

Hallam News



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AUGUST 2019

No. 355

FREE

BECOMING THE PERSON GOD CREATED ME TO BE

Recently a group of clients from St Wilfrid's Centre attended the Northern College in Wentworth for a course entitled "Introduction to 5 Ways of Well-Being Course". Here is Madeleine Thomas' account of this exciting initiative.

The June skies cleared as we arrived at Northern College, Wentworth, for our annual residential learning experience. For three days (19-21 June), thirteen clients attended the 'Introduction to 5 Ways of Well-being Course', specially crafted to meet the support needs of clients with well-being and learning challenges.

The lifting clouds proved to be the perfect learning metaphor! Abstract "well-being" concepts such as 'Being Active', 'Learning', 'Connecting', 'Taking Notice' and 'Giving' were explored in relatable and experiential ways. All themes were considered in ways that related directly to the lives of each individual who attended.

Taking Notice Connecting



Giving

Being Active

Learning

Dominic Maloney, St Wilfrid's Personal Development Manager, commented that, "This has been an incredibly valuable life-learning experience for our clients. This introduction has helped each individual to look at their own lives and identify

where they can pro-actively engage with the 5 Ways as a buffer against the life circumstances and behaviour patterns that keep them isolated, disconnected or struggling to fully be all that they can be. All attendees shared aspects of their

own life experiences and showed incredible support to each other throughout the course. Together we discovered new ways for problem solving, working as a team, identifying one's own development needs, *continued on page 3*

IN THIS EDITION



Holy Trinity students visit the Somme ~ page 11



Corpus Christi Procession, Doncaster ~ page 4



Corpus Christi Procession, Sheffield ~ page 5

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WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

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| <p>1 Deadline for articles for next issue of the <i>Hallam News</i>.</p> <p>7 Hallam Ascent Group meet at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD, 1.45-3.45pm for a social meeting with Afternoon Tea (for Apostleship of the Sea). For more details telephone: 0114 2306797, email: ascent@jngreen.plus.com or visit the website: hallamascent.weebly.com.</p> | <p>14 Chesterfield Bereavement Support Group Drop-in/ coffee morning, 10.30am-12noon, The Annunciation Centre, Spencer Street, Chesterfield, S40 4SD.</p> <p>14 Sheffield Irish Association Tea Dance, with live music and refreshments, Philadelphia Club, Martin Street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield, S6 3DP, 1-3pm. All are welcome.</p> |
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Restored Lives ~

Recovery from Divorce and Separation

Familias, the Association for Catholic Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Ministry in England and Wales, hosted three 'Restored Lives' workshops in Sheffield, London and Birmingham. Eleven people attended the training event at the Hallam Pastoral Centre on 6 June.

Restored Lives helps those who have experienced separation and divorce to recover from the trauma of relationship breakdown and rebuild their self-confidence, offering them the tools and skills needed to live a restored, happy and fulfilled life.

Susan Tym, Diocesan worker for Marriage and Family Life, plans to run a six session course on Wednesday evenings, commencing on Wednesday, 25 September, 7-9pm, at St Vincent's, Crookes. The cost is £20.

Booking is essential. Please contact email: stym@hallam-diocese.com or telephone: 0114 2566407 to book a place.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Please join us for the **World's Biggest Macmillan Coffee Morning in the Hallam Diocese on Saturday, 5 October, 10.30am to 12.30pm at St Vincent's Hall, Pickmere Road, Sheffield, S10 1GY.**

Coffee, Cakes, Tombola and Raffle and lots of good company, raising money for a very worthwhile cause.

Please bring a cake or buns if you can. Offers of items for the stalls would be greatly appreciated and can be collected or left at the Church Hall.

Please ring Steve Foley on 07711 326 212 for any further information.

De La Salle Association Rambling Club

The De La Salle Association Rambling Club have arranged a walk on **Sunday, 11 August in the Alport area.**

Meet at Alport at 10.30am on the B5056 where there is roadside parking on the left hand side when travelling from the A6 towards Youlgreave (grid ref

220645). This 5 mile route from Alport takes in Raper Lodge, Conksby Bridge, Over Haddon and Lathkill Dale. There is one gradual climb from Conksby Bridge up to Over Haddon. The leader is John Sheasby, tel: 0114 2367408, mobile: 07768 830434.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Month



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

- 4 Our Lady and St James, Worsbrough.
- 11 St Thomas More, Sheffield.
- 18 St Joseph, Wath-upon-Dearne.
- 25 Sacred Heart, Hillsborough, Sheffield.

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.

JESUS CAME THAT YOU MAY HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE IT ABUNDANTLY (JN X:10) STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS, JOIN US FOR THIS WEEKLY FESTIVAL OF WORSHIP, PRAISE AND HONOUR OF THE ONE WHO PROMISES LIFE.

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 18:30 MASS
 19:30 SOCIAL
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BECOMING THE PERSON GOD CREATED ME TO BE

Connecting

Taking Notice

Being Active

continued from page 1 ...

taking part in sports, engaging with nature and making a video of the whole experience! It was a truly wonderful – and tiring experience. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the three days we spent together as a company of friends and fellow learners. At the close of the session, we presented a St Wilfrid's "Thank You" card to all staff at Northern College for making us so welcome and for challenging in such a friendly and practical way".

Once back at the Centre, the group self-selected to meet on a fortnightly basis to build on the great start we made at Northern College and to develop peer mentoring skills in order to create a more participatory experience for clients at St Wilfrid's.

One client of St Wilfrid's commented, "I never would have ever thought that I would attend college, but this has really opened my eyes to what I might be able to do in my life. It has been a brilliant experience that I was scared of at first but, now I have been here, I would not have missed it for the world."



Giving

Learning

A Day Out with a Difference

Rita McManus, CAFOD volunteer who works in our Diocese, relates her experience of CAFOD's Westminster Lobby.

On Wednesday 26 June, 14 coaches carrying CAFOD supporters converged at Westminster, to lobby MPs and ask for action on Climate Change. We came from Wales, Brighton, Liverpool, Newcastle and Hexham and East Anglia, and of course, Hallam, and all points in every direction. The early start didn't dampen our spirits, nor did the slow crawl when we arrived in the capital. Beautiful prayers and reflections en route encouraged us enormously. Sunshine made it the perfect day to gather in such significant numbers to raise our voices and ask our representatives to take our concerns and fears about climate change, to Parliament; and not only that, but to DO something about it. We came with the message, "The Time is NOW" and at 2pm we all set off our alarm clocks to highlight that message.

Armed with our CAFOD flags, on the back of which we each wrote a personal message, we convened firstly at an interfaith gathering where many inspiring speakers gave an address, and we later attended Mass with the Bishop of Salford appropriately garbed in a simple green cassock. I have never been on a lobby, and never spoken to my MP, and my familiarity with central London is woefully poor, so I was grateful for the CAFOD friends around me. My own MP, Paul Blomfield, Sheffield Central, was at a meeting all day but emerged as promised at 4pm to spend an unhurried hour with us. The Woodland Trust, Greenpeace and Christian Aid were among so many other groups ably represented, and Paul answered our questions thoroughly, and listened to what we had to say, with honest concern. In total, 225 MPs came out to listen and talk with us, and that's why we were there: adults, school children and young people;

cheerful, hopeful and committed.

We found out later that we were the biggest Westminster lobby for about 9 years, which demonstrates how critical this is. We need action, in business, in legislation, in our cities, in our own lives, and the time is NOW. CAFOD's CEO, Christine Allen, was present, and there was a great deal of media interest. I even found myself in front of an Associated Press journalist, answering her questions as well as I could. No idea why she picked me out. I don't think TV presenters need fear for their jobs, but I gave it my best shot. A day of many 'firsts'!!

Altogether, 1400 people presented their questions and asked MPs to take seriously the threat of climate change, and begin immediately to seek active solutions. Questions included: how do we reduce air travel; how can we limit our petrol fuelled car use, when bus services have been so depleted; when will supermarkets realise their responsibilities to reduce the plastic under which we are drowning; when will government start to prioritise actions and give people the information we need in order to reduce consumption and fossil fuel use; how can we be sure our government is not simply sending our waste and our carbon production overseas where they become other people's problem?

Paul and others said what's needed are agreed milestones so that people know how to proceed and when and what to do. The time is NOW. So, if you have a spare 5 minutes, consider writing to your MP. Even if s/he agrees with you, your support for them is much valued and gives them the impetus to carry the message forward. You can also join CAFOD's campaign (Cafod.org.uk/climatechange) or simply go on the website to see a short film about the Lobby.

As days out go, I will remember Wednesday, 26 June as exhausting and exciting and oh so worthwhile.



JOE WALSH TOURS

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CREATION CELEBRATION

When people from all over the Diocese of Hallam gathered with Bishop Ralph at St Marie's Cathedral for a Creation Celebration, he renewed Pope Francis' call in 'Laudato Si', "Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."

The news reports show the increasing frequency and severity of the impacts of climate change across the world - including here in the UK. Bishop Ralph warned that we are rapidly approaching the tipping point. Yet we still have chance to mitigate the worst effects if we act now. "It is wonderful that the Diocese of Hallam is drawing up an Environmental Policy so that we can work together to change our lifestyles." Pope Francis speaks of the need for ecological conversion: a healthy relationship with Creation is an essential dimension of personal conversion because it entails the personal recognition of our faults and failures, and that leads to heartfelt repentance and the desire for change.

Following the Mass, people shared lunch in the Houlden Hall and heard from Allie Phillip, a CAFOD Partner from Caritas St Lucia, about her work preparing young people to assist their communities in the face of increasing hurricanes. They also enjoyed a surprising quiz with Maria Elena Arana from CAFOD's Campaigns Team.

CAFOD is encouraging all parishes to hold their own Creation Celebration as part of the current climate campaign 'Our Common Home' - resources are available online at www.cafod.org.uk.



Divine Renovation - Clearing out the Junk

The April edition of the Hallam News carried a report on The Divine Renovation Conference attended by a group from the Hallam Diocese. This is another instalment of the message of that conference, which was designed to bring parish communities from maintenance to mission.

In chapter 4 we look at what a maintenance Church looks like. The building is warm, the flowers are pretty, the pews are tidy and someone greets me when I come in through the door. The young ones are taken care of in the children's liturgy, and for the rest of us everything is comfortable and familiar. After the Mass, we can go away without being challenged and we don't have to think much about Church until next week. That is how we like it.

In his book, *Divine Renovation: bringing your parish from maintenance to mission*, Fr James is harsh in his criticism of churches like this, and no one gets off lightly. Most parishes have a few faithful lay people who do a good job of looking after things, and the parish priest is very happy when all the regular activities are ticking over nicely. The challenge is that what 'successful' maintenance churches are proud of are the very same things which prevent them from becoming focused on mission.

Fr James echoes Pope Francis as well as the New Testament in saying that the baptismal calling of every Christian is to holiness and to mission. The calling to holiness is that we grow in maturity in the Christian faith so that we all become disciples. The missionary calling is to bring others to an encounter with Jesus so that they become Christians and can start to grow in their own faith. For so long, the Church has placed responsibility in the wrong place. Growing disciples is the job of everyone in the Church, and not just the priest and the elite few peo-



ple with a special calling.

That leaves the rest of us as 'good-enough' Christians who feel that they are holy enough, and this is the second danger that Fr James points to. On the day I die, I stand at heaven's gate and God asks the question - Why should I let you into heaven? What do you say? We are nice people, we haven't done really bad things, so surely we deserve it. Right or wrong? Actually, wrong because the basis for our confidence is not our niceness but the powerful and rich grace of God. Many of our churches consist of nice but immature Christians whose growing in the faith stopped long ago. They do not pray like grown-ups and they do not know their way round the Bible. They see the ministry of growing missionary disciples as someone else's responsibility, and the tough message to priests is that so many of them agree (but they are wrong).

The big challenge for a Church which seeks to transform from maintenance to mission is how to get every member to hear the voice of God and accept their true calling.

Paul Jackson



Retiring this summer?

Can you help to inspire and empower children and young people to put their faith into action?



CAFOD education volunteers help children and young people learn about interdependence with our global neighbours and our common home. Young people can then be supported to respond to the values and challenges of *Laudato Si*, and make a positive contribution in our world today.

Training and resources are provided & travel expenses reimbursed

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The Solemnity of Corpus Christi – Doncaster

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, historically known by its Latin name, Corpus Christi, celebrates the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist—Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. It is traditionally celebrated on the first Sunday following the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity and this year in Doncaster on Sunday, 23 June, hundreds turned out in force to take to the streets for the annual Corpus Christi procession. All ages and nationalities were represented in a joyful celebration of one of the highlights of the Catholic calendar.

The procession started from St Peter-in-Chains, Chequer Road, led by Fr Darren Reid and supported by priests, lay and religious members from the different Christian denominations and Catholic communities across Doncaster. First Communicants, many from the Polish community, were resplendent in their First Holy Com-



munion outfits as they led the way through the streets of Doncaster strewing flower petals along the route.

Despite worries about the event being rained off, the weather turned out to be fine and with as large a crowd in support of the procession as anyone could remember. The success of the event was in no small part thanks to the support of Doncaster Council and South Yorkshire Police who assisted with road closures and the provision of a canopy and temporary altar table for the monstrance in Gresley Square, where the procession paused for prayer.

There was standing room only as the event concluded with Benediction and prayers back at St Peter-in-Chains.

The Founder of the SVP: Blessed Frederic Ozanam

This month in the last of our current series on the SVP we look at the life of Frederic Ozanam.

Frederic Ozanam was born in Milan on 23 April, 1813 of French parents. The family later returned to France and settled in Lyon, where Frederic was brought up.

He came from a committed Catholic family. His father was a doctor but, in an age where medical provision had to be paid for, he gave his services to the poor for free - they constituted at least a third of his patients. His mother formed a group of



Frederic Ozanam in his student days

women to tend at the bedside of the sick and poor. In this way, Frederic was schooled by their marvellous example in the importance of helping those less fortunate than himself. This certainly was a harbinger of things to come.

Frederic at University

At the age of 18, Frederic went up to the Sorbonne University in Paris to read Law. He was an outstanding student but found the intellectual atmosphere very hostile to Catholics and the Church. Only 40 years previously, the infamous French Revolution had taken place. The Church had always been viewed as part of the royal establishment. Whatever the Church did or said was rubbished, not only by his fellow students but also by many of his lecturers or professors. No one seemed to be challenging this totally secularist view so Frederic decided to form a discussion group with a few friends of like mind. They called themselves "Conference of History". Their method was to write a response to all the anti-Catholic lectures given and hand it to the lecturer.

The "Conference", however, was mainly a talking shop. Frederic and his friends were spurred to action, when a student attending a discussion challenged Frederic himself, by asking "What are you doing for poor people today?" For Frederic this was

a turning point. He and his band of friends resolved to help the poor in imitation of Our Lord.

The Society of St Vincent de Paul

They were fortunate to have two wonderful guides as they developed into the "Conference of Charity". Included in the group of students was an older man, a journalist called Emmanuel Bailly. He was the one to encourage their enthusiasm, keeping their spirits up when the going got tough. Emmanuel introduced them to a Vincentian Daughter of Charity, who was experienced in working with the poor of Paris. Sr Rosalie Rendu became their mentor and she gave them two pieces of advice: "Be kind and love," she said, "for love is your first gift to the poor. They will appreciate your kindness and your love more than all else you can bring them." The second tip she gave them was, "When you meet the poor, you meet Christ." These principles underpin what was to become, within the first year, the Society of St Vincent de Paul. By the end of the first year the new Society had 100 members and so it was found necessary to divide this large group into smaller units in order to remain effective. It continued to grow; by 1841 it had 2000 members, reached Rome in 1842 and England and Wales in 1844.

Frederic's Life

When Frederic was 28, he fell in love with Amelie Soulacroix, whom he married on 23 June, 1841. They were blessed with a daughter, Marie, four years later. The year before she was born, he was the youngest man ever to become a professor at the Sorbonne.

Frederic's life now became a balancing act between university, family



Blessed Frederic Ozanam

life and involvement with the poor through the Conference of the SVP. He used his influence in the academic world to speak out against injustice. He started talking about basic wage, the length of the working day, pensions and legal protection of children.

For the last seven years of his life Frederic was dogged by a constant recurrence of pleurisy and had to spend a lot of time in bed. Even in times of convalescence, he worked to found SVP conferences wherever he could.

On his death bed, when the priest told him not to fear death but trust in the Lord, he replied, "Why should I fear Him, when I love Him so." He died on 8 September, 1853, aged 40.

Frederic Ozanam was a loving husband and father, an intellectual prepared to defend the Church he loved, yet happiest among the poor and the ignorant. The greatest lesson he has for us today is that we also are called to, and can reach, holiness of life.

Frederic was beatified on 22 August, 1997 and to support his canonisation there is a Cause List for petitions on behalf of the sick.



Photographs: Bob Rae

Corpus Christi Procession in Sheffield

The annual procession of witness in honour of the Feast of Corpus Christi took place in Sheffield city centre on Sunday, 23 June.



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HOLYWELL RETREAT

During June priests from the Doncaster Deanery spent two days in prayer at Holywell Shrine in Wales.



Celebration of Fr Pat's 55th Anniversary



23 June, 2019 - An impromptu celebration for retired priest, Father Pat O'Connor, to commemorate the 55th Anniversary of his ordination into priesthood. After Mass some of the parish enjoyed tea and cake at Blessed English Martyrs, Mexborough.



After a year of changes, the priests valued the time spent together.

First Holy Communion at St Mary, Penistone

A very international group of children from St Mary's, Penistone, recently celebrated their First Holy Communion at St Mary's Penistone. Our photograph shows, Adam, Beatrice, Caoimhe, Daisy, Daniel, Michael and Tumelo with parish priest, Fr Joseph Okeke.



PARENTING COURSE



Ten parents took part and enjoyed an eight week Parenting Course at St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, Sheffield, delivered by Linda McLoughlin and Susan O'Shea.

One participant commented, "It gave me lots of new tools for my tool box which I can use with my children, whatever their age, for calmer more effective parenting."

Parenting for Faith

Parenting for Faith is a video-based resource for communities that can be downloaded or live-streamed. The goal of the course is to help parents discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God and to empower them to have their own vibrant two-way relationship with him.

It is normally run in a church or small group, but can be used by individuals as well. The course, handbooks and promotional materials are all free to download at <https://www.thenpi.org.uk/>.

THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF DONCASTER, TUESDAY, 4 JUNE, 2019

Devotion to Our Lady of Doncaster has existed since the Middle Ages and was one of the country's most important pilgrimage sites. It was located in the priory of the Carmelite Friars, and became especially prominent after the intercession of Our Lady was deemed by the townsfolk to have saved some people from drowning in the River Don.

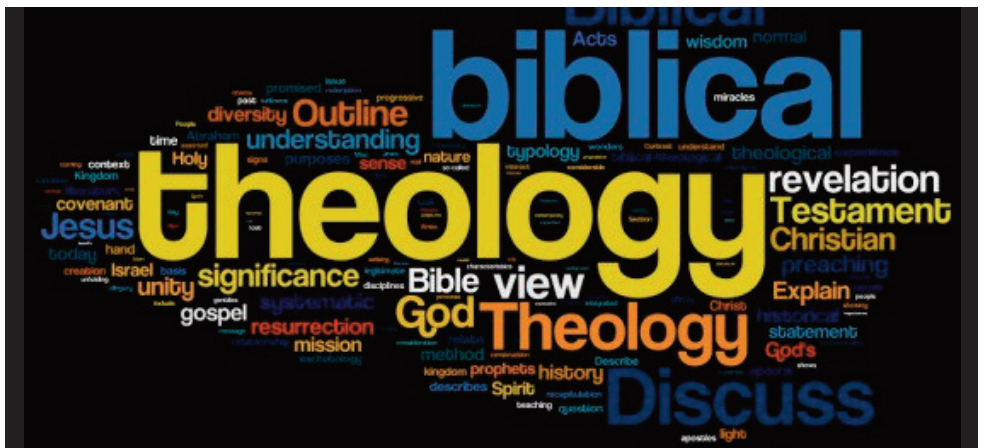
Though the Carmelite priory and its shrine were destroyed at the Reformation in the sixteenth century, in the Victorian period devotion to Our Lady of Doncaster was revived in one of the town's Catholic parishes. In the twentieth century the shrine was transferred to the parish church of St Peter-in-Chains, and the parish has taken a lead in renovating the shrine to its former glory and organising an exciting programme of events and pilgrimages in connection to the shrine.

The Feast of Our Lady of Doncaster was celebrated with Holy Mass led by Bishop Ralph on Tuesday, 4 June in St Peter-in-Chains. Mass was followed by afternoon tea and a talk on the Shrine window by Pauline Allen. The day was concluded with the Rosary in Our Lady's Garden and Benediction.



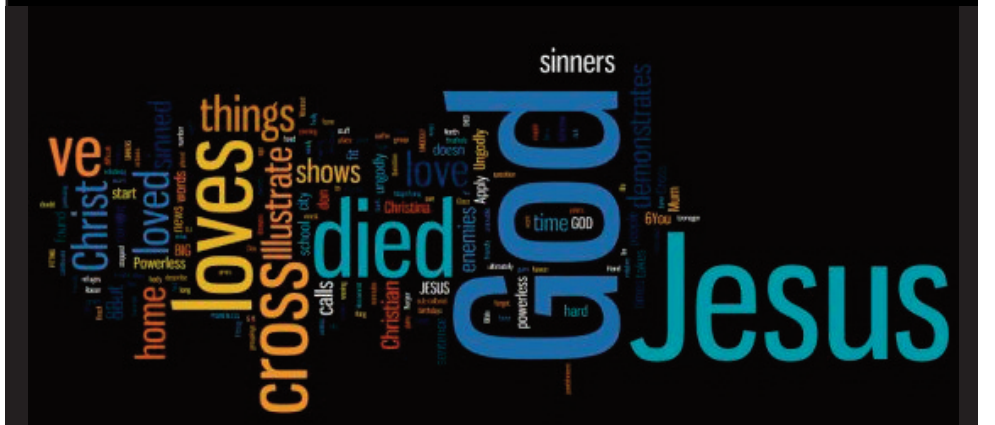
The event was attended by many visitors from across the Deanery and Diocese, including staff and student representatives from the McAuley Catholic High School, St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, whose young people led the readings and prayers, and fellow Christians from the Anglican community; as well as Father Moussa from the Egyptian Coptic Church.

Fr Darren Reid noted that, "After a year where our Doncaster Deanery has undergone considerable turmoil, it is so good for us all to have joyfully come together, in worship of God and to seek the intercession of Our Lady of Doncaster."



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A report on the Icon Painting Course at Turvey Abbey, 30 April – 5 May

Turvey Abbey is a Grade II listed Jacobean style house, located in the village of Turvey in Bedfordshire. The house is dated 1605 on the north facade and 1608 on the south facade. The building is stone, with a tiled roof. Historically, it was a country house and family home but, since 1981, it has been home to the 'Priory of Our Lady

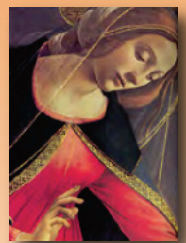

of Peace', a Roman Catholic community of Sisters living according to the Rule of Saint Benedict and affiliated to the Olivetan family of Benedictines, (<https://www.turveyabbey.org.uk/>).
 The separate 'Monastery of Christ our Saviour', (www.turveymonks.org.uk), is housed in adjacent buildings in the grounds. The Monastery and the Priory

share worship services. Turvey Abbey is not open to the public, but the chapel is open and the community welcomes guests. One of the Sisters, Sr Esther, is a founder member and currently President of the British Association of Iconographers. She leads a number of icon-centred workshops and retreats at Turvey every year.



Turvey Abbey

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 Ministers of Religion 

On 30 April four friends and fellow parishioners of St Paul's RC Church in Cantley, Doncaster, Annette, Gill, Bernie and Trish, all travelled down together from Doncaster to Turvey Abbey. The four are all members of the St Paul's Icon Painting Group, who meet regularly on Thursday mornings in Trish's house, together with other parishioners. They all felt the need to have formal instruction to refine and improve their icon painting techniques. Trish had previously been to an icon painting course held by Sr Esther in Turvey Abbey and had found it to be extremely valuable; she had recommended it to her colleagues, so they had signed up for a five-day residential icon painting course at Turvey Abbey, led by Sr Esther.

They travelled down together in one car, arriving in Turvey at 2:15pm. Sr Esther greeted them and showed them to their accommodation in the building known as Bec House. The accommodation was comfortable. There were single rooms with shared shower facilities and one twin room with en-suite shower. There is a small and well-equipped kitchen and a sitting area at the foot of the stairs. Next to this is the workroom where the icon painting was to be undertaken.

Upon arrival, there was time for tea and biscuits and then they were shown to their rooms to unpack. Then it was down to work. They met in the ground floor workroom in Bec House to start working on the icon that they were each going to write: an icon of St Mary Magdalene.

As per instructions by Sr Esther, they had all brought their own materials. These included: a hard pencil, rubber, ruler or set square, clear tracing paper and a palette or mixing tray. They also needed pure sable or squirrel brushes, to include numbers 00, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

They had all brought pure coloured pigment, including cobalt blue, cadmium red, cobalt green, titanium white, medium yellow and yellow ochre. Each one also had a ready-prepared Gesso board.

The first session was followed at 5.45pm by Vespers in the chapel. Then there was supper in the refectory. At 7:30pm there was Compline in the chapel. Then it was time to return to Bec House for some quiet time; it is expected that participants in the icons painting course should endeavour to maintain a 'monastic silence' during this time.

Over the next four days, strict discipline was observed. If a participant so wished, they could attend the Office of Readings at 6.10am, before breakfast. Breakfast was served in the refectory in the adjacent building, Brand House, between 7-8.20am. Then there was Lauds – the Office of Praise, followed by a meditation session led by Sr Esther for the iconographers in the small chapel. Icon painting then commenced in the workroom in Bec House until 11.30am, when there was a break for coffee. Midday Office of Prayer was said in the chapel at 11.40am, followed by Mass at noon. This is followed by quiet time before lunch at 1pm. *Continued on page 9*



The mosaic in the wall outside the Monastery of Christ Our Saviour

Reach

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continued from page 8 ...

Icon Painting then restarted at 2.15pm with a break for tea, as appropriate. Painting then continued until it was time to go to Vespers at 5.45pm. Supper in the refectory was at 6pm. Then there was Compline, followed by free, quiet time to read or to go for a walk in the extensive grounds of Turvey Abbey, or around the pretty village of Turvey, before retiring for bed.

The icon painting sessions in the workshop in Bec House were similarly disciplined. Sr Esther was an excellent teacher, demonstrating icon painting techniques which were new to the participants. She ensured that the sessions were conducted in a contemplative, prayerful way, with time for discussion of the religious aspects of the icon paint-

ing and contemplation of the meanings of images and symbols within the icons. There was an atmosphere of deep concentration and mutual support.

Gradually over the next four days the icons took shape and, despite times when one or two of the participants felt that they were not making any progress, the icons gradually took shape and assumed their own individual beauty. Surprisingly, despite the fact that all four participants were painting icons based on exactly the same template, each one demonstrated the individual skills and attributes of its painter.

At the end of the week, on Sunday, 5 May, after the Sunday Mass, the iconographers all met, together with their completed icons, in the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament for the Blessing of the Icons.

Sr Esther was there, and also Sr Lucy and Br Herbert. Br John conducted the blessing and then photographs were taken to celebrate and to mark the end of a very successful and inspiring five days.

The iconographers are extremely grateful to Sr Esther for sharing her wisdom and expertise and for being so patient and such a wonderful teacher.

Thanks are due to Sr Judith for ensuring that we were comfortably housed and extremely well fed with most appetising and plentiful food.

And thanks to Br John for blessing the icons and to all the nuns and brothers for letting us share in the divine offices and allowing us a glimpse of the life of the two religious communities for the few days that we were there as their guests.

Dr Emyr Wyn Jones



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Welcome to the Children's Liturgy Section

Do you like to read?

Did you know that in our churches, there are many books that we use?

The Priest uses a book called The Roman Missal for the prayers of the Mass: the Opening Prayer, the Prayer over the Gifts, the Prayer after Communion, Solemn Blessings, the Prefaces and Eucharistic Prayers for all the Masses. You may not have noticed this book but it is used for prayers at the Priest's chair (when it may be held by an altar server) and at the altar.

Some parishes also have a Book of the Gospels with the Gospel Readings and this may be carried by a Deacon in the opening

procession and placed on the altar. If there is no Deacon one of the Readers may carry it instead. All parishes will have Lectionaries, the books which have the other Bible Readings for Mass.

Different parishes have different ways of helping those gathered for Mass to play their part by singing or saying different parts of the Mass. Some have books or booklets on the benches or chairs; others give them out or let people collect them as they come into church. It is important that we all play our part in the Mass because it really must be something we all do together.

See if you can spot any of the books being used by Priest or people the next time that you are at Mass.



I Wonder

I wonder which is your favourite story in the Bible?

.....
.....

I wonder what is the most important part of the Bible?

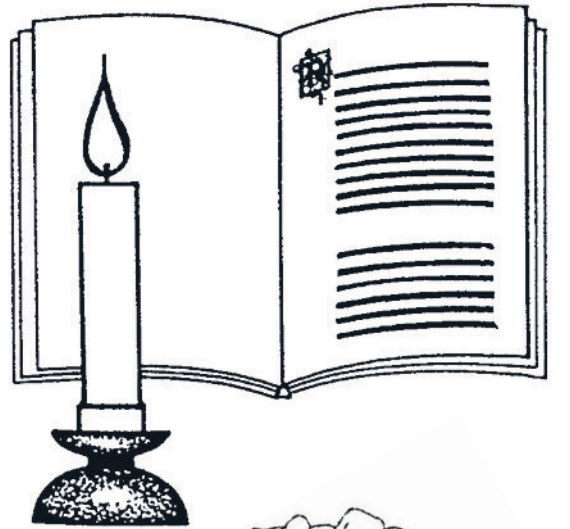
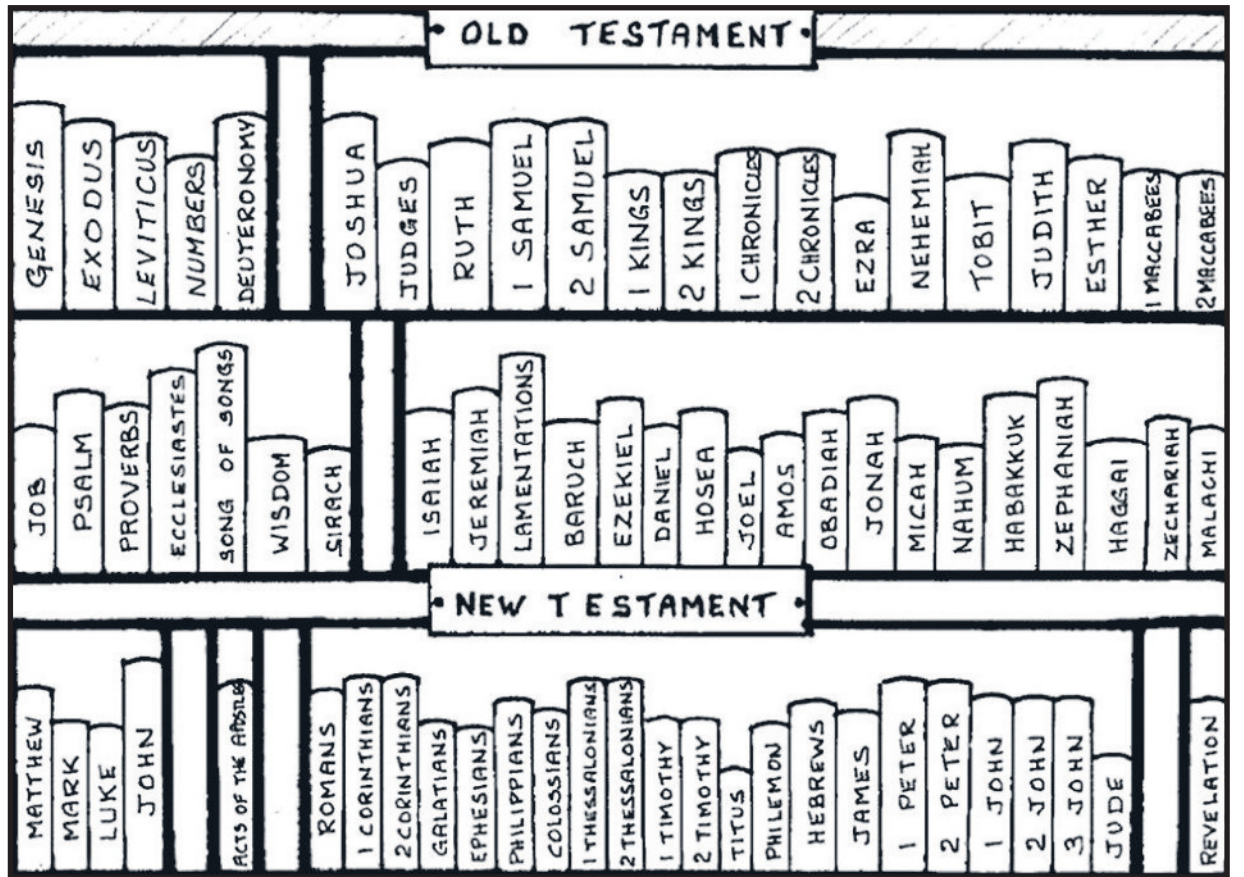
.....
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I wonder how many different books you can see in church?

.....
.....

I wonder which is the most important book in the church?

.....
.....



PRAISE O CHILDREN
PRAISE THE LORD

EDUCATION IN THE FULLNESS OF HUMANITY

Holy Trinity Students Travel to the Somme

Each year, Holy Trinity School, Barnsley, takes a group of students to the WWI Battlefields. This year forty Year 9 students, along with their teachers, embarked on a journey to the Somme, to remember and honour the fallen.

During the trip, they visited memorials and took part in acts of remembrance for the soldiers who died during the Great War. The students also visited Thiepval Memorial, which is the largest Commonwealth War Memorial in the world, commemorating more than 72,000 men of British and South African forces who died in the Somme between 1915 and 1918.

To show their respects, each stu-

dent signed a letter in British Sign Language, which spelled out the phrase "We Will Remember Them," as their promise to never forget those who fell; posing for a photograph around the Epitaph at the heart of the memorial stone. It was a deeply moving and poignant gesture that neither students nor staff will ever forget.

Also, as part of the tour, the students visited the Barnsley Pals Memorial which commemorates the men from Barnsley who died on the



1 July, 1916 at the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. As part of their tribute, the students stood in salute to honour our home-town's fallen heroes.

At 8pm every evening in Ypres, the Last Post ceremony is held at The Menin Gate to honour the fallen. Three of our students took part, lay-

ing a wreath on behalf of the whole school.

Mr Henderson, who organised the trip and accompanied the students, along with Mr Fox, Mrs Brooke, Ms Ryan and Mr Ward, said, "This was a deeply emotional experience for the students taking part, the staff and a defining moment for Holy Trinity

School. I am extremely proud of the strength of character shown and the dignity they displayed throughout the service. All the pupils were amazing ambassadors for the school and their behaviour throughout the whole weekend was exemplary."



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Education Sunday will take place on Sunday 8th September 2019. It is a day of Celebration for all those involved in Education.

It is an opportunity for Schools and Parishes to come together to celebrate and give thanks for all the students, staff and parents who work so hard in and for Catholic Schools.

With this in mind we will be celebrating Education Sunday in the Schools section of the September edition of the paper.



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Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

John Rigby, parishioner of St William of York, Sheffield, relates his experience of this special place.

In June a group of thirty pilgrims, mostly from Hallam Diocese, visited the Marian shrine in Medjugorje in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Our spiritual director, Rev Lee Marshall, was assisted by his father, Deacon Pete Marshall, who was also the Group Leader.

We arrived at Split airport in blazing sunshine and reached the shrine by coach, clutching precious water bottles. We received a warm welcome from the family owners of the 'Pension Tomato' where there was an evening meal ready for us. The accommodation was basic but clean and, with the temperature hovering in the mid-thirties, all were thankful for the air conditioning!

In this small town pilgrims easily outnumber the 2,300 Croatia residents, Medjugorje being the third largest place of Catholic pilgrimage in the world. As it is only 38 years since the Apparitions began, developments to cope with the influx were seriously impeded by the civil war (1991-1995).

St James' Church was consecrated in 1969 long before the first of the Apparitions of Our Lady and considered by most Croats far too big for the tiny parish. As the number of visitors grew after 1981 it is now too small and a Rotunda was built at the rear of the Church so that open air Masses could be said for much larger congregations.

Parallel to the nave of the church are twenty five confessionals available in several languages and always very busy! On the opposite side one could make an offering and light candles (forbidden elsewhere for fear of forest fires).

A short walk took us to church and after Mass most of us attended a musical evening hosted by David Parkes, who was cured of Crohn's disease in 1989. The cure is currently being investigated by the Commission of the Bishops' Conference in Rome.

During a very busy week pilgrims had the option each day after Mass to climb the rocky terrain to reach the site of the first Apparition, pray at the huge bronze statue of the 'Risen Christ' or visit the nearby Stations of the Cross.

During a fast day many of us dined on bread and water at 'Mary's Meals', a charity started years ago in Scotland.

Our group travelled to the Cenacolo Centre in Saluzzo and heard talks from recovering addicts where success-



ful treatment was a blend of prayer and kindness without any input from doctors or psychiatrists.

The next day found us all at a Franciscan Church a few miles away in Gradnici where Fr Lee said Mass and afterwards the Parish Priest very kindly laid on refreshments for us.

On our final day we were privileged to hear one of the visionaries, Jakov Colo tell his story through an interpreter. Jakov was only ten years old when he first saw Our Lady.

Medjugorje attracts people from all over the world as a place of devotion, love and peace. Only those who have been can appreciate this.

Our group flew home the next day and I hope that, like me, they all felt spiritually uplifted. Most of them will return as often as they can. I came on pilgrimage with an open mind and now I am convinced that this is

a very holy place in which miracles are happening. I regret not visiting when I was younger, but so glad I have made the journey at last.

The Vatican will make no decisions about Medjugorje until the Apparitions cease, and then their deliberations may take years. All the pronouncements made to date have been very encouraging. There has been no Papal visit to the shrine since the Bishops of the Diocese have never sent out an invitation, which is the protocol. It is well-known, however, that Cardinal Ratzinger made a private visit in 1985 before becoming Pope Benedict XVI.

In view of Pope Francis' recent pronouncement on 12 May that Bishops can now allow organised pilgrimages, perhaps the future may see our Hallam Diocese sending pilgrims to Lourdes and Medjugorje in alternate years.



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 Aramaean maybe with Welsh girl putting in a little time (6)
- 4 Seaman's lounge is well-lit (6)
- 9 Show recognition when there's something fishy to burrow into (7)
- 10 End with extremely long love letter (5)
- 11 Mountain is, going west, skirting Toronto, he thought (5)
- 12 Character of a German city church (7)
- 13 Badly desire coach to see this? (11)
- 18 Past one's prime, perhaps one in 4 (3,4)
- 20 Old medic that's at the heart of joint group (5)
- 22 Disagrees with tip off that this is the first sign of spring (5)
- 23 Persistence in finding apartment number above... (2,3-2)
- 24 ...where Simon lived during tenancy renewals (6)
- 25 Repel family of rodents and get ant problem checked (6)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Peels back harpy's facade to reveal an angel (6)
- 2 Religious type informally sent up one Russian leader (5)
- 3 1 Ac capital having nothing, needs support of the church (7)
- 5 Lads say they keep their heads above water (5)
- 6 Underworld opening near Naples for American after de-facing pub (7)
- 7 Spanish article's identity is to be found inside protective cover (6)
- 8 Be enticed in random order (11)
- 14 With fish row beginning to take off, getting more red-faced (7)
- 15 Icicle, a paradoxically harmonic subject for her (7)
- 16 Ancient law of marbles, put together by Greeks and

Romans, perhaps (6)

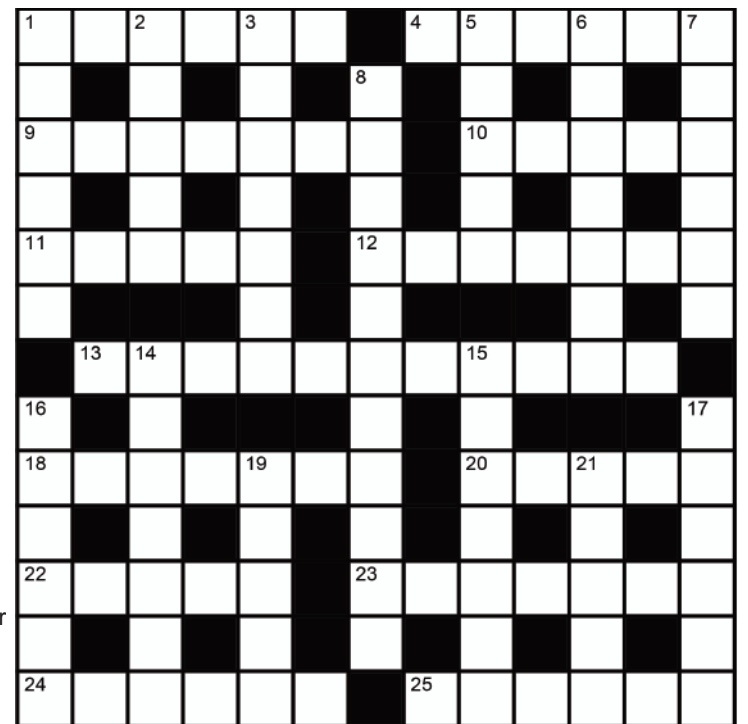
- 17 Billet commanding officer where French power's contained close to Toulon (6)
- 19 Breach of the law for which cleric is beheaded (5)
- 21 Church music after a short while is, to the Vietcong, offensive (5)

QUICK Across

- 1 Alternative to Aramaean in Genesis (KJV and other Bibles) (6)
- 4 On fire (6)
- 9 Competition prize (7)
- 10 -----3, fatty acid that aids in the reduction of cholesterol levels (5)
- 11 Disciple of Socrates and the teacher of Aristotle; founder of the Academy in Athens (5)
- 12 Core; spirit (7)
- 13 Primate's jurisdiction (11)
- 18 Matelot; sea dog (3,4)
- 20 Ensemble (5)
- 22 Astrological ram (5)
- 23 Period without respite of intensity or pressure (2,3-2)
- 24 Greek city of Libya, home to one associated with the Crucifixion (6)
- 25 Plaid; clan-patterned clothing (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 Angel of the first order (6)
- 2 Jamaican cult, popularly called, based on the deification of Haile Selassie (5)
- 3 One of two Biblical cities, one in Pisidia the other in Syria, sharing the same name (7)



- 5 '----- up' = raises morale, spirits (5)
- 6 Lake in an Italian volcano, an entrance to Hell in Roman mythology (7)
- 7 Glass-like coating (6)
- 8 Religious Order's name given to a liqueur produced in Normandy (11)
- 14 More rubicund (7)
- 15 Patron saint of (church) music (7)
- 16 Law of the Jews from Mt Sinai (6)
- 17 Voucher: football pools sheet (6)
- 19 Malicious burning to destroy property (5)
- 21 Polyphonic choral liturgical piece (5)

SOLUTION

Across: 1 Syrian, 4 Ablaze, 9 Rosette, 10 Omega, 11 Plato, 12 Let-up, 24 Cyrene, 25 Tartan. **Down:** 1 Seraph, 2 Rasta, 3 Antioch, Essence, 13 Archdiocese, 18 Old salt, 20 Combo, 22 Artes, 23 No 5 Buys, 6 Avernus, 7 Enamel, 8 Benedictine, 14 Rudder, 15 Cecilia, 16 Mosaic, 17 Coupon, 19 Arson, 21 Motet.