



# Catholic South West

Serving the Church in the South West

April 2023

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## Prepare the Way



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

# Catholic South West

## CONTACTS & DETAILS

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

### AIMS

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

### GET INVOLVED

**We need your help!**

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

### SUBMITTING EDITORIAL

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](mailto:csw@cathcom.org)  
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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,

Welcome to this edition of Catholic South West. In this edition we have articles from around the South West, covering a range of issues, from social care, working with the poor, the environment and Lent.

As we journey through Lent together we use the time to pause and reflect. To think about the areas of our lives we need to improve. This may involve giving something up, but we shouldn't limit our preparation for Easter to just giving something up. We may need to take something on, change our attitude, put something right or accept a

situation as it is. As the famous prayer says:

**God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference**

CSW TEAM

APRIL 2023  
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# The Catholic Post

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The UK's first Carbon Neutral Catholic Newspaper



Pope Francis to make Apostolic Journey to Hungary  
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Reaching out to mothers and children in Uganda  
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Making a Retreat  
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The entry of the Lord into Jerusalem

# Is There Another Way?

Many have links to the UK or family members already living here but far too often, there are no safe routes open to them

The Lead Bishop for Migrants and Refugees, Bishop Paul McAleenan, has commented on the government's Illegal Migration Bill:

"Everyone who makes a dangerous journey across the Channel to build a better life here has a name, a face, and a story.

"People are driven from their homes by poverty, conflict, persecution, natural disasters, or other factors that prevent their flourishing. Many have links to the UK or family members already living here. Yet, far too often, there are no safe routes open to them.



Migrants crossing the English Channel

"While we all wish to end dangerous Channel crossings, this new legislation treats migrants and refugees as a problem to be solved rather than brothers and sisters towards whom we have responsibilities. Establishing more safe

routes, and genuinely understanding people's individual circumstances are essential to meeting these. "As Christians we call for the human person, made in the image and likeness of God, to be put at the heart of public policy."

## To subscribe to The Catholic Post see advert on page 10

### 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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# 'Dare to testify to Christian ideals'

## Pope's message to young UK Catholics at 2023 Flame Congress

vaticannews.va

"Dare to be different [and] point to ideals other than those of this world, testifying to the beauty of generosity, service, purity, perseverance, forgiveness, fidelity to our personal vocation, prayer, the pursuit of justice and the common good, love for the poor, and social friendship."

Pope Francis sends a message to young Catholics gathered in London for the 2023 Flame Congress, and urges them to dare to be different as they walk in friendship with Christ.

The event was held 150 days before the 37th World Youth Day—to be held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 1-6 August 2023—under the theme "Rise Up!", an echo of the WYD Scripture passage: "Mary arose and went with haste".

### Set free by the Gospel

Pope Francis sent his greetings and encouragement to participants in the youth rally on Saturday.

In a message signed by Cardinal Secretary of State Pietro Parolin, the Pope assured

the young Catholics of his "spiritual closeness" and prayed that "Almighty God will richly bless their time together".

He expressed his hopes that "through adoration, music, testimonies, and the sharing of friendship with Christ and with one another, all present will grow strong in faith and love and bear witness courageously to the Gospel message that sets us free."

### Beauty of generosity

The Pope also urged them to hasten to respond to the Lord's call to follow Him, as did Mary the Mother of God.

"Dare to be different [and] point to ideals other than those of this world, testifying to the beauty of generosity, service, purity,



perseverance, forgiveness, fidelity to our personal vocation, prayer, the pursuit of justice and the common good, love for the poor, and social friendship."

Pope Francis wrapped up his message by entrusting the young English and Welsh Catholics and their families "to the intercession of Our Lady of Walsingham" and offered them his "blessing as a pledge of wisdom, joy, and peace in Jesus the Lord."

### Rising up as young Catholics

According to the event's website, Flame 2023 is an opportunity to "Rise up after the pandemic, Rise up as young Catholics, Rise up—as Mary did—for the surprising and beautiful adventure that is our Catholic faith."

Guest speakers included Filipino-born Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, and Australian-born Archbishop Timothy Costelloe of Perth.



Tens of thousands of young Catholics from across England and Wales gathered at the OVO Arena Wembley, in London, for the 5th CYMFed Flame Congress.



# A Mass for Pets

Fr Anthony O’Gorman, Parish Priest at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Weymouth, held a Mass and blessed pets in the congregation. There were bearded dragons, hamsters, guinea pigs and numerous dogs (on leads!) at Mass with their owners. At the end of the Mass Fr Anthony went to each bench with animals to bless them with holy water and everyone was well behaved.



# Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



## IT IS FINISHED

On Good Friday afternoon we gather for the starkest liturgy of the church's year. At the beginning the people kneel, while the priest prostrates himself silently in front of the altar. Then after the opening prayer, we listen to the bleak readings. First we hear the fourth song of the Suffering Servant, who will be lifted up, but only after enduring the severest miseries: "As the crowds were appalled on seeing him, so disfigured did he look, so will the crowds be astonished at him." We hear how the servant was despised and rejected, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering. In a world full of pain, we hear how the servant shared in physical and mental anguish. Indeed, he took it on himself to redeem us. He was the one crushed for our sins.

The psalm response conveys Jesus' prayer on the cross, relying on God to save him: "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." Then the second reading from Hebrews reminds us that Jesus learnt obedience through suffering.

The long Passion gospel on Good Friday comes from St John. Whereas the other gospels emphasize Jesus' suffering, St John allows glimpses of Jesus' divinity to shine through. When the military cohort comes to arrest Jesus, he identifies himself: "I am he." This response echoes the story of the burning bush, where God reveals himself: "I am who I am." Just as Moses bowed down in God's presence, so the soldiers bow down when Jesus reveals himself: "I am he."

After Jesus is arrested and brought before the high priest, we hear about Simon Peter warming himself beside a charcoal fire. That is where he denied Jesus three times. But the last chapter of St John's Gospel tells of another charcoal fire beside the Sea of Galilee, where Peter meets Jesus alive after the resurrection. There he will three times express his love for Jesus. Peter's experience offers us hope, because his previous denial was not the last chapter.

The other gospels briefly tell of Jesus being put on trial before the Roman governor. There Pilate asked him the political question: "Are you the King of the Jews?" In St John's Gospel, Jesus answers: "Mine is not a kingdom of this

world. I came into the world to bear witness to the truth."

All the gospels narrate that Jesus was condemned to die by crucifixion. When Jesus is crucified, the gospels tell of the soldiers dicing for his clothing. St John mentions that Jesus' robe was seamless, woven in one piece. In this way it was like the garment of a high priest, who was called to intercede for the people. Jesus dies to redeem sinners.

St John then records the tender words between Jesus and his mother. To ensure that she will receive care when he is gone, he tells the Beloved Disciple: "This is your mother," and henceforth he cares for her in his home.

Matthew and Mark record the painful cry of dereliction uttered by the dying Jesus: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" But in John's Gospel, Jesus' death will complete the work entrusted to him by his heavenly Father. Hence Jesus' final words are simply: "It is finished"—or: "It is accomplished."

Whereas the victims of crucifixion usually had their legs broken, this did not happen to Jesus. For St John, this showed that

Jesus was like the Passover lamb, whose bones were never broken. Hence John the Baptist had acclaimed Jesus as the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

The other gospels report that after Jesus had died, Joseph of Arimathea got permission to bury Jesus in his own freshly-hewn rock-tomb. St John narrates that together with Nicodemus, Joseph gave Jesus an entombment fit for a king, by burying him with a huge amount of spices.

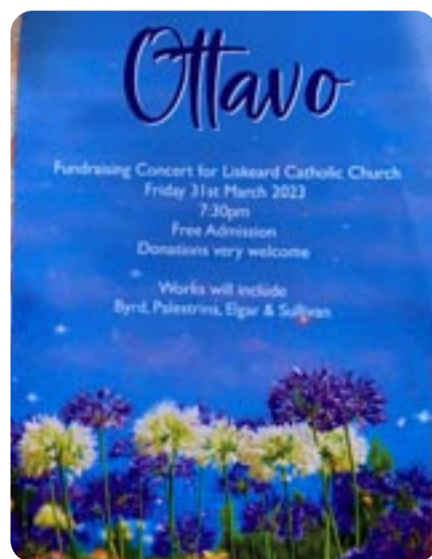
The Good Friday liturgy shows us Jesus suffering terrible physical pain and mental anguish. He underwent mockery, rejection, a false trial, and a violent death, in order to redeem us. Yet at various points, we see glimpses of the resurrection, and the story looks forward to Easter.

Jesus fully shared our human sorrow and pain, but this is not the last word. He had completed the Father's redemptive work, and soon he would rise again. In our weakness and sorrowfulness, we unite ourselves to Christ, in the sure hope of his gift of new life.

## Around the South West

### Fundraising Concert

Liskeard Parish are holding a fundraising concert to raise money for their outreach programmes in the community. The concert will be held on Friday 31 March at 7.30 – admission is free and all are welcome. Works will include Byrd, Palestrina, Elgar and Sullivan and there will be refreshments after the concert. For more information, contact the parish on (01579) 344906



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Plymouth CAST is a multi academy trust of thirty four Catholic schools and one nursery, formed in 2014, which includes all of the Catholic schools in the Diocese of Plymouth. The Trust extends across seven local authority areas from Penzance in Cornwall to Poole in Dorset. We have 1,300 staff and educate 7,000 children and young people. Our head office is located at St Boniface College in Plymouth.

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# Community Outreach in Liskeard



Like many churches, Our Lady and St Neot, Liskeard, were forced to lockdown throughout the coronavirus. However, Mass continued to be said but without a congregation. Gradually we are opening back up and welcoming back our congregation.

After Sunday Mass, our St Neot Room, which is open to all, whether attending mass or just passing by offers free tea, coffee, homemade cakes and biscuits. Motivated by a desire to live out our faith in accordance with Gospel values and the Churches and Diocese of Plymouth's aspirations to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

Going forward we look to being the Catholic presence in the local community for the next century. We pray that as the ties of friendship deepen and as a material expression of our spiritual desires, once more we all may come and

join in worship, fellowship and love. Every Thursday evening, we have an hour of quiet prayer and meditation before the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome to come and have a quiet hour of peace and meditation. Once a month on the first Saturday of the month we have Open Church; where all may come and look around our church, someone is always ready to greet you and give you a warm welcome or as they say in Cornish "Wolcum yth-ough dh'agan eglos". There is always someone who will take you around our church and tell you of its history and show you our beautiful stained-glass window of St Joseph and St Francis. Afterwards there is tea, coffee, cakes and biscuits in our St Neot Room.

Last year, every Friday at 12 noon, we did Lenten Lunches serving homemade soup, rolls, quiches and cheese and biscuits donations went to help the suffering people of war-torn Ukraine.

This year for January and February every Saturday from 10:30 — 15:00 we have

opened the Church as a 'Warm Space' as well as offering a hot drink, cakes biscuits etc, from 11:30 we offer a hot meal {cottage pie, chicken/beef casserole or a vegetarian alternative} plus a pudding {apple/rhubarb crumble, rice pudding, bread pudding, custard or cream} and bread rolls.

Our success story: the first Saturday a homeless person came in for a hot drink and to keep warm. He got talking to a lady who had come in for a chat and company. He left with a warm jacket, woollen hat and scarf, a thick jumper, a tent and a sleeping bag. He could not believe how caring and charitable people could be. He nearly didn't come in, but because it was so cold, he plucked up the courage and was overwhelmed by the kindness and generosity. He came back the next day for a hot drink after Sunday mass. He continued to come every Saturday and Sunday and was given contact numbers and support to ask for help. He now has been given a place in St Austell.

Another lonely man who just came in for company and warmth, has discovered how to pray again.

There are many stories like these in parishes all over the county and the country, all we need to do is to take the time and listen.

This Lent we will be again doing our Lenten Lunches; though this year we will be more frugal as Lent after all is a time of fasting; homemade soup, cheese, rolls and butter. Our donations this year will go to St Petrocs Charity— Homeless in Cornwall.

We also have a collect box for items for the food bank and our Harvest Festival donations go to the food bank. Our projects are uplifting and heartening examples of faith hope and love in action and Christian witness in our local community. It is rewarding for both volunteers and receivers alike.

# Environment Corner - Making connections with nature

“When we speak of the ‘environment’, what we really mean is a relationship existing between nature and the society which lives in it. Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it.” – Laudato Si’ 139

How can we reconnect with nature? The Journey to 2030 material poses some thoughtful questions.

Are there some simple actions we can do to enhance the areas around our parish churches and schools to encourage wildlife?

Churchyards and cemeteries are possible havens for biodiversity, especially if parts are left unmown.

Developing even a small patch of land can help – even a pot of sunflowers can make a difference to bees, butterflies and birds.

These projects are also very popular with the younger members of our congregations and can often be included in children’s liturgies. They combine fun with a significant educational aspect.

Such first steps will create homes and food sources for wildlife in the parish. The creatures you attract may only be small in size, but they are the foundation of the food web on which we and all other species depend.



There are many simple actions that you can take to enhance the outside space for wildlife in your parish

There are many simple actions that you can take to enhance the outside space for wildlife in your parish.

Is there an area where you could plant flowers for pollinators, fruit and nut-bearing shrubs and trees for small mammals and birds?

Could you pile up logs or leaves or create a compost heap for winter hibernation, hang up bird feeders, nest boxes or bee hotels, or create passageways for wildlife to move easily between the church ground and neighbouring gardens?

All these actions help restore the food sources, shelter and nesting sites that have been lost to wildlife by our treatment of the UK environment.

As all life is interconnected, caring for wildlife is an extension of caring for ourselves and each other. Actions that benefit wildlife benefit us too.

The bees and butterflies we attract pollinate our plants and vegetables, and the homes we create for hedgehogs, toads, birds and predatory insects maintain a population hungry for the slugs and snails, aphids and caterpillars that can ravage allotment crops.

What more creative way is there to practise love of ourselves and our neighbour than to

plant sunflowers or to pile up logs?

Barbara Hungin

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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’ foundation 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 stone. 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.

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 Confession: Saturdays at 3pm

**St. Edward the Confessor, Home Park Avenue, Peverell, Plymouth, Devon PL3 4PG**  
 Sundays 8.30 am Low Mass. 1st 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).  
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 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., Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 7BN**  
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# The Road Pilgrim

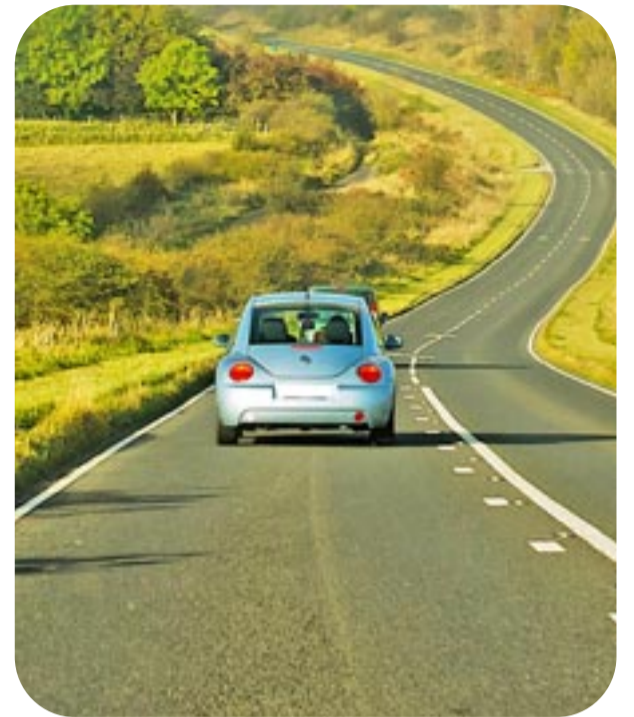
## Part Twelve - Driving Test

### Would you pass?

Experienced drivers sometimes say, "I wouldn't pass the test now. I have too many bad habits!" This is a concern since the L-driving test only tests basic competency in driving. In life, it is also easy to slip into bad behaviour habits. We need vigilance to develop good habits (virtues) and diminish bad habits (vices). Like returning to the basics of safe driving, we need to keep returning to the basics of living lovingly.

A candidate's driving test report records any driving faults committed. On the report, driving faults are categorised as dangerous (D), serious (S)—both are major faults—or less serious (aka minor faults (M)). One dangerous or serious fault results in failure. More than fifteen minor faults also fail, as can repeat minor faults for the same type of driving error.

Driving faults on the highway of life are our 'sins' (i.e. our failures to love). One can act unlovingly (sin) in major ways and minor ways. Notching up D's and S's on life' highway means one's living needs special attention a.s.a.p. One should also pay attention to the M's. Repeating the same 'minor' sins highlights weak areas in one's character (habitual faults). In addition, apathy towards the general frequency of M's can make one more prone to major living faults. Would we pass a basic competency test on life's highway? Are we in need of a refresher course? God is our divine driving instructor.



### Driving test report:

The driving test report lists different types of driving faults. Consider using them for spiritual reflection:

The driving test report viewed spiritually becomes a loving test report. St Ignatius of Loyola had many 'driving' faults, but he learned he was a loved sinner. From this flowed his gratitude and loving response to God. In what areas can we improve?

Driving Fault Area	Reflection on Life
Eyesight	Are you self-aware?
Highway Code	Do you know God's Code?
Controlled stop (Emergency stop)	Does a lack of planning cause you to make sudden stops on life's highway?
Reversing	Before changing plans, do you think things through carefully?
Vehicle checks	Do you look after your health?
Precautions before starting the engine	Before starting each day, do you check in with God?
Control	Do you use your free will wisely?
Moving off	Do you begin things properly?
Mirrors & rear observation	Do you reflect on and learn from the past?
Signals	What messages do you give others?
Clearance	Do you give others space and time?
Signs and signals	Can you spot the signs and signals of truth in your life?
Speed	Is the pace of your life correct?
Following distance	Do you follow others too closely? Do you have a mind of your own?
Progress	Are you a ditherer? Do you need to get on with life?
Junctions	Do you approach the junctions of life sensibly? Do you make good decisions?
Judgement	Are you growing in wisdom? Do you know how little you know?
Positioning	Where are you on the highway of life? Are you in the right place(s) to pursue God's dream for you?
Pedestrian crossings	Do you notice vulnerable people? How do you respond?
Stopping normally	Do you consider the effects on others if you quit something?
Awareness and planning	Can you see the big picture? Do you make sensible plans?
Ancillary controls	How well do you control yourself?
Eco-Safe Driving	Do you care for the environment?



# View from the Pew



By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



## 'Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit'

(Luke 23:46)

Crucifixion (Latin: crux n. cross; figere v.t. to bind/tie to → to bind to a cross) traditionally involves a condemned person being tied or nailed to a large wooden cross and left to die.

The crucifixion of Jesus occurred during the 1st century AD, most probably between the years 30 and 33.

Jesus' crucifixion is described in the four canonical gospels, referred to in the New Testament Epistles, attested to by other ancient sources, and is established as a historical event confirmed by non-Christian sources.

Jesus had been arrested, tried, and sentenced by Pontius Pilate to be scourged, and finally crucified by the Romans.

Crucifixion was used to punish slaves, pirates, and enemies of the state. It was considered the most shameful and disgraceful way to die. Condemned Roman citizens were usually exempt from crucifixion except when they were being punished for major crimes against the state, such as high treason.

Under ancient Roman penal practice, crucifixion was also a means of exhibiting the criminal's low social status. It was the most dishonourable death imaginable, originally reserved for slaves, hence still called 'supplicium servile' by Seneca, later extended to citizens of the lower classes (humiliores). The citizen class of Roman society were almost never subject to capital punishments; instead, they were fined or exiled. Josephus mentions Jews of high rank who were crucified, but this was to point out that their status had been taken away from them.

Scourging - i.e. whipping and lashing - often before crucifixion caused heavy loss of blood prompting a state of shock. The condemned might then have to shoulder the crossbeam (patibulum), weighing around 75-125 pounds (5+ → 8+ stone = 35-60

kilograms), to the place of execution. By way of further humiliation, victims were generally stripped naked, being forced to urinate or defecate in full view of onlookers.

The gibbet on which crucifixion was carried out could be a vertical stake, perhaps with a cross-piece, or in the shape of the letters X or Y.

Nails, tapered iron spikes approximately 5 to 7 inches (13 to 18 cm) long with a square shaft 3/4 inch (10 mm) across, could be inserted between the two bones of the forearm. A foot-rest (suppedaneum) attached to the cross, perhaps for the purpose of taking weight off the forearms, could be used along with a sedile, a small seat attached to the front of the cross. A short, curved upright spike (cornu) might also be attached to the sedile for the perineum to bear down upon or for forcing into the anus or vagina. All such devices, including spreading the victim's arms at 60° to 70° from the vertical, were to cause rapidly increasing pain and to prolong an agonising death.

Attendant guards were known to increase the suffering, precipitate death and give a further warning to others by (1) crurifragium, the snapping or shattering of the tibia and/or fibula with an iron club, (2) spearing stab wounds into the heart, (3) giving sharp blows to the chest and/or (4) lighting a fire at the foot of the cross to asphyxiate the victim. The length of time before death could range from hours to days depending on method, the victim's health, the environment. Death could result from any combination of causes: blood loss, sepsis following infection of the wounds or dehydration.

Crucifixion was forbidden by ancient Jewish law which allowed only 4 methods of execution: stoning, burning, strangulation and decapitation. Crucifixion in one form or another was used by Persians, Carthaginians, Macedonians as well as by others in more recent times. Japan introduced crucifixion during the Sengoku period



Crown of thorns by Ismael Paramo (Unsplash)

(1467-1573). In 1597 twenty-six Christians were nailed to crosses at Nagasaki. The persecution of Christians in Japan did not end until 1871 when the Meiji Restoration introduced religious freedom. Crucifixion was reportedly used in several cases in WW2 against the German civil population of East Prussia when under Soviet occupation.

The Koran, which dates from the 7th century, mentions crucifixion as

punishment befitting the robber who then kills his victim. Crucifixion is still one of the Hadd punishments recorded in the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as under Isis, while Sudan's penal code, along with that of Saudi Arabia, has included the penalty of execution followed by crucifixion.

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

# St Bernadette UK Relic Tour Legacy Film is launched

[birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

The arrival of St Bernadette's relics to the UK was a great blessing particularly after the Covid-19 pandemic

The St Bernadette Relic Tour Team have released a fantastic new legacy film to commemorate 2022's hugely successful visit.

The Relic Tour reached 1 in 4 UK Catholics, with many thousands of people actively participating in the visit.

On Thursday 1 September 2022, the relics of St Bernadette Soubirous began a 11,500-mile journey from the Sanctuary in Lourdes to UK churches, cathedrals, a hospital and one prison, offering a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to people of all faiths and none to visit the saint's sacred relics at one of 52 public venues.

The UK Tour marked the very first time that St Bernadette's relics had visited the UK, with thousands of people across three nations journeying in prayer to be part of the experience. A quarter of a million people participated in the pilgrimage, with 1 in 4 UK Catholics visiting the relics in person during the two-month tour and many more participating in prayer

services, vigils, and special masses, online.

The life and legacy of St Bernadette has touched the lives of many millions of people across the world; 160 years after the first pilgrimages to Lourdes began it remains one of the busiest Christian pilgrimage sites in the world with the Catholic Church acknowledging 70 miracles as having taken place there.

One visitor to the relics said: "We are all here for different reasons, but we are all [experiencing] the wonder of St Bernadette, and that brings hope."

More than 500kg of prayer cards, written by UK pilgrims visiting St Bernadette's relics, were delivered to the Grotto in Lourdes by Relic Tour drivers Gerry O'Malley and Bob Lavery at the close of the pilgrimage in October.

To commemorate the visit and to offer a small glimpse of the many graces made possible during the pilgrimage, the team behind the Relic Tour have released a special legacy film on YouTube.

A spokesperson from the Relic Tour Team said: "The arrival of St Bernadette's relics to the UK was a great blessing particularly after the Covid-19 pandemic, offering a spiritually enriching opportunity for people in England, Scotland and Wales to gather together at churches and cathedrals across three nations. We hope that this short film encourages people to reflect on the message of St Bernadette



and consider visiting Lourdes themselves in the future."

To watch, google YouTube St Bernadette UK Relic Tour.

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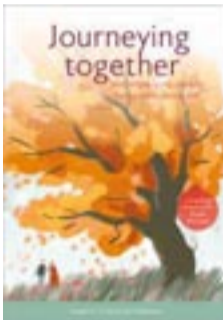
# Book Reviews



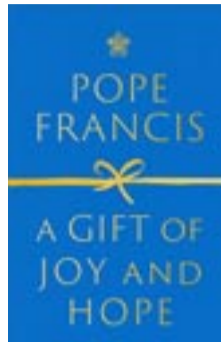
## Journeying Together

By Joseph D Cortis & Pia Matthews  
£11.95  
Product Code: 1921  
ISBN NO: 9780852316269  
[www.rpbooks.co.uk](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk)

Journeying Together offers practical information and hints which helped its authors and contributors to accompany someone with dementia. Having 'been there', they know that you don't have the time, energy - or courage - to cope with unnecessary complications. Journeying Together, is, therefore, a resource of accompaniment and solidarity on a journey which teaches 'a different kind of loving'.



True joy, says Pope Francis, is not a fleeting sentiment or a short-term solution to suffering; it springs from a solid hope that nothing and no one can take away.



A Gift of Joy and Hope is an invitation to embrace authentic beauty and a reminder to be open to encountering God, even in the midst of challenges. In this inspiring collection, Pope Francis encourages readers to change attitudes that exclude others; to reveal the deep dissatisfaction we all hide; and to overcome life's challenges with courage and faith. He also challenges readers to hope without pessimism or doubt, to hope even in the midst of anxiety, to recognize the beauty all around us, and to let God show us how to deal with your doubts and fears.

This book aims to encourage readers to look outside themselves and believe that hope is still possible and that joy always has the last word.

## Let's Go Home

By Jackie Day  
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## A Gift of Joy and Hope

By Pope Francis  
£16.99  
Product Code: 103591  
ISBN NO: 9781399802826

In this encouraging book, Pope Francis explores the meaning of true joy and offers an inspiring message: even in dark times, the light of hope can shine bright.

The past few years have been extremely challenging, but even in dark times, the light of joy can shine bright.

## Dancing with Loneliness

by José María Rodríguez Olaizola SJ  
£12.95/£11.95  
ISBN: 9871788126243  
[www.messenger.ie](http://www.messenger.ie)

The Philosopher Paul Tillich said that language created the word 'loneliness' to express the pain of being alone — and it created the word 'solitude' to express the glory of being alone. It is when we experience a disconnect with our world, a diminishing or disappearance of the quality of our engagement with others, perhaps a feeling of irrelevance, that aloneness slides into loneliness.

However, loneliness is one of the most universal of all human experiences, a singular companion on our life journey. In his new book, Dancing with Loneliness, celebrated author José María R. Olaizola SJ says that if we can accept loneliness as a normal emotion, we can learn to listen to it and embrace it as a creative emptiness within which something new and life-giving can develop. This negative experience may provide us with a space for self-awareness, self-reflection, self-discovery, and self-acceptance. It can help us to rebuild trust in people and possibly choose those we trust more wisely.



Using the imagery of dance, Olaizola says the world is filled with the music in our hearts and that everyone has a different song. He describes a 'vicious' loneliness, painful and unwanted, which is destructive and does not carry the seed of new growth, 'a tortuous tango'. However, we can learn to guide our emotions and to dance to our own song. We can choose to tango alone or together. This book teaches us the steps.

Olaizola is perceptive, imaginative and down-to-earth, and he conveys his wisdom through literature, poetry, cinema and personal anecdotes. Rather than being a sombre read, this book sparkles with the potential of individual endeavour.

José María Rodríguez Olaizola SJ is a Jesuit, writer and sociologist. He is currently head of institutional communication for the Society of Jesus in Spain. He has an active social media presence and is the author of numerous books in his native Spanish. This is his first book with Messenger Publications

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# CELEBRATION FOR THE MAN WHO COULD BE ENGLAND'S NEXT SAINT

John Bradburne held Buckfast Abbey as a special place in his heart, as this was where he converted to Catholicism. The Cause for Beatification for Bradburne is now in full swing and he is likely to become England's next Saint.



This is a rare opportunity to learn about Bradburne's Saintly life and meet the people making this happen.

The John Bradburne Memorial Society will be hosting an event at Buckfast Abbey, South Devon on Saturday 10th June 2023 at 12 noon, to commemorate his 102nd Birthday.

This ticketed event will involve a Mass, lunch, talks, music and an exhibition.

"We are delighted, said the Abbot David Charlesworth OSB, to be able to host this event and we look forward to seeing as many people as possible."

**Please note this is a ticketed event so if you would like to attend, please contact JBMS: 07979 187498 or [info@johnbradburne.com](mailto:info@johnbradburne.com)**  
**Tickets are available on the JBMS website [www.johnbradburne.com](http://www.johnbradburne.com)**

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

### CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Henry tracks Tolkien's mine to reach Solomon's temple (6)
- 8 Awful creature! (6)
- 9 Acre in Alaska's fine, in retrospect, for Hebrew port (4)
- 10 He came back after nudge, one by a spirited lass (8)
- 11 This book's dull...also cut (7)
- 13 Irish saint's oddly evoking good old Exodus (5)
- 15 She, unfaithful to the prophet, married raver, it's going round (5)
- 16 Occupation Ulster's withdrawn from, coming to an end (7)
- 18 Psalm setting, before/after? - a tight one (8)
- 19 Spring fast with hospital department appeal ending (4)
- 21 One of Cain's descendants turned bad in Paris, taking 17's heart (6)
- 22 Unwanted buildup of swabbies, one on top of the other (6)

### CRYPTIC Down

- 1 City that's ultimately shabby, on the other hand is the capital of Kosovo (4)
- 2 Some versions have this chap meeting Jesus in hero's temple in error (5,3,5)
- 3 Guy retired after return of writer's block (7)
- 4 Doctor regularly looks into muscles - they used to read a lot from them (5)
- 5 Hear old priest's moving 'Hallelujah' (6,3,4)
- 6 Someone Paul addressed after show, one decked in

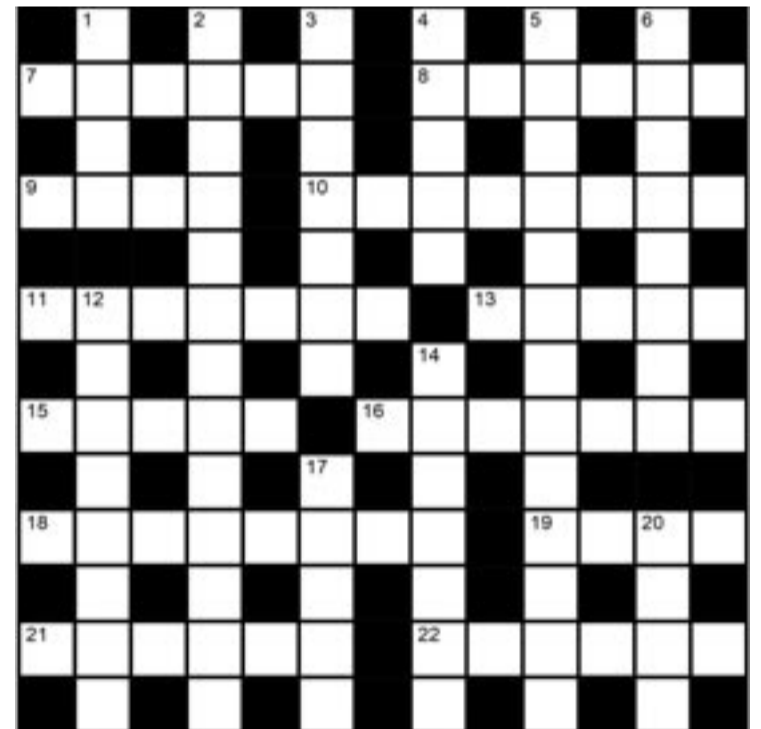
- 12 brown (8)
- 13 Oxford guy, a leading chap, who's been to Mecca to get David's boy (8)
- 14 Graduate is, with anger over race, wearing a clerical head covering (7)
- 15 New report supports pharaoh who killed Josiah (5)
- 17 Arkwright's circle is embraced by revolutionary dynasty (4)

### QUICK Across

- 7 Mountains where Abraham was told to sacrifice Isaac (6)
- 8 Deadly; subject to death (6)
- 9 Variation in spelling of Acre in the OT (4)
- 10 Infamous son as described in Jesus' parable (8)
- 11 One of the Synoptic Gospels (7)
- 13 St ----- of Glendalough, Co Wicklow, d 618? (5)
- 15 Son of Japheth and wife of Hosea bearing the same name [Gen] (5)
- 16 Occupation of the apostle brothers Andrew and Simon Peter (7)
- 18 Common designation of Psalm 51, set to music by Allegri and others (8)
- 19 Post-Shrovetide fast (4)
- 21 Descendant of Cain: 20's father (6)
- 22 Fearsome person: kind of sauce (6)

### QUICK Down

- 1 Archbishopric second only to Canterbury in importance in the C of E (4)
- 2 Popular name of a Pharisee, possibly, who hosted



- 3 Jesus in Bethany (5,3,5)
- 4 Meeting of a knightly order (7)
- 5 Pulpits or reading desks in early Christian churches (5)
- 6 English translation of 'Hallelujah!' (6,3,4)
- 7 Citizen of an NT Roman province (8)
- 8 Fourth son of David (8)
- 9 Cap worn commonly by RC clerics (7)
- 10 Pharaoh, the slayer of Josiah at Megiddo (5)
- 11 Captain for 40 days and nights (4)

### SOLUTION

12 Adonijah, 14 Biretta, 17 Necho, 20 Noah.  
 3 Chapter, 4 Ambos, 5 Praise the Lord, 6 Galatian,  
 7 Lamech, 8 Tartar, 9 Down: 1 York, 2 Simon the Leper,  
 13 Kevin, 15 Gomer, 16 Fishing, 18 Misereere, 19 Lent,  
 21 Prodigal, 22 Matthew, 23 Mordiah, 8 Mortal, 9 Akko, 10 Prodigal, 11 Matthew,