

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD YEAR B – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

<b>SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Intentions of Jyoti Arruda (Murray)</b>
<b>SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Paddy Dear RIP (Anniv)</b>
<b>March 2018</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Tony O'Loughlin RIP Recently (Cullen)
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Private Intention
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Intentions of Sr Maria Kenny (Lechley)
<b>Brentwood</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Chrism Mass at Brentwood Cathedral –All welcome</b>
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>MAUNDY (HOLY) THURSDAY</b>	
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>
	<b>8.30pm +</b>	<b>The church will be open until Midnight for people To pray with our Lord in his Agony in the Garden</b>
<b>Friday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY – Today is a day of fasting and abstinence</b>	
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross for Families &amp; Children</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Walk of Witness from Duke of Wellington, Epping to our church. Refreshments &amp; facilities in our Hall.</b>
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Solemn Liturgy of our Lord's Passion</b>
<b>Saturday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter</b>
<b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Patrick McHugh RIP Recently (Canny)</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>

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

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

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

**PARISH MASS BOOK Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord B 25 March 2018**

**Page 177 The Beginning of Mass Page 59 Preface of the Passion of the Lord**

**Page 183 Collect & Readings Page 25 Eucharistic Prayer 2**

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

**Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 190 Post Communion Prayer**

**WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME & IN HOSPITAL** Hannah Robinson, Ann Dowd, Francis Wells, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Hilda Silver, Daphne McAdam, Paula Hall, Mark Toohey, Giovanni Borelli, Sean Clohessy, James Bullen, Roger Minnis, Tony Mullan, 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 and the Church's ministry. Please inform Fr John or a hospital chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill, so they can be visited and receive the Sacraments.**

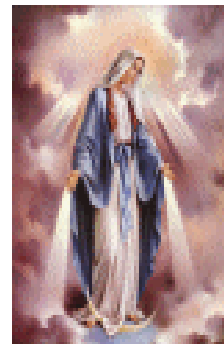
**OFFERTORY LAST WEEK: Thank you for: Offertory Envelopes: £355.90  
Loose: £259.76 Standing Orders: £700, CAFOD: £30.09**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS will be prayed this Sundays 25<sup>th</sup> March at 6pm. *Please join us in prayer and reflection on the Passion & Death of Jesus.***

**On Good Friday we have *Stations of the Cross for children and families* at 10am.**

**ALTAR SERVERS: The practice for Easter will be on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March** at 5pm for one hour.**

## **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**

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**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)**

## **PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

*My dear friends,*

As he died on the cross, Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me" (Mk. 14:1-15:47). It is said that one of the greatest sufferings of our Lord was feeling abandoned by God and his friends. This comes soon after his triumphant entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday! St Mark tells us of a joyful Sunday, the anointing of Jesus' feet, the celebration of the Passover meal with the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, and his passion and death on the Cross. All these historical events God makes present to us in the celebration of the Mass and the ceremonies of Holy Week.

Holy Week is a sacred time when Christians celebrate God's love for people. It is through his love, that Christ saves people from sin and death. He draws people who may have little or no connection with the Church to himself in this holy season. People sense a need to worship God and to be involved in Christian life, even if it is for a short time. They recognise something wonderful has happened, as God touches us in a special way through Christ, the Saviour.

In Holy Week Christ went from exaltation to humiliation and desolation. Yet, his obedience to the will of his Father was total and he shows everyone how to live according to God's plan. Commitment to God can cost us a lot when we put God's will before our own. Christ sacrificed and we too need to sacrifice our own desires in order to put God first. Throughout his life, Jesus remained faithful even when he felt abandoned. His final actions and words were of forgiveness for those who caused him terrible sufferings; as he said on the Cross, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do".

Jesus, by his sufferings and death brought forgiveness to people in sin, and he transformed the evil that causes suffering. His resurrection offers eternal life and gives people a share in God's glory. In his agony in the Garden Jesus asked his disciples to watch and pray with him. He asks us too to watch and pray with him on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and at Easter. Since he loved us so much, we should love him in return by watching and praying with him in Holy Week.

***May Christ bless us and draw us closer to himself in this Holy Week. Fr John***

**EASTER CARDS:** A big thank you to everyone who helped deliver our Easter cards and especially to Peter Day for all his hard work in organising and delivering. If you did not get a card, or your address or details were not correct, we apologise and ask you to please let us have an update of your address etc. in our Parish Office.

**LENT TALKS:** We thank all the speakers, who gave three excellent Lent talks in our parish. Michael Duthie of the Santa Martha Group, spoke on human trafficking and modern day slavery and its horrors. Chris Driscoll, CAFOD co-ordinator in Brentwood Diocese spoke on and demonstrated our CAFOD project in Sebeya in Ethiopia and showed that in the last three years our parish has given £8,500 to CAFOD for aid and development projects, and disaster appeals. Deacon Duncan Whitehouse spoke on and illustrated St Paul's Missionary Journeys and the life of the early Christian Church.

**LENT PENANCE SERVICES** and Confessions at The Holy Cross Church, Harlow on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm and at St Edmund of Canterbury, Loughton on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 8pm. All are welcome to these services

**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.

**ECCA will sing "Requiem" by Malcolm Archer on Good Friday** evening at 8pm in St. John's church. Admission is free but a programme charge of £2.50 (that will contain the words of the congregational hymns) will be made to offset expenses. A retiring collection will be taken for Epping Forest Foodbank, the charity our church is supporting. Please come for a fitting way to end Good Friday. See poster in porch.

**BAPTISMS:** *Congratulations to the family of Siena Concadoro who was Baptised in our Church on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018. May the Lord bless them and help them to bring up their children in the knowledge and love of God.*

**WEDDING:** *Congratulations to Jennifer Pearce and Damien Gough who were married in our Church on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018. May the Lord bless and enrich them with his love, and grant them a long and very happy marriage.*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS IN 2018:** The next preparation session for the children is on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 5.45pm** in the hall. It is essential that children attend all sessions and Catholic parents bring their children to Mass.

**READERS AT MASS:** There will be a training session for new Readers at Mass, on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (10am-12.30pm)**, with the possibility to join 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

**LATIN MASS IN THE EXTRAORDINARY RITE:** A number of parishioners have requested that we have a celebration of the traditional Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Rite in our Church. The first of these Masses will be celebrated by a visiting priest, in our Church, on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon**. All are welcome to attend the Mass.

**LENTEN LUNCH:** Very many thanks to all who helped and contributed to our very successful Lenten Lunch last Saturday. Everyone who came seemed to enjoy the occasion, despite the weather. The impressive amount of **£290** was raised.

**MISSIO RED BOXES:** All the money from the red Missio boxes has now been remitted to the Diocesan Director. The total collected was **£1137.21**. Another very good effort. Many thanks to all our contributors. Your mission boxes, showing your name, can be collected from the church porch. We especially thank Brendan Carden for all his work as parish organiser, as he has now handed over this responsibility.

**NEW OFFERTORY ENVELOPES:** Boxes of offertory envelopes for 2018/19 are now available, personally addressed. Please collect your box in the church porch. If you would like to join our Gift Aid Scheme please contact Michele Murphy, our Gift Aid Organiser, at the Parish Office. Similarly, please contact Michele if you are in the Scheme but no longer a tax payer.

**NEWSLETTER:** If you signed up to receive the weekly parish newsletter by email but recently have not been receiving it, please let Margaret Lechley, Parish Secretary know so this can be sorted, especially if your e-mail address has changed.

**COFFEE AFTER 11am MASS:** There will not be coffee after the 11am Mass on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April** as there is a baptism party in the Hall.

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

**CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** will take place this year from **13<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> May**. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with collecting. Details to follow nearer the time.

**PARISHIONER SPONSORSHIP:** James Ryan will run the **London Marathon 2018** to raise money for Barnados Children's Charity, helping young children who are poorest in society. Can you help James raise £1000. His Just Giving Page is in the link attached [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jimmyryan88](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jimmyryan88). Many thanks.

**QUIZ NIGHT FOR THE BOX:** **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 7pm for a 7:30pm start** at The Box. Teams of 6 or 8 people. £5 a ticket – Fully licensed bar – bring your own nibbles! Buy tickets from Marjorie Austin (01992 571 156) or Kate Collin (07951 484 805)

**ESSEX RECUSANT SOCIETY:** Meeting on **Saturday 14 April** at The Grange, Queens Road, Brentwood at 2.30pm. Guest speaker will be Fr Fergus Kelly, a Vincentian Priest and Chaplain to the Marillac Nursing Home in Warley. He will speak on The Gordon Riots of 1780.

**VACANCY: Education Office in Brentwood:** PA/Executive Assistant required (PA or Senior Secretarial experience essential) to support the Director and Deputy Director in the education Department. The role is for 35 hours a week, 5 days a week over 42 weeks a year. If you, any of your family or friends – are interested, first contact: [recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org) for job & person specification.