

WELCOME TO CHURCH on weekdays & Sundays. You need to book to attend a weekend Mass in our Church. Please change or cancel your booking if you will not be able to attend a Mass you booked, so as to free up a place for another person.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B 9th May 2021

Saturday 8 May 6.00pm Matthias McGrath RIP

Sunday 9th May 9.00am Mary Collier [Mass live streamed](#)

11.00am Patricia Rimmer RIP (Sr Susan) [Mass live streamed](#)

Evening Mass 5.00pm **The People of our Parish**

Monday 10th 9.15am Private intention (L)

Tuesday 11th **Blessed John Rochester, Priest & Martyr**

9.15am Private intention

Wednesday 12th **St John Houghton, Priest & Martyr**

12 noon Cleonagh Jolly RIP Anniv. (Jolly)

THURSDAY 13th May: SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

HOLYDAY 10.00am Douglas Bere RIP (FM)

8.00pm **The People of our Parish**

Friday 14th **St Matthias, Apostle**

12 noon Matthias McGrath RIP

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B World Communications Day 16th May 2021

Saturday 15th 6.00pm Dan Lynch RIP (Dean)

Sunday 16 May 9.00am **The People of our Parish** [Mass Live streamed](#)

11.00am Frank O'Rourke RIP Recently (Darcy) [Live streamed](#)

5.00pm Private intention

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: on request to the Parish Priest

MASS READINGS FOR SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9th May 2021

ACTS 10:25-48 God does not have favourites; anyone who does right is acceptable

PSALM 97 The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations

1JOHN 4:7-10 God is love, anyone who lives in love lives in God and God in him

JOHN 15:9-17 A man can have no greater love than to sacrifice his life for his friend

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

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

Daily Mass at Westminster Cathedral: www.churchservices.tv/westminster/

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

St. Joseph English Martyrs Bishops Stortford www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford/

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 in standing orders and last weekend £343 (£200 in envelopes and £143 loose) and £10 for CAFOD. You can give in Offerings to the Priest's House or make your donations online to our Parish at: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping/

FROM SUNDAY 2nd May, we will have a Mass at 5pm on Sundays as well as the 9am & 11am Masses. This may help relieve the pressure for places at Sunday morning Masses - its continuation will depend on the attendance. This gives an additional choice for people to attend Mass. **We also urgently need people to help as Stewards/Ushers at this & other Masses. Please contact Fr John if you can help.**

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

9th May 2021

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me so I have loved you. Remain in my love"(John 15:9-17). Jesus saw one life and love being shared by his Father, with all who live in union with him. He used the image of the vine and the branches to describe the loving relationship and union between God and people. Jesus wanted all peoples and nations to be united in love with God and each other, through himself. He commands us and prays: "love one another as I have loved you" and he urges people to "remain in my love".

Love may be wonderful in its initial stage when people can be carried along by emotion. Love is tested when self-sacrifice and courage are required and there appears to be no reward for love. Jesus prepared his followers for this by warning them of the trials, opposition and sufferings that would come to them, because of their faith in him. He called them to stay faithful and to remain in his love as he said, "the one who perseveres to the end will be saved". Love is proven when people who are severely tested sacrifice themselves out of faithfulness to God or another person. Jesus proved his love for his father and for us on the Cross by sacrificing himself completely. We can prove our love by sacrificing ourselves as we carry our cross in fulfilling the responsibilities of daily life, and going through dark times with faithfulness, when there is no feeling of reward. In those times we share in the love of Jesus at the deepest level and remain in his love by being faithful and choosing not to turn away from him or others, to "walk other paths or ways".

On Ascension Thursday, this week, forty days after Jesus' resurrection from the dead at Easter, we celebrate his ascension into heaven in the sight of his disciples. There he goes before us to sit at the right hand of his Father to be our "intercessor and friend of sinners". It also marks the beginning of the church's first and great novena of prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The disciples gathered with Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and prayed and waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Let us all make our own novena or nine days of prayer for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, to give wisdom and healing and renewal for people in our time.

May the Lord bless you with his love and the gift of his Spirit. Fr John

HELP AS A STEWARD/USHER IN OUR CHURCH: We are most grateful to our Stewards & Ushers in church who help us keep safe and by complying with the Covid regulations. We need more helpers for this important role to keep people safe and especially for the extra Mass on Sundays at 5pm. **If you can help, please contact our Parish Office: 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 would like to join the group, please click on: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/26415423943/?ref=share/>

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

TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION Please lower your mask as you near the altar. When Holy Communion is placed in your hand, immediately put it into your mouth with the other hand, to avoid the danger of losing a particle.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY has charity places for the **Virtual London Marathon** taking place over 24 hours on **3rd October 2021**. This can be run anywhere. On completion, runners will receive the official London Marathon Finisher's medal and New Balance T shirt. If you would like one of our places and can raise a fundraising total of £300, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk for details.

THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: Pope Francis has declared a year of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, from the 8 December 2020, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, to same Feast this year. The Feast of St Joseph the Worker on the 1st May, shows Joseph as a father who teaches us the value, dignity and joy of work. A carpenter who earned an honest living to provide for his family, "St Joseph teaches us "the value, the dignity and joy of what it means to eat bread that is the fruit of one's own labour." This aspect of Joseph's character provides Pope Francis the opportunity to launch an appeal in favour of work, which has become a "burning social issue" even in countries with a certain level of well-being.

"There is a renewed need to appreciate the importance of dignified work, of which Saint Joseph is an exemplary patron," the Pope writes. Work, he says, "is a means of participating in the work of salvation, an opportunity to hasten the coming of the Kingdom, to develop our talents and abilities, and to put them at the service of society and fraternal communion." Those who work, he explains, "are cooperating with God himself, and in some way become creators of the world around us." Pope Francis encourages everyone "to rediscover the value, the importance and the necessity of work for bringing about a new "normal" from which no one is excluded. "Especially in light of rising unemployment due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Pope calls everyone to "review our priorities" and to express our firm conviction that no young person, no person at all, no family should be without work!"

DECEASED: We pray for all who died recently and all whose anniversaries occur at this time that they may rest in peace and rise in glory.

ANNIVERSARIES: Canon Brian Grady, Canon John Duckett (9/5), Derek Wood, John Teasdale, Diane Harrington (10/5), Fr Augustine Davidson, Mgr John Howell, Fr John Boyle, Fr Stanley Joynes (11/5), Percy Flower, Doug Bere, Kathleen King (13/5), Bernadine Potrykus (15/5), Eric Slade, Fr James (Jim) McCormack, Ronnie Barrett (16/5). **Let perpetual light shine upon them, Lord, may they rest in peace.**

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME AND IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES: May the Lord's healing power come to them.

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

POPE FRANCIS AND THE CULTURE OF ENCOUNTER: On **Saturday 15th May** from 11 am to 12.30 pm Dr Austen Ivereigh, biographer of Pope Francis, will lead a Gidea Park live stream study on the theme 'The Culture of Encounter: Can Pope Francis' vision of fraternity counter the politicization of faith?' He will explore the importance of the Abu Dhabi declaration, the Amazon Synod, the recent encyclical on fraternity *Fratelli Tutti*, and the March 2021 visit of Pope Francis to Iraq. For this free live stream go to www.whatgoodnews.org and follow directions.

EPPING FOREST FOODBANK: **Our thanks to very generous parishioners who have donated a lot of food for the Epping Forest Food Bank, in the basket in our church porch by the Priest's House & Sacristy.** It urgently needs: UHT Milk, Instant Mash, Small Couscous Packs, Tinned Spaghetti, Microwaveable Rice Pouches, Vegetable Noodle Packs, Sponge Puddings, Small Jars of Peanut Butter, Small Jars of Coffee, Hot Chocolate, 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 in the porch will be most welcome!**

VOLUNTARY ACTION EPPING FOREST, in Thornwood, gives relief boxes to those struggling money-wise due to Covid 19. Contact Nick on **07967726851** or the befriending on **07708171116**, or <https://vaef.org.uk/covidresponse@vaef.org.uk>

PRAYER FOR THE COMING THE HOLY SPIRIT AT PENTECOST
Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.
Let us pray: O God, who taught the hearts of the faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may always be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF EPPING The Immaculate Conception

HOW TO STREAM MASS FROM EPPING at HOME

We live stream Sunday Masses at 9am and 11am from Epping Catholic Church on You Tube every Sunday.

You do not need a Youtube account to watch. Using a laptop, computer or mobile phone, you need speakers or headphones if your device does not built in speakers. 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

On a mobile phone simply scan the 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.

PRAYER FOR ALL AFFLICTED IN THIS TIME OF PANDEMIC

Let us pray for all who suffer from the current pandemic, that God the Father may grant health to the sick, strength to all who care for them, comfort to families and salvation to all the victims who have died.

“Almighty and ever living God, support of our human weakness, look with compassion upon the sorrowful condition of your children who suffer because of the pandemic; relieve the pain of the sick, give strength to all who care for them, welcome into your peace all who have died, console all who mourn, and grant that we may all find comfort and consolation in your merciful love. We make this prayer, with faith and hope, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, who intercedes for us at your right hand and lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

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

Churches were permitted to reopen for people to attend services last July on completing risk assessments and compliance with Covid regulations. **In our church we are allowed only 23 single individuals, or 55 people** of family groups from the same bubble or house, at any one time. The gallery in our church is not for general use due to the lack of screens, social distancing problems and the danger of spreading the virus over the balcony by aerosols.

- **You need to book a place in church for a particular weekend Mass.** In the plan of our church, seats will be filled as bookings are made to Deacon Duncan by email at: duncanjcwhitehouse@gmail.com or phone on 01992 577173 by 5pm on Friday evenings. Bookings sent to our Parish Office are forwarded to Deacon Duncan for completing.
- After booking for a Mass, if you cannot attend or must change time, please notify Deacon Duncan immediately so that others can have those places.
- If people have not booked in good time for a particular weekend Mass, it may not be possible for them to enter for Mass, if places are already taken or the church is full. Those who book will be allowed to take their places first.
- You must not come to church if you are vulnerable or have Covid symptoms.

These procedures cause problems for all of us and we regret having to go down this route for safety. However, we must not take the risk of spreading the virus by breaking regulations, having our services halted, people being sent home or our church being closed as has happened in other places. Fr John

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

MAY IS THE MONTH OF OUR LADY – The Blessed Virgin Mary: Pope Francis has called us to pray The Rosary daily in May, even if it is only one decade, to ask the intercession of our Lady, that the present pandemic may be ended and that people have healing, freedom and peace.

CHILDRENS LITURGY: <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

MY DAY BY DAY BOOKLETS for Infant & Junior children in the porch