

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS			
Psalms for Morning Prayer: Week 4			
<b>SUNDAY</b> 15th May <i>4th of Easter</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	All Parishioners Private Intention Dec'd members Collins Family
<b>MONDAY</b> 16th May	Kelvedon	9.00 a.m.	Intention Fay Deasey
<b>TUESDAY</b> 17th May	Kelvedon Tiptree Kelvedon	NO MASS 11.00 a.m. 7.30-8.30 p.m.	<i>Rosary &amp; Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 18th May	Kelvedon	NO MASS	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 19th May <i>St Dunstan</i>	Kelvedon Coggeshall Coggeshall Kelvedon	NO MASS 9.30-10.30 a.m. NO MASS 7.30 p.m.	<i>Church open Prayer &amp; Rosary</i> <i>Prayer Group</i>
<b>FRIDAY</b> 20th May <i>St Bernardine of Siena</i>	Kelvedon	NO MASS	
<b>SATURDAY</b> 21st May <i>St Christopher</i> <i>Magallanes &amp; Comp.</i>	Kelvedon	8.00 a.m.	Private Intention
<b>SUNDAY</b> 22nd May <i>5th of Easter</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Tilly Martin All Parishioners Private Intention
<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation: NONE this Saturday</i>			

Liturgical Rotas 22nd May	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Sue Harrison Phil Harrison	John Dann	Marlene Kennedy
KELVEDON	Jadwiga Smith Steve Smith	Pat Ezra	Edna Morgan
TIPTREE	Celia Butt Mary Mann	Danny Mullane	Jude Cody
FINANCE TEAM	Tom McNally & Sean O'Leary		

PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS  
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,  
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, Natal)

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## PARISH NEWSLETTER

15th May 2011

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*I am the gate of the sheepfold.*

First Reading: Acts 2:14.36-41

Responsorial Psalm PS 22:1-6

Second Reading: 1 Pt 2:20-25

Gospel: Jn 10:1-10



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:** Today is known as 'Good Shepherd Sunday' and is the annual day of prayer for vocations for the priesthood and religious life. The 'Good Shepherd' discourse from St John's Gospel is divided into three sections spread over the three years of the Cycle of Readings. In the first part Jesus begins with a slightly different image. He is the gate of the sheepfold. Fr Thomas Rosica makes the following points: "In today's Gospel (John 1:1-10), Jesus makes references to two types of sheepfolds before he identifies himself as the sheep gate. In the first two verses he describes the kind of "communal sheepfold" that each village would maintain and to which the shepherds might return their flocks each night. The pen was protected by a strong door that could be opened only by the chief shepherd's key. The second type of sheepfold is described in subsequent verses. Such a containment was provided for those nights when the sheep were to be kept in the fields (as on the night of Jesus' birth). Such temporary sheepfolds usually consisted of a circle of rocks, with an opening at one end. The shepherd himself would serve as the gate to such sheepfolds, laying across its entrance to sleep. Whether a sheep tried to leave or a wolf tried to enter, they would have to do so by way of the shepherd himself! The shepherd himself was the door. It is important to remember that Jesus first identifies himself, not as the Good Shepherd, but as the gate for the sheep. In the ancient walls of Jerusalem, there was a gate on the north of the city, by which animals were brought in from the surrounding areas for sacrifice. It was called the sheep gate. Once inside the city and within the temple courts, there was only one door where the sheep went in, and no lamb ever came back out after entering the temple precincts.

They travelled in only one direction, and there they were sacrificed for the sins of human beings. For that first audience who heard Jesus' teaching about sheep, such knowledge added to the shock of his words: *"I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep. ... I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture" (John 10:7,9). In the very temple area filled with sheep on their way to slaughter, Jesus declared there was a way out: "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the Good Shepherd" (John 10:11)."*

**PRAYER NEEDS:** Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially **Daniel McDermott, Pam Loweth, Bill Sullivan, Sheila Faulkner, Hanni Kyan, Danny Mullane, Sarah Costello, Dorothy Dodd, Donovan Buahin, Mike Gibson, Elliot Chisholm, Maria Hoefft, Dwight Page, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Eddie Price, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Holden, Eric Bell, Paul Brittain, Audrey Hopwood, Karen Kelly,** and any unknown to us.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember **Joseph Lyan, Sr Francis Emelda, Eleanor Buckley, James Bond, Janina Tempalski, Patrick Duffy, Violet Waters** and **Edith Lovejoy** whose anniversaries occur at this time.

**MONTHLY ECUMENICAL SERVICE Kelvedon & Feering:** This afternoon 4.00 p.m. at All Saints, Feering. All welcome.

**PRAYER BREAKFAST COGGESHALL:** The next Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday 28th May at 5A St Peter's Road. The usual sign-up list is at the back of the Church.

**PARISH SUMMER FETE:** There will be a **planning meeting** this Wednesday at 10.15 a.m. in St Dominic's Room. **All welcome.**

**EVANGELIUM COURSE:** On the Catholic Faith The topic for this Friday evening at 8.00 p.m. will be *'Scripture & Tradition'*. There will be no meeting next Friday due to the Bank Holiday and another commitment.

**MAY DEVOTIONS:** Mondays during May at 4.00 p.m. in the garden of our Tiptree Church All ages welcome. For more details contact Gosia on 01621 815493.

**CANON LAW SOCIETY CONFERENCE:** I shall be away this week for the annual conference of the Canon Law Society of Great Britain & Ireland, this year at Harrogate. There will be no Mass Tuesday to Friday. On Saturday I am giving a presentation to the Diocesan Pastoral Council meeting in Brentwood so Mass will be at 8.00 a.m. In an emergency contact Fr David Prior at Witham (01376 512219).

**PHONE CALLS:** Unfortunately what I foresaw some time ago has come to pass and the gentleman suffering from delusions has been bombarding the presbytery with phone calls over the last few days (12 on Sunday!). You may find the 'ansaphone' left on more or less permanently for the next few weeks. It only allows a short message so please leave your number first and then a message, or try the mobile number provided, and I will get back to you as soon as possible.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To **Grace Elizabeth May Long** baptised at Coggeshall last Saturday.

**REPAIR WORK TIPTREE:** The work to repair the fire damage at Tiptree should begin shortly and will take several weeks. However, this should not interfere with the use of the building. During the work the Blessed Sacrament will be reserved in the sacristy for reasons of both security and reverence.

**ECUMENICAL NEWS:** Reverend Leonard Phelps has stepped down from his temporary role as minister at the URC - after four years and is moving to Wales to resume his retirement. We wish him and his wife well. The process of seeking a permanent minister continues. A new rector has been appointed to Tiptree, subject to confirmation, and hopefully will take up her post in September. This means that Reverend Jo Dudley will be moving on to new fields so we thank her for all she has contributed to the life of the Churches and community in Tiptree, especially during the interregnum.

**PARISH VISITING:** As announced in last week's newsletter, this exciting new initiative started on Monday. The Visiting Team have organised silent Adoration sessions at each of our churches next Sunday evening **22nd May**, to give parishioners the opportunity to come together across the parish to pray that God will bless and guide our small visiting group in this new calling and bless those in the Tiptree homes where visits are planned. The Adoration will begin at **Tiptree** after Sunday Mass and end at 9.00 p.m. **Coggeshall** will be open at 9.00 p.m. until 10.30 p.m. and **Kelvedon** from 10.30 p.m. until midnight. Lists are available today at each church for parishioners to plan their attendance at whichever session is most convenient for them. Eucharistic Ministers at each church have agreed to expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament. This method of prayer support has worked well in our parish in recent times and we hope that parishioners will take the opportunity to respond. Any queries can be addressed to Fr Gordon or Tom McNally (01376 570806).