



## **THIS SUNDAY**

The season of Advent reminds us of our need to prepare spiritually for Christmas as we recall Christ's first coming at Bethlehem. We are also directed in mind and heart to await Christ when he calls us home to him or when he comes to us in glory. The Advent Crown reminds us of our preparation to welcome Christ the Light of the world.

**The Sunday readings will be from Year B, the year of St Mark.**

**The weekday cycle in Ordinary Time will be from year 2.**

## **THIS SUNDAY: ANNUAL 'POOR PARISHES' COLLECTION**

There will be a second collection for the poor parishes of the Archdiocese this **Sunday**. We are materially blessed in so many ways here in Kenilworth. This collection helps us to support parishes who struggle financially.

## **SENDING A CHRISTMAS CARD TO A PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE**

There will be opportunity to send a Christmas greeting to Prisoners of Conscience after Mass **over this Sunday**.

Please contact Pat Haley 01926 864505 if you are able to help after Mass.

## **WELCOME**

We welcome into the family of the Church, **ISABELLA FLORENCE KAVIA, THOMAS WILLIAM AND HENRY PATRICK O'CONNOR** following their baptism in the Parish last Sunday.

We pray for them, for their parents, families, Godparents and grandparents.

## **ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CARD DISTRIBUTION**

'Churches Together' have undertaken to distribute Christmas cards in Kenilworth inviting people to Christmas celebrations. We need volunteers from our parish to distribute some of them. Bundles ready for delivery are in St Francis' Narthex.

**Thanks go to the Guides who, I understand, sorted them into the bundles.**

## **CATHOLIC WOMENS' LEAGUE**

The Christmas Party takes place on **Tuesday, 12 December**, in the Parish Centre.

Guests should arrive at 6.15 pm and bring a present and card to share.

Entertainment will commence after the Meal.

## **MINCE PIE SALE**

SALVE will be holding a sale of mince pies, decorative candles and Christmas items after masses at St Francis on **Sunday December 16 / 17**.

All proceeds will be donated to the crib charity **LET THE CHILDREN LIVE!**

## **NEXT SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

There will be a **retiring** collection after all Masses on **Sunday, 16 / 17 December** for the decoration of both Churches over the Christmas Festival.

## **CONDOLENCES: CLIVE HODGES AND BERT PERKINS RIP**

Over many years, Father David has been ministering to **Bert Perkins**, housebound and then in nursing care. Bert died recently in Warwick. We pray that he may rest in peace and for his children and grandchildren.

Clive Hodges has been part of our parish for over twenty years, together with his late wife Joyce and son, Robert. Clive died in Warwick Hospital on Tuesday evening.

There was a sense of incompleteness in his life after Joyce dies some six months ago. He had been so regular at mass and so supportive of parish life. May he rest in peace and Robert and all family members and friends be comforted. **Reception into St**

**Francis of Assisi Church is on Monday 18 December at 5.30pm with Requiem Mass on Tuesday 19 December at 1.30pm.**

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES** Please take home with you with our love, a yellow coloured Christmas folder, which acts as a personal Christmas card from the priests in the parish, with the details of all Services and Masses for Christmastide.

## **GIVING TREE**

The giving tree is now up in the narthex. This is a way we can support the sick, disadvantaged and those supported by the SVP in our parish and the wider local community. Please take a tag from the tree and purchase the specified item.

Please note that this year we are requesting that you **do not wrap** the food items etc. but place them unwrapped under the tree **with the tag attached**.

**Thanks to Kari and Ian Gordon, the Feasey family, Abigail Staveley, Stephanie Wright and all those who have helped this year.**

## **SVP SUDAN GIFT SCHEME**

On behalf of those being helped in Sudan, many thanks go to those who contributed. The total raised through the parish was £1172.

## **YOUR PRIESTS AND CHRISTMAS**

Soon we will celebrate the birthday of Our Lord Jesus Christ at Christmas. May we both crave your kindness and indulgence in asking you **not to mark that celebration with personal gifts to us?** The Christmas Offering, given to Father David and to me is a sign of generosity and financial support. May we humbly and sincerely request that a small donation be given to the Crib Collection rather than a personal gift to us on this occasion? Also, please don't feel **obliged** to send a Christmas card.

## **COFFEE ETC. AFTER THE 9.30AM MASS**

Thanks to all those who have supported Coffee after 9.30 am Mass on Sunday.

The rota for the coming year is being compiled if you would like to help please contact Pat & Sarah Haley 01926 864505.

## **FROM ARCHBISHOP BERNARD**

The Archbishop has let us know that it is his intention to send out a Pastoral Letter to be read on the **third Sunday of Advent, 17 December**.

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

## **PASTIMES**

**Meetings are on Mondays 2 – 4pm in the Parish Centre**, with (knitting Craft Corner, needlework etc), Bridge, Whist, Scrabble etc. and refreshments Subscription is 40p.

## **ST FRANCIS' PARENTS' AND TODDLERS' GROUPS**

The **Monday** group meets at the Parish Centre from 10 – 11.15am.

There is also a **Wednesday** group at Crackley Hall from 10 – 11.30am.

**FOOD BANK ROTA** Please check whether you are transporting food this week.

## **OFFERTORY COUNTERS**

This Sun: P Whiting, T Harrington, S Rothwell

Next Sun: T Walmesley, P and K Alexander

## **CHURCH CLEANING**

St Francis': P Hadfield, R Richardson, T Whiting St Augustine's: J Poulter, A Roberts  
EVERY BLESSING AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU ALL, Father Kevin.