



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

31st August 2008

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus invites us to follow him in order to save our eternal lives. But a change of heart may be required if we are to accept this invitation wholly in the spirit in which it is given. We need to give up any thoughts of our personal priorities or personal benefit from our activities and focus instead on the Gospel values which God wishes us to adopt. As Jesus says, what gain will it be for us, if we enjoy happiness in this world at the expense of the ruin of our soul for eternity.

It's not easy to be a good practising Christian. Those around us who do not share our priorities may look upon us as being 'religious nutters' and will be quick to point out that we are spoiling our chance of 'a good life' by adopting Christian values. However, if we persevere, it may become evident to others that the Christian life is full of goodness, particularly in the way in which we can help the less-fortunate.

At times when life gets difficult, it is good to remember that many good people before us have suffered for their beliefs. Jeremiah is a good example in today's liturgy. There is a well-known expression: 'when the going gets tough, the tough get going'. We need to ask ourselves: am I a truly committed Christian and prepared to 'tough-out' periods of difficulty in practising my faith? We need to remember Jesus' words when he said that when the Son of Man comes again, 'he will reward each person according to his behaviour' here on earth. Have a good week. Deacon Duncan

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

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

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.

RACE NIGHT – (THIS) SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

We hope you will come and enjoy this Race Night...there are still tickets available @ £8 each (includes ploughman's supper – bring your own drinks). Funds raised will be divided between our twinned parish of Lebohang in South Africa and our own Church Hall Maintenance Fund. Doors open at 7pm and the first race will be at 7.30 pm. Do come and bring your friends, but we need to know you're coming so that we can organise your food. Tickets on sale after all Masses this weekend

NEW PARISHIONERS:

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

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.

40 HOURS EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

Following the last two years' rewarding experience, this year's exposition will take place from **Friday evening 26th September to Sunday morning 28th September**. The spirituality of our parish community will be enhanced by this **silent adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament. Everyone is invited to commit themselves to an hour of 'watching' and we are keen for **MEN TO COVER THE NIGHT-TIME HOURS**. A rota is posted on the notice board; please add your name for a time which will be convenient to you...we need at least two and, preferably three, volunteer watchers for each hour.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

There will be a meeting of the Bereavement Support Group in the presbytery on Sunday 7th 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.

JOURNEY-in-FAITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MEETING

There will be an additional Information meeting on Monday 8th 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 24th 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 8th September,

HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Hall Management Committee will be on Wednesday 3rd September at 8 pm in the **Church Cry Chapel**. Any parishioner who would like to attend will be most welcome..we are looking for more Committee members.

PARISH ASSEMBLY – WEDNESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

Our annual Parish Assembly is an opportunity for the various parish committees to report on activities during the last year and for all parishioners to have their say on their favourite topics. It is also the meeting at which next year's Parish Pastoral Council is elected.

A Wine and Cheese Reception starts at 7.30 pm, with the Assembly starting at 8pm . Please do come to this important meeting...It is YOUR PARISH and you should know how it works and what goes on.

CHURCH BENCHES PROJECT

Now that the church benches are in place, we can appreciate the benefit of having a central aisle...thank you to all those who let Fr James know that they thought this would be a good idea. Thanks also to the 26 parishioners who have donated over £20,000 towards the cost of the project. We still have some way to go to raise the whole amount required, so if you would like to sponsor a bench, or part of one, please let Fr James have your donation – forms are available with the newspapers at the back of the church.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
This weekend 30th & 31st August 2008

Saturday	6.00 p.m. Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Yvonne Seneviratne (sick)
	11.00 a.m. People of the parish

Intentions week commencing Monday 1st September 2008

Monday	9.00 a.m. Geoffrey Noel R.I.P.
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Bill McEvoy R.I.P.
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Holy Souls
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Esther Bray R.I.P.
Friday	9.00 a.m. Paul Dunning R.I.P.
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Margaret White R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00 a.m. People of the Parish
	11.00 a.m. Lonely & Housebound parishioners

Recently deceased: Please pray for **Josie McGlynn** who died on Friday last. May she rest in peace.

Congratulations to: **George Afful & Joanne Tribe Married 30th August.**
Thomas Harrington & Rebecca Meadows married at Dereham 30th August

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, Marie Verrall and Mike Collett.

HOLY HOUR

Monday at 8.00 p.m. in the Church all welcome



Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Monday to Friday for an hour after Mass and Tuesday till 12.30



ROSARY GROUP

Thursday 4th September at David & Pat Jolly's 2a Vicarage Road, Coopersale at 5.00.p.m. All Welcome



Offerings last Week: £ 1,014.16

Thank you

CAFOD: £ 2.67