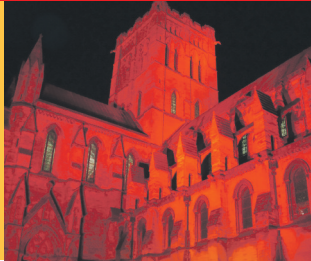




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nuns pass on
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**Hundreds join
silent life
procession
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Dozen trainee priests to follow in Jaylord's footsteps



Jaylord Magpuyo is ordained by Bishop Alan at St John's Cathedral in Norwich. See more pictures on page 3.

Ordination of Filipino priest is first for Diocese

Deacon Jaylord Magpuyo became the first priest to be ordained in the Diocese of East Anglia for four years and the first-ever Filipino, at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich on December 8. Keith Morris reports

A congregation of around 500 witnessed Bishop Alan Hopes ordain Jaylord on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Currently 12 more seminarians are also preparing for the Priesthood, the highest number in the Diocese for 30 years.

In his homily, Bishop Alan said: "Out of the priestly people of God, Jesus chooses men and sets them apart to serve God's people in his name as ordained priests. They are icons of Christ to his Church and ambassadors to the world.

"Jaylord, as a priest you will be the

human minister of the divine things of God. In Jesus Christ you will take the ordinary stuff of human life and invest it with the life and presence of God himself.

"As a priest you will have to learn to constantly empty yourself in order to be filled with God's grace. Before the prayer of consecration, you will prostrate yourself before God – you will abandon yourself to God's power and will, so that his purpose may be worked out in you," said Bishop Alan.

"I will lay my hands on your head to call down the very presence of God to this place and into your life.

"You will be clothed in the sacred vestments of priesthood as a reminder that not only are you set apart for sacred duties but that you are now being enveloped in Jesus Christ himself.

"You will be anointed with the sacred oil of Christ to strengthen and empower

you to be a sign of Christ's presence wherever you go," said Bishop Alan.

At the end of the Mass, Fr Jaylord gave First Blessings to Bishop Alan, fellow priests and other congregation members.

The congregation included family and friends of Fr Jaylord and parishioners from the Cambridge churches of St Philip Howard and St Laurence, together with people from the Annunciation of Our Lady, King's Lynn, parishes in which he has served as a Deacon. Prior to that, Jaylord spent six years in formation for the priesthood in the Philippines.

Fr Jaylord was ordained as a Deacon at the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs (OLEM) in Cambridge in January and becomes the first priest ordained in the Diocese since Fr Henry Whisenant in July 2013. Fr Jaylord will be based at St Laurence, Cambridge.

■ **Read Bishop Alan's homily and see picture gallery at www.rcdea.org.uk**



A Christmas message from Bishop Alan

■ As we prepare to celebrate the Christmas Season I send my warmest greetings to you all! I hope that it will be a time of great blessing for you and your families.

In the Christmas Gospel we read about the journeys of various people - that of Mary and Joseph to take part in the census in Bethlehem; that of the shepherds from the fields where they watch their sheep to the stable where they find the innocent Lamb of God; and that of the wise men from the East, following the star to the Incarnate Word from whom all wisdom flows.

We too come to celebrate this awesome season after a journey but a journey in time. It has been another year of ups and downs, events both predictable and surprising, both in the public sphere and in our own individual lives.

Sometimes these events don't seem to make sense on their own. Sometimes we can live as if these events are just a series of random occurrences that fill up days and weeks and months.

Christmas reminds us that our lives have an inherent direction. They are set along certain lines and the things that happen to us are subtle signs of God's providence, all of which in some way point us to the stable. "Only in the mystery of the incarnate Word does the mystery of man take on light" (Second Vatican Council, Gaudium et Spes 22).

We understand our lives – its joys and its losses – only when we look at the joys and sorrows of the life of Christ, who came to take on our flesh and to give us a share in his divinity.

May this Christmas be a chance for us to discover anew the mystery of the stable. May you find yourself always walking with Jesus Christ as your destination. And may the grace brought by the Christ child, through Mary, be the source of your peace and joy in the New Year ahead.

**With my good wishes and blessing,
Bishop Alan**

news in brief



DIocese of EAST ANGLIA
YEARBOOK & CALENDAR
2018 £3.00

2018 Yearbook is now available

■ The Diocese of East Anglia 2018 Yearbook and Liturgical Calendar is now available online and in parishes from early December.

The annual printed publication, which this year is a bumper 192 pages with colour-coded sections, is available for just £3.

Edited and designed by Communications Director Keith Morris, with some content updated by Bishop's PA Elaine Bugg, the publication is a comprehensive directory of parishes and contacts across the diocese.

It includes guides to the different departments and commissions of the diocese, as well parishes, schools, hospitals and prisons as well as a listing of all clergy and religious across East Anglia.

Also included is a pictorial guide to the last 12 months in the life of the diocese, alongside pastoral statistics, the diocese financial report and a Catholic organisations and societies directory. Bishop Alan has written a foreword.

The Diocesan Liturgical Calendar has been produced by Tricia Steel with assistance from Fr David Finegan and Fr Pdraig Hawkins.

Printed copies are now available at just £3, from parishes and churches across the diocese.

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 Friday January 5.

Diocese website: www.rcdea.org.uk

Advertising: Contact Janet at Cathcom on tel 01440 730399 or at janett@cathcom.org

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Fair trade protest in Cambridge

■ A group of activists for trade justice in Cambridge coordinated by CAFOD held a demonstration outside Sainsbury's in Sidney Street on October 28.

Passers-by were encouraged to take a leaflet explaining that Sainsbury's have dropped the Fairtrade Mark from their own-brand tea and replaced it with their own "Fairly Traded" label instead and invited to sign a petition protesting this.

Petitions were handed in to the shop manager.

One of the protestors, Mary Watkins, CAFOD contact for St Laurence's parish, said: "The Fair trade Mark is the most widely recognised and trusted independent ethical label in the world and has proved it can make a difference to the lives of millions of farmers and workers in developing countries.

"Sainsbury's self-run "Fairly Traded" scheme is not the same. It wasn't set up independently and is completely controlled by Sainsbury's.

"Most importantly it takes control away from farmers who have told



Sainsbury's they want to stick with the Fairtrade Mark system."

You can sign the petition at: www.change.org/dontditchfairtrade

Amazing Sr Mary Clare honoured

■ The amazing contribution of Sr Mary Clare Mason to the parish of St Peter and All Souls Parish in Peterborough over 16 years was celebrated with a Mass on September 9, reports **Pat Bedford**.

Sr Mary Clare has served in her order, The Daughters of Jesus, twice in Peterborough. She was a teacher at the St Thomas More Catholic Primary School around 20 years ago and then taught at St Martha's School in King's Lynn and spent time in the community at Thetford.

Sr Mary Clare came back to Peterborough in 2001 and worked as a Chaplain at Milton Keynes Prison then transferred to Highpoint at Haverhill. She set up the Chaplaincy at Peterborough Prison when it first opened and she finished this type of chaplaincy in 2011 at Stocken. This freed her up to work in the parish and she became very much involved in the Community and Cohesion Department of Peterborough City Council.

She had strong ties to the multi-cultural city and was instrumental in establishing strong links with the city's Muslim communities. She was highly valued in this role particularly at the time of an EDL protest march in the city, when all five of the Mosques in the city advised all young men to stay out of the centre of the city in order to defuse the tension expected as a result of the march.

In January 2012, Sr Mary Clare volunteered as a trustee for the Trussell Trust Foodbank in Peterborough and was still serving in that role when she was asked to leave Peterborough for a new chapter in her busy life, first in Rickmansworth and later in Westgate on Sea. Sr Mary Clare has also been a very active member of the local Churches Together in Central Peterborough, serving on the Communities Group in that organisation.



Sr Mary Clare Mason with her Papal Blessing and the Syrian refugee family she has been helping.

When the first five of the Syrian refugee families came to Peterborough last year, Sr Mary Clare was at once involved in helping to settle one of the families and to find for them all that they needed to live their lives in a new country. The family are Muslims – mum and dad, two sons and a daughter – and asked if they might be allowed to attend Sr Mary Clare's farewell Mass. She introduced them to the parish at the end of the Mass. Sr Mary Clare was the Diocesan Representative for refugees in Peterborough.

Sr Mary Clare received a Civic Award from the City earlier this year to recognise her great contribution to the life

and community cohesion in the city over many years.

Fr Adam presented Sr Mary Clare her with a Papal blessing in thanks for her unrivalled contribution to parish and city life. We shall all miss her very much.

Adrian Chapman, Service Director: Communities and Safety at Peterborough City Council said: "I want to offer my sincerest thanks and appreciation to you for all the hard work as a cohesion champion for the City of Peterborough. Your role in the community has been invaluable having been involved with many projects across the city."

Sr Mary Clare is moving to Westgate on Sea.

Highest number of seminarians for over 30 years



Dozen to follow in Jaylord's steps

With five new students starting in seminaries across Europe in September, the Diocese of East Anglia now has 12 men training for the priesthood, the highest number for at least 30 years. Vocations Director Fr Patrick Cleary reports.

■ The dozen men vary from those who just started in September 2017, to those who hopefully, will be ordained fairly soon, following Fr Jaylord Magpuyo.

We have men in six seminaries, across three different countries (Italy, Spain and England). Thanks to the financial support that the Diocese is receiving from the successful Alive in Faith programme we are now able to sustain this number of seminarians.

The annual collection for the training of new priests raises enough, from across the diocese, to pay the fees and expenses for just one seminarian.

As the vocations director, it's my responsibility, to accompany young men through the process from early and noncommittal enquiries to ordination.

Part of my responsibility is to visit each seminary, and indeed each seminarian, at least once during the academic year.

Bishop Alan places seminarians in various parishes for pastoral experiences during the summer break and during other periods according to the seminaries' requirements.

This is a huge change from my time as a seminarian, when we spent the summer months working in various capacities in the secular world. My experiences included working on a farm, in a shop, in a factory, cutting grass verges for the local county council and running a pitch-and-putt golf course.

On one stormy evening, when no cus-



Jaylord Magpuyo is ordained by Bishop Alan at St John's Cathedral in Norwich with Canon Eugène Harkness, left, and Fr Pat Cleary, right.

tomers materialised, I managed a hole-in-one but who is going to believe me!

We also had a much lower profile in the life of the diocese. Often, the first that people knew that we were training for the priesthood, was the announcement of the date of our ordination.

Now, the progress and activities of our seminarians is charted in various diocesan communications, especially in the pages of Catholic East Anglia, our diocesan paper.

Our seminarians also feature prominently in various diocesan celebrations, liturgies and events.

These days, it's common for applicants to approach the diocese in early middle life, having had some experience, in the world of work, or indeed some experience of time spent in a

religious order.

The average age of our seminarians is probably in the 30s rather than the 20s. Each one, brings some particular experience to their vocation, which I'm sure will be beneficial to the diocese in the years ahead.

This is an interesting diocese in terms of the variety of parishes. We have large city parishes, market town parishes and coastal parishes from King's Lynn to Felixstowe. We try to give the seminarians exposure to all of the various types of parishes during their years of preparation.

We went for many years with no seminarians at all and are presently blessed with our very Biblical team of 12, with all their talents and variety. Please remember them in your prayers.

news in brief

Musical study day set for Newmarket

■ There will be a study day for Diocesan musicians on Saturday February 4, to help with the preparation for Lent and Easter-tide music.

The day will consist of talks on choosing music, free resources available for the liturgies, and practical workshops on learning new music.

The event will be at Our Lady Immaculate and St Etheldreda Parish Centre in Newmarket, starts at 11.30am and will conclude with the singing of Vespers and Benediction in the church at 5pm.

Daniel Justin, Diocesan Director of Music, said: "We're so lucky to have a really great team of musicians which work in parishes across the Diocese, who enrich the liturgy with their music."

"This study day will be a great opportunity to get together as a Diocesan family of musicians, to learn some different chants and songs, and to have group discussions and find out what we all get up to in our parishes! I hope we can all learn from each other as we share our talents for the glory of God"

There will be no charge for the day, but those interested in attending are asked to bring a packed lunch.

To register, please email Daniel at: music@sjbcathedral.org.uk

Australian interest in sainthood cause

■ Interest in the cause for sainthood of Leonard Cheshire has been raised following the centenary Mass in Suffolk in September including from the other side of the world.

After a report of the Mass was published in the Catholic East Anglia newspaper, organiser of the Ryder Cheshire Australia Biennial National Conference, Hugh Richard Elphinstone, got in touch and received a recording, report and picture gallery of the Mass to show his delegates.

Hugh wrote: "Ryder Cheshire Australia supporters are very interested in the initiatives, in England and Poland, to have our Leonard and Sue proclaimed saints of the Catholic Church."

"We realize that it is extremely unlikely that, if they are proclaimed saints, this will happen in our lifetimes. Nevertheless, we hope and pray that they will eventually be canonised."

Philosophical talk

■ The November meeting of Norwich Circle of the Catenian was held on Friday November 24 in the cellar of the Louis Marquesi pub in Tombland, Norwich and the after-dinner speaker was Deacon Andrew Eburne who is chaplain to the Catholic students at the University of East Anglia.

Andrew delivered a wide-ranging, thought-provoking speech with a philosophical slant on the Catholic faith and the role of parents in advising their children on the path to follow in the religion aspect of their lives.

The speech was greeted by the 20-strong audience with a hearty round of applause led by Circle President John Kenny.

By coincidence Louis Marchesi, after whom the pub is named was a founder member of Norwich Circle which was inaugurated on May 21, 1925.

NEW EVANGELISATION

Every leaflet is an invitation to join us

A team from Cromer and Sheringham parish is preparing to hit the streets to invite people to join the parish. Simon Mustoe-Arthur told Rebecca Bretherton about the project.

■ **Simon:** Cromer and Sheringham is a parish with growing towns. We have many new housing developments in our parish and more are being built: Holt alone has three new developments.

We realised that there were a large number of new people arriving whom we should be welcoming to the area and inviting to church. Some of them will be Catholics who will find their own way to us but there are likely to be others who need us to reach out to them.

People who arrive in a new town have moved for all sorts of reasons – some people will be looking forward to settling down by the sea, others are moving reluctantly.

What is certain is that moving home is a new start for all of them. We hope that we can offer a new start spiritually as well. It might be that someone



Rebecca Bretherton and Simon Mustoe-Arthur look at the invitation leaflet.

who is moving home is wanting to re-consider the way they are living their life. It may be that their previous experiences of the Church might not have been very positive. A new community is a new opportunity to reconnect with their faith.

■ **Rebecca:** *One of the reasons Catholics stop going to Mass is because they move away from their routine and the community they know. How are you planning to help them return?*

■ **Simon:** We are going to visit every new house in the new developments and deliver a leaflet which we have designed especially for new arrivals. We have included photos of our beautiful churches taken during Mass. People will see a warm prayerful Christian community. The leaflet suggests that people 'Come and See!' We aren't trying to force people to come to church but we want them to know that we are waiting to welcome them if they join us.

We aren't going to just dump the leaflets through doors like the pizza delivery ones everyone puts in the bin. Each leaflet is an invitation and we want people to read it. We are going to be business-like about ensuring that we visit the right places. We are going to work in pairs to support each other and have prepared so we know how we are going to approach the task.

It's not just the team who are delivering the

leaflets who are involved in this. This is a project for the whole parish and those who aren't venturing out with us can pray for us and for all those people who have moved here recently.

■ **Rebecca:** *Why are you involved in this project?*

■ **Simon:** I want to be involved in evangelisation. I want to share my faith and be a bit braver about that. It can be difficult to find the opportunity in everyday life. This parish project is giving me that opportunity. I've never done anything like this before. I'm pleased that the leaflet isn't trying to persuade people aggressively. I really hope that it will encourage non church-going Catholics to 'Come and See'.

It could be that people who aren't Catholics read the leaflet and then find an alternative church community. We will have given them all a chance to think about coming to church in Cromer and Sheringham.

The leaflet has been funded by a grant provided by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

If your parish is developing an initiative to reach out to non church-going Catholics and you would be interested in bidding for some money, please contact Rebecca Bretherton, Coordinator of the Diocesan Commission for the New Evangelisation at rebecca.bretherton@icloud.com

Are you refreshed and ready for mission?

■ This paper arrives in parishes the week before Christmas so if you are reading this in Advent, enjoy a peaceful and holy Christmas. Have you invited anyone to join you at Mass this Christmas?

If you are reading this article during Christmas itself (and what better holiday reading could there be?), you may be thinking that the Advent Posada statue is packed away for another year and the 'Come Home for Christmas' campaign is nearly over. We are back to normal before we know it. So perhaps it seems as if the opportunity for evangelisation will be a bit limited in January. Of course, 'normal' means the mission continues. Jesus Christ always calls us to share his message: the promise of everlasting life. People need to hear this promise every day of the year.

We celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord in January just at the moment when the weather is darkest and mission seems a bit of an effort. 2018 is a little unusual as the feast is celebrated on a Monday rather than the usual Sunday. 2018 begins with a rush of glorious feasts. This year the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord comes the day after Epiphany Sunday on Monday January 8. This oddity in the Church calendar means that we will miss the chance to reflect on the start of Jesus' life of mission as a whole parish at Sunday Mass. Instead, this January we can focus on what we can do as individual Christians to share our faith throughout 2018.

In his book *The 4 Signs of a Dynamic Catholic* Matthew Kelly says that Dynamic Catholics pray and study their faith. They give generously and share their faith with others. To mark the end of the Christmas season and to refresh our enthusiasm for mission, here are some simple ideas to consider:

■ **Pray:** If possible, go to Mass on Monday January 8, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

If that's not possible, pray the Luminous Mysteries decade of the Rosary. The First Mystery gives us a chance to reflect on the Baptism of the Lord and the beginning of his earthly mission.

■ **Study:** Read and reflect on the readings of the feast day, especially the Gospel, Mark 1:7-11. You will find them in a Sunday missal or an online site like Universalis.com. In the Gospel reading, God is showing us His Son Jesus Christ, as he showed the shepherds at Christmas and the Magi when they arrived to worship their King. In the first reading, Isaiah gives the wonderful image of water and invites the thirsty to drink. That theme continues with the psalm response: "With joy you will draw water from the well of salvation" we know people in our towns and villages are thirsty for God's promise.

Our faith is refreshed by scripture. Join a parish group who study the Bible regularly or start a Gospel sharing group.

■ **Give:** To continue the watery theme, give a donation to a charity which works to provide clean water or to protect our environment. Or a practical option could be to give some fruit squash and other items to your local food bank.

Alternatively, support a charity whose work involves mission either in this country or abroad.

Your 2018 Challenge to share your faith:
Invite someone to church: either for Mass or a parish social event. Don't wait until next to Christmas to invite someone to Come Home.



Diocese of East Anglia
Commission for the New Evangelisation



Book Now To Reserve Your Places!

Diocesan Event: Creating Missionary Parishes

Saturday 13th January 2018
10.00am until 3.00pm

Newmarket Parish Centre, 14 Exeter Road, Newmarket CB8 8LT

Light buffet lunch included
Day concludes with a period of Eucharistic Adoration

We are now taking bookings for this diocesan event. We are delighted to be hosting this opportunity for Catholics in East Anglia. Join Bishop Alan and fellow Catholics from across the diocese to learn how to create a mission team in your parish. Invite someone from your parish to join you for the day.

This day will be helpful for parishes who need a practical way to get started with creating or to help refresh a parish mission team.

We will be joined by members of the Diocese of Plymouth New Evangelisation team who will explain how their successful programme has created over 38 parish mission teams in their diocese.

Across Cornwall, Dorset and Devon, more than 400 parishioners have taken part with great effect and extraordinary results. The programme takes people on a personal journey of exploration into their own faith, seeking to give a fuller sense of personal discipleship and to equip them to discern ways of evangelising with a wiser and deeper empathy for the person they encounter and where they may be in their spiritual journey.

RSVP :
Please book by emailing: rebecca.bretherton@icloud.com
I need to know numbers for catering purposes and to ensure that all parish delegates have the necessary parish packs to take away. Please advise of any dietary requirements.

Swaffham TV nuns pass on good habits

Channel 5 reality TV series Bad Habits – Holy Orders, took five party-loving, selfie-obsessed, young women and challenged them to live in the Norfolk convent of the Daughters of Divine Charity in Swaffham for several weeks. Keith Morris reports.

■ It was the first time in 20 years that such a convent has opened its doors to the TV cameras in the UK. The nuns' way of life was a shock, but also eventually an inspiration, to the unsuspecting guests. Sr Michaela Switaj, aged 23, was one of the surprise stars of the series, and as the youngest of the Sisters at the convent, was able to identify with the young guests and they, in turn were inspired by her.

"I can relate to them in many ways," said Sr Michaela. "I used to go out a lot, drinking with my friends when I was a teenager and thought I was having fun but I just felt more and more empty inside and it didn't really help. It's about showing them there is another way of life and you can have fun without alcohol."

"I used make-up to cover something that I didn't like about myself, I just wanted to rebel," she said.

Talking to the cameras about life in the convent, Sr Michaela, originally from Poland, said: "We are women who are nuns but we still want to have fun in our lives. Even though we are consecrated women we still have many male friends. We don't have romantic relationships with them but we still have friendships with them."

Sr Michaela came to Eng-

land when she was 18 years old and entered the convent when she was 19.

"Since I entered I have felt that this is my vocation and this is where I want to be for the rest of my life. It is a mystery even for us," she said. "When I lived in the world, I had my family and my friends and my school and job but I still felt that there was something missing in my life. I could not find that deep joy which I found when I entered the convent as that was my call and you can't be fulfilled when you don't respond to God's invitation."

"I would love to bring more people to Jesus. I would love to show them that he really does love them because people who I meet every day don't really believe or feel God's love in their lives or is working in their lives and this is what I would

love them to know and that is what I want to show them in my life."

By the end of their time at the convent, all five TV guests had reassessed their view of life and what was important to them, in one way or another.

Rebecca, from Newcastle, decided to train to become a care worker and try to rebuild the broken relationship with her dad. She said: "This has been the best experience I have had and I would probably do it again."

Gabby, from Cromer, said: "It was one of the hardest and most challenging things I have ever done. I might not have come away with a belief in God, but I definitely have more belief in myself and that I can do more than I thought I could."

Tyla is about to start voluntary work with the homeless in Leeds and Sarah

will be drinking less and helping with more household chores.

And the series was also of benefit to the convent.

Sr Michaela said: "It has brought a change to our community because actually the girls, with their presence, brought us together as a community."

"The girls are beautiful and wonderful on the inside as well as the outside. I want them to appreciate themselves for who they really are, not for the masks that they wear."

Sr Francis Ridler said: "It has been a strange and rather wonderful experience actually. Since the series we have been in touch with some of the girls' parents and they are very grateful for the sisters' impact on their daughters' lives. We are still in touch with the girls on social media."



Sr Michaela with guest Rebecca at the Sacred Heart Convent in Swaffham during the Bad Habits TV series. Picture by Channel 5.

news in brief

Newspaper to be published monthly

■ The Catholic East Anglia newspaper will be going monthly from January 2018 to help get news out across the diocese of East Anglia more quickly.

In co-operation with publishers Cathcom, the paper will be produced every month, except August and December, increasing from the current six bi-monthly editions.

Each edition will go down from 16 to 12 pages but there will be more room overall for news and features from across the Diocese and many stories will be published quicker than before.

Editor Keith Morris is keen to identify communications champions in each parish who would send in news items and help distribute the paper, making sure it is displayed prominently and simply handed out at the end of Mass.

If you would be interested in the communications champion role in your parish, let your parish priest know and then simply email keith.morris@rcdea.org.uk

You can still see all the news as it happens on the www.rcdea.org.uk website and in the regular enews bulletins.

Scouts lend hand

■ St George's Explorer Scouts in Norwich have been helping out with parish CAFOD events for a while and wanted to find out more about what they do.

So CAFOD school volunteer Helen Savelli and trainee volunteers Beth Leeks and Hettie McLean visited them on November 14. Helen presented a Rough Guide to CAFOD while Beth and Hettie challenged them to make a football out of plastic bags.

They used the ball to play CAFOD's 'All To Play For' game, a great way to find out about the obstacles to change faced by its partners across the world.

CAFOD Community Participation Coordinator, Jane Crone, said: "The St George's CAFOD team are enormously grateful to the Explorer Scouts for all the help they give during fundraising events. Dressed in their uniform and with smiles on their faces they're always willing to help with anything from washing up to waiting at table."

University tradition

■ Catholic students at the University of East Anglia were fed and watered by the Norwich Catenians after the evening Mass on October 22 following in a 54-year-old tradition.

It has been the custom since the UEA was founded in 1963 for Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association to attend the evening Mass celebrated in the University's multi-faith chapel on the last Sunday of October and afterwards provide students with food and drink.

The Mass was celebrated by Fr Padraig Hawkins assisted by Deacon Andrew Eburne and the students were led by Catholic Students' President, Lara Dela Cruz.

Annual clergy night

■ The Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association celebrated its annual Clergy and Ladies night at Park Farm Hotel in Hethersett near Norwich on Thursday November 16. MC was Tony Baker and grace before and after the meal was recited by Fr Philip Shryane.

Catholics invited to social justice conference

■ Catholic churches and organisations across Norfolk are being invited to take part in a Norwich conference on social justice in January at which Bishop Alan will be speaking.

The conference on social justice for faith and secular charities in the Greater Norwich area is to be held at The King's Centre, Norwich on Monday, January 29.

The introductory speakers are Bishop Alan, The Bishop of Lynn and Alan Waters, leader of Norwich

City Council.

John Pinnington said: "The aim is to examine the current challenges facing social justice in Norwich in areas such as the homeless, prisoners and the justice system, mental health, low wage earners, migrants, disability and the elderly and dependents on social care, and to explore how the voluntary sector can collaborate to help confront these challenges."

The afternoon will be devoted mainly to group discussion at which

practical solutions are sought to improve the quality of support available. Delegates will be asked to explore areas for greater co-operation amongst their charities and undertake to carry out some follow-up activity after the conference.

People are asked to register and the event is free. Lunch is provided. The event is sponsored by Living Wage Norwich

To book your place, visit: <http://bit.ly/2ALqNdN>

news in brief

Christmas chickens

■ Rev Mike and Mrs Ann Vipond are sending CAFOD Chirpy Chickens rather than Christmas cards this year. "We wish you a happy and holy Christmas, with love and prayers," said Ann and Mike.

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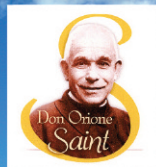
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Ministers of Religion



Walk raises money for Cambodia

■ Six parishioners from St Peter's in Gorleston have walked along the seafront and raised £1000 for the independent charity, Support Cambodia.

Interest in Cambodia has been gaining momentum in St Peter's Parish following the visit of Moira Selvage to Cambodia in 2016 with the trustees of the Norfolk-based charity and after money was raised locally to provide much-needed bore wells in Pailin Province in North West Cambodia.

"I experienced first-hand the wells in action leading to the provision of nourishing meals for the children," said Moira. Parishioners have continued to raise money for another bore well in the same area.

"We were all determined to do something for the Cambodian people which would make a difference to their lives," said Moira. "The 30-year war, the terror dictatorship of Pol Pot and the millions of landmines underground have left the Cambodians with deeply wounded hearts and still in poverty. With a little help from their friends' they continue to rise out of the ashes with their resilience and courage."

Moira said: "Although not a church charity, Support Cambodia works in partnership with members of the Cambodian Church to improve the lives of those most in need and their experience has helped us to identify the needs of the disadvantaged communities for whom we have such deep admiration. Projects include water, food, transport, education and hygiene and the charity takes no administration costs from charitable donations."

On September 27, six parishioners from St Peter's, walked along Gorleston seafront to the pier carrying a Support Cambodia charity box.

People donated whatever they had and one lady emptied the entire contents of



Pictured, from the right, are walkers Rosemarie Hawkins, Maureen Dunhill, Moira Selvage, Elizabeth Hunt, Amy Darby and Corrine Labonte.

her purse into our donation box! In less than two hours £64 was collected. Other money was collected by sponsorship from friends, relations and parishioners.

Walker Amy Darby said: "I was grateful for their willingness to support this charity so generously."

Some £250 of the £1000 will provide a

community water filter for Nikum village near Battambang and the remaining money will be put towards a clean water project in 2018.

In January 2018, five parishioners will be visiting Cambodia.

Visit: www.supportcambodia.org.uk or phone 01263 577784.

St Edmund's Day is celebrated in style

St Edmund's Day was celebrated in style this year at St Edmund's in Bungay, with a full church attendance at Family Mass, followed by an "open house" lunch for around 80 parishioners and friend. Helen Kirby reports.

■ St Edmunds Primary School – the jewel in the crown of our parish – played a central role in the celebrations on Sunday November 26.

As is customary for Family Mass, our young parishioners led many of the hymns and also did the readings and brought up the Offertory gifts, while the small but growing school choir delivered a melting rendition of As the Deer Pants for the Water.

After Mass, we all adjourned to our wonderfully decorated hall for coffees, and



The St Edmund's children's choir performing at the Mass.

took the opportunity to admire the artwork created by the school-children and to browse their books of poetry and stories, based on the legend of St Edmund and

the wolf.

Adding to the sense of occasion, a trumpet call marked the beginning of the celebrations, followed by a welcome from Fr Charles Fitzgerald-

Lombard before we all recited the prayer to St Edmund. What followed next was an excellent medley of music, song and readings, with performances from parishioners of all ages, ranging from two to 82.

Mrs Barlow told us how St Edmund's Day was celebrated at school and showcased some very artistic and amusing videos created by the children, using the interactive whiteboard. In addition to the various performances, a special craftwork area, dedicated to crown decorating, was set aside for children.

Marking a break with our traditional Winter BBQ, this year's lunch menu served up hearty portions of chilli and jacket potato with various garnishes, followed by trifle and a special St Edmund cake.

The celebratory meal was free of charge but diners were invited to contribute by way of helping with the organising, cooking, decorating or clearing up.



The Cathedral of St John the Baptist, above, was lit up with red spotlights and a Red Wednesday's Mass was also held at St Mark's RC Church in Ipswich, pictured below.

Red spotlight on faith persecution

Catholic churches and their congregations across the Diocese of East Anglia turned red on November 22 to highlight the importance of religious freedom and the persecution of Christians.

■ Organised nationally by Aid to the Church in Need, the day was dubbed Red Wednesday.

In Norwich, the Cathedral of St John the Baptist was lit up with red spotlights and Bishop Alan preached at a special Mass for persecuted Christians.

He said: "The Church was born from persecution - of Jesus on the cross - and thousands of Christians were martyred under the Romans. But it had the opposite effect to that which the emperors had hoped for and the church continued to spread and grow as the witness and courage of the Christians impressed all those who saw it.

"Persecution of Christians across the world has risen in the past four years and over 90,000 were murdered in 2016 and half a billion are unable to express their faith freely and openly in today's world.

"Red Wednesday reminds us that we should make a firm resolve to support our brothers and sisters - the blood of the martyrs is the life-giving seed of the Church."

A Red Wednesday's Mass was also held at St Mark's RC Church in Ipswich, led by Parish Priest Fr Christopher Smith. Members of the congregation also turned out in red clothes to express their support.

The Catholic National Shrine at Walsingham also turned red for the day.

March parish had a Red Wednesday Open House event. Rebecca Bretherton said: "About 40 people came for tea and cake and donated £270 for the Aid to the Church in Need's campaign to support Iraqi Christian refugees returning home."

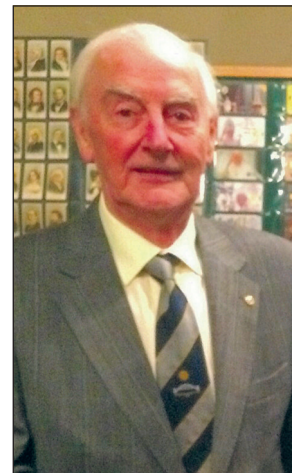
"Throughout the country churches and cathedrals were lit up in red as a mark of respect to modern day martyred Christians," said East Anglia Area Secretary Tamsyn Filby.



news in brief

Hobbies make a fascinating talk

■ The highlight of the October meeting of Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association held in The Refectory of the Great Hospital, Norwich was a fascinating talk by the Circle's Dinner secretary John Moseley (right) on the subject of philately and cigarette card collection, hobbies which were, as John described, "endemic" in the boys of his generation during the immediate post-war generation.



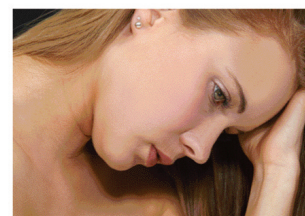
The talk generated many questions from the 30-strong audience and finished with loud applause led by the Circle's president, John Kenny.

History newsletter

■ The Autumn edition of the Newsletter of the East Anglian Catholic History Society, *Oriente Lumen*, has been published online. It contains news of the launch of the cause for Leonard Cheshire, new book titles and a research project at St Edmund's Church, Bury St Edmunds, into the fallen of the First World War.

<https://catholicceastanglia2016.wordpress.com>

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Hundreds join s

Around 700 Catholics from across the Diocese of East Anglia took part in a silent Eucharistic procession through Norwich city centre on October 27, which was followed by an all-night vigil at St John's Cathedral to pray for the dignity and sanctity of all human life. Keith Morris reports.

■ The candle-lit procession began with a short liturgy at the Castle Mound and then wound through the city centre streets including Gentlemen's Walk and past the Forum with passers-by watching on respectfully. The procession was led by the Blessed Sacrament, which for Catholics is the Real presence of Jesus Christ. The event was held on the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act in Parliament in October 1967.

Addressing the congregation at the Castle Mound, Fr Henry Whisenant said: "Our Bishops have asked us to consider this historical moment in our prayers today. For this Act has had tragic consequences for our nation in the last half century.

"More than eight million surgical abortions have been carried out – which now amounts to more than 500 every day.

"And then there are the untold spiritual wounds that such legislation has caused to individuals, to couples and to families, indeed to the very fabric of our society. All of this continues and shows no signs of slowing down.

"As we process with the Lord tonight we pray that He will heal the wounds of abortion in these last 50 years and by the outpourings of his mercy convert the hearts and minds of this country to acknowledge and cherish the life of every human being no matter how vulnerable," said Fr Henry.

"May our procession with the Lord tonight make us more resolved to do what we can, to pray, to offer sacrifice, for the eventual establishment of a civilisation of love in this land."

The procession was followed by a vigil of prayer throughout the night and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Cathedral.

Young people of the Diocese led hourly prayers and took part in workshops in the Narthex.

The whole event concluded with the celebration of Mass on Saturday morning.



ilent life procession



Pictured are moments from the silent life procession through the evening streets of Norwich city centre and the vigil at St John's Cathedral.

A full gallery of pictures can be viewed and downloaded for free from www.rcdea.org.uk

Pictures by Keith Morris.



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DIOCESAN SCHOOLS IN FOCUS

Top parliamentary showcase for school

St John Fisher Catholic High School in Peterborough has been highlighted as an excellent school in the 2016/17 Parliamentary Review, which showcases best practice to leading policymakers.

■ Introduced by Prime Minister Theresa May, St John Fisher features alongside a small number of excellent schools in a document that looks back on the year in schools and Westminster. The main aim of the Review is to showcase best practice as a learning tool to the public and private sector.

Across all policy areas, The Parliamentary Review is sent to over half a million leading policymakers. The articles in the Review act as both a blueprint for success and a template for reform.

The report says: "It takes a lot of effort by a lot of people over a lot of time to create a Good school. One person can have a dramatic initial impact but they need to engage others to build an effective team. This is what happened at St John Fisher Catholic High School over a five-year period resulting in a school that is now consistently performing well and was in the top 10% nationally for GCSE results in 2016.

"The school serves a very challenging



community. Almost two-thirds of students do not have English as their first language and the majority of these speak their first language at home.

There is a very large mix of ethnicities in the school and many different religions: around half the students are Catholic and about a fifth are Muslim. The student population includes many students from deprived parts of the city."

The school's journey began in 2008 when the school went into Special Measures. Sean Hayes was appointed as executive Headteacher. Five terms later it was taken out of Special Measures and by 2013 an inspection judged the school to be Good in all areas. A diocesan inspection

went on to judge it Outstanding.

The report concludes that the school has achieved this in challenging times because: "it continues to play to its strengths: being inclusive, celebrating diversity, caring for every person and providing for the needs of all. It does this by staying true to its core values."

Sean said: "We are delighted to have been selected to feature in this year's Review. While the invitation resulted from excellent exam results, it has allowed us to promote all the other things that we do well and these have come across brilliantly in the article. This has been a welcome boost for the school community and a validation of the excellent work that we do."

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Lent Term: 18th January-8th March 2018

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2. Biblical Women from Miriam to Mary Magdalen (Ms Rosalie Moloney)

Easter Term: 26th April-17th May 2018

1. Thomas Merton: Model of Discernment, Personal Care, Pastoral Presence, and Social Justice (Dr Melanie Prejean-Sullivan).

Fee £150 per module

The modules are taught on Thursday afternoons, 2-5 pm. The teaching ends with the Holy Mass at 6 pm and is followed by supper at 7 pm.

CCRS

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is managed and awarded by the Board of Religious Studies on behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The course seeks to ensure that participants have at least a basic knowledge and understanding of the beliefs of the Catholic Faith. It also provides a basis for further study.

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Starting date:

September 2018



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DIOCESAN SCHOOLS IN FOCUS

Pupil helps save drowning man

■ A Catholic prep school pupil in Suffolk has been commended for assisting a drowning man whilst on holiday in the Lake District.

Moreton Hall Prep School pupil, Jameson Rogers, was celebrated at the Bury St Edmunds school on October 10 with a special award presented by school governor, Piers Day, for his extraordinary actions while kayaking on Lake Windermere in the summer.

Jameson and his sister Katie, a former pupil of Moreton Hall, witnessed a man fall into the water and begin to struggle.

Jameson paddled over and man-

aged to keep him afloat while his sister raised the alarm.

The children's grandmother wrote to the school, saying: "Katie and Jameson were kayaking on Windermere when they saw an elderly man fall into the water. Whilst Katie paddled to alert her grandfather, who was on his yacht nearby, Jameson paddled to the man, who was unable to help himself because he was weighed down by his clothing and could not swim.

"Jameson told the man to hang on to his kayak and he would keep him afloat till help arrived. Katie, Jame-

son and Grandpa were eventually able to get a life jacket on the casualty and effect a rescue.

"My husband is a former lifeboat coxswain and said that without the sensible actions of both children in getting swift help and standing by the man to keep him afloat he would quite possibly have drowned."

Moreton Hall headmaster, Chris Moxon, said: "We are immensely proud of both Jameson and Katie. Their actions may well have prevented someone losing his life and a devastating loss for the family involved."

Team is crowned as county champs

■ The St Mary's School, Cambridge Under 16 netball team has been crowned Cambridgeshire U16 County Champions and qualified to represent Cambridgeshire at the East Regional Competition in January 2018.

The team secured the honour by winning the U16 County Netball Tournament at The Perse School on Saturday November 11, winning all seven of their matches. In October, they had been crowned as Cambridge Independent Schools U16 Champions.

Head of PE and games at St Mary's School, Cambridge, Jackie Ewing, said: "All members of the team played well throughout the tournament, showing a high skill level of shooting, attacking and defending to score a total of 89 goals and letting in just 28. Amy Turpin was voted as the team's player of the tournament for showing great determination and working hard in every match, finishing passages of play with confident and accurate shooting. After some closely fought matches the team finished the competition undefeated."



Action call on faith schools pledge

The Diocese of East Anglia is asking Catholic education supporters to call on the Government to meet its manifesto pledge to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools.

■ The move has come as the Catholic Education Service warns that Education Secretary Justine Greening is considering a U-turn on the manifesto commitment which effectively bans any new Catholic schools opening.

The diocese is currently working on applications for up to eight new free schools across East Anglia, which

would be prevented if the faith cap was not abolished.

Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service) for the diocese, said: "Last year the Government promised to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools. This policy had proved to be an effective ban on any new Catholic schools as the Bishops' Conference ruled that opening a Catholic school that could potentially turn away Catholics in favour of non-Catholics was against Canon Law.

"Last September the Government acknowledged the cap was unfair to the Catholic community and pledged to scrap it. The Conservatives included a commitment to remove it in their manifesto. Unfortunately, the feedback we are getting is that the Secretary of State for Education is thinking about

U-turning on this manifesto commitment.

"The Catholic community now needs to make its collective voice heard and tell the Secretary of State that this level of discrimination against Catholic schools, parents and children is unacceptable," said Helen.

"As such we are urging Catholics to write to the Secretary of State and their MP expressing their concern that this promise to our community could be broken."

An email can be automatically generated by visiting the website: www.catholiceducation.org.uk

"It would also be appreciated if you could share this link with as many people as possible," said Helen. "Many thanks in advance for all your support."

news in brief

Creative writers look to the future

■ Students from across Cambridgeshire congregated at St Mary's School, Cambridge earlier this month to hear the winners announced of the sixth annual Creative Writing Competition in which 381 Year 5 to Year 8 students from 13 local schools submitted their stories on the theme of 'the future in the year 3017'.

Excerpts from the stories were shared on the night and Cambridge crime author Emily Winslow, was the guest of honour at the event and announced the winners.

David Walker, Head of English at St Mary's School, and competition head judge, said: "We were delighted at the breadth of imagination and the creativity shown by the young writers. They responded fantastically well to the challenge of writing about the future and there were some outstanding entries this year.

"It is simply brilliant to be able to celebrate writing on such a large scale with so many students involved."

Pupils support Africa

■ Pupils at Moreton Hall Preparatory School in Suffolk have raised almost £250 for development charity Focus on Africa.

Gill Martin from the charity was presented with a cheque for £242 by pupils from the School Council at a special celebration assembly.

The money was raised through the school's Lenten fundraising project earlier this year where pupils in the school donated 20 pence for each tap and loo in their home, for each vegetable in their fridge and for each pair of shoes that they own over the four weeks of Lent.

Gill said: "We are delighted to receive this cheque for our clinic. It is enough money to pay for the medication to treat at least 60 people who have contracted malaria. Focus on Africa have founded a clinic in Kenya and so it will genuinely save lives."

A harvest hamper

■ St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School, Gorleston, had the commissioning of their Mini Vinnies on Friday October 20. It was a special day as it was Father Philip Shryane's last mass with the school and their first Mini Vinnie event. Kerryann Ricketts, Deputy Head, said: "It was a wonderful Mass. We are already planning our Christmas fundraising event."

The day of the girl

■ Coinciding with International Day of the Girl, on October 11, St Mary's School, Cambridge hosted its fifth Girl Power conference for students in Year 11 to the Upper Sixth, from 16 Girls' Schools Association (GSA) East Region schools and local state schools.

In partnership with the Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology, where the event was held, the theme for 2017 was STEM solutions towards a sustainable world. The keynote was delivered by Dame Barbara Stocking, President of Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge, titled, 'Can science solve the world's problems?'

Was vagabond of God a saint?

Known as The Vagabond of God, former Norfolk school-boy John Bradburne is the subject of a new biography and a growing movement to have him canonised as a saint. Keith Morris reports.

■ The ex-Gresham's pupil and son of a North Norfolk vicar found his true mission in life, after a long search, loving and caring for a colony of lepers in civil war-torn Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) - a role which led him to be murdered by guerrillas.

John was the son of Cawston Anglican vicar, Thomas Bradburne, and as a youth spent time there and also at Gresham's School near Holt.

It wasn't until he was drafted into the British Army in 1940 that religion began to become an influence in John's life. He found faith when death was all around him behind enemy lines with the Chindits, a special operations unit in Burma. He returned to Europe a reluctant hero and started looking for work.

Back home he went through a succession of jobs, including: forester, schoolmaster, stoker on a fishing trawler, gravedigger, street musician, garbage collector, but in time he came to realise that his real vocation lay with God.

In 1947, John joined the Catholic Church, experimenting first with both Benedictine and Carthusian spirituality, before deciding to follow the spiritual path of St Francis of Assisi. He described himself variously as a 'Buffoon of Christ', 'a fool skilled in fiasco', pilgrim, hermit, mys-



John Bradburne at the Mutemwa leper colony with Peter, above, and Mai Jeromia, left.

tic, drifter and 'rolling stone'.

In 1961, thanks to wartime friend and Jesuit, John Dove, he went to Zimbabwe where he started a new round of odd jobs, as handyman in a Franciscan mission, then warden of a Jesuit

residence.

In 1969, John went with a friend to visit Mutemwa Leprosy Centre, where hundreds of lepers, far from receiving palliative care, were simply awaiting death in appalling conditions.

He decided, on the spot, to live among them, soon making himself a friend of one and all. He acted as the lepers' caretaker, nurse, cook and confidante.

Mutemwa quickly became a special place of prayer, peace, laughter and joy, yet sadly this awoke jealousy and suspicion, and he was expelled from the Centre for six months during which time the lepers' lives worsened considerably.

When he was finally allowed to return to live near the settlement, Mutemwa had become caught up in the turmoil of a civil war and atrocities perpetrated by both sides in the conflict.

He was strongly advised to leave for his own safety as guerrilla warfare surrounded Mutemwa. John replied: "Would they waste a bullet on a clown?"

He stayed on to care as best he could for the lepers as the situation grew desperate.

In September 1979, John, the only white European left caring for the lepers at Mutemwa, was abducted by young guerrillas, put on trial, found innocent and released but shot dead as he walked back home.

His lasting legacy is that Mutemwa is now a place of pilgrimage, attracting tens of thousands of pilgrims to the place where this 'holy man' lived and worked.

Several unexplainable happenings occurred during and after his funeral, including blood seemingly dripping from under his coffin although he had been dead for a week, and people being healed after calling on his name.

There is a growing movement in support of his cause for sainthood - he would be Zimbabwe first ever saint. There is also the rich legacy of his poetry, of which he wrote more than 6,000 pages.

Biographer, Didier Rance, said: "The life of John Bradburne was so extraordinary and at the same time so deeply and humbly human that it may speak to anyone and give reason to believe in man as well as in God."

Celia Brigstocke, from The John Bradburne Memorial Society, said: "John's cause for beatification is currently under investigation at the Vatican in Rome and in 2019 we will have a big celebration to commemorate his life and 40th anniversary of his death."

The UK edition of John Bradburne: The Vagabond of God, by Didier Rance is sold by The John Bradburne Memorial Society, PO Box 32, Leominster, HR6 0YB, priced at £15 inclusive of postage.

www.johnbradburne.com

CAFOD supporters raise £94,000 over 25 years

■ A CAFOD group of supporters from St George's Church in Norwich has raised a magnificent £94,000 for the Catholic international development charity over the last 25 years.

The group first started in the parish in the late 1980s, gathering donations and running a Christmas raffle.

A group known as the "Marmalade Ladies" joined in 2006 and five of them are still going strong, raising over £10,000 by selling over 5,000 jars of the famous preserve.

Since 1994, the group has raised £94,000 for projects including Focus for Africa, Connect2 Rwanda and Connect2 Ethiopia.

Regular fund-raisers include plant sales, books and crafts, cards, gifts, Christmas decorations and, of course, the marmalade. Popular lunches are also held in the spring and autumn.

Fr Sean Connolly said: "St George's CAFOD group do an incredible job of fundraising for CAFOD projects and challenging us as a parish to be aware of the needs of some of the poorest people in the world."

On September 4, the group met with new CAFOD Community Participation Coordinator for the Diocese, Jane Crone, who said: "The dedication of the CAFOD team at St George's is truly inspirational. They are such a fantastic bunch and have been volunteering for so many years."

Now the group is looking for new younger members with fresh ideas. If you are interested, please contact Fr Sean Connolly at sean.connolly@rcdea.org.uk



Pictured above, from the left, Jenny Campling, Tony Buxton, Pat Buxton, Molly McGrann, Gill Bannon, Gloria Irons and Carol Hipperson.

YOUTH MATTERS

Youth band keeps the flame glowing

■ The Ignite Team ran an 'Ignite Festival in a Day' at the Cathedral Narthex in Norwich on Saturday November 25, taking many of the elements that make the Ignite Festival so popular.

Praise and worship was led by the Norwich-based band from Youth for Christ who Hamish MacQueen, Director of Youth Service said 'were amazing'. He said: "To see a group of young people giving everything they've got, passionately singing praise and worship songs, and leading other young people to grasp a sense of the wonder of God was inspirational."

Like the Ignite Festival, the day also included talks, workshops, Adoration, an opportunity to go the sacrament of Reconciliation, and ending with the parish Mass.

"We would like to run similar days, which we are calling 'Glow' in different parts of the diocese but we need local people 'on the ground' to work with us in organising them. If you would be interested, do get in touch," said Hamish.



Key 2018 dates

■ **January 5 – 7:** Ignite Lite Discipleship Weekend (venue to be decided)

■ **January 6:** Epiphany Candlelight Mass, bonfire and fireworks, for all young people and their families, Poringland

■ **March 29 - April 1:** 'Mysterium': Triduum Retreat for 18-35s, Walsingham

■ **May 5 – 6:** Ignite Diocesan Youth Festival, Swaffham

■ **May 7:** Pilgrimage Walk to Walsingham. All ages welcome

■ **June 2 – 3:** Celebrate East Anglia Family Conference, Bury St Edmunds

■ **July / August:** Youth Pilgrimage (location and dates to be decided!)

■ **July 30 – August 3:** New Dawn Family Conference, Walsingham

■ **August 24 – 31:** Pilgrimage to Lourdes

■ **August 23 – 27:** Youth 2000 Prayer Festival, Walsingham, for those aged 16+

■ **August:** Summer Camp (location and dates to be decided), for those aged 8-14

For more details of each event, please see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth

Youth contacts

Tel: 01508 486236

Email: Ignite Team enquiries

igniteyea@rcdea.org.uk

All other enquiries

dys@rcdea.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/igniteyea

Twitter: @igniteyea

Web: www.rcdea.org.uk/youth/

Panama here we come

The East Anglia group at WYD 2016 in Krakow, Poland.



Young people from across the diocese gathered in Newmarket on November 26 to launch our preparations for going to World Youth Day in Panama in 2019.

■ After eating a packed lunch, there was a 'get to know' games and a quiz on WYD and Panama hosted by Clive Sheridan and Joe Perna, both part of the Ignite Lite Team. Then youth director Hamish MacQueen gave a presentation of all the information we know so far. The day ended with Mass celebrated by the legend that is Fr Michael Johnstone – he is known as a legend because he has been to WYD in 1991, 2000, 2003, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2016 – eight times!

Bishop Alan was unable to be with us but was keen to pass on a

message to the group that he was very much behind them and looked forward to being with them in Panama.

What people have said about the previous World Youth Days:

Thank you for one for one of the best weeks of my life.

Dom Bennet

It can be, and often is, a faith - and life - enhancing event.

Fr Michael Johnstone

This is definitely one of the most unforgettable moments of my life.

Claudine Alicante

I feel this trip has changed my life for the better and has gone as far as to change my life.

Joseph Kalusza-Gilbert

■ An information Pack on WYD 2019 in Panama can be downloaded and bookings can also now be made at www.rcdea.org.uk/youth

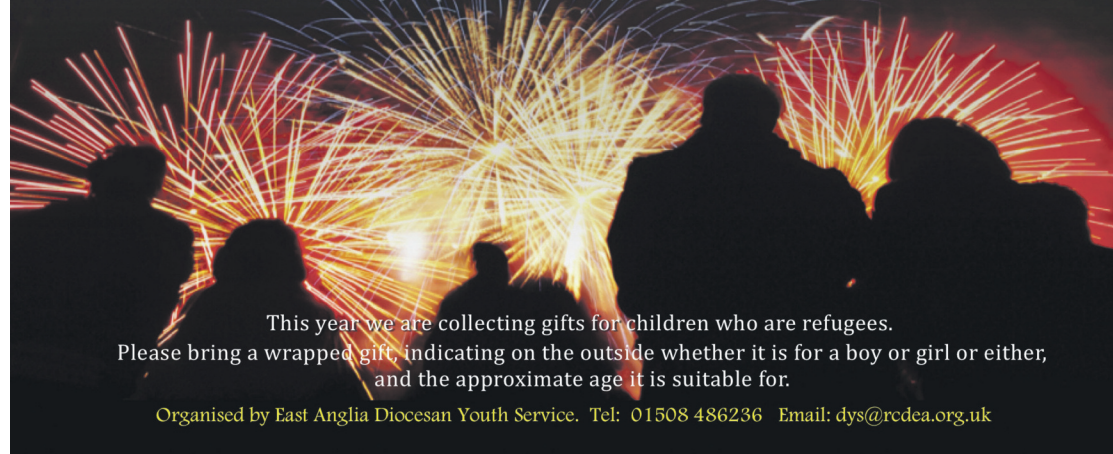
■ There are limited places available
■ Bookings will be accepted on a first come first served basis

■ Book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment

Epiphany Candlelight Mass

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

5pm – 7pm Saturday 6th January 2018
at The White House, 21 Uppgate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH.



This year 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.

Organised by East Anglia Diocesan Youth Service. Tel: 01508 486236 Email: dys@rcdea.org.uk

OBITUARIES

A courageous and faithful priest

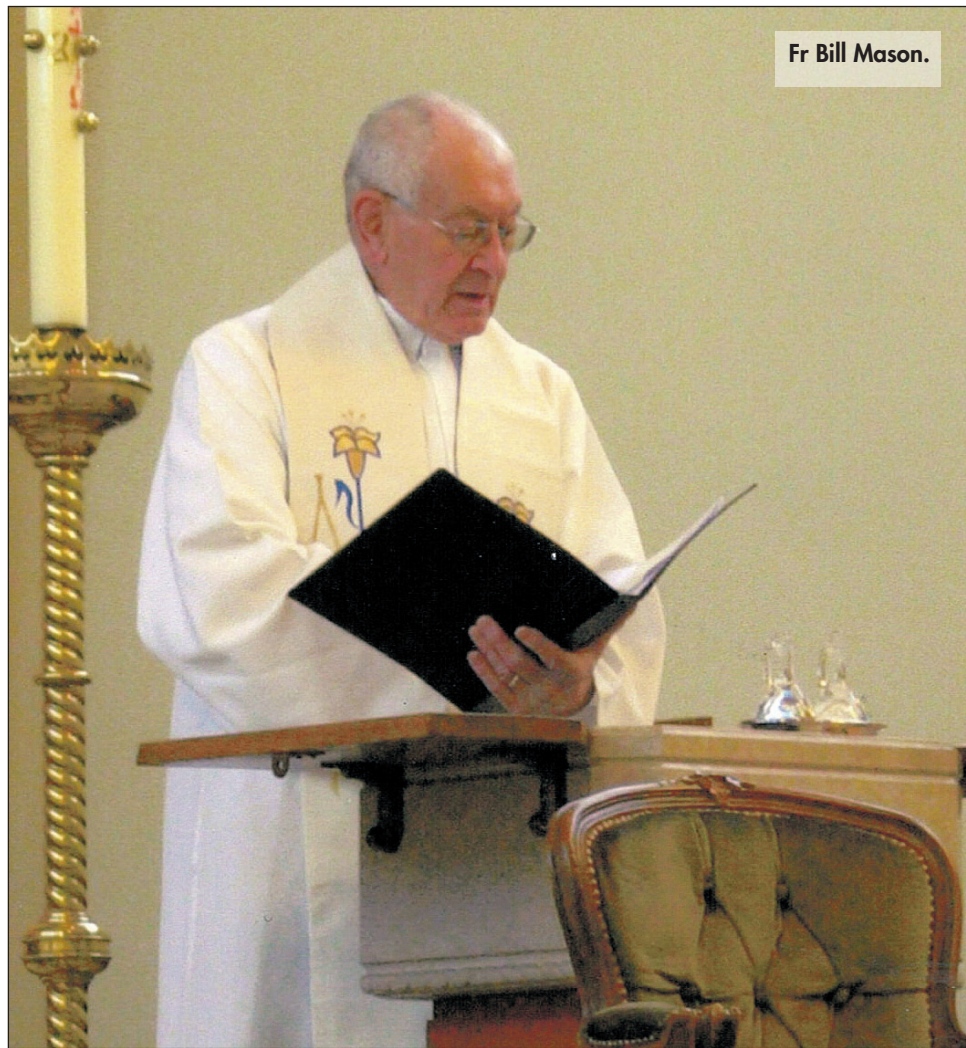
Tributes have been paid to Fr Bill Mason, first ordained as an Anglican Priest, who went on to join the Catholic Church and serve in Bury St Edmunds.

■ Fr Bill was born William Hugh Owen Mason on July 27, 1928 at Kersey in Suffolk where his mother was the first district nurse to work in that area and his father was a tenant farmer.

He won a scholarship to King Henry VII Grammar school at Sudbury and had the distinction of being Head Boy and Captain of Cricket. He followed his brother into the Indian Army followed by National Service with the experience of guarding Rommel's remaining troops in the Middle East. Oxford University followed and while there, Bill discovered his vocation and went from University to Cuddesdon Theological College.

Bill was ordained as an Anglican Deacon on Trinity Sunday 1954 at St George's Cathedral Southwark. He was ordained as an Anglican Priest on Trinity Sunday 1955 and served at All Saints, Dulwich, St Barnabas, Northolt Park and St Mary Magdalene, Munster Square as a curate before being given his own parish at St Clement, Notting Dale. After several years there he returned to his native Suffolk and was appointed as Vicar at St Mary's, Little Wratting. He stayed there for a brief period before going to Walsingham as Assistant Administrator of the Anglican Shrine.

Following his marriage to Christine in 1972 he went to the Parish of Ss Peter & Paul at Kedington. There he served as



Rector for 15 happy years during which time his children, Lucy, Ben and Joe were born. In 1987, Bill took the courageous decision to be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church, giving

up the Rectory at Kedington and his income as an Anglican clergyman.

Owing to an administrative error, it took five years to gain permission from the Congregation for the Defence of the

Faith in Rome for Bill, as a married man, to be ordained as a Catholic priest. In that intervening period, Bill showed a remarkable faithfulness to his priestly vocation, and trust in God's providence. Whilst maintaining the priestly discipline of the Divine Office he worked as an assistant to a Funeral Director, and immersed himself in parish life in Bury St Edmunds, not the least enriching the choir with his fine singing voice.

On April 3, 1993 he was ordained a priest, and the presence of a crowded church testified to the esteem in which he was held by the Catholic congregation of Bury St Edmunds, his friends and his colleagues from the past. He placed his priesthood unreservedly at the service of any who needed it, whether lay or clerical, and his unsophisticated wisdom and experience quickly won him a wide circle of admirers and friends. His skill in the confessional was legendary. In the last few years when ill-health might have been a valid excuse for scaling down he soldiered on, ably supported by the devoted care of Christine and he died on October 31, at the age of 89.

A major part of his spirituality was his love and veneration for Our Lady of Walsingham, at whose Shrine he was a constant visitor. May she offer her prayers for the soul of one of Her Son's devoted priests.

May he rest in peace, amen. We offer the prayers and condolences of the Diocese to Christine, Lucy, Ben and Joe and the grandchildren.

Fr Bill's Funeral Mass took place on Friday November 24 in St Edmund, Bury St Edmunds, with a Requiem Mass on Thursday November 23.

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Tributes paid to great champion of Our Lady

Mgr Georges Tutto, a great champion and advocate of Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham and the cause of Charlotte Boyd, has died, aged 92. Antonia Moffat pays tribute.

■ Our beloved Mgr Georges (Chaplain to the Hungarians in the UK) died very peacefully on Monday November 13.

He was a holy and much loved priest who told me that when he first went to Medjugorje in 1984 he made a vow to the blessed Mother that he would spend the rest of his life spreading her messages.

For a while now, Fr Georges has not known who anyone was... yet on my last visit he certainly knew how to give me his priestly blessing, which I received three times, and I will always greatly treasure this last visit.

On a previous visit he was so impatient to go to heaven but happy to be in Maryville Care Home in Brentford in Middlesex with such a beautiful and tender Marian spirit and he was a joy to visit.

I give thanks for what Mgr Georges did for Our Lady's Shrine in Walsingham and especially in remembrance of Charlotte Boyd and her cause, for it was he who cared for the grave of Charlotte for over 20 years and who championed her cause.



Mgr Georges Tutto, with the Bishop of Nottingham, Malcolm McMahon (now Archbishop of Liverpool).

Fr Georges loved Our Lady of Walsingham and never ceased to speak of and pray to her. His great hope was that one day the mortal remains of Charlotte would be laid to rest in Walsingham besides the Slipper Chapel which she so generously gave to the Catholic Church and which eventually became our National Marian Shrine.

A great priest son of the Holy Church, a great son of Hungary and also a great son of the UK. Thank you Almighty God for gracing us with dear Fr Georges.

Rest in peace dear Father.

BUILDING BRIDGES

A fond farewell said to Sr Virna

■ Peterborough said farewell to Sr Virna Pasinetti of the Working Sisters of the Holy House of Nazareth on November 12 after six very busy years.

During a special Mass and celebration at St Peter & All Souls, Sr Virna was presented with flowers, cards, gifts and a Papal Blessing.

Fr Jeffrey Downie said: “Sr Virna worked closely with the young people of the parish as well as supporting the Italian community there. In particular, she served as a chaplain at HMP Peterborough, where her commitment, tireless energy and unlimited good humour had a positive impact on the lives of staff and inmates alike. We wish Sr Virna well as she takes up a new position with her community, running a retreat centre in Italy.”

Pictured right is Sr Virna at the farewell Mass at All Souls with Fr Piotr Stangricki and Fr Adam Sowa.



Cambodia parishes in plea for twins

A number of parishes in the Apostolic Prefecture of Battambang, Cambodia are twinned with parishes in the Diocese of East Anglia and others are keen to find an English twin. Mike and Marie-Madeleine Kenning from St Mary's, Ipswich report.

■ Pope Francis reminds us that his guide and inspiration, Saint Francis, “was particularly concerned for God’s creation and for the poor and outcast. He loved, and was deeply loved for his joy, his generous self-giving, his openheartedness.” (Laudato Si, para 10)

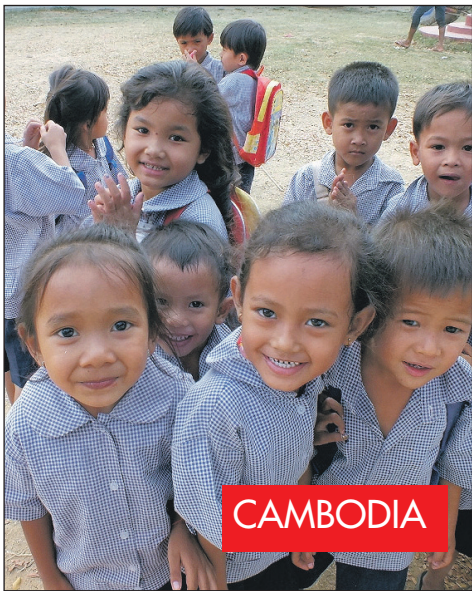
Encountering our brothers and sisters in parishes in Battambang, Cambodia, we witness many of the injustices experienced by the poor which Pope Francis highlights, and the positive impact that twinning has, both for the our twinned parish in Cambodia and for our own parish here in East Anglia. We are welcomed as friends and have the joy of seeing the benefits derived from the projects funded by our parishes.

When we meet parish priests in Cambodia who do not have a twinned parish in East Anglia we are often asked if we can help. Here are two examples of communities that would like to be twinned.

■ **Kompong Chhnang**

Kompong Chhnang is a demanding parish covering a wide area, served by Father Rajat Hassapurti, a Jesuit priest from India. The predominant occupations are fishing and making clay pots which are sold all over Cambodia.

It is a mixed Vietnamese/Khmer com-



Kindergarten pupils in Nikum.

munity, mostly itinerant ‘water gypsies’ at the mercy of the river and changing seasons, and all that entails. Everything is floating [houses, shops, garages, hairdresser, school, restaurants etc]. Good hygiene is very difficult and there are many health problems. Fishing, once the lifeblood of the people, is now much diminished and the people are having to seek work on the land for which they are not prepared or leave the area for Thailand.

Special care is taken of children with learning difficulties at a purpose-built centre in the church compound, under the direction of the new NGO, Karuna Battambang.

■ **Nikum**

Nikum is a small community around 40

kms north of Battambang, also served by a Jesuit missionary from India, Fr Manoj Kumar Ekka. When we visited in March 2017 part of the road was still a dirt track with umpteen potholes but it is being upgraded. The poor state of the road means that it takes an hour or so to get to the Church compound.

Like the road, the compound is very much under development but fantastic progress has been made over the past few years. There is a kindergarten financed by the Building Bridges scheme and a brand new church has taken over from the old decrepit building in which Mass used to be said. There is also a new priest house with accommodation for visitors. There are plans to develop a fruit garden and a vegetable garden to provide fresh fruit and vegetables for the children in the kindergarten.

This is a poor agricultural community which cannot afford new buildings and which, like so many other places in the Battambang prefecture, very much depends on external funding. It would be an exciting place to be twinned with.

■ **Want to know more?**

Bob & Katie Maidment (info@support-cambodia.org.uk) of Sacred Heart parish North Walsham, which is twinned with Sway Sisophon, and Mike & Marie-Madeleine Kenning (mariemadeleinekenning@gmail.com) of St Mary’s parish Ipswich, twinned with Chomnaom, would be happy to provide further information on what parish twinings involve.

Or contact Father Philip Shryane (rectorystmarys@gmail.com) the priest in charge of the Diocesan Building Bridges initiative for Cambodia.

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”.

First

Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....

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.....

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Postcode.....

Amount enclosed

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Anything you give will be divided equally between Cambodia and the Holy Land unless you indicate by ticking the box below that all your money should go to that project.

☐ Cambodia ☐ Holy Land

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Signature:.....

Date:.....

Please send to: Building Bridges, 21 Upgate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH

Registered charity no 278742

News picture gallery from parishes around the Diocese



■ Zanna Foley Davies has retired as head gardener at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist after eight years in which she took the Narthex garden from a wilderness to a gold medal winner in the Anglia in Bloom awards.

Zanna was appointed in autumn 2009 and quickly recruited a team of volunteer helpers who set about transforming the space into the beautiful gardens that can be seen today.

The garden she created catered for Cathedral House, where the priests reside, as well as for visitors. It includes a vegetable garden where produce is grown for the priests in their cooking and for use in the Narthex Garden Café. The café and terrace is now a beautiful spot to enjoy the fabulous garden from.

Narthex General Manager, Gavin Wood, said: "Zanna will be missed, we wish her every happiness in her retirement, and we are all so very grateful that we may continue to enjoy the beautiful garden that she has created."

Pictured above is Zanna (centre) with some of her volunteer gardeners.



■ Bishop Alan celebrated Mass at the Montana Care Home at Great Barton, near Bury St Edmunds on November 20, the Feast of St Edmund.

The home is run by the Grace and Compassion Benedictines and Sr Thaya Moses (OSB), Sister Superior and Manager, said: "We had a memorable day on the Feast of St. Edmund when we welcomed Bishop Alan, who celebrated a holy and beautiful Mass for us, at which Ann Murray our dear friend and benefactor was confirmed.

"The Bishop's Secretary, our Fr Brian and Deacon Alan concelebrated with him, and we felt it was a lovely gathering of friends.

"Bishop Alan blessed four stained glass windows, donated in memory of Ann's late husband Michael, and beautifully designed for us by Auravision. We greatly enjoyed the bishop's company and it was very good of him to go round and talk to all our residents, including those who are bedridden, and give them his blessing. It was a privilege to have him with us, we found him so approachable, and we had a lovely meal together after Mass."

■ Fr Olindo Cramaro celebrated his 90th birthday with friends in Peterborough on Friday November 4. On Saturday he celebrated the Vigil Mass at St Luke's Peterborough and was congratulated by parishioners who presented cards, gifts and a papal blessing. This was followed by a rendition of 'Ad multos annos, vivat!' - 'Life for many years!'

Fr Olindo was ordained priest in 1954 and has served in various places, including Peterborough, finally spending 19 years as parish priest of Southwold. Fr Olindo's ministry continues with local visiting and helping St Luke's and neighbouring parishes.



■ A Pop-Up Choir from All Souls Parish in Peterborough led the singing at this year's Annual Peterborough Inter Faith Service in Peterborough Cathedral on Thursday November 16.

At late notice, Brian Keegan and Janice Alberts managed to gather a variety of musicians and singer including guitarist Kevin Batkin, pianist Shelton D'Costa and Anna Siekacz from Poland who brought along a couple of friends. By the time the service came round the All Souls 6 pm Sunday Pop Up Choir had increased in number to 14 and made its debut and probably only appearance singing three hymns. Make Me a Channel of Your Peace, Peace is Flowing like a River and Lord of All Hopefulness.

Pictured is the All Souls choir with parishioners from Asia, Africa, Poland, Spain and England. Kevin is on the right playing the guitar.

■ A Christmas tree from Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Lowestoft, with more than 60 butterflies on it, was part of the annual inter-faith Christmas Tree Festival at Hungate Church in Beccles.

Mary Hunt, who made the butterflies, said: "Each year Hungate Church holds a Christmas Tree Festival and invites groups to decorate a Christmas tree. This year we chose the theme of the Virtues which are common to our faiths e.g. love, joy, peace, helpfulness, truth etc. I made more than 60 butterflies with the virtues on them to decorate the tree. Faith symbols and twinkling lights were added to make a sparkling display. It is good to be part of the local community."

