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## Bishop's Column

From the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8 2015, until the Feast of Christ the King, November 20 2016, our Holy Father Pope Francis has declared an Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy.

In so many ways, and running through all that he says, Pope Francis has been teaching us that Mercy is the ultimate word of the Father expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is central to all revelation and the key to understanding God's unimaginable message to humankind.

*Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to a hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness. (Letter proclaiming the Extraordinary Holy Year of Mercy, Misericordiae Vultus, #2)*

However, God's mercy shown to, offered to, and received by each of us is a dynamic process. Like all love, it will change us, challenge us, and convert us. Experiencing mercy urges us on to be agents of mercy ourselves. Holding on to God's mercy and not passing it on will destroy it and turn it into self-indulgence.

The Evangelist reminds us of the teaching of Jesus who says, "Be merciful just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6:36). It is a programme of life as demanding as it is rich with joy and peace. In order to be capable of mercy, therefore, we must first of all dispose ourselves to listen to the Word of God.

**Continued on page 2**

# Living Joyfully Draws The Crowds

**WELL OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE CONVERGED ON THE CATHEDRAL FOR LIVING JOYFULLY, A TWO-DAY CELEBRATION OF THE CONSECRATED LIFE. WE LOOK BACK ON A MEMORABLE EVENT FOR OUR DIOCESE...**

**Celebrating the Year of Consecrated life is a tall order. Even those who live consecrated religious lives agree.**

However, Pope Francis asked the whole Church to celebrate, looking to, "the past with gratitude, living the present with enthusiasm and entering the future with confidence."

For two days we did just that and it was a wonderful experience. Around 1,300 young people from across the diocese were joined by 400 people from our diocesan parishes as we celebrated and learned together.

One hundred of the 180 people living consecrated religious lives in the diocese came together in the cathedral, which had been specially prepared with a display and flower festival for the occasion.

As well as celebrating every order in the diocese, the event saw a huge collaboration between the Salesians of Don Bosco and Rise Theatre, honouring St Don Bosco.

Co-ordinated by the MYMission Team, *Living Joyfully* brought together young people, those living consecrated religious lives and huge teams of volunteers including diocesan priests, the cathedral hospitality teams, the Catechist Association and the Knights of St Columba.

Bishop Terry celebrated Mass in thanksgiving for the ministry of all those living consecrated lives. The Liturgy of the Hours was the backbone of the event and a time of adoration ended days full of activity.



Sister Ann Dodd, a Carmelite of Thicket Priory, said: "Many thanks from all your Carmelite Sisters at Thicket Priory. *Living Joyfully* was a wonderful occasion that put the icing on the cake for this year of celebration and thanksgiving for our call to the Consecrated Life.

"On behalf of Mother Mary of Carmel and all the Community, may I say how much we have appreciated the contacts we have had over the last year and to experience being part of the local Church in this way and seeing how all the different parts fit together."

**Continued on page 2**

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**NEWS**

**Bishop's Column**

**Continued from front page**

This means rediscovering the value of silence in order to meditate on the Word that comes to us. In this way, it will be possible to contemplate God's mercy and adopt it as our lifestyle. (*Misericordiae Vultus, #13*)

The motto for this Holy Year is "Merciful like the Father". No doubt there will be many events and celebrations at the parish, diocesan, national and international level, but if this motto is not engraved on our hearts and lived out in our lives, they will be of no use whatsoever! Rather, may it be truly a year of mercy for each of us and may we learn through mercy to become agents of God's mercy to all our brothers and sisters.

- There will be Mass at the Cathedral on Tuesday December 8 at 7pm to begin the Holy Year of Mercy and then the Holy Door at our Cathedral will be blessed and opened at the 5pm. Mass on Sunday December 13. It is hoped that by scheduling the Mass at this time many people, lay-faithful and clergy will be able to attend.

**CAUSE Hamper Campaign**

**Catholics Against Unemployment And Social Evils (CAUSE) would like to remind all its kind donors that the time has come to launch its annual appeal to provide Christmas hampers for needy families.**

The recession has caused unemployment to rise and CAUSE expect requests for help to increase accordingly. If you can spare just a little, it will go a long way and be greatly appreciated.

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

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

**Living Joyfully Draws The Crowds**

**Continued from front page**



Cheryl Ann Smith, of the Madonna House Community, said: "My favourite part of the two days was getting to know beautiful new friends – all the consecrated men and women and those working behind the scenes in so many ways.

"It was a glorious experience of the vitality and beauty of our Church. I hope the young

people caught a spark from this fire and I pray we were all ignited again with gratitude and love for our vocations."

Sister Josephine Parkinson OSB, of Stanbrook Abbey at Wass, said: "It was a truly grace-filled couple of days. I speak for us all here when I say thank you to all who made it possible and the many hours that went on behind the

scenes. It was a Celebration of Consecrated Life, but I think, too, it was a celebration of the diocese and the many ways God is served and praised. We are richly blessed!"

- A specially produced brochure is available from the MYMission Team for £3 plus P&P. Please email [frpaul@mymission.org.uk](mailto:frpaul@mymission.org.uk) for details.



Young visitors get a sneak preview of the new exhibition at the Bar Convent

**Hotel Inspector Opens Heritage Centre**

**York's newest tourist attraction, the Bar Convent Living Heritage Centre was due to be officially opened by TV's Hotel Inspector at the end of October.**

Alex Polizzi, who is a great supporter of what is England's oldest living convent, agreed to attend the event and unveil the results of a £2m redevelopment project.

Her visit marked the culmination of months of building and refurbishment work which has included a million-pound exhibition to give the landmark building on Blossom Street a new lease of life.

The Bar Convent is an architectural gem, comprising Grade 1 listed 18th Century buildings including an exquisite "hidden" chapel, complete with priest hole. The convent has witnessed some turbulent and violent periods in English history. It was founded in 1686 as a

school for Catholic girls. It's been attacked by mobs, housed Bosnian refugees and has even been bombed by the Luftwaffe.

One of the key figures in its formation was Sister Mary Ward, a radical, Yorkshire-born pioneer of girls' education across Europe.

The Living Heritage Project has seen the creation of a state-of-the-art exhibition over two floors telling the remarkable stories of Mary Ward and The Bar Convent, improved visitor facilities and access around the building, upgrades to the 20-bedroom Guest House and better conferencing facilities.

Funds have been raised entirely through generous donations from organisations and individuals and the Congregation of Jesus in the UK and worldwide.

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## NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

# Pope: Church Must Be A 'Field Hospital'

**Pope Francis opened the Ordinary Synod on the Family by suggesting the Church should defend its fundamental values but remain a "field hospital" for all those who suffer.**

During the opening Mass at St Peter's Basilica, the Holy Father said the Church must carry out her mission without pointing a finger in judgement of others.

"[The Church must be] faithful to her nature as a mother," he said. "Conscious of her duty to seek out and care for hurting couples with the balm of

acceptance and mercy.

"A field hospital with doors wide open to whoever knocks in search of help and support; to reach out to others with true love.

"To walk with our fellow men and women who suffer, to include them and guide them to the wellspring of salvation."

Pope Francis concluded his address by praying for the Lord's continued guidance as the Synod progressed.



Pope Francis at the Themes of Family opening sessions – Photo courtesy Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk ©



Cardinal Nichols at the opening Mass of the Synod of Bishops – Photo courtesy Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk ©

## Encountering God In The Family

**Cardinal Vincent Nichols has described the family as a place where God's grace and our human nature meet creatively.**

Speaking at the start of the Synod of Bishops on the Family in the Vatican, Cardinal Nichols said: "What appears to me very important, and I hope it's something we can sustain, is to have a positive view of the family – not to see the family as a focus of problems but to see the family as a place where God's grace is at work.

"In the responses that we've received from people throughout England and Wales, the most consistent, underlying voice was that family is the most important thing in people's lives. Family is what they care for and what they put their lifeblood and love into – despite all the difficulties.

"If we just talk about difficulties, we're missing the main point – that the family is where God's grace and our human nature meet creatively and produce good human qualities and an openness to God when things go right."

Cardinal Nichols, who was elected moderator of his English language group, was one of two bishop delegates attending from England and Wales, along with Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton and Chair of the Bishops' Committee on Marriage and Family Life.



## Pope Greets Teams Of Our Lady

**Pope Francis welcomed more than 150 couples from worldwide movement for Christian married couples *Equipes Notre-Dame* – known in the UK as Teams of Our Lady – to the Vatican.**

The Holy Father expressed his joy at meeting leaders, spiritual counsellors and regional couples from around the world, just a short time before the Synod of Bishops met to reflect on the lives of families threatened in these difficult times.

He suggested all couples put into practice and live the spirituality followed by Teams of Our Lady.

Pope Francis stressed the mutual fruitfulness of the monthly Teams' meeting and thanked couples for being a support and encouragement to the ministry of the priests, who find joy and friendship in their contact with couples and their families.

He invited Teams to help support the faith of young couples before and after their marriages and exhorted them to be close to wounded families and instruments of Christ's mercy to those whose marriages have failed.

The Holy Father referred to the cause of beatification for Teams founder, Father Henri Caffarel, which has arrived in Rome, and prayed that the Holy Spirit will aid the Church in her judgement on the issue.

For more information on Teams, please visit [www.teamsgb.org.uk](http://www.teamsgb.org.uk)

## 'Francis Factor' Boosts US Church

**Research in the United States suggests a surge in goodwill towards the Catholic Church after the Pope's recent visit.**

According to a Pew Research Center survey, Pope Francis has generated a positive reaction across the political spectrum.

Over a quarter of adults have a more positive view of the Church because of Pope Francis. Liberals, moderates and Democrats are especially likely to say Francis has given them a more positive view of the Church.

Around two-thirds of non-Catholics expressed a favourable view of the Holy Father.

## Leaders Praised For Prison Focus

**Prime Minister David Cameron and Justice Secretary Michael Gove have been commended for focusing on prison reform in their speeches at the Conservative Party Conference.**

Bishop Richard Moth, Bishop for Prisons for the Catholic Church in England and Wales, said: "It is extremely encouraging to hear the Prime Minister and Justice Secretary placing such a strong emphasis on the need to make our prisons places of rehabilitation, reform and redemption.

"Prisons are an integral part of our criminal justice system, but far too many men and women spend whole days locked in their cells without anywhere near enough access to education, training, chaplaincy, restorative justice programmes or the other opportunities necessary to turn their lives around.

"I am in no doubt about the scale of challenges facing us but am looking forward to working with the government as together we seek to improve our prisons for the common good of all our society."

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NEWS

# The Hand Of Mercy

In the latest of our articles in preparation for the forthcoming Year of Mercy, which begins on December 8, CHERYL ANN SMITH, of the Madonna House community in Robin Hood's Bay, reflects on a personal experience...

It began with a poster welcoming me home from an annual meeting in Canada. My sisters in our Madonna House in England usually decorate this poster with my favorite images – butterflies, birds, musical notation.

But for something different this year, Christine reached into a rarely-opened file and pulled out a photograph of a little girl clasping her mother's hand and pressing it to her face. On the back of the photo was the story: the photographer had seen this little girl at a party. She was obviously anxious with all the unknown people surrounding her, and so she clung to her mother's hand for security and comfort.

This image took my breath away. The little girl looked like me and was dressed as I had been at that age. Her worried face expressed what I often felt: the world seemed frightening and overwhelming and I was not equipped to deal with it. I had not known how to reach for reassurance.

After a few days, the welcome home poster needed to be dismantled, but I wasn't finished with the photograph. In fact, it is still on my wall. That little girl is within me (as she is within all of us) and has more to teach about clasping the hand of protection. In the photograph, she was clinging to the familiar scent and texture of her mother's hand, and drawing strength from the press of her fingers.

Although anxiety was still evident in her face, the fear was giving way to peace in her mother's love. In this still, all that can be seen is this exchange – everything else is shrouded in darkness. How astonishing: before my eyes, darkness was turning to light.

And this light was cast on a Scripture passage I've always struggled with...

*My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness...For it is when I am weak that I am strong* (2 Corinthians 12:9-10).

My interior weakness has never been a friend: I've tried to ignore it or conquer it, but never embrace it. And yet this little girl was showing me a profound truth: by acknowledging our fear, doubt, anxiety, weakness in any form, and by acknowledging our need and calling on the protecting, saving, strengthening hand of God, our darkness turns into joy and grace. Perhaps we could add to the Beatitudes: *Blessed are those who fear; they shall be strengthened.*

A few nights after this revelation, I had a magnificent dream which illuminated this mystery in another way. A huge black cloud filled the sky, and a large group of us huddled together in its shadow. Suddenly, we realised the cloud was composed of little black birds, and it was actually the protecting hand of God, shielding us from harm.

At that moment, the birds broke formation and began singing, dancing, swooping with grace and beauty. What had seemed dark and foreboding was in fact the shelter of His wings, which shimmered with glory. Someone put this scene into music and another choreographed it, and soon we were all singing, playing instruments, dancing with joy and abandon, reliving the saving power of God, the hand upon the cheek.

We've all had the experience of storm clouds gathering in force and intensity in our lives. Fears, doubt, dread build and obscure any sight of God. Disaster threatens to break out all around us, and sometimes the worst does happen. As we cry out, a shaft of light pierces the darkness, warming our face like the touch of His hand. We don't always sense it, but He is always present. I wonder if we become more attuned, like the little girl, the more we call for help?

We will soon enter the Year of Mercy, and I sense this can be a true year of favour from the Lord if we pull on that hand. Many of us are so cowed by our accumulated sins, guilt and shame, that we dare not look up to heaven and plead for mercy. Yet if we, like the publican (Luke 18), the prodigal son (Luke 15), the sinner woman (Luke 7), dare to beg for forgiveness, it will be given and our joy restored.

Many of us are filled with dread and foreboding at the unleashing of death, destruction and terror over so much of the world. Unspeakable barbarism, evil, hatred threaten to blot out the light. We can do nothing to stop it. Yet our greatest work is to believe and trust in God's mercy, to pull His hand to our cheek and to the face of the earth.

Perhaps I should create a poster for the Year of Mercy, and have my little girl at the centre: we are little and afraid, but God is great and merciful. We are sinful and weak, but God is forgiving and tender. We are overwhelmed by the dark clouds in our world, but God can change them into light and grace, *for neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord* (Romans 8:38-9). We just need to reach for that hand.

## SAINT OF THE MONTH

St Martin of Tours  
Wednesday November 11

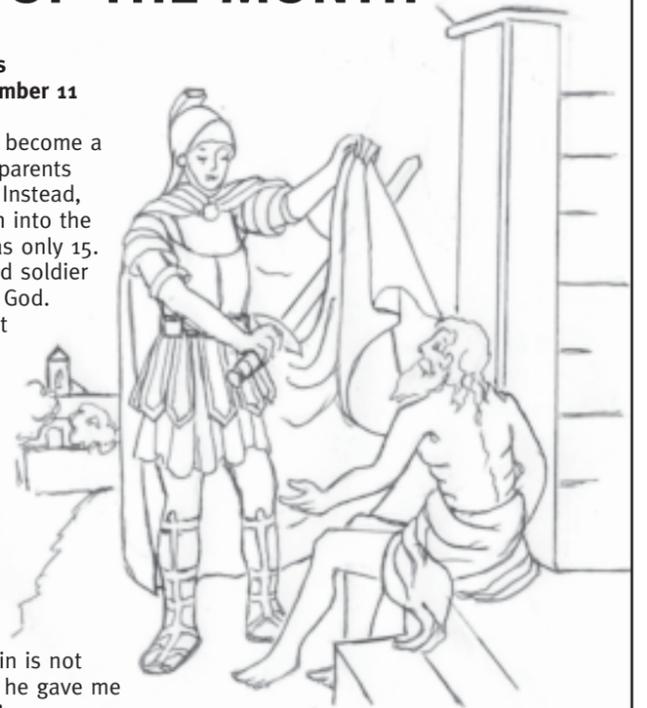
Martin wanted to become a Christian but his parents wouldn't let him. Instead, his father put him into the army when he was only 15. Martin was a good soldier but he still loved God.

One winter's night

he met a poor beggar. Martin had no money, so he took his sword and cut his cloak in two, giving half to the beggar.

That night Jesus came to him, wearing the half cloak. He said to the angels, "Martin is not baptised yet, but he gave me half of his cloak."

Martin ended up becoming a bishop and his parents were converted.



### Word Search

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

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## Ged's Quick Quiz

With quiz champion Ged Askins

### Connection question

1. In which *Carry On* film did Charles Hawtrey star as Chief Big Heep?
2. In *The Lion King*, what relation was Ska to Mufasa?
3. What South African City was previously known as Port Natal?
4. Plymouth and London are varieties of which drink?
5. George Baker played which Ruth Rendell character on TV?

### Thinking cap question

Name the 12 Doctors from the BBC's *Doctor Who* – with an extra point if you get them in order.

Please send stories and photos of what's been happening in your school to catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk – we'd love to hear from you!

**SCHOOLS**

# St Benedict's Are Mission Together Record Breakers

St Benedict's School in Redcar's efforts for the Mission Together's Cambodia appeal last year brought in the largest amount any school in our diocese has ever raised for the charity. As schools prepare to respond to this year's appeal, deputy head JULIA HASLAM tells us how they did it...

"Together with God we love, learn and grow." This is the vision shared by staff and children at St Benedict's, and growing funds for Mission Together is something they excel at. This year they raised a staggering £1,488.50 – all in just five weeks.

This phenomenal achievement was kick-started with an awareness-raising assembly on Cambodia and the reasons for fundraising, as well as the introduction of the "Totalizer", a device that harnessed the pupils' competitive streak as each year group vied to have the biggest share on the weekly updated chart.

Each Key Stage Two year group took over the task of organising fundraising events for one week, while Key Stage One held a colouring competition with Easter egg prizes. Year Three started the fundraising with a popular cake sale and a contest to name a bear donated by a pupil.

Year Four hosted lunchtime bingo sessions and tried to guess the number of sweets in the jar and inventive Year Five pupils held a welly-throwing contest.

However, the most popular event was the film night organised and hosted by Year Six. This was an after-school film showing in the school hall, complete with popcorn.

Throughout the five weeks, the Mission Boxes rolled in and children were encouraged to fill a map of Cambodia with pennies, as the Totalizer grew and grew. The fundraising culminated in a "Day of Many Colours", when children throughout the school made a donation to allow them to wear the colours of the Cambodian flag.

We are extremely proud of our children and parents for their overwhelming generosity towards all our charitable events and as a school community we are particularly pleased to have raised so much for the Mission Together. We look forward to this

year's challenge.

\*Mission Together is the Church's official overseas charity for children, encouraging them to care about mission through prayer, learning and fundraising, and to become missionaries themselves by helping others. Its unique motto is "children helping children".

Bishop Terry has written to all primary schools asking them to support this year's appeal, which focuses on Malawi, and Mission Together volunteers are delivering free resources in the next few weeks.



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**Cracow WYD 2016**

*"Blessed are the Merciful they shall have mercy shown them."*

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**NEWS**

# Foundation Stone Blessed At New Church

**Bishop Terry has blessed the foundation stone for the new church of St Thérèse Of Lisieux being built on Blair Avenue, Ingleby Barwick.**

The ceremony was attended by parishioners, children from the primary school and contractors.

Teesside band Cattle & Cane, whose debut album *Home* recently entered the charts, performed for guests.

The steel structure of the church is already taking shape and fundraising is also underway.

Parish Priest Father Pat Hartnett said: "People have been so generous. We already have the tabernacle and Stations of the Cross and a promise from St Thérèse of Lisieux Primary School to meet the costs of the font.

"But there is still so much to fund – not forgetting, of course, the need to repay the diocese the loan for the build."

The distinctive design includes a large number of windows, creating a bright area for worship. There will also be a space for parish celebrations and areas for meetings and children's liturgy.

If you would like to help with the fundraising effort, please call 01642 751304 or email [sttherese.parish@btinternet.com](mailto:sttherese.parish@btinternet.com)

Services have been held in a school and other venues for 20 years. Completion of the new building is scheduled for January next year.

The new church has been designed by Naru and Ross architects of Yarm and is being built by Simpson York Limited.



Bishop Terry at the blessing with Father Pat Hartnett, Ron Gatenby, chairman and chief executive at Simpson (York) Limited and a pupil from the primary school (Photo by Les Clark)

**LOURDES CORNER**

# A Supported Pilgrim's View

**I applied to go to Lourdes with the Diocese Pilgrimage in 2015 as a supported pilgrim and was told I would need to go in the Accueil, or hospital, so I said no thanks. I wanted to go into a hotel, as my sister Sheila was coming with me and had waited 60 years for the chance to go. Thinking a little more and being told we could stay together in the Accueil, I agreed.** Neither of us regretted that decision. From arriving at the airport to returning home we could not have been better looked after by everyone, in the Accueil. Nothing was too much trouble for people to do for us, meals were very good (apart from one, but that was another story!) and pupils and staff from the school groups pushed the wheelchairs without complaining. We're both looking forward to going next year, God willing.

**Pauline Allison and Sheila Lowe**



## The Lourdes Square Challenge

**Could your parish get together to provide a blanket to help replenish our stocks and keep our supported pilgrims warm in Lourdes?**

Many of our blankets had to be discarded after being damaged in the floods a couple of years ago.

Since then several people have kindly knitted blankets for us, but we would love to have some more.

For those who haven't seen them, the blankets are made up of small knitted squares sewn together.

We're hoping groups will knit squares and then contribute a parish blanket. You can then sew on a label telling us which parish knitted it, so you'll be remembered during our services, the processions and on visits to the Grotto.

So even if you're not able to come with us on pilgrimage, you can still do your bit to help!

Please email me at [chris.tillotson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:chris.tillotson@hotmail.co.uk) for more information.

**Chris Tillotson, Head Handmaid**



The parish of the Sacred Heart, Middlesbrough, began the month of the Holy Rosary in October with a day pilgrimage to the diocesan shrine to Our Lady of Mount Grace led by Fathers Stephen and James. The weather was kind and it was a day of many graces. Many thanks to the shrine volunteers for their welcome and help.

**Very Reverend Stephen Maughan**

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# Lourdes 2016 Pilgrimage Special



## The 63rd Middlesbrough Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, May 27 To June 3 2016

Since our return from pilgrimage in May, we have been working with various agents to plan and secure the best possible outcome for our 63rd pilgrimage to Lourdes. The process has been long and hard, as we initially sent our tender documents to five tour operators. From their responses this was narrowed down to two agents who had the capacity and experience to handle our pilgrimage. We considered all areas, from insurance, service, capability in case of emergency, financial standing and finally, cost. From the two agents it was decided to select Tangney Tours as our official tour operator for 2016.

### Example prices for our 2016 Pilgrimage...

Beau Site £649  
Notre Dame De France £649  
Mediterranee £670  
Padou £719  
Moderne £758  
Flight only £398  
Accueil pilgrims £621

These prices do not include insurance, which will be approximately £29. If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

**Keith Tillotson, Executive Director**

## Travel Arrangements

### Travel By Air

Flights have been arranged from Durham Tees Valley Airport departing on May 27 and returning from Lourdes to Durham Tees Valley Airport on June 3. Exact timings will be confirmed to you two weeks before departure. Please note: prices will include return air fare, transfer by coach from Lourdes Airport to the hotels. All known government taxes and duties are included.

### About Your Accommodation

All the hotels used by the pilgrimage have en suite facilities and good quality food. Prices tend to reflect the proximity of the hotel to the Grotto and do not necessarily indicate superior facilities.

Some hotels are more suited to pilgrims in wheelchairs both in their interior design and their location. If you would like advice on a particular hotel, please contact either Tangney Tours or the Executive Director.

### Supported Pilgrims

Pilgrims requiring medical or social support, formerly referred to as Sick Pilgrims.

Supported Pilgrims should apply immediately for an application form, which is available from: The Secretary, Middlesbrough Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, 4 Cromore Close, Thornaby-on-Tees, Stockton TS17 0HW. Telephone 01642 760105.

The completed forms should be returned to the above address for the attention of the Medical Director. Please note: Forms should be received no later than January 31 2016. Our medical team will then consider the application, taking into account all medical advice from the pilgrim's GP and they will also make a home visit to carry out an assessment. Applications received after the closing date will be considered if there are still places available.

### Important Information for People Travelling To Lourdes

The Lourdes Medical Team provide care to all Supported Pilgrims who have undergone a medical assessment by their own doctor and the Lourdes medical team to ensure that they are fit to travel. Supported Pilgrims will be accommodated in the Accueil Notre Dame or, in some cases, in hotels in Lourdes.

If you wish to be considered as a supported pilgrim, please call 01642 760105 and you will be sent an application form. Numbers are limited so please apply early. The closing date for applications is January 31 2016.

### Volunteer Helpers

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

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

**Handmaids:** Chris Tillotson, Beulah, 50 The Grove, Marton, Middlesbrough TS7 8AJ

Telephone: 01642 324043

Email: chris.tillotson@hotmail.co.uk or

headhandmaid@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

**Brancardiers:** Tony Kirk 1 Levisham Close, Acklam

Middlesbrough TS5 7LT

Telephone: 01642 270968

Email: anthony.kirk@ntlworld.com

or headbranc@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

### Lourdes Fund

We are always grateful for donations which may be sent at any time to Sue Crossman (Treasurer), 10 St Ives Close, Redcar TS10 2RP.

Telephone 01642 473478.

Email: se.crossman1@gmail.com

### For details of any aspect of the pilgrimage, contact

**Executive Director:** Keith Tillotson, Beulah, 50 The Grove, Marton Middlesbrough TS7 8AJ.

Telephone: 01642 324043

Email: keith\_tillotson@hotmail.com or

executivedirector@middlesbroughlourdes.co.uk

**Pilgrimage Director:** Very Rev Canon Derek Turnham, St Augustine's Presbytery, 10 Warwick Road, Redcar TS10 2ER.



Telephone: 01642 292552

Email: derekturnham@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

## General Information

### Supported Pilgrims in hotels

Please do not complete a booking form until you have been accepted by the medical team.

If you need assistance and wish to stay in a hotel, you should arrange for at least one able-bodied carer to accompany you. Any such person will be entirely responsible for expenses incurred on their behalf. Alternatively you may apply to be considered for one of the places in the Accueil Notre Dame where help will be provided by a team of medical staff and helpers.

### Passports and Visas

All pilgrims must possess a full ten-year passport, which is valid up to three months after the return date of their pilgrimage. Please apply for your passport well in advance. Children of all ages, including babies, must have their own passports. They cannot be included in their parents' passports.

If you hold a non-EU passport, please ensure that you apply for a Schengen VISA if required. These can take three months or more to process. For further information, please contact us.

### Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is essential and is a requirement. It is not just to cover medical costs but it covers you for cancellation, loss of baggage, accidents, loss of passport, travel delays and other incidents that may arise abroad. The cover we provide is suited to the tours we offer and is highly recommended.

### EHIC Card

The European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) is for people resident within the UK. The EHIC can be used to offset part of the medical treatment that may be required due to either an accident or illness while you are in Lourdes. It is important to note that it is not a substitute for travel insurance.

**TO REQUEST A BROCHURE, PLEASE CONTACT KEITH TILLOTSON OR CANON TURNHAM.**

# Big Turnout For Lourdes Tea Party

**The Great British Bake Off finalists were put into the shade by volunteers who produced a delicious spread for the Lourdes tea party at St Mary's Cathedral.**

More than 160 people attended a wonderful afternoon of prayer and hymns, followed by afternoon tea in the Cathedral hall.

The event was inspired by the tea party we held for our supported pilgrims in Lourdes earlier this year.

It was lovely to have pupils and staff from Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough and St Peter's Catholic College in South Bank with us.

A huge thank you to Mary Lombard and the Lourdes music group for leading the service and to all those who baked and made

sandwiches, set up, served and cleaned up.

Special thanks also go to Trinity College teacher Steve McNicholas and his team for their contribution of cakes for the buffet.

We're looking forward to repeating the afternoon at the Sacred Heart Church, Southcoates Lane, Hull, on Saturday October 24, starting with Rosary at 2pm.

\*Please make a note in your diary of the dates for Lourdes Christmas parties in Hull and Middlesbrough.

**Sunday December 6:** Sacred Heart Church, Hull

**Saturday December 12:** St Francis Church, Middlesbrough

We'll have more information in next month's Catholic Voice.



**NEWS**

# Celebrating Religious Studies Success

**Congratulations and best wishes to the students from our diocese who completed their Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS).**

Their success was recognised at the Education Masses celebrated in Middlesbrough and Hull, as Bishop Terry presented their Certificates. Pictured with Bishop Terry and Canon John Lumley is the group from Middlesbrough – Sue Paterson, Lynette Hammill, Ruth Leonard, Susanne Hobson, Angela Pearce and Jayne Hogarth.

The successful students from Hull were Jessica Aitken, Jessica Robertson, Robert Mhetu and Alison Bentley. A third Education Mass was held in York.

The CCRS is a national qualification approved by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Although it is especially important for teachers in our Catholic schools, it is also very suitable for parish catechists and anyone interested in learning more about our faith.

If you would like to find out more about the CCRS, please contact the Department for Adult Formation at the Curial Office on 01642 850505 or email [reception@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk](mailto:reception@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk)



Students with their certificates at Middlesbrough's Education Mass at St Mary's Cathedral – Photo by Les Clark

## Change Of Mass Time At St Gabriel's

**Saturday evening Mass time at St Gabriel's in Ormesby, Middlesbrough, is changing from 7pm to 5.30pm as the darker nights draw in.**

The new time is designed to make it easier for people coming out during the winter months, but the change is permanent.

"Other churches in the town already have Masses at 6pm and 6.30pm, so 5.30pm seemed a natural choice," said Parish Priest Canon John Lumley.

"I'm also assured that a 5.30pm kick off time is just enough time for ardent Boro supporters to be able to get back to St Gabriel's in time for Mass!"

The change comes in from Saturday October 31.



The Hull students, together with Anne Watts, on the Bishop's right, who received an Episcopal Blessing for 37 years as a teacher – Photo by Bernard Swift

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## Father Reuben's Farewell



Reuben cutting his leaving cake, encouraged by Father Ehileme

Parishioners of St Joseph's and St Thomas More's in Middlesbrough said farewell to Father Reuben Ezebuofor, who is returning to Nigeria after three years serving as assistant priest.

A large number of parishioners joined former Parish Priest Father Pat Keogh, Canon Eddie Gubbins, Parish Priest Father Leonard Jioke, Deacon Pat Thomas and Father Robert Ehileme SMMM from the Diocese of Westminster in saying farewell at an emotional Mass.

After the presentation of gifts, parishioners joined in a buffet, singalong and cake cutting in St Joseph's school hall, where they were entertained by the Chancey Brothers.

Ian Stubbs

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## Dressing Down For CAFOD

Children from Christ the King Primary School, Thornaby, certainly took the "Brighten Up for Harvest" theme to heart as they dressed in their own clothes to support CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day.

Thank you to teacher Angela Carson, who organised the activities. The children took part in a poster competition and shared a simple meal to help them understand how little others have to eat all through the year.

Thanks also to our wonderful volunteers and supporters for your continuing dedication to our work, especially around Harvest Fast Day. We couldn't do it without you!

## CAFOD World Gifts 2015

If you're looking for a gift that's extra special, why not have a look at our World Gifts Catalogue? There's a wide range of choices from bees and beehives, chickens and coops, donkeys that deliver to a whole village water supply and lots of gifts in between.

We're sure you'll find something to delight that hard-to-buy-for loved one, while helping others at the same time. Visit our website for more details: <http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts>

## CAFOD Memorial Mass

Our Memorial Mass is currently being organised and will be held at St Anthony and Our Lady of Mercy in Hull in November.

The date and time will be posted on CAFOD Middlesbrough's Facebook page when it is confirmed.

## Study Guide for Laudato Si'

This study guide brought to you by CAFOD and SCIAF is inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si' – On the Care For Our Common Home*

The encyclical offers an opportunity to reflect on the world around us and to respond to the signs of the times. We are called to reject the contemporary throwaway culture and open our eyes to see how God is present throughout creation. We bear witness to the reality facing many of our sisters and brothers across the world, who are being pushed deeper into poverty due to the changing climate.

This study guide invites groups to reflect on some of the themes of the papal encyclical and explore ways of taking action. It is not intended to be a complete guide but is an initial way of engaging with Pope Francis' important message.

It comes with leader's notes and outlines for the four sessions, which each last about one hour. Copies are available either from the CAFOD Middlesbrough office or from our website: <http://cafod.org.uk/resources>

## Sustainable Development Goals Agreed!

This year is an important one for CAFOD's policy team and for addressing poverty and inequality through international processes.

The final Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) agenda – which includes 17 goals with 169 targets – was adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in New York. CAFOD's Neil Thorns and Neva Frecheville both attended the summit and the charity has produced a short booklet, *Actions Towards 2030*, which gives an overview of the SDGs and suggests some national-level actions for the coming years that will assist their implementation. The booklet will be available to download from our website soon.

Carol Cross, Community Participation Coordinator



AN EVENING WITH

# BARRY & MARGARET MIZEN MBE



Jimmy Mizen was murdered in 2008.  
We will not be beaten by his death.

Something good will come from it.'

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by 15th January 2016

Early notification of interest to the school would be appreciated  
Children must be aged 4 by 31st August 2016

**NEWS**

**VIEW FROM A PEW**



**Caring Whispers**

About ten minutes before Mass started, a small woman hoisted herself into my bench and sat next to me.

"Mrs Brown," I exclaimed in a whisper. "Oh, how nice to see you! It's been so long."

"I'm sorry, dear," she said. "I know I should come every Sunday. But it's such a long way to walk and my arthritis..."

"Oh, Mrs Brown," I began, "I feel so ashamed. Why didn't you phone me? I could easily have picked you up in the car."

"You're very kind, but I wouldn't want to put you to any trouble. I did make a special effort today. I knew I had to. It's the anniversary, you see. It's just a year since our Matthew..."

I saw she was about to cry and handed her a tissue. I felt worse than ever now. I remembered Matthew clearly, a cheerful young lad, Mrs Brown's grandson. He had died of cancer, aged 17.

I forgot to whisper then. I put my arm round her small body and I said, "Oh, Mrs Brown, I'm so so sorry."

Just then Edna Munday, who was sitting immediately in front of us, turned round. To my surprise, she was furiously angry.

"Will you shut up!" she said. "I'm trying to say my prayers, and all the time I can hear you two gossiping away. You should remember that this is a holy place, and you should speak to nobody except Jesus!"

Luckily, at that moment, the bell rang, and Father and the servers walked in to begin Mass.



The UCM party pictured outside the new church

**UCM Trip To Stanbrook Abbey**

The Union of Catholic Mothers from Scarborough and Filey joined together to visit the new Benedictine Abbey at Wass.

Sister Agnes Wilkins told the visitors about the daily lives of the 22 sisters who live at Stanbrook and explained the features of the new church, which has been designed to allow natural light to shine throughout the interior.

The altar is made from a solid piece of stone and the main cross hanging from the ceiling was brought from the sisters' previous Abbey near Worcester, which they left in May 2009 to settle in Yorkshire.

The group of 35 joined the sisters for Midday Office, including sung psalms, prayers and readings.

It was a wonderful day to share with the sisters and a privilege to see the new church and witness an insight into their lives.

The UCM contingent was joined by members of the Madonna House Community in Robin Hood's Bay, ladies from Scarborough Hospital chaplaincy volunteer group and Father Albert Schembri from St Peter's, Scarborough.

Bernard Wilkins

Leeds

Middlesbrough

Hallam



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**An Introduction To Centering Prayer**

Earlier this year, I spent some time abroad on a renewal course for priests, sisters and brothers, writes CANON JOHN LUMLEY. One of the great discoveries for me during that time was a method of silent prayer known as "Centering Prayer", a daily practice which has greatly enriched my spiritual life since then.

As with all gifts, once discovered, you are keen to share! So I contacted Howard Nelson, who lives locally and who has been practising and teaching this simple form of prayer for many years. I invited Howard to give us a brief description of this ancient form of prayer, with a view to offering an opportunity for people to experience and practice it, probably in January 2016. Here's Howard's description...



The logo of Contemplative Outreach

During the 1980s, Trappist monk Father Thomas Keating and two of his colleagues set out to recover the contemplative dimension of the Gospel and the Christian tradition of silent prayer, which, they realised, had been largely forgotten. Drawing on the writings of the Desert Fathers, and a wide range of later sources – particularly The Cloud of Unknowing – they developed a method which has come to be known as Centering Prayer.

The method is of great simplicity, and extreme gentleness: we are invited to consent to the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, and to the Spirit's transformative action. We use a single word, of our own choosing, as a reminder, when we need it, to return from the clamour of our everyday thoughts to the simple intention with which we began our prayer – that intention being to sit as quietly as possible in the presence of God.

Centering Prayer is taught, and its practice fostered, by Contemplative Outreach, originally founded by Father Keating, and now a lay-led association of individuals and small faith groups worldwide.

I have invited Howard, who is a member of Contemplative Outreach, to give us an Introduction to Centering Prayer: this usually takes place on a Saturday and is reinforced by six short follow-up sessions to build on the experience of the Introductory Day. At the end of the follow-up, participants are invited, if they wish, to become a support group, meeting at regular intervals to practice the prayer and to deepen their understanding of the Christian contemplative tradition.

We hope to run the initial one-day introduction one Saturday in January at St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. More details will appear in the January edition of the Catholic Voice, but if you would like more information or wish to express an interest, please contact me on JL@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk or by calling St Gabriel's on 01642 314501. The Contemplative Outreach website can be found at <http://www.contemplativeoutreach.org>



## Peace And Renewal At Aelred's Grange

**A group from St Aelred's Church in York enjoyed a day of inspiration and renewal in the stunning surroundings of Aelred's Grange, in Nidderdale.**

Aelred's Grange – which is on land that once was an outlying farm of Rievaulx Abbey – belongs to retired Professor of Biochemistry, Dianna Bowles, who uses it as a place where charities and other organisations can come to get away from it all.

Dianna invited parishioners of St Aelred's, where she attends Mass when in York, to spend the day at her farm and celebrate Mass in the open air, amid the beautiful countryside just above How Stean Gorge.

Father Bill Serplus celebrated Mass in a little hollow among the hills where only the occasional bleating of the sheep could be heard. He preached about renewal, and how it can be found by celebrating Mass in such surroundings.

We prayed for members of our congregation unable to be with us due to sickness or other commitments, and for our own renewal.

After Mass we went on a walk to see

Dianna's flock of Herdwick sheep, a hardy Cumbrian breed noted for their strong constitutions and fine, thick fleeces.

She brought some feed pellets for them and they came up to us to be fed. We were introduced to the prizewinning ram and some delightful lambs. After a hearty lunch at the How Stean Gorge Café, we made our way home to York. Our grateful thanks go to Dianna for inviting us and Father Bill for an inspiring Mass.

Dianna wishes Aelred's Grange to be used to "provide a rest and sustenance to those that are weary, those for whom life is an uphill struggle, those losing hope and those whose energies have all but been worn out by the long hours of caring for relatives and friends in need of support."

She hopes to welcome other groups and can be contacted via the website. If you would like a day of real spiritual renewal, friendship and fun in a beautiful setting, please get in touch.

Find out more about Aelred's Grange at [www.aelredgrange.org](http://www.aelredgrange.org)

Sarah Sheils

## Crossing The Threshold In York

**POPE FRANCIS HAS CALLED FOR US ALL TO BE "BOLD AND CREATIVE" IN REACHING OUT TO OUR NEIGHBOURS AND TO OFFER THEM MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPERIENCE THE LOVE AND MERCY OF THE LORD.**

**OUR DIOCESAN RESPONSE TO THE HOLY FATHER'S INVITATION IS CALLED "CROSSING THE THRESHOLD" AND IN THIS ARTICLE, THE TEAM FROM ST GEORGE'S IN YORK HAVE GENEROUSLY SHARED SOME OF THEIR IDEAS WITH VOICE READERS.**

The Crossing the Threshold Team at St George's continues to explore different ways of helping people know they will always find a ready welcome in our parish community.

We have decided that one way to do this is to focus upon people who have recently been bereaved. We are all aware that this is a point when people often think about their faith.

We are currently planning our first Remembrance Service on Thursday November 19 at 7pm, to remember parishioners and relatives of those within the parish community who have died in recent years.

Families whose loved one has had a funeral in St George's parish will receive a personal invitation from Canon Alan Sheridan and we will also include a general invitation in the parish bulletin.

The service will be led by Canon Alan, who will invite people to write the names of their departed friends and relatives on stars that will be used to decorate a special Christmas tree throughout Advent.

We hope this will encourage people to come back into the church to see the tree at one of our Christmas Masses, or to light a candle for their loved one at some point during Advent if they don't feel comfortable coming to Mass just yet.

We have also recently acquired a new A-Board and Notice Board, kindly made by the Inns Brothers of York. We are using this to invite people to come into the church during the day, as even though the doors are sometimes closed, we are nearly always open. A few people have already said they wouldn't have thought to come in had the sign not been clearly visible.

We are also going to use the new enlarged notice board to make our RCIA programme more visible externally, as well as continuing to advertise it in the bulletin and on the parish website.

These are all simple ideas, but hopefully they may encourage those who are thinking about coming back to the church to feel always welcome. And for those who don't know how to come back, they may provide more opportunities to "cross the threshold".

If your parish would also like to respond to Pope Francis' invitation, why not contact Deacon Vince Purcell, the Diocesan Advisor for Adult Formation and Evangelisation? He can be contacted at the Curial Office on 01642 850505 or by email at [adultformation@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk](mailto:adultformation@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk)

## Showing Mercy When Marriages Fail

**Doctor Helen Costigane SHCJ chose a timely subject for her talk at Cleveland Newman Circle, coming soon after Pope Francis introduced simplifications to the processing of applications for a declaration of nullity.**

The title was *Between A Rock And A Hard Place* and the subject was attitudes within the Church for caring for divorced and remarried people.

Helen, who lectures at Heythrop College in London, is qualified in Pastoral Theology and has a doctorate in Canon Law, but she also has experience in annulment tribunals and a great sense of humour.

Helen outlined developments in thinking about Christian Marriage. The 1917 Code of Canon Law saw Marriage as a "contract" for the procreation of children. Vatican II describes Marriage as a "covenant", a partnership of lifelong commitment. The encyclical *Casti Connubii* mentions a "deep attachment of heart". In the 1983 Code, marriage is a lifelong partnership with two purposes, the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children.

In practice, some marriages do fail. These days people are less likely to accept infidelity or violence and divorce is often used as a civil remedy. Sometimes people

later enter a "non-canonical" marriage, without their previous marriage being declared null (anyone is entitled to apply for a previous marriage to be declared null).

This situation is challenging, both for divorced people wanting to remain full members of the Church and for their pastors. Pope John Paul II was keen that divorced and remarried people should not feel separated from the Church but stated they should not receive Communion. The then Cardinal Ratzinger concurred with this. Cardinal Kaspar looks for constructive solutions, since God repeatedly gives his people new chances.

Helen could give no definite solutions to the problem. However, she feels Mercy should be involved, along with Fidelity. This certainly fits with Pope Francis' approach. She hopes clergy will act with increased confidence, considering all the circumstances and helping people return to the sacraments. After all, the supreme law of the Church is the salvation of souls.

For information about the Cleveland Newman Circle, contact Judith Brown on 01642 814977 or email [tpj.egerton@virgin.net](mailto:tpj.egerton@virgin.net)

Patricia Egerton



# STONYHURST

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## Jesuit Talk For Newman Circle

**Professor Harro Höpfl gives the Cleveland Newman Circle's final talk of the year on Wednesday November 25.**

The subject is *The Machiavellian Jesuits? Gross Defamations or Grey Realities?* and the venue is St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Middlesbrough TS8 0TW at 7.45pm, with coffee and tea from 7.30pm.

All are welcome. For more details call 01642 645732 or email [tpj.egerton@virgin.net](mailto:tpj.egerton@virgin.net)

The Cleveland Newman Circle talks return in February 2016.

## NEWS

## THE ADVENT SLEEPOUT CHALLENGE 2015 NORTH EAST

### Take The Advent Sleepout Challenge

**Could you give up one night of comfort so that someone else won't have to?**

Advent Sleepout Challenge launches this year to help two charities that provide essential and life-changing support to homeless people across the North East. Church Urban Fund and Depaul UK are both committed to fighting homelessness and other forms of poverty and work in partnership at Middlesbrough's John Paul Centre.

On Friday December 4, Church Urban Fund and Depaul UK are inviting Christian communities across the region to join them in giving up a night of comfort in a unique response to Advent.

People are being asked to come together at one of three venues to share the experience of sleeping out and raise money for Depaul's North East Nightstop emergency accommodation service and Church Urban Fund's Together Network, working to transform lives in Newcastle, Middlesbrough and Durham.

Sleepouts will take place at Holy Trinity Church Centre, Middlesbrough, Sunderland Minster, and St Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle.

Hundreds of vulnerable North East people find themselves homeless and marginalised, often through no fault of their own. You can help us to support those who may be struggling with debt, homelessness, isolation, addiction, abuse or violence.

Around 35 people sleep rough across the region every night, while approximately 62% of single homeless people are hidden and may not show up in official figures. There are also an estimated nine million people struggling with problem debt.

Bishop of Jarrow Mark Bryant, who is a Depaul trustee, said: "By December 4, many of us will be well into our thinking about Christmas.

"What better way could there be to spend a night as part of our thinking than sleeping out as we prepare to welcome the Son of God, who had nowhere to lay his head?

"I hope this will be a night of good reflection, good company and a chance to raise money for two charities who contribute so much to our life in the North East."

Paul Hackwood, executive chair of Church Urban Fund, said: "Advent is a unique time for Christians as we remember that God chose to walk among us in the most truly humble of circumstances.

"The Advent Sleepout Challenge is a way for us to respond to that by placing ourselves in our very own 'stables', so we can support the most vulnerable in our country."

Advent Sleepout Challenge invites you to swap your bed for a sleeping bag and stone floor and experience a unique and inspiring night.

For more information, or to join the sponsored sleepout in Middlesbrough, please email [middlesbroughsleepout@depauluk.org](mailto:middlesbroughsleepout@depauluk.org)



### Father Paul Beats The Chaser

**VIEWERS THROUGHOUT THE DIOCESE NEEDED A DOUBLE TAKE WHEN A FAMILIAR FACE POPPED UP ON THEIR TEA-TIME TV SCREENS. VOCATIONS DIRECTOR FATHER PAUL FARRER MADE AN APPEARANCE ON POPULAR ITV QUIZ SHOW THE CHASE – AND CAME AWAY A WINNER WITH A SHARE OF £20,000! FATHER PAUL KINDLY AGREED TO TELL US ALL ABOUT IT...**

I applied for *The Chase* while I was taking morphine for my bad back in 2012. I can't really remember doing it, I guess the morphine took away my natural inhibitions.

The audition was a surreal experience, a York hotel full of people who had all been on *Fifteen to One* and *Pointless* – I almost walked out. The day-long process was very interesting. Halfway through they got rid of half the people. Amazingly, I survived.

At the end of the day I was still in with a shout but they still said, "You probably won't be on." I heard nothing for a few years. Then, in February 2015, I got a phone call that I thought was a joke.

"This is Matt from *The Chase*. We're thinking of using you on a show soon."

At that point I really had to decide to do it or not. People have been lovely but there's always the chance that a priest doing anything out of the ordinary will attract the attention of those who think they know how we should act. Ultimately, I thought, "In for a penny, in for a pound."

The day the show was filmed was amazing. It all happened in April and they told us we couldn't tell anyone. It took two-and-a-half hours to film the episode and about three hours before that being shown what to do.

We had our make-up done and they even ironed my shirt. The big surprise on the day was that there is no audience, the laughter you hear is canned, but the crew and everyone else were laughing along.

I still can't believe we won. As I spent the past few months reliving the day I was never able to remember any of the questions I got asked.

People have been lovely, and so supportive. I am pleased I did it and even more pleased that I didn't make a fool of myself. All I wanted to do was get through to the end and not look daft – but winning was a great bonus.

It was a great day. Bradley Walsh and Paul Sinha were lovely and very funny.

But the whole crew behind the scenes were too. I thought they might be a bit worried about having a priest on the show, but everyone kept coming up to me and telling me they were Catholic.

Even the guy who gave me the microphone was Catholic! It took about three hours to film and was a fascinating experience.

As soon as it was over they had to get on with filming the next one, so we were taken back to the train station. I found myself in Kings Cross thinking, "Did that really just happen?" I'm really grateful to all the people I met who made it such a great day.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Faith Stories Shared At Study Day

All are welcome to attend the Diocese of Middlesbrough Union of Catholic Mothers Study Day at St Aelred's Church, York, YO31 OPN, on Saturday November 28 at 10am. The theme is Telling Our Own Faith Stories, with Clare Ward, media officer to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Please contact Sarah Sheils on 01904 424219 or email [sarsheils@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sarsheils@yahoo.co.uk) for further details.

### Advent Prayers From Women's Commission

The Diocesan Women's Commission are preparing a leaflet of prayers for Advent. They will be in parishes by The First Sunday of Advent, November 29. In the busy time before Christmas, the aim is to keep us focused on the real meaning of Christmas.

### Catholic Women's League Branch Meeting

The Catholic Women's League Diocesan Branch Meeting will be held on Saturday November 7 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Market Weighton, beginning with Mass at noon (please note the change of Mass time).

### Pupils Attend Interfaith Meeting

Sixth form pupils from St Mary's College in Hull took part in a lively debate at a meeting of Hull and East Riding Interfaith (HERI). The subject of the discussion is The Age of Responsibility. For more details about HERI's work, see [www.heri.org.uk](http://www.heri.org.uk)

### Blazing Grannies In York

Blazing Grannies' Mary Callan took advantage of York's 50-plus festival to perform Mrs Tobit Tells All at St Paul's Church of England Parish, Holgate Road, York, accompanied by Diane Church, from St Paul's. Blazing Grannies are available free of charge for performances, workshops or fundraising events. For more information or bookings, call 07596 714382 or email [blazinggrannies@gmail.com](mailto:blazinggrannies@gmail.com)

### Church Leaders Express Redcar Support

Bishop Terry joined other church leaders in a message of support for the people of Redcar over the situation at the SSI steel plant, which closed last month. A candlelit prayer vigil, organised by Veronica Harnett, took place at St Andrew's Church in Teesville to pray for all those affected.



## Hull's Housebound Continue Walsingham Tradition

**A tradition that has taken place every year since 1983 continued as Hull Housebound Group made a two-day pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham.**

Around 50 pilgrims took part in the trip, which is organised by parishioners of St Stephen's Pastoral Centre, part of the South East Hull Parish that also incorporates Sacred Heart and St Bede's.

The first trip was a spin-off from the Housebound and Elderly Day at St Stephen's and is something that is looked forward to every year as an occasion of many blessings and both a spiritual and social event.

The number of young people who help and look after their more elderly and infirm parishioners is particularly heartening. Parish Priest Father Dominique Minskip accompanied the pilgrims.

Deacon Brian Morgan



The pilgrims at Walsingham

# Christ The King Of Hearts

The Feast of Christ the King is the Sunday of the year when the Bishops of England and Wales ask us to especially pray for and support our young people.

Each year a theme is published by the National Office for Vocation to help focus our thoughts and action.

This year's theme attempts to bring together the Feast of Christ the King and the imminent Year of Mercy.

King of Hearts asks people of all ages to consider how Jesus is king of our hearts and think of the demands that makes of the way we live our lives. Each parish will be sent a resource pack with liturgy ideas and prayers to use.

Young people and youth groups, along with those who work with them, are invited to join MYMission in Scarborough as we celebrate the feast at 5pm on Sunday November 22 at St Joseph's Church, Green Lane, Newby, Scarborough.

There will be refreshments and social time in the parish hall afterwards.

We are deeply grateful to Father William Massie and the parish community for hosting us.

For more information, please contact Father Paul Farrer by email at [frpaul@mymission.org](mailto:frpaul@mymission.org) or call 01642 529100.

**Father Paul Farrer**

**National YOUTH Sunday 2015**  
**Mass for Young People**

5pm, Sunday 22 November  
 St Joseph's Church  
 Green Lane  
 Newby  
 Scarborough

A Diocesan Mass to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King, followed by refreshments

For more information, contact Fr Paul Farrer  
[frpaul@mymission.org](mailto:frpaul@mymission.org)  
 01642 529100

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

- 1** Walsingham Pilgrimage
- 2-6** Attends Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors in Valladolid
- 8** Attends and gives blessing at Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service, Cenotaph, Middlesbrough From 10.30 am
- 10** Attends Chapter meeting and celebrates Mass at St Mary's Cathedral for deceased Diocesan clergy 11.00 am  
Attends Council of Priests meeting at St Mary's Cathedral 2.00 pm
- 15** Celebrates Mass and attends fundraising event and dinner for CBCEW Northern Catholic supporters at the Bar Convent, York 4.30 pm
- 16** Attends Caritas England and Wales Meeting at Hinsley Hall 9.30 am
- 16-19** Attends Bishops' Annual Meeting
- 24** Attends Bishop's Council meeting at Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11.00 am
- 26** Celebrates Section 48 Commissioning Mass at Our Lady's, York 3.00 pm
- 27** Attends CES and Dept Meeting, Eccleston Square, London 10.30 am
- 28/29** Parish visitation to Christ the King & St Patrick's, Thornaby All weekend

**6 Friday**

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

**7.00 pm** First Friday Life Prayer Group meets at St Anthony's Parish Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Frances, Tel: (01482) 574486 for further details. Please note the new venue

**6 - 8 Friday - Sunday**

'Living Well, Dying Well' - a retreat led by Fr Kieran Monahan. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**7 Saturday**

**12.00 pm** The Catholic Women's League Diocesan Branch Meeting will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Market Weighton commencing with Mass (please note the change of Mass time)

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

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

**7.30 pm** Meditation for All Souls: 'Requiem' - Gabriel Fauré, sung by the Schola Cantorum of Ampleforth Abbey and the Schola Sancti Martini of St Martin's Ampleforth in the Abbey Church, Ampleforth Abbey. Admission free, retiring collection. All are welcome

**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**

**12.45 pm** Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull for a Business Meeting

**1.30 pm - 4.00 pm** 'Songs of Prayer and Praise' with Mike Leigh at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 for further details

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

**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, Hessle meet after the Morning Mass

**10.30 am** The ASCENT Group at St Leonard and St Mary, Malton will meet

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

**13 Friday**

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

**7.00 pm - 8.30 pm** Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets at St Anthony's Parish Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact: John, Tel: (01759) 380415 for further details. Please note the new venue

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

**7.30 pm - 9.30 pm** Bible study at Our Lady's, Acomb, York. Contact: Lukasz Druzic, Tel: 07540 981429 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

**1.30 pm for 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm** ACTA - a call to dialogue - will meet at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, 21 Blossom Street, York, to share news and views from the ACTA National Conference and also from the Synod on the Family. All are welcome. Contact: Sr Patricia Harriss CJ, Tel: (01904) 464953 for further details

**3.00 pm** Middlesbrough Catholic Fellowship Mass at St Alphonsus, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough

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

**16 Monday**

**7.30 pm** The York Newman Circle presents a Talk by Fr Angelo Phillips, a priest of the Diocese of Leeds, Apostleship of the Sea cruise chaplain, entitled 'Experiences of a cruise chaplain' at The Bar Convent, Blossom Street, York. Members £1.00, non-members £2.00, students free. All welcome. Contact: Judith Smeaton, Tel: (01904) 704525 or E-mail: judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for further details

**16 - 18 Monday - Wednesday**

'Silent Retreat' led by Fr Terence Richardson. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**20 Friday**

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

**7.30 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**

**10.30 am** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley. 10.30 am: Rosary, 11.00 am: Holy Mass. All welcome. Contact: St Mary's Cathedral, Tel: (01642) 597750 or [www.ladychapel.org.uk](http://www.ladychapel.org.uk) for further details

**7.30 pm** Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Tony Ford) at the Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough. Tickets from Eddie White, Tel: (01642) 860227

**22 Sunday**

**11.30 am** Latin Mass in the traditional form at

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The 'Middlesbrough Voice' relies on advertising to fund the free monthly publication and will only promote adverts from Catholic schools so is heavily reliant on schools within the Diocese using this facility so please support the paper.

- 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  
**6.00 pm** Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction in the traditional form at St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York, YO1 7EF
- 3 Tuesday**  
**10.30 am - 3.30 pm** 'From Here to Eternity' with David Rhodes 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  
**8.00 pm - 9.45 pm** 'Church, Mercy and the Signs of the Times' - The Bishop Dunn Memorial Lecture 2015/16, to be delivered by HE Cardinal Walter Kasper in the Arnold Wolfendale Lecture Theatre, Calman Learning Centre, Science Site, Durham University. Tickets: £12.00 per person in advance (concessions are available, contact: theresa.phillips@durham.ac.uk). Tickets can be booked online: <https://www.dur.ac.uk/conference.booking/details?id=523>
- 4 Wednesday**  
**6.30 pm** Latin Mass at the Church of St Charles, Jarratt Street, Hull, HU1 3HB  
**6.30 pm** The Secular Franciscan Order meets every first Wednesday of the month at More House, Heslington, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, Tel: (01904) 470041 for further details

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

**5.00 pm** Celebration of the Feast of Christ the King - invitation to young people and young groups, and those who work with them, to join the MYMission Team at St Joseph's Church, Green Lane, Newby, Scarborough. Refreshments and social time in the parish hall afterwards. Contact: Fr Paul Farrer, E-mail: frpaul@mymission.org or Tel: (01642) 529100 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

**25 Wednesday**

**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

**7.30 pm for 7.45 pm** The Cleveland Newman Circle presents a Talk by Prof Harro Höpfl entitled 'The Machiavellian Jesuits? Gross defamations or grey realities' in the Cathedral Hall, St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. Coffee/tea from 7.30 pm. Contact Tel: (01642) 645732 or E-mail: tpj.egerton@virgin.net for further details. All are welcome

**26 Thursday**

**10.30 am - 3.30 pm** 'Great Expectations' with Bishop David Smith at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact Tel: (01904) 464900 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**

Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the January issue of Voice must be received

by today. PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER DATE

**7.00 pm** Medjugorje Prayer Group meets at St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Everyone welcome. Contact: Pat, Tel: (01482) 802483 for further details. Please note the new venue

**27 - 29 Friday - Sunday**

'A Time for Waiting' - Advent Retreat led by Fr Kieran Monahan. Contact the Hospitality Office, Ampleforth Abbey, Tel: (01439) 766889 for further details

**28 Saturday**

**10.00 am** 'Telling our own Faith Stories' with Clare Ward, Media Officer to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales - Diocese of Middlesbrough Union of Catholic Mothers Study Day at St Aelred's Church, York. Contact: Sara Sheils, Tel: (01904) 424219 or E-mail: sarsheils@yahoo.co.uk

**29 Sunday**

December issue of Catholic Voice available

BLAZING GRANNIES in York. Contact Tel: 07596 714382 or E-mail: blazinggrannies@gmail.com for further details including timing and venue

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

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

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

**FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER:**

**1 Tuesday**

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

**2 Wednesday**

**6.30 pm** Latin Mass at the Church of St Charles, Jarratt Street, Hull, HU1 3HB

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

**4 Friday**

The Advent Sleepout Challenge 2015 at Holy Trinity Church Centre, Middlesbrough, organised by the Church Urban Fund and Depaul UK. Contact E-mail: middlesbroughsleepout@depauluk.org for further information and to join the sponsored sleepout

**7.00 pm** First Friday Life Prayer Group meets at St Anthony's Parish Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact Frances, Tel: (01482) 574486 for further details. Please note the new venue

**5 Saturday**

**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 for further details

**6 Sunday**

Lourdes Christmas Party at Sacred Heart Church, Hull. See next month's issue of Catholic Voice for further details

**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

**ADVANCE NOTICES:**

**8 December:** 1.30 pm, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley. 1.30 pm: Rosary, 2.00 pm: Mass. All welcome. Contact Tel: (01642) 597750 for further details

**8 December:** 7.00 pm, Mass to begin the Holy Year of Mercy at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. All welcome

**12 December:** Lourdes Christmas Party at St Francis Church, Middlesbrough. See next month's issue of Catholic Voice for further details

**13 December:** 5.00 pm, Blessing and opening of the Holy Door of Mercy during Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough. All welcome

**15 December:** 5.30 pm for 6.00 pm, 'Early Modern English Catholic Spiritual Writings' - Joint IMEMS/CCS Ushaw Lecture in the Exhibition Lecture Theatre, Ushaw College, Durham, to be delivered by Prof John Morrill, Cambridge University, organised by the Durham University's Centre for Catholic Studies. Pre-seminar drinks reception is offered from 5.30 pm. The lecture will be followed at 7.30 pm by the Ushaw Carol Service, St Cuthbert's Chapel. All lectures are free but you must register for your free ticket. Contact E-mail: m.j.p.pound@durham.ac.uk for further details

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# Copy Deadline

Copy and photographs for inclusion in the Catholic Voice should be sent to:

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**By Friday November 6 2015 for the December issue and Friday November 27 2015 for the January issue (please note the earlier date)**

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Next month we'll be advertising  
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NEWS

# United By Football

**More than 50 people from all walks of life were brought together by a Teesside Festival of Football.**

The event was planned by homelessness charity Depaul UK in association with Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation and was hosted at the Herlingshaw Centre in South Bank. Taking place as part of Depaul's International Week celebrations, Mayor of Middlesbrough Dave Budd also attended to offer his support.

Each participant of the Festival of Football was a service user at the John Paul Centre, a pastoral and community hub located on Grange Road, Middlesbrough. Their projects include Positive Pathways Out of Homelessness, Investing in People and Culture, and the Methodist Asylum Project.

The main attraction was a seven-a-side tournament, taking place on the Herlingshaw Centre's outdoor AstroTurf pitch. Despite huge diversity within each team, the unifying power of football was clear to see and there was a fantastic atmosphere throughout.

With each team choosing their own moniker, "Real Madrid" were the eventual winners, although all the players were delighted to pick up their certificates for participation. After the football was finished, the players and organisers enjoyed a delicious lunch together, cooked by Bini Araia of Investing in People and Culture.

Depaul UK's Terry Doyle, co-organiser of the event, said: "I was really heartened by the sporting attitude of the players and their friendliness and camaraderie."

"I didn't see anyone contest a single referee's decision and that is just unheard of! To see people play with a smile on their faces was so rewarding."

Dave Budd said: "It's been a great event and it shows the power of football yet again."

"Particularly in this area, football can get to people in a way that lots of other things can't, and the more we can use that to reach out to the community, the better."

Matthew Barber



Mayor Dave Budd, back row wearing tie, with some of those who took part in the festival – Photo by Doug Moody

## Quiz answers

**Connection question:** 1. Carry On Cowboy 2. Brother 3. Durban 4. Gin 5. Inspector Wexford

**Connection:** Questions Father Paul Farrer answered on his way to winning ITV's *The Chase*.

**Thinking cap question:** William Hartnell, Patrick Troughton, Jon Pertwee, Tom Baker, Peter Davison, Colin Baker, Sylvester McCoy, Paul McGann, Christopher Eccleston, David Tennant, Matt Smith and Peter Capaldi.

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