### EXTRA

#### October 2025

EXTRA is for all the parishes in our Mission – Hampton-on-the-Hill,
Kenilworth, Leamington, Lillington, Warwick and Whitnash. Please submit
articles by 28 October for the November edition to:
catholicclusterextra@gmail.com

SUNDAY MASSES						
	St Augustine	St Charles Borromeo	St Francis	St Joseph's		
	Kenilworth	Hampton-on-the-Hill	Kenilworth	Whitnash		
SATURDAY			5.30 pm <i>Vigil</i>			
SUNDAY	8.30 am	9.00 am	10.30 am	10.00 am 5.30 pm		

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

MONDAY		10.00 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
TUESDAY		10.00 am	12.00 pm	9.30 am
WEDNESDAY	10.00 am	12.00 pm		
THURSDAY		12.00 pm	7.30pm	7.00 pm
FRIDAY		10.00 am	7.30 pm	10.00 am
SATURDAY		10.30 am	10.00 am	9.30 am

#### **SUNDAY MASSES**

	St Mary Immaculate Warwick	Our Lady's Lillington	St Peter Apostle Leamington
SATURDAY	6.00 pm <i>Vigil</i>		5.00 pm <i>Vigil</i>
SUNDAY	11.00 am	9.15 am Sung Mass	11.15 am Sung Mass

#### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

MONDAY	9.00 am	*	
TUESDAY	9.30am		10.00 am
WEDNESDAY		10.00 am	
THURSDAY			10.00 am
FRIDAY	9.30 am		10.00 am
SATURDAY			10.00 am

Mass times given above are <u>regular scheduled</u> times. Please check individual parish newsletters for any changes. These are available on the Deanery website: https://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### **CAFOD Family Fast Day**

The CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day this year will be observed on Friday, 3 October. The usual envelopes are now available for personal or family use. The collection will be at Masses over the weekend of 4/5 October. Please donate to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year. As well as the envelopes in church, you can also donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope, call 0303 303 3030 or text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.00.

#### St Francis marks Fr Kevin's retirement

The Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of our church, falls on Saturday, 4 October. It also marks the anniversary of the Consecration of the Church in 2008. Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon, after which there will refreshments to mark Fr Kevin's last week in the parish. A larger event, for which Fr Kevin will return, will be in the afternoon of Sunday, 23 November.

#### Get Ready to Jumble!

St Peter's Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday 4 October from 1.30 pm in St Peter's Hall. Pastimes Group is organising the sale. Donations of jumble can be brought to the Pastimes group on Tuesday 30 September from 12.00-3.00 pm. More volunteers to help run the sale would be welcome. Please see Mary Curran at Pastimes or call Freya (Young Adults Group) to make your interest known (07562 486507).

#### Save the Children Quiz Night

Save the Children Quiz Night (including Baked Potato Supper), Saturday 4 October. Eyes down at 7.30 pm in St. Peter's Hall. Teams of 6. Tickets £14.00. Please see Linda Chesshire for tickets (Blessed Robert Grissold).

#### Come and See (RCIA)

Interested in becoming Catholic? Want to know more about faith or feeling the call to be Confirmed? Our annual Come and See sessions will begin on Thursday 9 October, at 7.30 pm in Our Lady's church hall. Email Gareth at <a href="mailto:rcia.cathleam@gmail.com">rcia.cathleam@gmail.com</a>

#### St Francis' Grand Raffle

Tickets are now on sale now. The first three prizes are £100.00 in cash, £100.00 Waitrose Voucher and £40.00 Waitrose Voucher. Parishioners are invited to take at least one book of tickets to buy or sell. The draw will take place at the Autumn Fair on Saturday 11 October. For full details, see poster on page 8. Donations for prizes would be most welcome. Please label them Grand Raffle. Contact A Cowley 07527 224488.

#### **Planned Giving Campaign**

St Francis Church needs your commitment, your ideas, your understanding of the parish and your presence at a meeting on Tuesday, 14 October at 7.00 pm to discuss and discern how best we can launch this campaign. The Archdiocese is requesting that every parish engage to build faithful communities that are resilient enough to secure the future of our worshipping community and its ability to serve generations to come. This involves us reflecting on the way, as a parish, we give of our time, prayers, talents and money – and consideration of whether we might be able to share a little more. This is an opportunity for all of us to renew and deepen our commitment to Christ, our parish and to the wider community we serve. In this way, with everyone taking responsibility for the life of our parish, together we will help to ensure that our church remains a place of prayer, welcome, mission and service for years to come.

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#### **NEWS IN BRIEF 2**

#### **Charity Cheese and Wine**

This will be held on Friday 17 October from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm at Leek Wootton Village Hall. Last year's Cheese and Wine event was a great success. As previously, we will be tasting wines from countries that need our support – this year our focus will be on wines from Ukraine. Tickets £20.00 can be purchased using on https://www.tickettailor.com/events/leekwoottonchristianaid/ or from Jonathan Cox on 07443 866 314 (jonathan.cox12@outlook.com)

#### **Our Lady's Social News**

Our annual Just Desserts feast is on Saturday 18 October at 7.00 pm. Tickets (including a light supper) are available from any Kindaid committee member or contact Sue Sugars 07950 144450. Tickets: £10.00 (adults); £5.00 (children under 16.) Many thanks to all who came to the Kindaid quiz. We had a really good turnout with ten teams competing. Congratulations to the winners Ali and Peter Marshall and the rest of their team. A big thank you to Liz and Martin for supplying the questions. It was a great evening, and a grand total of £525.00 was raised. Thank you once again for your support.

#### Burials at Princethorpe – possible future expansion

Fr Teddy is asking if anyone else is interested in the possibility of being buried at Princethorpe. The parish there needs to know for planning ahead in order to consider possible future expansion. St Anne's Parish, Wappenbury, has two cemeteries, one at St Anne's and one at Princethorpe. Both have few plots presently available. Fr Teddy has the opportunity to extend the cemetery at Princethorpe to accommodate burial and cremation plots into the future. St Anne's Parish Council will consider, before Christmas 2025, whether to proceed with this extension or to return the land to the donor. As part of the deanery of Banbury and Warwick, you are invited to apply for a plot reservation at Princethorpe before the end of October 2025. Should you wish to do this, please contact either Fr Teddy on fr.teddy.obrien@rcaob.org.uk or Lorette at stanne.wappenbury@rcaob.org.uk for further details.

#### **Something Greater**

The weekly sessions to give a foundation for some of our local catechists and other lay leaders are going well, with Fr David having to turn people away due to the numbers being too great for our meeting room in Warwick. Many thanks to local clergy and to Paul Northam for leading the sessions, and to Veronica Drumgoole for welcoming participants each week. There are some initiatives which would not take place simply at parish level but work well across a deanery or within clusters and this first attempt to run the programme in our diocese is certainly looking very worthwhile.

#### Win a trip to Medjugorje

Medjugorje Irish Centre is running a free prize draw. The prize is for one person and includes seven nights B&B, return airport transfer and flights up to €300. To enter go to the prize draw page on website www.med-irishcentre.com.

#### **DIARY DATES**

- **2 October:** St Joseph's, Whitnash. Annual General Meeting.
- 4/5 October: CAFOD Family Fast Day 4 October: Blessed Robert Grissold, Balsall Common. Churches Together Coffee Morning is held the first Saturday of each month at the Jubilee Centre from 10.30 am
- to 12.00 pm. All welcome. 4 October: St Peter's, Leamington Spa. Jumble Sale in Hall, organised by Pastimes.
- Starts at 1.30 pm. Get in early for the best bargains!
- 4 October: Blessed Robert Grissold, Balsall Common. Save the Children Quiz Night (including Baked Potato Supper) from 7.00 pm.
- 9 October: Our Lady's, Lillington. Start of 'Come and See' sessions, 7.30 pm in church hall.
- **11 October:** St Francis, Kenilworth. Autumn Fair.
- **14 October:** Blessed Robert Grissold, Balsall Common. Planned Giving meeting, **7.00** nm.
- 18 October: Our Lady's, Lillington. Just Desserts social evening. Light supper followed by all the desserts imaginable! 7.00 pm.
- 3 November: St Joseph's, Whitnash. All Souls Mass to which families are invited, 7.00 pm.
- 8 November: St Joseph's, Whitnash. Afternoon Tea Dance, 2.00 pm.
- **9 November:** Blessing of Graves at Leamington Cemetery, 2.30 pm.

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF 3**

#### Blessing of Graves, Leamington Cemetery

Each parish will have its own Masses for All Souls. For many years St Peter's and St Joseph's parishes have made joint arrangements for the Blessing of Graves in our own and local cemeteries. This year we are planning to meet at 2.30 pm on Remembrance Sunday, 9 November.

#### Clothes donations needed (St Francis)

SALVE members are collecting clean, good condition children's warmer clothing for ages 2-10 years. Also, they need casual men's clothing in small and medium sizes. These are for our charity, Coventry Clothing, which helps many destitute families, including refugees. Please leave your kind donations on the box opposite piety stall in the narthex, grateful thanks.

#### Coventry Circle, Newman Association

Named after St John Henry Newman because of his desire to have an "educated laity" we have monthly talks by experts in their field, mostly on themes of Catholic faith, history and related culture but also on other faiths. Talks followed by discussion and refreshments are at 7.30 pm in the Margaret Roper

Room at St Thomas More Church in Coventry. Most are on the fourth Tuesday of the month. We have social events too. Everybody welcome! For more, see web site newman.org.uk and then tabs such as Circle Calendar and Association News. Contact: Coventry Circle Secretary, Steve Ferguson at fergus\_sp3@yahoo.co.uk. Future talks this year are as follows: 28 October – Reflections on the Newman Pilgrimage to Turkey; and 25 November – Religious Roles in a Changing Church. See website for 2026 programme.

#### Pilgrimage to Assisi

Fr Patrick & Fr Ryan, who will become parish priest of Kenilworth when Fr Kevin retires, are running a joint pilgrimage from 2–6 March 2026. The cost is £725 (sharing) or £825 (single). Please see the form on the St Mary Immaculate website (under 'Assisi Pilgrimage' on the left-hand side) for all the details including how to book.

#### **EXTRA** news gatherers

Can we have some news gatherers in each church so that we don't miss items of interest and notice of coming events? Please email: catholicclusterextra@gmail.com.

#### Fr Noel Breslin RIP



The Sudden passing of Fr. Noel has shocked and saddened many of us in Leamington, Lillington, and Whitnash who remember his ministry with affection. His sense of humour was never far from the surface but he was not one to suffer fools gladly! Fr. Noel, as a proud Irishman, was immersed in the Irish community - always happy to celebrate the St. Patrick's Day Mass at

the Irish Club. He was always appreciative of the cakes baked for him, especially a regular Victoria Sponge! The parishioners can't have known Fr. Noel was diabetic and I'm sure he never enlightened them!

Born on 12 December 1958, Fr. Noel was

ordained in Raphoe Diocese, Letterkenny, County Donegal. He moved to Birmingham in 1987 and was appointed to St. Mary of the Angels, Aldridge. He subsequently served in six parishes, latterly St. Joseph's, Whitnash, until November 2022. It is particularly sad that Fr Noel has passed away before he had the chance to clear his name in a court case that had hung over him since he left Whitnash. He is now with the merciful and just judge God our Heavenly Father. May he rest in peace.



#### **FEATURE**

#### St John Henry Newman, Doctor of the Church

Some of us, including three priests in this cluster, have a particular sense of closeness to St John Henry Newman, who feels like a patron saint of converts! On his feast day this year, 9 October, he will be declared a Doctor of the Church. Archbishop Bernard writes: "We are also looking forward to the declaration in Rome of St



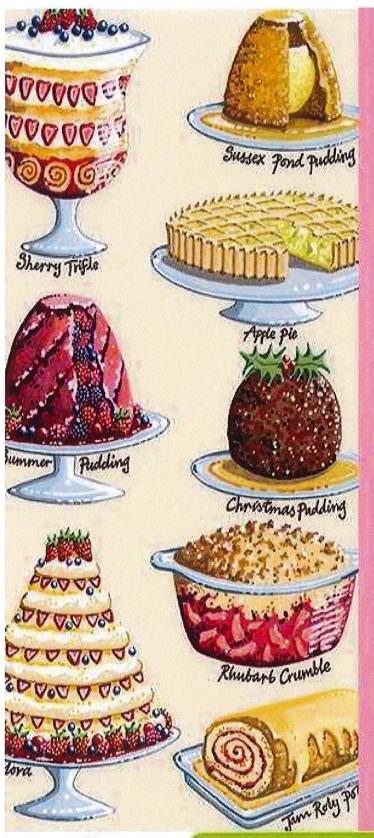
John Henry Newman as a Doctor of the Universal Church – a particular blessing for our Archdiocese and for the Oratory Fathers in Birmingham and Oxford. Please remember to encourage your parishioners to pray for the canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi – not forgetting to ask for Cardinal Newman's intercession for this intention."

Pope Leo XIV will officially declare St John Henry Newman, the most recently canonised saint from England and Wales, the 38th Doctor of the Church. A 'Doctor of the Church' is a man or woman of great holiness and learning whose teaching and wisdom not only resonated with their own contemporaries, but still illuminates, instructs and inspires today. Very few people in the history of the Church have been given this title, beginning with some of the early Church Fathers like St Ambrose and St Augustine, up until St Thérèse of Lisieux. They are now joined by St John Henry

Newman. While many Doctors of the Church are notable for one aspect of teaching, St John Henry Newman is especially remarkable for the breadth of his teaching across many aspects of the faith, his influence upon various branches of doctrine and theology, and his engagement with problems of faith which remain burning issues in our own time.

Newman's teaching has been acclaimed by many Popes, from Leo XIV, including Pope St Pius X, Pope Pius XI, Pope Ven. Pius XII, Pope St John XXIII, Pope St Paul VI, Pope St John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis. He was a very prolific writer and produced a daunting amount of material, whether in the form of booklength treatises, sermons, spiritual reflections, and a vast number of letters, as well as poetry, prayers, novels and essays. "It is remarkable that his writings, first as an Anglican and then as a Roman Catholic, but considered as one entire corpus of written work, have led to him being declared a Doctor of the Church," writes Archbishop Bernard. St John Henry Newman was convinced of being faithful throughout his life, with all his heart devoted to the light of truth, today becomes an ever brighter beacon for all who are seeking an informed orientation and sure guidance amid the uncertainties of the modern world – a world which he himself prophetically foresaw.

Canon David Hartley



Kindaid Just Desserts

## YUM TIME! SATURDAY 18th October 2025

Our Lady's Church Hall at 7pm Adults £10.00 / Children £5.00

Tasty homemade soup followed by an astonishing array of hot and cold puddings and desserts

Bring your friends and make sure to come hungry!

Tickets available from the Kindaid Team or call Sue Sugars on 07950 144450



Kindaid







#### An introduction to SPAN for our Deanery churches.

SPAN – Supporting People Across the Nations is a registered charity that was started 50 years ago to be a sign of our Christian love of our neighbour.

More can be found about our recent activities and the range of causes we support on our webpage www.catholicleamington.org.uk/span

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month to review the feedback we receive from groups we have supported and to decide which of several appeals we receive we should support. We have some general principles regarding who to support, we would look at smaller charities (registered in the UK) where our funding can make a difference, rather than larger ones (other than CAFOD or the Disasters Emergency Committee appeals).

Our donations are split evenly between local causes and overseas ones. Every month we have core beneficiaries:

- Locally: Warwick & District Foodbank, Young People First (supporting children in local schools), New Chapters (providing a route for those challenged by addiction)
- Overseas: Hope House Babies Home in Nairobi, House of Light and Hope in Beirut, Lebanon, priests supporting vulnerable families in Uganda, Mission hospitals in Nyenga, Uganda and Ortum, Kenya

The rest of our available funds go the appeals received that month. For more information or to be added to our SPAN email distribution list contact paulhay-den444@gmail.com



#### SVP in the parishes





We are blessed with an SVP conference in each of the five local churches. Here is our latest request on your generosity -

#### **Food Bank Donations**

If you donate to one of our Food Bank collection boxes, here is the latest list of most needed items –

Tinned Fruit and Vegetarian Meals
Squash
Jam
Coffee (small jars)
Washing-up Liquid
Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shampoo
Tinned Corned Beef/Ham.

Please donate if you can. Many thanks.



## TEA DANCE

## St Joseph's Church Whitnash

Murcott Road East, CV31 2JJ

Saturday 8th November

Doors Open 2pm for Dancing at 2.30pm

Admission By Ticket £4

Including Light Refreshments

Raffle in aid of Church Maintenance