



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

Third Sunday in Lent

7th March 2010

Dear Friends,

The present moment is precious: indeed, it is all we have; the past has gone, the future has yet to come. It is in the here and now that we encounter God. God revealed Himself to Moses as *'I am who am'*. He is the Ever-present, and a modern hymn reminds us that *every moment has been blessed by the power of His love*. One definition of prayer is to practise the presence of God. He is always conscious of us, but the converse is not always true. So often the pressures and cares of life crowd God out and a deliberate effort is necessary on our part to bring the Almighty back into focus. In Lent, we are encouraged to make that extra effort through prayer, Scriptural reading and acts of charity.

It is with sadness that we learned of the death on February 27th in St. Clare's Hospice of Mrs. Connie Charlton. In her last few months, she confronted her terminal illness with courage, calm and great faith. To minister to her was a deeply moving experience. We extend to her husband, Michael and her five children, as well as her mother and brothers and sisters, our prayerful condolences. A memorial Mass was held here on Friday afternoon before her body was flown to Ireland for burial. May she 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
E-mail: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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Registered charity No. 234092

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Sunday 7th March, 6 p.m.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION NOTICES:

- (1) **Class:** Next Saturday, March 13th, in the Hall, 10.30 a.m., followed by
- (2) **FIRST RECONCILIATION** 11.30 to 12.30 in Church.
- (3) **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN'S MASS:** *next day*,
Sunday 14th March 10.30 in the hall for 11 o'clock Mass.

LENTEN SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION: to prepare for the great Feast of Easter: at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 24th March, in our Church.

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Thomas will come for confirmation on Wed. 3rd November at 7.30 pm. Those eligible must have had their 14th birthday by that date. The preparatory course will begin soon after Easter. Those wishing to be involved are invited to **write to Fr. James**, stating reasons for their decision. Please note that parental pressure is not a sufficient reason. **Closing date for all applications is Easter Sunday, 4th April.**

MR. CHARLES WARD, R.I.P.

Requiem 1 pm Thursday 11th March, followed by interment at Epping Cemetery. The coffin will be brought to Church 4.30 pm Wednesday 10th March.

EASTER LILIES:

Donations are invited (£2 a bloom) for Easter lilies in memory of the dead at Easter. Please mark the envelope 'Easter Lily'.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP - Sunday 11am Mass Term-time only.

This group is for children aged 4 years to 9 years and older siblings of those who attend. We urgently require helpers to ensure that this group can continue. Mums and Dads of the children who attend this group would be particularly welcome to help teach our children the Word of God. All teaching materials are provided. If you are interested, please ring Norah on 01992 577932.

ST. JOHN FISHER SCHOOL requires a Midday Assistant from April 19th. Phone 8508 6315 for information and applications, which close on **12th March.**

Please see full advertisement on our notice board.

CHURCHES TOGETHER DIARY DATES:

Lent Lunches: 12.30 to 2 pm: 13th March at the Methodist Church.

Walk of Witness: Good Friday 2nd April 10.45 a.m.

DAY FOR RENEWAL

at SION Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Saturday, March 27th, 10.00 to 4.30, Theme 'I Thirst', Speaker - Fr Angelus of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. Everyone welcome. Please bring a packed lunch

MARRIAGE & FAMILY – What is the future? 19th March 2010, 7-00 – 9-00 pm St Thomas of Canterbury, Parish Hall, Woodford Green. IG8 0RB. The Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP for Chingford and Woodford Green and Chairman of the Centre for Social Justice will be giving a talk and taking questions on this important subject. Space is limited so to reserve a seat please ph 01277 265290

RECENTLY DECEASED

Mr. David Francis of North Weald. May he rest in peace.

JUMBLE SALE: Saturday 10th April, in our hall.

HELP, PLEASE! VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED!

Our church has been asked to provide some help with this year's Walk of Witness on Good Friday (2nd April). Can anyone take on a (small) speaking part in the playlets which are performed en route? Could some younger parishioners help with carrying the cross? Please let Deacon Duncan know urgently if you can help (01992 575017).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

each week is Thursday morning, please, if you wish your notice to be included in the weekend bulletin.

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

PSALM RESPONSE SUNDAY 11 O'CLOCK MASS:

My soul, give thanks to the Lord; all my being bless His holy name. (2)

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

This Weekend 6th / 7th March 2010

Saturday	6 p.m.	Timothy White, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 a.m.	Janet Abbott, (thanksgiving)
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Intentions Week Beginning 8th March 2010

Monday	9 am	Kathleen Gannon, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	9 am	Annette Goodchild (birthday)
Wednesday	9 am	Charlie Cragg, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Thursday	1 pm	<u>Requiem</u> Charles Ward
Friday	9 am	Holy Souls
Saturday	6 pm	Eileen Lennon, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 am	Beard Family
	11 am	People of the Parish

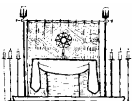
Morning Prayer will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9 am Mass.

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

Please pray for the sick: Yvonne Morrall, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Ellen Day, Karen Toohey, Paulette Jarrold, 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, Richard Fayolle.

HOLY HOUR

Monday
at 8 p.m.
in Church.
All Welcome



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



ROSARY GROUP

Friday at 6 p.m. at the
home of Susan Asher,
18 Kendal Avenue.
*In the Rosary, Our Lady
leads us to Her Son*



Offerings

£1232.80

Of which, CAFOD: £62.50

Thank you