

Monthly Newsletter



Easter and beyond

I don't know if it is just me, but March seems to have just flown by and I can't believe we are now over half way through Lent, with Holy Week and Easter fast approaching.

During Holy Week there will be a daily opportunity to attend an act of worship. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday these will be the **Triduum liturgies** and include the washing of feet, the stripping of the altars and the veneration of the cross, before the kindling of the new fire and renewal of baptismal vows on Easter Eve as we celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. Details of all the services can be found on the back of the newsletter.

In addition to the services at St John's, Bishop Alan has invited everyone in the Diocese to attend the **Chrism Mass in St Albans Abbey (11am)** on Maundy Thursday, when the oils used for sacramental ministry in the parish are blessed. It is also a time where both clergy and lay people recommit themselves to ministry and mission.

On **Easter Day** we will baptise three of our children and young people, so do pray for Kristodea, OJ and Odell as they prepare for this special moment in their life. Do also pray for Meg who will be **confirmed on Easter Eve**.

Looking further ahead, I am pleased to announce that at the end of May, we will host a **large community event** at St John's - details are being finalised at the moment and I will have more info for next month's newsletter.

In June, there will be the first of a series of **Jazz concerts at St John's**, when internationally acclaimed Italian pianist and singer-songwriter Ilario Ferrari joins forces with award-winning jazz/soul singer and producer Randolph Matthews for a special duo performance. Tickets are now on sale, more info on the back of the newsletter.

With love and blessings,

Fr Corniel

Coming up:

Faith & a Pint

1st April, 7pm
Estcourt Tavern

Stations of the Cross Thursday

2nd April, 7:30pm

Patronal Festival

Sunday 11th May

APCM

Sunday 18th May

Community Event

Friday 30th May –
Sunday 1st June

Conversations in

Jazz Sunday 22nd
June

What's happening at St John's



Conversations in Jazz @ St John's

On Sunday 22nd June, St John's will host Ilario Ferrari and Randolph Matthews for a special duo performance, called **Songs of Today Meets Songs of Yesterday.**

How has the song form developed over the years? From Italian arias to jazz classics and contemporary original compositions, this concert weaves a thread through great song writing, bridging the past and present. The concert will be enriched by the soprano Cheryl Clark, who will join for a special duet.

Get your tickets now via <http://tiny.cc/jazzconvo>



No Parish Lunch

Sadly our April parish lunch date falls on Easter Day, so this month there will not be a parish lunch.

However, we look forward to the return of Bill's food feast in May, and the opportunity to get together as a community!



Teaching Eucharist

On Sunday 6th April our Parish Mass will be a **Teaching Eucharist**. This means that at various points in the service we will stop and explore why we say what we say, and why we do what we do - or in other words: we will go behind "the smells and bells" ... !



Holy Week & Easter Services

Monday & Tuesday - 7:30pm
Said Mass

Wednesday - 10am
Said Mass with Lectio Divina

Maundy Thursday - 7:30pm
Presentation of holy oils, washing of feet and stripping of the altars.

Good Friday
12noon: Stations of the Cross
1pm: Readings, Music and Reflection
2pm: Liturgy of Good Friday with Veneration of the Cross

Easter Eve - 8pm
Kindling of the New Fire, Renewal of Baptismal Vows and first Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day - 10:30am
Parish Mass with Holy Baptism