

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*



2nd SUNDAY IN LENT (C)

17th MARCH 2019

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The incredible events described in the Gospel for this weekend, unusually appear in our Readings every year in the 3-year cycle of Readings, so emphasising the importance of the Transfiguration of Jesus to us all. The Transfiguration reveals the Divinity of Christ to Peter, James and John at the top of a mountain where they had gone to pray with Jesus. As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant with light. The link of Christianity with the history of Old Testament times was emphasised by the presence of Moses and Elijah, who both also appeared in glory. As Peter, James and John tried to recover from their surprise at these events, the voice of God announced from a cloud that 'this is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him'.

Thus it was established that Jesus was the Messiah, being divine and at the same time, human and that he had the full blessing of God in all that he was to do. What a dramatic and astounding event, reflection upon which surely encourages us as we continue our Lenten faith journey.

This Sunday is 17th March, when we celebrate the Feast of St Patrick, the Patron Saint of Ireland. We wish all those with Irish connections a happy Feast Day. It is a particularly poignant date in my personal life, as I was received into the Catholic Church on 17th March 62 years ago. Happy St Patrick's Day!!

God bless.

Deacon Duncan.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 16th to Sunday 24th March 2019

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (C) 17th March 2019

Saturday 16th 6.00pm Eileen Lennon RIP Anniv (Lechley)
Sunday 17th FEAST OF ST PATRICK, Bishop & Patron Saint of Ireland
9.00am John Clohessy RIP (Clohessy)
March 2019 11.00am Duncan & Dorothy Whitehouse Anniversary Mass
Monday 18th 9.00am People of our Parish
Tuesday 19th St Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary
9.00am Fr James Hawes RIP (McAdam)
Wednesday 20th 12.15pm Rev Michael O'Rourke RIP (FM)
Thursday 21st 9.00am Lois Gosnell RIP (FM)
Friday 22nd 9.00am Vera Doherty RIP Anniv (Doherty)
7.30pm Stations of the Cross &
Mass for Readers, Ushers & Counters

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C) 24th March 2019

Saturday 23rd 6.00pm Intentions of Philip McAdam (McAdam)
Sunday 24th 9.00am Jim Hayes RIP (Coyne/Hayes)
11.00am People of our Parish
12.30pm **Baptism Eleanor Natalina Gamwells**

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 Lent 17 March 2019

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass

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Page 12 The Apostles Creed Page 43 The Communion Rite,

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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: £360.11, Envelopes: £371.10 and Standing Orders £800. CAFOD £52.03, Latin Mass: £15.

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.**

FULL SUNG LATIN MASS with Gregorian Chant on **Sunday 31st March at 3pm** at our Church. Come, pray and sing the Traditional Tridentine Latin Mass of our Church. *All Welcome!*

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 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 22nd March: Readers, Ushers & Counters

FRIDAY 29th March: Musicians, Choir, Stewards of the Gospel

FRIDAY 5th April: Catechist's & Children's Liturgy

FRIDAY 12th April: Ministers of the Eucharist

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday 20th March at 5.45pm** in the Hall.

LENT LUNCHESES: 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 23rd March** at the St John's Church, 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.

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 20th, 27th March and 10th 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.

PARISH COUNCIL: Meeting **Tuesday 2nd April** at 8pm at Priest's House. **Please note date change from previously publicised.**

CATHOLIC SINGLES is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk or tel. 0161 941 3498.

A SPECIAL INVITATION



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

All very welcome, including those attending earlier Masses.

FATIMA DEVOTION DAY: A day of prayer and thanksgiving for the visit of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima with the Relics of St Jacinta & Francisco. Venue: the Parish of Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford next **Saturday, 23rd March 2019**. Please see poster in porch.

PILGRIMAGE TO GREECE In the Footsteps of St Paul: Fr Eduard-William Fartan from Holy Family in Benfleet is organising a Pilgrimage to Greece to follow in the footsteps of St Paul. Taking place from the **7th-13th October**, the cost will be £730 per person with a £150 deposit to secure your place by 1st of May. Walking should be light, breakfast and dinner included. Any queries or to register your interest please email priest@holyfamily-church.org or call 01268 799082/ 01268 792082

HARLOW SINGERS: *Lucky Dip Concert* this **Sunday 17th 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.

CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH: if you are 16-27 and want to be part of a Lourdes fundraiser, the charity football match details are at www.bcys.net/events. **13th July**, Dagenham. Last year the youth beat the leaders 6-2; can the leaders regain their pride in 2019?! Spectators are very welcome.

THE PASSAGE is raising funds through the Big Give from 12 noon **Tues 19th March – 12 noon Tues 26th March** to support its work with homeless people moving from Street to Home. **Double your Donation, Double your impact**. This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. £10 online matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921856 andrew.h@passage.org.uk. Donate at www.thebiggive.org.uk/thepassage2019