

THE GENERAL ELECTION 2017—BISHOPS' MESSAGE

The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a letter to Catholics on the forthcoming general election. Copies are available from the church this weekend.

The letter is an encouragement to all Catholics to play an active part in the election. While voting for any particular political party is a matter of conscience, the bishops encourage people to use their vote at this pivotal time for our nations, as we prepare to leave the European Union.

The letter lays out broad principles to guide our thinking in the run-up to the election, taken from Pope Francis' *Evangeli Gaudium*.

LONDON SW CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS is a social group for young Catholics in the diocese that meets every month. Our next social evening is on **Saturday 3 June** from 7.30pm at The Alexandra, Wimbledon SW19 7NE. For more details visit our Facebook page or contact Miles on 07790 441242.

SUMMER YOUTH DAY

Southwark Catholic Youth Services' Summer Youth Day this year is on **Saturday 24 June** at Aylesford Priory, Kent. The event runs from 10.00am—8.00pm for school age Year 7—Year 11 and is £10.00 per person. Booking is essential: 01227 272900 or info@scys.org.uk

This year's theme is taken from next year's Synod: 'Young People, The Faith and Vocational Discernment'. The Catholic Church in England and Wales would like to hear the experiences of young people, their thoughts on faith and connection with the Catholic Church. Young people aged between 13—29 are invited to participate in a poll which can be accessed using <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parish-youth-poll>.

BRIGHTLIGHTS FESTIVAL

Brightlights Festival is an annual event for Catholic young adults (ages 16-30) taking place **23—26 June** in the beautiful grounds of Alton Castle in Staffordshire. Come and join us for a weekend of live music from artists including One Hope Project and Guvna B. Journey together in Faith through liturgy and worship. To find out more or to book tickets visit: brightlights.org.uk, call 0300 075 0115 or find us on social media: T/FB/IG: BLFestival.

CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS PILGRIMAGE

The annual Catholic Grandparents Pilgrimage is to be held at the National Catholic Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham on **Sunday 23 July**, 11.00am. There will be a host of activities, fun and games for the children, and time to be together as a family and relax with other families. For more information: 01328 820658, family@walsingham.org.uk

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST CHRISTOPHER

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NEWSLETTER

28 May 2017

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (A)

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| Tue 30 May | Saturday Social Circle (for those who live alone)
Meeting in the hall at 2.30pm |
| Wed 31 May | St Christopher's Craft Circle 7.00—9.00pm |
| Fri 2 May | EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT for one hour after 9.00am Mass |
| Sun 4 Jun | 10am Mass with Children's & Young People's Participation
Breakfast/cake sale in the hall after 10.00am Mass |
| Mon 5 June | Parish Council Meeting 8.00pm |
| Fri 9 Jun | St Christopher's Craft Circle 10.30am—12.30pm |
| Sat 10 Jun | First Holy Communion Class 8 (Rehearsals) 4.15-5.30pm |
| <i>Weekly:</i> | <i>Wed Toddler Group 9.45-11.15am (term time)</i> |
| | <i>Fri Coffee in the hall after 9.00am Mass</i> |
| | <i>Sun 10.00am Mass: Children's Liturgy</i>
<i>Refreshments in the hall after Mass</i> |

28 May 2017		THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (A)
Sat	27 1800	Stephen Love RIP Anniversary (Love Family)
Sun	28 0830	Michael Corcoran RIP (Marie Grant)
	1000	People of the Parish
	1200	Mary & Michelle Moody RIP (Moody Family)
	1400	BAPTISMS: Harry Sidney Blaha Julia Barbara Vasek
Mon	29	<i>No Mass</i>
Tue	30 0900	Suhail Michael RIP Anniversary (Nadia Michael & Family)
Wed	31	<i>No Mass</i>
Thu	1 0900	Saint Justin, Martyr, Memorial Thomas Leonard Hogg RIP
Fri	2 0900	Mary Quigley RIP (Bruce Letheren & Family)
	0930-1030	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
Sat	3 1030-1100)	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	1700-1730)	

4 June 2017		PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)
Sat	3 1800	Patrick Murray RIP & Teresa Johnson RIP
Sun	4 0830	Martin Treacy RIP Anniversary (Celia Hansberry)
	1000	Pat & Jim O'Brien RIP Anniversary (Kim O'Brien & Family)
	1200	People of the Parish

LAST SUNDAY	Attendance	575
	Plate	£ 623.31
	Gift Aid	£ 557.49
		£ 1,180.80

Thank you for your offerings.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Patrick Allen, Michael Burke, Daisy Bushnell, Pat Carbery, Carmel Curtis, Marie Deans, Melba De Silva, Patrick Egan, Francis Ellis, Bob Green, Pat Hanoman, Sean Healy, Anne Kellett, Patrick Kennedy, Pauli Koskimies, Michael McKenna, Pearl McLeod, Michael Moores, Stella Paxton, Leslie Pinto, Betty Steward, Maria Tobin, Denis Vaughan, Nan Waldron, Ghylaine Lebentz Walter, Nickii Wright and a parishioner.

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO CATHOLIC PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Parents of children of two years of age and older are reminded to collect a certificate after Sunday Mass, which will provide evidence of the record of attendance when they apply for a place at a Catholic school.

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY is this Sunday, the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord, when we take up the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. Vital to this is good communication - through the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' websites, publications and social media channels. The Bishops' Conference works hard to forge positive relationships with media outlets to communicate news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church and her people. There will be a second collection to support the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishops' Conference. Parish Gift Aid donors may wish to use one of their spare envelopes, writing 'Communications' on the front. Please take one of the prayer cards that have been produced for the day.

GIFT AID SCHEME

Year-end Gift Aid letters are available for collection from the back of the church. Please note that we have prepared letters for those who collected them last year. If there is no letter for you and you would like one, please let Vivienne know.

MUSICAL EVENING WITH JOE VALDES 🎸🎸🎸 🎹🎹🎹

The social committee would like to thank everyone who came to our first Musical Evening performed by Joe Valdes. The event was a 'rocking' success with much audience participation! A big thank you to Joe for keeping us totally entertained with his singing, playing and interesting anecdotes on John Denver.

Once again thank you to everyone for their support and great generosity. We raised £267.90 for The Nomntu Project run by Chris and Jane Devereux supporting marginalised children and adults in South Africa's Eastern Cape.

SATURDAY SOCIAL CIRCLE

The Circle (for those who live alone) will be meeting this **Tuesday 30 May** at 2.30pm in the hall.

BREAKFAST/CAKE SALE

Dominic O'Dea is raising money to volunteer in Borneo in South East Asia in the summer of 2018, where he will be helping to develop community amenities and conserve wildlife. After the 10.00am Mass on **Sundays 4, 11 & 25 June** there will be a breakfast sale where bacon rolls and cakes will be sold to help raise funds.

Dominic appreciates all the donations he has already received from everyone and says thank you.