

Parish Newsletter Supplement

Parish Website

www.stcuthberts.org.uk

8/01/2023

Letter addressed to all the Parishes from Bishop John.

The sad news of the death of Pope Benedict XVI was announced on Saturday 31st December, We have reason to reflect on the enormity of his role as leader and guide of the Catholic Church.

There is much for which we need to give thanks for the leadership and gentle shepherding of the Church achieved by Pope Benedict in his eight years as our Pope and spiritual father. In a time of many political challenges and social change, Pope Benedict remained constant in his promotion of Gospel values, building up the family of the Church in all its diversity throughout the world. His was the constant invitation and encouragement to us to be true to the model and example of Christ. His life was dedicated to encouraging us with his scholarship, holiness and prayer.

Loving Father,

We ask you to welcome Pope Benedict into eternal life, rewarding him for his selfless devotion and service of your Church.

May his example live on in our Church as we seek to be ambassadors of Christ in our daily living.

As the family of the Church, we pray in communion that you will forgive any human frailty or transgression and bring him into the light of your presence where, one day, we may celebrate your infinite love and mercy together.

May he rest in peace.

Amen.





Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

CAFOD Lancashire Lunch on Sunday January 22nd

12.30 at St Thomas of Canterbury Church in the Becket Suite after mass

Sit down in the warmth with friends and family, eat and relax

Enjoy a CAFOD pie and pasty lunch with trimmings

Vegan options available

Tea/coffee/soft drinks & biscuits

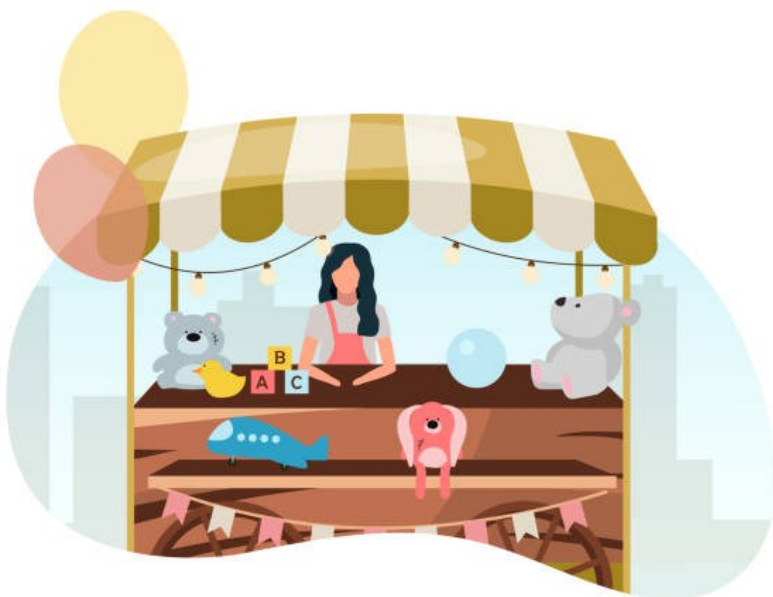
Adult tickets= £6

Children's tickets=£2



Tickets are on sale from January 7th 2023 at every weekend mass at the back of church.

Tickets will be sold at St Thomas of Canterbury Church and St Joseph's Church



Lots of exciting raffle prizes to be won

Book Stall = Needs donations

White Elephant stall = Needs donations



Cake Auction

As previously announced, the Parish is running the **Alpha** Course on Monday evenings for 10 weeks commencing 23rd January 2023.

Let's Share the experience



Everyone is welcome in our Church whether you are Catholic or otherwise.

Many people have questions about the meaning of life. Why not come along and explore how a relationship with Jesus can help you make sense of life's questions. Come and meet new friends and experience God's love.

As a first step, we invite you to join us for **Alpha**.

Alpha gives the opportunity to explore and discover answers to questions you might have.

Alpha

at St Cuthberts Parish will start on Monday January 23rd and it will run each Monday evening for 10 weeks.

Alpha gives the opportunity to ask life's big questions and explore the Christian faith in a fun, no-pressure, friendly environment.

Each session starts with our serving a simple meal and includes a short film and a discussion where you can chat through your thoughts and questions with a small group of people just like you.

Alpha is for **everyone**. There's no charge and no follow up. Just come along and bring a friend with you

The venue:

St Thomas of Canterbury Church
Eastbourne Grove Bolton BL1 5TR

at 7.00 p.m.

Please also look at the following You-Tube link <https://youtu.be/ouNia7hzP4s>
for further information

To register or for more information please

contact us by email to:

Bridget Galaska alpha@stcuthberts.org.uk

Fr. Chris Gorton christopher.gorton@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

office@stcuthberts.org.uk

or telephone 01204 497068

If you know of any family members or friends who may be interested, please pass on the details including use of social media where possible

Could you help?

Could you spare some time to help? In addition to people attending the Course we are asking for volunteers to assist with the presentation of the Course and to help with the serving of food.

The presentation of the Course is quite straight forward, and a meeting will be arranged to explain the procedure. With regard to the provision of food, this would be a simple light meal to be served at the beginning of each session and then to help clear away afterwards.

For both these roles we are looking to put a rota together to cover the 10 weeks of the Course. If you are able to assist or want to know more, please do get in touch. There is a role for everyone in our Parish and your support would be very much appreciated in helping in whatever way you can. Please do come along to assist. Please pray to The Holy Spirit for the success of the Course and for people to come forward to help.

3 January Parish Prayer evening
 12 January Cuddy Ducks reopen
 17 January Bible Study Group restarts –Becket Suite
 19 January Next Confirmation session
 22 January CAFOD Lancashire Lunch– see notice
 23 January **ALPHA starts**

Dates For Your Diary

For details please see the individual notices

The Confirmation Sessions:

No	Dates	Themes	Location
5.	Thursday 19 th January 2023 (tbc)	Counsel	Parish
6.	Thursday 2 nd February 2023 (tbc)	Fortitude & Piety	Thornleigh
7.	Saturday 4 th March 2023	Flame 2023	London (Whole Day)
8.	Thursday 27 th April 2023 (tbc)	Awe & Preparation for Confirmation	Thornleigh
9.	Thursday 18 th May 2023 (tbc)	Confirmation – What Happens	Parish
10.	Saturday 17 th June 2023 (tbc)	Retreat Day	Thornleigh
11.	Thursday 22 nd June 2023 (tbc)	Confirmation	Thornleigh
12.	Thursday 6 th July 2023 (tbc)	What Happens Next	Parish



The Mulled wine and Carols night raised £540 for Alain Kimolo's education project in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This money helps to provide school fees for children whose parents would not otherwise be able to afford their education.

A huge thanks to everyone who supported the evening in any way.

Alain says 'That's great news. Thank you to you all. It's a wonderful support to the project. I'm so grateful and I really appreciate.'

As we begin this New Year

we pray for confidence
 to share your Word with others
 and for the opportunity to proclaim it.
 Forgive our reluctance.

We pray for wisdom
 to know what should be said
 and the moment in which to say it.
 Forgive our reticence.

We pray for knowledge
 of the fullness of your Grace
 and the willingness to live it.
 Forgive our ignorance and
 our self-reliance.

Be the centre of all we are
 The Light by which we walk
 The blessing we bring to others
 We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord
 Amen