

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS - Saturday 2nd to Sunday 10th November 2019

SATURDAY 2nd November 2019: ALL SOULS DAY

Saturday 2nd Nov 10.00am For our Parishioners who died in the past year RIP
THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY in Ordinary Time C 3rd November 2019

Saturday 2nd Nov 6.00pm The People of our Parish
Sunday 3rd 9.00am Clifford Cullen RIP Recently (Cullen)
November 2019 11.00am Pauline Walsh RIP (Crawley)
Epping Cemetery 3.00pm Cemetery Service & Blessing of Graves at Epping
Monday 4th St Charles Borromeo, Bishop

9.00am Holy Souls
Tuesday 5th 9.00am Holy Souls
Wednesday 6th 12.15pm Thecla Floor RIP (Sr Susan)
Thursday 7th St Willibrord, Bishop

9.00am Holy Souls
Friday 8th 9.00am Holy Souls

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY in Ordinary Time C: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Saturday 9th 6.00pm Bernadette Croft RIP (Ellen)
Sunday 10th 9.00am The People of our Parish
November 2019 11.00am For all who died in Two World Wars & Conflicts
3.00pm Remembrance Day Service at St John's Church, Epping

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: Saturdays: 11.00am to 12 noon & 5.15pm to 5.40pm

MORNING PRAYER of DIVINE OFFICE 15 minutes before 9am weekday Mass
BLESSED SACRAMENT Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after 9am weekday Mass.

PARISH MASS BOOK 31st SUNDAY IN Ordinary Time C 3rd November 2019

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WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Maura Stone, Paula Hall, Ann & Bill Dowd, Frances Wells, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Mark Toohey, James Bullen, Fr Paul Dynan, Fr John Garrett & Fr Tom Jordan. **Please contact a Priest or a Hospital Chaplain if you or your relative, or a parishioner, is ill at home or in hospital so that they can be visited and receive the Sacraments**

OFFERTORIES last week: Envelopes: £411; Loose: £353.50; Standing Orders: £800; CAFOD: £50. Thank you for your generous offerings.

PRAYER LIST FOR THE DEAD IN NOVEMBER Parishioners can place the names of their deceased relatives, friends & parishioners at the altar for remembrance in prayer at daily Mass during November. Please use one of the forms in the Church and return it to the Priest's House, together with any offerings for Masses for the Dead in the Holy Souls envelopes, provided for this purpose in the church.

HALL BOOKINGS contact Arnold Verrall, preferably telephone 01992 001995 and dial 01992 even in Epping, or mobile 07764404813 or by email arnold_verrall@email.com. **Preferential rates for parishioners & for charities.**

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

Registered Charity Number: 234092

Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.org.uk

Email: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173

***Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang
Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa***

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN Year C 3rd November 2019

Dear Friends,

“The Lord supports all who fall and raises up all who are bowed down” (Ps.144). Judgement and condemnation casts people down and diminishes their ability to make a new start or progress in life. St Paul writes in Romans 8:1 “there is no condemnation for people living in relationship with Christ”. Through Christ, God gives people freedom by forgiving their sins and setting them free from the effects of their sins – which are guilt and condemnation.

Today's Gospel shows change and conversion can happen in the lives of people who look to Jesus and respond to his call. Jesus found Zacchaeus, as he always seeks out those excluded or rejected by others. He honoured Zacchaeus, who was despised and condemned as a sinner by those around him, and visited his house where he declared that “salvation, has come to this house, today (Luke 19:1-10).

In the structure of our Scripture readings at Sunday Mass, the Psalm is the link between the Old Testament and the Gospel readings. Today we can see the approach God takes to his people by being “compassionate, slow to anger, always faithful and loving, supporting all who fall and raising up all who are bowed down”. If we really understood those qualities coming to us from God through Christ, we would be looking out to the Lord, listening to his word, and responding to his call with a real sense of security, joy and happiness.

In the month of November, we remember and pray for our dead. Remembrance Sunday, next Sunday, has national significance as acts of Remembrance take place throughout the country to commemorate those who died in the Two Great Wars and subsequent conflicts. In November, the Church also leads us into remembrance of people who have died, especially the members of our own families and communities. In the Eucharistic Prayer at every Mass, the Church remembers “the sufferings, death and resurrection of Christ, and his ascension into glory”. She also has us remember and pray for “those who have died and gone before us marked with the sign of faith, that they may have light, happiness and peace in the Lord's presence”. We live in the Communion of saints with Christ here on earth, and our prayer and hope for those who have died is that they will be in perfect communion with him in the glory of heaven. There we hope to be re-united with them one day, when we hope to be taken up into the Lord's perfect love and share in his glory.

May Christ give us the grace to hear and respond to his call. Fr John

DECEASED: We pray for the repose of the soul of **Mrs Patricia Worley RIP**, who died on Wednesday, 23rd October. **May she rest in peace.** May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console her bereaved family at this time.

NOVEMBER SERVICES FOR THE DEAD: Today, Saturday, 2nd November, All Souls Day, we offer Mass at 10am for all in our parish who died in the past year. On Sunday 3rd November, at 3pm we have a Cemetery Service & Blessing of Graves at Epping Cemetery. On Sunday 17th November, at 3pm we will have a Bereavement Service in our Church. All are welcome to these Masses and Services.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: The next preparation session for the Parents will be on Wednesday evening, 6th November at 8pm and for the children will be on 13th November at 5.45pm in the Hall.

PAX CHRISTI 'PENNIES FOR PEACE' BOTTLE helps an International Catholic organisation to promote peace around the world. Mainly run by volunteers, it runs workshops for schools & parishes and is active internationally behind the scenes in promoting peace, for example, in the Middle East & Ireland. Our 'Pennies for Peace' bottle is placed by our CAFOD noticeboard at weekend Masses). Please help to fill it with small change (or notes if you wish!). The bottle is emptied regularly and the proceeds are sent directly to the London office of Pax Christi.

ALTAR SERVERS: We urgently need more Altar Servers to serve at the weekend Masses. Fr John would especially like to hear from those families whose children who have made their first Holy Communion in the past few years. Please e-mail the Parish Office if your child would like to be an Altar Server.

SAFEGUARDING IN OUR PARISH: Information on Safeguarding in our parish is on the church porch noticeboard. We ask all in a parish role, who are in contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults, to give us their up-to-date contact details on a slip at the back church and return it to our Parish Office.

USHERS/WELCOMERS: We are preparing a new rota of Ushers & Welcomers for weekend Masses. We **URGENTLY** need more parishioners so that it comes round about every eight weeks. Please call Mary Morgan on 01992 574719 or give your name & telephone number to Fr John or Deacon Duncan for Mary's attention.

COULD YOU READ AT MASS? If you are a confident reader & speak clearly, you could join the present Readers on our Rotas, reading about every 6th week at your chosen Mass. Please contact Deacon Duncan if you can help. There will be an introductory session in Church **9.30 – 11.30am on Saturday 9th November.**

ROTAS: The new rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers is now available.

PEACEFUL PRAYER & ECUMENICAL PROCESSION: "500 +Crosses for Life". Since abortion became legal in 1967, nearly 10 million people have been denied the right to life. There are over **500** abortions every day in England and Wales - the total rose to **205,000 in 2018** – all paid for by the taxpayer. Please go to Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 9th November for a 1.30pm start and ending at Westminster Abbey about 2 hours later, so that the Church's voice can be heard in heaven and on earth pleading and praying for voiceless infants in the womb.

CHRISTMAS MARKET/BAZAAR 30 November: Hello again from Janet, Nina and our Christmas Market team. It's week three of our appeal for donations - this week's stall is '**Books & Entertainment**'. We are looking for books in excellent condition. Have you got some DVDs or Blu-Rays you've watched, and would like to donate? Does your son or Daughter have some PlayStation or Xbox games they don't play anymore but they still work, in excellent condition? This year we would like to request donations of Vinyl & CD's in great condition (Please NO videos). **Mary Morgan** is calling all of you who love to cook. Can you donate a dish suitable for her to sell in the café or could you give 30 minutes or more on the day to help her in the kitchen or wait on tables. Please contact Mary on **01992 574719**.

Grand prize draw tickets will be given out after Saturday & Sunday Masses. Please, could you buy and sell some.. **A big thank you from all of us for the donations for last weeks appeal "Toiletries & gifts" and to all the lovely people who have already pledged their time to volunteer and help on the day.**

ESTATE AGENT BOARDS: Many thanks to those parishioners who have agreed to have a board this year. These will be put up in the next week or so.

CTED CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON: We once again are happy to invite everyone who will be alone on Christmas Day to enjoy a traditional Christmas luncheon with us in our Hall on Christmas Day 12.30pm for 1pm. Details to follow.

PARISH JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP: Our parish urgently needs to re-start our Justice & Peace Group to address issues like: our twin parish in South Africa; CAFOD, homelessness; sanctity of human life, modern day slavery, deprived communities; major disasters overseas and in UK; illicit arms trade, etc. The Group meets quarterly and work is based on the **Christian values of love, support and caring.** Please come to a **meeting in the Priest's House on Tuesday 12 November at 7.30pm** to help to form a vibrant group. Queries to Paul Ives 01992 577104

"AN ENQUIRERS' EVENING" for men interested in or considering a vocation to be a priest, on Tuesday 5 November, at St Edmund's Church, Loughton. Please contact Fr Mark Swires for information at vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

A YOUTH MASS at St. EDMUND'S CHURCH, LOUGHTON on SUNDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, at 6pm for young people of Loughton, Epping & Waltham Abbey parishes, on **24th November**, the Feast of Christ the King - National 'Youth Sunday'. In St. Edmund's Hall afterwards for pizza, drinks & chat!

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL Loughton will hold visit days for prospective new parents: Tuesday 12th November at 9.15am, Monday 25th November at 2.00pm, Wednesday 4th December at 2.00pm & Thursday 9th January at 9.15am. Parents can view around the school and ask questions. Mr Michael Ross, the new Headteacher, will speak at all our Masses in our parish on the weekend of **16th/17th of November.** If you would like to visit on one of the dates please contact the school on **0208 508 6315** or email tmcgrenra@st-johnfisher.essex.sch.uk.

ON CHURCH NOTICEBOARD: Details of

PAN-AFRICAN MASS at St George's Church, Walthamstow on 10th November
THE SCRIPTURES IN ADVENT at Gidea Park Church on 23rd November