

NEWSLETTER SUPPLEMENT SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2026

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING— Next Saturday 21 February 2026 at 11am at St Joseph's. Our training is open to any member of the Parish who would like to become an altar server, for those who couldn't come to our last training session and any current servers who may wish to refresh their skills. Please speak with Fr Marco or Robert

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE—Applicants for St Joseph's School for NURSERY places in 2026 who may require a 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' can either download an application form from the resource page on our website or alternatively collect an application form for a certificate from No 3 Windhill, the Sacristy after Mass or the parish office in person. Once completed it should then be posted through the letter box of No 3 Windhill marked for Fr Peter or Fr Marco's attention with a stamped addressed envelope, please. The certificate will be posted to you in the envelope provided. Please allow plenty of time if you do require a certificate.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23 May 2026 at 2:30pm. The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the parish office the following details before Monday 13 April: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email). Closer to the time, the Agency for Evangelisation will send out an invitation from the Archbishop to the couples.

CAFOD BIG LENT WALK—Fr Tony Convery will be doing the Lent Walk for CAFOD this year and would be glad if you could sponsor him. Donations can be made through his fundraising page at <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fr-tonys-fundraising-page2026>

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY LENT APPEAL Friday 27 February— Donation envelopes are now available.

HOLY CROSS LANTERN TALK & LUNCH—On Saturday, 21 March, 11.30 am at St. Andrew's with Holy Cross, there will be the annual Lenten Talk, given this year by Fr. Peter Harris. This will be followed by lunch. This will be a 'bring and share' meal, a simple meal of bread, cheese and fruit. The talk is intended to help us as we journey through Lent. All are welcome.

DIGITAL SKILLS GROUP— 23 February 10.30am – 12.00pm Methodist Church. Free help from friendly volunteers to get to know your computer, tablet, or phone. This event takes place on the last Monday of the month.

THE RADIO MARIA ENGLAND YOUTH (RMEY) TEAM at St Mary's Catholic School would like to share their 'Growing in Grace' programme with you - 'Lent'. The programme will air on Friday, 20 February at 5pm, with a repeat on Sunday 22 February at 8pm. The RMEY team reflect on sacrifices, self-discipline and turning back to God during this Lenten season, interviewing some of our Year 13 students about their Lenten practices. You can access the programme on DAB+ radio and on the Radio Maria England app, or simply by typing <https://radiomariaengland.uk/> into your browser.

FREE ONLINE SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS OF THE DIOCESE—For ALL volunteers (especially volunteers that work in close contact with children and/or adults at risk), Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) LMS online training is strongly advised to be completed. Volunteers can access the training free of charge by following this link <https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk> When you are logging in, please be sure to add Diocese of Westminster and your role for our records. We encourage all volunteers to complete the Level 3 course regardless of role. Please note the training will refer to reporting concerns to the Safeguarding Co-ordinator; In the Diocese of Westminster, you should report concerns to: 1) Your PSR in Parish (Debbie Jackson) or 2). The Safeguarding duty inbox safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk. For assistance with safeguard training contact safeguardingadmin@rcdow.org.uk

COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNINGS 2026 — Saturday 14 March, 12 noon-3.30pm - St Bonaventure's Church Hall - 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and to register your attendance at one of the days, please contact: Canon Roger Taylor - Vocations Promoter rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira – Assistant Director Permanent Diaconate 07977 599110 or titopereira@rcdow.org.uk

HOLIDAY BIBLE WEEK 2026— 3-7 August. The theme this year will be Rescue! AGM: 5 March, HBW Sunday: 8 March, Registration: 8 March, Launch night for volunteers: 18 June. Holiday Bible Week (HBW) started in 1987, drawing together children from across Bishop's Stortford and the surrounding area to learn more about the Bible together. Since 1987 Holiday Bible Week has grown to host 500+ children each year, in tents on a local school playing field. Hundreds of Christians from across our town volunteer to help make Holiday Bible Week happen. There's a role for everyone – from spending the week with a particular age group to helping keep the site safe...