

FIRST COMMUNION

Please remember the children of our parish who are making their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please keep the children, their families and Catechists, in your prayers as they prepare for this very special event in their lives.



SICK OR HOUSEBOUND?

For those who are sick or housebound the Parish Priest is always happy to bring Holy Communion and, or, to arrange for one of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to do so. If you are unable to attend Mass, or know of someone in that situation, please contact the Parish Office on 01582 712245 to make suitable arrangements.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the Repose of the Soul of Brian Tate who died recently. Brian's Requiem Mass will be here on Monday 21st May at 12.00pm. Please keep Brian's family in your prayers at this time.

Please note there is no 9.15am Mass tomorrow, Monday.

WE WANT YOU!

New recruits are invited to join the ranks of our altar servers. Children who have completed, or will complete their First Holy Communion this year are eligible to join. Please sign up on the sheet in the porch



REFLECTION

Reflection on 'The Holy Spirit in our Lives,' led by Margaret Drummond, will take place this Monday 21st May at 2.00pm – 3.00pm at the Convent, 18 Kirkdale Road. Everyone welcome.

WALK IN THE PARK

Join a group of parishioners for an hour's walk in Rothamsted Park. Our next walk will be Wednesday 6th June starting at Our Lady of Lourdes at 10am. There will be coffee after in a nearby cafe and if the weather is bad, it's straight to coffee. Look out for further walks every first Wednesday of the month.



SAVE THE DATE – 16TH JUNE!

Join us in our lovely Rothamsted Park on Saturday 16th June to walk a mile! Pope Francis has called on us to 'Share the Journey', an act of solidarity for the rights of people on the move. Cafod is supporting groups from England and Wales and aims to 'collect' 24,900 miles – the distance around the whole world! Families, singles, buggies, wheelchairs are all welcome from 11am till 1pm to each walk a mile to add to the national total and then enjoy a 'bring your own' picnic. More information to follow.



CALLING LAST YEAR'S CONFIRMATION PARENTS!

As you may know, it is customary in our parish for the parents of last year's Confirmation candidates to provide a small reception for this year's candidates and their families. This year, a large cake will be provided after each of the two Masses, and so we simply need a small group of parents to volunteer to help serve teas and coffees. We are very grateful to Ruth Bignell who has kindly offered to organise this for us. If you are able to offer help on the day, Saturday 16th June, after one of the two Masses, 11am or 3pm, please contact Ruth on ruth_okeeffe@hotmail.co.uk.



CULTIVATE ARTS FESTIVAL HARPENDEN CHURCHES TOGETHER 21ST – 24TH JUNE 2018

Arts events at churches throughout the town on the theme "Beauty, Abundance, Order". At Our Lady of Lourdes this will include live music in the church and an art exhibition in the Undercroft Thursday 21st - Saturday 23rd and our Summer concert on Sunday 24th June. **For further details see flyers in the porch or contact Teresa Newham on 766403.**

CALLING CREATIVE CHILDREN

All children of the church are invited to produce a small motif, either a flower, bird or butterfly to be included in a display at our exhibition here at Our Lady of Lourdes church on the theme 'Abundance'. The artwork can be any size up to 20cm in any direction, 2D or 3D and in any media. Search online for ideas and have fun! Make sure everything is stuck together securely. I will leave out some boxes in the church entrance to collect the results on Sundays 27 May & 10th June.



DEVELOPING WORLD GROUP

On 12 May the Group donated £2,850 to fund a course in June in Kisumu, Kenya for 25 local women, to train them to run their own businesses and provide them with a £75 start up loan. This will enable the women, many affected by HIV/AIDS, to look after their families. We are now raising another £2,850 to fund a repeat course in September, for another group of 25. Both will be run by the charity 'Just Small Change'. Please see DWG Easter Update in the Parish Newsletter section of the church website (<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/harpenden/wp-content/uploads/sites/252/2018/04/DWG->

[Update-Easter-2018.pdf](#)) for details of this project, as well as the other three that we have funded this year (in Pakistan, Thailand and Uganda). Parishioners donated £436 a month in Standing Orders in Q1. They also gave £3,155.60 in cash and cheques over 6 March-10 May, a large part coming from individual large donations and the proceeds from Green Boxes. Thank you for giving so generously to this work.

PARISH GOLF DAY

There will be a Parish Golf day on Friday 20th July, at Harpenden Common GC, for more information please email denniscooper238@btinternet.com



SISTINE CHOIR

The Sistine Chapel Choir, The Holy Father's personal choir, performs a sacred choral music concert from the repertoire they sing in the Vatican on Saturday 26th May 2018 at 8pm in Westminster Cathedral. The concert will last an hour, and is free of charge (no tickets required). Come and experience this world-famous choir singing in the beautiful setting of Westminster Cathedral. All are welcome.



JOY FOR THE WORLD

A day for everyone involved in Marriage & Family Ministry, on Saturday 23rd June at Vaughan House 46 Francis Street SW1P 1QN. From 12noon to 4.00pm. A sandwich lunch is included. Contact Charlotte McNerlin at family@rcdow.org.uk or 020 7931 6064 to register.