

MASSES & SERVICES FROM: Saturday 24th to Sunday 2nd July 2023		
Saturday 24th	THE 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	The People of our Parish
June 2023	11.00pm	Sean Clohessy RIP Anniv (Clohessy)
	3.00pm	LATIN MASS IN TRIDENTINE RITE
Monday 26th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tuesday 27th	St Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop & Doctor	
	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wednesday 28th	St Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr	
	12 noon	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 29th: FEAST OF SAINT PETER & PAUL: Apostles – Holy Day of Obligation		
	10.00am	Fr James Hawes RIP Anniv.
	7.30pm	The People of our Parish
Friday 30th	The First Martyrs of Rome	
NOTE TIME	9.15am	John Amo-Bediako RIP Anniv
	12.30pm	Wedding of Julia King & Michael Leonard
Saturday 1 July	St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop & Martyr	
Anniversary of Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Alan Williams in 2014		
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A 2nd JULY 2023		
1st July	6.00pm	Percy, Margaret & David Keevil RIP
2nd July	9.00am	The People of our Parish
July 2023	11.00am	Joseph Guglielmi RIP Anniv (Sheldrake)

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/>

TWELFTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME A Parish Book Page 93 25 June 2023

JEREMIAH 20:10-13 He has delivered the soul of the needy from evil men.

PSALM 68 In your great love answer me, O God, with your help that never fails.

ROMANS 5:12-15 Divine grace comes through Jesus Christ as an abundant free gift

MATTHEW 10:26-33 Do not be afraid of those who kill the body ... but not the soul

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings of £800 standing orders. On 18th June 2023 you gave: Envelopes £72.50, Loose £307.08. 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 that we take up mandatory second collections rather than make donations to them from parish funds, as we have done in the past. THIS WEEKEND we will have to have a retiring collection for the Sick & Retired Clergy Fund in the Diocese.

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME A 25th June 2023

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

Jesus said, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell" (Matt. 10:26-33). Jesus uses the phrase, "Do not be afraid" many times to reassure his disciples. In today's Gospel he says "Do not be afraid" in order to reassure people and us of how precious we are before God and the fact that each one of us and every part of us is treasured by God, our Creator and loving Father. He focuses on the fact the God has created us in love and that he never withdraws his love and never fails us.

On Thursday we celebrate the feast of St Peter and St Paul, two apostles who gave their lives in witnessing to Christ and the Gospel. Our reading from Jeremiah 20 speaks of the person who is tempted and tested in dreadful ways but continues to place their trust in God and hopes he will answer them (Ps 68). These two apostles, and martyrs down through the ages, placed their trust in God and with the power of the Spirit were faithful to Christ and the mission he gave them. The Psalmist cries out to God in time of persecution or distress and asks God to answer him with compassion and love. So too with ourselves, or those we know, love and care for, we call out to the Lord to rescue, save and protect us from the attack of the enemy.

The Lord called Peter and Paul to follow him and carry out his mission in the world. They were amazed at the wonderful things they achieved in his name. When we follow Jesus' call of by obeying him and listening to him, great things happen that transform our lives and the lives of others. Whether we are young, middle aged or old, poor or rich, healthy or sick; weak or strong, educated or illiterate, married or single, widowed or divorced, the Lord calls us to, "Follow me". God loves each of us and Jesus calls us to "Follow me". He says, "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross daily and follow me".

New appointments for priests in our Diocese are due to be made this week and a new parish priest should be appointed and announced for Epping. Over two years ago, I offered my resignation as parish priest to Bishop Alan as required by church law, and he asked me to stay on for two years in a row. I am due to retire at the beginning of September when a new parish priest takes over. This parish needs new vision, energy and a fresh restart. May the Lord who has started and sustains his good work here bring it to new growth and a blessed fulfilment.

May the Lord in his compassion and love turn to us and bless us. Fr John

RECENTLY DECEASED: **MRS MARCHETA SWIFT-DALEY RIP**, long-time parishioner, who died on Monday, 12th June. She will be received into our church for the celebration of Requiem Mass on **Wednesday, 5th July at 11am**, followed by cremation at Parndon Wood. Friends & parishioners would be welcome to the Mass.

MRS ELIZABETH DOHERTY RIP, who died on Thursday, 22nd June. Funeral arrangements pending. We offer our sympathy to her family. **May she rest in peace. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayers for all who mourn.**

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.

ANNIVERSARIES: Fr Reginald Browne (24/6), Michael O'Reilly (25/6), Anne Dollard, Canon James Dacey (26/6), David Nicholson (27/6), Jack Higham (28/6), Antony Williams, Fr James Hawes (29/6), Margaret O'Regan, Noel Hunter, Fr James Littleton (2/7) **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 afraid give them courage, when 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/

YEAR 13 RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE: Made for a purpose:
Will you be in Yr.13 in September 2023? Are you currently making decisions about your next steps? Would you like some time to step back, reflect, pray and think about the different pathways ahead of you? Then if so, the Yr13 retreat at Walsingham House is just the opportunity to do that. There will be two retreats on offer, either **13th-15th Sept or 22nd-24th Sept**. The cost is £35 and there is more information on the website www.bcys.net/events/ or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

WE ARE NO LONGER LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY MASS at 11am from our church, as very few people now join the live stream. We will live stream particular occasions as requested and necessary. Our thanks to the team who have done the streaming so well and diligently over the years, to the benefit of many, and have offered to stream again when needed. We are most grateful to them.

HELP TO SELL, PLEASE! We have many things in the Presbytery, some were Fr James' and some mine, that we need to sell. The proceeds will go to charities. I would be grateful to anyone who do online selling of these items. Fr John

EPPING CHORUS: will perform "**Choral Classics**" at St John's Church, Epping, on **Saturday 8 July - 7.30pm** Tickets £10 (under 18s free) all unreserved available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/epping-chorus: See posters for details.

PRAYER PETITION BOOK: Our thanks to Brenda Sebire who for many years, has kept our Parish Prayer Petition Book at our Lady's shrine up to date. Brenda has decided to now step down and we thank her for her time and great dedication.

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. **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.**

MASS INTENTIONS: If you, or anyone you know, wishes to have Mass offered for anyone living or dead, please contact Fr John at The Priest's House, by phone, letter or e-mail or stating the intention, and Mass will be offered in our church as soon as possible. Mass cards are available from the Priest's House. If you require a specific date or a weekend Mass, please book as soon as possible as weekend dates are usually booked for many weeks ahead.

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 attend 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. There is an article from The Times newspaper in Church on the way parents manipulate clergy for this purpose.

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.

TALK ON THE "OUR FATHER" On **Wednesday 12th July** at 7 pm in the hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy will give a short talk entitled 'The Prayer of Prayers: An exploration of the Our Father'. The talk is free of charge, and tea and coffee will be available from 6.30 pm. Ample free parking, and easy access on the Elizabeth Line. The talk is live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org No booking necessary.

