

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 29 December to Sunday 6 Jan 2019**

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH Sunday 30 December 2018**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Robert Morris  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> 9.00am The People of our Parish  
December 2018 11.00am Mary McCarthy RIP (Holland)  
3.00pm Sung Latin Mass in the Tridentine Rite (See notice)

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018: Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas

9.00am Service of the Word and Holy Communion

**TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2019: SOLEMNITY of MARY, MOTHER of GOD**

Page 109 Book 10.00am Service of the Word and Holy Communion

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> St Basil the Great & St Gregory Nanzienzen, Bishops & Doctors

January 2019 9.00am Service of the Word and Holy Communion

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January: The Most Holy Name of Jesus

9.00am Service of the Word and Holy Communion

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Special intention (M.B.)

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019: SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm In Thanksgiving (Crouch)

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Peter & Gill Patterson's intentions

January 2019 11.00am The 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: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 30 December 18**

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Page 66 Preface 2 of The Nativity

Page 105 Collect & Readings Page 28 Eucharistic Prayer 3

Page 11 The Nicene Creed Page 43 The Communion Rite,

Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 109 Post Communion Prayer

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT**. Please inform a Priest or hospital Chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill at home or in hospital so they can have visits from a priest and receive the Sacraments to give them healing and strength.

**OFFERINGS:** Offertories last weekend: Envelopes £220.00, Loose £316.47, Standing Orders: £800, CAFOD £33.03. Thank you for your great generosity.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS** I wish to express my gratitude to you for your very generous Christmas Offerings, gifts, greetings and good wishes to me over the Holy Season. I wish you and your families a very happy New Year. *Fr John*

**FULL SUNG LATIN MASS with Gregorian Chant this Sunday 30 December at 3pm** in our Church. Come, pray & sing the traditional Latin Mass of our Church, which would have been familiar to older parishioners. *All are most welcome to this Mass.*

*We express our gratitude to Fr Mark Higgins for taking considerable trouble to come here and celebrate this Mass in our parish over the past several months.*

## The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173

Email: [epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

Website: [www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 234092

*Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohong*

*Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa*

### **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY C**

**30<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

*Dear Friends,*

“Every year the parents of Jesus used to go up to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover” (Luke 2:412-52). Jesus, from the beginning of his life was taken to the Temple in Jerusalem by Mary and Joseph. When he was eight days old they took him to the Temple to Present him as the first-born son to God, carrying out what was prescribed in the law of Moses. Then his divinity as well as his humanity was recognised and honoured by the holy man and woman, Simeon and Anna. At the age of twelve, when Mary and Joseph took him to the Temple, it was probably for his Bar Mitzvah, recognising that the time had now come for him to take his rightful place in the community, worshipping God, his Father.

As they journey home to Nazareth, Mary thinks Jesus is with Joseph and Joseph thinks he is with Mary, but he is with neither, remaining behind in Jerusalem amongst the teachers listening to them and asking questions. We can imagine the terrible anxiety of parents when their child goes missing. Mary and Joseph shared identify with parents in that distress and the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary of Joseph, shared the difficulties, life experiences problems that beset so many families today. When the life of their child was threatened, they fled like refugees and asylum seekers flee today to a place of safety to protect their child. Yet today we often see “those people” as a problem and do not welcome them or give them protection or a place of safety. Is our response in Europe to Paul’s command to “make hospitality your special care” (Romans 12:13) truly Christian? The NIMBY (not in my back yard) syndrome doesn’t apply just to local communities but also to nations. Yet, it is an essential characteristic of a holy person, a Christian family or nation to welcome the stranger and be prepared to provide places of refuge and safety for those, who like the Holy Family of Nazareth are lost or fleeing for their lives.

We not only belong to our own family in our own home but we also belong to the family of God in the Church as well as in the nation. Each one of us has the responsibility to contribute to the good of our family in the home, the church and the state. We can do that in quite ways by giving of ourselves, our time and talents and in the service of individuals and the wider community and in that way build up own family, the family of the nation and God’s family in the Church.

*Thank you most sincerely for your kindness and generosity to me at Christmas. I wish you and your families a very happy and blessed New Year. Fr John*

**WE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS WHO DIED RECENTLY:**

**GIOVANNI BORELLI RIP**, who died on Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December. He will be received into our Church on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 1.00pm for the celebration of Requiem Mass, to be followed by repatriation to Italy. **May he rest in peace.**

*We offer our sympathy to and prayers for his family and the repose of his soul. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them at this time.*

**OUR GRATITUDE** goes to parishioners for their prayerful support and good work in our community over the year. Many do so much in ways that are not easily seen but we are indebted to them. We have Safeguarding, Sacristan, Readers, Eucharistic Ministers & care home & hospital visitors, Servers and MC, Holy Communion & Confirmation Catechists, Children's Liturgy, Rota organisers, Flower arrangers, laundry rota, singers & musicians, counters and ushers, the Crib, Repository, fundraising at Bazaar & Jumble sales, events and wine tasting, hospitality & refreshments, parishioners delivering Christmas & Easter cards, Parish Council & Finance Committee, Hall Committee, Health & Safety, St Vincent de Paul Society. Apologies to anyone or group not named here, but we are most grateful to you for your work and help during the year.

**CTED CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH:** Thanks and congratulations Mary Morgan and the volunteers; cooks, waiters, sommeliers and chauffeurs who gave of their time, skills and commitment on Christmas Day to provide a wonderful Christmas Dinner in our hall for people who would be alone on Christmas Day. It was obvious that the guests greatly enjoyed the hospitality and the cordiality of the day. Thanks also to parishioners who donated gifts to be given to the guests at the Dinner.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:** 1. A meeting for the Parents of first Holy Communion children will be held in our hall on **9<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 8pm**.  
2. Children will be presented with their **First Reconciliation Certificates** & enrolled for first Holy Communion at all Masses on the weekend of **12 & 13 January**.  
3 **Children's preparation session** for first Holy Communion be held in our hall on Wednesday **16 January at 5.45pm**. **Parents, please note all these dates & times.**

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION:** The next session for young people preparing for Confirmation will be in the Hall on **Tuesday, 8 January**, from 7.30pm to 9.00pm

**EPPING FOODBANK:** Epping Foodbank is very busy at this time of year and needs are great. Tinned & packed items are needed. Toiletries, household cleaning & hygiene items are welcome, as are food treats. Please leave your donations in the box in our church porch. If you wish to make cash donations, please mark the envelope "Foodbank" and leave it at the Priest's House. *A message from Epping Foodbank:*

**"A HUGE thank you for the very generous donations to Epping Foodbank. They made a big difference to many Christmas celebrations & were much appreciated. Thanks & wishing you a very happy New Year. Thank you for your generosity".**

**NEW TO OUR PARISH or have changed your address:** Please complete a Parish Registration form, available in the Church, and introduce yourself to Fr John or Deacon Duncan who will happily welcome you to our church and parish community.




**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING:** Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm in the Priest's House. All are welcome to attend.

**OUR DIOCESAN VISION DOCUMENT: "Shaping our future in our Diocese"** from the Stewards of the Gospel consultation programme in our Diocese. It is available free at the back of the Church. Please look at how it may affect the parishes in this area.



**'FLAME 2' YOUTH EVENT AT WEMBLEY – 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2019**

About 14-21 years old? If so this Youth Event is **specially for you**.

-  Attend with 10,000 other young people. World-known speakers and singers.
-  Travel by underground to and from Wembley Centre. Your total cost is £10
-  Details on line: [cymfed.org.uk/flame2019](http://cymfed.org.uk/flame2019) or on our [church noticeboard](#)

Names & cheques to James Ryan, Fr John or Deacon Duncan. Tickets in short supply,

**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](mailto:egarwood@live.co.uk). Every little helps! There are additional boxes in the Church porch - please take one if you would like to help the missions in poor countries - don't forget to put your name on your box.

**FOR HALL BOOKINGS** contact Arnold Verrall, preferably by telephone, on 01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping) or mobile 07764404813 or by email [arnold\\_verrall@email.com](mailto:arnold_verrall@email.com). **Preferential rates are for parishioners & charities.**

**USED POSTAGE STAMPS** Please save used postage stamps and place them in the Used Stamps box in our Church porch, which is on the bottom shelf under the post tray. The stamps will be given to St Clare Hospice, and can be exchanged for money.

**UK POWER NETWORKS & PRIORITY SERVICES REGISTER:**

How would you cope if you had no electricity for a short while? In the rare event of a power cut, you can get help from UK Power Networks. This company looks after the electricity network in your parish (no matter who you pay your energy bill to) and runs a free Priority Services Register for people with medical needs, families with babies and the elderly. Being on the Register gives you free access during a power cut to services including a welcome pack with useful advice about preparing for a power cut, a home visit by our staff or the British Red Cross and a 24-hour priority phone number. To join the Priority Services Register for extra help during a power cut call: 0800 169 9970, email: [psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk](mailto:psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk), visit: [ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority](http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority)

**SONGS OF PRAISE:** The Assistant Producer has contacted the Diocese as she is working on an episode that will go out on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February with the theme of St Valentine. She is looking for any couples in our parish who have been married for 50+ years and are due to renew their vows in January. It is hoped that filming will be on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January. The Service will be filmed and the couples asked to speak about the importance of marriage, family and a strong faith. If you are interested then please let Fr John know or email [maryhuntington@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:maryhuntington@dioceseofbrentwood.org).