



Bishop's Column

Adoremus at Oscott

The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress takes place at St Mary's College, Oscott, near Birmingham, on Saturday September 14.

It has been scheduled to coincide with the 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador, from September 8 to 15.

This enables us to unite in our parishes, and at Oscott, with the universal Catholic Church as we come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Unlike Adoremus in Liverpool in 2018, this is not a public event, although each diocese is expected to send pilgrims, approximately a coachload, as well as Catholics representing the Bishoprict of the Forces, the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, and the Syro-Malabar and Ukrainian Eparchies.

In fact, from our diocese we are hoping to send a coach full of young adults to this event to represent us all.



Bishop Terry, right, at Adoremus in 2018
— © Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

Adoremus in my parish

On Sunday September 15, the bishops of England and Wales invite all parishes across our countries to have a period of Exposition to unite the faithful in focusing on the Eucharist in anticipation of the Jubilee Year with renewed and deepened devotion.

This can be a Holy Hour or a period of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

This local but national Eucharistic Event will provide us with a good "springboard" into the Holy Year of 2025. Please keep this intention in your prayers.

In blessed hope,

+ Long

What's Inside

**Henry returns
to school**
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**Lourdes picture
special**
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A week of prayer and caring – and lots of smiles as well!

As so often with our diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage, the usual mishaps and mayhem ensued from Saturday, when our school groups left, to Sunday, when the flights departed Teesside Airport.

But despite delays and passport complications, sickness and hold-ups, all was forgotten when we all finally arrived at the little town on the banks of the River Gave.

Yet again, 51 weeks since we left, we were back in our second home to answer the call from Our Lady, with this year's theme being "...and that people should come in procession".

Our supported pilgrims settled into both hospital and hotel and, once the military had one last night's blast on the bridge over the river next to the Brickies' bar, everything settled into a slightly unusual timetable.

In the spirit of Eric Morecambe's immortal line, we had all the right events, but not necessarily in the right order! Despite our different timetable, as always, our pilgrimage was an undisputed success.

Our supported pilgrims had a wonderful time and couldn't speak highly enough of all the teams who cared for and helped them. From medical staff to our wonderful young people, their praise and enthusiasm were infectious and strong bonds were forged between generations.

Pupils from Catholic schools throughout the diocese played such an important role in our pilgrimage once again. Well over 100 young



Nicky and Micki Coyle led the SCRCAT group for the last as school chaplains before retirement – but we're sure we'll see them in Lourdes again! Photo by Naomi Bedworth

people took part, some travelling by coach and others flying from Teesside with the main party.

They included pupils from the six secondary schools from across Teesside and North Yorkshire in Nicholas Postgate Catholic

Academy Trust (NPCAT) – All Saints in York, St Francis Xavier in Richmond, St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby, St Peter's

Continued on Page 2

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NEWS

A week of prayer – and lots of smiles as well

Continued from Page 1

Catholic College in South Bank, Sacred Heart Catholic Secondary School in Redcar and Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough. There was also a large group from St Augustine's Secondary School in Scarborough and St Mary's College in Hull, both part of St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Academy Trust (SCRCAT). All the pupils and their school group leaders took up the challenge of helping in Lourdes during their school half-term holiday, volunteering to assist our supported pilgrims. "The experience allowed them to step outside their comfort zones and engage in

multiple acts of compassion and selfless giving," said Naomi Bedworth, from SCRCAT. "Their efforts were not only a testament to their character and values but also fostered a deeper sense of empathy and community. "This unique opportunity to serve others created lasting memories and immeasurable personal growth for these teenagers, who also tackled the High Stations together barefoot." NPCAT lay lead chaplain Angela O'Brien added: "Lourdes was a powerful week for many of our young people, filled with joy and compassion. "The love between the supported pilgrims and the pupils was clear for everyone to see.

It was wonderful to see our young people flourish as the week went on." Unfortunately, the only day we had serious rain was the day we were due to lead the Torchlight Marian Procession. But as 9pm neared, the rain eased, and the pilgrims arrived. Candles were lit and the singing rang out. The procession was smaller than usual, but no less enthusiastic, as we sang in praise of Mary, friend of Bernadette. By the end, even the raincoats were coming off. A highlight of the week is always the visit to the baths and the water gesture, which has proved popular among all pilgrims, irrespective of age. It was a truly moving day and a reminder of why we are here and for

so many years have walked the path of the millions who have bathed in these waters. From processions to parties, services to shopping, our week in the Pyrenees progressed and was over, as it always is, all too early. Before you could blink, it was time to pack again. Rooms were vacated and wards cleaned as the plan for return to the UK cranked up to full speed amid the usual delays and air traffic complications. Eventually we returned home to dream of 51 weeks' time, when we can return to our second home and answer the call of Mary, our mother.

Micki Coyle

Father David passes away after long illness



Father David after his ordination, with his wife Diana and son Andrew



Bishop Terry and Father David during the ordination

We were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Father David Pick, who passed away aged 80 on Saturday May 25. Father David was the first priest Bishop Terry ordained after coming to our diocese, the ordination taking place at St Mary's Cathedral on November 21 2009.

In his homily, Bishop Terry spoke of the long journey Father David had made to reach this moment of his life, and the importance of following the Lord's way and listening carefully to how he guides us. Father Edward Corbould OSB, from Ampleforth Abbey, presented Father David for ordination, and Father Ged Barry, chaplain at Full Sutton Prison, vested him with stole and chasuble. David's wife, Diana, and son, Andrew, brought forward the offertory gifts, which Bishop Terry then presented to Father David for the Eucharistic sacrifice. The most moving moment of the ceremony was when the cathedral dean led Father

David to take his place at the altar with his brother priests. That completed the long journey to the priesthood Bishop Terry had referred to, with Father David having several careers already behind him. Together with Diana and Andrew, he was a hotelier in Scarborough and Filey, before answering the call to become an Anglican vicar. He trained at Lincoln Theology College and eventually became rector of Sledmere and a part-time chaplain at Full Sutton Prison. Father David then felt the call to become a Catholic and sought ordination as a Catholic priest. He helped in the parishes of

Bridlington and Beverley, as well as doing supply work and being a chaplain on cruise ships. Canon David Grant, episcopal vicar for the clergy, said: "His gentleness, common sense, piety and sense of humour was evident to all who met him." Sadly, Diana died about a year after he was ordained, and Father David suffered a severe stroke some years later. "He bore his incapacity and lack of freedom with great faith and fortitude," added Canon Grant. His Requiem Mass took place at St John's in Beverley on Monday June 10 before burial with Diana in Kirkburn churchyard.

BISHOP TERRY'S JULY ENGAGEMENTS

2

Attends meeting of Diocesan Trustee, Middlesbrough 10.30am

3

Attends AGM at Madonna House, Robin Hood's Bay 4pm

5

Attends meeting of Bishop's Council, Bishop's House 2pm

7

Celebrates Mass at the Postgate Rally at Lawn Farm, Ugthorpe 3pm

13

Ordains Steven Leightell to Priesthood, at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough Noon

14

Attends Bishop of Whitby Paul Ferguson's final service, Northallerton 4pm

16

Attends Safeguarding Sub-Committee Meeting, Middlesbrough 10.30am

Congratulations, Canon John!

Canon John Loughlin received warm congratulations from parishioners of the Sacred Heart and St Bede's Parish in Hull as he celebrated his ruby jubilee. In acceptance, he spoke of his journey from first enquiring about the priesthood in 1978, his ordination at the Sacred Heart Church, Middlesbrough, and all the wonderful people he has met and who have helped him during the last 40 years.

Bernard France



Come and join us to celebrate Steven’s ordination

This is a warm invitation to anyone who would like to attend my ordination and first Mass.

I will be ordained to the priesthood in St Mary’s Cathedral, Middlesbrough, at noon on Saturday July 13 and will celebrate my first Mass there on Sunday July 14 at 10am.

It’s been a long journey for me. I began discerning a call to priesthood back in 2004, when I was a teacher of Religious Education.

I approached the then diocesan vocations director, Canon Michael Loughlin, who was parish priest of Bridlington. I entered seminary in September 2006 and had several stints in and out.

As Bishop Terry said in his homily during my diaconate ordination: “I just heard before this Mass that Steven’s been with six vocations directors during his journey. That must be a record!”

During my time of formation, I’ve been on placements at Sacred Heart in Middlesbrough, Our Lady of Lourdes in Hessle, St Charles Borromeo in Hull, St Gabriel’s in Ormesby and St George’s in York.

I was ordained deacon in Our Lady and St Peter’s, Bridlington, last December, on the second Sunday of Advent.

I have been working as pastoral assistant since September 2022 and now deacon in the parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea, incorporating St George’s, Eastfield, St Mary’s, Filey, and Our Lady and St Peter’s, Bridlington.

Throughout this journey, the sense of calling has never gone away. It’s always been there to a greater or lesser extent, but the call never left me.

I do believe this is my path and what God is



Deacon Steven Leightell reading the Gospel during this year’s Lourdes pilgrimage – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes

calling me to do. The more I trust and try to follow what I think is his will, the more at peace I am.

One of my favourite poems is Love, by George Herbert. I read it often as a reminder of how God works with us. One part says: “Love bade me welcome, yet my soul drew back.”

I’ve drawn back quite a few times, but God (who is Love) has always called me back, step by step, and when I trust, peace follows.

God calls us all in this way, step by step, and desires peace for us, no matter what is going on in our lives.

So please, if you wish, do come along and celebrate my ordination with me, because I’m

not ordained for myself but for the Church, the world and all the people I will, God willing, minister to and journey alongside as a priest.

After ordination I will serve as assistant priest at the cathedral from mid-August.

God bless,

Deacon Steven Leightell

Diary of diocesan events

Here are the important dates for the rest of 2024...

ANNUAL POSTGATE RALLY (Ugthorpe)

Sunday July 7

ANNUAL ASSUMPTION PILGRIMAGE

Sunday August 18

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday September 21 and Sunday September 22

MINISTERS’ EVENTS

Inspirational Day: Saturday October 19, at Spa, Scarborough

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

Sunday November 17

DEANERY CLERGY CONFERENCES

Thursday July 18

Thursday September 19

Thursday November 21

DIOCESAN TRUSTEE BOARD 2024


Tuesday July 2

Tuesday September 10

Tuesday October 15

Tuesday December 10

• The wrong dates for the Walsingham pilgrimage were published in last month’s *Voice*. We apologise for any confusion caused.



DIOCESE OF MIDDLESBROUGH

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Led by Bishop Terry

**Saturday September 21 to
Sunday September 22 2024**

If you wish to express your interest in booking a place or receive further information about the pilgrimage, email Dawn Cummings at bishopsecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk.

Please advise on your room and travel requirements. As usual, it is anticipated there will be coach pick-ups in Middlesbrough and York (not Hull).

SCHOOLS

Henry returns to school to fulfil his ambition

In July 2021, Henry, a young parishioner of St Aelred's, York, had life-threatening sepsis. He now has multiple health conditions and is still not infection-free after three years. He and his family have been constantly supported by the parish family and Father Bill Serplus.

Having been a sporty and academic young man, one of his goals was to be well enough to return to All Saints Roman Catholic School, where he was a pupil before his illness. Unfortunately, each time this would look achievable, he suffered another setback. Thankfully, the school chaplaincy and pastoral teams never let Henry be forgotten. He was constantly in school prayers and invited to school events.

His one wish was to be part of the Year 11 leavers' celebrations. Having been at All Saints with his friends on day one, his ambition was to be on their last day, too. Coming just five weeks after undergoing major surgery this hadn't looked achievable, but with help from the medical staff and Henry's determination, he made it. At school he was welcomed by staff and pupils, presented with his leavers' hoodie and had his school shirt signed. His grandma had made him a cloth wheelchair hanger, which his friends also signed. It was a day that's taken for granted by so many, but as Henry's dream was fulfilled, it was one he will never forget.



All Saints' assistant headteacher Anthony Devanney and pastoral manager Jessica Bainbridge with Henry (right) and his friend Chris

Henry has always been incredibly stoic and when you see his smile and hear his tremendous sense of humour, it's easy to

forget how ill he has been. Henry and his family thank everyone in St Aelred's Parish and All Saints School for

being with him on this journey and for all the prayers and support.

Kath Stubbs

Green-fingered children dig new way of learning

Children from the St Richard's Hub in Hull enjoyed planting bulbs in the allotment at the city's Sacred Heart Church. They are going to keep a close eye on how the flowers are growing, with updates from Bernard France, which will help the children observe the life cycle of plants in action. Once the bulbs have flowered they will return to cut them to be used on our altar for when Canon John Loughlin celebrates Mass in school.

Katie Merckel



Bernard France and Canon John Loughlin at the allotment with St Richard's children

Skill and spirit earns special cup final trip

Congratulations to St Patrick's Catholic College, Thornaby's Year 8 boys' football team, who reached the final of the ESFA Small Schools Cup final at The Hawthorns, home of Championship side West Bromwich Albion.

The match was the culmination of a journey that had seen them progress through rounds including victories against renowned sporting schools such as Queen Ethelburga's and last year's winners Ovingham, as well as embarking on away journeys to Shropshire and Liverpool.

For the final, the team were supported by more than 300 supporters, including family, friends, staff and fellow pupils.

They created a superb atmosphere that the players thoroughly enjoyed, despite being on the wrong end of the scoreboard.

Captain James H said: "It was the best day of my life. To lead out my team-mates onto such a famous stadium, in such a brilliant atmosphere, was a feeling that will stay with me for the rest of my life."

The team was supported throughout this journey by Mr Irvine and Mr Dickenson.

Mr Irvine said: "Although it wasn't our day in the final, the entire experience has shown the power and spirit that exists at St Patrick's and the local community within Thornaby.

"On behalf of the team, I would like to thank everyone who came and supported us on the day, as well as Thornaby Council, Amazon and Specsavers, who provided financial support to make the day special for everyone.

"The team is a special group of boys who are a credit to their parents and our school and I am sure that further success lies ahead for them, both individually and collectively."

David Irvine
Pupil Engagement Officer and Coach



The St Patrick's team who reached the ESFA Small Schools Cup final

Anthea's lifelong commitment to peace and justice

Anthea Dove, June 1930 to May 2024

Anthea's was a long life, lived in love and friendship and with a deep concern and commitment to issues of peace and justice.

Known as Annie to many of her friends, she and Chris moved to our diocese from the south-west of England after their retirement.

One of their reasons was a desire to live near water – reflecting the time after their marriage when they lived in Kerala, South India, before returning to England in 1963. Four children were born to them in India, and they adopted a fifth child in 1974.

They made their home in Whitby and became treasured members of the community, their parish and our Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission, for which she acted as both secretary and chair. She was always an active member – campaigning, marching and advocating for issues she cared deeply about.

She had a particular care for those seeking asylum, being a central figure in the Whitby group that offered days out to groups from Middlesbrough and Stockton and becoming a surrogate parent to one young man, supporting him and eventually his wife when they could be reunited.

Voice readers will be familiar with the books, articles and stories she wrote. She would often write a story for the Christmas edition.

As Chris would say, “She just loved to write”, and when her health began to fail, it was the writing that gave her great consolation.

She used her rich life experiences within her writing. She has had many books published – one of the most important being *Towards Jubilee and Justice: An Advent to Remember*, which she wrote on the eve of the Millennium.

It was a series of reflections and calls to action to help Christians prepare for the dawn of a new age on January 1 2000.

Annie would often be sought after to lead retreats and days of reflection. She had a unique gift for listening without judgement and offering words of comfort and guidance.

She also had a remarkable ability to make everyone feel welcomed and loved, along with a sense of fun, a winning smile and a joyous laugh. Her memory will live on in the very many lives she touched.

Barbara Hungin



Anthea Dove with her husband, Chris

Pregnancy charity launches emergency appeal

Pregnancy charity Life has launched an emergency appeal for £300,000 it says it needs to help women whose lives have been made tougher by the cost-of-living crisis.

With the abortion rate at an all-time high, they say more than half of women who have had an abortion now say it was because of the rising cost of childcare.

“The odds are stacked against women in unexpected pregnancies being able to continue to term,” said Life chief executive Kerry Smart.

“But because of the current financial climate, without emergency funding from our supporters, we will soon be forced to cut our services.

“We need this emergency appeal to raise £300,000 for us to continue answering every call for help.

“That might seem like a lot. But if every one of our loyal, generous supporters gives a one-off gift of £20, we’d meet our target and maintain our life-changing impact.

“If we are forced to cut our services, women like Emily (name changed) will face life-changing pregnancy decisions alone, instead of having the benefit of Life’s support.”

Emily said: “I’m so grateful I got Life’s help. You listen without judgement and provide a safe place. I was afraid while pregnant and abandoned by my child’s father. How could I provide for my child and have a future? But

the help and donations from supporters have given me hope. I cannot thank you all enough.”

Last year, Life supported around 1,045

women to have their children when they may have felt this was not an option for them.

To donate, visit lifecharity.org.uk/emergency-appeal or call 01926 312272.

Diaconate candidates join Ministry of the Lectorate

Bishop Terry visited the Sacred Heart Parish in Hornsea to institute three men to the Ministry of the Lectorate as part of their journey towards the permanent diaconate.

After Mass, the parish put on a buffet lunch that was appreciated by all who attended.

Bishop Terry was joined at the altar by Canon David Grant, Canon Alan Sheridan and Father Peter Taylor.



Bishop Terry with permanent diaconate candidates Tom Rolfe, Robert Colombari and James Nevison

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SCHOOLS

A Sunday to remember those in peril on the sea

On Sea Sunday (July 14), let us remember seafarers facing conflict, abandonment and tough times.

“Some seafarers I meet have travelled through the conflict area of the Red Sea, with its risks of attacks from Houthis, then have sailed on to the Black Sea with its own dangers, given there is no agreement on maritime safety,” says Stella Maris’ port chaplain Father Alex Smerechynskyy in the southern port city of Odesa, Ukraine.

Because of the conflict in Gaza, ships sailing through the Red Sea face the threat of Houthi missiles, drone attacks and raiding parties. Since last November, the Houthis have targeted more than 80 merchant vessels.

Ships bound for Ukraine are now regarded by Russia as potential carriers of military cargo, making them legitimate targets in their eyes. This follows the collapse of the UN Black Sea grain initiative to create a safe corridor for ships carrying Ukrainian food and fertiliser.

Catholic charity Stella Maris (formerly called the Apostleship of the Sea) is one of the few maritime charities with chaplains based in Ukraine. They carry out ship visits from Odesa, where they work with seafarers on the frontline, witnessing the impact the invasion is having on them.

Many shipowners are not allowing crew members to go ashore during their time in Odesa for security reasons. Ship visits by the Stella Maris team there are proving increasingly important in countering the isolation and loneliness seafarers often experience.

“Seafarers have signed on knowing the risks and receive additional pay as a result, but

there is no respite for them and that has an effect,” says Father Alex. “Once here in Odesa they can witness the drone attacks on the port and the city at close hand. This only adds to their stress and anxiety.”

Being a seafarer is a tough job at the best of times. You are away from home for months, working long hours and facing possible accidents at sea. But ships being hit by bombs or missiles is an additional problem facing seafarers currently – and not the only one. There is now an alarming rise in cases of seafarers abandoned by shipowners – left in distant ports without money, support or the means to get home.

Deacon Joe O’Donnell, Stella Maris’ senior area port chaplain for Scotland, helped an Indian crew recently. They had not received their wages for several months and were abandoned in Troon.

“We supplied groceries, clothing and free mobile phone SIM cards so they could talk to their families back home,” he said. “The crew were also under a huge mental strain, with no money, no means of getting home and absolutely no idea what their future is, so we offered them pastoral support and reassurance. Following our intervention, the crew was paid and returned home.”

What happens on global shipping routes affects us all because much of the food and other products in our shops – everything from fish and fruit to computers and cars – arrives on ships. We rely on seafarers and fishers perhaps more than we realise.

This year’s Gospel for Sea Sunday, from Mark 6: 7-13, emphasises the importance of service and hospitality for strangers as a sign of



A Stella Maris chaplain prays with seafarers

Christ’s love.

In this reading, Jesus instructed the disciples to take almost nothing with them – so they had to trust in God’s providence and the generosity of the people they would stay with on the journey. Those people would be strangers to them, but the disciples were reliant on their hospitality.

When seafarers arrive in a foreign port they are strangers, often thousands of miles from home. Stella Maris’ chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome them, listen to their concerns, and help provide what they need.

The Stella Maris teams answer Jesus’ call to give hospitality to the stranger. They put their faith into action.

On Sea Sunday, let us pray for seafarers, fishers and the work of Stella Maris. Let us remember especially those seafarers who are sailing through conflict zones and those who have been abandoned in distant lands.

To find out more about Sea Sunday, visit stellamaris.org.uk/seasunday. To donate to Stella Maris, visit stellamaris.org.uk/donate.

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at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace

PILGRIMAGE TO CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY



- 2.30pm Rosary
- 3pm Mass

Ecumenism needs us all to ‘change our hearts’

Catholic Ecumenical Engagement: A Failure or a Blessing for Our Churches? was the challenging title chosen by Father Tony Curren for his talk to the Cleveland Newman Circle.

Father Tony, now parish priest at St Augustine's in Darlington, spent nearly ten years in Rome as secretary to the Anglican-Roman Catholic Commission for Unity and Mission.

Father Tony sketched the recent history of ecumenical endeavours between our churches. In 1966, four months after Vatican II concluded, Archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey visited Pope Paul VI in Rome. After private discussions and a joint act of worship, they signed a commitment to work towards Church unity.

Two subcommittees were formed, which worked through the 1970s and early 1980s. One focused on the doctrine of the Eucharist, the other on authority in the Church.

Although ARCIC I's final report was completed in 1981 and called for "bold initiatives", what was then the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith's speedy response ensured no dramatic gestures were made during Pope John Paul II's visit to Britain in 1982.

Father Tony described several obstructions to church unity. Major difficulties included papal infallibility (defined at Vatican I), and the Catholic Church's view on "mixed marriages" and the validity of Anglican orders.

Subsequently, women's ordination in the Anglican Church has become an obstacle.

Our churches have grown closer – the subcommittees have reached substantial agreement on the Eucharist and on the nature of ministry and ordination.

However, while "practical difficulties" cannot be resolved without doctrinal agreement,



Father Tony Curren, in his cricket whites on the left of Pope Francis in our photo, spoke to Cleveland Newman Circle about his work in ecumenical engagement

doctrinal agreement does not resolve all practical difficulties.

Real unity cannot be achieved by relying only on areas of existing agreement or on agreements with only one wing of a church.

When ARCIC began its work, its members were optimistic about agreeing on the Eucharist and ministry, but pessimistic about the knottier problem of authority.

They adopted a "consensus" method in approaching the former issues and a "reform and renewal" method for the latter.

While progress on Eucharist and ministry has

stalled since the 1990s, the recognition that agreement on authority will demand "a change of heart" in both our churches continues and bears fruit.

In working towards the Gospel imperative of unity, the churches should be prepared to accept challenges.

For Anglicans, can they accept a need for some global binding authority? For Catholics, can the gifts of God be officially recognised in all God's people? Can the position of local churches be appropriately recognised? Can each bishop's full authority be acknowledged? Can the proper collegiality of bishops be

addressed? Can the Bishop of Rome's role be clarified?

Father Tony maintains that accepting challenges involves a change of heart, but this route to unity will be a blessing for our churches.

For further information about the programme of the Cleveland Newman Circle, email p.egerton123@gmail.com or phone 01642-645732. Talks are usually held on Wednesdays at 7.45pm in St Mary's Cathedral hall. All are welcome.

Patricia Egerton

Special badge struck to mark 50th Postgate Rally

Bishop Terry is pictured here with the very first Postgate Society gold badge, especially struck to commemorate the 50th Postgate Rally, which takes place at Ugthorpe on Sunday July 7.

The brand-new Postgate Society website – postgatesociety.org – provides contacts, a calendar of events and details of all our publications.

This year's newsletters have been sent out to supporters as far away as the USA, Australia and Canada, as well as throughout Yorkshire and the UK.

The rally takes place every summer, alternating between Ugthorpe and Egton Bridge, two villages closely connected to the life of the Martyr of the Moors, who was put to death on the Knavesmire in York in 1679.

For more information about the society, email postgatesociety@rcdmidd.org.uk or go to postgatesociety.org.



Bishop Terry with the new Postgate Society badge

**THE POSTGATE RALLY
2024**
IN HONOUR OF THE
ENGLISH AND WELSH
MARTYRS AND BLESSED
NICHOLAS POSTGATE
UGTHORPE

SUNDAY JULY 7

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LOURDES

Middlesbrough Lourdes



Pupils from our diocesan secondary schools, who worked so hard and so cheerfully – Photo by Brian Gleeson



Tom Rolfe carrying the cross at the Torchlight Marian Procession – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Father Peter Ryan at the Anointing Mass



Canon John Loughlin gives out Holy Communion – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Paddy O'Neill and Dom Boyes entertaining – Photo by Naomi Bedworth



Father Phil Cunnah lighting candles with parishioners – Photo by Brian Gleeson



Bishop Terry and priests concelebrating Mass in the Grotto – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



The Stations of the Cross – Photo by Brian Gleeson

LOURDES

des Pilgrimage 2024



Barefoot pupils at the High Stations of the Cross – Photo by Naomi Bedworth



Deacon Steven Leightell reading at the Grotto – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Monsignor Gerard Robinson preaching in the St Bernadette Centre – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Tony Kirk reading at the Grotto Mass – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



A quick rest for this Trinity Catholic College pupil ahead of the procession – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Music group members Ken and Maura Porteous



Our music group enhanced liturgies throughout the week – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Les Clark, a long-serving brancardier who now comes as a supported pilgrim, at the Anointing Mass – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Some of our banners at the Torchlight Marian Procession – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Supported pilgrims being taken to one of our services – Photo by Naomi Bedworth



Bishop Terry enjoys a joke with pilgrims – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes



Brancardier Al Bury was one of many members of our Hospitalité teams who received medals for their years of service in Lourdes – Photo courtesy of Durand, Lourdes

NEWS

Pope celebrates peace with the world’s children

Around 50,000 children from around the globe gathered in Rome’s Olympic Stadium to meet Pope Francis and reflect with him on their importance in the world’s future, as part of the first ever World Children’s Day (WCD).

Peace was the main theme of the event. The Pope arrived on his Popemobile and was greeted with applause and by the hymn A Beautiful World, sung by the Choir of the Diocese of Rome.

He then addressed the lively young audience with a brief introductory speech in which he called for responses from the children.

The Pope opened his address by noting that in children “everything speaks of life and the future”, and by reaffirming that the Church, “as a mother”, welcomes them and accompanies them “with tenderness and hope”.

He explained he was inspired to convene the WCD by the meeting he held with children in the Vatican in November on the theme “Let’s

Learn from Boys and Girls” .
“I realised that our conversation had to continue and extend to more children and young people,” he said.
The Pope then engaged in a series of questions with the children, starting from the many wars raging in several parts of the world.
“Are you sad about the wars? Is war a nice thing? Is peace beautiful?” he asked, inviting the young audience to pray for children who suffer from wars, cannot go to school, are hungry or neglected.
Pope Francis then drew their attention to the motto of the event, “Behold, I make all things new.” (Rev 21:5).
“It’s beautiful because it tells us that God brings new things into being,” he said.
Finally, the Holy Father encouraged the children to move forth with courage and joy, which is “the health of the soul”, saying that

Jesus loves them. He concluded by inviting them to pray the Hail Mary with him.
After his greeting speech, children representing the five continents asked him questions.
“Is it true that peace is always possible?” asked Jeronimo from Colombia.
Pope Francis recalled once again the importance of apologising and asking for forgiveness to make peace.
“What can children do to make the world a better place?” asked Lia Marise from Burundi.
“Don’t argue, help others,” the Pope replied.
A girl from Indonesia, which Pope Francis will visit in September this year, asked what miracle he would choose to perform.
Pope Francis said: “That all children have what they need to live, to eat, to play, to go to school. This is the miracle that I would like to do.”

Federico, an Italian boy, asked him how we can help children suffering.
“There are children who can’t satisfy their basic needs. We should all be equal, but that’s not the case,” Pope Francis acknowledged. “This happens because of selfishness, because of injustice... Let us all work so that there is not so much injustice in the world.”
Pope Francis then asked for a moment of silence and to think of all the unfortunate children in the world who do not have anything to eat.
The dialogue was interspersed by music, a short video and even a brief soccer match with Italian footballers in a festive atmosphere and concluded with the children offering the Pope their drawings.
Later in the week Pope Francis presided over Mass for this first World Day of Children on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity.



Father Michael Weigl was with us in Lourdes as he came to the end of his time at Madonna House in Robin Hood’s Bay, before returning to the apostolate’s mission house in Combermere, Canada. We thank him for his contribution to the Voice and to the diocese and wish him every blessing for the future.

Church decries ‘immense’ tragedy across Sudan

Church representatives have written to the Sudan and South Sudan Catholic Bishops’ Conference as war rages in their country.
A conflict between the Sudanese armed forces and paramilitary Rapid Support Forces began in April 2023 and has resulted in 12,000 casualties, around nine million displaced and 12.5m urgently in need of humanitarian aid, with a catastrophic famine

now looming.
Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Paul Swarbrick, lead Bishop for Africa, expressed their solidarity in a letter to Cardinal Stephen Ameyu Martin Mulla, Archbishop of Juba and president of the Sudan and South Sudan Bishops’ Conference, at a time of “profound distress”.

Liverpool venue for music summer school

The Society of St Gregory’s annual summer school takes place at Liverpool Hope University from Wednesday July 31 to Saturday August 3.
Titled A Symphony of Praise in Word and Music, the programme includes speakers, liturgy, workshops, other presentations and more.

Both residential and day delegates are welcome and bursary funding is available.
Founded in 1929, the society is dedicated to Catholic church music in the British Isles.
For further details, including the programme and online booking, visit ssg.org.uk/summer-school-2024 or email summerschool@ssg.org.uk.

A Letter From Madonna House - Don’t forget to take Jesus home

We have just returned home from the Middlesbrough Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It was such a wonderful occasion to experience God’s presence in so many ways, to reflect on our lives, to turn to him more resolutely, and to listen to his word. Our Lady led the way!



Sometimes on pilgrimage there is a word that comes into focus for us, a message of God for our lives. One of the words I received while in Lourdes this year was during the large International Mass at the Basilica of St Pius X.
Many groups from different countries and places converged there for the Mass. There was a large group from Rennes, France. The bishop who accompanied them, Bishop Jean Bondu, was the main celebrant. The Gospel at that Mass was the Finding of the Child Jesus in the Temple.
In his homily, Bishop Bondu reflected on the fact that the Holy Family has much in common with our own families. Many people struggle with situations similar to those Mary and Joseph lived through, such as that journey on pilgrimage to and from Jerusalem and the drama they experienced when they discovered Jesus was missing from their sight.

In anguish, they sought their lost child. And even when they finally found him, they did not understand his answer to their question.
“My son,” said Mary. “Why have you done this to us?”
We, too, “lose” Jesus from time to time, sometimes for only a little while, sometimes for years and sometimes for many years. But we cannot rest until we have found him. We know we need to find him. We must turn back and search for him. This is what conversion is all about.
This is also one reason we go on pilgrimage, make retreats or even go on vacation. We seek God, trusting that he is there waiting for us to find him.
If we persevere – if are open to God’s grace and really listening – he will let himself be found.
“Seek the Lord, while he may be found, call to him while he is still near.” Isaiah 55:6

As a handmaid helping our supported pilgrims in Lourdes, I was very busy, and found that the week flew by. And I knew that my life would be equally busy when I returned from home, especially given Father Michael’s imminent departure and the arrival soon after of a new priest for our Madonna House Robin Hood’s Bay team, Father Kieran Kilcommons.
These times of transition can be a time of preoccupation. Yet during our pilgrimage, I got beautiful glimpses of God’s grace at work, and of his presence.
But what has most stayed with me is this word from Bishop Bondu’s homily: “When you find him, don’t forget to take him back home with you!”
Like Mary and Joseph, after finding Jesus, we are meant to “take him home” ... to receive him into the busyness of our lives, and most especially, to live in his presence.
Jeanne Guillemette

Celebrating our volunteers and supporters

It's a great privilege to work with such dedicated volunteers and supporters around the diocese.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all their efforts, initiatives and generosity, and for all they do. Here's a selection of some of their activities so far this year...

As you can see, being a parish volunteer can inspire many community benefits and social occasions. I look forward to sharing more with you over the coming months.

Please send in any photographs and a brief paragraph of what you are doing to share on our social media channels. Meanwhile, if you are interested in joining our diocesan CAFOD teams or would like to start one in your parish, get in touch by emailing ccross@cafod.org.uk.

Carol Cross
Community Participation Coordinator



Gabbie Hayes and Kath Taylor from Sacred Heart parish in Hornsea took part in our Big Lent Walk and raised £865 through sponsorship – an amazing effort! Thanks to you ladies, and to all who sponsored them.



Doreen with reindeer



Ann and Caroline, of St Clare's, Middlesbrough, knit and natter group and Doreen from St Mary's Cathedral have been knitting animals for our school volunteers to use with our Catholic Social Teaching resources on school visits.



At Sacred Heart in Hull, they organise quizzes with pies and peas or soup. Thanks to Eileen and Bernard France for their excellent efforts.



The CAFOD group at St Leonard and St Mary's in Malton held a summer service using our liturgy resources. They are very active throughout the year and work with St Joseph's in Pickering in organising CAFOD activities. It's a great way of building up the community and reaching out to others. Thanks to Jo Walker and Denise Dane for their involvement.

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NEWS

Out & About

1 Monday

9.45am-10.25am Beverley Christian
Meditation Group meets online. Further
information from
christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com. This
takes place every Monday.

2 Tuesday

10am Coffee at the Cathedral. Tea, coffee and
treats every Tuesday after 9.30am Mass. A
warm welcome and friendly atmosphere.
Make new friends and enjoy some fellowship.
Those who are alone especially welcome.

10am Christian Meditation Group meets
online. Further information from Terry Doyle
at terry-doyle@live.co.uk. This takes place
every Tuesday.

7pm Mass at St Mary's Cathedral for Knights
of St Columba Council 29, followed by a
meeting.

3 Wednesday

5.30pm Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction
at St Mary's Cathedral. A time of prayer and
quiet reflection before the Blessed
Sacrament. Every Wednesday.

5 Friday

Events, articles and photographs for the
August edition of the *Voice* are due by this
day.

6 Saturday

11am Catholic women are invited to share an
hour of feminine communion, including
meditation, via Zoom. Text Barbara on 07796

117704 with your mobile number and email
address so she can add you to the WhatsApp
group, or email catholicwomenmdl@
gmail.com for Zoom link.

7 Sunday

2.30pm Postgate Rally with homily by
Cardinal Arthur Roche. Hymns from 2.30pm,
Mass at 3pm.

3pm Mass for LGBT+ community, family and
friends at the Chapel of the Bar Convent.
Doors open from 2.30pm.

8 Monday

2pm Music for the Mind at St Mary's
Cathedral for people who enjoy singing and
connecting memories. No charge, all
welcome. Tea, cake and biscuits followed by
fun. For details call 01642 710179. You can
also join in on the Diocese of Middlesbrough
YouTube page.

9 Tuesday

12.45pm The Catholic Women's Luncheon
Club meets every second Tuesday of the
month at the Kingston Theatre Hotel,
Kingston Square, Hull. Gather at 12.45pm,
lunch at 1pm. All ladies in the Hull and East
Riding area welcome. Call 01482 446565 or
email jayne.wilson24@gmail.com.

10 Wednesday

7pm Hull Circle of the Catenian Association
meet at the Lazaat Hotel in Cottingham,
followed by Mass and a buffet-style meal.
Email Charles Cseh at hullcirclesecretary@
gmail.com.

11 Thursday

7.45pm Middlesbrough Catenians meet at
Middlesbrough Cricket Club, Green Lane,
Middlesbrough TS5 7SL. Call Peter Carey on
01642 317772 or Chris Rhodes 01642 319161.

13 Saturday

Noon Ordination of Steven Leightell at St
Mary's Cathedral.

6pm Mass in Italian in the Father Kelly Room
at Our Lady's in York, followed by
refreshments. All welcome.

7.30pm Pat Jordan is the guest performer at
the Eddie White Sacred Heart Parish Dance at
the Erimus Club, Cumberland Road,
Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. £5 on the door. For
further details contact John Brown on 07871
958412.

14 Sunday

3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass at St Hedda's,
Egton Bridge with Father Roger Guiver.

20 Saturday

Noon LGBT+ Ministry Social at the Bar
Convent café in York. All are welcome to
come along for a coffee or a meal and
friendship.

• If you have any events you would like to
include in the Out and About section, please
email heidi.cummins@rcdmidd.org.uk.

A special day at the Sacred Heart

**First Holy Communions were
celebrated at the Sacred Heart
Parish in Middlesbrough on the
Feast of Corpus Christi.**

The children are pictured on the
sanctuary at the church – which
celebrates its 100th birthday this
year – with Father John Idio and
their catechists, Sandra Cross
and Peter Loughlin.

After the Mass, the children
enjoyed a reception with
certificate and prize-giving in the
hall.

• We'd love to see photos of
holy communions and special
events in your parish – please
ensure you ask the parents of
all those included for their
consent for the picture to be
published.



Copy Deadline

Copy and photographs for inclusion in the *Catholic Voice* should be sent to: The Editor, Middlesbrough
Diocesan Catholic Voice, Curial Offices, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT.

Tel (01642) 850505, email catholicvoice@rcdmidd.org.uk

Deadline Friday July 5 for August edition.

Where possible please send articles in Word and photographs as jpegs. Please confirm when you send in your
photographs that those who appear in them have given their permission for publication.

Unsung hero Stevie's quarter century of care

Stevie Read is hanging up her essential oils after massaging countless tired bodies and feet in Lourdes over the last 25 years.

Stevie first joined our pilgrimage in 1999, travelling from York by bus. At that time she was working at the Woodlands respite centre in York.

She came to give support to our pilgrims in the Accueil Notre-Dame as a qualified practitioner in massage therapy.

Stevie brought her own essential oils and equipment, including relaxing music, for that first year and for many more years after that.

Over the next quarter of a century Stevie has quietly delivered this special ministry to so many people, massaging aching painful feet, legs backs, shoulders and hands while also being a kind, empathetic listener.

When capacity allowed, Stevie has also ministered to other volunteers. Her foot massages towards the end of the week made you feel afterwards like you were walking on air!

In recent years she has worked with Sally Ferguson, who helped with hand massages.

Stevie has never wanted to draw attention to herself, but she would love to recruit someone to take over from her and continue this valuable ministry.

If you would like to help, or to join any of our teams of volunteer doctors, nurses, handmaids and brancardiers, please contact head of hospitalité John Brown on 07871 958412 or email john.brown160@ntlworld.com.

Jean Milburn



Stevie Read, seen here receiving a medal this year, has massaged aching painful feet, legs backs, shoulders and hands in Lourdes for 25 years

Bags of love sent from our crafty parishioners

During last year's pilgrimage, Morita Metcalfe was sitting outside the Accueil in Lourdes watching wheelchairs being prepared for the supported pilgrims who would lead processions to the various services.

The St Paulinus, Guisborough, parishioner noticed several pilgrims were struggling to find somewhere to put their belongings.

On her return, she suggested that the ladies of the St Paulinus Church Kraft Club could help by making special bags for the

wheelchair users.

Members responded generously by making bags that were used in Lourdes this year.

Morita said: "I saw several pilgrims struggle to find somewhere to put their bits and pieces and the thought came to me that the St Paulinus could help."

The bags could be seen on wheelchairs throughout the week.

Brian Gleeson



The bags in use in Lourdes – Photo by Brian Gleeson



Morita Metcalfe handing the bags made by St Paulinus Church Kraft Club to head handmaid Heather Garcia

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The Diocese of Middlesbrough would like to point out that while every care is taken with advertisements placed in the Catholic Voice, publication does not suggest an endorsement of any views expressed.

NEWS

Next government must help families flourish

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has recorded a message encouraging Catholics, particularly young adults, to be “willing to get involved and vote” as the opportunity to vote in a general election is a “privilege”.

“You want to know what your candidate will think and say on your behalf when that candidate gets into parliament,” Cardinal Nichols said.

“I would like to put forward a theme for us all to think about. How do we seek to construct a society in which families can flourish? That’s the bedrock – many positive things flow from that.”

In his message, Cardinal Nichols signposts resources that offer guidance on seven key topics of interest to Catholics – criminal justice; domestic poverty, family life and taxation; education; environment; international relations, human rights and peace-building; life issues; and migration.

Resources for each subject have been made available on the Catholic Bishops’ Conference website.

“I ask you to look at these resources, explore them, become a bit more familiar with them so that when it comes to 4 July, you’ve got in your mind what you want to see the next government strive to achieve,” says Cardinal Nichols.

“My view is that our next government should strive to create the circumstances in which families can flourish. So please get ready to vote on 4 July.”

You can access the resources at cbcew.org.uk/election24.

CAFOD and the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) also produced resources to help parishes to reach out to local candidates to find out more about their views on some issues that we, as people of faith, care about.

A guide suggests three main ways to engage with candidates: contacting them by email as a parish group; attending a hustings; and being ready to ask questions if candidates knock on your door.



They suggest eight issues to raise, in terms of their impact on vulnerable and marginalised people, including the cost-of-living crisis, the global food system, climate change and migration.

The charities say it is not about political affiliations, but about strengthening

community participation as a local faith group and practising the culture of encounter Pope Francis talks about.

As Christians, we have a long tradition of being actively involved in the big issues of our time. From Catherine of Siena to Oscar Romero, the lives of many saints show us

that the greater their devotion to the Lord, the deeper their commitment to addressing the social problems of their time.

The resources are available at cafod.org.uk/encounter and svp.org.uk/encounter.

Bishop: Climate challenge is urgent

Bishop John Arnold wrote to the leaders of the main political parties, asking them to take environmental issues seriously.

Thanking the leaders for their service in public life, the lead bishop for the environment impressed upon them the urgent need to address global warming and its consequences, as predictions now show the

earth is warming at a faster rate than previously thought.

“The challenge of climate change is urgent, and its effects are already being felt across the world, often affecting the most vulnerable communities who have contributed least to the crisis,” wrote Bishop John.

“It is a challenge that can only be addressed by global co-operation, together with support for countries that are less able to afford a transition away from carbon-intensive fuels.”

Bishop Arnold also called on the parties to show strong leadership in the global endeavour to reduce carbon emissions, ensure the UK assists poorer countries to

meet their targets and obligations, produce credible policies to reduce net carbon emissions to zero by 2050 and work with institutions such as schools and faith communities to help them act as good custodians of the natural world.

Environment Corner – Care for creation on the agenda

This month’s edition of the Voice coincides with the General Election, and the start of a new government – with all the hope and expectation that involves.

We have been reading much about polls in the last few weeks, but from an environmental perspective, perhaps one of the most important was that commissioned by the Wildlife Trusts, which showed that environmental issues are a key concern for voters. The majority felt these issues were at least as important as any other issues facing the country.

An election is a time when prospective candidates hear most forcefully from the public, and it seems important not to let that sense of urgency drift away.

Historically, the UK has been a leader in this field, and we want that to continue. Catholics have long cared about climate change because the problem touches on many issues that are at the core of what it means to be Catholic and to live out our faith caring for God’s creation – rightly

called our “Common Home”.

Many of the early Fathers of the Church spoke eloquently about this, including St Augustine, who told us: “The care of creation is contemplation of God.”


And from St Bonaventure: “The whole of creation can be considered as a most beautiful son that proclaims the beauty of the Creator, within which each creature intones a different part of it with a diverse and energetic voice.”

So what next? I would suggest our role is to keep these concerns at the centre of our Church life – to include them in our bidding prayers and to consider how as individuals and communities we may all contribute to the healing and renewal of our common home, alongside a more vocal role in encouraging our new MPs to keep these issues at the top of their agenda.

I’ll end with the words of St Francis: “Start by doing what’s

necessary, then do what’s possible and suddenly you are doing the impossible.”

Barbara Hungin



A poll for the Wildlife Trusts showed environmental issues are a key concern for voters – Photo by pxhere

Forces bishop joins D-Day commemorations

Britain and its wartime Allies marked 80 years since D-Day – the largest seaborne invasion in history.

It was the start of the campaign to liberate France and western Europe. The cost was high.

There were 10,000 Allied casualties that day and in the Battle of Normandy more than 425,000 troops from all sides were killed, wounded or went missing.

Bishop Paul Mason, the Catholic Bishop of the Forces, travelled to the north coast of France to Normandy to stand in solidarity with, and pray for, the veterans of D-Day and World War II...

The 8am ferry from Portsmouth was certainly the one to be on.

About 30 D-Day veterans were on board and they were given all the fanfare they deserved. A flotilla of small boats proudly led the ferry out of the harbour, while others joined the applause with the sounding of foghorns.

Aboard the Prince of Wales aircraft carrier the crew stood to attention and saluted as we sailed past.

An A400 transport aircraft circled the ferry three times, and all the while the band on board played wartime favourites, including We'll Meet Again and the White Cliffs of Dover. Onlookers on shore waved flags and

cheered. We all knew this was something special.

Once in Normandy, I had the opportunity to speak to people and hear what brought them over the Channel. In fact, they were all too ready to tell me about their connection to D-Day, as though doing so reinforced a solidarity with strangers – strangers united in a common history and shared freedom.

One elderly gentleman had come with his wife from Arizona to honour his uncle who had died on Omaha Beach. A woman I spoke to had lost her father during the landings, and she was the only surviving member of the family.

Such stories, recounted in a setting of WWII military vehicles, uniforms and music, were wonderful theatre, enabling all present to, in some way, touch the past.

Connection with the past is fundamental to such an occasion, taking hold of our history, owning it, for fear it may disappear into the mists of the collective memory.

We have a common identity as the lucky generations who had our freedoms protected, paid for by the brave men who stormed the beaches that day.

There were prayers for the dead and for their eternal rest. Even the ferry stopped as it approached Ouistreham so a wreath could be



Bishop Paul Mason at his installation as Bishop for the Forces –
© Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

laid on the waters where so many perished.

Many have commented that this will no doubt be the last time we are able to honour the fallen of the D-Day landings while veterans are still with us. From what I saw, I believe we did our best to show our gratitude

and love.

No-one was a spectator on Thursday but standing shoulder to shoulder in solidarity and prayer with our veterans, both living and dead.

Applications invited for Ignatian training courses

Applications are being invited for two courses being beginning in the autumn at St Bede's Pastoral Centre in York.

The two-year York Ignatian Spiritual Accompaniment Course is held in the centre one Wednesday a month.

Rooted in the Ignatian tradition, this course

is suitable for those who are exploring the ministry of faith accompaniment and have made the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola.

Key components will include underlying principles of accompaniment, life issues and accompaniment and the practice of skills used in accompaniment.

A one-year online training course in Spiritual Conversation opens on Saturdays in September and continues once a month on Tuesday evenings until next June.

Also rooted in the Ignatian tradition, this course explores ways of fostering our listening skills, how we can become better attuned in our conversation with others, what

characterises a spiritual conversation and other related topics.

For more information on both courses visit stbedes.org.uk or contact course administrator Fiona Hill on 01904 464900 or fiona@stbedes.org.uk.

Prayerful contemplation at Mount Grace

Mary Ward Sisters from the Bar Convent in York along with several Friends of Mary Ward went for our annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace.

We spent a good three hours in prayer and quiet contemplation, praying for the coming

of the Holy Spirit, for the beatification of Mary Ward and for peace throughout the world. The day ended with a celebration of the Mass for Pentecost.

Frances Orchard CJ



Mary Ward pilgrims at Mount Grace



Staff from diocesan Central Services gathered to say a fond farewell to Deacon David Cross as he retired from his role as adult formation coordinator. We thank Deacon David for his dedicated service and wish him all the very best for the future.

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NEWS

Mass highlights proposed abortion changes

A pro-life Mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel in Hull to mark the passing of the Abortion Act and highlight proposals to legalise all abortions put forward by local MP Diana Johnson.

The events were organised by the Hull and East Riding Branch of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC).

Fifty people attended the Mass and more than 20 stood in a chain of silent witness on Beverley Road.

- SPUC is encouraging voters to ask prospective parliamentary candidates to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

To find out more about its campaign and access tools, visit spuc.org.uk/valueyourvote.

Chris Leather
Chair, Hull and East Riding SPUC



The silent chain of witness in Hull

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