



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year

22nd September 2013

Dear friends,

the Gospel this weekend speaks to us of responsible stewardship and the wise use of money. The Chairman of our Parish Finance Committee, Mr Richard Steggle, will be speaking at all Masses about the **Gift Aid Scheme** which is an excellent way for all who pay tax to make their offering to the Church bring in extra revenue without any additional cost to themselves. Involvement in the scheme, either by use of offertory envelopes or a standing order, is a simple process and I appeal to all who at present simply put cash onto the plate to give it serious consideration.

This weekend 38 of our teenagers have gone off to the diocesan youth centre on Canvey Island for an intensive 48 hour course to prepare them for Confirmation, now only a fortnight away. Please pray for them as they make this personal commitment to the faith. Since the Confirmation Mass at 11am on Sunday 6th October will be jammed packed, people not immediately affected are advised to attend one of the other Masses that weekend.

Next weekend our annual 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration will open with Mass at 8pm on Friday 27th September and will continue until 11am Mass on Sunday 29th September. I thank all those who have volunteered to watch for an hour, particularly on Friday and Saturday nights. Even if you can't come for a full hour please try to make a shorter visit during that period.

God bless you always
Fr James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes
Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall
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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2013-14: The First Communion class for the children will take place at 6pm on Monday 23rd September. The Parents' session will take place on Tuesday 8th October at 8pm.

EPPING RE-USE CENTRE: there are currently opportunities for both volunteering and paid work at the Epping Reuse Centre. Please contact Dave Lawrence, the manager there, on 01992 578222 for further information.

HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: all are invited to the meeting on Wednesday 25th September in the Cry Chapel/Library, at 8pm.

PARISH HALL: our Parish Hall is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please phone Arnold Verrall on 573 633 or 0776 4404813.

PRAY FOR OUR YOUNG PEOPLE BEING CONFIRMED

At 6.45pm on Friday 20th September, our 38 Confirmandi left Epping on a coach bound for Walsingham House, Canvey Island. This is the Diocesan Youth Retreat Centre and is undertaking the preparation of our candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation on 6th October. PLEASE PRAY FOR THE 38 CANDIDATES, THEIR CATECHISTS, SPONSORS, AND GROUP LEADERS.

*****SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MASS ON 5th/6th OCTOBER*****

The size of our Confirmation Group makes it necessary to make special arrangements for Mass at **11am on Sunday 6th October**, when Bishop Thomas will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on our 38 candidates. The cooperation of all parishioners is sought for what will be a wonderful ceremony for our parish. Please pray especially for the 38 Confirmandi.

- There will only be space in church for the 38 Confirmandi, their sponsors and parents. **Special identity cards will be used for those who are allocated seats in church.**
- A live video link is being provided in the Church Hall for the whole Mass, for all other parishioners and relatives and friends of the Confirmandi. Holy Communion will be distributed in the Hall simultaneously with distribution in the Church.
- There will be a short reception in the Church Hall after Mass, at which the Confirmation certificates will be presented to the Confirmandi and refreshments will be served.
- **In view of the exceptional numbers involved, it would be very helpful if as many parishioners as possible please could attend the 6pm Vigil Mass or 9am Mass on this weekend.**

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. Many thanks.

JUMBLE SALE: Saturday 28th September at 2pm in our Hall. The Hall will be open on Friday 3pm -7.30pm and Saturday from 10.30am. Please may we have cakes for tea and take away. Help is needed to sort on Friday please even if only for an hour.

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.

40 HOURS EXPOSITION - 27th- 29th SEPTEMBER: Our annual 40-Hours Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place during the last weekend in September. **Please add your name to the Watching Rota on the Porch Notice Board. We are particularly appealing to men for evening and night-time watching.** If you would like to dedicate a candle to a deceased loved one, please place their name in an envelope marked '40 Hours', with a donation of £2 per candle and put it through the presbytery letter-box - names of the deceased will be displayed throughout the exposition as an aid to prayer.

COMMISSION FOR JUSTICE & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ANNUAL CONFERENCE: will be held on Saturday 5th October from 10am to 1pm in the Conference Hall, Cathedral House, Brentwood. Fr Stephen Wang, Dean of Studies at Allen Hall seminary, is the keynote speaker. More information from Elizabeth Abbott on 01277 265236. Everyone welcome.

BAPTISM: Aoife Dolan-Palmer. Congratulations!

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.

HEADTEACHER VACANCY: St Pius X Primary School in Chelmsford is seeking to appoint a visionary and inspirational Headteacher. Closing date for applications 4th October 2013. Please contact headship@essex.gov.uk for an application pack.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS
21st and 22nd September 2013

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| Sat 21st Vigil Mass | 6 p.m. | Margaret White RIP |
| Sun 22nd | 9 a.m. | People of the Parish Ellen Day RIP |

Week Commencing 23rd September 2013

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|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Mon 23rd | 9 a.m. | Bill McEvoy RIO |
| Tues 24th | 9 a.m. | Vincent McRory RIP |
| Wed 25th | 9 a.m. | Holy Souls |
| Thurs 26th | 9 a.m. | Colm & Mary McGrath |
| Fri 27th | 9 a.m. 8 p.m. | Special Intention (M.C.) Forty Hours opening Mass |
| Sat 28th Vigil Mass | 6 p.m. | Bridie Dineen RIP |
| Sun 29th | 9 a.m. 11 a.m. | Ron Wheeler RIP 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, Gus Broks, Annie Doohan and David Sebire.

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| <u>OFFERINGS:</u> | Offertory Envelopes | 144.00 |
| (£) | Offertory Loose Plate | 469.44 |
| | CAFOD | 2002.00 |
| | Standing Orders Aug/Sept | 2654.32 |