



St Lucy
Patron Saint of the Blind
Feast day December 13th

Catholic News



ISSUE 273
DECEMBER

*MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF BRINGING THE
NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER*

20p WHERE SOLD

Published by Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre,
Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN Telephone: 0207 112 6710
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HOLY LAND

Bishops oppose unjust Israeli law

Two bishops, the Rt Rev Declan Lang Bishop of Clifton (Chair of the Holy Land Coordination) and the Rt Rev Christopher Chessun, Anglican Bishop of Southwark recently issued the following statement opposing the Nation State law passed by the Knesset earlier this year.



**Rt Rev
Declan Lang**



**Rt Rev
Christopher
Chessun**

'We stand in solidarity with the Holy Land's Christian community and oppose the unjust Nation State Law passed by the Israeli Knesset earlier this year.

As the local Catholic ordinaries explained in their recent statement, this law creates a constitutional and legal basis for discriminatory treatment of Israel's citizens on both ethnic and religious grounds.

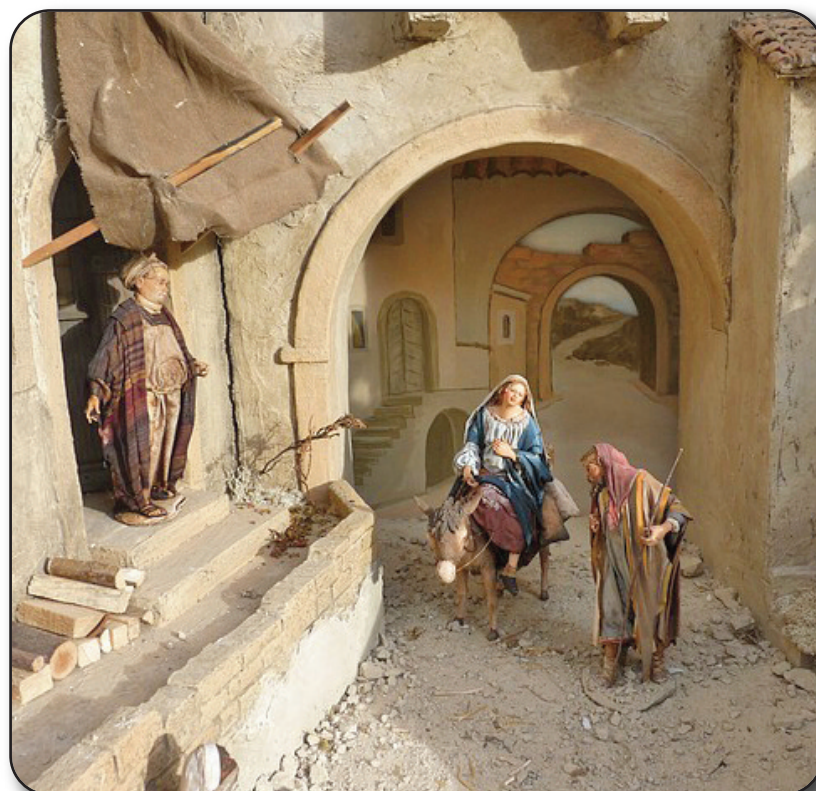
We have seen first-hand the daily struggles faced by Palestinian Christians living in the state of Israel and recognise that these will only be exacerbated by the Nation State Law.

The international community including our own government has a duty to stand against such divisive legislation, which will not only undermine the rights of already vulnerable communities but will also damage the democratic character of Israel itself.

We pray at this time for all peoples of the Holy Land.'

Bethlehem prepares for Christmas

Celebrations are taking place in the West Bank town where Jesus was born but this year they are overshadowed by the latest Israeli-Palestinian violence that shows no signs of abating. Many think the holiday spirit is dampened this year and that festivities will be relatively low-key. Half of the Bethlehem economy relies on tourism but since the town was separated from Jerusalem by Israel's barrier, most tourists now enter through an Israeli checkpoint. Local souvenir sellers say that restricted access to the city has greatly affected their trade. They also complain about a system that sees large Palestinian stores pay a hefty commission to guides who bring in the tourists, which means many of the smaller shops lose out. We pray that there will be peace in this beleaguered land.



Mass for the deceased clergy and Religious of the Diocese



On the 5th of November, 2018, Bishop Patrick offered Mass once more for the deceased clergy and Religious of the Diocese, assisted by several of his priests and deacons.

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MORE THAN 19 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

The monthly paper for the Diocese of Nottingham

The Catholic News

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e-mail nick@cathcom.org, Bellcourt Limited,

Publication date: Fourth Sunday of the month for the following month. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Diocese.

Publishers and Owners: Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN Advertising: tel: 0207 112 6710

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Wanted - Parish Correspondents

The Catholic News is looking for a Parish Correspondent in your parish to send in local news for publication in this newspaper. All items to be emailed to johnclawson@icloud.com before 10th of the month

Thoughts from Elston Hermitage...

This first week of December we begin a New Year in the Liturgy of the Church with the season of Advent. For myself, although being a time of penance, Advent usually I find affords many blessings and is a time full of God's grace as we wait in great expectation for the coming of Jesus. Advent for me is all about getting ready for the coming of Jesus and a time to renew the relationship that we have with Jesus already, being watchful and alert in our spiritual lives. Most people today live extremely busy lives and so we need this short season, this time of grace every year to help us reflect on how we can be more aware of Jesus' presence in our midst. Sometimes it is difficult for us to remember that our own lives are part of something bigger and something more beautiful and so it is important that we stay alert and watchful in prayer so that when Jesus comes he may find us ready and waiting, wide awake and prepared - seeing all the signs of God's presence within our lives and within the world, we need to be paying attention to what God is asking from each and everyone of us as individuals.

Each and everyone of us are important to God - we are part of his creation. This is a simple but nevertheless a powerful truth we are all someone special to Him, therefore it is important that we set about having a special encounter and relationship with Him. In this Advent season let us try to reflect on the fact that God is our Father and we need to grow ever closer day by day to him, what a wonderful time of year Advent is to do this.

Bishop Patrick quoting from the (General Directory of Catechesis) in his pastoral letter to us last month reminds us that "the Christian faith is, above all, conversion to Jesus Christ" and that "Faith is a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, making oneself his disciple."

Advent then is probably a good time to look at our encounter with Jesus. It is likely that most of us need to re-encounter our relationship with the Lord and re-challenge

ourselves in our relationship with Jesus, in fact for most of us there is an urgency to improve our encounter and our spiritual lives. Advent is a time to take stock and take note of the things that separate us from God and to re-establish, deepen and confirm our hearts, minds and wills to the image of Jesus Christ.

And so each day during this Advent season let us renew our relationship, our encounter with the Lord by spending time in prayer, the study of scripture, making frequent times of Adoration and frequent Communions, staying awake and being alert, sharing God's love with those around us that when Jesus comes at Christmas we



may be found ready and waiting in a living encounter with Jesus.

We send our warmest sincerest greetings and prayers from Elston Hermitage to you for a Very Happy and Holy Christmastide.

Fr. David +h.d.n.

Algeria prepares for beatification of 19 martyrs

Seven of the nineteen martyrs rose to international fame following the film Of Gods and Men. But on December 8th, all of the 19 men and women martyred by Islamic terrorists in Algeria between 1994 and 1996 will be beatified in Oran, Algeria.

The cause for their beatification opened in 2007, thus titling Pierre Claverie and Companions as Servants of God. Earlier this year Pope Francis confirmed their beatification.

On December 8th the ceremony of beatification will take place in the cathedral of the Diocese of Oran, of which the martyred Pierre Claverie was bishop. Cardinal Angelo Becciu, Prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, will preside the beatification Mass as well as represent the Holy Father on the occasion.

Between 1991 and 2002, Algeria was thrust into a civil war between the Algerian government and Islamic rebel groups. During the years in which the brutality of the rebels reached new heights, 19 men and women had to pay the ultimate price for their Christian faith and unwillingness to leave their land

Among these was bishop Pierre Claverie of Oran, who was the last of the martyrs to be killed in a bombing outside the bishopric in 1996, alongside his Muslim friend and driver. The martyrdom of the monks of Tibhirine in 1996 inspired the award-winning film Of Gods and Men. The French Trappist monks lived a quiet life of coexistence and



The 7 Trappist monks who were martyred at Tibhirine monastery in Algeria

friendship with their Muslim neighbours. Refusing to leave their country and the people of Algeria, they were kidnapped and subsequently decapitated.

In their press release of October 2018, the bishops of Algeria make it clear that the purpose of the beatification is not to make of these men and women heroes. Rather it is to show that through these ordinary men and women we see how even in the darkest of times there are glimpses of hope. And their unconditional love of God, their country and their people shows us how "only love can end the alienating spiral of evil".

The bishops quoted Dr Issam Toulbi, a Muslim and the Director of the UNESCO Chair Emir Abdelkader for Human Rights and Culture of Peace, who said to them: "May this beatification be a precursor to the building of a better future between the two banks of the Mediterranean; a future built on respect, understanding and sharing."

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Due to the printing deadlines this article is being composed before the American mid-term elections and any news we may have (or not) on the British Government's progress with the European Union in what some have referred to as the Brexit story. As we approach Advent these two international areas of potential conflict may well have serious implications for many in the Western world particularly our young people.

The uncertainty in both British and American politics does have a precedent which was rather shorter than what we are experiencing in 2018. In 1956 I was 8 years into what I can only describe as ten difficult years at a Catholic Primary school in class sizes of 45. Politics never got into the weekly curriculum but my fathers' left wing socialism and the "Daily Herald" (which sadly folded in 1964) seemed to persuade me to become interested in current affairs. The Autumn and Advent season of 1956 witnessed the aftermath of the Anglo-French invasion of Egypt at Suez and the Soviet invasion of Hungary. In January 1957 the British Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden resigned on health grounds but also the British/French action which had been a re-active one to the seizure of the Suez Canal took its toll.

Historians have long since given their summary of those Anglo-French and Soviet invasions and the world is now a different place than in 1956. Our young people are now much better informed than my generation were in the 1950's. We can all learn from history but at present the uncertainty of Brexit and the doubts about the future actions of the Donald Trump White House must surely put any analysis on hold as we simply do not know what will happen.

It is still less than 3 months since the Adoremus National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool and all who attended will have their own personal memories. If our political leaders have led us into an uncertain future it is essential that we gave a clear message of hope and confidence to our fellow parishioners and friends. In 1956 we did not have experience of the coarse and vulgar outbursts associated with some of our politicians today. In stark contrast the parish representatives at Liverpool were not only polite and courteous but were enthusiastic about their faith, we can all follow this example in the coming weeks of Advent.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish
Newark



Rosmini Centre House of Prayer

Wishing you all the hope and peace of the Birth of Jesus this Christmas and all the expectations and grace of joy for the New Year from Fathers Ted Mullen, Anthony Meredith, Philip Sainter, Brother Nigel and Fr. David Tobin.

January 2019

Saturday 12th - Invitation, Mission, Gratitude in my life with Dr. William Rees, Rosminian novice and poet, afternoon session 2-4pm

Friday 18th - Healing Mass at 7.00 pm Fr. Denis Labartette

Saturday 26th - Lectio Divina 3.00 pm

Please register if you are coming.

2019 Programme. New elements:

Fr. Antonio Belsito will address a number of Scripture Topics, three in the Spring and three in the Autumn on Tuesday evenings.

There will be a series of sessions on Saturday afternoons under the title of "Invitation, Mission and Gratitude in our lives". A number of speakers will talk about the hand of God in their lives focusing on some particular direction that has been taken, with additional reflection on the gifts received from their mission and hence thanksgiving. Some of the topics will be: school chaplaincy, prison ministry, helping the handicapped etc.

In June Fr. Ted Mullen will lead two Saturday afternoons introducing Celtic Spirituality concluding the month with a day of retreat on this theme. The normal Lent and Advent retreats will happen.

As in previous years: the monthly Healing Mass will take place, as will Wednesday Evening Prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; the second and fourth Tuesdays Contemplative Prayer between two and three o'clock; Lectio Divina on the last Saturday evenings of the month.

The full programme for the year will be on the web site and printed copies will be available through your parish.

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Fr David

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djtobinic@gmail.com

The Rosmini Centre is off the A46, half a mile north of Ratcliffe College entrance on the left, 50 metres before the black and white Speed Camera sign.



BISHOP REDEDICATES WAR GRAVE

On 10 October at 11 am there took place a ceremony to rededicate a grave at the Church (Rock) cemetery in Nottingham which Nottingham Civic Society has recently had restored at the initiative and through the strenuous efforts of Kevin Powell, an executive board member of the Civic Society and a parishioner of the Infant of Prague, Bestwood, Nottingham. Kevin explained:

"The grave is that of Alice Maud Daft, her husband Charles Frederick Daft and his son, also Charles Frederick. Charles Daft and his son were killed when the RMS Leinster was torpedoed by a German submarine on 10 October 1918 in the Irish Sea. On board the ship were 771 passengers and crew and following the sinking 502 lost their lives. The bodies of Charles Daft and his son were returned to Nottingham and buried in the Church (Rock) Cemetery."

The grave not only serves as the last resting place for the Daft family; it also commemorates the sinking of the RMS Leinster. However Kevin, who leads several walk around Nottingham cemeteries, discovered that all was not well:

"Their grave had fallen into disrepair and had completely fallen over. With the support of Nottingham Civic Society it was repaired."

At the ceremony Kevin presented an account of the tragedy, following which the Lord Mayor of Nottingham, Cllr Liaqat Ali, gave an address. The Bishop of Nottingham



Bishop Patrick rededicates the grave

then rededicated the grave, after which the Last Post and Reveille were sounded. Wreaths were laid by Tom Huggon, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, on behalf of her Majesty the Queen; by Hilary Silvester, executive chair, on behalf of the Civic Society; and by the Lord Mayor on behalf of the City of Nottingham. We were delighted to welcome Fiona Hutchinson, a great-niece of the family, who laid her own wreath, while another one was laid by Joan Reid from Dublin and William Gallagher of Cork, both of whom are also parishioners of the Infant de Prague, on behalf of the Irish community in Nottingham.

In a letter to the Civic Society the Bishop said: "It was a well measured and sensitively handled occasion."



The grave, with wreaths laid on behalf of HM the Queen, the City of Nottingham, and Nottingham Civic Society



Kevin Powell, at whose instigation the grave was restored

Come, come, come to the manger

We can spend our lives running from house to house, knocking on each door, asking 'is there any room at the inn for me?' and having the door politely closed in our face. It is only when we stop and sit down or crumple to the floor in despair or exhaustion, that we hear the weak cry of a little one, and turning round find ourselves in the doorway of a stable- smelly and lowly. Then, from the manger, a voice asks 'no room at the inn for you either? Then come, come to the manger, you are welcome here, please, come join my family' and a miracle happens, the stable becomes the world.

humbly asks us if we will let Him share our life and who longs to share His life with us.

There are mangers to be found in every home and town and city, in the lonely, the sick, the homeless, the elderly, the poor, the addict, the prisoner in you. Will you take time this Christmas to stop and listen to the cries of the little one and will you dare to approach the manger and accept the request of our Saviour, Lord Jesus Christ, to live your life together with Him?

**A blessed Christmas to all.
Jo, Lincoln**

What an amazing God we have, one who

"Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me" Remembrance Assembly at St Georges Voluntary Academy, Derby



On Friday 9th November, children from St Georges Voluntary Academy Chaplaincy Team led a very thoughtful whole school assembly about Remembrance and paid tribute to those that have lost their lives in all conflicts. Many families and friends came along to watch and to support.

In the assembly the children looked back on the time of the First World War, recognising the sadness war brings and lives that were lost, they paid tribute to the fallen soldiers, recognising that they came from all over the British Empire. All the children had individual lines to learn, poems to recite, songs to remember and perform all which dated back and related to past and present times of war. This assembly was shared with the rest of the school and every child made a poppy of

their choice Red to remember a loved one, Purple to remember an animal or pet or White to pray for peace. Each child came into assembly placing the poppies into baskets and some adding them on to the weeping poppy display. During the assembly a two minute silence was held to pay respect and remember all those who have died.

A video of stills was played reflecting the poem of "Flanders Fields". The accompanying music was recorded at one of the 'Last Post' services that takes place every evening at the Menin Gate in Ypres, Belgium, which is in the area of Flanders – the area of fighting in World War 1 in which the poppies grew that inspired John McCrae to write 'In Flanders Fields'.

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Why Prisons Should be on the Agenda for Catholic Education



I run Pact, the Catholic charity for people affected by imprisonment, and so of course, I would think that prisons should be on the agenda for anyone involved in Catholic education. I'm obsessed with prisons. Who goes into them. What happens when they are in there. What happens when they leave.

What happens to the children, wives, parents, boyfriends, siblings, and all of the other family members? Prisons have been my life for the past 13 years. But I am also a father of two children who have been to Catholic schools.

And I have friends who are Catholic teachers. So I also understand why, with so many competing pressures, and with the compartmentalisation of knowledge into subjects and assessed learning, it might not be obvious where prisons might fit within the life of a school or college. And I also appreciate that it's not necessarily an easy topic. But here are a few thoughts for anyone involved in Catholic education as to why it should matter.

Prisons are full of Catholics

When people come into prison, they get asked what if any religion they belong to. Now, we Catholics are often thought to be a bit obsessed with sin. No one apart from the Jews 'Do Guilt' as well as us, my Jewish friends tell me. Well, here's the thing. According to the data, we really are the biggest sinners. Catholics in prison in England & Wales outnumber Anglicans, Muslims, and every other faith group. About 17% of prisoners are Catholic. Truth be told, maybe we are the worst sinners after all?

Our Schools are full of Prisoners' Children

So, what that means is that there are

Catholic children in our schools, colleges and universities, whose parent, or sibling, is in prison. Each year, about 200,000 children have a parent in prison. So between 30 - 40,000 Catholic kids each year in England and Wales have a parent go to prison. For many, that involves toxic stress, trauma, being uprooted from their homes, and lingering emotional, educational and psychological issues. And silence. Failing to ask for help due to embarrassment, shame, fear of stigma. What are we doing for them in our Catholic institutions? Are we telling them, and their parents or carers, that we want them to confide in us, and that we care?

Corporal Act of Mercy

I don't know the references to many Gospel Readings, I can never remember them. But Matthew 25:31- 46 is a 'must-read' for Christians in the prison business. It's the one where Jesus confounds his disciples by reprimanding them for not feeding him when he was hungry, clothing him when he was naked, or visiting him when he was in jail. They are astonished, and ask him what he is talking about, until he spells it out for them. 'Truly' Jesus said 'whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me'. A priest friend told me that we do 'corporal acts of mercy'. That's good enough for me.

Justice Matters

The questions that arise from the topic of prisons have relevance for so many topics. Prisons have a fascinating history. They tell us about society. Great works of literature are full of prisons. Questions of social policy, civics, the law, the role of the State, race, gender, ethics & morality. And of course, sociology and theology. And in supporting prisoners' families, one discovers much about loyalty, forgiveness, and mercy. It can be deeply humbling. Perhaps the rea-

son I have done what I do for 13 years is that in prisons, one finds all of human life. And one finds one's faith being challenged, tested, and renewed. I am writing this article because this year, it's our anniversary, as Pact celebrates 120 years of service. We were the brainchild of an Irish priest, Canon John Cooney, who was working at Wandsworth prison in London in 1898. He had the notion that Catholics have a role to play, in caring for prisoners, in ensuring that when prisoners leave prison, they have a realistic hope of a fresh start, and in caring for families left behind, and in particular, for children. Today, we depend on the support of the Catholic community more

than ever, for donations, and as a source of volunteers. And we also offer support.

On our website, we now have a range of resources for children, young people, parents and carers, teachers and other professionals. See our 'Children and Young People' section. We provide a free helpline and advocacy service for families.

If you'd like to find out more, please do take a look at www.prisonadvice.org.uk or email us.parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk. We would love to hear from you.

By Andy Keen-Downs,

Bishop Richard Moth welcomes findings of Inquiry into Prison Healthcare



The Health and Social Care Committee published (last month) the findings of their Inquiry into Prison Healthcare.

The report explores the state of health and care in prisons and identifies violence, self-harm, overcrowding, staff shortages and the increasing availability and use of psychoactive substances in prisons as having a severe negative impact upon the health, mental health, care and safety of prisoners across England and Wales.

Bishop Richard Moth, Catholic Bishop for Prisons and Mental Health, commenting on the report has said:

"I welcome this timely report into the state of health and care in our prisons. I particularly welcome the recognition of the positive contribution chaplains make to the mental health and wellbeing of prisoners.

"While chaplaincy does not provide an alternative to professional mental health

services, it does provide support to prisoners facing mental health concerns and can therefore reduce the risk of self-harm and suicide within prison. As such, chaplains often play a significant part in the mental health provision in prison.

"The report also states that there should be 'sufficient resourcing of community mental health services so that people are not sent to prison because of a lack of appropriate community mental health care'. This aligns with a recommendation in our own recently published report, A Journey of Hope, for the Government to 'provide sufficient funding for alternatives to custody for those with severe mental health conditions'.

"It is vital that the recommendations of this Inquiry are put into action to ensure that the deprivation of liberty in prisons does not mean the deprivation of the care to which all people are entitled."



A Different Kind of Hen Do

As a CAFOD volunteer, I had a life changing opportunity to participate in a project with SCIAF and Trocaire, the Catholic aid agencies for England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland.

They have a joint office in Addis Ababa and coordinate a variety of life-enhancing programmes in Ethiopia. In 2006, I spent six wonderful weeks based in Mekelle with the Daughters of Charity, teaching English, and organising activities at the Abba Gebremichael centre for homeless and vulnerable children. I returned the following summer and again in 2008. On the last occasion, I went with my daughter and we shared a memorable Ethiopian Christmas with the community. At Christmas and Easter the community organise a big celebration of achievement for the young people. They open their doors to share a simple hearty meal with those who would have nothing to eat and nowhere to go. It was a joyful concert in which the young people provided all the entertainment. Education is highly valued and Abba Gebremichael staff work hard to find school and college places, monitor

attendance and affirm success in school exams, vocational skills, participation in art, drama, music and sport.

This November I will be returning after a ten year gap. Not just for the great coffee and warm welcome. My sister is coming with me for our two week stay and Fr Michael Fitzsimons. Fr Mike is Parish Priest of St. Wilfrid's Widnes and we have been jointly fund-raising. He was the CAFOD volunteer who worked with the community in Mekelle in 2005 and was very helpful as I prepared for my first visit.

We hope to revisit a variety of projects managed by the Daughters of Charity, supported by various donors including organisations and individuals. The Sisters manage HIV/AIDS clinics, Montessori nursery schools, mother and baby clinics, women's development centres and support for vulnerable young people, in the Tigray Region of northern Ethiopia up to the small mountain town of Alitena, towards the border with Eritrea.

The joint Catholic Aid agencies in Ethiopia support life saving water conservation and harvesting projects which involve people in labour intensive work to find ways to secure local water supplies for growing food. So much time and energy is used making very long and arduous journeys for water.

Poor health, drought, famine, unpredictable weather patterns and the lack of employment opportunities make life very difficult.

Family, friends, parishioners and Churches Together Chellaston, have been generous in helping us raise money for a women's livelihood poultry project. The money will enable more young women to access business and vocational training, livestock and feed. We started fundraising in 2016 and ten women are already keeping chickens which are producing eggs, to feed families or sell for essential items. Sr Medhin, is the project co-ordinator and has sent a few pictures of Mana, Desta and Sr Lette caring for the chickens.

We hope to meet some of the women and



learn about challenges they face and the benefits of the project. I don't know the first thing about keeping chickens and if I had to make a living from it, I know I would struggle without support and advice. Before we go, my sister and I are visiting a local farm to see how they manage the chickens.

I have shared the story of my grandmother-in-law with Sr Medhin. Peggy Darcy, lived in rural Ireland keeping chickens, a few cows and growing vegetables. She lived in a tiny cottage without electricity, water or a toilet. Peggy cooked on a open turf fire and collected water from a well. She traded butter and eggs with neighbours for other things, raised a big family and lived to be ninety. Sr Medhin had a similar childhood in Alitena. The sisters at St Vincent's, in Mekelle, devote their lives to helping build resilient communities, promote women's empowerment programmes and sustainable livelihoods.

Anna Bourke

**80 Sinfin Moor Lane
Chellaston Derby
St Ralph Sherwin /English Martyrs**



VISIT TO ELY CATHEDRAL



Market Harborough Brothers and wives around the sculpture of Christ by Derek Anson inside the Cathedral.

A small party of Brothers and wives from Market Harborough Catenians recently visited Ely Cathedral. Such outings regularly form part of the interesting social programme the Circle enjoys. The Cathedral had its origins in AD672 when St. Etheldreda built an Abbey Church there. The present building dates back to 1083 and the Cathedral status was granted in 1109. People often ask why such a vast church was built in such a small town. In fact the

Cathedral came first. When it was built Ely was only a small settlement and the town grew around the Cathedral. The Benedictine's Monks only concern was to glorify God and anything less than a building of such a grand scale would not do.

Further information about the Catenian Association can be found at www.thecatenians.com

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40 years! - the St Mary's (Wigston) Caravan and Camping Club

The August Bank Holiday of 2018 heralded the event of St Mary's Caravan and Camping Club's celebrating the weekend together and looking back at forty years of camping!

In 1978, the Family Social Action Group in the parish of St. Mary's, South Wigston, decided to go camping. From then onwards, this became a regular activity during the Bank Holidays of the year. Over the years, families and friends have come together to spend time having fun, socialising together and sharing their Faith at rallies around the countryside and coast. This has been a great opportunity for children and young people to enjoy the outdoors with their friends from school and the parish, and for parishioners to have the opportunity to relax and enjoy time together. Now some of those children are adults and come along with their own children! We feel very proud of the group.

In August this year, we camped at Hallaton Recreation Ground, where we had the most fantastic "all ages game of rounders" played by members from 6 years to 70 years! An amazing number of rounders were achieved, as our fielders were constantly running across the field. On Sunday the 26th of August, it rained and it rained and it rained! However, we were not deterred - we had a wonderful celebration of Mass under canvas, led by Fr. Michael Moore, who offered Mass for our deceased members. S. Mary's Folk group provided the music for the event and we gave thanks for the friendship and

support of the people who have given their time to the group over the years, and for all the hard work done in making our weekends a great time to be together. Greetings were sent to us by priests who served our parish in the past: Fr. Brendan O'Callaghan, Fr. Philip Ziomek and Fr. John McCay. Celebrations continued after the Mass with a buffet tea in the Hall and then, on into the evening, the children enjoyed an hour of "Music with Mike Wallace," involving dancing and games. Lots of fun and laughter were shared with children and parents. Moving along into the evening, Sean and Liam Iliffe and Brendan Johnson entertained us during the open mic hour with their guitar playing and songs. Later on we all joined together and enjoyed some "disco dancing time" as well as dancing the favourite "Barn Dance" led by Vicky and Brian Pike. The fun went on well up to midnight. On Monday, the weather improved and we were all able to take down our tents and awnings in the dry! A bonus!

Nineteen units, including those in tents and caravans, celebrated the weekend together. A big thank you to our Chairman, Brendan Johnson; our Secretary, Ian Wesley; and our Treasurer Alan Creighton, for their loyalty and continual support of the group.

We're looking forward now to camping together again in 2019! All are welcome to share our camps. Contact information: brendanjohnson2011@gmail.com or ianwesley2904@aol.com.



MASS FOR OUR LADY QUEEN OF PALESTINE ST BARNABAS CATHEDRAL, NOTTINGHAM

The Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem celebrated the feast of Our Lady, Queen of Palestine, with a Mass in St Barnabas Cathedral on 20 October. The concelebrants were Canon Mervyn Tower, KHS, and the Cathedral Dean, Fr Malachy Brett. This was the second time in recent months that the Knights and Dames, easily identifiable in their characteristic robes and led by their Midlands Section President, Joe Smiles, had been seen in Nottingham, having taken part in the Blessed Sacrament Procession in April.



lies, require a considerable financial commitment.

Regular pilgrimages, which have continued uninterrupted throughout the recent often very volatile years, are an integral part of the role of the Order. In addition to the obvious spiritual benefits to the pilgrims, the encouragement the parishes and schools derive from these visits is much valued by them. Relationships and trust have been built up from these interactions and help to reassure the people that their well-being and continued presence in the Holy Land are strongly supported.

The Order, whose full name is the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, was originally established in 1099 at the time of the First Crusade. In 1847 the Latin Patriarchate was established in Jerusalem and the Order was re-organised to support it. World-wide it now numbers 23,000 members. Its purpose is to support the Christians in the Holy Land, which it does in several ways.

The Christian population has been steadily shrinking over recent decades and is now no more than 1% in some areas. The survival of such a small community in a very hostile environment demands a very high level of education and training. Over the years the Order has financed the construction of more than forty schools, as well as a seminary and university - there are 19,000 students in these establishments currently, of whom 60% are Christian and 40% Muslim. The Latin Patriarchate is heavily dependent on the funding donated by members of the Order. Maintaining the schools, 68 parishes and a seminary, paying 900 teachers' salaries and funding other projects, such as the construction of housing for young fami-

All of this work, of course, is rooted in the faithful prayer of the members of the Order who come together, in prayer, on a regular basis to share their desire to preserve the Faith in the Holy Land. This was the intention of the recent Mass at St Barnabas Cathedral. Without the continued active help of the Order, there is a real danger that there could eventually be no Christian presence at all in the land of Christ's birth. The hope is that pilgrimage, prayer and financial support will help to prevent this happening. Further information about the Order can be found online at: www.khs.org.uk www.lpj.org and

Tim Connery KHS

Nottingham Cathedral
Friday 14 December 2018, 7.30pm

Carols by Candlelight

Nottingham Cathedral Choir
Cathedral Youth Choir
Essentially Brass

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Ellie Martin & Alex Patterson
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NEW PARISH PARTNERSHIP IN LEICESTER

As a result of a number of changes within our Diocese, two parishes in Leicester, Sacred Heart/St Margaret Mary and Our Lady of Good Counsel, are looking forward to some new opportunities in the future to worship and socialise together.

After many years service as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Fr. Marcel Fanguo CSSP retired at the end of September to return to his Spiritan Order in Chester.

Fr. John Lally Parish Priest of Sacred Heart with the assistance of Fr. Emmanuel Abbem, who has been in Scunthorpe for the last two years, will now be looking after the pastoral care of both parishes for the foreseeable future.

Several lay people from both communities have met twice so far and discussed how we might be able to work together and support each other in our various ministries and celebrations both spiritual and social. As a result, we are considering promoting this new partnership as an ongoing project and see it as a real opportunity for growth, friendship and co-operation in the spirit of the words of Jesus:

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am there among them"
(Matt.18: 20)

(Ted Keller / Teresa Manning)

St Georges & All Soldier Saints, Derby

With a church named to reflect the rich Military history of the city and suburb it was built the 100 year Centenary of the end of World War One was marked in a very special way by the parishioners of the parish.

In late August Mrs Maureen Lawson and Mrs Karan O'Connor got together to discuss how to mark this significant memorial, following this meeting an appeal went out to all to make as many poppies as possible till November in order to decorate the church with a number of displays. The second part of the project was for Parishioners to remember their loved ones that had been in any military service during the last 100 years, each would need to supply a photo and a summary of their regiment and when they served. The final part was to discover who were the people behind the names on the War Memorials in the Lady Chapel in the church.

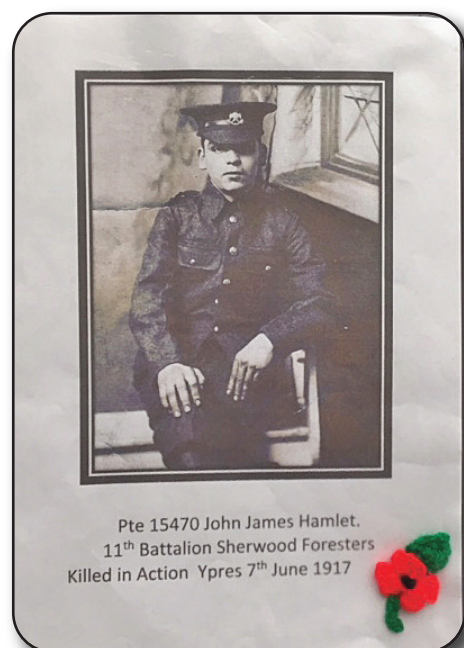
By November the people of the parish as well as friends and family from far and wide had knitted, crochet and made over 1200 poppies, Mrs Maureen Lawson along with Mrs Mari Judson began sewing and putting together banners and an altar cloth incorporating a great many of the poppies that had been donated. Mrs Amanda Greaves a fellow parishioner collected the many photos of parishioners family that have served and mounted them on to a Memorial Wall in the entrance to the church. Finally Anna Bourke



and Karan O'Connor took up the challenge of putting together the memorial book for the lady chapel of the Names listed on the War Memorials of WW1 & WW2.

They all worked hard to put this in place and on November 1st with the help of Kath they spent the morning putting it in place. Once all the elements were in place the church was awash with poppies and was a fantastic visual reminder of the Centenary. A further idea was incorporated by Linda who donated a prayer tree to remember the fallen men and women and the animals that were lost.

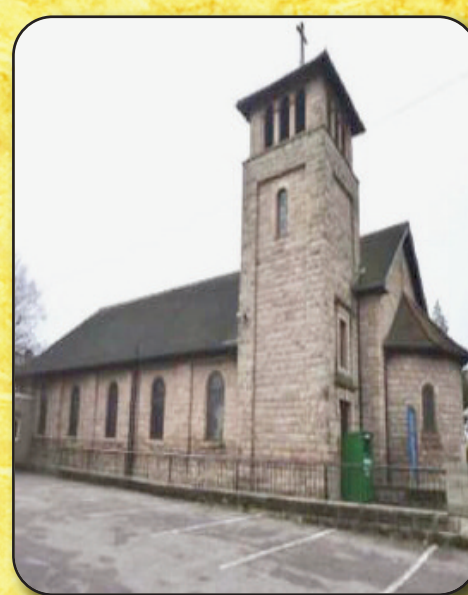
Canon Alan said. I am immensely proud that we have all come together as a parish to achieve such wonderful results. A huge thank you to everyone without those who made the poppies we would have no memorial, but thank you to Karan & Maureen for the ideas, plans & coordination, Anna for her historic research, Mari, Amanda & Maureen for their creative and artistic talents in bringing it to life and putting it all in place. It's such a great tribute to our parish heritage & our original benefactor who donated the land for our church 98 years ago in thanks for the safe return of his son from WW1, we will remember all who have served and continue to serve to bring peace to world. Please take the time and opportunity to look, reflect and pray. Thank you all once again.



History of our Church OLD NORMANTON - ST GEORGE AND ALL SOLDIER SAINTS

The church was built as a memorial to the 48 parishioners who died in the Great War.

Land was donated for the church after the First World War in an area which had seen immigration of workers to the Rolls Royce factory, established in 1907. The patron was Mr Henry Pinchbeck. Designs were prepared by J. S. Brocklesby, the foundation stone was laid by Bishop Dunn on St George's Day, 23 April 1920, and the completed church was opened by the Bishop on December 18 in the same year. The church was dedicated to St George and All Soldier saints; 48 parishioners had fallen in the Great War. In 1945 the church became parochial, and a Lady Chapel was created as a Second World War Memorial was added.



Christmas Celebrations at the Church of the Good Shepherd Woodthorpe Nottingham

Mass times for weekends
(These begin on the First Sunday of Advent - 2nd December)
Saturday Vigil at 6.00 pm and
Sundays at 8.00 am, 10.30 am and
Sunday evening at 5.30 pm.

Children's Tree Party
Saturday 22nd December at 12 noon
(Decorating the Christmas Tree with a nativity preparation.)

Monday 24th December 2018
at 5.30pm Vigil Mass of Christmas
(Folk Group)
11.30pm Carols followed by
12midnight Midnight Mass
(Full Choir)

Tuesday 25th December 2018
at 10.00am Christmas Day
Holy Mass with Carols
11.30am Christmas Day
Holy Mass with Carols

Christmas Masses at: The Divine Infant of Prague & Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Bulwell

Our Lady of Perpetual Succour:
Christmas Eve - 4.30 p.m. Mass
11.30 p.m. Carols followed by
Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day - 10.15 a.m. Mass

The Divine Infant of Prague:
Christmas Eve - 6.30 p.m. Mass
Christmas Day - 10.15 a.m. Mass

LOUGHBOROUGH St Mary's - 97 Ashby Road

Sun 23 December

4.30pm: Carols by Candlelight

Mon 24 December - Christmas Eve
9.15am: Parish Mass

6.00pm: Family Christmas Vigil Mass
Midnight Mass preceded by
carols at 11.30pm

Mon 25 December - Christmas Day
9.00am: Parish Mass

11.00am: Solemn Mass

Tues 26 December - St Stephen's Day
10.30am: Parish Mass

Mon 30 December - New Year's Eve
9.15am: Parish Mass

7.00pm: Te Deum & Solemn Benediction
Tues 1 January - New Year's Day
Mary, Mother of God
10.30am: Solemn Mass

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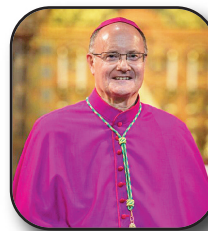
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Right Reverend Patrick Joseph McKinney Bishop of Nottingham Pastoral Letter appointed to be read out at all Masses celebrated on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th November 2018

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I've been your bishop for three years now, and you all know the situation facing us in the diocese. We don't have enough priests to go around, and so there will need to be more clustering of parishes served by just one priest. This will inevitably mean a reduction in the number of weekend Masses, and possibly some closures of Mass centres. That said, I genuinely remain very positive about what I see happening in our diocesan parishes, schools and chaplaincies. There is the potential for our diocese to become more and more outward-looking and missionary in its sense of purpose and direction. How will this happen? By ensuring that we have a strong spiritual foundation for all that we seek to do across our diocese, because as the psalmist reminds us, "unless the Lord build the house, in vain do its builders labour" (Ps. 127)

So, the spiritual foundation for the diocese that I would like to see put firmly in place over the next three years is three-fold: ENCOUNTER, DISCIPLESHIP and MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP.

• First of all, ENCOUNTER: I would like to ensure that people of all ages in our parishes, schools, and chaplaincies are helped to discover, or discover more deeply, the importance of a personal ENCOUNTER with Christ; so that they can become convinced that they are each loved by God and are invited to grow in their relationship with him. In particular I would like to see the development of times of Eucharistic Adoration in our parishes, schools and chaplaincies.

• Secondly, DISCIPLESHIP: because of that personal encounter with Christ, I would like to encourage each of us to hear and respond to his invitation to be his DISCIPLES, to follow him more closely, and to seek to serve him generously in our daily lives.

• Thirdly, MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP: that, with a greater recognition of, and openness to, the help, guidance and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, we can all become MISSIONARY DISCIPLES; faith-filled, joyful and outward-looking Christians who are growing in confidence to speak humbly of the difference that knowing Christ makes to our lives, and who bear witness to His love in our service of our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need. The service to which Christ calls us is always the action of the Holy Spirit working in us.

Each year, over the next three years, we will try to deepen our understanding of, and our response to, these core spiritual themes. I wish to emphasise that this is not just another diocesan plan. These themes remind us of what Jesus asks of his disciples, "Go,

make disciples of all nations; they remind us that the Church is called to be missionary.

So, beginning this year, we will explore in our schools, parishes and chaplaincies the theme of 'Encounter' during Advent and Christmas, 'Discipleship' during Lent, and 'Missionary Discipleship' from Easter to Pentecost. I would love to see these spiritual themes become more and more a living reality in each of our lives, and in the life of the whole diocese. Resources have already been produced for our schools, and some initial resources for our parishes and chaplaincies will be ready by Advent. Other materials will later be produced to help us to examine how our schools, parishes and chaplaincies can become more and more outward looking, more missionary and engaged with the wider community through practical acts of service and outreach. Because when we truly encounter the Lord and his love for each of us, and hear afresh each day his Gospel invitation to change our lives and follow him as his disciples, we will find that we want to share with others the difference that knowing and serving Christ makes to our lives. In these ways I really want mission to become the heart of, and the motivation for, everything that we seek to do throughout the diocese. The call to evangelise, to be missionary is never then just some diocesan programme that we have all decided we will try and do, but rather it is the result of a change of heart and mind, of having encountered Christ and responded to his call. Pope Francis has described it well:

"Thanks, solely to this encounter – or renewed encounter – with God's love, which blossoms into an enriching friendship, we are liberated from our narrowness and self-absorption. We become fully human when we become more than human, when we let God bring us beyond ourselves in order to attain the fullest truth of our being. Here we find the source and inspiration of all our efforts at evangelisation. For if we have received the love which restores meaning to our lives, how can we fail to share that love with others?" (The Joy of the Gospel, 8)

Why do I believe this foundational encounter with the Lord is so important and needs such emphasising? Because without it, we cannot become effective disciples. If we ourselves have not allowed the Lord to invite us into his friendship and to guide our lives through his Holy Spirit, then how can we speak of this to others? It has been my experience over forty years of pastoral ministry that many Catholics dismiss such talk of a personal encounter or relationship with Christ as something Protestant, and so somehow alien to Catholicism. However, the truth is that the development of a per-

sonal relationship with Christ is absolutely central to a Catholic understanding of faith. This is what the General Directory for Catechesis teaches:

"The Christian faith is, above all, conversion to Jesus Christ, full and sincere adherence to his person and the decision to walk in his footsteps. Faith is a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, making of oneself his disciple. This demands a permanent commitment to think like him, to judge like him and to live as he lived. In this way the believer unites himself or herself to the community of disciples and appropriates the faith of the Church. This 'Yes' to Jesus Christ, who is the fullness of the revelation of the Father, is twofold: a trustful abandonment to God, and a loving assent to all that he has revealed to us. This is possible only by the action of the Holy Spirit." (General Directory for Catechesis, 53, 54)

I also believe that we can be helped to see each of the sacraments as opportunities for personal encounters with the Lord, as heart to heart moments; times when we are each invited to encounter the loving heart of the Lord, truly present and active in these sacraments, who wishes to encounter us as we open our hearts to him. I also think that too many young people, and people of all ages, continue to drift away from the Church for a variety of reasons. I'm convinced that one of these reasons is that they have never been encouraged and helped to develop a personal relationship with Christ.

So, I ask each of you to join with me, over the next three years, in accepting the challenge of the Gospel to root our lives more firmly in Christ, through engaging generously with these three spiritual themes of Encounter, Discipleship and Missionary Discipleship.

I'm convinced this will help us to face and respond better to the challenges we face as a diocese. Why? Because we will be seeking to know and do God's will for our diocese and, as we know, "unless the Lord build the house, in vain do its builders labour".

May Advent and Christmas be a time when we all encounter afresh the amazing love of God our Father in sending us his Son, and ponder again on Mary's openness to receiving that love.

With my prayers and good wishes,

+ Patrick

**Right Reverend Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham**

St Mary's School and Parish, Derby, Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice

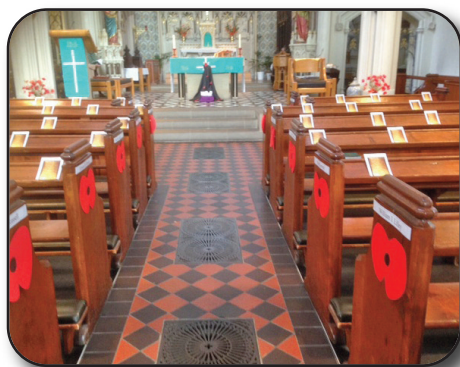
St Mary's School, Derby, held a special assembly to remember the men and women of

the armed forces who have died in conflicts. Each child brought a poppy forward to the altar and said a prayer. These poppies were later made into a memorial banner by the Chaplaincy Team, who organised a liturgy for the 38 men from St Mary's Parish who died in the First World War.

On Sunday 11th November, St Mary's parishioners were each given a prayer card with a photograph of the War Memorial containing the names of the fallen and were encouraged to pray the prayer for peace on the card. Each of the men who lost their lives in "the war to end all wars" has had a

pew dedicated to their memory during November."

Fran Wickes





Holy Spirit, Derby Remembers the fallen from all Wars



On Sunday 11th November, this year's Remembrance Day was especially poignant as 2018 is the centenary year of the First World War, the Parish of Holy Spirit in Derby wanted a memorial to remember those that have fallen or served in all Military Services over the last 100 years. Parishioners were asked to knit, crochet or make poppies out of any material they wanted.

Helen Wright and Anne Perry collected the poppies over a number of weeks, parishioners and their family and friends really supported the initiative and with over 200 poppies Helen and Anne put together a fabulous display with numerous elements, including pictures of the war memorials in France and Belgium along with the Poem "Thy grave too far away to see but not too far to think of thee. The British legions 'Tomi' figure is also part of the display.

Helen Wright said "It's been a real labour of love to put together such a memorial to commemorate the Centenary, parishioners have reflected on the uniqueness of each Poppy as they have been knitted by so many different hands". Anne Perry added "The displays of poppies in the church has a real impact when you walk in to church, the fact that each of us at our parish have been able to contribute in some way makes this tribute to our loved ones really special, if you



Helen Wright & Anne Perry of Holy Spirit, Sinfen Derby

look within the displays we have a number of white poppies, these are to display our hope of peace for all."

Fr Peter Asst, Parish Priest said "The response from everyone to help knit has been wonderful, the memorial created from the

knitting by Anne and Helen is a good visual reminder of the impact of war, Remembering all those that have served and those we have lost.

Helen Wright & Anne Perry of Holy Spirit, Sinfen Derby

Love & Marriage – Just Perfect

On Saturday 3rd November, Canon Alan Burbidge of St Georges, Derby married Miss Bethany Webster to Mr Liam Holmes. Bethany is a Senior Leader at our parish school St Georges Voluntary Academy in Derby.

It was a real parish & school event with fellow teachers Mrs Kirsty Morris and Ms Faye Walker as Bridesmaids. The day was sunny and dry, It was a wonderful day, Bethany looked stunning and both bride and groom

looked so happy, many of the school attended and the school band were called upon to play during the wedding itself – what a privilege! We wish them many, many years of happiness from all your Parish & School.

On a final note – Mrs Holmes now joins three other teachers at her school called Holmes – So with three Mrs Holmes and one Mrs Holmes (no relation to each other) it may get a little confusing.



Artisan Christmas Market

The rather wet and cold weather did not dampen the spirits of the St Barnabas Art and Craft Group as they set up the Church Hall for their first Artisan Craft Market, and they need not have worried, because a busy start to the first day continued all through the event.

Visitors were very complimentary about the very high standard and quality of all the beautiful items for sale, and many things sold out on the first day, with people coming back on the second day to see what we had re stocked. The craft group are quick but not that quick!

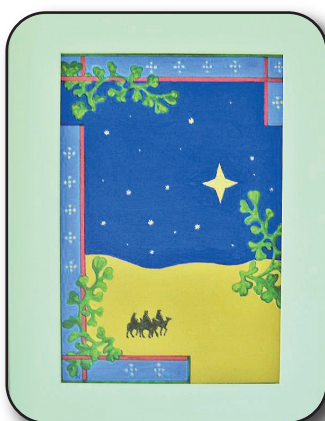
Among the group Kate sold her first painting, it was a watercolour shamrock leaf, and she was delighted, as was Isobel with her clerical bears which were selling out fast. The race was on which would sell out first, priests or nuns!, the nun bears won by a paw. Artist Ann had taken parts of the architecture of the Cathedral as her inspira-

tion, and painted two Nativity scenes which she then made into cards, and they were very successfully launched at the Artisan Market, selling very quickly. She has decided to sell the original paintings for the Restoration funds.

Sue and Maria sold out of tartan hares and dogs, and cream teas kept everyone going.

The total raised from the event was a staggering £1,133 for the Cathedral restoration.

But the craft group are not resting on their laurels, already in place is the next event, on Friday 16th November at 2.00. A demonstration of flower arrangements, entitled



Christmas memories by Maria Kirk, she is of Polish and Ukrainian decent, born in England, so her memories should be very interesting. There will also be a Christmas Crafts sale, tickets are either on the door or from Cathedral House, cost is £6.00 which includes an afternoon cream tea.

The Catenian Association



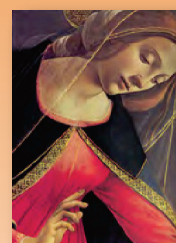
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Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Nevers by Coach
June 15th – 22nd 2019
(Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester)

The cost is £565 per person.

This price includes Coach and Ferry travel, overnight stay with Bed and Breakfast at the Welcome Break hotel in Orleans on the way out, full board at the Hotel Irlande in Lourdes, half board at the Kyriad Hotel in Nevers on the way back. In addition to this there's an optional excursion to Gavarnie, a Ski Resort in the Pyrenees.

Parish Pilgrimage to Alencon and Lisieux by Coach
April 1st – 5th 2019
(Pick up in Nottingham, Derby and Leicester)

The cost of the Pilgrimage is £345.

We will begin our Pilgrimage by travelling to Alencon to visit and have Mass at the place where St. Therese was born. We will then continue to follow in her footsteps with a Guided visit to the Cathedral in Lisieux, to the Basilica dedicated to St. Therese, to the house where she grew up and to the museum and to the Carmel where she lived and died.

For more information and a booking form for the Pilgrimages please contact Fr. John McCay at jmccay1982@yahoo.co.uk or 0115 9810320



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Medal-winning performances

Two Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy pupils put in medal-winning performances at the ITF European Taekwondo Championships in Poland.

Amelie Lumley, 13, won a bronze in sparring and Polly Phillips, 13, won a gold in sparring. Both girls are members of Noble Dragons Taekwondo Club in Swadlincote.

Amelie also recently competed in the Heart of England UITF English Championship, where she won a silver in sparring and a bronze in patterns as a newly qualified Black Belt 1st Dan in the girls under-55kg category.

The teenager said: "I'm so happy after my performance in Poland, it's all part of my dream coming true. I was looking forward to competing there but I was also a bit nervous because I'd never competed abroad."

"I trained a lot more than I normally would in the run up to Poland and I wanted to win at least a bronze in sparring although I wouldn't have minded too much if I didn't because I would have been happy just to say I'd competed. I just wanted to go out there and enjoy it."

"I was pleased with my performance at the Heart of England competition too because I did better than I expected."



Polly only took up Taekwondo three years ago and competed in the World Championships in the Netherlands last year where she won a bronze in sparring.

She said: "I wanted to get a medal in sparring in Poland because I was spending 15 hours a week training. I never really thought I'd get this far so anything would have been a bonus. I'm really happy. It has been all worth it – all the hours I've invested."

Aidan Smith, headteacher at Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy in Burton, congratulated Amelie and Polly on their achievements.

He said: "Both pupils clearly put in a lot of training hours and all of their hard work has paid off. We are extremely proud of both girls and we are sure there is even more success to come; we look forward to watching their progress in the future."

Students rewarded for their academic and extra-curricular achievements



Hundreds of students were rewarded for their academic and extra-curricular achievements at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy's Presentation Evening.

Students from Year 8 to 11 received awards in front of a packed audience of parents, family members, carers and staff at the academy, in Duffield Road, Derby. House awards were also made, with the Athletics Day Trophy going to Kolbe House and the Attendance Shield being



won by John Paul House.

The opening prayer was delivered by academy chaplain Jannice Richtof and this was followed by an introduction from deputy head teacher Hazel Boyce.

Kevin Gritton, head teacher at Saint Benedict CVA, told the audience that it was sheer hard work and practice that made the difference rather than pure talent. He said: "We talk a lot about talent and a lot of students have talent and gifts but the difference is not talent it's sheer practice. Very often you think you are good at just one thing but not another but all of you here have got the ability to work hard, to practice, to attend well and to keep doing well."

Mr Gritton paid tribute to his younger brother who was determined to become a professional footballer.

He said: "He was just like you and he had the same qualities and attitude, it wasn't about being talented or gifted, it was about grafting and hard work. To achieve 100 per cent attendance, that's hard. A massive well done to you, keep doing what you are doing, keep working hard and keep practising, practising, practising. Well done everyone."

The academy's chair of governors, Sherri Medcalf, also addressed the students. She said: "Many of you might have particular skills that allow you to achieve in certain areas more easily. For most of us achievements in some areas is realised through sheer effort and persistence. What

we lack in natural ability we make up for in hard work. Don't give up and think of the satisfaction you get when you work hard at something."

Burton School nominated for a national award

A Burton primary school has been nominated for a national award for its hugely popular walking buses for pupils and parents.

Holy Rosary Catholic Voluntary Academy, in Winhill, set up its first walking bus in March 2017 from Freemasons car park, in Ashby Road, Winhill. The school has also promoted a Park and Stride scheme from the same location, allowing parents to park there and walk the rest of the way with their children.

A new location for a second walking bus was introduced in July 2017 from the Anglesey Arms, in Bearwood Hill Road. The school is currently in the process of organising and training volunteers in order to operate both walking buses five days a week.

A walking bus is a fun, healthy and sustainable way for children to travel to school and involves children and volunteers walk-

ing in a group along a set route.

Holy Rosary has now been nominated for a Modeshift STARS National School Travel award and is one of 75 schools in the country to receive the accolade, out of 3,500 signed up.

The awards recognise best practice in the promotion of walking, cycling and other forms of sustainable travel for the journey to and from school. The school has already achieved the Modeshift STARS bronze and silver award.

The awards ceremony takes place on November 26th 2018 in Stoke-on-Trent and schools attending will find out if they have gained the coveted titles of 'STARS school of your local authority' and the overall 'STARS schools of the region'.

Each of the 'schools of the regions' will go on to represent their area at the national STARS School Travel Awards in Spring

2019.

Sarah Cunningham, Year One teacher at Holy Rosary who helps to organise the walking buses, said: "I am very proud of the nomination and what we have achieved so far, the volunteers have been amazing and without their support none of this would have come to fruition. It's been a team effort all the way and credit is due to everyone involved."

Holy Rosary head teacher Tim Brogan said: "I'm really proud of Sarah and our group of volunteers for the time and effort they have put into the project. I'm glad it has been recognised in their nomination for the award."

"Plans are currently being put together to increase and improve the walking bus, cycle to school and road safety project so that sustainable travel is understood and prioritised within our community."

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Your gift today could help five children like Sesan see the wonder of God's creation. Help unlock extra funds for more cataract surgeries.



Dear Catholic News of Nottingham reader,

Life with severe cataracts has not been easy for five-year-old Sesan. Unable to see, this bright boy has been unable to play with friends, help at home and go to school. Education is the key to employment, a way out of poverty.

Perhaps the most heart-breaking thing about children like Sesan, living in Africa, is that their sight could be so easily restored. Cataract surgery to restore sight can take just 45 minutes, but many families in poor countries cannot afford the £95 cost of surgery. So their children have no choice but to live in darkness.

You can change that with a gift to CBM right now. For a limited time, a kind funding partner has pledged to unlock £4 for every £1 you give. **This means that if you can give £95 for one child's surgery today, five children could have their sight restored.**



Our goal is to enable 7,000 children to see over the next two years. With your help, thousands of lives will be changed.

God bless you,

Rebecca

Rebecca Molyneux
Programme Manager for West and Central Africa

How it works

- 1** For every £95 you give... 
- 2** ...our funding partner unlocks another £380, enabling **FOUR MORE** sight-saving treatments. 
- 3** A gift of £95 can help more children like...



Blessing



Davis



Shabana



Tawa

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Call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today. THANK YOU.

A stunning Remembrance Day display

Hundreds of poppies have been created by staff and students at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy as part of a stunning Remembrance Day display.

The whole school has been involved in making the poppies from plastic bottles and they are now taking pride of place outside the school entrance.

Around 700 poppies have been made over the past five weeks and the display also features the silhouettes of two soldiers.

The idea for the memorial came from Matt Price, Head of Design Technology at the Kirk Hallam school.

He said: "I'd seen something similar which

gave me the idea for the display and I think the initial inspiration was the poppy display in London a few years ago.

"We also wanted to do something special, a bit like when we created a human St George's Cross flag to support England in the World Cup.

"When we started out we didn't really set any targets in terms of how many poppies we wanted to make. We thought if we made 100 then that would be fine but we've ended up with about 700 now.

"We've had lot of plastic bottles donated and we've used a lot from the canteen which is great as that's helped with recycling.

"Students and staff have really got behind the project, making poppies after school, in craft club and in Art and Design lessons.

"As well as the poppies we also put crosses in with the names of the soldiers who are from the local parish and who died and staff and students have been remembering them and talking about them.

"We've had great feedback from visitors to the school who have seen the display and after Sunday we'll be taking it down but keeping the poppies. We'd like to use them to do something even bigger next year."

Joan McCarthy, head teacher at Saint John Houghton CVA, said it was fantastic to see the whole school involved in the project.



Celebrating our Schools

**WE WOULD
LIKE TO THANK
THE SCHOOLS
ON THIS PAGE
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Advertisement for Director of Heritage Centre Nottingham, England

**Overall purpose:
Management and development
of Heritage Centre**

The Little Company of Mary (LCM) is an International Congregation of Religious women, founded by the Venerable Mary Potter in Nottingham, England in 1877. We invite applications for a Director for the Heritage Centre in Nottingham. The role is required to ensure the provision of a unique, innovative and interactive service that honours the legacy of Mary Potter and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. The centre opened in 2010, is home to the artefacts of the LCM and provides an interactive experience journeying with the Founder, Venerable Mary Potter. The centre depicts the life and spirituality of the founder as she began the LCM in Hyson Green, Nottingham and how the story continues to the present day. It provides space for individuals, local and international groups to meet with guides and avail of the experience.

The successful applicant will:

- Promote the life and vision of Mary Potter and the Mission and Spirituality of the LCM by working on projects and programmes that will assist the LCM to further develop the Centre.
- Be accountable for the day to day operations of the Heritage Centre and work with LCM Sisters on future programmes and opportunities.
- Ensure effective and efficient operation of the Heritage Centre, is responsible for the overall monitoring of planned maintenance, staff and resources inclusive of budgeting.
- Further develop the Heritage Centre by means of networking and promoting the Heritage Centre locally and internationally.

Hours of employment: 35-37.5 hours per week with flexibility.
Salary Package: Commensurate with experience

Method of application: Initial enquires to the Province Leader to request a Position Description via e-mail at lcm.ef@btinternet.com or via the website at www.lcmsisters.org.uk

Applications close: 17 December 2018 at 5.00 pm

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 28 January 2019