

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 period. 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. At this time 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/

NO PUBLIC CELEBRATION OF SACRAMENTS: Considering 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 **12th Sunday of the Year**

Dear Friends in Christ

Twelfth Sunday of the Year, Year A, 2020

Last Monday, 15th June, all places of Public Worship were opened for personal and private prayer. I would like to thank most sincerely the large team of parishioners who came to clean our church and prepare it for re-opening. I'm truly grateful for your generosity of spirit. Also, thanks to the parishioners who have kindly volunteered to act as stewards while the church is open for an hour each day. 12Noon – 1.00pm. We are still looking for more stewards, and if you're willing to give an hour once a week this would be wonderful, and we may even be able to extend the opening to two hours each day. Yet, we still have no idea when our churches will be open for public services. But I will endeavour to keep you all informed of any new information. We have an active WhatsApp Group, Facebook page & Parish Website, where the information is kept up to date. Please consult as necessary. The daily live streaming of Holy Mass will continue through the medium of Facebook & the Website. Let us continue to pray for an end to this virus and a return to some semblance of normality once again!

GOSPEL REFLECTION: The greatest challenge presented in the Gospel is bearing witness to Jesus Christ. This is fundamentally at the heart of the Christian message. We all can bear witness to the Lord through example and holiness of our lives; through our marriages & family life; our relationships; our community; our places of work; even our recreation. Strength of faith is only gained through commitment, and this is something that no one else can do for us. It's truly something that demands an individual response. In bearing witness to Christ, he will bear witness to us before God.



LIVESTREAMING: Holy Mass is being live streamed at 10.00am each day, through the medium of Facebook & the Parish Website. St. Edmund of Canterbury, Loughton. There will be a Holy Hour each Thursday evening at 7.00pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. There is so much to pray for: our front-line workers, doctors, nurses, care workers, nursing homes, scientists looking for a vaccine, pharmacists. We need to pray for those who are sick and sadly those who have died from this pandemic. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed daily at 3.00pm.

YOUR WEEKLY OFFERTORY DURING SHUTDOWN My sincere thanks to those who are making their weekly contribution of Gift Aid envelopes and through the banking system that has been set up through the Diocese whereby your Offertory can be paid directly into the Parish Account, details below:

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=loughton>

Or you can use Parish Bank Account: Using Online Banking
HSBC Sort Code 40-13-22

Account Number: 11019651

Please put your name as reference and 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.

FATHER'S DAY: Today is Father's Day, when we honour in a very special way our Fathers; who not only gave us life, care and love, and have been examples to us in our lives. We thank God for their protective strength as husbands, and fathers to children; for making provision through their labour and hard work. Let us also pray for those whose fathers are now with God. Although physically not present, they will never be forgotten!



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

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.

Wishing You All A Blessed Week,
Fr. John

MASS INTENTIONS – JUNE 2020

- Sat 20th 10.00am Kenneth George Tudhope RIP (M Duffy)
- Sat 20th 6.00pm *Vigil Mass for Sunday*
People of the Parish
- Sun 21st 10.00am Kitty McDermott RIP ((Marie Kavanagh)
- Sun 21st 11:00am NO 11am MASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
- Mon 22nd 10.00am Kaz Michalik(sick) (Eva Michalik)
- Tues 23rd 10.00am Sheila Burns RIP (Tina & Dave Hattrell)
REQUIEM MASS
- Wed 24th 10.00am Peter Smith RIP (Paul Falco)
- Thurs 25th 10.00am Declan Mullaney RIP (Monica Maycraft)
7.00pm HOLY HOUR
- Fri 26th 10.00am Kaz Michalik (sick) ((Eva Michalik)
- Sat 27th 10.00am People of the Parish
- Sat 27th 6.00pm *Vigil Mass for Sunday*
Thomas Smith RIP (Noreen Smith)
- Sun 28th 10.00am Bill & Helen's Walsh's Ints
- Sun 28th 11:00am No 11.00am Mass until further notice.

BOOKING MASSES: At present there are many openings for Mass Intentions. If you would like a Mass for a particular intention, please write your details on an envelope and post it through the letterbox at the presbytery. You can Gift Aid your intentions just put the GA number on envelope. Place your Mass offering in the envelope. Thank you!

My Dear Friends,

12th Sunday of the Year

GUIDELINES FOR OPENING OUR CHURCH FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

With the lockdown restrictions being slowly lifted I would like to share with you information with regard to the re-opening of Church for Private Prayer. The Bishop's Conference of England & Wales has issued guidelines in accord with Government advice on the re-opening of all public places of worship. The main objective is to open our churches safely (i.e. providing the least possible risk of the transmission of the virus) for private prayer, which is the first step. This guidance has been provided and compiled with detailed public health advice and scrutiny and complies with the Principles established by the Government.

Principles:

- a. Protecting those at higher risk (e.g. the elderly, those extremely vulnerable and shielding or clinically vulnerable and accessing annual flu immunisation;
- b. Enhanced cleaning of premises – more regularly and no sharing items;
- c. Social Distancing – including when using outdoor spaces;
- d. Face coverings for reassurance;
- e. Hygiene (hand-washing) or hand sanitising facilities for all;
- f. Managing children

What is 'Individual Prayer?'

Individual prayer within a place of worship is defined as a person or household entering the venue to pray on their own and not as part of a group, led prayer or communal act. They must be socially distanced from other individuals or households. Collective or communal prayer and regular scheduled services are not permitted at this time. This includes any minister of religion or lay person leading devotions or prayer.

First Steps: Preparing for safe-reopening:

- a. Assembling a Team of stewards to ensure that the guidance document can safely be put into effect. The number of volunteers will depend on the size of the church. All volunteers should be drawn from those parishioners who have not been instructed to shield themselves, nor, as a general rule, from groups considered more vulnerable to coronavirus.
- b. A sufficient supply of alcohol hand gel has been purchased; including

cleaning materials (also gloves for cleaners). Notices all over the church. Blocked off areas of seating. Please follow instructions from stewards. And always adhere to the social distancing requirements of 2 Metres

- c. Please sanitise your hands upon entry & exit of the church. Please also take post-it sticker with you upon entry, and kindly leave it in the place you sat. This will ensure that cleaning and sanitisation can take place on your departure.
- d. After visiting the Church; the places where people have sat will be sanitised immediately. Exit from the church will be via the Centre Aisle & right hand door (see Exit Sign). (hand sanitiser will be available as you depart).
- e. There will be plenty of ventilation in the Church during your visit. The doors of the Church will be open and windows also.
- f. The Parish toilets WILL NOT be available during this period of time.
- g. A steward will be available at all times when the Church is open, providing information and guidance during your visit. Please follow instructions rigidly. Please follow Stewards Instructions.
- h. Stewards should themselves practice good hygiene through regular hand washing or hand sanitising. Please ensure that cuts and grazes on hands are covered with waterproof dressings.
- i. Entry into the Church will be through the Right Front Door; and Exit from the Left Front Door – Please follow the signs and kindly sanitise your hands as you leave.
- j. Places where people sit should be two metres apart from one another in all directions – facilitating social distancing. People who are of the same household can sit together.
- k. The Church will be thoroughly cleaned regularly
- l. **OPENING TIMES:** For private prayer – Unfortunately we cannot open all day. For the moment we will be open for one hour a day 12noon until 1.00pm **THE STEWARDS WILL HELP YOU.**
- m. If there are any problems or issues that you need to discuss, please contact Fr. John or our Health & Safety Co-ordinator Robin Bradley
Tel No:
- n. When the Government give further instructions as to the full-opening of Churches for Services, I will keep you up to date with their guidelines and, also Brentwood Diocesan Guidelines.

HOLY MASS will continue to be livestreamed each day at 10.00am, through the social medium of FaceBook and the Parish Website; St. Edmund of Canterbury, Loughton. Please keep up to date with all parish news through the WhatsApp group & the Website. With thanks, & God Bless. Fr John

DIARY 2020

DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH WARNINGS AND THE BISHOP'S CONFERENCE INSTRUCTIONS, ALL PUBLIC MASSES ARE NOW CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED PRIVATELY EACH DAY AT 10.00, INCLUDING SUNDAYS.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE SICK IN OUR PARISH:

Margaret Baldwin, Brian Beveridge, Jane Downs, Steve Dalgliesh, James Geller, Veronica Godsave, Bernadette Hall, Ann Hawkes, Claire Howes, Pamela Houghton, Shaun Keel, Angela Long, Lilian Mothersole, Sheila Murphy, Rosemary O'Rourke, Kathleen Pomeroy, Barbara Pope, Geraldine Taylor, Vera Taylor, Mary Witten, James Wright. And all our loved ones.

ANNIVERSARIES: Alice Bate RIP & Tom Smith RIP. For all our deceased loved ones, Requiescant in Pace.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Unfortunately No Weekly Collection at present. With continued thanks for your generosity. Please don't forget to use your Gift Aid envelopes. If you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme there are application forms in the Church Porch, or ask Fr. John for a form.

THE SISTERS AT CHIGWELL CONVENT: Would be most grateful for your used postage stamps for their Missions. There is a Box in the Porch of the Church for the stamps. Especially all your Christmas Stamps. With many thanks!

ALL SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES & PARISH COURSES:

Will cease until further notice. The First Holy Communion celebrations schedules for May have been postponed. No Funerals, only a graveside blessing. Memorial Masses to follow at a later stage

NO MASS INTENTION REQUESTS: Unfortunately there have been very few Mass Intention requests; therefore, there are many openings. If parishioners would like mass intentions for any occasion or anniversary, please put your request & mass offering in an envelope and drop off at the Presbytery as soon as possible. Thank you!

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: In your mercy please pray for the repose of the soul of Sheila Burns RIP, who passed away recently. Her graveside Service will take place on Tuesday 23rd June at Theydon Bois Cemetery. In accord with the Government guidelines we are still unable to celebrate public services in our churches. The Cortege will assemble at St. Edmund's Car Park at approximately 1.30pm. If you would like

to come and pay your final respects to Sheila, this will be the time to do it. It means that social distancing can be maintained adequately outside. The funeral service at the graveyard is for the immediate family only. We extend our sincere condolences to Sheila's four sons and their families in this time of great loss. In the morning of Wednesday 23rd I will celebrate a Requiem Mass for Sheila in the Church behind closed doors; and at a later stage when this Pandemic has diminished, we will have a memorial mass for her at St. Edmund's. May She Rest in Peace! Amen!



