

MASSES & SERVICES FROM: Saturday 20th May to Sunday 28 May 2023		
Saturday 20th	St Bernadine of Siena, Priest	
May 2023	11.00am	First Holy Communion Mass
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY 21 May 2023		
Saturday 21st	6.00pm	Fr John's intentions (S Palmer)
Sunday 22nd	9.00am	Darren's intentions (SB)
May 2023	11.00am	The People of our Parish Live Streamed
Monday 22nd	9.15am	Special intention (S Palmer)
Tuesday 23rd	9.15am	Joyce Dean's intentions (S Palmer)
Wednesday 24th	12 noon	Karen Toohey's intentions (Toohey)
Thursday 25th	St Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor	
	9.15am	Ida Morris's intentions (S Palmer)
Friday 26th	St Philip Neri, Priest	
	12 noon	Alan Codling RIP Recently (Abbott)
Saturday 27th	St AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bishop National Feast	
PENTECOST SUNDAY A DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH 28th May 2023		
Saturday 27th	6.00pm	The People of our Parish NOTE TIMES
Sunday 28th	9.00am	Matthias McGrath RIP Anniv.
Note time	3.00pm	LATIN MASS in Tridentine Rite
Note time	5.00pm	Mark & Maggie Keane RIP (Clohessy) NOTE TIME

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 celebrate this Sacrament.

DIocese of Brentwood WEBSITE: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net//>

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A Mass Book Page 275 21 May 2023

ACTS 1:12-14 They all joined in continuous prayer with Mary, the Mother of Jesus

PSALM 26 I am sure I will see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living

1Peter 4:13-16 It is a blessing for you when the insult you for bearing Christ's name

JOHN 17:1-11 Jesus prayed, "Father glorify your son so that your son may glorify you"

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

On 14th May 2023: Loose Plate £352.98, Envelopes £105 & First Communion Mass

£152.87. 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/////////

PRAYER FOR THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful

And enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful,

Grant that by the gift of the same Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice

in his consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

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@brcdt.org (This our new email address)

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A

21st May 2023

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Jesus said, "Father, I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you" (John 17:1-11). We know with faith that we belong to him and that he is caring for us as our Saviour. He prayed for his disciples and for all his followers in his Priestly Prayer at the Last Supper and recognised that they/we needed to be prayed for and supported. He now prays for and intercedes for us at the right hand of the Father in Heaven and in the hymn, "Alleluia, sing to Jesus" we petition him to plead for us as we say "Intercessor, friend of sins, earth's Redeemer plead for me".

Acts 1:12-14 tell us that after our Lord's Ascension into heaven the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives to the Upper Room in Jerusalem, where that they had celebrated the Passover meal and the Last Supper with Jesus. There "they were joined in continuous prayer with several women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus", to pray and wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Now, we are in days of prayer and waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit in different and new ways at Pentecost. Here we see nucleus and beginnings of the Christian Church, as the small group of men and women joined together in prayer and supporting each other at a time when they felt very vulnerable.

Today we often hear a phrase used by people saying that "he/she has been or is very supportive". That support can also be through prayer, bringing a person's or our own need to God, through Jesus. At the beginning of the Rosary and other prayers we say, "O God, come to our aid, O Lord, make haste to help us". We say those words and address our Lord in that way because we believe that he will come to our aid and help us in whatever situation or mess we may be in.

In these days from the Ascension to Pentecost Sunday, next week, we pray for the coming of the Holy Spirit. We need him to come and enlighten and inform us, and to guide us in making decisions on our way of life. We need to ask him for his gifts so that we can live wisely and well. We need his gifts and graces of: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, holiness and reverence to cope with life in a Christian Way and to live as God wills. In these nine days (or novena) of prayer we pray for a new coming and outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, on the church, the world and ourselves. *May we as children of God be open to receive that Spirit, from the Father and the Son. Fr John*

CONGRATULATIONS to our First Holy Communion children and their families on receiving their Holy Communion at this time. Their Presentation Mass and presentation of their First Holy Communion Certificates will be at the **11am Mass** on Sunday **11th June**.

ALTAR SERVERS: We invite adults, young people or children to serve Mass. We ask children who have received first Holy Communion in recent times to consider serving the Lord at Mass. Please contact Fr John if you would like to serve.

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_9Gno8WXvvKfwJts For further information please pick up a short survey invitation available in church.

ANNIVERSARIES: John de Vos, Patricia O'Grady, Mgr William O'Grady (21/5), Kieran McClean, Fr Henry Peace, Beatrice Cox (23/5), Fr Charles Carless, Fr Austin Thorburn (24/5), Rosemary Batten, Joyce Ryan, Daniel Willmore (25/5), Laurie Diffeley, Sally Ward, Richard Fayolle (27/5), Lawrence Ford, Agnes Blunt (28/5). **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.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Charlotte Rose Kilden baptised in our Church on Saturday, 13th May. May the Lord bless them and their family and help them bring up their children in the knowledge and love of God.*

RIDE LONDON CYCLE EVENT: Ride London Cycle Event will go through Epping next Sunday 28th May, there will be road closures in the area. **On Saturday 27th Mass will be at 6pm. On Sunday 28, our Masses will be at 9am and 5pm, and in Latin 3pm.**

ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD: Day at the National Gallery, London, free guided tour of the St Francis of Assisi Exhibition. **Dates: Saturdays May 27, June 3, 24, July 1, 8, 29 at 11am.** Come face-to face with one of history's most inspirational and revered personalities in this first major UK art exhibition to explore the life and legacy of St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) from the 13th century to today. It looks at a saint who has enormous relevance to our time due to his spiritual radicalism, commitment to the poor and love of God and nature, as well as his powerful appeals for peace, and openness to dialogue with other religions. Please see poster in church porch. The exhibition is open until 30th July.

DID YOU KNOW Church teaching says we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said, "Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force that leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice & peace." CAFOD has spoken out against injustice for decades. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

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 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 or say, 'Now I am with child, I must take care of my health – my cousin has friends to 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 in the Rosary during this month, and especially in the Joyful and Glorious mysteries.

JUNE ROSE PENSIONERS' BALL: **SATURDAY 17th JUNE. 12 noon until 4pm in our church hall.** Tickets £5 on the door. All proceeds to our parish funds. Please see the poster in church porch for further details.

THE PRIESTS' CHARITY CONCERT: Brentwood Catholic Children's Society announces that the singing trio 'The Priests' will perform a second charity concert on **Friday 30th June 2023 at 7.30pm** at Brentwood Cathedral. We urge you to book early to avoid disappointment. It promises to be a great evening of entertainment. Tickets can be purchased through Eventbrite at £30 per person plus booking fee: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567>.

BCYS YOUTH MASS, 1st JUNE AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: "Beginning in Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from **6pm**, with pizza and refreshments available, and the Cathedral open for quiet prayer, music, reflection, particularly thinking of those in the middle of or near the end of exams who may need a quiet space to rest or revitalise. Join us for as long or short a time as you wish to enjoy the peace of the Cathedral before we celebrate Mass with Fr Michael at **7:30pm**. Anyone who wishes is very welcome to bring instruments or sing with our Youth led music group, or if you would like to serve, read, or be involved in the Mass in any way you would be most welcome!"

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE EASTER TALKS explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ. The next talk, "Holiness in our local Saints and Martyrs", will be given by Fr Stewart Foster on **Wednesday 24th May** at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. All very welcome.

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.

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.**

