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Exciting New Resource



Just over a year ago, the Diocese of Middlesbrough launched its new Confirmation Programme - *I Am Confirmed*, co-authored by Mrs Laura Cutler (Chaplaincy Co-ordinator of St Peter's RC College), Father Paul Farrer (Diocesan Youth Chaplain) and Canon John Lumley (Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation). In that short time, the programme has been used not just in many of the parishes in our own Diocese, but in most of the dioceses of England and Wales, and beyond. Its success meant that the Catechist's Guide quickly sold out and had to be reprinted, and the Candidate's Magazine is now in its third reprint. As a new round of Confirmation preparation groups start up in parishes across the country, orders are once again coming in for this resource which catechists, priests and young people have welcomed so enthusiastically. And the cherry on the cake is that the programme has more than covered its start up costs and is bringing in a healthy profit for the benefit of the Diocese.

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Bishop's Column

Year of Faith - Year of Blessings

Since the main purpose of the Year of Faith is that we might all grow in holiness, the Holy Father has granted his apostolic blessing and the gift of indulgences by virtue of the power conferred upon the Church by Christ. There are certain situations and conditions during the course of the next year when these may be obtained. During the Year of Faith, which will last from 11th October 2012 to 24th November 2013, Plenary Indulgence for the temporal punishment of sins, imparted by the mercy of God and applicable also to the souls of deceased faithful, may be obtained by all faithful who, truly penitent, take Sacramental Confession and the Eucharist and pray in accordance with the intentions of the Supreme Pontiff.

Each time they attend at least three sermons during a Mission, or at least three sessions on the Acts of the Council or the articles of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, in church or any other suitable location.

Each time they visit the Cathedral Church in Middlesbrough, the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley, the Church of St Wilfrid, York, the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow, York, the Postgate Church of St Hedda, Egton Bridge, the Church of St Peter, Scarborough, the Church of St John of Beverley, Beverley, the Church of St Charles Borromeo, Hull; also each time during a Pilgrimage they visit a holy site. They must participate in a sacred celebration, or at least remain for a period of time in prayer and pious meditation, concluding with the recitation of the Our Father, the Profession of Faith in any legitimate form, and invocations to the Blessed Virgin Mary and, depending on the circumstances, to the Holy Apostles and patron saints.

Each time on the Fridays of Prayer and Reflection in the designated Churches of the four Diocesan deaneries they participate in a solemn celebration of the Eucharist, the Liturgy of the Hours, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, adding thereto the Profession of Faith in any legitimate form.

On any day they choose, during the Year of Faith, if they make a pious visit to the baptistery, or other place in which they received the Sacrament of Baptism, and there renew their baptismal promises in any legitimate form.

At the Opening and Closing Masses of the Year of Faith, the Bishop may impart the papal blessing with the Plenary Indulgence.

If for reason of illness or another serious cause a person is not able to leave their home, they may still obtain a Plenary Indulgence if, united in spirit and thought with other faithful, they recite the Our Father, the Profession of Faith in any legitimate form, and other prayers that concord with the objectives of the Year of Faith, offering up the suffering and discomfort of their lives.

May this Year of Faith bring blessings on us all.

+ Long

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Evangelisation

Continued from Page 1

There is clearly a need for fresh, faithful and up-to-date catechetical resources, as evidenced by the number of requests the Diocese received to produce more programmes which priests and catechists can use when working with those preparing for the sacraments. The result is a new Baptism programme, called **My Baby's Baptism**. This time, Father Paul and Canon John worked with Mrs Rosemary Gallagher. Rosemary is an author of considerable experience, most notably having authored or co-authored such popular resources as 'How to Survive Being Married to a Catholic' and 'Your Child's First Communion', among others.

My Baby's Baptism is grounded in Scripture, faithful to the Catechism and relevant to the varied lives of parents today. Its aim is to be clear, practical and sensitive to the diverse and often challenging situations which can arise when working with parents who wish to have their child baptised. It is also intended to be comprehensive enough for new catechists to be able to use, but flexible enough to be adapted by more experienced catechists.

The Catechist's Guide costs just £12.00 (plus p&p) and consists of:

Full colour throughout

Three complete session plans, plus a follow-up session after the Baptism

Photographic resources

Opening and closing prayer ideas

Resources for Sunday parish liturgies (so that the whole community is involved)

All the material needed for a complete well-grounded course

A simple website offering resources to support the programme.

The Parents' Booklet is just £3.00 (plus p&p) and contains a wealth of information. It complements the Catechist's Guide and explores frequently asked questions, how to choose godparents, how to choose a name, with a pull-out personalised record of the Baptism celebration itself, plus ideas on parenting and faith development in the home. A fantastic resource to place in the hands of parents for barely the price of a birthday card! And of course, even if parishes do not plan on using the Catechist's Guide, the Parents' Booklet itself is a fantastic resource in its own right.

You can find more information at: <http://www.mybabysbaptism.co.uk>

To order copies for your parish - or even your school - call Sue at the Curial Office on (01642) 850505 or by e-mail reception@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

(Sue will also be able to provide you with copies of *I Am Confirmed* or go to <http://www.iamconfirmed.co.uk>)

Canon John Lumley

Kevin Duffy - new Director of Schools



In September, the Diocese welcomed Kevin Duffy as the new Director of Schools leading the Diocesan Schools Service. Kevin joins the Diocese with an extensive education background having spent 20 years working as a senior manager in the Department for Education, five years as an Assistant Director in a North East Local Authority and most recently, six years as Vice Principal of a multi-academy trust school which covered primary, secondary and special education. Born and educated in Middlesbrough, Kevin lives now in Ingleby Barwick and his children attend Christ the King Primary School and St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby. Kevin has also been Chair of Governors of Christ the King for the past 12 years.

Canon John Lumley, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation, said "Kevin comes with a passionate commitment to Catholic education and his background, knowledge and experience will be of great value to the Diocesan family of schools."

Kevin told the 'Voice' "I am extremely proud to have been appointed as Director of Schools for the Diocese of Middlesbrough and feel privileged to hold such an important position within Catholic education. Schools are facing a period of great change and increasing challenge and it is vital that the outstanding contribution Catholic schools make to educate the whole child continues to be recognised and celebrated."



Kevin Duffy together with newly appointed Head and Deputy Headteachers at their Welcome Day in the Curial Offices

Swaziland teachers come to Middlesbrough

Teachers, Khanyisile Mngometulu and Siphesihle Vilakati, from Enjabulweni Catholic School in Manzini, Swaziland visited Marton Manor Primary School as part of an exchange project. Two staff from Marton Manor School, Sara Witherley and Teresa Whittaker, visited the South African bridging school and orphanage in the summer and the school has had a link through visits by Mrs Whittaker and her family for the past five years.

The project is supported by the Global School Partnership programme through the Department of International Development. The staff from Marton Manor and The Enjabulweni Bridging School have worked together to help our children to become "global citizens". The aim is that the partnership will have a positive effect on pupil awareness, attitudes and responses and motivate them to be committed to a fairer, more sustainable world. Projects to date include shared teaching of traditional stories, art and geography. Writing information texts on plants and animals has helped the children focus on aspects of literacy. Each school has gifted a wall hanging of an indigenous tree of their own country (oak and baobab) made by the children. Future projects include sustainability - studying the impact of ironstone mining in both countries, and diversity - studying art in our different countries.

Khanyisile explained "It has given us ideas about what is happening in European

schools and allows us to explore other ways of teaching. The English teachers who have visited our school have been so helpful." Adding his views, Siphesihle said "It is an eye-opener for us to come and see English schools and we hope will help our children improve their literacy skills. Our teaching style in Swaziland assumes children don't know anything. We must give the children a chance to show what they already know. The teacher is the child's best resource so we need to take back as many ideas as we can." Teresa Whittaker said of the visit "It has been a privilege to work with such inspirational teachers and to be able to share their life experiences and values."

Father Larry McDonnell (an Irish Salesian

priest) has been Founder and Director at Manzini Youth Care Centre since 1978. They have provided support, accommodation, care and education for marginalized and homeless young people at risk through poverty. Many of the children in the area have lost their parents due to AIDS or other diseases and the life expectancy is around 32 years of age. Around 85% of people are living below the poverty line and the soup kitchens set up provide the only meal each day for many of the 600 children they feed. The teachers at the school also go into the homes of the families to clean, cook, care for the sick and to provide advice. For further information, please go to <http://manziniyouthcare.com/>



Khanyisile Mngometulu and Siphesihle Vilakati with children from Marton Manor School

Rejoice Rejoice Rejoice People of Beverley

So says the opening words of an old hymn and the rafters of the Minster rang with the songs of praise of the children of St John's School in Beverley as they celebrated the 50th anniversary of the opening of their 'new school'.

But what was extra special about this celebration was that it was celebrated in the Minster church and was in fact the first time Mass was celebrated there in some 400 years, Bishop Terence Patrick having the privilege of being the first Bishop to celebrate Mass in

the Minster since Tudor times!

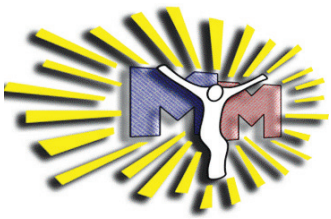
The school and the Diocese were honoured by the kind invitation of the Vicar of Beverley Minster and as you can imagine, every seat was taken, by the staff and children of the school and by the many invited guests and Civic Dignitaries and many from surrounding parishes. The service was a very happy one with joyful interaction between Bishop Terry and the children.

Tom Timpson

The Cleveland Newman Circle

Rasputin:
The Holy and Blessed Martyr, Gregory?
The Mad Monk?
Demon Incarnate?
Lover of the Russian Queen?
by Michael Porteous

Wednesday 21st November 2012 7.30 pm for 7.45pm
Nevers Room, St Bernadette's, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS7 0EB



MYMission



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Forming Youth Ministry

The Third National Youth Congress will take place on 16th March 2013 at The Sage, Gateshead, Newcastle upon Tyne and in this Year of Faith, when we are called to reflect upon our calling to pass on the Faith to the next generation of the Church, the congress takes as its theme, 'The Faith Story.'

Aimed at anyone who works with children and young people within the Catholic Church, the congress aims to inspire, inform, challenge and encourage us all in our various ministries. The day, which begins at 10.30 am and ends at 3.30 pm, is for youth ministers, parish catechists, priests, deacons, teachers, chaplains, chaplaincy co-ordinators and concerned parents and parishioners. With the task of speaking to the congress about capturing the hearts and minds of young people, guest speakers include Bishop Lucas Van Looy SDB, Bishop of Ghent and Christopher Pilkington, Head of Youth Programming for Endemol TV, the production company whose output includes *Deal or No Deal*. The day will also include personal testimony from young people and youth ministry projects and organisations from all over the country will come together to create a resources café.

The MYMission Team are involved in the organisation of the day and are proud that the congress is coming to the North of England. Father Paul Farrer, Diocesan Youth Chaplain, said "The first couple of times the congress was held, it was in London. I attended both and remember seeing a couple of people from the Diocese but we were few in number. It was a great shame, because the days were such an inspiration, but more than that, they were full of resources and things for people to take away to help their ministry. I remember thinking on the train home about all of the people I wished had been there. Well this year we have a great chance. There was no congress in 2012, FLAME happened instead. So 2013 sees us gathering in Gateshead. I know that it is still quite a distance from Hull but it is about as close as we will get until it becomes our year to host the congress! I really hope as many people as possible will put the date in their diary - there will certainly be something for everyone." Anyone who wishes to attend the congress should e-mail frpaul@mymission.org.uk for booking details. If enough people book we may be able to co-ordinate transport to save costs.

YouCast

Sixteenth November will see the first edition of the first podcast dedicated to forming and informing youth ministers working in any part of the Catholic Church. The MYMission Team is collaborating with colleagues across the Diocese and across the country, bringing together as many people with as much experience as possible.

Father Paul Farrer said "I hope that the podcast does a few things. First of all I hope it works! Beyond that, we hope it allows people engaged in youth ministry to get to know about each other's work. This may help us all feel a little less isolated. I also have the sincere hope that we can form each other. It should go without saying that none of us have all of the answers, but together we just might get there." The first edition of YouCast will include interviews with Father Dermott Donnelly, Director of Youth Services for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle; Team GB long jumper, Chris Tomlinson; and MFC Manager and First Team Coach, Tony Mowbray and Mark Proctor. Reverend Vince Purcell of the Diocesan



Adult Formation Department and Margaret Rees, Diocesan Co-ordinator of School Chaplaincy, also lead a discussion about how best introduce the themes of Vatican II to young people in the Year of Faith. Jack Regan of www.catholicyouthwork.com will also be a regular contributor, providing a round-up of available online resources.

The MYMission Team has undertaken to produce six editions of YouCast over this coming academic year covering the Year of Faith, Advent, Lent, Lourdes, World Youth Day and all kinds of other things. Father Paul said "YouCast will be available on the MYMission website; <http://mymission.org.uk> and we will also submit the podcast to iTunes so look out for it there too. If you would like to submit something for inclusion in one of the episodes feel free, all you have to do is make a sound recording of an interview or even just a report of the youth ministry that happens where you are and e-mail it to us." To submit a piece for consideration, please e-mail frpaul@mymission.org.uk

Our Lady and St Peter's, Bridlington: Called to Serve!

Just three weeks in to the start of the year and with a new team member, we embarked on our journey to Our Lady and St Peter's for our very first mission of the year. The Co Head Teacher, Anne Parr, and everyone at the school were very welcoming and some of the children even remembered the Mission Team from two years prior from a previous mission. The last time the Mission Team were in this school, it went under the name St Mary's and one of the reasons that this particular mission was timed for the start of the year was to celebrate the name change. We spent time with the children exploring the significance of names, where they come from and how we are called different names by different people in our lives. Over our few days at Our Lady and St Peter's, we expressed the importance of the school's new name and how having the school name, matching that of its local parish, they were widening the school family and becoming a closer community.

The school children took to the mission like ducks to water, throwing themselves into all the dramas, dancing and activities. We were very impressed by the foundation level children and some of the responses they gave to our probing questions. Knowing that even the youngest in the school could grasp the concept of being called to serve and that it was about helping others before yourself, made all our hard work, extremely worthwhile. One of the highlights of the mission was definitely Key Stage Two becoming the mission team, having prepared presentations on

different aspects such as CAFOD, Inspiration people and how we are called to serve. Their presentations were unique, clever, funny and really reflected the message that we had been talking about all week - that we are all individually called by God to serve others in many different ways.

To end the week, we had a really beautiful mass with many of the children involved with the preparation, music, serving and readings. It was so nice to see many of the families and local parish had turned out for the celebration and everyone left in high spirits.

Thank you to everyone at Our Lady and St Peter's, To Mrs Parr and all the staff, the children and their families! We hope to see you again soon!



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Forming and serving Youth Ministry in England and Wales

The Faith Story
National Congress In the Year of Faith

Guest Speakers
Bishop Lucas van Looy, SDB
Bishop of Ghent, Belgium
Christopher Pilkington
TV Producer, Endemol Youth Programming

Saturday 16th March 2013
THE SAGE GATESHEAD
[Newcastle upon Tyne]

Time: 10.30am - 3.30pm
Conference Fee: £12
Bookings: T: 01207 592244
E: congress@ymf.org

About the Congress
In this Year of Faith, when we reflect on the call to hand on the gift of our faith to the next generation, the Congress takes as its theme 'The Faith Story'. The theme will be explored by a range of speakers including Bishop Lucas Van Looy, the Bishop of Ghent and Christopher Pilkington, Executive Producer for Endemol Youth Programming.

About the Venue
Set on the banks of the Tyne at Gateshead Quays, The Sage commands stunning views of the River Tyne and is situated centrally for the hotels, restaurants and shops of Newcastle.

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Year of Faith

The Year of Faith is well on its way and activities related to it have begun throughout the Diocese so we are printing a varied range of reflections on the subject. As the Year of Faith progresses, we will continue to feature reports and reflections and would very much like to hear what is going on in your parish or school, etc. Please send your contributions to: catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk This month we begin our reflections with an article by David Cross which challenges us to renew our understanding of social justice in this Year of Faith. The photographs printed throughout this section of the paper were taken during the preparation session on Celebrating the Year of Faith in Catholic Schools which is featured later.



YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

The Poor you will always have with you?

As we begin the Year of Faith, the current economic situation has prompted me to write this article which reflects my personal thoughts. Between 1986 and 1992 I was unemployed, married with four children. We suffered the effects of long-term unemployment which for me personally was an experience that stole my sense of usefulness as a father, husband and someone who had something to offer to the life of my community. So much of what happened to us then is happening to other people now. I really hoped that I would never see such levels of unemployment and poverty here in the UK again. It's like reliving the nightmare. It is with this in mind that I make a heartfelt plea.

No one in our community can be ignorant of the economic and social difficulties that we are being faced with on a local, national and global level. In early September, the Children's Society launched an appeal to raise £500,000 to help it combat child poverty here at home in the UK.

As I write this article, I can't help but feel that we have been here before. It's not so long ago that Pope John Paul II raised concerns about high levels of unemployment

throughout the industrialised nations when he said unemployment is a disaster and when it reaches epidemic levels then it is a social evil. We now see unemployment increasing once again. This is followed by the inevitable cuts to welfare benefits and the same old arguments of "It's their (the unemployed) own fault", "They're lazy, feckless, smokers, drug addicts, wasters", "There's plenty of jobs, if only they would take them". Such remarks ignore the fact that our national and global economy is in recession.

Many people in our communities have never known what an economic boom looks like or what it feels like to be part of such a phenomenon. For those who find themselves in low paid work or at the mercy of our increasingly harsh benefits system, they often experience hardship upon hardship no matter what the economic conditions. We now hear, once again, of parents going hungry to ensure their children have enough to eat, of not being able to afford their child's school uniform, people not being able to get the medical care they need because of cutbacks and so on. If it's not bad enough on benefits, many others in work are now struggling to make ends meet due to high

energy prices, a lack of good quality and affordable social housing and the increasing cost of living these bring with them. Over time this pressure takes its toll on the health of individuals, families and whole communities. Indeed the poor we will always have with us! If we look at the last thirty or so years we can be excused from coming to the conclusion: When the rich succeed the poor pay and when the rich fail, the poor pay yet again.

A few years ago I asked a friend of mine (a Columban Father) what Jesus meant when he said the poor you will always have with you? My friend replied "It's quite simple really. Jesus was pointing out that there will always be people who will need help, who we will need to look out for and there will always be those who will seek every opportunity possible to gain as much as they can even if it is at the expense of others and even if it causes others hardship and pain". Hence there will be a continual fight against poverty.

One of the disturbing factors at the moment in the discussion about unemployment and poverty is that they lack any acknowledgement of the structural causes to

these problems. All the arguments are aimed at the individual. We seem to be avoiding facing up to the question that our current economic paradigm may well be running out of steam. Our whole economic system is built on consumerism: how many houses can one buy or own? How many products, clothes, fridges, cookers, computers, ipads, mobile phones, clothes, cars and so on can we buy and how often can we replace them? Shopping is now described as a leisure activity. How big a bonus or pension pot can I secure? How many and how often can I trade my shares to get the most money back?

As Christians, we need to have the courage to take a stand alongside those in our communities who find themselves marginalised because they are on low incomes. We need to speak out loudly to our politicians and business leaders that we do not want a polarised and divided society. We see growing poverty once again whilst on the other hand we see some people with riches so vast that if they had the nine lives of a cat, they couldn't spend it all. It's time that we began asking when will enough be enough?

Pope Paul VI over forty years ago said that the "rich need to discover a non-stop generosity". More recently in his encyclical Caritas et Veritate, Pope Benedict challenged us to dare to put right the anomalies of our financial, economic and political systems that enable some individuals to make obscene gains whilst others are thrust into grinding and permanent poverty. We speak about the Common Good but I wonder how many of us give it more than a passing thought.

In the Year of Faith, can we or dare we challenge ourselves to speak out for and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers both here at home and around the world for whom life is a daily battle against the ravages of poverty and unemployment? If we can then maybe we can begin to bring about God's Kingdom here on earth. Wouldn't it be a great testament to our faith if at the end of November 2013, people spoke about us as those who rebuilt what was once in ruins: "If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday...Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in" (Isaiah 58 9-10, 12).

David Cross



Celebrating the Year of Faith in Catholic Schools

On 25th September, almost 50 teachers, governors and chaplains gathered in Burn Hall, York to explore ways in which Diocesan schools might celebrate the Year of Faith. The day was organised and facilitated by Theresa Laverick, the Diocesan Religious Education Advisor. In the morning, Monsignor John Wilson, Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation in the Diocese of Leeds, shared a programme entitled 'Catholic Foundation Stones' which unpacks the basic teachings of the Catholic faith and is rooted in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the documents of the Second Vatican Council. It can be used in a variety of settings but Monsignor Wilson shared various ways it has been used in school as a tool to support the faith formation of all staff, both Catholic and those from backgrounds other than Catholic, to help them deepen their understanding of the faith which underpins

all that happens in a Catholic school. Theresa said "It is my hope that in this Year of Faith, all Diocesan schools will use this, or similar resources with staff and parents". In the afternoon, two headteachers from the Leeds Diocese, Keiron Flood and David Willis, shared some of the work and resources they and other colleagues had developed to support the faith formation of staff, parents and pupils. The day ended with Theresa reminding teachers about 'Little Way Week' based on the spirituality of St Thérèse of Lisieux which precedes the Year of Faith and shared some practical ways of celebrating the Year of Faith throughout the year. Some of these suggestions and resources will soon be uploaded onto the Diocesan website (www.middlesbrough-diocese.org.uk).

Theresa Laverick

Living Faith

Is our faith tucked in the back drawer of a wardrobe? Or, is it living - worn daily like valued garb?

Living faith! Catherine Doherty, the Foundress of Madonna House, has enduring words on this subject. "Faith is a country of darkness in which we venture because we love and believe in the beloved, God, who is above all reasoning, all understanding, all comprehension, and, paradoxically, is enclosed within us: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit."

Faith challenges. Do we balk? Catherine continues: "Few of us go where no one wants to go. If we have faith in God we must have faith in each other. Even the most evil among us has some redeeming feature. Faith will seek it out. The ultimate and essential answer to all our personal problems, to all our social ills, rests in the realm of faith. I must believe, for if I don't believe then I must be suicidal. Either I enter despair or I enter faith in God and man."

Faith is a daily journey. "If we embark upon this quest into the land where we may not be able to hear, may not be able to see, may not be able even to speak, suddenly

we will be mysteriously visited. A hand will touch our ears and they will be opened, not only to the speech of man but to the speech of God.

"A hand will touch our eyes and we will see, not only with our eyes, but with the sight of God. A hand will touch our tongue, and we will speak, not only as men do but as God speaks, and we will have become prophets of the Lord."

Is faith simply a set of moral obligations, or does it engage the whole of our person, including others? Living faith can be a remarkable love affair which animates our being and doing. To excerpt Catherine: "Through faith we are able to turn our faces to God and meet his gaze. Each day becomes more and more luminous... God goes on to say, I invite you to a relationship of love; your love of me, my love of you."

So writes Catherine Doherty. Her booklet of 40 pages 'FAITH' is available from Madonna House, tel (01947) 880169 or e-mail rhb@madonna1.plus.com We will gladly post you a copy, welcoming a small donation.

Emily Huston

Some Year of Faith Diary Dates

An evening's reflection upon the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*)

Tuesday 27th November at 7.30 pm, St Margaret Clitherow, Great Ayton

Catholicism - The Journey of a Lifetime

A film and discussion to help us in our Advent reflections

Part One - The Revelation of God Become Man

Wednesday 28th November at 7.00 pm, Christ the King, Thornaby

OR

Tuesday 4th December at 7.00 pm, St Augustine's, Redcar

Part Two - The Teachings of Jesus

Wednesday 5th December at 7.00 pm, Christ the King, Thornaby

OR

Tuesday 11th December at 7.00 pm, St Augustine's, Redcar

Part Three - Mary, the Mother of God

Wednesday 12th December at 7.00 pm, Christ the King, Thornaby

OR

Tuesday 18th December at 7.00 pm, St Augustine's, Redcar

¹ from the Office of Readings for the feast of St Bartholomew.

Praying with Pictures in the Year of Faith

The Year of Faith marks the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council. One of the key themes of the Council became "the universal call to holiness" (Lumen Gentium, the Constitution on the Church, chapter 5) - the recognition that every baptised Christian is called by God to lead a life which is holy - that this is not reserved to an elite few. Prayer is one of the ways which this document identifies as essential to the perfection of love, which is holiness. Another important document, Gaudium et Spes, says that "The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this time... these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ." And it goes on to say that the People of God are called to discern the authentic signs of God's presence and purpose in the events, needs and longings of humanity (GS para 11). The "history of salvation" is still being worked out - God is still at work in the lives of each of us.

Each month of the Year of Faith, we will look at the way pictures and photographs can reveal to us how God continues to be at work in our lives. We are used to seeing paintings and icons of Our Lord, Our Lady and the saints, as well as pictures of

important events in their lives, like the crucifixion, the resurrection, the annunciation. Such pictures help us to pray; they allow the reality of God's love for us to sink into our minds and hearts.

We can also find God in our own personal "joys, sorrows and anxieties", in the "events, needs and longings" of our daily human life - if only we take time to discern the presence of God's in them. We find God in the people we love, in times of happiness and of sadness too. God is constantly speaking to us, constantly loving us, constantly with us. This series will use the pictures we all have in our photograph albums, pictures of the important events and people in our lives, to help us see how God is at work in our lives. This week, choose a picture of a favourite saint or an event in the life of Christ which speaks in a particular way to you. Spend a few moments looking at it: why does it appeal to you? What does it tell you about God? Speak to God about your picture - about the feelings it evokes, and then about your own joys, sorrows and anxieties... and allow the Lord's gentle presence to speak into your heart.

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We Believe

Referring the mission of the apostles, the renowned fourth century preacher and Bishop of Constantinople, Saint John Chrysostom, wrote in a letter to the church at Corinth:

For whence did it strike twelve unlettered men to attempt such great enterprises, men who were living in marshes, or rivers, in desert places, who had never perhaps gone into a city or the public square? Whence did it strike them to array themselves against the whole world? Would it not have been folly even to conceive of such things let alone do them? Hence it is clear that, if they had not seen him risen and received this mighty proof of his power, they would never have risked such a gamble.¹

Be honest, haven't we all sometimes found ourselves wondering about things to do with our faith? - not questioning our faith as such, but perhaps listening to that tiny voice of temptation that asks: "What if someone made the whole thing up?" That passage from John Chrysostom is a tremendous counter-argument that basically says: would anyone have made up something as ridiculous (in human terms) as this?

In our own day and age, an age of instant electronic communication and media saturation, it would be the easiest thing in the world for someone to fabricate a credible identity for themselves that would enable them to carry out an elaborate hoax or to obtain large sums of money by false pretences. It happens all the time. We have all heard of so-called religious cult groups through which self-proclaimed "messiahs" have been able to exert a frightening degree of control over their misguided followers. There have also been examples of "televangelists" obtaining large sums of money in the name of religion from viewers who thought they were supporting healing or preaching ministries but who, sadly, were merely lining the pockets of those who, far from praying *for* them, were preying *on* them.

Consequently we have learned to be very sceptical in our response to people and organisations seeking our support - though not sceptical enough that the occasional con artist still finds it worthwhile trying. We have learned to ask ourselves who this person or organisation is that is asking us for help. How do we know if they are genuine or not? What guarantees of authenticity can they produce? Are even these genuine? How easily could this be a con? What do they stand to gain personally? What are the risks involved if we decide to trust them?

What lies behind what St John Chrysostom said is a very basic question: could the apostles have perpetrated an elaborate hoax? And his answer is an unequivocal and resounding "No" on the grounds that no one could make up a scenario that bad. Let's look at what he says.

Let's imagine Peter and his brother Andrew mending their nets by the Sea of Galilee one day with James and John, their partners in the family fishing business. Maybe because there was no football on the television that weekend(!), the unlikely subject of the message of the prophets comes up in conversation and the fact that that they had foretold the coming of a messiah who many thought would lead the people in an uprising against the occupying Roman forces. Why, even for a moment, would they conceive the idea of pretending he had finally come? What would be the point? What would they have expected to gain by it? As St John suggests, it's ridiculous to think that the apostles (most of whom were not very educated and probably knew very little of the world beyond the boundaries of Palestine) could, let alone would, have conceived the idea of a hoax that would lead to the establishment of a world-wide religion and their own canonisation as saints? First of all, why would they want to found a religion - a business empire, trading with the Romans maybe, but a religion? And what would be the point of being well-known after they were dead but which did nothing for them or their personal gain while they were alive?

And how could they plot and plan all of this without anyone else knowing? It was a very small community they lived in and everyone knew everyone else; they'd all have had to be in on the hoax. But why? What would the people have expected to get out of it? I might be wrong, but I don't think anyone had yet invented the word "pilgrimage" and so they couldn't possibly have envisaged that once Jesus became famous, people would come to see him in their thousands and everyone could open hotels and restaurants and souvenir shops(!).

And what about Our Lord's miracles? It might have been possible to fake a few of them right there in Nazareth if everyone was in on it, but we know from the gospel accounts that Jesus didn't (wasn't able to) work miracles in his hometown but rather that it was over a large area everywhere else that he healed the sick, cast out demons, and raised the dead.

If, indeed, everything had been a hoax (which, of course, it wasn't), the apostles' plans were

woefully useless given that before achieving anything they might have hoped for, Jesus was arrested and put to death and they were in fear for their own lives - and that, as St John Chrysostom says, would have been the end of it. The Pharisee, Gamaliel, wisely stated before the Sanhedrin (Acts 5 v34-39 in full): "If this enterprise, this movement of theirs, is of human origin it will break up of its own accord; but if it does in fact come from God you will not only be unable to destroy them, but you might find yourselves fighting against God." But, of course, it didn't end, it was just the beginning, because of Our Lord's resurrection from the dead (which they certainly couldn't have faked) and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (which, if not genuine, would have done nothing to allay their fears in the way the Spirit did). Even then, almost every one of the apostles was eventually martyred for the Faith - again hardly a recipe for earthly success - and, while now internationally known as saints of the church, not one of them ever enjoyed fame or fortune in their lifetime. And so again we ask: what was the point if it *was* all a fabrication?

If anymore proof were needed, let's move on to St Paul. Initially he didn't even know the apostles, as far as he was concerned Jesus was dead, and his one mission in life as a zealous Pharisee was to persecute the followers of Christ. It appears he was very good at it and the last thing he would ever have done was to concoct a wild story about an encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus - an encounter witnessed by his travelling companions don't forget - and his own conversion to Christianity.

Writing some time later to the Christian church in Thessalonika, Paul says: "We have not taken to preaching because we are deluded, or immoral, or trying to deceive anyone; it was God who decided that we were fit to be entrusted with the Good News." "You know very well that never at any time have our speeches been simply flattery, or a cover for trying to get money; nor have we ever looked for any special honour from men..." (1Thess 2 v3-6). If he had also been part of a massive hoax, like the apostles, it hardly did him any good in his lifetime as we see from his second letter to the Corinthians (11 v24 -28) and, like the apostles, he was also eventually martyred. The point, again, is that there is no other explanation for what happened in Paul's life other than that God was at work - he wouldn't have made up a story like that.

In light of all of this, how could anyone doubt the validity of the gospel account, or suspect the apostles of a colossal fraud. How could they have accomplished it? Why would they have decided to do it? What would they have gained by it? And is it even remotely likely that billions of Christians over the next two thousand years would all fall victim to the hoax?

The thought also occurs that even if everything is a hoax, what have we got to lose? - we'll never know. If there is no God, we'll never know. It's not as if we'll be sitting there (dead) thinking, "What a swizz. All that time and there never was a God"! We won't be thinking anything because, well... we'll be dead. In the meantime, because of our faith, we will be living much better lives than perhaps we might if we didn't believe. This can only make our life and our world that much better by virtue of the fact that we are trying to live as God wants. And we do this, also, because we have an eye to eternal life and the fact that we will one day be judged on the quality of our earthly life. We may sometimes find ourselves tempted to envy those with no such concerns, no such restraints on living the so-called "good life", but we must counter those temptations with the certain knowledge that there is indeed a God and that, in due course, such people will have to pay the price unless they get their acts together pretty quickly. Imagine their surprise when they discover that *they* were wrong and there *is* a God after all... but by then it will be too late. The *good life* we try to live is according to God's definition, the God we most surely believe in, the God of our lives.

This brings us to an essential point regarding faith. While there is nothing wrong with asking questions or even intellectually working through aspects of our faith, we should always remember that faith doesn't depend on logic and proofs. Faith is a grace from God. "What moves us to believe is not the fact that revealed truths appear true and intelligible in the light of our natural reason: we believe because of the authority of God himself who reveals them." (para 156 of the Catechism) "Faith is *certain*. It is more certain than all human knowledge because it is founded on the very word of God who cannot lie." (para 157)

Indeed it is precisely when things don't make intellectual sense that we then find ourselves drawing on God's gift of faith, believing simply because he asks us to. It's the old story about the man who falls off the edge of a cliff and as he is falling he manages to grab hold of the branch of a tree growing out of the cliff face. As he is hanging there between earth and sky, he desperately prays to God to save him and a voice comes from heaven saying, "OK, but first you have to let go." Very often that is how faith is for us - we have to let go of the firm and the secure and the certain and be willing to accept what God asks simply because he asks. And as we grow in our faith, we also grow in our knowledge of God because the two are inextricably linked.

Father Neil McNicholas



Bill Huebsch speaking in All Saints School

Celebrating the Second Vatican Council

In the end, it felt like a minor miracle!

The odds seemed stacked against us - everything had to be arranged at very short notice and we were competing with many other events; rain had fallen all week and the city was on the brink of being flooded - but thanks to Providence and the willing help of a good many friends, 85 people were able to meet at All Saints Lower School in York on Saturday 29th September for an inspirational day on Vatican II led by Bill Huebsch.

Bill is the author of *Vatican II in Plain English* and dozens of other resources designed to teach about and implement the Council more fully. He is also a very humorous and engaging speaker who helped us to look forward to the Year of Faith and the 50th anniversary of Vatican II by reflecting upon some of the main themes that emerged from the Council.

He explained that one key idea which was given new life by the Council has become known as the *universal call to holiness* - this is the truth that every person is called to an intimate, personal encounter with Jesus. The rediscovery of this ancient truth and our commitment to a life of true discipleship can lead us to transform the activities and events of every day life into holy moments and this, in turn, has the power to transform the world.

Bill also reflected upon the Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*), in which God is described as calling us into that relationship not only by addressing us

as friends but also by coming to live among us. God did not choose to reveal merely a theological system or a moral code, but rather God chose to reveal to us His very self. As Bill explained so clearly to the audience, we are called not to just know *about* God, but actually to *know* God.

It is no wonder, then, that the Year of Faith should also call upon us to deepen our hope and trust in the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. We have been asked to renew our knowledge and understanding of the documents of Vatican II and there are many ways to do this in the coming year. These ways could include:

Looking out for a booklet coming to your parish that sets out many suggested resources for learning about the Council

Joining or helping to set up a group in your parish to reflect and pray about the teachings of the Council

Contacting the Adult Formation Department at the Curial Office for further help and support.

Blessed Pope John XXIII once wrote out his own tips for daily living and number 5 on his list was "Only for today, I will devote ten minutes of my time to some good reading, remembering that just as food is necessary to the life of the body, so good reading is necessary to the life of the soul."

So - during the Year of Faith - why not devote your ten minutes a day to the teachings of the Second Vatican Council?



Vocations

View from a Seminarian

This September I started my fourth year of seminary training and because I'm getting closer to my final decision about Ordination and becoming a priest, my year group is asked to do something a little different. Instead of returning to the college for another year of study, we're sent back to our dioceses for around five months and I'm currently into my third month with Father Bill Serplus in St Aelred's parish in York. This time is an opportunity to put into practice the lessons of the seminary, not only the theology, but learning to find time for prayer in the busy parish life and living in the presbytery. So far it's been excellent and there is a lot to be involved with in York, but one of the highlights is the wealth of our Diocesan patrimony.

This month we celebrate the feast of All Saints and I'm looking forward to the Mass in York Minster of All Saints School, and this makes the Feast a particularly special occasion. Yet being in York does this anyway. After only a short time in the city, I quickly became aware of the great figures of Ss Margaret Clitherow, Wilfrid and Aelred. It is amazing to think that we live so close to where they lived out their faith in Jesus Christ and the most marvellous to me is Margaret Clitherow. Visiting her shrine on the Shambles makes her seem so close and the statue of Blessed Thomas Thwing, which stands next to hers, reminds me that they gave everything to remain faithful to Christ. When I stand before this great heritage of the Middlesbrough Diocese, I have to ask myself "can I become a saint like them?" And it seems to me that this is the intention of the Year of Faith.

These Monks, Mothers and Martyrs of York were transformed by their belief in Christ. They encountered Him, especially in the Mass, and they knew they could build their lives upon Him. Pope Benedict wants each of us to rediscover the

power of Christ, who overcame every trial through His life, death and resurrection, that we might have the courage to build our lives upon Him wholeheartedly. As he writes in Porta Fidei,

"By faith, the Apostles left everything to follow their Master..."

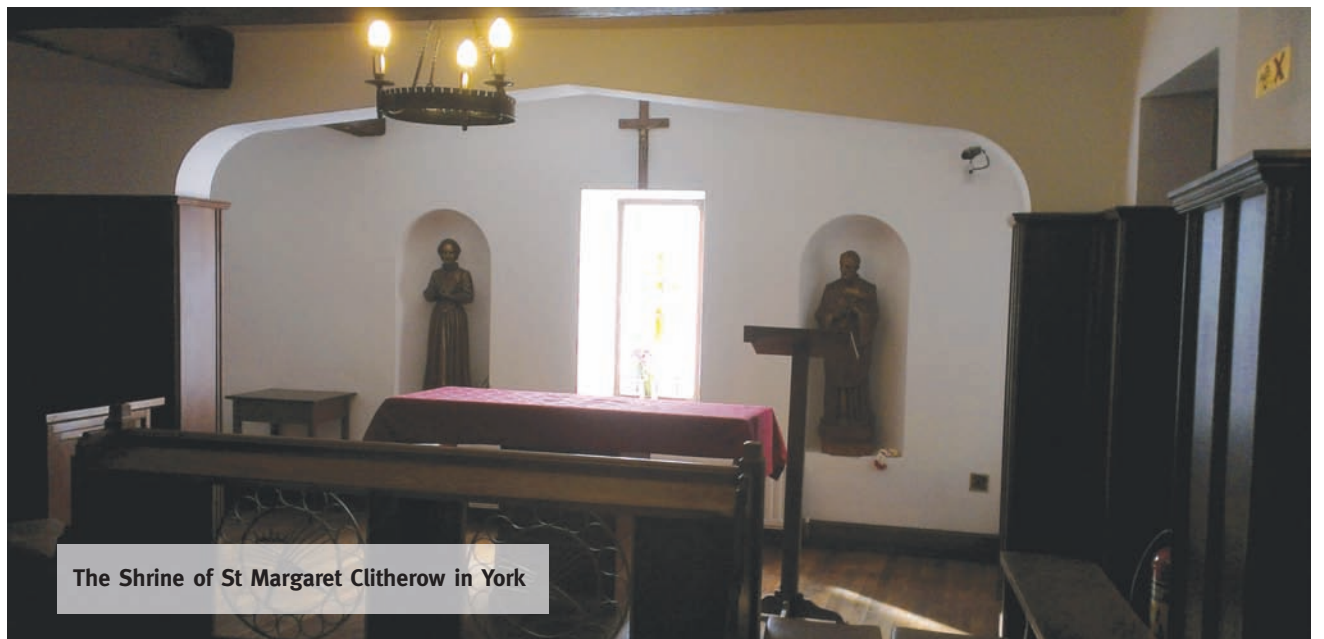
By faith, the martyrs gave their lives...

By faith, men and women have consecrated their lives to Christ...

By faith, we too live: by the living recognition of the Lord Jesus, present in our lives and in our history." (Pope Benedict XVI, Porta Fidei, 13)

By faith, can we become saints too?

Phil Cunnah



The Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow in York

Ushaw's national importance highlighted

Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies is launching a series of events to highlight the significance of Ushaw College.

In an effort to raise awareness of the nationally-important holdings at the former seminary - including documents from the period of Catholic persecution and rare first edition books - the Centre is arranging a series of lectures at the former seminary. Before Christmas, the lectures will consider the reaction of English Catholics to Enlightenment Arts and Sciences. The series was opened by the well-known historian, Eamon Duffy, on 17th October who spoke about the 18th century Ushaw-trained historian, John Lingard. On 31st October, Durham's Stefano Cracolici and Giovanna Capitelli will explore Ushaw's art and the heritage of faith. The final lecture of 2012 will be given by Ushaw's Michael Sharratt, who will talk about Catholicism, modernity and science at Ushaw in the 19th century, in particular, approaches to Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

The lecture series will continue in 2013, with topics including the Pugin architecture of Ushaw and its silver, before a major



conference on Early Modern Catholicism is held at the College next summer. The events will also lead towards the publication of a book about the treasures of Ushaw. Speaking of the upcoming events, Doctor James Kelly, a fellow at the Centre for Catholic Studies who will be working on the Ushaw material, said "These events are aimed at showing just how important Ushaw and its holdings are, not just to the Catholic community, but to the history of the North East and England more generally. By looking at Ushaw in this way, it becomes clear that its history - and that of Catholicism - is not a mere footnote to the national story but of lasting importance." The Ushaw lectures will start with refreshments at 5.30 pm before the actual talk. Each event will be accompanied by a small exhibition of items held at Ushaw relevant to the topic.

Details:

Theme: 'English Catholic reactions to Enlightenment Arts and Sciences'.

31st October: Stefano Cracolici and Giovanna Capitelli - 'Ushaw Art and the Heritage of Faith'.

28th November: Michael Sharratt - 'Catholicism, Modernity and Science: Teaching at Ushaw on the eve of Vatican I'.

For those wishing to book, please visit www.centreforcatholicstudies.co.uk for more information. ALL LECTURES ARE FREE BUT YOU MUST REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE TICKET WITH THERESA PHILLIPS AT ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk or tel (0191) 334 1656. More details are also on the Bishops' Conference website <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/News-Releases/Lecture-Series-Promotes-Ushaw-s-National-Importance>

Father Alberic Stacpoole RIP

Father Alberic Stacpoole OSB, Benedictine monk of Ampleforth Abbey who was a veteran of the Korean War and awarded the MC, died peacefully at Ampleforth Abbey on Sunday 30th September 2012 at the age of 81.

Humphrey Adam John Stacpoole (Alberic was the name given to him when he became a monk at Ampleforth Abbey in 1960) was born in Belfast in 1931 and educated at Gilling and Ampleforth College. In 1950, he went to the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst and in 1952 joined the Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) 1st Battalion. In Korea, during the period 13th-19th May 1953, Second Lieutenant Stacpoole commanded the Assault Pioneer Platoon. He was wounded in Korea and awarded the Military Cross. He then joined the Parachute Regiment 2nd Battalion and served in the Canal Zone, Egypt (1954), Cyprus (1956-1957), and Suez (1956). From 1957-1960, he served as Aide-de-camp to the GOC in Nigeria, and subsequently in Ghana and Sierra Leone, and British and French Camerouns.

At the end of his military career, in 1960, Humphrey Stacpoole joined the Benedictine monastery at Ampleforth, in North Yorkshire, where he received the name Alberic. From 1963-1966, he studied at St Benet's Hall at the University of Oxford, and on his return to Ampleforth worked extensively in the school. From 1966-1979, he taught History, Politics and Religious Studies, as well as spending some time as Acting Housemaster of St Wilfrid's House.

In 1979, Father Alberic returned to Oxford as Acting Master of St Benet's and then Senior Tutor. In this period, he became actively involved and well-known in ecumenical circles and from 1980-1982 was General Secretary of the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In 1985, he completed a DPhil at the University of Oxford on the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC). In 1989, Father Alberic was once again appointed Acting Master of St Benet's Hall.

Father Alberic was a prolific author and correspondent. He was editor of *The Ampleforth Journal* from 1967-1980 and co-editor of *The Noble City of York*, published in 1972, a major work which ran to more than 1,000 pages. His other works included *The Vatican Council by those who were there* (1986), an authoritative account of the Second Vatican Council of the Roman Catholic Church. At nearly 60 years of age, Father Alberic began parish pastoral work with his appointment as parish priest of Our Lady and St Chad, Kirkbymoorside and St Mary, Helmsley, roles he fulfilled for nearly 20 years.

In recent years, Father Alberic's health deteriorated and he died peacefully in the monastery infirmary at Ampleforth Abbey in the early hours of Sunday 30th September 2012. The Funeral Mass for Father Alberic Stacpoole took place in Ampleforth Abbey on Thursday 11th October 2012 at 11.30 am, followed by burial in the vault in the Monks' Wood.





Spirituality and Worship

Members of the Diocese participate in the Torchlight Procession in Lourdes



The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2013

Important, early arrangements are now in place and we can begin to plan our 60th Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 'Lourdes: Doorway to Faith', 24th-31st May 2013 with certainty.

Travelling in its traditional week for its traditional seven day length, the 60th Pilgrimage will take place during the Whit half-term break at the end of May. Mike Boyes, Executive Director of the Pilgrimage, said "I am very happy that we have been able to sort out dates and prices so quickly this year. We wanted to have booking forms available early so that as many people could join us for the Diamond Jubilee. The good news is that we are back in our normal week of the year, using the Accueil Notre Dame to care for our sick pilgrims and prices for the Official Pilgrimage flight are about the same as last year."

Father Paul Farrer, Pilgrimage Director, said "I am very grateful to the Organising Committee.

Getting this far in planning Lourdes 2013 represents a huge amount of work for some. Now the detailed planning of our week in May begins in earnest. Of course, that work only has value if people join the Pilgrimage." Mike Boyes said "As well as being our 60th Pilgrimage, we will also be celebrating the Year of Faith. One of the expressions of our faith that Pope Benedict asks us to consider is a pilgrimage. I can think of no better place than Lourdes and I look forward to welcoming as many of you as possible at our Opening Mass in Lourdes next May."

Booking forms for regular pilgrims and our VIPs, those who need to travel as sick pilgrims, will be available in your parish soon and copies will be printed in the next edition of 'Voice'.

Stations of the Cross

Sincere thanks to those who have made donations towards our permanent Stations of the Cross for the Cathedral. There is certainly some way to go but we are making good progress. The Bishop and the Cathedral parish plan to contribute to the cost of the first Station to launch us on our way. Anyone interested in making a contribution should contact Bishop Draine, Canon Robinson or Jim Whiston, Financial Secretary, who will be very happy to give details and help in any way possible. Stations are currently being fabricated in Rome and we hope to have them delivered soon.

Forum for Parish Musicians

We are now well into our new academic year and it is time for all parish singers and musicians to come together to take a look at resources for the year ahead and engage in helpful discussion with each other. If you care about the music in your parish, then The Forum for Parish Musicians is for you.

Come along and join us at a church near you.

Forthcoming meetings:

Saturday 10th November, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm, Middlesbrough Cathedral

Saturday 17th November, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm, Hull

(for details of venue, please telephone Kath Gallagher on (01642) 850505 [ext 258] or e-mail kathg@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk)

Young Composer's New Carol

Readers of *The Voice* will doubtless recall the name of Aidan Tulloch from Thirsk who, earlier this year, became the youngest ever participant in a composing competition run by the National Centre for Early Music with his choral work 'Bear the Bone Boat'.

I wrote to Aidan to congratulate him on his success and asked him if he would like to compose a Christmas carol for the Boys and Girls Choirs of Middlesbrough Cathedral. Aidan immediately took up the gauntlet and within a few weeks produced a beautiful new work for us, 'The Poor Child's Carol', for voices and piano. Not only has Aidan composed the music of this delightful song, but he has written the words, too.

Whilst Christmas may still seem quite a way off to many readers, choirs have to start work many months ahead of any occasion. Our choristers began rehearsing 'The Poor Child's Carol' at the start of this term; it was an instant success and has quickly become a favourite with the boys and girls alike.

Aidan visited me last month so that we could work through some of the fine details of 'The Poor Child's Carol' and I

took the opportunity to ask him a few questions about the background to his piece.

TCH: *What was the inspiration behind the beautiful words of your carol?*

Aidan: *I felt that there was still a gap in the market for this kind of piece. So many Christmas songs focus on receiving presents and lots of expensive things. I wanted to write a song that emphasises that Jesus is here for us all; for the poor child, just as much as for the rich one.*

TCH: *The lovely melody you have written flows so easily and is so well suited to the voices of our choristers. What was the biggest musical challenge you encountered when composing 'The Poor Child's Carol'?*

Aidan: *Definitely writing the piano accompaniment. My main instrument is the violin and I am hoping to do my grade 8 on this next year. I do have grade 4 on the piano, but writing well for keyboard instruments is a very specific skill.*

I am delighted to say that the choristers of St Mary's Cathedral will be singing 'The Poor Child's Carol' on several occasions this Christmas, including the BBC Tees Carol



Timothy Craig Harrison with Aidan Tulloch

Service on Saturday 15th December (for broadcast on Christmas Day), and at our own Cathedral Advent Carol Service on Tuesday 18th December as well as at Mass on Christmas Day. I strongly recommend readers to join us for one of these wonderful occasions to enjoy the magnificent music.

Timothy Craig Harrison
Diocesan Director of Music

Notes from Postgate Country

One of the best known historic sights in Postgate Country is Beggar's Bridge at Glaisdale. It is surrounded by an oft-told legend that it was built by Tom Ferris of Egton so that he could visit his girlfriend, Agnes Richardson, in Glaisdale. Regular flooding of the River Esk at that point often made it impossible to cross and so this wonderful high-arched packhorse bridge was built in 1619. It remains in position even though more modern bridges on the Esk have been washed away by floods.

The truth about this bridge would seem to be somewhat different from that legend and it is intriguing to realise that Father Nicholas Postgate, as a young man not yet ordained, could have been involved in the construction of this beautiful masterpiece. Even if that is not the case, there can be no doubt he crossed it many times during his renowned Mission of the Moors.

So who was Tom Ferris? It is likely he was born in Lastingham and at the age of 14 was apprenticed to a ship-owner in Hull. On completion of his apprenticeship, he lived with relatives at Egton as he awaited an

opportunity to join a ship sailing from Whitby. It was whilst at Egton, probably working on a farm, that he appears to have met Agnes Richardson, the daughter of a wealthy man living in Glaisdale.

Local folklore suggests that Mr Richardson did not approve of the penniless farm labourer and did not consider him a fit husband for his daughter. He refused to consent to their marriage until Tom was earning enough to keep his daughter in style. Further legend suggests he went to sea and became a highly successful and rich pirate before returning to claim the hand of his bride. It is also said he built the bridge to enable him to cross the Esk to meet Agnes.

The reality is rather different. There is no doubt that Tom Ferris (sometimes known as Ferries or Ferry) had a deep interest in shipping and after marrying Agnes, the couple moved to Hull where Tom displayed a great aptitude for business. He quickly established himself within the world of international shipping and was appointed Sheriff of Hull in 1614, then elected Mayor in

1620. However, Agnes died at Hull in 1618 - and Tom built his famous bridge to her memory in 1619. He would not have built it personally - he would have commissioned a team of builders and on a map of 1636 it is shown as Ferry Brigg. It is a splendid memorial to Agnes.

When we examine the known dates in the early years of Nicholas Postgate, there is just a possibility he might have worked on the construction of this bridge. In 1615, Nicholas Postgate was fined ten shillings at Helmsley Quarter Sessions for taking part in one of the entertainments staged by The Egton Players, sometime known as The Simpsons. This was probably our martyr, but when at court he said his occupation was *labourer*. This was prior to the start of the building of Beggar's Bridge and he may have then worked on his mother's smallholding as a labourer.

However, the bridge was completed in 1619 when the future martyr was living at Kirkdale Banks near where Stonegate Beck joins the Esk. No doubt Nicholas would have been aware of the construction of that bridge because it was less than a mile from his family home. So did Nicholas work on that bridge as a labourer? It is highly likely.

He would need to earn money for his forthcoming training at the English College at Douai, then in the Spanish Netherlands. We know very little about the building of the bridge or how long it took to complete, but when I was growing up in Glaisdale, we were told that egg-whites had been mixed with the cement to ensure it created the most powerful of bonds. That the bridge is standing today is a testimony to its builders.

On completion of the bridge in 1619, Nicholas Postgate would be around 19 years old. We do not know his exact date of birth but it is variously quoted as being between 1596 and 1600. He entered the English College at Douai on 4th July 1621 but we do not know how his fees were paid. Perhaps he had help from the wealthy Smith family of Bridgeholme Green, Egton Bridge? Maybe his mother managed to find the money, or he may have earned his own money by working wherever work was available.

As a trained priest, Nicholas Postgate left Douai to return to England on the Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul, 29th June 1630. Tom Ferris, the businessman who arranged the building of Ferry Brigg, now known as Beggar's Bridge, died in Hull that same year.

Nicholas Rhea

Lourdes Hospitalité Race Night and Christmas Celebration

As the nights draw in and the weather changes, the Lourdes spirit continues to glow as we bring people together through two separate events. On Saturday 10th November at 7.30 pm, the Hospitalité Council are hosting a Race Night at St Thomas More's Church Hall, Middlesbrough. Tickets are £5.00, which includes a pie and peas supper and are available from Anne-Marie Stephenson (07885 771258). Please note, this is a bring your own drink event and the first race will begin at 7.45 pm.

The Lourdes Hospitalité Council are also looking forward to sharing Mass on Saturday 1st December at 7.00 pm with the parishioners of St Francis Church, Middlesbrough. This will be followed by our second Christmas Celebration for all our VIPs and Hospitalité members in the St Francis Social Club with refreshments and plenty of Christmas cheer! This is a free social event but to assist with catering, we would be grateful if you can RSVP by contacting Keith Tillotson ([01642] 324043). We hope to see you at one of the events and once again thank you all for your continued support.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Christ the King, Thornaby

SATURDAY
24 NOVEMBER

10 am - 6 pm

Evening
Prayer
5.40 pm



SUNDAY
25 NOVEMBER

9 am - 7 pm

Holy Hour
6 pm

Led by
Very Rev Terence
Richardson OSB
Prior of Ampleforth

Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalité RACE NIGHT



Saturday, 10th November 2012

St Thomas More's Church Hall, Middlesbrough

7.00pm (First Race 7.45)

Tickets £5.00, includes Pie and Pea Supper

Available from Anne-Marie Stephenson Tel: 07885 771258

Bring your own drink

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To Live as Easter People

Over 700 Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist gathered for the annual 'Inspiration Day' at the Scarborough Spa on 22nd September. The speaker, Father David Jennings, a priest from the Diocese of East Anglia, gave a challenging and inspiring input, using the story of the road to Emmaus as a paradigm for the Christian way of life of a parish community - we should, he said, be "Easter People".

In the first presentation, Father David set the context as the Year of Faith, and asked participants to reflect on their own parish situation, with the question:

"What signs would you expect to find in a welcoming parish?"

The responses were broad-ranging:

- Greeting people
- Introductions
- Smiling - joyful atmosphere
- Engage people in conversations
- Particular welcome for visitors/newcomers
- Invite involvement
- Aware of potential barriers - language, culture, etc
- Eye contact/good communication
- Invite warmly - to coffee after Mass, etc (community responsibility - personally invite)
- Help people get a sense of Belonging
- Be aware of the people around you - you are not here alone! Community!

Being a **welcoming community** is the absolute bedrock of anything we do in the Year of Faith. The quality of our welcome is a sign that not only is the door of the church open, but the door to a living faith, with an evangelizing message: "You too can belong here, here you can meet Christ, and Christ in this place can offer you meaning and purpose in life, come and find yourself at home here". On the road to Emmaus, the disciples welcomed Jesus into their story, and through that welcome, enabled Jesus to walk with them. He listened as they poured out their lives, and then he was able to respond and to fill them, and of course, as we all know so well, later they realised *"didn't our hearts burn within us as he shared the Scriptures with us on the road"*. Every parish should be able to offer that "heart burning" experience that begins with a welcome invitation, to come in and find Christ's presence with us. Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion could, from time to time, join the welcome ministry, greeting people as they come into church. They would then begin to feel the pulse of the parish community before they ministered to them.

Father David went on to ask about the Ministry of Reader, and **what makes a good reader**. Again, the response from those present was very rich:

Preparation - days before! (*read and pray with the Reading "What do I like?", ponder "what does it mean?", "what is the key question it asks?"...*)

Eye contact - communicate the Reading

Praying it before

Open to the Holy Spirit - it is God's Word

Feel the passion of the Reading - put expression into it, using your own God-given voice, from the heart

Understand it - find the connections/look it up (1st Reading/Old Testament connection with the Gospel)

Pitch and pace - with clarity

Belief in Scripture as the Word of God, alive and active, speaking to hearts

Reverence and humility before the Word

It is fresh, new for every proclamation, every time, every

circumstance

Practical preparation - to include make sure the microphone is adjusted to your needs.

Father David spent some time developing the Church teaching that when Scripture is proclaimed in church, it is not about history or context but about an encounter - making Christ present. What is revealed in Scripture is the heart of God. On the Emmaus road, the disciples had emptied themselves so that Jesus could speak into their hearts, and their response was "Stay with us". In the same way, the proclamation of the Word opens up the hearts of all who have ears to hear, to the presence of Christ. Therefore as Ministers of the Word, we must prepare, days in advance, first of all asking "What did I like about this passage?" moving on to "What do I struggle with?" and then "what does it mean?" And to spend some time in quiet prayer with the passage, open to the Holy Spirit, allowing the Spirit to give some insight to the open heart. In the proclamation, when we have prepared well, and proclaim from the heart, with both humility and conviction, God will do the rest in the hearts of those who listen. The Word of God, as St James reminds us, is "alive and active", and its nourishment is as vital to us as the Sacrament. We are fed at the table of the Word, and every celebration of the Word, should be so good that we, like the prophets, want to eat it! Unlike so much of the other words we are bombarded with, which have the message "Do, Go, Buy", Scripture is about "Being with God", Presence, with us, alive in us. We need to remember that the liturgical action during the Liturgy of the Word is listening, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening".

Kevin Crilly, a Reader from Our Lady and St Edward, Driffield, said that being trained in the Diocese as a Reader, and coming to understand the Church teaching about the table of the Word, and the Word as the presence of Christ, was a pivotal moment for him in his life of faith. Coming to know the power of the Word of God as God's real presence had deeply affected him, and being commissioned by the Bishop to undertake this Ministry had transformed everything about his approach to it. It was no longer "just reading" but being a servant of the Word, proclaiming God's Word, being a humble instrument, part of enabling the dialogue, God present, speaking to His people.

Turning to the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Father Jennings spoke of this ministry as another of the joyful fruits of Vatican II, particularly when ministers take the Sacrament out to the sick and housebound. In the Emmaus story, when the disciples encounter Christ through his Word, and invite him to "stay with us", then Jesus becomes the host, and they become the guests, and he takes the bread, blesses and breaks it and gives it to them, and then vanishes from their sight. They are not dismayed at this. They recognise that all the elements of his presence have been given to them - in our time, we too have received the Lord in Word and in Sacrament, and strangely, His absence creates the Presence! There is both absence and presence at the same time, and the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are sharing this Presence of Christ with those



Father David Jennings with Canon Gerard Robinson

whom they visit.

Yes, the Emmaus story conveys a reality that when we look for Jesus, it can be in dark times. And then, somehow, without our knowing how, in the Celebration of the Eucharist, we discover the absent Presence of Jesus with us, in Word and Sacrament - and as in the words of the priest when he prays quietly on receiving communion "Lord, keep me faithful to your teachings and never let me be parted from you", we too pray. This is what is actually happening for us, and we are being gathered and formed by Christ's presence, and then sent out with great joy to minister to and nourish a hungry world. **It is this joy that will be attractive to others in the coming Year of Faith.**

The final challenge from our speaker was to reflect on what it means to offer a journey of faith to others, a journey that is truly vibrant, centred on becoming a disciple, rather than having an overriding concern with "passing on information about Christ" that can be in danger of being left as just that - information, rather than a transformative experience of coming to know and love Christ, and to be initiated into His life in the heart of a vibrant, loving parish community. Most people will be converted to Christ predominantly through their hearts, and yet we can often be in danger of offering something that is more about the head and what you know without allowing this to take them further, deeper, into relationship. The Year of Faith, Father David said, provides us with a question:

What makes an attractive, transformative parish?

Participants pondered and came up with these responses:

- Uplifting parish liturgy (including music)
- Priest is key - encourage priests at every opportunity
- Looking outwards not inwards
- Consciously involving all generations
- Parish renewal weekends/days
- Create "open door" culture
- Begin with ourselves
- Learn from "converts" - they are often the best Catholics, enthusiastic
- Have some Leadership courses - for collaborative leadership
- Develop a sense of mission
- Offer good experience of parish life
- Develop "sacramental preparation" as an evangelization course for families
- Use of the Internet - website, e-newsletter and networking.
- Following a meditation on feasting at the table of Word and Sacrament to become Sowers of the Kingdom, Sowers of hope, Sowers of love, Sowers of joyful acceptance, Sowers of God's abundant grace, we celebrated Mass together, and were sent home with a word of encouragement in this Year of Faith to actively develop a mature, adult faith, deepening our understanding and experience of the truth of who we are!

Many thanks to all ministers who so generously gave up a precious Saturday to grow in their liturgical and pastoral ministry. Every single person contributed, and made the day so special. We thank Sheila for bringing her bookshop from Hesse, and all the team at Scarborough Spa for making us so welcome. Canon Gerard Robinson, and the Bishop's Council for Liturgy are always open to correspondence and enquiries, and requests for continuing formation.



Ministers of the Word and Holy Communion listen to Father David Jennings



Christian Discipleship

The Refugee and the Foreign Secretary

How the Diocese brought together the Refugee and the Foreign Secretary - The role of Constituency Groups in Christian Citizenship.

Earlier this summer, the Catholic Constituency Group for Richmond arranged a meeting between Bini Araia, a refugee from Ethiopia and William Hague, Foreign Secretary. Bini was able to relay information and provide papers for the MP on the plight of Ethiopian refugees in the Sinai desert and also some issues around CRB checks for refugees. Ethiopian refugees have been subject to kidnapping and cruelty by the indigenous population. William Hague promised to raise the issue with Mohamed Morsi, the President of Egypt and also with the United Nations. The MP also facilitated a response from Theresa May, Home Secretary, on the CRB issue. The Home Secretary has invited Bini and the rest of the team at the North of England Refugee Service to contribute to the evaluation of changes in CRB protocols.

After the meeting, Bini asked the Foreign Secretary if he would have his picture taken with him. Bini was impressed that constituents could have so much access to their MPs in this country. Our relationship with William Hague goes back to the launch

of the Common Good and Catholic Social Teaching in the late nineties. In practical terms, a Constituency Group is a group of representatives from ideally all - in practice some - of the Catholic parishes within a specific political constituency. We have regular meetings with the MP and prepare discussion papers in advance. William Hague in a speech in Westminster Cathedral said "Every few months I meet representatives from the Diocese of Middlesbrough. Their questions are deeply thoughtful and very well informed." We are not a pressure group or a single issue group and over the years we have raised a vast number of issues with the MP.

In these challenging times, all political parties recognise the low interest in politics and our elected representatives. It is up to us to reclaim the Catholic voice in society and to ensure that morality and justice remain at the heart of our democracy. In addition in a fractured society, the vulnerable and the weak need our support. The biblical theme of accountability is relevant to our relations with the government and political parties. "The Church is called to bear witness to the promise of new heavens and new earth in which justice will dwell, to refuse to be



William Hague and Bini Araia

conned by the rhetoric of the new right or the new left... The Church must, in short, learn from Jesus before Pilate how to speak the truth *to* power rather than *for* power or merely *against* power" ('God and Government' edited by Nick Spencer and Jonathan Chaplin).

We would like to encourage the development of Constituency Groups in all parts of the Diocese. There is an interest in

the development of Ecumenical Constituency Groups in some parts of the Diocese and this could be beneficial in the promotion of ecumenical social and community initiatives. Please contact me on (01642) 700075, e-mail jhinman@googlemail.com for further information.

John Hinman
Chair of Richmond Constituency Group

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Seafarers attend Golden Jubilee Mass



(l to r) Karol Wojtyla da Costa, Gavin Anthony Dyas, Captain Gladwyn Keith Vincent, Monsignor David Hogan, Andrew Peter Curran and Paily Thomas Chariyakakrachery

When the large general cargo ship m/v Federal Saguenay berthed in Tees Dock, Apostleship of the Sea Ship Visitor, John Wordsworth, was one of the first to go aboard. Having made contact with the captain and crew members, John was able to offer local information, arrange transport to the Seafarers' Centre and also to town.

The 21 crewmembers were all from India, and as usual, they were of mixed faith. The captain and four other officers and crew were Catholic and expressed a strong desire to attend Mass while they were in port. This is usually quite straightforward to arrange but operational issues and working patterns intervened on this occasion. However, they were very pleased to learn that on Monday 24th September, there was to be the Golden Jubilee Mass at St Bernadette's in Nunthorpe to which they were very happy to accept an invitation to attend.

The Mass was a wonderful occasion with Bishop Terence as Principal Celebrant, parish

priest Monsignor David Hogan, Canon Gerard Robinson and a number of other Diocesan priests in attendance, in which the seafarers were delighted to share.

After Mass, at the Buffet reception, parishioners took time to converse with the group and make them welcome, and they also chatted with Monsignor Hogan and Bishop Terence and were photographed with each of them.

The Federal Saguenay was in port longer than usual, loading steel to be exported to Canada and the USA, so on Saturday 29th September, the same five seafarers were able to attend the vigil Mass at St Andrew's parish in Teesville. Here, they were again made very welcome by Canon Eddie Gubbins and parishioners, and an account of their visit, together with a photograph of the men with Canon Gubbins and Sister Maria Varley, appeared on the parish website within a couple of hours of the Mass.



Bishop Terry and Monsignor David Hogan at the cutting of St Bernadette's Church anniversary cake

Touched by God

Whitby has its own 21st century spirituality. It comes from the mind and heart of Anthea Dove, who has published a number of spiritual books. Living as she does in a quiet 'yard' at the foot of the hill where St Hilda built her Abbey, she has developed a way of reflecting on the bustle and mess as well as the beauty and goodness of life, in the light of her Christian faith.

Touched by God is a dip-in book of short meditations, poems and observations revealing the transcendent in the everyday. We can be too busy, too distracted and unmindful to feel the touch of God in our daily lives. Anthea reminds us here of the importance of living in the present moment where the presence of God can be experienced in ordinary situations and through humble people as well as in the grandeur and beauty of the natural world. She draws expansively on the beauty of our Diocese - its coast, its dales and moors. Her walks frequently feed her meditations and are a God-given joy, "a benison on my spirit".

Anthea writes about small epiphanies: the power of an act of kindness to transform, the generosity of a drug addict, the dignity of a homeless man, the courage of a refugee, the compassion of a man on 'death row'. All people she knows, for this is a book of real life experience. She writes also about how to grow old gracefully, how to continue to be open to new experiences and to being surprised by God: "I am in my eighties and my eyes feel as though they are stretched wide with wonder". Her book makes you hope to share her vision into old age where life does not close down, but opens up.

Touched by God by Anthea Dove, Columba Press. Available From The Whitby Bookshop or Amazon.

Margaret Blatchford

Green Corner

'The Earth is charged with the grandeur of God'. So wrote Gerard Manley Hopkins. God's presence runs through the natural world like an electric current. Or as the Catechism of the Catholic Church puts it, no less eloquently (703), "The Word of God and his Breath are at the origin of the being and the life of everything created." So why do we not care for the planet in ways that acknowledge its sacredness?

The Year of Faith is newly launched. Pope Benedict calls on us to reflect on our faith in the God of all Creation. We are invited to deepen our faith by studying afresh the Documents of Vatican II, whose 50th anniversary we are celebrating, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. One aspect of our reflection must surely be the ways we see God's Creation being exploited and abused and how we, as Christians, might play our part in protecting the planet, conserving its God-given but finite resources.

In the Catechism we read that "*Catechism on creation is of major importance*" (282) and that "*the integrity of creation requires a religious respect. We should not steal the resources of the planet from future generations*" (2415). Our children and grandchildren cannot be saddled with the cost of our profligate use of the earth's resources. Pope Benedict also drew on the Catechism in 2010 when choosing the theme for Peace Day, "*Respect for Creation is of immense consequence, not least because 'Creation is the beginning and the foundation of all God's works' (198) and its preservation has now become essential for the pacific co-existence of humankind.*"

In his call to the Church to make concern for the planet one of the tenets of our faith, the Pope was echoing the words of Blessed John Paul II in 1990: "*Can we remain indifferent before the problems associated with such realities as climate change, desertification, the deterioration and loss of productivity of vast agricultural areas, the pollution of waters, the loss of biodiversity, the increase of natural catastrophes and the deforestation of equatorial and tropical regions?*" He advocated as a response to all this: "*ecological awareness (which) needs to be helped to develop and mature, and find fitting expression in concrete programmes and initiatives.*"

Our Diocese will soon have just such a 'concrete programme' regarding the environment. Bishop Terry has asked for a Diocesan policy to be developed by the Mission Earth group. Contributions to their thinking are welcome. Proposals for action too. We should feel just pride in the fact that the Diocese of Middlesbrough already has a policy on ethical investment practice which has recently been commended in a survey by Pax Christi. Of all the dioceses in England and Wales, only Middlesbrough "gave a complete picture that includes the environment and human rights". That's a great foundation for an effective Diocesan policy on the environment.

Mission Earth group
cconclimatechange@gmail.com

The local joint Maritime Ministries;



Mission to Seafarers



Apostleship of the Sea



German Seaman's Mission

Invite you to the annual
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PORT CAROL SERVICE
At
St Mary's RC Cathedral,
Dalby Way, Coulby Newham
Middlesbrough
Wednesday 12th December 2012
at 7.00pm

Carols

Music

Readings

Port Community Choir
Yorvik Brass Ensemble

ALL WELCOME (no ticket required)

Refreshments afterwards

The Port Carol Service is supported by PD ports, the Port Users Assn, the Shipbrokers Institute, Pilots, Foyboatmen, Shipping Agents and the voluntary seafarer societies mentioned above.

CAFOD

CAFOD
just one world

Parishioners of St Mary and St Joseph Church in Pocklington enjoyed a night of Latin American themed fun and festivities on Friday 21st September. The parish has been linked to Puente Alto in El Salvador through the CAFOD Connect2 project for the past year and a half and has spent that time raising funds and awareness for their friends in Central America. To bring the link to life, the CAFOD group organised a Latin American evening combining important and interesting information about life in that part of the world with food, music, fun and games.

The evening started with a fascinating talk from Margaret Siberry, CAFOD Diocesan Manager for Leeds and her friend Trish Sandbach, who gave us a marvellous insight into their personal pilgrimage to El Salvador. We learned of the darker side of the country's recent history and of the faith and courage of Archbishop Oscar Romero. We then heard more about life in Puente Alto and listened to further stories about the people we had already met through the CAFOD material we received. The children loved hearing about Vicente and the ways in which his life was similar to theirs. The talk was absolutely excellent and really helped to bring our link to life.

Food came next and thanks to the sterling efforts of Margaret, Philippa, Denise and Linda in the kitchen, the hungry parishioners were treated to a feast of chilli, wraps, salsa and guacamole. This was followed by a really authentic treat: Latin American rice pudding cooked by Gina who is originally from Costa Rica, not to mention an array of delicious cakes donated by various parish members.

No write-up would be complete without a mention of the talented Joe Ellerton who provided the music for the evening. He played his guitar and sang lots of Spanish songs. The children loved accompanying on the special conga drums he had brought along and the whole parish joined in on some of the refrains. The children also had great fun with the Piñata. Although we had to improvise with Joe's guitar lead when hanging it up, the children nonetheless managed to give it a good bash and succeeded in making it spill its contents.

No CAFOD do could be complete without a raffle and this one was no exception. Anne won the star prize of a Fairtrade hamper filled with lots of Latin American produce. The evening raised £250.00 for the Connect2 project and more importantly, deepened the parishioners' knowledge and understanding of our friends' lives in El Salvador. It was also



Vicente and his mother

a great deal of fun and a splendid way of bringing everyone together. We can't wait for the next one!

Catherine Greenaway

November - A time to reflect and remember. November is traditionally a time when as a community we pause to think about and reflect upon the lives of our deceased loved ones. We give thanks to God for their lives and the example they left us. In this 50th anniversary of the foundation of CAFOD, we pay tribute to the many deceased individuals and families who have supported our work over the last 50 years. Many people are increasingly remembering CAFOD in their wills or relatives are setting up a CAFOD Candlelight Fund into which they make a regular donation. Many families tell us that they gain comfort and hope from knowing that their loved one's memory and values live on through their legacy or Candlelight Fund.

If there is a particular area of our work that meant a lot to your loved one, we will do our best to accommodate that. To find out more about CAFOD's Legacy or Candlelight Fund,

visit www.cafod.org.uk/Give/Legacies-remembrance-giving/Candlelight-funds. We also have a CAFOD Book of Remembrance which is on display in the CAFOD Office in York. If you would like the name(s) of your deceased loved ones entered in the book, please either e-mail or write to us stating the name, date of death and parish of the deceased. The book is placed on the sanctuary during our annual Memorial Mass. Those entered in the book are remembered in our prayers.

This year's annual CAFOD Memorial Mass is marking 50 years of CAFOD and will be celebrated by Bishop Terry at 10.00 am, Sunday 4th November at Middlesbrough Cathedral. Neil Thorns, CAFOD's Director of Advocacy, will be in attendance and speak for a short time at the end of Mass. All are most welcome!

David and Carol Cross
CAFOD Middlesbrough
Tel (01904) 671767

E-mail middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk

Pastoral And Social Co-Ordinator For St Stephen's Church And Neighbourhood Centre, Hull

The Diocese of Middlesbrough and the Trustees of St Stephen's Neighbourhood Centre seek to appoint within the next year, two people to further the faith development and pastoral care of St Stephen's Church and Neighbourhood Centre, East Hull.

The post involves working with the Parish Priest, Board of Trustees and the staff of the Neighbourhood Centre. A three bedroom flat is provided on site, rent free (including council tax) in exchange for services.

The post is suitable for a married Deacon and his wife or two religious; for laity with suitable qualifications. The applicant(s) will need to be able to fund personal expenses for the duration of service. Consideration would be given to a couple, one of whom is in full-time employment.

We welcome any enquiries and visits, including from anyone thinking of offering themselves at a later date. Further information about the Church and the Centre is available on www.ssn.org.uk and requests for an electronic application pack should be made to Sister Anna Hawke CJ, anna.hawke@ssnc.org.uk

The start date is negotiable. Completed applications to arrive by Friday 16th November 2012 at 12 noon: addressed to St Stephen's, 96 Annandale Road, Greatfield, Hull, HU9 4LA.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR ENTHUSIASM AND DEDICATION - IS THIS FOR YOU?

SVP Trip to Whitby

On Wednesday 19th September, 48 parishioners and friends joined Father Bill Serplus and Phillip Cunnah and the SVP left church at 9.45 am with wheelchairs, electric scooters, walking frames and sticks at the ready.

We headed for the pretty village of Thornton-le-Dale for a coffee stop. After coffee, we travelled on to Whitby across the fabulous North Yorkshire Moors scenic route with amazing views. The light was wonderful. We could see the ruins of St Hilda's Abbey as we approached Whitby and the weather was perfect - blue sky, sunshine, gentle breeze and pleasant temperatures just a few spots of rain for a few minutes - we couldn't have asked for more from the weatherman! Some people hadn't been to the seaside for years!

We had three hours free time in Whitby - some climbed the 199 steps to the Abbey and enjoyed the fabulous views - we could see Teesside in the distance. Others headed for the beach, pier, kipper smoke houses, or shops or found the ice cream kiosks and a vantage point to sit in the sun and watch the world go by. We were lucky before we left to see the swing bridge open and a harbour patrol boat sail through - quite a sight.

At 4.00 pm, we met at the Quayside Restaurant where we enjoyed



Enjoying Whitby!

our Fish and Chip tea and shared our stories of the day. More ice creams on the way back to our coach and a very pleasant trip home, arriving back at St Aelred's about 6.30 pm. Thanks to all for a wonderful day out to remember! Can't wait for next year!

Catholics Against Unemployment and Social Evils (CAUSE)

The CAUSE Christmas Hamper Campaign 2012 marks 25 years since the Campaign began.

When CAUSE was formed in 1988, our primary aim was to raise awareness of the plight of so many suffering the effects of unemployment due to the devastating economic policies of the government in the 1980s. We also wanted to do something practical if possible to help these families and as Christmas is a time when financial hardship is especially felt, a hamper campaign was suggested. We hoped that the gift of a hamper would express solidarity with the families and let them know that they were still valued members of the community.

From very modest beginnings, this has now grown whereby hundreds of hampers are distributed each year. This is due in no small measure to the contribution made by our primary and secondary school pupils who with the support of their teachers provide many of these hampers. Our thanks must also go to those

people in the Diocese who very kindly send donations each year which enables us to provide as many hampers as possible.

To mark this 25th anniversary and in recognition of all those who have contributed in any way to the Hamper Campaign, a special thanksgiving will be included in the Family Mass at St Mary's Cathedral on 2nd December at 10.00 am. All are welcome to attend. Little did we think when we began the Campaign that the need would be just as great 25 years on but sadly it is so. In fact, due to the current recession, it is getting worse. So we appeal to your generosity once again.

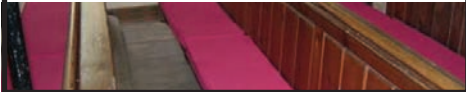
Cash donations or cheques made payable to CAUSE can be sent to Mrs Pat Wilson (Treasurer), c/o Curial Office, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT. We would also be very grateful for any help with deliveries, or in any other way. If you have any time to spare and would like to help, please contact Mrs Pat McBride, our Co-ordinator on (01642) 310854.

TRAIDCRAFT

Fairly traded Third World foods, crafts and clothing, CAFOD Resources at Fairer World Shop, 84 Gillygate, York.
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For further details please contact:
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8 Prince of Wales Road,
Dorchester DT1 1PW
Tel: 01305 251396
E: fellowship.meditation@virgin.net



Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2012

- 1 Attends Ecumenical Church Leaders Meeting 10 am
- 4 Celebrates a Memorial Mass for CAFOD during its 50th Anniversary year - Cathedral 10 am
- 6/7 Attends Ongoing Formation Directors Meeting - Hothorpe Hall
- 11 Celebrates Mass at York University RC Chaplaincy 11 am
- 12-15 Attends Bishops' November Meeting
- 15 Attends meeting of the Ushaw Project Group 11.30 am
- 17 Gives Presentation of St John of the Cross - Corpus Christi Carmelites, York 10.30 am
- 18 Celebrates Mass & Blessing of Stations of the Cross - Cathedral 10 am
- 20 Parish Visitation - St Charles Borromeo, Hull
- 21 Study Day - Burn Hall
- 21/22 Attends Diaconate Directors Meeting am/pm
- 23 Attends Re-opening and Dedication of St Marie's Cathedral - Hallam 11 am
- 24/25 Parish Visitation - St Charles Borromeo, Hull
- 25 Celebrates Mass and gives ministries to David Cross and Bob Shakesby 10 am
- 25 Preaches at an Ecumenical Service to celebrate 50 Years of CAFOD - St Charles 3 pm
- 25 Celebrates Mass 6.30 pm
- 26/27 Ampleforth Covenant
- 28 Bishop's Council - Curial Office

1 Thursday
1.00 pm - 2.30 pm Ark, the Pastoral Support Group for people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact: Catherine Marshall, Tel: (01642) 877936 for venue and other details

2 Friday
Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the December issue of Voice must be received by today
7.00 pm First Friday Life Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

2 - 4 Friday - Sunday
'Benedictine Peace' led by Fr Matthew Burns. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

3 Saturday
10.00 am - 1.00 pm Intercession for Renewal (Praise and Worship) at St Mary's Church, Wycliffe (nr Hutton Magna). Contact: Mike, Tel: 07533 205630 for further details

2.00 pm Pilgrimage for Life to the Lady Chapel, Mount Grace, Osmotherley. Meet at the first Station of the Cross at 2.00 pm to pray for Life and an end to our abortion culture, and continue in prayer to the 3.30 pm Mass. All welcome.
Contact: Patricia Sammon, Tel: 07747 698553 or 0113 258 2745 or E-mail: patriciamarysammon@btinternet.com for details

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm First Saturday Rosary Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

4 Sunday
10.00 am CAFOD 50th Anniversary Memorial Mass with Bishop Terence Draine and Neil Thorns, CAFOD's Director of Advocacy, at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. All welcome

5 - 8 Monday - Thursday
'Benedict for Beginners' led by Fr Christopher Gorst. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

6 Tuesday
7.00 pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 29, meet at St Mary's Cathedral, Dalby Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough commencing with Mass in the Cathedral Chapel

7 Wednesday
10.00 am - 3.30 pm 'Myers Briggs (MBTI) & Prayer' with Kit Dollard at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

6.30 pm The Secular Franciscan Order meet every first Wednesday of the month at St Joseph's Church, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, Tel: (01904) 470041 for further details

7 Wednesday
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm 'Dreams Workshop' with Annie Borthwick at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

9 Friday
2.00 pm Scarborough Medjugorje Prayer Group. Contact Joan Salt, Tel: (01723) 363321 for further details including venue

7.00 pm - 8.30 pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets in the small chapel at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact: John, Tel: (01759) 380415 for further details

7.30 pm Medjugorje Evening at The John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough - Rosary, Holy Mass, Talk, Witness. Contact: Marie Bedingfield, Tel: (01642) 530739 for further details

7.30 pm - 9.30 pm Bible study in the Church Hall, English Martyrs Church, Dalton Terrace, York looking at one complete set of Sunday readings (1st, 2nd and Gospel). Contact: Gus Bishop, Tel: (01904) 705766 for further details

10 Saturday
9.30 am - 3.30 pm 'Christian Care in the Context of Health Reforms' Conference organised by the Churches Regional Commission (CRC) for Yorkshire and the Humber. Venue: Fountains Lecture Theatre, York St John University, York. Chair: The Rt Hon John Battle, Chair of CRC. Speakers include Prof Margaret Holloway, Dr Sue Proctor and Dr Richard Vautrey. Cost £10.00 including lunch and refreshments. Contact: Janet Bryer, Tel: 0113 244 3413 or E-mail: janet.bryer@crc-online.org.uk for further details

10.30 am - 12.30 pm Forum for Parish Musicians at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough

7.00 pm Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalité Race Night at St Thomas More's Church Hall, Middlesbrough (first race 7.45). Tickets £5.00, includes pie and peas supper, bring your own drink. Contact: Anne-Marie Stephenson, Tel: 07885 771258 for tickets and further details

11 Sunday
6.00 pm Mass in the Malayalam language at St Joseph's Church, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. Contact Tel: (01642) 818203 for further details

12 Monday
7.30 pm Justice & Peace meet at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact: Nan Saeki, Tel: (01904) 783621 for further details

12 - 14 Monday - Wednesday
A Retreat with Fr Dominic. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

12 - 17 Monday - Saturday
'Health and Salvation: the spiritual care of the sick' - a Retreat for healthcare workers at Boarbank Hall, Cumbria. Contact: Sr Margaret Atkins, Tel: (01539) 532288 or E-mail: margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk for further details

13 Tuesday
10.30 am - 3.30 pm 'A Jew and a Christian Look at Prophecy - Why prophecy?' with Sr Patricia CJ and Rachel Montagu at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

12.45 pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Hull Royal Hotel, Hull

for a Business meeting
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm ASCENT Group, York meet at Our Lady's Parish Centre
8.30 pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at the Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

14 Wednesday
10.30 am The ASCENT Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hesse meet after the Morning Mass
10.30 am The ASCENT Group at St Leonard and St Mary, Malton will meet

2.30 pm Prayer Group (second Wednesday of month) at The John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough. New members welcome

15 Thursday
9.00 am - 12 noon Back Care Group - Line dancing - at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

16 Friday
7.30 pm Aquinas Reading Group at More House, Heslington Lane, York. A guided reading of the Summa Theologiae. Contact: Steve Evans, Tel: 07800 697975 or E-mail: steve_evans21@tiscali.co.uk Further details at <http://readingthesumma.blogspot.com/>

16 - 18 Friday - Sunday
'Local Moors' Walks 2' led by Fr Bede Leach. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

17 Saturday
9.30 am 'Saint John of the Cross (Rt Rev Terence Draine, Bishop of Middlesbrough)' - York Carmelite Spirituality Group at The Corpus Christi Carmelite Sisters, 110 Lawrence Street, York. Eucharist (optional) at 9.30 am precedes the event which commences at 10.15 am and concludes at 1.00 pm with a bring and share lunch. Contact: Mr Johan Bergström-Allen, Tel: (01904) 411521 for further details

9.30 am Choral Day working on John Rutter's 'Requiem' at St Peter's Church, Norton-on-Devernet, organised by the Chanticleer Singers. Concludes with a performance at 4.00 pm. Scores of the work will be available to borrow on the day. Contact: Sid Taylor, Tel: (01653) 695823 or E-mail: sid_taylor@btinternet.com for further details and a registration form

10.00 am - 4.00 pm 'The Mystery Beyond' with Kim Nataraja at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

10.30 am - 12.30 pm Forum for Parish Musicians in Hull. Contact: Kath Gallagher, Tel: (01642) 850505 ext 258 or E-mail: kathg@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk for details of venue

7.30 pm Sacred Heart Parish Irish Dance (Tony Ford) at the Erimus Club, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough. Tickets from Eddie White, Tel: (01642) 860227. Please note the venue

7.30 pm - 10.30 pm Irish Association meet at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

18 Sunday
3.00 pm Middlesbrough Catholic Fellowship Mass at St Andrew's, Fabian Road, Teesville, Middlesbrough

19 Monday
7.30 pm - 9.00 pm The York Newman Circle presents a Talk by Dr Geoffrey Turner entitled 'Living the Christian Life According to Paul' in the Gascoigne Room, The Bar Convent, Blossom Street, York. Cost: £2.00 members, £4.00 non-members, students free. Contact: Judith Smeaton, Tel: (01904) 704525 or E mail: judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for further details

19 - 21 Monday - Wednesday
A Retreat led by Fr Edward Corbould. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

20 Tuesday
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm HENS Hull and East Riding New Stitchers meet at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

21 Wednesday

2.00 pm - 4.00 pm 'Meetings with Jesus in John's Gospel - Meeting the traders in the Temple' with Sr Louise CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

7.00 pm 'Faith as an arbiter of peace' - Ebor Lecture at York St John University, York, to be delivered by The Rt Hon Baroness Scotland QC, the former Attorney General. Visit www.yorks.ac.uk/eborlectures for details on how to book online or in writing, or contact the Ebor Lectures Co-ordinator, Tel: (01904) 876474 or E-mail: eborlectures@yorks.ac.uk for further details

7.30 pm for 7.45 pm The Cleveland Newman Circle presents a Talk by Michael Porteous entitled 'Rasputin: The Holy and Blessed Martyr, Gregory? The Mad Monk? Demon Incarnate? Lover of the Russian Queen?' in the Nevers Room at St Bernadette's, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough. All welcome

8.00 pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meet at St Joseph's RC Church, West Hull

24 Saturday

10.00 am - 6.00 pm Feast of Christ the King in the Year of Faith - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Christ the King, Thornaby. 5.40 pm: Evening Prayer. All welcome

25 Sunday December issue of Catholic Voice available

9.00 am - 7.00 pm Feast of Christ the King in the Year of Faith - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at Christ the King, Thornaby. 6.00 pm: Holy Hour led by Very Rev Terence Richardson OSB, Prior of Ampleforth. All welcome

3.00 pm Celebrating 50 Years of CAFOD - Service at St Charles' Church, Jarratt Street, Hull with Bishop Terence Draine, Richard Frith, Anglican Bishop of Hull, Jackie Heaney, CAFOD's Director of Organisational Development and People. All welcome

6.30 pm Mass for Deaf and Hard of Hearing at Sacred Heart Church, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough

26 Monday

10.00 am - 4.00 pm 'Elijah and God's Sufficiency' with Sr Cecilia CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

27 Tuesday

2.00 pm - 4.00 pm 'A Jew and a Christian Look at Prophecy - Isaiah: One Prophet or Several?' with Sr Patricia CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

28 Wednesday

5.30 pm 'Catholicism, Modernity and Science: Teaching at Ushaw on the eve of Vatican I' - lecture at Ushaw College, Durham, to be delivered by Michael Sharatt as part of the series 'English Catholic reactions to Enlightenment Arts and Sciences'. Lecture begins with refreshments at 5.30 pm. This lecture is free but attendees must register for their free ticket with Theresa Phillips, Tel: 0191 334 1656 or E-mail: ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm ME and CFS Self-Help Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

29 Thursday

7.30 pm - 9.00 pm The Pastoral Support Group for carers especially of people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact: Margaret Jones, Tel: (01642) 865668 for venue and other details

30 Friday

Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the January issue of Voice must be received by today. Please note the earlier date

FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER:

1 Saturday

10.00 am - 1.00 pm Intercession for Renewal (Praise and Worship) at St Mary's Church, Wycliffe (nr Hutton Magna). Contact: Mike, Tel: 07533 205630 for further details

2.00 pm Pilgrimage for Life to the Lady Chapel, Mount Grace, Osmotherley. Meet at the first Station of the Cross at 2.00 pm to pray for Life and an end to our abortion culture, and continue in prayer to the 3.30 pm Mass. All welcome. Contact: Patricia Sammon, Tel: 07747 698553 or 0113 258 2745 or E-mail: patriciamarysammon@btinternet.com for details

7.00 pm Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Hospitalité Christmas Celebration at St Francis Church, Acklam, Middlesbrough. 7.00 pm: Mass in the Church followed by the Christmas Celebration for all VIPs and Hospitalité members in the St

Francis Social Club with refreshments. This is a free social event but to assist with catering, attendees must RSVP by contacting Keith Tillotson, Tel: (01642) 324043

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm First Saturday Rosary Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

3 - 7 Monday - Friday

'God So Loved The World' - Advent Retreat 2012 exploring the love of God revealed through the incarnation led by Fr Peter Hall OFM at The Endsleigh Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Commences with evening meal at 6.00 pm on the 3rd and concludes after breakfast on the 7th. Suggested offering £230.00 (en-suites have a £20.00 supplement), £30.00 deposit required. Contact: Carol at The Endsleigh Centre, Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details or to book a place

4 Tuesday

7.00 pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 29, meet at St Mary's Cathedral, Dalby Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough commencing with Mass in the Cathedral Chapel

5 Wednesday

10.30 am - 3.30 pm Advent Quiet Day with Bishop David Smith at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

6.30 pm The Secular Franciscan Order meet every first Wednesday of the month at St Joseph's Church, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, Tel: (01904) 470041 for further details

6 Thursday

1.00 pm - 2.30 pm Ark, the Pastoral Support Group for people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact: Catherine Marshall, Tel: (01642) 877936 for venue and other details

7 Friday

7.00 pm First Friday Life Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

7 - 9 Friday - Sunday

'Lord, do not delay' - an Advent Retreat led by Fr Kieran Monahan. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

ADVANCE NOTICES

8 December: 10.30 am, Feast of the Immaculate Conception at the Lady Chapel, Osmotherley. 10.30 am: Rosary, 11.00 am: Holy Mass, 2.00 pm - 3.00 pm: Exposition. Confessions available. Refreshments afterwards. All welcome. Contact: the Monastery, Tel: (01609) 883308 for further details

12 December: 7.00 pm, Annual Tees & Hartlepool Port Carol Service at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. All welcome (no ticket required). Refreshments afterwards

15 December: BBC Tees Carol Service at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. Admission by ticket only, proceeds to 'Children in Need'. For tickets and further details, contact the Cathedral, Tel: (01642) 597750 or BBC Tees, Tel: (01642) 225211

18 December: 7.00 pm: Cathedral Advent Carol Service at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough

2 February 2013: RCIA Retreat Day at All Saints Lower School, York

17 February 2013: Rite of Election at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough

16 March 2013: 'The Faith Story' - CYMfed National Youth Congress 2013, The Sage, Gateshead, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Fr Paul Farrer, Diocesan Youth Chaplain, E-mail: frpaul@mymission.org.uk for booking details

THE ENDSLEIGH PASTORAL CENTRE

Mondays

7.00 pm - 9.00 pm Yoga
7.30 pm Kingston Swing/Lindyhop Dancing

Tuesdays

1.30 pm Padre Pio Prayer Group
7.30 pm Ballroom Dancing Group

Wednesdays

2.00 pm Prayer for the City
7.00 pm - 9.00 pm Karate

Sundays

6.00 pm St Vincent de Paul Group
The Pastoral Centre is in Beverley Road, Hull. Contact: Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details.

MADONNA HOUSE PASTORAL CENTRE

The Madonna House Community welcomes anyone to join us for the following hours of prayer:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm for Adoration and Vespers or a Rosary for the priests of the Diocese.

Enquiries welcome to join us for a cup of tea, our monthly Mass or the monthly ecumenical prayer meeting for Christian unity.

The Pastoral Centre is in Thorpe Lane, Robin Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire. Contact: Tel: (01947) 880169 for information, a visit or a cup of tea.

ST BEDE'S PASTORAL CENTRE

Mondays

7.30 pm City Prayer Group

Tuesday

7.30 pm - 8.45 pm Ignatian Prayer Group (13, 27 Nov)

Wednesdays

8.00 pm - 9.00 pm Christian Meditation (14, 28 Nov)

The Pastoral Centre is in Blossom Street, York. Contact: Tel: (01904) 464900 or e-mail: admin@stbedes.org.uk

JOHN PAUL CENTRE 250+ CLUB DRAW

Date of Draw - 1st October 2012

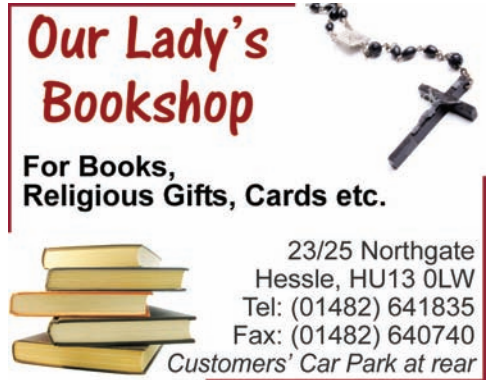
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Next Meeting and Monthly Draw Monday 5th November 2012
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Copy deadline

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by Friday 2nd November 2012 for the December 2012 issue and Friday 30th November 2012 for the January 2013 issue (please note the earlier date)

St Thomas More's reaches for the Sky

Saturday 22nd September, St Thomas More's hall was the place to be as we launched the 'Come fly with us' evening, in aid of the Great North Air Ambulance. Beginning at 7.30 pm to a packed hall, the sell out audience listened to the sounds of a roaring helicopter engine followed by a helicopter flying into the hall, and landing centre stage! Much to everyone's surprise.

Doctor Michaela gave a short informative insight into the life saving work of the Air Ambulance Service then it was on to the superb entertainment, starting with Irish dancers, then an hilarious comedy act from the fabulous 'Thornaby Girls' followed by Doctor Michaela on the piano and Doctor Kevin Alan playing the flute. Finally, the beautiful singing of Elizabeth Weingarten, an outstanding world class vocalist who came from Cologne to entertain us, completed the first half.

At this time we had our grand raffle, a member of the audience turned the ticket drum over and over and picked out the winning ticket, incredibly Elizabeth Weingarten who had just arrived from Cologne was the winner of a weekend for two in Cologne! She graciously declined the prize and the next ticket out awarded the fabulous prize to an overjoyed Eileen Rowe.


The second part of the evening commenced with the ever popular and unique Chancey Brothers who were accompanied by Canon Spaight on the harmonica. He was given an overwhelming welcome, flying in from Ireland to make this night extra special.

Phil, Merlin and the band had us all dancing the night away until the close. This event has raised nearly four thousand pounds for the Air Ambulance Service, a magnificent effort and we would like to thank all involved, huge support from surrounding parishes, to Sheila Moore for her help with Barclaycard pound match, for the entertainers giving of their time and talents, and the wonderful support from so many people making this a brilliant social event and raising funds for an important service.


Terry Gallagher



Leeds Middlesbrough Hallam



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