

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A 15th January 2023

Dear Friends & Parishioners,

“Look, there is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,” St John the Baptist said as he pointed people to Jesus (Jn.1:29-34). John knew his mission was “to prepare a way for the Lord” so that people would receive the Jesus when he came. John testified that he saw the Holy Spirit come down on Jesus like a dove and anoint him as the Chosen One of God and said that baptism by Jesus would change people’s lives with the power of the Spirit. He considered that the most important thing was for people to be set free from their sins by Jesus, the “Lamb of God who had come to take away the sins of the world”.

In the Old Testament people sacrificed lambs and creatures to God as a sacrifice so that their sins might be forgiven. The great sacrifice was that of the Passover Lamb, whose blood was sprinkled on the doorposts of people’s homes as they prepared to go from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land (Exodus 12). That blood gave people protection from death and set them free for a new life in the Promised Land. Jesus, was the Passover Lamb in the New Testament whose blood was shed on the Cross to take away people’s sins and give them new life of grace in God’s kingdom. That new life of grace was given by his rising from the dead at the resurrection and pouring out his Spirit on all mankind at Pentecost.

We have just celebrated the joy of Christ’s birth and coming in the world with light at Christmas. Isaiah (49:3-6) prophesied that the Messiah or Christ would be “the light of the nations” (the non-Jewish peoples), so that God’s “saving grace would reach to the ends of the earth”. Sacrifice is of its nature difficult, but Jesus offered the greatest sacrifice, his life, to take away our sins so that everyone might “live in the glorious freedom of the children of God” (Romans 8:16-21). Whilst these events and saving mysteries happened in the past, they are made present to us here and now in the Mass as the Sacred Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are read, and Christ’s Sacrifice of his life, is made present to us on the Altar in the holy Eucharist. At Mass we repeatedly proclaim him the “the Lamb of God who takes away our sins and the sins of the world”. In order to conform our life to Christ, and accept his grace to save us from sin and its effects we need to make our own the response in today’s Psalm 39 as we say; “Here I am, Lord, I come to do your will”.
May we humbly sacrifice our will to God’s will in love and truth. Fr John

<u>TIMES OF MASSES & SERVICES: Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd January 2023</u>		
<u>SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A PEACE SUNDAY 15th January 2023</u>		
Saturday 14 th	6.00pm	Richard Hall RIP Recently
Sunday 15 th	9 .00am	People of our Parish
January 2023	11.00am	Paddy McEneaney RIP Recently (Darcy) Live streamed
Monday 16 th	9,15am	Ann Coggins RIP Recently (Darcy)
Tuesday 17 th	St Anthony of Egypt, Abbot	
	9.15am	Myrtle Fernades RIP Anniv (Murray)
Wednesday 18 th	The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th to 25th January	
	12 noon	Frankie Toohey-Barnes RIP (Toohey)
Thursday 19 th	St Wulstan, Bishop	
	9.15am	Les Banting Anniv (Banting)
Friday 20 th	St Fabian, Pope & Martyr	
	12 noon	Cathal Quinn RIP Recently (Darcy)
<u>THIRD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME A Sunday of the Word of God 22 January 2023</u>		
Saturday 21 st	6.00pm	Eabha Quinn & Family
Sunday 22 nd	9.00am	Andreas Kyrou & Anthony Kerrigan RIP Anniv (Kyrou)
January	11.00am	People of our Parish
2023	3.00pm	Latin Mass in the Tridentine Rite

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

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

CHURCH SERVICES WITH MASSES STREAMED: www.churchservices.tv/timetable/

Sunday Mass at 11am is streamed live from our church on YouTube – details inside

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME MASS BOOK Page 125 15th January 2023

ISAIAH 49:3-6 I will make you the light of the nations for my salvation to reach the ...

PSALM 39 Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

1Corinthians 1:1-3 May God our Father & the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace & peace

JOHN 1:29-34 Look, there is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

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

On 8th January Offertories were: Envelopes £220.03, and Loose £125.50. Thank you for your generosity and support for our parish and charities. 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//////////

NEW PARISHIONER OR ADDRESS CHANGE: Welcome to our parish if you moved in recently and please introduce yourself to Fr John or Deacon Duncan. If you changed address in our parish but did not receive a Christmas card, we may not have your up-to-date address. Please email to our Parish Office epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org with your details or complete a Parish Register Form, in the porch, to update.

OUR CRIB OFFERINGS are for the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society to support their work in helping families and children in East London and Essex. Please be generous with your support for this deserving charity and their good work.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The children's sessions will continue in our Hall with a Wednesday, 18th January at 5.30pm until 6.45pm. New attendance cards and the stickers are available in church this weekend.

FLAME – RISE UP: Mary arose and went with haste (Luke 1:39) This year's largest UK Catholic Youth Conference will be at Wembley Arena on **Saturday, 4th March**. Bookings at www.bcys.net. Our parish will pay the costs for young parishioners to go to this event, which has some wonderful personalities, like Archbishop Tim Costello of Perth, Guvna B, Adenike, Robert Bilott, Faith Child & One Hope Project. Please contact Fr John if you are interested.

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 your servants 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. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

WE PRAY FOR FOR THE SOULS OF OUR RECENTLY DECEASED:

MRS JUNE BLAKE RIP, formerly an Epping parishioner, who died on Monday, 26th December at Harris in the Outer Hebrides. Her Requiem Mass will be celebrated here in Epping followed by burial in Epping Cemetery. **May she rest in peace.**

YVONNE STEVENAGE RIP, who died on Wednesday 4th January. Her Requiem Mass will be celebrated here on Friday, 3rd February, at 11am. **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 prayerful support to 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 Christ's resurrection.

ANNIVERSARIES:

Anne Fitzgerald, Stefan Laszczak, Bridget Pettit, Fr John King (14th) Kenneth Scott (15th), Lois Gosnell, Fr Neville Banks, Fr Gilbert Pearson (16th), Fr Kenneth Green (17th), Les Black, Canon Charles Kuypers (18th), Carole Ring, Mgr David Donnelly, Les Banting (19th), Fr John Meehan (20th), Edward Tredgett, Fr Christopher Quirke, Bishop Bernard Ward (21st), Joyce Hannant, Eileen Tedder (22nd). Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. **May they rest in peace.**

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding its White Flower Appeal in our Parish THIS weekend. It seeks to protect the human life and dignity of every person from conception until natural death – recognising that all life is gift from God and it is only for him to begin and end life. There will be a retiring collection as people leave the Masses. Please be generous in supporting SPUC. Any queries to Dorothy Whitehouse at 01992 577173.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS: If you are affected by the Cost of Living, or part of a group giving help or support locally please visit www.caritasbrentwood.org/cost-of-living/. You can also add to this webpage by contacting the Director of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood, Siân Thomas-Cullinan on caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org

EPHING CHORUS will perform "*The Armed Man*" by Karl Jenkins on **Saturday 21st January** at 7.30pm in St.John's Church, Epping. This is a Mass for Peace and we will be accompanied by a small orchestra. Admission free but programmes are £2.50 to offset expenses. There will be a retiring collection for the charity '**Free Food For You**' as supported by the High Sheriff of Essex who hopes to attend the concert.

DIVINE MERCY RETREAT: The Divine Mercy Apostolate will hold a **Divine Mercy Retreat on Saturday 21 January 2023 from 1:30 - 4:30 pm** at St Joseph's Catholic Church 68 Grange Park Road Leyton E10 5ES. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR WOMEN: **Theme: Discerning God's Call in your life. Dates: 3-5 Feb 2023. Location: London** The weekend is organised by the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). **Jesus invites each of us to 'Come and See' - this weekend will be an opportunity to explore the vocation to religious life and reflect on God's call to you.** If you think God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just for the Saturday. There will be prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who may be wondering where God is calling them. **For information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or www.fcjsisters.org**

EPHING FOREST FOOD BANK APPEALS FOR: Instant Mash, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat, Tinned Fish, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Spaghetti, Pasta sauce, Jars of Coffee, Jam, Soup, Chocolate, Biscuits, Snack Bars & Breakfast Bars, Custard, Rice Pudding, Rice, Sponge Puddings, Packet Noodles, Tinned Tomatoes, Baked Beans, Crackers, UHT Milk, Long-life Juice, Chocolate Spread, Laundry Tablets, Washing Up Liquid and toiletries. **Goods can be left in our porch by the side of the church.**

WE HAVE FOOD BANK VOUCHERS for anyone who may need them. Please contact Fr John or our Parish Office. In these tough times our parish will do what we can to assist people in financial difficulties. Please contact us and we will respond.

WE LIVE STREAM 11am SUNDAY MASS IN OUR CHURCH on youtube: [youtube.com/channel/UCAbSuwE8X5AOaugAT35hREW](https://www.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

