

### FIRST COMMUNION

Preparation for children, in year 3 and above, will be starting in September. The closing date for applications to be handed in was July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Parents who have not yet returned their completed forms should do so without delay.

### CONFIRMATION 2018

The application forms for Confirmation 2018 (for those going in to Year 9) will be available from the beginning of September. However, we would like to give advance notice to parents that the dates of the residential retreat, at the SPEC Retreat Centre in Pinner, will be Friday 19th January (eve) until Sunday 21st January (early afternoon) 2018. This is an important and really enjoyable part of the Confirmation course and we ask that all our candidates attend so please do pop these dates in your diaries!

### BISHOP JOHN

Thank you so much for all the kind messages and Mass Cards received following the recent death of my elder brother Michael. How strengthening is the support of the faith community and the bond of prayer at a time like this, all our family are most grateful.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

By next Friday all of the schools will have closed for the summer break. Hopefully all of the staff, the pupils and their families will have a happy restful break. As the schools close after another year it is an opportunity to thank the staff for all that they do for our children. This year we are particularly conscious that the Headteacher of St Dominic's, Mrs Liz O'Brien, is retiring early after 11 years leading our school. We thank her for her leadership of the school, and we wish her well in the future.

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS

For the foreseeable future the Parish Office will open Monday to Thursday, 9.30am to 12.30pm. It will not open on Friday mornings.

### DAILY REVIEW: DISCOVERING GOD IN OUR LIVES.

Reflection led by Helen O'Brien, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2.00pm – 3.00pm at the convent, 18 Kirkdale Road

### PARISH GOLF DAY & DINNER 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY

Having fun helping others  
The Parish Golf Day and dinner takes place next Friday 21st July. Please add your name to list for one or both as it closes this weekend. All the profit goes to the Developing World Group project so whether a golfer or someone who enjoys convivial social occasions this is for you. Just put your name down today on the list in the porch please.

### SPECIAL MASS

The annual Canon O'Leary Memorial mass held for people with Special Needs and their families and carers takes place on : Saturday 16th SEPTEMBER 2017 ST DOMINIC PRIMARY SCHOOL SOUTHDOWN ROAD HARPENDEN AL5 1PF At 2.30PM FOR MASS AT 3PM There will be a tea party/picnic following the mass. The event is usually finished by 5pm. Everyone is welcome, please let anyone you think may be interested in attending know. So we have an idea of numbers, please RSVP to Ruth Webb on 01582 467989 or reply by email to ruth\_dave@btinternet.com. If you are able to help on the day, we would be grateful. Please let us know.

### MISSIO RED MISSION BOXES

If anyone has a red mission box which needs emptying, please either take it to the Sacristy or leave it with one of the ushers before or after Mass. Please ensure that your name is on the box; this is particularly important if you have signed a gift aid form. Any queries tel. 622215. Thank you.

### SPONSORED BIKE 'N HIKE

This annual event in aid of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust, takes place this year on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. 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.

### WE WANT YOU!

New recruits are invited to join the ranks of our altar servers. Children who have completed their First Holy Communion are eligible to join. The next training programme will be run during Sept/Oct. To register for training please email: fernandez.acp@gmail.com

### 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. We are always looking for volunteers to help. 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. If you would like to help from September, especially if you have children who will attend, please get in touch with Jane Hyman:

[jane.hyman11@gmail.com](mailto:jane.hyman11@gmail.com)

### RECRUITING CHORISTERS & ADULT CHOIR for September 2017

The choir is open to girls and boys from Year 4 and upwards to Year 13. The adult choir is open to singers of all voices - soprano, alto, tenor and bass. Rehearsals are on Thursday evenings and a termly schedule of Masses and rehearsal commitments is available in advance. Please contact Katie Metcalfe [katiemmusic@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:katiemmusic@yahoo.co.uk) to register your interest.

### CHURCHES TOGETHER HARPENDEN ARTS FESTIVAL 2018

The Harpenden churches are planning an Arts Festival next Spring, with the theme "beauty, abundance and order". Different churches and other venues will host events. If you are interested in arts & crafts, photography, music, drama, poetry or dance and would like to be involved in some way, please contact Teresa Newham on (01582) 766403.

### THE PASSAGE GARDEN PARTY

There will be a Garden Party in aid of The Passage in the historic College Garden, Westminster Abbey on Friday 21 July 2017 from 6.00 p.m. Visit the oldest cultivated garden in England with a back drop of the Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament. Tickets £40 from The Passage, St Vincent's Centre, Carlisle Place, London SW1P 1NL tel. 020 7592 1856 email [tickets@passage.org.uk](mailto:tickets@passage.org.uk) which includes buffet supper, wine, soft drinks, live music and a prize raffle. Tickets are also available through [passagegardenparty.eventbrite.co.uk](http://passagegardenparty.eventbrite.co.uk)