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**Bishop's  
Column**

# Bishop Terry Ordains Carmelite Priest

"Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." So many songs talk about home or going home. Home is important to most of us in society. It's where our roots are, it's where our foundations lie. It's where we learned how to be the person we are. And yet for decades, successive governments have failed to build the homes we need. By 2008, the number of new homes being started had fallen to its lowest peacetime level since 1924 – and house building has barely recovered since then. This means that every year more and more people are being priced out of home ownership. It means rising rents and more people competing for every single home. (Shelter)

It has always been part of the Church's teaching that every human being should have the basic necessities to grow and flourish. In one of the documents of the Second Vatican Council – The Church in the Modern World – we hear "there must be made available to all everything necessary for leading a life truly human, such as food, clothing and shelter. (G&S #26)

Pope Francis repeats this message in much of his teaching. In his recent letter to all people of goodwill, The Joy of the Gospel, he says: "Just as the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill' sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say 'thou shalt not' to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills. How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points?" (EG 53)

Many families are economically vulnerable and struggle with high housing costs and low incomes. Policies should be assessed on the way in which they impact those most in need, including those who are homeless, and how they support and strengthen the family and its capacity to survive and grow. A question to ask your candidates might be where they stand on helping the poorest and most vulnerable people in the UK?

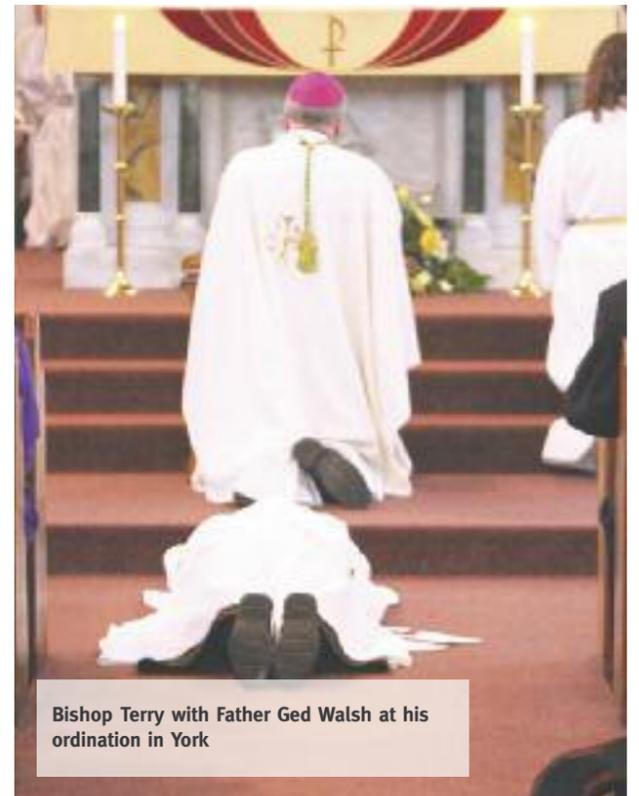
**History was made when Bishop Terry celebrated the first ordination of a Carmelite priest in York since the Reformation.**

Father Ged Walsh was ordained priest by Bishop Terry at Our Lady's Church in Acomb during the parish celebration of Mass.

It was an historic moment for the Carmelite Order, which first came to the city in 1250. Until the suppression of Catholic religious orders at the Reformation in 1536, York was the administrative and training centre for the Carmelite Order of mendicant friars (begging brothers) in northern England.

The friars returned to the city in 1995 and today have pastoral care for chaplaincies at the University of York and York Hospital, as well as Our Lady's parish since the start of this year.

In addition to friars, York is home to communities of Carmelite enclosed



Bishop Terry with Father Ged Walsh at his ordination in York

**Continued on page 2**

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NEWS

# Bishop Terry Ordains Carmelite Priest

Continued from page 1

nuns, active sisters and lay people, all of whom took part in the liturgy, alongside clergy of Middlesbrough Diocese.

Father Ged, 37, is Catholic Chaplain at the University of York and his ordination was attended by many past and present students and staff, as well as his ecumenical colleagues.

He is originally from The Wirral and his family and friends were among the large congregation.

Before entering the Carmelite Order, Father Ged was a radiographer in Liverpool, but he gave up this promising career when he felt called by God to enter the religious life. He studied for the priesthood in Dublin and Carmelite friars from Ireland and across Britain were present.

Father Ged's ordination to the priesthood is the second to take place in Britain within the last few months.

The Prior Provincial of the Carmelites, Father Antony Lester, O Carm, said: "At a time when vocations to priesthood and the religious life seem to be in decline in Europe, we Carmelites in Britain are very fortunate that God is sending us young men who are dedicating themselves to God's service as friars.

"Ged will be a very fine priest, because he has a caring heart and good pastoral experience."

The ordination was attended by two young men who recently entered the Carmelite community as part of a new pre-novitiate programme.



Bishop Terry with Father Ged Walsh at his ordination in York

## Oscar Romero Remembrance In Hull



Archbishop Oscar Romero in San Salvador

CAFOD are delighted to hear the news that Pope Francis has declared Archbishop Oscar Romero a martyr, paving the way for his beatification.

CAFOD worked closely with Archbishop Romero during the 1970s, supporting his famous radio broadcasts, which – at a time of heavy press censorship – were often the only means by which people in El Salvador knew the truth about the atrocities occurring in their country.

A vocal critic of the country's military government, Archbishop Romero was assassinated while celebrating Mass in San Salvador on March 24 1980. In the years since he has been an inspirational figure for staff, partners and supporters at CAFOD and for millions of Catholics around the world.

Join us at the Endsleigh Centre, Beverley Road, Hull, to commemorate the 35th anniversary of his assassination on Tuesday March 24. Mass will be celebrated by Father Antony Lester, O Carm, from the Romero Trust and a showing of the film *Romero* will follow. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome.

• Students from York University's Catholic Society are hosting a Question Time event entitled **Energy, Climate Change and Poverty** as part of CAFOD's One Climate, One World campaign on Tuesday March 10 at 7pm in Room P/X/001 in the University Conference Centre, York YO10 5DD.

The panel includes Green Party leader Natalie Bennett and three prospective York candidates, James Blanchard, of the Liberal Democrats, Conservative James McIlveen and Labour's Joe Roches. The panellists will be asked questions on the issues of energy, climate change and poverty. The event is free and all are welcome. Contact [middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk](mailto:middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk) for more information.

## This Month's Saint



## Saint Joseph - March 19

St Joseph was married to Mary and he was the foster father of Jesus. Together, we call them The Holy Family. Joseph worked as a carpenter, making things from wood, so that he could provide for them.

When King Herod wanted to kill baby Jesus, an angel warned Joseph and he took them to Egypt, where they stayed until it was safe for them to return to Nazareth.

## Concert Offer For Voice Readers

Readers of the *Catholic Voice* are being offered discounted tickets to help fill St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough, for a very special event. A Concert For Morag is the title of an evening of song to raise funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust on Friday March 13 at 7.30pm.

"The Teenage Cancer Trust were a great help to my eldest daughter, Morag," explained Morag's Dad and concert organiser Peter McTiernan.

"Morag's story hit the newspapers last September when my wife Mhairi and I completed the Great North Run on our 23rd wedding anniversary to raise funds for the charity. Now we want to fill the Cathedral to the brim to help give even more back for all that they've done for us."

Morag was diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 19 and has undergone a full mastectomy with reconstruction and radiotherapy. She will complete her degree at Sunderland University later this year. The concert features the Egglecliffe School Chamber Choir and the Teesside Apollo Male Voice Choir, both conducted by Clare Wills.

Tickets are £10 but Voice readers pay just £8 if they quote "Voice 8" when they buy. Please call 01642 821866 or email thornfield18@btinternet.com for tickets.



Morag McTiernan received great help from the Teenage Cancer Trust

## White Rabbit Visits Great Ayton

Tickets are now on sale for an imaginative and moving play with a Christian message to be performed at St Margaret's Church in Great Ayton. *White Rabbit*, by not-for-profit professional company RISE Theatre, is a tale of two people lost in a grown up world where there's no time for fairytales or childhood dreams.

Jenny can't stop – her fast-paced work spiralling out of control. Tom can't start – his life as an artist now at a complete standstill. Suddenly an unexpected encounter with a stranger sets them on a life-changing journey. Could this be the White Rabbit of their childhood? Experience for yourself the journey of hope and forgiveness in this imaginative and moving play.

Informed by a Christian ethos, RISE Theatre aim to create drama that provokes a response whether to entertain, challenge or inspire. Over the last eight years RISE Theatre has collaborated with a number of organisations both in the UK and internationally, by taking part in youth events, festivals, filming, stage work, and leading training workshops in schools, universities and youth centres.

Their international work has taken them to India, Philippines and America, collaborating with acting professionals, students, street children and young offenders. The performance is on Wednesday March 25, beginning at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 and can be reserved by emailing [boxoffice@khe.co.uk](mailto:boxoffice@khe.co.uk) Payment is also being taken at the door on the night.

# St Mary's Cathedral Lenten Station Masses

Each Friday in Lent at 12 noon  
Stations of the Cross from 11.15 am

**27 February:**

**Fr James Benfield**

**6 March:**

**Fr Peter Keeling**

**13 March:**

**Rt Rev Terence Patrick Drainey**

**20 March:**

**Mgr Gerard Dasey**

**27 March:**

**Mgr Gerard Robinson**



Followed by a 'Lenten Lunch' in the Cathedral Hall

Reconciliation Service  
Wednesday 1 April, 7 pm

There is a 7.15 am Mass  
for Workers each Friday



**All Welcome**

## Canon David Joins Charity Sleep-out

Canon David Grant will join charity fundraisers sleeping out all night in the historic churchyard of Bridlington's medieval priory to raise funds for the homeless on Friday March 13. The sponsored event has been organised by Safe and Secure Homes (SASH) in conjunction with the HINGE Centre, which helps disadvantaged people in the seaside town.

As well as raising money, organisers hope it will also give people who take the comforts of home for granted an insight into the plight of many young people in our country. Many of the churches in Bridlington are involved and several young people from Our Lady and St Peter's Church, as well as their Parish Priest, Canon Grant, are taking part.

SASH has organised several similar events throughout Yorkshire and those taking part will have access to hot drinks, toilets and a safe environment, carefully marshalled and monitored. Children from Our Lady and St Peter's Primary School are having a no uniform day to help boost funds.

Similar events are planned for Scarborough and York in March. If you would like to help or take part in the Bridlington event, contact SASH at [www.sash-uk.org.uk](http://www.sash-uk.org.uk) or by phone 01904 652043 or call the HINGE Centre on 01262 679671.

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# NEWS FROM ROME

## Showers For Homeless Open At Vatican

Three new showers and a small barber shop for homeless people have opened near St Peter's Square. The new facilities are located on the right side of the historic colonnades in the Square, near the papal apartments Pope Francis decided not to live in. Users will be given a change of underwear, soap and deodorant handed out by volunteers.

## Young People Have A 'Treasure Chest'

Pope Francis told a group of young people with disabilities that everyone is born with a treasure chest of gifts and talents they need to discover and share. Seven young people from around the world shared their stories with the Pope and asked him questions in a Google Hangout, a live online video chat. "You help us understand that life is a beautiful treasure that has meaning only if we share," Pope Francis said, before admitting he was a "disaster" with computers.

## New Guidance For Preachers

Archbishop Arthur Roche has presented new directives for the Church on the preaching of the homily in Mass. The Secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments quoted Pope Francis' encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium*, in which the Holy Father said that "the homily cannot be a form of entertainment like those presented by the media, yet it does need to give life and meaning to the celebration."

## Recent tweets from the Pope's Twitter account, @Pontifex...

*Jesus is not a figure from the past: he continues now and always to light the way for us.*

*Having faith does not mean having no difficulties, but having the strength to face them, knowing we are not alone.*

*We are all sinners. We are all called to a conversion of heart.*

*We who are Christians, members of God's family, are called to go out to the needy and to serve them.*

*The family is the greatest treasure of any country. Let us all work to protect and strengthen this, the cornerstone of society.*

## NEWS



Investing in People and Culture's cooking project

# Centre's Vital Work Continues To Grow

**Middlesbrough's John Paul Centre continues to enhance its reputation as a base for good works in the town with some important new developments.**

The Methodist Asylum Project (MAP) now has its office and Welcome Service in the basement, while Bini Araia's Investing in People and Culture charity is going from strength to strength.

MAP manager Ailsa Adamson said she was delighted and excited by her organisation's move to the popular Grange Road centre, which is home to the Redemptorist community.

"In this project we contact newly arriving asylum seekers and offer them help with orientation and information about Middlesbrough services," she said.

"It's very special to develop our work in a significant Catholic location and already feel so much at home.

"Every Thursday morning we hold a drop-in at the John Paul Centre, where people can come with individual queries and concerns. It's great being in such a central location close to other useful services that operate from the building.

"Our volunteers, many of whom are asylum seekers themselves, lead guided walks around the town centre to show key locations.

"We've also pulled together lots of information, particularly to do with the various journeys those seeking asylum have to make at different stages of the process."

The service has operated for two years and last year helped 183 individuals with tailored support, with around 1,200 visitors to its drop-in.

At the same time, Investing in People and Culture continues to expand its work at the John Paul Centre.

New developments include a Cultures Cooking Together project, which brings together small groups of people to cook and share skills and traditional recipes from around the world.

Bini said: "This project is reaching out to local communities with a healthy lifestyle agenda and creating an improved understanding of cost effective healthier food shopping."

There is also a Community Growing Project, which brings together diverse members of the community to learn and share gardening skills.

It is hoped that such activities will help improve the mental and physical health of migrant communities in Middlesbrough.

Middlesbrough Council has provided allotment space at Albert Park through the Middlesbrough Environment scheme and the Emerging Communities Project.

Bini is delighted the John Paul Centre facilities enable greater scope for more projects.

"The John Paul Centre is a great place to be and we know that all those we seek to help feel welcome and valued by Father Andrew, Father Michael and all the staff and volunteers from other charities working from the centre," he said.

"It's a great joy to work in such an inspiring place."

**John Hinman, Trustee of Investing in People and Culture and Methodist Asylum Project management group member**

# Catholic Women's League Highlights People Trafficking

**The plight of vulnerable trafficked people was highlighted at the Catholic Women's League's diocesan meeting at Our Lady's in Acomb, York. Samantha Baxendale from The Medaille Trust, which has strong links with the CWL, spoke about her organisation's work with people in that situation.**

A resolution about Human Trafficking was passed at the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO), of which the CWL was a founder member, at their four-yearly World Assembly in Fatima. The League was well represented at the assembly and Lilian Finch from our Diocese attended.

All member organisations are now aiming to help with a programme of work WUCWO hopes to be undertaken throughout the world. Work set out includes action within families, schools, churches and the community to raise awareness of trafficking and help prevent it.

The organisations will also try to...

\*Accompany and work for the recovery and the social

inclusion of the victims.

\*Denounce and act against the structures that reduce people to the status of objects.

\*Promote and demand the responsibility of states in relation to the practice of human trafficking with different concrete actions such as advocating for legislation that makes the purchase of sexual services a criminal act, especially children.

\*Provide assistance for victims of sexual violence in conflicts, who are often trafficked and fight the culture of indifference and impunity.

We are asked to be vigilant, report anything suspicious and pray.

\*The national president will attend the Catholic Women's League Diocesan Annual General Meeting on Saturday April 18 at Our Lady and St Peter's, Bridlington, beginning with Mass at 11.30am.

**Elizabeth Rodgers, Middlesbrough Branch President**

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**NEWS**

# Welcoming Strangers In Our Communities

Members of churches and faith groups across Teesside and beyond gathered at the Trinity Centre, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough, with the theme of "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

The purpose of the event was to learn and share about how we can work together to provide hospitality and welcome to people seeking sanctuary in the communities of Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool.

This event was a follow-up to the excellent one-day conference held in October 2014, "How can you and I welcome asylum seekers in our Church?"

On that day the energy had been palpable and there was a real desire to continue to meet and share and learn from each other so we can offer more effective support to members of our congregations who are seeking sanctuary.

There is also a great need to raise awareness and to counter much of the negative media reporting. This is particularly important in the run up to the General Election, with the political parties competing with each other to appear tough.

Our main speaker was Rose McCarthy, national streams co-ordinator for Cities of Sanctuary – a movement that seeks to build a culture of hospitality for people seeking sanctuary in the UK.

She encouraged us in our progress towards becoming "Tees Valley of Sanctuary", suggesting we could lead the way in developing a "Faith Stream" as part of this. The evening was also attended by the Right Reverend Paul Ferguson, Bishop Of Whitby, who joined us to offer his support.

To find out more about the City of Sanctuary movement and Streams of Sanctuary you can go to their website: [www.cityofsanctuary.org](http://www.cityofsanctuary.org)

Barbara Hungin

# Celebrating Our Schools



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# Focus On Poverty

Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies is holding a study day on Catholic Perspectives on Poverty at Ushaw College on Saturday March 21.

The event is hosted by the centre in association with The Newman Association and The National Board of Catholic Women.

It has been designed for clergy, laity and theology students and the speakers are Alison Gelder, from Housing Justice, Dr Mark Hayes, St Hilda Chair at Durham University, Dr Richard Finn OP, of Cambridge University, and Sister Helen Alford OP, from Angelicum.

The event begins at 10am and ends at 5.30pm and all are welcome but pre-booking is essential. The cost is £50 per person including a buffet lunch and refreshments or £40 per person without lunch (packed lunches can be brought and eaten in the refectory).

A limited number of concessions are available on request for students and those on low income. To book, or for further details, please contact Eddie Jarvis by email at [e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk) or call 0191 334 1656.

The Centre for Catholic Studies will host the 2015 Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture when Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Holy See Nigel Baker speaks on "The Challenge of Pope Francis: a diplomatic perspective."

The lecture is on Wednesday March 4 from 6pm to 7.15pm at Ushaw College and will be preceded at 5pm with a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Centre for Catholic Studies in St Cuthbert's Chapel.

The lecture will be followed by a reception from 7.30pm to 8.30pm to celebrate the publication of Treasures of Ushaw College.

Tickets are £3 for the lecture only and £10 for the lecture and reception. Send cheques payable to "Durham University, Centre for Catholic Studies" to Theresa Phillips, Dept of Theology and Religion, Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham DH1 3RS.

Durham University Catholic Chaplaincy are sponsoring some student lecture tickets. Contact Eddie Jarvis on [e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk) or call 0191 334 1656.

# Ged's Quick Quiz

## Connection question

1. Who is the main songwriter with the group Take That?
2. Which film star was married to Kim Basinger and starred with her in The Getaway?
3. Who is famous for assisting Bonnie Prince Charlie to escape dressed as her servant?
4. What was the name of the woman Arnold Schwarzenegger was sent back to kill in The Terminator?
5. Which Northern Ireland footballer was Middlesbrough goalkeeper from 1971 to 1983?

## Thinking cap question:

Which three Dustin Hoffman films contain the word "man" in the title (not including *Death of a Salesman* and *Who Killed Harry Kellerman*)?



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**LOURDES CORNER**

# Your Lourdes Stories...

Lourdes has had a profound impact on thousands of lives since the Middlesbrough Pilgrimage began in 1952. Each month some of those people tell their often deeply moving stories.

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.

Some were first heard at the Taizé service that has become part of our pilgrimage in recent years and are 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](mailto:thelombards@hotmail.com).

## From Helping To Helped

For many years I visited Lourdes as a brancardier and I enjoyed the role of helping the sick and assisted pilgrims. The friendships you make in Lourdes are built on the values you share, the camaraderie and the communion, which makes them such strong friendships. Lourdes is a timeless place – it almost feels as if you have not visited for three years, four years, ten years, but as soon as you come back time resumes and your friendships start again from where you left off.

The selflessness from all of the carers, both spiritually and physically, is one of these shared values. But more often than not you will find that the sick and assisted pilgrims give so much more. They give experience, wisdom and stories, and it is very emotional. I know it has helped me grow my faith.

Through the hardships in my life Lourdes has really carried me through and it is because of the friendships and experiences I've had that I am the person I am today. Last year I visited as a sick individual myself for the first time, and if I am honest I initially found it tough to change roles from being someone who assists to someone who is assisted. I



know at home I had found it quite difficult to accept help, often wanting to have my own independence and my lifestyle as I used to have it.

But one thing that I learned very early on in the Lourdes pilgrimage is that grace is a two-way street. In order to give grace it needs to be readily received from the individual, and that is something I have learned to do. In one Mass, at the anointing of the sick, I felt God's presence as I was being blessed by the Bishop. I realised I was in Lourdes for another purpose – to receive grace. God is offering help to me through his carers, volunteers, through the ministry of the priests and clergy and as a result is helping my healing process.

## Inspired By Our Older Pilgrims

In Lourdes there are little miracles we see every day. Not people dropping their crutches and walking, but the smiles from our supported pilgrims, the miracle of sharing in fellowship. I often like to think of Lourdes as a little taste of heaven in Earth because of the way people spend their time together, sharing what they have.

Lourdes is an experience of Christ in the sacraments and in the sanctuaries. But I often think I have also found Christ in the most special way socialising in the restaurants and bars, where we share our faith over a drink, we share food, we share stories, and we support each other in the faith, especially those who perhaps are going through a particular struggle in their life.

We visited Lac de Lourdes with around 65 supported pilgrims and enjoyed a meal together. The whole Diocese was together, having a sing-song and a bit of a party. We had some supported pilgrims who were in their 90s and some who were still in secondary school and it was lovely to see all the pilgrims sharing their faith. It gave us an opportunity to grow in faith and the older pilgrims offered much inspiration for the young people.



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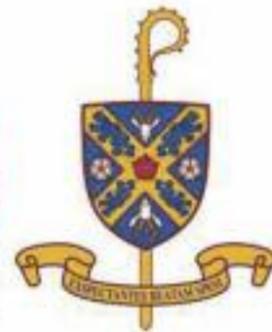
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# Catholic Voice Can Make A Difference

**In preparation for the General Election, members of Caritas Middlesbrough have put together a four-page special feature focusing on some of the issues that might help you choose who gets your vote...**

**The countdown to the General Election is on and people from a wide range of angles and points of view keep telling us it will be a very important one this time – as if all elections were not vitally important! It's certainly true that there are many conflicting views and competing priorities that may generate a more intense interest in the election process than has been the case for a number of years.**

Central to the issues that will dominate the speeches and articles that bombard us in the weeks before the election is the question of economic security. This central concern will underlie all that is said and proposed about such issues as equitable taxation, appropriate benefits, how we respond to those who seek a home or a refuge in our country and what is to be done about climate change.

In the mix of debate and discussion, one voice that has a significant contribution to make is that of Catholic Social Teaching, with its emphasis on the Common Good. What do you know about Catholic Social Teaching? How might you apply it to your own personal decisions about how to vote and how might you play a part in ensuring that it is heard amid the election clamour?

In the next four pages of this edition of Catholic Voice, members of the Caritas Diocese of Middlesbrough Core Group together with LIFE founder Professor Jack Scarisbrick offer their personal reflections on aspects of the ten key principles of Catholic Social Teaching. These are reflections by ordinary Catholic voters, who in a range of different ways give their time to the practical promotion of the Common Good. The reflections are intended to help stimulate your thoughts and give you some ideas for questions you might ask yourself and direct to those actively involved in campaigning ahead of the General Election.



One of Canon Derek's responsibilities as Episcopal Vicar for Christian Discipleship is to encourage the development of Caritas Middlesbrough throughout the Diocese. Caritas Middlesbrough is a part of CSAN (Caritas Social Action Network), the official agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales for domestic social action. The Caritas network works for the most vulnerable people of society, providing support for families and children, the elderly, the homeless, refugees, the disabled and prisoners. The national CSAN team assists this network, conducts policy and advocacy work and makes its voice heard at a national level. *At a General Election we are asked to think about the world we want to live in. As Catholics, we are called to speak up for the poorest and most vulnerable people at home and abroad. These pages have been designed to help us reflect and act on some pressing challenges we face, both in the UK and around the world. I hope you will embrace this opportunity to reflect, act and pray during this important time and we wish you every grace and blessing.*

**Canon Derek Turnham**



Successive Popes have guided Catholics in our duty to help further God's plan for creation by building a world founded on peace, love and justice. These words form the basis of Catholic Social Teaching. Throughout these pages you will see reference to the "Common Good". This can be summed up as seeking the benefit of all people as well as the individual (see *Gaudium et Spes*, one of the four papal decrees issued after the Second

Vatican Council). This means focusing on and seeking to serve others, not just our own interests.

As Catholics, we believe every individual is made in the image and the likeness of God, with inherent dignity and worth. Regardless of where they live, everyone has the right to a life free from poverty. We are called to put our faith into action for positive change and to challenge those in power to work for the Common Good.

The General Election offers a chance to speak out against injustice with a united voice. Here are four questions you might like to put to parliamentary candidates at a time when they want to hear what issues matter most to you.

**Bishop Terry Draine**

**Question: What will you do to make work pay?**

Finding and keeping a job should mean people can support themselves and their families. If their health and circumstances allow, everyone should be able to participate in a world of work where conditions are fair and wages are just.

Yet an estimated five million people in the UK are paid less than the Living Wage – based on the amount needed to earn to cover the basic costs of living – and half of all families living in poverty have an adult in work.

**Question: What will you do to guarantee access to a genuinely affordable home?**

More than one in three working parents in England have to cut back on buying food to be able to pay for their home. Many people are struggling to keep a warm and comfortable home or have no settled home at all. This is an issue of basic human dignity. For people to flourish they need stable, secure and affordable accommodation to call home.

"There must be made available to all...everything necessary for leading a life truly human, such as food, clothing and shelter." – *Gaudium et Spes*.

**Question: What will you do to speak out for the poorest and most vulnerable people around the world?**

The UK needs to be ambitious in tackling global poverty and challenging inequitable economic policies and practices that benefit powerful and wealthy people but further undermine those living in poverty. Seven out of ten people live in

countries where the gap between the rich and the poor is greater than it was 30 years ago.

"The need to resolve the structural causes of poverty cannot be delayed, not only for the pragmatic reason of its urgency for the good order of society, but because society needs to be cured of a sickness which is weakening and frustrating it." – Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

**Question: What will you do to make tackling climate change a priority and to prevent it pushing people deeper into poverty overseas?**

Climate change threatens lives and livelihoods everywhere. It hits the poorest first and hardest, even though they have done the least to cause it. Poverty and the impact of climate change are inextricably linked. Out of love for our sisters and brothers worldwide, we are called to respond. We must act now to prevent the world's temperature rising by irreversibly dangerous levels, pushing people deeper into poverty.

"Let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and the environment." – Pope Francis

**With thanks to CSAN and CAFOD**

## How Can I Ask An Election Question?

- When candidates or canvassers knock on your door
- In a letter to candidates sent to a local newspaper
- At a hustings meeting – for help with organising your own, visit [electoralcommission.org.uk](http://electoralcommission.org.uk)
- By calling a local radio phone-in show.

**Take notes on what they say and hold them to account if they get elected!**

**To find a list of candidates in your area, visit [aboutmyvote.co.uk](http://aboutmyvote.co.uk)**

## The Ten Principles Of Catholic Social Teaching

- 1 Human Dignity:** Belief in the inherent dignity of the human person is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching. Human life is sacred, and the dignity of the person is the starting point for a moral vision for society.
- 2 Common Good and Community:** The human person is both sacred and social. Human dignity can only be realised and protected in the context of relationships with the wider society.
- 3 The Option for the Poor and Vulnerable:** The moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members. The poor have the most urgent moral claim on the conscience of the nation.
- 4 Rights and Responsibilities:** Every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency – starting with food, shelter and clothing, employment,

health care, and education.

- 5 Role of Government and Subsidiarity:** The state has a positive moral function, to promote human dignity, protect human rights and build the common good. The functions of government should be performed at the lowest level possible.
- 6 Dignity Of Work And Rights Of Workers:** The economy must serve people, not the other way around. All workers have a right to productive work, decent and fair wages, and safe working conditions.
- 7 Stewardship of God's Creation:** The goods of the earth are gifts from God, intended for the benefit of everyone. How we treat the environment is a measure of our stewardship and a sign of our respect for the creator.
- 8 Promotion of Peace and Disarmament:** Catholic teaching

promotes peace as a positive concept, not merely an absence of war. Peace is the fruit of justice and is dependent upon right order among human beings.

- 9 Participation:** All people have a right to participate in the economic, political, and cultural life of society. It is wrong for a person or a group to be excluded unfairly or to be unable to participate in society.
- 10 Global Solidarity and Development:** We are one human family. Our responsibilities to each other cross national, racial, economic and ideological differences. Accumulating material goods will be unsatisfactory and debasing if there is no respect for moral, cultural and spiritual dimensions of the person

## Common Good And Community

### An Open Door To Those In Need

**Understanding of the term "Common Good" varies between different people and societies but in essence, all agree it is all about the general welfare of human beings.**

My interpretation is informed by the values and traditions of my faith. This includes the beautiful practice of loving your neighbour as yourself, feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and welcoming and offering sanctuary to strangers.

It includes social justice, social welfare, unity in diversity and respecting each other irrespective of faith, race and colour. It enables people to grow together as a stable society for the long term. We are all responsible for each other. We are happy to receive our share of society's resources but may be reluctant to contribute towards our community's growth. However, we flourish best when we stay and work together for a safe and healthy environment.

Teaching on the Common Good goes back to the earliest Christian times and has become a cornerstone of the Catholic Church.

"Do not live entirely isolated, having retreated into yourselves, as if you were already [fully] justified, but gather instead to seek together the common good." – Epistle of Barnabas

In my life, I am very privileged to be able to work with people in need. My job back home in Pakistan helped me put my faith into action while working for Caritas Pakistan Catholic Youth Ministry in the Archdiocese of Lahore.



I worked with young people from different social backgrounds and areas. We highlighted the importance of working and staying together and developed their social awareness and personal skills. We saw the difference in their needs and helped them understand their roles locally and in society. Many poor young people have to leave education and find work to support their families. This is

especially the case for young Christians, who turned to the church for help through Caritas. We provided them with opportunities that improved their job prospects.

Currently I am working for Princes Avenue Methodist Church in Hull with the "Open Doors" project, which welcomes and helps those who have applied for asylum and destitute people among refugees and migrant workers.

We provide social, moral and some financial help. More than 200 people come through our doors, from different religions and over 30 nationalities. We hold a weekly drop-in session offering refreshments prepared by volunteers and food parcels for those who need them.

We have also run activities including a voluntary interpreting and translation service, a befriending service, English lessons and a clothes bank.

Open Doors is a great example of promoting the Common Good in practice, working for the general benefit of society and for people of all faiths and background.

**Bashir Siraj, Open Doors Project coordinator, Hull**

## Promotion Of Peace

### Fighting For Peace



*"Blessed are the Peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God" – Matthew 5:9*

**In the words of Pope Francis, we need a "moral about face."** The whole world must summon the moral courage and technical means to say "no" to nuclear conflict; "no" to weapons of mass destruction; "no" to an arms race that robs the poor and the vulnerable and "no" to the moral danger of a nuclear age that places before humankind indefensible choices of constant terror or surrender.

Peacemaking is not an optional commitment. It is a requirement of our faith. We are called to be peacemakers, not by some movement of the

moment, but by our Lord Jesus. The content and context of our peacemaking is set not by some political agenda or ideological programme, but by the teaching of his Church.

We only have to put on the news to feel overwhelmed by the problems out there in the world. Yet as the hymn reminds us, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me", words that mirror the prayer of St Francis of Assisi, "Lord, make me an instrument of your peace."

So let's be inspired to make such a "moral about face" and take responsibility for the promotion of peace within our own lives, families and neighbourhoods. In my own direct personal experience, peace can be generated by a daily devotional prayer life and meditation. We then come to know God as Peace in the inner temple of silence, and by worshipping that Peace God therein, are by this relationship of divine communion his true children.

Having felt the nature of God as inner peace, we then want naturally to share this presence all around us like gentle ripples on a lake. Anyone who brings peace to an inharmonious family has established God there. Anyone who removes the misunderstanding between souls has united them in God's peace. Anyone who, forsaking national greed and selfishness, works to create peace amid warring nations is establishing God in the heart of those nations.

Just as man's power to make war is increasing, so must his ability to make peace. The best deterrent against the threat of war is brother and sisterhood, the realisation that as God's children we are one family. As Pope Francis reminds us in *Evangelii Gaudium*, "We must never forget that we are pilgrims journeying alongside one another".

Such a Christ-like way of living can banish human conflicts and the horror of war and bring about peace and understanding on earth; all prejudices and enmities must fall away. That is the challenge placed before those who would be God's peacemakers.

**Terry Doyle**

*\*Terry Doyle works for Depaul UK on the Positive Pathways Project based at the John Paul Centre Middlesbrough and is a Benedictine Oblate of the World Community For Christian Meditation.*

## Global Solidarity and Development

### Who Is My Neighbour?

**"Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far...it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the Common Good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all" – Pope John Paul II, Sollicitudo Rei Socialis**



Solidarity is one of the most mystical and deeply human founding concepts of the Church's social teaching. It is based on the belief that together we can make a difference and are much stronger. When we value fellow human beings we respect each other as unique individuals and can stand up for what is right for one another.

John came to England fleeing government forces that had already imprisoned and beaten him, leaving him with ongoing back problems. He was involved in the fight for democracy until it became life threatening for him to remain in his own country. Other family members had been killed. A relative paid an agent to bring him to England. He arrived speaking no English and was abandoned on Birmingham railway station with no passport or ID and knowing nothing about the asylum process. He was traumatised, hungry, isolated and afraid. He ran from the railway guard as, to him, uniforms meant imprisonment. He was finally directed to a local refugee centre, beginning a long battle involving several appeals before he was given permission to stay. For John, the experience of not being believed, having his integrity questioned, having a prolonged fight to establish his right to remain and facing deportation and destitution led him to describe being an asylum seeker as having "wrong person" as your second name. He was particularly distressed by irresponsible and negative media reporting.

The disciples on the Journey to Emmaus – like many who come to the UK to seek sanctuary – had had their lives turned upside down and their hopes dashed by the reality of life. Jesus "comes up to them" and "walks with them", listening to their story. Luke reminds us first of a ministry of welcome but also of a ministry of accompaniment. Solidarity looks upon interdependence as something good, positive and to be cherished.

**Barbara Hungin, Chair of Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission**

## Sanctity Of Life

### Questions To Ask Candidates



**The coming General Election is a golden opportunity for getting crucial moral issues into the public arena and helping people to think about them – perhaps for the first time. Could every parish have a small team of people who will put at least some of the following questions to all the**

**local candidates – and then publish them?**

\*Do you agree with Article 2 of the Human Rights Act 1998: "Everyone's right to life shall be protected by law"? If so, since unborn children are undoubtedly human beings, mustn't all abortion be unlawful? If not, why not?

\*Are you so completely democratic that you believe every human being should be equal before the law – regardless of age, gender, race, wealth, sexual orientation, size, etc? If so, are you opposed to all abortion? If you are not, why not?

\*Do you think special needs children deserve special protection and love? If so, isn't it hypocritical to allow disabled unborn children to be killed up to birth?

\*Don't parents of special needs children deserve special help? Isn't having a Zoe's Place better than killing special needs children before birth?

\*Tens of thousands of human beings are created in IVF clinics every year and thrown away because "surplus to requirements" or "substandard". Are you comfortable with this?

\*Are you opposed to "wrong sex" abortion – "gendercide"? If so, why? Isn't it ultimately because unborn girls are human beings? But aren't unborn boys human beings, too?

\*What do you think of GM (genetically modified) three-parent babies? Should human beings be manufactured like this in laboratories?

\*Don't old, sick and frail people need special protection and care? Shouldn't they be protected against losing hope, being made to feel unwanted or a burden?

\*Won't allowing assisted suicide make them ever more vulnerable?

\*Isn't respect for human life of fundamental importance – non-negotiable, an absolute? If so must we not all be absolutely pro-life?

**Professor Jack Scarisbrick, founder of LIFE**

## Dignity Of Work And Rights Of Workers

### Justice, With Or Without A Job



**As Christians, we believe our God is loving and creative and that each one of us is created in his image and likeness. Work is one of the ways in which we are called to exercise that same creativity. Yet for millions of people, having a reasonably paid and secure job is a pipedream.** Many in work feel insecure and are low paid and treated with little, if any, respect. They are merely objects to be used while the time is right and then discarded when no longer required. Those who cannot find work seem to be on the end of a relentless punishment of benefit sanctions and those in power seek to drive a wedge between the hardworking and the "shirkers".

High unemployment not only impacts upon the unemployed, their families and community, but also in some cases on those in work by lowering wages, making working conditions less safe, working longer and unsocial hours and creating the attitude that if the worker doesn't like things the way they are, there are plenty of people on the dole ready to take their place.

It's no accident that we live in one of the richest economies in the world yet we have seen a widening gap between the rich and the poor. For all their wealth, people don't seem to be any happier or more fulfilled, they just seem to develop an insatiable appetite for more money and consumer goods. Increasingly, employers are seeking the opportunity for an ever more flexible labour market by the introduction of zero-hours contracts.

In his 1980 encyclical *Laborem Exercens*, Pope Saint John Paul II stated that work is a good belonging to all people and must be made available to all who are capable of engaging in it. "Full employment" therefore remains a mandatory objective for every economic system oriented towards justice and the common good.

As we approach the General Election, maybe we could explore the following questions...

- How could we ensure that meaningful, secure and justly-paid work is available to all those who need it?
- What are the signs of a just society?
- Would I be prepared to work in an insecure and poorly paid job if that was all that was available to me? How do I think I would feel?
- Is it right that human beings are considered as consumer goods? What can we do to change this?
- How would I feel if I had to work in unhealthy and unsafe conditions for long hours and for little recompense?

**Deacon David Cross, CAFOD Middlesbrough**

## Role Of Government And Subsidiarity

### Governing For The Common Good

**We all have a right, indeed a duty, to participate in shaping a more just and human society, seeking together the Common Good and wellbeing of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.**

We all need to take an active role in the development of socio-economic, political and cultural life. That means being shapers of history, not just passive recipients of other people's decisions.

The United Kingdom is a parliamentary democracy and the government is voted into power by the people, to act in the interests of the people.

The government is in charge of managing the country and deciding how our taxes are spent. Led by the Prime Minister, the UK government is formed by the political party (or coalition of parties) with the greatest representation in the House of Commons.

The Prime Minister selects a team of MPs and members of the House of Lords to help run the country. All the other MPs and members of the House of Lords carry out the work of Parliament.

The government has responsibility for developing and implementing policy and for drafting laws. Parliament's role is to scrutinise the work of each government department.

The Government has a moral responsibility to regulate market forces for the Common Good. Soon we will be given the opportunity to play our part by electing a government for the next five years.

#### Putting your faith and values into practice

It's not easy deciding how you should vote. Perhaps we can reflect on the words of Pope Saint John XXIII, who offered this advice for putting Catholic Social Teaching into action...

1. Examine the concrete situation (See)
2. Evaluate it with respect to the principles (Judge)
3. Decide what should be done in the circumstances (Act)

Every adult – except those in categories currently excluded – has the right to vote. Use this vote wisely. Think about the changes that have occurred in recent years and focus on what is needed for the future of our society and for the Common Good of all, including the poor and vulnerable.

"As long as the problems of the poor are not radically resolved by rejecting the absolute autonomy of markets and financial speculation and by attacking the structural causes of inequality, no solution will be found for the world's problems or, for that matter, to any problems." – Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*

**Kathy Warrick, Middlesbrough Central Council President, St Vincent de Paul Society**

## Participation

### An Equal Role For Women

**Women make up at least half the churchgoing population. It's important that their views, opinions and ideas are fully included. The Bible tells us that God created males and females equal – yes equal – but different and complementary. As such they should have equal access to rights, resources, property, money and dignity.**



exacerbates social problems and denies women dignity and their voice. Often women living in poverty have fewer resources, less power and less influence in decision-making.

The dignity of women in this country is violated by the fact that an estimated 20,000 girls under the age of 15 have suffered

Female Genital Mutilation against their will. There are approximately 66,000 women living with the consequences of FGM in the UK today.

Women are the backbone of a country and society. Many women have been pioneers in health and education and it was women who helped sustain the country during the wars, working in munitions or as land girls to feed the population. Now women too often are seen as sources of amusement, being used, exploited and controlled.

A modern pioneer for the rights and dignity of women is Malala Yousafzai, who was shot for going to school and wanting to improve the lot of women in Pakistan.

There is truth in two much-quoted sayings, "Educate a woman and you educate a family" and "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world".

Deny participation of half the population and reap the rewards of impoverishment in all its forms.

**Christine Clarke, Chair of the Middlesbrough Diocese Women's Commission**

However, many women in this country witness anything but this. This equation nearly always includes families as well, women generally being the main carers. With the economic situation as it is and the availability of often only part-time jobs, as well as high male unemployment, families bear the brunt of the effects of poverty. This has been seen in the growth of food banks, loans, debts and the lack of affordable accommodation. Alongside this there has been an increase in domestic violence, trafficking, drug abuse, prostitution, pornography and in portraying women as second class citizens, chattels or possessions.

It's harder for women to get on the housing ladder, especially in our larger cities. Women are more likely to be poorer than the general population. Many have part-time work earning perhaps 40% less than men, while female pensioners' incomes are 40% lower than male pensioners.

The economic inequality denies basic rights,

## Rights And Responsibilities

### Playing Our Part

**Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities – to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.**

One of the first books I recall reading as a youth was *The Grapes of Wrath*, by John Steinbeck, which really sparked a willingness somewhere deep inside that I had a responsibility to do whatever I could to make sure the people around me were living in dignity because of their inherent worth as Children of God.

Indeed, Jesus showed the Way to lift people out of the margins and into the Light of his love and acceptance for who they were, no matter how the system of the time was judging them. It is said that we can judge how upstanding any society is by how it treats its most vulnerable individuals and maybe we haven't always got that right over the past few years of economic recession, especially with those most marginalised, for example the homeless, asylum seekers, refugees and the unemployed.

We all have a sphere of influence wherein we can make a positive difference and if we take our lead from Catholic Social Teaching to foster the Common Good and live out Gospel values, then and only then are we taking personal responsibility to play our part in building God's kingdom around us.

This takes courage to stand up and be counted when it's often easier to play small and ignore injustices perpetrated all around us. So let's ask ourselves if there is anything that we can do personally to make someone's life more dignified. And where better to start in our own families and neighbourhoods? As we grow in spiritual awareness we shall come to see, just as Jesus taught us, that everyone belongs to our family. So let's not turn a blind eye to some of the very real injustices we see every day on the news in the wider world.

**Terry Doyle**

\*If anyone is interested in helping the various projects reaching out to the hardest to reach in Middlesbrough, please contact Terry at the John Paul Centre on 07436103158 or email [terry.doyle@depauluk.org](mailto:terry.doyle@depauluk.org)

## Global Solidarity And Development

### Welcoming The Stranger

**Shortly after his election in 2013, Pope Francis made his way to the tiny Italian island of Lampedusa. He went to grieve for the hundreds of refugees who had drowned in the Mediterranean while attempting to reach Europe, to express solidarity with our suffering refugee brothers and sisters.**

Those who have fled war and repression, persecution for their faith, wrongful imprisonment and torture arrive on our shores too. In popular shorthand they are "asylum seekers". They live among us while they await a decision, their plight hidden from view. The government "disperses" people seeking



protection to places around the UK. Within our Diocese, Middlesbrough and Hull are dispersal cities. What welcome do these strangers in a strange land find? How can we show solidarity and friendship?

Amadou is from West Africa. Falsely accused of involvement in a political plot, he was imprisoned and tortured. He escaped to the UK but received poor advice while making his asylum claim and was refused. Once the legal process was exhausted he lost entitlement to support and became destitute and homeless, expected to return to his own country – but how could he return to certain arrest, imprisonment and mistreatment? He was offered accommodation through the Open Doors Project in a house belonging to the Catholic Church. He has submitted fresh evidence and awaits a decision. He misses his wife and worries for family members who live in a country affected by Ebola. Asylum claimants may not work; his English class is a lifeline, as is the friendship offered by Christians.

Awat came to the UK from Iraq, unaccompanied and after a hazardous journey, aged 16. He was placed in the care of the Young People's Support Service, living with a foster family in Hull and granted temporary permission to stay in the UK. At college he learned English, studied hard and made friends and was awarded a Student of the Year certificate. At 18, although he was provided with independent accommodation, he had to apply for Leave to Remain and was rejected more than once. This meant he was expected to return to Iraq. At 21 he lost all entitlement to housing and support. Through a friend he had been introduced to Open Doors and was drawn to Christian faith. He was helped to find legal representation (in another city, due to Legal Aid cuts) and submitted a fresh asylum application based on his faith. He could have requested Home Office "no choice" accommodation but feared being sent far from Hull, away from his friends and his church. After nearly a year "sofa surfing", he was offered a room through the Open Doors project in the same house as Amadou. He has waited nearly a year now for a decision from the Home Office. Denied the chance to work or study, his life is on hold.

**Tessa and Jim Norton, Diocesan representatives on the Bishops' Conference Office For Migration And Policy**

## The Option For The Poor And Vulnerable

### Putting Those In Need First



**In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgement (Matthew 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.**

The moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members.

The poor have the most urgent moral claim on the conscience of the nation. Public policy decisions affect the poor more severely, as they are vulnerable.

The option for the poor is an essential part of society's effort to achieve the Common Good. A healthy community can be achieved only if its members give special attention to those with special needs, those who are poor and those on the margins of society.

People in the UK are struggling because of rising prices and low incomes, compounded by welfare cuts, and some cannot afford to feed their families. Families have deteriorating health, sometimes not eating for days. Recent changes to the Legal Aid system have led to a rise in the number of people who have to represent themselves in court, and it is increasingly difficult for vulnerable people to fight for justice. Legal Aid is no longer available to most people in debt and on benefits or those involved in civil

family law disputes, or issues including immigration. Poverty is a multidimensional phenomenon encompassing a chronic lack of resources, capabilities, choices, security and power, all building on each other and creating disadvantage.

Eradicating extreme poverty requires tackling all these elements by improving access to housing, food, education, health services, water, sanitation and justice.

Justice is a fundamental human right. If the poor don't have access to a remedy when their rights have been violated, then their exclusion, powerlessness and deprivation become entrenched. The poor are exceptionally vulnerable to crime, abuse and exploitation. Poverty will only be defeated when the law works for everyone.

Pope Francis has expressed his views on the need for care for the poor and warned about the idolatry of money when he wrote in 2013...

"Some people continue to defend trickle-down theories, which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice and inclusiveness in the world. This opinion, which has never been confirmed by the facts, expresses a crude and naïve trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system."

**Kathy Warrick**

## Stewardship Of God's Creation

### Our Duty To Protect

**"God created them male and female and blessed them and said to them, 'Be stewards of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living creatures that move on earth...to you I give all the seed-bearing plants everywhere on the surface of the earth.'" – Genesis 1: 27-28**

I wonder how many of us see ourselves as stewards of creation. It's difficult to imagine ways in which we can have any influence on our local environment, let alone in the wider world, so how can we make this faith teaching our own and act on it?

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales give an indication here...

"God destined the earth and all it contains for all people and nations, so that all created things would be shared fairly by all humankind under the guidance of justice, tempered by charity." – The Church in the Modern World 69

CAFOD's recent Lent focus on Myanmar highlighted one woman's tragic experiences during and in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis and how, with the support given through donations to CAFOD, Kyin Nu and her community have been helped to rebuild their lives. But

more importantly, they have received help and training that will protect them from future cyclones.

A changing climate and increasingly extreme weather have the biggest impact on those who are least able to cope. We can help our sisters and brothers around the world to adapt to their impact now, as illustrated above, but there's more to be done on this issue.

Climate change threatens lives and livelihoods everywhere. It hit the poorest first and hardest, even though they have done the least to cause it. Poverty and the impact of climate change are inextricably linked. Out of love for our brothers and sisters worldwide, we are called to respond. Pope Francis said in 2013: "Let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and the environment." One way we can act is by supporting CAFOD's current One Climate One World campaign.

You could use the suggested questions ahead of this year's election with your local parliamentary candidate, or sign a campaign card, or attend the mass lobby of Parliament in London on June 17.

We can make a difference in other people's lives – if we take the opportunities that are given. Perhaps that is all we are called to do.

**Carol Cross, CAFOD Middlesbrough**

## Human Dignity

### Created In God's Image

**Catholic Social Teaching states that human beings are "created in the image and likeness of God" (Genesis 1:26-27) and have by their very existence an inherent value, worth and distinction. Every person from the moment of conception, to natural death has an inherent dignity, the right to life consistent with the dignity that is ours as human beings.**



Each and every person has value, is worthy of great respect and must be free from slavery, manipulation and exploitation. What happens when we view today's society through this lens? Consider this experience:

Mary is nearly 60 years old, a single woman with no living relatives. Ill health forced her to give up work a few years ago. While working, she duly paid tax and national income contributions. She volunteers every week at an asylum seeker project, an hour's walk from her home.

Mary endures the rigours of the benefits system, attending jobseeker interviews every two weeks, in which she has to demonstrate how many jobs she has applied for since her last interview. Once the officer is satisfied, her benefit is awarded. She is encouraged to conduct job searches using the internet but this proves hard without a computer of her own. When they're available she uses the facilities in the library, a good 20-minute walk away.

One day Mary was five minutes late for her appointment and was reduced to tears by Job Centre staff. This resulted in her being "sanctioned" and her benefit was

suspended for two weeks. She did not have any other income source. Also, the two-bedroomed flat that has been her home for 20 years became subject to the Bedroom Tax. She feels ashamed at needing to use the food bank once. Changes to the retirement age means she will have to wait until she is almost 66 before she can legally retire and bring an end to her situation.

This year sees the 50th anniversary of *Gaudium et Spes*, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World, which has these words as its opening Preface...

"The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the men (and women) of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts."

What echo does Mary's experience raise in your heart?

**Carol Cross**

**MUSIC NEWS**

**Cathedral's Summer Recital Series**

Visitors to St Mary's Cathedral in Middlesbrough can treat themselves to refreshments while enjoying a series of lunchtime recitals from some of the country's leading musicians this summer.

The Tuesday Lunchtime Recital Series take place each week starting on May 5 with the visit of renowned trumpeter Simon Desbruslais, accompanied by organist Clive Harries.

Simon Desbruslais came to international prominence with the first ever recording of Hertel's Third Trumpet Concerto on the natural trumpet. This was followed by new trumpet concertos from John McCabe, Robert Saxton and Deborah Pritchard, all recorded for Signum Classics.

Simon has given live broadcasts and recordings of contemporary British music for BBC1 and BBC Radio 4 to millions of listeners worldwide. For more information, visit [www.simondesbruslais.com](http://www.simondesbruslais.com)

The schedule also includes recitals from popular British classical guitarist Jonathan Richards and organists Peter Swift and Jack Thompson.

Recitals begin at 12.45pm each Tuesday. Admission is free, although voluntary donations are welcome, with a suggested minimum donation of £3.

For more information visit our Cathedral Music website at [www.sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic](http://www.sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic)

**Ladies Sing Vespers at Ushaw**

Members of our Diocesan Ladies' Schola Cantorum visited Ushaw College at the invitation of Monsignor John Marsland. In the magnificent chapel of this former seminary the ladies sang Choral Vespers to the delight of all present.

The presider was Bishop Seamus of Hexham and Newcastle and the Schola was conducted by Sue Black, with Tim Harrison at the organ. It is always a joy to sing at Ushaw with its beautiful architecture and fine acoustics and we look forward to future visits.

**Choirs Visit Cathedral**

Our Wednesday services of Benediction and Vespers at the Cathedral are always popular events and attract a regular following from churches across the region.

There is a rich variety of music, led alternately by our Ladies' Schola and Men's Schola.

On Wednesday 25 March at 6pm, the Feast of the Solemnity of the Annunciation, we will be

joined by the choir of Saint Nicholas' Parish Church, Guisborough, under conductor Richard Bendelow.

We recently welcomed the choir of Saint Chad's College, Durham, under conductor Michael Haynes.

The choir sang sublime choral settings of the hymns *O Salutaris Hostia* and *Tantum Ergo* and the motet *Ave Verum Corpus*. St Chad's chaplain Reverend Ashley Wilson's thought-provoking homily was perfectly pitched for the occasion. Our thanks to all who were involved in this beautiful service.

For a full list of choral music at the Cathedral, please visit our music website.

**Choral Stations At Mount Grace**

Chamber choir Vox Dicentis will accompany a procession along the Stations of the Cross at Osmotherley on Saturday March 28 at 2.30pm. The procession will end in the Lady Chapel, where the choir will sing movements from Bach's powerful Lenten motet *Jesu, Meine Freude*. This will be followed by a celebration of Mass. All are welcome.

**Tim Harrison, Director of Music**

**Vigil For Peace In Haxby**

Around 240 people took part in a 12-hour Vigil for Peace at St Margaret Clitherow's Parish in Haxby. The noon-to-midnight vigil was arranged as a response to atrocities in the Middle East and other areas of the world. Each hour had a different focus, with a lighted candle placed on a table in front of the altar as a reminder of that intention, followed by prayers, readings, reflective music and periods of silence.

During an hour focusing on children, young people from the parish carried a tree of peace featuring prayers and paper doves to the altar. Children also read bidding prayers for the Restoration of Peace and Justice. Another hour was devoted to the message of Our Lady of Fatima and the Stations of the Cross were said during an hour for those who inflict violence. CAFOD, Pax Christi and Aid To The Church In Need kindly provided prayers, readings and display materials.

**Miriam Sigston**

*Leeds Middlesbrough Hallam*



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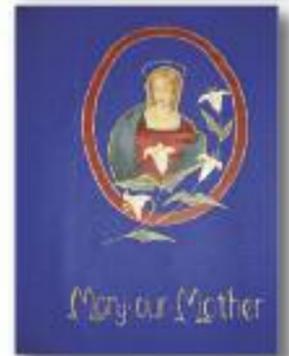
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**NEWS**

# Catenians Hear Appeal For Gospel Values

**Father Noel Wynn urged Christians to stay true to Gospel values in an ever-changing world during an impassioned speech at Middlesbrough Catenians' annual dinner.**

The former head of St Mary's College in the town broke with the usual convention of avoiding the subjects of religion and politics at the gathering, saying it was impossible to do so in the face of events such as the terrorist attacks in Paris.

"If we are afraid of offending or provoking we may sometimes not speak out when we should," he said. "I am sure we have looked at those graphic images on television and asked ourselves 'What is the world coming to?'"

"In the Catholic Church we have always had a healthy ability to laugh at ourselves. But this is very different from being deliberately offensive about deeply held religious beliefs.

"Freedom of speech does not give a licence to be deliberately offensive, particularly about sacred matters. And yet, when Pope Francis suggested that right-minded people would naturally react when their beliefs were attacked, our own Prime Minister thought it correct to publically disagree.

"None of us would believe that fundamentalism is the answer, but perhaps we could all learn something from Islam – the great respect its followers have for the sacred."

Father Wynn quoted a famous statesman who said the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing.

"I would suggest that the only solution lies with a return to Gospel values," he said. "As Catholics we believe God revealed himself to mankind by taking human form – the Word was made Flesh and dwelt

among us.

"Jesus told us that he came not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many. He told us we should love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us, and he told us that we should go to the ends of the Earth to proclaim the Good News.

"We have the answer to a peaceful world but we seem afraid to profess it. We should remember that Jesus Christ suffered and died to save the world. More than ever before the Catholic Church has a role to play in guiding the future of our society – and this means the Church in all its aspects."

Catenians at the dinner paid their respects to long-serving member Brother John Maloy, whose funeral took place at a packed Holy Name of Mary Church in Middlesbrough earlier this year.

John, who was known for encouraging as many people as he could to join the Catenians, was a former deputy head at St Michael's School and St Mary's College, both in Middlesbrough, and head teacher of Our Lady and St Bede's School in Stockton.



## Lent Soup Lunches In Thornaby

The people of Christ The King parish have issued an open invitation to a series of soup lunches every Friday in Lent in their parish hall. Soup will be served from noon to 2pm, with lunch on April 3 served after the 3pm Good Friday service. There is no charge but donations will go to support CAFOD's work in developing countries.

## Newman Circle Meets In Middlesbrough

All are welcome at the Cleveland Newman Circle's monthly meeting at St Mary's Cathedral Hall in Middlesbrough on Wednesday March 25. Barbara Hungin, chair of Middlesbrough Diocese's Justice & Peace Commission, will speak on the subject "Who is My Neighbour?" The talk begins at 7.45pm, with tea and coffee served from 7.30pm. For more details, please call 01642 645732 or email [tpj.egerton@virgin.net](mailto:tpj.egerton@virgin.net)

## Sea Talk For Women's Commission

Anne McLaren will speak about her work with the Apostleship of the Sea when the Middlesbrough Diocesan Women's Commission meets in York. The talk takes place at St Bede's Pastoral Centre on Saturday March 14 from 10.30am to 12.30pm. The Annual General Meeting will follow after a lunch break.



**An afternoon with Saint Teresa of Avila**

**York - Saturday 21 March 2015**

**2.30pm at St. Wilfrid's Catholic Church - Talk on Saint Teresa**  
by Professor Peter Tyler  
Professor of Pastoral Theology & Spirituality at St. Mary's University, Twickenham  
introduced by Rt. Rev. Terence Drainey, Bishop of Middlesbrough

**5.15pm at York Minster - Evensong in honour of Saint Teresa**  
by kind permission of the Dean & Chapter

All are welcome to either or both events  
free of charge, no registration necessary

Organised by the Carmelite Family in York and the 'Teresa 500' Group of the Carmelite Forum of Britain & Ireland to mark the 5<sup>th</sup> centenary of the birth of Saint Teresa

For further information please contact  
Mr. Johan Bergström-Allen Tel. 01904 411521 Email [projects@carmelites.org.uk](mailto:projects@carmelites.org.uk)






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**NEWS**

# A Journey To Remember

**Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel's Parish, Ormesby, in Middlesbrough, is keeping us in touch with his progress working as a lay missionary with Mill Hill Missionaries in Basankusu Diocese in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Here is his account of his arrival...**

I arrived safe and well in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Chasing paperwork for my long-term missionary visa and my new Congolese driving licence took a few days and direct flights to Basankusu, where I would be working as a missionary, were hit and miss. Eventually, I secured a flight to Mbandaka, the capital of Equateur Province, located on the River Congo. I would then be travelling the rest of the journey to Basankusu by an engine-powered canoe.

On the day of the flight half the major routes through Kinshasa were closed and we eventually made it to the airport with

only minutes to spare. But our relief was short-lived. We waited at the airport for four hours before being told that the flight had been cancelled. There was almost a riot. We travelled back in shared "taxis".

The flight was rescheduled for two days later and I finally arrived in Mbandaka after a one-hour journey. I stayed one night at a convent and the local Caritas group arranged for someone to cook a meal for me, while they also sent someone to help me buy bread, tinned sardines and water for the rest of my journey.

My trip along the River Congo began at 5am the following morning. I put my two suitcases and cabin bag, containing my computer, into what looked like a very flimsy canoe. Safety features, such as lights, lifejackets, didn't enter the equation. I was apprehensive, to say the least.

There were six of us on board, including the driver and navigator. The River Congo is one of the world's biggest rivers, 30 miles wide in places, with numerous islands. Luckily, we had perfect conditions on the river. The morning started out fairly cool and I needed to put on my full waterproofs to keep warm, but before long it was more than 30 degrees.

We passed lots of people who were out fishing in their canoes. Even the children know how to handle a boat and could be seen standing up to manoeuvre the canoe with a single paddle. As we entered the branch of the River Congo that would take us to Basankusu, a soldier stepped forward on the riverbank. He attempted to flag us down – our driver ignored him. The soldier had a gun, of course, and I thought it would be just my luck to get shot before I arrived!

A canoe was launched, one with a better outboard engine than ours, and within a few minutes the local authorities had come

alongside. They were annoyed that we hadn't stopped to declare ourselves – but after a few minutes became friendly and let us go. Being an obvious foreigner, I was probably the cause of their attention. Often, there can be "fees" or "taxes" to pay, but on this occasion they let us go without charge.

The first ten hours were tolerable. As night fell, the inability to sleep in any comfortable position became apparent to all on board. The two feet of leg room in front of my chair served as a bed, with my head on the wooden seat and my legs twisted various ways to fit into the space.

During the day, the landscape of rainforest reflected in the river's mirror was spectacular. At night, the stars were dazzling and the river was illuminated by the first quarter of the new moon – which on the equator sits on its back like a smiling mouth.

I arrived, exhausted, at 7am, after 25 hours cramped up in a canoe. I was met by Father John Kirwan MHM, who made me very welcome. I realised that if Basankusu was so difficult for me to get to, the



**A worried look!**

people who live here must also feel so very isolated. Goods arriving to be sold in the market are limited and produce from people's market gardens is difficult to send to be sold elsewhere. Once you are here, there is very little contact with the outside world.

You can read more of Francis' account in next month's *Catholic Voice*.



**Francis' view in the canoe**

## Ged's Quiz Answers

Quiz answers:

1. Gary Barlow
2. Alec Baldwin
3. Flora MacDonald
4. Sarah Connor
5. Jim Platt.

Connection:

Coronation Street families.

Thinking cap question:

Little Big Man, Marathon Man and Rain Man

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# Out & About around the Diocese

**BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH 2015**

- 2 Attending conference for Solicitors for Catholic Charities at Merchant Adventurer's Hall, York 9.30 am
- 3 Attending Ecumenical Study Day at St Andrew's Parish Conference Centre, Teesville 9.30 am
- 5 Attending meeting of Ushaw Trustees at Hinsley Hall 11.00 am
- 7 Attending Flame II event at Wembley Arena All day
- 10 Attending Bishop's Council meeting at Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11.00 am
- Attending Council of Priests meeting at Curial Office, Middlesbrough 2.00 pm
- 13 Celebrating Station Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 12 noon
- 15-20 Roman Seminars visitation
- 21 Attending special event for the anniversary of St Teresa of Avila in York All day
- 24 Celebrating Golden Jubilee of St Patrick's School, Thornaby with Mass at St Patrick's Church 9.30 am
- 25 Attending Diocesan Trustees meeting at Curial Office, Middlesbrough 10.30 am
- 26 Celebrating Requiem Mass for King Richard III at St Wilfrid's, York 7.00 pm
- 29 Celebrating the Mass of Palm Sunday at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 10.00 am
- 31 Celebrating Chrism Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 12 noon

**1 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](mailto: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

**3 Tuesday**  
**2.00 pm - 3.30 pm** 'Reflecting on Helen Luke's book Old Age' led by Rev Sheila Fletcher 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

**4 Wednesday**  
**6.00 pm - 7.45 pm** 'The Challenge of Pope Francis: A Diplomatic Perspective' - The Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture 2015, to be delivered by Nigel Baker, HM Ambassador to the Holy See, at Ushaw College, Durham. The lecture is preceded by a Mass of Thanksgiving at 5.00 pm and followed by a Drinks Reception and Launch of the 'Treasures of Ushaw' Volume between 7.30 pm and 8.30 pm. Cost £3.00 Lecture, £10.00 Lecture and Reception. Durham University Catholic Chaplaincy are sponsoring some student lecture tickets. A bus service to Ushaw is available, see [www.dur.ac.uk/greenspace/travel/public/bus/ushawcolle/](http://www.dur.ac.uk/greenspace/travel/public/bus/ushawcolle/) To book tickets, send a cheque payable to 'Durham University Centre for Catholic Studies' to Theresa Phillips, Dept of Theology and Religion, Abbey House, Palace Green, Durham, DH1 3RS. Contact Tel: 0191 334 1656 or E-mail: [e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk](mailto:e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk) 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) 479041 for further details

**5 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  
**2.00 pm - 4.00 pm** 'The Three That Go Together - a Look at the Synoptic Gospels: According to Matthew' led by Sr Patricia Harriss CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

**6 Friday**  
Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the April issue of Voice must be received by today  
**12 noon** Lenten Station Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, led by Fr Peter Keeling, to be followed by a 'Lenten Lunch' in the Cathedral Hall. Stations of the Cross from 11.15 am. All welcome

**12 noon - 2.00 pm** Soup Lunch hosted by the people of Christ the King RC Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby in Christ the King Hall. There is no charge but all donations will go to CAFOD. All welcome  
**7.00 pm** First Friday Life Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details  
**7.15 pm** Prepare for Easter with the 7 deadly sins? This Lent, the Our Lady's/English Martyrs Bible Group will be using the Framework of the '7 deadly sins' as part of its Lenten programme. Using passages of scripture the Group will be focusing on the corresponding 7 virtues. Sessions run weekly from 13 February in the Fr Kelly Room at Our Lady's from 7.15 pm. For more information, please contact: Marek Lichtarowicz, Tel: 0791 7671610 or (01904) 795605, E-mail: [olem.bible.group@gmail.com](mailto:olem.bible.group@gmail.com)

**6 - 8 Friday - Sunday**  
A Retreat for Expectant Parents led by Fr Kevin Hayden and Maaike Carter. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**7 Saturday**  
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](mailto:domfinn@mymission.org.uk) for further details and to book tickets  
**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. Concludes with Vigil Mass of Sunday at 4.00 pm. All welcome. Contact: Patricia Sammon, Tel: 07747 698553 or 0113 258 2745 or E-mail: [patriciamarysammon@btinternet.com](mailto:patriciamarysammon@btinternet.com) for further 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

**8 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  
**6.00 pm** Mass in the Malayalam language at St Joseph's Church, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. Contact Tel: (01642) 818203 for further details

**9 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

**10 Tuesday**  
**10.30 am - 3.30 pm** 'Listening to that Beyond - Listening to that Within' led by Barbara Windle and James McCarthy 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 Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull when Dr P Crispin will speak  
**2.00 pm - 4.00 pm** ASCENT Group, York West meet at Our Lady's Parish Centre in the Fr Kelly Room  
**7.00 pm** 'Energy, Climate Change and Poverty' - University of York Question Time event in Room P/X/001 in the University Conference Centre, York, YO10 5DD, organised by the students from the University's Catholic Society as part of CAFOD's One Climate, One World campaign. Event free, all welcome. Contact: [middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk](mailto:middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk) for further details  
**7.30 pm** The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at the Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

**11 Wednesday**  
**10.30 am** The ASCENT Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessele 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

**12 Thursday**  
**1.30 pm/2.00 pm** Victorian Tea at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Tickets: £9.00. Contact Tel: (01482) 342779 for further details  
**7.30 pm - 9.00 pm** 'Life in Christ' - an opportunity for young people to explore their faith and deepen their understanding at St Thomas More's Presbytery, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Contact: Fr Paul Farrer, E-mail: [frpaul@mymission.org.uk](mailto:frpaul@mymission.org.uk) for further details

**13 Friday**  
**12 noon** Lenten Station Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, led by Bishop Terence Patrick Draine, to be followed by a 'Lenten Lunch' in the Cathedral Hall. Stations of the Cross from 11.15 am. All welcome

**12 noon - 2.00 pm** Soup Lunch hosted by the people of Christ the King RC Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby in Christ the King Hall. There is no charge but all donations will go to CAFOD. All welcome  
**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  
**7.15 pm** Prepare for Easter with the 7 deadly sins? This Lent, the Our Lady's/English Martyrs Bible Group will be using the Framework of the '7 deadly sins' as part of its Lenten programme. Using passages of scripture the Group will be focusing on the corresponding 7 virtues. Sessions run weekly from 13 February in the Fr Kelly Room at Our Lady's from 7.15 pm. For more information, please contact: Marek Lichtarowicz, Tel: 0791 7671610 or (01904) 795605, E-mail: [olem.bible.group@gmail.com](mailto:olem.bible.group@gmail.com)  
**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** The Egglecliffe School Chamber Choir and the Teesside Apollo Male Voice Choir present An Evening of Song at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough in aid of the Teenage Cancer Trust. Tickets: £10.00 but Voice readers pay just £8.00 if they quote 'Voice 8' when they buy. Contact Tel: (01642) 821866 or E-mail: [thornfield18@btinternet.com](mailto:thornfield18@btinternet.com) for further details and to purchase tickets

**13 - 15 Friday - Sunday**  
'It is wonderful to be here' - a retreat led by Fr Kevin Hayden. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**14 Saturday**  
**10.30 am** Anne McLaren will speak about her work of the Apostleship of the Sea to the Diocesan Women's Commission at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, York. The Annual General Meeting will follow the lunch break

**14 - 15 Saturday - Sunday**  
MYMission Taster Weekend. Contact: Fr Paul Farrer, Tel: (01642) 825948 or E-mail: [frpaul@mymission.org.uk](mailto:frpaul@mymission.org.uk) for further details

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

**16 - 20 Monday - Friday**  
'The Inferno: A Guided Tour of Dante's Hell' - a retreat led by Fr Andrew McCaffrey. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**17 Tuesday**  
**2.00 pm - 3.30 pm** 'Reflecting on Helen Luke's book Old Age' led by Rev Sheila Fletcher at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details  
**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  
**7.30 pm** Sacred Heart Parish Irish Dance (Sean Kelly) at the Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough, TS5 6JB. Admission by ticket only, available from Eddie White, Tel: (01642) 860227

**18 Wednesday**  
**7.00 pm** 'Schools for One Nation' - Ebor Lecture in York Minster, York, to be delivered by Fiona Miller, Writer and Journalist. Visit [www.yorksja.ac.uk/eborlectures](http://www.yorksja.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@yorksja.ac.uk](mailto:eborlectures@yorksja.ac.uk) for further details

**19 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  
**2.00 pm - 4.00 pm** 'The Three That Go Together - a Look at the Synoptic Gospels: According to Luke' led by Sr Patricia Harriss CJ at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

**20 Friday**  
**12 noon** Lenten Station Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, led by Mgr Gerard Dasey, to be followed by a 'Lenten Lunch' in the Cathedral Hall. Stations of the Cross from 11.15 am. All welcome

**12 noon - 2.00 pm** Soup Lunch hosted by the people of Christ the King RC Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby in Christ the King Hall. There is no charge but all donations will go to CAFOD. All welcome

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

**7.15 pm** Prepare for Easter with the 7 deadly sins? This Lent, the Our Lady's/English Martyrs Bible Group will be using the Framework of the '7 deadly sins' as part of its Lenten programme. Using passages of scripture the Group will be focusing on the corresponding 7 virtues. Sessions run weekly from 13 February in the Fr Kelly Room at Our Lady's from 7.15 pm. For more information, please contact: Marek Lichtarowicz, Tel: 0791 7671610 or (01904) 795605, E-mail: olem.bible.group@gmail.com

**7.30 pm** Aquinas Reading Group in the upper room at St Wilfrid's, 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/>

**21 Saturday**  
**10.00 am - 5.30 pm** 'Catholic Perspectives on Poverty' - Study Day at Ushaw College, Durham, hosted by the Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies in association with The Newham Association and The National Board of Catholic Women. Cost: £50.00 per person including a buffet lunch and refreshments or £40.00 per person without lunch (packed lunches can be brought and eaten in the refectory). A limited number of concessions available on request for students and those on low income. All welcome but pre-booking is essential. Contact: Eddie Jarvis, Tel: 0191 334 1656 or E-mail: e.t.jarvis@durham.ac.uk for further details and to book a place

**2.30 pm** An afternoon with St Teresa of Avila to mark the 5th centenary of the birth of St Teresa: Talk on St Teresa at St Wilfrid's RC Church, York, given by Prof Peter Tyler, Professor of Pastoral Theology & Spirituality at St Mary's University, Twickenham, introduced by Bishop Terence Patrick Draine. All welcome, event free of charge (no registration necessary). Contact: Mr Johan Bergström-Allen, Tel: (01904) 411521 or E-mail: projects@carmelites.org.uk for further details

**5.15 pm** Evensong in honour of St Teresa at York Minster by kind permission of the Dean & Chapter. All welcome, event free of charge (no registration necessary). Contact: Mr Johan Bergström-Allen, Tel: (01904) 411521 or E-mail: projects@carmelites.org.uk for further details

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

**22 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 Mass in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

**24 Tuesday**  
 Join CAFOD Middlesbrough at the Endsleigh Centre, Beverley Road, Hull to commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero. Mass will be celebrated by Rev Antony Lester O'Carroll, from the Romero Trust, and a showing of the film 'Romero' will follow. Refreshments will be served and all are most welcome. Contact Tel: (01904) 671767 for further details including timings

**25 Wednesday**  
**10.30 am - 3.30 pm** 'Julian a Mystic for our Times' led by Rev Gwynne Wright St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

**12.45 pm - 3.00 pm** ASCENT Group, York Central meets at St Wilfrid's, York in the Upper Room after the 12.10 pm Mass

**6.00 pm** Benediction and Vespers at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough at which the choir of St Nicholas Parish Church, Guisborough will lead the music. All welcome

**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

**7.30 pm** 'White Rabbit', an imaginative and moving play with a Christian ethos performed by RISE Theatre at St Margaret's RC Church, Great Ayton. Tickets: £5.00 which can be reserved by e-mailing boxoffice@khe.co.uk Payment is also being taken on the door on the night

**7.30 pm for 7.45 pm** The Cleveland Newman Circle presents a Talk by Barbara Hungin, Chair of the Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission, entitled 'Who is my neighbour?' in the Cathedral Hall, St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. Coffee/tea at 7.30 pm. Contact Tel: (01642) 645732 or E-mail: tpj.egerton@virgin.net for further details. All are welcome

**26 Thursday**  
**7.30 pm - 9.00 pm** 'Life in Christ' - an opportunity for young people to explore their faith and deepen their understanding at St Thomas More's Presbytery, Kirkham Row, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Contact: Fr Paul Farrer, E-mail: frpaul@mymission.org.uk for further details

**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

**27 Friday**  
**12 noon** Lenten Station Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, led by Mgr Gerard Robinson, to be followed by a 'Lenten Lunch' in the Cathedral Hall. Stations of the Cross from 11.15 am. All welcome

**12 noon - 2.00 pm** Soup Lunch hosted by the people of Christ the King RC Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby in Christ the King Hall. There is no charge but all donations will go to CAFOD. All welcome

**7.00 pm** Medjugorje Prayer Group meets at The Endsleigh Pastoral Centre, Beverley Road, Hull. Everyone welcome. Contact: Pat, Tel: (01482) 802483 for further details

**7.15 pm** Prepare for Easter with the 7 deadly sins? This Lent, the Our Lady's/English Martyrs Bible Group will be using the Framework of the '7 deadly sins' as part of its Lenten programme. Using passages of scripture the Group will be focusing on the corresponding 7 virtues. Sessions run weekly from 13 February in the Fr Kelly Room at Our Lady's from 7.15 pm. For more information, please contact: Marek Lichtarowicz, Tel: 0791 7671610 or (01904) 795605, E-mail: olem.bible.group@gmail.com

**27 - 29 Friday - Sunday**  
 'The Gospel of Mark' - a retreat led by Fr Henry Wansbrough. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**28 Saturday**  
**2.30 pm** The Chamber Choir 'Vox Dicentis' will accompany a procession along the Stations of the Cross at Osmotherley. The procession will end at the Lady Chapel where the choir will sing movements from Bach's Lenten motet 'Jesu, Meine Freude'. This will be followed by a celebration of Mass. All welcome

**29 Sunday**  
 April issue of Catholic Voice available  
**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 Mass and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF

**FIRST WEEK OF APRIL:**  
**1 Wednesday**  
**7.00 pm** Reconciliation Service at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. All welcome

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

**2 - 6 Thursday - Monday**  
 'The Easter Triduum: a Celebration of Easter at Ampleforth' - join the Ampleforth Community for Easter Conferences and the celebration of the Triduum liturgies. Early booking is recommended. There is no fixed charge for the Triduum Retreat, but all donations which may help to defray costs would be gratefully received. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766486 for further details and to request a booking form

**3 Friday**  
 Soup Lunch hosted by the people of Christ the King RC Church, Trenchard Avenue, Thornaby in Christ the King Hall will be served after the Good Friday Service at 3.00 pm. There is no charge but donations will go to CAFOD. All welcome

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 pm - 9.00 pm Christian Meditation

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

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**200+ CLUB DRAW**  
**Date of Draw - 2nd February 2015**

£100	Winning No	71
£60	Winning No	108
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Next Meeting and Monthly Draw  
 Monday 2nd March 2015  
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**ADVANCE NOTICES:**

**18 April:** 11.30 am, The Catholic Women's League Diocesan Annual General Meeting will be held at Our Lady and St Peter's, Bridlington commencing with Mass. The National President will be attending

**5 May:** 12.45 pm, Tuesday Lunchtime Summer Recital Series at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, with trumpeter Simon Debrulais accompanied by organist Clive Harries. Admission is free, voluntary donations welcome (suggested minimum donation £3.00). Visit the Cathedral Music website <https://sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic> for further details

**10 May:** 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

**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

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Copy and photographs for inclusion in the Catholic Voice should be sent to:  
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**By Friday March 6 2015 for the April issue and Thursday April 2 2015 for the May issue (please note the earlier date)**

**JOHN PAUL CENTRE**  
**200+ CLUB DRAW**  
**Date of Draw - 2nd February 2015**

£100	Winning No	71
£60	Winning No	108
£40	Winning No	105

Next Meeting and Monthly Draw  
 Monday 2nd March 2015  
 NEW MEMBERS WELCOME  
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NEWS

# St Andrew's Oldest Parishioner Dies

The oldest parishioner of St Andrew's parish in Teesville, Sarah McLoughlin, has passed away peacefully aged 105. Sarah died four months after celebrating her 105th birthday with her family and friends at Briarwood Nursing Home, South Bank, where she has lived for the past 11 years.

Sarah never lost her faith and was visited by a Eucharistic Minister every week in the care home. She is thought to have been the oldest Irish person living in Britain. Sarah was born in Carragarew, County Galway, on September 11, 1909, three years before the ill-fated Titanic hit an iceberg and sank.

She was one of 12 children, although one died in infancy. The family lived in a three-roomed thatched cottage. Sarah was educated at the village school but when she reached the age of 15 had to leave her education behind because of lack of money. She loved music and dancing and would think nothing of cycling 30 miles to and from a dance in the dark.

When Sarah was in her early 20s she moved to London and lived in with relatives. She started work as a housemaid and eventually became a housekeeper and receptionist to a Doctor Yow, an eye specialist in Harrow, and became a lifelong family friend.

Sarah married Harry McLoughlin, who shared her love of music and dancing, in 1938. During the war they moved from London to Reading. Sarah worked in an ammunition factory before moving to Huntley and Palmers biscuit factory, while Harry worked for Robert McAlpine building and repairing military airfields.

After the war they had spells living in Reading, Wales and Dundee, moving wherever Harry's work took him. In 1947 the family moved to live in Vaughan Street, Grangetown. Eventually they settled in Lime Road, Normanby, where Sarah stayed until she was unable to take care of herself and moved into the care home.



Sarah with her sons Vincent, right, and Bernard holding the telegram she received from the Queen when she celebrated her 100th birthday

Born during the reign of King Edward VII, she has outlived five monarchs. Sarah lived through both World Wars. She was five when Britain declared war on Germany on August 4 1914 and 30 at the outbreak of the Second World War.

During her lifetime Sarah witnessed changes including women voting in a General Election for the first time on December 14 1918, the General Strike of 1926, the formation of the BBC in 1930, the twin tub and automatic washing machines of the 1950s, the space race of

the 1960s culminating with the moon landing in 1969, through to today's modern age of the internet.

Sarah's Requiem Mass was celebrated in St Andrew's on Thursday January 29.

Paul Terry

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