

The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK

28th December 2025 *The Holy Innocents*



Welcome to Saint Laurence.

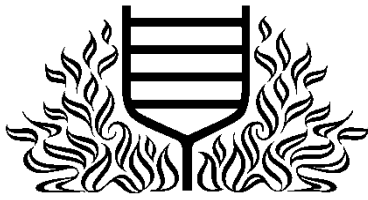
You are warmly invited to stay for refreshments in the Main Hall after the 9.30 Mass.

Today 28 th December <i>The Holy Innocents</i>	Said Mass	9.30 am
Wednesday 31 st December	NB. No 11am service this morning	
Friday 2 nd January	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
Next Sunday 4 th January <i>Epiphany</i>	Holy Communion	8.00 am
	Building Faith, Main Hall	8.00 am
	Procession and Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm
Mass readings next Sunday: Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12 Evensong readings next Sunday: Baruch 4:36-end 5; John 1:1-11		
Coffee: 4 th – Beryl, Maureen and Walter		

NOTICES

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to and supported our services and events during the Advent and Christmas period. All the assistance given from across our church community is very much appreciated. Thank you too for all the charitable donations, presents and food given for those in need.

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



HOLY COMMUNION

28th December 2025

The Holy innocents

Collect of the Day

Heavenly Father,
whose children suffered at the hands of Herod,
though they had done no wrong:
by the suffering of your Son
and by the innocence of our lives
frustrate all evil designs
and establish your reign of justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen

Jeremiah 31:15-17

Thus says the Lord:
A voice is heard in Ramah,
lamentation and bitter weeping.
Rachel is weeping for her children;
she refuses to be comforted for her children,
because they are no more.
Thus says the Lord:
Keep your voice from weeping,
and your eyes from tears;
for there is a reward for your work,
says the Lord:
they shall come back from the land of the enemy;
there is hope for your future,
says the Lord:
your children shall come back to their own country.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters:¹ not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

Matthew 2:13-18

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him. Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

'A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

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, Keith Sharp, Josie Milford, Steve Martin, Vicki Hobbs, David Goddard, Fr. Gareth Bowen, Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Terry Evens.

Wednesday: Mary Ann Madden, Rosalind Manley, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Maria Marie Tyler, David Lewin.

Additional Prayers: All those receiving Home Communion.

Recently departed: Nova Metcalfe

Anniversaries of the departed: Donald Carter, Penny Went, Ken Groves, Phyllis Spilling, Lesley Johnston, Irene Littlewood, Lena Spicer

CONTACTS

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Director of Music Nigel Lockwood

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Parish Office Verity Helby

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(Closed until Thursday 2nd January).

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.**