



Newsletter

The Church of the Immaculate Conception Epping

Second Sunday of Easter

3rd April 2016

Dear Friends,

The very first words of the risen Lord were: "Peace be with you". We hear these words at every Mass and we need more than ever to grasp the concept of peace in these very troubled times. Coming so very soon after the recent bombing in Brussels, the outrage against Christians in Lahore on Easter Day has itself cast a long and dark shadow. In the words of a traditional hymn: 'the banners of darkness are boldly unfurled'. As Christians, we simply cannot respond in like manner; vengeance is not an option. The pursuit of peace is our only recourse and we must be tireless as we work for it.

The risen Lord breathed the gift of the Holy Spirit on his disciples and he has bestowed that same Spirit on us through Baptism and Confirmation. When we renewed our baptismal promises on Easter Sunday, we undertook to reject whatever is alien to God and his holy law. As an Easter people, with 'Alleluia' on our lips, let us continue to hope and to do our best to promote the values of the gospel.

It was gratifying to have such a good attendance at the Easter services and the turnout of Altar Servers was particularly impressive. On a personal note, I thank you for all your kindness to me, with cards and gifts and a very generous Easter offering of nearly £1400.

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, Essex CM16 4RA	Registered Charity No. 234092

CONGRATULATIONS to Emily Rose Knowles, baptised this weekend.

2016 CONFIRMATION GROUP Thanks to the candidates for their impressive participation at the Holy Thursday Mass! **The next meeting of the Group is on Monday 11th April at 7.30pm**

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS: the next meeting is on Tuesday 12th April at 5.45pm

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP. The next meeting is at 8pm on Tuesday 5th April in the Presbytery. New members will be most welcome; any queries to Deacon Duncan (01992 577173).

PARISH JUMBLE SALE The next Jumble Sale is on Saturday 7th May 2016 at 2pm in our Church Hall. Please bring your saleable jumble to the Church porch at any convenient time, from where it will be taken for storage and pricing, ready for the big event. If you are new to the parish (or even if you are a seasoned parishioner!) and would like to join the team of helpers, either to help get the Hall ready on Friday afternoon of 6th May or to help at the Jumble Sale on 7th May, please let Janet Abbot know (01992 571128). She will be delighted to hear from you.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES FOR 2016/17: If you have not already done so, please collect your named boxes of offertory envelopes for the 2016/17 tax year from the church porch. Please let Mrs Margaret Lechley know (telephone 01992 812935) if you would like a set of envelopes or if you need a letter for the Inland Revenue detailing your gift aided total for the tax year 2015/16. Please also let her know if you no longer pay income tax.

PARISH HALL: A reminder that our Parish Hall is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please phone Arnold Verrall on 01992 573633 or mobile 0776 4404813 for further information.

HEALING MASS at Abbotswick House of Prayer, Brentwood to be celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power at 2.30pm on Wednesday 13th April 2016. Please call 01277 373959 or visit www.abbotswick.org for more information. All are welcome!

EPPING FOREST DEMENTIA ACTION ALLIANCE is a non profit organisation which is currently trying to establish a branch in Epping Forest District. The purpose is to reduce the stigma of dementia and, by increasing awareness and understanding, to create a dementia-friendly community. It plans to do this by linking with a wide cross-section of organisations of all types and sectors. Anyone interested in getting involved or learning more should go to www.dementiaactionalliance@alzheimers.org.uk or speak to Deacon Duncan (01992 577173) or Paul Ives (01992 577104).

CATHOLIC POLICE GUILD ESSEX BRANCH: All are invited to the launch of the Essex Branch of the Catholic Police Guild on 23rd May 2016 at Our Lady of Ransom Church, 50 London Hill, Rayleigh SS6 7HP. Mass commences at 11am and is being said by Essex Police's newest Chaplain, Father Paul Fox. This is followed at 12 noon by a reception at The Royal British Legion, situated at the top of London Hill. Everyone welcome.

WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) with Pope Francis, Krakow, 22nd July – 2nd August 2016. If you are in school year 12 through to your early twenties, and want a “once-in-a-lifetime” opportunity then join Pope Francis and 3 million young people from across the world in Krakow this summer. The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) trip includes the full WYD programme plus visits to the salt mines at Wieliscka, a day in the mountains at Zakopane, and time visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau, as a sombre reminder of recent history. There are 90 young adults travelling and we have just 7 places remaining. The cost of £890 includes all travel, hotel accommodation and virtually all meals, as well as all excursions, and will be reduced to £640 by bursary funding if needed. For lots more information email Clare Sullivan on info@bcys.net before 14th April.

CONGRATULATIONS to St Mark's Academy, Harlow (our local Catholic Secondary School with its very successful 6th Form), whose girls have won the Essex U14 Schools' Netball Cup. Having been undefeated for three years, the Year 9 team beat Brentwood Independent School in the final, held on 22nd March. Congratulations to the team and to the coaches!! For further information about the school, visit their website at www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk

COMPUTER SCIENCE GRADUATE: Are you a Computer Science Graduate interested in training as a teacher? Do you have a good degree in Computer Science 2:1 - or above? Are you interested in re-training to become a teacher of Computer Science? If so then please contact Mrs Sam Gillary on 020 8504 3419 ext 170 or email sam.gillary@fc.tchs.uk.net at Trinity Catholic High School.

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.

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

2nd / 3rd April 2016

Saturday 2nd April 6 p.m. Mark Toohey's Intentions
(Vigil Mass)

Sunday 3rd April 9 a.m. Tom Hughes RIP
(2nd Sunday Easter)

11 a.m. People of the Parish

Week Commencing 4th April 2016

Monday 4th April 9 a.m. Tommy Callaghan RIP
(The Annunciation)

Tuesday 5th April 9 a.m. Intentions of Ann Hawkes

Wednesday 6th April 9 a.m. Holy Souls

Thursday 7th April 9 a.m. Ernie Parsons RIP

Friday 8th April 9 a.m. Young married couple

Saturday 9th April 6 p.m. Patricia Clydesdale RIP
(Vigil Mass)

Sunday 10th April 9 a.m. Tom Hughes RIP
(3rd Sunday of Easter)

11 a.m. People of Parish

Morning Prayer will be said on weekdays, 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, Veronica Beard and Ann Davis.

OFFERINGS (£): Offertory Envelope 7.00
Easter Offerings Collection 1383.62
Holy Places in Jerusalem 349.08
CAFOD 29.37

Thank you for your generosity