

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.

LENT 2024

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 Sunday **4.30pm**, at **St Austin's Church**.
- 'Walk with Me' booklets and calendars are still 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.**

RIGHT TO LIFE

Campaign postcards are now available in both churches for correspondence with MPs.

THIS SUNDAY: CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION

The Lent Family Fast Day was on **Friday 23 February**.

Please return them, and make any other donations you would wish to give, in the second collection at all Masses over **this Sunday**.

LENTEN LUNCH

The Friends of the Holy Land will be hosting the Lenten Lunch in the Parish Centre **this Sunday**. All proceeds raised will go directly to help the Christians who now more than ever are in need of our support. **If you bought a ticket, please come.**

SVP ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARISH

This Sunday, 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.

WELCOME

We welcome into the Catholic Church **MATTHEW COLIN WALTER-NIELD**, who was baptised recently at St. Austin's Church.

We pray for Matthew, for his parents, brother, family members and Godparents.

MEDITATION WITH A MANTRA

The next meditation session will be on **Thursday 29 February** at 10 am as usual and in the usual place. For further information please call Pat Southall on 01926 859474 or 07733273858.

NEXT SUNDAY 3 MARCH – ANNUAL CATHEDRAL MAINTENANCE COLLECTION

St Chad's Feast Day will be kept in our diocese on Saturday, 2 March.

It is customary in the diocese to pray for the Cathedral and to give financial support at this time of the year. **There will be a Second Collection for maintenance of St. Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham at all masses the next day, Sunday 3 March.**

SVP COMMUNITY WARM HUB

The SVP Warm Hub continues to meet every Tuesday morning (10am to 12 noon) in the Parish Centre. Everyone is welcome to come along to enjoy the warm, friendly atmosphere and free refreshments.

SALVE COFFEE MORNING

The annual coffee morning in honour of St Patrick takes place on **Saturday, 16 March**, in the Parish Centre from 10.30-12.00 in aid of Zoe's Place, children's hospice. Excellent homemade cakes will be on sale with a gift stall and a raffle. **Unwanted gifts from parishioners for stall would be very much appreciated. Tickets at £3 will be on sale after Mass on 2 and 3 March and 9 and 10 March.**

SAFEGUARDING IN ACTION DEANERY ROADSHOW

This Deanery Event at Bicester Catholic Church OX26 6AW, will be on **Saturday 2 March** from 10 am – 2 pm. Presentation at 12 noon – all are welcome to attend.

TIME OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR VOCATIONS

The date arranged in our Deanery for 2024 is **Tuesday, 5 March**.

There will be a Mass for Vocations at 12 noon at St Francis' Church, and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Benediction at 6.00 pm.

Please note the date and sign up for a period of personal prayer on the charts which are now in both churches; this may provide a suitable devotion in Lent.

CHARITY SPRING FAYRE - IN AID OF SAVE THE CHILDREN

This event will take place on **Saturday, 9 March from 10 am to 2pm at St Francis' Parish Centre**. Lovely goods will be on sale together with crafts, jewellery, cards, and of course, delicious cakes and refreshments!

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 weekend **24 /25 February**. I am grateful to Angela Cowley and team for organising this celebration. **Contact can also be made on 07527 224488. There will be a Missio appeal also on this Sunday.**

GAZA AND THE HOLY LAND

You are invited to a Lenten Reflection and update by Peter Rand MBE. Why not join in prayer for the future of our fellow Christians and others in the Holy Land at this time of crisis in Gaza? This will be on **Wednesday 13 March at St Francis' Parish Centre, Warwick Road, Kenilworth, CV8 1HL from 6.30 pm for 7.00 pm until 8.30 pm**. Peter's up to date knowledge is based on personal connections from his fourteen years as Vice Chair and Trustee of Friends of the Holy Land, a national ecumenical charity based in Kenilworth. **RSVP** 01926 852163 or email

peter.rand@btinternet.com Leaflets will be distributed after the Masses this Sunday.

CEILI NIGHT AT ST JOSEPH'S WHITNASH PARISH HALL CV31 2JJ

This will take place on **Saturday, 16 March** from 7 pm. Admission is £7 adult, £2 child, £10 family. Bring food and alcoholic drink, Hot and cold drinks are available.

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