



**Accession Day
30th May**

Catholic News

**MORE THAN 21 YEARS OF BRINGING THE
NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER**

ISSUE 279

**May
2019**

20p WHERE SOLD

**Published by Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre,
Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN Telephone: 0207 112 6710
Editor John Clawson. Tel: E-mail john@bellcourtltd.co.uk or david@bellcourtltd.co.uk**



What does Ecumenism Look Like in the Nottingham Diocese?

The Diocesan Ecumenical Commission has been attempting to find out how deep our connections are with our fellow Christians at parish level. A questionnaire was sent out to parish priests asking them if their parish belongs to a Churches Together or similar group; any social action projects they were involved in with fellow Churches; and opportunities for worshipping with other Christians. Forty-one parishes responded, which is under a third but begins to give a snapshot, albeit somewhat blurred, of ecumenism at the ground level

Overall, the responses suggest that Catholic parishes are actively involved in social action projects with other churches. However, opportunities to worship together appear to be more patchy or seasonal eg Lent and Easter, Christian Unity Week, Women's World Day of Prayer. There are exceptions

to this, some parishes have year-round monthly services and prayer groups.

Anecdotally and from the written replies, laity and clergy often blame each other for the lack of progress and initiatives on ecumenism. Many laity complain they don't know what is happening so can't get involved and bemoan the insular nature of their priests; meanwhile, priests are forlorn at the lack of enthusiasm demonstrated by their congregations. Significantly, the survey showed that nearly all of Catholic parishes' ecumenical work is undertaken with 'Protestant' tradition churches. Allowing for the odd honourable exception, parishes generally have no links with Orthodox or Eastern Catholic Christians.

The Commission is actively seeking to invigorate ecumenical thinking within the diocese, perhaps before embarking on any



social action, outreach or even worshipping initiative, we might ask ourselves - 'could this be done better ecumenically?' No man is an island and neither are our churches, and in an increasingly radically secular world, a united Christian front across the

spectrum of traditions may offer the best way forward for bringing Christ to our world.

If you are interested in promoting ecumenism in our diocese or would like to share your ideas and experiences of working ecumenically with other parishes, the Commission would be delighted to hear from you - email fran.wickes@icloud.com.



**Helped to
raise
almost
£1,000 for
homeless
people**

A Year 9 student at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy helped to raise almost £1,000 for homeless people by sleeping outside all night.

Evie Baker took part in the YMCA Derbyshire Sleep Easy along with her mum and mum's work colleagues from Elliot Mather.

The group slept out all night at Derbyshire County Cricket Club's County Ground.

Hundreds of people took part in the event which raised £40,000 last year, enabling YMCA Derbyshire to acquire and refurbish 12 new units of accommodation in Derby city centre, providing safe and supportive housing for 36 individuals each year.

Evie said it was tough but worth it.

**Continued on
page 6**

 RATCLIFFE COLLEGE	An Independent Catholic School ...
	Boys and Girls Day and Boarding 3 - 18 Years ... ISI School Inspection "Excellent"
Scholarships and Bursaries are available.	
<p>WANT TO KNOW MORE?</p> <p>T: 01509 817072 or 817031 Fosse Way (A46), E: registrar@ratcliffecollege.com Ratcliffe on the Wreake, www.ratcliffecollege.com Leicester, LE7 4SG</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' CONFERENCE  ROSMINIAN COLLEGIATE </div>	

MORE THAN 21 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

The monthly paper for the Diocese of Nottingham

The Catholic News

Editor: John Clawson

Editorial Office: Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN

Telephone: 0207 112 6710

email: johnclawson@icloud.com or david@bellcourtltd.co.uk

Website: www.bellcourtltd.co.uk

Distribution enquiries:

Nick Layton

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

Parental permission should be sought before submitting photographs of minors.

Views expressed in The Catholic News are not necessarily those of the editor

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

Standing in solidarity: rabbi reads at Mass which is offered for the victims of the New Zealand attack, and those affected “closer to home” at the meeting of Catholic coordinators for dialogue

Tuesday, 26th March, saw a meeting of Catholics who came together to celebrate the dialogue work with other religions, and with other Christians – using the special relationship Catholicism has with Judaism as a bridge between the two.

The advisers of the Catholic bishops on both dialogues shared what gives them joy about their work: strong relationships growing out of mutual trust and support, and a movement back, more deeply, into their own faith, having taken inspiration from others. Archbishop Kevin McDonald, the national lead for Catholic-Jewish relations, said that dialogue is an “integral part of the nature of the church”, and that this “connectedness is particularly strong in the case of the Jews”

Sister Margaret Shepherd, the national adviser on Jewish-Catholic relations, painted a picture of growing closeness between Christianity and Judaism, expressed in a series of documents from both sides.

Bishop Patrick McKinney, who holds the brief for interreligious dialogue, welcomed the coordinators in the Cathedral hall of St. Barnabas Cathedral, Nottingham, reminding them that dialogue is “part and parcel of the mission of the church”, and that the Church needs to be “an instrument of God in enabling unity”.



In a strong example of local friendship and cooperation, he was joined by Rabbi Tanya Sakhnovich, of the Nottingham Liberal Synagogue, who spoke of her determination to build relationships by joining in work that supports the vulnerable and to reduce the fear of the “other”, and described how dialogue strengthened her own faith – all reasons for interreligious work that are also

close to the Catholic coordinators’ hearts. In a moving demonstration of the rootedness of Christianity in Judaism, Rabbi Sakhnovich read the first reading at Mass in the Cathedral, reminding those attending of the wealth of scripture shared in common. The mass was offered for the victims of the New Zealand attacks and all affected by them in our home countries.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

A few months ago I was asked to nominate my favourite saint and my reasons for that choice. I chose Saint Peter as I greatly admired how he had conducted his life after mistakes which I was quite capable of making myself.

Reader’s of this newspaper will have their own views on what mistakes have been made in recent times in the constitutional crisis we have called Brexit. Many people have also been exasperated by the failure of politicians to “just get on with it”. Part of the frustration has been the sheer delay or at least neglect of policies which have required urgent attention. Last Christmas we expected the already delayed Green Paper on the future of social care, in early April we are still waiting as I prepare this article. So if the politicians have chosen to slow down the reforms needed for an ageing population a significant minority appear to have been completely forgotten. This group of people who need help are the relatives who give up their jobs to look after loved ones 365 days a year. Possibly 600 people each day.

ers allowance, but only if you earn below a certain threshold, but if you try to balance this the odds are you will rely on over-worked care agency staff who have barely time to put their key in the door before they are off to the next call. It is not unknown for carer staff to put their clients to bed at 6.30pm simply because for time pressure.

Some politicians have talked about a strategy action plan. We await this and continue to wait but if your loved one has a fall in the middle of the night these words mean nothing. We often associate Saint Peter with Saint Paul. Saint Paul spoke of “faith hope and love, and the greatest of these is love”.

Surely those who make personal sacrifices for loved ones are following his words. Perhaps our politicians have not thought about love and social care in recent months, We not only need to remind them of this, we should also tell them that long before Brexit they needed to “just get on with it”.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish, Newark

If any family member chooses to stay in work I understand they can claim Car-



Rosmini Centre House of Prayer

Easter Greetings

“I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he is dead, shall live; and whoever lives and believes in Me, shall never die.” (Jn. 11:25)

Best wishes from the Community at Rosmini Centre, may your Easter be much Blessed and Happy.

JUNE 2019 is a month of celebrating CELTIC SPIRITUALITY

guided by Fr. Ted Mullen I.C.

1st and 15th June Saturday afternoons 2 – 4.30

‘Opening Up Celtic Spirituality’ I and II. Suggested donation £5.

28th June - Friday Healing Mass

29th June - Saturday Retreat Day 10 am to 3.30 pm; lunch included, suggested donation £15.

Please book in early on rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com or 01509 813078.

Other events:

MAY

11 Saturday -

Fr. John McCay,
Prison Chaplain

GOD IN MY LIFE:

INVITATION, MISSION, GRATITUDE

17 Friday - Healing Mass

21 Tuesday - ‘An Introduction to the Book of Ecclesiastes’ - Fr. A. Belsito IC

25 Saturday - Lectio Divina

JULY

20th July - Desert Day Retreat

Fr David Tobin

27 Saturday - Lectio Divina

ROSMINI CENTRE, 433 FOSSE WAY, LE7 4SJ

Tel: 01509 813078

rosminicentreinfo@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.



Volunteer Of The Year

Local heroes honoured at Pride of Gedling Awards: "Volunteer Of The Year" was awarded to Sarah Benedek for her work to help establish a children's play area and nature trail at Gedling Country Park.

Sarah also raised £6 000 for the children's ward at Queen's Medical Centre and £7 000 for the roof of her local (the Good Shepherd Church, Arnold) Catholic church. "I was brought up as a Catholic", she said. "So when the local Catholic priest said to me, Jesus needs your help! I couldn't say no."

From Nottingham Post

"Congratulations to Sarah, who has only just gone and scooped a Gedling Pride Volunteer Award this evening!

Many of you will recognise Sarah as she organises our annual Church Fayre and volunteers every Monday at Little Lambs, helping out in our kitchen. Sarah also caters for many of our Parish functions, assists with the church flowers and has been hands-on at the weekly Friday Luncheon club too.

Sarah also does so much in our local community, she really is one of our unsung heroes and it's so nice to see her get the recognition she deserves.

Congratulations Sarah from everyone in the Parish, we're all so proud of you!"

*The Good Shepherd Church
Facebook entry by Rebecca Burke*

*Image courtesy of
Nottingham Post*



'Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine you did for me'

(Matthew 25:40)

A man approaching middle age, who went by the name Eddy, died homeless. He suffered from mental illness and was in and out of prison (preferring to be in prison, as he then had a roof over his head, regular meals, routine and companionship). Outside of prison he was alone, with no love or support from family. Welfare and health systems supposed to help people in his situation instead tend to keep them in it and Eddy, at least outwardly, did not care whether he was alive or dead.

There are many more like Eddy, both in this Diocese and around the country. It is only by the grace of God that we were not born one of them, yet in Christ we are one with them and a change in life circumstances could mean we become one of them at any time. They represent Christ crucified, before the resurrection, when Satan appears to have won. As Christians, with our own wounds, we are called to represent the Risen Christ, to reveal to others, including people like Eddy, that

Satan does not have the final word, that they too are beloved children of God and as their Father, He longs for them to know they are welcome in His Kingdom of love, joy, hope, peace and freedom.

This Easter and Pentecost, may the Holy Spirit, especially through scripture and the Sacraments, inspire and help each of us to reach out anew, in love, to those in our midst who so desperately need to receive the Good News, both by action and word. May the Lord also remind us of our true identity as members of the body of Christ (over any social, political or even parish group we may belong to) leading us to unite as one body for the glory of God and the good of our neighbour.

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and You shall renew the face of the earth.

Jo, Lincoln

 **REPROTEC**

**can help you
reduce your
print costs**



By combining the latest print technology with easy to manage print software, Reprotec can help reduce your print budget.



- Exceptionally low cost per print
- Multi-functional devices and desktop printers
- Document management solutions
- Rules based cost control
- Rapid return on investment

As a local supplier based in the East Midlands, we are ideally placed to offer high quality service and aftersales support.

38 Churchill Park, Colwick, Nottingham NG4 2HF
Telephone 0115 940 0900 sales@reprotec.uk.com
Facsimile 0115 940 4101 www.reprotec.uk.com

www.reprotec.uk.com

Bishop calls on UK to take the lead in promoting the global abolition of the death penalty

The lead Catholic Bishop for International Affairs, Bishop Declan Lang, has welcomed the international decline in executions, and called on the UK to use its diplomatic and economic influence to promote global abolition of the death penalty.

Statistics released recently show that the number of known executions fell by over 30% in 2018 and more than two thirds of countries in the world have now abolished the death penalty in law or practice.

Bishop Declan said: "The continued decline in capital punishment gives us cause for hope that this attack on the inviolability and dignity of every human person may eventually be confined to history.

Once again, I urge our government to redouble its efforts towards promoting global

abolition of the death penalty. There are both diplomatic and economic means of driving forward this goal. For example the UK has trade offices in more than half of the twenty countries that executed their own citizens last year.

I hope that Catholics will continue to speak up on behalf of those at risk of execution and pray for all those affected."

Last year Pope Francis approved a new revision the Catechism, reflecting the Church's longstanding opposition to capital punishment. It reads: "the Church teaches, in the light of the Gospel, that 'the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person', and she works with determination for its abolition worldwide".

Continued from page 1

She said: "My mum had told me about it and a few of my friends had done it before but a long time ago. I knew it was for a good cause and I thought sleeping outside was the least I could do. My mum and two of her work friends, from Elliot Mather, did it with me.

"I didn't really know what to expect. I thought we would be sleeping on concrete and I didn't realise that we would have to make our own shelter. We used some carpet

that my mum had brought and some cardboard but our shelter kept collapsing.

"It was raining and the next day it snowed. I could barely walk the next day and it's hard to think that there are people who live like that. It makes you realise how much it means to have a roof over your head. I thought we'd raise about £200 so I was really pleased when I found out that we'd raised £943.75.

"I would do it again, I'd just make sure that I take more layers next time."



Cardinal: Help young people to build discipline and self-control in their lives to counter gang culture

Cardinal Vincent Nichols joined other church leaders in central London for a rally to call for an end to knife crime, to demand action and to stand alongside young people, families and communities affected by the scourge of violent crime.

The Standing Together rally against knife crime and youth violence took place in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, 6 April 2019.

Speaking afterwards, Cardinal Nichols spoke about the need to provide young people with alternatives to gangs:

"The only way of counteracting a gang culture is to create for young people a sense of belonging to something else - something that's positive, creative and attractive to them.

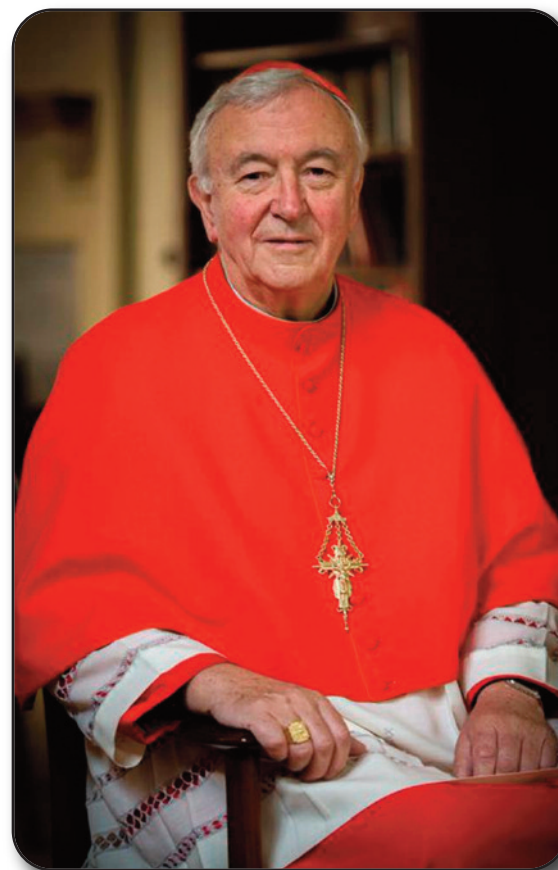
"I had a request from a priest this week who's looking to start a boxing club in his parish. In my youth in Liverpool there were a lot of Catholic parishes with boxing clubs because they taught discipline and the right use of strength. They even produced a few world champions - John Conteh was one - but this was the alternative to gang culture and this is the kind of reaction we need to involve young people in a way that calls out their commitment and helps them to build discipline and self-control in their lives, and that's the best counter to some of the worst influences today."

The Cardinal also made reference to negative social media influences:

"In families and schools we need to be scrupulous in telling each other the truth and not hiding behind the half-truths, crudeness and unworthiness of things that are cheap, quick and popular today. Young people need deep roots so they can stand tall and grow to their full potential.

He also had a direct message to young people who have found themselves involved in gangs or carrying knives:

"If you or your friends are involved in



gangs, try to find a way out. If you or your friends carry or possess knives, go to one of the banks and anonymously get rid of the knife in your possession - just get rid of it. It doesn't make you safer it puts you at risk of using it and not only will you cause harm to somebody else, you'll damage your own life.

"So build friendships, find places where you can go and sit and honestly talk and share your experiences with other people. Say your prayers - turn to God, turn to Christ and let your life grow from that relationship with Jesus rather than from anywhere else."

Continuing to talk about the need for prayer and to look to the Cross not just as a place of sorrow and suffering but a place that witnesses the birth of new hope, he said:

"For families worried about their youngsters, talk, talk, keep talking. To families who are worried and strained in their relationships, find times of silence when you sit together - say a simple prayer."



Tom Roche, who was presented by Canon Don Bowdren with his papal knighthood of the Order of St Gregory the Great after Mass recently at St Mary's Church, Marple Bridge in the High Peak.

Precious Love Renewal Convention

About one hundred and twenty people responded to an invitation to the Precious Love Renewal Convention and Healing Service that was held in the Social Centre at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Woodthorpe Nottingham on Saturday 30th March.

Members of the Cor et Lumen Christi Catholic Community had been invited to share some teaching about how we respond to God's Love for us and to lead prayer for healing which is a particular charism of the community.

The first talk highlighted the fact that Jesus' ministry was marked by a large number of healings and the speaker emphasised that, whilst good can come from suffering, the church teaches that God does not send suffering and it is good to pray for healing.

The second speaker emphasised the fact that God always has more for us and that we shouldn't settle for too little in our spiritual journey. He illustrated this with a story of a popular mountain climb which had a "Halfway House" Cafe part way up the mountain and many people stopped there for lunch. Some would become so comfortable that they would stay there and drink happily all afternoon until they heard a bell indicating that people should start the descent. At that point they would realise that those who had carried on were at the top of the mountain and there was a noticeable change in the atmosphere as they had a sense of regret that they had not carried on. He also talked about the importance of faith in the context of healing and how Jesus was unable to work many miracles in Nazareth because of their lack of faith. He also high-



lighted the fact that unrepentant sin and unforgiveness can be blocks to healing.

In the afternoon members of the Cor et Lumen Christi Community shared testimonies of how God had worked in the past whenever they prayed for healing, often in response to a "word of knowledge" about a situation or illness and the Healings they had witnessed.

This then led into the healing service itself in which words of knowledge were shared and a number of people responded and were prayed for by the team and those

around them. The atmosphere was prayerful as people lovingly prayed for those who indicated a need.

During, and after this time of prayer people were asked to come forward if they had noticed a difference in their complaint. A large number of people responded and about twenty agreed to come to the front to share their experiences. It was a delight to hear, and witness, people who previously had chronic pain now free from their complaint. This included a lady who was about to have a knee replacement and was now pain free and actually ran a little in the hall. Another was freed from constant stomach pain (she kept prodding it to prove to herself that it didn't hurt anymore) Healings from painful

feet and eyesight problems were also reported. God is good.

As a member of the worship team I was particularly gratified by the way people responded and joined in the worship throughout the day. It was clear that there was a real hunger for God and the Lord responded with great generosity.

For details of further events under the title "Precious Love" and others run in conjunction with the Nottingham Diocesan Service Team for Catholic Charismatic Renewal see the website: <http://www.ccrnd.org.uk>.

Marie Langford,
The Good Shepherd Church



DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM



4th Blessed Sacrament Procession

Led by Bishop Patrick

SUNDAY 2nd JUNE 2019

Start: 2 pm - St Mary's Church,
Goodliffe Street, Hyson Green, Nottingham
NG7 6FY

End: 4 pm approx - St Barnabas Cathedral,
Derby Road, NG1 5AE

finishing with prayers at the tomb of Mary Potter



"Our Lady is Mother of the Blessed Sacrament... let us bow down in lowly adoration before our God, ask our Mother Mary to feed us with some of her love for this Adorable Mystery of Faith"

-Venerable Mary Potter

Join Catholics from across the Diocese as we witness to the joy of our faith through the streets of Nottingham. All are welcome.



St Georges & Holy Spirit in Derby supporting the NightShelter for the Homeless

Derby Night Shelter ended on 1st April, parishioners, Ray, Denise, Joseph, John, Karan, Rose, Phillip & Marion from St Georges & Holy Spirit in Derby have for the last 4 months been volunteering in the shelters at Pear Tree Baptist Church and St Marys RC Church. These are two of seven venues that offer a shelter to the homeless in Derby, in the five other venues there are many more volunteers.

Working hard

I was invited to join the team at Pear Tree Baptist to see first hand how the support is given. People become homeless for lots of different reasons. There are social causes of homelessness, such as a lack of affordable housing, poverty and unemployment; and life events which cause individuals to become homeless. And for many, life events like a relationship breaking down, losing a job, mental or physical health problems, or substance misuse can be the trigger. Being homeless can, in turn, make many of these problems even harder to resolve. The average homeless person dies at just 49 years

old after long term sleeping rough.

At the Pear Tree Baptist I witnessed first hand the great need for the Shelter with the men and women that came for a hot meal, a bed and company. I thank all the volunteers from all our Catholic Churches in Derby for their commitment and making a real difference and for being great witnesses to our Catholic Faith by volunteering within a great ecumenical project.

As a parish we have donated 50 sleeping bag liners to the shelter for next year, Paul Monroe the Shelters project Manager said the liners will have a significant impact in the sleeping conditions of the clients they serve. I am proud that as a parish we have given our time, people resources and a charitable donation to help Homeless of Derby through the Shelter.

**Canon Alan Burbidge –
Parish Priest, Derby Fr Alan –
Parish Priest, St Georges and
Holy Spirit, Derby**



Compassion on the streets

Street Pastors expect the unexpected at night on the streets of Derby, Leicester, Lincoln and Nottingham, as Lynda Blakeley, and (opposite) Caty Darby, describe.

Around our Diocese (and in fact all over the

country) Street Pastors are out on the streets at night ensuring that the vulnerable are cared for and don't feel alone. In Nottingham alone over 70 volunteers representing churches of many denominations take to the city's streets on a Friday and Saturday between the hours of 10pm to 3am.

One of them is Caty Darby who attends Church of the Holy Spirit in West Bridgford. She tells her story below.

No judgments are made by the Street Pastors: if there is an individual in need they will be there on hand with a smile, an ear

and a kind word. Chatting to a young homeless person can be the difference between them feeling the world has forgotten them and the beginning of a fresh start. Street Pastors can signpost the homeless person to useful bodies that can give tangible assistance.

Caty Darby, Street Pastor and parishioner from Holy Spirit, West Bridgford, says:

"Everyone always seems to ask why do we do it and why do we do it for free! I can't tell you exactly why but I just love street pastoring! It is such a privilege to serve our community and a fantastic opportunity to put my faith into action. We meet such a rich mix of people from all walks of life and from whom I have learnt so much. Personally I often struggle knowing how blessed I am in my life and street pastoring is an opportunity to give something back and share God's love.

I think every night that I have been out someone has hugged me at least once, but usually more, often because they are grateful for our support. The best hug I have had is from an Italian man out on the streets who wanted a blanket and asked us where he could get food. We spent time with him, he shared his story and God asked me to hug him and when I did he cried and said he didn't think anyone cared. That's a good reason to be a street pastor!"

Lollipops are a great icebreaker and the Street Pastors hand out thousands, not only to night time revellers but those working in the night time economy.

Whether it be listening to someone who is lost and lonely, a young person who is under the influence of alcohol and has lost their friend, talking down a fight or giving first aid, Street Pastors are there on the end of their radio. Connected by CCTV, The Police and the door staff, radio messages are sent directly to the team to enable them to get to the incident as soon as possible.

Maybe you could join the Street Pastors for one evening as an observer, just to get a feel of how much they achieve in one evening. You may find the rewards outweigh any apprehension you may have.

If you are interested in finding out more about the work Street Pastors do please get in touch:

- Nottingham: streetpastors@maltcross.com
- Leicester: leicester@streetpastors.org.uk
- Lincoln: lincoln@streetpastors.org.uk



Derbyshire Extraordinary Ministers Renewal Day with Bishop Patrick



The Extraordinary Ministers of Derbyshire gathered at St Mary's, Derby, for their annual renewal day on March 23rd. It was a spiritually uplifting experience that began with a talk from Bishop Patrick McKinney. He spoke about the importance for each person of encountering Christ in their lives, and embarking on life as a disciple. In order to do this we need to develop our relationship with God. Christian faith is a conversion to Jesus Christ, a permanent commitment to think, judge and live like him. In order to be effective disciples, we need to invite Jesus into our lives. Bishop Patrick talked about his belief that many Catholics feel that Christ loves them only as part of a group, and he stressed the need for us to feel this love personally. Each of us is more precious to Jesus than we could ever know. St Paul acknowledged that "I can do all things through Christ," and it is the same for us. We need to recognise ourselves as co-workers with Christ – wake up and ask ourselves: "What are we going to do today Lord?" As St Teresa of Avila reminded us, we are called to be Christ's hands, eyes and feet in the world today. We need to surrender control of our lives to God – give him the keys. The more we give, the more we are free to become the people of God. Bishop Patrick let us know that we all have time to pray – anyone can find 5 minutes, even in a hectic and busy life. But prayer is not just about saying prayers, it is about letting God be God in each aspect of our lives. He concluded his talk by thanking the EMs for having the generosity to step forward and take on this ministry of prayer and compassion by bringing the Eucharist to others. The talk was followed by the celebration of Mass by



Bishop Patrick, who concelebrated with Fr Tim O'Sullivan, who recently stepped down as Parish Priest of St Mary's.

During lunch the EMs were addressed by the new Chair of the EM Commission, Canon Don Bowdren, who introduced himself and shared a little of his background. Canon Don paid tribute to his predecessor, Fr Michael Eastwood, who has been a tower of support and encouragement to the Extraordinary Ministers of the Diocese for over twenty years. Fr Michael has retired from his position but remains active in his parish. A special Mass was held for him at St Winifred's in Shepshed at the beginning of the year, led by Bishop Patrick.

The Renewal Day afternoon was a departure from the usual structure and involved EMs choosing from a variety of different prayer experiences. These included a spiritual history walk led by Jonathan Grattidge; Scripture and Lenten meditations offered by Veronica Neild and Amanda Murjan; craft activities from Jenny Anthony of Spiral Arts; visits to the Sisters of Mercy garden and Convent Chapel and Derby Cathedral's Bridge Chapel; plus there were independent prayer stations available in the Church, along with the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Around 160 EMs attended the day and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with EMs sharing that they felt genuinely renewed and uplifted by the day's offerings.

Fran Wickes



First Communion at St Georges & Holy Spirit, Derby



Pictured are the children after Mass with Fr Alan, Fr Peter, Godwin and their teachers

Many parishes across the Deanery are welcoming children to their parish communities to prepare for First Holy Communion and St Georges and Holy Spirit in Derby are too, over the last few months the 32 children have enjoyed many varied lessons delivered by their Catechists using craft, gardening music and Drama to help facilitate and engage the children in their learning experience.

This year they have chose to Support Rainbows Hospice and Derby Refugee Project as their fun raising charities, they will have a Movie night Disco and cake sale to raise funds in the coming weeks. Each week all children and families attend weekly Mass and Canon Alan and Fr Peter ensure they support the learning with relevant child led homilies. The whole parish is looking forward to the First Holy Communion Masses taking place over the 11th and 12th May weekend.

Thank you to Mrs Mooney, Mrs O'Connor, Mrs Love, Mrs Macnamara and Mrs Scott for their help in ensuring these children encounter the love of the Lord and ensure they help them to have a life long relationship with him.

A Kind Response!



A big thank you to Amanda and mom, Jenny (Of Andrea's Treasures Of Sherwood) for responding so generously when sharing a conversation with Theresa McCarthy (Of The Good Shepherd Church, Arnold) about the "Bless-A-Baby" campaign in Cape Town, South Africa. They promptly donated a large bag of baby knits which we are extremely grateful for. More information about this charity can be found at blessababy.org

by Cheryl Broodryk

Easter Delight!



Left to right: Rebecca (Little Lambs), Alan (Arnold Foodbank), Katie & Sarah (Little Lambs)

Little Lambs spring into action to help local Foodbank

Little Lambs, the baby and toddler group which runs each Monday at The Good Shepherd Parish centre in Woodthorpe, has donated more than 100 Easter eggs to its local Arnold Foodbank, thanks to the generosity of parents and parishioners.

Katie Wilson, helper at Little Lambs and a parishioner, came up with the idea to help children who may not be so fortunate to re-

ceive a chocolate treat this Easter.

Little Lambs, which attracts more than 100 local parents, babies and toddlers each week, promoted the idea to parents who attend the group, its parish community and across its social media network and was overwhelmed by the number of Easter eggs they received.

The Easter eggs were delivered to the Arnold Foodbank On Monday 1st April so that they could start to distribute them to

children before Easter. Alan from the Foodbank was delighted with the generous donation.

As a result of such a successful response, Little Lambs has agreed to carry out the Easter egg collection on an annual basis for Arnold Foodbank.

Thank you to Little Lambs, our parish community and especially to Katie Wilson for coming up with such a great idea!

Working towards the CAFOD 'Livesimply' award

My parish (St Anne's Buxton) is working towards the CAFOD 'Livesimply' award – living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor, and many of us are realising the absolute havoc that we are all continuing to wreak on the planet. It's been on the news a lot recently – all the carbon that we produce through burning fossil fuels; the toxic chemicals that industry produces to give us goods we want which pollutes the air and makes us ill; use of plastics, especially single use plastics, which don't biodegrade. The species of plants and animals that are dying out. The pollution of the oceans with plastics. The fatbergs in our sewers made up of non-degradable wipes and fat. It's confusing. It's depressing. It's challenging.

As Christians we are called to look after the earth. Pope Francis's teaching 'Laudato Si' (Praise Be: On Care for our Common Home) makes it very clear what our responsibilities towards all of God's creation are.

But there is something that we could do that wouldn't inconvenience us at all, and which is very much in keeping with catholic

teaching. It would be wonderful for the planet and would be our final gift to the earth – a 'giving back' of what we have taken from it. It's not expensive. It wouldn't inconvenience us, and would be wonderful example of our Christian values in action.

That 'something' is a **green or natural funeral and burial**. Andrew Schafer, the Director of Catholic Cemeteries for the Archdiocese of Newark, New Jersey put it very well in 2017 when he said, "For Catholics especially, natural burial can be an expression of profound reverence for the body and the sacredness of life, a deep respect for the integrity of creation and God's good earth, and of course it emulates the most famous burial of all, that of Jesus wrapped in a shroud and buried in a rock tomb."

Modern green burial (or cremation) is still fairly new, so I contacted a (Catholic) friend at AW Lynn's Family Funeral Service to find out what could be done. He said, "Choose natural and woodland burials and completely biodegradable types of coffins or

shrouds; only place clothing or items made of natural fibres in the coffin; use caskets for human ashes made of natural fibres; have a small plaque or something planted instead of a traditional headstone; request donations to charity instead of flowers, and use electric cars for funeral vehicles".

One of the most difficult challenges is that of embalming, using fluids to present protect and preserve the body for viewing. Embalming uses many chemicals, the most toxic of which is formaldehyde gas. This releases toxins into the ground (burials), or into the air (cremations) and has been linked with cancer. But embalming is a choice, we don't have to have it done, and some natural burial sites won't allow bodies to be embalmed because of the toxicity of the chemicals used in the process.

All of us know that our bodies will die, and we need to face up and answer this question: "How, in our death, can we revere our bodies and the sacredness of human life, whilst at the same time preserving God's creation, our earth, which is the home for all new life?"



TRAVEL INSURANCE
arranged for readers of The Catholic News

ANNUAL TRAVEL INSURANCE

AVAILABLE TO ANYONE UP TO 85 YEARS OF AGE.
MOST PRE-EXISTING MEDICAL CONDITIONS ACCEPTED
TOP QUALITY COVER

With a 24 hour helpline and an air ambulance get-you-home service. Mention this advert to get a Special Catholic News discount.
Don't forget we also offer **SINGLE-TRIP COVER**, with no maximum age limit and up to £20,000 cancellation cover per couple.
CALL FOR DETAILS AND PRICES
0116 272 0500

FT Real people - not machines!
Travel Insurance Authorised and regulated by the FCA

UK based

JOE WALSH TOURS
PILGRIMAGES 2019

LOURDES DAILY BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

23 MAY | 5 NIGHTS
From Liverpool from £675pp

24 MAY | 7 NIGHTS
From Durham Tees Valley from £689pp

05 JULY | 6 NIGHTS
From Leeds - Bradford from £749pp

19 JULY | 7 NIGHTS
From Liverpool from £739pp

WE OFFER >>

- Full religious programme led by Spiritual Director
- Direct flights to Lourdes Airport
- Return airport transfers in Lourdes
- Airport taxes and charges, UK government levy and Lourdes city tax
- Full assistance of professional guides & representatives throughout

BOOK ONLINE & SAVE £10

MANCHESTER: 0161 820 8790 | LIVERPOOL: 0151 909 2871
www.joewalshstours.co.uk | info@joewalshstours.co.uk

Licensed by the Commission for Aviation Regulation, TO 052 and TA 0689 in compliance with the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangement Package Regulation 2018.

Church Pews Uncomfortable?
Why not try

safeoam

top quality upholstered foam pew cushions?
Safeoam, Green Lane, Riley Green,
Hoghton, Preston PR5 0SN
www.safeoam.co.uk
Freephone 0800 015 44 33
Free Sample Pack of foam & fabrics sent by first class mail
When phoning please quote CN101

Already We hold you in prayer.

Living in the heart of London, the Tyburn Benedictine Community has as its special mission, prayer for the people of England and Wales. Our monastery is built on the site of the Tyburn gallows where 105 Catholics were martyred during the reformation. Our life of prayer draws Sisters from many nations.

☐ Please remember my intention/s in prayer.

.....

☐ I would like to help your Mission Foundations. My gift of £_____ is enclosed (payable to Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus). Thank you!

☐ Please send me vocations information.

Name:

Address:

..... Please print.

REPLY TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ Tel.: 020 7723 7262



What makes a disciple into a missionary? Spiritually speaking, all it takes is a pair of feet. One foot steps forward to provide immediate aid to those in need; the other sets out to transform the injustice which created it. The bishops of the US called it the ‘two feet of love in action’.

You can read about both these initiatives in the latest edition of Just Now, the Justice and Peace Commission's magazine – visit the website at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/justiceandpeace.

At the heart of these initiatives are ordinary Catholics like us. Not content with 'passing by on the other side', they thought, 'What if we did something?' They found others who could help; 'what if' became 'why not?'. In simple ways the results are literally change lives.

As the image below illustrates, ***Faith into Action*** aims to capitalise on our most valuable assets: the faith, commitment and know-how of the people of our diocese. Over the next couple of years we'll look for the best way to harness these gifts, for instance through co-operation, peer-support, faith formation and practical help with finance, standards and advocacy. Ultimately it's all about evangelisation: being good news for the world in which we live.



Either way, the rhythm of justice and charity is a something every disciple is invited to share. And it's something we're listening for in Nottingham Diocese through a new project called ***Faith into Action***. It's all about supporting people like you in bringing the Gospel to life. Let me tell you something about it, and encourage you to get involved.

I'm pulling the results of the survey together as you read this, and will let you know what's emerged. But it's already clear is that there is a lot to celebrate. Let me give a couple of examples I'm already aware of.

In Derby, another parish host up to 35 homeless people every Sunday night during the winter. St Mary's take it in turns

- Find out more on the diocesan website at www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/faithintoaction
- Follow the Justice and Peace Commission on Twitter @SaltForTheEarth, or on Facebook at /nottinghamjusticeandpeace
- Or let me know if you would like to be part of the team: email justice.peace@dioceseofnottingham.uk or write to Willson House, 25 Derby Road, Nottingham NG1 5AW.

Medjugorje
7 Nights 2019




9 - 16 June
6-13 October
Depart Birmingham
Cost is £585
Single supp. £130
Travel Insurance £30

For more information contact
Kath Gambin 0116 234 0103
ATOL Number 10206


YOU CAN SUPPORT
spiritual and social help for
the sick and suffering

learn more here:
obitel-minsk.com
st.elisabeth.shop@gmail.com



 The Online Catholic Directory since 1997

www.CatholicDirectory.org



Part of the CatholicCore group:
Featuring: Catholic Voice of Lexington | Middleborough Voice | Halesbury News | Catholic News | The Voice
Catholic East Angles | Ash News | Catholic South West | Touch | View | Unity | COW News | The Catholic Mother



To advertise
Phone Janet
on

01440 730399
07931 836907

Ratcliffe College proud to host Catenians Public Speaking Award



The Catenians Catholic Schools Public Speaking Contest is an annual event which has been running for 12 years and Ratcliffe College were proud to host the event for the first time this year. This annual event gives students across the region of Province 15 an opportunity to develop their public speaking skills and to compete with students from across the region. On Sunday 24th March, Ratcliffe College were proud to welcome a number of Catenians and local Bishops as well as contestants and their families.

After an initial round of refreshments in the Old Library, guests moved to the Refectory where the competition itself was to take place. The subjects of the contestants' talks were varied and broad ranging, and the results were as follows:

First place went to Erin Broadhurst from St Thomas More, Nuneaton, for her talk “Real

love is not the stuff of pop songs”.

Second place went to Dalila Watson from Ratcliffe College, with "We are born capable; failure is a choice" (*pictured*).

Third place went to Sabina Strug from St John Fisher, Peterborough, for her talk "The idea of peace on earth is naïve".

They each had to talk for four minutes and, after a half-hour break, the judges gave their notes and verdict whilst guests enjoyed the recently opened Lockhart Garden situated in the Senior School.

The certificates for taking part were presented by National Vice President, Phil Brown, who has organised the National Finals for the last 12 years; and the three prizes were presented by Province 15 Provincial President, Keith Webb of Market Harborough Circle.

St Mary's Chaplaincy Team Lead the School in Lenten Prayer Stations



Children from St Mary's Catholic Academy in Derby created prayer liturgies based on the Stations of the Cross for the whole School. Each Class then took turns carouselling round the Stations and experiencing seven reflections designed by the Chaplaincy Team. The children spoke about how much they enjoyed taking part and how they felt closer to Jesus.

Fran Wickes



FUNERAL SERVICES

Helping with all your needs

A.W. LYMN




The Family Funeral Service

Pre-arrange & Pre-plan
for your perfect goodbye

- ✓ Reduce the worry for your loved ones
- ✓ Fix your funeral director's costs and make a contribution to third party costs
- ✓ Range of plans or personalise your own funeral
- ✓ Pay by monthly installments over 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 years
- ✓ No medical checks and no upper age limit
- ✓ Plans can be transferred if you move - T's & C's apply

Offices throughout Nottingham, Derby & Mansfield

0800 092 0645

www.lymn.co.uk  /awlymn  /awlymn  /a.w.lymn

"Our family serving your family since 1907"

Murray's Independent Funeral Directors

Owned and run by Sue and David Barke

Be assured as a Catholic family we understand how best to combine church teachings with your wishes



- On site-chapel of rest and car parking
- Pre payment plans – Repatriations
- Flowers, memorial cards and printing

Our office in Findern is just a few minutes from Littleover and Mickleover
Holly Bank House, 25 Main St.

Findern, Derbys DE65 6AG

Tel: 01332 425022

Also at 23 York St.
Burton upon Trent DE14 2LX

murraysfunerals.co.uk



RH

ROBERT HOLLAND
Funeral Directors

**GRANTHAM'S ONLY FULLY QUALIFIED
AND INDEPENDENT FAMILY RUN
FUNERAL DIRECTORS**

*"A professional, compassionate &
local service"*

14, St Catherine's Road,
Grantham, NG31 6TS

Tel: 01476 594422 (24hours)

email: funerals@rhfd.co.uk
www.roberthollandfunerals.co.uk

For details of upcoming funerals please
visit www.roberthollandfunerals.co.uk/current-funerals

**Find Mass Times
around the
Diocese**

www.catholicdirectory.org

or on
your
Mobile



Students at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy are to forge links with the Royal British Legion

Students at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy are to forge links with the Royal British Legion after meeting two of the organisation's members.

Arthur Norman, 86, and Paul Scott, 67, visited Saint John Houghton CVA to meet members of the school's Justice and Peace group and students studying history.

The pair first came into contact with the

school when they helped provide poppies on Remembrance Day and were invited to meet students by school lay chaplain Rachel Rose.

There are now plans for students to visit local care homes to talk to RBL members who live there and to fundraise for the RBL.

Paul was in the Royal Artillery and he shared stories with the students and an-



swered their questions.

He said: "There have been a lot of developments over the years and now the Royal Artillery has more drones than guns. Soldiers now also carry a piece of kit like a phone and they can see and talk to anyone anywhere in the world I was in the Army for 12 years and Arthur was in the Navy. I enjoyed it and would do it again."

Paul also told students about the different coloured poppies that are made for Remembrance Day.

He said: "People often think that poppies are red because of the blood that was shed. That is a fallacy. Poppies grow well in disturbed ground and at the end of the war in the spring poppies grew where the battles were fought. Purple poppies are for the animals that served and they might have been horses, dogs and pigeons, there were lots of pigeons in World War One."

Both Arthur and Paul encouraged the students to consider joining the air cadets.

Paul said: "Joining the air cadets doesn't mean you are going to go to war. You will learn skills such as how to work in a team. It's also about discipline and comradeship. You learn to rely on people. You don't have to go into the forces, it's just a group of youngsters who get together and learn and respect other people."

Rachel said: "It was an honour to welcome Paul and Arthur from the Royal British Legion to our J&P meeting. They shared their memories with the J&P Group and history students. I will be in contact with both of them about organising future events."

Finn Sherwin, GCSE history student, said: "It was a great opportunity to bring history alive but it was also chilling to think that so many lives had been lost."

Student Olivia Drummond said: "It makes the work of J&P even more urgent because there are so many wars happening today and we need to learn from the past."



RUN TO THE SON

Prayer and Inspiration for Mission

"I have come to set the earth on fire" Luke 12:49

June 21st-23rd 2019



A weekend of worship, prayer and discovery of your personal mission in Christ

Excellent on-site Hotel www.buckfastaccommodation.org.uk
Or free on-site camping

Event cost £50 to include all meals and refreshments

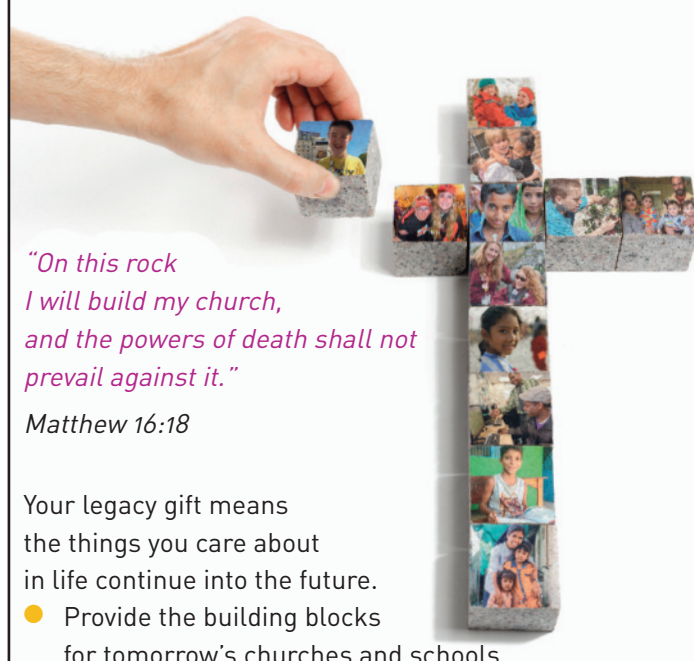
More information:
www.buckfast.org.uk/run-to-the-son
Tel 01752 701660

Buckfast Abbey
FOUNDED 1018

at Buckfast Abbey

Lay a foundation of faith

Share your faith and hope with future generations by leaving a gift in your Will to a Catholic cause.



"On this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it."

Matthew 16:18

Your legacy gift means the things you care about in life continue into the future.

- Provide the building blocks for tomorrow's churches and schools
- Plant the seed of faith in children
- Share God's love and care with those most in need

Your Catholic Legacy is a group of 27 organisations.

You can choose the causes you feel most passionate about and make a difference to many people's lives.

To find out more, visit yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk or call **020 7095 5370**



Temporary Classrooms at The Good Shepherd School replaced after 50 years!

On Tuesday the 19th March, the Good Shepherd School community was finally able to celebrate the official opening of their two new classrooms, the Saint Joseph's classrooms. The two wooden temporary classrooms have been in use at the Good Shepherd School for more than 50 years. Hundreds of children, including the school's current Headteacher, Mrs Williams, have been educated in them by many teachers. However, their shelf life had definitely come to an end and this was particularly evident during the last five years.

Three consecutive bids were submitted to the DFE by the school, the final one being in the summer term, 2018, when again the school was unsuccessful in securing the money that was so desperately needed to replace the now rotting and tumbling classrooms with ones that were safe, clean and fit for purpose.

It was on a Saturday morning last Spring when as a final re-

sort, Mrs Williams, Headteacher of the Good Shepherd School approached Mr Vernon Coaker, as she spotted him walking along the high street in Arnold. He was invited to come along and see the classrooms that through necessity were still being used to educate pupils, which he promptly did that same afternoon.

Mr Coaker was appalled by the condition of the buildings,



the crumbling walls, the smell of rotten wood and the lack of a second fire evacuation route. He supported the school with the appeal against the decision not to replace the classrooms and he sent a letter directly to Lord Nash. This resulted in a successful appeal and a grant which provided the demolition of the old classrooms and the building of two new classrooms suitable for children in the 21st Century. Mrs Williams, Headteacher of The Good Shepherd School

said: "We can't thank Mr Coaker enough for his support and for championing our cause at a national level to enable us to secure this vital funding. We are incredibly proud of our new building and the children and teachers are really enjoying their new learning environment."



"The new Saint Joseph's classrooms were officially opened and blessed by Bishop Patrick, on the Feast day dedicated to Saint Joseph, the 19th March. It was a memorable experience for the whole school community, it was a great privilege to have Bishop Patrick with us, our Governors, Michelle Welsh as Mr Coaker's representative, as well as many parents and relatives."



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE SCHOOLS ON THIS PAGE FOR SUPPORTING THE PAPER

Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy



Beacon Road
Loughborough
Leicester
LE11 2BG
01509 212204
Headteacher
Mrs L Atkins

TESTIMONIAL



Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy

Beacon Road,
Loughborough
Leicester LE11 2BG
01509 212204
Headteacher Mrs L Atkins

This advert is a great way to promote our school to Catholic families in the area. It is a small amount to pay for a very wide readership.

Reach

Our website has moved to
www.ReachNewspaper.com

HEADTEACHERS

If you would like to support the Nottingham Catholic News and promote your School to Catholic families in the area, please contact Janet on 07931 836907 or mail janett@cathcom.org

CALLING ALL HEADTEACHERS & RE CO-ORDINATORS

Reach for Parents

Reach for Children

NEW 8-Page Reach for Children

Includes... Lesson Plans Homework Sheets Classroom Resources

Some of the pages from this edition

£34.95 for 300 copies - £119.80 for the year (£29.95 per issue)
Contact us now on 01440 730399 or schools@reachnewspaper.com
www.reachnewspaper.com