

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 27 to Sunday 4 February 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

SATURDAY 27 6.00pm Mary Tubridy's intentions
SUNDAY 28th 9.00am Peter Mullins RIP (Armstrong)
January 2018 11.00am The People of our parish
12.15pm Baptism of Evie Mae Campion-Morley
Monday 29th 9.00am In Thanksgiving (P Scannell)
Tuesday 30th 9.00am Constance Anthony Fernandes RIP Anniv (Murray)
Wednesday 31st **St John Bosco, Priest**
9.00am Hugh McAdam RIP Anniv (McAdam)
Thursday 1 Feb 9.00am Holy Souls RIP
Friday 2nd Feb **Presentation of the Lord - Blessing of Candles – Candlemass Day**
9.00am Sr Susan Consecration Anniversary (Palmer)

Saturday, 3rd February Feast of St Blaise & Blessing of throats after 6pm Mass

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

SATURDAY 3rd 6.00pm Helven Crouch RIP Anniv (Crouch)
SUNDAY 4th 9.00am People of our Parish
February 2018 11.00am Giuseppina Divizio RIP Recently (Kyrou)

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: Saturdays 11am – 12 noon & 5.15pm to 5.40pm
MORNING PRAYER: THE DIVINE OFFICE 15 minutes before weekday Mass
BLESSED SACRAMENT Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after weekday Mass

PARISH MASS BOOK: Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (B) 28th January 2018

Page 7	The Beginning of Mass	Page	Eucharistic Prayer (Not in Mass Book)
Page 132	Collect & Readings	Page	Jesus went about doing good
Page 11	The Nicene Creed	Page 43	The Communion Rite
Page 14	Preparation of Gifts	Page 134	Post Communion Prayer

PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL Marcheta Swift-Daley, Mark Toohey, Paula Hall, , Hilda Silver, Hannah Robinson, Daphne McAdam, Ann Dowd, Rhoda Limebear, Giovanni Borelli, Buddy McGuinness, Sean Clohessy, Tony Mullan, Roger Minnis, James Bullen, Fr Martin Knott, Fr Tom Jordan & all who are ill.

Catholics who are ill at home or in hospital need our prayer and support, and the Church's ministry. Please let Fr John know if you or your relative or parishioner, is ill so they can be visited and receive the Sacraments at home or in hospital.

OFFERTORY LAST WEEK Envelopes: £299.50, Loose: £349.28, Standing Orders; £700, CAFOD £25.05 *Thank you for your generosity.*

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS & READERS: Please take a copy of the new rotas which are in the post box in the church porch.

Prayer Cards for Racial Justice Sunday: *O, God, who created all people in Your Holy Image, who loves the stranger, who cares for the downtrodden, walk with those who face discrimination, protect them from harm, help them see Christ in our community. Guide those who fan the fires of discrimination to open their eyes to the beauty of all your creation and respect the human dignity of all people. Open our hearts to those who face hatred and injustice because of their race, their background, their ethnicity that might better help them belong. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen*

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
Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohang 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)

FOURTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME B Racial Justice Sunday 28 Jan 2018

Dear Friends,

When the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them, because he taught with authority” (Mark 1:28). In Jewish areas people keep the Sabbath day, Saturday, holy by walking to the Synagogue to listen to the Scriptures, offer prayers of thanksgiving and petition God. It is also sign and witness to practising the Christian faith when people are seen going to Church on Sunday. We go to listen to the Word of God, to offer prayers of petition and thanksgiving and receive Christ in Holy Communion.

I remember the neighbour of a parishioner who died, many years ago, telling me he knew little about the deceased, but said “he left his home early on Sunday mornings and walked to Church, and then went out for breakfast”. We can imagine Jesus and his friends walking to the synagogue for the Sabbath or holyday. He wanted to be with God's people in community and prayer. We imitate his journey when we come together on Sunday as God's family and a Christian community who are at home with God and each other in his Church.

Each of us is on a faith journey to and with God. The symbolism and reality of that journey begins with our or a child's journey to church for Baptism, and then going to Mass with God's family. We come to Church, to listen to the Sacred Scriptures in which God speaks to his people, and individually to us in our heart. Jesus taught “with authority” as he explained what God was saying to them in the Scriptures. We must recognise the authority of God's Word in the Bible, listen to what he is saying to us and follow him in daily life, to be in communion with him.

At Mass, we are in communion with one another and those who are ill or unable to be with us. We pray with and for our various needs and bring them to Christ. We thank God for all we receive from him, and his great gift to us is Holy Communion, in which Christ shares his life and love with us. His Word, spoken with the power of the Spirit directs us and changes bread and wine into his Body and Blood. He brings us in into a Holy Communion with himself, as we become what we eat - the Body of Christ. Through his Word and in the most holy Sacrament of the Eucharist Christ unites us with himself and one another. **May God bless you. Fr John**

PRAYERS OF OUR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

TERENCE EDWARD SMITH, who died on Thursday, 11 January. His Funeral will be celebrated on Thursday, 8 February at 10.00am at Parndon Wood Crematorium. *We offer our sympathy and prayers for his family and the repose of his soul. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them. May he rest in peace.*

LEGACY FROM STAN HOLDER RIP We express our gratitude for the generosity of Stan Holder RIP in leaving a bequest of £10,000 to our parish. Stan was very committed to the Church and to our parish and this bequest shows his thoughtfulness as well as his generosity. We will offer Mass in our Church for the repose of his soul, on or near the anniversary of his death on the **28 August. May he rest in peace.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS IN 2018: The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday 31 January at 5.45pm** in the hall. It is essential that children attend all the sessions, and that Catholic parents bring the children to Sunday Mass every weekend.

PARISH CONCERT/SOCIAL NIGHT with the ELEVATORS: We express our gratitude to everyone who organised, came and contributed to the Parish Concert/Social last Saturday. We are most grateful to Sheila and Steve Earl and Band members who gave their time and talents for free. A wonderful evening was had by all as a community event. **It was also a very successful fund raising occasion and raised £823.30 for our parish.**

MISSIO RED BOXES: It is time to return the proceeds of our collections during the past six months for the Missions. Please hand them in to the sacristy (please do not leave them in the church porch) ensuring that your name is shown clearly on the label.

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL We will have meetings for parishioners on **Tuesday 30 January & Wednesday 7 February at 8pm** in the Church Hall to think about and make responses to proposals to restructure our Diocese in the Stewards of the Gospel programme. The proposals are challenging and we need to look at them to see how they will affect our parish(es) and Churches in the future. You can see the document <http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development/>

COUNTERS NEEDED: We are most grateful to our team of Counters who count the Offertory Collection on a rota basis. However, we urgently need more people to assist with counting the Offertories on Sundays after Mass. There is a rota of experienced counters, and new counters would join and be paired with existing ones. It is not a very time consuming or onerous job, so do please offer to help by contacting Fr John

FLOWER ARRANGERS: Four of our team of flower arrangers are having to retire after many years' service to our church. We invite all would be flower arrangers who may be interested in forming a new group to contact Fr John at the parish office at epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org or complete and return the slip below. Many thanks.

I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH FLOWER ARRANGING/COUNTING NAME:

CONTACT NUMBER:

PARISH RACE NIGHT-SATURDAY 10th February



Everyone is invited to our parish **RACE NIGHT in the Church Hall**, to raise Parish Funds. **Tickets @ £5 each** will be on sale after Masses or can be obtained from Teresa Cullen, Peter Day, Margo Flack, Norah Poole, John Ryan, Dorothy Whitehouse, or Deacon Duncan on 01992 577173. An exciting evening's entertainment is planned. **Come and shout your horses home!!**

UNDERSTANDING THE CREED On **Wednesday 31 January, 7 to 8.30 pm** Fr Adrian Graffy will explore the Nicene Creed recited at Sunday Mass. The talks are held in the Catholic Church Hall, 410 Brentwood Rd, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Refreshments provided. Admission is free.

TALKS ON THE CATHOLIC FAITH Adults wishing to find out about the Catholic faith, become Catholic or wanting to understand our faith or support the faith of family members are invited to a series of talks in the Priest's House. These are suitable for adults who may not have been Confirmed or not been practising their faith but wish to renew and rethink it. There is no commitment involved in attending any or all sessions and we will welcome anyone interested. Please contact Fr John at The Priest's House.

Exhibition on the Shroud of Turin 5th-11th March Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford: An exhibition about the Shroud of Turin, including a full sized replica of the Shroud, will take place at **Our Lady immaculate Church, Chelmsford from 5th to 11th March 2018**. The exhibition opens with Mass at **7.30pm on Monday 5th March**. Each day there are confessions, Stations of the Cross and Mass. The week culminates with **Mass at 12noon on Saturday 10th March**. The exhibition will remain in place on **Sunday 11th March**. The church is open from 7am until 8pm each day. If you would like to know more about this, please contact the parish office on 01245 352898, or simply come along to church that week. Everyone is very welcome.

ST HELEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AT 110 YEARS: St Helen's Catholic Primary School in Canning Town, Newham is appealing to all past pupils or their relatives. They are seeking copies of old school photographs, reports and records as part of the preparations for their 110th anniversary. The school is particularly looking for photographs and information from **1907-1941** as original documents were destroyed in the blitz. Please contact 020 7476 1785 or email: info@st-helens.newham.sch.uk.

FOR SALE: Two full size table tennis tables complete with nets & bats. We will sell singularly. No reasonable offer refused, but buyer must collect. Proceeds go to parish funds. Please contact Arnold Verrall for details – 07764404813 or 01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping area).

JUMBLE SALE: Our next parish Jumble Sale will be on **Saturday 28th April at 2pm**. Please keep the date free. More details nearer the time.