



## Newsletter The Church of the Immaculate Conception Epping

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

21st AUGUST 2016

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This week's readings at Mass very strongly suggest to us that we should spend some time thinking about who we are trying to be and exactly what is our special relationship with God.

Can we take it for granted that our membership of Christ's Church through baptism will guarantee to us the blessing of eternal life in heaven when our earthly life is at an end? Well, yes, but only **provided that we do our best to lead a life which is wholly pleasing to God.** We need to ask ourselves: 'Do we? Are we sure that we do?'

Reading slowly through today's Gospel reading several times may provide us with useful food for thought. What is being said to us in this reading? Are we truly dedicated Christians, or do we just pay lip-service to the practice of our faith? If we accept that our loving, all-powerful God knows every detail of our thoughts, words and deeds, are there aspects of our way of life which do not stand up to his scrutiny? How could we improve our relationship with him?

God's love and care for us is well known, but **our relationship with God is largely of our own making.** Because of our human frailty, we need to be reminded regularly that **the guarantee of our eternal life in heaven is wholly dependent on how we respond to the opportunities which God presents to us each day, to serve him and those around us in a loving and caring way.**

God bless you all.

*Deacon Duncan*

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E-mail: [epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:epping@dioceseofbrentwood.org)      Website: [www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk](http://www.eppingcatholicchurch.co.uk)  
11, Church Hill, Epping, Essex CM16 4RA      Registered Charity No. 234092

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016-17:** Applications have been received on behalf of

Isabelle and Oliver Byatt  
Patrick Coyne  
Thomas Duffy  
Nia Garwood  
Callum Goswell  
Eugene Hines  
Victoria Lagodka  
Rory Manning  
Cerys and Fynn O'Donnell  
Arthur Smith  
Usiade Korede  
Charlotte Willis

Please pray for them all and their families. There will be **a meeting for the parents** of the First Holy Communion children on **Tuesday 13th September at 7.30pm in the Church Hall.**

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Fr Patrick Shanahan, a White Father, who has visited us several times to say Mass at weekends when Fr James was on holiday or in hospital. Fr Patrick had been having trouble with a recurring cancer for some years, and for some months had been unable to speak. He died last week. We shall remember his engaging talks about the Street Children in Africa, to whose welfare he devoted his ministry. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. In his memory, we will send a donation to the White Fathers to help with their work with Street Children in Africa.

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** would welcome you on **September 17<sup>th</sup> at Ingatestone Hall** for a fundraising '**Tour and Tea**'. The tour of this beautiful Tudor mansion will start promptly at 2pm, taking in the avenue with its Clock Tower and moving into the house where you will learn of its rich history and see many original features. The tour will end in the Summer Parlour at 3.30pm where you will enjoy a traditional cream tea. Tickets are £25 and as tours are limited to parties of 25, we would advise booking early to secure your place. For tickets & information please contact Libby on 01268 784544/ [lphillips@bccs.org.uk](mailto:lphillips@bccs.org.uk)

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL YEAR OF MERCY MASS** on Sunday 28th August at 6.30pm. Do you live with the pain and sorrow of having had an abortion? Do you deeply regret encouraging or assisting in an abortion? Have you been affected by the after-effects of an abortion? You and all people are warmly invited to join the community at Brentwood Cathedral and come into the presence of the living, merciful God. The preacher will be Canon Martin O'Connor, parish priest of St Bede's, Chadwell Heath.

**PARISH HALL:** Our Parish Hall is available for bookings. Special rates for charities and parishioners. Please phone Arnold Verrall on 01992 573 633 or mobile 0776 4404813.

**A RECLINING CHAIR SAGA** Please read the leaflet with this week's Newsletter . If you know of anyone who might be interested in having the chair, please let Deacon Duncan know a.s.a.p.

**DO YOU KNOW** about the morning worship of God in our parish? Would you like to take part in some or all of it? A small, dedicated group meets each weekday at 8.45am to join with Catholics over the whole world in praying the Morning Prayer of the Church. Not only do we all benefit from each other's presence, but it is most uplifting to know that we are part of the worldwide Church which is praising God in its local languages. Prayer is usually led by the Parish Priest or the Deacon and prayer books are provided. Morning Prayer is followed by Holy Mass at 9am, after which, (except in August), the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for silent Adoration until 10.30am.

If you are able to join us, **coming to all or part of the celebrations is a most uplifting way to start the day and to focus quietly on God and how he wants us to lead our life.** You are able to choose on which days you would like to praise the Lord in this way. Please ask Deacon Duncan if you have any queries.

**BRENTWOOD CHILDREN'S SOCIETY:** Enthusiastic, amateur singers needed to 'Come-And-Sing-Messiah'! Join the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society for an opportunity to perform Handel's masterpiece with professional soloists in the beautiful setting of Brentwood Cathedral. The specially formed choir will be conducted by Andrew Wright and rehearse for the first time in the afternoon, performing the complete Messiah to an audience in the evening. Date: December 3<sup>rd</sup> at Brentwood Cathedral - Rehearsal: 2 - 5 pm - Performance: 7 pm. Cost is £12 to register to sing and £4 for score hire. Contact Julie Abbott – [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) 01268 784 544/ 07912277413 for more information and to register.

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

**MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS**  
**20th and 21st August 2016**

Saturday 20th            6 p.m.     Holy Souls  
*Vigil Mass 21st Sunday*

Sunday 21st            9 a.m.     Malcolm Silver RIP  
*21st Sunday of Year*     11 a.m.     Victor Martin RIP

**Week Commencing 22nd August 2016**

Monday 22nd Aug     9 a.m.     Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.  
*The Queenship of Mary*

Tuesday 23rd         9 a.m.     Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion

Wednesday 24th     9 a.m.     Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.

Thursday 25th        9 a.m.     Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.  
*St Bartholomew*

Friday 26th           9 a.m.     Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.

Saturday 27th        6 p.m.     Geoffrey Joel RIP  
*Vigil Mass 22nd Sunday*

Sunday 28th           9 a.m.     Fr Patrick Shanahan RIP

**22nd Sunday of the Year**   11 a.m.     Deceased parents of the Whitehouse and  
Smith families RIP

**Morning Prayer** is said on weekdays, 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Liturgy.  
Please note: No exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during August

**Confessions:** After 6pm Mass on Saturday. **Please note:** NO Saturday  
morning confessions until 3rd September .

**Please pray for the sick:**

Doris Scott, Paula Hall, Tony Mullan, James Bullen, Hannah Robinson,  
Sean Clohessy, Daphne McAdam, Ann Dowd, Veronica Beard, and  
Roger Minnis.

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**OFFERINGS (£):**    Offertory Envelopes            176.50  
                                 Offertory Loose Change        203.88  
                                 CAFOD                                30.00

***Thank you for your generosity***