

Father Hugh writes:

It was good to see so many people signing the petition last weekend organised by our Justice and Peace group. Our thanks to them for highlighting this awful proposal to ship Migrants and refugees to Rwanda. This can never be right and must be an abuse of the most needy in our world.

This bank holiday organised back in the '70's was to mark labour day; I notice there's a movement to move it away from May 1st. Though we may not see the need for it, there are many in our world who's life is challenged by poor working conditions. It is timely that 1st May is marked as the Memoria of St Joseph the worker. It's not actually kept today as it occurs on Sunday. But the prayers for workers continues and especially for example the many sacked recently by P&O here. Across the world there will be similar situations.

Tomorrow (Monday) we keep the Memoria of St Athanasius, Tuesday a feast of Saints Philip and James and on Wednesday the English Martyrs.

The Group Together group got off to a good start on Tuesday last and our thanks to Alice and team for taking forward all the good work that Rosemary and Jo have done, now a new chapter has begun and a newsletter is available from Alice. If you haven't received it this week it's worth checking that we have your email address. It is a better way of sending information which (even I know!) can be filed on your computer. It saves paper and trees. Details of the next gathering will soon be available, it is understood that not all the time can we make all meetings, because of other commitments.

Her Majesty's Jubilee weekend is but a month away now, and we've created a plan for Friday June 3rd. Parish Mass at 10am as usual for a Friday.

We assume that the National Service of Thanksgiving will be at 11am, or thereabouts, at St Paul's Cathedral. Many of us will probably wish to watch that on our televisions.

We will have a parish lunch to follow, from 1pm, which we will pay for out of Parish funds and to which everyone is invited. Hopefully we can eat in the garden, but squash up in the hall if it's wet! (Remember the river pageant 10 years ago?!)

The menu will be Coronation Chicken, Ham, Poached Salmon, Baked Cheese and Filo pastry and salads. Strawberries and cream. That gives you an outline of what we think is appropriate and will include vegan and vegetarian options. We suggest you bring your own drinks and perhaps garden chairs and/or rugs.

From this weekend, we shall start taking names and numbers please, and I hope obviously, includes our entire families and especially spouses who may not be Catholics. We will also need further offers of help please to make the event one to remember.

The Community of St Peter's are hosting a village Thanksgiving service at 5.30pm on the same day (Friday 3rd June) which will make a fitting end to the day for us, so we thought it would be a good idea, to meet at Corpus Christi at approx 5pm and walk up the lane together to St Peter's. You will see in BN5 magazine recently delivered an outline of other village events that weekend.

Sunday 12th June is the village Arts and Gardens weekend. We are included in this event and again we shall all need to be involved. We shall need cakes and cookies, as well as many helpers for serving, stewarding and car parking.

The church will of course be open all day and there will be an organ recital at 3pm, as well as some dance and exhibition in the hall.

There's a lot going on in a short time!!

The Justice and Peace Group's prayer for this week is:

*Father, we pray for peace in the world
and that at this time of crisis you will bless the efforts of all who work
to bring help and support to those most in need.*

Notices:

JO'S PLANT SALE is next weekend Saturday (7th) and Sunday (8th). Opening each day at Henfield Place, Upper Station Road, at 11am.

All proceeds go to AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED. Please support this very wonderful charity.

As well as hundreds of plants there will be a jam stall, cake stall, gardenalia and raffle. Our famous Bacon Bunnies, Soup and Ploughman's Platter, Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available. Parishioners are urgently begged to offer raffle prizes and cakes, help at some point with the preparations and if you can't manage any of these, perhaps a possible donation. Gifts of plants need to be brought before Friday midday for sorting, labelling and pricing. Ring Jo on 01273 493101. PLEASE HELP!!

Diocesan 'Invited' programme: Each week, the talk will be available from Monday morning onwards on the diocesan website (www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited) with a chance to follow up by meeting together at the convent on Wednesday at 7pm.

If at all possible, please do listen to the talk before coming to the meeting, so that we all know what we are reflecting on!

Holy Hour at the Convent continues each Tuesday afternoon at 2pm. We will be praying together especially for peace in Ukraine, and for all the victims of the war.

Mother's Prayers will meet this coming Wednesday, 4th May, at 10.15am at Stephanie's home, 17 Benson Road, Henfield. This will be the last meeting before our summer break.

The **Diocesan 2022 Lourdes Pilgrimage** are seeking helpers aged 18+ and Redshirts (especially students in Year 12) to serve our pilgrimage family and become part of our 'love in action' week. To find out more go to www.abdiocese.org.uk

Healing Service: Joe Livingston is coming to Horsham to give a Healing Service at St John the Evangelist, Horsham on Saturday 14th May from 2pm to 4pm. Joe has a powerful ministry in healing and deliverance and is a national and international speaker. Come and be touched by the healing power of Jesus with prayer, fellowship, music and a cuppa!

For more details go to www.foundationoftruth.org.uk or email Kathy Bishop kjmmbishop@yahoo.co.uk

The Henfield Artisan Food and Drink Market will be in the Coopers Way Car Park, (back of Budgens) this Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

COVID: *It is recommended that we continue to remain cautious and wear masks in church and use the hand sanitiser as we arrive and leave.*

