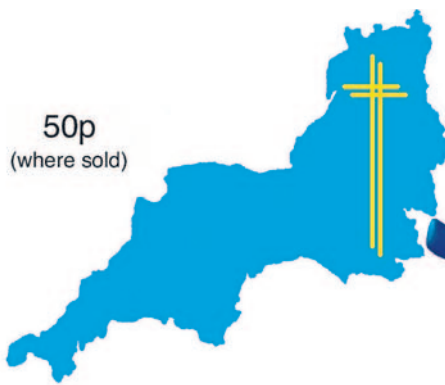


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Catholic *South West*

*Serving the
Church in the
South West*

AUGUST
2023

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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,

Next week the World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon. This is a global event for young people, and we hope to hear about the experiences from some of those attending from the South West.

If you are, perhaps, a little older, there is an opportunity for you too. This time, Grandparents are being encouraged to get involved and support with your prayers. As someone who has attended, provided music, and a newspaper for a number of World Youth Days, I can tell

you, it is definitely something worth supporting. If you would like more information please go to:
www.lisboa2023.org/en/wyd-grandparents

CSW TEAM

Global links of faith, hope and love: Bishop Augustine of Orlu visits our diocese!

It has been an honour and a pleasure to welcome Bishop Augustine of Orlu to our diocese this week!

His Lordship Bishop Augustine was ordained deacon on 18th December 1982. He was ordained priest on 30th July, 1983 by his lordship, most Rev. Gregory Ochiagha at St. Patrick's parish Amucha and consecrated Bishop on the 21st June, 2008.

To love as Christ loved, the mission and vision of His Lordship, Most Rev. Augustine Tochukwu Ukwuoma is summarized in his Motto which is engraved on his coat of arms, which reads "Diligere Sicut Dilexit Christus". It is the continuation of the mission of Christ who came not to be served but to give his life as ransom for many. (Mark 10:45).

The Catholic Diocese of Orlu was created in 1980 by Pope John Paul II and is currently led by Bishop Augustine Ukwuoma. With more than 1 million Catholics, the diocese is actively engaged in evangelization and pastoral initiatives.

An aspect of this inspiring evangelization and pastoral care has included sending some of their priests here to our diocese. As a mark of respect and to honour this generous support, Bishop Mark visited Orlu in 2019. This week Bishop Augustine has returned the favour, visiting and celebrating Mass at our mother church in Plymouth, and reconnecting with his priests who serve here in our diocese. Canon Mark O'Keefe said: **'It was a wonderful occasion when we welcomed the bishop of Orlu, Bishop Augustine.'**

The wonderful links between our diocese have meant that we have been loaned 9



priests from his diocese which enables us to fulfil our Mission of bringing Christ in the Sacraments to our communities. We are truly grateful to the bishop for his generosity and to those priests who have left their homes to come on Mission here in the Plymouth Diocese.

We pray for the people and priests in Orlu for their continued growth and faith."

The visit is a visible sign of the fraternity and solidarity that exists in our global church, and the warm welcome Bishop Augustine has received is a testament to the fruitful links forged between our diocese and that of Orlu. We continue to keep him and the people of Nigeria in our prayers and thank God for the ministry of him and the priests of the diocese of Orlu, who are so vital and valued here in our parishes.

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

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

article - they don't just want to know who was there and what snacks were available!

2) Keep it brief: Make sure you make your point - but keep it brief and punchy.

3) Pictures: Send pictures as they are - even if they are very big to email. Don't reduce them in size or put them inside a Word document. They look fine on the screen but terrible in the paper!

LEGAL INFORMATION

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Warm southwest welcome greets sailor on epic 2,400-mile pilgrimage to help seafarers and fishers

Supporters of Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) extended a warm southwest welcome to avid sailor Russ Fairman when he stopped over in Falmouth, Fowey, Plymouth and Teignmouth, as part of his 2,400-mile Round Britain sailing pilgrimage recently.

Southampton-based Russ had undertaken the 70-day voyage to celebrate the Catholic charity's 100+ years of service to seafarers, fishers and their families, beginning in Southampton on 29th April and ending in Portsmouth on Sea Sunday on 9th July.

Russ visited around 50 Holy sites and called at 65 ports during his adventurous and faith-filled journey on board his boat 'Mintaka'.

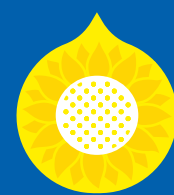
At the Falmouth stopover Russ and crew were treated to a wonderful Cornish-themed spread, which included Cornish pasties, saffron cake, heavy cake and scones with jam, topped with clotted cream, after Mass at St Mary Immaculate Church on 29th June. All this was organised by John Pinhay, Stella Maris Falmouth and Fowey regional port chaplain and his fantastic team.

Russ received another friendly welcome at a Mass and gathering held in St Mary & St Boniface Cathedral, Plymouth, organised by Ann Donnelly, Stella Maris regional port chaplain for Plymouth & Teignmouth, and wonderful local supporters. The sailing party were also spoilt with



home-baked cake and fizz when they sailed into Teignmouth a couple of days later, a rare but much appreciated treat.

Russ said, "Thank you to the amazing parishioners and priests of the Plymouth Diocese for your warm and wonderful welcome. What a fabulous way to celebrate 103 years of Stella Maris work.



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Success for social worker pilot scheme in women's prisons



All women's prisons should have social workers dedicated to supporting mothers in custody to stay in touch with their children, where it is in the child's best interests, according to the charity Pact (the Prison Advice and Care Trust). The call coincides with the publication today of an independent evaluation report that shows how social workers in two prisons have helped to keep mothers in touch with their children and have supported in managing incidents of self-harm, which are at record levels in women's prisons.

The Together a Chance pilot project, run by Pact and funded by the Sylvia Adams Trust, employs two prison-based social workers to support mothers in HMPs Send and Eastwood Park. Their role is to bridge the gap between the prison and social services in the community, keeping mothers in touch with their children where it is in the child's best interests.

The pilot project in HMPs Send and Eastwood Park followed Lord Farmer's landmark review in 2019 about the importance of maintaining family ties in women's prisons. The report recommended that the Ministry of Justice fund on-site social workers as part of a multi-disciplinary team within each prison.

A new second independent interim report on the evaluation, published today by Cardiff University, shows that the Pact social workers:

- * Support more frequent and positive contact between mothers and children, where it's in the child's best interests, dealing with dozens of local authorities across England and Wales.

- * Promote mothers' rights and give them more of a say in key decisions affecting their children.

- * Instil hope in women to remain positive and play a significant role in managing self-harm and the risk of suicide among women in prison.

- * Bring new, specialist knowledge of safeguarding and social services' processes which does not just benefit the women in prison but also helps to upskill other prison staff, allowing them to deal more effectively with mothers in the establishment. Prison officers report lacking the relevant expertise to deal with complex cases that involve social services.

Andy Keen-Downs, Pact CEO, said: "The report published today shows the vital role that prison-based social workers play in bridging the gap between mothers in prison and social services on the outside. This is a win-win – keeping mothers in touch with their children where appropriate, supporting efforts to tackle the worryingly high levels of self-harm in women's prisons and reducing the likelihood that they'll reoffend.

"It's been over three years since a Government-commissioned review recommended that every women's prison

should have dedicated social workers. We have the evidence that it works; now it's time for Ministers to invest in this simple, common-sense measure."

Katia Parent, Social Worker, HMP Send, said: "We're giving the mothers the chance to be there for their children and to show their children that they still have parents who love them and will do everything for them from prison. It's about giving women hope for the future and their children the opportunity to have a relationship with their mother where that's appropriate."

Quotes from mothers in prison

"She never ever lets me down or doesn't turn up. She always delivers. If she says something, she follows through. She's amazing and helped me so much and impacted my life greatly in a good way. She's the best social worker help I've ever had. I'd have not coped without her at all."

"She has been able to make the contact with the people I couldn't. This is invaluable to me."

"She has supported me through all my court hearings and emotionally after my hearings, keeping me involved in meetings and helping me to read and write."

"It reminds me that I'm a mum, and I need to act a certain way. So it's really helped me with my growth in here and my progression."

Facts about women in prison

- * Two-thirds of women entering prison to serve a sentence have committed a non-violent offence

- * Rates of self-harm among women in prison are at record levels. Last year there were more than 16,000 incidents – a rise of 37% on the previous year. Although women make up only 4% of the prison population, they account for 29% of all recorded self-harm incidents.

- * Around three in five women in prison have a child under the age of 18. An estimated 17,000 children are affected by maternal imprisonment every year. 95% of children have to leave their home when their mother goes to prison.

- * Almost two-thirds of women in prison are reported to be survivors of domestic abuse, and half report having experienced emotional, physical or sexual abuse as a child.

People who receive visits when they are in prison are 39% less likely to reoffend – 58% of women are reconvicted within one year of leaving prison.

Family contact can help address the causes of reoffending on release. But keeping in touch is often made more difficult by being held in prison far from home. The average distance for women is 63 miles, but it is often significantly more.

For more information, references and to read the full report, go to prisonadvice.org.uk

Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



Encountering the Lord on the Mountain

Why do many people like to take holidays in the mountains? And why do people continually wish to climb Mount Everest, or other high peaks? Clearly there is a sense of achievement when you have reached a mountaintop after a long, difficult climb. But I think there is more.

At the top of a mountain, in a sense, we can feel closer to heaven or closer to God. We can feel that we are above the rest of the earth and away from its problems, with nothing between us and heaven.

On Sunday 13th August (19th Sunday of the Year), we read about the prophet Elijah encountering God on a mountaintop. He has just held a contest with the false prophets on Mount Carmel. It was not their god, but rather the Lord God of Israel, who sent down fire (or lightning) from the sky to consume the animal being sacrificed.

Exhausted by this contest, Elijah seeks some peace by going to Mount

Horeb (or Sinai), where Moses had once encountered God. But this time, God does not show his presence in thunder and lightning and thick cloud, as he had done to Moses. He does not reveal himself in lightning and a rainstorm, as he had done for Elijah on Mount Carmel.

Instead, God now reveals himself in a still small voice – the sound of a gentle breeze. The Creator of the universe does not need to make a big noise to show he is present. If our hearts are open, we can hear his voice in a gentle breeze or a moment of silence.

We hear of another great mountaintop experience in the gospel for Sunday 6th August (Feast of the Transfiguration), where Jesus' risen glory is revealed to three chosen disciples.

Just as Moses had encountered God on Mount Sinai, so the great lawgiver was present on the holy mountain with the transfigured Jesus. And just as Elijah had also encountered God in the gentle breeze on that same mountain, so now this great

prophet was present with Jesus in his transfiguration.

Moses and Elijah had both entered into God's glory at the end of their earthly life, and likewise Jesus would enter the brightness of heaven after his death. The disciples would later need this reassurance when their Master was cruelly taken away to suffer the ignominious death of crucifixion.

For now, Peter wishes to preserve the mountaintop experience. He offers to set up tents for Jesus and Moses and Elijah, so that they can stay on the mountain, bathed in the heavenly light.

But a tent is a temporary dwelling, and the experience did not last. The disciples heard the heavenly voice: "This is my Beloved Son. Listen to him," and they bowed down in worship. Then when they looked up, Moses and Elijah had vanished, and only Jesus was there.

On the holy mountain, the three chosen disciples had had a wonderful experience

of God's presence. Jesus belonged with Israel's great prophets Moses and Elijah, and he would soon be reunited with them in the glory of heaven.

But the disciples could not freeze time or hold onto that mountaintop experience. They had to come down the mountain and follow Jesus on the way to Jerusalem, where he would meet his death.

If we are able to take a holiday in the mountains, we can often be refreshed by feeling the presence of God on the majestic peaks. But at the end of the holiday, we need to return home to our regular life with its challenges, refreshed by our mountaintop experiences.

Ultimately, like Jesus and the disciples, we are all on the journey of life, through death, and hopefully to the glory of heaven. Especially in times of difficulty, may the story of the transfiguration give us hope.

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World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

Pope Francis established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly which took place for the first time on Sunday 25 July 2021 and for the second time on Sunday 24 July 2022.

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly was celebrated for the third time in 2023 on Sunday 23 July – the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, Grandparents of Jesus. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year’s celebration is:

“His mercy is from age to age” (Luke 1:50).

The Catholic Grandparents Association has been at the forefront in campaigning for a greater recognition of Grandparents for their role and vocation in passing on their faith to the next generation. The announcement of a new Church-wide celebration for Grandparents and the elderly came in answer to our prayerful request to the Holy Father Pope Francis.

This new worldwide celebration in the Universal Church calendar is a momentous achievement for Grandparents and the Elderly and will hopefully reassure them that they are loved and that they are needed.

To learn more about how you can celebrate next year’s event, visit our website. We have a whole suite of resources and ideas for how you can make this a wonderful celebration for all.



PRAYER FOR THE THIRD WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2023

Virgin Mary,
Mother of faith and hope,
an example for this humanity bent by indifference,
make me as willing as You
to accept the will of God,
to magnify and praise His Mercy.
Mary, Mother of fortitude,
you who knows my heart,
do not allow me to become discouraged.
I confidently surrender my life into your hands. Heal my wounds.
May your tenderness accompany me on the way.
Your presence, Mother of love,
brings us to experience the joy
of seeing our families united.
Help me to transmit the tenderness and Love of God to the
grandchildren and youth
so that, in addition to praying for them,
we can pray with them.
Mary, may the gift of the Holy Spirit intercede for me: sustain my weakness;
breathe into my heart the consolation
that I may leave traces of faith among the young, bearing witness to the beauty
of life, knowing that life has a limit
and that beyond it lies before us our Father’s embrace.
Amen.

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Annual Diocese Schools Mass - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Bishop Philip Egan today celebrated the annual Diocese Schools Mass at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth with over forty schools attending from across the Diocese. The theme was "Making Peace with those around us". Each school brought a banner to represent their school.



Pupils from Corpus Christi Primary School, Boscombe and Springhill Primary School, Southampton received their Faith in Action Awards. Faith in Action is a national award scheme for young people aged between 10 and 18, supported by CYMFed (Catholic Youth Ministry Federation). The scheme has been designed to be accessible, to acknowledge good works and encourage more, and to ensure that action is rooted in faith.

After the celebratory Mass, all participants went into Victoria Park across from the Cathedral and enjoyed a picnic lunch and a lolly in the sunshine.



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Iraqi cardinal urges global unity in Walsingham visit



Bishop Peter Collins (left), with His Beatitude, Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako at the Abbey Grounds site.

Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako, Patriarch of Babylon and Head of the Chaldean Church, underscored the urgent need for global Christian unity and solidarity during a recent significant visit to Walsingham on Saturday June 17, accompanied by Bishop Peter Collins and several Iraqi clergy.

Their visit to Walsingham began with a stop at the Orthodox chapel, St Seraphim's in Walsingham. They then visited the Abbey grounds, which is the site of the original Holy House. They were given a tour of the site, accompanied by a comprehensive talk on the history of Walsingham by Fr Michael Rear.

After their tour, the group shared a meal, followed by a visit to the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady.

A notable moment during the visit was Cardinal Sako's in-depth interview with EWTN GB, where he addressed the challenges faced by Christians in Iraq and called for support from Western Christian communities.

The Cardinal began by expressing the hopes and aspirations of his clergy for the future, saying: "All the Iraqi bishops are with me, trying to keep our people busy, and also hoping for a better future, and I am sure the future will be different from this situation and the future will be much better than now. What we need is the proximity of our sisters and brothers, Christians in the West, and also this solidarity to support Christians there, and to support them morally, humanly, and spiritually, especially because in Iraq and other oriental countries the system is tribal, but Christians only have the Church, so their force is the Church."

He went on to stress the significance of the Church to the Christians in the East: "The real shelter for them is the Church. What we need is this proximity, closeness, but also support. I mean, by visiting them and staying with them for a while to see their situation, to give them more hope, to raise their spirit. That is what we need."

Turning to the role of Britain in Iraq, he said: "First of all, the British have a responsibility towards Iraq,

because we were a British colony for years, and also the British were a part of the coalition to change the old regime. I think the duty of Britain and other Western states is to establish one standard of human rights, not a double standard. We have rights, all Iraqis, Muslims and Christians to live in freedom and dignity. This kind of conviviality cannot be done without a state of citizenship and a state of equality and justice."

He then suggested the idea of partnerships and dialogue: "Maybe there are two ways to influence political leaders, but also Church leaders. Maybe at the beginning you can invite deputies or prime ministers, or the speaker of the Parliament, to speak to them directly here in Britain, a kind of symposium or a conference on how to develop Iraq, how to help Iraq to be a real state with its own sovereignty."

Reflecting on the contribution of Eastern churches and the need for peace, he said: "We can give a lot to the Church because our spirituality, our liturgies, our theology – it is a richness for the whole Church... We have many goods to give to the West, oil and other products. So that should be really in a civilized way and not always tensions and conflicts and dead people – that is a pity."

Regarding the future of his Church and Iraq, Cardinal Sako remained optimistic: "I am hopeful not only for the Church, but also for the Iraqi people. Overcoming the evil doesn't remain impossible. The good is a little bit slow, but it remains. And this kind of situation cannot continue. There will be a change, a positive change."

This visit marked a significant moment for the whole Christian community. It brings to the fore the pressing need for unity and support, echoing Cardinal Sako's call for solidarity among Christians globally, irrespective of geographical boundaries..

Pictured above is Bishop Peter Collins (left), with His Beatitude, Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako at the Abbey Grounds site.

View from the Pew



By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



Oil and Water: a cautionary tale

I'm not sure where I stand on whether human social history develops in a linear or cyclical fashion. Is the direction of travel like an arrow, you can't reverse the trajectory, you can't undo time, or is it more like a boomerang, like some merry-go-round? In the latter case, it's just a matter of time - I might even say 'confusion' - before a previous predicament or situation comes round full circle and re-presents itself. I think I remain sitting firmly on the fence in this debate. However, nowadays it seems agreed that time is linear. And suffice it to say that linear time prevails in the three religions deemed as descendants of Abraham: Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Yet such development, more often than not throughout human history, has been considered cyclical and rhythmic, mirroring the seasons. Perhaps the schism in 1534 (Henry VIII) could not have been so totally unpredictable nor unanticipated, particularly in the light of the great Schism of 1054.

1054 saw the mutual excommunication between Pope Leo IX and the Patriarch of Constantinople Michael Cerularius. So started the 'Great Schism' splitting the two largest denominations in Christianity: the Roman Catholic, with its basis in Roman law, and the Eastern Orthodox, rooted in Greek philosophy. The excommunications were not revoked until 1965, when Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras I, following their historic meeting in Jerusalem in 1964, presided over

simultaneous ceremonies. A highly respected member of the Eastern Orthodoxy of late has been The Very Reverend Archpriest Michael Fortunato (19 May 1931 - 19 February 2022) who, for 45 years, was choirmaster and priest at London's Russian Orthodox Cathedral, the Moscow Patriarchate being an autocephalous Eastern Orthodox Christian church. Born in Paris, the eldest of three sons of Russian émigré parents who had lost everything in the Revolution, Fr Michael had continued to play a large part in the life of the Russian émigré families in France.

Fr Michael and I met once. We had been asked to attend the London HQ of a global mining company. The company was looking 'in common accord and to mutual benefit' at how best to engage both in spirit and in practice with the local village community of some far-flung region of the Russian hinterland where drilling was about to commence. Fr Michael and I had arrived in good time and had just been ushered into the atrium: 'A Temple to Mammon', he called as he opened his arms wide and looked around at the structure dwarfing us. A secretary hurriedly announced that, due to unforeseen circumstances, our meeting had to be put back by half an hour or more. So we just sat there. And we got to talking. About this and that. And more besides. Notably about 20th century history.

He explained that his compatriots who had left Russia in the wake of the

Revolution (1917) were of one of two types of political refugee fleeing persecution. There were those who had left a lot behind and who wanted to stay close at hand, hoping against hope that they could one day return to recoup what they had left behind. 'Heavy fruit never falls far from the tree'. Conversely there were those for whom Mother Russia offered little promise and who, with little or no 'ballast', might as well pick up sticks, move away and look for a new life much further afield. A high percentage of each group remained loyal, yet in varying degrees, to their Christian faith, be they in Paris, London, the Americas or points beyond.

Fr Michael continued, explaining that, with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, there had come a new Russian exodus, a new diaspora bringing a tide of different Russian refugees looking to better their lot with their worship of the dollar in a new, brave post-Soviet world. They had been born and educated under Communism in an otherwise Godless society. For them pre-Soviet Russia and all it stood for was considered anathema, despite some among their number coming round to renouncing the religion of 'the dollar', ultimately to revert to the religion of their forefathers.

In short, the stage was set with the ageing wave of political emigrés and their direct modern-day descendants to meet with their latter-day fellow countrymen and women, latter-day



**Evelyn De Morgan:
The Worship of Mammon (1909)**

economic migrants. Such was the issue which we now see reflected on a different and even broader canvas.

Perhaps I should look at life more 'cyclically' than I once did. Attribution: Evelyn De Morgan. Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons. Texts adapted and/or images adopted from <http://en.wikipedia.org> under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/>



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

The Parish of Our Lady of the Angels Celebrates Fr. Gilmour McDermott's Golden Jubilee of Ordination

Many congratulations to Fr. Gilmour McDermott who celebrated his 50th anniversary of ordination as a priest on Friday 14th July 2023. Members of the Catholic community in southeast Cornwall celebrated a weekend of festivities.

Fr. Gilmour was ordained at St John's Wonersh in Surrey on the 14th of July 1973 by Bishop Michael Bowen. His first parish was St Edmunds Godalming from 1973 – 1978. From 1978 – 1983 found Fr. Gilmour at Our Lady & St Philip Howard, Arundel Cathedral – just recently Fr. Gilmour returned to Arundel Cathedral to attend the 150 anniversary Mass.

Between 1983 – 1987 he was at St Joseph's Redhill, where he was Chaplain at St Bede's School; Catholic Chaplain to Surrey scouts; and made his first pilgrimage to the Holy Land. He moved to St Mary Preston Park Brighton where he remained until 1992.

While at St Thomas of Canterbury, St Leonard's on Sea between 1992-1996, Fr. Gilmour became Prison Chaplain at HMP Northeye. From 1996-1997 he took a sabbatical in the USA at Washington Theological Union and visited Missions in Thailand and East Africa. On his return he was put on loan to the Plymouth Diocese and has remained there ever since.

From 1998 Fr Gilmour was parish priest at St Joseph and moved to St Edward, King & Martyr, Shaftesbury in 1999 and became Prison Chaplain at HMP Guys Marsh. Leaving Devon, he moved to Cornwall to the parish of The Sacred Heart & St Ives & Hayle from 1999-2003. From there he moved to Our Lady of the Portal & St Piran, Truro, from 2003-2015, where he was Chaplain to Truro British Legion and Chaplain to Treliske Hospital.

Fr. Gilmour arrived at Liskeard, Our Lady & St Neot in 2015. Since arriving at Liskeard, he has put in hand many improvements to the church and built a loving and welcoming community, which is open and supportive to all. This was reflected in the speech given by Cllr Simon Cassidy, Mayor of Liskeard, who presented Fr. Gilmour with a scroll at Fr. Gilmour's party at Liskeard Public Hall on 14th July.

Fr. Gilmour also inherited responsibility for services at Sclerder Abbey, near Looe and, a few years ago, the parish was extended to include responsibility for the Catholic churches in Saltash and Torpoint, where he has also seen improvements to the buildings.

Fr. Gilmour has frequently led pilgrimages to the Holy Land – with another planned between 8th-15th December this year. In recognition of his concern for the Christian communities in the Holy Land, he was appointed as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre. Since coming to Liskeard, he has sought to provide material support to the Christian families and groups who live in the complex and difficult context of the Middle East today.

Fr. Gilmour's weekly schedule is hectic with Holy Mass to be celebrated at Sclerder Abbey and in Liskeard each Sunday, with services at Saltash and Torpoint fitted in on Saturday evenings.

Fr. Gilmour's timeline of ministry is reflected in the gorgeous floral display in front of the altar beginning with St John's Seminary Wonersh and ending with the parish of Our Lady of the Angels, Liskeard, Saltash, Sclerder Abbey, and Torpoint.



Parish celebrations began on Friday July 14th with Fr. Gilmour leading a Concelebrated Mass at Our Lady & St Neot, Liskeard at 18:30 assisted by eleven priests from all over Cornwall. Attended by the Mayor and Deputy Mayoress of Liskeard, Fr. Gilmour's brother and his wife, and parishioners from all four churches, and invited guests. This was followed by a parish party at Liskeard Public Hall, where the mayor gave a presentation to Fr. Gilmour.

Saturday 15th July saw the church of Our Lady & St Neot open for all to come and view the decorations, find out about the history of the church, and a selection of Fr.

Gilmour's Mass Vestments – many of which were from the Holy Land. Also on display was Fr. Gilmour's various stoles from all over the world, along with Flags from the World, the Polish Flag and of course the Cornish Flag – bringing together the diversity of the parish of Liskeard – followed by refreshments. This was well attended from all four churches and the community of Liskeard and its' various churches.

On Sunday 16th July at Sclerder Abbey Fr. Gilmour celebrated an Open-Air Mass in the Abbey gardens at 15:00 followed by an afternoon cream tea which was attended by all four parishes.

Book Reviews



The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Barbara Reed Mason

£3.95

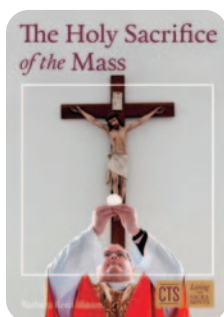
CTS Product Code: DO963

Please refer to this code when ordering over the phone

ISBN: 9781784697556

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Every time the Mass is celebrated something astonishing occurs: the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross is made truly present. Drawing on Sacred Scripture, the Catechism, and the words of saints and popes, this book explains how the Sacrifice of the Mass unites the faithful with God.



Every time the Mass is celebrated something astonishing occurs: the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross is made truly present. The Mass is the sacrifice of Christ. In this way, it offers all Catholics a powerful and personal encounter with the loving Saviour, Jesus Christ, who gave his life for the salvation of sinners. Drawing on the sacred Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the wise words of saints and popes, this book explains how the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass unites the faithful with God.

Behold Your Mother

Peter Kahn

£6.95

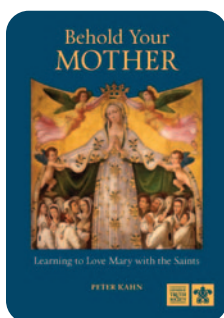
CTS Product Code: D847

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ISBN: 9781784697563

www.ctsbooks.org

Behold Your Mother tells stories about ways the saints encountered Our Lady, not necessarily through the miraculous, but rather as their spiritual mother in everyday life, showing that any growth in our awareness of Mary's presence and care for us deepens our relationship to Christ.



"When God provides our necessities through Mary's hands, then we become more affectionate towards our spiritual mother, and our trust in God grows."

What is it like to have a close relationship with Mary, the Mother of God? Our Lady is the spiritual mother of all Christians, but it is the saints who know her best.

This book tells stories about ways the saints encountered Our Lady, not necessarily through the miraculous, but rather as their spiritual mother in everyday life.

The saints' experience shows us that any growth in our awareness of Mary's presence and care for us deepens our relationship to Christ. It is their testimony that an ever-deepening relationship with the Mother of God is a path to sanctity.

Reflecting on the wisdom of the saints who so loved Our Lady shows that this path through Marian devotion to holiness is one open to all Christians. She is our mother and she seeks always to lead us to her beloved son, Jesus.

Brothers in Arms

Brendan McManus SJ

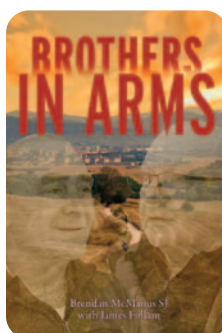
£12.95

ISBN 9781788126144

www.messenger.ie

'I absolutely loved this book – the reflections, the songs, the stories of people you met along the way. I've no doubt it will help many people make the right choices along their chosen path in life.'

Patricia McCann, Playwright and author of Bring Me Back Alive



The summer of 2022 saw an unprecedented heatwave in Spain and the author, a Jesuit priest, was accompanying a Dublin taxi driver on a walking retreat on the Ignatian Camino to Manresa, near Barcelona. This book tells the story of that testing pilgrimage: trying to find a way through severe heat; the challenges of walking together, finding accommodation and negotiating unexpected hurdles; and the retreat that they did together that looked at faith, prayer and blocks to progress. On one level it is a story of friendship between two very different personalities, and also a story of two souls on a spiritual search for God.

As in his other books, Brendan highlights the Ignatian learning points and narrates the many adventures they went through to cope with exceptional circumstances. The pressure of the intense heat forces them to adapt their walking and find balance and discernment in making good decisions on the road. The pilgrimage took in some key Ignatian sites such as Montserrat and Manresa, but readers are given a unique perspective on the experience of St Ignatius Loyola through the eyes of these two pilgrims' unique journey, as well as illustrating how a customised Ignatian retreat works. This is a pilgrimage story of finding God in the messiness of less than ideal situations, developing a heart-warming friendship, and finding a way through using Ignatian principles of reflection and flexibility.

Brendan McManus SJ works as a Spiritual Director and retreat giver in Belfast. He has published a number of books with Messenger Publications including Channelling the Inner Fire, Contemplating the Camino, Surviving Suicide Bereavement and, co-authored with Jim Deeds, Discover God Daily, the best-selling Finding God in the Mess and Deeper into the Mess.

Disciples of Courage: Ten Christian Lives that Inspire

Brendan Comerford SJ

£19.95

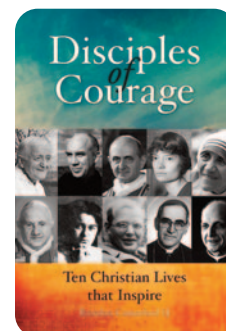
ISBN 9781788125673

www.messenger.ie

This book tells the story of ten very unique people from the recent past, all of whom showed immense courage and daring in their pursuit of Christ.

We learn much about the following people and their rich lives of service: Edith Stein, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI, Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, Pedro Arrupe, Teresa of Calcutta, Thomas Merton, Roger of Taizé

Brendan Comerford studied philosophy at the Milltown Institute of Philosophy and Theology, Dublin, theology at the Gregorian University, Rome and spirituality at the Weston School of Theology, USA. He served as Jesuit novice master and lectures in the history of Christian spirituality. He is an experienced spiritual director. He has previously



published 'The Pilgrim's Story- the Life & Spirituality of St Ignatius Loyola (2017) with Messenger Publications.

Living with Ignatius: On the Compass of Joy

Nikolaas Sintobin SJ

€9.95

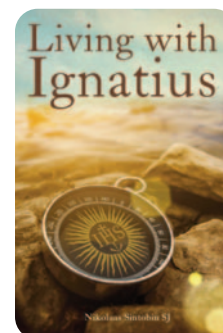
ISBN 9781788125987

www.messenger.ie

What makes a successful life, and how do I decide what do with mine? What does it mean to believe in God? Does God still hold the same meaning and relevance in our time, and if so, how can I tap into that meaning? What makes a successful life, and how do I decide what do with mine? What does it mean to believe in God? Does God still hold the same meaning and relevance in our time, and if so, how can I tap into that meaning? These are just some of the questions addressed in this new book on how the lived experience of St Ignatius Loyola can be used as a guiding principle towards a more intensely and consciously lived life in today's world.

It provides an insight into the life of Ignatius, as well as an introduction to Ignatian spirituality, presenting it not as a doctrine, but as a spiritual toolkit from which we can draw strength and knowledge. An illuminating read for those familiar with Ignatius as well as those new to Ignatian spirituality.

A Flemish Jesuit priest, Nikolaas Sintobin SJ has been a teacher and a chaplain in the Jesuit high schools of Paris and Antwerp, specialising in Ignatian spirituality and pedagogy. He has worked as an internet chaplain for the past 10 years, sharing the Gospel in our current secular and multi-religious culture through humour, podcasts, reality TV, YouTube and blogging.



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Mass to celebrate and support marriage at Plymouth Cathedral, June 2023

Deborah Van Kroonenberg from the office of evangelisation and catechesis has kindly shared a report on the Mass for Marriage, which took place on the 17th June at our diocesan Mother Church, St Mary and St Boniface Cathedral.

Our Second Annual Mass for Marriage was celebrated by Rev Jonathan Bielawski, Delegate for Evangelisation, in the Cathedral of St Mary & St Boniface on Saturday 17th June 2023 at 12 Noon, the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The organist Robert Osmond provided us with suitable hymns and music to help us remember (or anticipate) our wedding days and Lyn, the Cathedral Pastoral Assistant, sang the psalm for us as well as providing organisational help. The Cathedral sisters made beautiful floral arrangements to add to the sense of nuptial celebration.

The Marian feast day was a perfect day to celebrate marriage. The first reading from Isaiah 61 bringing in the theme of the exultation of the bridegroom 'wearing his wreath' and the bride 'adorned in her

jewels,' followed by the same theme of exultation in Hannah's words from 1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 and the Gospel from Luke 2:41-51: the finding of the child Jesus in the Temple, with Mary storing up the events of Jesus' life in her heart.

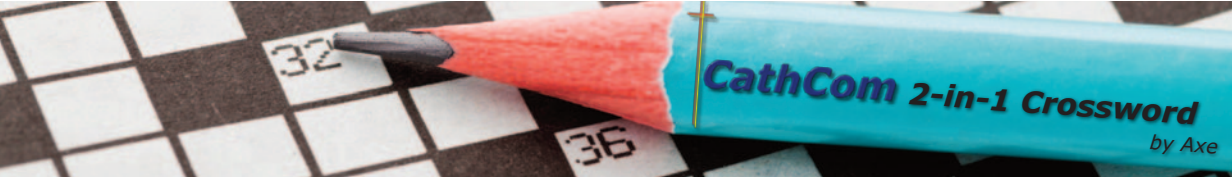
Fr Jon gave an encouraging homily for those in all stages of marriage and family life, reminding us that married or single, marriage is God's gift to us all and that the Church supports us in this vocation, which involves the spiritual life as the natural life of the Church and the couple.

We prayed for all married couples. The total years of married life of those who sent in Anniversary dates exceeded 1,015 years (and eight months of marriage for one recently married couple). There were couples celebrating golden weddings, one couple had their fifty-first anniversary on that day and three couples had already celebrated sixty years of marriage. At the reception following the Mass it was these 'Diamonds' who presided over the cutting of the wedding cake. I hope we will be able to have a Mass to celebrate marriage



again next June and that more married couples and families will join us. If you would like to learn more about the

resources available for married and engaged couples please contact Deborah at deborah.vanKroonenberg@prcdtr.org.uk



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

CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Book about a Norseman on Latin (6)
- 8 Philistine town where a quiet religious academic's hosting a ball (6)
- 9 A-lister, one that shines, wise men follow (4)
- 10 Woman's bad times with those in an early sect (8)
- 11 King of Jerusalem's barren victory (7)
- 12 Draw a holy place for Muslims (5)
- 15 Promote Tottenham's home theme (5)
- 17 Two containers I split are for the church in Rome (7)
- 20 One with a Uniat community girl returns, staying in touch (8)
- 22 Council beginning at Arles gets Dijon epilogue (4)
- 23 Get girl, university student, in a classical bear hug (6)
- 24 Syrian soldier's cured Indian bread mother tucks into (6)

CRYPTIC Down

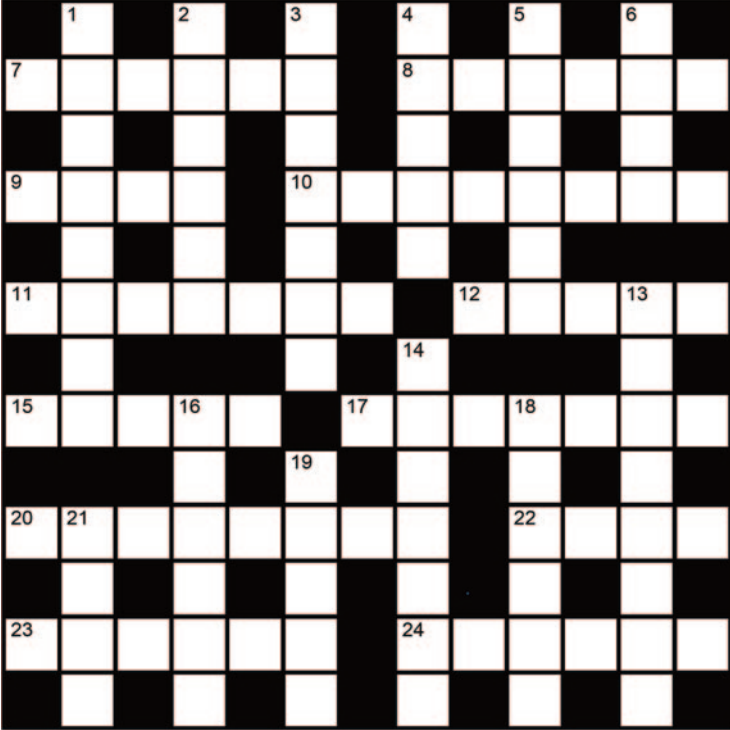
- 1 National Theatre-Shakespeare character's elevated South American saint (8)
- 2 Abbot of Rievaulx's distress, getting flushed (6)
- 3 Chap's name's changed by Necho; the priest's goal is protecting the king (7)
- 4 The bridge between Ruth and 2 Samuel? (5)
- 5 Site of homage at quiet river in Spain (6)
- 6 Spare St Thomas? (4)
- 13 Abraham, for example, had clean resolution (8)
- 14 Women on right to be brought up in a 6th century archbishopric (7)
- 16 Book for the going... (6)
- 18 ...and the coming? (6)
- 19 Had Ulster divided, all over Jacob's daughter (5)

QUICK

- 21 Account about a battle in the Crusades (4)
- 7 One of the four Major Prophets (6)
- 8 Philistine city taken by Uzziah and later restored by Herod the Great (6)
- 9 ---- of David, insignia of Jewish identity (4)
- 10 Early Christian sect members who aimed to return to innocence through nudity (8)
- 11 Archbishop of Canterbury, 1184-90, who died on the Third Crusade (7)
- 12 Muhammad's birthplace (5)
- 15 Sacred choral anthem (5)
- 17 ----- City, the world's smallest country by area (7)
- 20 One of a Syrian Uniat community, in formal communion with the RC Church since 1182 (8)
- 22 Council of 560, from which 47 genuine canons are preserved (4)
- 23 Romano-British 'saint', removed from the Catholic calendar of saints in its 1969 revision (6)
- 24 Syrian army officer healed of leprosy by Elisha (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 South American capital named after one of the apostles (8)
- 2 Abbot of Rievaulx, 1147-67 (6)
- 3 Steward n the household of Hezekiah (7)
- 4 Woman raped by Amnon and avenged by her brother Absalom (5)
- 5 Site of homage on a pilgrimage (6)
- 6 Saint (1478-1535), Lord Chancellor of Henry VIII's England (4)
- 13 Relating to Aramaic-speaking people of Babylonia (8)



- 14 Italian city, overrun by invaders after the fall of Rome, made an archbishopric in the 6th century (7)
- 16 Second book of the Pentateuch (6)
- 18 Major OT prophet (6)
- 19 Daughter of Jacob and Leah (5)
- 21 Important Crusader base experiencing sieges in 1189-91 and 1291 (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 7 Daniel, 8 Ashdod, 9 Star, 10 Adamites, 11 Baldwin, 12 Mecca, 15 Mote, 17 Vatican, 20 Maronite, 22 Agde, 23 Ursula, 24 Naaman. Down: 1 Santiago, 2 Alfred, 3 Eliakim, 4 Tamar, 5 Shrine, 6 More, 13 Chaldean, 14 Ravenna, 16 Exodus, 18 Isaiah, 19 Dinah, 21 Acre.