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Catholic *South West*

*Serving the
Church in the
South West*

Issue 255 March 2019



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... and much more**

PRIEST'S PROFILE

Twenty-one 'Papal Pointers'

- i) Jorge Mario Bergoglio from Buenos Aires (Argentina), first Latin American Pope;
- ii) First pope in more than 1,000 years born outside Europe;
- iii) First Jesuit pope;
- iv) Born 13 December 1936;
- v) Francis in honour of St. Francis of Assisi, 13th century monk known for charity and kindness to animals;
- vi) Previously archbishop of Buenos Aires;
- vii) Known for leading a simple life;
- viii) After election as pope chose to 'slum it' with the other cardinals in a minibus rather than travel by sedan;
- ix) Likes to cook own meals;
- x) In his youth loved dancing the tango with girlfriend;
- xi) Trained as a chemist;
- xii) One of 5 children of Italian parents;
- xiii) Criticised for not speaking out vigorously in 1970s and 1980s against the military dictatorship of Argentina;
- xiv) Contradicted other Latin American priests who objected to baptising children born out of wedlock;
- xv) Against legislation of same-sex marriage and the adopting of children by gay people;
- xvi) In 2001 he washed the feet of AIDS victims at an Argentine hospice;
- xvii) Speaks Spanish, Italian and German;
- xviii) Lost a lung as a teenager following an infection;
- xix) Rumour has it that he was runner-up to Benedict XVI in the 2005 papal election;
- xx) On the election he remained standing



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 to find out how we can help you
 with a residential stay or a day
 visit for study, staff training or
 time for quiet reflection.



Jay Kettle-Williams

WILL YOU, WON'T YOU?

'Will you speak our language louder?' said the people to the fish, 'There are others all around us shouting louder than we wish.'

My apologies to Lewis Carroll (1832-1898) for tampering in such an arch way with the opening lines of *The Lobster Quadrille*.

The terms 'marketing', 'outreach' and 'evangelisation' - all concerned with getting your point across, just like that whiting to the snail - come under the one common banner. I remember once asking, 'What is marketing?' at one point in my career. I suppose I could have asked, 'What is evangelisation?' instead. To this day I remember the immediate, peremptory reply: 'What isn't?' Then the flood gates opened and I was hit with an absolute deluge of topics ranging from routes to market and interfacing: enquiries, phone calls, (e)mailouts, corporate literature, web, the offer, company strapline, branding, packaging ... the list went on and on to conclude, interestingly enough, on behavioural models and ending with positioning statement.

'You shop, we drop' must be one of the most bewitching positioning statements of all time. It's so clever. Hopefully the marketing guru who came up with that idea has long since retired, deservedly languishing on some desert island, free of all cares. Job done!

As Christians, of course, we have the one positioning statement par excellence: 'Bringing you the Good News'. It beats all others. But do our behavioural models always complement our message? And can we better summon our energies to get that message across?

I pick up again on that quadrille, 'Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you join the dance?'

With this issue we go BACKSTAGE and take a peep at The Role of the Papal Nuncio



Nuncio means *messenger* and a simple description of the role of the Nuncio would be to say that he enables communication between the Holy See and the Government of the country in which he is stationed, and between The Vatican and the Catholic Church in that country. The Nuncio is, to put it simply, the Pope's ambassador to a particular country.

A **Papal Nuncio** (officially known as an **Apostolic Nuncio**) is a permanent diplomatic representative of the Holy See to a state or international organisation, having the rank of an ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, usually with the ecclesiastical rank of titular bishop. A **Papal Nuncio** is an ambassador like those from any other country. However, the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic relations allows the receiving state to grant seniority of precedence to the **Papal Nuncio** over others of ambassadorial rank.

The **Nuncio** serves as the liaison between the Holy See and the Roman Catholic diocesan episcopate in the nation or region to which he is assigned. The national or regional episcopate is usually supervised by a national conference of bishops, whose presiding officer is often the highest ranking bishop or archbishop of that nation, or is elected from the diocesan ordinaries of the nation or region.

The diplomatic service of the Holy See is generally recognised as the oldest in the world and the best informed.

At first, Popes sent envoys to different countries, often on a fact-finding mission. They would go to a country and usually then return to tell the Pope what they had found out. In the sixteenth century this started to become more formalised; Angelo Leonini, sent to Venice by the Pope in 1500, is generally thought of as the first nuncio, as we understand the term today, and St Francis Xavier (1506-51), one of the earliest Jesuits, was nominated by the Pope to represent him in the East on a missionary tour to Goa and India.

The current **Papal (Apostolic) Nuncio** to Great Britain is Archbishop Edward Joseph Adams. Archbishop Adams was featured under 'Priest's Profile' in the previous issue of **CSW**.

GOOD PRACTICE

The Catholic Chaplaincy serving Falmouth and Exeter University

The chaplaincy serves students and staff from both Falmouth and Exeter University with the chaplain's role being to support students' mental, emotional and spiritual development as they progress through university and also to support staff wellbeing.

Leaving home for the first time can be a stressful time. There are so many new experiences to encounter: a new course, a new home, new friends and living independently. The chaplaincy at Falmouth is a place of refuge, where students can relax in one of the comfy armchairs, make toast and a cup of tea or sit quietly and work. They can also chat to the one of the volunteer chaplaincy team about anything that may be on their mind as there is usually a member present from 9 - 5 Monday to Friday.

The Catholic chaplaincy team comprises Fr Anthony O'Gorman and volunteer chaplain Fran Freeman. They meet together on a Monday for an informal mass where everything is kept very simple, like mass would have been for the early Christians. After this there is a shared lunch which has become very popular. In fact, there is not always enough room for everyone to sit down. At the start the meal was generally prepared by the chaplaincy team, but as the term progressed, different students expressed a desire to cook food for the shared lunch. We have enjoyed Chinese Chicken, stir-fried vegetables, sweet potato and aubergine curry and brownies. In the lead-up to Christmas there was a Christmas themed lunch where one student commented, 'We are like a big family.'

'This is the point. We try to create an environment where every student will be respected for his/her own beliefs and values. We listen and provide advice if needed, but most of all we are a friendly face and give words of encouragement in what can be a difficult period in the life of a young adult.'

Contact point: Fr Anthony t: 01637 851697

If your school, parish or other Catholic organisation in your locality is doing something particularly well and if you'd like to share your good practice, please send details to the Editor on csw@cathcom.org for our GOOD PRACTICE feature.

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When you have finished reading this issue of CSW, please pass it to a friend or colleague - alternatively please dispose of it responsibly. Thank you.

JOURNEYING WITH GOD'S PEOPLE

Scripture Notes for March by Father Jeremy Corley



Fr Jeremy Corley



Adam and Eve used the leaves of the fig tree to sew garments for themselves after the Fall, when they realised that they were naked (Genesis 3:7). If the fig tree is not old enough to produce seeds, it will also not produce fruit. Typically, a fig tree will not fruit until it reaches two years old, but it can take some trees as long as six years to reach the right maturity. The parable of the barren fig tree is a parable of Jesus recorded in the Gospel of Luke 13:6–9.

During the season of Lent, we seek to join Jesus on his journey to Jerusalem. In the first two Lenten Sundays, we begin with his forty days in the desert, and then we are renewed by his transfiguration.

'The fig tree receives another year to produce its fruit'

The next three Sundays highlight Christ's mercy. The fig tree receives another year to produce its fruit. The longsuffering father welcomes back the prodigal son. The woman caught in adultery receives Christ's forgiveness.

On Palm Sunday, we join Jesus entering Jerusalem. During Holy Week we move to his last supper and his terrible crucifixion. Finally, we look forward in hope to his resurrection at Easter.

In parallel with our journey with Christ, the first readings for the Lenten Sundays remind

'On Palm Sunday, we join Jesus entering Jerusalem'

us of the journey of faith undertaken by our spiritual ancestors in the people of Israel.

On the First Sunday of Lent, we are given an overview of key elements of biblical history. We are reminded of Jacob, the wandering Aramean, whose descendants were rescued

from Egyptian slavery and blessed with the gift of the Holy Land. God has also blessed us, and like the Israelites at the time of first fruits, we give thanks to God.

The Second Sunday of Lent focuses on God's covenant with Abraham. Even though he was childless, God promised him countless descendants, and amazingly Abraham put his trust in the divine promise. By his faith, he becomes a model for us to trust God in our own lives.

'God is beyond the power of humans to define'

The Third Sunday of Lent introduces us to the figure of Moses. By this stage the Israelites are enslaved to Pharaoh in Egypt. Seemingly, they have no hope of escaping their degrading condition. But God calls Moses while he is working as a shepherd in the wilderness. God tells him: 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I mean to deliver them from the clutches of the Egyptians.'

At this point God reveals to Moses his mysterious name: 'I am who I am'—or 'I will be who I will be.' In other words, God is beyond the power of humans to define. Still, he promises Moses: 'I will be with you.' God reveals himself as the mysterious One who sets his people free. We can also encounter the mysterious God who sets us free.

On the Fourth Sunday of Lent, we hear how God kept his word by delivering the Israelites from their Egyptian slavery and leading them safely to the Promised Land. When Joshua has brought them into their new land, the people are able to celebrate the feast of di-

vine deliverance at Passover. Now for the first time they can sample the food produced in the Holy Land. We too prepare to keep Christ's Passover, when we will give thanks for our deliverance from slavery through the blood of the spotless Lamb of God.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent reminds us of God's ongoing action to save his chosen people. The Babylonian Isaiah speaks to the Israelites who have gone into exile because of their sins. But God does not abandon them. Instead, just as he once led them safely out of Egypt through the Red Sea, now he will deliver them again. He will make a road through the wilderness and enable the Persian king (Cyrus) to allow them to return to Jerusalem. Our merciful God can also grant us new chances when we have sinned against him.

Having retraced the steps of the people of Israel in their journey of salvation, we are ready to welcome Christ entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Second-Isaiah speaks about the Lord's Servant who listens to God like an obedient disciple. The Servant does not hide from insults, but offers his back to those who strike him.

'On Palm Sunday, we join Jesus entering Jerusalem'

And on Good Friday we hear the poignant description of how this Servant of God was unjustly condemned and led like a lamb to the slaughter. We feel a sense of unworthiness at what Jesus did for us, and a sense of gratitude to him for saving us. 'Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, have mercy on us, sinners.'



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The OED defines copyright as ‘the exclusive right given by law for a certain term of years to an author, composer etc. (or his assignee) to print, publish and sell copies of his original work’.

The current copyright legislation in the UK is the **Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988** by which it is an offence to copy, rent, lend or issue copies, perform, broadcast or show in public or adapt any work for which you do not have the copyright. The following identifies a few examples of copyright coverage:

- For literary, dramatic, musical or artistic works (e.g. photographs) copyright runs for 70 years following the author’s death
- For sound recordings, broadcasts and cable programmes copyright runs for 50 years following creation or initial release
- For films copyright runs for 70 years following the death of the main director, author or composer
- For typographical arrangements or published editions (e.g. periodicals) copyright runs for 25 years following publication

Occasionally originators are happy to waive copyright. They may wish to do so for a fee, or in return for an agreed acknowledgement or on an unidentified basis, e.g. in support of a worthy cause. In any such case, the agreement should be confirmed in a defensible manner. Failing that, have recourse to the old adage:

‘**Originate ... don’t duplicate**’

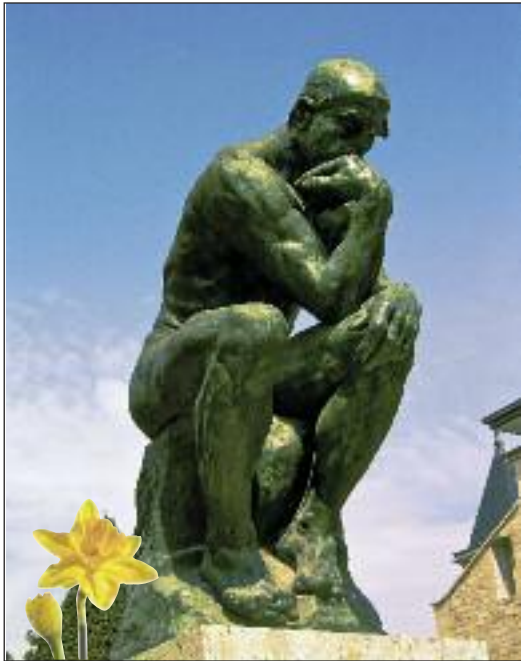
Attention is also drawn to **PASSING OFF**, a form of tort or civil wrong similarly culpable in law. **PASSING OFF** involves misrepresenting products and services to make them appear to be coming from someone else. **PASSING OFF**, for instance, could even involve replication of website design (content and/or functionality) for services, products or activities similar or even alien to those promoted by the original.

Further reference:

The UK Copyright Service (www.copyrightservice.co.uk) is one of a number of organisations publishing information. The UKCS offers a number of fact sheets, the most popular being: ‘P-01 UK copyright law; ‘P-03 Using copyright notices’; ‘P-27 Using the work of others’ and ‘P-05 Copyright infringement’ available in a free-to-reproduce PDF format for educational establishments, libraries, advice centres and other non-commercial organisations.

Caveat: The above information on UK copyright law is neither definitive nor complete and does not constitute legal advice. Ed.

POETS’ CORNER



Le Penseur by August Rodin

Joseph Rudyard Kipling is best known for his novels The Jungle Book, The Second Jungle Book and Kim along with his most famous poem:

If -

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don’t deal in lies,
Or being hated, don’t give way to hating,
And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your master;
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you’ve spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build ’em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And - which is more - you’ll be a Man, my son!

If - is a poem by English Nobel laureate Rudyard Kipling, written circa 1895 as a tribute to Leander Starr Jameson. It is a literary example of Victorian-era stoicism. The poem, first published in Rewards and Fairies, is written in the form of paternal advice to the poet’s son.

Please feel free to cut this out and pop it into your wallet

Service

“God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connections and between persons. I shall do good and be a preacher of truth in my own place.”

Blessed John Henry Newman (adapted)

For more information:
www.catholicnews.org.uk

Produced by the Department for Evangelisation
and Catechesis, Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales



As a Catholic I,
am called to:

- Share with others the joy of knowing Jesus Christ
- Pray
- Celebrate the sacraments regularly
- Love my neighbour as myself
- Use the gifts that I’ve been given wisely
- Forgive as I have been forgiven

In the event of an emergency please contact a Catholic Priest



Fr Denis Blackledge

PRIE-DIEU

VESSEL OF CLAY

Loving Lord,
Ash Wednesday is a strong reminder
that I am a vessel of clay.
Earthenware treasure.
Angel and dirt.
Wonder and wounds.
Diamond and dust.

Loving Lord,
I'm a mixed blessing.
I'm a contrast and contradiction.
I'm faithful and fickle.
I'm for you and against you.
I'm forgetful and need reminding.
So, each year you give me a day
to remember my clay.
You throw out the challenge yet again to re-
pent –
which literally means to turn in my tracks –
and to believe in the Gospel –
which literally means Good News.
I'm meant to be someone

who steps forward into betterness,
bringing a touch of your Goodness
to all whose daily lives
I'm privileged to meet and greet.

Loving Lord,
the gesture of allowing my head
to be touched by the cremated ashes
of last year's Palm Sunday palms
is touchingly simple
and yet a deepfelt symbol
of my desire to become
a better bearer of your Good News.

Loving Lord,
those palm ashes have a whiff
of the blessing and burden they are.
Scattered by individuals who soon forgot
the One they'd been happy to greet.
Back again a year later
to be scattered over me and you
as a gesture of literal humility –

for 'humility' comes from the word 'humus'
which means 'soil'.
And soil can be rich and loamy or soil can
spoil.

I humbly accept to be capable of both
as I bow my head and hear those words
'Repent and believe'.

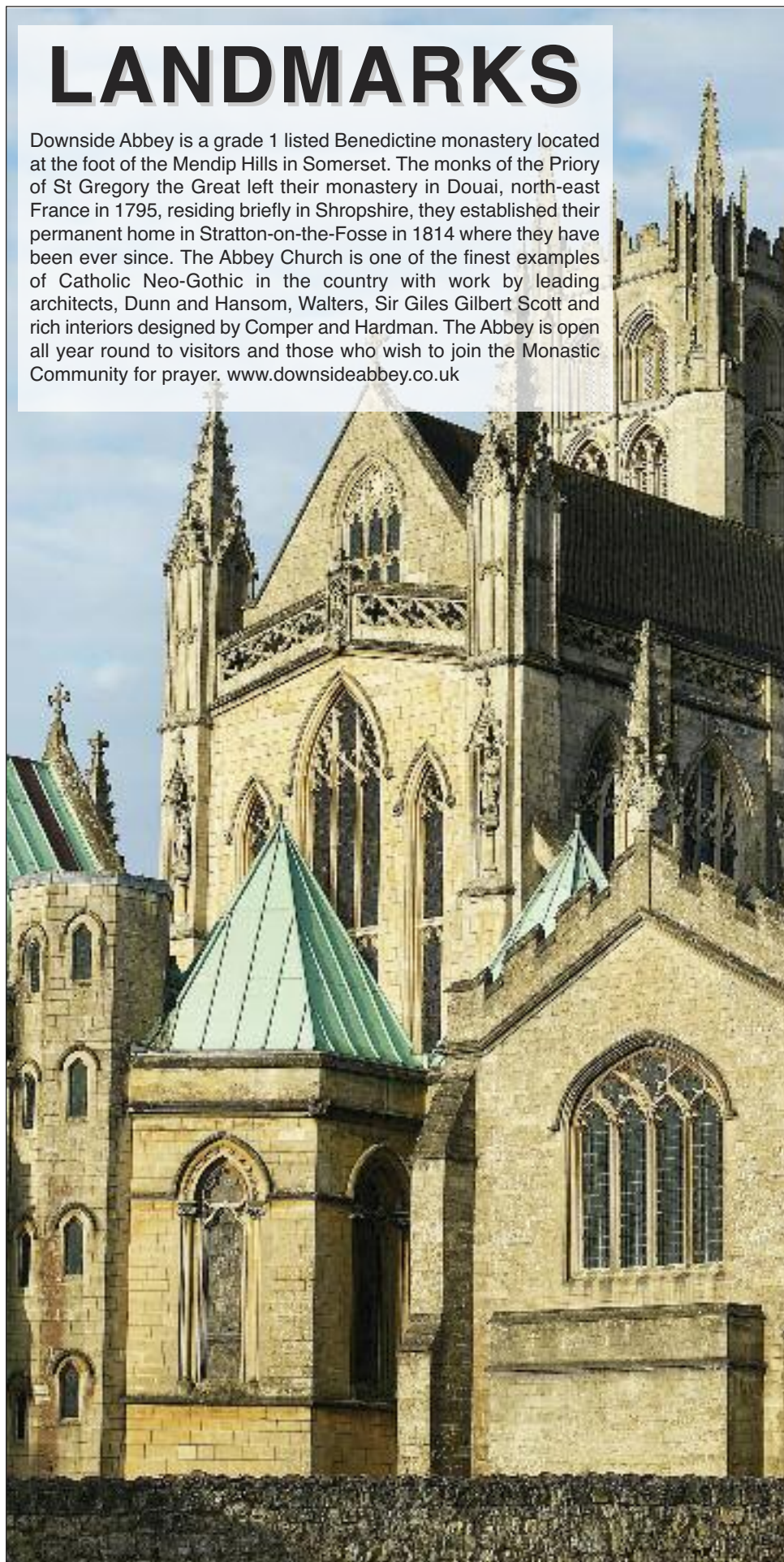
Loving Lord,
you know my clay.
And you know my capacity for greatness.
This Ash Wednesday
let me be aware that you are beckoning me
to enjoy the glory of my clay.
Amen.

© Denis Blackledge SJ

© Denis Blackledge SJ is Parish Priest
of St Francis Xavier's, Liverpool.

LANDMARKS

Downside Abbey is a grade 1 listed Benedictine monastery located at the foot of the Mendip Hills in Somerset. The monks of the Priory of St Gregory the Great left their monastery in Douai, north-east France in 1795, residing briefly in Shropshire, they established their permanent home in Stratton-on-the-Fosse in 1814 where they have been ever since. The Abbey Church is one of the finest examples of Catholic Neo-Gothic in the country with work by leading architects, Dunn and Hansom, Walters, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and rich interiors designed by Comper and Hardman. The Abbey is open all year round to visitors and those who wish to join the Monastic Community for prayer. www.downsideabbey.co.uk



DOWNSIDE ABBEY

GREAT WAR PHOTO PRESERVATION

Although the centenary of the ending of the Great War has now passed, work to commemorate the Downside Old Gregorians who lost their lives in that conflict is ongoing with the preservation and digitisation of images of those killed.
<https://www.downsideabbey.co.uk/great-war-photo-preservation>

VOICES FROM THE CLOISTER

Downside Abbey possesses an outstanding collection of medieval manuscripts, vestments, and reliquaries of great historic importance. For the first time ever, Voices from the Cloister, a 'pop-up' exhibition in the Gallery Chapel reveals some of these items for public viewing. The Prior and Community of Downside Abbey invite you to view their monastic heritage in their neo-Gothic Abbey Church.
<https://www.downsideabbey.co.uk/shop/events/library-events/voices-from-the-cloister-exhibition-7>

2019 EASTER RETREAT 'LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY'

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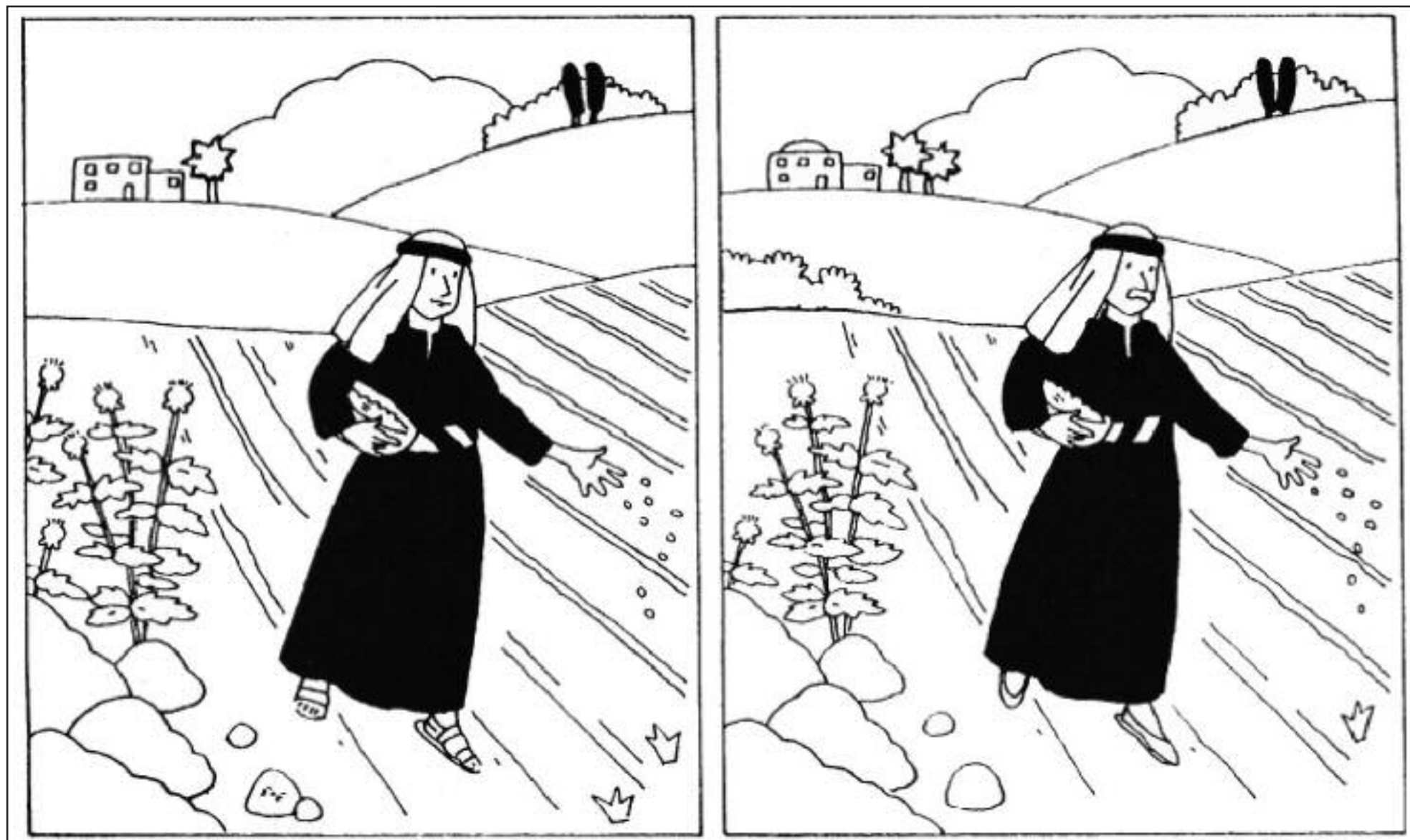
Tickets start from £12/day.

To register your interest or to find out more, contact Suzanne Faloon at
easter@downside.co.uk or telephone 01761 235156
www.downside.co.uk/easter2019

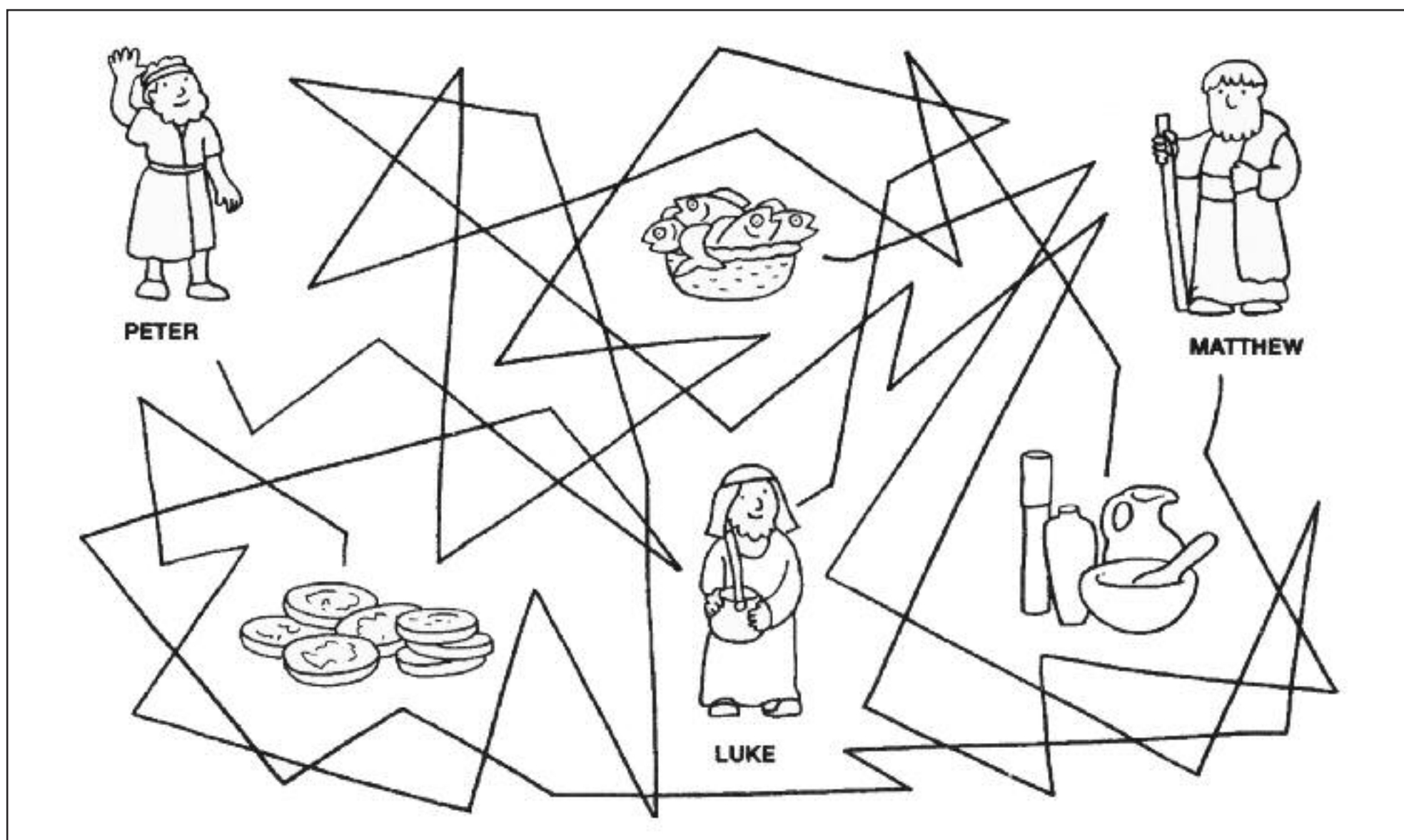
Closing date for ticket purchases will be Friday 5th April 2019

DOWNSIDE ABBEY

JUST FOR JUNIORS

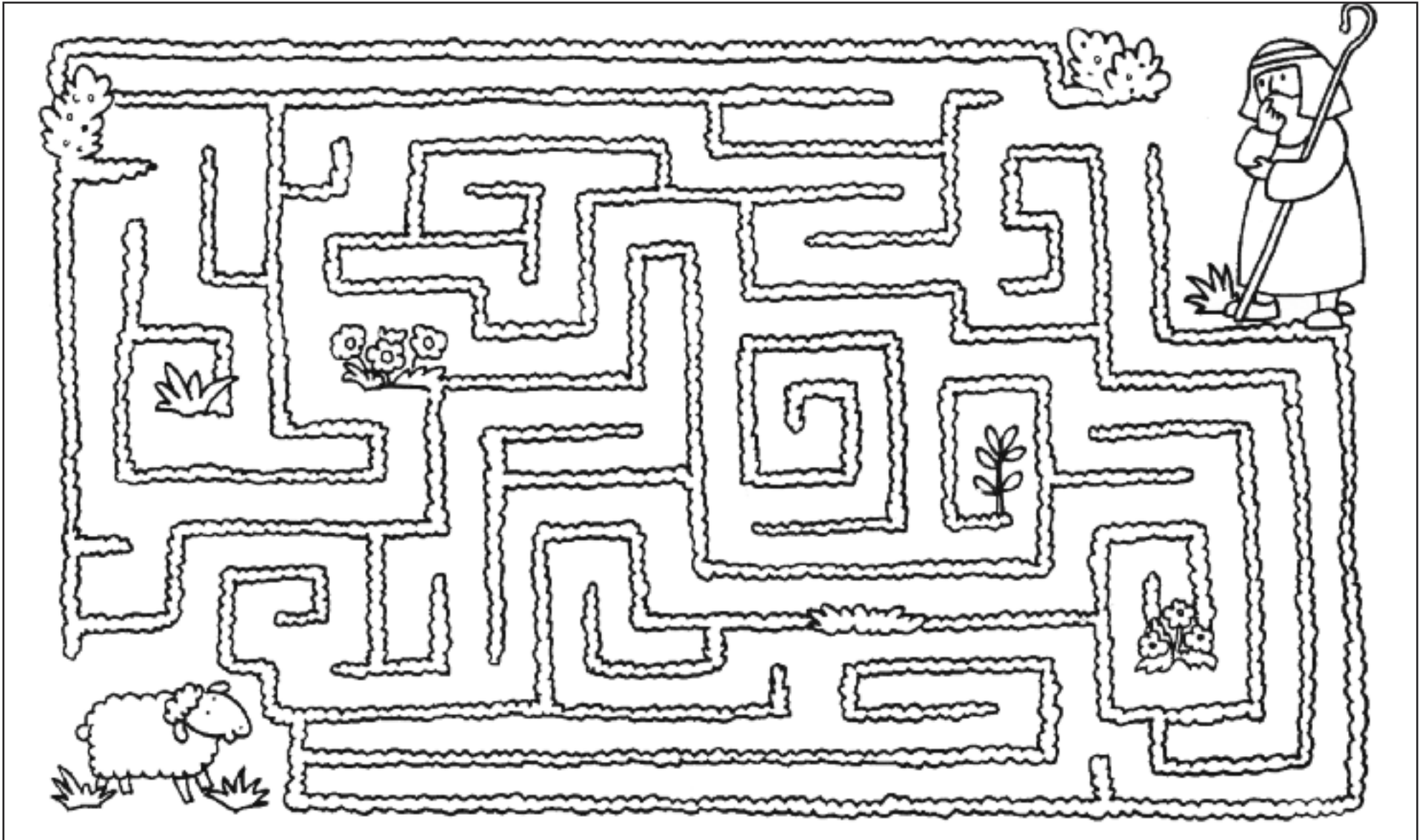


Here is the farmer sowing seed on his field. Find ten differences between the pictures.
You can read about him in Luke 8:4-8.



Matthew was a collector of taxes before he followed Jesus. Luke was a doctor.
 Find out which object belongs to which follower of Jesus.
You can read about Matthew following Jesus in Matthew 9:9-13.

JUST FOR JUNIORS



Jesus told a story about one hundred sheep - ninety-nine were safe, but one was lost.
How does the shepherd reach the lost sheep?
Read Luke 15:4-7.



Jesus calms the storm. What did Jesus say to the wind and the waves?
Can you find at least eight deliberate mistakes?
You can read this story in your Bible. Read Mark 4:35-41.

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NEWS ...AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED: COUNTY QUILLS i.e. volunteers from around the counties of the SW region who might on no regular basis submit by email any alerts, notices or reports of events and happenings deemed of potential interest to our readership. Contact the Editor: (e) csw@cathcom.org

CATHOLIC? PERHAPS NOT YET. But if you'd like to get moving and learn more about the Catholic faith, now is the time to ask. Simply contact your nearest Catholic church.

ON THE MOVE: If - as a Catholic and for reasons of work, study or family commitments - you have moved across or into the South West, do please ensure that you are registered with your local parish and, if a student in HE, with your University Chaplain or other appropriate officer.

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RECYCLING: The earth's resources are limited and recycling can stop potential waste. For further details of how to recycle what, and where your nearest recycling plant is, visit www.recycle-more.co.uk

ONE IN EIGHT children and teenagers in England had a mental health disorder in 2017, a major new study has found. Between the ages of 17 and 19 that figure rose to one in six, with girls more than twice as likely to be suffering than boys. A quarter of 11 to 16-year-olds with a mental disorder had self-harmed or attempted suicide, rising to 46.8% for 17 to 19-year-olds. Among 14 to 19-year-olds who identified as lesbian, gay or bisexual, 34.9% had a mental disorder, compared to 13.2% for those who considered themselves heterosexual. The study revealed a 'crisis' that was "ruining young lives", YMCA chief executive in England and Wales, Denise Hatton, said.

CSW IN GREYSCALES is being made available on line for those with problems of colour differentiation. Full details to follow.

CELEBRITIES with just one thing in common: Al Pacino, Sylvester Stallone, Martin Sheen, Nicole Kidman, Michael Jordan, Stephen Colbert, Sofía Vergara, Mel Gibson, Owen Wilson, danny DeVito, Leonardo DiCaprio, Arnold

Schwarzenegger, Penélope Cruz, Jennifer López, Antonio Banderas, David Hasselhoff, Kim Kardashian West, Khloé Kardashian, Alan Alda, Alec Guinness, Alfred Hitchcock, Art Carney, Andy Garcia, Anne Bancroft, Anne Hathaway, Bill Murray, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Bob Newhart, Chris O'Donnell, Clark Gable, Chris Farley, Cindy Williams, Dean Martin, Ed O'Neill, Frank Sinatra, George Clooney, Gregory Peck, Jack Lemmon, James Cagney, Jim Carrey, John Wayne, Jimmy Kimmel, Katie Holmes, Liam Neeson, Lauren Graham, Martin Scorsese, Matt Damon, Mary Tyler Moore, Sean Connery. They are all Catholics.

ON THE MOVE: If - as a Catholic and for reasons of work, study or family commitments - you have moved across or into the South West, do please ensure that you are registered with your local parish and, if a student in HE, with your University Chaplain or other appropriate officer.

A MAN WHO PRETENDED to be a priest for more than 18 years has been dismissed by the Catholic Church in Spain. Miguel Angel Ibarra carried out weddings and baptisms, first in Colombia and then in southern Spain, despite having never been ordained. Those ceremonies will still be recognised, the Church says, but not his communions or the confessions he heard. He was found to be an impostor after a complaint was filed in Colombia. The complainant alleged Mr Ibarra had forged his documents. This is not the first time someone has been caught in the act of pretending to be a Catholic priest. In 2008, a man who had not been ordained was found to be hearing confessions in St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

NHS launches its biggest campaign ever to persuade people to get free flu jabs available if you are aged 65 or over, have a long-term health condition or are pregnant.

INTERSEX PEOPLE in Germany can now legally identify themselves as a third gender, under a new law adopted in December. People who do not fit the biological definition of male or female can now choose the category 'diverse' on official documents. Those choosing the option will need a doctor's certificate to register. Intersex people are born with both male and female sex characteristics, which can appear at birth or later in life.

In Veritate

... fascinating facts and figures

According to ACN's report *Religious Freedom in the World*, India is singled out as one of the world's worst nations in which to be a religious minority.

Apparently we spend some 70% of our time communicating with others. Of that amount of time: 16% is spent reading; 9% writing; 30% talking and 45% listening.

There are 650 MPs in the House of Commons. Just over 10% are Catholic.

Percentages of land use in England: Farmland 72.9; Natural 14.5; Built on 8.8. and Green urban 3.8. The respective sums for elsewhere across the UK: N. Ireland = 72.2, 23.0, 3.5 and 1.3; Scotland = 26.4, 70.7, 2.1 and 0.9; Wales = 59.3, 35.1, 4.2 and 1.4. Source: Corine Land Cover inventory

Every year on average, some 750,000 ice creams are bought on the 7 miles of Bournemouth's seafront.

Catholics as a percentage of the adult population in England and Wales according to the latest survey: 8.3%.

Britain is responsible for less than 1% of the world's plastic waste.

Cycling is the third most popular recreational activity in the UK with an estimated 3.1 million people biking it each month.

There are two words in English which have all five vowels - AEIOU - in the order in which they appear in the alphabet: abstemious, facetious.

The term 'seminary', meaning a school for training priests, was first recorded in the 1580s. It derives from the Latin seminarium denoting 'a seed plot' for growing and nurturing seedlings, from the Latin semen meaning 'seed'.

'Quote - Unquote'

'Whenever someone says, "I don't believe in coincidences" I say, 'Oh my God, me neither!''
Alasdair Beckett-King

'Always tell the truth. It's the easiest thing to remember'
David Mamet

'Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing had happened'
Winston Churchill

'Fallacies do not cease because they become fashions'
G K. Chesterton

'Everyone is always in favour of general economy expenditure and particular expenditure'
Anthony Eden

'Cheats never prosper'
Anon.

At 20, we worry about what others think of us. At 40, we don't care what they think of us.
At 60, we discover they haven't been thinking of us at all'
Ann Landers

'I've given up asking rhetorical questions. What's the point?'
Alexei Sayle

'Perfection is not an ability to be imperfect but an ability to forgive and live with our own and others' imperfection'
Richard Rohr

The caterpillar does all the work and the butterfly gets all the publicity'
George Callin

'The past is never dead. It's not even past'
William Faulkner

'Some people have a way with words, and other people not have way'
Steve Martin

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Dominica Roberts

Of all the myths about abortion, the most persistent yet the easiest to disprove is that legalising abortion saved women's lives.

LIFE MATTERS

The Persistent Myth

It is quite true that about 40 women a year used to die from illegal abortions in Britain. But this was in the 1930s. Decade by decade the numbers were coming down. In the ten years from 1957 to 1967 the figure was 110, i.e. on average 11 a year. (And in fact about 70 women's deaths from abortion were registered in the next 10 years, after the 1967 Abortion Act.) It is impossible to tell from the figures when it was a that a country made abortion easier (or actually harder, in 3 or 4 cases) to get.

It is clear that better medicine, mostly blood transfusions and antibiotics from the much-maligned pharmaceutical firms, is what has really saved women's lives. Of course everyone understands that not all deaths

from abortion were registered as such. It is only common kindness to avoid the sad truth if possible. (This appears to the case still. Certainly the massively proven increased death toll from suicide after abortion does not appear on death certificates. And the case of a woman bleeding to death in a taxi from a Marie Stopes clinic a few years ago got very little publicity.) But similar graphs for all maternity-related deaths, and deaths of all women of child-bearing age, show the same decline.

The otherwise excellent charity *Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)* should not be supported by Catholics, since they provide abortions in the mistaken belief that it saves women's lives.

The first half of the twentieth century saw the maternal death rate in Britain go down from worse than any third world country today to almost as good as now. Medical help towards this is what we owe the poorer countries, not the negative quick-fix of the death of an unborn baby.

In our own country, we must fight attempts to widen access to abortion, in the knowledge that it not only takes one human life (or two of course if twins were expected) but also often seriously harms that of the mother.

Dominica Roberts is active in several pro-life groups

‘Truth’, Damned Lies, and Statistics: Reflecting on the Data

Dr Paul Dixon looks at the hard facts

PLYMOUTH DIOCESE	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	AV
Baptisms	920	812	823	800	871	764	780	718	677	596	776
First Communions	680	752	691	740	592	608	651	611	605	638	657
Confirmations	330	329	309	456	355	228	308	254	206	242	302
Receptions	88	122	83	159	84	55	56	57	52	49	81
Source: Plymouth Diocesan Trust: Trustees Report and Financial Statements (year ending 31 March 2017) and Diocese of Plymouth Yearbook 2019.											

What can Plymouth diocese learn from its parish data? Schools and colleges analyse their statistics to improve the quality of their service. How does one assess the quality of a diocese?

The following table provides a selective summary of parish register returns for the Plymouth diocese between 2008–2017.

In state-funded Catholic schools across England, 66 per cent of pupils are Catholic; in the Plymouth diocese, it is about 33 per cent (2018 CES English Census, p.5 and p.18). By combining pupil Catholicity figures with the data for Baptisms, First Holy Communions, Confirmations, and observations of attendance at Sunday Mass, one gains a more informed picture of the Catholic landscape.

Recruitment: How effective is the diocese in attracting new parishioners? Baptism numbers have been falling: from 920 in 2008 to 596 in 2017, with an average of 776 Baptisms per year. Reception numbers have dropped too: from 88 in 2008 to 49 in 2017, with an average of 81 Receptions per year.

Retention: How successful is the diocese in keeping its young parishioners? First Communion numbers have been pretty stable, with an average of 657 per year. Confirmation numbers have been significantly decreasing between 2013–2017, with an average for these five years of only 248 per year.

By comparing the numbers between related years for Baptism, First Communion and Confirmation, one can gain further insight into the retention rate of young Catholics in our diocese. Here, one is only attempting a very rough ballpark figure. Lots of factors have a bearing on the data used, but the analysis does, nevertheless, offer some food for thought for those prepared to have a nibble.

Babies baptised in 2008 and 2009 reached First Holy Communion age by around 2016 and 2017. Between 2008–2009 there were 1732 Baptisms, while between

2016–2017 there were only 1243 First Holy Communions. This First Holy Communion figure is 489 less than what one might have expected, based on the related Baptism figure. By First Holy Communion age, it would seem that over a quarter (28%) of those baptised between 2008–2009 are no longer practising Catholics. Why not? By around 2014–2017, children who received First Holy Communion between 2008–2011 will have reached the age when they are invited for Confirmation. Between 2008–2011 there were 2863 First Communions, while between 2014–2017 there were only 1010 Confirmations. This Confirmation figure is 1853 less than what one might have expected, based on the related First Holy Communion figure. By the time of Confirmation age, it would seem that nearly two-thirds (65%) of those receiving First Communion between 2008–2011 are no longer practising Catholics. Why not?

Success: How does one measure success? Schools and colleges are, in part, judged by their GCSE and A level results. One might similarly assess, in part, the success of the diocese and its parishes by the number of our Catholic youth still practising their faith at 16, 18 and 21 years of age. While there are no parish statistics for this, one only has to glance across the pews on a Sunday to find an answer. The number of Catholics (of any age) who have fallen away from the faith is ‘diabolical’ in every sense of the word.

Attendance: How good are the diocesan figures for Sunday Mass attendance? The 2017 parish register returns inform us that the Plymouth diocese has an estimated RC population of 47,575, with a Sunday Mass attendance of 13,111. These figures suggest that nearly three-quarters (72%) of its Catholic population do not attend Sunday Mass. Why not?

In truth, a little over a quarter of the Catholic population within the diocese is holding the fort with their regular worship and financial contributions towards the upkeep of

parishes, the clergy, Catholic schools and numerous other worthy causes. Similar to what Churchill said about the RAF in the Second World War: “Never was so much owed by so many to so few.” Churchill’s ‘Few’ were the brave Battle of Britain pilots; the Church’s ‘Few’ are our faithful practising Catholics; non-practising Catholics the missing ‘ill’.

Thankfully, the days of fighting the Luftwaffe are long gone. We have now another Battle of Britain to fight: the spiritual warfare against the invading forces tempting the young, and not so young, away from the Catholic faith. All this relates to the question of establishing a UK online Catholic Religious Education (RE) school; something I have been advocating for several years. An online resource such as this would bolster catechesis within our parishes, especially for those seeking to meet the needs of our Catholic youth not living within commuting distance of a state-funded Catholic secondary school, e.g. most of Cornwall. An online Catholic RE school also has the potential to reach Catholics no longer practising, aka the vast majority of our Catholic population.

There is hope! It was a surprise to discover recently that in the Autumn of 2018, Plymouth diocese began piloting an online catechetical resource called the ‘Parish Ministry Formation’ enterprise. It appears that this initiative, primarily being trialled in the counties of Devon and Dorset, involves partnering up with the Catechetical Institute, Franciscan University of Steubenville, United States who provide online Catholic resources (See the Plymouth Diocesan page on the Steubenville website at www.franciscanathome.com/plymouth).

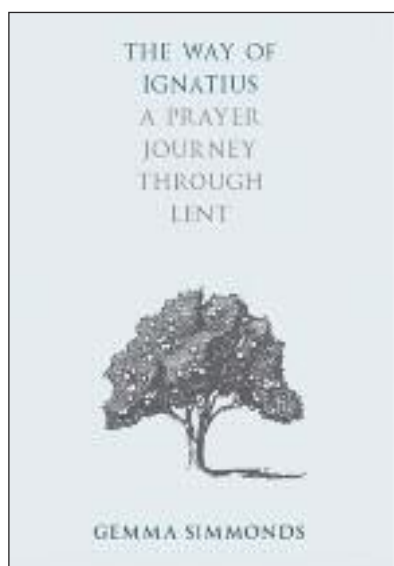
Whatever future provision is put in place to promote the flourishing of the Catholic faith within our communities, further detailed reflection on the data gleaned from parish register returns, both at the macro-diocesan and micro-parish levels, has a role to play.



THE WAY OF IGNATIUS

A prayer journey through Lent
Gemma Simmonds
SPCK, pbk, 89 pages, 2018, £8.99

This is emphatically not a book for experts or, indeed, a book by an expert on prayer or the spiritual life.' Any author writing on spirituality who puts this as the first sentence on the first page is clearly worth listening to. For Gemma Simmonds is very well versed in Ignatian Spirituality, and in the life of that great lady Mary Ward, who was herself so Ignatian-minded. And, even though the book is centred on Lent, it is a book of wisdom for any time of the year.



In the course of nine short chapters and a conclusion, the author takes us on a pilgrimage into the lives of Ignatius of Loyola and Mary Ward, giving the key factors and moments that shaped their personal lives; and into the inner pilgrimage of the heart centred on the person of Jesus. That intimate journey of self-discovery is based on the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius, a practical tool for getting in touch with the deepest desires of an individual, a method tested by Ignatius himself over the best part of a year.

At the core of it all is an awakening to a deepfelt personal gratitude for God's awesome personal love of each individual,

as loved sinner and beginner, who learns how to become a friend and lover of Jesus through following him in his human pilgrimage from infancy to crucified to risen Lord.

The outcome of all this process is to grow in the ability to find God in all, not in spite of all. But there are no short cuts, and the way is via the way of Jesus, who is himself the Way. Which means facing the tough reality of the crucified Lord, and whatever suffering each individual has to undergo on the way. But all is encountered from the point of view of living in a resurrection world, where Jesus has conquered all, even sin and death.

Gemma Simmonds has shared much of herself in this mini *vade mecum*, and this wee volume will fire and inspire those who launch into it, and will supply plenty of delight and relish in her or his individual pilgrimage to the heart and mind of Jesus.

© Denis Blackledge SJ

RECONCILIATION

Muthuraj Swamy
SPCK, pbk, 173 pages, 2018, £7.99

This is the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2019, but it is a wonderful resource for individuals or groups for any time of the year. Beautifully written by a man in love with scripture, and with a deep and wide knowledge of both Old and New Testament, this is a treasure of a book.

As Justin Welby says in his Foreword: 'Reconciliation is the Gospel.' [p.ix] The author offers 40 Bible studies, one for each of the 40 days of Lent, with six chapters based on the following themes: the foundations of reconciliation; impediments to reconciliation; risking the self to reconcile those in conflict; the need for humility and self-criticism when involved in reconciling or being reconciled; the call to radical openness; and peace with justice.

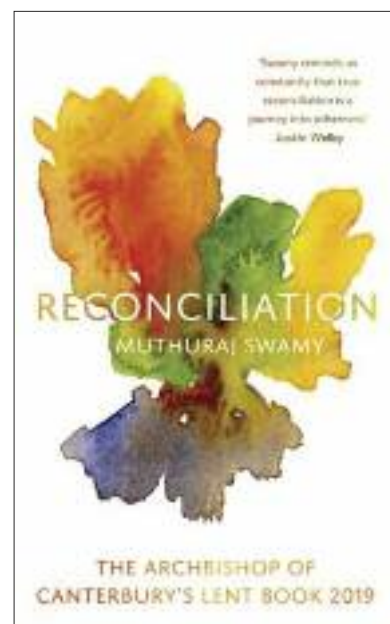
The writer begins with the current context of conflicts and reconciliation in our one world. He then centres on two of the key passages in Paul's Letters to Corinth [2 Cor 5.17-20] and Colossae [Col 1.19-22], which clearly state that the basis of

the Christian ministry of reconciliation is the fact that God has reconciled the world through Jesus Christ. The starting point is the fact that God has reconciled us, and invites us to reconcile with one another. "For a Christian, being involved in reconciliation activity in the world is not a choice, but rather a responsibility and a vocation: Paul clearly speaks of 'the ministry of reconciliation'." [p.3] Beginning with God's reconciliation with us,

he takes us through our reconciliation with God, with others, with ourselves, and our efforts to reconcile our fellow human beings with God and to promote reconciliation among our neighbours. And he reminds us that a victim in the past can become an oppressor in the present. As he says: "Reconciliation is a process. It is an attitude. It is a climate. It is embracing differences." [p.7]

The 40 biblical studies are a treasure trove, and Muthuraj Swamy, who is Director of the Cambridge Centre for Christianity Worldwide, develops a variety of themes on relationships and reconciliation, beginning with the greatest commandment in Mt 22.34-40. There is so much to ponder, learn from, and enjoy in the delightful and insightful way he introduces us to so many characters from scripture, as well as parables concerned with the whole multifaceted business of reconciliation. So much is condensed in these pages, and you will have difficulty finding a better book than this to deepen your loving knowledge of scripture, and its focus on the core topic of reconciliation. I cannot recommend it too highly. Superb value for money too!

© Denis Blackledge SJ



What better way to introduce Google books than with an iconic play

Way Upstream (1981) by Alan Ayckbourn ends with Alastair and his wife Emma preparing to jump overboard from a rented cabin cruiser and swim to a deserted island where, in fulfilment of Alastair's fantasy, they will make love and start a new life together.

Their planned two-week boating holiday had started with two other friends – Keith and June – as the four climb aboard two by two and set off in good humour up the worldly River Orb in the direction of the Armageddon Bridge.

Relationships turn sour as frustrations come to the fore: Emma at Alastair's wimpish nature; June at the lack of fulfilment in her marriage with Keith, the control-freak and self-appointed skipper who's ever chanting from the boat's manual amid paranoid

concern for matters back at the factory. Little wonder then that the boat soon runs aground. Luckily the hobo Vince soon comes forward to dislodge the boat.

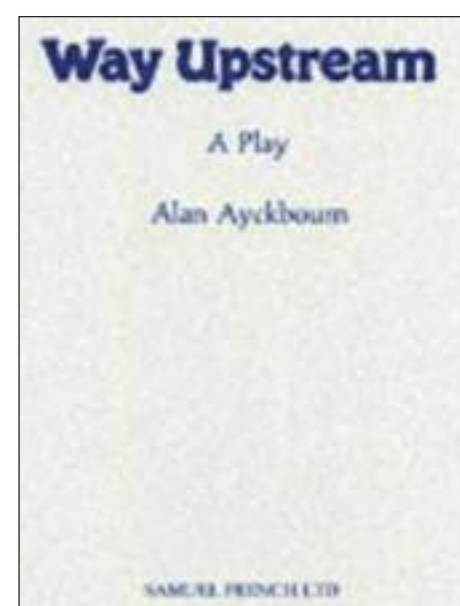
As the story develops, what remaining humour slips into the macabre, the surreal: Vince – his full name being 'Vincent' from the Latin *vincere* meaning 'to win' – develops his Satanic grip over the situation as he endeavours to exert ever-increasing control over the players. He throws Keith's manual overboard. June then falls quickly into his embrace. The cruiser continues its way upstream, the river drawing them ever onward as it snakes its course.

Vince is then joined by his friend and consort Fleur, a rather upmarket hedonist, who sets about grooming Alastair, preparing him for seduction. She almost succeeds.

Rain in biblical proportions pours down upon and around the hapless craft as tensions increase to the point that the compliant wimp Alastair feels forced to tackle Vince, the power of evil, whom he finally overcomes. Emma stands by her man. No force is then left on board except the love between Emma and Alastair as they continue, now alone in their waterbourne wilderness, travelling upstream towards the bridge, taunted and mocked by those left stranded on the river's bank.

An allegorical jigsaw. The audience just needs to put the pieces together.

See or even perform the play if you can. Alternatively, just study the script, perhaps in some reading forum ... or simply read Genesis.



Title: Way Upstream; a play;
Acting Edition Series
Author: Alan Ayckbourn
Edition: Illustrated
Publisher: S French 1983 Original:
University of Michigan
Digitized: 3 March 2008
ISBN 0573115044, 9780573115042
Length: 95 pages

© jlkw

PERSONALITY PROFILE

Philip Henry Christopher Jackson CVO DL (born 18 April 1944) is an award-winning sculptor, noted for his modern style and emphasis on form (see front cover). Acting as Royal Sculptor to Queen Elizabeth II. His sculptures appear in numerous UK cities, as well as Argentina and Switzerland.

Scottish-born Philip Jackson works at the Edward Lawrence Studio in Midhurst, West Sussex. He attended the Farnham School of Art (now the University for the Creative Arts). After leaving school, he was a press photographer for a year and then joined a design company as a sculptor. He is well known for his major outdoor pieces, notably The Yomper and his twice life-size (6 metre tall) bronze statue of Bobby Moore, the latter erected outside the main entrance at the new Wembley Stadium in May 2007 to pay tribute to Moore's effect on the game.

Philip Jackson says of his art: 'My sculptures are essentially an impressionistic rendering of the figure. Where you see the figure seemingly grow out of the ground, the texture resembles tree bark, rock or lava flow. As the eye moves up the sculpture, the finish becomes gentler & more delicately worked, culminating in the hands and the mask, both of which are precisely observed and modelled.'



Philip Jackson

Parishes!

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For tzatsiki: grate 1/2 cucumber, sprinkle with salt, leave in a colander to drain. Squeeze out liquid, mix remaining cucumber with 1 clove garlic, mashed, juice of 1/2 lemon, 1 tablespoonful olive oil, 1/4 pint or more of Greek yoghurt, 2 tablespoonfuls of fresh mint chopped.

For hummus: process together a tin of chickpeas drained (or even better but more trouble, cook them from dried), 1 teaspoon of ground cumin, 1/4 teaspoon of chili powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 tablespoon olive oil, 2 chopped cloves of garlic, juice of half a lemon. You may need some of the liquid from the chickpeas if it is too thick, and can add a tablespoon of tahini if you want.

All these amounts are variable: taste and add more lemon etc. if wanted. Serves four.

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LETTERS

THANK YOU

Thank you and congratulations for the new look *Catholic South West*, it is a triumph. It would take me 5 mins to flip through the older version and then toss into the recycle box but now I want to read everything on every page: so much information, such diverse topics, something for every age range, websites to look up, so much to learn. Excellent!

Catherine MacGillivray
Torquay

SUMMER CAMPS

Plans are well under way for this year's Plymouth Diocese Summer Camps, for young people of the diocese which will run from 28 July to 9 August at Grangehurst, Buckfast Abbey. This year the Junior Camp is during the first of the two weeks, followed by the Senior and St Petroc's Camps. The emphasis this year will focus on Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation 'Rejoice and Be Glad'.
There will be three camps: one Junior Camp, one Senior Camp and one camp (St Petroc's) for students in school years 11-13. Copies of the Posters, Camp Information and Camp Application Form are available through the camp website: www.pdsommerncamps.org.uk
The Summer Camps help us to bring the message of the Gospels to our young people.

Deacon Michael Turnbull
Chair Plymouth Diocese Catechetical Camps Committee
St Benedict's Gillingham

NEW LOOK CSM

Having now enjoyed two issues of the 'New Look' *Catholic South West*, I wish to congratulate you and your team on this attractive newspaper. The illustrations are uplifting and colourful; the articles are interesting and diverse and you have even catered for the children, which should appeal to the families in our Diocese.
Pat Griffiths.
Wimborne Minster

CATCH UP!

Unfortunately I missed the recent issue of *CSW*. Is there any way I can catch up on line and perhaps download what I have missed?

R Reilly
Exeter

The Editor welcomes your letters but regrets being unable (1) to enter into correspondence other than through the pages of *CSW* and (2) to accept for publication any copy, including LETTERS, submitted other than electronically. Unless by special arrangement LETTERS carry the writer's name and general location. Anonymous LETTERS cannot be accepted for publication.

Simples! Here's the link to be able to view CSW online:
<http://www.diocese.co/publications/?PublicationID=14>
Next to each edition there is a link to download. Ed.

Please note that all letters must be submitted with the writer's name and locality. If the writer does not wish his or her name to appear, that request for anonymity in print can be respected. Ed.

Catholic South West

(tabloid newspaper in full colour) invites contributions relevant and of interest to its readership.

Catholic South West welcomes submissions

Submissions of any type – e.g. anecdotes, comments, reviews, features, observations, reports, etc. whether addressing regular slots or not - are invited in electronic format.

Feature articles should not be in excess of five hundred words. All copy should be submitted as attachments in regular Word format (e.g. Verdana 10pt), single-line spacing, standard line length (70 strikes per line), in b&w and with as few effects as possible. Titles and main straps should be in bold title casing 20pt and 14pt respectively with conjunctions, prepositions, definite and indefinite articles in lower case. Quotations to appear in single marks.

Contributors are invited to submit head/head & shoulders photographs and a biographical note not exceeding 25 words.

Photographs (ideally jpeg) of sufficiently high quality (300 dpi or higher, not embedded) complementing any copy or relevant theme copy are similarly welcome.

Photographic Pointers:

- Photographs from mobile phones are not usually of sufficiently high quality

- A minimum of 3m pixels/300 dpi or higher generally ensures quality

- Landscape shots (i.e. rectangle resting on long side) are best for groups

- Portrait shots (i.e. rectangle standing on short side) are best for individuals

- Shortfall in sharpness of focus is accentuated in print

- The subject of the picture should occupy at least 60% of the frame

- Pictures ideally tell a story

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THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS for 2019 as entrusted to The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer): **March RECOGNITION OF THE RIGHT OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES** - That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

What is the process in the preparation of the prepared prayer intentions?

The faithful from around the world suggest papal prayer intentions to the international office of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network in Rome. Through prayerful discernment the international office selects a large number of them and submits them to the Vatican for further selection, with the Pope making the final selection. The Vatican then entrusts to the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network the official set of monthly prayer intentions, which are then translated into the major world languages and published in print and digital formats.

THE MEDAILLE TRUST (www.medaille-trust.org.uk), now in its 13th year, is the largest provider of Safe House accommodation for victims of modern slavery in this country. Financial contributions invited.

TO RECEIVE the 'Tell the Church' Bulletin for details of events organised by or linked to Taunton's churches: tellthechurch@tauntonteamchaplaincy.org www.tauntonteamchaplaincy.org



COMPETITION open to all ages. Articles (words only) are invited addressing the Christian symbolism in the accompanying photograph (shell, fish and the colour blue). Entries of no more

than 400 words should be submitted electronically to the Editor - e: csw@cathcom.org - to be received no later than Good Friday (19 April) and accompanied by full contact details plus a few lines (50w) about the author. The best submission in the eyes of the adjudicators will then be featured in a forthcoming issue of **CSW**. Pens at the ready? Good luck!



VMM INTERNATIONAL with Christian roots, motivation and ethos is an international development and volunteering organisation, with offices in Liverpool and Dublin, which has placed thousands of volunteers on overseas development projects in the past 50 years. **VMM** helps volunteers of all ages to step into communities and get stuck into projects of real value to local people. Partnerships are with strong and well-established organisations currently working in in Africa and Asia to deliver Sustainable Development Goals. Projects tend to cover education, health to community development initiatives based on partnerships with civic, community and church organisations. Full details: www.vmminternational.org

PRIESTS ON THE PISTE: Poland's annual Pope John Paul II competition for skiing priests took to the slopes again this year. On 2 February priests and clergymen, inspired by the former pontiff's example, swapped Sunday and sundry sermons for skis on slippery, snow-covered slopes - cassocks optional - to take part in the Pope John Paul II skiing competition in Wisla, Poland.

Note: Pope John Paul II was a renowned skier. An indefatigable hiker and kayaker, he scorned lifts and preferred to climb on his hickory skis. In his 20s, he was an athlete, standing 5 feet 10.5 inches at 175 pounds. He suffered a number of injuries causing him to stoop in later years.

Bishop Mark O'Toole visited St Peter, Prince of Apostles, Church (Budleigh Salterton) on 29 January to celebrate Mass and to bless the Holy Family Hall. There was a large congregation attending the service and parishioners from both St Peter's Church and Holy Ghost Church (Exmouth) were in their seats early. Guests included the Town Mayor, Cllr. Tom Wright, and his wife, ministers from other churches, Father Robin and his wife Anne, Sisters from the Holy Family Convent (Exmouth) and other guests from the wider community. In his homily the Bishop said how wonderful it was to be celebrating Mass in a church

dedicated to St Peter, Prince of Apostles

BS CHILDREN ON THE BEACH:

Disadvantaged children in Devon are to benefit from Co-op teamwork after Beach Schools South West CIC was chosen as Community Fund beneficiaries for this year. Beach Schools South West teach on the beach and they are already offering some schools in Plymouth free sessions - but the schools cannot afford the transport to get there. Beach Schools is an award-winning CIC which teaches curriculum-linked learning on the beach, helping children understand about the world they live in, the environment around them, sea safety, plastics pollution and helping to improve their mental and physical health. Further information: www.beachschoolssouthwest.co.uk



FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND, founded in 2009, helps and supports the Christian population of the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan working to improve education, employment, health and housing and to develop a resilient and enduring Christian community in the Holy land. Further details: Friends of the Holy Land, Farmer Ward Road, Kenilworth, CV8 2DH t: 01926 512980 www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk



GOOD PRACTICE: If your school or other Catholic organisation is doing something particularly well and if you'd like to share your good practice, why not send details to the Editor on csw@cathcom.org for our GOOD PRACTICE feature?

THE SOCIETY OF THE LITTLE FLOWER promotes devotion to St Thérèse of the Child of Jesus, Carmelite Nun and Doctor of the Church. Carmelite priests, nuns, brothers and sisters serve people in parishes, medical clinics, women's centres, schools, retreat houses, hospitals, catechetical centres, prisons, housing, job and skills development programmes and sacramental celebrations around the world. Further details: www.littleflower.org.uk

MISSIO: The Catholic Church's official charity for overseas mission. For information on how you might help, visit <https://www.mission.org.uk/about>

Note: The term 'Movers and shakers' was coined by poet Arthur O'Shaughnessy in his 1874 poem *Ode*.

Dates For Your Diary:

Date	Event	Venue	Further Details
01 Mar	World Day of Prayer	(Global)	
08 Mar	General copy deadline: CSM (Apr)	n/a	e: csw@cathcom.org
10 Mar	Taize Service	Taunton	St George's e: taunton.stgeorge@clifton
23 Mar	Organ recital	Taunton	St James www.stjamestaunton.co.uk
30 Mar	Barn Dance	Taunton	St Andrew's t: 01823 332531
30 Mar	Neighbourhood Chaplains	Taunton	http://www.countiesuk.org
12 Apr	General copy deadline: CSM (May)	n/a	e: csw@cathcom.org
27 Apr	Neighbourhood Chaplains	Barnstable	http://www.countiesuk.org
6-10 Nov	Religious Tourism Congress	Krakow, Poland	www.icortap.com

The Latin Mass Society

www.lms.org.uk 020 7404 7284

Masses in the Extraordinary Form in Plymouth Diocese:

St Edward the Confessor, Home Park Ave, Peverell, PLYMOUTH PL3 4PG
Sundays 11.30am Sung Mass

Blessed Sacrament Church, Fore Street, Heavitree, EXETER EX1 2QJ
Third Sundays. 3pm Sung Mass

St Cyprian's Chapel, Ugbrooke House, CHUDLEIGH, Devon TQ13 0AD
4th Sundays 3.00pm Sung Mass
(1) No Mass in the month of May

Lanherne Convent, St Mawgan, NEWQUAY, Cornwall TR8 4ER
Sundays at 7.40am
Weekdays at 8.00am Sung Mass

Our Lady's, Old Mill Lane, MARNHULL, Dorset DT10 1JX
Thursday 10th April 12 noon Low Mass

Buckfast Abbey, (Blessed Sacrament Chapel)
BUCKFASTLEIGH TQ11 0EE
Wednesday March 13th 10.30am Low Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Cecilia, White Cliff Mill Street, BLANDFORD FORUM DT11 7BN
Tuesday 19th March 12 noon (St. Joseph) Low Mass
Saturday 4th May 12 noon (Holy English and Welsh Martyrs).

Any questions contact Maurice Quinn (LMS Rep, Devon and Dorset) on either : Email : devon@lms.org.uk Mob. 07555536579

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

1564-1616

SHAKESPEARE AND HIS CATHOLIC BACKGROUND

Raymond Calcraft reflects on the bard's ambiguity

We ask and ask: How vibrant and art still! For many, Matthew Arnold's moderate judgement on Shakespeare, written in 1849, still remains applicable today. And whereas he clearly is bound to praise the premier genius of Shakespeare the writer, it might equally well be applied to the true value of his personal beliefs. The lack of concrete evidence for large parts of his life and career has never given rise to the suggestion that the plays and poems could in fact be the work of someone else. This has and does generally mislead, but so too do the words themselves as concerned, one can only speculate as to what kind of man could have had such a profound knowledge of humanity who is able to create, totally convincingly, as many diverse characters. We are forced to agree that beyond the 'bank of immortality which Aeneas' conceived, there is apparently little that can be known, or deduced.

Shakespeare's mother, Mary Arden, came from a well-known Catholic family

Indeed, he is portrayed in a strikingly negative light, and it is Catherine, his abandoned flower, who is shown to be deserving not only of our pity but our admiration, her speeches being profoundly moving. Remarkably, the play was also first performed in the small Blackfriars theatre, forming a monastery in the very same hall which had seen the divorce trial of Catherine almost a century before.

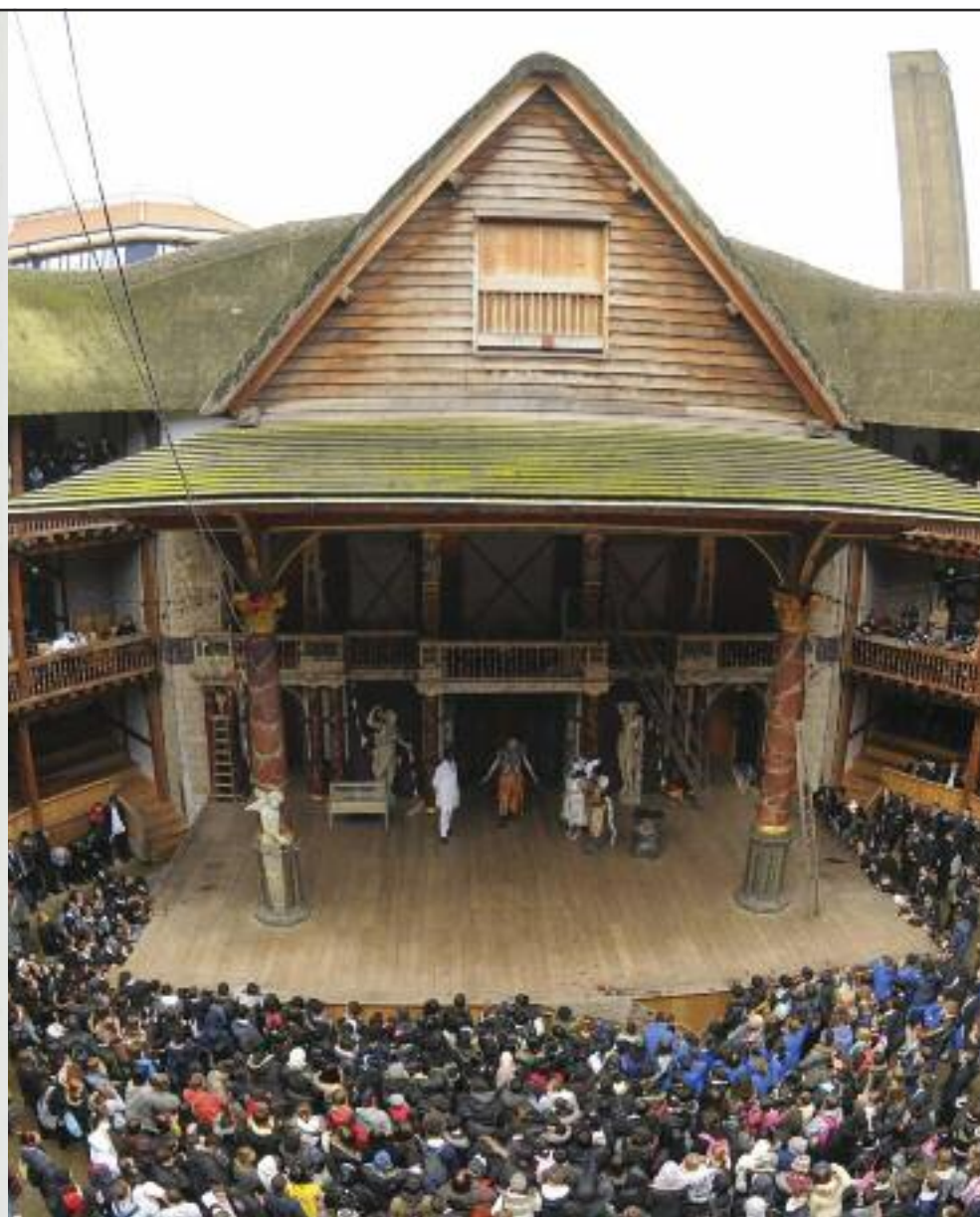
For the whole of Shakespeare's lifetime England had been... a proudly Protestant country

Shakespeare sometimes gave amazing or antipodal alternative titles to his plays - *Twelfth Night* or *What you will*, for example - but the real title given by its author to the play we know as *Henry VIII* was, in fact, *All is True* & very likely, no doubt, that perhaps a significant one.

The lack of any unequivocal declaration of faith in Shakespeare's writings is not only complex but even for some a matter of consideration. He was born in 1564, just six years after the accession to the throne of Elizabeth I, who would not tolerantly establish Protestantism as the official version of the Christian faith in England, following the 1534 period in which Catholicism had been declared under her sister Mary but very many people remained strong in their adherence to the 'Old Faith' throughout Elizabeth's reign. Shakespeare's mother, Mary Arden, came from a well-known Catholic family, and the marriage in 1559 to John, William's father, would have taken place, of course, according to the Catholic rite. Whether England's most famous writer, however, grew up to remark what were almost certainly his father's long-held beliefs can only be guessed at. There is no doubt that there is any of the plays or poems containing religious faith. After all, there is - such as the beautiful lines concerning Christian's spoken by a minor character near the start of *Hamlet*, so renowned and so graceful is the verse - it permeates by the reference of 'Some will', followed by 'to have a heart, and in just defence of it' And one does wonder whether what amounts to a virtual silence in his works concerning his beliefs, or lack of them, is a reflection of the dangerous times in which he lived.

There is perhaps one clue, though, which may be significant. After the longest we know that Shakespeare collaborated with other writers during his final years, including on the play we refer to as *Henry VIII*, written and performed in 1613, ten years after the death of Elizabeth I, is that the story of Henry's divorce of his Spanish Queen, Catherine of Aragon, in order to marry Anne Boleyn, an event which brought about and only the beginnings of the end but the eventual creation of the Protestant Church in England. For the whole of Shakespeare's lifetime England had been for the majority of her citizens a proudly Protestant country, and it might have been expected, therefore, that the most admirable character in the play would be Henry himself.

Raymond Calcraft is former Head of Spanish at Exeter University



The Globe Theatre

SITCOMS

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH COMMUNICATIONS

An occasional feature supporting communication strategies
***'Communication is part of God's plan for us'* Pope Francis**

COPYWRITING GUIDELINES

General in nature, the following points are relevant for any form of feature, report, promotional literature or flyer incl. copy for websites



6: Now edit what you've written bearing in mind George Orwell's FIVE RULES:

* Never use a metaphor, simile or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print

1: Draft your copy. Then CUT IT DOWN, CUT IT DOWN and CUT IT DOWN. Then

* Never use a long word where a short one will do

* If it's possible to cut a word out, cut it out

* Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent

* Never use the passive where you. Examples:

L Our products are manufactured to the highest standards

J We manufacture our products to the highest standards

7: As for images: a picture paints a thousand words. Take shots of sufficiently high-resolution in G1 QSE, G1 QSEB ... G1 QSEB!

Previously: Launching and Sustaining an E-newsletter.



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5: Remember that BULLETS hit home. They make the point, no flannel. They're quickly understood, with minimum of hassle for any reader.



Gregg Watts

PERSONALITY AHOY!

Gregg Watts introduces a personality-plus AoS port chaplain



'The hardest part of being a port chaplain is always feeling like you could do more for seafarers. We see them for such a short time when they are in port, due to their quick turn around time. They are usually in on the high tide and out on the next high tide.'

Ann Donnelly is the Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) port chaplain to Plymouth and Teignmouth. She is supported by a small team of volunteer ship visitors.

Vessels visiting the Devon coast carry a range of cargo, including fertilizer, animal feed and china clay. Oil tankers discharge at Cattedown, while Sutton Harbour is home to a fishing fleet.

'It's great when seafarers have to stay in port for more than a day and they can come off the vessel and relax in the AoS room. Then we can really chat and get to know them,' says Ann.

The role of a port chaplain is to offer pastoral care and practical help. Seafarers live a semi nomadic life, away from their families for months on end, often having no internet or phone access, and arriving in foreign ports where they know no one.

'It's rewarding when you know that you have been able to help the seafarers you meet. This could be something simple as providing free WiFi, toiletries, clothing, confectionary or newspapers. Or it might be taking them to Mass or praying with them on board the vessel.'

Ann can also find herself dealing with serious incidents, such as when a fishing vessel was detained by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) in Victoria Wharf in Plymouth just before Christmas. Two of the crew, one Indonesian and the other Sri Lankan, were seriously injured after one fell overboard and the other slipped on deck.

'We visited them in Derriford Hospital and also gave support to the remaining crew. We supplied them with food, warm clothing and phone top-ups.

'The three remaining Indonesian fishermen detained on the vessel were living in fear of the skipper who regularly ill treated them. We liaised with the MCA, informing them of the crew's fears, whilst supporting the men daily.

The two injured fishermen were dismissed by the shipping company, which claimed it was their fault that they had slipped.

seafarer.'

She sees some seafarers regularly, particularly those who work on the oil tankers that visit the Devon coast each week.

There is a growing awareness in the maritime industry about the mental health of seafarers. It's a tough job and one that can produce acute feelings of loneliness, isolation and stress. Some seafarers can be away from their families for up to nine months.

'There is a need to be vigilant when talking with seafarers and doing your best to recognise any signs that they might be displaying that indicate they have mental health issues,' explains Ann.

'This is sometimes difficult to pick up during a short visit to a vessel. It is usually recognisable when seafarers complain of stress in their job or they might want to talk about something that is happening at home that they are concerned about, for example, an illness or crisis in their family. Something maybe that they are hesitant to share with their colleagues.'

Her team of volunteer ship visitors play a vital role, she says. 'I could not function without their loyal support. They are the salt of the earth. They make a regular commitment to ship visiting and they bring with them their own talents and skills.



Anne Donnelly

'We are blessed in Teignmouth and Plymouth to have ship visitors with so many talents, whether it is speaking different languages, such as Tagalog or Russian, or having a maritime background. The seafarers recognise this and are so grateful.'

A number of local parishes support her in her work. 'Parishioners donate Christmas presents and cards, Easter gifts, as well as knitting woolly hats and gloves. Clothing, toiletries and confectionary are regularly donated. Their generosity knows no bounds.

'We always let the seafarers know that these gifts have been donated by local parishes. We could not do our work as ship visitors and chaplains without the support of the parishes.

'It is so important that the seafarer understands that they are not alone, this is what AoS does. We are here to accompany them along the way, no matter which port they are visiting anywhere in the world.'



Ann first got involved with AoS when she lived in Australia for nine years with her husband and five children. 'I used to help set up the Apostleship of the Sea room for the celebration of Mass in the port of Townsville. However, I knew little about the life of a

The Apostleship of the Sea, AoS, is a registered charity and agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland. It is wholly reliant on voluntary donations and legacies to continue its work.

90% of world trade is transported by ship, and more than 100,000 ships visit British ports every year. However, the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely with up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones, often working in harsh conditions.

AoS chaplains and ship visitors welcome seafarers to our shores – regardless of their colour, race or creed – and provide them with pastoral and practical assistance.

For more information contact John Green, Director of Development on 020 7901 1931 or 07505 653801 or email johngreen@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk



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Go for IT!

Soft and hardware of interest for the home, school, parish and elsewhere

SKYPE OVERHAULED

Microsoft's latest overhaul of the Android and iOS versions of this free video chat tool, another tool in the box for individuals and all manner of focus groups, seems to have found high favour among users. Google **SKYPE** and away you go!

EUROPEAN RAIL TIMETABLE

Pilgrims and gappers making their way by rail across Europe could do worse than consult the European Rail Timetable: www.europeanrailtimetable.eu

CHAT IN WHATSAPP

WhatsApp (www.whatsapp.com) uses end-to-end encryption so that all messages are kept secure, so ensuring confidentiality: another ideal comms tool for no end of focus groups across parishes and further afield.

EN GARDE!

Military and security experts in the UK have developed an app called CitizenAID, which offers the public a step-by-step guide to saving lives in the event of an emergency. Download from citizen.org

CHARGE WHENEVER YOU CAN

Gone are the pre-lithium days when it was advisable to run down your phone's charge before re-charging. The advice today, for maximum efficiency, is the complete change-round: top up the charge as often as you can.

AGEING PC

[That's 'Personal Computer', not 'Political Correctness', nor 'Police Constable' ...] If your PC is getting old and perhaps not with the same oomph it used to have, maybe starting to stagger when completing some exercises, CPUBalance, which optimises CPU usage, could well get you up and run-

ning at speed again. For any number of download options, simply google CPUBalance.

WI-FI

To boost your Wi-Fi signal, download Virtual Router (Windows 8, Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2) to turn your computer(s) into a Wi-Fi hotspot. It'll extend the reach of your network. Google: **virtual router** for various options.

A DAY OUT WITH THE KIDS

What to do with the kids now the days are getting longer and hopefully warmer? Where to take them on a day out? Well, there are lots of places, apart from the **LANDMARKS** featured in **CSW**. If you're short of a few suggestions, just visit www.dayoutwiththekids.co.uk

POP A SCANNER IN YOUR POCKET

Microsoft's Office Lens trims, enhances and makes pictures of whiteboards and docs readable. The app's ideal for taking notes at presentations, during training sessions and for copying texts. You can use Office Lens to convert images to PDF, Word and Powerpoint files, and you can even send images to OneNote or OneDrive. Office Lens is like having a quality scanner in your pocket. Download onto your iPhone for free: www.microsoft.com/en-gb/store/p/office-lens/9wzdncrfj3t8

BATTERY RUNNING LOW?

Windows 10 has a useful tool that helps you identify which apps and programs use the most power. Open the Settings app (press Windows-i), click on System. Select 'Battery section', then click on 'Battery usage by app'. That'll help you identify what's resource-hungry so you can take the appropriate action to avoid jeopardising the article of all articles you were preparing for submission to **CSW**.



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Catholic South West

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a: Handed out in church, not left in a pile for collection

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To increase your allocation of copies for addressing all the above targets, please contact the Editor.

Your church, parish or deanery might also like to promote the fact that **Catholic South West**, apart from being distributed in hard copy, is also freely available online at cathcom.org from where it can be readily downloaded in full colour and/or greyscales.

The greyscales version is for those people for whom colour distinction may cause problems.

Thank you all for what is crucial support in promoting our publication. Without your help our mag would never reach home.

Kind regards,
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Catholic South West is the monthly newspaper serving the Catholic community of South West England

It is published and distributed by CathCom Limited, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, CB97BN (t) 01440 730399 www.cathcom.org

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ADVERTISING: Sales Manager: Janet Took (e) janett@cathcom.org

PUBLISHER & DISTRIBUTOR Published by: CathCom Limited, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, CB9 7BN Tel. 020 7112 6710 Website: www.cathcom.org

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Please note that opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Publishers, Editor, any Diocese or the wider Roman Catholic Church.

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"Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things."
- Psalm 119:18



Theo has spent his childhood in darkness, but you can help children like him. Give before 14th May 2019 and every £1 you donate to our See the Way appeal will be doubled by the UK government.

Dear Catholic South West reader,

As a fellow Christian, I want to share with you how incredibly powerful it is to witness a child seeing for the first time, after eye surgery.

As we carry out our work at Christian Blind Mission, we are constantly moved by the astonishment and wonder on the faces of children when the bandages are removed and they get their first clear look at their smiling loved ones.

You can help this happen for more children. Until 14th May 2019, your donations to our **See the Way** appeal will be doubled by the UK government. So your gift could help twice the number of children **See the Way** to a brighter future.

The photo to the right shows 2-year-old Theo from Rwanda, East Africa, who has cataracts that leave him barely able to see. But cataracts are straightforward to treat. Surgery taking just 45 minutes could restore his sight.

Just think, in this short time his entire life can be transformed. Instead of living with darkness and confusion he could have light, colour and a future filled with opportunity. He could go to school and one day find employment that would allow him to **See the Way** out of poverty.

Cataract removal surgery costs £95, but families like Theo's can barely afford even basic necessities, so I am turning to you in the hope that you can help.

You could open a child's eyes to the beauty of God's creation. And we'll send you an update on Theo's surgery.

God bless you,

Rebecca

Rebecca Molyneux
CBM Programme Manager



Theo has been living his life in darkness, due to his cataracts



When he tries to walk or run, he bumps into things



Your gift could help children see and transform lives

Every day, people in the world's poorest places become needlessly blind because of conditions that can be easily treated. Donate today and your gift is multiplied x2.

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Yes, I will give £95 to help a blind child see the wonder of God's creation.

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We will send you an update on Theo's surgery.

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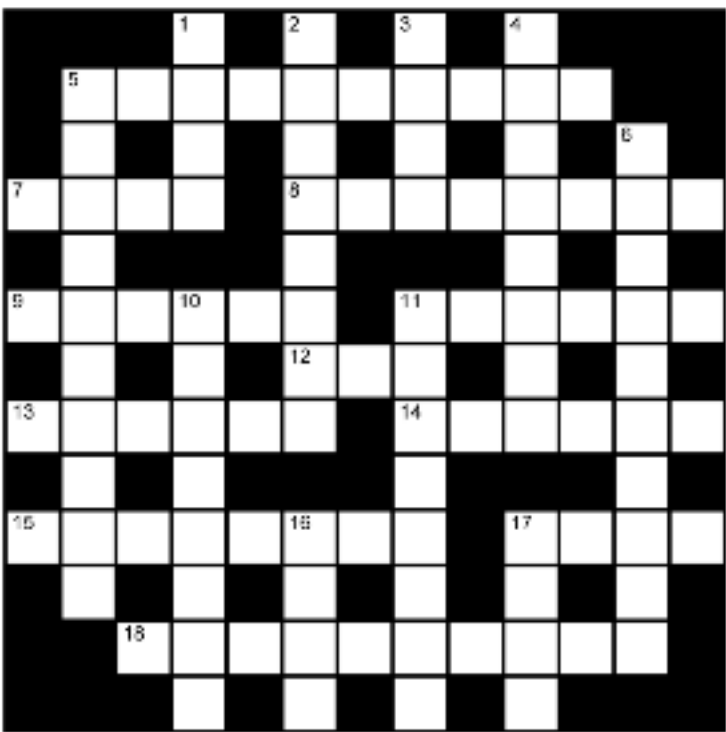


Across

- 5 Recipients of a letter from Paul, probably; NT book (10)
- 7 Ancestor of a race of giants, as mentioned in Exodus and elsewhere (4)
- 8 Stay on pace; marching order (4,4)
- 9 Sabotage (6)
- 11 '----- and Shepherds', song by Purcell and others (6)
- 12 Poetic paean (3)
- 13 Third-largest Nigerian city, site of the country's first university (6)
- 14 Preoccupy; haunt (6)
- 15 Scottish North Sea fishing town, famous for its 'smokies' (8)
- 17 Horizontal intrusion of igneous rock as seen in much of Hadrian's Wall: window feature (4)
- 18 First of three divisions of the Hebrew Scriptures (10)

Down

- 1 Anti-aircraft fire: criticism (4)
- 2 Israeli Mediterranean resort in its alternative, biblical, name (8)
- 3 Bird of prey, the red variety of which has been regenerated in the UK after near extinction (4)
- 4 Runaway slave owned by Philemon (8)
- 5 City synonymous with Anglicanism (10)
- 6 According to the Bible, he lived to be 969 years old (10)
- 10 Third largest of the Channel Islands (8)
- 11 Apprentice, novice (8)
- 16 City of the Italian Piedmont, noted for its sparkling wine (4)
- 17 Handel oratorio; united Kingdom of Israel's first ruler (4)



SOLUTION

Across: 5 Colossians, 7 Anak, 8 Keep step, 9 Derail, 11 Nymphs, 12 Ode, 13 Ibadan, 14 Obsess, 15 Arbroath, 17 Sill, 18 Pentateuch.

Down: 1 Flak, 2 Ashkelon, 3 Kite, 4 Onesimus, 5 Canterbury, 6 Methuselah, 10 Alderney, 11 Neophyte, 16 Asti, 17 Saul.

— SPRING UK TOUR 2019 —

DANIEL O'DONNELL

With Special Guest MARY DUFF

Fri May 3rd

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