

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS – Saturday 18 to Sunday 26 January 2020
OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY from the 18th to 25th January
SECOND SUNDAY OF Ordinary Time (A) PEACE SUNDAY 19 January 2020

Saturday 18th 6.00pm Pauline Smith-Galer RIP (Murray)
Sunday 19th 9.00am People of our Parish
January 2020 11.00am Matt Conrad’s intentions (Palmer)
Monday 20th St Fabian Priest, and St Sebastian, Martyrs Week 2 Year 2
9.00am Brian McGuinness RIP (Recently)
Tuesday 21st St Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
9.00am Helen Dowling RIP Recently (Sr Susan)
Wednesday 22nd St Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon & Martyr
12.15pm Catherine D Kelly RIP (Recently)
Thursday 23rd 9.00am Holy Souls RIP
Friday 24th St Francis de Sales, Bishop
9.00am Mass intention
11.00am George Hellen RIP FUNERAL SERVICE

Saturday 25th Conversion of St Paul - Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends
THIRD SUNDAY of Ordinary Time A Sunday of the Word of God 19 January 2020

Saturday 25th 6.00pm Bridget McGrath RIP (Anniv.)
Sunday 26th 9.00am Andreas Kyrou RIP 1st Anniv (Kyrou)
January 2020 11.00am Joan Scannell RIP (Vine-Morris)
3.00pm LATIN MASS in The Tridentine Rite

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: SECOND of SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME A 19 Jan 2020

Page 7 Beginning of Mass **Page 70 Preface: Salvation through Christ**
Page 125 Collect & Readings **Page 28 Eucharistic Prayer 3**
Page 11 The Creed **Page 56 The Communion Rite,**
Page 14 Preparation of Gifts **Page 127 Post Communion Prayer**

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME, It is important to contact a Priest or a Hospital Chaplain if you, your relative, or a parishioner, is ill at home or in hospital so that they can have pastoral visits and receive the Sacraments

OFFERTORIES last week: Envelopes: £176.60; Loose: £300.51; Standing Orders: £800; CAFOD: £20. Thank you for your generous offerings.

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**

SECOND SUNDAY OF Ordinary Time A PEACE SUNDAY 19 January 2020

Dear Friends,

“Look, there is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,” St John the Baptist said as he pointed people to Jesus (Jn.1:29-34). John knew his mission was “to prepare a way for the Lord” so that people would receive the Messiah when he came. John testified that he saw the Holy Spirit come down on Jesus like a dove, and anoint him as the Chosen One of God. John said that the baptism by Jesus would change people’s lives with the power of the Holy Spirit. John considered that the most important thing for people was to be set free from their sins by Jesus, the “Lamb of God who had come to take away the sins of the world”.

In the Old Testament people sacrificed animals and creatures to God as a sign they were offering a sacrifice so that he might forgive their sins. The greatest sacrifice was that of the Passover Lamb, whose blood was sprinkled on the doorposts of people’s homes as they prepared to leave slavery in Egypt for freedom in the promised land (Exodus 12:22). The blood of the Passover Lamb gave the people protection from death and enabled them to go to a new life in the Promised Land. Jesus was the Passover Lamb in the New Testament whose blood was shed on the Cross to take away people’s sins and give them new life with God. That new life of grace was given completely when he rose from the dead at the resurrection, and then poured out his Spirit on all mankind at Pentecost.

We have just celebrated the joy of Christ’s birth and coming in the world with light at Christmas. Isaiah (49:3-6) prophesied that the Messiah or Christ would be “the light of the nations” (non-Jewish peoples), so that God’s “saving grace would reach to the ends of the earth”. Sacrifice is of its nature difficult, but Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice, his life, to take away people’s sins so that everyone might “live in the glorious freedom of the children of God” (Romans 8:16-21). Whilst these events and saving mysteries happened in the past, they are made present to us here and now in the Mass as the Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are read, and Christ’s Sacrifice of his life, is made present to us on the Altar. In the Mass we repeatedly proclaim him the “the Lamb of God who takes away our sins and the sins of the world”. In order to conform our life to Christ, and accept his grace to save us from sin and its effects we need to make our own the response in today’s Psalm 39 as we say; “Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will”.

May we humbly sacrifice our will to God’s in love and truth. Fr John

RECENTLY DECEASED: GEORGE HELLEN RIP who died on 8th January. His Funeral Service will be celebrated in our church on **Friday 24 January at 11am** followed by interment at Theydon Bois Cemetery. **May he rest in peace.**

JACQUELINE EASTON RIP who died on 30th December. Her Funeral Service will be celebrated in our church on **Tuesday 28th January at 12.45pm**, followed by interment at Epping Cemetery. **May she rest in peace.**

HELEN (EILEEN) DOWLING RIP who died on 31st December. Requiem Mass will be celebrated in our church on **Wednesday 29th January at 12.15pm**, followed by interment at All Saints Churchyard, Nazeing. **May she rest in peace.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: Our next session for the First Communion children will be on **Wednesday 22nd January at 5.45pm** in the Hall.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: Many thanks for your generous response to last week's Appeal for the protection of unborn children and vulnerable human life.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Parish Council meeting is **NEXT Wednesday 22nd January at 8pm** in the Priest's House. If you have any items for discussion please contact the Parish Office or speak to a Parish Council member.

GOD WHO SPEAKS: Pope Francis has given us the "Year of God who Speaks". to encourage us to grow in familiarity and love with the Word of God, who speaks to us in the Bible. **The NRSV Bibles are on sale in the church at £10** (normal price £20). This edition of the Bible has a selection of Catholic prayers and devotions, a theme index, and references for all the scripture readings in the Sundays of the 3 year cycle.

SAFEGUARDING children and vulnerable adults in our parish information is displayed on the church porch. We thank all who have completed the slips updating their address and contact details etc. We ask **ALL in a parish role**, who are in contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults, to up- date their details on a the Safeguarding slip, which is at the back church, and return it to our Parish Office.

YOUR ADDRESS ON PARISH REGISTER: If you have not registered in our parish or updated your address, please take a Parish Register Form at the back of the Church and complete and return it to the Priest's House. If you are new to our parish, please complete a Parish Register form and introduce yourself to Fr John or Deacon Duncan who will be happy to welcome you to our church and parish community.

THE RED MISSION BOXES boxes that many parishioners use are a great way to support the Church's missionary work and aid people in poorer countries. We ask parishioners to take theirs from our church porch. If you have got one, please take one. The boxes are an easy but invaluable way of helping spread the Gospel in developing nations and helping people who are living in abject poverty.

THE EPPING FOREST FOODBANK provides emergency food packs to those in urgent need. If you, or anyone you know, is in serious need or financial difficulty, vouchers for the Foodbank are available from our Parish Office, Epping and Loughton churches, EFDC, CAB, schools and GP surgeries. We have a box in the church porch to receive non-perishable foods & household goods for the Foodbank.

PEACE SUNDAY TODAY: This year Pax Christi International will celebrate its 75th anniversary. The movement continues to grow and flourish with more than a hundred member groups around the world. Last year, Pax Christi coordinated times of prayer and witness, as well as making public statements to challenge the arms trade, nuclear weapons and the oppression of the Palestinian people. They have an Education Officer who works in schools and youth events to support young people in exploring peace issues and developing as peacemakers themselves.

If you would like to support the work of Pax Christi, please put your donation in the bottle at the back of the church or in one of the Pax Christi envelopes in the church. Many thanks.

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: Our next Holy Sacrifice in the beautiful Traditional Rite will be offered in our Church next **Sunday, 26 January at 3pm**. The texts of readings, hymns & chants in English and Latin will be provided.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Saturday 8th February 2020 –Fundraising this year will start with our annual event "**Dancing to the Elevators**". The evening will commence at 7.30pm with various song genres with The Elevators five piece Pop/Rock band at 8.30pm until 11.30pm. This is a very popular event and the dance floor is always packed. To avoid disappointment, we advise buying tickets in advance. Tickets at £7 per adult/£3 for children will be on sale after all Masses.

#Frdominic5000at50: Fr Dominic will turn 50 in September, and to mark it he is solo cycling 5000km between now and then – all without leaving Walsingham House at Abbotswick! He is raising money for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, Help Refugees, HCPT and Walsingham House. Details of where you can donate online are at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50> or you can send cheques payable to "Fr D Howarth" to FrDominic5000at50, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5SH

EPPING CHORUS CONCERT (formerly ECCA) will sing Haydn's Nelson Mass, Jenkins' Te Deum and Parry's 'Hear My Words' at their New Year Concert on **Saturday 25th January at 7.30pm** in St John the Baptist Church, Epping. Free admission; Programmes £2.50 (to offset expenses). Interval refreshments available. Further information on our notice boards. Support will be greatly welcomed!

FULLY ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND, 25th May 2020, led by Bishop Alan Williams. £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with breakfast & dinner. All entertainment, excursions & lunches on days out included. Wheelchair accessible rooms & single room supplement £100. Contact Patricia on email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com or phone 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

JOB VACANCIES: Please see church noticeboard.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS: We have Catholic newspapers on sale each week at the back of the church. The parish receives a small profit on each newspaper sold.