

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS **Saturday 8th to Sunday 16th February 2020**

Saturday 8th February: St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin: Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking & those who support them and combat modern slavery.

FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME A RACIAL JUSTICE DAY 9 February 20

Saturday 8th **6.00pm** **People of our Parish**
Sunday 9th **9.00am** **Andreas Kyrou RIP (Kyrou)**
February 2020 **11.00am** **Joan Scannell RIP (Vine-Morris)**
Monday 10th **St Scholastica, Virgin**
 9.00am **Charles McKenna RIP Recently (Sr Susan)**
Tuesday 11th **Our Lady of Lourdes: World Day of Prayer for the Sick**
 9.00am **Fr Michael O'Rourke RIP (FM)**
Wednesday 12th **12.15pm** **Catherine Kelly RIP (Recently)**
Thursday 13th **2.00pm** **Frank Kurton RIP** **Requiem Mass**
Friday 14th **Saints Cyril & Methodius, Bishops: European Feast**
 9.00am **Holy Souls**

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A **16 February 2020**

Saturday 15th **6.00pm** **Mary Canny RIP (Canny)**
Sunday 16th **9.00am** **Mary Kelly's intentions (Flanagan)**
February 2020 **11.00am** **The People of our Parish**

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: FIFTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME 9 February 2020

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Page 11 The Creed **Page 56** The Communion Rite,
Page 14 Preparation of Gifts **Page 135** 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: Envelopes: £331.94; Loose: £320.50; Standing Orders: £800; CAFOD: £30. Thank you for your generous offerings.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: Offerings made at the Crib in our Church amounted to £228.49 and the retiring collection last weekend came to £ 343.50. All of this is being sent to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society to assist their work in supporting children, young people and families in our East London & Essex.

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - (YEAR A) **9th February 2020**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

It was about 700 years before Christ, nearly 3000 years ago, that God spoke to his people, through the prophet Isaiah (see today's first Reading), urging them to

**Feed the hungry,
Shelter the homeless,
Clothe the poor,
Be kind and thoughtful to everyone.**

Does this look familiar??!! The **needs of the poor and deprived have not changed much in 3000 years!!** We must remember that each of us is now a 'prophet' – a 'modern-day Isaiah', with the same **responsibility to love God and our neighbour** by living a good life in the eyes of God and to spread the good news to others.

So, what more can we do? Surely, we cannot just leave it to others to save the dignity and feelings of those who are deprived. How can each of us help in some way to address the enormous gap between the 'haves' and 'have-nots'?

Today, God addresses the worldwide Catholic Church, including each one of us, through our readings at Mass. It is for us to respond generously by stepping forward to help in whatever way we can. We can make an enormous difference to the lives of millions of deprived people – human beings like us, but who are denied the dignity and comfort of living wholesome, peaceful lives.

We are blessed to belong to a parish which can respond to God's call in so many ways. This week, we are being asked by God to decide what practical contribution we can make. Why not contact a member of the Parish Council to offer your help (pictures of each Council member are displayed on the notice board to help you)?

God bless.

Deacon Duncan

FRANK KURTON RIP: We pray for the repose of the soul of Frank Kurton, our parishioner, who died on Thursday 30th January. He will be received into our church on **Thursday, 13 February, at 2pm for the celebration of Requiem Mass** followed by committal at Parndon Wood Crematorium at 4pm. **May he rest in peace. We offer our sympathy to his family, and pray that the Lord sends his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and all families who mourn at this time.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: Our next session for the First Communion children will be on **Wednesday 26th February at 5.45pm** in the Hall.

SAFEGUARDING children & vulnerable adults in our Parish: Information is displayed on the church porch. We thank all who 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.

RED MISSION BOXES used by many parishioners are a way to support the Church's missionary work and aid people in poor countries. Please take your box from the church porch. If you have not got one, please take one. This is an way to help spread the Gospel in developing nations and help people who are living in abject poverty.

ROTAS: The new rota for Readers and Eucharistic Ministers is now available in the letter rack of the church porch.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Thomas Benjamin Wilton-Keely who was baptised at our Church recently. May the Lord bless them and help them to bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.*

LENTEN REFLECTION & REVISION RETREAT 27-29 March at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. In school years 11-13? Struggling to find a quiet space to study for GCSEs, BTEC or A-levels? The weekend's retreat will include reflective prayer, generous time for personal study, and relaxed social time, and conclude with Mass 8pm Friday 27th – 3pm Sunday 29th. Meals included. Cost £35.

THE ANNUAL LOURDES MASS will be celebrated at Brentwood Cathedral next **Sunday 16th February at 3 pm**. This is an opportunity to give thanks for graces received in Lourdes and to offer prayers for the sick. During the Mass, the Sacrament of Anointing the Sick will be celebrated and offered to those who are ill or infirm.

BAKE SALE: ON SUNDAY, 23rd February after 9 & 11am Masses. Donations of cakes and baked goods welcome. Please contact Adriana on 07828 118 909. If you would like to pre-order your favourites or make a contribution. Proceeds to our parish.

THANK YOU: We express the gratitude of our parish to **Malcolm Heughan** who is stepping down as member of our Parish Finance Committee. He has conscientiously served on this committee for over 20 years, including time spent as Chairman.

THE EPPING FOREST FOODBANK provides emergency food packs to those in urgent need. If you, or anyone you know, is in financial difficulty or serious need, vouchers for the Foodbank are available from our Parish Office, Epping & 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.

MIRACLE HOUR: a small prayer book giving 12 different forms of prayer, of five minutes each, which could be used for a whole hour or one or two sections each day. On sale in the church at £3.50 each. Highly recommended.

LENT EVENTS ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN: *The Year of the God who Speaks* continues with a Lenten focus on the Gospel of John, which figures prominently in this year's liturgies. On **Saturday 29th February** Fr Victor Darlington, professor at St John's Seminary, Wonersh, will lead a study day on 'John among the Gospels' from 10.30 until 3 pm at Christ the High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH). And on the evenings of **11th, 18th and 25th March** beginning at 7 pm at the same venue Fr Adrian Graffy will speak about 'The Great Johannine Gospels', considering the gospels of the Samaritan Woman, the Man Born Blind, and the Raising of Lazarus, which will be proclaimed on the subsequent Sundays, 3rd, 4th and 5th of Lent. These evenings will include a reading of the relevant gospel in parts. Please book your place for any of these events by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914. For further information and video of past events go to www.whatgoodnews.org

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT: at Walsingham House grounds, Abbotswick on **Friday 3 & Saturday 4 April**. Begins at 8pm with a film & talk; or arrive at 11pm for Mass. Sleepout midnight to 7am. It is very hard for those sleeping on the streets in freezing weather. The Sleepout is a way to raise money for homeless charities and helps us understand what it feels like to sleep outside. Groups, register by emailing frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org; individuals register at www.bcys.net. Open to anyone aged 15-105 (those aged 15-18 must be part of a group, with parents consent).

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY a children's charity delivering vital mental health and counselling services in schools and families in the diocese wishes to appoint Trustees to their board to guide & develop their work. Details www.bccs.org.uk or email Bernadette, Director on bfisher@bccs.org.uk

MONTHLY PRAISE AND WORSHIP EVENING: Sion Community, on behalf of the Diocesan Service Team, hold a monthly Praise and Worship evening on the last Sunday of each month. The next one is **Sunday 23rd February at 7.30pm**. Everyone is very welcome at 'SENT', Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood CM15 9BX for an evening of contemporary Christian worship. If you have any queries, please contact them on admin@sioncommunity.org.uk, call 01277 215011 or see website: www.sioncommunity.org.uk.