

<b>Masses &amp; Services Saturday 8th February to Sunday 16th February 2025</b>		
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 9th February 2025</b>		
Saturday 8th	6.00pm	Dot Aiken RIP (Aitken)
Sunday 9th	9.00am	Ellen Keating RIP (Graves)
February	11.00am	People of our Parish
Monday 10th	<i>Feast of St Scholastica</i>	
	9.15am	Peter Protheroe RIP (FJ)
Tuesday 11th	<i>Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, Principal Patron Saint of our Diocese</i>	
	9.15am	John Conti RIP
Wed 12th	12 Noon	Pat Protheroe RIP (FJ)
Thurs 13th	NO MASS	
Friday 14th	<i>Feast of St Cyril &amp; St Methodius</i>	
	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
Saturday 15th	12 Noon	Baptism of Sienna South
<b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 16th February 2025</b>		
<b>Racial Justice Sunday</b>		
Saturday 15th	6.00pm	Pat Protheroe RIP (FJ)
Sunday 16th	9.00am	People of our Parish
Feb 2025	11.00am	Sean McHale RIP Recently (Scannell)
	1.00pm	Baptism of Radhya Clark

**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 £88.50 in Envelopes and £404.30 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//////////)**

**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**  
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**Deacon: Rev Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173**  
**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**

### FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C 9th February 2025

However unworthy we may feel or believe ourselves to be, God sees beyond this, and is inviting each of us without exception to live a fulfilled life in the flow of his bountiful love.

In the Temple, Isaiah experiences a vision of the wonder of God and is overcome with self-doubt and self-criticism. Despite this, he is given a blessing and told his sins are forgiven. His response is immediate: ‘Here I am! Send me!’

**(First Reading Isaiah 6: 1–8)**

In a similar way, when Simon Peter first meets Jesus, he is overcome with a sense of worthlessness and sinfulness in the presence of the unsought bounty of God. Jesus’s response is to gently but firmly tell Simon (and us!): ‘Do not be afraid, just follow’. And Simon Peter does. **(Gospel Luke 5: 1–11)**

St Paul, writing to the Corinthians is all too aware of his shortcomings to proclaim the Gospel, given his past life as a persecutor of Christians. But with God’s grace, he gladly accepts that he is called to follow Christ and preach the Good News. **(Second Reading 1 Corinthians 15: 1–11),**

As Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year, we pray for the grace to see beyond the limitations that we set upon ourselves. We ask to glimpse the beauty and potential that God sees within us and calls us to share with the world. Let us encourage and support each other to answer God’s call to bring hope-filled justice and peace, wherever it is needed.



**PASTORAL VISIT:** On **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** Bishop Alan will visit our parish. He will celebrate the 9am Mass and then the 11am Mass, at which he will Confirm our young candidates. After the 11am Mass there will be refreshments in our parish hall to which all parishioners are invited and have an opportunity to meet the Bishop.

**CRIB OFFERINGS:** The magnificent sum of **£627.10** was raised from the Crib Offerings and this will now be sent to Brentwood Children's Society to support their wonderful work. Many thanks for your generosity.

**SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN:** The splendid total of **£728.74** was raised in our recent White Flower Appeal and has now been sent to S.P.U.C. to help in their valuable work. Warm thanks to all the generous donors.

**MARY'S MEALS RECYCLING BOX:** From this weekend, for the next couple of weeks, there will be a **Mary's Meals Recycling Box** in our church for you to put the following unwanted items into. Please only donate what's on this list.

**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.

**PARSH COUNCIL MEETING:** The next meeting will take place NEXT **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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.** We will have Masses here, with the distribution of Ashes, at **12 noon and 7.30pm.**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** will be held here during Lent on **Friday evenings at 7.30pm.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** The next session for the children will take place on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March at the usual time of 4.30pm.**

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

**ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH FUNDRAISER:** One of our young parishioners, Jacob Armstrong, is going to run a half marathon (The London Landmarks), with money raised going to Alzheimer's Research UK on **6<sup>th</sup> April** this year. There is a direct link: [https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.justgiving.com%2fpage%2fjacobarmstrong&c=E,1,T-ZrtEwu5CpExAJludZ1vuHbI48lojnR\\_Tc8JV9ezYASbbq5nSAJYyl2Kz0eCMTAFhLQ9Vgp1hwROIkOIKsoURmysnDzROlb4\\_RvSa4cV3aCHcOTqkMC&typo=1](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.justgiving.com%2fpage%2fjacobarmstrong&c=E,1,T-ZrtEwu5CpExAJludZ1vuHbI48lojnR_Tc8JV9ezYASbbq5nSAJYyl2Kz0eCMTAFhLQ9Vgp1hwROIkOIKsoURmysnDzROlb4_RvSa4cV3aCHcOTqkMC&typo=1)

If you have any problems with the link please contact our parish administrator and she can email you the link direct. Also if you would rather donate without using the link please let her know.

**FEAST BEFORE YOU FAST:** Please join us on **Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March from 9am to 12.30pm** for some delicious treats. If you are a keen baker and would like to make a tasty donation, please contact Adriana Ruvalcaba on 07828 118 909.

**LENT LUNCH:** This year our parish will host the first of the Lent lunches in the Epping and district area. This will be on **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March** from 12.30pm to 2pm in our parish hall. If you can donate a soup or help on the day then please let our Parish Administrator know. The dates of the other Lent lunches in our area will be published shortly.

**MARRIAGE WEEK:** **7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> February** is National Marriage Week. Please pray for couples living the vocation to marriage, for those preparing for married life, for those who are widowed, and those who are struggling with difficult situations in their family life

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Edward Nichols, Kathleen Schofield, Augustine Broks, Patricia Holman, Fr Alan Wilcox (8/2), Mina Higham, Douglas Naylor, Arthur Waller, Canon Bernard Manning (9/2), Matthew Clarke, Oswald Pelossi, Edna Gooding (10/2), Teresa Negri, Pierce Evans, Nora Clark, Fr Donald Mills (11/2), William Deary, Mary Cannon, George Hackett, Mary Fenton, Johnny Darcy, Fr John Garrett, Dezilwa Sperry (12/2), Hilda Darlington, Mary McCarron, Melville Gaughan, Edith Teesdale, Fr Charles Snell (13/2), Agnes Butcher (14/2), Margaret Rawbottom, Daisy Goulder, Kathleen Pomeroy (15/2), Kathleen Stanford, Anastasia Holtham, Clare Lafford (16/2). **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**

**A DAY WITH MARY** is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025** (9.45am to 5.00pm). Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.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