

Masses & Services Saturday 6th July 2024 to Sunday 14th July 2024		
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 14th July 2024		
Saturday 6th	6.00pm	John Crawley RIP Anniv (Crawley)
Sunday 7th	9.00am	People of our Parish
July 2024	11.00am	Intentions of Joan Holland (Scannell)
Monday 8 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tues 9 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wed 10 th	12 Noon	Tommy Lavin RIP Anniv (Lavin)
Thursday 11 th	NO MASS	
Friday 12 th	12 Noon	Agnes Green RIP Recently (Canny/Wheatley)
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sea Sunday		
21st July 2024		
Saturday 13th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 14th	9.00am	Recently Deceased Parishioners (Hollinshead)
July 2024	11.00am	Intentions of Elaine Hudgell (Scannell)

HOSPITAL: If you are going into hospital this week for surgery Fr Martin will be offering the Sacrament of the Sick after all weekend Masses.

DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD WEBSITE:
<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/>

OFFERINGS: Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings. Last weekend you gave £125 in Envelopes, £401.90 in loose plate and £800 in Standing Orders. You can give donations to the Priest's House and online for our parish or charities our parish supports at:

www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping//////////

IN CASES OF EMERGENCY: Father Martin will usually have his day off on Thursdays. In cases of emergency please call one of the local parishes, either St Edmund's, Loughton – Tel: 0208 5089438, Holy Cross, Harlow – Tel 01279 425776 or The Assumption, Harlow – Tel 01279 429388. This would also apply if Fr Martin is on holiday.

PARISH OFFICE: Our Parish Office will be closed for two weeks from Monday 22nd July. It would be most helpful if any Mass intentions or other requests could be handed in next week please.

NEED OF URGENT HELP: If you or someone you know urgently needs help, please contact the Priest's House. We will endeavour to assist through parishioners who have volunteered to help, the Church, Foodbank or local agencies. Simple things like a phone call or e-mail can be a real comfort to many.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



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Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher Tel: 01992 572516
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Registered Charity Number: 234092
Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang
Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 7th July 2024

Today's readings encourage us to place our whole trust in God's grace, for God's power is at its strongest even when we are most weak.

In the Gospel (Mark 6: 1–6), Jesus has left Capernaum, the scene of many 'mighty deeds,' and headed for the home where he grew up. Once in Nazareth there is a change of mood. While his listeners are impressed by stories about him, they can't get over the fact that Jesus is one of their own, another worker, just like each of them, with sawdust in his hair and dirt under his fingernails.

The First Reading (Ezekiel 2: 2–5) hints at the defiant and obstinate spirit of the townsfolk. Perhaps Jesus sees himself as Ezekiel's 'Son of man' when he says in today's Gospel that a prophet is despised in his own country. As Ezekiel writes, 'Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know that there is a prophet among them'.

The Second Reading (2 Corinthians 12: 7–10) encourages us to rely on God when things seem to be a struggle. St Paul, faced with failure and his own weakness, clearly heard from God that it was exactly through such weakness that God's strength would be known.

The antidote to pride, scorn, and contempt is mercy (Psalm), and we receive it when we abandon ourselves to God. As 'slave to the master' or as 'servant to the mistress' (as the psalmist puts it), let's keep our eyes firmly fixed on our Lord, this week, till he shows us his mercy.



CLERGY APPOINTMENTS: The list of Diocesan clergy moves has been published. Fr John Corbyn, Parish Priest of Old Harlow, will be taking early retirement. We wish him all the very best for the future. The full list of moves is displayed in the church porch.

BAKE SALE – THIS, SUNDAY, 7th JULY - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm: Please come along for some lovely treats and at the same time raise money for our parish.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Frances Preston who died on 26th June. May she rest in peace. *Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to her family and all who mourn. May the Lord send his Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and give them with the hope of eternal life through Christ's resurrection.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2025 Application Forms for parents to prepare their child for First Reconciliation this year and First Holy Communion in 2025 are available in church. Children should be in **School Year 3** or older in this school year. Completed forms should be returned to the Priest's House by the 8 September 2024

COMMUNION CATECHISTS: We need more to help prepare children for First Reconciliation & Holy Communion starting in September. Please contact Fr Martin or our Parish Office who will be delighted to hear from you.

RETIRING COLLECTION: NEXT weekend, 13th/14th July, we will hold a retiring collection for the *Sick and Retired Clergy* fund to support the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Please give generously. Since the banking of the collection monies is becoming increasingly difficult we kindly ask parishioners to try to limit the amount of loose change they put in please.

FIRE DRILL: Thank you to the Fire Marshals who co-ordinated last weekend's Fire Drill and to parishioners present at the Masses for making it a successful exercise.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AT HOME, IN HOSPITAL & CARE HOMES: Lord Jesus Christ, our Most Holy Redeemer, by the grace of your Holy Spirit, grant comfort and healing to your servants who suffer in mind, body or spirit. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Crawley (7/7), Veronica Boynton, Fr Peter Brady (8/7), Tony Flower, Canon Francis Gilbert, John Welch (9/10), Fr Walter Walsh, Samuel Whitehouse (10/10), Dennis Verrall, Kate Conneely, Malcolm Silver (11/7), Linda Chandler (12/7), Fr John Watson (13/7), Gerald Heath, Patrick Heath, Alexandra Smith (14/7),. **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

BAPTISM: *Congratulations to the family of Mia Biczko, baptised in our Church on Saturday 29th June. May the Lord bless them and their family and help them bring up their child in the knowledge and love of God.*

EPPING FOREST FOODBANK: Thank you to our generous parishioners for giving for people in need through the **FOODBANK. WE CAN REFER PEOPLE WHO MAY BE IN NEED OF HELP TO THE FOODBANK.** Please contact our Parish Office.

PART-TIME CARETAKER: A vacancy has arisen for a part-time **Caretaker for our Parish.** The start date for the role is October 2024 and the salary is negotiable depending on skills and experience. A full Job Description can be viewed on Vacancies - Brentwood Diocese (dioceseofbrentwood.net). If you would like to discuss the role please speak to Fr Martin or our Parish Administrator.

CHARITY APPEAL: Aoife Dolan-Palmer, one of our altar servers at 11am Sunday Mass, has set up a Just Giving page for the charity, 'The Little Princess Trust'.

The Little Princess Trust provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. Aoife has been growing her hair for some time now and will be donating 9 inches after her haircut on **Friday 12th July.** She would be most grateful for donations via the link, https://www.justgiving.com/page/aoife-dolan-palmer-1718884390586?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Faoife-dolan-palmer-1718884390586&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share

“JANT JIGSAW PUZZLE: We need the help of parishioners to dispose of lots of puzzles from “Janet’s Shed” beside the church. If everyone would take a few boxes to put in their paper waste (or even to play with) our problem will be solved! With grateful thanks! *Dorothy*”

FOLK & BESPOKE ARTISAN MARKET will be held in our Parish Hall on **Saturday 20th July** from 10am-3pm. Free entry. Refreshments available. If you're an artist, maker or indie business owner in/around Epping, and would like to apply for these events please [email katy@folkandbespoke.com](mailto:katy@folkandbespoke.com) to register your interest, or drop her a message with any questions. **This is not a parish event but may interest our parishioners.**

PRAYER TO ST.MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL: “St Michael the Archangel, defend us in this day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.”

PRAYER FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE:

God of peace,
Whose son Jesus Christ taught us
To love our neighbour as ourselves
Give your strength to the people of Ukraine.
Give your wisdom to the leaders of the world.
Give your love to all of us who pray for peace –
Peace that will transform,
Peace that will heal,
Peace that will last.
For the sake of the same Jesus Christ.
The Prince of Peace, Amen