

# MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

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Baptisms & Marriages by appointment

Parish Office Hours: Mon, Thurs & Fri 8.00am-2.00pm



## The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B 24<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Lord teach me your paths.

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time marks the ‘Sunday of the Word of God’, instituted by Pope Francis in 2019 as an annual celebration of the gift of Scripture. It encourages us to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, shaping how we are called to live and to relate to each other.

In the same way, the readings for this Sunday call us to follow the Lord’s ways. This may involve some change of priorities and direction for us as we seek to move towards the kingdom of God ourselves.

In the **First Reading** (Jonah 3: 1–5,10), we see God show mercy to the people of Nineveh. They renounce their evil ways in response to Jonah preaching the word of God. At the beginning of St Mark’s **Gospel** (Mark 1: 14–20), again we hear of people changing their ways. Jesus begins his ministry by finding and inviting the first disciples to leave their work as fishermen and follow him for greater things.

Although the **Second Reading** (1 Corinthians 7: 29–31) sounds challenging, its intention is to encourage us to live in a way that is guided by the love of Christ and shows our faith and hope in the kingdom of God. We are called to live in open freedom and detachment – it is who we are, not what we have, that counts.

Perhaps during this coming week, I can pray for the grace to be open to any change the Lord asks me to make, so that I can respond better to his call and be ready to go wherever he is asking me.

**Vaccines against COVID-19:** The Bishops of England & Wales are encouraging all to take up the offer of the vaccine when it is offered. Pope Francis will receive his vaccine this week. He said that ethically, getting a vaccine against the virus should be a duty for everyone *“It is an ethical option because you risk your health, your life, but you also risk the lives of others...it is something one must do”*.

**Mass Bookings:** Please contact the Parish Office, preferably by email, to book for the weekend masses. If you wish to book by telephone, please try to call during office opening times (Mon, Thurs & Fri mornings) and please do not call after 7.00pm if possible. Please do not call on a Wednesday.

**Fr Martin needs your help** with a number of jobs in the sacristy to prepare for masses. If you are able to offer help, please speak to Fr Martin or contact the Parish Office.

**Food Bank Collection:** The SVP can now recommence the foodbank collection and the basket will be in the porch for your donations. Thank you again for your support.

**Finances:** Please feel free to drop an offering into the presbytery or alternatively, you can make a payment into our bank account, either as a one off or by a regular Standing Order. The details are as follows:

Account Number: 51019058

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account Name: St. Mary Mother of God

If you have a gift aid number, please use that as a reference when you make your donation. Any donations are very gratefully received.

**Please remember in your prayers** Nancy O’Mahoney, John Finan, Severino Mentessi, Katherine Williams & Noreen Walsh who died recently. Please remember the sick and housebound of the parish and those in hospital in your prayers. If anyone is seriously ill and needs the priest, please ring the Presbytery.

**No Exposition Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February:** Please note that the Church will not be open on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February for private prayer and Exposition due to a funeral.

**Fr Ticão:** Some of you may remember the visit to St Mary’s in 2000 by Fr Ticão and some of his parishioners from the parish of São Francisco de Assis in São Paulo, which we supported as a twin parish for years. Sadly, Fr Ticão (actually Fr Antonio Luiz Marchioni) died on New Year’s Day in Santa Marcelina Itaquera Hospital at the age of 68. For years he had been parish priest of the Parish of São Francisco de Assis, São Paulo and was known for his social work, mainly in the East zone of São Paulo. He was a great priest, one that Pope Francis would be proud of for his work with the poor. More about Fr Ticao can be found on the Parish website.

**RCIA Journey in Faith:** For those that are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith, please speak to Father Martin or contact the Parish Office.

**Catholic Biblical Association:** On 23<sup>rd</sup> January from 11am until 12.30 Dom Henry Wansbrough will be presenting a live stream talk entitled ‘The Adventures of a Biblical Translator’. Dom Henry is the editor of the *New Jerusalem Bible* and the recently published *Revised New Jerusalem Bible*. The event will be presented by Dr Sean Ryan, chair of the Catholic Biblical Association. The event can be accessed live by going to [www.ssppilford.org.uk](http://www.ssppilford.org.uk) and will be available to download subsequently on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) Questions for Fr Henry, and other queries, may be directed to [catholicbiblicalassociation.gb@gmail.com](mailto:catholicbiblicalassociation.gb@gmail.com)

**Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages:** Retrouvaille offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses

uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It has saved many hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 – or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**AUSTEN IVEREIGH LIVESTREAM EVENT:** On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January from 11 am until 12.30 pm Dr Austen Ivereigh will speak about the book he recently co-authored with Pope Francis. 'Let us Dream: The Path to a Better Future' presents the Pope's vision for the post-pandemic future. How should we move forward from the multiple coronavirus crises? Pope Francis among many other topics addresses the problems of human solidarity, the ecological crisis and the rise of populism. To access this livestream event please go to [www.sppilford.org.uk](http://www.sppilford.org.uk) and click on live stream remote services. The event, which is sponsored by Gidea Park parish in conjunction with Brentwood Interfaith, will be available subsequently on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) Questions for Austen may be emailed beforehand to [adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES READERS:** At the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK IN OUR PARISH** at home and in hospital, especially: Margaret Baan, Ashley Baptist, Angelina Busch, Grant Cambridge, Arturo Garzon, Sharon De Giorgio, Evelyn Hughes, Anne Humphrays, Yvonne Ingham, Sajy Joseph, Cathy Lennon, Bina McCarthy, Carly Menon, Mary Pickton, Paul Ridley, Rita Thompson, Josie Walsh, Evelyn Ward, and for all our family and friends who are ill. **Please inform us if there is someone seriously ill and let us know if anyone on the list is no longer ill so we can remove their name from our list.**

#### **Memorae**

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

#### **Prayer to the Guardian Angel**

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side, to light and guard to rule and guide. Amen.

#### **Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel**

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

#### **Daily Prayer**

The Bishops of England & Wales have asked us to pray each evening at 6.00pm for an end to this pandemic. Therefore, I encourage you to come together as a family or individually so that we can be united in our prayer to the Lord.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	<b>6.30pm</b>	Mills Family Int / J.J. Corbett RIP
Sunday	24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>8.00am</b>	Siobhan & Connor Young Int
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
		<b>11.30am</b>	Carberry Family RIP / All Parishioners
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>9.30am</b>	Norah Lenehan RIP / Frank Hinton RIP
The Conversion of St. Paul			
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	FUNERAL	Vince Finan RIP (Invitation only)
Ss Timothy & Titus			
Wednesday	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	FUNERAL	Nancy O'Mahoney (Invitation only)
		<b>7.30pm</b>	Leo Naughton RIP
Thursday	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<i>(Private Mass)</i>	Patrick Toolis RIP
St. Thomas Aquinas		<b>11.00-1.00</b>	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>9.30am</b>	Mary & Emma Lowe RIP
Saturday	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>6.30pm</b>	Matthew Burke RIP / Eileen Keegan RIP
Sunday	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	<b>8.00am</b>	Nelson DeSouza RIP / All Parishioners
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time		<b>9.30am</b>	<b>No Mass</b>
		<b>11.30am</b>	Ward & Boorman Families Thanksgiving / Fr Ticão RIP

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The editors accept no responsibility for factual inaccuracies!

*Please note the location of the fire exits*