

Masses & Services Saturday 21st September 2024 to 29th September 2024		
TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 22nd September		
Saturday 21 st	6.00pm	Fr John Ryan RIP
Sunday 22 nd	9.00am	People of our Parish
	11.00am	Nigel Ellis RIP Recently (Scannell)
Monday 23 rd	Feast of St Pius of Pietreclcina	
	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Tuesday 24 th	9.15am	Anne Untermoser (Dale) RIP Recently (Holland)
Wed 25 th	11.30am	Mary Patricia Protheroe Requiem Mass
Thursday 26 th		NO MASS
Friday 27 th	Feast of St Vincent de Paul	
	12 Noon	Intentions of our Parish SVP
TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 29th September		
Saturday 28 th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 29 th	9.00am	Mary Conduct RIP (Graves)
Sept 2024	11.00am	Mary Fleming RIP (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 week you gave: £352.58 Loose Plate & £174 in Envelopes. 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.

COMBONI MISSION APPEAL: At all Masses on the weekend of 5th/6th October a Missionary Sister will speak about the Comboni Missions and a retiring collection will be held to support their work.

HARVEST FAST DAY FOR CAFOD on Friday 4th October calls us to identify with and aid people in developing nations. Envelopes will be given out at all Masses the previous weekend.

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.”

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

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 22nd September 2024

Throughout his ministry on earth, Jesus walked a path of compassion, humility and service. He embodied a true spirit of wisdom and understanding. Even when Jesus was aware that powerful forces were plotting against him and his death was imminent, he never lost sight of his desire to serve others.

In today's Gospel (Mark 9 :30–37), Jesus gently challenges his disciples to abandon their self-importance and ambition and instead follow his example of solidarity alongside the weak and powerless. Jesus turns human power-values on their head: his greatness comes from putting the needs of others first.

The First Reading from the book of Wisdom (Wisdom 2: 12.17–20) tells of how the godless are challenged by the truth. Their rejection of God's law of love foretells the way in which Jesus will meet his death.

In the Second Reading (James 3: 16–4: 3), true wisdom is described as pure, gentle, kind and full of compassion. It directs us to become peacemakers. It is an antidote to the petty ambitions, jealousies and power-plays that were emerging in the early Christian community. We would do well to heed these words of caution in our own churches today.

This week, let us pray for the grace to be true servants of the poor, weak and powerless. In a world full of discord and fear, may we have the strength to stand against injustice and sow lasting seeds of peace and harmony.



RECENTLY DECEASED: **Mary Patricia (Pat) Protheroe**, a longstanding parishioner here, who died on 1st September. May she rest in peace. We offer her family our deepest sympathy. Her Requiem Mass will take place in our church on **Wednesday 25th September at 11.30am.**

Cynthia Margaret (Catherine) Cullen, who died on 18th September. May she rest in peace. Her Requiem Mass will take place in our church on **Friday 25th October at 11.30am.**

Anne Untermoser (formerly Dale), who was a member of our parish for many years before moving to Bradford-on Avon. Many older parish members will remember Anne for her many fundraising activities, especially her “Family Fun Days” that were held in the garden of her home, The Black Cottage, on Bell Common. May she rest in peace.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. We offer our sympathy and prayerful support to families and all who mourn. May the Lord send his Spirit, the Comforter, to console them and give them the hope of eternal life through Christ’s resurrection.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2025: The first session for the children will take place on **Saturday 28th September** at 4.30pm in our church hall.

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 29th September 2024** at the latest.

DATE FOR THE DIARY: On **Friday 11th October in our parish.** From 6pm we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our church. At 7pm Fr Martin will celebrate a parish Healing Mass after which there will be anointing of the sick. Refreshments will then be served in our parish hall. All are welcome to attend. **There will not be a 12 noon Mass on that day.**

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. When they are afraid give them courage, when they are afflicted give them patience, when dejected lift them up with new hope, when alone, assure them of the prayerful support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

ANNIVERSARIES: William Morgan, Douglas Wilding, Rosemarie Stein, Annie Doolan (20/9), Fr John Ryan (21/9), Denise Kemery, Margery Lister, Joseph Khan (24/9), Mary Cooney, Kathleen Kenna (25/9), John Saville, Annie Turner, Elizabeth Tedder, Margaret Ryan (26/9), Fr Gordon Godfrey, Frederick Deboise, Kathleen Russell, Esther Hart (27/9), Pope John Paul I, Helen Taylor (28/9),. **Eternal rest grant to them, Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: It has been noticed recently that a large amount of foreign currency is being put into the offertory collection. We would ask that you refrain from doing this please . If you would like your foreign currency to be donated to “Mary’s Meals” then please mark this in a separate envelope. Many thanks.

PARISH COUNCIL: The next meeting will take place **THIS Tuesday, 24th September at 7pm.** New members are welcome. If you have an item you would like to put on the Agenda then please email our Parish Office.

MUSIC NIGHT: Many thanks to Valerie Tannahill and her team for such a wonderful social evening which was enjoyed by many of our parishioners. Thanks to those who performed, helped on the evening and bought tickets to support the event. The magnificent sum of £521 was raised for our parish.

DATE FOR THE DIARY – CHRISMTAS MARKET:

SUNDAY, 24th NOVEMBER – 10am – 2pm: Christmas market preparations are under way, but as always we rely on our generous parishioners for their time and donations. If you have any new or unused items that would be suitable for the gift stall or raffle please leave in the church porch or in the office for the attention of Adriana or Emma.

If you think you might be able to spare some time to help set-up the event or at the event itself, please contact Adriana on 07828 118 909.

PRO LIFE GROUP: On **Monday 7th October**, 7.15pm-8.45pm a Pro Life Group is being launched in our neighbouring parish of **St Edmund and St Thomas More**, 9 Traps Hill, Loughton, Essex IG10 1SZ. All are very welcome to attend this new group. Please keep this intention in your prayers, greatly appreciated. For further details please contact Paul 07861032174

MESSAGE FROM EPPING FOODBANK: “As we approach Harvest time, the onset of colder weather brings an increased demand for our food bank services. The current situation for those in need is quite dire, with cuts to benefits, rising living costs, and escalating energy prices forcing many to make the heartbreaking choice between heating their homes and eating. We anticipate a higher number of visitors to our foodbank hubs this season, and we are reaching out to you in the spirit of community and generosity. Because of this rise in demand, our stocks are now running low. Our current most needed items include: **meat, fish, juice, coffee, toiletries, sponge puddings, pasta sauce, tinned veg, jam, rice, rice pudding/custard.**”

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