

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 4th to Sunday 12th November 2017

THIRTYFIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

SATURDAY 4th 6.00pm Doris & Kenneth Scott RIP (Ryecroft)
SUNDAY 5th 9.00am Carine Moynan RIP (Coyne family)
November 2017 11.00am Frances Richards RIP (Anniv) (Mandvill)
12.15pm Baptism Edward Thomas Archer
Epping Cemetery 3.00pm Cemetery Service and Blessing of Graves
Monday 6th 9.00am People of our Parish
Tuesday 7th **St Willibrord, Bishop**
9.00am Jim & Pearl Cole RIP (Murray)
Wednesday 8th 9.00am Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 9th **Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Parish Mass Book Page 192**
Mass Book Page 9.00am Teresa Ryan RIP (FM)
Friday, 3rd **St Leo the Great, Pope**
9.00am Holy Souls RIP

THIRTYSECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time A REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

SATURDAY 11th 6.00pm Fr Kevin Lowry RIP Recent (Lechley)
SUNDAY 12th 9.00am People of our Parish
November 2017 11.00am Deceased of our Parish & deceased of the two Great Wars & subsequent conflicts

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: THIRTYFIRST SUNDAY of Year A 5th November 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 home or in hospital at this time.

OFFERINGS: Offertories: Envelopes £326.30, Loose £367.79, Standing Orders £700, CAFOD £0.17p, Jumble Sale £865, The Card Evening £10.00

Thank you for your generosity.

“Walsingham House Canvey Island – Goodbye, and thanks for the memories!” On **Saturday 9 December, 12noon – 4pm**, you are welcome to Walsingham House, Lionel Road, Canvey Island SS8 9DE for a final look around. There will be Adoration in the chapel, an exhibition of Walsingham House history from Chingford and Canvey Island in the Ark, and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to arrive and leave at any time in the afternoon. During December preparation for the move to Abbotswick will continue. We still welcome donations for the appeal, www.bcys.net/abbotswick or call 01277 373959 to speak with Fr Dominic. He has personally thanked our parish for our donation of **£677.46** towards the “Walsingham House at Abbotswick” Funding Appeal.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping



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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)

THIRTYFIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) 5 November 2017

Dear friends,

Jesus said “Do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach” (Matt.23:1-12). Those who preach the Word of God and minister to people are in danger of failing to practise what they preach. Some people choose to accept or reject the teaching and commandments of God, given to us in the Bible, because of what they see those who preach the Word of God do or fail to do. They expect the one who preaches to be a witness in action as well as word to the divine teaching – which is what the word “martyr” means for Christians.

Jesus saw religious leaders in his own society flaunting the trappings of religion to impress. However, he instructed people to follow their teachings, even though they were corrupt, because what they taught was divine truth. In that context, all who minister God’s Word of Truth to people must first hear and see it as addressed to themselves. It must be and is a constant challenge as to how we live our daily life in relationship with God and people. Preaching God’s Word must lead a person to become more humble like our Lady, who said “The Almighty has done great things for me”. We need to become more aware of our own human failings and weakness and our dependence on God’s Word and his grace. A preacher or priest who fails or sins, weakens and can even destroy their witness to the Word of God, but that never invalidates the Truth of the Word, which is free from error.

St Paul wrote to Timothy “Keep to what you have been taught and know to be true.. All Scripture is inspired by God and can profitably be used for teaching, for refuting error, for guiding people’s lives and teaching them to be holy. This is how the person dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work”. (2 Tim 3:14-17).

May the Lord give us the grace to listen to, follow & share his Word. Fr John

REMEMBRANCE & PRAYER FOR THE DEAD IN NOVEMBER

EPPING CEMETERY SERVICE & Blessing of Graves at 3pm on this Sunday.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD: You can place the names of deceased relatives, friends and parishioners at the Altar in our Church for prayer at daily Mass during November.

PARISH BEREAVEMENT SERVICE You are warmly invited to this service at **3pm Sunday 20 November 2016,** which is arranged for those who have lost loved ones - spouses, children, parents, relatives or friends - whether recently or some time ago. The Service will include some hymns, remembrance (by name) of the loved ones who have died (during which candles will be lit), followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the Church Hall. We do hope you will join us, together with any friends you would like to bring with you. If you have any queries, contact Deacon Duncan, telephone 01992 577173.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE After the laying of wreaths at Epping War Memorial at 2.15pm on Sunday 13 November, the annual Service of Remembrance will be held in St John's Church commencing at 3pm, at which Fr John & Deacon Duncan will take part. Everyone is invited to attend to represent the Catholic Community, as we remember those who gave their lives for our freedom.

TALKS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH: If you are interested in finding out about our Catholic faith, becoming Catholic or wishing to understand our faith or support the faith or practice of family members you are welcome to a series of talks at the **Priest's House on Tuesdays from 8pm to 9.15pm.** These are 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: The next **Parents Meeting** will be on **Tuesday 7 November at 8pm in the Church Hall.** There is no children's session this week. Children must attend all the preparation sessions and Catholic parents must bring their children to Sunday Mass every weekend. A few of parents have not yet paid the £25 towards the books and materials supplied to their children.

CAFOD Brentwood Memorial Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan at Brentwood Cathedral on Thursday 9 November at 9.15 am. All are welcome to join us, to remember and pray for CAFOD supporters, or members of your own family or friends who have died. A Book of Remembrance will be presented and blessed by Bishop Alan at Mass. You are welcome to add a name to the Book of Remembrance; whether or not you attend. Please contact our volunteer center at brentwood@cafod.org.uk or by calling **01277 218730** if you'd like to know more. There will be Refreshments after Mass

AN ECUMENICAL PRAYER PROCESSION FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE will leave Westminster Cathedral at 1.30pm on Saturday, 11 November, for Westminster Abbey, carrying 500 crosses for Life, to represent more than 500 infants who die through abortion in this country every day - their right to life and human dignity being denied. If you are unable to join this procession - please pray for an end to this massive injustice.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS: Please take a copy of the new rotas which are in the post box in the church porch.

JUMBLE SALE: A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who gave goods for the Jumble Sale on Saturday last, and especially to Janet and the team of helpers who worked so hard to make this such a success, raising the **wonderful sum of £865.**

WINE TASTING & CHEESE EVENING - SATURDAY, 18 November @ 19.30 – SOLD OUT: Thank you very much to all who have agreed to come to the Wine Tasting. Many of you have paid for your spaces, but a few have not had an opportunity to do so. Adriana would like to have all outstanding monies received by this weekend and will be available after both Sunday Masses. If you would like to make other arrangements for payment, please contact her on **07828 118 909.**

OUR CHRISTMAS BAZAAR is on **Saturday 2 December.** Four weeks to go. Next week's appeal is for the Grocery Stall. Please take a bag and put one or two items in it. Please check the sell by date as we have discerning customers.

PARISH BAZAAR PATRONS. Many thanks to those who have already responded to the appeal on 16th September to become Patrons of our Bazaar on 3rd December. This has funded some initial setting-up expenses. It is not too late to become a Bazaar Patron to help with funding further pre-event expenses or to send a donation if you are unable to attend the Bazaar on 3rd December! Please just send a cheque (Catholic Church Epping) or cash in an envelope clearly showing your name and marked 'Bazaar Patron' to Fr John. Thanks for your support.

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.

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

CLEARING UNWANTED ITEMS FROM CHURCH HALL. A collection of rubbish and unwanted items has accumulated in our Church Hall. Please look at the list which is displayed on the Church and Church Hall notice boards to **check whether or not there are items which you recognise as needing to be retained;** if an item needs to be kept, please put your name and telephone number in the appropriate right-hand column. **All Items not recognised or not required for future use will be collected for disposal on 24th November 2017.** Any queries to Arnold Verrall, please on 07764 404813. Thank you for your help.

AFFORDABLE COUNSELLING EPPING FOREST: The Counselling Service will hold a celebratory evening at the Box, St John's Road, Epping from 7.30pm-9.30pm on Tuesday 7th November. There will be wine, soft drinks, nibbles and a talk by Dr Diana Lowry on "Meeting Mental Health Needs in the Community". All are welcome but please email: Jane Walters: janewalters2003@hotmail.com.