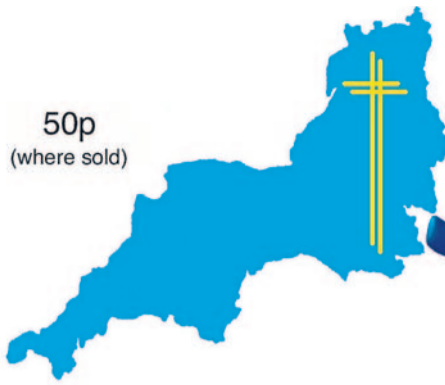


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# Catholic *South West*

Serving the  
Church in the  
South West

February 2022

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**21 FEBRUARY – 6 MARCH**



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**+** **DO NOT LEAVE THIS IN THE CHURCH**  
once you have picked up this paper please take it with you



# Catholic South West

## CONTACTS & DETAILS

Catholic South West is a monthly newspaper for Catholics in the Plymouth, Clifton and Portsmouth Dioceses. It is published by Bellcourt Ltd

### AIMS

To build community in the South West by sharing stories relating to Catholic life around the South West.  
To encourage readers to get more involved in - or start - projects and initiatives in the local area.  
To provide thought-provoking articles to help readers deepen their Faith.

### GET INVOLVED

We need your help!

Articles: We need your local articles - we can only include what we get. So if you have an article or just a photo with a short description - please send it in.  
Ideas: We need your ideas for the paper and we need your ideas in the paper. If you have any thoughts on what we should include - or if you are thinking about starting a new initiative - get in touch - we'd love to support it!  
Readers: If you can encourage other readers in your parish please do so.  
Advertising: We rely on advertising - if you know of anyone that would benefit from promoting their business, event or anything else to parishioners throughout the South West, do let us know.

### SUBMITTING EDITORIAL

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### DATES

Catholic South West goes to parishes on the last full weekend of the month. It is printed around the middle of the month - so if you would like to advertise or send in editorial please do it as early as possible.

## FROM CSW

Dear Reader,

In this edition we have a look at the importance of Fairtrade on page 4 as it is Fairtrade Fortnight from 21st February - 6th March. Hopefully this is an opportunity for us all to think about how we spend our money and what impact we have on the World around us as we live.

Something else that is going on in the Diocese and in the Church throughout the World is the Synod which gives us all the opportunity to give our views about the Church. Throughout the Church there are listening sessions and a variety of ways to allow you to have your say - so please take this opportunity. It is a very exciting time, As publishers, we have the privilege of supporting many Dioceses around the World with their

Synodal process. It is very interesting to see how each Diocese and each Country is approaching it and how their hope is that the listening process will bring the Church together and include people - particularly those that feel they aren't heard. For more information you can go to the Diocesan Website - [www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/synod/](http://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/synod/)

CSW TEAM

# Welcome the Stranger

## An Online Event on Tuesday 8 February



## WELCOME THE STRANGER

On the feast of St. Bakhita

Join us for an online event of prayer, reflection and discussion about how **WE CAN TAKE ACTION** to reach out to the stranger, the refugee and the migrant.

**TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 5-6PM**



**On the Feast of St Bakhita, all are invited to join Caritas Plymouth for an hour of prayer, reflection and discussion from 5-6 pm on Tuesday 8 February 2022 to reflect on the challenges facing migrants and refugees. This free online event will discuss the issues facing refugees, migrants and those affected by modern slavery.**

We look forward to welcoming guest speakers from the Jesuit Refugee Service and Brigid McEleney-Smith from Companions Sidmouth who will highlight the amazing opportunities offered by community sponsorship. The event will take place via Zoom and you can register to attend by going to [www.forms.office.com/r/K3uz5LLY2X](http://www.forms.office.com/r/K3uz5LLY2X) or emailing [caritas@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@prcdtr.org.uk)

St Josephine Bakhita is the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking. On her Feast Day Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those affected by the crimes of modern slavery and human trafficking, and the people that volunteer and work to eradicate this crime. Josephine Margaret Bakhita was a Sudanese-Italian Canossian religious sister who lived in Italy for 45 years, after having been a slave in Sudan. In 2000 she was declared a saint.

### EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

**1) Think of the readers:** If you are writing about an event, think about the readers that don't know anything about it. Outline what happened, but focus on why people go, why it is important to them, or some teaching that was given. Make sure readers learn something from your

article - they don't just want to know who was there and what snacks were available!  
**2) Keep it brief:** Make sure you make your point - but keep it brief and punchy.  
**3) Pictures:** Send pictures as they are - even if they are very big to email. Don't reduce them in size or put them inside a Word document. They look fine on the screen but terrible in the paper!

### LEGAL INFORMATION

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## CARITAS EVENT ON HOMELESSNESS

On 18 January, Caritas Plymouth hosted an online event to raise awareness of those who are homeless or living in temporary or vulnerable accommodation and to explore how we can all reach out and take action. The event was led by Canon John Deeny VG, with presentations from Lois Wild from St. Petrocs, Cornwall and Jacob Quagliozzi from Housing Justice.

Canon John Deeny opened the gathering with an invitation: "Loving God, may we share God's welcome with all, and have a special care for those who are hungry, thirsty or without a home".

Housing Justice reflected on the changing context of homelessness. The "Everybody In" government initiative had brought many rough sleepers off the streets, causing a rethink in how night shelters, the traditional "safety net", and emergency accommodation operate throughout the country. However, as rough sleeping has declined other kinds of homelessness have increased with many people in temporary or insecure accommodation.

St Petrocs offered a local perspective, highlighting their outreach in Cornwall through the provision of accommodation, and "Fresh Field" drug and alcohol rehabilitation programmes.



We heard moving testimony from two people who have used their services which can be found here [Amy's story](#) / [Austin's story](#)

The event also looked at how we can reach out to those who are on the streets or struggling with housing issues and you can find more details in our Caritas resource guide. We were reminded, that if you are in fear for the safety of someone you should always call 999. Otherwise, if you see someone rough sleeping, email or call Streetlink on 0300 500 0914. The details you provide are sent to the local authority or outreach service for the area. (If you think the person you are concerned about is under 18, please call the police).

Not everyone can take direct action. We were reminded by Lois that "Prayer is so powerful and it's something anyone can do".

### Further Information

St Petrocs: [www.stpetrocs.org.uk](http://www.stpetrocs.org.uk)

Housing Justice: [www.housingjustice.org.uk](http://www.housingjustice.org.uk)

Amy's Story:

<https://youtu.be/dnYqA6ZQxRo>

Austin's Story:

<https://youtu.be/KwgS0kkKT10>

Streetlink: [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk)

Caritas Resources can be found on the Diocesan Website: [www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk](http://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk)

## Gift of Icon to Plymouth Cathedral

A service of Solemn Vespers was held in Plymouth Cathedral on the evening of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8th.

It was led by the Bishop of Plymouth, the Rt Rev Mark O'Toole and the psalms, canticles and music were sung by the Sisters of Mary, Morning Star.

The Sisters belong to an international contemplative community who came to the convent in Lynton, North Devon in August 2019.

To commemorate the Year of St Joseph, one of the Sisters who is an iconographer has created a beautiful icon of St Joseph which they presented to the Cathedral.

It was taken in procession, with the unaccompanied chanting of the Sisters, and installed in the new Chapel of St Joseph where it was blessed by Bishop Mark.



## Diocesan Trip to the Holy Land – New Dates

The planned Diocesan Trip to the Holy Land, with Bishop Mark, originally scheduled for March 2022, has been postponed until later this year. The new dates are from 30th October to 10th November. It will include a full programme of visits to the Holy Land sites and staying in excellent Christian accommodation in the hills of Samaria and Judea. Closing with 3 nights at the Sea of Galilee. Places are limited so please contact Della Shenton on [della@5gr.org](mailto:della@5gr.org)



## Around the South West

### CATHEDRAL SERVER



(L-R) Fr Anil, Aoife Chong, Fiacre Chong (Medal recipient), Trevor Snowden, Peter Johnson and Canon Mark O'Keefe, Dean of Plymouth Cathedral. (Photo: Lyn McLaughlin)

There is a new addition to the ranks of altar servers at Plymouth Cathedral. On Sunday 16th January, Fiacre Chong was enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen and presented with his St Stephen's Medal after the 10 a.m. Mass.

### Closure of Falmouth Methodist Church

In Falmouth, our Methodist Friends have held their last service in the building which has served them well for the last 130 years. Due to the enormous cost of much needed repairs, the church has to be sold. Temporarily Worship will take place at the Anglican King Charles the Martyr Church hall. Although there is great sadness at leaving the building, the farewell service was one of looking back in GRATITUDE for the last 130 years. There was a tremendous finale, an expression of HOPE, TRUST IN GOD FOR NEW BEGINNINGS AND HIS LEADING IN NEW WAYS IN THE FUTURE.

### Supporting the Foodbank in Liskeard

Liskeard and Looe Foodbank has written to the Catholic Church thanking them for their support throughout 2021. Last year they recorded 760lbs weight of donations given by the parish. 2791 people, including 1089 children, were helped by the donations – with December being a particularly difficult month. Local foodbanks are a great way to help those around us who are in need. If you can help – please do!

Send us your news  
[csw@cathcom.org](mailto:csw@cathcom.org)



# FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2022

21st February – 6th March



**This two week annual event is an opportunity for individuals, communities, and businesses around the country to stand with farmers in low-income countries like Ghana, Cote D'Ivoire, and Honduras, who are impacted daily by climate change. Together, by keeping the pressure on government and businesses, we can all ensure farmers benefit from fairer prices, fairer trading practices and the resources needed for tackling the climate emergency.**

## Fairtrade and Climate Justice 2022

The Fairtrade Foundation continues to highlight the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade works with. COP26 didn't deliver the change needed to tackle the climate crisis. The facts are straightforward. Farmers and workers in the global south are disproportionately affected by it. The climate crisis is the biggest threat to the livelihoods of millions of small-scale farmers and agricultural workers in low-income countries worldwide. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown us more than ever how interconnected we are globally. This interconnection is at the very heart of the Fairtrade message, a message we all need to hear. Farmers need better incomes and financial support to adapt to changing weather patterns and change their farming methods to ensure a low-carbon economy. By choosing Fairtrade, you show solidarity with those on the frontline of the climate crisis. When you are part of the Fairtrade movement, you have the power to drive long-term change, not only with your shopping choices but with your support in spreading the message.

### What does Fairtrade mean to you?

For those who are part of the Fairtrade family, it means social justice. Poverty, caused in part by decades of chronic underpayment, is a root cause of inability to adapt and mitigate to climate change. Poverty prevents smallholder farmers from developing their businesses: this fuels a vicious cycle of low productivity and declining incomes. The less farmers earn, the harder it is to secure good harvests and feed their families. All this leaves them financially unable to face up to the challenges of climate change. Choosing Fairtrade means choosing improvements in farmers' livelihoods with collective strength through co-operatives and their bargaining power, the protection of a minimum price when market prices fluctuate, and the Fairtrade Premiums which is



based on Fairtrade sales. More money means more climate resilience into the future. We want that for all farmers in low income countries worldwide and we need your help to do it.

### How does choosing Fairtrade support farmers facing the climate crisis now?

Our trading system is weighted against low-income farmers. The prices paid for the crops behind some of our favourite foods need to increase significantly in order for farmers to escape the cycle of poverty and still have the means to adapt to climate emergencies. Now more than ever, they need fair pay, fair prices and fairer trading practices. Cocoa farmers only earn 3% of the price of a chocolate bar. Cocoa farming shouldn't be a route to poverty. We can change that by showing our support for fairly traded goods.

### What can you do?

- Add Fairtrade goods to your weekly shop is one simple decision. UK shoppers and businesses can make a stand with farmers and workers on the frontline of the climate crisis. Fairtrade works with farmers to strengthen environmental and climate protection, to provide resources, training and knowledge so they can face climate challenges right now.
- It's up to all of us – citizens, farmers, workers, businesses, and civil society organisations to come together to play our part in cutting emissions and build pressure for climate promises to be delivered at COP27 next year. Join us in Fairtrade Fortnight 2022 to show support for those who depend on the land – farmers, workers, miners – and join their outraged voices, by sharing their concerns and campaigning to achieve the change we want to see for the planet.
- Sign up to the Fairtrade newsletter and keep up to date with what is happening.
- Share the good news with family and friends about the difference Fairtrade is making to the lives of Fairtrade farmers. Help us get the message out even louder this year.
- Join the Choose the World You Want online free Festival - 21st February - 6th March 2022, returning for a second year featuring a series of virtual events designed to engage, inform and educate people around the urgent message of Fairtrade and climate change, the future of our food and those who produce it. The online initiative will bring the movement together and feature panel



discussions, performances, workshops and collaborations between the Fairtrade Foundation and retailers, chefs and high-profile names in the world of food and sustainability. Follow the link above to join in the fun.

Choose the World you Want festival, will continue to amplify the voices of farmers and workers, and the steps they are already taking to fight the climate crisis. Key challenges are changing rainfall patterns, temperature increase and sea-level rise. This leads to crop failures or yield decline. Rising temperatures also result in more weeds and pests, for example in coffee, leading to a decline in crop yield and quality. Many current cocoa growing regions in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire will become too hot to grow cocoa by 2050. The time to act is now Throughout Fairtrade Fortnight 2022, events will be happening throughout the UK. Watch out for what is happening near you and show your support. Here in Falmouth, we are holding a free Coffee Morning at the Atherton Suite on the Moor, 11.am – 2pm. Home-made cakes will be on sale made with Fairtrade ingredients, Fairtrade goods for sale, a Fairtrade Information stall and while you enjoy your refreshments there will be an opportunity to hear what Fairtrade farmers have to say about Fairtrade and climate justice.

How about inviting friends to a Fairtrade Coffee Morning organised by you, any day during Fairtrade Fortnight 21st February - 6th March or whenever it is convenient for you? See the Fairtrade Foundation website for information: [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)

**SUMMARY:** Climate change is an immediate threat to farmers' livelihoods, and to the products we love, like chocolate, coffee and bananas. Unless we clamp down hard on global emissions, we will all suffer. As a matter of justice and a matter of science, the matter of the climate crisis cannot be delayed any longer.

Almighty God, lover of justice and kindness, You command all your children to love their neighbours and tell us that love must be shown in deeds and not just words. We thank you for FairTrade – for the opportunity it gives us to declare our intention to live out love and justice in our daily life. May we continue steadfast in our support for all that makes trade fairer, seeking to DO JUSTICE, LOVE KINDNESS, WALK HUMBLY WITH YOU (Micah 6:8)



# GREAT SPIRITUAL GIFT TO THE PLYMOUTH DIOCESE AND TO THE WEST COUNTRY

The Rt. Rev. Mark O'Toole, Bishop of Plymouth, has given a great spiritual gift not only to the diocese but to the whole of the West Country and much further afield by designating the church of Holy Angels in Torquay as a Shrine Church, and by handing over the new shrine to the care of the Canons of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest. Bishop Mark's pastoral concern for those faithful Catholics who adhere to the Tridentine Mass – many with large families who often feel forgotten and excluded – is concretely expressed by this gift of a permanent home. Catholics faithful to the E/F Mass in the Plymouth and Lanherne areas are already given full pastoral support by Canon Scott Smith I.C.K.S.P who is chaplain at Lanherne Convent in Cornwall, but this venture in the heart of the English Riviera at Torquay heralds a new and truly confident future.

The Prior of the Shrine, Canon Scott Tanner, along with the seminarian, Abbe Tanner Carlile, have made an immediate impression on the spiritual life of the area. Although present circumstances prevent them from accessing the adjacent presbytery (for the time being they reside

at St. Mary's Abbey, Buckfast), a skeleton schedule of daily Holy Mass, Vespers, Adoration, Benediction and regular Confession has been put in place. To have the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass offered every day at Holy Angels in the Traditional Rite is a great blessing, and we must thank Bishop Mark O'Toole for his pastoral concern by inviting the Institute to Torquay, and the Institute for taking up the offer. Canon Tanner celebrated the opening Sung Mass on the morning of Sunday 19th September, assisted by Abbe Carlile as MC, with a newly-formed serving team comprising of brothers Thomas, Raphael, and Joseph Oliver. Canon Montjean, the Institute's superior from New Brighton, sat in choir and gave the opening address and homily. We have to thank organist and choirmaster Andrew Proctor for giving up his time, and thanks too for the excellent choir members Dr. Mary Coghill, Patrick Oliver, Michael Crawford and Dr. Andrew Beards, all of whom sang the Latin Mass Propers with professional ease. Also deserving of thanks are Collette and Monica Oliver for producing cakes and goodies for consumption after Mass, along with Kitty Straghan, Margaret Carson, Pat Easton,



Maria Lunn, Helen Brown, Angie Baldwin, and Theresa Mortimer, all of whom helped to put smiles on faces with tea and coffee or assisted in setting up beforehand. Please also note that this opening Mass was filmed by Stefano Mazzeo, and will appear in the second episode of 'Christendom Rising', and, like episode one, will be well worth viewing (accessed on Youtube). If there is an organist willing to help out permanently at the 10.30am Sunday morning Sung Mass

please contact Canon Tanner by phone on 07763 277697 or email [torquay@dicksp.org.uk](mailto:torquay@dicksp.org.uk) as it would be much appreciated. Do note that after the initial Sunday 8.30am Novus Ordo, all other Masses and services on Sundays and weekdays are Traditional Old Rite. For full information about E/F Masses at Holy Angels Shrine and elsewhere in the diocese of Plymouth please see the Latin Mass Society's advert in this publication.

## Facts and Figures

Fairtrade was started in response to the dire struggles of Mexican coffee farmers following the collapse of world coffee prices in the late 1980s

There are over 6,000 Fairtrade products available to buy in UK shops

Think Fairtrade is just bananas, coffee and tea? Think again. You can also find Fairtrade ice cream, wine, flowers, spices, gold, massage oils, shaving oils, lipstick, hand balm, sun screen, face cream and face masks.

One in three bananas bought in the UK is Fairtrade

There is Fairtrade gold in some smartphones - Most smartphones contain a small amount of gold. Times that by the number of smartphones in the world and that is a lot of gold. Gold that has to be mined. This often involves dire working conditions, unfair pay, child labour and working with toxic chemicals that are harmful to human health and to the environment.

In Fairtrade's first 25 years, shoppers generated 1 billion Euros in Fairtrade Premium for farmers and workers

82% of UK consumers care about Fairtrade

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# Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



## Helping Us To Pray

"I don't know how to pray! I don't feel I am getting anywhere in my prayers!" Many of us have had these feelings at some point in our lives. Because prayer is based on faith, we cannot usually see instant results, and so we cannot measure its success. But we trust that God is listening and that he helps us in our lives. Sometimes we are able to pray spontaneously in our own words. Feelings and thoughts and desires for God well up in our hearts and express themselves directly. At other times, we can feel dry and arid in our prayer. What to say? What words can I use?

Generations of believers have used the psalms to express their prayers. Monks and nuns recite the psalms day by day as an anchor for their prayers. At each Mass we sing or say a psalm in response to the first scripture reading.

Many of our prayers are requests: "Dear God, please," while others are expressions of gratitude: "Dear God, thank you." Similarly, the Book of Psalms is full of petitions, often uttered out of the depths of need, while there are also many songs of thanksgiving for God's blessings.

One of the most moving cries for help is Psalm 130 (Latin Psalm 129). We often pray this psalm when someone has died, but it can be used at other times of distress: "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord,

hear my voice! O let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleading."

We acknowledge that we come before God as imperfect human beings, but we trust that God is merciful: "If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt, Lord, who would survive? But with you is found forgiveness: for this we revere you."

Often in the long nights of our distress, all we can do is to wait attentively: "My soul is waiting for the Lord. I count on his word. My soul is longing for the Lord, more than watchman for daybreak. Let the watchman count on daybreak, and Israel on the Lord."

If we recall past occasions when God has helped us, we can hope that God will again show us his mercy: "Because with the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption. Israel indeed he will redeem from all its iniquity."

When God has answered our prayer, we can voice our gratitude in a psalm of thanksgiving and praise. One song of infectious joy is Psalm 126 (Latin Psalm 125), celebrating the God-given end of captivity: "When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter; on our lips, there were songs."

The psalmist rejoices because others could see the God-given blessings: "The heathens themselves said, 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!' What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad."

Next, the psalmist prays that divine salvation may be complete: "Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage, as streams in dry land." He adds this expression of hope: "Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap."

Sometimes, in agriculture as in the process of childbirth, the initial labour is toilsome and painful: "They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing. They come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves."

In our own lives, our labours can often be toilsome, especially in this time of pandemic, but we are grateful when God blesses them with success. We can celebrate by expressing our thanksgiving in the words of a psalm.

For generations, people have found the psalms helpful in voicing our feelings and aspirations before God. A whole range of emotions is present, including sorrow, perplexity, doubt, trust, joy, and gratitude. Let us open our prayer books (or Bibles) and pray.

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# Brush Strokes

By Fr Tom Grufferty



## Echoes of a Parish Priest

Long before the famous fire I was once in Notre Dame de Paris. At 9.30 am I was joined by a group of about 400 people queuing to get inside the famous building. Once inside, it became instantly clear that the greater part of the crowd gathered to gaze at the three Rose Windows in the building. These windows must be the greatest masterpieces in glass in the whole world. People of all religions and none, were transfixed as they absorbed the vibrant colours. In many ways, this is a powerful way of prayer. As I looked at these people, I could see immediately that some, if not all, were praying.

Of course, we have prayed with images for centuries, and we are sometimes ridiculed for it, the Reformers and the iconoclastic movement being two examples. I would like to invite you to pray this Christmas with this painting. Mary Huntley, who is a friend, sent me this Christmas card many years ago. From the moment I first saw it, I loved the symbolism and I have kept the card in my treasure chest. It is by a German artist called Beate Heinen who created the work in 1986.

Before you read any further, just spend a few minutes looking at what the artist has done. Pause for a little while. Now read the Nativity Story, as told in Luke's Gospel (2:1-20) very carefully. Stop to ponder whenever you wish. Now look again at the painting. Your eyes are immediately drawn to the nativity scene. It is small, compact and easy on the eye. Like most nativity scenes, you are drawn to the crib. Hold on to

some of the things that Luke has just said to you personally. Notice that the scene is full. Mary is in blue as you would expect, Joseph is dressed in brown. Mary lovingly touches the hand of her Son. Look at Jesus. The crib is a marble coffin, which comes as a shock. But all will be made clear shortly.

Imagine you have the powers of a panoramic photo electron lens and move your eyes out to capture what the artist really wants you to see. The immediate surroundings are full of vegetation, colour and vibrancy. This is strangely unseasonal for the middle of winter in the Northern Hemisphere.

The first thoughts that came to my mind were that there could be some surprises in store in this painting. In the wider panorama, we have winter when it should be spring. Here the landscape is cold, bleak with snow and frost. Then you see the three crosses on Calvary ...winter has become spring and spring has become winter.

The artist knows only too well that the crib and the cross are integral parts of the same story. Christmas and Good Friday come together. This contradiction leads us to Jesus Himself when He explains the chief reason for the Incarnation. In John's Gospel, Jesus says to Pilate: "I was born for this, I came into the world for this, to bear witness to the truth and all who live by the truth listen to my voice" (John 18:37). Just before His crucifixion, death and resurrection, Jesus takes us to the Christmas Crib. What does Christmas

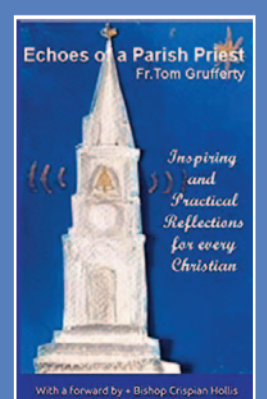
really say to you? How can you pray Christmas? We can only pray Christmas in the context of Calvary, and at the empty tomb. The crib is full, the tomb is empty. There is a powerful and inseparable correlation between the two places.

Now look at the painting again. Did you notice the Road of Life? There are three people on it, and I do not know who they are. Peter, James, and John, perhaps? They were with Jesus at least on Mount Tabor and in the Garden of Gethsemane, so why not here?

But I would really like to think these are three women for they look like women. Mary the Mother of Jesus, His great friend Mary of Magdala and Mary of Cleopas in John 19:25

All three are directly connected with Christmas and Easter. Mary as Mother is central to the crib, Mary Magdala is central to the crucifixion and Mary of Cleopas is engaged directly too.

But let me lead you into THE MOST PROFOUND contemplation ---the three people are us. You and me on the road of life between birth, death, and the RESURRECTION! Even in these pandemic days there is hope, love, mercy in our journey between death and eternity.





# View from the Pew

By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



## PARIS REVISITED

There's a Polish saying, I am told, that starts off along the lines of 'We spend our lives learning ...', much the same as the English expression 'You live and learn'. The Polish then continues with 'only to die stupid'. But I prefer to stick with 'The more you know, the more you know how little you know'. The point was keenly brought home to me on a recent family trip to Paris when, for the very first time, I visited the Musée d'Orsay on the South Bank. I'd never heard of Tarsicius till that chilly winter's day in Paris.

The musée stands on the Left Bank of the Seine barely disguising the fact that it is housed in the former Gare d'Orsay, a Beaux-Arts railway station built between 1898 and 1900. The museum holds French art dating mainly from the periods of Arts & Crafts, Art Nouveau and Art Deco, notably 1848 to 1914.

As I was to learn, Tarsicius or Tarcisus, a martyr of the early Christian church, is featured in a work by the sculptor Alexandre Falguière.

Not a lot is known about Tarsicius, who

lived in the 3rd century. What little we do know comes from a metrical inscription by Pope Damasus I, bishop of Rome from October 366 to his death in 384, who compares Tarsicius with St Stephen: St Stephen was stoned to death by a crowd; young Tarsicius, reputedly an acolyte carrying the Blessed Sacrament to condemned Christians in prison, preferred death at the hands of a mob rather than hand over the Blessed Sacrament he was carrying.

From the Musée d'Orsay it's not such a long walk, crossing one of the many bridges festooned with padlocks left clamped by couples to the railings in testimony to their love for each other, to Île de la Cité (an island in the Seine River) where stands Notre-Dame. You can't ever be in Paris and not visit the Cathédrale de Notre-Dame - generally referred to simply as Notre-Dame - especially since the horrendous fire of 15 April 2019 which, to the dismay of Catholics worldwide, destroyed a large part of the ancient roof and the spire: the misfortune tempered in part by the reports of what could be salvaged. Still



Reconstruction continues at Notre Dame.

temporarily closed, the Cathedral attracts streams of visitors either paying homage in prayer or simply curious as to how the ongoing reconstruction is developing.

As I return along the north bank, the stunning edifice of La Madeleine comes into view. It's at L'église Sainte-Marie-Madeleine - less formally, just La Madeleine - that I like to attend Mass for what I always think of as public affirmation of personal conviction. La Madeleine occupies a commanding position in the 8th arrondissement of Paris and looks south down the Rue Royale towards the Place de la Concorde.

To the east is the Place Vendôme, and to the west Saint Augustin. The Madeleine Church was designed in its present form as a temple to the glory of Napoleon's army, and later named for Jesus' companion, Mary Magdalene.

At Communion, attending Mass that Saturday evening after my visit to the Musée d'Orsay and then to the Île de la Cité, I looked at the host in the palm of my hand and thought how much others had had to suffer for me to receive the host without me perhaps really appreciating their sacrifice on my behalf.



St Tarsicius, patron saint of altar servers and first communicants



The altar at La Madeleine



This article is an extract from Dr Paul Dixon's forthcoming book, *The Road Pilgrim*. Over the coming months we shall be publishing extracts. For more details, email: [info@theroadpilgrim.com](mailto:info@theroadpilgrim.com)

# The Road Pilgrim

## Part One - Journeys

### Journey beginnings:

Why do we drive, ride or walk? Why do we do anything? In tapping into our inspiration for starting a journey, what will we find? We might be travelling to work, visiting family, going on holiday, or enjoying a solitary walk—yet a common thread underpins all our journeys, both on the road and along the highway of life. We want to be happy!

Are you happy? Could you be happier? Aquinas taught that when we choose what makes us truly happy it leads to God; but when we choose what does not make us truly happy it leads away from God. Is God at the beginning of your journeys through life?

### Journey planning:

You are going on a journey so you work out a route. You might circle places on a map, marking points along the way to your planned destination. Things, however, rarely go to plan. Roadblocks make you take a diversion, weather conditions slow you down, and other road users may bump into you, perhaps even try to force you off the road. Yet, without some sort of plan, one's journey would be aimless. It is the same with life; we need a plan, but a flexible one. Where are your marked circles as you contemplate your journey through life? The roadblocks on life's highway that frustrate your plans by taking you on detours may actually turn out to be the roads God wants you to

travel. Be patient and have faith. In the future, you will be better able to discern the hand of God, the hand of love, at work in your current present.

What is your true heart's desire? What are you truly passionate about? Is your heartfelt desire/passion helping you circle-dot the map of your future life? Jim Manney, S.J., explains that a key insight of Ignatius of Loyola was that in discovering what we really want, we thereby discover what God wants for us, since God places these desires in our heart.<sup>1</sup> This truth applies to everyone, yes, everyone, including you!

As a child, I loved doing numbered dot-to-dot pictures, keen to discover the image that lay hidden. I often struggled to find the next dot, and sometimes got them out of sequence. Yet by the end, I could usually make out the image—even if a little distorted through my mistakes. In following the mapped dots of our life's unknown, we journey in trust, knowing we will get some of the dots wrong.

Nevertheless, by following our passion, our heart and pursuing what we really want, we will have sketched upon the canvas of life a portrait of our true self, the person God wants us to be.

### Journey or pilgrimage:

On the pilgrimage of life, journey and destination coalesce. By walking with God, the pilgrim lives 'thy kingdom come thy



will be done on earth as it is in heaven'. God's kingdom of love is both a future perfect reality and a present imperfect reality. 'Run when you can, walk if you have to, crawl if you must but never give up' is a popular inspirational quote. It applies to the spiritual life too. Never giving up is great advice, but remember the spiritual journey will require changes to routes already taken if they are not now, or perhaps never were, leading to the God of love.

The gravestone dash (—) between date of birth and date of death, reminds us of the importance of making the most of life—your dash! 'The Dash' poem by Linda Ellis addresses this very point. On a pilgrim's tombstone, the dash functions more like an arrow (→), pointing the way through death's door to one's heavenly destination → the God of love.

### Journey homeward:

Homeward bound! Finding one's vocation brings a sense of coming home, a belonging, a sense of doing what you are supposed to be doing. Where is the path of love leading you? Who are you? In calling you home, what is the God of Love asking you to begin, to continue, to complete?

<sup>1</sup> Jim Manney SJ, *What Do You Really Want* (Huntington, IN: Our Sunday Visitor, Inc., 2015).

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**definition** /,defɪ'nɪʃən/ noun  
the meaning of something  
dictionary definition 2 (U)  
something is to a phrase

## CSW looks at the word "Fairtrade"

The first attempts to commercialize fair trade goods in Northern markets were initiated in the 1940s and 1950s by religious groups and various politically oriented non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

Fair trade is an arrangement designed to help producers in growing countries achieve sustainable and equitable trade relationships. Members of the fair trade movement add the payment of higher prices to exporters, as well as improved social and environmental standards.

The movement focuses in particular on commodities, or products that are typically exported from developing countries to developed countries

On 6 June 2008, Wales became the world's first Fair Trade Nation. The fair trade movement is popular in the UK, where there are over 500 Fairtrade towns, 118 universities, over 6,000 churches, and over 4,000 UK schools registered in the Fairtrade Schools Scheme.

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# A Cornish Pilgrimage to Walsingham

## Our Parish

We are in the far west of Cornwall, and our parish includes Penzance, Hayle and St Ives. The Parish Church, dedicated to the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady, is in Penzance. Opened in October 1843, it is the oldest and largest Catholic Church in Cornwall. There has been an annual Cornish pilgrimage to Walsingham since 1990, except for 2020 (Covid). First established by the Knights of St Columba, it has been animated since 1996 by our Parish Treasurer (and Treasure) Christine Pearce. Canon Philip Dyson, our Parish Priest, is our spiritual director. And let's not forget our regular driver Val, of Mounts Bay Coaches.

## A Pilgrimage

Going on a pilgrimage has become popular in recent years. The Camino de Santiago (St. James' Way) across northern Spain attracts thousands from all over the world. In Cornwall several ancient pilgrim routes that feed into the Camino have been re-opened. Something in many of us has a longing to search for meaning and peace in our lives.

Scripture tells us that we are a pilgrim people. "I am a pilgrim on the earth." (Psalm 119:19) "We have no lasting city in this life but we look for one in the life to come." (Hebrews 13:14) A pilgrimage is a journey in faith to a shrine: a sign in a particular place, of the active presence of the Lord, of Mary His Blessed Mother, and the Saints and Angels. A shrine is also made holy by the prayers of the faithful. Pilgrim journeys are not meant to be easy. The coach journey from Penzance takes about 12 hours, allowing for pick-ups from several other parishes in the far-flung Diocese of Plymouth, and for several comfort stops en route. We were grateful for Christine's everlasting bag of sweets.

As we crossed the Tamar Bridge into England we prayed the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be for a safe and successful pilgrimage.

Long journeys have advantages too. As well as praying together, we can relax and enjoy ourselves. All good pilgrimages are convivial and full of laughter. We meet up with old friends and make new ones in a community in which we share faith, hope and love. Time spent with fellow pilgrims on the coach, at meal times, or in a cafe or pub is always precious.

Some of our parish pilgrims are frail, our oldest being 88. On our pilgrimage the words of Jesus are so true "The last shall be first." (Matthew 20:16) The weakest are always VIPs, enjoying the ungrudging support of all who travel with them. Our youngest pilgrim aged 22 was a great help to us.

## Walsingham: A Potted History

Walsingham is a small village in rural north Norfolk, a few miles inland from Wells-Next-the-Sea.

It was here in 1061 that the Lady of the Manor had visions of the Holy House of Nazareth, where Mary and Joseph brought up the child Jesus. Our Lady asked her to build a copy of that house and promised: "whoever seeks my help there will not go away empty-handed." The house she built was called "England's Nazareth." Gradually pilgrims arrived from all over our



country. Kings from Henry III in 1226 to Henry VIII in 1511 came, and Walsingham became one of the great shrines of the medieval Christian world: Jerusalem, Rome and St James (Santiago) of Compostella.

All this came to an end with the Dissolution of the Monasteries and the Reformation. Much was destroyed in 1538 and now just one arch remains of the great Priory Church. A plaque marks the spot where the original Holy house stood.

## The Catholic Revival

The first pilgrimage in modern times was made in August 1897. A small group of pilgrims prayed outside the Slipper Chapel, a mile from the village. This once derelict fourteenth-century chapel was the place where pilgrims would leave their shoes (slippers) to walk the rest of their journey barefoot. It was in August 1934 that the first National Pilgrimage was held attracting a crowd of 12,000 led by Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster and the local Bishop, who encouraged pilgrims to come to Walsingham.

In recent years the Catholic Shrine has been expanded with the building of the Chapel of Reconciliation (1981) symbolising the need to bring the Christian communities closer together. The Slipper Chapel was named a minor Basilica in 2015 by Pope Francis.

The Re-dedication of England as Mary's Dowry was made in March 2020. There is also a bookshop and, very importantly, a tearoom.

## The Anglican Revival.



SANTA CASA DI LORETO

Devotion to Our Lady was revived in the Parish Church in 1922 by its newly appointed vicar. In the Anglo-Catholic tradition, his vision and energy enabled him to build a Holy House in 1931, based on the Holy House of Loreto (1290) in Italy. There is evidence that many of the stones used in the House at Loreto were rescued from the original House in Nazareth, at a time when many churches and buildings in the Holy Land were being destroyed. Within the building itself there is a well where visitors can be blessed with this spring water. Visits to this shrine are highly recommended.

At Walsingham, the Catholic and Anglican shrines are at opposite ends of the village. In our time, thank the Lord, both shrines work for Christian Unity, specifically asked for by Jesus Himself: "that they may all be one... so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17:21)

Now that Christians of all beliefs are tiny minorities, prayer for the visible unity of all believers is so essential.

Both shrines have a carved statue of our Lady of Walsingham based on the figure on an ancient Abbey wax seal preserved in the British Museum.

## Our Week in Walsingham



Above all we rejoiced with the Mother of God in the truth that "The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." (John 1:14) – the essential message of Walsingham. We began each day with the Angelic Salutation or Angelus (from the opening word of the Latin prayer.) There was daily Mass in the Parish Church of the Annunciation near the pilgrims' accommodation or at the Chapel of Reconciliation. There was time for Confessions, Rosary, and Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. We said Morning and Evening Prayer together. On the first morning we walked in procession with the statue of Our Lady from outside the Church of the Annunciation to the Chapel of Reconciliation, along the Holy Mile. One evening we had a Pilgrim Service and a candle-lit procession to the garden. The stars were wonderful too.

If all this seems rather intense, there were two Days Out to Sandringham and Norwich. We also had a hilarious Beetle Drive and time to explore the village on our own before facing the long journey home. On that journey I gently "grilled" some of our pilgrims about what they had received from Our Lady. Several told me that they had found something of the peace that must have reigned in the original Holy House of Nazareth. One pilgrim felt "the need to pray for our mad, restless world."

As we approached Cornwall, there was a vivid sunset calling to mind the words of the well-known hymn, "For all the Saints"

"The golden evening brightens in the west, soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest...."

When we got back to Penzance at 19.55 night had fallen.

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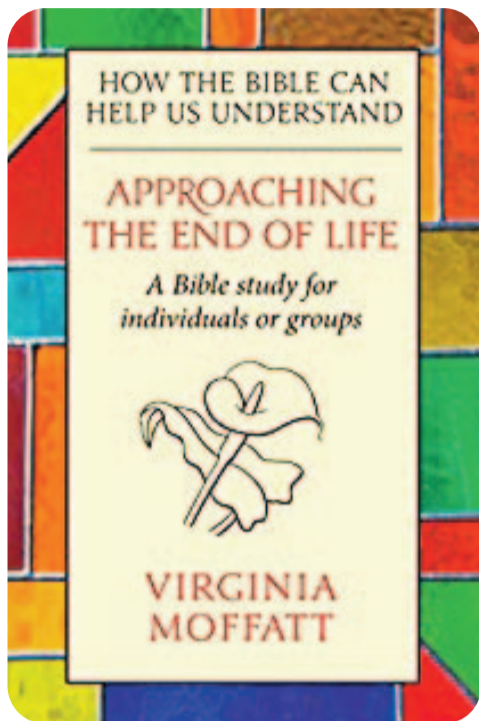
In May 1982 Pope (now Saint) John Paul II celebrated Mass in Wembley Stadium during his visit to Great Britain. On the altar was the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. In his homily the Holy Father said "In England, the "Dowry of Mary," the faithful for centuries have made pilgrimages to her shrine at Walsingham. It is Mary who will teach us how to be silent, how to listen for the Word of God in the midst of a busy and noisy world. It is Mary who will help us find time for prayer. Through the rosary, that great Gospel prayer, she will help us to know Christ."

And a final thought from St Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury (d.1109) "Without God's Son, nothing could exist: without Mary's Son, nothing could be redeemed."

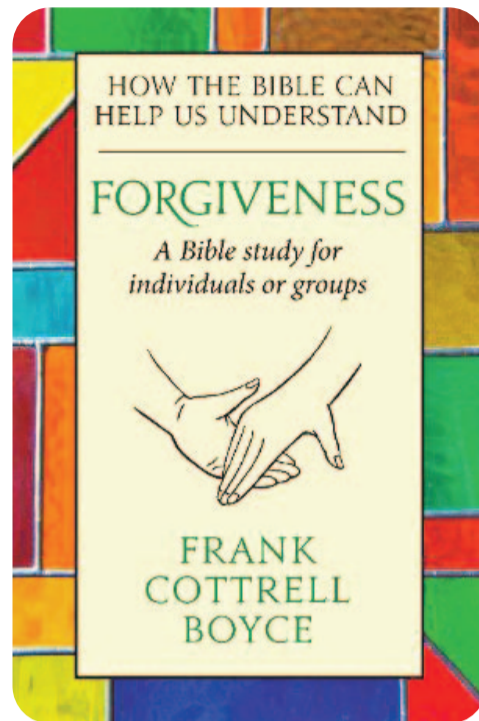
Fr. David Annear, Penzance.



# REVIEWS



**APPROACHING THE  
END OF LIFE**  
Virginia Moffatt  
DLT, pbk, 128 pages, 2020,  
£7.99



**FORGIVENESS**  
Frank Cottrell-Boyce  
DLT, pbk, 124 pages,  
pbk, 2020 £7.99

These two books are the first in a series How The Bible Can Help Us Understand, a Bible study for individuals or groups, produced in pairs with overlapping themes, which use the Revised New Jerusalem Bible [RNJB] text for all scripture quotes and passages. Helpfully, the Bible passages are easy to pick out, as they are all simply framed. Virginia Moffatt is the series editor, and the writer of the very first volume to be issued. As stated in the Series Introduction, "each author has been commissioned to write from their own lived experience, using their personal response to Key Bible passages to throw a light on the topic under discussion, reinforcing the intent of the RNJB to be a Bible for "study and proclamation". Each chapter is broken up

into parts, which may be useful either for individual or group use. The Introduction also provides a "How to use" section, reminding the reader/studier/prayer that the author invites them to agree or disagree as appropriate. Each chapter invites the reader to go further, and offers cultural helps, including films, poetry and books.

In the Moffatt book there are five chapters, beginning with the inevitability of death, which is somewhat solemn. The writer then moves on to preparing for death and the act of dying, using her own experience of her dying mother. Next, in the longest chapter, she centres on the issues surrounding how to control the end of life, and ends with a chapter on life

after death. She concludes with a favourite piece of John 12.23-26, the grain of wheat.

Frank Cottrell-Boyce has a different "feel" about his stories of forgiveness. His life in media has given him a delightful ease and style of storytelling. His six chapters centre on: the man who ran; the woman in the dust; the man with three thousand camels; the boy in the well; the merchant who threw the figstone; and let it end here. In other words: the prodigal son; the woman taken in adultery; Job; Joseph; the

## PATHWAYS TO A DECISION

With Ignatius of Loyola  
Jim Maher SJ  
Messenger Publications  
pbk, 102 pages, 2020, £11.95

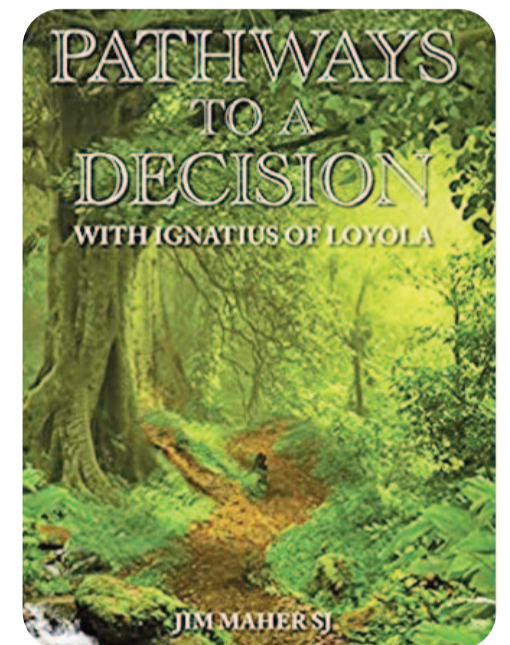
This book is worth its weight in gold. It is obviously the result of deeply-lived Jesuit experience, and is an excellent tool for handing on the Ignatian spirituality way of learning how to make good decisions. Written with simplicity, the author, who has worked for decades with young people – and it shows! – provides an easy and accessible way into Ignatian wisdom.

Written in the era of covid-19 – see page 58 – it is so refreshing in tone, with its clarity of purpose expressed on page 7, and its superb summary on page 101, followed by a useful bibliography. There are ten short chapters, all centred on aspects of the seminal Spiritual Exercises [SE] of St Ignatius. He moves from the Principle and Foundation at the start of the SE, through desires, thoughts and feelings; delves into the Discernment of Spirits; finding God in all things; the Examen of Consciousness; speaks of "The Hurt"; gives Ignatius' six dispositions for decision-making; and six ways to lead to a good decision; and the need for oasis moments in our lives. Dotted throughout the text there are also useful diagrams which sum up the writer's theme.

He uses the image of the Loyola family crest with the two wolves rampant aside a cauldron as an image of the good and bad spirit. He peppers the text with well-chosen snippets of poetry which enhance

the argument. And even the front cover of a path splitting in a wood sets the scene and the tone of the whole.

This promises to be an encouraging and helpful series, written from lived experience, enabling a deeper insight, understanding and love of scripture, and it does what it says on the label – shows how the bible can be of practical help in some of the key moments and aspects of living that all of us have to face into as friends and followers of Jesus.



the argument. And even the front cover of a path splitting in a wood sets the scene and the tone of the whole.

This is the sort of text that should be given out to anyone who is seriously pondering a possible vocation as a priest or religious, and that vocations directors would do more than well to have a stock of in their hands. Likewise, anyone, woman or man, who wants to make good decisions when they feel the call to go deeper in their following of Jesus. And it is a wonderful refresher course, not least for Jesuits themselves! I loved the whole "feel" of the book, and Jim Maher has done a great service to the Church in this pandemic era.

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Sundays 9.45 – 10.15 am Confessions.

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You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same.

**CRYPTIC Across**

- 1 Carbon, ie a chemical which does not need oxygen (9)
- 6 Nuke half of Mexican revolutionary forces away (3)
- 8 Polished, quiet type (5)
- 9 Knight is honourable, meeting bridge opponents beforehand (7)
- 10 Girls out east make good tumblers (7)
- 11 Skim over ice, finding fish (5)
- 12 Curious to-ing and fro-ing around North Dakota with a large number seeing giants (3,3,5)
- 17 Acquire a service (5)
- 19 Chemical required to address speed of head infestation (7)
- 21 One thousand and one, plus the gallery's copy (7)
- 22 Sound the hooter around one (5)
- 23 12 book to leave German port for Riviera beauty spot (3)
- 24 A Beatle composition's absorbing or marked by complexity (9)

**CRYPTIC Down**

- 1 Nominate Grant? (6)
- 2 Officer commanding these days is into flipped eggs and fruit (7)
- 3 Swims with river fish (5)
- 4 Agedness label tortured this penitent (7,6)
- 5 Rummy type of American a starring part's made for (7)
- 6 Crossing borders of zone needing some support (5)
- 7 Unknown number doing a flit from here default (6)
- 13 Moderate as you get older, so to speak, being a fool earlier (7)

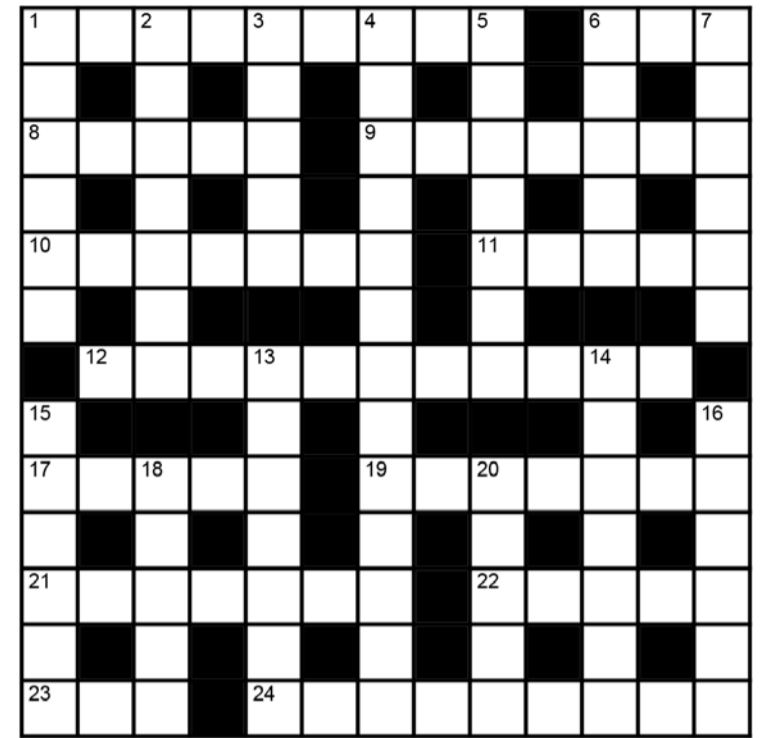
- 14 Award, which Sondheim initially ignored, in a musical piece (7)
- 15 Want notoriety without being fashionable (6)
- 16 Retire always around the end of the year to do return (6)
- 18 Correspondent to go with article headline (5)
- 20 Dance beat has energy (5)

**QUICK Across**

- 1 Living or active in the absence of free oxygen (9)
- 6 Cook or heat in a microwave oven; shoot (3)
- 8 Emitted light; stood out (5) 9 Configure honour upon (7)
- 10 Tumblers; spectacles (7)
- 11 Travel on ice; flat fish (5)
- 12 Nations under the dominion of Satan [Rev] (3,3,5)
- 17 Compile; collect (5)
- 19 Natural potassium or sodium fertilizer (7)
- 21 Ape; mimic (7)
- 22 Din; interference (5)
- 23 Riviera cliff-top resort near Monaco (3)
- 24 Explain further; complex (9)

**QUICK Down**

- 1 Attribute; transfer (6)
- 2 Shade of green tinged with yellow; tropical fruit (7)
- 3 Winders for film or thread; energetic dances (5)
- 4 Penitent (1248-1309) of Foligno, near Assisi (7,6)
- 5 Card game (7) 6 Black-and-white striped African



- equine (5)
- 7 Predetermined; default (6)
- 13 Cause to be more favourably inclined; gain the good will of (7) 14 Egg-shaped terracotta wind instrument (7)
- 15 Acute insufficiency; dearth (6)
- 16 Move away; retire (6)
- 18 Similar; equally (5)
- 20 Ballroom dance of Latin-American origin (5)

**SOLUTION**

Across: 1 Anaerobic, 6 Zap, 8 Shone, 9 Ennoble, 10 Glasses, 11 Skate, 12 Gog and Magog, 17 Amass, 19 Nitrate, 21 Imitate, 22 Noise, 23 Eze, 24 Elaborate. Down: 1 Assign, 2 Avocado, 3 Reels, 4 Blessed Angela, 5 Canasta, 6 Zebra, 7 Preset, 13 Assuage, 14 Ocarina, 15 Famine, 16 Recede, 18 Alike, 20 Tango.

**Words to live by...**

“ Little by little, a little becomes a lot!  
**Tanzanian Proverb** ”

You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them.  
 That's how prayer works.  
**Pope Francis** ”

“ Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. Sometimes it falls on a generation to be great. You can be that great generation.  
**Nelson Mandela** ”

Fair trade is about improving lives. But we don't do that through charity – there are no hand outs in the fair trade world.  
**Paul Rice** ”

“ Don't raise your voice, improve your argument.  
**Archbishop Desmond Tutu** ”

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