Notices from Father David

Every Friday morning the 10am Mass at St Joseph's is followed by Coffee and cakes- all welcome.

I am hoping we can run the Alpha Course at St Jospeh's as a way to give people with no faith or familiarity with church the chance to hear the Gospel and feel that they can belong, before figuring out what it is to believe and know how to behave in church. Do we have any Catholics in the area familiar with Alpha already?

There will be an afternoon for Blessing of Graves in the main Learnington cemetery on Sunday 19th November led by our local clergy, beginning at 2.30pm

Our Lady's Autumn Fair

The recent Autumn Fair at Our Lady's was a great success! With stalls selling plants, cakes, toys and fancy goods, and prizes to be won on the tombola, hook-a-duck, treasure hunt and the toy tombola, there was something for everyone! There was a wonderful turnout from the parish and school, as well as many local neighbours. The aroma of sizzling onions tempted many to sample a hotdog or a hamburger and there were delicious cakes on offer with a cup of tea or coffee. The Grand Raffle was drawn at 2 pm, with Mary Curran winning the top prize of £100. It was a most enjoyable afternoon and thanks must go to all those who donated items or helped on the stalls, or with setting up and clearing away and, most importantly, to all those who came along. With some additional donations, magnificent £2,000.38 was raised to go towards the much-needed repairs to the roof at Our Lady's

Mary Rouse



Kindaid Quiz

CTOBER 2023

CATHOLIC

LEAMINGTON

Our Lady's Church Hall Friday 10th November. 7.30pm Teams of four £5 per person Bar and refreshments available Please come along, bring your friends

Sue Sugars

Sacramental Preparation for those not at Catholic schools

We are beginning to make plans for the First Communion and Confirmation sessions for children who are not at a Catholic school, or who may have missed receiving these sacraments. If you have a child in Year 3 (for First Communion) or in Year 5, Year 6 or above (for Confirmation) and would like your children to be prepared, please email Mary Rouse (mary.rouse@rocketmail.com) and you will be directed to an online application form

Mary Rouse



At the SPAN meeting in September we received thanks for our previous donations:

To Legs4Africa "With your support we've been able to put 25 individuals back on their feet, and that's just the start!...' by recycling prosthetic legs

To Turbo Ghana "Thank you very much for your donation towards the Atonobi borehole project"; supplying clean water to the neighbourhood

To WDC Family Information Service "...helping a single mother and her four young children... they are extremely grateful."

To Fr. Mayele Ukwong, Uganda "... to assist the needy/vulnerable, thank you so much for the assistance and always bringing hope to the hopeless."

To Refuge - Domestic Abuse Advocates "I am concerned for my client and her children's safety, and I wish to ensure she has access to all additional safety measures."

To WDC Family Support Worker "supporting ... lives with her two children, 7 and 11 years old... sourcing a replacement electric oven

To WDC Family Information Service "... The family have 3 children and need new school uniform."

To IRT – International Refugee Trust. "Thanks for £ 300 supporting South Sudanese refugees."

To CAFOD. Thanks for £ 100 towards CAFOD's work in Darfur

To CoCo's Foundation, with food supplies in South Africa, thanks via a brief video

We responded to appeals raised at the meeting sending

- £ 400 to EACP East Africa Children's Project * "We support projects which contribute to the education, health or relief of poverty of children and their families in East Africa"
- £ 400 Serendip "... assistance to vulnerable children and women in the north and east of Sri Lanka. Helping children with mental & physical disability including autism"

£ 1,000 Moroccan Earthquake Appeal via CAFOD

On later hearing of the Libyan Flooding disaster SPAN also sent £ 1,000 via CAFOD

SPAN thank Catholic Leamington for adding to the emergency appeals response over two weeks this month. We were able to send a total of £ 2,300 to each of these appeals emergency appeals!

Paul Hayden

EXTRA is primarily for information that we do not have room for in the weekly newsletter. But we can only publish what you send in; please send notices in Microsoft Word to hathawayfamily@aol.com by 31 October for the November edition The EXTRA team is Jane Rebikah and Martyn Hathaway



In May 2021 the Vatican announced gatherings of the church around the theme: "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission", where the People of God Walk Together with the Holy Spirit seeking an improved way to be Church

"Time to look others in the eye and listen to what they have to say, to build rapport, to be sensitive to the questions of our sisters and brothers, to let ourselves be enriched by the variety of charisms, vocations, and ministries." Pope Francis

The latest - part 1 of 2 Universal Stage gatherings in Rome runs between 4 and 28 October 2023. Reconvening in a year for part 2

Who is attending the synod? Some 464 people will take part in the General Assembly, including 365 voting members, of whom 54 are women and 54 are Cardinals. The women are allowed to vote for the first time

Members of the Synod are asked to keep in mind earlier published documents, in particular, the Document for the Continental Stage (published a year ago) and the Final Documents of the seven Continental Assemblies of the different continents (all published by March this year), and to use them as tools for their own discernment. These can be read on <u>www.catholicleamington.org.uk/synod</u>

The themes of Communion, Participation, Mission have brought about three priority issues for the synodal Church. Members of the Synod have been sent worksheets in preparation with questions to ponder and pray about:

- 1 A communion that radiates: How can we be more fully a sign and instrument of union with God and of the unity of all humanity?
 - 1.1 How does the service of charity and commitment to justice and care for our common home nourish communion in a synodal Church?
 - 1.2 How can a synodal Church make credible the promise that "love and truth will meet" (Ps 85:11)?
 - 1.3 How can a dynamic relationship of gift exchange between the Churches grow?
 - 1.4 How can a synodal Church fulfil its mission through a renewed ecumenical commitment?
 - 1.5 How can we recognise and gather the richness of cultures and develop dialogue amongst religions in the light of the Gospel?
- 2 Co-responsibility in Mission: How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?
 - 2.1 How can we walk together towards a shared awareness of the meaning and content of mission?
 - 2.2 What should be done so a synodal Church is also an 'all ministerial' missionary Church?
 - 2.3 How can the Church of our time better fulfil its mission through greater recognition and promotion of the baptismal dignity of women?
 - 2.4 How can we properly value ordained Ministry in its relationship with baptismal Ministries in a missionary perspective?

- **3** Participation, governance and authority: What processes, structures and institutions in a missionary synodal Church?
 - 3.1 How can we renew the service of authority and the exercise of responsibility in a missionary synodal Church?
 - 3.2 How can we develop discernment practices and decision-making processes in an authentically synodal manner, that respects the protagonism of the Spirit?
 - 3.3. What structures can be developed to strengthen a missionary synodal Church?
 - 3.4 How can we give structure to instances of synodality and collegiality that involve groupings of local Churches?
 - 3.5 How can the institution of the Synod be strengthened so that it is an expression of episcopal collegiality within an all-synodal Church?
- The final General Congregations of the General Assembly of the Synod will take place on Saturday 29th October when the Synthesis Report will be read and approved

Paul Hayden



CAFOD

CAFOD is working with partner agencies in Morocco after the earthquake and now also in Libya after the floods

A reminder that Family Fast Day is

Friday 6th October and donations will go towards setting up more mobile medical units which so far have enabled 70,000 people to receive medical care after the floods in Pakistan

There will be a soup lunch in St Peter's Hall 12-2pm on Friday 20 October. All proceeds will go to CAFOD emergency appeals

Ann Allison

Pastimes

Thanks to Pastimes and a generous donation from two parishioners, St. Peter's church now have a selection of new cushions for the pews. Teresa and Mary spent many hours cutting out the fabric and stitching them together. We hope you enjoy this little comfort

A Mary Curran

Once again, the three SVP groups of the Catholic parish of Leamington will be running their Christmas Hampers project. From late November there



will be collecting boxes at all three churches for Christmas food items and gifts, children's toys (mainly up to age 11) and a range of basic food stuffs to make a seasonal hamper for families and individuals who will truly appreciate this gift

Further details will come in the weekly parish newsletters in November. So, thank you in advance for your usual generosity

From the St Vincent de Paul Society via David Burton



ECOFEST 2023

September again and it must be **Ecofest** on the Pump Room Gardens when the Live Simply team joined many other like minded organisations to talk to the visitors and in particular show what Catholic Leamington is trying to do - living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor. To show how we had some **CAFOD** information, we gave out fair-traded bananas and we had colouring for the children – meeting many parents and children glad for a pit stop. A good day – perhaps you saw us?

If you would like to join the team to think of more activities and how we can do our bit for the planet - do email Sioned on <u>sioned hammondjones@yahoo.co.uk</u>

Jenny Armstrong

