



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

24th Sunday of the Year

13th September 2009

Dear Friends,

As a priest for 45 years, I have come to know hundreds, if not thousands of people. Every now and then, someone will come up to me and say: *Do you remember me, Father?* That puts me on the spot, since often I do not recognise the face, let alone the name. *Who do you say that I am?* is a loaded question, because we all like to be recognised. Jesus asks that question of His disciples. Peter answers on their behalf, saying, *You are the Christ (Messiah)*. In the mentality of that era, the Messiah was thought of as a victorious leader. Jesus is anxious to correct that impression, linking Messiahship with the cross. Tomorrow is the Feast of the Holy Cross.

Today is Racial Justice Sunday. None of us would claim to be racists: but how do we go about answering the question put by Jesus when it is asked of us by those who do not share our ethnic origins, our culture or our religion? Instinctively we are sometimes tempted to create a comfort zone that keeps others at a distance—migrants, refugees, asylum seekers. When Jesus asks us *Who do you say that I am?* He is asking it not only for Himself, but for all those who, for one reason or another, see themselves at the margins of our society.

God bless you always,  
Father James

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse  
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### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

22 applications have been received. The course is now fully subscribed, and no further applications can be considered. There will be an information session for parents at **8 p.m. on Tuesday 22nd September.**

### **FORTY HOURS' ADORATION:** *"Adoration of the Eucharist is nothing less than worship of God" (Pope John-Paul II)*

This will take place from **8 pm on Friday 2nd October**, beginning with Holy Mass, to 12 noon on Sunday 4th October, ending with Holy Mass at 11. As usual, we appeal for watchers to cover the entire period, especially the night hours. There is a rota on the notice board for the names of watchers. As Our Lord said, **"*Could you not watch one hour with Me?*"** If you would like a candle to burn throughout the 40 hours for a deceased loved one, please enclose their name and £1 per candle in an envelope, and put through the door of the presbytery, clearly marked, **"40 Hours"**.

### **VISITATION AND CONFIRMATION**

Advance notice: The Bishop will come on Wednesday 3rd November 2010. Preparation will begin nearer the time.

### **PARISH ASSEMBLY 2009**

This will take place on **Wednesday, September 23rd at 8 p.m. in the Hall**, with wine, cheese and nibbles **from 7.30 p.m. onwards**. The Assembly is open to all parishioners and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend, to discuss the way ahead for **our** parish.

### **NEW SANCTUARY CARPET**

As announced earlier in the year, the new Sanctuary carpet will be installed on Wednesday the 16th September.

**MARRIAGE:** Claire Brown and Paul Willsher — Congratulations!

### **JUMBLE SALE**

Saturday, 10th October, in our hall.

### **BE LIKE BRIGHT STARS Training and Resources day for Youth Leaders,**

Catechists, and all those who want to see more happening for young people in our parish. The day will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes, Wansted, next Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> September, 10.00am – 4.15pm. There is a brilliant range of speakers, and many interesting ideas will be offered. For more information, and registration, please go to [www.bcys.net/brightstars](http://www.bcys.net/brightstars) or call 01277 265286.

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

## **NEW CHURCH READERS**

Thanks to those joining the introductory session on Saturday 19th Sep. 10am-12noon in Church. We would welcome more volunteers, particularly for the 6pm Saturday Mass. Phone Deacon Duncan 577173.

<b><u>JULY FINANCE REPORT</u></b>	<u>July</u>	<u>Year to date</u>
Offertory -envelopes/standing orders (92% Gift Aided)	2,793	14,596
Offertory from loose change	1,915	4,597
Other income	717	10,125
Total Income	5,425	29,318
Expenditure	7,676	28,887
Surplus/(Deficit)	(2,251)	431

Gift Aid It HMRC will add 28% to your offertory contributions when tax payers join the gift aid scheme. Parishioners contributed ca. £15,000 to parish funds last year. Please contact Malcolm Heughan on 812012 for more details.

Loose Change Cannot be Gift Aided. We can supply a box of weekly offertory envelopes. Contact Malcolm Heughan on 812012.

## **PARISH QUIZ NIGHT**

£863 was raised for the Hall fund. Thank you from the Hall Management Committee to all who took part. If anyone would like to help raise the contribution to £1000, please let Deacon Duncan have your donation!

## **TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (SCIENCE COLLEGE)**

Open Day on Thursday, 24th September, 2009 at the Lower School, Sydney Road, between 6 and 7.30 pm, followed by a presentation from Dr. Doherty at 7.30pm. Closing date for applications for entrance is Friday 23rd October 2009.

## **JOURNEY IN FAITH (R.C.I.A.)**

The new group will meet on Wednesday 30th September in the presbytery at 7.30 p.m. If anyone wishes to join, they will be most welcome. The group will learn about the Catholic Faith. Meetings about every other Wednesday evening until Easter. Speak to Fr. James or Deacon Duncan.

## **ANTI-ABORTION VIGIL**

Led by the Bishop on Saturday 19th September at Russell Road, Buckhurst Hill, beginning with Mass and Adoration at Trinity School, Sydney Road, at 9 a.m. Please join us if you can in our silent, prayerful pro-

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

### This weekend 12th and 13th September 2009

Saturday	6 p.m.	Ajita and Anita (thanksgiving)
Sunday	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Annie Thompson, <i>R.I.P.</i>

### Intentions Week Beginning 14th September 2009

Monday	<b><i>Holy Cross</i></b>	9 a.m.	McAdam Family
Tuesday		9 a.m.	Emily Bradbury, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Wednesday		9 a.m.	Frank Smith, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Thursday		9 a.m.	Theresa Carney, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday		9 a.m.	Deceased priests of Epping, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday		6 p.m.	Marian Ward, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday		9 a.m.	John Rogerson, <i>R.I.P.</i>
		11 a.m.	People of the Parish

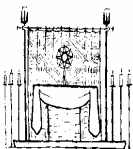
**Morning Prayer** will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9 am Mass.

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

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

#### **HOLY HOUR**

Monday  
at 8 pm in Church.  
*All Welcome*



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

for an hour after 9am Mass each  
weekday and Tuesdays till 12.30

**Please note:**  
**not on Wednesday**



#### **ROSARY GROUP**

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



#### **Offerings**

£ 1,279.49

Of which CAFOD

£45

**Thank you**