

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS
23rd and 24th January 2016

Sat 23rd Jan (Vigil Mass)	6 p.m.	Tony Austen RIP
Sun 24th Jan	9 a.m.	Tullia Borelli RIP
	11 a.m.	People of the Parish

Week Commencing 25th January 2016

Mon 25th Jan	9 a.m.	Magri Family RIP
Tues 26th Jan	9 a.m.	Young married couple
Wed 27th Jan	9 a.m.	Evelyn Whitbread RIP
Thurs 28th Jan	9 a.m.	Ives Family RIP
Friday 29th Jan	9 a.m.	Rizzi/Marengi Families RIP
Sat 30th Jan (Vigil Mass)	6 p.m.	Constance Fernandes RIP
Sun 31st Jan	9 a.m.	Thanksgiving
	11 a.m.	People of 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, Catherine Steel, Ann Dowd, Patricia Salter, Betty Bere and Veronica Beard.

<u>OFFERINGS (£):</u> Offertory Envelopes	211.80
Offertory Loose Plate	283.82
CAFOD	30.03
Standing Orders December/January	2686.00



Newsletter
The Church of the
Immaculate Conception

Third Sunday of the Year

24th January 2016

Dear friends,

we Christians have inherited a rich tradition from our Jewish brothers and sisters of proclaiming the holy Scriptures whenever the community assembles for public worship. Today's Old Testament reading movingly portrays how this was done in Jerusalem when the Israelites returned there after a long period of exile. The gospel complements this by St Luke's account of Jesus reading in the synagogue at Nazareth on the Sabbath day. Beneath the central stained glass window on the left hand wall of our own church is the inscription: *the words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are life*: they are re-echoed in our responsorial psalm today. We derive our spiritual nourishment from two sources; Word and Sacrament; the Bible and the Blessed Eucharist. To neglect them leads to undernourishment and even starvation. The word of God, attentively received and frequently pondered equips us to resist the flood of false and misleading information ceaselessly pouring out of the media: false gods have a form of Scripture as well, ever threatening to beguile us. In essence, the message of the Spirit filled and life giving word of God is the good news of his unconditional love for us. At Nazareth, Jesus proclaimed the Year of the Lord's favour. Let us remember that 2016 has been designated the Year of Mercy.

I would like to recommend warmly to you a concert to be given at St John's Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 30th January. The Epping Church Choirs will be performing two settings of the Mass by Hayden and Puccini. It promises to be an evening of edification and musical excellence.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES: The next class for the children will take place **THIS** Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 5.45pm.

2016 CONFIRMATION GROUP: There will be a meeting for the 17 candidates for Confirmation in the Church Hall at **7.30pm on THIS Monday 25th January**. All parishioners are invited to pray for a fruitful session, as the Candidates commence the preparation for their Confirmation on 12th October 2016.

CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCHEON THANK YOU: Churches Together in Epping and District would like to thank those involved for making this occasion such a memorable one for many. A special thanks to Fr James for welcoming our guests. Another big thank you goes to Julie, for the wonderful cake, the drivers and all those who made donations of money, gifts, puddings and fruit salads, plus the fabulous decorations.

SUNDAY EVENING MASS IN OLD HARLOW: Particularly for the convenience of those Catholics who cannot attend weekend Mass on Saturday evenings or on Sundays (often due to shift working), Mass will be reinstated on Sunday evenings, commencing on **Sunday 31st January 2016 at 7pm**. Venue:- **Parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mulberry Green, Old Harlow CM17 0HA** (Opposite the Green Man). Parking is available at the rear of the church. Location at www.catholicchurchoftheassumption.co.uk. The 6pm Mass on Saturday evening at Old Harlow will continue to be said as before.

Epping Church Choirs Association {Ecca} are holding their winter concert on Saturday 30th January at 7.30pm in St. John's Church, Epping when we will be singing two lovely Masses. Missa Sancti Nicolai by Haydn and Messa di Gloria by Puccini. Admission is free but we charge £2.50p for a programme to offset expenses. Interval refreshments will be available. There will be a voluntary retiring collection to help pay for our professional soloists. The clergy always support us and it would be really good if a few more of our Catholic community could support us as well.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is hosting a **James Bond-themed Charity Ball** at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on **Friday 12th February 2016**. Tickets are priced at £50 per person and guests will enjoy a Martini Reception, a delicious 3 course dinner in the Crystal Dining Room, and various 007 themed surprises throughout the evening. There will be a charity raffle and silent auction as well as our own fun 'Casino Royale', and dancing. To reserve tickets, or to donate an raffle or an auction prize, please contact Julie 01268 784544 / 07912277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

VACANCY: Headteacher, De La Salle School, Basildon: This school is amongst the highest ranked in the country (in the top 3% for Progress 8). There are 750 pupils on roll, with the potential for a Sixth Form. They are looking for an enthusiastic and committed Catholic, with a particular focus on moving the school from "Good" to "Outstanding," building on the excellent work of the existing Headteacher who is retiring this year. All the details are on www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk, and visits to the school are welcomed – contact Michelle Harrison on 01268 281234. Closing date 5th February.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Please pray for Ken Scott, devoted husband of Doris, who died last week. May he rest in peace.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP: The next meeting will be in the Presbytery at **8pm THIS Tuesday 26th January**. We are seeking additional members for the Group and will be delighted to welcome any parishioner who has a special interest in helping to promote peace and fairness for all. We normally have 3 meetings each year. We hope to see you on 26th January.

CHURCH READERS' REFRESHER & NEW READERS SESSION; As already notified by email or post, for those Readers who did not attend the Refresher Session on 28th November, **a further Session has been arranged on THIS Friday 29th January at 8pm in the church**, which it is hoped that they will all attend. **Also welcome at this Session will be anyone who would like to become part of this important ministry.** It is expected that the Session will conclude by about 9.15pm.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PEACE: Friday 4th March, times to be confirmed. The Theydon Bois service will take place at the Baptist Church. Catholic women helpers are needed. Further details to follow.

HOLY JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY – FOR YOUR DIARY: Pope Francis has designated 2016 to be a **Holy Jubilee Year of Mercy**. Our usual parish discussions during Lent will help us to gain a better knowledge of what this is about and what each of us can do to make our contribution. **Everyone is warmly invited to join 5 sessions on Tuesday evenings between 16th February and 15th March**. More information later, but **please make a note of the dates in your diary** (or wherever you make such important notes!!)

COME AND SEE! The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham invites young men and women open to the call of religious life and who would like to discover more about the spirituality of Walsingham. On **Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th February** at Abbotswick House of Prayer in Brentwood, with the possibility of an overnight stay on the Friday. For further details please visit www.walsinghamcommunity.org or telephone Sister Theresa on 01277 373848.

VACANCIES AT TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL:

D & T Technician required as soon as possible. 28-36 hours per week. 44.2 weeks per year.

Science Technician - 19 hours per week. 44.2 weeks per year.

Closing date for both posts is 31st January 2016. For further details please visit the school website or contact Mrs Sam Gillary on 020 8504 3419 ext 170.

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.