

SICK & REIRED PRIENT'S FUND

A big 'thank you' to everyone who responded to the appeal for the 'Sick & Retired Priest's fund. To date £2,534.78. Your generosity is much appreciated. If you havn't yet had the chance to donate, it is not too late to do so. The fund remains open for another couple of weeks, and donations can be handed into the parish office.

ADVENT

Next week we enter the season of Advent. Inevitably most of us will be preoccupied with all that there is to be done. Advent though is a lovely season of preparation for the coming of Christmas, and it is a shame if we miss out on that. To assist us there are the booklets in the 'My Day by Day' series, which have just two short readings for each day. As well as adults there are also booklets for infants and juniors with appropriate activities. These are on sale, price 75p in the porch.

ADVENT MONDAYS

On the three Mondays of Advent there will be a short reflection at the convent, 18 Kirkdale Road between 2.00pm and 3.00pm

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

There are still a considerable number of Planned Giving envelope boxes remaining, **some for Parishioners who have requested boxes in the last month!** This is the last opportunity for these to be collected from the back of the Church as they will be removed to the Parish Office after this week end, from where they may be collected during the usual opening hours.

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

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.

LIVE SIMPLY Award - CAFOD

"The journey continues - please add your support for the Live Simply Award today. The next stage will to make everyone aware of the many different activities by individuals or groups that can be included. There is something for everyone! Look out for information on the noticeboards and in the Newsletter, and other places. Laudato Si"

ADVENT CAROLS

Next Sunday at 6.30pm, there is the Advent Carol Service here in church. This service is arranged by all of the churches in Harpenden. We look forward to welcoming members from our local churches, and to taking the opportunity to enter into this lovely Advent season with the assistance of words and music.

LIVE CRIB

This Sunday 26th November as part of The Harpenden Christmas Carnival there will be a Live Crib in the Methodist Church from 2.30pm onwards. They will repeat the Nativity Play in the church a few times during the afternoon. It is worth seeing.

WALK IN THE PARK

Advent is coming and the Christmas hustle and bustle upon us!. Take a break from the preparations and join fellow parishioners on a relaxing amble through our lovely Rothamsted Park! Meet outside Church at 10am on Wednesday 6th December for an hour's walk and then a coffee in a nearby cafe. If weather is bad, it's straight for coffee! Look out for future walks held first Wednesday of every month.

PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.

We still need your bottles, gifts, toys, books, sweets, items for our red and white stall and cakes. These can be left in the church porch or brought to Lourdes Hall on Friday 1st December between 3-5 and/or 7-9. **AND MOST IMPORTANTLY**, we need you to come to the Bazaar on the day, whether it is to visit Father Christmas, have a go on one of the stalls or just to have an Irish coffee or a cup of tea.

BAZAAR SWEETS

This year's Christmas Bazar will be held on Saturday 2nd December. The Children's liturgy group will be organizing the sweet stall!

We would be very grateful for all your donations of sweets, lollipops, chocolate etc. There will be a box at the back of the church for donations from 25th November until Thursday 30th November.

Thank you in anticipation, from The Children's Liturgy Team

HIGH STREET PLAYERS

This group, which includes some of our parishioners, will perform a play called HAPPY FAMILY at the Methodist Church Hall in the High Street on- Wed 29th/Thurs 30th November and Fri 1st December
Tickets £8 (£9 on door) Available from Manor Pharmacy or ONLINE
www.hsplayers.org.uk or 01582 766096

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.

CATENIAN EVENTS

13th December, 7-0pm Christmas Dinner, Harpenden Golf Club, three course meal, entertainment and wine included, £30 per person. This is a very enjoyable black tie social event to which fellow parishioners are most welcome.

14th January 5-0pm Gordan Craig theatre Stevenage, our annual visit to the panto to see the incredibly entertaining and hilariously funny Jack and the Beanstalk. We have been going to the panto for over thirty years so this year we would like to offer out the last few remaining group tickets at £16.50 each (deadline 30th Nov) .

Age range of our group is from a few weeks old to 80+ which includes you, and you'll love it. For more details about both events, contact denniscooper238@btinternet.com

CHRISTMAS IN THE REPOSITORY

Christmas cards, both single and boxes, wrapping paper, contemporary cribs and candles. There are also a number of lovely items for children, Advent calendars, colouring and activity books, games and puzzles, and story books to appeal to the very young, all showing the true meaning of Christmas. Come and have a look

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.

BOOK THE DATE BARN DANCE 20TH JANUARY 2018

We invite you to join us for an evening of fun, exercise, an excellent caller and the best fish & chips in town (Godfrey's)! Tickets will be £12.50 and it will be a 'Bring your own drinks and nibbles event.' It's early notice but we know what a busy lot you are!
Enquiries to Julia 07891083251

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

If you are thinking about a different Christmas gift you might appreciate some of the items available from CAFOD. Catalogues with their products are available in the church porch.