



2nd March 2025 *Sunday Next 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 Derham Hall after the 9.30 Mass today.

Today	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 for 1 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
5 th March	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Said Mass with Imposition of Ashes	11.00 am
	Sung Mass with Imposition of Ashes	8.00 pm
Thursday	Organ Teaching	9.50 am
6 th March	Organ Teaching	2.00 pm
	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
7 th March	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
	Organ Teaching	2.15 pm
	Stations of the Cross, St Joseph's Church	7.30 pm
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
9 th March	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	Compline on Zoom	6.30 pm

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

Mass readings next Sunday: Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Romans 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

Compline reading next Sunday: Luke 18:9-14

Saturday Pathsweepers: 8th - Brabner and Thomson. **Coffee:** 9th – Alison, Mark and Margaret

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

During this morning's Parish Mass Paul will be baptised. We pray for Paul at this time.

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

There has been a change to the first two evenings for Stations of the Cross. Friday 7th March will now be held in St Joseph's Church and 14th March will be here in St Laurence. Thereafter, the dates will remain as originally planned: St Laurence, 21st March and 4th April, St Joseph's, 28th March and 11th April.

Lent Course: the Wednesday group will commence on 12th March at 11.45pm in the Parish Office. Unfortunately, there has not been sufficient take-up to be able to run the Monday Zoom session.

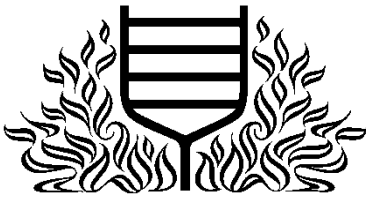
Building Improvements Group Update: February Feast Thank you to all who came and supported our meal at Top Meadow earlier in the week. It was a very enjoyable evening. The final amount raised for our Building Improvement Project was £332.70.

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.

Carole Billings is running another quiz to raise money for the Church Building Improvements Project. Please see a sidesperson or Carole to get your quiz sheet.

Parish Office Notice: Joanne is on leave this week so the Parish Office will be closed. Any scheduled meetings are going ahead as planned.

Barking Area Vocations Day: This will take place this 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.



AT THE MASS

2nd March 2025

Sunday Next before Lent

Introit 42 Longing for light

Setting A New People's Mass - Murray

Collect of the Day

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Exodus 34:29-end

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; but whenever Moses went in before the LORD to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

Gradual hymn 728 Meekness and Majesty

2 Corinthians 3:12-4.2

Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practise cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

Alleluia

Plainsong

Luke 9:28-36

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah'—not knowing what he said. While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. Then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!' When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

Baptism

See separate sheet

Offertory hymn	451 Just as I am, without one plea
Anthem	My eyes for beauty pine - (1928) – Text: Robert Bridges. Music: Herbert Howells
Communion hymn	330 Do not be afraid
Final hymn	650 Great is thy faithfulness
Organ Voluntary	Allegro Risoluto from the Plymouth Suite - Percy Whitlock

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: Terry Evens, Delyse Maggs, Neil Parsons, Janet Prestwood, Alan Butcher, Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Charles Osmond, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, James Tape, Rosemary Watkins, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Camilla Jackson, Revd Catherine Towner.

Wednesday: Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Bob Bossey, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Fr Tom Keighley, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.
Paul, receiving baptism this morning.

Anniversaries of the departed: Rose Tresadern, Bobby Huxley, Marjorie Todd, Pamela Shipp, Jack Brereton, James Finch, Elizabeth Osmond, Josiah Beale, Frank Littlewood, Beryl Lillington, Betty Skinner.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP.....

Palm crosses and altar candles have been sponsored for March 'In memory of my parents' wedding anniversary.'

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.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH MARCH: WATERAID

Seven hundred and three million people in the world - almost one in ten - don't have clean water close to home. WaterAid's mission is to transform the lives of the people who have been left furthest behind by improving access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene.

With their partners and supporters, they have made a huge difference over the last 40 years. Over the coming decade, with communities, civil society, governments, the private sector and financial institutions, they will focus their efforts in four key areas where they will have the biggest impact.



- Achieve universal, sustainable and safe access in focused geographic areas to influence wider change.
- Prioritise WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) across the health sector to improve public health.
- Strengthen the resilience of WASH to climate change.
- Increase the quantity and quality of financing.

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.

NOTICES CONTINUED

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.

Rosalind Hore will be selling booklets of her paintings after the 9.30am service today about the suffering in Gaza over the last year. This is to raise money for 'Medical Aid for Palestinians'. MAP is a UK-based charity working for the health and dignity of Palestinians living under occupation and as refugees. Their official website is www.map.org.uk. Medical aid is one of the greatest needs in this devastated part of Palestine.

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.

Jane Lindsey has been really lucky in gaining a place into this year's London Marathon on Sunday 27th April. She will be supporting two causes; our Building Improvements Project and, also, Millwall Lions Food Hub where she has volunteered in the past. Please take some time to read about Jane and her journey on the donation pages below and if you can, donate. No amount is too small. Please see separate donation pages: (Church) www.gofundme.com/f/janes-london-marathon or (Millwall) www.gofundme.com/f/jane-v-london-marathon. Cash donations can also be given to Jane Lindsey. Thank you.

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

CONTACTS

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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

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Parish Office Joanne Chapman

01708 220696 / 07592 946992 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

(Closed this week)

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.**