

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.

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

Monday 29th 9.15am Fr James Hawes RIP Anniv (FM)

Tuesday 30th **The First Martyrs of Rome**

9.15am Pat Pollock RIP

Wed 1st July **St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop & Martyr**

We pray for our Bishop Alan Williams Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination in 2014

12 noon Bishop Alan Williams

Thursday 2nd 9.15am Des Stott RIP

Friday 3rd **St Thomas, Apostle**

9.15am Jeremiah Kingston RIP (FM)

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A 5th July 2020

Saturday 6.00pm Fr Tom Jordan

Sunday 28 June 11.00am The People of our Parish

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

READINGS at MASS: St. PETER & St. PAUL, APOSTLES 28th June 2020

READING: Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11 Now I know the Lord has saved me

PSALM 33 The angel of the Lord rescues those who revere him

READING: 2 Timothy 4:6-8;17-18 All there is to come is the crown of righteousness

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-19 You are Peter, I give you the keys of the kingdom

OFFERTORIES: Thank you for your generous **Offerings of £800 in Standing Orders**, and for **£185.00 in Offerings** given in to the Priest's House, and for online Offerings of £275 over the past weeks made to our parish for parish funds or charities (e.g. Cafod) 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/bishopsstortford

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



SAINTS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES Sunday 28 June 2020

My dear Friends,

Jesus asked, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" Simon Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt.16:13-19). We celebrate the two great apostles, St Peter & St Paul, and see how they witnessed to Christ as the Son of God and Saviour of the world. Both were very human but they were men of God and men of faith, and we can identify with them in their weaknesses and strengths. God chose them to bring hope and salvation to people by spreading the Gospel, and dedicating their lives to the service of God and people.

St Peter, a fisherman, was blessed and chosen by God the Father, to reveal "Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God". He was the first witness to Christ's Resurrection on Pentecost Sunday and the first to preach the message of Salvation through Christ, that led to the conversion and Baptism of over three thousand people. After Jesus' arrest, Peter failed by denying on oath that he knew the Lord, but after his resurrection Jesus turned to him and said, "You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church, and give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven". The Popes as successors to St Peter through the ages have the duty to confirm the faith of their brethren, and preserve the unity of faith in the Church in keeping with the Gospel and the Church's teaching tradition.

St Paul, a rabbi and academic, was zealous to preserve and protect Jewish tradition. He opposed the preaching of the Gospel and faith in Christ as Saviour, and attended and supported the stoning of St Stephen, the first Christian martyr. On his way to Damascus to arrest and persecute Christians, Jesus spoke to him asking, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Since he did not see Christ as the Son of God and Saviour of the world, he was blind until his Baptism. He made three great missionary journeys and preached the Gospel to the Gentiles (non-Jewish people). His teachings in the Acts of the Apostles and his Epistles, challenge, guide, encourage and strengthen us in living our faith in Christ.

In "valuing difference", we see Christ valued difference by choosing two very different men to be his witnesses. In the end both sacrificed their lives for him.

May we listen to their words and follow their teachings in our daily life, so that we will grow close to Christ and witness to him. Fr John

CHURCHES REOPENING: It is joyful news that churches are opening again for God's people to come a holy place where we are at home with God. Due to the danger of the coronavirus spreading, churches have been closed to people since Friday 20th March. Our thanks to everyone who has done so much work to prepare for this especially, Zoe & Barry Hersom and Emma Armstrong and her family. Thank you to all who volunteered to act as Ushers and Stewards to help keep us all safe.

Our church reopens for private visits and prayer this Friday evening, 26, from 7.00 to 8.00pm. Next week it will be open for visits for private prayer, but not Mass, **on Monday from 10.00am to 11.00am and from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Wednesday from 11.00am to 12 noon and 7.00pm to 8.00pm. On Friday from 10.00am to 11.00am and 7.00pm to 8.00pm. On Saturday the church will be open from 10.00am to 11.00am.** The church must be cleaned before each period of opening.

We hope to have Mass with parishioners from the evening of **Saturday 4th July** and **Sunday 5th July**. Weekend Masses will be celebrated in our church Hall as the chairs will enable the necessary spacing. We hope to have weekday Masses in the church, when they resume. However, for people's safety, we must ensure we are compliant with all the conditions of opening and cleansing, so that it is safe for everyone. **One thinks of the words of Psalm 122, "I rejoiced when I heard them say, 'Let us go to God's house'. In my distress I cried out to the Lord and he heard me"**.

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 wish 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/>

RECENTLY DECEASED: **MGR HENRY POSLUSZNY RIP** who died on **Saturday 20th June 2020 in Poland, aged 90 years.** Mgr Henry lived and worked in Brentwood diocese for nearly 50 years. He came to England to study Psychology in 1965 and stayed until December 2016. Once he retired from teaching RE in Catholic Secondary Schools in East London, he became chaplain to St Joseph's Convent in Wanstead and travelled to the United States and to Australia spreading the Divine Mercy Devotion of St Faustina. **May he rest in peace.**

BILL DOWD RIP: We pray for the repose of the soul of Bill Dowd, our parishioner, who died on Thursday, 18 June. **May he rest in peace.**

We offer our sympathy to their families and pray that the Lord sends his Holy Spirit, the Comforter to console & strengthen them at this time.

WE PRAY FOR ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR: Dave Nicholson (27/6), Jack Higham (28/6) Fr James Hawes (29/6), Charles McKenzie (1/7), Peggy O'Regan, Fr James Littleton (2/7), Charles Carter (3/7) Fr Patrick Curran (4/7), Fr Patrick Carty (5/7). **May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen**

WE 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.

WOODLAND GROVE FIRE: A fund has been launched to support those affected by the Woodland Grove fire. Dozens of residents have been forced out of their homes following last weekend's blaze in which a man sadly died. **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.** The fund is being co-ordinated by St John's Church in Epping in conjunction with Epping Forest District Council. It has been decided to raise money rather than collect items because of potential COVID-19 implications. The St John's Church will liaise with the District Council over the distribution of monies to those affected. The fundraising account will be open until Sunday, July 12. You can donate by Text WOODLANDGROVE followed by the amount they wish to give to 70085. For example, to donate £5 text WOODLANDGROVE5. Donors will be charged the cost of one standard text message by your phone provider. 2 - Bank Transfer. Donations should be marked with the reference "Woodland Grove" and can be transferred to: Account: Epping District Team Ministry Account Number: 40202260 Sort Code: 090666.

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.

THE CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION, OLD HARLOW is now streaming Sunday morning and other Masses live from the 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**

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.

CATHOLIC PAPERS, MAGAZINES & MAGNIFICAT are available by the side door of the Priest's House & Church Sacristy. It is open every day and you can find Newsletters, The Tablet, Catholic Universe, Catholic Herald or Magnificat.

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.

HELPERS NEEDED TO PREPARE THE HALL FOR MASS

Our thanks to all who have offered to help as Ushers and Stewards for the opening of our church for private visits for prayer this week.

We now need people to help lay out the chairs and prepare the hall for Mass on Saturday evenings and Sundays.

If you or your family member (s) can help, please contact our Parish Office by emailing admin@eppingparish.plus.com or phone 01992 572516 or drop in a note or the tear off slip below to the Priest's House.

I / We can assist prepare the Hall for Mass on Saturday / Sunday:

Dates.....

NAME(S).....

Address.....

e-mail.....

Telephone number(s).....

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: Messages 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

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

KID'S CORNER

SS Peter and Paul, Apostles

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

Peter	Rock	Church
Kingdom	Blood	Keys
Spoke	Happy	Christ
Heaven	Question	Flesh
Build	Gates	Jonah
Underworld	Loose	Earth
People	Disciples	Living

Humour: What do you call a snowman in June?
A puddle!

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