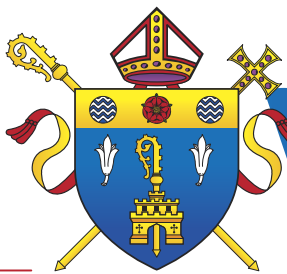


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**VOICE**

**of Lancaster**

**The Official Newspaper to  
the Diocese of Lancaster**

**Issue 330 + June '21**

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## St Thomas Becket – British Museum Exhibition of his life, death and legacy

**T**he British Museum in London is presenting this very special exhibition marking the 850th anniversary of the gruesome murder of Thomas Becket in Canterbury Cathedral. It will include a fragment of his skull on loan to the museum from Stonyhurst College. The skull fragment has been in the care of the Jesuits at Stonyhurst since the Middle Ages.

Thomas was a royal chancellor and later Archbishop of Canterbury when a dispute with Henry II over church powers led to his brutal and public assassination by four knights loyal to the King. The fatal act took place in Canterbury Cathedral in 1170. Thomas was raised to sainthood very soon afterwards in 1173 and his feast day is 29 December. St Thomas Becket is venerated as a saint and martyr in the Catholic Church and in the Anglican Communion. He is a patron saint of secular clergy (priests and deacons who serve pastorally in parishes). The exhibition is entitled Thomas Becket: **Murder and the Making of a Saint** and runs from 20 May through to 22 August and will chart his life from a merchant's son to the high office of Archbishop of Canterbury and include recorded eye witness accounts of his murder.

Dr. Jan Graffius, Curator of Collections at Stonyhurst, provides more detail about the saint on Page 3.



Photo courtesy of  
Stonyhurst College  
(Above)



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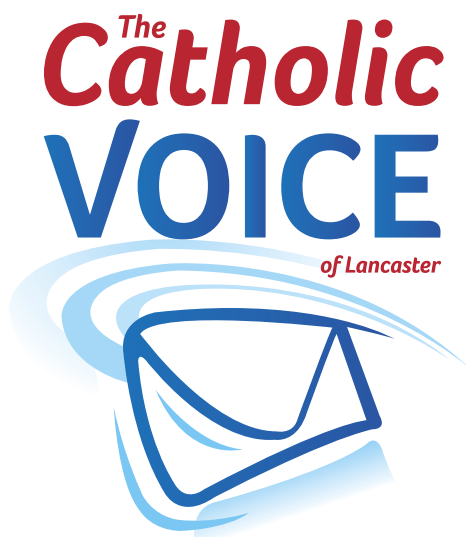
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**EDITORIAL**

**The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales recently issued a reflection on the post-pandemic recovery and the challenges faced by the Church in encouraging people back to the Church and her Sacraments.**

In a reflection titled *The Day of the Lord*, the Bishops praised families, parish communities and those who have worked tirelessly in hospitals, care homes, schools and prisons during the challenging times of ill-health, grief and isolation.

The Bishops saluted the leadership of our priests and also expressed gratitude for the *'immense efforts'* of those who have provided food for those most in need:

*"The generosity shown in the distribution of so very many meals has given eloquent expression to the mercy, love and compassion which are at the very heart of God. Many have been touched by the joy of meeting Christ in the poor; and many of the poor by the joy of meeting Christ in selfless parishioners."*

The *Catholic Voice* echoes these sentiments and acknowledges the unstinting work of individuals and parish communities in striving to serve in such difficult circumstances.

Whilst acknowledging the creative and diverse methods of outreach during the pandemic – not least the live streaming of Mass – the Bishops' attention now turns to the post-pandemic world.

The Bishops recognise that it is impossible to predict the pace at which we will emerge from the pandemic but state *"what is clear is the challenge we face of bringing our communities and the practice of the faith to a still greater expression and strength."*

They identify the groups of people they are seeking to reach:

- Those who have lost the habit of coming to church and who may be anxious about doing so

- Those who may not want to re-establish a pattern of Catholic worship – who may have seen a gap widen between the spiritual dimension of their lives and any communal expression of that spiritual quest.
- The 'Covid curious' who may have encountered the Catholic Church for the first time during the pandemic

The Bishops highlight the strengths, the *"veritable treasures"* of the Catholic Church as being the tools at their disposal to rise to these challenges. The greatest treasure is, of course, the sacramental life of the Church and at its heart, the Eucharist. *"It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence."*

*"At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers and sisters."*

*"We face the task of seeking to nurture the sense of Sunday as 'a weekly gift from God to his people', and something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed."*

Clearly there are no certainties but the *Catholic Voice* believes that entrusting the future to the Holy Spirit through prayer will steer the Church on the right path. Whether that means that we will see resurgence in attendance at Holy Mass or smaller communities gathering together only time will tell. But a post – pandemic Church will emerge and we must be ready to embrace it and move forward always living out the Gospel and drawing others in through both our words and actions.





The *Catholic Voice* is grateful to Dr Jan Graffius, Curator of Collections at Stonyhurst for the following short account of the life and death of Thomas Becket.

# Defying royalty for the sake of conscience

**O**n 29 December 1170, Becket was assassinated in Canterbury Cathedral by four knights with close ties to King Henry II, an act that left Medieval Europe reeling. Becket was one of the most powerful figures of his time, serving as royal chancellor and later as Archbishop of Canterbury. Initially a close friend of Henry, the two men became engaged in a bitter dispute that culminated in his violent and public death – an event that sent shockwaves across Europe and caused an immense political fallout.

Marking the 850th anniversary of his brutal murder, this special exhibition presents Becket's tumultuous journey from a merchant's son to an archbishop, and from a revered saint in death to a 'traitor' in the eyes of Henry VIII more than 350 years later.

The final item in the exhibition is a rare, possibly unique, relic of Becket's skull, with an impeccable provenance. The relic is the property of the British Jesuit Province, held at Stonyhurst College, and has been in their ownership since the late 16th century, only some fifty years after the destruction of Becket's shrine at Canterbury.

Becket was one of the most prominent saints in Christendom in the medieval period. Pilgrims flocked to Canterbury Cathedral to pay homage at his shrine and seek miracles. His fall from grace and destruction of his shrine and relics in the reign of Henry VIII was one of the biggest scandals of its day, reverberating throughout Europe and beyond. Becket's crime was to have died defending papal supremacy over English royal authority. For Henry VIII, bent on eradicating the power of the papacy in England and replacing it with his royal supremacy, Becket's memory had to be wiped out. Laws were passed forbidding the mention of his name and banning his image. Libraries were scoured by royal officials who scraped or inked over all mentions of Becket in books and manuscripts. Paintings, frescoes, statues and vestments were destroyed, whitewashed, unpicked. The final indignity was the

destruction of his shrine in Canterbury Cathedral. Accounts differ as to the fate of the bones- some say that they were burned, others that they were fired from a cannon, still others that they were quietly buried in a monastic graveyard mingled among the bones of the monks.

But a small piece of Becket's skull was rescued in 1540 when his shrine was being dismantled and his bones removed. The piece of Becket's cranium, belonging to the British Jesuit Province, and held on loan at Stonyhurst has a provenance dating back to 1593, and was recorded by the English Jesuit missionary, John Gerard:

I was given a silver head of St Thomas of Canterbury, and his mitre studded with precious stones. The head is small and of no great value in itself, but it is quite a treasure because it contains a piece of the saint's skull. It is the breadth of a double gold crown and it is thought to be the piece that was chipped off when he was so wickedly slain.

Like so many other relics collected by Gerard, this piece of Becket's skull was smuggled across the Channel to safety at the English Jesuit College of St Omers. In 1666 it was remounted into a beautiful silver-gilt brooch inscribed 'EX CRANIO ST THOMAE CANTUARENSIS', which fastened to the front of a flamboyant silver statue of Becket. Both the statue and the relic are on loan to the British Museum.

As well as the above, Stonyhurst has lent a rare book of saints' feast days, printed in the early years of King Henry VIII, in which the feast of Thomas Becket has been defaced and scored through, in accordance with the King's reforms.

Other extraordinary items include a unique gold and enamel reliquary and a crucifix both belonging to St Thomas More, whose memory was linked to that of his namesake, recollecting two saints who defied royalty for the sake of conscience.



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**Youth is for taking risks, good risks, risks full of hope. It is meant to be staked on great things. Youth is meant to be given away, to help others to know the Lord. Don't keep your youth to yourselves: get out there! – Pope Francis**

**I encourage you always to be “living stones in the Church, to build up the Church, by being united to Jesus. Catholic Action without Jesus is pointless, it becomes an NGO, and there are many of these, it doesn't work – Pope Francis**

**It is Jesus you seek when you dream of happiness; he is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you; he is the beauty to which you are so attracted; it is he who provokes you with that thirst for fullness that will not let you settle for compromise; it is he who urges you to shed the masks of a false life; it is he who reads in your hearts your most genuine choices, the choices that others try to stifle. It is Jesus who stirs in you the desire to do something great with your lives, the will to follow an ideal, the refusal to allow yourselves to be ground down by mediocrity, the courage to commit yourselves humbly and patiently to improving yourselves and society, making the world more human and more fraternal – Pope John Paul II**

**Life is not just a succession of events or experiences. It is a search for the true, the good and the beautiful. It is to this end that we make our choices; it is for this that we exercise our freedom; it is in this – in truth, in goodness and in beauty – that we find happiness and joy – Pope Benedict XVI**

**Dear young people, the Church depends on you! She needs your lively faith, your creative charity and the energy of your hope. Your presence renews, rejuvenates and gives new energy to the Church – Pope Benedict XVI**

**I meet so many young people who say that they are tired of this world being so divided, with clashes between supporters of different factions and so many wars, in some of which religion is being used as justification for violence. We must ask the Lord to give us the grace to be merciful to those who do us wrong. Jesus on the cross prayed for those who had crucified him: “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do” (Lk 23:34) – Pope Francis**

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# Are you Listening?

**I**mpact youth groups, UK youth EmpowHER came together via Zoom to hold their Youth Conference 'Are you listening?' in March. They were joined by representatives from UCLAN and Youth worker Terry Mattinson and we had young people from St Bede's High School Lytham, Our Lady's High School, Preston, St Cecilia's High School, Longridge and Cardinal Newman College, Preston.

We started at 1pm and began with an introduction based on 'Are you Listening?' We then participated in the first workshop which enabled the groups to mix and build new relationships. We split into three breakout rooms and were given the task of finding something that we have in common, for example: one group found that they all thought winter was their favourite season. This workshop enabled us to talk to one another and build new relationship foundations as common ground became evident very early into the day.

The second workshop was based on the theme of 'sexual harassment victim blaming', a topic that is very current and has become more widely discussed in the light of recent events. The workshop allowed us to speak openly about sexual harassment, especially as to how it affected young women and how we might prevent victim blaming behaviour, and how people in power can prevent sexual harassment. We used a whiteboard which empowered us to write our thoughts and feelings related to the topic. Some points mentioned regarding people in power included having more resources available for those impacted and making education on the topic mandatory. Some points about how we can prevent victim blaming included not invalidating people who share their own experiences and ensuring being 'catcalled', isn't seen as a compliment.

Following on from this workshop we split into three breakout rooms and had some games which allowed the groups to mix and talk to one another on a personal and fun level. For example one group played the word association game but instead of saying something related to the word, we had to say something that had no relation whatsoever, such as 'truck' and 'pencil'. It was a great way to bond with

one another and have a laugh!

The final workshop of the day was 'Here I Am'. The 'Here I Am' project focuses on young people's wellbeing. Some of the girls attending are conducting research into the wellbeing of Year Seven high school pupils. Again we split into breakout rooms and discussed three questions:

1. 'How do you like to share your issues deal with them?' Responses included spending time with pets and keeping a journal.
2. 'Do you find it easy to talk about your mental health problems? Why/Why not?' Responses included 'no, I don't want to feel judged' and 'it's quite a taboo subject.'
3. 'What do you think are the main symptoms and causes for mental health problems?'

Responses included; 'school, college and the pressure put on young people', 'having to learn about the world yourself' and 'symptoms being very broad across all individuals'.

Overall, this workshop provided a fantastic talking space for us to share our experiences and our thoughts and connect to one another who perhaps feel a similar way. The day concluded with a reflection on the conference and an open discussion on the benefit of the Conference. Here's a couple of the comments:

*Bismah: "I really enjoyed this conference as I felt comfortable in being open and honest – a very inviting, warm atmosphere was created. I loved the use of breakout rooms to ensure everyone got the chance to speak their mind and chat with new people about important topics. Also, each workshop was fascinating and very informative, I am so thankful I could attend!"*

*Liz: "I think all the workshops really hit the nail on the head, they perfectly summed up all my feelings on the workshops but in a sensitive manner which made me feel completely comfortable to open up with everyone."*

*Hallie Brady, Impact Youth Group Youth Working Team*

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In the April edition of the Catholic Voice we reported that Fr Philip Newbold, a retired priest from the Archdiocese of Birmingham, who is now settled in Freckleton was aiming to support CAFOD's Walk for Water campaign during Lent.

His target of 10,000 steps each day was in solidarity with people who have to walk miles every day to collect clean water. His efforts resulted in him personally raising £3,953, the local parish of Holy Family which serves Freckleton and Warton added another £2,000 and the primary school topped it up by a further £2,100. Fr Philip said:


*"The Gospel call in Lent emphasises 'prayer, fasting and reaching out to those in need'. This daily walk for 'Water Aid' has helped to answer that call. I prayed as I walked for*

*those people less fortunate than ourselves and for people to sponsor me. So many people in a number of countries, have to walk more than 10,000 paces each day to collect water and then return home. This water may often be polluted, yet it is still the only water that is available. Are we not blessed? At my home, I just have to walk to the sink and turn on the tap. Hey presto... clean safe water!*

*In thanksgiving to God, that I have the good health to have been able to make this walk each day, even in retirement and I offer it to the Lord."*

Well done, Fr Philip! He would like to thank all his friends from Birmingham Archdiocese, Lancaster Diocese, the Lourdes Pilgrimages and the Catenians who have donated to CAFOD in support of his walk.  
*Linda Forster*



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# 50th Birthday plants seeds for the future!

**S**t Mary's primary school Ulverston, had a formal opening Mass on March 25th 1971 so it was important for us that we celebrated our school's 50th birthday, despite the challenges that we faced due to the global pandemic.

We decorated the school entrance with balloons and with a banner that was made by the children. We also played birthday music outside and it was lovely to see so many happy faces as they danced into school. We started our 50th birthday celebration with an outdoor Mass which was live streamed so parents and the community could be involved. We included a procession, when each pupil planted paper hearts and flowers that were impregnated with wildflower seeds. The planting represented the rosary, with 5 decades, one for each decade that our school has been open.

Fr Paul Embery celebrated Mass and he rang the original school bell and told us all about our school and its history. It was so lovely to hear the children sing and see the whole school altogether.

Our Class 4 children wrote and performed a song with their class teacher, which certainly brought tears to our eyes. A video, by Class 2, of why the children loved our school was another highlight of the day.

Throughout the rest of the day each class had their own party and there were craft activities, party games and most importantly lots of fun and laughter. Class 3 produced a beautiful collage of our school's logo and our youngest class created a hand-print banner and decorations.

The ice-cream van was a great treat for the children and staff at the end of the day but unfortunately Fr Paul missed out on this treat! St Mary's has been such a special school to many, and it would be lovely to have another celebration with our school family and with other members of the parish when it is possible. We have all had a great day celebrating.

*Laura Byrne, Headteacher*



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# Young Stewards of Creation

**St Mary's Catholic Primary, Ulverston and Our Lady of the Rosary, Dalton together make up Our Lady of Furness Catholic Federation. Both schools are passionate about embedding the outdoors into their curriculum and being active Stewards of Creation. Since September both schools have been determined to make an impact in their own grounds and community.**

The global pandemic has impacted so many and we believed that fully utilising our outdoor spaces would support the wellbeing of our staff and pupils. Our woodland area that was overgrown, due to lack of upkeep during school closure, has now been transformed and the children now have a woodland haven where they have identified different species of birds, plant life and even built their own bug house. The area is peaceful and brings a sense of tranquility. It was a fantastic spot for creating our Easter crosses and Easter gardens.

Being passionate about co-creation and sustainability meant that we have created raised beds for planting. The children took on the challenge with perseverance, teamwork, determination and they moved 4 tonnes of soil. Our parents have also been involved with providing seedlings, equipment and most importantly giving up their own time.

It has been great to see the children's passion for the outdoors and their enthusiasm to make a difference in their

world. Materials were reused to create the beds and to line them which the older children thoroughly enjoyed. Ideas to donate their produce to others has been their main focus, as well as learning and educating about sustainable living. Recent cooking projects in DT have seen the children using their own grown garlic and fresh mint. We are hoping to invite other schools and link with them to share our work.

Our schools have amazing grounds, with Our Lady's having a wonderful outdoor classroom - often used for reflection and prayer. St Mary's children are pleased to announce that they too will be having an outdoor space which will further develop their outdoor learning and areas for quiet reflection.

Both schools have thought about ways to encourage more wildlife with ideas of ponds and by planting insect loving flowers and shrubs.

The children have commented on how their experiences outdoors have really made a difference to their learning, being able to take challenges and learn about nature in a hands-on way. It was lovely to see the whole school using the grounds to journey through the Stations of the Cross. We are so proud of our pupils and staff and we are sure that our now active Eco committees will continue to enthuse us all in projects in the future.

*Laura Byrne, Headteacher*





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# What the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) Teaches

## Why must the Church proclaim the Gospel to the whole world?

The Church must do so because Christ has given the command: *"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).* The missionary mandate of the Lord has its origin in the eternal love of God who has sent his Son and the Holy Spirit because *"he desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Timothy 2:4).*

**Further reading:** CCC 849-851

## In what sense is the Church missionary?

The Church, guided by the Holy Spirit, continues the mission of Christ himself in the course of history. Christians must, therefore, proclaim to everyone the Good News borne by Christ; and following his path, they must be ready for self-sacrifice, even unto martyrdom.

**Further reading:** CCC 852-856

## Why is the Church apostolic?

The Church is apostolic in her origin because she has been built on *"the foundation of the Apostles" (Ephesians 2:20).* She is apostolic in her teaching which is the same as that of the Apostles. She is apostolic by reason of her structure insofar as she is taught, sanctified, and guided until Christ returns by the Apostles through their successors who are the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter.

**Further reading:** CCC 857, 869

## In what does the mission of the Apostles consist?

The Word *"Apostle"* means *"one who is sent"*. Jesus, the One sent by the Father, called to himself twelve of his disciples and appointed them as his Apostles, making them the chosen witnesses of his Resurrection and the foundation of his Church. He gave them the command to continue his own mission saying, *"As the Father has sent me, so I also send you" (John 20:21);* and he

promised to remain with them until the end of the world.

**Further reading:** CCC 858-861

## What is apostolic succession?

Apostolic succession is the transmission by means of the sacrament of Holy Orders of the mission and power of the Apostles to their successors, the bishops. Thanks to this transmission the Church remains in communion of faith and life with her origin, while through the centuries she carries on her apostolate for the spread of the Kingdom of Christ on earth.

**Further reading:** CCC 861-865

## Who are the faithful?

The Christian faithful are those who, in as much as they have been incorporated in Christ through Baptism, have been constituted as the people of God; for this reason, since they have become sharers in Christ's priestly, prophetic and royal office in their own manner, they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church. There exists a true equality among them in their dignity as children of God.

**Further reading:** CCC 871-872

## How are the people of God formed?

Among the faithful by divine institution there exist sacred ministers who have received the sacrament of Holy Orders and who form the hierarchy of the Church. The other members of the Church are called the laity. In both the hierarchy and the laity there are certain of the faithful who are consecrated in a special manner to God by the profession of the evangelical counsels: chastity or celibacy, poverty, and obedience.

**Further reading:** CCC 873, 934

## Why did Christ institute an ecclesiastical hierarchy?

Christ instituted an ecclesiastical hierarchy with the mission of feeding the people of God in his name and for his purpose





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gave it authority. The hierarchy is formed of sacred ministers,; bishops, priests, and deacons. Thanks to the sacrament of Orders, bishops and priests act in the exercise of their ministry in the name and person of Christ the Head. Deacons minister to the people of God in the diakonia (service) of word, liturgy, and charity.

**Further reading:** CCC 874-876, 935

### How is the collegial dimension of Church ministry carried out?

After the example of the twelve Apostles who were chosen and sent out together by Christ, the unity of the Church's hierarchy is at the service of the communion of all the faithful. Every bishop exercises his ministry as a member of the episcopal college in communion with the Pope and shares with him in the care of the universal Church. Priests exercise their ministry in the presbyterate of the local Church in communion with their own bishop and under his direction.

**Further reading:** CCC 876-877

### Why does ecclesial ministry also have a personal character?

Ecclesial ministry also have a personal character in as much as each minister, in virtue of the sacrament of Holy Orders, is responsible before Christ who called him personally and conferred on him his mission.

**Further reading:** CCC 878-879

### What is the mission of the Pope?

The Pope, Bishop of Rome and the Successor of Saint Peter, is the perpetual, visible source and foundation of the unity of the Church. He is the vicar of Christ, the head of the College of bishops and pastor of the universal Church over which he has by divine institution full, supreme, immediate, and universal power.

**Further reading:** CCC 880-882, 936-937



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### What is the competence of the college of bishops?

The college of bishops in union with the Pope, and never without him, also exercises supreme and full authority over the Church.

**Further reading:** CCC 883-885

### How do the bishops carry out their mission of teaching?

Since they are authentic witnesses of the apostolic faith and are invested with the authority of Christ, the bishops in union with the Pope have the duty of proclaiming the Gospel faithfully and authoritatively to all. By means of a supernatural sense of faith, the people of God unfailingly adhere to the faith under the guidance of the living Magisterium of the Church.

**Further reading:** CCC 888-890, 939

### What is the vocation of the lay faithful?

The lay faithful have as their own vocation to seek the Kingdom of God by illuminating and ordering temporal affairs according to the plan of God. They carry out in this way their call to holiness and to the apostolate, a call given to all the baptized.

**Further reading:** CCC 897-900, 940

### How do the lay faithful participate in the priestly office of Christ?

They participate in it especially in the Eucharist by offering as a spiritual sacrifice "acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5) their own lives with all of their works, their prayers, their apostolic undertakings, their family life, their daily work and hardships borne with patience and even their consolations of spirit and body.

In this way, even the laity, dedicated to Christ and consecrated by the Holy Spirit, offer to God the world itself.

**Further reading:** CCC 901-903

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# 20 Years of Sharing in Cumbria

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**The April edition of Faith in the Moor, an ecumenical newsletter for Penrith and Alston, reported the successful sharing of church facilities which this year is celebrating its 20th anniversary. Fr John Winstanley has kindly provided the *Catholic Voice* with this extract from the newsletter.**

In 1997, the congregation of St Paul's Methodist Church began to worship at St Wulstan's Roman Catholic Church. We were made most welcome, and soon felt at home, working with the Roman Catholic members. During the ministry of the Reverend Dr Betty Bell discussions took place to arrange for a formal Sharing Agreement. This contract was prepared and, on behalf of the Methodists, was signed by Neville Nicholson, Church Steward, and Margaret Hickson, Treasurer. The finalising of the Sharing Agreement was celebrated with a joint service in St Wulstan's which was also attended by the Chair of the Cumbria Methodist District, the Reverend David Emison. The evening was continued with a social gathering in the Masonic Hall.

As reported in the *'Methodist Recorder'*:  
"This is only the second shared agreement between Roman Catholics and Methodists on a building owned by the Roman Catholic Church."

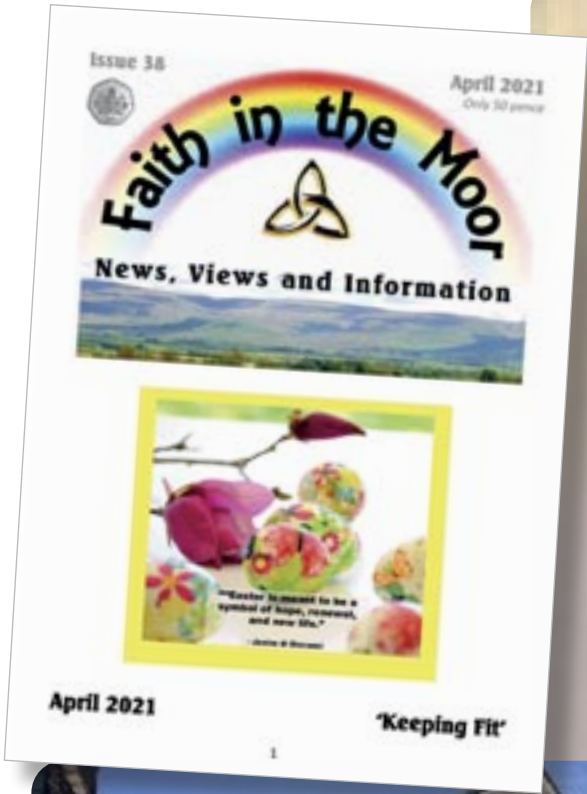
It is amazing to think that this took place twenty years ago, but we believe that God has been with us on this journey of faith over these years, and pray for His continuing leading in the years to come.

In 1997 the chapel of the Methodist community in Alston needed extensive repairs. Monsignor Greg Turner the parish priest and his congregation at the time were happy to invite our Methodist friends to use St Wulstan's as their place of worship. The last service was held in St Paul's Chapel building on Easter Sunday 1997, the following Sunday 6th April 1997 saw the first Methodist Service in St Wulstan's chapel; thus furthering local Christian unity.

As the years went by it was felt that this sharing should be formalised. On Wednesday evening of the 25th April 2001 Monsignor Greg Turner welcomed the Methodist Community for the formal sharing agreement who were represented by Rev Dr Betty Bell and Rev David Emison (*Chair of Cumbria District*). Since which time we have been very happy to continue to share St Wulstan's Church with our fellow Methodist community. We will be celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the formal sharing agreement on the 25th April 2021.

Over the years this has been a very happy mutual beneficial solution. We have enjoyed each others' company on many occasions together with members of St Augustine's congregation. The World Day of Prayer and other services have always been well supported by all Christian faith communities in Alston. These meetings and services in our lovely little gem of a chapel in this area of outstanding natural beauty have been a joy and solace to many. The flowers that have decorated





the chapel have been enjoyed by more people, the cleaning rota has had greater help! We have been able to co-exist and have our own services including the joy of weddings and the sadder occasions of funerals as well as our weekly services until the pandemic closed churches in 2020. Over the past twenty years the joint use of the church has continued to grow and we hope this will continue for many years to come.

*Paul Parkin and Jeanette Haslam  
Doris Nicholson, Monsignor Greg Turner*



*L Rev David Emison (Chair of Cumbria District)  
Rev Dr Betty Bell (Circuit Superintendent)  
Monsignor Greg Turner*





# Ice Cold in Preston





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In March, Christ the King Catholic High School Preston hosted an #IceFoot92 Challenge in support of Len Johnrose who aims to raise £92,000 towards the MND Association's care and research work.

Christ the King student Patrick Johnrose, son of Mr Johnrose, completed the challenge and nominated Headteacher Mr Callagher and ten other members of staff. Students gathered socially distanced to watch the teachers and support staff place their feet in ice cold buckets of water for 92 seconds. Donations on the day totalled over £300 and footage of the challenge has been posted on the school social media accounts alongside the Just Giving link.

Mr Callagher said, 'We are privileged to support Patrick's dad with the #IceFoot92 Challenge. Len Johnrose has done incredible work in raising awareness about Motor Neurone Disease as well much needed funds for research into finding a cure for this dreadful illness. Thanks to Patrick and his cousin Leilan Johnrose for their efforts in organising the challenge, alongside our staff and the Student Council. I would encourage anyone who can to support this great cause, if you can please text MNDLEN to 70085.'

Mrs Janet Dockray, Office Manager/Headteacher's PA



Mr Damien Callagher our Headteacher (wearing his MNDA T shirt for the Motor Neurone Disease Association) (below).

Miss Laura Wilkinson during the challenge.



Mrs Debbie Basterfeld throwing her icy water over Mr Mark Lomas our Chaplain.

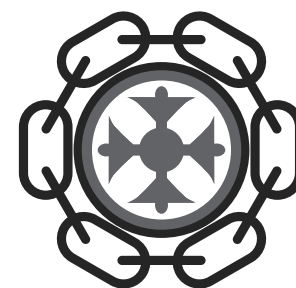


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Left Frank Smith. Right President Charles Murphy with Rebekah, front.



## Catenians raise vital funds for cancer charity

**The President of the Lytham St Annes Catenian Circle, Charles Murphy, has recently presented a cheque for £1,400 to the Rosemere Cancer Foundation.**

The monies were raised last year during the first year of Charles' office. The Rosemere Centre is close to Charles' heart as well as a number of members of the Lytham St Anne's Circle. Charles was accompanied at the event by Brother Frank Smith, whose wife Helene recently passed away, along with Brother Brian Lee's daughter Alexandria. Both

were treated at the Rosemere Centre in Preston and Chorley.

Rebekha Arestidou, Fylde Area Fund Raising Co-ordinator, accepted the cheque on behalf of the Rosemere Cancer Foundation. Rebekha had recently given a talk on the work and the funding of Rosemere through the medium of Zoom at Lytham St Annes Circle meeting. The money for the chosen Charity was raised during the year from events such as the Virtual Christmas Party, donations and a sponsored 100 mile cycle ride from Cleator, near Whitehaven, to

Squires Gate, Blackpool, undertaken by Brother John Maguire. Unfortunately, in this year of 'lockdown', with no face to face meetings, there has been little opportunity for fundraising as in normal times.

Rosemere Cancer Foundation works to bring world class Cancer treatments and services to patients throughout Lancashire and South Cumbria. The main home of Rosemere is the Royal Preston Hospital, which houses the radiotherapy and specialist treatment units. The Rosemere has a presence in eight more

hospitals across the two counties, including Blackpool Victoria Hospital where it helped to fund a new adult triage unit. The Charity funds cutting edge equipment, clinical research, staff training and innovative services and initiatives which the NHS struggles to provide. For further information on the work and fundraising, visit: [www.rosemere.org.uk](http://www.rosemere.org.uk)

For more details of the Catenian Association take a look at their website [www.thecatenians.com](http://www.thecatenians.com) and see how they combine faith, fun, family and friendship.

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