

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 21st to Sunday 29th October 2017

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

SATURDAY 21st 6.00pm Deceased members of the Canny Family (Canny)

SUNDAY 22nd 9.00am Sr Mary Burke's intentions (Clohessy)

October 2017 11.00am People of our Parish

Monday 23 Oct. St John of Capistrano, Priest

9.00am Bill McEvoy RIP

Tuesday 24th Oct St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

9.00am Dan McEvoy RIP

Wednesday, 25th 9.00am The Holy Souls

Thursday, 26th St Cedd, Secondary Co-Patron Saint of Brentwood Diocese

9.00am The Holy Souls

Friday, 27th Oct. 9.00am Veronica Beard RIP (Beard)

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

SATURDAY 28th 6.00pm Margaret Farrell RIP (Canny)

SUNDAY 29th 9.00am Lena Clohessy RIP (Clohessy)

October 2017 11.00am The People of our Parish

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: Saturdays 11am – 12 noon & 5.15pm to 5.40pm
MORNING PRAYER OF THE DIVINE OFFICE 15 minutes before weekday Mass
BLESSED SACRAMENT Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after weekday Mass

PARISH MASS BOOK: TWENTYNINTH SUNDAY of Year A 22nd October 2017

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WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL Mark Toohey, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Rhoda Limebear, Daphne McAdam, Paula Hall, Hannah Robinson, Ann Dowd, Giovanni Borelli, Roger Minnis, Sean Clohessy, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Annie Cambell Tweedy and all who are ill at this time.

OFFERINGS: Offertories: Envelopes £229.50, Loose £336.52, Standing Orders £700, CAFOD £25.72, FAMILY FAST £50.00. Thank you for your generosity.

OCTOBER IS THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY October is the month when we, and families, are encouraged to pray the Rosary daily – even one decade each day to meditate on the life of our Lord and his holy Mother. It is also well worth Googling, “October is the month of the Rosary” where there are very helpful images and prayerful material.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: World Mission Sunday is your chance to support missionaries and the Church proclaiming the Gospel of peace to those who suffer around the world. Missio is the Pope's official charity for overseas missions and is part of the worldwide network of Pontifical Mission Societies. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church. Your donation will help fund the spread of peace through faith and outreach projects, supporting Catholic missionaries and building new churches.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping



Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

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Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohang

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

Hall Bookings: e-mail: arnold_verrall@email.com

**Telephone Arnold Verrall: 07764404813 or
01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping area)**

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

22nd October 2017

Dear Parishioners,

“Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God”, Jesus said (Matt. 22:15-21). The people of the Holy Land hated the Romans and Caesar who oppressed and taxed them. Jesus would be popular if he had told people not to pay taxes to Caesar, but the attempt to entrap him by forcing him to choose between Roman rule and popular opinion failed. He could see the risks of a rebellion bringing about his own destruction - which is what the Pharisees wanted. If he told people to pay taxes to the Romans, he would be seen as collaborating with the enemy and becoming unpopular. Jesus' answer shows that all of us have a duty to contribute to government for the common good, and also to be answerable to God.

We see Jesus paying the religious or Temple tax when he told Peter to “cast a line into the lake, catch a fish and to use the shekel you will find in its mouth to pay the tax for you and me”(Matthew 17:27). Jesus was questioned on an issue to do with earthly power, but he pointed out that people must answer to God, from whom all power comes. The phrase, “We don't do God” describes an attitude in political and public life of no accountability to God. Those from whom advice is sought on moral or ethical issues seem to be drawn mostly from a secular or God-less background and some say that there is little point in making representations to MP's on moral or ethical issues do with human life or dignity. Yet, we Christians should still inform and challenge those who make public policies and legislate for our society. The fundamental principles of humanity in the Judeo/Christian tradition are judicious and still valid today, and deserving of respect. Those who reject them as obsolete ultimately harm human dignity and society rather than enrich and enhance it.

St Thomas More as Lord Chancellor, was a man of virtue and conscience, who knew he was answerable to God as well as to the king - he said he was “the king's good servant, but God's first”. “More offers us a model we yearn for but too often lack, in our own daily choices and public leaders. Public service is about shaping society to right moral principles” (Render to Caesar by Charles Chaput). Yet we and our leaders do not always recognise we are answerable to God as well as people.
May God give us the spirit of wisdom, to make the right decisions, Fr John

THANK YOU FROM FR GERALD GOSTLING: “I very much enjoyed my memorable visit to Epping on Sunday and the marvellous people at Mass. Thank you for your welcome and the good people of the parish for the gift of £2000 for the twinned parish of Thistle Grove and Lebohang. I have already contacted the office in Dundee Diocese about the arrival of this money which will be transferred from Brentwood Diocese. When the donation comes I will personally present it to the Parish communities and send some photos to you. I will also take photographs of what the money is used for as they have a project that has care for a large number of children. I was actually part of establishing this project in 2005 responding to a huge need and there are many volunteers doing extraordinary work with orphans, needy and vulnerable children. This gift will be a great help to the people in those communities who will very much appreciate the generosity of your parishioners. I very much remember Fr James who is keeping an eye on us from the Communion of Saints. Thank you for his memorial card and the card of the stained glass window. God bless, Fr Gerald.”

TALKS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH: Anyone interested in finding out about our Catholic faith, becoming Catholic or who wishes to understand our faith or support the faith or practice of family members are welcome to a series of talks **in the Priest’s House on Tuesdays from 8pm to 9.15pm.** These are also suitable for Catholics who have not been Confirmed or who have not been practising their faith or wish to renew and rethink their faith. There is no commitment involved in attending any or all sessions. Please contact Fr John by phone or e-mail, at the Priest’s House if you are interested.

FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNIONS IN 2017-18: The next session for the children will be on **Wednesday 1st November** in the Church at 5.45pm. It is most important that the children attend all their preparation sessions and that Catholic parents bring their children to Sunday Mass every weekend. A number of parents have not yet paid for the books and materials being supplied to their children. We ask for a contribution of £25 per family please.

‘Celebrating The Work Of The Holy Spirit In Our Lives’, Brentwood Cathedral, **4th November 2017, 10.30 to 4.30,** Speakers : Bishop Alan Williams SM, Bishop of Brentwood, Bishop Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood, Michelle Moran, President of ICCRS. Everyone Welcome.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Please will all Eucharistic Ministers and Readers take a copy of the new rota from the post box in the church porch.

JUMBLE SALE: We have a parish Jumble Sale in our Hall next **Saturday 28th October.** For large numbers of items please contact **Janet on 01992 571128** so that they can be stored in the shed. There will be a list in the church porch for helpers to set up on **Friday 27th** and sell on the Saturday. The Hall will be open from 2.30pm to 7pm on the Friday. We need many helpers please. Cakes are needed, both to sell and have with a cup of tea.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR Our Parish Bazaar is on **Saturday 2nd December.** Six weeks to go. Next week we are collecting books and DVDs. Give somebody a chance to enjoy your favourite entertainment. Stevenette Estate Agents have been emailed a list of twenty parishioners who have agreed to have advertising boards. The list is now closed. It is hoped that these will go up during the week of 6th November. Many thanks again to those parishioners who have put their names forward. If any parishioners are able to ask local businesses for raffle prizes then these would be most welcome. Please let Fr John or Deacon Duncan know of any prizes by **Sunday 29th October** please.

WINE TASTING & CHEESE EVENING - SATURDAY, 18 NOVEMBER @ 19.30: Following the success of our Parish Quiz Night, please join us for a Wine Tasting & Cheese Evening. It will be held in our church hall and our resident Master of Wine, Junior Vianna, will introduce each wine, compare styles & explain some of the factors that affect the quality of wines. Aside from the opportunity to get to know other parishioners and help raise funds for our church, it will be a fun and educational evening. Tickets are £20 per person and there are a limited number of tickets available. Adriana Ruvalcaba will sell tickets this weekend after every Mass.

APPEAL FOR SMALL GIFTS FOR CHILDREN: Every year, St Mary's Church, Theydon Bois, as part of Operation Christmas Child, sends out over 200 shoe boxes filled with gifts for children overseas, who would not otherwise have a Christmas present. Offers of small gifts (that must fit in a shoebox), such as hair ribbons, bands or bows, small soft toys or cars, new or nearly new (but no military or war-related items and nothing that needs batteries), can be left in the porch for the attention of Melanie Hollinshead. Thank you.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EPPING CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON: We are pleased to invite everyone who will be alone on Christmas Day to a traditional luncheon in our Hall. Couples and carers are also welcome. Please call Mary Morgan on 01992 574719 or give your details to Fr John or Deacon Duncan.

LONDON MARATHON 2018 Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society has a number of Gold Bond Charity places for runners in the **Virgin Money LONDON MARATHON** taking place on **SUNDAY 22nd April 2018.** If you are an experienced runner or would value the opportunity to participate in this renowned event, please contact Libby Phillips on 01268 784544 / lphillips@bccs.org.uk for details. The closing date for completed applications is **Friday 17th November.** Please note there is a minimum sponsorship requirement of £1600 (excluding Gift Aid).

WHIST EVENING: The next Whist Evening will take place at 2 Spriggs Oak, Epping on **Monday 20th November at 7pm.** Entry fee £2 with prizes galore. Please contact Arnold Verrall for further information.

VACANCIES: For current job vacancies please see notices in the church porch.

REMEMBERING & PRAYING FOR OUR DEAD DURING NOVEMBER

It is part of our Christian tradition to celebrate, remember and pray for our dead during the month of November. On All Saints Day, Wednesday 1st November, we celebrate the Saints in Heaven, amongst whom are members of our family, friends and neighbours; good people who now rejoice and share in the glory of God in heaven. They are amongst the saints of the Church and the world, in whom we glory and celebrate on All Saints Day.

On Thursday, 2nd November, All Souls Day, we pray for those in our Parish who died during the past year. On that day at Masses, at 10.00am and 8.00pm, we will remember and pray for those in our community who have been called by the Lord from this life to eternal life. Since you have been bereaved during that time, we especially invite you to Mass on that day, when we will remember and pray for your loved one by name.

On Sunday, 5th November at 3.00pm, we will have a Service in Epping Cemetery, when we will remember and pray for deceased parishioners, including Fr John Ryan a former Parish Priest of Epping, who have been interred there. Prayers will be offered asking God's blessing on the graves as we walk around the cemetery at the end of the service.

On Sunday, 19th November at 3.00pm, we will have the Annual Bereavement Service, here in Church. This is arranged for people who have lost loved ones, spouses, children, parents, relatives or friends, whether recently or some time ago. It includes hymns, prayers, readings and remembrance by name of loved ones who have died, and lighting a candle before the altar in their memory. This symbolises the fact that all who die in Christ are called by him to go into his light and presence, for he is "The Light of the World". After the Service you are invited to join us with friends for light refreshments in the Church hall.

During November we pray daily at every Mass for all whose names are in our Register of the Dead, which is placed at our altar, and also for all whose names are on the Prayer Lists, that we place at the altar. You can write the names of your loved ones, relatives or friends on the list in the Church and return it in the envelope provided to the Priest's House.

We pray that at times of bereavement that the Lord sends his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console and comfort all who mourn at a sad and difficult time.

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, EPPING