

URGENT: PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN DISABLED SPACES UNLESS YOU HAVE A BLUE BADGE; IT IS UNFAIR TO THOSE WHO NEED THEM

JUST A REMINDER: LENT 2019

Lent gives us the opportunity not only to think of self-denial but also of renewing and refreshing our spiritual lives by doing something new or taking up again something from which we may have lapsed. Let us pray for the grace to keep a good Lent.

Prayer, fasting and concern for others are spiritual keynotes in Lent.

- What about coming to **an extra Mass in the week? Celebrating Reconciliation?**
- Stations of the Cross Friday **7pm** at St Francis' and Sunday **4.30pm** at St Austin's.

THIS SUNDAY

Remember that clocks go forward early on Sunday morning

We keep **Mothering Sunday** when we congratulate all Mothers and Grandmothers who are at Mass and thank God for the part played by **all the ladies of our parish**. We thank God for our own Mothers, living or departed; for our Holy Mother Church and for the spiritual motherhood of Our Lady.

In the middle of Lent flowers and rose vestments encourage us to rejoice, 'Laetare', as Our Lord's Glorious Passion and Resurrection are approaching.

3H HOUSING HELP AND HOSPITALITY

Over **this Sunday** there will be a cake sale after the masses at St Francis' Church. This is to support the work of the 3 H Charity.

JAM

Sister Felicity would like to thank everyone who supported her last weekend and was delighted that so many jars of Jam were purchased.

NEXT SUNDAY

We shall begin the solemn period of Lent, **Passiontide**, which brings us closer to the events of our Lord's saving passion and death, with the veiled appearance of our churches reflecting the solemnity of this holy season.

There will be a **retiring collection to assist in providing in each church, the floral decorations for Easter.**

On Palm Sunday there will be a retiring collection for the 'Walk with Me' books.

WELCOME

We welcome into the life of the Catholic Church, **THOMAS COHAN RYALL** who was baptised recently at St Francis' Church. We pray for him, his parents, family and Godparents.

GIFT AID SCHEME AND ENVELOPES

The Envelopes for the new tax year are available in each church. It is always good to welcome new contributors. The only requirement is that you give to the Parish and pay sufficient income tax. If you would like to sign up for the Gift Aid Scheme by envelope or Standing Order, please contact Mr Tony Stokes (857866). Thanks go to Tony for all his hard work. Sincere gratitude is offered to all supporters for your kind generosity over last year. **Please see the diocesan handouts about Gift Aid.**

SALVE

Grateful thanks go to everyone who supported and helped to make our St. Patrick's Day Coffee Morning such an enjoyable event. We raised over £470 and the money will be sent to the Children's' Hospice (Zoe's Place).

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S SERVICE – 19 APRIL

This service will be held in St Augustine's school grounds. Meet at the school gate at **9.30am (note time)** on Good Friday. If necessary bring umbrellas and wellies, as it will be outside, whatever the weather. Children and young people who would like a speaking part are asked to phone N. Mottram (859 675) and come along a few minutes early on the day.

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS – 19 APRIL

The Act of Worship organised by Churches Together in Kenilworth and District takes place at **Abbey End** (note change of venue) at 10.45am and is followed by the procession of Witness to Abbey Hill and the planting of the Cross. All parishioners are encouraged to join in this joint proclamation of our faith with our Christian sisters and brothers locally.

COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY PLACES

This annual collection will be taken as usual after the Good Friday Liturgy.

MISSIO RED BOX APPEAL

Missio Red Boxes are now due in. Please could you bring your Missio Box into church to be counted? Please contact J. Shipton on 07476 405215.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2019

This year the annual house-to-house collection for Christian Aid is 12 – 18 May. As usual, we are looking for volunteers, to help collect for the important work of Christian Aid in assisting those, around the world, who are in need of fresh water, food and shelter. If you are able to help (or would like more information) please phone S. MacMahon on 01926 858 436.

URGENT: HOLIDAY HOUSE EXCHANGE IN FRANCE

You may remember Nicolas and Caroline de Bussac and their family who lived for some years in our parish. They returned to France and are living at Poissy, near Paris.

They would like to exchange their lovely home and garden with a parish family in August. They will need a house of a size to accommodate a family of two parents and five children. **They would like a week between 27 July and 17 August.**

If you are interested in an exchange like this, **let me know** and I will give you the family details.

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. **We will be closed from the 8 April and re-open on the 29 April**

ST FRANCIS' PARENTS' AND TODDLERS' GROUPS – TERM TIME

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

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

OFFERTORY COUNTERS

This Sun: D and J McDonnell, G Crawford, H Whiteman

Next Sun: T Stokes, P and K Alexander

CHURCH CLEANING

St Francis' Church: E Head, L Hnat, B Stokes

St Austin's Church: J Poulter, A Roberts

MAY OUR LORD BLESS YOU ALWAYS, FATHER KEVIN.