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The Official Newspaper to
the Diocese of Lancaster

Issue 303 + October '18

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Money!



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EDITORIAL

The three theological virtues are: faith, hope and love. How often do we think of these virtues? How often do we practice them? What do they mean and how do we practice them? This month the *Catholic Voice* focuses on Pages 8 and 9 on the rehabilitation and education of offenders. This editorial therefore celebrates 'Prisoners Sunday' (14 October) and the role of the Church with regards to prisoners. The *Catholic Voice* believes the most important thing the Church can do at all times and for prisoners in particular is to practice faith, hope and love. It is the best way in which any pastoral ministry and indeed the life of the Church can flourish.

Faith is that which helps us believe in God and all that He has said and revealed to us. St Paul (*Romans 1, 17*) says that "He who through faith is righteous shall live." By having faith, by knowing the will of God, we can live our lives accordingly and thus hope to share in the joy that awaits us in heaven. Faith is what gives meaning to our life, it elevates us to God, to the supernatural life. Without faith we are tied up in the trappings of materialism and relativism, that I am the centre of my existence and the only thing that matters are me and material goods. Faith is so important for many in prison, it is through faith that many are able to amend their way of life, but also give meaning to what are in many cases very sad and broken lives.

Hope is that virtue by which we desire God, eternal life and ultimately happiness. Christian hope is focused again like faith on the supernatural. A prison can be a place of despair, the lives of individuals can seem hopeless to them, little chance of release, no prospects if they are released. But it is this great virtue of hope that the Church should strive to assist people, especially prisoners in attaining. When we lose hope we can

lose our desire to do better and this can damage rehabilitation. If despair grips an individual the desire to make amends for the crimes committed or the sufferings inflicted can be lost. The Church must instil hope, a hope that will last. St Augustine offers some wise words that are particularly appropriate "Hope has two beautiful daughters. Their names are anger and courage, anger at the way things are, and courage to see that they do not remain the way they are." That anger can be at the system and at ones way of life, but the courage comes in seeing that change and conversion can happen and that all that is wrong can be made right.

Love, the greatest of the virtues is imperative. It is being charitable that we as a Church can hope to attract people to the faith. The motto of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest is "Live the truth in Charity". This is what each and every one of us is called to do, to live our faith, which is the truth in complete charity, towards God, our neighbour and ourselves.

Whilst we can be sceptical and wary of people released from prison or still serving a sentence, the *Catholic Voice* believes that if we, as a Church, can simply show charity, have faith and hope these people can turn their lives around. In the words of Pope Francis "who am I to judge?" We don't know these people's life history and nor should that be relevant. We are called to love and respect all our fellow human beings and to help them in whatever way we can in their time of need. We simply can't be cold hearted and dismissive because we encounter someone who has broken the law and paid the penalty for that. We must remember that we also break the law, we are all sinners who struggle to follow the law of God, which is above any human law. So, what can the Church do for prisoners? Quite simply practice the virtues of faith, hope and love.





A School of Sanctuary is a school that helps its students, staff and wider community understand what it means to be seeking sanctuary and to extend a welcome to everyone as equal, valued members of the school community. It is a school that is proud to be a place of safety and inclusion for all.

What an amazing year at English Martyrs'...

2017 - 2018 has been fantastic! We started off at the end of September being accredited and awarded *School of Sanctuary* status; we were ever so proud to be awarded it and also to become the first school in Preston to be accredited. This is a great honour and gives all involved in the English Martyrs' school family a real sense of pride as we are a very diverse school with many ethnicities and many children and families coming from all corners of the globe and also the UK, often seeking a place of reassurance, sanctuary and peace and they find it with us.

At the end of the Autumn Term when the days were dark and chilly we had 'the call'! We had a full Section 5 Ofsted Inspection and again it was a time to celebrate as we retained our 'Good' grading. A real sense of achievement for all! Our school was looking fantastic, the teaching was terrific and the whole team pulled together, despite having to postpone the Christmas production dress rehearsals, put some of the glitter back in the cupboards and make sure our Elf on the Shelf behaved! However it was worth it and our own self-evaluations about school were reaffirmed, smiles all round!

In the Spring Term during Lent we held a series of Lenten Charity Days. The chaplaincy team and I spoke to various stakeholders of school to find their charity of choice and we tried as far as possible to accommodate these. We had own clothes days, enterprise days with children running their own stalls, cake sales and I was over the moon when, on the final day of the term, we totalled up the amounts raised and were able to donate £100 each to RNLI, Heartbeat, MLD, Help for Heroes and BLESMA, Meningitis UK and Derian House. The children really made us proud. In addition to these charities, we donated over £100 to CAFOD from loose change and our staff soup lunches. In total over the year, our amazing children have donated a colossal amount to various charities with totals reaching well over £1600!

Continued on Page 14 >>>

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New Castlerigg Team



When every new team arrive at Castlerigg in the middle of August, we're all at different stages of life. Some of us are fresh out of sixth form, and have little experience of the workplace, while others have been out of university for a year and are familiar with work routines and practices such as safeguarding. We are also all at different stages of our faith journey, with some of us not even being Catholic. With that in mind, the two and half weeks of training we go through as a team are designed to bring us rapidly up to speed with all things Castlerigg and youth ministry; as well as getting to know the people we're going to be spending the next year of our lives with!

After we bade our families farewell on moving-in day, there were a fair few moments of uncertainty and doubt, but the leadership team were always on hand to keep us busy, getting to know each other and our new home. One of our first 'team-building' tasks was taking us out rowing on Derwentwater, which some of us took to more easily than others... But it did the trick of bringing us together as a team, and for fun. Phelim's vast collection of board games has similarly kept us busy in the evenings.

Having only been here for two weeks, we all agree that it feels as though we have known each other for much longer. Theresa particularly notes how quickly she became comfortable with her new housemates, which helped her to be more confident and engage in all we were doing as a team. Being in such a close environment has meant that we have quickly learned to rely on each other, be it with washing up after meals or looking out for each other when we're out on walks.

What's more, we've had a selection of the Diocese's best and brightest coming to give us talks and presentations on various topics. These ranged from safeguarding and professional standards to the sacraments and how to read the Bible in a prayerful way. They were all very engaging and thought-provoking, although Rachael particularly enjoyed Fr Chris Loughran's talk on the importance of having a personal encounter and relationship with Jesus. For each of us, it is our personal relationship with Christ that has drawn us here to Castlerigg, and it is this that we are so excited to share with young people (you!) this year.

We've also had two excursions out of Castlerigg, to Walsingham for Youth 2000 and also last weekend on The Big Walk. Most of us were experiencing these things for the first time and so they continued to bring us closer together. The boys in particular were united in solidarity against Patrick's snoring in the boys' tent...

So, in all, training has been a busy but positive time for us. Full of new experiences, faces and responsibilities. We have already grown as individuals and as a team in the last few weeks, and with our first school retreat just days away we are all eager to get started. It was great to welcome Bishop Paul this weekend, both for the Big Walk but also to have him formally commission us as gap year volunteers. At Mass, he prayed 'May the Lord, who has begun this good work in you, bring it to fulfilment'. This is our prayer too!

Castlerigg are already recruiting Gap-Year volunteers for the next year's team (starting August 2019). If you are interested in joining us or want to find out more please get in touch –

team@castleriggmanor.co.uk

(Minimum age 18, must be able to commit to the year living and working at Castlerigg.)

Youth 2000 *Share in the Joy*

At the end of August the new team travelled to Walsingham in Norfolk, to attend the Youth 2000 festival. First and foremost, our thanks to those who got us there, especially Fr Alf from St Wulstan's and St Edmund's Fleetwood, in his Parish minibus! Walsingham is a picturesque village which has a long history as a place of pilgrimage. In 1061, Richeldis De Faverches prayed to Our Lady, the Mother of Jesus, and Our Lady led her in Spirit to Nazareth and told her to build in Walsingham a replica of the Holy House of Nazareth, where Jesus grew up. When she achieved this, Walsingham became as famous as Jerusalem as a place of pilgrimage for Catholics in the Middle Ages. The original Holy House was destroyed in the reformation, but the 'Slipper Chapel' and Shrine remain.

The Youth 2000 festival brings together over a thousand people, mostly ages 16-

35, as well as inspirational speakers from all over the world and dozens of priests and religious. The festival is centred on a huge circus tent, within which Jesus can be found 24/7 in the Blessed Sacrament. We gathered in His presence every day to hear from speakers including Anthony Gielty, Mary Bielski and Drew Fava. We prayed and sang uplifting songs of worship, and of course, celebrated mass. We could also spend some time in quiet with Jesus late at night or early in the morning. Phelim took the brave calling to spend some time in adoration at 3am on Saturday Morning. He reports that he enjoyed taking time reading the story of the road to Emmaus from the Gospel and simply reflecting on a busy day in the tranquillity of the Lord. We let him off for having a bit of a lie-in the next morning.

We all got a lot from the weekend, which for many of us was the first opportunity to take part in such a joyful and vibrant

celebration of our Catholic faith. It was emboldening to meet and to get to know so many other young people, as well as priests and religious, who are faithfully living out their lives as followers of Christ. It served as an important reminder that our faith is not something that should be restricted to one hour on a Sunday, but something that should soak through our entire lives; and fill us with pure love and joy!

Patrick, who had never been to a Youth 2000 event before, was struck by how passionate people were about their faith: *'I think it's good for people to have a space to do that in an increasingly secular world.'* He also enjoyed the healing night, and found the testimonies really powerful. People with ailments such as chronic back pain found they had been taken away after being prayed over.

The theme of the festival was *'Share in the*

Joy'. Since arriving at Castlerigg just over a week ago, we have been getting to know each other as we embark on this year together. By sharing in the joy of Christ in such an enthusiastic way at Walsingham, we have certainly grown closer as a team and as friends. As the old mantra states, *'the family who prays together stays together'!*

As many of the speakers reminded us this weekend, Jesus brought us all to Walsingham for a unique reason, and the same is true for us as we begin our year at Castlerigg. We can't wait to get started, and look forward to sharing the joy with you soon!

I could truly see the joy and peace of Christ emanating from every person there and nothing could take away the smile on my face and the peace in my heart!

Previously, I hadn't been to Youth 2000 because I am not the biggest fan of camping, but I am now planning to go every single year because the many encounters with Jesus Christ over those 5 days have given me a new joy and happiness and I already can't wait for next year!

Nisha



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- The editor reserves the right to:
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Dear Editor

I promised Our Lady, and the Divine Mercy and many Saints that if the pain in my spine was healed I would publish that it was through their intercession. I had been in a lot of pain for many months, due to an injection in my spine, which unfortunately was injected into a spinal nerve. I asked God to heal me, or take me, I couldn't bear the pain any longer.

This was in May. I am a regular attendee at Ladyewell, the Shrine to Our Lady of Fernyhalgh, Fr Mario and Fr Ernst from Nigeria are the two Franciscan priests there.

Barbara Paley, Whittingham

Courtesy of
St John
Vianney
and St
Monica
Blackpool.



Dear Editor

It was heartening to see the beautiful picture of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. John Vianney's, Blackpool on the inside page of the July edition of the *Catholic Voice*. However, you mention in the editorial above the picture, regarding this devotion, "Sadly this great devotion has fallen out of practice in so many of our churches".

I attended the 'Rosary on the Coast' at Sacred Heart church, Blackpool. Canon Dewhurst led the Rosary and the traditional prayers which had been set out especially for the occasion. The service ended with that glorious hymn Faith of our Fathers. On glancing across the packed congregation, consisting of young and old, the fervour of the people there was palpable. It occurred to me that, as Catholics we are crying out for traditional devotions, for the Catholic prayers and hymns of old.

Clearly, we are living in very difficult times as regards the Faith and morals, in fact it is not an exaggeration to say that we are living in a battle zone and we need all the help that we can get.

Would the priests and prelates be prepared to help us more fully with our spiritual lives?

Meanwhile, always having recourse to Our Lady, especially in times of difficulty, who has said most emphatically, "In the end, my Immaculate Heart will triumph".

Mrs Kathleen Johnson
via email

Dear Editor

Tony Magliano in his article 'Making a Difference', (*Catholic Voice* September edition), rails against the profit motive and includes a comment from an American activist who wants us to "overthrow this rotten, decadent, putrid, industrial capitalist system."

He mentions the sad fact that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to be enormous but fails to point out that according to the World Bank, the number and proportion of people in dire poverty worldwide has plummeted over the past two decades. In 1990, 35.5pc of the world's population (1.9bn people) lived below the equivalent of \$1.90 (£1.47) per day. By 2013, this had fallen to 10.9pc (the 767 million he refers to). That's the most rapid fall in poverty in global history.

He also refers to inadequacies in the distribution of food but ignores the fact that the global average population-weighted food supply per person, rose from 2,225 calories in 1961 to 2,882 calories in 2013. In sub-Saharan Africa, food supply rose from 2,004 calories in 1961 to 2,465 calories in 2013.

Pope Francis correctly said that "Money must serve and not rule!" For all its inadequacies, responsible capitalism, allied to democratic governance and the rule of law, is by far the most effective method of enhancing the quality of spiritual and material life.

One needs a perverse view of world affairs not to notice that well regulated free market economies perform infinitely better than those controlled by Socialist/Marxist demagogues. Compare and contrast West and East Germany, South and North Korea and Colombia and Venezuela.

John Ellwood, Carnforth

Editor's note: The *Catholic Voice* respects that individuals will have differing views and that each should be respected.





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Sitting in front of the altar one morning in early September the sun was shining through the window onto the Sanctuary of the Sacred Heart church in Preston.

As I was looking I saw the two Emmaus disciples lit up by the sunlight. Our Lord was in the shadow. This set my mind racing with the thoughts that perhaps the two disciples were actually sitting in the light of the Son, Jesus, and that perhaps he would be in the shade.

Thank you God for creating the world and for giving us the sun to provide us with light.

Thank you for giving us your Son who brings light into our spiritual world also.

Rev Chris Barwise



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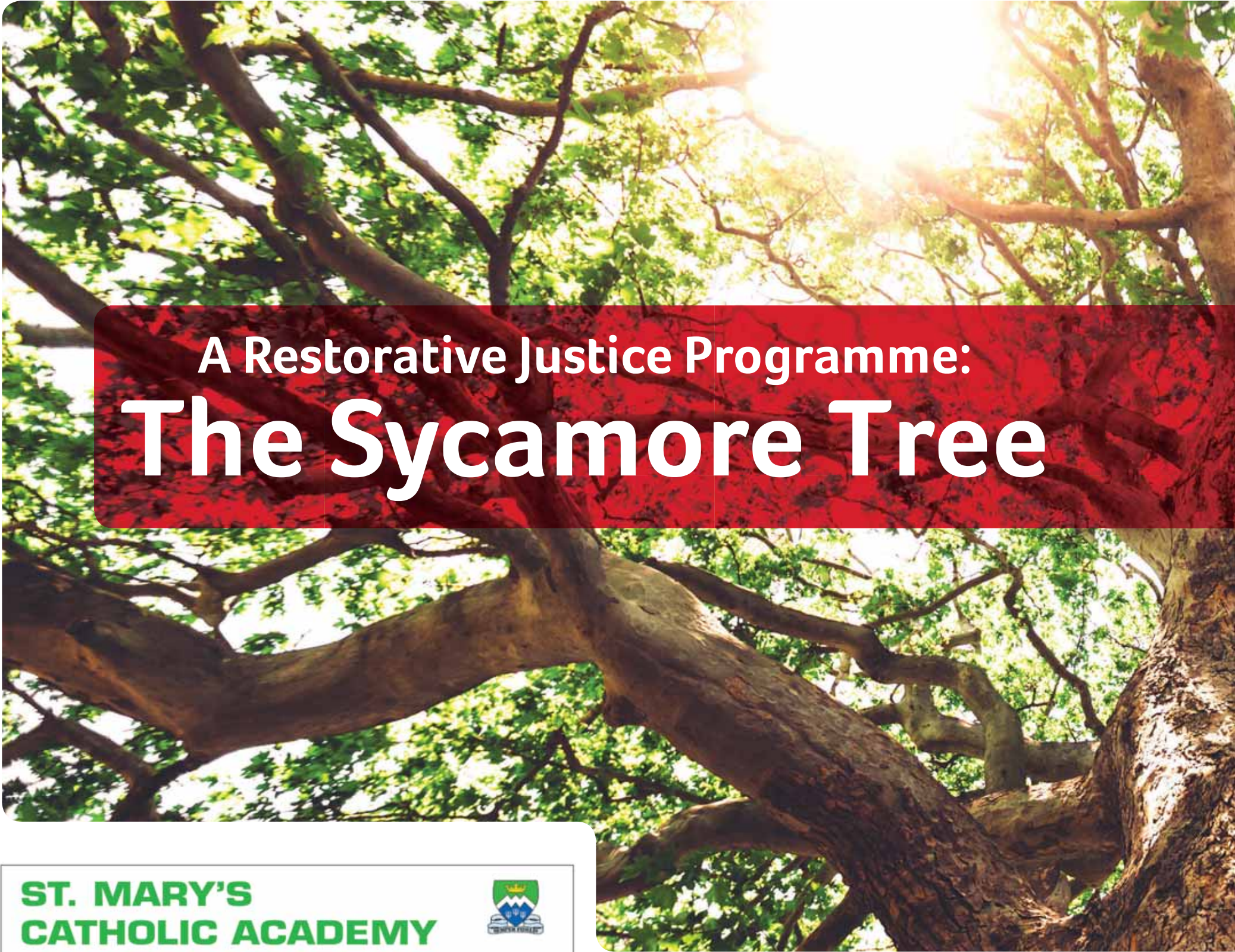
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Prisons have been quick to realise the many benefits of using Restorative Justice programmes, not only for offenders and their victims, but for families and communities in general affected by growing crime rates in their areas.

In the past, a lot of victims felt that although they were the most affected by a crime, they were the least involved in the justice process and the emphasis was very much on retributive justice as opposed to restorative justice. This new emphasis on making prisoners face up to the hurt they have caused while serving their sentence does not shy away from making offenders take responsibility for their own actions and seeks to address some very important issues.

The Sycamore Tree Programme is a Restorative Justice (RJ) course. It uses the bible story of Zacchaeus as a basis for understanding the main features involved in the restorative process. The Jewish tax collector was hated by his community, not just because he was seen as a Roman collaborator but because he was guilty of taking more than was needed and keeping it for himself. It was his encounter with Jesus that changed him and people's attitude towards him after he repented and made amends.

Although the course uses the story of Zac and his encounter with Jesus as a focus for the effects of crime on victims, offenders and the community, Prison Fellowship, who run the course with volunteers, stress that the course is not faith promoting and can be accessed by people of faith, no faith, gender or ethnicity. Offenders start to understand their individual responsibility for their actions and what they can do to repair the damage they have caused. It is a six session programme in groups of up to twenty learners and it is run by the Prison Fellowship volunteers.

In HMP Kirkham, the sessions are held on Tuesday afternoons in the chapel from 1pm-4pm for six weeks. There is a coffee break during the session.

At the beginning of the course some participants can feel a little apprehensive but by the end of the course most admit that they were glad they took part and found it one of the most worthwhile courses they have ever taken part in during their time in prison. The programme covers issues such as how crime impacts on people's lives and the ripple effect. Offenders can reflect on their own crime and its impact on others.

As well as understanding the importance



of taking responsibility for their actions and saying sorry, Forgiveness and Reconciliation also form part of the sessions. The importance of showing how someone is sorry as opposed to just saying sorry and the need for changing attitudes and behaviour are also important. The sessions involve talks, DVD clips and large and small group discussions. In the third weekly session, a victim of crime shares their story. This can prove to be a very powerful session and we have heard from people who have lost loved ones in often the most brutal and senseless manner and you come to realise how forgiveness in the restorative justice process can help victims and offenders in the healing process. At the end of the programme, participants are encouraged to make a symbolic act of restitution as a first step towards making amends.

Offenders wishing to participate are usually selected by their Offender Supervisors within the prison or Offender Managers (Probation Service). They must attend all six consecutive sessions and be willing to participate in group work. Learners with low literacy levels can be given support during the course to enable them to complete the full programme and the two workbooks for assessment.

The work books are completed in private study between sessions and the course is registered with Gateway qualifications as, “*Understanding the Restorative Justice Process*.” Prison Fellowship is a recognised learning centre and has a robust assessment strategy which has been approved by Gateway Qualifications and learners can pass at Level 1 or Level 2 with three credits.

Participants have found that the programme helps them to understand the wider impact of crime and personal responsibility and to plan steps to reduce offending behaviour.

Many prisons now recognise the importance of using victim awareness and restorative justice programmes as a tool for changing attitudes and behaviour and in helping to combat crime. A lot of the offenders who participate in the Sycamore Tree programme are so enthused by it that they train to be peer mentors on the course. If you feel that you would like to know more about Prison Chaplaincy work or become involved in this worthwhile work by becoming a volunteer with Prison Fellowship, then please contact the Chaplaincy at HMP Kirkham: 01772 675625.

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SHARING PRECIOUS MEMORIES

Our memories become one of the most precious things that we have, as the year 8 pupils of St Bede's, Lytham discovered when Jimmy O'Donnell from Lancashire Memories joined them for a day. Using his vast collection of 20th century memorabilia, including a gramophone, dolly tub and old tin bath, pupils found out more about the lives of previous generations and were then challenged to spend time with older relatives, asking, listening, recording and valuing their stories. Peter Lyttle from Freshers cafés who himself lives with vascular dementia, contributed much to the day, with his personal insights as well as offering a chance for pupils to experience life for someone with dementia, using specialist equipment.

To book or enquire about a visit for a group, school, relative or organisation or if you want to find out more about the work of Lancashire Memories:

www.lancashirememories.com
Or call Jimmy: 07761 071 69

Eyes open wider and smiles appear when a familiar image or photograph from the past is seen. Ears hear and voices awake and enthusiastically join in, when an old song is played. A smell from childhood, a taste that recalls granny's table or the opportunity to touch an old object, all of these are capable of awakening the veritable 'palace of memories' that is the mind and heart.

My work in care and educational settings across Lancashire and beyond is my daily joy, supporting older people including many who are living with dementia, through precious moments of reminiscence and clarity. I use my vast collection of old objects, music and song, images and video-clips, a gramophone, conversations and relationships, to encourage those precious memories that can mean so much.

Sharing Precious Memories – an educational project

Young people are a vast and largely untapped source of care for older people, in the fight against dementia as well as social isolation and loneliness. I work in schools, such as recently with year 8 pupils at St. Bede's Catholic High School, Lytham, to open young minds and hearts to understand how their grandparents used to live and to encourage them to spend quality time with their older relatives, enquiring, listening, recording and valuing their lives and stories. Sharing Precious Memories is a simple process but with huge potential. I meet far too many people who regret not listening more, or indeed recording and treasuring all those stories and experiences that are part of the rich tapestry of a person's life. Children and young people are very well set to do this work, with the time, tenderness and technology to make a big difference. It is not a history lesson; they can do something tangible to value the past, engage in the present and create something priceless for the future. I also deliver my Sharing Precious Memories project in parishes as people of all ages can get involved in supporting older people, or indeed each other.

Sensory Reminiscence – a care project

My sensory reminiscence sessions in care settings cover things



we can see, smell, hear, taste and touch. The internet is the biggest and most accessible of libraries, with photos and images, videoclips and music, stories and facts, that can be used productively in connecting to the lives and stories of those in our care:

Seeing – when a lady from South Africa suggested that I could not help her as she was from so far away, I said that it is as easy to find memories from Pretoria as it is from Preston! On my next visit, her face was an absolute picture as she enjoyed photos of her old school, town and the spectacularly colourful Jacaranda Festival that she remembered so fondly from childhood.

Hearing – we begin to hear in our mother's womb, the synchronicity of our heartbeat alongside hers. Songs and music, hymns, poems and rhymes, can stay with us for a lifetime. In every session, I am in awe of the power of the mind to find words and tunes, often not sung since childhood days. Building up my own repertoire is vital, going far beyond the usual tunes to the rich variety that are often just below the surface and which can bring such joy and positivity.

Only recently, I played 'My Foolish Heart' for a couple in a care home for whom the title song from the film they saw on their first date in 1949 held such precious significance. As he tried to rouse his beloved wife from sleep to hear it, tears were rolling down his cheeks. The song meant so much to him because of his unconditional and everlasting love for her. She died two days later and we were able to believe that their precious love song was amongst the last things that she heard.

Find those deeply significant songs and tunes that resonate with people. Even a half-remembered lyric can easily become a full song with a simple google search.

Touching – who would have thought that the sight of an old Green Shield stamp book could arouse and evoke precious memories. Clutching it to her heart, one woman recalled her

sister being born and mum sending her to the shop laden with stamps to swap for a plastic baby bath. As baby sister died in her 30s, the significance became even more poignant. Reminiscence opens doors into the 'palace of memories' that is the mind and heart.

Smelling – be creative. When Bridget bemoaned that she would never smell a Donegal turf fire again, I offered her hope. All I needed was a bit of turf brought over from my family's Donegal bog, a match and a glass bottle.

As Bridget smelt the hugely evocative smoke, she squealed with delight and memories came gushing forth. Playing a video of a burning turf fire (www.irishturffire.com) helped to maximise the experience.

Tasting – I enjoy asking people in care settings, "Would anybody like some tripe? I have some in my case. Don't worry, it's authentic. I've kept it since 1957!" Perhaps it was the 15 years (yes 15!) of rationing and the "You'll eat what's in front of you or someone else will!" reality, that means that any discussion of food and mealtimes evokes dynamic conversation. Photos are an adequate substitute for the real thing, health and hygiene being an issue. But they still sell cow heel, pigs trotters, tripe and the like, on many a Lancashire market stall.

Jimmy O'Donnell - www.lancashirememories.com

Over the last two years we've had a wonderful visitor in school working with our pupils, Jimmy O'Donnell (he is a parishioner of the Parish of St John Vianney, Blackpool). Jimmy used to be an RE teacher before establishing "Lancashire Memories", which works to raise awareness and to support people with various forms of Dementia.

His work takes him to lots of different settings but in terms of the Catholic world, he has worked in a number of our Primary and High Schools and some of the Catholic Residential Homes in Lytham.

John Harding, St Bedes


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The successful applicant will:

- Promote the life and vision of Mary Potter and the Mission and Spirituality of the LCM by working on projects and programmes that will assist the LCM to further develop the Centre.
- Be accountable for the day to day operations of the Heritage Centre and work with LCM Sisters on future programmes and opportunities.
- Ensure effective and efficient operation of the Heritage Centre, is responsible for the overall monitoring of planned maintenance, staff and resources inclusive of budgeting.
- Further develop the Heritage Centre by means of networking and promoting the Heritage Centre locally and internationally.

Hours of employment: 35-37.5 hours per week with flexibility.

Salary Package: Commensurate with experience

Method of application: Initial enquires to the Province Leader to request a Position Description via e-mail at lcm.ef@btinternet.com or via the website at www.lcmsisters.org.uk

Applications close: 17 December 2018 at 5.00 pm

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 28 January 2019

The Bible has much to say about money, and Ecclesiastes 5 v 10 warns, "Whoever loves money will never have enough"! Can anyone justify a salary of £300,000 per week? Can any individual be valued as worth 200 million pounds? Football, or rather the self-absorbed English Premiership seems to think so. However it seems at odds in a country where the government is drastically cutting public spending, the number of food banks is rising, and just about everything seems to be 'going to pot'! Despite this backdrop of decline and recession the Premier League seems to be detached from the rest of civilisation.

The formation of the Football League in 1888 saw the end of the game as just an amateur sport, and it lost its Corinthian innocence, being paid to play football wasn't the done thing. Football became a murky new industry as some clubs attempted to attract the best players. With inconsistent regulation it was ripe for exploitation attracting men with a sharp eye for a quick profit, and skulduggery lurked behind closed doors. There were rumours of bribes, underhand payments, and bitter disputes.

The introduction in 1893 of the 'retain and transfer system' was intended to prevent rich clubs from attracting all the best players, however it meant that the players had no right to join another club unless the club they were registered with agreed - they were tied to their club. A number of players formed the Association Footballers Union to air their grievances, there had been a lot of wrangling about wages and in 1901 the Football League imposed a maximum wage of £4 per week. (This was at a time when an ordinary working man earned just £1 in return for a 60 hour working week which was a poor reflection of Luke 10 v 7 "for the worker deserves his wages".)

In effect very few players earned the maximum wage and the Association Footballers Union dissolved in 1901. However in 1907 a new organisation was formed (now the PFA) a leading light of which was Welsh International Billy Meredith. The 'Welsh Wizard' had been involved in a bribery scandal whilst at Manchester City but at the end of his ban had joined local rivals United. Meredith felt strongly that players deserved higher wages in view of the large crowds games were now attracting. In 1921 Meredith



rejoined City but then, unlike today, the only time City fans would see a ‘Sheik’ was watching a smouldering Rudolph Valentino in a silent film at the local picture house.

However clubs began to realise that selling players and receiving a transfer fee could be a lucrative source of income, however few people then could have imagined the huge amounts today.

As I began watching football in the 1950’s there was still strong feeling amongst players about the maximum wage, now £20 per week, and retain and transfer system which culminated in December 1960 with the players threatening to strike. The strike was averted and the maximum wage abolished, and in a court case involving Newcastle United George Eastham in 1963 the retain system was declared

illegal. Fulham’s Johnny Haynes became the first £100 per week footballer but most players didn’t start to receive such huge sums!

Player transfers are now big news and can be a mixed blessing for both clubs and fans. A new signing can be a source of great excitement, but like a loss in the family for fans of his previous club.

I still remember vividly standing behind the goal at a freezing Brunton Park 27th December 1965 for Bury’s game with Carlisle United. To my disappointment, and that of the rest of the Shakers fans around me, our new hero Ray Pointer wasn’t wearing the number 9 shirt, only later did we discover that over Christmas he had been sold to Coventry City.

Unfortunately for everyone concerned not every player transfer is a success

and fans of every club can name a player signed who was a complete disaster. “What a waste of money” is a chant heard at one time or another at every ground.

A player returning to play against his old club is either revered or vilified by his previous fans. A transfer can also be a disappointment to players, I am now friendly with one of my boyhood heroes at Bury who left Gigg Lane to join Brighton & Hove Albion in the 1960’s. He told me the day he arrived for his first Brighton training session he knew he’d made a big mistake.

By 1995 the English record transfer fee had risen to £7,500,000 when the wonderful Dennis Bergkamp joined Arsenal. However in December that year the European Court of Justice’s decision in favour of a little known Belgian player called Jean-Marc Bosman meant that

clubs no longer had to pay a transfer fee for a player whose contract with his current club had expired. The ‘Bosman Rule’ put the players in control of their own destiny and a ‘nice earner’ for their agents.

I spend my time watching ‘live’ football several leagues away from “The Premiership”, and in his biography ex- Manchester United Roy Keane was scathing of the “prawn sandwich set” that now attend top games. Whilst I admire the skills of today’s top players I cannot agree with the “money-go-round” of The Premiership. But perhaps I am very much in the wrong for Proverbs 22 v 29 says:

“Do you see those who are skilful in their work? They will serve kings; they will not serve common people.” Dave Yates

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

Shrine of the English Martyrs, Preston
Mondays – Fridays: 12 noon, Low Mass
Saturdays: 10.00 am, Low Mass
Sundays: 9.00 am, Low Mass

Sunday 7th October at 3.00 pm
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
St Mary's, Hornby

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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What an amazing year at English Martyrs'

In the Summer Term, we took part in the Lancashire Authority We Are Reading initiative. Our children have been busy reading, sharing books and talking about books. We invited many people in for our Read Aloud initiative including Canon Luiz, who spent a calming hour being read to by our reading superstars who have all been part of our Every Child a Reader programme. It was a lovely morning.

In late June, we were assessed for our provision of Basic Skills in Mathematics and English and I am so proud yet again that we passed for the 3rd time with flying colours. Another confirmation that at English Martyrs' we never let our high standards and expectations wilt, even in the heat!

The children were out in force raising money for charity in July with the whole school, Nursery to Year 6 and all staff taking part in the Cancer Research Race for Life Schools. A staggering £800 was raised by our generous children and their families and friends.

We have linked our 'We Are Reading' initiative to the CAFOD Share the Journey campaign with each of our classes walking up to the Harris Library in Preston to share a journey and read books together, experiencing reading for pleasure in the library. Even our youngest

Reception children walked there and back without complaints! Our Nursery Children walked to Moor Park Nursing Home with whom we have links and they shared stories with the residents there. In total English Martyrs' have walked 492miles for Share the Journey! We had a CAFOD Share the Journey day at the end of term with children donating money and we had a period of reflection for all those seeking refuge. A very fitting ending to our year which began with our School of Sanctuary Award!

Our final success for such a wonderful year was our best SATs results in 3 years, we are truly proud of our Year 6 team (children and staff!).

We finished our amazing year saying goodbye to children and staff with a lovely Mass celebrated by Canon Luiz Ruscillo. The children sang with gusto, prayed with reverence and reflected on all they achieved, and what a lot that has been!

The end of a very busy but fantastic and highly enjoyable year of successes, laughter, friendship, hard work and fun at all levels for English Martyrs', a school where I am very proud to be Head... Here's to the next year where we will be welcoming new faces in September and gearing up for another amazing journey!

Annalisa Howarth, Headteacher



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Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, his day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

Worth waiting for

by Julia Beacroft

We now move into the beautiful autumnal month of October with all its accompanying spells of sunshine, showers and mists. The month of October has always been a particular favourite of mine – and not just for the weather patterns either.

Both my mother and my eldest son have their birthdays during this month and there is exactly fifty years and one day difference in their ages. How lovely, you might say, but when I gave birth, my Mum was quite indignant about the date! The story goes something like this...

Indignant

When I'd had my first scan during my pregnancy, we were all thrilled to find out that my due date of delivery was the same as my Mum's birthday – October 11th. However, nature has a way of taking control in these matters and my beloved first-born arrived a day early on the 10th of the month. When the besotted grandparents arrived at the hospital to see their first grandchild, my mother turned to me and said indignantly: "Well, you could have waited another day!" This has become a family joke to this day and one which my grown-up son often laughs about with his grandmother.

All of us, at some time or another find that we have to wait for things and this can often be frustrating and sometimes stressful in varying degrees. In fact, in a world where we all tend to demand things instantly, it is surprising how much time we still spend awaiting decisions, actions, advice, news and a whole host of other factors.

Take Heart

Yet even in this modern world there is another aspect of our 'waiting' which we understand is vital to our spiritual well-being and contentment. The Lord waits for us to spend time with him. And in this waiting we know that his invitation is an open one and all we have to do is to take advantage of it. Prayer, reflection and contemplation and being in his presence at Holy Mass are simple means by which we can build our relationship with Jesus Christ and spend the vital time with him, which we all need.

Furthermore, we have been assured that the Lord will come again to this world in all his glory. We may have been waiting for this to happen for over two thousand years but we can still be assured that this will be the case. And so, in recognition of this 'waiting' we must also keep our own lives in good order as we never know when this event will occur. In the words of the beautiful Taize chant, we must 'keep watch, take heart'.

And so in this lovely autumnal month of October, may we wait for the Lord and wait upon the Lord who is always with us no matter what the date.

Julia Beacroft is an author, editor, workshop leader and presenter in Catholic faith formation. Her book 'Sanctifying the Spirit' is available to buy from AMAZON, www.waterstones.com or Book Depository. Please visit www.sanciobooks.com for more information.

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Sunday 28th October
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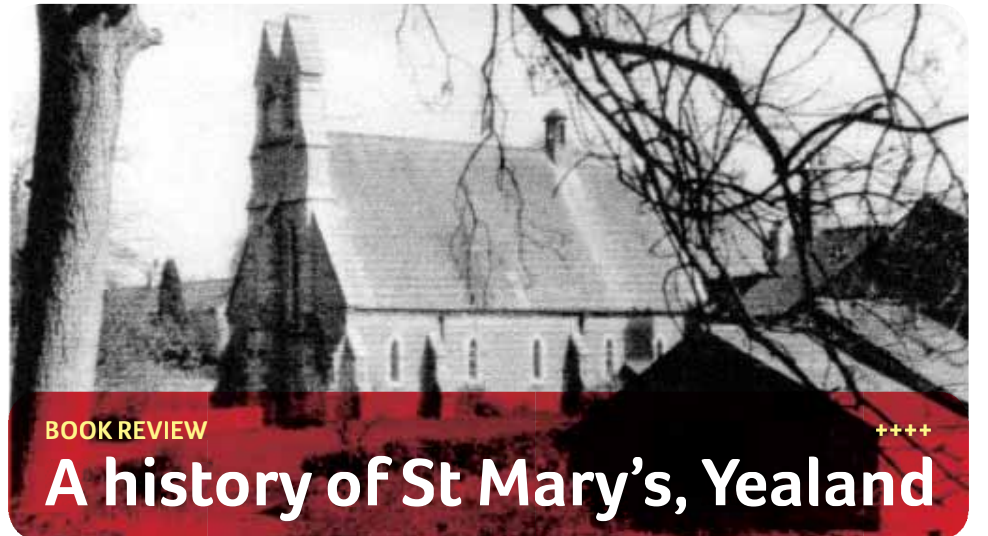
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BOOK REVIEW ****

A history of St Mary's, Yealand



In the 17th C England was faced with the most incredible and dramatic changes to the Catholic religion when Henry V111 took advantage of the unrest erupting in Europe against the Pope and Catholicism.

The (his) reformation led to the birth of the Protestant church in England. As a result Mass was held in secret places for the depleted few Catholic followers in the area. Imprisonment or death was the penalty to pay for travelling priests or indeed persons found guilty of harbouring them. A civil war compounded the problems for the

Catholics of the area with loss of position, property and lands to those involved. Perseverance and dedication to the faith paid off when first the Chapel of St Mary was recognised in the 18th century followed by St Marys Church built in the mid 19th Century. This book tells the history of a struggle and of day to day living within the Catholic community of the Yealands.

Researched and written by Francis Trevor Ward, 2 The Willows, Milnthorpe LA7 7PR. Tel: 01539 562271 Mob: 07986 970290. Price £8.99. 186 pages including both B/W & colour photographs.

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