



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Feast of Christ The King

24th November 2013

Dear friends,

the liturgical year concludes with the solemn feast of Christ the King. During his public ministry Jesus made the kingdom of God central to his preaching and he taught all his followers to pray earnestly for its coming. However, he was quite explicit: the kingdom which he proclaimed is not of this world. Indeed, the values and signs of his kingdom are quite the opposite of those by which temporal power is exercised. Instead of wealth, pomp and military might, he upholds poverty of spirit, humility of heart and thirst for justice and peace. In his last hour of life the repentant thief crucified with him said: Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom. We should make that cry our own and use it frequently in our own prayers. Looking beyond the attractions of this world, our sights should be firmly fixed on those things that will not pass away.

Although no prior notice was given, the collection taken for the Philippines last week raised the magnificent sum of £2150. Thank you for your outstanding generosity. As a response our parish Finance Committee has agreed to match that total out of our ordinary funds.

God bless you always
Fr James

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
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CONGRATULATIONS to Mrs Maureen McClean on her 95th birthday.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Date December 7th. The stall-holders are eagerly awaiting all the goods you have been meaning to bring for the Bazaar. It is helpful to be able to price them early. 2 weeks to go! **Raffle Tickets:** draw tickets and cash must be returned well before the Bazaar. Many thanks to those who have already done so.

PIETY STALL: there is a selection of religious Christmas cards at a reasonable price. Also other Christmas bits and pieces. Please come and have a look.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: We are pleased to invite all those who will be alone on Christmas Day to a traditional luncheon in our Hall. Couples and carers are also most welcome. If you are able to HELP in anyway or to reserve your place, please ring Mary Morgan on 01992 574719.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: Friday 22nd November 2013 at 5pm.

PARISH NATIVITY/CAROL CONCERT: This is a very important and special occasion for **EVERYONE IN THE PARISH** and **ALL** our young children are encouraged to take part. Keep this date free: **Sunday 22nd December at 6pm.**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION : Parents' session will take place at 8pm on Tuesday 26th November. The next class for the children will be on Monday 2nd December at 6pm.

TALENT COMPETITION: Do you have a hidden (or even possibly exposed) talent? If so, why not come along to the Cross Factor, a Christian talent competition? Venue: our Church Hall. When: Saturday 30th November at 7.30pm. Cost: £5 adults. £2.50 children. This includes a sausage and chips supper (or veggie burger and chips). Please bring your own drinks. For further details and to book tickets please phone Louise on 07952 558317.

WHIST DRIVE: Thursday 28th November at 3 Lyncely Grange, Epping. New and old players welcome. Admission £2.00.

CONTEMPORARY ART COMES TO BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: From 1-23 December, Brian Whelan's new work, the Brentwood Cross, will be on display in Brentwood Cathedral. For images of the Brentwood Cross, go to www.cathedral-brentwood.org.

SION COMMUNITY: Praise and Worship Evening at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will take place this month on Sunday 24th November 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Everyone welcome.

“HE’S BEHIND YOU!” Woodford Panto “Sleeping Beauty”: I have 25 tickets on Saturday 11th January 2014 at 4.30pm for this excellent production starring one of our very own parishioners (but will you be able to recognise who?!) All tickets are £12.50. If you have reserved tickets, I now have them - payment asap would be appreciated. If not, please form an orderly queue - I expect them to go quickly. Contact Maggie Keeling at maggie@keelingphysio.com or telephone 07718858879.

NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY: in our Church Hall 7.30pm till late. **14 years old and over only please.** Tickets now on sale. £7.50. . Bring your own drinks and nibbles. For tickets please contact Sheila & Steve Earl on 01992 610483/07746 021830 or John & Julie Ryan on 01992 524633.

FAMILY SYNOD 2014: The Synod of Bishops will meet next year to focus on the needs of the Family. In order to fully understand the views and opinions of Catholics on a range of issues, all are invited to complete a questionnaire either on line (via <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FamilySynod2014>) or on paper. The work is being coordinated by the Marriage and Family Life Office. If you have any queries or concerns regarding the completion of this survey, please contact Phil Butcher via familylife@dioceseofbrentwood.org or telephone 01277 265252. **All responses must be in by 1st December 2013.**

CHURCH HALL HIRE: as a vacancy has recently arisen in our Hall timetable, would any parishioners or their friends like to hire our Hall, ideally on a regular weekly basis, on a Wednesday after 3.25pm? A children’s dance and/or drama class, for example, would be particularly welcome. Please ring Arnold Verrall on 573633 or 0776 4404813 for all Hall hire enquiries. We continue to be a regular venue for children’s weekend birthday parties. Reduced rate applies to parishioners.

THE BOX HIGH STREET CHRISTMAS CHARITY

COLLECTIONS: The Box has been given permission to run two street collections in Epping **on Saturday 30th November and Saturday 7th December.** Would anyone be available to spare an hour or two on either Saturday or both? Buckets, badges, leaflets to give out and hi-viz jackets will be provided. It is hoped that the collectors will be paired up in twos if there are enough volunteers. Anyone aged 16 or over is authorised to collect - young people will be paired with adults. With youth services being cut further, across the country, the Box is still up, running and thriving after more than 8 years, thanks to the faithful support of local Christians and the Churches Together in Epping. If you can help then please contact Marjorie Austin on mjt.austin30@gmail.com.

NEW PARISHIONERS:- please make yourselves known to Father James or Deacon Duncan, so we may welcome and inform you about our parish life.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

23rd & 24th November 2013

Sat 23rd Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Sun 24th	9 a.m.	Douglas & Bobby Dew RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 25th November 2013

Mon 25th	9 a.m.	Gammell Family
Tues 26th	9 a.m.	Fr John Dutton RIP
Wed 27th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thurs 28th	9 a.m.	Ellen Day RIP
Fri 29th	9 a.m.	Lady Joan Russell RIP
Sat 30th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Sun 1st Dec	9 a.m.	Maura Clohessy RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

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

Confessions: 11.30am -12 noon and after 6pm Mass.

Please pray for the sick:

Yvonne Morrall, Doris Scott, John Hannis, Amy O'Day, Mike Collett, Gina Pelosi, Marie Verrall, Paula Hall, Tullia Borrelli, Fr Bill Nix, David Sebire, Sean Garwood, Gus Broks, Sean Clohessy, Tom Clark and Deacon Duncan.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	199.50
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	354.76
	CAFOD	20.00
	Philippines Collection	2154.40
	Standing Orders Oct/Nov	2851.12