

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 3rd to Sunday 9th September 2018
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 2nd Sept

Saturday 1st 6.00pm Stan Holder RIP Anniv (FM)
Sunday 2nd 9.00am Edwin Bruce RIP (Canny)

11.00am People of our Parish
12.30pm Baptism Ralph Beckett

Monday 3rd St Gregory the Great

9.00am Bill McEvoy RIP (FM)

Tuesday 4th St Cuthbert

9.00am Geoffrey Potter RIP Anniv (Murray)

Wednesday 5th St Teresa of Calcutta

9.00am Special Intention (MB)

Thursday 6th 9.00am Special Intention (MB)

Friday 7th 9.00am Veronica Beard RIP Anniv (FM)

Saturday 8th FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

6.00pm White/Lennon family deceased (Lechley)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 9th Sept

Sunday 9th 9.00am Ted Abbot RIP Anniv (Abbott)

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: TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY Ordinary Time B 2.9.18

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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, 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 £241.85 Loose £241.80

Standing Orders: £800. CAFOD 40.43. 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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Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173

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Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (B) 2nd September 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This week's 'Thought' relates to the requirement for us to put God's Law (Divine Tradition) at the forefront of the practising of our faith, and not allow priority to be given to man-made regulations (Human Tradition), which can distract us from our main focus of simply loving God and our neighbour.

The history of the Law in the Church begins in the love of God and his divine creation. In today's Gospel reading, the conflict between Jesus and the Jewish authorities over the meaning of 'tradition', highlights the need to distinguish between 'divine tradition' and 'human tradition'. 'Divine tradition' is the Christian faith handed to the Church by Christ and the lived faith of the Church through the ages. 'Human tradition' comprises helpful policy which covers relatively minor practical matters relating to the practice of the faith.

Catholic tradition is dynamic, and is always growing and developing in response to the needs of different cultures at different times. In today's Gospel, we see how Jesus tries to re-shape the attitude of the Jewish authorities with regard to tradition, as he distinguishes between human regulations and the commandments of God. The Jews in first century Palestine had evolved a law code which in its complexity was impossible to maintain. Jesus condemned those who followed the letter of this law whilst losing sight of the word of God's Law; he turns the attention of the Scribes and the Pharisees to their essential obedience to the word of God – the real Law, (divine law) which is unchanging and righteous.

The message to us from this Gospel reading is that we should look at the basic picture of what is needed to love God and our neighbour (divine law) and not focus exclusively upon petty practical behaviour (human traditions), which, whilst good to a point, do not form an essential part of God's Law.

God bless.

Deacon Duncan

LAST WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS: As Fr Quentin offered his own intentions at last weekend's Masses, the Masses booked in the diary will be offered at the next available dates, which will be published in advance.

MUSIC CO-ORDINATOR: We need a music co-ordinator for our parish from **1st September onwards** and are offering an opportunity for a parishioner with an interest in church music to take on this role. As Maggie Keeling is now away, **please speak to 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 at the back of the church 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 at the back of the church 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

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 which have now been sponsored**. We thank parishioners for their generosity. Please put the date of this celebration in your diary.

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 a 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.

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.

APPLYING FOR SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019: Parents & carers who want a priest's reference to support an application for a school place for their child in September 2019 must be attending Sunday Mass consistently. When people are not attending Mass regularly there is no point in seeking a priest's reference this Autumn.

KERALA FLOODS: AN SVP APPEAL: As seen in the media, terrible floods have been taking place in Kerala in southern India. Hundreds of people have been killed and many more are missing; countless homes have been washed away, and the monsoon season is set to continue until early September. Kerala is the most Christian state in India – it has more churches than any other region. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) are doing great work helping the victims of the flood in local communities. However, they desperately need funds. To donate visit www.svp.org.uk, telephone 020 7703 3030 or send cheques made out to SVP (write 'Kerala appeal' on the back) to SVP, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. And please remember our sisters and brothers in Kerala in your prayers.

SAINT VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY: The St Vincent de Paul Society in Brentwood is delighted to invite you to join us for our festival meeting on **Sunday 16th September, starting at 2pm**, with mass in the Cathedral. Mass will be celebrated by Father Fergus Kelly. We will then enjoy an afternoon of talks, discussions and a general Question and Answer session, providing more information on the work carried out by the Society in Brentwood and abroad. We would love to see you there. Elaine Heyworth - Brentwood CC President'

THE APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA invites you to a Mass in honour of our patron Stella Maris, Our Lady Star of the Sea, on **Thursday 20th September 2018** at 9.15am in the Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT. Bishop Alan Williams will celebrate Mass, followed by a reception. All invited. Please RSVP by email to roland@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk. www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC AREA FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, 29th SEPTEMBER, 2018 CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: A Special One-day Come and Sing Event for Choirs and Individual Singers led by James Davy, Master of the Music, Chelmsford Cathedral and featuring the music of Martin Shaw. All choirs and individual singers are welcome. Registration 10 a.m. Festival Service 4 p.m. Registrations and requests for the booklet containing the music (£5) to be used in the Festival to Shirley Timmins, 156 Warley Hill, Brentwood, CM14 5HF. Telephone 01277 233302 or e-mail shirleytimmins@btinternet.com or www.rscm-eel.org.uk.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE EUROPEAN PROJECT: A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH on **Saturday 6th October**. The speaker will be Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark, and Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Ministry at St Mary's University, Twickenham. The day begins at 11 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please make your booking by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com.