



21<sup>st</sup> January 2024 *Third Sunday of Epiphany*

## Welcome to Saint Laurence.

Adventurers (groups for children and young people) meet during the 9.30 am Mass. Leaders will normally invite children to join in with these at the appropriate point in the service. Activity packs and children's service books are available from the back of church.

You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

<b>Today</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
21 <sup>st</sup> January	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
<b>Monday</b>	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Organ Teaching	5.15 pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Morning Prayer, Lady	9.10 am
23 <sup>rd</sup> January		
<b>Wednesday</b>	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
24 <sup>th</sup> January	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
Francis de Sales, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1622	Mass	11.00 am
	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	9.10 am
25 <sup>th</sup> January	Burial of Joan Jackson's Ashes	11.00 am
	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Memorial Service for Bill Gunary	11.00 am
<b>Next Sunday</b>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
28 <sup>th</sup> January	Sung Parish Mass with Procession	9.30 am
Candlemas	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
<b>Evensong readings this Sunday:</b> Jeremiah 3:21-4:2; Titus 2:1-8,11-14		
<b>Mass readings next Sunday:</b> Malachi 3:1-5; Hebrews 2:14-end; Luke 2:22-40		
<b>Evensong readings next Sunday:</b> Haggi 2:1-9; John 2:18-22		

**Coffee:** Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January – Joan, Christine and Julie

*Please let Revd Susannah, Revd Catherine or Deborah Masterson know of anyone who is ill or in need of a pastoral visit, or housebound and wanting to receive the sacrament at home – or if you would appreciate a conversation or visit for any reason.*

## NOTICES

**This morning Juliet Masterson** preaches her first sermon as an Authorised Lay Preacher. Next Sunday we look forward to welcoming Bishop Lynne to preside and preach at the 9.30am Mass.

**Dear Friends,** my sincere thanks to you all for your prayers and good wishes, also for the beautiful flowers which arrived. I hope to be back with you very soon. Yours, Ann.

**Quinquagesima Lunch,** Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Meet in the Minor Hall at 12.30pm for a glass of sherry with lunch served at 1pm in the Main Hall. Adults £12.50, under 12s £6. Contact Joan Prudden to book on 01708 223744.

**Ash Wednesday,** 14<sup>th</sup> February: To mark the start of Lent there will be a Said Mass at 11am and a Sung Mass at 8pm. Both will include the imposition of ashes.

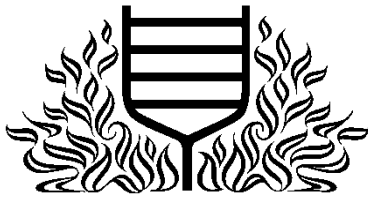
**Stations of the Cross** will take place at St Joseph's on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March and here at St Laurence on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> March. All will be at 7.30pm.

**Our Lent Course this year** is produced by USPG, who work across the Anglican Communion to bring people together and to combat injustice. It is entitled 'For such a time as this' and looks at issues around the care of creation and global inequality. We will be meeting on Zoom on Tuesday evenings (February 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>) from 7.30-8.30pm and in the Parish Office on Wednesdays (February 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>) from 11.45am-12.45pm. Please sign the list at the back of church for the relevant group if you wish to participate. Each group will only run if there are sufficient participants. Please sign up by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February if you are intending to join. A copy of the course booklet will be supplied to each participant.

**The Main Hall Kitchen Store** has recently been tidied up. In the process, various items of cookware and serving dishes have been found. Please see Joan Prudden if you wish to take a look. Unclaimed items will be given to local charity shops in a few weeks' time.

**Across the Diocese,** leading up to Good Friday, there will be a series of courses offered under the title 'Lent Modules'. The courses are open to anyone and there is a mixture of face to face and online modules. The cost starts at £15 for a 2 session course, rising to £25 a 5 session course. All information is available at: [www.chelmsford.anglican.org/vocations-and-discipleship/discipleship/lent-modules](http://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/vocations-and-discipleship/discipleship/lent-modules)

*Please consult notice boards under the tower and in the porch for other notices and further information*



# AT THE MASS

21<sup>st</sup> January 2024

*Third Sunday of Epiphany*

**Introit**

99 Hail to the Lord's Anointed

**Setting**

The Addington Service - Shephard

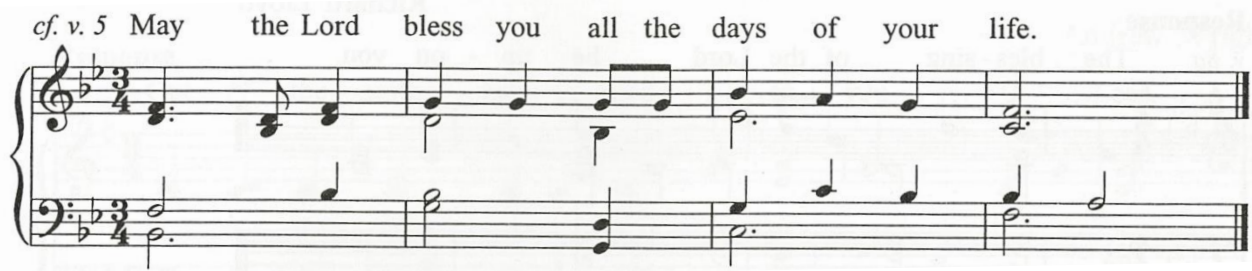
## **Collect of the Day**

Almighty God,  
whose Son revealed in signs and miracles  
the wonder of your saving presence:  
renew your people with your heavenly grace,  
and in all our weakness  
sustain us by your mighty power;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **Genesis 14:17-20**

After Abram's return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). And King Melchizedek of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was priest of God Most High. He blessed him and said,  
'Blessed be Abram by God Most High,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and blessed be God Most High,  
who has delivered your enemies into your hand!'  
And Abram gave him one-tenth of everything.

## Responsorial Psalm 128



Blessed are all those who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways. You shall eat the fruit of the toil of your hands; it shall go well with you, and happy shall you be.

Your wife within your house shall be like a fruitful vine; your children round your table, like fresh olive branches. Thus shall the one be blest who fears the Lord.

The Lord from out of Zion bless you, that you may see Jerusalem in prosperity all the days of your life. May you see your children's children, and may there be peace upon Israel.

## Revelation 19:6-10

I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty thunder-peals, crying out, 'Hallelujah!

For the Lord our God  
the Almighty reigns.

Let us rejoice and exult  
and give him the glory,

for the marriage of the Lamb has come,  
and his bride has made herself ready;  
to her it has been granted to be clothed  
with fine linen, bright and pure'—

for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.

And the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.' And he said to me, 'These are true words of God.' Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, 'You must not do that! I am a fellow-servant with you and your comrades who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.'

**John 2:1-11**

There was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

**Offertory hymn**            102 Jesus, come! for we invite you

**Anthem**                      Christ's is the world (A Touching Place) (1989)  
Music: Dream Angus arr. John Bell. Text: John Bell  
& Graham Maule

**Communion hymn**        462 Soul of my Saviour

**Final hymn**                721 Love divine

**Organ Voluntary**        Voluntary IX Opus 7 – John Stanley

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS

*Prayer request forms are available at the back of church. Please use them if you wish us to pray for someone.*

**Sunday:** William Holden, Charles Osmond, Ann O'Riordan, Jan Black, Shirley Gunary.

**Wednesday:** Rosemary Watkins, Mary Greig, Denise Comer, James Tape, Rosalind Manley, Brian Shaw, Bob Bossey, Baby Charles, Glynis Whiting, Michael Folkes, Fr Tom Keighley, Sylvia Wilson, Simon Pols, Mary-Anne Madden, Florence Collins, Anne Hendra, Jean Biggs, Doreen, Carole Billings.

**Additional Prayers:** All those receiving Home Communion and Juliet Masterson.

**Recently departed:** Jean Osmond, Joan Jackson, Bill Gunary, Penny Went, Shirley Edwards, Brenda Childs-Barry.

**Anniversaries of the departed:** Christine Forrest, Howard Jones, Maidie Gay, Pauline Lee, Frances Pryer (Deaconess), Bill Shore, Ian Tresadern, Bill Harding, Ray Mulley, Margaret Holden, Reg Watson, Brian Coleman, Sam Potton, Valerie Smith, Amy Parsons, William Gunary, Sarah Millington, Ivy Oliver.

**SAVE THE DATES!** Your Building Improvements Team are organising the following fundraising events for 2024:

Tuesday 23 April - **St George's Day Meal** at Top Meadow Golf Club (more details available in the next few weeks)

Saturday 11 May - **Quiz Evening** (in the Main Hall)

Saturday 22 June - **Mediterranean Evening**

Saturday 12 October - **Autumn Fayre**



St Laurence Church  
Building Improvements

*Join us as we continue fundraising to improve the church's facilities for future generations!*

## CARD PAYMENT DONATIONS

We are always pleased to welcome both visitors and regular attendees to share our worship in this beautiful Grade 1 listed building. Please feel free to use our safe and secure card payment machine for confidential donations, located by the main door exit. Contributions help us maintain the substantial upkeep of this building for the benefit of the local community and our broader work as a church in general. Donations help to ensure that the church can continue to benefit future generations and the building can remain open to all as a haven of God's peace. Whatever you feel disposed to give will be thankfully received and faithfully applied.

## EASYFUNDRAISING

The church is registered (as St Laurence Church, Upminster) on [easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk) - if you register an account, select the church as a cause and download the web browser extension then every time you spend money on many retail websites and have activated the extension, a percentage of your spend will be donated to St Laurence at no cost to you. The individual amounts are small but every little adds up - please help us via this route if you can.

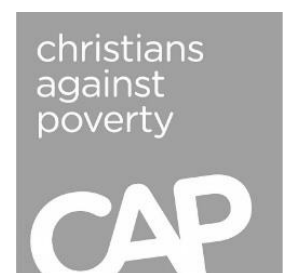
## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

If you would like to know about sponsorship, please pick up a leaflet from the back of church or speak to Jean and Cheryl (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Joanne (Parish Administrator).

## CHARITY OF THE MONTH JANUARY: CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

Christians Against Poverty, Jubilee House,  
1 Filey Street, Bradford, BD1 5LQ.  
Registered charity number 1097217.  
Registered company number 4655175



## CONTACTS

**Rector** The Revd Susannah Brasier

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**Assistant Curate** The Revd Catherine Towner

01708 225374 [catherine.towner@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:catherine.towner@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Pastoral Assistant** Deborah Masterson

01708 609816 [deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Churchwardens** Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

[parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer** Akosua Boachie

01708 220696/07592 946992 [safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Acting Director of Music** Nigel Lockwood

[parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Parish Office** Joanne Chapman

01708 220696/07592 946992 [parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk)

Open: Tue. 3.30-6pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 9-11.30am.

**Hall Bookings** Becky Perchard

07341 434798 [halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:halls.bookings@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Planned Giving** [treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Website** [www.upminsterparish.co.uk](http://www.upminsterparish.co.uk)

**Address** St Laurence Church, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster, RM14 2BB

**Welcome to the Parish Church of Upminster.** If we have not met you before, do introduce yourself. If you wish, give these details to one of the officials.

Name

Telephone