

# 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*

**1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT (C)**

**10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2019**

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Christmas provides an emotional buzz for the population at large, as we are bombarded, from summer onwards, with insistent suggestions regarding what should be our Yuletide priorities, and how we should spend our money and our time amidst the bling and often frantic razzmatazz of the Christmas season. For we Christians, our main focus should be on celebrating the anniversary of the coming arrival of the Christ-child, with other 'priorities' being of secondary importance.

However, Easter, and not Christmas, is the highpoint of the Christian year, with Lent and Passiontide preceding it, during which we have the opportunity to review our way of life and our priorities and to make any adjustments which will be pleasing to God. As the clock ticks on towards the remarkable miracle of the Resurrection of Jesus, we are encouraged to spend some of our time during Lent in prayer, when we can have a conversation with God about our love for him and our shortcomings in the way in which we live our life..

It is a wonderful gift to us, to know that we will be forgiven all our indiscretions when we express our sorrow to God for the times we have failed to live up to the high Christian standards. If we are truly sorry for them, minor sins are forgiven during such conversations with God, and such conversations should be a daily feature in our life. Should we need to seek forgiveness for more serious indiscretions, we need to discuss these with a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

To receive God's forgiveness during Lent (or indeed at any time), is a cause for great joy for us, particularly as it precedes the ultimate joy of Eastertide.

God bless.

*Deacon Duncan.*

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C) 10<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Don Golden RIP (Christie)  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Maura Tubridy RIP (Anniv)  
March 2019 11.00am Fran Faulkner RIP Recently (Darcy)  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Rocque Fernandes RIP (Murray)  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Fr James Hawes RIP (McAdam)  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> 12.15pm Philip McAdam's intentions (McAdam)  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Intentions of Mary Dynes (Dynes)  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 9.00am Peggy Quinn RIP (Protheroe)  
7.30pm Stations of the Cross & Mass for Parish Committees

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (C) 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 6.00pm Eileen Lennon RIP Anniv (Lechley)  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 9.00am John Clohessy RIP (Clohessy)  
11.00am Duncan & Dorothy Whitehouse Anniversary Mass

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: Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time C 10 March 2019

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Page 71 Preface: The temptation of the Lord  
Page 153 Collect & Readings Page 25 Eucharistic Prayer 2  
Page 12 The Apostles Creed Page 43 The Communion Rite,  
Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 156 Post Communion Prayer

PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Please inform a Priest or Hospital Chaplain if you, your relative or 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 last weekend with Offertories of Loose Plate: £316.89, Envelopes: £270.70 and Standing Orders £800. CAFOD £20.63.

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 for parishioners & charities.

CAFOD LENT FAST: Family Fast Day will be next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019. We are encouraged to give up or make some sacrifice next Friday and make a donation to CAFOD next weekend at all Masses, to assist people in developing nations and poor countries. Please take a CAFOD donation envelope which will be distributed after all Masses today.

**LENT SERVICES:** On Wednesdays in Lent weekday Mass in our Church will be 12.15pm: which should enable people who cannot come to the earlier 9am weekday Mass to attend. At the 9am weekday Masses there are usually not more than 10 people present. It would be a blessing for parishioners to make a real effort to attend a weekday Mass in Lent.

On the Fridays in Lent Mass will be at 9am, and at 7.30pm with Stations of the Cross. On the Sundays of Lent Stations of the Cross will be at 6pm.

**LENT BOOKLETS:** Please take one and use it daily in Lent – they are free!

**THE LENT CALENDER** with a thought for each day of Lent for everyone

**MY DAY BY DAY** for infants and children in Reception Classes

**MY DAY BY DAY** for junior school children

**WALK WITH ME** for adults has a page a day with a variety of themes

**LENT MASSES:** On the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm we will offer Mass for people in various groups and activities in our parish that God will bless them in their good work for the community. The dates and intentions are as follows:

**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March: Parish Committees**

**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Readers, Ushers & Counters**

**FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> March: Musicians, Choir, Stewards of the Gospel**

**FRIDAY 5<sup>th</sup> April: Catechist's & Children's Liturgy**

**FRIDAY 12<sup>th</sup> April: Ministers of the Eucharist**

**CONFIRMATION:** The 11 young parishioners who recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Alan will be presented with their Confirmation Certificates at Saturday evening Mass on **16<sup>th</sup> March**. They will then have a celebratory meal afterwards in the town.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:** The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 5.45pm** in the Hall.

**LENT LUNCHES:** A chance to meet friends and support Christian Aid. Each Saturday in Lent one of the Churches in Epping offers a light lunch (soup, cheese, bread, tea or coffee) **from 12.30pm to 2pm**. A suggested donation is £3 for Christian Aid. Please bring your friends. Everyone is welcome! The next lunch will take place on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March** at the URC, Epping.

**EASTER LILIES** As in previous years, parishioners are offered the opportunity of remembering deceased relatives and friends at Easter by displaying lilies in the church flower arrangements. It is suggested that a donation of £3 is made for each lily. Please put your donation into an envelope, clearly marked 'Easter Lily in memory of.....' and either put it with the Offertory collection or put it through the Presbytery letter box. If you are a tax payer you can Gift Aid your donation by using the red Special Donations envelope in the Church, or use one of the special envelopes in your box.



### **A SPECIAL INVITATION**

**Deacon Duncan and Dorothy Whitehouse** invite parishioners to join them in the **Parish Hall on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March between 12 & 1.30pm** at a '**Cake and Bubbly**' Reception to celebrate their **60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**.

All very welcome, including those attending earlier Masses.

**LENT DISCUSSION GROUP** There will be a Lent Discussion Group, along similar lines to the Lent Groups which have been arranged in our parish for many years. This year, the subjects will be 'Old and New Testament Miracles'. Meetings will be on **Wednesdays 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> March and 10<sup>th</sup> April from 2.00pm – 4pm**. All very welcome. Please contact Deacon Duncan (01992 577173) if you would like to join this friendly and informal Group.

**FULL SUNG LATIN MASS** with Gregorian Chant on **Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 3pm** at our Church. Come, pray and sing the Traditional Tridentine Latin Mass of our Church. The celebrant will be Monsignor Gordon Read. **All Welcome!**

**PARISH COUNCIL:** Meeting Tuesday 19 March at 8pm at Priest's House.

**BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES:** If your child was baptised in our Parish but you have not yet collected the Baptismal Certificate it is available from the Sacristy, after Mass. Please see Fr John after Mass.

**BAKE SALE:** Thank you to all involved in the Bake Sale, which took place after last weekend's Sunday Masses, raising the grand sum of **£338**.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** We urgently require more helpers for Children's Liturgy at 11am Masses on Sunday. No experience is required and help will be given to new people. Books and materials are provided. There is a rota so helpers can choose the dates they are able to cover. Please contact Norah Nolan if you would like more information or think you might be able to help. Email – [jim.nolan@ntlworld.com](mailto:jim.nolan@ntlworld.com) or telephone 01992 577932.

**HARLOW SINGERS:** *Lucky Dip Concert* on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 3.30pm – 4.30pm** at St Andrew's Methodist Church, The Stow, Harlow CM17 0JT. *A potpourri of pieces sung in a randomly determined order*. Free Admission – retiring collection. For more information please contact the Harlow Singers on telephone 07939064247.