



Newsletter

The Church of the Immaculate Conception

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS 12th and 13th March 2016

Sat 12th (Vigil Mass)	6 p.m.	Christine Donohoe RIP
Sun 13th	9 a.m.	František Sliva RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 14th March 2016

Mon 14th	9 a.m.	Elizabeth Stimson RIP
Tues 15th	9 a.m.	Neal Hanratty RIP
Wed 16th	9 a.m.	Tom Ryan RIP
Thurs 17th Feast of St Patrick	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Fri 18th	9 a.m.	Canon Pat Sammon's Intentions
Sat 19th (Vigil Mass)	6 p.m.	Eileen Lennon RIP
Sun 20th	9 a.m.	Audrey Sullivan RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Morning Prayer will be said in the week, 15 minutes before 9 am Mass

Confessions: Saturday 11.30am -12 noon and after 6pm Mass.

Please pray for the sick:

Doris Scott, Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, David Kenworthy, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson, Sean Clohessy, Daphne McAdam, Catherine Steel, Ann Dowd, Patricia Salter, Betty Bere, Veronica Beard and Ann Davis.

OFFERINGS (£):	Offertory Envelopes	280.00
	Offertory Loose Plate	265.89
	CAFOD	82.20

Thank you for your generosity

Fifth Sunday of Lent

13th March 2016

Dear friends,

only in John's gospel do we have the incident of our Lord and the woman taken in adultery. Infidelity within marriage is a grave sin condemned by the Ten Commandments. However, given human weakness it occurs all too often and forms the theme of some world famous novels such as Madame Bovary and Anna Karenina. In showing compassion to the nameless woman, Jesus in no way condones adultery. He says to her quite explicitly: **go and sin no more.** Jesus has no truck with those judgemental men who were keen to stone her to death and exposed their hypocrisy to powerful effect. He does not judge the woman but extends to her the compassion of his heavenly Father. Following, as it does, last Sunday's parable of the Prodigal Son, today's gospel drives home the message of mercy which Pope Francis is so anxious to convey. I make no apology about repeating the call to reconciliation and repentance that I have made so many times before. Jesus told the Pharisees that they could throw stones if they were without sin, and they all slunk away. Those who are without sin can likewise dispense themselves from the sacrament of penance and reconciliation. The rest of us should avail ourselves of this great grace whilst we have the opportunity. Our parish celebration is on Wednesday March 16th at 8 p.m.

God bless you always.

Fr James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes	Tel: 01992 572516
Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse	Tel: 01992 577173
Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall	Tel: 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813
E-mail: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org	Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 6pm every Sunday during Lent.

ST VINCENT de PAUL RAFFLE: This weekend we will be selling SVP National Raffle tickets at all Masses. Proceeds of the raffle go to SVP's international work, including baby feeding stations in South Sudan and work with refugees from the Middle East - in both cases SVP has staff on the ground.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for Kevin Nugent aged 59 years RIP.

ALTAR SERVERS: Please could **all** altar servers **urgently** collect a list of the Easter Services from the sacristy, and return to Fr James as soon as possible, so that a practice can be arranged.

LENTEN SERVICE OF PENANCE & RECONCILIATION: Wednesday March 16th at 8pm.

PRAYER VIGIL BUCKHURST HILL SATURDAY MORNINGS: In Lent why not be part of the Church's witness to the sanctity of life? There were 200,000 surgical abortions in this country last year, many 1,000s carried out at Buckhurst Hill. Please come to pray that mothers in crisis pregnancies will accept help and support to have their baby rather than abort. We are there from 7.45am to 11.30am. If you can spare 15 or 30 minutes please come and quietly join the peaceful, prayerful vigil (it is NOT a protest) at Marie Stopes Clinic at the top of Russell Road. We pray the Rosary, various litanies and, at about 9.30am, the Stations of the Cross. Your presence really will make a difference and might save a life. For more details please call Paul on 01992 577104 or Rose on 0208 2529459 or just turn up!

OUR LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUP meets **IN THE SACRISTY** on **TUESDAY 15th MARCH at 7.30pm** for the last of its meetings during Lent. We will address the Gospel of St Luke. There will be time for prayer, quiet reflection and discussion. Everyone is warmly invited to this meeting, which will conclude at about 8.30pm.

ECCA: On Good Friday evening, 25th March, Ecce will be singing Faure's Requiem at 7.30pm in St. John's church. Refreshments will be available at the end and a retiring collection taken for the Refugee Crisis. Admission is free but a programme costs £1.50 to offset expenses. A suitable way to end Good Friday. Please support them.

EASTER LILIES: In memory of a loved one. Please make an offering of £2 per bloom and mark the envelope "Easter Lily".

LENT LUNCH: Saturday 19th March 2016 between 12.30pm and 2pm at Epping Green Chapel. A donation of £3.00 is suggested for Christian Aid.

The Annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes would like to increase further the medical cover it provides for its pilgrims. If you are a doctor, please consider joining the pilgrimage this year (14 - 19 August). Your care of our pilgrims is greatly needed, will be greatly appreciated, and is immensely rewarding. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Cathy O'Connor at 01206 501146 or via cathy@brentwoodlourdes.org

"St Mark's West Essex Catholic School Harlow. Golden Jubilee Magazine – calling all past pupils & staff:

We aim to produce a commemorative magazine as part of our Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Any past pupils, or staff, who would like to submit a **short** piece/poem on their memories of their time at St Mark's should forward it to: Admin@st-marks.essex.sch.uk and mark it Golden Jubilee Magazine. **The deadline is Monday 14 March.**

If you would like to be kept informed of any other Golden Jubilee celebrations for former staff/pupils, please contact Mel Gunn at the Admin address above."

EPPING FOREST DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE is a non profit organisation which aims to spread nationwide and is currently trying to establish itself in Epping Forest District. The purpose is to reduce the stigma of dementia and, by increasing awareness and understanding, to create a dementia friendly community. It plans to do this by linking with a wide cross section of organisations of all types and sectors. Anyone interested in getting involved or learning more should go to dementiaactionalliance@alzheimers.org.uk or speak to Deacon Duncan or Paul Ives.

INVIGILATORS REQUIRED: All Saints School Dagenham require Invigilators for May & June £9.00 ph. Application Forms May Be Found at www.allsaintsschool.co.uk

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER VACANCY: St. Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay is seeking to appoint a new Deputy Headteacher to start in September 2016. Further information about this position may be obtained through the website: <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=24794>.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please make yourselves known to Fr James or Deacon Duncan, so that we may welcome you to the parish and inform you about our parish activities.