



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception

### Epping

The Baptism of the Lord

11th January 2009

Dear Friends,

Whenever I visit the National Gallery, I usually spend a few minutes of quiet contemplation in front of Piero della Francesca's great picture, '*The Baptism of Christ*'. Cardinal Murphy O'Connor recently suggested that it should be placed in a church, such is its spiritual force. It is hard for us to grasp today how important Christ's baptism was for the early Christians. All four gospels refer to the event, whereas only two of them relate the Christmas story. At His baptism, Jesus was revealed as the Beloved Son, to whom we are to listen. In allowing Himself to be baptised by His forerunner, John, Jesus expressed His solidarity with our fallen race: He became like us in all things but sin. The same event empowered Him through the Holy Spirit for His work of mission: to proclaim the Kingdom of God, to heal and to forgive.

Our own baptism unites us with Jesus; it is through baptism that we are entitled to call ourselves Christians. He shares His spirit with us and so empowers us also for our own mission in life. Today's feast gives us yet another opportunity to renew the high promises of baptism: to renounce whatever is alien to God and to prepare for the Kingdom through works of faith, hope and charity.

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**

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

## **ALTAR LINEN**

A new recruit is needed to replace Miss Irene Negri, who has to retire. A quartet of ladies take it in turns each week to launder the small cloths used at Holy Communion. Any volunteer who would like to perform this simple service for the Lord please contact Dorothy on 01992 577173. Grateful thanks to Irene for her faithful work.

## **NEWS FROM ABBOTSWICK**

HEALING MASS celebrated by Fr John Glynn on Wed 14th January at 2.30pm at the Diocesan House of Prayer. For further details of this and other events please visit [www.abbotswick.org](http://www.abbotswick.org) or call 01277 373959. To thank God for the 5th anniversary of our community, we have relaunched our website [www.walsinghamcommunity.org](http://www.walsinghamcommunity.org). We invite you to visit it when you have a moment free.

## **CATHOLIC OLYMPIC CO-ORDINATOR**

The six aims of the committee are evangelisation, chaplaincy, hospitality, training and support of volunteers, engagement with the cultural Olympiad and the youth. For an application pack, please go to: [http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/ccb/catholic\\_church/catholic\\_bishops\\_conference\\_of\\_england\\_and\\_wales/recruitment/current\\_vacancies](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/ccb/catholic_church/catholic_bishops_conference_of_england_and_wales/recruitment/current_vacancies) or telephone 020 7901 4897.

Closing date for applications is 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2009.

## **Ilford Ursuline High School SIXTH FORM PREVIEW EVENING**

Entry to Year 12 for students born between 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. 1992 and 31<sup>st</sup> Aug. 1993 Thursday **15 January** 2009 6.00 – 8.00 pm.

## **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.

### **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 **25th January**. Anyone saddened by bereavement is welcome to come along for a cup of tea and a chat. Queries to Deacon Duncan, 01992 577173.

### **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](http://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](http://www.bcys.net) for Lourdes trips (age 15+) and many other events for young people (age 13+) throughout the year).

### **ECUMENICAL SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

This will be held in Epping Hall on January 18th at 6 p.m.

### **NEW PARISHIONERS:**

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

### **DAVID FOSTER**

David Foster lived in Brentwood and taught at The Campion School, Hornchurch for many years. His Funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 13 January at 1pm at Brentwood Cathedral. May he rest in peace.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday	6.00 p.m. Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Francis Monrose 11.00 a.m. People of the Parish

### Intentions week commencing Monday 12th January 2009

Monday	9.00 a.m. Sheila and Louis Ives, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Intentions of Mrs. T. Solomon
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Thecla Floor, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Josie McGlynn, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday	9.00 a.m. Lois Gosnell, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Ernesto Bungay, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Pelosi Family 11.00 a.m. People of the parish

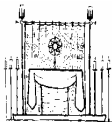
Morning Prayer each weekday in the Church 15 minutes before 9 o'clock Mass.

**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, Christine King and Gladys Saunders.

### **HOLY HOUR**

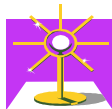
Monday evening in Church  
at 8.00 p.m.



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**

£1217.74

### **CAFOD:**

£61.87

**Thank you**