

# Hallam News



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FEBRUARY 2018

No. 337

FREE

## DIARY OF A PILGRIM

Thirty pilgrims led physically by Joe McNally and spiritually by Bishop Ralph and Fr Gus O'Reilly came together in shared purpose in November to visit the Holy Land. Some of our group were seasoned pilgrims but for others, like myself, the Holy Land was an undiscovered jewel. 'Taxing but fulfilling' summarised our pilgrimage ~ Claire Brady kept the following diary.

The first two days were spent in Galilee. We travelled no great distances but covered an extraordinary amount of ground. Besan, our guide, was a Palestinian Christian and not only did he show how knowledgeable he was, but also had an unerring ability to shepherd his little flock of pilgrims keeping them on track.

### Day One

Our first stop was the Mount of the Beatitudes after a brief journey around the edge of a very hazy Sea of Galilee, with the Golan Heights barely visible in the distance. A beautiful garden surrounded the church and awe and wonder was in abundance as we each imagined Jesus standing here delivering the most famous sermon in the world. A reading, a meditation and prayers were said here as in all the churches and sacred places we would visit during the week.

Our next stop was the excavated ruin of Capernaum; not only an archaeological gem providing an insight into the lives of the people 2000 years ago, but also a symbol of the



Hallam pilgrims visit St Martha's House  
Photograph: David Bellamy

tolerance of the early Christians and their Jewish neighbours with a church and a synagogue existing for hundreds of years together on the same site. The modern church sat like a ship in sail above the place of Peter's house.

Next we travelled to the Primacy of St Peter, a tiny church built around the gigantic rock where St Peter had first received his calling to be the rock upon which the Church would be built. We celebrated Mass in the open air with the Sea of Galilee in the

background.

Onwards then to Tabgha and the Church of the Multiplication where beautiful mosaics celebrated the loaves and fishes that fed so many.

*continues on pages 6 and 7*

### IN THIS EDITION



Hallam Ascent Group ~ page 8

### Sleep Out

Friday 16 March 2018 • 7pm – 8am • Abbeydale Picture House  
To join us visit: [www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018](http://www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018)

St Wilfrid's Centre Sleep Out ~ page 3



Hungry for Change at St Catherine's School  
~ page 4

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# What's on in February

- |    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | Deadline for articles for next issue of the <i>Hallam News</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Support Group Drop-in/coffee morning, 10.30am-12noon, The Annunciation Centre, Spencer Street, Chesterfield, S40 4SD.                                                       |
| 7  | Members of Hallam Ascent Group meet at St Francis of Assisi parish hall, 277 Sandygate Road, Sheffield, S10 5SD, 1.45-3.45pm, for a talk about Lourdes by one of the Diocesan Pilgrimage team. For more details: 0114 2306797 or email ascent@jngreen.plus.com, or visit the website: hallamascent.weebly.com. | 14 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. |
| 13 | Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.                                                                                                                                                                                             | 18 Hallamshire Faith and Light meet at 3pm at Mother of God parish hall, Sheffield.                                                                                         |
| 14 | Chesterfield Bereavement                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 27 Sheffield Branch Walsingham Association serves refreshments after 12.45pm Mass at St Marie's Cathedral, Sheffield.                                                       |

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Month



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

- |    |                                     |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 4  | Sacred Heart and St Helen, Hoyland. |
| 11 | St Joseph, Rawmarsh.                |
| 18 | Christ the King, Rossington.        |
| 25 | St Mary Magdalene, Maltby.          |

## 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.

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# OUR FRIEND KATH

## Mrs Kathleen Josephine Foley RIP

**Kath Foley, aged 87 years, died suddenly and peacefully on 17 December, 2017 with her family present.**

She was a member of the Union of Catholic Mothers of St Vincent's Parish, Sheffield for 59 years and had held the office of Foundation Secretary, arranging social outings for the Union of Catholic Mothers members. For several years she worked as assistant secretary at Notre Dame School and also belonged to the 'Ladies of Charity' organisation. She did Welfare work, visiting the sick and needy people in their homes and in hospital.

Kath was a stalwart member in the Church of St Vincent encouraging new ladies to the Parish to join the Union of Catholic Mothers.

She instigated the knitting of Easter chicks, bunnies and Christmas stockings, the proceeds going to the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice Fund for which hundreds of pounds were raised.

Kath was loved by all those who knew her and we will miss her greatly, especially those members of the Union of Catholic Mothers at St Vincent, Sheffield.

"Our friend Kath was a true Christian, loving God, loving her neighbour, loving and caring for her family and her friends. She spread love all over the Parish. She was a "People Person" loving, helping

and caring for all she knew. We shall all miss her greatly and mourn the loss of our dearest friend. She is now in God's hands and being loved by him," writes her good friend Muriel of St Vincent's Union of Catholic Mothers.

May she rest in peace.



## Oberammergau Passion Play 2020

A note from Brendan Lally, St Mary's, Penistone

There was considerable interest in the proposed air package holiday which included admission to the Passion Play. Unfortunately, when further discussions were held with the tour company, the price of £1250 was revised upwards by over £400, plus a substantial supplement for singles. I regret that, in view of this, the tour will not now take place.

Shorter and much cheaper packages by coach are being offered on line by a number of companies for anyone wishing to attend this wonderful event.

## DE LA SALLE ASSOCIATION RAMBLING CLUB

The De La Salle Association Rambling Club has organised a walk on Sunday, 18 February. Meet at 10.30am at Bakewell Station Car Park or on the road nearby, grid ref: 222689, for a 5 mile walk taking in Hasop Station, Rowland Junction, Cracknowle, Bakewell and returning to Bakewell Station. The walk can be modified to suit if the weather is difficult. All are very welcome.



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

In March there will be a very pleasant walk to Teversall Visitor Centre from Pleasley Colliery. This 5 mile walk will be along well-surfaced tracks created from the old railway lines that served the local pits.



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# Up for a challenge? Sleep Out at Abbeydale Picture House for St Wilfrid's Centre



**Sleep Out**

Friday 16 March 2018  
7pm – 8am

Get sponsored to sleep out of your comfort zone & spend the night on the floor of the Abbeydale Picture House to help raise vital money to support the work of St Wilfrid's Centre.

Live entertainment  
Alcohol-free cocktail bar  
Street food snacks

Registration: £15  
Includes: floor space, live entertainment, light supper & breakfast

TICKETS FOR GOOD

To join us visit: [www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018](http://www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018)

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Why not be the first to spend the night at one of Sheffield's most historic cultural venues, break free from your comfort zone and raise vital money to support St Wilfrid's work with homeless and vulnerable adults.

Our Sleep Out 2018 challenges you to sleep rough on the floor of the Abbeydale Picture House, a former cinema turned community arts venue which is now nearly 100 years old. It's the first time this iconic Sheffield landmark has ever been used for a sleep out fundraiser. We are asking you to get a team together or come along by yourself and register to experience sleeping rough for a night and help raise awareness of the issues around being homeless and living in temporary accommodation.

The event is taking place on Friday, 16 March from 7pm – 8am the following day. In return for raising a minimum of £50 in sponsorship, you will be treated to an evening of live music from 20ft Squid Blues Band, Open Jaw Fayre and a short drama showcase performance by some of the charity's own clients. You are welcome to bring your family or friends along to this part of the night, with tickets sold separately (£10 per ticket - age 12 plus) and refreshments on offer including an exclusive alcohol-free cocktail bar.

Then you'll be provided with a light supper before grabbing a spot on the Picture House floor and bedding down for the night. The next day,

we'll provide you with a light breakfast and even put on a gentle yoga class to loosen your limbs, before sending you on your way.

Says Josie Brooks, St Wilfrid's Centre Director, "We all saw more homeless people on the streets of Sheffield last year and as members of the public we try to reach out to them the best way we can. A homeless person isn't just someone on the street. There are increasing numbers of people living in temporary accommodation, living under the control of unscrupulous landlords or living in poor or cramped conditions. I never underestimate the feeling of safety and belonging I get when I'm in my home, so it is not surprising how quickly people's mental and physical health deteriorates when their home is in jeopardy or if they have no home. Our Sleep Out aims to raise awareness of the issues around homelessness and get people talking about the local situation and how we can all help. It's also an opportunity to sleep over in a beautiful building after a great night of entertainment. We're all really excited and looking forward to hosting you at our first large event of 2018, so do register and buy tickets as soon as you can."

For more information and to register for the Sleep Out, or to purchase tickets for the evening entertainment, please go to the website: [www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018](http://www.stwilfridscentre.org/events/sleepout2018).



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# EDUCATION IN THE FULLNESS OF HUMANITY

## Hungry for Change

The Executive Committee at St Catherine's Primary School, Eve, Rim, Kaius and Jessica, have written an article on the topic of 'Hungry for Change'.

St Catherine's pupils raise awareness for those living on the poverty line in their community. Children, Staff and Parents come together to provide food to people who are less fortunate than them. "A fun way to help those in need!" Kaius, Y6.

It all started on 3 October, 2017, and by 25 October we had a mountain of long life food to give to the Burngreave Food Bank. "I hope all the food goes to a worthy and true cause!" said Miss Franks, ICT Curriculum Specialist.

On the final donation day, all the food was displayed to show how much food had been collected. The liturgy linked to the RE curriculum. Every child has been thinking more deeply about the wider world. Chil-

dren in Year 6 have been thinking about 'How can small actions eventually change the world?' Year 5 'What's the difference between surviving and living?' and finally Year 4, 'Is it better to stand out or fit in?'

Mrs Rigby, Head Teacher, and the Executive Committee (School Council) put together an outstanding Harvest Liturgy. It was a great celebration and made everyone incredibly proud of what they had achieved!

Later on that day, members of staff and some of the pupils took all the food down to Burngreave Food Bank (Rock Christian Centre, Spital



Hill, Sheffield).

The Executive Committee and the rest of the school are keen to continue to help and make a change to people in their local community! "I'm really proud of my school and how we've raised awareness for those struggling in our local community," said Eve, Y6.

If you would like to help Burngreave Food Bank their address is Rock Christian Centre, 177-195 Spital Hill, Sheffield, S4 7LF. Alternatively you can drop your tinned items at St Catherine's Primary School, Firshill Crescent, Sheffield, S4 7BX.



### New Headteacher at Barlborough Hall School

Barlborough Hall School celebrated the start of 2018 with the appointment of Mrs Karen Keeton to the headship of the school.

Mrs Keeton is a knowledgeable and experienced educationalist, who has exciting plans to extend the academic excellence of the school and to provide many opportunities for the all round development of each child through

sporting achievements, music programmes and outdoor activities.

Mrs Keeton said she is delighted to be leading the excellent team of committed staff at the school, who ensure the pastoral care of each child while striving for academic success and the all round development of each child's self confidence, coupled with concern for others.



Mrs Karen Keeton

## Bishop Ralph Blesses New School Building

Pupils, staff and governors welcomed Bishop Ralph to an official opening and blessing on Friday, 1 December 2017.

A special celebration event took place to mark the opening of the brand new pre-school building at St Thomas of Canterbury School in Sheffield.

Bishop Ralph met the pre-school children and said some prayers for all who attend the school now and in the future. The school was one of only two providers in Sheffield to receive funding from the Department for Education to create additional capacity to provide 30 hours places for three year old children.

The project was a very interesting one because it involved the conversion of the caretaker's house into a pre-school building and included a very large extension at the back. The pre-school now opens onto the wonderful outdoor area with a mud

kitchen, a wide range of challenging activities and the school's very own chickens.

This project has come at a very good time because the school has also been designated as an Early Years Centre of Excellence to provide training, support and development to other settings. The additional space makes it much easier for groups of visiting colleagues to spend time immersed in the Early Years environment to explore the excellent practice and carefully designed provision. There are very few 30 hours places available in the area so it is excellent to have these additional places at an outstanding, Catholic school.

Bishop Ralph is pictured above left with Mr Andrew Truby, Headteacher, members of staff and pupils.

For information about places in the pre-school, please visit [www.st-tc.co.uk](http://www.st-tc.co.uk).

# Inauguration Mass and LGBT Ministry

The first snows of winter arrived on the day that our Hallam Diocese contingent attended Mass at the Chapel of the Bar Convent in York. Despite the weather, there was an excellent turn out and all were made very welcome. This Mass inaugurated a new service that gives an explicit welcome to LGBT+ Catholics, their families and friends. A special kindness was extended by the Sisters of the Bar Convent in holding this service on the second Sunday of Advent.

Last year, during the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Bishop Terry of Middlesbrough Diocese and his pastoral advisors discussed how they could enable our LGBT+ sisters and brothers and their families and friends come to know that they are welcome and have a place in the Diocese. The questions asked were "How do people who identify as LGBT+ hear the Good News of Jesus Christ? Where is the place of encounter where that immediate welcome can happen?" The answers came by way of a reminder and by way of example. The 'call' the Church receives in every age from Christ, is to 'go out', and in our time this call has been led by personal example. Pope Francis has shown time and again the importance of being present in areas where often the Church is experienced as being absent. "We need to leave the places where we feel comfortable to reach all the peripheries in need of the light of the Gospel".

In reaching out, Fr Tony Lester from Middlesbrough commenced pastoral outreach to LGBT+ Christians and was given the remit to foster a clear welcome to the LGBT+ community and their families. This ministry creates the opportunity for people to know they are accepted as sisters and brothers in the Lord and valued members of the Church. Sadly in the past, many will have heard a false gospel that they are not welcome and can have no place in the Church. The Bishop wishes to reach out and heal these wounds.

Is this ministry going to be some kind of 'alternative Church?' The answer is 'No'. The Diocese has many groups and associations that focus on particular needs. The normal place of belonging for all is the parish. This will be no different. Does this somehow go against Church teaching? No. In taking this step, the teaching of the Church is not being changed in any way. Instead, other important aspects of Church teaching are coming to the fore and taking their proper place. The first and greatest reality is that we are all children of God and we are always loved and cherished. This is what Jesus shows us. Only God knows the real truth of any particular person – which is why one of the very few rules we find in the Gospels is, "Do not judge".

The process of discovering God's call and purpose for us, is always a gradual one that we call discernment. This hap-

pens under the guidance and action of the Holy Spirit and requires much patient listening and prayer. Therefore to ensure this outreach is both open and transparent, nothing is being done in secret and everyone can know what is happening.

In support of similar work in the Diocese of Westminster, Cardinal Nichols comments that, "among the many sensitive and pastoral issues around today is the situation of those who live with a same-sex attraction and are often very anxious about their journey to God and their relationship with the Church". In response to these many clear calls to action, a very grateful thanks is now extended to Bishop Ralph for permitting fliers to be distributed to our parishes, publicising this new and important ministry.

The following text is taken from the 'Litany of Welcome' that was used at the inauguration Mass and which we'd like to share. This litany sets the tone and transcendence of this special occasion very clearly:

*Who are you? Are you married with kids; worrying for them and committed to their welfare? Are you divorced? Are you married for the second or even the third time? Are you a single parent struggling to make ends meet? Are you gay, lesbian, bi or trans? Well, whoever you are, you belong to us and you belong here because you belong to Christ. Christ is the host here today – and Christ welcomes all.*

*Are you lonely? Are you a widow? Are you a single man or woman who would prefer a spouse or partner? Are you disabled or disfigured? Have you run out of luck? Are you living with shame? Have you been a prisoner? Well, if you are, you belong to us and you belong here because you belong to Christ. Christ is the host here today. Christ sets this table and Christ welcomes all.*

*Are you struggling financially? Are you unemployed? Does your life seem flat? Is your faith on a slow-down? Have you been a victim of abuse or violence? Are you homeless or hopeless? Well, if you are, you belong to us and you belong here because you belong to Christ. Christ is the host here today. Christ sets this table and Christ welcomes all.*

*Have you come today with all kinds of questions? Has your experience of Church been one of rejection and pain? Are you unsure if you can trust what is taking place here today? Has it been a while since you felt safe to enter the doorway of this or any church? Or have you already worked out your place in the family of the Church and are full of faith and enthusiasm? Well, whoever you are, you belong to us because you belong to Christ. Christ is the host here today. Christ sets this table of Word and Sacrament – and Christ welcomes all.*

*All people of Good Will are welcome here – that's the really good news! If you've been away, you can come back. If you've been living in darkness, you can come to the light. If you haven't been able to believe without seeing Christ – look around you. The Body of Christ has come to Mass today.*

*Sinners are welcome. Saints too. Everyone is welcome to come to Christ. Our Lord and our God indeed. Let us celebrate. Let us come to Christ.*

It was both humbling and uplifting to hear these words of welcome and love at a Catholic Mass and especially so to be involved in helping this outreach get off the ground. I hope that in the course of time, others will lend their support and prayers so that the voice of God's love for all in Jesus, will be heard ever more clearly.

For more information please visit [www.lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk](http://www.lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk). We normally gather at 3pm on the second Sunday of the month at the Bar Convent in York.



**Middlesbrough Diocese  
LGBT+ Outreach & Service**

Masses giving an explicit welcome to LGBT+ Catholics, their families, and friends, will take place throughout 2018 on the second Sunday of the month, beginning

**13<sup>th</sup> January 11<sup>th</sup> February 11<sup>th</sup> March**

at 3.00pm at the chapel of

**The Bar Convent**  
17 Blossom Street, York, YO24 1AQ

(just outside Micklegate Bar, 5 minutes' walk from York Railway Station)

Followed by refreshments

**All are welcome**

[lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk](http://lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk)

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The envisaged dates for 2018 (subject to confirmation nearer the time) will be: 11 February, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May, 10 June, 8 July, 12 August, 9 September, 14 October, 11 November, 9 December.

Dominic Maloney,  
Sacred Heart Church, Sheffield

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Inauguration Mass in the Chapel at the Bar Convent, York

# DIARY OF A PILGRIM

Our lunch of "St Peter's fish" was a fitting repast after our busy morning.

A lazy afternoon was spent on a boat on the Sea of Galilee viewing a landscape that had changed so little since the beginning of Jesus' ministry. When the engines of the boat were switched off and the only sounds we heard were the lapping of the waves and the screech of seagulls overhead, we prayed. We prayed and then we sang "How great thou art." As we returned to the shore our joy was funnelled into an Israeli dance. We all agreed that if every day was to be as amazing as this, the first, then we would be very blessed pilgrims indeed.

## Day Two

The second day began with a beautiful prayer service in the little Church in Cana, site of the first miracle. Here the married couples among us renewed their marriage vows. Excavations beneath the church showed a giant stone water jar of the type that would have held the water which Jesus had turned into wine.

From Cana it was a short hop to Nazareth, a busy metropolis that bore no resemblance at all to the Nazareth in our imaginations. Following Mass in the Church of St Joseph we descended to the stunning Basilica of the Annunciation which, with its variety of stunning art work, was a testament to the Universal Church. It was decorated both inside and out with icons of Mary that had been given by countries all over the world. Each icon reflected the culture of each country. The excavated remains of Mary's home and St Joseph's workshop were in evidence beneath the church.

A short walk brought us to the Greek Orthodox Church of St Gabriel with its beautiful, gilded iconostasis.

This tiny church was built upon the site of the spring that would have provided water for the village. We descended into the crypt to see Mary's Well which was thought to be the site of the appearance of the Angel Gabriel to Mary and so was venerated as the site of the Annunciation.

We travelled on to Mount Tabor. Leaving the bus on the main road, we took a white knuckle ride in minibuses up the side of the mountain to the Basilica of the Transfiguration. There were three altars here; Jesus, Moses and Elijah. A panoramic view from the church was made even more moving by the low afternoon sunlight peeping through the clouds.

We then began the long journey onwards to Bethlehem for the second half of our pilgrimage.

## Day Three

Bethlehem is a town of many contrasts, entering Palestine from Israel being chief among these. The "Wall" from the Israeli side is a very clean, stark edifice that screams security. On the Bethlehem side it is a protest and a work of art. The "Walled Off" hotel is the first structure to be seen and certainly shows people with a sense of humour.

We left Bethlehem for Jerusalem early the next morning. Although we were accompanied by rain our spirits were in no way dampened. Descending the slopes of the Mount of Olives from the Church of the Pater Noster, where Jesus gave us the Our Father, and the Church of Dominus Flevit, we were astounded by the unadorned tombs stretching for many miles in the Kidron Valley and the view of the golden dome of the mosque built on Temple Mount.

We entered the garden of Gethsemane and marvelled at the age of the olive trees, some of which had

clearly been there hundreds of years. In the church, the rock on which Jesus had wept that night so long ago was the focal point for the devotions of the pilgrims. Many of us were very moved by our visit to this church and took the opportunity of Confession in this place of forgiveness.

We continued across the valley and up towards the walled city of Jerusalem. Entering via the Lions Gate we came to the Church of St



Sailing on the Sea of Galilee

Anne, the mother of Mary, where we celebrated Mass. The acoustics of this church were so amazing that our 30 voices multiplied to sound like 300! Nearby the ancient ruins of the pools of Bethesda were clearly to be seen. The Romans had built on this site and in so doing had preserved the pools for later excavation.

We ate lunch in Ecce Homo, the historic pilgrim house in the centre of Jerusalem run by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Sion. From here we then walked the Via Dolorosa and simple numbered brass plaques indicated the Stations of the Cross which led to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. The sights, sounds and smells of old Jerusalem proved to be very distracting on our way.

The Church of the Holy Sepulchre is a strange place of churches within churches. A rather neglected looking place as the various Christian religions seem to be unable to take joint responsibility for the upkeep. Nevertheless what was lacking in looks was made up for in spiritual impact. We queued to enter the place where the tomb was and individually paid our prayerful respects.

## Day Four

Our fourth day was certainly the most scenic as we travelled over the hills and the desert to Bethany, Jericho, the River Jordan and finally the Dead Sea. We began in Bethany, the home of Martha, Mary and Lazarus, where we celebrated Mass in the Church of St Lazarus.

We then travelled through the desert, home to the Bedouin, to a lookout point at Wadi Qelt where we looked down on St George's Monastery nestled in the desert hills below us. The landscape seemed truly barren and alien to us and we marvelled that anyone could survive there. Our thoughts as ever turned to Jesus. He spent 40 days and nights here.

We returned to civilisation and the fertile plains of the Jordan valley where crops of all types were being cultivated. Jericho was our next stop as we climbed a short way up the hill to view the Mount of Temp-

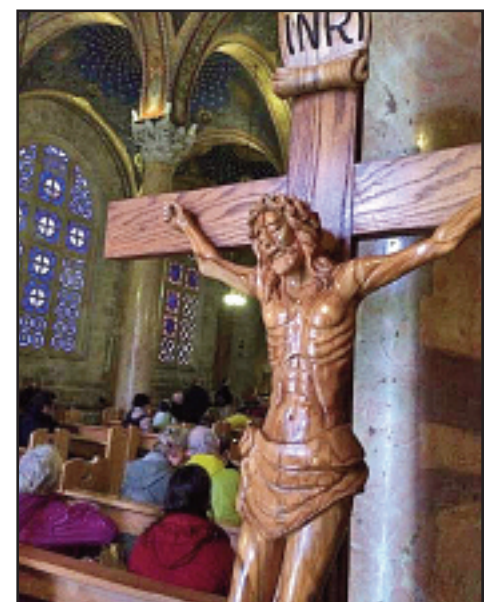
tation. The opportunity to have a picture taken with a camel or dressed as a Bedouin was not ignored.

From Jericho we travelled to the baptismal site of Jesus on the River Jordan. The river forms the border between Israel and Jordan and there were churches and steps into the river for Baptism on both banks. Many of us had the waters of the Jordan sprinkled on us but we did not opt for the full immersion that some Christians were choosing that day.

And so to the Dead Sea. At 420m below sea level this was indeed a wonder. No bravery was needed to take a dip in the warm salty waters and to float lazily on the surface. Renowned for its healing waters, everyone did indeed feel invigorated following their dip.

## Day Five

We returned to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and with no queue at all climbed to the rock of Golgotha. This was for me the most moving experience as I touched the rock upon which Jesus had been crucified. We had Mass in the Catholic Chapel of the Apparition. Metalwork sculptures of the Stations of the Cross along one wall were particularly admired. Besan, our guide, pointed out many other interesting aspects within the Basilica.



Inside the Church of All Nations, Garden of Gethsemane



The Church on the Mount of Beatitudes

# DIARY OF A PILGRIM



Lighting candles on Golgotha

On our way to visit the Shepherds' Field, we visited St Martha's House, a day centre for poor, elderly Palestinians in Bethlehem which is supported by the Hallam Bethlehem Fund.

Shepherds' Field is the site of natural caves which would have been used by shepherds in the past and so was thought to be the site where the angels appeared to the shepherds. The largest of these caves held a small chapel and above the cave was the Chapel of the Angels. As we entered another group of pilgrims was singing "Gloria in Excelsis Deo" and we joined our voices with theirs to lift the roof. Such fellowship with other Christian pilgrims was a hallmark of our visit.

We journeyed on to Ein Karem, first to the Church of St John the Baptist and then upwards to the Church of the Visitation which was a church upon a church. Dusk was falling as we made our weary way back down the hill.

**Day Six**

We returned to Jerusalem for a third time and began our day with Mass at the Latin Patriarchate, the home of the bishop of Israel and Palestine.

We then visited the Church of St

Peter in Gallicantu (Cock Crow) which is built over the home of Caiaphas and thought to be the place where Jesus was brought following his arrest. The dungeon beneath this church brought home to many the sadness that Our Lord would have spent his last lonely hours here. It was here that St Peter denied him three times. We marvelled at the Jesus steps, stone steps more than 2000 years old.

On Mount Zion we visited two churches. The Church of the Dormition, believed to be the site where Mary "fell asleep" and the Franciscan Chapel of the Cenacle, thought to be the site of the Upper Room where the Last Supper was first held and then the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Our last port of call this day was back in Bethlehem as we visited the Basilica of the Nativity. The church is undergoing much restoration work and so scaffolding prevented us seeing the beauty of this church, nevertheless we queued to visit the cave beneath the church marking the birthplace of Jesus. As we walked back to the hotel it was dark and the Christmas decorations that had been arriving throughout the week in Bethlehem were twinkling

around us. In the lobby of the hotel mummy bear and baby bear were sparkling white beneath the Christmas tree - polar bears in Bethlehem?

**Day Seven**

On our last day, before we flew back home to Britain, we joined the congregation of the Church of the Annunciation in Beit Jala for Sunday Mass. Here was true fellowship as we joined together in English and Arabic to celebrate together. Even hymns where we knew the tunes were sung in both languages. A fitting end to our pilgrimage.

Each and every pilgrim had been

touched in one way or another by our visit. We had prayed for many intentions throughout the week, we had helped each other, we had made friends and we were returning as different people. Among some of the words used to describe our shared experiences were; love, friendship, blessings, revelation, welcome, meaning, delight, fellowship, perspective, appreciation, determination, exhaustion, presence, troubles, forgiveness, healing and enrichment as we walked together in the footsteps of Jesus. At the end of the journey we parted in love and friendship.



Hallam pilgrims visit the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem  
Photograph: David Bellamy



Bishop Ralph and Fr Gus O'Reilly in Jerusalem

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# HALLAM ASCENT GROUP FOR CHRISTIANS IN THEIR MIDDLE AND LATER YEARS

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

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

Hallam Ascent meets once a month,

usually on the first Wednesday of the month at 1.45-3.45pm. There is a varied and interesting programme of events.

The monthly meetings begin in prayer, followed by discussion and end with tea. There are also social gatherings including walks, pub lunches and games afternoons.

More details about the group are available on the website <http://hallamascent.weebly.com>.



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*The Ascent Group visit the Apostleship of the Sea*

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Currently, the programme for 2018 is:

- 7 February: Talk about Lourdes by a member of the Diocesan Pilgrim age Team.
- 14 February: Ash Wednesday Soup and Cheese Lunch after Mass at noon. In aid of the charity the group is supporting this year.
- 7 March: Stations of the Cross at St Michael's Chapel, Rivelin, Sheffield.
- 4 April: 'Relaxing with God' led by Fr Geoffrey Bottoms.
- 12 April: Pub Lunch.
- 2 May: Members' contributions.
- 24 May: Trip to Chatsworth Garden Centre.
- 6 June: Retreat Day at Hathersage, led by Fr Martin Clayton.
- 21 June: Walk at Longshaw.
- 4 July: Tour of St Marie's Cathedral.
- 1 August: Yorkshire Day Tea.
- 5 September: Hallam Ascent's 15th Anniversary Day in Yorkshire.
- 3 October: Talk on Human Trafficking and Slavery by Sheena Field of the Medaille Trust.
- 7 November: Talk by Rev Stephen Parker, Deacon at St Francis of Assisi Church.
- 5 December: Advent celebration.

## Fr Anthony Attree RIP



Fr Anthony Attree died on Thursday, 28 December, 2017.

Fr Attree, who was born on 24 June, 1940, studied at Ushaw College and was ordained at Our Lady Queen of All Creation, Hemel Hempstead on 26 July, 1975.

His first appointment was in the Leeds Diocese at St Anne's, Keighley.

He was also a curate at a number of Sheffield parishes including Mother of God, St Catherine's and Our Lady and St Thomas.

In 1985 he became the parish priest of Blessed Sacrament, Athersley. He was also parish priest at St Edwards, Brinsworth, Our Lady's, Armthorpe, Blessed Trinity, Wickersley and Our Lady and St James, Worsbrough.

He retired in March 2014.

May he rest in peace.



*The Ascent Group enjoy a Retreat Day*

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# Advent Celebrations Around the Diocese

## Union of Catholic Mothers Raise Christmas Funds

The Hallam Diocese Union of Catholic Mothers Christmas lunch at the end of November was enjoyed by its members, together with Fr Kieran Fletcher the Union of Catholic Mothers Chaplain, Mrs Sheila Godley, Diocesan President, other Union of Catholic Mothers officers and members past and present.



A colourful display knitted by some of the ladies of St. Vincent's Foundation, Sheffield added to the occasion. This was a good opportunity to purchase Father Christmas snowmen, knitted Christmas stockings, hats with bells on and Christmas puddings - all donations going



to the Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice The raffle contributed £200 for the 'Mary's Meals' Charity.

## Locally Made Advent Wreath

At St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary School, Wombwell, Barnsley the Liturgy Leaders put together Advent wreaths for each class in school.

Using natural resources from the local area and the school grounds they worked together to create a focal point for each classroom.

For the first day together in Advent the children and staff in school marked the occasion by wearing one item of purple clothing. This was linked with the changing of the cloths and the candles on the Advent wreaths.



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PILGRIMAGE

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# Welcome to the Children's Liturgy Section

# LENT

Welcome to our activities around the theme of Lent

The season of Lent is like the time of 40 days Jesus spent in the desert. He spent this time alone, fasting and in prayer. During his time there, Jesus was tempted to choose a different way to God's way but he resisted this.

Have a look around your church and see what changes may have occurred. You might see the altar cloths and hangings have changed to purple and there are no flowers around. Later in Lent some pictures or statues might have been covered up. In your school, your RE table might be purple too.

During Lent Christians prepare themselves for the great festival of Easter. It is a time to stop, think and try to do better in the future. Christians remember Jesus' total self-giving by either choosing to **give up something** during Lent or choosing to **do something extra**.

Have you chosen to give up something or to do something extra during Lent?



I wonder ...

I wonder how you like to help others?

.....  
.....

I wonder how Jesus helped people?

.....  
.....

I wonder how you can make a difference in the world?

.....  
.....

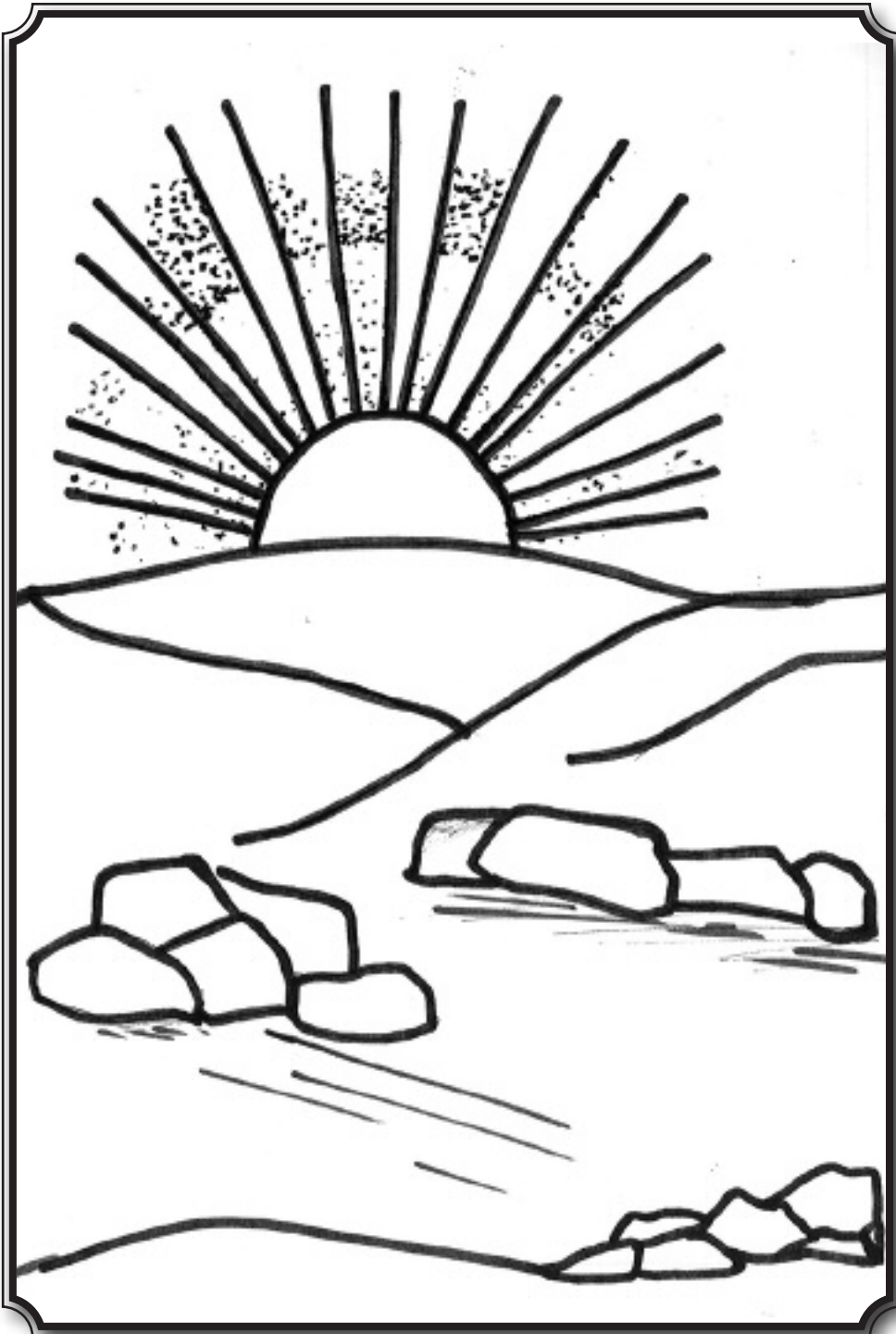
## What do you think of the Children's Liturgy Pages?

We would like to know what your thoughts are, or suggestions that you might have for these pages? Any suggestions would be welcomed.

The pages have now been included each month in *Hallam News* for nearly a year and we would like to know what readers think?

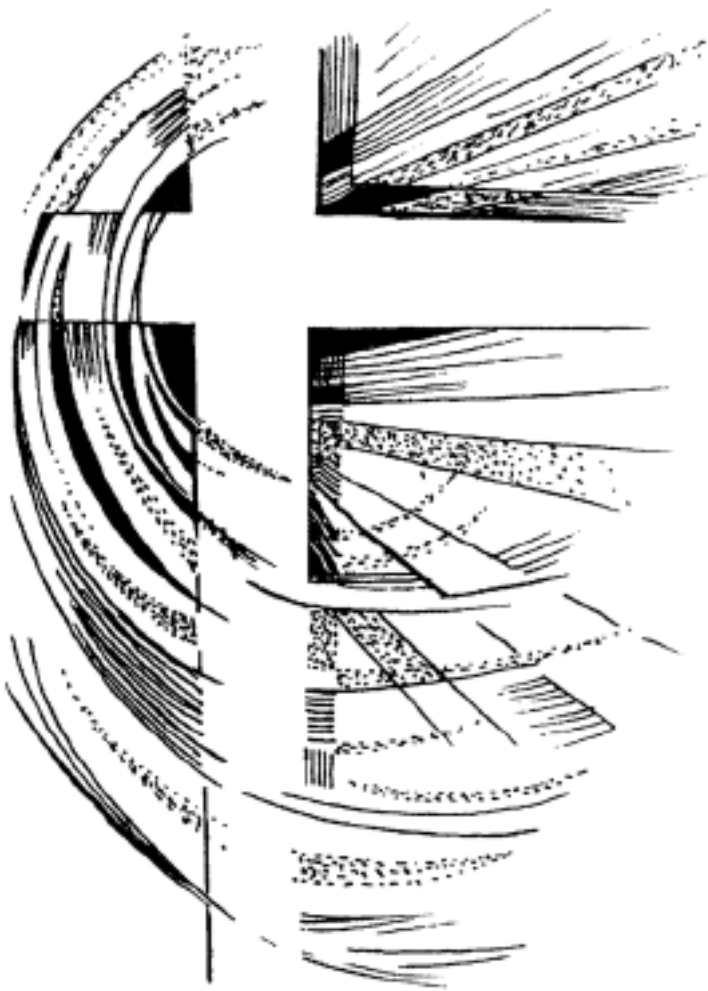
Please let us know your ideas or thoughts - email [hallamnews@hallam-diocese.com](mailto:hallamnews@hallam-diocese.com).

Thank you.



Colour in our picture of the desert

# Welcome to the Children's Liturgy Section



## Sorry Prayer

In this prayer, we say sorry for the times that we have gone against what God wants.

O MY GOD,  
I AM VERY SORRY  
FOR THE THINGS I  
HAVE DONE WRONG.  
PLEASE FORGIVE ME  
AND HELP ME.

## Turning over a New Leaf

For this activity, you will need the shape of a leaf. On one side get your child to write or draw something that they want to be sorry for. When they have finished, turn the leaf over. By saying sorry to God, we turn over a new leaf! On the other side of the leaf, get your child to draw or write something good that they can do during Lent. Ideas could be trying not to argue with their sisters or brothers, or being a good friend. By turning over a new leaf we put behind us any bad things and promise to do good things.

## Guidance for Parents/Carers

If you have access to a computer try:

[www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

[www.missiontogether.org.uk](http://www.missiontogether.org.uk)

On these websites, there are Lenten calendars for you to download and print off.

These calendars provide focus for the family on their Lenten journey, with daily prayers and activities.

# Sorry

## Quiet Zone

During Lent, we can think about the time that Jesus spent in the desert by being quiet and alone. Here is a simple activity that you can do at home.

Create a special space for your child/children, where they can each be quiet for a while. Let them be quiet for a short time, but don't be over ambitious! Five minutes is a long time to sit quietly. Let them have some quiet music and a picture to look at or a

story to think about to focus their thoughts. Suggest they listen to their own thoughts and ideas. This can help them to become aware of their own "internal" voice. This activity can be repeated many times throughout the Lenten season.



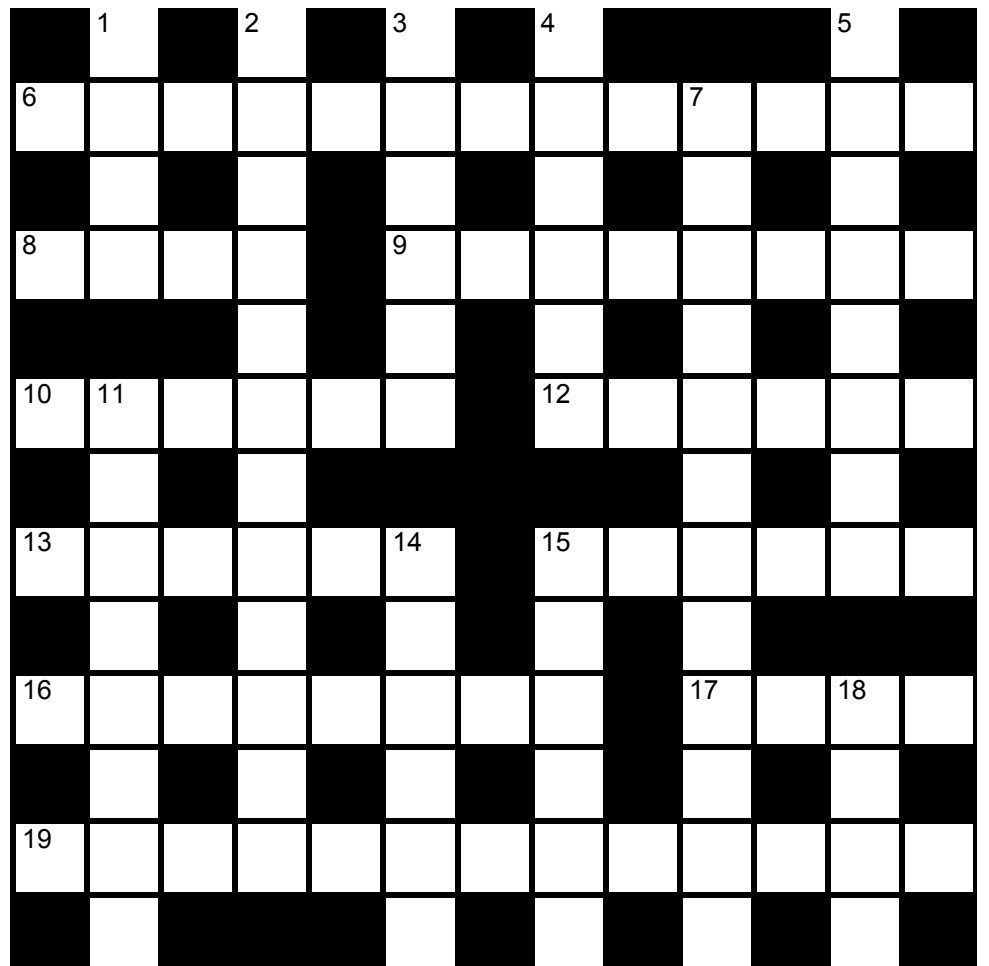
Use the set of clues to solve the puzzle

### QUICK Across

- 6 KJV name of one of the first people to see Jesus after his resurrection (4,9)
- 8 Sermon basis (4)
- 9 Robber released by Pilate (8)
- 10 Third person of the Trinity (6)
- 12 Philistines' camp when Saul set up camp at Gilboa (6)
- 13 Paul's affiliate in Troas (6)
- 15 Whereas; when (6)
- 16 Syrian capital, home to Aramaeans who fought and lost to David (8)
- 17 Outlet: express (4)
- 19 Macedonians, the object of two letters from Paul (13)

### QUICK Down

- 1 Landform, the effect of weathering and subject of speleology (4)
- 2 Medieval dramas representing episodes from the life of Christ (7,5)
- 3 Coney (6)
- 4 Decks, dresses (6)
- 5 Vikings, for instance (8)
- 7 (Make) fruitless efforts (6,2,4)
- 11 Kings of Egypt at the time of the Israelites' confinement (8)
- 14 Samaritan town where Jesus spoke to a woman who came to draw water (6)
- 15 From Job to Ecclesiasticus/Ben Sira: the '----- Books' (6)
- 18 Zero (4)



### SOLUTION

**Across:** 6 Mary Magdalene, 8 Text, 9 Barabbas, 10 Spirit, 12 Shunem, 13 Carpus, 15 Whist, 16 Damascus, 17 Vent, 19 Thessalonians. **Down:** 1 Cave, 2 Mystery, 3 Rabbit, 4 Adorns, 5 Invaders, 7 Labour in vain, 11 Pharaohs, 14 Sychar, 15 Wisdom, 18 None.

# CAFOD Family Fast Day

Friday 23 February is CAFOD's Family Fast Day – a day to give up a meal and give generously to help some of the poorest people in the world.

Fasting is something many of us choose to do. By fasting, we can focus on what really matters – our relationship with God and love for our brothers and sisters. Giving up a meal is a symbolic act of solidarity and gives an opportunity to remember that not everyone has the luxury of choosing when to eat and when to go without.

Marian and her two sons live in Zimbabwe. The older son, Tawanda, lived his childhood without enough to eat. Marian used to leave him in the morning to find work. She would return hours later to find him sitting in the same place. "I didn't have enough food to give him," she said. "He hadn't played, or even walked. It was very painful to see him like that."

When Tawanda was a teenager, Marian had another son, Svondo. He was brought up on fresh vegetables, beans and peanut butter. Now seven years old, Svondo is growing healthy

and strong. He plays with his friends. He's happy. These two brothers both had dreams. But one was prevented from reaching his God-given potential. The difference between these two boys is you.

Your donations helped to give Marian some seeds. And she did the rest. She worked hard month after month to grow a vegetable garden and she didn't stop until it flourished. So unlike Tawanda, Svondo didn't go hungry.

The hard work is paying off and life for Marian's family is now virtually unrecognisable from the days of Tawanda's childhood.

Going hungry affects all members of a community, but preg-



nant women and young children are particularly at risk. Everyday infections can become life threatening. When a child goes without enough food repeatedly, disease is harder to fight off.

But no child should have to go hungry. On Family Fast Day, as we pray and fast, we bring to mind all God's children. We remind ourselves that as God's family, we are all connected – when one child goes hungry, we all go hungry.



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