

Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

Fourth Sunday of Year B

January 29th 2012

Dear Friends,

The Old Testament reading and the psalm today call upon us to listen. We are to listen to the still, small voice of the Lord and not to harden our hearts. To listen attentively demands a degree of silence and silence is often hard to come by. Supermarkets and restaurants drown it out with a raucous stream of sound: commuters on the Central Line keep it at bay with i-pods. Silence makes many people uncomfortable. But silence is necessary if we are to practise the presence of God and to listen to Him. Pope Benedict is asking us all to rediscover its value within the celebration of Mass itself. The liturgy makes provision for silence, albeit very brief, at various stages of the Mass, particularly after Holy Communion. A little silence is also helpful after the homily and towards the conclusion of the bidding prayers. It is not always easy to achieve, especially when young children are present, but it is worth a try.

Thursday 2nd February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. At 8pm Mass, Susan Asher, our parish secretary and First Communion Catechist, will be inducted into the Order of Consecrated Widows. In the early Church, as we know from the Acts of the Apostles, widows were highly esteemed, and the Church has recently revived the Order of Widows. I hope that many of you will come along to support Susan as she makes a public and solemn commitment to consecrate her life to prayer and service for the Church.

God bless you always,
Father James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse

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www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS Monday 30th Jan. 5.30 pm
Children's Mass Sunday February 5th, meeting at **10.30am** in the Hall.

INVITATION TO A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

I would like to invite all our parishioners to join us on Thursday February 2nd (*The lovely Feast of Consecrated Life*) at 8pm to a Mass of Consecration of Life of Susan Asher to the Order of Consecrated Women (OCW), and to a reception afterwards in the presbytery. This is the 2nd vocation to come out of our parish, and something we should all rejoice in. I hope you will come and support her with your presence and prayers.

ORGANIST / DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

The parish is seeking to appoint a part-time paid Organist/Director of Music and the post is advertised in the national Catholic Press this week. If any parishioner is interested in applying for the appointment, or knows anyone who may be suitable, please contact Fr James who has a detailed Job description. Applications close on 1st February and it is hoped to make an appointment by 15th February.

NO COFFEE in the Hall after Mass on February the 5th due to a prior booking.

NATIONAL YOUTH CONGRESS - 24th March 2012-Wembley Arena.

Here is another fantastic opportunity for the young people (years 9 – 13 mostly) in our parish. The Flame Congress is the largest ever event for young Catholics in England and Wales. 2012 is the year of the Olympics in Britain. Pope John Paul II – himself a keen sportsman – wrote magnificently about the relationship between sport and faith and this will be the theme of the day. There will be some excellent speakers, a number of Olympians and Paralympians as well as the Rise Theatre, some really good music and a young boy band from North London – ‘Indecisive’ (check them all out on line!) www.cymfed.org/flame2012. It would be fantastic to get a group from our parish together to go. Please contact Maggie Keeling (0771 885 8879).

PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING at SION Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will take place this month on **Sunday, 29th January 2012 7.30 to 9.00**. Everyone welcome. For those who can come earlier, there will be **Adoration 7.00 –7.30**.

OASIS OF PEACE MARIAN PRAYER DAY:

Saturday the 11th of February 10.30 to 4. Includes Mass, Adoration, Rosary, Talks and Discussion. Run by Canon Seamus Keenan. Please bring packed lunch; drinks provided. Everyone very welcome

PRAYER VIGIL AT ABORTION CLINIC Bedford Square

On Saturday 11th February. Benedict XVI and John Paul II have both urged the faithful to fast and pray and give witness to bring an end to abortion. the latest Government statistics show another annual increase with last year's total at 208,000. Mother Teresa warned that there will never be peace in the world while mass abortion continues. Starting with Mass at 9am in St. Patrick's, Soho Square, followed by procession to Bedford Square. Light refreshments in St. Patrick's new parish centre afterwards.

BRES Annual Spirituality Morning -28th March 2012, 9.30-12.00 at Cathedral House, Brentwood. Fr Chris O'Donnell, O. Carm. Cost:£5 Contact: Tel. 01277 265285

CAFOD NEWS: help us celebrate 50 years of helping others .

We are aiming for 50 people from across the diocese to take part in the **120ft abseil** down Harlow Water Tower on Sunday 6th May and also for 50 riders to take part in the **Lee Valley Bike Ride** (10 mile family ride or longer 19 mile ride) on Saturday 27th May. (Abseilers must be over 16 years, no upper age limit!) For details email brentwood@cafod.org.uk or telephone 020 8502 9722.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please make yourselves known to Father James or Deacon Duncan, so that we may welcome and inform you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR NEW BISHOP: Father, Eternal Shepherd of our people, you never cease to lead your Church with unflinching providence and to guide and nourish your flock. In your goodness grant to your church of Brentwood a holy Shepherd under whose watchful care we may grow in love and grace. We make our prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ you Son, who lives, and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
This Weekend January 28th / 29th 2012

Saturday	6 p.m.	Private Intention (FP)
Sunday	9 a.m.	Ann Barry, <i>R.I.P.</i>
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Intentions Week Beginning January 30th 2012

Monday	9 a.m.	Inten. of Fr. John Cavanagh
Tuesday	9 a.m.	Mary Furlong, (sick)
Wednesday	9 a.m.	Intentions of Mary Hayter
Thursday	9 a.m.	Private Intention (FP)
	<i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	
	<i>Feast of Consecrated Life</i>	8 p.m. Consecration Mass: S.Asher
Friday	9 a.m.	Paulette Jarrold, <i>R.I.P.</i>
Saturday	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Sunday	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Patrick Irvine, <i>R.I.P.</i>

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

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

Please pray for the sick:

Yvonne Morrall, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Ellen Day, Amy O'Day, Elsie Moore, Doug Barker, Julie Eke, Mike Collett, Gina Pelosi, Marie Verrall, Gus Broks, Mary Furlong, Marie Crehan.

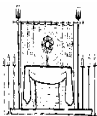
Adoration of the Most Holy Eucharist

Every weekday for an hour after 9am Mass and on Tuesdays till 12.30pm



HOLY HOUR

Mondays 8pm in Church
All Welcome



Legion of Mary

Wednesdays at 7.30 pm in the presbytery



ROSARY GROUP

Fridays at 7.30 pm at Newtimber
 18 Kendal Avenue
All Welcome



If you'd like to attend any of these groups, please phone 01992 575017 first, so we can welcome you.

OFFERINGS:

£1256.75, of which CAFOD £2.02

Thank you