attending Sunday Mass here at St Mary's. The average weekend total for our 4 Sunday Masses was 938 which compares with 862 last year, 890 in 2024 and 809 in 2023. 938 is a good number but we are still down on our pre-Covid figures of just over 1,000.

DIOCESAN CATECHIST TRAINING & RESOURCES DAY–***Saturday 7th November 2026***
Join the BCYS at Brentwood Ursuline Convent School, 10am-3pm, for an inspiring day of faith, workshops and resources, with guest speaker Fr Matt Roche-Saunders. Free to attend, open to all catechists and leaders working with young people, including young leaders aged 16+. Register at bcys.net/events/catechists2026.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR- SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 12noon -4pm: We kindly ask you all to save the date and come along to this year's Christmas Bazaar, which we hope will be even bigger and better than last year. If you would be interested in helping in any way, or if you would like to discuss having a stall on the day, then please contact the Parish office directly.

KNIT OR CROCHET A POPPY FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY and pop it in the jar in the porch. The poppy is a symbol of remembrance of all those who died in wars from WW1 up to the present day. There are small labels available on which to write the name of a relative or friend who died in war which you can attach to the poppy if you wish to. The poppies will be displayed in the church on Remembrance Day. If you would like a name added to the Remembrance posters please fill in the form by the Poppy box and put it the basket. Thank you.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL FIREWORKS: St Mary's PTA Fireworks Extravaganza Wed 4th Nov 5.30pm, tickets available - www.pta-events.co.uk/stmaryscpspta Thank you for your support.

NEW ROLE. CATHEDRAL HOUSE: We are looking for a new assistant within the Chancery and Tribunal Offices. The role will be to provide administrative and practical support to help to ensure the continued smooth running of the offices. The successful candidate will initially work 12 hours per week (3 days, 10am – 2pm), with the role expected to develop over the next few years into additional hours and increased responsibilities. Office based at the Diocesan Offices in Brentwood. For more details or to apply please email: hr@brcdt.org. Closing date for applications, 5pm on 16 November 2026

CARITAS BRENWOOD TALKS: Join Caritas Brentwood this autumn for one further special gathering exploring Catholic Social Teaching in action. 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

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY: We have now cast the majority of speaking roles for our Christmas Eve Nativity play. We continue to advertise for our non-speaking roles (angels, shepherds, the star, donkey/camel etc). Rehearsals start from Sunday 1st November after the 9:30am mass for an hour. We look forward to seeing you there! Samantha and Liam.

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.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: we realise that there might be people in the parish who are sick/ housebound, 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/ the Anointing of the Sick) to where they are.

MASS INTENTIONS: The diary is now opened for the new year.

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, and Denis Fallon.

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**	31st October	**6.30pm**	Marie & Alby Edgley RIP
Sunday **ALL SAINTS**	1st November	**8.00am**	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Patricia Fells RIP
		11.30am	Alexander Taylor RIP
		5.00pm	Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction
Monday **ALL SOULS**	2nd November	**9.15am**	Dec'd members of the Lenehan family, Evelyn Ward & family RIP Baby Norie, Laura & Nana Donovan Int
		7.30 pm	Holy Souls
Tuesday	3rd November	**9.15am**	Anne Sullivan RIP
Wednesday St Charles Borromeo	4th November	**7.15pm**	Evening prayer
		7.30pm	Bray Family Int
Thursday	5th November	**9.15am**	Jack Hughes & Helen Ging RIP
		9.45-12noon	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	6th November	**9.15am**	Mary Magdelene Adaeke Rafua RIP
Saturday In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7th November	**9.15am**	Betty Barker RIP
		9.45-11.15am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
		10.30-11.15am	*Confessions*
		5.30-6pm	*Confessions*
Vigil Mass		**6.30pm**	Thomas Fay RIP
Sunday Remembrance Sunday	8th November	**8.00am**	All Parishioners
		9.30am	Anthony, Josephine, Paula Camilleri, Alfred Farrugia RIP
		11.30am	Jacinta Neale

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.