



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception Epping

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sunday 19th January 2014

Dear friends,

the liturgy of the Church is back in Ordinary Time until the beginning of Lent in early March. The response of today's psalm is: **Here I am Lord: I come to do your will.** If we take those words seriously they form a sufficient agenda for Christian living at any time, ordinary or otherwise. The way of the world has always been strongly individualistic and encourages us to do our own thing. The way of Christ is directly contrary to such an attitude. In the agony of the garden Jesus prayed thy will be done and that is the prayer he taught his disciples. The pursuit of self will, whilst it often brings temporary satisfaction, in the long run will always lead to unhappiness. The poet Dante wrote: **in his will is our peace.** To try our best to do what God wants of us is not always easy and requires a lot of self discipline and perseverance but it will always result in a peace of mind surpassing all human understanding.

Tomorrow my brother and I are flying to Las Palmas for a week in search of the sun. It will be my first break from the parish in twelve months. I was last in the Canary Islands in the summer of 1971 when I went there for a month as a young priest to teach English to teenagers.

God bless you always

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes
Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse
Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall
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FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: the next class for the children will take place on Monday evening 27th January at 6pm.

MUSIC GROUP PLEA: We have a very small and friendly music group. Between us we aim to provide some music for all Masses to suit all ages and tastes. WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!! We have a digital music box affectionately known as “Doris” which can be used when no “live” music is available. Volunteers are required to operate Doris and to lead singing at some Masses. It’s easy! Please contact Maggie on 01992 573962; maggie@keelingphysio.com.

SMALL LINEN: will all the laundresses please collect their rotas from the linen drawer in the sacristy. Many thanks to them for performing this task.

EPPING YOUNG CHRISTIANS (EPYC): EPYC is back for 2014! The Churches Together Youth Group will be meeting this term on the following Sundays: January 19th, February 16th, March 16th. The groups will meet in The Box at the usual times: Junior EPYC (school years 3-6) 5.30pm - 7pm, EPYC (school years 7-13) 6.45pm-8pm. If any adults are interested in joining as leaders, please contact Alison Dolan on 07855 958653.

EPPING CHURCH CHOIRS will be performing Mozart Requiem and Chilcott Requiem, with orchestra, in St John’s Church, Epping on Saturday 1st February at 7.30pm. Admission is free but there is a programme charge of £2.50 and a retiring collection. Epping Church Choirs Association was founded in 1972. It is an ecumenical choir and draws its members mainly, but not exclusively, from churches in the CTED area. It is the only choir in Epping. It holds 4 concerts a year. Practice takes place on Friday evenings in S John’s Church Hall from 8pm to 9.30pm. There are no formal auditions and it is a very friendly group with around 40 members and a professional musical director. If interested please ring Janet on 01992 578262. Otherwise please try to support their concerts.

PARISH COUNCIL: please can all members of the Parish Council collect the Minutes of the recent meeting from the postbox.

CONGRATULATIONS: to Mrs Gina Pelosi, our oldest parishioner who celebrates her 98th birthday on 22nd January.

WRESTLING WITH ROMANS: the diocesan Commission for Evangelisation and Formation invites you to a study day on St Paul's Letter to the Romans, entitled "Wrestling with Romans", to be held on Saturday 8th March from 10.30am until 3pm at Brentwood Cathedral Hall. The day will be given by Fr Adrian Graffy, director of the Commission. The day is free of charge and a buffet lunch is provided. Please book by phoning 01277 265289 or e-mail to cef@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

LOURDES - SUMMER 2014: The 25th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage runs from 26th to 31st July from £618 by air with full board for five nights, or £418 by coach. The pilgrimage includes an experienced medical team and plenty of help for those with mobility needs. Please visit www.brentwoodlourdes.org for further information.

TEACHING ASSISTANT: St Joachim's Catholic Primary School, Shipman Road, Custom House, London E16 3DT requires a teaching assistant from 24th February 2014. Term time only - 36 hours per week. More info on tel 01207 4761658 or info@st-joachims-newham.gov.uk.

VACANCY: person required for the paid position of Housekeeper at the Diocesan House of Prayer at Abbotswick. 3-5 hours per week. Timing of work can be negotiated. Please contact Sr Theresa on 01277 373959 or email info@abbotswick.org for a job description and personal specification.

VICE PRINCIPAL: required for September 2014 at St Benedict's College, Colchester. Closing date: Monday 27th January 2014. For information please contact Mrs Diane Hilliard, PA to the Principal: d.hilliard@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk or 01206 516842.

PARISH HALL: Our Parish Hall is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please phone Arnold Verrall on 01992 573633 or 0776 4404813.

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
18th and 19th January 2014

Week Commencing 20th January 2014

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, David Sebire, Sean Garwood, Gus Broks, Sean Clohessy, Tom Clark and Deacon Duncan.

<u>OFFERINGS:</u>	Offertory Envelopes	229.00
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	356.23
	CAFOD	20.20
	Standing Orders Dec/Jan	2801.12