## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### THE BIG CHURCH CLEAN

WE NEED ALL THAT CAN COME AT

9.30AM THIS SATURDAY, 9TH DECEMBER
TO HELP CLEAN THE INSIDE OF THE CHURCH
READY FOR CHRISTMAS.

DUSTING, HOOVERING, WAXING THE BENCHES, MOVING FURNITURE AND REMOVING COBWEBS

EVEN IF YOU CAN ONLY SPARE 30 MINUTES PLEASE DO COME ALONG ALL WELCOME TO COME AND HELP—WE NEED YOU!

#### **HOLY HOUR**

Monday 11th December, 7pm—8pm

# RAFFLE OF 3 WELL MATURED CHRISTMAS CAKES MADE BY FATHER MICHAEL AND IN AID OF CIRDIC

Draw will take place after all masses on Sunday 17th December Raffle tickets available after all masses this weekend and on 17th December

## SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION WITH CONFESSION

Monday 18th December, 7pm

#### FINAL ADVENT SESSION ON PRAYER

At the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Vicarage Road
Henley on Thames
12TH DECEMBER
7.30PM—9.00PM

LECTURER: JEAN KHOURY FOUNDER OF THE SCHOOL OF MARY - ALL WELCOME

#### CHRISTMAS FLOWER WORKSHOP

Saturday, December 16th, in the Church Hall. Arrive 9.30 am for a 10 am start until Midday. **This event is now full** 

## Thought for the Week 2nd Sunday in Advent (B) 10th December 2023

Are you being bombarded with requests for Charity Donations? We wish to highlight two charities for support.

Locally our Parish supports CIRDIC both for money donations and for gifts. (See newsletter). CIRDIC stands for Churches in Reading Drop-in Centre. It provides: hot nutritious meals, clothing and toiletries, bath and shower facilities, listening time, and access to health care and housing. See https://www.cirdic.org.uk

But how can we help the people of Gaza who are living through an unprecedented humanitarian crisis. Again, we have another Charity that our Church has supported in the past: "EMBRACE the Middle East". Tim Livesey, a parishioner is CEO of this 180-year-old charity. They have Christian partners on the ground and have launched a special Gaza Crisis Appeal https://www://embraceme.org. Donations are needed.

#### From their web site:

"Israel's response to the terrible events of 7th October has led to indiscriminate civilian suffering, with residents forced to move from place to place in search of safety. Food and medical supplies have all but run out; water, electricity, and fuel have been cut off. Your gift will support Embrace's Christian partners in the immediate aftermath of this humanitarian crisis and help to heal the wounds it's caused across Israel-Palestine.

Please pray for the bereaved, and for those whose lives have been lost. Please pray that the killing will stop, that a ceasefire across the whole of the Gaza strip will be brokered, and that humanitarian aid will reach the hundreds of thousands of innocent women, children and men whose lives are in great danger. Please pray for peace, reconciliation and justice."

Judy and Stephen



# We ask you please, to pray for the following people who continue to ask for your prayers;

Thank you for your prayers for Wayne the husband of Sarah Woodage (who cleans the presbytery and Church hall) He is now back at home, but needs an operation in the new year so continues to need out prayers.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is back home whilst he awaits two more operations for Bile Duct Cancer.

Rosemary has asked for prayers as she prepares to undergo major surgery in the RBH later this month, for a safe and successful outcome.

Please pray for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton (Joe has severe learning difficulties). Please pray that they get the help they need.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan whose further recovery from cancer surgery is proving difficult.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who continues to need our prayers following his bone marrow transplant,

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers that he will continue to improve.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for the residents and staff at St Lukes and Abbeycrest nursing homes



# Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;

Lesley Farqhuar, Gwen Payne, Rita and Owen Walter, John and Fiona Gallagher, Sheila Mary Westcar, Kitty and Henry Jackubizyn, Fr John Ellis, Mat and Chris Fagen and family, Sue Carey, Sophia Carikas, Angela Fung, Sophia Graham, Stanislaus Rozdolski, Anna Maria Dias, Margaret Skevington, Joanne Webb, Margaret Hall, Paquita Wettenhall, Albert Eeckelaers.