

Father Hugh Writes:

Grateful thanks for MarieAnne and the team for the table top sale, which really completes our fundraising for 2019. £188.67 is the total so far. I think there may be a few more offerings which may push it up. We also received another cheque from Peter Bates who has sold some more books of Sue's. See over for the offertory collection totals. Thank you.

Next Sunday 1st December is Advent Sunday and we return to St Matthew's gospel. Churches together meet at St Peter's for our shared liturgy to begin the year at 6pm.

For this Sunday, The Solemnity of Christ the King, we go to late St Luke and hear once more the passage of Jesus on the cross with the two 'criminals'. 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Pilate asks of Jesus. Our second reading is from the letter to the people of Colossae; here St Paul introduces another hymn which explains that Jesus is not the mere earthly, political messiah of Jewish expectations, but the unique image of God.

This is also National Youth Sunday, a day of prayer for our young.

Last Monday all the heating units were serviced and all seems to be well there, similarly our fire extinguishers and all portable appliances have all passed. We should be safe for another year.

It may not be clear on the posters, but the Advent Liturgy, hosted by St Peter's next Sunday is one of the Churches Together events. Churches together as a title replaced the councils of churches some years ago and thus in our villages represents the churches of St Peter's Henfield and Woodmancote, and St Giles Shermanbury, the Free church and ourselves.

As clergy we met for lunch on Thursday last and had fruitful discussions. On January 19th we shall at 6pm host a liturgy for the week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Further on in the year, as part of the 750th anniversary celebrations at St Peter's here we shall have a shared liturgy on Pentecost Sunday. May 31st. You may wish to add those dates to your diaries now, for planning purposes.

The coming Advent Sunday, effectively begins that year of events for us all.

In our Cathedral this week as you may have seen on the poster, the Statue of our Lady of Walsingham is visiting, details of the prayer events surrounding this are also on a separate poster and leaflet.

Parish & Diocesan Notices:

Would parents please note that next Sunday 1st December there will be no First Holy Communion session. They will recommence the following Sunday, 8th December.

ANGEL TREE – Today is the last day to hand in your gifts/donations. Very many thanks to those who have bought a gift and/or donated funds to help brighten up Christmas for prisoners at HMP Lewes and their families. Contact Leo Gribbon or Dominic Dring (domdring14@gmail.com or 07875 728436)

Advent Groups: Please join one of the Advent groups. They last just 1½ hours, refreshments provided. Please complete a form or e-mail Josephine.slaughter@btinternet.com as soon as possible. A list will be displayed in the porch and updated as the names come in.

The Co-workers of Mother Teresa are again collecting items for the homeless. The full list is on the notice board. Socks are especially needed - they do not have to be new but must be clean. There will be a box in the porch to collect the items or give them to Jo Slaughter.

Missio: The Missio 2020 calendar is now available for all red box holders to collect from the porch table. Thank you to everyone who has brought their red box in to be emptied. If you have a box that hasn't been emptied this year please leave it with Margaret Hollingsworth so the contents can be banked before the year end.

There will be a second collection after Mass next Sunday, 1st December, for flowers for our church at Christmas.

Sunday 8th December: Organ recital 3pm here in our church at 3pm by Gerald Taylor, fellow of the Royal College of Organists. Free entry but donations in aid of the Henfield Haven. Followed by mulled wine and mince pies in our hall.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday 15th December: Sing along Christmas Carols. Please come to an afternoon of carol singing in our Church Hall at 3pm. Mince pies and mulled wine provided for a small donation. All profits to help the homeless. Please contact MarieAnne 01273 493913. There will also be a sweet treat "prize every time" Tombola for Church funds.

The 'Laudato Si' meeting date has had to be pushed back to 25th January. More details nearer the time.