Dear People,

Those of you who remember or have studied World War II, Nazi Germany, the Holocaust, will remember the names of Hitler, Himmler, Goebbels, Goring, Heydrich, all guilty of terrible war crimes, especially against the Jews. What did those men have in common, besides being amongst the most evil men of the 20th century?

They had all been Catholics (don’t say “once a Catholic, always a Catholic” - it isn’t true). That is part of the horror of the collective memory of the Catholic Church in Germany: that “the Final Solution (extermination of the Jews)” and the conquest of Europe and, perhaps, eventually, the whole world, was directed by men who had grown up in Catholic families in a religious Germany.

The pastoral leadership of the Catholic Church in Germany and Italy during the frightening years of Fascism is shameful. The world received public apologies from the bishops of both countries in the 1960’s for their moral cowardice, but the world already knew, through bishops’ pastoral letters during the war, of the Church’s support for the German and Italian war conquests. Do read those letters. They will show you how far nationalism, patriotism, can lead even seemingly good men from the truth of the faith they profess to the brutality of supporting war “my country, right or wrong.”

The studies continue of how a nominally Christian country could wage war, hate the Jews, seek to dominate the world, to impose its power over Europe - and even the world. The voice of Christianity was muted. Pope Pius XII knew Goring well. He was papal nuncio in Germany for many years. He would have seen better than most what was happening and we know he kept Pius XI informed. Pius XI was an implacable foe of Nazi Germany and we can suppose Pius XII was also. What blinded/silenced them that they did not speak out more strongly in defence of the small countries of Europe and of the Jews! Soviet Russia. They feared Communism even more that Naziism and saw Hitler and his horrifying henchmen protectors of Western Europe.

We pray for Church and world leaders to put God first, not political power and domination.

God bless us,

Fr. John
Dear Parish Friends,

We are planning our Easter visit to the children at Mother of Peace orphanage in Zimbabwe. Please help if you can as they are going through difficult times. The Government has declared a national emergency because of the recent drought and consequent food shortages . . .

ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE EASTER VISIT 2016

- Enamel bowls (please see the example in St. Joseph’s chapel)
- Acrylic paints; Art/craft materials/decorative "bits and pieces"; Remnant pieces of material; Picture books with simple English text - plus some with themes for older children;
- Recorder tutor music books;
- Lightweight pocket money toys;
- Teenage girls’ brass (all sizes);
- Knitting needles/wool;
- Wind-up torches;

Expensive watches.

Thank you, Lynn.
PS Details next week for MOP "Penfriends"

LACY Leicestershire Active Catholic Youth

STATIONS OF THE CROSS & MASS

at Mount St Bernard’s Abbey

Sunday 13th March, 1.30 - 5.30 pm

More details on notice boards. Contact Ian 07752130224 or Pauline 07885187374 for coach details or more information.

First Holy Communion

A Meeting for parents

(and children if they wish to come)

on Monday 7th March

after the evening Mass (7.45 pm) in the church, just for half an hour. Please do come.

Watermead Shop opening times

FOR ALL LENT/ EASTER RESOURCES, ETC.

Tues, Wed, Thur from 10.30 am -3.30 pm
Sun 11.45 am -12.15 pm

Information from 0116 220 7881 / 0
www.watermead-apololate.com

PARISH OPEN DAY at St Joseph’s

~ Hot drinks in the Coffee Shop!

Parish Library, “HOME FROM HOME”

Garden and Watermead Shop are all open after the morning Service.

KNITT AND KNATTER” 11.00 am - 12 noon, upstairs in the Coffee Shop.

Please feel welcome to join us.

FOOTCARE CLINIC TODAY in the Watermead Centre. Telephone Julie on 0116 3678480 for an appointment.

Friday 4th March

THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP meet in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at 6.00 pm. All welcome.

Saturday 5th March

VIOLIN LESSONS in the Children’s Liturgy room from 10.00 - 11.00 am. If interested come and found out more.

Churches Together in Humberstone LENT COURSE

“The Psalms and our Prayer”

Wednesday 2nd March

at Uppingham Road Methodist church

Thursday 10th March

at Abbots Road UR C

Thursday 17th March

at Christ Church, Thurnby Lodge

Parish Diary This Week

Monday 29th February

QUESTION OF FAITH. Probably - we shall confirm after the evening mass.

Tuesday 1st March

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION at Holy Cross, Leicester, 7.00 pm, led by Bishop Patrick. All welcome.

Wednesday 2nd March

MEDITATION in St Joseph’s Pastoral Centre, 10.50 am Quiet prayer, meditation, intercessions. All welcome.

STATION MASS, Holy Cross, 7.30 pm.

CHURCHES TOGETHER this week is at Uppingham Rd Methodist Church.

Refreshments at 7.00 pm, followed by prayer and discussion at 7.30 pm.

Thursday 3rd March

“TWILIGHT” LENTEN RETREAT

We begin again for this year on Saturday 16th March 7.00 - 9.00 pm here at St Joseph’s.

An evening of talks, prayer and music led by Fr John. All welcome. (£2 donation)

(Leaflets with full programme at back of church)

St Patrick’s Day Mass

Thursday 17th March, 11.00 am at St Patrick’s, Beaumont Leys, Leicester

Celebrant: Bishop Patrick

Peter Mylett in Concert

Saturday 19th March, 7.30 pm at the Notts Club in aid of MacMillan Nurses

Tickets on the door £7 (see poster)

STATION MASSES

Do consider coming and meeting and sharing prayer with your Catholic neighbours.

Wednesday 2nd March

Holy Cross, Wellington Street

Wednesday 9th March

St Mary’s, South Wigston

(Mass on all evenings begins at 7.30 pm and there will be confessions prior to each Mass)

YEAR OF MERCY

8th December 2015 - 20th November 2016

REFUGEES / ASYLUM SEEKERS

What do you know about Leicester City of Sanctuary?

Did you know that it is entirely run by volunteers?

Would you like to volunteer?

Is there a way you could help?

Next week we shall share a way to help with the click of a mouse!

But for now visit their website to find out more about the project...

www.leicester.cityofsanctuary.org

Our Parish & Local Doors of Mercy

at St Joseph’s:

(1) Inner Porch Doors and

(2) The Door of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

at The Rosary: The Inner Porch Door

The Diocesan Door in this area is at Holy Cross, Wellington Street, Leicester

The Parish on Sundays

Hot (and cold) drinks after mass on Sunday mornings at both our churches.

The Lourdes Garden, the library, the “Home from Home” Shop and Watermead Shop are all open at St Joseph’s.

The Parishioner on Sundays

Counted and banked. £1,048

Thank you. Counters: Terry

(Next week: TBA)

Postbag

VIOLENT LESSONS

THE MIRIAM PRAYER GROUP

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 2nd March

MEDITATION

STATION MASS

Churches Together in Humberstone

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(Next week: TBA)

Prayer Box

Please pray for:

Families of the parish and our loved ones living and dead especially for those who have recently died:

Monsignor Edward Walker (RIP)

The sick and housebound, those in hospital and in nursing homes - especially:

Fabian Sweeney, Christina Flynn, Declan, Jenny Alken, Jonathan Lockwood, Jennifer Cox, Pat Alken, Lisa Lobo, Mary Rayner, Patrick, Clare

Prayers for: Donald Burgess

The McCann family and all missing children

The peoples and countries of the world, especially IRELAND

RESTORE LIFE

WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH

11.00 am

at Holy Cross, Wellington Street, Leicester

led by Fr. David Tobin IC

Details from 07887296983 or email info@retrouvaille.org.uk

Rosmini Centre: LENTEN RETREAT

led by Fr. David Tobin IC

Saturday 5th March

10.00 for 10.30 to 4.00 pm. Suggested donation £15.

Lunch, tea/coffee provided.

To book telephone 01509 813078

InterCare Annual Quiz Night

at the Queen Victoria, Syston

Tuesday 8th March, 7.00 pm

Details from http://intercare.org.uk/

RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND FOR MARRIED COUPLES

11th-13th March

Full details from Clive and Kathy on 07887296983 or email info@retrouvaille.org.uk

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Our first Children’s Mass for 2016 at 10.30 am next Sunday - Music practice on Saturday, 11.15 am, in the children’s room