

**MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS**  
**WEEK BEGINNING 8th October 2016**

Saturday 8th	6 p.m.	<i>Vigil Mass 28th Sunday of Year</i> People of our Parish
Sunday 9th	9 a.m.	<i>28th Sunday of Year C</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Prisoners</i> Tullia Borelli RIP
	11 a.m.	Fr James Hawes RIP
Monday 10th	9 a.m.	<i>St Paulinus of York, Bishop</i> Rose O'Doherty's Intentions
Tuesday 11th	9 a.m.	<i>St John XXIII, Pope</i> Private Intention
Wednesday 12th	9 a.m.	<i>Saints Ethelburga, Hildelith &amp; Cuthburga, Religious</i> Holy Souls
Thursday 13th	9 a.m.	<i>St Edward the Confessor, King</i> William Kelly RIP
Friday 14th	9 a.m.	<i>St Callistus, Pope &amp; Martyr</i> Sir Evelyn Russell RIP
Saturday 15th	6 p.m.	<i>Vigil Mass 29th Sunday of Year C</i> Malcolm Silver RIP
Sunday 16th	9 a.m.	<i>29th Sunday of Year C</i> Pat Green RIP
	11 a.m.	People of our parish

**Morning Prayer** is said on weekdays, 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Mass.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** after 9am weekday Mass.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** Saturdays 11.30am - 12 noon & 6pm Mass.

October is the month when we pray the Rosary and reflect on the Mysteries.

**Harvest Thanksgiving & Sharing** this weekend parishioners and families are asked to bring non perishable foods to the Masses as a sign of our thanksgiving for the Harvest & to share with the homeless.

**Please pray for the sick:**

Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson,  
Sean Clohessy, Mark Toohey, Daphne McAdam, Ann Dowd and Roger Minnis.

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**OFFERINGS (£):** Offertory Envelopes £318.50 Offertory Loose Plate £294.88  
 CAFOD £30.00 *Thank you for your generosity*



**Newsletter**  
**The Church of the**  
**Immaculate Conception**  
**Epping**

**28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C**

**9th October 2016**

**Mass Book: Readings Page 149 Eucharistic Prayer Jesus doing Good Page 52**

*Dear friends,*

“The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations” we say in response to Psalm 97 today. The reading from 2 Kings 5 shows God healing Naaman, a non-Jewish Assyrian army officer, from leprosy through Elisha, the prophet. There are so many people and factors in this narrative that it is worth reading and thinking about the roles of the different characters. The word of the Lord and his healing power was given to the officer by a servant girl who had been kidnapped by a raiding party, from Israel. She showed concern for “her master” who may have separated her from her family and home. Naaman thinks his healing has to be purchased at great expense, whereas God’s gifts are freely given and unmerited. The King of Israel thinks the request for healing is pretext to pick a quarrel. In corruptly seizing a chance to get rich quick Gehazi, Elisha’s servant, contracted the leprosy. Naaman’s servants understood the meaning of humility and showed their master that God does great things for those who are humble before him.

Ten lepers called to Jesus for healing from their leprosy (Luke 17:11-19). God’s healing power came to them and comes to us through Jesus, which is why we call him “our Saviour”. The Samaritan or non-Jewish person stands out amongst those who were healed. He shows God’s love and healing is not confined to one particular religion or group of people, “for God has no favourites” (Acts 10:34). The Samaritan recognised the great gift that God had given him and returned to offer thanks to our Lord. At every Mass we bring the needs of peoples to God in prayer and especially those in need of healing from ills of mind, body or spirit. In that context it would be good to bring the Petitions Book in our church porch to the Altar at every Mass, showing that we are bringing people and their needs, especially for healing, to the Lord in the Mass. We also give thanks, which is the meaning of the word “Eucharist” the for the words, healing and graces God gives to us through Christ our Saviour. *May God bless & heal you. Fr John*

**Parish Priest: Fr. John McGrath**

**Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse**

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**BISHOP ALAN'S VISIT:** On Wednesday, 12th of October, we will welcome Bishop Alan our Bishop to our Parish. He will have reports and update on the life of our parish, and celebrate Mass and confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 18 young people in our parish at 7 pm. After the Mass and Confirmation there will be an opportunity to meet Bishop Alan at the social gathering in the Hall.

**DORIS SCOTT RIP:** Please pray for Doris Scott who died on 30th September. She will be received into our church at 4pm on Monday 17th October 2016 . Requiem Mass will be celebrated at Tuesday 18th October at 10.00am, followed by committal at Parndon Wood Crematorium. **May she rest in peace.** We offer our sympathy to her nephew, Charles and family and pray that the Lord sends his Holy Spirit, the Comforter, down upon them at this time.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016-17:** The next session for the children will be held at 5.45pm next Tuesday 11th October in the Church Hall.

**JOURNEY IN FAITH:** We invite anyone interested in finding out about our faith, wishing to understand our faith, support the faith of family members, or would like to become Catholic to a course of talks on the Catholic Faith in the Priest's House on Tuesdays at 8pm. It is suitable for people wishing to return to the practice of their faith or who are not Catholic but come to Mass regularly. The next session will be on Tuesday 20th October: there will not be one this week

**CHURCHES TOGETHER PEACE SERVICE – SUNDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER.:** We will hostg the **Churches Together Peace Service again this held in our Church Hall on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 4pm.** It will be in our Church Hall in order to display a ShelterBox tent and its contents. **ShelterBoxes are sent to places around the world where there have been major disasters earthquakes, (tsunamis, floods, etc)** when many people without shelter have lost everything. We recently sponsored two Shelterbolxes from our parish charity fund, so here's a chance to see how people benefited from our giving!! **Please come to the service and bring your family and friends to pray for peace throughout the world and particularly in areas of great distress.** Details on the notice board.

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTAS:** Will those involved please collect the new rotas from the post box in the church porch. Please note that on this occasion only, the rota runs for 9 weeks.

**MASS INTENTIONS** The Mass is the greatest and most powerful form of prayer in our Catholic tradition. In the Mass we have the Real Presence of Christ who intercedes for us with God our Father. Through Christ, and with the prayerful support of the community, we offer the needs of the living and dead to God our Father. People wishing to have a Mass offered for a person or particular intention can ask the priest, deacon or parish office. We need the name of the person and preferred date and time. Envelopes for Mass intentions are being prepared and .

**“MEET & GREET” WEEKEND:** We invite parishioners to go in to the Hall after all Masses this weekend to “Meet & Greet” each other as parishioners. This is an opportunity to get to know one another's names and test Fr John's memory!

**PARISH ASSEMBLY:** You are warmly invited to the Annual Parish Assembly, at 8pm on Wednesday 19 October in the presbytery, to review the past parish year, assess our needs and help to plan the coming year.

**Brentwood Cathedral Year of Mercy Mass** Sunday 16 October at 6.30 pm. Are you living with any form of spiritual or mental anguish? Are you grieving the loss of a loved one? Are you lonely? Do you know someone suffering from some form of mental illness or some great sadness? You and all people are warmly invited to join the community at Brentwood Cathedral and come into the presence of our living and merciful God. Preacher: Fr Stewart Foster

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Bazaar date this year is December 3rd. Traditionally the first appeal is for Fancy Goods, that is anything made of wool, cotton or other fibres. Hand-made is especially welcome. New household linen and clothes are very acceptable.

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON 12.30pm for 1pm:** All who are alone on Christmas Day are invited to join us for Lunch in our hall; Couples & carers who would like company are also most welcome. We will need drivers to bring and take our guests home. Donations of food and table decorations are required. Your help and generosity is always deeply appreciated. Please give your name & contact number to Fr.John, Deacon Duncan or Mary Morgan on 01992 574719.

**COOK REQUIRED:** Fr John is looking for a good cook for the Presbytery. The role requires 2 hours a day, around the lunch-time period, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Rate of pay: £11.50 per hour. Start soon. For job description and details contact the Parish Office or Fr John.

**APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN A CATHOLIC SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2017 - DIOCESAN GUIDANCE TO PARENTS/CARERS:** Parents and carers who are **practising Catholics** and wish to apply for a place for their child in a Catholic school for September 2017 should hand in their form to the Priest's House, where it will be attended to by Fr John & Deacon Duncan. Some may be contacted to discuss the reference for their child. Families where parents and children are not practising their faith and do not attend Sunday Mass consistently, should make their application directly to the school but not request a priest's reference unless there are extraordinary circumstance in their situation. It is essential that integrity and truth are fully respected in in this process.

**WELCOME BACK** to Deacon Duncan and Dorothy after their postponed holiday to the Scilly Isles. It was well deserved after a very busy period here in the parish following the death of Fr James (RIP).