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Bishop's Column

Advent and Christmas seem to creep up on me – every year! I think I have plenty of time and then suddenly it is here and before you know it - gone! I always feel that one of the feast days during the Christmas period that gets a little lost in all the hoo-ha of celebration is the Feast of the Holy Family. This year it will take place on the weekend of December 27 and 28. It always falls in the wake of Christmas, and for this reason it does not get the attention it deserves. However, this year I feel it is a feast we should all honour and look to.

We are in fact in the period of "in-between-synods". You will notice that in this edition of the *Voice* we have published in full Cardinal Vincent Nichols' Pastoral Letter to his Diocese on his return from the Synod. It is a very good and clear description of what happened at the Synod and what it means for us. He was there so we can trust his word.

Many things were said during the Synod, but I would just like to quote from the Holy Father's final address to the Synod. He outlines five temptations to be avoided. They apply to us all!

The temptation to hostile inflexibility, that is, wanting to close oneself within the written word, (the letter) and not allowing oneself to be surprised by God, by the God of surprises, (the spirit); ...it is the temptation of the zealous, of the scrupulous, of the solicitous and of the so-called – today – "traditionalists" and also of the intellectuals.

The temptation to a destructive tendency to goodness [do-gooders], that in the name of a deceptive mercy binds the wounds without first curing them and treating them; that treats the symptoms and not the causes and the roots. It is the temptation of the "do-gooders," of the fearful, and also of the so-called "progressives and liberals."

The temptation to transform stones into bread to break the long, heavy, and painful fast (cf. Lk 4:1-4); and also to transform the bread into a stone and cast it against the sinners, the weak, and the sick (cf. Jn 8:7), that is, to transform it into unbearable burdens (Lk 11:46).

The temptation to come down off the Cross, to please the people, and not stay there, in order to fulfil the will of the Father; to bow down to a worldly spirit instead of purifying it and bending it to the Spirit of God.

The temptation to neglect the "depositum fidei" [the deposit of faith], not thinking of themselves as guardians but as owners or masters [of it]; or, on the other hand, the temptation to neglect reality, making use of meticulous language and a language of

Continued on page 2

Come Home For Christmas!

Churches throughout our Diocese will greet thousands of annual visitors to services over the Christmas period – and we'd love to extend that welcome every week!

At this time of year our pews are often full to overflowing, but often it's only for one day.

Come Home for Christmas is a seasonal outreach initiative that aims to offer a welcome to Catholics who, for whatever reason, no longer or rarely attend Mass.

It's a project supported by the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The title of the initiative brings to mind the festive song *Driving Home For Christmas* made famous by Middlesbrough-born musician Chris Rea, a former pupil of St Mary's Roman Catholic College.

It's about driving home for the holidays and longing to meet up with friends and family but being stuck in a traffic jam.

"Driving home for Christmas, I can't wait to see those faces, to get my feet on holy ground..."

It's a simple song but is guaranteed to stir the emotions of anyone who yearns to spend Christmas in the company of those they love.

There is, perhaps, no loss more keenly felt than the absence of a loved one on Christmas Day.

Similarly, this is a time when the Church is saddened by the absence of so many of its family – those who once came to Mass but have drifted away or have even left in anger.

Some may feel there's no longer a place for

Continued on page 2

Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral

SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER
3.00 pm:

BBC Tees Carols for Christmas
(Proceeds to Children in Need)
Mass

5.00 pm:
WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER
7.00 pm:

Deanery Advent Reconciliation Service

SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER

Normal Sunday Schedule followed by
Christmas Carol Service

6.15 pm:
TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER
7.00 pm:

Knights of St Columba Christmas Service
CHRISTMAS EVE

WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER

Family Mass at St Mary's Cathedral
Carols for Christmas

6.30 pm:
10.30 pm:
11.00 pm:

Solemn Candlelit Midnight Mass with Bishop Terence
CHRISTMAS DAY

THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER

Christmas Day Mass with Bishop Terence
FEAST OF ST STEPHEN (Boxing Day)

10.00 am:
FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER

Morning Mass at St Mary's Cathedral
Normal Sunday Services

10.00 am:

SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER
WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER

New Year's Eve Mass at St Mary's Cathedral
NEW YEAR'S DAY
Morning Mass

11.00 pm:

THURSDAY 1 JANUARY
10.00 am:

A warm welcome is always guaranteed and particularly if you have been away from Church – come back and celebrate your faith this year.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas
Mgr Gerard Robinson

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NEWS

Bishop's Column

Continued from page 1

smoothing (over) to say so many things and to say nothing!

We are invited for further reflection in this period between now and next October on the vocation, journey and mission of the family. I hope that by the time the Feast of the Holy Family comes there will be some material to guide us all on this journey of reflection.

Yours in blessed hope,

Come Home For Christmas!

Continued from page 1

them, or perhaps they fear they would be met with condemnation if they showed their faces again.

However, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster, says your local church would welcome you with open arms and listen to your story.

"Today many reasons are given why people stop practicing their Catholic faith," he says.

"This is an easy step to take. Much more difficult is to take up again the practice of the faith. It's well worthwhile because it gives a right and healthy context in which to live our lives and cope with all its pressures.

"So I invite Catholics who have let things go to return to the practice of their faith. There will be a warm welcome for you."

Even if you haven't been to church recently, it's never too late to start again, no matter how long you have been away.

The Church hopes this great feast of Christmas will be an opportunity to rekindle relationships with God. We want everyone to know they are loved, they are missed and their absence is felt by us all.

Those who do attend Mass regularly can play their part by having the courage to invite people to come to church with them, whether they be family, friends, or neighbours.

They may just be waiting for the invitation – we'll never know unless we ask! And it might just prove to be the best present you could possibly give them.

To find out more about the initiative, visit www.comehomeforchristmas.co.uk or contact Deacon Vince Purcell at the Department for Adult Formation and Evangelisation on (01642) 850505 ext 241.

Bishop Terry Launches Celebrations

St Thomas More's Parish in Middlesbrough began its 40-year celebrations with an uplifting visit from Bishop Terry to celebrate Mass.

His homily highlighted the strengths of this parish and special mention was given to parishioners who have gone before us and who worked so hard to establish and build-up the church.

Afterwards, a large crowd gathered in the hall for refreshments and Bishop Terry took time to chat to everyone, completing an inspiring and enjoyable morning.

Terry Gallagher

Cardinal's Synod Reflections



Cardinal Nichols is greeted by Pope Francis - Photo by Mazur/www.catholicnews.org

A Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols On The Synod On The Family

My brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ

I would like to tell you a little about the recent Extraordinary Synod of Bishops held in Rome on the theme of the pastoral challenges facing the family in the context of evangelisation. I was privileged to take part in this two-week meeting. I found it a rich and moving experience.

You may have heard or read that this Synod has been about changing the teaching of the Church on marriage, family life or sexual morality. This is not true. It was about the pastoral care that we try to offer each other, the "motherly love of the Church", especially when facing difficult moments and experiences in family life.

You may have heard that the Synod represented a "defeat for Pope Francis" or that he was disappointed at its outcome. This is not true. At the end of our meeting Pope Francis spoke at length about his joy and satisfaction at its work. He told us to look deeply into our hearts to see how God had touched us during the Synod, and to see how we may have been tempted away from the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The Synod, he insisted, has been a spiritual journey, not a debating chamber.

In fact, the very word "synod" means making a walk or a journey together. That's what we did. Our journey was an exploration of all the problems facing the family today, from the effects of war, immigration, domestic violence, polygamy, inter-religious marriages, to cohabitation, the breakdown of marriage, divorce and the situation of those who have ended a valid marriage and entered another union, another marriage. The vastness of the picture and the suffering it represented was, at times, overwhelming.

We also looked at the great joy of family life and the importance of marriage at its heart. We listened to husbands and wives speaking of the difficulties they had overcome, the struggles they face and the deep joy they experience in their mature marriages and family lives. They were moving moments. A lovely description of the family was offered: the family as "a sanctuary of holiness" with emphasis always on the sharing of prayer at the heart of family life. Pope Francis set the tone. He asked us to look reality in the eye; to speak openly from the heart; to listen humbly and respectfully to each other. This is what we did. There was no rancour, no contestation. There were disagreements, of course. But he told us to live through the experience with tranquility and trust. And we did. It was a marvellous experience of the Church as a family and of the Church, at this level, hard at work, trying to follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and express them in carefully chosen words. During the Synod we worked on various documents which were trying to catch the views and desires of all the participants. By the end I believe we got there. So the Synod ended with a Synod Report, on which we voted, paragraph by paragraph. The votes indicated, quite simply, where agreement was more or less total and where it was not. This Report now forms the starting point for the next Synod on the family, to take place in a year's time. The theme of this next Synod, in October 2015, takes us on from where we left off: "The Vocation and Mission of the Family Today."

Central to the work of the Synod that has just ended was the desire to strengthen and reinvigorate the pastoral practice of the Church. A central principle for this pastoral care emerged clearly: that in trying to walk alongside people in difficult or exceptional situations, it is important to see clearly and with humility all the good aspects of their lives. That is what comes first. From this point, we learn to move together towards conversion and towards the goodness of life that God has for us and that Jesus opens for us all. This positive approach flows right through the Synod Report and I hope will increasingly shape our attitude towards each other.

This is especially true with regard to individuals who, for example, have decided to live together without marriage, or for Catholics in second marriages. These realities are part of their journey in life and while not in keeping with the pattern the Lord asks of us, their lives are often marked by real goodness. This is the basis for our care of them, for our approach to them, our invitation to them, to come closer to the Church and deepen their faith and attend carefully to its call. We say this confidently because it is within the call of our faith, the call of Jesus to each one of us, expressed in the truth of the Gospel and treasured in the Church, that our deepest happiness is to be found.

There has been much talk about how the Synod reflected on the situation of people of a same sex attraction. There was no suggestion that the teaching of the Church might somehow give approval to the notion of "same-sex marriage" or that its teaching on sexual morality is to change. However two things were very clear. The first is that we should never identify people by their sexual orientation. Every person is endowed with unique dignity, both as an individual and as a Christian. This dignity is always, always to be respected. Secondly, it is the teaching of the Church that they are not only to be respected but also always accepted, with compassion and with sensitivity (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2358). This teaching has to be translated into loving care, in our daily life in the Church, in our parishes, and indeed in society.

But Pope Francis went a little further. He spoke of "the Church composed of sinners...that has doors wide open to receive the needy, the penitent and not only the just." He spoke about the duty of pastors always to welcome into the Church those in difficult situations or in trouble. Then he corrected himself saying that we, as pastors, were not simply to welcome them but to go out and find them, just as the Good Shepherd did for those who had drifted away. At the end of the Synod, in his closing address, Pope Francis said this: "Dear brothers and sisters, now we still have one year to mature, with true spiritual discernment, the proposed ideas and find concrete solutions to so many difficulties and innumerable challenges that families must confront; to give answers to the many discouragements that surround and suffocate families... May the Lord accompany us and guide us in this journey for the glory of His Name."

So that is what we must do. I hope, in a while, I will be able to put before you ways in which your prayer and reflection on these themes can be a contribution to this ongoing work of renewal in the life of the Church, in response to the unfailing love of Jesus, under the leadership of Pope Francis and always in union with him.

Yours devotedly,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

YOUTH FOCUS

Join Us At Flame 2

We are now well on the way with our preparations for Flame 2. Held at Wembley Arena, London on Saturday March 7 2015, this will be the largest gathering of Catholic young people in the country. There are already around 5,000 tickets sold, with the Arena having a capacity of 8,000. We have secured tickets and funding, now we'd just like you to come!

The first Flame event was in 2010 and cost young people around £70 to attend. We're delighted to say that Flame 2 will only cost £20 for young people from the Diocese to attend.

So, if you are a young person, a youth

group, a Confirmation Preparation group, a school group or a Lourdes pilgrim, please get in touch – we'd love you to join with MYMission and Bishop Terry at the event!

Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of the Philippines is the main speaker and Matt Redman will lead the music. This is only the second such event in the country and already it is becoming a firm fixture, happening every four or five years.

This makes it a once in a lifetime event in the life of a young Catholic – so what are you waiting for? To book places or to find out more, email domfinn@mymission.org.uk

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The Big Sing Liturgy Thing

We are delighted to be working with cjm music on the Big Sing Liturgy Thing on Wednesday January 28 2015.

The day-long event is aimed at Key Stage Two children, who will come together at the Cathedral to learn about liturgy and then put what they have discovered into practice by spending time together in prayer.

MYMission, the Diocesan Youth Mission Team, is offering this day to primary schools in the northern end of the Diocese. If it proves popular, we will hopefully be able to secure more dates from cjm.

"For many young people, their only regular experience of church is collective worship at school," say cjm.

"Members of the cjm music's team have designed the Big Sing Liturgy Thing as a feast of music, song, prayer, sign language,

and dance and liturgy.

"The format is borne out of more than 10 years' experience leading music and liturgy in a variety of settings, with people of all ages.

"These events involve full band, two dancers, audio-visual presentation, a full lighting and PA system with two technical crew.

"The objective is to give young people an experience of vibrant, dynamic worship. But it is more than a jamboree of song, and draws on our understanding and experience of the liturgical tradition and contemporary liturgical music."

More information and booking forms will be sent to schools shortly. In the meantime, email frpaul@mymission.org.uk if you would like to know more.

Young Adults Group

MYMission has begun a young adults group which meets once a month. The meeting is simple and social.

Starting with Sunday Mass at 4pm in the Mission House Chapel and ending in the early evening with a shared meal provided by the Mission Team, it really is a chance to come together with other young Catholic adults.

Everyone, 18-plus is more than welcome. The next dates are:

- Sunday December 7
- Sunday January 11
- Sunday February 1
- Sunday March 1
- Sunday May 10

Just turn up at Mission House, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough, TS4 3EE before 4pm!

If you would like to know more, email domfinn@mymission.org.uk

Young Catholic Adults
Sunday Mass
and Meal for those aged 18+

4pm
11 January 2015
1 February 2015
1 March 2015
10 May 2015

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NEWS FROM ROME

Pope Warns Against Gossip

Pope Francis has warned Catholics against the dangers of terrorism – but it is the “terrorism of gossip” he’s concerned about. Speaking to the Italian Conference of Superior Majors, he advocated direct speech to solve disagreements. “If you have something against your brother, tell him to his face,” he said. “It might end in a fist fight, but that’s better than the terrorism of gossip.”

Be Catholic With No Buts

The Pope called on Christians not to linger at the “reception desk” of the Church, saying “well yes, I’m Catholic, but” not too Catholic. He said during morning Mass on the Feast Day of the Apostles, St Simon and St Jude: “The Lord calls us to his Church with the rights of a citizen. We are not passing through, we are rooted there. If we do not enter this temple and be part of this construction in order that the Holy Spirit may dwell in us, we are not in the Church.”

Leaders Asked To Help Refugees

World leaders meeting at the G20 Heads of State and Government summit in Australia were asked by the Pope to show generosity to refugees affected by conflicts throughout the world. In a letter to Australian Prime Minister Tony Abbott, he added: “Responsibility for the poor and the marginalised must...be an essential element of any political decision, whether on the national or the international level.”

Prayers For Persecuted Christians

The Pope led 15,000 people at a general audience in St Peter’s Square to join him in saying the Lord’s Prayer for Christians facing persecution because of their religious beliefs. “I must express my deep spiritual closeness to the Christian communities so harshly struck by an absurd violence that does not show signs of stopping,” he said.

Annulment Should Be More Efficient

The Church’s marriage annulment process should be more efficient and cheaper, the Pope told a meeting of canon lawyers. He recently established a special commission to streamline the process.

Recent tweets from the Pope’s Twitter feed, @Pontifex

- War destroys, kills, impoverishes. Lord, give us your peace!*
- Work is so important for human dignity, for building up a family, for peace!*
- The Church is ever on a journey, seeking new ways to announce the Gospel.*
- Indifference towards those in need is not acceptable for a Christian.*
- The spiritual power of the Sacraments is boundless. With grace, we can overcome every obstacle.*
- The principal mission of the Church is evangelisation, bringing the Good News to everyone.*

AROUND OUR SCHOOLS

Schools! Please send us your good news stories and photos to appear in this regular section! Send them to the usual address: catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

Together In Cambodia

Mission Together is the Catholic Church’s only official mission charity for children. It’s had a number of names over the years and many adults will remember “adopting” a baby when they were in primary school, or bringing in pennies to move their paper cut-out child up the ladder.

Names and attitudes may change, but the needs of children do not, and Mission Together continues to support the physical and spiritual wellbeing of children around the world.

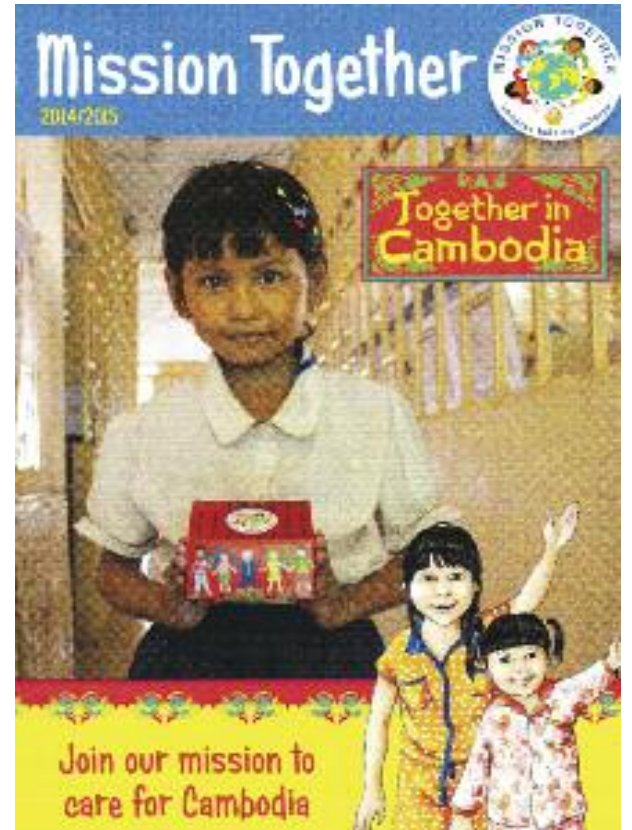
This year, the focus for fundraising is the Lindalva Centre in Cambodia, which is run by the Daughters of Charity and provides a safe and loving environment where children can receive an education and a nourishing meal each day.

When Bishop Terry was doing Missionary work in Africa, Mission Together provided much-needed support, and he is very keen to encourage all primary school pupils to do what they can to help the Cambodia Appeal.

All primary schools will already have received newsletters and collecting boxes for pupils as well as resources for teachers.

These and other resources are available from the Mission Together website: www.missiontogether.org.uk

A message from Pope Francis: “Dear children, with your prayers and commitment you collaborate in the mission of the Church. Thank you for this and I give you my blessing.” (Agenzia Fides, January 7 2014)



St Bernadette’s Sleepover Stars

Pupils from St Bernadette’s Roman Catholic Primary School in Nunthorpe became Sleepover Stars by raising a fantastic £1,412 for Depaul UK, which helps young people who are homeless, vulnerable and disadvantaged.

The Depaul UK fundraiser began with a pyjama day, where all staff and pupils came to school wearing their nightwear and paid a pound towards the Depaul UK fund.

Pupils were then involved in activities within their classes to raise awareness of the plight of the homeless and the role of Depaul UK. The day culminated in a whole school assembly to enhance their understanding of the problems faced by the homeless and how to help them.

At 8pm that evening, headteacher Mary Cobbold, eight members of staff and 40 intrepid volunteers from years five and six, returned to school in their nightwear and

with sleeping equipment to begin their sponsored sleepover.

After inflating their airbeds, they played a variety of games and tackled some fun quizzes before enjoying homemade vegetable soup, prepared earlier by the school’s Cookery Club.

They then watched a film depicting homeless young people, which stimulated a thoughtful discussion.

The children composed their own short prayers for the homeless, wrote them out on colourful ribbons and shared them at bedtime.

“The sleepover was a wonderful experience for all who took part and a fun, yet meaningful way to generate some empathy and support for a very worthy cause,” said Mrs Cobbold.

“Memories were made for each of us that night. Depaul UK is a movement our school has had links with in the past and are keen to lend our continued support to.”

Word Search

A	J	O	S	E	P	H	C	B	R
D	E	F	T	F	O	X	S	M	O
G	S	H	A	P	R	O	E	A	O
A	U	L	R	M	O	H	N	R	M
G	S	U	X	U	E	G	L	Y	Z
A	N	G	E	L	S	W	V	N	W
A	L	O	H	I	N	L	P	A	J
D	S	T	A	B	L	E	R	Y	W
J	E	S	X	F	R	T	O	I	Z
B	W	R	G	A	S	V	I	N	N

BETHLEHEM	JESUS
ANGELS	STAR
INN	MARY
OX	STABLE
STRAW	Ass
JOSEPH	ROOM



Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem. Because there was no room for them at the inn, they had to share a stable with an ox and an ass. It was there that the baby Jesus was born. Angels visited shepherds on the hillside and told them the good news. We celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25 - Christmas Day.

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AROUND OUR SCHOOLS



'Mini Vinnies' Come To Boro

Parents, pupils and staff at St Pius Roman Catholic Primary School, Middlesbrough, took part in a commissioning ceremony for a groundbreaking initiative designed to get younger children involved in social action.

The 'Mini Vinnies' programme originated in Australia and introduces primary school-age children to the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Pictured here are Bernadette Murray, Mini Vinnie co-ordinator for St Vincent de Paul Society (Middlesbrough), Monsignor Gerard Dasey, chaplain Deborah McIntosh and headteacher Peter Gair.

For more information about Mini Vinnies, visit www.minivinnies.org.uk or email bernadette@murray2013@gmail.com

Students Honour The Fallen

Students at St Peter's Roman Catholic College in South Bank honoured the fallen of the two World Wars and all conflicts since at a remembrance service in school on Armistice Day.

St Peter's Army Cadet detachment took a lead role and children from St Margaret Clitherow's, St Mary's and St Gabriel's primary schools were in attendance, along with residents from Primrose Care Home.

In the lead up to the service, all students researched a soldier who died in World War 1, which began 100 years ago, recording their names on crosses in a memorial garden.

* St Peter's staff and students raised £150 for CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day with a Bake-Off event and other activities.



St Peter's cadets and students honour the fallen at a special remembrance service

A Harvest Festival For The World



Father Bill Surplus with St Aelred's children and SVP members at the Harvest Festival

Pupils chose and led the prayers, readings and hymns at the Harvest Festival service held at St Aelred's Roman Catholic Primary School in York.

The children also brought in food, which members of the Parish SVP Society took to a local foodbank, and coins

from their pocket money, to be donated to CAFOD. Older pupils were given a talk by SVP President Pat Nobbs about the Minnie Vinnies and many are now keen to get involved in the social action project.

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Interim Headteacher Mr D Sutherland

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The Governors, Staff and Students of St Aelred's wish you all a happy and holy Christmas

LOURDES CORNER



Father Peter Sharrocks, Chair of the Association of Lourdes Pilgrimage Directors of Great Britain, Bishop Terry, Canon Derek Turnham, Diocesan Pilgrimage Director, and Father Paul Farrer

Lourdes Directors Meet In York

The Diocese was honoured to host a gathering of Lourdes Pilgrimage Directors from throughout the UK in York recently.

While having to get through a huge amount of work during the three-day conference, those present also took the opportunity to explore some of the Catholic heritage of York.

Father Richard Duffield and Bishop Terry met with delegates on Wednesday November 5, allowing them to visit the Shrine of St Margaret Clitherow and celebrate Mass at St Wilfrid's Church.

Later that evening, Middlesbrough *brancardier* and TV comedy impressionist Kevin Connelly entertained around 60 delegates after dinner.

The conference was superbly organised by Chris Tillotson and I am grateful to her and all who helped us to play the part of hosts.

Father Paul Farrer

Lourdes 2015 Theme Is The Joy Of Mission

The Lourdes pastoral theme, set by the Bishop of Lourdes, helps people from all over the world focus their prayer and pilgrimage each year as they make their way to the Grotto.

In recent years, the Lourdes Sanctuary has produced a DVD in each of the languages used at the shrine to help people prepare. This year, the English language DVD features contributions from young (and not so young) Middlesbrough

pilgrims who agreed to be interviewed during their Lourdes pilgrimage 2014.

Andrew Gardner, Al Bury, Katy Demoily, Oona Diaz and Eleanor Goodfield join Father Paul Farrer in assisting Father Brian de Burca OMI present the pastoral theme for 2015 to the English-speaking world.

The completed DVD will be around 50 minutes long and will

be available from Lourdes next year. In the meantime, Father Brian has sent a 25-minute version of the DVD featuring the Middlesbrough pilgrims.

The DVD is a great resource for groups as they begin to prepare for the 2015 pilgrimage. If your school or parish group would like a copy of the DVD, please email frpaul@mymission.org.uk

Your Lourdes Stories...

Each month we're featuring stories in which Middlesbrough pilgrims tell their often deeply moving stories about the profound impact Lourdes has had on their lives.

Some of them will make you smile and others might make you cry. All reflect some aspect of what our Pilgrimage means and reveal how it has the power to transform lives. They were first heard at the Taizé service that has become part of our pilgrimage in recent years.

The stories are all collected in a book, where more can be added. If you have your own Lourdes story you'd like others to share, please email Mary Lombard at thelombards@hotmail.com

A Mother's Story

In March 1985, my son was in a terrible car crash, resulting in severe brain damage. After 15 years of constant therapy and struggling to give him a life worth living, we found Lourdes.

Lots of people had tried to tell me about Lourdes, but nobody got anywhere near. Lourdes has to be visited personally to experience it all. It has to be seen and heard.

It has to be felt – in the heart, mind and whole body. For my son and I, our first visit was very emotional. At last we were not on our own; we felt like we had joined into a big family. It's that thing of all being together, praying together, not just for yourself and your loved ones, but for everybody you think may need it.

You lose that awful feeling of being on your own, struggling with life. It made me feel like a mountain had been taken off my back.

Lourdes gives you hope of better things to come – a miracle even. It gives you an overwhelming feeling that all things are possible. It renewed our own faith when all was lost.

The whole experience lifted our spirits. My son said that at last he felt like he belonged, and was not on the outside any more. He said, "If there is a heaven on earth, Mam, it's this – it's Lourdes."

Lourdes has taken away a lot of my anger. It gives me the



strength to cope for another year.

And every year, after our visit to Lourdes, my son improves. I was not sure we could get here this year, and when I told him his response was simple: "But Mam, I need to go."

A Conversion Story

Working at Middlesbrough General Hospital, I had colleagues who went to Lourdes. I had lost any belief in God and I did not know anything about the Catholic faith, or Lourdes, but eventually I was persuaded to go as a nurse.

I loved the experience of Lourdes, and the people I met. I felt really happy there, and I wanted to go back the following year.

I learned my first *Hail Mary* at the Crowned Virgin statue, repeating it word for word, until I had done three, as I had been told that this would help me come back again.

On my third visit to Lourdes, I received my gift of faith. I believed, felt forgiveness and found I could pray. When I got back home, I knew I wanted to become a Catholic and try to live my faith each day, and not just for one week in Lourdes. I joined the RCIA programme, and was received into the Church the following Easter.

My fourth year in Lourdes was my first as a Catholic. My faith then led me to Central and South America, where I spent four years working as a volunteer nurse for a Catholic charity. But I still managed to get to Lourdes each year.

Lourdes has been, without doubt, the biggest force for change in my life, a continuing experience, allowing me to meet so many wonderful people and become part of a wonderful family.

Next year will be my 30th consecutive year as a volunteer, and I will always be grateful to those nurses who first encouraged me to come to Lourdes.



VOCATIONS

Not Waiting, But Expecting

As we begin the Season of Advent, we are asked to consider the difference between waiting and expecting. Waiting is kind of a neutral thing – the bus may come and it may not!

Expecting is, at its very core, an act of faith. Expecting is all about believing that promises made to us will be fulfilled.

Pope Francis has written to us all about the Joy of the Gospel. In his letter, he challenges us all to be people of Joyful Hope, the kind of people whose faith is infectious.

Advent is a journey towards Christmas and all that it entails. It is a period of reflection and preparation. It is also the start of a new liturgical year for the Church, so perhaps there is a chance for you to renew your prayerful support for those who are discerning their vocation in the Diocese.

Remember, that doesn't simply include the four men we currently have in seminary, discerning their vocation to the priesthood. It includes very many people, old, and especially young, who are placing God at the heart of their ponderings.

So let's renew our prayers for vocations. Rather than pray and then wait for something to happen, let's pray expecting something to happen.

All vocations are a gift from God. They start with him. We do not own a vocation; it is, at no point, our own possession. Vocation is about being shaped and moulded by our relationship with God and our service of him and his people.

The Lord continues to shower his people with gifts, we must pray for the courage to recognise those gifts in ourselves and others and celebrate those gifts in the life of the Church.

Then, perhaps, we can stop waiting for something to happen and start expecting with joyful hope.

If you would like to speak to some-one about your own vocation, please email frpaul@mymission.org.uk

Father Paul Farrer, Vocations Director



Missionary Seals Mill Hill Commitment

Parishioners of St Gabriel's in Ormesby, Middlesbrough, were witnesses as Francis Hannaway pledged his commitment to the Mill Hill Missionaries.

Francis became a Mill Hill Associate – a lay missionary – and will work in Basankusu Diocese in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

He did the same thing 20 years ago and is returning to the Diocese to work in an area of much need.

Francis, a teacher, read out his commitment oath and signed his contract of association during Sunday Mass.

Mill Hill Missionaries' British Regional Father Liam Durrant MHM, Father Dermot Byrne MHM and Father James Fanning MHM all visited for the ceremony.

"It's a very happy time for me to be welcomed back to Mill Hill Missionaries, and especially, for this to take place within my own parish church," said Francis.

Father Pat Day, who concelebrated, added: "Francis won't be forgotten once he leaves for the Congo. He is one of our parish so we will keep in touch with him and support his work there."

Francis can be contacted at francis7@yahoo.com or can be supported through Mill Hill Missionaries financial secretary stating "Account – Francis Hannaway (Basankusu)" at finsec@millhillmissionaries.com or 3 Emilia Close, Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HU.

We'll be keeping in touch with him and his progress in the Voice.

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Telephone 07760 297401 Fax 0207 766 6879

Middlesbrough Diocese Christmas Mass Times

Acklam & Brookfield
St Francis Acklam
Christmas Eve
5.00pm Carols
5.30pm Family Mass
(Blessing of Crib)
Christmas Day
10.30am Mass
St Clare of Assisi, Low Lane
Christmas Eve
7.00pm Vigil Mass
(Blessing of the Crib)
Christmas Day
9.00am Mass

Hessle
Our Lady of Lourdes
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas
especially for young children & parents
12.00 Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
8.15am Mass
10.30am Mass

Lealholm
Egton Bridge
Ugthorpe
Our Lady, St Hedda, St Anne
Christmas Eve
7.00pm First Mass of Christmas
Our Lady, Lealholm
11.30pm Midnight Mass
St. Hedda, Egton Bridge
Christmas Day
10.00am Mass
St. Anne, Ugthorpe

Osmotherley
Our Lady of Mount Grace/
The Shrine of Our Lady of
Mount Grace
(The Lady Chapel)
Special Mass times over the Christmas period
Christmas Eve
4.00pm Christmas Mass at
the Lady Chapel
Christmas Day
8.30am Christmas Mass at
Our Lady of Mount Grace
Boxing Day - Feast of St Stephen
11.00 am Mass at the Lady
Chapel
Sunday 28 December
Normal Sunday Services
New Year's Day
12 Noon Mass at the Lady
Chapel
All welcome for these special opening times

Ca...
6
St J
11.30
St J

Beverley
St John of Beverley
North Bar Without
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Vigil Mass of the Nativity
11.30pm Blessing of Crib
& Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
9.00am Mass of the Dawn
10.30am Mass of the Day

Hull
West Hull Parish
Christmas Eve
8.00pm First Mass of Christmas
at St Wilfrid's
Christmas Day
8.30am Dawn Mass
at St Joseph's
10.00am Day Mass
at Corpus Christi

Market Weighton
Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Christmas Eve
11.30pm Carols
followed by Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
10.30am Mass
Holme-upon-Spalding Moor
St John the Baptist
Christmas Day
9.00am Mass

Pickering
St Joseph
Christmas Eve
11.30pm Carols
12.00 Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
10.00am Mass

7-
8.00pm

Bridlington
Our Lady & St Peter
Christmas Eve
6.00pm Mass
12.00 Midnight Mass
Christmas Day
10.30am Mass

Ingleby Barwick
St Therese
Christmas Eve
5.30pm Mass
Christmas Day
10.30am Mass
also see Yarm

Marske-by-the-Sea
St Bede
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Children's Mass
9.00pm Vigil Mass
Christmas Day
9.30am Mass

Redcar
Sacred Heart
Christmas Eve
7.00pm Carols
7.30pm First Mass of Christmas
especially suitable for young families
Christmas Day
10.00am Mass

9.00am
10.30a

Easingwold
St John the Evangelist
Mon 16 December
7:00pm Carols and readings
followed by mince pies, mulled wine
and raffle in the Hall.
Sat 21st December
11:15am-12.30pm Confessions
(supplementary to normal times)
Christmas Eve
9:30am Mass of the Vigil
4:30pm Blessing of the crib
and children's liturgy
9:00pm First Mass of Christmas
Christmas Day
8:30am Dawn Mass of
Christmas
10:30am Day Mass of Christmas

Kirkbymoorside
Helmsley
Our Lady & St Chad, St Mary
Christmas Eve
7.30pm Carols
8.00pm Mass of Christmas Night
at Kirkbymoorside
Christmas Day
9.00am "Dawn" Mass Helmsley
10.30am "Day" Mass
at Kirkbymoorside

Middlesbrough
Sacred Heart
Christmas Eve
5.00pm Children's Mass
(carols from 4.30pm)
11.30pm - Midnight Mass
(carols from 11.00pm)
Christmas Day
8.30am Mass (Quiet, no music)
10.00am Day Mass

Redcar
St Augustine's
Christmas Eve
5.30pm Christmas Nativity & Carols
6.00pm 1st Mass of Christmas
especially suitable for young families
11.30pm Midnight Mass of
Christmas

St Pa
Tue
7
5-



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the Diocese?**
www.catholicdirectory.org

Middlesbrough
St Joseph & St Thomas More
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Children's Mass
(St Joseph's)
6.30pm Children's Mass
(St Thomas More's)
Midnight - Midnight Mass
(St Joseph's)
Christmas Day
9.00am Mass (St Thomas More's)
10.30am Mass (St Joseph's)

Saltburn-by-the-Sea
Our Lady of Lourdes
Christmas Eve
6.30pm Carols
7.30pm First Mass of
Christmas
Christmas Day
10.30am Family Mass

8.00pm
a

Times

Scarborough Catholic Churches

Christmas Eve
 5.30pm Carols
 6.00pm Vigil Mass
 St Peter's, Castle Road

7.30pm Carols
 8.00pm Mass
 Joseph, Green Lane, Newby

9.00pm Carols followed by
 Midnight Mass
 St Peter's, Castle Road

Christmas Day
 8.30am Mass
 St Edward's Church,
 Avenue Victoria

9.30am Mass
 Joseph, Green Lane, Newby

11.00am Mass
 St Peter's, Castle Road

Whitby St Hilda, English Martyrs

Christmas Eve
 6.00pm Carols
 6.30pm Mass
 St Hilda's, Whitby

Christmas Day
 9.00am Mass
 English Martyr's, Sleights
 10.30am Mass
 St Hilda's, Whitby

Yarm St Mary and St Romuald

Christmas Eve
 8.00pm First Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day
 9.00am Mass

also see Ingleby Barwick

Teesville

St Andrew

St Peter, St Anne

Christmas Eve

8.30pm Carols and Live
 Bethlehem

9.00pm First Mass of Christmas
 at St Andrew's

Christmas Day

9.00am Mass of Christmas Morning
 at St Peter's

10.30am Mass of Christmas Day
 at St Anne's

Thornaby

St Patrick, Christ the King

Thursday 16th December
 7.00pm Service of
 Reconciliation
 at St Patrick's

Christmas Eve
 6.00pm Family Mass
 at St Patrick's

9.00pm Candlelit Vigil Mass
 at Christ the King

Christmas Day
 9.00am Mass
 at Christ the King

10.30am Mass
 at St Patrick's

York

Our Lady

Christmas Eve
 2.30pm Children's Crib Service
 5.30pm First Mass of Christmas
 at Greenhamerton
 8.30pm Carols in Our Lady's Church
 9.00pm Mass of Christmas Night

Christmas Day
 10.00am Mass of Christmas
 Morning

York

St George

Wednesday December 17th
 6.30pm Candlelit Carol Service
Christmas Eve
 9.30am Mass
 8.00pm First Mass of Christmas

Christmas Day
 9.30am Mass

York

St Wilfrid

Tuesday 23rd December
 7pm Carol Service & Benediction
Christmas Eve
 6.00pm Family Mass
 with Carols & Blessing of the Crib
 11.15pm Readings & Carols
 12.00 Midnight Sung Latin Mass
 Extraordinary Form

Christmas Day
 8.30am & 10.30am Mass
 4.00pm Solemn Benediction
 26th December - St Stephen's
 12.10pm Mass with carols
 New Year's Day
 Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
 12.10pm Mass with carols

Please Note our new Mass
 Times on the Back Page



Mass Times



Lourdes - The Joy of Mission

22nd - 29th May 2015

62nd Middlesbrough
Lourdes Pilgrimage
Join us!



Dear sisters and brothers



No sooner do the children go back to school than the adverts for Christmas start to appear in the media and in the shops. People anticipate so much that the joy is often taken out of the event by disappointment with the reality. This can never be said about our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. No sooner have the hospital

rooms been cleaned and tidied and everything packed away for this year than our Lourdes Committee are preparing for next year. This is the way it has to be if we are to organise well and successfully for next year.

This is the reason I am writing to you now, even before Christmas, so that you will be aware of the costs and booking requirements for next year's pilgrimage. I want to thank you for booking on the Diocesan Pilgrimage. By choosing to fly with us you are helping us provide the only way of getting our sick and less able pilgrims to Lourdes. Without your support this could not happen and the most important element of our Pilgrimage would be lost.

By doing this you are already serving our VIPs, allowing them to be safe and comfortable, well cared for and enabling them to enjoy their own pilgrimage.

Our theme this year is "Lourdes, the Joy of Mission." Those who have been to Lourdes before know that it is very hard to explain to people who have never been about the wonder of the experience. Yet it is so important to try. Although many of us who have been know that we receive something very personal for our spiritual growth while in Lourdes, we also realise that we cannot keep that good news just to ourselves. It is vital that we let others know the message of healing and grace that are available there through the intercession of our Blessed Lady. Having been filled with the joy of the Good News, we have to pass it on to others.

As we prepare for our pilgrimage in 2015, let each of us reflect on how we can become more authentically joy-filled missionaries for our families, our friends, in our parishes in our diocese, indeed in our world.

RT Rev Terence Patrick Drainey
RT Rev Terence Patrick Drainey

Travel By Air

Flights have been arranged from Durham Tees Valley Airport departing on 22nd May. Exact timings will be confirmed to you 2 weeks prior to departure. Returning 29th May from Lourdes to Durham Tees Valley Airport. The prices include return air fare, transfer by coach from Lourdes Airport to the hotels, full board accommodation (if selected) and all known government taxes and duties.



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Supported Pilgrims should apply immediately for an application form which is available from:

The Secretary
Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage
4 Cromore Close, Thornaby on Tees
Stockton, TS17 0HW
Tel: 01642 529109

Please Note: Forms should be received no later than 31st January 2015. Our medical team will then consider the application, taking into account all medical advice from the pilgrim's GP and they will also make a home visit to do an assessment.

Applications received after the closing date will be considered if places are available.

For details of any aspect of the pilgrimage

Very Rev. Canon Derek Turnham - **Pilgrimage Director**
St Augustines Presbytery
10 Warwick Road, Redcar TS10 2ER
Tel: 01642 292552
E-mail: derekturnham@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

Keith Tillotson - **Executive Director**
Beulah, 50 The Grove, Marton Middlesbrough TS7 8AJ
Tel: 01642 324043
E-mail: keith_tillotson@hotmail.com
or executivedirector@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

Volunteer Helpers

If you are willing to volunteer to help our pilgrimage as a Nurse, Handmaid or Brancardier, please use the following contact details to register your interest as soon as possible.

Nurses: Jean Cornfoot
C/O Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage
4 Cromore Close, Thornaby on Tees Stockton TS17 0HW
Tel: 01642 166343
E-mail: headnurse@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

Handmaids: Mrs Chris Tillotson
Beulah, 50 The Grove, Marton Middlesbrough TS7 8AJ
Tel: 01642 324043
E-mail: chris.tillotson@hotmail.co.uk
or headhandmaid@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

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Lourdes 2015

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Easter in Lourdes

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29 May - 1 June - £395 29 May - 5 June - £525
28 - 31 August - £420 28 August - 4 September - £550

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11th - 15th June

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11th - 17th October

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from £429 per person



As the leading pilgrimage specialist based in the UK, we are taking many bookings for parishes and groups next year. These include pilgrimages to:

Lourdes, Fatima, The Holy Land,
Rome, Assisi, Padua, Poland, Santiago & more



NEWS

**CATHOLIC
WORLD
NEWS**

English Priest's Senior Vatican Role

Liverpool priest, Archbishop Paul Gallagher, has been appointed Secretary for Relations with States in the Secretariat of State of the Holy See. The position, often dubbed Foreign Minister for the Holy See, involves attending to matters involving civil governments.

Archbishop Gallagher said: "My appointment comes at a time when the world is facing many serious challenges. I am convinced that diplomacy remains an indispensable tool in the pursuit of peace and harmony between nations.

"It will be a privilege to work with the Holy Father, who has established himself as an important voice at a critical moment. I am only too aware of the responsibility that comes with this office. I will need prayerful support, which I recognise has never been lacking throughout my priestly ministry and diplomatic service of the Holy See."

Archbishop Gallagher, 60, has spent the past 31 years in the Papal Diplomatic Service.

Prayers For Pakistani Christians

Cardinal Vincent Nichols joined the Bishop of Wakefield, The Right Reverend Tony Robinson, to light candles and pray for a couple and their unborn daughter who were burned to death in Pakistan last month.

The bishops came together in St Anne's Cathedral, Leeds, to pray for peace and the repose of the souls of Sajjad Maseeh, 27, and his wife Shama Bibi, 24.

A 1,200-strong mob burned the couple after rumours they had set fire to verses of the Quran. The bishops appealed to the Pakistan Government to bring the perpetrators to justice and protect the rights of minorities.

Cardinal Nichols said: "This is a horrific and tragic event which sullies the reputation of a great nation. Surely all people of true religious spirit will, in response, turn to God in prayer, seeking forgiveness for the violence and destruction of life, pleading for peace in our troubled world."

Catholics' Example For Politicians

Cardinal Nichols took the opportunity to call on politicians to learn from the Church's hands-on approach to tackling poverty in the UK during a visit to Parliament.

"A crucial part of serving society, whether through the calling of politics or through the Church, is to face the reality before us," he said. "This is where rhetoric ends, where philosophy gives way to reality, where dogmatism gets its hands dirty.

"For us this is what being a Church of the poor and for the poor really means. Our self-awareness is sharp; our sense of purpose is clear. Perhaps governments could take a lead from this too."

Cardinal Nichols, who is Patron of Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), was speaking at the organisation's fourth annual parliamentary reception in the Houses of Parliament, on the timely date of Wednesday November 5.

He thanked the CSAN network for the "extraordinary work" of the charities who transform the lives of thousands of people across England and Wales.

He said: "You help to house the homeless, you help to keep families together through relationship support, you act as a lifeline for those seeking asylum. Together, as a Church, we embody what it means to love our neighbour and work towards human flourishing."



Bishop Terry blesses the graves of our former bishops

Bishop Leads Remembrance Service

Bishop Terry was the principal concelebrant at the annual Mass for the Deceased Bishops and Clergy of the Diocese in the Cathedral on Tuesday November 4.

He was joined by the Chapter and priests of the Council of Priests, as well as other priests of the Diocese.

In his homily, the Bishop gave thanks for the long years of service to the Diocese of Father Michael Lambe, Father Tom O'Connell and Father David Hynes.

At the end of Mass, the Bishop and clergy processed to the remembrance garden, where former bishops of the Diocese are buried, to bless the graves. The service ended with the singing of *Salve Regina*.

Attendance at this annual Mass is increasing and hopefully the Cathedral will soon be full for this most important event in the Diocesan year.

Doctor Jim Whiston

Help CAFOD Fight Ebola Outbreak

Thanks to the generosity of the Catholic community, CAFOD's Ebola appeal has reached more than £500,000. This enables us to play our part in combating this terrible virus, which is affecting people across Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea.

Your support is helping our Church partners to educate people about the risks, provide essential hygiene kits and washing-stations and ensure that burials are carried out safely.

In Sierra Leone, we have already trained 400 priests and catechists about Ebola prevention and each one is going door to door to discuss the disease with at least 40 families.

In Guinea, we have provided health education and hygiene kits to 28,000 people. In Liberia, we are providing emergency supplies of rice to more than 17,000 people in areas that have been quarantined or where farming has been restricted.

However, with the virus still spreading, we urgently need to scale up our work. There have been more than 13,000 reported cases of Ebola in total, but the World Health Organisation has warned that the number could reach up to 10,000 per week this month if more isn't done to stop the spread.

Please consider making a donation to CAFOD's Ebola appeal.

Donate now at <http://www.cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Ebola-crisis-appeal>

We want to take this opportunity to wish all our volunteers, supporters, parish priests, teachers, students and pupils a joyful Advent, as we prepare to welcome the birth of our Lord, and a peace-filled Christmas as we celebrate this wonderful event with our families and friends.

David and Carol Cross, CAFOD Middlesbrough



A police officer washing her hands in an "ebola bucket". Photo by Tommy Trenchard, Caritas

CAUSE Launches Hamper Appeal

With many families in need of help through the Diocese, Catholics Against Unemployment And Social Evils (CAUSE) is once again appealing for donations for its annual Christmas Hamper Campaign.

Even small donations can go a long way and would be much appreciated.

Cash donations or cheques, made payable to CAUSE, can be sent to Pat Wilson (Treasurer), c/o Curial Office, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT.

CAUSE would also be grateful for help with deliveries or any other assistance you can offer. If you have any time to spare and would like to help, please contact co-ordinator Pat McBride on (01642) 310854.



NEWS



Lunch In Father Bill's Honour

Fellow chaplains said farewell to Father Bill Ryan with a lunch to mark his retirement from his role at Her Majesty's Prison Hull.

Father Bill, who is Parish Priest of St Mary and St Joseph, Hedon, is handing over the prison's Catholic Chaplaincy to Father Chima Ibekwe, who is pictured on the right.

Mary Tudor And The Church

The story of Queen Mary's pearl pendant was shared with the Cleveland Newman Circle at a recent talk by Monsignor Antony Conlon.

This enormous South American pearl, clearly visible in a portrait of Mary, was given her by her husband, Philip of Spain. After her death, it was returned to Spain and many years later, Richard Burton bought it for Elizabeth Taylor!

Monsignor Conlon's talk, Mary Tudor and England's counter-reformation 1553-8, was both entertaining and informative, with the speaker's enthusiasm conveying a wealth of historical detail, underpinned by a deep understanding of the religious issues involved.

After Mary's accession, the Mass was restored in England. Parliament voted overwhelmingly to reintroduce burning for heretics, although Monsignor Conlon suggested that the number of such executions was exaggerated in later accounts and that Mary's restoration of the Mass and Catholic practices was welcomed throughout most of England.

The Cleveland Newman Circle welcomes people from both sides of the River Tees, from the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle and the Diocese of Middlesbrough. Talks are held regularly in St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Middlesbrough. For details of the 2015 programme, contact (01642) 814977 or tpj.egerton@virgin.net



Patricia Egerton

Ged's Quiz Corner

Connections

Answer the questions then come up with the connection between them all.

1. Which tributary of the River Ouse rises near Oulston Reservoir then runs south through the Vale of York to the River Ouse?
2. Which jazz pianist and composer who lived from 1917 to 1982 is the second most recorded after Duke Ellington? Remarkably, Ellington composed more than 1,000 songs while this composer only wrote 70. His middle name is "Sphere"
3. Which Hull-born comedian who died in 2013 was famous for his faulty microphone routine and chicken

impressions?

4. Which royal residence can be found in Berkshire?
5. Which character in the TV series Game of Thrones is played by the English actress Hannah Murray?

Connection:

Thinking cap question

Which four English racecourses contain none of the letters from the word "race" and which six English racecourses contain all the letters from the word "race"?

Answers on back page

Light A Christmas Candle

Father Michael Keogh is inviting people to Christ the King Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby, to Light a Candle for Christmas on Sunday December 14 from 3pm to 5pm.

The invitation is extended to all, regardless of denomination. Visitors are asked to say a prayer and have a cup of tea. Everyone will be made most welcome.

A Perfect Start To Advent

St Mary's Cathedral warmly invites you join the Middlesbrough Diocesan Choir, Cathedral Choirs and Schola Cantorum in a service of Carols for Advent on Wednesday December 3 at 7pm.

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 Every Sunday, 6pm, Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, REDCAR TS10 1SH.
 Low Mass

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2014

- 2 **Attending Bishop's Council meeting at Curial Office 11.00 am**
Attending Council of Priests meeting at Curial Office 2.00 pm
- 4 **Attending meeting of Northern Province 10.30 am**
- 6/7 **Parish visitation to St Therese, Ingleby Barwick/Ss Mary & Romuald, Yarm All weekend**
- 8 **Attending installation of Bishop John Arnold as Bishop of Salford 11.00 am**
- 11-15 **Attending 425th Anniversary Celebrations in Valladolid**
- 16 **Attending Bishop's Council meeting at Curial Office 11.00 am**
- 18 **Attending Working Group for Caritas England & Wales at Eccleston Square, London 10.00 am**
- 21 **Celebrating Mass with Middlesbrough Catholic Fellowship at Holy Name of Mary, Middlesbrough 3.00 pm**
- 22 **Hosting lunch for Seminarians at Bishop's House 12 noon**
- 24 **Celebrating Midnight Mass at St Mary's Cathedral 11.30 pm**
- 25 **Celebrating Mass of Christmas Day at St Mary's Cathedral 10.00 am**
- 30 **Lunch at Ampleforth with Community and Diocesan Clergy 12 noon**

2 Tuesday
2.00 pm - 4.00 pm 'The Overshadowed Men: Joseph' with Sr Cecilia Goodman CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

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

3 Wednesday
10.30 am - 3.30 pm 'Watching and Waiting' - an Advent Quiet Day led by Canon Christine Sindall and Claire MacKarill 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 More House, Heslington, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, Tel: (01904) 470041 for further details

7.00 pm Carols for Advent at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough with the Middlesbrough Diocesan Choir, Cathedral Choirs and Schola Cantorum. All welcome

5 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

6 Saturday
6.30 pm Middlesbrough Lourdes Hospitalité Christmas Celebration beginning with Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough followed by an Open Mic Night and fish and chip supper in the church hall. A free social event for all VIPs and Hospitalité members. RSVP by 28 November for catering purposes. Contact: Anne-Marie Stephenson, Tel: 07885 771258 or E-mail: mrsastephenon@gmail.com for further details and to book a place

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

7 Sunday
11.30 am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12.00 pm Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

4.00 pm Young Catholic Adults Sunday Mass and Meal for those aged 18+ at Mission House, St Thomas More Church, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Contact: Dom Finn, E-mail: domfinn@mymission.org.uk for further details

6.00 pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

8 Monday
 The York Newman Circle meet for their Christmas meal. Contact: Judith Smeaton, Tel: (01904) 704525 or E mail: judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for further details

1.30 pm Lady Day Mass - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Lady Chapel, Osmotherley. 1.30 pm: Rosary, 2.00 pm: Mass. All welcome. Contact Tel: (01642) 597750 for further details

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

9 Tuesday
12.45 pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingstom Theatre Hotel, Hull for their Christmas Luncheon

2.00 pm - 4.00 pm ASCENT Group, York West meets at Our Lady's in the Fr Kelly Room

2.00 pm - 4.00 pm 'The Overshadowed Men: Simeon' with Sr Cecilia Goodman CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

7.30 pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at the Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

10 Wednesday
10.30 am The ASCENT Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessle 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

5.30 pm 'The Spirit of Christmas in English Literature' - lecture in the Main Lecture Hall, Ushaw College, Durham, to be delivered by Prof Stephen Regan as part of the Ushaw Lecture Series organised by the Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies. Drinks reception at 5.30 pm, lecture commences at 6.00 pm, followed at

7.30 pm by the Ushaw Carol Service, St Cuthbert's Chapel, Durham. All lectures are free but you must register for your free ticket. Contact: James Kelly, Tel: 0191 334 1656 or E-mail: james.kelly3@durham.ac.uk for further details

11 Thursday
1.30 pm Victorian Tea with Alan Lavender at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Tickets: £9.00. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

12 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. Contact: Marek Lichtarowicz, Tel: (01904) 795605 for further details

13 Saturday
7.30 pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Paul O'Sullivan) at the Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough. Tickets from Eddie White, Tel: (01642) 860227

14 Sunday
11.30 am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH

12.00 pm Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

3.00 pm BBC Tees Carols for Christmas at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. Proceeds to Children in Need. For tickets and further details, contact BBC Tees, Tel: (01642) 225211

3.00 pm - 5.00 pm 'Light a Candle for Christmas' - all are welcome, regardless of denomination, to attend Christ the King Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby to light a candle, say a prayer and have a cup of tea

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

6.00 pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

14 - 18 Sunday - Thursday
 Advent Retreat led by Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Day participants welcome. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

15 Monday
7.30 pm The Thorngumbald Choir led by Jean Gray at St Mary & St Joseph, Hedon. All welcome

16 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

18 Thursday

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

19 Friday

7.00 pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meet after 6.00 pm Mass at St Stephen's Pastoral Centre, Hull

7.00 pm 'The Mice Who Ate Christmas' presented by The Bad Apple Theatre Company at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Tickets £8.00/£10.00, family ticket £25.00. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details

20 Saturday

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

21 Sunday

11.30 am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road,

Redcar, TS10 1SH

12.00 pm Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

3.00 pm Middlesbrough Catholic Fellowship Mass at Holy Name of Mary, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough

6.00 pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

28 Sunday

11.30 am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH

12.00 pm Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

6.00 pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY:

We would recommend those wishing to attend the following events check with the relevant organiser or parish to see if they are proceeding

4 Sunday

11.30 am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road,

Redcar, TS10 1SH

12.00 pm Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

6.00 pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

5 Monday

Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the February issue of Voice must be received by today

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

6.30 pm The Secular Franciscan Order meet every first Wednesday of the month at More House, Heslington, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, Tel: (01904) 470041 for further details

Please note, at the time of going to press, the issue date for the January 2015 edition of Catholic Voice was still being finalised

ADVANCE NOTICES:

11 January 2015: 11.30 am, Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH

11 January 2015: 12.00 pm, Sung Latin Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

11 January 2015: 4.00 pm, Young Catholic Adults Sunday Mass and Meal for those aged 18+ at Mission House, St Thomas More Church, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Contact: Dom Finn, E-mail: domfinn@mymission.org.uk for further details

11 January 2015: 6.00 pm, Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

15 January 2015: The Cleveland Newman Circle meet for their New Year Lunch. Contact: Judith Brown, Tel: (01642) 814977 for further details

24 January 2015: 10.00 am for 10.30 am, 'The Arab World in Turmoil: monarchies, republics and revolutions' - Middlesbrough Justice and Peace Commission presents a talk by Dr Chris Davison for its January meeting at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Concludes with a shared lunch, all welcome

9-11 February 2015: National Conference for Rural Catholics at the Best Western Country Hotel and Golf Club, Garstang, Lancashire. Contact: Fr Robert Miller, Tel: (01747) 870228, E-mail: rwhm274@btinternet.com or visit www.ruralcatholics.org.uk for further details

7 March 2015: Flame 2 at Wembley Arena, London. £20 per person 'ticket and travel deal' for school and parish groups. Contact Dom Finn, MYMission Youth Service Co-ordinator, Tel: (01642) 825948 or E-mail: domfinn@mymission.org.uk for further details and to book tickets

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 is one of the new ecclesial communities in the Church, founded by Catherine de Hueck Doherty. We are an international community made up of about 200 laymen, laywomen and priests who take permanent promises of poverty, chastity and obedience. We are a Pastoral Centre of hospitality and prayer, and you are more than welcome to join us for our daily prayers, a cup of tea, a retreat, counsel, our various talks, ecumenical services. Advisable to telephone first.

The Pastoral Centre is in Thorpe Lane, Robin Hood's Bay, North Yorkshire. Contact: Tel: (01947) 880169 or e-mail: madonnahouserhb@gmail.com

ST BEDE'S PASTORAL CENTRE

Mondays

7.30 pm City Prayer Group

Wednesdays

7.30 - 9.00 pm Christian Meditation

We anticipate St Bede's Pastoral Centre will be closed over the Christmas period but this information was not available at the time the newspaper went to press

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

Copy Deadline

Copy and photographs for inclusion in the February 2015 issue of Catholic Voice should be sent to:

The Editor, Middlesbrough Diocesan Catholic Voice, Curial Offices, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT. Tel (01642) 850505, E-mail catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk
by Monday 5th January 2015

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NEWS

Bar Convent's Westminster Reception

Yorkshire Catholics converged on the Palace of Westminster once again on Wednesday November 5 – this time with much more peaceable intent than the conspirators of 1605.

The Bar Convent, York, England's oldest living convent, chose that famous date to hold a reception in the House of Commons to raise awareness of its exciting plans for the future.

Invited guests, including MPs and supporters, heard about their *Living Heritage Project*, which will transform visitor facilities at the historic convent, making it an accessible place of education, faith and hospitality, fit for the 21st Century.

The £2m project will transform public areas, conserve the Grade I listed Georgian buildings and create a state-of-the-art exhibition space, attracting new audiences of schools, community groups and less mobile visitors.

For the Bar Convent, November 5 is a particularly poignant and significant date as Mary Ward, the founder of the Congregation of Jesus order that has resided there since 1686, was the niece of two key conspirators, John and Christopher Wright.

An inspirational pioneer in education for girls and the role of women in the Church, Mary Ward founded the Congregation of Jesus in 1609, just four years after the Gunpowder Plot.

The order has been resident at the Bar Convent since Sir Thomas Gascoigne, a local Catholic landowner, said: "We must have a school for our daughters" and bought the property to establish a school for girls – on November 5 1686.

Sister Frances Orchard CJ, Chair of the Bar Convent Trust, said: "We were delighted to be joined by guests at Westminster and to have the opportunity to share with them our exciting plans for the future for The Bar Convent."

"We are deeply grateful to all those who have donated so far to our fundraising appeal.

"We have raised just short of £750,000 towards our target of £2m, an amazing achievement, but there remains a long way to go.



Bar Convent Trustees and Sisters at the Palace of Westminster, from left to right, Sara Chapman, Sister Frances Orchard CJ, George Sutton and Sisters Mary Walmsley, Ann Stafford and Agatha Leach

**St Wilfrid's Parish, York
New Mass Times starting
29th November 2014**

**Saturday
Vigil Mass at 6:15pm**

**Sunday
10.30am Family Mass
with Children's Liturgy of the Word
12 noon Sung Latin Mass
in the Extraordinary Form**

**6.00pm Vespers
6.30pm Benediction**

Quiz Answers

Connections: 1. River Foss; 2. Theolonus Monk; 3. Norman Collier; 4. Windsor Castle; 5. Gilly. **Connection:** Gates in York - Fossgate, Monkgate, Colliergate, Castlegate and Gillygate.

Thinking cap: Goodwood, Huntingdon, Ludlow and Plumpton; Carlisle, Cartmel, Catterick, Doncaster, Pontefract and Redcar.

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Head teacher - Peter Coody
Address: Saterageil Avenue
Middlesbrough TS4 3JW
Telephone: 01642 298100
Website: www.trinitycatholiccollege.org.uk
E-mail: peter_coody@middlesbrough.gov.uk

St Edward's RC Primary School
Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe Middlesbrough TS5 6QS
Tel 01642 819507
Headteacher Mrs Mary Brown
email: stedwardsrc@mcschools.org.uk
www.stedwardsrc.eschools.co.uk

St Peter's Catholic Academy
Normanby Road, South Bank, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS6 6SP
01642 453462

The Governors, Staff and Students of St Peter's wish you all a happy and holy Christmas

St Bernadette's R.C. Primary School
Cookgate, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS7 0PZ
Mrs Michelle Day - School Administrator
Tel: 01642 310198 Fax: 01642 314801
Love Live Laugh Learn

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