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FREE

## HALLAM STUDENTS EMBARK ON YEAR OF VOLUNTEERING

Dozens of students from four schools in the Diocese of Hallam have embarked on a year of volunteering to help both local and international communities.

Year 11 pupils from All Saints Catholic High School in Sheffield, St Mary's Catholic High School in Chesterfield, the McAuley Catholic High School in Doncaster and Notre Dame High School in Sheffield gathered together to kick-start a year of fundraising with aid agency CAFOD.

The thirty-seven students are now part of CAFOD's Young Leaders programme. They attended a session on 11 October at All Saints High School aimed at developing several leadership skills, such as communication, organisation and problem solving.

The pupils also learned about key areas of CAFOD's work, including its programmes with partners in developing countries and its efforts to fight poverty and injustice.

Rose Krzyz ran the meeting alongside Alex Krzyz and Mike Campbell. Rose said, "The objectives for the day were to obtain a better understanding of CAFOD, to discuss leadership qualities and to explore different ways to raise awareness about CAFOD."

"The students also shared their experiences on social media channels such as Instagram and Snapchat."

"Members of staff from the schools told me that the students were very enthused by the challenges put forward to them."

Two more sessions are planned for the



Young Leaders on 31 January and 5 May next year.

In between the training sessions, the pupils will be putting their knowledge and skills into practice by organising fundraising activities, taking part in the charity's campaigns, delivering assemblies and leading others to learn about CAFOD's work.

Last year, over two hundred and fifty young people were trained as part of the young leadership programme and they collectively reached out to almost forty thousand people through their volunteering.

CAFOD representative in Hallam, Jeremy Cain, said, "Young people play a very important part in CAFOD's work and I know we have signed on thirty-seven brilliant students."

"I am looking forward to seeing what the pupils achieve during their time volunteering for CAFOD."

Find out how you can volunteer with CAFOD at [cafod.org.uk/volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/volunteer).

**CAFOD**  
Just one world



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## What's on in December

- |    |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|
| 1  | Deadline for articles for next issue of the <i>Hallam News</i> .   | Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield. |  |
| 6  | Hallam Ascent Group meet at St Francis of Assisi parish hall, 277 Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD, 1.45-3.45pm, for a talk by Stephen Spooner, 'Work in Africa'. For more details: 0114 2306797 or email as cent@jngreen.plus.com, or visit the website: hallamascent.weebly.com. | 13                                       | Chesterfield Bereavement Support Group Drop-in/coffee morning, 10.30am-12noon, The Annunciation Centre, Spencer Street, Chesterfield, S40 4SD.                           |
| 12 | Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm  | 13                                       | Sheffield Irish Association Tea Dance with live music and refreshments at the Philadelphia Club, Martin Street, Upperthorpe, Sheffield, S6 3DP, 1-3pm. All very welcome. |

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Month



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

- |    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 3  | Blessed English Martyrs, Askern.     |
| 10 | St Alban, Denaby Main.               |
| 17 | St Michael and All Angels, Wombwell. |
| 31 | Our Lady and St Thomas, Sheffield.   |

## CATHOLIC MEN'S SOCIETY

Christmas Dinner will be held on Saturday, 9 December, 7.30pm for 8pm at St Vincent's Church Hall, Pickmere Road, Crookes, Sheffield, S10 1GY.

Please contact the Secretary, Hugh Finnigan, for further details: 0114 2341232, [hughfinnigan@googlemail.com](mailto:hughfinnigan@googlemail.com).

## Day of Renewal with Healing Services



2nd Dec 2017 - 1:00pm to 5:00 pm  
St Charles Borromeo Catholic Church, Attercliffe, Sheffield S9 3WU

Inspiring talks, Musical Praise and worship,  
Healing Mass and Eucharistic Adoration

## ST FRANCIS CHURCH, SHEFFIELD

Friday, 8 December, 7.30pm



Advent Recital  
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Silviu Cobeau - baritone  
Hugh Finnigan - organ

In aid of St Marie's Cathedral organ restoration fund.  
Free entrance. Donations encouraged.

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

Hallam News is the monthly newspaper of the Diocese of Hallam  
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## Entrance Assessment

for admission into Years 7, 8 and 9 in September 2018

8:45am Saturday 27 January

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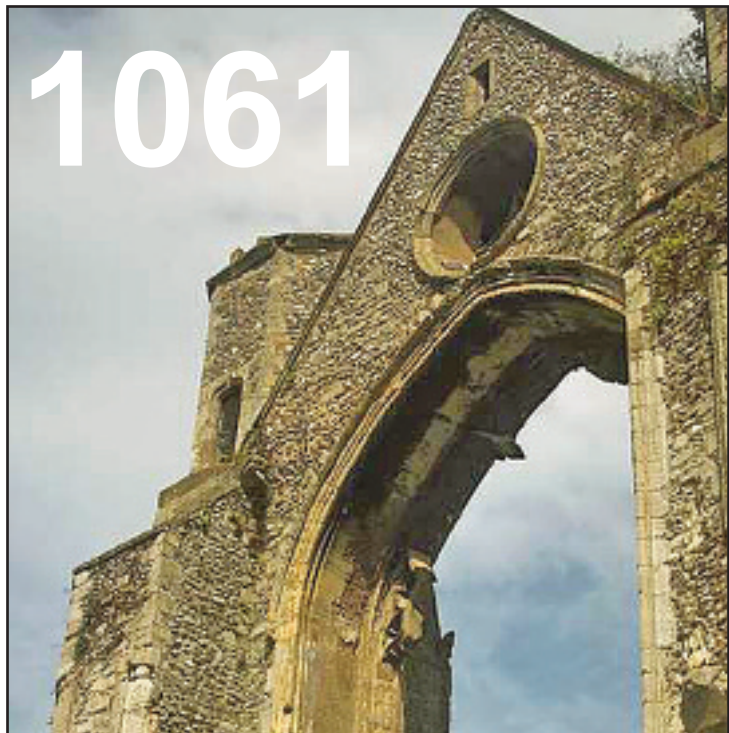
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1061



Young adults in the Diocese of Hallam who are looking to develop their spiritual life are invited to consider a programme of Residential Retreats organised by a collaboration of the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady and Youth 2000.

The initiative is aimed at people between 18-35. There are three parts to the programme. They are each stand-alone sessions and participants can join in one, two or all three.

- Part I - Abide in Me - Prayer and the Sacraments
- Part II - Built on Rock - Scripture and Tradition
- Part III - According to Your Will - Radical Generosity

Further information is available on the Youth 2000 website, <http://www.youth2000.org/1061> and in a video available on the Youth 2000 YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aT2hTJv-Nys>.



## Close of the Fatima Centenary Year

St Marie's parish, Sheffield marked the close of the Fatima Centenary Year with a Holy Hour prayer period and the celebration of Mass. This was followed by a social in the parish centre.



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

**SUNDAYS:**  
 17:30 ADORATION, WORSHIP, CONFESSIONS  
 18:30 MASS  
 19:30 SOCIAL  
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## World Meeting of Families Dublin 2018

*Let's Talk Family! Let's Be Family!* Programme is a response to Pope Francis' request.

The programme aims to support families and parishes as we set out on the journey of preparation to the World Meeting of Families, taking place in Dublin from 21 to 26 August, 2018, and to continue that journey in the years ahead.

Visit <http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/> to find out more about this event.

### Advent Service Kirk Edge Monastery Bradfield, Sheffield, S6 6LJ Sunday, 10 December, 2.30pm

The Knights of St Columba in conjunction with the Carmelite Sisters of the Monastery at Kirk Edge will be holding a joint Advent Service of readings and carols, led by Fr John Cooke.

Christmas at Kirk Edge Monastery ~ Mass is at 8am each day, but there will no longer be a Midnight Mass or Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve.



The Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham

SHEFFIELD GROUP

Schola Cantorum Gregoriana Sanctae Mariae



On Saturday, 16 December at 10 am  
 the Schola Cantorum Gregoriana Sanctae Mariae  
 will sing Mass Setting VIII celebrated  
 to the Ordinariate Use [Missa Cantata]  
 in the Cathedral of Saint Marie  
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## Ride for the Jumbulance Trust



In October six men set out on their bikes to cycle from Land's End to John o'Groats in a bid to raise money to buy a new Jumbulance. This is a vehicle which makes travel possible for people with complex medical conditions.

And they did it! Our picture above

shows their triumphant arrival. Jeremy Tym, far left, thanks everyone who gave donations and encouragement along the way which contributed to their achievement. You can still give by visiting his Just Giving Page <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jeremy-tym>.

## Hallam Catholics asked to Help Homelessness Service

Youth homelessness charity, Depaul UK has seen a 21 percent rise in referrals to its emergency accommodation Nightstop this year – a trend reflected in South Yorkshire.

In the first half of this year, Depaul Nightstop services have seen an increase in demand by over 300 referrals to reach more than 1,400 compared to the same period in 2016.

The local Nightstop service in South Yorkshire, which opened in 2016 with support from players of People's Postcode Lottery, has also noticed an increase in demand as young people become more aware of its presence in the local community.

The network, which provides a safety net for young people with nowhere else to go, places them in the home of a vetted and trained

volunteer for the night.

One young person recently supported by Depaul said, "I used Nightstop for a couple of months and I felt safe. They DBS-check all the people you stay with and you're invited into a family home for the night. The families go to great lengths to make you feel at home."

Amy Smith, Manager of Nightstop South Yorkshire, is now concerned for young people as temperatures drop this winter. She is worried demand for the service will increase as the Christmas period draws to a close.

She said, "One of the busiest periods is post-Christmas. People try to patch things up in this season and then things start to go wrong. The week between Christmas and New Year can be particularly difficult."



## PLANS FOR CARITAS ON TRACK

Stuart Hanlon, Hallam Caring Services, wishes to thank all Parish Priests and the Parish Administrators for completing the Caritas questionnaires.

"The Hallam response was 100%, not replicated in other Dioceses, I am told," said Stuart. It is hoped that sometime in the New Year there will be a celebration for all the social action in the Diocese hosted by Bishop Ralph. The Caritas Network will be launched at the same time - more details later.



Laura Rendell (left) and Bernie Ware with Cardinal Vincent Nichols

### Visit to the House of Commons

Bernie Ware and Laura Rendell from Hallam Caring Services were invited to a Parliamentary reception in the House of Commons on 25 October, where the Jo Cox Campaign for loneliness was discussed.

Chairing the day was Phil McCarthy, Caritas Social Action Network, and Cardinal Vincent Nichols was also in attendance.

Phil spoke of the wonderful contribution that volunteers bring to the social action groups that exist within each of the Dioceses and he gave a special mention to those at Carmel Care in Sheffield for their hard work and dedication.

## Ceilidh for Carmel

More than £400 was raised for Carmel Care Centre at a Ceilidh held at Sacred Heart School, Hillsborough in Sheffield.

The Derry City Ramblers were joined by Stuart Hanlon, Co-ordinator of Hallam Caring Services (pictured below right) and Mgr Kilgannon, Chaplain to Carmel (pictured below left), and Irish Dancers in providing the entertainment. Jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings and a raffle added to the enjoyment of all those who supported this event, which was in memory of Bridget Warren RIP.



Depaul UK is calling on Hallam Catholics to support young people affected by homelessness this Christmas.

For more information about giving a donation or becoming a Nightstop host, email [NightstopUK@depaulcharity.org.uk](mailto:NightstopUK@depaulcharity.org.uk).

Depaul UK Chief Executive Martin Houghton-Brown said, "Nightstop has helped thousands of young people with nowhere safe to sleep, providing more than 12,000 bed-nights

last year alone. Your generosity makes this possible and, with an increasing need for our emergency accommodation service, your donations are more vital than ever."

Depaul UK was founded by the Society of St Vincent de Paul, the Daughters of Charity and the Vincentian Fathers with the support and encouragement of Cardinal Basil Hume, then Archbishop of Westminster in 1989.





**Pictured above: Porridge Party organiser, Maria Volpone (left), with volunteer, Cath Spooner. On the right and below 'Porridge Smiles' from Party Participants!**



# Porridge Smiles Party for Mary's Meals

On Sunday, 22 October a particularly 'heart-warming' event took place at FabRico coffee shop, Soresby Street, Chesterfield as locals and parishioners enjoyed a bowl of porridge in return for a donation to Mary's Meals.

Organiser and proprietor, Maria Volpone, said, "It was a cold and blustery autumn day, so all those who came along were glad to tuck into a nice hot bowl of porridge! We raised a wonderful £240 in total, which will all go to support this vital charity in setting up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest communities."

Those making a donation were also able to have a go at guessing the distance travelled in an average month by Thomas Kyababa, Mary's Meals Feeding Officer in Mwambe District, Zambia. Thomas visits fifteen schools each week on his motorbike.

The delighted winner of a box of chocolates was Jon Spooner, a parishioner of The Annunciation parish, Chesterfield, who guessed at 1500 miles.

**Can you help?**

Mary's Meals can make a lasting difference



to the lives of children in some of the world's poorest countries. It costs just £13.90 to feed a child for a whole school year; so even the smallest amounts can have a huge impact. Anyone interested in finding out more about the work of Mary's Meals, sending a donation, or hosting a fundraising event in their parish can do so by visiting their website: [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk).

## PRESENTATION BY CAFOD

At the Diocesan Union of Catholic Mothers meeting this October, members were treated to an inspiring talk and power-point illustration by Mr Vincent Donlan, a CAFOD volunteer, and his wife, Helen who is the Justice and Peace Commission Chair.

The topic was 'Climate Change' which affects the poorest and weakest most. It was illustrated that there are many ways in which we can use less resources, starting in the home; by for example, saving energy and recycling. We were also encouraged to pray for the care of the planet and all people of the world.

Mr Donlan was then presented with a cheque by Mrs Sheila Godley, the UCM Diocesan President; pictured above with Helen Donlan (right).



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# Hallam Charity Night 2017

The tenth annual Diocesan Charity Night was again a success, albeit that the numbers were down slightly and the amount raised for charity this year was less than anticipated. The Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Councillor Anne Murphy, and Bishop Ralph were guests of honour, (pictured below).

The organisers thanked the Lord Mayor for her support for the event which included providing some auction prizes.

The one hundred and twenty people attending were entertained during the meal and afterwards by James and Dean, an excellent duo. There was again good support for the Charity Night from across the country as is evident from the distribution of winners in the Prize Draw.

The Prize Draw first prize of £1000 was won by Mrs Eileen Kerrigan from Doncaster. The second prize, a week's holiday in Austria, went to Mr Bryan McGurk from Morpeth. The £250 third prize was won by Mr Philip Barnes from Rochdale.

Bishop Ralph made presentations to each of the

five charities who benefitted from the proceeds of the evening, which raised £6,000. The Hallam Diocesan Lourdes Fund received £1500 to assist in the purchase of equipment to facilitate taking handicapped pilgrims to Lourdes.

The Depaul Society received £500 towards their work of helping with young homeless in Sheffield. The SVP Furniture Store received £1000, towards helping people coming out of homelessness in Sheffield. The Makeni Trust received £1000 to help provide clean water to a Maternity Hospital Ward in Sierra Leone. The Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund received £2000 towards the provision of a Day Care Centre and Hospice for the elderly in Bethlehem.

The organisers wish to thank all who gave support in any way. The eleventh Annual Diocesan Charity Night will be held in the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Chesterfield Road South, Sheffield on Saturday, 29 September, 2018. Those who wish to support or sponsor the event should contact Mrs Liz Mason, at [lizemason@hotmail.com](mailto:lizemason@hotmail.com).



**Bishop Ralph presents cheques to the recipient charities at the Hallam Pastoral Centre: top left, Matthew Redmore, DePaul UK; top right, Ralph Dickins, SVP Furniture Store; above, Philomena McNally and Fr Gus O'Reilly, the Makeni Trust; left, Rose Shay, Hallam Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund.**



On 4 July golfers from Lancashire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Wiltshire, Derbyshire, Yorkshire and Mexico played in the Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund's Charity Golf Day. Those playing at Dore and Totley Golf Club enjoyed one of the country's top 50 fun courses.

The team prize was won by Mount St Mary's School, Spinkhill. Second place went to a Lancashire Team led by Fr Richard Howard. Prizes were won by players from Manchester and Lancashire with Dr Bertie Napier of Bishop Stortford making the best individual score.

An excellent presentation dinner, which was attended by parishioners from Our Lady and St Thomas' Parish, Sheffield,

rounded off the day. The event raised £2,485 for the Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund.

The Charity's President, John O'Dea who is terminally ill, cancelled his chemotherapy to support the event.

In September another golf day in support of the Fund was held at the Buckinghamshire Golf Club. An international array of golfers assembled. A dreary day made golfing heavy going but an excellent presentation dinner and an auction rounded off the day, which raised £14,040 for the Fund.

John O'Dea, aged 78, again cancelled his chemotherapy and this time he was on the winning team.



## Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund Charity Golf Day



**Pictured above, the winning team L to R, N Blenkarne, John O'Dea, Paul O'Dea, Jonathan O'Dea; left, John O'Dea presents the best individual prize to Dr Bertie Napier – John O'Dea Cup and Newbridge Silver Picture Frame – with Joe McNally (left); top right, John O'Dea presents the only local winner, J Stimpson, with the prize for the longest drive; above, John O'Dea presents Mount St Mary's winning team Captain, Lesroy Weekes, with Newbridge Silverware prizes.**







# CHRISTMAS APPEAL

St Martha's House operates - **A CARE & REPAIR CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY of Bethlehem**



Local volunteers work from rented accommodation. It is small and cramped and can be used by only 22 people at any one time.

Many women have only St Martha's and each other. There is no provision for the men.

None have Medical care, pensions, social services - many are alone.

When things are difficult tourists do not come. The economy suffers and the elderly are among the most vulnerable.

Support the work to make ST MARTHA'S HOUSE permanent.

Make a Christmas Gift - take an envelope and make a donation. OR Give via your mobile - Text THBF02 followed by donation amount to 70070

DONATE ONLINE AT: [www.hallambethlehemfund.co.uk](http://www.hallambethlehemfund.co.uk)

## Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund Christmas Appeal

**As the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord approaches we again appeal for your support to help elderly people in Bethlehem, the place of his birth.**

We all want to enjoy Christmas with the giving of presents, plenty of food and celebration. Many feel they have more than enough. A great many want to do something for others at Christmas.

There are people in Bethlehem who have little or nothing. Bethlehem, in the emerging state of Palestine, does not have the infrastructure or resources to provide social care, health care or state pensions. Peace has not come there and communities, depending on tourism, do not have income particularly in times of turmoil when the tourists do not come. In all of this the elderly are among the most vulnerable.

There is, however, hope. St Martha's House is a locally established 'Care and Repair' Centre for elderly women. Its ethos is Christian but it is open to all. Its resources are meagre.

St Martha's House extends a compassionate hand of support to poor, lonely and vulnerable elderly women in Bethlehem. Here ladies meet for companionship, food, personal care and mutual support. Without St Martha's, and its limited programmes, many elderly women would literally be abandoned.

The rented rooms are cramped and admit only 22 people at any one time. Some help with running costs is provided by other charities but, even with outside help, St Martha's House can only cater for a total of 37 women on a rota basis. The list of those who are known to be in need is many times that number. There is no provision for elderly men.

The local community cannot make St Martha's House permanent. They simply do not have the resources.

The Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund is a step closer to providing permanent care facilities for elderly men and women and a hospice for the dying is now in sight. The Trustees are in the process of getting a site on which to build. To build on the site the need for support intensifies.

**Can you, your group or your parish help?**

Last year we had donations from Parish Cribbs; a UCM group collected 20p pieces; proceeds from parish concerts; coffee mornings; a golf day and people being sponsored to undertake various events. We have benefitted too from the generosity of individuals who make regular monthly contributions and we have had some very generous donations.

The Fund now stands at **£180,000**. Thus we continue to edge our way slowly but very purposefully towards our goal. The Trustees wish to thank all those who have contributed and supported the Fund.

Please pray for the success of this project and in your generosity please support the elderly in Bethlehem whatever way you can this Christmas.

Donations can be made via mobile phone - simply text THBF01 followed by the amount you want to give to 70070. (Do it now it only takes seconds).

**For further information or to make a donation please visit our website: [www.hallambethlehemfund.co.uk](http://www.hallambethlehemfund.co.uk) or write to The Hallam (Bethlehem) Fund, 37 Conalan Avenue, Sheffield, S17 4PG or telephone 0114 236 8859.**

## Welcome to the Oasis

St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy formally opened the OASIS well-being centre in October.

Bishop Ralph blessed the setting, which aims to give children and adults the opportunity of quiet reflection and calmness in addition to stimulating the mind and exploring well-being at all levels.

Headteacher, Nuala Nelis, the children and staff greeted their visitors, who included many Catholic Heads


of the Sheffield partnership, school Governors and members of the Local Authority. Pupils lead a celebration assembly. The children sang beautifully and Elizabeth and Ellis performed their own version of the "OASIS Rap".

A reception was held afterwards and guests explored the OASIS and observed children using the facility.


Pictured below: Bishop Ralph with Headteacher, Nuala Nelis at the opening ceremony.



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**Anti-Slavery Day Presentation**

Bishop Ralph and the Mayor of Chesterfield, Councillor Maureen Davenport, attended a Medaille Trust presentation on modern slavery and human trafficking on 18 October, Anti-Slavery Day, at St Thomas' Centre in Chesterfield.

**GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

Robert and Betty McGibbon recently celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. (They were married on 16 September, 1967).

They were surprised and delighted to receive a Papal Blessing on this special occasion.

Our photograph below shows their Parish Priest, Fr Evangelist Ohaejesi, making the presentation to them in St Joseph's Church, Wath-upon-Dearne.

**We Come To Share Our Stories**

Our Lady of the Assumption parish in Stainforth recently hosted a BBQ for local asylum seekers and refugees. Well over a hundred people attended, sharing an excellent BBQ cooked by Dave, drinks, laughter, jokes music and dancing, making it an unforgettable and thoroughly enjoyable occasion.

It was a collaborative event organised by Lillian and others from the parish, and her friends and colleagues from the Conversation Club in Doncaster. This organisation from Doncaster provides free advice, support and practical welcome to hundreds of people from 13 different countries, with a huge range of cultures and religions, all welcomed in Stainforth, Doncaster.



Some of the participants commented, "We thank God for providing this great opportunity of having a wonderful BBQ party. A big thank you to Lilian and the church who organised this event. We like everyone having a good time eating, laughing, chat. Everything is beautiful. Children have fun too. Meeting different cultures is a great experience. Thank you. No word to express feelings."

Local Irish dancers and Doncaster Quirky Choir came along and shared music, singing and dancing, as did several members from the Conversation Club. The children enjoyed a bouncy castle and no one was put off by the rain later on during the day, the atmosphere was far too warm and sunny. It was a real privilege for the parish to host this event and we look forward to many more in the future.

**More Hallam Deacons in Formation**

The Diocese of Hallam now has six men preparing for ordination as permanent deacons.

They are among thirty-seven students taking part in the Northern Dioceses deacon formation programme, meeting regularly at Hinsley Hall, Leeds.

The students come from the dioceses of Hexham and Newcastle, Liverpool, Leeds, Wrexham, Middlesbrough as well as Hallam. The four year training involves wide ranging study at Leeds, formation and practical training in the home diocese and online study at home too.

The photograph below shows the students and the supporting team at Hinsley Hall at the beginning of this fourth year of the multi-diocese formation programme.

The first Hallam students from the programme are due to be ordained in their diocese next June. For Hallam, this could bring the total number of active deacons to sixteen.

For more information about the formation programme for permanent deacons in Hallam, contact Bill Burleigh, email: bill.burleigh1@btinternet.com.

**December at Whirlow Spirituality Centre**

**2 and 6 December:** Advent Quiet Days - What (or Who) Are we Waiting for?

9.45am-3.30pm, cost £15  
**Sunday, 3 December,** Reflective Worship, 7-8pm

**Sunday, 17 December,** Reflective Communion, 7-8pm

**19 December:** Simple Quiet Day

9.45am-3.45pm, cost £12  
Space to 'be' before God.

Relax, reflect and pray.  
**Every Tuesday,** Reflective Communion, 9.45-10.30am.

**Every Sunday,** Space to Be (silent meditation), 8.30-9.15am

**For more details about events and information about booking:**  
**www.whirlowspiritualitycentre.org.**

**JOE WALSH TOURS**

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life. By wearing the religious habit we are witnesses to the consecrated way of life. If you are willing to risk a little love and would like to find out how, contact Sister Bernadette. Late vocations up to the age of 46 welcomed.

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Ministers of Religion





# Sue McDermott Awarded OBE by Queen



**S**ue McDermott, voluntary Non-Executive Director of a national bereavement charity, received the OBE from the Queen on 13 October.

The honour recognises a lifetime of service to education and particularly for her outstanding impact in supporting chil-



dren and young people grieving a significant and often devastating loss in their lives.

Sue has supported grieving children and young people for twenty five years in a range of roles, including National Director and now voluntary Non-Executive

Director and Trustee of Rainbows Bereavement Support GB.

This national charity operates in most of the schools across the Diocese and in over 1300 schools throughout Great Britain.



## Carmel Day of Recollection

The Sheffield Lay Carmel annual day of recollection on Saturday, 14 October at Kirkedge Monastery once again welcomed Fr Andrew Browne to celebrate the Mass.

His homily on St Teresa of Avila gave insights into the spirituality of Teresa. Fr Browne pointed out that Teresa always balanced action with contemplation and that our lay Carmelite vocation as advocated by Teresa

can best be described as a life lived purely out of a love for Christ.

Mass was followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Before Benediction Deacon Tony Strike gave a reflection on the theme of Teresina Spirituality.

The day of recollection ended all too quickly for the participants (pictured on the left and below) and they all left renewed in Carmel.



## OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2020

Brendan Lally tells us, "In 2010, with the late Fr Gerard Harney, I organised a large group visit to the Oberammergau Passion Play. It was a wonderful experience, very moving and most memorable. I vowed then that the 2020 play would be on my bucket list."

"The event takes place from May to October every ten years and is about the suffering, death and resurrection of Christ. Residents of the Bavarian town have carried out the tradition for over 380 years. There are just over 5000 inhabitants and whilst different venues have been used in the past, the play is now performed in the Passion Play Theatre which has a capacity of 4800."

"The stage is almost the length of a football pitch and it was amazing to see how many people and animals, as well as scenery, could be on the stage at any one time. The acting, the costumes, the singing and orchestration were astounding. Last-

ing for six hours, with a dinner break in between, it was a unique experience."

"The town of Oberammergau has beautiful wood carvings and wall paintings on so many properties and this adds to its appeal as a tourist spot."

"The Passion Play in Oberammergau has worldwide appeal and is invariably "sold out" months in advance. There are about 100 performances. Anyone interested should be making plans now. The most expensive seats for 2020 are already fully booked! Our parish of St Mary's, Penistone is proposing an eight day air and coach package (including Category @ seating plus excursions to Austria) and accommodation in a 4 star hotel. The estimated cost is in the region of £1250 per person. Anyone wishing to register an interest please contact the group leader, Brendan Lally, giving their name and address, at bplally146@sky.comor, text 07949241108."

## THE LADY OF ALL NATIONS

Lord Jesus Christ,  
Son of the Father, send now  
Your Spirit over the earth.

Let the Holy Spirit live in the  
hearts of all nations, that they  
may be preserved from  
degeneration, disaster and war.

May the Lady of all Nations, who  
once was Mary, be our Advocate.  
*Amen.*

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Booking Form contact

**Anne Stewart**

[astewart@shcj.org](mailto:astewart@shcj.org)

Tel. 01253 318196

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# Welcome to the Children's Liturgy Section



Welcome to our children's page on Advent. Advent is a time of preparation: a time of waiting to celebrate the coming of the "beloved son" of God. He is the chosen one, whom God said he would send us.

The season of Advent begins the Church's Year. The first Sunday of Advent is the first day of our new church calendar.

An Advent wreath helps us to follow the journey towards Christmas. Each

Sunday a new candle is lit. There are four Sundays in Advent so there are four candles. Often the candles are of our Advent colour - purple, and sometimes a pink one for the third Sunday, 'Gaudete' or 'Joy' Sunday.

Have a look in your church or school. Can you see an Advent Wreath? How many candles are lit? Perhaps you may have an Advent wreath at home?

A fifth candle, a white one, will be lit when Christmas comes.

Fill in the gaps. There are some letters to help you. Some of the answers will be on this page and some you may have to ask a grown up to help you with.

We wait for f\_\_\_\_\_ weeks, during

the season of A\_\_\_\_\_ to

celebrate the birthday of Jesus.

God promised to send a

s\_\_\_\_\_.

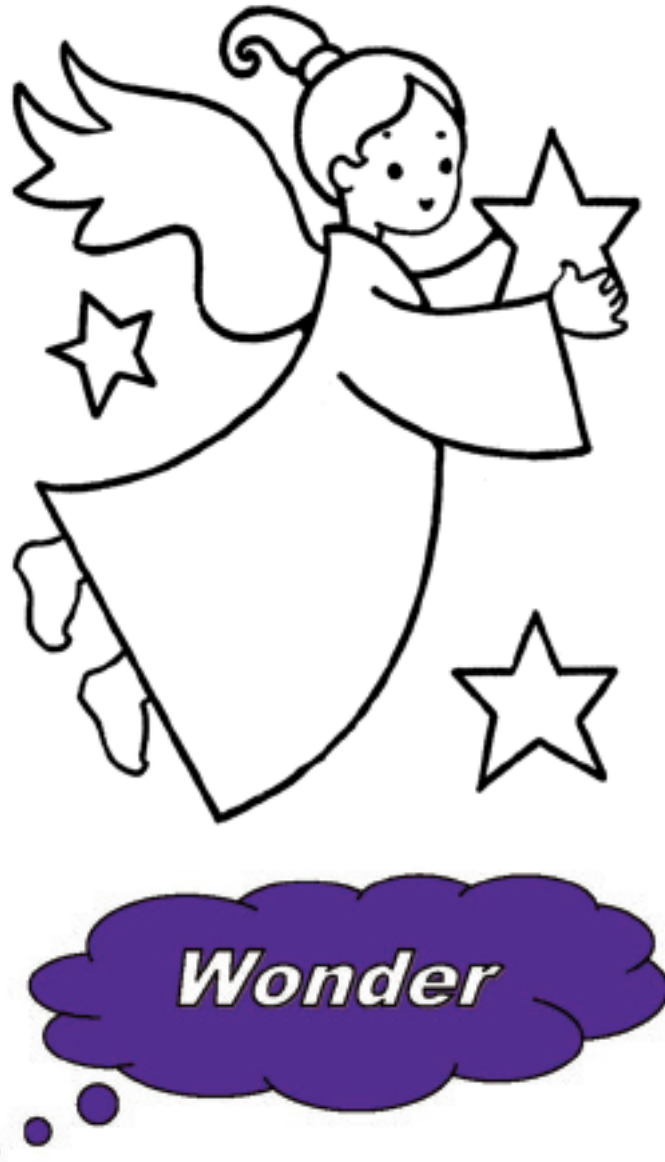
Mary agreed to be the m\_\_\_\_\_ of

Jesus.

The a\_\_\_\_\_s announced Jesus'

birth to the shepherds.

Jesus is the s\_\_\_\_\_ of G\_\_\_\_\_.



## Family Prayer

During Advent, we are preparing to celebrate the birth of God's son and so it helps if we pray daily to get our hearts ready.

This family prayer from Loyola Press, is a good starting point to help you and your family in your spiritual journey.

God of Love,  
Your son, Jesus, is your  
greatest gift to us.

He is a sign of your  
love.  
Help us walk in that  
love  
during the weeks of  
Advent,  
As we wait and prepare  
for his coming.

We pray in the name of  
Jesus, our Saviour.  
Amen.

## Advent Kindness Tree Activity

In preparation, during Advent, talk to your child about doing kind deeds for others.

Help them to make a tree out of green paper and then as they do a kind deed, write it on a piece of paper and stick on to the tree.

Make the kindness deeds general, not specific to one person, eg set the table for dinner, do the washing up.



I wonder ...

I wonder how the prophets heard God's message?

.....  
.....

I wonder how Mary felt on the journey to Bethlehem?

.....  
.....

I wonder how the shepherds felt when they saw the angels and then visited the Christ child?

.....  
.....





**"I remember how all the colours looked. My favourite was yellow even though I can't see it now."**

Milly, 14

**£95 can restore a child's sight and bring colour back to their world.**

Milly dreamed of becoming a nurse – until she was blinded by cataracts and lost her love for life. She was plunged into darkness and despair. Living in poverty in Uganda, East Africa, Milly's family could not afford the sight-restoring surgery she needed.

**Will you donate £95 today and help a child see the colour and wonder of God's creation once again?**

When Dr Ludovica removed the patches from her eyes, Milly exclaimed in joy at the yellow flowers on the surgeon's dress. Imagine her excitement at seeing her favourite colour again? You can bring that happiness into someone's life by supporting us today.

**"Glory be to God, I can see!"** Milly, 14

**Please support Christian Blind Mission today and bring colour back into someone's world.**

**...to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free** Luke 4:18



## I want to bring colour back to a child's world

I'm supporting Christian Blind Mission

Title:	First Name:	Surname:
Address:		
		Postcode:

### I'd like to give:

- ☐ **£24** could restore sight in an adult's eye
- ☐ **£48** could restore sight in both eyes of an adult
- ☐ **£95** could restore the sight of a child like Milly
- ☐ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment details:

☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order/CAF voucher to: **Christian Blind Mission**



☐ **OR** Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Maestro Card

Card no.

Expiry date   /   3-digit security number

Signature  Date   /   /

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- ☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Christian Blind Mission. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. *giftaid it*

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