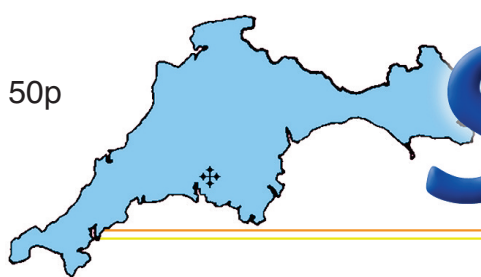


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Catholic **South West**

*Serving the
Diocese
of Plymouth*

Issue 228 October 2016

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'Catholic South West' is the monthly newspaper which serves the communications needs of the clergy, organisations and people of the Diocese of Plymouth.

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Supporting Iraqi Christian Refugees: A concert of music and poetry at Sclerder Abbey



Matti aged 6 drew this picture of his beloved monastery in the mountain above Mosul in Iraq especially for the programme produced for the concert. It is called Mar (Saint) Mattai Monastery and was founded in 363 making it one of the oldest in the world, and it is where many of the Christians sought refuge when IS took control.



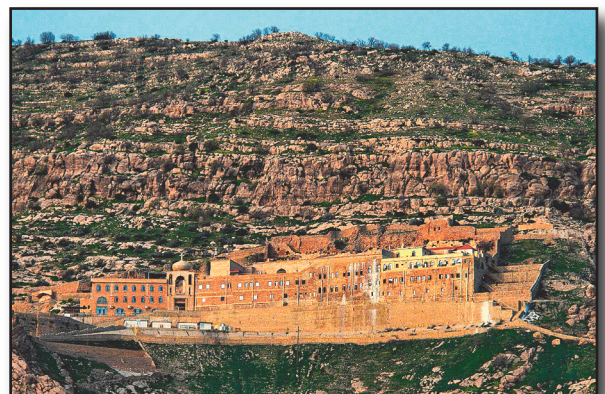
Matti's father Nassr was a driver for the monks and both he and his sister, Matti's Aunt Raghad, are Deacons of the Syrian church. The whole family, 10 in all, have been housed in a cramped one-bedroom flat in a cheap area of Amman, Jordan whilst they patiently await news of their visa applications.

Matti has drawn the monastery with the sun shining and the zig-zag road leading up to it. At the bottom are the flowers and trees of his homeland.

Parishes for Peace is a registered charity established to enable UK parishes to support Christian Refugees in Jordan. The Catholic Parishes of Liskeard and Sclerder have taken this cause to their hearts and organised a fundraising concert at Sclerder Abbey on the evening of Thursday 21st July. Ann Elford was responsible for arranging the programme and 'signing-up' musicians, singers and poetry readers and she did an amazing job; she was supported by, amongst others: Fr Gilmour McDermott, Parish Priest, Diana Momber, Cecil Duvalle, Paul Richards and Maureen Vincent. It was Maureen who contacted Matti's family to ask for a picture of Mar Mattai Monastery and who received permission for Matti and his drawing to be published.

The concert was a great success raising over £550 for Parishes for Peace and inspiring others to donate an additional £1,000 to help support our refugee sisters and brothers.

**Felicity Stead
Editor**



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Apostleship of the Sea



The seafarers with Jacqueline and Fr Michael Carrie

When Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) Dundee ship visitor, Jacqueline McGuire, recently visited a ship in port she was able to speak to four Filipino seafarers on board. They seemed happy enough but were missing their families back home in the Philippines. Jacqueline continues the story: "One of the crew had already been on the ship for nine months and was due to go home in December and all were clearly homesick and looking forward to seeing their loved ones." Jacqueline supplied WiFi units so the men could contact their families back home; she also provided rosary beads, hats and religious reading material.

was missing his family and his two-year-old daughter, who doesn't really know him and so she arranged for him to Skype with his wife and young daughter for the first time in four months. He shared his excitement with his family about having been able to go to Mass – something they always do as a family every Sunday when he is at home. Jacqueline promised to keep in touch with the seafarers when their ship left Dundee and AoS continued to visit them at their next ports of call. She said: "The seafarers have so much to deal with, but I hope AoS' support helped reassure and encourage them."

The seafarers also expressed a great desire to go to Mass; the last time they had been was when they were back in the Philippines so Jacqueline took them to Mass at Dundee Cathedral the next day. She said: "Their desire to go to Mass was very humbling." Jacqueline then took them to visit a few local attractions including Law Hill, Broughty Castle and Barnhill Rock Garden. During a quiet walk, Jacqueline asked one of the seafarers if everything was okay and he said that he

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*).

More information about the work of AoS can be found at www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Prayer to Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, bring us the light of your Son, and show His path in our dark world, so that we may find our way to Him under your protective mantle. Protect seafarers and their families, and bring them consolation when they are separated. Help us to show your maternal care for all those who are in need, especially the poor and the suffering.

Our Lady, Star of the Sea, pray for us.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Friday 7th October



During this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has asked us to rediscover the corporal works of mercy, one of which is to feed the hungry. Families in Bolivia face many challenges in growing enough food. It is the poorest country in South America and many Bolivians, especially children, are malnourished.

In one remote area, on a high plain called the Altiplano, families have to deal with poor quality soil. The climate is changing and the weather is unpredictable. Sometimes devastating hailstorms or heavy frosts destroy crops. At other times there is not enough rain. These conditions make it incredibly tough to grow food, meaning many families go hungry.

That's why CAFOD is asking us to Brighten Up this Harvest – to help build a brighter world and to put into action the corporal work of mercy: feed the hungry. Your fundraising will support communities like Ruben's in Bolivia to grow enough food for themselves, by providing seeds and training in farming methods and by teaching people how to build greenhouses. So use the bright colours and vibrancy of Bolivia to organise your own bright fundraiser on or around Harvest Fast Day on Friday 7th October.

If you're not already a CAFOD supporter and would like to be involved please contact Simon Giarchi, CAFOD Plymouth Diocese Community Participation Officer
Tel: 01364 645440 **email:** plymouth@cafod@cafod.org.uk **website:** www.cafodplymouth.org.uk

"ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD"
MICAH 6:8 [NIV]

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After the Synods. . . .

A Call to Action (ACTA) is organising an event at Christ Church, Leypark Walk, Estover, Plymouth, PL8 8UE on Saturday 15th October from 1 to 4pm. The focus of the event will be to consider our response as individuals and as part of the Catholic Church to the recent Synods on the family, the consultations which preceded them and Pope Francis' "The Joy of Love". All are welcome to come and listen to:

Rev Tim Thornton, Bishop of Truro who represented the Anglican Communion as observer at the two recent Synods in Rome, and

Andrew Homsby-Smith who organised a major submission, "The Smell of the Sheep", as part of the pre-Synod consultation, and

Jillian Wilce who has been engaged in family ministry for many years and can give an overview of many of the initiatives which the Catholic Church in this country is taking in part response to the Synods and "The Joy of Love".

In addition to the 'After the Synods. . . .' event there will be a Local ACTA Steering Group meeting on **Saturday 12th November** at St Agatha's Church Hall, Dawlish from 11am to 2.30pm; again – all are all welcome.

For more information about either of these events please contact:
Peter Farrell Tel: 01626 369478.

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The Great Big Diocesan Quiz

In aid of the

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FRIDAY 07 OCTOBER 2016

?? SAME QUESTIONS
SAME DAY, SAME TIME
AT A NUMBER OF
DIFFERENT VENUES ACROSS THE DIOCESE ??

'...the Diocese wide connection was an excellent part of [the evening] for me and made me feel more part of Plymouth Diocese than anything else' (Deacon Nick after the first Great Big Diocesan Quiz April 16)

The Great Big Diocesan Quiz is a fundraiser to support the work of the Catholic Children's Society. On Friday 7 October the same quiz with the same questions will be run concurrently across the diocese at numerous parishes and schools.

Would your parish or school like to get involved? Could you organise a quiz for your friends, family or community. The Society will provide the questions and answers you would just need to organise a venue, some teams (of six) and refreshments! Please get in touch to register your event via our website, at claire.warren@prcdtr.org.uk or phone 01364 645420

Perhaps a team from your quiz night will be crowned the
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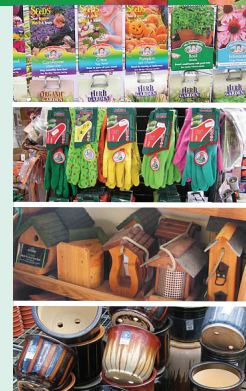
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School of the Annunciation (SotA) A Centre for the New Evangelisation, offering distance-learning in the Catholic Faith



In his Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* Pope Francis reminded us of the importance of the work of evangelisation, he tells us: "evangelisation is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him. Many of these are quietly seeking God, led by a yearning to see his face, even in countries of ancient Christian tradition. All of them have a right to receive the Gospel. Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone." In this, Pope Francis is echoing the words of other recent popes. All have spoken of the importance of the New Evangelisation – the re-evangelisation of those parts of the world which were once Christian, but have lost the Christian faith.

In our country today an increasing number of people describe themselves as 'spiritual but not religious'. This shows the thirst for faith, for God, for beauty, truth and goodness. The School of the Annunciation (SotA) has been founded to equip ordinary Catholics to reach out to these people and share with them the fullness of the Catholic Faith, and thus to find true fulfilment in their lives.

SotA has been recognised as a Catholic Institute of Higher Education by Bishop Mark who, along with Cardinal George Pell is also a Patron of the School. The Abbot of Buckfast is the Chairman of the Trustees, and we are based at Buckfast Abbey in Devon. Most of our programmes are taught online, with residential weekends at Buckfast Abbey. Meeting other students and joining in the liturgy with the resident monastic community is something which our students greatly value. They also appreciate the beautiful Devon countryside.

The School of the Annunciation was founded in 2014 to support the mission of the Catholic Church. The courses we offer have been prepared specifically with the New Evangelisation in mind. **Foundations in the Faith for the New Evangelisation** is a distance learning course of 18 months with study weekends in the beautiful surroundings of Buckfast Abbey. It is an ideal course for those who want to learn more about their faith. It is suitable for all adult Catholics. Originally developed for parish Catechists, it has proved popular with parents, grandparents, readers, people involved in parish life and those who just want to be a bit more confident in talking to others about their faith; who want to know it more deeply and be better equipped to pass it on to others.

The **Diploma in the New Evangelisation** is a two-year course, which goes a bit deeper than Foundations in Faith. It aims to foster and build on that joyful enthusiasm for passing on the faith which many lay Catholics have, and equip them with the essential knowledge, understanding and skills for a creative and reflective participation in the Church's call to the new Evangelisation. The Diploma course is taught at the level of the first year of an undergraduate degree, but it presumes no previous knowledge and has been successfully completed by people who left school many years ago and are returning to study. For the Church, 'evangelisation' means bringing the good news into every aspect of human life, and this course gives attention to formation in the Deposit of Faith. It covers Catholic approaches to Scripture, the challenges of contemporary culture, the Catholic understanding of philosophy, the use of new media, and the Path of Beauty, among other topics. More details of this and all our courses can be found on the School's website, www.schooloftheannunciation.com

As well as these courses, SotA also offers summer schools, one year courses in Philosophy, Media and the New Evangelisation, Art and the New Evangelisation, and Latin. In addition, a MA in Catechetics and Evangelisation is offered in association with Franciscan University of Steubenville in the United States. We hope to offer a BA course in the New Evangelisation, and discussions are advancing with a number of Catholic universities in Britain and overseas.

The School is just beginning, but we are very excited about the future: we invite you to join us. As Pope Francis said in *Evangelii Gaudium*, Catholics "should appear as people who wish to share their joy, who point to a horizon of beauty and who invite others to a delicious banquet." That is our goal at the School of the Annunciation. Pope Francis continued, "it is not by proselytizing that the Church grows, but 'by attraction'. By knowing our faith and living it we will attract others. That is the New Evangelisation – the mission of the School of the Annunciation, and the mission of all Catholics.

Fr Guy de Gaynesford MA, STL
Rector

The Fatima centenary is a major moment for the Church in England and Wales



The final apparition of the Angel at Fatima in 1916

Angels "belong to him [Christ] because they were created through him and for him ... [as] messengers of his saving plan" (Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) 331).

It was at about this time of year, one hundred years ago in 1916, that the angel appeared for the last time to the three shepherd children of Fatima; the angel was holding a chalice into which drops of blood were falling from a consecrated host above it. Leaving the chalice and host suspended in the air, the angel prostrated on the ground beside the children and repeated this prayer three times:

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly and I offer you the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in

reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of you the conversion of poor sinners.

The angel then gave the host to Lucia, and the contents of the chalice to Blessed Francisco and Blessed Jacinta.

To recite the words of this prayer, taught by the angel to the child seers in front of the miraculously suspended chalice and host issuing drops of the Precious Blood, is spiritually to offer in reparation to the Most Holy Trinity the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross re-enacted in the Mass when, as the prayer states, Jesus becomes present in the consecrated host, in his Body, Blood, soul and divinity (cf. CCC, 1330).

Whilst only a priest can offer the holy sacrifice of the Mass, this prayer can be offered by anyone, including children as

young as Blessed Jacinta and Blessed Francisco. It is offered to the Most Holy Trinity: "the central mystery of Christian faith and life, the mystery of God in Himself" (CCC, 234). And, is a prayer we can all say when in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament or receiving Holy Communion.

This extraordinary manifestation of the divine reality of the Eucharist to the three child seers was the preparation for their encounter with the "beautiful Lady from heaven" on 13th May 1917. On that day, after they had seen themselves in God in the light from Our Lady's hands, whose rays "penetrated our hearts and the innermost depths of our souls" they were moved to kneel down and repeat in their hearts, "O Most Holy Trinity, I adore you! My God, my God, I love you in the most Blessed Sacrament".

At Fatima and by the desire of Jesus, the divine mysteries of our faith were

manifested through His holy Mother in the lives of "mere children" (Mt 11: 25), for the first time in the Church's history. I encourage you to recite this prayer as a preparation for the celebration of the centenary of Our Lady's apparitions in 2017.

Timothy Tindal-Robertson,
National President, World
Apostolate of Fatima England & Wales

Email: timt-
robertson@clara.co.uk
Tel: 01392 433256

World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) are organising a 'Day with Our Lady of Fatima' at Plymouth cathedral on **Saturday 15th October** with Bishop Mark O'Toole presiding. For more information about this event please contact Timothy Tindal-Robertson (details above)

A Glimpse of Heaven

Holy Family Parish Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in the Jubilee Year of Mercy

"The practice of pilgrimage has a special place in the Holy Year, because it represents the journey each of us makes in this life. Life itself is a pilgrimage, and the human being is a viator, a pilgrim travelling along the road, making his way to the desired destination." *Pope Francis, Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, April 11, 2015*

Pilgrimage is becoming a very familiar experience to parishioners of the Holy Family Parish in Exmouth as they have been led annually to Rome and, or, Assisi for the last eight years by Fr Philip who said back then that he wanted to show parishioners 'the bigger church'. During this Year of Mercy, Pope Francis has encouraged us to go on pilgrimage and so as a 'pilgrimage parish' another pilgrimage was duly planned! On Sunday 21st August 2016, 47 parishioners left Exmouth, with pilgrims from Exmouth, Budleigh Salterton, Sidmouth, Essex and Ireland bound for Santiago de Compostela.

Many months of preparation went in before departure and the pilgrims met on several occasions to get to know each other, share meals together, celebrate Mass together and go on preparation walks. By the time the coach left Exmouth the pilgrims were not strangers at all. The pilgrimage was led by Fr Philip and short extracts from each of the pilgrim groups – named after Spanish saints are published here:

Santa Juliana: The whole Santiago experience was for most of us a ten-day microcosm of our Spiritual Lives. Before we set out, we had the 'routine' experience of worshipping with the local Christian Community, conscious of the support of their prayerful love for us and ours for them. Dipping in and out of the Daily Office en route in the coach or in the Cathedral itself we met, encouraging others and often familiar phrases from the Scriptures: 'Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in His Holy Place?' Each Pilgrim climbed the Stone Mountain at Cruz de Ferro, adding to the great pile of small rocks and pebbles our own tokens of the burdens and baggage that weigh us down. 'The Lord works marvels for me, Holy is His Name'.

Santo Domingo: Hospitality on The Camino was shown in many ways by fellow pilgrims - in the sharing of water, medical supplies and assistance where needed and, of course, the wishing of "Buen Camino!" It has been a privilege to travel The Camino, particularly in this the Jubilee Year of Mercy and to enter the Cathedral at Santiago de Compostela through the "Narrow Door". We were welcomed and provided with the opportunity to embrace the statue of St James and to have our confessions heard and also attend the Pilgrims Mass at which Fr Philip concelebrated.

San Pelayo: The Cruz de Ferro - Iron Cross - was erected on top of what had originally been a pagan monument consisting of a pile of stones. It was at this point that we all deposited the stones which we had brought with us on all our practise walks at home as well. This simple act symbolises the release of the burden of guilt and any other negative emotions and proved to be both psychologically and spiritually uplifting. Nearby was a small chapel, which although had locked gates, had fresh flowers inside which showed that it must be monitored fairly often.

San Zoilo: Mass in the cathedral in Santiago was an emotional experience for many. Being part of such a large multi-national service was amazing, and wonderful to hear our parish being mentioned in several languages as we were thanked for enabling the spectacle of the botafumeiro swinging through the air dispensing incense to all. A number of the group were moved to tears after receiving the sacrament of reconciliation in the cathedral prior to Mass – so unexpected in all the hustle and bustle going on around. "It made you feel all the more ready and worthy to take part in the service" said one. "I feel I'm walking on air" said another....

San Tirso: The third Mass of our pilgrimage was in the Basilica Church of Santillana del Mar, a very ancient site. This was a far more personal Mass, just for our group and all the more moving for that reason. Fr Philip preached a very thoughtful homily bringing all our experiences together. It was all the more moving for being in a setting of centuries of prayer and worship with a group of people who had all come to know each other better through shared experiences.

San Turibio: We walked and we travelled through amazing scenery, visited churches, monasteries and villages. Morning and Evening Prayer and Father Philip's reflections on the coach as we travelled through the awesome countryside. Every day of travel brought new friendships plus a renewal of old friendships and a deepening of our own journey of faith – surely 'A Glimpse of Heaven!'

San Froilan: The opportunity to walk even a short part of the Camino, in an atmosphere of wonderful support and camaraderie, provided a taste of the endurance and belief of the original pilgrims, which carried them across often hostile landscapes with little shelter or relief from the elements. Our pilgrimage gave us the opportunity to see the variety of northern Spain: from the hot, dusty yellow plains and impossibly blue skies of Castilla-Leon to the majestic splendour of the Picos de Europa and the wild beauty of the Cantabrian coastline. An unforgettable experience!

Editor: these extracts are part of a much longer and very interesting article sent to me by Fr Philip; if you would like a copy of the full article please visit www.holyghostexmouth.org.uk



Early on the morning of Monday 20th June thirty-one pilgrims left Stansted Airport to fly to Perugia and on to Cascia and Roccaporena in Umbria to follow in the footsteps of St Rita of Cascia. We had hoped to leave the rain in England, but no, it was raining in Perugia. No one seemed to mind as we are used to the rain but the heat wave that followed for the next 5 days did overwhelm us. Determined pilgrims, no one complained and we walked for miles under the guidance of Daniela, our guide.

The theme for our week was 'A Journey of Faith' taking St. Rita as our example and following the story of her life from early childhood, through marriage, widowhood, death of her two sons, her life as a Religious,

St. Rita's Promotions Pilgrimage to Cascia & Roccaporena

her stigmata and finally her death in Cascia. Our first visit was to Perugia and then on to Assisi for lunch, a tour of the town made famous by St. Francis. Mass was scheduled to be said in the Basilica but to our surprise we were shown into the Monastery and had Mass in the Chapel - a very special and rare opportunity for visitors to Assisi.

Day two of our pilgrimage saw us attending Mass in St Rita's Basilica in Cascia followed by a tour of St Rita's Convent, the Basilica and the town. After lunch we had a guided tour of Roccaporena and then eighteen of our pilgrims walked up to the top of Prayer Mountain in Roccaporena. For those who climbed the mountain the views of Umbria are magnificent and a reward for their effort. Once at the top we sat outside the Chapel said a decade of the rosary, sang a hymn and sat to enjoy the peace of this unique place.

On day three we travelled to Montefalco – known as the

'Balcony of Umbria'. We visited the convent of the Augustinian sisters and the home of St Clare of the Cross. The sisters gave us a guided tour of their convent and we were very privileged to be allowed into the gardens of the convent. We also visited San Francesco church and Sant'Agostino church; then on to Bevagna at the foot of the Montefalco Hills. Then back to Roccaporena for Mass at Santuario de Santa Rita where St Rita was married and where her parents, husband and two sons are buried.

On the last day of our pilgrimage we took life at a slower pace. We went just a few miles to Norcia, the birthplace of St. Benedict and attended Mass in the Basilica di San Benedetto in Norcia. The afternoon was free for everyone to do what they wanted and in the evening our hotel laid on a celebration meal for us which was a wonderful surprise and a treat for everyone.

Our 'Journey of Faith' took us to



some sites of religious importance in the Italian Region of Umbria; all of them gave us inspiration to continue on our faith journey. No one fell or was injured, we laughed, we ate together, we travelled by coach together, we flew together, but most important of all we prayed together. St Rita is a remarkable saint and the pilgrims on our journey are witness to that. In this year of Mercy Pope Francis has urged everyone to re-read her extraordinary human and spiritual experience as a sign of the Power of God's Mercy. St Rita is the patron saint of: sterility, abuse victims, marriage difficulties, parenthood, widows, the sick, bodily ills and wounds.

Patricia Gough
Pilgrimage Co Ordinator

St Mary's, Axminster

The annual Macmillan Coffee Morning takes place this year at Hawkechurch Village Hall, Axminster, Devon, EX13 5XW on Fri 30th September from 10am to 1pm. There will be delicious homemade cakes, coffee/tea with lots of local businesses represented: crafts, flowers, fudge and great raffle prizes from the local community. Please come along and meet your friends and raise money for this very worthy cause.

For more information please contact Maggie Stead **Tel:** 01297 678458



REGULAR EVENTS IN THE EXETER DEANERY

Monday mornings, 10am to 12noon, Richard Reynolds Centre: Toddler Group, all welcome.

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.

Second and fourth Thursday evening of each month from 7.30pm to 9pm, a Joint Parish Prayer Group for both Exeter parishes: Richard Reynolds Centre, Heavitree Road, Exeter. For more information please ring Chris and Sue Lee on 01392 432929.

Third Saturday afternoon of each month, 4.30pm, Kerala Community Mass: Blessed Sacrament Church, Heavitree, Exeter.

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Weymouth Parish Celebrations



Thirty-five children made their First Holy Communion at Our Lady Star of the Sea this year.

Fr Stephen Geddes celebrated Mass assisted by Deacons Geoffrey Corey and Jonathan de Kretser. Also present was Sister Aquinas from the Convent of Mercy at Wyke Road who has been First Holy Communion Catechist for over 20-years. It was wonderful to have her with us and to be able to thank her for her work with the children for so many years.

A few weeks later Fr Stephen celebrated his 70th Birthday with a party in the Parish Hall after Sunday Mass. It was a very joyful occasion which gave his parishioners an opportunity to wish him a happy birthday – and many more!

The Parish Summer Fete was held in the beautiful gardens of the Convent of Mercy, Wyke Road, Weymouth. Although the weather was showery and somewhat cold the 'Yellow Stall' cheered everyone up and all the stalls did well: there were cake, plant, bric-a-brac, book and bottle stalls and a 'Grand Draw'. Our thanks go to all who were so generous in their support.

Esmée Nicholls
Weymouth



St Catherine's, Wimborne Priestly Ordination anniversary

On 26th July Canon Kenneth Noakes celebrated the 20th anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood. The parishioners, led by Ann Harris, organised a celebratory dinner of curry, Father's favourite, on the Saturday evening and followed it up the next day with a presentation, cake and "bubbly". The weekend was a very joyous one and was topped off with a special message from Bishop Mark O'Toole from Krakow where he was taking part in World Youth Day 2016. Father is pictured receiving his gifts from the parish watched by some curious young parishioners!

Axminster Catenians Visit Bridport Award for Excellence

The Axminster Catenians made their Annual Award for Excellence this year to Fynley Morgan, a pupil at St Catherine's Catholic Primary School, Bridport.



The award was made at the school's end of term Leavers Ceremony and Fynley was chosen by his teachers in recognition for his endeavours and achievements, and for being an outstanding example to others at St Catherine's.

The award is a large engraved shield retained by the school and a smaller engraved shield kept by the winner along with a scroll describing the purpose of the award.

David Gale
Axminster

Holy Trinity, Dorchester St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Tea Party



A cream tea was organised by the SVP recently. It was lovely to see about thirty housebound parishioners and helpers enjoying each other's company. The food was good too! We also had a birthday to celebrate; a surprised Maureen O'Brien was presented with a candle-lit cake and flowers. We are planning another get-together at Christmas.

Anita Finnigan
Holy Trinity, Dorchester

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE DORSET DEANERY

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

Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, Inspire 20s to 40s Church Friends Group and Home Group: St Mary's Church, Poole after the 7pm Mass.

First weekend of every month, after weekend Masses, Prayer Ministry for healing or any other need: Our Lady Star of the Sea, Weymouth. For more information contact Mike Newbery **email:** miknewb@btinternet.com

First Thursday of each month from 10.45am to 11.45am, St Swithun's Church Hall, Allington, Dorset: St Swithun's Church Community welcome members of all churches to join their monthly community coffee mornings

The Latin Mass Society

www.lms.org.uk 020 7404 7284

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Plymouth PL1 2EN
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Blessed Sacrament, Fore Street, Heavitree,
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
Fridays (term time) at 7.30pm

Lanherne Convent, St Mawgan,
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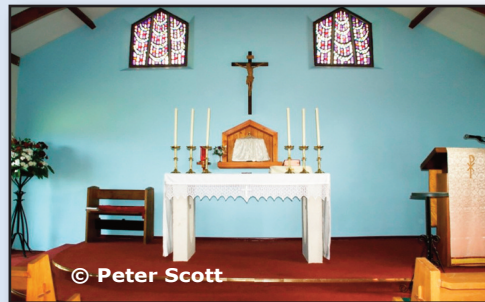
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Cornwall Deanery News

Parish of St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston (With St Peter's, Bude and Our Lady of Victories, Callington)

More News from the Parish of St Cuthbert Mayne



Thanks to much enthusiastic teamwork, the re-ordering of the Sanctuary at Callington is now complete. In later September the east wall was repainted light blue – the church is dedicated to Our Lady of Victories. The spacious tabernacle, given to us by Penzance Parish, has been centrally positioned beneath the Crucifix. The former hole-in-the-wall tabernacle has been relegated to the sacristy. All this was done by Hugh and Peter Scott, Marcin Misztela, Kevin Grant and Val Williams, who fed the men. Grateful thanks to them and to the Parish Priest of Penzance, who also supplied us with some very smart pews.

Fr David Annear
Parish Priest, Launceston



Cathy Guest, Malcolm Butler,
Len Fletcher

A long day's wandering through a Cornish landscape, in aid of the charity 'Shelter'

"wild air, world mothering air, nestling me everywhere..." G M Hopkins

It caught my eye in the hedge among the brambles, dark, ripe and enticing...and unable to resist this sweet temptation, I plucked and ate my first blackberry of the season on this day, 29th July 2016, a Friday...and although sharper to the taste than I'd anticipated, it was good indeed. From eight in the morning until seven in the evening, Malcolm, Cathy and yours truly walked the thirty miles for 'Shelter', starting at Hannaford and finished by drinking the most delicious pint ever in the Globe, East Looe.

On this day, Mother Nature poured out her beauty. Along coastal paths, up and over fields where the larks ascended to the blue skies singing their little hearts out, we travelled, then

we would burrow deep within the ancient 'holloways', occasionally nettled, scratched and bitten; on...on we went, cautiously crossing narrow wooden bridges, fording streams and walking winding riverside tracks. We travelled in fine, bright, perfect summer weather. The butterflies were so delighted they danced before us.

We paused along the way at five sacred spaces to light a candle and to reflect for a few moments on what we were doing and why we were there. The ruins of Lammana's monastic site, the churches of Talland, Lansallos, Lanreath and finally St Nonna's Well, tucked into a forested steep side of the West Looe River Valley. These were our pilgrim steps.

We also raise a glass to the almost unacknowledged sixth sacred space, Sclerder, which has been an inspiration to us and, I'd like to think, where the seed for this 'Shelter' walk was sown.

Our pace and temperament were in harmony, even when, at times, it may have seemed to my good companions that we were lost, as I slashed a way through thick, tangled undergrowth. Trust, determination, support and friendship carried us through to the finish.

A salute as well to the so brief yet touching encounters with strangers along our way...and to my dear old battered, cheeky, al fresco boots. I smile...but words fail me. The blackberries and ale tasted so good indeed but the thirty miles through a Cornish paradise garden, and at times a wild one, this journey, and its cause...yes, its cause...that fine taste will last with us for many a year to come.

Len Fletcher
East Looe

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE CORNWALL DEANERY

Second Tuesdays from 2pm to 4pm, Justice and Peace/Poverty Meeting followed by prayers for persecuted Christians: St Mary's Church Hall, Killigrew Road, Falmouth.

Wednesdays, 10.30am to 1pm, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Church of St Mary Immaculate, Falmouth.

Wednesdays & Fridays Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, after Mass until 11am: St Paul the Apostle, Bossiney Road, 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.

Third Saturdays from 1.30pm to 4pm, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Penzance group: CHYMORGEN, Botallack, St. Just, TR19

For more information Tel: 01736/788438 email: brigitemorrigan@talktalk.net



Plymouth Circle news



David Rowley presents the prizes to the winning team of the Plymouth Circle Competition to Mike and Mary Norton, Madeleine Lester.

Brother John Modley, Membership Officer for Plymouth Circle, recently held a Catenian Awareness Day at Holy Cross RC Primary School, Plymouth during their Summer Fayre. He used this opportunity to display much information about the Catenian Association including distributing Circle Handbooks. John also ran the Lucky Dip Stall to attract the families to the Displays. Hopefully this will help to attract more new members.

Province 13 held its Annual Boules Competitions at St Augustine's Priory, Cadleigh. The day started with Mass at The Priory followed by a barbeque in the grounds of the Church. After lunch, two competitions were held - one for the Provincial Peter Bleakley Trophy and one for Plymouth Circle members and friends. Competition was high with the measuring tape studied several times by the judges, Bob Butler and Mike O'Sullivan. Eventually, after a thrilling Final, the Peter Bleakley Trophy was won by South Hams Circle with North Devon Circle as fine runners-up. The competition for Plymouth Circle members was won by Mike Norton, Mary Norton and Madeleine Lester with David Leah, Peter Lester and Matty Cooke as Runners-up. The prizes were presented by Grand President David Rowley. A glorious, hot, sunny day thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Many congratulations to Brother Roy Bishop and his wife Anne who have celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Roy and Anne met on Plymouth Hoe when Anne was on holiday in 1953. Roy was in the Medical Branch of the Royal Navy and Anne worked in the Wedgewood Department of Dingles in Plymouth. Their romance blossomed and they married on the 20th. July 1956 at the Church of our Most Holy Redeemer, Keyham, Plymouth. They are blessed with two sons - Mark and Justin and two wonderful Grandchildren, Phoebe and Sam. Celebrations culminated with a special blessing during Mass in their parish at St Peter's Church, Crownhill. We wish this wonderful couple many more years of happy married life together.

**John Luscombe
Plymouth Catenians**



Sister Margaret Mary Chambers SND

A correction and an apology: unfortunately the date provided to CSW for the celebration of Sister

Margaret Mary's Diamond Jubilee was incorrect; the celebrations took place on 11th September at Christ Church, Estover, Plymouth and I hope to publish a report and picture in the next edition of CSW. In the meantime Sister sends her thanks to all for their good wishes for her jubilee.

**Felicity Stead
Editor**

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PLYMOUTH DEANERY

Second Monday evening of each month from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, Knights of St Columba: Cathedral Centre.

Tuesday afternoons from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, Union of Catholic Mothers: Cathedral Centre.

Second Tuesday of each month, Patricians - Legion of Mary discussion group: Cathedral Centre; for more information please contact Raad Binham

Tel: 07816 542 349.

Thursday mornings at 10.30am (coffee from 10am) Bible Study Group: Cathedral Centre.

Thursday evenings from 6pm to 8.30pm, Legion of Mary: Cathedral Centre.

Normally First Friday evening of each month after the 7pm Mass - St Padre Pio Prayer Group: Cathedral; for more information contact Rev. Deacon Tony Irwin

Tel: 01548 853413.

Second Saturday morning 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.

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.

Plymouth Deanery News

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A Walk for WORK

Fr Adrian Toffolo, Parish Priest at Sacred Heart, Kingsbridge, took to the coastal path recently on a 15-mile sponsored walk for Widows and Orphans in Rural Kenya (W.O.R.K).

It is some years since he walked so far in one day, so it was a challenge. Fortunately it was a pleasant day for walking, and the walk – from Slapton Sands to Salcombe – took him along some of South Devon's stunning coastal scenery. The result was worthwhile with sponsorship raising over £2,000 to help the charity of which Fr Adrian is chairman. W.O.R.K. operates in the Diocese of Bungoma where Diocesan priests from Plymouth ministered for 40 years. Currently it helps to educate 130 orphans towards a career, and supports 80 widows towards self-sufficiency. It provides health care through two rural health centres, and has done many projects in the schools where our orphans are educated. For more information, please visit the website, or contact W.O.R.K's field-worker, Mary-Jane Butler **Tel:** 01548.852670 **email:** mjbutler6@yahoo.com.

Birthday Celebrations



August was a rather special month in the life of the Parish Family at Our Lady Help of Christians & St Denis, St Marychurch with three members of our family celebrating 'significant' birthdays!

First, and youngest in line with her 'big' day was Victoria Ewan who started partying on Saturday 20th August. Next was Mgr David Silk, our 'retired' priest who doubled Vicky's years on Tuesday 23rd August and was serenaded with an impromptu birthday song at the end of morning Mass. And, last but not least was Peggy Foggarty who, on Thursday 25th, was a sprightly 10-years older than Fr David!

A celebration was held in their honour on the Saturday following all their birthdays with parishioners enjoying Prosecco, coffee, tea and a rather lovely cake after the morning Mass. Their combined ages are 210 so you'll have to 'do the math' if you want to find out how old each of them is!

Happy birthday to them all – and may they celebrate many more!

Richard Stead
St Marychurch

The Priory and Cemetery at Abbotswells



Tuesday, August 23rd was a special afternoon at the Priory, Abbotswells, with the blessing of the recently restored "Chapel in the Wood" and the newly commissioned plaque for the Cemetery, containing all the names of the nuns, priests and some lay people buried there. The Augustinian Nuns lived at the Priory from 1861 until 1983. Following the closure of the Abbey the property was purchased by Martin Procter of Clennon Developments and turned into a retirement complex.

On wandering around the premises and grounds one cannot fail to feel the peace and tranquillity there. The one hundred and twenty-two years of prayer and service to God has left a legacy of awe and wonder, and an almost tangible sense of the closeness of the Kingdom. Certainly, the residents are very conscious of their heritage, and never fail in their efforts to link with the past and to accumulate knowledge and appreciation of the community that once lived here. Many of them regularly visit the Cemetery where 104 nuns are buried, along with 9 priests and 13 lay people (three of them former nuns). Two Bishops were buried here: Bishop William Vaughan and Bishop John Kelly.

In 1996 their remains were exhumed and re-interred in the Cathedral at Plymouth. Furthermore, there was a neglected Chapel in the wood which the residents lovingly and carefully restored. This too is used for private prayer and quiet contemplation.

A group of residents, Canon Pat Costello and Sister Benignus made their way to the little chapel in the wood where there were readings and prayers by Canon and Sr Benignus. Prayers were offered for those who used it for over a century and for those who will use it in the future. Then the group moved along the path to the Cemetery for another service of blessing and prayers for the deceased.

The Cemetery is the responsibility of the Diocese, and we are most grateful to the Residents' Association for raising the funds for the creation and installation of the plaque which record all the names of those buried there. Special thanks go to Teresa Baverstock, for spear-heading the project and to Gillie Byrom for organising the data and the printing of the plaque, as well as being largely responsible for raising the funds by giving talks and a tea party about her work as an internationally renowned miniature enamellist. We note also that Sandra Braznell restored the beautiful statue of Our Lady of Lourdes, and Jackie Andrews and Teresa Baverstock decorated the "Chapel in the Wood". Shirley Buckley is the manager of the complex.

Sr Benignus O'Brien, FDLC
Diocesan Archivist



Retired Head teacher Runs for 'Rainbows GB'

Mark Shaw, a retired head teacher, will be raising funds for the national charity Rainbows GB. Rainbows is committed to helping children and young people grieve and grow after loss. It is a national charity supporting children in their own schools. School

staff receive training to deliver a programme of support to pupils. The programme is run as an intervention in school, with the impact for children being significant, but also staff feeling more skilled and confident, in this most sensitive area of emotional health. Rainbows acknowledges that grief needs to be recognised and supported, not buried, denied or ignored.

Next year is the 25th anniversary of the charity coming to Great Britain, with more than 750 schools now trained nationally, to deliver support to young people. Mark Shaw introduced Rainbows to his school, Queensway Catholic Primary, in Torquay, in 2013. Bishop Christopher Budd gave his blessing to the development of Rainbows through the South West in 2013. Bishop Mark O'Toole, together with Father Mark O'Keefe, Episcopal Delegate for schools, have most recently, been very influential in the further development of the charity's work in the diocese. CAST, the multi school academy, has also pledged financial support to those who deliver the training to schools. There is significant growth in local schools running the Rainbows programmes, with further development planned.

Andrea Rodgers, National Co-director with responsibility for the South, said: "We are very grateful to Mark. He will be completing 25 park runs, aiming for under 25 minutes for each run. In addition to the park runs, Mark will be finishing his challenge with a marathon. The work done in schools with trained staff, is vital in ensuring children build resilience to move forward, after bereavement through death or other life changing loss".

Mark will start his challenge in September 2016 and complete his series of runs by March 2017. Mark and the charity would be very grateful for sponsorship for Rainbows to continue to grow and flourish in our schools. Please make a difference to children by sponsoring through his giving page: www.virginmoneygiving.com/markshaw1959

Andrea Rodgers
National Co-Director, South
www.rainbowsgb.org
andrea1.rainbowsgb@btconnect.com



South Hams Catenians: Circle 368

The South Hams Catenians and their wives attended a Mass for the intentions of the Association at Kingsbridge led by Circle Chaplain Monsignor Adrian Toffolo and Circle Member, Deacon the Reverend Tony Irwin. Following Mass we retired to the Cottage Hotel at Hope Cove where we enjoyed a wonderful Sunday lunch together. The sun came out over the sea and we had our coffee looking at some of the best views in the South West. A great day for us all.

Trevor Davies
South Hams Catenians

REGULAR EVENTS IN THE TORBAY DEANERY

First Sunday of every month, 4pm, Torbay Hospital Chapel: Mass celebrated by Fr Kieran Kirby, Hospital Chaplain. All are welcome to join Fr Kieran and members of the Chaplaincy Team to pray for all patients and staff in the hospital

Third Monday evening of every month (except August), 7.15pm, South Hams Catenians: Thurlestone Golf Club. Please note new venue. **Wednesday mornings, 9.40am, Our Lady Help of Christians & St Denis, St Marychurch:** All are welcome to join parishioner before the 10am morning Mass to pray the rosary for vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life.

Wednesday evenings from 6pm, Holy Angels, Chelston, Torquay: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Vespers at 6.30pm and Benediction at 6.50pm.

Sunday evenings, 6pm, Church of the Assumption of Our Lady, Abbey Road, Torquay: Polish Mass with Confessions from 5.30pm.

RESOURCES IN THE DIOCESE OF PLYMOUTH

MARRIAGE CARE SOUTH WEST (MCSW)

MCSW remaining preparation course dates for 2016:

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Saturday 15th October

For further local information please contact Jenny Allen email: jenny.allen96@btopenworld.com

Plymouth

19th November

For further local information please contact Clare Danes email: claredanesuk@yahoo.co.uk

All courses are day courses and lunch is included. Cost of the courses for 2016 is £70. 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 Burrige, head of MCSW centre **Tel:** 01395 272799 **Mob:** 07875 161 595 **email:** sue@marriagecare.org.uk

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RETREATS

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. All 2016 Retreats will take place at Southgate Retreat House, Buckfast Abbey. Contact details for bookings and general information **post:** The Presbytery, 19 Fosse Road, Kingsbridge, TQ7 1NG **Tel:** 01548 852670 **email:** mjbutter@yahoo.com or adriantoffolo@yahoo.co.uk.

Friday 14th to Sunday 16th October: Weekend retreat

Monday 17th to Friday 21st October: Mid-week retreat

Friday 14th to Friday 21st October: 6-day retreat

Friday 18th to Sunday 20th November: A 'taster' weekend retreat

(For anyone who would like to try and retreat for the first time)

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 about events at Sclerder **Tel:** 01503 272238 or visit the **website** www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/annuaire/united-kingdom/sclerder-abbey.

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A journey with Christ: 'The Way to Emmaus' by German painter Robert Zund (1827 - 1909)



An Awesome Journey ... by Julia Beacroft

I have sometimes thought that the young people in our communities use a language that is entirely

their own, a language with which they are perfectly at ease and which their peers easily and readily understand. Let me give a few examples: 'Bad' meaning good(!), 'Fit' meaning attractive, 'Buff' as in muscly, 'Gross' meaning unpleasant, 'Sick' which means impressive or enjoyable and so the list goes on...

And my twenty-three year old twins are no exception to this. They refer to 'selfies', tell me "Nice one!" when I've earned their approval and frequently allude to 'Lol' (laugh out loud), when I've cracked a joke. As this has been going on for a few years, I can probably boast that I'm now fairly up to speed with most of their words and expressions.

Yet a few weeks ago I found myself surprised by a turn of phrase my son produced. I had explained to him that I was feeling a bit tired as I'd done a lot of walking that day and when he asked where I had been, I give details of the route I had taken. "Wow, that's a mission, Mum" he exclaimed in admiration. I will readily admit that this was new ground for me. I was definitely unfamiliar with this term. However, the meaning was clear enough – he was referring to a journey of great length.

Pope Francis' Message: On 16th October the Catholic Church again celebrates Mission Sunday, when we pray for missions and the church declares its commitment to missionary organisation. Last year, as part of Pope Francis' message for World Mission Day he said: *'The mission of the servants of the Word – bishops, priests, religious and laity – is to allow everyone, without exception, to enter into a personal relationship with Christ.'* Upon reflection, I was stuck by the fact that possibly my son's use of the word 'mission' (interpreted as lengthy journey) was not so wide of the mark after all. Pope Francis reminds us that the mission of all is to have an intimate relationship with the Lord. Yet of course, in so doing we embark upon our own journey of faith. On Mission Sunday we share our love and concern for our overseas brothers and sisters, with our charitable donations journeying to distant shores to supply the aid that is so necessary. And not least of all is the fact that we are a missionary church, thereby spreading the Gospel of Christ to all and in so doing journeying and following the same path as the Lord himself.

So on this coming Mission Sunday, may we remember others who are less fortunate than ourselves and delight in our journey in Christ. And finally, if anyone asks why you are a follower of Christ – tell them that it's because he is cool, awesome and wicked! Nice one!

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An exotic new Cathedral in Victorian Preston



A quiet and pleasant square, close to the centre of Preston, has on each side a long terrace of two-storey brick houses with little front gardens, and in the middle a tall spired church and Victorian school. It looks like a successful exercise in integrated city living. But in 2014 the church closed and parishioners were left with no choice but to go to another, half a mile away or more.

The square and closed church (pictured) are named after St Ignatius. This is not the early martyr of Antioch ("God's wheat, ground fine by the lion's teeth," as he correctly predicted). It is St Ignatius of Loyola, the Spanish soldier who founded the Society of Jesus. A statue of him stands above a gateway at one end of the square.

The Jesuits built the church in 1833, but they had been active in Preston since 1701, as this was one of the parts of England where Catholicism had hung on as a minority religion since the Reformation. The great poet Gerard Manley Hopkins served as a priest at St Ignatius's in 1882.

So the closure of St Ignatius's saddened those who were attached to continuity to the past and those who valued architecture, for the church was 'important', in the judgement of Nikolaus Pevsner, in his guide to the buildings of Lancashire. The architect was J J Scoles, who built Farm Street church in London, but his church was amplified by J A Hansom (the inventor of the cab), and crowned with a spire on a finialled tower by M E Hadfield in 1885.

The surprising news is that the church of St Ignatius is to become a cathedral. Spared a future of vandalism and ruin, it is to become the seat of the Syro-Malabar Catholics in Great Britain.

The Syro-Malabar Catholic Church is in full communion with Rome. It boasts ancient origins, from St Thomas the Apostle. With more than four million members it is the biggest oriental Catholic Church after the Ukrainian, and its heartland is Kerala in India. In Great Britain there are said to be about 17,000 Syro-Malabarese.

Their church is a proper living system of Christianity, with plenty of young people involved. It possesses an ancient and dauntingly exotic liturgy, following, perhaps surprisingly, an East-Syrian form of worship as do Christians in Iraq.

The Eucharist can be celebrated in the liturgy of Saints Addai and Mari, which is attributed to two of the 72 Disciples of Christ. It is certainly very old, and has an unexpected feature: the absence of the words of institution used by Jesus at the Last Supper ("This is my body. . ." and so on). Even so, the Catholic Church has recognised its validity, since the words of institution are present, according to a Vatican ruling from 2001 "in a dispersed eucharological way", by which I think it means "ritually".

Aficionados of liturgical peculiarities are aware of another practice that links this East Syrian anaphora or Eucharistic prayer to the Last Supper: the tradition of the Holy Leaven. The idea is that Jesus took bread at the Last Supper and a portion given to St John was dipped by him in the blood that later flowed from the side of Jesus. No bread for the Eucharist is now made without an admixture of this Leaven, kept and remixed by the bishop. To an outside it sounds odd, as unfamiliar ritual does.

Anyway, Cardinal George Alencherry, the Major Archbishop of the Syro-Malabar Catholics, is pleased to have a cathedral for his new eparchy in Great Britain, and the Catholic Bishop of Lancaster is pleased to have found someone willing to care for this underused but historical church.

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