

<b>Masses &amp; Services Saturday 1st February to Sunday 9th February 2025</b>		
<b>THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD YEAR C 2nd February 2025</b>		
<b>Saturday 1st</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Intentions of Michael McEneaney (Darcy)</b>
<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
<b>February</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Intentions of Margaret &amp; Jimmy Campbell (Nalan)</b>
<b>Monday 3rd</b>	<b><i>Feast of St Anne Line</i></b>	
	9.15am	Intentions of Alex Akim (Joseph)
<b>Tuesday 4th</b>	9.15am	Teresa Ryan (FM)
<b>Wed 5th</b>	<b><i>Feast of St Agatha</i></b>	
	12 Noon	Christine Godwin RIP Recently (Whitehouse)
<b>Thursday 6th</b>	NO MASS	
<b>Friday 7th</b>	12 Noon	Fr Eugene Kirk RIP
<b>Saturday 8th</b>	12 Noon	Baptism of Sienna South
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 9th February 2025</b>		
<b>Saturday 8th</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Dot Aitken RIP (Aitken)</b>
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Ellen Keating RIP (Graves)</b>
<b>Feb 2025</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 5.15pm-5.45pm.**

**ROSARY: After Mass Monday, Tuesday, Friday and before 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 £162.50 in Envelopes and £348.74 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/////////](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=epping/////////)**

**WHITE FLOWER APPEAL: Many thanks for your generosity to last weekend's retiring collection. £650 has been raised but you can still donate this weekend.**

**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.”**

## 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**

### THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD YEAR C 2nd February 2025

Today we celebrate Candlemas, the Christian festival of light that marks the end of Christmastide. We joyfully welcome into the ‘temple’ of our hearts Christ the Light of the World; the One who enlightens our lives.

The prophecy of Malachi (**First Reading** Malachi 3: 1-4) is fulfilled when Mary and Joseph present the child Jesus in the Temple, for Malachi speaks of a day when ‘the Lord ... will suddenly come to his Temple’.

The **Gospel** (Luke 2: 22-44) serves as a formal announcement of Jesus’s arrival in the Temple: his presentation to Gentiles and Jews alike, as ‘the salvation’ of all humankind. The intimate scene also highlights the faithful piety of the young couple, as well as the patient faith and hope of Anna and Simeon.

The **Second Reading** (Hebrews 2: 14-18) underlines the reality of Jesus’s humanity. Like all of us, Jesus must grow in maturity and wisdom, as well as experiencing the suffering that real temptation brings to every human being.

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we pray that, like the Holy Family, we might have a growing faith and hope in a loving God who cares for us all. We remember especially those who are victims of modern slavery in our turbulent, uncertain world. We also ask for an openness of heart and spirit to appreciate God’s many blessings, freely available to us every day.



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

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME:** The next session for the candidates will be **NEXT Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February** at 7pm in our Hall.

**PARSH COUNCIL MEETING:** The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm** in the priest's house. All welcome to attend. If you would like to submit an Agenda item ahead of the meeting then please email our Parish Office.

**ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH FUNDRAISER:** One of our young parishioners, Jacob Armstrong, is fundraising for Alzheimer's Research. Jacob's going to run a half marathon (The London Landmarks), with money raised going to Alzheimer's Research UK on 6th April this year.

There is a direct link to his donation page (please cut and paste) so people can read more about what ARUK do, why he's supporting this cause and what their money could contribute to. [https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.justgiving.com%2fpage%2fjacobarmstrong&c=E,1,T-ZrtEwu5CpExAJLudZ1vuHbI48lojnR\\_Tc8JV9ezYASbbq5nSAJYyl2Kz0eCMTAFhLQ9Vgp1hwRO1kOIKsoURmysnDzROlb4\\_RvSa4cV3aCHcOTqkMC&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.justgiving.com%2fpage%2fjacobarmstrong&c=E,1,T-ZrtEwu5CpExAJLudZ1vuHbI48lojnR_Tc8JV9ezYASbbq5nSAJYyl2Kz0eCMTAFhLQ9Vgp1hwRO1kOIKsoURmysnDzROlb4_RvSa4cV3aCHcOTqkMC&typo=1)

**If you have any problems with the link please contact our parish administrator and she can email you the link direct. If you would like to donate through the parish then please make cheques payable to "Catholic Church, Epping" or drop cash donations off, in an envelope clearly marked for the charity, to our parish office. Please include your details and whether or not you are happy for the charity to claim the gift aid.**

**ANNIVERSARIES:** John Bloomfield, Jim Milne, Fr Joseph Burns (1/2), Fr Enda Keenan, Frederick Fenson (2/2), Francis Daly, George Blake, Margaret Vaughan (4/2), Mary Fenton, William Deary, Mary Cannon, George Hackett, Alan Davu, Johnny Sullivan (5/2), Margaret George, Margaret Beales, Fr Francis Richardson, Carmen Henr, (6/2), Salvina Micaleff (7/2), Edward Nichols, Kathleen Schofield, Augustine Broks, Patricia Holman, Fr Alan Wilcox (8/2), Mina Higham, Douglas Naylor, Arthur Waller, Canon Bernard Manning (9/2), **May they rest in peace.**

**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**

**MARY'S MEALS RECYCLING BOX:** NEXT weekend, **8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> 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.

**PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS:** A gentle reminder that the parish email address is now [epping@brcdt.org](mailto:epping@brcdt.org). We do not know for how much longer the previous email address will be live and monitored so please use the new one.

**INTER FAITH DIALOGUE:** This year marks sixty years since *Nostra Aetate*, the document on relations with other Faiths of the Second Vatican Council. Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald worked for decades in this area, particularly in the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. Cardinal Michael will be speaking on 'Inter Faith Dialogue' at **11 am on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. You are invited to attend free of charge. Refreshments will be available from 10.30. Please bring a packed lunch. The event is also available live stream free of charge at [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org). A recording of the talk, and the q and a session, will be available subsequently on the same website.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM - 24th May 2025:** Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope. Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. Please contact our parish office for further details.

**CANONESSES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE** would like to share a recording of a talk by Rev Dr Liam Hayes on the findings of recent research by the Centre for Ecclesial Ethics into **why people no longer come to church**, commissioned by the Brentwood Diocese. See their website <https://canonesses.co.uk/why-do-people-no-longer-come-to-church/>

**FREE EVENT – STAY SAFE & WELL THIS SPRING:**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 10.45am for 11am start until 3.30pm at the Epping Civic Offices.** Informative talks from health professionals plus an interactive theatre performance about scamming. Free info bag and lunch. Booking essential. Please phone 01992 564226 or book online at [eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com](http://eppingforestdc.bookinglive.com).

**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