

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday where we are called to pray for people in our communities who experience racial injustice and all those who work to bring about a more just society. This year we have a particular focus on the Europe-wide refugee crisis. We pray for our brothers and sisters in need that have come to us for clothing, sustenance and safe haven in desperate times. There will be a second collection after all Masses this weekend.

MARIA CLAYDEN (RIP)

The Funeral for Maria Clayden will be held here on Tuesday 26th January at 10am. Please remember Maria and her family in your prayers. Her Funeral Celebration will not be a Mass

GERALD WOODRUFF (RIP)

The Funeral Mass for Gerald will be celebrated on 12th February at 11.00am. There will be no 9.15am Mass on that day. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

WEDNESDAY WORD

This is an excellent publication that is offered to children at Catholic Schools. It aims to bring the Sunday Gospel to family homes

We have decided to make the publication available to those children and families who are **not at Catholic school**. After Mass **NEXT SUNDAY** parents will be distributing the **WORD** – but only for those **NOT** at Catholic school.

ON MONDAY

Two new bishops will be ordained for our Diocese in Westminster Cathedral at 12.00noon. Bishop Sherrington will be moving away from Hertfordshire and replaced by Bishop-elect Paul McAleenan. You are welcome to be present at the Ordination.

CHOICE for LENT

It is sometimes difficult to decide what to do for Lent. Getting a better handle on the things we say we believe in is a very good choice. The Lent Groups offer this possibility. You don't have to be an egghead. They are for everyone and can be very helpful. Just for six weeks. Times and days to suit all. Give it a go! We will collect the names next Sunday.

FRIDGE FREEZER

An elderly person in the parish is in need. If you have such an item you would like to dispose of please let Mgr. Turner know.

GIVE BLOOD

At Harpenden Public Halls
Weds 17th February 12.15-15.30 and 17.00-19.30. To book an appointment please call 0300 1232323 or visit www.blood.co.uk. One donation from you can help save or improve the lives of up to three people. **Do something amazing. Become a new blood donor.**

THANK YOU

The SVP would like to thank everyone for the immense generosity in their donations to the Charity Christmas Tree. **Women's Refuge:** "I was totally overwhelmed by such a huge donation! Please pass on our grateful thanks to

everyone involved. It will make a big difference and allow us to have supplies to give to those who come in with nothing. We have given some goodies and nappies and baby supplies to some of the residents and they were so pleased. Kindest regards always". **LIFE:** "I just wanted to say a big "Thank You" for all the lovely donations for our tenants in the house, they have asked me to pass on their thank yous and let you know how very grateful they are."

FOOD BANK, Harpenden, also sends a big Thank You.

CHRISTMAS CRIB APPEAL

This year's Crib Appeal offerings amounted to £322.74, which has been donated to the Catholic Children's Society, helping children all over London and Hertfordshire who are living in all kinds of poverty. Thank you for your generosity. For more information on their work visit www.cathchild.org.uk.

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.

MILL HILL MISSIONARIES

The Novena to St Joseph will take place from the 10-18 March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and at Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as, for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer, please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 7HT or email novena@millhillmissionaries.com.

ST MATTHEW PASSION

On Saturday 13th February, the first Saturday in Lent, in St Albans Abbey at 7pm, the Lea Singers are performing Bach's sacred choral masterpiece, the St Matthew Passion, in a semi-staged version. James Gilchrist, one of the foremost singers of his generation is singing the role of Evangelist. There will also be a top line up of other soloists, orchestra etc. This should be an excellent and moving version of a great work. You can book tickets at www.stalbanscathedral.org/whatson/music/st-matthew-passion