

MASSES & SERVICES FROM: Saturday 6th May to Sunday 14th May 2023		
Saturday 6th	St John Payne, Priest & Martyr	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A 7th May 2023		
Saturday 6th	6.00pm	Grace Kelly RIP Anniv (Bond)
Sunday 7th	9.00am	The People of our Parish
May 2023	11.00am	Janet Barrow RIP Live Streamed
Monday 8th	10.00am	Gina Giambrone's intentions (S Palmer) Note time
Tuesday 9th	Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse	
	9.15am	Scannell Family Deceased (Scannell)
	11.30am	Patricia Graves RIP Funeral Service
Wednesday 10th	St John of Avila, Priest & Doctor	
	12 noon	Special Intention (SP)
Thursday 11th	Blessed John Rochester, Priest & Martyr	
	9.15am	Teresa Ryan RIP (FM)
Friday 12th	St John Houghton, Priest & Martyr	
	12 noon	Private Intention (ML)
Saturday 13th	St Erconwald, Bishop & Secondary Co-Patron of our Diocese	
	11.00am	First Holy Communion Mass
	12.30pm	Baptism of Charlotte Kilden
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A 14th May 2023		
Saturday 13th	6.00pm	Tess Doherty's Intentions (S Palmer)
Sunday 14th	9.00am	Special Intention (S Palmer)
May 2023	11.00am	People of our Parish Live Streamed

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE on Saturdays from 11.30am to 12 noon and on request to the Parish Priest at any time. You are always welcome to this Sacrament.

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A Mass Book Page 265 7 May 2023

ACTS 6:1-7 The elected seven men full of the Holy Spirit (The first Deacons)

PSALM 32 May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

1Peter 2:4-9 You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a people set apart

JOHN 14:1-12 Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life".

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders.

On 30th April 2023: Loose Plate £306.56, Envelopes £179.50 & CAFOD £10. Thank you for your generosity and support for our parish and charities. You can give in donations to the Priest's House and also online for our parish or charities we support at: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping//////////

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A

7th April 2023

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me" (Jn.14:1-12). On Good Shepherd Sunday, last week, we heard Jesus say, "I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe" (Jn.10:1-10). He also said, "do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still and trust in me". He has come to lead people on the Way of Truth to Life with the God who created and sustains us. God's greatest gift to people of every time and place is his Son, Jesus Christ. Through Christ, God saves us from sin and eternal death. Through Christ, God blesses people with grace and mercy so that they may have life and eternal life. Through Christ, God comes to us and enables us to know Him and go to Him with faith and love. This teaching is central to our Christian faith, and key to understanding how God saves people through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, his Son, the Saviour of the world.

When Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me", he makes the greatest claim about his mission and purpose as the Son of God and Saviour. He does not say I've come to show or point out the Way, but "I am the Way" and by following him and living in his Way we know we are on the Way to God. Jesus did not come to tell us about the Truth, since he personifies the Truth and in looking at him, we see the nature of God in word and action. Jesus is the Life for he came so that we "may have life, life to the full" and be sharers in the life of God that he offers us.

When we think of Jesus as the Way, do I ask myself: in what way am I living? When we think of Jesus as the Truth, do I ask myself; what is truth for me? Do I listen to and read the Truth of the Word of God, given to me in the Bible? Do I give attention to falsehoods or lies, news or whatever? Do I believe the truth that God loves me and each one of us and wishes us to be saved and live a life of grace in his kingdom? Thinking of Jesus as the Life, do I recognise my life and the life of others is a precious gift of God who sustains us and calls us to come to him, especially when we are burdened? Do I thank him that in the waters of Baptism he has grafted me on to himself, like the branch to the Vine, and given me new life? In receiving him in Holy Communion, do I recognise that I am deepening my communion with him and others in the Christian Community? *May we be disciples of Him, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. Fr John*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION: On **Wednesday 10th May** at 7pm a rehearsal for children and their parents of those making their first Holy Communion at 11am on **Saturday 13th May**. **No class on Wednesday evening next week.**

RECENTLY DECEASED:

MRS PATRICIA GRAVES who died on Monday 10th April. Her Funeral Service will be celebrated in our church on **Tuesday 9th May at 11.30am** followed by burial at Epping Cemetery. **May she rest in peace.**

MRS MARIE CREHAN, a long-time parishioner here, who died on Thursday 20th April 2023. She will be received into our church on **Thursday 18th May** at 4.30pm. Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on **Friday 19th May** at 12 noon. We offer our sympathy to her daughter, Louise and to all her family. **May she rest in peace.**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, & let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to their families and all who mourn. May the Lord send his Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and give them with the hope of eternal life through the resurrection of Christ.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN RESEARCH ON BEHALF OF BISHOP ALAN:

Do you know someone who no longer comes to Mass? Maybe it's a friend or family, neighbour or colleague, or maybe it's you?+ Bishop Alan would love to hear from you + https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_gNo8WXvvKfwJts For further information please pick up a short survey invitation available in church.

ANNIVERSARIES: Kathleen Johnson (6/5), Mary Geoghegan, Diane Tucker (7/5), Canon Brian Grady, Canon John Duckett, Elsie Moore (9/5), Diane Harrington, Donald Wood, Christine Gallacher (10/5), Betty Sullivan, Fr Augustine Davidson, Fr John Boyle, Mgr John Howell, Fr Stanley Joynes (11/5), Doug Bere, Percy Flower, Kathleen King (13/5), Stephen Thornhill (14/5), Bernadine Potrykus, John Hassey (15/5). **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

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

Lord Jesus Christ, our Most Holy Redeemer, by the grace of your Holy Spirit, grant comfort and healing to all who suffer in mind, body or spirit. When they are afraid give them courage, when they are afflicted give them patience, when dejected lift them up with new hope, when alone, assure them of the prayerful support of your holy people. Through Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

RED MISSION BOXES: Many parishioners used the Red Missio Boxes to support the work of the Missions in poorer countries in the past year. The empty boxes are at the back of the church and ask people to take and use them again to assist with the Missions.

EPPING CHORUS will hold a quiz night in our church hall on **Friday, 12th May** - 7pm for 7.30pm start. Tickets £10 per person from Maggie Knope on 01992 573101. Please see poster on notice board in the porch for more details. NB a Friday quiz.

ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD: Day at the National Gallery, London, free guided tour of the St Francis of Assisi Exhibition. **Dates: Saturdays May 13, 27, June 3, 24, July 1, 8, 29 at 11am.** Please see poster in church porch for further information.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on **Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th May** at St Francis of Assisi Church, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus,*" will be given by **Fr Martin Boland**, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome.

MAY - THE MONTH OF OUR LADY: We honour Mary, the Mother of Jesus and Queen of Saints, who has maternal care for her children on earth and prays for us in heaven. Pope Francis said: "Our Lady, as soon as she heard that she was to be the mother of Jesus and that her cousin, Elizabeth was expecting a child, 'went to her with haste' and did not wait. She did not say, 'Now I am with child, I must take care of my health - my cousin has friends who can care for her'. Our Lady is always like this - our Mother, who always hurries to us whenever we are in need". We are encouraged to pray asking her intercession especially in the Rosary during this month, and particularly in the Joyful and Glorious mysteries.

GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY ON POPE BENEDICT AND THE LITURGY

On Saturday **20th May**, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. This event will be live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Details are on www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

AFFORDABLE COUNSELLING EPPING FOREST: **Thursday 18th May 2023**
Celebration Evening & Talk 7:30pm-9:30pm. Venue: The Box, St John's Rd, Epping
RSVP: Jane Walters 07803 939023 (janewalters2003@hotmail.com)

EPPING FOREST FOODBANK The Foodbank needs the usual items. Thank you for your generous giving to those in need! **WE HAVE FOOD BANK VOUCHERS** for anyone who may need them. Please contact Fr John or our Parish Office.

CHANGE TO PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS: our parish email address has changed to epping@brcdt.org. In the short-term emails sent to the old address will be redirected but this will eventually cease so please use the new email address for the Parish Office.

WE LIVE STREAM 11am SUNDAY MASS IN OUR CHURCH on youtube:
Our church has a broadband connection again and it is possible to resume livestreaming on youtube.com/channel/UCAbSuwE8X5AOaugAT35hREw or search on google: **The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping and visit the channel.** mobile phones scan the QR code to take you to the channel.

