

MASSES & SERVICES FROM: Saturday 17th to Sunday 25th June 2023		
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A DAY FOR LIFE 18 June 2023		
Saturday 17th	The Immaculate Heart of Mary	
Saturday 17th	6.00pm	Eabha Quinn & Family
Sunday 18th	9.00am	The People of our Parish
June 2023	11.00pm	Marie Crehan RIP Recently (Sr Susan) Streamed
Monday 19th	St Romuald, Abbot	
Week 11 O T 1	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tuesday 20th	St Alban, First Martyr of England	
	9.15am	Marcheta Swift-Daley RIP Recently (Sr Susan)
Wednesday 21st	St Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious	
	12 noon	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 22nd	St John Fisher, Bishop & St Thomas More, Martyrs	
	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Friday 23rd	St Etheldreda (Audrey) Virgin & Abbess	
	12 noon	Derek Wells RIP Anniv (Wells)
Saturday 24th	NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, SOLEMNITY	
TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A 25 June 2023		
Saturday 24th	6.00pm	Holy Souls RIP
Sunday 25th	9.00am	People of our Parish
June 2023	11.00am	Sean Clohessy RIP Anniv (Clohessy) Streamed
	3.00pm	LATIN MASS IN TRIDENTINE RITE

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//>

ELEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME A Parish Book Page 91 18 June 2023

EXODUS 19:2-6 I Will count you a consecrated nation, a kingdom of priests.

PSALM 99 We are his people, the sheep of his flock

ROMANS 5:6-11 As we have been reconciled by Christ's death, we may be saved...

MATTHEW 9:36-10:8 Jesus sent out the twelve to proclaim the kingdom of God...

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders. On 11th June 2023 you gave: Envelopes £220.21, Loose £373.19. Thank you for your generosity and support for our parish. You can give in donations to the Priest's House and online for our parish or charities our parish supports at:

www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping//////////

SECOND COLLECTIONS: The Diocese has instructed us to take up mandatory second collections rather than make donations to them from parish funds, as we have done in the past. Next the weekend of **24/25 June** we will have to have a retiring collection for the Sick & Retired Clergy Fund in the Diocese

THANK YOU: Our thanks John Connolly, for generously giving his time and skills to our parish in the past week, to rebuild the demolished pier at the front of our church.

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 is 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

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME A Day for Life 18th June 2023

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Jesus said, "Ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest" (Matt.9). In today's Gospel we how Jesus felt sorry for the people, "for they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd", so he responded to their needs by sending out the twelve to minister to them. Jesus gave them "authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and to cure all kinds of diseases and sickness". He told them to "proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand". It is one thing to feel sorry for people or have our hearts go out to them, but it is another to actively go out to help or support them in their needs. In June, the month of, the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the heart of God shows compassion for people and reaches out to them in the person of Jesus. Our Lord's Sacred Heart is on fire with divine love and reaches out compassionately to people who are harassed, dejected or lost. That heart which went out to people in the past still goes out to people in our own time who are going through all sorts of troubles and insecurities.

On this Sunday we keep Day Life. Some now trivialise abortion and the voices of women who have had abortions are often silent in Church and society. Abortion is called a "termination of pregnancy" so avoiding the reality of terminating or killing the life of an infant in the womb. The Day for Life message is given by a woman who had an abortion, hoping to break this silence and offering to others who have been through that tragedy opportunities for hope, healing and reconciliation in the church. Whilst abortion is heart-breaking and life-ending, it is tragic that it is now advocated as a woman's human right - but not a right to life for the infant in the womb. It is considered unacceptable to hold a moral position critical of or against abortion. Yet, the deliberate termination of human life, whether in the womb, at birth, during or at the end of life is sin and against humanity and God. The moving testimony of the woman is available in church and online at "Day for Life".

I was surprised recently to be contacted by a parishioner who asked about my retirement in September. This was to be confidential until the end of this month, when new appointments are made for priests in our Diocese. It is not easy to be a parish priest at seventy-seven, especially as some people expect the same level of resilience, commitment and service that one could give at forty-seven or fifty-seven – and just because a priest still holds that office in old age. A new parish priest should be appointed and announced for Epping at the end of this month.

May Christ, our Good Shepherd, bless and protect us. Fr John

RECENTLY DECEASED: **MRS MARCHETA SWIFT-DALEY**, our long-time parishioner in Epping, died on Monday 12th June. She will be received into our church on **Wednesday, 5th July at 11am**, for the celebration of Requiem Mass to be followed by cremation at Parndon Wood. Friends & parishioners would be welcome to the Mass. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayers for all who mourn.*

FATHER'S DAY: We wish all Fathers in our parish a blessed and very happy Father's Day and thank them for their invaluable contribution to family life.

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 Mass.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Delilah Grace Knitter baptised in our Church on Saturday, 10th June. May the Lord bless them and their family and help them bring up their children in the knowledge and love of God.*

ANNIVERSARIES: Bill Dowd, John O'Hallaghan, May & Willie Morgan, Violet Ben Gesser, Bishop Bernard Patrick Wall (18/6), Con Conneely (19/6), Derek Wells (21/6), Jean O'Sullivan, Peter Burns (22/6), Ernest Negri, Beryl Burke (23/6), John Hannis, Sean Clohessy, Fr Reginald Browne (24/6), Michael O'Reilly (25/6). **Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord. 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.

"MARY'S MEALS" invites you to collect all your foreign currency no matter how old or obscure. There are envelopes in church for your foreign coins and notes. You can put the envelopes into the box in church or give in to the Parish Office. Clear out your drawers and look under the sofa. This charity currently feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education. By giving your foreign or obsolete coins and notes to Mary's Meals you can help feed the next hungry child in over 18 countries. Due to our low costs we can do this for as little as £19.15 per child per year! *We take UK coins/notes that are no longer legal tender." For more information visit the website: www.marysmeals.org.uk/

APPEAL FOR FLOWER ARRANGERS: We need more help to arrange flowers in our church. We are most grateful to our small team who create imaginative and beautiful arrangements but need more helpers. Guidance will be given to new people to use your talents for the glory to God and delight of people in church. Please contact our Parish Office if you would like to enquire or help.

GIFT AID: Please let Michele Murphy know (via our Parish Office) if you would like a letter for the Inland Revenue detailing your gift aided total contributions for the tax year 2022/23. Please also let her know if you no longer pay income tax.

CHURCH ROOF PROBLEMS: In the past week we gave instructions to go ahead with repairs to the church roof and guttering, now that the building has dried out after winter. The contract is for around £11,000 and we hope for a start soon.

NEED OF URGENT HELP: If you or someone you know urgently needs help, please contact the Priest's House. We will endeavour to assist through parishioners who have volunteered to help, the Church, Foodbank or local agencies. Simple things like a phone call or e-mail can be a real comfort to many.

CHESS HOMELESS PRESENT ROCK CHOIR performing as a fundraiser for Chess Homeless, at Chelmsford Cathedral on **Saturday, 24th June**. Doors open 7pm for a 7.30pm start. This energetic and uplifting choir will put on a night of summer music at this beautiful venue to raise funds for those experiencing homelessness in Chelmsford and Essex. It is suitable for all ages and refreshments will be served in the interval. For details please phone 01245 281104 or email fundraising@chesshomeless.org

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY: The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) is an international voluntary organization in the Catholic Church, founded in 1833 for the sanctification of its members by personal service of the poor. The St Vincent de Paul Society approaches each request for help with compassion and consideration and support tailored to the unique needs of each individual. We are extremely grateful to the small group of volunteers who carry out this vital charitable work within our parish.

REFERENCES FOR SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2024: Parents and carers who want a Priest's reference to support an application for a school place for their child in September 2024 must have been attending Sunday Mass consistently over the years. If parents say they go to Mass in another parish - that is the place to see the priest. There is no point in seeking a Priest's reference here if you have not been attending Mass regularly here.

EPPING FOREST RECORD FAIR: **Saturday 24th June 10am-3pm** in our hall. Free entry. This is not affiliated to our parish but may interest parishioners. For details contact Slab Records on 0208 508 2726 or www.slabrecords.co.uk.

EPPING FOREST 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 SUNDAY MASS at 11am from OUR CHURCH
Please go to youtube.com/channel/UCAbSuwE8X5AOaugAT35hREw or search on google: The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church Epping. To visit channel on mobile phones please scan QR code.

