



MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

Catholic News

MORE THAN 21 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

ISSUE 285
November 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



Saint John Henry Newman

Article and photos by Dr James Campbell

As Pope Francis named Cardinal John Henry Newman a saint on October 13 2019, he told Catholics that the goal of life is a transforming encounter with Jesus.

“The ultimate goal is not health or wellness, but the encounter with Jesus ... He alone frees us from evil and heals our hearts. Only an encounter with him can save, can make life full and beautiful,” Pope Francis said at the canonisation Mass in St. Peter’s Square.

Pope Francis officially recognised John Henry Newman, Mariam Thresia, Marguerite Bays, Giuseppina Vannini, and Dulce Lopes as saints and created them saints on the same day.

The canonisation was attended by Prince Charles, along with delegates from the Church of England a brotherly expression of love and faith.

“Today we give thanks to the Lord for our new saints. They walked by faith and now we invoke their intercession,” the Holy Father said.

From the altar at the front of St Peter’s Pope Francis read a quote from one of Newman’s sermons describing the holiness of daily life: “The Christian has a deep, silent, hidden peace, which the world sees not... The Christian is cheerful, easy, kind, gentle, courteous, candid, unassuming; has no pretence... with so little that is unusual or striking



The altar of Santa Maria Maggiore with the new saint's picture. The day before the canonisation a vigil was held in his honour.

in his bearing, that he may easily be taken at first sight for an ordinary man.” Newman was a 19th-century theologian, poet, Catholic priest and cardinal. Born in 1801, before his conversion he was a well-known and well-respected Oxford academic, Anglican preacher, and public intellectual.

Newman’s 1845 conversion to the Catholic faith was controversial in England, and resulted in the loss of many friends, including his own sister who never spoke to him again.

He became a priest in 1847 and founded the Oratory of St. Philip Neri in England. He was particularly dedicated to education, founding two schools for boys and the Catholic University of Ireland. His “Idea is a University” became a foundational text on Catholic higher education. He was a prolific author and letter writer. Newman died in Birmingham in 1890 at 89.

St. John Henry Newman is Britain’s first new saint since the canonization of St. John Ogilvie in 1976.

“Let us ask to be ... ‘kindly lights’ amid the encircling gloom. Jesus, ‘stay with me, and then I shall begin to shine as Thou shinest: so to shine as to be a light to others,” Pope Francis said in his Oct. 13 homily, quoting parts of Newman’s “Meditations on Christian Doctrine.”

Along with Newman, Pope Francis canonized four women. Mother Mariam Thresia (1876-1926) who was an Indian mystic and founder of the

Congregation of the Holy Family. The Syro-Malabar Catholic foundress received the stigmata and would sometimes levitate during prayer.

Giuseppina Vannini (1859-1911) religious sister from Rome known for founding the congregation of the Daughters of St. Camillus dedicated to serving the sick and suffering. Sister Dulce Lopes Pontes (1914-1992) founded the largest charitable organization in Brazil providing healthcare, welfare, and education service. Nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize, she is the first Brazilian-born female saint.

Pope Francis said that these three religious women saints show us that the consecrated life is “a journey of love at the existential peripheries of the world.”

“Saint Marguerite Bays, on the other hand, was a seamstress; she speaks to us of the power of simple prayer, enduring patience and silent self-giving,” the pope said. “That is how the Lord made the splendour of Easter radiate in her life.

“As we mark the life of this great Briton, this great churchman and, as we can now say, this great saint, who bridges the divisions between traditions, it is surely right that we give thanks for the friendship which, despite the parting, has not merely endured, but has strengthened. The Prince of Wales, who attended the canonisations, said,

“In the image of divine harmony which Newman expressed so eloquently, we can see how, ultimately, as we follow with sincerity and courage the different paths to which conscience calls us, all our divisions can lead to a greater understanding and all our ways can find a common home.”



Pilgrims from all over the world filled St Peter's Square for the canonisation of five new saints.



Four nuns were also canonised along with the Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman and relics of the five new saints were presented to the Pope for his blessing. A relic of Saint John Henry Newman was carried by the boy just stepping off the Dias. He is the brother of the girl whose life was saved after an appeal to Saint John anwhich was accepted as a testament to the second miracle.



HRH The Prince of Wales attended the Canonisation. Immediately behind him is our Ambassador to the Holy See Sally Axworthy who is talking to the Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Freedom of Religion or Belief, Rehman Chisti



RATCLIFFE COLLEGE

An Independent Catholic School

...
Boys and Girls Day and Boarding 3 - 18 Years
...
ISI School Inspection "Excellent"

Scholarships and Bursaries available for Years 7 & 12



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

T: 01509 817072 or 817031
E: registrar@ratcliffecollege.com
www.ratcliffecollege.com

Fosse Way (A46),
Ratcliffe on the Wreake,
Leicester, LE7 4SG





**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: johnclwson@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

johnclwson@icloud.com
before 10th of the month

Unplanned: An evening with a Hollywood producer

When the film Unplanned was released in America this year it had unexpected success in more ways than one.

The film is based on the true story of Abby Johnson who went from a Planned Parenthood manager, in a facility that carried out thousands of abortions, to a leading pro life advocate who helps people leave the abortion industry. The film was a huge box office success, in spite of difficulties finding cinemas that would screen it. It also impacted people who saw it and many previously pro choice people have reported how it had made them rethink their position. I was very privileged to have seen the film myself at a private 40 Days for Life preview showing. I found the film to be moving and very sensitively done.

At the Good Shepherd Church in Arnold Nottingham we had hoped to screen the film as part of an evening with a pro life speaker, Greg Jackson. However we were contacted by one of the producers of the film, Sheila Hart, who explained that they were trying to get the film into UK cinemas and asked us if we would hold back on showing the film. She was happy for us to show a documentary about the making of the film instead and offered to be available for a Skype question and answer session afterwards.

As organisers we certainly didn't want to undermine attempts to get the film into UK cinemas and were happy to agree to the new format. The evening went ahead on 12th September in the church social centre. About fifty people attended. The documentary was well received and a number of people had questions for the producer. Many of these concerned whether the film would be shown in the UK and what we could do to help make this happen. Sheila told us that the British film board had just given the film a rating of 16 but as yet there was no film distributor willing to take on the film in the UK. She suggested that the best way that we could help would be to contact local cinemas and ask that they show it. A petition showing the extent of the demand would

also be very helpful.

After the Skype session Greg Jackson, of Right to Life, gave a very stimulating talk explaining the pro life argument and how we could effectively dialogue with people who may claim to be pro choice but haven't really thought through the issues. He took a very logical approach getting to the heart of what abortion actually is. He demonstrated that a human life has been scientifically proven to begin at conception. Whatever euphemisms are used to describe this person at different stages of development, there is no escaping the fact that abortion ends a human life.

Greg also dealt sensitively with the "difficult questions" that often come up. He kept coming back to the fact that, regardless of the circumstances surrounding the conception of a child, that child is no less human and deserves our protection too.



Links: For a trailer about the film Unplanned please view
<https://youtu.be/gBLWpKbC3ww>

With the backing of Bishop Patrick, petition forms have gone out to all parishes in the diocese. If you would like to help get the film Unplanned into a local cinema please look out for the petition and sign it.

If you have been affected by abortion and would like to talk to someone you can contact: Arch Helpline on 0345 603 8501

Submitted by Marie Langford

Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

As I write here at the hermitage along with many others we are preparing to celebrate the canonization of Blessed John Henry Newman on October 13th and as we do so we join in a great chain of prayer by praying the Novena with Newman, a period of nine days of prayer in preparation for Newman's canonization and by the time our catholic news is published in November we shall be asking Saint John Henry Newman of his prayers.

Saint John Henry Newman in 1879 when he became a Cardinal chose "heart speaks unto heart" as the motto to go on his coat of arms, these were words from the great Bishop Saint Francis de Sales a great spiritual writer who Newman himself greatly revered.

Newman as we know was known as a great theologian and academic, however many of his writings hold a devotional tone and he wrote many prayers, one of such is known as 'Radiating Christ'

*Dear Jesus - help me to spread
Your fragrance everywhere I go
Flood my soul with Your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess my whole
being so utterly
that all my life may only be a
radiance of Yours.
Shine through me,
and be so in me that every soul
I come into contact with
may feel Your presence in my soul.
Let them look up and see no longer me
but only Jesus.*

Perhaps setting aside all other of Newman's writings and works, this prayer alone reveals the heart of the man Newman who is deeply in love with Jesus and who wanted to share the reality of this love with others. Newman like so many of us felt his humanity but also knew that he was redeemed by Christ.

Here within the hermitage we have used Newman's motto 'heart speaks unto heart', in our prayers and meditations throughout the nine days Novena and have considered how Newman's motto is truly for us an invitation to make time to be with God in prayer, and this is an invitation to everyone of us to spend time in communicating with the loving heart of God. The whole precepts of the Gospel of course is one of Love - but if we want to live this Love, then we must draw from the source of all life and love, from the heart of Jesus there is no other way, as Newman put it, 'to shine with God's light.'

In the Church we face challenging times in so many ways - we are often called to account as individuals and as members of the



Body of Christ and so these difficult and challenging times require that we be people of great conviction, people who are committed to our faith.

Newman while a Anglican wrote in a sermon: "Eloquence and wit, shrewdness and dexterity, these plead a cause well and propagate it quickly, but then it dies with them. It has no root in the heart of men, and lives not out a generation."

Few people have the gift of oration, but many do have the gift of sincerity and passion in great depth. And surely these are the most important qualifications for witnessing to our faith and are the most convincing when witnessing and sharing with someone our faith from the depths of our heart what our faith means to us.

In reality of course, we are unable to share with others what we have not received ourselves and do not know ourselves. And so we are all called as Catholics to pray that we be filled with Christ's love and presence and to speak from the heart to others about our living faith.

Our world today suffers a spiritual poverty, many people lack a loving presence in their lives. therefore we must witness for Christ by the example of our lives, bringing God's love and comfort to our world by sharing our faith, being women and men of prayer - 'heart speaking unto heart'. then as a fruit of our prayer we are able to speak to peoples hearts through our everyday actions, showing God's love with a lively and authentic faith.

Maybe the eyes of the world are on us in these times, now is the time to reach out, to be that fragrance which Newman speaks of in his prayer - so that the fragrance of Christ may be shared with everyone, everywhere we go, a fragrance that is life-changing and priceless. In Newman's words 'To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often'.

May Saint John Henry Newman pray for us!

**Fr. David + H.D.N.
Priest and Hermit
Diocese of Nottingham**

FRANKLY SPEAKING

When I occasionally look back to my 40 years in industry the date of August 16th 1962 comes to mind. It was a sunny summers day when at 9.30am the internal auditor from London walked through the office door some 200 miles from the company head office. High on his agenda was to check the petty cash box and the postage box then dominated by stamps in the old currency which was to change 9 years later. Before the change took place my employer's had been taken over by a then smaller British company which is now a major chemical international group. Perhaps the auditor really did not have the right priority that day.

In this digital age we appear to have a difficult problem with our auditors. At least that auditor in 1962 seemed to know what to look for. I am not sure that is the case today. The recent events at Thomas Cook have resulted in a likely investigation by the Financial Reporting Council and the role of the auditors will be under close scrutiny. It is also likely that MP's on a select committee will investigate the bonuses awarded to some individuals in an organisation which changed auditors just 2 years ago. The financial debts accumulated appear to be massive. The human misery caused by lost jobs and to tens of thousands of holiday's really bring the message home and 'begs' the question why was this was allowed to happen?

The Thomas Cook revelations came in

the middle of the Party Conference season when all other news was relegated as Brexit dominated most days. There was however one story which did not get much coverage and yes it surely involves auditors again. The financial victims this time would appear to be some students. Possibly 20,000 are being pursued for almost £25 million which has been over-paid. If these figures are correct it is likely some will have spent the money and I do wonder if like Thomas Cook we will again be told that "lessons will be learned."

The failure of some major audits in the digital age should be of concern to everyone. Very few people in my experience like being checked on without organisations always have a reliable auditor who is able to give advice and is certainly not to be feared.

This article is being written on the tenth anniversary of the visit of the relics of St Therese of Lisieux to Nottingham Cathedral. Saint Barnabas had a large congregation (at east 1,500 stood outside the Solemn Mass) as had many other locations. Saint Therese is greatly and rightly associated with both wisdom and humility. Those associated with responsibility for major audits need these qualities as our country faces an uncertain future.

**Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish
Newark**

A GRANDMA SO PROUD OF HER GRANDDAUGHTER

By Pat Gallagher

Victoria went to University straight from school and obtained a First Class honours degree. She and a friend wanted a break and wished to do something useful for God. They wanted to go to Africa to work in an Orphanage but sadly her friend could not afford the fare, so Victoria was to go alone - which worried her parents and us. As I had been a couple of times to The Wajir Mission, which I had been involved with for many years, it was suggested that Victoria might go there. The Wajir Mission has been The Parish Mission for many years and due to my connections with The Daughters of St. Anne, Sister Lettemeret obtained a place for Victoria in The House of Charity for Orphans. Sister Lette, as we call her, invited me along as well. Victoria was thrilled, at 84 years of age I never expected to go back. Those 2 weeks with my Granddaughter through tears and joys will live with me until the day I die. Holidays come and go and are forgotten but not this.

Our base was The Convent of St Anne in Nairobi. Next day we took Victoria to the orphanage. Whilst there a man was standing close to us, he had just picked up a baby from a drain. I felt sure the poor child was

dead.

Victoria worked there for 8 days and upon leaving the children were all calling her Ma-Ma. Also whilst there a Sister Maria invited me into the nursery, the "dead baby girl" was absolutely beautiful, clean in a lovely clean cradle, apparently they gave her little drinks on the hour throughout the day and night. For me it was a miracle, and thank God there are Convents and Missions in the remotest parts of the World for babies and people to go to and nuns, priests and lay People who devote their lives doing God's work.

We had a day back at the Convent and the next day we flew to Wajir, actually we crash landed into the field! We had 3 days there in a persistent heat of 45 degrees. Our mistake was we went in school holidays. Even the Franciscan Priest was on holiday. However children walked miles to see us. They sang, danced and we had a sumptuous party of bananas, sweets and water. For me it was great to see the improvements, new classrooms, dormitories, showers, toilets. The school is called St. John's R.C. School, and apart from the concentration on good



education for girls, the children are taught how to grow their own vegetables, how to make bread, sewing lessons etc. The list is endless, paramount is hygiene. Apart from this it is a Mission where they hold baby clinics, A handicapped centre, looks after the elderly, people who walk many miles for help.

Back in Nairobi one of the nuns had to return to her Mission station in Lemksem, on the border of Tanzania in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro. What a shock - it was poorer than Wajir. The journey had been treacherous, mostly desert, short cuts across dry river beds, how the truck did not turn over I will never know. Through the poor villages, children stand hoping vehicles will pass by, and as the nuns are used to this there are boxes of water and bananas to hand out which we did en-route. our time was limited there and poor Victoria did not

want to leave. After being in England for a week she persuaded her daddy to purchase a ticket to return. She returned and stayed there for 3 months. In the mornings she taught the children English in the Village school, and in the afternoons she worked with the nuns in the hospital. Evenings were occupied with the children in games. She is now working in England in "MUSICAL THERAPY FOR DEMENTIA PEOPLE"

Victoria a few Sundays ago did The London - Brighton Cycle Ride to raise funds for a baby's incubator for the Maternity Ward at the Lemksem hospital. So far she has raised £700, If anyone reading this feels they would like to help they can do so direct by donating to The Wajir Account No: 20 81 20 90035548 or send a cheque to Victoria Crouch C/o: Mrs Pat Gallagher, 9 Emmanuel Road, Stamford, PE9 1JE.



Nottingham Diocese Spirituality Network

Days of Prayer:
7 December 2019
14 March 2020
13 June 2020

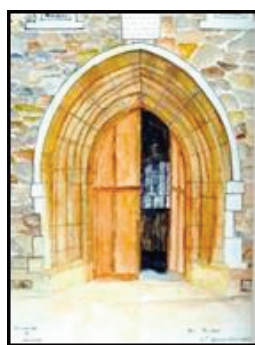
Days of Prayer:
Offering different ways of praying

Deepening My Prayer Life

Day starts with coffee at 10.00 and ends with a Liturgy at 3.00pm
St Alban's Chaddesden, Derby DE21 6ET

7 December - Advent Retreat with Patricia Stoa
14 March - Lectio Divina
13 June - Silent/Centring Prayer

Ann Neale
Tel. 01623 811141 Mob. 07730 956156 ann@perkeo.co.uk
Or
Angela Fairbrother
Tel. 01332 544146 Mob. 07813 584213
angelafrbrother69@gmail.com



House of Prayer

Thought for November

God is our Father, and He acts only for the good of His children. He takes us to Himself, or He lets us continue to live, according to His knowledge of whether the one or the other is the more beneficial for the eternal salvation of our souls.

A. Rosmini Turin, 6.03.37

NOVEMBER
9 Saturday - 2-4.30 pm
Margaret Smidowicz, An Ordinary Person
GOD IN MY LIFE: INVITATION, MISSION, GRATITUDE
15 Friday - 7-9 pm
Healing Mass, Celebrant Fr. Anthony Meredith.
19 Tuesday - 7-8.30 pm
Endurance and hope in the Splendid Book of the Apocalypse of St John - Fr. A. Belsito IC
30 Saturday - 3-4.30 pm
Mercy Chaplet and Lectio Divina

DECEMBER
7 Saturday
Advent Retreat guide by Fr. Tony Furlong IC
10 am to 3.30 pm Reflection, Mass, opportunity for Confession. Lunch and refreshments.
Suggested donation £15-£20. Please register 01509 813078 or rosminicentreinfo@gmail.com
13 Friday - 7-9 pm
Healing Mass, Celebrant Fr. Anthony Meredith

LOOKING AHEAD to 2020

Second Saturdays 2 - 4.30
January, February, March - Rev Bill Myers on St. John Henry Newman; Conversion, Struggle, Vindication.
September, October, November - God in My Life....series

Seasonal Retreat Days; Healing Masses; Scripture themes with Fr. Belsito
ROSMINI CENTRE, 433 FOSSE WAY, LE7 4SJ
Fr David - Mobile: 07748152653 Tel: 01509 813078
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.



CAFOD and CIDSE Residential - 'Our Common Home'

YOUNG CLIMATE ACTIVISTS COMMITTED TO ACTION FOR OUR COMMON HOME

At the end of August, eight CAFOD Climate Champions from the UK joined climate activists from around the world for CAFOD and CIDSE's 'Our Common Home' Residential at Alton Castle in the Birmingham Archdiocese. We were there because we had all been inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical 'Laudato Si - Care for our Common Home' to take urgent action in our parishes, communities and wider world to protect our climate. The long weekend followed the Catholic Social Teaching principles of See, Judge, Act. The first day was about communicating messages around climate change and how we might do this with people who do not agree with us or might not know about the current climate issues. The session was led by You Tuber 'Climate Adam' who encouraged us to use simple language to convey important messages. In groups, we produced our own videos and had an awards evening at the end. The second day was a retreat led by Fr. Martin Paulsoms focusing on an ecological conversion that Pope Francis spoke so poignantly about in Laudato Si. Pope Francis talks in this section about living a good and simple life. We heard stories from our friends from Peru and India who had used the words of Pope

Francis to mobilise community networks to tackle the pressing climate issues in their countries. The words that stuck with me on that day were: 'the cry of the earth is the cry of the poor.' We must see issues of poverty and climate as one, not as separate problems. The next day was focused on taking political action and working with our political representatives to tackle climate change. It was the CAFOD team who led this session after the Mass Lobby of Parliament in June 2019 had led us all to consider the best ways to effectively lobby our MPs even if they might not have the climate as top of their agenda. We discussed the challenges of political action in countries where representatives weren't reachable and followed a totally different agenda. That afternoon, we look at how we could act in our parishes and communities to ensure we were all united behind this important issue and how as Catholics we can use our faith to protect our common home. Pope Francis talks in Laudato Si about how small actions can make a big change in our care for the world around us so the last session before we left was about what we were going to do back in our communities to start this change. It was a brilliant experience to be united with



other Catholics in tackling climate change and being guided by our faith to act on this. We spent our evenings introducing delegates to a British Pub Quiz and Morris Dancing before an Intercultural Night in which we all shared a song or dance from our country along with food and drinks. It will be five years next year since the publi-

cation of Laudato Si and it would be brilliant to see all our parishes in the diocese reflecting on what the Pope talked about in the encyclical and how we can live out this message in our communities.

Mairi-Frances McKay
Leicester

Thanksgiving for 170 years of the Sisters of Mercy, at Derby - the Bishop's homily

On the 23rd of September, the Bishop celebrated Mass in thanksgiving for 170 years of the presence of the Sisters of Mercy at St Mary's, Derby. The following was his homily at this event.

"What a wonderful presence you have had in Derby as Sisters of Mercy. From first establishing a convent here in S. Mary's parish on the Nottingham Road in October 1849, and the early vitality of teaching in the day and night schools, of setting up an orphanage, a house of mercy and a teachers' training college. Just ten days after arriving in Derby your predecessors were visiting the poor and the sick in their homes. Seven months later the joy of a new novice. Six years later in 1856, being feted with a military guard of honour for the return to Derby of Mother Mary Francis Bridgeman and three other sisters after their heroic and selfless nursing work during the Crimean War. Then the necessary move of the convent from Nottingham Road to what became Bridge Gate in 1862, a gift from the Honourable Mrs. Beaumont whose home it had been and who was such a generous benefactor. Then, along the way of your spiritual journey here in S. Mary's parish, Derby, you gradually established S. Philomena's Convent, Beechwood, Catherine McAuley House, Mount Carmel House, S. John Fisher and S. Philomena Convents, and all the units of The Mercy Care Centre. Although the difficult and painful decisions to close both Bridge Gate and Beechwood Convents have now been made, what a wonderful legacy of Christian nursing care for the elderly, and specialist care for people suffering from dementia, still remains here in Derby thanks to your prayerful presence and hard work over the past 170 years. Then there's your ecumenical work at the Padley Centre in reaching out to the homeless.

"Your work in education here in Derby also led out from the Bridge Gate Convent schools to the following houses being

opened in Derbyshire at points in your history, Belper, S. Joseph's, Derby, Alvaston, Swadlincote and S. Mary's Nursing Home, Ednaston, and in Nottingham at Carlton, and in Lincolnshire to the staffing of a primary school and a secondary school in Gainsborough. Not all have continued to this day, some only for a short while, but they each served a useful purpose in their time. And so here again we thank God for the legacy in education you leave here in Derby.

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to join you in giving God thanks for all that he has helped you to achieve through your prayerful and active presence here in Derby. You have indeed much to give thanks to God for, and you have chosen some most appropriate scripture readings to express this. In particular, I would like to comment a little on the first reading from S. Paul, one of my favourite scripture passages.

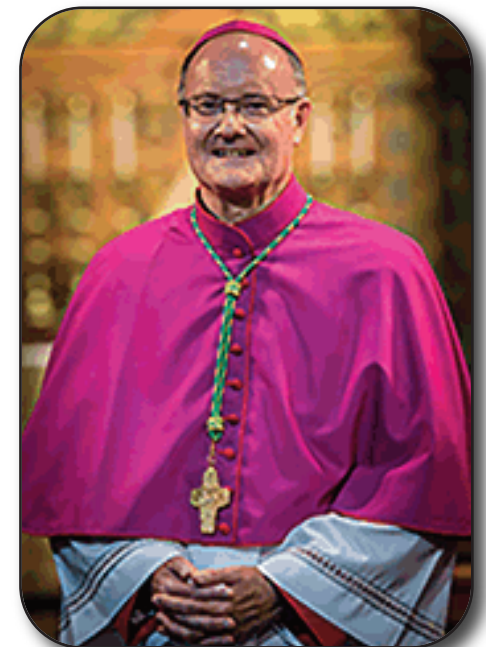
'Out of his infinite glory, may he give you the power through his Spirit for your hidden self to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love, you will with all the saints have strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God.'

"On occasions like this, there can be a danger of just being nostalgic, but instead this reading from S. Paul is an encouragement to you as a Religious Congregation to look upon the past 170 years as a time of grace, as a fruitful time marked very much by the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit. It has indeed been a most blessed period of time in your history which at some point soon will bear being re-examined to explore what can be learned for your present time and for the future. I say this because although the English translation of this piece of scripture suggests, in its use of the words 'you' and 'yours', that it's a prayer addressed to the individual, in the original Greek, all

these pronouns are plural. It's a rich scriptural text therefore that a community or a Religious Congregation could fruitfully reflect upon especially when you hear Paul praying that you 'may grow strong'. Because isn't it true that most of us are strengthened in our faith and in our commitment to the Lord by the witness of those around us, and by that of those who have gone before us? Therefore, the memory and varied Christian witness, teaching, prayer, nursing and acts of courage, compassion and love of your Sisters who have served here in Derby these past 170 years all have the power to continue to inspire, shape and strengthen your lives as Sisters of Mercy.

"There's also a challenge for you, for all of us, in this scripture passage when S. Paul prays may 'Christ live in your hearts through faith'. This personal living relationship with Christ was foundational for the amazing generosity and self-sacrifice which inspired the first Sisters of Mercy who came to Derby and subsequent Sisters since. The Risen and living Lord Jesus continues to come to us in Word and Sacrament, as today in this Mass of Thanksgiving, and, as well we know, he continues to seek hearts in and through which he may live and act. We know in hearts where Christ is allowed to dwell and to work there is always self-giving and passionate love which continues to inspire and make fruitful the work of all Christ's disciples; this is certainly true of you and of all who live out the Religious/Consecrated Life, because your life is essentially a response to the Holy Spirit's call to follow Jesus intimately and to live the Gospel generously, especially in and through your 4th vow of service and outreach to the most vulnerable and poor of our society.

"Your leadership team has had to make difficult decisions concerning Beechwood and Bridge Gate. Yes, there are real issues to be faced of ageing Sisters and a decrease in the number of young people entering Religious Life, which have no doubt had a bearing on the decisions they have made. But in the



gospel reading, you have chosen for this Mass of Thanksgiving to God, I hear a wonderful expression of your ongoing trust and confidence in the One whom we each seek to follow generously; the One whom you hear saying to you in this gospel passage when contemplating your future: "Do not worry. No; set your hearts on his Kingdom...There is no need to be afraid" I thank God and you for your courageous witness in Derby these past 170 years, and I ask God's blessing on your new initiative to lease the Bridge Gate Convent building to a local charity, Women's Work, Derby for part of their work. It's a charity which works with and reaches out to support and improve the health and well-being of disadvantaged and vulnerable women (and their children) here in Derby and the county. To the Leadership Team and to all the sisters who have served so generously here in Derby, and whose presence will be greatly missed, I now end by personalising the final part of S. Paul's prayer in the first reading. This is my prayer for you, and I know I am joined in it, by all your guests, especially the clergy and parishioners of S. Mary's and neighbouring parishes: 'Glory be to God whose power, working in you, can do infinitely more than you can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.'

Confirmation of Eight young parishioners

On Friday 20th September Bishop Patrick came to St. Gregory's, Sileby, to confirm eight of our young parishioners: Isaac, Lucy, Kian, Sophiea, Jack, Hope, Gareth and Matthew.

It was a lovely parish event. Fr Jonathan, the Bishop's private secretary, was effusive in his praise of the organisation of the evening, the number and the quality of the altar servers (thank you, Wilf), the wonderful music (thank you, Jean and Veronica) and the self-evident sense of community spirit which he could clearly perceive. As a parish, we join with Bishop Patrick who thanked the catechists for their work over several months in preparing the candidates (thank you, Rebecca and Roberta).

The parish organised a Macmillan Coffee morning on Saturday 28th September. The magnificent sum £463.18 was raised on the day. To this must be added gift aid valued at £48.00.

Cakes sold the following morning after Mass brought the grand total to £548. The young people who had just been confirmed by Bishop Patrick were really helpful and thoroughly enjoyed it, so it was a success all round.

Peter Fryer

www.saintgregorysileby.org



Confirmation candidates with Bishop Patrick



Bishop Patrick and our excellent altar servers



Some of the young confirmands running a stall at the Macmillan Coffee morning.

All of a piece

By Julia Beacroft

I HAVE ALWAYS absolutely loathed doing jigsaws. We have a great family 'dine-out' anecdote featuring moi, about my jigsaw exploits. Apparently I used to rip bits off the jigsaw pieces to make them fit, when I was a child. The fact that the picture didn't make any sense whatsoever was apparently irrelevant to me, or so I've been told! It seems that doing jigsaws is just not in my skills set – both then and now.

EXTRAORDINARILY GIFTED

There is a lovely quotation which claims: 'Love what you do, by doing what you're good at' and I feel that this is so true. We are almost certainly good at doing the things which we love. And yet I have noticed time and again some incredible facts about the talents which people have. We are an extraordinarily gifted people and our range of talents is indeed breathtaking. It's an interesting fact that if a number of completely diverse people found themselves in a strategic situation, such as on a desert island, the miracle would be that the combination of their individual skills would be sufficient for survival, or to achieve some measure of success in another situation. It's also incredible how we can learn to improve upon our gifts because we have been given the capacity to do so.

In his letter to the Romans, St Paul reminds us of these different gifts and of our need to use them to their fullest advantage:

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

FIT TOGETHER

Of course St Paul is absolutely right in that we are called to share those gifts which we have been entrusted with and he also points out that these are ours only by virtue of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. And we can explore this still further by looking at each person as a whole. We have been created with a perfect balance of characteristics, skills and tastes in what is the miracle of life.

There is another idiom which refers to the 'rich tapestry of life' and every single person is part of that tapestry. Whether we consider ourselves to be an individual stitch in it or one jigsaw piece in the whole picture, that picture or tapestry would be incomplete without it – without you or I. And so we give grateful thanks to the Creator who made all things and endowed us with such a marvelous variety of gifts and talents. By his grace our personal jigsaw is thereby complete, designing us to fit together with each other and with Christ.

JOE WALSH TOURS

PILGRIMAGES 2019

Calling all
Group Leaders

- » **Direct flights** from various airports in the UK
- » **Special incentives** for group bookings based on group numbers
- » Free promotional materials to assist your tours
- » **Fully licenced and bonded Tour Operator** for your full financial protection

LONDON: 0203 468 0617 | CARDIFF: 0292 000 3865

www.joewalsh tours.co.uk | info@joewalsh tours.co.uk

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



Right Reverend Patrick Joseph McKinney Bishop of Nottingham Pastoral Letter appointed to be read out at all Masses celebrated on Saturday 5th October and Sunday 6th October 2019 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Thursday, 10th October, people around the world will mark World Homeless Day. Its purpose is to draw attention to the needs of homeless people locally, and to inspire ways in which we might respond positively to this growing phenomenon. Here in the UK 320,000 people were recorded as homeless at the end of 2018; that figure represents a rise of 13,000 on the previous year's figure. It's equivalent to 36 new people becoming homeless every day. Between 4 and 5 thousand people bed down on the streets on any given night, an increase of 160% since 2010, when World Homeless Day began. Although it's rough sleepers that we see about the towns and cities of our diocese, they are just the visible tip of the iceberg when it comes to understanding the extent of the homeless crisis. At the end of 2018 78,930 households were in temporary accommodation, and so many homeless men and women never show up on official statistics; 495 homeless individuals died isolated and alone. No one chooses to be homeless. People become homeless for many different reasons including, losing a job, a breakdown in relationships, bereavement, lack of affordable housing, mental and physical health problems, and it can happen to people from all social backgrounds.

The story of Sarah, a young single mum with three young children, illustrates how easily the risk of homelessness can happen. Sarah was unexpectedly made redundant at work and so was forced to consider applying for benefits. She didn't have a computer or access to the internet, or any IT

skills. So, with no job, no money, and the threat of losing her rented accommodation, Sarah began selling her few possessions so that she could buy food for her children. A Christian neighbour, seeing the mother upset, became concerned. She asked how things were and, because she was the only one who had expressed care, Sarah became tearful and shared how her family were on the verge of being evicted and that, in her attempt to feed the children, she herself was going without food. As a result of the neighbour's intervention a local Homeless charity was alerted. It helped Sarah with food, toiletries and nappies, and the online support she needed to secure housing benefits. The landlord revoked the eviction notice and, in due course, this mum was able to find new employment. It's a good news story because of the timely intervention and action of a Christian neighbour which prevented yet another case of homelessness for a family; but the reality is that too few people in this sort of situation are so fortunate.

In our diocese we are, as you know, currently exploring, in parishes, chaplaincies and schools, ways in which we can be more outward-looking, more missionary; ways of putting our faith into action in response to those ever-challenging words of Christ: 'whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me' (Matthew 25:40). Pope Benedict has reminded us that 'The Church's deepest nature is expressed in her three-fold responsibility: of proclaiming the word of God, celebrating the sacraments and exercising the ministry of charity. These duties presuppose each other and are inseparable'. (Deus caritas est, 25) The Church's

charitable works are a response to the Word of God in the scriptures, and a living out of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist. It is here in Mass that we encounter Christ in word and sacrament. He invites us to allow him to form us into a community of people where love of God and love of neighbour are so entwined that we strive to unite prayer with action, praise with justice, and adoration with social involvement. He is the one who calls and enables us to recognise him in others, and especially in the poor and neglected.

I believe this with all my heart, but the truth is that when faced with so many street homeless and hidden homeless I often feel very helpless and unsure what to do for the best. So, I spoke with two very committed Catholics who work for homeless charities in our diocese. These charities reach out to offer support and practical help to those who, like Sarah, are in danger of becoming homeless, so addressing the reasons why people risk become homeless, and they also offer practical support to those who are working to rebuild their lives. As a result of conversations with these very experienced people, I agreed to highlight World Homeless Day in a Pastoral Letter, and they agreed to work together to produce a bespoke dedicated website resource providing information on homelessness, as well as providing details of the charities and agencies that are working

with homeless people in each of the four counties of our diocese, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

The link to this resource has been sent to your parish or chaplaincy, and it is also available on the diocesan website. Next Thursday, World Homeless Day, I would ask of you two things. Please pray for all who are homeless, and please also begin to consider whether as a parish, or as a group within your parish, you might pledge to support, with both prayer and some practical help, a homeless agency in your area. I know there are so many demands on your kindness, and I also know how generous the people of our diocese are. However, I am more and more convinced that, with local councils experiencing cuts in their resources each year, homelessness is likely to keep on increasing. But in a rich and civilised country like this such homelessness is a disgrace. So, I would like to see more parishes and chaplaincies engaging constructively with a local homeless agency. This could be one very practical way in which we respond to Pope Francis who has declared this October 2019 as an Extraordinary month of mission, in fulfilment of Christ's challenge: 'whatever you do for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me'

With prayer for you and for all your loved ones,

+ Patrick

**Right Reverend Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham**

The Knife Angel unveiled at Derby Cathedral

Several hundred people came to see the unveiling of the Knife Angel in Derby on October 3rd and thousands have since taken the time to visit. The statue is a compelling indictment of knife crime and culture in our country as well as being a beacon of hope. The statue was created by artist Alfie Bradley from 100,000 knives that have been handed in during amnesties.

Derby is the seventh city to welcome the Angel and there are 25 more who will be visited."

Fran Wickes



GUARDIAN ANGELS

When I was small and heard at school of guardian angels I thought it was beautiful, each of us having an angel of our own to be with and guide us. A little older and I wondered if my angel was my own or had been someone else's who was now dead and would be someone else's when I died. The notion of recycled guardian angels was not so appealing.

When we were told about a bad angel on our left shoulder and a good angel on our right I became suspicious. Why the bias against left-handedness? I already knew of children being caned for writing with their left hand. Why? Why so cruel? What was wrong with being left-handed?

I learned Latin at the age of eleven and discovered that the word for "right" was "dexter", and for "left" was "sinister". I already knew the words "dexterous" - meaning able to do things well, and "sinister", someone or something to be wary of, not to be trusted.

A bad angel on my left shoulder was a repulsive idea. Would God create a bad guardian angel for each of us as well as a good guardian angel? Suddenly the whole idea was nonsense. If, in today's world, we

have over 7,000,000,000 good guardian angels do we also have over 7,000,000,000 bad angels? And I was angry. Teachers had misled us in our Catholic classrooms. Billions of angels, recycled or not, made nonsense of the beautiful idea of God's being with us.

Already I had been put off by "God is watching everything you do", like a mean-minded spy, when we should simply have been taught that God was looking out for us, loving us, watching over us, divine love wherever we were.

Then I discover that in the Bible angels appear as human beings! Of course! The puzzle began to unravel and reshape itself.

"The angel of the Lord" in the Bible is God, communicating with human beings. The angel guiding the people of Israel through the desert is Michael ("who is like God") - Israel's guardian angel. Only two other angels in the Bible have names - Gabriel ("strength of God"), Raphael ("healing of God").

Angels are reflections of God's love and blessings. You! Be an angel . . .

Fr John Daley IC

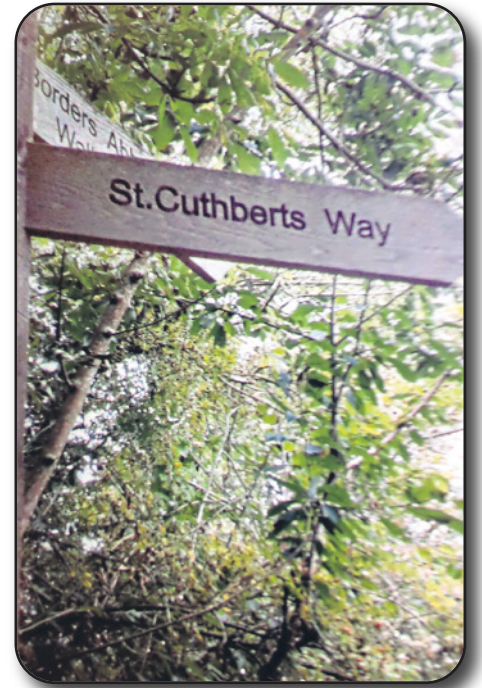
St Cuthbert's Way pilgrimage and sponsored walk

A Sunday afternoon saw a small group from the parish of St Peter & St Paul, Lincoln, set out on pilgrimage, following the scenic route to the Scottish Borders. Upon arrival we experienced a variety of wonderful colours in the harvests, cattle, sheep and glorious red earth of the cliff edges and ploughed fields, together with magnificent historical views including Jedburgh Abbey. The next day our walk along St Cuthbert's Way began at Melrose Abbey and a steep and arduous ascent soon greeted us. For some, doubts crept in; however, the land levelled off and with mutual encouragement (and patience) the challenge was overcome and we were later rewarded with a spectacular view over the River Tweed across to the Eildon Hills. Our first day of walking concluded at the village of St Boswells. The second day took us to Harestanes through a varied landscape, with riverside and forest trails and variable weather, which improved as the day passed. Following the walk we

visited the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Jedburgh, where we found two parishioners at work. We were shown warm hospitality and they kindly opened the church for us, so we could visit and pray. The end of the final day of walking found us at the village of Morebattle, in a church undergoing renovation, after being bought by a Danish Pastor who moved to Scotland from Australia, has set up a café and encourages services to be held by groups of pilgrims. There we enjoyed much needed tea and cake and rest. Each day our walk started and ended with morning/evening prayer. In our home parish we pray at every Mass the 'Family Prayer' and it is an apt summary of our pilgrimage. Each member of the group made a different contribution, with all caring for, and helping, one another. Blackberries were found and picked along the way, but we were also blessed by another fruit – that of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness,

faithfulness, gentleness and self control (Gal 5:22-23). Thanks be to God for a wonderful walk and pilgrimage, with everyone arriving home safely. To date the sum raised for the charity The Nomad Trust is over £1,000. There is still an opportunity to make a donation via the 'Just giving' website (then search 'sspp rcc'). A big thank you to all who kept us in their prayers and to those who helped raise much needed funds for the homeless. God willing, the aim is to complete the remainder of St Cuthbert's Way next year.

*Kathleen and Jo,
St Peter & St Paul's, Lincoln*



All good on Quiz Night!

The Quiz Night at the Good Shepherd Church, Arnold, took place on Saturday 28th September 2019.



It was 7.30pm and the main hall in the Church Social Centre was buzzing with activity. Some people came straight from Holy Mass and others straight from home but all were happy, relaxed and looking forward to an evening of fun, good company, good food and maybe a prize or two to take home. Children who came with their parents had plenty to keep them occupied, special activities had been laid on for them.

The scene was set, we all had our quiz papers, the quiz master was ready, food nibbles (cold meats, spiced dips and ciabatta) were on the tables. The Quiz consisted of four rounds the first two completed before the main course was served. The delicious smells coming from the kitchen were giving witness to the good things to come! Each table marked their own papers and competition was warming up. All in the spirit of good friendly fun.

The ladies in the kitchen were gearing up to serve and the starting pistol was fired. "A table at a time" ordered the quiz master, Gerald Whittle, "there's plenty for everyone!" Pasta based beef mince with a cheesy

topping or vegetable lasagne with crusty bread. Both were yummy and there was plenty on offer, seconds available for those who wanted more.

While preparations were being made for the last course, a selection of puddings, the Quiz master called order and off we went again. The competition was building and the vibe could be felt as everyone got their brain into gear. Kids and adults alike were having a great time.

Once the quiz was complete it was time for pudding. Fresh fruit and cream on a pastry base or apple and blackberry crumble with custard. What a delight. Delicious! We then drew the raffle and three lucky winners took home a large basket of goodies. Brothers David & Adrian Staiano raised over £100 on the tombola stall. All funds raised from this fundraiser will go towards the parish debt. We wish to thank all those who participated in this wonderful evening as well as those who supplied the delicious food, prizes, served in the kitchen making this all possible as it all came together so smoothly with loads of fun had by all. Will there be a repeat next year?

If anyone can tell me where you can go for a fun evening with family/friends of all ages and get a 3 course meal into the bargain for £5 per head or £15 for 2 adults and 2 children then please tell me.

This is the second such evening that I have attended and I have to say that it is a really splendid evening. If you didn't manage to get there on this occasion please don't miss the next one. It's good fun, good value for money with excellent company, delicious food and no pressure to get the answers right!

A reflection by Polly Jarvis



THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION Strengthening family life through friendship and faith Derby Catenians President's Sunday



The Catenian group just before lunch at the Mickleover Golf Club with Richard far right.

Richard Penna, the President of the Derby branch of the Catenian Association for the year 2019/20, celebrated the opening of his Catenian year with mass at St George's and Soldier Saints Church, Derby, followed by lunch at the Mickleover Golf Club.

Richard and his wife Sally-Anne both said that they were looking forward to a rewarding year in office.

The Catenians are a world-wide association of Catholic men who enjoy each other's like-minded company. For more information visit www.thecatenians or contact Richard Penna at richard.penna@ntlworld.com

*Kevin Hurst
Catenian Association,
Derby Branch Publicity Officer*

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



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

Reach



Our website has moved to www.ReachNewspaper.com

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

CLERICAL BEAR COLLECTION

Being made and sold as part of the St. Barnabas Cathedral Artisan Crafts Group Contribution to the Cathedral's 175 Anniversary celebrations during 2019/2020.

Each are MADE TO ORDER Dressed Clerical Bears and make an unusual Present suggestion as suitable for just about any occasion - both at all parish levels, or for any family occasions. They are particularly appropriate at major Festive occasions such as Christmas, Easter, First Communions, etc. or welcoming/farewell to new parish staff, etc.

All our Clerical Bears are made as Fund Raising Tools for the St. Barnabas Cathedral Maintenance Fund. However, COLDHAMCUDDLIES are also first and foremost suppliers of Ornamental Toys for anyone. We believe they should appeal to the normal Toy Purchasing public looking for an unusual, dressed Toy as well as church-goers, of any denomination.

The Clerical Bear project has been 2.5 years in planning/execution. This involved pattern selection, many helpful suggestions from family, friends and, even, COLDHAMCUDDLIES customers - from both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Originally, I was challenged just to make "A Father Bear" as a potential fund-raising tool for St. Barnabas R.C. Cathedral - which is where my family gather almost every week. By October 2018, with a long-term building/maintenance programme in place for the Cathedral, the Clerical Bear Collection was officially

launched with six different Teddy Bears offered: Padre Bear, Bishop Bear, Sister Bear, Missionary Bear (two versions to make the Collection a more "inclusive" one) and a Vicar Bear - reflecting the ecumenical intention of the whole project. Twenty five different Bears have found homes - mostly in the United States, and several within the Diocese. Currently, No 26 is under construction, with No.27 cut out and awaiting attention.

Twenty percent (20%) of the £25.00GBP price of EVERY Bear sold (= £5.00) goes to St Barnabas Cathedral Restoration Fund - with the rest coming to me to fund the creation of as many Clerical Teddy Bear Ornamental Toys as the demand requires. So far, one year since first displayed, 25 Bears have been ordered and supplied, on top of the now 9 Collection Members (who remain with me as a "travelling showcase").



Lady version can be provided, using the Sister Bear pattern (but without a veil) - the sixth member of the series.

Clerical Bears make unusual presents "for the difficult to buy for" - at any time of year, or for any anniversary or other celebration. They appeal to anyone whether "religious" or not.

For further Information please contact Isobel Morrell, creator of the Collection, who has been making Soft Cuddly Toys since being taught at boarding school in the 1950's. She has an online shop - www.etsy.com/shop/coldhamcuddlies opened in 2010 - and all enquiries should be directed to this site. The original Bears can be found at https://www.etsy.com/shop/coldhamcuddlies?section_id=24637980

Alternatively, you can order/pay via PayPal - coldhamcuddlies/petis@tiscali.co.uk.

Isobel can also be contacted by telephone: 01623 720528. Snail Mail - 21, Old Chapel Close, Kirkby in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire, NG17 8JG

She is more than happy to make a Clerical Bear to resemble any Order/Congregation - male or female - if provided a colour photograph from which she can work.



The Showcase includes three newer versions of Sister Bears - all of whom are separately listed in our Shop. These originated as "custom orders", but are now available to anyone who would prefer another one in place of our original Sister. She was created in the style of a Sister of Mercy - an order who worked in Nottingham for much of the 20th Century. All but one of the Sister Bears represent Religious orders who have served in the St. Barnabas Cathedral Parish over the 175 years since the Building was completed - an Anniversary that is being celebrated this year - 2019/20.

The Collection is ecumenical in conception - represented currently by Vicar Bear (a



MARKET HARBOROUGH CLERGY NIGHT

Deacon Kevin O'Connor(left) and Revd. Canon Owen O'Neill with Circle President Roger Lewin (extreme right) and Council members

The President and Brothers of Market Harborough Catenians were delighted to welcome their very own Parish Priest, the Very Revd. Owen O'Neill and Deacon, Revd. Kevin O'Connor of Our Lady of Victories and St. Alphonsus Parish, Lutterworth, to their annual Clergy Night and Dinner with the ladies.

In thanking the Clergy for their attendance, President Roger Lewin said "how much the Circle appreciated their attendance which presented an opportunity for the Circle to extend a warm thank you to our Clergy for their hard work and commitment."

Interfaith Peace Walk

Although it already feels a long way from summer, remembering the August Bank Holiday Interfaith Walk is for me a happy reminder of warmer times.

How joyful it was to be part of the Interfaith walk organised by the Lincoln Interfaith Forum. I had the honour of being there as the Mayor of Lincoln with Cllr Chris Burke my husband and The City Sheriff and Consort of Lincoln, Ms Jo Rimmer and Mr Craig Needs.

We met at St Mary Magdalene church (the small ancient Church to the left of the Cathedral) where we were made very welcome by The Revd Dr Julia Hepburn. After a short ceremony we were sent on our way, feeling the happiness of the 60s flower power with a bright sunflower and candle in our hands. We also shared with each other cards with the word 'Peace' in different languages.

Although there were many I had not met before, I instantly felt part of a family. As I walked with the Peace Banner, with children running around, I felt humbled by the

friendliness (and fun) of everyone. I am of the age when different faiths and cultures were not taught at school and I am grateful for their openness in sharing. I felt enriched by this so natural way of learning about other cultures.

The Interfaith walk started from St Mary Magdalene church then to the Cathedral walk across the Cathedral then back to St Mary's where we gathered at the front of the church.

Representatives from some of the faiths involved in the Interfaith Forum, including Pagan and those of no faith, shared readings and prayers which all echoed peace and unity. I was pleased to lay my candle, 'Peace' card and sunflower and say a few words as Mayor on behalf of the many communities which strive to make our City one of welcome and inclusiveness. It was great to be there in the presence of each other and working together for peace, justice and reconciliation.

Although a joyful and fun event, the need and desire to work for Peace is heartfelt –



wherever the divisions and challenges are – more now than ever we need to be open enough to listen and respect the sincerity others. Please continue to pray for peace in our community, our nation and the whole world.

Cllr Sue Burke, Mayor of Lincoln



St Mary's Church Derby welcomes the Foundation Stage Children from St Mary's School



Sunday Mass at St Mary's Derby was full for the annual Welcome Mass for the children who have started full time at the school. Children's Liturgy was about how to grow our faith and everyone planted cress seeds as a reminder to look after our faith and help it grow healthy and strong. Fr Greg Tobin gave each child a Presenta-



tion Folder to put their best work and certificates in during their time at St Mary's School. In Year 6 they will bring the folder back to Church."

Fran Wickes

MASSERS

Solicitors to the Diocese of Nottingham

Offering you a full range of legal services:

- Wills & Power of Attorney
- Probate & Trusts
- Company & Commercial Law
- Commercial Property
- Commercial/Property Litigation
- Residential Conveyancing
- Employment Law, and more

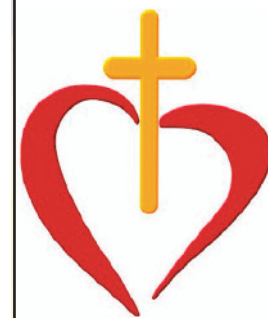
Telephone: 0115 851 1666

At 15 Victoria Street, Nottingham & Tudor Square, West Bridgford
E-mail: law@massers.co.uk

Celebrating our Schools

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy



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

Please contact Janet to advertise your Christmas Mass times in the December edition by Monday 11th November 07931 836907 or email janett@cathcom.org

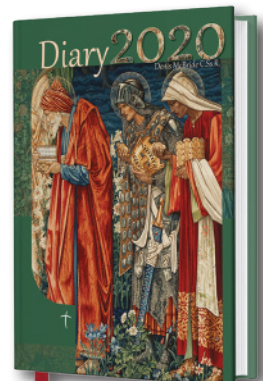


Available from Redemptorist Publications

Have you got your Diary for 2020?

redemptorist publications

A5 Hardback diary with ribbon page marker



Diary 2020
Fr Denis McBride C.Ss.R. Price: £7.95

- www.rpbooks.co.uk
- 01420 88222
- customercare@rpbooks.co.uk

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

REVIEWS

Newman: a short biography

By Michael Collins
Published in Ireland and the UK
by Messenger Publications
ISBN: 9781788121057
Paperback 94pp
€9.95 - £8.95

"John Henry Newman, one of the most important and controversial figures in the religious history of England in the 19th century, was declared a saint on 13th October 2019, the first English saint to be canonised since 1970.



"Author Michael Collins has written Newman: A Short Biography, an essential, accessible biography of the new saint that opens a window into the heart and mind of a complex and conflicted individual, who above all sought the truth.

"An esteemed academic and prolific author, the inquisitiveness and honesty which led Newman to convert from the Church of England to Catholicism continued after his conversion. Thus, as well as being an acclaimed defender of English Catholics in the public realm he emerged as a vital, challenging voice within Catholicism itself.

"His volume of lectures entitled The Idea of a University, explained his philosophy of education. During the four years he spent in Dublin he was instrumental in the founding of the Catholic University of Ireland in 1854; this later evolved into University College Dublin, now the largest university in Ireland.

"Intensely loyal to his friends, tender, compassionate and tenacious, Newman combined the best of both the Anglican and Catholic traditions.

"Michael Collins is a priest of the Archdiocese of Dublin. A graduate of University College Dublin, he has written and edited award-winning books which have been translated into twelve languages."

Life is not a long quiet river - A Memoir

by Fr. Willy Slavin
Birlinn Ltd, Edinburgh
ISBN: 978 1 78027 578 9
www.birlinn.co.uk

In an encounter with the late Cardinal Thomas Winning at a Scottish Catholic Headteachers' conference about 25 years ago, I was assured, when I was introduced to him as 'Willie Slavin', that he "had one of them." Prior to this, I had not infrequently been asked "are you that priest from Glasgow?"

It took a number of years before Willy and I were eventually introduced and discovered that, although we were born a matter of months apart and grew up within 25 miles of each other and, uncannily, have a number of interests in common, we are not related. What is beyond doubt though is that our interest in things theological and ecclesiastical are deeply rooted in the documents and thinking of Vatican II and in the Church's Social Teaching's commitment to the common good.

Against this background, it was a delight to attend the launch of this book and subsequently gain a remarkably detailed insight into Willy's multifaceted missionary activity over the fifty years of his priesthood.

Being a parish priest even in such a diverse city as Glasgow would have provided enough evidence for a book on its own. Add in, his work as a child psychologist; at home and in Bangladesh; Chaplain at the notoriously volatile Barlinnie Prison; founding Secretary of the Scottish Justice and Peace Commission; founder of Emmaus Scotland, a major charity for the homeless; organiser of the Scottish Drugs Forum; Chaplain to a large Children's Hospital; many while working as a parish priest in demanding inner city settings and you begin to get a sense of the scope of this compelling story.

Interestingly, after a life of dedicated service and activism, in retirement, Willy has retreated to a life of quiet solitude and simplicity in a remote hut in rural Fife. Interesting but not surprising if you are aware that he has an acute interest in the writings of Thomas Merton, accredited with the rediscovery of the Church's contemplative tradition, and indeed was instrumental in bringing the American Franciscan Richard Rohr, who has done more than most to promote the revival of that tradition, to Glasgow. Willy admits, without a hint of the power of co-incidence or any astrological overtone, that his birth date, 17th January is the feast day of St Anthony of Egypt, one of the original Desert Fathers and the founder of monasticism. Anthony, a rich young man who sought a more literal following of the Gospel by embracing poverty spent a period of his life as a hermit before returning to communal life to promote a life of simplicity in community. In Anthony's own words, "To know oneself well one should be stripped of all that is not essential."

Allowing a reading of this book through this particular lens gives the story a shape and colour that an otherwise episodic narrative might lack. In many ways, it is its essential golden thread and indeed the *raison d'être* of its acute sense of purpose.

It is worth noting that this call to asceticism was matched by a determined pursuit of the physically challenging bagging of all the Scottish Munros (282 at the last count) and all the other mountains over 3000ft in these islands. Add in a preference for cycling over driving whenever possible, a pursuit that stretched as far as the Camino de Santiago de Compostela.

In approaching the task of memoirising and pondering the wisdom of taking Socrates' advice that the "unexamined life is not worth living", the author is mindful of R.B. Cunningham Graham's cautionary note "Why strip the soul stark naked to the public gaze....which once given out can never be recalled." There is nevertheless a steely determination to put on record a concerted effort on his part to embrace the Gospel imperative to serve, set within the context of a priestly ministry that straddles the period from Vatican II to the present day. Indeed, this is as much an account of recent history of the Catholic Church as it is a biographical reflection. While many, both clergy and laity looked back at an "imagined golden age of the Church", this was one priest who could boldly state that "The words of Vatican II became the New Law, to which I conformed."

In a real sense this book is as much about the context as it is about the text. How can a priest who has sought to live out his vocation be described as "radical" or "non-conformist"? Unsurprisingly, this particular priest is happy to describe the term "radical priest" as a contradiction in terms. It is significant that at various stages of this disparate ministry he was given the full support of Cardinal Winning who is portrayed as a Bishop who shared the Vatican II vision and found the absence of a visionary response from many of his priests disappointingly exasperating.

The book is divided into three sections dedicated to the three "so-called 'evangelical' or Gospel virtues of obedience, poverty and chastity (which) - can give a fuller meaning to life". One has however to absorb the full account and its conclusive reflection, to appreciate that the ageless wisdom inherent in the Church's disciplinary code has, in this case been tested to the limit at the coalface of this wide ranging and full on account of ministry in a variety of demanding settings. What could have remained as an intellectual understanding has, by being nurtured in the act of incarnating a living Gospel for the lost, the least and the last, revealed a depth of appreciation available only to a truly contemplative activist.

It is in effect a remarkably insightful example of a didactically learned lesson that has found its inherent truth in an essentially deductive setting which can only be achieved through an on-going commitment to a praxis methodology.

Setting aside the headline virtues, what emerges in this carefully articulated and detailed narrative is a vocation marked out by a quiet determination to embrace the demands of living out the Gospel in the most demanding settings. Such a seeking out the face of God in the 'other', be that the poor, the prisoner, the distressed, the homeless, the sick, the child in need as witnessed in these pages just about ticks all the beatitudinal boxes.

I have no idea if Willy shares my own conviction that *Guadium et Spes* (The Pastoral Constitution of the Church in the Modern World) was the document of Vatican II that signalled a real breaking of the mold but, on the evidence provided of the synergy between his story and the quote below, I suspect that might be the case: "Service of neighbour and accompanying the poorest in mission must be an articulation of evangelisation - both at a moment when the Gospel is proclaimed through its enactment and as a place where the Church is simultaneously

herself evangelised and expresses her evangelisation." (GS: 44ff)

At the point where he was leaving Bangladesh Willy was asked by the police if he had made any converts. "I said 'one' and gave my own name. I had gone to help and ended up being helped to become more like the person I should have been."

Some forty plus years later he was able to conclude: "I wanted to use what talent I had on behalf of those who were discriminated against. I want to say that I was helped by obedience, poverty and celibacy."

Review by
Willie Slavin

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
Tel: 01283 562299

murrayfunerals.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



My Faith Journey

St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy Market Harborough launches 'My Faith Journey' project with the support of the Market Harborough Circle of the Catenian Association

In September 2019, St. Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Market Harborough launched its 'My Faith Journey' project for children in years two to six, in which the children are invited to record in a scrapbook their faith experiences outside of school during the year.

The project was introduced to the children at a school assembly by Mrs. Karen McVea, Headteacher, and Brother Keith Webb, Provincial Councillor and Treasurer of Market Harborough Circle.

As Mrs. McVea reminded the assembled children, living their faith and making their faith journey does not begin and end in school, but should continue during their daily life outside school, at weekends and during school holidays, in their encounters with family and friends, neighbours, and strangers. Although the school is familiar with how the children make their faith journey while at school, it would be beneficial to the children themselves and their families, and to the school, if the children kept a record of their faith journey, showing how they live their faith, follow its values and live according to the school mission statement when not in school through such things as: making acts of kindness; fundraising, charity work or donations; taking steps to care for the planet, raising

awareness of global issues, or care for the homeless or refugees.

Many Catenian Circles support Catholic secondary schools and their pupils in various ways furthering the Association's objective of supporting youth. With no local Catholic secondary school and with several members of Market Harborough Circle having close personal ties with St. Joseph's, the local Catholic primary school, over many years as parents or grandparents of pupils, as members of the PTA and as school governors, the Catenians of Market Harborough Circle decided to offer the school and its pupils the Circle's support, initially through the sponsorship of an award to pupils rewarding and encouraging commendable behaviours rather than academic, sporting, or artistic performance.

After discussions with the Headteacher, staff, and pupils at the school it was agreed that the proposed awards would be made in connection with the school's 'My Faith Journey' project being launched at the start of the academic year 2019/20.

Speaking to the assembled pupils, Brother Keith talked of his own relationship with the school; of the nature and work of the Catenian Association and the value of friendships; of the power that words can have on people and, drawing attention to the school motto 'Believe, Achieve, Succeed', how belief needs to be put into practice through actions during our faith journey if we are to achieve and succeed in being the best that we can be and reaching



Pupils of St Joseph's Catholic Academy listening to the presentation by Brother Keith Webb, Provincial Councillor (right) with Headteacher Mrs Karen McVea (left)

our full potential; and drew the children's attention also to the value of creating historical records - such as by writing, drawing, or putting photographs into the scrapbooks being offered to the children - to help people remember how they lived their lives and how they made their faith journey. Brother Keith announced that, at the end of

the school year, the Circle would be presenting an award to the pupil in each year group whose historical record, their scrapbook, demonstrates that they made a particularly inspiring faith journey during the year.

For further information about the Catenian Association, go to www.thecatenians.com

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy are planning a trip of a lifetime

Students and staff from Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy are planning a trip of a lifetime to Cambodia to support with an eco-project to protect the rainforest.

The trip is being organised for the summer of 2021 following the success of a recent expedition to Swaziland, which saw 29 Year 10 and 11 students and four teachers spend two weeks there. In 2017, student and staff visited Nepal and all trips are arranged by World Challenge.

The expeditions are organised over a two-year period and give the students an experience of a lifetime both physically and mentally.

In Swaziland students spent 10 days at the Nsuka Neighbourhood Care Point, a care centre for children who have been orphaned

as a result of HIV/Aids, where they helped build and roof a classroom.

Teacher Brent Poland, who helped to organise the trip, said that students learnt vital life skills before and during the trip.

He said: "This expedition fits the ethos of our school in being a worldwide community and helping those less fortunate.

"I am so proud of our students who are a credit to their school, their family and their community, it was a privilege to have spent two weeks seeing them develop and contribute to the team and children less fortunate. Our children learned so much from their children and the hospitality of our hosts was humbling."

Students, their parents and the school community raised thousands of pounds to fund the trip over the last two years. They also had to manage their budget, cook their food, organise transport and manage an itinerary.

Student Lewis Bilby, 16, said the trip was an eye-opening experience.

He said: "It was a very humbling experience and interacting with such a positive community helped me grow as a person and see things in a new light. The best part was working with the children and sharing our experiences. This helped our group become closer and understand things that we would never see in school."



Student Erin Checkley, 15, said she developed an understanding of different communities.

She said: "I got to lead an expedition and learned new skills. I helped to build, played with the children, cooked on a fire, trekked for the first time and learned so much about myself and my team."

Student Clara Barlow, 15, said she learnt a lot about herself during the trip.

She said: "My expedition to Eswatini was an extraordinary experience where I learned so

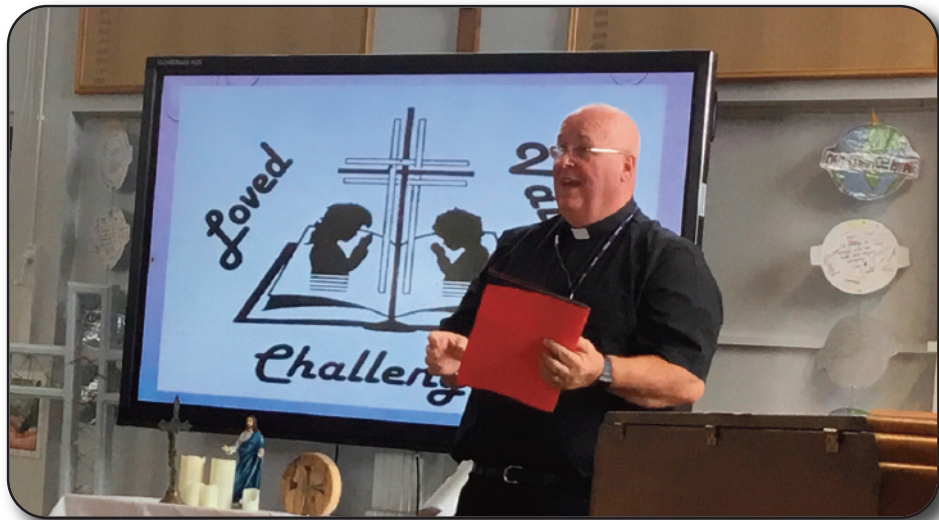
much about my personal strengths. It felt so rewarding to contribute to a small community and leave behind something that will stay with them for many years. It made me appreciate my life at home more."

In Swaziland, students also trekked through the Malolotja Nature Reserve, reaching altitudes in excess of 1,800m.

The expedition finished with some rest and relaxation in Halane Royal Game Reserve where the teams relaxed for two days by the waterhole with some hippos, lions and rare rhinos.



Welcome Fr John Martin to Holy Cross Primary CVA, Hucknall



We had a double celebration at the beginning of this academic year, where we welcomed Fr John Martin to Holy Cross Primary CVA, Hucknall in September, to celebrate our feast day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The children learned about the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine. According to tradition, Saint Helena, nearing the end of her life, travelled to Jerusalem to excavate the True Cross.

"We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, for he is our salvation, our life and our resurrection: through him we are saved and set free."

The children were pleased to present Fr John with a book they had made that in-

cluded words of welcome and prayers written by every child in the school to make Fr John feel loved and valued.

Mrs McNamara (Head teacher) and Miss Hornsby (Deputy Head teacher) look forward to working alongside Fr John at Holy Cross to ensure the Catholic life and the children's spiritual development continues to flourish.

We wish Fr Paul Chipchase all the best wishes and our prayers, as he moves to his new parish and we thank him for all of his hard work and commitment with enhancing the children's Catholic faith journey at Holy Cross.

Tammie McNamara
Headteacher

Sisters of Mercy Mark the Closure of Derby Convents with a Mass of Thanksgiving

Bishop Patrick McKinney celebrated a special Mass at St Mary's Church Derby in thanksgiving for the work and mission of the Sisters of Mercy in the town for 170 years. It was a bitter sweet day as the Bishop reminded the congregation. The Sisters' legacy will live on in projects such as the Padley Centre for the homeless and plans for the Bridge Gate Convent to be leased to a charity for women and children. However the sadness at the need to close two convents in Derby due to the age of the Sisters and the lack of vocations to the religious life is deeply regrettable and reminds us all of the need to pray for vocations and consider if God is calling us to this special way to live out our lives.

The Chaplaincy Team from St Mary's Catholic Academy attended the Mass and were pleased to be able to show their appreciation for all the Sisters have done for the School and education in Derby during their many years here."

Fran Wickes
(To read Bishop Patrick's homily see page 4)



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution.

Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 1 European language that's not totally suitable (6)
- 4 Israelite divisions baptiser created without Father's backing (6)
- 9 Kind of 11 gets to look arch here in New York (7)
- 10 Laugh head off reading alternative Welsh writer (5)
- 11 Long term work on the Metropolitan, maybe (5)
- 12 Levi's boy is among Rangers honourees (7)
- 13 One in the habit of going to a particular London station (11)
- 18 Native American, a Margaret Mitchell character, Pennsylvania allowed in (7)
- 20 Bye, say, after painting flipping divorcee (5)
- 22 Attempt to resign from work to expose Pakistani water feature (5)
- 23 Spats as Tiger scratched (7)
- 24 Variant doctrine being something inadmissible in court, advocate's opening is dismissed (6)
- 25 Swift is one in pursuit of a name for the mountain man (6)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Judge's key changes make a Benjaminite town (6)
- 2 Ransack Winchester, for one (5)
- 3 Bend a month in the Sorbonne to absorb old speech (7)
- 5 One of eight, the one that boasts, his head's gone (5)
- 6 Prussian's oddly uncharitable seeing poor Anita depart (7)
- 7 Inscrutable Egyptian's wrecked ship and an indefinite number get cross (6)
- 8 Solomon's greatest hit, this book? (4,2,5)
- 14 Hero's love is torn between Adele and Erica (7)
- 15 Russian secret policeman's at home about one - that's

out of Lisbon (7)

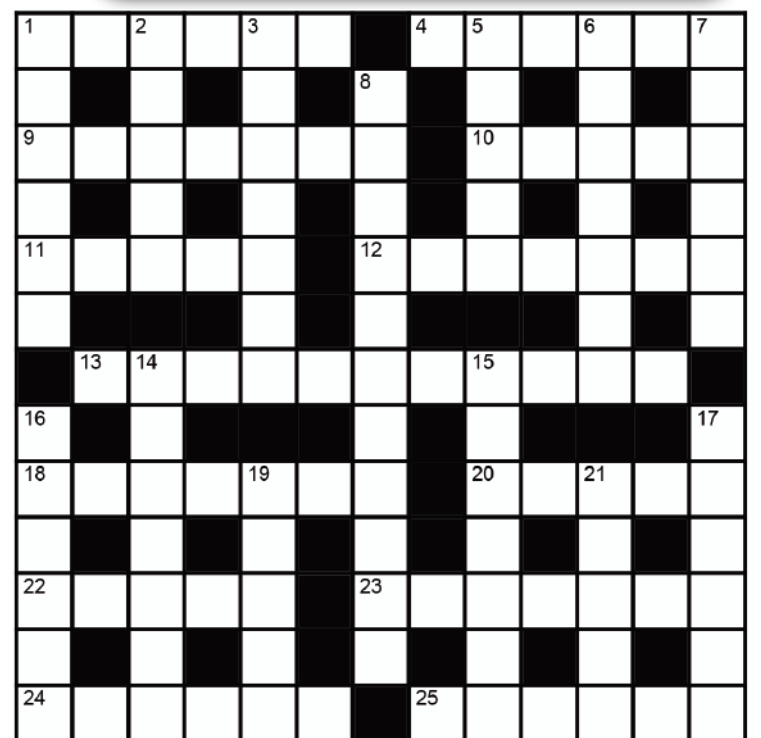
- 16 European city, home to 17 and his flock (6)
- 17 Needs no round to be showing below average scores to get a clerical job (6)
- 19 Fool, over a very large port, Paul steered away from (5)
- 21 Motif of the egoist? (5)

QUICK Across

- 1 Teutonic (broadly) (6)
- 4 Twelve divisions of Israelites, from the sons of Jacob (6)
- 9 City of New York state, on the shores of Lake Erie (7)
- 10 Novelists Evelyn or Auberon? (5)
- 11 Musical piece accompanying a stage drama or comedy (5)
- 12 Eldest son of Levi (7)
- 13 RC clergy in the mantle of the Dominican order (11)
- 18 Uto-Aztec American of the Great Plains (7)
- 20 Additional; surplus (5)
- 22 Major river of Pakistan (5)
- 23 Cloth or leather overshoes or leggings (7)
- 24 Formal denial or doubt of any defined doctrine of the RC Church (6)
- 25 Ecuadorean (broadly), for example (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 Town where the Tabernacle was kept and where Solomon worshipped (6)
- 2 Weapon with a long barrel which features spiralling grooves for accuracy (5)
- 3 Language presumed spoken by Christ (7)
- 5 Oarsman or woman (5)



- 6 Prussian general, Britain's ally at Waterloo (7)
- 7 Statue with the body of a lion and the head of a man (6)
- 8 OT book, alternative title in some Bibles being 'Canticles' (4,2,5)
- 14 Lover of the priestess Hero in Greek myth (7)
- 15 Peninsula of south-west Europe (7)
- 16 Local church community (6)
- 17 Beneficed member of the clergy (6)
- 19 Port of Mysia visited by Paul (5)
- 21 Topic: melody (5)

SOLUTION

Across: 1 German, 4 Tribes, 9 Buffalo, 10 Waugh, 11 Opera, 12 Gershon, 13 Blackbriars, 18 Arapaho, 20 Extra, 22 Indus, 23 Gaiters, 24 Heresy, 25 Andean. **Down:** 1 Gilbeon, 2 Rifle, 3 Aramatc, 5 Rower, 6 Blucher, 7 Sphinx, 8 Song of Songs, 14 Leander, 15 Iberian, 16 Parish, 17 Parson, 19 Assos, 21 Theme.