



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year

6th October 2013

Dear friends

it is with joy that we welcome Bishop Thomas this Sunday as he comes to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with thirty eight of our young people. This is the largest number we have ever had and it is heartening to know that so many have decided of their own accord to make this commitment of faith. They will be renewing the baptismal promises once made on their behalf by their parents and godparents. Now, as young adults, they make these promises themselves. The second reading of the Mass is particularly appropriate where they are reminded to fan into a flame the gift that God has given. The Spirit of God empowers us all for mission and that mission is to proclaim Jesus as Lord. In both baptism and confirmation something precious is entrusted to us, the gift of faith. We are all to recognise that, as temples of the Holy Spirit, we are called to live in a way that will always reflect the values of the gospel.

I thank all those who shared in the Forty Hours of Adoration last weekend. In a world of constant speed and noise that time of silence and stillness helps us all to focus on what the practice of the faith is all about. We are especially indebted to Suzanne Newbury for the stunning floral arrangements. We also thank Mrs Janet Abbott and her team of helpers for another very successful jumble sale which raised £865.

***God bless you always
Fr James***

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2013-14: Next class for the children on Monday 7th October at 6pm. The Parents' session will take place on Tuesday 8th October at 8pm.

REQUIEM MASS: the requiem Mass Mrs for Annie Doolan, RIP, will take place at 2pm on Friday 11th October 2013.

A NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY - SERVICE FOR THE BEREAVED: this year's Service for the Bereaved will take place on Sunday 17th November at 3pm. The service is arranged specifically for those who have lost loved ones - spouses, parents, children, relatives or friends, whether recently or some time ago. Further information towards the end of October.

WELL DONE!! Thanks to JoAnn O'Neil and her team for the transformation of the border on the south side of the car park. The selection of shrubs etc involved the flower arrangers and a small team of able-bodied stalwarts who planted them. Not only will the shrubs provide a useful resource for flower arranging in church but our church premises have been beautified!!

GIFT AID SCHEME: if you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme either by Standing Order or using offertory envelopes then please contact our Gift Aid Co-ordinator, Mrs Margaret Lechley on telephone 01992 812935. Those parishioners who, last weekend, signed up to the Scheme using envelopes will find these personally addressed in the letter rack in the porch. Many thanks.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: Date December 7th. Fair warning for nine weeks time.

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.

HARVEST FAST DAY COLLECTION: the envelopes will be distributed at all Masses next weekend. Harvest Fast Day will take place on Friday 18th October.

BAPTISMS: Congratulations to the Hattrell twins, Isabella and Francesca and John Flynn who have been baptised this week in our church.

VACANCY: The Governors of Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School, Rayleigh, seek to appoint an inspirational and talented Deputy Head Teacher. More information at www.olorcps.net/vacancies.

APF BOXES: If you hold an APF red box, please bring it as soon as possible for emptying. The boxes may be left at the Presbytery or handed to John Gee. Emptied boxes will be left in the Church porch for collection. We are seeking additional collectors. If you would like to have a box, please take one marked "New Collector" from the porch and complete the label with your own name and address. **This is a highly commended way of supporting world-wide missionary action.**

PARISH CAFOD CONTACT: a new Parish Contact is needed to receive newsletters, notices and letters from the CAFOD Regional Office at Chigwell and to act as the representative of the Parish in matters concerning CAFOD. If you can help, please have a word with Fr James or Deacon Duncan.

DIOCESAN TWINNING PROJECT WITH DUNDEE DIOCESE, SA: we are delighted that Fr Gerald Gostling is visiting us in Brentwood for the next couple of months. Fr Gerald will be hosting an event on Friday 11th October 2.30pm-4pm in the Conference Centre, Cathedral House, Brentwood when he will update us on the latest projects being undertaken in Dundee as well as sharing news from our twinned parishes. After his talk there will be the opportunity to chat informally over tea and cakes. Everyone is welcome. To book your place please contact Davina Bolt on 01277 265234 or davina@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

VACANCY FOR A PAID CHILD MINDER: Epping Green area. Required to carry out school drop off and pick up. Reliability essential. Start date as soon as possible. Please contact Ruth on 01992 561102 or 07961 837902 for further details.

NEARLY NEW SALE: Saturday 12th October 10am-12 noon at Theydon Bois Preschool, the Scout Hut, Loughton Lane, Theydon Bois.

LONDON MARATHON 2014: Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has Gold Bond places for runners in the LONDON MARATHON - Sunday 13th April 2014. Please contact Sarah Kendall on 01268 784544/ skendall@bccs.org.uk. Closing dates for applications is Friday 25th October. If you have been lucky enough to secure your own running place through the ballot then BCCS invite you to join and run with them. The Marathon is a unique opportunity to raise much needed funds for the Diocesan Children's Society and perhaps achieve a lifetime ambition!

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

5th and 6th October

Sat 5th 6 p.m. Johanne Hayes RIP
Vigil Mass

Sun 6th 9 a.m. Lena Clohessy RIP
 11 a.m. **Confirmation Mass**

Week Commencing 7th October 2013

Mon 7th 9 a.m. Mary and Paddy Duffy RIP

Tues 8th 9 a.m. Holy Souls

Wed 9th 9 a.m. Bishop William Brennan RIP

Thurs 10th 9 a.m. Special Intention (MC)

Fri 11th 2 p.m. Requiem Mass for Annie Doolan

Sat 12th 6 p.m. Holy Souls
Vigil Mass

Sun 13th 9 a.m. Golden Wedding Anniversary thanksgiving
 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 and Gus Broks.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	210.10
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	354.37
	CAFOD	20.19