

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS - 4 February – 12 February 2017

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (Year A) 4th February 2017

Saturday 4th 6.00 pm People of our Parish
Sunday 5th 9.00 am Jim Hayes RIP (Coyne/Hayes)
February 2017 11.00 am Sr Mary Byrne (Clohessy)

MONDAY 6th St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
9.00 am Special Intention (Anon)

TUESDAY 7th 9.00 am Ruby Fernandes RIP (Murray)

WEDNESDAY 8th St Josephine Bakhita, Virgin
9.00 am D Bonfonte RIP (McAdam)

Day of Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking and those working to combat it

THURSDAY 9th 9.00 am Margaret Hanley RIP (Maguire)

FRIDAY 10th Feb St Scholastice, Virgin
9.00 am Mary Renroe RIP (Toohey)

SATURDAY 11th Our Lady of Lourdes, Principal Patron of Our Diocese
10.00am Mass for the Sick & Infirm & Anointing of the Sick

11.00am to 5.30pm Prayer & Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament in Church

SIXTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME Readings Sunday Year A; Weekday Year 1

SATURDAY 11th 6.00pm Intentions of the McAdam Family (McAdam)

SUNDAY 12th 9.00am Larry Byrne RIP (Armstrong)

Racial Justice Day 11.00am People of our Parish

SACRAMENT of PENANCE Saturdays 11am to 12 noon and 5.15pm in church,
and by request to the priest.

MORNING PRAYER is offered at 8.45am in Church, before weekday Masses
DIVINE OFFICE PSALMS for Week 5 in Breviary are from the Psalter Week 1
ADORATION & PRAYER BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
MONDAY to FRIDAY after 9am weekday Mass, and Saturdays 11 to 12 noon

PARISH MASS BOOK: FIFTH SUNDAY of ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

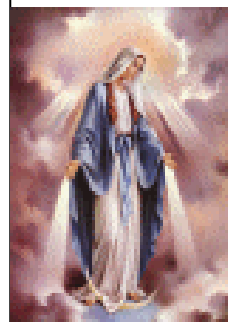
Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Page 52 Preface & Eucharistic Prayer
Page 133 Collect & Readings Page 53 Jesus who went about doing good
Page 11 The Nicene Creed Page 56 The Communion Rite
Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 135 Post Communion Prayer

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AT HOME AND IN HOSPITAL Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Sean Clohessy, Ann Dowd, Hannah Robinson, Mark Toohey, Daphne McAdam, Roger Minnis, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Brenda Sebire.

OFFERINGS: Offertory Envelopes £274.50 Offertory Loose Plate £326.72,
Standing Orders £700, CAFOD £15.30 *Thank you for your generous offerings.*

NEW PARISHIONER OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you moved into our parish recently or changed address in the parish, please let our Parish Office know, by e-mail, or completing or updating a Parish Registration Form. New parishioners, please introduce yourself to Fr John or Deacon Duncan who would like to welcome you.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Epping



Parish Priest: Father John McGrath Tel: 01992 572516

Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173

Address: 11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

Email: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohang

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

Parish Hall Bookings: e-mail: arnold_verrall@email.com

Telephone Arnold Verrall: 07764404813 or 01992 001995

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

5th February 2017

My dear friends,

“The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright” is our response to Psalm 111 today. The law of God is founded on love of God and love of neighbour. Some of us divide those out and choose to accept or live one without the other. The truth is that we are called to live an integrated Christian life by practising love of God and the love of people in a way that gives glory to God and serves others. This enriches community and contributes to the common good, and uses our talents in a way that enhances own dignity as children of God.

We show the love of God by keeping his commandments, reverencing his holy name and offering prayer to him in private and public worship. Love of people is shown by loving, caring and offering practical help to our neighbour, especially in time of need. Today’s scriptures have powerful words that convey attitudes and images to us. They challenge and show a need for correction in so many areas of life that are prevalent in our society. Isaiah 58:7-10 speaks about sharing with the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, unburdening those who are weighed down, not using wicked words or engaging in violence. The person who lives with high ideals, and is guided by moral principles coming from the Word of God, is a light in the world.

We will have three **Lent Lectures** in our parish this year on Mondays of Lent. On Monday 6th March, Dr Colin Harte will speak on “**The privilege of Suffering**”, which we find very difficult to accept and cope with in our time. On 13th of March, Fr Alban McCoy OFM, Dean of St Edmund’s College, Cambridge, will speak on Pope Francis’ exhortation “**Amoris Laetitia**” (**The Joy of Love**), reflecting on last year’s Synod in Rome, that focuses on contentious issues and pastoral practice relating to contemporary morality and sexual and gender issues and access to Holy Communion following divorce and relationship complications. On Monday 20th March, Dr Charlie O’Donnell FRCP, and Consultant on Emergency Medicine and Intensive Care, will speak on “**Being a Catholic Doctor in 21st Century England and staying true to the Catholic Faith – lessons for the lay Catholic**”. I hope many people will be interested in these issues and that our Lent Lectures will be very well attended.

May the Lord bless us help us to let his light shine before people today. Fr. John

JOURNEY IN FAITH: We invite anyone who wishes to understand our faith, wants to support the faith of a family member or become Catholic, to a course of talks on the Catholic Faith in the Priest's House on Tuesdays at 8pm. It is suitable for anyone wishing to return to the practice of their faith or who is not Catholic but comes to Mass. The next session will be on Tuesday the 7th February at 8.00pm.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Elizabeth Anne Pimblett who was Baptised in our Church recently. May the Lord bless them and help to bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.*

MASS FOR THE SICK & INFIRM Saturday, 11 February, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes is World Day of Prayer for the Sick. We will have Mass in our Church at 10.00am, at which the Sacrament of Anointing will be offered to anyone who is ill or Infirm. Anyone who would like to receive this Sacrament for the Sick, please contact Fr John at the Priest's House and he will visit them at home or in hospital.

INAUGURATION OF THE CENTENARY OF OUR DIOCESE: On Saturday 11 February 2017, Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Principal Patron of our diocese. We are having Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in every church in our diocese. We will have the **Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes** in church that morning at 10 am. This will be followed by **Adoration and Exposition until before the 6 p.m. evening Mass.** Please put your name on the rota for one of the ½ hour periods. Since this feast is also the World Day of Prayer for the sick, the **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick** will be offered to people who are suffering from an illness or infirmity.

FLAME CONGRESS, SSF WEMBLEY ARENA, SATURDAY 11 MARCH: We will join 75 young people from Brentwood Diocese (but travel on our own 16 seater coach from Epping) at this joyful occasion. We invite all aged between 15 & 23 to contact James Ryan (Tel. 07814 226468) to book a place. Our parish will pay for the coach. The registration fee of £15 must be paid to James, when booking (cheques payable to Catholic Church, Epping). **FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.**

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: Saturday 22nd July 2017 in which all parishes are to participate. There will be no evening Mass on that Saturday in any parish in our diocese so that all can be involved in the pilgrimage

CENTENARY MASS: On Wednesday 22 March 2017 at 7 p.m. there will be a Solemn Concelebrated Mass of Thanksgiving at **Brentwood Cathedral** Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Five invitations are offered for representatives from each parish of the diocese. Parishioners who may wish to represent the parish can complete the slip below and return it to the priest's house. A ballot will then be taken to determine who will be our parish representatives at this Mass

CENTENARY MASS REPRESENTATIVE BALLOT

NAME:

PHONE NUMBER:

e-mail address:

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL & 1 MINUTE SURVEY THIS WEEKEND:

The Stewards of the Gospel Programme in our Diocese is concerned with discerning the future of our Diocese and Parishes. This weekend the Stewards of the Gospel in our Parish, Sue Sabin and Michele Garwood, will speak at all Masses and we ask all parishioners to complete the 1 minute survey on our parish at the end of Mass.

LENT LUNCHES 2017: Each Saturday during Lent, one of the churches in Epping will offer a light lunch (soup, cheese, bread, tea or coffee) between 12.30 and 2.00pm. A donation of £3.00 is suggested for Christian Aid. Please bring your friends. Everyone is very welcome. The dates are as follows:

Saturday 4th March. Life Church, The Box, St John's Road, Epping.

Saturday 11th March. URC, Lindsey Street.

Saturday 18th March. Methodist Church.

Saturday 25th March. St John's Church

Saturday 1st April. Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception

Saturday 8th April. Epping Green Chapel

Every Tuesday in Lent. St Mary's, Theydon Bois.

CHARITY WALK IN AID OF ALZHEIMERS SOCIETY: A walk in memory of parishioner, James Sullivan, who died in 2016 of this illness will be held in Epping Forest this Sunday. Afterwards, there will be refreshments & a raffle at Pelly Court Hall, Hemnall Street, Epping. Entry £10 per person. Anyone wishing to donate but cannot attend to walk, visit www.justgiving.com Search for Epping Forest 5 mile walk. For details contact Martin Sullivan on 07787 319855.

VACANCY AT PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING : Required for paid position of Parish Administrator in the office at the Parish of Christ the King, Chingford. 12 hours per week, from 10.00am to 2.00pm Monday, Thursday and Friday. If you or any of your family/friends are interested, please first contact Magdalena Oseph on 020 8527 3087 or email chingfordctk@dioceseofbrentwood.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is 20th February 2017.

NATIONAL DAY OF FASTING & PRAYER FOR LIFE: Friday 10th February, is the Vigil of the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer & Fasting; www.goodcounselnetwork.com

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS ON SALE: The Catholic Universe, The Catholic Herald and The Tablet are on sale at the back of the Church. The previous week's unsold copies of these papers are laid on the chairs for people to take away free.

AVAILABILITY & PARISH OFFICE: Fr John's day off is Mondays, and though celebrating Mass he would like to be free otherwise. Our Parish Secretary is in the Parish Office on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.30am to 2pm. Requests for Certificates and other Parish business should be done through the Parish Office. Items for the Parish Newsletter should be sent in to the Parish Office by 10am on Fridays.