



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6th July 2008

My Dear Friends,

The large Crucifix behind the Altar in our Church is a constant and emphatic reminder to us of Our Lord's sacrifice for us — a sacrifice of love. It depicts Him with His arms open wide in an embrace intended to include us all. The Gospel passage which we hear today contains Christ's heartfelt invitation; Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened. Christ invites us; He does not compel. Jesus reveals the compassion of His Heavenly Father. To respond to His invitation is to share in Our Lord's own readiness to accept suffering and sorrow, confident that victory and vindication will follow. The way of the cross is the way to glory. Jesus also speaks today of humility of heart. Humility runs counter to the aggression and pushiness that characterises so much of modern life. But for us it has to be a way of life because it is the way of the Lord.

Next week the World Conference for Catholic Youth opens in Sydney in the presence of the Pope. Seventy young people will be going from our diocese and our parish will be represented by James Ryan and James Harold. Please pray for all participants in this event that their witness to the Gospel may be effectively communicated to their prayer group.

God Bless you always, Fr. James

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MR TED ABBOTT R.I.P.

Janet Abbott and family would like to thank all who so kindly sent letters, cards, Mass cards and messages of sympathy and support on the death of Ted. It was much appreciated.

EPHING CHURCH CHOIRS ASSOCIATION

ECCA invites you and your family to their Summertime Concert at St. John's Epping on Saturday 12th July starting at 7.30 p.m. to a programme of sacred and secular music. Admission is free. Programmes £2. We look forward to seeing you there.

WHIST DRIVE

is to be held on Thursday 10th July at Marie and Arnold Verrall's at 62a Bower Hill at 7.00 p.m. Admission £2.00 with refreshments—all are welcome.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

"Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, based in Rayleigh, has a vacancy for an experienced part-time Administrative Assistant, 15 hours per week, Monday/Wednesday/Friday, 12 – 5pm, £8.00 per hour. The successful applicant will be computer literate, organised and enthusiastic. If you are interested in joining our small friendly team and would like more information, please contact Theresa on 01268 784544. Closing date 11th July 2008."

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Please make yourselves known to Fr. James or Deacon Duncan, so we can welcome you to our community & inform you about it.

MASS ARRANGEMENTS DURING PERIOD OF CHURCH RE-DECORATION

Weekday Mass will be celebrated in the presbytery for the three weeks commencing Monday 23rd June.

Sat 5th and Sun 7th July

Mass in the Church Hall

Sat 12th and Sun 13th July

Mass in the Church Hall

Sat 19th and Sun 20th July

Mass in Church, as normal

During the period from 23rd June to 18th July, the weekday **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** and the Monday **Holy Hour** will be suspended, recommencing in church from Monday 21st July..

Day for Life 6th July - *“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; He rescues those who are crushed in spirit.”* is the theme for this year’s Day for Life - dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition.

Day for life 2008 will focus on mental health. The aim of the day is to help raise awareness of the needs of those affected by mental ill-health, their friends, their family and their carers and the support that the parish community and professional services can bring. One in four people will be directly affected by mental health difficulties at some stage of their lives. The materials for the one day have been developed jointly with the Bishop’s Conferences of Scotland and Ireland.

Day for Life Prayer - We thank you Lord for the gift of life. Help us to appreciate the unique dignity of every human person and the individual contribution they make to the world, in fulfilment of the task you give them. Enable us by your grace to promote their well-being, serving you in one another in a spirit of generosity, through Christ Jesus Our Lord, Amen.

RACE NIGHT SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2008

The Parish Social Committee is organising a Race Night in the Church Hall. The net proceeds will be allocated equally to two causes:

- Joanne Ryan has asked that the 50 % originally to be allocated towards her Training Fund for the 2012 Olympics be re-directed to our **twinned parish of Lebohang in South Africa.**
- **Church Hall Funds** –following recent outside re-decoration.

Please note the date in your diary. The committee will be seeking Race Sponsors (£20) and Horse Owners (£5) during the coming weeks. Please support the event generously – Names and money for Sponsors and Horse Owners with their Horse Names can be handed to Paul Harwood, Terry North, Dorothy Whitehouse or Deacon Duncan, or may be posted through the presbytery door clearly marked ‘Race Night’.. The event will be organised into tables of 8 or 10...more details later.

IS THIS FOR YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

JOURNEY - IN - FAITH GROUP 2008 - 2009

An **information evening** will be held in the Presbytery at **8.00 pm on Wednesday 6th August 2008**, when will be explained the outline of the new Journey-in-Faith Programme. All those wishing to **learn about our wonderful Catholic Faith** are encouraged to attend this meeting, at which dates and times of the meetings during the year ahead will be discussed. Please let Deacon Duncan (01992 577173) or Father James know if you can attend the meeting, or if you are interested but cannot come on this date or at this time.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
This weekend 5th and 6th July 2008

Saturday	6.00 p.m. Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00 a.m. People of the Parish
	11.00 a.m. Intention of Cecelia Joseph

Intentions week commencing Monday 7th July 2008

Monday	9.00 a.m. Intentions of Josie McGlynn
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Betty Rafferty (Sick)
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Margaret Middleton R.I.P.
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Anne Ryan R.I.P.
Friday	9.00 a.m. Intention of Janet Abbott
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Norah McGrath R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00 a.m. People of the Parish
	11.00 a.m. Intention of Peter Nicholson

Congratulations To Fr. Andrew Hurley, Parish Priest of Ongar, who keeps the 40th Anniversary of Ordination this weekend.

Congratulations to Matthew Howgate and Sharron Roberts, married on 27th June in our Church.

Morning Prayer will be held 15 minutes before 9am Morning Mass.

Confessions: Saturday 11.30 — 12.00 Noon and after 6 p.m. Mass

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Morrall, David Jolly, Rosalie Shannon, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Ellen Day, Paulette Jarrold, Trudy Behn, Amy O'Day, Kathleen Schofield, Elsie Moore, Gina Hawkins, Anne Higham, Josie McGlynn, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Jeanette Mulligan, Margaret Cabon and Marie Verrall.

HOLY HOUR

Recommences 21st July



Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Recommences 21st July



ROSARY GROUP

Thursday 26th June at 5.00 p.m. at the home of Charles Ward at 22, Vicarage Road Coopersale All Welcome



Offerings last Week:

£ 1,104.77

Thank you

CAFOD:

£ 42.00