



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception

### Epping

2nd Sunday of Advent

7th December 2008

Dear Friends,

Three people feature prominently in the liturgy of Advent: Isaiah, John the Baptist and Mary, Mother of the Lord. Today John the Baptist is presented to us as the voice crying in the wilderness. He has an urgent message: ***prepare the way of the Lord***. Although we are fortunate enough to live in a lush and leafy area, we are nevertheless in the middle of a spiritual wilderness. So many who throng our streets and jostle in our shops have little or no idea of what Christmas is all about. If we take our Christian commitment seriously, then we are also called to be voices crying in the wilderness. If we wish others to prepare a way for the Lord, we must begin by preparing the way within our own hearts and minds. Advent is a time for taking stock of our lives, looking again at our values and priorities; in short, examining our consciences. Our Advent service of Penance and Reconciliation will take place on Tuesday 16th December. I commend it to you as an effective means of preparing the way of the Lord.

Please pray for Georgie Sparks, a 19-year-old Royal Marine tragically killed in Afghanistan last week. He was baptised here by Fr. Bill and his funeral will take place here on Sat. 13th Dec. at a time yet to be announced. We extend to his parents Toni & Wayne and his sister, Katie, our deepest condolences.

God bless you always,

**Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes**

**Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse**

**Pastoral Assistant.: Dr. Davnet Barker**

**Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall**

**E-mail: [epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**

**Registered charity No. 234092**

**Website:**

**Tel: 01992 572516**

**Tel: 01992 577173**

**Tel: 01992 573865**

**Tel: 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813**

**Fax: 01992 570096**

**Presbytery 11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA**

**[www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)**

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Monday 8th December is our parish patronal feast.  
Mass at 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS 2008**

Please note, carols followed by Mass will begin at 10.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve and will finish at midnight.

**ADVENT SERVICE OF PENANCE & RECONCILIATION**

8 p.m. Tuesday 16th December.

**BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK 2009**

Now on sale, price £2.50

**BAZAAR**

Thanks to everyone who took part so enthusiastically. Result may be on the notice board.

**CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON**

We are pleased to invite anyone who will be alone on Christmas Day to luncheon in our Hall 12.30 for 1.00 p.m. Elderly or disabled couples and carers are also cordially invited. Come along and enjoy a traditional Christmas luncheon with all the trimmings. Transport can be provided. Please give your name and address to Deacon Duncan or Fr James, or telephone Mary Morgan 01992 574719.

**CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE**

Casting after 11 a.m. Mass, 7th December. Rehearsal after 11 a.m. Mass, 14th December. Performance 4 p.m. the same day.

**ANCHOR HOUSE**

Once again, the parish is collecting Christmas gifts for the homeless men and women at Anchor House. These are the ONLY presents some of those lonely people will get. Please give new articles—socks, hankies, gloves and scarves welcome.

### **ECCA CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Please support Epping Church Choirs Association (ECCA) at their Christmas 'Reflections' on Friday 19th December at 8pm in St. John's Church, Epping. Seasonal music and carols for all. Interval wine and mince pies. Admission free, programmes £2.

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

Yes! its that time of year approaching again. The Hall is booked, the music is sorted, all we need is YOU!!! As per usual, the date is 31st December (funny that). Adults £5, Under 18 £2.50, OAP £2.50 Come and see the new year in with family, friends and if you are on your own, come and join in as all are welcome. Tickets available from: Steve and Shelia Earl 01992 610483 and Pete and Sarah Day 01992 522476, John and Julie Ryan 01992 524633

### **CHURCH BENCHES PROJECT**

The Church Benches Fund is now within almost £1,200 of its target. If you could donate something towards this amount, please let Fr. James have your offering, indicating whether it can be Gift Aided, which is worth an additional 28% at no further cost to you. Thanks to everyone for their tremendous support.

### **PARISH SECRETARY**

We welcome Mrs. Susan Asher back to the parish office, and wish her every fulfilment in this important post.

### **OASIS OF PEACE (MARIAN) DAY**

Date for your diaries: Saturday the 31st of January 2009 - Tea/coffee at 10.30, Rosary at 11, Mass at 11.45, Talk by Fr. Keenan at 1.30 and Holy Hour at 3 pm. Finish at 4. Please bring packed lunch, drinks provided.

### **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 TIMES AND INTENTIONS**  
**This weekend 6th/7th December 2008**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Saturday  | 6.00 p.m. Deceased Jolly Family & Friends                                       |
| Sunday  | 9.00 a.m. James Jennings<br>11.00 a.m. People of the Parish                     |
| <b><u>Intentions week commencing Monday 8th December 2008</u></b> |   |
| Monday  | <b>Immac. Conception</b> 9.00 a.m. Holy Souls<br>8.00 p.m. People of the Parish |
| Tuesday   | 9.00 a.m. Beattie Cullon  |
| Wednesday   | 9.00 a.m. Pemberton relative deceased   |
| Thursday  | 9.00 a.m. Michael Hawkes, <i>R.I.P.</i>   |
| Friday  | 9.00 a.m. Martin Higham & Family  |
| Saturday  | 6.00 p.m. Michael McGloughlin, <i>R.I.P.</i>                                    |
| Sunday  | 9.00 a.m. Terry Kennelly, <i>R.I.P.</i><br>11.00 a.m. People of the parish      |

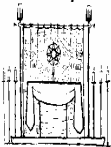
Morning Prayer each weekday in the Church at 8.45 a.m.

**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 Jarrod, Trudy Behn, Amy O'Day, Kathleen Schofield, Elsie Moore, Gina Hawkins, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Margaret Cabon, Mike Collett, Annette Goodchild, Betty O'Mahoney, Beth Davie and Christine King.

**HOLY HOUR**

*Monday evening in Church  
at 8.00 p.m.*



*All Welcome*

**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Monday to Friday for an hour  
after  
and  
till 12.30



Mass  
Tuesday

**ROSARY GROUP**

Thursday  
at David & Pat Jolly's,  
2a, Vicarage Road,  
Coopersale  
at 5.00.p.m.

*All Wel-*



*come*

Offerings last Week: £ 1,000.74

CAFOD: £ 41.96

Thank you