

PORCHTALK



Sunday 26th July 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 July	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
Trinity 8	Service of Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child	12.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Tuesday	Organ Teaching	9.15 am
28 th July		
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
29 th July	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Morning Prayer (No Mass), Lady Chapel	11.00 am
Thursday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
30 th July	Funeral of Lois Maude	1.00 pm
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
31 st July	Organ Teaching	2.00 pm
Saturday	Organ Teaching	9.30 am
1 st August		
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
2 nd August	Sung Parish Mass with Baptism	9.30 am
Trinity 9	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Evensong readings this Sunday: 1 Kings 6.11-14, 23-end, Acts 12.1-17

Mass readings next Sunday: Romans 9.1-5, Isaiah 55. 1-5

Evensong readings next Sunday: 1 Kings 10.1-13, Acts 13.1-13

Saturday Pathsweepers: 8th August Skinner & Brabner **Coffee:** 2nd Penny & Clive, Pauline

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

A big THANK YOU to all 90 of you who came along to our barbecue last Saturday. We raised a magnificent £930 towards our Building Improvement Project. We are very grateful to have had so many of you helping in the kitchen, raffle, tombola, and with setting up and clearing away afterwards which made everything so much easier. However special thanks must go to Debbie, Sarah and Christine and especially our cooks, Keith, Ian and Ben - you all did a sterling job!"

The Parish Office will be closed the week beginning Sunday 26th July as Verity will be on leave. Any meetings scheduled to take place in the office that week will go ahead as normal.

Next Sunday Thomas Barkwith will be baptised during the 9.30am Mass, and Thomas' family invite all the congregation to join them for cake and drinks in the Main Hall afterwards.

Patronal festival Cream Tea is to be held on Sunday 9th August, 4pm in the Main Hall. All are welcome. Please book by Sunday 2nd August by contacting Jean Keen or Deborah Masterson. Cost £6 per person and £2 for under 12s.

Funeral arrangements for Alan Butcher: Wed 5th August, 3pm - Alan's coffin will be received into church. Thurs 6th August, 12.30pm Requiem Mass will take place in church, followed by refreshments in the Main Hall. Please, if possible, let Susannah know if you are coming, particularly to the refreshments.

Funeral arrangements for Marina Moy: Some of you will remember Marina Moy who worshipped with us for several years prior to going into care at Derham House. Marina's service will be in church at 12 noon on Thursday 13th August.

Admission of children to Holy Communion – there will be a meeting in the Parish Office at 11am on Sunday 30th August for children and their parents who are interested in admission to Holy Communion. This is offered to children in year 3 and above who already regularly attend church.

Confirmation/enquirers'/refresher course: The dates for this are now confirmed - we will be meeting after the Wednesday Mass (i.e. approx 11.45-12.45pm) on 16th and 23rd September and 7th and 21st October. The next Confirmation service will take place on the afternoon or evening of Sunday 25th October at Rainham Parish Church. However, participation in

the course carries no obligation to be confirmed, and is open to those who have already been confirmed - anyone who would like to explore, revisit and discuss some of the foundational aspects of Christian faith would be very welcome. Please let Susannah know if you would like to join.

Bread & Wine for Communion - If you would like to take up the bread & wine for Communion at the Offertory on a Sunday to mark a special occasion or in memory of someone or for any other reason, please speak with the Churchwardens who will be happy to diarise a particular Sunday with you.

Servers' meeting - there will be a meeting for all who serve at the 9.30 mass in church at 11am on Sunday 6th September.

Summer Read - We will be holding a Summer Read this year (where we read a novel individually and then meet up to talk about it). This year's book is 'Light Perpetual' by Francis Spufford. It has received many excellent reviews and is a re-imagining of what the lives of children killed in a blast in the Blitz could have been like had they lived, and with this an interesting overview of the social history of London in the latter part of the 20th Century. We will meet to discuss the book at 11am on Sunday 6th September. Please let Susannah know if you would like to come along.

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

AT THE MASS

26th July 2026

Trinity 8

Introit 584 All my hope on God is founded

Setting Mass of St Thomas - Thorne

Collect of the Day

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern
both our hearts and bodies

in the ways of your laws
and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, 'Ask what I should give you.' And Solomon said, 'You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.'

Gradual hymn

598 Before the throne of God above

Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he

might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia

Plainsong

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.' He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

Offertory hymn	506 The Church's one foundation
Communion hymn	448 I come with joy
Final hymn	775 Seek ye first
Organ Voluntary	Praeambulum in A Minor, BuxWV 158 – Dietrich Buxtehude

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, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Terry Evens, Spencer Croucher, Malcolm Charlton, Joan Prudden, Christine Matthews.

Wednesday: Rosalind Manley, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, Glynis Whiting Sylvia Wilson, Maria, Marie Tyler.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.

Recently departed: Lois Maude, Alan Butcher, Marina Moy

Anniversaries of the departed: Nora Worton, Hilda Wood, Barbara Holden, Dorothy Morley, Jacqui Sexton, Ellen Fillery, Ted Worton, John Hendra, Edwin Wallen.

CHARITY OF THE MONTH CHRISTIAN AID



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

35-41 Lower Marsh
London SE1 7RL.
Registered charity number 1105851



Book Recommendation

Corvus by Esther Woolfson

This is a really enjoyable account of the author's life with a number of rescued corvids. It gives insight on birds who are often maligned and misunderstood. It is a balanced mixture of personal experience with the birds and factual information. For instance, corvids' brain to body ratio is comparable to chimpanzees. They are very clever!

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 Chris and Nancy (Churchwardens), Susannah (Rector) or Verity (Parish Administrator).

CONTACTS

Rector The Revd Susannah Brasier

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Licensed Lay Worker (Assistant Curate designate) Fiona Macaulay

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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. 8.30-12.30pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 8.30-12.30am.

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.**