



CAFOD Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD’s Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD’s partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers

You can also text **CAFODSUDAN** to **70450** to donate £10

Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you’ll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don’t wish to hear more from us, please text CAFODSUDANNOINFO instead

Ann Allison



	St Joseph’s	St Peter’s	Our Lady’s
Sunday masses			
Saturday		5pm Vigil	
Sunday	10:00 5:30pm	11:15 sung	9:15 sung
Weekday masses			
Monday	09:30		
Tuesday	09:30	10:00	
Wednesday			10:00
Thursday	7:00pm	10:00	
Friday	10:00	10:00	
Saturday	09:30	10:00	
Confessions			
Saturday		09:15 > 09:45 4:15 > :45pm	

PENTECOST PARTY

Sunday 19 May, 1pm in St. Peter’s parish centre



All parishioners are invited to our Pentecost party to celebrate the birthday of the Church and also to welcome into our parish family Graham, Sylvia, Lily and Malena, who became full members of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil and Celine who will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday. This will be a shared lunch, so we ask you to bring a plate of food for the shared table, savoury or sweet, if possible from your country of origin

Our four new members have been faithfully attending the weekly RCIA ‘Come and See’ sessions since October. If you know of anyone who may be interested in finding out about the Catholic Faith, or if you would like to refresh your faith, new sessions will begin in October. Further details from rcia.cathleam@gmail.com or Gareth 07539 502436

Margaret Dimambro

The local St Vincent de Paul Society are hosting their annual Festival meeting at St Peter’s this year. Saturday 15th June. This starts with Mass at 10am, then in the hall we have a guest speaker, Jon Cornwall, national Director of Membership for the Society. Jon will talk about Vincentian spirituality and how he sees the Society developing in our changing world. Then there is a shared lunch for all to socialise. Although aimed at SVP members, anyone is welcome to come and find out more about the SVP. Contact David Burton for more details. 07713 246987



St Vincent de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

David Burton

Saint Joseph's

We begin the Month of May with the optional memorial of **St Joseph the Worker**, which of course in Whitnash we will celebrate! We begin the month of Our Lady with this feast of her visionary and supportive husband, with a particular focus on him as a working man. Pope Pius XII instituted the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker in 1955 to foster deep devotion to Saint Joseph among Catholics, and in response to the "May Day" celebrations for workers sponsored by Communists. This feast extends the long relationship between Joseph and the cause of workers in both Catholic faith and devotion. Beginning in the Book of Genesis, the dignity of human work has long been celebrated as a participation in the creative work of God. By work, humankind both fulfils the command found in Genesis to care for the earth (Gn 2:15) and to be productive in their labours. Saint Joseph, the carpenter and foster father of Jesus, is but one example of the holiness of human endeavour. **St Joseph Pray for us!**

Pastoral Councils St Joseph's has formed a Pastoral Council, and on Sunday April 21st we ratified a constitution. There will be a parish meeting in September to elect two more members and review the position of the parish in itself and in relation to our wider cluster

Quiz Night Saturday 18th May at St Joseph's. The newly formed Social Committee have arranged a Quiz for May 18th, 7pm for 7:30pm start. Pay at the door, £3.00 for adults to include a tea or coffee at the break too, and otherwise bring along the food and drink for your table. If people come as individuals they can join and form teams - all are welcome

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage May 27th – June 1st. Fr David is Chaplain to the Sick Pilgrims and is happy to take petitions

Lectio Divina Many of us have enjoyed the benefit of practising Lectio Divina in the past. Lectio is the ancient way of praying the Scriptures, listening to the word of God and seeing how it applies to our lives at this moment. We would like to reintroduce Lectio to the parish after a lapse of a year or two. If you are interested in taking part in this initiative please join us on a Saturday soon. Contact: paddy.close@icloud.com Phone 07557974347

Men's Group One idea from the many Walking Together suggestions was for a Men's Group, and two enjoyable pub meals have now taken place with Fr David and Fr Stephen and a few others. All men are welcome. The next will be at Wetherspoons in central Leamington on May 21st 7:45pm

Mass for the Sick and Housebound After a very successful Mass back in Advent at St Peter's, the next will take place on Tuesday 18th June at St Joseph's. Mass with anointing at 11:30am will be followed by lunch in the hall and hopefully in the gardens too. There is plenty of parking and lifts are available if we have names of those needing them at least ten days in advance, with help from SVP. Please contact Fr David or SVP members for offers of help or more information

Fr David

KINDAID

Have you got your ticket for the Spring Supper on the 11th May? It's not too late, just ask any member of the Kindaid committee

Last year Kindaid raised the magnificent sum of £5,714.52 net. This is thanks to the generosity of all who support us either by joining us at our fund raisers or by kind donations, and not forgetting the Kindaid team who work tirelessly to provide us with delicious food and fun

From February 1996 to Dec 2023 Kindaid have raised the grand total of £98,820. By the end of this year we hope to have topped £100,000

During Lent the school children at OLST raised an amazing £420.29 for Kindaid by selling Henna tattoos, making toast and jam and selling stationery. We thank Mr Pettle and all the children for their fantastic efforts

Our next events are:

Cream tea concert: Sunday 23rd June 2024 afternoon

Just Desserts: Saturday 19th October 2024 evening

Times to be confirmed

amily Breakfast: Saturday 6th July, 10am -12noon

Quiz: Friday 27th September 2024

Christmas Crafts: Saturday 7th December afternoon

Once again thank you for your very generous support

Sue Sugars



Catholic Leamington and the Diocesan Vision



Archbishop Bernard has called us to engage with shaping the practical outworking of the Diocesan Vision. 'We are called to be a Catholic diocese which is: faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour'. The parishes of Catholic Leamington, with our neighbours, are currently engaging with this through the formation of Parish Pastoral Councils and the

Deanery Pastoral Council which meets for the first time this month. There are many challenges that we need to address. Certainly, with smaller congregations and fewer priests, we cannot simply carry on in the same old way that we are used to. How best to deploy a reduced number of priests? How do we maintain our buildings in the face of rising costs? Are there going to be costly issues about our buildings? How can we as priests and lay faithful work together to promote the mission of the Church and free ourselves of concerns over maintenance and utilities bills? These are firmly practical questions the answers to which will shape our children's and grandchildren's experience of the Church. It is tempting to think that because 'my church' has always been there for me it will always be, no matter what happens in the future. We all hope that is true, but we are entering a time of change: it is up to the lay faithful and the clergy to work together to forge that change positively and fruitfully. There are no financial bottomless pits to cover expenses that we can't cover ourselves. Our forebears had the vision and energy, the faith and commitment to work hard to provide us with the buildings we have today. Together, may we find the way of keeping the best of that for those who will come after us. Change can always feel daunting, but change does not have to be bad or even dictated from 'on high'. To grow in faith and love is to change, for example, and to change for the better. May that be the hall marks of whatever is to come so that we are indeed vibrant and joyful communities of faith

Over the coming months, architect's five yearly inspections of our buildings at St Peter's, Our Lady's and St Joseph's will reveal what needs to be done to maintain them, and the financial costs of that. Our annual accounts state the financial health of each parish and the final report of the deanery Visitation (which will reflect not just on individual parishes but possible ways forward for the deanery as a whole) will provide facts and suggestions that will shape the future direction of every parish. There will be much for us to absorb, reflect on and discuss. These are not abstract documents that don't really change anything: they are practical and factual statements that will determine so much. They may be easy, or they may be challenging in what they reveal, but they will give us a basis for much of our consideration. May the Holy Spirit give us wisdom and our patron saints pray for us as we go forward. We proceed, therefore, in the very best of company!

Fr Stephen

**EXTRA is primarily for information that we do not have room for in the weekly newsletter
But we can only publish what you send in; please send notices in pdf or Microsoft Word to
hathawayfamily@aol.com by 31 May for the June edition**

Warwick District Faith Trail 2024

The annual Warwickshire District Faith trail visited the Church of the Latter Day Saints, also known as the Mormon's as their first stop this year. It's a beautifully kept building yet noticeable for the absence of any ornamentation, not even a cross within its main prayer hall. We heard about some of the thirteen articles of their faith, and I was struck by many similarities to the Catholic doctrine. I learnt that they do understand themselves as Christians and we could admire the full-submersion baptismal bath (Baptisms are not interchangeable with other Christian denominations though). From a church upkeep perspective, I am sure Fr Stephen would be delighted if all Catholics also practiced a minimum 10% tithing as the Mormon's do



Our next stop was the Quaker Meeting Place in Warwick. Even more sparse than the previous church, we sat in multi-layered circles and had a few minutes to experience the still, yet community based silent prayer that forms a large part of the Quaker's Sunday worship time. We learnt that they do not hold any dogma and are welcoming all; they do not have a baptism and members may not all see themselves as Christians or see Jesus as God. Instead, they focus on the practice of four shared principles which are simplicity, truth, equality and peace

Thirdly we visited the Greek Orthodox Church of the Holy Transfiguration in Coventry. This was a strong contrast to the previous two places of worship. Ornaments here are not random; every object, space or cloth holds a theological expression. The wooden pews were surrounded by large icons on the walls, the very making of each involves a prayerful process in its creation we were told. The icons or 'windows to the divine' often depicted a saint for an intermediary role. Within every week the prayers and services of the Orthodox Church reenact the life of Christ from annunciation to resurrection. I was surprised to find out that their big Easter celebration won't be until early May this year



Our final stop was the Gurdwara in Coventry. Head covering but no shoes is the clothing etiquette for all at a Sikh place of worship. Volunteers, men or women, take it in turn to read aloud from the sacred book – their word of God collated by their ten gurus. There is a daily 'putting to bed' at the end of the day as well as a 'morning prayer' ritual for this holy book. We found the place buzzing today with activity for the preparation of the Vaisakhi festival tomorrow. Here the sacred book is paraded through the streets in Coventry. I could not help draw a parallel to our Corpus Christy

procession. The Sikh community offer a food service to all as part of their social outreach to the needy – in this case we were the lucky beneficiaries prior to our coach return journey to Warwick

My head is buzzing with the many encounters and new learning on this marvelous day. A great thank you to all the members of the organizing party at the Warwickshire District Faith Forum. We look forward to another such event next year

Ira Winter

Community sponsorship for Afghans entitled to live in UK – would you join a sponsor group?

Citizens UK has acted as lead sponsor for over a quarter of the groups already set up to resettle refugees in the UK. They are now Principal Sponsor for Communities for Afghans, ready to support local sponsor groups that are set up. They have negotiated with Government to simplify the process and make it swifter – a few weeks – enlightened by the recent Ukrainian settlement experience

Objective: To resettle 100 Afghan families between March and August 2024. These families are currently in a third country, having fled Afghanistan, but not yet in the UK. They are part of the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme Pathways 2 and 3



How could you be involved? Join a sponsor group centred in Leamington

What is needed from a sponsor group? It does involve building up a personal relationship with the refugee family

A team of around six people will be committed to offering a warm welcome to an Afghan family into the local community for the next two years. This will be headed up by a Named Sponsor, who will be accountable to Citizens UK for delivery of the sponsorship and who will receive monthly payments from the LA

Through WDC (Cathy Boyce) they need to secure a suitable property. Apparently, suitable properties in Leamington have been identified by WDC

Group members will need to complete training (online), undergo advanced DBS checks, govt suitability checks, sign sponsor declaration and adhere to Citizens UK's code of conduct, do a bit of form filling with support from CUK staff

Practicalities

- ♥ Meet the family and transport them from the airport/transitional accommodation to their new home;
- ♥ Welcome and support the integration of the resettled family for two years;
- ♥ Ensure the welcomed family are able to access benefits and public services such as the NHS, schools and ESOL;
- ♥ Make sure that the family are able to meet their financial needs and that funding provided is used responsibly and accountably;
- ♥ Support the family into employment;
- ♥ Regularly report and check in with CUK point-of-contact;
- ♥ Receive training and support from CUK

If you are interested in being a member of a new sponsor group, please contact liz.mottram@ntlworld.com giving some outline of your background to indicate any areas of expertise.

The Government is not doing any public engagement on this project. I have been passed this information by one of the founder members of Circle of Friends in Warwick, who have successfully hosted a family

Liz Mottram

Want to learn how to maximize your fertility the natural way? Find out how the cycle speaks about a woman's wellbeing at our next event.

What's it about?

An introduction to the Creighton Model FertilityCare System as a way to evaluate a woman's fertility health.

Need to know

**When : Mon 3rd June
Time: 6.00pm-7.00pm
Where: Zoom webinar
Tickets: £10**

To book, please visit the contact section of our website and click events.



www.fiatfertilitycare.co.uk



SPAN'S 50TH CELEBRATION NIGHT FRIDAY 7TH JUNE

Doors open 7pm for 7.30 start - St Peter's Church Hall, Dormer Place

Tickets £10, under 16s £1

Come along to an evening of international food (including British) hot and cold, savoury and sweet

Enjoy entertainment from different cultures and have a pleasant social evening

Find out more about SPAN and how it has worked over fifty years from 1973 - present

SPAN Supporting People Across Nations

Tickets available at Masses from 11th May, or Piety shop at St Peter's

Contacts Jenny Armstrong

jenarmstong@talktalk.net

Paul Hayden

paulhayden444@gmail.com

**BAR
and
RAFFLE**

KINDAID SPRING SUPPER

Share a lovely meal and enjoy some relaxed fun and games with us at

**Our Lady's Church Hall,
Valley Road, Lillington**

6:30 pm Saturday

11th May 2024

Tickets £10 Adults and £5 Children

Join St Peter's Choir!

Attention Music Lovers!

Are you passionate about singing? Do you enjoy uplifting melodies and harmonies? We invite you to join our vibrant choir at St. Peter's Church!

New Rehearsal Time: Starting April 14th, rehearsals will be held at 10am on Sundays, before our morning Mass.

No Experience Necessary: Everyone is welcome! While being able to read music is helpful, it's not required.

All Ages Welcome: We welcome members of all ages to join us in making beautiful music together.

Location: Rehearsals will take place in the choir loft. Please note that access requires the ability to navigate stairs.

Join us in spreading joy through music and enhancing our worship experience. For more information, contact Anne-Claire Bennion at anne.charrier@yahoo.co.uk or on 07963430860, or just come and meet us before or after mass.

