

## PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> Dec**

**10-1 in Lourdes Hall**

Thank you for your donations so far, but we still need the following:

- Bottles  
(so far we have 11 of the 150 or so we need)
- Cakes
- Plants
- Toys
- Gifts  
(including red and white items)
- Jewellery  
(old bits of broken gold VERY welcome)
- Etc.

We will be setting up on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Dec between 3-5 and 7-9 and all offers of help greatly received. You can bring your donations then (or leave in the church porch) AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, we need you to turn up on the day, whether it is to pick up all your Christmas presents at bargain prices or to visit Father Christmas or to just have a cuppa or an Irish Coffee.

### **SOCIALISE AFTER MASS**

Do join us after the 11.30am Mass today when tea and coffee will be served in the Undercroft. We hope to see you there!

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you for your contributions for the Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese, £2093.02 was donated. Thank you too to those who support this fund through the 'Growing in Faith' campaign.

## PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD (Mark 1:9)

On the four Mondays of Advent, there will be a Reflection in the Convent Meeting Room, 18 Kirkdale Road, 2-3pm. You are welcome, even if you can only make one of the meetings.

## CHARITY CHRISTMAS TREE

The SVP (St. Vincent de Paul Society) will, as last year, shortly be putting up a charity Christmas tree supporting 3 local charities: WOMENS' REFUGE, LIFE and FOOD BANK. We have listed the items the charities are most in need of on the back of the gift tags decorating the tree. Anyone wishing to support these worthy causes please take a tag and attach it to the item(s) purchased and place in the relevant box under the tree. Any queries please contact Carlo or Silvia Antonioli tel: 622215. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Thursday 8th December  
7pm at Our Lady of Lourdes  
An hour of Christmas cheer featuring: the choir of Our Lady of Lourdes, the church's very own orchestra, the Bella Mamas choir and the children from St Dominic School Choir! Followed by refreshments in the Undercroft.

## WALK IN THE PARK

Join fellow parishioners on a walk in Rothamsted Park to enjoy the last of the glorious Autumn colour! Meet outside Church at 10am on Wednesday 7th December for an hour's walk and then a coffee in a nearby cafe. If weather is bad, it's straight for coffee!

## THE PASSAGE

Please support the work of The Passage, working with Homeless People. Double your Donation, Double your impact. Donate through The Big Give website between 12 noon on Tues 29<sup>th</sup> Nov and 12 noon on Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec and every £1 can be worth up to £2. With Gift Aid it can be worth £2.25. The rules have changed this year so our initial matched funding from Big Give is ring fenced purely for The Passage. There is no limit on the amount we can raise but after we have used our ring fenced funds the level of contribution from Big Give on additional contributions will be related to the amounts left over from those charities that do not fully utilise their pots and will not be shown at the point when your donation is made.  
<https://secure.thebiggive.org.uk/projects/view/theassage2016>

## OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

Uncollected envelopes have now been removed to the Parish Office from where they may be collected.

## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

This is a very popular event and an excellent way to prepare for Christmas. The carol service of 9 readings and carols lead by the choir, will be held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm



## BLESSING and ENTHRONEMENT of OUR LADY of WALSINGHAM

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Dec at Westminster Cathedral.  
Come and be part of this historic evening when Our Lady of Walsingham will be given a place of honour in the Cathedral.  
4pm Prayers & Holy Rosary  
5pm Vespers  
5.30 Mass  
7pm Finish  
For more information please contact [antonia@walsingham.org.uk](mailto:antonia@walsingham.org.uk)

## DIOCESAN ACCOUNTS

We have just one copy of the Diocesan Accounts. If you would like to see them you can borrow a copy from the parish office. Alternatively you can view them online at [www.rcdow.org.uk](http://www.rcdow.org.uk)