

Good send off for
Sr Jossy

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Guild of St
Stephen
Enrolments
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CORNWALL CATHOLIC CHOIR

Early on the morning of Saturday 10th January I left a wet and windy Torquay to drive to St Austell to meet the members of the Cornwall Catholic Choir who were celebrating the first anniversary of their formation. As I crossed the River Tamar and drove into Duchy the rain stopped and the sun began to shine – a good portent for the remainder of the day!

The choir meets for rehearsals on the second Saturday of each month at the Church of St Augustine of Hippo, St Austell. They are a delightful and vibrant group drawn from the St Austell Group of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham and the Parishes of Truro, Newquay, St Austell and Bodmin.

Peter John Paul Bray is the Director and Paul Mileham the Musical Director. Peter continues the story behind the formation of the choir and their plans for the future: "Fr John Greatbach, who leads the St Austell Ordinariate Group, says Mass at 5.30pm every Sunday at St Augustine of Hippo; it is a sung Mass with, initially, four members of the congregation singing as a choir and, once a month, Paul Mileham attending to play the organ.

"Late in 2013 the St Austell Ordinariate

group was visited by Monsignor Andrew Burnham and, wanting to sing an anthem for the occasion, I together with Pat, another member of the group, gathered together a few more singers – an additional 4 from St Austell and 4 from Bodmin. Paul agreed to teach the 12 of us the Ave Maria! It went down very well and made me think that we could support the 28 Catholic churches in Cornwall by forming a choir which could be booked by them for special services.

"My research found that there are very few Parish choirs and that they rarely sing in any but their home church. So I printed an invitation form and sent it to the parishes of Truro, Newquay St Austell and Bodmin together with a date for the first choir practice and set-out plans for future rehearsals. Within two months we had 23 registered singers!

"The Cornwall Catholic Choir has sung mostly for Fr Peter at St Austell, who kindly lets us use the church for our rehearsals, for Deanery services and for other Masses when we sing Latin Chant. We were asked to sing at a wedding in Tintagel at short notice, and although I could only gather 3 members within the time available, the couple were fulsome in their praise for the choir and made a



Paul Mileham (front row L) and Paul Bray (back row R) with members of the Cornwall Catholic Choir

generous donation for choir funds. We hope to prepare a concert for next Christmas comprising Cornish carols and Cornish readings - should be fun and an enjoyable way for churches to raise funds.

"Paul is very knowledgeable in Church music both ancient and modern, and finds us a wide variety of music to sing, some well known and some that have

been lost or not previously published.

"The relationship between the Ordinariate and the parishes is close and the formation of the Cornwall Catholic Choir has brought us closer."

If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Peter on 01208 269521.

Peter Bray
St Austell Ordinariate Group

Dedication of the Altar at the church of Our Lady & St Patrick, All Saints Parish, Teignmouth

It was with great joy that, in January, Fr Jonathan Stewart and his parishioners welcomed Bishop Mark at Our Lady & St Patrick, Teignmouth.

Fr Jonathan writes: "Sunday 18th January was a day which will live long in the memory of our parish. In glorious sunshine, supported by the prayer of the community, Bishop Mark dedicated the altar of our parish and so brought to completion the reordering project." He continued: "The choir and the music supported our prayer beautifully and the new acoustic in the church really did lift our song to heaven!

The church had been cleaned and decorated with beautiful flowers and the gathering afterwards when we drank bubbly and shared our lunch was a lovely thing. Our servers did a great job in what was a very complicated liturgy. Special mention has to go to Demelza, Hannah and Charlie who coped brilliantly without much prior information. So a HUGE thank you to everyone who planned the day and helped make it go so well."

In his homily during the Mass Bishop Mark said: "This day is holy to the Lord

your God; do not mourn or weep. ... The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Neh 8:9-11). With these words from the first reading that we have proclaimed, I wish to greet all of you taking part in this celebration. I am delighted to be here today. I thank Fr Jonathan, most especially, and all those who have worked with him to bring this lovely re-ordering to completion. From the first moment I came to see how things were going, and most especially as we gather today, I find myself captivated by this

Continued on Page 2





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Diocesan News

Dedication of the Altar at the church of Our Lady & St Patrick, All Saints Parish, Teignmouth

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beautiful altar.

As its front images remind us, every altar is a symbol of Jesus Christ. At the altar we experience his incarnation, His becoming flesh in our midst, we participate in his offering to the Father on the Cross, and we are drawn to offer our lives with Him in the Eucharistic sacrifice. Christ is present in the midst of his Church as priest, altar and victim (Preface of Easter V). Crucified, buried and raised from the dead, given life in the Spirit and seated at the right hand of the Father, Christ has become our great high priest, eternally making intercession for us. In the Church's liturgy, and above all in the sacrifice of the Mass, the members of his Body come to share in his self-offering. He calls us, as the priestly people of the new and eternal covenant, to offer, in union with him, our own daily sacrifices for the salvation of the world. This is what it means to offer true worship; not what we do, but what God does in His Son and how we are invited to participate in that.

As the prayers of this liturgy remind us the altar is both a stone of sacrifice and a table at which we gather and are fed. Sacrifice and Banquet are both celebrated at every Eucharist. The words and deeds of the Lord are brought to life for us, as in every celebration of the sacraments in every Catholic Church.

Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman, in that Gospel (John 4), of this true worship. He spoke of the true worshipers who worship the Father in spirit and in truth. It is Jesus who reveals to us what it means to worship in spirit and truth, for he made himself a total self-gift to the Father. He loved the Father with an eternal love, a divine love, but also with a human love from the depths of his human, Sacred Heart. He experienced human struggle, the confrontation with evil and sin, and knew the limits of human death. That death, on the Cross at Calvary, is His greatest act of love.

We know, as the letter to the Hebrews reminds us, that this took place "outside the camp....for here we do not have an enduring city, but we are looking for the city that is to come." (Hebrews: 13:13-14).

So altar, tabernacle – in which we experience the abiding presence of His love in the Church – and crucifix are at the centre of our Church, as they are at the centre of our lives.

In today's celebration, the Church reminds us that, like this altar, we too have been consecrated, set "apart" for the service of God and the building up of his Kingdom. All too often we find ourselves immersed in a world that would set God "aside". In the name of human autonomy or freedom, God's name is passed over in silence, religion is reduced to private devotion, and faith is shunned in public discourse. At times this mentality can even cloud our own understanding of the Church and her call to share the Joy of the Gospel with those who do not know Jesus. We, too, can be tempted to make the life of faith a matter of sentiment. We sometimes lack the confidence to speak of our love for Jesus with others. This blunts the power

**Make this altar
a table of joy
where friends
of Christ may hasten
to cast upon you
their burdens and
cares and take up
their journey
restored**



of the Gospel to inspire a consistent vision of the world and a rigorous dialogue with the many other visions competing for the minds and hearts of our contemporaries.

Yet history, including the history of our own time, shows that the question of God will never be silenced, and that indifference to the religious dimension of existence is not the whole story. Faith teaches us that in Jesus Christ, the incarnate Word, we come to understand the grandeur of our own humanity, the mystery of our life on this earth, and the ultimate destiny which awaits us in heaven. This is the mystery of faith which is proclaimed from this altar at every celebration of the Eucharist.

As we gather here we come to be drawn into the mystery of the Cross, where we discover the full depth of our human story. The Cross reveals that we find ourselves only by giving our lives away, receiving God's love as an unmerited gift and working to draw all men and women into the beauty of that love which alone brings salvation to the world.

Today's liturgy offers an eloquent reminder of that progressive spiritual transformation to which each of us is called. From the sprinkling of water, the proclamation of God's Word and the invocation of all the saints, to the prayer of consecration, the anointing of the altar, its being clothed in white and adorned with light – all these rites invite us to re-live our own consecration in Baptism, as they re-capture for us the symbols of our own baptism. We are each to drink ever more deeply from the life-giving springs of God's love, and to share that with others.

It is in this truth – this mystery of faith – that we have been "consecrated", set apart, and it is in this truth that we are called to grow, with the help of God's grace. We do so in daily fidelity to His Word, within the life-giving communion of the Church.

As I dedicate this beautiful altar, I implore the Lord of our lives that, from this altar, there may indeed be a flood of grace upon the whole parish.

**+Mark O'Toole
Bishop of Plymouth**

Flores de Mayo and Santacruzán

This year's Flores de Mayo and Santacruzán Procession, organised by members of the Filipino community from across the diocese, will take place in Exeter on Sunday 3rd May (see Diary Dates).

Flores de Mayo (Spanish for "Flowers of May") is a Catholic and Aglipayan festival held in the Philippines in the month of May. It is one of the May devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary and lasts for the entire month.

The Santacruzán is the pageant on the last day of Flores de Mayo, held in honour of Helena of Constantinople (known as Reyna Elena) and Constantine the Great finding the True Cross in Jerusalem.

**Merlyn Maguire
Liskeard**



Diocesan News

Apostleship of the Sea (AoS)

(AoS) has launched a revised version of its global port chaplains' directory which helps crew get access to help and advice wherever they are in the world.

The directory contains the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of the Catholic maritime agency's chaplains in 207 ports across 38 countries. It lists AoS' chaplains working in some of the world's trouble spots in 2014 such as Ukraine and Congo, and parts of the Philippines devastated by typhoons. And, it also covers both the shipping and fishing sectors and includes AoS' port-based and cruise chaplains.

AoS national director Martin Foley said: "As seen in previous years, the directory is a fantastic resource for seafarers, chaplains and others in the maritime sector and shows the extensive nature of our ministry across the globe." AoS has printed 10,000 copies of the directory to give out to seafarers at ports; it is available both online and in hard copy and port authorities or shipping companies wanting copies for their crews should get in contact with the charity. Martin Foley added: "Providing up to date and accurate details of all our chaplains will be a valuable resource both for seafarers and those working in the maritime industry. It enables our chaplains to provide holistic care for seafarers in port after port worldwide and gives seafarers a tool to get quick and easy access to assistance and advice, including getting to Mass."

The directory can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/1xnsGB2>

The Apostleship of the Sea, AoS, is a registered charity and agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland. It is wholly reliant on voluntary donations and legacies to continue its work.

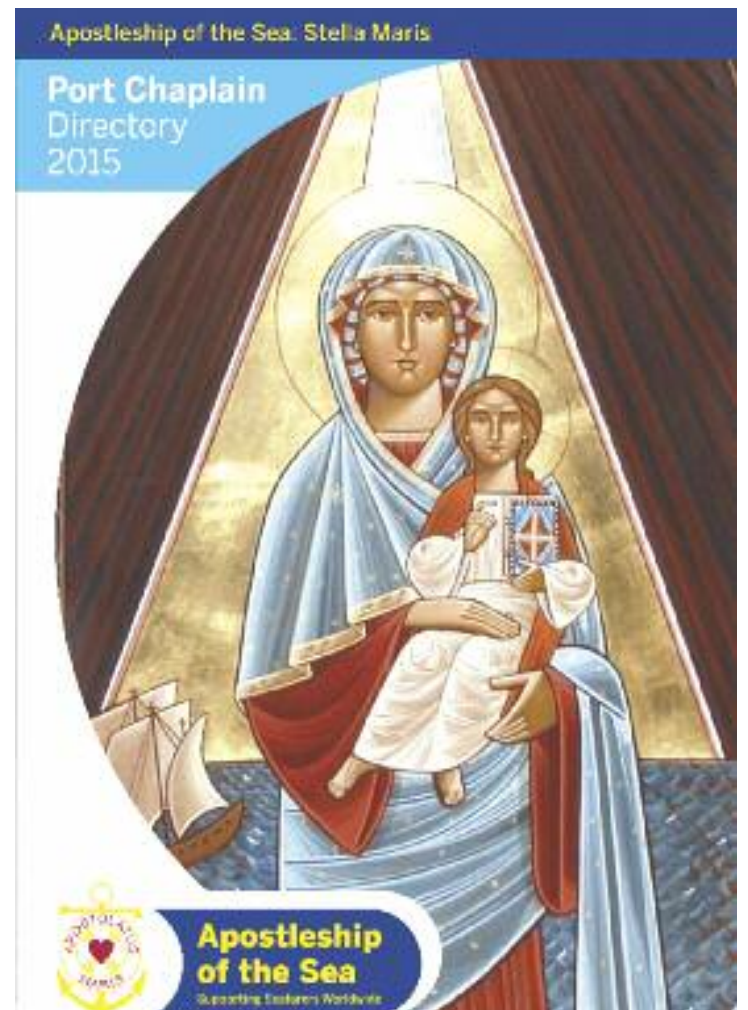
90% of world trade is transported by ship, and more than 100,000 ships visit British ports each year. However the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones, often working in harsh conditions.

AoS chaplains and ship visitors welcome seafarers to our shores - regardless of their colour, race or creed and provide them with pastoral and practical assistance. They recognise them as brothers with an intrinsic human dignity which can be overlooked in the modern globalised maritime industry.

For more information contact John Green, Director of Development tel: 020 7012 8607 mob: 07505653801 email: johngreen@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

website: www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Please remember in your prayers the AoS Chaplains in our Diocese and those to whom they minister: John Pinhay (Falmouth and Fowey), Ann Donnelly (Plymouth and Teignmouth) and Rev Roger Stone (Weymouth and Portland).



Former CAFOD partner Archbishop Romero Declared a Martyr

CAFOD is delighted to hear the news that Pope Francis has declared Archbishop Oscar Romero a martyr, paving the way for his beatification.

The proclamation by the Pope, confirming that Archbishop Romero died as a martyr, follows a vote by theologians at the Vatican's Congregation for the Causes of Saints in January that Romero was killed in "hatred of the faith". The Pope's declaration means that the announcement of his beatification could happen shortly.

CAFOD worked closely with Archbishop Romero during the 1970s, supporting his famous radio broadcasts, which – at a time of heavy press censorship – were often the only means by which people in El Salvador knew the truth about the atrocities occurring in their country. A vocal critic of the country's military

government, Archbishop Romero was assassinated on 24 March 1980, while celebrating Mass in San Salvador. In the years since, he has been an inspirational figure for staff, partners and supporters at CAFOD, and for millions of Catholics around the world.

CAFOD Director Chris Bain said: "The reason that people continue to hold Romero in such high regard is obvious. He didn't simply talk about the need to love your neighbour, but courageously denounced the violence and named the injustices that plagued his country. He reminded us that Christ is found in people living in poverty, and that we cannot ignore the suffering of our brothers and sisters in need."

Funded by Catholic communities in England and Wales, our partners in El Salvador continue to work helping farmers to improve their crops, assisting communities in reducing the risk of disasters, supporting people living with HIV, building peace, defending human rights and trying to create a more just society.

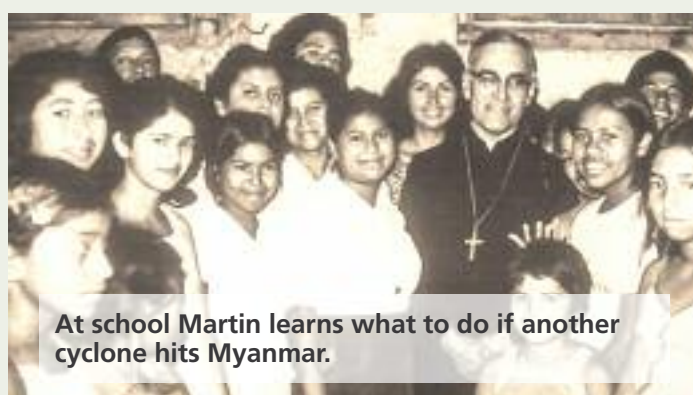
Lent 2015 Fast Day prayer

Creator God, who made our beautiful world, appointed us as its guardians and gifted us with everything we need, forgive us for the times we cause it harm; for the times our way of life affects our neighbours. Inspire us to care for the environment; to help rebuild lives and communities; to share in the griefs and anxieties, joys and hopes of all your people, so that all your creation may flourish.

Amen

Stephen Davies/CAFOD

For more information about CAFOD in the Plymouth Diocese contact Simon Giarchi Tel: 01364 645440 email: plymouth@cafod@cafod.org.uk website: www.cafodplymouth.org.uk



At school Martin learns what to do if another cyclone hits Myanmar.

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All our Diocesan Bishops have issued an invitation for us all to reflect on our experience of marriage and family life in the contemporary world. They have provided a clear skeleton of six questions to think and pray over and to discuss with others, they are:

- What are your joys and hope of marriage and family life today?
- What are your struggles and fears of marriage and family life today?
- How can we better understand marriage as a vocation?
- How does your marriage enrich you?
- How does your family life enrich those around you?
- In what way, through the presence of God, is your family 'salt of the earth and light to the world' and a place for handing on our faith?

They ask us to reflect on the different stages of marriage and family life: falling in love, engagement, the celebration of marriage, the early years, children, joys and sorrows, teenage children, alone as a couple, the elderly years. It may help to read and reflect on these scripture stories:

- The faith of Abraham and Sarah (Gen 12:1-9)
- The prayer of Tobias and Sarah (Tobit 8:4-8)
- Mary – the annunciation and Visitation (Luke 1:26-56)
- The presentation of Jesus in the temple (Luke 2:22-40)
- The wedding feast of Cana (John 2:1-2)
- Mary and John at the foot of the cross (John 19:24-27)
- The disciples on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32)

Bishop Mark has invited all of us in the Plymouth diocese to share our reflections by writing to him at Bishop's House as he prepares a diocesan submission for Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Peter Doyle, who will be our representatives at the second 'Synod on family' this coming October.

In reflecting on these questions we would encourage all to consider Pope Francis' stance, frequently reported in the media, of "who am I to judge?" as well as the often quoted dictum: "Liberty in what is doubtful, unity in what is essential, and charity in everything."

A Call to Action (ACTA) exists to encourage open, honest and respectful dialogue within the church, based upon the inspiration of the Second Vatican Council and the recent document "The Joy of the Gospel" written by Pope Francis. If you would like to find out more about ACTA, please visit the website: www.acalltoaction.org.uk or contact Peter Farrell on petane@o2.co.uk

Diocesan News Flame2

Flame2 is the largest National Catholic Youth event of 2015, taking place in the SSE Wembley Arena on Saturday 7th March 2015.

Doors open at 11am, Flame2 starts at 12noon and ends at 5.30pm. The SSE Wembley Arena will be filled with 10,000 young people from across the country, receiving faith-filled inspiration from world class speakers. Confirmed speakers include Cardinal Luis Tagle from Manila, Philippines; Baroness Sheila Hollins; Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP; and David Wells.

Throughout the day speakers will give bursts of input, interspersed with world class music and drama, in an atmosphere full of joy. Music will be provided by double grammy award winning Matt Redman and his band. The day ends with a time of Adoration led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Flame2 is open to anyone in school year ten and above, up to young adult (i.e. aged approx. 14-21). Bookings will be accepted from groups of ten or more; to download a booking form visit <http://cymfed.org.uk/flame2/>. Bookings must be made in advance – we are anticipating a full Arena, and there will be no provision for bookings on the day.

Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFED)



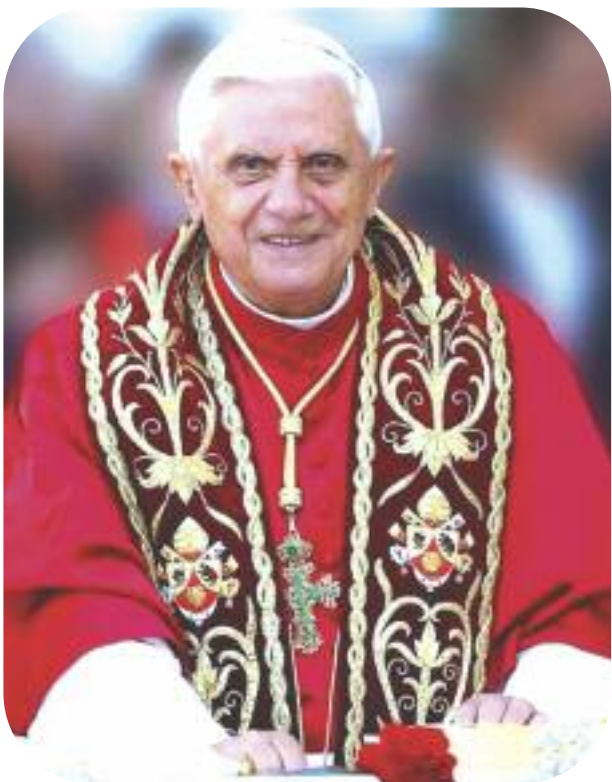
Mass in the Extraordinary Form

Tuesday 9th December 2014 was a red-letter day for a group of parishioners from across the diocese who are attached to the celebration of Mass in the Extraordinary Form (*motu proprio Summorum Pontificum*). Bishop Mark O'Toole was present in the sanctuary during the Mass which was celebrated at Buckfast Abbey by Fr Thomas Regan OSB.

Almost 100 parishioners were thrilled to be supported by their Bishop, who thanked them for their fidelity, and their love of the Liturgy of the Church. Bishop Mark led the congregation in the recitation of the Rosary before Mass. And, after Mass, to express their gratitude and as a token of their appreciation they presented Bishop Mark with a Mitre and Pectoral Cross.

Mass in the Extraordinary Form is celebrated in several churches in the Diocese; details are available from the Latin Mass Society website www.lms.org.uk.

Priests of the Diocese who wish to learn how to celebrate Mass in the Extraordinary Form are invited to contact me.



**Fr Thomas OSB
Buckfast Abbey**

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Diocesan News



HCPT Easter Pilgrimage 2015 – Rejoice!



Every Easter 'HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust' organises a pilgrimage to Lourdes especially for children; and, each year volunteers from a different HCPT region organise themed activities and materials to accompany pilgrims in Lourdes. The HCPT pilgrimage theme for 2015 will be Rejoice! Resources regarding the theme will be available in early 2015, and are being coordinated by HCPT volunteers from the West Indies. Introducing their theme they wrote: "Our theme 'Rejoice' has been chosen for several reasons. Firstly as a region we are celebrating 30 years of participation with this wonderful HCPT pilgrimage. Secondly,

Christian joy is crucial and essential to all of us, but especially to those who suffer and those who are sick. And lastly, Joy has always been a specific characteristic of the HCPT pilgrimage that is witnessed every year by other pilgrims. "Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice"; these are the words of St. Paul to the Philippians but also the words of Mary at Lourdes, who brought happiness into Bernadette's heart and who still today, brings happiness into our hearts and especially those of our children."

Prayer for the 2015 HCPT Easter Pilgrimage

Heavenly Father, you gave us your Mother Mary, as an example of holy joy. We ask that you to fill us with this joy, the joy of the Holy Spirit.

Through the intercession of our blessed Mother and Bernadette, may we share with each other, the joy of being your sons and daughters; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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Justice & Peace

– Plymouth Diocese



Mission Statement

"Man receives from God his essential dignity and with it the capacity to transcend every social order so as to move towards truth and goodness, but he is also conditioned by the social structure in which he lives, by the education he has received, and his environment. These elements can either hinder or help his living in accordance with the truth. The decisions which can create a human environment can give rise to specific structures of sin which impede the full realisation of those who are in any way oppressed by them.

To destroy such structures and replace them with more authentic forms of living in community is a task which demands courage and patience." (Centesimus Annus 38)

"To assist the people of God in making their own the joys and hopes, the grief and anxiety of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted." (Gaudium et Spes)

The task of all those who work for Justice and Peace is to promote a contemporary presentation, interpretation and living of the social teaching of the Church; especially that contained in the Papal encyclical "Centesimus Annus" and the Constitution "Gaudium et Spes" of the Second Vatican Council.

Short Term Aims

- To help people see the suffering, pain, poverty, injustice and violence in our world at this time, and to educate ourselves and others regarding the underlying causes. By studying the Scriptures and the social teaching of the Church, we seek to clarify and apply our faith to the everyday problems of living.
- To discover what concrete actions are possible.
- To develop a clear ecumenical dimension in our work and prayer.
- The Commission works for Justice and Peace in four main areas:
 - Issues and projects at home.
 - Work in association with CAFOD.
 - Work in schools.
 - Overseas issues and any other activities concerning the Justice and Peace of Christ.

For more information about the Justice & Peace Commission in the Plymouth Diocese please contact Mary Conway
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Cornwall Deanery

Parish of St Mary, Falmouth



Marriage – a gift to celebrate

On Saturday 14th February, St Valentine's Day, a special Mass was celebrated at St Mary Immaculate, Falmouth. The Mass was to celebrate marriage and all married couples, widows, widowers and their families and anyone who wanted to celebrate marriage were invited.

During Mass couples stood to renew their marriage vows and afterwards everyone gathered in the Parish Hall to share the special celebration cake and raise their glasses to toast marriage. One couple, Dot and Alf Waddington, were celebrating 70 years of marriage!

The celebrations continued with a short DVD presentation entitled 'Marriage – the Beauty and Power'. There was also an exhibition in the hall of wedding photographs throughout the ages.

A Marriage Prayer

Dear Lord help us remember when we first met and the abiding love that grew between us.

Please work our love into practical living so that nothing can divide us.

We pray for words both kind and loving; and hearts ready for forgiveness.

Lord, together with faith and hope we place our lives and marriage in your loving hands.

Amen



Parish of St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston

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The parish continues to expand; in addition to Launceston, Bude and a small community at Holsworthy, from Advent Sunday 2014 Callington has joined, or should I say re-joined this parish. It's a challenge to try to hold together such different and far-flung communities, but the big advantage is that because I now offer a Sunday evening Mass at Callington we are able to serve those who are compelled to work on Sunday mornings.

There has been a Catholic church in Callington since 1931, when on Christmas Day the first Mass was celebrated in a small green corrugated iron church. In 1954 this was compulsorily purchased to allow a council estate to be built, and a new brick-built church was opened by Bishop Francis Grimshaw. Later additions were made in 1984.

The community is too small to be an independent parish, so the people were attached to Tavistock, Buckfast Abbey, Plymouth, Launceston, Saltash, Tavistock and now to Launceston again. And we have a smart red notice board to prove it.

Fr David Annear
Parish Priest

Dorset Deanery

Rediscover the depth, breadth and richness of the Catholic faith

A Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies course begins at Easter in the Parish Hall at St Anthony of Padua Church, Broadstone. Tutors include Fr Mark Skelton, Fr Barry Hallett, Fr Kenneth Noakes, Mgr. Robert Draper, and many more. No prior study is necessary and the course is open to all including non-Catholic friends.

Whilst taster sessions have already taken place you can obtain more information about the course to help decide if it is right for you by contacting Debbie Beach, Vicariate for Evangelisation Catechesis and Schools Tel: 01364 645393 email: Debbie@plymouth-diocesan-office.org.uk

Holy Trinity Parish, Dorchester

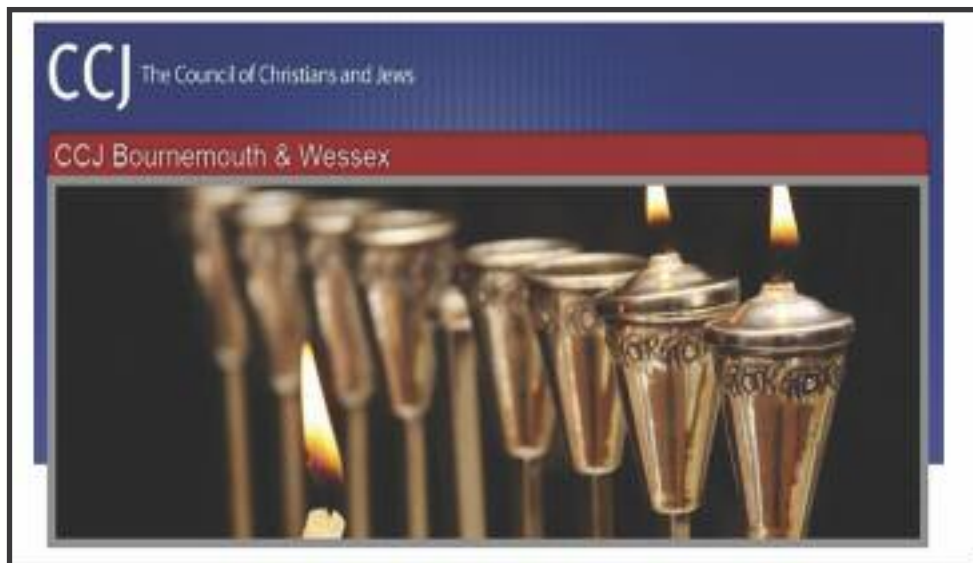
Parishioners from Holy Trinity, Dorchester gave Sister Jossy a good send off after Mass said in honour of St Francis de Sales and offered up for our community of St Francis de Sales sisters.

Sister Jossy came to Holy Trinity in 2011 and Fr John expressed his thanks for her friendship, her work as Sacristan, her care of the sick and housebound and her work with the children.

Sister Jossy quoted St Francis de Sales "bloom where you are planted". So Sister 'will bloom' are sure in her new parish of Bentley in Doncaster.

We shall miss your cheerful presence Sister Jossy and we wish you every grace and blessing in your new parish.

Anita Finnigan
Dorchester



The Bournemouth & Wessex branch of the CCJ meets four or five times a year at the Menorah Suite in central Bournemouth. In the latest event organised by the branch Dr Jane Clements, Director of the Council of Christians and Jews, spoke on the subject of 'Talking to One Another - Issues in Jewish Christian Relations'

Dr Jane Clements is a Christian with an MA in Hebrew and Jewish Studies and a PhD in Holocaust Education. With a background in Religious education, Jane has many years of experience in interfaith relations. Between 2004 and 2008 she worked intensively with Israeli and Palestinian students from the Olive Tree programme. Jane serves on the Archbishop of Canterbury's Anglican Commission to the Chief Rabbinate of Israel.

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Exeter Deanery

Holy Ghost, Exmouth

Count down to the Centenary celebrations

Although parishioners at Holy Ghost, Exmouth, have reached the ‘home straight’ there are still plenty of events and activities planned before the great day on Wednesday 6th May 2015.

On Saturday 7th February a Multicultural Celebration took place to recognise the diversity within the parish – a full report will be published in the next edition of Catholic South West. Monday 2nd and Monday 9th March sees David Wells and John Mannix from the Diocesan Vicariate for Evangelisation, Catechesis and Schools leading Parish Formation evenings. St Patrick’s Day celebrations follow on Tuesday 17th March and, after Easter on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th April there will be a ‘Celebration of Marriage’ with couples married at Holy Ghost, Exmouth, invited to renew their wedding vows and join a

‘reception’ afterwards in the Parish Hall.

Friday 1st May will see a ‘Celebration in Flowers’ when the church will be made ready for the Centenary on Wednesday 6th May. And, on the great day itself there will be Mass at 10am at which other clergy from the town of Exmouth will be present followed by Mass at 7.30pm to which Fr Phillip, Deacon Terry, Sisters of the Holy Family and all parishioners will welcome Bishop Mark and Priests of the Exeter Deanery.

Then, on Sunday 10th May, at the conclusion of a truly remarkable year, there will be a Parish Lunch and Hog Roast.



Fr Phillip Austen, Parish Priest

Ian Stewart
Exmouth



St Mary’s, Axminster

Axminster Catenians were pleased to welcome a number of local clergy to their recent Meeting and Dinner night at Lyme Regis Golf Club.

Pictured are (L to R) Fr Jean-Patrice Coulon, Yeovil, Fr Anthony Cochran, Seaton, Fr Michael Koppel, Axminster, Acting President of Axminster Catenians David Gale, Honorary Canon George Carrick (retired).

Bill Stead
Axminster

Torbay Deanery

Our Lady Help of Christians & St Denis, St Marychurch



Christmas Voices

Local a cappella group ‘The Cameo Singers’ gave a performance of Sacred and Secular music for the Christmas Season at St Marychurch.

Despite a few coughs and colds a good number of parishioners from Our Lady & St Denis and the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin attended and were treated to a selection of festive music. Mgr David Silk welcomed the audience and, at the end of the concert thanked the Cameo Singers for their performance.

Richard Stead
St Marychurch



Guild of St Stephen

Three Altar Servers were enrolled as members of the Guild of St Stephen at St Marychurch on St Stephen’s Day.

Oliver, Jacob and Henry all started serving shortly after making their First Holy Communion; after their enrolment into the guild all the Altar Servers present at the Mass renewed their Guild Promise. Canon Michael Lock, Parish Priest and Diocesan Director of the Guild of St Stephen, presented the medals. Mass was attended by a large number of parishioners who joined Canon Michael and the Altar Servers for ‘Bacon Butties’ in St Dominic’s Room after Mass.

Torbay Deanery

Assumption of Our Lady Parish, Torquay

'THE GIFT' – A Lenten event from the Torbay Deanery

This brand new 'Life in the Spirit' course (produced by CaFE) is offered by Fr

Kieran Kirby and the local 'Celebrate!' team, to help people encounter the Holy Spirit and share their faith. The free course runs at Abbey Road for six weeks, at 7.30pm on Mondays, commencing 23rd February.

Please book in advance with Teresa Bailey Tel: 01803 612324.



All Saints Parish, Teignmouth



Advent Journey and the Blessing of Our Lady & St Patrick RC Primary School

At the beginning of September when Father Jonathan and Mrs Barreto were planning in the Masses and liturgies for the year, they were unsure if, or exactly when, the newly reordered church might be ready during the season of Advent. Mrs Barreto continues:

"for this reason we chose to do something quite different to reflect on the meaning of Advent with our parish and school community. It felt like quite a risk but we had to plan something which could easily translate into either our hall space if the church was not ready, which would also have limited the numbers able to attend; or in the church if it was reopened. How thrilled we were that our beautiful church was ours to use as this space transformed our liturgy and moved your children to engage with the Advent Journey and accompanying liturgy in ways we could not have predicted."

After the Christmas break and on a beautifully sunny Friday in January Staff and children at Our Lady & St Patrick's were celebrating again!

This time Fr Jonathan came to them and, after Mass

in the school, he joined Mrs Barreto and children from each class, in a journey around the whole school and blessed each classroom and the playground. It was a very prayerful and holy moment.

Mrs Sarah Barreto
Head Teacher

PRAYER PASTORS: Torbay Street Pastors take the presence of Jesus out into the world and make a real difference in people's lives. The teams never go out on the streets on a Friday and Saturday night without a small group of Prayer Pastors staying at the base in the Memorial Hall to pray for the teams and the people and situations that they come across. Numbers of Prayer Pastors have dwindled recently and more are urgently needed. As well as praying, the Prayer Pastors also support the teams when they come in for breaks; their work is sacrificial, but it is also very rewarding in contributing to the transformation of the community - crime is down 40% in the area since Street Pastors have been operating.

If you would like to know more about being a Prayer Pastor, please contact either Trevor Staveley email: torbay@streetpastors.org.uk Tel: 01803 411214 Mob: 07517867349, or Graham Fry email: graham.fry@virgin.net Tel: 01626 335928.



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Exeter EX1 2QJ
3rd Sundays at 3.00pm

St Cyprian's Chapel, Ugbrooke House,
Chudleigh TQ13 0AD
4th Sundays at 3.00pm

Exeter University Catholic Chaplaincy
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Holocaust Memorial Day

A time for remembering and reflecting

Editor: Having visited Auschwitz in the summer of 2014 it seemed only right to make every effort to attend one of the many memorial services taking place in my home town to mark the 70th anniversary of its liberation on 27th January 1945.

The service at Torbay Hospital Chapel opened with an Ashkenazi funeral lament, sung in Hebrew, which had been adapted to remember the victims of the holocaust:


God, filled with mercy, dwelling in the heaven's heights, bring proper rest beneath the wings of your Shehinah, amid the ranks of the holy and the pure, illuminating like the brilliance of the skies the souls of our beloved and our blameless who went to their eternal place of rest.

May you who are the source of mercy Shelter them beneath your wings eternally, And bind their souls among the living, That they may rest in peace. And let us say: Amen



After a period of silent reflection candles were lit for the victims of the Holocaust and more recent atrocities in Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur, Bosnia, Syria, Nigeria and South Sudan – all places where people have been persecuted for their faith, their race or their disability. In the words of Safet Vukalić, a survivor if the Bosnian: “we learnt about the concentration camps during the Holocaust and could not understand how people could do such things. And then came the Bosnian war.”

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Book Reviews

The Cup That Cheers



Much as I love the season of Lent, it can be quite a relief to reach Easter at last.

“Why,” you may ask, “when we try to make time for extra prayer and reflection, fasting and almsgiving? Surely it’s the time, when we try to get our own spiritual house in order.” Well, of course this is all true. But I now regard Lent with a little more caution; I used to find the whole idea of ‘giving something up for Lent’ an exciting and encouraging prospect. I had conversations with my daughters about what we thought we might be able to do without. Of course, chocolate is always a popular one: “I’m giving that up, not you,” my daughters would argue in true Christian spirit. I thankfully don’t

smoke, so that was never a contender and I had already given up alcohol, cakes and chocolate in previous years. I could of course repeat one of these but I rather fancied the idea of a new challenge.

ADDICT

Other people’s comments on the subject aren’t always exactly helpful either. They have varied from, “Why bother to give up anything at all?” to “Give up talking! That’s a better idea!” But such comments didn’t solve my problem. So a couple of years ago, after much brain-racking, I thought, “I’ve got it! I’ll give up coffee for Lent.” I ran the idea past my nearest and dearest, whose expressions varied from sceptical to puzzled. “But you’re a coffee addict,” I was told. “Are you sure this is a good idea?” Yet I was determined to do it. Never had six weeks seemed so long to me in all my life! I couldn’t believe how difficult it was to manage without that lifesaving cup – or in my case, mug – throughout the day. And tea just didn’t cut it either. Apparently I became ever grumpier, bad-tempered and frazzled as Lent progressed. “For heaven’s sake, have a coffee!” I was told, but I stubbornly refused.

TEMPTATION

I fought my way through Lent that year without those longed-for coffee breaks of my dreams and I didn’t give in to temptation once. However, I snapped, snarled and growled my way towards the celebration of our Lord’s Passion and Resurrection.

The giving up of coffee was not prayerful or reflective and I was too preoccupied to think about giving the money I had saved to a worthy cause. I felt fed-up and made everyone around me fed-up too. So now, in hindsight, I don’t give up anything for Lent any more – I try to do something extra instead, something that will spill over into the Easter period, if at all possible. And I enjoy my coffee, for all it’s worth.

Julia Beacroft is a catechist and pastoral volunteer who lives in Torquay. Her first book ‘Sanctifying the Spirit’ will be published and available to buy next year.

Cartoon by permission of Marty Bucella

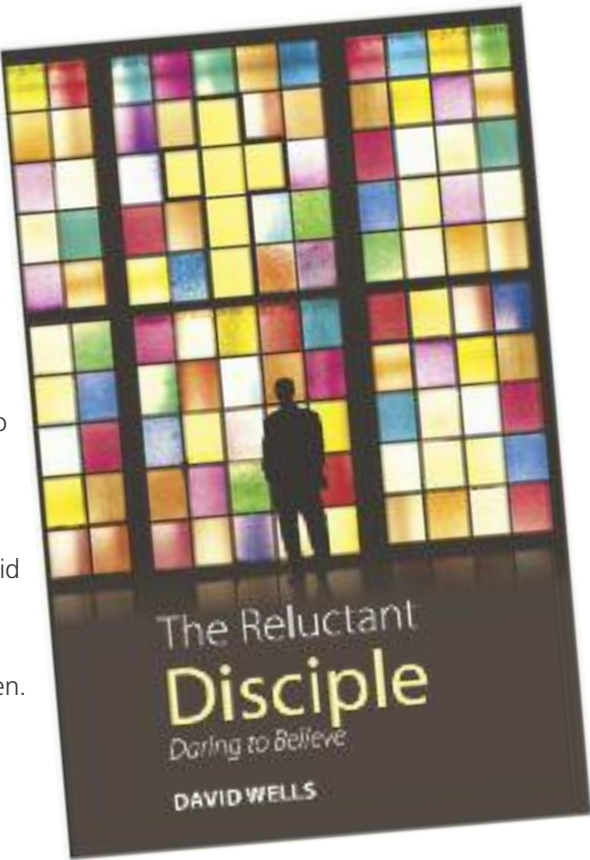


A new book by David Wells

About the author: David Wells will tell you that he is an ordinary man living an ordinary life. Yet all those who have heard him speak will know him as an extraordinary communicator with an amazing ability to draw deep spiritual lessons from everyday experiences.

He has an incredible gift for storytelling – drawing you into tales from his life that simultaneously entertain and effortlessly guide you to a place where you can see God at work in your daily life. David Wells is the Director for Parish Formation for the Diocese of Plymouth. He lives in Devon with his wife and three children.

The Reluctant Disciple is published by Redemptorist Publications



Diary Dates

March 2015



If you would like an entry for your Parish or Deanery to be included in the Diary Dates section please email details to the Editor at felicitystead@btinternet.com by the last working day of each preceding month.

MARRIAGE CARE SOUTH WEST (MCSW) MCSW preparation course dates for 2015:

• **Torbay**
Saturdays 7th March and 10th October
For further details please contact Jenny Allen email: jenny.allen96@btopenworld.com

• **Plymouth**
Saturdays 14th March, 18th July and 21st November
For further details please contact Clare Danes email: claredanesuk@yahoo.co.uk
MCSW also offers FOCCUS, a guided questionnaire-based exploration and essential relationship know-how for individual couple with a trained facilitator. For more information contact mcsw.admin@marriagecare.org
For all other enquiries about MCSW please contact Sue Burrridge, head of MCSW centre Tel: 01395 272799 Mob: 07875 161 595 email: sue@marriagecare.org.uk.

March 2015

Monday 2nd March, Menorah Suite, Glen Firth Road, Bournemouth, BH1 1PW, 8pm to 9pm: an illustrated talk by Ian Vellins about recent developments in Nazi looted art. Ian will present the latest up-to-date survey of the most recent claims and cases brought by Jewish heirs of the original owners of paintings that were stolen by the Nazis.

Friday 6th March, Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP): Please add the date to your calendar now; we hope to provide information about services in your Deanery in future editions of CSW. For more information about WWDP or to find out about the nearest 'Preparation Day meeting' to you contact the national office tel: 01892 541411 email: office@wwdp.org.uk website: www.wwdp.org.uk

Saturday 7th March, National Catholic Youth event, SSE Area, Wembley: for more information visit www.cymfed.org.uk/flame2

Friday 6th to Sunday 8th March, SPUC Youth Conference 2015, Ramada Plaza Hotel, Southport: The Conference promises to be the best yet with excellent speakers on topics which will help young people aged 16 upwards in the ongoing fight against abortion. Contact conference@spuc.org.uk.

April 2015

Sunday 12th April, Paris Marathon: Catholic Children's Society (Plymouth) are looking for runners for the 2015 Paris Marathon. For more information and to apply for a place please contact Claire Mob: 07783 156 284 email: fundraising@ccsplymouth.org.uk

May 2015

Sunday 3rd May, Flores de Mayo & Santacruzian Procession 2015: This year's procession will take place in Exeter; full details will be published in the April edition of Catholic South West.

Saturday 9th May, A Day with St Benedict, Buckfast Abbey: for more information about this year's 'Quiet Days with Dom Christopher Delaney OSB, contact the Warden's Office tel: 01364 645532.

Saturday 16th May, A Call to Action (ACTA) meeting, St Joseph's Church Hall, Newton Abbot, 11am: for more information contact Peter Farrell Tel: 01626 369478

Future events

Saturday 4th July, A Day with St Benedict, Buckfast Abbey: form ore information about this year's 'Quiet Days with Dom Christopher Delaney OSB, contact the Warden's Office tel: 01364 645532.

Saturday 25th July, A Call to Action (ACTA) meeting, St Joseph's Church Hall, Newton Abbot, 11am: for more information contact Peter Farrell Tel: 01626 369478

Saturday 3rd October, A Day with St Benedict, Buckfast Abbey: form ore information about this year's 'Quiet Days with Dom Christopher Delaney OSB, contact the Warden's Office tel: 01364 645532.

Saturday 31st October, A Call to Action (ACTA) meeting, St Joseph's Church Hall, Newton Abbot, 11am: for more information contact Peter Farrell Tel: 01626 369478

REGULAR EVENTS

Cornwall Deanery

- **First & Third Tuesdays from 10.30am, Coffee morning:** Charles Langdon Room, St Cuthbert Mayne Church, Launceston.
- **New life House Groups focusing on prayer, scripture and fellowship (Acts 2):** contact Sheona 07790 413562 for more information and directions
 - o Wednesdays 10am to 12noon 13a Pentire Rd, Newquay, TR7 1NX.
 - o Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9.30pm (during term-time) 18A Ferris Town, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3JH or
- **New Life Praise and Worship Evenings:**
 - o First Wednesday of each month 6.15pm to 7.15pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by praise and Worship at 7.30pm: Our Lady of the Portal and St Piran Catholic Church, Truro. Contact Sheona 07790 413562 for more information or visit www.newlifecatholiccommunity.com
- **Wednesdays, 11.30am to 4pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - with Rosary at 12noon:** Church of St Mary Immaculate, Falmouth.
- **Wednesdays, 3.30pm to 5.30pm, Table Tennis:** Church Hall, Falmouth - parishioners of all ages welcome.
- **First & Third Fridays 7pm to 9pm, Prayer Group, Mary's Eucharistic Renewal:** St Paul's Social Centre, Tintagel.
- **Saturdays, after the 10am Mass, Rosary:** St Cuthbert Mayne Church, Launceston; all are warmly invited to join a small group of parishioners and pray the Rosary.
- **Saturdays at 11am, Legion of Mary:** St Paul's Social Centre, Tintagel.

Dorset Deanery

- **Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, Inspire 20s to 40s Church Friends Group and Home Group:** St Mary's Church, Poole after the 7pm Mass.
- **Monday evenings at 8pm, Bournemouth Hebrew Congregation Adult Education:** Murray Muscat Centre, Glen Fern Road, Bournemouth. Admission free and all are welcome. For details of the topic for each session please contact Spencer Nathan email: spencer.nathan@lineone.net

Exeter Deanery

- **Monday evenings at 7.30pm, Meditation Group:** Richard Reynolds Centre, Heavitree Road, Exeter.
- **Tuesday evenings from 8pm to 9pm, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Mount St Mary Convent, Wonford Road.
- **Third Saturday of each month, 4.30pm, Kerala Community Mass:** Blessed Sacrament Church, Heavitree, Exeter.

Plymouth Deanery

- **Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, Union of Catholic Mothers:** Cathedral Centre.
- **Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, Discussion Group:** Jeremiah Centre, Stott Close, Efford, Plymouth to reflect on the liturgical readings for the coming Sunday.
- **Thursday mornings at 10.30am (coffee from 10am) Bible Study Group:** Cathedral Centre.
- **Thursday afternoons at 2pm, Rosary in Malayalam:** Blessed Sacrament Chapel at the Cathedral.
- **Thursday evenings from 6pm to 8.30pm, Legion of Mary:** Cathedral Centre.
- **Friday evenings at 6pm, Holy Hour:** The Cathedral
- **Sunday evenings, after the 6pm Mass – CREDO:** A forum for young adults wanting to deepen their faith and spiritual life in the Catholic Church through prayer, discussion and community. CREDO meets in Cathedral Centre.
- **Second Saturday of each month, 11am to 12noon – SPUC Anti-Abortion Prayers, Derriford:** For more information contact Christine Hudson Tel: 01752 224018
- **Second Sunday of each month, Sunday Lunch Club, Efford:** for individuals, couples or families who would like to come; to book please contact Deacon Simon Fletcher or Suzanne Tel: 01752 667433.
- **Second Monday of each month from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Knights of St Columba:** Cathedral Centre.
- **Third Monday of each month at 7pm, FOCOLARE – Word of Life Group:** Cathedral Centre.
- **Second Tuesday of each month, Patricians - Legion of Mary discussion group:** For more information please contact Raad Binham Tel: 07816 542 349.
- **First Friday of each month after the 7pm Mass – St Padre Pio Prayer Group:** For more information contact Rev. Deacon Tony Irwin Tel: 01548 853413.

Torbay Deanery

- **Third Monday of every month, 7.15pm, South Hams Catenians:** Seven Stars Public House, Kingsbridge. Please note new venue.
- **Wednesdays from 6pm, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (with Vespers at 6.30pm and Benediction at 6.50pm):** Holy Angels, Chelston, Torquay.
- **First Saturday of every month (except January) 7.45am for an 8am start, Christians Together in Torquay:** Prayer Breakfast at St Luke's Parish Church, St Luke's Road.
- **First Sunday of every month, Polish Mass:** Church of the Assumption, Abbey Road, Torquay at 4pm with confessions from 3.30pm.

RETREATS IN THE DIOCESE OF PLYMOUTH

Silent and individually guided retreats by members of the Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Team: offering each person the opportunity for space, SILENCE and prayer with a spiritual companion to help you pray and reflect. Contact details for bookings and general information post: The Presbytery, 19 Fosse Road, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1NG tel: 01548 852670 email: mjbutler@yahoo.com or adriantoffolo@yahoo.co.uk.

Saturday 7th March: Lenten Quiet Day, Buckfast Abbey.

Friday 24th to Sunday 26th April: Weekend Retreat Buckfast Abbey.

Monday 8th to Friday 12th June: Midweek Retreat, Fowey, Cornwall.

***Friday 16th to Sunday 18th October:** Weekend Retreat, Buckfast Abbey.

***Monday 19th to Friday 23rd October:** Midweek Retreat, Buckfast Abbey.

* these 2 retreats can be 'joined' together to form a 6-day retreat.

Friday 13th to Sunday 16th November: Weekend Retreat, Buckfast Abbey

Chemin Neuf Community, Sclerder Abbey, Looe, Cornwall: Formed in 1973 and established internationally in 27 countries the Chemin Neuf Community specialises in Marriage & Family days, youth work, evangelisation. For more information please call 01503 272238 or visit www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/annuaire/united-kingdom/sclerder-abbey
Saturday 11th to Sunday 19th April 2015: 8-day retreat based on the Spiritual exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola

PILGRIMAGES 2015

Sunday 5th to Sunday 12th April: HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust, Easter Children's Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Full details of this and other HCPT 2015 Pilgrimages will be published in following editions of Catholic South West.

Tuesday 28th April to Friday 8th May: Walking pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela is being organised by the Parish of Crewkerne, Chard and Ilminster but open to members of other parishes. The pilgrimage covers the final stage of the 'Camino' and includes hotel accommodation + ferry and coach travel; for more information please contact Bridport Parish Office tel: 01308 422594.

Wednesday 13th to Friday 22nd May: HCPT Group 507 Joint Services Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes. For more information please contact Richard Tipping tel: 01752 787697 email: richard.tipping@blueyonder.co.uk or Charles Brunel tel: 01752 695090 email: charles.brunel@sky.com.

Saturday 16th to Saturday 23rd May: Medjugorje Pilgrimage flying from Bristol; Spiritual Director - Fr John Delaney OFM. If you are interested in joining the pilgrimage please contact Tony Allbright Tel: 01736 362925 email: tobright@btinternet.com. Anticipated cost £539 (+ single room supplement); arranged with 'Joe Walsh Tours'.

Saturday 23rd to Friday 29th May: Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, led by Bishop Mark. Flying from Exeter and staying at Hotel Chappelle et Parc, close to the Grotto. Enquiries to Pilgrimage Director, Fr Kieran Kirby, Diocesan Director tel: 01803 294142. Booking through Joe Walsh Tours tel: 0203 468 0617 Online: www.joewalshstours.co.uk

Thursday 18th to Thursday 25th June: Medjugorje Pilgrimage flying from Bristol; if you are interested in joining the pilgrimage please contact Philip Illsley Mob: 07967 687 077 email: pgs.illsley@sky.com post: 18 Meadow Hill, Church Village, East Glamorgan, CF38 1RX. Cost £544 (+ single room supplement) with £30.00 discount if paid in full by 15th February 2015.

Wider News



Women's World Day of Prayer 6th March 2015 - The Bahamas

WWDP is an international, interchurch, organisation which enables us to hear the voices of women, from a different part of the world each year, expressing their hopes and concerns and bringing them before the rest of the world in prayer.

On Friday 6th March and estimated 3 million people in over 170 countries, will gather to observe the day of prayer, using an order of service written by Christian women from the Bahamas and translated into over 1,000 different languages and dialects. In the British Isles alone over 5,000 services will be held. The day will begin when the sun rises over the island of Samoa and continue until it sets off the coast of American Samoa some 35 hours later.

The theme of the service is taken from St John's Gospel, chapter 13, verses 1 to 17: 'Jesus said to them: "do you know what I have done to you?" and it challenges us to demonstrate the same radical, unconditional love for others that Jesus showed when

he washed the feet of his disciples.

The Bahamas consists of over 700 islands, scattered over 100,000 square miles in the Atlantic Ocean, only a small proportion of which are inhabited. It refers to itself as a 'family of islands' and in the service the needs of the smallest islands are given as much prominence as those of the larger ones.

The first WWDP service was held in 1950 in Nassau and was organised by the wife of the Presbyterian minister. Most of the Presbyterian ministers serving in The Bahamas came from Scotland and so it is presumed that they used the order of service produced by the Scottish national committee.

Everyone is welcome to attend any of the services, men and women – people of all ages. For more information and resources and details of services in your area visit www.wwdp.org.uk

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