

TIMES OF MASSES & SERVICES FROM Saturday 5th to Sunday 13th March 2022		
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C		6th March 2022
Saturday 5 th	6.00pm	Rocque Fernandes RIP Anniv (Murray)
Sunday 6 th	9.00am	People of our Parish
February 2022	11.00am	Bridget Crouch RIP (Crouch Family) Live streamed
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church
Monday 7 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tuesday 8 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 9 th	12 noon	Special Intention (Anon)
Thursday 10 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Friday 11 th	12 noon	Peggy Quinn RIP Anniv (Protheroe) LENT FAST DAY
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross & Mass for Confirmation & Communion Catechists
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C		13th March 2022
Saturday 12 th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 13 th	9.00am	Private Intention (McAdam)
March 2022	11.00am	Roger Allardyce RIP Anniv (Allardyce) Live streamed
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE on Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon and on request.

READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT C Mass Book Page 153 6th March 2022

DEUTERONOMY 26:4-10 The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery and oppression

PSALM 90 Be with me, O Lord, in my distress

ROMANS 10:8-13 The Word, the faith we proclaim is on your lips and in your heart

LUKE 4:1-13 Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness & was tempted there

WE LIVE STREAM SUNDAY MASS at 11am FROM OUR CHURCH:

youtube.com/channel/UCAbSuwE8X5AOaugAT35hREw or search on google:

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping and visit the channel.

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

DAILY SERVICES WITH MASSES STREAMED: 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/

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders, £204.50 in envelopes, £308.28 in loose plate and £220 for CAFOD on Sunday 27th February. You can give in Offerings to the Priest's House and for charities our Parish supports via www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY is next Friday. We identify with peoples in the developing nations and next weekend we will have a retiring collection at Masses for CAFOD.

LENT BOOKLETS: MY DAY BY DAY booklets for Infants and Junior children and Lent Calendars are available in the church. Please take one for your child. For adults "WALK WITH ME" booklets with a page a day for Lent. All are available free.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

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Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C

6th March 2022

Dear friends and Parishioners,

“Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days” (Luke 4:1-13). Following his Baptism by John the Baptist, the Spirit comes down on Jesus and he was affirmed by God the Father that This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Lk.3:22). Whilst that was a joyful and affirmative experience for Christ, it was immediately followed by the Spirit leading him out into the wilderness to be tested and tempted when he was weak from the hunger. There were three principal temptations presented to Jesus, all of which centred on himself and exercising a power which he had to perform miracles. He rejects all the temptations and tells us “Learn from me for I am gentle and humble of heart”, for all his miracles were for the glory of God his Father and the service of people – not the promotion of or exaltation of himself.

Each of us too has been given the Spirit of God, who dwells in our hearts and we are called and prompted to be led by that Spirit. Whilst he gives us love, joy and peace as his fruits in our lives (Galatians 5:16-26), he also allows us to be tested and tempted, with recurring temptations in the course our life”. Lent is a time for us to journey with Jesus in the wilderness of our life, when we are confronted with personal weaknesses, temptations and sins. We call on Jesus, our Saviour to give us grace and strength to reject temptations to centre on self by giving alms for the good of others, praying and making sacrifices for the glory of God.

We will welcome Bishop Alan, our Bishop on a Pastoral Visit to our parish on Wednesday, 23rd March, when he will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for young parishioners at the evening Mass. We pray for all who have been preparing for Confirmation and the Sacraments in our Parish. May the Lord strengthen them, and all of us, with his Spirit and lead us forward in our faith journey with a stronger faith, greater hope and deeper love in our parish.

May God bless, guide and protect you in this season of Lent. Fr John

LENT MASSES: On the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm we offer Mass for:

11th March: Confirmation & Communion Catechists

18th March: Readers & Ministers of the Eucharist

25th March: St Vincent De Paul Society

WE PRAY FOR MRS KATHLEEN POMEROY RIP who died on Tuesday, 15th February. She will be received into our church for the celebration of Requiem Mass on **Wednesday 16th March at 12.30pm**, followed by a committal at Parndon Wood Crematorium. *May she rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to her family and all who mourn at this time, that the Lord may send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them.*

CHOIR & MUSIC: We wish to restart our choir, initially on a once a month basis at 11am Mass NEXT Sunday, 13th March. If you would like to join, and we would love you to join. Please contact Michele Garwood or Fr John at the Priest's House.

JOURNEY IN FAITH TALKS for adults who wish to understand our faith, or who are not Catholic but come to Mass, or want to support the faith of family members, or become Catholic to talks on the Catholic Faith. They are for those wishing to return to the practice of their faith, or who were Baptised Catholic but did not receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation. Please contact Fr John if you are interested and come to the Priest's House on **Wednesdays from 8 to 9pm. However, the meeting next week will be on Tuesday 8th March at 8pm in the Priest's House.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Preparation in the Hall on Wednesday at 5.30pm.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION: Our Confirmation Programme will continue with a rehearsal for the Confirmation Mass on **Wednesday 9th March at 7pm.**

COVID REGULATIONS: To keep people safe **we continue to wear face coverings in church.** If you are displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 please stay at home.

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Kevin Nugent, Christopher Carroll, Sadie McAniskey Samuel Palmer, Lawrence Ryan, Mgr Jules Van Meenen, Fr Malachy Kelly (5/3), Ian Cook, Nancy Maddin (6/3), Rosamund Flower, Rosalie Shannon, Charles Derenge (7/3), Canon Joseph Whitfield (8/3), Frances Arrow, Fr Thomas Lawton, Fr John Gordon (9/3), Timothy White, Maria Watson, Peter Ryan, William Simmons, Maura Butler, Fr Edmund Meyer, Dianne Harrington, Fr Maurice Roche, Mgr, Michael Corley (10/3), Frederick Roberts (11/3), Brian Conlan, Margaret Cannon (12/3), Millicent Wood, David Marlin (12/3), Fr William Luby (13/3). **Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

PARISH QUIZ NIGHT on **Saturday 26th March** at 7.30pm in our Parish Hall. Six people per table maximum. £5 for adults, under 18's free (pay on the night). Please contact Emma on 07791 235929 to book your place.

APPEAL FOR UKRAINE: We have a box in church for people to make donations (money) to help the people of Ukraine. Donations of goods can be made at the Hub in the Epping Forest Council Offices in the High Street.

LENT LUNCHES: A chance to meet friends and support local charities. Each Saturday in Lent one of the Churches in Epping offers a simple lunch **from 12.30pm to 2pm**. Everyone is welcome! The next Lent Lunch will be held at **12.30pm on Saturday 12th March at the United Reformed Church, Lindsey St.**

LENT READINGS: The Scripture readings for Lent are rich and a major source of help in living a good Lent. Fr Adrian Graffy, has prepared commentaries on all the readings in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday. The full text of the biblical readings and commentary are accessible from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT: Peter Arthy, our parishioner, has accepted an invitation from our Diocese to sleepout on **the night of 8th to the morning of 9th April**. Peter will raise money for our local charity, Epping Foodbank. He is looking for sponsors and would greatly appreciate the support of our parishioners. If you would like to donate, please speak to Peter directly or contact our Parish Office.

EPHING FOREST FOODBANK urgently needs: tinned fish, tinned tomatoes, tinned peas, tinned carrots, tinned instant mash potatoes, long life milk, small jars of coffee, chocolate spread, snack bars, chocolate bars, small/medium bags of rice, savoury crackers, sponge puddings, shampoo, soap, hand sanitiser (70% alcohol), deodorant, reusable face masks, laundry tablets. **If you know of any people or families in need of help at this time, please contact Fr John or our Parish SVP.**

REPOSITORY: Janet Abbot has kindly managed our Repository, religious goods and card stall, in the church porch, for very many years. There are cards for every occasion and some lovely religious goods. We now need some more helpers to open it after weekend Masses. Please contact Fr John or our Parish Office if you can help.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bishop Alan will lead the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from **24th - 29th July**; a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. You can book now on-line: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood For further information, please phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: How has Catholicism enriched Culture, Music & the Arts? Input will be by Fr David Clemens, Parish Priest at Our Lady of Compassion, Saffron Walden, today, **Sunday 6th and Sunday 13th March** 4.00 - 5.00 pm via Zoom. To join this meeting forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org Further information on www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

PARISH OFFICE ADMINISTATOR VACANCY at Our Lady of the Rosary and St Patrick, Walthamstow Parish. The post will be part-time (approximately 15 hours per week). Application forms can be obtained by contacting Father Kevin via the Parish email address: walthamstowlrstp@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Our church is open daily from 8am to 7pm for people to visit & pray