



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Fourth Sunday of Advent

20th December 2009

Dear Friends,

On the eve of the year's shortest day and longest night, we burn all four of our Advent candles. *A light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall not overcome it.* Midwinter gloom is dispelled by the Light of Christ, which we, in turn, are called upon to communicate. In our Advent progress, we have listened to the Prophet Isaiah and to John the Baptist. Today we listen to Mary, Mother of the Lord, of whom her cousin Elizabeth said: *Of all women you are the most blessed.* **The Blessed Mother** is surely the most fitting of all the titles accorded to her. She is blessed for many reasons, but today's gospel singles out her rocklike faith in the fulfilment of the promises made to her. On Christmas morning, we shall sing: *O Come, all ye Faithful.* We, too, are blessed in as much as we share in Mary's faith that Jesus is Our Lord and Saviour. God grant to each and everyone of us a faith-filled Christmas, a Christmas of Peace and Joy.

Please pray for David Jolly, a faith-filled parishioner of long standing, who died on 13th December, after many years of illness, patiently accepted and heroically borne. His requiem will be at 10 a.m. on Tuesday 22nd December. We offer to his widow, Pat, to Kieran and all the family our prayerful condolences. May David rest in peace.

God bless you all,
Father James.

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes
Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall
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Registered charity No. 234092

CHRISTMAS MASSES and Services 2009

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER: Holy Mass **9** and **11** a.m.

Children's Carol Service: **4** p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE: **9** a.m. Holy Mass

6 p.m. Vigil Mass of Christmas

10.30 p.m.: Carols & 1st Mass of Christmas

CHRISTMAS DAY: Holy Mass at **9** and **11** a.m.

BOXING DAY: Holy Mass **10** a.m.
(No Evening Mass)

SUNDAY 27TH DEC. Holy Mass at **9** and **11** a.m.

Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S CLASS

Next on January 9th (Saturday) in the Hall, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m.

MINUTES OF THE PASTORAL PARISH COUNCIL

Will members of the Parish Council please collect their copies of the minutes of the meeting of November 25th from the post box. A copy is on the notice board and on the website.

HIRE OUR HALL

for your function if you want a comfortable, spacious and bright venue. Competitive rates all year round. Contact Arnold Verrall on 573633 or 0776 440 4813. Feel free to tell your friends.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION DRESSES / SUITS

Barbara Aldridge is starting a 'bank' of these: if you have any in your wardrobe you would like to raise some money from on a 50% - 50% basis, or are looking for a more economical way to make your child look their best on their big day,

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. *If you have promised support kindly leave your donations of food or gifts in the Sacristy. Cheques should be made payable to CTED. The hall will be open from 11am - 1pm on Christmas Eve. Please telephone Mary Morgan to arrange collection of refrigerated items. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.*

THE CHILDREN'S CAROL SERVICE

will take place on Sunday **20th Dec @ 4pm**. All children in the parish are welcome, with family and friends, to attend.

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.

SEE THE NEW YEAR IN WITH PRAISE, HOLY MASS AND ADORATION: "Lift Jesus High!" Celebration

Friends' House, Euston, 173—7, Euston Road, NW1 2BJ, 9pm to 3am. Break at midnight. Bring food & soft drinks to share (no alcohol). Paper plates and cups provided. Tubes/buses free all night, till 4.30 am

SPECIAL YOUTH MASS AND GATHERING

The young people of The Most Holy Redeemer Billericay & Fr. Dominic invite the Youth of the Brentwood Diocese at 8pm on Friday 8th January 2010 in the Parish Pastoral Centre, Laindon Road, Billericay. Live music & refreshments after Mass. Do come and have a fun night!

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Will be accepting your usual generous offerings at the Christmas Crib on the sanctuary, for the support of their invaluable work with needy and underprivileged children.

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

This weekend 19th / 20th December 2009

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

Intentions Week Beginning 21st December 2009

Monday	9 a.m.	Rita Gill, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	10 a.m.	Requiem: David Jolly
Wednesday	9 a.m.	Gary Russell, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Christmas Eve	9 a.m.	Fr. Daniel Cronin, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Christmas Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	David Jolly
Carols & 1st Mass of Christmas:	10.30pm	People of the Parish
Christmas Day	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish
Boxing Day (no 6pm Mass)	10 am	Guild of St. Stephen
Sunday 27th December	9 a.m.	Tredgett Family

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

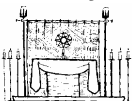
Confessions: Saturday 11.30 to 12 noon and after 6 p.m. Mass

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

HOLY HOUR

Please note:

There will be no Holy Hour now until we restart on Monday the 11th January at 8pm.



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

Please note: no Adoration from Tuesday 22nd Dec. till we restart on Tuesday the 5th January.

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

£ 1280.72

Of which CAFOD

£86

Thank you