



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Palm Sunday

13th April 2014

Dear friends,

Easter is the supreme feast in the Christian calendar, outranking all others, even Christmas: in fact it takes a whole week to cover all its observances. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday when the account of our Lord's Passion is read and palms are blessed and carried in procession, recalling Christ's entry into Jerusalem to the cry of hosanna. On the Wednesday of Holy Week the priests of the diocese gather round the bishop at the cathedral for the Mass of Chrism. During this liturgy the oils used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Sacrament of the Sick are blessed and then brought to the parishes to be used throughout the coming year. On **Maundy Thursday** evening the Mass of the Lord's Supper recalls the last supper of Jesus with his disciples when he both instituted the Eucharist and washed their feet as an act of service and humility to be observed by all his followers but especially the priests of the Church. **Good Friday** is a day of stark sobriety; a day of fasting and abstinence from meat. In the morning there will be Stations of the Cross, specially adapted for children this year. At 3pm the solemn liturgy of the Passion is observed when the cross is unveiled and venerated. The **Vigil of Easter** is celebrated on Holy Saturday night, a liturgy of great splendour but sadly sparsely attended. It is the greatest service of the Christian year when the Paschal candle is lighted and the hymn of Resurrection, the Exultet is proclaimed. The cries of Alleluia and Gloria resound again after their absence throughout Lent. Those who have made the journey of faith during the year are received into fully Communion with the Church. In this parish we welcome Mr David Sebire and Mr Stephen Greenshields as our new members of the Church. On **Easter Sunday** the high promises of baptism are renewed at all Masses and so the great week is brought to its joyful conclusion.

***God bless you all
Fr James***

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
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EASTER LILIES: as is usual you are invited to contribute an Easter lily (£2) in memory of a loved one. Please mark the envelope "Easter Lily".

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: 6pm each Sunday of Lent.

JUMBLE SALE: Saturday 17th May 2014 at 2pm in our Hall.

GIFT AID: PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: Envelopes for the new tax year are available in the porch - please collect your set asap. If you would like to join the Gift Aid Scheme then please contact Margaret Lechley on 01992 812935.

END YEAR TAX LETTERS: if you require a letter, for tax purposes, stating your total contribution to Gift Aid for the year 13/14 then please let Margaret know either or the above telephone number or e-mail epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org

EMAIL ADDRESSES, PLEASE:

As Deacon Duncan recently announced at Mass , we hope to save time, money and resources by sending out the weekly Newsletter by email. Please complete the "permission" slip, which can be found in each bench of the church with some biros and place it in the basket provided at the back of the church before leaving Mass. Please also add the parish email address (epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org) to your email contact list. Many thanks for the 60 forms already received. We hope to start sending out the Newsletters by email during the next couple of weeks. Paper copies of the Newsletter will continue to be available to those without email facilities.

CALLING ALL CHILDREN ON GOOD FRIDAY: the Stations of the Cross at 10am on Good Friday will be specially prepared for the children, who will be invited to move round the Church from Station to Station. We hope to see many adults and children at this service when we remember the great Passion and Death of Jesus, when he gave his life to save us for eternal happiness. The service will last about 20 minutes to allow those who are walking in the Combined Churches Walk of Witness to get to the Duke of Wellington in time for the 11am start.

SACRED CANTATA THE CRUCIFIXION BY STAINER: 7.30pm Good Friday in St John's Church sung by Epping Church Choirs Association.

GOOD FRIDAY: Ecumenical Walk of Witness at 10.45am. This is a day of fasting and abstinence (no meat). On Good Friday a retiring collection will be taken for the upkeep of the Christian shrines in the Holy Land.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! Ushers are required, especially for the 11am Sunday Mass. With sufficient volunteers each would only be needed around 6 times a year. Individuals can join with other people. Help is also needed on Saturdays to prepare the Church for Mass by putting out the newsletters, hymn and prayer books. Please phone Michael on 01992 574719 or give your details to Fr James or Deacon Duncan if you are able to help with either or both of these roles.

CHRISTIAN AID: is there a generous person in the parish who will take on the organisation of our share of the street collection? Dorothy Whitehouse is willing to guide and assist (tel 577173). Meantime the list for recruiting collectors will be made available for the gallant volunteers

PIETY STALL: Easter cards and First Holy Communion keepsakes are on sale at the Piety Stall.

ALTAR SERVERS: practice for Holy Week on Wednesday 16th April at 5pm for one hour.

PART-TIME THESPIANS WANTED FOR GOOD FRIDAY: the producer of the dramas on the Epping Walk of Witness on Good Friday is looking for some additional actors and readers. There will be one rehearsal and the Walk itself. If you would like to help please phone Deacon Duncan on 01992 577173 for details.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: the annual Mass for Migrants, in honour of St Joseph the Worker, will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 5th May in Westminster Cathedral, London. Mass begins at 11am and will be preceded by banner procession at 10.30am. More info from Davina Bolt 01277 265234 or email Davina@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

ST VINCENT de PAUL/ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP - ALDHAM, ESSEX: this annual camp for boys aged 8-13 and girls aged 9-12 is full of fun filled activities in a beautiful 43 acre site, fully supervised in a caring atmosphere (see poster on porch notice board) for £140 (subsidised depending on circumstances). For more information please contact Paul 01992 577104.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Mr John Hair father of Mrs Stella Pleydell to whom we offer our prayerful condolences. 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

12th and 13th April

HOLY WEEK

Sat 12th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Tony Marrinan RIP
Sun 13th Palm Sunday	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Holy Souls People of the Parish

Week Commencing 14th April 2014

Mon 14th	9.15 a.m.	Bernard Stevens RIP
Tues 15th	9.15 a.m.	Bridie Houlihan RIP
Wed 16th	9.15 a.m.	Holy Souls
Thurs 17th Maundy Thursday	8pm	No morning Mass Mass of the Lord's Supper
Fri 18th Good Friday	10 a.m. 3.p.m	Stations of the Cross for children <u>SOLEMN LITURGY OF THE PASSION</u>
Sat 19th Holy Saturday	8 p.m.	<u>SOLEMN VIGIL MASS</u>
Sun 20th Easter Sunday	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Holy Souls People of the Parish

Morning Prayer will be held in the week 15 minutes before 9.15 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, David Sebire, Sean Garwood, Sean Clohessy, Patrick Lennon and Tom Clark.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	190.75
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	336.03
	CAFOD	20.44