

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 20th to Sunday 28th October 2018

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY Ordinary Time B World Mission Day 21 October 18

Saturday 20th 6.00pm Yvonne Grace RIP (Holland)
Sunday 21st 9.00am Stan Holder RIP (FM)
October 2018 11.00am People of our Parish
Monday 22nd St John Paul II, Pope
9.00am Blodwen Curtin RIP Anniv (Curtin)
Tuesday 23rd St John of Capistrano, Priest
9.00am Bill McEvoy RIP (FM)
Wednesday 24th St Anthony Mary Claret, Priest
9.00am Yvonne Grace RIP (Anderson)
Thursday 25th 9.00am Beatrice Graffy RIP Recently
Friday 26th St Chadd & St Cedd, Bishops
9.00am Intentions of MB
Saturday 27th 12.30pm Baptism Ava Grace Catherine O'Mullan

THIRTIETH SUNDAY Ordinary Time B 28 October 18

Saturday 27th 6.00pm Dan Murray RIP (McDonagh)
Sunday 28th 9.00am Beatrice Webber RIP (Rimmer)
October 2018 11.00am People of our Parish
Baptism 12.30pm Caoimhe Louise & Niamh Evangeline Hutchinson

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-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time B 21.10.2018

Page 7 The Beginning of Mass Page 54 Preface II: The Mystery of Salvation

Page 146 Collect & Readings Page 27 Eucharistic Prayer 3

Page 11 The Nicene Creed Page 43 The Communion Rite,

Page 14 Preparation of Gifts Page 149 Post Communion Prayer

PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN HOSPITAL & AT HOME: Please inform a Priest or hospital chaplain if you, your relative or a parishioner is ill at home or in hospital so they can have visits from a priest and receive the Sacraments.

OFFERINGS: Offertories last weekend: Envelopes £315.40, Loose £356.27,
Standing Orders: £800, CAFOD £30. Thank you for your generosity.

HALL BOOKINGS: To book please e-mail: arnold_verrall@email.com Telephone
Arnold Verrall: 01992 001995 (dial 01992 even in Epping area) or mobile 07764404813.

Preferential rates are available for parishioners and charities.

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Florence Pearl & Beatrix Petal Stockwell who were baptised in our Church on Sunday 14th October. May the Lord bless them & help them to bring up their children in the knowledge and love of God.*



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-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 21st Oct 2018

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What a pickle we can create when our self-importance is tested! We have human expectations regarding our status in life and can get sensitive if someone challenges this. Today's Gospel reading guides our thoughts towards healthy Christian values.

In last week's Gospel, Jesus explained what is required of us in this world as we struggle to make ourselves ready for the enjoyment of eternal life in heaven. He set out the Christian requirement of generosity, in giving up some of our wealth, skills and time to help those who are poor and needy. Peter pressed Jesus to take into account that he and the other apostles had given up everything to follow Jesus and he thought that there should be a special reward given for this. Jesus promised no special privileges to his followers, but simply held out the prospect of eternal joy in heaven for **everyone** who followed his standards in their life.

Fast forward to this week's Gospel, where the apostles James and John request special rights and privileges in heaven. Jesus must have been very frustrated at this selfish attitude in two of his apostles and was forthright in correcting them. As followers of Jesus, we too are expected to be servants of each other, without any expectation of reward, apart, that is, from the promise of eternal life to be spent in heaven. Whatever our calling in life and whatever our circumstances, we are to focus on serving the interests of others. We are to be loving and caring in all our dealings, in whatever situation we may find ourselves. In particular, our lives should not stress our self-importance, but should just be focused on serving those who are in need. Jesus points out clearly that we need to follow his example of serving others, freely, cheerfully and without any thoughts of special rewards.

A serious challenge for us all!

God bless.

Deacon Duncan

DECEASED: KEIRAN JOLLY RIP, of Epping, who died on 16th October. His Funeral arrangements are pending. **May he rest in peace. We offer our sympathy & prayers for his family and the repose of his soul. May the Lord send his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to console them.**

INDONESIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: It was decided at the Parish AGM that we have a retiring collection this weekend for the Indonesia earthquake and tsunami victims, and the amount contributed should then be matched by our parish.

THE ANNUAL CTED PEACE SERVICE was held in our church last Sunday. A retiring collection for the Santa Martha Group that helps victims of modern day slavery raised **£220**. A further donation of £200 was sent from our parish.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019: The next session for first Holy Communion children will be held in our Church hall on **Wednesday 7th November at 5.45pm**. **At the beginning of Masses on the weekend of 3/4 November the children will be presented with their Icon & Prayer of Sorrow at "The Lord have mercy"**.

CONFIRMATION: The next preparation session for the young people will be held in our Church hall on **Tuesday 6th November at 7.30pm**. **At the end of Masses on the 3/4 of November the young people will be presented with their Bibles.**

PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD: You can place the names of deceased relatives, friends and parishioners at the Altar in our Church for prayer at daily Mass during November. Please use the forms and envelopes for this purpose in the Church. There will also be a Cemetery Service & Blessing of Graves at Epping Cemetery on Sunday the 4th of November at 3pm. All are welcome to that Service.

TALKS ON OUR CATHOLIC FAITH: We have talks on the Catholic faith for adults interested in finding out about our faith, becoming Catholic or wishing to understand our faith or support the faith of family members. These are suitable for Catholic adults who have not been Confirmed or not been practising and wish to renew their faith. They are held in **The Priest's House on Wednesdays at 8pm**.

SILVER JUBILEE OF THE DEDICATION OF OUR CHURCH: Bishop Thomas celebrated the Solemn Dedication of our Church, twenty-five years ago, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. On the **7th December** we will have a major celebration of the anniversary of that dedication with Bishop Thomas presiding at a Mass here at **7.30pm**. The full complement of 12 consecration candles and crosses, generously given by parishioners, will be in place showing our church is founded on the faith of the twelve apostles. Afterwards there will be a social celebration in the hall and everyone will have an opportunity to meet Bishop Thomas, who served at the Mass here when our church was opened in the 1954. The Dedication of a Church is a major feast in Catholic tradition, and is seen as a feast of Christ himself. **I ask parishioners to make a special effort to attend the celebration in thanksgiving to God for the life of our church.** Copies of **Dr Davnet Barker's history of our parish, "Towards a Dream"**, is available at the back of our church.

PARISH MUSIC: We would love to hear from anyone who can help with co-ordinating or leading music at Sunday 11am Mass, or operating "Doris", which plays the melody of the hymns in our hymn book. **Fr John**.

FULL SUNG MASS with *Gregorian Chant* in our Church on **Sunday 28 October** at 3pm. Come, pray & sing the Mass of our Church for nearly 2000 years. **All very Welcome!**

MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS: On **Saturday 24th November**, the 6pm Mass will be offered for our altar servers and their families. This will be followed by a party in the Hall to which we invite all our servers and their families to attend.

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

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: This year's Christmas Bazaar will be on **Saturday 24th November**. Five weeks to go. The Bottle Tombola always earns a lot of money for the parish but they do need plenty of bottles; lots of them; full of sauce, alcohol, shampoo etc. Please be generous.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ADVERTISING: Many thanks to those parishioners who have agreed to have an estate agent board advertising the Bazaar. W J Meade have advised that the boards should be put up during the week of 5th November.

QUIZ NIGHT: A big thank you to everyone who came to the Quiz Night, took part and donated prizes last Saturday. It was a very successful social evening which raised **£461** towards our parish funds. A special thanks to Emma and Simon Armstrong and the children who worked so hard to organise and run a most enjoyable parish event.

HOMELESS COLLECTION: Last week's collection raised **£334.69** for Caritas Anchor House in Newham. Many thanks for your generosity.

"LIGHT & BRIGHT PARTY" will be held at St John's Church at 5pm until 8pm on **Wednesday 31st October**. The children will have a happy time and the adults will enjoy watching them. Helpers to make party games and look after things during the party are invited to phone Louise Want on 07952558317; or ask Dorothy Whitehouse for details.

CTED CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON: We are pleased to invite anyone who will be alone on Christmas Day to join us for a traditional lunch & celebration in our Church Hall on **25th December, 12.30pm for 1pm**. Couples & carers may also apply. Transport can be provided. Places are limited, so please telephone Mary Morgan on 01992 574719 or ask Fr John or Deacon Duncan.

CONGRATULATIONS to St John Fisher Catholic Primary School on their success at being rated "Good" overall following a recent Ofsted inspection. The report can be seen on the Ofsted website. We thank Mrs Burnley, Headteacher, for her recent visit to our parish and speaking at 11am Sunday Mass and strongly encourage parents to consider sending their child to the school for the benefit of a Catholic education. St John Fisher School, Burney Drive, Loughton, will hold another visit day for prospective new parents on **5 November at 10 am**. If you would like to visit on one of the dates please contact the school on 0208 508 6315 or email schoff1@st-johnfisher.essex.sch.uk.