

<b>Masses &amp; Services Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>		
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C</b>		<b>18<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Intentions of Mrs Mary Stanisclass</b>
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Patrick Donohoe RIP Recently (Coyne)</b>
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Mrs Pat Stanton RIP (Perry)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Holy Souls RIP
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>		NO MASS
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	12 Noon	Holy Souls RIP
<b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C</b>		<b>25<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>People of our Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Intentions of Mark &amp; Maggie Keane (Clohessy)</b>
<b>May 2025</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Intentions of Elaine Hudgell (Scannell)</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:** Many thanks for your generous offerings. Last week you gave: £258 in Envelopes and £364.56 in Loose collection. **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:** Fr Martin will usually take his day off on a Thursday. In cases of emergency, if Fr Martin is unavailable, please call St Edmund's, Loughton – Tel: 0208 5089438, Holy Cross, Harlow – Tel 01279 425776 or The Assumption, Harlow – Tel 01279 429388.

**ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED:** If anyone would like to be an altar server, please see Fr Martin or contact the Parish office.

**USHERS/WELCOMERS:** We have a very small, dedicated team of ushers who, on a rota basis, welcome parishioners to our weekend Masses. We are in desperate need of more parishioners to join this team.

**HALL HIRE:** Our Hall is available to hire at very competitive rates and a discount for parishioners. Please contact our Parish Office for further details and to book.

## 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**

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C

18<sup>th</sup> May 2025

***'Love one another, just as I have loved you'***

As Eastertide continues, we can take fresh heart that we are part of God's glorious plan to bring about a new creation. Jesus' new commandment to love one another as he loves us is the key to transforming the world.

The exhilarating mission of Paul and Barnabas in the First Reading helps us to see what can be achieved when we allow God to work within us, even as we endure hardships on the way.

Psalm 144 calls us to sing with the whole creation of God's mighty deeds; his glory, his goodness and his compassion for us. The vision of the heavenly Jerusalem in the Second Reading promises a new creation where the bond between God and his people is fully restored.

In the Gospel, Father and Son are together glorified as Jesus prepares to leave this world. Now Jesus gives his friends a new charge: to love one another as he loves us, so we can be recognised as his disciples.

***Collect: Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit***

**POPE LEO XIV:** On **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May** white smoke from the chimney stack above the Sistine Chapel heralded the election of a new pope. Cardinal Robert Prevost is to be the new pontiff, taking the name Pope Leo XIV. An American by birth, he is an Augustinian who has worked extensively in South America. Bishop Alan has welcomed the decision, saying: *‘We pray for His Holiness Pope Leo XIV, for the Church and the world.’*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Congratulations to our First Holy Communion children: Rose, Eoin, Molly, George, Annie, Fern, Finley, Florence and Maddison, who will receive Holy Communion for the first time on **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June at the 11am Mass.**

**CAFOD FUNDRAISER:** Message from Hannah: “A couple of weeks ago I ran the London marathon in aid of CAFOD. It was such amazing experience! I completed it in 3:58 hours and raised over £2250. I’d like to thank the parish for the sponsorship and support that they have shown. I really appreciate this, I know CAFOD will be able to help many people with this money.”

**CALLING ALL GARDENERS!** We are looking to form a group of volunteers to meet on a Saturday morning, once a month, to help keep the presbytery garden and church grounds tidy. Please speak to Fr Martin if you can help.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Angela Riccoboni, Mary Simister (17/5), Patricia Fox, Ann Allshire, Margaret White (18/5), Elizabeth O’Connor (19/5), John de Vos, Patricia Gandy (21/5), Kieran McClean, Fr Henry Peace, Beatrice Cox, Christina Burgess (23/5), Rosemary Batten, Joyce Ryan, Daniel Willmore, Blanche Rowland, Colleen Mansfield (25/5)  
**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 your servants who suffer in mind, body or spirit. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE: SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE, 19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 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!

**THE BOX YOUTH AND COMMUNITY CENTRE 20 YEAR CELEBRATIONS:** These celebrations will now take place during the autumn term – watch this space for dates and events.

**EPPING FOREST FOODBANK:** Thank you to our generous parishioners for giving for people in need through the **FOODBANK.**

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY** invite you to join them at their Summer Luncheon on **Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> June**, at The Lawn – a stunning Grade II listed Georgian manor house in Rochford.

**12.30pm to 3.30pm. Tables of 10. £37.50 per person.** Tickets are available now! Reserve your place by visiting their website: [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/)

**BAKE SALE: SUNDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE - 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

Now that Lent is over, please join us at the Bake Sale for some wonderful homemade treats. If you would like to contribute something delicious, please contact Adriana Ruvalcaba – 07828 118 909.

We look forward to seeing you there.

**ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN’S CAMP 2025:** For children aged 9-12 years old (school years 5-7), a week of great fun, activities including climbing wall and zip wire, fishing, football, archery and much more, all in a beautiful setting. The Camp has a Catholic ethos, and exists to give children a magnificent holiday.

**26<sup>th</sup> July - 2<sup>nd</sup> August.** For more details, and application information: [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood.

**THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES:** Throughout the Easter period we read each day in the Liturgy from the Acts of the Apostles. Talks by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park, are available on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) Please go to ‘Faith Talks’ and scroll down to ‘Acts of the Apostles’ and ‘Paul in Acts’.

**CONSUBSTANTIAL WITH THE FATHER – A STUDY DAY:**

This year we celebrate seventeen-hundred years since the Church Council held at Nicaea, which drew up a statement of faith which is the basis of the Nicene Creed we recite at Mass. Dr Ken Carleton, Deacon of the Brentwood diocese, who has a doctorate in Church History, will explore the issues debated at the Council. The study day will be held on **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 from 11am until 2 pm** at the parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Coffee available from 10.30. Please bring your own lunch. In-person attendance is encouraged but you can also watch on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) No prior booking necessary for this free event. A recording will be available subsequently on the website.

**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.”

**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