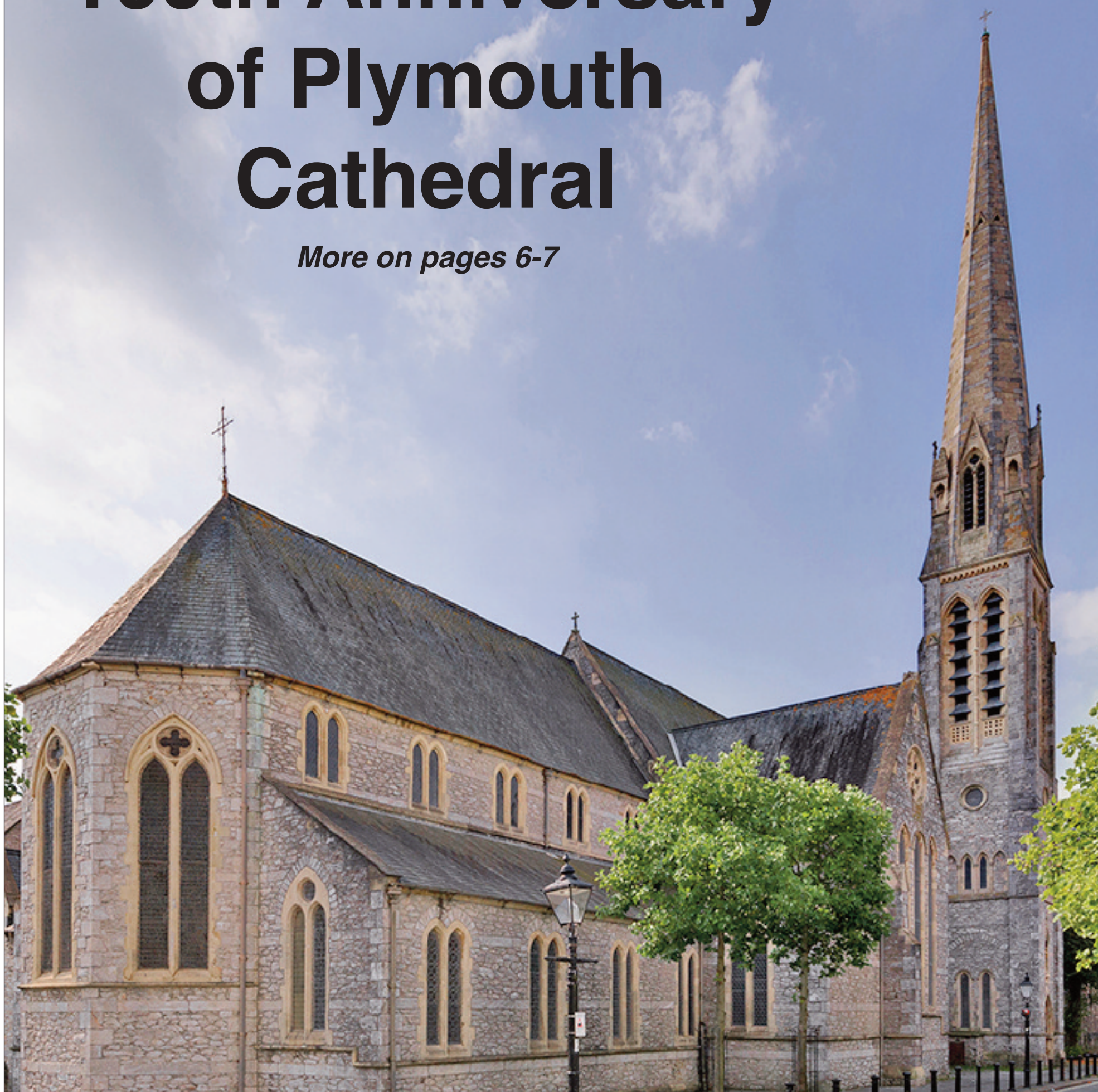


160th Anniversary of Plymouth Cathedral

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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.

EDITORIAL
Nick Layton

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MARATHON SUCCESS

A charity record and a double marathon effort



Bev Hanson, on her way to glory in Rome

On Sunday 8 April, in the warm sunshine of glorious Rome, John Lewellyn from St Joseph's parish Poole broke the Catholic Children's Society record for finishing the marathon! Finishing in an amazing in 3.12.57 John was just that little quicker than Scot Parfitt who ran in 2012 (finish time 3.16.17). On reaching his target John said, "I did want to be the fastest Rome marathon runner for your wonderful charity and I very happy I managed it" Congratulations John! He was accompanied in Rome with his friend Mark Payne who finished in 4:35:10 and Bev Hanson from Our Lady of All Nations Camborne who ran the route through the city in 5.12.02.

For Bev though, the challenge is not yet finished. She is doing it all again

for the Society in London on Sunday 22 May! Let's pray that when you read this she has made it round successfully. What a fantastic achievement!

Thank you so much to our runners and to everyone who has supported them along the way. They have each raised over £500 for the Society and can still be sponsored through their pages on www.virginmoneygiving.com

What a difference their commitment will have made to a number of vulnerable children and families in our midst. If you would like to do the same please visit our website www.ccsplymouth.org.uk where you will find all the details. Claire Warren fundraising officer CCSP.



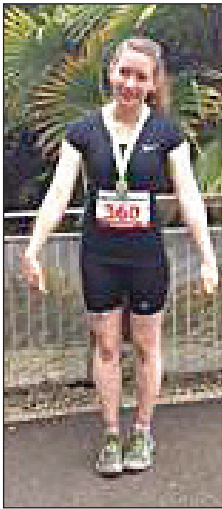
John Lewellyn and Mark Payne proudly wearing their beautiful medals from Rome

Wonderful Support for Tackashmah

After running the London Marathon, Tackashmah Langthorne, has raised over £600 for the Jesuit Missions. As well as all the training and hardwork, she has been helped by the wonderful support from both: St Paul's, Tintagel and St Cuthbert Mayne's, Launceston parishes. Cake stalls organised by Carolina, Tackashmah's mother, have raised close to two hundred pounds. Since then several other parishioners have come forward supported Tackashmah/the Jesuit Missions since the article was published in Catholic South West. If you would like to donate you still can at:

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/TackashmahLangthorne>

The Catholic community is very much alive and has not only supported a local girl, but is supporting the wonderful work done by the Jesuit Missions overseas! Thank you!



A big thank you!

Big Issue sellers, Mike and Eric, wrote to Sister Veronica, at St Mary's Church in Falmouth, to thank all those that helped them during the cold spell. They wanted the "thank you" to reach the very people who make the wonderful, discreet actions of the St Vincent de Paul Society possible - parishioners everywhere.

The S.V.P. manifest the practical and compassionate love of Our Saviour in so many situations throughout the world. This seems like an appropriate opportunity to thank and acknowledge not our S.V.P. group in Falmouth but also those everywhere!

Sr Victoria

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Mike + Eric

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Catholic South West June 2018

Next Month

Buckfast Abbey Millenium Year 1018-2018

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Millenium Celebrations begin at Buckfast Abbey

2018 marks 1,000 years since the original monastery at Buckfast was founded during the reign of King Cnut in 1018. The history of Buckfast Abbey intertwines with the history of England and the Catholic Church - so the Millenium is also a

celebration of Catholicism in the South West and throughout England as a whole. From April onward there will be many celebrations, events and new facilities at Buckfast for everyone to enjoy and get involved in. There will be something for everyone

including Masses, concerts, a quiz, a food fair, talks, prayer and craft events. We will have more about the history, mission and the day-to-day life at Buckfast Abbey in the next edition of Catholic South West.

Polish Community in St Cuthbert Mayne Parish

Our community at Callington is fortunate to have a wonderful Polish family in our midst. Justyna is a pastrycook and her husband Marcin is a carpenter and plumber: a very talented and useful couple. Justyna has a brother, Fr. Michael Jach, who works with the Missionaries of St John Bosco in a very poor region of Georgia in eastern Europe. She also has a sister, Gabriela, who is a Sister of the Holy Family of Nazareth. Sr. Gabriela has worked for three years in the Brong Ahafo region of Ghana. Her Congregation recently opened a Holy Family School in Yamfo, which helps children from a very poor village to gain a good primary school education and thus continue their secondary education in the nearest city.



Above: Sr. Gabriela and some of her pupils at the Holy Family School in Ghana

*Below: The family after the Mass of Palm Sunday
 Back row, left to right: Fr. Michael Jach, Deacon Richard Edwards, Canon David Annear, Marcin and son, Justyna. Front row, left to right: Sr. Gabriela, Marcin's 'uncle', Justyna's sister Anna*

The whole family came together in Callington for the Palm Sunday Mass. Fr. Michael and Sr. Gabriela had not seen each other for several years. During the months preceding their visit, we were able as a parish to collect twelve boxes of books for the African children, and two boxes of vestments and altar linen for Fr. Michael's Mission. I was suitably rewarded with a bottle of excellent Georgian wine and a box of pungent incense. We wish the family well in their heroic work for Jesus.

Canon David Annear,
Parish Priest



Around the South West

MASS MUST BE CELEBRATED

Mgr George Hay, at the age of 87, braved foot deep snow on St Joseph's Day to say Mass on the patronal parish Feast Day. Unable to get into Newton Abbot he walked to St Gregory's Church in Kingskerswell to

celebrate Mass for St Joseph - a wonderful example of priestly dedication.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY FR. PHILIP

A very surprised Fr. Philip was greeted by parishioners with a loud chorus of Happy Birthday to celebrate his 65th birthday on Easter Sunday..... fortunately he will not be retiring just yet!



Tables were laden with a range of delicious birthday cakes and (at least) 65 candles - which certainly took a lot of puff to blow out!!

Fr. Philip would like to thank so many people for the cakes, cards, presents and best wishes. He had a very memorable birthday and thoroughly enjoyed it.

PLYMOUTH CIRCLE WELCOMES NEW MEMBER

Plymouth Brothers welcomed their new member Ed Kominski this month. Ed is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists and Physicians. He was actively involved in Teaching and Research at The Peninsula Medical School, Plymouth where his Research focused on transplantation, tumour immunology and allergy and has had over 100 papers printed on these subjects.



Plymouth President Paul Robinson welcomes Ed Kominski

Ed married to Anna, also a doctor, have recently become grandparents. Their hobbies include travelling, walking on Dartmoor and the coastal paths and visiting the Cinema and Theatre. Now retired, Ed can devote time to his earlier passion of reading English, Spanish and Polish classical literature.



Anna and Ed enjoying one of their walks on Dartmoor

WE NEED YOUR PARISH NEWS TO GO HERE!

**No parish news?
 Maybe you should start something!**

Our Lady Help of Christians & St Denis, St Marychurch Listed Places of Worship (LPoW) Roof Repair Grant

Canon Kenneth Meiklem, the then Parish Priest, wrote at Easter 1969: "Divine Providence seemed to arrange the bringing together (in what humanly speaking were extraordinary circumstances, and for a special purpose) of a local generous benefactor William John Potts-Chatto, and some notable national personalities of those days of the great Catholic revival, which Newman called 'England's Second Spring'. So we find enshrined in the memoirs of this Church's foundation the distinguished names of Archbishop Ullathorne, Bishop William Vaughan and Mother Margaret Hallahan OP, all of whom had a major share in accomplishing a good work which is our heritage in this parish."

Fast forward 44-years to 2014 when, following the disappointing news that their application for a grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) had not been successful, the Parish Finance Committee made the challenging decision to go-ahead with the planned project to repair damaged stonework and repointing on the church and presbytery and repairs to the leaded windows in the church – including the beautiful stained glass windows on the west elevation of the church. With the support of James Wilson, Diocesan Property Manager and Treve Hosken of Hosken Parks, Quantity Surveyors, two excellent local contractors were appointed to carry out the work: John Mayne Stonemasonry Ltd and Heritage Stained Glass Ltd. The work was completed in 2015 BUT additional work on the roof and high-level rain water goods still needed to be carried out to maintain the integrity of the building.

This time fast forward just a few months to February 2016 when, following feedback from the Listed Places of Worship Roof Repair Fund (LPoW RRF) on our unsuccessful 2014 application under the NHMF, a new application was made by the Parish Finance Committee. And then – on 29th June 2016, the Feast of Saint Peter and St Paul – Canon Michael Lock received a letter from the LPoW RRF confirm-

ing that the parish had been awarded a grant of up to £73,000 – 68% of the total eligible project cost of £106,842. To say that 'joy abounded' would be an understatement. However, as Canon Michael very rightly said: "this is amazing news – but now the hard work begins."

In consultation with the Diocese and following site visits and interviews Simon Cartlidge was appointed as architect. The project then went out to tender and, following further site meetings, Williams & Burrows LLP (Heritage Repair) – a local firm – were appointed.

On Monday 10th April 2017, Canon Michael together with representatives of the Parish Finance Committee met with Simon Cartlidge and Williams & Burrows LLP. The contract was signed, and the start date of Monday 26th June 2017 confirmed.

Work began at the east end of the church with scaffolding erected in the Presbytery garden and over the roofs above the chancel, Library, St Dominic's and St Thomas' rooms. Part of the church car-park was designated as a compound to accommodate Porta Loos, Porta Cabins and contractors' vehicles.

The project continued throughout the summer and was completed on time at the beginning of October. We are grateful to Simon Cartlidge, Williams & Burrows LLP, PSB Scaffolding and James Wilson for the successful completion of the project and, most especially, to the LPoW RRF for awarding the grant.

In the forward to the church history compiled by Canon Kenneth Meiklem in 1969, he referred to Archbishop Ullathorne, Bishop William Vaughan and Mother Margaret Hallahan OP reminding read-



ers that: "all had a major share in accomplishing a good work which is our heritage in this parish." So perhaps it is appropriate to end this article with his exhortation: "May the spirit of their faith and devotion live on in our midst, and may Our Lady Help of Christians help us to be her devoted children always."

Felicity Stead
Parish Finance Committee (Chair)



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Poles Apart!

By Julia Beacroft

THE SEASONS AND the weather have been the focus of my last couple of articles. Therefore, continuing this theme, I move on to the 'marvellous month of May'...

My elder son is a teaching assistant in a primary school – a rewarding, demanding and often challenging role, but one which he, nevertheless, gives his heart and soul to. Yet he has been a bit fed up lately...

UNRAVELLING

As the season is now set to change again, most schools are turning their thoughts to spring activities. And of course, his is no exception. Some of the children there have been tasked with learning to maypole dance. The dance is performed by pairs of boys and girls who stand alternately around the base of the maypole, each holding the end of a ribbon. They weave in and around each other, boys going one way and girls going the other and the ribbons are woven together around the pole until the merry-makers meet at the base. My son explained that this sounds so simple in theory, but the practice is a very different matter! The children apparently, seemed unable to grasp the idea at all, going the wrong way and tangling the ribbons until it was impossible to continue. And there are no prizes for guessing who had the monumental task of unravelling them! But unfortunately, there was still worse to come! In despair, the class teacher nominated the long suffering teaching assistant – my son – to be one of the maypole dancers, in a bid to 'sort the children out'. To say that he was reluctant and felt an absolute fool during the process would have been an understatement!

GRATEST COMMISSION

During the month of May we honour the Virgin Mary as 'the Queen of May'. And rightly so. And yet this was not only because she was born without spot or stain of sin – a perfect vessel to carry the Lord – but also because of her absolute obedience and faith in God. This great faith enabled her to

give an unequivocal "Yes" to God, when asked if she would become the mother of Jesus Christ. Mary must have wondered what would become of her when the news of her impending motherhood became known, as this would have been completely flying in the face of Jewish conventions at that time. Yet despite this, her commitment to the Lord was absolute – 'Let this be done to me'.

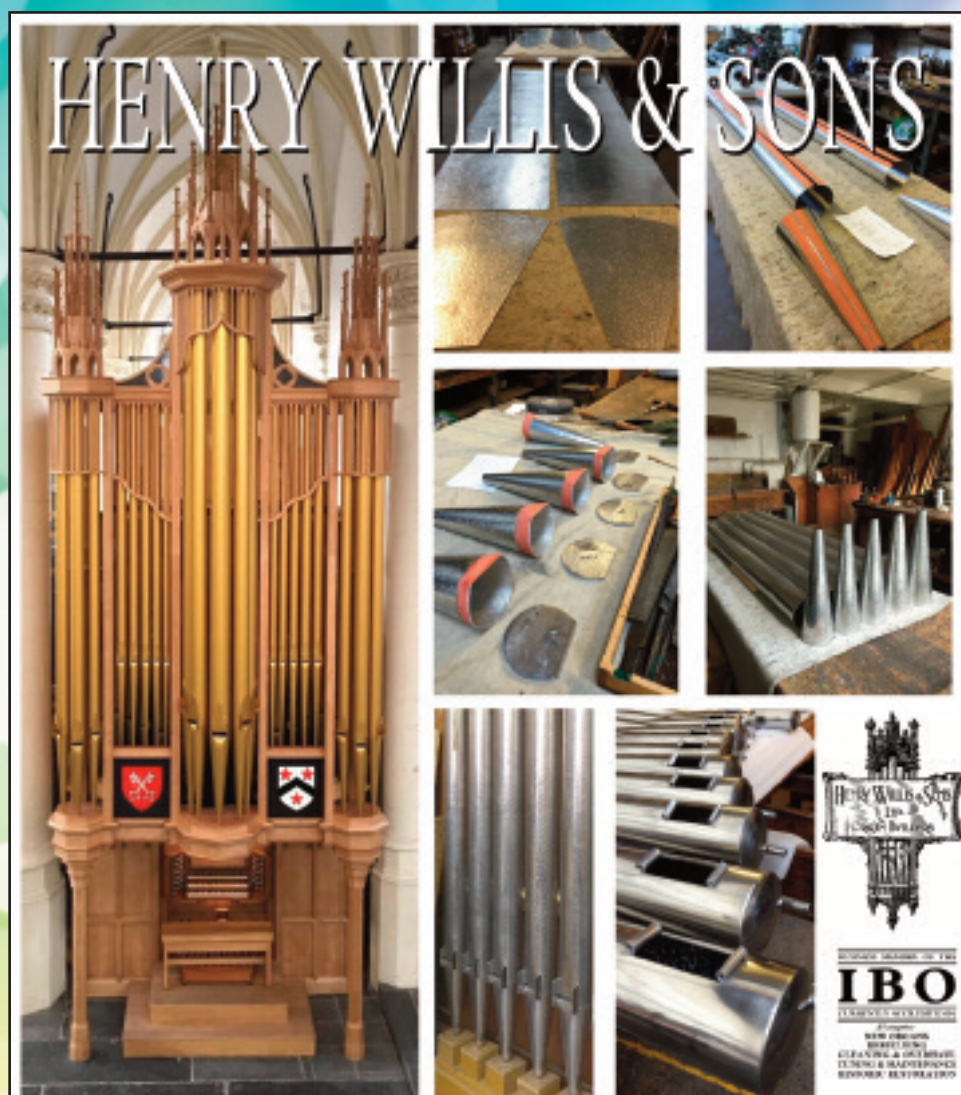
My son was reluctant and embarrassed about performing his allotted task – dancing around the may-

pole. In contrast, our Lady, Queen of May, did not for a moment hesitate to undertake the greatest commission of all time, and one which was to have the most far-reaching effects for mankind – ever.

And so during this month of May, may we celebrate the life and commitment of Mary our Mother, Queen of May. And as for my son - his advice regarding the May dancing is: 'Don't touch it with a barge or any other kind of pole!'



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Plymouth 160th Anniversary of

Celebrating 160 Years

Plymouth Cathedral celebrated 160 years since it was first opened in 1858. Mass was celebrated in the Cathedral on the Feast of the Annunciation and Mgr Nannery gave the following homily:

Today we celebrate the 160th birthday of this Cathedral Church. On this day the Feast of the Annunciation 1858 this cathedral of St Mary and St Boniface was officially opened and blessed by William Vaughan the 2nd Bishop of Plymouth. The ceremony started at 11am and ended at 1pm. This Cathedral from its very beginning on the feast of the Annunciation has always had a close relationship with Mary the Mother of God.

Bishop Restieaux was particularly fond of reminding the people here at the Cathedral especially on important feast days like the Annunciation of the link between this Cathedral and Our Lady of Lourdes. He loved to point out that at the very moment that Bishop Vaughan was going around this Cathedral blessing it and sprinkling it with Holy Water Our Lady of Lourdes was announcing to Bernadette that she was “the Immaculate Conception”.

Only in the last couple of weeks I can across a short note written to me by Bishop Restieaux on the occasion of my appointment to the Cathedral and gere again he concludes by saying remember Bart that Plymouth Cathedral is our Lady's special place and she will always look after it an everyone who worships there. Not wishing to sound over pious, I really do feel strongly Our Lady of Lourdes has looked after us here at the Cathedral with a motherly love. And I have every confidence here presence here will be a very powerful source of strength for



many generations to come.

I can't help but think it is particularly fortunate that in this year, the 160th birthday of this Cathedral, we celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation in Eastertide. Father Cantamalesa the Holy Father's Retreat giver draws a beautiful parallel between Mary's encounter with the Angel at the Annunciation and the Apostles encounter with the risen Christ after the Resurrection.

Cantamalesa prays “Holy Mary we are in awe of the Grace God has given you. You said “yes” to the Angel even you knew so little of how God's plan would workout for you. Mary you put aside your own plan to do God's will”.

Cantamalesa then goes on to say that the Apostles too after their encounter with the risen Christ they too experienced a similar Grace to Mary at the Annunciation. Cantamalesa makes the point mysteries are not intended to be explained they are meant to be experienced. It is much more important to experience the resurrection than it is to explain it. The Apostles like Mary because of the Grace they received in their encounter with the risen Christ put aside their own plan to do God's will.

Malcolm Mugridge on of the leading and distinguished journalist's in the last decades of the 20th Century and great admirer of St Teresa of Calcutta, once said in one of his books that what finally convinced him that Atheism was on the wrong path and the Christian Gospel held the true message of life was the inexplicable and remarkable change that took place in the Apostles in the immediate aftermath of the Resurrection.

Just before the Crucifixion the Apostles were arguing which of them was the greatest and who would be on his right and who would be on his left in his kingdom. But after their encounter with the risen Christ there were no more silly questions, they were completely transformed and prepared to - and did die for his message. It wasn't just the knowledge of the resurrection that change their lives, it was the experience of the resurrection.

The experience of the Resurrection utterly changed lives of the Apostles. Equally, the proof that we have experienced the Resurrection should be evident in a change in our lives, a change from bitterness to forgiveness, a change from sadness to joy, a change from despair to hope. In short that's what makes us a blessed people, a holy people, an Easter people filled with joy.



History of Plymouth Cathedral

As a part of a new Catholic Diocesan structure created in 1850, Plymouth Diocese was formed. It comprised of the counties of Dorset, Devon and Cornwall. Plymouth was nominated the Cathedral Centre because, although Exeter had its own historical precedent, there were more Catholics in the town. Furthermore, a new law prevented the restored Catholic Diocese from using the same titles as had been established Church of England diocese.

Plymouth's first Roman Catholic bishop was George Errington, a Yorkshire man, who had been Vice-rector to the English College in Rome. As priest at St. John's Church in Salford, Manchester he was consecrated Bishop by Cardinal Wiseman on the 25th July 1851. In Plymouth, Bishop Errington soon overcame the bigotry of the town towards Catholics and concentrated on building up a Chapter of Canons and the Deaneries of the Diocese. He provided support for his few priests and supported his missions. Particularly active in the Stonehouse Mission, he celebrated the Sacraments and visited the sick and dying. He became especially fond of his weekly visit to Dartmoor Prison.

Canon William Vaughan became the second bishop of Plymouth. His family provided many bishops for England. At the Restoration of the Hierarchy he was responsible for the Pro-Cathedral of the Holy Apostles in Clifton, Bristol. It was there that Cardinal Wiseman consecrated him on 19th July 1855. At that time there were only twenty-three missions and twenty-three priests in Plymouth Diocese. After his forty-seven years as a bishop, there were one hundred priests, thirteen male religious houses, twenty-eight nuns' houses, four orphanages, twenty-seven elementary schools and five schools for older children. Truly, Bishop Vaughan was a Founding Father of the Plymouth Diocese.



Plymouth Cathedral still standing after the Blitz

St. Mary's had been the Pro-Cathedral and Bishop Vaughan decided that a fitting new building was required. On 20th February 1856, he bought a portion of "Fivefields" on Eldad Hill at the then towns' outskirts. Mr. Edmund Bastard promised £1000 and a successful appeal was launched to raise the rest of the money throughout the diocese and country. The Hansom Brothers, Joseph and Charles (of "Hansom Cab" fame) became the architects and Mr. Roberts of Stonehouse the builder. His tender came to £3904 and was accepted on 22nd May 1856. Work started 22nd June. There were construction problems including subsidence caused by an English Naval Officer firing new heavy Turkish Man-of-War guns in Plymouth Sound. The Bishop's house was constructed and the clergy moved in on the 23rd September 1857. The Cathedral was opened at the Feast of the annunciation on 25th March 1858. The Te Deum was sung at the close of the ceremony.

During the post-War years, Bishop Restieaux helped a blitzed and devastated city rebuild itself and he served the community for thirty years.

Father (now Monsignor Canon) Nannery oversaw the 1994 reordering of the Cathedral and is now the Dean.

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The First Mass

"The opening ceremony on the Feast of the Annunciation 1858 was placed under the direction of the Rev John Bonomi of Llansanfreed and Canon Talbot. The Bishop, having vested for Mass in the Sacristy at 11 o'clock, the procession proceeded thence down the South aisle and up the centre of the Nave to the Sanctuary.

"The Crossbearer was Rev T. L. Coghlan, the clergy vested in cottas were Revs James Carey, James Dawson, Luke Kelly, William Laffan the Jesuit Fathers James Eccles and Charles Lomax. These were followed by Canons Platt, Woollett, Agar and Shortland in vestments, who subsequently took their places in the Canons' Stalls in the Sanctuary.

"Then came Rev E. Windeyer as Subdeacon of the Mass, Rev Joseph Benn Deacon of the Mass with the V. Rev Provost Brindle as Assistant Priest. Finally came the Bishop of Plymouth, accompanied by Canons Maurice Power and Richard Mansfield, his Deacon of the Throne.

"His Lordship preached the sermon after the Gospel; and in it congratulated all present at the completion of an edifice hardly considered possible but three years previous, finished, too, under so many disappointments. He expressed his thankfulness that not a life had been lost or limb injured of any one engaged on the operations throughout this chequered progress.

"The music was Weber's in G conducted by Organist, M. Leopold de Prins. At the end of the Mass the Te Deum was sung."



Plymouth Cathedral High Altar in 1889



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Communication is part of God’s plan for us and an essential way to experience fellowship.

Made in the image and likeness of our Creator, we are able to express and share all that is true, good, and beautiful. We are able to describe our own experiences and the world around us, and thus to create historical memory and the understanding of events. But when we yield to our own pride and selfishness, we can also distort the way we use our ability to communicate. This can be seen from the earliest times, in the biblical stories of Cain and Abel and the Tower of Babel (cf. Gen 4:4-16; 11:1-9). The capacity to twist the truth is symptomatic of our condition, both as individuals and communities. On the other hand, when we are faithful to God’s plan, communication becomes an effective expression of our responsible search for truth and our pursuit of goodness.

In today’s fast-changing world of communications and digital systems, we are witnessing the spread of what has come to be known as “fake news”. This calls for reflection, which is why I have decided to return in this World Communications Day Message to the issue of truth, which was raised time and time again by my predecessors, beginning with Pope Paul VI, whose 1972 Message took as its theme: “Social Communications at the Service of Truth”. In this way, I would like to contribute to our shared commitment to stemming the spread of fake news and to rediscovering the dignity of journalism and the personal responsibility of journalists to communicate the truth.

1. What is “fake” about fake news?

The term “fake news” has been the object of great discussion and debate. In general, it refers to the spreading of disinformation online or in the traditional media. It has to do with false information based on non-existent or distorted data meant to deceive and manipulate the reader.

Spreading fake news can serve to advance specific goals, influence political decisions, and serve economic interests.

The effectiveness of fake news is primarily due to its ability to mimic real news, to seem plausible. Secondly, this false but believable news is “captious”, inasmuch as it grasps people’s attention by appealing to stereotypes and common social prejudices, and exploiting instantaneous emotions like anxiety, contempt, anger and frustration. The ability to spread such fake news often relies on a manipulative use of the social networks and the way they function. Untrue stories can spread so quickly that even authoritative denials fail to contain the damage.

The difficulty of unmasking and eliminating fake news is due also to the fact that many people interact in homogeneous digital environments impervious to differing perspectives and opinions. Disinformation thus thrives on the absence of healthy confrontation with other sources of information that could effectively challenge prejudices and generate constructive dialogue; instead, it risks turning people into unwilling accomplices in spreading biased and baseless ideas. The tragedy of disinformation is that it discredits others, presenting them as enemies, to the point of demonizing them and fomenting conflict. Fake news is a sign of intolerant and hypersensitive attitudes, and leads only to the spread of arrogance and hatred. That is the end result of untruth.

2. How can we recognize fake news?

None of us can feel exempted from the duty of countering these falsehoods. This is no easy task, since disinformation is often based on deliberately evasive and subtly misleading rhetoric and at times the use of sophisticated psychological mechanisms. Praiseworthy efforts are being made to create educational programmes aimed at helping people to interpret and assess information provided by the media, and teaching them to take an active part in unmasking falsehoods, rather than unwittingly contributing to the spread of disinformation. Praiseworthy too are those institutional and legal initiatives aimed at developing regulations for curbing the phenomenon, to say nothing of the work being done by tech and media companies in coming up with new criteria for verifying the personal identities concealed behind millions of digital profiles.

Yet preventing and identifying the way disinformation works also calls for a profound and careful process of discernment. We need to unmask what could be called the "snake-tactics" used by those who disguise themselves in order to strike at any time and place. This was the strategy employed by the "crafty serpent" in the Book of Genesis, who, at the dawn of humanity, created the first fake news (cf. Gen 3:1-15), which began the tragic history of human sin, beginning with the first fratricide (cf. Gen 4) and issuing in the countless other evils committed against God, neighbour, society and creation. The strategy of this skilled "Father of Lies" (Jn 8:44) is precisely mimicry, that sly and dangerous form of seduction that worms its way into the heart with false and alluring arguments.

In the account of the first sin, the tempter approaches the woman by pretending to be her friend, concerned only for her welfare, and begins by saying something only partly true: "Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?" (Gen 3:1). In fact, God never told Adam not to eat from any tree, but only from the one tree: "Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you are not to eat" (Gen 2:17). The woman corrects the serpent, but lets herself be taken in by his provocation: "Of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it nor touch it, under pain of death" (Gen 3:2). Her answer is couched in legalistic and negative terms; after listening to the deceiver and letting herself be taken in by his version of the facts, the woman is misled. So she heeds his words of reassurance: "You will not die!" (Gen 3:4).

The tempter’s “deconstruction” then takes on an appearance of truth: "God knows that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil" (Gen 3:5). God’s paternal command, meant for their good, is discredited by the seductive enticement of the enemy: "The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye and desirable" (Gen 3:6). This biblical episode brings to light an essential element for our reflection: there is no such thing as harmless disinformation; on the contrary, trusting in falsehood can have dire consequences. Even a seemingly slight distortion of the truth can have dangerous effects.

What is at stake is our greed. Fake news often goes viral, spreading so fast that it is hard to stop, not because of the sense of sharing that inspires the social media, but because it appeals to the insatiable greed so easily aroused in human beings. The economic and manipulative aims that feed disinformation are rooted in a thirst for power,

a desire to possess and enjoy, which ultimately makes us victims of something much more tragic: the deceptive power of evil that moves from one lie to another in order to rob us of our interior freedom. That is why education for truth means teaching people how to discern, evaluate and understand our deepest desires and inclinations, lest we lose sight of what is good and yield to every temptation.

3. "The truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32)

Constant contamination by deceptive language can end up darkening our interior life.

Dostoevsky’s observation is illuminating: "People who lie to themselves and listen to their own lie come to such a pass that they cannot distinguish the truth within them, or around them, and so lose all respect for themselves and for others. And having no respect, they cease to love, and in order to occupy and distract themselves without love they give way to passions and to coarse pleasures, and sink to bestiality in their vices, all from continual lying to others and to themselves." (The Brothers Karamazov, II, 2).

So how do we defend ourselves? The most radical antidote to the virus of falsehood is purification by the truth. In Christianity, truth is not just a conceptual reality that regards how we judge things, defining them as true or false. The truth is not just bringing to light things that are concealed, "revealing reality", as the ancient Greek term *aletheia* (from *a-lethès*, "not hidden") might lead us to believe. Truth involves our whole life. In the Bible, it carries with it the sense of support, solidity, and trust, as implied by the root *'aman*, the source of our liturgical expression *Amen*. Truth is something you can lean on, so as not to fall. In this relational sense, the only truly reliable and trustworthy One – the One on whom we can count – is the living God. Hence, Jesus can say: "I am the truth" (Jn 14:6). We discover and rediscover the truth when we experience it within ourselves in the loyalty and trustworthiness of the One who loves us. This alone can liberate us: "The truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32).

Freedom from falsehood and the search for relationship: these two ingredients cannot be lacking if our words and gestures are to be true, authentic, and trustworthy. To discern the truth, we need to discern everything that encourages communion and promotes goodness from whatever instead tends to isolate, divide, and oppose. Truth, therefore, is not really grasped when it is imposed from without as something impersonal, but only when it flows from free relationships between persons, from listening to one another. Nor can we ever stop seeking the truth, because falsehood can always creep in, even when we state things that are true. An impeccable argument can indeed rest on undeniable facts, but if it is used to hurt another and to discredit that person in the eyes of others, however correct it may appear, it is not truthful. We can recognize the truth of statements from their fruits: whether they provoke quarrels, foment division, encourage resignation; or, on the other hand, they promote informed and mature reflection leading to constructive dialogue and fruitful results.

4. Peace is the true news

The best antidotes to falsehoods are not strategies, but people: people who are not greedy but ready to listen, people who make the effort to engage in sincere dialogue so that the truth can emerge; people who are attracted by goodness and take responsibility for how they use language.

If responsibility is the answer to the spread of fake news, then a weighty responsibility rests on the shoulders of those whose job is to provide information, namely, journalists, the protectors of news.

In today’s world, theirs is, in every sense, not just a job; it is a mission. Amid feeding frenzies and the mad rush for a scoop, they must remember that the heart of information is not the speed with which it is reported or its audience impact, but persons. Informing others means forming others; it means being in touch with people’s lives. That is why ensuring the accuracy of sources and protecting communication are real means of promoting goodness, generating trust, and opening the way to communion and peace.

I would like, then, to invite everyone to promote a journalism of peace. By that, I do not mean the saccharine kind of journalism that refuses to acknowledge the existence of serious problems or smacks of sentimentalism. On the contrary, I mean a journalism that is truthful and opposed to falsehoods, rhetorical slogans, and sensational headlines. A journalism created by people for people, one that is at the service of all, especially those – and they are the majority in our world – who have no voice. A journalism less concentrated on breaking news than on exploring the underlying causes of conflicts, in order to promote deeper understanding and contribute to their resolution by setting in place virtuous processes. A journalism committed to pointing out alternatives to the escalation of shouting matches and verbal violence.

To this end, drawing inspiration from a Franciscan prayer, we might turn to the Truth in person:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.

Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.

Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.

You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of goodness for the world: where there is shouting, let us practise listening; where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony; where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity; where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity; where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety; where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions; where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust; where there is hostility, let us bring respect; where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.

Amen.

Prince Charles Visits Truro Anglican Cathedral



On Thursday 22 March 2018, Truro Cathedral was honoured to welcome His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales, known as The Duke of Cornwall when in Cornwall, to both the cathedral and the newly renovated Old Cathedral School. During the visit, His Royal Highness met representatives from various cathedral community groups, unveiled a plaque to commemorate the visit and chose to 'Sign-A-Slate' in support of the cathedral's Roof Appeal.

The restoration and renovation work on the Old Cathedral School has only just completed and the cathedral team was delighted to be able to show His Royal Highness around the building which has been transformed into an iconic, creative hub that will focus on education, music and art for the City of Truro and the wider county of Cornwall.

The Dean of Truro, the Very Reverend Roger Bush, said: "This is a very exciting time for Truro Cathedral and we were thrilled to welcome The Duke of Cornwall today. People form the heart of Truro Cathedral, and so too will they form the heart of the Old Cathedral School, so we were delighted that His Royal Highness was able to meet and speak with representatives from so many areas of their work and life."

Whilst exploring the Old Cathedral School, His Royal Highness was welcomed with music sung by the cathedral choir and met representatives from a host of community organisations including the South West Ministry Training Course, Coad's

Green Primary School, Marjon University, together with cathedral volunteer groups including the Sewing Guild, Pastoral Care Team and representatives of The Friends of Truro Cathedral.

Head Chorister, Piran Bishop, age 12, commented: "It was an honour for us to sing to welcome His Royal Highness as he entered the Old Cathedral School. It was our first time singing in the new building and we didn't have time to rehearse much on the balcony but luckily it went really well! He came to see us after and said he'd liked what we'd sung, he was really nice and I think it's an experience none of us will forget."

During his visit, The Duke of Cornwall also took time to learn more about the cathedral's Roof Appeal and demonstrated his support by participating in Sign-A-Slate. His slate will be laid on the roof together with those previously signed by his sister, The Princess Royal, and by his son and daughter-in-law, The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, during Phase III of the physical works.

The Dean continued, "It was a genuine privilege to welcome The Duke of Cornwall. It was an honour to provide him with some insight into both the history and the future of both the cathedral and the Old Cathedral School, and with the commemorative plaque he unveiled being installed in the Old Cathedral School and his signed slate being installed on the roof of the cathedral, his visit will literally become part of the fabric and story of both."



*The Duke of Cornwall unveiling a stone to commemorate his visit to the Old Cathedral School, and signing a slate in support of the cathedral's Roof Appeal.
(Photography credit: Claire Wilson, LLE Photography)*



IT'S ALL HANDS

IT'S ALL HANDS to the pump at the Church of the Assumption of Our Lady, Torquay, as the busy evangelisation team, led by Fr. Kieran Kirby, host a series of events to help spiritually enrich the lives of their parishioners. Their quest to initially evangelise their own flock, which will, in turn, eventually include a wider audience, has provided a whole plethora of spiritual nourishment. And speaking of hands, they are, in fact, preparing for their next initiative...

The Little Way Healing Ministries will be visiting the parish from 7th – 10th June. The organising team feel that this will be an exciting and innovative event for everyone and a natural progression from previous initiatives. The Little Way Healing Ministries say of themselves:

'Little Way Healing Ministries has grown rapidly out of the shared healing ministry of Fr. Laurence Brassill O.S.A. and Pauline Edwards. They feel called to help parishes set up their own healing ministry which is a powerful and permanent witness to the Lordship of Jesus. People are amazed when they see Almighty God working through their own ordinary parishioners. We are led by the Holy Spirit, praying for the healing of memories and consequent evangelisation through testimonies of the healing, the risen Lord is working in our midst'.

A parish mission takes place when Fr. Laurence and Pauline are invited to a parish, often by those

who have noticed how the Lord blesses people when they pray with them for healing.

They go to a parish (along with their team) after being given an invitation by the parish priest, and their hope is to leave a legacy by which parishioners will have the confidence to offer prayer for healing on a regular basis after Sunday Masses. The laying-on of hands prayer and supporting people in prayer are part of the instruction given to those wishing to help and become involved.

Little Way Healing Ministries have realised over the years that not many people in the parishes have witnessed the healing power of Jesus. Therefore they want them to see that Jesus is alive and is healing today using very ordinary people.

In view of all this, the parish evangelisation team at the Church of the Assumption are excited and optimistic about the outcome. With the Holy Spirit working through them and for them, how can they be otherwise?



By Julia Beacroft

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Young People's Reflections for Bishops attending Synod on Youth

In March, over 300 young people from across the globe, gathered in Rome at the Pope's invitation to reflect on the issues to be discussed and produce a document to assist the Bishops in their task.

Much of that document reflects the findings of the youth survey carried out in England and Wales, as captured in the recent report written by Teresa Carvalho and Father Christopher Jamison OSB.

The first part of the young people's document reflects on the challenges and opportunities for young people in the world today; eg:

"Young people look for a sense of self by seeking communities that are supportive, uplifting, authentic and accessible: communities that empower them.....Young people are deeply vested in and concerned about topics such as sexuality, addiction, failed marriages, broken families as well as larger scale social issues....as we grapple with these challenges, we need inclusion, welcome, mercy and tenderness from the Church- both as an institution and as a community of faith."

The second part reflects on faith, vocation, discernment and accompaniment; eg:

"There is a need for trust in young people to lead and to be protagonists of their own spiritual journey...Mentors should not lead young people as passive followers, but walk alongside them,

allowing them to be active participants in the journey."

The final section deals with the Church's formative and pastoral activity; emphasising:

"Today's young people are longing for an authentic Church. We want to say, especially to the hierarchy of the Church, that they should be a transparent, welcoming, honest, inviting, communicative, accessible joyful and interactive community.... A credible Church is one which is not afraid to allow itself be seen as vulnerable...We, the young Church, ask that our leaders speak in practical terms about controversial subjects such as homosexuality and gender issues, about which young people are already freely discussing without taboo.

..We would like the Church to meet us in the various places in which she currently has little or no presence, ...where (young people) are comfortable and where they naturally socialise...The Church must adopt a language which engages the customs and cultures of the young so that all people have the opportunity to hear the message of the Gospel."

The full text of this impressive document is available on the Vatican website.

Peter Farrell, local co-ordinator for ACTA..promoting dialogue in the church
tel 01626 369478 e mail: petane@outlook.com

Have you got any Youth News?

Do you have any Youth events in your parish?

Do you want to write something about your Youth group?

Send us your Youth News

csw@cathcom.org



Holy Family Exmouth & Budleigh Salterton

Children and young people walking through Holy Week

From Palm Sunday through to Easter Sunday, Holy Family Parishioners were blessed to be accompanied by the youngest of the parish.

Led at the start of the week by rather 'reluctant' donkeys from the Sidmouth Donkey Sanctuary on Palm Sunday, they came together again on Good

Friday. The Confirmation group guided the youngest of our community through the Stations of the Cross in a truly moving and prayerful way of the cross.

On Saturday morning the church welcomed many Polish families who brought their Easter breakfasts to be blessed by Fr. Philip. They were then invited to hang Easter eggs onto bare

branches and bring the display back to life, to symbolically represent the journey of Jesus through death to life.

So many children accompanied their families on Easter Sunday that they were sitting on the carpet in front of the sanctuary to enable as many people as possible to get into the church! After the children's liturgy they returned and sang

Happy Birthday to a surprised Fr. Philip who was celebrating his birthday on Easter Day.

We are truly blessed to have so many young people in our parish.



Our Lady Star of the Sea, Weymouth



On Easter Sunday the Children's Liturgy Group brought in a cross which was placed in front of the altar. Fr Stephen Geddes distributed Easter Eggs to the "children" of the parish.

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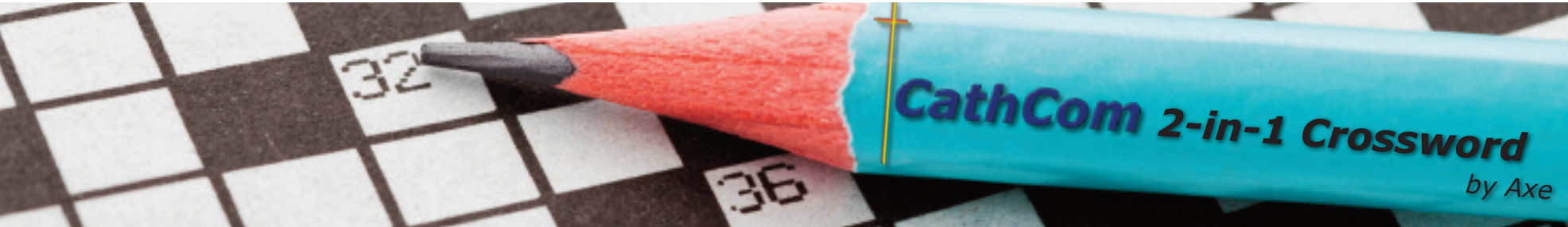


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You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution. Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Globe is nailed on after publicity to produce superficial film (6)
- 8 Need directions to follow... (6)
- 9 ...typical London street, it's east to west, in the script (4)
- 10 Calms freaked-out characters fleeing grammar school's destruction, one of biblical proportions (8)
- 11 Visitors to council ICI appropriated in the Tarsus region (7)
- 13 Place in Scotland when it turns hot is vacated by traveller (5)
- 15 Ones to follow, being young (5)
- 17 Agrippa's sister's diamonds appear the consequence of Swiss capital (7)
- 20 Line through the country, like the border, hems in Greek hero (8)
- 21 Fly back, initially rest and evaluate trip (4)
- 23 Sorry, tired last part in key programme's been clipped (3,3)
- 24 'Beast from the East' to hit Limerick in the west – it's on the Black Sea (6)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 One cuts even notes, going through the alphabet (4)
- 2 Little tree smells new when opening top notch (6)
- 3 David's wife's an enormous pain (7)
- 4 Italian physicist, one down on the farm in Normandy briefly (5)
- 5 Fast run wanted to break up a piece of music (6)
- 6 Brobdignagian soldier's acting suspiciously... (8)
- 12 ...Father's bearing a fish... (8)
- 14 ...he's head of a Levitical family some strangers honoured (7)
- 16 Idiot's admitted change due to being married (6)
- 18 Lower and grab at girl (6)

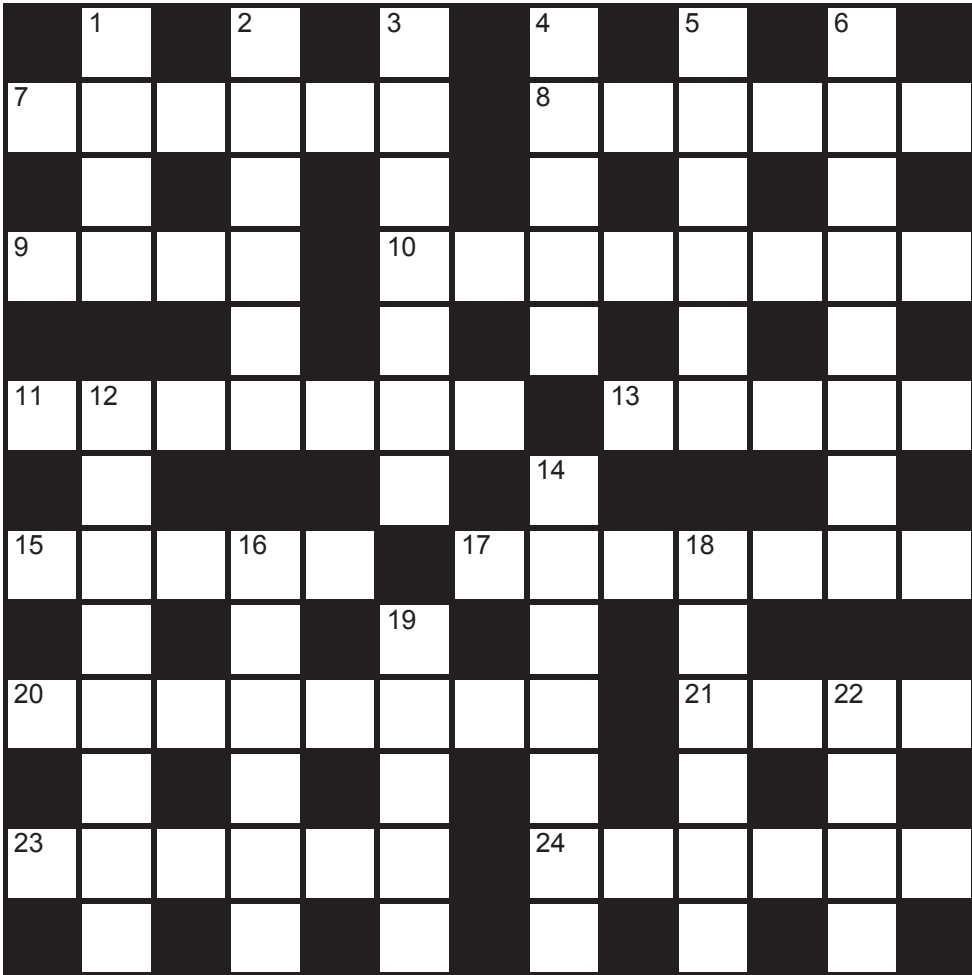
- 19 Pull the final string of smooth move for the close of sale (5)
- 22 Cathedral area for additional parking south end and north ends only (4)

QUICK Across

- 7 Gather on the surface chemically (6)
- 8 Involve; necessitate (6)
- 9 Former stable block or blocks re-envisioned as chic town dwellings, especially in London (4)
- 10 Town used throughout the Bible as a warning of God's judgment (8)
- 11 Biblical region, in the NT a Roman province of Asia Minor (7)
- 13 Capital of Western Australia (5)
- 15 Concern: edition (5)
- 17 Sister of Herod Agrippa II (7)
- 20 Foremost Greek warrior at the siege of Troy (8)
- 21 Rip: race (4)
- 23 Cigarette butt: remaining or worthless part of something (3,3)
- 24 Port of Ukraine (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 Wood worker? (4)
- 2 Art of growing dwarf varieties of tree (6)
- 3 Wife of Nabal, initially (7)
- 4 Enrico -----, physicist who worked on the first A-bombs (5)
- 5 Deprive; be in want (6)
- 6 Enormous (8)
- 12 Patriarch son of Jacob and Leah (8)
- 14 Head of one of the three Levitical families (7)
- 16 Leeds, Sheffield or Manchester, perhaps (6)
- 18 Lower part or region (6)
- 19 Omit, suppress or abridge (a syllable or vowel) (5)
- 22 Church recess (4)



SOLUTION

Across: 7 Adorb, 8 Entail, 9 Mews, 10 Gomorrah, 11 Cilicia, 13 Perth, 15 Issue, 17 Bernice, 20 Achilles, 21 Tear, 23 Fag end, 24 Odessa. Down: 1 Adze, 2 Bonsai, 3 Abigail, 4 Fermi, 5 Starve, 6 Gigantic, 12 Issachar, 14 Gershon, 16 United, 18 Nether, 19 Elide, 22 Apse.

Annual Novena in honour of St. Rita of Cascia Patron of the Helpless



The Novena begins on 14th May and finishes with Mass at 12 noon followed by the Blessing of the roses on her feast day 22nd May.

Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Jonathan Stewart(Dean of Exeter) at St. Rita’s Centre, Honiton, Devon

After the feast day, blessed rose petals will be sent out to those who request them.

To join in the Novena please write to: St Rita’s Promotions, St Rita’s Retreat & Conference Centre, Ottery Moor Lane, Honiton, Devon EX14 1AP
For more information: Tel: 01404 42635. Email: stritas@btinternet.com.
Visit our Web Site and see our video: www.stritascentre.org.uk