

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS** Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Rocque Fernandes RIP Anniv (Murray)
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Geraldine & John Trinder RIP Recently (Knight)
March 2020	11.00am	The People of our Parish
BAPTISM	12.30pm	Anthony Martin Casey
	6.00pm	THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Mr & Mrs Tobin RIP (FM)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	Mary Whearty's intentions
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Fr James Hawes RIP (Birthday)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Eileen Lennon RIP Anniv (Lechley)

7.30pm THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS & Mass for Readers, Ushers & Counters

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A** 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Helven Crouch RIP Anniv (Crouch)
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Mary Canny RIP (Canny)
March 2020	11.00am	People of our Parish
BAPTISM	12.30pm	Ruby Rosina Iris Lea Evans
	6.00pm	THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS

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

**MORNING PRAYER of DIVINE OFFICE** 15 minutes before 9am weekday Masses.

**BLESSED SACRAMENT Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after 9am weekday Mass.**

**UNIVERSALIS:** [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com) for daily Mass readings, Lectio Divina, Prayer of the Church in The Divine Office and Spiritual Reading for each day of Lent.

**SPIRITUALITY & LENT:** <https://aleteia.org/category/spirituality/>

**A LENT RETREAT 2020 – Journeying with Jesus daily:** [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie)

**PARISH MASS BOOK: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Year A** 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Page 7 Beginning of Mass	Page 71 Preface: The transfiguration of the Lord
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Page 11 The Creed	Page 56 The Communion Rite,
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**WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME** Please contact a Priest or Hospital Chaplain if you, your relative, or a parishioner, is ill at home or in hospital so that they can have pastoral visits.

**OFFERTORIES:** Offertory Envelopes: £178; Loose: £323.84; Standing Orders: £800; CAFOD: £50.55. Thank you for your generous offerings.

**CAFOD COLLECTION** at all Masses THIS weekend to aid people in poor nations.

**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](mailto:arnold_verrall@email.com). **Preferential rates for parishioners & for charities**

**MIRACLE HOUR:** a prayer book with 12 different forms of prayer, of five minutes. Can be used for an hour or a couple of sections each day. In the church at £3.50 each.

## The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Email: [epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)  
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Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT - (YEAR A)** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Peter, James and John must have been amazed and possibly terrified at the events recounted by Saint Matthew in today's Gospel reading. They had accompanied Jesus up 'a high mountain', traditionally known as Mount Tabor or the Mount of the Transfiguration. Little did they know what miraculous events they were to witness!

It would be a very worthwhile Lenten devotion to read again, preferably quietly at home, St Matthew's Gospel Ch 17 vv 1-9. Just imagine that you are actually there and **feel the glory of this awesome occasion**. How would you have responded? How would you have reacted to the supernatural events which the apostles witnessed?

As we know, our Christian faith is not simply a set of rules and proposals to which we give our quiet assent for an hour each week when we come to Mass. It is the commitment of our whole life to God, our Almighty Father, who encourages us regularly to speak to him in prayer and to show our love for him and our neighbour by the way in which we lead our lives. As we hear the account of the supernatural events on 'the high mountain', are we not moved to glorify God and pledge ourselves anew to being committed to recognising his glorious presence at every moment, in every event and in every day?

In his Transfiguration, the face of Jesus 'shone like the sun' and his clothes became 'as white as light', Does this not inspire us to recognise the presence of God, and to follow this light, every day of our life with renewed devotion?

God bless.

*Deacon Duncan*

**LENT BIBLE COURSE:** The next session will be on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, at 8pm** in our Hall. It is following **“The Big Picture”**: a book & DVD by CaFE & the Bible Society to understand The Bible & God’s plan for us. The Books with DVD will be supplied to you and we will have the trailer for the course presented in the Church this weekend. This is an excellent, reflective and prayerful course especially linked with the “Year of the Word” – The God who speaks to us in The Bible. **NRSV Catholic Edition Bibles with references for Bible readings at Mass and a selection of Catholic prayers are on sale in our church at £10 (i.e. half-price).**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION:** Our next First Communion session for the children will be in the Hall on **Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March at 5.45pm.**

**CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY** was on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March.** CAFOD envelopes will be collected at all Masses THIS weekend. If you would like to support CAFOD’s work by offering your time, please contact Chris Driscoll at [brentwood@cafod.org.uk](mailto:brentwood@cafod.org.uk) or call 01263 551293.

**SAFEGUARDING children and vulnerable adults in our Parish:** There will be a **Safeguarding training session** in our Hall on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, at 7.30pm.** We ask **ALL in a parish role** in contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults, to attend. Information on this is displayed on the church noticeboard.

**EASTER LILIES:** Parishioners can remember deceased relatives or friends at Easter by putting lilies in the church flower arrangements. There will be a Memorial Book, on display in the church with the names of all those remembered. Suggested donation is £3 a lily. Please use a donation envelope (there are red ones in the church) and mark it 'Easter Lily in memory of...' and place in the Offertory collection or the Presbytery letter box. Tax payers can Gift Aid donations using the special Donations envelope in the Church, or one of the envelopes in your box of Offertory Envelopes.

**LENT LUNCHESES:** Meet friends & support Christian Aid on the Saturdays in Lent, at one of the Churches in Epping for a light lunch (soup, bread, cheese, tea or coffee) between 12.30 & 2.00pm. A suggested donation is £3 for Christian Aid. Please bring your friends. Everyone is welcome! The next lunch will be on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** at the **Methodist Church Hall, High Street, Epping.** Our Lent Lunch will be on **Saturday 28 March.** We need donations of soup & bread for our lunch and lots of help with serving, washing up etc. Please come and sit with your families and guests to enjoy lunch together. Call Mary Morgan 01992 574719 if you can help in any way.

**JUMBLE SALE:** Diary date: our next parish Jumble Sale will be on **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April.** Please start sorting any clean jumble and leave in the church porch.

**YOUTH MASS at St.Edmund's, Loughton at 6pm on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March** for all young people of Loughton, Epping Waltham Abbey parishes. The arrangements will be largely the same as those of our two earlier Masses and we hope that the young people and others who did so much to make our previous Masses a success will be willing to be involved in the same way for this third Mass.

**SVP RAFFLE:** Many thanks to all those who sold and bought tickets last weekend. The results of the raffle will be published in due course.

**OPEN MIC NIGHT on Saturday 14 March 2020.** Due to lack of people offering to entertain us at this social event it has been decided that we now have to cancel it.

**"GOD WHO SPEAKS" LENTEN LECTURE at Brentwood Cathedral Hall** on ***Reading the Bible: the challenges of interpretation*** by Professor John Barton, Oriel & Laing Emeritus Professor of Interpretation of Holy Scripture, University of Oxford. **at 7.30pm on Wednesday 11 March .** Free Entry. All welcome. Details at [www.cathedral-brentwood.org](http://www.cathedral-brentwood.org)

**ST JOHN’S GOSPEL IN LENT:** *The Year of the God who Speaks* has a Lent focus on St John’s Gospel, that is used in this year’s liturgies. On the **11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March** starting at 7 pm Fr Adrian Graffy will speak on ‘The Great Johannine Gospel’ at Christ the High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Evenings will include a reading of relevant gospel in parts. Please book a place by phone to 01708 449914 or email [GPstudydays@gmail.com](mailto:GPstudydays@gmail.com) Details [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**LENTEN WORKS OF MERCY: Helpers of God’s Precious Infants** reach out in love and compassion to mothers in “crisis” pregnancies and those suffering the effects of abortion. Near to Epping, the Helpers go to Marie Stopes, Russell Road, Buckhurst Hill, every Saturday 7.30am-11.30am and always welcomes anyone who wishes to join the vigil, even if only for ½ hour. Please contact Paul on 01992 577104 or Rose on 0208 2529459 for further details.

**“THE BILLERICAY PADRE PRAYER GROUP** invites you to a Day of Devotion to the Divine Mercy led by Father Stewart Foster at Walsingham House at Abbotswick,,Navestock Side, near Brentwood, CM14 5SH on **Mercy Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020.** Arrival from 10.30am for 11 am start. Mass 12 noon. Confession available. The Day will end at 3.30 pm. Please ring Claire Wallis on 01277 658783 or send a text to 07795417420 if you are intending to come. All are welcome”

**POUSTINIA PROJECT:** The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham, to celebrate the Rededication of England as Mary’s Dowry, hopes to find benefactors to support their ‘Poustinia’ project. We need to raise £100,000 to build two shepherd’s huts & develop prayer gardens around them at our House of the Divine Will Convent. If you know anyone who can help please ask them to speak to Sr Camilla COLW ([info@walsinghamcommunity.org](mailto:info@walsinghamcommunity.org) or 01328 801018).

**"SION COMMUNITY WORK & PRAY:** Join us for a few days or a week from **30<sup>th</sup> March to 4<sup>th</sup> April** to volunteer your time and talents and help with essential upkeep to our large house/gardens. An opportunity for anyone wishing to take time out and experience community life and daily prayer, Adoration and Mass at the Cathedral. Working hours will be taken up with manual work and if you are someone who likes to cook you can take a turn in the kitchen feeding the troops! For information and to register contact Mary: [admin@sioncommunity.org.uk](mailto:admin@sioncommunity.org.uk) "

**CORONAVIRUS – CHANGES:** With concerns about the spread of the Coronavirus we are discontinuing, at present, the administration of the Chalice and the exchange of handshakes at the Sign of Peace and on leaving the church.