The Church of Saint Laurence, Upminster

PORCHTALK

Sunday 8th November 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 Derham Hall after the act of Remembrance at the Memorial.

Today	Holy Communion	8.00 am
8th November	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
Remembrance	Remembrance Parade Service at War Memorial	10.45 am
Sunday	Coffee in Derham Hall	11.15 am
	N.B: No Evensong on Zoom	
Monday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
9th November	PCC Meeting, Parish Office	7.30 pm
Wednesday	Morning Prayer, Lady Chapel	8.45 am
11th November	Staff Meeting, Parish Office	9.00 am
	Mass, Lady Chapel	11.00 am
Thursday	Organ Teaching	9.00 am
12th November	Choir Practice	8.00 pm
Friday	Coffee Morning, Main Hall	10.30 am
13th November		2.00 pm
Next Sunday	Holy Communion	8.00 am
15th November	Sung Parish Mass	9.30 am
2 Before Advent	Junior Choir Practice	11.00 am
	First Communion Preparation. Parish Office	3.00 pm
	Evensong on Zoom	6.30 pm

Mass reading next Sunday –Zephaniah 1.7, 12-end; 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11, Matthew 25.14-30
Evensong readings Next Sunday:. 1 Kings 1.15-40, Revelation 1.4-18.

Saturday Pathsweepers: 14th November *Mowat & Skinner* ***Coffee*: 15th November Sally & Michelle**

Please let Revd Susannah, Revd Fiona 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 Remembrance Sunday, as usual, there will be an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial beginning at 10.50am. You are welcome for refreshments in the Derham Hall after the service at 11.15 am.

Christingle - help needed please. Our annual Christingle service in aid of The Children's Society will take place at 4pm on Sunday 6th December. Help is needed to prepare Christingles on Friday 4th December from 9.30-approx 11am in the Parish Office, and with running the service on Sunday 6th December from 3.15pm-approx 5.30pm. If you can help with either or both of these, please contact Susannah by Monday 16th November - thank you.

Carol singing at the Upminster Christmas event - once again Churches Together will be singing carols at the Upminster Christmas event, which this year takes place on Friday 20th November. Volunteers to come and sing would be much appreciated - please meet on the Upminster Junior School playground (near the traffic lights) ready to begin at 4pm.

Halls Manager - we are seeking a volunteer Halls Manager to provide general oversight/co-ordination of maintenance issues affecting the church halls. The role does not need to be onerous or take a lot of time, and could be modelled to fit individual circumstances. If you think this may be something that you could offer, please speak to Susannah.

Winter Read - Following the success of the Summer Read, we will also be holding a Winter Read this year (where we read a novel individually and then meet up to talk about it). The book will be 'Gilead' by Marilynne Robinson. We will meet to discuss it at 11am on Sunday 17th January, in the Parish Office. So that we have an idea of numbers, it would be helpful if you could please tell Susannah that you are intending to join.

INEQE Independent Safeguarding Audit - Safeguarding procedures in the Diocese of Chelmsford are due to be independently audited in February 2027. Ahead of this, INEQE would like people in church communities to engage with confidential surveys about their experience of safeguarding. The surveys are open until the end of November and can be found online at https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/chelmsford/ .Please select the category of participant that best applies to you.

Diocesan Course in Christian Studies: Diocesan Course in Christian Studies: Registration is now open for the next intake of this course, beginning in January. Students study CCS on a two year part-time basis at centres across the Diocese. There will be at least one locally. The first year embraces Foundations in Theology and the second year Foundations in Ministry. The aim of the course is to provide an opportunity to study the Bible, Church traditions, Doctrine and different forms of church ministry. It is open to everyone - whether you are new to Christianity or a lifelong believer, and whether you are looking to explore vocation within or beyond the Church or would just like to do the course for interest. If you would like to know more, please speak to Susannah, or scan the QR code on the poster at the back of church.

Becket Keys Sixth Form Open Evening -Prospective students in Year 10 and 11 and their parents/carers are warmly invited to attend the Open Evening on Wednesday 11th November from 4.30-7.30pm.This is an opportunity to learn more about our high achieving Sixth Form, explore our wide range of courses, and discover how our distinctive Christian ethos supports students to flourish academically, personally and spiritually. Visitors will have the chance to meet staff and students, hear about enrichment and leadership opportunities, and learn about the excellent progression pathways available to our young people. Please book here: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/becket-keys-sixth-form-open-event-tickets-2001868098371

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.

AT THE MASS

8th November 2026

Remembrance Sunday

Introit **582** O God of earth and altar

Setting Mass of St Thomas - Thorne

Collect of the Day

Almighty Father,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the word of the Lord.

Alleluia Plainsong

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples: 'Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

This is the Gospel of the Lord**.**

Offertory hymn	**577** Eternal God, before whose face we stand
Anthem	So they gave their bodies to the Commonwealth. Text: Pericles' funeral Oration, Music: Peter Aston.
Communion hymn	**717** Lord, make us servants of your peace
Final hymn	**746** O God, our help in ages past.
Organ Voluntary	Nimrod – Edward Elgar

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, Carole Billings, Alan Anderson, Hugh Winn, Daphne Martineau, Rosalind Manley, Simon Pols, Brian Shaw, Glynis Whiting, Sylvia Wilson, Maria, Marie Tyler, Ann O'Riordan

Wednesday: Denise Comer, Baby Charles, Doreen, Michael Folkes, Mary Greig, Stanley Oliver, Alan Jones, Sandra Clarke, Michael McSweeney, Terry Evens, Rebecca Mitcham, Janet Goodman, Cheryl Piper.

Additional Prayers:. All those receiving Home Communion. Isabel and Edward preparing for their First Communion

Recently departed: Keith Ambrose, Doris Slade

Anniversaries of the departed:. Frank Norledge, Maurice Wilson, Leonard Hall, Henry Hill, Paul Holden, Doris Harding, Peter Hodgson, Ken Hill, Teddy Osmond, Desmond John Gamon

CHARITY OF THE MONTH
NOVEMBER: THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

The Children's Society

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

The Children's Society, Whitecross Studios,
50 Banner Street, London, EC1Y 8ST.
Registered Charity Number 221124.

SAFEGUARDING

If you have a concern about your own welfare or that of someone else, please do contact our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Akosua Boachie (details on the back page of Porchtalk) or please feel free to speak to the clergy. If you think that there is an urgent risk, please contact the police.

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
01708 220174 susannah.brasier@upminsterparish.co.uk

Assistant Curate The Revd Fiona Macaulay 07471 312686
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Pastoral Assistant Deborah Masterson
01708 609816 deborah.masterson@upminsterparish.co.uk

Churchwardens Chris and Nancy Mowat parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Safeguarding Officer Akosua Boachie
07760 791032 safeguarding@upminsterparish.co.uk

Director of Music Nigel Lockwood
07899 876247 nigel.lockwood@upminsterparish.co.uk

Parish Office Verity Helby
01708 220696 parish.office@upminsterparish.co.uk
Open: Tue. 8.30-12.30pm, Wed. 9-11am (Staff Meeting), Thur. 8.00-12.30pm.

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.