



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

5th Sunday in Lent

28th / 29th March 2009

Dear Friends,

After an exceptionally hard winter, there are signs of spring all around us; daffodils and crocuses, catkins and almond blossom. The Gospel today uses the paradox of a seed which has first to die before it can yield its fruit. That paradox is then applied to Our Lord, whose Passion preceded His Resurrection.

During the next two weeks, the Church exhorts us to be especially mindful of Christ's suffering and sacrifice for our salvation. We, too, must be prepared to die—to die to sin—if we are to rise to newness of life with Him. In the psalm at Mass today, we ask that we be given a pure heart and a steadfast spirit.

As Lent enters its final phase, I would encourage those who have yet to do so, to make the Stations of the Cross. I would also ask that those who have not come to the Sacrament of Penance for a long time, to join in our Lenten Service of Penance and Reconciliation on **Wednesday 1st April at 8 pm**. To celebrate this Sacrament humbly is a sure sign that we do truly appreciate Our Lord's Sacrifice on the Cross for us.

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

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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.

FINAL LENTEN LECTURE ON ST. PAUL: Thursday 2nd April @ 8pm in Sacristy.

RECENT BEQUEST: We acknowledge with gratitude the sum of £4,000 to the parish from the estate of the late Mary and Paddy Duffy.

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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for Victor Borg, who died last week. *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.

FR JOHN GLYNN & AQUILA IN CONCERT SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

Admission is free. There will be an interval collection. Concert starts at 7.30pm in St Joseph's Church, Champion Road, Upminster RM14 2SY

CHANGES ON CHURCH SANCTUARY: Following the largely enthusiastic response to the Benches and Tabernacle & Stand, it has been agreed by the Parish Council that an Ambo and Font, in a style to complement the Altar, should be provided. Whilst this is being done, the sanctuary carpet, which is in a poor state, will be replaced, taking the opportunity to change the colour to a suitable shade of blue. This will then complete all the planned works. Note particularly that it is not intended to re-model the sanctuary floor, nor to replace the crucifix, nor to modify the altar in any way. It has been agreed that the Ambo and Font will be self-financing and, with the help of a very recent bequest and other pledges, most of the funds required are already available. If any parishioner would like to contribute towards this beautification of our church, please let Fr James have your contribution (gift-aided if possible).

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.

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.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Will members please collect the minutes of the recent meeting from the post box. A copy is on the notice board and on the website.

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

PRAISE AND WORSHIP EVENING: At Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Sunday 29th March, 7.30 to 9 pm. Everyone welcome.

CTED LENT LUNCHES: Saturday 4th April 12.30 to 2pm. at St. John's Church Hall, St. John's Road, Epping. A suggested donation of £2.50 requested for Christian Aid.

OASIS OF PEACE (MARIAN) DAY: Forget your troubles and rest in the Lord on Saturday May 2nd 2009 at our Church, with Fr. Seamus Keenan, from 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Includes Mass, Adoration and Rosary. Bring packed lunch – drinks provided.

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 28th / 29th March 2009

Saturday	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

Intentions week commencing Monday 30th March 2009

Monday	9.00 a.m. Canny Family, deceased.
Tuesday	9.00 a.m. Gloria Gee, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Wednesday	9.00 a.m. Maire Cussen (sick)
Thursday	9.00 a.m. Margaret Flaherty, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Friday	9.00 a.m. Thomason Johnson, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday	6.00 p.m. Intentions of Ann McCaul
Sunday	<i>Palm Sunday</i> 9.00 a.m. People of the Parish
	11.00 a.m. Angela Riccoboni / Jean Goodman

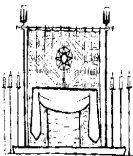
Morning Prayer will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9am Morning Mass.

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,

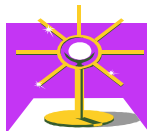
HOLY HOUR

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.
**N.B. No Adoration in Holy Week
and Easter Week.**



ROSARY GROUP

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



Offerings

£ 1192.32

of which CAFOD:

£ 42.00

Thank you