



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

Passion Sunday

5th April 2009

Dear Friends,

We now enter Holy Week, the most sacred time in the Christian calendar. Today, the Passion of St. Mark is proclaimed; St. John's version of it will be read on Good Friday. During these holy days, we must not allow ourselves to be sidetracked or beguiled by secular distractions. All committed Christians will be focussed on our Blessed Saviour, firstly in His suffering and then in His glory. Ideally, the three great Masses of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday night should all be experienced since they form a sequence unfolding the drama of Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. The Maundy Mass recalls the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper and the call to service with the washing of the feet. Good Friday, a day of fasting and abstinence from meat, celebrates the supreme sacrifice of Our Lord on the Cross. The great Vigil of Holy Saturday night brings everything to a climax. The lighting of the Easter candle and the singing of the exsultet announce Christ as the Light of the World, gloriously risen from the dead. This year, we welcome adults into full communion with the Catholic Church. Raya Benchick and Stewart Clarke will be baptised and Laura Hayes and Adam Frost will be confirmed. Let us pray that our Holy Week observances may confirm us all in our faith and preserve us as a Christian Community from all harmful and divisive influences.

God bless you always,  
Father James.

**Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes**

**Tel: 01992 572516**

**Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse**

**Tel: 01992 577173**

**Pastoral Assistant.: Dr. Davnet Barker**

**Tel: 01992 573865**

**Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall**

**Tel: 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813**

**E-mail: [epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**

**Fax: 01992 570096**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Palm Sunday in, 6 p.m.

**EASTER MONDAY April 13th:** Mass at 10 a.m.

**BOOKS FOR SWAZILAND:** The Epping Churches are helping to build a library for a rural community in this poor African State. A box is in the church porch to receive good condition second-hand books. Children's books, reference books, up-to-date atlases, medical books and classics—no adult fiction, please.

**EASTER LILIES:** As in past years, you are invited to donate a commemorative lily to adorn the church at Easter. Please mark your envelope 'Easter Lily'. £2 per bloom please.

**CHANGES ON CHURCH SANCTUARY:** Following the largely enthusiastic response to the Benches and Tabernacle & Stand, it has been agreed by the Parish Council that an Ambo and Font, in a style to complement the Altar, should be provided. Whilst this is being done, the sanctuary carpet, which is in a poor state, will be replaced, taking the opportunity to change the colour to a suitable shade of blue. This will then complete all the planned works. Note particularly that it is not intended to re-model the sanctuary floor, nor to replace the crucifix, nor to modify the altar in any way. It has been agreed that the Ambo and Font will be self-financing and, with the help of a very recent bequest and other pledges, most of the funds required are already available. If any parishioner would like to contribute towards this beautification of our church, please let Fr James have your contribution (gift-aided if possible).

### **WALK OF WITNESS**

Churches Together in Epping have arranged for this to take place on Good Friday, 10th April. Meet at the Duke of Wellington Public House at 10.45. An enactment will take place followed by a short service outside our Church on the green. Refreshments and hot cross buns available in our hall afterwards. Everyone most welcome.

### **ECCA SINGING 'THE GLORY OF EASTER'**

by John Peterson on Good Friday at 7.30 p.m. in St. John's church. Please support us. Admission is free and the retiring collection will be made for 'HOLY LAND 2003' as commended by Fr. Paul Maddison. A very fitting way to conclude Good Friday.

**ALTAR SERVERS' PRACTICE:** 5pm on Tuesday 7th April for the Easter Masses.

### **GOLDEN WEDDING:**

Deacon Duncan and Dorothy send warm thanks to all those who sent prayers, cards and gifts on the 50th anniversary of their wedding. Special thanks to Fr. James for the eloquence and spirituality he brought to the Celebration Mass.

**HOLY COMMUNION CLASS:** Monday 20th April 5 pm; Monday 27th April 5 pm.  
Parents Session Tuesday 28th April 8pm.

**HOLY PLACES COLLECTION, GOOD FRIDAY:**

This supports the Christian shrines in the Holy Land and their pastoral outreach. Following the violence in the Gaza Strip, the needs of the Christians and the entire population in the Holy Land are greater than ever.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** The envelopes for the next year are now available from the back of the Church—please pick up your box. If you want any further information about the envelope scheme or Gift Aid, please contact Malcolm Heughan on 812012.

**JUMBLE SALE** Saturday 25th April in our hall.

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:** Will members please collect the minutes of the recent meeting from the post box. A copy is on the notice board and on the website.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** All those saddened by bereavement are welcome to a cup of tea and a chat in the presbytery on Sunday 5th April at 6.45 pm

**OUR CHURCH HALL** is available for hire at competitive rates all year round. For details, ring Arnold Verrall on 01992 573633. Feel free to tell your friends.

**SPUC MEETING:** on Tuesday 21st April at Brentwood Catholic Cathedral Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT. John Smeaton, SPUC's National Director, will be speaking about the effects of the Human Fertilisation Bill being passed by Parliament. 7.30 to 9pm. Please make a big effort to attend and hear what you can do to make a stand for the sanctity of human life. More info? Ring Teresa 01277 262251.

**OASIS OF PEACE (MARIAN) DAY:** Forget your troubles and rest in the Lord on Saturday May 2nd 2009 at our Church, 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Includes Mass, Adoration, Rosary and Testimonies. Bring packed lunch – drinks 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.

**THE SOUTH-EASTERN CATHOLIC HISTORY** Journal, a publication of the Essex and London Recusant Society, is now available, £6 from Isobel on 01268 289678.

**CAFOD** Bike Ride 10 or 19 miles through Lea Valley Park and along the canal tow path. Sunday 7th June. Fun day out for all the family. Phone 0208 502 9722.

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**  
**This weekend 4th/5th April 2009**

Saturday	6.00 p.m. Intentions of Ann McCaul
Sunday <b><i>Palm Sunday</i></b>	9.00 a.m. People of the Parish 11.00 a.m. Angela Riccoboni/Jean Goodman

**Intentions week commencing Monday 6th April 2009**

Monday	<b>2.00 p.m.</b> <i>Requiem</i> Mrs. Elizabeth O'Halloran
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Tommy O'Callaghan
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Dan McEvoy
Thursday	<b>8.00 p.m.</b> Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday	<b>3.00 p.m.</b> Solemnity of the Passion
Saturday	<b>8.00 p.m.</b> Solemn Vigil of Easter
Sunday <b><i>Easter Sunday</i></b>	9.00 a.m. Maire Cussen (sick) 11.00 a.m. People of the Parish

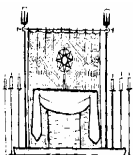
**Morning Prayer** will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9am Mass.

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

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Morrall, David Jolly, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Ellen Day, Paulette Jarrold, Trudy Behn, Amy O'Day, Elsie Moore, Gina Hawkins, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Margaret Cabon, Mike Collett, Annette Goodchild, Betty O'Mahoney, Beth Davie,

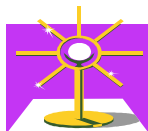
**HOLY HOUR**

*Monday at 8.00 p.m. in the Church  
All Welcome*



**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday to Friday  
for an hour after Mass  
and Tuesday till 12.30 p.m.  
**N.B. No Adoration in Holy Week  
and Easter Week.**



**ROSARY GROUP**

Thursday at 5.00 p.m. at  
the home of Charles Ward  
22 Vicarage Road  
Coopersale  
All Welcome



**Offerings**

£ 1395.62

**of which CAFOD:**

£ 153.85

**Thank you**