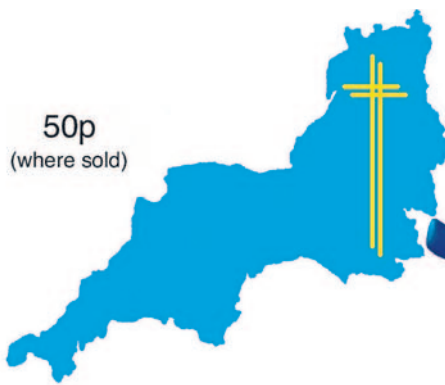


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Catholic *South West*

Serving the
Church in the
South West

April 2022

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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.

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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,

Whilst we prepare for Easter, this is a chance for new beginnings. We think about the things we have done wrong and the areas of our life we need to change, sometimes areas of our lives or our personality we would rather not address.

We also think about the suffering in the Ukraine and the people who have been displaced, injured and bereaved. Lent is often a time when we think about giving things up, perhaps this Lent could be a time to take something else on. There is something we can do to support the people in Ukraine: there are many different projects around the South West that we could support, we start

something new ourselves, or we can commit to prayer for all those who are suffering right now.

This could be a great opportunity to prepare for Easter and help those in their time of greatest need.

CSW TEAM

Bishop of Plymouth: Use armour of prayer, fasting for Ukraine this Lent

The Bishop of Plymouth and Chair of the Department of Evangelisation and Discipleship at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is urging Catholics to use the "spiritual weapons" of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for the people of Ukraine this Lent.

By Lydia O'Kane

Over the last week, the world has seen the destructive power of weapons used on the people of Ukraine. But Bishop Mark is asking the faithful to use the spiritual weapons of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving during Lent to bring comfort to this afflicted population. He is encouraging people to go to Mass this Ash Wednesday to pray for peace in Ukraine. His call follows that of Pope Francis to observe 2 March as a Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace.

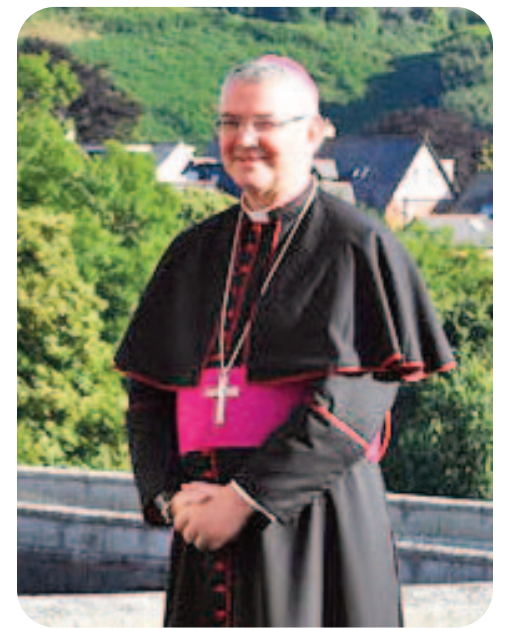
In a Pastoral Message to parishes in the Diocese of Plymouth, in southwest England, the bishop, who is also Chair of the Department of Evangelisation and Discipleship at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, writes

that at this time people feel somewhat helpless as the reality of war sinks in.

Spiritual weapons

Speaking to Vatican Radio, Bishop O'Toole said the spiritual weapons we have been graced with can really make a difference. "Approaching this holy season of Lent and these disciplines which have been given to us of prayer, of fasting, and almsgiving, we can focus in a particular way this Lent to hope to draw down the fruits of God's grace through the little sacrifices that we undertake for our beloved brothers and sisters who are suffering in this part of our continent."

"Where there is a lack of love, where there is immense suffering, where there is immense hardship; yes we seek to



practically assist but through the weapons of prayer and of fasting we seek to bring God's grace into those situations," he observed.

To hear the full interview, go to vaticannews.va



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!

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Long disused Catholic church in Devon to receive £196,832 grant for repair

Historic England has awarded a grant of £196,832 to help repair a Catholic Church in Barnstaple, Devon, that closed for worship in 1984 and was threatened with demolition.

The former Church of the Immaculate Conception, known as Old St Mary's, is a Grade II listed building. The Diocese of Plymouth is supporting the cost of the first phase of repairs. Work has recently commenced to:

- * stabilise the chancel arch and buttresses by inserting steel pins and ties
- * restore and repoint the exterior stonework
- * mend the roof structure and re-slate some areas
- * repair the windows

The work is due to be completed summer 2022. The building will then dry out while plans for its re-use are fully developed, working with the local community.

Repair not demolish

The church opened in 1855 to serve the growing community in the Trinity area of Barnstaple. Following its closure as a place of worship in 1984, there were proposals for it to be demolished. Now there is a concerted effort to repair the building and bring it back into use.

Selaine Saxby, MP for North Devon, said: "I know the Trinity Street community in Barnstaple have worked hard over many years to persuade the Diocese of Plymouth to repair and restore this church so that it can be used by the community."

It is wonderful news that the Diocese has started this project and that Historic



England has stepped in to help fund the much-needed structural work. I look forward to seeing the plans on how we can bring this amazing building back to life."

Rebecca Barrett, Regional Director at Historic England, said: "It's great to see the repairs to this remarkable building underway. We hope our support, and that of the Diocese, will secure it for generations to come."

Sir Neil Butterfield, a Diocesan Trustee and Chairman of the Project Board, said: "The Diocese of Plymouth is very grateful to Historic England for its generous contribution towards the cost of restoring and renovating this important Catholic landmark in Barnstaple."

"For too long the former church has stood neglected and forlorn: it is an exciting prospect that at last the building can be restored and brought back into use."

History

The church was one of the earliest post-Reformation Catholic churches to be built in Devon. It was designed to serve the community of the Trinity area of Barnstaple which was growing rapidly in the early 19th century.

The site was purchased in 1842 and the church opened for worship in 1855. It is one of the earliest and arguably the most accomplished piece of Romanesque Revival design in the county.

When the church opened in 1855, the North Devon Journal reported that it had been designed by A W N Pugin (1812-1852), the celebrated pioneer of English Gothic Revival architecture and designer of the interior of the Palace of Westminster and the Elizabeth Tower, which houses Big Ben. However, it is more likely that the architect was Gideon Boyce of Tiverton and the building was completed by R D Gould of Barnstaple.

The Church of the Immaculate Conception functioned as the Roman Catholic place of worship for the people of Barnstaple and its surrounding area up to 1984, when a larger church, known as St Mary's, was built alongside. St Mary's remains an active church with Mass taking place during the week and on Sunday as well as regular Weddings, Baptisms, and Funerals. The Catholic Parish of the Immaculate Conception covers a large geographical area including the towns of Barnstaple and South Molton, many local villages, and parts of Exmoor. There are two churches in the parish – the Parish Church of St Mary, Immaculate Mother of God, in Barnstaple and the Church of St Joseph in South Molton. The Parish Priest is Canon Peter Morgan.

Photographs courtesy of Canon Peter Morgan Parish Priest

Around the South West

Taunton Musician receives Citizen's Award from the High Sheriff of Somerset



Luis Martelo, a busker well known to Taunton shoppers was presented with the Citizen of Somerset Award by Thomas Sheppard, the High Sheriff of Somerset at a recent gathering of the Taunton Rotary Club.

Luis has a background in meeting challenges and helping others. He was thanked by the retailers Hatchers for the work he did to prevent shoplifting, taking a constructive approach to reduce crime but also assist the perpetrators. He is currently building his skills as a boxer and will be boxing in aid of the Children's Hospice South West.

No challenge is too big for Luis and he is well known for his superlative trumpet playing. Despite winning many music awards Luis, who is a veteran and originally from Portugal busks in a number of Somerset towns including Taunton. When approached to see if he could help with the commemorative Concert to the Royal British Legion last November (2021), Luis and his band not only gave of their time to help the Rotary choir practise but also performed at the event. The event raised over £3,000 for charity and Luis' trumpet rang out for the last post.

Louis lives with his wife and 5 children in Taunton. He is a true 'Friend of Rotary' and a dedicated and talented man.

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Decide to remain on board

Gregg Watts



When the Evergreen container ship got stuck in the Suez Canal last year, it was carrying 18,300 containers, but it only had a crew of twenty-five on board. While ships like this mean that goods can be delivered more quickly and cheaply than ever before, for seafarers there is less time for rest, more stress, and often a sense of isolation.

Stella Maris port chaplains, such as Wojciech Holub, who covers Tilbury and London Gateway in Essex, see at first hand the effects of the modernisation of shipping. Nowadays, modern ports are very far from town and cities, where at one time seafarers could spend time ashore.

"I know that many seafarers who have a few hours rest can't be bothered leaving the seafarers welfare centre at the London Gateway terminal, as it involves going through tight security checks which take about an hour to get out and the same time to get back in. So, they decide to remain on board."

Huge container ships like the Evergreen carry everything from computers and clothes to parts for cars and food. We might be more familiar with airports than ports, but around 90% of goods imported to the UK arrive by ship. The seafarers on board are likely to be from the Philippines, India, or Eastern Europe.

Quick turnarounds, explains Wojciech, mean ships visiting more ports, more moorings and lashings (securing cargoes), and more paperwork. Seafarers have little time to relax. "What matters most is the maximum cargo to be shifted around the globe making maximum profit for the owners. Seafarers' welfare is yet to catch up," he says.

There is a growing awareness in the maritime industry of the mental health of

seafarers. Being away from their families for up to nine months, having little shore leave, and sometimes dealing with bullying or racism on board can place an enormous strain on some seafarers, who do what is, arguably, one of the toughest jobs in the world. Wojciech has helped to repatriate some seafarers who felt unable to cope anymore with the situation on board. "Often too much and prolonged pressure on board leads seafarers to suffer silently and complete their contract because they don't want to return home with the stigma of being mentally weak."

Seafarers rely on the internet to keep in touch with their families back home. However, not all vessels have an internet connection and with those that do, access to the crew is sometimes restricted.

Yet even when seafarers have access to the internet they can still feel isolated when issues come up at home, says Rev Doug Duncan, Stella Maris port chaplain in Aberdeen. "I had a recent example of a Russian captain whose house was flooded, and his wife had to deal with it. He was being bombarded with photos of the devastation and was unable to help. He was trying to arrange with his company a replacement to allow him to return. He felt helpless being stuck in Scotland while this was happening back home."

Stella Maris port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors are a lifeline to seafarers when they arrive in a port. Amongst other things, they provide sim cards, mobile WiFi units, woolly hats, and transport to local shops or medical centres.

Anne McLaren, Stella Maris port chaplain in Hull, explained that seafarers' centres play an important role. "The Hull Seafarers' Centre can provide a quiet space for seafarers to unwind and to create a 'home from home' where they



can relax away from the noise and bustle of their vessel as being onboard the same for many months at a time can be stressful. As the centre provides free WiFi they can contact their families back home which is especially important for them to maintain that contact and they can speak to a chaplain or volunteer if they wish."

When social restrictions were in place during the Covid pandemic, Stella Maris chaplains could only communicate with seafarers from the gangway or through social media. Doug says he found this frustrating. "There is no better way than sitting and listening to seafarers tell you about their lives. Some seafarers portray a happy disposition, but it is only when you sit and chat with them, away from the mess room, that they will open up."

A high percentage of seafarers are Catholic, and one of the tasks of port chaplains is to help them feel part of the Church, especially at times such as in Lent and at Easter. Last year, Doug arranged for seafarers to go to confession. "Some seafarers had

requested confession before Easter and contacted me to see if this could be arranged. Their vessel on arriving in Aberdeen was required to go back out to another location in the North Sea within two days. I contacted the local priest, Fr Gabor at St Peter's Church, who was delighted to help. And so my Stella Maris car was turned into a mobile confessional box. Wearing full Covid PPE, seafarers went into the rear of the vehicle with the priest sat in the front."

To many seafarers, faith is essential, said Doug. "Knowing and believing someone is by their side in all situations gives them some comfort. I hear stories of seafarers who have had to face violent storms at sea. Even some of the seafarers who are not religious have thanked God for getting them through them."

Anne, and her work supporting seafarers, is featured in Stella Maris' Lent Appeal. If readers would like to donate to support the work of Stella Maris, they can do so via this link www.stellamaris.org.uk/lent

Charity announces extra aid for Ukraine

By John Newton

WITH Russian military attacks in Ukraine increasing – including recent shelling of a hospital in Mariupol – a leading Catholic charity has announced fresh aid for Churches helping those suffering because of the conflict.

Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will be providing assistance of more than £250,000 – in addition to the more than £830,000 already sent – to help priests and members of religious orders helping people fleeing devastation and others affected by the war.

Bishop Stanislaw Szyrokoradiuk of Odessa expressed thanks to all those helping during the time of crisis but singled out ACN for praise.

He said: "I would especially like to thank Aid to the Church in Need.

"It was the first organisation which asked me: 'What should we do? How can we help?' Thank you for this readiness to help."

Throughout Ukraine, ACN has been backing both the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and the smaller Roman Catholic Church whose projects are helping those in dire need.

The charity has prioritised aid for eastern Ukraine, where more than 1 million IDPs (internally displaced persons) have fled the combat zone, and support for clergy and Sisters in parts of western Ukraine where there has been a massive influx of internal refugees.

The Archdiocese of Ivano-Frankivsk, western Ukraine, has been looking after IDP women and children since the fighting began, providing three meals a day and shelter.

A seminary in the diocese is accommodating 160 people, while another 230 are being housed at other locations including St Basil's School and a youth centre.

Not everyone has a bed, and many are sleeping on mattresses on the floor.

Those who need medical care are receiving help at Saint Luke's Clinic.

In the capital, Kiev, which has been under fire from Russian Federation forces since 24th February, the Church is providing emergency shelter.

Fr Roman Laba, who is based in Kiev's Bowary suburb, told ACN: "Many people came to the parish looking for help and shelter, and so we have set up emergency accommodation in the basement of our monastery and in the unfinished monastery church."

The charity has received messages of gratitude for its support from bishops, priests and Sisters across Ukraine. Bishop Pavlo Honcharuk of Kharkiv-Saporischschja who is based in Kharkiv, where residential areas were destroyed by shelling earlier this week, thanked ACN and its supporters. He said: "[W]e are very grateful for the mobilisation of so many people, not only all over Ukraine, but also abroad.

"I would like to especially thank the benefactors who, through ACN, fulfil their calling to show mercy and love."



Pope Francis recites prayer for Ukraine

Forgive us for war, Lord.

Lord Jesus, son of God, have mercy on us sinners.

Lord Jesus, born under the bombs of Kyiv, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, dead in the arms of mother in Kharkiv, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, in the 20-year-olds sent to the frontline, have mercy on us.

Lord Jesus, who continues to see hands armed with weapons under the shadow of the cross, forgive us Lord.

Forgive us that, if not content with the nails which we pierced your hand, we continue to drink from the blood of the dead torn apart by weapons.

Forgive us if these hands that you had created to protest, have been turned into instruments of death.

Forgive us Lord if we continue to kill our brother.

Forgive us. Lord, if we continue to kill or brother, if we continue like Cain to remove the stones from our camp to kill Abel.

Forgive us, if we continue to justify cruelty with our efforts, if with our pain, we legitimise the cruelty of our actions. Forgive us the war, Lord.

Lord Jesus Christ, son of God, we implore you to stop the hand of Cain, enlighten our conscience, let not our will be done, do not abandon us to our own doing.

Stop us, Lord, stop us and when you have stopped the hand of Cain, take care of him also.

He is our brother.

O Lord, stop the violence. Stop us, Lord Amen.

Composed by Italian Archbishop Domenico Battaglia of Naples

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Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



Crushed by the Empire's Power

As I write these lines, war in Ukraine is causing great hardship to millions of people. Homes have been wrecked, lives have been destroyed, and millions of people have fled for safety to nearby countries.

One empire has sought to dominate a neighbouring land, imposing its control by military force. Sometimes it seems as if individual lives are worth very little in a larger struggle for domination.

On Palm Sunday we will hear the story of Jesus' suffering and death, as recounted by St Luke. We hear how one innocent person was killed, because he was viewed as a threat to the power of the dominant empire.

Despite being accused of rebelling against the imperial power, he himself had not advocated violence. While he was being arrested, he had not resisted. When one of his disciples took out a sword (perhaps a long dinner knife) and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant, Jesus

had healed the victim. Aggression and violence were not part of his agenda.

In more peaceful times, Jesus had said: "Seek first for God's kingdom, and everything else you need will be given to you." He had taught his hearers about the kingdom of God, where the poor and downtrodden are lifted up. Yet his words were twisted when he was put on trial: "We found this man inciting our people to revolt."

Later Jesus had declared: "Render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." These words were also twisted at his trial before Pilate: "We found this man opposing the payment of taxes to Caesar."

Peter had previously recognised Jesus as the Christ—the divinely anointed king of the Jews. This title was quoted at his trial: "We found this man claiming to be the Christ." He had accepted that title but had gone on to announce that the Son of man would suffer terribly. Although Pilate could see that Jesus

was not a political agitator, he feared the crowds howling for Jesus' death and so he yielded to the mob and granted their demands. A pilgrim from North Africa (Simon of Cyrene) was commandeered to carry the cross, and Jesus was led out for execution.

Even when he was being nailed to the cross, Jesus did not want his death to be the cause for revenge against his executioners. Instead he prayed: "Father, forgive them, because they don't realise what they are doing."

Other victims of military violence have often been buried in a mass grave or covered by rubble. In this case, at least Joseph of Arimathea now stepped in to ensure a decent burial for Jesus' body—even if the process was rushed because of the coming day of rest.

The mighty Roman empire was intent on crushing any perceived threat to its control, but a higher Lord would intervene. Jesus had accepted doing the Father's will and had drunk the cup of

suffering to the end. Now God would show his almighty power.

When Mary Magdalene and her friends went to Jesus' tomb on Easter morning, they were amazed to find that the stone had been rolled away by an invisible hand. The two angels spoke to them: "Why look among the dead for someone who is alive? He is not here. He has risen!"

The imperial authorities had inflicted terrible pain on Jesus, but this was not the whole story, because God would have the last word. Even the mighty strength of a human empire has its limits.

God smashed the power of death by raising Jesus to life again. Ultimately no earthly power could hold Jesus captive. His saving death and resurrection gives us a way out from the deadly path of domination and destruction. This Holy Week, let us unite ourselves with Christ crucified and risen, praying that his peace may come to the world.

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POOLE SCHOOL LEADS THE WAY THROUGH STUDENT VIRTUES



Poole based secondary school, St Edward's is a joint-church school, one of very few in the country, where the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches work together in educating young people. It has a diverse and inclusive student base of over one thousand students aged between 11- 18 years old.

Whilst it is tempting for schools to focus on just academic outcomes, St Edward's is committed to not only sustaining

outstanding academic performance, but equally on preparing young people to live life to the full. This means setting high expectations for learning, and also nurturing each student's spiritual and moral formation. One of the ways that St Edward's achieves this is through encouraging the development of virtues, which are noticed and celebrated throughout the school day. The rewards system, built on the development of virtues, overarches the

students' whole school journey at St Edward's. The virtues of Wisdom, Discipline, Humanity, Courage and Spirituality are the principle focus, and each teacher is able to log and reward students when they identify a virtue being demonstrated throughout the school day. In Years 11 and 13, students who have accumulated the most rewards get recognised at an annual awards ceremony and are presented with a stunning trophy whilst their name becomes inscribed on an honours board in the School's Legacy Chapel to inspire future generations of students.

This is a straightforward but inspiring school rewards model as Paul Tansey, CEO of the Intergage Group, Non-Exec Director at Dorset Chamber of Commerce & Industry & Chair Of The Board Of Trustees at MYTIME Young Carers described after presenting the awards in

previously pointed out; "This system is simple and brilliant. As a result, I got to hand out prizes to great young people for what really matters in life - many of whom would have been overlooked by the traditional educational system. As an employer if you had to choose between two otherwise identical CVs but one candidate's CV cited awards for leadership, kindness, love of learning and courage, which would you select?"

If you are an organisation or business interested in supporting St Edward's students and their Virtue Awards please get in touch with the school cbulloch@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk As well as the five virtue awards, the school also offers sponsorship of its student Progress and Attainment awards. More details can be found on the website at <https://st-edwards.poole.sch.uk/information/awardsponsorship/>

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Contact the school's Marketing Officer cbulloch@st-edwards.poole.sch.uk for more information or visit the website [Information/Community/Awards Sponsorship](https://st-edwards.poole.sch.uk/information/Community/AwardsSponsorship).



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View from the Pew

By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



Man’s inhumanity to man Usual

The phrase “Man’s inhumanity to man” was first documented in the poem by Robert Burns called Man was made to mourn: A Dirge in 1784 from which the following verse is taken:

Many and sharp the num’rous ills
Inwoven with our frame!
More pointed still we make ourselves
Regret, remorse, and shame!
And man, whose heav’n-erected face
The smiles of love adorn, –
Man’s inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn!

Burns reminds us here of a similar quote from Samuel von Pufendorf who in 1673 wrote, “More inhumanity has been done by man himself than any other of nature’s causes.”

Samuel Freiherr von Pufendorf (1632–1694) had been a German jurist, political philosopher, economist and historian. Among his many achievements are his commentaries and revisions of the natural law theories of Thomas Hobbes and Hugo Grotius.

Pufendorf’s political concepts are seen to have contributed to the cultural background of the American Revolution. Furthermore, Pufendorf is seen as an important precursor of Enlightenment in Germany. He was involved in constant quarrels with clerical circles and frequently had to defend himself against accusations of heresy, despite holding largely traditional Christian views on matters of dogma and doctrine. Had Pufendorf been alive today, his commentaries on developments in Central and Eastern Europe, particularly on those during the twentieth century and subsequently, would have certainly pricked mankind’s collective conscience.

It was during the inter-war years (1932-1933), under Joseph Stalin (1878- 1951), that Soviet Ukraine suffered the Holodomor, a word deriving from the Ukrainian term meaning ‘to kill by starvation’. The Soviet authorities long argued that the famine was indiscriminate and in no way contrived to target the Ukrainians in particular. Be that as it may, eighty per cent or more of the five million who died of the famine were Ukrainians living in a region of the USSR long recognised as self-identifiable both by those within its confines as well as by those beyond.

Red Famine by Anne Applebaum is a sorry reminder that history can repeat itself but not necessarily in identical, copy-cat manner.

Approximately one hundred years later, we see President Putin in Proustian manner searching for times passed, hankering after the territories held by the former USSR. Today we are faced with the grotesque reminder of Nazi Germany’s push for Lebensraum when, following Adolf Hitler’s rise to power, Lebensraum became an ideological principle of Nazism providing justification for the German territorial expansion into Central and Eastern Europe. Ukraine is ravaged no longer by famine, be that contrived or not, but under siege again by the dedicated force of overwhelming arms.

Pope Francis, challenging the idea of there ever being a ‘just war’, recently made an impassioned appeal for an end to war in Ukraine and for humanitarian corridors to be assured so that those fleeing can reach emergency aid and shelter: “Rivers of blood and tears are flowing in Ukraine. It is not merely a military operation, but a war, which sows death, destruction and misery. The number of victims is increasing, as are the people fleeing, especially mothers and children. The need for humanitarian assistance in that troubled country is growing dramatically by the hour. I make a heartfelt appeal for humanitarian corridors to be genuinely secured, and for aid to be guaranteed and access facilitated to the besieged areas, in order to offer vital relief to our brothers and sisters oppressed by bombs and fear. I thank all those who are taking in refugees. Above all, I implore that the armed attacks cease and that negotiation - and common sense - prevail. And that international law be respected once again! And I would also like to thank the journalists who put their lives at risk to provide information. Thank you, brothers and sisters, for this service! A service that allows us to be close to the tragedy of that population and enables us to assess the cruelty of a war. Thank you, brothers and sisters.

“Let us pray together for Ukraine: we have its flags in front of us. Let us pray together, as brothers and sisters, to Our Lady, Queen of Ukraine. Hail Mary... The Holy See is ready to do everything, to put itself at the service of this peace. In these days, two Cardinals went to Ukraine, to serve the people, to help. Cardinal Krajewski, the Almoner, to bring aid to the needy, and Cardinal Czerny, interim Prefect of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development. The presence of the two Cardinals there is the presence not only of the Pope, but of all the Christian people who want to get closer and say: “War is madness! Stop, please! Look at this cruelty!”

On 25 March, Pope Francis consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary during a penitential prayer service in St. Peter’s Basilica. On the same day, Cardinal Konrad Krajewski, the papal almoner, carried out a similar consecration at the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal. According to the Vatican’s translation of the messages of Fatima, when Mary appeared to the three shepherd children in Fatima in 1917, she told them, “God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say to you is done, many souls will be saved, and there will be peace.”

Warning of “war, famine, and persecutions of the church and of the Holy Father,” Mary told the children, “to prevent this, I shall come to ask for the consecration of Russia to my Immaculate Heart.”

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

The Road Pilgrim

Part Two - Pedestrians

Children and ice cream:

The Highway Code teaches that 'children are more interested in ice cream than traffic and may run into the road unexpectedly'.² In life, adults act like children when grasping after things to the exclusion of a balanced and considered view of life and their place in it. Blind pursuit of possessions, power, status, and relationships robs people of inner harmony—they lose love. Is there any ice cream grabbing in your life? Is your pursuit for something or someone making you unloving to others, to yourself, to God?

In his spiritual exercises, Ignatius of Loyola spoke of indifference, meaning choosing only that which leads to love of God and neighbour, and abandoning all that does not. It means focussing on being the person God has made you to be and living in harmony with His will. One thus becomes indifferent to both the favourable and unfavourable circumstances of life. By letting go of childish ice creams, we gain everything, we gain Love.

Dog lovers

My beloved Jack Russell Terrier is a lead puller. His pace is not my pace; his ways are not my ways. Tug, tug, and more tugs. Joe teaches me something of how God deals with us. For the protection and benefit of the impatient soul, I can imagine God using an invisible extendable lead. We thus learn to walk at God's pace and go in His direction. God will prompt

us, encourage us, yet we remain free to tug, go elsewhere and chase the latest smell that catches our attention if we so wish.

Freedom from sin requires sensitivity to the master's promptings. If we pull too hard, God will respect our free will and let go of the lead. Then what? Simon Peter uttered, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life'. (Jn. 6: 68) Being truly free is, perhaps, a bit like being an unleashed dog spontaneously running in the joy of the present moment while attentive to his master's voice.

Runners:

When walking, one foot is always on the ground. With running (including jogging), there are brief moments when both feet are off the ground. This float phase symbolizes the fleeting present moment, the only existential reality there is, sandwiched as it is between the past (one foot on the ground) and the future (other foot on the ground). Gravity ensures the float phase is brief, yet we might still describe it as 'Flying Without Wings' (thanks Westlife).³ This Westlife song speaks of becoming complete by finding our special thing in the strangest of places. Amazingly, life's truly special 'thing'—God—can be found in every present moment.

The present moment is a glimpse of eternity, a transcendence of time. In the present moment, past and future do not



exist—they never have and never will. The past used to exist as a previous present, the future may exist as a future present, but only the present moment exists now. Although the present only makes sense within the context of that which has gone before and that which lies ahead, 'past' and 'future' can distract us from living in the now.

God's eternal presence is both outside time and present within. Maybe this is why the present moment, our float phase, seems to offer a glimpse of eternity. Westlife's song also speaks of saying I love you, anytime, anywhere. By learning to live and love the present moment, we say 'I Love you' to life's special thing, the God of Love, anytime, anywhere.

² Highway Code, rule 206.

³ 'Flying Without Wings' is a song title of the pop band Westlife.

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CSW looks at the word "Repentance"

Shares the same Latin root as Penitence. The Latin, poenitentia, means "to express regret."

In Greek the work is Metanoia – which means "with knowledge". This denotes a change of mind, a reorientation, a fundamental transformation of outlook, of man's vision of the world and of himself, and a new way of loving others and God.

In modern times, it is generally seen as involving a commitment to personal change and the resolve to live a more responsible and humane life. In other words, being sorry for one's misdeeds. It can also involve sorrow over a specific sin or series of sins that an individual feels guilt over, or conviction that they have committed. The practice of repentance plays an important role in the salvation doctrines of Judaism, Christianity, and

Islam. Analogous practices have been found in other world religions as well. In religious contexts, it often involves an act of confession to God or to a spiritual elder (such as a monk or priest). This confession might include an admission of guilt, a promise or intent not to repeat the offense, an attempt to make restitution for the wrong, or in some way reverse the harmful effects of the wrong where possible.

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April 17th
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School News.....

St Paul's - Plymouth



At St Paul's, we have begun to work towards the CAFOD LiveSimply award. As part of this award, we are showing our faith in action by working in solidarity with the poor. Each year group will have a month where they are asked to bring in donations for our local food bank. January has been Year 6's month, it has been amazing to see the generosity from our children and their families. Elizabeth in Year 6 said, "It feels good to help those who don't have enough."



Holy Cross - Plymouth

Young Artists' Summer Show entry
Talented artist Karolina age 11 from Holy Cross has entered her piece 'The Reborn Dress' into the Young Artists' Summer Show. The Reborn Dress is very impressive and is currently on display in the school.

This is Karolina's description of The Reborn Dress; "Why is it called 'Reborn'?" You may ask. Well, the top half represents nature, and our beautiful home: Earth - with flowers and moss, as well as many other features of our planet that I couldn't include. However, as you look at the bottom half, you may notice that it doesn't look too alluring. Nobody wants to see trash, right? This is exactly how we are treating our fascinating planet - horribly! As you cross the street, you'll probably see a plastic bottle here, a candy wrapper there. This is why we need to change! Let's make our Earth less polluted and not make it a place people are disappointed in. Don't litter and think about what you are doing. Let's save our world together!



Made by Karolina, Age 11

St Joseph's Exmouth Mental Awareness Day



We recently shone a light on Mental Wellbeing with our Mental Health Awareness Day on February 9th.

It was great to see the children feel happy and excited with balloon challenges, bubbles, whole school dance, singing and in-class challenges.

We introduced our Mental Health Ambassadors who have been trained by HEADS UP who are in school every Wednesday supporting children.

We took time this week to think of ways to stay physically and mentally well and

learnt how growing together is important.

Our Time to Talk Group have been looking at Growth Mindset with Mrs Cook and learning how to cope with challenges.

The children had a fantastic day. We would like to thank all who donated to our fund to buy new resources to support well being and purchase sensory resources.

There is still time to donate before we announce our grand total.

If you have any LEGO you would like to donate, please contact the school on 01395 264875.

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Christ has died Good Friday
Rite of Election at Westminster Cathedral
Our places of pilgrimage
Aeterna Aeterna Aeterna

A warm welcome to a new priest

Fr Sean's association with Leeds Cathedral goes back a long way, to the days when he was a member of the Cathedral Choir

On the eve of the most important pastoral season of the Church's year, the Cathedral welcomed a member of its choir on 26-27 February as the venue for the Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Fr Sean. Fr Sean, who was ordained on 26 February and Fr Sean's first Mass the following day can be viewed on the Cathedral's YouTube channel by typing 'Leeds Cathedral' 'Fr Sean' into your browser

Fr Sean's association with Leeds Cathedral goes back a long way, to the days when he was a member of the Cathedral Choir. He subsequently studied for his priesthood at the 'Venerable English' College in Rome, following the completion of his studies he has been assigned 'High Mass' at St Columba's and St Mary's parishes in Halifax. He was ordained a Deacon for St Mary's at St Mary's in April last year. Fr Sean's first appointment as Assistant Priest is to St Mary's Halifax where he will support the Choir of Halifax, Fr Martin Kelly.

Rite of Election at Westminster Cathedral

Candidates of each parish present came forward to be greeted by the Cardinal and the Bishops

The Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion of Candidates which took place at Westminster Cathedral on the 26th and 27th March 2022, saw 148 candidates and 148 sponsors, welcomed by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishops John Sheehan, Nicholas Holtby and Paul Hoggan.

continued on page 6

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Recognising Somerset's outstanding young people

2022 marks the 15th anniversary of the Pride of Somerset Youth Awards.

The awards are organised by BBC Somerset, the Rotary Club of Taunton and Somerset Day and hosted by Bridgwater & Taunton College with the support of the Avon and Somerset Constabulary, YMCA Dulverton Group and Young Somerset.

They celebrate young people across Somerset who have done something in the last 12 months to make their family, friends or community proud.

From achievements in the arts, sport, music or academically to caring for others and the environment, to overcoming personal adversity and hardship and making difference to their community through charitable work, the awards recognise ANY young people in the county who display tremendous generosity, courage, talent and passion. There are no specific categories for the awards.

Previous winners include the England cricket Jos Buttler, British Gymnast Laura Gallagher and Paris Paralympic-hopeful wheelchair athlete Jamie Edwards. The Pride of Somerset Youth Awards are sponsored by Avon and Somerset Police; Young Somerset and The Rotary Club of Taunton.

This year's ceremony will take place at the Conference Centre at Bridgwater & Taunton College in Taunton on Somerset Day, 11 th May, and will be hosted by BBC Somerset presenters Claire Carter and Simon Parkin.

Claire says: "The Pride of Somerset Youth Awards evening is a highlight in my calendar. Every year we attract an amazing selection of very special young people from across the County. Each nominee is a hero in their own right and it is a privilege to be able to shine a light on their outstanding achievement. The

triumph over adversity shown by some of the winners is humbling and it means so much to them and their families to be acknowledged in this way. I'm so excited about being part of it all as a host again this year!"

Applications open on Saturday 12 th February 2022 and all entries must be submitted by Friday 8 th April. Nominees must live in Somerset and be under the age of 20 on 10 th May 2022.

To nominate a young person please send their full name, age, school/college (where appropriate), postal address, and

contact phone number(s), along with a maximum of 200 words detailing their accomplishments to explain why they deserve a Pride of Somerset Youth Award. Please include your own name and contact details. Applications can be sent to somerset@bbc.co.uk putting PoSYA in the subject heading. Nominations may also be posted to BBC Somerset Winchester House; Deane Gate Avenue; Taunton TAI 2UH.

BBC Somerset will be broadcasting interviews with some of the winners after the awards evening.



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

CRYPTIC Across

- 5 Cavort with miners about a place in Galilee (9)
- 8 Good little boy Scots defile (4)
- 9 Impossible poet Noah employed (3,1,4)
- 10 Book comfortable-sounding passage to a Baltic port (7)
- 12 Regular Bishop's oddly dismissed in retrospect from West Country town (5)
- 14 Ultimate craft leading seaman needs to cross un known depths (5)
- 15 President's vital new study's reviewed internally (7)
- 17 Embarrassed girl in front of the king (8)
- 18 Cheese one finds in buffet areas (4)
- 19 Jerk attending university in jeans is in the book (9)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 He was a killer in California's north (4)
- 2 Hero lover's name appears in editorial (7)
- 3 Number in party keeled over, getting bugs (5)
- 4 He reformed instrument to capture the earliest piece of Handel performed (8)
- 6 She's on coins – one or two sovereigns, for instance? (9)
- 7 The goddess Portia he'd metamorphosed (9)
- 11 Spielberg's limited knowledge about a part of Lincolnshire (8)
- 13 Demise comes in a short time (at ten to one)

earlier, for the guitarist (7)

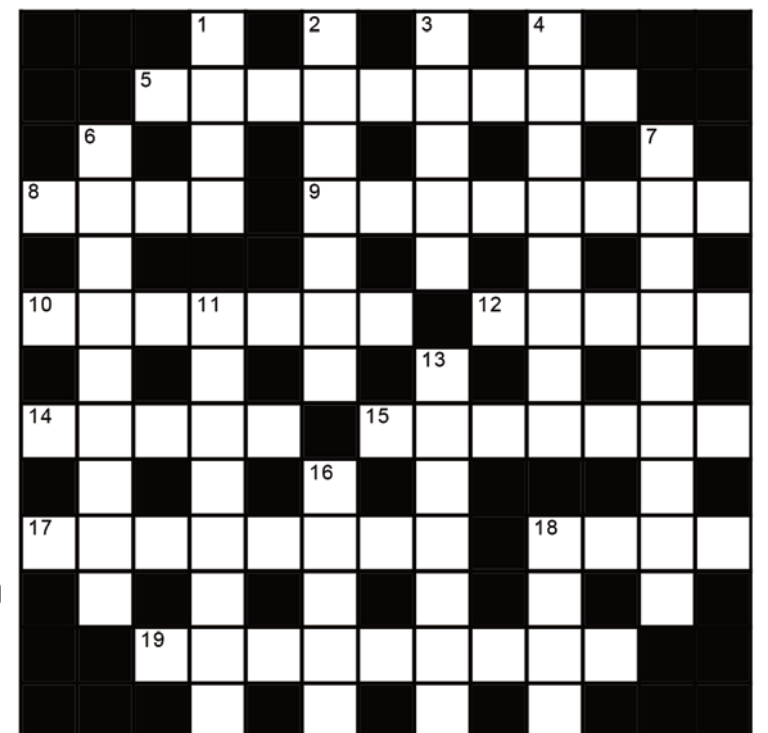
- 16 Pagan priest is an odd fake, receiving scripture training throughout (5)
- 18 Amusement one gained seeing a spirited old goat (4)

QUICK Across

- 5 Jesus' base when he was teaching in Galilee (9)
- 8 Secluded valley (4)
- 9 Without a prayer; forget it! (3,1,4)
- 10 Book and major prophet of the OT (7)
- 12 County town of Cornwall (5)
- 14 Bottomlesspit; chasm (5)
- 15 US President inaugurated in 1961 (7)
- 17 King of Wessex (865-871), succeeded by Alfred the Great (8)
- 18 Greek, sheep and/or goat, salad cheese (4)
- 19 Third book of the Torah (9)

QUICK Down

- 1 FirstchildofAdamandEve(4)
- 2 Lover of the priestess Hero in Greek myth (7)
- 3 In some Bibles an Egyptian plague equating to 'Mosquitoes' (5)
- 4 Of a form of Protestantism outlawed by a particular Diet in 1521 (8)
- 6 English settlement in New Jersey where Princeton



University was founded in 1746 (9)

- 7 Greek goddess of love and beauty (9)
- 11 One of the three historic Lincolnshire 'ridings'; administrative centre, Sleaford (8) 13 Jimi -----, US R&B/Rock legend (1942-1970) (7)
- 16 AncientCelticpriest(5)
- 18 Roman woodland deity close to the Greek satyr (4)

SOLUTION

13 Hendrix, 16 Druid, 18 Faun.
4 Lutherer, 6 Elizabeth, 7 Aphrodite, 11 Kesteven,
19 Leviticus. Down: 1 Cain, 2 Leander, 3 Gnats,
12 Truro, 14 Abyss, 15 Kennedy, 17 Ethelred, 18 Feta,
Across: 5 Capernaum, 8 Glen, 9 Not a hope, 10 Ezekiel,



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Our places of pilgrimage



Why do we go on a pilgrimage? Is it a holiday?

Well, yes - but a holiday with a difference. A pilgrimage is a devotional practice consisting of a prolonged journey, often on foot towards a specific destination of significance. The means or motivations in undertaking a pilgrimage might vary, but the act, however performed, blends the physical and the spiritual into a unified experience.

The origins of pilgrimage are difficult to determine, but deliberately visiting powerful sites is a practice that predates antiquity. Pilgrimages have long been a common feature of many world religions, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Shinto.

A believer might undertake a pilgrimage in fulfilment of a vow, as atonement for sins, as a gesture of thanks for positive events, or as a means of intercession, among other reasons. Prior to the age of exploration in Europe, pilgrimage was a primary impetus for travel, especially among non-elites, and played a significant role in local economies and the transmission of culture.

In the Christian pilgrimage tradition, the practice revolves around visiting either sites significant in the Bible — particularly those concerning the life of Christ — or in the lives of saints, or paying reverence to holy relics.

The three main destinations of Christian pilgrimage are Jerusalem, Rome, and Santiago de Compostela, and for most pilgrims throughout history reaching these sites was a prolonged and possibly dangerous endeavour. However, smaller and more local pilgrimage sites — such as

Canterbury Cathedral in England or the Holy House of Loreto in Italy — also enjoyed great popularity.

Although the twelfth century is largely considered to have been the golden age of Christian pilgrimage, it remained a devotional practice throughout the following centuries.

Evidence of pilgrimages throughout history still surrounds us, if one knows where and how to look. In art, pilgrims are often recognizable by their attributes: staff, cloak, large-brimmed hat, small satchel (a "scrip"), flask, worn boots, and the scallop shell. Many museum collections also include the types of small, personal items that a pilgrim would have brought back from his or her journey, such as badges, or flasks (called "ampullae") filled with holy water or oil.

Pilgrimages still enjoy great popularity today, although the definition of what constitutes an 'authentic' pilgrim is debated. The modern pilgrimage, while still a strictly religious exercise for many, has also been embraced as a more fluidly spiritual experience, open to all participants, regardless of their beliefs.

