

St. Joan of Arc News

www.stjoanofarcfarnham.co.uk

April 2013

Coming Events

Apr

- 6/7 **Spring Fair and Cake Sale** for World Youth day fundraising.
- 9 **Parish Social Walk** . Meet St. Joan's car park 9.30 a.m. Details in Church porch.
- 13 **Brazilian Extravaganza** in aid of the World Youth Day Group. School Hall 6.00 p.m. Tickets from Irenie, Mia or Valerie.
- 14 **First Holy Communion 9.15am Mass** followed by First Session in the Centre.
- 19 **Exam Revision** for years 10-13. St. Joan's Centre 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
- 19-21 **Jubilee Year of Faith Weekend** at St. Cuthmans. 01403 741220
- 21 **Musical Afternoon Tea** with the Chase Singers
- 24 **Year of Faith Café Programme** St. Joan's Centre 8.00 p.m. – 9.00 p.m. The Bible: Where on earth is God? "How has the Bible helped you?"
- 26 **Exam Revision** for years 10-13. St. Joan's Centre 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

May

- 3,10, 24 **Exam Revision** for years 10-13. St. Joan's Centre 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Dates for the Youth Club meetings are on page four of this newsletter.

PARISH GROUPS



CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP: Mondays 10.30-11.15am Centre Foyer. No meetings 1st April and 27thMay.

ROSARY GROUP: Next meeting 16th April. in St. Joan's Church.

'LIFE IN THE SPIRIT' PRAYER GROUP: Thursdays at 8pm

MOTHERS PRAYERS: Fridays after the 9.30am Mass in Centre Foyer.

PARENT TODDLER GROUP: Tuesdays 9.30-11.30am in the Centre during term time.

ST JOAN'S YOUTH CLUB: Fridays 7.00 p.m.-9.00p.m. Open to Year 7's and above; next meeting: 19th April - Indoor Games in St.

Joan's Centre. Contact Paulina on 711923 or Vince on 733876; or at:-
stjoansyouthclub@hotmail.co.uk

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend any of these groups.

Parish Mission

Plans for the Mission are progressing well. The core Mission team of about 15 parishioners has met twice to plan activities for the week, and they are now recruiting volunteers. Help is needed for welcoming, setting up meetings, refreshments, and children's groups on the Sunday. If you think you may like to get involved, and want to find out more, do come along to the "Mission Vision Evening" on Wednesday April 17th at 8pm in the Parish Centre. Mission leader David Payne will be coming to tell us more about the aims and activities of Mission Week.

The Parish Mission, which runs from 9th-14th July, will give everyone in the Parish the opportunity to explore and deepen their faith in an inspiring and fun programme.

Parishioners are encouraged to invite family and friends who may have drifted away from the church.

Led by Catholic lay people, the Mission talks are aimed at presenting practical ways in which our faith can help us deal with everyday life, families, children and so forth. The week will finish with a Parish celebration day on July 14th, along the lines of our usual Parish Family Day, but with added input from the mission team. See poster in Church porch for more details.

Alastair Emblem

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit we thank you for hearing our prayer to choose Pope Francis as the successor of St. Peter. May you guide Pope Francis and help him to bring the message of Jesus and His love to the whole world. Amen.

Prayer to St. Joan in a Difficult

Time

St. Joan, in the face of your enemies and in putting up with harassment, ridicule and doubt, you held firm to your faith in Jesus.

During what is a difficult time for me, please pray that my faith in the Lord will not waver but will remain strong like your faith did. Amen.

The Williams Club

If you know of anyone who suffers with poor eyesight, please encourage them to come along to the next meeting of The Williams Club for the Visually Impaired.

There will be a FUN QUIZ which will be followed by tea and cakes and a raffle.

The meeting will be held in the Gostrey Centre on Monday 15th April, from 2.30 - 4pm, but get there early to get a seat! Help with transport can be arranged

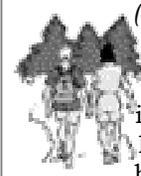
For more information please call David Lambert on 722161

*St Joan of Arc RC Church Farnham
Forthcoming Parish Social Events*

Date	Event	Responsible
April 21st	Musical Afternoon Tea with Chase Singers	Contact: Parish Office 716711
June 9th	Bon East Banquet	Contact: Parish Office 716711
September 20th	Bridge Tea	Contact: Elsie Kearney
October 19th	Quiz Night	Contact: Parish Office 716711
November	Film Night	Contact: Parish Office 716711
December	Christmas Music Evening	Contact: Parish Office 716711

If you want to arrange a Parish social event please let the Office know and we will include this in the monthly newsletter. Events that help towards Parish funds are greatly appreciated - Michael Maher acts as the coordinator - please make contact with him with any suggestions.

Parish Social Walks



*(1) Parish Walk – 14th February 2013
Tilford & Hankley*

It was pouring with rain at seven in the morning. By eight o'clock, it had stopped and by nine, the sun had appeared. It was St.

Valentine's Day and also the day chosen for our Parish walk...so the improvement in the weather was very welcome!

Our small convoy of cars left St. Joan's just after nine thirty on its way to Tilford, crossing the recently restored medieval bridge which spans the river Wey, and passing the famous Tilford Oak, reputed to be at least 800 years old.

At the Stockbridge Pond car park, we changed into stout waterproof footwear and rambled down to the Pond, carefully negotiating the myriad of puddles on our way. Those of us wearing wellington boots bravely walked through the puddles – no doubt, secretly hoping they were not too deep!

The first part of our walk skirted Hankley Common golf course, where the immaculately kept greens shimmered in the clear morning sun-light. We followed a footpath through a small forest of oak and silver birch trees, many decked with the filigree tracery of delicate silver lichens, which seem to flourish in these environments. Then we began the gentle ascent to the top of Yagden Hill. The panoramic view of the famous Surrey Hills from the summit was spectacular, reminding us of how fortunate we are to live in such a beautiful county.

Our descent led us past Hankley Cottage and on to a trail taking us close to the river Wey once more. Our photo stop was at a gentle slope downwards, to a bank where ropes had been attached to the branches of a tree hanging out over the swiftly flowing water. Not surprisingly, no one tried this method of crossing the river!

We were now nearing the end of our walk and arrived back at Stockbridge Pond in time to feed the ducks; and to observe two mallard drakes having a rather violent dispute over some duck business or other!

Back at the car park, we replaced our muddied boots with normal wear and repaired to the Spotted Cow to eat, drink and ... solve all the world's problems in pleasant conversation! *Trevor Hanslip*

(2) To Follow in the Footsteps of Jesus

It was so very cold as we walked from the cars along the woodland path to the chapel of St. Francis by the lake at Wintershall on Tuesday 12th March....Thin ice covered a muddy puddle; and the daffodils and primroses that had stood so straight and ready to flower only a week or two earlier, today were frozen and drooping. Surrounding the chapel, tiny jewels of ice shone on the tips of the grass in the cold March sunshine, but... the sun was shining and yes, the sky stretched like a blue heaven above us as we stood ready in our group (all fourteen of us) to follow in the footsteps of Jesus on His way of the Cross.

At each new Station along the way, a different member of the group read the prayers, allowing us all to stand and meditate on Our Lord's Journey with the Cross. Some representations of the Way were traditional and life-size – others were more modern and symbolic – all had been commissioned and created by different artists; and, in the beautiful surroundings of the Wintershall Estate, all of them drew us in to the mystery of the Cross, inspiring us to meditate with gratitude and awe on the gift of Christ's selfless love for each one of us. *Sheila Thorp.*

Mention must be made of the superb lunch for the walking group hosted by Maria and Jonathan Doland at their house in December when £100 was raised for charities.

World Youth Day Group

For those of you that have not heard of us or do not know what we are about, we thought we would enlighten you with our plans!

We are a group of 11 youths aged 16-22 and 2 adults who are planning to travel to Brazil in July this year to take part in World Youth Day...it is actually a festival which will last a week! We will meet up with 6 million other young Catholics from all over the world, to celebrate our faith and to meet our Holy Father....an amazing opportunity for us all at such an exciting time. We will be using a school hall as our refuge along with hundreds of other young Catholics....we have sleeping bags and a roll....as for showers...who knows!!

We will be spending the following two weeks sleeping on the floor a convent, where we will be shadowing the nuns with their work in the local schools and hospitals and helping the poorest people in the Favelas. We need to raise £19,000 to cover the cost of our flights

and accommodation! So far we have raised £7,000 from cake sales, a quiz night, babysitting, a cinema afternoon, football coaching, car boot sales, St Polycarp's multi day, raffles, a carnival night and Spanish lessons!.....we still have a long way to go and plan to have a Brazilian night, a spring mini fair, sponsored bike ride, Max and Dom plan to have their legs waxed...Ouch!

If anybody has any more fund raising ideas or would like to make a donation we would be extremely grateful.....please contact Chloe Castles or Sr Ewa.

Bishop Kieran Welcomes with Joy

New Pope Francis I

Bishop Kieran reflects on the election of Pope Francis I: "Even the media people in St Peter's Square seemed to be infected by the joy that greeted the appearance of Pope Francis, and there is a mood of hope and encouragement across the church and the world....."

The media have been fascinated by how modestly this man has lived, this son of a railway worker who travelled by public transport and cooked his own meals. Those days are gone for him, but let us hope that our modern world can hear that call to live more simply and modestly. This has been a very timely papal election."

(From the A & B website).

St. Cuthman's Retreat Centre

Our diocesan retreat centre at Coolham, near Horsham, is open to individuals and groups of all denominations and of none. Services include 'Simple Chapel, Morning and Evening Prayer, with Mass most days; there is a well stocked library; Silent and non-silent options – (including for dining); 20 acres of beautiful grounds - plus a 5 acre lake, with views to the South Downs.

There are 8 single and 8 twin rooms, all en-suite are available for individuals, couples and groups; minimum stay 2 nights.

There are facilities for group use and quiet days.

St Cuthman's 'Reflection Days' and special events – led retreat days for individuals in our Garden Rooms.

Enquiries can be made to 01403 741220

St. Joan's Youth Club



Meets Friday evenings during term time - 7.00 – 9.00pm at St Joan's Centre/St Polycarp's Hall, Farnham. Open to Year 7s and above

Programme April - May 2013

Date	Activity	Venue/Contact
19 th April 2013	Indoor Games - (or Outdoor Games)	St. Joan's Centre Kieran/Clive/ Richard
26 th April 2013	Indoor Games – Pool, table-tennis, table-football, air-hockey, etc, etc (or Outdoor Games)	St. Joan's Centre Irenie/Kieran/ Clive/Madeleine
3 rd May 2013	Indoor and/or Outdoor Games	Paulina/Clive/ Madeleine
10 th May 2013	“Cooking Activity”, BBQ and/or Outdoor Games	St. Joan's Centre Paulina/ Clive/ Vince/Irenie
13 th May	Possible Outing for Climbing Activity	Vince/Richard/ Clive/Parents

St. Joan's 200 Club.

The 200 Club Spring Draw winners of £100 are:

No. 21 Mrs J. Wheeler

No. 180 Mrs P. Clark

No. 66 Mrs E. Chiverton

There are numbers available for new members- a modest investment of £12 a year!

Ring Liz Owen for details.

Church Works

Over the next six to eight weeks The Cathedral Works Organisation (Chichester) Limited will be carrying out specialist cleaning and conservation works to the back wall of the sanctuary. During this work the weekday Mass times and locations are likely to vary and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

For the month of March:-

Funerals: None.

Baptisms Savannah Conn, Rory and Maisie Canton.

Weddings: There were no weddings in March.

Useful Contacts

<i>Parish Office</i>	Patsy Clark
<i>Pastoral Team</i>	Contact Parish Office
<i>ARCAID</i>	Jenifer Davis
<i>CAFOD</i>	Joanna Stephens
<i>Bereavement Support</i>	Lily Cloughley
<i>Badminton Group and Church Cleaning</i>	Carol Tutte
<i>Divorced & Separated</i>	Madeleine Stanford
<i>Parent & Toddler</i>	Ildi Evans
<i>Sunday Lunches</i>	Susie Banks
<i>200 Club</i>	Liz Owen
<i>St. Joan's Centre</i>	Julie Crowley
<i>APF</i>	Sallie Wheater
<i>Lifts to Mass</i>	Contact Parish Office
<i>Safeguarding Co-Ordinator</i>	Marie O'Donnell
<i>Children's Liturgy</i>	Natalie McLoughlin Frances Thompson
<i>Fund-Raising</i>	Michael Maher
<i>Web Site</i>	Mary Nolan
<i>Publicity</i>	Tony Tunstall
<i>Gift Aid</i>	Mike & Margaret Stafford

*Submissions and letters about the 'News' should be addressed to the "Monthly News ' Monthly News' in the subject line or placed in the box under the rota noticeboard **by the Wednesday before the last weekend before publication on the first Sunday of the month.** Submissions may be edited.*

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"Happiness keeps you sweet, trials keep you strong, sorrows keep you human, failures keep you humble, success keeps you glowing....but only God keeps you going!"