



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

The Epiphany

4th January 2009

Dear Friends,

This weekend, we keep the Feast of Epiphany, which concludes the celebration of Christmas. The word *Epiphany* means *revelation*. In the persons of the wise men from the East, the Saviour is revealed to the gentile nations. Two concepts are clearly delineated in this feast: the one is wisdom, the other the bringing of gifts. Wisdom enables us to discern the purpose of human existence in God Himself. God is our beginning and God is our end. We come from Him and we return to Him. The gifts we receive from Him are intended for His greater glory and for the common good. On this cusp of a new year, the feast enables us to commit ourselves afresh to the service of God and of one another in the knowledge that all our actions have value and significance in His sight.

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make our Christmas celebrations so uplifting: musicians, readers, altar servers, florists, ushers, Ministers of the Eucharist and, of course, all who attended the services in such numbers. There were well over 600 here on Christmas Day. On a personal note, I would like to thank Deacon Duncan for all his hard work and attention to detail. Thank you also for your cards and gifts and a very generous Christmas offering.

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

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

Presbytery 11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA

www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

MEMBERS OF THE PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL

Will members of the Parish Council please collect the minutes of the meeting on December 2nd from the post box.

A copy is on the notice board and on the parish website.

YOUR CHILD'S CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Have you thought about your child's Catholic education? Is your child approaching his/her 5th birthday? Is your child currently attending a non-Catholic Primary School?

For information about applications for admission to our parish school, St. John Fisher Catholic Primary School, please contact the school office on 0208 508 6315.

Friday 9th – Sunday 11th January BCYA NEW YEAR RETREAT

The Brentwood Catholic Young Adults would like to invite anyone aged 18 to 30ish to our New Year Retreat held at Douai Abbey, just outside Reading. Sr Judith Russi SMN, a lively and engaging speaker, will be leading us in a relaxed yet thought provoking time together as we look to the coming year. If you would like to meet other young adults in the beautiful grounds of Douai Abbey while taking time to engage with your faith after the Christmas rush this retreat is for you. For more information or to book please call Teresa on 01277 265286, email youngadults@bcys.net or visit our website www.bcys.net/young-adults

Iford Ursuline High School SIXTH FORM PREVIEW EVENING

Entry to Year 12 for students born between 1st Sept. 1992 and 31st Aug. 1993 Thursday **15 January** 2009 6.00 – 8.00 pm. Head Teacher's Address: 7.30 pm. Iford Ursuline High School is an all-girls Catholic School serving the local community and beyond. We have an excellent record of achievement at A level, with the 2008 ALPS report grading teaching and learning in the Sixth Form as excellent. The Sixth Form is open to students of all faiths. If you would like to study for A levels in this environment and feel you could make a positive contribution to Iford Ursuline Sixth Form, then come along to the school on Thursday 15 January, speak to a member of staff, and discuss the possibilities. We will endeavour to make your experience here as personalised as we can.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for Phoebe Tuvey and Gertrude Hurley, who died in Christmas week. May they rest in peace.

COST OF NEWSPAPERS

Will those who purchase Catholic newspapers from the back of the church please note that, from 16th December 2008, the price of the Herald newspaper increased. The new price is £1.20

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK 2009

Now on sale, price £2.50

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting of the group will be at 6 p.m. in the presbytery on Sunday **18th January**. Anyone saddened by bereavement is welcome to come along for a cup of tea and a chat. Queries to Deacon Duncan, 01992 577173.

CHRISTMAS ALONE 2008

Churches Together in Epping would like to thank Father James for welcoming our guests on Christmas Day. A BIG THANK YOU also goes to the Catholic Community for the use of the hall, and their generosity, help and kindness — it was wonderful to have so many involved.

OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

to visit Bethlehem and Jerusalem, and walk where Jesus walked! In October 2009 the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will visit the Holy Land. Open to all aged 17+ (school year 12+ when we travel) and young adults. Full details and application form **www.bcys.net/holyland** or call 01277 265286. The dates are October 24th - 31st - school half term and reading week at many unis.

(NB Also look at www.bcys.net for Lourdes trips (age 15+) and many other events for young people (age 13+) throughout the year).

CATHOLIC DIARY 2009

Please take a copy of the new parish diary, at the back of the church. They are free.

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

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| Saturday | 6.00 p.m. Terry Kennelly, <i>R.I.P.</i> |
| Sunday | 9.00 a.m. Cecil and Florence Budd 11.00 a.m. People of the Parish |

Intentions week commencing Monday 5th January 2009

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| Monday | 9.00 a.m. Michael O'Rourke, <i>R.I.P.</i> |
| Tuesday | 9.00 a.m. Dan O'Halloran, <i>R.I.P.</i> |
| Wednesday | 9.00 a.m. Rachel Richardson |
| Thursday | 9.00 a.m. Michael O'Mahoney, <i>R.I.P.</i> |
| Friday | 9.00 a.m. Intentions of Jim and Betty Sullivan |
| Saturday | 6.00 p.m. Holy Souls |
| Sunday | 9.00 a.m. Francis Monrose 11.00 a.m. People of the parish |

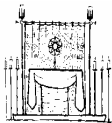
Morning Prayer each weekday in the Church 15 minutes before 9 o'clock Mass.

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

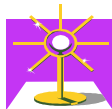
Monday evening in Church
at 8.00 p.m.



All Welcome

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

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



ROSARY GROUP

Thursday at 5 p.m.
at the home of Charles
Ward,
22, Vicarage Road,
Cooper- sale.



Offerings

21/12: Without standing orders: £ 556.36
28/12: £ 1255.17

CAFOD: 21/12: £ 364.58 28.12: £ 67.79

Donation to CAFOD from coffee after Sunday Mass: £ 50/- . **Thank you**