

Who is Jesus and why should you be a catholic? Come and See!

In the new year we will begin another cycle of adult exploration of the faith using the sycamore course. This is the route for Adult Baptism, Adult Confirmation, and reception into the Catholic Church if you are already a baptised Christian.

However the first sessions are a simple invitation to come and see and find out a bit more. If you are curious about the faith, about why we believe in Jesus, or know someone who might like to explore these questions please express your interest!

Forms are now available and the course will begin in March. The Catholic Truth Society has a lovely set of reflections on the sacrament of reconciliation (which we are encouraged to make use of in Lent) encouraging us to reflect on why we need this beautiful sacrament.

<https://www.ctsbooks.org/why-do-i-need-to-go-to-confession/>

CAFOD is part of the Disasters Emergency Committee and is one of the UK's 15 leading aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently in times of crisis overseas. The charity have launched a Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal in response to the Earthquakes that hit the region last week. To date 35,000 people are known to have died, with 17 million people directly affected by the tragedy.

Donations to CAFOD's Syria Turkey Appeal will be used to provide shelter, food, water and emergency medical assistance as well as winter kits to help people cope with the freezing temperatures. CAFOD is also in touch with its sister agency, Caritas Turkey, who work in the region. They are currently assessing needs and delivering essential humanitarian aid.

You can find out more about CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal or make a donation

<https://cafod.org.uk/>

Holy Family WhatsApp Prayer Group

A virtual prayer group is a flexible and scalable prayer group that can easily engage parishioners to pray together for specific topics or issues.

Matthew 18:20 that where two or three are gathered together in His name, He is there in the midst of them. Although a virtual prayer group does not bring people together physically, they are as one in spirit as they journey towards God.

If you would like to join the Holy Family WhatsApp Prayer Group please contact the Parish Office who can verify that you are on the database and then pass your number on to Sue Haworth-Edwards who is setting up the prayer group.

(Women's)WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AT St Peters Church Centre Ash. Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm ALL ARE WELCOME refreshments available

We need 2 or 3 readers for Holy Angels - this is a Churches Together event so please do come along and support.

Please contact Gloria Benson:
gloria.benson14@gmail.com

In Farnham the Service is at St Joan of Arc on Friday 3rd March at 10.30am. (gathering by 10.15am).

The service has been put together by the Christian women of Taiwan - the theme 'I Have Heard About Your Faith' The service is for all women, men and children.

A Gap Year opportunity: Are you 18-30, or do you know someone who is? Do you want to develop a wide range of skills including leadership while learning about global justice and inspiring others to use their faith in action? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, believes in equipping and inspiring young adults to contribute to a more just and peaceful world. Step into the Gap is a fully funded year of volunteering, with food, accommodation, stipend and training within a UK placement plus a Rome and Assisi pilgrimage. Visit the CAFOD website for more information: cafod.org.uk/gapyear

A New Year's Resolution. It's not too late to join in This year I discovered Fr Mike Scmitz's podcast *The Bible in a Year* where he reads and comments on the whole Bible, using Jeff Cavin's Bible Timeline to help us make sense of the narrative of the Bible. I found this enormously helpful and would really like to encourage us as a parish to take up this challenge for the coming year.

It's so easy to find the Bible difficult to read, or confusing, or disjointed with the snippets we get of certain books at mass. Make this your New Year's resolution and grow closer to God letting him share his love and plan for your life with you.

It's easy to find on any podcast app or go to the ascension press website to find the reading plan and other links.

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

Free Audio Book: Edith Stein

This audiobook, sees us shine a light on a truly remarkable woman – Edith Stein – who we know and venerate as Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/podcast/edith-stein/>

St Bernadette Relic Tour

<https://stbernadette.org.uk/>

A video has been made celebrating the relic tour.

The Parish Office is currently normally open on Wednesday and Friday Mornings. Please use the normal telephone number (01252 321 422) and parish email address: holyofficesurrey@gmail.com