

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Items from the **Craft and Produce sale** will again be available to buy after all Masses this weekend.

THIS SUNDAY 5TH OCTOBER THERE IS A FAMILY MASS AT 10.30AM and every First Sunday of the month during term time—Do come and join us

A RAMBLE FOR READING REFUGEES - THIS SATURDAY 5TH, OCTOBER 11.00AM (WEATHER PERMITTING)

A 10km (6mile) walk through our lovely, local Oxfordshire countryside starting at St Michael's Church

If you would like to make a donation to Reading refugees to support the team a basket will be available at the back of Church. There will also be a button on the Dona machine for donations.

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

THE WEEKEND OF THE 13TH OCTOBER, AT ALL MASSES

20th OCTOBER, 10.30AM 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.

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

27th Sunday of the Year (B)

6th October, 2024

The readings this weekend develop Christ's teaching on family and community. There is an African proverb – *"it takes a village to raise a child"*. Children are important – they are the future.....our future.

Now that our own children have grown up and are living their own lives, we have a bit more time and we have been researching the history of our own families. This has been made a bit more difficult since it has become evident that a hundred years ago it was very common for the extended family to help with child-rearing. Children often went to live with aunts, uncles and grandparents in periods when their parents encountered hard times.

Throughout the Bible there are similar images of community and family strength including the escape of the Israelites from Egypt, the flight of the Holy Family from Herod and the fledgling Christian community after the first Pentecost. The drive for the preservation of families is very strong.

In current conflicts, pictures of whole families and sometimes whole communities abandoning their homes and lives to become refugees in their own or another country appear on our screens regularly. The negative effects on family life and children's well being are long-lived and well documented.

This weekend a group of St Michael's parishioners are hoping to do a "Ramble for Refugees". (weather permitting) This has at least two benefits. The ramblers will spend time together in a common activity talking to those we do not see very often as we attend different masses or live in different areas of the parish. It is also hoped that the walk will raise some money and awareness for the Refugee Centre in Reading.

Increasing the strength of a community can benefit not only those at home but gives more opportunity to reach out to those in need – even in villages far away from Sonning Common.

A Parishioner



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

Please pray for Peter and Janice Halter'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;

George Hajdu, Deacon Patrick Selwood, Annie Fallows, Enid Wilton, Vera Martin, Mrs F Rodrigues, Andrew Selwood, Eileen Milne, Mary Andrews, Sylvia Adams, Stephen Boyle, Thomas Butler.