

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 19 to Sunday 27 January 2019

Sunday 20 January 2019 SECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time Peace Sunday

Saturday 19th 6.00pm Paddy Hayden's intentions on his Birthday (Arthy)

Sunday 20th 9.00am People of our Parish

January 2019 11.00am Den McGuinness RIP (Darcy)

Monday 21st St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr

Week 2 Year 1 7.30pm Ethel Ofield RIP (Breen)

Tuesday 22nd St Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon & Martyr

9.00am Deceased members of Rizzi Family (Rizzi)

Wednesday 23rd 9.00am Deceased members of Mavenghi Family (Rizzi)

Thursday 24th St Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor

9.00am Mary Graham's Intentions

Friday 25th The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle

9.00am Bridget McGrath RIP (Anniv)

Saturday 26th January: Feast of St Timothy & St Titus, Bishops

Sunday 27th January 2019: THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Saturday 26th 6.00pm Helven Crouch RIP Anniv (Crouch)

Sunday 27th 9.00am Bishop Patrick Casey RIP Anniv

January 2019 11.00am Joan Scannell RIP (Vine-Morris)

3.00pm Full Sung Latin Mass with Gregorian Chant

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: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time C 20 January 2019

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PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Please inform a Priest or hospital Chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill in hospital or at home so they will have visits from a priest and receive the Sacraments.

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generosity and Offertories last weekend: Envelopes £132.50, Loose £354.94: Standing Orders £800, CAFOD £32.04.

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. Preferential rates for parishioners & charities.

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 welcome you to our church and parish community.

The Octave of prayer for Christian Unity is from the 18th to the 25th January

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohang

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) 20th January 2019

Dear Friends,

“Do whatever he tells you” Mary, the Mother of Jesus told the servants at the wedding feast (John 2:1-12). Here, Mary tells people and us to have faith in her Son and to “Do whatever he tells you”. Our relationship with God requires us to have faith in Jesus as our Saviour. In today’s Gospel at the beginning of his public ministry, we see his mother, telling the servants at the wedding feast to have faith and trust in her son. St John shows us that Jesus worked his first miracle in a context of faith at a wedding, and that “He let his glory be seen and his disciples believed in him”.

Jesus posed the question, “When the Son of Man (himself) comes again, will he find any faith on earth?” (Luke 18:8). Today we have a problem of faith in society. Whilst Christianity may be seen as a faith or religion that addresses moral issues and comforts people in time of need, it is much more than that. Our Christian faith brings people to Christ, just as Mary, his mother did. Our faith calls people into a relationship of faith and trust in Christ. Do we have faith to believe that Christ makes a difference to our life or to the life of other people and that he really is our Lord and Saviour?

Even though we believe that God is our Father and Creator and that he loves us, do we have faith to trust in him, and to depend on him to protect and save us? We try to do things on our own initiative and we develop and try to carry out plans in our own strength. But, do we actually look at or ask what God’s plan is for me? Do we have the faith to believe that if we “do what he tells us” and co-operate with him, he will fulfil his plan for and in us? Just as the servants did what Jesus had told them to do at the wedding feast, so we should do what he tells us to do here and now. When we do what he tells us, then the ordinary will be transformed into the extraordinary, and we will no longer be acting in our own strength or weakness, but with the power of God. In that way we will allow the Lord to transform lives, places and situations.

The prophet Isaiah (62:1-5) uses the image of love between a newly married husband and wife to help us understand the love God has for his people. God does not forsake or abandon his people, but delights in them and is wedded to them. Since God is totally committed to us and loves us, we should be committed to him and to each other in love. We complete a circle of love through sharing the same Spirit and using the variety of gifts he has given us to serve one another in different ways (1Cor.12:4-11).

May the Lord help us grow strong in faith and love. Fr John

PLEASE NOTE THAT ON MONDAY 21ST JANUARY THERE WILL BE NO MORNING MASS. THERE WILL BE AT EVENING MASS AT 7.30PM.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S PREPARATION:

Last weekend children were presented with their **First Reconciliation Certificates** & enrolled for their preparation for first Holy Communion.

Last Wednesday at their preparation session the children were given a **Planner for attendance at Sunday Masses**. They are to collect a Sticker from Fr John or Deacon Duncan at the end of each Sunday Mass they attend and fix it to the box for that Sunday in their planner. If they attend Mass at another church they should get the priest there to sign the box for that Sunday, and they will then be given a sticker here. The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday, 30th January**.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Young people preparing for Confirmation in our parish are at Walsingham House at Navestock Side, Brentwood CM14 5SH, this weekend. They will be Confirmed by Bishop Alan at 11am Mass in our church on **Sunday 24 February**, when he will make a Pastoral Visit to our Parish.

TALKS ON OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: We have talks on the Catholic faith for adults interested in finding out about our faith, becoming Catholic or wishing to understand our faith or support the faith of family members. These are suitable for Catholic adults who have not been Confirmed or not been practising and wish to renew their faith. They are held in **The Priest's House on Wednesdays at 8pm**.

MISSIO APPEAL: Fr Donie O'Connor will speak about the work of Missio, at all Masses next weekend, **26th/27th January 2019**. He will show us how the red Mission boxes can be a great help to spread the Gospel in developing nations and assist people living in poverty to improve their situation with our help.

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE: On **Wednesdays 23rd & 30th January** at 7 pm Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Luke, which is being read on Sundays in 2019. These 'Gidea Park Faith Evenings' will be held in the Gidea Park Catholic Church Hall, at 410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Refreshments provided. Admission free.

SVP CONCERT FOR THE HOMELESS : THE CHOIR WITH NO NAME:

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will hold an event at Farm Street Jesuit Church, Mayfair on **Monday 4th February**. The proceeds will go to buy thousands of "Vinnie Packs", containing gloves, hats, socks, toothpaste and brushes and wet wipes, which can be given to people sleeping on our streets as a **"seed of comfort"**. Alexander Armstrong and renowned soprano, Miranda Heldt plus 50 members of the homeless community choir, **"Choir with No Name"** will provide a night of music and entertainment. Tickets are £30 each and available from www.eventbrite.co.uk. Use the search box on their website to search for London Charity Events and Causes then type in "Vinnie Pack Charity Concert". Any problems please contact e Paul on 07504923428 or Margaret at the Parish Office.

FULL SUNG LATIN MASS with Gregorian Chant next **Sunday 27th January at 3pm** at our Church. Come, pray and sing the Traditional Mass of our Church since earliest times as we say goodbye and Thank You to Fr Mark Higgins. **All Welcome!**

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

THE ANNUAL LOURDES MASS will be celebrated by Bishop Alan at 3 pm on **Sunday 10th February** at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-Sea. During this Mass there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It will be lovely to see all those of you who have a particular devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes.

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 20th – 27th JULY 2019:

Join the **Brentwood Catholic Youth Service** in Lourdes this Summer as we travel alongside the diocese, assisting the elderly and infirm on their annual pilgrimage. Alongside this we run a retreat, daily Masses and excursions for the young people, as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Places will be allocated to ensure as many parishes and schools as possible from the diocese are represented and applications will remain open until **31st January 2019**. Where we receive a large number from one school or parish, places will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis. Please be aware, this is always heavily oversubscribed. The pilgrimage is open to anyone in school year 10 and above and the cost will be around £570 and our parish will also subsidise young people from the parish who wish to go (TBC). For information and the chance to apply, please visit www.bcys.net/events or for any queries, please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS: Royal Walk Sunday 27th January, 3pm. A walk exploring the history of the Royal Family and Catholicism, through St James' Park and on to Buckingham Palace. Meet on the steps of Westminster Cathedral. Nearest Tube: Victoria.

THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY is holding an **Anniversary Charity Ball** to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of its founding. The Charity Ball is their largest and most glamorous event of the year and takes place at **The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on Saturday 9th March**. Tickets are on sale now, costing £55 per person, which will include a drinks reception and three course dinner along with a full evening of entertainment. Guests will be seated on tables of 12, making it the perfect opportunity to get together with friends, family or colleagues, have a fantastic night out whilst at the same time raising vital funds for bccs. As tickets for this event sell out quickly, please contact Julie asap to avoid disappointment: 01268 784544 / 07912277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

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.