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Serving the Church in the South West

> March 2023

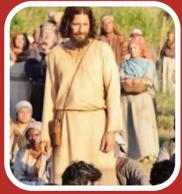




Scripture Focus Page 5



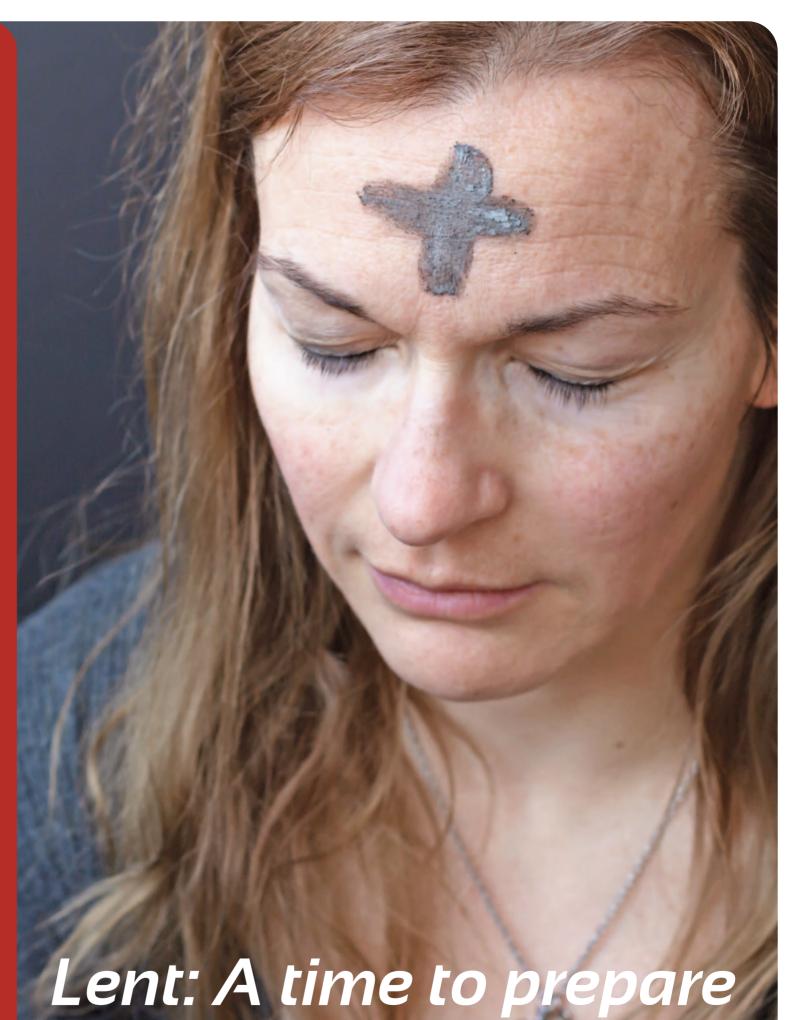
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The Chosen Page 9



South Sudan Page 10



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

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

To send in editorial or to get in touch please contact us at: CSW - Bellcourt Ltd N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre Steeple Bumpstead Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 7BN csw@cathcom.org 01440 730399

ADVERTISING

To advertise in Catholic South West please contact us on 01440 730399 ads@cathcom.org

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,

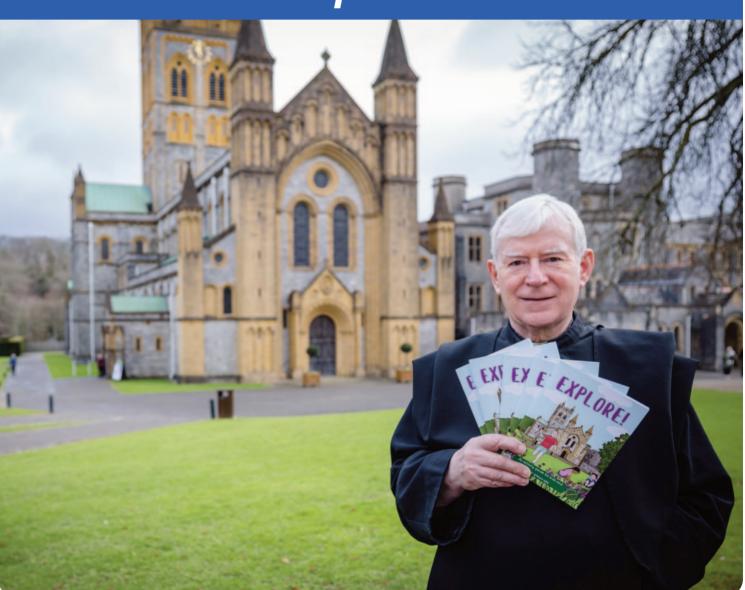
Lent is upon us, and as it is with each year, it is a time to look forward to Easter and a time to prepare for Easter. Perhaps this year we should have one question: What will be different about this Lent? Whilst it's important to acknowledge the strength in routines and our own personal traditions, it is also easy to repeat the same things each year, and not move forward. Perhaps spending some time to focus on something different this year would help. Perhaps to work out what should be different

Explore!

about this Lent, we should first ask: What do we want to be different about this Easter?

How we prepare in Lent, will form the Easter that we experience at the end of it.

CSW TEAM



The Buckfast Abbey Education Team is delighted to be launching it new activity pack in Half Term aimed at 'kids and their grown-ups'.

Called 'Explore!' It contains a whole host of different activities that families can use together to explore Buckfast Abbey and grounds. Find out about everything from the daily life of the monks to the birds that inhabit the Abbey's gardens. And if used in

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 conjunction with a smart phone the booklets can also be used to access videos, music and even a story. But that's not all – there are also activities and games to do at home. It really is fun for all the family, and the best bit is that you can use it straightaway, there are no pencils required.

The wonderful illustrations were drawn by Education Officer Harriet Fox who said "I really think that there is something in it for all ages. I loved producing the drawings because they cover so many different things from the Abbey. I have also included some of the monks including the Prior, Br Daniel, who was so helpful in allowing me to base some of the drawings on him."

The booklet will be available from the Abbey Giftshop and the Abbey Bookshop and will begin to go on sale from Saturday 11th February.

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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Jesuits launch vocations videos

JESUS IS LAYING THE STONES FOR ME TO WALK ON

THE NOVICE a film by the Jesuits in Britain

The Jesuits in Britain (the Society of Jesus) have launched a new series of videos focusing on vocations.

Personal blogs accompany the videos, which show members of the order living out their calling in pastoral, community and educational settings, with signposting for viewers to find out more information.

They are part of the Jesuits' outreach to both men who are considering exploring a vocation and those interested in the order's work. The Jesuits launched the series as they prepared to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of the British province earlier this year.

Each video focuses on one individual's daily life – both priests and those who are yet to take their final vows.

The first video features Brother Mikhael Ahmad. Other videos capture Jesuits working with young people, and with homeless and vulnerable communities. Also featured are the recollections and inspirational views of an older Jesuit, Father Michael Barrow SJ.

As well as being available on Jesuits' website and YouTube channel, they will publish social media clips of the videos on channels, including Twitter, Instagram and Facebook.

More information about becoming a Jesuit is available at jesuit.org.uk/who-weare/vocations.

New provider for church-related abuse support

The Catholic Church in England and Wales is one of three organisations that have announced ongoing support for victims and survivors of church-related abuse with a newly appointed independent provider First Light for their Safe Spaces project.

Safe Spaces is a free national support service which offers a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England, the Church in Wales or the Catholic Church in England and Wales, regardless of age, gender or sexual orientation.

First Light is an independent organisation with extensive experience in supporting those who have experienced or are experiencing sexual abuse or domestic violence, including survivors and victims of church-related abuse.

The board of trustees of Safe Spaces England and Wales (SSEW) appointed First Light after a competitive tender process. Bishop Paul Mason, safeguarding lead for the Catholic Church, board member of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) and a trustee of SSEW said: "The impact of abuse can be complex and lifelong. It is vital that victims have a source of support from an independent body that specialises in this area.

"We have complete confidence that First Light will deliver this service in the long term and will make a difference for those who need it. We would like to thank every survivor who has worked with us to help ensure a continuity of support and excellence of service."

Lyn Gooding, chief executive of First Light, said: "Our trained staff are ready to be there for any victim or survivor of churchrelated abuse.

"We know that Safe Spaces is needed, we are committed to the project for the longterm and we could not be prouder to take up this vital work."

Service users can expect a seamless transition from interim providers

FearLess (formerly Splitz Support Service), which followed a successful twoyear pilot of the Safe Spaces project run by Victim Support.

All current service users will be contacted individually to talk through relevant information, options and to answer any questions. They can expect continuity in accessing support.



You can contact Safe Spaces via safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk or by calling 0300 303 1056.

Around the South West

Saint's Way Rosary Walk

Fr. Robbie from the parish of St Mary & St Petroc, Bodmin is hoping to repeat last year's Saints Way Rosary Walk during Lent. This will take place in seven stages (c. 5 miles each) every morning in Lent beginning on Shrove Tuesday 21st February. The first leg will begin in Padstow straight after Mass. Anyone is welcome to join Fr Robbie for all or part of any leg. All are invited to give him prayer intentions for the 'stations' on the Way.

Epiphany Meal at St Mary's Catholic Primary school

Father Abbot and the monastic community at Buckfast Abbey very kindly offered a special meal for the children at St Mary's to celebrate the feast of Epiphany, which took place at St Cuthbert's Conference Centre. Everyone seemed to have a lovely time and enjoyed the roast dinner and cupcakes!

Churches Together in Broadstone

This year our lent group will be studying the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book for 2023. Emma Ineson's book entitled Failure [What Jesus said about sin, mistakes and messing stuff up]. The Ecumenical groups will meet on Wednesday evening 7.30pm – 9pm at Broadstone Methodist church or Thursday morning 10.30am – 12 noon at St. Anthony's Parish Hall from 1st March to 30th March.

Please register your preferred session with Deacon Nick Johnson. Nick.Johnson@prcdtr.org,.uk Everyone most welcome.



We are looking at how Christians can serve the evening economy the vulnerable, the homeless, those wanting someone to talk to. **Come along to a session at St Mary's Church, Chapel Street, Penzance on Thursday 23rd February At 6 pm** There will be a quiet time for discernment followed by a fruitful discussion of what you / we think is needed and what you /

we can offer.

Send us your news csw@cathcom.org

ACN agrees €500,000+ for earthquake victims

By John Newton



Destruction after the earthquake outside of the Maronite Cathedral in Aleppo (© ACN).

A CATHOLIC charity is rolling out more than half a million euros in immediate aid to help Christians in Syria in the wake of the devastating earthquakes that have caused nearly 22,000 deaths in the region.

The first tranche of emergency assistance from Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) includes a number of small-scale projects aimed at relieving immediate needs.

Xavier Bisits, head of ACN's Lebanon and Syria section, said: "We are working with the Franciscans in Lattakia, who are providing blankets and food for displaced families.

"The Armenian Orthodox in Aleppo have prepared a project to supply medicine to displaced families.

"The Institute of the Incarnate Word wants to work with us on a project for the affected families and we also have a project with the St Vincent de Paul Society to provide personal hygiene care for the elderly, many of whom have chosen not to leave their homes and are living alone."

Father Fadi Azar from Lattakia said his community, which is tending to victims, considered evacuating until families started turning to them for help.

He said: "We had initially thought of leaving Lattakia as well, but we found many people who had come to our parish, including many who did not have cars, and they had come to shelter in our church, so we decided to stay with them.

"A lot of young men and women from our parish have been helping us."

Father Azar said he was impressed by the solidarity he had seen among those

affected by earthquakes: "We were deeply moved when one of the parishioners we usually help came today with some loaves of bread to offer others. We all have to help each other at this time."

In addition to this first aid package, ACN has pledged further support for local Churches which are providing vital assistance at a time when international aid organisations are having difficulties getting help into Syria.

Mr Bisits, who travelled to Aleppo immediately after the quake struck, stressed that, with winter upon them, there is an urgent need to help people return home – which requires houses to be surveyed by engineers, to ensure there is no danger of collapse.

But he added that excellent relations between the nine different Christian

Churches in Aleppo meant they were able to work together on this project.

He said that Orthodox bishops attended a Synod of Catholic bishops in Aleppo on Wednesday (8th February) at which they assembled a team of engineers to assess the damage done to the homes of Christian families and the cost of repairs.

Mr Bisits said: "This is something I hope ACN can help with".

ACN is also in dialogue with the Joint Committee of Aleppo, an ecumenical body which is setting up a project to cover the costs of renting houses for the families made homeless by the quake.



Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



The Mountain of Glory and the Mountain of Pain

Mountains are special places. People often like to get away from the bustle of the big city to find tranquillity on a mountain. On a clear day, a mountain can give a beautiful view of the surrounding landscape. However, a mountain can be a dangerous place, liable to storms. A bare mountain is also a very visible place where nothing is hidden.

On the First Sunday of Lent (26th February) we heard the story of Jesus' forty days in the desert, when he was tempted by the devil. In the third temptation, he was taken up a high mountain and shown all the kingdoms of the world. The devil promises Jesus total dominion if he will bow down to worship him. But the devil is not authorised to give such dominion, because it belongs solely to God. On the Second Sunday of Lent (5th March) we hear the story of Jesus' transfiguration on another mountain. Traditionally the event is located on Mount Tabor, a prominent hill in Galilee, though some scholars think it

happened further north at Mount Hermon. Here Jesus' clothes become dazzlingly white and he is revealed in glory. In fact, this is a kind of foretaste of heaven.

A few days previously, Jesus has just warned his disciples that the Son of Man will have to suffer terribly and even be put to death. He has also challenged them to follow him. If they really wish to be his disciples, they need to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him.

This challenge may seem to lack hope, but Jesus is the one who will overcome death. So he lets his chosen disciples catch a glimpse of his future glory. His way will certainly involve suffering and death, but this is not the end. After his suffering, he will enter his glory. Later the same three chosen disciples will see him risen, but only after they have deserted him in his hour of death.

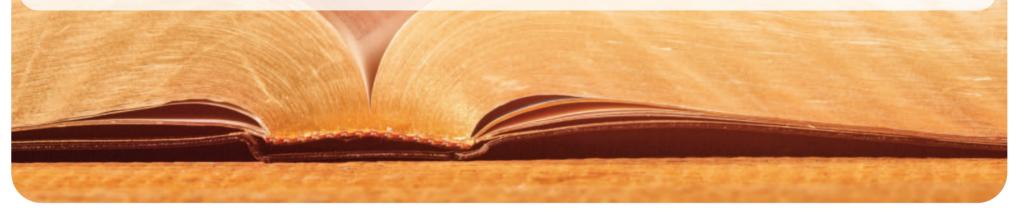
On Holy Thursday we will remember Jesus' agony in Gethsemane, when his chosen disciples failed to watch and pray with their Master. Then on Good Friday we will see Jesus ascending Mount Calvary and being crucified. There on the bare hillside, he will be exposed to view, so that the passers-by entering Jerusalem will see him in his humiliation.

But everything will change at Easter, when we will see Jesus glorified. Sin and death will be overcome. Life and joy will be offered to everyone. Sinners will be forgiven, and the downtrodden will be given new hope.

Matthew's Gospel ends on another unnamed mountain. During his time in the desert, Jesus has not yielded to the devil's false promises. Throughout his whole life, he has resisted the temptation to take the easy way out, even at the cost of dying on the cross. But after the resurrection, Jesus has been given all authority in heaven and on earth. High on a mountain is a fitting place for the risen Jesus to commission his disciples to spread the good news. During the season of Lent we seek to grow closer to Jesus. We keep the forty days of Lent in commemoration of his forty days in the desert. As he overcame temptation, we seek to grow stronger in our battle with sin.

While we look ahead to the sad events of Holy Week, we seek to be uplifted by the hope of the resurrection, already foreshadowed in Jesus' transfiguration. The Lord whom we will see nailed to the cross is the same Lord who showed his dazzling glory on the mountain of transfiguration.

We seek to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Good Friday, spiritually joining Jesus in his great act of selfsacrifice. And we aim to be ready for the grace-filled moment of the resurrection, when God intervenes to give new life. May God give us the grace to walk with Jesus day by day through Lent and Holy Week so as to reach the glory of Easter.



Loss of a Deeply Faithful Man

It is with great sadness that the trustees of the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) share the news that our Co-Chair, John Larter died suddenly on Friday, 30th December 2022.

After the death of his wife Gwen in 2020, John busied himself with voluntary work; with the Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) becoming one of his passions.

John joined CCSP as a trustee in 2020 and quickly became a trusted board member. His background was in business, having worked around the world and in the UK, and he brought this expertise to his work on the board. John was a compassionate man with a business head. He was truly touched by the plight of many of the families who applied to our Essential Grants programme and who were in desperate need of help.

He had a deep personal faith; one that he put into action through his work, supporting some of the most vulnerable in our Diocese.

We thank John for his faith, his commitment, his dedication to the CCSP and for his friendship.

We pray for him and his family. RIP John.



CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (PLYMOUTH) NEEDS YOU !



We continue our work with an empty chair at the table. Could you be the person to fill it? We need enthusiastic trustees who can commit to serving on the board. Your skill set might be just what we need. We need people with professional skills in areas such as business/finance, HR and social care. This is a voluntary position, both rewarding and challenging. We are also looking for youth trustees to bring the views of young people to our work. Maybe you are at university or have just completed your studies and think you would enjoy making a difference to some of the most deprived families in our Diocese ? This volunteering role would give you good business experience, an ability to find out how a small charity works, knowledge of safeguarding, as well valuable experience working as part of a diverse team and much more. You will need to be aged 18+.

CCSP support families in need across the Plymouth Diocese, which covers Devon, Cornwall and parts of Dorset.



Further details can be found by visiting our website www.ccsplymouth.org.uk, by contacting the office on 01364 645420 or by emailing ccs@prcdtr.org.uk to make further enquiries about becoming a Trustee Director for CCSP.

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 27th February – 12th March 2023



Please join Fairtrade supporters across the country in spreading this simple message:

making the switch to Fairtrade supports producers in protecting the future of some of our most-loved food, the planet and countless Fairtrade communities.

Did you know coffee, bananas and chocolate could soon be much more difficult to find on our shelves? Climate change is making crops like these harder and harder to grow. Combined with deeply unfair trade, communities growing these crops are being pushed to the brink.

But here's the good news.

More of us choosing Fairtrade means extra income, power, and support for those communities. By making the switch to Fairtrade, we can all support producers in protecting the future of some of our most-loved food and the planet.

A fair income for farmers and workers is vital now, not only so that farmers can keep on farming, but so that they can afford to invest in making changes to adapt to the worsening climate and economic crisis. Choosing Fairtrade helps build a fairer, greener and more sustainable future for our food.

With Fairtrade the future is fair

Take action now. Choose Fairtrade whenever you can

Switching to Fairtrade products doesn't always mean choosing the more expensive option. In a recent visit to some well known shops and local community stores, in Falmouth, Cornwall, a survey of some everyday Fairtrade products, revealed that choosing store's 'own brand' Fairtrade goods was cheaper than well known non- Fairtrade branded goods.

Fairtrade Fortnight this year will highlight the urgent threat to the future of the foods we love and the livelihoods of the people who grow them, as they face the worst effects of the climate crisis. Without our support for fairer prices today, farmers will find it even harder to tackle the climate and economic challenges of the future.

On top of the price Fairtrade farmers and workers receive for their produce or labour, they receive an extra sum of money to invest in improving the quality of their lives. This extra sum of money is called the Fairtrade Premium.

In 2022 Fairtrade producers across Latin America and the Caribbean planted more

than 300,000 trees in a six-month treeplanting drive, with more than 100 Fairtrade organizations across 20 countries getting involved. They used the Fairtrade Premium generated from Fairtrade sales to fund this project.

The Fairtrade Premium is calculated as a percentage of the volume of produce sold. The amount of Premium farmers receive differs from product to product and across regions. The price is reviewed every three to four years to adjust to local inflation. Increasing Fairtrade sales will literally change lives.

In 2019/20, the Fairtrade Premium spent on projects with an environmental impact

included: clean water and sanitation facilities, composting programmes, crop diversification programmes, investment in energy infrastructure, community environmental programmes and farmer training in pest management, product quality improvement, productivity improvement, soil management and water management.

Smallholder farmers simply can't foot the bill for adapting to economic and climate change on their current incomes. This fortnight and beyond, Fairtrade is asking shoppers to act now and choose Fairtrade to back the farmers behind some of our favourite products to ensure they are paid fairly and can keep farming through these extremely tough times.

By choosing Fairtrade now, you're taking a stand with farmers and workers worldwide for fairer incomes, so together we can protect the future of our food.

In the words of Fairtrade banana farmer Diomedes, 'Fairtrade is freedom, it's communication, it's sustainability, it's empowerment, it's everything for us in a world that's so competitive'. It's what sets Fairtrade apart from everyone else.

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, so reads 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.



Continued from page 6 Fairtrade and Climate Justice

Wealthier nations like the UK are responsible for the global systems that have caused the unfair climate crisis. Our governments must invest in the expertise of farmers who tackle the climate crisis every day.

Richer nations bear a historic responsibility for carbon emissions: the poorest half of the global population are responsible for only around 10 percent of total global emissions, while 50 percent of these emissions can be attributed to the richest 10 percent of people. (Oxfam 2020, Confronting carbon inequality, www.oxfam.org/en/research/extremecarbon-inequality)

We need to tell our politicians it's time to own up to our responsibilities. We can still be a part of building a fairer, greener future.

How will you celebrate Fairtrade Fortnight 2023?

Why not join one of the many events organised by Fairtrade campaigners across the South West. If you live in Falmouth or nearby, you are invited to a FREE Fairtrade Coffee morning, Saturday11th March 2023 10.30am – 12.30, Town Council Chambers situated in the Town library building on the Moor.

Falmouth University (Penryn Campus) are putting on events Monday to Friday over

the two weeks of Fairtrade Fortnight with the invitation:

EXPLORE THE IMPORTANTANCE OF FAIRTRADE, SUSTAINABLE FOOD, & POSITIVE PURCHASING Everyone welcome

If there are no Fairtrade events organised in your area, perhaps you might like to organise a Fairtrade get together among friends and family; hold a cake sale, a Fairtrade coffee morning, or a Fairtrade quiz (a fun way to share information about Fairtrade). Check out the Fairtrade Foundation website for quiz questions and answers and other important information to share: **www.fairtrade.org.uk**

JOIN THE BIG FAIRTRADE GET TOGETHERS This year the Fairtrade Foundation are running free online Big Fairtrade Get Togethers.

You can sign up to these exciting live events to hear from Fairtrade farmers and other experts on how we can have a sustainable future for our favourite foods. These free events will run throughout Fairtrade Fortnight and are open to everyone.

If you're organising a local event, you could tune in to these Big Fairtrade Get Togethers as a group. There will be chances to ask questions of our expert panel too.







Fairtrade Prayer

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



tinh.

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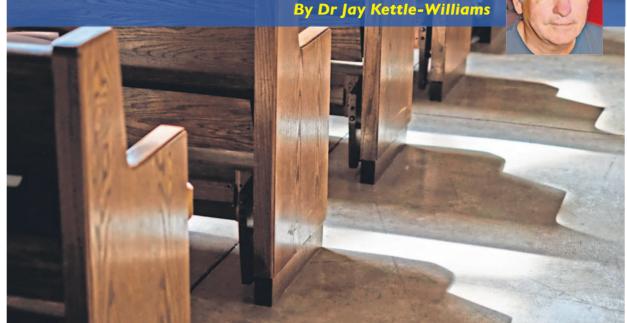
Masses in the Extraordinary Form in Plymouth Diocese: Lanherne Convent, St. Mawgan, Cornwall TR8 4ER Sundays ; 8.30am Low Mass 10.00am Sung Mass Monday – Saturday 8am Low Mass. Thursdays 8am Low Mass and 6.15pm Low Mass Confession: Saturdays at 3pm St. Edward the Confessor, Home Park Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4PG Sundays 8.30 am Low Mass. Ist Saturdays 11.30am Mass Holy Angels, Shrine Church, Queensway, Chelston, Torquay, Devon TQ2 6BP Sundays: 10.45am Sung/High Mass (Confession before and after Mass and every day if required). Vespers & Benediction. Mon, Tues, Thurs, & Friday 7.30am Lauds & Meditation 8.30am Mass (Mon, Tues, Thurs) Friday 12 noon Sung Mass, 5pm Vespers, 6pm Adoration & Confession, 7pm Compline Wed 12 noon Mass. Saturday 8.30am Mass. St. Cyprian, Ugbrooke House, Chudleigh, Devon TQ13 0AD No Mass at present Blessed Sacrament, Fore St., Heavitree, Exeter, Devon EX1 2QJ No Mass at present Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, White Cliff Mill St.,

Our Lady of Lourdes & St. Cecilia, White Cliff Mill St., Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7BN Saturday 25th March (Annunciation of the B.V.M) 12 noon Low Mass

Before travelling any distance and to avoid disappointment, contact the LMS Rep on either 07555536579/devon@lms.org.uk

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View from the Pew



SPARE me the detail ... 'solipsist' is hard enough to swallow!

I wonder what Archangel Gabriel, patron saint of communication, would have made of today's mainstream and other media.

From time to time, I suppose we're all intrigued by a bit of sensationalism. Not that it makes us feel any better in ourselves or even better towards narcissists who go public with heartfelt, seemingly abject confessions – be that for their own honour and glory or even financial benefit.

We have often been told that sensationalism is what sells newspapers: 'That's what people want to know!' Yes, I can see that ... more's the pity. But for Big Brother - either through the media or whatever official organ of state - to pander to and exploit human weakness, to go to extremes to intrude into private lives, especially the lives of the innocent and vulnerable, smacks of irresponsibility to society at large. More dangerously, at the micro level. it shows total disregard for the individual affected.

On the other hand, there's the matter of rights for investigators like the police and journalists to get on with their jobs, to earn their living. Yes, we hear a lot from all quarters about entitlement, but not so much about the other side of that coin, its corollary: responsibility.

A further argument you hear put forward to justify people's actions is: 'Well, there's no law against it'. So perhaps we do live in a society for which the lawmakers need to think about every facet of our behaviour and, if we can't take responsibility to behave better, to bring out laws to command individual as well as collective responsibility. But don't we have those commandments already? Just swap the word 'oxen' for iPhone, or digi camera or BMW ... et voila! 'Entitlement' and the other trump in the pack, 'Equal Opportunities', are two cards which win hands down every time against 'Meritocracy'. Don't get me wrong, I'm happy to play the game, providing – and excuse me developing the image – the cards aren't marked, that they're properly shuffled and then evenly distributed. What's good for the goose ...

Let's take 'Equal Opportunities'. When I last looked, Catholics in the UK numbered almost 9% or so of the UK's increasing population, i.e. one in every 12, numbering about 5 million. The stats now tell us that, if the current demographic trajectory continues the way it's going, Catholics in this country will one day be the overwhelming majority. Ok. But, one step at a time.

Why don't we simply start by staffing all media and communications organisations with some 9% Catholics? Things could only get better ... and just think what Archangel Gabriel's reaction would be. Long live the communicators! Gabriel, pray for us



After the sculpture Exultate Jubilate by Philip Jackson

Dr J L Kettle-Williams is an experienced business consultant and wordsmith (tutor, writer, translator).



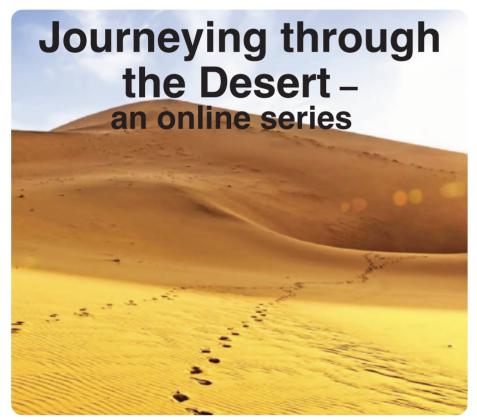
Episodes of The Chosen have been viewed more than 420m times around the world

Final season of hit life of Jesus series released

All three seasons of The Chosen – the global phenomenon, drama series based on the life of Jesus – are now available to view for free.

With more than 420m episode views from around the world, The Chosen is a fansupported, seven-season television series that creates an authentic and intimate picture of Jesus' life and ministry, seen through the eyes of the people who knew him.

"The theme of Season 3 is 'Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest," said series



'Journeying through the Desert' is an online retreat for Lent with guest speakers from around the country.
Each session will be between 7pm – 8pm and it will give us an opportunity to reflect and pray our way through Lent with inspirational speakers to guide us.

> Visit www.cliftondiocese.com for more information – search for Journeying Through the Desert'

creator Dallas Jenkins. "The honeymoon phase is over, now the characters all have to deal with the costs and occasional confusions of following the Messiah."

The Chosen's first two seasons earned praise from critics and fans alike for its historical and biblical accuracy, playful spirit, stirring drama, genuine humour and disruptive impact.

It has been translated into more than 60 languages and is consistently one of the top-searched shows on streaming platforms.

The Chosen is the largest fan-supported entertainment project of all time. It is completely free to watch on mobile or smart TV apps, with no fee or subscription necessary.

ST NICHOLAS A WAYFARERS CHURCH Kilton, Somerset TA5 1ST

St Nicholas could have ended up as a "Friendless" church, like so many others dotted around the countryside, as well as in towns and cities. By now readers of CSW will be well aware that "Friends of Friendless Churches" has its own identity having been previously paired with the Ancient Monuments Society. St Nicholas" Trustees take this opportunity to record their particular thanks for such memorable development, brought about by Matthew Saunders, and wish him well in retirement.

Only a brief overview is necessary to bring one to a conclusion that there are many aspects of church life, history and personal spiritual growth that present themselves as demanding of considerable research. Such pursuit will add to the wealth of our understanding not just within the field of architecture but of how The Church has responded to social needs over its life-time.

A glance through the pages of FFC's recent issue, provide evidence of the development of architectural design; for example, between St Andrews (Wood Walton) in the November Issue, and that of St Nicholas (Kilton) in an earlier CSW issue. Reliably established that St Nicholas (Kilton) dates from the 6th C, backed up by written evidence from the 16th C onwards, many topics will present themselves for further study, such opportunities do come quickly to mind.

Recent TV documentary have drawn attention to the hardship brought about by severe rising damp experienced by housing tenants and the effect this has had on health, particularly among children. How come that St Nicholas, and other ancient churches, rarely suffer from this problem? Are architects unaware of the traditional 'French' drain? Such a drain is established by inserting a narrow trench dug around a building to about 9 inches below the level of its foundation, then filled with rubble and topped with gravel or attractive store. Rain has the opportunity to drain down the walls to below the foundations. We still have much to learn from other aspects of structure and design of our ancient churches.

The Trustees seek to welcome visitors from home and abroad; to come and enjoy the various aspects of its interior. It is an ideal site for a family picnic. Do drop in when the weather improves. It is described as a stirring and humorous drama that creates an authentic and intimate picture of Jesus' life and ministry, seen through the eyes of the people who knew him.

Both critics and fans has praised the series for its historical and biblical accuracy, playful spirit and disruptive impact.

"The Chosen has moved from an experimental project to a worldwide phenomenon and fans have high expectations for the next chapter," said Jeffrey Harmon, chief content officer of the series' producer, Angel Studios.

You can view all episodes from seasons one to three on the Angel smart TV app or at watch.angelstudios.com. The first eight episodes are also on Netflix.

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Archbishop makes passionate plea for peace

Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby pleaded with leaders in South Sudan to find lasting peace, saying he had hoped for more progress on the commitments they made at the Vatican in 2019.

Archbishop Welby was in the capital Juba with Pope Francis and the Moderator of the Church of Scotland for an unprecedented joint pilgrimage to South Sudan.

The ecumenical visit by leaders of Roman Catholic, Anglican and Reformed traditions was the first trip of its kind in Christian history.

The Archbishop and the Moderator, the Rt Rev Dr Iain Greenshields, met the Pope at Juba International Airport.

The Pope was then welcomed by the president of South Sudan and a guard of honour, as well as representatives from the South Sudan Council of Churches.

The three Christian leaders met the president and later addressed a gathering of authorities, civil society leaders and diplomats in the garden of the presidential palace.

Archbishop Welby said: "In 2019 Pope Francis knelt to kiss the feet of each politician. Five years later, we come to you in this way again – on our knees, to wash feet, to listen, to serve, to pray with you.

"But we come to listen to the young people, which is 70 per cent of South Sudan. Without listening to their voice, there will be no peace and reconciliation.



Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby greets Pope Francis during their Ecumenical Pilgrimage for Peace to South Sudan -Photo courtesy of Vatican Media

And we come to honour the women who have known such terrible suffering. "And we thank you for your presence in this gathering. We pray that that may

show that you have not given up hope. Yet forgive me my dear sisters and brothers and leaders of this country, but I must say that places far and near, and so many of

the citizens of this wonderful country, are becoming tired that more has not changed."

During their visit, the three churchmen met people displaced by war and heard testimony from children living in displacement camps because of the conflict.

They also attended an open-air Ecumenical Prayer for Peace vigil attended by more than 50,000 people. Speaking to the press on the papal plane on their way back to Rome after the visit, Archbishop Welby said Christians have grown accustomed to living apart, but it is the norm for the Church to work as one.

"We need constantly to be reminded, and I hope this trip reminds people that the normal is for the Church to work as one."

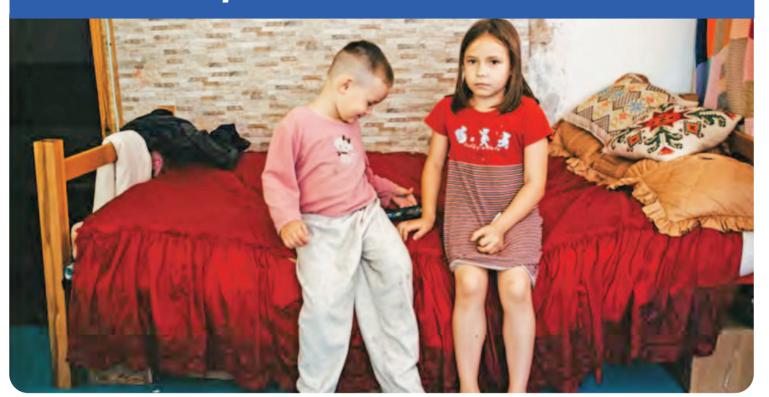
source: Vaticannews.va



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Ukrainian photographer documents a year of the war in powerful photo exhibition



Kateryna and Sasha's father was killed by a missile in August 2022. Sasha's mother explains, "Sometimes he acts as though his father is still here. He'll sometimes ask the others to be quiet because father is sleeping."

One year on from the invasion of Ukraine by Russian forces on 24 February 2022, Ukrainian Photographer, Misha Vavylyuk, shares pictures from the last 12 months in a moving and powerful online exhibition.

Through his photos, Misha, who works for the international charity Mission Without Borders in Ukraine, hopes that they will show the world what his country people have been going through this past year. "My hope is that these pictures will make people feel closer to us. The enemy is dreadful and enormously big and its intentions are cruel. We really need support of the world and I hope that the world will not turn its face from us," he said.

Mykola Bogdanets is Mission Without Borders Ukraine Country Director. He said, "I have seen the devastation firsthand. Misha's photos are a snapshot of the many hundreds of villages, towns and cities destroyed by Russia. My prayer is that the war will end soon, and we can help our people rebuild their lives. My colleagues are supporting their neighbours in so many different ways, but much more is needed."

Mission Without Borders UK Country Director, John Chamberlain, said, "Misha's pictures show the impact of the devastation this war is having on the lives of millions of Ukrainians. Mission Without Borders Ukrainian staff and volunteers have been working in Ukraine for over thirty years, providing love and care through action and practical support and emergency aid. I hope that through this exhibition and the wider One Year At War



A Mission Without Borders summer camp held in Voloshky, Ukraine, provided some much needed fun for children whose parents are serving on the front line, in the army, police, fire service and rescue units. Some of their parents had already been killed.

Appeal campaign, people will get a glimpse of the dramatic impact this conflict has had on individual lives and find ways to support our work."

To mark One Year At War in Ukraine Mission Without Borders (MWB) is asking for help in three very direct ways –

1. Pray – Seeking support in prayer from individuals, churches and Christian groups. MWB is inviting people to use a brand new resource booklet "Reflections on Ukraine" and the prayer on the inside back page in services, fellowship meetings and individual devotions on Sunday 26th February. Visit www.mwbuk.org for more information.

2. Share – Inviting people to pause and reflect on the impact of the war. People can go to MWB's moving and powerful online photo exhibition of pictures taken by Ukrainian photographer, Misha Vavylyuk, which bring home the

devastation of war in individual lives. Scan this code below with your phone or go to "One Year At War" at our website www.mwbuk.org



3. Support – Help MWB's Emergency Response Appeal for Ukraine by donating. £15 will enable the charity to deliver one essential emergency parcel of food with items such as pasta, rice, tinned meat and vegetables. A gift of £30 will enable MWB to deliver two parcels, the second with hygiene items such as soap, washing powder and toothpaste.



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PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS 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 Eleven - Perception**

To be attracted is to be drawn towards something (or someone). A distraction hampers focus. Furthermore, the word 'perception', rooted in the Latin verb percipere, means 'to seize' and 'to understand'. Perception is about becoming aware of something (or someone).

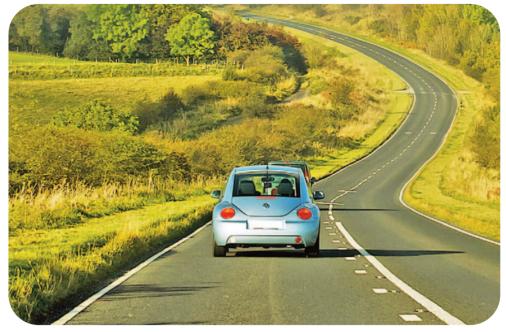
When driving, our attention should be on the road. In life, our attention is supposed to be on God. On the highway of life, when God is at the centre of our windscreenattracting us, Satan and his demons will be in the side windows—distracting. Should Satan & Co. deceive their way onto your windscreen with their distractions packaged as attractions, God and his angels will be in the side windows drawing you towards holiness.

Ignatius of Loyola noticed that when a person grows in love and service of God, the evil spirit tries to discourage, whereas the good spirit encourages. Conversely, when a person falls away from loving and serving God, the roles are reversed; the evil spirit encourages, and the good spirit discourages. Where are God and Satan in your life?

Perceptions of the road scene differ. Hazard awareness is a crucial aspect of driver perception. An appreciation of highway features, such as road design, junction layout, signs, road markings and the rules that govern driver behaviour is also a perception. Noticing instances of good (and not-so-good) driving is a perception too. Despite its imperfections, the road scene, one might say, has a discernible intelligence.

How do you perceive the highway of life? What is your perception of 'God'? Are your perceptions based solely on sense experience? Do you ever get that gut feeling of 'knowing' something to be true even if you can't prove it? You just 'know'. This inner truth affects your perception of realitythe only reality you experience.

The sceptic says, 'seeing is believing'. It has merit. Yet, when pushed to the extreme, it limits vision. The point is that we need belief to see more fully. 'Unless you believe, you will not understand.' (Isaiah 7:9) Viewing the highway of life through the eyes of faith enables one to glimpse the underlying presence of God. One expe-



riences something of the Creator God in and through His creation, of which we are a part. 'Father, in my life I see, you are God who walks with me.'1

How we look at the world is the lens through which we interpret and make sense of our experiences. Our universe is ambiguous, so it is not unreasonable to view it through an atheistic lens-especially in the face of so much evil and suffering. Yet, despite the obvious imperfections of life, trust in the God of love enables theists to discern an underlying loving intelligence. Believing is seeing. In a scientific sense, we can neither prove

nor disprove God's existence. Waiting for one hundred per cent proof means one will die waiting.

'To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see.' (Heb. 11:1) Faith and reason go hand-in-hand. Pope John Paul II taught, 'Faith and reason are like two wings on which the human spirit rises to the contemplation of truth'.¹ Your perception is your reality. Windscreen and sidewindows. What do you see?

1 Song lyrics from Frank Andersen's Trinity Song. 1 John Paul II's Encyclical Letter Fides et Ratio, 14th September 1998. Available on the Vatican website.



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

CRYPTIC Across

- God invites in accountant, about to have tea with 5 the taxman (9)
- Cliff in Edom drinks, backsliding (4) 8
- With Capone's acceptance into church official, it's 9 almost Babylonian (8)
- 10 Old Archbishop of Canterbury could be Brown's double (7)
- 12 Golden cloud, virtually, is seen to the west of Canaanite city (5)
- 14 He wrote masses; marginally down after book fair (5)
- 15 Song uncle's preferred to old capital (7)
- 17 Jude Hunt is an alias for David's Levite (8)
- 18 Other half of Jezebel is primarily as hard and brazen (4)
- 19 16 mostly responsible for this festival? (9) **CRYPTIC Down**
- Get a mug over here for the wine miracle (4) 2
- Scots chap supporting two accounts leads to a schism (7)
- 3 British king's framed in the style of an OT monarch (5)
- Sikhs meet here to condemn a drug war (8) 4
- James' rule to rewrite the Bible? (9) 6 7
- Hours in church after weird icon appears during passage (9)
- 11 Cleric's in front, ahead of the leading Essene Jew (8)
- 13 Canaanite city's discovered thanks to an article on a church (7)
- 16 Caucasian Carmelite cleric's gone
- missing (5)

Blunder losing front part of the church (4)

QUICK Across

18

- Jericho 'sinner' who, having Jesus to 5 his house, subsequently gave half his property to the poor (9) 8
 - Rocky plateau at the foot of which the Nabataeans carved the city of Petra
- 9 Of people from an ancient part of Babylonia, home to Abraham (8)
- 10 Abbot of Glastonbury, and Archbishop of Canterbury from 959 (7)
- Canaanite city rebuilt by Solomon, 12 along with Megiddo and Gezer (5) Composer brothers (Franz) Josef and
- 14 Michael (5)
- Capital of the biblical Northern 15 Kingdom of Israel (7)
- 17 Levite David appointed as a leader of the Temple music (8)
- Pagan king of Israel and husband of Jezebel (4) 19 18 Seventh Sunday after Easter (9)

QUICK Down

1

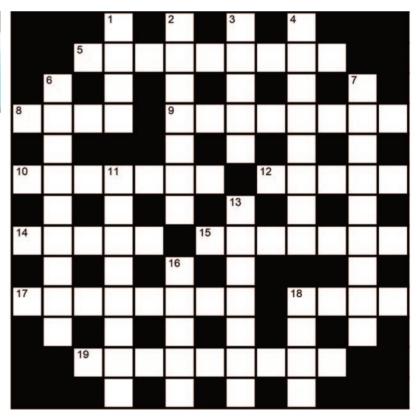
2

3

4

6 7

- Town in the Bible, the scene of the water-into-wine miracle (4)
 - Schism between Rome and the East, 482-519, named after the Patriarch of Constantinople (7) Moabite king who hired Balaam to curse Israel (5)
 - Place of assembly and worship for Sikhs (8) Holy city for Jews, Christians and Muslims (9)
 - Conforming to the recognized rules of cathedral clergy (9)



- 11 Member of an ancient Jewish sect denying the resurrection and the existence of angels (8)
- 13
- Canaanite city; later one of the cities of the Levites (7)
- Link between Carmelites, Magdalenes, Cistercian 16 Monks, Premonstratensians – and Christmas! (5)
- 18 Angular or round section often found in the western part of a church (4)

SOLUTION

Jerusalem, 7 Canonical, 11 Sadducee, 13 Taanach, 16 White, Pentecost. Down: 1 Cana, 2 Acacian, 3 Balak, 4 Gurdwara, 6 12 Hazor, 14 Haydn, 15 Samaria, 17 Jeduthun, 18 Ahab, 19 Across: 5 Zacchaeus, 8 Sela, 9 Chaldean, 10 Dunstan,

.92qA **8**f