



1. First of all, **welcome back after the summer holidays!** We hope all were able to get away had a good break. Thanks also to all those who sent photos of churches, shrines and cathedrals for our Instagram page – it was lovely to see so many beautiful places of worship from all around the world.
2. **This newsletter covers the next TWO Sundays** – the normal weekly update will resume once Fr Richard returns from the end of his summer holiday.
3. During Father Richard's holiday, we welcome back Father Chidi Obiodu – now a lecturer at a seminary in Nigeria.
4. **September 8th is the Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time**, readings on page 129 of the Parish Mass Books. **September 15th is the Twenty Fourth Sunday**, readings on page 132. Please note that, as from the 8th September, the normal parish timetable resumes – so there will be an 8.00 am Sunday Mass, and the usual Sunday Holy Hour from 5.00 – 5.45 pm
5. The parish evangelisation and formation teams have an exciting programme of events lined up for the new parish year – look out for announcements and publicity very soon.
6. Catechetical programmes also begin again in this new term – there will be announcements about registration for the First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes very shortly. Keep an eye on the newsletter, or listen out for announcements at Mass.

7. Although its only September, **Christmas will soon be upon us!** Therefore, we are already planning our Parish Christmas Fair. **There will be a meeting for anyone interested in helping on Wednesday 25th September at 8.00 pm in the Parish Centre.** Please do come along if you can – we are always very grateful for your help.
8. **The HOLY DOUGHNUTS CLUB** – for children who have made their First Holy Communion but are not yet confirmed – **will meet again on Sunday 6th October**, after the 9.30 Mass in the crypt – all eligible are very welcome!
9. In Advent this year, a new translation of the Bible will come into use in all Catholic churches throughout England and Wales. Due to this, we will buy a whole new set of Parish Mass Books – and we are also planning to replace our hymn books (which are getting very shabby). We are hoping for your support in this project – **please see the accompanying email for full details.**
10. The Baby and Toddler Group has now resumed! **We look forward to seeing you after the holidays on Thursdays at 10am in the Parish Centre!**
11. **ANOTHER WAY TO MAKE CONTACTLESS DONATIONS.** There are now posters in the church porch with a QR code which will take you to our ‘Dona’ portal – this will enable you to make a contactless donation to the parish without using the devices inside the church. This may be particularly useful if there is a queue for these devices, or they are not working properly. You can find the same QR code on the weekly newsletter. As always, we are very grateful for all your support.
12. **Mary's Meals** has a box in the Parish Office where they hope to collect gold & silver (including costume jewellery and watches (even broken), Electronics (mobile phones, games consoles, cameras (any condition), currency (old and new banknotes from any country, and stamps from around the world. All these items will raise money to feed children in their place of education in poor countries. Items must be left during office hours (Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9.30 – 12.30)
13. **Families who will be applying for places in a Catholic school** – Primary, Secondary or Sixth Form – in the near future should make sure they fill in a ‘Mass attendance form’ every Sunday (or Saturday evening) during term time. Forms are available at the back of church and, once completed, should be left in the tray provided. These forms are used by the clergy to assist them in completing school reference forms when asked – most schools require evidence of 3 years weekly Mass attendance.
14. If you need **school application forms, or Certificates of Catholic Practice (CCP) signed** – these can be left at the Parish Office, and Fr Richard will sign them after his return on September 15th. **Please remember the parish does not provide the CCP for you** – these need to be printed off from the internet, and you must complete your own details before giving them to Fr Richard to sign.

- 15. The East Hill Supper Club Food Bank would greatly appreciate it if any Holy Ghost Parishioners felt able to donate tins of food, dried foodstuffs, shower gel, biscuits etc. to this worthy cause.** You can leave donations at the Parish Office during office hours (Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30 – 12.30).