



Newsletter The Church of the Immaculate Conception Epping

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME **4th SEPTEMBER 2016**

Readings at Mass Page 133.

Message from Deacon Duncan

'Thank you' for all the help and support which has been given during the last 2 months. A parish does not 'run' itself and we have just experienced a wonderful example of a great team effort in keeping us 'on the straight and narrow' as we have awaited the arrival of our new Parish Priest, whom we now welcome!! Well done everyone!!

Message from Fr John McGrath

At the end of June all of us were deeply saddened by the sudden death of Fr James, your Parish Priest and my dear friend for forty five years. May he rest in peace. It was extremely comforting to receive so much sympathy and prayerful support from Epping parishioners as well as from my parishioners at Billericay. The attendance at his Requiem Masses that were celebrated at Epping and at Brentwood Cathedral, were a testimony to the affection and esteem in which he was held by parishioners and so many people.

I wish to express my gratitude to Deacon Duncan and parishioners here at Epping for the way in which the parish has continued to function in challenging circumstance over the past two months. Being without a Parish Priest is not easy, but the way things have been managed and done here is an intimation of the situation we will have to face more often in the future. In particular I offer our thanks to Fr Stewart Foster and Fr Joseph Farrell for coming here to celebrate the weekend Masses.

I am most grateful for the warm and friendly welcome I have received in the Priest's House and from parishioners I have met. The next few months may be very interesting as you get used to my ways and I to the Epping ways! I look forward to working with you as your Parish Priest and as your friend.

May God bless you and your families

Fr John

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Parish Deacon: Rev. Duncan Whitehouse Tel: 01992 577173
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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2016-17: Please pray for the 15 First Holy Communion children 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.**

CONFESSIONS: Fr John has now confirmed that he will hear confessions on **Saturdays from 11.30 am—12 Noon and after 6.00 pm Mass (i.e. all unchanged)**

JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA) There will be an information evening on Tuesday 6th September for anyone who wishes to know more about the Catholic Church, with the possibility of being received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter 2017. At this stage, there is no commitment to do more than to come to the meeting, which will take place in the Presbytery at 8pm.

JUMBLE SALE—SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER. Please note the date of the next Jumble Sale in our Church Hall and start sorting out all manner of things which are saleable. Small quantities can be left in the Church Porch or in the Cry Chapel, but if you have a large quantity, please telephone Janet Abbott (01992 577173) to arrange to meet her at church, so that your jumble can be put directly into Janet's Shed behind the church. Either way, Janet will be delighted!!

MISSIO RED BOXES. You will be interested to hear that the 15 box-holders in our parish collected £1342 in 2015 for which we have received a note of grateful thanks. The 94 parishes in Brentwood Diocese collected £86,904. All very creditable, but **would you like to play a part in increasing our parish collection** without too much pain?

"Missio exists because 40% of the worldwide Catholic Church is too poor to support itself. Missio plays a crucial role supporting the local Church overseas and sharing the light of Christ by training priests, building churches and combating injustice, disease, poverty and exploitation in 157 countries."

If you would like to become one of the Mission collectors, we can provide a collecting box, which you keep at home (no door to door collecting!!). Collectors usually pop in loose change, which all mounts up to a substantial amount (and saves creating holes in your pockets!!). We empty the boxes in June and December each year. To get a box, please take one from the church porch and write your name and address on the label, or contact our **parish organiser, Brendan Carden, Telephone 07983 947505**, who will be delighted to hear from you. **Every little helps!!!.**

CONGRATULATIONS to Peter and Veronica Beard, who have recently celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

‘THANK YOU’ COLLECTION FOR FR JOSEPH FARRELL.

Fr Joseph has written to thank all those who helped to make his visits to Epping so pleasant over the last 5 weekends. He is very grateful for the ‘Thank You’ collection, which amounted to £545. He says that he was tempted to fly to Istanbul, (as mentioned in last weekend’s homily!!), but a short break in Prague is now planned!! He sends his best wishes to all parishioners and to Fr John McGrath as he takes up his new responsibilities.

THE CHURCH FLOWER-ARRANGING GROUP is seeking additional members to join the team on the rota. If you have a love of flower-arranging and would like to help to beautify our church with floral arrangements, Please call Suzanne Newbury on 01992 570069.

A ROSARY PROCESSION VIGIL, led by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, will be held on Saturday 10th September at St Francis of Assisi Church, Grove Crescent Road, Stratford E15 1NS. 10.00am Mass will be followed by Procession to the BPAS Abortion Centre, 32-36 Romford Road, Stratford E15 4BZ, where 15 decades of the Rosary will be prayed and hymns will be sung, returning to the church for refreshments afterwards. Further details in our Church Porch.

THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY would welcome you on **September 17th 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

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 3rd 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 01268 784 544/ 07912 277413 for more information and to register.

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

MASS TIMES and INTENTIONS

3rd / 4th September 2016

Saturday 3rd 6 p.m. Bill McEvoy R.I.P.
Vigil Mass 23rd Sunday
Sunday 28th 9 a.m. Holy Souls
23rd Sunday of Year 11 a.m. Fr James Hawes R.I.P.

Week Commencing 5th September 2016

Monday 5th Sept 9 a.m. Jim Lennon R.I.P.
Tuesday 6th Sept 9 a.m. Holy Souls
Wednesday 7th Sept 9 a.m. Sarah & Owen Humphreys (Newly Wed).
Thursday 8th Sept 9 a.m. Private Intention
Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday 9th Sept 9 a.m. Special Intention (MC)
Saturday 10th Sept 6 p.m. Margaret White R.I.P.
Vigil Mass 24th Sunday
Sunday 11th Sept 9 a.m. People of the Parish
24th Sunday of the Year 11 a.m. Private Intention

Morning Prayer is said on weekdays, 15 minutes before the 9 a.m. Mass.
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament re-commences on Monday 5th September after the 9am Mass and on every weekday

Confessions: Saturdays from 11.30am—12 Noon and after 6pm Mass.

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.

OFFERINGS (£): Offertory Envelopes 115.90
Offertory Loose Change 266.23
CAFOD 20.00

Thank you for your generosity