



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception

### Epping

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 24th August 2008

Hello, in the absence of Fr James, **THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**  
One of the themes in today's readings is the authority invested in those to whom we turn as leaders.

In the first reading, the Lord invests Eliakim with great pomp as leader of the Israelites and expresses his confidence in him to become 'a throne of glory for his father's house'. In the Gospel reading, Jesus appoints Peter as the 'rock on which I will build my church, and the gates of the underworld will not hold out against it'.

Powerful stuff!! At a time when we see authority being eroded before our eyes (e.g. Pakistan and Georgia), where lies the authority invested in leaders? Where lies the authority of our national leaders in a world of 'dog-eat-dog' – in each country of Great Britain? Where lies the authority of Church leaders, who are bombarded with spurious criticism, even by other church leaders?

Surely, we always need to remember that responsible Christians are expected to base their lives and actions on loving relationships. The media might not be impressed by the apparent 'weakness' shown in trying to persuade rather than being belligerent, but our authority comes from God, not from media moguls. As Christians through our baptism, we are all leaders in one way or another and have a prime responsibility to use our authority as leaders in a way which will be pleasing to God and which will help to build up God's kingdom here on earth.

We too should become a small 'throne of glory for our Father's house' and a small 'rock on which God's Church is built'. Evil will never triumph if we trust in God and work together in harmony.

Fr James seems to be making good progress during his convalescence and will return to the parish on Friday. This weekend we shall say 'goodbye' to Fr Stewart and thank him for saying Mass for us over the past two weekends.

**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**  
**11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA**  
**[www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)**

**The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** would like to invite you to support the following events which are being organised to raise vital funds needed to help thousands of children and families throughout Essex and East London:

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September – James Bond Charity Fun Casino Night—Beat the post holiday blues and have a great night out with friends/family at our James Bond Fun Casino Night!

On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2008 at The Halfway House Marquee, Herongate, (from 7.30pm) be greeted by the paparazzi and red carpet, enjoy a drinks reception, lovely canapés and enjoy spending your casino chips on the blackjack, roulette or stud poker tables with the chance of winning one of many great prizes at the end of the evening. Finish off the evening dancing to our great DJ. Tickets are only £25 pp and can be ordered from Childcare BCCS on 01268 784544, debit/credit card can be taken over the phone.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September – Children's Charity Bike Challenge. Enjoy the fun of cycling past all the farm animals and help raise money for local children and families at the same time.  
Ages 5-8 years 2 circuits plus fancy dress competition  
Ages 9-12 years 4 circuits. Entry fee in advance is £10 per child which includes entry to the challenge, entry into Old MacDonald's Farm for the afternoon, plus entry for 1 accompanying adult. Prizes for the Most Original Fancy Dress, Best Dressed Bike and certificates and goodies for all those who successfully complete the challenge, plus the chance to win great raffle prizes. For an entry form and sponsor sheet contact Childcare BCCS on 01268 784544. To sponsor one of these events or donate raffle or auction prizes please contact Tracy Jordan by email [tjordan@childcareuk.org](mailto:tjordan@childcareuk.org) or tel 07912 308000.

### **First Holy Communion Programme 2008/09**

Application forms are now available from Fr. James for the course starting after the Summer holidays. This year's classes will be held on Monday evenings from 5—6.30 p.m.

### **CALLING ALL CHILDREN OF THEYDON BOIS**

This year we are asking the children to design the Christmas card for distribution to all our homes in the village. The design should be on a pale background in one colour so that it can be printed onto our cards for Christmas. Closing date is 21st September. Entries can be sent to Marie Tisi at 36 Morgan Crescent telephone 01992 814717. There are prizes for the winner and two runners up

### **NEW PARISHIONERS:**

Please make yourselves known to Fr. James or Deacon Duncan, so we can welcome

**(LAST CALL) THE PARISH ASSEMBLY**  
**Wednesday 10th September 2008 @ 7.30 p.m.**

Would members of parish organisations who wish to report their Groups efforts for the year through the "Parish Report" please ensure their contributions are into the Presbytery by this coming Thursday 28th August.

## **“WOE TO YOU IF YOU DO NOT SUCCEED IN DEFENDING LIFE” JOHN PAULII**

Why not join Bishop Thomas and the Friars of The Renewal for 9.00 a.m. Mass at Trinity School Woodford High Road on Saturday 27th September. followed by a peaceful procession to Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic Russell Road, Buckhurst Hill and a short Rosary vigil there to pray for the babies, their parents, the doctors, nurses and staff at the clinic. It's a matter of life and death.

## **BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

There will be a meeting of the Bereavement Support Group in the presbytery on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September at 6.00 pm. Anyone saddened by bereavement is welcome to come along for a cup of tea and a chat. Any queries to Deacon Duncan, please.

## **NEW BENCHES for CENTRE AISLE, etc**

The old church benches have now been removed and the church floor has been sanded and sealed. The new benches will be fitted on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August and we hope that the new curtain behind the crucifix will be fitted on 29<sup>th</sup> August. Mass will be celebrated in the church, as normal, from next weekend (30<sup>th</sup> August).

**A Eucharistic Services will be held in the presbytery from 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> August.** (See the list of times on the back page of the newsletter). Continued thanks for the generous sponsorship for the benches, tabernacle etc received so far, **which has already provided a large proportion of the funds required for this project.** If you would like to add your contribution towards the cost of a bench, please either hand your donation to Fr James or Deacon Duncan directly or post it through the presbytery letter-box (sponsorship forms are at the back of the church). It is hoped that we shall cover the whole cost of the benches through these donations, so rendering unnecessary additional fund-raising through social events etc. Please be as generous as possible. Thank you for your continued co-operation and understanding during this period of upheaval.

## **RACE NIGHT – SATURDAY 6<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER – CHURCH HALL**

**Tickets are now on sale after each Mass @ £8 each** (includes ploughman's supper, but bring your own drinks). Tables will be arranged to seat 8 or 10, but smaller parties are very welcome (even singles or doubles!!). Why not bring your friends? **All profits from this Race Night will be equally shared between our twinned parish of Lebohang in South Africa and our Church Hall Maintenance Fund.** Get your tickets this weekend so that we shall know numbers attending for catering purposes.

## **JOURNEY-in-FAITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MEETING**

There will be an additional Information meeting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 8.00 pm in the presbytery for those interested in finding out more about the Journey-in-Faith Group. At the first Information Evening, it was decided to hold the Group's meetings on Wednesday evenings from 24<sup>th</sup> September. If anyone would like to find out more about the Catholic Church, but would find Wednesday evenings difficult, please let Deacon Duncan know. Please let Fr James or Deacon Duncan know if you wish to attend the Information Meeting on

## **ORGAN SPECTACULAR**

ECCA's Musical Director Simon and his son David are giving an organ recital on Saturday 6th September at 7.30 p.m. in St. John's Church Epping. Lots of well known and popular pieces to be played. Tickets available at the door at £10 which include an interval drink.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**  
**This weekend 23rd & 24th August 2008**

|          |                                 |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| Saturday | 6.00 p.m. Holy Souls            |
| Sunday   | 9.00 a.m. Celebrant's intention |
|          | 11.00 a.m. Holy Souls           |

**Intentions week commencing Monday 25th August 2008**

|           |                |   |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| Monday    | (Bank Holiday) | 10.00 a.m. Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion |
| Tuesday   |                | 9.00 a.m. Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion  |
| Wednesday |                | 9.00 a.m. Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion  |
| Thursday  |                | 9.00 a.m. Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion  |
| Friday    |                | 9.00 a.m. Liturgy of Word and Holy Communion  |
| Saturday  |                | 6.00 p.m. Holy Souls                          |
| Sunday    |                | 9.00 a.m. Yvonne Seneviratne (sick)           |
|           |                | 11.00 a.m. People of the parish               |

**Fr. James is making a good recovery from the operation on his eyes last Friday and has been much moved by the many prayers and good wishes he has received from so many parishioners. He continues his convalescence at St Joseph's in Littlehampton and plans to be back next Saturday.**

Morning Prayer in Presbytery Tuesday—Friday 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, Josie McGlynn, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Jeanette Mulligan, Margaret Cabon, Marie Verrall and Mike Collett.

**HOLY HOUR**

*Restarts Monday 1st September at 8.00 in the Church all welcome*



**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Restarts Monday 1st September after Morning Mass until 10.30 a.m.

Tuesday  until 12.30 p.

**ROSARY GROUP**

Restarts Thursday 6th September at David & Pat Jolly's 2a Vicarage Road, Cooper-sale at 5.00 p.m. All Welcome



Offerings last Week:

£ 1,062.55

Thank you

CAFOD:

£ 107.53