

TIMES OF MASSES & SERVICES from Saturday 30th April to Sunday 8th May 2022		
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER C - ST JOSEPH THE WORKER 1st May 2022		
Saturday 30 th	6.00pm	Franko Fernandes Anniv (Murray)
Sunday 1 st	9.00am	Giovanni Borelli RIP (Mansell)
May 2022	11.00am	The People of our Parish Live streamed
Monday 2 May	St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor	
Bank Holiday	10.00am	Joyce Dean's intentions (Morris)
Tuesday 3 rd	Saints Philip & James, Apostles	
	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 4 th	The English Martyrs – National Feast	
	12 noon	Brenda O'Connor RIP Recently
Thursday 5 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Friday 6 th	St John Payne, Priest & Martyr – Diocesan Memorial	
	12 noon	Patrick McGrath's intentions
Saturday 7 th	11.00am	First Holy Communion Mass
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER C – Day of Prayer for Vocations - 8th May 2022		
Saturday 7 th	6.00pm	Hannah Robinson RIP Anniv
Sunday 8 th	9.00am	People of our Parish
May 2022	11.00am	Mary Curtin RIP Recently (Crouch)

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

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/

THIRD SUNDAY IN EASTER C READINGS **Mass Book Page 265** **1st May 2022**

ACTS 5:27-41 Obedience to God comes before obedience to men

PSALM 29 I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

APOCALYPSE 5:11-14 The Lamb that was sacrificed is worthy to be given power

JOHN 21:1-9 Jesus took the bread and gave it to them and the same with the fish.

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders, and £177.50 in envelopes and £289.69 in loose plate on Sunday 24th April and £10 for CAFOD. You can give in Offerings to the Priest's House, and for charities our parish supports at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & ADORATION: Before the lockdowns we had Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration in Church following weekday morning Masses. If there are parishioners who would like to resume this devotion, we can have the Blessed Sacrament placed on the Altar at the end of morning Masses.

FIRST COMMUNIONS: Wednesday 4th May at 7pm. Rehearsal, for the children and their parents, for those receiving their first Communion on Saturday 7th May.

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER C

1st May 2022

Dear Friends and Parishioners,

Three times, Jesus asked Peter, “Do you love me?” (John 21:1-19). People who have doubts or are insecure in a relationship may ask their spouse or partner, “Do you love me?” as they seek reassurance from the other about their commitment. Jesus was not insecure but in asking Peter three times, “Do you love me” gave him the opportunity to make a threefold profession of his love following the three times he denied our Lord. Peter, was a man of great heart and enthusiastic commitment to Jesus, felt hurt at the Lord's questions and thought Jesus should know that he loved him. Then Jesus placed his trust in Peter by giving him pastoral responsibility for his people as he said to him, “Feed my lambs. Look after my sheep”. Down through the ages, in Catholic tradition, we see the Pope as the successor of St Peter inheriting that pastoral responsibility to “Confirm the faith of his brothers and sisters” and maintain the unity of Christ's Body, the church.

In our reading from Acts 5 we see how Peter and the apostles are prosecuted and suffered for their witness to Christ and his death and resurrection. Peter's response then was not to deny or run away from Jesus, as he did when the Lord was arrested, but to testify to the truth based on the principle “that obedience to God comes before obedience to men”. In our time there are millions of Christians and conscientious people of faith throughout the world who are suffering discrimination, imprisonment, torture and death for their faithfulness to God and to the truth. We remember them and support them with our prayers and pray also for the wisdom and strength for ourselves that we may put “Obedience to God before obedience to men” in our thoughts, words and actions, and so bear faithful witness to Christ.

It was good at Easter to see that we had the largest number of people attend Sunday Masses since the lockdown two years ago. As we now go about “normally” (whatever that is!), it is right that we should come together in church for Mass with God's people. If we can work, shop or socialise then we can also come together to pray, to be guided by the Lord's Word, and to be strengthened by receiving him and his grace in Holy Communion.

May the Risen Christ bless us with the joy of new life this Easter. Fr John

RECENTLY DECEASED: PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF:
ALBERT JAMES BAZZONI RIP who died on Tuesday, 5th April. His funeral will be celebrated at Parndon Wood Crematorium on Monday **9th May** at 1.45pm. **May he rest in peace.**

STEVE McDONAGH RIP who died on Sunday, 24th April. **May he rest in peace.**
We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to their families and to all who mourn at this time. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and fill them with the hope and joy of new life through his resurrection from the dead..

JOURNEY IN FAITH: We will have four more meetings on Wednesdays from 8 to 9pm in the Priest's House for people who have been making their journey of faith into the Church and the Sacraments over the past year. They will cover the Sacraments of the Sick, Marriage, Holy Orders and Catholic Devotions. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, 4th May 8.00pm.

ALTAR SERVERS: We need more Altar servers for our Masses and invite adults, young people or children who would like to serve Mass. We ask children who received first Holy Communion in recent times to consider offering their service to the Lord at Mass. Please contact Fr John or Deacon Duncan if you would like to serve

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

ANNIVERSARIES: James O'Sullivan (30/4), Pamela Anderson (1/5), John Curran, Fr John Kennedy (2/5), Tom Clark, Margaret Smith-Galer (3/5), Cleonagh Jolly, Patrick Butler, Canon Thomas Norris, Fr Feargus Saurin, Fr Andrew Dorricott (4/5), Canon Patrick Palmer, Canon Basil Booker, Fr John O'Callaghan (5/5). **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace**

EASTER DUTIES: In Catholic tradition we had and have an obligation to receive Holy Communion, and if necessary, prepare for Holy Communion by receiving the forgiveness of our sins, between Ash Wednesday and Trinity Sunday

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: The Dioceses Westminster, Brentwood & Southwark Ethnic Chaplaincies invite you to a celebration of the Annual Mass for Immigrants on **Monday, 2nd May, at 2.30pm at Westminster Cathedral.** Banner bearers are invited to gather in the Cathedral Hall from 1pm for a banner procession at 2pm. The Mass will be hosted by Westminster Cathedral and live streamed. Bishop Michael Campbell OSA will be the celebrant. You are invited to attend in-person to celebrate the contribution made by immigrants to the life of our country and church.

COVID REGULATIONS: Please sanitise your hands as you enter and leave church. Wearing a face covering in church helps prevent the spread of Covid and keep safe. Whilst it is personal choice and not obligatory, we advise wearing a face covering in the church. If you have Covid19 symptoms of please stay at home.

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT: Congratulations to Peter Arthy on completing his sponsored sleepout on 20th April. Peter has raised well in excess of £2K for the Epping Forest Foodbank and wishes to thank all our parishioners for their support.

PARISH FUNDRAISER - HOLIDAY LET: Two-bedroom, pet friendly holiday chalet to let in Cromer on the North Norfolk coast. Fully refurbished this year to an excellent standard. Very competitive rates. Short breaks available out of season. Parish fundraising has very much suffered in the last two years since Covid has made it difficult to hold community fundraising events. For first time bookings to this chalet, made by Epping parishioners, a donation will be made to the parish. For further details, photos, prices and availability please contact Margaret Lechley on margaretlechley004@btinternet.com or phone/text to mobile 07981363809.

OFFERTORY & GIFT AID ENVELOPES for the finance year starting 6th April can be collected in the church. Parishioners who do not have Offertory envelopes and wish to have them, please contact our Gift Aid Organiser at the Parish Office. Parishioners who have Offertory envelopes please contact us if your circumstances for Gift Aid or details have changed. We ask taxpayers to Gift Aid your donations to the church and use Offertory envelopes, as it increases the value of your offerings to the church by **25%** and at no cost to yourself.

EPPING 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, savory crackers, sponge puddings, shampoo, soap, hand sanitiser (70% alcohol), deodorant, reusable face masks and laundry tablets.

TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCY:

The Bishop appoints Foundation governors to diocesan schools to ensure the Church's mission is upheld. These Governors have responsibility for the appointment of staff, oversight of the curriculum and the school's performance. Governor Training is given to help with this role. For details contact Sally Parry: Sparry@tchs.org.uk

FAMILY CO-ORDINATOR - Parish of The Most Holy Redeemer, Billericay

Hours of work: 15 hours per week; Contract: 3 years fixed term. Closing date: **Friday 27th May 2022.** Interviews: TBC. For details and the job description please contact the Parish Office on 01277 624891 or email: billericay@dioceseofbrentwood.org

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, Ireland on **23 May 2022.** Fully escorted. Price £699.00 per person sharing, includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights full board in Knock House Hotel. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey and Museum. Single supplement £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is fully protected by ATOL T7613.