

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 23rd June to Sunday 1st July 2018

SOLEMNITY OF THE BIRTH OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST 24 June 2018

Saturday 23 rd	6.00pm	Derek Wells RIP Anniv (Wells)
Sunday 24 th	9.00am	People of our Parish
JUNE 2018	11.00am	Deacon Simon Conrad's intentions (Palmer)
	12.30pm	Baptism Luca Buffaro
Monday 25 th June	9.00am	Special Intention (MB)
Tuesday 26 th	9.00am	Special Intention (MB)
Wednesday 27 th	St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor	
	11.30am	Hilda Silver RIP Requiem Mass
Thursday 28 th	St Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr	
	9.00am	Hilda Silver RIP (Merton)
Friday 29 th June	Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles. Holyday of Obligation to attend Mass	
	10.00am	People of our Parish
	8.00pm	Fr James Hawes RIP Anniv (Murray)
Saturday 30 th June	12.30pm	Baptism Isabelle Louise Cobb
Thirteenth Sunday of the Year in Ordinary Time (B) 1st July 2018		
Saturday 30 th June	6.00pm	Fr James Hawes RIP (FM)
Sunday 1 st July	9.00am	People of our Parish
2018	11.00am	Hilda Silver RIP (Whitehouse)
	12.30pm	Baptisms Lucas & Reuben Burdett-Dalton

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: Next Saturday 11am to 12 noon & 5.15 to 5.40pm

MORNING PRAYER of DIVINE OFFICE 15 minutes before weekday Mass

BLESSED SACRAMENT: Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after weekday Mass

PARISH MASS BOOK: BIRTH OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST 24 June 2018

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PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Frances Wells, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Hannah Robinson, Daphne McAdam, Paula Hall, Ann Dowd, Giovanni Borelli, Mark Toohey, Sean Clohessy, James Bullen, Tony Mullan, Roger Minnis, Fr Martin Knott, Fr Tom Jordan and Deacon Duncan Whitehouse.

Please tell a Priest or hospital chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill at home, in hospital or care home so they can receive visits and the Sacraments.

OFFERINGS: Offertories last weekend: Envelopes **£202.70**; Loose **£265.95**
Standing Orders: **£800**; CAFOD **£32.30**; **Thank you so much for your generosity.**

ROSMINIAN MISSION APPEAL: We welcome Fr Emilian Kibiriti, Rosminian, priest, who is making a mission appeal at all Masses this weekend. The Rosminian missionaries are currently working with the poor and marginalized in Kenya and Tanzania. There will be a retiring collection at all Masses to support their missions.

LATIN MASS will be celebrated in our Church this **Saturday 23 June at 12 noon.**

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping



Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

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Email: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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: 01992 001995 (dial 01992

even in Epping area) or mobile 07764404813

THE BIRTH OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST (B) 24th June 2018

Dear Friends,

The angel said, "Zachariah, your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth is to bear you a son and you must name him John" (Luke 1:15-80). There are many points to reflect on in celebrating the birth of St John the Baptist. He is the only saint whose birth the Church celebrates as a feast and with a distinct vigil Mass. Zachariah and Elizabeth, an elderly couple, did not have a child which was a grief to them, but they prayed that God would give them a child. There are many couples today who have problems with fertility and who wish that they could conceive a child, but it does not happen for them. They and we need to pray for couples in that situation, that God's creative love may be at work in their life.

John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit when the Blessed Mother, Mary, visited her cousin Elizabeth, to be with her in her confinement. John in womb of Elizabeth leaps for joy at the coming of Jesus, the Saviour, in the womb of Mary. Mothers carrying a child in their womb are also blessed by God, for his creative power is a work in their life and they are privileged to be life givers with him.

God has a plan for John the Baptist, that he will be a prophet like Elijah, who will "prepare a way for the Lord, and turn the hearts of fathers towards their children, and turn the disobedient back to the wisdom that the virtuous have". God also has a plan for each one of us to co-operate with him in the mission, responsibilities and opportunities he gives us. Stephen Grellet's quote says, "I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do or any kindness that I can show, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again".

John grew up, his spirit matured to his principal ministry of baptising Jesus in the Jordan. We too are called to mature in spirit and in relationship with God and people. Each of us, in our own way, can bring God the Father, Jesus his Son, and his Spirit to people, and we can bring people to God. There is sacredness about the life of every person for we are all created by gift of God. We are destined at the end of our life, with the help of his grace, to be taken up into his perfect love.

May the Lord bless and guide you with his Word made flesh. Fr John

DECEASED: MRS HILDA SILVER RIP: We pray for the repose of the soul of **Hilda**, who died at St Clare's Hospice, on Friday, 8th June. She will be received into our church for **Requiem Mass on Wednesday, 27th June at 11.30am** to be followed by interment at Greenacres Cemetery, North Weald. **May she rest in peace. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console her family and friends.**

COMMUNION CATECHISTS: As some of our Catechists are having to retire we urgently need more parishioners to assist with preparing children for **First Reconciliation & Holy Communion starting in September. We have three Catechists for the course but need more. You do not need to be a teacher or a musician. Please contact Fr John who will be delighted to hear from you.**

MUSIC CO-ORDINATOR: As Mrs Maggie Keeling has decided to retire as Music co-ordinator in our parish we are offering an opportunity for someone with an interest in Church music to take on this role. Please speak to Maggie or Fr John.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION: We soon will announce dates for meetings of parents wishing to prepare their child for first Reconciliation, Holy Communion & Confirmation in 2019. It is essential for that the families and children be attending Mass. First Holy Communion children should be in Year 3 or older in school, and for Confirmation should be in School Year 9 or older in 2018/19.

PRAY THE ROSARY: Thursdays 6.45 pm at Queen of Peace House, 18 Kendal Ave Epping CM16 4PW. Newcomers welcome, but please phone: 01992-575017

TALKS ON OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: In September we will start a series of talks on the Catholic faith for adults interested in finding out about our faith, becoming Catholic or who wish to understand our faith or support family members in their faith. These will be suitable for Catholic adults who may not have been Confirmed or who have not been practising or wish to renew and rethink their faith. **They will be held in the Priest's House on Tuesdays from 8pm to 9.15pm and will go on until Easter.** There is no commitment involved by attending any or all sessions. We would welcome Catholic parishioners who may wish to be involved in the presentations.

SPONSOR A CONSECRATION CROSS OR CANDLE: Consecrated churches have twelve candles with twelve crosses around the walls of the church, to show the Church is founded on the faith of the twelve apostles. There are only four candles and crosses in our church, presumably symbolising the four evangelists. We will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Church on December 7th, the eve of the feast of the Immaculate Conception and Patron of our Church, and will complete the apostolic number by putting up eight more candles and crosses. The cost of each cross is £20 and of a candle holder (similar to the existing ones) is £180. If you would like to donate a brass cross or candle holder, please use a red donation envelope in the Church and give them to Fr John or hand them into the Priest's House. The offerings for this purpose can also be Gift Aided by people who are paying tax.

SATURDAY 1st SEPTEMBER will be the "official" opening of Walsingham House at Abbotswick, with Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12noon. Parishioners are invited to come, bring picnic lunch, and to make a day out.

SUMMER SPIRITUALITY TALK: Saturday 30th June 10.30am-12.00 noon at Cathedral House Brentwood CM15 8AT.

Title: **Eucharistic Spirituality.** Speaker: Mgr David Manson. For further details contact: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Tel. 01277 265285.

ECCA SUMMER CONCERT Saturday 7th July 7.30pm at St John's Church Epping: *Summer Thyme*, a concert featuring John Rutter's folk-song collection *A Sprig of Thyme* and other works. Please see poster in church porch for further details. Admission is free but there is a retiring collection.

THE GOSPEL of MARK: Wednesday 27 June at 7pm Fr Adrian Graffy will explore the Gospel of Mark, that is read on Sundays in 2018. 'Gidea Park Faith Evenings' are held at Church Hall, 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6D. Email to book: GPstudydays@gmail.com Refreshments provided. Admission free.

ST JOHN BOSCO SUMMER CAMP run by The St Vincent DePaul Society at St John Bosco Camp at Fordham, near Colchester, provides an exciting activity-packed week and overnight camping holiday in the Essex countryside. The poster is in church porch or go to www.svpboscocamp.org.uk. or Twitter: @Boscocamp.

Open Morning – Tuesday 3rd July 2018: Starting at 9.30am at St Joseph's Convent School Wanstead, 59 Cambridge Park, Wanstead, E11 2PR. Applications are invited for our Nursery Class starting in September 18. There are also places available across the school. Phone 0208-989 4700 or e-mail enquiries@stjosephsconventschool.co.uk

OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH MUSIC EVENT: Sunday 8th July 2.30pm for 3pm. Please see poster in church porch for further details.

THE PASSAGE: "Please support the excellent work The Passage does for homeless people in central London, by attending The Passage Annual Garden Party in the beautiful College Garden, Westminster Abbey on **Friday 13th July 2018**, from 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm. Tickets at £45 each, include wine, soft drinks, buffet supper & live music. There will be a raffle & charity auction. Tickets from [Eventbrite passage-garden-party-2018.eventbrite.co.uk](http://Eventbrite.com/youngcatholicadults-latestnews.blogspot.co.uk) or call The Passage 020 7592 1856. It will not be possible to purchase tickets at the Abbey. All proceeds in aid of The Passage."

7-9 SEPT 2018 YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS WEEKEND: Theme: "Tell others the truth that sets you free" (Pope Benedict XVI). On **7-9 September 2018**, Young Catholic Adults will run a retreat at Douai Abbey, with Fr. Lawrence Lew O.P. & Canon Poucin. Please book by 17th Aug 2018. For more information go to: <http://youngcatholicadults-latestnews.blogspot.co.uk/>

INTERESTED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE: CARITAS in our Brentwood Diocese gives opportunities for parishioners & young people to be involved in social justice issues. On **Saturday 7th July** at the Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School, Queens Road, Brentwood CM15 This will be an occasion to be informed about the work of the St Vincent DePaul Society, CAFOD, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, Pro Life, The Homeless, Single Parent challenges. Debt Counselling, Travellers, Refugees. Details in church porch and please e-mail Fr Dominic or Stephen Webb if you will go: frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org or stephenwebb@dioceseofbrentwood.org