

SAFEGUARDING: PERMANENT NOTICE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese's policies and procedures at all times.

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is J. Barr who can be contacted

at sg.stfrancis.kenilworth@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

THIS SUNDAY ANNUAL PRO-LIFE CHARITY COLLECTION

The collection this year will take place at all masses **over Sunday 10 / 11 February**. I commend to you all this collection for such an important work locally based and working nationally. Usually 11 February is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. Sunday takes its place this year. **It is still, however, the World Day of Prayer for the Sick.**

On this Sunday in particular, please pray for the health of His Majesty, King Charles III, after the recent diagnosis of cancer. We pray for him and his family.

CONGRATULATIONS

I congratulate our twenty-three Confirmati, from the school and parish, and those pupils from St. Augustine's School, who supported them at the Confirmation Mass last Thursday, celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley.

I wish to thank Mrs Cowell, Mrs Anderson, Mrs Walker, Mrs Barnes, and all the school staff.

In a similar way I wish to thank Mrs Cutler and Mrs Mottram who prepared the group of children from the parish. God bless you all, and our gratitude goes to you all.

JUST A REMINDER: LENT 2024

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent, this year will be on this coming Wednesday, 14 February, with Mass and Imposition of ashes at 9.30am and 7.30pm at St Francis' Church.

There will be no Masses at school as it is during the half-term holiday.

N.B. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence from meat.

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 all 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' Church**, and usually on Sunday at 4.30pm, at **St Austin's Church**.
- **Family Fast Day for CAFOD will be on 23 February** - envelopes are now available in each church.
- 'Walk with Me' booklets and calendars are now available.
- Veronica Cutler and Maureen Hazelwood have decided to hold their next session of Scripture discussions **after Easter**. **The subject will be the Holy Spirit.**

A DATE FOR THE DIARY

The Friends of the Holy Land will be hosting the Lenten Lunch in the Parish Centre on **Sunday 25 February**. **Tickets price £8 are on sale after all Sunday Masses.**

All proceeds raised will go directly to help the Christians who now more than ever are in need of our support. **Contact Pam 01926 859532 Lyn 01926 854994.**

SALVE

Salve Members are collecting the following items on behalf of Carriers of Hope (for refugees etc.) and would be very grateful for donations. Irons, kettles, toasters, saucepans, baby clothes up to two years, blankets, sheets/pillowcases. These must be clean and in good condition. Please leave them at end of narthex by the brown box.

SVP COMMUNITY WARM HUB

The SVP Warm Hub continues to meet every Tuesday morning (10am to 12 noon) in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy the warm, friendly atmosphere and free refreshments. **On Tuesday 13 February** a representative from Warwickshire Healthwatch will be available for anyone wishing to discuss experiences of local health or social care services.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

CWL members are reminded that the meeting on **Shrove Tuesday, 13 February** will start promptly at 2.30pm in the Parish Centre. There will be 'Pancakes,' followed by the usual business meeting.

FATHER DAVID BAZEN

On **Wednesday 14 February**, Father David will celebrate his '**Silver Jubilee plus one**' (26th) of Ordination to the Catholic Priesthood. On behalf of the whole parish I wish to offer him our sincere congratulations and the assurance of our prayers. Father David came with his late wife, Joanna, to our parish in 2006. That means that we have all been fortunate to have his priestly ministry in the parish for eighteen years. **Mass on Thursday morning** will be celebrated in thanksgiving for his anniversary - 'Ad Multos annos vivat!'

On that day, **Fathers Stephen Day (Leamington Spa), Michael Brandon (formerly at All Souls' Coventry) and David Hartley (Whitnash)** will also be celebrating their anniversaries. Please remember them also in prayer.

CELEBRATION FOR FATHER DAVID

In March, Father David will also celebrate a special Birthday. You will remember that for his Silver Jubilee last year, he was recovering from surgery, so a reception was not possible. **We will be having a celebration in the Parish Centre for his Anniversary and Birthday on Sunday, 10 March after the 10.30 am Mass.** Names of those wishing to attend will be taken after Mass on the weekends of **17 /18 Feb and 24 /25 February**. I am grateful to Angela Cowley and team for organising this celebration.

SVP ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARISH

On **Sunday 25 February**, Fr. Kevin has invited members of the SVP to address parishioners at all Sunday Masses - to give an update on the work SVP has done throughout the past year, to thank everyone for their generous support, and to ask for continued prayers.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

The PLW is a well-established international lay association approved by the Holy See, founded by Fr Ignacio Larrañaga, a Capuchin Franciscan priest. If you have read one of the available leaflets and are interested in taking part in the PLW or would like more information, please contact Ricardo Pereira 07919176029. Website: www.tovpil.org

WITH EVERY BLESSING AND GOOD WISH TO YOU ALL, FATHER KEVIN.