



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Feast of the Holy Family Sunday 29th December 2013

Dear friends,

The Sunday after Christmas is always kept as the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. This time of year is especially marked by family get togethers. We can consider family at two levels. Firstly we have our blood relations: parents and children, cousins, aunts, uncles and grand parents. Relationships are often strained and it must be our constant concern to foster what makes for concord. At a wider level there is the family of humanity and here inter relationships are so often fraught with ethnic and religious strife. As followers of the Saviour who came amongst us and shared our humanity, we must go on trying to recognise that we are all sisters and brothers. God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is Father of us all. If we really believe this, then we must try to act accordingly.

Christmas, as always, was a joyful celebration in our parish family, though Deacon Duncan was sorely missed. On a personal note I would like to thank you all for your heartening support expressed in so many ways through cards, gifts and good wishes, not least your most generous offering of Christmas Day. As we stand on the threshold of a new year I pray that it may be a year of grace for us all. I wish you and all those dear to you health, happiness and holiness. For my part I pray that I may have the continued strength and stamina to minister among you to the best of my ability.

God bless you always
Fr James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes
Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall
E-mail: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org
11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA

Tel: 01992 572516
Tel: 01992 577173
Tel: 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813
Website: www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk
Registered Charity No. 234092

NEW YEAR'S DAY: there will be Mass at 10 am.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: Meeting on Wednesday 8th January at 7.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT (Monday to Friday) recommences on Monday 6th January 2014.

CRIB OFFERINGS will be donated to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Please be generous.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: this group is for children between 4 and 9 years, however, younger and older siblings are very welcome. We are currently looking for more helpers for this group to continue. If you are interested please contact Norah on 01992 577932.

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.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: the next class for the children will take place on Monday evening 13th January at 6pm.

PARISH HALL: a reminder that the Parish Hall is available for bookings for private events; special rates for parishioners and charities. Please contact Arnold Verrall on 573633 for details.

YOUTH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME: The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) is going to Rome for the Canonisation of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II. 44 places are on offer at a cost of £349 for young people 18-35. We depart on Saturday morning 26th of April, stay at a villa outside Rome, travel in for the Canonisation and then fly back in time for work/college/uni on Monday morning. Prices includes flights, transport within Italy and accommodation. For further details, go to www.bcys.net/events, or email Róisín Lancaster at info@bcys.net

NO ROOM AT THE INN? Many mothers nowadays find themselves under pressure to have an abortion. The Good Counsel Network and Helpers of God's Precious Infants offer practical help when they decide to keep their baby. This year, thanks to the 40 Days For Life prayer vigils in London and at our "local" clinic in Buckhurst Hill, many have decided to keep their babies - **but** this means funds are short! So, if you can help this Christmas **please** send a cheque payable to The Guild of Our Lady of Good Counsel, P.O. Box 46679, NW9 8ZT (see info@goodcounselnetwork.com)

HELP REQUIRED: to assist with caring for a lady who is undergoing treatment for a brain tumour. No experience or professional care is required. Help is needed with general household chores, reading and providing company. Hours and pay negotiable. Please contact Natalie Goldsworthy on 0787035 50708 if interested.

LOURDES - SUMMER 2014: The 25th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage runs from 26th to 31st July from £618 by air with full board for five nights, or £418 by coach. The pilgrimage includes an experienced medical team and plenty of help for those with mobility needs. Please visit www.brentwoodlourdes.org for further information.

VALENTINE GALA DINNER: The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society invite you to join them for a fabulous evening at their Valentine's Gala Dinner to be held on Friday 14th February 2014 at Stockbrook Golf & Country Club, Billericay. Tickets are priced at £45 per person to include a drinks reception, gifts, dinner, dancing, live entertainment and much more. Contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544 to book your ticket.

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
28th and 29th December 2013

Sat 28th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Hugh McMillan RIP
------------------------	--------	-------------------

Sun 29th	9 a.m.	Pitera Family
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 30th December 2013

Mon 30th	9 a.m.	Sr Teresa Geoghan RIP
----------	--------	-----------------------

Tues 31st	9 a.m.	Patrick Norton RIP
-----------	--------	--------------------

New Year's Day	10 a.m.	People of the Parish
----------------	---------	----------------------

Thurs 2nd Jan	9 a.m.	Private Intention (B.M.)
---------------	--------	--------------------------

Fri 3rd	9 a.m.	Private Intention (L.M.)
---------	--------	--------------------------

Sat 4th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Propagation of the Faith
-----------------------	--------	--------------------------

Sun 5th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
	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, David Sebire, Sean Garwood, Gus Broks, Sean Clohessy, Tom Clark and Deacon Duncan.