

# Hallam News

APRIL 2014

No. 292

FREE

## LOVE ONE ANOTHER

## AS I HAVE LOVED YOU



*As we move through Lent towards Easter, there have been many opportunities throughout the Diocese to develop our prayer life and to explore different ways of strengthening our relationship with God. Read about Franciscan Spirituality on page 3 and Salesian Spirituality on page 5. There are opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross with the Ascent group and at St Bede's Church in Rotherham, see page 2.*

As Christians we aim to love God and to love our neighbour as ourself.

Isaiah tells us:

*This rather is the fasting that I wish:*

*Releasing those bound unjustly,  
Untying the thongs of the yoke;*

*Setting free the oppressed,  
Breaking every yoke;*

*Sharing your bread with  
the hungry,*

*sheltering the oppressed  
and the homeless;*

*Clothing the naked when  
you see them,*

*And not turning your back  
on your own.*

*Then your light shall break  
forth like the dawn,*

*And your wound shall quickly  
be healed;*

*Your vindication shall go  
before you,*

*And the glory of the Lord  
shall be your rear guard*

*Then you shall call,  
and the Lord will answer,*

*You shall cry for help,  
and he will say:*

*Here I am!*

Over the coming months the *Hallam News* will explore, more fully, the ways in which many in our Diocese, and beyond, are working towards Justice and Peace in our world. We are all invited to join in that work in our own way. On page 11 of this month's paper there is an article entitled 'Poverty on our Doorstep', which makes thought provoking reading.

There are details of the Churches Refugee Network Conference on page 11.



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# What's on in April

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| <p>1 Deadline for articles for next issue of the <i>Hallam News</i>.</p> <p>2 Hallam Ascent Group meet for Stations of the Cross at St Michael's Chapel, Rivelin, 2pm, followed by tea at Rivelin Cafe. Contact Veronica on 0114 2306797 if you want a lift and meet at St Francis of Assisi Church, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD no later than 1.45pm. For more information email: ascent@jngreen.plus.com, website: hallamascent.weebly.com.</p> <p>4 Irish gathering at St Vincent's Catholic Men's Club, Solly Street, Sheffield, 12-3pm, Bingo at 8.30pm.</p> <p>5 'Lent Journey - Pilgrimage and Sacred Places: Iona' with Churches Together in Wathon-Dearne, 7.30pm at the Trinity Methodist Church. Led by Philip Jakob, member of the Iona Community.</p> <p>6 St Vincent's Catholic Men's Society annual general meeting, 1pm at St Vincent's CMS Club, Solly Street, Sheffield.</p> <p>8 'The Road to Salvation in Images', a talk at St Francis of Assisi Church, Sandygate Road, S10 5SD, 8pm. Contact Jacinta Campbell on jfcampbell51@yahoo.co.uk.</p> | <p>8 Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.</p> <p>9 Chesterfield Bereavement Support Group Drop-in/coffee morning, 10.30am-12noon, The Annunciation Centre, Chesterfield.</p> <p>21 Easter Monday Mass for St Vincent's Catholic Men's Society members and new members, 11am at St Vincent's CMS Club, Solly Street, Sheffield.</p> <p>22 Social Evening with the Shamrock Band at St Vincent's CMS Club, Solly Street, Sheffield, 8pm. All welcome.</p> <p>22 Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.</p> <p>26 SPUC annual pro-life chain on Meadowhall Way (opposite TGI Friday Diner, Attercliffe Road), 11am-1pm. For more details tel: 07815820052.</p> <p>26 Spring Fair at St Joseph's Catholic Club, Wingfield Avenue, Worksop, S81 0SF, 1pm-3pm, admission 20p. Varied stalls, refreshments and tombola. All are welcome.</p> |
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**CURSILLO WEEKEND**  
3 day experience at Wilson Carlile Centre, Cavendish Street, Sheffield, 2 - 5 May. For more information please contact Terry Mortimer, tel: 01246 590058, email: mortimer504@btinternet.com.

**Bereavement Support**  
Sheffield Bereavement Support at St Marie's Cathedral is available on request. Telephone: 0114 2722522 or email: office@stmariecathedral.org giving your contact details and a support volunteer will respond.

# 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:

- 6 St Joseph, Dinnington.
- 13 St Paul, Grimethorpe.
- 20 Easter Sunday
- 27 St Gerard, Thrybergh.

## Safeguarding in our Diocese

Training sessions have been organised for various aspects of safeguarding in the Diocese.

**Understanding Child Protection**  
**Thursday 10 April**, 6.30 - 9pm, at the Hallam Pastoral Centre, St Charles Street, Sheffield, S9 3WU.

**Saturday 12 April**, 10am - 12.30pm, at Blessed Trinity Church, Northfield Lane, Wickersley, S66 0HF.

Recent enquiries into child deaths, maltreatment and exploitation have demonstrated there are still gaps in our understanding of when to act.

This event is aimed at all those working with children and is a minimum requirement for volunteers who have not had child protection training in previous roles. The session will provide a basic framework for identifying child protection concerns about children 0-18 years and knowing what to do. A workbook is provided. Facilitators: Diocesan Training Team.

**Commonsense? Practical Issues in Safeguarding Children and Young People**

Organised by the Ecumenical Safeguarding Partnership.

**Saturday 26 April**, 10am-12.30pm, at the Hallam Pastoral Centre, St Charles Street, Sheffield, S9 3WU.

**Tuesday 30 April**, 6.30-9pm, at Blessed Trinity Church, Northfield Lane, Wickersley, S66 0HF.

The event is aimed at all working with children and young people on a paid or voluntary basis and those with responsibility for children and youth work provision.

The session will provide you with a practical framework for ensuring that church activities with children and young people are safe.

Facilitators: Lisa Markham, Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator and Sue Booth, Diocese of Sheffield Safeguarding Adviser

If you would like to come to any of these sessions, please confirm your booking with Jo Pearson, the Safeguarding Administrator, as soon as possible, tel: 0114 2566453, email: safeguardingadmin@hallam-diocese.com. Booking is essential to ensure you have a place and that you can be contacted if there are venue changes.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### A Meditation through Art, Music and Scripture

Friday 11 April, 7pm  
St Bede's Church, Station Road,  
Rotherham, S60 1HF

*An opportunity for all to meditate on the Way of the Cross as we prepare to enter Holy Week*

Singers from parishes across the Rotherham Deanery will lead the singing of a broad range of music, along with sacred art works to reflect each station

**ALL WELCOME**

## Formation of Musicians

It is over two years since the Revised Translation of the Roman Missal was first introduced, supported by a series of music workshops throughout the Diocese.

Now we have the opportunity to revisit what is now available, some of which was neither published nor 'tried and tested' back in 2011.

These sessions are open to all who sing

or support the music at Mass, including those who cannot make the sessions closer to their own parishes.

**Sheffield South Deanery**  
Tuesday 1 April and Monday 7 April  
Both evenings start at 7pm and finish at 8.30pm in Our Lady of Lourdes, Hackenthorpe, S12 4HJ.

Please contact Philip Jakob, 0114 273 7139 for more information.

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## Attention Catholic Schools!

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# FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY

## Christ is Enough



On Saturday 25 January over sixty people from across the Diocese gathered at Wickersley to hear Sisters Catherine, Cecilia and Elizabeth of the Franciscan Sisters of Renewal talk about Franciscan Spirituality. The sisters, all Americans, live and work amongst the poor in a deprived area of Leeds where they bring caring and the gospel message to the community.

First, Sr Elizabeth spoke about St Francis himself. He was from a middle class family and something of a socialite. He became a soldier, went to war and ended up in prison for a year. In prison he was noted for his 'beautiful spirit.' On release he went off to war again but fell ill and dreamt that he saw large amounts of armour. He misinterpreted this dream, believing that it indicated he would be victorious in battle, but then he had another dream in which he was asked, "Who do you wish to serve, the master or the servant?"

It was at this point that his conversion began and he went home to Assisi. One day a beggar asked him for 'alms for the love of God.' Francis did not respond and later deeply regretted this because he realised the beggar had been Christ. He did not make the same mistake again and, on meeting a leper he embraced and kissed the man even though he was repulsed by leprosy. (Pope Francis did the same recently with a man deformed by terrible tumours). Francis continued his conversion, rejecting all the values of this world and spending three years rebuilding churches. He gathered a group of like minded men and they began to preach the gospel adopting a habit the shape of a cross with a rope belt and sandals.

In about 1209 Francis went to Rome where he gained papal approval for the rule of the Franciscan Society. Francis had an obedient heart. He strove to be humble and fasted seven times a year. He loved and was devoted to the Nativity Story because God had humbled himself to become a man born in poverty. He made the first crib. He also loved the Cross, the sight of which reduced him to tears and the Eucharist which he saw as another sign of God's humility in that God conceals his glory in bread and wine. Two years before his death, in 1226 at the age of 44, he received the stigmata. He was canonised two years later following many miracles attributed to him. Sr Catherine then spoke about the spirituality of the Franciscans. She said that it is based on three pillars. These are:

**To have the spirit of the Lord within ourselves** - Life is a journey towards God the Father in the footprints of Jesus His Son and this journey is made possible for us by the intervention of the Holy Spirit. People who have the Spirit within them will behave like Christ. This is what the Holy Spirit does; it transforms us into being like Christ so that Christ is apparent in everything we do.

**To live without owning anything** - Franciscans live in obedience, chastity and in the footprints of Our Lord. Everything must be attributed to God - this is 'true evangelical poverty' and 'true humility.' All the good things we have come from God and the most God gives us is Jesus Christ who held nothing back in demonstrating God's love for us including accepting a horrendous and humiliating death.

**Our response** - We must be ready to give back to God in praise of thanksgiving and in witnessing to others that Jesus is everything and all-powerful.

Sr Catherine said that only a small number of people are called by God to fully commit their lives to this spirituality. Others are called to equally valid vocations such as marriage and parenthood but Franciscan spirituality is still something that people can strive to follow as far as they can within the context of their own life and vocation. The message of Francis is for all people and not just those with a calling to the religious life.

Sr Elizabeth then talked about how her vocation had developed. How she came from a Catholic family but knew little about St Francis. How she had been a girl guide and developed a love for working with the poor. How, in her education she had become devoted to the Blessed Sacrament and had begun to feel a dissatisfaction with normal student pursuits. A major occurrence in her life was when in a large crowd she had seen a homeless man begging. She had looked at him three times but done nothing. Later she realised that the man was Christ and that, in doing this, like St Peter, she had denied Jesus three times; like Peter, she wept. She did not immediately pursue a religious vocation and developed a close friendship with a young man. Sr Elizabeth, said that although this did not lead to marriage it did help her to appreciate and value the vocation of marriage. She continued to work for the poor but came to realise that God wanted more; God wanted not just her deeds but her heart as well. She now both serves the poor and preaches the gospel.

Finally, the Sisters held a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament in Blessed Trinity Church. This had the beautiful playing and singing of Sr Cecilia who sang hymns that were new to many of those present. In between the hymns were readings about St Francis and his spirituality. These reflected his devotion to the Incarnation, the Cross and Passion of Jesus and the Blessed Sacrament. There was also time for private prayer and devotion.

This was an outstanding event and everyone was deeply moved. Sr Cecilia's first hymn called on the Holy Spirit (Come Spirit of God. Come breathe on us) and it was possible to feel the Holy Spirit fill the Church and hall in response. The event dealt with the serious issue of our relationship with God but it was not run on serious lines and everyone was impressed by the joy and good humour or the three sisters, who joked and laughed and who made their presentations so entertaining that the audience were spellbound listening to them. As we listened, we thought, this must be what Jesus is like.

Do not miss future events in the Diocesan Assembly Spirituality Series on the following dates at Blessed Trinity Church, Wickersley.

- 31 May - Carmelite Spirituality led by Fr Tony Lester
- 12 July - Benedictine Spirituality led by a monk from Ampleforth
- 27 September - Dominican Spirituality led by Bishop Malcolm McMahon OP of Nottingham Diocese



## MAY DAY TREK

**Monday 5th May 2014**  
Start & End point:

**Bents Green Methodist Church, Ringinglow, S11 7PU**

Join CAFOD & Christian Aid for an inspirational walk of solidarity. Together we can raise funds and awareness to tackle poverty and injustice around the world.

**The 5-mile walk** is suitable for families and young people, but unsuitable for pushchairs.

To access route descriptions and maps go to [www.sheffieldmaydaytrek.org.uk](http://www.sheffieldmaydaytrek.org.uk)

To register for the walk please email [maydaytrek@gmail.com](mailto:maydaytrek@gmail.com) or telephone 0114 2759828

"Our faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast," writes the pope, "is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society's most neglected members."  
Pope Francis from the Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*

PLEASE NOTE ~ there is now only a 5 mile walk

## Digging Deep into the Roots of our Faith


This Lent CAFOD is asking that we stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters throughout the world and dig deep to help them to work their way out of poverty. This doesn't mean just digging deep into our pockets, it means digging deep inside ourselves and our faith. Throughout Lent we have been called to look within, to reflect on our relationships with God and each other and take time to sow seeds of change. Lent is a time to grow more like the example of Jesus Christ, who loved the poor and became poor himself so that we can become rich in him – and give ourselves away in love for those in need.

To help us, Pope Francis points to the words of St Paul, "For you know the grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, that he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich (2 Cor 8:9).

This special period of preparation can inspire us to take up more prayer, campaigning and wealth sharing, to help alleviate material poverty and be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world who lack basic rights and needs such as food, water and hygiene. This Lent, and beyond, we can be part of a systemic change which leads to a blossoming of transformation for all.


For more information and resources to support CAFOD's Dig Deep this Lent campaign visit [www.CAFOD.org.uk](http://www.CAFOD.org.uk) or contact the Hallam CAFOD office on 0114 2687817 or email [Hallam@CAFOD.org.uk](mailto:Hallam@CAFOD.org.uk).

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# BLESSED WILLIAM RICHARDSON

*On Saturday, 15 February, 2014 in the chapel dedicated to Blessed William Richardson, Fr Don Stoker blessed a picture and a poem dedicated to the martyr.*



## Blessed (The Last Martyr)

How blessed is a martyr's heart?  
How feared is he of the Lord?  
To live a life of the Father's will.  
And not be a-feared of the sword.

I hailed from this pleasant Vale.  
A settler of Bedgreave ville.  
Lived and learned of the Father's love.  
Thus called to do God's will.  
To Rheims I ventured so to go. With  
true fellows of the Word, I trained.  
My time was well and truly served.  
And in blessed Seville was ordained.

My soul was complete as I ministered  
help to common Spanish folk.  
But my heart lay in England. That  
danger-full land.

For 'twas to be my yoke.  
This miller's lad with a converts zeal.  
In the time of her Tudor reign.  
A recusant born to serve and pray.  
Aware of past brothers, slain.

To London, then. Richard Anderson,  
I, did seek out a place to pray.

Though I feared I must hide in this  
protestant town.

Who'd have a poor priest to stay?  
Soon treachery tore my soul apart  
at the Inn of the Court.

A seer.  
Betrayed at The Gray's by an  
unknown voice.  
My countenance did show no fear.

The crime of priesthood lies upon  
my head.

'Tis no crime to serve you, O Lord.  
My trial was swift in this heartless  
place. No defence could I afford.

"Treason", they said.  
Treason, the charge.  
Guilt in my Catholic way.  
Oh, heart, stay cheered. Oh, will be  
strong. Stay with me, Lord. I pray.

What fate will lie before me now?  
Is death now soonest near?  
Although my heart and soul may  
bleed, these eyes will shed no tear.  
Sent hence to Tyburn to please  
the crowds.

I prayed openly as I was led.  
For the queen I prayed.  
For her heart and soul.

All heard the words I said.

The 'Triple Tree' Gallows be my  
darkest fate.

The 'Deadly Never Green'.  
As town folk came to jeer in haste  
they stared at this witnessed scene.  
The noose came down and held its  
grip on this wintry February Day.  
Though 'fore death was mine and my  
Lord I saw, they did not let me sway.

Let down was I, to bear more pain.  
Cut asunder. Disembowelled.  
Set apart.

Though death is mine, eternal life  
will live once again in my heart.  
No matter where my body lies in the  
bitterest forgotten earth.  
Lord consecrate my joyful soul.  
And bring it to rebirth.

How blessed is a martyr's heart?  
How feared is he of the Lord?  
To live a life of the Father's will.  
And not be a-feared of the sword.

Dedicated to Blessed William  
Richardson, 1572 - 1603  
Margaret Edge 2013

The blessing came just a year after the former St Augustine's Chapel, Kiveton Park, was rededicated to Blessed William Richardson on 15 February, 2013.

This previously almost unknown local martyr grew up close to where the South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire borders meet.

Margaret and Terry Murphy worked tirelessly for many years to bring about a wider recognition of William. Sadly, Margaret's husband, Terry, did not live to see the rededication of the chapel but Margaret shared her memories and reflections during the Mass of Dedication.

"It will come as no great surprise when I say to you that today has seen a hope fulfilled and many prayers answered, and at last Blessed William Richardson can now be honoured in this village of Wales, a man who gave his life, like so many others, so that we can meet and worship in peace.

William's father came into this area from Lancashire to find work, and settled in Waleswood, at what is now known as the far side of Rother Valley Park and that long time residents knew as the hamlet of Bedgreave (William's birthplace). As the medieval mill still stands in the same place, it is perhaps safe to say that his father's employment was that of a miller and that William himself received some elementary education at the hands of a parish curate.

We know from the Entry Book in the English College in Spain that William was a convert to the Catholic faith and was received into the Church by one of the clergy at Wiesloch, where at that time he was working. He was called to the priesthood, attended the English College in Spain, studying Philosophy and Theology, and was ordained priest there in 1594 and then returned to England.

Most of William's life was spent working in London often with the legal profession in the Inns of Court. He visited prisons as an ordinary visitor, to take Mass to Catholics imprisoned for their faith, and he

was sentenced to death after being betrayed by a priest catcher. His execution took place on Tyburn Gallows, by the barbaric act of being hung, drawn and quartered on 17 February in 1603. There is no knowledge of his last resting place, but if we can find a King under a car park, we may one day learn of his last resting place.

William's death was in the reign of Elizabeth 1 and he was the last priest to be murdered at that time. Elizabeth 1 died one week later. Bishop Challoner tells us he accepted his death with such constancy and faith, and praying for the Queen, that impressed his executioners. I hope we can make his name well known in this area and beyond.

It is a sad fact that we had no knowledge in this area, in spite of the teaching in school. We knew a lot of Catholic history, by learning about the monks of Roche Abbey and the monastic settlement situated on the right hand side of the road leading to Todwick from Kiveton Park. As school children, we were taken to visit the five pre-Reformation churches: Aston church, Todwick, Harthill, Wales and Thorpe Salvin. You can see even today in Thorpe Church the Chained Bible and the Leper's Squint. We are indebted to the monks for the footpaths leading to the churches and villages that we use for the Five Churches Walk. The monks lodged at the farm house across the road from Wales Church.

So how did we come to know about William Richardson!!

Whilst the M1 was being built through the village, a large number of Irish people were employed and they came with their families and caravans (which were housed on a farmer's field down Manor Road). Also a number of very welcome people came from the North of England, the men to work in the Kiveton Pit, and they settled with their families in the new houses we know as the White City. Both the Irish M1 people and the folk from Newcastle brought with them good Catholics, but we had no Mass centre in this area and I think it was Fr Cavanagh who approached the landlord of The Lord Conyers to see if

the concert room could be used. Permission was given. What a joy. Mass to be celebrated in this village for the first time since the Reformation and for us, Terry and I, our eldest son serving at that first Mass, what a privilege.

Now we had a Mass centre, but what about a priest!! Fr Cavanagh was already saying Mass at Thurcroft and Dinnington, so we turned to St Mary's College at Spinkhill and Fr Peter McArdle came to our aid and said Mass for us.

Men in the congregation took turns in bringing Father to The Conyers and it was one Sunday that after Mass, he said he didn't feel well and it was our turn to take him back. We took him to our house for a hot drink, and it was whilst he was with us, he said he had been doing some research into the village history and had come across the family of William Richardson.

I could hardly believe my ears, so in my excitement I said that we had a very active Union of Catholic Women/Mothers, would he come one evening to give us a talk and let us learn more. Bless him, he did and it is due to Fr Peter we got to know about Blessed William.

Soon afterwards we acquired the Salvation Army building, the present building, and Fr Peter became our regular visiting priest, much loved and when he retired, our Mass was and is celebrated on Saturday evenings.

Before I close I would like to pay tribute to Fr Brian Green who sadly did not live to see this day, but I know he will be in our thoughts and prayers and he will be with us in spirit. We have a lot to thank him for. By his gentle ways, he made us the caring parish we are today and I am sure he will be saying, 'All will be well, all will be well and all manner of things will be well'.

Also to Bishop John, may I thank you on behalf of all of us here tonight for the pleasure it has given us to welcome you and the happiness this evening's Dedication of this chapel to Blessed William Richardson has been."

## Sheffield Third Order Community Day of Recollection at Kirk Edge

Recently, Sheffield Third Order Community held a Day of Recollection at Kirk Edge Disalced Carmelite Monastery near Sheffield. Kirk Edge has a special place in the hearts of the Sheffield community. The retreat was led by Mary Dolan, Director of Adult Education for the diocese, who talked in the morning and afternoon sessions about aspects of prayer and the importance of building a personal relationship

with Jesus. Mary also talked about the other traditional Carmelite themes, such as the practice of being in the presence of God, the process of transformation and divinisation.

The event was a particularly special one for the Sheffield Community as three of their members progressed a little further in their Carmelite journey by making first profession during mid-day Mass in the Monastery chapel.

Fr Martin Trask gave a homily on the Gospel of the day, after which John Berry spoke about profession being the deepest form of commitment one can make in Carmel.

In the afternoon there was Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the day concluded with Evening Prayer.

Well done to the Sheffield Third Order Community for organising such a wonderful event!

## De La Salle Association Rambling Club Walks for April

The first walk this month is on Sunday, 6 April, meeting at 10.30am at Middleton by Youlgreave market square, (grid ref 196632). This is a pleasant, non-strenuous 6 mile walk alongside rivers Bradford and Lathkill. There is one short climb up to open meadows, ensuring excellent views, and only 6 stiles. From Middleton the route is via Bradford Dale, Alport, Conksbury Bridge, Over Haddon Ford, Meadow Place Grange, Moor Lane and back to Middleton. The leader is Jim Webb, telephone: 0114 2367223, mobile: 0772 0057070. For another 6 mile walk, meet at 10.30am on Sunday, 27 April at the car park at the new shopping centre

in Clay Cross. The grid reference is 395634 and the postcode is S45. However, this does not work well for sat nav so follow the A61 Derby Road from Chesterfield, turn left at Tesco petrol station on entering Clay Cross. At the traffic lights go straight on and turn right at the mini roundabout. Park in front of the shops, not Tesco. If you need directions from the M1, please contact the leader.

Leaving the industrial wastelands of Clay Cross behind, the walk follows pleasant tracts to the beauty of Avenue Washlands Nature Reserve. The leaders are Meg and Ted Bennett, telephone: 01246 852964, mobile: 0783 1293356.

# SALESIAN SPIRITUALITY

## *The Gateway to Spirituality is Relationships*

The second of this year's Diocesan Assembly Spirituality Series was at Wickersley on 22 February. It was led by Father David O'Malley, a Salesian Priest and Rector of Savio House Retreat Centre in Cheshire.

The Salesian Order was founded by St John Bosco who lived about 150 years ago in Turin where he ministered to the young people who were being sent there to work and to live in terrible conditions. He developed a spirituality to meet their needs and which today's Salesians still follow in their work with the young. Because it is largely for the young it differs from what we normally think of as spirituality and provides a different way of looking at life, but it is relevant to people of all ages.

The principle that underpins Salesian spirituality is relationships. Spirituality is not personal between God and ourselves. Instead we belong to each other as Christians in fellowship. We are all sisters and brothers of each other and of Jesus and it is through our normal relationships with others that we are able to engage with the presence of God and live in God's Kingdom. God has breathed life into each one of us and now we must breathe life into each other. People are fundamentally good and will blossom through relationships which are good, positive and allow them space to develop so that they can soar and touch the face of God.

Several great works of literature and Bart Simpson feature stories in which someone sells their soul. Fr O'Malley made the point that we are all capable of doing this, not usually for money or so that our picture gets old instead of us, but when we turn in on ourselves and away from others, or when we cease to be able to laugh and play we lose part of our soul. When this happens we lose our sense of dignity and can fall apart as people. The alternative is the 'lay form of holiness' in which we are able to see God in the everyday things that we do and within which we can relax in the knowledge that we are beloved of God and that God is in charge, therefore, no matter what happens, everything will be alright.

Salesian spirituality is structured around a 'Preventive System.' Fr O'Malley showed pictures of a little boy left in a play pen and another boy in a garden sitting on a rug with toys. He asked which child is the safest. Whilst the boy in the playpen can come to no immediate physical harm he is far from safe. He lacks attention, stimulus and relationship. The other boy is free; someone must be there looking after him. He is more likely to hurt himself but he can play, experiment and delight in the world around him. Because he is not alone he feels able to take risks trusting that he will be protected. We are the same as this second child. Jesus stands beside us, we can take risks in the knowledge that he will be there for us and, in the same way, we need to be there for each other. The message is that God is everywhere. He is 'in our face' every moment of our lives and we can have a relationship with God through our relationship with others.

Fr O'Malley referred to four Salesian attitudes:

- **Respect** - we need to feel respected and should show respect to others. We should talk to others and listen to them. We should be consistent in our relationships and should smile, praise and be ready to apologise.

- **Understanding** - we should seek to put ourselves in the place of others and understand their motivation.

- **Affection** - we should let people know how we feel about them and, in our close relationships, how much



Fr David O'Malley

we love them.

- **Humour** - we should be able to relax in our relationships and allow ourselves to just waste time. Children play and we are children of a God who is running the world, not us, therefore, we do not always have to be doing purposeful things. There is nothing wrong with adults taking time to enjoy themselves - it strengthens relationships. St Francis de Sales, from whom the Salesians take their name, said that the biggest sin is that at our death we give back to God a life un-enjoyed. Life is not a route march and God expects us to enjoy it.

Fr O'Malley pointed out the first letters of the above four attitudes spelt RUAH which is the Hebrew word for breath, wind and spirit. If you live with these attitudes you will be living in the Spirit of God.

St John Bosco taught that if a relationship fails and someone says or does something hurtful we should put their actions down to thoughtlessness rather than a more sinister motive. This gives them the space to retract, apologise and save face so that the relationship can be restored.

Don Bosco also taught that we should be cheerful. This can be a challenge when we are anxious but we need to remember that 'God loves us to bits, so we can be cheerful'.

Fr O'Malley spoke about the four factors that St John Bosco identified as necessary for our development as spiritual people:

- **Home** - which is where we belong

- **School/Education** - through which, all our lives, we learn so that our spiritual development is continuous and up to date

- **Playground** - where we relax, celebrate life and try new experiences

- **Church** - where we reflect on our journey through life

These should be seen as relationships and not buildings. For example church describes, not a building, but any experience, spiritual or secular in which we encounter God. No matter what our vocation in life and essential part of it is that we constantly seek to build relationships that develop us spiritually.

Finally, Fr O'Malley stressed that faith is 'trusting in God' and not obedience to a set of teaching or rules and that spirituality is not just about engaging our minds but also about engaging our hearts. Further information on Salesian Spirituality can be obtained from [www.davidomalley.org.uk](http://www.davidomalley.org.uk) and prayer and other spiritual resources are available from the online shop at [www.salesians.org.uk](http://www.salesians.org.uk).

## NOTRE DAME PAST PUPILS MORNING

On Saturday 12 April, 10am - 12noon, Notre Dame High School, Sheffield will be holding their annual Past Pupils' morning.

The school has undertaken many changes over recent years with building work and renovations taking place so we look forward to welcoming past pupils and showing them the alterations that have been made.

It is a delightful morning providing past pupils with the opportunity to share memories and photographs over refreshments, and sing the school song. We are proud to welcome back each year in excess of 90 pupils with ages ranging from 20 to 90 years old! We have had wonderful feedback from those who have attended about how much they enjoyed the day.

If you are interested in attending or you would like to be a guest speaker and share any stories, please contact Amy Wright at Notre Dame in one of the following ways: telephone 0114 230 2536, email: [alumni@notredame-high.co.uk](mailto:alumni@notredame-high.co.uk) or write to Notre Dame High School, Fulwood Road, Sheffield, S10 3BT.

## Diocesan Mission and Unity Event

There was a warm welcome for Bishop Jack Nicholls, the former Bishop of Sheffield, and his wife on this return visit to Sheffield after his retirement. He and Bishop John worked well together in Sheffield in the ecumenical sphere both inter-church and inter-faith.

After the opening liturgy where we heard the words of St Paul (Philippians Chapter 2) "...be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind", Bishop Jack spoke on his chosen theme "How Ecumenism has changed in my lifetime and how it is now".

With humour and his gift of storytelling, he stressed the importance of friendship between the different denominations as the starting point and suggested ways in which ecumenism was changing.

Stage one is to learn more about each other and understand each other better. Stage two is to act together in confronting social issues like racism,

asylum seekers and the world wide effects of conflicts and natural disasters. It was felt that much has been achieved, particularly since the Second Vatican Council and Pope Francis seems to be shifting the focus from internal issues within or between the churches, in which the outside world is not interested, to reach out on world issues of poverty, corruption which are always on God's agenda. Healing and Reconciliation are the key words and our place is near the centre of the action, like a field hospital after a battle. We should be ministers of mercy accompanying people in their suffering. Afterwards there followed a lively discussion on various aspects of how different traditions can work together. The outcome was a real belief that we must allow the free working of the Holy Spirit within and beyond our own communities. The event proved a fitting stepping stone to 2014, the 50th anniversary of the Vatican II Decree on Ecumenism, 'Unitatis Redintegratio'.



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# Fabulous Fundraisers at McAuley

During the last 3 months the students at the McAuley Catholic High School in Doncaster have excelled themselves in their fundraising efforts. Firstly they answered CAFOD's call for help with raising funds for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines and raised a total of £3500. What is amazing about this is that this fantastic amount was raised in just 4 DAYS! At the same time a Big Bake Sale was held for BBC Children in Need and raised £350. And it didn't stop there ... a total of 152 shoeboxes were collected for Operation Christmas Child which provides Christmas gifts for children around the world who normally wouldn't receive anything on the celebration of our Lord's birthday. A further 120 Christmas gifts were distributed to the elderly of the school's linked parishes, and gifts of scarves, gloves, hats and socks were donated to M25 - a Doncaster Homeless Shelter. Finally during Advent as always the

school supported CAFOD's World Gifts Campaign, sending of a cheque for a total of £3092!

After Christmas is usually quite calm but this year it was decided to support the British Heart Foundations "Ramp up the Red" campaign on Friday, 7 February. This was supported in memory of a much loved teacher Alan McCook who passed away suddenly two years ago. Mr McCook was a member of the maths department and also ran the School Fantasy Football competition for many years. Up to date the amount raised for this is in excess of £1800 and is likely to hit the £2000 mark.

All of this good work has resulted in a combined total of £14000 raised. This was wonderfully summed up by the words of a year 7 student who asked the Lay Chaplain, "Miss, is this what Jesus meant when he said Love your Neighbour?" Out of the mouths of babes .....



McAuley School students with gifts for Operation Christmas Child



# New Outdoor Play Area Opened by Two Bishops at Emmaus School

On Thursday 16 January there was great excitement at Emmaus Catholic and Church of England School in Sheffield as both Bishop John and Bishop Steven Croft from the Diocese of Sheffield were invited to cut a ribbon and officially open the brand new outdoor play area in Foundation Stage.

Bishop Steven and Bishop John shared an opening prayer and blessed staff, parents and lots of excited children, who have promised to look after their new outdoor space with care and love. All the children have been really excited about their new play area, which includes a climbing tree, mounds, a new play surface and a multi-coloured wind break which will help promote learning all

year round in the outside space. After the short ceremony Bishop John and Bishop Steven shared cakes and juice with parents and children. Bishop John and Bishop Steven Croft are pictured on the left with children from Emmaus School in the new outdoor play area, and below with staff and children during the opening ceremony.

# WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE

The 205th Sheffield St Catherine's Scout Group has had four members of its troop selected to represent South Yorkshire at the World Jamboree in Japan 2015.

Paul and Kirsty Whelan will be representing South Yorkshire and Sheffield Catholic scouting in the World Jamboree next year.

For a very small scout troop the 205th has done very well over the years. It is just over 70 years old and in that time has provided scouts twice before to represent the city.

In 1957 Robert Taylor was the first when the troop was just 14 years old. His Jamboree was at Sutton Coldfield. Twenty five years later Paul Gerrard had the same honour, this time in Norway 1982.

Now thirty three years on Paul and Kirsty are off to Japan.

Scouting in Sheffield, especially Catholic based, is becoming a rarity. These two young people will be representing more than the city and county. Your prayers are needed not just for Paul and Kirsty as they take this huge step in life, but also for this great institution of scouting to continue to develop.

If you would like to know more about the 205th Troop, drop an email in to scbbeditor@btinternet.com.



## St Mary's Primary, Edlington Celebrate their Ofsted Report



St Mary's was inspected at the end of January and was rated as 'Good' in all four key areas of inspection. A significant improvement on the school's 'Satisfactory' rating in June 2012.

The inspectors commented that, "The quality of teaching is good. It is sometimes outstanding. Teachers have high expectations of their pupils and motivate them well through exciting topics and themes. Pupils of all abilities, including disabled pupils and those who have special educational needs, make good progress in reading, writing and mathematics throughout the school. Pupils feel safe and are

cared for well. They are polite, calm and considerate towards others. There is a continuous pursuit of high standards in all aspects of the school's work."

The Headteacher, Mr Damien Thorpe, said, "I am thrilled for the children and families of our community as they thoroughly deserve a 'Good' school. I would like to thank all of the staff in school for their hard work and determination, the parents for their ongoing support and most importantly the children for being themselves."

Children from the school are pictured above with Mr Thorpe.

## Let the Children Live Presentation at Holy Rood

The children of Holy Rood School raised £1000 for the 'Let the Children Live' charity. Based in Doncaster, this Catholic charity looks after street children in Colombia. More information about the charity can be found on the website: <http://letthechildrenlive.org/>.

Headteacher, John Gregson said, "The money is a combination of collections

from our Advent and Christmas concerts plus an anonymous donation of £500 and will go a long way to changing the lives of some children who literally live on the streets."

Pictured below, at the end of a school Mass to celebrate the feast of Candlemas, the children presented their cheque for £1000 to Pauline, a representative of 'Let the Children Live'.



## SINGING SUCCESS FOR LIZZIE

Gifted Sheffield music student Lizzie Beard is well on her way to success after winning a prestigious scholarship at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The scholarship enables the Mount St Mary's College pupil to

study singing at the celebrated music school in Scotland, meaning that she's one step nearer to her dream of becoming an opera singer. The 17-year-old from Stanfree, Chesterfield, has been a leading

light during musical showcases at her current school in Spinkhill, Derbyshire. She has also already taken part in numerous concerts with the internationally renowned Cantamus Girls Choir and will also be joining the

choir again when they tour Italy in April.

Being in the lime-light it seems is something that Lizzie will need to get used to, although being in the spotlight is something that already runs in the family as her older brother, Matthew, is an actor having been in films such as *An Education* and *One Day*.

The scholarship is a culmination of years of hard work and working long days as she fits in singing lessons, rehearsals and performances around her school work.

Lizzie said, "I didn't dare imagine that I would win a scholarship at the Royal Conservatoire and so when I heard I was thrilled. I am so excited to be going to the Conservatoire. It's a great opportunity and I'm looking forward to it."



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*Cows, Cakes and Raffles at St Francis of Assisi, Crosspool*

The younger members of the Children's Liturgy Group from St Francis of Assisi Church, Crosspool, proudly display a certificate acknowledging that they have provided three cows for people like Charles Sedoi of Tanzania. Charles and his wife work hard to provide for their six children. They keep chickens at the home- stead and have three quarters of an acre of land where they grow plantain. Until recently Charles ploughed this land by himself, by hand. In 2010 Charles received two cows, a plough and train-



ing in animal husbandry. They have made a significant difference to his daily life. He said, "It was such hard work before and it

would take me so long that I would have to work all day in strong heat. It wasn't easy to train the animals at first but now I know

how to work with them and they know me. I have to get up very early to plough as they cannot work in the heat, but it's worth it.

When the work is done I have time to do other jobs and be with my family." The children raised money through a raffle, a

cake sale and the sale of magazines to parishioners. Then they used the money to buy the cows from the CAFOD World Gifts catalogue.

**INFORMATION ON CONSULTATION PROCESS ON PASTORAL CHALLENGES TO THE FAMILY IN THE CONTEXT OF EVANGELIZATION**

Families across England and Wales warmly welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the consultation in preparation for the III Extraordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops on the theme 'Pastoral Challenges to the Family in the Context of Evangelization'. Although the complexity of the consultation questionnaire and the timescale given for its completion were found to be very challenging, there was a deep appreciation for the desire of the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops to consult so widely on this important issue. The publicity given by national and international media to the opportunity to respond to the consultation online, greatly increased awareness and participation, reaching many Catholics who no longer go to Mass or practise their faith. The consultation process therefore became an opportunity for evangelisation in and of itself, as well as an occasion for the Church in England and Wales to learn more about the joys, sorrows,

and the hopes of parents, couples, their families and friends. In accordance with the wishes of the Holy See, the summary of the responses sent to the Synod of Bishops is confidential. However, the statistical information shows a high level of engagement in the consultation process. Summary reports were received from all 22 Dioceses in England and Wales, as well as reports from the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham and the Apostolic Prefecture of the Falkland Islands. Across England and Wales, 16,500 responses to the consultation were received by dioceses via email, post or through online response forms. Analysis of 12,266 online responses indicates that 80% of respondents were laity, 69% were married and 38% were parents. 20% of respondents were in positions of responsibility within the Church as priests, chaplains, catechists, teachers, deacons, seminarians, or pastoral assistants. At least 6% were active in voluntary roles as ex-

traordinary ministers of Holy Communion, readers, musicians, governors of schools, members of diocesan commissions, parish councils or as members of parish organisations. Nearly 1% of respondents identified themselves as either a lapsed Catholic or a non-Catholic. Of the respondents, 69% indicated that they are married, 17% single, 6% divorced and a little less than 6% widowed. Just over 1% indicated that they lived in a civil partnership and just under 1% indicated that they were cohabiting, with the same proportion divorced and remarried. 0.5% indicated experience of the annulment process. Distribution across the age ranges was fairly even though weighted towards the older generation: 24% were aged up to 45 years, 30% were aged 65 and older. An additional 1,163 responses were received from 57 other countries which were forwarded to the local dioceses and episcopal conferences of those countries.

**New Horizons at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Chesterfield**



September 2013 saw the introduction of a Chaplaincy Team at St Mary's Primary School, Chesterfield. Pupils were invited to apply to join the team. They were interviewed and the successful applicants come together each week to meet with the school Chaplain, Sister Bernadette. This meeting is an opportunity for the team to talk about their work and their plans. The team has a badge, which they wear. It is a Christian fish symbol with a cross inside. In their early days as a team they were involved in the school's Harvest Celebration Liturgy, where they dramatized the Gospel story of The Feeding of the Five Thousand. At the start of October, the team decided to pray a decade of the Rosary once a week each lunchtime. This was a very successful initiative, with pupils and adults coming together in prayer. Amy, Bradley, Hollie, Michelle, Loretta and Grace make up the Chaplaincy Team, led by Sister Bernadette, (pictured left), and they are all enjoying their new role and are keen to incorporate the ideas of other pupils to enhance the life of the school.



## A Message from Margaret Neale, Director of the Life FertilityCare Practitioner Education Programme

If you dream of having a baby and don't want IVF, there is a better way. Here is Mags and Andy's story in their own words.

"We were married in August 2004 and entered into our marriage knowing that conceiving a child may be difficult or even impossible for us – because of our medical history. So in 2006 we were absolutely over the moon to find out we were expecting our first baby. Heartbreakingly our dreams were shattered when we lost our baby boy, Joseph Ross at 20 weeks gestation on 2 August 2006. What followed was a desperate time of grieving for our son and desperately trying to conceive. After months of trying we were referred to the hospital for infertility tests and we were advised to try clomid and if that didn't work the only option available to us through the NHS was IVF. We held off proceeding as ethically we knew that IVF was not an option we could choose due to the destruction of human embryos in the process. Infertility is such a difficult issue to deal with and we felt that it was tearing us apart. We prayed and researched alternative options available. We saw an advert for Napro Technology at our local church and decided to contact Life FertilityCare to see whether the system could help us. When we met the amazing team at Life FertilityCare, we were bowled over by the unique approach of using science in an ethical way which meant that we could have help to conceive whilst observing the teachings of our Catholic faith in cherishing life from the moment of conception. We attended meetings with a local teacher, Margaret Neale, to learn the system and for the first time in our relationship we had shared responsibility for our fertility and we really felt that the whole experience brought us closer as a couple. After a few months of using the Creighton model system of charting fertility, I began treatment at the Life FertilityCare clinic in Leamington Spa. On the first cycle we were doubly



delighted to find out that we were expecting twins. What we didn't know is that we faced more heartbreak ahead. On 19 June 2008 our son Patrick was born alive and kicking at just 20 weeks. He lived for 45 minutes and we cherish the precious moments we were able to hold him. Our daughter Rose was born a few weeks later and she fought so hard for 10 days but we were devastated when she died on 2 August 2008. We were at our lowest ebb. We felt that maybe we were never meant to have children on this earth. With the support of our teacher and the fantastic team at Life FertilityCare we continued to use NaProTechnology and chart using the Creighton Model whilst seeking out further answers through the NHS. In June 2009 we welcomed a beautiful, healthy baby girl into the world. Maggie Rose was celebrated far and wide by people who had heard our story and

prayed throughout our pregnancy. Using the same support network we have also welcomed two more beautiful and much loved girls – Florence arrived in April 2011 and Mary Kate arrived in December 2013. We feel truly blessed to have had the honour of welcoming all of our children into the world. We will always be eternally grateful to all of our family and friends who have supported and loved us through our journey. We have a special place in our hearts and prayers for the fantastic team at Life FertilityCare and our teacher, Margaret Neale for giving us the hope and courage to continue on our journey. We know that without their expertise, care and support we would not be the very happy (and busy!) parents that we are today. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts!" For further information contact Margaret Neale on 07758 223721 or email Margaret\_a\_neale@yahoo.co.uk.

## Annual General Meeting for UCM



Pictured above, left to right, are Eileen Holland, Vernica Andrews, study day officer, and Paulina with baby Natalia.

On Saturday, 15 February the Union of Catholic Mothers held their Annual General Meeting and study day at the Hallam Pastoral Centre. The day began with Mass concelebrated by Bishop John and Fr Andrew Browne. The study day speaker was Eileen Holland from Catholic Care Leeds, who is Director in the UK of the Gianna Project, which specifically assists young women with individual and personal difficulties in their pregnancy. They offer support and encouragement from prenatal care to the child's birth, delivering continuous help until the child's first birthday. The name Gianna comes from St Gianna, patron saint of mothers, doctors and unborn children. Eileen's idea came from hearing of the Cardinal Winning's Project in Glasgow. Along with support the project delivers packages of clothing and equipment, parenting courses and contacts, eg school family nurse practices. The project currently involves 71 families in need of support, working in Bradford, Leeds and Keighley. Eileen brought with her a young mother, Paulina, who came to Britain from Holland and who spoke of being single and pregnant at 17. With the help and loving support given to her, she was able to celebrate the birth of her beautiful daughter, Natalia. The afternoon was given over to Committee reports and information regarding the UCM annual pilgrimage to Walsingham which, this year, sees our Diocese, along with that of Clifton, acting as the lead Diocese.

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# St Wilfrid's Centre, Sheffield

## Visit of the High Sheriff of South Yorkshire

St Wilfrid's Centre for the homeless and vulnerable in Sheffield was delighted to welcome Lady Ruby Sykes, High Sheriff of South Yorkshire to the Centre recently. As Lady Ruby was given a tour by Director, Kevin Bradley she remarked on the wonderful atmosphere and how welcome she was made to feel.

Lady Ruby was particularly impressed with the workshops where clocks, rocking horses and signs, amongst other items, are produced by the clients. In fact she was so impressed that she purchased 3 football clocks as presents for

relatives.

During her visit Lady Ruby popped into the women's group where the clients told her how much the group had supported them and helped them to cope with life. She was comfortable and relaxed with all the clients with whom she had time to chat and joke. Lady Ruby is pictured on the right in the kitchen where a hot lunch is prepared for the clients every day by staff and volunteers; left to right: Pamela, Cook, Margaret, Volunteer, Kevin, Director of the centre, Lady Ruby and Sarah, Volunteer.



## LIVE MUSIC AT ST WILFRID'S



In the week of the National Folk Awards, St Wilfrid's Centre had its own star turn. Folk Duo, Freya and Louis entertained clients as part of the Live Music Now scheme, a charity which provides live entertainment for groups of disadvantaged people.

The event, on this occasion sponsored by Sheffield Town Trust, Freshgate Foundation and the J G Graves Trust, was a great success. The clients enjoyed singing along, tapping their feet and dancing to the music.

Pictured above, Folk Duo, Freya Rae and Louis Bingham with a group of clients.

## Catholic Women of the Year 2014

Nominations are invited for the 2014 Catholic Women of the Year. Every year four women are honoured, chosen by ballot from nominations sent in from across Britain. Any Catholic woman can be nominated – and the aim is especially to honour those who are living out their faith publicly, in service and in witness, as part of the New Evangelisation of our country. Pope Francis has emphasised joy – *Evangelii Gaudium* – the Joy of the Faith. We are looking for joyful women who teach the Faith, serve their local community and share Catholic values with the next generation.

### How to make a nomination

It's simple to nominate someone as a Catholic Woman of the Year. You can use the form on <http://catholic-womenoftheyear.wordpress.com/nomination-form/> or you can send an email to [mijamajoje@ntlworld.com](mailto:mijamajoje@ntlworld.com) or a letter to Catholic Women of the Year 2014, 22 Milton Road, Ware, SG12 0PZ.

All we need from you to nominate someone is the lady's name and information on why she is being nominated; a few paragraphs setting out what she does, where she does it and the spirit in which she does it! The nomination can be from a friend, family member or parish priest. It does not have to be long but it must give relevant information – and must give the writer's name and contact details. It is not necessary to obtain permission from the lady being nominated – for most of our Catholic Women of the Year, the honour comes as a complete surprise, and perhaps that's the way it should be! The closing date for nominations is 30 April.

## The Crusade of Mary Immaculate

The Crusade of Mary Immaculate is a worldwide Catholic Church movement founded by St Maximilian Kolbe, which promotes personal consecration to Mary.

By joining the crusade, members become willing instruments of Our Lady and work for the Church and salvation of others. The visible sign of that is wearing her miraculous medal.

The Crusade of Mary Immaculate is based in Manchester and is run by the Franciscan Friars. It is now established in the parish of Our Lady of Lourdes, Hackenthorpe, Sheffield.

For more information see the website: [www.mi-sheffield.com](http://www.mi-sheffield.com).



## Valentine's Day Disco

It was a lively and fun filled 14th of February at St Wilfrid's Centre this year with the annual Valentine's Day Disco. Clients, staff and volunteers all joined in the merriment and danced the afternoon away.

A special 'Dance Off' was arranged between two teams of clients, who were given the task of interpreting different types of music in their own individual manner. Led by staff members Rachel and Helen, each team had great fun dancing to a medley of tunes which in-

cluded the styles of ballet, ballroom, disco, Irish jigs and Russian Cossack style dance.

The judging panel, made up of fellow clients, remarked on their performance with differing degrees of enthusiasm and the event culminated in the scores being awarded for style and artistic impression. Both teams of dancers were said to be 'tireless and energetic'. The whole afternoon was a great success and everyone was cheered up by the music and dancing experience.



## Hallam Diocesan Charity Night ~ a date for your diary

The annual Hallam Diocesan Charity Night will be held on Saturday 14 June at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Sheffield, S8 8BW. Bishop John Rawsthorne will be the Guest of honour.

Over the past six years this event has raised in excess of £30,000 which has benefitted HCPT, The Hallam Caring Service, Carmel Care, SVP Furniture Store, Marriage Care and Sr Eileen's work with refugees, as well as supporting charities working in the Holy Land. The event has grown year by year and last year over 180 attended and had a very enjoyable evening. We hope for a bigger attendance this year. This year the committee has sought to widen its distribution base and has invited applications from those charitable endeavours within the Diocese which would benefit from funding. All of the respondents will be supported and the proceeds of this year's function will be distributed between The Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund and St Bernard's Catholic High School's (Rotherham) charitable work in

Lesotho. Additionally, donations will be made to support the establishment of the Life (Doncaster) branch and to help found a HCPT group in Sheffield. Tickets are the same price as last year at £32.50 per person for a 4 course meal. They will be on sale shortly.

For further information and to book tickets, please contact Barnsley: Derek Skitt 01126 245745; Rotherham and Doncaster: Kevin or Eileen Kerrigan 01709 865348; Sheffield: Liz Mason 0114 255 1943, Philomena and Joe McNally 0114 236 4076, Des Keating 0114 230 2033, Sandra Brinkley 0114 230 4286, Ralph Dickins, 0114 270 3990.

The evening doesn't require you to have lots of money to spend – just by supporting the event and being there is contributing. The most you will be asked to buy are some cloakroom tickets for the tombola and it's not compulsory! Get some friends together and come along for an evening of good food, good company and good entertainment – and help raise money for some worthy causes in the process.

**DIOCESE OF HALLAM JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION WITH CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY IN SHEFFIELD**

**Poverty on our Doorstep: A joint conference held at the Diocese of Hallam Pastoral Centre, Saturday, 1 March**

Representatives from Sheffield's Churches came together to examine the reality of poverty in the city and the impact of welfare reform. Organised by the Hallam Justice and Peace Commission and the inter-denominational Church Action on Poverty, the conference heard from Dr Simon Duffy, Director of the Centre for Welfare Reform, Paul Blomfield MP, Cllr Mazher Iqbal, and members of the Listen Up project.

**Welfare State a good thing, but designed wrong**  
The Welfare State, said Dr Duffy, was both good and necessary, and the extent to which it could be made better comes from a point of faith. It exists for one very good reason and that was to enable us to support each other. While the UK was the seventh wealthiest country in the world it was, at the same time, the third most unequal in terms of social justice. The debate is not between the Left or the Right, nor was the market economy appropriate to the level of expenditure on welfare. In fact, free markets do not reduce inequality and poverty.

**More debt, more borrowing**  
Those greatest in need have been hit hardest by the Coalition Government's cuts in public expenditure, which bears no correlation with the implementation of social justice. To get out of debt people have been forced into more borrowing. Among those affected by cuts are people on

disability benefits. "Disability is real, has many causes and can happen to any one of us," said Dr Duffy, "and what counts as welfare reform is an act of great injustice." The underlying cause of poverty over a number of years had been the encouragement of over-lending and private borrowing. The poorest 10% were being marginalised by VAT and Council Tax, and many had still to pay income tax.

**Living in a "mediandemocracy"**  
Dr Duffy urged that we examine ourselves as a society. Not just the government of the day but all political parties had to stop accommodating the "swing vote", those people in the middle income bracket, and steer away from the prejudices leading to stigma, shame and scapegoating. The true facts of poverty and benefits were lacking in large sections of the national press. He called for a more assertive promotion of human rights. Here the Church had a positive role, to play and he welcomed the intervention of the Anglican Bishops and Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

"The Church may not have all the answers," he said, "but it is able to ask the right questions."


**Real stories, real people**  
The conference heard stories from the Church-led Listen-Up Project, hearing about those on the poverty line from Longley and Manor Top. These were experiences from people having to exist on their benefit entitlements and hav-

ing also to combat the cuts as a result of welfare reform. Getting information from different sections of the Department for Work and Pensions often proved difficult. Communities were fragmented as a result of buy-to-let tenancies, reducing further public housing stock, and the so-called bedroom tax imposed unfair restrictions on living standards. What was encouraging, however, was the determination of residents to support each other and revive community life, but this alone was not sufficient to overcome the anomalies of welfare reform.

**New ideas**  
Paul Blomfield, MP for Sheffield Central, explained the purpose of his Private Members Bill on payday lenders. Even though they are not the problem, rather they are the symptom, by which poor people seek loans. A growing wealth gap had emerged whereby falling incomes were not coping with the payment of rising bills. There existed a regressive credit market in which people were forced to borrow in order to make ends meet. Pay day lenders are not regulated in this country, and yet in the USA – the greatest advocate of the free market economy – there are stringent federal laws!

Although the Coalition Government was not supportive of Mr Blomfield's measure he has been able to secure cross-party collaboration in Parliament and others outside. "You

An informal network of



**Churches' Refugee Network**

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**Under the Radar - What Room for Refugees?**

Churches' Refugee Network Conference 2014

Saturday 6th April 2014

11.00am to 3.30pm (Registration from 10.30am)

Central United Reformed Church, Sheffield  
66 Norfolk Street, S1 2JB  
(5 minutes walk from Sheffield Station, RCP across the road)

£10; £5 unwaged, free for asylum seekers

**Chair:**  
Zohra Brah, Executive Director, Migration and Refugee Communities Forum, London; served as commissioner on Independent Asylum Commission, winner of 2011 Volcas of Courage Award, New York.

**Main speakers:**  
Richard Vasey, NHS Leeds Health, Deputy Chair BMA GP Committee, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference 2008.  
Ruth Grove-Holme, Policy Director, Migration Rights Network.

**Theological reflection:**  
Fleur Houston, minister of the United Reformed Church, currently writing a book for Atrium Press on: The Bible, Refugees and Asylum.

**Workshops:**  
Deafblind: Dave Smith (Blind Trust Manchester) with input from ASSIST Sheffield (Asylum Seeker Support Initiative Short Term).  
Housing: Chloe Morgan, Housing Resilience Officer, Refugee Council.  
Health: Joan Macfarlane, former manager of the Mulberry Practice which offers primary care services to asylum seekers living in Sheffield and a volunteer with ASSIST Sheffield.  
Campaigning: David Price, South Yorkshire Migration and Asylum Action Group (SYMAAG) with Greg Challa, Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers, Sheffield (CDAS).  
Legal Matters: Gisa Clayton, visiting lecturer in law, Middlesex University; author of the definitive textbook on Immigration and Asylum Law; chair of ASSIST, Sheffield.

Meals provided by the choir of the Christ Abiding Ministries (Hope of Glory Church) Sheffield.

The Conference is for Refugees and Asylum Seekers as well as for those who work on their behalf.

can will change," he said in combatting the methods used by pay day lenders and protecting vulnerable people. Cllr Mazher Iqbal, Cabinet Member for Communities and Inclusion, spoke about Sheffield City Council's initiative to promote the scheme, "Financial Inclusion in Sheffield", by setting up a new company and preparing a case for investors. "There is a large and growing non-standard consumer credit market in Sheffield," he said, and the solution was in providing fair finance. "Service levels will be

as good as, or better, than mainstream banks, pay day lenders and other financial services." Chair of the Hallam Justice and Peace Commission, Fr Shaun Smith, in thanking the speakers said that there was a role for Christians in exercising their faith in reaching out to people on our doorstep who are trapped in poverty. Churches were instrumental in organising food banks and acting in solidarity with those in need of guidance and support.

**The Diocese of Hallam**  
**Full Time Permanent KS1 Teacher**  
MPS  
Group 1 NOR 90  
Required for September 2014

Governors are seeking to appoint an excellent classroom teacher who is committed to raising standards and is a good team member. The postholder would initially teach in Year 1 or Year 2 in the mornings and then a mixed Y1/2 class in the afternoons. Applications from newly qualified teachers are welcomed.

We have wonderful children who will rise to the challenges and opportunities given to them, but who also need the care and guidance given by a teacher who has high expectations and sets clear boundaries, while also making learning a fun and exciting experience. So, Staff and Governors are working in partnership to make the changes necessary to work towards becoming an outstanding school.

**What we are looking for in our applicants:**

- To support and promote the Catholic ethos of the school
- An excellent classroom practitioner with a recent rating of Good to Outstanding observation or progress made in studies so far
- A commitment to inclusion and working in partnership with parents
- An ability to plan creative learning opportunities that inspire pupils, link learning and embed key skills

**We will offer you:**

- A strong commitment to staff well-being and professional development
- Enthusiastic children who enjoy learning
- An ambitious and engaged Governing Body
- Dedicated, friendly staff committed to the further development of the school

For an application pack and to arrange a visit, please contact the school by email or by telephone.

The CES application form must be completed as agreed by the Diocese of Hallam. This form can also be found on the CES website: [www.catholiceducation.org.uk](http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk)

**Closing Date: Midday on Friday 4th April 2014**  
**Assessment Day: Date to be arranged week beginning 7th April**  
**Interview Date: Monday 14th April 2014**

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service).

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# AN INVITATION TO YOUNG ADULTS



*Celebrating Mass in the Derbyshire peaks*

Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, young adults gather at St Marie's Cathedral in Sheffield in the evening for a quiet time of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a get together in the local pub. Beginning last September there have been activities every other Wednesday as well. These have included watching and examining different films, and studying parts of the Catechism (YOUCAT) in a more dynamic study of the faith. Some of the other activities have included helping the homeless of Sheffield and visiting the Cheshire Home in Totley, as well as some hikes out into the peaks of surrounding Derbyshire.

It was Pope Francis in Rio during the World Youth Day that reminded us of the importance of young people as the future of the church and society, "The youth are the window through which the future enters the world. They are the window, and so they present us with great challenges. Our

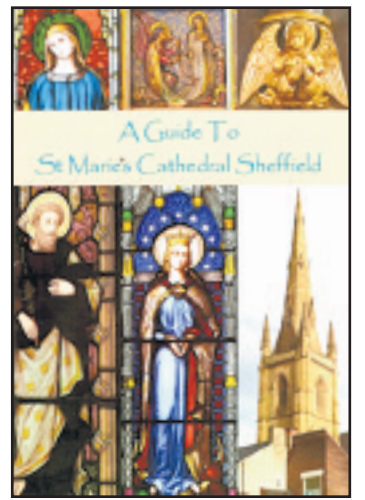
*generation will show that it can rise to the promise found in each young person when we know how to give them space. This means that we have to create the material and spiritual conditions for their full development; to give them a solid basis on which to build their lives; to guarantee their safety and their education to be everything they can be; to pass on to them lasting values that make life worth living; to give them a transcendent horizon for their thirst for authentic happiness and their creativity for the good; to give them the legacy of a world worthy of human life; and to awaken in them their greatest potential as builders of their own destiny, sharing responsibility for the future of everyone. If we can do all this, we anticipate today the future that enters the world through the window of the young."*

All young adults are always welcome to come along, 7.30pm Wednesday evenings at St Marie's, in the church or parish rooms.

## Two New Books for Hallam

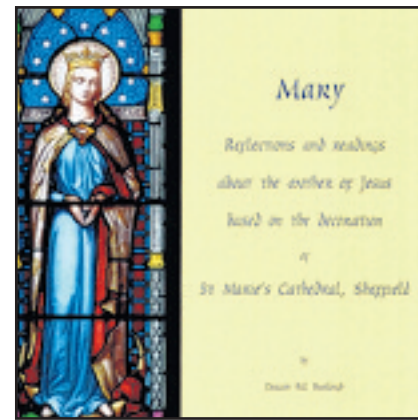
A new Guide Book to St Marie's Cathedral is now on sale. Complete with almost one hundred photographs, it provides close up views of many beautiful decorative details as well as showing the new look of the Cathedral now that renovation and re-ordering is complete. The new altar, bishop's chair, ambo and font are all featured in their new positions. Up to date, high quality photographs have been used, including detailed images within the big stained glass windows not easily visible to the naked eye. Bob Rae, of St Marie's parish, has taken these and many other photographs of St Marie's since its re-opening and Deacon Bill Burleigh has written the enlightening text, often providing explanation to the symbolism and scenes in so much of the Cathedral's decoration.

"Mary, Reflections and Readings", by Deacon Bill Burleigh, prayerfully looks at more than thirty aspects of the life of Our Lady, each limited to a single page of text opposite a relevant photograph, mostly taken from



the many images of Our Lady throughout our Cathedral. Prayers, poems and quotations woven into the reflections range from St Ambrose to Zechariah, from St Bernard of Clairvaux to Vatican II, with the final page being given over to words of blessing and hope from Pope Francis, Pope Benedict and Blessed John Paul II. The design and typesetting of this book was achieved with the help of Dr Derek Cullen.

Profits from the sale of both books are going to help pay for the renovation of the Cathedral. Both books are available either from the Cathedral or from the author, bill.burleigh1@btinternet.com and are initially priced at £5 each. For outlying parishes, the author can arrange to deliver a few initial copies on a sale or return basis. Both books will be on sale in the Cathedral book shop after the Chrism Mass.



## Celebrating our Schools

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 DN12 1DL  
 HEAD TEACHER: DAMIEN THORPE  
 TELEPHONE 01709 863280  
 WWW. STMARYSPRI-DONCASTER.FROGPRIMARY.COM

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 TELEPHONE 01142 884281

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 HEADTEACHER: MARY EMMOTT  
 TEL : 01246 432916

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 HEADTEACHER: MR B SAWYER  
 TELEPHONE 0114 2724851

**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
 CRESWICK LANE, SHEFFIELD  
 SOUTH YORKSHIRE S35 8NN  
 HEADTEACHER: DONNA FALEY  
 TEL : 01142 468020

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**  
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 S41 8AG  
 HEADTEACHER: MR S McCLAFFERTY  
 TELEPHONE: 01246 201191

**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
 HERRINGTHORPE VALLEY ROAD  
 ROTHERHAM, SOUTH YORKSHIRE S65 2NU  
 HEADTEACHER: CATHERINE THOMAS  
 TELEPHONE : 01709361502