



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

27th July 2014

Dear Friends,

The news on the international scene at the moment is absolutely dire: the shooting down of the Malaysian plane, the tit-for-tat bombing in Israel and Gaza and the perils faced by Christians in Iraq. All this confronts us and challenges us to ask 'why?' Many throw up their hands in despair, but despair can never be a believer's response. We are called to be people of hope.

When Jesus preached his parables about the Kingdom, he was encouraging us to look beyond the ways of the world. He is pointing us in a different direction. The Kingdom of God, with its treasures of love, peace and joy, is above and beyond the power struggles of this present world, but these treasures are to be sought within our own hearts and minds. Jesus calls us to be different: to go against the flow and, in our own thoughts, words and actions, we are to sow small seeds of faith, hope and love, which, in God's good time, will produce their fruit.

In this country, our bishops have dedicated today as a *Day for Life*, celebrating the dignity of life and calling upon young people in particular to protect and cherish life from conception to natural death. It would be easy to settle for a weary cynicism and to ask what difference an one person can make, but when tempted to think like that we need to remember the small seeds growing slowly but surely.

God bless you always

Father James

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL: Please will members of the Parish Council collect the minutes of the recent meeting from the postbox.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2014-14: Applications are now available from Fr James. All requests must be submitted by 31st July at the latest. For children not baptised a Epping a baptismal certificate must be enclosed.

RED MISSION BOXES: There was a good response to the recent appeal. Twenty five new boxes have been taken. These will be counted twice annually. Existing boxes are to be handed in as soon as possible. Our parish promoter is Mr John Gee on 01992 577742.

GIFT AID OFFERINGS: HM Revenue have just refunded us £10927 from our gift aided offerings. A big thank you to all who participate in the Gift Aid Scheme and thank you also to Mrs Margaret Lechley who is always pleased to encourage other tax paying parishioners to join the Scheme at no extra cost to themselves.

WORLD WAR 1 COMMEMORATION SERVICE: As part of the national Commemoration of World War 1, this Sunday 27th July at 3.30pm, there will be an ecumenical Service in St John's Church, Epping. This will include Songs of War, Poems and Words from the Front, Drill by the Air Training Cadets, the Making of the Drum and a Drumhead Service with an Act of Remembrance, Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

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.

THE PASSGE: David Dimbleby will be appealing on Radio 4 on behalf of The Passage - the homelessness charity based in Victoria. Do listen to hear more about the work of this Catholic Charity. The broadcasts are on Sunday 27th July at 7.55am and 21.25pm and Thursday 31st July at 15.25pm.

DECORATION OF CHURCH INTERIOR:

We shall be decorating the interior of the church (excluding inside the cupboards in the sacristy) during the two weeks commencing 4th August. As the church will not be open during this period, please note the following changes to the normal arrangements, including Mass:

- Mass on Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th August and maybe also on Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th August will be in the CHURCH HALL.
- Weekday Mass for two weeks from 4th August will be in the Presbytery and will NOT be preceded by Morning Prayer.
- The Blessed Sacrament, during the period of decoration, will be reserved in Fr James' Chapel in the presbytery.
- Adoration after morning Mass is discontinued as is the usual practice during August.
- Confessions will be heard in the Presbytery, upon request, during this period.

We will need to seek the help of parishioners:

- To move the Mass Books and Hymn books into the Church Hall after the 11am Mass on 3rd August and back into the Church when the re-decoration is complete.
- To put out tables and about 150 chairs in the Hall after 11am Mass on 3rd August and to stack them away when we return to having Mass in the Church after re-decoration.
- We will need to arrange for the Choir Loft and Library to be left clear for re-decoration.

Please let Deacon Duncan know if you can help with any of these tasks.

DAILY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: has now ceased until after the 9am Mass on Monday 1st September.

HIROSHIMA SERVICE: You are invited to an inter-denominational service of light and peace in commemoration and remembrance of the first atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, to be held on Wednesday 6th August 8pm at Our Lady and St Joseph church, Mill Lane, Stock ESSEX CM4 9RG. Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon will be presiding. A candle will be lit at Stock which came from Hiroshima, and the candle from Essex CCND (Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament) will be lit in Hiroshima. For further information please contact Davina Bolt 01277 265234 or email davina@dioceseofbrentwood.org."

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

26th and 27th July 2014

Sat 26th	6 p.m.	Jim Lennon RIP
Sun 27th	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Ellen Day RIP

Week Commencing 21st July 2014

Mon 28th	9 a.m.	Thomas Murrihy (Sick)
Tues 29th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Wed 30th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thurs 31st	9 a.m.	Arthur Devereux RIP
Fri 1st August	9 a.m..	Michael Ryan RIP
Sat 2nd Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Holy Souls
Sun 27th	9 a.m.	People of the Parish
	11 a.m.	Ellen 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, Mike Collett, Gina Pelosi, Marie Verrall, Paula Hall, Tullia Borrelli, David Sebire, Rosemary Freeman, Keith Miller and Sean Clohessy.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	261.00
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	229.00
	CAFOD	12.00

Thank you