

CHURCH UNITY WEEK

Last week, on Wednesday, we began the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, until 25th Jan. Please keep this important cause in your prayers during these days. To mark this time Harpenden Churches have an Ecumenical Evening Service at High Street Methodist Church, led by Bethany Community Church, this Sunday 22nd Jan at 6.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy Group has an important role in our Church community, offering instruction and activity to the younger members of our parish on a Sunday as part of the 9.45am Mass. There are 2 groups, younger, aged 5-7/8 and older, 7/8-10. You can take part in this valuable work. It is not too onerous, with each team usually helping with a group twice a term. You would be placed in a team of experienced Catechists and lots of support is available. Give it a try, especially if you have children who will attend, please get in touch with Jane Hyman jane.hyman11@gmail.com

DWG WINE TASTING

Last opportunity to get your tickets for the DWG Spanish Wine Tasting Evening organised by Majestic Wines: **Saturday 4th February, Lourdes Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £20.** There will also be a raffle of a case of 6 of the 8 wines tasted. Everyone is warmly invited to an informative, enjoyable evening while supporting our fundraising efforts. Please contact: Julia Roche 01582 760295 juliandnigel@gmail.com

DWG GREEN COLLECTION

BOXES RECALL

Please bring your Green DWG Collection Boxes next weekend, **January 28th/29th**, so that we can empty them and return them straight to you after Mass. Don't worry if your collection boxes are not yet full. Thank you very much to all of the parishioners who have taken a Green Box home.

WALK IN THE PARK

Winter's here - the leaves are gone but you can see and hear the songbirds! Yes, it's tempting to hibernate but do join fellow parishioners on a walk in our lovely Rothamsted Park! Meet outside Church at 10am on Wednesday 1st February for an hour's walk and then a coffee in a nearby cafe. If weather is bad, it's straight for coffee! Look out for future walks held first Wednesday of every month.

JOB OPPORTUNITY!

The parish is seeking to appoint an Office Administrator, to replace Jane Rose who, sadly has decided to move on. The role is for 18 hours per week. For further details please visit: <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/jobs/> Closing Date 26th Jan.

BAPTISM

Baptism is described as the 'Gateway to the Sacraments'. It is a special moment, an important moment, which is why parents are asked to participate in a preparation course. This preparation can take place either before, or after, the birth of the baby. For further information please contact the parish office.

FINDING SILENCE

Sat 28th January, 10.45 am-2.30pm
@ Ss Alban & Stephen Parish Centre
14 Beaconsfield Road, St Albans
AL1 3RB.

Bishop John Crowley will lead this time for anyone needing a bit of space and quiet. Tea and coffee will be provided but you need to bring your own lunch. For further info email krystyna@faithknowledge.org

CARITAS WESTMINSTER

Our area Bishop, Bp Paul McAleenan, will be giving a talk on the work of Caritas Westminster, the diocesan organisation which facilitates parish-based social outreach work to tackle poverty and social exclusion. His talk will be at 10.30am on Sat 28th January in the church hall of Our Lady Queen of All Creation, Rant Meadow (off A414) Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8PG. There is a Mass beforehand at 10am and parking is available. If you need a lift contact Janet Evers 621960. A talk organised by the Herts Newman Circle.

CATHEDRAL INVITATION

The Cardinal invites all the sick in the Diocese to the annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday 11th February 2017 at 2pm in the Cathedral. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass by the bishops and priests. If you will be attending in a wheelchair, please email Rebecca Goode rebeccagoode@rcdow.org.uk by Friday 3rd February to ensure that the appropriate space is reserved in the Cathedral.

GAP YEAR

Are you over 18 and planning a gap year? Join us for a year at the Westminster Youth Ministry retreat centre as a volunteer missionary supporting schools and parishes of our diocese, where you can develop skills to help you with your future career, and deepen and grow in your Catholic faith. We provide wonderful accommodation in glorious surroundings, all meals and a monthly allowance. To see how our past volunteer missionaries have used this experience to build their future, and to find out more, visit www.dowym.com/spec/

CALLING FRIENDS & ALUMNI

This year is the 50th anniversary of the University Chaplaincy centre for London's Universities. Were you a resident or regular Mass-goer here? Were you in one of the university Catholic Societies in London? Did you deepen your faith or discover your vocation through the Chaplaincy? We would love to re-connect with you and hear from you. There is a range of celebrations planned, but the principal celebration will be Mass on Sunday 28 May at St James' Church, Spanish Place at 2pm, celebrated by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. To SIGN UP for more information please visit www.universitycatholic.net/signup or email alumni@universitycatholic.net or visit our website at www.universitycatholic.net