

DAY FOR LIFE - TODAY

This year Day for Life focusses on cherishing life and accepting death. It provides an opportunity for people to think about the mysteries of life and death, as well as the Church's teaching on appropriate treatment at the end of life. Please pray for the protection and promotion of human life from conception to its natural end. Take a postcard as you leave mass today and visit www.dayforlife.org for further information. A second collection will be held in all parishes this weekend to assist the work of the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life-related activities supported by the Church.

PARISH GOLF DAY

On a lovely day last Monday as well as the British Open, our annual parish golf day took place. It has been held now for about fourteen years. 37 people enjoyed a superb dinner and the winners received their prizes from Ginny St Glew, Lady Captain of Harpenden Common Golf Club and Julia Roche Chair of our Developing World Group (DWG). First time participant John Meehan took away first prize, followed by Richard Franklin and John O'Brien. The two 'nearest the pin' competitions were won by Ginny St John Glew and Matt Halligan, with the winning team comprising John Meehan, John Williams and Chris Peacock. In total £613.15 was raised for the DWG project so a very big thank you to all who took part, especially Dennis Cooper who also organised the day so well, and his right hand man, Michael Turner.

PARISH OFFICE

The parish office is now closed - during the school holidays. Normal hours will resume on Friday 4th September. Please hold on to your queries and arrangements until that time.

CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS

Confirmation photographs are available to collect at the back of the Church - near the Repository Shop.

SPONSORED BIKE 'N' HIKE

This annual event in aid of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust, takes place this year on Saturday 12th September between 10.00am and 6.00pm.

So walkers and cyclists please note this date in your diary. Sponsor forms and lists of visitable Churches will be available from the Parish Office at the end of August.

MASS FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

The Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 13th Sept 2015** at St Dominic's School, Southdown Road. The occasion will start at 2.30pm with hymns followed by Mass at 3.00pm. Afterwards there will be refreshments and the afternoon will end at about 5.30pm). **Everyone** is welcome and if you know of anyone who would like to come, please let them know about the Mass. To assist with catering numbers, we would be grateful

for RSVPs to Lorna Harris on 01582 769754 or lorna.harris80@ntlworld.com

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

Date for your diary - Annual Pilgrimage to Walsingham for the Sanctity of Life, Sunday 27th September, led by Bishop Philip Egan. Local booking details will be available early in September. For more information visit www.prolifepilgrimage.org

NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS' PILGRIMAGE

Will take place at Walsingham on Sunday 26th July, from 11.00 am till 6pm. A day of faith and fun for all the family. For more information visit www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org Or call 01328 560333.

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

We offer our warmest congratulations to **Raphael Rocco Caneppele-Masters**, son of Sam & Melissa and **Oliver James Briam Kilner**, son of Stephen & Rebecca, both of whom we welcomed in to the Catholic Church last weekend at the sacrament of Baptism. We wish them and their families every blessing as they begin their new life in Christ.

BORED IS GOOD

This will cheer you up this summer when your children mope around the house saying that they are bored: apparently a bit of boredom is good for them.

So says a senior educationalist, Julia Robinson, who has encouraged parents NOT to force their children into too many activities. Instead, they must be allowed to become bored, so that they can have time to be reflective and calm. Too many pursuits such as music lessons, sport and online learning could result in a generation of manic, anxiety-ridden adults, she warns. Writing in *Attain*, the IAPS magazine, she points out that happiness does not come from a "regime of unrealistic multitasking, running oneself ragged with an exhausting programme of endless...activities."

Another educationalist urged that children need "downtime.... They have the right to be bored, to give them the stimulus to be inventive, resourceful and self-reliant - all important life skills."

WHY YOUR MAN CAN'T HELP MISSING THAT ANNIVERSARY

If the man in your life forgets your birthday or even forgets to ring you, he now has a perfect excuse: he can't help it - because he is a man. It seems that men are simply more forgetful than women when it comes to numbers, dates, events, personal memories and details of conversations.

The study, carried out by scientists at the Norwegian University of Science, admits that "we have speculated a lot about why men report more frequent problems with remembering than women, but have not been able to find an explanation. This is still an unsolved mystery."