

Father Hugh Writes:

Firstly a Happy New Year to you all.

A new decade has begun and much will change for us all, as we leave the EU and the UK, as it is now, sets out on it's own. Many thought it seems to me that we would go back to a golden age, but as Bishop Kieran frequently told us, there was never such a thing in the church and of course otherwise. We must use the past to look forward and plan for our future, no more so than in the Church/es.

On 18th January the week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins: It is an important week for all of us as is the work of Churches together nationally. We have learnt in this century perhaps more than any other time of the contribution that is made by all world Faiths too.

I'm away for a few days over next weekend. Please note changes to our services on the front of this newsletter.

Laudato Si: Our Study days for Laudato Si are now confirmed for Saturday 25th January at 11am and Monday 27th at 7pm in our Hall. It will be useful to know approximate numbers in due course. This is one of the early writings of Pope Francis and has given us all cause for thought.

If you haven't read it yet there's plenty of time and may be ordered directly from CTS.

****Calling all Confirmation Candidates** – we need your names as soon as possible. Please see the parish notices for more details.

Our pastoral team meets this Monday (6th) at 7pm please.

There still seems to be much to do in the garden with some plants still needing to be found new homes, and the compost heaps emptied and spread on the fruit plot as well as the borders, then they can of course be refilled.

As we pay for our garden waste bins, I shall do some pruning when there is time to fill them. As I sit in the study the hydrangeas are reminding me of this!

Parish Notices

First Holy Communion sessions will recommence after Mass next Sunday, 12th January.

There is just one Diocesan Directory left at a cost of £5. Please leave the money in the paper box in the porch.

Christian Unity Week: On Sunday 19th January there will be a joint service with St Peter's here at Corpus Christ at 6pm. This is during the week of Prayer for Christian Unity which runs from 18th to 25th January. More details to follow.

****Confirmation 2020** for the Lewes deanery is 31st May at Arundel Cathedral at 3pm. It is Pentecost Sunday and will be the end of the half term. Sign up forms are now available and the Confirmation 2020 programme is on the notice board. Please speak to Fr. Hugh as soon as possible.

Christmas Cards: please collect the last few Cards from the porch.

There is also a large number of lost property items in a box in the porch awaiting collection by their owners.

This year our Crib Collection will go to the Catholic Children's Society's A&B Crisis Fund which provides immediate financial support for families facing a crisis in their lives. Please gift aid if you are a tax payer. Envelopes are available at the side of the crib.

Advance Notices:

The Laudato Si meetings will be on Saturday 25th and Monday 27th January. See Fr Hugh's notices for more details.

Annual Justice and Peace Assembly: Saturday 25th January with Bishop Richard at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP.

World Day of Prayer: In 2020 the service, written by the women of Zimbabwe, will take place on Friday 6th March at St Peter's Church, Henfield. Everyone welcome. Full details nearer the time.

A Thanksgiving Mass for those reaching a significant milestone in their marriage will be held on 10th October, at St Joseph's, Guildford.