



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

Second Sunday of Advent

6th December 2009

Dear Friends,

Christianity, whilst it directs us to truths beyond time and place, is firmly rooted in this world. We know when Jesus lived and we know where he lived. Today's gospel speaks of His predecessor, the prophet, John the Baptist, who proclaimed his message "in the fifteenth year of the Emperor Tiberius". John spoke of himself as a voice in the wilderness, preparing the way of the Lord. The wilderness is still with us and we do not have to go to Judea to find it: it is all around us. So we, too, are very much voices crying in a secular, spiritless desert. The whole purpose of Advent is to help us prepare a way for Christ in our own hearts and minds. If we engage seriously with the prayers and readings of this season, we learn to become countersigns to the world around, refusing to buy into its faithless agenda and refusing to be sucked into its superficial culture. Advent is a time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation after an honest examination of our lives. John the Baptist called for belief: he also called for repentance.

Tuesday next, **8th December**, is our patronal Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**. There will be Mass at **9 am & 7.30 pm**.

God bless you always,  
Father James.

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes

Tel: 01992 572516

Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse

Tel: 01992 577173

Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall

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11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA Website:

[www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)

## **TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER: Patronal Feast**

of the *Immaculate Conception*. Holy Mass at 9 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

## **ADVENT SERVICE OF PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION**

Monday 14th December at 8 p.m.

**BAPTISM**: Isobelle Graham and Zara Ferns. Congratulations!

## **FIRST COMMUNION CLASS**

The last one this term: Saturday 12th December 10.30 a.m. in the Hall.

## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S MASS**

on Sunday 13th December at 11 a.m.

## **BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2010**

Now on sale price £2.50

## **NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

All welcome. 7.30 till late in the Church Hall. Adults £7.50; under 18's and OAP's £3.50. Be great to see you there. For tickets, call Julie and John Ryan on 01992 524633. Bring your own food and drinks. **Sorry, no admission on the door. Admission is by advance ticket only.** Thank you.

**CHRISTMAS CARD FOR A PRISONER APPEAL** Many prisoners will be alone this Christmas, imprisoned a long way from home and often without any support from friends or family. We invite you to write a message in a Christmas card, send it to us, and we will give your card to a serving prisoner before Christmas Day. Send your card to **Freepost RLTY-SABS-YEKR**, Prison Advice and Care Trust, Suite C5, City Cloisters, 196 Old Street, London EC1V 9FR.

## **CAROL SERVICE MONDAY 21ST DECEMBER**

In our church, run by Poulton's. At 6.30 p.m.

## **DAY OF INSPIRATION**

**for Catholics working with Young People.** Come and hear some of the finest speakers in the world share their wisdom and knowledge about working with young people. Bob and Maggie McCarty are at the forefront of Youth Ministry in America, and they will be joined by well known Dominican author and speaker Fr Tim Radcliffe, Abbot Christopher Jamison (from the BBC series, *The Monastery*), and Archbishop Vincent Nichols. February 27<sup>th</sup> 2010, London – full details at [www.cymfed.org/congress](http://www.cymfed.org/congress). Tickets £12.50 if booked by December 18<sup>th</sup>; £14 after that date, while tickets remain.

## **NO MASS ON BOXING DAY SATURDAY EVENING 6PM**

### **CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON**

We would like to invite anyone who will be alone on Christmas Day to join us for a traditional lunch in our hall. Carers with dependants and couples will also be most welcome. Please give your name to Father James or Deacon Duncan, or phone Mary Morgan 574719. Transport can be provided.

### **DEFEND THE RIGHT TO LIFE**

by writing or phoning in against assisted suicide. The bill is being discussed now. The addresses: **Right to Life, PO Box 26264, London W3 9SQ.**

[Sarah@righttolife.org.uk](mailto:Sarah@righttolife.org.uk). Phone: 020 8992 7657

*“Woe to you if you do not defend life!” (John Paul the Great).*

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

will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009 @ 4pm. All children in the Parish are welcome, along with family and friends. All children are invited to participate, whether you wish to be an angel/Shepherd/king/Mary/Joseph/ animal/ reader, etc. A practice will take place after Mass on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact Norah on 01992 577932 so that you may choose what part you would like.

### **TODAY IS VOCATIONS SUNDAY!**

Our prayers are asked for all those discerning a vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood, as we celebrate the relaunch of [www.brentwoodvocations.org](http://www.brentwoodvocations.org), with new resources and a “Priests Blog” – share with fourteen Priests of the Diocese as they present a snapshot of living Priesthood, day by day. It is also the day when we take the annual collection to pay for the training of students for the Priesthood: please do be as generous as you can. If you are interested in a vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood, please speak to your parish priest, or contact Fr Dominic Howarth or Mgr John Armitage via the vocations website.

### **HARLOW FOOD BANK UPDATE:**

Upto the end of October, we supported 424 people with emergency food. If you would like to make a donation towards this worthy cause, please visit [www.mrct.org.uk](http://www.mrct.org.uk) and click on the ‘donate online’ button. Any help will be greatly appreciated!

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Please make yourselves known to Fr. James or Deacon Duncan, so we can welcome & inform you.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### This weekend 5th / 6th December 2009

Saturday	6 p.m.	Jeannette Mulligan, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

### Intentions Week Beginning 7th December 2009

Monday	9 a.m.	Rita Gill, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	<b>Immaculate Conception</b>	9 a.m. Michael O'Mahoney, <i>R.I.P.</i> <b>7.30 p.m.</b> People of the Parish
Wednesday	9 a.m.	Joao Servo, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Thursday	9 a.m.	Norma Golding, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday	9 a.m.	Bill Collier, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday	6 p.m.	Peg Horan, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 a.m.	Elizabeth Brennan, <i>R.I.P.</i>

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

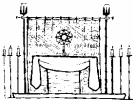
**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30 to 12 noon and after 6 p.m. Mass

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Morrall, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Ellen Day, Karen Toohey, Paulette Jarrold, Amy O'Day, Elsie Moore, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Mike Collett, Annette Goodchild, Betty O'Mahoney, Kathleen Flower, Gladys Saunders, Arthur Devereaux, Jennifer Peacock, David Jolly, Tullia Borelli.

#### **HOLY HOUR**

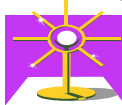
Monday  
at 8pm in Church.

*What an exquisite privilege:  
to spend an hour intimately  
with Almighty God!*



#### **Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Monday to Friday for an hour  
after 9 a.m. Mass  
and on Tuesday till 12.30.  
*Jesus awaits you*



#### **ROSARY GROUP**

Friday at 5.00 p.m. at the  
home of Charles Ward,  
22 Vicarage Road  
Coopersale.  
*In the Rosary, Our Lady  
leads us to Her Son*



#### **Offerings**

£ 1158.26

Of which CAFOD

£27.37

**Thank you**