

Masses & Services Saturday 13th July to Sunday 21st July 2024		
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 21st July 2024		
Saturday 13th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 14th	9.00am	Recently Deceased Parishioners (Hollishead)
July 2024	11.00am	Intentions of Elaine Hudgell (Scannell)
Monday 15 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tues 16 th	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wed 17 th	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 18 th	NO MASS	
Friday 19 th	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 28th July 2024		
Saturday 20th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 21st	9.00am	Intentions of Mary Judge (Lavin)
July 2024	11.00am	Intentions of Finn Hughes (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 £186 in Envelopes, £393.16 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.

OUR PARISH HALL is available to hire at competitive rates and to parishioners at a discount. Please consider using our hall for your celebratory events and mention to your friends. Please contact the Parish Office for details and to make bookings.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA
Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher Tel: 01992 572516
Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173
Parish Administrator : Mrs Margaret Lechley
Email: epping@brcdt.org
Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk
Registered Charity Number: 234092
Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang
Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 14th July 2024

Our readings this week invite us to reflect on the wonder of being chosen to be part of God's plan.

In the **First Reading** (Amos 7: 12–15), we hear how Amos, a shepherd, responds to God's call to bear witness. Despite not being welcomed, he stands his ground, knowing that he has been given his mission by the Lord.

In the **Second Reading** (Ephesians 1: 3–14), St Paul explains to the Ephesians how we have always been a part of God's plan. Because of the grace and blessings showered upon us, we have been freed from our sins and become adopted children of God.

Mark's **Gospel** (Mark 6: 7–13) relates how Jesus sends out his disciples to teach his message of love and forgiveness. Carrying nothing but a staff, they are to trust that they will find welcome and hospitality in many places, and stay undeterred by the rejection they will find elsewhere.

This week we pray for the wisdom and insight to recognise the call of the Lord in our own lives. However ill-equipped we might feel, we ask for the courage and strength to step out, safe in the knowledge that we are never alone, and that God will provide for us.



RETIRING COLLECTION: **THIS** 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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Our next Parish Council meeting is **NEXT Tuesday, 16th July**, at **7pm** in the Priest's House. **All invited to attend.** If you have any items for discussion please contact the Parish Office or speak to a Parish Council member.

BAKE SALE – A massive “thank you” to Adriana, Emma and Anna for their tireless efforts in making last Sunday’s Bake Sale such a wonderful success. Thanks to all those who made cakes, bought cakes or made cash donations to the Sale. The magnificent sum of £600 was raised for our parish.

“JIANT JIGSAW PUZZLE: Change of plan...most of the boxes in “Janet’s Shed” are Games and Children’s toys. We will still be asking parishioners to take away boxes to dispose of at home as either waste paper or general rubbish. Help I still needed at 9am Mass on Sunday. Please contact Dorothy Whitehouse on 01992 577172 if you wish to volunteer. Many thanks.”

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 helpers 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.

A 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 all who suffer in mind, body or spirit. **Amen**

NNIVERSARIES: Fr John Watson (13/7), Gerald Heath, Patrick Heath, Alexandra Smith (14/7), Maureen Golden (15/7), Bernard Tong, Canon Daniel Harnett (16/7), Una Brown, Alec Asher, Richard Saunders (17/7), Henry Gaughan (18/7), Peter Barry, Fr Edmund Dobson (19/7), Fr Patrick Taylor (21/7). **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

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.**

MARY’S MEALS invites you to collect all your foreign currency no matter how old or obscure. Next month we will have envelopes in the church for you to take home to put in all your foreign coins and notes. We will publish when the envelopes will be collected in church, or you can hand them in to the Parish Office. Clear out your drawers and have a look under the sofa. They also take UK notes and coins that are no longer legal tender. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

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.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE ANNIVERSARY MASS: This year marks 60 years since the opening of Walsingham House and 40 years since the first volunteer team took residence. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving on **Saturday 31st August** at midday celebrated by Bishop Alan in the grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Everyone is very welcome to attend with a special invite to those who have been part of the Walsingham House team over the last 40 years. After Mass you are welcome to stay for a picnic in the grounds.

"Maranatha - An evening with Mass celebrated by Paschal Uche and followed by Prayer and Praise will be held at the Sion Community Chapel, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX at 7pm - 9pm on **Thursday 18th July**. Please pass the message on to anyone you think will be interested in coming with you to this Charismatic evening which is full of hope and joy. "

REFERENCES FOR SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2025: Parents and carers who want a Priest's reference to support an application for a school place for their child in September 2025 must have been attending Sunday Mass consistently over the years. If parents attend Mass in another parish - that is the place to see the priest.

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