

Mass Intentions for week beginning 6th December 2014

Sat 6	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm	Special Intention (IP) Thanksgiving (Michl) The People of the Parish
Sun 7		10.00am 12noon	
Mon 8	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY	10.00am 6.30pm	Margaret Elliott RIP (FM) RIP <i>followed by Novena Prayers</i> Julienne Lucas RIP (1962 Missal)
Tue 9	St Juan Diego	10.00am	Rosa Gregori RIP
Wed 10	Advent Feria	8.00am 10.00am	Rose Bowtell RIP Tom O'Neill RIP
Thur 11	St Damasus, Pope	10.00am	John Clarke RIP
Fri 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	10.00am	Intentions of Patrick Maher
Sat 13	St Lucy, V.M.	9.30am	Christopher Coe RIP
Sat 13	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE SUNDAY)	6.00pm	Josie & Seamus Gorman RIP Mary Quinn RIP The People of the Parish
Sun 14		10.00am 12noon	

Confessions this Saturday 5.30 – 5.45pm

Your prayers are asked for the sick and housebound, especially:

Roland & Madeleine Selvini, Claire Kavanagh, Pepe Pupin, Leslie Cook, Trevor Barnham, Butch Rogers, Ann Dunseath, Christopher Johnstone, Josie D'after, David Schrier, Christina Whiting, Connie Liddard, Clive Sutton, Anne Purcell, Ken Stanton, Kathleen Simpson, Pamela Allen, Noel Judge, Grace Lobendhan, Marcus Prospert, Eoin Oliver, Bob Edgar, Mary Holmes, Peggy Wright, Peggy Gajewski, Victor Francis, Sid Parker, Agnes Warren, Mary Evelyn Piotrowski, Derek Pyner, Gerald Rowe, Mary Brock, Ann Divine, Ann O'Donovan, Anthony Fonseca, Lola-Teresa Durojaiye, Margaret McQueen, Paul Westrop, Christine Hall, Maria McLoughlin, John Phillips, Mick Martin, Adriano Agatiello, Kay Fahy, Tony Baldwin, Paul Doyle, Susan Coker, Daniel Sutton, Tony Morton, Bernadette Thomas, Jane Anne Harvey, the Kitteridge Family, Maximilian Peluso, Patricia Theobalds, Jean Salter, Terry Eales, Norah Kelly, the residents of Sherrell House, Belmont Lodge and Pinewood.

Mass Attendance last weekend: 353

Offertory Collection last weekend: £681.69

THE ASSUMPTION, Hainault, is twinned with the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows, Maria Ratschitz, in the diocese of Dundee, South Africa.

CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION
HAINAULT

Parish Priest: Fr Jean-Claude Selvini
(in residence) Fr Daniel Kulangara
98, Manford Way
Chigwell
IG7 4DF
& Fax 020 8500 3953
✉ nda.hainault@btinternet.com
website: <http://nda.hainault.org.uk>
Registered Charity No. 234092



6th/7th December 2014

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

[Tomorrow] we celebrate the *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*. We commemorate the extraordinary intervention by which the heavenly Father preserved from original sin the One who would become the Mother of his Son made man. Today the eyes of all believers look to Mary, who is radiant in glory in heaven in the midst of the assembly of the Saints.

Dante's thought in the 32nd canto of the third part of the *Divine Comedy, Paradise*, comes to mind. St Bernard, the final guide of Dante's journey beyond earth, directs the words to the pilgrim, "*Now look upon the face that most resembles Christ, whose radiance alone can dispose you to see Christ*" (*Paradiso*, canto 32, verses 85-87).

St Bernard invites us to contemplate the countenance of Mary, because more than any other creature, the Mother resembles her Son, Jesus. The splendour that radiates from her countenance can help Dante sustain the impact of the beatifying vision of the glorious face of Christ.

How precious is the exhortation of the holy Doctor for us pilgrims on earth while we commemorate with joy the "All Beautiful One"! The Immaculate Virgin however invites us not to fix our eyes on her but to pass beyond, and as much as possible, to enter into the mystery in which she was conceived: the mystery of God who is One and Three, full of grace and fidelity.

As the moon shines with the light of the sun, so the immaculate splendour of Mary is totally relative to that of the Redeemer. The Mother leads us to her Son; passing through her, we reach Christ. For this reason, Dante Allighieri notes fittingly: "*that her radiance alone can dispose you to see Christ*".

[...]

To gain confidence and to discover the meaning of life, men and women need to meet Christ. The Virgin Mary is the sure guide to the source of light and love that is Jesus: she prepares us for the meeting with him. The Christian people have wisely understood this reality of salvation, and turning to the "All Holy" One, with filial confidence they say to her "and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary".

St John Paul II (Angelus 2001)

THE ANGELUS

As is now our custom, the Angelus is said at the beginning of the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 12noon Mass on Sundays. The text of the prayer can be found in the Parish Mass Books on page 2 (opposite the Table of Contents).



TEA & COFFEE are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass every Sunday. Please come along, even if only for a few minutes, to meet and chat with your neighbour.

This Monday: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Mass at 10.00am followed by Novena Prayers & 6.30pm (1962 Missal)

THE FIRST COMMUNION CLASS meets *this Thursday at 5.00pm in the Parish Hall (First Confessions this Saturday at 3.00pm)*

THE LEGION OF MARY meets *this Thursday at 7.00pm*

THE ROSARY is recited *this Saturday* half an hour before the morning Mass.

THE NEW DIOCESAN DIRECTORY has arrived and is available at the back of church. **Price: £2.75 per copy.**

RECOLLECTION FOR WOMEN – *Tuesday 9th December - 6.45pm to 9.00pm* at St. Augustine's Barkingside.

HEALING MASS at **Abbotswick House of Prayer, Brentwood** to be celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power at 2.30pm *Wednesday 17th December 2014*. All are welcome! Please call 01277 373959 for more information.

IN CONVERSATION WITH BISHOP ALAN – an evening for young adults aged 17-35, with a unique opportunity to hear Bishop Alan share his vocational journey. Bishop Alan has served as a school chaplain, university chaplain, parish priest, shrine director and

superior of his religious order. He is a mountaineer and a scientist. But what inspired him to become a priest? Hear his story on **Thursday 18th December, Cathedral House Conference Room, 7.30-10.00pm** including fish & chip supper. Full details at www.brentwoodvocations.org, on the Brentwood Vocations Facebook Page and on the poster in the porch. The evening is free, but registration is required – call Fr Dominic, Vocations Director, on 01268 281732 or email frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org

HAINAULT CATHOLIC CLUB LTD: membership renewals are now due. Full membership £8. Concessions £2.

SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL: if anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important that a priest be informed so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should inform their parish priest and/or the Catholic chaplain of the hospital (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen's Hospital, 01708 447761; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877*).

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? May I draw your attention to the *Sick Parishioner Care* forms at the back of church. Please take one if you are going to hospital and wish the Catholic chaplain to look after you!

Fr Selvini

MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS: special envelopes are available at the back of church. If you would like a Mass offered on a *particular anniversary*, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better! Thank you for your co-operation.

Confirmation Programme 2015

Next year Bishop Alan Williams will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 21st June 2015 at 10.00am. If you are 14+ by that date, have not been confirmed, and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, I invite you to write to me at the Presbytery (with your name, address and telephone number), requesting that you become a Confirmation Candidate this year. Classes will begin some time in January and continue until the middle of June, with a break for half-term and Easter.

The pre-requisites for the Sacrament of Confirmation are:

- that you are a practising Catholic, i.e. attending Mass weekly;
- that you will be 14 years of age or older by 21st June 2015;
- that your desire to be confirmed is your own choice;
- and that there will be a total and complete commitment to the Confirmation programme.

Letters should be in by Sunday 4th January 2015, please! After this date, they will not be accepted. Thank you for your generous co-operation.

Fr Selvini