

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Year B** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>** 12.30pm Baptism - Jack Henry Day

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>** 6.00pm People of our Parish

**SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Toni Taggart RIP Recently (Rimmer)

March 2018 11.00am Colm O'Rourke RIP Recently (Darcy)

12.30pm Baptism - Patrick Finley Gallagher

6.00pm Stations of the Cross

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Mr & Mrs Tobin RIP (FM)

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Rocque Fernandes RIP Anniv (Murray)

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Recovery of Michael Canny (Canny)

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am Intentions of Denise Butt & Family (Butt)

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am SPUC. Private Intention (Canny)

**Stations of the Cross 7.30pm** Mass for Musicians, Choirs & Stewards of the Gospel

**FOURTH SUNDAY of LENT B – Laetare or Rejoicing and Mothering Sunday**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup>** 12.30pm Baptism – Luke Robert Hargitt

6.00pm Vera Doherty RIP Anniv (Doherty)

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>** 9.00am John Rock RIP (Clohessy)

March 2018 11.00am People of our Parish

6.00pm Stations of the Cross in the Church

**SACRAMENT of PENANCE:** Saturdays 11am to 12 noon & 5.15pm to 5.40pm

**MORNING PRAYER of THE DIVINE OFFICE:** 15 minutes before weekday Mass

**BLESSED SACRAMENT** Prayer & Adoration for 1 hour after weekday Mass

**PARISH MASS BOOK: Third Sunday of Lent (B)** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

**Page 7** The Beginning of Mass **Page 56** Preface 1 Spiritual meaning of Lent

**Page 154** Collect & Readings **Page 25** Eucharistic Prayer 2

**Page 12** The Apostles Creed **Page 43** The Communion Rite

**Page 14** Preparation of Gifts **Page 157** Post Communion Prayer

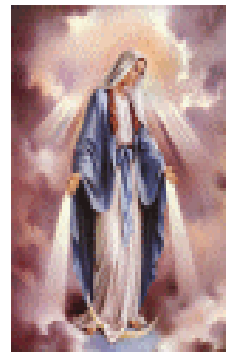
**WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL** Hannah Robinson, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Ann Dowd, Hilda Silver, Daphne McAdam, Rhoda Limebear, Paula Hall, Mark Toohey, Giovanni Borelli, Buddy McGuinness, Sean Clohessy, Roger Minnis, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Fr Martin Knott, Fr Tom Jordan & all in our parish who are ill. **Catholics who are ill at home or in hospital need our prayer, support and the Church's ministry. Please let Fr John know if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill so they can be visited and receive the Sacraments.**

**OFFERTORY LAST WEEK:** Offertory Envelopes: £340.50, Loose: £363.40, Standing Orders: £700, LENT FAST: £833.37 *Thank you for your generosity.*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS** on the Fridays of Lent at 7.30 pm. Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Sundays 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. Please join us in prayer and reflection on the Passion & Death of Jesus. **On Good Friday we will have *Stations of the Cross for children* at 10am.**

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** Last Wednesday's meeting had to be postponed due to the weather. The meeting will now be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm.

## **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](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**

**Website: [www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://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](mailto:arnold_verrall@email.com)**

**Telephone Arnold Verrall: 07764404813 or**

**01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping area)**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Over 3000 years ago, God gave Moses the 10 Commandments of the Law, which were to be followed by all who believed that he, God, had saved the Israelites from the oppression of the Egyptians. He had allowed them to escape as a body and had divided the waters of the Red Sea to defeat the overwhelming strength of their pursuers, the Egyptians. The whole conquest was played out with great drama, demonstrating to the Israelites just how powerful was God and how they could and should worship him and depend upon them as their sole leader and inspiration in all situations.

We are descended from the Israelites. We have inherited the power, the security and the inspiration of these 10 Commandments, most of which have been enshrined in our secular law and which ensure a peaceful and loving way of life for us all. This weekend's 1<sup>st</sup> Reading lists the 10 Commandments, giving us the opportunity to review how relevant they are today and to ask ourselves whether our practices properly reflect our love of God as a first priority in our life.

Do we always recognize God as the only God and ignore any distractions which may lead us away from worshipping only him? Do we misuse God's name? Do we 'keep holy' the Sabbath Day, or do we have other 'priorities' which distract us? Do we respect our relatives and elders, particularly our parents? Do we 'kill' or harm others by ignoring the sanctity of life or through our harmful talk? Do we ignore the sacred bond of marriage and its lasting responsibilities? Do we steal or tell lies? Do we allow envy or jealousy to rule our thoughts and actions?

May God give us the grace to listen to his word and follow his call at all times.

*God bless. Deacon Duncan*

**LENT MASSES:** On the Fridays of Lent at 7.30pm we offer Mass for people in various groups and activities in our parish that God will bless parishioners in good work for our community. Intentions and dates are as follows:

**FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> March** Musicians and Choirs and Stewards of the Gospel

**FRIDAY 16<sup>th</sup> March** Catechists and Children's Liturgy

**FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> March** Church Flower arrangers

**LENT TALKS IN OUR PARISH HALL on Tuesdays of Lent at 8.00 pm.**

**Tuesday 6 March, Mick Duthie**, Deputy Director of The Santa Marta Group will speak on Human Trafficking and modern-day Slavery in our country and society.

**Tuesday 13 March, Chris Driscoll**, CAFOD Community Participation Co-ordinator, will speak on CAFOD's development projects especially in Sebya, Ethiopia.

**Tuesday, 20 March, Deacon Duncan**, will speak on the Missionary journeys of St Paul, especially in countries where the Christian Church is in great difficulties.

**All are welcome to our Lent talks & please invite anyone who may be interested.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS IN 2018:** The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday 7 March at 5.45pm** in the hall. It is essential that children attend all sessions and Catholic parents bring their children to Mass every weekend.

**St VINCENT DePAUL SOCIETY RAFFLE:** Next weekend the members of the St Vincent DePaul Society in our parish will sell tickets for the Society's annual raffle after all Masses. So please do not forget your bags, purses and wallets if you do not want to miss out on a chance to win prizes of £3,000, £2,000, £1,000 and some more cash prizes. The proceeds go towards the SVP's charitable works in the Sudan, India and the International Distress fund. Epping SVP Conference will retain 20% of the ticket sales to support their local charitable work and assist five parishes in India.

**EASTER LILIES IN OUR CHURCH:** Donate a lily in memory of a loved one to our church at Easter. Make an offering of £2 per bloom & mark the envelope "Easter Lily". If you are a tax payer you can Gift Aid your donation by using the red Special Donations envelope in the Church, or use one of the special envelopes in your box.

**READERS AT MASS:** There will be a training session for new Readers at Mass, on **Saturday 7 April 2018 (10am-12.30pm)**, with the possibility of joining the Reading Rota in May 2018. If you might be interested in joining our team of 30 Readers, or have queries, please contact Deacon Duncan (01992 577173) to notify your interest

**ROSARY PRAYER VIGIL IN LENT:** Please support efforts to help women & babies by joining a peaceful vigil (NOT a protest) on Saturday mornings in Lent between 7.45am and 11.30am at the Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic, Russell Road, Buckhurst Hill. Every day 50 babies or more are attended to there without any anaesthetic, ceremony or funeral - you can be there to pray for them. For information see poster in church porch or phone Rose on 07960 650517 or Paul on 01992 577104.

**STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL** met with Bishop Alan & clergy of the Diocese on Saturday. Responses to proposals for reorganising parishes can be sent to Mrs Adele Angel or Steven Webb or at Cathedral House, Brentwood CM15 8AD. Proposals can be seen at: <http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development/>

**EPPING FOREST FOODBANK - LENT APPEAL** asks people to take part in its #40for40 challenge. Local people are struggling to afford food, so it is important for us those now in crisis. The Foodbank asks us to give 40 pence for 40 days. With Gift Aid this comes to £20 for Epping Foodbank. Send to Lent Appeal, c/o St Mary's Church, 201 High Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 1BB. See leaflet and Gift Aid Forms in Church.

**LENT LUNCHES - CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EPPING** On the Saturdays of Lent we can visit local churches & enjoy a light lunch of soup, cheese & bread, tea or coffee, from **12.30 to 2pm**. Come with your family & friends. Next **Saturday 10 March – the lunch will be at Epping Methodist Church.**

We will host the lunch on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March**. We need donations of home-made soup (dare I suggest green Pea soup!! Fr J), helpers as waitresses & waiters. A selection of deserts will be available with a beans on toast option for children. We need your support to welcome our guests and enjoy lunch together. Please do come along and if you can help in any way contact **Mary on 574719**.

**Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** has several charity places for The Vitality London 10K run on **Monday 28 May 2018**. If you have your own place in the race, we would love to have you on our team; we won't set a sponsorship target, but any funds you can raise for us would be hugely appreciated. For further information, please contact Julie at [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) or 07912 277413.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE:** Bishop Alan, our Bishop, will lead a 5 day pilgrimage from our Diocese to Knock Shrine in Mayo, Ireland, from the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The cost is £699pps. There are only a few places left. Full details and booking forms are in the church porch. To book contact Patricia Ronane on 01268 762278 or e-mail: [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

**Easter Triduum Retreat for 19-27 year olds:** Experience Holy Week liturgies at Walsingham House at Abbotswick, with a programme of reflection and prayer for a deeper understanding of the liturgy, with young adults. From the still Adoration on Holy Thursday evening to an Easter Vigil finishing with champagne & chocolates. We hope this 3 day celebration will live in hearts for the year ahead. £30 covers meals & accommodation from 7.30pm Thursday 29 March to Easter Sunday 9am. Maximum 35 places: apply soon. Details & online application at [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net)

**FAITH-BASED ADMISSION CAP on SCHOOLS** Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholic parents to send their children to them? We need you to write to your MP urging them to overturn an admissions cap that prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend and discriminates against Catholics. The Government promised to abandon this policy. We need to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholic parents. Please write to your MP urging the Government them to drop a policy that bans new Catholic schools. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or web search "Catholic Education".

**Men's Silent Retreat: Finding God in Daily Life (8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> March):** This retreat is for adult men, single or married, of any age and will be directed by a priest and lay man from Opus Dei. Meditations and talks will be given on the central themes of the Catholic faith. For more information, please visit: [www.dowryhouse.org.uk](http://www.dowryhouse.org.uk).

**Walsingham Spirituality Retreat 1 (16th-18th March):** Join us for the first of a series of 4 weekends on Walsingham Spirituality. Accompaniment and talks will be given by the sisters of the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham, enabling people to enter more deeply into the spirituality of Walsingham and what it means to accept God's Will in one's life. For information, visit: [www.dowryhouse.org.uk](http://www.dowryhouse.org.uk)