



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Twenty First Sunday of the Year

24th August 2014

Dear friends,

the Collect or opening prayer of today's Mass is, in my opinion, one of the most powerful in the Roman Missal and dates back more than a thousand years. It begins with a twofold petition. We ask that we may love what God commands and that we may long for what he promises. Loving and longing for God can be compared with beating of the heart and the process of breathing. God alone is the beginning and end of fulfilment, nothing else can give us lasting happiness and peace. This is what prompts St Paul in the second reading to break into a rhapsodic outpouring expressing his wonder at the depths and riches of the Almighty. Prayer takes many forms, petition, contrition and thanksgiving but its highest form is praise. At Mass we proclaim Glory for God and Hosanna in the highest.

It is good to be back in church after the two week interval in the hall during the period of decoration. The end result justifies all the upheaval. The walls and ceiling are pristine, the curtain and carpets have been cleaned and everything is immaculate as befits a church given that dedication. Again we are indebted to Deacon Duncan for his direction and supervision of the whole project.

Please pray for Fr Andrew Hurley, parish priest of Ongar since 1994. He was a very dear friend of mine whom I have known for fifty three years. We were students of the priesthood together in Rome and his death has had a considerable emotional effect on me. May in rest in peace.

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.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM - *The Joy of the Gospel* - Pope Francis on proclaiming the Gospel in today's world. Wednesday 17th September - 7.30pm at the Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood. Speaker Fr James Hanvey, SJ - Campion Hall, Oxford. Lecturer and Author. A suggested donation of £5 per person.

JOB VACANCIES AT THE BOX - We have vacancies for paid sessional staff on our alternative education programme starting in September this year for general learning support. We are also looking for anyone with specialist knowledge in maths, science, sport/fitness or cookery. If you or anyone you know is interested in applying for any of these positions, please visit our website (www.theboxepping.org.uk) for more details and to obtain an application form, or call Tim Dolan on 01992 577 300. Closing date for applications: Friday 29th August.

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY: Mass will be at 10 am.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Connor O'Mullen.

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.

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.

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 McNerney 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 for Desmond Kelly and Thomas Murrihy who died during the week. We offer their families our prayerful sympathy. 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
23rd and 24th August 2014

Sat 23rd	6 p.m.	Geoffrey Potter RIP
Vigil Mass		

Sun 24th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 25th August 2014

Mon 25th	10 a.m.	Fr Andrew Hurley RIP
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Tues 26th	9 a.m.	Michael Ryan RIP
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Wed 27th	9 a.m.	Dooley Family deceased
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Thurs 28th	9 a.m.	Bill McEvoy
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Fri 29th	12 noon	<u>Requiem</u> Desmond Kelly RIP
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Sat 30th	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Vigil Mass		

Sun 31st	9 a.m.	Kathleen Furlong 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, Mike Collett, Gina Pelosi, Marie Verrall, Paula Hall, Tullia Borrelli, David Sebire, Rosemary Freeman, Keith Miller and Sean Clohessy.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	148.00
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	179.86
	CAFOD	20.00
	Standing Orders for July/August	3105.12

Thank you