

BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH: If you have a child due for Baptism please let me know as soon as possible. To avoid any disappointment with dates, contact the Presbytery to book your date. If you are first-time parents, you need to contact Sharon Chalk, who will organise a Baptismal Preparation of two sessions, and then I will come and visit you in your homes. Please don't forget to collect your Baptismal Information Form.



EPPING FOREST FOODBANK DONATIONS: Thank you to all parishioners who continue to generously donate items for the Foodbank during Lent. Your donations are needed as much as ever now by people in our area who are struggling to put food on the table. Basic staple items are always welcome including the unbranded supermarket basic ranges which can make your generous donations go even further. During Lent they are in urgent need of the following items: sponge puddings, tinned fruit, jam, tinned meat pies/ham, instant mash, male and female deodorant, laundry tablets, toilet roll (2 or 4 pack), shampoo and razors. Thank you! You can also keep up to date with the Foodbank via their Facebook page www.facebook.com/EppingForestFoodbank/ **BOXES IN THE GARAGE**

NO PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS: In light of the Coronavirus, and in accord with Government Health Warnings, and the directives from the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, there will be **NO SACRAMENTS CELEBRATED WITH CONGREGATIONS** until further notice; e.g. No Sunday or Weekday Masses, no Baptisms, No Weddings, No Funerals. I will celebrate Holy Mass (Behind Closed Doors) Daily keeping the Intentions of the whole parish community lifted-up to God. **MAKING A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION:** This is uniting ourselves spiritually with Jesus Christ through Prayer:-

“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.” Amen

IN CASES OF EMERGENCY: Tuesday is usually Fr. John's Day Off. In Cases of emergency please call one of the local parishes, either in Epping – Tel: 01992 572516, or the St. Thomas of Canterbury Friary at Woodford

Green – Tel: 020 8504 1688. This would also apply if Fr. John is away for a few days break or on Retreat. All the local funeral directors have a contact number for Fr. John if a funeral needs to be arranged in his absence.

St. Edmund of Canterbury **& St. Thomas More**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Fifth Sunday of Lent, 2020

As we continue in this world shut down, our Lenten journey also continues. These are unprecedented times and trying to keep some semblance of normality is very difficult. People are becoming inventive and using initiatives to pass time each day in the confines of our family homes.

I'm truly grateful to everyone who has joined our parish WhatsApp Group, and those who are using social media, Facebook & the Parish Website. Holy Mass is celebrated each day at 10.00am and this is live-streamed. I'm grateful to all who tune in each day and join us for holy Mass. It is a wonderful way of keeping connected with our faith. The Sadness is not being able to receive Jesus in Holy Communion; but I encourage all who tune in daily to make a Spiritual Communion.

A big thank you to all those parishioners who are going out of their way to assist and help those who are self-isolating; our parishioners who are over 70 years of age, and those who are sick and housebound.

SUNDAY MASS – 29th MARCH 2020. Holy Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am. At the end of this Mass, there will be the Special Re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary. We really do need the assistance of Our Blessed Lady at this very difficult time. Please tune in for Holy Mass on Sunday 29th March.

BRITISH SUMMERTIME BEGINS ON SUNDAY 29th MARCH.
CLOCKS GO FORWARD ONE HOUR

HOLY WEEK: I will endeavour to celebrate all the Services of our Holy Week commencing next



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Weekend with our Palm Sunday Mass. I will celebrate the Triduum on my own in the Church: Mass of the Lord's Supper; Good Friday Liturgy; Holy Saturday Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday Mass at 10.00am

LIVESTREAMING: I am in the process of trying to install a system whereby I will be able to Livestream. I will keep you all informed. We hope to transmit Sunday Mass at 10..00am

HOLY WEEK & EASTER: If the Livestreaming is successful, we will broadcast all of the Triduum & Easter Services. Hopefully this will be a way of keeping in touch. I'll let you know details when I have them.

YOUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY DURING CORONAVIRUS: The New Offertory Envelops will be available this weekend 21st/22nd March & Next Weekend 28th/29th March. They will be available at the back of the Church from Friday 20th March. Please pick them up at your leisure. Obviously with No Weekend Masses it is going to be difficult to receive your Weekly Offering. If parishioners would like to post Gift Aid envelopes & your Offerings through the Presbytery letterbox this would be good. Or set up a Standing Order, forms are available in the porch During these difficult times your ongoing support is essential. The staff salaries & bills still have to be paid: You can help by making your Offertory directly into the:-

Parish Bank Account: Using Online Banking
HSBC Sort Code 40-13-22
Account Number: 11019651

Please put your name as reference and also your Gift Aid number if you have one. If you can set it up as a regular payment this would be excellent and save a lot of time in the future. If you don't have GIFT AID this is a good time to start, you can do this by e.mailing Maria Mosquera (mjm70@hotmail.com).
With continued thanks for your generosity.

WHATSAPP GROUP: ST. EDMUND'S PARISH GROUP 07806 998187.

We have a wonderful WhatsApp group going, please think of joining it, and keeping in touch daily. The group has been set up to help people during this crisis. **If you're already on WhatsApp, all you need to do is text Iain McLay 07806 998187, and he will add you to the group.**

Please be assured of my daily thoughts and prayers, 'Keep Safe & Carry On'
With Peace & Many Blessings

Fr. John

MASS INTENTIONS - MARCH 2020

Sat 28 th	10.00am	Irene & Bernard Turner RIP
		<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>
Sat 28 th	6.00pm	NO VIGIL MASS
Sun 29 th	10.00am	Parishioners / Peter Burns RIP & John Burns RIP (The Burns Family)
Sun 29 th	11:00am	NO 11am MASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
Mon 30 th	10.00am	Cliff Hackshaw (P Egan)
Tues 31 st	10.00am	Meg Brown RIP (L Schofield)
Wed 1 st	10.00am	The Epsom Family (living & deceased)
April		
Thurs 2 nd	10.00am	John McCormack RIP (Anthony Family)
Fri 3 rd	10.00am	Peter Smith RIP (P Falco)
Sat 4 th	10.00am	Mary Harvey RIP (Anni) (Fr. John)
		<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>
Sat 4 th	6.00pm	Jan Michalik RIP (Kaz Michalik)
Sun 5 th	10.00am	Sheila Tremble RIP (Tremble Family)
Sun 5 th	11:00am	No 11.00am Mass until further notice.

BOOKING MASSES: In a bid not to be disappointed with a request for mass

on a particular day, please give us at least three months' notice, Please complete the mass request envelope and drop it off at the Presbytery.

There are plenty of vacancies for masses.

PS. sometimes masses have to be moved because of requiem masses. I ask for your understanding in these situations. Thank you! There are vacancies for masses in the month January onwards, if you wish a request.