

Bishop's Column

For me, March has always been the month of St Joseph whose feast is March 19. This year we celebrate it on Monday March 20 as the actual feast falls on the Third Sunday of Lent. Throughout the ages there has always been a history of strong devotion to St Joseph, the spouse of our Blessed Lady and the Foster Father of Jesus.

There is a deep down generosity in Joseph; his acceptance of such a great responsibility in becoming the husband of her who is to be the Mother of God, and also of taking on the care of the child Jesus. This role of foster-parent, adoptive-parent, is a mighty calling which demands much love and sacrifice. And what a great patron we have in St Joseph. The preface of the Mass of the feast day says it all...

For this just man was given by you, Father, as spouse to the Virgin Mother of God and set as a wise and faithful servant in charge of your household, to watch like a father over your Only Begotten Son, who was conceived by the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit, our Lord Jesus Christ.

My other great saint, Teresa of Avila, had a very strong devotion to St Joseph. She named her first reformed convent after him – San José in Avila, and when she was away from the convent she left him in charge, putting a statue of St Joseph in the Prioress' chair! This is what she had to say about him in her autobiography, Chapter 6:

I do not remember even now that I have ever asked anything of him which he has failed to grant. I am astonished at the great favours which God has bestowed on me through this blessed saint, and at the perils from which He has freed me, both in body and in soul.

Her theory for why St Joseph was so efficacious was that Jesus had learned obedience to St Joseph, his foster-father, in his childhood and so he continued to obey him for eternity. Thus Jesus could never refuse a favour asked through the intercession of St Joseph. Try it and see! He was proclaimed Patron of the Universal Church by Blessed Pius IX in 1870 and included in the Eucharistic Prayer on the instructions of Saint John XXIII.

O blessed Joseph, faithful guardian of my Redeemer, Jesus Christ, protector of thy chaste spouse, the virgin Mother of God, I choose thee this day to be my special patron and advocate and I firmly resolve to honour thee all the days of my life. Therefore I humbly beseech thee to receive me as thy client, to instruct me in every doubt, to comfort me in every affliction, to obtain for me and for all the knowledge and love of the Heart of Jesus, and finally to defend and protect me at the hour of my death. Amen.

+ Long

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Plaque Honours Hull's Hero Of The Holocaust

A Hull-born nun who sheltered Jews from the Nazis in wartime France has been honoured with a plaque in her home city.

Daughter of Charity Sister Agnes Walsh, who died in 1993 at the age of 97, was recognised as "Righteous Among the Nations" during her lifetime by Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial centre.

However, her bravery was little known within the UK. Her nephew, Ian Judson, joined members of the Holocaust Memorial Trust and councillors for a ceremony in Hull's Guildhall, just yards from Lowgate, where Sister Agnes was born.

Ian vividly remembers his visits to her at the Priory in Mill Hill where she lived for many years after her return from France. He held in his hands the "Hero of the Holocaust Medal" presented to Sister Agnes posthumously by Gordon Brown in 2010. This medal is on display in the Daughters of Charity's Archive Room at Mill Hill.

The unveiling coincided with Hull's annual Holocaust memorial. About 100 people attended, each placing a large stone on a cairn, reflecting a custom that takes place in Jewish cemeteries.

The evening began with a speech from Dr Nick Evans of the Wilberforce Institute in Hull, who has researched Sister Agnes's life. Mayor of Hull Councillor Sean Chaytor said he was honoured and humbled to unveil the latest Lord Mayor's Centenary Plaque honouring her selfless actions.

The programme included poetry readings, talks, songs and music and a children's choir



Sisters Teresa Mathews, Joan Conroy and Bernadette Ryder and Dr Nick Evans of the Wilberforce Institute

sang *Let There Be Peace On Earth, And Let It Begin With Me.*

In one reading a young girl spoke of the beauty and hope inspired by Sister Agnes' life amid so much news of war and terror in our own day. The final prayer and blessing were spoken in both Hebrew and English.

Councillor Mary Glew, leader of the plaque scheme, said: "It is extremely fitting on the day we hold our Holocaust memorial service

that Sister Agnes Walsh is honoured with the latest Lord Mayor Centenary Plaque.

"Sister Agnes took a great risk to save a Jewish family from being persecuted and protected them at the convent until they were liberated. She was an incredibly brave and fearless woman."

Only 13 British people have been honoured with the Righteous Among the Nations title.

Who was Sister Agnes? Page 2


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NEWS

Who Was Sister Agnes?

Ada Valinda Walsh was born in 1886 at 110 Brunswick Avenue, Hull, and was the granddaughter of Irish cotton mill workers. Brought up in a strong Catholic household, the family was large and eventually they moved to 75 Lowgate, next door to the Guildhall.

William Wilberforce, the slavery emancipator, was born a mile from Ada. Both were given a secular and religious education that formed the bedrock of their lives, becoming involved in social action at the age of 20.

While Wilberforce fought social ills including slavery, Ada committed her life to the Sisters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul. Both travelled – Wilberforce around the UK and to Paris and Ada around Britain, Ireland, what became Israel, and France. Both ultimately died – as they had been born – a mile apart, in the northern outskirts of London. The former was accorded the highest honour in death, while Ada died relatively unknown.

When Ada entered the community she became known as Sister Agnes and was initially placed in the orphanage in Mill Hill and then in Ireland, but she volunteered for the foreign missions and was sent to Jerusalem in 1932. She was issued with an Irish passport, which turned out to be a lucky mistake.

In 1935 she travelled to France to recuperate after a fall and in 1940 she was appointed assistant at Cadouin, where the nuns ran a school. She insisted she would be safe because of her passport from neutral Ireland.

After the Germans occupied France in 1942, the superior Sister Louise Granier was afraid someone in the village might betray Sister Agnes, as her accent was clearly English. Sister Louise asked a communist member of the French Resistance to be prepared to take Sister Agnes to a place of safety on the back seat of his motorbike. Fortunately, the Germans never came.

Monsieur Pierre Cremieux met Sister Louise by chance and revealed he was a Jew who was living with his family in Villeneuve-sur-Lot, 50 miles north of Toulouse. He asked if he could come to the convent if things got dangerous in Villeneuve. Sister Louise replied, “*En bien venez!*” – “Just come!”

Fifteen months later Pierre Cremieux brought his wife and three children, Alain and baby twins Colette and Pierre, to the sisters' house. Sister Agnes took them under her wing and sheltered the family from the terrors of both the Germans and the French police, who were involved in rounding up Jews for deportation to concentration and death camps.

Not even the sisters knew who they really were, as they were introduced as distant relatives of Sister Louise. It was said that Madame Cremieux needed the fresh country air to recuperate after giving birth to twins.

In April 1944 Sister Agnes received a call from her friend Colonel Delluc, adjutant to the mayor, who warned her that “her friends from Paris” had better not be at the convent when the Germans came for an inspection.

According to Alain Cremieux, they quickly packed up and joined their father Villeneuve-sur-Lot, where they remained until the war ended.

Sister Agnes stayed in Cadouin until 1950, when she was placed in Epinay-sur-Senart, near Paris. In 1967 she returned to the British Province and was placed in London, dying in Mill Hill on 1993.

One day in 1990, Colette Cremieux-Foa, one of the twins, visited Sister Agnes. She had never forgotten the sister who helped her family escape the Holocaust and as an expression of gratitude she and her brothers asked the Israeli authorities to grant Sister Agnes the title “Righteous Among the Nations.”

This honour entitled Sister Agnes to a medal and certificate of honour, as well as the privilege of having her name inscribed on the wall in the Garden of the Righteous, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. Sister Agnes, then a spritely 94-year-old, was delighted with this award.

When Sister Agnes died three years later, Alain Cremieux attended her funeral and was asked to write something of her life in France. Many of the details in this story are taken from Alain's letter. He concludes with these words: “Sister Agnes and Sister Louise remain for me symbols of sweetness, candour, calm and goodwill, unusually associated with courage and determination.”

The Jewish authorities in England pressed for



33 British men and women who helped Jews and others to escape the Holocaust to be honoured in their own country. After a visit to Auschwitz, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced such a reward and Provincial Sister Marie Raw and archivist Sister Joan Conroy received the award posthumously on Sister Agnes' behalf in a ceremony at 10 Downing Street.

Hollywood Comes To Hull

Hull began its Year as the City of Culture with an impressive opening week of fireworks, exhibitions and spectacles in the old town.

The “Made in Hull” light and sound show in Queen Victoria Square was described by many observers as awe-inspiring. Some of the buildings seemed to explode as they recalled the bombing of the city in the Second World War and we seemed to be in the middle of a North Sea hurricane as the projections paid tribute to the fishing industry and the toll it has taken in lost lives.

As well as the light and sound show, images were projected onto the side of the Deep aquarium tracing the history of the refugees who passed through the city over the past 150 years. Another large screen showed pictures of local people dressed up as characters from their favourite films, photographed in and around places in Hull by lens-based artist Quentin Budworth.

One person dressed up as Tom Hanks from *Castaway*, sitting under the Humber Bridge, and another was Ursula Andress in *Dr No*, emerging from the River Humber dressed in a bikini. Three parishioners from St Anthony's took part. Freddie Garland was Audrey Hepburn in a scene from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, Erin was Cosette in *Les Miserables* and Aoife was Merida in *Brave*. The reaction of the crowd watching was wonderful as each image appeared on the screen.

The inspiration for the opening week of the City of Culture celebrations and the person behind all the planning was Sean McAllister, a parishioner of the Marist parish and a well-known documentary filmmaker. Thousands were in the city centre throughout the week enjoying an unforgettable experience and on the final night more than 100,000 people thronged the streets. Lots more events are planned and if the first week is anything to go by, it should be a great year.

Chris Cuthill



Aoife as Merida in *Brave*



Freddie as Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*

Charity Campaigns Against ‘Flying’ Care Visits

Hundreds of disabled and older people in our diocese are receiving undignified home care in 15-minute slots, according to research by a leading charity. Leonard Cheshire Disability is concerned that so-called “flying” visits, which go against official guidance, deprive people of appropriate and compassionate care.

The charity says at least 834 people in Yorkshire and the Humber received 15-minute care visits during 2015 and 2016. Of these, 790 people live in areas where councils admit to still using flying visits for personal care to support people with intimate needs such as washing, dressing and eating.

Freedom of Information responses reveal that seven out of 15 councils in the region are still commissioning 15-minute visits for personal care, while another five gave unclear replies. Across England, at least 34 out of 152 councils (22%) admit they still commission 15-minute visits to provide personal care to disabled and older people.

Short visits continue despite statutory guidance accompanying the Care Act 2014 stating that “short home-care visits of 15 minutes or less are not appropriate for people who need support with intimate care needs”. The National Institute for Clinical Excellence also advises that carers should spend a minimum of 30 minutes during visits to help keep people well.

Leonard Cheshire Disability has campaigned to end flying care visits through its Make Care Fair campaign since 2013. A further six councils in England stopped using 15-minute personal care visits in 2015/16, bringing the total number up to 52 out of 152 councils.

In its report “The State of Social Care in Great Britain”, Leonard Cheshire Disability says a lack of social care is having a

devastating impact on the lives of disabled people and putting an unbearable strain on our health service.

The charity's chief executive Neil Heslop said: “We should not accept that disabled and older people are still having to endure the indignity and disrespect of receiving flying personal care visits. All of us need time to wash, eat and drink for ourselves, and 15 minutes is nowhere near enough to do these essential tasks if you need support.

“The reality is thousands of disabled people have to choose whether to go thirsty, go without a hot meal, or go without the toilet during these rushed visits. Councils should be observing official guidance and putting an end to 15-minute personal care visits for good. None of us would want our family and friends to receive personal care visits as short as 15 minutes, so we should not accept this happening across the country to anyone else.”

In England, at least 400,000 fewer people are now receiving social care compared to 2009. This is against a backdrop of 1.4m more working age adults living with a disability compared to 2010. Leonard Cheshire Disability is urging the government to rapidly restore the social care safety net which allows millions of disabled people to live and work with independence and dignity.

It is calling for funding earmarked for social care under the Better Care Fund in 2019/20 to be brought urgently forward to alleviate the huge pressure facing the social care system now. It also wants a national commission to plan how we will meet the growing demand for dignified, person-centered social care, and how this will be funded.

Sheila Books A Well-Earned Rest

Sheila Chambers, who founded Hesse's Our Lady's Bookshop with her husband Peter in 1980, has retired to leave her daughter Lucy to continue the business.

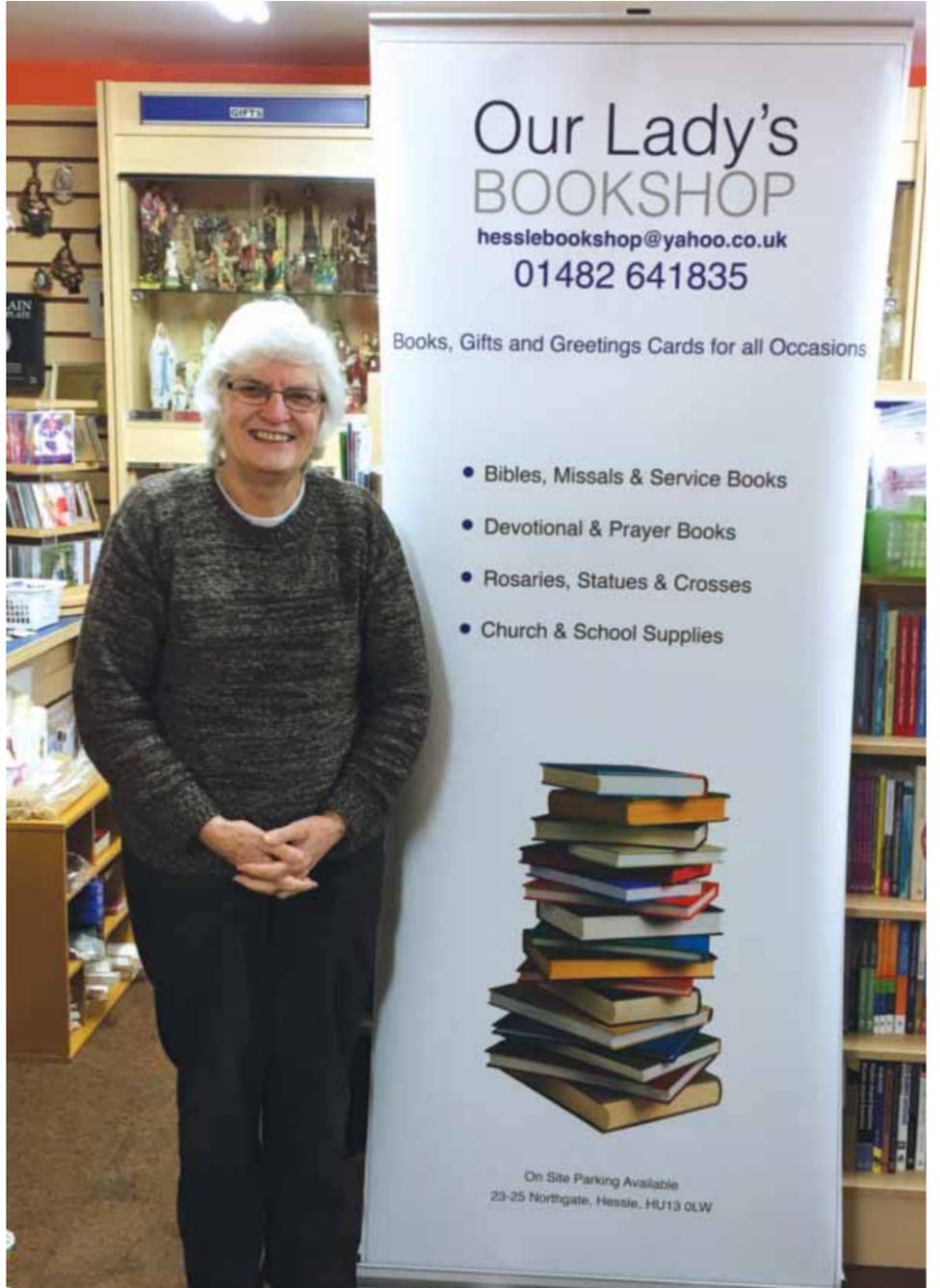
The shop was started in their home and some will remember their hall being used before they moved to premises at 27a Northgate, Hesse in 1986. The shop was officially opened by Bishop Kevin O'Brien.

In 1990 expansion into general books and gifts and school supplies saw the arrival of Hesse Bookshop at 23 Northgate. As the business at both shops grew it became more convenient to house them under one roof and in 2000 number 25 was acquired and Our Lady's Bookshop and Hesse Bookshop resided together side by side as it is today.

The shop now supplies churches of all denominations as well as general religious books, gifts and cards. In addition, it continues to supply local schools and has a successful general non-religious books and gifts trade.

Following Peter's death in 1996, family members rallied to assist and ensure the business was maintained. Lucy became an official business partner in 2005.

The shop continues to be a family business run by Lucy, who also currently employs her younger sister, Cat, on a part-time basis. You may see Sheila occasionally in the shop, or she may even be spotted at diocesan events with the bookstall. We wish her all the best for a well-deserved rest.



Chaplaincy Co-ordinators' Retreat

Chaplaincy co-ordinators from our diocesan secondary schools met together at the Endsleigh Convent in Filey for their annual retreat.

After a very warm welcome from the sisters and a beautiful meal prepared by Sister Zita, they gathered for a talk and discussion led by Deacon Vince Purcell on the theme of "Vocation and the Experience of God's Love".

Following evening prayer for Candlemas Day in the convent chapel, the group visited a local pub for drinks and a catch up before bed.

The following morning, after a great night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, the group joined the Parish of St Mary's in their local church for morning prayer and Holy Mass, where Father Andrew and Father Martin celebrated the Sacrament of the Sick and the Blessing of the

Throats for the Feast of St Blaise.

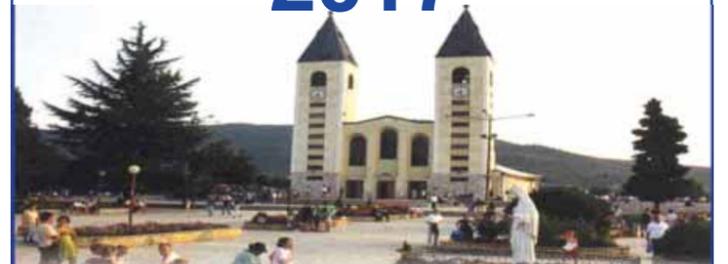
The group were invited for coffee and cake with the parishioners in the church hall afterwards and took a long and refreshing walk along the beach before returning for a meeting and lunch at the convent.

It was a most relaxing and affirming stay, with time for personal reflection, spiritual refreshment and a great sense of camaraderie, helped in no small part by the gorgeous weather. Thank you to Dom Finn and Vince Purcell for organising such an enjoyable retreat and for the Sisters of Mercy for their exceptional hospitality.

Sara Rutter



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**ANGEL
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**EXPLAINED
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Feast of the Month

**The Annunciation
Saturday March 25**

God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary. The angel told her she had been chosen by God to be the mother of his son. Mary was puzzled because she was not yet married. Gabriel explained this would happen through the power of the Holy Spirit and that she should name the baby "Jesus". Mary replied, "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done as you have said."



A Helping Hand In Hull

Nursery children from St Thomas More in Hull presented a cheque to Viking FM's Jess Clapson for the station's Cash for Kids Mission Christmas appeal to help local youngsters who are living in poverty. Pupils raised £711 through a range of fundraising initiatives.



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Quick Quiz

Connection question

1. What would you do with a Lambeg?
2. Name the American tennis star who was born in 1943 and won 12 grand slam singles, 16 grand slam doubles and 11 grand slam mixed doubles titles.
3. What was the famous boxing match between Joe Frazier and Mohammed Ali in 1975 billed as?
4. What is the nickname of the great bell in the clock tower of the Palace of Westminster?
5. What was the title of the third film in the Spaghetti western trilogy?

Thinking cap question

Which four royal houses have ruled since the union of the Kingdom of England and the Kingdom of Scotland on May 1 1707?

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



Thirty children at St Peter's Church in Scarborough attended an enrolment Mass as they prepared to make their first confession and receive their first Holy Communion.

Called To Be Saints

The universal call to holiness was the theme for a recent retreat day given at Sacred Heart Secondary School in Redcar.

The whole of year nine were taken off timetable for a full day to spend time in prayer and reflection with MYMission upon how God calls all of us to strive to become saints.

Team member Dom Boyes spoke movingly of meeting recently-canonised St Teresa of Calcutta many years ago and of how her extraordinary love of the poor and marginalised was an inspiration to him in his Christian life.

The students also enjoyed a number of interactive workshops which explored the transformative effect God has on our lives when we invite him to mould us according to his designs.

We are looking forward to a number of other secondary school retreat days in Scarborough and Richmond over the coming weeks and months.

Terry Graham

Bible Comes Alive

Children and their parents dressed as their favourite saint or biblical character for a costume party organised by parishioners at All Saints Church in Thirsk. They included Jesus, St Rita, St Monica, St Joseph, St Constantine, Goliath and David, a shepherd, baby Moses and several angels. Father Jerry Twomey offered an opening prayer and the participants introduced themselves and explained their costumes before enjoying games, singing and dancing and a delicious buffet. Many thanks to all those who helped and contributed to the success of this event.

Marlena Trueman



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Great Things Start With A Thumb-Sized Fish

This month we introduce you to Florence from Zambia and share with you how she was enabled to turn one tiny fish into a thriving business and a future for her family, with help from CAFOD supporters...

Florence Nachinsambwe lives in Mbala. She joined a local group supported by Households in Distress because she was struggling to provide for herself and her two children after her husband was killed in a mining accident.

Florence made two fish ponds and stocked them with small starter fish, called tilapia, from our partners, the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. She received training in caring for the ponds and the fish.

When the fish had grown and she sold them, Florence reinvested the money, cleaned the pond and bought new starter fish and fish feed. Now Florence's business supports her parents, as well as her own family, so they can buy the things they need and her children can go to school.

Florence shared her new skills and knowledge with her neighbours and they set up fish ponds too. "I wanted to help my neighbours as they had helped me in the past," she said. "I thought if they were empowered, they could benefit too."

Florence's neighbours use the profits to send their children to school and to improve their homes, including installing solar panels and buying radios to keep in contact with the world. Life in Florence's village is being transformed – one fish at a time! We are really grateful for the help you can give us in making Lent Fast Day a success again in your parish. We'd also like to hear about any fundraising activities you are planning.



A Concert For CAFOD In York

If you like songs from the musicals you will love this event being planned by ladies from the In Harmony choir. It will take place at Our Lady's Church, Gale Lane, York YO24 3AE on Wednesday March 15 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5 on the door and free for children accompanied by an adult. Light refreshments will be served. It promises to be an enjoyable evening.

New Lenten Reflection Materials

A series of five, weekly reflections, entitled "Care for our Common Home: Living simply, sustainably and in solidarity" has been produced jointly by CAFOD and Liverpool Archdiocesan Justice and Peace Commission. Each reflection includes links to the Sunday Gospels, *Laudato Si'* quotes, local and international stories, questions and discussions, reflections and prayer. If you would like a copy please email middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk. We also have Lent Fast Day resources on our website, <http://cafod.org.uk>, and you can meditate on Jesus' journey to the cross with the people of Zambia with our Lent Stations of the Cross, found on our prayer resources page.

Connecting People To Parliament

Would you write to your MP for CAFOD? He or she is your link to Parliament and can influence decisions that affect the future of the world's poorest people. By becoming a CAFOD MP Correspondent (MPC) and contacting your MP a few times a year you can bring their voices into the corridors of power.

Through building relationships with their MPs CAFOD supporters have already helped change government policy, including tougher laws to tackle climate change and corruption. Do you know someone who would make

a great MPC, or would you like to sign up yourself? You don't need to be an expert! You can join us for training and an MP reception in Manchester on Friday March 24 or London on Monday April 24. Call us for more details.

Save The Date For Holy Island!

If you've ever been to Holy Island you'll know what a special place it is. And if you've never been then we can highly recommend it. Either way, we'd love you to join us on Saturday July 1 for what will be a very special event, our Holy Island Pilgrimage and Mass of Thanksgiving. More details will follow but please save the date for now if you would like to come.

Jonathan Joins CAFOD Team

We were delighted to welcome Middlesbrough lad Jonathan Barber as our new North East Regional Communications intern last month. Bringing his youth and technical expertise, he will be keeping our online communications up to date and collecting local stories to share with media across five dioceses, so he will be kept busy. If you have a story to share, he would be delighted to hear from you. Drop him an email at jbarber@cafod.org.uk.

Carol Cross, Community Participation Coordinator



New CAFOD intern Jonathan Barber pictured on a visit to the National Football Museum

Come And Sing With Acclaimed Composer

The Music Department of the Diocese of Middlesbrough, in conjunction with the Royal School of Church Music in the North and East Yorkshire area, is delighted to be able to welcome the prolific composer and organist Malcolm Archer.

Malcolm will be joining us at All Saints Church, Northallerton, on Saturday March 25 when he will be leading one of his very popular "Come and Sing" workshops. One of one of the world's leading church musicians, Malcolm has enjoyed a distinguished career in cathedral music, which has taken him to posts at Norwich, Bristol and Wells cathedrals and then Director of Music at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

He is now Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College, where he is responsible for the college's ancient choral

foundation, conducting the chapel choir and teaching the organ. During his time at St Paul's he directed the choir for several state services, including the Tsunami Memorial Service, the London Bombings Service and the 80th Birthday Service for Her Majesty the Queen, for which he was invited by Buckingham Palace to compose a special anthem, performed live on BBC1.

His many broadcasts and recordings from Wells and St Paul's received critical acclaim and his CD of Christmas music from St Paul's was voted editor's number one choice in *The Daily Telegraph*. We would like to invite everyone to come and take part in this event, which is open to everyone who loves to sing. For a booking form or for further information, please email rscmnyorkshire@outlook.com.



Cathedral Chorister Hits The High Notes

Congratulations to Daniel Chaney, head boy chorister at St Mary's Cathedral. Daniel has been through a tough audition process to win a place in the prestigious Northern Cathedral Singers, which is the premier choir of Royal Schools of Church Music in the North of England. The choir sings services in cathedrals, abbeys, minsters and priories across the region and aims for the highest musical standards. Competition to be a chorister is stiff and we are delighted Daniel has been chosen.

Tim Harrison



Talk Focuses On Education

Catholic education is the subject of the Cleveland Newman Circle's talk at Middlesbrough Cathedral Hall on Wednesday March 22. Andrew Gardner, from Carmel College in Darlington, is the speaker for "Christ at the Centre". Coffee and tea will be served from 7.30pm with the talk beginning at 7.45pm. All are welcome. Call 01642 645732 or email tpj.egerton@virgin.net for more details.

A Christian Approach To The Environment

Plant scientist and environmental biologist Dr Martin Hodson is the speaker at a talk hosted by the Ecumenical Fellowship of Aelred. "A Christian View of Environmental Issues" takes place in Sowerby Methodist Chapel, Front Street, Sowerby, Thirsk, on Saturday March 11 2017 from 10.30am to noon.

Dr Hodson is operations director for the John Ray Initiative and his publications include *Cherishing the Earth* and *A Christian Guide to Environmental Issues*, both co-authored with his wife Margot, a Church of England vicar. Tickets are £5 including refreshments. To book or for further information please visit www.fellowshipofaelred.org.uk or call Christine on 07759957997 or Frances on 07793 753316.

Hope Is Theme For Wilberforce Lecture

Father Timothy Radcliffe OP gave the Wilberforce Trust Lecture at St Charles Borromeo Church in Hull on the theme of "Learning Hope – Lessons from the Front Line with ISIS". Father Timothy, a former Master General of the Dominican Order, was introduced by Alderman Patrick Doyle, a Lay Dominican. In the audience were Bishop Terry, the Lord Mayor of Hull, councillors, clergy from different denominations and three more Lay Dominicans.

Father Timothy drew on his experiences in Rwanda, Burundi, Iraq, Syria and Algeria, finding hope in the darkest places. He spoke of the hope that "the breaking of the bread" gave when words were useless. During questions he urged the audience to think and not oversimplify complex problems. The applause he received was a testimony to his powerful address.



Father Timothy Radcliffe. Photo courtesy of Mazur/catholicchurch.org.uk

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For a Supported Pilgrim application form please email secretary Pat Ling at patricia.ling@gmail.com or call 01642 760105.

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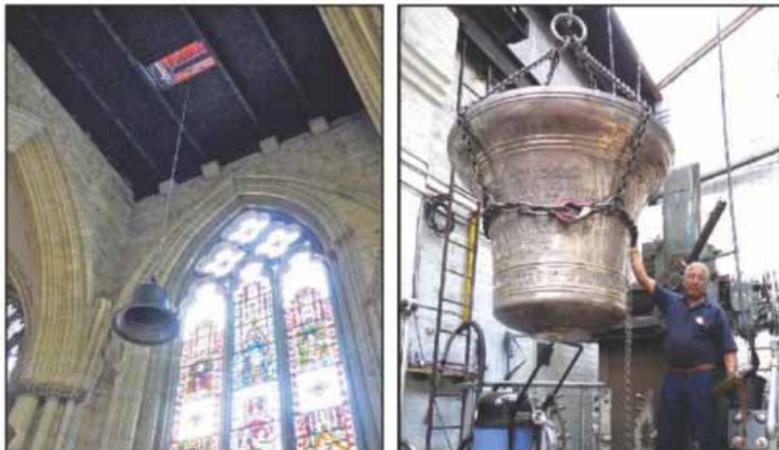
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Roissy	£659	£669	£719
St Sauveur	£719	£729	£743
Padoue	£719	£729	£719
Eliseo	£719	£729	£719
Panorama	£719	£729	N/A
Solitude	£719	£729	£743
Moderne	£719	£729	£758
Accueil		£659	£642
Flight only		£439	£399

Insurance will be offered in addition to the above prices at £28 per person. Special conditions apply to those aged over 86 years of age.

Cardinal Calls For Refugee Rethink

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has called for the government to do more to help vulnerable, unaccompanied child refugees after the repealing of the "Dubs Amendment".

Article 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 was intended to ensure that 3,000 children fleeing war-ravaged countries would be given sanctuary in the United Kingdom. However, the scheme is now being closed even though only 350 children have been taken in.

Describing the move as "truly shocking", Cardinal Nichols said: "I urge the government to look again at all available resources and to work with renewed vigour, internationally and at home, to support and enable programmes to assist these vulnerable children."

"Indeed, I encourage many who are expressing concern to take up the valuable Community Sponsorship Scheme established by the government, whereby local communities are able to provide places of welcome and safety for refugees seeking shelter in this country."

"Our government is rightly proud of its initiatives against human trafficking, which are appreciated around the world. Yet to neglect these unaccompanied children is to leave them extremely vulnerable to human trafficking with all its terrible consequences."



Improving Your Mind, Body And Soul

Greek philosopher Aristotle once said, "The essence of life is to serve others and do good" and modern day research still supports this ancient theory.

A recent study by the medical school at Exeter University analysed more than 40 published papers on the health benefits to people who volunteer. The results showed that people who gave their time and expertise freely were less likely to suffer from depression, had increased feelings of life satisfaction and enhanced wellbeing.

It is believed that volunteering is good for the mind because those who volunteer are more socially connected. In particular, those who volunteer regularly become part of a group of likeminded people and so they suffer less from loneliness and depression.

Volunteering is good for the body because those who give their time are more physically active and less likely to suffer from high blood pressure, believed to be a key cause of heart attacks and stroke. This study suggested that volunteering just 100 hours a year could be beneficial to your health, particularly for those aged 50-plus.

Giving your time and energies for the good of others brings personal satisfaction and increased self-esteem. Just being in the company of people who are giving to others and the positive psychology of helping a good cause can bring increased self-confidence and a greater feeling of life satisfaction.

Butterwick Hospice Care, based in Stockton-on-Tees and Bishop Auckland, cares for more than 2,000 people of all ages with life-limiting illnesses and supports their families. All the care and support for patients and their loved ones is provided free of charge. However, this commitment costs the charity over £4m to deliver.

Butterwick relies upon volunteers to help



Volunteer Molly Cowling in the Butterwick's Billingham shop

them ensure the people they serve receive individual care of the highest standards. With volunteers carrying out 750 roles across the organisation, volunteers help the hospice within all departments, supporting nurses, fundraisers and helping in the Butterwick shops to maintain this much appreciated and highly respected charity.

The hospice has carried out its own research in recent months asking its volunteers about what they get out of the time they spend with the charity helping others. Julie Bowron, Voluntary Services Manager, said: "The response we have had from our volunteers has been very positive. The vast majority of people who give their time can clearly see the benefit they provide to the wider community. Butterwick tries hard to match people who wish to volunteer with their preferred role and we provide ongoing training to ensure people feel confident in their roles."

Butterwick Hospice is currently recruiting and can offer a wide variety of voluntary positions, which range in time commitment from two hours a week. If you would like to find out more about how you could have a positive impact on the lives of people of all ages in your community through Butterwick Hospice you can get in touch with Julie or Butterwick's volunteer coordinators for a no obligation chat. Call during office hours on 01642 607742 or 01388 603003 or visit the website at www.butterwick.org.uk/volunteer

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NEWS

Returning To A Fragile Peace

Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel's Parish, Ormesby, in Middlesbrough, lives and works in Basankusu Diocese, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He is a lay missionary with Mill Hill Missionaries. Francis visited England at the end of the year because of political unrest. Here he looks back at his work so far...

When we think we've got problems with our politicians, we should count ourselves lucky by the standards of some other countries. Congo's long-term dictator, Mobutu, was toppled from power in the 1990s.

The new president, Laurent-Désiré Kabila, lasted only a short time until he was bumped off and replaced by his son, Joseph Kabila. Then, civil war raged until 2005. Kabila somehow clung to power and won two elections – probably by fixing the results. But the people didn't need to worry about putting up with him forever because the constitution only allows a person to be president for two terms.

Time passed and Kabila thought up more and more reasons to delay elections and his inevitable retirement. This resulted in tensions building up within the population. Corruption is everywhere in Congo, but it runs into billions of dollars when it comes to presidents. Money to develop the country was ending up in the wrong people's pockets – and the president was in the middle of it all.

Although it's sometimes better the devil you know, the country's emerging political groups didn't agree. Opposition turned violent in September and the police were seen on TV shooting into the crowds. I was unable to leave the house where I was staying in Kinshasa for over a week. Another time I was harassed by undercover police, whose job is to target foreigners in case they are human rights activists or journalists.

The deadline for the president to step down approached with several hundred people killed nationally in opposition demonstrations. Foreign diplomats suggested that another civil war was imminent and people like me would do well to go home for a while.

So I spent some time in England over the New Year and enjoyed meeting many people who support my work. The Congolese Catholic Bishops' Conference refereed the negotiations between opposition and

government and eventually the president agreed to stand down – but not until much later this year.

Calm has returned to the Congo. And so have I. The day I flew back, the long-time leader of the opposition died in Belgium. Fortunately, that hasn't had a big impact on the situation, yet. Next week I'll be hitching a lift back to Basankusu, in the rainforest, where I work, in the plane chartered by our visiting eye doctors. Let's hope the president sticks to his word and that the calm

continues.

Follow Francis Hannaway on Facebook. Email: francish7@yahoo.com To support his projects send money via PayPal (type PayPal.me/FHannaway into your browser), or Internet banking: Pay: St Joseph's Society for FM, Ref: F Hannaway Congo, Sort code: 16-00-15, Account: 23114537. Cheques to: Mill Hill Missionaries, St Joseph's Parish Centre, PO Box 3608, MAIDENHEAD SL6 7UX. Pay: "Mill Hill Missionaries – F Hannaway (Congo)".



Francis arrives back at the Procure St Anne in Kinshasa

A Letter From Madonna House

Love's Journey

As we continue our regular series, CHERYL ANN SMITH, of Madonna House, Robin Hood's Bay, reflects on the loss of a loved one...

Go without fears into the depths of men's hearts. I shall be with you. These prophetic words were given to Catherine Doherty, the founder of the Madonna House Apostolate, and thus they were given to each one of our members. It is a sacred calling to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who mourn, and in the exchange, God breathes His love. Recently a friend shared the devastation of losing his beloved wife. He spoke movingly of the waves of grief, loneliness, desolation. Initially he couldn't quite believe she really was gone; later, he couldn't quite figure out how he was meant to carry on without her. The absolute silence in the house screamed of the absence of her footsteps or her gentle call, "Want a cup of tea?"

In his grief, David called out to God for help and he "heard" these words: "Let the joy of her being in heaven not be surpassed by the pain of her leaving me." Joy filled his heart: he always wanted the best for his wife, and now she possessed all. His love for her could rejoice in that, in spite of his loss.

Another consolation was given at her funeral with a burst of warmth and the cry, "released!" Later he discovered that his son had been given the same experience at the same moment. His wife's suffering over, he knew she was now released fully into the loving arms of God and he was given a tiny taste of this joyful embrace.

Understandably, our friend battled mightily with depression as he had to cope with living alone. Sensing a nudge to reach out to a parishioner in pain, he visited this woman. She was cheered up, but David was still inwardly weeping. "I've been trying, Lord," he cried. "Now you have to do something. Please take the depression away by the time I get home." That day the sadness lifted – not permanently of course, but the reprieve assured him that God did hear his prayer.

There were other touches of grace, but the final one brought a deep peace and profound sense of the eternity of love. David suddenly thought to dig out a daily prayer book, and as he lifted it from his bedside cabinet, a holy card fell out. He remembered the image of Jesus on one side, but not the words on the back: "Our loved ones have gone no further from us than to God, and God is very near." He knew that Anne was in God's embrace and they were with him forever.

As David shared this journey of love and grief with me, he had both tears and radiance in his eyes. His heart was broken open from sorrow, but that open wound allowed God's love and light to pour in. I said, "David, you should write a book one day about this holy journey. You would bring hope to others who are grieving." He said, "I will, if you'll be my ghostwriter." This is our compromise!

• If you would like to support the community's work, please send cheques to Madonna House, Thorpe Lane, Robin Hood's Bay YO22 4TQ. For more information, call 01947 880169 or visit www.madonnahouse.org.



Four Centuries Of Vincentian Love

Vincentians around the world are this year celebrating 400 years of their founder's calling to the way of life they now follow.

St Vincent de Paul was born in 1581, the son of a peasant farmer. He was bright and his father saved in order to send him to school. Vincent was aware that priesthood could be a financially beneficial option in life and went off to study, with dreams of a lucrative career.

After some success and struggle, Vincent found himself mixing in the circles of royalty and gentry – but God had other designs on him. In 1617, while working in Folleville for the di Gondi family, Vincent visited the estate with Madam di Gondi. There his heart was moved by a dying peasant who was unsure how to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Vincent realised his true calling was to the poor, so that same year he left the di Gondi family and moved to a small parish in Chatillon-les-Dombes. Here, as he was vesting for Mass on Sunday, he heard about a family in the parish who were ill and needed help.

Vincent invited the parishioner to offer this help until he himself was available later that day. He then saw the great response of generosity that came from the congregation



but was aware that help like this needed to be organised if it was to be beneficial and lasting. It was from these two small beginnings that the great Vincentian Family has grown.

Throughout this 400th anniversary year a number of events are being organised both locally and nationally. On Saturday March 11 at St Stephen's, Greatfield, Hull, Sister Margaret Barrett DC will come and help unpack the beginnings of this amazing Vincentian Family and some of its works today. The day begins at 10.30am with coffee and ends at 3.30pm. Lunch will be provided and everyone is welcome.

Living The Gospel On Retreat

A retreat with a difference is just one description of Mariapolis 2017, which takes place at Ampleforth College in April. Alternatively, a temporary town built on the Gospel, a unique kind of holiday and a challenge would all fit.

Mariapolis 2017 is an annual gathering organised by Focolare. Meaning "hearth", Focolare is an ecclesial movement which has its origins in the Catholic Church but now also involves people of many Christian denominations, the faithful of the great world religions and also those of goodwill with no formal expression of belief.

Participants from all over the UK and abroad will meet to share reflections and dialogue as well as relaxing, playing and enjoying the stunning North Yorkshire countryside.

Many of us know the importance of taking time out of our busy lives to re-focus on God and what he is doing in our lives. However, that doesn't mean we have to close ourselves off from one another. Mariapolis (meaning City of Mary) is where we experience God's presence by trying to put his words into practice – by loving our

neighbour. Anyone can do this – children, the elderly, families and those in religious life.

Held over the Palm Sunday weekend, Mariapolis 2017 will also offer opportunities to join with the devotions of Ampleforth Abbey's Benedictine community. At the same time, the ecumenical nature of the Mariapolis will provide a tangible witness to the possibility of dialogue and unity on a day to day level.

The Mariapolis experience can also be shared by those in the local area. Last year the event was held in Liverpool and some of the young people spent an afternoon digging an allotment nearby to help refugees grow their own food and also improve their mental health.

Our experience at Mariapolis is that the more we go out to others, the deeper our relationship grows with God – and this also has a positive effect on the world around us. For further details contact Helen Copeland email helencopeland16@yahoo.co.uk or see more information at focolare.org.uk.

Helen Copeland

Meet The Friends Of Jesus

A sequence of meditations around some of Jesus' closest friends is being staged at two York churches in preparation for Lent and Easter. Mary Callan's *Resurrection Women – Men Too!* focuses on Martha, Mary, Lazarus and Judas and is part of York International Women's Festival. The play takes place in St Paul's Church in Holgate Road on Wednesday March 1 (Ash Wednesday) at 7.30pm and entry is £5/£3. The second performance is on Friday March 3 at 7.30pm in English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace. This showing is free, with a collection being taken for production company Blazing Grannies.

States Must Honour Nuclear Promises

CHRIS DOVE, a parishioner of St Hilda's in Whitby, gives a personal view on the UK's Trident nuclear programme...

Anti-nuclear weapons campaigners are famous for perseverance – they have to be, just because so many of us are quite old. No longer do campaigners in the nuclear weapon states have to struggle on alone. Civil society in the non-nuclear weapons states (and particularly their young) is pushing governments to be actively involved and to demand in the name of humanity, that nuclear weapons states honour their treaty obligations.

Nuclear weapons are the only weapons of mass destruction not yet explicitly forbidden under international law. At the five-yearly Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) review conference in Vienna in December 2014, 114 nations signed up to the Austrian government's pledge calling on all party states to renew their commitment to stigmatise, prohibit and eliminate nuclear weapons, in a new treaty, the Humanitarian Pledge.

The pledge is a commitment by nations to fill this unacceptable "legal gap." It offers a platform from which they can – and must – launch negotiations on a treaty banning nuclear weapons.

The 1968 NPT has so far only been implemented by non-nuclear states. Under Article VI, nuclear weapons states promised to "pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of

the nuclear arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament, and on a treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control."

But the nuclear nations have blocked progress for many years and some doubt we can ever make them change. However, change is possible. After years of argument and protest, we now have treaties that ban the use of chemical and biological weapons, and these were followed by the anti-personnel mines and cluster munitions treaties, all of which were considered essential for our safety.

The moral case against nuclear weapons, closely linked with the humanitarian case, is the most fundamental key to permanent abolition. Secondly, the UK signed the NPT and has to be bound by it. Thirdly, we have clear Catholic teaching on this point.

Pope Benedict XVI said in 2007: "What can be said, too, about those governments which count on nuclear arms as a means of ensuring the security of their countries? That nuclear weapons have any place in a civilised society is not only baneful but also completely fallacious. In a nuclear war there would be no victors, only victims."

Then, Pope Francis, in his World Peace Day Message, 2014 said: "I make my own the appeal of my predecessors for the non-proliferation of arms and for disarmament of all parties beginning with nuclear and chemical weapons."

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NATIONAL AND WORLD NEWS

Bishops Come Together For Joint Meeting

Bishop Terry joined his brother bishops from the Catholic and Anglican churches for a two-day joint meeting in Birmingham. This was the fifth joint meeting in the past 10 years, after previous meetings in Leeds and London.

They aim to foster spiritual communion and identify and develop programmes of joint witness and mission in this country, both regionally and nationally, while reflecting on the effectiveness of this expression of spiritual communion.

They also keep bishops informed about the formal dialogue of the Anglican-Roman Catholic Commissions. The meeting began with midday prayer at St Chad's Catholic Cathedral in Birmingham city centre and day one concluded with evening prayer at Oscott College with the seminary community.

Morning prayer on the second day was at St Philip's Anglican Cathedral. The 41 Anglican bishops and 32 Catholic bishops split into regional discussion groups to talk about issues of mutual concern.



Right: Bishop Terry joins in with morning prayer at St Philip's Cathedral during the joint Catholic and Anglican bishops' meeting in Birmingham. Photo courtesy Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

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Nuncio Thanked For Dedicated Service



Cardinal Nichols greets His Excellency Archbishop Antonio Mennini during a Solemn Mass in thanksgiving for his ministry as Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain. Photo courtesy Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

At the request of Pope Francis, the Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, His Excellency Monsignor Antonio Mennini, has been transferred to serve in the Secretariat of State of the Holy See after six years in the role.

"On behalf of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and in the name of the entire Catholic community, I express our warmest thanks to His Excellency for the service he has given to the Church in our countries," said Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

"He has been most attentive and sensitive to our needs and situation, while always representing the Holy Father with precision and clarity and sharing insights into the needs of the Universal Church.

"His presence amongst us bishops has always been that of a brother and we have never failed to appreciate his kindness and hospitality. We now wish him well in his new appointment, to which he will bring insight and wisdom. We assure him of our prayers for this mission and for his own health and wellbeing."



Action Demanded On 'Shocking' Prison Suicides

The Church is calling on ministers to take urgent action after the news that suicides in prisons across England and Wales have reached their highest ever number.

Describing the 119 self-inflicted deaths, 37,784 self-harm incidents and 25,049 assaults as "shocking and unacceptable", Bishop Richard Moth said staff shortages and overcrowding were major contributing factors. Last year thousands of staff walked out in protest over health and safety concerns and a number of jails underwent serious disturbances.

Bishop Moth, who has special responsibility for prisons, said: "Each death represents a tragedy for the person themselves, their family and the prison staff who try to help. Allowing our prisons to get to this stage is unacceptable.

"Overcrowding and staff shortages are a major contributing factor. This needs to be addressed urgently. We have to ensure proper and necessary care is available to those with mental health issues in our prison system.

"Dostoevsky wrote that the degree of civilisation in a society can be judged by entering its prisons. It is the responsibility of all of us to tackle this situation. We call again on the government to move as quickly as possible on its reform agenda for our prisons.

"Meanwhile, through our dedicated chaplains and volunteers, the Church will continue to support vulnerable prisoners by working with the government and those responsible for the running of our prisons."

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Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH 2017

- 5 Parish Visitation to St Aidan's, Oswaldkirk 9.00am Celebrates Rite of Election at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 3.00pm
- 7 Attends meeting of Bishop's Council at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11.00am Attends meeting of the Council of Priests at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 1.30pm
- 9 Attends Diocesan Safeguarding Commission meeting at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11.00am
- 11-17 Visitation to the Roman Seminaries
- 19 Celebrates Mass of Thanksgiving for the Daughters of Mary and Joseph at St Thomas More, Middlesbrough 9.00am
- 22 Catholic Education Symposium, London 12.00pm
- 23 Attends meeting of Ushaw Trustees at Hinsley Hall 10.30am
- 24 Attends meeting of Friends of the Lady Chapel at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11.00am
- 26 Parish Visitation to Sacred Heart Middlesbrough from 9.30am
- 27-29 Attends Conference at Durham University - Becoming human: Evolution, beginning and end of life
- 30 Meeting of Diocesan Trustees, Curial Offices 10.30am

1 Wed 6.30pm The Secular Franciscan Order meets at More House, Heslington, York. Contact Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, tel (01904) 470041 for details
6.30pm Latin Mass, St Charles Borromeo, Jarret Street, Hull

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

5 Sun 11am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

7 Tues 2-4pm The Road to Calvary with Sr Cecilia Goodman (also 21, 28 March and 4 April). These four weeks will look at key stages of the Passion: The Last Supper; Christ's trial and imprisonment; the Road to Calvary and Christ's crucifixion and deposition. Contact admin@stbedes.org.uk or 01904 464900 for details
7pm 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 Wed 10.30am The LIFE ASCENDING group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessle meets after the morning Mass
10.30am The LIFE ASCENDING group of St Leonard and St Mary, Malton meets
2.30pm Prayer Group at the John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough. New members welcome.

10 Fri 7pm-8.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets in St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact John (01759) 380415 for details.
7.30pm Marian Evening at the John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough - Rosary, Holy Mass, talk, witness. Contact Marie Bedingfield, tel (01642) 530739 for details.
7.30pm-9.30pm Bible study in the Church Hall, English Martyrs Church, Dalton Terrace, York looking at one complete set of Sunday readings (first, second and gospel). Contact Marek Lichtarowicz, tel (01904) 795605 for further details

Fri 10-Sun 12 7-8.30pm Discovering the life you were created to live - a time to search and find. Retreat for those aged 18-35 who want to explore their faith and the direction their life is taking. No charge, if possible, make a donation if within your means. Led by Fr Kevin Hayden OSB, contact Ampleforth on pastoral@ampleforth.org.uk or call 01439 766889.

11 Sat 10.30am-3.30pm 1617-2017 - How

Did It All Begin? Celebrating 400 years of sharing God's love with the Vincentian Family, St Stephen's, Greatfield HU9 4LA. Day led by St Margaret Barrett DC

12 Sun 11am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Mass in the Malayalam language at St Joseph's Church, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. Contact tel (01642) 818203 for details

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

14 Tues 12.45pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull
2pm-4pm LIFE ASCENDING Group, York West meet at Our Lady's, Acomb, York in the Fr Kelly Room
5.30pm Catholic Theology Research Seminar: Prof Christopher Southgate (Exeter University) 'Difficult Thoughts about Divine Glory.' Dun Cow Cottage, Dun Cow Lane off Palace Green, Durham. Contact ccs.admin@durham.ac.uk or 0191 334 1656.
7.30pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at the Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

15 Wed 7.30pm Concert for CAFOD; In Harmony choir (songs from the musicals), Our Lady's Church, Gale Lane, York YO24 3AE. Tickets £5 per adult, children accompanied by an adult free.
8pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meet at St Joseph's Church, West Hull

16 Thurs 7.30pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Sean Kelly), Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough; ticket only (contact Eddie on 01642 860227)

17 Fri
7.30pm Aquinas Reading Group in the Upper Room at St Wilfrid's, York. A guided reading of the Summa Theologiae. Contact Steve Evans, tel 07800697975 or e-mail: steve_evans21@tiscali.co.uk. Further details at <http://readingthesumma.blogspot.com/>

19 Sun
11am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass, St Gabriel's, Ormesby
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

20 Mon
7.30pm York Newman Circle: 'Local Upheaval? York and the Reformation' Professor Bill Shiels, University of York at the Bar Convent, Blossom Street, York. Refreshments from 7pm, contact Judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for further details.

22 Wed
7.30pm Cleveland Newman Circle 'Christ at the Centre: Catholic Education Today' talk by Mr Andrew Gardner, St Mary's Cathedral

25 Sat
11am Malcolm Archer 'Come and Sing' workshop, All Saints Church, Northallerton. Details from rscmneyorkshire@outlook.com
 The Annunciation – 11am Mass, 3.15pm Rosary/4pm Mass at the Lady Chapel, Osmotherley

26 Sun
11am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
 April issue of Catholic Voice available from church

29 Wed
12.45pm-3pm LIFE ASCENDING group, York Central meets at St Wilfrid's,

York in the Upper Room after the 12.10pm Mass

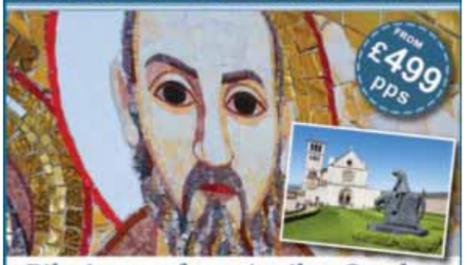
30 Thur
7.30pm-9pm The Pastoral Support Group for carers especially of people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact Margaret, tel (01642) 865668 for venue and other details

31 Fri
7pm Marian Prayer Group, St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Pat (01482) 802483 for details.

First Week of April

2 Sun
11am Latin Mass in the traditional form at Sacred Heart Church, Lobster Road, Redcar, TS10 1SH
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

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ADVANCE NOTICES:

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help takes place every Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass at St John's Church, Beverley

26 April Cleveland Newman Circle at 7.30pm St Mary's Cathedral: Pete Widlinsky and Kath Sainsbury 'The Refugee Crisis: Helping Those for Whom Life is Endless Exile.'

30 April 2017 Walk for Life procession leaves from outside St Wilfrid's, York at 1.20pm.

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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 for full programme of events

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By Friday 3 March for the April 2017 issue
By Friday 7 April for the May 2017 issue
Where possible, please email copy as an attachment in Word or a similar programme, with photos as jpeg attachments.

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200+ CLUB DRAW

Date of Draw – 6 February 2017:
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 Monday 6 March 2017

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Call For An End To Holy Land Occupation



Bishop Declan Lang during a visit to the Tent of Nations. Photo courtesy Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

Bishops are calling for action to end the 50-year occupation of the Holy Land, which they describe as a “scandal that violates the dignity of both Palestinians and Israelis”.

The appeal for an end to the suffering on both sides followed the Holy Land Coordination annual meeting. While many people in the Holy Land strive for reconciliation, most have now lived their entire lives under occupation.

The bishops implored Christians throughout the world to recognise their own responsibility for prayer, awareness and action. The Coordination, which is made up of bishops from Europe, North America and South Africa, has met in the Holy Land with the encouragement of the Holy See every year since 1998 to support the local Church.

Its presence is a reminder to the Christians of the Holy Land they are not forgotten and enables the bishops to witness the reality of occupation, so more informed questions can be asked of the politicians and diplomats in

their respective countries in the search for a just peace.

Bishop Declan Lang, chair of the Holy Land Coordination, said Christians must never become accustomed to what is happening in the Holy Land.

“It is a scandal that requires all of us to take responsibility,” he said. “We must pray for peace for everyone in this land; two peoples and three faiths. We must all make ourselves aware of the situation.

“Having informed ourselves of the reality, we must then take action, by supporting the charities active in the Holy Land, by coming on pilgrimage and by contacting our elected representatives. It is the responsibility of all of us to seek a just peace and in this 50th anniversary of occupation, that search must intensify.”

•Pope Francis met Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas at the Vatican recently to build on existing good relations between the Holy See and Palestine, sealed by the Global Agreement of 2015.

Quick Answers

Connection question

1. Beat it (it’s a drum). 2. Billie Jean King 3. The Thriller in Manilla 4. Big Ben 5. *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*.

Connection: Michael Jackson songs (*Beat It, Billie Jean, Thriller, Ben, Bad*)

Thinking cap question

Stuart, Hanover, Saxe-Coburg and Gotha and Windsor.

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