

PORCHTALK



Sunday 26th April 2026

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
26 th April	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>	Baptisms	12.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Monday	Footsteps	9.30 am
27 th April	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
	Organ Teaching	4.30 pm
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
29 th April	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Said Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
Thursday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
30 th April	Organ Teaching	11.00 am
	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
1 st May	Organ Teaching	2.00 pm
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
3 rd May	Building Faith	8.00 am
<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
	Baptisms	12.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Evensong readings this Sunday: Ezra 3.1-13, Ephesians 2.11-end

Mass readings next Sunday: Acts 7.55-end, 1 Peter 2.2-10, John 14.1-14

Evensong readings next Sunday: Zechariah 4.1-10, Revelations 21.1-14

Saturday Pathsweepers: 2nd May Masterson & Brabner

Coffee: 3rd May Sally Thomson & Michelle Edmonds

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

Today Chris Mowat is celebrating 70 years in the Choir of St. Laurence! Please join him after 9.30 Mass for cake and a glass of wine/fruit juice or coffee.

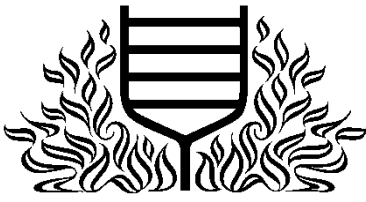
Leading your Church into Growth. This is a practical and experienced-based programme which helps to equip parishes in their mission and ministry. Two of us from St Laurence participated on an online version in 2021. The programme is now being run again for the Barking Archdeaconry over the following two sessions: Tues 2nd June, 6-9.30pm at St Chad's, Chadwell Heath, and a residential conference (though it is not obligatory to stay overnight) from 4pm on Friday 11th Sept to 8.30pm on Saturday 12th Sept at the Royal Foundation of St Katherine (near Limehouse Station). It is possible for up to 3 people from each parish to attend. If anyone would be interested in attending, please Susannah know. St Laurence could cover the cost of participation.

Sung Mass for Ascension Day - this will take place at 8pm on Thursday 14th May, at St Laurence (with the congregation of All Saints', Cranham also invited)

Pounds at the ready !!! Carole has kindly created a new quiz in aid of the Buildings Improvement Project which are for sale at the back of church. Good Luck!

Quiz in aid of the Church Building Improvements Project - many thanks to our excellent Quizmaster Tony Bloomfield for offering to run another quiz evening. This will take place on Saturday 30th May, 7.15 for 7.30pm in the Main Hall. There will be tables of 8 - you can sign up as a complete table or as an individual/small group willing to be combined with others to make a table. Tickets are £8 per person; please bring your own food and drink. Advance booking is essential - to book please contact Debbie Stewart, or the Parish Office by 20th May.

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



AT THE MASS

26th April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Introit 221 Ye choirs of new Jerusalem

Setting Mass of St Thomas – Thorne

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Acts 2:42-end

Many were baptised and were added to the community. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Gradual hymn

713 Lord of all hopefulness

1 Peter 2:19-end

Brothers and sisters: It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. 'He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.' When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Alleluia

Taizé

John 10:1-10

Jesus said to the Pharisees: 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Offertory hymn

422 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

Anthem

O come ye servants of the Lord. Text -Verses from Psalm 113. Music – Christopher Tye

Communion hymn 451 Just as I am

Post Communion Anthem The heavens are telling the glory of God.
Text – Verses from Psalms 19 1-4. Music - Haydn

Final hymn 652 Guide me, O thou great redeemer

Organ Voluntary “Festivo” – Martin How

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: Pam Chapman, Vicki Hobbs, Bill, Dobinson Family, Ellie Burbeary, Carole Billings, Joan Prudden, Rosalind Manley, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Maria, Marie Tyler, Alan Butcher, Spencer Croucher, Malcolm Charlton.

Wednesday: Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Terry Evens.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.

Recently departed: Keith Sharp, Ricky Schrembri, Margaret Alderman

Anniversaries of the departed: Sidney Haffenden, Don Pusey, Jenny Jennings, Alice Greenfield, Joyce Butcher, Joyce Charters, David Lawes, Reginald Martineau, Pauline Wheeler, Kerry Langler, Barbara Hill, Lucy Ellis, John Roome, Rosemary Watkins

CHARITY OF THE MONTH

APRIL : THE KING'S TRUST.



Donation envelopes are on the notice board at the back of church.

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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 Verity (Parish Administrator).

CONTACTS

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Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

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Parish Office Verity Helby

01708 220696 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Open: Tue. 8.30-1pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 8-12.30am.

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.**