

FIRST COMMUNION

Preparation for First Holy Communion, for children who will be in year 3 in September, will be commencing after the summer. Parents who wish to register their children for this Sacrament should collect a form from Canon Dwyer after Mass this weekend. **Forms need to be returned to the Parish Office as soon as possible.**

MUSIC & STRAWBERRIES!

Two weeks ago we had a very enjoyable Sunday afternoon in both church, and the presbytery garden. In church we enjoyed a concert of lovely music performed by the children of St Dominic's school, the Bella Mama's and the parish choir. At the end of the concert a collection was made and £450 was donated to Chiltern Music Therapy. After that some adjourned to the presbytery garden for strawberries and other refreshments, the proceeds from this event will be donated to the Developing World Group. Thank you to everyone who planned and contributed to these events in any way. How good it is we can enjoy ourselves while giving our support to others.

OFFICE OPENING

This coming week the Parish office will be open on the following days:
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

EXPOSITION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Monday 10th July, 2.00pm – 3.00pm at the convent, 18 Kirkdale Road. Prayer Intention: victims and survivors of the Grenfell Tower Fire and other calamities.

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.

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.

RETIREMENT MASS

The Governors of St Dominic School invite parents, ex-parents and ex-pupils to a Mass to commemorate the retirement of our Headteacher, Elizabeth O'Brien on Friday 14th July at 6pm in Our Lady of Lourdes Church. Current St Dominic pupils will have their own liturgical celebration for Mrs O'Brien in the final week of school.

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 9th 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.

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 katiemusic@yahoo.co.uk to register your interest.

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

PARISH GOLF DAY & DINNER 21ST JULY

There was a splendid turnout for the 2016 event, let's make this one even better. It's a really enjoyable parish occasion for golfers and non-golfers alike so do sign-up on the sheet in the porch for dinner only or golf. All are welcome. Can't find anyone to accompany you? Don't worry you will be amongst friends so just sign-up.

ST JOAN

The High Street Players are performing a Rehearsed Play reading of St. Joan by G.B. Shaw at Shaw's Corner, Ayot St. Lawrence on Sunday 16th July 2pm & 3.30pm Part 1 and Sunday 20th August 2pm & 3.30pm Part 2.

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 which includes buffet supper, wine, soft drinks, live music and a prize raffle. Tickets are also available through passage-garden-party.eventbrite.co.uk