

**MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS**  
**WEEK BEGINNING 1st OCTOBER 2016**

Saturday 1st	6 p.m.	<i>Vigil Mass 27th Sunday of Year C</i> People of our Parish
Sunday 2nd	9 a.m.	<i>27th Sunday of Year C</i> Tullia Borelli RIP
	11 a.m.	Frank Swan RIP
Monday 3rd	9 a.m.	Veronica Beard RIP
Tuesday 4th	9 a.m.	<i>St Francis of Assisi</i> Private Intention
Wednesday 5th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thursday 6th	9 a.m.	<i>St Bruno, Priest</i> Des Tully RIP
Friday 7th	9 a.m.	<i>Our Lady of the Rosary Harvest Fast Day</i> Veronica Beard RIP
Saturday 8th	6 p.m.	<i>Vigil Mass 28th Sunday of Year</i> People of our Parish
Sunday 9th	9 a.m.	<i>28th Sunday of Year C</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners</i> Tullia Borelli RIP
	11 a.m.	Fr James Hawes RIP

**Morning Prayer** is said on weekdays, 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Mass.  
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** after 9am weekday Mass.  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Saturdays 11.30am - 12 noon & 6pm Mass.

**Harvest Thanksgiving & Sharing** on the weekend of 8th/9th October parishioners and families are asked to bring non perishable foods to the Masses as a sign of our thanksgiving for the Harvest & to share with the homeless.

**Please pray for the sick:**

Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson,  
Sean Clohessy, Mark Toohey, Daphne McAdam, Ann Dowd and Roger Minnis.  
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<b>OFFERINGS (£):</b>	Offertory Envelopes	£288.50
	Offertory Loose Plate	£258.82
	CAFOD	£20.07

*Thank you for your generosity*



**Newsletter**  
**The Church of the**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
**Epping**

**27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

**2nd October 2016**

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**Eucharistic Prayer Page 46**

*Dear friends,*

St Paul wrote to Timothy, the young bishop, "I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you" (2 Tim.1:6-14). In Catholic tradition hands are laid on the head of a person at Confirmation, the Ordination of a priest and the Ordination of a bishop. The laying on of hands symbolises a calling down of the Holy Spirit and the words used by the bishop or his authorised priest in conferring that sacrament are "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit". We will see that enacted by Bishop Alan who will Confirm 15 young parishioners, who are on their pre-Confirmation retreat this weekend, in the course of his Pastoral Visit to our parish on Wednesday 12th of October.

St Paul used the image of a tiny flame to describe the gift of faith given to us by God. It shows our faith and our relationship with the Lord comes through the Spirit that was sent, like tongues of fire, at Pentecost. Jesus used the image of seed planted in the ground to help us understand the Word of God is planted in our heart, and that it needs to be nurtured and not be choked by the cares and riches of this world. The images of seed used by Jesus and flame used by St Paul show us that faith like a candle in the wind or a seed in the ground which can illumine and grow to the benefit of a person and society. It is equally true that faith which is not practised can like the seed in the ground or the delicate candle can be extinguished and perish. In that context we need to protect our faith from danger and erosion by practising it for the sake of our relationship with God and the fulfilment of our own ultimate destiny—to be caught up in his perfect love.

**BAPTISMS:** Parents who wish to have their child baptised will need to make an appointment to see Fr John to make the preparation and arrange the date with him. He will then hand them a Baptism Application Form - which will no longer be given out at the end of Mass. We will also look for some parishioners to form a small team to help with the preparation of parents for the Baptism of their children so that they can understand the commitment they are making.

*May the Lord bless and strengthen your and your families faith. Fr John*

**Parish Priest: Fr. John McGrath**

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**Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse**

**Tel: 01992 577173**

**Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall**

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**11, Church Hill, Epping, Essex CM16 4RA**

**Registered Charity No. 234092**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016-17:** The first session for the children will be held at 5.45pm next Tuesday 4th October in the Church Hall. This Sunday the children will be presented at Mass and they will receive their books and Blessings will be give to the children, their parents and the catechists.

**BAPTISM:** We welcome into the Church baby Daniel O'Mullan who was Baptised with water and the Holy Spirit on Sunday 24th September. We pray that Daniel with the assistance of his parents and godparents will grow in the knowledge and love of God.

**DORIS SCOTT RIP:** Please pray for Doris Scott, wife of the late Ken Scott, who died on Friday morning. Funeral arrangements pending. **May she rest in peace.** We offer our prayers and sympathy to her nephew Charles and family.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH:** We invite anyone interested in finding out about our faith, who wants to understand our faith, support the faith of family members, or who would like to become Catholic, to a course of talks on the Catholic Faith in the Priest's House on Tuesdays at 8pm. It is suitable for people wishing to return to the practice of their faith or who are not Catholic but come to Mass regularly. There is no commitment implied by attending one or more sessions.

**MASS INTENTIONS** The Mass is the most powerful and important form of prayer in our Catholic tradition. In the Mass we know we have the Real Presence of Christ who is interceding for us at the right of God our Father in heaven. We offer the needs of people living and dead to the Father, through Christ and with the prayerful support of the community. People who wish to have a Mass offered for a particular person or intention can ask the priest, deacon or parish office. We need the name of the person and preferred date and time. Envelopes for Mass intentions are being prepared and will be available in the church porch.

**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.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER PEACE SERVICE – SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER.:** We are hosting the **Churches Together Peace Service again this year and it will be held in our Church Hall on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm.** We will hold the Service in our Church Hall in order to be able to display a ShelterBox tent and its contents. **ShelterBoxes are sent around the world to places where there has been major disasters (tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, etc)** when many people who are without shelter and have lost everything. We recently sponsored two Shelterbolxes from our parish charity fund, so here's a chance to see how they benefited from our money!! **Do please come to the service and bring your family and friends to pray for peace throughout the world and particularly in areas where there is great distress.** All details are displayed on the notice boards.

**JUMBLE SALE - SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER:** The Hall will be open on Friday 7th October from 2pm until 7.30pm. Help is urgently needed to empty the shed and sort the goods. Saturday the Hall will be open from 10.30am. Help is again needed to man the selling stalls. Cakes for selling or having with a cuppa would be greatly appreciated.

**"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 to help eat them, with coffee, tea & good company: it will be an opportunity for 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 in the presbytery, 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 6 October.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Bazaar date this year is December 3rd. Nine weeks seems a long time but we want this year's to be a special success to impress our new parish priest.

**COOK REQUIRED:** Father John is looking for a good cook to provide meals and carry out housekeeping duties. The role requires the individual to work 2 hours a day, around the lunch-time period, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Rate of pay: £11.50 per hour. Start date: as soon as possible please. For job description and details contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

**APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2017 - DIOCESAN GUIDANCE TO PARENTS/CARERS:**

Parents and carers who are practising Catholics and wish to apply for a place for their child in a Catholic school for September 2017 should hand in their form to the Priest's house, where it will be attended to by Fr John and Deacon Duncan. Some may be contacted to discuss the reference for their child. Families, where the parents and children are not practising their faith by attending Sunday Mass consistently, should make their application directly to the school but not request a priest's reference unless there are extraordinary circumstance in their situation. It is essential that integrity and truthfulness are protected in in this process.

**HARVEST FAST DAY:** Next Friday 7th October is Harvest Fast Day. CAFOD envelopes will be given out this weekend by the ushers and will collected next weekend in the retiring collection. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please introduce yourselves to Fr John or Deacon Duncan, so that we can welcome you to our parish and inform you about our parish activities.