

Autumn Fair

Thanks to everyone who attended the Autumn Fair last Sunday, and most especially thanks to those who worked hard preparing it and running it. It raised £663.57 for the renovation fund and, more importantly, was an enjoyable social occasion.

A number of books and other second-hand items were left over after the Fair, so these will be on sale in the hall after the 11am Mass this Sunday. Sale of the raffle tickets will continue for two weekends, with the winners announced 8-9 December.

This week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of Group C: Margaret Madden & family, & Michael. Thank you.

Monday 26 November: St Leonard of Port Maurice

A popular Franciscan preacher, St Leonard was instrumental in popularising the Stations of the Cross.

Tuesday 27 November: St Francis Anthony Fasani

This Conventual Franciscan priest was charitable and welcoming to all, giving as his reason the hope of being able one day to say to the Lord: “I was indulgent, I don't deny it; but it was You who taught me to be so.”

Also this Tuesday: ‘Shining Lights’—Viva evening in Oxford

At Advent time, we remember that ‘The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.’ Join the international children's charity Viva for an evening learning how our partners are shining a light into the murky world of online sexual exploitation. Discover more about the issue and find out how you can respond, on Tuesday from 5.30-7.00pm at Unit 8, The Gallery, 54 Marston Street, Oxford OX4 1LF. Refreshments served. RSVP: Vicki at v.price@viva.org or 01865 811660.

Thursday 29 November: All Franciscan Saints

On this day we celebrate all the holy Franciscans in heaven, whether canonised or not.

Also on Thursday: Taizé Prayer

On the last Thursday of each month you are invited to attend a Taizé prayer service at 7.30pm in the Friary Chapel. Taizé-style worship centres on singing, prayer, and readings from Scripture.

Friday 30 November: St Andrew

Andrew was one of the first two disciples to follow Jesus and became one of the Apostles. After missionary work around the Black Sea, he was crucified in Greece.

Also on Friday: Holy Rosary

Every Friday evening the Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm. All are welcome.

Saturday 1 December: St Edmund Campion

Born in 1540, Edmund studied at Oxford before becoming a Catholic and joining the Jesuits. He ministered for only one year in England before being arrested, and he was hung, drawn, and quartered at Tyburn.

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Looking further ahead:

Sundays 2 & 9 December: Christmas Collection for the homeless

The Gatehouse, which is attached to St Giles Church, and **the Porch**, which is in our parish, are drop-in centres which support the homeless and vulnerably housed. The Greyfriars Justice and Peace group is again organising a Christmas collection of items to help these charities offer food, help, and support to those in need.

We are collecting food and clothing etc. that the charities have told us that they need. A full list will be available at the back of church after Masses this weekend. There will be a box by the Sacred Heart Altar for donations on the first two weekends of Advent, 1st to 9th December.

First Holy Communions 2019

The gift of Jesus' Body and Blood in the Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian lives, so the Church wishes children to receive it as soon as they can appreciate its importance. Application forms are now available at the back of church for children in Year 3 or above. The deadline for applications is Sunday 16 December, and preparation classes will begin in the New Year.

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Becoming a Catholic

Many people who aren't Catholics attend this church, either regularly or just dropping by. All of you are welcome, wherever you are on your journey with Jesus Christ. But if you're interested in the possibility of becoming a Catholic, then please speak to Br. Paul or drop him an email to register your interest.

Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member—whether or not you are a Catholic—please complete a registration form, which can be found at the back of the church. We look forward to getting to know you better. May the Lord bless you and your family.

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Yemen

As you will have seen on the news, millions of people are starving in Yemen. Please consider donating to help them, via charities like CAFOD or Oxfam.