

<b>TIMES OF MASSES &amp; SERVICES from Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>		
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Solemnity	
<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C 20<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>		
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Private Intention
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	People of our Parish
March 2022	11.00am	John Denis Keane RIP (Clohessy) <b>Live streamed</b>
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.15am	Private intention (JM)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9.15am	Eileen Lennon RIP Anniv. (Lechley)
Wednesday 23	12 noon	Vera Doherty RIP Anniv. (Doherty)
	7.30pm	Bishop Alan celebrates Mass for Confirmation
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Peggy McCabe's intentions (Morris)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>The Annunciation of the Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	
<b>Solemnity</b>	12 noon	The deceased Parish Priests of Epping RIP (McAdam)
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross & Mass for Parish Council & Finance Committee
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	12.30pm	Baptism of George Brian Barick
	2.30pm	Baptism of Maria Sadler
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C Rejoicing (Laetare) Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022</b>		
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup>	6.00pm	Roger Cramfin RIP Anniv. (Cramfin)
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Private intention <b>Mothers' Day</b>
March 2022	11.00am	The People of our Parish <b>Live streamed</b>
	3.00pm	Tridentine Rite Latin Mass
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church

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

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT C READINGS Mass Book Page 163 20<sup>th</sup> March 22**

**EXODUS 3:1-15** God told Moses to say to the people, "I am has sent me to you".

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

**1 Cor 10:1-6** The life of the people in the desert was written to be a lesson for us

**LUKE 13:1-9** Jesus said: "Unless you repent you will all perish as they did"

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

**DAILY SERVICES WITH MASSES STREAMED:** [www.churchservices.tv/timetable/](http://www.churchservices.tv/timetable/)

**Daily Mass at Westminster Cathedral:** [www.churchservices.tv/westminster/](http://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/](http://www.churchservices.tv/bishopsstortford/)

**OFFERINGS:** Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders, and £218 in envelopes and £239.36 in loose plate on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March. And £363.80 for CAFOD from Lent Fast Day, and £570 for DEC Ukraine Appeal (£696.57 previous week). You can give in your Offerings to the Priest's House and for charities our Parish supports also via [www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////)

## The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Website: [www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)

Registered Charity Number: 234092

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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C**

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

*Dear friends and Parishioners,*

God called from the middle of the burning bush and said, "Moses, Moses, come no nearer. Take your shoes off for the place on which you stand is holy ground" (Exodus 3:1-15). There is an increasing sense of the need to protect the environment but a diminishing sense of the sacred in our world. People can be blinded by the material so that they do not see God's presence in a person, a bush or creation. The sacred and spiritual are central to sustain life and nature but are often not recognised. Like Moses, we could be walking on holy ground or sacred space, but not recognise the presence and holiness of God.

We go into a Church and genuflect with our right knee touching our left heel on the floor, to show we honour God who is in a sacred place. On entering a Mosque, people take off their shoes, as Moses did, to show that they walk on holy ground in the presence of God and must honour him. Whilst God is present everywhere, we must always honour him in people and holy places. We need to be aware that his presence is real to us in the Church - a building consecrated to God where his people gather for worship and prayer. That is why we bow or genuflect and are silent before him. God who is present as his Word, the Sacred Scriptures, are read aloud to people, and is truly present in Holy Communion. He is present "where two or three are gathered in his name".

The many and varied presences of God are a comfort and strength to us in the various situations we go through, for the Lord does not leave us to journey or cope alone in life but is with us at all times and places. St Patrick, whose feast we celebrated on Thursday, expressed that beautifully in his prayer: "Christ, be beside me, Christ be before me, Christ be behind me, King of my heart ...". We should use his prayer or hymn as a consistent part of our own prayer, as it reflects to us God's ongoing presence, support and constant love for us.

We will welcome Bishop Alan, our Bishop on a Pastoral Visit to our parish on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, when he will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for thirteen young parishioners at 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 greater reverence, a stronger faith and deeper love. Fr John.*

**JOURNEY IN FAITH:** This weekend a Masses we pray God's blessing and grace on Alison, Jon and Kerri, who have been making their Journey of Faith in and into the church in our Parish over the past year(s). We support them with our prayers and pray the Lord's blessing on them as they respond to his call to grow in faith and the graces he has already given them, as they prepare for the Sacraments in our church at Easter.

**CONFIRMATION:** We congratulate the thirteen young people and their families who will be Confirmed by Bishop Alan in our Parish on Wednesday. We are most grateful to James, Maria and Peter Ryan for their dedication and time, so generously given to help this fine group of young people grow in faith and prepare for their Confirmation.

**COFFEE MORNING FOR UKRAINE** A Coffee Morning & Cake Sale for Ukraine will be held in our hall on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, from 10.30am to 12.30pm, to support the people of Ukraine, at home and abroad, who are in great distress. Be united in praying for peace by adding your prayer leaf to the prayers of others on the Prayer Tree for the Ukraine at [Ukraine prayer tree - Bible Society](#) or praying Psalm 31 daily at 3pm.

**THANKS:** Our thanks to Fr Bogdan and Fr Leszek, from Our Lady of Fatima Church, Harlow, for their kindness in celebrating our Sunday Masses last weekend and this weekend – during my time isolating. I hope not to stay positive! *Fr John*

**COVID REGULATIONS:** To keep safe **we wear face coverings in church, but it is individual choice.** If you display any symptoms of Covid-19 please stay at home.

**WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME, IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES:** Heavenly Father, we ask you to send the healing power of your Holy Spirit, down upon all who are ill or infirm, at home, in hospital or care homes. Free them from every ill of mind, body or spirit. Let your healing power come to them through all who minister to them and may they be blessed with you healing and peace.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** June Fitzpatrick (19/3), Fredrick Fenton, Patricia Scull, Fr Jim Jones, Fr Sidney Williams (20/3), Maurice O'Brien, Paul Gallagher, Peter Eard (21/3), Maurice O'Regan (22/3), Richard Tanti, Canon Arthur Holmes (23/3), Hannah Ibson, Fr John Sherlock (25/3), Kay McDonald, Michael Peachey, Mgr Alfred Gilbey, Fr Denis Hall (26/3), Albert Bridge, William Smart, Angus Cameron (27/3). Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. **May they rest in peace.**

**EASTER LILIES:** As in previous years, we offer parishioners the opportunity to remember deceased relatives and friends at Easter by displaying lilies in the flower arrangements in church. It is suggested a donation of £3 is made for each lily. Please put your donation into an envelope, clearly marked 'Easter Lily in memory of "....."' and either put it in the Offertory collection or through the Presbytery letter box. If you are a taxpayer you can Gift Aid your donation by using the red Special Donations envelope in the Church or us one of the special envelopes in your box.

**THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: What does it mean to talk about Christ as our Redeemer?** Input will be given by Mgr John Armitage on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to [adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org). For more information go to the website: [www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk](http://www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk)

**LENT MASSES:** On the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm we offer Mass for:  
**25<sup>th</sup> March: Parish Council and Finance Committee**  
**1<sup>st</sup> April: St Vincent De Paul, Readers & Ministers of the Eucharist**  
**8<sup>th</sup> April: Stewards, Ushers, Welcomers & Counters.**

**PARISH QUIZ NIGHT** Since few tables have been taken for the Quiz Night booked for Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March in our Hall, it is being postponed to a new date.

**LENT LUNCHES,** consisting of soup, ploughman's, bread and cake, coffee or tea: From 12.30 to 2.00pm on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March at Epping Green Chapel, CM16 6PU. On Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> March it will be at The Life Church at the Box, St John's Road. **We will host Lent Lunch in our hall on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April from 12.30 to 2.30pm** and donate the proceeds to benefit patients at St Margaret's Hospital. **If you can help or donate homemade soup, bread, cakes or cheese, please contact Mary on 01992 574719** Everyone is welcome and it's chance to meet friends.

**SPONSORED SLEEPOUT:** Peter Arthy, our parishioner, will sleepout on the night of **8<sup>th</sup> to the morning of 9<sup>th</sup> April.** He will raise money for Epping Foodbank, our local charity. He needs sponsors and would greatly appreciate parishioners' support of. If you wish to donate, please speak directly to Peter or our Parish Office

**REPOSITORY:** Helpers needed for the Repository, religious goods and card stall, in our church porch. There are cards for every occasion and some lovely religious good, that are not very expensive. We need some more helpers to open it after the weekend Masses. Please contact Fr John or our Parish Office if you can help.

**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](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**EPHING FOREST FOODBANK** 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.

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** Bishop Alan will lead the Brentwood pilgrimage to Lourdes from **24<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> July.** A time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and share this religious experience. Phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623 for details. You can book at: [www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood](http://www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood)

**WALSINGHAM HOUSE:** Walsingham House, The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service centre, has for many years given wonderful opportunities to young people especially anyone considering a gap-year, including some from our parish, to be part of an amazing community and share many experiences for a year. There will be an open afternoon for those interested to explore from 2 to 4pm on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> April. All who are interested are welcome. [www.bcys.net/events/whopenday](http://www.bcys.net/events/whopenday)