



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

4th Sunday in Lent

21st/22nd March 2009

Dear Friends,

Today is variously called Mid-Lent Sunday, Laetare Sunday or Mothering Sunday. A double theme runs through the Scripture readings: grace and love. Both concepts are enshrined in motherhood. Grace is a free gift and mothers are giving freely all the time. Love is first experienced when a child nestles in the womb and is then enfolded in a mother's arms. On this Laetare Sunday, we are urged to be glad and rejoice: Laetare is the Latin word for rejoicing. Mary, Mother of the Lord, was bidden to rejoice by the Archangel Gabriel at the Annunciation. Today we rejoice in God's gift of motherhood and duly acknowledge all the joy that mothers bring to us.

I had a wonderful 70th birthday last week. Thank you all for the lovely cards and presents. Thank you for coming to the party. I was particularly moved by the amusing book of greetings compiled by the children of the First Holy Communion Class. It is at the back of the church if you would like to have a look at it.

Next week, Deacon Duncan and Dorothy celebrate their Golden Wedding with a Mass at 10.30 on Saturday 28th March. We offer them our warmest congratulations and thank them for fifty years of tireless witness to the Sacrament of Matrimony and for unstinting service to our community.

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**

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**Fax: 01992 570096**

**Registered charity No. 234092**

**11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Sunday in Lent, 6 p.m.

**LENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION:** Wednesday 1st April 8 pm.

**FOURTH LENTEN LECTURE ON ST. PAUL:** Thursday 26th March 8pm in Sacristy

**BOOKS FOR SWAZILAND:** The Epping Churches are helping to build a library for a rural community in this poor African State. A box is in the church porch to receive good condition second-hand books. Children's books, reference books, up-to-date atlases, medical books and classics—no adult fiction, please.

**EASTER LILIES:** As in past years, you are invited to donate a commemorative lily to adorn the church at Easter. Please mark your envelope 'Easter Lily'. £2 per bloom please.

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS:** Monday 23rd March 5 pm. The next parents' session is deferred until Tuesday 28th April.

**BAPTISM:** Harry Squibb—congratulations.

**SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:** Derek & Louise Whitbread. Congratulations.

**GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY:** Deacon Duncan & Dorothy Whitehouse. Mass 10.30 a.m. Saturday 28th March—congratulations.

### **RECENTLY DECEASED**

Please pray for Elizabeth O'Halloran, who died on 19th March. Her requiem will be 2 pm Monday 6th April. *R.I.P.*

**IN LENT COME TO CALVARY** in Buckhurst Hill. Between 8—11.30am Saturday outside the Marie Stopes Abortion Clinic at the top of Russell Road for a prayer vigil.

**TRIUMPH & PASSION:** - A Lent Retreat for Young People at Walsingham House. Come and join other young people from around the diocese where we will explore together what it means to be passionate and the Passion of Jesus. Time for fun, good food, prayer and to join with the Brentwood All-Night Vigil. Only £35, 3-5 April. For info and a booking form see our website [www.walsinghamhouse.org](http://www.walsinghamhouse.org).

### **FR JOHN GLYNN & AQUILA IN CONCERT SUNDAY 29TH MARCH**

*Let Me be your Home* Tour 2009. The concert will feature psalms and songs of hope and trust from the new CD plus favourites from *Open The Door* and *May the Lord Bless You*, including the world famous *I Watch the Sunrise*. Admission is free. There will be an interval collection. Concert starts at 7.30pm in St Joseph's

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS / READERS:** Please collect rotas from the post box.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES:** The envelopes for the next year are now available from the back of the Church—please pick up your box. If you want any further information about the envelope scheme or Gift Aid, please contact Malcolm Heughan on 812012.

**YOUTH SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** now full. 5 places remaining for trip to Holy Land 24-31 Oct. (half term). Ring 01277 265286 if interested.—ASAP!

**COLLECTING BOXES AT BACK OF CHURCH**

Could you please put money in the following boxes, in order to enable proper accounting for each category:

*Black box by newspapers* (has 3 slots): 'newspapers' -for all newspapers/magazines 'holy souls' - contributions towards Mass Stipends for Masses for 'Holy Souls' which appear in the newsletters - an alternative to arranging specific Masses with Fr James 'poor box/church maintenance - towards church upkeep, alms payments, etc.

*Candle-stand Box* For candles and CTS leaflets.

*Religious Articles Cupboard* Please give money direct to Janet Abbott or place on a shelf in the cupboard. Please do **not** place in 'candles' box. Thanks for your help.

**JUMBLE SALE** Saturday 25th April in our hall.

**EPHING CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP**

next meets on Monday 30th March at 7.30 pm in the church hall. The theme will be Easter. Please bring a friend if it's your first time. Anyone who wants to get involved with the running of the night, contact Pete or James Ryan on 01992 524633 or email jamesryans@hotmail.com.

**BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:** All those saddened by bereavement are welcome to a cup of tea and a chat in the presbytery on Sunday 5th April at 6.45 pm

**K.S. 2 CLASS TEACHERS REQUIRED** St. Peter's R.C. Primary School, Dagenham for Sep. 2009. Phone 02082706524 for details. Closing date is noon on **24.03.09**

**CTED LENT LUNCHESES:**

On Saturday 28th March 12.30 to 2pm. at the United Reform Church Hall, Lindsey Street, Epping. A suggested donation of £2.50 is requested for Christian Aid. Please bring your friends - all very welcome.

**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 March 2009**

Saturday	6.00 p.m. David Wagland, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Marian Ward, <i>R.I.P.</i>
	11.00 a.m. People of the Parish

**Intentions week commencing Monday 23rd March 2009**

Monday	11.00 a.m. <i>Requiem</i> Rosalie Shannon
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Intentions of May Martin
Wednesday	<i>Annunciation</i> 9.00 a.m. Tony O'Loughlin
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Elizabeth Crowley, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday	9.00 a.m. Intentions of Sean Clohessy
Saturday	10.30 a.m. D. & D. Whitehouse golden wedding
	6.00 p.m. Vera Doherty, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9.00 a.m. Maurice O'Regan, <i>R.I.P.</i>
	11.00 a.m. People of the Parish

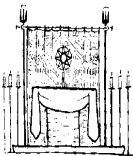
**Morning Prayer** will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9am Morning Mass.

**Confessions:** Saturday 11.30 — 12.00 Noon and after 6 p.m. Mass

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Morrall, David Jolly, 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, Betty O'Mahoney, Beth Davie,

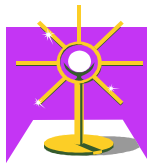
**HOLY HOUR**

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



**Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament**

Tuesday to Friday  
for an hour after Mass  
and Tuesday till 12.30 p.m.



**ROSARY GROUP**

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



**Offerings**

£ 1332.20

**of which CAFOD:**

£ 44.00

**Thank you**