

WELCOME TO MASS & CHURCH on weekdays & Sundays. You must book for a weekend Mass in our Church. See directions to comply with the Covid regulations.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Year B **28 February 2021**

Saturday 27 th	12 noon	Baptism: Kathleen Connors
	6.00pm	The People of our Parish
Sunday 28 Feb	9.00am	Anne Fitzgerald RIP Recently (Cooney)
Mass streamed	11.00am	Winifred Crouch RIP Anniv. (Crouch)
	3.00pm	Tridentine Rite Sung Latin Mass
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross

Monday 1 st	St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales	
March	9.15am	John McGilloway RIP Recently (Christie)
Tuesday 2 nd	9.15am	Anne Higham RIP Recently (Whitehouse)
Wednesday 3 rd	12 noon	Palmer & Conrad Family intentions (Palmer)
Thursday 4 th	9.15am	Holy Souls
Friday 5 th March	9.15am	Mr & Mrs Tobin RIP (FM) <u>Women's world day of Prayer</u>
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross and Mass – The Holy Souls

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Year B **7 March 2021**

Saturday 6 th	6.00pm	Molly Vickers RIP Recently (McFlynn)
Sunday 7 th	9.00am	The People of our Parish
Mass streamed	11.00am	McCormack & Brosnan Families intentions (MB)
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE on request to the Parish Priest

MASS READINGS: SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT B **28th February 2020**

GENESIS 22:1-18 Abraham, our father in faith, makes sacrifice to God
PSALM 115 I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living
ROMANS 8:31-34 God did not spare his own son, but gave him up to save us all
MARK 9:2-10 God the Father declares: **“This is my beloved Son. Listen to him”**.

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

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/bishopsstortford

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your weekly Offerings of £800 in standing orders, and £341.67 last weekend and £10 for Cafod. You can give Offerings to the Priest's House or online at: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping//

LENT FAST DAY FOR CAFOD was on Friday last to aid people in the developing and poor nations. **Our retiring collection this weekend is for CAFOD.** If you are not coming to church at this time due to Covid precautions, you can make an online offering our parish for **CAFOD** on the Diocese of Brentwood link above, or hand in an offering to the Priest's House, and mark it for CAFOD, using a Gift Aid envelope if you pay tax.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION: As we wear a mask in church, please lower the mask on coming to Holy Communion, so that when Holy Communion is placed in your hand, you immediately put it into your mouth, with the other hand. In this way, we keep reverence for the Blessed Sacrament and avoid the danger of any particle being lost.

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 & Lebohang
Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

28th February 2021

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Probably as a result of the continuing COVID 19 restrictions, it seems only a short while since we were celebrating Christmas. But here we are in the Season of Lent, when we are urged to spend some time in reflecting on God's will for us as we do our best to lead a life which is always pleasing to him. In this weekend's readings, we get an idea of God's intentions as to how we should respond to his love absolutely and how he will care for our every need.

In the account of God's challenge for Abraham in our First Reading, he tested Abraham's willingness positively to respond to God's call to him. We believe that God would never have intended that Abraham should kill his only son Isaac, but Abraham's response to God showed his unconditional commitment to follow God's will without question – whatever the consequences. And this is what we are all called to do, however difficult it might be at times. Surely, worthy of personal prayer during Lent.

The account of the Transfiguration of Jesus in the Gospel Reading can be seen as God's call to the Jews to accept Jesus as the Messiah. This dramatic miracle is passed down to us today through all three synoptic Gospels, to stress the magnificence of Jesus as our Saviour and Redeemer. Particularly during Lent, we are encouraged to spend time reflecting on how we better might practise our faith, to show our full commitment to leading a life where our adherence to God's norms and standards becomes a first priority for us.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are recognised ways in which to help us to focus on pleasing God in all that we say, think and do. May we all experience a spiritual renewal during this COVID-restricted Lent.

God bless.

Deacon Duncan

CHILDREN'S LENT BOOKLETS: My Day by Day booklets for Infants and Junior school children are available free in the porch by the Sacristy.

WALK WITH ME booklet for adults in Lent available free in the church porch.

HELP LIVESTREAM MASS: We need more helpers to live-stream Sunday Masses at 11am. The system is set up but we need more help. You only need to help every few weeks on a rota basis. You can be youth to senior, and need not be a technical wizard - just at ease with a laptop and follow a system. Step-by-step instructions and training will be given. Please contact Fr John if you can help!

HELP AS A STEWARD/USHER IN CHURCH: We thank our Stewards and Ushers in church who ensure we comply with Covid regulations. We need more helpers for this role to **keep people safe. Please contact our Parish Office if you can help: email admin@eppingparish.plus.com or phone 01992 572516.**

FACEBOOK GROUP: Our parish Facebook Group posts daily updates and links to parishes & activities in our Diocese. James Ryan manages and monitors the input for security and relevance. If you wish to join this group, just click on the link below: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/26415423943/?ref=share/>

HELP FOR SHOPPING etc. In this lockdown, parishioners and people who need prescriptions collected, something from the shops, letters posted or someone to chat to on the phone, please call Fr John at the Priest's House on 01992 572516 and he will put you in touch with a willing helper who would like to assist you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2021: Parents wishing to prepare their child for First Reconciliation & Holy Communion in 2021 should have completed the Application Form in the porch or attached to this Newsletter. Children should be in school Year 3 or older in 2020/21 and been regular Mass attenders, until the lockdowns. Please post or email the completed form to our Parish Office. Details of the arrangements for programme will follow very soon.

STAY SAFE IN CHURCH: Everyone must wear a mask or a face covering in church, except when reading. We must sanitise our hands as we enter and leave church and keep social distance of 2 meters (6 feet), not interact with people inside or outside church who are not in our group & scan the QR code or register on attending church for track & trace on entering or leaving. If you show Covid like symptoms, have tested positive for Covid19, or been directed to quarantine, you must stay home, not come to church and follow NHS directions.

VACANCY AT SIR WILLIAM PETRE ALMSHOUSES, INGATESTONE: A vacancy has arisen in a one-bedroom Almshouse at Ingatestone, High St. Applicants must be over 50 years and in need. Preference may be given to Roman Catholics. Contact Mike Falcone, Trustee, Ginge Petre Trust on tel 07935 959388.

A LENT RETREAT With Jesuit priests, using St Ignatius' Spiritual Exercises on prayer in Lent on BBC Radio 4. The theme is: "Knowing Jesus Better". It can be heard live or on BBC Radio 4 on Sundays at 8.10am or anytime on BBC Sound or at www.onlineprayer.net/ and www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p08qndln/p08qndd8

WOMEN'S WOLRD DAY OF PRAYER is on Friday, 5th March. The theme this year is "Build a strong foundation". www.wwdp.org.uk/about-us/themes/

PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED & WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR ANNIVERSARIES: Roger Allerdyce (26/2), Edna Gooding, Connie Charlton, Fr David Chapman (27/2), Elizabeth Farrell, John Turner, Teresa Negri, Fr John Wall (28/2), Victor Blunt, Genevieve Richardson, (1/3), Teresa Walsh (2/3), Mgr Patrick O'Donnell, Fr Brian Galvin, Fr Francis Hastings Mark Dower, (4/3), Lawrence Ryan, Fr Malachy Kelly (5/3), Ian Cook, Nancy Maddin (6/3) **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES: May the Lord heal them with the power of his Spirit.

VOLUNTARY ACTION EPPING FOREST gives relief boxes to households & individuals who are struggling money-wise partly due to Covid 19, have a base in Thornwood. Contact Nick on 07967726851 or its befriending service on 07708171116 <https://vaef.org.uk/covidresponse@vaef.org.uk>

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL **Send Messages to Loved Ones in hospital.** Family members and friends of inpatients can send or collate personal messages to paht.messagestoalovedone@nhs.net A special phone 01279 868128 is available **from 10am to 12noon on weekdays.** Video calls can be made to patients on John Snow and Locke Wards, Kingsmoor and Harold, Lister Wards, **from 2 to 4pm every day.** Details from paht.virtualvisiting@nhs.net

EPPING FOREST FOODBANK: There is a basket in the porch by the Priest's House & Sacristy for Epping Forest Food Bank. The Food Bank urgently needs: UHT Milk, Instant Mash, Small Couscous Packs, Tinned Spaghetti, Microwaveable Rice Pouches, Vegetable Noodle Packs, Sponge Puddings, Hot Chocolate, Small Jars Of Peanut Butter, Small Jars of Coffee, Chocolate Bars, Snack Bars/ Snacks, Halal Corned Beef, Reusable Face Masks, Hand Sanitiser (70% Alcohol), Female & Male Deodorant, Toothbrushes & Toothpaste, Hair Shampoo and Conditioner, Laundry Tablets, etc. **Your donations in the basket will be greatly appreciated.**

PERSECUTION IN CHINA: **Ask your MP to support a NEW amendment to help stop forced abortions in Xinjiang, China** There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are subjected to forced abortions. Lord Alton is championing a new amendment to the Trade Bill, to help put international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forced abortions and wider human rights abuse, which evidence shows is being perpetuated against the Uyghur community. The amendment passed in the Lords on 23 February by 367 votes to 214, and is likely to be voted on soon in the House of Commons. Please email your MP asking them to support this amendment. You can do this easily by using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website, by going to this link: <https://genocideresponse.org/>

CATHOLIC PARISH OF EPPING The Immaculate Conception

HOW TO STREAM MASS FROM EPPING at HOME

Sunday Masses at 11am in our Church are now live streamed. The live stream from Epping Catholic Church will be on You Tube .

You do not need a Youtube account to watch. Using a laptop, computer or mobile phone, you can follow the instructions below. You need speakers or headphones if your device does not have a built in speaker. If you have a smart TV, you can pair a device (such as mobile phone or iPad or tablet) to watch it on your television.

To view the Mass search: **The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping** and visit the channel where you will find the live stream. All you need to do is click on the live video.

If you have difficulty, type the URL (web address) into the address bar:
youtube.com/channel/UCAbSuwE8X5AOaugAT35hREw

If you have a mobile phone simply scan this QR code to take you to the channel :



Please let us know if you have a problem and we will try our best to help.

ST ELIZABETH'S CENTRE AT MUCH HADDHAM caters for about 200 people with epilepsy, autism and other complex disabilities. It has a home for over 100 adults and a school and further education college for ages 5 to 19, with residential provision and a large nursing department. Founded in 1903 by the Daughters of the Cross of Liege, it employs 650 staff and is set in beautiful grounds near Harlow. The Centre now needs volunteers to join its advisory committees. If you have a background in care, education, nursing, medicine, social work or law, or an interest in contributing to the work of the Centre for a few hours a month, please contact Sister Annette Clemence on 01279 843451 or Paul Ives 01992 577104, to hear what may be involved and how you can help.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE PAPER is on sale in the porch! We can no longer supply it free but if you wish to order it please contact Parish Office.

IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT YOU BOOK TO ATTEND A WEEKEND MASS IN EPPING CATHOLIC CHURCH

The restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus regulations limit our church to 55 people attending Mass when they are from the same house, or 23 individuals. To avoid being told on coming to church that it is full and one cannot go in, it is important to book a place at a weekend Mass.

1. If you attend the same Mass every weekend, your name will be put on the list permanently for that Mass. If you cannot come on a particular weekend(s) please notify us so that places can be allocated to others.
2. Please notify Deacon Duncan by 5pm on the previous Friday for attendance at a weekend Mass on Saturday at 6pm or Sunday at 9am or 11am. Bookings for multiple weekends can be made at the same time. If you change or cancel a booking you have made for a particular Mass, please do so by 5pm Friday.
3. To make bookings for weekend Masses, change or cancel a booking email **Deacon Duncan** at duncanjcwhitehouse@gmail.com or phone him on 01992 577173. If we are over-subscribed for a particular Mass, he will contact you. The 5pm deadline for bookings on Fridays allows time for you to make other arrangements and free up a place for others.

PRAYER IN TIME OF CORONAVIRUS

God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us, You sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and bodies. Look upon your children, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay in Europe and the world, who turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief. Deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses, carers and volunteers, grant eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in time of trial but deliver us from all evil. We ask this of Thee, who with your Son and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Mary, Mother of health and hope of the sick, pray for us!

LENTEN TALKS on Laudato Si, Pope Francis' teaching on the environment and climate change continue on the Thursdays of Lent via Zoom. To register email jane@catholicclimatemovement.global and for details of this area of Catholic life and faith go to www.catholicclimatemovement.global

LOOK SHEETS for young children are available in church for collection

ICHTUS SHEETS for older Primary School children explains the Mass

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>