# Hallam News

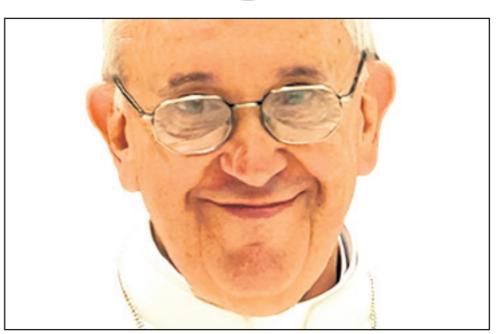
**JANUARY 2014** 

No. 289

FRFF

# THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Pope Francis is calling Bishops to Rome in October 2014 to discuss the Church's teaching on marriage and family life in the face of modern realities. As we move towards this important Extraordinary Synod, The Hallam News will be looking at the vocation of marriage. There will be details of help available in the Diocese for couples preparing for marriage and a consideration of how couples can live out their vocation in a marriage that is fully alive. Our Diocese is blessed with many couples who have enjoyed and continue to enjoy a long and happy marriage. (See the gallery of photos on page 3 and 4) We want to demonstrate our Diocesan commitment to marriage and family life as we pray for the work of the Bishops in October 2014.





Tonia Bagnoli and Vincent Dalton who were married at Mother of God parish in 2011

WISHING ALL OUR READERS
A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR



Bob and Molly Ruddy who were married in 1953



Or Call 0845 122 6910

## What's on in January

18

- Deadline for articles, etc for next issue of the *Hallam*News.
- 1 Hallam Ascent group meet at St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD, 1.45-3.45pm - see page 10.
- 3 Social evening and Bingo, 8.30pm at St Vincent's Catholic Men's Society Club, Solly Street, Sheffield.
- 8 Sheffield Bereavement Dropin, 1.30-3.30pm, Cathedral House, Norfolk Street, Sheffield.
- 8 Chesterfield Bereavement
  Support Group Drop-in/coffee
  morning, 10.30am-12noon,
  The Annunciation Centre,
  Chesterfield.
- 11 Latin Mass (1962 Rite) 10am at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.

- Sheffield Branch Walsingham
  Association serves refresh
  ments after 12.45pm Mass at
  St Marie's Cathedral,
  Sheffield.
  - 'Seeking the Lord' Day of praise and reflection at St Mary's, Maltby parish room. Mass/Eucharistic service 10am in the Church or parish room, refreshments 10.30am, 11am start. Please bring a shared lunch. For further details please contact Alessio Salvadori, tel: 0114 2664500 or Yvonne or Tony Lazenby, tel: 01302 742368.
- 25 Social evening and disco, 8pm at St Vincent's Catholic Men's Society Club, Solly Street, Sheffield.
- 28 Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refresh ments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.

#### **PILGRIMAGES**

**Medjugorje** 15-22 May and 3-10 September. If deposits are received before 15 February, there will be a £30 reduction on the overall cost. Both flights depart from Manchester at 3.25pm. Cost is £544, deposit £80, single room supplement £120, insurance (unless you have your own) £30. Please contact Pete or Sue Marshall on 01302 885358, 07807 955836, petesuemarshall@googlemail.com.

Diocese of Hallam Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Bishop John Rawsthorne, 27 March-3 April, with an additional option to visit Jordan between 3-7 April. The Pilgrimage departs from Manchester to Tel Aviv, staying in Jerusalem, Bethlehem and Tiberias. The all inclusive cost is £1250 per person. The additional Jordan option costs £545 per person.

Those wishing to have further information about the Pilgrimage should contact the organiser, Joe McNally, tel: 0114 2364076, mobile: 07891072858, email: joegmc-nally@btinternet.com.

**Pilgrimage to the Seven Churches of Asia Minor** following the footsteps of St Paul in May. If you would like further information about this Pilgrimage, please contact Brendan Lally of St Mary's parish, Penistone, tel: 01226 763220.



## **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.



## **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Month**

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

- 5 Holy Family, Chesterfield.
- 12 St Alban, Denaby Main.
- 19 St Michael and All Angels, Wombwell.
- 26 Our Lady and St Thomas, Sheffield.

#### Hallam Diocesan Assembly Half-Day



#### A morning on Franciscan Spirituality

#### With the Franciscan Sisters of Renewal

9am for 9.30am-12.30pm Saturday 25 January 2014 Blessed Trinity Church Hall Northfield Lane, Wickersley, Rotherham, S66 2HF

#### Hallam Diocesan Assembly Spirituality Series 2014

This year the Diocesan Assembly committee has organised a series of half days on different forms of spirituality. All the sessions will take place on Saturdays, 9am for 9.30am-12.30pm, at Blessed Trinity Church Hall, Northfield Lane, Wickersley Rotherham S66.2HF. The dates and details are:

Wickersley, Rotherham, S66 2HF. The dates and details are: 25 January, Franciscan Spirituality with the Franciscan Sisters of Renewal. 22 February, Salesian Spirituality with Fr David O' Malley SDB, Rector of Savio House, Bollington.

31 May, Carmelite Spirituality with Fr Antony Lester O.Carm, Catholic Chaplain to the University of York.

12 July Benedictine Spiritualty with one of the community from Ampleforth Abbey.

If you would like updates/more information of events sent by email then please email hallamassembly@talktalk.net. Your email will be used solely for this purpose and will not be disclosed to any third party.

## Vespers and Benediction

Sunday, 5 January and every subsequent Sunday, 6pm at Blessed Trinity, Northfield Lane, Wickersley

Led by the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham Sheffield and South Yorkshire

#### Irish Tea Dance

Mother of God Parish Centre Abbeydale Road Sheffield, S7 1DX 1-3.30pm Wednesday, 8 January with live music Everyone welcome For more details contact Gerry, tel: 0114 2618788, mobile 07544979686.

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. Tel: 0114 2566406. Fax: 0114 2562673. E-mail: hallamnews@hallam-diocese.com. Publication: fourth Sunday of the month dated for the following month. Publishers: CathCom Ltd.

## MATRIMONY ... MATRIMONY ... MATRIMONY ...

#### John and Angela Rowan



On I June 2013 Angela and John Rowan celebrated 50 years of marriage. The couple were married at St Cuthbert's Church, Bradford, before moving to Sheffield, where Angela taught at Notre Dame for many years. John was well known throughout the Diocese as the manager of the Hallam Book Centre, opposite St Marie's Cathedral.

A keen photographer, John has taken many photographs across the Diocese for the *Catholic Voice* and the *Hallam News*. The couple have two daughters, Joanne and Rachel, and four grandchildren.

## Gerald and Violet Green



On 14 February, 1953 Violet and Gerald Green were married at the old St Peter-in-Chains in Princes Street, Doncaster.

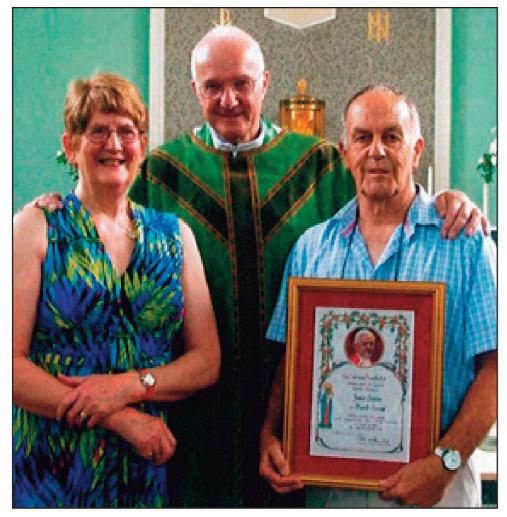
On 14 February, 2013 at their home in Doncaster they started celebrations of their Diamond wedding with a House Mass. They had volunteered to host a House Mass for the Year of Faith and Fr Gus O'Reilly organised it for this special day.

On Sunday, 17 February the 10am parish Mass was concelebrated by Fr Gus O'Reilly and Fr Joseph Aylookunnel and the couple were presented with flowers and a Papal Blessing.

After Mass their grandson took the photograph above of Vi and Gerald with the priests.

The celebrations continued with a reception for family and friends at the Earl of Doncaster Hotel.

## David and Josie Green



On Sunday, 19 August 2012 the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Bentley celebrated the 50th Wedding Anniversary of David and Josie Green, both long serving and active parishioners. They renewed their marriage vows and were presented with a Papal Blessing by Fr John Windle.



## STONYHURST

"Dear young people, do not bury your talents, the gifts that God has given you! Do not be afraid to dream of great things!"

Pope Francis

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER AWARDS

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#### **SCHOLARSHIP EXAMS 2014**

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25<sup>th</sup> January (13+ St Francis Xavier Award)

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#### John and Molly Gilroy



John and Molly Gilroy celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on 24 January, 2013 in style and with their family. John and Molly were married at Stainforth, but worship at St Thomas of Canterbury Church at Kirk Sandall where they now live. They were presented with a bouquet of flowers at their home from the parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows, Armthorpe and St Thomas.

## Paddy and Peggy McGloin



A former editor of our diocesan newspaper and a former communications officer for the Union of Catholic Mothers have now been married for 57 years. Paddy and Peggy McGloin from Mother of God parish, Sheffield are pictured above with

parish priest, Fr William Kilgannon, at the celebration of their Golden Wedding Anniversary. Both Paddy and Peggy are still actively involved in parish life.

Photograph: Peter Wolstenholme

#### St Wilfrid's Cook at International Food Night



L to R:St Wilfrid's cook, Pam, with organiser Ravi, Keith Dewsnap from St Wilfrid's Centre and Cathedral Dean, Fr Chris Posluszny at the international food night

An international food night was organised recently by Ravi at the Houlden Hall, St Marie's Cathedral. As part of the event, the cook from St Wilfrid's Centre was invited to display her culinary skills. Along with colleague, Keith Dewsnap, Pam delivered a treat amongst many others and the money raised from the night will be split between St Wilfrid's Centre and St Marie's Restoration Fund.

## Hello and Goodbye for the InReality Team

On Thursday 21 November, the InRe- and from Swindon. I enjoy reading, has been with InReality for the past 6 years! Grace now has a job as a teaching assistant at Holy Family Catholic Primary School in Stainforth. We wish her the best of luck with the next chapter of her life, particularly as she's also getting married on New Year's Eve this year!

At the end of his first half term, Liam decided that the InReality team wasn't for him. Our prayers and best wishes go with him as he moves to the next phase of his life.

We were recently joined by Charlotte Harris from Swindon! We are very pleased to have such a lovely new team member with us. Charlotte introduces

"Hello! I'm Charlotte, I'm 19 years old

ality team said goodbye to Grace who swimming and I am also learning to play the guitar! I'm currently doing my second year of youth ministry. By joining the InReality team, I hope to experience new challenges, to grow in confidence and to learn more about my faith, and in turn, to give the young people I meet a safe environment for them to challenge and grow themselves, both spiritually and personally. I'm so excited for this year and all the adventures it will bring!

The InReality team are now in the middle of preparations for a retreat to Hartington in Derbyshire with the year 12s of St Mary's, Chesterfield! Keep your eyes peeled for future editions of the Hallam News to find out

The team is pictured on the right.

#### THE DE LA SALLE CLUB

The De La Salle Club has changed a great deal in the forty years of its existence. In the early days it was very much a sports and social club. It still has a strong social aspect and now also organises and supports charitable causes as this extract from their recent newsletter explains. Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Visit 2013

'On 13 July, eleven children from the Stolin area of southern Belarus and their leader arrived at Manchester airport to begin their one month recuperation visit to Sheffield. Over the last seven years the Sheffield link of the Chernobyl Children Lifeline Charity, which is based in Sheffield 8, has hosted over seventy children who live in highly contaminated areas of Belarus. The contamination is due to the aftermath of the fallout from the horrendous Chernobyl nuclear disaster of 1986. The children breathe contaminated air, the water they drink and wash in and the food that is grown in their soil are all contaminated. Their health suffers with poor immune systems and the incidence of cancer, particularly thryoid, is increased. It has been shown that one month away from this situation at around puberty can give their immune systems a much needed boost and that is why a national charity was started to help bring the children over to England for a one month holiday.

The children take part in various activities and we rely greatly on the good will of local people to help us. A local dentist gives the children free dental care - their teeth are often in a terrible state. Specsavers in town offer an eye test and free glasses if they are needed. The children are taken to parks and the seaside and have plenty of fresh air and fun! Second hand clothes are collected for them to take home. They stay with local families and become 'one of the family' for their four weeks.

It is lovely that over the last three years we have been able to bring the children up to the De La Salle Club for a sports afternoon. Unfortunately, last year the weather was bad so we cancelled the event but this year, on 7 August, we had a lovely day and the children had a great afternoon, playing games and running around in the beautiful grounds. Thank you so much to those that made this possible.

The children went home after their four week stay looking healthier than when they came, eager to see their families but with memories of a wonderful experience

If anyone would like to know more, please look on the website, www.ccll.org.uk.sheffield or contact Stephanie Dixon on 0114 2367756."



#### Notre Dame Fund Raising Appeal for St Wilfrid's Bishop's Walk

Staff and students at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Sheffield have been busy throughout September and October fund raising in aid of the Bishop's Walk appeal to support St Wilfrid's Centre and their plans for a new residential unit.

Deputy Headteacher, Sean Pender, represented the school on the walk this year. He presented an assembly to each year group in the first week of term reflecting on the Bishop's Walk, reminding students of the invaluable work that goes on at St Wilfrid's Centre, their ambitions for the residential unit and reinforcing the importance of the school communities' commitment to 'Faith in Action'.

In the following weeks, leading up to the half term break, form tutors in each year group worked tirelessly with their students devising a range of fund raising activities in an all out attempt to break previous amounts raised.

On Thursday 21 November Kevin Bradley, Director of St Wilfrid's Centre, visited a Y10 assembly at Notre Dame to thank students for their efforts and reiterate why the money raised is so important to the work of the centre. On receiving a cheque for £1,618.25 a delighted Kevin summed up his feelings by adapting the famous St Wilfrid's centre catch phrase and declaring 'There's only one Notre Dame'.

Pictured below is Kevin Bradley, Director of St Wilfrid's centre receiving the cheque from Y10 students Lauren and Sam.



## Live Music at St Wilfrid's

St Wilfrid's works closely with Live Music Now Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, a charity which arranges live music for charitable organisations. In 2013 two wonderfully entertaining performances were arranged for our clients. The first being a soprano and pianist in March and recently, Anneke the harpist. Clients were mesmerised by the music and were very interested in the instrument. The events are funded through the Mayfield Valley Trust. Many of the clients have never heard such talented musicians and without the help of other charities would never have the opportunity to do so.



## Derby Day Cup

The Derby Day Cup which is played for twice a year at St Wilfrid's Centre, Sheffield recently ended in dramatic fashion.

The game played between Sheffield Wednesday and Sheffield United sup-

porters took place in pouring rain and was refereed by ex-England international and soccer legend, Tony Currie. It was a great occasion with the reds prevailing over the blues as the Blades beat the Owls 6-3 in a thriller.



## BISHOP'S WALK 2013

Bishop John's walk for St Wilfrid's Centre, Sheffield recently raised a staggering £14,500. The walkers are pictured above Ashford in the Water. The annual sponsored 15 mile walk was described by Director, Kevin Bradley as, "Another great success and an amazing total raised."

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## Diocesan Lourdes Reunion

caster hosted the 2013 Reunion on Friday 15 November. In excess of 150 pilgrims shared a joyful, concelebrated Mass, led by Fr Pat O'Connor, Pilgrimage Director.

Staff and students of McAuley School provided a warm welcome, with a delicious buffet, prepared by the School Cook and her team. Fund raising events swelled the Pilgrimage Sick Fund. The Church of the Annunciation, Chesterfield, held a sponsored walk which raised a brilliant £1710, whilst the annual Lourdes Ball at St Mary's, Rotherham raised a magnificent

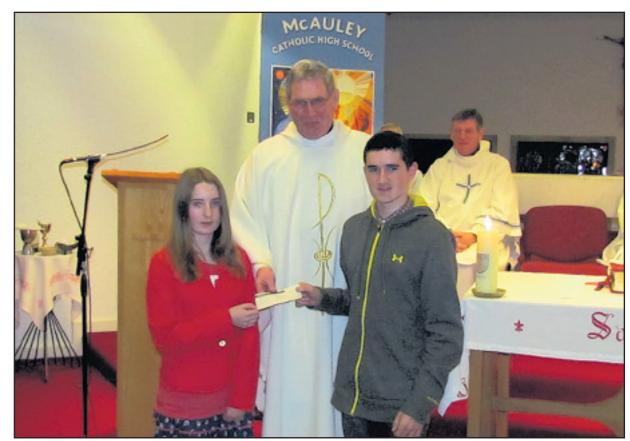
Fr Pat is pictured on the right receiving cheques from Chesterfield students, Hannah and William, and below from Vera Frost, parishioner at St Mary's.

Planning for 2014 is well under way, with the option

he McAuley Catholic of flying or travelling over-High School in Don- land by coach. A coach was available at McAuley School for pilgrims to board and check out the spacious seating arrangement. thirty expressions of interest in coach travel made the option worth a try for 2014. The cost for 2014 will be £675 for the flight option, or £500 to travel overnight by coach. Both prices include full board and optional travel insurance. Booking forms and posters will be available in all parishes early in the New Year.

We desperately need volunteer Nurses, Doctors, Male and Female Helpers. Please pray for those essential people to offer their services. Perhaps you are one of them?

Please contact Jim Ashmore, Pilgrimage Co-ordinator, to discuss any aspect of the Pilgrimage, telephone: 01302 390010 or email: jim.ashmore@blueyonder.co.





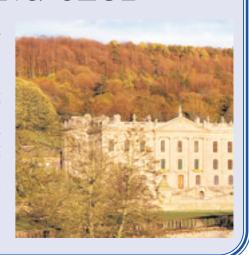
### DE LA SALLE ASSOCIATION RAMBLING CLUB

The usual winter walk starts the De La Salle Association Rambling Club off for the season and is subject to the weather.

Meet at Calton Lees pay and display car park, Chatsworth Park (grid ref 259685), on Sunday 19 January at 10.30am. The distance is 5 miles via Calton Lees, Russian Cottage, Edensor, Chatsworth House and returning by the river to the car park at Calton Lees

The leaders are John and Sheila Sheasby, telephone: 0114 2367408, mobile: 07768 830434.

New members are always very wel-





THANK YOU MR KIRBY!

Graham Kirby, (pictured above 4th from right), has retired from the Governing Body of St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Denaby Main after 33 years as a governor, including a period as Chairman of the Governing Body.

His dedication, work and commitment was marked with the celebration of Mass followed by a presentation, thanking Graham for his years of devoted service to

The event prompted Fr John Cooke, parish priest of St Alban's, to thank all governors of our Diocesan schools for services to Catholic education.

#### HALLAM LOURDES PILGRIMAGE NURSE HONOURED WITH MBE

Joanne Bosanquet, Deputy Director of Nursing, Public Health England, re-ceived her MBE from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth at Windsor Castle, on 22 November.

Joanne's award was given in recognition of her services to nursing and health care. Joanne's proud parents, Jim and Eileen Ashmore, joined Joanne and her husband and Lourdes brancardier, Justin for the investiture ceremony.

Joanne is pictured below at Windsor Castle with her award.

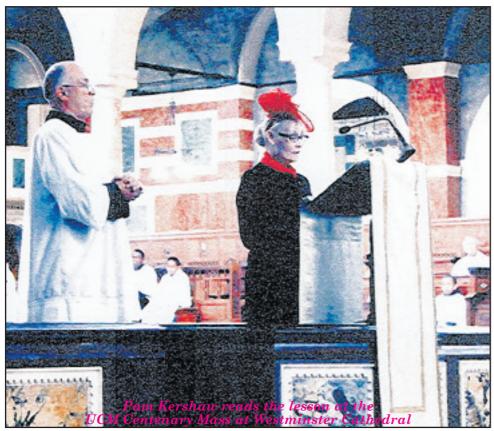


## UCM Centenary Mass at Westminster Cathedral

The Union of Catholic Mothers continued the celebration of their Centenary with a Centenary Mass at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 21 September. The Principal Celebrant was the Most Rev Peter Smith Archbishop of Southwark. The homily was given by the UCM Ecclesiastical Advisor, The Rt Rev T Brain Bishop of Salford.

In a packed Cathedral filled with members from all our Dioceses and invited guests, members from the Hallam Diocese were delighted and proud when our Diocesan Secretary, Mrs Pam Kershaw, took her place at the lectern at the Liturgy of the Word to read the Letter of St Paul to the Romans 12:9-16. She had been chosen by the UCM National Committee to read the lesson.

It was a day of celebration for all members who enjoyed the day. Many people stayed on to enjoy the weekend in London.



#### Fond Farewell and Bon Voyage to Richard and Margaret



B migrating to the land of the Long White Cloud has been a protracted affair for Rev Deacon Richard Booker and his wife Margaret. Now though their wait of several years to emigrate is finally over. Richard and Margaret have joined their daughter, Louise, and her family and the family of their late son, Simon, in New Zealand.

Following a lifetime of working in the nursing profession, Richard has spent the latter years as an active Catenian in Barnsley as well as serving the

Barnsley Deanery as a deacon since 2007. Nobody could devote the time to this and raising a large family without the support of a wonderful wife, as Margaret says!

Bishop John and the Barnsley Catenians joined family, friends and parishioners as they bid Richard and Margaret farewell. When thanking people for the many gifts and cheques they received, Margaret and Richard said that the gift of the friendship and family they are leaving behind will be what they treasure most.



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## News from Mount St Mary's, Spinkhill

## Classmates Boost Charity Fund

upils at Derbyshire's Mount St Mary's College rallied round to boost the fundraising efforts of a former pupil who plans to work on a charity project in India.

The Spinkhill school's fundraising committee, Moving Mountains, has supp o r t e d Evangeline Morrison by donating £300 to help her meet her medical costs needed before she heads out to India in the new year.

As part of her gap year, 18-year-old Evangeline will be carrying out extensive voluntary work and will travel to Bangalore before heading on to Manvi, where she will join a Jesuit Mission Voluntary Scheme. She will be teaching

and working with the so-called 'untouchables'; group of people who are seen in that region as being at the bottom of the Indian caste system. During her time

in India, Evangeline, who lives in South Anston, Sheffield, near will work alongside the Jesuit missions to carry developing their work with the Dalit people of Pannur. Their work will be focused on providing education for children and also setting women's groups. Evangeline will also be working within the community, from working in the fields to helping out on a mobile medical bus.

Evangeline said, "Raising money has been a maschallenge and Mount St English in two Mary's has helped primary schools me enormously



through their fundraising events. I am very grateful to everyone who helped me. I am very nervous about the months ahead but also looking for-

ward to the experience."

Fr Simon Ellis, Chaplain, said. It has been a privilege for staff and pupils and parents to support Evangeline as she Pictured above,

prepares to work in India. Clearly what Evangeline will be undertaking is going to be challenging and hugely rewarding for all involved."

Mount St Mary's College pupil, Lizzie, presents a donation of £300 to former college pupil Evangeline to help her carry out her charity

#### Musician Scales the Height of Success

Derbyshire musician, Harry Castle, has been selected to join the prestigious London-based Rodolfus Choir, one of the leading youth choirs in the

The Mount St Mary's College pupil was one of just 12 musicians chosen from the 350 national students who attended the famous Eton Choral Courses. With just 50 musicians in the choir all aged between 16 and 25, it's quite an achievement for the 16-year-old.

"This is a very high honour for Harry and reflects the exceptional level he is working at in all of his musical endeavours," said Lucy Kitchener, Director of Music at Mount St Mary's.

Harry, (pictured below), who was awarded A\* in his music A level having taken it two years early, is also a member of the National Youth Orchestra and a scholar at the Royal Northern College of Music. He achieved grade 8 distinction in violin and piano when he was only 13 and achieved A\* in GCSE Music at the age of 14.



## CURTAINS RISE ON College Performance

Students at Mount St Mary's College combined mystery and intrigue with a twist of comedy as they took to the stage to perform The 39 Steps.

The cast of 20 performed a fast paced, comic take on John Buchan's famous spy adventure in the college theatre over two nights.



The play threw up several challenges for the cast as it had more than speaking parts and contained numerous nods to the Alfred Hitchcock film. Together the cast took on the multi roles with barely a pause for breath. Meanwhile behind the scenes a support crew produced add to the fastpaced comedic style of the performance.

Murphy, Jack who teaches English and drama at Mount St Mary's College, said, was delighted with the pupils' performances and the audience response. It was great fun – full of laughter, silliness and sound effects played on the kazoo."

## PARISH CELEBRATION



Both the children and their families, who had been preparing together for Confirmation, welcomed Bishop John to Immaculate Conception, Spinkhill on Monday, 25 November. The Mass of celebration in the church and the party which

followed in the school hall were both thoroughly enjoyed by everyone.

The Mass was described by many as having "a lovely calm

## Barlborough Hall School has Fundraising All Wrapped Up

upils from Barlborough Hall donned wacky woollen gloves, hats and scarves to help raise more than £350 for the Philippines emergency aid effort.
The 'Wrap Up For Winter' event was

organised by the school council and the money raised sent to Jesuit Missions, which is part of the team of agencies currently helping provide shelter, food and medical supplies for those affected by the recent typhoon.

Barlborough Hall School, which caters

for three to 11-year-olds, is an independent Jesuit preparatory school and held a special assembly during the fundraising day. Children then made 'Philippino Parols,' a traditional Philippine lantern created in the shape of a five pointed star. The parols, which are traditionally produced in the Philippines near Christmas, are a symbol of peace and healing and have been displayed in the school's

Headteacher at the school in Barlborough, Nic Boys, said, "Our 'dress up in winter woollies day' was a great success. It was not only educational for our pupils but also raised vital funds for emergency aid. The children all learned about the typhoon and the difficulties in the Philippines and took part in traditional Philippine activities.

"As a Jesuit school that is world-affirming, we encourage students to look beyond their own understanding of the world and play their small but vital role in this global community to which we all belong.'



#### Special Gift for St Pius X High School

In November due to the kind donation of a local resident, St Pius X Catholic High School were provided with funds to purchase a defibrillator for the school. Many organiequipment to use in an emergency, and St Pius X is only one of two schools to have one of these in this

The lady who donated the defibrillator came into school on 12 November to present it to Headteacher. Mr Tony Bishop. The generous lady is Mrs Mary Agnes Rotherham, aged 91. The school is very grateful to Mrs Rotherham.

Later that day twelve members of staff were trained to use the defibril-

#### St Vincent's CMS Catholic Club

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## MATRIMONY ... MATRIMONY ... MATRIMONY ...

Weddings are a key feature of family, ourparish and diocesanlife. Charles and Jane Perryman thirty have yearsexperience of working married withand engagedcouples.

In preparing for our focus on MatrimonyCharles andJane say ...

"The sacrament of marriage is not just about getting married in church and then carrying on as if nothing had changed in our Christian vocation. The vocation arising from baptism does not end with the reception of the sacrament anv more than the vocation to priesthood ends with ordination. Similarly with the sacrament of matrimony, the vocation calls Catholic

married couples to live in a particular way. This way will be different from our baptismal call.

Ephesians In 5:31, 32 Paul likens the one flesh union of husband and wife to the love between Christ and the Church. That seems to place an obligation on or a call to married couples to live their married relationship in such a way as to make that love visible tangible. and Thus, the vocation to the sacrament matrimony calls

us to be the best married couple we can possibly be. That is to say that it is simply not good enough to be content to be an ordinary couple; to be content to get along with one another or to live parallel lives,

those individual lives may be. In marriage we live out our vocation in and through the marriage re-

lationship. In other words we should strive to be the best married couple we can be. In that way we will enpeople able around us to experience the love of God: not just to see it but actually to experience the love of God in us. That seems like an amazing call, enormous an challenge and an awesome responsibility for married couples. Charles and Jane argue that, "The

overarching finding that has emerged from research is that the key element that holds intimate couple relationships together is the strength of the emotional bond between the

couple. strength of the emotional bond could be summed up as the confidence each partner has in finding a positive response to their, usually unspoken, questions "When I need you will you be there for me?" "When I am sad or anxious or lonely, can I tell you and know for certain you will understand?" "When I am hurting will you be with me and hold me and soothe me?" "Will you support me to grow and develop into the person God wants me to be even if it is different from what I am now and not become scared that you will lose me?" "Do I come first in your order priorities?" Couples do not often ask these questions out



Deacon Peter Marshall with his son, Alan and Rachel who were married in 2010

times they might think them! It is by nurturing emotional bond between us

that we will build

a safe and secure

relationship where we can grow in intimacy with each other. Christ and His church live in an intimate relation-

ship. God lives in an intimate relationship in the Trinity. Similarly we, as married couples are called to intimacy. What that involves and how we sustain and deepen intimacy we will explore over the next few months.

## Hallam Ascent Group Erratum

he Hallam Ascent Group meet at 'St Francis of Assisi Church Hall, ■ Sandygate Road, Sheffield, on the first Wednesday of the month, 1.45—3.45pm.

More information can be obtained by contacting the leader, Veronica, tel: 0114 2306797 or Michael, tel: 0114 2304633, or by emailing ascent@jngreen.plus.com, or visit the website http://hallamascent.weebly.com.

During 2014 the meetings will take place as follows:

1 January Carol Service and Benediction with shared tea.

5 February St Wilfrid's Centre. Kevin Bradley, the Director, to give a presentation for future fundraising.

5 March Ash Wednesday Soup and Cheese Lunch after noon Mass. Fundraising for St Wilfrid's Centre. 2 April Stations Of The Cross at St Michael's Church, Rivelin, followed by cup of tea at Rivelin Café.

7 May York Day of Reflection for NE Ascent.

4 June Fr Greaves from Darlington -'The Ordinariate Of Our Lady Of Walsingham Explained.'

loud but

2 July Ketreat Day at The Convent Of Mercy, Bridgegate, Derby, led by Fr Denis Labartette, Rosminian Fathers. 6 August Cream Tea in aid of our charity this year.

3 September Slide Show and Website Presentation of Hallam Ascent's activ-

1 October Fr Michael Beattie SJ, 'Exploring the Beauty of the Rosary'.

5 November 1.30pm Remembrance Reflection in the Church Hall followed by Mass at 2pm, for the souls of those who gave their lives for our freedom, followed by tea.

3 December Christmas Treats.

Social events, usually mid-month, usually on a Wednesday or Thursday include a pub lunch, walk, theatre visit, etc and are planned nearer the time of the event.

Please note: All programme items are subject to change.

Due to an error on the part of the publisher, the photograph below appeared in last month's paper alongside the wrong article.



Newly trained Facilitators for Parenting Programmes organised by the diocesan Family Focus Project are pictured above with their certificates. They will soon be organising parenting courses at several venues in the diocese.

## Scout Jamboree 2015

The Scout Movement holds a World Jamboree every four years. Scouts from all over the world get together for two weeks. To take part scouts from all over the world have to meet standards proving them of being worthy to attend. To be nominated is a great privilege. It is very rare for one scout in a troop to achieve the standard required.

Proudly 205th St Catherine's (Burngreave) can boast that four of its troop have been selected to attend selection interviews. They are Paul Whelan, Kirsty Whelan, Raheem Baker and Ageel Hussain. Let us pray for all of them that at least one is chosen to make the Jamboree and represent not just their parish but the Diocese too.

This, the 23rd World Jamboree is to be held in Kirara-hama, Yamaguchi City, Japan, 28 July to 8 August 2015. The theme for this event is "A Spirit of Unity". All candidates will embark on a variety of challenges, seminars and courses. They include a Peace Programme, Global Development, Nature Exploration, Science Studies, Cross Cultural Understanding and a host of land and water activities normally associated with the Scout movement.

There are also opportunities for others to take part in this Jamboree too. The organisers are looking for help in different disciplines. For more information visit the official website http://www.23wsj.jp/.

The last Jamboree in 2011 was held in Sweden with over 40,000 members taking part. So this fab four from St Catherine's Scout Group have their work cut out; your prayers can help.

#### Raising Funds for SPUC

The Society for the Protection of Unborn the Child branch at Mother of God parish, Sheffield held its annual cake sale on 10 November. £201.77 raised for pro-life causes.

#### **HALLAM CURSILLO**

A Cursillo Weekend has been arranged in the diocese for 2-5 May at the Wilson Carlile Centre, Cavendish Street, Sheffield.

If you would like to attend or obtain more information about the weekend, please contact either Terry Mortimer, tel: 01246 590058, email: mortimer504@btinternet.com, or Austin Corcoran, tel: 0114 2369675, email: austincorcoran@blueyonder.co.uk.

## **Book Review**

#### An Advent Pilgrimage

A new Advent book offers material for prayer for each day of the season based on its author's experiences of and reflections on what it means to be a pilgrim. Writing in Thinking Faith, Paul Nicholson SJ describes the approach to prayer that he hopes will lead his readers to 'consolation' as they join him on An Advent Pilgrimage. It is possible that the British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan never said that his greatest fear in life was of 'events, dear boy, events'. Maybe the American writer Elbert Hubbard didn't think that life was made up of 'one damn thing after another'. But these quotations each convey a basic attitude to life in general, the one worldweary and the other exasperated. Such overall attitudes or images will shape a person's responses to much that happens to them. Once we know that Shakespeare's Macbeth believes that life is no more than 'a tale/ Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,/ Signifying nothing', his fate will come as little surprise.

Perhaps the most common Christian image of life, shaping the responses of those who try to live by it, is that of pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is a journey whose value is to be found as much (if not more) in the travelling itself and the experiences to which this gives rise, as in the destination. It is likely to be a journey with an explicitly spiritual dimension, whether this is thought of as connected with the ultimate goal of reaching a particular church or shrine, or with the awareness of God's providence guiding the encounters the pilgrim has along the way.

The urge to go on pilgrimage recurs throughout the centuries, and crosses boundaries of denomination and faith allegiance. John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, the Islamic Hajj, and the three-yearly Hindu Kumbh Mela, said to be the largest religious gathering in the world, all bear witness to this. Pilgrimage also plays a significant part in the Ignatian tradition. Ignatius of Loyola himself, not long after his conversion, set out on an arduous journey on foot to the Holy Land. He found this experience so beneficially transformative that he later prescribed something similar as one of the six foundational training 'experiments' for all candidates joining the Jesuit order that he established.

# Visioning Day at St Wilfrid's



St Wilfrid's Centre for the homeless and vulnerable, Sheffield is very fortunate to have in excess of 100 volunteers (pictured on the right).

'Visioning Day' is held every year at the Centre. This is a day devoted to recapping on the past year and looking forward to the coming year. News and updates are given to volunteers, who get an opportunity to meet others who work on different days and to exchange ideas and information. Director, Kevin Bradley said, "Any organisation that has over 100 volunteers and a waiting list, must be doing something right. St Wilf's is all about the volunteers and we could not manage without them."

## To go forth in evangelisation, Pope Francis confronts the enemy within

hen the Synod of Bishops on the new evangelization met at the Vatican in October 2012, among the top items on the agenda was the threat of militant secularism in a post-Christian West.

"It is as if a tsunami of secular influence has swept across the cultural landscape, taking with it such societal markers as marriage, family, the concept of the common good and objective right and wrong," and posing new impediments to spreading the Gospel, Cardinal Donald W. Wuerl of Washington, the synod's relator, told the gathering at its first working session.

The same topic arose repeatedly in addresses by synod fathers, especially those from Europe and North America, and in the final propositions they gave the pope as the basis for his post-synodal apostolic exhortation. But Pope Benedict XVI resigned before he could write such a document, leaving the task to his successor, who finally responded with "Evangelii Gaudium" ("The Joy of the Gospel"), published Nov. 26.

In writing the apostolic exhortation, Pope Francis departed from usual practice and declined to use the draft provided by synod officials. The result is a text in the pope's distinctive voice and focused on his particular concerns. Among the features that distinguish "Evangelii Gaudium" from the synod that gave rise to it, none is more striking than how little attention it pays to the problem of secularism.

The pope criticises contemporary society and culture, especially in the world's richer nations, for their "idolatry of money" and an "economy of exclusion and inequality." But he makes only a few broad references to the "crude and superficial" intolerance of unbelievers and the danger a distorted pluralism poses to religious freedom.

By contrast, Pope Francis devotes much of his exhortation to the shortcomings of the church itself. He laments its "excessive centralisation" in the Vatican, which he finds a hindrance to the church's "missionary outreach." He complains about members of religious orders who show an "in-

ordinate concern for their personal freedom and relaxation," and about priests "obsessed with protecting their free time."

The pope criticises those who show an "ostentatious preoccupation with the liturgy, doctrine and the church's prestige, but without any concern that the Gospel have a real impact on God's faithful people and the concrete needs of the present time." He upbraids Catholics with a "business mentality, caught up with management, statistics, plans and evaluations, whose principal beneficiary is not God's people but the church as an institution." And he regrets that women do not yet have a sufficient role in decisionmaking within the church.

Pope Francis also deplores divisiveness within the ranks, writing: "It always pains me greatly to discover how some Christian communities, and even consecrated persons, can tolerate different forms of enmity, division, calumny, defamation, vendetta, jealousy and the desire to impose certain ideas at all costs, and even persecutions which appear as veritable witch hunts. Whom are we going to evangelise if this is the way we act?"

Most remarkably, the pope devotes nearly a tenth of the entire document to suggestions for improving priests' homilies, which in his telling are all too often moralistic, unlearned, disorganised and verbose.

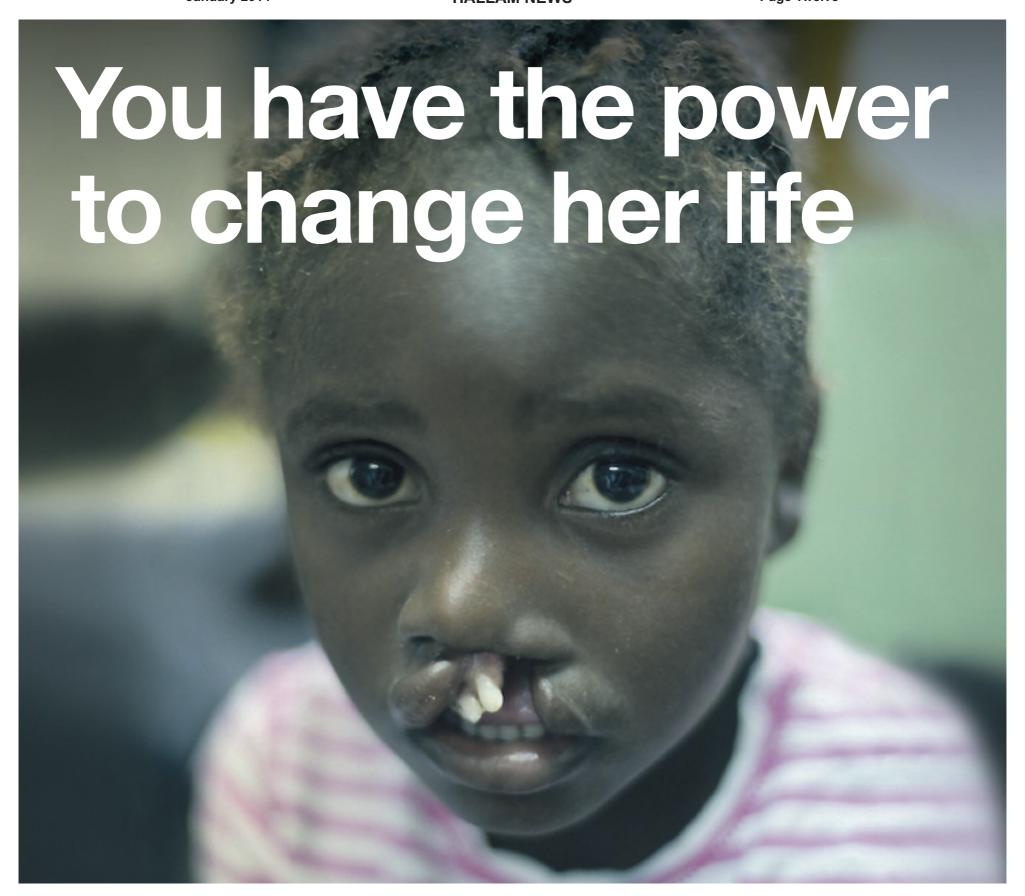
These problems matter, the pope makes clear, insofar as they impede efforts to make the church's structures "more mission-oriented, to make ordinary pastoral activity on every level more inclusive and open, and to inspire in pastoral workers a constant desire to go forth and in this way to elicit a positive response from all those whom Jesus summons to friendship with him."

It is thus surprising that, with the possible exception of a reference to the "pain and the shame we feel at the sins of some members of our church," Pope Francis does not even allude to what most people inside and outside the church would regard as its greatest scandal of recent years: the sexual abuse of minors by priests. This scandal is not,



Pope Francis, shown here during a Mass in St.
Peter's Basilica in October, covers a variety of topics in his new text, "The Joy of the Gospel." But he also devotes much of the exhortation to the short-comings of the church itself

strictly speaking, a question of evangelisation. But as Pope Benedict wrote to the Catholics of Ireland in March 2010, church leaders' failures to prevent and punish clerical sex abuse "have obscured the light of the Gospel to a degree that not even centuries of persecution succeeded in doing." Over the last decade, bishops' conferences in a number of countries, including the United States and Canada, have taken systematic action to protect children from this threat, and the Vatican has instructed the rest of the world's bishops to do likewise. Yet by all accounts the process is still far from complete. Carrying it out will presumably be a priority for Pope Francis, as part of his campaign to reform and purify the church at every level for the sake of its essential evangelical mission.



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