

CONFIRMATION 2018

Preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, for those people in Year 9 or above, will commence in November..

Completed forms must be returned to the parish office no later than today, Sunday 1st October.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2018

There will be a parish pilgrimage to Lourdes, to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, from 8th to 12th February. Please collect forms and information, which can be found in a plastic folder at the back of the church.

Please can you let know asap if you intend to go as I am booking the hotel rooms.

PRIESTS REFERENCE

It is that time of year when applications are being made for secondary school places in 2018. Canon Dwyer will be available to meet parents, with the 'Priest's Reference Form, in the church, next Saturday October 7th, between 11am and 12noon, and on Tuesday 17th October between 5.00pm and 6.00pm. Parents will need to have collected a self-assessment form, available after Masses today, and bring the completed form, with the 'Priest's Reference Form.'

MEMORIAL MASS

There is a Memorial Mass for the late Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor next Wednesday, October 4th, at 5.30pm in Westminster Cathedral. Unlike the funeral Mass no tickets are necessary, everyone is welcome. This Mass is especially envisaged for those who were unable to attend the funeral Mass.

CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

The Catenian Association whose motto is faith, family, friendship, fun and has a number of members from our parish, will make a short presentation at this weekend masses to inform you about its activities and encourage recruitment.

THANK YOU

'Thank you very much to all those who helped make the Special Needs Mass such a wonderful occasion. We are very grateful to everyone who generously donated sandwiches and cakes for the party tea and all those that helped set-up, provided the music and contributed to the mass. It was a lovely afternoon. Thank you. Ruth, Catriona and Lorna

ALTAR SERVERS

New Altar Servers are always welcome. Training sessions for those who have made their First Holy Communion, and who would like to exercise this ministry will take place during October. Please sign the list in the vestibule.

AT UNIVERSITY?

A number of our parishioners will be starting at university in the coming weeks, we wish them well, and hope it will be a happy and fruitful experience for them. Those who are starting, as well as those further ahead, may want to make contact with the Catholic chaplaincy, to do so please visit: cathchaps.co.uk.

MONTH OF THE ROSARY

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. This Gospel prayer will be prayed in church, Monday to Saturday, after the morning Masses.

ST DOMINIC CATHOLIC SCHOOL

St Dominic Catholic Primary School would like to add to their team of Midday Supervisory Assistants who ensure the safety and welfare of pupils during the lunchtime break. Each lunch session is from 11:50am until 1:05pm and the salary is £7.78 per hour. Flexibility over days can be offered which may suit those who are retired or work part-time. This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and subject to an enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service and satisfactory references. For further details and an

application pack, please contact the school office on 01582 760047 or email: admin@stdominic.herts.sch.uk Visits to the school are welcome by arrangement.

REST IN PEACE

Please remember in your prayers Veronica Narduzzo who died this week. Her funeral takes place on Monday 9th October at 10.00am. May she rest in peace.

PARISH WALK

Autumn is coming and we are hoping for glorious colour in the trees in and around Rothamsted Park. You are most welcome to join a group of parishioners for an hour's walk followed by a coffee next Wednesday 4th October meeting at 10am outside OLOL Church. If the weather is rainy, it's straight to coffee! Look out for further walks every first Wednesday of the month.

HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST – SPONSORED BIKERIDE 'N HIKE

Thank you to those who took part and sponsored participants. This Church was visited by 16 walkers or cyclists. Would those who took part please hand the sponsorship money received to the Parish Office by Friday 6th October.

HARPENDEN SENIORS FAIR

Thursday 12th October at the Public Hall Harpenden, from 10-30am to 2.00pm, Free Entry and many new stands and organisations this year.

HANSEL & GRETTEL OPERA 4th NOVEMBER

Reserved tickets have now reached 70 so please book as soon as possible. This is a professional production which everyone will enjoy. Not reserved a ticket yet? They are now available on line at tinyurl.com/lourdeshall or by emailing denniscooper238@btinternet.com – further details on the developing world group notice board

BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

Friday, October 13th, is the feast day of Blessed John Henry Newman. To mark the feast there is Mass in St Alban's Abbey, at 12noon. Everyone is welcome.

CAFOD FAST DAY

Harvest Fast Day is next Friday, 6th October. CAFOD would like to invite you to join us in remembering our brothers and sisters who do not have what we have. This Fast Day we would like to focus on the work our partners are doing in El Salvador. They are working with farmers like Edelmira and Martin to provide training and reintroduce native seeds that were used generations ago. These seeds are strong and able to grow in the warm, rainy climate, ensuring that farmers are able to harvest crops, and with that, the surety that they will be able to provide for their families. Your donations will help CAFOD offer long term support to local communities to enable them to stay on the land they love. Envelopes for your contributions are available after Mass today, and will be collected next weekend.

A SOCIETY BASED ON JUSTICE & PEACE

Tues. 17 October – 7.30 pm
"An authentic faith ... always involves a deep desire to change the world, to transmit values, to leave this earth somehow better than we found it" (Pope Francis' encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel)
In June this year our Bishops quoted Pope Francis and called on us (to build) "a society based on justice and peace".
'Justice and peace' is a way of describing the Church's call to witness to gospel values in society. If you would like to know more about how we as a parish might show that witness today in our local community, nationally or internationally, **do please come along to the Undercroft at 7.30 on Tuesday 17 October.** Members of the Westminster Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission will be with us to share their knowledge and experience, and perhaps inspire us to great things! Everyone is very welcome.

