

# Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph

The Third Sunday of the Year  
24<sup>th</sup> January 2010



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## One Hundred and Fifty Years!

Archbishop Vincent Nichols will be coming to celebrate Mass with us at 6.30pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010 to celebrate our anniversary, and launch The History of the Church which has been written by Geoff Kinton at the Social Gathering in Eleanor Hall after Mass.

There will be a "bring and share" supper during the Social, so we are appealing to everyone to share their culinary skills and bring a plate (or two) of something to eat. It would help if people let the Parish Office know what they are bringing, we will then be able to arrange for the gaps to be filled in!

### AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Dr David Black will be coming to our Parish this weekend to talk at the Masses on behalf of Aid to the Church in Need. He looks forward to telling us about the work of this Catholic charity throughout the world, and appealing for your support.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHESHUNT AND WALTHAM CROSS

The annual Service of Prayer for Christian Unity is this Sunday at 3.00pm in St James's Church in Goff's Oak.

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED!

To become one of the Altar Servers in the Parish, you must have received your First Communion, and be attending Mass here. If you celebrated your First Communion last year or have recently moved into the Parish, and would like to join the Altar Servers, please see Fr John.



In some of our cities we have a church on almost every street corner. But in the whole of Israel there was only one Temple and that was in Jerusalem. The priests went there to offer sacrifices for people's sins and needs. But in every place where at least ten men could meet, no matter how small a village it might be, there was a synagogue. Every Sabbath there was a simple liturgical service that took place there and was led by the local community members. It was a plain affair with readings from the Jewish scriptures followed by a commentary on them in the form of a homily or sermon.

It was to one of these places that Jesus went when he returned to his hometown of Nazareth. He read a text from Isaiah about being anointed to bring freedom to those who were oppressed in different ways. Then he made the incredible claim that this text was being fulfilled here and now as his audience listened.

Even though Jesus had gathered a reputation already as something of a preacher, this proved too much for his listeners and next Sunday we'll see what happened. But for today, what was Jesus really claiming?

In a nutshell he was claiming that a new age was beginning. In the Old Testament people had been waiting for "eschatological" times, times that would usher in a new age when God's kingdom would hold sway. There would be signs that this new age was about to begin: prisoners would be set free, the lame would walk, the deaf hear and the blind see again. Every fifty years the Jews held an amnesty year in which the slate was wiped clean, debts were settled and property returned to rightful owners. Jesus tells his audience that here and now one of these amnesties is about to start; it will be the Lord's year of favour.

Over the next few weeks, and throughout the gospel of Luke, we will see that Jesus has inaugurated this new age of favour between God and his people. And we'll discover that it was to last more than a year. Today as the gospel is proclaimed in our churches God still offers this favour. If you want to, you can make it happen for you even as you listen to God's word. Or you can wait and see how the people responded next week in Luke's gospel.

### FR. JOHN

Fr John will be away on Retreat until Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January. Fr John Miller is here while he is away. Fr Michael Stewart is here to help this Sunday.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.  
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia  
The Lord has sent me to bring the Good News to the  
poor, to proclaim liberty to captives.  
Alleluia!

**TODAY'S READINGS: NEXT WEEKS' READINGS:**

Nehemiah 8:2-6.8-10    Jeremiah 1:4-5.17-19  
Psalm 18                    Psalm 70  
1 Corinthians 12:12-30    1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13  
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21       Luke 4:21-30

Mass Times

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm &amp; 6.30pm</b>
Monday	Conversion of St Paul	10.00am
Tuesday		10.00am
Wednesday	Angela Merici	10.00am
Thursday	Thomas Aquinas	10.00am
Friday		10.00am
Saturday	Blessed Virgin Mary	<b>6.30pm</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR</b>	<b>8.30am 11.00am 12.30pm &amp; 6.30pm</b>

**Sacrament of Reconciliation –**  
Saturday 10.30 – 11.00am & 5.45 – 6.15pm

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the  
Church each Friday morning from 9.15 to 9.45.

**Offertory Last Week: £1622.66 Haiti Fund £714.00  
plus the regular Standing Orders. Thank You!**

**SVP**

The SVP Group meets on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in  
the Sacristy.

**RCIA**

The RCIA Group will meet on Monday evening at 8.00pm  
in the Presbytery.

**LINE DANCING**

Every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in Eleanor Hall.

**CHURCHES TOGETHER**

A team of the Broxbourne Street Pastors will be walking  
the streets of Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt and  
Waltham Cross on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January, meeting at  
Wormley Free Church. Please remember them in your  
prayers.

**DIARY 2010**

The 2010 Diary for Mass Intentions is now open.

**LEGION OF MARY**

The Legion of Mary meets in the Sacristy at 10.45 on  
Tuesday mornings.

**MASS IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY IN LOURDES**

Archbishop Vincent Nichols welcomes all to this Mass,  
which is also the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. It will  
be held on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00pm in  
Westminster Cathedral, Victoria Street, SW1P 1QW. The  
sacrament of the sick will be administered. If you are  
bringing a wheelchair, please let Fr. John know so that he  
can reserve space for wheelchairs and carers.

**ST JOSEPH'S FITNESS CLUB**

Could this be your chance to lose the extra pounds  
gained over Christmas!! Anybody interested in joining  
please ring Stewart 01992 634445 or email  
[stewartbrodiesykes@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stewartbrodiesykes@yahoo.co.uk). Times and dates have  
still to be arranged.

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**

Confirmation Preparation is at 8.00pm on Thursday  
evenings in the Church.

**FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION**

The First Holy Communion Children will meet at 10.00am  
on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January in Eleanor Hall.

**NEW YEARS RESOLUTION – VOLUNTEER FOR CAFOD**

Do you have good public speaking skills and want to help  
tackle poverty and injustice? CAFOD needs volunteers to  
speak in parishes or visit youth groups to talk about its  
work in the developing world. For further information or  
to book a place on the next "Understanding CAFOD"  
training day on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January, call CAFOD on  
0208 449 6970 or email [Westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:Westminster@cafod.org.uk)

**MONEY ROTAS**

The new Banking and Gift Aid Entering Rotas are  
available, and can be collected from the Parish Office.

**ST PAULS' SUNDAY MISSAL**

St Paul's 2010 Sunday Missal is now on sale in the shop,  
priced £4.50. Please note that the Missals are free to  
those who are on the Readers' Rota.

