

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 18th August to Sunday 26th August

TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF YEAR IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 19th August

Saturday 18 th Aug	6.00pm	Rose Potter RIP (Murray)
Sunday 19 th Aug	9.00am	Frances Sheehy RIP (Clohessy)
	11.00am	People of our Parish
Monday 20 th	St Bernard	
	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 21 st	St Pius X	
	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday 22 nd	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 23 rd	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 24 th	St Bartholomew	
	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Saturday 25 th	12 noon	Latin Mass in Extraordinary Rite (Fr Higgins)

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 26th August

Saturday 26 th	6.00pm	Geoffrey Potter RIP Anniv (Murray)
Sunday 25 th	9.00am	Des Allen RIP (Canny)
August 2018	11.00am	People of our Parish

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: 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: NINETEENTH SUNDAY Ordinary Time B 12.8.18

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

Please inform a Priest or hospital chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill at home, in hospital or a home so they may have prayer and the Sacraments.

OFFERINGS: Offertories last weekend: Envelopes £367; Loose £212.97
Standing Orders: £800. CAFOD 40.00. Thank you for your generosity.

HALL BOOKINGS: Please e-mail: arnold_verrall@email.com
Telephone Arnold Verrall: 01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in the Epping area) or mobile 07764404813.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohlang Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (B) 19th August 2018

“Do not drug yourselves with wine, this is simply dissipation; be filled with the Spirit” (*Ephesians 5*).

Wine is the most common alcoholic beverage mentioned in the Scripture, with deep and rich meaning. The biblical literature displays an ambivalence toward intoxicating drinks, considering them both a potential source of human sins and a blessing from God that brings joy. The Hebrew scriptures prescribed wine for use in festal celebrations and sacrificial rituals. Fermented wine was presented daily as a drink offering, as part of the first Fruits offering, and as part of various supplementary offerings. The banquet hall was called a “house of wine”, and wine was used as the usual drink at most secular and religious feasts, including feasts of celebration and hospitality, tithe celebrations, Jewish holidays such as Passover. Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper, which took place at a Passover celebration, and set apart the bread and “fruit of the vine” that were present there as symbols of the New Covenant.

The Bible often speaks of wine as a bringer and concomitant of joy, particularly in the context of nourishment and feasting. *Psalms* 104 says that The Lord makes “plants for man to cultivate – bringing forth food from the earth: wine that gladdens the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread that sustains his heart”. In *The Book of Ecclesiastes* one can read: “Go, eat your food with gladness, and drink your wine with a joyful heart, for it is now that God favors what you do” (*Ecclesiastes 9*).

The Day of the Lord, which is often understood by Christians to usher in the Messianic Age, is depicted as a time when “new wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills”, when God’s people will “plant vineyards and drink their wine”, and when God himself “will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine – the best of meats and the finest of wines”.

“Wisdom has built herself a house, she has erected her seven pillars, she has slaughtered her beasts, prepared her wine, she has laid her table ... To the fool she says: Come and eat my bread, drink the wine I have prepared!” (*Proverbs 9*). May we open our minds wider to the Wisdom of God and receive the gift of Eucharist with stronger faith. “Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day” (*John 6*).

Fr Mark

THANKS to Fr Mark Slomka, who has been with us for the last three weeks, whilst Fr John was on holiday, and who flies back to Lublin in Poland after the 11am Mass today. It has been a pleasure to meet him and we wish him a safe journey home and hope we meet again.

WELCOME to the priests of the Franciscan Priory at Woodford Green, who will be celebrating Mass with us this weekend, as Fr John continues his holiday until 30th August.

RECENTLY DECEASED: **Tony Mullan** who died on **Friday 3rd August**. May he rest in peace. **His Funeral Service will take place in our church on Thursday 23rd August at 11am**. We offer our sympathy and prayers to members of his family at this time. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to strengthen and console them in their loss.

LATIN MASS IN EXTRAORDINARY RITE will next be celebrated in our Church at **12 noon on Saturday 25th August**. *All are Welcome!*

MUSIC CO-ORDINATOR: We need a music co-ordinator for our parish from September onwards and are offering an opportunity for a parishioner with an interest in church music to take on this role. Please speak to Maggie Keeling or Fr John if you can help.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2019: We need more parishioners to help prepare children for First Reconciliation & Holy Communion starting in September. Please contact Fr John if you can help. Our Catechists meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th September at 7.30pm** in the Priest's House. The first meeting for the parents of the children will be in our Church Hall on **Wednesday 19th September at 8pm**. The first preparation session for the children will be in the Church Hall on **Wednesday 26th September at 5.45pm** – and subsequent Wednesdays. Application forms are available in church this weekend and must be completed and returned to the Priest's House by **Monday, 10th September**. It is essential that the children and their families consistently attend Sunday Mass in order to prepare for the Sacraments.

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Alan will visit our parish and celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for young people who have been prepared on **24th February 2019**. Preparation will start in September for young people in school years 9 to 12 in Secondary school. Application forms are available in church this weekend and must be completed and returned to the Priest's House by **Monday 10th September**. We will also announce dates for meetings for those wishing to prepare for Confirmation

OUR PARISH HALL is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please call Arnold Verrall (contact details on the front page) to for more information and to book.

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS: Please be advised that Masses get booked well in advance, particularly the weekend Masses. Please book weekend Masses 3 months in advance, otherwise we may not be able to accommodate your requests for Masses to be said at weekends.

SPONSOR A CONSECRATION CROSS OR CANDLE: **We will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Church on December 7th**, the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patron of our Church. To complete the apostolic number we will put up eight more candles and crosses. **All of these have now been sponsored**. We thank parishioners for their generosity.

TALKS ON OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: In September we start a course of talks on the Catholic faith for adults interested in finding out about our faith, becoming Catholic or wishing to understand our faith or support family members' faith. It will be suitable for Catholic adults who have not been Confirmed, have not been practising, or wish to renew their faith. **They will be held in the Priest's House on Wednesdays from 8pm to 9.15pm until Easter**. There is no commitment involved by attending any or all sessions. Please contact Fr John if you would like to attend.

APF RED MISSIO BOXES: Please hand in boxes to the Sacristy or Priest's House ASAP. **Please do NOT leave boxes with money in Church Porch**. When emptied and counted, boxes are labelled and left in the Porch to be collected by the owners. **Your money helps Mill Hill Missionaries support poor communities overseas**. If you wish to have a Red Missio Box to give small change to this charity, please contact Elaine Garwood, our Missio Organiser, on egarwood@live.co.uk. Every little helps! There are boxes in the Church porch - please take one if you would like to help.

PARISH JUMBLE SALE: Our next parish Jumble Sale will be on **Saturday 22nd September 2018 at 2pm**. Please start sorting out any good quality jumble for selling and leave it in the church porch.

Celebrate the "official opening" of Walsingham House at Abbotswick (Navestock Side, Near Brentwood, CM14 5SH), Saturday 1st September. Grounds open 11am; Mass with Bishop Alan at 12noon. Throughout the afternoon there will be live music and bouncy castles. You are welcome to bring a picnic; Barbecued food, Cream teas and ice creams will also be on sale. Celebrate the refurbishment of Walsingham House at Abbotswick, the prayer, peace and space that is here, and the youth ministry that welcomes 5,000 young people through the doors of the house every year. More information www.bcys.net/WHAbbotswick and on the www.bcys.net events page.