Serving the Church in the South West

SEPTEMBER 2023

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World Youth Day 2023



August 2023 saw 1.5 million young Catholics gathering in Lisbon for World Youth Day. WYD is a global gathering where young people can deepen their faith, experience the universality of the Catholic Church and commit their lives to Christ alongside hundreds of thousands of like-minded peers.

This group of pilgrims (see photo) includes people from the Plymouth

Diocese. Michael, David, Amy, Daniel, Emily and Lisa all commented on the extraordinary feeling of being amongst so many other Catholics. 'We have learned so much about our Catholic faith' said Lisa. Michael said that 'to be so close to the Pope has been amazing' and for Emily 'it is so much more than I expected – I would encourage anyone to come to WYD'. Both Daniel and David highlighted all the various

talks they had attended – covering many different subjects from the preciousness of life to freedom and different types of prayer.

Like our own team who spent the week in Lisbon, the general consensus was that WYD was the experience of a lifetime.

More about WYD 2023 see Page 4

World Youth Day 2027, Seoul, South Korea – Start planning now

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.

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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,

We hope you've had a good Summer. We had the privilege of going to the World Youth Day to interview groups while they were in Lisbon. The one consistent message that came from everyone we

interviewed, was a message to other young people..."if you get the chance to go...GO"!

This edition of CSW celebrates the World Youth Day, and also highlight lots of other news happening in the South West and around the World this Summer. As ever, if you have any news you want us to include in future editions, do let us know by emailing csw@cathcom.org

CSW TEAM

Canon Philip Dyson celebrated his Silver Jubilee of Ordination



Canon Philip Dyson, the parish priest of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady Catholic Church in Penzance has just celebrated his Silver Jubilee of Ordination.

Penzance parishioners, joined by those in Hayle and St Ives, packed the church for a glorious Sunday Mass and afterwards enjoyed a wonderful, well attended buffet lunch, All who attended enjoyed the delicious variety of food generously provided by the parishioners.

Canon Philip did not want a personal gift so parishioners were instead invited to donate towards the Saint John Henry Newman stained glass window for the Penzance parish church.

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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made to ensure that due acknowledgement, when appropriate, is made to the originator of any image submitted for publication. It is understood that those submitting material for publication in CSW either hold the copyright or have arranged for publication with the appropriate authority.

Polish Children make their First Communion at Our Lady & St Neot, Liskeard.

Following on from last weekend's celebrations of Fr. Gilmour's Golden Jubilee of his Ordination, six Polish children made their First Communion at the Sunday Mass at Liskeard on the 23rd of July 2023.

Although, we have not yet restored reception of Holy Communion with the chalice, the children were allowed to receive the Precious Blood. A special thanks goes to the Catechists who have devoutly helped the six children prepare for the Sacrament. Many family members turned out for this special occasion in these children's lives – some even travelling from Poland. There were extra special refreshments supplied by the Polish families after the Mass and all were welcome to come and share of which many of the regular congregation attended.

The Sacrament of Communion for the First Communicants was not the only Sacrament celebrated at this Mass, Maria Victoria, was welcomed into the Christian Community of Liskeard parish, by being Baptised, symbolizing purification and accompanied by name-giving. We welcome her and the six Polish children into God's family on Earth.

Rosemarie de Boyer



World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

30th July

The 30th July is the annual World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. The aim of the day is to raise awareness of trafficking and to call upon governments, law enforcement, public services and society to improve their efforts to prevent trafficking by identifying and supporting victims.

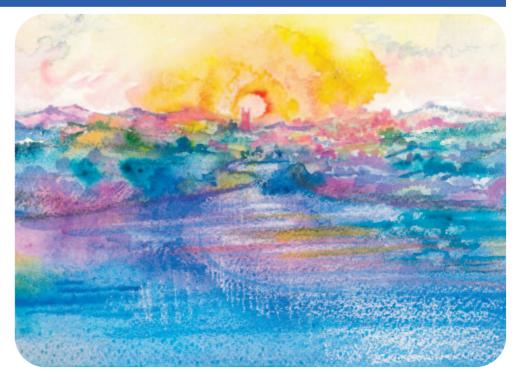
Trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights. Thousands of men, women and children end up in the hands of traffickers every year, often through being misled to believe that they are being taken to work that will make their family better off, or by force or kidnap. Trafficked people lose their rights and have their identity documents taken away from them. They are forced to work, often doing hard labour or prostitution, for no reward. Many people are taken to unfamiliar countries where they don't know the language and have no way of getting help.

The theme of this year's World Day Against Trafficking in Persons is to, 'Reach every victim of trafficking, leave no one behind'. In the context of trafficking in persons, leaving people behind means: failing to end the exploitation of trafficking

failing to support victim-survivors once they are free from their traffickers, and leaving identifiable groups vulnerable to traffickers.

For more information about trafficking and modern day slavery, and how to notice the signs that this may be taking place please visit: https://www.unseenuk.org/about-modern-slavery/spot-the-

If you would like support, or you are concerned about someone else, please contact: The Safeguarding Office – Please call us on 01364 645430 between Monday to Friday, from 9am to 4:30pm.



Unseen - A UK charity that provides safe houses and support in the community for survivors of trafficking and modern slav24/7 Modern Slavery and Exploitation Helpline: 08000 121 700 https://www.unseenuk.org/working-withsurvivors/

World Youth Day 2023





Everyone! Everyone! Everyone!

These were Pope Francis' words at the welcoming ceremony of the World Youth Day in Lisbon on 3rd August 2023. 500,000 people attended the opening ceremony of the World Youth Day in Lisbon's Eduardo VII Park on Sunday August 6th. People as far as the eye could see. But it wasn't this, that prompted those words.

This World Youth Day had more countries represented than ever before. With pilgrims booked from every country in the World, with the exception of the Maldives. It would be easy to assume that this is why Pope Francis used these words – but it wasn't. He was wasn't talking about the World Youth Day he was talking about the Church. Pope Francis said, "there is space for everyone, and when there isn't, please,

let's work so that there is - for those who makes mistakes, for those who fall, for those for whom it is difficult."

Departing from his prepared speech, he asked all the young people to "repeat with me: 'Everyone! Everyone! Everyone!" before waves of "Todos! Todos! Todos! "- "everyone" in Spanish and Portuguese - spread throughout the crowd.

"That is the church," he said, "the mother of all; there is room for all."

You can imagine the huge crowds shouting "Todos! Todos! Todos!" with enthusiasm. But this wasn't just a nice phrase people could get behind, it was challenge to all those young people and a challenge to the whole Church. A challenge to ask ourselves: How do we make space for people in the Church?

How do we make people feel welcome, even if it isn't easy for us or for them? How do we let people know they are welcome in our Church?

At the beginning of the opening ceremony, Pope Francis said: "You are not here by mistake. You, you, you, over there, all of us, me, we were all called by our names." This very personal invitation to be at the World Youth Day is also true of our invitation to be in the Church. Perhaps the biggest challenge is not general question "How do we let people know they are welcome in our Church?" – which is one of those questions where we can sit there comfortably looking round the room waiting for someone else to answer, but: How do YOU let people know they are

welcome in YOUR Church?
Equally, how do we make space for people? – or how do you make space for people? Especially people who you might not feel should be welcome. This could be based on their sexuality, their marital status, cultural differences, their behaviour, or more importantly, our perception and understanding [or lack of understanding] of any one of those things. "That is the church," he said, "the mother of all; there is room for all."
It's easy to think that we are only called to be in the Church, however, we are also

Todos! Todos! Todos! Everyone! Everyone! Everyone!

called to call others...

Who?



Our team in Lisbon

Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



THE UNCOMFORTABLE ROLE OF THE PROPHET

For many people, Greta Thunberg is a prophet for our time. In response to severe climate change, she has been fearlessly calling for changes in our behaviour if we are to avert the worst effects of catastrophic weather events and environmental destruction.

Her message is uncomfortable because of our present reliance on heavy consumption of resources and lavish use of fossil fuels. She herself has paid the price by refusing to use aircraft and hence needing to cross the Atlantic by sea. Her outspokenness has won her many admirers, though not so many people are practising her message.

The Sunday readings for September present us with three prophetic figures around the traumatic time of the Babylonian exile, when the Israelites were uprooted from their homeland and forced to live as exiles in a foreign country.

The first reading on Sunday 3 September (22nd Sunday of the Year) presents us with the figure of the prophet Jeremiah. God had given him the difficult commission of warning the people of Jerusalem to change their ways. If they did not listen, the people would be carried off into exile in Babylon—an event that happened in 587

In a human way, the prophet complains before God about the difficulty of his task. His job is to keep warning of violence and ruin. This task has brought him continuous insults and derision from his people. It would be no joy for him to say, "I told you so," when the disaster happened.

A week later, the first reading on Sunday 10 September (23rd Sunday of the Year) presents to us Jeremiah's contemporary, a prophet named Ezekiel. He had already been carried off into Babylonian exile before he received his call to prophesy. Like Jeremiah, he was commissioned to summon the people to return to God.

Ezekiel heard God telling him that he had been appointed as a sentry or watchman

for the Israelites. His task was to give warnings when he saw dangers coming just as Greta Thunberg seeks to do about climate change.

As a prophet, Ezekiel felt he had a responsibility to speak out. To be sure, he could not make the people change their response. They had to decide for themselves how to respond. But at least if he was offering the necessary guidance, he was fulfilling his responsibility.

Later in his book, Ezekiel assured the people that God would graciously give them a new heart and a new spirit. So too, Jeremiah promised that God would mercifully make a new covenant with his people. A remnant would be restored and would return to Jerusalem to rebuild the

Near the end of the exile, a prophet known as Second Isaiah offered the exiles a specific message of hope. God was going to liberate them from their exile. A new king called Cyrus would take power and would allow the exiles to return home.

The first reading on Sunday 24 September (25th Sunday of the Year) lets us hear the call made to the people by Second Isaiah. He summoned the people to return to God, who is rich in forgiving.

His message had begun with the call: "Prepare the way of the Lord." He spoke of how every valley would be lifted up and every mountain brought low, so that the people could journey safely across the desert to Jerusalem. He spoke of how God would care for his people like a shepherd and allow them to rebuild Jerusalem—and indeed the Second Temple was dedicated in 515 BC.

Sometimes prophets need to speak fiercely when they foresee danger for people, but their concern is that the people may live peacefully and happily. We can ask ourselves: who are the prophets that we need to listen to today?



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Season of Creation 2023 – A parish Live Simply Journey



As part of our reflections during this Season of Creation (1 September-4 October), we asked the Holy Family parish in Bournemouth to share their environmental work and how it has impacted on the life of the parish. Jennifer Gunstone kindly agreed to share the parish journey so far. The beautiful image above is from their parish harvest festival.

The parish environmental journey formally began in 2012, when the Priest and a group of parishioners participated in an interfaith event called 'the Big Green Believers Agreement'. This initiative encouraged the parish to set up meetings and agree environmental actions. The group realised, however, that what they were planning followed CAFOD's Live Simply model to "live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor". They signed up to become a Live Simply Parish and in 2016 achieved the Award. Holy Family were the first parish to do this.

The parish has undertaken a wide range of activities to listen to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor and put their faith at the centre of all their actions. The following are just a few of the many initiatives they have carried out over the last decade:

- * Using the parish grounds for liturgical celebrations and holding harvest celebrations
- * Blessing the grotto of Our Lady in the parish grounds in May
- * Organising a prayer walk around the parish grounds.
- * Planting wildflowers and an apple tree
- * Organising a 'Promise Leaves' event people are invited to take away a leaf which contains a commitment of their choice e.g., meat-free Fridays, saying Grace at every meal, using re-usable shopping bags instead of plastic, bringing in donations for the foodbank.
- * Continuing to live in solidarity with the poorest communities around the world

through supporting CAFOD e.g. holding cream teas in the wildflower garden to raise money for CAFOD or Catholic Children's Society Plymouth.

- * Organising a birdbox event where everyone can make a birdbox and take it home.
- * Installing water butts in the garden

Jennifer shared some of their top tips for embedding environmental considerations into parish life:

- * Creating a small group (Live Simply or eco group) to plan and move things forward was really helpful.
- * Involving others in specific activities e.g., inviting the liturgy group to plan activities or involving the parish school, where there is one. People may not want to commit to a Live Simply group but are happy to support one-off activities.
- * Organising events which are welcoming to all – such as parish picnics, walks, a Warm Space during winter. A sponsored

parish walk was very popular and raised f1000 for CAFOD

- * Showing faith in action through the purchase of fair-trade goods, not using disposable cups and plates, emailing instead of printing where possible.
- * Integrating care for our common home into parish life it is not an add-on or as an additional burden but an integral part of living out our faith. Holy Family Parish is now in the habit of taking action to care for the poor and for the environment, so much so that many people will not appreciate that this is part of the Live Simply journey. It has 'become a part of parish life'.

Some activities will start and stop, and new actions will take place. Parish congregations change with some people no longer wishing to engage as much but new people joining the parish. Initiatives like Live Simply need to be relaunched from time to time to engage everyone.

A Portugese Pilgrimage: Days in the diocese of Viana Do Costelo!





On the 26th July 38 of our young people flew out to Portugal to embark on 'days in the diocese'- an immersive initiative created to facilitate connectivity and unique spiritual experiences ahead of World Youth Day!

The diocese of Viana Do Costelo opened its hearts and homes to our pilgrims, also blessing us with an enriching programme of events, designed to enable our pilgrims to develop relationships and come closer to God, whilst experiencing authentic Portugese food, music, history and more! Pilgrims also had the opportunity to climb the Mount of Santa Luzia, taking in breathtaking views whilst also praying at the basillica of the sacred heart, and took a nourishing day trip to the beautiful medieval town of Ponte De Lima.

We were joined by pilgrims from other countries such as Poland and America, and it was an intense yet life affirming experience for all involved. Members of our clergy Fr Albert, Fr Ignatius and Deacon Nick also concelebrated Mass with the bishop and on feast days.

Below, three of our pilgrims, Dan, Fred and Gabbie have generously shared about their experiences.

Days in the Diocese was a truly enjoyable and spiritually enriching experience. To immerse oneself in another community whilst sharing the universal power of The Holy Spirit has enhanced my relationship with God, and felt like a turning point in my journey of faith. My host family were endlessly kind and tremendously supportive of us as pilgrims. As well as having periods of prayer and reflection, there were a multitude of fun activities throughout our time at the beautiful Viana Do Costelo. From attempting traditional Portugese dance to fresh water swimming, I have continually sampled a range of local activities and culture with other pilgrims. It has first and foremost been a pleasure and a privilege to experience God in the work and lives of others, who are rightly tremendously proud of where they are from.

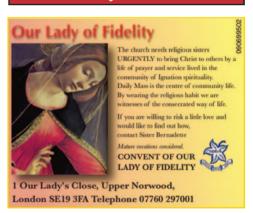
Freddy:

The people in Viana Do Costelo have been a true example of Catholics in action, showing their love to complete strangers from the minute we arrived into the diocese to the moment we left. I will be forever grateful for having the opportunity to visit such a beautiful place, with the local people so desparate to promote their area to to all of us, no matter who we are.

It was loving reminder that despite any differences in age, cultures, lifestyles, languages and nationalities, we are all beloved children of God. Our family has grown and I am thankful to have gained so many new brothers and sisters in Christ in Viana Do Costelo. What an unforgettable way to kick off World Youth day

Warmest thanks to Dan, Freddy and Gabi for their contributions to this article, and to the diocese of Viana Do Costelo for their warm welcome, kindnesses and hospitality! Please keep our pilgrims in your prayers.





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Pope Francis listened and responded to young people in new podcast



Pope Francis hugs a young lady from Argentina Pope Francis hugs a young lady from Argentina (VATICAN MEDIA Divisione Foto)

In the latest "Popecast" by Vatican News' Salvatore Cernuzio, Pope Francis listened to recorded questions from a group of young people who shared their personal stories. To each he responded with words of encouragement. The guestions and his answers were featured in an Italian-language podcast produced by Vatican Radio - Vatican News. The Pope's first podcast took place back in March for the tenth anniversary of his pontificate.

The young people featured in this second podcast represented a variety of backgrounds and agegroups, sharing their difficulties, but also their dynamism and hopes.

God loves you

Pope Francis listened to the story of Giona, who spoke about the challenges of being a believer, while accepting the reality of having physical challenges and being transgender.

The Pope offered words of encouragement, saying "God loves us just as we are," and that "the Lord always accompanies us, always. Even if we are sinners, He draws near to help us." The Pope added, "do not give up, keep striving ahead."

Always striving ahead

Listening to the stories of Edward and Valerij, both serving time in a juvenile correctional community, the Pope heard about their difficult family situations and abandonment that led to their committing crimes they rearet.

In response, the Pope asked them to consider that our mistakes must not be allowed to block our lives and that the "human story goes on with its successes and its failures."

Even one mistake can cause our lives to be permanently marked by society, the Pope lamented, but he asked them to always remember the Lord is with them on their journey, ready "to take you by the hand, to help lift you up". Our task, he said, is to acknowledge our mistakes so that God can help us reflect on our lives and move forward positively.

Enriched by diversity

He then listened to Valeria, a religion teacher, who relayed feedback she receives from her young students who wish for a Church that is more transparent, youthful and close to people in their

The Pope responded recalling the importance of a Church walking together with the people. He warned that when the Church becomes too closed in on itself. it risks becoming sectarian and divided. He added that the greatness of the Church lies in our diversity

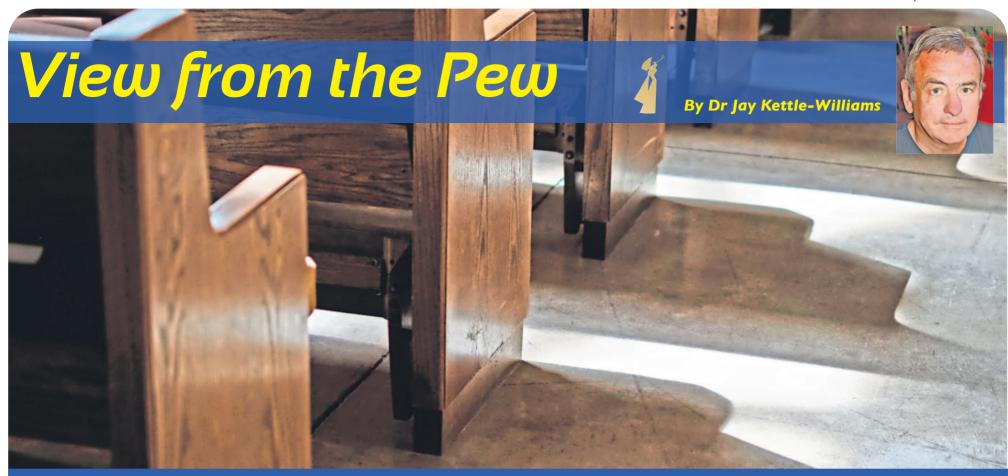
The Pope then heard from Giuseppe who spoke about his leaving university studies, but spending a large part of his time at home playing videogames with

The Pope observed that his life lived primarily online can become "aseptic" and isolated, as he misses the horizon, since human contact with others is so important.

Go to World Youth Day

In conclusion, after asking who would be going to World Youth Day, Pope Francis urged his young interlocutors in the "Popecast" to make the effort to take part in all the WYD events, calling it a worthwhile experience they will find very fulfilling, marked by community, celebration, hope and joy.

Salvatore Cernuzio



Never mind the quality, feel the width

Never Mind the Quality Feel the Width is now a rarely seen 1973 British comedy film directed by Ronnie Baxter and starring John Bluthal, Joe Lynch and Bernard Stone. It was a spin-off from the ITV television series of the same name, the series originating from a British television sitcom first broadcast in 1967 as a single play in the Armchair Theatre anthology series about two mismatched tailors, one Catholic and the other Jewish, in the East End of London.

In the course of the film, Manny and Patrick employ a sexy new assistant Rita, seriously fall out after a gambling incident, experience woman trouble, find themselves burgled and eventually end up on holiday in Rome after posing as priests.

Were that production to be launched in the current day and age of Cancel Culture, Diversity and Inclusion, you might well be excused for seriously wondering, even fearing, how it might be received. Perhaps many amongst us would not be as amused as earlier generations. There's no accounting for taste, we're told. But 'The past is a foreign country: they do things differently there,' as L.P. Hartley wrote in his 1953 novel The Go-Between. How we understand the past, what lessons we draw from events we can no longer affect, has been the challenge for humankind throughout time. Whatever we do today cannot be brought to bear on the actions of yesterday from which we inherit. Actions by our forefathers might well have been in full concert with the mores of the time. But that's water under the bridge, you can't send it back upstream. Or do we think that you can? Cue Cancel Culture.

Cancel Culture, by its very nature, epitomises the in-depth negativity of our time. Dystopia! Negativity, by its very nature, breeds discrimination. We might like to couch that discrimination in a more positive cloak, but it still remains what it is. In its essence, Cancel Culture rejects any attempt at dialogue. Its chief enforcers are often faceless, selfappointed, angry people online. Diversity and Inclusion, on the other hand, can be seen to have a more positive pedigree, but they can still slide down that same slippery slope. They can be seen as a contradiction in terms with the two expressions potentially at odds with each other: mavericks v. teamsters, square pegs v. round holes. To ensure, then, the 'social fit' required by the woke proponents, Diversity and Inclusion are thrown like dice, rolling across the table in some grotesque game of snakes and ladders. But social engineering, as proven by its exponents elsewhere in time and space, is never an effective nor ultimately respected exercise. So we come to see tunnel-vision putting society in danger, risking the legal basis on which sit democracy and the worth of the individual.

We can probably all refer to proven instances - if not unlawful then certainly disrespectful, undemocratic, immoral or despotic - which can be laid at the feet of governments, public and civic bodies or others, whether funded by the taxpayer or not within our immediate neighbourhoods or on a wider stage .There are those constantly tossing double-headed coins and calling for heads in the 'me-me' game as society is steered toward anarchy with all manner of personal or narrow concerns being flagged up. Reparation is then demanded



by an often seemingly offensive or even vindictive minority in the name of social justice. Faced with ever-increasing claims for victimhood, society moves away from collective concern, away from mutual respect and away from the broad conscience necessary for a mature, levelheaded, caring and all-embracing culture. The very phrase 'Diversity and Inclusion' is now being progressively identified as toxic. At the expense of equality and meritocracy, efforts have been zealously adopted across so many spheres of society to prioritise breadth over quality, sacrificing quality for breadth. Thank the Lord, ours remains a broad. open-reach, openly reachable Church. Our global Catholic congregation promotes and defends human rights worldwide. Our

membership is hailed as varied, diverse,

inclusive, in communion, mutually

respectful. Having signalled these virtues, I need only add that you don't get them by iust tickin' a box.

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

Love in a bottle: World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023

concept of being old. Why would we? To be young is to rest securely at the centre of all things. A better way to see things is that the very young are better absorbed in life, living in the 'now' and immersed in the sacrament of the present moment. If we follow that example through life to live in the present rather than the past and future, the more responsive we are to those whom we encounter on the journey. As we get older, we have the choice to use our memories and experiences as gifts, items we can draw from our store cupboard of life. These treats prudently offered to the young, are readily gobbled

Both my in-laws are now in a care home, which is visited by nursery aged children weekly. In their interactions with one another the sacrament of the present moment is made real. The little ones, though seemingly absorbed in their play, draw the older people into their worlds. Both, for a brief period of time, inhabit a

timeless space. This close proximity of the young to the old at a very deep level influences the onward journey of both. It is most often a sharing without words, more smiles and laugher.

Reflecting on the recent World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, I was drawn to the power that simple objects have to connect us to people. I had an aunt who died some years ago and was much loved by my children, one of whom had a particularly close relationship because this aunt was a good listening

As I become older, I find that memories also bubble up for reinspection, especially about those who have accompanied me along the path of faith and life. In the past I would be tempted to overlook them: now I bring them into the light. I see these primarily as God moments, to be remembered, relived and learnt from. On occasion, if the memory is unsettling or embarrassing, I have learnt to ask Jesus



to come alongside so that I may see the memory more clearly.

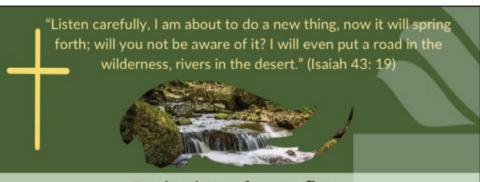
When we get a little older, we discover that, whilst our body might age, our interplay with the world remains ever youthful if we choose. In a similar way the Church, whilst 2,000 old, is at heart ever a young church, full of vigour and life. As I age, I am more aware of the gift not only of my children and grand-children, but the younger people who I encounter along the way. One of the benefits of being older is to discover that more people are younger and they invite me to rediscover my own youthfulness.

For their part young people crave the closeness and presence of the elderly more than the words and the advice. As I get older, I have come to realise that the best gift I can offer the young is not words of wisdom to questions that were not asked but in learning to cultivate the apostolate of the ear. We must listen, be welcoming and then accompany.

The art of listening means that the young person can share their doubts and fears, it calls for closeness and the willingness to journey side by side. As Pope Francis reminds us, 'Communicating means sharing, and sharing demands listening and acceptance'.

Thinking of this brings me back to my aunt who had the gift of listening and a very key moment for one of my sons. On the eve of her death, he visited her before going on to the theatre, leaving with £10 and 'her bottle' of a well-know fizzy drink. He enjoyed visiting because she was always present to him, receptive to his words. That particular brand of fizzy drink still holds for him a profound connection with her and of her capacity to love and listen. His response to her love brought her joy and hers to him brought wisdom and an enduring memory.

Deacon Roger Carr-Jones Marriage & Family Life Coordinator for the Diocese of Westminster



Let justice and peace flow

SEASON OF CREATION 1st September - 4th October 2023

Season of Creation is a time to share messages of hope about care for our Common Home. A time to celebrate God's Creation

- · Celebrate a Mass for Creation why not outdoors?
- · Pray for creation
- · Hold a discussion about God's gift of creation or invite people to watch Pope Francis' video - The Letter
- · Include a moment of silence to listen to the song of creation
- · Plant trees or leave part of your garden to grow wild
- · Walk or cycle to Mass if you can
- Support CAFOD's seed sovereignty campaign
- · Start your journey to be a Live Simply parish
- Train to become a Laudato Si animator



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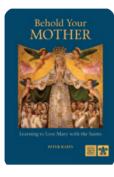
Book Reviews

Behold Your Mother

Peter Kahn £6.95

CTS Product Code: D847
Please refer to this code when ordering
over the phone
ISBN: 9781784697563
www.ctsbooks.org

Behold Your Mother tells stories about the saints wavs encountered Our Lady, not necessarily through the miraculous, but rather 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.

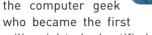
Reflecting on the wisdom of the saints who so loved Our Lady shows that this path through Marian devotion to holiness is one open to all Christians. She is our mother and she seeks always to lead us to her beloved son. Jesus.

Blessed Carlo Acutis: Five Steps to Being a Saint

Mgr Anthony Figueiredo £6.95 CTS Product Code: B776 Please refer to this code when ordering over the phone ISBN: 9781784696528 www.ctsbooks.org

Discover the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis, the computer geek on his way to sainthood, and unpack his five steps that led to great holiness. With colour photos of Blessed Carlo and a selection of his most inspiring quotes.

Who was Carlo Acutis and how did he become so holy? Though only been 15 when he died, he had already learned how to live for Jesus. In this biography, discover the life of the computer geek



millennial to be beatified by the Catholic Church.

Throughout his life, Blessed Carlo Acutis used five simple practices to increase in holiness – practices which every Catholic can imitate in their own lives today. Unpack how this young man learned to live for God in this book on his life, learn how he died and read about the miracle that brought about his beatification. This book also features colour photos of Carlo and a selection of his most inspiring quotes.

"We make a choice in life: God or nothing. Blessed Carlo Acutis chose God – "Not I, but God" – in five simple practices. The Mass, Adoration, Confession and spiritual guidance, befriending the Blessed Mother and the saints, and charity. These daily "appointments" led Carlo to a life of intimacy with Jesus and love for neighbour". (Cardinal Sarah)

Towards a Full Presence –

A Pastoral Reflection on Engagement with Social Media Dicastery for Communication £4.95

CTS Product Code: DO966
Please refer to this code when ordering
over the phone
ISBN: 9781784697679
www.ctsbooks.org

"Towards Full Presence" is а thought-provoking guide that explores the impact of social media on our relationships with others, offering practical strategies cultivating



neighbourliness on social media and building community in a fragmented world.

"Towards a Full Presence" is a thoughtprovoking guide that explores the impact of social media on our relationships with others. The Vatican's Dicastery for Communication offers practical strategies for cultivating neighbourliness on social media and building community in a fragmented world.

With an emphasis on self-reflection and pastoral care, Catholics are encouraged to

examine their social media habits and consider the effects on those they encounter. From fostering meaningful connections to pausing to tend to the wounds of others like the Good Samaritan, this document provides valuable insights and actionable steps for finding harmony in the digital age.

For priests, for those working in ministry, and for all who use social media, this reflection offers a refreshing and muchneeded perspective on social media engagement.

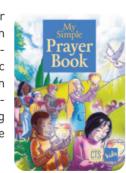
"The following pages are the result of a reflection involving experts, teachers, young professionals and leaders, lay persons, clergy, and religious. The aim is to address some of the main questions involving how Christians should engage social media. They are not meant to be precise "guidelines" for pastoral ministry in this area. The hope, instead, is to promote a common reflection about our digital experiences... How much of our digital relationships is the fruit of deep and truthful communication, and how much is merely shaped by unquestioned opinions and passionate reactions? How much of our faith finds living and refreshing digital expressions? And who is my "neighbour" on social media?" (TFP 5)

My Simple Prayer Book

David Belmonte, Pierpaolo Finaldi £4.95

CTS Product Code: CH65
Please refer to this code when ordering
over the phone
ISBN: 9781784691141
www.ctsbooks.org

This simple prayer book for children brings to life well-known Catholic prayers in an attractive and child-friendly style, helping children to engage with their faith.



This simple prayer book for children brings to life well-known

Catholic prayers in an attractive and child-friendly style, helping children to engage with their faith. It also encourages them to pray, and explains how to do it and why it is important.

Each prayer is accompanied by a simple commentary to help the child to understand the purpose or origin of the prayer and the ways or circumstances in which it is used.

Includes:

- Basic Catholic prayers (Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, etc.)
- Morning and evening prayers

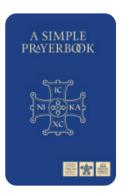
- Prayers for before, during and after Reconciliation
- Prayers before the Blessed Sacrament
- The Rosary and other Marian Prayers
- Saintly prayers
- Pope Francis' Five Finger Prayer
- The Beatitudes

A Simple Prayer Book

Catholic Truth Society £3.95

CTS Product Code: D665
Please refer to this code when ordering
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ISBN: 9781860822599
www.ctsbooks.org

A Simple Prayer Book is the essential companion to prayer every Catholic needs, including the Order of Mass, a wide assortment of prayers, and simple explanations on key elements of the Catholic faith.



Featuring a large selection of Catholic prayers and devotions, A Simple Prayer Book includes everything you need to learn how to pray, from basic prayers such as the Hail Mary, to Morning and Evening Prayers, and prayers for various needs and occasions. Essential Catholic prayers such as the Stations of the Cross and the Divine Mercy Chaplet are also featured.

Additionally, A Simple Prayer Book will guide you in the Catholic faith, with explanations on Catholic teaching, as well as instructing how to pray the rosary, how to go to Confession and how to make a visit to the Blessed Sacrament. The Order of Mass is also included, alongside the Act of Spiritual Communion if you can't get to Mass, and prayers for before and after and Communion.

As CTS's bestselling Catholic prayer book, this handy booklet is the essential companion to prayer every Catholic needs.



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Church promoting peace to prevent another genocide

With peace remaining "fragile" in Burundi and memories of past genocides still vivid, more needs to be done to quarantee human rights, according to a leading Catholic charity.

There have been three genocides and other violent conflicts between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups in the east-central African country since it became independent in 1962.

Maxime François-Marsal, Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need's (ACN) head of projects for francophone countries in Central Africa, discussed the attempts at lasting peace after his trip to the country.

Mr François-Marsal said that Burundian President Évariste Ndayishimiye acknowledged the "major role" the Vatican had played "in the peace process and reconciliation of the Burundian people, and these efforts have borne the fruits of a fragile peace".

He highlighted that there remains "a growing threat of violence for political reasons within the country".

He stated: "Internal tensions and external circumstances risk affecting all human rights.



With picture of 1,160 First Holy Communions at the parish of Makamba in Burundi (© ACN)

"Particular attention must therefore be paid to the education and formation process of those who will be the actors of the life of the Church and of development in the country."

He added: "There is a climate of distrust everywhere, even among friends and

"I was told that people never invite their friends to their homes, because they fear that they could then know their house and hunt them down whenever the next civil war starts.

"For this reason, ACN supports projects to promote and safeguard Catholic families."

Mr François-Marsal stressed that ACN's work in Burundi is "directed at spreading the Good News within people's hearts, so that they can resist the temptation of violence".

He added that, having been evangelised only 125 years ago, Burundian society "has not yet deeply embraced the Christian faith and still relies on customs and traditions derived from indigenous religions".

Over the past 10 years, ACN has contributed to more than 200 projects in the country, with a focus on the formation of priests and religious sisters, as well as supporting catechesis and various pastoral activities.

Mr François-Marsal said that ACN remains committed to supporting the Church and helping to maintain peace in Burundi.

Amy Balog



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

CRYPTIC Across

- Samuel's crafty man, cursed sailor almost catches fish
- When in Paris I discover Ecclesiasticus' Ben Sira (5)
- Paul's detailed letter describing the Empire (5)
- 'Papae Sixti nisi est' is translated in chapel (7)
- Move against female martyr (7)
- One of two helping David find themselves amongst rabbit tails (5)
- American girl's written first 18 for the 8 Church (6)
- Abram's Amorite ally, Chloe's opposite (6)
- 18 Microphone, small American contribution to St Cecilia's art (5)
- 20 Abram's servant high priest announced 'easy', being first to Rebekah (7)
- Girl, old golfing type, attends Baptist chapels (7)
- Savings account he's almost sacrificed (5)
- Chaplain of Artillery's name is forgotten (5)
- Morning, is he wrong in thinking there are no Gods? (7) **CRYPTIC Down**
- Parry's hymn from John's first letter includes line in dubious measure (9)
- Some Old Testament volumes (7)
- Had Ulster divided, all over Jacob's daughter (5)
- Vehicle to get to old Number One: was it Ave Maria for
- Society of 5 business types follow the first person in speaking French (7)
- Being second in the East End isn't one of the blessed dead (5)
- View bishop's domain (3)
- Sick with icy rum, plying, 8s said, this part Aegean coast 12
- 14 One relative, the first maybe to describe lepers in the Bible (7)
- Old footballer swapping cap? It's over for one

- writing 18 for the 8 Church (7)
- Biblical country, to scupper Siamese, partly invaded (6)
- Angel is originally sadistic, and threatening and nasty (5)
- One quiet small US state imbibed whiskey (5)
- Tooting, when passing over an abbey in France? (3)
- Friend of Amnon, 'a very shrewd man' (7)
- Another name for Elymas: Bar ---- (5)
- Empire which ruled Palestine and Asia Minor in NT times (5)
- Chapel of the Vatican whose ceiling was famously painted by Michelangelo (7)
- First Christian martyr (7)
- Leader of the Gittites (5)
- Orlande de -----, with Palestrina and Victoria, the three giants of late medieval Church 18 (6)
- Vale where the Israelites cut a cluster of grapes as proof of the Promised Land's bounty (6)
- Integral aspect of many church services (5)
- Son of Moses and Zipporah (7)
- Name applied for a group of 19th century nonconformist chapels (7)
- The second patriarch; son of Abraham and Sarah (5)
- Priest who is a member of a cathedral chapter (5) Lack of belief in the existence of God or gods (7)
- **QUICK Down** Holy city for Jews and Christians and Muslims (9)
- Fourth book of the Pentateuch (7)
- Daughter of Leah and Jacob (5) 4 Ferruccio -----, one of many to have composed a version of Ave Maria (1877)
- 5 Followers of Ignatius of Loyola (7)
- Holy person deemed worthy of canonization (5)
- Bishopric (3) 12 8 province from 27 AD, covering much

- of the eastern Adriatic and Balkan interior (9)
- 14 Having a physical or moral blemish so as to make
- 16 Maurizio -----, important early 17th century composer and maestro di cappella at Bologna (7)
- 17 OT empire created by Cyrus the Great and destroyed by Alexander the Great (6)
- 19 Adversary of God; tempter of mankind; master of Hell (5)
- 21 Scots Gaelic (5)
- Influential Benedictine abbey of Normandy at the time of the Conqueror (3)

SOLUTION

22 Bethels, 23 leasc, 24 Canon, 25 Atheism.

Down: *1 Jerusalem, 2 Numbers, 3 Dinah, 4 Busoni, 5 Jesuits, 6 Saint, 7 See, 12 Illyricum, 14 Unclean, 16 Cazzati, 17 Persia, 19 Satan, 21 Irish, 22 Bec.

NOILTNOS

11 Ittai, 13 Lassus, 15 Eshcol, 18 Music, 20 Eliezer, Across: 1 Jonadab, 5 Jesus, 8 Roman, 9 Sistine, 10 Stephen,