

THE COMING TOGETHER OF THE CORBY PARISHES. Fr Mark is aware that people have questions concerning the merging of the parishes in Corby. We plan to have 2 meetings: **Thursday 11th September** at Our Lady's Church at 7.00pm, **Monday 15th September** at St Brendan's Church at 7.00pm. Parishioners from the 3 Churches are more than welcome to attend either or both meetings. Fr Liam is hoping to be at the meeting on Monday 15th September so you will have an opportunity to meet him. In addition, Fr Mark will outline what was discussed at the meetings on Tuesday morning 16th September after the 10.00am Mass at St Brendan's.

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES: Will take place on Saturday 27th September at 11.00am. Co-op Darley Dale will very kindly supply refreshments.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? If anyone is interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith then we will be starting the RCIA/Journey in Faith Group at the end of September on a Monday evening at St Brendan's Church after the 7pm Mass. It is an opportunity for people to come and reflect on the faith in a relaxed setting. We will start the journey on **Monday 29th September** in the parish room at St Brendan's. If you know someone who may be interested encourage them to come along or offer to come with them.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: We are going to follow the practice recommended by the diocese for children for First Holy Communion and Confirmation to be prepared within the parish by parish catechists and supported by the clergy. So for the children who are looking to celebrate the sacraments next year we will prepare them, those in Catholic Schools and those in State Schools, within the parish. This will consist of one Saturday morning a month and the classes will be held at St Patrick's Primary School. We will give dates and times in the next few weeks. I know this is a major change and we will be asking the families to commit to the programmes. **There will be a meeting on Tuesday 30th September at 7.00pm in St Brendan's Church (Beanfield Avenue, NN18 0AZ) for parents of children who are planning to celebrate First Communion and there will be a meeting on Thursday 2nd October at 7pm in Our Lady's Church (Occupation Road, NN17 1EE) for those who are planning to celebrate Confirmation.** It is important for families who are planning to celebrate the sacraments next year to see it within the context of a living faith as a way of deepening their love for God and their commitment to the Church. Central to this is the importance of Sunday Mass where we encounter the Lord in the most profound way. As we know, parents are the primary teachers of their children in the ways of faith and the parish and Catholic schools support and encourage you in that great responsibility. Let us hope and pray that we can all grow in our faith together.