



2020 is the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini* – Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1,600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, one of the Church's greatest scripture scholars. These dates have inspired the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to dedicate a year to focus especially on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks' - The Year of the Word.

WEEKLY EVENTS

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Sundays in the Church Porch after the 9.00 am Mass

CHILDREN'S

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sundays in term-time during the 11.30 am Mass

SOCIETY OF

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Tuesdays : 7.00 pm in the Church Sacristy

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM

Wednesdays at 9.30 am inside the church

CHURCH GARDENING TEAM

Meets Wednesdays at 9.30 am outside the church

4TH COLLIER ROW

SCOUT GROUP

Beaver Scouts

Wednesdays 5 - 6.15 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Cub Scouts

Wednesdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Scouts

Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

THURSDAY CLUB

(for the over 60s – open to all)

1.15 - 3.15 pm

in the Parish Centre Hall

OUR LADY'S

PRAYER GROUP

Thursdays : 7.30 – 9.00 pm at 10 Norman Close

EXPLORING THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Our series of meetings for those seeking to know more about our faith continues on Wednesday 4 December at 7.30 pm in Church House. The theme: The Bible, history of salvation (*continued from the previous session*).

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

There are a small number of booklets, produced by the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales in conjunction with The Bible Society. They are free – please take one if you are interested.

POCKET GOSPELS

Also available are a small number of copies of the Matthew Gospel. Pope Francis has said he would like Catholics to become more familiar with the Bible and suggests one way to do this is to carry a pocket-sized gospel that you can dip into in spare moments on the train or 'bus. Take a copy if you would use it.

CHURCH REPOSITORY

On sale in the Church Porch: religious Christmas Cards, Advent Candles and Calendars, Christmas Candles, Nativity Sets, Calendars and Gifts, all reasonably priced.

MINI BAZAAR

Thanks to all who organised and supported the Mini Bazaar last Sunday; £500 was raised for the SVP and Church Gardens. It is being proposed that this could help to buy a bench in memory of Father Sean Sheils.

THE CHAMPION SCHOOL OPEN EVENING

for parents and students seeking admission to the Sixth Form of the School in September 2020 to take place in the School Hall at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 4 December. The Headmaster will speak at 6.30 pm regarding admissions to the sixth form. This will be followed by an opportunity to meet with teachers and to view the classrooms and sixth form facilities.

CLASS TEACHER VACANCY

St Vincent's Catholic Primary School in Dagenham is looking to recruit a class teacher to join our School team in January 2020. This post would be suitable for NQTs or experienced teachers. Visits to the school are welcome. Please contact the school office to arrange a visit 020-8270 6695. Closing date: Friday 6 December 2019. Interviews: Tuesday 10 December 2019. Visit: www.st-vincent.barking-dagenham.sch.uk

LADIES' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society will be hosting its very popular Ladies' Christmas Luncheon on Friday 6 December 12 for 12.30pm at the Rayleigh Golf Club, Hullbridge. Ladies will be treated to a delicious two course lunch with tea & coffee in the luxurious surroundings of a private room over-looking the golf course. Tickets cost £25.00 per person. To reserve your place, please call Libby on 01268-784544 / lphillips@bccs.org.uk

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

St Patrick's PTA are happy to announce that our Christmas Bazaar will be held on Friday 13 December from 15:15 to 17:15 in the School Hall at St Patricks School. Everyone is welcome. Entrance is £2. We will be serving a range of food including international dishes along with our standard sweet treats, mulled

wine and hot drinks. We will have games, novelty stalls and Santa's Grotto. Please come and support our school and enjoy the festivities with us.

SUMMER LOURDES 2020

with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service

Open to anyone currently in school year 10-13. We travel on Saturday 25 July, return Saturday 1 August 2020. Cost £600 includes return coach travel, hotel accommodation, insurance and all meals in Lourdes. This amazing experience comes just once a year – full details are at <https://bcys.net/events/summer-lourdes-2020-pilgrimage/>. Applications open Sunday 27 October 2019 and close on 10 January 2020; places will be allocated on 14 January and no deposit is required until then. Bursary support is available for those in financial hardship.

SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS' SCHOOL - SIMS MANAGER AND EXAMINATIONS OFFICER

see noticeboard for further details of this vacancy

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

Tuesday is the **Memorial of St Francis Xavier** – one of the very first Jesuits and, after St Ignatius himself, a most outstanding priest. Although only 46 when he died in 1552, his preaching in the Far East has established him as one of the Church's patrons of the Missions.

Friday is the **Solemnity of the Dedication of the Church** - on this day in 1979, our church was dedicated by Bishop Patrick Casey. We give thanks for this building, for those pioneers who had the inspiration and worked so hard to create it and for all who have built up the community that is the People of God, the Church, here at Corpus Christi.

Friday is also the **Memorial of St Nicholas** – according to tradition, a fourth century bishop in what is now Turkey. He is still popular in parts of Europe where children receive presents on his feastday. 'Santa Claus' is derived from a form of his name.

THANKS

Thank you to the anonymous donor for the beautiful "Adult Revised Edition Bible" and the "My First Bible" for children. We are very grateful for your kindness.

VOCATIONS ENQUIRERS' EVENING

The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering, or interested in, a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 3 December at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires - vocprom@diocesefbrentwood.org

CALAIS LIGHT

Calais Light are taking volunteer bookings now for our next Convoy - January 31st-2nd February 2020. We plan a long way ahead so don't delay. We're the car-sharing Refugee action convoy which takes a bunch of like-minded, friendly volunteers to Calais to work for the weekend with refugee charities! Make it your New Year's Resolution to volunteer! Come with us! Sign up now at www.calaislight.com or our facebook page.

"Today in the Church a new liturgical year begins, which is a new journey of faith for the People of God. And as always, we begin with Advent. The passage of the Gospel (cf. Mt 24:37-44) introduces us to one of the most evocative themes of Advent: the visit of the Lord to humanity. The first visit - we all know - occurred with the Incarnation, Jesus' birth in the cave of Bethlehem; the second takes place in the present: the Lord visits us constantly, each day, walking alongside us and being a consoling presence; in the end, there will be the third, the last visit, which we proclaim each time that we recite the Creed: "He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead". Today, the Lord speaks to us about this final visit, which will take place at the end of time, and he tells us where we will arrive on our journey.

The Word of God emphasizes the contrast between the normal unfolding of events, the everyday routine, and the unexpected coming of the Lord. . . .

In this season of Advent, we are called to expand the horizons of our hearts, to be amazed by the life which presents itself each day with newness. In order to do this, we must learn to not depend on our own certainties, on our own established strategies, because the Lord comes at a time that we do not imagine. He comes to bring us into a more beautiful and grand dimension."

Pope Francis, *Angelus Address*, St Peter's Square, Sunday 27 November 2016