

CAFOD

HARVEST FAST DAY

Friday 2 October 2015

Hamani lives in a remote village in Niger. Life is incredibly tough there. With longer and hotter dry seasons, it is becoming more and more difficult to grow crops. Just three years ago, drought destroyed much of the harvest Hamani and his neighbours were dependent on. Your generosity, provided Hamani's community with enough basic food to keep them alive. But his community don't want to rely on handouts. They want to be self-sufficient. Your support this Harvest, will ensure millions of people around the world are able to grow enough food to eat. Signing up to 'Hands On' in Niger, you will be supporting an entire community of people in Niger with the tools and knowledge to not only survive the most extreme droughts, but to flourish. See your parish envelope for more on giving at Harvest Fast Day and how to take part in this life-changing opportunity.

ANNUAL MISSION APPEAL

Last weekend we held a retiring collection for the work of the Xaverian Missionary Fathers, raising £1,216.63. Thank you for your generosity.

PRIEST'S REFERENCES

Monsignor Turner will be available to sign verification of church attendance forms for Secondary School Applications on **Saturday 17th October 1100am -1.00pm in the church.** No need to make an appointment, just turn up. This will be

your **only opportunity**, so don't miss out!

REFRESHMENTS

We invite everyone after 11.30am Mass next Sunday to refreshments in the Undercroft. Don't miss it!!

HARVEST CAKE SALE

Next Sunday 4th October, we will celebrate this year's Harvest. We will be holding a Charity Cake Sale at the end of 9.45am Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes. We would be very grateful for all your donations of cakes and biscuits. We will collect offerings prior to that Mass. All proceeds go to Cafod. Thank you in anticipation, from the Children's Liturgy Team.

DINNER DANCE

21st Nov Harpenden Golf Club
Ticket sales are going well with parishioners taking tables of ten so they can bring friends, who are not necessarily parishioners; it's good for others to see that Catholics can enjoy themselves. Reserve your table now, if that's not possible then book tickets individually by emailing;

denniscooper238@btinternet.com.

The evening includes a three course dinner, wine and dancing at £50 per head, all in aid of the Developing World Group project in South Sudan.

DOMINICAN SISTERS

There will be an Hour of Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, to pray for Refugees and Migrants at the Convent, 18 Kirkdale Road, You are welcome to come for the hour or

whatever time you can between 2.00pm and 3.00pm on Tuesday 6th October.

GO FOR GROWTH

An exciting major ecumenical conference on Church growth in all its dimensions will be held on Saturday 3rd October at the Focolare Centre for Unity (69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6JG). Come and be inspired. www.go4growth.org.uk for more info.

LORETO OPEN EVENING

For prospective pupils applying to Loreto College will take place on 29th September at 6pm. Please use the entrance in Upper Lattimore Road. Please note that there are no parking facilities available at the College. Guided tours from 6pm-7.45pm. Head teacher will address parents at 6.15pm, 7.15pm & 8.15pm. Tours during the school day will take place between 5-16 October (by appointment only). Appointments can be made from 30.09.15 by calling 01727 856206.

OPEN MORNING

ST. COLUMBA'S - FOR BOTH PREP & SENIOR SCHOOL 3rd October 2010 9.30am-12.30pm. Parents and boys are warmly invited to visit the school. Tours will run throughout the morning and the Headmaster will speak at 10am, 11am & 11:45am. Refreshments will be served. Person tour available for those who can't make the morning., please email admissions@stcolumbascollege.org

THE REFUGEE CRISIS

Following the announcement that the UK will accept 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years, Caritas Westminster is co-ordinating assistance for refugees in line with the Cardinal's pledge to work with the government. Although the government is developing a framework for supporting the arrival of Syrian refugees as a Church we need to be prepared to welcome vulnerable and newly arrived people into our communities in the form of practical support. When refugees arrive in the UK, they will not only need accommodation, but a range of other services to help them to adjust to life in the UK and to recover from the traumas of the Syrian war. These services will include, but are not limited to:

Help with languages, including interpreting and ESOL

Legal advice

Medical services

Befriending

Basic necessities, such as clothing, shoes, toiletries, food parcels, toys etc.

In the vestibule of the Church, there is a sheet on which, if you are able to help in one way or another, we ask you to put your name, address and email, as well as the help you can provide. These will be sent to Caritas who will process them and then contact us in due course. If you would like to make a donation, you can do so easily and securely online, or by sending a cheque to "WRCDDT-Caritas" to Caritas Westminster, Vaughan House.46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN.