



Celebrating Family

Summer's Coming...



I hope you managed some lovely time with your families over half term! The responses in Listening 2004 highlighted simply being together as that which gave families most joy...not action packed holidays or costly outings, but simple time together! You can still check out the National Families Week leaflet for ideas of simple things to do with your family at www.nationalfamilyweek.co.uk.



Photo albums are a brilliant way to reflect on and remind ourselves of shared good times...well how about a parish family photo album? With First Holy Communion coming up here is the perfect starting point. Ensure first of all that those involved are happy to have their photo enclosed, and get them to

write a sentence or comment about what the best bit of the day was...and create a parish scrap book that can be added to at other significant points in the parish's life. It's best not to put names in the book, but you might like to look at a smilebox.com for digital scrap booking and indeed other ideas.



If you would like to improve your listening skills as a parent, catechist, or friend there is a day coming up in Basingstoke on 20th June cost £20. If you'd like to go contact me and we can go together. Now I know this is a long way to go, so we are planning one closer to home in the autumn, so keep your eyes peeled and your ears pinned back for this training!



The wedding season is upon us and we hold in prayer all

those embarking on their married lives together. Here is another opportunity for you to add to your parish photo album!



The simplest way to nurture your family in faith is to gather them while they're little and encourage a shared language of prayer early. Ask your local school or use one of the parish rooms for a mums & tots session...keep it simple by bringing shared toys and your own refreshments. www.pre-school.org.uk has some good ideas.



On the 19th July there is the priceless opportunity to get to know your neighbours better! Have you thought of getting your parish community to play host to this national event? Check out <http://www.thebiglunch.com/big-idea/family> for more details!

Prayer on being a dad.

On 21st June we celebrate all the dads in our midst; those with us, those long gone and those 'yet to be' dads. Here's a prayer I found for all you fathers...Thank you for all you are.

I am called father...you understand, my God, what it means to be called Father. Abba, Dad, was on the lips of your child, Jesus. Father-that word of trust, that response of affection, that call for strength. Holy Spirit make my hand firm to hold onto another's, my

heart warm to give love, my guidance clear through word and example. God the Father of my Lord Jesus Christ, make me worthy of my calling to be a true Father.

Amen.

From 'Linked in Prayer' by Rosemary Atkins et al



Home is a Holy Place...near you!

St Austell	May '09
Ivybridge	April '09
Poole	May '09
Bournemouth	July '09
Plymouth	Autumn '09
Dorchester	June '09
Liskeard	Autumn '09

Various parish, deanery and school groups have been exploring the Home is a Holy Place resource and if you want to get in on the act please just call!

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Contact...

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