

FREE

# The Catholic VOICE *of Lancaster*

www.catholicvoiceoflancaster.co.uk

The Official Newspaper to  
the Diocese of Lancaster

Issue 315 + December '19

**INSIDE:** p08 School Responds to  
Climate Change  
p14 Social Media – Accidental  
Evangelisation?



## Waiting Patiently!

### Pray the Rosary this Advent

Love the Madonna  
and pray the rosary,  
for her Rosary is the  
weapon against the  
evils of the world  
today. All graces  
given by God  
pass through the  
Blessed Mother  
– St Padre Pio

*Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is  
with thee, blessed art thou amongst  
women and blessed is the fruit of thy  
womb, Jesus. Holy Mary mother of  
God pray for us sinners now and at  
the hour of our death, Amen.*



**LEGAL SERVICES  
CLEAR & SIMPLE**

**We can help you with the following:**

- Charities
- Commercial & Corporate
- Conveyancing
- Dispute Resolution/  
Litigation
- Family Law
- Landlord & Tenant
- Personal Injury
- Powers of Attorney
- Probate & Estate  
Planning
- Rural & Agricultural
- Wills

**PRESTON**  
10 Chapel Street, Preston, PR1 8AY  
DX 714571 Preston 14 :  
T 01772 253841 : F 01772 201713

**LANCASTER**  
36-4 Aalborg Square, Lancaster, LA1 1BJ  
DX 63506 Lancaster :  
T 01524 386500 : F 01524 386515

www.bsglaw.co.uk  
email: info@bsglaw.co.uk

**Kieron Bassett**

FINANCIAL SERVICES

**CHARTERED FINANCIAL PLANNERS**

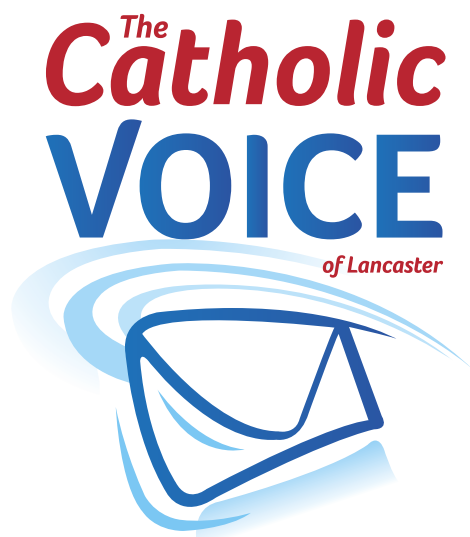
We are local Independent Financial Advisers  
having been established for 25 years.

We give advice on mortgages, investments,  
pensions and protection products, and we  
are here for All Times In Your Life.

Contact Kieron Bassett on (01524) 832057 or  
via [www.kieronbassett.com](http://www.kieronbassett.com), or [info@kieronbassett.com](mailto:info@kieronbassett.com)  
Our office at 32 Victoria Street, Morecambe is open 6 days a week.  
Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority







### CONTACT US:

**The Catholic Voice of Lancaster** is published on the last Sunday of the month previous to publication date.

**The Catholic Voice of Lancaster** is published by its owners. The Trustees of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Lancaster, a registered charity, (No. 234331), and is wholly independent of and separate from any previous newspaper published by or on behalf of the diocese.

#### EDITOR:

Edwina Gillett  
01253 736630 / 07969 967268  
edwinagillett@hotmail.co.uk  
www.catholicvoiceoflancaster.co.uk

#### ADVERTISING:

Charlotte Rosbrooke / CathCom Ltd.  
01440 730399 / 07932 248225  
charlotter@cathcom.org  
www.cathcom.org

#### DESIGN & LAYOUT:

Rob Hotchkiss / Hot Creative  
01253 730343  
rob@hot-creative.co.uk  
www.hot-creative.co.uk

#### PUBLISHED BY:

CathCom Ltd. N2 Blois Meadow  
Business Centre, Blois Road, Steeple  
Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 7BN  
020 7112 6710  
www.cathcom.org

#### Articles to:

voicenews@hotmail.co.uk

#### Letters to:

voicelatters@hotmail.co.uk

#### POSTAL ADDRESS:

FAO Edwina Gillett  
99 Commonsides, Ansdell,  
Lytham St. Annes FY8 4DJ

Please send articles for publication on CD or by email, supplying any photos separate to the text (i.e. in jpeg format). Otherwise please type double spacing or write very clearly. Last date for copy is the LAST DAY of the month prior to publication. Photographs will be returned if you remember to put your name and address on the back of each and enclose suitable stamped and self-addressed packaging.



### EDITORIAL

**J**esus Christ the Word made Flesh amongst us. Once again we reflect on the meaning of Advent and take stock of our lives to ensure that our hearts are worthy to receive the Child Jesus on Christmas Day. The *Catholic Voice* hopes that we use this season of Advent well and find time to pray amidst all the hectic preparations that swamp our lives at this time. One way of doing this is to recite the rosary or if this seems a tall order then just start with two Hail Mary's and increase by two a day so that by the end of Advent you will be reciting a full rosary.

As an alternative why not consider reading the scriptures. In September this year the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Verbum

Domini - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1600th anniversary of death of St Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin. Therefore, 2020 will be a year of celebrating, living and sharing God's Word. Start by reading a chapter or two of one of the Gospels each day and reflect on what you read. In 2020 the Church will, primarily, be using the Gospel of St. Matthew in the Mass so why not get a head start.

Whatever you decide to do, do something and be really ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus and bring his message of love to family, friends and all you meet and even don't know. It is only this love that will penetrate the needs of our world today. The *Catholic Voice* wishes you all a very prayerful Advent and a Happy and Holy Christmas – **God Bless**



Photo by Aaron Burden on Unsplash.

## Celebrating the God Who Speaks: Year of the Word 2019-2020

**W**ant to discover more about the Bible and the different ways of reading it? Why not join in one of our regular Scripture weeks at Boarbank Hall?

We look at the text as literature, as history, as theology and as spirituality, in a method tried and tested over many years. Our theme this year is 'What is Prophecy about?' with a focus on Jeremiah, Ezekiel and (Second) Isaiah. The weeks will be led as usual by Fr Richard Taylor, Dr Geoffrey Turner and Sr Margaret Atkins (30th May-6th June 2020 and 3rd-10th October 2020).

The Fathers of the Church were foundational in passing on to us ways of using the Scriptures. Sr Margaret will also be leading a week exploring St Augustine's use of Scripture (22nd-26th June 2020). Why not join us?

Non-residents are welcome to join us on a donation-only basis. For residents, we charge the standard Guest House fee, and ask for a donation to cover the costs of the course.

For more information, please see [www.boarbankhall.org.uk](http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk) or email Sr Margaret on [margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk](mailto:margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk)





**R**ecently we celebrated Mass with the theme, *'We are followers of Jesus'* in the Lady Chapel with Canon Alf Hayes, our parents, grandparents and parishioners.

We sang one of our favourite hymns, *'We are gathering together'* at the beginning of Mass as we gathered to pray. Our readings told us how we can follow Jesus and how he wants us to live. We responded to the psalm by saying *'The Lord is my light and my help'* because Jesus is the Light of the World who shows us the way. Canon Alf spoke to us about following Jesus' footsteps in our lives.

We offered prayers for Pope Francis, Bishop Paul and Canon Alf as well as for the sick and the homeless in our community. We also prayed for our school community that we all continue to help others, be kind and care for others. As well as offering bread and wine we offered our thoughts about how we love Jesus and how we can build a stronger relationship with him.

After Communion we sang another of our favourite hymns *'Shine, Jesus, Shine'* to end our Mass. Thank you to Canon Alf and all those who joined us in this wonderful celebration.



**W**hen the parishioners of Churches Together in Ansdell and Fairhaven read in earlier edition of the Catholic Voice about the major project in Fleetwood to convert a disused NHS facility into a 'one stop' community facility they immediately wanted to help.

So they nominated the Fleetwood Trust as their Charity for 2019 raising most of the money through their shared Advent and Lent celebrations. During

one such celebration a representative from the Fleetwood Trust attended a Lent Lunch at St Joseph's Ansdell to talk in more detail about the developing work.

A cheque for the total proceeds, £1,617.49 was handed over to the Fleetwood Trust in October when a number of representatives of the different Churches in Ansdell and Fairhaven were given a guided tour of the facility.

J.T. BYRNE  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
EST. 1989

Keeping costs low  
and service levels high  
for our community

Whatever your budget, you *never* need  
to compromise on service or care  
Local, friendly independent  
expertise you can trust

Call today for more information  
on our full range of funeral services  
01253 863022  
www.jtbyrne.co.uk

Local offices in Thornton-Cleveleys,  
Fleetwood and Blackpool

30  
YEARS  
Serving the community  
with care since 1989

Proud  
to offer  
FUNERAL PLANS WITH  
Golden Charter

K&M Maintenance

Heating - Electrical - Building  
Telephone: 01772 704530 Fax 01722 798801  
Established 20 years

Heating, Electrical and Building services across the North West of England

Gas

- Emergency Boiler Repairs for all makes
- Boiler Installations & servicing
- Central Heating System repairs/upgrades/leaks
- New fitted Central Heating Systems
- Landlord Gas Safety Certificates (CP12)

Electrical

- New consumer units supplied and fitted
- All emergency breakdowns
- New lighting
- Faulty sockets
- Outdoor lighting/sockets
- Power tripping
- Additional sockets
- Rewiring

Building

- Extension work
- Alterations
- Conservatories
- Fascias and Soffits
- Driveways, paths and patios
- Double glazing

Prices

Boiler Service - £49 + VAT plus £10 for every additional appliance.

Tel No: 01772 704530 Mobile: 07941 554730 Fax No: 01772 798801

Address: K & M Maintenance Services Ltd,  
Unit 8A, Electron Mill, Brook Street, Preston PR1 7NH

More information: [www.kmmaintenance.co.uk](http://www.kmmaintenance.co.uk)





## Reviewing Youth Ministry



In last month's *Catholic Voice* we carried a report on the Lancaster Youth: Your Voice event. The Youth Service are currently in the process of reviewing their work in the light of this event and the survey conducted earlier in the year.

However, young people need to find a home not only in the Diocesan Youth Service, but also in their local areas and parishes. One thought to arise out of the consultations was that young people are built-up by retreats, pilgrimages, and one-off events, but struggle to sustain this when they go home. We want to suggest that parishes and deaneries take time to reflect on what they do for young people and how they include them in their community.

The following questions are offered as a starting point:

### Are there opportunities for young people to get involved in the life of the Church?

We ought not to be surprised at the lack of young people if we only offer things they can't get to. Most young people have college or work commitments, not always regular or confined to the working week.

### Are daily Mass, confessions, devotions, volunteer groups or discussion groups available locally at a variety of times?

Young people's lives are generally less settled than those of older parishioners: are there opportunities to be involved for those who can't commit to every week or a regular time?

### Can we create opportunities for young people to come together?

Mutual support is important for all of us, but especially so for young people, so creating opportunities for them to spend

time with each other and talk about their life and faith helps. This might just need someone to advertise a time and put the kettle on (or pick a café or pub!).

### How can we make young people aware of the opportunities on offer?

Young people are bombarded with information and promotions, especially through social media. They also spoke of posters getting lost amongst the busy-ness at the back of churches and on parish newsletters. Could someone in the parish get to know the young people (including those who don't come so often) and highlight for them the opportunities that might suit them and sustain them in their faith?

### Do we support young people's continued growth in faith?

Our faith life is only begun with the sacraments of initiation, and as

young people grow older they face new challenges and questions. Once the catechetical programmes for confirmation are complete, what do we do to help young people in their growth to adulthood?

It is easy when addressing these questions to be disheartened, especially when some of our parishes rarely see a young person at Mass. The temptation is to give up, or to move the goal posts and offer something for a younger age-group.

Young people are rarely so worried about parish boundaries, so perhaps a better response would be to combine with other local parishes. It is also important to get to know the young people and respond to them – young people frequently surprise us and we shouldn't presume we know what they want.



## Bill Duncan – R.I.P.

**B**ill was on the team at Castlerigg Manor when the Youth Service first moved in in 1969, and has never been too far away in the fifty years since.

Many will have got to know him through his later years in the office here, managing bookings and welcoming groups. He retired from the Youth Service several years ago, but with his death a few weeks ago we have lost a lifelong friend and supporter. In gratitude for his life we pray: *Eternal rest grant to him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.*

# A New Place a New Start

**A**s I started my second year at Castlerigg, I had a thought about starting something, or in this case...restarting. I remember when we arrived last year it was a strange experience for me: I came from a different country to an unknown place and to foreign people. I could barely speak English and I didn't really know anyone, apart from the other Hungarian volunteer, Panna. It took a while to settle down here.

First of all, we had to get to know each other, including our strengths and weaknesses. There is no need to say that this is a two directional process: whilst I was doing this, I got to know myself on a deeper level. Working together always helped, sharing similar interests and just being open to explore with others from different backgrounds and stages of life.

The second thing was to learn. Learn what we are trying to share with the young people who come to the Castlerigg and also the practical bits of running a retreat. We began the year with staff training, including a few awesome visiting priests, and through the year have catechesis every Monday. I think that was a critical point to settling in here. Because yes, in theory I knew the team, but it was different in real life and it was surprising in a good way.

Some of us completely changed during the retreats, like another person: so confident, so energetic with brilliant thoughts I could only wish to have. The best bit, however, was that we'd grown in every area of our lives and we could always count on the team, we just filled out the gaps we had in each other's talents.

At the end of the year we didn't want to leave Castlerigg or our new, strong friendship group. And I think this is one of the best and biggest thing I could ever wish. From a bunch of strangers to friends, hopefully forever!

Obviously the most helpful thing was the empathy and open minds of others, and also our leaders who were and are our mentors too, with great wisdom and experience of life, faith and work. With their good guidance we could solve our problems (although these weren't many) in a nice and smooth way.

And I guess, many of us feel the same or similar as I did: a new start, far from home, moving to a different city, starting university, the first job or starting college. The word which

## Lancaster Concert

**A**t the end of October we gathered at Lancaster University Chaplaincy Centre for a concert in aid of the Youth Service.

We were entertained by a brilliant programme of classical music and were delighted of the opportunities to introduce new people to the work of the Youth Service and to catch-up with young people who now study or work at the university or nearby. Our thanks to the performers, especially Fr Manny Gribben who also organised the programme and to Fr Philip Conner and the University Chaplaincy who hosted the event.

comes to mind might be the "wow" or thoughts like "How am I supposed to be/act/look?" For this my advice is not to be stressed about it. You will find your friendship group, maybe by accident. Maybe you will just stumble into someone with similar interests, hobbies and tastes etc.

Try to find those people who you want to spend time with. For a start, it might be a good idea to try a team sport, go for a drink with few people, and my experience is that worries will fade away. They won't matter anymore.

It is also really good to get to know the school/university chaplain or the local parish. I personally really enjoy spending time with priests and chaplains, because they are awesome people. I can ask anything (not only about faith and "Jesus stuff," but about life) and it will become an incredible conversation... So if you have got any doubts about it, trust me, it is worth giving a try.

I hope you will enjoy the year and the new experiences and what the future holds for you. Every year is different, full of opportunities, just be open and let the Lord to guide you. *Ruben*

We are now taking applications for next year's team – if you (or someone you know) would like to volunteer to spend a year at Castlerigg please get in touch. [team@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:team@castleriggmanor.co.uk)



Ruben  
(front)  
with  
team.

## Dates for the Diary

### 30th November – Radiant

Organised by a group of young adults, Radiant is a Eucharist centered event presenting high quality speakers, praise and worship, and opportunities of encounter. Corpus Christi Catholic High School, 10am-6pm.

[www.facebook.com/Radiant2019](http://www.facebook.com/Radiant2019)

### 6th-8th December – Advent Retreat

A weekend at Castlerigg to prepare for Christ's coming. Open to young people in year 9 and above, this is an opportunity to get together with other young Catholics and reflect on life and faith in a fun way.

### 23rd July - 1st Aug 2020 – Lourdes Pilgrimage

Now is the time to start fundraising for next summer's Lourdes pilgrimage. See our website (below) for more details.

For more information about all of the above, and for bookings, please see the What's On section of our website:

[www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/events-whats-on](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/events-whats-on)



**MEARS**  
Est. 1802

We are one of the largest family owned flooring retailers in the North West of England

Massive showroom open to the public  
Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm Sun 10am-4pm

Large selection of room size remnants



**H Mears (Furnishers) Ltd**  
The Oaks Business Park, Longridge Road,  
Ribbleton, Preston, Lancashire PR2 5BQ  
Tel 01772 701033  
Fax 01772 653646

## Support our Work

Please help us to continue the work of the Youth Service. If you feel you might be able to help in any way please get in touch. If you are able to make a donation this would be greatly appreciated: [www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/donate](http://www.castleriggmanor.co.uk/donate) And most importantly, please keep us in your prayers.



To advertise please contact  
Charlotte on 07932 248225  
or email [charlotter@cathcom.org](mailto:charlotter@cathcom.org)





**cbm**  
Christian Blind Mission

**Your gift today could help five children like Nahel see the wonder of God's creation. Help unlock extra funds for more cataract surgeries.**

**Your gift today could have FIVE times the impact.**



### Dear Lancaster Voice Reader,

Life with severe cataracts has not been easy for three-year old Nahel, living in West Africa. Unable to see, this bright boy is struggles to play with his friends and may not be able to go to school when they do. Education is the key to future employment, a way out of poverty.

Nahel's mother is heartbroken that he is needlessly blind. Cataract surgery to restore sight can take just 45 minutes, but many families in low-income countries cannot afford the £95 for surgery. So their children have no choice but to live in darkness. You can change that with a gift to CBM right now. For a limited time, a kind funding partner has pledged to unlock £4 for every £1 you give. **This means that if you can give £95 for one child's sight saving surgery today, five children could have their sight restored.**

Our goal is to enable 3,500 children to see within two years. With your help, thousands of lives will be transformed.

God bless you,

*Rebecca*

Rebecca Molyneux  
Programme Manager, CBM UK

### How it works

- 1** For every £95 you give... 
- 2** ...our funding partner unlocks another £380, enabling FOUR MORE sight-saving treatments. 
- 3** A gift of £95 can help more children like...



**Blessing**



**Davis**



**Shabana**



**Tawa**

**Yes, I want to unlock funds to help FIVE TIMES more blind children like Nahel**

**I will give:** ☐ £95 ☐ My choice amount of: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order/CAF voucher made out to CBM or

☐ Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Maestro Card/CAF Card

Card holder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry date: MM / YY

3-digit

security number: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's

signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

We'd love to keep you informed about our life-changing work and how you can support it by making a donation. By giving your email address or phone number below you give CBM UK consent to contact you using these methods:

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We like to contact our supporters with postal fundraising messages and updates from the projects we support. If you do NOT want to receive such messages from CBM UK in the future please contact us on 01223 484700 or email [info@cbmuk.org.uk](mailto:info@cbmuk.org.uk)

**Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RSKK-HXAX-CYGZ, CBM, Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Oakington, Cambridge CB24 3DQ**

Funds raised up to £400,000 by 31st December 2019 will be maximised in value through our funding partner. In the event of surplus donations, any unspent funds, which are not subject to the above-mentioned unlocking arrangements, will be used to support similar CBM projects where the need is greatest.



**Increase the value of your gift by 25% *giftaid it***

If you are a UK taxpayer and if you tick the Gift Aid box when you make a donation, HMRC will add an extra 25p for every pound you donate.

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Christian Blind Mission. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

**We will need your name and address to claim the additional 25% of your donation from Gift Aid.**

**Call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today. THANK YOU.**  
**Donate online at:**  
**[www.cbmun.org.uk/nahel](http://www.cbmun.org.uk/nahel)**



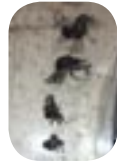
# The 'Little Zoo' visits WDY Youth Group

**B**ack in September, the 'Little Zoo' came to visit WDY Youth Group, at St Clare's Preston, for an informative and interactive session. Gemma ran our session and she shared lots of interesting facts and information with us about each animal that we met.



Michelle was a Giant African Land Snail. They lay very tiny eggs but they can reach between three and eight inches in length. These creatures are nocturnal and so they sleep during the day, hiding under the soil. Their diet consists of different types of leaves, fruit, vegetables and flowers and they consume 500 different

types of plants. The most shocking fact we learnt about Michelle was that she was actually both sexes, so was neither female nor male!



Charlotte the Tarantula is one of around 900 species of tarantula in the world. Recently, Charlotte had shed her skin which meant she was then able to grow. Tarantulas are found in the rainforests and jungles of South and Central America, in Africa and in the southern part of North America. Generally, tarantulas eat insects, beetles and grasshoppers and they are night-time hunters.



Zeus Corn Snake came from America. Corn Snakes live in fields, meadows, forests and rural areas that provide plenty of food. Zeus is a carnivore and only requires food every couple of days. Female corn snakes lay between 10 and 30 eggs in their nest that is made up of leaves or rotten wood and after a period of 60 to 65 days, the hatchlings emerge from the eggs.



'Grumpy Bruce' is an African Pygmy Hedgehog which is a species of miniature hedgehog, commonly kept as a pet. African Pygmy

Hedgehogs are nocturnal creatures that sleep during the day but they come out at night in search of food such as frogs, worms, eggs, fallen fruit and other kinds of vegetation.



Finally Peter the rabbit who was very cuddly, and was often described as being "so cute!" Everyone had a really lovely night! We found out many interesting facts about the variety of animals and from everybody in WDY Youth Group, we'd like to say a big thank you to Gemma for bringing the animals with her and for delivering a wonderful session!

Hallie Brady



## Celebrating our Schools



**We would like to thank these schools for always supporting the paper. If your school would like to do the same please contact Charlotte on 07932 248225 or 01440 730399 or email [charlotter@cathcom.org](mailto:charlotter@cathcom.org) to book your advert**

  
**Christ the King  
Catholic High School**  
 Lawrence Avenue, Frenchwood,  
 Preston PR1 4PR  
 Headteacher Mr D Callagher  
 Tel: (01772) 252072 Fax: (01772) 885674  
 Email: [reception@ctk.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:reception@ctk.lancs.sch.uk)  
 Web: <http://www.ctk.lancs.sch.uk>

  
**Cardinal Allen  
Catholic High School**  
 Melbourne Avenue, Fleetwood  
 FY7 8AY  
 Headteacher: Andrew Cafferkey  
 Tel: 01253 872659  
 E-mail: [head@cardinalallen.co.uk](mailto:head@cardinalallen.co.uk)

  
**ST. MARY'S  
CATHOLIC ACADEMY**  
 St. Walburga's Road,  
 Blackpool, FY3 7EQ  
 Headteacher: Mr Simon Eccles  
 Tel: 01253 396286  
 Email: [admin@st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk)

  
**AUSTIN FRIARS**  
 Etterby Scour,  
 Carlisle CA3 9PB  
 Headteacher  
 Mr Matthew Harris  
 office@austinfriars.cumbria.sch.uk  
 Tel: 01228 528042

  
 Together in One Body  
**CORPUS CHRISTI  
CATHOLIC  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Headteacher: Mr David Hubbard  
 St Vincent's Road, Preston PR2 8QY  
 Telephone 01772 716912  
 Email [admin@ccc.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@ccc.lancs.sch.uk)  
[www.ccc.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.ccc.lancs.sch.uk) 

  
**Our Lady's Catholic High School**  
 St Anthony's Drive, Fulwood, Preston,  
 Lancashire PR2 3SQ  
 Headteacher: Mr Nigel Ranson  
 Tel: 01772 326900  
 Email: [admin@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@olchs.lancs.sch.uk)  
 Web: <http://www.olchs.lancs.sch.uk>

**Thinking of becoming a teacher?**  
 The Preston based Catholic Teaching Alliance (CTA) is a partnership between 56 Catholic primary and secondary schools and post-16 colleges led by Our Lady's Catholic High School with a shared vision and commitment to providing first class, professional development for trainee teachers, practising teachers and school leaders.

Contact: 01772 326931  
 Email: [CTAschoolirect@olchs.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:CTAschoolirect@olchs.lancs.sch.uk)

  
**St Peter's Catholic  
Primary School**  
 Norfolk Road, Lytham FY8 4JG  
 Headteacher: Mrs Heyes  
 Tel: 01253 734658  
 E: [head@st-peters-pri.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-peters-pri.lancs.sch.uk)

  
**Our Lady and St. Patrick's Catholic  
Primary School**  
 Enneda Road • Margate • Cumbria • CA5 9HN  
 ☎ 01253 82582 • [head@st-pat-margate.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-pat-margate.cumbria.sch.uk)  
 Website: [www.st-pat-margate.cumbria.sch.uk](http://www.st-pat-margate.cumbria.sch.uk)  
 Headteacher: Mrs J Hampton  
 Assistant Head: Mrs H Long  
*At Our Lady & St. Patrick's we recognise Christ in everyone as we grow together in faith and love to serve the community.*

**The Staff, Governors and Pupils/Students of the following Schools would like to wish readers of the Catholic Voice a Happy and Holy Christmas**

**HEADTEACHERS** – If you would like to support the Catholic Voice and promote your school to Catholic families in the area please contact Charlotte on 07932 248225 or 01440 730399 or email [charlotter@cathcom.org](mailto:charlotter@cathcom.org) to book your advert



# Your Letters

## Send us your letters:

Write to: **The Editor,**  
**99, Commonsides, Ansdell,**  
**Lytham St. Annes, FY8 4DJ.**  
Email to: **voiceletters@hotmail.co.uk**

- Please keep your letters concise (max 300 words),
- Include your full name and address
- Letters should not include any personal criticism or attacks
- The editor reserves the right to:
  - amend or shorten letters or to refuse to publish them (no correspondence to discuss decisions taken will be entered into)
  - publish a response if deemed appropriate



Dear Editor,

I have recently returned from taking part in the 'Thinking Scripture' Course at Boarbank Hall and cannot believe how lucky (or I should say blessed) I am, that three such highly qualified tutors, used to lecturing to academics, are prepared to spend a great deal of time and effort in preparing the material (without 'dumbing down') to a level which I can understand. And this for no monetary gain!

Questions or comments are dealt with kindly and graciously and, each time I take part in a course, I feel that I have a greater understanding of the particular Scripture which we are studying and of the early Church, so different in some ways, so similar in other ways, to our own present day Church. I also enjoy stays when there are no courses and feel comfortable going alone. The beautiful situation, a view of Morecambe Bay from Boarbank and mountain views a short walk away, is a joy in itself.

If you need a "shopping fix" it is as well to have your own transport and if you desire constant entertainment and nightclubs within reach, Boarbank is probably not the place for you. But if you like the feeling of being valued and cared for, dietary needs catered for, easy access to a beautiful chapel, and a feeling of love and peace then don't hesitate.

If one could bottle and sell the "Boarbank atmosphere" the demand for tranquillisers would, I am convinced, drop dramatically.

Sincerely,  
**Barbara Radway, Poulton-le-Fylde**



# School Responds to Climate Change

**In October Sarah Barber from CAFOD visited Saint Bede's High School Lytham to work with a group of pupils on the CAFOD youth training programme, which was arranged through the work we have been doing with Youth Worker Terry Mattinson.**

We were taught about what CAFOD is and what they do. It is a charity funded by the Catholic community in England and Wales, the British Government and the general public by donations. CAFOD is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and part of the Caritas International Federation which operates in many countries worldwide. CAFOD help some of the most difficult-to-reach people in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

Whether it's a single mother living in a remote area or a teenage boy living in a war zone, they help anyone regardless of faith, gender and ethnicity. Sarah explained to us about inequality and how less privileged people are judged just because of where they're from. We were

also introduced to the SDGs: CAFOD's sustainable development goals. These 17 goals (that were agreed at the UN in 2015) are steps to eradicate extreme poverty, tackle inequality and put us all on a more sustainable path by 2030. Sarah taught us about the people that help CAFOD achieve it's aspirations and how we as young people can help too.

We were encouraged to inform others about CAFOD's work, including visiting primary schools and educating children on how to help prevent climate change. We were also encouraged to arrange assemblies in our school about positively responding to the climate emergency.

By taking a photo with classmates standing in a zero and sending it to the local MP to invite them to also take climate action we can push for a government commitment to reach net zero emissions by 2045. After thinking of ideas to involve others in our goals we sat in a circle and prayed for our world and whatever poverty people may be in that God may help them through it.

Isabelle Payne

CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
COLLEGE

VIEW FACILITIES | GET COURSE DETAILS | MEET STAFF & STUDENTS | PRINCIPALS TALK

OPEN DAYS

10AM - 1PM

SATURDAY  
01 FEBRUARY 2020

CARDINALNEWMAN.AC.UK

1 NO POVERTY	2 ZERO HUNGER	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5 GENDER EQUALITY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	THE GLOBAL GOALS For Sustainable Development			12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



# Wandering Off... Preston Parish Celebrates 30 years of walking!



The anniversary walk in the spiritual setting of Bolton Abbey.

**In the autumn of 1988 Our Lady and St Edward's welcomed a new parish priest, Fr Bernard Woods and one year later Tony Drainey was seeking his support and guidance in setting up a parish walking group.**

Cat Bells, on the West Bank of Derwent Water, was to be the location of the first walk, with a shorter river walk offering an alternative route.

A 40 seater coach was booked and a notice placed on the board in the church entrance. There were two weeks to the walk date. In those two weeks the motivated leaders had visited the walking area to check all would be well. Parishioners and friends of all ages were represented and all seats, bar one, were taken. "Bar one" was for Fr Bernard who had managed to arrange cover Mass and have a rest day.

The day came. Good weather was on order and didn't disappoint. Neither did the autumn colours that greeted the group as the coach wend its way along A and B roads to reach its destination at the heart of Cumbria. Most of the party disembarked and took the launch to the base of Cat Bells. They followed recognised paths along the ridge and down into Grange. The coach then took a second smaller group to Rosthwaite from where they followed the river downstream to Grange, where they were to meet the rest of the party. All went well.

At the end of the day's walking, comfortably settled with a drink in

hand, the two groups exchanged stories from their day. They were excited about future plans but little did they realise that the walking group would still be active thirty years later. Much of that is due to the leadership and keenness of two couples, Bernard and Anthea Walmsley, and Tony and Liz Drainey.

Occasionally volunteers have organised one or two walks that they have shared with the group, but even then a member of the senior team would be on hand to help with advice or guidance. For this we say "thank you", but the bulk of the thanks must go to the people mentioned here, and the late Fr Bernard Woods for his support, encouragement, and spiritual example.

There are usually nine monthly walks each year. These days the walks may be lower in category and slower but they are tackled with the same enthusiasm. The walks mean a lot to many people, both past and present parishioners, their families and friends. They are at the heart of social opportunities within the parish. They provide memorable moments and awe inspiring vistas that are there, on our doorstep, waiting to be found by young and old and everyone in between. They have helped us all connect more easily and readily with nature and the messages each season brings. They have helped educate the next generation in local culture and customs, helping them show more appreciation for our British countryside and for God's creation in general. Long live our walking group.

*Ray Sudlow*



**Our Lady's Catholic College**  
**Open Evening**  
**Thursday 6th February 6.30 - 8pm**  
**All welcome**

Morecambe Road, Lancaster, LA1 2RX

Headteacher: Mrs Helen Seddon

Tel: 01524 66689

email: [main@olcc.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:main@olcc.lancs.sch.uk)

*'Move forward with us....in a caring Catholic community'.*





**Boarbank Hall**  
Canonesses of St Augustine  
of the Mercy of Jesus

"She who accepts the common  
life possesses God" **St Augustine**

**A Warm Welcome to Everyone**

Prayer • Community • Hospitality  
• Care of the poor and sick

**Contact: Sr Marian**  
Boarbank Hall, Grange over Sands,  
Cumbria, LA11 7NH  
Telephone: 015395 32288  
Website: [www.boarbankhall.org.uk](http://www.boarbankhall.org.uk)



**SELF STORAGE**

**Secure Units Available**  
**Sizes To Suit All Needs**  
**Competitive Rates**  
**From as little as £5 per week**  
**Open 7 Days**

Also Caravan/Car/Boat Storage

**Curly Tail Storage, Park Lane,  
Forton**  
**Tel: 01524 791837**  
**[www.curlytailstorage.co.uk](http://www.curlytailstorage.co.uk)**

**Able Wills**  
Professional Will  
Writers & Estate  
Planners

Have you been meaning to make a Will  
but never got round to it?  
Do you own property?  
Are your children under 18?  
Are you worried about  
nursing home fees?  
Might your estate be liable  
to Inheritance Tax?



If the answer to any of the above is **"Yes"** then we can help.  
Specialists for: Wills and Probate, Lasting Power of Attorney,  
Property & Discretionary Trusts, Funeral Plans  
Call **Malcolm Nightingale** for a **FREE** home visit.  
**01539 737400 or 07831 562262**  
45, Windermere Road, Kendal


**Church Pews Uncomfortable?**  
Why not try

**safeoam**

top quality upholstered foam pew cushions?  
Safeoam, Green Lane, Riley Green,  
Hoghton, Preston PR5 0SN  
**[www.safeoam.co.uk](http://www.safeoam.co.uk)**  
**Freephone 0800 015 44 33**  
Free Sample Pack of foam & fabrics sent by first class mail  
When phoning please quote LV101




**Our Lady of Fidelity**



The church needs religious sisters  
**URGENTLY** to bring Christ to others by a  
life of prayer and service lived in the  
community of Ignatian spirituality.  
Daily Mass in the centre of community life.  
By wearing the religious habit we are  
witnesses of the consecrated way of life.

If you are willing to risk a little love and  
would like to find out how,  
contact Sister Bernadette  
Mutual reactions considered.

**CONVENT OF OUR  
LADY OF FIDELITY.**



Central Hill, Upper Norwood, LONDON SE19 1RS  
Telephone 07760 297001 Fax 0207 766 6579

**REDCAR**  
FUNERAL HOME

Carol M Bibby M.B.E Dip F.D

Independent Family Funeral Directors Established 1997

**Personal attention • 24 hours a day**  
**Pre-paid Funeral Plans**  
Largest, privately owned fleet of Jaguar  
hearses & limousines in the area

110 Longridge Rd, Ribbleson, Preston PR2 6RL  
**Tel: 01772 796669**



# September Ramblings

**The Camino de Santiago**  
Over three years, during the month of September, we have walked the Camino to Santiago. There are several recognised routes. The majority, including ourselves, follow the Camino Frances, starting in Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France and crossing northern Spain, a journey of 784Km. Some, like us, decide to carry on a further 90km to the coast at Finisterre. We completed the final leg this September, a memorable experience, exhilarating, challenging, enjoyable and worthwhile.

**Background to the Camino de Santiago**  
The three most popular medieval pilgrimages were to Jerusalem, Rome and to the shrine of St. James at Santiago in North-West Spain. St. James the Great was one of the 12 Apostles and by tradition preached in Spain. He was martyred in Jerusalem and his body is said to have been taken back to Spain and buried there. Forgotten for about 800 years, the tomb was rediscovered by a hermit. A building was erected marking the shrine and the present day Cathedral stands on the site of the Apostles tomb. From the 11th century to the beginning of the 13th century Christians from all over Europe came in droves to Santiago, up to 1,000 a day. From then it declined until the end of Franco's reign. Pope John Paul II visited the apostle's town in 1982 and in 1987 the Camino de Santiago was declared a European cultural path and included by UNESCO on its list of World Heritage Sites. Last year over 377,000 pilgrims registered their completion at the Pilgrims Office in Santiago. To qualify for the certificate of completion in Santiago you need to have an official passport with stamps covering at least 100km.

**Why do people today choose to walk the Camino?**  
Having recently completed the pilgrimage we can say with

confidence that the answer is not a simple one. People choose to do it for a variety of reason. For many, ourselves included, the idea came from watching the Martin Sheen film, *"The Way"*, which came out several years ago. We have done several long distance walks and this had the added attraction of an ancient religious tradition.

Recent TV programmes featuring the Camino have not done it justice. For many it is a pilgrimage in the true sense. We met many committed Christians along the way. Others, though not practicing Christians, saw it as a spiritual journey, helping them come to terms with a crisis or turning point in their lives. People come from all over the world to walk the Camino and they come to walk alongside other pilgrims. There is a great camaraderie. Amongst those we encountered were many from other European countries as well as Americans, Canadians, Australians, Koreans, Japanese, Taiwanese, South Americans and North Africans.

There were some who stood out like the Finn whose wife had died before they had a chance to complete the journey together. He carried her passport and completed the journey in her memory. There was an Irish minister of the Church of Ireland who volunteered for a month each year as a chaplain to support pilgrims, two medics from Bulgaria who belonged to the Greek Orthodox church, a Canadian divorcee who wanted to come to terms with her situation and had battled with family and friends to let her complete the journey on her own, an Italian girl who had *"given her heart to someone"*, sadly in vain, a South Korean couple praying to be blessed with a child and a group of American ladies reciting the rosary on their final stage into Santiago.





For all, religiously committed or not, it is a journey of self-discovery, a time to reflect. Without exception, the people we encountered were sensitive people, people who cared for the earth and for humanity. They were cheerful, friendly, helpful and respectful of the religious nature of the walk. That extended to the hostels, bars, restaurants and cafes along the way. Accommodation and food is reasonably priced and inclusive menus for pilgrims are the norm.

#### The Experience

A typical day begins early, around 7:30am, just before sunrise and often before breakfast which is readily available in cafes along the route. Ideally we like to walk around 25km (15.5 miles) a day but depending on the distance between settlements could walk as far as 34km (21 miles). Some people choose to do less and some more. The spirit of the pilgrimage is one of simplicity.

Many choose to stay in hostels with dormitory accommodation. More mature pilgrims, like ourselves, tend to opt for their own room but in fairly basic hostels and hotels. Some have a bag transported each day but we carried all that we needed and so we travelled light. We love to walk, to be outdoors and to enjoy the countryside, especially in the warm sunshine, which was the norm in September, though less so the further west you progress.

Our route took us through very varied terrain, starting in the Pyrenees, crossing several mountain ranges along the route, walking through vineyards, passing through the memorable historic cities of Pamplona, Burgos and Leon. We crossed the central plain of Spain, the Meseta, encountering wide open spaces, endless expanses of grain, huge haystacks, blue skies

and fabulous sunrises and sunsets. Our journey came to an end in Galicia, the far north western province of Spain, a land once inhabited by the Celts. They even have bagpipes! In parts the countryside was very reminiscent of Scotland including the mist and rain.

There is little danger of getting lost as route is well marked with scallop shell symbols and yellow arrows. Many pilgrims carry a scallop shell, the traditional symbol since medieval times. The path is littered with crosses, churches and ancient shrines.

Some churches are closed and inaccessible but many are open to pilgrims. In some places there are locals to welcome you, the offer of a stamp for your pilgrim passport, candles to light and an invitation to rest a while and pray.

In many of the larger towns there is a daily evening pilgrims' Mass, generally well attended. Some were memorable in the welcome pilgrims received and the special blessing at the end of Mass. On one occasion we were given a miraculous medal, on another a small handmade star to carry on our journey.

In Santiago there is a daily pilgrims Mass at noon, traditionally held in the cathedral, but that is currently closed for renovation. Instead, it is held at the church of San Francisco very close by. We were warned to get there early or we would not get a seat and it was good advice. I estimated between four and five hundred people attended. These were people who were accustomed to going to Mass and participated. It was a memorable end to our pilgrimage where we prayed for our family, friends and fellow pilgrims. *Bien Camino!*

*Frank & Emma McGrath, Preston*



#### WILLIAM HOUGHTON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

An Independent Catholic Family Firm  
Serving our community for over 100 years



259 Garstang Road, Fulwood, PR2 9XL  
Tel: 01772 788020  
www.williamhoughtonfunerals.co.uk

#### Sean Crilley Funeral Directors

- 24 hour Personal Service
- Private Chapels of Rest
- Pre-Paid Funeral Plans
- Memorial Consultants

*For personal attention and professional advice, day and night, call Sean*

78 Brook Street, Carlisle, CA1 2HX

(01228) 544905



#### Martin's

The Funeral Directors

188, Tulketh Brow, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston  
1, Stonebridge Parade, Preston Road, Longridge  
Tel. 01772-733007 or 01772-782121

Proprietor W. Martin Wootton

Dedicated and Blessed Chapels of Rest  
Golden Charter Pre-Paid Funeral Plans

*The complete funeral service  
from a private family owned  
and run firm*



## LYTHAM

FUNERAL SERVICE LTD.

David Pope dip.FD MBIFD  
Funeral Director

**A fresh and  
modern  
approach to  
funeral  
planning**

42 Clifton Street  
Lytham  
FY8 5EW  
Tel. 01253 733909  
www.lythamfuneralservice.co.uk

**To  
advertise  
please contact  
contact  
Charlotte  
Rosbrooke on  
07932 248225  
or email  
charlotter  
@cathcom. org**





Photo by James Coleman on Unsplash.

# The Rosary

**J**esus and Mary were attending a friend's wedding at Cana when Mary noticed the wine was running out. To save embarrassment for their host, Mary asked Jesus if he would sort out the problem. Jesus answered his mother's request and turned water into wine.

Sons always, whenever possible, do what their mum's ask of them. Jesus always grants His mother's wishes. When in need we should always ask for Mary's help and the most effective way of doing this is to pray the Rosary.

On the 11 February 1858 Our Lady first appeared to Bernadette. Our Lady had Rosary beads on her right arm and invited Bernadette to pray the Rosary with her. Our Lady remained silent passing the Rosary beads through her fingers but recited with Bernadette the Gloria

On the 13 May 1917, Our Lady appeared at Fatima to three children - Lucia, Jacinta and Francisco. Our Lady urged them to pray the Rosary each day in order to obtain peace for the world, and the end of the war. WW1 ended on 11 November 1918.

A tradition held by the Dominicans is that through St Dominic and Bl. Alan de Rupe, the Blessed Virgin Mary made 15 specific promises to Christians who faithfully pray the Rosary.

This is not the place to set out the details of the promises. There are many helpful publications about the history of the Rosary both in book and pamphlet form and online which explain the 15 promises.

**We know:**

- The Rosary is the most powerful weapon we possess.
- The Rosary can fight all kinds of injustice, inequality and pure evil.

Against this background it was decided to have a have a Rosary Service on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Carmelite convent in St Vincent's Road, Fulwood, Preston PR2 8QA.

We decided to pray for all expectant mothers and their babies, invite a guest speaker and ask them to speak for 5-7 minutes on Our Lady and/or the Rosary.

At our first Rosary Service we said the Joyful Mysteries and sang 3 hymns to Our Lady. Fr Mario Benedict U. Ashuikaka was our guest speaker who gave us his personal account of how important Our Lady and the Rosary had been to him.

27 people, not counting the nuns, joined us for the first Rosary Service. It was a great success. Now at the time of writing, we have had eight Rosary Services and eight great guest speakers. We have about 70 people each time which includes those who do not normally pray the Rosary and some who never have. We are pretty certain we make Our Lady smile.

We promote the Rosary Services through all parishes in the Lancaster diocese on the social media and by personal invitation to individuals and groups. We have been joined by pupils from four primary schools and at the May Rosary Service we incorporated a May procession when 44 young children placed flowers before Our Lady's statue as we sang "*Bring flowers of the rarest*". Students from two of our High Schools regularly come to our monthly service and we intend to invite students from 6th form and Further Education colleges and University. We will continue to actively involve the young people in our Rosary Services.

Those attending our Rosary Services have claimed that reflecting on the mysteries has given them a greater insight into the Scriptures and they have valued and enjoyed the talks given by the guest speakers.

Organising a Rosary Service is relatively easy and very enjoyable. All you need is a venue and Rosary Beads.


We are lucky we have the support and encouragement of the Carmelite sisters, the Sisters Adorers of the Royal Heart of Jesus and the Franciscan Sisters of Renewal.

Fr Ernest Eattah and Fr Mario Benedict U. Ashuikaka provided spiritual guidance, critical advice and much needed support. They are true disciples of Our Lady and great friends of the Carmelite's Rosary Service. We have been joined by members of the Legion of Mary including representatives of the Our Lady Queen of Peace Curia, Blackburn and District who have provided valuable advice.

A very good friend of mine, Emmanuel, a seminarian has told me that when he is in a hurry to have a prayer answered he reaches for his rosary beads.


Our Lady always answers our prayers, sometimes not in the way we thought she would but often better than we could imagine. If you don't know the power of the Rosary, try it. *Frank McGrath*

**Editors Note:** As we enter Advent and a new Liturgical Year what better time is there to introduce a regular Rosary into our lives. Let's begin a tsunami of prayer for the needs of our world today.



**STONYHURST**  
1999-2019 Celebrating 30 Years of Co-Education



THE UK'S LEADING CO-EDUCATIONAL CATHOLIC BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR 3-18 YEAR OLDS




**2020/21 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN**


**MAKING A STONYHURST EDUCATION AFFORDABLE**

Find out more about Stonyhurst's Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries at 11+, 13+ and 16+ entry by visiting [www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/scholarships) or contact our Admissions team.





Stonyhurst • Clitheroe • Lancashire • BB7 9PZ  
Email: [admissions@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@stonyhurst.ac.uk)  
Tel: 01254 827073  
[www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/scholarships](http://www.stonyhurst.ac.uk/scholarships)



STONYHURST  
ST MARY'S HALL





**B**ishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Shrewsbury, Bishop Brian Noble, has died at the age of 83 after a long illness.

Bishop Noble was formerly a serving priest in the Diocese of Lancaster before becoming the 10th Bishop of Shrewsbury in 1995. Bishop Noble retired in 2010 but continued to fulfil his priestly mission by giving talks and retreats and assisting in parishes.

Bishop Mark Davies his successor, said:

*"The Shrewsbury Diocese shares a great sadness that Bishop Brian Noble, who was so much part of our lives as priest and bishop, has passed from this world. We will especially remember his example of perseverance through serious illness in his care of this diocese with his unfailing dedication and good humour. Conscious of the immense responsibility given to a bishop, I ask the prayers of all for the eternal and happy repose of his soul."*

Born in Lancaster on 11 April 1936, Bishop Noble was ordained to the priesthood in June 1960 and served the Diocese of Lancaster until he was ordained Bishop of Shrewsbury in St Anthony's, Wythenshawe, on 30 August 1995 by Archbishop Couve de Murville. He was formerly Chair of the Bishops' Conference Spirituality Committee and a member of the Department for Christian Life and Worship.

In 2014, as Chair of the Spirituality Committee, Bishop Noble announced the publication of a practical guide to prayer and spirituality called *Do you love me?*

At the time, Bishop Noble said:

*"It's more of a pastoral devotional document rather than an academic study of spirituality. The aim is that people can enter prayerfully into what we mean by 'spirituality' as Catholics... Perhaps what's been lacking is a concentration on developing that personal relationship of each individual with Christ, we hope the document will go some way to filling that gap."*

Bishop Noble died peacefully on the afternoon of Monday 21 October 2019 at Arrowe Park Hospital, the Wirral. Requiescat in pace

*Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace. Amen.*



# Bishop Emeritus Brian Noble RIP

**JOE WALSH TOURS**  
2020 PILGRIMAGES

**MEDJUGORJE**  
EARLY BOOKING OFFER

Receive £100 off per person if you pay in full before December 6<sup>th</sup> 2019

**£100 OFF**  
per person\*

**PRICE INCLUDES »**

- » 7 night pilgrimages from May - October 2020
- » From various airports across the U.K
- » Breakfast & evening meal served daily
- » Staying close to St. James's Church
- » Full spiritual and religious programme organised by Joe Walsh Tours
- » Led by Philip Ryan

**ENQUIRE NOW FOR 2020**

MANCHESTER: 0161 820 8790 | LIVERPOOL: 0151 909 2871  
www.joewalsh-tours.co.uk | info@joewalsh-tours.co.uk

Tourist by the Commission for Visitor Regulation, 70-72 and 73-75 in compliance with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018.

Craig Lodge Family House of Prayer

**Retreat Yourself!**

Family Retreats  
Youth Events  
Healing Weekends  
full details at  
www.craiglodge.org

Craig Lodge Family House of Prayer  
Dalmailly, Argyll, PA33 1AR  
T: 01838200 216 E: mail@craiglodge.org

Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram icons

nicholas  
**hobbs**  
furniture

Established in 1992

Serving the North West, specialising in Liturgical Furnishing, hand built to specification and budget.

Hayton, Brampton, Cumbria CA8 9JB  
nicholashobbsfurniture@yahoo.co.uk  
www.nicholashobbs.co.uk 07947 030952

**Who cares for our  
SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS**

- Annual collection (last Sunday in October)
- Donations and Legacies gratefully received

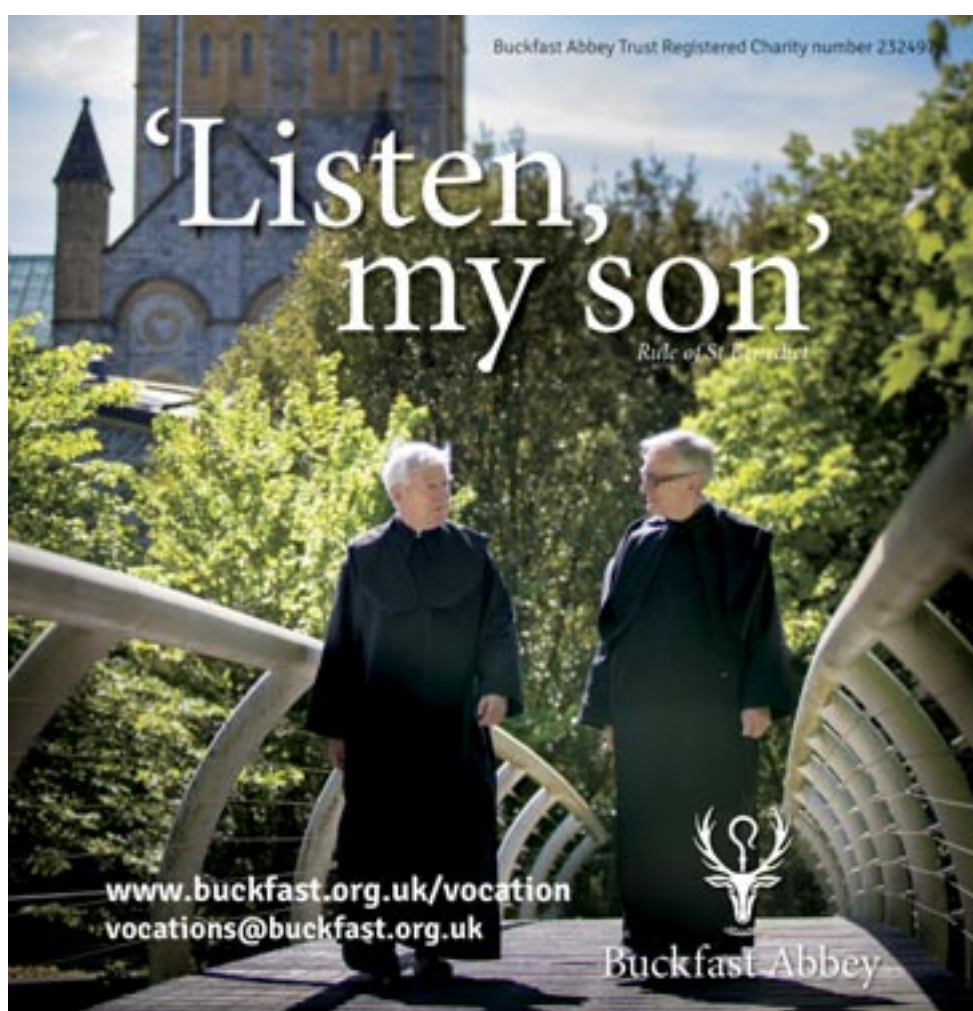
Secretary: Rev. Peter Draper, St. Anthony's,  
Cadley Causeway, Fulwood, Preston PR2 3RX  
Diocese of Lancaster Registered Charity number 234331

**Our advertisers are  
great supporters of the  
Lancaster Voice,  
so please help them  
by supporting their  
businesses**



# Social Media

## Accidental Evangelisation?



God calls to us constantly, longing to guide those who yearn for life and desire to see good days into the way of peace. The Rule of Saint Benedict helps us to hear God's voice, in the Holy Scriptures, in the sacred liturgy and in our brothers in community. If you are a single man longing to live your Catholic faith in a way which brings great joy as it demands the best of you, consider whether God is calling you to be a Benedictine monk at Buckfast Abbey. Please reach out to us, and we will do all we can to help you.

**I have been fortunate enough to have gone on three pilgrimages in my life, all within the last 12 months.**

During this time, I have written down the experience of the journeys, my thoughts, feelings and reflections and how the experience has shaped or changed me spiritually. Putting this down into a daily blog and bearing a little bit of my soul has served as an aide-memoire for me, reminding me of what I have seen, and it has also been something to share with curious friends and family.

I have shared these thoughts and blogs via social media (*Facebook*); at first rather apprehensively. Then surprisingly people began to come up to me or send me messages stating how they loved reading my blogs. Without intention or purpose, my personal blogs became a journey too for those left behind at home, who watched and read the progress of each venture. Many stated how they had enjoyed following the journeys, and that they too felt as though they were walking the pilgrimage with us. What an unexpected gift of grace! The gift of being able to reach out! The gift of sharing this treasure! I am aware of my good fortune of being able to undertake these experiences and was spurred on by those who cannot for whatever reason.

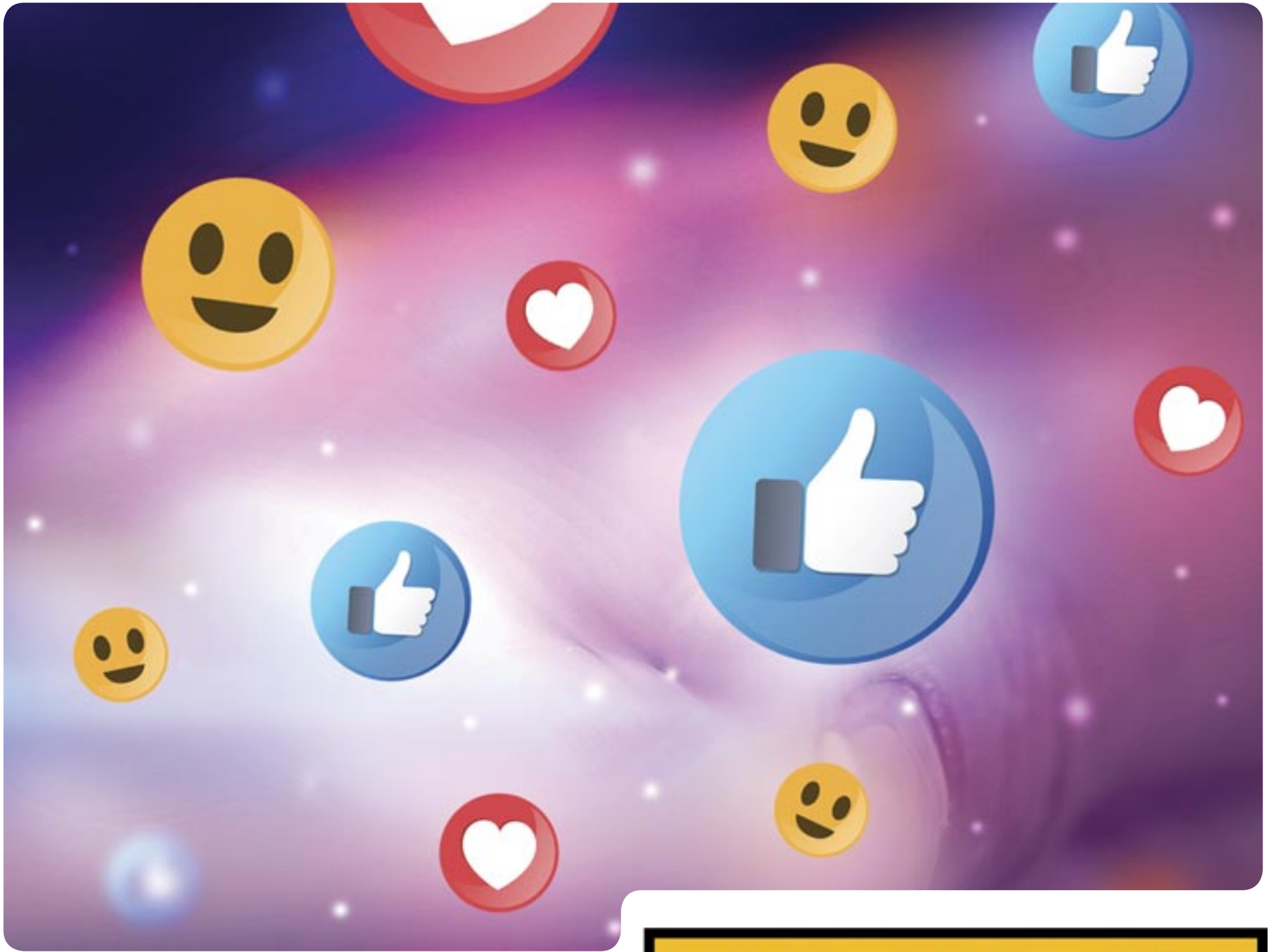
My first ever pilgrimage was just over 12 months ago. I'd gotten to the ripe age of 45 years before I thought it was about

time! On this trip, yes, my faith deepened but I found the whole experience overwhelming and too busy to really find any centre or peace. It wasn't an experience that inspired me to settle and write. Instead I took photo's and posted video's '*LIVE!*' on social media sites so other family members or our parish at home could keep track, following the places we visited and the amount of '*Pastel de Nata's*' we ate!

Eight months ago was the first pilgrimage that I accidentally wrote about - the Camino to Santiago De Compostella. A group of us journeyed the Camino the Portuguese Way, spending time overnight in hostels with strangers and celebrating mass in some weird and wonderful places. I wrote my thoughts down to process the journey, and without realising it began documenting the changes in me.

The Camino blog was shared primarily for others with previous interest in the journey - to spur them on. As people followed the posts each day, they gradually increased in popularity. Reader's curiosity increased and more people began to ask questions. My most recent pilgrimage to the Holy Land was something magnificent. This place people knew even if they weren't particularly religious or Christian. To be able to walk the ancient streets of the Holy Land, to touch the sites, to be in the middle of this tactile country was





at times an overwhelming experience. Sometimes my words failed me, I couldn't formulate the vocabulary for what I was thinking or feeling. For me the Holy Land was steeped in so much history that it felt it is was part of me before we'd even arrived there. Before I went, I'd had a very strange conversation with a shop assistant. At the till I'd explained where I was going and why (*she did ask!*). Intrigued, she asked me 'what happens if you are disappointed?' 'what if it doesn't live up to your expectations that you have set in your head?'. It never occurred to me that this may be the case but as we landed a little voice asked me.. 'what if...??'.

The Holy land exceeded any expectations I had. The blogs I wrote each day created a reminder of what we pilgrims had seen, touched and experienced together. Even the smells and tastes were documented in these reflections. They brought the Holy Land to life for those left behind and served as a great reminder for the days that passed once we returned.

So why am I writing about this? I'm writing because of the blogs and how far they've reached. I am simply overwhelmed by how far they have gone, and who has read them! Almost everyone who isn't Catholic or Christian on my Facebook page has read them. People with little or limited faith are coming forward to state how much they enjoyed my writing. For them, to be able to see

that which they have been taught in their very distant past come to life, to see that it is real and that there is archaeological and historical proof in those bible stories of aeons ago. It's certainly jiggled some of the senses!

The power of social media is quite phenomenal. Through this medium, I've managed to connect with people far wider than I ever physically could. It enables us to speak to the heart and soul of people who are distant acquaintances and yes, it has accidentally provided an environment and platform for evangelisation. So next time you are thinking about evangelisation and how to reach out to people, it is perhaps worth looking into social media. It works well for crossing boundaries, distance and faiths. It can be used to faith share and promote events. St Joseph's, Lancaster, Facebook site is widely used and delightful. Here we publish daily thoughts, posts and some sermons and local talks, (*via video footage*), the sermons are always popular. Interest in this medium exceed the sum of our social media population and church attendance combined! It's a platform to be used. To quote Jesus and His Angels, I say 'Do not be afraid!' You can reach people in their own homes. These people choose whether to listen/watch/read your words or simply turn you off. But you'd be amazed at how many people choose to watch and read, and to let you speak in their voice to their searching hearts and souls!

*Lisa Vallente-Osborne*

## St Pius X Catholic Preparatory School

True breadth of opportunity in North Preston  
for boys and girls aged 2-11



RECOGNISED LEADERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION 2019  
Private Education and Development Awards



\*\*\* TAKE A LOOK AT OUR NEW WEBSITE \*\*\*

**stpiusx.co.uk**





# Carlisle School Rising Above the Floods



*Funeral Director with Distinction*

**MARK F.H. RAE** Dip FD LMBIFD



**01253 789000**  
11 Wood Street, St Annes on Sea,  
Lancashire, FY8 1QS

**RAWCLIFFE & RAE**

**01253 735269**  
53a Warton Street, Lytham, Lancashire, FY8 5DQ

info@markraefunerals.co.uk  
www.markraefunerals.co.uk

On the 6th January 2005, almost unnoticed because it happened just twelve days after the even bigger disaster of the tsunami, large areas of the city of Carlisle were flooded under several feet of water. There was widespread damage to several hundred buildings, not least of which was Newman School. The staff had to make emergency arrangements for the re-location of the school to enable the students' education to continue with as little disruption as was possible under the circumstances. In the course of time, the school buildings were repaired and the students returned to their old premises, safe in the knowledge that all the experts agreed that the cause of the flooding was such that it was not likely to recur within the next 100 years.

Despite this assurance, Carlisle City Council undertook substantial work to improve the city's flood defences making the likelihood of a repeat of those floods almost impossible in the foreseeable future. Sadly, like most plans of mice and men, things do not always happen as expected and on 6th December 2015,

following unprecedentedly heavy rain and adverse tidal conditions, Carlisle was flooded yet again and once again amongst the casualties was Newman School. This time the school authorities were informed that the site on which it stood was uninsurable and that a new site must be found on which to erect a new building.

The staff were magnificent (*yet again*) and a new temporary building quickly was found which, with the addition of several large Portacabins, provided sufficient accommodation to continue the education of the school's 600 or so pupils. This was done within 6 weeks of the flood, thereby curtailing the school year by the minimum possible time. There followed a search for a new site and one was found on the southern end of the city, which was big enough for its needs and more importantly, it was located on suitably high ground.

After months of negotiations and the inevitable delays, a budget was agreed, a design of the new school accepted and documentation was agreed and signed





by all parties. However, whilst there was sufficient funding in place to provide a very fine new school, this did not include the cost of a chapel. In the words of headmaster John McAuley, *“As a Catholic School we could not accept this, since our chapel is a sacred visible space giving meaning and purpose to our Catholic vision and education. Without Christ at the heart of the new building, we would simply be another secondary school.”*

John embarked on a fundraising journey and with the help of the architects, an impressive chapel was designed to welcome pupils, staff and the wider community for many years to come. The cost for the building alone is around £75,000 and it would need to be furnished. As a governor of the school and being President (*for the umpteenth time!*) of the Catenian Carlisle and Penrith Circle, I decided to make the chapel appeal my fund for the year. Bro David King, a newly enrolled member of Cumberland W Circle, prepared a splendid, illustrated booklet on a portion of the life and times of Cardinal (*now Saint*) John Henry Newman which is being

sold for £5 per copy, with all proceeds going to the fund. Further boosts were given by Provincial President John Bonnar who made the appeal the fund for his year in office, together with most generous donations from the brothers of Province 6 and from various circles and individual brothers within Province 5. As a result of this effort, it was possible to present John McAuley with a cheque for £3,500 in August and the fund is continuing having been adopted by Bro. Jack Johnstone current President of Carlisle and Penrith Circle. It is expected that Bro Jack will be able to present another substantial contribution at the end of his year.

It is wonderful to be able to report that the building of the school and chapel is now well under way, with a scheduled hand-over date of July 2020, in good time for it to be opened at the start of the new scholastic year. It is hoped that anyone wishing to support this worthy cause will order copies of the booklet, which would be delivered without charge for postage and packing. Orders please addressed to donpaustin@aol.com *Donald Austin*

cheap

Cheap printing just got even cheaper!

20% OFF with code: HOT20

cheaper

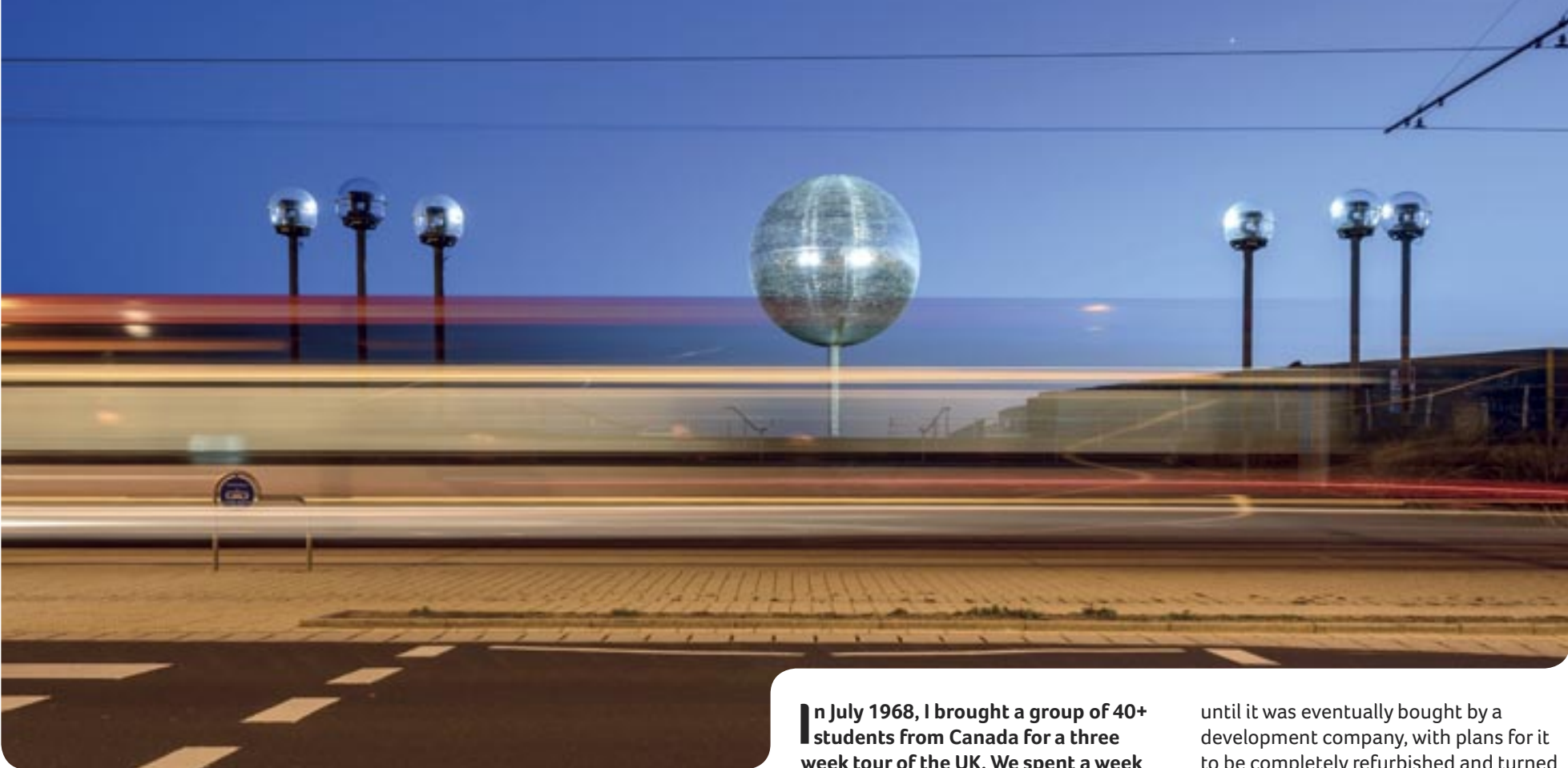
What is Responsive Web Design? A website optimised for mobile, tablet, laptop and desktop.

Is your website ready for a mobile world?

Hot Creative can help. Website pricing to suit all budgets! Big discount to charities & faith-based organisations too.



# Our Place in the Shape of Things



**In July 1968, I brought a group of 40+ students from Canada for a three week tour of the UK. We spent a week of that tour in Blackpool staying at two hotels in South Shore, close to what was then known as the “Solarium” and what is now called The Solaris Centre. One of the hotels we used formed the corner of Harrow Place and the South Promenade. It was a pleasant and welcoming building, and ideal for a party of students, with two floors of single and double rooms and meals that satisfied teenage tastes and appetites. It made for a successful visit.**

The hotel itself has had a chequered and interesting history since 1968, but for one reason or another I have maintained a vicarious and personal contact with it. In the 1980s the hotel was sold and turned into the Southolme Residential Care Home. It offered a pleasant, homely, caring environment for a range of elderly clients. It was here that my mother spent the last three years of her life, as she struggled with vascular dementia; she died in the home in January 2000. Not long after her death, there was a change of ownership at Southolme, and with it a different emphasis on the focus and quality of its provision. It specialised exclusively in dementia care with all the particular demands such a provision requires. For my own part, I visited the new Southolme frequently, to bring Holy Communion and pastoral support to the Catholic patients resident in the home. It was a very challenging but infinitely rewarding exercise of ministry.

Sadly, the standards within the home declined, and following an official inspection, it was ordered to close. The building stood empty for quite a while,

until it was eventually bought by a development company, with plans for it to be completely refurbished and turned into luxury apartments. That process has been underway for at least 2-3 years, embracing a number of the adjacent buildings as it progressed. The section that was once the Southolme Care Home is now complete and some of the apartments facing the sea are already occupied. It has been interesting to watch the development unfold on my regular walks along the South Promenade, especially as the room in which my mother died, is now part of a first floor apartment. In a sense, nothing stands still for very long, but adapts and changes as the broad pattern of our lives develops.

What we are caught up in, personally and individually, is our place in the Lord’s grand scheme of things, our small contributions to the bigger picture. There are some words that do not appear in the Bible, “coincidence”, “luck”, “chance” to name but three of the more significant. They make it clear that the unfolding of God’s plan for creation is rich in the pattern of His own purpose: it is not haphazard, random or unplanned. But it can be mysterious and a challenge to faith. It is sometimes described as a tapestry, with God looking at the beautiful picture on one side, whilst we try to make sense of the complex stitching on the other. I suspect there are many occasions in our lives when we are struck by the way in which personal events have unfolded before us. If we can but stop for a moment and reflect that God intended it to be that way for us, we may find ourselves drawing immense benefit from the experience, and come to trust him more implicitly in all that yet remains for each of us. *Deacon Paul Marley*



**Stella Matutina** is situated just minutes away from Faihaven Lake, Ansdell shops and Lytham Windmill

We provide a homely, caring atmosphere, respecting your individuality, dignity and privacy. The Home has its own chapel where we hold Daily Mass and Rosary.

- Short/long term and respite care
- Overlooking the sea
- Set in extensive grounds
- Comfortable communal rooms
- All bedrooms single and en-suite
- Home cooked food (all diets catered for)
- Range of activities and outings
- Caring and experienced staff (99% NVQ qualified)

Call on us at anytime for a viewing or ring for further details

**Stella Matutina Care Home**  
16 Clifton Drive  
Ansdell  
Lytham St Annes  
FY8 5RQ  
Manager– Dawn Ward  
Tel: 01253 734834  
email: manager@scjm.org



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



# Small Things Bright and Beautiful

*by Julia Beacroft*

**H**ave you ever received a really tiny Christmas present and wondered what on earth it could be? Is there actually anything in here at all, I've wondered on occasion, when I've become the recipient of one? And in fact during a family Christmas a couple of years ago, a minute parcel went missing for quite some time, causing the sender to feel really anxious about its whereabouts, until happily it eventually made a reappearance. And I'm sure that at some time or another we've all disguised a very small gift by placing it in a large box, thereby confusing the person about to receive it!

## Small Packages

In a society which places increasing importance upon material things and where store advertising for all manner of goods becomes prevalent in the 'run-up' to Christmas, presents and gifts have taken on a significance which may be considered to be out of all proportion to the holy and festive season. Yet biggest is not, of course, always best. There is a proverb which states that 'good things come in small packages' and it's easy to recognise the truth in this. The tiniest parcel can contain a gift of great value such as jewellery and it's not only small packages which can contain such pure gold. Small can mean beautiful, talented or gifted in any context. Tiny may represent value, perfection or authenticity.

## Sublime

Over two thousand years ago the most wondrous arrival ever known came in the smallest of packages when our Lord Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary. Our God sent his only begotten Son to be with us, and be with us in human form as a little helpless baby, who was born of a young virgin and a simple carpenter. In this case small was truly sublime. He was born in the humblest of places and his early life was spent in ignominy. During his years of ministry he ate and drank with sinners, tax collectors and prostitutes and he was put to death in the manner of a common criminal. Yet he was and is, our Lord and Saviour.

So this Christmas may we be aware that love, goodness, beauty and kindness come in a variety of shapes and sizes. St Paul reminds us that *'these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'*

Julia Beacroft is an author, editor, workshop leader and presenter in Catholic faith formation. Her book *'Sanctifying the Spirit'* is available to buy from AMAZON, Waterstones or Book Depository. Please visit [www.sanciobooks.com](http://www.sanciobooks.com) for more information. Follow Julia on Facebook & Twitter. Copyright ©2019 Julia Beacroft. All rights reserved.



Photo by Ben White on Unsplash.


**BETTER HEARING**  
 YOUR LOCAL HEARING SPECIALISTS

OVER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE IN CUMBRIA

- Experienced, qualified and registered audiologists
- Free no obligation home consultations
- Free aftercare services plus servicing and repair of all aids regardless of place of purchase
- Competitive prices and interest FREE payment plans
- Batteries and accessories for all makes of aids
- Microsuction earwax removal service



**TREAT YOURSELF TO THE GIFT OF BETTER HEARING THIS CHRISTMAS**

Make an appointment today for a free home consultation, plus get information on all the latest in hearing enhancement, including invisible aids, remote control and rechargeable models and more.

**CALL 015395 36391**  
now to avoid disappointment


**ST. JOHN'S**  
 Hearing Aid Centre Ltd - Hearing Aid Consultants


**BSHAA**


**hcpc**  
 registered

**MAIN STREET, GRANGE-OVER-SANDS 015395 36391**  
**FOR AN APPOINTMENT OR FURTHER INFORMATION**  
**CALL DIRECT AT THE NUMBERS ABOVE OR CALL**  
**FREEPHONE 0800 085 1054**  
[www.stjohnshac.co.uk](http://www.stjohnshac.co.uk)



**Ansdell, St Joseph**  
Woodlands Road FY8 4EP

**Christmas Eve**  
11.30pm Carols and Reflections followed  
by Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day**  
10am Family Mass  
Noon Christmas Dinner in the  
Parish Centre

**New Years Day**  
12 noon Mass

**Blackpool**  
**St Bernadette**  
**Christmas Eve**

**5.00pm Children's Christmas Mass**  
All children are asked to come dressed as a character from the Christmas  
Story: Mary, Joseph, an Angel, a Shepherd, a King, or an Ox, Donkey, or  
sheep, to create a 'living crib'.

**7.30pm Carols and Readings**  
followed by  
**8.00pm Candlelit Sung**  
**Christmas Mass**  
**Christmas Day**  
**10.00am Christmas**  
**Morning Mass**

**St Peter's,**  
**Lytham**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Tuesday 24th December**  
**7.30pm Carols**  
**8.00pm Christmas Vigil**  
**Mass**

**Christmas Day Wednesday**  
**25th December**  
**Christmas Day Mass at**  
**10.30am**

**St Annes-on-the-Sea**  
**Our Lady Star of the Sea**

**Christmas Eve:**  
**6.30pm Family Vigil Mass**  
**12.00 Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day**  
**9.30am Mass**  
**11.00 Mass**

# Christmas Mass Times



For the Promotion of the Traditional Roman Rite

**Mass Listings – December 2019/January 2020**

**St Margaret Mary, Scalegate Road, Carlisle**  
Second Fridays at 7.00 pm\*  
\*Please note new day and time

**St John Vianney, Marton, Blackpool**  
Mondays: 12.00 noon;  
Fridays: 6.30 pm

**Shrine Church of St Walbuge, Preston**  
Mondays – Fridays: 8.30 am Low Mass  
Saturdays: 10.30 am Low Mass  
Sundays: 10.30 am, Sung Mass

**Shrine of the English Martyrs, Preston**  
Monday-Saturday: 12 noon, Low Mass  
Sundays: 9.00 am, Low Mass

No Mass at Hornby until May 2020

It is hoped to have some Masses at Our Lady  
& St Michael's, Workington. Please check our  
website for up-to-date information.

Mass is also celebrated every Sunday at 8.30 am at St Mary Magdalene, Leyland Road,  
Penwortham and 11.30 am at St Catherine Labouré, Stanfield Lane, Leyland.  
Local Representatives: Bob & Jane Latin  
Telephone: 01524 412987  
Email: lancaster@lms.org.uk  
Website: latinmasslancaster.blogspot.com

**Our Lady and St. Edward,**  
**Fulwood**

**Christmas Eve:**  
**6.00pm Carols and Mass**  
**11.30pm Carols and Midnight Mass**  
**Christmas Day**  
**10.00am Carols and Mass**  
**St. Mary, Newhouse**  
**Christmas Eve:**  
**6.00pm Carols and Mass**  
**Christmas Day**  
**10.00am Carols and Mass**

**Kendal & Sedbergh**  
**Holy Trinity and St. George**

**Christmas Eve:**  
**6.00 pm and 12.00 midnight**  
**(Carols 11.30pm) at Kendal**  
**8.00 pm at St. Andrews Anglican**  
**Church, Sedbergh**  
**Christmas Day**  
**10.00am (Kendal)**  
**No evening Mass that day**

**Preston,**  
**St Clare's**

**Tuesday 24th December**  
**6pm: First Mass of Christmas**  
**11:30pm: Carols & Midnight Mass**  
**Wednesday 25th December**  
**The Nativity of the Lord**  
**Mass at 10am**  
**Thursday 26th December**  
**St Stephen Mass at 10am**  
**(Mass for altar servers, with**  
**presentation of guild medals)**

**Preston**  
**St Wilfrid**

**Christmas Eve**  
**7.30pm Carols**  
**8.00pm First Mass**  
**of Christmas**  
**Christmas Day**  
**7.00am Mass**  
**10.15 Mass**  
**No 4.30pm Mass**

**Whitehaven**  
**St Begh**

**Christmas Eve**  
**St Begh's Church**  
**Carol Singing at 5:30pm**  
**followed by the Vigil Mass of**  
**Christmas at 6pm**

**Quay Street Chapel**  
**'Midnight' Mass at 8:00pm**

**Christmas Day**  
**8:00am Mass at Quay Street**  
**10:00am at St Begh's**

**St Stephen's Day**  
**10:00am Mass at Quay Street**

## Church Supplies

– serving  
Schools,  
Business  
and Homes

**Alpha Pest Control**



DO YOU NEED EXPERT  
PEST CONTROL?

0800 0925 999

**J. E. HARRISON BUILDERS (KIRKHAM) LTD.**

School building work and  
refurbishment/ conversion, building  
and joinery work, extensions,  
alterations & repairs, loft conversions,  
replacement doors  
and windows

Builders Yard, 66 Marsden Street,  
Kirkham, Preston PR4 2TH  
Tel: (01772) 684489  
Fax: (01772) 671486  
email: admin@jeharrison.co.uk  
www.jeharrisonbuilders.co.uk

**Wm. Wilding & Sons Ltd**

COMMERCIAL & DOMESTIC PLUMBING,  
HEATING & GAS WORK, GLAZING, GUTTERING,  
DRAINAGE & JETTING SERVICES.

enquiries@wmwilding.co.uk

Moorbrook House, 84 Moorbrook Street,  
Preston PR1 7EX  
Tel/Fax: (01772) 253127  
• Established Over 60 Years •



Hear the **difference**  
with HW Installations

Sound and Loop system  
specialists

01204 324 224

office@hwinstallationsltd.co.uk  
www.hwinstallationsltd.co.uk



**PETER COX**

Rated 'Excellent' with  
over 1000 reviews  
★ Trustpilot

**Have you noticed damp,  
woodworm or rot in  
your property?**

We can provide advice and specialist  
solutions across Lancashire:

- ▶ Rising damp
- ▶ Penetrating damp
- ▶ Structural & basement  
waterproofing
- ▶ Cavity wall tie repairs
- ▶ Woodworm
- ▶ Wet & dry rot

Get in  
touch for a  
**NO OBLIGATION**  
survey

Call: 01772 364 558  
www.petercox.com

LOCAL QUALIFIED SURVEYORS | LONG TERM GUARANTEES

## Covenant Books Preston

The One Stop Shop for:

- Catholic Books
- Bibles
- Gifts - including:  
Holy Communion,  
Baptism, Confirmation gifts
- Religious resources for schools

**Tel: 01772 735 993**

The Pastoral Centre, Whitby Avenue, Ingol, Preston PR2 3YP

Fax: 01772 735 993 • Email: covenantbooks@tiscali.co.uk

OPEN: Thursday 10am-4pm, Fri 10am-4pm, Sat 10am-12 noon  
(Closed Bank Holidays)

www.covenantbookspreston.co.uk