

CHRISTMAS BREAK

Monsignor Turner is now away for a week. Fr. Chris Brennan SMA will be serving in the parish in his absence. For many years Fr. Chris was a missionary in Liberia. He now works in Cork. Do make him welcome.

SAVE THE DATE

This year will be a special one when I give thanks for having served 50 years in the priesthood. There will be a Thanksgiving Mass to which everyone is warmly invited, on **SUNDAY 5th JUNE at 4.00pm** in church followed by a reception. Mgr. Turner.

BURNS NIGHTS & CEILIDH

You are welcome to this friendly event at the URC hall on Saturday 23rd Jan 7.30pm – 11.30pm. Tickets £25 each. Ring Phil Valle 712555.

WEEKEND RETREAT

Bishop John Crowley is leading a weekend retreat entitled 'Be still and know that I am God' on the 27-28 February at the Focolare Centre Welwyn Garden City. Cost £95 for Residential or £65 for Non-residential (cheques payable to ASPMA). If Jesus felt that He needed to be in solitude with the Father, should not we? Jesus did not wait until He had an opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle. He made the opportunity. That is what it means to "be still and know that I am God." Please contact Sara on Sara.nash1@ntlworld.com or 01727 764601 for more details.

THAT ALL MAY BE ONE

The 18th – 25th January is the week of prayer for Christian Unity. It is the official policy of our church to work towards that unity. On Wednesday 20th January at 12.00 noon there will be a short service of prayer at the URC Church Vaughan Road followed by an informal soup lunch. A very good occasion. Do give it a try if you haven't done so before.

REFUGEE VOLUNTEER EVENING

Caritas are holding a Refugee Volunteer Evening on Tuesday 26 January in the Westminster Centre for Youth Ministry. The evening will give you the chance to find out how you can help refugees in London and Hertfordshire. As well as stalls from organisations working with migrants and refugees, they will be hosting a panel on working with refugees. Speakers will include Louise Zanre from JRS UK, Sister Christine from Neighbours in Poplar, Cathy Corcoran CEO of the Cardinal Hume Centre and Michaela Costello from Guardian Angels parish. Venue: Centre for Youth Ministry, 20 Phoenix Road, Euston, London NW1 1TA (transport - Euston Station). Time: 6pm-8.30pm. If you would like to attend, please contact caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk by 19 January 2016.

GIVE BLOOD

At Harpenden Public Halls
Weds 13th January 12.15-15.30 and
17.00-19.30

Weds 27th January 12.15-15.30 and
17.00-19.30.

One donation from you can help save or improves the lives of up to three people. Do something amazing. Become a new blood donor. Register today. Visit www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 2323.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND

For Young Women (20s & 30s)

Theme: Discerning God's Call in my life. Dates: 29th – 31st January 2016.

Location: Liverpool

The weekend is organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input from the FCJ sisters on different aspects of vowed life, and time for prayer, reflection and discussion with other young women who are also considering a vocation to religious life. It's an opportunity to live community life for a weekend and meet some sisters! For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

SOCIAL CHANGE AND THE PERSISTENCE OF FAITH

Bishop John Gladwyn will give a talk, arranged by the Newman Association, on the above subject at St. Thomas More Church, 7 Marford Road, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AY on Sunday January 17th at 8.00pm. All are very welcome. If you require a lift please contact Janet Evers on 01582 621960

HERTS CHAMBER

ORCHESTRA CONCERT

One of Hertfordshire's premiere music ensembles, the Hertfordshire Chamber Orchestra opens its 50th anniversary celebrations with a concert in Harpenden in aid of Harpenden based children's charity the A-T Society. The concert, at St George's School at 6.30pm on Sunday 17th January is conducted by Graham Ross. Along with works by Beethoven and Bizet it features internationally famous violinist Jennifer Pike in Brahms' magnificent violin concerto. All proceeds from this concert will go to support the work of the A-T Society, a small national charity supporting children and young adults whose lives have been shattered by a diagnosis of Ataxia-Telangiectasia, a rare genetic condition with a life expectancy of just 26 years. Book your tickets online today www.atsociety.org.uk/hcoharpenden or by calling 01582 760733. Tickets cost £15 (£10 for concessions) and under 16s are free.

LECTURE

The 2016 Annual Theology of the Body Lecture will be given by Christopher West at St Patrick's Church, 21a Soho Square, London, W1D 4NR on 13th January at 6.30pm. Tickets on the door £10 (or £5 concession). Doors open from 6pm. To register email family@rcdow.org.uk or tel 0207 9316064.