

## **PRIEST TRAINING FUND COLLECTION**

Next week our parish will take up a collection for the Priest Training Fund of the Diocese of Westminster. We currently have 29 men in formation for the priesthood at our own Allen Hall Seminary, and at seminaries in Rome and Spain. The fund also helps pay for promoting vocations to the priesthood, and ongoing training of our priests for specialised ministries such as in hospital, prisons, our university chaplaincy and the like. It costs £25,000 per year, per man to go through the six-year rigorous formation programme.

Envelopes FOR GIFT AID are available in the entrance of the church – please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation.

### **COURTESY PLEASE**

Courtesy is of God. It should be a prominent feature when we are celebrating Mass. This means we turn up on time. It is unfair to those who have arrived punctually to come in late. Equally no one should be moving around when someone is speaking. This applies whether it is the priest or a minister proclaiming the word of God. **So courtesy at all times please.**

### **MESSAGE FROM Bp. JOHN**

“Thank you for the many kind messages and cards etc. since the rather dramatic events at the 8.30am Mass last Sunday. It will take a little time to regain my equilibrium. My senior citizen body is not well adapted to such shocks to the

system! So I will lie low for a little longer to allow time and nature to complete the healing work. God Bless you.

### **WALK IN THE PARK**

One of our Parish Lent Groups has been inspired by their study of Pope Francis' encyclical, 'Laudate Si': care for our Common Home, to arrange a walk in Rothamstead Park. You are warmly invited to join them on Tuesday 3rd May, outside the Church at 9.45am after the 9.15am Mass. After a walk around the Park, the group will have coffee at a nearby coffee shop! Pope Francis calls us to consider the importance of our environment, to care for it and the people who live in it, and then to respond.

### **CONVENT CHAPEL**

Hour of Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 2.00pm – 3.00pm (Prayer for Homeless People) next Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April at the convent chapel, 18 Kirkdale Road.

### **IF MUSIC BE THE FOOD OF LOVE**

To mark 400 years since Shakespeare's death, the Harpenden Music Makers Choir will present a concert of beautiful music, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 8pm. Music will include settings of Shakespeare's songs and sonnets by Vaughan Williams and George Shearing and music written during Shakespeare's lifetime by Tallis, Byrd and Gibbons. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Tickets are £10 (£6 students) and are available from Anna Painter – [annapainter09@aol.com](mailto:annapainter09@aol.com) or 07940 500648.

## **SPOTLIGHT**

### **10TH ANNIVERSARY BALL**

Harpenden Spotlight on Africa celebrates its 10th Anniversary of working to help a poor community in Uganda by holding a Black Tie Ball at Sopwell House, St Albans, on Friday 20th May 2016, 7.15 to 12.30. Tickets are £65pp, with tables of 8,10 or 12 to include Drinks Reception, 3 Course fine dining, Live and Silent Auctions and dancing to The Soulmates Band. Please come to this special occasion and at the same time raise funds for HSoA to continue their work in education, clean water, health care and economic development. Contact Colette on [colette.usher@hsoa.org.uk](mailto:colette.usher@hsoa.org.uk)

### **Nurturing a new generation of liturgical musicians**

**29-31 July High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Herts.**

Come for the weekend, a full programme of workshops and worship, or come for the day on Saturday 30 July, only £10 for 18-25 year olds.

Leaders include Tom Daggett, Chris Walker, Frances Novillo and Bryony Davis

Run by the National Network of Pastoral Musicians [www.nnpm.org](http://www.nnpm.org)  
Contact Jennifer Burridge for a booking form, [jburridge@mac.com](mailto:jburridge@mac.com) 01792 775598

## **DISABILITY, CULTURE AND FAITH**

'In June this year, Bishop Paul Hendricks alongside the Kairos Forum

UK and in partnership with the Pontifical Council for Culture, will be coordinating two exciting events in Rome, for the Jubilee Year. These events are creative, international and ecumenical. Our celebratory activities will interweave the Gospel with the lives, stories and experiences of people of all abilities'.

1. 23 June: An academic symposium, Living Fully 2016: Disability, Culture and Faith.
2. 24-26 June: A creative and vibrant conference, Living Fully 2016: Disability, Culture and Faith: A Celebration including a differentiated, parallel programme for people who have been intellectually disabled, enabling them to celebrate and promote their vital place within the Body of Christ Please do share the news and join us for these events. Information and how to book can be found on [www.livingfully2016.com](http://www.livingfully2016.com) or by calling Cristina Gangemi on 01883372114 or [cgangemi.kairos@gmail.com](mailto:cgangemi.kairos@gmail.com)

## **DOMESTIC ABUSE**

### **FAMILIAS Friends' Event 2016. London 16th May. 10 – 3pm.**

All are welcome at The Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Rd, SE1 6HR.

Entry: £10 for FAMILIAS members, associates, friends; others £20. Please bring a packed lunch

Booking essential please contact: Phil Pond T: 020 8651 2477 E: [philippond@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:philippond@blueyonder.co.uk)