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# The CatholicPost



The Assumption of Our Blessed Lady feast day celebrated on 15th August

The UK's first Carbon Neutral Catholic Newspaper



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## Once in a Lifetime Event



### Be part of the St Bernadette Relic Tour this Autumn

In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time. This very special once in a lifetime event will provide an opportunity for people of all ages and backgrounds to experience the special gifts and charisms of Lourdes, in a church or cathedral near them.

The website <https://stbernadette.org.uk/> will be updated regularly with information about the visit of the Relics Saturday 3 September to Sunday 30 October 2022. Details of how to register for an encounter with the Relics will be available in the Tour section of this same website soon.

Be part of the St Bernadette Relic Tour this Autumn. In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will journey on pilgrimage to England, Scotland, and Wales for the very first time.

## Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

In September and October this year, the relics of St Bernadette will undertake a very special pilgrimage, journeying from Lourdes in France to cathedrals and churches across England, Scotland, and Wales.

For many of us, the opportunity to enrich our faith through the experience of pilgrimage has been difficult or impossible over the last two years, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The pilgrimage St Bernadette's relics will undertake this Autumn offers us a welcome opportunity to bear active witness to our Faith, joining with one another across our many communities to encounter God's love and find spiritual, emotional, and psychological healing and renewal.

As we welcome the relics of St Bernadette to the United Kingdom we are also reminded of the special significance of Lourdes as a place of pilgrimage and of love, where people of all ages serve and care for the sick and the most vulnerable in our society.

I would encourage those people who are able to, to consider continuing the journey begun by the relics of St Bernadette this Autumn, joining with people from their parishes and Dioceses to travel on pilgrimage to Lourdes in the weeks and months ahead.



We thank God for the faith of St Bernadette and for the many gifts and graces the relic tour will bring.

Yours devotedly,

*Cardinal Vincent Nichols*

✠ Cardinal Vincent Nichols  
Archbishop of Westminster

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Please send articles for publication by email, supplying any photos separate to the text We welcome contributions

Here are answers to some basic questions about writing for The Catholic Post

**How long should articles be?**

Usually it seems to work out best if contributors simply say what they have to say and let us worry about finding a spot for it in the paper.

**What is the submission procedure?**

Please send as a Word file attached to an e-mail. To submit articles for publication, contact John Clawson by email at johnclwson@icloud.com Charts, graphs, and photos should be submitted as separate PDFs. Electronic photos should not be embedded or pasted into a Word document as this reduces their quality.

**Photographs and Illustrations**

Photographs and Illustrations should be supplied electronically as high resolution JPEG (\*.JPG) files.

Photographs and illustrations should be sent in colour with a resolution of 300 dpi and a minimum size of 100 mm x 100 mm when printed (approx. 1200 pixels wide on-screen).

Computer print-outs are not acceptable. Screen captures are not ideal as they are usually not very high

Parental permission should be sought before submitting photographs of minors.

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# Citizens of the Kingdom

*From the presbytery..... by Fr Neil McNicholas*

**We are citizens of the state by virtue of our nationality, but we are also citizens of the kingdom of God by virtue of our baptism**

By definition, a citizen is “a person owing loyalty to, and entitled by birth or naturalisation to the protection of the state. Citizenship is “the status of a citizen with its attendant duties, rights and privileges. But what makes a good citizen?

The answer would be all of the above and a lot more besides. It would include respect for the law and society’s values enshrined in that law; contributing to society through work, education, social and even, perhaps, political involvement, paying taxes, exercising the right to vote, and so the list goes on.

I don’t think we think too much about it really. As citizens we just “are”, but that may not always be enough or good enough, because citizenship requires active commitment and involvement, it’s something we have to invest ourselves in. If we don’t, then it should bring to mind the quote from Groucho Marx that he would refuse to join any club that would have him for a member!

**So, what does it mean to be a citizen of God’s kingdom?**

Most of us attended “citizenship classes”. Those who went to Catholic schools had about ten or eleven years of Catholic education, a steady daily input of what it meant to be a Catholic - our duties and responsibilities under God’s law and the laws of the Church. As children we were on a faith journey marked out by the milestones of the sacraments we celebrated along the way and, little by little, coming to a fuller knowledge of what being a Catholic meant and what it required of us.

St Paul said, “When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am grown, all childish ways are put behind me” (1Cor 13 v 11). Just as in the world around us we take on more and more responsibilities as we become adults, so it should be with our membership of the Church. Little by little we discover – or we should do – that being a Catholic Christian, being a member of the Church, and therefore being a citizen of the kingdom, is more about doing than just being.

Little by little more and more opportunity opens up for us to be actively involved in the life of the Church through various aspects of service and ministry and membership of pastoral groups and organisations. This enriches and strengthens the foundations of our faith so that, nourished by the Eucharist, we then go out into the world to bear witness to our faith, helping to build up the kingdom by bringing others to find out more about this person Jesus who is at the centre of our lives. We don’t tend to consider that we have any rights as citizens of the kingdom, and yet we do. We have a right to the ministry of the Church, and we have a right to be saved because it has been obtained for us, won for us, by Our Lord and is now available to us. We claim our “right” by living right(ly) as good citizens, hoping to be found worthy of eternal life in God’s kingdom. Salvation, however, isn’t just a personal quest, a race for sanctification, but is something we share and live out in the community of the Church which is the body of Christ. We strive for sainthood together, and our hope is for as many as possible to come to knowledge of Christ and so be saved.

Many people would claim to believe in God but wouldn’t consider themselves to be “religious” as such. Many more wouldn’t claim even that much and yet live good lives according to a moral code that is, perhaps, more instinctive than denominational. Neither of these situations is good enough for us, however, as citizens of the kingdom. We have to be more committed than that. We have to stand up and be counted. We need to put our “x” firmly in the box of our choice for God and the things of God. It’s that old question that if it were a crime to be a Christian (and it sometimes seems as if it will be soon), would there be enough evidence to convict us?

The society around us operates according to social mores – accepted practices and customs that are considered necessary for its survival and the well-being of its citizens. There is also “natural law”, a moral code that derives from an instinctive sense of right and wrong. These are generally the basis of the formally enacted laws of our legal system. In addition we, as citizens of God’s kingdom, have to follow what

is right and reject what isn’t, and we take our lead from his word in scripture and from the teaching of the Church he founded of which we are members.

Whilst we are aware of our duty to uphold and keep the law of the land: The citizen is obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order, to the fundamental rights of persons or the teachings of the Gospel.

Their loyal collaboration includes the right, and at times the duty, to voice their criticisms of that which seems harmful to the dignity of persons and to the good of the community.<sup>1</sup>

We are citizens of the state by virtue of our nationality, but we are also citizens of the kingdom of God by virtue of our baptism. We have a birth certificate issued by the state, but we also have a rebirth certificate issued by the Church. We have duties and responsibilities both as citizens of the state and as citizens of the kingdom of God and we must be prepared for the fact that they may not always be complementary. For us, God is the higher authority. The Catechism cites the letter of an unknown second-century author written to a certain Diognetus in defence of the Christian faith in which he says:

[Christians] reside in their own nations, but as resident aliens. They participate in all things as citizens and endure all things as foreigners. They obey the established laws but their way of life surpasses the laws. So noble is the position to which God has assigned them that they are not allowed to desert it.

Our pursuit of the things that make for good citizenship in God’s kingdom will help to build up the unity of the body of Christ, the Church, and will provide a firmer foundation from which to bring the gospel message to that more general, earthly, citizenship which is all around us and of which we are also a part. However, the bottom line for us is summed up by St Paul.

Our homeland is in heaven. (Phil 3 v 20)

<sup>1</sup> Catechism of the Catholic Church, paras 2242 & 2238 2

**Philippians 3:20-21 We are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Saviour.**

# Parish News

## Two new members installed and three current members elevated to full Knighthood

Diocese of Salford

Fr Colin paid tribute to the work of the Knights of St Columba

Mass was celebrated this evening by Fr Colin Battell OSB, Assistant Priest, for the Knights of St Columba, Council 212, during which two new members were installed and three current members were elevated to full Knighthood. Those being installed were Kevin Lyth (Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Lostock Hall) and David Rostron (St Gregory's, Weld Bank, Chorley) whilst David Dearden and Alaine Tolentino (St Mary's, Brownedge, Bamber Bridge) and Basil Howard (Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella, Lostock Hall) were elevated to full Knighthood. The five were presented by Andrew Fowler, Provincial Membership Officer; Cuthbert Culshaw, Provincial Grand Knight; and Philip Swarbrick (Grand Knight, Brownedge Council 212).



Congratulations to all five who were supported by members of their families. During the Mass Kevin read and David and Alaine presented the gifts at the Offertory. During his homily, Fr Colin paid tribute to the work of the Knights of St Columba in the parishes and the wider community and the supportive role members played in so many ways. At the end of Mass, those present enjoyed light refreshments in the Narthex.

Dave Gorman



## It's been a long day in sun!

Gerry Molumby

Bishop calls for parish prayer but global thinking on worldwide charity



In glorious sunshine, Sunday July 10th saw the return of the annual Inter diocesan Pilgrimage to Padley, in honour of Blessed Robert Ludlam and Blessed Nicholas Garlick. Set in the Peak District and not far from Chatsworth. The mass was concelebrated by Bishop Patrick McKinney and Bishop Ralph Haskett (Hallam Diocese) along with Bishop John Arnold from Salford diocese who preached the homily to the gospel of the Good Samaritan. In it he called for parish prayer but global thinking on worldwide charity of action on vaccine roll out and climate change guardianship.

For more history of Padley Shrine and when/how to visit, go to Padley Martyrs Chapel - Hallam Diocese (hallam-diocese.com)

## Children lead the Choir in Liverpool



Last month, a choir of over 800 children from the Archdiocese of Liverpool led the music at the Good Shepherd Mass in the Metropolitan Cathedral.

Bishop Tom Neylon commented on how beautifully the children sang, and how their musical leadership enhanced the liturgical celebration.

## Hope and Support

We are shortly to take delivery of twenty seven 10ft pews, some large votive candle stands and other items from a church that has been decommissioned. Most of the smaller items, including tabernacle, will be sent on to churches in parishes awaiting them in poorer areas of the world, whilst the pews will initially be available should a parish require them in the U.K. Two large statues are also being rehomed.

Whilst one parish has the sadness of closure, another can at least benefit in a wonderful way through receiving those items that have been loved and cherished by so many in their original setting. Hopefully this will also give some consolation to the bereaved community. Whilst costs of transport have risen steeply, it is greatly important to ensure the reuse of ecclesiastical items and furnishings, and in this way also bringing joy and hope to people in areas of the world where there is a lack of the basic items that we often take for granted. We also keep note of any items requested by parishes and chaplains in the U.K. in hopes of being able to assist.

We have continued to support chaplaincies in the U.K. with prayer cards and small devotional items as requested. In the isolation of prison cells and the solitude of the lives of seafarers, these items make a tremendous difference, bringing comfort and hope to the weary and broken. Hospital and school chaplains are also supported.

We continue to support priests through difficult circumstances. We are always glad to assist whatever the problem, and are most grateful to legal and canonical experts who give their time so generously to assist priests in need. In these difficult times, it is essential that priests have access to advice and support at the earliest possible opportunity.

[www.crownofthorns.org.uk](http://www.crownofthorns.org.uk)



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# First-ever Cantonese Mass at OLEM in Cambridge

Keith Morris

How fitting it was that the Universal Church was brought to life in a beautiful church that venerates Our Lady and commemorates the English Martyrs

The Cantonese Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes Sawston, St John Fisher Cambourne and Our Lady of the Assumption and the English Martyrs, Cambridge joined together in an uplifting Solemn Cantonese Mass on Saturday July 9, to commemorate the 120 Martyrs of China. Dominic Chung reports.

Cantonese speaking Hong Kong Catholics all worshipping together.

The Liturgy and the Sacred Music were the key focus of the occasion, with some in the Congregation so moved that they openly sobbed when we ended the Mass with a rendition of the Te Deum, in Cantonese.

Canonised by St Pope John Paul II in 2000, 120 Chinese priests and laity and non-Chinese missionaries died for their faith between 1648 and 1930.

It was also the first time that a Hong Kong born young Organ Scholar played on the magnificent OLEM organ and that the newly ordained Permanent Deacon, Gianluca Savino proclaimed the Gospel in Cantonese.

How fitting it was that the Universal Church was brought to life in a beautiful church that venerates Our Lady and commemorates the English Martyrs. We asked the Martyrs of China for their intercession, for God's grace and love to be bestowed on the Catholic Church in Hong Kong and China.

It was truly a memorable day. The Cantonese Community felt very blessed and are humbled by the care and attention shown to them by Mgr Provost Eugene Harkness, Deacon Gianluca, Director of Music Nigel Kerry, and Canon Hoan Minh Nguyen for continuing to celebrate Mass in Cantonese, and even singing the notoriously intricate Doxology in Cantonese.

Close to 110 were at the first Cantonese Mass ever held at OLEM in its 135-year history, including local non Chinese parishioners and



Pictured above are participants at the Cantonese Mass at OLEM in Cambridge.

There was even an embryonic choir to call our own thanks to the brilliant assistance by a number of Hong Kong Catholics at the Westminster Archdiocese Chaplaincy of the Chinese Community at Bethnal Green.

and other parts of London as well as Cambridge and other places in Cambridgeshire, they would take with them "our love and prayers" as Mgr Eugene always says near the end of Mass.

As the congregation all returned to their own parishes in Milton Keynes, in Hitchin, in Harrow

We look forward to welcoming them again on August 13, at 11am in Sawston.

## Pope to appoint two women to Dicastery of Bishops

Vatican News

Two women will be going to the Congregation of Bishops

Pope Francis has announced his intention to appoint two women to the Dicastery of Bishops, which is involved in the process of choosing new bishops.

In an interview with Philip Pullella from Reuters, who asked about the appointment of women to positions in the Vatican, Pope Francis said he was open should an opportunity arise. He said: "... two women will be going to the Congregation of Bishops, on the commission to elect bishops. In this way, things open up a little bit."

The Holy Father mentioned that last year he appointed Sister Raffaella Petrini, to the number two position in the Vatican City Governorate, making her the first woman to hold the position.

Pope Francis has appointed more women to key roles usually held by men than any of his predecessors. In January 2020, Pope Francis named Francesca di Giovanni as Undersecretary for the multilateral sector in the Secretariat of State's Section for Relations with States and International Organizations, another first.

Other notable appointments of women by Pope Francis include Sister Nathalie Becquart, a French member of the Xaviere Missionary Sisters, as under-secretary of the Synod of Bishops and Sister Alessandra Smerilli, of the



Sr Nathalie Becquart

Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, as Undersecretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development.

Several other women now holding high-level positions in the Vatican, include Barbara Jatta, the first female director of the Vatican Museums; Nataša Govekar, Director of the Theological-Pastoral Office of the Dicastery for Communication; and Cristiane Murray, deputy director of the Holy See Press Office, all of whom were appointed by the current Pontiff.

During the interview Pope Francis said that in the future he sees the possibility of lay people being appointed to lead certain Vatican departments such as the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, the Dicastery for Culture and Education, or the Vatican Apostolic Library.

Last month, Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life, joked that, with the promulgation of the new Constitution on the Curia, he might be the last cleric to lead that dicastery.

## Charity gives £2.75 million aid for Ukraine

By John Newton

As Christ's Church we remain close to our people, who are in danger, in need, vulnerable, wounded and weak



"We are trying to reach out and help the people, who have been plunged into a profound humanitarian crisis, and bring the internal refugees to a place of safety."

More than £300,000 from ACN went to Church projects helping IDPs in particular need, including help for Hoshiv Monastery, where the Sisters of the Holy Family are caring for around 160 IDPs.

In addition to the £2.75 million in aid, ACN provided Mass stipends for almost 1,900 priests.

Father Adamski expressed his thanks to ACN for all its support.

He said: "Thank you for your solidarity with us and for being close to us in prayer."

"We are quite certain that God is helping us through your prayers and support to get through these difficult times."

A Catholic charity provided more than £2.75 million in aid to war-torn Ukraine in the first three months after the Russian invasion alone.

Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) has helped the country's Catholic Churches to minister to some of the more than 14 million people who have been forced to flee their homes.

ACN's aid has included £1.3 million in emergency subsistence aid, 19 vehicles to move relief supplies, and 17 electrical generators including for monasteries looking after internal refugees.

Father Mateusz Adamski who ministers in Kyiv is one of the priests caring for IDPs and others in need.

He said: "As Christ's Church we remain close to our people, who are in danger, in need, vulnerable, wounded and weak."

# Clifton parish unveils stained glass window for Millennial Saint

CBCEW

He rarely missed an opportunity to attend daily Mass and to this day inspires thousands of young people worldwide

A parish in Wiltshire is believed to be one of the first in the country to commission a stained glass window dedicated to 'Millennial Saint' Blessed Carlo Acutis.

Artist Michael Vincent created the piece for St Aldhelm's in Malmesbury using methods that have remained unchanged for hundreds of years.

## Millennial Saint

Blessed Carlo was just 15 when he died of leukaemia but the millennial, an avid computer programmer, was a devout child with a great affection for the Blessed Sacrament and for reciting the Rosary. He rarely missed an opportunity to attend daily Mass and to this day inspires thousands of young people worldwide.

Although not yet a saint, London-born Carlo can be venerated in a church with special permission from the local diocese.

## Artwork

The stained glass at St Aldhelm's shows a smiling Blessed Carlo with a mobile phone in the strap of his rucksack, a watch on his left arm and the IHS symbol on his top. One of Blessed Carlo's most popular quotes can be read under the image: "The Eucharist is the highway to heaven."

## Futureproofing

A second miracle needs to be attributed to the intercession of a man or woman on the path to sainthood so some time may pass before Blessed Carlo Acutis is canonised and declared a saint. This is something the parish has considered. A replacement pane of glass that modifies the 'Bl.' before his name to 'St.' will be kept safe until that joyous time arrives.

The window has been created with the structure of the church and its other windows in mind. There are already stained glass windows installed dedicated to St Aldhelm, Our

Lady, the Sacred Heart, St Joseph and Our Lady of Guadalupe.

## The Process

After the initial design, artist Michael Vincent produced a full-sized drawing called a 'cartoon' that offered a blueprint of the window that could be used for glass cutting and lead lines.

At this stage the glass was chosen and cut to suit the lead matrix. In this case, Mr Vincent used a variety of glass - mostly mouth-blown glass from the UK and Germany - including some flashed glass where the flashed surface is dissolved using hydrofluoric acid so more colours can be used within one pane of glass.

After this, painting begins. The aim here is to essentially paint with light, first by painting the trace lines to give an outline to work with. Next the glass is waxed up onto a large sheet of clear glass which can be put up to the studio window utilising a natural light source.

'Matting' comes next, where several layers of paint are applied to the glass using various brushes and techniques. When the paint is dry it can be removed and worked with stiff or soft brushes to let light through where needed. Various techniques can be used to achieve different effects.



Stained glass window of Blessed Carlo Acutis at St Aldhelm's

Between applications of paint, the glass is removed from the easel and placed in a kiln. Firing in the kiln, at temperatures of up to 650°C, fuses the paint to the surface of the glass creating a permanent bond. The majority of the glass paint used is black, bistre, amber and silver stain. Interestingly, many of the colours you see are generated by the raw glass itself and not the paint.

When this stage is complete it can then be leaded together using Comes; a U-Channel shaped lead section the glass slots into which then is bonded together with a gas iron forming the structure of the window.

The window is then cemented using a form of runny black putty that is used to waterproof and strengthen the window when cured. Finally, a thorough clean and polish takes place and the window is ready for installation.

# Appointment of apostolic visitor for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic faithful resident in the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland

CBCEW

I look forward to working closely with the Bishops of Ireland in ensuring good pastoral care for the Ukrainian Catholics in Ireland

"With the recent arrival of thousands of displaced Ukrainians fleeing harm's way since the 24 February invasion of Ukraine by Russia, I hope to work very closely with the Roman Catholic Bishops of Ireland and Northern Ireland in seeking ways to respond in positive ways to the humanitarian and pastoral needs of the growing Ukrainian Community."

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, of the eparchy of the Holy Family of London of the Byzantine Ukrainians, as apostolic visitor for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic faithful resident in the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland.

Upon hearing of his appointment Bishop Nowakowski said: "I am grateful for the support and trust that His Holiness Pope



Francis and His Beatitude Sviatoslav, Father and Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church have placed in me. I look forward to working closely with the Bishops of Ireland in ensuring good pastoral care for the Ukrainian Catholics in Ireland."

"There is currently one Ukrainian Catholic parish in Ireland located in Dublin with Fr Vasily Korentsky assigned to serving Ukrainian Catholics in the Archdiocese of Dublin."

# UKRAINE EMERGENCY

ACN has now pledged more than £2.75 million in aid to help priests and Sisters as they minister to refugees and others caught up in the chaos of the conflict.

**Please pray for them,** and help us support our Church project partners ministering to those suffering following the devastating bombardment of towns and cities.



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# Concert for Ukraine

Denise Ead

One of the group told the audience about the conditions in Ukraine at the present time

Three parishioners from St Mary's Church, Marple Bridge, Stockport came together with their good friend, Elaine to form a committee to organise a concert to raise funds for the DEC (Ukraine Emergency Humanitarian Appeal) which includes CAFOD and to raise awareness of the current conflict.

Pauline, Jim and Denise had attended the on line Zoom meeting set up by Paul Bodenham, Leader for Social Action, Diocese of Nottingham which explored ways to help our friends in Ukraine. The idea for the concert originated from that contact.

The concert which took place in Marple Cricket Club was a great success. It started with a tradition Ukrainian song from 'Mirage' a quartet from the Stockport Ukrainian Society. One of the group also told the audience about the conditions in Ukraine at the present time.



'Mirage' from Stockport Ukrainian Society

Then four local acts took to the stage. They included, The Hayes Sisters, Raintown Seers, Lazlo Baby and Taylor Giocoma. The music ranged from ballads to authentic Irish and Ukrainian music. The concert closed with Taylor Giocoma singing 'Imagine'. It was a poignant ending to a very thoughtful evening.

The concert raised £1,955.73. (Which has now been sent to the DEC). The venue and all the acts came with no costs.

With thanks to all who helped in any way.

# Key new role for FCJ Sister

ICN

A key call from the Synod was to renew our Church by reaching out, by being welcoming and inclusive

The Archdiocese of Liverpool has appointed Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ, as Archbishop Malcolm McMahon's delegate for Catholic social action. Sr Lynne will be a key member of the new Archbishop's Advisory Body and will ensure that the voice of a woman will be heard as the Archbishop makes important decisions.

The appointment comes almost 12 months after the archdiocese met for the Synod 2020 (20 June 2021). Since then, the pastoral plan has been written, promulgated and implementation is ongoing.

A key call from the Synod was to renew our Church by reaching out, by being welcoming and inclusive.

The Pastoral Plan called for a new role to "place at the forefront of life of the Church inclusivity, justice and peace, the poor, marginalised and the environment, recognising that concern for the environment is a core dimension of our evangelising mission in the world."

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP, said: "I truly believe that Sr Lynne is the best person to help develop this important area of our life as a Church and to guide us as we implement the direction set by the Synod.



Sr Lynne Baron, FCJ

"The Synod clearly called us to reach out to those who feel on the edges of both Church and society and it is clear to me that only if we look outward will we renew ourselves."

Sr Lynne said: "I am delighted to be able to take up this appointment as Archbishop's Delegate and to contribute to the mission of the Archdiocese in this new way as the Church seeks to include the voice of women in its decision-making bodies. My area of responsibility, Catholic social action, is far reaching in these challenging times, but the archdiocese and its people have a strong history of social action, welcome and inclusion. I am excited to further enable this work to flourish, to ensure it is rooted in Catholic social teaching, and that it remains a significant aspect of the archdiocesan agenda."

Sr Lynne's appointment is the first step in changing the governance structures of the Archdiocese. The Synod called for the voice of women to be heard and acknowledged - this appointment shows the commitment to what was asked.



The Robotics Team celebrate their win at the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham

# Farnborough Hill triumph at the National EEP Robotics Competition

www.farnborough-hill.org

It is definitely good for building resilience because we did most of our code through trial and error so if we hit a wall we would just tweak the code and try again

Farnborough Hill is celebrating national success once more, with its Year 9 Robotics team beating over 300 UK schools to triumph at the National EEP Robotics Competition.

The team travelled to Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre on Thursday 23 June and prepared for the first challenges; a presentation about artificial intelligence and its impact on the environment, and a second presentation about their robots and design choices.

They then faced the speed and control challenge, where the robot had to cover a distance of 12 metres in the fastest possible time. The team achieved a time of 11 seconds, including penalties for crashing into a Duplo wall. The robot also somehow performed an amazing flip (guided by Niamh), crossing the finish line in style.

Throughout the day pupils also had to complete a teamwork challenge, which consisted of exploring the Big Bang Fair and talking to various engineers about their jobs. After lunch came the biggest test of them all: the robot challenge mat. Completing eight challenges in five and a half minutes was no small feat, but the girls thought they had performed better in practices. The girls then had an hour to explore the fair before the results were announced. They waited patiently for Farnborough Hill's name to be called, but it never was; that is until the last prize which was for the winner of the entire competition. Farnborough Hill's team were completely astounded to have won the national competition, beating over 300 other schools from across the UK. The pupils even got interviewed.

One of the team, Laura, reflected on the day saying: "It is definitely good for building

resilience because we did most of our code through trial and error so if we hit a wall we would just tweak the code and try again."

The Year 9 girls are all enormously proud of their achievement, especially considering that it was also International Women in Engineering Day, and they thoroughly enjoyed the day. The pupils extended a huge thank you to Mrs Hazel Burrows and Mr Alan Rees for helping them grow in their Robotics journey.

Niamh commented: "It is such a fun experience. I have learnt so much and it just feels so good when you are actually competing the challenges because you have worked so hard for it and you are getting really good results".

The Robotics' team leader, Subject Leader of Physics Mr Alan Rees, expressed how pleased he was with the result: "I am in awe of all the girls who have achieved this in such a short space of time. They incorporated knowledge from their curriculum subjects to great effect. Their presentation included details about water retention from Geography as well as root growth from Biology. They applied ratios from Mathematics effectively to understand the gearing of their robot and adjust their program in proportion.

"Whilst the programming and engineering were the major focus of the competition, our girls nonetheless brought their usual Farnborough Hill dramatic flair and musicality to the competition with many hours of careful programming tones, so that their robot would sing out Rick Astley's infamous hit. Their tireless work has been a privilege to observe and they very much deserve this victory against some excellent competition."

# Campaigners pleased at MPs opposition to euthanasia and assisted suicide

ICN

We need to refocus our attention on how to ensure we provide the very best palliative care to those who need it



Care Not Killing is pleased at the "strength and breadth" of opposition from MPs towards the policy of introducing euthanasia and assisted suicide (EAS), in the UK.

During Monday's Westminster Hall debate, parliamentarians heard about just some of the dangers of introducing so-called "assisted dying", including evidence from Oregon, Canada and the Netherlands, with vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives prematurely, and the growing link between introducing EAS and increases in a jurisdiction's suicide rate.

Danny Kruger (Con), Chair of the Dying Well All-Party Group, referred to considerations of financial savings in extending euthanasia in Canada beyond terminal illnesses, and the reality of care rationing within the NHS.

Stephen Timms (Lab) described the NHS as his party's greatest achievement, and said its being underfunded was not a reason to give up on seeking achievable, high-quality, equally-accessed palliative care. He said: "I agree with the organisation Care Not Killing that we want... a funded policy for comprehensive hospice, community and hospital specialist palliative care services across the country, with a duty placed on NHS trusts to ensure these services are made available to all who need them."

As the debate drew to a close, the Minister restated the Government's longstanding position: the ultimate decision is for Parliament, as with other issues of conscience, and "our neutral stance means that this would have to be via private members legislation."

Dr Gordon Macdonald, Chief Executive of Care Not Killing, commented: "Doctors' groups such as the Association of Palliative Medicine, disability rights organisations, and all those who oppose the introduction of euthanasia and assisted suicide will be pleased at the strength and breadth of opposition to changing the law in Parliament.

"We heard MPs acknowledge that palliative care remains a Cinderella service, hugely reliant on charity with many patients who would benefit from this type of care not currently receiving it; this should be the priority. MPs like Sir Peter Bottomley recognised the growing body of evidence that shows legalising assisted suicide or euthanasia does not reduce the suicide rate in the general population but increases it. This was explored

convincingly in a recent peer-reviewed study from the UK's Anscombe Bioethics Centre published in February, which showed a 'consistent association' between the passing of assisted suicide and euthanasia laws and an increase in suicide rates (including assisted suicides) among the general population across those countries that have introduced euthanasia or assisted suicide."

Dr Macdonald continued: "Some MPs rightly expressed concern at the mission creep we see in countries like Canada, which legalised so called 'medical assistance in dying' in 2015. The law was originally limited to those whose natural deaths were 'reasonably foreseeable', but in September 2019 the Quebec Superior Court struck down that restriction. This followed the case of Alan Nichols, a former school caretaker who was physically healthy, but struggled with depression. His life was ended by lethal injection in July 2019. That same year also saw the chilling case of Roger Foley, who was repeatedly offered the drugs to kill himself, while being denied the social care to live a dignified life, due to the cost.

"At the same time, deaths from lethal injection continue to rise in Canada. In 2020 7,595 had their lives ended this way, including 1,412 who cited loneliness as a reason for opting to be killed, no doubt this was compounded by Covid. Now the Canadian law has been expanded to include those with chronic conditions, and soon, mental health conditions.

"Our current laws protect vulnerable people and do not need changing, instead we need to refocus our attention on how to ensure we provide the very best palliative care to those who need it."

Care Not Killing is a UK-based alliance bringing together over 40 organisations - human rights and disability rights organisations, health care and palliative care groups, faith-based organisations groups - and thousands of concerned individuals. We have three key aims: to promote more and better palliative care; to ensure that existing laws against euthanasia and assisted suicide are not weakened or repealed; to inform public opinion further against any weakening of the law.

If you are concerned about any issues raised in this article and would like to talk to someone - Contact the Samaritans. They listen. They won't judge or tell you what to do. Call any time, day or night from any phone for FREE. Call 116 123



Photo: Mazur/CBCEW.org.uk

## Bishop Sherrington comments on Roe v Wade

Archdiocese of Westminster

The Church will strive to offer hope and healing for all those hurt by the tragedy of abortion

Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and Auxiliary in Westminster, issued the following comment following the US Supreme Court decision to overturn the Roe v Wade judgment:

"The recent decision of the US Supreme Court to overturn the Roe v Wade judgment and so affirm that the constitution does not confer a right to abortion is momentous and of huge significance. It reflects the prayers, dedicated work and commitment of those who seek to protect women who are pregnant and the unborn child. Pope Francis reminds us of how abortion laws have trivialised the gift of human life, "It is troubling to see how simple and convenient it has become for some to deny the existence of a human life as a solution to problems that can and must be solved for both the mother and her unborn child." (Pope Francis to UN, September 2020)

"The judgment not only calls for reflection in the US, but also for significant reflection in our country as we see again the rising numbers of abortions in 2021. The many painful situations which lead to abortion are reflected in these shocking statistics and call

for better legal and social protections for women and the unborn child. They call for much more reflection on what is needed for relationships and sex education that is rooted in respect and self-restraint, support for the family and single mothers. We need to reduce the upper time limit for abortions and re-examine the law which permits a child with disability to be aborted up to birth. This is a moment that calls for the building of a culture of life and welcome where all are recognised and treated as a gift. This is the work of the evangelisation of culture.

"The Church will strive to offer hope and healing for all those hurt by the tragedy of abortion.

"We wish to see fruitful debate on these important topics, avoiding polarised ideologies. The value of human life is too precious for such an approach.

"We ask the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St Gianna Beretta Molla and remember the prayer of the Hail Mary, "Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus".

**Further resources are available from the following:**

Life Charity's 'Pregnancy Matters' offers emotional and practical support for pregnant women.

Rachel's Vineyard offers - support for those affected by the trauma of abortion. [www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk)

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# Bishop Alan celebrates life of Blessed Pauline Jaricot

Diocese of East Anglia

This has been a wonderful occasion and something we can build on as a Diocesan community

Bishop Alan Hopes celebrated a Mass at St John's Cathedral in Norwich last Saturday, to mark the Beatification of the co-founder of Missio, Blessed Pauline Jaricot.



Missio Local Secretaries with Bishop Alan Hopes, Fr Tony Chantry MHM and Fr Kevin Hughes MHM

Blessed Pauline was born in Lyon, France in 1799 and is one of the founders of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission. She was a remarkable young lay woman with formidable faith. Aged 19, she began helping missionaries overseas. She decided to support them through prayer and material help, establishing a penny collection among her father's employees: the first social missionary network. Supporters met in small groups to donate pennies, pray and exchange news about 'the missions'. In turn they created more groups. This network became the Propagation of the Faith in 1822. It then spread throughout the world. In England and Wales, the Red Box, in partnership with the Mill Hill Missionaries, fulfils Pauline's vision.

The celebratory Mass took place on June 25. Bishop Alan was joined by Fr Anthony Chantry MHM, National Director for Missio in England and Wales, who preached on the 'remarkable missionary spirit of Blessed Pauline Jaricot, who is an inspiration to us all'.

Fr Anthony shared some his own experiences of mission in South Africa and how, through prayer and the support of the Red Box, we can make a real difference to poor and young Churches throughout the world. Bishop Alan thanked the Missio Local Secretaries and volunteers for their efforts in supporting the global Church and gave encouragement to continue the faithful efforts within the East Anglia Diocese.

After Mass, Fr Kevin Hughes MHM shared some more reflections on the life of Blessed Pauline, and how she continues to inspire our own calling as baptised Catholics to spread the Good News of Christ in our communities. Anne, the Missio Local Secretary for the Cathedral parish commented, "This has been a wonderful occasion and something we can build on as a Diocesan community. Thank you Missio for coming to the Diocese to be with us."

Missio in turn thanked volunteers who were able to join the event, despite the challenging transport situation, and the Cathedral staff for their support. To find out more about the work of Missio, visit: www.missio.org.uk

## Bishop Oakley supports Universal Credit reform seeking an end to the 'Two-Child' limit

CBCEW

I welcome the Lord Bishop of Durham's private members' bill seeking universal credit reform

The Bishop of Northampton, Bishop David Oakley, has expressed his support for a private members' bill aiming to remove the restriction placed on the child element of Universal Credit that has been limited to the first two children since it was introduced through the Work and Welfare Reform Act of 2016.

The private members' bill was introduced to the Lords by the Right Reverend Paul Butler, Anglican Bishop of Durham and is set to be debated by sitting peers on Friday, 8 July 2022.

Bishop Oakley sees the limit as clear discrimination against larger families: "I welcome the Lord Bishop of Durham's private members' bill seeking universal credit reform, and I would encourage Members from all sides of the House of Lords to support the passage of this important and timely bill.

"At a time of ever-growing social and economic insecurity for families across England, the two-child cap on universal credit places an unnecessary and disproportionate burden on households, particularly for families that have suffered the pain of unemployment or disability.

"Further, it represents an obvious and egregious form of discrimination against larger families and penalises those parents who embrace the joy and abundance of many children.

"As Pope Francis recently informed the Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe (FAFCE) at their twenty-fifth anniversary celebration in Rome: 'Every family is a common good and family policies represent not a cost but an investment to guarantee the futures of our societies!'"

"Happy and healthy families make happy and healthy societies, and our economic policies should be directed towards their sustainable growth and development.

"Sadly, we can see from the latest abortion figures for England and Wales that there is a very strong correlation between greater levels



of local deprivation and higher rates of abortion."

"Families of all shapes and sizes should be protected from social and economic insecurity, and the Lord Bishop of Durham's bill seeks to take a substantial step in the right direction.

"The Lord Bishop of Durham's private members' bill is entitled: Universal Credit (Removal of Two Child Limit) Bill [HL].



# Blessed Sacrament Procession on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi

*St Mary's, Brownedge, Bamber Bridge*

*Diocese of Salford*

This was our first such Procession since 2019 and the first using our beautiful new canopy made by parishioner, Christine Kirkwood.



Livesey, the choir and Maria Hall for the music and singing; the servers; and, of course, to Fr Mark and Fr Colin Battell OSB for leading us in this great liturgy which concluded with Solemn Benediction in Church.

Dave Gorman



We were blessed with sunshine and blue sky for our Blessed Sacrament Procession which took place from 3.00pm on this great Feast day.

This was our first such Procession since 2019 and the first using our beautiful new canopy made by parishioner, Christine Kirkwood.

We paused at the Shrine to Our Lady in the church grounds and, again, on the lawn behind the church, almost directly behind the location of the Tabernacle, where Parish Priest, Fr Mark Harold, gave Benediction to our wider community.

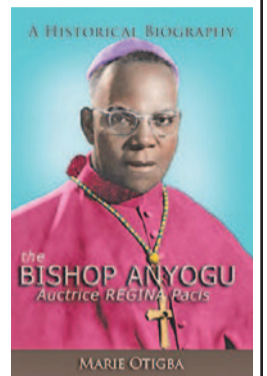
Thank you to all who attended and to all who helped with the preparation. Thanks also to the four Knights of St Columba who acted as canopy bearers; to our organist, Raymund

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A HISTORICAL BIOGRAPHY

"...as my New Year's resolution, I want to serve God all my life. I want to be a priest." "Can a black man be a priest?" asked Jacob his father. "Why not?" asked Shanahan, the Roman Catholic Prefect of the Holy Ghost Fathers at Onitsha in 1910. "Has a black man not got a soul?"



...the obstacles, trials and challenges began for the twelve-year-old native-born in the late 19th century Victorian colony of Nigeria - the defining period when the Anyogu family legacy became embedded in the Archivum Secretum Apostolicum Vaticanum in Rome.

With century-old journals and newspapers put into perspective, this biography reveals a towering figure and one of, if not the most influential personality ever in Nigerian history.

And so, I present to you,  
**The BISHOP JOHN CROSS ANYOGU**  
[www.amazon.co.uk/Bishop-Anyogu](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Bishop-Anyogu)  
*Marie Otigba, the author is a great niece of Bishop Anyogu and a parishioner at the Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady Of Muswell, London.*

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM**



Led by Fr Anthony Meredith IC (at the Catholic National Shrine)  
**Monday 29th August 2022**

- 1.15pm** Gathering, Rosary & Litany of Our Lady followed by: Talk by Fr Anthony. Break (Sacrament of Reconciliation).
- 3.45pm** Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction.
- 5.30pm** Depart.

**Please give advance notice of coach parties and concelebrating priests to 07710567183 or email [pilgrimsotomy@hotmail.com](mailto:pilgrimsotomy@hotmail.com)**

*"Dear children I rejoice with you and thank you for every sacrifice and prayer which you have offered for my intentions. Little children, do not forget that you are important in my plan of salvation of mankind. Return to God and prayer that the Holy Spirit may work in you and through you. Little children, I am with you also in these days when Satan is fighting for war and hatred. Division is strong and evil is at work in man as never before. Thank you for having responded to my call."*  
(25 June 2022)

FRANK GOULDING

## Backlog Britain

Last year food banks in our network provided more than 2.1 million parcels to provide people across the UK. That's 2.1 million too many

It does seem a long time since the month of August was described as the "silly season". This was the name given by the media because most people of importance were on holiday thus no important news items would develop. If this was ever true it is surely not the reality in 2022.

The escalation of prices in our shops has been increasing all the summer. This simply means those who have less income or savings are being hit the hardest. There are two potential casualties of this which sadly get little noticed or commented on. We have many worthy charities some local and others which may be local but are supporting national or international causes. One extract from the Trussell Trust "Together magazine" summer edition. "Last year food banks in our network provided more than 2.1 million parcels to provide people across the UK." That's 2.1 million too many. The other example is a minority

community either not getting support or having to wait for financial assistance. An example of this is the role of unpaid carers described by one politician as an example of "backlog Britain".

We are told that by mid June the average clearance time for unpaid caring was 31 working days. At this 2022 mid-summer time there were 30,688 awaiting a decision. Go back to November 2020 the average waiting time was 20 working days and the queue was just 17,453. A minority but so was the Good Samaritan.

It is sadly true that a tough Autumn may be in store for many in Britain but the world scene cannot be ignored either. The tragic war in Ukraine is just one example of what is in the in-tray when our politicians return from their holidays. It is so disappointing that the personal behaviours of a few dominated so much air time during the summer.



I return to minority issues, Why is it that we have companies in 2022 which lose business because we have a skills shortage? When are our leaders going to link education and training so we have staffing levels to meet the demands of a changing world?

My last observations this August is first of all to thank all those who have opened their hearts and homes to take in Ukrainian refugees.

Parliament did debate homes for Ukraine Child Refugees. One MP did urge the Government to face up to the reality of those who have lost everything in the war and what will happen once their initial 6 months placement is over. This will not be easy with thousands of people on waiting lists for social housing.

So in this month of August there is much to reflect on and we know that after we have done this, we need to have hope. There are so many great feasts to help us in the next few weeks not least the double Marian feasts - the Assumption and the Queenship of Mary and let us never forget The Good Samaritan.

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# Book Reviews



The intense, shockingly timely, real account of growing up in Eastern Germany behind the 'Iron Curtain'

## Never Mind, Comrade

Claudia Bierschenk

Published by Tangerine Press

Trade Paperback, £12

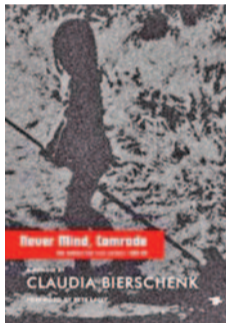
100-Copy Numbered and Signed Edition, £40

26-Copy Lettered and Signed Edition, £150

ISBN: 9781910691700 (PB), 9781910691717 (HB)

Life Behind the Iron Curtain 1982-89

Once upon a time, there was a small, three-letter-country known as GDR. Claudia Bierschenk spent the first fourteen years of her life there, until it disappeared from all maps of the world overnight. Never Mind, Comrade



isn't about how awful life was behind the 'iron curtain' during the 1980s. Yes, we learn of a world ruled by ideology, restrictions, half-truths, superstition, but there is also magic and humour within these pages.

The author skilfully and sensitively conjures up a child's curiosity, not just the clear-eyed innocence of those years, but also how deeply children think and feel about 'adult' concerns. The country that Claudia Bierschenk grew up in no longer exists. Perhaps the strongest message from this book is that if the Berlin Wall can fall, anything is possible.

Now more than ever, as Eastern Europe once again finds itself the focus of great uncertainty, Never Mind, Comrade acts as a reminder that no matter where you live, there are certain collective emotions and questions that all childhoods share, and that even the 'iron curtain', with all its challenges, had the power to bring people together.

Written in parallel with its German edition, Never Mind, Comrade is not a direct translation of Land ohne Verben. Both the German and English language versions have been developed by the author simultaneously, with sections added and removed in the English version, as the author saw fit, for a wider international readership.



In addition to the high-quality trade paperback edition, Tangerine Press are producing a

limited number of handbound, hardcover, collectors' editions signed by the author, available direct from the publisher. The limited editions will feature a special artwork by Hans Ticha, one of the most important contemporary German graphic artists and illustrators.

### Praise for the Book

"Fascinating, absurd, tender postcards from the other side of the Iron Curtain. They build into an insightful, moving portrait of an entire lost society and those who survived it." Darran Anderson, author of Imaginary Cities

"A compelling and poetic account of the harsh realities of life behind the Berlin Wall...A testament to Claudia Bierschenk's exceptional skill as a writer, listener and observer. One of my books of the year, so far."

Adelle Stripe, author of Ten Thousand Apologies

## Forty Women

Unseen women of the Bible from Eden to Easter by Ros Clarke

Foreword by Rebecca McLaughlin ISBN: 9781789743562

£10.99 - [www.ivpbooks.com](http://www.ivpbooks.com)

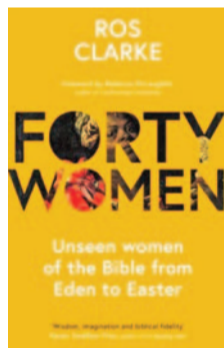
Easter wouldn't have happened without these forty women. Come and meet the hidden voices in the Bible's story in this daily Lent devotional for 2022.

The first witnesses to the resurrection were not men, but women – and without women, the Easter story would not have happened at all.

These hidden voices of the Bible's story are found through the Old Testament and the New Testament. In this daily Lent devotional for 2022, join Ros Clarke as she uncovers the women of the Bible who are essential to the Easter weekend. From Eve to the Shummamite, and from Deborah to Ruth, Forty Women will open your eyes to the power of the gospel.

Exploring a different character each day to take you from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday, Forty Women is an uplifting and inspirational look at what we can learn from the different women of the Bible. Looking at their lives, triumphs and failures, Ros Clarke shows us how these women are examples of faith and warning against sin, whose seemingly ordinary lives connect with an extraordinary God.

The perfect Lent book for 2022, Forty Women shows us how these women's stories cast fresh light on the Bible in unexpected ways, whilst



their shared humanity reminds us of wonderful truths and promises of God's word to His people as we prepare to celebrate the ultimate promise of the resurrection at Easter.

Forty Women can be read in small groups or individually, and is an ideal read for anyone wanting to learn more about the women of the Bible and the witnesses to the resurrection, as well as for anyone looking for Biblical encouragement during Lent. Its daily devotions can easily fit into a busy schedule, and will give you a new appreciation for these often overlooked Biblical figures.

## Talking to Children About Race

Your Guide for Raising Anti-Racist Kids Loretta Andrews and Ruth Hill (SPCK) Paperback

ISBN: 9780281086825 £12.99 -

[www.spckpublishing.co.uk](http://www.spckpublishing.co.uk)

Talking to Children About Race is an enlightening and practical book for anti-racist parents seeking to bring up anti-racist children.

Do you want to raise anti-racist children? Do you long to learn but are too scared of saying or doing the wrong thing? Then Talking to Children about Race is for you. With warmth and approachability, the authors (Ruth is white and Loretta is mixed race) provide a history of race and explore white privilege, unconscious bias and systematic racism.

They draw on their own experiences and those of others, as well as history and the latest research, to explore key topics, including: conscious and unconscious biases and prejudices; white privilege; the outdated notion of being 'colour blind' and the issue of white-centredness; diversity and inclusivity; structural and institutionalised racism, including microaggressions, discrimination and systemic racism; key words such as 'woke', 'virtue signalling', 'white saviour' and 'allyship' or 'coalition'; modelling anti-racist behaviour; skin tone; acceptable and offensive language when talking about race; highlighting positive role models who are people of colour; and developing racial literacy.

The book includes a short history of race and racism in Britain, from the Romans through to the present day, including the history of slavery and the abolition movement, as well as family activities to help readers to work through some



of the ideas, themes and difficult conversations with children. The book also features a glossary and a list of useful books, websites, articles and videos to use when educating ourselves and talking with our children about racism.

## God Made the Dinosaurs

By Caroline Carroll and Michael Carroll

ISBN-13 9780281082964 £12.99 - [www.eden.co.uk](http://www.eden.co.uk)

From the diplodocus to pterodactyls, God Made the Dinosaurs is jam-packed with fascinating facts and interesting information about the creatures that once roamed earth.



This beautifully illustrated book will teach 7- to 9-year-olds all about dinosaurs, from the familiar T-Rex to lesser-known species, highlighting how these and other prehistoric creatures show the wonder of God's creation.

Children will love learning more about their favourite dinosaurs, as well as discovering how we know about these incredible creatures. God Made the Dinosaurs looks at how we've learned from fossils and genetics, and introduces palaeontologists and other scientists who have contributed towards our understanding of God's creation.

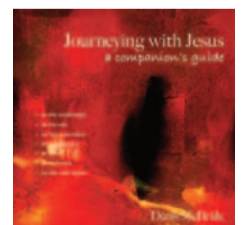
Produced in collaboration with the Faraday Institute, and with Jesús Sotés' incredible artwork bringing every page to brightly-coloured life, God Made the Dinosaurs will teach kids how science and religion can work together to teach us about the world that God has created and fill them with awe for the majestic creatures that walked the earth so long ago.

## Journeying with Jesus

By Fr Denis McBride

£14.95 - [www.rpbooks.co.uk](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk)

Journeying with Jesus is a deeply spiritual and lavishly resourced programme of study for those who want to journey side by side with our Lord during Lent, either individually or in small groups. We begin our journey in the wilderness and finally sit with him at the table before accompanying him to the cross. The main purpose of the book is to encourage the reader to think about Jesus' journey and their own. How can the story of Jesus throw light on your own?



# Queen honours Mark's 20-year battle against slavery

Diocese of East Anglia

Slavery can only be eliminated if more and more people know that it exists

Mark Little is on a 20-year quest to battle slavery in India, Nepal, Thailand and Norfolk, which led to him being awarded an MBE by the Queen earlier this year.

It's an unusual person who watches a TV programme about injustice, and then does something about it. In 2001 Mark Little, a founder member of the Norwich St Edmund Rotary Club, was bowled over by a Channel 4 documentary about modern slavery worldwide, particularly in India.

He wrote to 80 Rotary clubs in Delhi seeking more information about the rehabilitation centres for rescued slaves featured on the documentary. Two replied, and four months after the programme had been aired Mark was on a plane to Delhi to see for himself. The visit began for him a 20-year campaign against modern slavery.

Mumbai is the Indian city in which Mark was born. His father was a doctor who ran a mental hospital. "The English lived fairly royally," he remembers, "and life was idyllic. We had a huge garden where I pretended to be Tarzan." Life

was organised by the servants, so there was no opportunity for the child to notice any slavery in India. He was sent to a boarding school in the hills of Tamil Nadu which was equally fantastic.

In 1947, India won its independence and everything changed. The English were no longer welcome. The family caught a ship to Liverpool, where they stayed with his father's sister. Mark's mother had a strong faith and put him through the Catholic school system in Liverpool and then Birkenhead. When he emerged, he joined the audit department of the civil service.

His career in audit and accountancy eventually led him to Norfolk, where he became Assistant County Treasurer for Norfolk County Council. He helped to found a new branch of Rotary, which initially met at the Caister Country Club just south of the city.

Rotary gave Mark the context in which to put into action a generous nature and a wide skill set. He cooked Indian curries and raised money for a project to inoculate children against polio. He hired the Norwich Playhouse and brought over a dancer from India to do a fundraising show to raise money to rebuild a village in South India which had been destroyed by the great tsunami of 2004. He took a course in bricklaying at Norwich City College and went out to India several times to build facilities such as toilet blocks, reservoirs, orphanages and many other amenities in Hindu and Muslim villages.

It was after watching the Channel 4 documentary, however, that he found his real cause. The quest to battle slavery led him beyond India, to Nepal and Thailand. He took his grandson, who was training to be a solicitor, and a small Rotarian group, to visit various trafficking shelters in the Kathmandu region and began to think more deeply about the reasons for the persistence of slavery.

"Corruption makes a culture more vulnerable to slavery," he said. "When police and state officials are not paid much, they end up supplementing their income from the slave owners. When a raid is about to take place, the police tip off the slave owners, and the children are spirited away."

The politics of south Asia also makes it difficult to respond. India is making it difficult for foreign organisations sending money to charities based in India, and Nepal appears to tax money received into the country from bank transfers, which has made Mark revert to cash for his charitable gifts to that country. Decades of experience as an auditor have stood him in good stead as he reviews the accounts of the organisations which receive cash gifts from external donors.

Mark is equally concerned about the growth of modern slavery in the UK. "When the men cleaning the cars have no safety equipment, when a holiday let is visited by a series of men, we need to become suspicious," he said. "Slavery can only be eliminated if more people know that it exists."



Mark Little with survivors of sex slavery at their training centre in Mumbai.

True to his convictions, Mark organised a session at the Maid's Head Hotel for hoteliers and people working in hospitality to help them spot victims of modern slavery. It does not stop at the edge of the city, however. "Behind the hedges of lovely rural Norfolk, vegetable and fruit pickers are working as slaves," said Mark. "The police even discovered a cannabis factory run by slave owners."

So what can people do? "Educate yourself and help others become aware," suggests Mark. "Give to organisations like Hope for Justice and the International Justice Mission which are fighting against slavery. Get companies to check their supply chains. Campaign for anti-slavery laws to be strengthened, and for procurement regulations to be extended from businesses to include local and central government."

And, one could finally add, catch some of that go-getter, proactive approach which led to the Queen awarding Mark a well-earned MBE in this year's honours list for his campaign against modern slavery.

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THE PARABLE OF THE WEDDING

22 And again Jesus spoke parables, saying, "The Kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast and sent his servants to call those invited to the wedding feast. But those who refused to come. 'Again he sent his servants to those who



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# Allen Hall Lecture: Faith and Politics

rcdow.org.uk

## Religion is not a problem for politicians to solve

After a break of three years, the annual Allen Hall lecture resumed on Thursday 9th June with a fascinating and inspiring talk by Rt Hon Ruth Kelly, former MP and Cabinet Minister.

Focusing on the relationship between faith and politics, she spoke about her own life of faith as a senior UK politician, and more generally about how a person of faith, can play a part in a liberal western democracy while remaining true to their principles.

Quoting Pope Benedict XVI that 'Religion is not a problem for politicians to solve,' Ms Kelly spoke about her own experiences, her desire to work in public service for the greater good and determination to prove that it was possible for a faithful Christian, a faithful Catholic, to hold high office in UK government.

Elected to Parliament in the Labour landslide of 1997, her natural area of expertise from the back benches was economic policy. The first real test of faith in politics came in 2000 with the debates surrounding the Human Fertilisation and Embryology bill, where arguments on practical, rather than religious grounds, often held more sway.

Once in government more challenges came, particularly when, as Education Secretary in 2004, she was tasked with responsibility for the Teenage Pregnancy Unit. She was determined that a Catholic could hold this level of high office and be a force for good in government, despite concerns about particular policies.



The long-held policy of not whipping votes on matters of conscience was challenged by Gordon Brown when, as Prime Minister, he insisted all labour MPs vote with the government over the issue of Christian adoption agencies being compelled to allow same-sex couples to use their services. In 2008 she resigned from government and did not seek re-election to parliament in 2010.

In reflecting on how the relationship between faith, government and wider culture is developing, Ms Kelly expressed concern, along with many others, at the stifling of intellectual debate and the dangers of pushing faith to the fringes of society. 'Culture eats politics for breakfast,' she said, and, as politics continues

to be led and formed by culture, faith is seen as less important and valuable. She did express some optimism for the future where, in a world still recovering from the impact of the pandemic, faith can and will play a key role in rebuilding and growing communities and society as a whole.

Ms Kelly was MP for Bolton West from 1997 to 2010. She held a number of government posts including Secretary of State for Education and Skills, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Secretary for Transport, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, and Minister for Women.

By Sean Power, Seminarian



Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be worse than any we've lived through.

## G7 Leaders' Summit - CAFOD response

"The G7 summit failed to address the flaws in our global food system."

In response to the G7 Leaders' Summit, which concluded today in Germany, Graham Gordon, Head of Policy at CAFOD, said: "We welcome G7 leaders' focus on the food crisis in Eastern Africa, caused by drought and spiralling food and fuel prices, but the money pledged to help is a drop in the ocean of what is needed."

"Governments must act with the same urgency and generosity as they did responding to Ukraine and must ensure funds reach local organisations rooted in the communities affected. Aid pledged through the UN and World Bank is also welcome, but it won't reach frontline local responders unless deliberate steps are taken to ensure this happens."

"The G7 summit also failed to address the flaws in our global food system. The G7 spend billions propping up our failing industrial food system but to prevent future crisis they must shift this finance towards more diverse, local food systems that are more resilient to shocks."

"G7 countries also need to tackle the market failures that send food prices spiralling upwards, such as excessive speculation on food commodities and the lack of transparency by companies and investors on grain stocks."

## Parish Matters

Peter Boylan KSG



### August was always the time for holidays!

As a child, growing up in a post-war world, the long summer holiday from school was itself broken by a week away, Saturday to Saturday. Our family would travel by train to some appropriate seaside resort and enjoy exploring the beach. However, being of a devout Catholic family, it meant finding the local Church for Sunday mass. Adapting a comment made by the Dominican Timothy Radcliff, 'to the Catholic there is no holiday from Sunday mass'. In the days before mobile phones, web sites, google maps and such, it could be a more adventurous task, but perseverance would win. We would be reminded of the indulgences to be gained by special prayers on the first visit to a new Church and then listen and watch to identify the idiosyncratic celebration of mass in that different centre.

Over many years that experience has been repeated in parishes across the British Isles and other locations in different countries and continents. Many memorable experiences and observations have been retained from such occasions: a special collection where the names of donors and the amount contributed to the plate were called out, (a visitor was simply anonymous); the encouragement to open a bottle of wine that evening to celebrate the Feast Day; a two hour mass at Assisi on the feast of St Francis; mass in a packed and joyful Kampala Church; and even

experiencing two days of Sundays when we crossed the international date line. (Should we have attended mass twice? Canon law is silent on this point.) These and many others are etched in the memory.

In a similar way, when travelling in different countries, the experience of a local community celebrating a familiar rite in an unfamiliar language, or making offerings other than using money, is to see the meaning of 'The Universal Church.' Mass in the vernacular language or respecting different cultures and circumstances is both a meaningful and humbling experience. A reflection on this brings an understanding of Christ's charge to 'Go out and teach all nations.' The Church is more than a comfortable western, Latin formed, English-speaking domain but embraces all cultures and races. The Eucharist is for 'the many.'

A further grace from such visits, apart from mentally noting small practices that could be beneficial in our 'home' parish, is the value of hearing different homilies or commentaries on the readings of the day or similar themes. Sometimes an over-familiarity with the same priest can mean that we miss the benefit of hearing some profound point that we had never before considered. To listen carefully to these different homilies may suddenly strike one of those hidden chords, or an aspect of scriptural learning that may help an individual

growth in understanding the scriptures, traditions or doctrines of the Church. In the circumstances of our own parish, where we have no permanently resident priest, while the traditions of the parish have to be maintained by the laity, each visiting or supply priest, some seen more frequently than others, has brought a wisdom and learning experience to our small congregation from which we are able to benefit.

As many teachers will have experienced, the throw-away remarks are often the ones that young people remember long after what was supposedly significant, has been lost. A priest friend once told me of an experience he never forgot. He was chaplain to a large hospital in the inner city parish where he served. He had been disturbed in the night on a number of occasions, called to the hospital to minister to the seriously ill and dying. The following morning he was celebrating the early Sunday mass and was so tired that he had no time to prepare or even recall what he had said to the gathering. Falling into bed, he was awoken by the phone ringing where one of that congregation told him, 'I just had to tell you father, that was the best homily I have ever heard'

The Holy Spirit works in strange ways!

# LGBT+ Catholics Westminster at Pride-in-London

ICN

LGBT+ Catholics see their participation as both witness and an opportunity for respectful evangelisation

LGBT+ Catholics Westminster were a visible presence at the Pride-in-London Parade last Saturday. 40 people, including straight allies, marched slowly through the afternoon behind their banner, alongside other faith-based groups. The route took them from Marble Arch, through Piccadilly Circus and Trafalgar Square, to end in Whitehall. There was also an LGBT+ Catholics Westminster information stall in Soho Square's Community Market Place all day.

Tens of thousands lined the route and the Mayor of London estimated that, in all, over a million people were part of the occasion. It was a great joyful occasion - a wonderful affirmation and warm recognition of the human dignity of LGBT people. And thankfully,

no sign, this year, of the aggressive street preachers threatening the marchers with hell fire and damnation.

It was an important Catholic presence and it was certainly a tremendous evangelising opportunity. Several thousand visiting cards with details of LGBT+ Catholics Westminster's regular Mass at Farm Street Jesuit Church were offered and taken up by people in the crowds watching from the pavements. Many of the punters were highly positive, cheering on the marchers with shouts of 'Yes, we're Catholics too!' or similar. Others looked puzzled or even surprised.

A steady stream of visitors to the stall asked for information. A number of LGBT Catholics,



having felt shunned or rejected by the Church or even denied absolution in the past, were delighted to discover that as LGBT people they could be explicitly welcomed at Sunday Masses - not only in London but also in Manchester, York, Liverpool, Bristol and elsewhere. For

some, as in previous years, it will probably mark a return to the life of the Church once more.

LGBT+ Catholics see their participation as both witness and an opportunity for respectful evangelisation.

## Podcast series on addiction discusses impact of Matt Talbot

Irish Catholic Media Office

Addiction is a frightening aspect of life in Ireland today

Episode two of the 'Leave Your Mark' podcast is now available focusing on the issue of addiction. The Irish Bishops' Drugs Initiative (IBDI) launched the 'Leave Your Mark' podcast series in February 2022. The podcast features profile interviews with sports stars and community leaders telling their stories of how they left their mark on the world and rose above their struggles with addiction.

In episode two, Darren Butler and Michael Murphy discuss the Venerable Matt Talbot, and the impact of the Matt Talbot Addiction Recovery Group from Collon, County Louth. Michael speaks of his alcohol addiction and how Matt Talbot was central to his recovery. Darren is also joined by Deacon John Taaffe to discuss his experience of working with people in addiction and how faith plays a crucial part in recovery.

Speaking about the podcast series, Bishop Michael Router of the IBDI said: "Addiction is a frightening aspect of life in Ireland today. The rise in the abuse of drugs and alcohol is well documented and many parents, families and communities have suffered and are struggling to respond.

"This series of podcasts and videos produced by the Irish Bishop's Drugs Initiative will help to highlight the problems that exist, and how those who have struggled with addiction have overcome their challenges. It will provide



guidance and hope to people that there is a way out of addiction and that there are services to turn to when needed."

Bishop Michael Router is Auxiliary Bishop of Armagh and is liaison bishop for the IBDI. The Initiative is the pastoral response of the Bishops' Conference to assist parish communities in raising awareness and developing an informed outreach to help address the issue of drugs and alcohol at a local level. To achieve its objective, the IBDI provides bespoke information, education and training, as well as offering alternative activities to avoid substance misuse. The IBDI has met the challenges Covid-19 has presented by moving where possible to an online facilitation service. This initiative has seen programmes facilitated directly to schools remotely and recordings sent to those who could not facilitate the online service.

The podcast content is used as a resource for schools and community groups as part of a 'Healthy Life Style' programme offered by the IBDI.

Search for Leave Your Mark Podcast on either Spotify or the Apple podcast app

## 'Hunger is the new war'

ACN

The war we are fighting now is against hunger. The money we are giving [families] is not enough

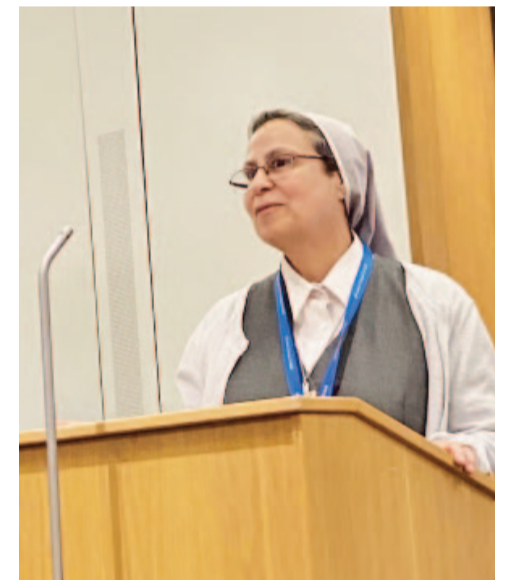
A religious sister ministering to persecuted Christians in Syria has warned that "a big bomb" of hunger is exploding across the country. Speaking to Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), Sister Annie Demerjian of Aleppo, Syria, said that the country's deteriorating economy had caused a mass exodus.

She said: "One family sold their house and gave the money to a group who they thought would get them out of the country by taking them to Turkey. But the money didn't get them anywhere and now they are without a house and money. They are trying to get their money back. All the families are trying to leave Syria."

Speaking about the danger widespread food shortages pose, she said: "The big bomb now is the hunger. The war we are fighting now is against hunger. The money we are giving them [the families] is not enough."

Spiralling poverty, rising inflation and a stagnant job market have left ordinary Syrians living on the breadline.

Sister Annie said: "Last winter, we met a family with three children. Their state of life is very bad. They have nothing in their house. No mattress, no fridge, no lights. Nothing. We asked them, 'How are you managing with this cold winter?'



Sr Annie Demerjian

"And they said that someone gave them a blanket and they put it on the floor and tried to manage. We tried to get a mattress for them and we put a small battery as a generator so they can charge it and use it. We have long cuts of electricity all over the country, sometimes there is water and sometimes there isn't."

Sister Annie also warned that Western sanctions against the Assad government are making life harder for ordinary Syrians.

She said: "For us in Syria now the situation is not so good concerning the economic state. Why? [Partly] because of the sanctions... The income of the family does not equal what they need to live on a daily basis."

She finished saying: "I want to thank ACN's benefactors because all of these years they've shown their great solidarity and support. When part of your body is suffering then the whole part feels it...Our brothers and sisters put Syria in their hearts and took action."

Fionn Shiner

# Our Global Community



## Helping Sri Lanka's Church survive economic crisis

ACN

There are very long queues, miles and miles of people trying to buy fuel, gas, powdered milk, sugar, rice, medicine. A number of people have died in these queues while waiting to buy basic goods



Bishop Valence Mendis ©ACN

With Sri Lanka's priests and Sisters struggling to survive, a Catholic charity has offered a vital lifeline so that they can continue their essential ministry during the country's state of emergency. Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) is providing more than £390,000 in vital support for priests and religious who are struggling during Sri Lanka's unprecedented economic crisis.

The package consists of Mass stipends - which provide priests with a basic income - and subsistence aid for catechists, Sisters and other members of religious orders carrying out essential pastoral work.

Bishop Valence Mendis of Kandy, who is also Apostolic Administrator of Chilaw, told ACN that the local Church is struggling to cover its own costs - and finding it hard to relieve the suffering of everyone turning to it for help.

He said: "People can afford virtually nothing. Our priests and religious are badly affected by the crisis."

The country has been hit hard by the rising price of importing crucial goods and mounting debt caused by massive international borrowing made worse by a fall in the price of the Sri Lankan rupee against the US dollar.

Bishop Mendia said: "The economic situation in the country is very serious. Many people are suffering lack of medicine or food. There are very long queues, miles and miles of people trying to buy fuel, gas, powdered milk, sugar, rice, medicine... A number of people have died in these queues while waiting to buy basic goods."

He added: "Many people have lost their jobs, and prices have risen astronomically."

With inflation having soared above 54 percent last month, food prices are now 80 percent higher than this time last year.

Sri Lanka's financial crisis has been deepened by corruption, lack of fuel, and the loss of tourist income caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

During the pandemic, ACN supported the country's Church with an emergency programme for the dioceses.

Ranil Wickremesinghe - who was made interim president last Friday (15th July) after his predecessor Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled the country following protests over the economic crisis - declared a state of emergency last night (17th July).

The state of emergency is designed to tackle social unrest stemming from the growing economic crisis.

John Newton

## Kenya's hidden food crisis

Diocese of Middlesbrough

Even though predictions are bleak, there is still hope



Millions of people are impacted by the food crisis in East Africa, as CAFOD director Christine Allen witnessed while visiting communities in Kenya.

On the long road to Marsabit, a nine-hour drive, we saw charcoal sellers and women sitting behind small tables piled high with fruit and veg.

We passed the huge swathe of cordoned-off land where Del Monte farms its pineapples for export - a stark reminder of how our food system is globally connected.

We stopped to buy rice. The price had risen by 20 Kenyan shillings in the last two months alone.

Catherine Ogolla, CAFOD's country representative for Kenya, told me the price of cooking oil has doubled as a result of the war in Ukraine. "Everybody is struggling to make a living," she says.

Two and a half hours out of Nairobi we passed farms with vegetable-filled polytunnels stretching as far as the eye can see. But so much of this nutritious food will not go to the people of Kenya. This is where our food is grown, for our plates.

The large farms are jarringly juxtaposed with those scraping a living from the side of a dangerously busy highway.

We passed the equator and continued driving north. It got hotter and drier. Our long drive illustrated the challenges of reaching remote communities in Kenya - communities that are facing one of the worst humanitarian crises in over 40 years.

### A crisis with many causes

The situation in Kenya is not just one crisis, it is multiple crises: prolonged drought, devastating swarms of locusts, the Covid-19 pandemic and rising food and fuel prices.

For rural communities across northern Kenya, who are already some of the most marginalised people in the country, the result is the same: death of livestock.

Between October 2021 and March 2022, 1.5m cattle and sheep died. Now, the people themselves are close to starving to death. The resilience of communities has been stretched beyond breaking point. For them, livestock are like a savings account - to see them die is the equivalent of having your life savings wiped. The Archbishop of Nairobi, Father Ferdinand, explained that malnutrition levels have risen, millions of people are now in need of

assistance, and how "it is the Gospel mandate to respond".

"In 2011 and again in 2017 we had similar droughts," he told me. "And the international community made promises that it wouldn't be repeated."

The impact of drought is felt most keenly by those who are most vulnerable. Children, breastfeeding mothers and the elderly are most at risk.

Remote communities get little help from the government. Their traditional way of life - travelling with their animals across long distances in search of food and water - often puts them outside the reach of standard support structures.

The Catholic bishops of Kenya have launched their own appeal through Kenya's Church network but are concerned at the lack of interest from the international community.

Nobody seems to be talking about the food crisis, yet people here are pushed to the brink. In 2017, there was huge international support when Kenya missed two rainy seasons. The communities are now surviving through four.

But Father Ferdinand is determined to make people listen: "The Church is present. We bring out the facts to be the voice of the voiceless. This is bringing *Laudato Si'* to life. We will do our part. I just appeal for you to donate as much as you can."

Your support can help local experts stop this crisis turning into one of the worst humanitarian tragedies we've ever seen

CAFOD has been working alongside communities across Kenya for over 30 years.

Our work, led by these local aid experts, has had a huge impact and improved the lives of people living in poverty. But in affected areas, we now face a real risk of seeing long-term development work simply reversed.

At CAFOD, we believe that no one is beyond the reach of the love and support they need to flourish. Even though predictions are bleak, there is still hope.

Please give what you can to provide urgent help now to families in East Africa, support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table and help fight the causes of hunger longer term

# Sport



## Olympic and Paralympic champions joined children to test their teamwork skills

*Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School*

This is the beauty of Commonwealth Games projects, bringing people together from across different cultures, mixing ideas and everybody benefitting

A pair of Olympic and Paralympic champions joined children at a Coventry school to test their teamwork skills ahead of the Commonwealth Games' arrival in the region next month.

Paralympic swimming champion Liz Johnson and Commonwealth gold-winning gymnast Steve Frew joined 60 students from six Coventry schools at Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School, part of the Romero Catholic Academy, for an afternoon of outdoor exercise and training to give students the skills to host their own sports festival as part of the Commonwealth Connections programme.

Commonwealth Connections is a joint project from the British Council and the Birmingham Organising Committee for the 2022 Commonwealth Games, running from the autumn 2021 until July 2022, twinning 60 schools in the West Midlands with counterparts from the Caribbean, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

The Coventry cluster, which is partnered with Zambia, includes Corpus Christi, Earlsdon Primary School, Finham Park 2, Riverbank Academy, Moseley Primary School, and Coundon Court.

The initiative is supported by the Birmingham Education Partnership, Youth Sport Trust and Birmingham Arts School, in partnership with Bring The Power, Birmingham 2022's youth programme, and Birmingham 2022.

Liz Johnson, who won Paralympic gold in the 100m breaststroke in Beijing 2008, is an Athlete Mentor for Youth Sport Trust.

She said: "We've done a lot of work over the last term with these schools about sports leadership and planning events, and this is all with a view to the schools hosting their own sports festival.

"Today is about preparing and making sure each school and each participant knows their role and are confident and competent about what they'll be delivering.

"They will be using traditional commonwealth activities, which leads us into the wider programme, where we've partnered schools in the West Midlands with countries around the commonwealth, with this cluster drawing inspiration from Zambian culture.

"Each school is bringing the activities they enjoy to this festival environment to hone the skills required to host an event, while integrating with other people beyond their usual circle."

Steve Frew, who is also an Athlete Mentor for Youth Sport Trust, won Scotland's first Commonwealth gold in gymnastics in the men's rings in Manchester 2002.

He said: "The schools are coming together to create activities and develop leadership skills. It's really important that these kids have this opportunity as it gets them outdoors, giving them new skills and new people to meet.

"This is the beauty of Commonwealth Games projects, bringing people together from across different cultures, mixing ideas and everybody benefitting."

Harry Clark, PE Teacher at Corpus Christi, said: "Today has been all about bringing students from across the city and region together to learn from Olympic and Paralympic champions and engage in teambuilding exercises as part of the wider Commonwealth Connections programme.

"It's been a privilege to have Steve and Liz here at Corpus Christi to support the day. They have brought so much enthusiasm to their activities, and it was great to see students of all ages and abilities getting involved and having fun."

## Vatican Honour for Menston Charity Leader

[dioceseofleeds.org.uk](http://dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

This is quite remarkable honour, in fact I can't think of a greater honour

David Geldart, Founder and Chair of The Bambisanani Partnership has been invited to contribute to a landmark Sports Summit at the Vatican in September. The International Summit Sport for All – Cohesive, Accessible and Tailored to each Person, is being held at the Vatican in response to Pope Francis' call on the social, educational and spiritual importance of sport.

The Summit will involve major sports and intergovernmental institutions and organizations from around the world, to respond to the Holy Father's calls on the social responsibility of sports and the importance of sports practice as a means of human, educational and spiritual growth.

With over 40 years' experience in Catholic education David's work has been recognised both nationally and internationally. During a highly distinguished career at St. Mary's School, Menston he led one of the country's most successful Sports Colleges. David has held a range of key national strategic roles at the Department of Education, Department of Health and the Department of Media, Culture and Sport. David was appointed by the Secretary of State as a founding member of the Sport England Lottery Panel and subsequently as a board member of Sport England at a period of time that saw transformational changes in national sport from community to elite level and London win the bid to host the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. An experienced presenter and speaker, he has lectured at International Conferences throughout the world on various aspects of education, sport and international development.

David currently leads The Bambisanani Partnership, a multi-award-winning UK based charity that originated as a partnership between St. Mary's School in Menston, UK and Mnyakanya High School in rural KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa in 2006. Run entirely by volunteers the partnership uses the power of sport as a catalyst to promote education, health, global citizenship and leadership and has gained international acclaim for its work. The partnership now involves many more schools and universities in both the UK and South Africa. Both the University of Leeds and Leeds Trinity University are key members of the partnership. In South Africa the partnership operates in the Nkandla region which is one of most remote and deprived parts of the country. 'Bambisanani' is a Zulu word meaning 'working hand in hand' which aptly encapsulates the philosophy of the partnership which seeks to provide collaborative learning



opportunities for young people in both countries. Over the past sixteen years more than 10,000 young people from the UK and South Africa have participated in a variety of Bambisanani Partnership programmes and projects. "This partnership has developed some of the best international education programmes in the world" – The British Council

During the Summit in Rome, a Declaration will be presented that invites the world of sport to look to the future by embracing three fundamental characteristics: cohesive, accessible and tailored to each person. The first to highlight the need to reduce the gap between grassroots and professional sports, in the belief that the unity of sport is a value to be safeguarded and nurtured. The second to guarantee all people the right to practice sports, regardless of their social conditions (poverty, migration conditions and refugee status, marginality, war, prison detention, etc.). Finally, the third keyword focuses on enabling all people to be able to practice sports, even when they have physical or mental disabilities or psychological hardships.

The Summit provides for the participation by invitation of around 200 people from the world of sports (athletes, coaches, managers), International Sports Federations, and also amateur Sports Associations. Representatives of different Christian denominations and other religions will also be present, as well as non-profit organisations and educational institutions from around the world working for inclusion in society through sport.

At the conclusion of the Summit, in the presence of Pope Francis, participants will be invited to sign the Declaration with a commitment to increasingly promote in their own institutions and sports organizations the social and inclusive dimension of sport. This invitation will ultimately be extended to all sports entities throughout the world.

Speaking about the invitation David Geldart said, "This is quite remarkable honour, in fact I can't think of a greater honour. It reflects so well on all the amazing Bambisanani team both here and in South Africa. The Summit and subsequent Declaration will raise the profile of sport and its potential and responsibility to be used as a force for good in the world. This is a unique opportunity to enhance the role of sports in society and produce an action plan to create real social change. It is an enormous privilege to be involved."

# Sport

## ISA Athletics Nationals 2022

[www.ursulineprepwarley.co.uk](http://www.ursulineprepwarley.co.uk)



In the early hours on Monday 13th June, eight children from Ursuline Prep School Upper One Worley represented East Anglia in the National athletics competition held in Manchester. They achieved some excellent results including the girls relay team coming 4th and the boys relay team coming 3rd.

Paul Dibigbo had an impressive day, managing to come 3rd in the 70m sprint and 1st in the long jump thus being crowned ISA National champion.



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

### CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Pool, outside Jerusalem, is a store of grain by morning (6)
- 8 Quiet after drink by the river in the Syrian city (6)
- 9 Felix's wife needs a doctor, getting sick in America (8)
- 10 Police officer close to Egypt reportedly finds a Christian sect member (4)
- 11 Pulls apart sick pun? (7)
- 14 Biblical prophetic's name for a Scottish town (5)
- 15 Midlands city cricket captain loses toss in the end (5)
- 17 One's reflective after transposing Yeats into the church (4-3)
- 21 Short recording following the appearance of old poet (4)
- 22 In Persia he, curiously, becomes a Jew (8)
- 24 Dangerous plant genus, dock, making a comeback in the borders of Asia (6)
- 25 Partly responsible, ambushing Canaan town (6)

### CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Stories he tells sending up type of transport (4)
- 2 Road on which social climber turned up displaying ornamental shrub (6)
- 3 A boy king, son of Eliiphaz (6)
- 4 Native American's upset losing ring, one coming from Indonesia (5)
- 5 Clergyman's study down under is being curtailed (6)
- 6 Record at a pub, one New York's supporting, being a January fixture (8)
- 12 'Birth of a Nation's only half on - at six on telly, either side - at Christmas (8)
- 13 Top South Australian carnivore's kind of pouch (3)
- 16 Report Viking retreat in a valley near Jerusalem (6)
- 18 One killed in Susa is a boy found upset within Ionia's bounds (6)

- 19 Guard hurled the first of lances to be commandeered... (6)
- 20 ...Lance earl used to break up joust (5)
- 23 Biblical country's macho overthrow (4)

### QUICK Across

- 7 Underground pool; once a major water source for Jerusalem (6)
- 8 Second city of Syria (6)
- 9 Wife of procurator Felix who heard Paul's case (8)
- 10 Member of a Christian sect; one descended from the ancient Egyptians (4)
- 11 Pulls apart; works out (7)
- 14 UN Secretary General 1997-2006; Scottish town (5)
- 15 Add fuel to: keep (a fire) going (5)
- 17 Middle-of-the-road illumination (4-3)
- 21 Roman poet remembered for his elegiac verses on love (43 BC - AD 17) (4)
- 22 Member of a strict sect of Judaism (8)
- 24 Genus of the family commonly known as belladonna or deadly nightshade (6)
- 25 Town of Canaan where Jehu killed Ahaziah (6)

### QUICK Down

- 1 Fabricator of the truth; perjurer (4)
- 2 Japanese dwarf trees and shrubs (6)
- 3 Grandson of Esau and son of Eliphaz (6)
- 4 Son of Japheth, father of people who lived in Greece and Asia Minor (5)
- 5 Position of an ordinand on successful completion of training (6)
- 6 Day after Twelfth Night (8)



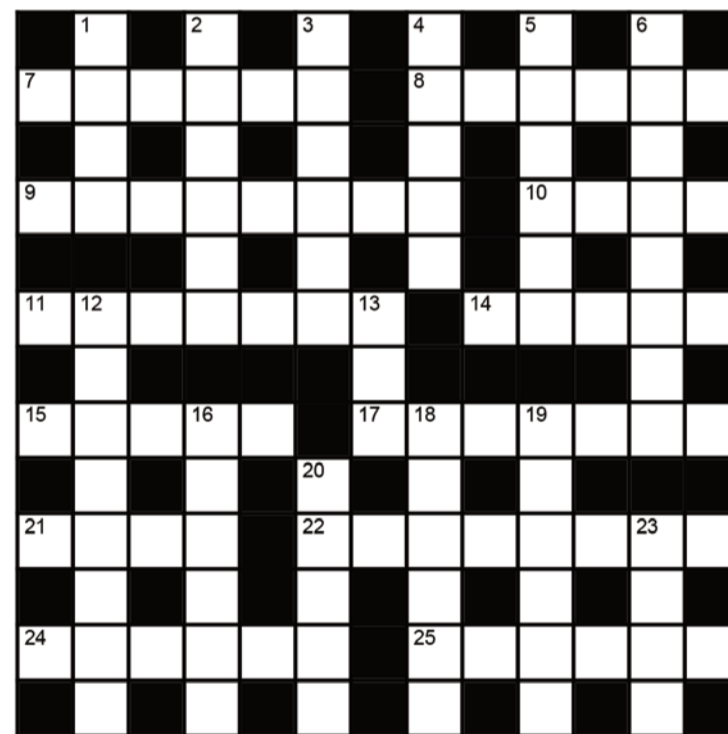
## Robbie Moore meets Holy Family Students

*The Holy Family Catholic School, Keighley*

The students had the opportunity to ask him a variety of questions

Robbie Moore MP visited the Holy Family School in Keighley for a Q&A session with student representatives from Year 7, 8 and 9. The students had the opportunity to ask him a variety of questions, which they had devised, about his plans for the local community as well as his own personal hopes for the future. Topics covered included climate change, education, transport and social issues.

Also discussed was the successful 33.6 million Town Funds Government bid aimed to rejuvenate the town. The money will fund the creation of a new Manufacturing, Engineering and Future Technology Hub to specialise in training local people and help create more local jobs. A new Skills Hub will also be established, delivering training in digital, communication and personal development skills.



- 12 Theological doctrine that Jesus Christ had no human father (8)
- 13 Fluid container; bag (3)
- 16 Valley separating Temple Mount from the Mount of Olives (6)
- 18 Notable among the enemies killed by the Jews at Ahasuerus' citadel in Susa (6)
- 19 Protect; ward off (6)
- 20 Assegai, for example (5)
- 23 Biblical country in south-west Asia to the east of the Tigris River (4)

### SOLUTION

Across: 7 Siloam, 8 Aleppo, 9 Drusilla, 10 Copt, 11 Unpicks, 14 Annan, 15 Stoke, 17 Cat's-eye, 21 Ovid, 22 Pharisee, 24 Atropa, 25 Ibleam. Down: 1 Liar, 2 Bonsei, 3 Amalek, 4 Javan, 5 Deacon, 6 Epiphany, 12 Nativity, 13 Sac, 16 Kidron, 18 Adalia, 19 Shield, 20 Spear, 23 Elam.