

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 8th to Sunday 16th September 2018

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 9th September 2018

Saturday 8th 6.00pm White/Lennon family deceased (Lechley)

Sunday 9th 9.00am Ted Abbot RIP Anniv (Abbott)

Education Sunday 11.00am People of our Parish

Monday 10th 9.00am Intentions of MB

Tuesday 11th 9.00am John Spearing RIP Recently (Meehan)

Wednesday 12th 9.00am Intentions of John Whitley (Protheroe)

Thursday 13th St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor

9.00am Holy Souls RIP

Friday 14th THE EXALTATION & TRIUMPH OF THE HOLY CROSS

9.00am Therese Robinson RIP (Recently)

Saturday 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows – The Seven Dolours of our Lady

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 16th September 2018

Saturday 15th 6.00pm Catherine Steel 's intentions Home Mission Sunday

Sunday 16th 9.00am Des Allen RIP (Canny)

September 2018 11.00am People of our Parish

SACRAMENT of PENANCE: Saturday 11am to 12 noon & 5.15 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: Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time B 16.9.2018

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Preface & Eucharistic Prayer Prayer: Jesus

Page 129 Collect & Readings who went about doing good - Not in Mass Book

Page 11 The Nicene Creed Page 43 The Communion Rite,

Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 132 Post Communion Prayer

PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Frances Wells, Giovanni Borelli, Mark Toohey, Marcheta Swift-Daley, Hannah Robinson, Daphne McAdam, Paula Hall, Ann Dowd, Sean Clohessy, James Bullen, Roger Minnis, Fr Martin Knott & Fr Tom Jordan. **Please inform a Priest or hospital chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill at home or in hospital so they may have the Sacraments.**

OFFERINGS: Offertories last weekend: Envelopes £262.50, Loose £294.39,

Standing Orders: £800. CAFOD £20. Thank you for your generosity.

EDUCATION SUNDAY: Today is Education Sunday and marks the beginning of the School and Academic year with prayer for all involved in Education. There is a Pastoral Letter on Education from Bishop Alan - copies are available at the back of the church.

HALL BOOKINGS: Please e-mail: arnold_verrall@email.com Telephone Arnold Verrall: 01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in the Epping area) or mobile 07764404813. Preferential rates are available for parishioners and charities.

FR DOMINIC HOWARTH, a priest of our Diocese, will present the BBC Essex "Sunday Breakfast programme" on 9th and 16th September. Tune in from 6am til 9am.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove/Lebohang Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY in Ordinary Time B 9th September 2018

My dear Friends,

"My soul give praise to the Lord" we say in response to Psalm 145 today. Praise and the uplifting of our mind and heart to God in prayer is the antidote to feeling downcast or depressed. It unites our spirit with the Spirit of God and enables us to see and hear his power and creative love in the world and in our own life. The play, "Children of a lesser God" powerfully expresses what it is like to live in a world of total silence, without ever having heard or hearing a sound. Equally when we have had the gift of sight, even if we should lose it, it is not possible for us to envisage what it is like for a person who has never seen light or an image.

In today's Gospel, Mark 7:31-37, we see how Jesus gives hearing and speech to a man who was deaf and dumb. We also see in the Gospels that he raised up those who were bowed down, brought the dead back to life, enabled the crippled to walk and the blind to see. All the miracles that he worked were a fulfilment of the prophecies of the Old Testament that God would come to save his people, and that he would open the eyes of the blind, the ears of the deaf to hear and the crippled who would walk and leap like the deer (Isaiah 35:4-7).

St James (2:1-5) addresses issues of discrimination and how we treat people depending on appearance and style, wealth or poverty. Christ identifies especially with the poor, and the heart of God goes out to people who are vulnerable and poor. Christ speaks of himself as being like the homeless person who "has nowhere to lay his head" (Luke 9:58). He goes out into the wilderness where he is alone with the wild beasts and is tempted and tested when he was at his weakest (Mark 1:13). We can see around us in our own time and society, people who are in much the same situation as the poor, vulnerable and broken were in the time of Christ. Just as people long ago needed the Lord to reach out and touch them in their pain and brokenness, so too people today need to be cared for, have healing and be touched by compassion and merciful love. If we Christians, as disciples of Christ, are not prepared to show his care to those in need, then who will?

Schools have re-opened after the summer holiday, and young people will soon be going to colleges or universities or starting work. We ask the Lord to be with them and their families as they go forward in yet another stage of life in the Autumn.

May the Lord help us to hear to his word and see his way at this time. Fr John

RECENTLY DECEASED: We pray for the repose soul of **MARY DRINKWATER** of Buckhurst Hill, who died on 28th August. **May she rest in peace.**

Funeral arrangements are pending.

We offer our sympathy and prayers for her family and the repose of her soul. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them at this time.

THANK YOU: Our thanks to Fr Mark Slomka from Lublin Poland, who was here for three weeks in August and celebrated the Masses & Services and made pastoral visits to people in their homes. Our thanks too to Fr Quentin Jackson OFM from the Friary at Woodford Green, who celebrated our Parish Masses for the last weekend in August. We are most grateful to both of them for their kindness and help.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2019: We need more parishioners to help prepare children for First Reconciliation & Holy Communion starting in September. Please contact Fr John if you can help. Our Catechists meeting will be on **Wednesday 12th September at 7.30pm** in the Priest's House. The first meeting for the parents of the children will be in our Church Hall on **Wednesday 19th September at 8pm (NOT 12th September as stated on the application form)**. The first preparation session for the children will be in the Church Hall on **Wednesday 26th September at 5.45pm** – and subsequent Wednesdays. Application forms have been available at the back of the church since July, and must be completed and returned to the Priest's House by **Monday, 10th September**. It is essential that the children and their families consistently attend Sunday Mass to prepare for the Sacraments

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Alan will visit our parish and celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for young people who have been prepared on **24th February 2019**. Preparation will start in September for young people in school years 9 to 12 in Secondary school. Application forms are available in church this weekend and must be completed and returned to the Priest's House by **Monday 10th September**. The first Meeting from the Parents and young people will be in our Parish Hall, this **Tuesday, 11th September at 8pm** and the young people will be presented with their books for the Confirmation Course at Masses next weekend. There will also be prayers of blessing for the young people, their parents and catechists.

TALKS ON OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: In September we start a course of talks on the Catholic faith for adults interested in finding out about our faith, becoming Catholic or wishing to understand our faith or support family members' faith. It will be suitable for Catholic adults who have not been Confirmed, have not been practising, or wish to renew their faith. **They will be held in the Priest's House on Wednesdays from 8pm to 9.15pm until Easter**. There is no commitment involved by attending any or all sessions. Please contact Fr John if you would like to attend.

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS: Please note that we get Masses booked well in advance, especially for weekends. Weekend Masses need to be booked up to 3 months in advance, especially as weekend Masses are now booked up to November.

TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS: The next Latin Mass will be at 3 pm on **Sunday 30th September**, and fulfils our obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. **All Welcome!**

CONSECRATION CROSSES & CANDLES: Consecrated churches have twelve candles with twelve crosses around the walls of the church, to show the Church is founded on the faith of the twelve apostles. There are only four candles and crosses in our church, symbolising the four Evangelists. **We will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Church on December 7th**, the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patron of our Church. To complete the apostolic number we will put up eight more candles and crosses. **All of these have now been sponsored by parishioners.** We thank you for your generosity.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Ralph John Stephen Beckett who was Baptised in our Church last Sunday. May the Lord bless them and help them to bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.*

PARISH JUMBLE SALE: Our next parish Jumble Sale will be on **Saturday 22nd September 2018 at 2pm**. There will be lists for helpers in the porch for **Friday 21st** from **1.30pm** and then **Saturday from 1.30pm** to sell. Help urgently needed please to empty the shed on **Friday 21st at 1.30pm**. Even if you can only spare an hour, your help will be greatly appreciated. We need cakes to have with tea so calling any bakers in the parish to assist with this please.

BAKE SALE – SUNDAY, 30th SEPTEMBER – AFTER ALL MASSES: Stop by and try some delicious cakes, cupcakes, brownies & other treats – ALL **HOMEMADE**. If you would like to contribute some baked goods for the sale, please contact Adriana on 07828 118 909.

APPLYING FOR SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2019: Parents & carers who want a Priest's reference to support an application for a school place for their child in September 2019 need to have been attending Sunday Mass consistently. When people do not attend Mass regularly there is no point in seeking a Priest's reference this Autumn. There is an article from The Times that is relevant to this in the church porch.

AUTUMN SPIRITUALITY TALK: CONFERENCE CENTRE. CATHEDRAL HOUSE, INGRAVE ROAD, BRENTWOOD CM15 8AT: **Saturday 15th September 2018 - 10.30am-12.00 noon.** Topic: **One Bread One Body**. Speaker: Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood. For further details: tel. 01277265285 email: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE EUROPEAN PROJECT: A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH on **Saturday 6th October**. The speaker will be Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark, and Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Ministry at St Mary's University, Twickenham. The day begins at 11 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please make your booking by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com.