



# Newsletter

## The Immaculate Conception Epping

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

26th January 2014

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

As Fr James completes his week away, basking in the sunshine of the Canary Islands, we reflect in today's readings on the start of Jesus' ministry around the Sea of Galilee 2000 years ago. Now aged about 30, he was already seen as a speaker of great eloquence. We now know that he was to have only three years in which to establish the first group of followers - the apostles - which was to change the accepted norms of life for those who followed him. **He never claimed that following him would be an easy way of life, but he did promise that those who followed him would enjoy eternal life in heaven when they died.**

The accounts of how he drew followers to him are inspirational and we need to keep reminding ourselves that **we too are inspirational in a similar way when we profess our faith in word and deed and stand out in the community as good Christians whose main aim in life is to love God, to love our neighbour and work for the common good.**

We are very grateful to Fr Kieran Dodd for saying Mass for us over this weekend. We trust that a refreshed Fr James will return to us on Monday.

God bless you all.

*Deacon Duncan*

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes

Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse

Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall

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Registered Charity No. 234092

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS:** the next class for the children will take place this 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](mailto: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 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 our own RC 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.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY RAFFLE TICKETS 1st & 2nd February:** Next weekend 1st and 2nd February please come to Mass with bulging purses and wallets! You don’t want to miss the chance to buy tickets for SVP’s Annual Raffle. SVP does a wide variety of charitable works including helping refugees in Sudan and Syria **with volunteers on the ground** so your money does reach the needy. Prizes are £3,000, £2,000, £1,000 and ten at £100 and £50. The Draw will be held on 1st March 2014.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.brentwoodlourdes.org) for further information.

**HOMELESS SUNDAY:** this Sunday is designated Homeless Sunday in Brentwood Diocese, when we reflect and pray for the work of Caritas Anchor House (changed name from "Anchor House" on 1st January 2014). The Parish will be sending a donation from our charity fund, so there will not be a retiring collection. However, leaflets will be distributed as you leave Mass, which explain the work of Caritas Anchor House and provide a donation form for those who would like to provide personal support for this wonderful Catholic charity.

**VACANCY:** Experienced sales/marketing professional required for full-time role by Churchmarketplace - the online supply portal developed by, and for, the Catholic Diocese of England and Wales. Please contact [paolocamoletto@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:paolocamoletto@rcdow.org.uk), tel 020 7798 9036 for a job description and person specification. Closing date for completed applications is 7th February 2014.

**PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING:** at Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will take place this month on Sunday 26th January 2014 - 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Everyone welcome.

**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 January 2014**

Sat 25th                      6 p.m.      Tony Kenna (sick)  
Vigil Mass

Sun 26th                      9 a.m.      Hogan Family  
   11 a.m.      People of the Parish

**Week Commencing 27th January 2014**

Mon 27th                      9 a.m.      Eucharistic Service

Tues 28th                      9 a.m.      Edith Fahy RIP

Wed 29th                      9 a.m.      Paulette Jarrold RIP

Thurs 30th                      9 a.m.      Constance Fernandez RIP

Fri 31st                        9 a.m.      Russell Crook RIP

Sat 1st Feb                      6 p.m.      Bernard Stevens RIP  
Vigil Mass

Sun 2nd Feb                      9 a.m.      Fr Brendan Gorman 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, David Sebire, Sean Garwood, Gus Broks, Sean Clohessy and Tom Clark.

**OFFERINGS:** Offertory Envelopes                      237.00  
**(£)**                      Offertory Loose Plate                      320.23