

The Catholic VOICE *of Lancaster*

The Official Newspaper to
the Diocese of Lancaster
Issue 272 + September 2015

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p12 Called by God to be
a Carmelite



Thy Will Be Done!

Read all about
Fr John-Paul's
journey to the
priesthood
on Page 3 >>



Please pray for Father John-Paul Evans ordained to the priesthood in July. He is seen above giving his first blessing as a priest to Bishop Michael Campbell who ordained him in the Cathedral at Lancaster surrounded by many clergy, family and friends. Fr John- Paul hails from St Mary's Great Eccleston, where he celebrated his first Mass the following day.

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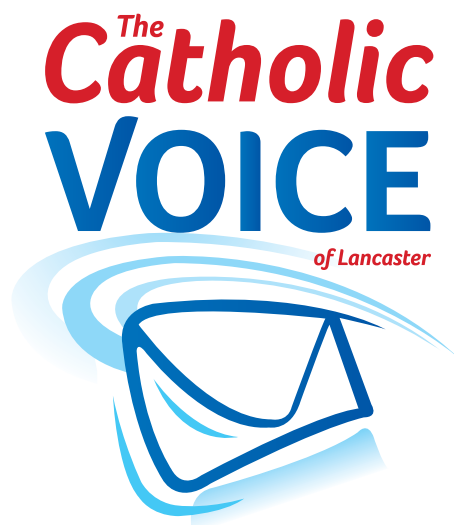
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EDITORIAL

On Friday 11th September the Assisted Dying Bill will be considered by the House of Commons. This Private Member's Bill would licence doctors to supply lethal drugs to 'competent' adult patients who are terminally ill to assist them in committing suicide.

The Catholic Voice opposes this Bill. The British mindset is such that once something becomes legal it becomes acceptable even moral. What kind of message does this send our youth about the legitimacy of suicide as an exit route out of unbearable suffering?

Over time people might consider their 'end of life plan', in much the same way as one makes provisions for one's funeral and burial. Natural concerns about being a burden to loved ones rapidly turns a so-called 'right to die' into a 'duty to die'.

In the Netherlands, where euthanasia has been legal since 2002, deaths by euthanasia account for 3% of all deaths. Deaths by euthanasia increased by 151% in just 7 years, and last year included 42 people with mental health problems. There are now mobile euthanasia units for those whose doctors refuse to assist. And Belgium has now recently extended euthanasia provision to children.

The end of life is a messy and painful business. Pain can be part of the slow and difficult process of letting go. Knowing the temptation to end pain quickly, both St Therèse of Lisieux and Martha Robin believed that potentially lethal drugs should not be left within reach of the severely ill.

Some people, who would elect euthanasia for themselves, turn out to be the very people who fight a terminal illness with every last breath, so great is the 'survival instinct'. If such people have made a 'living will' electing euthanasia and changed their mind,

but are unable to communicate clearly, and there is money potentially to be inherited, they could indeed be killed against their will.

Bereaved people already struggle with guilt, anger and regret, without adding potential resentments towards a loved one for taking their life, or guilt about allowing them to do so (*or not*). There are enough decisions about treatment and location of care towards the end of life without adding to the decision-burden of the living and dying.

The pre-Christian Hippocratic Oath (C5th BC), traditionally sworn by doctors, states: 'Nor shall any man's entreaty prevail upon me to administer poison to anyone'.

Epidemics (Book I) of the Hippocratic school held the principle to 'first do no harm'. The British Medical Association has traditionally opposed euthanasia, arguing that people need to be able to trust their doctor's intention to save life, wherever possible.

The Public Prosecutor already has discretion not to prosecute in cases where a family member assists in a death 'wholly motivated by compassion'. Exceptional cases make bad law. What is at stake here is the message such a law would send out to the people of this land. Life is sacrosanct, not disposable. Suffering is inevitable, not avoidable. The solution is better investment in palliative care, and protection of our most vulnerable.

The Catholic Voice urges readers to pray a Rosary, or make a Holy Hour for the intention that this Bill will not become law, and (for the healthy) to strengthen the force of your prayer with a day of fasting. 'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of' (Tennyson)

Write to your MP. There's still time.



A so-called 'right to die' can become a 'duty to die'

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of"

" Tennyson

“Samuel, Samuel...” Speak LORD your servant is listening.”

(1Sam 3:10)

No, this is definitely not how my call to priesthood began. There was no great flash, the Angel of the Lord did not appear in a dream, but there was – as with all vocations – a personal call, to me from God. I didn't grow up with the idea of becoming a priest. I assumed like “most people” I would get a job, get married, have children and live my life. I wished to go into a career as an electronic engineer after university and took a job dealing with and resolving IT problems.

Since the age of 8 I had been an altar server. I have fond memories of Church – May processions and the Crowning of Our Lady's statue, Stations of the Cross during Lent, Rosary devotions in October and regular Benediction. Unfortunately some of these traditional practices seem to have all but disappeared from parish life in recent times. Despite this early beginning centred on the Eucharist, prayer and devotion to Our Blessed Mother, it was not until I was about 21 that I really started to think more about priesthood.

One Sunday during Mass I remember the Joy of actually ‘hearing’ the Gospel for the first time! It was alive and spoke to me. The Gospel - (Matt. 16:13-20) - recalled when Jesus asks the disciples who they think He is and Peter declared to Jesus

“You are the Christ the Son of the Living God.” When I heard this it was as though I was being asked personally (which I was) “John-Paul who do you say I am? I want you to respond!” It was with that the idea of priesthood first came to mind.

Over the next few weeks and months I was really aware that Christ speaks to us all personally in the Gospel and I began to realise that He was calling me to serve Him, not just as an altar server at Mass – but as a Priest. Around that same time, with the encouragement and support of my parish priest I signed up to represent the parish at the 2005 World Youth Day in Germany. I remember the call to priesthood constantly filling my life and during a WYD retreat at Castlerigg I just had to tell someone about it. I spoke to one of the priests on the retreat who reassured me that it was a great thing to be called to priesthood and that I should talk it through with my parish priest.

When I returned I went to speak to the parish priest who was greatly supportive and encouraged me to begin praying more. I began at that point to pray Morning, Evening and Night prayer from the Divine Office.

It was while I was at World Youth Day in Germany that I was prompted to say “Yes”

to Christ's call. What prompted me? (*Other than the Holy Spirit*) – At a catechesis session, Cardinal McCarrick spoke about our whole life being a pilgrimage, not just the prayers we say or the pilgrimages we make, but everything. And this pilgrimage is towards God. At the end of the session, the Cardinal asked us two questions: ‘What does God want from me today?’ and ‘How do I live my Faith?’ My response was that I must say “Yes” to the call to priesthood.

That was 10 years ago and there is the temptation now to think that because I've been ordained that I have somehow finished the journey. In reality it's just the start. What is clear, however, is that over the years I would not be where I am today without the love and support from family and friends. One of my first duties as a priest was to conduct the requiem Mass for my Aunt. She was so proud to see me ordained and be at my first Mass. It's been a rough start but I trust in the Lord. At the end of my first Mass I dedicated my priesthood to Mary the Mother of Priests who knows well the joys and sorrows that come from serving the Lord. And so with assurance of the intercession of Mary the Mother of God I look forward to what the Lord asks of me next, while fulfilling what I have already been called to do.

Father John-Paul Evans



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Turin Shroud on show

Being a YOUNG Catholic Today

Misha, 22, Odessa, Ukraine
(presently at Castlerigg)

Hi, my name is Misha. I was born in Ukraine and at a young age my parents got divorced, and my father died shortly after that. Life wasn't very pleasant at the beginning and so much pressure for my mother. Apart from looking after me, my mum had to study, work and bring me up all on her own. It was a difficult time because sometimes I would have to be left alone or my mum would take me to university with her.

At some point, our relationship became worse and I turned into a street kid, and started to do things that I am now ashamed of. My behaviour was quite bad, I didn't study properly at school, and of course my mum did not like this, so we started to argue a lot and quarrel.

Then my mother found out about a Christian organisation in Odessa with a daily drop-in centre for young people. I didn't really want to go but my mother gave me no option. I would go there after school and I was helped to do my homework and make new friends and go on annual trips. This time changed my life because this was a Christian centre and this is where I discovered about God and thought about spiritual things deeply. I learnt how to pray and to read the Bible. Of course I had my ups and downs but I successfully finished school, and with the centre's help I went to university.

After graduating I wanted to do a gap

year abroad in England and spent a year in Wolverhampton and then applied for a second year through an organisation called Time for God. This is how I ended up at Castlerigg. To be honest I did not know what would await me at Castlerigg. When I arrived and went to my first Mass I didn't really know what was going on because I wasn't used to Catholic worship as my background had been Orthodox and the centre which I belonged to was Protestant.

At the beginning I would have none of it. I sat at Mass and waited for it to end, but I enjoyed the sign of peace. But gradually I began to accept it, but not completely until I went on a trip to London and ended up in Westminster Cathedral where something amazing happened. During the tour of the treasury of the cathedral, Mass had started in Latin and I stood on the balcony and looked at this Mass, and then I felt drawn to the Mass, and so I sent my other friends away for lunch. I joined in the Mass. This was something so new for me and during the Mass, I felt completely at peace and fully content and I just wanted to stay there and I was just happy.

After I returned to Castlerigg, I told this story to the Castlerigg team and they were quite amazed by this change of heart. The priest here has told me that our faith is all about the Mass, and after celebrating the Easter mysteries, I cannot imagine myself without Mass at all.

There was something about the opportunity to visit the Shroud of Turin during one of the rare expositions or "showings" that just couldn't be missed. From the moment I heard about it I knew it was something that "had" to be done. Such a rare opportunity does not come your way very often and so a handful of young people from around the UK grabbed the opportunity with both hands and said "Yes" to a trip to Turin at this special time.

The Shroud was last shown at the Millennium and the 2015 Exposition coincides with the bi-centenary of the birth of St John Bosco, an inspirational priest and youth minister, whose relics came to Liverpool three years ago. In order to be there when Pope Francis visited we travelled out over what was expected to be a very busy weekend, 19th -22nd June 2015. The graces that blessed us however made us aware of what a special opportunity we had been given and everything fell into place so easily.

Making the most of the opportunity we visited the grave of Blessed Chiara 'Luce' Badano, a 19-year old who suffered from terminal cancer and died in 1990, but who through her faith inspired so many

to witness to Jesus. We then processed through Turin Cathedral to spend time contemplating the Shroud and Jesus's passion and death. It was such a privilege to be offered the opportunity to do this.

The Shroud allows us to ponder, to stop, to recall and to be silent in gratitude at the greatest love humankind can ever know.

God in His goodness reveals Himself through such signs and symbols and such a Holy Object causes us to pause and ask deeper questions and to answer the invitation of Christ.

It was a special, vibrant and exciting weekend, significant in so many ways, not least to see the Shroud and to share this time with Pope Francis, but personally, to learn about the life and work of St John Bosco, a man inspired by Christ to work with young people and to trust each step, with generosity and courage. He stepped out continually, didn't compromise his integrity to share faith with young people and trusted God's providence in everything. "Meet the young people where they are at" was his motto and inspiration, and, because he did this, many thousands have turned their life towards God.

Ruth Corless

Make a Difference



As most of you will already know CAFOD have started a big three year campaign about Climate Change. As part of this campaign, I was invited to spend a weekend

where we entered into a simulated experience to try to get us to think about the fact that things we do in this part of the country and how they do affect those around the world.

The role that we had to play in the simulation was one of an indigenous community in the Amazon, and as a result of a logging company 'claiming' our land we were 'forced' out of our homes and we had to set up temporary camps elsewhere.

Although we knew it was all pretend and that it would finish in the morning there

were some parts of the simulation which were rather scary, and it opened my eyes to the fact that this actually happens to communities around the world, and often without really realising it, we do have an impact on the environment all over the world. We often speak about how we are just 'passing through' this world because there is somewhere even better to go to in the 'next life' but that doesn't mean that we should just ignore the things around us. Catholic means universal, and we're all the same, we shouldn't just turn a blind eye and not really think about people who live in the Amazon, living off the land or whatever. Through this simulation, it really made me think about those people who really do suffer, not just by being moved out of their homes, but those who are affected by climate change. And often we just think that we are only one person so what's the point in trying to change anything. But this taught me that though we may just be one person, we can make a difference. *Grace, 18, Fleetwood*



When Father Collins first talked to me about the opportunity to go to Lourdes as a volunteer it was something that vaguely interested me but as I wasn't going to be sixteen until the end of July it was something I put to the back of my mind. I knew back in January that my GCSEs were looming and I needed to concentrate on securing my grades for sixth form.

A couple of weeks later I attended a meeting before Mass, albeit a little reluctantly. After a discussion with my Mum and a fair bit of encouragement from my Dad I realised that volunteering was a real possibility and something I felt I could do. I had many questions, with the majority of them being about whether I actually had the ability to do it.

I signed up, received an email from Ruth from the Youth Service and put the date in my diary for the first meeting. Prior to the

first meeting I felt incredibly anxious. I didn't know anyone. What would happen if I didn't have anything in common with anyone? What would happen if no one talked to me?

On the evening of the meeting I nearly backed out but I needn't have worried. The welcome I received was so warm. There were people who looked exactly as I felt but by the end of the meeting I knew that going to Lourdes was something I not only wanted to do, but was looking forward to.

Not only have I gained experience, training and skills – achieving things I never expected I could have – but I've also met a group of the best people anyone could want to meet, some of whom have become really good friends in a short space of time. And not having anything in common? We all have our faith in common. It's been amazing to be with so many people who aren't afraid to

talk about their faith, their beliefs and their love of God. It has strengthened my faith and given me an opportunity to live out my faith as I volunteer helping others.

I know before I even depart for Lourdes the biggest step I have had to take wasn't on my sponsored walk, or wade, across Morecambe Bay raising money to fund the trip, it wasn't across the hills on my weekend team-building at Castlerigg or even learning to push a wheelchair safely up and down kerbs. It was the first step across the doorway of that very first meeting. I'm so pleased that I summoned up the courage and opened the door and my heart to a new and exciting chapter of my life.

I've already thought about future activities and Youth Service events I can get involved with and the only question I have now is 'Where do I sign up!'

Bethany, 16, Poulton



Blackpool MISSION

Towards the end of the Summer term, the Castlerigg team visited Blackpool. We always love every opportunity to visit Blackpool and this time was no exception with time to walk down the Prom, do a bit of shopping and visit the zoo.

We were hosted very generously by Fr John Winstanley at St Kentigern's and over our week, we worked with seven primary schools. We don't usually work with such a young age group. Many of the children had recently made their first Holy Communion, and we followed the theme of Jesus, the Bread of Life. Through games and fun, and by using drama and role play, the team helped to explain to the children how the events of Jesus's life are made present in the Mass. This is what some of the children from St Kent's had to say:

'I enjoyed it because we got to act out what happened in Jesus's life and we learnt about

what Jesus said at the Passover meal. Then we thought about the Mass and how it is similar to the Passover' (Jac);

'At the end we had to do a puzzle and we all had to work together to complete it. It was a picture of Jesus carrying a lamb and we had to think about what it means. I think it is telling us about the story of the lost sheep and that he will forgive our sins and go into God's arms' (Caine).



Horses & Courses – Appleby Fair



The Youth Service was invited once again to attend the Appleby Horse Fair. The Fair gathers Travellers from far and wide, forty thousand of them, and has been running each year for the past 400 years on a site just outside the town. The Fair is a fantastic experience with lots of hustle and bustle, different stalls, horses charging up and down the high street, and lots and lots of people.

It is a celebration of Travellers culture, but what has seemed to be inconspicuous was a place to celebrate the faith which is so dear to so many Travellers – that is until a few Traveller women themselves acted upon an inspiration of the Holy Spirit to set up a tent of adoration in the midst of all the festivity. With great courage this dedicated group have set up a tent and made it a centre of evangelisation, offering welcome, hospitality, the opportunity to celebrate the sacraments and sing praise and worship. This year, the tent was pitched at the crossroads of the whole festival, a prime position, and Fr Alex from the local parish offered Mass and baptised, confirmed and celebrated first communions for many of the children, the girls all dressed immaculately in beautiful white dresses and the boys in pressed shirts and ties. After the Sunday celebration, there was a Corpus Christi procession around the whole site. It was as if Jesus had pitched his tent amongst his people, and now he walked amongst them.

Wherever the Eucharist went, people were respectful, stopping and watching intently, turning down their music, making the sign of cross and even falling to their knees. A beautiful sense of peace accompanied the Lord wherever he went, as those followed sung the Divine Mercy chaplet with great joy and love in their hearts.

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Dear Editor,

It was refreshing to hear that Pope Francis has again hit the spot by bringing to our attention the dangers of climate change. Perhaps he will immediately issue an instruction banning the use of incense. Well it would be a start!

Mrs. Elda Scott, Caton

Editor's Comment

In the Old Testament God commanded His people to burn incense. The Church uses incense to venerate, bless, and sanctify. Its smoke conveys a sense of mystery and awe. It is a reminder of the sweet-smelling presence of our Lord. Its use adds a feeling of solemnity to the Mass and other services signifying as it does our prayers rising to Heaven. The visual imagery of the smoke and the smell reinforce the transcendence of the Mass linking Heaven with Earth, allowing us to enter into the presence of God. The smoke symbolizes the burning zeal of faith that should consume all Christians, while the fragrance symbolizes Christian virtue.



Dear Editor,

The Catholic Voice – Let's move it!

As a member of the Holy Family parish, Barrow, I have noticed the majority of the free diocesan newspapers are not being taken by parishioners. I believe the reasons for this, in our church, are threefold :

- The papers are left in the wrong place
- The papers are laid flat and consequently when lifted any advertising inserts fall out
- No one hands them out

I have therefore taken the initiative to readjust the inserts and fold the papers and now stand at a convenient point at the end of Mass and hand the papers out – result 95% of the papers were gratefully taken by parishioners.

I am sure that Bishop Campbell, as well as the editorial team, is keen for parishioners to read this very good publication. Supermarkets use professionals to advise them on how to move a product so my advice to any parish experiencing similar problems is to:

- Ask someone to fold the papers
- Ask someone to hand the papers out after Mass
- Provide a receptacle with a sign saying 'Your *FREE* diocesan newspaper, please take one' for weekday visitors

Make the effort; Make the change; Make the difference!

Yours sincerely,
Michael Maguire, Barrow

Editors Comment

The Catholic Voice welcomes this letter and fully endorses the sentiments expressed. The Catholic Voice is published 10 times a year and the distribution of papers after Mass only takes 5 or 10 minutes so is not an onerous commitment. Speak to your PP today if you can help out with this task in your parish.



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Photo courtesy of Ian Mulholland

The Preston Deanery held its annual Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday 7th June, 2015 at St. Walburge's Shrine Church.

There was a good turnout to honour the Blessed Sacrament. The Processional route included external Station Altars with

prayers, reflections and hymns at each followed by Benediction inside the Church. Taking part were the Polish and Keralan communities, the Knights of St. Columba, Cub Scouts, banner carriers, altar servers, Deacons and Priests and parishioners from across Preston. The sun shone and Our Lord was duly honoured.

Canon Adrian Towers (VF)

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Telephone: 01253 824457
Email: admin@st-teresa.blackpool.sch.uk
Website: <http://www.stteresapri.sch.uk>



Outstanding

Earlier this year Christ the King was the first secondary school to be inspected under the new framework for Section 48 Denominational Inspection.

The inspection examined in detail the Catholic life of the school, looking in particular at the areas of proclamation, prayer and liturgy, community life and service and social justice. Additionally the provision for Religious Education was scrutinised in terms of student achievement, enjoyment and engagement and the quality of teaching and learning.

The school was judged to be outstanding, with many areas of development noted since the school achieved a "good" inspection report in 2010. Inspectors were left in no doubt that "Christ is at the centre of this school community". The report makes special mention of the inclusive nature of Christ the King and the way in which students are actively involved in shaping the prayer life of the school. Students described their teachers

as "superstars who make the school an enjoyable place to be". The leadership across the school was recognised to be outstanding.

The outstanding progress made by students in Religious Education was a feature of the report which identified strong teaching and high levels of engagement and interest in the subject.

Headteacher Damien Callagher said "We work extremely hard to ensure that as a Catholic school we place Jesus Christ at the heart of all that we do. For example, inspectors were not only impressed by our extensive charity work, but more importantly by how students were able to articulate that helping others is part of our mission as a Catholic school. I am delighted that the dedication and commitment of our staff, governors and students has been recognised in this report."

A full copy of the Inspection Report is available on the school website www.ckk.lancs.sch.uk



Together in One Body

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

The changes that have taken place at Corpus Christi Catholic High School in Fulwood Preston over the past two years, can only be described as transformational. Since new headteacher David Hubbard took up post in April 2013, the pace of change has been rapid.

Changes introduced have included an impressive new uniform, a highly effective approach to managing behaviour, a strong focus on improving teaching, new systems for improving attendance and new reports to parents.

The most recent inspection in October 2014, confirms that Corpus Christi is 'improving quickly' and recognises that 'the headteacher has established an atmosphere of ambition, aspiration and high expectations.'

In 2014, Corpus Christi was the second most improved school in Lancashire for the proportion of pupils attaining 5 or more GCSE grades at A*-C including mathematics and English.

Mr Hubbard says 'Relationships between pupils and staff are very positive and reflect the huge importance that we attach to respecting the unique dignity and value of every person. Pupils are exceptionally well mannered and the courtesy that they show to our visitors is always very impressive.'

Open Evening: Thursday 8th October 6 – 8.30pm

St Vincent's Road, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 8QY
www.ccc.lancs.sch.uk | 01772 716912 | admin@ccc.lancs.sch.uk



'Passing Out Parade'

Corpus Christi Catholic High School's Preston Year 9 Fire Cadets proudly participated in their 'Passing Out Parade' in full uniform to celebrate what they have learnt and achieved during several months of training since joining their Fire Cadet Unit.

The event was attended by County Councillor Frank De Molfetta, Chairman of the Lancashire Combined Fire Authority (CFA) together with the Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service Community Protection Manager Kyran Ronson and Preston and Fulwood Station Manager Nick Ingham.

After welcoming guests, parents and Year 8 pupils Headteacher Mr Hubbard said how proud he was of the nine cadets achievements and thanked all the Fire and Rescue Service staff who have been involved in training the cadets and being so committed to the training programme this year. An address by Kyran Ronson then explained that the Unit had been formed in support of a national initiative believing that being a member of a uniformed youth group creates a range of benefits for young people, including improved motivation, self-confidence and resilience, leadership and social skills, as well as improving young people's engagement and contribution to the community.

The Fire Cadets then gave an operational demonstration to extinguish a simulated grass fire in full Duty Rig to a captivated

audience. Utilising a fully operational fire engine the cadets, using a school static water supply source 'drafted' water through their assembled hose connections onto targeted 'fire' areas on the school forecourt.

Pupils have been learning many fire and rescue operational skills; hazards and risks but also have been working on a community project, learning basic first aid skills and understanding the consequences of anti-social behaviour. Cadets also had the opportunity to take part in a fully practical 'Enrichment Day' at the Service's Training Centre in Chorley. Presentation of 'Fire Cadet Certificates of Achievement' were given in the school hall by Nick Ingham with commendations to each receiving cadet by Unit Team Instructors Carla Benaron and Christine Slater on their individual performances within the unit. A special note of recognition went to pupil Mark Brown for undertaking the role of Fire Ambassador for the school's unit.

Cadet parent Mr Martin said, 'Luke has really enjoyed being a cadet and is very keen to carry on with the course, notably because he has now become very keen on becoming a fireman!' Similarly Mr and Mrs Shorrock have been very impressed with their daughter's cadetship. 'Stephanie has grown in confidence which we have personally noticed since joining and she really enjoys attending every Tuesday after school.'

John Scarborough

Congratulations to Father Val!

Fr Farrell celebrated his priestly Golden Jubilee with the children of Holy Family primary school at a special assembly.

The children shared some special memories of Father Farrell and presented him with gifts and cards. The school choir also sang one of Father's favourite hymns, Deep Peace. One of our parents, Mrs Barber, made a 'Fr Farrell Cupcake' for every pupil and she also presented Father with a special Golden Jubilee Cake.

Helen Moreton, Headteacher

The Catholic Voice extends warm congratulations to Fr Val Farrell on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee. Fr Farrell was the Editor of our Diocesan Newspaper for many years.





To celebrate their patronal feast, the parishioners of S.S. Peter & Paul, Lea, Preston held a social evening which included a cabaret, organ music and a wonderful buffet.

One of our more artistic parishioners made an 8ft banner depicting the two Saints – Peter & Paul, which was displayed above the stage. *Mrs A. Molloy*



Feeding the world starts in Windermere

St Cuthbert's primary school has collected more than 100 kilograms of food to help support local families in need after the town's Foodbank helped them answer the question "Is there enough food in the world?"

Windermere and District Foodbank project manager Magda Khan's visit to the school last year triggered the school's commitment for each family to contribute one item of food to the foodbank each week for a whole year.

Magda, who was invited into a school assembly when she collected the latest batch of food, said: "It was wonderful to see how enthusiastic the children were to hear how their efforts were helping local people. We're also grateful to their parents for vital support."

Headteacher Peter Harrison said: "It's all too easy to pay lip service to a social cause. Children need more than an assembly message to be part of helping those less fortunate than themselves when they live in an area where they often see only a veneer of wealth in the community."

"The food collection box was full at the end of the first week and the contributions just kept on coming. Of course there were additional curricular benefits in terms numbers of items collected and where food is sourced."

In a letter to parents at the start of the initiative, Peter wrote: "There are times when I believe we should put politics aside and instead simply show acts of kindness." St Cuthbert's caters for 70 pupils aged from three to eleven from Ambleside, Staveley and Kendal as well as Windermere.

The food parcels, issued by the foodbank for vouchers distributed by a range of frontline professionals, include at least three days' supply of nutritionally balanced non-perishable food.

The Windermere Foodbank is located in the basement of The Methodist Church, Main Street, Windermere L23 1DY, and is open between 1.00 and 3.00pm every Wednesday and Friday. Telephone 015394 22569 or 07789 728 811.

Mike Duffield, Foodbank volunteer



Missio Concert

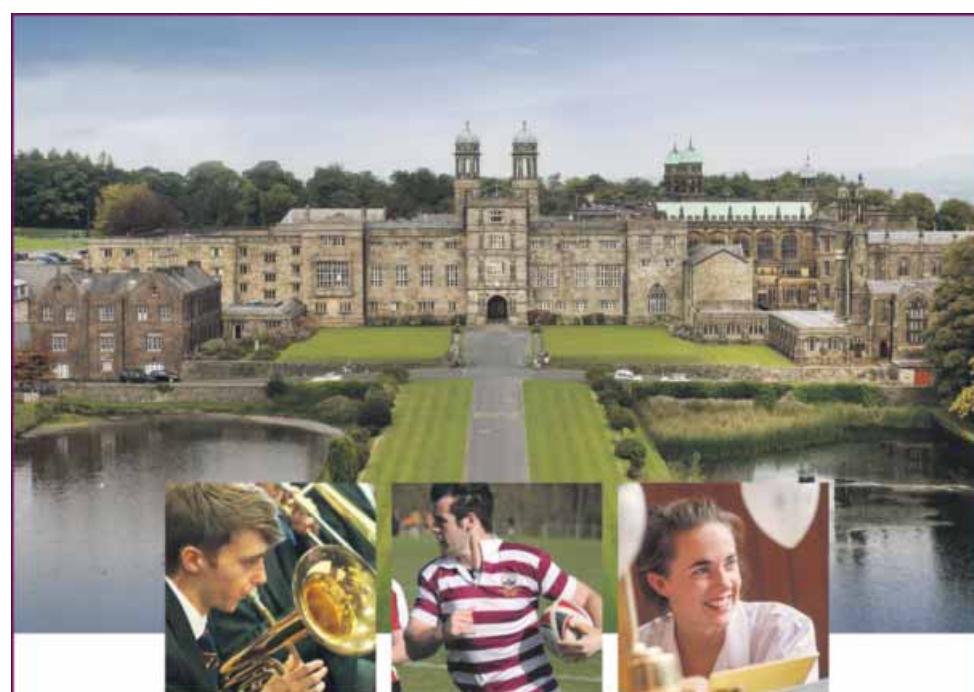
A concert in Preston raised £555 for Missio (the Catholic Charity endorsed by Pope Francis which works in the poorest and most deprived parts of the world) in response to the appeal for help following the terrible earthquakes in Nepal.

Pupils from all years willingly took part and gave wonderful performances including the choir, solo singers, instrumentalists, dancers, staff and choir from St. Joseph's Church and even

professional solo performances from an excellent team of visiting Instrumental teachers! The evening was well-supported, proved very enjoyable and included a wide variety of music from popular styles to Classical and even sing-a-long pieces!

In addition proceeds from the evening enabled £50 to go towards sponsoring one of the students to go as part of the Youth team to Lourdes on the Diocesan pilgrimage. *Mrs Pendlebury*

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*The***CROSSING***from Hynning
to Boarbank*

The Sisters of Hynning and Boarbank celebrated the Year of Consecrated Life at the end of May with a weekend called 'The Crossing'. This began on Friday at Hynning and ended on Sunday at Boarbank. In between times, the participants made a pilgrimage from one convent to the other by walking across Morecambe Bay.

The Sisters were joined, for all or part of the weekend, by various young people, including a group led by Ruth Corless of Castlerigg, who were raising money to go to Lourdes, and a Vocations Group from the Leeds Diocese led by Fr Paul Grogan. Fr John McGowan from the Preston Carmelites also joined us for the Bay Walk.

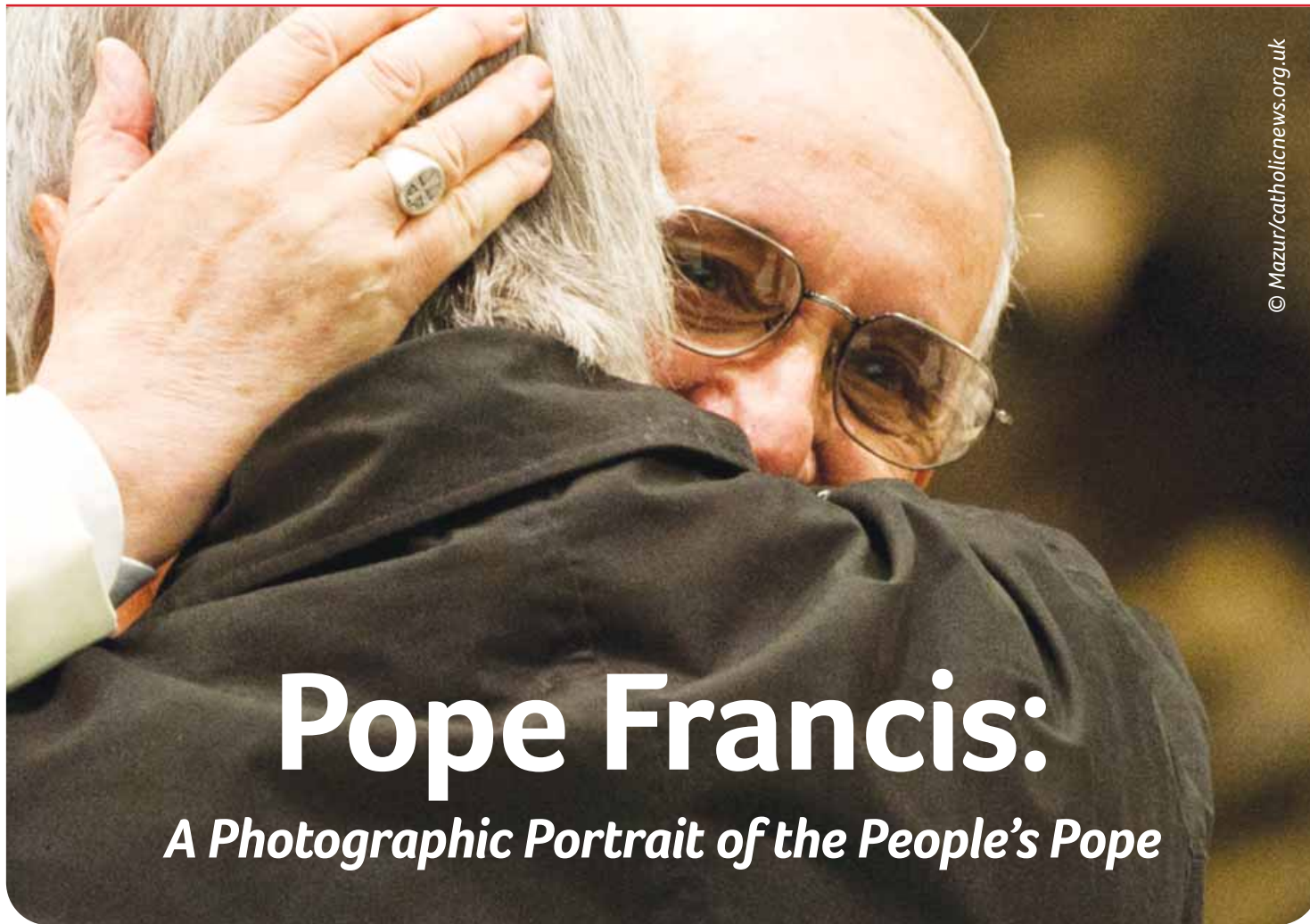
At Hynning Dr Mike Warren of the Arnside & Silverdale Landscape Trust gave us a fascinating illustrated account of wildlife and geology of the area, while two Sisters gave presentations on the charisms of our respective orders. About 3 o'clock, we joined hundreds of others at Arnside for the walk, led as always by Cedric Robinson, the Queen's guide.

It was exhilarating to step out across the sands on this blustery day. As we walked on to the centre, we crossed channels of water and back on dry land the sand ridges formed by waves became hard under foot. The bay felt like a different world, remote from normal life. As we walked, we enjoyed views of woodland, fells and coastline with Walney Island to the North, its turbines visible.

After the final leg, from Kents Bank to Boarbank, we celebrated with chilli con carne and wine, followed by Compline, before the Sisters returned to Hynning. The Leeds group stayed on at Boarbank for Sunday Mass.

'The Crossing' was a powerful symbol of many things: of the Christian life, and of religious life, as a journey, of the idea of making a decision to change from one way of life to another, and of friendship that involves walking side-by-side, from one home to another. It was also a symbol of how close our different religious communities are to each other – just 'walking distance away!'

BOOK REVIEW



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Pope Francis:

A Photographic Portrait of the People's Pope

Featuring exclusive images by official papal photographer Rodolfo Felici, Pope Francis offers an intimate insight in to the work and life of the first Pope from the Americas. With insightful text by Father Michael Collins, priest, author, broadcaster and Vatican insider, Pope Francis also provides an unrivalled and informed look in to the day-to-day life of Pope Francis and the Vatican.

The Catholic Voice has had the opportunity to interview the author of this splendid book.

Catholic Voice

Fr Michael please can you tell us a little about yourself?

Fr. Michael

I was born in 1960 in Dublin, the youngest of four children and educated here. My father and brother were architects and I entered the diocesan seminary when I was 17- far too young! However, I was ordained at the age of 25 and appointed to a couple of parishes for ten years before having the chance to study at the Pontifical Institute of Christian Archeology in Rome. I enjoyed my time immensely in the city as I love art, music and architecture. There is no other city in the world quite like Rome. I did a post graduate and later taught at a number of American universities in Rome. In 2000 I published a book, *The Story of Christianity*, with an American co- author. I got the bug for writing and wrote another few books on the papacy. After my father died in 2004 I returned to Dublin where I served in a number of parishes. At present I am in the parish of St. Mary's in central Dublin.

My hobbies include travel, music, cinema, photography and art. I write a weekly column for *The Catholic Times* called Hidden Gems which gives me the chance to write about anything cultural or religious which comes into my head! I also write for *Catholic Life* and *Vatican Past and Present*. I believe very strongly in the importance of the Catholic press, and also in the duty we have to support the press. In contemporary society the Catholic Press offers the only sanctuary where we can find fair and in depth analysis of our faith.

Catholic Voice

Where did the idea for the book come from?

Fr. Michael

In 2008 I wrote a book for DK Publishing called *Vatican, Secrets and Treasures of the Holy City*. It was mainly a visual book with some 2,000 photographs. In one section I followed twelve people through the day, from Pope Benedict, Cardinal Sandri, a choirboy,

an art restorer in the museums to a Sister who takes care of the poor etc. One of these was a young man called Rodolfo Felici. His family firm had been in business for over 150 years and were the official papal photographers. Last summer I met Rodolfo and he suggested the idea of collaborating on a book on Pope Francis. I had already written a short biography of Pope Francis for Liturgical Press so I had a fairly good idea of the man and his background. I went to London and met with DK, the publishers of the Vatican book. They liked the idea that most of the photographs could be from the papal photographer. It was, if you like, the unique selling point. We set to work, starting with a short introductory biography of Jorge Mario Bergoglio. We then laid out the book from the announcement of the abdication Pope Benedict on 11 February 2013, through the conclave, the election and the first two years of Pope Francis' pontificate. The fact that the Pope is going to America in September has greatly increased interest in the book. Pope Francis is incredibly popular in the States and over a million people are expected to attend Mass in Philadelphia at the conclusion of the World Meeting of Families on 27 September.

Catholic Voice

Why do you think that Pope Francis connects with people so readily?

Fr. Michael

Pope Francis seems to connect easily to people because he speaks common sense. He is quite different from Pope Benedict whose prose and style were loftier. Francis also has wonderful facial expressions which make him a photographer's delight. We managed to capture a lot of those images in this new book.

Catholic Voice

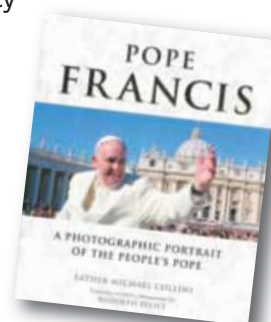
What is your favourite image of the Pope?

Fr. Michael

I can't say that I have any particular favourite photograph but I love the images of Pope Francis with sick people and the elderly. He has a very tender touch. It probably is due in part to the fact that he has now lived most of his life and appears to have a great empathy with people who are in difficulty and who are suffering. With exclusive access and stunning photography, this is a true celebration of Pope Francis.

Pope Francis: A Photographic Portrait of the People's Pope

Published by DK Publishing: 1st July 2015, Price: £20.00, ISBN: 9780241206157



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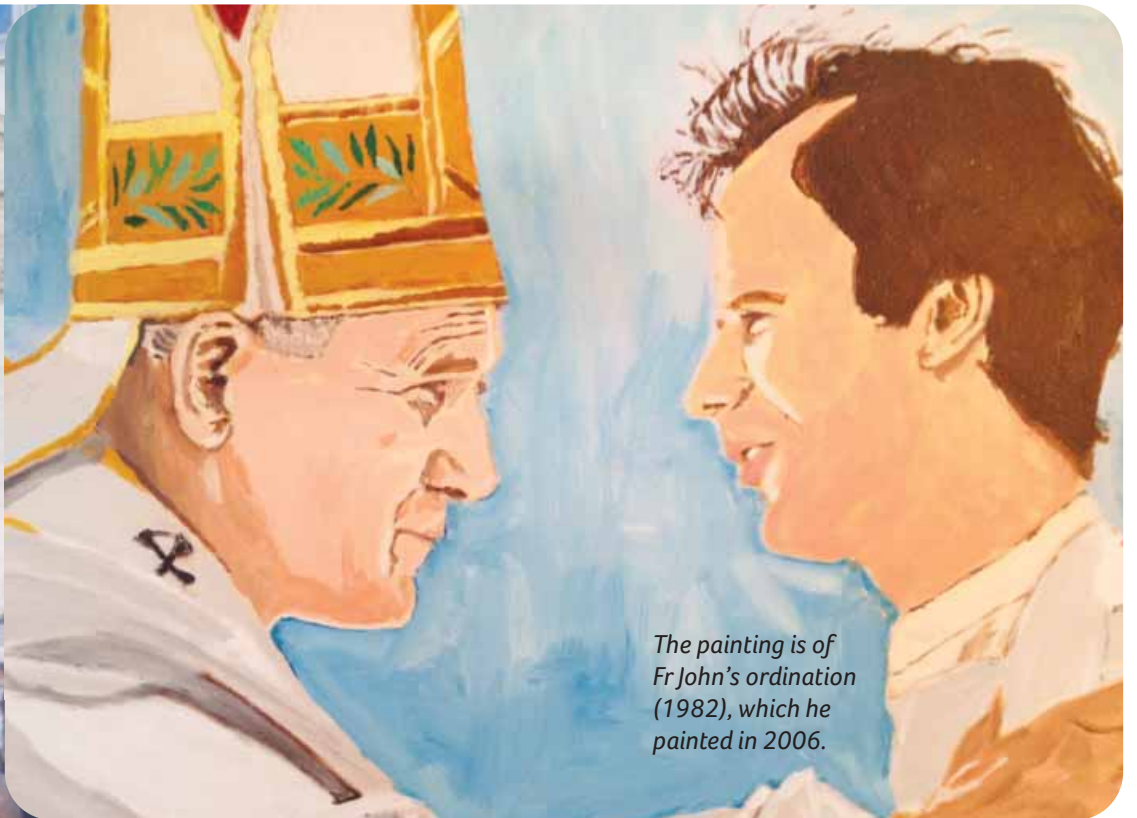


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Called by God to be a Carmelite



The painting is of Fr John's ordination (1982), which he painted in 2006.



It was January 1975 when the idea of becoming a priest first came into my head. A Jesuit had asked me some weeks before if I had ever thought about priesthood. I hadn't given it a moment's thought. However, he must have put a seed into my mind because I now wanted to be one. It was all so sudden. One moment I was going about my normal life, the next I knew it would never be the same again. It was a strange but exciting time.

Initially, I had just thought about being a priest, not a religious priest, but I was persuaded to take up this particular way and have not looked back. I thank God. The Carmelites are an ancient Order, and my branch, which has the strange sounding name, 'Discalced Carmelites', was founded in the 16th century by the great Spanish Saint, Teresa of Avila. She was an extraordinary woman of prayer, with deep insights into the ways of God. She taught me a great deal about myself, and about what is going on in my deepest spiritual self.

Here in the Tabor Carmelite Retreat House in Preston we try to share with others what we have learned. Teresa is not just for a Spanish audience nor is her teaching on prayer just for nuns and priests. She has something to say to all people, no matter what their circumstance in life. It is wonderful to see the interest today in prayer. We can thank the teaching of Second Vatican Council that, due to our baptism, everyone is called to be holy. More and more people are recognising that God is active and alive in their lives. They come to us for help, looking for guidance and support. I have quickly come to recognise the value of this House for the local Church. Regular visitors tell me they love coming here, where they find a peaceful place to pray, make new friends and discover more about what God is doing in their lives.

This year we are celebrating the 4th centenary of St Teresa's birth which happily coincides with the Year of Consecrated Life. As Vocation's Director I see this time as a God given opportunity to pray for vocations. Recently, another Carmelite nun was canonised in St Peter's Rome. St Mary of Jesus Crucified was a Palestinian, the first to be canonised.

We now pray through her intercession. Vocation is a wonderful thing. The word means calling. We believe that God has a purpose for us all, and the secret is finding what that purpose is. I hear people say that young people can't commit themselves for life anymore. I disagree with this. If God is calling you to serve Him in religious life or priesthood then He gives the desire and the commitment. It's a bit like falling in love and wanting to marry. This too is all God's work. Love and marriage is all consuming; when you meet someone you love you want to marry them, and it is for life. If someone has a vocation for religious life then they will not be happy until they become a Religious.

I know a nun who was born into a family of millionaires. She had all the world could offer; lots of money, a mansion to live in, a Ferrari to drive, luxurious holidays. And yet she felt there was something more to life; she didn't feel satisfied, indeed, she felt an emptiness. Then one day she gave it all up to enter an enclosed Carmelite convent. Of course, to some people this would seem madness, but to the person concerned it was what she had been seeking all along. Today, many years later, she is perfectly happy. There are many gifted and talented people who have given up good careers in order to dedicate their lives to God. They have done this because God has called them, and his call is so attractive that the sacrifice is minimal. A Religious gives up the possibility of marriage and having a family, but he or she doesn't think of what they have given up, rather what they have gained, which is the pearl beyond price.

The wonderful thing is, in spite of the material and secular world we live in, God is still calling people to dedicate their lives to him in religious life. If God calls you, you are blessed indeed. Not everyone will understand this, at least not at first, but when they see you are happy then they come round. Today we need more and more people to respond to God's call. It is all God's work. His ways are not ours. There are Priests and Religious today who never thought they would end up where they are, but they are grateful to God for calling them. Yes, indeed, it is all His work. *Fr John McGowan*

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OF ENGLAND & WALES
For the Promotion of the Traditional Roman Rite
Mass Listings – September 2015
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Shrine Church of St Walburga, Preston
Mondays – Fridays: 12 noon, Low Mass (except First Friday 7.00 pm)
Saturdays: 10.30 am, Low Mass
Sundays: 10.30 am, Sung Mass
Sunday September 6th at 3.00 pm
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St Peter's Cathedral, Lancaster
Monday September 14th at 7.30 pm
Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Our Lady & St Joseph, Carlisle
Saturday September 19th at 8.00 am
Votive Mass of Blessed Sacrament
(during Quarante Ore)
Our Lady & St Joseph, Carlisle
Sunday September 27th at 10.30 am
Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church
Pontifical Low Mass & Confirmations
celebrated by Bishop Michael Campbell OSA
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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.
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Lancaster Diocese Year of Priestly Vocations 2015-16



The Year of Priestly Vocations for the Diocese of Lancaster will be launched on the weekend 19th – 20th September 2016 Home Mission Sunday, because our mission in the next year will be to promote priestly vocations in our Diocese. The Year of Priestly Vocations will be launched with Quarant Ore to be held at St. Clare's Church, Preston and Our Lady and St. Joseph's Church Carlisle. The year will be closed by Bishop Michael who will celebrate a Diocesan Mass at Lancaster Cathedral.

Prayer initiatives during the Year of Priestly Vocations 2015 – 2016

- Each parish will hold a Holy Hour for Vocations every week until the end of the Year of Priestly Vocations, starting after the Home Mission Sunday 20th September 2015 and ending on Home Mission Sunday 2016.
- Each high school, college and university will hold a period of prayer every week for the Year of Priestly Vocations, starting after the Home Mission Sunday 20th September 2015 and ending on Home Mission Sunday 2016.

Prayer is a dialogue and relationship with God and has the power to change hearts and minds. The entire people of God are responsible for promoting vocations and do so chiefly by persistent and humble prayer. These prayers are essential to the success of The Year for Priestly Vocations.

There is also personal prayer which helps an individual discover God's plan. Please join your local parish each week during the weekly Holy Hours and pray for vocations to the Priesthood.

Coming to a High School near you

During The Year of Priestly Vocations the Lancaster vocations team will be teaming up with the religious orders in the Diocese to deliver year 11 assemblies and year 10 vocations days. This work in high schools is vitally important as the potential future priests of the Diocese are in these schools.

Deanery Activities

As part of the Year of Priestly Vocations each Deanery will hold a Deanery Vocations Mass involving schools, colleges, universities and parishes. The Vocations Director or the Assistant Vocations Director will be the main celebrant at these Masses and will preach. These Deanery Masses will conclude with one Diocesan Mass for Vocations celebrated by the Bishop towards the end of The Year for Priestly Vocations.


Parish visits

The Vocations Director and Assistant Vocations Director will travel around the Diocese preaching on Vocations during the Year of Priestly Vocations. Their schedule will include as many parishes as possible during the year, including revisiting the targeted parishes during the build-up to the Year of Priestly Vocations. Wherever possible during the visit to the parish, there should be an opportunity for the Vocations Team to meet with the young people of the parish.

Social media

On the weekend of the 19th – 20th September, the new Diocese Vocations website will be launched incorporating all our other social media. The website is designed to be user friendly with lots of information which the potential discerners will find helpful.

Fr Darren Carden




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<< GET TO KNOW >>

HISTORY >>

Founded in Glasgow in 1919 we take our name in honour of Saint Columba, a Christian Missionary from Ireland, who helped to introduce Christianity to people in northern Britain. Our membership is limited to Catholic men aged 16 or over and we are founder members of the International Federation of Catholic Knights (IACK). Our principle aims include:

- Being dedicated to the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity and have more than 4000 members in over 300 councils in England, Scotland and Wales.
- Supporting the mission and doctrine of the Catholic Church and at the same time work for the spiritual and material good of its members and their families.
- Following the social teachings of the Catholic Church and work for the moral and social welfare of our communities, and in particular help the development of young people.

WHAT WE DO >>

- Bi annually go in pilgrimage to the Island of Iona and celebrate Mass in the Abbey on the feast day of St Columba.
- Undertake a national project over a two or three year period. Our current project is 'Mary's Meals' which provide life changing meals for some of the poorest children globally.
- Support our diocesan youth by providing financial assistance to those wishing to go to Lourdes and sponsoring the Tee Shirts worn by our youth in Lourdes. We have also supplied the Diocesan Youth Centre at Castlerigg with a defibrillator.

- Organise a five day national youth seminar at Hindsley Hall, Leeds which allows young people to get together to discuss current issues affecting them and the Church.
- Organise various national and local competitions for schools e.g. prayer writing, Nativity scene painting, essay writing and photography. Cardinal Allen School at Fleetwood has won first prize and third prize for prayer writing in the last few years.
- Stewarding and assisting at services locally and nationally at the request of the clergy.
- Financially support the John Foster home in India which caters for homeless boys who are willing to be educated.
- Support members and their families through a benevolent fund for those who are in need of financial, practical or spiritual support

WHAT WE NEED >>

- New members to enable us to continue to carry out our good works.

WHAT CAN YOU DO >>

- If you are male and a Catholic and can spare a couple of hours a month to assist us and the clergy in their ministry please get in touch; visit our website at:

www.ksc.org.uk

or contact Bruce McCalla 01253 720183 email brucemccalla@hotmail.co.uk

Bishop Patrick O'Donoghue, speaking in 2001, said that he wanted to see the KSC find a new role in a new Church in a new century. We hope through our guiding principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity that we are achieving this. *Bruce McCalla*

Our Lady's Catholic College Open Evening Tuesday 15th September 6.30pm



Morecambe Road,
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LA1 2RX

Headteacher:
Mrs Helen Seddon

Tel: 01524 66689
Fax: 01524 849441
email: main@olcc.lancs.sch.uk

The Knights of St Columba



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Working with Corpus Christi Catholic High School



JYM Partnership is proud to be associated with Corpus Christi Catholic High School and their continued success.

We are a Preston based practice of Architects, Building Surveyors and Project managers with extensive experience working for schools and a variety of public and private sector organisations. In 2013 we were appointed by Lancaster diocese to provide property consultancy services to Corpus Christi Catholic High School and to its cluster Primary Schools.

Following a funding application submitted with the school, finances were secured to provide a secure entrance feature, enabling the school to improve the security of the school and improve the safety of the Pupils and Staff. The glass fronted entrance feature has been complimented by a contemporary interior design scheme and bespoke reception desk, embossed with the school name. To emphasise the arrival of visitors to the new entrance the existing approaches have also been redesigned to deliver new landscaped areas, the theme of which is intended to continue throughout the school grounds.

Previous projects at Corpus Christi Catholic High School included a new secure entrance feature with landscaped approach, extensions to resource centre and internal remodelling works to existing school office areas.

Future developments currently under consideration at the school include improvements to: New rear entrance, School hall heating upgrade, External Landscape works, Library improvements, Office remodelling and Laboratory upgrades.

"Corpus Christi Catholic High School asked us to provide a bespoke Architectural Service, which gave us the opportunity to deliver a unique and complimentary design to the strong forms of the existing school buildings." said Jason Reynolds, Head of Architecture at the JYM Partnership. "The design is not only a high quality, attractive and clearly defined entrance statement, but it also provides additional security for the school, improving the safety of the Pupils and Staff - a paramount requirement of the scheme."

JYM

partnership

Consultants to Lancaster RC Diocese

We are proud to have worked with Corpus Christi Catholic High School on the following schemes:

- Entrance Extension
- External Landscaping
- Extension & Remodelling of Resource Centre

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- Architecture
- Quantity Surveying
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- CDM

Please contact us to discuss your particular requirements:

Michael McKeivitt / Christopher Bell

JYM Partnership LLP, Oak House, 28 Sceptre Way, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6AW

t: 01772 323666 f: 01772 338611

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