

SICK & REIRED PRIENT'S FUND

Today's second collection is in support of the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund of the Diocese of Westminster. This Fund ensures our elderly and sick priests are financially supported in their senior years after a lifetime of service. Our priests baptised us, counselled us in times of sorrow and worry, and celebrate with us in time of joy. Since we have received so much from their generosity, it is now our turn to assist them in their old age. The fund ensures that their housing, medical, convalescence, companionship and spiritual support needs are met. Please be generous. Most priests retire with modest means. In later years their ability to live independently can be adversely impacted because of their declining health, mobility or frailty. There are donation leaflets available in the pews and at the back of the Church. Please use this leaflet to Gift Aid your donation. You can even use it to set up an ongoing donation to this fund.

You can also donate online at:
www.rcdow.org.uk/donations

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Today is Remembrance Sunday when we remember, and pray for, all those who died in the two world wars of the last century, and the other conflicts since then. All those who died will be remembered at the war memorial on Church Green, in a short service, commencing at 10.45am.

MASSES THIS WEEK

On **MONDAY** there is no Mass at 9.15am, as there is the funeral Mass for Andrew Baker at 12.45pm.

On **THURSDAY** Mass will be celebrated the earlier time of 9.15am.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES RENEWAL

...and then there were 70!

There are still over 60 Planned Giving envelope boxes remaining, some for Parishioners who have requested boxes in the last month!

If, therefore, you have either requested a set of envelopes for the first time or have not yet collected your renewal box, please do so **NOW** as you leave the Church

All requests for envelopes and missing envelope boxes have been attended to. If, therefore, you still find your box is missing, please write your name again on the list. It will then be checked again.

There are also a number of outstanding Gift Aid Declarations, which should be returned as soon as possible in order that they can be registered with the Diocese.

REPAIRS

Some months ago a heavy shower of rain revealed a number of leaks in the church tower, and the need to replace all of the lead in the roof there; hence the scaffolding at the front of the church. It is estimated that this work will take about a month and, hopefully, will not cause too much inconvenience.

NOVEMBER BOOK

During November, we continue to remember, in prayer, all the souls in purgatory, those who have still to conclude their journey to God. During November the Masses on Tuesday and Thursday mornings will be offered for all of the Holy Souls. If you would like anyone to be remembered in these Masses please add their names to the 'November Dead List' which you will find on the ledge near the repository.

REST IN PEACE

Please remember in your prayers the late Andrew Butler, who died recently as well as his family. His funeral takes place tomorrow Monday 13th November at 12.45pm. May he rest in peace

HCCC

Brigid Brennan, a parishioner who is Chair of the Harpenden Child Contact Centre (HCCC), will be speaking about the work of this organization at Mass today. A Child Contact Centre is a safe, friendly and neutral place where children from separated families can spend time with one or both parents and sometimes other family members. It is a child-centred environment that puts the needs of the children first and enables children who might not otherwise see their parent the opportunity to spend time together in a safe and happy environment.

CONCERT SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER 7.30pm

In Our Lady of Lourdes Church
A visiting string ensemble from Sweden joining our church choir! The concert will include, Vivaldi's Gloria and Mozart's Laudate Dominum amongst other beautiful and uplifting music. The string ensemble are being joined by other professional local musicians for what will be a wonderful evening. Please support our choir, their visitors and our Harpenden musicians! Put the date in your diary and invite your friends and neighbours.
Tickets will be on sale after each Mass this weekend £10 full price and £5 concessions.

PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

This very popular annual event will be held on Saturday December 2nd at the Lourdes Hall from 10 am to 1 pm and we need YOUR help. Please bring your donations of bottles, gifts, toys, books, raffle prizes, crafts, cakes, plants and bric-a-brac (no second hand clothes please) which you can put in the box in the church porch from next weekend. AND we also need volunteers to help 'man the stalls' and to set up the day before. We particularly welcome new parishioners to get involved. Please contact marva@cpoauk.com or on 01582 712364 if you would like to help, even if it is only for an hour or two.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACREMENT

With Prayer of Remembrance on Tuesday, 14th November 2.00pm – 3.30pm at The Covent, 18 Kirkdale Road.

BECOMING A CATHOLIC

Have you ever considered whether God is calling you to become a Catholic? Is it a niggling feeling you have had for some time? Do the barriers, obstacles, objections or doubts always seem too great; the bigger issues ever muddying the personal path? Perhaps you feel there has never been a 'right time' or 'clear window' in your life. Perhaps you even feel daunted by the enormity of the unknown. If so, you are having exactly the same feelings as all those who have ultimately taken that first tentative step, walked the journey of faith week by week, and have never looked back. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Canon Dwyer.

DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

Parishioners donated £835.29 to the Group between 5 and 30 October. A large part was given the weekend that Sister Mary Joachim spoke about her work in Ethiopia - which we have supported recently. In addition, the amount raised includes money from the wall safe and a full Green Collection box. Your donations, together with the profit from Hansel and Gretel at Lourdes Hall on 4 November, will enable us to complete our current project - the purchase of £5,016 of essential medical equipment for safe deliveries in childbirth especially caesareans, at the St Daniel Comboni Catholic Hospital in Wau, South Sudan. A paper update on the project and our previous project in Ethiopia (with pictures) is available in the vestibule. Thank you for your generosity.

REPOSITORY

We now have our Christmas cards, Advent Calendars & candles in stock.

ST DOMINIC'S SCHOOL

Applications for places in Reception Class open on Monday 6 November 2017. The Certificate of Catholic Practice form will need to be signed by a priest. Canon Dwyer will be available to sign forms in church on Saturdays 2nd and 9th December between 3.30pm and 4.30pm. There is no need to make an appointment, just turn up. Signing is ONLY AT THESE TIMES. Please note that 'practising Catholic' means attending Mass every Sunday. Parents should also collect a 'self-assessment' form, which will be available after the Masses today.

HANSEL & GRETTEL OPERA

Thank you to all who supported Pop Up Opera, Hansel & Gretel. As well as having a most enjoyable evening, we raised £635 for our current project. Wonderful!

BOOK THE DATE BARN DANCE 20TH JANUARY 2018

To raise funds for our next project in the developing world