

BILL RAMSWELL RIP

Bill is the brother of John Ramswell in our parish, and he sadly died on 22nd April. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated in our church on **WEDNESDAY 6th MAY at 11.30am.** It would be a great kindness to take part in his Funeral Mass, as Bill is not known here and does not have a large circle of friends and family. **Please note this will be the only Mass on that day.**

REFRESHMENTS

You are invited to our monthly refreshments after the 11.30am Mass this Sunday. Do pop in, even for a short while. It will be very nice to see you.

PRIEST TRAINING FUND

Thank you for helping the Priest Training Fund. Last weekend our 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

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

Have you ever thought that it might be good, having received so much from being a Catholic over the years, to give something back? Here is just the opportunity. You can join the group of adults who lead our young people on their journey to the Sacrament of Confirmation.

You don't need any qualifications, just the wish to help. It's enjoyable. It's valuable. But, only offer if you are not already carrying out a role in the parish. **Just have a word with Monsignor Turner today.**

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 entrance to the church after mass. Silvia, Carlo, Sara Antonioli tel. 622215.

DEVELOPING WORLD

From 1st – 20th April: you have contributed £313.86 to the vestibule box at weekend masses, and the wall box at the back of church. This money will go towards our 'clean water' project in Uganda, details of which are set out on the Developing World board in the vestibule. Thank you all for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION PARENTS

As you may remember, it is customary for the parents of the previous 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 to offer your help. **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.

NO STAFF

It is very sad to see Mass celebrated in our Church with no altar servers. That is how it is quite often. Yet our young people are so numerous. There are 76 children in the 1st Communion class. They will soon be eligible to apply. We look forward to that day. Think about it! **There is a list in the vestibule today for any young person to add their name, if they 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 50years 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."

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

FAITH MATTERS QUESTION TIME

'THE GENERAL ELECTION: WHAT'S RELIGION GOT TO DO WITH IT?'

The next Faith Matters Question Time, the panel discussion on matters of faith and life, which brings together Catholics and other different walks of life, takes place at Farm Street on Tues 5th May at 6.30pm, two days before the General Election. The panel will include Lord Glasman of Stoke Newington and Stamford Hill (Blue Labour), Dr Laura Keynes (journalist & author, Catholic Voices, and 'Conservative Woman' blogger), Alex Macqueen (actor, 'The Thick of It), Revd Lucy Winkett (Rector, St James', Piccadilly). Recommended donation £7. Booking essential: www.mountstreet.info.

THE ALBAN PILGRIMAGE

Join the crowds in St Albans as the city comes together to celebrate Britain's first saint, Alban on Sat 20th June. The Procession starts at 11.00am at St Peter's Church. Further info:

www.stalbanscathedral.org

BANK HOLIDAY

Monday this week is a Bank Holiday. It is the Feast of the English Martyrs. Please note that the time of Mass on Monday morning will be at the usual Monday time of 9.15am.