

PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO ALL MASSES and our church will be open around the times of Mass for people to visit for private prayer. You will be most welcome!

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME A 13th September 2020

Saturday 12th 6.00pm Private intention Education Sunday

Sunday 13th 9.00am Joy Fayre RIP Recently (Knight)

September 2020 11.00am The People of our Parish

Monday 14th The Exaltation (Triumph) of the Holy Cross
9.15am Philip McAdam RIP Anniv (McAdam)

Tuesday 15th Our Lady of Sorrows

September 9.15am Private intention

Wednesday 16th St Cornelius, Pope, & St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
12 noon Private intention

Thursday 17th St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop & Doctor

9.15am Private intention

Friday 18th 9.15am Private intention

Saturday 19th St Theodore of Canterbury, Archbishop

11.00am First Holy Communion Mass

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME A 20th September 2020

Saturday 19th 6.00pm Marian Ward RIP (FM) Home Mission Sunday

Sunday 20th 9.00am Fr John Ryan RIP (McAdam)

September 2020 11.00am The People of our Parish

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

MASS READINGS: TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY Ordinary Time A 6 September 20

ECCLESIASTICUS 27:30 – 28:7 Forgive your neighbour for the hurt s/he does you

PSALM 102 The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy

ROMANS 14:4-7 The life and death of each of us has its influence on others

MATTHEW 18:21-35 I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy seven times

ANIMATED GOSPEL <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ED3fzkS-bhA>

MASSES, SERVICES, RELIGIOUS BROADCASTING & ONLINE SERVICES

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

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/>

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

OFFERTORIES: Thank you for your generous Offerings of £800 in Standing Orders, and £358.55 Offerings and £10 for Cafod in church last weekend. You can support the Yemen Disaster Appeal with Cafod donations to our parish or online donations to our parish and our charities: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping/

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES are in the porch by the side of the Priest's House and Sacristy. Please use Offertory envelopes, and join our Gift Aid scheme if you are a taxpayer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2021 We will give details on enrolling children for the next first Holy Communion programme for 2021, in the next few weeks.

The 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/Lebohong

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY in Ordinary Time A 13 September 2020

Dear friends,

Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?” Jesus answered, “Not seven, I tell you, but seventy seven times”(Matthew 18:21-35). We all know the phrase: ‘To err is human; to forgive, divine’(Alexander Pope’s Essay on Criticism). Pope explained that, while anyone can make a mistake, we should aspire to do as God does, and with his help offer mercy and forgiveness to those who sin or offend. Peter felt, as we can, that there may be a limited number of times we be expected to forgive one who offends, hurts or sins against us. He thought seven times would be generous. Forgiveness can be one of the hardest things to do, but it is the greatest thing that a person who has suffered grievously can offer. Jesus, as he was dying on the Cross, prayed for those who were inflicting terrible sufferings on him, as he said to God, “Father, forgive them for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34).

Down the ages and in our time there have been good people who imitated Jesus’ example and showed astounding forgiveness to those who hurt them dreadfully. The lives and deaths of good people, and the saints and martyrs of England and Wales challenge and inspire us. To those who showed them no mercy, they offered forgiveness in their agonies. People like St Anne Line from Dunmow, St John Paine at Ingatestone, or St Thomas More at Chelsea, are just a few of those who prayed for forgiveness for those who inflicted suffering and distress on them and their loved ones.

We may think of those who have hurt us, or feel we cannot let go of hurt and be unable to forgive. Some people can be charged with resentment from hurts and be trapped in un-forgiveness. People who have suffered abuse or assault can suffer from hurts that are imprinted in their memory and never seem to go away. In those circumstances, they and we turn to Christ, our Saviour and the author of all healing who ministers forgiveness, and we ask him to heal hurts and enable victims or survivors to go forward as a healed, saved and whole (holy) person. We pray daily, that the “Lord, forgives us, and enables us to forgive those who sin against us”.

May the Lord bless and protect you and your families. Fr John

FACEBOOK GROUP: Our parish Facebook Group posts daily updates and links to parishes and activities in our Diocese. James Ryan manages and monitors input for security and relevance. If you wish to join, just click on the link below. We hope this will be a great way for our parishioners and people to connect with one another.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/26415423943/?ref=share/>

OUR CHURCH IS OPEN FOR MASS and we are most grateful to the **Stewards/Ushers** who manage arrangements for the Masses in church over the past weeks.

We must comply with statutory and diocesan regulations and precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 virus and remain open. The most important principles are:

- **Face coverings are obligatory in the church unless you are exempt.**
- **In wearing a mask or face covering maintain social distance of 1 metre from the people not living in your household. If you are exempt from wearing a face covering you must maintain a distance of 2 metres.**
- **Enter by the Church door & leave by the Sacristy, in a one way system**
- **Sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the church.**
- **Do not touch things in the church other than at the place you sit.**
- Each family will have a pew for 4/5 people. Single people from different houses will share a pew to keep social distance or a couple and one other person from a different household can share a pew.
- Arrive early for the Ushers to direct you to your seat. Special arrangements are made for people with a disability.
- The Offertory collection is taken as you enter the church, or donate online at: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping//>
- To receive Holy Communion or a blessing, do not leave your seat until guided by an usher. **On Sundays**, please take your belongings with you, for you will not return to your seat, but leave by the Sacristy.
- **Communicants should unloop their face covering and consume the Sacred Host and then replace their face covering.**
- **Holy Communion will be given to you only from the host into the flat of your outstretched hand, as you stand at a distance from the priest.**
- On Sundays when you have received Holy Communion, leave the church immediately by the Sacristy & sanitise your hands in the Sacristy porch.
- Please avoid breaching social distancing by dispersing. The Church has to close for cleaning after each Mass, in preparation for the next Mass.
- The Hall toilets cannot be used at this time.
- **If you have symptoms of COVID-19 or live with someone who has the symptoms, please do not come to church but stay safe at home.**

WE NEED MORE USHERS/ STEWARDS IN CHURCH FOR MASSES: We thank all who help as Ushers/Stewards at the Masses but we need many more. Please help with this important role in keeping our church safe. Drop a note to the Priest's House, or email admin@eppingparish.plus.com or phone on **01992 572516**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS We congratulate the children & parents who have prepared so well for first Holy Communion which are celebrating in our parish on the Saturdays **5, 12, 19, 26 September & 3 October**. They now have the great privilege of receiving Christ with us in Holy Communion.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DEAD & ALL WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR: Joseph Pinto (12/9), Fr Thophilus Borer, Archbishop George Andrew Beck (3rd Bishop of Brentwood), Canon James V Hemming, Deacon Arthur Woods (13/9), David Ridge, John O'Halloran, Peggy Curran, Fr Louis Heston (14/9), Elaine Gaughan Peter Coneely (15/), Edward Morell, Fr John Bergin (16/9), Fr Anthony Mason (17/9), Mary Cox (18/9), Marian Ward, Canon Fredrick Gahagan (19/9), William Morgan, Douglas Wilding, Rosemarie Stein (20/9) **May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.**

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY has registered the Fun Walk which normally takes place at the Barleylands Farm in Billericay. People are invited to walk 2k or 5k **anywhere they wish at any time in September** and ask for sponsorship from friends or family to help support our work. Sponsorship forms and details are available on www.bccs.org.uk under the Events/Virtual Fun Walk tab or follow our updates on social media. If you would like to walk for us, email Libby: lphillips@bccs.org.uk and we will be happy to hear from you.

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL **Messages to Loved Ones in hospital.** Family members & friends of inpatients can send personal messages or collate messages to paht.messagestoalovedone@nhs.net A dedicated phone **01279 868128** is available from 10am to 12noon each weekday when a staff member or volunteer will write your dictated message and get it to the patient. Video calls can be made to patients on Kingsmoor, Harold, Lister, John Snow & Locke Wards from 2 to 4pm every day. For families to arrange 10 minute video calls and find out how to link a call on a secure video line email paht.virtualvisiting@nhs.net

JOB VACANCY: Our Diocese seeks to employ a **Site Manager** at Brentwood Cathedral site to manage routine maintenance of the buildings and grounds. Key elements are: premises management; maintain premises in safe & good condition; identify repairs or maintenance needed and action as required; ensure matters are properly logged and liaise with Contractors. Closing date for applications **2nd October**. For job description & person spec recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org

THE PARISH SVP conference hopes to meet in early October subject to Covid rules. Members please collect an SVP magazine in the church porch

CATHOLIC PAPERS & BOOKLETS: THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE will be available free in the church porch for the next four weeks. Please take one free.