

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

**Monsignor Gordon Read
Telephone: 01376 570348**

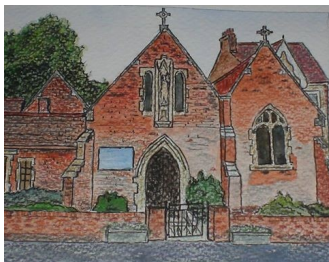
Address: The Presbytery, Church Street, Kelvedon, C05 9AH

Email: kelvedon@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Parish Website: www.kelvedoncatholicparish.org.uk

Diocesan Website: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

**Parish Facebook Page www.facebook.com/kelvedoncatholic
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th February 2018

FIFTH SUNDAY OF YEAR

*He cured many who suffered from
diseases of one kind or another.*

First Reading

Jb 7:1-4. 6-7

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 146:1-6

Second Reading

1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23

Gospel

Mk 1:29-39



FIFTH SUNDAY OF YEAR: Our first reading from Job expresses very clearly the link between body and soul when it comes to sickness and pain. Physical pain affects our emotional state and can affect us in spirit leading to lethargy or despair. Equally spiritual and emotional problems can be expressed physically. To use the modern jargon a 'holistic' approach is needed to healing. This is why so often Jesus focusses on spiritual ills and the forgiveness of sins ahead of bodily healing yet there are other times he tackles the sickness of body first. The same is true with the Sacrament of the Sick. Jesus sent out his disciples to lay hands on the sick and anoint them. The wording of the prayers that accompany sacramental anointing reflect this twofold, holistic approach. We pray for healing of body, if it be God's will, but also for spiritual healing. The grace of the sacrament can even forgive our sins if we are unable to confess them. God's mercy extends to the last moment of our lives. For Jesus this mission of healing is not something separate but an essential part of his preaching that the Kingdom of God is near. Next Sunday, which coincides with Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, is the world day of prayer for the sick, and I will print an extract from Pope Francis' message. **The next 'Healing Mass' will be at Kelvedon on Friday 16th February at 2.00 p.m. celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power.**

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Sean O'Leary, Rona Roberts, Ann Ross, Rosemary Tuite, Michelle Bryant, Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood* and any unknown to us.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember *Gillian O'Malley, Terri Casey, James Madden, Sr Mary Simon, Albert Mason, Josephine Rayner and Tommy Manson* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

LENT: Lent is only a couple of weeks away and there will be more details of Lenten groups next week. In Kelvedon the Churches together will be meeting in our Church after 7.30 p.m. Mass on Wednesday evenings. This time we shall be exploring the spiritual and moral questions raised by 'Les Miserables', the film but also in the book and stage show. Books to accompany this cost £5.99. The usual booklets to help you with a daily reflection for Lent will also be available at £1 (children's £0.55).

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – TIPTREE: There will be a planning meeting for those interested at St Luke's this Tuesday 10.00 a.m.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: Bishop Alan is keen to start an annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Knock and will lead the first one this May. The dates are Monday 28th May to Saturday 2nd June (departing Stansted). The cost is £699.00 per person (+ £100 for single room) – see poster or A4 flyer for details.