



# **Newsletter**

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

**Thirty Third Sunday of the Year**

**17th November 2013**

Dear friends,

we are approaching the end of ordinary time in the Christian calendar; Advent is only two weeks away. In the gospel today we are encouraged to persevere in all our Christian endeavours. To persevere, to keep going no matter what life throws at us, means that we have to be reliable. It is in fidelity to the routine things of everyday life that is the real test of authentic faith. Few of us will be called to perform heroic actions during our life but all of us are called to be dependable. Jesus himself has said that if we are faithful in little things he will entrust greater things to us.

This is Prisoners' Sunday when we are asked to pray for those serving custodial sentences, for their families and for those who work in the Prison Service. We also pray for prison visitors since to visit those imprisoned is one of the corporal works of mercy.

The recent natural disaster in the Philippines has shocked us all. A collection for the disaster fund will be taken after all Masses and I am sure it will be met with a very generous response. The Philippino community in this country makes a very valued contribution to society, especially to the National Health Service and we offer to them all our deepest sympathy on the occasion of this national calamity.

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

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**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR:** Date December 7th. The parish children will be hoping for presents from Father Christmas. Now is a good time to donate unwanted toys for the stall. **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.

**NOVEMBER DEAD LISTS:** please place your lists in the basket before the altar.

**PARISH NATIVITY/CAROL CONCERT: Volunteers Meeting 17th November after 11am Mass.** There is a meeting in the Hall over a coffee **for all volunteers** after the 11am Mass **THIS Sunday 17th November**. Please come along so that we can organise this wonderful parish event. Rehearsals for the nativity/carol concert will begin soon. 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**.

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

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS:** for the children at 6pm on Monday 18th November. The parents' session will take place at 8pm on Tuesday 26th November .

**YOUTH GROUP MEETING:** Tuesday 19th November. To the young people of our parish aged 13+ you are all invited to a Youth Group meeting starting at 7.30pm and finishing at around 9.30pm. Get to know other young people in the parish, join in games and time to take a break from school work. Come and chill out. Please bring along musical instruments if you have them and anything else you wish to share. After an amazing Confirmation last month we would like to see as many of you there. Please contact James or Mary Ryan on 078142 26468 if any further questions or speak to us after 11 o'clock Mass. Be great to see you there!

**“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](mailto:maggie@keelingphysio.com) or telephone 07718858879.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS/READERS ROTAS:** will those concerned please collect the new rotas from the porch post-box.

**VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT GROUP:** this group will meet in Brentwood on Friday 29th November at 7.30pm with Fr Martin Boland as speaker. The group is friendly, welcoming and open to all aged 17-35. For more info call Fr Dominic on 01268 281732 or e-mail [frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org](mailto:frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org).

**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](mailto: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.

**ST MARK’S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL:** Following an inspection in October by the Brentwood Diocese, under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005, the governors and staff of St Mark’s West Essex Catholic School are pleased to share with you some of the findings of the inspection team, which judged St Mark’s to be “... a good school with a number of outstanding features.” A full copy of the report is available at [www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk](http://www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk).

**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**

### **16th & 17th November 2013**

Sat 16th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Molly Firth RIP
Sun 17th	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Ellen Day RIP

### **Week Commencing 18th November 2013**

Mon 18th	9 a.m.	Ellen Day RIP
Tues 19th	9 a.m.	Patrick Stokes RIP
Wed 20th	9 a.m.	Sr Mary John RIP
Thurs 21st	9 a.m.	Zoe (sick)
Fri 22nd	9 a.m.	Special Intention (M.C)
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

**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.

<b><u>OFFERINGS:</u></b>	Offertory Envelopes	211.70
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	462.20
	CAFOD	32.10