



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

17th January 2010

Dear Friends,

Today's Gospel account of the Wedding Feast at Cana is only read once in every three years. It is only recorded in St. John's Gospel and is placed right at the beginning of Our Lord's public ministry. It is significant that the first of Our Lord's wondrous signs is enacted in a very domestic setting, a wedding reception. Jesus acts to spare the young newly-weds the embarrassment of having insufficient wine for their guests. It is also significant that He does so at the instigation of his mother.

Mary, in the Gospel, is a woman of few words, but her words on this occasion were very weighty. She says to the caterers at the reception:

“Do whatever He tells you.”

They echo down the ages as a guideline for Christian fidelity to Our Lord and His Gospel. Mary practised what she preached and is inviting us also to the obedience of faith that characterises all genuine followers of her Son.

God bless you always,
Father James.

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Parents' session: **Tuesday 19th January** at 8 p.m. in the Hall

Next Class: **January 23rd (Saturday)** in the Hall, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Next Children's Mass: Feb.7th

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.

A WORD ABOUT ECCA: a local ecumenical choir, founded in 1972 by the then RC organist, perform 4 concerts a year—Christmas, main winter concert at the end of January, Good Friday and summer. Admission free, programmes £2 to offset expenses. A retiring collection, at Christmas and Good Friday for charity and the others to help the choir funds. Refreshments available for a small voluntary donation. We are 44 members with a brilliant professional conductor. **Our next concert is on Saturday 30th January at 7.30 pm at St. John's: Rutter Requiem and Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass.**

NEW YEAR'S EVE SOCIAL

raised £475, which will be given to Anchor House, East London, towards its work for homeless people. Many thanks to John and Julie Ryan and their team for the splendid result.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Please pray for Patrick Reilly and Richard John Collar, who died during the week. *R.I.P.*

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS / READERS ROTA

Will the above please collect their new rotas from the Post Box.

A copy is on the web site.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EPPING AND DISTRICT

would like to thank the Catholic Community for their kindness and wonderful generosity for helping to provide a memorable day for all those attending the Christmas Day luncheon in our hall.

YEAR OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTHOOD

During this year of Special Prayer for the Priesthood, please continue to pray for our priests, esp. Fr James, + for those contemplating priesthood. Fr James Mackay and Fr Mark Reilly were ordained for our diocese this year, leaving only 3 others still in their training. We need more candidates...and it would be wonderful to have one from our own parish!!

WEEK OF CHRISTIAN UNITY JANUARY 17TH TO 23RD

An Ecumenical Service of Unity to celebrate the beginning of this Week for Christian Unity will be held at **4 p.m. on Sunday, January 17th** at the **United Reform Church**, Lindsey Street. Everyone is very welcome.

PARISH WHIST GROUP

We meet once a month in members' homes and have a good evening's whist, though we are far-from-serious about it...it's more of a social occasion! We are looking for a few more players (standard not important). Would you like to 'give it a whirl'? Maureen McClean (01992 573292) would be very pleased to hear from you. We meet next on **28th January**.

OASIS OF PEACE (MED.JUGORJE) DAY: Next on **Saturday 30th January** from **10.30 am to 4 pm**. in our Church. **Mass at 11.50 a.m.**

Also Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary and stimulating discussion! Led by Canon Seamus Keenan. Bring packed lunch; drinks provided. Come for all or part of the day.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Meets on **Sunday 31st January** in the presbytery at 6.00 pm. Anyone saddened by bereavement is very welcome to a cup of tea and a chat and benefit from the support of the group. Any queries to Deacon Duncan.

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

PSALM ANTIPHON SUNDAY 11 a.m. MASS:

*Sing a new song to the Lord, Sing to the Lord, all the Earth!
Sing a new song to, sing a new song to the Lord, Bless His name!*

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

This Weekend 16th / 17th January 2010

Saturday	6 p.m.	Lois Gosnell, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	David Jolly, <i>R.I.P.</i>

Intentions Week Beginning 18th January 2010

Monday	9 a.m.	Mary Kileen, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Tuesday	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Wednesday	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thursday	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Friday	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Saturday	6 p.m.	David Jolly, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday	9 a.m.	Hollinshead—thanksgiving

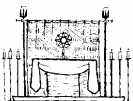
Morning Prayer will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9 am Mass.

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.

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 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

£1088.12

Of which CAFOD

£20.05

Thank you