

THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN for limited times, this week, on days and times to be publicised, for people to visit for private prayer, but closed for the celebration of the Mass and Services with a congregation. Please see article inside this newsletter.

Saturday 20 June The Immaculate Heart of Mary, Mother of Jesus
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) DAY FOR LIFE 21st June 2020

Saturday 20 June 6.00pm The People of our Parish

Sunday 21 June 11.00am Derek Wells RIP Anniv. (Wells) **FATHERS' DAY**

Monday 22nd St John Fisher, Bishop & St Thomas More, Martyrs

9.15am Holy Souls RIP

Tuesday 23rd St Etheldreda (Audrey) Virgin & Abbess

9.15am Private intention

Wednesday 24th Birth of St John the Baptist

12 noon Percy & Margaret Keevil RIP (Keevil)

Thursday 25th 9.15am Matthias McGrath RIP

Friday 26th 9.15am Julian Ruvalcaba RIP Anniv (Vianna)

SOLEMNITY OF St PETER & St PAUL, APOSTLES Sunday 28th June 2020

Saturday 27 June 6.00pm Fr James Hawes RIP Anniv (Murray)

Sunday 28 June 11.00am The People of our Parish

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: on request and by arrangement at this time

READINGS at MASS: TWELFTH SUNDAY OF YEAR A 21 June 2020

READING: Jeremiah 20:10-13 The people denounce Jeremiah and years later, Jesus

PSALM 68 In your great love answer me, O Lord, for I suffer taunts

READING: Romans 5:12-15 Sin entered the world through one man, Adam,

but divine grace came through one man, Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:26-33 Jesus said "fear those who can kill people's souls".

OFFERTORIES: Thank you for your generous Offerings of £800 in Standing Orders, and for £314.50 in Offerings given in recently in envelopes to the Priest's House, and for online Offerings to our parish or to parish funds or charities (e.g. Cafod) that can be made at: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping//>

MASSES, SERVICES, RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING & ONLINE SERVICES

MASS AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: www.churchservices.tv/westminster

DAILY MASS Leigh-on-Sea: Our Lady of Lourdes Church at <https://lourdesleigh.org/>

Bishops Stortford: St Joseph & English Martyrs: www.churchservices.tv/bishopstortford

DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD WEBSITE: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/>

DAILY SERVICES WITH MASS: www.churchservices.tv/timetable/

DAILY SERVICE on BBC RADIO 4 (198 meters) at 9.45am & Sundays at 8.10am

BBC ESSEX at 95.3 and 103.5FM Sunday programme from 6.00am to 9.00am

DAILY PRAYER & MEDIATIONS at www.sacredspace.ie

UNIVERSALIS: www.universalis.com Daily Mass readings, Lectio Divina, Prayer of the Church in The Divine Office and Spiritual Reading for each day of Easter.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you or anyone you know wishes to have Mass offered for a particular intention for anyone living or dead, please contact Fr John at The Priest's House, by phone, letter or e-mail or stating the intention, and the Mass will be offered in our church as soon as possible. Mass cards are available from the Priest's House.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173

Email: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) 21st June 2020

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – 'The Good News of Christ-with-us'

Matthew's five great Gospel readings are not focused upon the recounting of history, but can be seen as plans of action for our universal Christian Church and its dedication to ministry. In today's reading, **Matthew encourages us to be confident and forthright in proclaiming the Christian message to those around us**, despite any persecution, abandonment or rejection. In the main, we do this by simply living a life which is wholly pleasing to God.

In the first reading at Mass, Jeremiah, pleads for God's mercy, seeking his help and committing his cause to God. He **emphasises for us how hard true witness to God can be**, and that it can at times we have to overcome hardship and suffering as we strive to be good disciples of Jesus. But surely, our commitment will be strengthened by our perseverance and the confident hope of our future deliverance.

St Paul reminds us in the second reading that **God's grace is a gift to us and that his power is great and far-reaching**. He stresses the need for us to have absolute belief in Christ; we can be assured that anyone who follows him faithfully in this life has the guarantee of eternal life with him in heaven.

We are encouraged by Christ's presence with us and the richness of his guidance, tolerance and support for us. **We must be inspired to renew our commitment to being steadfast Christians in showing our unstinting devotion to God and to the love of our neighbour**, particularly as we emerge from the darkness of our lengthy lockdown!

Keep safe. May God bless you!!

Deacon Duncan

[1st Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13; 2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-15; Gospel: Matthew 10: 25-33. This weekend's readings at a streamed Mass, or read privately from your bible.]

PARISH FACEBOOK GROUP: Our parish Facebook Group posts daily updates, and links to parishes and activities around our Diocese. James Ryan manages it and if you would like to join, just click on the link below. All requests to join and all posts will go through James before they go into the group so that he can monitor it for security and relevance. We hope this will be a great way for our parishioners and people to connect with one another in our parish community:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/26415423943/?ref=share/>

BILL DOWD RIP: We pray for the repose of the soul of Bill Dowd who died on Thursday, 18 June. **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 & strengthen them.

WE PRAY FOR ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR: Fr Vincent Dutton, Robert Luker, John DeVos (20/6), Patricia Gandy, Derek Wells (21/6), Beatrice Cox, Kieran McClean, Fr Edward Thomas (23/6), Rosemary Batten, Daniel Willmore, Joyce Ryan (25/6), Sally Ward, Laurie Diffeley, Canon James Dacey (26/6), Richard Faydle (27/6) Lawrence Ford, Agnes Blunt (28/6). **May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL: Please contact a Priest or Hospital Chaplain if you, your relative, or a parishioner, is ill in hospital or at home so that they may receive ministry and/or the sacraments.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, OLD HARLOW: We are now streaming Sunday morning and other Masses live from our church. We invite parishioners especially those currently live streaming elsewhere to join our West Essex Deanery and our local Harlow parish for this Eucharistic celebration. During the week we offer Mass on selected days, Adoration, Rosary and Stations of the Cross by live streaming. The simplest way to access this is to go to our Website and the instant connection button catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk

WE PRAY FOR for doctors, nurses, all working in hospitals, care homes, the NHS & Emergency Services: For all who are ill at home or in hospital, for carers looking after those who are elderly or vulnerable in care homes or at home. For all who feel stressed on being isolated, alone or dependent on others. We can ask Jesus, the Light of the World to be a light and Saviour for God's people in this time of need, and ask Mary the Mother of Jesus and Mother of the Church to pray for us.

CATHOLIC PAPERS, MAGAZINES & MAGNIFICAT are on the table by the side door of the Priest's House & Church Sacristy. It is open all day every day. You can find a Newsletter, The Tablet, Catholic Universe, Catholic Herald or Magnificat.

NEED OF URGENT HELP: If you or someone you know urgently needs help in this time, please contact the Priest's House. We will endeavour to assist through parishioners who have volunteered to help, the church, Foodbank or local agencies. Simple things like a phone call or e-mail can be a real comfort to many at this time.

New Offertory Envelopes are available in the porch by the side of the Priest's House.

JUMBLE & JUMBLE SALE: We very much regret that we are unable to take jumble at the moment as the storage shed is full and we are unable to say when we may be able to have a Jumble Sale due to the need to protect everyone.

CHURCH UPDATES Re CORONAVIRUS: For the latest updates please visit: www.cbcew.org.uk/ and also go to www.vaticannews.va/en/church.html

DOMESTIC CHURCH PARENT RESOURCES: The Diocesan news page has a link for articles useful to parents of school-aged children to enable them continue worship at home during Easter with their family while unable to gather for Mass. www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/domestic-church-resources-parents-covid-19/

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL: Message to a Loved One in hospital. Family members & friends of PAH inpatients can send personal messages or collate messages to paht.messagestoalovedone@nhs.net. There is a dedicated phone line 01279 868128, available between 10am and 12noon each weekday when a member of staff or volunteer will write down a message and get it to the patient. Video calls are available for patients on Kingsmoor Ward, John Snow Ward, Lister Ward, Locke Ward & Harold Ward between 2-4pm, seven days a week. Family & friends of inpatients can email paht.virtualvisiting@nhs.net to arrange a 10 minute video call and find out how to join their call that to be hosted on secure video line

PHISHING EMAIL SCAMS: TV LICENSING EMAILS: This month, Action Fraud have received over 260 reports of COVID-19 TV scam phishing emails. The emails purporting to be from TV Licensing claim that the recipient's direct debit has failed and that they need to pay to avoid prosecution. Recipients are told that they are eligible for a "COVID19 Personalized Offer" of six months free. The messages contain links to genuine-looking websites that are designed to steal personal and financial information. **HMRC EMAILS:** CIFAS (the UK's leading fraud prevention organisation) are warning of a new HMRC scam. This scam appears to specifically target people who are out of work or working less due to coronavirus, and is offering £1,000s in grants. The recipient is told to click on a link to check their eligibility, and answer questions that are designed to steal personal details. CIFAS state this scam comes from email address "HMRC@hotmail.com", but new frauds spring up every day so this could change. Whenever you get an email you didn't expect, remember to **Take Five steps: - Stop and take a moment to think** before parting with your money or information it could keep you safe. **Challenge:** Could it be fake? It's ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requests. Only criminals try to rush or panic you. **Protect:** Contact your bank immediately if you think you've fallen for a scam and report it to **Action Fraud**. Finally, get information on coronavirus-related scams & protect yourself: http://actionfraud.police.uk/covid19

RELATIONSHIP DIFFICULTIES: If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage, whether due to the additional stresses caused by the Coronavirus crisis or other reasons help is available. Marriage Care offers remote counselling or you may find Smart Loving Breakthrough <https://smartloving.org/breakthrough/> helpful. Visit <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/> Please don't leave it too late to contact us for help on **0800 389 3801** email appointments@marriagecare.org.uk

HELPERS NEEDED FOR THE OPENING OF OUR CHURCH

Churches have been allowed to open for private prayer but not Mass or public worship since last Monday. When churches are open there needs to be two people present as Ushers / Stewards for people’s protection and safety. Initially, we want to open our church 3 days a week for a morning and evening period and we would publicise the times that people could come in to visit and pray.

To facilitate this opening we need more parishioners to volunteer as Ushers / Stewards. They must be over 16 and under 70 years and in good health. Some parishioners have volunteered already, but we need more. Each two Ushers / Stewards, will be given instruction on procedure, to cover a one hour period. The more people who volunteer, the more we will be able to increase the number of days and hours our church will be open. Being able to open our church will be a service to God and to people in this community. We hope to be able to open next week and will publicise the days and times.

Many parishioners, including myself will be happy to see the church open again and to be able to come and pray in this holy place where we feel at home with God, in the presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

If you or your family member can give an hour (s), please contact our Parish Office by email, phoning 01992 572516 or by dropping in a note or the tear off slip below to the Priest’s House.

I / We can assist as Ushers / Stewards for the opening of our church:

Day(s).....**Times**.....

NAME(S).....

Address.....

e-mail.....

Telephone number(s).....

KID’S CORNER

12th Sunday of the Year A

Word search on today’s Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

D	D	J	D	B	D	G	B	D	A	R	K
A	E	E	T	W	P	E	R	O	U	W	W
Y	S	S	W	H	R	F	C	O	D	T	P
L	T	U	O	I	S	A	S	L	U	Y	Y
I	R	S	A	S	C	T	P	D	A	N	E
G	O	H	V	P	N	H	A	H	G	R	D
H	Y	O	F	E	Y	E	R	F	P	K	E
T	U	T	M	R	H	R	R	E	E	Q	E
S	O	U	L	S	E	R	O	A	N	Y	G
C	O	U	N	T	E	D	W	R	N	A	C
C	L	E	A	R	I	A	S	N	Y	L	W
H	E	L	L	B	U	Y	N	U	J	V	R

Body	Sparrows	Soul
Dark	Daylight	Whispers
Fear	Counted	Men
Ground	Hell	Head
Declare	Father	Hair
Buy	Penny	Two
Destroy	Jesus	Clear

Kids humour - can only get worse!

What do you call a cow on a trampoline? A milk shake!

Where do cows go for entertainment? To the moo-vies!