

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WEEKEND AT ALL MASSES THERE WILL BE THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

THE WEEKEND OF THE 13TH OCTOBER, AT ALL MASSES

20th OCTOBER, 10.30AM MASS IS A SPECIAL MASS
for those having a significant
Marriage Jubilee this year e.g. 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 years

CHRISTMAS CRAFT EVENING

Friday 18th October at 7pm. Come and join us for this free event making present bags, printing your own Christmas wrapping paper and other exciting craft activities. This is an adult only event and a sign up sheet is available at the back of Church—places are limited

BOARD GAMING AFTERNOON

Marlena and Kevin are hosting a fundraising board gaming event to raise money for the Missing People charity on **SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER, 2PM - 6PM** at the Church Hall. This is not the usual family board gaming event for all ages, it is more suitable for older teenagers and adults. A great opportunity to have fun and learn some unusual board games. Places are limited, so please sign up at the back of the church to get a free ticket. As this is a fundraising event, there will be opportunities to donate money through competitions and raffles. Light refreshments will be provided.

BLESSINGS OF THE GRAVES AT KIDMORE END CEMETERY 10th November 2pm

CHRISTMAS PUDDING MAKING EVENING & SUPPER

Friday, 22nd November, 7pm Ticket forms are now available at the back of Church

THE CHRISTMAS FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

This will be on Saturday 14th December—more details to follow

Thought for the week **28th Sunday of the Year (B)** **13th October, 2024**

‘ *“LAUDATO SI’, mi’ Signore”* – “Praise be to you, my Lord”. In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. “Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs”. ’

This is how Pope Francis begins his encyclical, *Laudato Sí* to “every person living on this planet”. He continues: “*We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth (cf. Gen 2:7); our very bodies are made up of her elements, we breathe her air and we receive life and refreshment from her waters.*” The encyclical is a plea that we understand we are part of God’s creation and to join in the work of renewing the earth.

These days, most parishes have a thoughtful living group, discovering ways to live more simply and sustainably. The group in our parish has already given us plenty of ideas and support: the bins for things that cannot be recycled in our curb-side bins; a litter pick along the river a month ago; a plant and produce sale during our patronal weekend. We have our gardening club, too, whose work beautifies the environment around our church and lifts our hearts to our Creator. The flower arranging group uses flowers and plants from their gardens to raise our hearts and minds to God in prayer and gratitude when we are inside the church.

It is easy to feel that our attempts to protect the earth from further degradation are futile. But this Sunday’s gospel reminds us to be hopeful “*because everything is possible for God*”. I love the phrase “Hope is a verb with its sleeves rolled up”. All around us people of all faiths and none are sharing a common ambition “to accept the world as a sacrament of communion”. Pope Francis urges us to see that “*the divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God’s creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet*”. Christ taught us that even a mustard seed can grow into a huge tree; in the same way, every person’s contribution to the work of creation is of infinite value.



We ask you please, to pray for the following people who need your prayers:

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister's great grandson Rogan whose Leukaemia has returned and very sadly they say nothing more can be done. Prayers are needed more than ever now. Please also pray for Peter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration.

Please pray for Mary Edwards who is awaiting knee surgery and for her son Ian who is unwell.

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who is now undergoing chemotherapy and awaiting further blood test results

Thank you for all your prayers for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton They have now received the help they need. But please do keep Joe in your prayers as he continues to live with Tuberos Sclerosis, Epilepsy and Autism with Severe learning difficulties. These conditions present huge challenges to his life.

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

Thank you for your prayers for Reuben Muston now aged 20 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He had a bone marrow transplant which went well and he has gone from strength to strength and has now started University in Reading

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 3 with eye trouble).

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

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 children and staff at St Martin's school

Please pray for our parishioners in St Luke's and Abbeycrest Nursing Homes



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

Nigel Hester, Peter Holding, Molly (Mary Francis) Morgan, James Enright, Florentia Pollock, Jane Raynard, Gregorio D'Silva, Rosy Maria Lucia D'Silva, John Edwards, Winifred Dougan, Jimmy Enright, George Freeman, Eric Gillett, Pat Hurst Harris, Teresa Carter, Jane Webb, Phyllis Kiely, Jessie McGinn.