

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

192, Nags Head Road, Ponders End, Enfield EN3 7AR

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 Or 07784 186406 Live Streaming churchservices.tv/enfield



St Joseph



March

Mass Intentions

- Sat:** 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.15am – Morning Prayer & Rosary
A DAY WITH MARY
 9.30am – For the Intentions of Our Lady
Followed by Confessions for the rest of the Day
 5.00pm – Edwin Arthur Quarm – Birthday Intention
- Sun:** Church opens at 7.00am
 8.00am – Raymond Colaco - RIP
 9.30am – Joyce Moran - RIP
 11.00am – Intentions of Annette Nabalembeka
 5.00pm – Intentions of Parishioners
- Mon:** 8.15am – The Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary
 9.30am – Secular Clergy Common Fund
- No Exposition Today**
- Tue:** 8.15am – The Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary
 9.30am – James McDonagh – RIP & Baby Jimmy
- Wed:** 8.15am – The Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.30am – Morning Prayer & Rosary
 9.30am – Ronnie Mayo - RIP
- Thur:** 7.45am – The Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.00am – Morning Prayer
Followed by a Holy Hour of Reparation
 9.30am – For the Repose of the Holy Souls
Followed by Exposition until 11.00am
- Fri:** 5.00pm – The Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 5.30 to 7.15pm – Confessions
 6.30pm – Evening Prayer & Rosary
 7.30pm – Thanksgiving Intentions of Cecelia Obiwelozo
Followed by Stations of the Cross
Followed by Novena in preparation for Holy Week (1)
Followed by First Friday Devotions
- Sat:** 7.00am – Church opens for Quiet Prayer
 8.15am – Morning Prayer
Followed by Confessions from 8.30am until 10.00am
 9.30am – Rosary and 15 mins quiet Rosary Prayer
 10.15am – First Saturday Devotions
 10.30am – For the Conversion of Sinners
Followed by Novena in Preparation for Holy Week (2)
 5.00pm - Nancy Brady - Unwell
- Sun:** Church opens at 7.00am
 8.00am – For the Repose of the Holy Souls
 9.30am – For the Intentions of Parishioners
4.15pm – Novena in Preparation for Holy Week (3)
 11.00am –
 5.00pm – Frederick Culbert - Anniversary

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

“This son of mine was dead and has come back to life, he was lost and is found” and they began to celebrate.”

Why does the parable of the ‘prodigal son’ moves us so deeply? No doubt because it strikes a chord at the deepest level of our being in our relationship with God and his Son, Jesus Christ. For the parable is the story of the ‘merciful father’, of a God whose solicitude for each sinner is such that he cannot endure the idea of losing his child. A God of ‘tenderness and compassion’, of infinite patience who in order to manifest himself fully as a father must be continually welcoming back the prodigal son. Not only does this parable reveal God as a father. To whose kingdom sinful man has access at all times, provided he returns to the One whom he has abandoned: it is also a revelation of Jesus himself. For it is his own way of acting which constitutes the starting point of the story. It is in order to justify his own dealings with sinners that Jesus describes this father who hurries out to receive the returning prodigal, and finds his joy in restoring him to his dignity as a son. Finally, every Christian is in danger of becoming like the elder son who, in contrast to the father is unwilling to welcome back the erring younger brother, The question stands: ‘How can he pardon people like that?’

Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage at Westminster Cathedral

Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2.30pm

The Cardinal is inviting couples in the Diocese who are celebrating in 2025 their 5th, 10th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and any year over 60 wedding anniversary of Catholic Marriage. Please hand in to Fr John your details: names of husband and wife, date of wedding, number of years married, postal address, email and phone number. Please hand in details as soon as possible. Thanks.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Friday 4th April from 5.30pm until 7.15pm

Saturday 5th April from 8.30am to 10.00am (First Saturday)

Lent is the best possible time to take advantage of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will help to reawaken our relationship with Our Lord Jesus Christ and so prepare ourselves for the celebration of the Holy Week and Easter services. Confessions are heard in the sacristy at the front of the church.

NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR PALM SUNDAY & HOLY WEEK

The Novena will run for 9 days from Friday 4th to Saturday 12th April

Novena booklets will be available for following the Novena in church and also to take for use at home privately. **Do join us if you are able.**

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

Sunday 6th April 2025

All servers must attend this training session if they are to serve over the Holy Week and Easter celebrations. The training will begin straight after the 11.00am Mass on the above Sunday and will finish at about 2.30pm. It will be in the parish hall. Please be on time. Thanks.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We will be following the Stations of the Cross every week during the Lenten period – please try and join us in this wonderful devotion as we follow the journey of Our Lord Jesus Christ to his suffering and death.



After morning Mass on Thursdays and after evening Mass on Fridays

NOTICE

Please note that all of our masses and services are live streamed.

PARISH GIVING

If you use Planned Giving Envelopes please do try and keep up with your giving. The parish relies on a regular income from these envelopes each week. If you are away or do not attend church please can you make up your giving – that is what Planned Giving means. Please, if you can, take out a Standing Order to the parish. Our bank details are **HSBC Bank plc**. To credit our account: WRCDT – Mary Mother of God Ponders End: 81308432. Sort Code : 40-05-20. Add the surname and first name as a reference. Many thanks.

PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF LEBANON 20th to 25th September 2025

£1350 single room, 1250 twin shared rooms. Includes flights, 23kg luggage, hotel full board & transport. Contact: Nada Daoud for info on 07886234113.

YOUNG ADULTS DEANERY MEETINGS

The idea is for young adults (18-35) to meet up once a month at one of the parishes in the Enfield Deanery on a Friday evening for a time of prayer, worship (with a talk) and a social. This will allow young adults to grow and develop in their faith with mutual support and friendship. The next meeting will take place on Friday 11th April from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. For further information and to find out where the next meeting will take place, please contact Anna at: annamcmullan@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Monday 31st March at 7.30pm

The Parish Council will meet in the parish hall on the above date and time. Could all members of the Council be there with your reports. All parishioners are very welcome to attend the meeting which will take place in the parish hall.

THE CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL

This Jubilee Year, 2025, invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our Diocese, including Youth & Evangelisation, Social Action, Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education initiatives. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, extends his heartfelt thanks to all who give what they can to this meaningful cause. Donation envelopes are available, and you can contribute online using the QR code on the poster in the porch of the church. Thank you for your kindness and support

LEGION OF MARY

Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Meeting on Sunday 6th April 2025 At 2.45pm in the parish hall

An opportunity to meet together and say our Legion prayers and to give our reports on the work we have achieved over the past few weeks or so. Attendance and meetings is an important aspect of our lives as Legionaries.

Please do not forget the 'Acies' meeting on March 30th 2025 at 2.30pm in the church – all Legionaries should attend.

HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS

March 2025: For families in crisis
Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.
And pray for the Holy Father

PASSION PLAY

BY THE RISE THEATRE 2025

Saturday 29th March at 2.30pm

St Monica's Catholic Church
Palmer's Green, London N13 4DJ

Tickets are £10 (cons £8) at door or Large Hall or buy online:

www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatre
in door performance - enjoy

A SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION & FORGIVENESS

Monday 14th April 2025

At 7.30pm in the church with a number of visiting priests. A wonderful way to prepare for the Holy Week and Easter Celebrations. Please do take advantage of this opportunity of Reconciliation

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOIDING OF THE SICK

Saturday 26th April 2025

In the morning after Mass in the church.
A time to seek the Lord's healing.

JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE TO THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

TO GAIN THE JUBILEE INDULGENCE
Wednesday 9th April 2025

The coach will leave from the church at 7.15am and return for about 7.30pm. Please bring a packed lunch and an umbrella just in case!

During the day we can gain the Jubilee Indulgence as well as doing the usual things we would do at Walsingham. Mass, Stations of the Cross, Confession, Walking the Holy Mile. Wonderful preparation for Holy Week and Easter.

£23 for a seat on the coach. Sign up!

PRAYERS PLEASE

For the Sick: Vincent Desir, Agnes Robinson, Joe Harper, Mary Conway, Sara Malaki, Lily Bleach, Margaret Felgate, Declan Culbert, Eileen Lacey, Bernard Woghiren, Mary Conway, Agnes Guvaya, Eamon Fitzpatrick, Eileen Lacey,

Faustina Smiley, Pope Francis

For the Recently Dead: Fr Bernard Scholes, Joyce Moran, Carol Keyes, Calogero (Charlie) Tona, Lucia Anna Tullio, Patrick Walsh, Jeanne Walsh, Rosa Concadoro, Alex Jjuko, John Charlery.

Anniversaries: Augustine Anukem, James Creed, Arnurio Ramos, Solomis & Eleni Djerkallis, Marianna Amato, Eileen Daly, Sheila Nellis, Eifania Fernandis, Alice McCourt, Sheila Salakana.

Morning & Evening Prayer – is said before all weekday Masses Monday to Thursday and Saturday mornings and on Friday evenings at 6.30pm before Mass at 7.30pm.

Friday Lunch Club – Lunch is served free every Friday morning in the parish hall from 11.00am onwards. It is open to anyone – just come along for good food.

The Legion of Mary: Meets next on Sunday 9th April 2025 at 2.45pm in the parish hall.

Beginning Experience Weekend: This is a residential weekend for widowed, separated or divorced people – help with natural feelings of grief or loss. 4-6th April at the Sion Community, Essex. Contact Mary 07730 884315.

Westminster Pilgrimage to Lourdes. 25th July to 1st August. Elizabeth on 0207 798 9173

Mothering Sunday: Is on Sunday 30th March 2025. We pray for all Mothers.

British Summertime: Clocks are put forward one hour before bedtime on Saturday 29th March 2025

Mass Intentions: If you would like an intention for a particular day and time, then please let us know well in advance. Thanks

We Dare to Hope: Our Small Prayer Groups will meet for the last time this week – do please make every effort to get along to the group that you signed up to. Many thanks.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday evenings from 5.00pm to 7.15pm, Saturday mornings from 7.00pm to 8.30pm and most weekday morning from 8.30am to 9.30am.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO OUR LADY OF MEDJUGORJE

29th April to 7th May 2025

9 days/8 nights – price £838

Departing from Luton airport. The price is for twin sharing rooms. Singles rooms have a supplement of £225. Check in luggage is 23kg + hand carry on. Flights, transfer, entrance fees are all included. Travel Insurance, lunches, tips and gratuities will be added to the invoice. Always a wonderful spiritual experience. Do come for a special time.

SUNDAY PLUS

Searching for hope

Come as you are



By Sr Janet Fearn FMDM

How and why did our conversation turn to ancestry? My late friend was directly descended from the legendary highwayman, Dick Turpin (1705-1739). In those pre-computer and online fact-checking days, was my great-great-grandfather the judge who found him guilty of the capital crime of horse theft? In Turpin's time, our families wouldn't have mixed or shared their escapades and court cases. As it happens, I now know that my ancestor was born seventy-two years after Turpin, who must surely have kept some activities secret for fear of the legal consequences. If they could have met, Turpin and my great-great-grandfather couldn't have relaxed and been themselves: one was a fugitive from justice and the other obliged to implement it.

Jesus attracted society's "little" people, including the despised tax collectors and sinners. The so-called "great and the good" often stayed at a distance, showing themselves uncontaminated by crime, sin and unimportance. Yet their criticism revealed something important: people weren't afraid that Jesus would reject them. Regardless of their past and present circumstances, "the crowds" instinctively saw someone whose interests didn't depend upon celebrity status, but on his face-to-face encounters with the outcasts, the overlooked, the abandoned and the "lost". People anywhere and everywhere could find Jesus, confident of his welcome and acceptance and with no need to "put on a show".

Today, as we celebrate the Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy, we remember that God knows who we are and isn't looking for a good performance. Jesus says to each of us, "Come as you are. That's how I love you."

Sr Janet Fearn is a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood.

Don't be afraid, go to [God], he is waiting for you, he will take care of everything. We hear many offers from the world around us; but let us take up God's offer instead: his is a caress of love. For God, we are not numbers, we are important, indeed we are the most important thing to him; even if we are sinners, we are what is closest to his heart.

Pope Francis


Don't give up

By Paul Higginson

Today's Gospel illustrates a universal and neglected truth. We often grow in wisdom not from our spiritual success stories, but through our sinfulness, failure and suffering. The prodigal son creates a totally new loving relationship with his father after his disastrous life choices have led him to a dead end. The last shall be first – there is hope for us all.

Life for many of us is difficult and we can be tempted to give up or turn from the spiritual path. But Jesus tells us in this parable that the Father is waiting at the bedroom window, hoping for our return. What happens when God sees us? Pause awhile and consider Jesus' explanation, which tells us exactly who God is: "While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly."

Paul Higginson is a retired teacher and author of Doing Christianity: how religion is about what you do, not what you believe.

Lord, Father of our human family... may our hearts be open to all the peoples and nations of the earth. May we recognise the goodness and beauty that you have sown in each of us, and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects, and shared dreams.  Amen.

Fratelli Tutti, 287



Jubilee 2025: Pilgrims of Hope

The Missionaries of Mercy

The Missionaries of Mercy are a worldwide group of priests established by Pope Francis in 2015 during the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. They are meant to be living signs of God's mercy, forgiveness and compassion, especially through the sacrament of reconciliation.

As Pope Francis said to them in 2022, "I asked you to be a sign of consolation to help those who approach you to grasp the just sentiment that God never forgets anyone, nor does he abandon anyone..."

We too are invited to grasp the presence of God in the life of people. The journey that must be experienced is often arduous, difficult, at times even full of sadness; God, however, places himself on this path to reveal his love. It is up to us, with our ministry, to give voice to God and to show the face of his mercy... to envelop with its warmth all those who approach you to be forgiven."

Today:
Joshua 5:9a-12
2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Monday:
Isaiah 65:17-21
John 4:43-54

Tuesday:
Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12
John 5:1-3, 5-16

Wednesday:
Isaiah 49:8-15
John 5:17-30

Thursday:
Exodus 32:7-14
John 5:31-47

Friday:
Wisdom 2:1a, 12-22
John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday:
Jeremiah 11:18-20
John 7:40-52

Next Sunday:
Isaiah 43:16-21
Philippians 3:8-14
John 8:1-11

Wednesday 26th March 2025

THE *Wednesday*
WORD



Encountering Christ

The Wednesday Prayer Custom for Homes, Schools & Parishes

Prayerfully preparing for Sunday Mass with special prayers for our school families



Set aside 10-15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross and remain still for a minute of settling silence.



Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present. Read the Gospel, aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.

1

Read

The Gospel for Sunday 30th March 2025

THE PRODIGAL SON

Jesus spoke this parable to them: "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine. So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. 'Your brother has come,' replied the servant, 'and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound.' He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, 'Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening.' The father said, 'My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

Taken from Luke 15:1-3. 11-32 The Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year C

2

Reflect

After reading the Gospel, did any words stand out? If they did, ponder or discuss them before proceeding with the reflection.

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

Who is the hero of the story? What should its title be? Some call it the parable of the Powerless Father, for the father is powerless to do anything but welcome his son. Clearly the principal message of the parable is that we can count on God's forgiveness, whatever we do. The contrast is also between the two sons. The younger insults his father: all he thinks about is his inheritance, as though he wished his father already dead. All the same, the father is eagerly on the watch, and forgets all his dignity to run and welcome his returning son. And to persuade the elder son to join in the party, the father even leaves his dinner-guests at table, going out into the field to urge the jealous elder brother to join in. Forgiveness and love is his whole motivation. The elder son responds to his father with insults ('That son of yours' he says), inventing guesses about sexual loose-living. It is a splendid example of Luke's delicate, witty and subtle characterisation.

Which brother comes out of the story best? Have you ever felt like the elder brother? What picture of God does Jesus present in the Parable of the Prodigal Son?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

3

Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Thank God for any insight you may have received.

Then ask God to bless you with a spiritual gift to help you act on any resolution you have made. Perhaps: love, hope, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, patience, humility, joy, forgiveness, self-control, courage, generosity, faith or something else.

4

Pray for Families

This Wednesday's word for our school families is **FORGIVENESS!**

After praying for your loved ones, please remember to pray for our present and future Church, particularly for the families connected to our schools. You may want to conclude this special weekly time with a simple prayer such as:

St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church, pray for us. Mary, Star of Evangelisation, pray for us. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**The Jubilee
Year of Hope**

Share the Prayer: Why not forward a digital copy of this Parish Version to your friends? Also, to see a sample of your primary school's *Family Version*, visit: wednesdayword.org

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of **Sunday 30th March 2025**



1st Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

Passover in the Plains of Jericho

The Lord said to Joshua, "Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you." The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

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In the first readings for the Sundays of Lent, we are working through the history of Israel as we move towards the promise of the New Covenant which is the central point of Easter. In this year's readings, the whole period between the Exodus from Egypt and the promise of the New Covenant at the time of the Babylonian exile (a period of some six hundred years) is represented by this one reading, the moment of arrival in the Promised Land of Canaan. This is the time when the provisional arrangements of the desert wanderings come to an end. The stories of the desert wanderings are folk-history and what happened there has a special meaning for the people; they are not modern research-history. So, manna (probably an edible honey-like excretion of a desert plant) is used in our passage as a symbol - the symbol of God's wonderful protection and feeding of Israel even in harsh and almost uninhabitable conditions (as here in the Sinai desert). The reading describes a double celebration, bringing together two festivals: the Passover in origin is a feast of wandering nomads, as they move at the first full moon of spring from their sheltered winter pastures to cooler summer pastures; the festival of Unleavened Bread, on the other hand, marks the beginning of the wheat harvest, a feast of a settled agricultural people. For Paul the celebration represents the newness of Easter, the freshness of the New Covenant.

Would it help you and your family to make more of religious festivals? How could you do so?



2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Reconciled in Christ

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

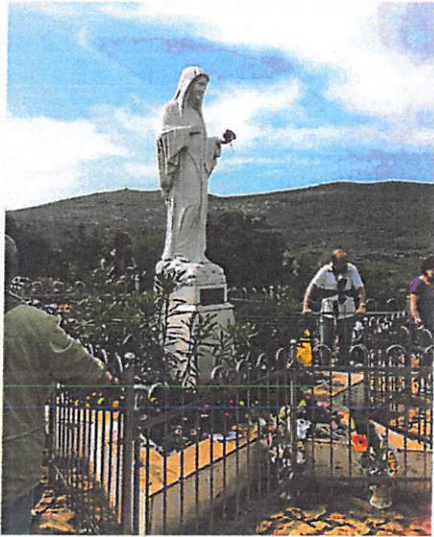
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As we approach the commemoration of Christ's passion and resurrection our readings focus more on these events. The New Testament uses a variety of images to describe what is happening: Christ was glorified (using the idea of the awesome divine glory spoken about in the Old Testament), he was raised to the right hand of God (using imagery from Psalm 110), he was exalted to heaven. In Christ we have been redeemed like freed slaves, ransomed like hostages, reconciled like estranged friends. In Christ God has reached out to us to bring us back into true and full relationship with him. It is always God who does the reconciling.

In his letter, St Paul calls us "ambassadors of Christ". How can we be more effective "ambassadors"?

"God always does the reconciling."

Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Medjugorje 2025 with excursions to Mostar and Surmanci



29th Apr - 7th May 2025

Departing from:
London Luton

only **£838**
per person; 4* hotel

9 days/8 nights
*Half-board – breakfast
and evening dinner*

Led by Fr John Shewring

For details contact All Saints Travel 01793 881166

PRICE INCLUDES

Twin room sharing; return flights from London Luton with easyJet; check-in luggage 23kg + hand carry; 8 nights in our 4 star hotel in Medjugorje, or hotel of similar standard; half-board (breakfast & evening dinner); airport-hotel transfers; entrance fees as per itinerary; UK airport taxes; travel pack 2 weeks prior to departure; ATOL protection contribution.

NOT INCLUDED

Single room supplement £245 (limited availability); travel insurance (compulsory); lunches, snack and beverages, in-flight meals; tips & gratuities of £10 will be added to your invoice automatically for our guide, driver and hotel staff.

INFORMATION

Submit a booking form via our website by **10th Jan. '25** (www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/MJ1025). Deposit of £300 will confirm your booking. Final balance to be paid 2 months prior to travel.



All Saints Travel Ltd

Tel. 01793 8811664

Visit our website: www.allsaintstravel.co.uk



Day 1, Tuesday 29th April

UK – Medjugorje

We fly from London to Split. Upon arrival your guide and driver will be waiting to take you to your hotel in Medjugorje. The journey takes approximately two and a half hours, so sit back and relax and enjoy the beautiful panoramic view of the countryside and the Adriatic Sea. If time permits, we celebrate Mass in Vepric Holy Shrine - a small Shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, or St Peter's church in Slano (depending on which airport we are arriving at). Continue our journey to Medjugorje and then dinner at the hotel.

Day 2, Wednesday 30th April

Medjugorje - Apparition Hill

After breakfast, we meet with our guide and walk to St James Church where we will have our concelebrated Mass in English. Afterwards, we will have a guided walking tour of the Sanctuary and the surrounding area. We will have lunch and afterwards we go to the Apparition Hill where our guide will explain all the information you long to hear on Our Blessed Mother's Apparitions. On our way down, we visit Vicka's old family house. She is one of the 6 visionaries and received many apparitions during her years here. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 3, Thursday 1st May

Medjugorje – Free day

Breakfast at the hotel. At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. **Special Note:** Please note that there are many Spiritual activities in Medjugorje and around the Sanctuary you can attend daily. Confessions are conducted throughout the day in many languages (Medjugorje is well known for this). Talks from one of the visionaries could be arranged if they are available, Divine Mercy Prayer at 3pm will be in St James church, visit Risen Christ located at the back of the church and pray the Stations of the Cross here if you wish. We can also revisit the Apparition Hill and the Blue Cross where many of Our Lady's apparitions and healings have taken place. Daily Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is held at the open altar at the back of the church (we can attend this daily). There are many restaurants to choose from, all very reasonably priced as well as shops to browse through. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 4, Friday 2nd May

Medjugorje - Mt Krizevac - Cross Mountain

After breakfast, we meet with our guide at the hotel and we walk to the foot of Mount Krizevac or take a taxi (cost not included £2 each way based on 4 people in a taxi), a kilometre away from the church and 520 metres above sea level. We pray the Stations of the Cross on the way up to the mountain. Please note that to go up the mountain you must be reasonably fit and be very careful as the mountain has rough rocks and stones to tackle. The Gigantic Cross you see up here was erected by local people in 1933 to commemorate the 1900th anniversary of our Jesus' Crucifixion. Enjoy the view at the summit and relax before the descent. You can choose to walk or take a taxi back to the hotel. To participate in daily activities in the Sanctuary please read Day 3. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 5, Saturday 3rd May

Medjugorje – Mostar

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we explore outside Medjugorje and visit the Old City of Mostar, a Medieval City. The highlight is the famous Old Bridge of Mostar built in the 17th century and sadly destroyed during the Bosnia and Herzegovina war between 1992 and 1995. It is now being restored to its former glory. We celebrate Mass in St Paul/Peter church here. We stay here for the rest of the day we have lunch and do some shopping here (there are plenty of things you can buy here). Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 6, Sunday 4th May

Medjugorje – Surmanci

At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. After lunch, we drive to the village of Surmanci where we celebrate Mass in the Church of the Merciful Jesus. In the church there is a miraculous icon of Jesus of Mercy. This icon was in the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Trento where Ugo Festa was miraculously healed when he prayed before it. It also has a small relic of St Faustina. We return to Medjugorje and have lunch here. Free for the remainder of the day. Evening dinner at the hotel.

Day 7, Monday 5th May

Medjugorje – Cenacolo

Breakfast at the hotel. Mass at 10am in St James Church. Free time for the rest of morning and after lunch visit the community of Cenacolo. This was founded by Sister Elvera Petrozzi in 1991 to support young people recovering from addictions and to teach them the simple way of life, with faith in Jesus, and to straighten their paths in life. Taxi to Cenacolo not included approximately £2 each way (4 people sharing). Return to the hotel and evening dinner.

Day 8, Tuesday 6th May

Medjugorje – Free day

Breakfast at the hotel. At 10am we attend concelebrated Mass in English at St James church. Free day for the rest of the day. Dinner at the hotel and your last night in Medjugorje.

Day 9, Wednesday 7th May

Medjugorje – UK

After breakfast, we check-out of the hotel and leave Medjugorje. Proceed to the airport for our flight back to the UK. Depending on the flight time, we may be able to celebrate Mass in Slano or at Vepric Shrine beforehand.

Note: evening dinner is your first meal on the day we arrive, breakfast is your last meal on the day we leave. Itinerary is subject to change. E&OE.

Note: this price is based on 20 paying pilgrims travelling.

LOVE, LISTEN AND LEARN

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024/2025

Due to the fact that there are now fewer pupils in London (there is a continued decrease in the population of children) and the issues with finding affordable housing we currently have some places in our Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2 and 3 2024/2025 year groups.

Please contact the school if you wish to apply for a place for your child.



**THANK YOU PARENTS AND PARISHIONERS FOR
RECOMMENDING OUR SCHOOL AND HELPING TO BUILD
UP OUR PUPIL NUMBERS.**

Phone Number: 020 88042396

E-mail: office@stmarys.enfield.sch.uk

'Pupils are eager to come to school each morning because their teachers do their best to help them learn...Pupils learn in a calm environment. This is because the school has high expectations for pupils...Pupils conduct themselves well because they know what is right and have been taught how to behave well. Pupils achieve well across a range of subjects. They are proud to talk about their work which is presented with pride...Warm, caring relationships permeate the school... Pupils are confident that adults will listen to their worries and help them. This means they feel happy and safe...The curriculum is ambitious and well structured...Adults have secure subject knowledge...Leaders have high expectations and are ambitious for pupils...Safeguarding is a priority here.'
(OFSTED Inspection, November 2023).