



Newsletter

The Immaculate Conception

Second Sunday of the Year 18th January 2015

Dear friends,

in our Old Testament reading the young Samuel says “*speak Lord, your servant is listening.*” Very often in our own prayer we are inclined to turn that petition the other way round and say “*listen Lord, your servant is speaking.*” Listening for the still, small voice of the Lord is an essential part of prayer. We know what we want but that is not always in accordance with the will of God for us and in order to discern his will we have to be prepared to listen. There has to develop in our lives an openness to God’s will hence the response to the psalm this morning.: “*Here I am Lord; I come to do your will.*”

This is the annual week of prayer for Christian unity and again I recommend to you the unity service which we are hosting here on Monday 19th January at 8pm. Throughout the coming week other Christian churches in the area will be conducting similar services. Prayer together always fosters a sense of solidarity and in a time of increasing unbelief Christians need to stand together to communicate the values of the gospel.

Thank you again for the ipad which the parish gave me for my jubilee. Very slowly I am getting to grips with it. I now have an email address and I have taken my first selfie! It won’t be long before I reach the 21st century.

God bless you always

Fr James

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FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: The next class for the children will take place on Monday 26th January 2015 at 5.30pm.

THIS WEEK IS CHURCH UNITY WEEK

On this Monday (19th January) at 8pm, we shall be hosting a service for all the local Christian churches and chapels. **PLEASE DO TRY TO COME TO THIS CHURCH UNITY ACT OF JOINT WORSHIP** – it will be good to have some solid Catholic support to help to lead the visitors in song and prayer. Following the service, refreshments will be available in the Church Hall, where we can make our fellow Christians very welcome. Other Church Unity Services are being held at:

- Wednesday 21st 7.30pm Epping Green Chapel
- Friday 23rd 8.00pm St John the Baptist, Epping
- Sunday 25th 6.00pm St Mary's Theydon Bois

FUNERAL MASS FOR MRS MARY CANNY RIP: Mary's body will be received into the church on Tuesday 20th January at 4pm. Her funeral Mass will take place at 11am on Wednesday 21st January.

CONGRATULATIONS to Gina Pelosi, our oldest parishioner, who celebrates her 99th birthday on Friday 23rd January.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Ava Rose Wood.

COFFEE: please note there is no coffee in the Hall after 11am Mass today.

ECCA WINTER CONCERT: ECCA will be singing Rossini's Messe Solennelle on Saturday 31st January at 7.30pm in St John's Church Epping. This work is a beautiful Mass setting and it would be great to have your support. Admission is free. Programmes are £2.50 which helps to offset the cost of putting on such a concert and there will be a voluntary retiring collection for choir funds. All in all it will be a cheap but inspiring evening. Interval refreshments available.

FR JAMES' GOLDEN JUBILEE PHOTOS: For those parishioners wishing to view the photographs taken at Father James recent jubilee celebrations, a gallery can be found at the following website :- <http://capturingimagescouk.shootproof.com/fatherjamesjubilee>. For those who are interested in purchasing any of the images, an ordering facility is available within the website page. Anyone experiencing any problems or wish further information can contact Michael McInerney on 07823 699627.

THE IRISH PENSIONERS FORUM OF EAST LONDON provide a monthly tea dance social and this has resumed on the first Thursday of every month from 1.30pm to 5pm at Durning Hall, Forest Gate. This is especially provided for older people who live alone and who would benefit from enjoyable company once a month at Durning Hall. Admission here is £3. Telephone 0207 428 0471.

THE GIFT OF MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE: The Bishops of England and Wales have asked all parishes to reflect on the Gift of Marriage and Family Life and have issued a paper to aid reflection. **Here is an opportunity for our young and not-so-young marrieds to have their voices heard!!** It is hoped to organise a parish discussion group on the five Wednesday evenings during Lent to discuss this aspect of parish life. Please let Deacon Duncan know if you would like to join the group. (Tel 577173

PROCLAIM 15. This is a new national Bishops' Initiative in 2015 to support the development of parish evangelisation. Please do get involved. More information in the CEF newsletter / website over the coming months. Website: www.catholicnews.org.uk/proclaim15
Contact: *Sylvia Lanz/Lucy Studham* Tel: 01277 265 289 or email CEF@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Flame II : On Saturday 7th March the largest National Catholic Youth event of 2015 will take place at Wembley Arena. It will be a day filled with music, led by double grammy award winning Matt Redman and his band, drama and speakers including Cardinal Luis Tagle from the Philippines, Baroness Sheila Hollins, Fr Timothy Radcliffe, David Wells and Cardinal Vincent Nicholls. If you are aged 14 – 25 and would like to join 10,000 other young people please contact the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service office (BCYS) either by email at info@bcys.net or call 01277 265 286 for a booking form. The cost for the day will be £20 which will include return coach travel from Brentwood Cathedral.

ECUMENICAL STUDY DAY ON THE HOLY LAND:
The next Ecumenical Study Day organised by the Commission for Evangelisation and Formation will be entitled 'Jerusalem: the Spiritual Heart of the World: Recognition and Responsibility for the Holy Land'. It will be given by Della Shenton, who has led bespoke, reflective pilgrimages to Israel, Palestine and Jordan over the last nine years. Della will explore the place of Jerusalem in Jewish thought and in our Christian faith, and consider how we can move from faiths in conflict to lasting peace. The Study Day will take place on Saturday 7th March from 10.30 until 3 p.m. at Brentwood Cathedral Hall. Please book your place by email to cef@dioceseofbrentwood.org or by phoning 01277 265 289. There is no charge and a light buffet lunch is provided.

HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE meeting will take place on Thursday 22nd January at 8pm in the Cry Chapel. All parishioners are invited to come along especially anybody who is interested in fund-raising events.

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 January 2015

Sat 17th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	Dan & Elizabeth O'Halloran RIP
Sun 18th	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Mary Canny People of the Parish
<u>Week Commencing 19th January 2015</u>		
Mon 19th	9 a.m.	Lois Gosnell
Tues 20th	9 a.m.	Marie Verrall RIP
Wed 21st	12 noon	Requiem Mary Canny RIP
Thurs 22nd	9 a.m.	Private Intention
Fri 23rd	9 a.m.	Mary Canny RIP
Sat 24th Vigil Mass	6 p.m.	David Sabire RIP
Sun 25th	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Thanksgiving (MH) 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, Gina Pelosi, Paula Hall, Tullia Borrelli, Rosemary Freeman, Keith Miller, Jennie Downs, Sean Clohessy and Diane Harrington

OFFERINGS (£):

Loose Plate	309.62
Offertory Envelopes	432.00
CAFOD	22.10
Crib Offerings	227.19
Standing Orders Dec/Jan	2900.00