

Masses & Services Saturday 18th to 26th January 2025		
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 19th January 2025		
Saturday 18th	6.00pm	Elizabeth Nugent RIP Recently (Sainsbury)
Sunday 19th	9.00am	People of our Parish
January	11.00am	Leslie Banting RIP Anniv (Banting)
Monday 20 th	9.15am	Intentions of Tony Armstrong (Nalan)
Tuesday 21 st	9.15am	Fr Eugene Kirk RIP Recently
Wed 22 nd	12 Noon	Intentions of Alex Akim (Joseph)
Thursday 23 rd	NO MASS	
Friday 24 th	12 Noon	Intentions of Donald & Family (Slawek)
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 26th January 2025		
Saturday 25th	6.00pm	People of our Parish
Sunday 26th	9.00am	Anthony Carter RIP Recently (Sainsbury)
Jan 2025	11.00am	Brian & Annabella McMahan RIP Anniv (McMahan)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15pm-5.45pm.

ROSARY: Prayed after Mass Monday, Tuesday, Friday and before Mass on Wednesday.

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 offerings. Last weekend you gave £135 in Envelopes and £240.96 in Loose Plate. 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.

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.”

CRIB OFFERINGS: A reminder that monies donated to the crib offering will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Please give generously.

The Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



11 Church Hill, Epping, Essex, CM16 4RA

Parish Priest: Father Martin Fletcher Tel: 01992 572516

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Parish Administrator : Mrs Margaret Lechley

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Registered Charity Number: 234092

Our parish is twinned with Thistle Grove & Lebohang

Parish in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 19th January 2025

In the **First Reading** (Isaiah 62: 1-5) this week, Isaiah uses the beautiful imagery of a wedding to describe the ways in which the deep love of God for his people will transform our lives. God delights in us: ‘As the bridegroom rejoices in his bride so will your God rejoice in you.’

Another wedding scene is described in today's **Gospel** (John: 2:1-11). At the beginning of his public life, Jesus's love and care transform a wedding feast from disaster to joyous celebration by turning water into wine.

St Paul teaches the church in Corinth about how God works through the many different people in the church so that they (and we) can use their gifts in a variety of ways in his service, united by the one Spirit working through them all to transform the lives of others. (**Second Reading** - 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11)

In what ways do we need the Lord to transform our lives this week?



FR JOHN TUOHY: We express our thanks to Fr John Tuohy who has been covering here while Fr Martin has been away and we look forward to welcoming him back here again.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding its White Flower Appeal in our Parish NEXT weekend, **25th/26th January**. It seeks to protect the human life and dignity of every person from conception until natural death – recognising that all life is a gift from God and it is only for him to begin and end life. There will be a retiring collection as people leave the Masses. Please be generous in supporting SPUC.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: The next session for the children will take place on **Saturday 8th February at the usual time of 4.30pm**.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME: The programme will continue **Saturday 25th January at 4.30pm** with a Reflection and Reconciliation Service for the candidates in our church. Sponsors are invited to attend.

ANNIVERSARIES: Les Black, Canon Charles Kuypers (18/1), Carole Ring, Mgr David Donnelly, Les Banting (19/1), Bishop Bernard Ward (21/1), Eileen Tedder, Joyce Hannant (22/1), Sheila O'Connor, John Ryan, Bishop Arthur Doubleday, Michael Kelly (23/1), Fr John O'Sullivan (24/1), Mary Meagher, Eddie Lawlor, Harry Ginn, Bridget McGrath Fr John Hibbert (25/1), Albert Ryan, Nancy Fatiga, Emeran Reith, Dorothy Brewer, Maria Kupper, Kathleen Williams, Bishop Patrick Casey, Fr Alfred Field (26/1) **May they rest in peace.**

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. Holy people. Through Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

OPENING THE DOORS TO FREEDOM FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

Thursday 6th February 7.30pm—9pm via Zoom

The National Justice and Peace Network are delighted to invite you to their first event of this Jubilee Year. Facilitated by Brian O' Toole, who is a member of the National Justice and Peace Network (NJPN), [Act to Prevent Trafficking \(APT Ireland\)](#), the [Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking in Europe \(RENATE\)](#) and [Talitha Kum](#). At this event you will learn a little more about the insidious issue of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in the UK and importantly what we can do as "Pilgrims of Hope" during this Jubilee Year to help victims of Human Trafficking as we shine a light on this important issue. Please contact our Parish Office if you would like to register your interest.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (BCCS) will host a **Shrove Tuesday Afternoon Tea** at the Roslin Beach Hotel in Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 4th March 2025**. This event is open to all and promises to be a lovely afternoon celebration. Tickets are £35 per person and are available to purchase via the BCCS webpage <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/>

HARLOW SVP LAUNCH EVENT: Sunday 26th January 1.45pm-4.30pm
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church Hall, Howard Way, Harlow CM20 2NS. Our parish SVP group have been a great help to Harlow in the setting up of this group and the Harlow parish now invite Epping to share in their fundraising launch. There will be music, games for children, a raffle and food. All welcome.

"You are warmly invited to the **2025 CARITAS BRENTWOOD NETWORKING DAY**, taking place on **Sunday, 9th February, from 2–6 pm** at St. Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford RM1 4AT. This event is an opportunity to explore the Catholic response to pressing issues such as homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, supporting those affected by the Cost of Living Crisis, and addressing climate change. Join us to find inspiration during this Jubilee year, exchange ideas and best practices with parishioners across Essex and East London, and learn about the charities and resources available to support your efforts. Registration is free - find more details at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network."

WHY DO PEOPLE NO LONGER COME TO CHURCH?

The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre are hosting a talk by Rev Dr Liam Hayes at New Hall School. The talk, followed by discussion, starts at 7pm on **Wednesday January 22nd**. Refreshments will be served from 6.30pm. No cost to attend. All are welcome but need to register via the following link <https://canonesses.co.uk/event/why-do-people-no-longer-go-to-church-wed-22-jan-2025/>

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (BCCS) is looking to recruit a Communications and Fundraising Administrator to provide effective administrative and communications support to the Marketing and Fundraising Team. The role is based at their head office in Billericay High Street and ideally would be a full time position (37 hours per week) although some flexibility may be available for the right candidate. Full details can be found in the Job Description on the BCCS website: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/work-us/> Closing date is **31st January 2025**.

EPPING FOREST FOODBANK needs the usual food and household items. **Thank you to our generous parishioners for giving for people in need through the FOODBANK!**

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