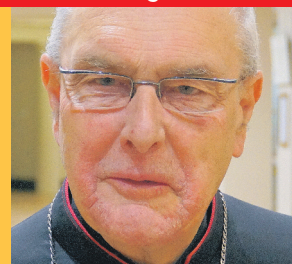


**Stained glass  
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**Deep sorrow  
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## Welby visit is historic first for cathedral



Archbishop Justin Welby speaks at St John's Cathedral, alongside Bishop Alan Hopes and Bishop Graham James.

# Archbishop's visit of reconciliation

**The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, was welcomed to an historic ecumenical service at St John's Cathedral in Norwich by Bishop Alan Hopes on November 7. Keith Morris reports.**

■ Also in attendance at the short midday service of reconciliation was the Anglican Bishop of Norwich, Rt Rev Graham James, alongside many other local church leaders.

It is believed to be the first time any Archbishop of Canterbury has spoken at St John's Cathedral.

A 500-strong congregation heard Bishop Alan open the service with a word of welcome to Archbishop Justin.

"The theme of your visit is reconciliation, so it is hugely significant that you have chosen to begin with an ecumenical act of worship.

"It speaks clearly of the journey we are all called to make in our search for

that unity of the Body of Christ which is in accordance with his will and of the healing of the wounds of past divisions. May your visit bring fresh impetus to that journey for Christians in Norfolk."

The service included readings and prayers on the theme of reconciliation.

In his reflection, Archbishop Justin said: "There are only three problems with divisions in the church according to Scriptures: it deeply impedes our prayers; it hinders our experience of the grace and love of God and it ruins our witness to the world. Apart from that it is all up-side.

"In North America it is estimated that there are over 36,000 different denominations of churches and the number is going up rapidly.

"Jesus' call to the church is to love one another and to be united," said Archbishop Justin. "The churches' answer to a divided world must be an example that comes from the unity of God in Christ that he has given us. Unity is not an added extra for the church. It is an inescapable duty and obligation.

"When I met him recently, Pope Fran-

cis said: 'We must be more urgent in the ecumenism of action, proclaim the good news of reconciliation and love of the poor and challenge structures of sin and injustice.'

"We are united when we serve together in the foodbank or debt counselling or when we help the person sleeping rough.

"What is normal is a deep and abiding love for one another. We see an example of unity in this diocese in the relationship between Bishop Alan and Bishop Graham and between Catholics and Anglicans and other churches. I praise God for that and may it be an example that spreads further," said Archbishop Justin.

Ecumenical guests included leaders from Orthodox, Methodist, Baptist, and United Reformed churches, the Salvation Army, Quakers and free churches.

The service marked the start of a three-day visit to the Diocese of Norwich by the Archbishop.

■ Bishop Alan joined Archbishop Justin at a second reconciliation service at Norwich Anglican Cathedral – see centre pages.



## A Christmas message from Bishop Alan

■ In the Gospel for Mass on Christmas Day, St John the Evangelist describes the coming of Christ in the Nativity as a battle between light and darkness: a battle in which there is only one victor: "The Word was the true light that enlightens all men and women... A light that shines in the darkness, a light that darkness could not overpower."

As we journey through Advent, the nights draw in and the days grow darker. It may seem to us, too, that the world around us is darkened and clouded by uncertainty and dissension. Deep divisions seem to shadow our society; divisions too about our nature and identity as a country and its place in the world, with no clear path visible where those who have disagreed might learn to walk forward together.

By way of contrast, our television and our computer screens are full of bright but garish and deceptive lights: the lights of celebrity culture, and of consumerism, that lead us into blind alleys and cul-de-sacs, where Christmas is valued only in terms of what we buy and spend and consume.

How we need the clarity and simplicity of St John's vision! The light that John saw is not a glittering object that momentarily distracts us from the darkness. It is a person: the person of Jesus Christ, who steps into the darkness and difficulty of our world to brighten it with the light of God's love.

How too we need St John's optimism! Jesus comes to us in vulnerability and frailty, as a helpless child. Yet the love that He proclaims cannot be defeated, and will in the end be the only answer to the questions troubling our uncertain world. The path that He illuminates will always lead us to peace and to unity.

A light shines in the darkness, a light that darkness that could not overpower.

May the light of Christ guide you and your family this Christmas, and throughout the year to come.

With my good wishes and blessing for a peaceful and joyful celebration,

Devotedly,  
Bishop Alan Hopes



## news in brief

### Exploring nooks and crannies

■ Members of St John's Cathedral Walking Group recently enjoyed a tour of Norwich "Nooks and Crannies," a selection of some of the City's "quirky" sites of historic interest. It finished at St Peter Mancroft Church followed by a pizza in the Norwich Forum.

John McLean said: "The Group consists of members of St John's and friends and meets once a month for walks around the city or further afield in Norfolk; we have completed stretches of the Marriott's Way and the Norfolk Coastal Path this year. In its various expeditions, the Group has clocked up 500 miles in the past few months towards Cafod's Walk the World campaign."

New members who value "living simply," and are looking for some gentle exercise, an enjoyment of the fresh air and appreciation of the Norfolk countryside while meeting other walkers, are welcome. For information contact John on 01603 456176 or on [jmclean44@aol.com](mailto:jmclean44@aol.com)

### Refugees concert

■ St A concert by the Cambridgeshire Jewish Choir, organised by the Wisbech Interfaith Forum, has raised over £500 to help refugees in the county. The concert was enjoyed by over 100 people at St Peter & St Paul Church.

Bharat Khetani from Wisbech Interfaith Forum, said it was a great success and Brian Keegan from Peterborough, the Diocese of East Anglia lead on inter-religious matters said: "Excellent, informative, a new experience and enjoyable."

### Annual clergy night

■ The annual clergy night of Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association was held at Park Farm Hotel, Hethersett on November 22. The immediate past president of the Circle, John Kenny presented a cheque for £1,500 in aid of the 'Alive in Faith' fund to Bishop Alan Hopes. The money had been raised from raffles at the Circle meetings.

**Catholic East Anglia**

Newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia

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Articles and photographs for the next edition are very welcome and should be sent to the editor, ideally via email, by the deadline of Monday January 7.

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# Final Mass at St Mark's in Norwich

■ The Feast of Christ the King was celebrated at St Mark's, Lakenham, for the last time on Sunday November 25 after 16 years, reports Michael Hill.

Before the final blessing, Fr Arockiya Seelan spoke to the congregation of around 100, thanking the myriad of volunteers for the dedication of their time, prayer and efforts over the years.

He remembered the priests who had celebrated Mass at St Mark's and thanked Rev Erik West-Lindell for welcoming the Catholic community into his Church following the closure of Christ the King, on Hall Road, Norwich, in 2001.

Canon Harold Squirrel established Christ the King Church in 1934. Built by Boulton & Paul, it served the community until late 2001 when, due to the significant cost necessary to undertake routine and major repairs, it was decided to close. The proceeds from the sale helped to fund the Narthex at the Cathedral.

On Epiphany, January 6, 2002, the first Mass was said in St Mark's. Rev



The final Mass at St Mark's. Picture by Nina Flynn.

Erik West-Lindell noted that in the following years the Catholics joined with his community in the many celebrations and events held.

From the first Sunday of Advent the Sunday evening mass will be held at 5.30pm at St John the Baptist Cathedral. The Diocesan Archivists would be

interested in receiving stories, pictures and histories of the congregation, at St Mark's and at Christ the King. Please leave them with Eve at the Cathedral Office or email [archive@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:archive@rcdea.org.uk).

View more pictures of the final Mass at St Mark's at: [www.ninaflynnphotography.com/Event/St-Mark-Lakenham/](http://www.ninaflynnphotography.com/Event/St-Mark-Lakenham/)

# A journey of faith

**Former Pentecostal Samuel Randall was ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Alan Hopes at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich on Sunday November 25. Here Samuel tells his journey of faith.**

■ I was born in Katoomba, New South Wales but, as my parents moved often, I had lived in more than six different homes in Australia and in England before my sixteenth birthday. This experience of dislocation was significant for my later religious journey.

I chose RE as one of my GCSE subjects because I considered this an easy option however, I was required to read the Gospels and I was captivated. After school I joined a Pentecostal church and was baptised. Bible College followed and it was there that I met my future Swiss wife Mirjam. Mirjam was attending the English Language School attached to the College and had a Salvation-Army and Swiss-Reformed background.

We spent periods in both Switzerland and Australia. We then went to Cambridge for further studies and I went forward for Anglican ordination, attending Ridley Hall for three years. I served a curacy in Hull, completed post-graduate studies in Leeds and we had three children. I then joined the Army as a Chaplain, which included a period of active service during the First Gulf War.

My next post was to Leeds



Deacon Samuel Randall, with wife Mirjam, Bishop Alan, family and friends after his ordination at St John's.

as a Team-Vicar, and as the director of a youth development charity. Our next move was to the West Indies as missionaries. I was then appointed as the diocesan ecumenical officer for Durham and the parish priest of an ex-mining community. After a five-year contract I was appointed to be the Bishop's Officer for Church in the World for Bradford responsible for interfaith issues and community relations.

It was in Bradford that I encountered the Franciscans of the Renewal. After ten years in Bradford, we had an increasing sense that we should leave my secure position and for me to undertake research at the University of Cambridge. I was accepted for a PhD: 'vicarious suffering in the Church, in Dietrich

Bonhoeffer, with particular reference to Edith Stein.' Something of a synthesis between spirituality and ecumenical theology in which I was seeking to identify the irreducible nature of the servant-church.

We then 'discovered' Light-house Catholic Media and the Augustine Institute. Together we listened to or read about the conversion testimonies of former Protestant theologians and clergy such as Scott and Kimberley Hahn. Mirjam and I went to see Bishop Alan Hopes and through his contacts we met regularly with Fr Aidan Nichols exploring together the Catechism.

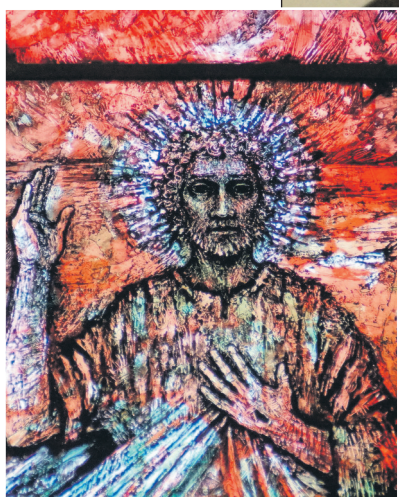
After three years of remarkable provision during the PhD, and having completed most of my research, Mirjam and I were received together

into the Catholic Church by Bishop Alan at the Feast of Pentecost 2016. Wonderfully, at the service we were supported by all our children and their families and our sponsors included two of the eight Franciscans of the Renewal who attended the service with us.

Much of what has nourished us and supported our shared ministry: Merton, Dorothy Day, Carmelite Spirituality, Benedictine communities, Catholic Social Justice teaching, the Focolare, Chesterton, MacIntyre, the Franciscans of the Renewal, etc, were fundamentally and essentially Catholic. However, ultimately our 'conversion' represented a profoundly Eucharistic orientation. And the journey continues.



# Stained glass brings new colour to church



A pair of new stained glass windows by renowned craftsman Thomas Denny have been installed at St Felix Church in Felixstowe, following a bequest from a congregation member. Keith Morris reports.



Thomas Denny and Elizabeth Hippiisley-Cox installing one of the windows. More pictures at [rcdea.org.uk](http://rcdea.org.uk)

■ When parishioner Marlene Strachan died last year she left a generous £10,000 bequest to pay for a stained glass window in the church, on the theme of The Divine Mercy.

Looking to fulfil the request, Fr John Barnes had, four years before, seen some of Thomas Denny's work at nearby Stutton Parish Church where he had created a Millennium window.

"I thought it was one of the best pieces of contemporary stained glass that I had seen, and resolved that if ever I had a hand in commissioning a window, then the artist who had created this one, Thomas Denny, would be the man whom I would want to use," he said.

"Ecclesiastical art and artists' expert Dr Peter Burman agreed that Thomas would be the right artist to approach. I was delighted when he agreed, and found him a most charming and amenable person to work with," said Fr John.

Thomas has created over 60 stained glass windows including for Durham Cathedral (the Transfiguration Window), for Hereford and Gloucester cathedrals, Tewkesbury Abbey and Malvern Priory. He was also responsible for the Richard III windows at Leicester Cathedral and created the Wisdom Window at St Catherine's College, Cambridge.

Working with craftswoman Elizabeth Hippiisley-Cox from Cumberland, Thomas spent a week in St Felix in late October installing the stained glass, which had taken several months to create, in windows with lots of natural light coming in through them.

"The commission was to make a pair of windows on the theme of The Divine Mercy visions experienced by St

Faustina, a Polish nun who had extraordinary encounters with Christ in the 1930s," explained Thomas.

"In one window her vision of Jesus is depicted with red and blue light emanating from his heart, the light representing the Divine Mercy. He is standing on a shingly shore, reminiscent of the shore of Felixstowe with a curved bay and headland behind, where St Felix might have arrived in Suffolk.

"In the other window is the figure of St Faustina in her wooden boarded monastic cell in Poland and Lithuania in the 1930s. She is aware of the presence and reaching out to it and being affected by it. The narrative reaches across from one side of the church to the other.

"The two outer lights of each window develop the story further. In the right hand window is the nunnery garden St Faustina would have worked in with rows of spinach and lettuce, also a landscape suggesting her vision of roads leading to heaven and hell.

"In the left-hand window, the light of the Divine Mercy coming from Jesus spreads out across the landscape of Poland and Lithuania. There are dark fir woods and tiny distant buildings – perhaps the city of Vilnius – with figures emerging from the landscape and becoming aware of the sanctuary of Divine Mercy. It also refers to Faustina's prophetic vision of the terrible war that was to come to Poland and Lithuania.

"There are a number of Polish people in the current congregation who Fr John hopes will feel a special connection with the windows," said Thomas. The designs were seen and approved by the congregation and by a diocesan committee.

The windows were created in a series of stages over several months back in Thomas's Dorset studio, made in fundamentally the same way as the existing 19th century windows.

Thomas specialises in a method called acid etching, of which there are medieval equivalents. It involves clear glass being covered in a thin layer or two of coloured glass during the glass blowing process.

In this case, the clear glass was covered in a layer of red glass then either green or blue glass, parts of which are removed by the acid etching.

"You can get a lot of subtle nuances of the colours using this method," said Thomas. "The windows are then erected against a light to add the paint, which is more like drawing on the black details on the surface which is then fired."

Acid etching for each section of the windows (called a light) takes a week and then the painting takes a month.

"Using old techniques helps to make something new more at home in an older setting," said Thomas.

Fr John said: "Now the windows are in place, both I and the parish are delighted with them. Thomas's style is very distinctive, using very rich colours and somehow achieving both a glowing and a sparkling quality. His windows are full of detail, and the longer one looks, the more one sees."

So, just over 100 years after stained glass windows were installed in the east end of the church behind the altar, the new windows have now brought colour to the west end.

The windows were blessed by Bishop Alan Hopes at a Mass on November 18.

## Bishop Alan expresses deep sorrow for hurt

Bishop Alan Hopes, has expressed his deep sorrow for the hurt and damage caused through the Catholic Church to the victim-survivors of abuse and pledged to listen to those who want to talk about what they have suffered.

■ "The Church has been shaken over the last few months by the shocking and distressing revelations of historic abuse of children and vulnerable people by members of the laity, deacons, priests, religious, bishops and cardinals," said Bishop Alan. "We know too, that some bishops, and other leaders, failed to respond adequately to accusations made against clergy in their diocese.

"In solidarity with Pope Francis and my fellow bishops, I want first to express my deep sorrow for the hurt and damage that has been caused to the victim-survivors of abuse.

"I will make time to listen to those who wish to speak with me about the abuse that they have suffered. Our Co-Ordinator for Safeguarding in the Diocese will help me facilitate this," said Bishop Alan.

Since 2001, the Catholic Church in England and Wales has adopted robust procedures in order to begin to rebuild trust. The bishops no longer oversee these matters. Every diocese has a Safeguarding Coordinator, appointed to lead on Safeguarding matters in the diocese and to liaise with the statutory authorities, as well as an Independent Safeguarding Commission and suspected criminal behaviour must be reported to the statutory authorities.

"I want to express my gratitude to all those who work so hard in our Diocese to make sure that our parishes, our communities and our schools are safe places for all, and especially the most vulnerable," said Bishop Alan.

The National Catholic Safeguarding Commission (NCSC), has issued a Policy Statement on Safeguarding in the Catholic Church in England and Wales, you can read it at:

[www.catholicssafeguarding.org.uk](http://www.catholicssafeguarding.org.uk)

## Sing for Samaritans

■ Sing for Samaritans – Songs at Christmas, a concert by the Bury St Edmunds Community Choir, will be performed at St Edmunds Church in the town on December 20 to raise money for the local branch of the Samaritans. The evening starts at 7.30pm at the church at 1 Westgate Street, IP33 1QG. Free tickets from Viv at [vivbewley1@gmail.com](mailto:vivbewley1@gmail.com)

## Epiphany festival

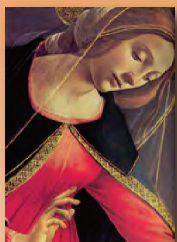
■ St Helen's RC Church in Hoveton will be staging an Epiphany Crib Festival featuring Nativity scenes from around the world on Saturday January 5 and Sunday January 6 from 10am to 4pm.



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Ministers of Religion



# Sharing hope in crisis

**40 Christians from across East Anglia attended the first Sharing Hope in Crisis event hosted by the Diocese of East Anglia. Rebecca Bretherton reports.**

■ Leading the seminar at St George's church in Norwich on November 3, the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team asked us: Do you know what to do when someone else is hurting?

## A Crisis can happen to Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime

Using a mix of film, presentations and group discussions, Ian Macleod, the Head of UK Disaster Relief led sessions in which we learnt that over 70% of the people we meet every day could be dealing with a crisis in their own lives.

People are living with disasters that do not make the news but which can create the same trauma and despair for them and their families. Sometimes people are living with several disasters they are trying to deal with at once. We considered the Church's teachings about where God is in our suffering and pain and how we can offer support to others.

## We are all ambassadors and ministers of God's Hope

We should be ready to share that the Good News as the Gospel message is for



Pictured are some of the seminar participants.

everyone, but we learnt that we must be sensitive to people's circumstances and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes just being present can go a long way in sharing the Gospel.

Eldred Willey, a parishioner at St John the Baptist Cathedral, gave us examples of opportunities in his work in Iraq and Nepal and in his everyday life when he had listened to people in difficulty and offered them prayer and a witness to God's compassionate love.

## God has called us to share the Good News

Throughout the day, Ian and Eldred gave us practical advice about what to say and, as importantly, what not to say to people in distress. They asked us: How would you give an account of what you believe as a Christian? Are you familiar with the Gospel message? By preparing a response to these questions, we will be better prepared when the opportunity comes to speak to someone we meet.

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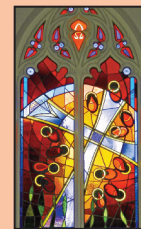
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# Teenager organises gifts in a shoebox

A Norwich teenager has galvanised his church, St George's on Sprowston Road, to fill over 40 shoeboxes full of gifts for disadvantaged children around the world.

■ Teenager Jamie Goode (15) has been taking part in Operation Christmas Child at home for a couple of years and this year decided to invite parishioners at St Georges to join him in filling shoeboxes with gifts

Jamie decided that this could take the form of a packing party after Sunday morning Mass alongside a shared lunch. After discussing the idea with Fr Sean Connolly a plan was formulated to gather gifts and pledges of gifts over the six weeks running up to the event on November 4 with a provisional target of filling 20 shoeboxes.

Gifts include toys, games, school items and some toiletries, including something useful, something fun, a 'wow' item and something to love. There was a sign-up sheet in the church porch and Jamie was available after Mass most weeks to chat to people about the event.

Jamie's father, Tony, said: "On the day, there was a very generous response, the gifts covered several large tables and



Jamie Goode with some of the filled shoeboxes.

over 30 parishioners took part. After a short introduction Jamie showed two short videos about Operation Christmas Child before packing began. Everyone enjoyed the joy of giving and a very happy atmosphere filled the hall.

"Such was the positive response that two parishioners dashed home to collect

extra shoeboxes and at the end of the event we had packed 41 boxes and several folk took some 'left-overs' home to fill additional boxes. A successful event on every front and Jamie already has plans for next year."

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse.

To advertise contact Charlotte on  
01440 730399 or 07932 248225



## Mayor's civic service held at Sacred Heart

■ New Dereham Town mayor, Cllr Hilary Bushell, has been welcomed into the post for an historic second consecutive time at a civic service held at her home church, the Catholic Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary in the town.

It is the second year running in which Hilary, aged 73, has been elected as mayor, a first for Dereham, and is only the third time the civic service has been held in a Catholic church – the second was last year.

The civic service, attended by mayors and civic dignitaries from across Norfolk, was led by parish priest Fr Brendan Mofatt on Sunday October 21, who knows Hilary well, as a long-time member of his congregation.

Hilary, who was adopted at three months old, was brought up within the Anglican church. She became a Catholic at the age of 21 "as the church seemed to enclose me within its arms," she said.

"Most of my life was involved in working in finance and I finished as a financial director of a Norwich company. Since retiring I worked firstly as a volunteer, and later as a full-time member of staff at the RC National Shrine at Walsingham for a period of four years, where I was also a reader and a Minister of the Holy Eucharist.

"I only became a councillor at the age of 69 and have learnt so much and enjoyed every aspect of my work. It is a voluntary post and important as I am able to give something back to the town that



Dereham mayor Cllr Hilary Bushell.

became my home 44 years ago.

"I never dreamt that I would ever become mayor once let alone be re-elected for an

immediate second term," she said. I am still full of energy and enjoying meeting so many people.

"My faith is very important to me and enables me to continue to be able to meet and help so many people in all different ways. It has been a great chance to work with the churches together.

"I have received so many positive comments about the church. Even non-church goers say that the ambience is warm and encompassing. In fact one of the mayors from last year said that he wanted to come back to our church because he loved it so much. Of course the service has only been possible with the help and support of Fr Brendan."

Fr Brendan said: "It was a great joy and privilege for me to lead the Civic Service for Hilary and the Town Council on two consecutive occasions. The joy and privilege was to see so many people who are involved in civic life, who give of their time and talents in service, gathered for worship in our church. We sang hymns, we prayed, the Mayor read the Declaration she made on taking office, we listened to Scripture and we invoked God's blessing on those who serve the community in so many ways.

"It was also wonderful to welcome the mayors of so many local councils, compete with chains of office and to feel that we are also part of the wider communities in the area," he said.

## Faith restored after chalice is stolen

**A Lowestoft church, which had a valuable silver communion chalice stolen during a heritage open day, has received a generous donation from a stranger to enable it to replace the important item.**

■ Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic church in the town centre opened its doors to the general public during two national heritage weekends in September when its chalice was stolen by a visitor.

CCTV did catch a man behaving suspiciously and leave the church in haste carrying a heavy black plastic bag which he did not have when he went in.

The story does have a happy ending, though, thanks to the kindness of a stranger, said parish treasurer Tony Walmsley: "A parishioner told a non-Catholic friend about the

theft and they were so incensed about the tale that they promptly offered to contribute a substantial sum to the cost of a replacement chalice."

Parish Priest Fr Paul Chanh said: "As Holy Communion is the very heart of the Mass, the vessels we use are very special. Having a chalice stolen was a sad blow indeed, especially when we had opened our spiritual home to the public - which we are determined to continue to do in the future.

"But then we were so lifted up by the generosity of a stranger who wants to remain anonymous. We are so grateful for this wonderful gesture."

Fr Paul has since been on pilgrimage to Medjugorje, in Bosnia & Herzegovina, where he was able to buy a chalice which matches the style of other vessels already used during Mass at the church.

The Police have the CCTV content and are still pursuing their inquiries over the theft.



Parish Priest Fr Paul Chanh with the new chalice. Picture by Tony Walmsley.

### news in brief

## Remembrance events across East Anglia

**Remembrance events were held across the Diocese of East Anglia to mark 100 years since the Armistice and the end of the First World War, they included a concert in March, services in Bury St Edmunds and an inter-faith event in Peterborough.**

■ March parish hosted an Armistice Concert on November 11. The audience joined in with songs which were popular 100 years ago and which would have been sung by the British forces at the time. This was the last of a series of concerts organised by Mike Green to mark significant events in the Great War. He said: "These concerts have given us all an opportunity to learn more about the First World War and to remember those who fought for us all."

■ All Masses on November 10 and 11 at the Church of St Edmund King and Martyr in Bury St Edmunds marked Remembrance Day reports John Saunders. Pen pictures of all the 11 members of the parish killed in the First World War one were displayed as the result of extensive research by David Bowden.

Members of the Church History Group supplied Prayers of Intercession and read out the names of those killed in the war and Binyon's poem. Children attending the Children's Liturgy made their own wreath comprising the names of those who died.

The evening Mass at St Edmund's concluded with Benediction and the tolling at 7.05pm of the church bell, reminiscent of the occasion when 100 years before the bells rang to proclaim peace.

■ Catholics, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs were among those who took part in a commemoration of the contribution of faith communities to the armed forces at Peterborough Museum on November 1. Peter Waszak, Hon Archivist at St Peter and All Souls Church, provided a display which included The Catholic Contribution: Patrick Burke the 'Lonely Hibernian' a wounded soldier who died in Peterborough in October 1916 in which the Catholics and others raised funds for a memorial. Also the 14 young men from All Souls who were 'Fallen but not Forgotten,' and support for the Belgian refugees who arrived in the city. Display boards also referred to the origins of the post Second World War Polish and Lithuanian communities in Peterborough.

## Historic church fund

■ Suffolk has been selected, along with Manchester, to take part in a £1.8 million culture department pilot project to improve the care of historic churches, with Catholic churches eligible to take part.

The Suffolk pilot includes: a £500,000 minor repairs fund, with grants of up to £10,000 available; workshops on maintenance and involving the wider local community in congregations' efforts to look after their churches; and the appointment of a fabric support officer and a community support adviser.



# A message of reconc

**Bishop Alan Hopes joined the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in speaking at an evening of reflection on reconciliation at a packed Norwich Anglican Cathedral on November 7. Keith Morris reports.**

■ The exploration of reconciliation, chaired by Bishop Graham James, also heard from Pastor Rolf Stahl from Koblenz, Norwich's German twin-town; Dr Marian Prinsley, President of the Norwich Hebrew Congregation; and Dee Robinson, of New Routes Integration, a refugee integration project in Norwich.

In front of a 500-strong audience, they discussed the need for reconciliation in post-war Germany, in a world peopled by record numbers of homeless refugees and in the treatment of the Jewish people in medieval Norwich and current day Pittsburgh.

Addressing religious divisions, Bishop Alan said: "Because our history is so intertwined, Christians should now take the lead in repudiating all forms of anti-Semitism or anti-Islamic activity. Reconciliation compels us to seek to forget the hostilities and differences of the past and work together towards mutual understanding and benefit in the future, as this can only lead to greater peace and justice in the world.

"For the Christian, reconciliation can only be achieved throughout the world when we all learn to love and accept the other specifically because we know that they too, just like us, are loved and accepted by God, who is the Father of us all."

Archbishop Justin brought the reflections to a close, drawing on his own personal experiences of reconciliation over many years in Africa and the Middle East and also in his own family life when his baby daughter Johanna was killed in a car crash.

"Reconciliation is a rare and fragile thing but peace and reconciliation are not the same," he said.

"Evil is part of the human condition and occasionally something happens to release these evil forces. People don't choose evil but its power can make us all vulnerable.

"Reconciliation at its heart is the creation of a framework of living that enables disagreement to be transformed from violence to non-violence – that enables us to disagree well. In disagreeing well we respect the humanity of the other and we respect it more because we disagree. We are saying we take you seriously."

Reconciliation starts with seeing it as a possibility and with listening. It is a process and can go on for a long time, and it is deeply risky explained Archbishop Justin. "Pope Francis takes constant risks with reconciliation in the spirit of *Nostra Aetate*.

"Without justice reconciliation cannot happen. Justice and relationship lead to the possibility of peace. Reconciliation offers life, life for societies and life for individuals.

"A world in which reconciliation is something we seek and expect, a world in which we disagree with passion but never with violence, in which we put forward views with conviction but never with hatred, that is a liberated world," he concluded.



Pictured top are the ecumenical guests at a packed St John's Cathedral (left).

Right, Archbishop Justin, Bishop Alan and Bishop Graham at St John's and, above, the panel of speakers on reconciliation at Norwich Anglican Cathedral later the same day.

## Trio of diaconate candidates become acolytes

**Three candidates to the diaconate were instituted as acolytes at St John's Cathedral in Norwich on November 3, reports Rev John Morrill assistant director for the permanent deacons.**

■ Brett Gladden from Bury St Edmunds, Martin L'Estrange from King's Lynn and James Hurst from Newmarket (pictured right, front row) reached a final staging post on their four-year formation journey following 'candidacy' in their second year and 'lectorship' in their third year.

Bishop Alan (flanked by Deacons John Bell and John Morrill) instituted them as acolytes at a Mass attended by many members of their families in the Cathedral.

In his homily Bishop Alan reminded them of the three-fold ministry of deacons, as servants of the book, of the altar and of all in need.

Their service as acolytes emphasises their role as servants of the altar, assisting the Bishop and priests at the eucharist, and Bishop Alan strongly encouraged them to meditate deeply not only on the scriptural texts about the eucharist and on the teachings of the Vat-

ican Council and of recent popes, but also by exploring the riches of the teachings of the Fathers of the Church in the early centuries.

In addition to Brett, Martin and James, there are three other men in formation at present for the permanent diaconate. It is hoped that they will join a college of deacons consisting of 37 men, but a majority of these have reached the age of 75 and are fully or semi-retired.

Those in formation are formed at St John's Seminary at Womersley near Guildford alongside about 40 other men from the dioceses of Westminster, Southwark,

Northampton, Brentwood, Arundel and Brighton and the Ordinariate.

Formation takes four forms – intellectual (all gain a foundation degree in Pastoral Theology), personal, pastoral and spiritual. Brett, Martin and James are all married men, and are supported by their wives, and their wives are encouraged to participate (or not) in the formation programme.

If all goes well, it is hoped that they will all be ordained as permanent deacons in the Cathedral on June 22 next year (the Feast of St John Fisher and St Thomas More).



# nciliation



Deacon Martin Wells, Father Michael Ryan and Bishop Alan Hopes in March.

## New parish priests inducted

**New priests have been inducted in various parishes across East Anglia in the past few weeks including Newmarket, St Laurence in Cambridge and in March.**

■ Fr Christopher Smith was inducted as Parish Priest of Our Lady Immaculate and St Etheldreda Newmarket with Our Lady Immaculate and St Philip Neri, Kirtling, during a Mass on November 20.

Fr Christopher was previously parish priest of St Mark's Ipswich. There were plenty of parishioners to welcome him with smiles, warm applause and a sumptuous bring-and-share and plenty of well-wishers from his previous parish, a number of ecumenical guests and all eight parish priests from the other parishes of the large southern deanery of St Edmund.

In his homily, Bishop Alan spoke of the way the Church had been shaken by recent events and that the necessary renewal could only take place if we focused on the person of Jesus Christ and became ever more communities of prayer.

In a moving central section to the Mass, Fr Christopher knelt before the Bishop and, with his

hand firmly on the book of the gospels, affirmed his faith in the creeds and in the teachings of the scriptures and of the Church and committed himself to service of the Word, the Sacraments and to witness in the world.

■ A joint celebration was held at St Laurence's Church, Cambridge on the evening of Sunday, October 28 when Bishop Alan inducted Canon Simon Blakesley as Parish Priest of St Laurence's Church reports Sarah Sykes. Fr Jay Magpuyo was also invited back from his new parish in Bury St Edmunds to wish him good luck and thank him for his service at St Laurence's.

Bishop Alan gave a sermon explaining why prayer must be at the heart of a parish community and that a priest must be a man of prayer, a man of the Eucharist and a man of reconciliation. He instructed us to keep our eyes fixed on our Lord Jesus Christ, to be an outward-looking parish and to grow in holiness.

We look forward to new adventures of spiritual renewal and mission under Fr Simon's guidance.

■ Fr Michael Ryan was inducted as Parish Priest at Our Lady of Good Counsel and St Peter, March by Bishop Alan Hopes on November 27.



Fr Christopher Smith flanked by Bishop Alan and Deacon John Morrill in Newmarket.

## Tributes paid to wonderful Deacon John

■ Deacon John Steel from Ely died, aged 75, after bravely fighting cancer for a number of years, on October 18.

Parish priest Fr Tony Shryane said: "St Etheldreda's is sad to announce the death of our wonderful Deacon John who supported many projects and people in the parish and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts and prayers go to Margaret and all of John's family."

John originated from Easington Colliery in County

Durham, born on March 14, 1943, and had a variety of managerial jobs throughout his life including as MD of Stagecoach Cambus Holdings Ltd.

He was married to Margaret in 1964 and leaves her; two sons, John and Michael, and five grandchildren.

John was ordained a Deacon in East Anglia in 1996 and then went to the Diocese of Middlesbrough, where he was incardinated. He worked in Yarm Parish, St

Mary and Romuald, and also in Thirsk Parish under a number of priests, in particular Canon Alan Sheridan and Fr James Blenkinsop. From his management experience, John also was asked to work in the Curia office and became the Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator for some years.

John retired in 2014 and decided, with Margaret, to move to Cambridgeshire. He sadly had cancer and recently contracted pneumonia and pleurisy. His funeral Mass took place at St Etheldreda in Ely on October 31.





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## DIOCESAN SCHOOLS IN FOCUS



■ Sacred Heart Primary School Choir was privileged to be invited to sing at Peterborough Cathedral as part of a concert organised by the Peterborough Music Hub. The concert was part of an artwork featuring a moon measuring seven metres in diameter with NASA imagery of the surface suspended in the cathedral.

Headteacher Mark Cooper said: "The children represented the

school not only with their beautiful singing but also with fantastic behaviour and presentation. They sang with great enthusiasm. We would like to thank Fr Bruce Burbidge for accompanying the choir on the piano and the staff who gave up their time to help us. We also extend my thanks to parents for their support. A concert we will all remember."

## Pupils have a cracking time with Enigma

■ Pupils at St Mary's School, Cambridge were set to working cracking codes after seeing first-hand a World War II Enigma cipher machine at the school.

The machine, which is now 82 years old, was brought to the school by Dr James Grime, who runs the Enigma Project and travels the UK and the world to show people the magic of mathematics using this original code-breaking machine.

There are only around 20 on display worldwide, so it was a treat for the Year 7 girls to be able to see a machine in the flesh.

Dr Grime gave a presentation on the history of codes and code-breaking and demonstrated using the Enigma machine.

The girls were thrilled to learn about the important role women had at Bletchley Park – by 1945, 75% of the staff of Bletchley Park were women – and were then keen to get cracking on deciphering codes themselves in code-breaking workshops.

Dr Grime hopes that the Enigma Project will help to inspire and motivate both children and adults to learn more about mathematics.



## Mental health is on agenda

Staff and pupils at St Martha's Primary school in King's Lynn, took part in their first Tea and Talk/Hello Yellow event to support World Mental Health Day on October 10.

■ Deputy Headteacher Hayley Pink said: "Mental health is high on the agenda at St Martha's, where the children are encouraged to talk about their feelings and take part in activities during nurture sessions and 1:1 focus groups, both when they are facing challenges and also through the daily curriculum."

In order to mark the day, children and staff were encouraged to come to school wearing something yellow, and all the children had lessons where they could learn about mental health and how to deal with their feelings.

Parents too were invited to join in, by

attending a drop-in session where they could meet the school's mental health champions, and chat to other parents over tea and cake, made by the staff. There were also leaflets and books for them to browse and take away with them both on adult and children's mental health issues.

Hayley said: "The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Parents said that they would love to see the morning repeated, and for some it was the only chance they got to talk to other people during their day. Children in classes began talking about their own issues to their peers, it was really heart-warming to witness."

"At the end of the day £121 was raised for Young Minds through donations, but for us in the school, the impact on the children was what made it a real success," said Hayley.

## ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

PARK LANE, PETERBOROUGH PE1 5JW

HEADTEACHER  
 MRS MCELHINNEY  
 TELEPHONE 01733 566005



## YOUTH MATTERS



# Synod on young people

Over 60 people from across the Diocese of East Anglia came together on November 4 at a Synod to talk about current hot topics in the wider church around youth, faith and vocational discernment. Jessica McCall reports.

■ In October a Synod on Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment was held in Rome. Ignite Team chaplain Fr Luke Goymour, Team leader Catherine Williams and Director Hamish MacQueen went to Rome for a week during the Synod to gain a better insight into matters addressed.

In order to see how to implement some of these ideas in our own Diocese, the Diocesan Youth Service ran a follow-up Synod of our own to tackle some of the questions raised in Rome. Parish priests sent young people and those working with them to the day-long event held at Mildenhall church.

Participants were asked a series of questions to find out what young people thought was available to them within the diocese, as well as what they think could be done to enhance their understanding of their faith and increase their involvement in parish life.

Some of the things highlighted by the young people included a desire to feel more welcome and involved in their



Pictured above is the East Anglia Youth Synod panel in Mildenhall.

parishes than they already are, as well as finding ways to increase their understanding of their faith and more practical ways of relating faith to their everyday lives.

Also raised was the desire to know more about other opportunities and information that may be available to them regarding their Catholic faith.

This included things like events (both on a Diocesan level and nationally), social media and what apps and websites they can use to increase this awareness.

One young person said that they really enjoyed the day, getting to know other young people in the diocese and that it was a great opportunity to talk about the

challenges that they felt they were facing, as well as to find out that others were facing similar situations to them.

The young people were then offered the opportunity to submit anonymous questions, relevant to matters of the day, to a Q&A panel.

The panel consisted of Bishop Alan, Fr Luke, Hamish, Catherine and Sister Theresa from the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham.

The day ended with Adoration and Benediction led by Bishop Alan and Fr Luke.

Responses from those who came to the Synod have been collated and a report is being produced.

## Youth retreat day at Cathedral in Norwich

■ The Ignite Team and members of the Ignite Lite Team ran a day-long Glow Day retreat at St John the Baptist Cathedral in Norwich on November 24. Jessica McCall reports.

About 30 young people attended the day, held in the Narthex, which started off with ice breakers to give young people a chance to get to know each other.

Youth for Christ Norwich led praise and worship, introducing new worship songs as well as ones that are already favourites amongst those who attended.

Ignite Team leader Catherine Williams gave a talk on discipleship and how young people can become disciples, which was followed by discussion questions in small groups on the theme of discipleship.

In the afternoon, three different workshops covered prayer including rosary making, prayer through popular secular music and an opportunity to ask questions anonymously about being a Catholic.

The justice and peace group ran an activity to help refugees by filling up rucksacks with items that many refugees are in need of to make their lives easier. Items donated included toiletries like tooth brushes and tooth pastes, flannels and brushes as well as kitchen supplies

such as tin openers, rubber gloves and dust pan and brushes.

After the rucksack filling activity, Fr Luke, Chaplain to the Ignite Team spoke about using the Bible and then led a time of Adoration, during which the Sacra-

ment of Reconciliation was available. The day ended with Benediction.

If you would like a glow day to be put on in your area for a group of parishes please get in touch with the Ignite Team via email: [igniteyea@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:igniteyea@rcdea.org.uk)



### Diary dates 2019

■ January 5 – 7: Ignite Lite Weekend

■ January 6: Epiphany Candlelight Mass, Poringland.

■ January 21– 29: World Youth Day in Panama.

■ March 2: Flame 2019 - Booking is now open for the biggest Catholic event in the UK at Wembley Arena.

■ May 4 – 6: Ignite Diocesan Youth Festival, Swaffham.

■ May 6: Pilgrimage Walk to Walsingham.

■ June 1 – 2: Celebrate East Anglia Family Conference, Bury St. Edmunds.

■ July 29 – August 2: New Dawn Family Conference, Walsingham.

■ August 22 – 26: Youth 2000 Prayer Festival, Walsingham.

■ August 23 – 30: Lourdes Pilgrimage.

■ August 23 – 26: Summer Camp for those age 8 – 14, Bury St Edmunds.

For more details of each event, please see [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth)

### Youth contacts

Tel: 01508 486236

Email: Ignite Team enquiries

[igniteyea@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:igniteyea@rcdea.org.uk)

All other enquiries: [dys@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:dys@rcdea.org.uk)

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## Epiphany Candlelight★ Mass

Followed by hotdogs, a bonfire and fireworks  
For all young people from across the Diocese

5pm – 7pm Sunday 6th January 2019  
at The White House, 21 Upgate,  
Poringland. NR14 7SH

We are collecting gifts for children who are refugees.

Please bring a wrapped gift, indicating on the outside whether it is for a boy or girl or either, and the approximate age it is suitable for.

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# New look for faith course

**A Cambridge-based course which helps train faith school teachers in Catholic thought and practice has been re-designed to incorporate online study and discussion to better fit in with the needs and timetables of teachers.**

The Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, based in Cambridge, runs national programme, the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies, across the Diocese of East Anglia. Now it has responded to feedback from teachers about improving the ways in which the course resources are offered – reducing travel time, finding ways to fit training in with the rhythm of the teaching term and better linking the ideas of faith to the work we do in classrooms.

The Institute has re-designed the programme to include 50% live study through live online discussion throughout the Diocese. Teachers can now log on in their schools or at home, and hear and participate in conversations about good practice and the way theology can shape it.

Tutors on the modules have been chosen because they have some pastoral element to their own work as chaplains, university outreach officers, or working on formation through scripture and art as a subject of research in its own right.

Dr Amy Daughton, Director of Studies said; “We are really excited about the new ways of training. It’s better suited for the needs of teachers who are under such pressure. Plus it’s always such a diverse and lively group that it challenges our tutors to respond to the



Students at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology.

insights of those practising in schools and parishes. We have to learn too and that’s enriching for everyone. Pope Francis always tells us not to be stagnant!”

And students have backed the new format. John D’Mello, a previous CCRS student, said: “The modules were diverse ranging from biblical study to concrete applications in education and catechesis.

“I wanted something that would give me a wider perspective of my own faith, giving me insight into the purpose and mission of Catholic Education. So I began the programme and did not regret a minute of it... Post-course I now have a better understanding of the Church, its mission and how my role plays a small

part in this much bigger picture.”

One of the aspects the course has kept is the opportunity to make connections between people. Another previous student, Rachel Rose, sees this as especially important: “The group grew to be a community of learning based around faith which proved both supportive and motivating as we studied together. I formed some close friendships along the way.”

The next cycle of the CCRS will begin in January 2019, though students can join on any module.

To find out more, and apply for the course, email Amy, at [ald36@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ald36@cam.ac.uk) or visit [www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk](http://www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk)

## Cambodia-style Mass in Norfolk

■ A Cambodia-style Mass to celebrate Pchum Ben, the Cambodian Feast of Ancestors took place at Sacred Heart, North Walsham on October 12. Chief celebrant Canon Mark Hackeson was joined by Fathers David Bagstaff, James Walsh, David Ward and Deacon Bill Dimelow.

Young people from Sacred Heart Parish took a leading role in the Mass which was attended by representatives from several of the Cambodia ‘twinned’ parishes together with people from St George’s Norwich, Poringland and Great Yarmouth.

This was the eighth year this Mass has taken place in North Walsham and it was as always, a beautiful and moving occasion enabling those present from across East Anglia Diocese to join in spirit and in prayer with our Cambodian friends at this important time of their year said Katie Maidment.

Cambodia-style Masses in 2019 will be held at Costessey in May and Bury St Edmunds in September.

## Students entertained

■ Members of Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association attended 6pm Mass at the UEA Chapel on Sunday October 28 following in a 50-year tradition and afterwards entertained the students with food and drink.

A contingent of Catenians, led by Circle President Tony Baker, attended the Mass which was celebrated by recently ordained priest Fr Andrew Eburne.



## Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology

Catholic House of Cambridge Theological Federation

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Dr Melanie-Préjean Sullivan

14 Feb—7 Mar 2019

The courses are taught on Thursday afternoons, 2.00-5.30 pm. The teaching ends with the Holy Mass at 6 pm and is followed by supper at 7 pm.

Fees: £170 each course

### CCRS—Recruiting now for January 2019!

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is national course is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales. Margaret Beaufort Institute teaches the CCRS on behalf of the Diocese of East Anglia.

The course seeks to develop foundational knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.

#### Who is it for?

- teachers in Catholic schools
- parish catechists
- anyone who wishes to develop their faith

The course is made up of eight modules which are taken gradually, usually over two years.

You can study for credit (with assessment), or for a certificate of attendance (no assessment).

Cost per module: assessed £60, module £45.

For information on Diploma, Masters and Doctoral Programmes, please get in touch!

Teaching is 50% face to face, on Saturdays and , 50% online, on Wednesday evenings, reducing travel and keeping discussion lively!

Saturdays 10.30-4.30pm, Wednesdays, 4.30-6pm

**New Testament** Sat January 19<sup>th</sup> at MBIT, online evenings: Jan 30<sup>th</sup>, Feb 6<sup>th</sup>, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>

**Person of Christ** Sat February 23<sup>rd</sup> at MBIT, online evenings: Mar 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>.

**The Church** Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> at MBIT, online evenings: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Old Testament** dates tbc

See our website for more info and an application form.



Places are limited so please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

For more information about the above courses or to register please email Ela Wolbek on [ew263@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ew263@cam.ac.uk)

12 Grange Road, Cambridge, CB3 9DU, 01223 741039 Website: [www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk](http://www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk)



BUILDING BRIDGES

Norfolk Sisters make their First Profession

■ Two Sisters from the Norfolk-based Daughters of Divine Charity have made their First Profession and two more renewed their vows during a Mass in Chesterfield.

Sr Renata Pivarnikova and Sr Michaela Switaj renewed their vows in front of the Sisters and some parishioners during Mass in St Joseph's Convent in Chesterfield on August 24 and are now Junior Sisters.

The next day, Sr Anna Yeo and Sr Mary Goncalves made their First Profession at the Church of Annunciation in Chesterfield. Parish priest, Fr Adrian Tomlinson, celebrated the Mass in the presence of the Bishop of Hallam, Bishop Ralph Heskett. The congregation included Sisters of the Province, family and friends of Sr Anna and Sr Mary as well as many parishioners.

Sr Anna Yeo said: "It was a very beautiful ceremony and it was the first time many of the parishioners witnessed a Profession of a Religious Sister. It brought tears to the eyes of many who were present."

"Sr Mary and I are very grateful for the presence of all our loved ones during our First Profession. We have been very blessed throughout our formation with the guidance of our Mistress, Sr Linda Pergega and all the Sisters in our Province. It has been quite a journey for us



Sister Anna, left, and Mary made their First Profession during the Mass in Chesterfield.

but with God's grace, He has guided us to this day. We humbly ask for everyone's prayers as we begin our next stage of our religious journey. All for God, for the poor and for our Congregation!"

A reception was held after Mass at the parish hall. All Priests, Sisters, family and close friends of Sr Anna and Sr Mary were invited for lunch at St Joseph's Convent.

The Sacred Heart Province in England also welcomed two new candidates. Jolanta Wasag and Niamh Rodda to start their journey of discerning their call to religious life.

Shrine in memory of Polish troops restored

A shrine to Our Lady in Hunstanton in North West Norfolk has been restored and consecrated in memory of Polish troops who helped defend the county from the threat of invasion during the Second World War.

■ When The Church of Our Lady and St Edmund in Hunstanton was built in 1905, it was no larger than a Lady Chapel and could only seat a few people.

In 1940, a unit of Polish soldiers came to Britain to man an armoured train that protected the coast as far as King's Lynn and were billeted at nearby Heacham.

The church was far too inadequate for their numbers and so the soldiers built a shrine and an altar in the church garden, where Masses were held in the open-air. Three years later their unit was relocated to Brancaster and other areas around the coast.

After the war, American troops still stationed in Norfolk funded and built an extension to the church during the 1950s, but sadly



The Hunstanton shrine being consecrated by Canon Peter Rollings. Picture by Chris Hutchinson.

the shrine and altar were demolished.

This year, a Polish lady parishioner, Asia Hutchinson, with the support of the Polish and parish communities, decided to rebuild the shrine in the grounds of Our Lady and St. Edmund's Church to commemorate all the troops who had fought in the war.

She found a firm of stonemasons on-line at Komorow, Poland, called "Chronos Figur", and because they were Catholics, they were very sympathetic to the cause.

She commissioned them to hand-carve a beautiful white statue of Our Lady out of sandstone and lime, and as it weighed 240 kilogrammes, it required a strong team from Kuki Transport, King's Lynn, to load it on to a lorry and bring it all the way from Poland.

On Sunday November 18, the shrine was consecrated by Canon Peter Rollings. Many thanks go to all the volunteers who gave their ready support throughout.

Can you help build bridges?

The two current Diocese of East Anglia Building Bridges projects are support for the salary of a kindergarten teacher in the Holy Land and a new formation centre for children, youth groups and adults at Battambang in Cambodia.

If you would you like to support these projects, cheques should be made payable to the "RC Diocese of East Anglia".

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# News picture gallery from parishes around the Diocese

■ A number of touching displays of poppies were on view for Remembrance Sunday at Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Nicholas in Lowestoft, reports Mary Hunt. A blanket of 350 poppies knitted by 86-year-old parishioner Avril Rickerby was on display at Our Lady Star of the Sea, along with memorial crosses displayed throughout the church with the names of servicemen who had died in the two world wars.



■ St Philip Howard in Cambridge celebrated the 40th anniversary of its Canonical establishment as a Parish on Sunday October 28 with Bishop Alan in attendance.



■ An intrepid group of walkers from the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour and St Edmund, Hunstanton, completed their annual walk to raise funds for the Parish after Mass on November 4.

The group this year represented four generations of parishioners and the walk, whilst not too arduous, was a muddy ramble through the local countryside with the rear brought up by well-known retired Priest Fr Henry MacCarthy. Having been well sponsored by people from both the churches in the Parish, the group raised a total of £864. All made it safely back to base for a welcome cup of tea.



■ A new, hopefully long-lasting, statue of St Peter has been carved and installed, at the front of the Church of Our Lady and St Peter in Aldeburgh. Fr Tony Rogers said: "The church faces the North Sea and its rigours and the existing statue of St Peter sat atop the porch until the elements reduced it to a figure which looked as if it had been doctored by Cromwell. A legacy from a parishioner asked that a new one to carved to replace it - that was about 12 years ago.

"The sculptor who was commissioned to do the work died midway through his undertaking, and after much thought a new artist was found - Louise Tiplady, who advised the parish that stone would never last. She recommended that we use Kilkenny slate - a particularly dense variety.

"The statue was completed recently and blessed after Mass on Sunday, October 14, in front of an appreciative crowd who were delighted with the result. The blessing was followed by a glass of bubbly and various toasts. The figure is striking - St Peter has a net and is looking over the town to the sea" said Fr Tony.



■ God's choice and vocation call was the theme of a Diocese of East Anglian clergy retreat at the Ermitage, in Lisieux, France from November 5 to 9. There were 15 Diocesan priests and two deacons attending along with Samuel Randall.

Also, in the centre of the picture, is Bishop David McGough, Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham, who led the retreat. The theme of the retreat was God's choice and call made to each individual, and in a particular through the vocation to priesthood or diaconate.