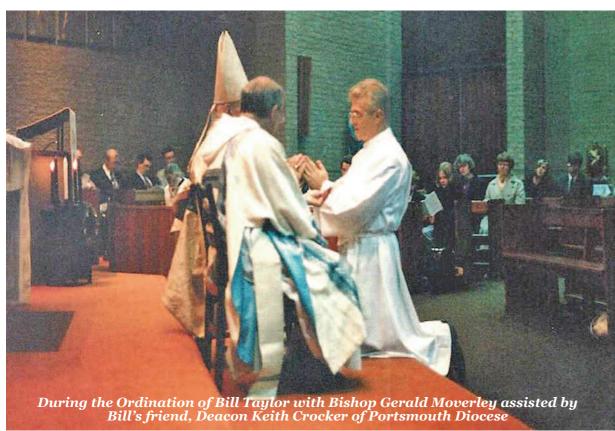
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FEBRUARY 2019 No. 349 FREE

DEACON BILL TAYLOR

Deacon Bill Taylor was ordained Deacon on the Feast of Our Lady Immaculate, 8 December, 1993. The Diaconate was a new development in our Diocese and Bill was the first to apply.

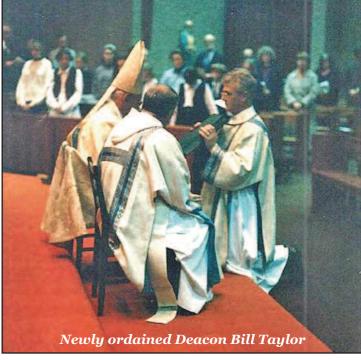
A parishioner of St Paul's, Cantley, in Doncaster, for many years, he was an airline pilot, going back to the days of BOAC, a profession that took him all over the world, and enabling him to make friends in many lands; they were usually missionaries, but one especially close to him was Mother Teresa of Calcutta. More importantly, he was married to Philomena, and together they brought up five children.

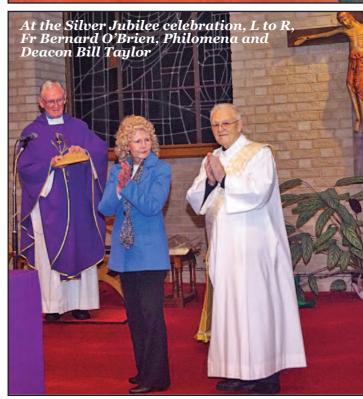


In 1991, Fr Pat Murphy, Parish Priest of St Paul's, had a heart attack and, as he struggled for recovery, Bill felt moved to do something of practical help. Discerning a possible vocation, he embarked on a course of studies which would lead him to sacramental ordination as a Deacon. No easy thing when joined to his other duties and vocations! His reputation as a truly devoted deacon grew; his service at the altar and his performance of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy endeared him to everyone. Cantley loved him, and when his Silver Jubilee of Ordination loomed, determined to do something to mark his years of service. "No fuss!" ordered Bill. "Just come to Mass." But behind the seeming compliance, plots were afoot. Parishioners were secretly invited to make a spiritual bouquet, a

financial gift and a specially made deacon's stole, decorated with the Divine Mercy motif, Bill's favourite devotion. Every kind of prayer, devotion and good work found mention as the presentation was made at the end of Mass. Groups of people can still be seen fulfilling their pledges. £1100 was contributed for their own personal choice of present. A brief sentence at the end of the list of gifts both spiritual and financial, says "Thank you, Deacon Bill and Philomena, for your fantastic help and support, from all current and past members of the parish." It was a heartfelt 'thank you' from everyone.

May God bless you, Bill, and may he continue to bless your ministry, and fill your years with happiness.





More pictures on page 3



Climate change campaign - page 8

IN THIS EDITION



Renewing the Liturgy - page 11



WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

- Deadline for articles for next issue of the Hallam News
- 6 Hallam Ascent Group meet at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD, 1.45-3.45pm, for a talk by Deacon Stephen Parker, 'Waiting and Longing for God'. For more details tele phone 0114 2306797, email ascent@jngreen.plus.com or visit the website: hallamascent.weebly.com.
- Sheffield Branch Walsing 12 ham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathe dral, Sheffield.
- Chesterfield Bereavement Support Group Drop-in/ coffee morning, 10.30am-12noon, The Annunciation Centre, Spencer Street, Chesterfield, S40 4SD.
- Sheffield Irish Association Tea Dance, with live music and refreshments, Philadelphia Club, Martin Street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield, S6 3DP, 1-3pm. All are welcome.
- 26 **Sheffield Branch Walsing** ham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathe dral, Sheffield.

Whirlow Spirituality Centre at the **Chapel of the Holy Spirit**

Whirlow Grange Close, Sheffield, S11 9SY tel: 0114 2353704, email: events@whirlowspiritualitycentre.org



Simple Quiet Day - 19 February

Whirlow hosts a day intended to provide you with the space to "be" before God; to relax, reflect and pray and so renew your spiritual resources. The space available will be as quiet as possible and honouring of your quiet, 9.45am-3.45pm, cost £15.

Praying Without Words - 21 February

For anybody drawn to silent prayer, meditation or contemplation, to practise, learn and explore, 7.30-9pm, no charge, donations welcome.



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HALLAM ASCENT GROUP

The Hallam Ascent Group was formed in the Summer of 2003 and, although based at St Francis of Assisi Parish, Sandygate, Sheffield, is open to all in and around the Hallam Diocese.

The group is aimed at those over fifty, retired or perhaps preparing to retire. Both men and women are welcome. The three strands of the group's focus are the development of spirituality, mission and friendship.

Hallam Ascent meets once a month at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, usually on the first Wednesday of the month at 1.45-3.45pm. The monthly meetings begin in prayer, followed by discussion and end with tea.

There is a varied and interesting programme of events. Social gatherings, usually mid-month on a Wednesday or Thursday, are planned nearer the time of the event, including picnics, walks, visits, pub lunches and games afternoons. The group have an Annual Lunch, usually in November.

More details about the group are available by email: ascent@jngreen.plus.com or on the website: http://hallamascent.weebly.com



THE ASCENT MOVEMENT

For Christians in their middle and later years

Currently, the programme for 2019 is:

Talk by Rev Mr Stephen Parker, Deacon at St Francis of

Assisi Church, 'Waiting and Longing for God'.

Ash Wednesday Soup and Cheese Lunch after Mass at 6 March:

Stations of the Cross at St Michael's Chapel, Rivelin, 3 April:

Sheffield, 2pm.

Talk by Stephen Spooner, 'Work in Africa'. 1 May:

5 June: Details to be confirmed.

3 July: Retreat Day at Bamford, led by Fr Martin Clayton. Mass

Social – Afternoon Tea. 7 August:

4 September: Talk by Sheila Kennedy, 'Dementia'. 2 October: Outing to Beverley, leave at 9am.

Talk by Bernie Healy, Chaplain at All Saints Catholic High School, Sheffield, 'School Chaplaincy'. 6 November:

4 December: Advent celebration.

Please note: all programme items are subject to change and details appear in the What's On section in each edition of the Hallam News.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Month



This month the diocesan rota for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is as follows:

Our Lady and St Thomas, Sheffield.

10 Blessed Trinity, Wickersley.

St Joseph, Rawmarsh.

Christ the King, Rossington.

CONSENT FORMS

In order to comply with National and Diocesan Safeguarding Guidelines all photographs of children sent to the Hallam News for publication must be accompanied by the official Diocesan consent form. The form can be downloaded from the Hallam News website, www.hallamnews.com, from the contributing information at the bottom of the home page.

It is Diocesan policy NOT to publish photographs of individual children accompanied by their name.



Hallam News is the monthly newspaper of the Diocese of Hallam

Editor: Marian Bolton. Address: Hallam News, Hallam Pastoral Centre,

St Charles Street, Sheffield, S9 3WU. Telephone: 0114 2566406. Fax: 0114 2562673. hallamnews@hallam-diocese.com. Website: www.hallamnews.com. Publication: fourth Sunday of the month dated for the following month.

Published by Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN Telephone: 0207 112 6710

Pastoral Letter for the Feast of the Holy Family Read at all Masses 29/30 December, 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

In late August this year, you may recall that the World Meeting of Families took place in Ireland in the presence of Pope Francis. The event was a little overshadowed by the revelations of historical child abuse cases in Ireland. However, I know, having spoken to some people who took part in the event, that it was an enriching experience. To gather with families from across the world to celebrate family life in its many aspects was clearly a special moment for those who took part.

Pope Francis took the opportunity to hear stories of families from around the world and to speak about the family. For a few moments I would like to reflect on three of the aspects of family mentioned by the Holy Father during this time: the family as a school for holiness, the family as a model of forgiveness and the family ily as a model for a new alliance between the older and the younger generations.

The Family – a School for Holiness
Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. I think we sometimes find holiness difficult to talk about. We often think of others as holy or called to holiness but never ourselves. Indeed, we feel awkward and embarrassed when others suggest that we might be holy. But we should not be afraid of holiness. It is simply striving to be our best selves in our relationship with God and one another. It is within the family that we

learn the ways of holiness midst the ordinary stuff of life. It is in the family that we learn to believe and share our belief, to show acts of kindness, to speak a word of forgiveness.

Speaking at the Pro Cathedral in Dublin, Pope Francis said, "It is in the home that we learn to believe, through the quiet example of parents who love our Lord and trust His word. There in the home, which we can call "the domestic church" children learn the meaning of fidelity, integrity and sacrifice."

The Family – a Model of Forgiveness

Our readiness and willingness to forgive is key to the growth of any friendship or relationship but especially within the family. In Croke Park, speaking of this important aspect of family life, Pope Francis remarks, "Forgiveness is a special gift from God that heals our brokenness and draws us closer to one another and to him. Small and simple acts of forgiveness, renewed each day, are the foundation upon which a solid Christian family life is built.

When I was in parish ministry, each year I used to work alongside the parents of the children who were being prepared by the parish catechists for first Reconciliation and Eucharist. I would always take the opportunity to remind them that their children would understand little or nothing about the Sacrament of Reconciliation if they do not see or experience forgiveness and reconciliation in

the home. Sometimes we need to speak and hear the obvious!

The Family as the Model for an Alliance between the Young and Old

The importance of forging a new alliance between the old and the young is something close to the heart of the Holy Father and he sees the family as leading the way in this. For example, he speaks affectionately of his relationship with his own grandmother, Rosa. Again, speaking at Croke Park he says, "A society

that does not value grandparents is a society that has no future. A Church that is not mindful of the covenant between generations will end up lacking the thing that really matters, which is love.....our grandparents are a treasury of experience, a treasury of wisdom for the new generation.

Indeed they are! Drawing on their deep reservoir of experience and wisdom, they can show the young what it is to have a spirit of gratitude for gifts received, to reassure the fearful young who are anxious about their future, to show those who are focussed on themselves that there is more joy in giving than receiving and that

love is expressed in both words and actions. Having been brought up by my paternal grandparents, you can imagine that "the covenant between the generations" is close to my heart, too, and it has given me much to be grateful for in life.

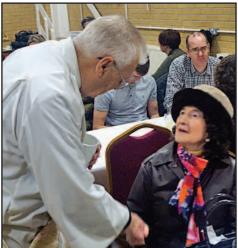
Today we ask the prayers of the Holy Family of Nazareth as we continue to try to make our own families schools of holiness, models of forgiveness and reconciliation and true alliances between the young and

Yours sincerely in Christ the Redeemer +Ralph



DEACON BILL TAYLOR







Deacon Bill chats with parishioners at his Silver Jubilee celebration

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Society of St Vincent de Paul -What We Do Locally in Hallam

Readers may have been following the history of areas of the diocese, the SVP in recent editions and will therefore be aware of its early years, its development over the last 175 years and the nature of the organisation it is today. Last month's article focused on the reason why people volunteer to help those in need and this month the focus is on what volunteers actually

Initially members of the SVP aim to befriend those in need, establishing trust and confidence through personal contact and offering whatever practical assistance they can. The major activity for all conference members in Hallam is visiting. This is done in pairs to protect both members and those they are visiting. All SVP members who undertake visits will have had an enhanced DBS

Those visited will include the sick and housebound, the elderly and isolated as well as individuals and families that need help, support, guidance or practical assistance. The SVP will visit anyone within their community regardless of age, gender, race or creed - need is not discriminatory so nei-

Of these visits the vast majority are to people's homes but visits are also carried out to local residential care homes, hospitals, hostels and in certain prisons.

For most the visit just

brings company, friendship, conversation and an opportunity for interaction which is all that may be required. For others it will provide an opportunity for members to learn about the issues, problems or barriers that person is facing which will facilitate the provision of more practical assistance. For example, being able to help with filling in forms, accessing one of the two furniture stores in the diocese, if that is what is needed; directing people to more specialist help such as debt management

Other SVP activities within Hallam include offering lifts to Mass, church services or parish social events; taking the Eucharist to those housebound; organising and running food banks; undertaking soup runs and fund raising for any local projects or events. In addition, members help ex-prisoners and others in need 'start up' when moving into rented accommodation.

Some SVP members work with refugees in the north of the diocese, as well as linking with care facilities such as the Carmel Care centre in Hillsborough. Social groups in sheltered housing encourage local people to get together with guest



speakers and organised activities.

The diocese also runs two furniture stores in Sheffield and Edlington, as well as five community shops in Maltby, Harworth, Staveley, Manor Park and Abbeydale Road, Sheffield - the latter working closely with the Sheffield furniture store.

Conferences are also involved in the Twinnage scheme where, like town twinning, two conferences are linked. With the SVP, a Hallam conference will twin with a community in a deprived part of the world – currently Grenada, Guyana, India, Romania, South Sudan and Sudan – and offer support by way of prayers, financial aid for projects, eg digging wells, educational materials and other resources that will benefit that community.

The SVP is a diverse organisation but its beating heart is the parish conference where local members do make a difference to those in need in their com-

If you are interested in finding out more about the SVP or setting up a conference in your parish, please contact Lance Philpott, SVP Membership Development Officer for the Diocese of Hallam, at Lancep@svp.org.uk.

St Mary and St Joseph, Worksop **SVP 40th Anniversary**

December 2018 saw the 40th anniversary of the Society of St Vincent de Paul at St Mary and St Joseph's, Worksop. Established in 1978, this conference has been working hard over the decades to fulfil the mission of the society to seek out and help those in need, and is still going strong today.

To celebrate this landmark occasion the conference organised a Mass and a party afterwards. Chief amongst those attending were Mrs Margaret Allen, who is the current conference president, and Mrs Jean Kinell, both of whom are founder members and have been active with the SVP since 1978.



The photograph above shows the proud members of the conference, with Margaret on the left and Jean in the middle holding their commemorative awards. The conference is an integral part of the community and is looking forward to the next 40 years!



Cursillo Residential Weekend for 2019

Thursday evening 4 April to Sunday, 7 April at The Briars, Catholic Youth Retreat Centre, Crich, Matlock. For more details please contact Eileen Owens, 07938 578942 or austincorcoran@blueyonder.co.uk.

HALLAM YOUNG CHAPLAINCY LEADERS



For the second year running the Hallam Young Chaplaincy Leaders got together to fundraise and to purchase rucksacks for homeless people living on the streets of Sheffield.

The rucksacks were filled with useful items and then brought to All Saints Catholic High School, where staff and volunteers of the St Vincent de Paul Furniture Store, Sheffield distributed them to the homeless after an Advent Liturgy.

Our photograph above shows students involved in the Hallam Young Chaplaincy Leaders project.



EDUCATION IN THE FULLNESS OF HUMANITY

Sparkle and Shine

During the Christmas season, we use more lights as decorations than any other time of the year. Candles, fireplaces, stars, lanterns and strings of lights adorn our trees, front gardens, roofs, windows, doors as well as inside our homes, to celebrate the coming of The Morning Star.

Jesus called himself the Light of the World and then told us, "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

During the month of December we saw and enjoyed, at McAuley Catholic High School, the way that our children, our students, sparkled and shone.

Y11 Presentation Evening was the first time that we recognised the achievements of the class of 2018, which was held at St Peter in Chains Church. Each student was presented with their GCSE certificates and there were individual subject prizes as well as the 'Fr Mc' Awards (in memory of Fr John McNamee) for services to our school community. It was really nice to see the year group together again, but unsettling to see how much more grown up they now seem.

Year 13 Drama students organised and performed in a show which would have graced the Royal Variety Performance, 'The Not-so Christmassy Christmas Show'. Students from Y7 onwards treated us to song and dance finishing with a somewhat surreal take on the nativity, featuring music from Madonna, Motorhead and the Benny Hill soundtrack!

The following evening was a somewhat more cultured occasion as the Christmas Concert took place in the Acacia Hall, with very strong performances from Senior Band, Senior Orchestra, Junior Band and Junior Strings, Jazz Orchestra, Junior, Senior and Barbershop Vocal Groups, Brass Group, Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Vocal Group. Sitting very close to the performers certainly allowed me to feel the energy that they generated – it crackled and sparked.

In the last week before we broke up Polly, our lay chaplain, organised the delivery of over 50 hampers that form groups had put together to be delivered to the housebound and needy in our community. There were also Services of Reconciliation supported by three of our local clergy.

Hallam Young Chaplaincy Leaders raised money to create backpacks for the homeless in the diocese. Six Year 8's went to Sheffield for training in Catholic social teaching, working with charities around the country. We also raised money for CAFOD.

The final week of a full on first term reached a crescendo with the lighting of the third candle on our three Advent wreaths. Year team Nativities took place and, on Monday and Tuesday, Y7 and Y8 had their own 'Stars in their Eyes' talent show, the same day as Christmas Jumper Day raised over £1500 and coincided with a very popular Christmas dinner. Our sixth formers performed for all our support staff on Wednesday afternoon and the whole school worshipped



and sang together as we finished our comprehensive preparations for Christmas on Thursday morning.

It is always uplifting, inspiring and affirming to enjoy seeing our young people letting their light shine out. Anything positive that they do when they push themselves to be the best version of themselves is reflecting the sparkle and shine of the glory of God.

John Rooney, Headteacher, McAuley Catholic High School, Doncaster

Festive Cheer in Chesterfield



Generous parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in Chesterfield donated over 350 gifts to the Society of St Vincent de Paul to distribute to the disadvantaged in local Catholic schools, St Joseph's Convent Nursery, the Presentation Convent, two Nursing Homes and housebound parishioners.

Pictured taking a rest from sorting the presents are Debbie Waters, President of the conference, Margaret Bowers and Kath Bowers.



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Mother of God's Got Talent 4 Everyone

Friday, 14th December saw our fourth Mother of God's got Talent competition in aid of St Vincent's Furniture Store, Sheffield, and what a fantastic night it was.

With our guest announcer, Holly Willoughby aka David Healy, the evening got off to a hilarious start!

Little Ant and Dec (or not so Little Ant and Dec these days), Nick and Sean Hardwick, introduced our judges.

Once again Radio Sheffield's Paulette Edwards and His

Honour Michael Murphy QC had agreed to come along and be two thirds of our judging panel. We were over the moon that Sister Linda Pergeta, who is a Daughter of Divine Charity and is based at St Joseph's Convent in Chesterfield, agreed to be our third judge. You may remember Sister Linda from the channel 5 reality series, 'Bad Habits, Holy Orders'. We were indeed lucky to have bor

Nine acts took part, ages ranging from 9 years old to 80 years old. We



had singers, musicians, a plate spinner, comedians and Father Kilgannon on his tin whistle. Our final act appearing for one night and one night only was our own Donna and the Dynamos.

Before the placings were announced Tom Wall, our first ever winner of Mother of God's Got Talent, entertained us with a couple of songs, playing his guitar, singing, playing his mouth organ and tapping his feet with bells attached, such a multi-talented young man.

Third place went to Luca, a 9 year old comedian, of whom Paulette Edwards said she would look out for on the stage in years to come.

Joint second, was Edward our plate spinner, who was also terrific with the one liners; when asked where he learnt to spin the plates by Mike Murphy, his reply was "at plate spinning classes" where else? Our other act finishing in Second was Dylan and Will. They performed a 'mash up' of Christmas songs, their dancing was also something to behold.

Our overall winners were Jeremy, Ant and Dan, a group who sang and played guitars and a banjo. Their rendition of King of the Swingers was fantastic.

The evening finished with all the acts returning to the stage along with Little Ant and Dec and the judges to sing 'I wish it could be Christmas every day'.

Special thanks to all our acts for taking part and helping to make the evening such a wonderful, entertaining occasion.

> As always thank you to Father Kilgannon for the use of the Parish Centre. Also thanks to our judges, Little Ant and Dec, David Healy, Tom Wall and an extra special thanks to Jim Hogan, our sound and lighting man, for his expertise, use of his equipment and making sure everything ran so smoothly on the evening.

The combined efforts, talents and skills of all these people resulted in the magnificent sum of £1113.40 being raised for St Vincent's Furniture Store.

Lorraine Healy SVP Furniture Store, Sheffield



Pictured at the top, the judges, the winners, Dan, Jeremy and Ant, with Little Ant and Dec and Lorraine Healy Pictured above, the judges and contestants sing 'I wish it could be Christmas every day'

EDUCATION IN THE FULLNESS OF HUMANITY

'A Bishop in a Pear Tree'

On Tuesday, 11th December, 2018 Bishop Ralph attended Saint Pius X Catholic High School in Rotherham for their Annual Older Peoples' Christmas Party.









Around about 100 guests of honour from the parishes around the Dearne Valley, along with local residents, joined the Bishop for the 40th anniversary of the party.

The first party, organised as part of the school's St Vincent De Paul Society, took place in 1978 and was planned by former members of staff Tony Dodsworth and Mike Connolly. Tony, along with staff at school, has continued the tradition which is now firmly established in the Saint Pius X Learning Community calendar. Susan Smith, head teacher of Saint Pius X, spoke of her pride in the students in school. One guest summed up the views of those who attended saying, "Above all we were impressed by the welcome we received from students and staff, and how attentive and cheerful the children were in seating and serving us, and their concern to make sure we had everything we needed."

The guests enjoyed entertainment provided by students and staff, as well as a Christmas afternoon tea which was provided by Morrisons. Students at school raise money throughout Advent to ensure that each guest leaves with a present.

The evening was rounded off with some festive singing led by the Dearne Valley Singers who adapted the Twelve Days of Christmas to mark Bishop Ralph's presence by singing of 'A Bishop in a Pear Tree'!



Pictured with Bishop Ralph are head teacher, Susan Smith, and some of the student helpers of Saint Pius X Catholic High School



The Shrine of Saint Jude was founded in 1955 and is served by the Carmelites. The Shrine distributes a quarterly newsletter called Carmelite News, written by the Prior Provincial, Fr Kevin Alban. If you would like to receive a copy of our free newsletter, please send your contact details to:newsletter@stjudeshrine.org.uk, or call 01795 539 214.

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Help Save Father Christmas's Reindeer! Climate Change Conference 2018 a Personal Reflection

On 11 December, 2018, with thirtyfour fellow CAFOD climate campaigners, I returned from an overland trip to Katowice (pronounced ..tsay) in Poland. We were there to raise concerned voices during the UN Climate Change Conference known by its acronym COP 24, convened for governments to decide precisely how to implement and monitor what they had promised to do at the Paris Agreement back in 2015. I returned hone stunned, because I had been exposed to an uncomfortable reality which affects me personally, and which will affect my one year old granddaughter, Ada, even more, if I and we don't take the opportunity we have right now to avert it.

In Katowice we joined a 3,000 strong march to show solidarity with delegates representing our earth's population, who are trying to get governments to cut carbon emissions to a figure that scientists, world-wide, agree is imperative. You will have heard this 1.5 degrees Celsius figure. It means that once the average global temperature has risen that much above pre-industrial levels, it will be increasingly difficult to halt the ruinous effects of a climate catastrophe. We, individually and collectively as a world community, have about twelve years in which to make changes to stop this happening.

We met people from the Pacific Islands, from Zambia, Malawi and the

Arctic Circle. They told their stories, thanked us for listening and pleaded for our help. A young woman from the Sami community in Northern Norway told me that their reindeer herds are starving to death because the warming climate prevents them from getting to their food sources.

Two women from Malawi and Zambia described the hunger erupting in their countries as rains fail and crops ... and children ... die, because of course, disease

walks alongside climate change.

Joe, a delegate representing the Marshall Islands in the Pacific, told us that one day, while affluent countries were quibbling about terminology and posturing with ears deaf to the plight of the earth, he walked, exhausted and despondent, onto the balcony. He saw us marching, felt encouraged by our support and went back in to the conference room to continue to fight for the earth. He begged us to encourage our government to take more action.

I came home before the conference ended, but its optimism was ultimately shattered, with the wealthier countries reluctant or unwilling to agree to make the necessary changes. So, it's up to us to make our voices and our wishes heard. How?

- Become informed. Read intelligent commentary. Look for campaigning opportunities, eg by going on to CAFOD's website; cafod.org.uk.
- Find inspiration in the wisdom of the young, like the truly astonishing speech to the COP 24 by 15 year old Swedish Greta Thunberg (well worth a look!)
- Do the one thing Joe asked write to your MP. All we need to do is say we are disappointed by the outcomes of COP24 and profoundly concerned about the reality that is CLIMATE CHANGE and want our government to work even harder to make changes and encourage others

- Let's try to LIVE SIMPLY. Consider how we can reduce our own carbon emissions and let's just do it: reduce energy consumption at home, shop ethically and sustainably, make a determined effort to ditch the car at least one day a week.
- Consider swapping to sustainable energy suppliers.
- Talk to friends and family about it; at school and your place of work. Involve children and young people. They are more savvy than we think and they care very much for the wellbeing of our planet.

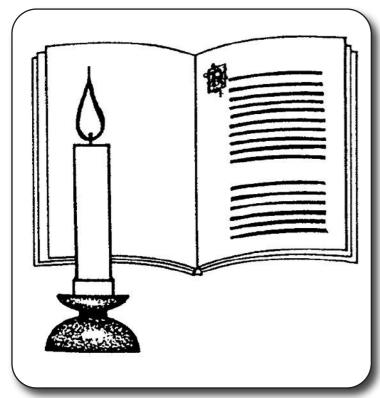
By taking actions like these, we can save Father Christmas's reindeer as well as the human communities that are in the process of being destroyed right now. We can put the brake on Climate Change. We can bring about Climate Justice, where the less affluent people of our common home do not have to pay for our life style with their lives. And all children and grandchildren will have been given the future that we want for them.

Almost 30 years ago, Pope St John Paul II, referring to climate change, said, "This ecological crisis is a moral issue." Pope Francis, in Laudato Si, describes this earth as "our common home."

Time, then, for some good ecological housekeeping on our part. Let's save Father Christmas's reindeer and our own future. Rita McManus



Exploring the Bible - a session for potential and existing Readers and others



What impact should the authors and editors of the books of the Bible, their perspectives and cultural backgrounds have on our understanding of the Word of God and how Readers proclaim it?

That will be one of the key questions under the spotlight at a special meeting aimed at existing and potential Readers, but also open to anyone from the Diocese.

Mgr John Ryan will be the principal speaker at the event, which takes place on Saturday February 23 in the Houlden Hall, beside St Marie's Cathedral, starting at 9:45 am, with a break for refreshments around 11am and an opportunity to take part in a practical session, using the Cathedral's sound system following Mass at 12:30pm.

If you would like more information or to attend please contact Bob Rae, from the St Marie's Readers' Team, e-mail: bob.rae@stmariecathedral.org or tel: 07710 116701.

Christmas at St Wilfrid's Centre

December was a busy month for everyone at the Centre - clients, staff and volunteers alike with a carol concert, shows, a disco and carol sing-a-longs.

The Festive Carol Concert held in St Marie's Cathedral, which raised £1,750, was a delightful evening of carols and choral music from BeVox Community Choir and showcased the inaugural performance by St Wilfrid's Centre singers, a choir made up of staff and clients, who received a standing ovation for their performance. It was a wonderful evening, a great start to the Christmas festivities.





Following on the next day was the annual Client Christmas party. The party, attended by over 100 people, included special guests Tony Currie, players from Sheffield United, Paul Bloomfield and the Deputy Lord Mayor. But this year, top of the guest list for our clients, were Coronation Street actors Joe Dittine and Sally Carman, (aka Tim and Abi), who added extra glitz and glam!

Thank you to everyone who kindly supported the Centre over the Christmas period in so many ways, from donations of food, crackers and drinks to financial contributions, which helped make Christmas a special time for so many of our clients, for whom celebrating at the Centre was their only Christmas celebration.





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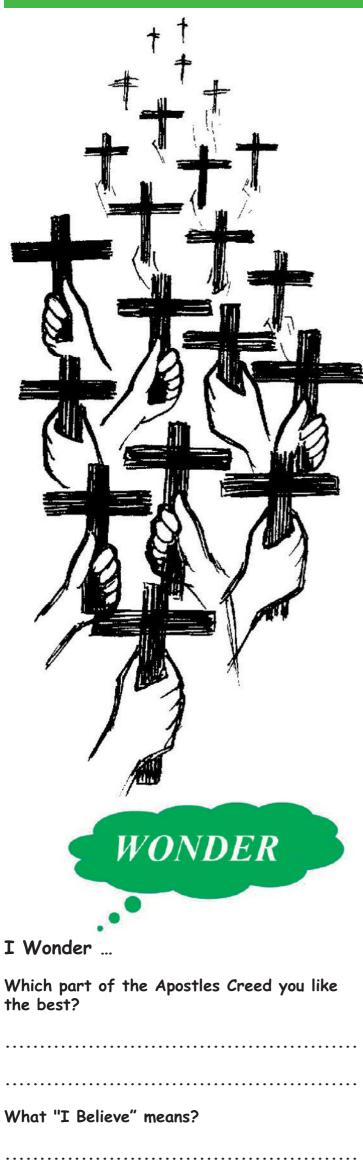
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Welcome to the Children's Liturgy Section



# # #	This month we are looking at the meaning behind a prayer that is sometimes said at Mass. The Apostles Creed is a prayer that is said to show what all Christians believe. It is a prayer that has been used for a very long time. There is a similar prayer called the Nicene Creed, which is also said at Mass. For further information on teaching this prayer to your child/children, Donohue, Cee. "How to Teach the Apostles' Creed for Kids."	
	Illustrate your prayer (Adapted from Loyola Press)	r by drawing the ideas suggested
	I believe in God, the Father alm Creator of heaven and ear	
	Draw the earth, sun, and sta	urs.
		And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary
		Draw a nativity scene with Mary and baby Jesus, and a dove for the Spirit.
What "Evanlasting Life" is like?	Suffered under Pontius Pilate, died and was burie Draw Jesus on the cre	ed
		He descended into hell; on the third day he rose again fro the dead
THE COLUMN THE PARTY OF THE PAR		Draw a risen Jesus and empty tomb
	He ascended into heaven ar at the right hand of God the From there he will come the living and the d	ather Almighty; to judge
	Draw Jesus and a cloud as he asa	cends to heaven.
		The live in the Lieb. Cointe the habi
		I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints
What "I Believe" means?		Draw a church with lots of people, and again a dove for the Spirit.
What "Everlasting Life" is like?	The forgiveness of sins, the res of the body, and life everlastin	

Draw happy faces and hearts.

RENEWING THE LITURGY

Six Simple Steps: 1 and 2

t the annual gathering of the priests of the Diocese last October the speaker was Tom places the continued use of the tabernacle persists." It may be that those who do not O'Loughlin, Professor of Ĥistorical Theology at Nottingham University. Tom gave the priests of the diocese Six Simple Steps which could go some way to achieving Vatican II's vision in our celebration of the Eucharist. This month we take a look at the first two.

Step 1: Abandon using the tabernacle at the Eucharist

"It is clear from the instructions in the Missal, and a battery of other instructions in other sources of liturgical law, that the practice of using mostly hosts that are reserved in the tabernacle for distribution at Mass or, worse yet, only consecrating a host for the priest-celebrant are ... contrary to the liturgical books." (US Bishops, Washington 1987) So, changing from the practice of always using the tabernacle for Communion at Mass cannot be criticised as "acting beyond the law". There may be very exceptional times when it may be partly necessary, but those who desire that the Church's liturgical law be as fully followed as possible should be those most anxious to ensure that the tabernacle is never opened until all Christ's faithful have shared Communion.

Not all that long ago, people used to refer to "getting Mass and Communion - treating them as distinct events, when it was common for fewer to 'go to Communion' than were present at Mass" and for some people to "leave after the 'Priest's Communion' which was helpfully indicated by the ringing of a bell. As such, Communion had become a commodity, a by-product of the Church's Eucharistic activity. All sense that the Eucharist was a banquet, a sharing in the Lord's table, was effectively eliminated from consciousness. It was the reflection of this disjointed view that was the spur to the whole reform of the liturgy: but in

understand why these things are important are for us "a barometer of how shallow is our renewed theological understanding" of the liturgy offered to us by Vatican II.

"The simple reality is this: we gather for the Lord's banquet, over the food of that banquet, an event that takes place in the created order, here and now. We have offered praise to the Father, and it is this food that is to be shared among us! Moreover, we will take some of this food to those in our community who cannot be with us: we will keep some of it back so as to be able to have food for the dying (viaticum): and as an incidental consequence we have the Blessed Sacrament for worship outside Mass. But particles from one Mass have no place at another."

Step 2: Have a real Fraction (the Breaking of the bread)

"It seems extraordinarily strange that none of our sources from Scripture, which give us 'an account of the institution' of the Eucharist, places a Eucharist Prayer in the mouth of Jesus or preserves even a hint of what he said! All they tell us is that he prayed – indicated by the verbs 'bless' and 'thank' - to the Father, but not one word of this prayer is given. The only words we have are comments on the significance of the action he has already performed: breaking a loaf and sharing it with them." This absence can probably be explained by the fact that, though this prayer could take many forms, people in those days generally knew how to make up such a prayer in their tradition and would use such a prayer very often. It was known as a Jewish table prayer.

But what was so different about Christ's praying



was the action that followed it: the loaf was broken and shared. Each taking a share of the one loaf 'was their having a share in him, a part in him. They were his body because they all ate of the one loaf. It was the breaking and sharing of the loaf that was distinctive ... Breaking and sharing is not simply a distribution function but central to the whole event's significance. Moreover, it is at the heart of the theology of the Church, priesthood, and liturgy that was proposed by Vatican II."

"Our Catholic practice has sadly been far from ideal." Deviations from tradition include changing from real to unleavened bread (by the tenth century) and from one loaf to pre-cut pieces (probably by the year 1000) making the fraction (breaking) almost unnecessary. "Now, however, the instructions encourage a fraction, and it is time that it became a reality once more ... Later on, perhaps, a member of the assembly might even be asked to provide a freshly baked loaf!'

CROSSWORD FOR THOSE EAGER WORD BUFFS AMONG OUR READERSHIP



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution. Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you

prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 1 Face crisis of mistaken identity in ritualistic killings... (10)
- ...horse transport is to the fore at this point in the massacre
- Correct final word at the onset of death (5)
- 9 Reciprocate redact reference to duke (5)
- 10 Shriek as I opened up old shell (7)
- 11 They have branches for senior church officers (6)
- 13 Friar found among Dachau's tinsmiths (6)
- 16 Every single politician in the first place is to blame (7)
- 18 Local network in the old days for French white (5)
- 20 Irish town's particular court being defaced... (5) 21 ...it's the Welsh place to hold the drunk over (7)
- 22 Blessings of 60s music duet is not in tune (10)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Modern country, once a biblical one, since has fallen away
- Monks, collectively, have writer's block? (7)
- Goats one leads on times with flying things swarming about
- Type of savings account, one belonging to Esau (5) Ivory source pub cancelled for good – that's cool (7)
- This is me, article broke,... (9)
- ...in nomadic order? (9)
- 12 Mozart, he wrote with (the odd note at the foot of) a flipping little book (2,5)
- 14 The Archers stripped of raison'd'être in

- defiant stance? (7)
- 15 Isle's lord, the third-lowest ranked among magnates
- 17 What the precursor to 4's savings account set-up means? (5)
- 19 Beetle duck's in with admits it and confesses (5)

QUICK Across

- 1 Acts of killing (an animal or person) in order to propitiate a deity (10)
- Savage and excessive killing of many people (7)
- Make better (5)
- 9 Change chemically (5)
- 10 Yell (7)
- 11 Officials in the early church; officers of various Protestant churches (6)
- 13 English adjectival variant of Augustinian (6)
- 16 Charge a politician with an offence committed while in office (7)
- 18 Mel ----, lead voice for Warner Bros animation, known best for Bugs Bunny (5)
- 20 Main town of Co Clare, Ireland (5)
- 21 Place in Mid Wales, its name redolent of Stevenage or Harlow, perhaps (7)
- 22 Eight sayings of Jesus at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount (10)

QUICK Down

- 1 Roman province of the NT, capital Antioch on the Orontes
- Ecclesiastical assembly of the monks in a monastery (7)
- Types of mountain goat (6)
- 4 Son of Abraham (5)
- 5 Svelte; chic (7) 6 White Friar... (9)
- SOLUTION

8 ...Black Friar (9)

14 Not vanquished or overcome; free (7)

17 Source of strength; holding (5)

19 Pledges; acknowledges (5)

15 Isle of Kent, but no longer an island (6)

etc (2,5)

20

Across: 1 Sacrifices, 6 Carnage, 7 Amend, 9 React, 10 Exclaim,

12 Lorenzo -- ----, Mozart's librettist for The Marriage of Figaro,

14 Unbowed, 15 Thanet, 17 Asset, 19 Avows. 4 Isaac, 5 Elegant, 6 Carmelite, 8 Dominican, 12 Da Ponte, 27 Newtown, 22 Beatifudes. Down: 1 Syria, 2 Chapter, 3 Ibexes, 11 Elders, 13 Austin, 16 Impeach, 18 Blanc, 20 Ennis,

All Saints School Raise Funds for the Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund

On Saturday, 8 December, sixty students from All Saints' Catholic High School performed to a large audience at St Marie's Cathedral to raise funds for the Bethlehem Care and Hospice Trust.

Students from the All Saints' Band, All Saints' Voices and soloists performed numerous pieces, which included carols and Christmas songs. Everyone enjoyed a lovely evening.



UCM Donate to"Marys Meals"



Mrs Angie Higginson, the past National Treasurer of the Union of Catholic Mothers enjoyed Christmas Lunch with the Union of Catholic Mothers of the Hallam Diocese, where she announced that the group had raised £575 for "Mary's Meals". "Mary's Meals" is the global international movement which

"Mary's Meals" is the global international movement which provides one good meal every school day to some of the world's poorest children. With supporters from around the world it is helping to transform the lives of hundreds of thousands of impoverished children.

Pilgrimages to Medjugorje

9-16 June from East Midlands Airport, cost £585 5-12 October from Leeds/Bradford Airport, cost £579

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