

"LORD, THAT I MAY SEE"

Did you know that in our church the seating that is along the side walls of the church is not really meant to be there?

They area is meant to be aisles. But, numbers have necessitated the seating that is now in place.

The problem is though, that most people in those seats and their children cannot see the sanctuary and the altar at all.

We have been thinking for some time about how to solve the problem. Soon we will install discreetly in each aisle a screen to make it possible to be able to see what happens at the altar.

FAITH & LIGHT THANK YOU!

Our parish team put on another splendid spread for the Faith & Light ecumenical group at St John's church. Big thanks for your contributions. The minister at St John's said "A special thank you to the confirmation candidates for coming along and helping out. It's good they learn that an essential part of Christian living is washing up!"

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Thank you for helping the Priest Training Fund. Last weekend this parish raised £2,004.23 and all of this money will be used to encourage vocations and to fund the training of priests. If you have not yet made a donation, please give generously. You will find envelopes at the back of the church. You can also make a donation online by visiting www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

RED MISSION BOXES (MISSIO)

In 2014 our parish's donations to Missio amounted to £1,498.08 (£543.08 via Red Boxes and £955.00 via direct donations). Thank you for your generosity. If you have a Red Box which requires emptying, please leave it with one of the ushers/ministers of welcome at the back of the church after mass. Silvia, Carlo, Sara Antonioli tel. 622215.

CONFIRMATION PARENTS

As you may remember, it is customary for the parents of last year's Confirmation candidates to provide a simple reception for this year's candidates and their families. This will be held in the Undercroft and take the form of tea, coffee and cakes. There are two confirmation ceremonies this year, on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June at 3.00pm, so we will require two small groups of parents to help out. Please contact Anna Painter if you are able to help in any way, Tel. 07940 500648 or email annapainter09@aol.com Do remember that this act of generosity was performed for you last year. So it would be great if you could return the favour.

COURTESY PLEASE

There have been complaints about members of our congregation parking across people's driveways and on double yellow lines near the church. This brings the Catholic community into disrepute. It is not fair to the householder nor to the Catholic Church either.

Please note that you can be towed away for this kind of behaviour and you can be fined for being on a double yellow line! Finding parking is a problem but please park carefully and with awareness.

NO STAFF

There is a list in the vestibule today for any young person who'd like to become an altar server. Add your name if you can help. It is a serious commitment. There will be training sessions after the First Communion Masses which are in May.

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE, 7PM – A DATE FOR THE DIARY

Bishop John writes "On that evening, I will be offering a Mass of Thanksgiving for 50 years of priesthood. It would be a joy if you were able to join me on that occasion, and for the Reception afterwards in Lourdes Hall."

OPEN GARDEN

You are invited to an Open Garden on 20th June at 1 Lavendon, Aplins Close, Harpenden in the afternoon. There will be opportunities to buy plants and to enjoy tea and cakes in the garden and even to buy a cake to take home. Do join us if you can.

The beneficiary of John and Sheila's hospitality will be the Developing World Group.

SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA CURRY NIGHT

Weds 13th May at the Cinnamon restaurant. £25 per head.

Learn more about what we do plus our recent link with Rothamsted Research. Contact caroline.swanson@me.com or tel: 761305

THE NEWMAN ASSOCIATION

The Dream of Gerontius. Tuesday May 12th 2015 7.00pm at the Parish Centre, SS Mary & Joseph 186, St. John's Road, Boxmoor, HP1 1NR. Jack Scrutton on Edward Elgar's oratorio based on Cardinal Newman's poem with recorded extracts. Refreshments, non-members don. £3.

SHOP ASSISTANT

Would you like to try your hand at serving behind the counter? We need someone to man our little shop in church after the 9.45am Mass. If you can, and it is enjoyable. Please call the parish office.

PARISH GOLF DAY

This very enjoyable annual event will take place on MONDAY 20TH JULY. Golfers please encourage your golfing friends from near and far to join us for this. Non-golfers do come and join us for a meal in the evening. More details to follow.

Please book the date. Proceeds to the Developing World Group.

CHINA CATHOLIC CHURCH

The AGM of Culture Exchange with China will take place in Westminster on Sat May 23rd 10.30am-4.00pm. Further info: www.cecchina.co.uk