



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

21st/22nd February 2009

Dear Friends,

I apologise for the omission of the Seventh Sunday from the Mass books: the texts from Scripture are given as an insert to the bulletin. In the second reading, St. Paul stresses the importance of saying 'yes' to God. In doing so, we are following the example of Jesus Himself, Who always sought to do the Will of His heavenly Father. Saying 'Yes' to God always involves saying 'No' to what is alien to Him. In other words, we say 'No' to what is sinful. The observances of Lent: prayer, fasting and works of charity, assist us in this process of turning to the Lord and turning from whatever does not come from Him.

Wednesday next is Ash Wednesday, with two Masses, at 10 am and 8 pm. It marks the beginning of the Lenten Season. It is a day when all able-bodied people are expected to fast and all are expected to abstain from meat. Lenten observances call for common sense. We should only undertake what we can reasonably accomplish and then we stick at it with perseverance. I commend to you the traditional devotion of the Stations of the Cross, which will be held every Sunday in Lent at 6 pm. I also commend the five lectures on St. Paul and his letters, which start on Thursday 26th February at 8 pm.

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

Fax: 01992 570096

Registered charity No. 234092

11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA

ASH WEDNESDAY

25th February. Mass at 10a.m. and 8 p.m. Day of fasting (one full meal only) and abstinence (no meat).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sunday 1st March, 6 p.m.

HOLY COMMUNION CLASS: 5 pm Monday 23rd February in the Hall

PARENTS' SESSION: Tuesday 24th February, 8 p.m. in the Hall.

BAPTISM: Sophie Alice Johnson—congratulations.

FIVE EVENINGS WITH ST. PAUL — LENT TALKS

Fr. Michael Butler will give five talks on the subject of St. Paul in our Church **Sacristy** at 8 p.m. on Thursdays 26th February, 12th, 19th, 26th March + 2nd April. In this year dedicated to St. Paul, it is good to have an opportunity of reflection in this way. Tea/coffee will be provided at 7.45 p.m. A £5 contribution towards expenses is suggested for a single talk, or £10 for all talks.

CTED LENT LUNCHESES: On Saturday 7th March 12.30 to 2pm in our Church: we need waitresses and waiters, donations of soup, etc. - please phone Mary 574719. A suggested donation of £2.50 is requested for Christian Aid at all the lunches. Please bring your friends - all very welcome.

THE BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP meets on Sunday the 22nd February at 6pm in the presbytery. Anyone suffering the effects of bereavement is very welcome for a cup of tea and a chat.

IN LENT COME TO CALVARY in Buckhurst Hill. The Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic at the top of Russell Road 'processes' some 400 babies a week. A very small prayer group meets nearby on Saturday mornings to pray peacefully for all involved - babies, parents and staff. Why not join us between 8 and 11.30 am for as short or as long a time as you like? - your presence and prayers are urgently needed.

QUIZ NIGHT at St. Mark's School, Harlow, on Friday 27th February at 7.45pm. £3.50 adults, £2 students. Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, LISIEUX, NEVERS AND RUE DU BAC IN PARIS BY LUXURY COACH.

8 days from 23rd to 30th May 2009 for the price of £579, including all excursions and full board in Lourdes, with a Catholic priest accompanying.

For further information call Mrs. Mozzi on 0208 472 0843 or 07859 027301.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP:

It was with great pleasure that I have sent a cheque for £2000 to CAFOD, as the latest contribution from our parish to '*focus africa*'. In East Africa, drought and soaring food prices mean many people are on the verge of starvation. By your generosity we have made a difference to them. Thank you.

VOLUNTEER BOOK-KEEPER/ACCOUNTANT FOR PARISH ACCOUNTS

We are looking for someone to take on the preparation and reporting of our parish accounts: Responsible to the parish priest. (Currently delegated to Deacon Duncan). The job involves approximately 6-8 hours each month, at any suitable time, either in the parish office, or at home. There is an up-and-running diocesan-based computer programme, with off-line support. Membership of the parish Finance and Development Committee, which meets quarterly. Initially to 'shadow' Deacon Duncan, with a view to taking full responsibility from 6th April 2009.

VOLUNTEER CARETAKER FOR CHURCH, PRESBYTERY AND GROUNDS

(NOT CHURCH HALL). We are seeking a practical person to have oversight on maintenance issues, as follows: Responsible to the parish priest. (Currently delegated to Deacon Duncan). The job is spasmodic in nature, with no set hours of work or expected time commitment and simply needs an eye being kept on emerging needs. To identify small maintenance requirements and to effect repairs etc., either personally or through contractors. To oversee the work of the church contract cleaners and other contractors. To purchase minor maintenance items as required (cost refunded). Commence as soon as convenient. Please contact Fr. James or Deacon Duncan to discuss.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL—SATURDAY 4TH TO SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 2009

The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service invite all young people of school year 10+ (age 15+) to join us for our Lenten All Night Vigil. The vigil will include active sessions of drama, art, multimedia and music plus reflective times in the atmosphere of Brentwood Cathedral at night. We start the evening at 10.30pm in the Cathedral House conference centre, and will end at 7am, having had early Mass and breakfast together. Application forms are available on www.bcys.net/anv or by calling Sarah Barber on 01277 265286. The cost for the evening is £5

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday March 6th at St. John's Church @ 10.30am, with refreshments afterwards. On **Friday 27th Feb @ 10.30am** there will be a preparation meeting at St. John's. We need readers, ushers, tea-makers, etc. Please join us.

NEW PARISHIONERS:

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
This weekend 21st/22nd February 2009

Saturday	6.00 p.m. People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Shelly Canni 11.00 a.m. Reg Clements, <i>R.I.P.</i>
<u>Intentions week commencing Monday 23rd February 2009</u>	
Monday	9.00 a.m. Stan Holder - in thanksgiving
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Brigg Family
Wednesday <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	10.00 a.m. People of the Parish 8.00 p.m. Jean McAniskey
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Little Sisters of the Poor
Friday	11.00 a.m. Requiem - Kathleen Schofield
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Thecla Floor
Sunday	9.00 a.m. People of the Parish 11.00 a.m. Elizabeth Crowley, <i>R.I.P.</i>

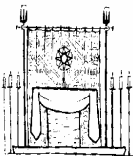
Morning Prayer will be held 15 minutes before 9am Morning Mass.

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, Elsie Moore, Gina Hawkins, Jane Gant, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Margaret Cabon, Mike Collett, Annette Goodchild,

HOLY HOUR

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



Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

Monday and Thursday for an hour after Mass and Tuesday till 12.30 p.m.

Please note: no Adoration on Wednesday and Friday this week

ROSARY GROUP

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

Offerings

£ 1237.52

of which CAFOD:

£ 63.72

Thank you