

FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Anyone who is impacted by abuse issues can contact the safeguarding team on **0121 230 6240 (emergency out of hours 07976 516629)**.

This weekend Archbishop Bernard Longley will personally be addressing the Archdiocese involvement in the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) when an open Pastoral Letter is read out in all churches.

The letter is available on the Archdiocese website:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

If you would like to speak to someone about safeguarding and the Church's work, please call **0121 230 6240**.

If you would like to speak to someone independent of the Church you can contact the NSPCC on **0808 800 5000**.

Please pray with us for all victims of abuse, and for all those involved in the work of this important Inquiry.

SAFEGUARDING

Our new parish Safeguarding Officer is **J. BARR** who may be contacted on 01926 511300. On behalf of the whole parish, I wish to thank my thanks for taking on this responsibility in succession to the late Tony Highton RIP.

JOHNSON ASSOCIATION

The annual second collection for the infirm and retired clergy of the Archdiocese, the Johnson Association Collection, **will be taken at all masses this Sunday**.

I commend this to you, though out of no immediate *personal* financial advantage (!), for your generosity. **Yellow envelopes will be provided for those wishing to use Gift Aid** and explanation leaflets have been made available.

NOVEMBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

As usual, there will be a box on the altar at St Francis' church for you to include names to be remembered at a weekly Mass during the month of the Holy Souls.

NEXT SUNDAY IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The **11.15am Sunday mass on 11 November, Remembrance Sunday, the Centenary of the Armistice in 1918**, will be a Requiem Mass for all who have lost their lives, whether military or civilians during times of war.

Father David will attend the War Memorial Commemoration at 10.45am.

CHOICE OF PARISH CHARITIES

Today we will distribute the voting slips. Ballot boxes will be available at all Masses over the following weekend, Sunday 11 November.

You may vote for up to three charities.

THANK YOU

I am so grateful to those who marked my birthday recently by sending good wishes, cards, and gifts. It is so very kind of you and I deeply appreciate the sentiments expressed by those who did so. May our Lord richly bless you for your kindnesses.

WELCOME

We welcome into the family of the Church, **CHARLIE JOHN EDWARD FINCH** following his baptism at St. Austin's Church last Sunday.

We pray for him, for his parents, family, Godparents and grandparents.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

We will keep the blessing of graves at Oaks Road Cemetery on **Saturday, 10 November at 2.30pm**. We will pray the Rosary for all those of our loved ones and parish family who are interred there and the graves will be sprinkled with holy water. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Please note that on Saturday 17 November, Mass will be celebrated at St Austin's at 12 noon and graves in the churchyard will be blessed following that mass.

CHURCH CLEANING

Cleaners, male and female are required on a Thursday for approx one hour and a quarter, once every six weeks, working in a group of three; also on Saturdays to cover holidays and illness. **Contact is J Roberts 855903. Please respond!**

PIETY STALL AT ST FRANCIS' CHURCH

Various items for Advent and Christmas are available. Come and view the Advent Calendars, Christmas cards and 2019 diaries. Various Holy Cards for Mass etc. are available. Olive wood goods from the Holy Land are on sale. Opening times at all Sunday masses including after the 8.00am mass at St Austin's.

Your support is invited so come and have a look!

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

Quiz Night with Fish/Chicken and Chip Supper, **Saturday 10 November 7pm in the Parish Centre**. Tickets price £10 are now on sale after Mass for this event. Why not come with family and friends to make up a team of 6/8 persons. (It may not be suitable for children under the age of 12yrs.). You are invited to bring a drink of your choice, glasses will be provided. All proceeds will go to help the Christians who are most in need in the Holy Land. Contact P. Highton 859 532.

ADVENT LUNCH

The Advent Lunch will take place in the Parish Centre on Sunday 9 December at 1.00pm. A two course lunch followed by coffee/tea and you are invited to bring a drink of your choice. Tickets are £5.00 and these will be on sale after Mass from 10/11 November. Please purchase or reserve your tickets as soon as possible as places are limited. Proceeds to SALVE Christmas Charities.

'PASTIMES'

Old and New members will be welcome on **Mondays from 2.00pm-4.00pm** in the Parish Centre, with Crafts, Scrabble etc. tea and biscuits - Subscription is 40p.

ST FRANCIS' PARENTS' AND TODDLERS' GROUPS

The **Monday** group meets at the Parish Centre from 10 – 11.15am.

There is also a **Wednesday** group at Crackley Hall from 10 – 11.30am.

FOOD BANK ROTA Please check whether you are transporting food this week.

Organisers have indicated that a few more volunteers from the parish for this charitable activity would be warmly welcomed. Contact is A. Kelly 854 392.

OFFERTORY COUNTERS

This Sun: P Rand, D Spillane, J Rice, R Palmi

Next Sun: P Whiting, M Harrington

CHURCH CLEANING (SEE APPEAL ABOVE)

St Francis': S Allinson, G Chapman, A Kelly

St Augustine's: M and E Butler

GOD BLESS YOU AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU ALL, Father Kevin.