

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS
28th and 29th November 2015

Sat 28th Nov (Vigil Mass)	6 p.m.	Lady Joan Russell RIP
Sun 29th Nov	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Intentions of Pat Dowling People of the Parish

Week Commencing 30th November 2015

Mon 30th	9 a.m.	Holy Souls
Tues 1st Dec	9 a.m.	Thanksgiving (Joseph)
Wed 2nd	9 a.m.	Terence Dowling RIP
Thurs 3rd	9 a.m.	Ann Ryan RIP
Fri 4th	9 a.m.	Tullia Borelli RIP
Sat 5th	6 p.m.	Jeanette Mulligan RIP
Sun 6th	9 a.m. 11 a.m.	Jovita Darbyshire RIP People of the Parish

Morning Prayer will be said in the week, 15 minutes before 9 am Mass

Confessions: Saturday 11.30am -12 noon and after 6pm Mass.

Please pray for the sick:

Doris Scott, Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, David Kenworthy, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson, Sean Clohessy, Daphne McAdam, Mima Vitello and Catherine Steel

<u>OFFERINGS (£):</u>	Offertory Envelopes	286.00
	Offertory Loose Plate	299.49
	CAFOD	23.62
	Standing Orders October/November	2886.33

Thank you for your generosity



Newsletter
The Church of the Immaculate Conception
Epping

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 29th November 2015

Dear friends,

Advent is a precious time, all too easily eclipsed by the secular and commercial frenzy that precedes Christmas. It is a season of watchfulness and prayerful reflection helping us to prepare for the celebration of our saviour's birth. It is also the start of a new year in the Christian calendar. The twelve month period December 2015- November 2016 has been designated by Pope Francis as a ***Year of Mercy*** when the Church will engage in a heightened mission to those who, for one reason or another, believe themselves to be estranged or on the margins as Catholic Christians. As you leave Mass today you will be handed a complimentary pamphlet about the Year of Mercy. Please take it and use it in your personal devotions both in Advent and in the year ahead. One of the best ways of encountering God's mercy is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation which is especially emphasised in Advent and Lent - our own Advent Penance Service will be on Tuesday 15th December at 8pm.

Jesus says that those who show mercy to others will have mercy shown to them. In these troubled times the world is crying out for mercy to dispel the forces of hatred. Our own humble contribution to the spread of mercy lies in avoiding rash judgments of others and an endeavour to interpret their actions in the best possible way. However you intend to observe these days before Christmas, do not waste this opportunity to grow closer to our Lord who is never outdone in generosity and love.

God bless you always

Fr James

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. James Hawes Tel: 01992 572516
 Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173
 Parish Hall Bookings: Arnold Verrall Tel: 01992 573633 or 0776 440 4813
 E-mail: epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org Website: :www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk
 11, Church Hill, Epping CM16 4RA Registered Charity No. 234092

THE BAZAAR IS NEXT SATURDAY

This is the one time of the year when the whole parish community gets together to meet old friends and make new ones.

The Bazaar is in the Church Hall from 10.30am - 2.30pm. Please spend the latter half of the week baking for the Cake Stall:- sponges, pies, scones, biscuits and buns all go like hot cakes (!)

Setting up is on Friday 4th December from 2pm-7pm. Young muscle is urgently needed before and after the event.

We still need more groceries please to help fill the stall. We also need more helpers on the day, especially to relieve people and help on the door an hour at a time. Many thanks.

BAZAAR PATRONS: It is not too late to be a Bazaar Patron. Just put a labelled envelope with your donation through the Presbytery letterbox.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS: Tuesday 1st December at 5.45pm.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Francis Cobb.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP: CAN you speak out for those who are forced to stay silent? Would you write a letter, send a text or email to help free those unfairly imprisoned? Simple actions like these can help to change the world and bring justice to those who have no voice. For more details call Emma on: 07876 897 942.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society in association with HCPT will be hosting our very popular Ladies' Luncheon on **Friday 11th December 2015** at 12.30pm at the Rayleigh Golf Club, Hullbridge. Ladies will be treated to a delicious two course luncheon with tea & coffee in the luxurious surroundings of a private room overlooking the golf course at this exclusive club. Tickets cost £25.00 per person. To reserve your ticket, please call Julie on 01268 784544/ jabbott@bccs.org.uk

PETITION NOT TO STOP HELP FOR MOTHERS IN CRISIS

PREGNANCIES: Abortion providers led by British Pregnancy Advisory Services are losing business because of the efforts of pro-life pavement counsellors who stand near clinics and offer women free help, **without coercion**, to avoid abortion. This is currently lawful provided there is no obstruction or harassment. Private clinics want to make it illegal (they receive £600 or more per abortion) by creating "buffer zones" around their premises. **Please sign** the petition to the Home Secretary on the notice board in the church porch.

ECCA CHRISTMAS CONCERT: Ecce are holding their Christmas concert on FRIDAY 18th December at 8pm in St.John's Church Epping. Carols for choir and congregation and seasonal refreshments. Free admission.

CONFIRMATION 12TH OCTOBER 2016: A programme of preparation will begin in the new year. All those of fourteen years and upwards who wish to be confirmed are invited to write in person to Fr James giving their reasons for making this important commitment in faith. Letters must be submitted by 31st December at the latest. Please include an email address.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON:

Anyone alone on Christmas Day is invited to join us for a traditional luncheon in our hall. Couples and carers able to help or those who would like company are welcome to join us. Transport can be provided. Please contact Mary Morgan on 01992 574719.

"HE'S BEHIND YOU!" Our very own Panto dame will be starring again in the January 2016 Woodford Pantomime 'Robin Hood' at the Sir James Hawkey Hall in Woodford Green. All youngsters (and those young at heart) who wish to join us for a fantastic evening of laughter, probably on Friday 15th January at 7.30pm, please contact Maggie Keeling ASAP so that I can order the tickets: maggie@keelingphysio.com or telephone 07718858879. All tickets are £12.50p each. Thanks

ADVENT TALKS:

Saturday 5th December 2015 - **Bishop Alan Williams, SM** – Theme: The Advent Journey. Cathedral House, Brentwood. 9.15am – 12.00pm

Saturday 12th December 2015 - **Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon** – Theme: The Seven Bells to Bethlehem. Cathedral House, Brentwood. 9.15am – 12.00pm
If you would like to register a place for both or either of these talks please contact: Lisa Gunther at lisagunther@dioceseofbrentwood.org or on 01277 265285

TREETOPS RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME OPEN DAY: Tuesday 1st December 2015 10.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.. Come along and meet the Care Team and have a tour. Light refreshments will be available. Alternatively contact the Manager on 01992 573322 to make an appointment.

Monsignor John Armitage returns to the Diocese to share his adventurous story of the years when he first discerned a call to Priesthood. You are invited to ask him questions and then enjoy a free fish & chips supper. Hosted by Brentwood Vocations; we invite all women and men aged 17-45, especially those discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life, to this **"In Conversation with"** event, **Monday 21st December, 7:30pm**, St Edward the Confessor Parish Hall, Park End, Romford, Essex, RM1 4AT. For more details email: eamonn@brentwoodvocations.org

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please make yourselves known to Fr James or Deacon Duncan, so that we may welcome you to the parish and inform you about our parish activities.