

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 13th to Sunday 21st May 2017

SATURDAY 13th May 11.00am FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

12.45pm BAPTISM of Finley Filan Manning

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 14th May 2017

Saturday, 13th May 6.00pm Margaret Barrett RIP (Canny)

SUNDAY 14th May 20 9.00am Jim Parello RIP (Ives)

11.00am People of the Parish

12.15am BAPTISM of Benjamin Dudley Goldsworthy

MONDAY 15th May 9.00am Service of the Word & Holy Communion

9.15am Chapter of Canon's Mass at Brentwood Cathedral

TUESDAY 16th 9.00am Veronica Beard RIP (Beard)

WEDNESDAY 17th 9.00am Holy Souls RIP

THURSDAY 18th 9.00am Bridie O'Loughlin RIP (Collier)

FRIDAY 19th 9.00am Special Intention (anon)

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER A 21st May 2017

Saturday 20 May 2017 6.00pm Kieran McClean RIP 20th Anniv (Schofield)

Sunday 21st May 2017 9.00am Mark & Maggie Keane RIP (Clohessy)

People of our Parish 11.00am Going Forth Mass for First Communion children

SACRAMENT of PENANCE Saturdays 11 - 12 noon & 5.15pm – not next Saturday

MORNING PRAYER is offered in the Church at 8.45am, before weekday Mass

DIVINE OFFICE: Psalms for Week 5 of Easter are from Week 1 in The Breviary

BLESSED SACRAMENT Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after 9am weekday Mass

PARISH MASS BOOK: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A Sunday 14th May 2017

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Page 74 Preface 2 New Life in Christ

Page 265 Collect & Readings Page 25 Eucharistic Prayer 2

Page 12 The Apostles Creed Page 56 The Communion Rite

Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 268 Post Communion Prayer

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL Giovanni Borelli, Hilda Silver, Mark Toohey, Brenda Sebire, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Hannah Robinson, Daphne McAdam, Roger Minnis, Paula Hall, Sean Clohessy, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Ann Dowd, Rhoda Limbear and all our parishioners, family and friends who are ill at this time.

OFFERINGS: Offertories: Envelopes **£246.50**, Loose Plate **£308.97**, Standing Orders **£700**. CAFOD **£60.07**. *Thank you for your generous offerings.*

MISSION APPEAL: Sr Ruth of The Medical Missionaries of Mary made an Appeal at all Masses in our Parish last weekend, on behalf of Missionary Sisters working in mission territories and developing nations. Following her Appeal the retiring collection at all Masses came to **£994.28**. *Thank you for your generous support for the missions.*

COFFEE AFTER 11AM MASS: Please note that due to a Hall booking there will not be coffee after the 11am Mass on this Sunday, 14th May.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to the families of Archer Joseph Dodwell and Tabitha Rose Payne who were Baptised in our Church, last Sunday, the 7th May. We pray that the Lord may bless them and help to bring up their children in the knowledge and love of God.

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/Lebohng

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

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

Telephone Arnold Verrall: 07764404813 or

01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping area)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th May 2017

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The first Reading this weekend gives us an insight into the enthusiastic development of Christianity immediately after Christ's resurrection. Despite the problem of the Christians being persecuted by the Romans and the Jewish authorities, the following of Jesus was growing so quickly that its leaders could not cope – they were 'rushed off their feet'. They appointed seven men to help them in their in their pastoral duties, (forerunners of modern day Deacons), whose role was to assist the Apostles, so that all members of the community could be properly supported by the Apostles in their faith.

With the enormous growth in the number of Priests during the first few centuries of the Church, the need for Deacons diminished, but the Second Vatican Council saw the need to renew the role of the Diaconate in November 1965 (*Lumen Gentium*), described as follows: 'At a lower level of the hierarchy are Deacons, who receive the imposition of hands, not to the priesthood but unto the ministry'. For strengthened by sacramental grace, they are dedicated to the people of God, in conjunction with the bishop and his body of priests, in the serviced of the liturgy, of the Gospel and of works of charity....the duties of Deacons, so very necessary for the life of the Church, can in many areas be fulfilled only with difficulty according to the prevailing discipline of the Latin Church. For this reason, the diaconate can in the future be restored a a proper and permanent rank of the hierarchy.'

The diocese of Brentwood has nine active Deacons at present, with a further three in the process of the three years' training programme; and we need more. In Epping, Deacon Duncan is celebrating the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the diaconate on 30th May 2017. *Deo Gratias!*

God Bless you all.

Deacon Duncan

ORDINATION of BISHOP: Fr John McWilliam of the Missionaries of Africa, (White Fathers) has been appointed by Pope Francis as Bishop of the Diocese of Laghouat-Ghardaïa in Algeria. Fr John had been a British Army Officer and was ordained priest in 1992 and has spent most of his time in Algeria – during which 19 priests and religious were murdered. He will be ordained Bishop at Worth Abbey, Sussex, next Saturday, 20th May. I will attend his Episcopal Ordination as a friend, and his family who lived in Dedham, were parishioners when I was Parish Priest in Colchester. Please pray for Fr John and Christians who live in very dangerous situations that the Lord may guide and protect them in their mission and work. (See article on the church noticeboard.)

MIGRANTS MASS SATURDAY 20 MAY, 2017: The 12th Migrants Mass is being hosted this year by our Diocese for the first time at St Anthony of Padua, Forest Gate. In honour of St Joseph the Worker, the Dioceses of Westminster, Southwark & Brentwood unite to celebrate the international nature of the church's work and how migrants contribute to our society, our concern for their welfare, and dignity. Banners assemble at 10.30 am on the Priory Lawn, Mass begins at 11 am and Bishop Alan will be preside.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: Bishop Alan desires that we have a great Brentwood Centenary Pilgrimage, to the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, on **Saturday 22nd July**, to celebrate of the Centenary of the founding of Diocese of Brentwood, on 20th July 1917. He asks each parish to have at least one coach. He will preside at the Centenary Pilgrimage Mass at Walsingham, with the priest and people on that day. There will be no Saturday evening Masses in parishes in the Diocese on that day. Details of the coach travel from our parish will be announced.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS: Congratulations to the children and families in our parish who received our Lord in their first Holy Communion on Saturday, 13th May. The next session for the children will be in the hall on Tuesday next, 16th of May at 5.45pm. The Going Forth Mass will be at 11am Mass next Sunday 21st May. We need parishioners to help the parents with the celebration in the Hall after Mass. Please contact the Priest's House and let Fr John know if you can assist with this celebration.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: The secret is out! Deacon Duncan knows that there are plans to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his diaconate ordination, so we can now talk more freely about arrangements for 30 May. If you are coming to the reception following the 7.30pm Holy Mass and have not yet told us, please reply to Melanie Hollinshead by **Monday 15 May**, when the guest list will close. You can RSVP via the porch letter box, or via Fr John's letterbox. Melanie is also still looking for contributions of photographs and anecdotes.

STUDY DAY ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE: *“The Deacon in the Church.”*
Is there a deacon in your parish? Why do we have permanent deacons? What do they do? What about vocations to the diaconate?
Venue: Church of the English Martyrs, Alma Avenue, Hornchurch. Date: Saturday 3rd June 2017 9.30am to 1pm (preceded by Mass in church at 9.00am). **Please see poster in the church porch.**

PARISH REPRESENTATIVE to Churches Together in Epping & District: We need a parish representative(s) to Churches Together in Epping & District. It involves participation in up to 4 meetings per year and reporting to Parish Council on what is happening with churches in the town and district. You must be a practising Catholic, regularly attending Mass with us and have a ecumenical outlook. If you can help please contact Fr John, Deacon Duncan or Parish Council Chairman, Melanie Hollinshead.

APPLYING FOR SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2018: Parents & carers who want a priest's reference to support an application for a school place for their child in September 2018 must to be attending Sunday Mass consistently. When people are not attending Mass regularly there is no point in seeking a priest's reference this Autumn.

JUMBLE SALE: Our parish Jumble Sale will be in our Parish Hall on Saturday next, the 20th May. If you have a large number of items please contact Janet on 01992 571128. Help is urgently needed on Friday to clear the shed – gents we need you please – and to sort. The Hall will be open until 7pm. On Saturday help is needed to sell. We also need donations of cakes to sell and have with a cuppa.

FOODBANK OPENING IN EPPING: **Epping Forest Foodbank** (an extension to the Loughton Foodbank) will be **opening at The Box, St John's Road, Epping on Monday 8th May 2017 from 3.30-5.00pm** and will be open each subsequent Monday at the same time. **Additional helpers are required, to work on a rota basis** (after training); please give your name to John McCredie (one of Epping Foodbank co-ordinators – Tel. 01992 577943; email: johnmccredie92@gmail.com), Fr John or Deacon Duncan if you would like to join the enthusiastic team to help in this very charitable work. If you know anyone in serious need of short-term help from the Foodbank, then ask them to contact Paul Ives (01992 577104) or the SVP.

PARISH WHIST GROUP: Our friendly Whist Group meets once a month and the next dates for the diary are Thursday 18th May & Tuesday 27th June. 7pm start. Non parishioners are welcome. Entry fee a mere £2. Splendid prizes to be won. Please ring Arnold Verrall for more details (contact details on cover page).

LUNCHTIME PIANO RECITAL: Many of you will recall a wonderful Piano Recital given last year in Brentwood Cathedral by the renowned Japanese Pianist Reiko FUJISAWA. Reiko will again be performing there next Wednesday 17th May from 1.00 to 1.45pm. Her Recital will include Haydn's Andante con variazioni and Beethoven's Sonata No.23 in F minor, Op.57 (Appassionata). This will be followed by refreshments in the Song School. Admission is free but donations are welcome.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Please see church noticeboard for various vacancies advertised.