

**St Nicholas Feast Day**  
6th December

# Catholic News

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

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## General election 2019

### *How Catholic voters can help the world's poorest people*

**The UK general election is set to take place on Thursday 12 December.**

The election campaign is already dominated by Brexit but also gives Catholic voters the chance to ensure candidates standing for Parliament address the issues affecting the world's poorest communities.

Daniel Hale, Head of Campaigns at CAFOD, said: "The idea of having to go the polling station on the way back from our Christmas shopping isn't something that will fill many of us with festive joy.

"But an election is one of the most valuable opportunities we have to bring the voices of our poorest sisters and brothers to people in power – making sure that they are not an 'afterthought', as Pope Francis has warned. "Brexit is bound to dominate this election,

but we need to make sure that the candidates asking for our votes are reminded that politics has to also focus on the other critical issues we face in our common home.

#### **What should I ask election candidates in my area?**

Along with CAFOD sister charity Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), they have produced a list of actions you can take to show candidates that voters want them to act and help to fight poverty.

There are lots of opportunities for us to speak to candidates during an election campaign – including when campaigners from political parties knock on our doors, participate in hustings, and when responding to letters, emails and petitions from people in the constituency they're campaigning to represent.



**We need to make sure issues affecting poor communities aren't forgotten during the election**

Four especially important election issues to raise with candidates and parties during this campaign are:

**Aid:** What they will do to tackle global poverty and to support overseas aid.

**Climate crisis:** The steps they will take to end the UK's contribution to climate change by putting us on track to reach 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions.

**Trade, refugees and migrants:** What they wish Britain's role in the world to be – especially when negotiating new trade deals if the UK leaves the European Union and how they will make sure refugees and migrants are treated with dignity.

**Domestic poverty:** How they will help people trapped in poverty here in England and Wales.

Daniel Hale said: "It's vital that those standing for election know that we expect them to urgently put us on track to end our contribution to climate change, to make sure our trade with the world benefits rather than exploits poor communities and that we help people who've been forced from their homes by poverty and persecution.

"There are still millions of people worldwide struggling for the right to vote. We need to honour those people – and those who fought for the right for us to vote in the generations which went before us: registering to vote, speaking up to those seeking our vote and then exercising our vote in solidarity with our global family."

**Continued on page 6**

## Boosting fishing vessel safety

The Apostleship of the Sea has welcomed the signing of a Declaration which will boost fishing vessel safety and help curb illegal and unregulated fishing.

Forty eight countries have signed the Torremolinos Declaration, indicating their determination to ratify the 2012 Cape Town Agreement on fishing vessel safety during a Ministerial Conference recently led by the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

The Torremolinos Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing was held from October 21 to 23 in Torremolinos, Spain.

"Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) commends and welcomes the Declaration and Resolution. We look forward to working with the IMO, International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization and IMO Member States to eradicate IUU fishing and provide better welfare support to fishers and their families on whom we depend for so much," said the Charity's National Director Martin Foley.



Foley said IUU fishing affects not only fish stocks and the environment but also the just and fair employment of many of thousands of fishers. "Cases of severe physical maltreatment, employment abuses such as non-payment of wages and bonded labour have also been encountered by Stella Maris port chaplains and other agencies supporting crew working in the fishing sector," he said.

**Continued on page 10**



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

The monthly paper for the  
Diocese of Nottingham

 **The  
Catholic News**

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## Wanted - Parish Correspondents

The Catholic News is looking for a Parish Correspondent in your parish to send in local news for publication in this newspaper. All items to be emailed to

[johnclawson@icloud.com](mailto:johnclawson@icloud.com)  
before 10th of the month

# Catholic Church highlights need for safe and loving homes for children in care

The Catholic Church in England & Wales is working in partnership with the fostering and adoption charity Home for Good, to highlight the needs of the thousands of children who enter the care system every year, and the critical priority of finding loving homes for them.

Launching at the annual national gathering of Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Coordinators on 13th November, (Hinsley Hall, Leeds) the campaign supported communities in raising awareness of the needs of children and exploring together how parishes can respond by inspiring more people to become foster carers or adoptive parents and supporting those that do.

The campaign will encourage Catholic parish communities to consider those who are vulnerable and marginalised, highlighting specifically the critical need for children in care to find adoptive and foster parents. It is something that has been close to the heart of our Catholic mission over many years. Organisers of the conference said, "Adoption and fostering is part of our Catholic DNA, our Christian story and experience."

The campaign in Catholic communities comes shortly after National Adoption Week 2019, and at a time when there are more than 4,100 children for whom adopters need to be found and only 1,700 approved adopters ready and waiting to offer these children the homes they need. The Fostering Network also estimates that more than 8,600 foster carers must be

found this year alone.

Speaking at a children's hospital earlier this year, Pope Francis encourages the Catholic church to find more safe and loving homes for children who are unable to live with their birth families saying, "There are so many children who need homes, and the Church should step up to help them" (Pope Francis, 24 May 2019). He goes on to say "How much we need a culture that recognises the value of life, especially the weak, threatened, abused," adding that the Church should be concerned with creating a culture of care and beauty, not exclusion: "A culture 'that recognises in every face, even the smallest, the face of Jesus: 'Whoever welcomes one child like this in my name, welcomes me.'"

Kirsty Wordsworth, Head of Engagement for Home for Good said "In our conversations with the Marriage and Family Life team at the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales, Home for Good has been hugely encouraged by the stories from within Catholic communities of families meeting the needs of vulnerable children through adoption. With the current need for more foster carers and adopters, Home for Good are delighted to be working in partnership with the Catholic Church in support of those involved in Marriage and Family Life and parish ministry across England and Wales. Together we will be exploring how Catholic parishes can renew awareness of the need and continue to play their part in both finding a home for every child who needs one and ensuring families who foster and adopt are supported by their church community."

## Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

On Sunday 1st December the Church will have donned on her penitential purple and will have begun the season of Advent a new year in our Liturgical calendar and a time of preparation for the wonderful feast of Christmas.

Last Sunday at the end of the Church's year our Gospel reading came to a close with the promise to the 'good thief' that he would be in paradise that very day. From the immediacy of the saving effect of the crucifixion on one man we turn now to consider the redemption of the whole of creation from the dimension of time.

While of course for God all time is now, we living human beings are limited to past, present and future. So it has to be in terms of time that the Advent of God's Kingdom is expressed.

The New Testament readings at Mass for Advent Sunday (Romans 13:11-14) (Matt: 24: 37-44) talk of that kingdom breaking into the world at a date unknown and unexpected. The thrust of most of our readings for the Advent season is focused on looking forward, with delight, with excitement and maybe a little dread, to the ultimate coming and triumph of God's Kingdom, in terms of time and on earth.

And all that is to come is to hinge on the birth of a baby, an event taking place within the specificity of time and place but yet embracing cosmic and eternal significance. While we are unable to envisage the coming kingdom, and therefore may harbour fears about it, the only aspect to be legitimately fearful about, according to the New Testament is that of our being unprepared for it, for being caught out doing those things we should not be doing.

And what could possibly induce feeling of fear about the picture of universal righteousness and peace we hear of from the prophet Isaiah (Isa. 2: 1-5) When all people freely desire to follow ways of God, then warfare will be redundant and peace and justice will flourish.

And so the Advent season is the Church's



great time of preparation and expectation but it was not always so. In the early Church, the only season of preparation and anticipation was that before Easter. Christmas came suddenly and itself began the new Church's year. In the course of time, the Church adapted the weeks prior to Christmas as a kind of another Lent, another preparation for a great festival.

Now it would seem our secular society precedes even that time with its own lengthy consumerfest. We observe less prayer and contemplation and a great deal of frenetic activity. The Gospel gives us a warning that the breaking in of the Kingdom could come upon us exactly when half of the world is in turmoil of activity, as it was in the days before the Flood when Noah alone was attending to God's will.

Let us then remember that Noah's building of the ark was a 'counter-cultural' activity and that he was subjected to derision for it! So that Christian people who reject the 'shop-till-you-drop' tradition in preference for less materialistic forms of preparation for the 'big event' have his example before them, and an example vindicated by Jesus himself in the Gospel reading for Advent Sunday.

Meditate and pray on the Scripture for Advent Sunday - so that Christ may be kept in our preparations for Christmas.

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

## FRANKLY SPEAKING

# Advent is a time of Preparation

At the start of Advent this year we find our country in the midst of a General Election. Each calendar year we are reminded that Advent is a time of Preparation but sadly this message is often lost as Christmas lights are switched on to suit a variety of local circumstances. As more and more shops and stores close it is indeed strange how history moves on and perhaps the initial Advent guidance to 'be prepared' may influence more lives towards the real message of Advent.

In these last few weeks before polling day on December 12th we should try to link the spiritual message of Advent with the need for Christian view point on the General Election. Advent is a sacred season of anticipation and expectation and in a serious period for our country we should ask what we can anticipate and expect from our politicians. Early in the campaign the NHS witnessed an unprecedented attack on politicians for giving pledges on the nation's health as a 'vote bait'. Comments from the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges called for an honest debate on realistic expectation. We should all be concerned that as our country makes medical advances in an

ageing population we really do need to appreciate those who need medical or caring assistance. We also need to get the best from 1.3 million NHS staff who treat a million patients every 36 hours. It is surely a sad reflection on our politics today that we cannot have a cross-party agreement on the future of our NHS, but surely the political parties should stick to the facts and not score points with promises that cannot ever be realistic. Meanwhile we should in our parishes give every encouragement to organisations such as SVP and Lourdes Groups and not least our Eucharistic Ministries who all bring comfort to our loved ones.

The magnificent Advent Compassion speaks of Advent as being 'to live in the awareness of a Presence that changes us.' We need changes in our country particularly in so many areas in which our politicians have clearly let us down. If ever our country needed a spiritual rebirth it is surely now.

**Frank Goulding  
Holy Trinity Parish  
Newark**



# Martyrs of the Royal English College of S. Alban, Valladolid

Mr. Gregory Tomlin is a student of the Diocese of Nottingham, studying at the Royal English College at Valladolid. Here he describes for us the College celebrations for the feast day of those students of the College who met their end on the English Mission and are numbered among the English Martyrs.

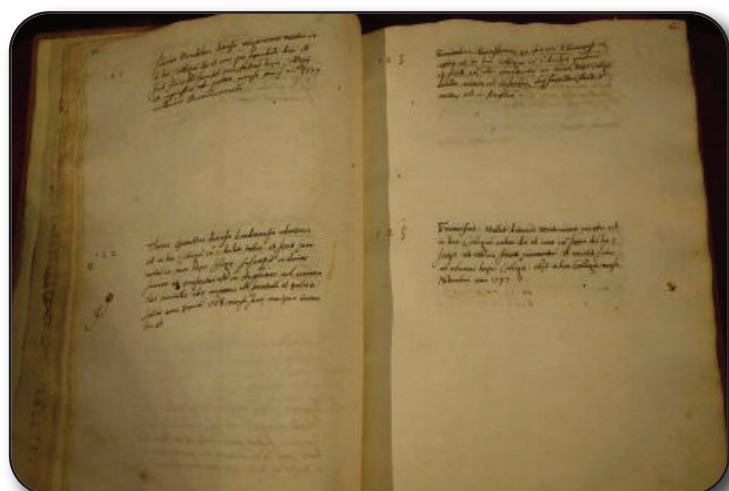
"On the 25th of October 1970, Pope Paul VI Canonised the 40 Martyrs of England and Wales. This was a day of great significance for the Church, as it drew attention to the immense sacrifices that were made by men and women, religious and lay, during the period of Catholic persecution that began with Henry VIII break with Rome.

"The English College in Valladolid was founded by the Jesuits for the very purpose of supplying the Catholic community in England and Wales with priests to support their faith when faced with such pressure from the state. Twenty-two Old Boys of the College have been Canonised or Beatified, all of them martyrs who gave their lives in England and Wales during this time of persecution. Each year the College celebrates these Old Boys on the 25th of October. In the College Chapel, the Jesuit altar is arranged to recognise the sacrifices of these men. A number of relics relating to the martyrs are placed on display at the start of Mass on the Feast Day (see photo), the most prominent of which is a chalice used by S. Ambrose Barlow OSB. Also placed there with them is the book listing the Old Boys of the College (photo). The pages to which it is opened shows the entry for S. Thomas Garnet, a Jesuit priest who studied at the College. The simple flower subsequently drawn beside his name indicates that he was martyred. However, whilst we rightly celebrate the generosity and faithfulness of the martyrs, we should also remember the far larger number of names on these pages that did not die as martyrs. Very many of these men also made their

way to England and Wales, going on to serve the Catholic community for many years. They too had to hide from the authorities, endure separation from family, imprisonment, being sent into exile and living a life constantly on the move. Mercifully, they managed to avoid execution but the risks they faced and threats made against them were no less than those who did suffer that fate. It would be right to remember these individuals too in our prayers when the sacrifices of the martyrs is called to mind.

"The setting of the memorial by the Jesuit altar is appropriate for another reason. Inevitably some of the young men that made their way from England to Spain succumbed to illness whilst studying in Valladolid. The remains of some of those individuals who died during their time at the College are buried beneath the altar. Although they never managed to return home to serve the Church or faced the tribulations of those that did, it was a future their presence at the College indicated they were willing to accept had they lived. They did have to accept the risks of a lengthy journey and separation from family and friends they

knew they may never see again when they left home. So although their names are not remembered with the fame that those of the martyrs are, our prayers could include them too as the God whom they loved and sought to serve will certainly know and cherish them for the love they showed they had for His Church despite the risks and costs."



# Golden Couple



Fr Alan Burbage left and Fr Peter Peterken together with two members of David and Anne's family.

Congratulations to David and Anne Perry who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with fellow parishioners at The Holy Spirit Church Derby. As well as a Papal Blessing they received letters of congratulations from Bishop Patrick and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. David and Anne are among the founder members of the Parish and although they are retired they are still very active with various parish duties.

David is an active member of the Derby Circle of the Catenian Association and Anne is a Chaplaincy Visitor at the Royal Derby Hospital.

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# The Lord's Day

*A helpful guide and background to the readings used at our Catholic Mass each Sunday during the month of December 2019. A guide to Christmas Day Mass reading will be detailed in our Christmas edition of the Catholic News.*

## 1st December

### 1st Sunday in Advent Year C

First Reading Jeremiah 33 : 14-16 The year is 587 BC, the year of the conquest of Jerusalem and Judah. Jeremiah has been imprisoned by Zedekiah, the king, for being too outspoken and certain about the fall of Jerusalem - but in a symbolic act in chapter 32 the prophet had bought a field as a sign of confidence that peace would one day return to the Holy Land. In today's reading we feel the sadness of the double message to the houses of Judah and Israel. The kingdom of God's people had been split since the reign of Roboam, Solomon's son, whose tyrannical rule caused a renewal of the divisions healed by his grandfather, King David. The reading seems to imply that a descendant of David will bring unity and peace to the land, restoring the integrity of God's people. Jerusalem will be given a new name for a new age, and in the verses that follow we learn that the old monarchy will not be restored - but a priestly kingship will bring new revelation of God's love.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3 : 12-13, & 4 : 2 Here is the first letter of St. Paul that we have, written from Corinth in AD 50-51. It is a gentle and encouraging letter, warm in its understanding of the Thessalonian's courage in time of persecution. Chapter 3 tells of Timothy's mission to Thessalonica, how glad he was to see the strong faith of the people and how joyful Paul feels at sharing the news. He tells them (v10) that he prays for them constantly and hopes to see them again. The warmth of Paul's feelings fill the verses of today's reading. May God bless them, increase their love and help them make progress in the spiritual life. See the Trinitarian prayer, not fully formulated, in which God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ work together. Note Paul's wish that the people will grow in love so that they may grow in holiness. It is a daily growing that Paul urges - moral and spiritual growth: each day lived for God.

Gospel Reading Luke 21 : 25-28, 34-36 Chapter 21 opens quietly with the touching story of the widow and her mite. Her story echoes today's second reading of living faith and love each day. The widows had a daily living allowance from the community, so the point about her story is that she gave all she had for today, knowing she would be given enough for the morrow - but content not to build up a reserve. She gives to God all she does not need. The chapter develops into conversation about the Temple and Jesus' warning

that it will be destroyed, which becomes an image of the end of the world; and then to the warning to live wisely, in the knowledge that all life will come to an end. The end of the passage is advice to live a good life so that whatever the circumstances of death we shall be ready to come before God. In verses 37-38 we see Jesus' pattern of life and work: by day, preaching in the Temple; by night, praying on the Mount of Olives.

## 8th December

### 2nd Sunday in Advent Year C

First Reading Baruch 5 : 1-19 The Book pretends to be one written during the exile in Babylon (587-534 BC) and sent to Jerusalem to be read in the synagogues. It was actually written much later - possibly 2nd century BC, or 1st century AD after the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. It was written as an encouragement in time of persecution and conquest, reflecting several centuries of such suffering. Baruch sends greetings and money for sacrificial offerings at Jerusalem, expresses trust in God who is with them in their suffering and recalls Wisdom as the great gift from God. He reminds Jerusalem of Divine Providence, and in today's reading urges Jerusalem to see herself as God's Queen whom God will make known throughout the world. The mother Jerusalem is urged to look for the return of her exiled children who will become princes and princesses in a new age. In verse 7 we have the image used by John the Baptist and Isaiah - a land easy to traverse, God's way is clear.

Second Reading Philippians 1 : 3-6, 8-11 Here are heart-warming verses from the opening of Paul's letter to his favourite Christian community. He wrote to them from Ephesus (56-57) as a preparation for his coming to visit them once again. The reading is full of thanksgiving - to God and to the people. They received God's good news from Paul, have shared it with others through their good works, and have a precious place in his heart. He misses being with them but can still express his love for them by encouraging them to love one another. Reference to "chains" may indicate Paul is writing from prison, and some scholars believe he wrote from Rome during his first house imprisonment - when he was free to preach the Gospel and gather the Roman Christians at his home. That might explain the mention of chains (verse 7, strangely omitted from today's reading) and the longing in his words: he fears he may never see the Philippians again

Gospel Reading Luke 3 : 1-6 Luke's political and social details allow us to date the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry to the years AD 27-28. John and Jesus are about 35 years old and their short ministries are beginning. Note that Annas and Caiaphas are the High Priests. Under Jewish law the High Priest was appointed for life but Roman authority prevented that custom and appointed Caiaphas in the year AD 18 (until AD 38), whilst Annas had ruled AD 6-15. We remember the arrest of Jesus and

his being taken to the house of Annas - suggesting Annas was still the real power. The historical background fades. It has served to herald the truly momentous event - the word of God coming to John the Baptist so that he might prepare the way of the Lord. John's message comes from the wilderness - recalling Moses and the calling of God's people to the Promised Land and the returns from Assyrian and Babylonian exile. A new age is to begin.

## 15th December

### 3rd Sunday in Advent Year C

First Reading Zephaniah 3 : 14-18 We believe this book was written late in the 6th century BC. Its message is one of the Day of the Lord - who will ask for a reckoning from Judah and from the nations. The book opens with oracles against Judah, goes on to judge the pagan nations and then Jerusalem. But in chapter 3 the mood changes. The Lord promises to convert the pagans and thus bring peace to God's little ones - the Anawim, in whose name Mary sings in the Magnificat. Their joy is today's reading. Peace is restored to Jerusalem, Zion (the hill of God on which the Temple was built) rejoices because the Almighty has returned to his dwelling place, and is king in place of the corrupt rulers of history. The Lord will dance with joy in love for the people who are freed from fear and celebrate days of festival. Even the prophet sings, rejoicing that the Lord is preparing the time for freedom and healing.

Second Reading Philippians 4 : 4-7 Paul's letter draws to a close (AD 56-57). He tells the people how much he misses them, his dear friends, expresses sorrow at a disagreement between Evodia and Syntyche and asks Syzygus to mediate. We know nothing of this disagreement but see Paul's sorrow that people who have helped him should be quarrelling. (Ah, parish life!) In spite of their quarrel the ladies' names are in the Book of Life. Then comes today's passage. It is as though Paul's sorrow at disagreements forces him to wish them all happiness. Let them be tolerant of difference between them, worry about nothing, trust in divine providence and fill their minds with all that is good. Paul seems to think the time of the coming of the Lord is near (v 5) - a strong motive for peace and reconciliation. He offers himself as their model (v9) when, earlier, he had offered the peace of God (v7).

Gospel Reading Luke 3 : 10-18 John the Baptist has made a powerful impression on the people. The Messiah is to come, there must be a new beginning and God will raise new children of the promise. The whole world is to hear God's truth. The people, the sinners, want to share in the new creation and ask John's advice and he is gentle and understanding. Greedy tax-collectors are asked to take no more than their due and cruel soldiers are told not to cause fear nor to be open to bribes. The people sense that if sinners can be made welcome - then everyone can. They wonder if John himself can be the Messiah, forgiving sins and offering new life, and John's answer is humble. He can offer repentance and forgiveness, but the one whose way he is preparing will bring the Holy Spirit and fire - purifying them all for a new life with God.

## 22nd December

### 4th Sunday in Advent Year C

First Reading Micah 5 : 1-4 The prophet's name is similar to "Michael" and means the same; "Who is like God" His home was at Moresheth, about twenty miles south west of Jerusalem, and he seems to have written about the same time as Isaiah and Jeremiah (approximately 716-687 BC). The book opens with warnings for Israel about their crimes against God. Samaria will become a ruin and Jerusalem is under threat; the rich have forgotten their duties to the poor (Micah seems to have been of peasant stock) and they are inviting disaster; rulers have failed the people and false prophets have deceived them. Micah accepts the taunts of the people, unafraid, because he can look forward to the Day of the Lord which he explains in a beautiful passage at the beginning of chapter four. He promises that the Lord will rescue the people from siege, exile and the power of the pagans - and new promise will come from Bethlehem, David's city. Today's lyrical passage is the promise: "From David's line, from the chosen woman, the Messiah will come".

Second Reading Hebrews 10 : 5-10 The book has been glorifying the Christ (chapter four) who is the mediator of a new covenant between God and mankind and has entered the heavenly sanctuary by completing the covenant through shedding his blood in a unique sacrifice. He is priest, victim and mediator and we share his glory. Now, in chapter five, the author looks back over the old covenant, the repeated sacrifices and offerings for sin, and dares to imagine Christ's thoughts on coming into the world. Christ speaks to his father, acknowledging that not sacrifice but obedience is what God asks. The sin offerings were an escape from real worship (love and service of God, obedience to God's will) simply covering over repeated wrongdoing. In contrast, the Christ offers himself in a act of utter obedience, thus pleasing his father and redeeming humanity

Gospel Reading Luke 1: 39-44 This is a puzzling story. Mary's journey would have taken about five days. Would a family or her betrothed, Joseph, have allowed her to make such a journey? A young girl on Roman-patrolled road, passing through bandit-infested country? Elizabeth did not need Mary's assistance because she was of a priestly family and would be surrounded by relations and friends rejoicing that, at last, she would have a child (Luke 1:57-58) When Elizabeth hears Mary's greeting she cries out with joy. She already knows, before Mary tells her, that Mary is with child (Luke 1:42) and we wonder how she knew. There seems to be no family contact - because Mary only knows through an angel's message that Elizabeth is with child. How would she explain to her family what she knows in order to justify making this long and arduous journey? The passage seems to be richly symbolic. Elizabeth is one of a number of Old Testament women who waited in sorrow for a child - Sarah, Rachel, Hannah, Samson's mother - and they symbolise the waiting of Israel for the birth of the Messiah. Mary is the mother of the Messiah Saviour and her meeting with Elizabeth is the meeting of the Old and New Testaments: longing and fulfilment. The Visitation story is a spiritual story.





# Fr Neil Peoples is Inducted as Parish Priest at Swadlincote and Burton

St Peter & St Paul Church Swadlincote was the venue for the official welcome and induction of Fr Neil Peoples as the Parish Priest of both here and St Joseph's Burton. It was a joyful Mass, attended by both new parishioners and former parishioners of Fr Neil, as well as family members. He was formally handed the keys of the churches, a Bible and Roman Missal; affirmed his faith and promised to serve his parishioners and lead them to the Sacraments. Canon Eddy

Jarosz, the Vicar General, was the main celebrant, accompanied by priests from around the Derby Deanery and local area.

The Mass was followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.

We wish Fr Neil well in his new parishes.

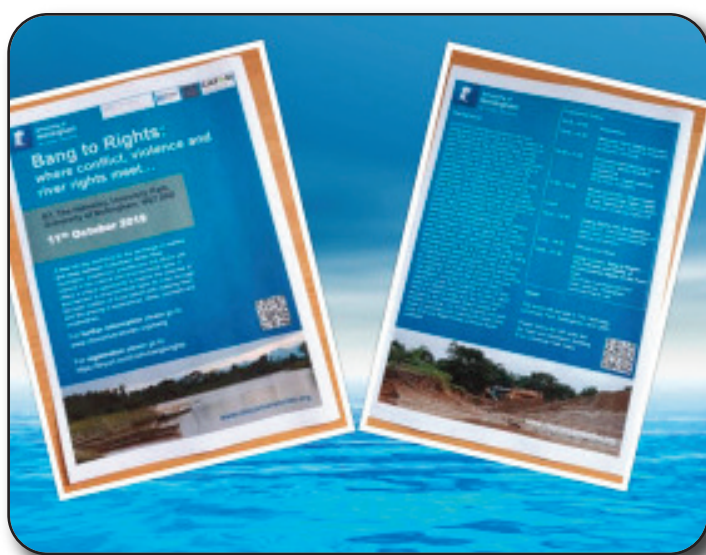
**Fran Wickes**



## A Colombian Evening at Holy Spirit, West Bridgford

On Friday 11 October at the University of Nottingham CAFOD visitors from Colombia took part in a free workshop followed by a public lecture.

The Guardians of Atrato River – Alba Achito, Fausto Palacios and CAFOD partner Vianney Enrique Moya Rua are visiting from Chocó, north-western Colombia. The Atrato River in Chocó, one of the regions with the highest biodiversity in the



world, is found in one of Colombia's poorest regions.

This river is a source of life for many Afro-Colombians and indigenous communities living along its banks however as a result of illegal mining activities and the armed conflict, the environment has greatly suffered. It is often dangerous for local communities to protect their environment. In a landmark ruling in 2017, Colombia's Constitutional Court recognised the Atrato River, including its communities, as having rights to "protection, conservation, maintenance and restoration".

Alba, Fausto, Vianney shared their experiences of protecting, defending and preserving the Atrato River.

The following day, Saturday 12 October, they were joined by parishioners at Holy Spirit, West Bridgford who launched their HandsOn Magdalena Medio parish scheme. Mass at 6.30 and then into the church hall at 7.30 for Colombian food, music, and heard more about the project and the Guardians work.



## Rosmini Centre House of Prayer

### Christmas inspiration from Blessed Antonio Rosmini

What better occasion than the day of our Saviour's Birth? Let us watch the Divine Infant lying on the bed of straw for love of us, let us gaze upon Him with the eyes of faith, and then let us refuse, if we can, to let our heart expand in tender affections, and to accept the gift of peace which He offers to all who have hearts to love.

**Stresa, November 1851**

#### DECEMBER 2020

**Saturday 7th, 10am - 4 pm**

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Mass, meditation,  
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**Friday 13th, 7 - 9pm**

Healing Mass. Fr. Anthony Meredith

#### JANUARY 2020

**Friday 3rd, 7 - 9pm**

Healing Mass

**Thursday 9th, 7 - 8.30pm**

Fr. Antonio Belsito IC.

The Apocalypse of St. John:

letters to the Churches

**Saturday 11th, 2 - 4.30pm**

Rev. Bill Myers:

"Lead kindly light", Newman's conversion

**Saturday 25th, 3 - 4.30pm**

Sharing Scripture in my life.

This January 2020 programme is an indicator for most of next year. The whole of the 2020 programme will be in the January issue of Catholic News.

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**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.





# Mass Presided by Bishop Patrick to Celebrate the Canonisation of St John Henry Newman - University of Nottingham



Whilst the weather may have been wet, there were certainly no dampened feelings at Holy Mass on Sunday 13th October 2019. A great occasion for the global Church (and especially in England and Wales), the day saw the canonization of Cardinal John Henry Newman, the first British Saint in over 40 years. It was a special day also for the many universities across our diocese, and in particular the University of Nottingham whose Catholic Chaplaincy and Catholic Society have been under his patronage for almost 90 years. Principal celebrant (and homilist) at the Mass was Bishop Patrick McKinney and concelebrating were Fr Jonathan Rose (University Chaplain) and Fr Jonathan Whitby-Smith (former University Lay Chaplain), all assisted by Deacon Peter Brogan (University of Lincoln). Also marking this joyful occasion were university staff and students from across the diocese, along with our Eucharistic brothers and sisters and recently appointed National Coordinator of Catholic Chaplains in Higher Education, Helen Townsend.

In his homily, Bishop Patrick highlighted how St John Henry Newman provides a strong example towards our own invitation of encounter, discipleship and missionary discipleship. Understanding God as 'the subject of an overwhelming experience' rather than an 'object of belief or thought', it was an encounter at the age of 15 that would shape the rest of his life. An excellent scholar, his father enrolled him at Trinity College, Oxford at the age of 16, but in a reminder of his frail humanity he struggled with his final exams. Undeterred he became Fellow of Oriel College; a role that would last

28 years. In 1848, still building on his teenage encounter with God, St John Henry Newman wrote the encouraging words that still speak to all of us today: 'God has created me to do Him some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another' (Meditations on Christian doctrine). In this he recognised his call to missionary discipleship and so, some 31 years later, he was made Cardinal by Pope Leo XIII and took as his motto 'Cor ad cor loquitur': Heart speaks to heart. Bishop Patrick concluded by reminding us that St John Henry Newman 'is not some plaster saint; he was very human; he had his highs and his lows, he experienced failures and disappointments' and so 'if we seek his prayerful intercession, he can be a true friend in heaven' to us all. The highly attended Mass was also accompanied by the musical talents of students and we were blessed with the opportunity to venerate a Grade 2 relic of our new Saint. Renowned for his approach towards faith and university education, it was apt that this prayerful recognition of St. John Henry Newman took place in the beautifully adorned Great Hall of University Park Campus. A prolific preacher, writer and faithful intercessor, St. Newman continues to inspire us all to walk confidently into the Light of Christ so as to draw closer to that very 'definite service' our Father bestows on each of us.

St. John Henry Newman, pray for us.

**Chris Howitt**  
Catholic Lay Chaplain  
University of Nottingham

*Continued from page 1*

## Aid What to ask candidates in your constituency

"What will you, and your party, do to continue to tackle poverty overseas and to protect the quality of UK aid?"

The money the UK government spends on aid for the world's poorest communities is an important tool for tackling poverty and its causes.

There is support across political parties for the UK's commitment to spend 0.7 per cent of our national income on overseas aid. But it's important that the focus of the aid budget is on the needs of the world's poorest people.

## Climate change What to ask candidates in your constituency

"The government has set a net zero emissions target of 2050. Do you support this target and how will you, and your party, make tackling climate change a priority to prevent more people being pushed into poverty by the climate crisis?"

Thousands of CAFOD supporters have played a vital role alongside school children, grandparents and campaigners from hundreds of other organisations in persuading the government to set a new climate change target.

The target, which is a legal commitment for the UK to reach 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, is more ambitious than the goal originally set by Parliament in 2008.

Now politicians need to urgently put the steps in place to bring emissions down to net zero by:

- \* increasing the amount of electricity generated by renewable energy
- \* making it easier for people to choose electric cars by installing more chargers
- \* planting more trees to soak up carbon dioxide.

This is particularly important ahead of the UN climate talks, known as 'COP26', taking place in Glasgow in November 2020. The government's advisers, the Committee on Climate Change, have warned that ministers must act faster to ensure the UK is a credible host of the conference.

## Britain's role in the world What to ask candidates in your constituency

"How will you, and your party, ensure that Britain is an outward-looking, tolerant and welcoming nation in the years ahead?"

The UK is currently scheduled to leave the EU by 31 January. This means new rules will need to be agreed for matters such as migration and how we trade with the rest of the world.

Pope Francis has warned that issues affecting vulnerable communities can be neglected by decision makers in these types of processes, meaning it is important voters make politicians aware they will not accept this.

Any trade deals negotiated after Brexit must be scrutinised by Parliament and mustn't harm poor communities and the environment.

Rules on migration must protect the dignity and rights of everyone, especially the most vulnerable people who face the greatest hardships when they leave their homes.

## Poverty in England and Wales What to ask candidates in your constituency

"How would you and your party contribute to the availability of housing and jobs that reduce poverty and build up local community ties?"

Whilst the remit of CAFOD is to help vulnerable communities overseas, their sister agency the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is responsible for supporting people struggling with poverty here in England and Wales.

An important aspect of CSAN's work is to help the increasing number of people of all ages who live in insecure or inadequate housing. Part of this is due to the differences in the cost of housing and job opportunities in different parts of the UK.

## How can I get in touch with election candidates?

**In person** - Parliamentary candidates and canvassers for political parties will often knock on doors to encourage residents to vote for them.

This is an opportunity to raise the problems affecting poor communities, showing that voters care about the issue and asking them to explain what they have committed to doing in their election manifesto.

**By email or letter** - You can find a list of the candidates wanting to become the Member of Parliament in your constituency in your area on the Electoral Commission website.

**Through the media** - Writing a letter to your local newspaper or radio station is a great way of showing general election candidates that voters in their area care about an issue.

**On social media** - You can tweet candidates with your questions.

**At election hustings** - Hustings are public meetings where election candidates from different parties will debate policies and answer questions from voters.

You can find more information about hustings in your local newspapers and websites and through your local Churches Together network.



# The Bishop's homily for the opening Mass of the Dowry visit of OL of Walsingham

Between Thursday the 10th and Saturday the 12th of October, 2019, the Cathedral hosted an image of Our Lady of Walsingham, which is travelling the country in the company of the Rev. Mgr. John Armitage, rector of the shrine at Walsingham, and a dedicated team of helpers. As part of the several events arranged for the visit to the Cathedral, the Bishop offered Mass at the Cathedral on the evening of the Thursday. The following is his homily at that Mass.

"'Here is your mother'. At one level, it could sound like a simple domestic arrangement: Jesus, just before his death on the cross, tidying up some of the practical details for the ongoing care of his mother by entrusting her to his closest disciple. It could sound like that, but for the fact that this is John's gospel that we're listening to and, from earliest times, scripture scholars have shown us that John's gospel is deeply theological and symbolic; it works on many layers.

"So, when Jesus says to Mary, 'Woman, this is your son', and says to the beloved disciple, 'This is your mother', you just know that something much deeper is being expressed here than Jesus just making sure, before his death, that there is someone to look after his mother. So, what is John trying to express here? A closer look at the figure of the beloved disciple in John's gospel reveals that this figure represents the ideal disciple, the ideal follower of Jesus,

that we are all invited to become. In John's gospel we see that the beloved disciple is portrayed as one who is close to Jesus, leaning on his Master's breast at the Last Supper, one who remains faithful to Jesus even in the face of all that happened to Jesus, even to following Jesus to the Cross when all the other disciples run away; one who is the first to believe in the Resurrection, and first to bear witness to the Lordship of the Risen Christ. Jesus, in his last act before he dies, entrusts this beloved disciple, who represents all of us, to his mother.

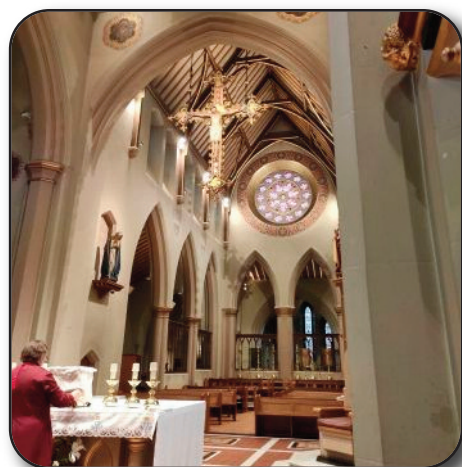
"So today, in the presence of this beautiful statue from the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, let us reflect that each of us, like the beloved disciple, has been entrusted to Mary's maternal care. It's quite a thought, isn't it, that Mary's maternal care was in fact Jesus' dying gift to his church, to all his disciples? Mary's first Yes to God was to accept the invitation to give birth to Jesus, to become a mother to Jesus and to protect and nurture him. But here at the foot of the cross she is asked to carry on this motherly role now to all who are Jesus' beloved disciples, to you and to me.

"Such was the openhearted response of the people in Medieval England to Mary's maternal intercession that England became known as the dowry of Mary. In medieval English law, a husband would set apart a portion of his estate which was then designated for the maintenance and care of

his wife, should she become a widow. So, the historical understanding of this lovely title, 'Mary's dowry' is that England has been 'set apart' for Mary. The title reflected the deep devotion of the people in England towards the Mother of God. Well, that was then; what about now, in our time? In November 2017 the Catholic Bishops agreed to rededicate the faith of the people in England, as Mary's dowry, and this would take place on or around the Solemnity of the Annunciation, on Sunday 29th March in 2020; we are therefore now well through a time of spiritual preparation for this date, during which the beautiful statue of Our Lady of Walsingham has been visiting every Catholic Cathedral throughout England. Now it's our turn as a Diocese, and we pray that these precious few days will provide us with a grace-filled opportunity to give expression to our devotion to Our Lady as our spiritual Mother; to seek her prayerful intercession for family, friends and for ourselves; for the living out in our lives of the diocesan themes of 'Encounter', 'Discipleship' and 'Missionary Discipleship', and our desire as parishes, chaplaincies and



schools to become more missionary. The challenge to each of us here today, and to all those who visit over the next few days, is to take Jesus at his word when he says, 'Here is your mother' - take her into your home. This means accepting and freely welcoming her into our hearts, into our lives, as our spiritual mother. It means saying the Angelus regularly in our homes, in our parishes, our chaplaincies, in our schools, and in our places of work. It means taking up again the praying of the rosary as frequently as we can, and particularly now in this month of the Rosary. It means committing ourselves to regular Confession and to a prayerful invocation of the Saints and Martyrs of England. Let us especially over these few precious days, and in the months to come, do all that we can to prepare ourselves spiritually for the re-evangelisation and re-dedication of England as 'Mary's dowry'."



## Pope prays for victims of violence in Ethiopia

During the Angelus recently, Pope Francis said he was saddened by news of the violence in Ethiopia, "which has among its victims Christians of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahado Church." The Holy Father expressed his closeness to the Church and to its co-Patriarch and Catholicos, who he described "my dear brother Abune Mathias". He asked for prayer "for all victims of violence" in Ethiopia.



Meeting between Pope and Patriarch Mathias, February 2016

Violence broke out in the Oromia region of the country on 23 October with tensions between security forces and a prominent political activist, Jawar Mohammed, who has been critical of the Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali. Three Orthodox Coptic churches and a mosque were attacked.

implementing a program of political reforms and national reconciliation between the different ethnic groups in the country. This year he received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work.

The Prime Minister described the violence as "An attempt to provoke an ethnic and religious crisis."

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali has been

Source: Fides

## Advent retreat

Nottingham Diocesan Spirituality Network warmly invite you to "How far is it to Bethlehem" an Advent retreat. These days of prayer enable you to put usual things aside and have time for reflection and restoration. A time for quiet and prayer, for you and God to spend time together. All are welcome.

The day will be in St Hugh's Church Centre, Borrowash on Saturday 7th December 2019, 10am to 3pm. Tea/coffee provided, please bring a packed lunch. Further information contact Angela Fairbrother 07813 584213 or Ann Neale 07730 956156

### Nottingham Diocese Spirituality Network

Saturday - 7 December 2019

Day of Prayer:

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to

St Hugh's, Borrowash

RETREAT DAY

How far is it to Bethlehem?

Led by Patricia Stoa

10.00am - Coffee/Tea

10.30am - Welcome and Morning Prayer  
Lunch

13.00pm - Afternoon Session

14.35pm - Leave

The next day will be Saturday 14th March 2020

Venue - for the March day on Lectio Devina will return to St Alban's Parish Centre, Chaddesdon, Derby DE21 6ET

Ann Neale

Tel. 01623 811141 Mob. 07730 956156 ann@perkeo.co.uk

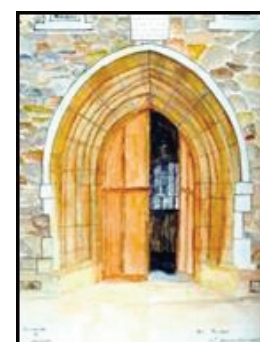
Or

Angela Fairbrother

Tel. 01332 544146 Mob. 07813 584213 angelafairbrother69@gmail.com

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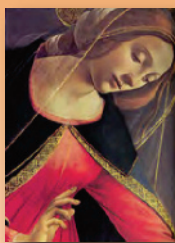
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Ministers of Religion



# St Mary's Academy Marks the Year of the Word



The Church in England and Wales has begun a 15 month celebration of the Bible - 'The God Who Speaks.' Children at St Mary's Academy in Derby have each been given a Bible to help them listen to the Word of the Lord and grow in their faith. They will keep their Bible throughout their time at the School and will leave with it at the end of Year 6.



In Key Stage Acts of Worship, the children reflected on their favourite Bible stories and thought about how its many stories are really only one - the story of our Salvation.

Fran Wickes

## St Mary's Derby celebrates 180 Years of Worship and Community



On Wednesday 9th October, St Mary's Derby marked the 180th anniversary of her opening. This was the culmination of a number of parish events to Mark this milestone. A novena to St Therese of Lisieux was held each lunch time; a history walk of the local area led by Jon Grattidge revealed hidden spiritual gems close to the Church; and a talk by Fr David Palmer on Cardinal John Henry Newman gave insight into the life



and thoughts of this holy man.

The 180th Mass was celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington who spoke about the history of the Church and how the Catholic faith and community developed in Derby after the Emancipation Act of 1829. Cardinal Newman's sister lived in the town and Bishop John spoke about the strained, though continuing relationship, that they shared after his conversion to Catholicism.



The challenges for Protestants and Catholics to coexist was mirrored in the city for many years. Today we see a very different ecumenical landscape and St Mary's shares warm relationships with other churches and faiths.

After the Mass, parishioners came together for refreshments and to watch a slide show of photos of church life going back over 100 years."

## Brought to England after Falklands War now returned to Argentina's Bishop of the Forces

The UK's Catholic Bishop of the Forces, Bishop Paul Mason, has returned a statue of Our Lady of Luján, Patroness of Argentina, and received a replica from his counterpart Bishop Santiago Olivera in return.

The statue had travelled with Argentine soldiers to the Falklands for divine protection as they invaded the remote islands in the south Atlantic on 2 April 1982 starting a 10-week conflict. Over 900 military personnel died as well as three islanders before the islands were returned to British control on 14 June 1982.

The statue which was left behind in a Church in the capital Port Stanley before being taken in military cargo back to the UK ultimately found a home at the Catholic Military Cathedral of St Michael and St George in Aldershot.

The porcelain statue was almost destroyed when it was packed up to go to the UK as troops were throwing heavy luggage onto the back of the Hercules plane taking them home. Father Alf Hayes, a military chaplain during the Falklands conflict, said he pulled

out the statue to make sure it was placed on top of the pile. "If I hadn't been there it would have been smashed to bits," he added.

The exchange took place in Rome on Wednesday 30 October at Pope Francis' General Audience in St Peter's Square. The Argentine pontiff met both bishops and blessed the two statues.

The statue Bishop Mason returned was itself a copy of the original which is located in the Basilica of Luján in Argentina. It dates back to 1630 and was blessed by Pope Saint John Paul II who visited the city in 1982.

Soon after his installation as Bishop of the Forces, Bishop Mason was contacted by his Argentinian counterpart Bishop Olivera, who asked if the statue could be returned, given that a group of faithful with a devotion to Our Lady of Luján were eager for this to happen. The offer of a replica for the Cathedral in Aldershot was gratefully accepted.

Bishop Paul Mason said: "At both of the respective Military Cathedrals the congrega-



tions have been asked to pray for each other and for peace. The statues will serve as an ongoing reminder to pray for all of those who fell in the Falklands War, while also giving us a symbol of unity in faith and an aid to our prayers for peace."

Great devotion is shown to Our Lady of Luján who was formally declared as the Patroness of Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay on 8 September 1930 by Pope Pius XI.



# Student wellbeing ambassadors have been appointed at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy

Student wellbeing ambassadors have been appointed at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy to raise awareness of mental health.

The whole of Year 9 and 10 were invited to apply for the roles and 25 students were successful.

So far, the school has conducted an emotional, mental health and wellbeing audit to see what support already exists for pupils and to assess the whole school approach to mental health.

Six members of staff have received

specialist training along with the ambassadors and ultimately a mental health policy will be drawn up.

An artist has visited school to work with students on a large wall painting of a tree displaying the five ways to wellbeing.

Students will also contribute to a voluntary passport which details what actions they've taken to raise awareness of wellbeing and mental health and this document is set to be rolled out across all schools by Derbyshire County Council.

After two training sessions, students held and Act of Worship to tell the whole school about the purpose of the new roles and staff and students also wore yellow for a day to support the Young Minds charity.

Ella Davies, Emmaus Centre Manager at Saint John Houghton CVA, said: "The students are not there to act as counsellors but what they will do is raise awareness of the support that is available, how they can help and what we can offer to try to help reduce stress in school. It's great because it's all being done from students' perspective so it's not how we as adults see it, it's how they would see it. They've already come up with some great ideas."

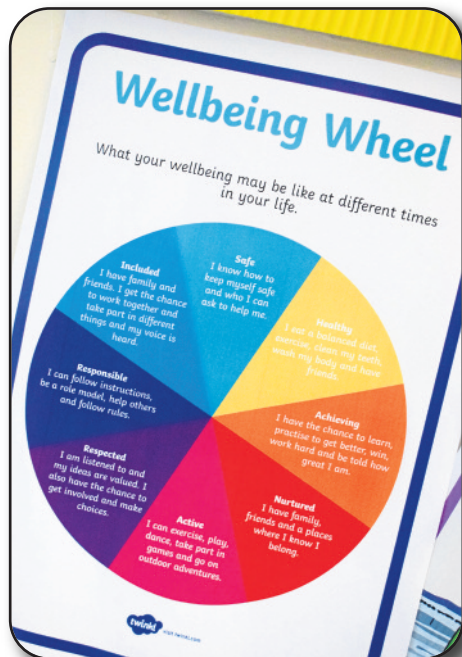


Students have already been thinking of plans for the future including a space where students who are feeling stressed can relax and feel calmer.

Student Caitlin Hawley is looking forward to her role as a wellbeing ambassador.

She said: "I think mental health is such a massive thing and the good thing about having ambassadors is that everything will be done from a student's point of view. We will be meeting as a group and developing ideas that will make school a better place in terms of mental health which is an issue that affects everyone."

In November, Years 7,8,9 are having a mental health and wellbeing day when they will be introduced to the 'five ways to wellbeing'. They will be taking part in activities, watching a special performance by a rock band on Mental Health, Online Safety & Cyber Bullying and designing postcards for a 'postcards of kindness campaign'.



## Derby Catenians join the dots Strengthening family life through friendship and faith

Every year the Derby Catenians hold a dominoes tournament. Catenians from other nearby towns are invited to take part and this year there were contestants from as far afield as Barnsley, Mansfield and Wakefield. The trophy, awarded to the winner, was made by Jeff Green of the Derby Catenians; after retiring from Rolls Royce he took up the craft of a silversmith as a hobby.

The winner this year was Pat Horbury, who is the President of Mansfield Branch. The winner's trophy was presented to Pat by Richard Penna, Derby Catenian President.

**Kevin Hurst**  
Derby Catenians Publicity Officer

**Photograph right: Derby President Richard Penna (right) presenting the trophy to Pat Horbury (left)**

**Below: General photos of the 'highly charged' atmosphere at the height of the tournament**



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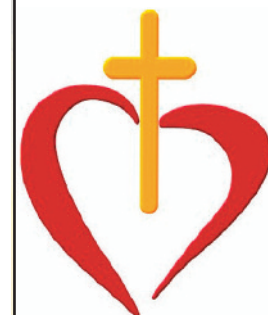
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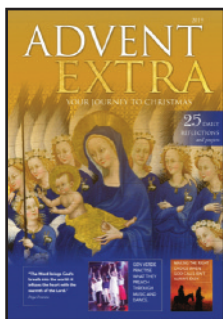
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# REVIEWS

## ADVENT EXTRA 2019

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Advent Extra is this year's essential companion as you head towards the joy of Christmas Day.

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**Christian writers**  
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**Twenty-five reflections**

How far is it to Bethlehem? According to the carol, it's "Not very far". Like Joseph and Mary, we also travel purposefully towards Christmas, perhaps unsure of what lies ahead. We also want to see Jesus enter our world.

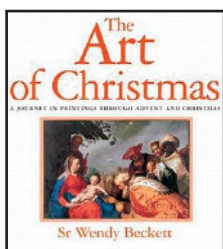
This year Advent Extra remembers Mary and Elizabeth, John the Baptist, the first crib and "England's Nazareth". It celebrates people caring for those who are homeless and disadvantaged. We sing and dance with the Focolare, watch the Christmas tree and nativity scene appear in St Peter's Square and celebrate a wedding.

## THE ART OF CHRISTMAS

By Sr Wendy Beckett

PRODUCT CODE:  
1461 ISBN  
NO: 9780852313541  
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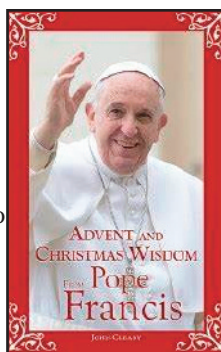


In her reflections on this beautiful selection of masterpieces from a range of artists, Sr Wendy Beckett guides us through the feasts and themes of Advent and Christmas. By exploring the insights of these great works of art, Sr Wendy leads us to a deeper appreciation of this joyful yet challenging season, and stimulates us to consider its meaning in our lives.

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WISDOM FROM POPE FRANCIS

By John Cleary

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This Advent, prepare to celebrate Jesus' arrival as an infant in the small town of Bethlehem. Born into poverty, he brings us the good news that God loves us - and calls us to give of ourselves to others. Let the example of Pope Francis, as he models the humility and generosity of our Saviour, inspire you. Reflect on the Pope's teachings, accompanied by scripture, prayer and action. Then go out and share the message: Jesus Christ is born!

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## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I enjoy reading the Catholic News, and thought the November edition particularly good.

I was a bit disturbed, however, by Father John Daley's article on angels, a subject about which he seems seriously confused.

Of course there are guardian angels, Jesus talks about "each child's angel", but the idea that we have a good angel on our right shoulder, and a bad one on our left, is totally wrong, something which I think his teacher made up to try and explain temptation.

God would never send us a bad angel, only good, and the idea that He created bad angels is quite erroneous; He only created good angels, some of whom went astray, read Revelations.

The rather daunting phrase, "God is watching you" my sister, in her RE lessons used to explain by saying "God is watching you because He loves you so much that He can't take His eyes off you!"

Angels are real beings, not aspects of God. When God wished to appear to us, He does, e.g. in the Burning Bush, or on the mountain, or in the Tent of Meeting, to Moses.

Other times he sends an angel, a real being. Countries also have guardian angels. At Fatima, the shining figure of a young man introduced himself to the children as the Angel of Fatima.

These are the Principalities. St Paul gives us the nine choirs of Angels, and nowhere tells us these are not real beings

Some of the saints also conversed with their angel, particularly St. Gemma Calgani.

Please, Father John, so many Catholics are confused and ignorant about their faith, don't confuse them further!

Sheila Dickson (Mrs)  
Lines

Parish of the Sacred Heart and St. Gilbert, Bourne

Continued from page 1

The Declaration of safe fishing has been signed by 48 countries

Foley said fishers work in one of the most dangerous environments and yet all too often governments and authorities turn a blind eye to the appalling conditions many are forced to endure.

Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is committed to fighting trafficking in the fishing industry and is actively involved in assisting fishers who are in danger of being exploited and abused by unscrupulous owners by providing spiritual and material assistance to the fishers and their families.

Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) Chair of Trustees Dr Esteban Pacha, who is also part of Spain's Delegation to the IMO, attended the Conference which saw participation from some 120 States, 70 ministerial-level representatives, 30 international organisations and 500 delegates.

He said, "We need all parties to commit to ensuring safer seas and decent working conditions for fishers, and with this Declaration, we are closer than ever to this objective. We urge all Member States to ratify the Cape Town Agreement."

In a communique published on their website, IMO says that 48 Member States have signed the Torremolinos Declaration, publicly indicating their determination to ensure that the 2012

Cape Town Agreement on fishing vessel safety will enter into force by the tenth anniversary of its adoption on October 11 2022.

The Cape Town Agreement includes mandatory safety measures for fishing vessels of 24 m in length and over. It covers key parameters such as stability and associated seaworthiness, machinery and electrical installations, life-saving appliances, communications equipment, fire protection and fishing vessel construction.

Although adopted in 2012, it will only enter into force after at least 22 States, with an aggregate 3,600 fishing vessels of 24 m in length and over, have expressed their consent to be bound by it.

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## We will remember them



The children from Holy Spirit Derby, along with their Sunday liturgy Leaders Tom and Christine Govern were busy making poppies getting ready for this year's Remembrance Sunday, once made they enjoyed making a picture to reflect the battles fields and sadness that war brings.

The Remembrance Mass was attended by many families who had the opportunity to view the children's work.

Although we remembered the conflicts of all wars we prayed that peace will come to all.

*The children learnt and recited the following poem*

**Poppy Poppy**  
**Poppy poppy what do you say?**  
**Wear me on Remembrance Day.**  
**Poppy poppy what do you tell?**  
**Many soldiers in battle fell.**  
**Poppy poppy what should we know?**  
**That peace on earth should**  
**grow, grow, grow**

Many children will want to buy a poppy and surely they should be told why we wear them not in a graphic way but we should find an age appropriate way of explaining Remembrance Day. We pray that our children will be the great peacemakers of the future!

## Small things bright and beautiful

*By Julia Beacroft*

HAVE YOU EVER received a really tiny Christmas present and wondered what on earth it could be? Is there actually anything in here at all, I've wondered on occasion, when I've become the recipient of one? And in fact during a family Christmas a couple of years ago, a minute parcel went missing for quite some time, causing the sender to feel really anxious about its whereabouts, until happily it eventually made a reappearance. And I'm sure that at some time or another we've all disguised a very small gift by placing it in a large box, thereby confusing the person about to receive it!

### SMALL PACKAGES

In a society which places increasing importance upon material things and where store advertising for all manner of goods becomes prevalent in the 'run-up' to Christmas, presents and gifts have taken on a significance which may be considered to be out of all proportion to the holy and festive season. Yet biggest is not, of course, always best. There is a proverb which states that 'good things come in small packages' and it's easy to recognize the truth in this. The tiniest parcel can contain a gift of great value such as jewelry and it's not only small packages which can contain such pure gold. Small can mean beautiful, talented or gifted in any context Tiny may represent value, perfection or authenticity.



### SUBLIME

Over two thousand years ago the most wondrous arrival ever known came in the smallest of packages when our Lord Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary. Our God sent his only begotten Son to be with us, and be with us in human form as a little helpless baby, who was born of a young virgin and a simple carpenter. In this case small was truly sublime. He was born in the humblest of places and his early life was spent in ignominy. During his years of ministry he ate and drank with sinners, tax collectors and prostitutes and he was put to death in the manner of a common criminal. Yet he was and is, our Lord and Saviour.

So this Christmas may we be aware that love, goodness, beauty and kindness come in a variety of shapes and sizes. St Paul reminds us that 'these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'

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# 'Listen, my son'

*Rule of St Benedict*

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Buckfast Abbey

God calls to us constantly, longing to guide those who yearn for life and desire to see good days into the way of peace. The Rule of Saint Benedict helps us to hear God's voice, in the Holy Scriptures, in the sacred liturgy and in our brothers in community. If you are a single man longing to live your Catholic faith in a way which brings great joy as it demands the best of you, consider whether God is calling you to be a Benedictine monk at Buckfast Abbey. Please reach out to us, and we will do all we can to help you.

**Christmas & New Year**

**The Good Shepherd Church, Woodthorpe, Nottingham 2019**

**Saturday: 21st December.**  
 Holy Mass at 10.00 am followed by:-  
 Sacrament of Confession 10.45 - 11.30 am  
 Children's Tree Party 12 noon - Nativity with decoration of the Christmas Tree.  
 Adoration & Confession at 5.00 pm - 5.45 pm  
 Holy Mass (Vigil of 4th Sunday) 6.00 pm

**Sunday: 22nd December.**  
 Holy Mass at 8.00 am; 10.30 am; 5.30 pm  
 Christmas Eve: Morning Mass at 9.15 am.

**Tuesday: 24th December.**  
 Vigil Mass at 5.00 pm  
 Children's Lantern Mass.  
 Mass at Midnight (00.00 am)

**Christmas Day:**  
**Wednesday: 25th December**  
 Holy Mass with Carols at 10.00 am.  
 Thursday - Saturday: Holy Mass at 10.00 am.  
**26th St. Stephen's Day** - Servers Renewal.  
**27th St. John's Day** - Blessing of Dinner Wines - Marriage Day Renewal.  
**28th Holy Innocents Day** - Day of Life.  
**Weekend (28th-29th)**  
 Holy Family - Usual Mass times prevail.  
 Vigil 6.00 pm. Day 8.00 am, 10.30 am, 5.30 pm  
 Monday /Tuesday. Holy Mass at 10.00 am.  
**Wednesday 1st January:**  
**Solemnity of Mary; the Mother of God.**  
 Holy Mass at 10.00 am.  
**Weekend 4th / 5th Jan.**  
**Solemnity of the Epiphany** -  
 Blessing of Water, Chalk and Incense for Home Blessing. Usual Weekend Mass times.

**LOUGHBOROUGH**  
**St Mary's - 97 Ashby Road**

**22 December**  
 4.30pm: Carols by Candlelight  
**24 December - Christmas Eve**  
 9.15am: Parish Mass  
 6.00pm: Family Christmas Vigil Mass  
 11.30pm: Carols

**25 December - Christmas Day**  
 Midnight Mass  
 9.00am: Parish Mass  
 11.00am: Solemn Mass

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

**31 December - New Year's Eve**  
 9.15am: Parish Mass  
 7.00pm: Te Deum & Solemn Benediction

**1 January - New Year's Day**  
 Mary, Mother of God  
 10.30am: Solemn Mass

**Christmas Masses at:**  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Bulwell and Holy Cross Hucknall:**  
**Our Lady of Perpetual Succour:**  
**Christmas Eve** - 4.30pm Mass  
 12.00 Midnight Mass  
**Christmas Day** - 10.00 am Mass

**Holy Cross - Hucknall:**  
**Christmas Eve** - 8.00 pm Mass  
**Christmas Day** - 10.00 am Mass

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## Chief executive of St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy trust takes on teaching assistant role

The chief executive of St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust went back to the classroom when he took on the role of teaching assistant.

Sean McClafferty was a TA for the day at St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Broadway, Derby, where he worked with children in each Key stage.

Mr McClafferty heads up the St Ralph Sherwin CMAT, which consists of 25 schools across the Diocese of Nottingham, the majority of which are in Derby and Derbyshire. There are 8,000 pupils in schools across the Trust and more than 1,200 staff.

He said: "I would like to thank all of the staff at the school who made me feel so welcome.

"It was a real privilege and I learned so much. The amount of work and preparation that TAs do is quite remarkable - they are on the go all the time. However, the biggest thing for me was the fact that I could not tell the teachers from the teaching assistants/support staff. Everyone works as a team always for the benefit of the children. There is a genuine warmth and family feeling throughout the school and the culture is one any parent would want their child to be part of.

"I do think it's important that we in the Executive Team remind ourselves in different ways about what is going on at school level - not just through the eyes of teaching staff as many of us have been there but through the eyes of the support staff without whom we would grind to a halt."

Laura Booth, a TA at St Mary's who acted as Mr McClafferty's mentor, said it was great



to have some extra help.

She said: "Sean was very surprised at the amount of work we do and was extremely appreciative of it.

"The students were excited to have a new helper but had no idea of the significance of who he was. They enjoyed having someone different to approach and share stories with.

"I think it is important that all departments are appreciated for the work that they do, as every role within a school is important. Plus with all the recent talks in the media it is nice to see someone trying to recognise and share what it actually is that TAs do.

"I enjoyed it; sharing all the aspects of the job I love. Also; it was great to have an extra pair of hands."

## Spanish students enjoy week of lessons and fun at Saint Benedict CVA

Gaelic football, afternoon tea and a Ceilidh were just some of the activities enjoyed by Spanish students visiting Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby.

Twenty-one Year 8 students and two teachers from Saint Benedict's partner school, Colexio Guillelme Brown in Spain, came to Derby as part of an exchange trip.



They partnered up with Year 8 students from Saint Benedict and took part in a fun-filled week of activities and lessons.

The group enjoyed afternoon tea, a Gaelic football session, a Ceilidh and trips to the University of Derby, Pride Park Stadium, Matlock Bath and Alton Towers.

They also toured Saint Benedict and took part in lessons before rounding off the week by working with Saint Benedict students on an idea for a new app. They created posters detailing their designs and these were displayed as part of an exhibition.

Kevin Orme, languages teacher at Saint Benedict CVA, in Duffield Road, organised the week.

He said: "Everyone really enjoyed the week and we've had some fantastic feedback from the Spanish students and their teachers. It's great for our students too because they make friends with people from other countries and they learn to speak Spanish. I think they tend to think that everyone in Spain speaks English but this

helps them to realise that's not the case and to understand the value of learning languages. An exchange like this also helps them to work on other skills like teamwork, communication and problem solving. They also stay in touch with each other for years."

Spanish student, Karla Loreley, 12, said: "Last week has been amazing not only because I have known a new city and I have learned a lot of English but because I have met a lot of new and wonderful people and I would love to see them again in the future."

Students from Saint Benedict CVA will visit Colexio Guillelme Brown in 2021.

Head teacher Kevin Gritton said: "This is the fifth time we have run this exchange programme together and it is always a brilliant experience for our students who learn lots, find a new appreciation for language learning and make long-lasting friendships. Everyone made our Spanish visitors very welcome and we hope that they enjoyed their stay."



**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

- 7 Descendant of Cain church find feeble at first (6)
- 8 Archbishop's grandmother is going after chap with drugs (6)
- 9 Caesar is distinguished put against our lot (8)
- 10 Take back-road from Arctic region and find something fishy (4)
- 11 Noah'sson'sclosingborder(4)
- 13 Sounds upset, look you, one in the Sanhedrin (8)
- 14 Hilly part of London obviously needs elevated access (8)
- 18 Cleric in East Anglia's first to work in Iceland (4)
- 20 Tribe place top Levites in confinement (4)
- 21 In favour of action: words are for a book (8)
- 23 Some signs of a familiar Australia comeback, with backing of support the key (6)
- 24 Does this stress a Mediterranean type? (6)

### CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Book to ban at university and church (6)
- 2 In Le Mans I almost get to grips with an ancient road rager (4)
- 3 It is a bit theatrical, this article on a Greek water goddess (6)
- 4 Pursued, but remains virtuous, we're informed (6)
- 5 Get Durer to re-imagine the Danish queen (8)
- 6 Is able to name many lost after classic battle (6)
- 12 Ham, a main reason for David's headquarters being here (8)
- 15 Homes are individual with great cloakrooms (6)
- 16 Beast for the mountain, one Colombia-bound (6)
- 17 Almighty crater after road is all dug up (6)
- 19 Died with atmosphere to a degree upsetting for a scribe

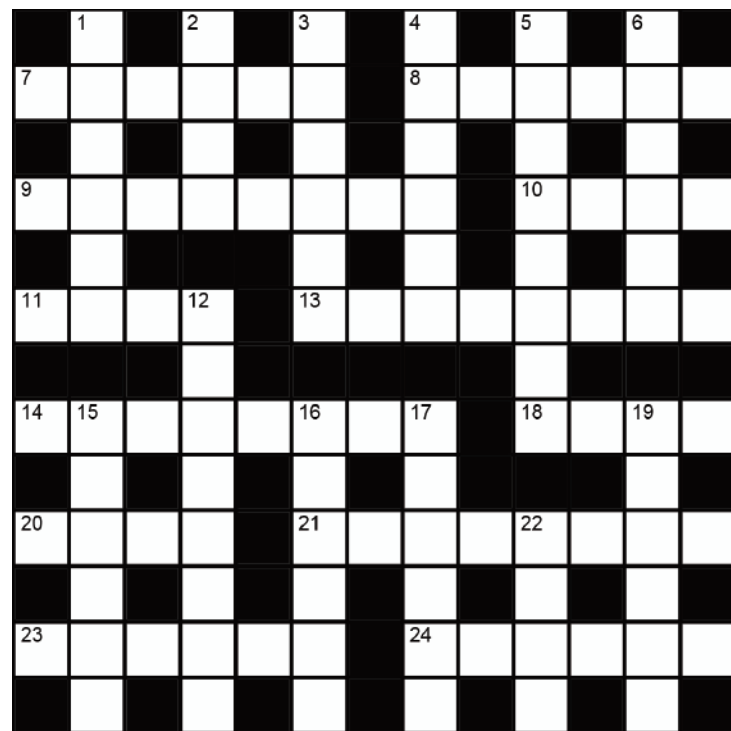
of Esdras (6) 22 Where David fought Goliath: healthy, but keeled over (4)

### QUICK Across

- 7 Descendant of Cain, husband of Adah and Zillah (6)
- 8 Cardinal John -----: Archbishop of Westminster (1963-1975) (6)
- 9 ----- Caesar, first Roman Emperor (27 BC-14 AD) (8)
- 10 Edible scombroid fish (4)
- 11 Son of Noah, ancestor of both Jews and Arabs, and the language group still spoken (4)
- 13 One of the conservative aristocratic Jewish priesthood named possibly after Zadok (8)
- 14 London N6? (8)
- 18 Icelandic books of epic mythological tales and poetry (4)
- 20 Extended family, especially in Scotland (4)
- 21 OT book consisting of adages from various Israelite sages (8)
- 23 Imaginary belt illustrating the progress of heavenly bodies (6)
- 24 Print-type used for emphasis, literary titles, etc (6)

### QUICK Down

- 1 Apocryphal book named after Jeremiah's secretary (6)
- 2 Crazy driver, named after the charioteering king of Israel in 2 Kings (4)
- 3 One of the 50 Nereids in Greek myth (6)
- 4 Hounded (6)
- 5 Hamlet'smother(8)
- 6 Great battle of the 2nd Punic War (216 BC), the scene of



- Rome's greatest defeat (6)
- 12 Where in Gilead Jacob saw God's angels before reuniting with Esau (8)
- 15 Homes with domes? (6)
- 16 Andean beast of burden (6)
- 17 One of the principal names by which God is designated in the Hebrew Scriptures (6)
- 19 One of the five who wrote down the visions of Esdras (6)
- 22 Valley where David fought Goliath (4)

### SOLUTION

**Across:** 7 Lamech, 8 Heenan, 9 Augustus, 10 Tuna, 11 Shem, 13 Saddle, 14 Highgate, 18 Edda, 20 Clan, 21 Proverbs, 23 Zodiak, 24 Italian, Down: 1 Baruch, 2 Jehu, 3 Thefts, 4 Chased, 5 Gertrude, 6 Canine, 12 Mahanaim, 15 Igloos, 16 Alpaca, 17 Elohim, 19 Dabria, 22 Elijah.