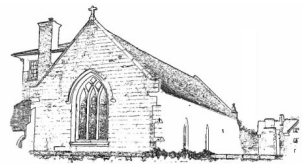


ST MARY'S CHURCH HARVINGTON, DY10 4LR



Parish Priest: Fr Richard Sharples
Priest in Residence: Fr John Moran
Telephone: 01562 777319
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Website: www.stmarysharvington.org.uk
Registered Charity No: 234216 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham



Clocks go forward at 1.00am on Sunday 30 March 2025

MASSES THIS WEEK (with YEAR C Readings)

Sunday 30 March

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Day of prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments

8.30am

Mass intention for: *Clive Foster R.I.P.*

10.30am

Mass intention for: *People of the Parish*

Monday 31 March

Lent Feria

No Mass today

Tuesday 1 April

Lent Feria

10.00am

Mass intention for: *Private intention*

Wednesday 2 April

Commemoration of St Francis of Paola, Hermit

10.00am

Mass intention for: *Private intention*

Thursday 3 April

Lent Feria

11.00am

Mass intention for: *Private intention*

Friday 4 April

Commemoration of St Isidore, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

11.00am

Mass intention for: *Anthony Francis-Flores R.I.P.*

Saturday 5 April

Commemoration of St Vincent Ferrer, Priest

10.00am

Mass intention for: *Maria & Thomas Costanzo R.I.P.*

Sunday 6 April

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Day of prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments

8.30am

Mass intention for: *Margaret Bradley R.I.P.*

10.30am

Mass intention for: *People of the Parish*

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Rejoice

LAETARE SUNDAY

The day's theme comes from the entrance antiphon reflecting on Isaiah 66:10-11: "Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.

Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exalt and be satisfied at her consoling breast." Laetare is the first word meaning "rejoice" in the Latin text of today's entrance antiphon. On Laetare Sunday (as similarly with the Third Sunday of Advent's Gaudete Sunday) the Church expresses hope and joy in the midst of our Lenten fasts and penances. The rose pink coloured vestments worn by the priest on this day indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter into the sombre days of Passiontide. www.simplycatholic.com/laetare-sunday/



The tradition of **MOTHERING SUNDAY** on the Fourth Sunday of Lent has been around since medieval times. It was set aside as a day where people would visit their "mother" church, the place where they were baptised: the local parish church or cathedral. In more recent times people working in the service of others were given the day off to go and visit their mother church. It then became part of the tradition for people to go and see their mothers

on this day as well as go to their mother church. This eventually evolved into the current traditions of giving mothers gifts on Mothering Sunday. The new traditions of Mother's Day allow us to celebrate our mums and everything they do for us. We should not just remember our earthly mothers and grandmothers but also remember Mary, the Mother of God who is also our Mother. Mary looks out for us all year round and whenever we say a Hail Mary we are asking her to pray for us. www.rcdea.org.uk/ignite_motheringsunday/

THE HARTLEBURY CASTLE TRUST invite you to a fundraising event on **Friday 9 May**.



In return for your generosity, you'll be swept away by the award-winning, talented musician **Peter Bradley-Fulgoni** as he entertains the audience at the piano in the Medieval Great Hall. From Beethoven and Chopin to Debussy and Zipoli, you can enjoy a musical night to remember.

Tickets cost £20 and include a complimentary glass of wine or non-alcoholic alternative. £1.50 booking fee per transaction.

The concert starts at 7.00pm and you are welcome to enjoy a pre-show drink from 6.00pm. Running time: 1 hour 45 minutes, including a 20-minute interval when the bar will be open to purchase refreshments. To book tickets refer to Hartlebury Castle: <https://hartleburycastle.com/event/support-hartlebury-castle-an-evening-of-piano-music/>



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION and CONFIRMATION

Children who will be **8 years old by June this year, who regularly attend Mass at St Mary's and do not go to a Catholic School**, are eligible to be prepared by a parish catechist with a series of weekly, group lessons in order to take the **Sacraments of RECONCILIATION and FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**. The children will receive each of the sacraments for the first time on the **weekend of 7th & 8th of June** this year.

Parents or guardians are asked to complete a relevant form, available from the table in the porch. As the forms will give personal details about children **please post these in the secure, slotted box on the same table**. To allow time for a sufficient number of preparation sessions, **applications must be received by Sunday 13th April**.

Children who will be **11 years old by September this year, who regularly attend Mass at St Mary's and do not go to a Catholic School**, are eligible to be prepared by a parish catechist to receive the **Sacrament of CONFIRMATION**. Parents or guardians of these children, are asked to complete the relevant form, available from the table in the porch to **post these in the labelled, secure, slotted box on the same table** as soon as possible in order to arrange a date for the sacrament to take place.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

- ◇ **Sunday 1st June: Archbishop Bernard Longley** will celebrate Mass at 11.00am at St Mary's to mark the **bicentennial of our parish church**. His Grace will consecrate the 'new' graveyard field and plant a commemorative mulberry tree in the garden. This will be followed by an opportunity for you all to enjoy the rest of the day by relaxing in the garden of the Priest's House with your own picnic. For children, there will be traditional games to play such as those enjoyed 200 years ago when the church was first opened. Please make plans to join in with this unique parish event!
- ◇ **Saturday 5th July: St Mary's Parish Summer Fete.**
- ◇ **Sunday 7th September: Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage** to the Shrine of the English Martyrs, Harvington Hall hosted by St Mary's Parish.

