

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS** Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

**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
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Teresa Laxamana RIP Recently (Kelly)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>		<b>FEAST OF ST PATRICK, Patron Saint of Ireland</b>
	10.00am	John Clohessy RIP (Clohessy)
	7.30pm	Patrick Rafferty RIP (McAdam)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	12.15pm	Charlie Derenge RIP Recently (Christie)
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Marie Crehan's intentions on her Birthday (Palmer)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Ronaldo Catamora RIP Recently (Kelly)

7.30pm STATIONS of the CROSS & Mass for Musicians, Choir & Gospel Stewards

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR A MOTHERING SUNDAY 22 March 2020**

Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup>	6.00pm	Winifred (Win) Crouch RIP Anniv (Crouch)
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.00am	People of our Parish
March 2020	11.00am	Intentions of Ann Goddard (Whitehouse)
Laetare or	3.00pm	LATIN MASS in Traditional Rite
Rejoicing Sunday	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) 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: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Year A 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Page 7 Beginning of Mass	Page 72 Preface: Jesus & the Samaritan woman
Page 158 Collect & Readings	Page 25 Eucharistic Prayer 2
Page 11 The Creed	Page 56 The Communion Rite,
Page 14 Preparation of Gifts	Page 164 Post Communion Prayer

**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: £217.50; Loose: £225.98; Standing Orders: £800; CAFOD BOX: £20; CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: £432.22. Many thanks.**

**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**

## The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA  
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Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

**THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT - YEAR A**

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

*Dear friends,*

Jesus said, "Anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again and the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him welling up to eternal life", (Jn.4:5-42). In this Gospel Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and teaches about the "water of life", that he offers to all who believe in him. There is a picture by Sieger Koder called "insight" showing the woman looking down into the well and seeing a reflection of the face of Christ as well as her own face in the water. It is a profound message that if we look deep enough, we can see the face of Christ in ourselves and in other people.

It is wicked to treat anyone in an inhumane way for there is the face and presence of Christ and something of the divine nature of God in every person. If we understood this, we would have tremendous reverence for our own and other people's bodies, as temples and dwelling places of the Spirit of God. Priests and people reverence the body of a dead person at a funeral by blessing it with holy water and incense. At that time, we honour the life of God, that a person enters into through the waters of Baptism, and which they will come to share fully at the resurrection of the dead.

The grace of God and fountain of life is given to Christians by water and the Holy Spirit in Baptism. We are washed clean of sin and given the new life of grace in this holy and life-giving water. The Spirit of God living in our heart gives us a share in the life and divine nature of God. He makes us holy and sacred, and sustains and renews our relationship with God in the Christian community. The woman who came to the well found Jesus, and he opened her heart to the new life of faith and relationship with God. Christ, who is the truth, gave her the truth and a new dignity that we share as children of God. When we sprinkle and bless ourselves with holy water we are renewed in grace by Christ, the spring of living water who lives in our heart. It is only by his grace that we are able to grow in love of God and people, and enabled to love and reverence ourselves properly as God wills.

In Lent try to draw close to God and come to Mass on weekdays as well as Sunday. We have evening Mass with Stations of the Cross on Fridays for people going to work and there are morning Masses or Middy on Wednesdays. We have prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament on Mondays and Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. One can visit the church any day to pray the Stations of the Cross or for quiet personal prayer. *May the Lord bless us during this Lent. Fr John*

**RECENTLY DECEASED: CHARLES DERENGE RIP** who died on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, will be received into our Church on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 4.45pm**. Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> at 11am**, followed by burial at St Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone. **May he rest in peace.** We offer our sympathy to his daughter, Margaret Steggle, our parishioner, and her family. *May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and all who mourn at this time.*

**CORONAVIRUS CHANGES:** With concerns about the spread of the Coronavirus we are at present discontinuing the administration of the Chalice and the exchange of handshakes at the Sign of Peace and on leaving the church. Please see poster in the church porch for detailed instructions from our Diocese on this matter.

**LENT BIBLE COURSE:** The next session will be on **Wednesday 18<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. 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, 18<sup>th</sup> March at 5.45pm**. **The meeting for Parents scheduled for Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> March has been postponed to Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> April at 8pm.**

**CAFOD LENT FAST DAY:** Many thanks to all who contributed to last week's retiring collection for CAFOD'S work for the poor, which raised **£432.22**.

**SAFEGUARDING children & vulnerable adults in our Parish:** We will have a **Parish Safeguarding training session** in our Hall at **7.30pm on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March**. We ask **ALL in a parish role** in contact with children, young people or vulnerable adults, to attend. Please see the information 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 (or those in the church with red print) 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 these special Donation envelope in the Church, or one of the envelopes in your box of Offertory Envelopes.

**LENT LUNCHESES:** Meet friends & support Christian Aid on 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 21<sup>st</sup> March** at the **United Reform 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.

**BAPTISM:** *Congratulations to the family of Anthony Martin Casey who was baptised at our Church last Sunday. May the Lord bless them and help them to bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.*

**TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS:** Our next Holy Sacrifice according to the Traditional Tridentine Rite will be offered at our Church at **3pm** next Sunday, **22<sup>nd</sup> March**. The celebrant will be Fr. Brendan Gerard from Germany. All welcome!

**YOUTH MASS: 6pm, Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 at St. Edmund's, Loughton**  
**Message from Loughton Parish** - "We look forward to this Mass and hope many young parishioners from Loughton, Epping & Waltham Abbey will join together for the Mass and enjoy meeting afterwards in St. Edmund's Hall. Everyone is welcome to the Mass but it is intended to bring our young people together in service and friendship. For the music at Mass, musicians and singers from all three parishes are invited to join! Sue, the Director of music at Loughton, will lead for the music, and musicians and singers will meet on the day at 3.45pm for a 4pm rehearsal at St. Edmund's to prepare. Between rehearsal and the Mass we will have a short break, but it's important for everyone to be there by 4pm! For the new musicians, Andy & Ferdi have organised an informal get-together at **6.30pm on Monday, 23rd March** in the Retreat ( a room above St. Edmund's Hall) to go through the hymns, so everyone's welcome and please bring your instruments! Thank you all very much"

**"THE GOD WHO SPEAKS" LENTEN LECTURES at Brentwood Cathedral**  
**on Wednesday 18th March at 7.30 pm** in Cathedral Parish Hall. *Sharing the Good News: Sacred scripture as beacon and promise* will be given by Dr Maria Heath, chair of Catholic Charismatic Renewal. Free Entry. All welcome. For more information go to [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 **18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March** starting at 7pm. 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) contact Paul on 01992 577104 or Rose on 0208 2529459 for further details.

**THE PASSAGE** is raising funds through the **Big Give** from **12 noon Tues 17<sup>th</sup> March – 12 noon Tues 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020** to support its work Helping Homeless People to move away from the street to a new home and to return to work. **Double your Donation, Double your impact.** This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. For more information ring Andrew Hollingsworth 020 75921886 [andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk). Donate at <https://bit.ly/334RmGH>. Many thanks.

**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.

**CATHOLIC SINGLES** is an organisation helping 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.catholic singles.org.uk](http://www.catholic singles.org.uk) or tel. 0161 941 3498.