



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Epping

Fifth Sunday of Easter

18th May 2014

Dear friends,

Without a firm foundation many lives are very unstable and some end up with total collapse. As Christians we are called to build our lives upon a sure foundation, Christ our risen Lord. In the second reading today St Peter envisages the Church as a spiritual house of which each Christian is a building block. We are cemented together and are built on Christ. Last week I had occasion to speak about vocations to the ordained ministry. This week it is vital that we also come to the awareness of the priesthood of all the laity with numerous tasks or ministries to fulfil. Jesus is our great High Priest and sharing his life, every Christian shares his priesthood. In St Peter's words we are: a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God. As we look at our mundane and often messy lives it is sometimes hard to grasp all this and take it all in. However, Jesus asks us to trust in Him and to trust in the Father. That trust enables us to discern the grace of God at work in us. If we truly believe that Jesus is our way, our truth and our life then we are enabled to communicate the values of his gospel with quiet confidence and unfeigned joy. Baptised and sealed with the Holy Spirit we are empowered to do great things.

Now that our First Holy Communion programme 2014 has been successfully completed I would like to thank again Isobel Barron and the Ryan Family for all their commitment and dedication in what they have achieved for our children.

God bless you all
Fr James

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EMAIL ADDRESSES, PLEASE: Thanks to the 148 parishioners who have provided email addresses and will now receive their Newsletters by email each week. A few of these email addresses have bounced back as undeliverable therefore if you have not received your electronic copy but were expecting to please email Margaret Lechley at the Parish email address. Paper copies will continue to be available for those who need them. Please ask if you would like a permission slips to complete.

MISSIONS APPEAL: Missio who organise the appeal for the missions through the Red Boxes thank us for our support throughout the year. Our local organiser is Mr John Gee on telephone 01992 577742 who will gladly provide a box for anybody asking for one.

COULD YOU TEND OUR NEW GARDEN BORDER? We're looking for a volunteer who is prepared to keep the new border, in front of the front door of the church, free of weeds. The church flower arrangers will be using/pruning the shrubs so it probably needs about 2 hours a month of hoeing the weeds. If you can help with this labour of love then please let Fr James or Deacon Duncan know.

EPPING CHURCH UNITY- A DIARY DATE: Epping Churches invite everyone to a Unity Service on the Green outside our Church on Sunday 8th June at 3pm. There will be worship, Bible stories, picnic etc. Please note in your diary or on your calendar and come to join all the Churches in Epping and District to celebrate and give witness to the unity of faith we share.

THANK YOU: Margaret Lechley would like to express her thanks at the overwhelming support and sympathy she received from parishioners on the recent death of her brother.

IMPORTANT JOB VACANCY AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: the Cathedral Dan, Fr Martin Boland, is looking for a PA to support him in running both a large, busy parish and the many diocesan events that take place at the Cathedral. For further details please contact Fr Martin by June 15th at cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com or telephone 01277 265235.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' AND READERS' ROTAS:

please collect the new rotas from the post box in the church porch.

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.

CATHOLIC SINGLES: is an organisation which helps single adult Catholics of all ages meet, either one to one or through social events. Please tel. 0161 941 3498, visit the website www.catholicsingles.org.uk or email info@catholicsingles.org.uk

'Chill & be Filled with the Lord!' – You are welcome to join a day of discovery in prayer on 7th June 2014 from 10.30am-4pm at Abbotswick, the Diocesan House of Prayer, Brentwood. This guided retreat led by Sr Ann O'Sullivan (Sisters of St Gilda's), will focus on the essential and walking with the Lord. A suggested donation £18 per person includes a light lunch and all refreshments. Please call Abbotswick on 01277 373959 or Sr Ann on 07752563520 for further information. Booking is essential and all are welcome!

PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING: at SION Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will take place this month on **Sunday 25th May 2014 7.30pm to 9.00pm.** 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
17th and 18th May 2014

Sat 17th 6 p.m. Frank Fernandez RIP

Sun 18th 9 a.m. Bridie O'Loughlin RIP
 11 a.m. People of the Parish

Week Commencing 19th May 2014

Mon 19th 9 a.m. Frank Fernandez RIP

Tues 20th 9 a.m. Intentions of Mary Murray

Wed 21st 1.30 p.m. Requiem Mass for Tom Clark

Thurs 22nd 9 a.m. Francis Daly RIP

Fri 23rd 9 a.m. The Joseph Family

Sat 24th 6 p.m. Christina Donohoe RIP
Vigil Mass

Sun 25th 9 a.m. David Clancy 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, Rosemary Freeman and Sean Clohessy.

OFFERINGS:	Offertory Envelopes	223.00
(£)	Offertory Loose Plate	482.51
	CAFOD	2.16

Thank you