

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK



23rd February 2025 *Second Sunday before Lent*

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.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
23 rd February	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i>	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Monday	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
24 th February	Organ Teaching	5.15 pm
Tuesday	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
25 th February	February Feast, Top Meadow Golf Club Restaurant	7.30 pm
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
26 th February	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
	Evening Prayer, Lady Chapel	4.15 pm
Thursday	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
27 th February		
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
28 th February		
Saturday	Organ Teaching	9.30am
1 st March	Organ Teaching	10.30 am
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
2 nd March	Sung Parish Mass with Baptism	9.30 am
<i>Sunday Next before Lent</i>	Quinquagesima Lunch, starting in Minor Hall	12.30 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Evensong readings this Sunday: Genesis 1:1-2:3; Matthew 6:25-end

Mass readings next Sunday: Exodus 34:29-end; 2 Corinthians 3:12-4.2; Luke 9:28-36

Evensong readings next Sunday: Exodus 3:1-6; John 12:37-36a

Coffee: 2nd March (Derham Hall) – Clive, Penny and Jane

Please let Revd Susannah 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

Revd Catherine's farewell - As the end of Catherine's curacy approaches, she is applying for early retirement and hopes this will be finalised shortly. We will be having cake and wine after the 9.30am Mass today to thank Catherine for her contribution to St Laurence and to wish her well.

Please note: It is not possible to hold the Footsteps service in church this Monday, 24th February due to the lack of heating. We will be leading a service in St Laurence Pre-School but, unfortunately, this cannot be open to the public.

Quinquagesima Lunch, next Sunday, 2nd March. 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. To book please speak with Joan Prudden this week or call her on 01708 223744.

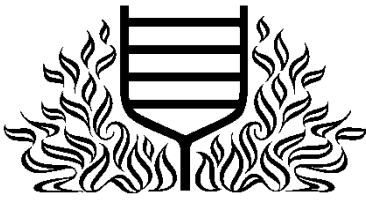
Please note that next Sunday coffee following the Parish Mass will be served in the Derham Hall.

Our Lent course will consist of modules from the Sycamore Course, a video-based course exploring key aspects of Christian faith, and suitable both for those who are new to faith and those who have been Christians for many years. If there is sufficient interest, we will run one group on Monday evenings on Zoom (10th March - 7th April) from 8 - 9pm, and one group on Wednesdays in the Parish Office (12th March - 9th April) from 11.45am - 12.45pm. Please sign up on the sheets at the back of church if you would like to join, or email Susannah. Please express interest by Wednesday 26th February.

Ash Wednesday, 5th March: 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 here at St Laurence on Friday 7th March, 21st and 4th April and at St Joseph's on Friday 14th March, 28th and 11th April. All will be at 7.30pm.

New Electoral Roll - This year, instead of the annual revision of the Electoral Roll, a completely new Roll must be prepared. This means that everyone who wishes to have their name included on the new Roll must re-apply. The application period is open until Sunday 16th March. We will be contacting everyone currently on the Roll by email or by letter over the coming weeks. If you are not yet on the Roll and would like to apply or if you have any questions please speak to our Electoral Roll Officer, Keith Stewart on 01708 227928 or email parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk.



AT THE MASS

23rd February 2025

Second Sunday before Lent

Introit 595 Be thou my vision

Setting The Addington Service - Shepherd

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever. **Amen.**

Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end

In the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the LORD God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

Then the LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found

a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones
and flesh of my flesh;
this one shall be called Woman,
for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Responsorial Psalm 65

Colin Mawby



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Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there. We shall be satisfied with the blessings of your house, even of your holy temple.

With wonders you will answer us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas. In your strength you set fast the mountains and are girded about with might. You still the raging of the seas, the roaring of their waves and the clamour of the peoples. Those who dwell at the ends of the earth tremble at your marvels; the gates of the morning and evening sing your praise

Revelation 4

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.' At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne! And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald. Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads. Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God; and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing,

‘Holy, holy, holy,
the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come.’

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

‘You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.’

Alleluia

Celtic

Luke 8:22-25

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, ‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’ So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’ And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’ They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, ‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’

Offertory hymn

453 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

Anthem

Before I take the body of my Lord (1989) - Text: John Bell & Graham Maule, Music: John Bell

Communion hymn

134 Praise to you, O Christ our Saviour

Final hymn

702 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Organ Voluntary

Prélude from the Te Deum – Marc-Antoine Charpentier

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: Noel Lyons, Baby Florence, Terry Evens, Delyse Maggs, Paul Jackman, Neil Parsons, Janet Prestwood, Oscar Macdonald, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Bob Bossey, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Fr Tom Keighley, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke.

Wednesday: Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, James Tape, Rosemary Watkins, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Camilla Jackson, Revd Catherine Towner.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.
Paul, preparing for baptism.

Recently departed: Roger Osmond.

Anniversaries of the departed: Reginald Grant, Jim Greig, Gladys Dorey, Sr Carmel Fennessy, Fr Michael Hore, Elizabeth Nelson, Edward Keen, John Marshall, Gareth Jones, Rose Tresadern, Bobby Huxley, Marjorie Todd, Pamela Shipp, Jack Brereton, James Finch.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY: ONWARDS & UPWARDS

Donation envelopes are available at the back of church.

Onwards & Upwards
29 Dalmore Road, London, SE21 8HD.
Registered charity number: 1194457.

**Onwards[®]
& Upwards**

DONATIONS

A cash collection will be taken during Sunday morning services for church funds, which support our mission and ministry including the upkeep of this historic site. If you do not carry cash, we also have a card machine located by the main door which can be used before or after the service.

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider Gift Aiding your donation - either via the machine or (for cash) using the envelope available in the pew. This means that your donation will be worth more to the church but at no extra cost to you.

If you would like information about joining our Planned Giving scheme, leaflets are available from the back of church.

Thank you - 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 - 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).

NOTICES CONTINUED

Barking Area Vocations Day - This will take place on Saturday 8th March, 9.45am - 12.30pm, at St Margaret's, Barking. Anyone who is interested in knowing more about a range of ordained and lay ministries within the Church of England is welcome to attend. Please see the poster at the back of church for more information and booking details - and please feel free to speak to Susannah, who will be attending in her capacity as a Deanery Vocations Adviser.

Memorial service for Kerry and Rita Langler - this will be held in church on Saturday 15th March at 11am. Anyone who knew Kerry and Rita is most welcome to attend. Please can you let Susannah know if you would like to come, so that the family have some idea of numbers.

Church Halls DIY WhatsApp group - from time-to-time minor repairs are needed in the Church Halls for which it is not worth calling a contractor - but instead a message is sent to a group of volunteers so that one of them can offer to undertake the repair if possible. Some more people to join this group would be much appreciated; it is not a big commitment and can be undertaken as you are able. If you have some basic DIY skills and tools and would be willing to be on the volunteer list, please contact Revd Susannah or Becky Perchard. Thank you.

Olivia Boachie will be going to Ghana with the University of Warwick's 'Warwick in Africa' programme this summer, to volunteer as a Maths teacher in under-resourced schools. Olivia is seeking to raise funds to support the programme. If you would like to contribute, please visit www.justgiving.com/page/olivia-boachie-1 - or cash donations can be given to Akosua Boachie. Thank you.

Parish Office Notice: Joanne is on leave from Monday 4th to Friday 7th March. The Parish Office will be closed during that time but with any scheduled meetings going ahead as planned.

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

CONTACTS

Rector The Revd Susannah Brasier

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Assistant Curate The Revd Neil Barrett (*currently on sabbatical leave*)

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Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson

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Churchwardens Jean Keen and Cheryl Hale

parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie

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Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

07899 876247 metcautdesign@googlemail.com

Parish Office Joanne Chapman

01708 220696 / 07592 946992 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

Planned Giving treasurer@upminsterparish.co.uk

Website 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

**Revd Susannah sends a weekly email about services, news and events.
Please email her if you would like to receive her emails.**