

TIMES OF MASSES & SERVICES from Saturday 2nd March to Sunday 10th April 2022		
Saturday 2nd	11.00am	Baptism of Wilfred Mansell Prothero
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR C 3rd April 2022		
Saturday 2nd	6.00pm	The People of our Parish
Sunday 3rd	9.00am	Canon Charles Loughran RIP Anniv. (McAdam)
April 2022	11.00am	Daniel Keating RIP (Graves) Live Streamed
Monday 4 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tuesday 5 th	9.15am	Colm Gallagher RIP Recently (Darcy)
Wednesday 6 th	9.15am	Special Intention (SP) - NOTE TIME
Thursday 7 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Friday 8 th	12 noon	Special Intention (SP)
7.30pm Stations of the Cross & Mass for Stewards, Ushers, Welcomers & Counters		
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (C)		
Saturday 9th	6.00pm	Special Intention (SP)
Sunday 10th	9.00am	People of our Parish
April 2022	11.00am	Billy Clark RIP Recently (Garwood) Live Streamed
	6.00pm	Stations of the Cross in Church

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

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT C READINGS Mass Book Page 180 3rd April 2022

EZEKIEL 37:12-14 The Lord says: "I shall put my spirit in you, and you shall live"

PSALM 129 With the Lord there is mercy and fulness of redemption

ROMANS 8:8-11 The Spirit of him who raised up Jesus from the dead lives in you

JOHN 11:1-45 Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life".

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, and £276.50 in envelopes and £350.67 in loose plate on Sunday 27th March and for CAFOD £27.70, You can give in Offerings to the Priest's House, and for charities our parish supports at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////

ALTAR SERVERS: We need to restore and renew our team of Altar servers and ask any adults or young people interested to contact Deacon Duncan or Fr John.

LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES: We all need to receive the grace of God through receiving forgiveness on confessing our sins. We will have a visiting priest to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and hear Confessions at: **EPPING** on Thursday 7th; **LOUGHTON** on Tuesday 12th April, both 7.30pm

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Registered Charity Number: 234092
Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohanga Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR C

3rd APRIL 2022

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

Jesus said, "Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one". Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go away and don't sin anymore" (John 8:1-11). In this Gospel, religious men brought a woman caught committing adultery to Jesus and asked him to condemn her to death. Full of self-righteousness, they show no mercy or compassion to the woman. People have changed little, for right down through the ages there are some who are always ready to condemn others for their human weakness and sins, but blind to their own sins. An old proverb says: "There is so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it ill behoves any of us to find fault with the rest of us". Jesus only condemned those wilfully blind to their own faults who went around condemning others and he told us, "Do not judge and you will not be judged".

Lent is a time when Christ calls us to look into ourselves to see the faults and sins in our own life. It is easy and tempting to look at other people's sins and faults but be blind to our own sins and failings. Christ calls us in Lent to look into our minds and hearts and recognise our own personal sins, and then to turn to him with humble and contrite hearts and seek his forgiveness and love.

Today, many of us do not see a need to identify our sins or failings and so do not see the need to come to Christ for the forgiveness of sins and the grace and be renewed by God's forgiving love. At the beginning of Mass we call to mind our sins, and say to God and to each other, "I confess that I have sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do..." and ask God to forgive us as we petition saying: "Lord, have mercy".

On Thursday we celebrate the Sacrament of Penance at the Lent Penance Service in our church. We will have a visiting priest to hear Confessions, and have the usual times of celebrating the Sacrament on Saturdays from 11.30am to 12 noon. Anyone wishing to receive the grace of this Sacrament but unable to get to Church, or does not find these times suitable, can always ask me and I will oblige on this as a priority, and if necessary visit people at home. To grow in love for God and people we need to come to the Lord for the forgiveness of our sins, being freed from guilt and healed from our hurts. *May the Lord bless us with forgiveness & peace. Fr John*

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for **Mrs Brenda O'Connor RIP**, who died on **14th March**. Her Funeral Service will be celebrated on **Wednesday 6th April** at 11am at Greenacres Burial Park. **May she rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to her family that the Lord may send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console and strengthen them at this time.**

FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN'S RECONCILIATION: Congratulations the children who celebrated their second Reconciliation in church last week. First Holy Communion preparation will resume after Easter on **Wednesday April 20th** at 5.30pm.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: These weekends at 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. The next preparation session will be in the Priest's House on Wednesday at 8.00pm.

COVID REGULATIONS: We encourage people to wear face coverings in church, to help reduce the spread of Covid and keep safe. Whilst its personal choice and not compulsory, Dr Jenny Harris, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, advises wearing a face covering inside buildings. If you have Covid19 symptoms of please stay home.

PARISH WEBSITE: Many thanks to our parishioner, Shea Lolin, who fixed the problems that beset our website over the past weeks. It is now up and running again at the same web address : www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

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

ANNIVERSARIES: Molly Denihan (3/4), Tommy Callaghan, Bertha Tedder, Canon Charles Loughran, Fr Ronald Roberts (4/4), Norah Murrihy (5/4), David Clancy (6/4), Stephen Fitzpatrick, Deacon Geoffrey Piper (7/4), Betty Bere (8/4), Fr Thomas Adkins, Christina Gruby (9/4). **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, marked 'Easter Lily in memory of "....."' and 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 Donations envelope in the Church or one of the special envelopes in your box.

"AN ENQUIRERS' EVENING": for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is at 7pm on **Tuesday 5th April** at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Mgr Kevin Hale. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

LENT LUNCHES: Each Saturday during Lent one of the churches in Epping will offer a simple lunch for a donation. All proceeds go to local charities. The next Lent lunch will take place on **Saturday 9th April**, between 12.30pm and 2pm, at St John's Church, St John's Road, Epping. Please bring your friends - everyone is most welcome. No booking required.

WELCOMERS AT MASS: We no longer take the names of those at Mass but we need more "Welcomers" to distribute Mass & hymn books and seek volunteers for this. Thanks to those of you who have already volunteered. We now need a volunteer to run the rota for this group. Please let Fr John know if you can help.

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT: Peter Arthy, our parishioner, will sleepout on the night of **20th April** (change of date). 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

LENT READINGS: The Scripture readings for Lent are a source of help in Lent. Fr Adrian Graffy gives commentaries on all the Scripture readings at Mass in 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

BAPTISM: Congratulations to the family of George Brian Barrick who was baptised in our Church on **Saturday 26th March**. May the Lord bless them and help them bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.

EPHING CHORUS will perform '*Faure Requiem*' in St John's Church, Epping, on Good Friday at 8pm. Entrance is free but there will be a retiring collection for Haven House Children's Hospice. See posters for details and please join us for this Devotional work.

OFFERTORY & GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The Gift Aid envelopes for the new financial year that begins on 6th of April are ready for collection in the church porch. Any parishioner who does not have Offertory envelopes and wishes to have them, please contact our Parish Gift Aid Organiser at our Parish Office. We ask parishioners who have Offertory envelopes to contact us if your circumstances or details have changed. We strongly encourage parishioners to use the Offertory envelopes, and especially for taxpayers to Gift Aid your donations to the church. This increases the value of your offerings to the church by **25%** at no cost to yourself, and this is a tremendous benefit to our parish.

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.

THRESHOLDS OF HOPE Talk on Zoom by Mgr John Armitage, Parish Priest of Canning Town, on **Sundays 3rd and 10th of April** from 4.00 to 5.00pm on "What it means to talk about Christ as our Redeemer". [Contact | Thresholds Of Hope](#)