

Masses & Services Saturday 25th January to 2nd February 2025		
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)
January	11.00am	Brian & Annabella McMahan RIP Anniv (McMahon)
Monday 27 th	9.15am	Teresa Fowler RIP Anniv (Whitehouse)
Tuesday 28 th	9.15am	Intentions of Alex Akim (Joseph)
Wed 29 th	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 30 th	NO MASS	
Friday 31 st	12 Noon	Anthony Cleary & Cleary Family RIP (FM)
THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 2nd February 2025		
Saturday 1st	6.00pm	Intentions of Michael McEaney (Darcy)
Sunday 2nd	9.00am	People of our Parish
Feb 2025	11.00am	Intentions of Margaret & Jimmy Campbell (Nalan)

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 £138 in Envelopes and £414.18 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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 26th January 2025

This 'Sunday of the Word of God' celebrates the gift of Scripture, encouraging us to listen to and live by God's word. In two of the readings, the word of God is proclaimed publicly to the people.

The Jewish people, recently returned from captivity, listen attentively as the high priest Ezra reads from the Book of the Law (**First Reading** Nehem. 8: 2–6, 8–10). Ezra then helps them to understand what they hear. Though moved to tears, he bids them rejoice: 'for the joy of the Lord is your strength'.

In the **Gospel** (Luke 1: 1–4; 4: 14–21), Jesus reads from the prophet Isaiah when he reaches the synagogue at Nazareth, his hometown. He sets before the people a new way of life, announcing that he is God's anointed one. His mission is to bring good news to the poor, proclaiming liberty to captives and freeing the downtrodden.

Paul (**Second Reading** 1 Cor. 12: 12–30) uses the image of the body to explain how we are joined together through the Spirit at our own baptism to form the body of Christ. Just as each part has a unique function, each person's gifts and responsibilities are needed and respected.

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we pray for all who long for joy and refreshment, especially the oppressed and those caught up in modern-day slavery. We give thanks for the generosity and courage of all who work to support and liberate those held captive.



WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding its White Flower Appeal in our Parish THIS 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.

WORLD LEPROSY DAY - SUNDAY 26th JANUARY 2025: World Leprosy Day is observed from the end of January each year to raise awareness of leprosy. St Francis Leprosy Guild is the UK's Catholic leprosy charity. They are grateful to anyone who supports their goal of a leprosy-free world. For more information please visit their website at www.stfrancisleprosy.org.

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 next session for the candidates will be on **Tuesday 4th February** at 7pm in our Hall.

ANNIVERSARIES: 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), Teresa Fowler (27/1), Margaret Keegan (28/1), Fr John (Jack) Clifford (29/1), Mary Morgan (30/1), Hugh McAdam, Kit Brown (31/1), John Bloomfield, Jim Milne, Fr Joseph Burns (1/2), Fr Enda Keenan, Frederick Fenson (2/2) **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.

MARY'S MEALS RECYCLING BOX: On the weekend of **8th/9th February** there will be a **Mary's Meals Recycling Box** at church for you to put the following unwanted items into. Please only donate what's on this list - anything else may incur a charge.

JEWELLERY & WATCHES: In any material even if damaged or broken.

ELECTRONICS: Mobile phones/iPads/Tablets/Sat-Navs/MP3 players/Games consoles. Please remove all sim cards/data from mobiles/ipads. All recycled items will be picked up by a third party, 'Recycling for Good Causes' who will ensure all data is wiped.

CAMERAS: Old film/Digital/Video.

FOREIGN CURRENCY: From any country, the currency can be old/recent.

Currently Mary's Meals feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals the above items you can help feed the next hungry child.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE - SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE, 19th - 26th JULY 2025

Open to anyone in school year 10 and above. Join the BCYS for our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, supporting the adult pilgrimage in a week of prayer, service and fun!

All details can be found at www.bcys.net/events. Funding and bursary opportunities are available.

JUBILEE 2025 - PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY: "The Jubilee Year 2025 is inviting us to visit a holy place and obtain plenary indulgence by entering through the holy door. The parish of OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS is arranging a pilgrimage to Italy visiting the holy places along with some tourist attractions. We will visit THE VATICAN, ROME, ASSISI, PADUA, VENICE & PISA. DATE: **30th AUGUST - 4th SEPTEMBER 2025** (6 DAYS). Superior 4* Hotel Accommodation. Adults and children over 9 years: £775; Children (2-9 years): £730. Single room supplement £220. For more details and to book your place, email: frsabupariyadan@brcdt.org."

"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."

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