

**ST JAMES THE GREAT** *Catholic Church in Petts Wood* 

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



St James – A shining light in Petts Wood

## IN THIS EDITION | April 2024

Social PillarSt James Golf Day

Pastoral Care PillarMemory Cafe

**Evangelisation Pillar** • Day of Prayer **Communication Pillar** •Catenian Association

## FOLLOW US & FIND OUT MORE

- @stjamespettswood
- ( 01689 827100
- @ pettswood@rcaos.org.uk



## **Pastoral Care Pillar**

As a follow up to last month's article on the Memory Cafe we all enjoyed our exercise session on the 5th March. Our tutor, Ann, is from My Time active and does sessions regularly for those living with Dementia and their Carers.



On Sunday 12th May the 11.00 am Mass is dedicated to Dementia Awareness Week.

#### For your information

If you are deaf or have hearing loss, you might be able to access public transport support services and initiatives for disabled people.

You and your travelling companion could get a third-off rail travel, and you might be eligible for free or discounted travel on local public transport.

You can get a Disabled Person's Railcard if you live in England, Scotland or Wales and are registered as deaf with your local authority or use hearing aids.

The card costs £20 for one year or £54 for three years, but you'll get one third off most adult rail fares at any time of the day for travel on the National Rail network in Great Britain.

If you're travelling with another adult, they'll also get one third off their rail fare, so you can save money for a friend or family member too. The following website will give further information <u>https://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk/</u>

If you are deaf you may be eligible to a Blue Badge depending on your circumstances. Again here is the website for further information <u>https://www.dvla-contactnumber.co.uk/can-deaf-people-get-a-blue-badge/</u>

If you have lost a family member or friend this year and you would like to remember them at either the Mass for Bereaved Parents their Families & their Friends or the November Memorial Service please contact the Parish Office. It is not necessary to contact us if the funeral took place at St James.

Our small team of nine would really welcome new members. If you would like to know more about our role in

the parish please approach Fr David or team member.

Please see below details of the themed Masses for

Sunday 7th April 11am - World Autism Acceptance Week

Sunday 12th May 11am - Dementia Awareness Week Mass

Sunday 7th July 3pm - Mass for Bereaved Parents their Families & their Friends

Sunday 15th September 11am - World Suicide Prevention Day Mass

Monday 30th September 7pm - Healing Mass

this year.

Sunday 10th November 3pm - November Memorial Service



## **Pastoral Care Pillar**

#### Beginning Experience Weekend coming up on 12-14th April 2024

Beginning Experience is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss.

The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again

This next programme will be held on 12-14 April 2024; for further details please contact: Mary: 07730 884 315, or email <u>besouthofengland@gmail.com</u>



A weekend away for a lifetime of change

following separation, divorce or death of your spouse/partner, to help you move from the darkness of grief into the light of a new beginning.

The next weekend is 12-14 April 2024 at Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex, CM15 9BX

> For more information contact Maura: 07795-498445 or Mary: 020 8647 4760 email: besouthofengland@gmail.com



## **Finance Pillar**



#### **Congratulations to the March Winners**

- £100 Jackie Cosgrave. Number 10
- £50 Irene Webb. Number 110
- £25 Steve Weekly. Number 188
- £25 John Norris. Number 72

#### **200 Club Subscriptions**

Annual subscriptions are due by **31st March**. Can members please forward a cheque payable to St James Church 200 Club to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Alternatively if you wish to pay on line please send a payment of £60 to:

#### **Natwest Orpington**

**Sort Code** 60 16 03

Account Number 77878736

Account Name St JamesChurch 200 Club.

For members paying by Standing Order no action is required.

Thank you all for your continued support

Ken Evans

The 200 Club continues to flourish and at present there are <u>five vacancies available</u>. Subscriptions are £5 per month payable on the first day of each month. Alternatively subscriptions can be paid annually online or by cheque for £60 payable to St James the Great 200 Club. Details are as follows:

#### **Natwest Orpington**

Sort Code 60 16 03

Account Number 77878736

Account Name St JamesChurch 200 Club.

Anyone wishing to join please contact Ken Evans telephone 01689 851793 or the Parish Office 01689 827100.



Second collections in April

14th April - Maintenance/Building Fund

21st April - Priest' Training

#### 28th April - Maintenance of Cathedral

If payments to these second collections are being made by Bankers Order, please show the following payment references:

Maintenance/Building Fund - Build/Gift Aid Number/ Surname

Priest Training - PT/Gift Aid Number/Surname

Maintenance of Cathedral - MOC/Gift Aid Number/ Surname

#### Envelopes for the next financial year

Boxes of envelopes for the next financial year are now available for collection at the back of the church.

The boxes include 12 envelopes for the monthly Maintenance/Buildings Fund collections but if you do not have your envelope with you when you come to Mass there are spare envelopes available. If you no longer need the envelopes which have been ordered for you, please let the parish office know or put the envelopes into the box for unused envelopes.

The diocese has also provided multi-purpose envelopes, which can be used for Mass Intentions and any special collections, including the Christmas and Easter offerings. These envelopes are available from the welcomers at Mass. If you are a Gift Aider you do not need to write your name and address every time, provided that you show your Gift Aid number and tick the fund to which you are donating.

The Maintenance/Church Building fund is very important to the finances of the parish, partly because we have several projects due to be completed but also because donations to this fund do not attract the 30% levy which is used for the central expenses of the diocese. If you would like to make regular donations to this fund through a standing order, please contact the parish office or email gift.aid@ stjamespettswood.org.

Thank you for your continued generosity to the parish.



## **Evangelisation Pillar**

#### SAVE THE DATE!

25th – 27th October for a Parish Weekend Retreat – More details to follow.

## Eucharist Adoration – Be Still in the Presence of the Lord

Time set aside in your hectic life – wasting time in silence with God, takes place for an hour each Wednesday shortly after the Morning Mass and the Wednesday Café, starting at 10.45am and finishing with Benediction at 11.15am and on the first Friday of the month from 5pm till 7pm. The next will be on Friday **5th April.** All are welcome for all or part of this time of Adoration ending with Benediction.

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#### Pondering the Word (Lectio Divina)

A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, meetings are via zoom. Please contact the parish office who will arrange the zoom link to be sent to you. All are welcome

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#### **House Mass**

House Mass is an initiative at St. James to help develop Fr. David's vision of St. James becoming a "Sanctuary in Suburbia".

The idea of House Mass goes back to early Christians who, in small groups, gather in houses to celebrate the Lord's Supper. It typically has a more intimate atmosphere (than a Sunday Mass), and everybody feels more involved in the celebration. The setting also allows time to develop friendships and community.

#### **Provisional Timing for House Mass**

8pm Arrive (before 8pm if possible) and settle

8:05pm Start Mass

8:50pm Mass finishand social to follow.

#### Dates for 2024

Tuesday 14th May - Allocated

Tuesday 25th June - Allocated

Tuesday 23rd July

**Tuesday 24th September** 

Tuesday 22nd October

**Tuesday 19th November** 

Tuesday 10th December

If you think you would like to host a House Mass, please contact Suzanne and Caroline via email <u>pettswood@rcaos.</u> <u>org.uk</u> to agree mutually convenient date.

## Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage July 13th, at St George's Cathedral

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please let us know as soon as possible, and no later than May 31, providing the following details: your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address, the anniversary you are celebrating, so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. Email us at <u>mflse@rcaos.org.uk</u> As the title of your email, please write your parish location e.g. Clapham, Beckenham.

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#### Day of Prayer - Petts Wood Churches Together

Following an uplifting and peaceful Day of Prayer with Petts Wood Churches Together last year, we've decided to have another one.

This one will take place in the Community Centre on Saturday 4th May from about 9.30am until about 4pm.

There will be more information and invitations for participants soon.

Meantime we would like to invite volunteers to sign up as welcomers, and to coordinate hospitality and refreshments, including hot drinks all day, a sandwich lunch with fruit midday, and perhaps tea and cakes in the mid-afternoon. (Any bakers out there?....)

Would you like to be a part of this hospitality team? If you would, please contact the Parish Office, to join the helpers list for the Day of Prayer, on 01689 827100, or by email to: pettswood@rcaos.org.uk. See you there and thank you!

#### **Repair Cafe In Petts Wood**

One good way of cutting down on waste is to repair things rather than throw them away.

There is a successful repair café which has been running at St Francis Church in Greencourt Road, BR5 1QW since April 2023. It meets once a month from **2.00-5.00pm** on the following Saturdays: **27 April**, **25 May**, **29 June** and **27 July**.

This local community repair service can tackle items such as small electrical/mechanical appliances, laptops/computers, clocks/watches, joinery, needlework repairs and bicycles.

No charges are made for repairs but donations towards running costs are very welcome.

For a small charge you can also enjoy a slice of homemade cake and a drink while you wait for your item to be repaired.

Could you be the next happy customer?



Sort code 60-16-03 Account name Bromley Borough Foodbank Account number 77879007 Reference STJAMESPW

• £5 gift vouchers for Tesco and Sainsbury's are very useful to the Foodbank

Like most volunteer run charities, our Foodbank needs monetary donations. If possible you might consider setting up a standing order to help this vital work. Bank details above.

Thank you from the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Group.

There are two baskets available for your donations: both are in the main church entrance

( 01689 827100 @Stjamespettswood @ pettswood@rcaos.org.uk



## **Communication Pillar**

#### Supervision of children in hall toilets

It has come to our notice that there have been incidents of the toilets in the hall being misused. Items have been dropped in the toilet bowls and the liquid soap containers emptied onto the floor. We seek your assistance in ensuring there are no further incidents of this kind. Please be reminded you are responsible for your children at all times.

## Supervision of children in the church around the candle stands

Please ensure that all children are assisted by an adult in the lady chapel area when lighting candles.

#### **Volunteering Opportunities at St James**

Would you like to get more involved in parish life? We need help on the following rotas.

Please email Rosa, <u>rosa.delguercio@stjamespettswood.org</u> if you can help with any of the following jobs:

Sunday Coffees after the 9.15am and 11am Masses

Ushers Saturday 6pm Mass, Sundays 9.15am and 11am

Readers Saturday 6pm Mass, Sundays 9.15am and 11am

Readers for weekdays Mon to Thur 10 am.

#### Cleaners Saturday 9.30am

**Memory Cafe helpers** (first and second Tuesdays of the month - 1pm to 4pm). If you are able to help with the cafe please contact Suzanne in the parish office.

We are looking for a couple of additional young people to become **Altar Servers** and join the 11am team to help support Dejan and James. Please drop us an email if interested on <u>altar.servers@stjamespettswood.org</u>.

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#### Appeal for more helpers

Many hands really do make light work, we know. In the coming months, we want to fill the **role of the Social Pillar Lead** and strengthen the Events Committee. This warm appeal goes out to any of you who don't currently help out in any way at all, because the support of a great many more volunteers is needed to facilitate the planning and running of each event as we celebrate 85 Years of Parish Life.

If you like the sound of, or enjoyed attending the Parish Awards Ceremony, Summer Garden Party, Christmas Fair or NYE Party, please consider signing up to micro-volunteer an hour or two of your time at future parish events. No half hour is too little and every effort to sell tickets, help with set-up of gazebos, tables and chairs, and decorations, cooking a dish or two, wrapping gifts and prizes, will make a huge difference. Please text 'YES to Help' to Lolly today (07541 759163) if you feel you have a little time to give towards the many events to be rolled out this year. Team work really does make the dream work!

Thank you.

#### **St James Repository**

The Repository in church is open after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses throughout the year. There is a good selection of Religious articles always available, including Bibles, Prayer Books, Sunday Missals, Children's Books, Rosaries, Statues, Mass cards and cards for most other occasions.

#### **Appeal From The Knights of St Columba**

Please continue to bring in your used postage stamps. If they are on postcards, it is fine to donate the postcard as well. Money raised will go to Knights good causes. Please leave stamps in the wooden box in the church porchway.

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#### Advertisement

Do you have any issues that you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish? Do you have any good news stories that you would like to share with the Parish? If you do then why not use the Newsletter as a medium to share your thoughts with us and one to make a positive difference to the life of our Parish. If you do have anything that you would like to bring to the attention of the Parish then please send the information to Paul Cosgrave at the following email address: <u>communication@</u> <u>stjamespettswood.org</u>

**St James' RC Primary School Vacancy** Please let the school office know if you are interested in being a Mid-day Supervisor at St James'. We do have vacancies at present and if you would like to consider this please let us know. We would be happy to answer any questions that you may have about the role.



## **Communication Pillar**

In the March newsletter I recommended 4 films on Christian themes from the last 20 years.

Here are another 4, all available on DVD and for streaming.

Terrence Malick's A Hidden Life (2019) was made 8 years after The Tree of Life which I recommended last time. It tells the true story of Franz Jagerstatter, an Austrian farmer who refused to swear allegiance to the Nazis and was executed as a result. He was beatified by the Catholic Church in 2007. The film, shot mostly in South Tyrol, is full of the beautiful images of nature associated with Malick's films. Jagerstatter is shown as resisting all attempts by those in his village, including the clergy, to submit to Nazi demands. At nearly 3 hours long, the film requires patience, with a last hour or so that is not an easy watch, but is very rewarding.

Paul Schrader's First Reformed (2017) is a near-remake of a 1962 Swedish film called Winter Light. Ethan Hawke plays a minister whose church is preparing to celebrate its 250th anniversary. But he is assailed from all sides by various problems: his own serious ill-health, a woman in his congregation with persistent romantic designs on him, and another woman whose husband is threatening suicide out of despair at the state of the world. By the end of the film, the congregation filling the church are waiting and wondering why the minister is so late in turning up. The film is basically a very well-acted psychological drama, with a quite bizarre ending.

Godland (2022), by the Icelandic director Hlynur Palmason, is about a Danish Lutheran priest in the 19th century sent to Iceland to establish a new church. Hindered by language difficulties and particularly the harsh conditions, he encounters much more than he bargained for. For many viewers the film's main attraction is the stunning Icelandic scenery, best seen on the big screen.

For something different, try Philip Groning's documentary Into Great Silence (2005), portraying the day-to-day lives of the Carthusian monks of the Grande Chartreuse, a monastery in the French Alps. There is no commentary, no added sound, very few spoken words, just the rhythm of daily life there. It took the monks 16 years to decide to allow the film to be made!

Alan Pavelin

#### The Catenian Association - Rosary Group 'Rosaries for the World'

Once again, the Catenian Brothers of Blackheath and Chislehurst Circle have forwarded a package of Rosaries kindly donated by your parishioners and please once again thank everyone involved. I am sure I can find a good home for them.

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I am currently packaging up some to send to Malawi and the priest there has a parish the size of Kent and gets around on a motor bike!

I received some photographs from the last package I sent

out there and have shared them below.





Your efforts are greatly appreciated and help us to spread Our Blessed Lady's message of love peace and hope to new people.

God Bless, Sincerely

Mike Bunting

## **Communication Pillar**

#### **Girlguiding - St James Girlguiding Units**





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We open up a world of possibilities to girls from 4-18-years -old, one where they can do anything.

**It's totally flexible,** you can help as much or as little as you want.

Join us for nonstop fun, learning and adventures.

Registered charity number: Excepted from registration

Your local Girlguiding group needs: New leaders to help run three units – 2nd Petts Wood Brownies, 3rd Petts Wood Guides Petts Wood Rangers. For more information please email – Suzanne Horner pettswood@rcaos.org.uk



girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer

# H in at

**3rd Petts Wood Scouts Group** 



### Ellie makes all the difference. So could you.

Help young people in Petts Wood step up and dream big.

Interested ?Contact Kate Charlesworth #email: gsl3pwscouts@gmail.com

#### Dad and Me

	Dad and Me	
What is it?	A group of dads that meet monthly, with their kids – to chill out, chat with other dads, while their kids play!	
	Some details:	
	For dads with kids aged 1-8	
	Toys galore, incl. arts & crafts for the older kids	
	"Bacon butties" all round, plus tea, coffee & biscuits     (juice for the kids, vegan options available)	
	<ul> <li>Also an online network of dads – for sharing contacts, knowledge e.g. of tradesmen, schools. Over 70 strong currently, including dads from over 7 years ago!</li> </ul>	
What are the benefits?	"Me time", kids time and your partner get 2 hours free per month also!WIN-WIN-WIN!	
When and where?	10:15-12 Saturday mornings, once a month, at the Community Hall (next door) Use this QR code and you're in!	
How do I join?	Just join the Whatsapp group and get the latest on when the next ones are. David will kindly oblige. (text me any issuescheers, Jay) 07931 513598	



## **Social Pillar**

#### Wednesday Lunches

Our next Wednesday lunch will be on **Wednesday, 17th April**. We will be a serving a light lunch from 11.30am in the Community Centre. All Welcome.

#### Note for your Diaries - please see the Wednesday lunches dates for 2024

22nd May

19th June

17th July

18th September

16th October

20th November

11th December

#### The Companions Afternoon Club

Who are we? What do we do?

We meet in the Church Community Centre every week. We play scrabble, Triominos, indoor curling, table tennis and we hope to start Line-dancing. Maybe you have ideas as to what you may like to do? So do come and join us in the <u>Community Centre at 1.30pm to 4.30pm on the first two</u> <u>Wednesdays and the second two Tuesdays of the month.</u> Here is a chance to get to know some really lovely people!

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March dates for The Companions Afternoon Club:

#### Wednesdays 3rd and 10th April

#### Tuesdays 16th, 23rd and 30th April

Doors open 1.30pm. All welcome.

#### Book Club

Please consider joining us at our friendly, informal Book Group. We meet on the following Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.

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Wednesday 8th May - Midnight Library, Matt Haig

Wednesday 12th June - book tbc

Wednesday 10th July - book tbc

We look forward to welcoming you.

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#### A message from The Knights

The Knights of St Columba would like to thank all those who came to the St Patrick's Film Night on the 16th March. It was a fun evening with music, a raffle, an Irish themed quiz, followed by a screening of the classic film The Quiet Man. With your generous donations we raised £350 for The Knights of St Columba. We would like to thank everyone involved for their generosity and support.

#### **Film Night**

Thank you to everyone who attended the Film Night on 23 March. Your generous donations amounted to  $\pm$ 70 & have been converted into  $\pm$ 5 Tesco Vouchers for the Foodbank.

On **Saturday 13 Apri**l we will be showing "A United Kingdom" (2016) starring Rosamund Pike & David Oyelowo - running time 106 minutes.

The film features the real-life romance of Prince, subsequently, King, Seretse Khama of Botswana & Ruth Williams, a white, middle-class, London office worker. Their marriage in 1948 sparked outrage in both their families as well as political turmoil & an international crisis.

On **Saturday, 11 May**, we will feature "Jackie" - running time 95 minutes. This 2016 film gives an intimate portrait of First Lady, Jackie Kennedy, during the days following her husband's assassination. Nathalie Portman received an Academy Award for her "the performance of a lifetime" in the starring role.

As usual, our films will **start at 7.30pm** with the Community Centre & the Bar opening beforehand at 7pm.

We look forward to welcoming you!



#### **Parish Golf Day Invitation**

You are cordially invited to join us for the St James the Great Parish Golf Day at Langley Park Golf Club on 5th July 2024, to celebrate the 85th anniversary of our Parish. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy a friendly and fun game of golf, as well as to support our parish community and mission.

The format will be an 18 hole Stableford competition, with tea/coffee, bacon roll on arrival and a late lunch at the end of the rounds. There will also be prizes for the longest drive, nearest the pin, and individual winner.

Tee times will be advised in due course once numbers are confirmed.

The cost of the event will be 850 per person, which includes green fees, Tea/Coffee and Bacon roll on arrival, lunch and a donation to the parish.

To book your place, please fill in the form below and return it by email to myself or Ken Evans by the 10th May 2024, along with your payment by Bank Transfer as shown on the application form.

Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

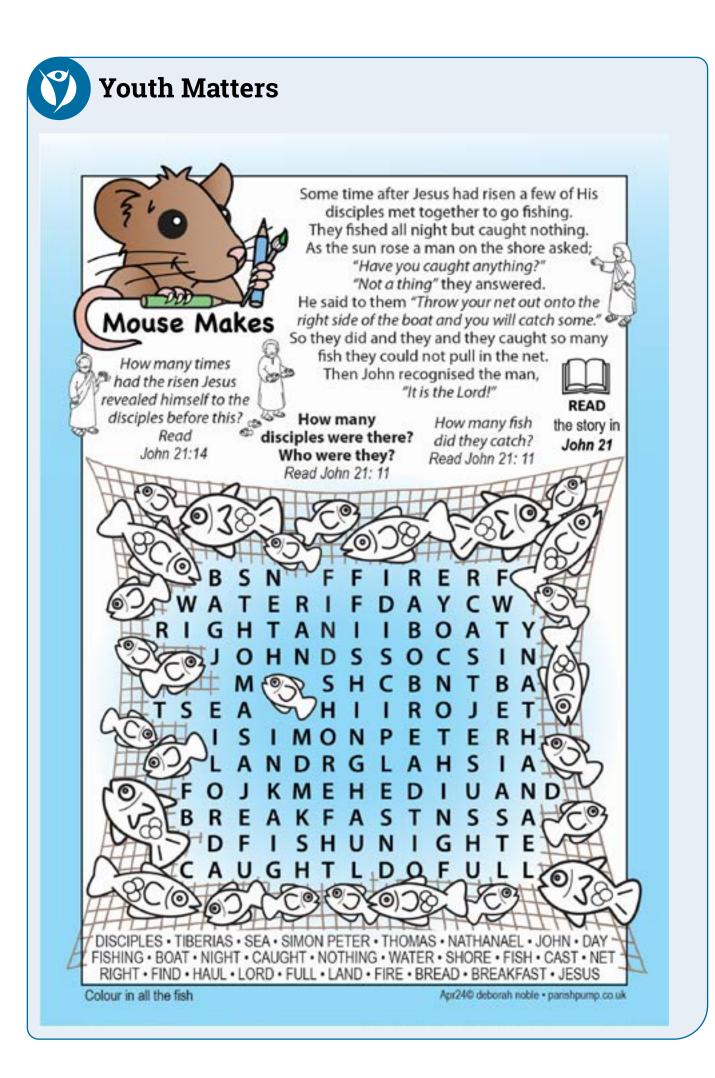
We look forward to seeing you at the St James the Great Parish Golf Day and celebrating our parish anniversary with you!

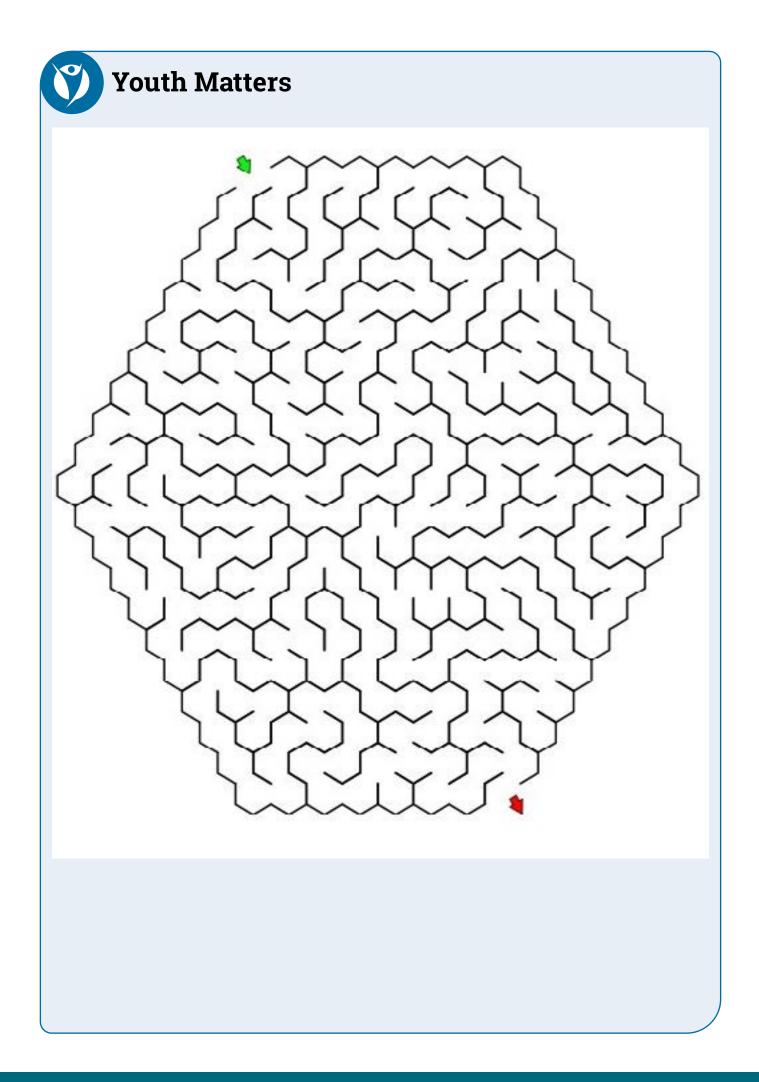
Paul & Ken













# April Calendar 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	2pm	1.30pm				
	Memory cafe	Companion				
	7pm - 7.45pm	Club				
	Firm Believers					
	8pm					
	Table Tennis					
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	2pm	1.30pm			7pm	11am
	Memory cafe	Companion			Film Night	Uniformed
	7pm - 7.45pm	Club				Groups Church
	Firm Believers					Parade
	8pm					
	Table Tennis					
15	10	47	10	10		21
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
6.30pm to 8.30pm	1.30pm	11.45		5pm to 9.30pm	8am -3pm	
Confirmation	Companion Club	Wednesday Lunches		Scouting meetings	First Aid Course	
	7pm - 7.45pm	8pm			4pm - 6pm	
	Firm Believers	Catenians			First Holy Communion	
	8pm				Communion	
	Table Tennis					
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
6.30pm to	1.30pm	1pm - 3pm	4.30pm to 9pm	5pm to 9.30pm	9.45am	
8.30pm	Companion	CWL Meeting	Girlguiding	Scouting	Dad and Me	
Confirmation	Club		Meetings	meetings	12.30pm	
6.30pm Confirmation	7pm - 7.45pm Firm Believers	7.45pm			Youth Group	
Confirmation parents meeting in church		JPIC Meeting			4pm - 6pm First Holy	
	8pm Table Tennis				Communion	
					<b>4pm</b> Rite of Acceptance Mass	
29	30					
6.30pm to 8.30pm	1.30pm					
	Companion					
Confirmation	Club					
	7pm - 7.45pm Film Believers					
	8pm					
	Table Tennis					