



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception

### Epping

4th Sunday of Advent

21st December 2008

Dear Friends,

On this, the final Sunday of Advent, Scripture speaks to us of “the obedience of faith”. The original sin of pride was expressed in a refusal to act upon God’s word: it was an act of disobedience. That proud violation of divine order was reversed by the humble submission of Jesus to His Father’s will. He was born in a stable and died upon a cross. If we are to celebrate the coming Christmas feast in any meaningful way, we must embrace Our Lord’s humility and respond willingly to the call to the obedience of faith. In the gospel, we hear how Mary made her own act of faithful obedience. In the experience of the Annunciation, she opened herself to the power of the Holy Spirit and said, “Let what you have said be done to me.”

Our Christmas worship will begin at 6pm on Christmas Eve, with the family Mass. It will continue with carols and Mass, commencing at 10.30 pm and timed to end at or around midnight. The Christmas morning Masses are the same as those every Sunday, at 9am and 11am. Please make every effort to encourage lapsed family members to join us at Mass for Christmas. There is a place for everyone around the Lord’s table. God grant us all a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

God bless you always,  
Father 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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**[www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)**

## **CHRISTMAS 2008**

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

## **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 574719.

## **ANCHOR HOUSE CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

The *Justice & Peace Group* is once again appealing for suitable **new** items to be given as Christmas presents for 120 homeless people who will be spending this Christmas at Anchor House in the East End...Anchor House provides half-way house accommodation for those over 25 years old & most of them are men. This appeal has become a tradition in our parish—this will be the 16th year.

## **EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS / READERS ROTAS**

Will the above please collect their new rotas from the post box.

## **CHRISTMAS STAMPS**

Don't throw away the stamps on your cards. Clip them off with a 1/4 inch border and put them in the porch box.

## **THE CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE**

was very blessed. Warm thanks from Norah and Dorothy to all who took part; the performers, the readers, the soloist and the organist. They all combined to make a truly Christmas celebration.

## **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for Miss Elizabeth Crowley, Peter Day's aunt, who died in Ireland on Dec.17th. May she rest in peace.

## **PSALM RESPONSE CHRISTMAS DAY 11 A.M. MASS:**

Sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth,  
Sing a new song to, sing a new song to the Lord, bless His Name

### **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 522476, John and Julie Ryan 524633.

### **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

There will be a meeting of this group at 6pm on Sunday 21st December in the presbytery. Anyone saddened by bereavement is welcome to come to share their problems over a cup of tea/coffee. Queries to Deacon Duncan, 01992 577173

### **CHURCH HALL**

Our church hall is available for hire at competitive rates all year round. For details, ring Arnold Verrall on 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813. Feel free to tell your friends.

### **BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK 2009**

Now on sale, price £2.50

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for Maureen Groom and Anthony Turner, who died last week. May they rest in peace.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

to Mrs. Kathleen Schofield, who has just celebrated her 95th birthday.

### **NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL**

At Our Lady of Fatima, Harlow, Dec.31/Jan1 in the chapel 10pm to 6am, with Midnight Mass, and Adoration for the rest of the night. Tea and coffee 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**

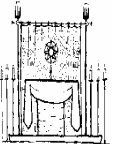
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Clare Stevens, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Gloria Callaghan, <i>R.I.P.</i> 11.00 a.m. People of the Parish
<b><u>Intentions week commencing Monday 22nd December 2008</u></b>	
Monday	9.00 a.m. Sylvia Ryan, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Maureen Groom, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Wednesday <i>Christmas Eve</i>	9.00 a.m. Father John Ryan, <i>R.I.P.</i> 6.00 p.m. Josie McGlynn, <i>R.I.P.</i> <i>Carols and Mass</i> 10.30 p.m. People of the Parish
Thursday <i>Christmas Day</i>	9.00 a.m. Holy Souls 11.00 a.m. Father John Lane, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday	10.00 a.m. Elizabeth Crowley, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday	6.00 p.m. John & Eileen Lennon
Sunday <i>The Holy Family</i>	9.00 a.m. Intentions of Ann McCall 11.00 a.m. People of the parish

Morning Prayer each weekday in the Church 15 minutes before 9 o'clock Mass.

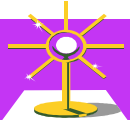
**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30 — 12.00 Noon and after 6 p.m. Mass

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, 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.*



**Adoration of the Most  
Blessed Sacrament**  
No Adoration for two weeks.  
Recommences Monday  
5th Janu- ary  
2009



**ROSARY GROUP**  
No meeting for two weeks.  
Recommences Thursday  
8th Janu- ary,  
2009



Offerings last Week: Without standing orders  
£ 495.55

CAFOD: £ 57.23 Thank you