

WELCOME TO CHURCH. To attend weekend Mass in our Church it is advisable to book a seat. Please change or cancel your booking(s) if you will not be attending the Mass for which you booked, so that seats are freed up.

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) **29th AUGUST 2021**

Saturday 28th 6.00pm Stan Holder RIP Anniversary (FM)
Sunday 29th 9.00am Private Intention
August 2021 11.00am The People of our Parish

Monday 30th Ss Margaret Clitheroe, Anne Lime & Margaret Ward
9.15am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Tuesday 31st 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Wednesday 1st **St Sebbi, King of East Saxons**
12 noon Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Thursday 2nd 9.15am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
Friday 3rd **St Gregory the Great**
12 noon Private Intention
Saturday 4th 12 noon Baptism of Marco Eduardo Gio Concadoro

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) **5TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

Saturday 4th 6.00pm Private Intention
Sunday 5th 9.00am Private Intention
September 2021 11.00am The People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE available on request to the Priest

READINGS for 22nd SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B) **29th AUGUST**

DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2,6-8 Add nothing to what I command you: keep the commandments of the Lord

PSALM 14 The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

JAMES 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27 You must do what the Word tells you.

Alleluia, Alleluia! Your words are Spirit, Lord and they are life:

You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia

MARK 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23 You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human tradition.

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 Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-sea: <https://lourdesleigh.org>

St Joseph English Martyrs Bishops Stortford

www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford

The Immaculate Conception Catholic



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Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) **29th AUGUST 2021**

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The history of divine law, which we follow as Christians, begins in the love of God and his divine creation. It is very tempting to confuse our written laws with divine law. The Word of the Lord is the divine law, and that law is wider, deeper longer and higher than any written laws which are composed by humans for human guidance. No written law can adequately express God's love for his people. The written law, which the whole population is required to follow, is only a pale reflection of a part of divine law – divine law which is based upon God's love and grace.

This weekend's Gospel is an interesting example of the difference between human regulations and the commandments of God, and shows Jesus trying to reshape the attitude of the Jewish authorities with regard to their traditions. It is important for us to remember that clinging to human regulations cannot be claimed to be on a par with observing God's commandments. It is what comes from the mind and heart that makes a person either a disciple or an advocate of unworthiness.

The greatness of God's law cannot be contained in any law contrived by human authority, because God's law is simply written on the hearts of believers. Once it is written on our hearts, then God's Word, God's wisdom and God's law will guide us towards everything that is perfect in God's eyes, provided that we listen to him..

God bless.

Deacon Duncan

OFFERINGS Thank you for your generous offerings of an average of £800 weekly in standing orders. On 22nd August, £170 in envelopes and £116.25 loose plate. Offerings can be given in to the Priest's House and can be made online for our parish and the charities our parish supports by going to : www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=epping/////////

EPHING FOREST FOODBANK is looking for volunteer delivery drivers
Contact https://volunteer.trusselltrust.org/opportunities/19335-food-bank-river-delivery-driver-epping-forest-2021-06-9?_ga=2.10676128.2040570999.1626708403-1092072778.1611397708

DEAR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS

I thank you once again for your many greetings, kindness and generosity in celebrating the Golden Jubilee of my Ordination to the Priesthood on 12th June. I am very grateful for the £5534 donated by parishioners to mark the event, which after the £491 cost of the green Chasuble results in me receiving a cheque for £5043.

I have gone on holiday to my family in Ireland for the month of August. I am most grateful to Canon Brian O'Shea, who celebrated the Parish Masses on 7th/8th August, Fr Gerald Gostling, who celebrated the Parish Masses last weekend and to Fr Bijaya Chandra Nayak from St Joseph's, Leyton who celebrated the Masses last weekend and will celebrate the Masses this weekend. On August weekdays, Deacon Duncan leads Liturgies of the Word and Holy Communion at the normal Mass times. I am looking forward to my return on 2nd September.

I hope and pray that you all keep safe and well and have a good holiday time. With prayerful good wishes.

Fr John.

THE LIFTING OF COVID RESTRICTIONS: While this is a welcome change, the Government and its advisers advise us to be cautious, especially in enclosed spaces. In our church, there are still restrictions, including wearing facemasks and sanitising of hands, until we have had time to reflect on the guidance from the Bishops' Conference and the Diocese on how best to introduce changes. Our first concern is for the health and wellbeing of all members of our parish family and to protect people from danger..

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/>

RECENTLY DIED A faithful servant of the Church and of our parish for many years, Mary Collier died on 25th August in St Margaret's Hospital. We send our condolences to her grieving family and friends and pray that she may Rest in Peace.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: Applications are now closed for this year's Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Group. There will be a meeting for the parents in **September** in the Church Hall. However, our arrangements are conditioned by the COVID regulations regarding the use of our Church Hall. Further details will follow.

We are grateful to our Catechists who prepare children for First Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Our programme for 2021/22 will commence in September. There will be a higher number of parents wishing to prepare their children for the sacraments as we could not run the programme last year. We have a dedicated team of Catechists, but need more to support the number of children we anticipate on the course. **We desperately need some more parishioners to assist with this important work for a couple of hours a week.** You do not have to be a teacher or have special skills **we just need you.** Please, don't just think someone else will do it – if not you then who? If you can help, please contact Fr John or our Parish Office.

ANNIVERSARIES:

David Squires (28th), Susan Perry (28th), Patrick Matthews (29th) and Barbara Gaughan (29th). Luke O'Connor (31st), Mary Furlong (3), Bridget Day (4th), Veronica Beard (7th), Alan Neal (9), Elsie Hayes (11th). Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME AND IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES:

May the Lord send down the healing power of his Holy Spirit upon them at this time.

EPHING FOREST FOODBANK We thank generous parishioners who give food and goods for Epping Forest Food Bank, in the basket in our church porch by the Priest's House & Sacristy. The Foodbank urgently needs: long life milk, tinned tomatoes, tinned fish, tinned peas, tinned carrots, tinned tomatoes, tinned instant mash, potatoes, snack bars, chocolate bars, small/medium bags of rice, sponge puddings,

small jars of coffee, savoury crackers, chocolate spread, reusable face masks, hand sanitiser (70% alcohol), laundry tablets, shampoo, deodorant, soap. **Your donations are most welcome!**

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

PRAYER FOR ALL AFFLICTED IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC

We pray for all suffering from the pandemic. May God the Father grant health to the sick, strength to all who care for them, comfort to families and salvation to the dead. "Almighty and ever living God, support in 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.

YOU STILL NEED TO BOOK TO ATTEND WEEKEND MASS IN OUR CHURCH: If you have booked a place at Mass and you then cannot attend please notify us. Please notify bookings and cancellations to Deacon Duncan, at duncanjcwhitehouse@gmail.com or 01992 577173

HOW TO STREAM MASS TO YOUR HOME We live stream Sunday Masses at 11am from Epping Catholic Church on You Tube.

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 have 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.

OUR PARISH RESPONSE TO THE HAITI DISASTER

What devastation! Those poor, destitute families! To date, there have been 2,100 deaths, 100,000 injured and 115,000 homes destroyed. There is an urgent need for help and we can surely make a contribution in this crisis.

Fr John has agreed that we should have a retiring collection after weekend Masses to fund a Shelter Box (or two?). Each 'Box' comprises a 15-person tent, with sleeping bags, hygiene kit, bowls, towels, waterproofs, a stove, cutlery, various linens and toiletries etc. and each 'Box' converts into a bath. In fact, all basic kit for those who have lost everything in the disaster. Each 'Shelter Box costs about £750, so our initial target donation will fund one Box.....but could we do more? Your generosity will be greatly appreciated by these destitute families. The **'HAITI DISASTER'** Collection Basket will be placed by the exit from church this weekend and for two more weekends.

You can donate by

- Cheque 'Epping Catholic Church' & **on reverse** 'Haiti Gift'
- Cash placed in the Collection Basket or put through the presbytery door.
- Bank Transfer to 'Catholic Church Epping - The Immaculate Conception', Account 81019821 – Sort Code 40 13 22...note 'Haiti Gift'.
- Please specify 'Gift Aid' benefit where appropriate.

Any queries to Deacon Duncan. Thanks for your help..

MESSAGE FROM PROVIDENCE ROW: This September Providence Row is hosting an online special service of thanksgiving and reflection, with faith partners.

You are warmly invited to join Providence Row for our ONLINE ZOOM '*Calming of the Storm*' service. This will be an opportunity for our faith community to come together to reflect on the impact of the pandemic and start to look ahead to how Providence Row and our community can move forward together.

The service will be led by Fr Chris of St Mary Moorfield's and also have external speakers talking on their perspective of Faith and responding to homelessness as one. There will also be an update of the amazing work our Services team have done in their response to tackling homelessness during the pandemic.

Join us on **Thursday 2nd September 19:00-20:00 on Zoom.**

The event is free, although we do welcome donations which will be used to provide vital support services to people facing homelessness in London.

If you would like to join us, please RSVP to getinvolved@providencerow.org.uk and we will send you further details about the service, including how you can make a donation via the link.