

<b>Masses &amp; Services Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b>		
<b>NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b>		
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Deceased White/Lennon Family (Lechley)</b>
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
<b>August 2024</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Bernadette Bikhit RIP Recently (Holland)</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Elizabeth Finan RIP
Tues 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Carly Menon RIP
<b>Wed 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>VIGIL MASS FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION</b>	
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>John Hawes RIP Recently (Murray)</b>
<b>Thursday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION – HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION</b>	
	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>Deceased members of the Smith/Whitehouse Family (Whitehouse)</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	12 Noon	John Hawes RIP Recently
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	1pm	Baptism of Lucy Maughan
<b>TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024</b>		
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Frances Sheehy RIP Anniv (Clohessy)</b>
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
<b>August 2024</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Bernadette Bikhit RIP Recently (Anderson)</b>

**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:** Last weekend you gave £237 in envelopes, £333.34 in loose cash and £800 in Standing Orders. Thank you for your generous weekly Offerings. 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//////////](http://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.

**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.

**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.

## 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](mailto:epping@brcdt.org)**  
**Website: [www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)**  
**Registered Charity Number: 234092**  
**Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang**  
**Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**  
**11<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

*Taste and see that the Lord is good!*

Our reading of Chapter 6 of St John's Gospel, on the Bread of Life, continues today and throughout August. For the next three Sundays we also pray with Psalm 33 (34), whose invitation to taste and see God's goodness connects directly with Jesus, our Living Bread.

Elijah, fleeing for his life to the wilderness, is convinced that he is a failure. But he is brought special food by an angel to strengthen him for the long journey ahead (First Reading).

The psalmist calls all of us, especially the humble and poor, to join him in praising God. We are invited to savour the goodness of the One who answers our call and frees us from our fears.

St Paul reminds the Ephesians that they are beloved children of God, urging them to follow Christ in their behaviour by showing kindness and forgiveness to one another (Second Reading). Jesus reprimands the crowd as they start to complain against him: they refuse to accept that Jesus himself is the bread that gives eternal life.

Jesus reminds them that even manna did not prevent their ancestors from dying, while the bread that Jesus himself offers is his own body, given for the life of the world (Gospel).

This week, let us pray that we might be always more open to what Jesus, the Living Bread, is offering us, and take the time to taste and savour all that God gives us in our everyday lives.

This week's texts if you'd like to reflect further 1 Kings 19: 4–8; Psalm 33 (34); Ephesians 4: 30–5: 2; John 6: 41–51

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** John Hawes, brother of Fr James, who died recently. Many of you will remember John from his many visits to Epping. His Requiem Mass will take place at St Mary, Mother of God, Hornchurch on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August at 11.30am**. May he rest in peace.

**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<sup>th</sup> September 2024** at the latest.

**COMMUNION CATECHISTS:** We need more to help prepare children for First Reconciliation & Holy Communion starting in September. Please contact Fr Martin or our Parish Administrator. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered.

**CONFIRMATION 2024/2025:** Bishop Alan hopes to visit our parish in 2025 and will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at this time. If your child is in Year 9 or above (from September) and they would like to make their Confirmation in 2025, please email the parish office to register your interest by **Sunday 22nd September 2024** at the latest.

**FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION:** On **Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> August**, NEXT week, we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption. This is a Holyday of Obligation. We will have Masses here on **Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> August at 7.30pm and on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August at 9.15am**. **THERE WILL NOT BE A 12 NOON MASS ON WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> Aug.**

**FR FIACRA COTTER:** On **20<sup>th</sup> August** we welcome back Fr Fiacra who will be covering in our parish while Fr Martin is away on his holidays. Rest assured that Fr Fiacra will be given a very warm welcome from our parishioners.

**SAVE THE DATE CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** Please start saving new or unused items for our gift stall or raffle. More details to follow

**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**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Derek Lucy (12/8), Elizabeth Saich, Herbert Smith, Mabel Whitehouse (13/8), Anthony Commins (16/8), Des Kelly (16/8), Albert Asher, Margaret Green (17/8), Edie Taylor (18/8), **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

**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.

**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.

**JUMBLE ITEMS:** Please **do not** leave items of jumble in our church porch as we then have to dispose of them, at times having to actually pay to do so.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NATIONAL RAFFLE:** **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>/ Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August**. Please remember to bring your wallets and purses to church **NEXT** weekend 17/18 August when members of the parish SVP group will be selling tickets, £5 a book of five, £1 a single ticket, first prize £5,000 and fifteen prizes of £1,000. Half the sale proceeds less costs will go to helping people locally and half to national SVP. When you buy tickets please put your name and phone number on one ticket stub and if you haven't time to complete all your ticket stubs we will do that for you. The prize draw will be held on **26th September**, the day before St. Vincent's feast day.

**MUSIC EVENING:** Please do join us for a parish fund-raising event on **Saturday 14th September** when Rusty Spoonz, music duo, will be playing some familiar hits from the 1950's to (almost) the present day. Brian Sainsbury and Friends will sing songs from The Dubliners to Fisherman's Friends from 7pm for the first hour. Bring your own food and drink and pay at the door. £5 per person (under 21s free). Speak to Valerie Tannahill after 11am Mass or message her on 0754 531 2521 (to indicate numbers attending).

**MARY'S MEALS** invites you to collect all your foreign currency no matter how old, obscure or its value. Mary's Meals will use your unwanted foreign coins/notes to feed the next hungry child. They also take UK money that is no longer legal tender. Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Please return these to the Parish Office, by **1<sup>st</sup> October**, for collation and return to Mary's Meals.

**MARCH FOR LIFE:** Defend the Sanctity of Life - join this peaceful, ecumenical protest march with the theme "Healthcare doesn't Kill". There were 605,479 live births in England and Wales in 2022, a decrease of 3.1% on 2021, and 251,377 abortions, an increase of 17% on 2021. The March, on **Saturday 7th September**, starts at 1.30 pm in Marsham Street SW1P 3DW and finishes in Parliament Square. Please see the posters on the notice board in the church porch for more details.

**INSPIRE, NURTURE AND ACCOMPANY YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE EDGE OF EAST LONDON:** The parishes in the Romford Parish Partnership are recruiting a **Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator**. Salary £30,000/year, closing date **September 10<sup>th</sup> 2024**, start date no later than January 2025. This is a new role, with amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church, and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to live and deepen their faith within a diverse and vibrant part of London. Full details: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

**MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE PILGRIMAGES:** 7 Nights Apartment B&B from €224 per person sharing. Airport transfer available on request. Please contact them for details and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 020 3239 8662 or website [www.med-irishcentre.com](http://www.med-irishcentre.com). Please see notice in church porch for further information.

**PARISH HALL:** Our Parish Hall is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please contact our Parish Administrator.