



The Church is open every day from 7.00am until 6.30pm (approx) for quiet prayer and contemplation, everyone is welcome.

### FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION PHOTOGRAPHS

If you haven't yet picked up your Photographs they are in the church next to the Repository.



### BEGINNING AGAIN

During the year there are different opportunities to start again. Whether it's the beginning of the Church's year in Advent, or the start of the year in January, and in September the Academic year starts again. Those opportunities to make a new start reflect our Christian faith, God constantly allowing us to make a fresh start. In the coming week schools will be reopening, with pupils returning, and some starting for the first time, or in a new school. In a few weeks a number of our young people will be continuing with their education at university. We wish all of them well, and hope that this will be a fruitful time for them.

### POPE'S LETTER

In recent weeks we will have, once again, been saddened, shocked and dismayed, by the reports of the abuse of children by priests and religious, as well as by the failure of, some, of those in authority to take appropriate action. In the light of this Pope Francis has taken the unprecedented step of writing a letter to every member of

the Church on the tragic topic of the sexual abuse of children by members of the clergy, copies are available in the porch, or you can read it online at:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/news/letter-of-his-holiness-pope-francis-to-the-people-of-god/>. Cardinal Nichols has also written to the priests of the Diocese, on this topic. He encourages all of us to read the Pope's letter, and to make his letter available as well. Copies of the Cardinal's letter will also be found in the porch, or it can be found at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/cardinal/news/cardinal-al-expresses-sorrow-and-shame-about-abuse-in-the-church/>

In the face of these shocking, and tragic, happenings, let us continue to pray for those who have been hurt or affected in any way at all.

### CONFIRMATION 2019

Preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, for those young people in Year 9 or above, will commence in November. Application forms are available after all Masses throughout September. Completed forms and copies of the Baptismal Certificate must be returned to the parish office by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019

Preparation for First Communion in 2019 starts next Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September, with a meeting for the Parents of all children who are being prepared. Attendance at this meeting is important, and it takes place in the undercroft at 8.00pm.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy, recommences 8<sup>th</sup> September, and is an important ministry in our parish. It runs during term time in the Undercroft at the 9.45am Mass. It aims to explain the Gospel teaching to our younger

parishioners in a way which is meaningful to them. The lesson is suitable for Reception age children and above.

We are looking for new recruits to support running the sessions. More team members are needed if we are to be able to continue to run it weekly. Training is provided and you would be part of a team who take turns every 6-8 weeks. If you would like to know more please contact Michelle Lynch. [martinmichelle74@gmail.com](mailto:martinmichelle74@gmail.com)

### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING PROGRAMME (SEPT/OCT)

To join the ranks of our altar servers please email [fernandez.acp@gmail.com](mailto:fernandez.acp@gmail.com)

Training starts this month. Children who have completed their First Holy Communion are eligible to join.



### CAN YOU HELP?

It's true to say that our church is always clean and well maintained. This is due to the fact that we have a dedicated group of people who ensure that all is well in God's house. Currently we are in need of some more volunteers to help with this important work. It's not particularly time consuming, so if you could help please have a word with Canon Dwyer.



### WORLD YOUTH DAY

World Youth Day, with Pope Francis, will be taking place in Panama, in January next year. Based on the experience of previous World Youth Days this is a wonderful opportunity for any young person fortunate enough to attend. One of our young parishioners, Aoife Morris, is hoping to attend. The cost of the event is approximately £2,500 for each participant. It is hoped that the parish can assist Aoife

on this journey. If anyone has fundraising suggestions, or can assist in other ways, please let Canon Dwyer know.

### WALK IN THE PARK

Last month our walkers spotted 6 different species of butterfly and next month is a chance to focus on the many species of trees that are in Rothamsted Park. Do come for a one hour's walk on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September and pick out your favourite. Meet outside Church at 10am and after the walk, enjoy 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.



### CALLING ALL CHILDREN

To celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on 4<sup>th</sup> October, all children are invited to produce an A4 poster on the theme of CREATION. These will be displayed in church. You can use any media and the poster should celebrate God's gift of creation or suggest ideas for protecting our world. You can put your poster in a box at the back of church on the week-end of 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**CAFOD SUPPORTERS MORNING** - Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 10am-1pm, Lambeth North.

CAFOD will be hosting a supporter's information morning with a guest speaker who has first-hand knowledge of our work in Uganda. Uganda is the country we are focusing on this Harvest Fast Day. Meeting will take place from 10am – 1.00pm at CAFOD's Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB Bookings taken on 0208 449 6970 or e mail [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk)