



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Twenty Second Sunday of the Year

31st August 2014

Dear friends,

many people are afraid of being considered old fashioned and will spend a lot of effort and a lot of money desperately trying to keep up with the competitive ways of the world. Today, in the second reading, St Paul pleads with us not to be conformed to the spirit of the aged but to be transformed by the renewal of our minds. Christians must dare to be different and must refuse to go with the flow and to do this requires a lot of courage. The same point is made powerfully in the gospel where our Lord tells his followers that they are to have a share in his cross. What profit is there, he says, in gaining the whole world if one makes a mess of life in the process? The choice is stark: conformity with a secular life style or transformation through the gift of God's grace.

Fr Andrew Hurley's body will be received into St Helen's Church, Ongar on Tuesday 2nd September with Mass at 7.30pm. The funeral will take place at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 3rd September at 12 noon followed by burial in Southend. After the funeral I shall leave for a holiday break in the Lake District returning on Friday 12th September.

God bless you always
Father James

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014-14: This year there are seventeen applicants. An information session for parents will be held at 8pm on Monday 22nd September in the hall. The enrolment Mass for the children will be on Sunday 27th September at 11am. Classes will commence at 5.30pm on Monday 29th September. NB - no further applications can be considered.

JUSTICE & PEACE COMMITTEE: 8pm on Tuesday 16th September in the presbytery. Anyone with a concern for social issues is warmly welcome to join this group.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: 7pm on Wednesday 17th September.

CHILDMINDER is needed o pick up a child daily from Ivy Chimney's Primary School and to remain with the child until 5.15pm daily. Please call 07512 653 407. References required.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY - GOLF CLASSIC: BCCS is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year . The Golf Classic is an annual event and this year will be held on Friday 19th September at Ilford Golf Club. The price is £45 non Ilford Golf Club members and £25 for members. This includes competitions plus a 3 course evening meal. Contact John Buckley on 01708 455887/j.buckley@hotmail.co.uk.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Heidi Millward.

CAFOD: The parish has donated £2000 towards relief of those who are victims of the conflict between Gaza and Israel.

RUBY WEDDING: Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Ron and Jenny Downs celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary.

USED SPECTACLES AND POSTAGE STAMPS: Thanks for the spectacles and postage stamps which have accumulated in the boxes in the church porch. The spectacles were taken to an optometrist who has contacts who check them out and then sends them to needy people in Africa. The stamps are taken to St Clare Hospice, where they are sorted and sold for Hospice funds. Please place used stamps and discarded spectacles in the boxes provided. Thank you.

A REQUIEM OF PEACE: SINGERS are invited to perform Andrew Wright's 'A Requiem of Peace' at The Church of The Most Holy Redeemer, Laindon Road, Billericay, on **SATURDAY 29th NOVEMBER 2014 at 8.00pm**. The Concert is in aid of CRY (Cardiac Risk In The Young).

ASSISTED DYING/EUTHANASIA: As you may be aware there is to be yet another attempt to change the law of our country to allow Assisted Dying, which is tied up with Euthanasia. The Catholic Church abhors any meddling with the sanctity of human life from conception to NATURAL death. We need to make our principles clear to our MP and ask her to vote against the introduction of legislation which would make Assisted Dying/Euthanasia legal. There are copies, at the back of the church, of a comprehensive and quite frightening speech by Lord Alton of Liverpool, which sets out the argument and reasons for rejecting moves to make Assisted Dying/Euthanasia legal. Please read the speech, and, if you feel able, write to Eleanor Laing, MP for Epping Forest to ask her to vote against the motion.

JUMBLE SALE: There will be a Jumble Sale in our Hall on Saturday 4th October at 2pm. Please leave any items in the church porch.

CHILD MINDING: For those parishioners looking for an occasional child minder, I am available most evenings and weekends. I have experience in childcare and can provide references if required. I am in the 6th form at Davenant and have a full driving licence. For those interested, please contact Rebecca McInerney on 0752229972 or 01992 812564.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTAS: Please collect the new rotas from the post box in the porch.

COFFEE AFTER 11AM MASS: Please note that there will be no coffee after the 11am Mass on Sunday 28th September and Sunday 5th October as the Hall is booked for private functions.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray Mike Collett who died last week. RIP.

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

30th and 31st August

Sat 30th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Sun 31st	9 a.m.	Mary Furlong RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 1st September 2014

Mon 1st	9 a.m.	Mr & Mrs Downs (40th Wedding Anniversary)
Tues 2nd	9 a.m.	Fr Andrew Hurley RIP
Wed 3rd	9 a.m.	Eucharistic Service
Thurs 4th	9 a.m.	Eucharistic Service
Fri 5th	9 a.m.	Eucharistic Service
Sat 6th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Margaret White RIP
Sun 7th	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Brigid Day RIP

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, Gina Pelosi, Marie Verrall, Paula Hall, Tullia Borrelli, David Sebire, Rosemary Freeman, Keith Miller and Sean Clohessy.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	173.50
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	237.20
	CAFOD	40.00

Thank you