

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PPC MEETING - 24TH APRIL AT 7.00PM

Any suggestions for the committee can be placed in the silver suggestion box at the back of church.

Alternatively please email the office or Deacon Brian

THE LETTER - A MESSAGE FOR OUR EARTH - A Film

We invite you to join us in the Church Hall on
Friday, 28th April, 7pm

To watch a screening of **THE LETTER** a short documentary film (80 minutes) , commenting on the impact of climate change on members of the global community. The film brings the essence of the Pope Francis's Laudate si letter to create a film of the dialogue between Pope Francis and voices from around the world. Please add you name to the sign up sheet (for seating) **This is a free event** and tea, coffee and cake will be served.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE

An invitation is extended to married couples and those preparing to marry this year, to the annual Mass for Marriage at **St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 29th April at 12 Noon**, followed by light refreshments. Please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass to confirm your attendance.

THE THAMES CLEAN UP—THE BIG BLITZ

3RD MAY - MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

ECUMENICAL SAFARI SUPPER, Friday, 2nd June at 6.30pm

Please add you name to the sign up sheet at the back of church.

FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE 10.30am, Sunday, 18th Jun

CONFIRMATION SERVICE 12 noon, Sunday, 9th July

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 16TH APRIL, 2023

We have just returned from Rome where we visited the Catacombs of St. Callixtus. I was immediately reminded of the visit by this week's readings

The first reading speaks of the community within the early church, when Luke writes how "*all they that believed, were together, and had all things common. Their possessions and goods they sold, and divided them to all, according as every one had need*". The Catacombs provide a real example of this early Christian community as they represented a combined effort where, by pooling their resources, a burial could be provided for even the poorest members of the Church who would not otherwise have afforded it.

In Rome the construction of these Catacombs began in the second century. Whilst this seems an extremely long time ago, on reflection I was struck by the fact that; nonetheless; all of the Christian's responsible were living two hundred years after the first Easter. None of them would have had the benefit of hearing Jesus preach in person, nor even is it likely that any of them would have personal contact with any of the Apostles. Regardless, they were inspired to practise a belief that could see them shunned, persecuted and perhaps harmed and which was not considered acceptable by the Roman empire for another hundred years.

We will hear in the gospel this week that "*Blessed are they that have not seen, and have believed*". As ever we will be challenged to maintain our belief despite having not seen first hand the evidence of the resurrection. Perhaps we can find some inspiration in the fact that 1800 years ago others rose to the challenge and founded the Church we know today.

A Parishioner



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

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has had his stem cell transplant to treat the Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers please for a successful outcome.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who continues to recover after chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (age 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 Haggar.

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 Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan has to have 3 months chemo so he continues to need our prayers.

Please pray for victims of all wars.

Please pray for the residents and staff of Abbeycrest and St Luke's.

Please pray for the pupils, teachers and parents of St Martin's school.



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

Richard Bertram George, Jack Leach,
Mary Ann Oattes, Camilio Santana Rodrigues,
Brendan McCarthy, Raymond Taylor,
Maurice Bowell, George Hajdu, Gavin Barry,
Colonel Patrick Francis, Harry Gardner.