

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THREE ADVENT SESSIONS ON PRAYER

At the Sacred Heart Catholic Church Vicarage Road
Henley on Thames

**TUESDAYS 28TH NOVEMBER, 5TH DECEMBER AND
12TH DECEMBER 7.30PM—9.00PM**

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

A THOUGHTFUL LIVING AND THE CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

The Church's own Thoughtful Living Group have created a display at the back of Church with ideas on how we can all make our Christmas a little more sustainable and thoughtful. Please take the time to look at the display and hopefully get some great ideas on ways to give a little something extra this Christmas.

Please also continue to bring in any unwanted/unused Christmas Cards to Church. These will then be displayed over the next few weekends. You can either exchange your cards or Donate £1 to CIRDIC and choose up to 10 cards to take away Reusing unwanted items and cutting down on waste

CHRISTMAS PUDDING MAKING EVENING

LAST FEW PLACES AVAILABLE

Friday, 24th November, 7pm in St Michael's Church Hall
please return forms to the parish office by Sunday 19th Nov.

THE BIG CHURCH CLEAN

WE NEED ALL THAT CAN COME AT
**9.30AM ON SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER TO HELP CLEAN THE
INSIDE OF THE CHURCH READY FOR CHRISTMAS.**

DUSTING, HOOVERING, WAXING THE BENCHES, MOVING FURNITURE AND
REMOVING COBWEBS
ALL WELCOME TO COME AND HELP—WE NEED YOU!

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

Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216

Thought for the Week

**Thirty - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
19th November, 2023**

Some time ago I was listening to Desert Island Discs on Radio 4; the guest was Edna Adan Ismail, who grew up in what was then called British Somaliland.

She became a midwife, much to the dismay of her mother who thought she should really become a doctor, but her dream was to build a state of the art maternity hospital in her homeland.

"I was born with a desire to fix things," she says.

It took Edna over 50 years to achieve her dream. The hospital opened in 2002 and has seen the birth of over 22,000 babies. Edna sold all her possessions to help fund the realisation of her dream: and she now lives on site at the hospital as she has no home of her own.

Her mantra, *"If I don't do it, who will?"* reminded me of a meditation of Newman's given to me recently:

God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another.

So when we listen to today's Gospel, the parable of the talents, perhaps we can ask ourselves,

"What service has been entrusted to me? What task will be left undone, unless I do it?"

We don't have to panic and start thinking about establishing hospitals, but, we can look closer to home...In our own parish there are roles which need further support: from volunteering to deliver donated goods to CIRDIC or joining the children's liturgy team, to counting collection money after Mass or joining the cleaning rota

In the parable of the talents Jesus exhorts us not to waste what the Father has entrusted to each one of us. So, reflect on what may be left undone in our parish unless each one of us plays our part.

It's important that we don't bury our talents.

A Parishioner



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

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 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 is now out of hospital but 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 his stem cell transplant to treat the 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 remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;

Nellie Barke, Frank Lawless, W.G. Williams, Theresa Hamilton, James Martin, Doug Farquhar, Elizabeth Murphy, Raymond Graham, Joy Lowther

Throughout November we remember family and friends who have died. Please write the names of those people who you wish to be prayed for on a piece of paper or use one of the printed lists at the back of Church and then put this in an envelope and into the basket on the altar. Those who have died will be remembered at every Mass that is celebrated.