

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS
WEEK BEGINNING 24TH SEPTEMBER 2016

Saturday 24th	6 p.m.	Vigil Mass 26th Sunday of Year Malcolm Silver RIP
Sunday 25th	9 a.m.	26th Sunday of Year People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Mary Cooney RIP
Monday 26th	9 a.m.	Saints Cosmos & Damian, Martyrs Holy Souls
Tuesday 27th	9 a.m.	St Vincent de Paul, Priest Intentions of SVP members & visitors
Wednesday 28th	9 a.m.	St Wenceslaus, Martyr Holy Souls
Thursday 29th	9 a.m.	Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Archangels Veronica Beard (RIP)
Friday 30th	9 a.m.	St Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church Mark Toohey (ill)
Saturday 1st Oct	6 p.m.	Vigil Mass 27th Sunday of Year People of our Parish
Sunday 2nd Oct	9 a.m.	27th Sunday of Year Tullia Borelli RIP
	11 a.m.	Frank Swann RIP

Morning Prayer is said on weekdays, 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays 11.30am—12 Noon & after 6pm Mass.

Please pray for the sick:

Doris Scott, Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson,
 Sean Clohessy, Mark Toohey, Daphne McAdam, Ann Dowd and Roger Minnis.

OFFERINGS (£):	Offertory Envelopes	223.50
	Offertory Loose Change	284.74
	CAFOD	32.00

Thank you for your generosity



Newsletter
The Church of the
Immaculate Conception
Epping

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C 25th SEPTEMBER 2016

Readings at Mass Page 143 Eucharistic Prayer Page 52

Dear friends,

“The Lord is just to those who are oppressed, he gives bread to the hungry and sets prisoners free” (Psalm 145). We have all got a selfish gene and in the living of a Christian life we have to fight against that instinct. Our readings today look at the self-centred way in which people led their lives in times past, and the way they ignored, exploited or lived-off the poor. These selfish dispositions are not just things of the past, but can be part of our society and even our own lives.

The prophet Amos in the Old Testament was a prophet of justice and he saw the corruption and decadence that was weakening the moral fibre of the people and destroying the nation. He foretold the exile of the people from the Holy Land to Babylon, which was to last 70 years. He said that the worst amongst the people would be first to be led away from their spiritual home (Amos: 6:1-7).

Jesus tells the parable of Dives the rich man who can not get into heaven and is burning up with thirst. Lazarus the poor man was resting in peace in the bosom of Abraham. The rich man who had plenty in life always wanted more, and can never have more than enough. He has an ongoing thirst which can never be slaked or satisfied, which is why he asks for a small drop of water. The more we have or get the more acquisitive we can become, and the desire to share is diminished when we do not see the needs of those who are at impoverished or suffering in a dreadful way at our own gate or door.

The rich man was spiritually blind and did not see the beggar or his needs at his gate. We can not get away with an excuse for spiritual blindness or ignorance of people’s needs. In times of war and conflict, poverty, famine or natural disasters. the media brings these things into our homes and presents them before our eyes. Religious practise is most important and expressed in the Ten Commandments, but Jesus tells in Matthew 25:31-46 that the questions that will confront us at our judgement before him, will be focused on how aware we were of the needs of others, and did we show them genuine care, compassion and love

May God bless you and your families during this week. Fr John

Parish Priest: Fr. John McGrath	11 Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA 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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016-17: Please pray for the 15 First Holy Communion children and their families. Following a **Mass of Enrolment at 11am on Sunday next, 2nd October, their first Class will be held at 5.45pm on Tuesday 4th October in the Church Hall.**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Fr John will celebrate this Sacrament on Saturdays from 11.30 am to 12 Noon and after 6.00 pm Mass. The screen is used in the Reconciliation Room, giving a choice of anonymous or face-to-face celebration of this Sacrament in this Year of Mercy.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: We would welcome anyone interested in finding out about our faith, or who wants to understand our faith or support the faith of family members, or who would like to become Catholic, to a series of talks on the Catholic Faith in the Priest's House on Tuesdays at 8pm. This course is suitable for people wishing to return to the practice of their faith, and people who are not Catholic but come to Mass regularly. There is no implication of commitment by attending one or more sessions. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING NEXT TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER.**

JUMBLE SALE — SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER: Please note the next Jumble Sale in our Church Hall and start sorting out all sorts of things that are saleable. Small quantities can be left in the Church Porch or the Cry Chapel. If you have a large quantity, please telephone Janet Abbott (01992 571128) to arrange to meet her at church, so that your jumble can be put directly into Janet's Shed behind the church. Either way, Janet will be delighted!!

“MEET & GREET” WEEKEND: Cakes, please! Please phone Melanie Hollinshead on 01992 812504 with your offers of cake, large or small, for the 'Meet & Greet' Weekend, and note in your diaries for 8th & 9th October to go into the hall after Mass on to help eat them, with coffee, tea & good company: it will be an opportunity of parishioners to meet and get to know one another.

PARISH ASSEMBLY: You are warmly invited to the Annual Parish Assembly, at 8pm on Wednesday 19 October, to review the past parish year, assess our needs and help to plan the coming year. Group leaders, please send your reports to the Parish Secretary no later than 1 October.

ST MARGARET'S HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY TEAM: The opportunity arises for one or more of our parishioners to join the team of St Margaret's Hospital visitors. Rev Paul Walker, Epping Green Chapel would be interested to hear of your interest. Please telephone 07769 585411.

THE CHURCH FLOWER-ARRANGING GROUP is seeking additional members to join the team on the rota. If you have a love of flower-arranging and would like to help to beautify our church with floral arrangements, Please call Suzanne Newbury on 01992 570069.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS: Catholic newspapers are on sale in the church porch: The Catholic Universe, The Tablet, The Catholic Herald, The Catholic Times & The Magnificat. Please put money in the black box near Cry Chapel.

EPPING CATHOLIC REPRESENTATIVE Maggie Keeling & Debbie Harrison are our parish representatives on CTED (Churches Together in Epping & District), a forum where all local Christian churches meet about 4 times a year to arrange joint Christian activities. We need an additional one or two representatives. Please contact Deacon Duncan, Maggie Keeling or Fr John if you could join this very friendly ecumenical group on our behalf.

COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 11AM MASS: Please note that due to a booking of the Hall there will be no coffee after the 11 am Mass this **Sunday 25th September**. Everyone is invited to come to have a cup of coffee/tea and enjoy a chat with other parishioners after 11am Mass on most other Sundays.

URGENT REQUEST for your charitable help for the **CALAIS JUNGLE REFUGEE CAMP**. The “Jungle” has slipped out of the news but there are 7000+ refugees there who need your help and the big aid agencies have pulled out apart from Mediciens Sans Frontieres. The Basildon Parish Our Lady & All Saints travels approximately once a month with aid. **PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY**. Cheques can be made payable to “Our Lady and All Saints” and sent to Fr Dominic Howarth, Calais Appeal, Holy Trinity Church, 71 Wickhay, Basildon, SS15 5AD. See www.basildoncatholics.org. Also latest newsletter on our notice board in the church porch.

READERS AT MASS.: We are seeking additional Readers, particularly for **9.00am Mass on Sundays**. (offers for Reading at other weekend Masses will be welcome!) Would you like to help? There is a rota, which we hope will mean that reading would be every 4 weeks or so. A short familiarisation/training will be given. Please contact Deacon Duncan to offer your help.

BAPTISM: We welcome into the Church baby Amelia Maggonage who was Baptised with water and the Holy Spirit on Sunday 17th September. We pray that Amelia with the assistance of her parents and godparents will in the knowledge and love of God.

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