



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th November 2008

My Dear Friends,

The parable of the talents in today's gospel confronts us to face a challenge; is ours a life of faith or is it a life of fear? Three men are given talents or gifts by their employer. Two are prepared to take risks by putting what they have received to good use. Uncertain of the outcome, nevertheless, they use their initiative. They act with faith. The third, frightened of losing what he has, locks it away or buries it. If nothing is ventured, nothing is gained. All of us, without exception, have been gifted by God and a time will come when we shall have to give an account of our stewardship. We squander our lives if we fail to put to good use the gifts that God has given us whether through laziness or fear. When, on the other hand, we try to use what has been given us, not simply out of self interest but for the common good, we are co-operating with our Creator. Sometimes we may make mistakes, but having a go is far better than playing for safety. To trust in God to see us through is the way of faith. To lack that trust is the way of fear.

God bless you always, Fr James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes

Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse

Pastoral Assistant.: Dr. Davnet Barker

Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall

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NOVEMBER DEAD LIST

Please list your dead relatives and friends and put it in an envelope marked "November Dead List" and put it in the plate beneath the Altar. Masses are said throughout November for these souls.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

Next meeting takes place on Monday 17th November at 5.00 p.m. in the Hall.

THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2010

Anyone interested in this once every ten year event is invited to contact Fr. James. The play would be the centre piece of a 9 day coach trip to Bavaria and the Austria Tyrol. Approximate cost: £995.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

This group is for children ages 4—9 yrs and older siblings of those who attend. We urgently require helpers to ensure that this group can continue. Mums and Dads of the children who attend this group would be particularly welcomed to help teach our children the Word of God. All teaching materials are provided. If you are interested, please ring Norah on 01992 577932.

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, Fr James (when he returns) or telephone Mary Morgan 01992 774719.

CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE

The Children's Carol Service will take place at 4.00 p.m. on December 14th.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Bazaar date 6th December. 3 weeks to go. Next week's appeal is for the Grocery stall. Please take a labelled bag and bring it back with 2 or 3 items in it. Do make sure that the donated goods are within the sell-by date and spare the embarrassment of the stall-holders. There is still time to become a Bazaar Patron, especially if you are unable to come to the Bazaar. Many thanks to all those who have given so generously.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

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

BETHLEHEM ART A co-operative of Palestinian Christian Wood Carvers will be visiting the parish the weekend November 22/23 to exhibit examples of their craft. Their trade has been devastated by recent upheavals in the Holy Land and they fully deserve our support.

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 01992610483 and Pete and Sarah Day 01992522476, John and Julie Ryan 01992524633

YOUTH GROUP The next meeting will be on the 17th November at 7.30 in the Church Hall. Bring friends, all are welcome.

PENNIES FOR PEACE BOTTLE The Pennies for Peace Bottle has been emptied and a cheque for £77.50 sent to Pax Christie for peace education work in schools in this country and in Palastine.

CONGO DISASTER APPEAL _At its recent meeting, the parish Justice and Peace Committee requested that a special donation of £1,000 be sent to help to alleviate this humanitarian disaster. The parish Finance and Development Committee agreed that £1,000 should be sent to CAFOD and this was posted on 7th November. This amount is separate from tehmoney collected through teh CAFOD box each week and comes from the general fund.

ANNUAL SERVICE for the BEREAVED – 3pm SUNDAY 16th NOVEMBER This service is arranged for all those who have lost loved ones – spouses, children, parents, relatives or friends – whether recently or some time ago. The service includes hymns, named remembrance of the loved ones who have died (during which candles will be lit), a short sermon and prayers for the bereaved. Tea/coffee and biscuits in the Church Hall afterwards. Do join us. Any queries to Deacon Duncan.

VACANCY ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL Foundation Stage Teacher—temporary required for 1st January 2009 for 2 day weekly. Please contact the school on 020 8508 6315 for deatils and application form. Closing date 1st December 2008.

CHURCH BENCHES PROJECT

The Church Benches Fund is now within £2,500 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 addoitional 28% at no further cost to you. Thanks to everyone for their tremendous support.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
This weekend 15th and 16th November 2008

Saturday	6.00 p.m. Molly Firth R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Michael Sellers R.I.P. 11.00 a.m. People of the Parish
<u>Intentions week commencing Monday 17th November 2008</u>	
Monday	9.00 a.m. Joseph Connolly R.I.P.
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Josie McGlynn R.I.P.
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Paul Flack R.I.P.
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Deidre Kehoe R.I.P.
Friday	9.00 a.m. Special Intention
Saturday	6.00 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Bobby Dew R.I.P. 11.00 a.m. Deborah Byrne R.I.P.


Baptism: Congratulations to D'Arcy Charles Collier Baptised this Sunday
Magnificat: A booklet of prayers and scripture for November. Complimentary copies are at the back of the Church. Please help yourself.
Parish Secretary: Fr James has accepted Martin Higham's resignation as Parish Secretary with immediate effect. He will be handing over to Susan Asher in the next few weeks.

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 Jarrold, Trudy Behn, Amy O'Day, Kathleen Schofield, Elsie Moore, Gina Hawkins, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Jeanette Mulligan, Margaret Cabon, Mike Collett, Annette Goodchild and Betty O'Mahoney.


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



Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
 Monday to Friday for an hour after Mass and Tuesday till 12.30



ROSARY GROUP
 Thursday at David and Pat Jolly's 2a Vicarage Road, Coopersale at 5.00.p.m.
 All Welcome



Offerings last Week:	£ 1,245.04	Thank you
CAFOD:	£ 82.00	