

Catholic News

MORE THAN 22 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

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PLEASE **+** DO NOT LEAVE THIS IN THE CHURCH
once you have picked up this paper please take it with you

Here: Now: Us – make yours a missionary parish Who's up for adventure?

asks Paul Bodenham, the diocese's Programme Leader for Social Action

The Diocese of Nottingham is sharing in a £50,000 grant to help parishes grow as confident, outward-looking communities. Over the next year we can offer five parishes, or groups of parishes, help in reaching out to the wider world and investing in the leadership of lay people. Let me tell you more – and if you're interested, get in touch.

As a diocese we have teamed up with the national charity Together for the Common Good (T4CG) to deliver a year's programme of leadership development for social action. T4CG specialises in helping people bring Catholic social teaching alive in their community – they call it 'common good thinking'.

Now T4CG have been awarded £50,000 by the Charles Plater Trust to work with us, and in three other dioceses, Brentwood, Shrewsbury and Liverpool, and in the City of London. With them we will use T4CG's Common Good workshop, called "Here: Now: Us" in lay formation, community development and pastoral planning. We're hoping to reach 100 people in five places here in the diocese of Nottingham over the coming year.



Cardinal Vincent Nichols congratulates the team from Together for the Common Good on their grant from the Charles Plater Trust

Photo: Mazur/cbcw.org.uk

Continued on page 8

Remains of Anglo Saxon saint discovered

Archaeologists believe they have discovered the remains of an Anglo Saxon saint at a church in Kent.

Bones dating back to the seventh century are almost certainly those of St Eanswythe, who was the daughter of an Anglo-Saxon king. The relics survived the Reformation, hidden in a cavity in the wall of the Church of St Mary and St Eanswythe in Folkestone. They were originally discovered in 1885.

Kent archaeologists and historians, working with Queen's University in Belfast, made the announcement at a special event at the church recently marking the start of British Science Week 2020.

Eanswythe is the patron saint of Folkestone. She founded one of the earliest monastic communities in England, around AD 660 on the Bayle - the overlooked historic centre of the town. Her grandfather, King Ethelbert was the first English king to convert to Christianity under Saint Augustine.

CDr Andrew Richardson, FSA, from the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, described the discovery as: "a stunning result of national importance. It now looks highly probable that we have the only surviving remains of a

member of the Kentish royal house, and of one of the earliest Anglo-Saxon saints... There is more work to be done to realise the full potential of this discovery. But certainly the project represents a wonderful conjunction not only of archaeology and history, but also of a continuous living faith tradition at Folkestone from the mid-seventh century down to the present day."

Reflecting on the spiritual significance of this find, the Rev Dr John Walker of St Mary and St Eanswythe Church said: "St Eanswythe's life vibrates with prayerfulness, compassion and openness to the needs and contribution of others. Her presence with us calls us to embody these qualities too."



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**MORE THAN 21 YEARS OF
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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
before 10th of the month

FRANKLY SPEAKING

As I commence to write this article the news is dominated by the Coronavirus concerns from various parts of the world including our own country. The dreadful virus which at the time of writing has affected nearly 60 countries is a strong reminder that the planet on which we live is so vulnerable, and can easily be the cause for great concern.

We are frequently reminded that Lent is a time for greater concentration on prayer and time for greater concentration on prayer and when politicians keep saying "our thoughts and prayers" are with all those affected we really do know we are facing unexpected circumstances which do not have easy answers.

The Coronavirus unexpected development has rather relegated the sheer tragedy of Syrian refugees with one serious newspaper reporting their plight on the Turkish frontier with Greece only on page 18. If this report was correct we do know that the figure is at least 13,000 with the United Nations saying most on Turkey's border "appeared to be from Afghanistan". So Turkey, Greece, Russia (backing the Syrian government) and the European Union all mixed up in a dreadful cocktail of international politics. The medical advice to all concerned about Coronavirus is to concentrate especially on those affected by diabetic illness or a heart con-

dition. How on earth do these refugees who have these symptoms cope when they really do need appropriate medication?

When you read this article the way forward for our country with the virus outbreak maybe rather more clear that it was at the start of Lent. The month of March this year will have incorporated the great feasts of Saint Patrick and Saint Joseph followed by Mothering Sunday and The Annunciation. There are some who may be feeling gloomy this year and for all who have lost loved ones these celebrations will not be easy but they do remind us that Holy Week is not far away. The plight of refugees, the continued persecution of some Christians and our concerns for Coronavirus are likely to be sadly with us for some time.

In a Radio 4 broadcast Father Philip Sumner a Catholic Priest from Salford diocese spoke of the healing and light of the Cross which we should all embrace. On March 28th the change to British Summer Time will give us more light, we need to pray for much more healing.

A Happy Easter to all readers.

**Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish,
Newark**

Sister reflects on over 60 years of service to women and families in London, East Midlands and Africa

At 86 Sister Bernadette decides to retire to her convent home in Govan, Glasgow

Copy and pictures Gerry Molumby

Still blessed with good health of mind and body and a well known presence in various parishes of the diocese of Nottingham Sister Bernadette Cawley is moving on to their convent in Govan, Glasgow.

A journey of over sixty years of service to women and young families and later in spirituality and parish services; all started in the parish of Ballina, Co. Mayo. Born into a large family on a small farm with lots of music and dancing locally. Bernadette Cawley felt she had a vocation to be a religious sister and visited various convents in Ireland and UK, but she was clear it was to be in a 'hands on' role. Therefore, at the age of eighteen, she felt at home when she visited the nursing and social care Franciscan Minorens convent in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire and she joined the order.

Founded by Mother Francis Murphy, a County Wexford nun in 1888. Cardinal Manning (1808 -1892 belongs in a significant way to the history of The Franciscan Sisters Minorens). He was profoundly moved by the appalling conditions of the poor and by the destitution of the Irish immigrants who came to England in great numbers in the 19th century following the famine and Catholic Emancipation and the route of the re-establishment of the Roman Catholic Church in Britain. The zealous Cardinal sought religious sisters who would assume special responsibility for nursing and social home visiting in the hazardous society of Long Acre and Covent Garden areas of London. Providentially, he found a response in Francis Murphy.

Mother Francis Murphy



Sister Bernadette

It was sixty four years later and at the age

so they were responding not only to the mother's immediate health but often to the social work needs with the whole extended family.



Mother Francis Murphy, Foundress of the Franciscan Minorens Sisters was born in County Wexford on 29th March 1842

of twenty in 1954, that Bernadette headed off to the same centre of London to train as a religious sister nurse and midwife. This was the era of the current BBC series 'Call the Midwife' and the fledgling National Health Service. Bernadette told me life was much like that, they lived in convent and visited young mothers at home and in hospital in London. Working alongside newly qualified nurses from Ireland and abroad, when post war London had much poverty,

Sister Bernadette looking round "Where's the lovely baby we delivered on Thursday?" Mother: "O sister, one of the younger ones have closed the bottom drawer" (a day in the life of a midwife in post war London)

Franciscan Minorens Sisters are followers of the values of St. Francis of Assisi and St. Clare. They are a diocesan order which means they respond to needs of diocese over the world. Therefore Bernadette became part of a team of health and education sister who ministered in South Africa as a midwife and hospice care. Fast forwarding Bernadette's life story served the catholic and general community in the Midlands of England, parishes of Belper and laterally in Alfreton as spiritual assistant in the retreat house Portiuncula, at Clay Cross, Derbyshire.

Over the weekend of February 1st, the feast of St. Brigid, many gathered to wish Bernadette 'bon voyage' and to offer their gratitude to her for faithful service to the health, education and spiritual wellbeing of so many people she has blessed in her life in Britain and Africa.



Cormac Molumby presents St. Bernadette with a prayer of St. Brigid. Standing at back L to R Sr. Helen and Sister Dorothy Paul

To Jesus through Mary

On February 20th, a group of parishioners from St Peter & St Paul Church in Lincoln, together with Deacon Brogan, gathered for a day pilgrimage to Nottingham. With a blessing from Fr Jarosz, our parish priest, we set off. En-route our hearts were moved by the scale of flooding in Nottinghamshire.



Our first stop was the Mary Potter Heritage Centre, where we received wonderful hospitality from Sr Anita, Derek, Theresa and Sandra. We learnt about the life of the Venerable Mary Potter, a remarkable woman, who overcame many obstacles, to found the Little Company of Mary, a religious order of nuns with a charism to pray for and care for the dying.

Following refreshments we headed over to St Barnabas Cathedral to visit the tomb of Mary Potter. After Mass, Margaret, a cathedral volunteer, led us on a tour. For many the stained glass windows (especially those of the transepts) and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, with its Pugin Decorated Gothic style, were highlights.

We left the city with merriment and stopped for a meal at a local eatery, which provided a time to relax and chat. Home

beckoned and we completed the pilgrimage by praying the rosary. After a couple of detours because of flooded roads we safely returned to Lincoln.

Through the inspiration of Mary Potter, who gave herself to Our Lady and developed a Marian spirituality centred around the maternal heart of Mary at Calvary (which still shapes the congregation today) the pilgrimage provided a joyful means of preparation for the rededication of England as the dowry of Mary, which will occur on 29th March, when we are each invited to give ourselves to Mary.



With grateful thanks to all who helped make the day possible. Tours of the heritage centre and Cathedral can be arranged and are very much worthwhile.

Mary Mother of God pray for us.
Venerable Mary Potter pray for us.

Jo, SSPP



Three of a Kind

By Julia Beacroft

APRIL IS QUITE an expensive time for me each year as we have three family birthdays that month – my daughter-in-law and my own twins. It may be twenty-seven years since they were born, but I can distinctly remember an episode that occurred when I was expecting them...

DISAPPOINTED

Accompanied by my husband, we had gone to the hospital for my second scan. We had just about recovered from the shock of the first one, when we were told that we were going to be the proud parents of twins! Then my husband told me that he was disappointed that they hadn't found a third baby at that second scan – and he was serious! Needless to say, I was astounded and also very relieved that this hadn't, in fact, happened!

NOT BY CHANCE

There is a school of thought which suggests that both bad things and good things can come in threes. I'm not too sure of the veracity of this, but it is true that trilogies work well, ornamental groupings always look better in threes and a three-course meal is usually a recipe for success!

The number three is a highly significant biblical and theological number, of course. God calls Samuel three times, the Magi

brought the infant Jesus three gifts; Jesus goes back to the Garden of Gethsemane to pray three times; and he also repeats the phrase 'feed my sheep' to Peter three times. Peter, of course, had previously denied Christ three times. It further goes without saying that we can't talk about the number three in this context without referring to the significant fact of Jesus rising from the dead after a period of three days. In fact, in Jewish culture at that time, three days after the time of death indicated that a person was truly dead, so this made Jesus' resurrection all the more remarkable for the people of that era – and obviously this didn't happen by chance.

SIGNIFICANT

Finally, we can't consider the number three without looking at the Trinity. God is three in one – the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our God is a trinitarian God above all other.

And so, whether our good and bad things come in ones, twos or threes, we can always be assured and reassured that we worship, adore and give thanks to a God who is three-in-one. I myself, may not have received three babies for the price of one, (two was quite enough!) but my faith shows me that three is, and continues to be, a significant number in our lives. Thanks be to God!

Don't Screen Us Out!

Shockingly published figures highlight that 90% of babies who are prenatally diagnosed with Down's Syndrome are aborted.

Heidi Crowter, a 24-year-old woman from Coventry who has Down's syndrome, has joined forces with Cheryl Bilsborrow of St Mary's parish in Great Eccleston, to launch a landmark case against the UK Government under the banner 'Don't Screen Us Out' over the current discriminatory abortion law which allows abortion up to birth for Down's syndrome. Cheryl has a two year-old son Hector with Down's syndrome. Cheryl recounted a conversation she had following a prenatal test when she was offered a termination for Hector at 38 weeks gestation because Hector happened to have Down's Syndrome. Cheryl replied in shock and disgust "I'll pretend I didn't hear that."

Currently in England, Wales and Scotland, there is a general 24-week time limit for abortion, but if the baby has a disability, including Down's syndrome, cleft lip and club foot, abortion is legal right up to birth.

Appearing with Cheryl on the Victoria Derbyshire show in February and doing several media interviews Heidi said: "At the moment in the UK, babies can be aborted right up to birth if they are considered to be 'seriously handicapped'. They include me in that definition of being seriously handicapped – just because I have an extra chromosome! Can you believe that?"

What it says to me is that my life just isn't as valuable as others, and I don't think that's right. I think it's downright discrimination!



Cheryl with big sister Tilly and Hector

The United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities recently said that the United Kingdom should change its abortion law to make sure that people like me aren't singled out because of our disabilities.

Sadly, the Government decided to ignore their recommendations and didn't change the law. So now, I am going to take the Government to court with other members of the Down's syndrome community to make sure that people aren't treated differently because of their disabilities."

Can you help Heidi and Cheryl?

Heidi and her legal team have set up a CrowdJustice crowdfunding page to help raise the initial £20,000 to start legal proceedings, pay for legal advice and begin the preparation of the case. To find out more and to make a contribution to the case please visit: <http://www.crowdjustice.com/case/down-rightdiscrimination/>

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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.

THE CHAPTER CORNER



Canon
Daniel
Bowdren

PATRIOTIC SENTIMENT

In one of my sacristies there is a drawer marked "flags".

I rarely open it; however with the feast of St George appearing this month, I go to check that St George's flag is there, in case it needed laundering.

There it is in the drawer – together with the other flags - of Derbyshire, the Union, the Scots – and the Vatican.

Each of the flags has different colours : Derbyshire – predominantly blue and green for its rivers and dales; the union flag with its red, white and blue for the countries of her Majesty's realm; St George's Crusader red-and-white cross for England; the Scottish saltire of St Andrew; and Vatican, with the yellow and white – (answers on postcard please!).

But the Cross motif connects them all : in the Derbyshire flag the cross connects with the Christian heritage of my county – think St Alkmund (the patron of the county) and later the Derbyshire martyrs – not least St Ralph Sherwin, Bl Nicholas Garlick & Robert Ludlam; the union flag with its Irish, Scottish and English crosses intertwined; the English flag, the Crusader cross of St George – bold in red and white; the Scots flag with reminding us that St Andrew was crucified on a diagonal cross; and the Vatican flag – with a cross surely – but also

the triple tiara of the Pope.

Perhaps I should lose sleep as the feast day of St George approaches, when in this Brexit year, feelings of national loyalty should inspire me. But then I recall mixed feelings when in my rear-view mirror I see a white van with St George's flag draped over the front seats when angry white knuckles and scowling face telling me to 'get out of the way'; and equally confused sentiments when the Union flag is painted all over the mini-bus taxi chasing through the lights in front of me. I stay clear!

As I go early morning on April 23rd, I go with two flags under my arm, which cross should I flutter more atop on my two (I have a brace of churches!) church-flagpoles? Vatican or St George?

Where does my principal loyalty lie?

My answer involves a combination of sentiments, both patriotic with the flag of England (patriotic from pater – indicating my Fatherland); and matriotic (if the word exists? Well it does now!) from mater indicating Motherland and proclaiming my love for Holy Mother Church.

And I know which flag will fly atop the mast! Come along and see if you guessed right!

Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

Almost before our Christmas celebrations were ended our consumer world had already brought before our eyes Easter, in our large supermarkets and other places Easter eggs, bunnies and chocolates were to be found, with little or no consideration being given to the Christian time of Lent still to come many weeks away at this time. A time of self denial and penance of some kind. It would seem in the eyes of retailers that 'celebration' is the prefix of our lives for whatever feast they are able to make the tills ring.

There is however a sense that this is true.!

At Easter we remember the love Christ showed for mankind when He offered the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf, this divine act offers a valuable reminder and reason to celebrate. Easter is indeed the one special day that we are able to celebrate but not only on Easter day, but on every day throughout the year.

The Resurrection is celebrated throughout the whole year every single day at our celebration of the Holy Mass, Easter forms the very essence of our faith, we know that by the passion and cross of Christ, death was defeated and opens up to us everlasting life. So then by celebrating Easter everyday we are able to find relief from the burdens of our sins and bring joy into our lives. Christ's Resurrection gives to us a reason to live not only for today, but to sustain hope for our future no matter what the challenges of our mortal life bring before us. And so, while Easter calls our attention, while still on our Lenten journey, we are drawn to Christ's remarkable sacrifice, we should never lose sight of the willingness of Jesus to give His life for our sake. And while still on our Lenten journey and after Holy Week it is important both on Easter Day to honour Him who gave everything to save us, not only on this day, but everyday. God's love for us is amazing, though we continue to sin, He reaches out to us with His grace, so that through His love, mercy and compassion, we are able to be transformed. And while it is impossible for us to

achieve this same level of unconditional love, we should strive each and everyday to emulate Christ's example, even when this proves to be a challenge for us. The Easter message gives us all a new beginning to our faith, a new opportunity despite our poor Lenten disciplines to fully embrace our spiritual lives, by our daily prayer, our celebration of the Mass and our service and love to our neighbour. The triumph of Christ over death must play a central role in our own lives, like the Apostles we too must everyday testify to the Resurrection life and let God's grace work through us.

Spring, the new life which we see around us, gives us a greater consciousness of Easter, at this time of year we are surrounded by new life and new beginnings and a new sense of hope in our life through the death of Christ and His Resurrection we are also given the assurance of new life after this earthly sojourn.

So, as we continue towards the end of Lent, let us go beyond the aisles full of Easter eggs and chocolate in our super markets, let us travel up the aisle which will bring us a more meaningful experience of hope and fulfillment in Christ's remarkable triumph over sin and death, let us not only celebrate this in the Easter season, but on everyday throughout the year, let us remember the hope and renewal of Christ's promise to us after springtime has given way to summer. Enjoy the chocolate!

With our continued prayer's at the 'hermitage'

Happy Easter!

Fr. David + h.d.n.
Priest and Hermit
Diocese of Nottingham

Staff from across St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust gather for first Teaching and Learning Day



Staff from 25 schools came together for the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust's first Teaching and Learning INSET day.

A total of 850 teaching and support staff gathered at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy and St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy, both in Derby.

During the morning session staff heard from keynote speaker Sean Harford, HMI Ofsted's National Director, Education, who spoke about the lessons learnt so far from The Education Inspection Framework.

Fabian De Fabiani, Director of Character Education and Wellbeing at Townlet Grammar School, talked to staff about embedding

character education in schools. The talks were live streamed across both venues.

In the afternoon session staff were invited to sign up for a range of workshops covering areas including GDPR, health and wellbeing, finance, engaging boys in writing and the early years curriculum.

Kate Mann, a Director of Performance and Standards for the Trust, organised the day.

She said: "At Saint Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust, securing the highest standards of professional development for our staff team is one of our top priorities. We know that well-informed staff, who value their own learning, will make the



greatest difference to the exceptional pupils we have in our schools.

"Our first Trust Teaching and Learning INSET day, which included all staff in our schools, formed a key part of the professional development offer for our staff. The day was a great success! We were fortunate to attract speakers and workshop leaders of the highest calibre, including Sean Harford and Fabian de Fabiani. Staff and students from Saint Benedict, and staff from other Trust schools, pulled out all of the stops to ensure that the day ran smoothly for everybody. After a short period of reflection, we can't wait to work with our school leaders to begin to draw up plans for next year's event."



Sean McClafferty, Trust Chief Executive, said the day was a great success.

He said: "Arranging for staff from 25 schools to attend a Teaching and Learning INSET day was an ambitious goal and to have all of our teaching and support staff come together as a community focusing on their roles as educators was special and particularly so because so many of the facilitators on the day were our own staff.

"I could not be more proud when I hear all of the positive comments that colleagues have made, especially around the quality of inputs and the sense of 'togetherness' that they felt."



For thousands of years leprosy has been the scourge of poverty-stricken communities across the world and, sadly, it still exists in many countries today. The disease frequently leads to severe, life-changing disabilities and those who suffer from it are often excluded by their community, and struggle to fend for themselves.

124 years dedicated to the relief of suffering

St Francis Leprosy Guild has been dedicated to the relief of suffering caused by leprosy



for more than a century, during which time many religious sisters, brothers and priests have made it their life's vocation to care for those with the disease. Today we are determined to build on their legacy and seize our opportunity to help beat leprosy once and for all.

A leprosy-free world is finally within sight

Just a few decades ago, more than five million people were being diagnosed with leprosy every year, their lives destroyed physically, emotionally and socially by the disease. Today, this number has reduced significantly but remains stubbornly at over 200,000 new cases annually, worldwide. St Francis Leprosy Guild is committed to achieving a leprosy-free world and we genuinely believe that it is now within sight, if only people like you are prepared to help.

Early detection can stop leprosy in its tracks

Leprosy is curable and since the World Health Organisation made multi-drug treatments freely available 16 million people have been cured of the disease. New cases of leprosy tend to

be concentrated in isolated communities where people are still living in dire poverty and have little or no access to healthcare. If leprosy is to be stamped out for good, your support is needed to train local healthcare workers who can reach out to these communities. By supporting early detection and treatment - before the disease takes hold - you can help to prevent untold suffering.



If you are able to send a donation of just £30 today, you will help us support around 30 inspirational partners, such as the Bombay Leprosy Project. This is training local healthcare volunteers to work both in the slums of Mumbai and surrounding rural areas, so they can monitor people for early symptoms and provide prompt medication.

Help to beat leprosy for good
 St Francis Leprosy Guild and its partners are working with remote and marginalised communities across Asia, Africa and South America. Please send £30 today using the form below or donate online at www.justgiving.com/stfrancisleprosyguild. Together, let's seize the opportunity to create a leprosy-free world and help put an end to people's suffering at last.

Donate at www.justgiving.com/stfrancisleprosyguild

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ST FRANCIS LEPROSY GUILD

Please fill in your name and address. **We will never pass on your details to any other organisation and will treat them with respect.** We will use the personal information you have provided to process your donation and to contact you with news of our work. If you would prefer not to receive further communications please tick this box or you can call us on **020 8969 1345** to let us know which communications you would like to receive. To read more about how we value your privacy, visit www.stfrancisleprosy.org

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The Lord's Day

The Watermead Apostolate offers this helpful guide and background to the readings used at our Catholic Mass each Sunday. Watermead began in 1992 as a voice for people who wish to share understanding of living their faith through their various God-given gifts and talents. We frame these gifts by publishing them as books, cards and resources - and we record and publish the music. We also arrange retreats and pilgrimages. For information about the work of our apostolate, to download our resources or to offer contributions, do feel welcome to contact us at: Watermead Apostolate, The Watermead Centre, c/o St. Joseph's, 12 Goodwood Road, Leicester LE5 6SG Telephone 0044 (0)116 220 7881 / 7880 Download newsletters from www.watermead-apostolate.com or visit our shop website www.watermeadshop.co.uk

Palm Sunday 5th April (Passion Sunday)

First Reading Isaiah 50 : 4-7

The Servant of God sings four songs in the Book of Isaiah, all in the Book of Consolation (chapters 40-55). Today's reading is the third song. Chapter 50 opens in sadness and anger. There has been a divorce between the Lord and Israel: for her many crimes she was sent away - but the Servant is blessed with a disciple's tongue so that he might feed and sustain God's flock. Each day is new with hope, and the Servant's hearing is blessed by the Lord so that he may always listen as a disciple. The suffering is borne patiently, with courage and without shame. The truth within what he speaks ("with a disciple's tongue") becomes invincible. The contrast, we understand, is between the Servant speaking to console the weary and his bearing silently the insults of the persecutors. The Servant trusts in the Lord.

Second Reading

Philippians 2 : 6-11

What a glorious hymn this is - the first we have in the Christian Church. It comes as a surprise during a strong argument for unity that Paul has been mounting in his letter from prison, around the years 56/57. In this generally friendly letter, Paul speaks about his love for the people, remembering what he and they have shared and telling them that in his imprisonment he is longing to die and to be with Christ. Almost laughingly he wonders whether to live or die (it's not his choice!) but the answer is that he will be happy with life or death because both are blessed: for Christ he may do good for others, or with Christ he will be happy in heaven. Paul is concerned that the Philippians may lose the unity that had been theirs and he pleads that he wants no jealousies or ambitions: he wants them to be humble. Hence the hymn which sings of Christ's humility, his emptying himself of being divine, becoming nothing that he might become human. It is an extraordinary image. We are all nothing before we are conceived, but simply in the mind of God (Jeremiah 1:5). Jesus is pictured as becoming like us - in the mind of God our Creator before conception.

Gospel Reading The Passion - Matthew 26:14-27:66 We are at the house of Simon the Leper (26:6).

An unnamed woman anoints Jesus' head and the disciples complain about the waste - the ointment should/could have been sold and the money given to the poor. Mark tells this story with the same detail (Mark 14:3-9), but when we read John (12:1-8) we discover that Simon is Lazarus (of course - "Lazarus" means leper!) and the woman is Mary, his sister, and she anointed Jesus' feet, not his head... Today's reading begins. Judas plans to betray Jesus. The price is 30 shekels - the fine imposed on the owner of an ox if it gored a slave to death. The evening of the Last Supper was probably Tuesday, Jesus and the disciples following the Lunar calendar in which 14th Nisan (the Passover) was always Tuesday/Wednesday, whereas the Solar calendar varied the days for 14th Nisan. In the week of Jesus' death we know it was Friday/Saturday. Jesus foretells the treachery of an apostle, institutes the Eucharist, sadly answers Peter's promise of faithfulness and takes the disciples to Gethsemane. Mark follows the same pattern, but Luke tells it differently, so does John. Only Matthew tells of Judas' suicide (27:3-10), of Pilate's washing his hands (27:24-5), of tombs opening

and bodies rising from the dead (27:51-52) and of placing the guard at the tomb (27:62-66)

Easter Sunday 12th April

First Reading Acts 10 : 34, 37-43

Chapter 10 surprises us. For those who know the ending of St. Matthew's Gospel "Go and teach all nations" we have to discover that Jesus did not speak these words. In Peter's amazement and joy, that he must share the message of Christ with pagans and Gentiles, we recognise his ignorance of a universal mission. Chapter 10 opens with Cornelius at prayer (10:1-3) at the ninth hour, 3.00 pm. He is presented to us as a God-fearing man, sharing the prayer of the Jewish people, sympathetic to their ways of belief and worship. He is to be rewarded by God in being brought into the fullness of the Church and revelation. The following day, Peter is at prayer at the sixth hour (12 noon) as Cornelius' servants are on their way to him. He has a strange dream which their visit clarifies for him. He goes with them (the third day since the narrative began - the third day!) and he and Cornelius meet. It is a happy meeting. Cornelius explains what happened to him, and now today's reading follows: Christ's message is a universal one, embracing the whole world. The apostles had not known...

Second Reading Colossians 3 : 1-4

Paul has been talking about errors that have crept into the faith and worship of the people at Colossae. He has begged them (2:4) to be steadfast, to live as though he were there with them, to beware of being deceived. It is probable that the letter was written from Rome about the year 60 and sent in the name of Paul and Timothy. Chapter One is full of thanksgiving and prayer, followed by a reminder of Paul's dedication to preaching the Gospel amongst the pagans and his willingness to suffer for Christ and his mystical body, the Church. But he is aware of the compromises the Colossians have made with worldly values and pleads for them to return to the Christian life he shares with them in which all that is heavenly must take precedence over what is of earth - an ever-present dilemma for the Christian. He wants them to see that in Christ's death they, too, have died and if they keep their minds filled with spiritual values they will always be living the life of the resurrected Christ. This is a favourite theme of Paul - Baptism is death and resurrection.

Gospel Reading John 20 : 1-9

Is there a more wonderful passage in the whole of the Bible? It is the first witness to the truth of the Resurrection ("He saw and he believed" verse 8) but the disciple who believed is not named. Is it John who is called the "other disciple"? The story opens on the first day of the week, the day after the Sabbath - the eighth day, the day out of time, the Lord's Day. It is a new beginning. The world is about to be changed and we are reminded of the first day of creation when God separated light from darkness. Mary comes to the tomb in the darkness, but the light of resurrection is about to dawn. The disciples believe Mary (contrast this with Mark 16:8) and they run to the tomb. John sees first, then Peter enters the tomb and sees, then John enters and sees and believes. What does he see beyond what Peter sees? The cloths. The cloths! The answer is in the cloths. He knew more about the cloths than Peter did. Or than we do, because we

remember a shroud on Friday afternoon, not cloths. When did they come into the story?

2nd Sunday after Easter 19th April Divine Mercy

First Reading Acts 2 : 2-47

Peter has given a magnificent address to the crowds on the day of Pentecost (2:14-36). The reactions of the people are swift - conversion of hearts and minds and many new Christians baptised (2:37-41). Today's reading speaks of their early enthusiastic life as the community of Christ. Proclamation becomes catechesis as the new converts seek to deepen their faith (v.42), a sense of community develops (v.42) - rather than an individual salvation - and Eucharist and prayer become the binding-forces of their common life. An idealism seems to touch some of the new members who seek a form of apostolic life that the first disciples lived with Jesus - not having much, sharing everything. The new converts make themselves poor so that in the community they need each other. It is an imitation of Christ and the apostles. Their faithfulness to the Temple (and synagogue) becomes an inspiration for others, their dual loyalty to Old and New Law (to Moses and to Christ) endearing them to everyone (v.47).

Second Reading 1 Peter 1 : 3-9

Many scholars dispute the authorship of Peter's letters, and although the vigour of the writing seems to reflect the vigour of the man that we meet in the Gospel it does seem very likely that others wrote the letters, but gave them Peter's name in order to give them greater authority. The main purpose of this first letter is to give encouragement at a time of imminent persecution. Peter opens with his greetings to fellow Christian who live in difficult circumstances, afraid of practising their faith for fear of arousing antagonism. Grace and peace he wishes them - something that was regularly a greeting from Paul to his Church communities. Verse 7 highlights the theme of today's reading - the Christians will suffer - but all the other verses reflect joy and faith: there is resurrection after death, God's eternal promise after a small time of suffering, salvation as the reward of faith.

Gospel Reading John 20 : 19-31

We are in the evening of the day of Resurrection. John's Gospel has told of Mary Magdalene's morning vision of the risen Lord; we know from Luke of the afternoon meeting with the Lord by two disciples on the road to Emmaus; and now we have reached the evening. The first gift of the Resurrection is about to be given: to forgive sins in the course of the Church's ministry, just as Jesus did in his. It is a wonderful first gift - divine forgiveness spoken in human words. The disciples are fearful of Jesus' appearing, even though they have already heard of his resurrection. Faith does not remove fear. Jesus dispels their fear with a repeated greeting of "Peace", and he reassures them that he still wants them as his apostles. The runaway cowards who left him to his arrest, torture and death, are forgiven! It is wonderful. And their forgiveness will inspire them to offer Christ's forgiveness during their ministry. Jesus had come in his Father's name and now he tells the apostles to go in his name, breathing on them and giving them the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins.

3rd Sunday after Easter 26th April First Reading Acts 2 : 14, 22-28

At the end of chapter 2 we learn that Peter's powerful speaking brought 3,000 people, in a single day, to ask for baptism. Now we know why Peter speaks in a loud voice in verse 14! It is hard to imagine a human voice speaking loudly enough for such a crowd. Is loudness of voice another characteristic of the gift of tongues on this feast of Pentecost? As we listen to Peter we wonder if the other apostles have been preaching in different parts of Jerusalem (v.4) or spoken at the same place? Tongues and language and races (vv.1-13) make a confusing picture as Peter's sermon brings together people who have inherited the Lord's promise, made through the prophet Joel, of a day when the spirit would be poured out on all nations. The Jewish people from the diaspora (the wider world outside the Holy Land) symbolise the peoples of the human race listening to the message of salvation. Peter forgives his fellow Jews for executing Jesus by telling them it was part of God's mysterious plan. The resurrection was always the purpose of Jesus' suffering and death, and the sending of the Holy Spirit on this day of Pentecost is the final revelation of God's love - that all humanity is called to share salvation.

Second Reading 1 Peter 1 : 17-21

Peter is urging self-control (v.13) even as far as the wonderful ideal of being holy as God is holy. That is the first call of the Christian (vv.14-16). The second call is to be aware of the judgment of God, to live in reverent fear of God - a loving "fear of offending" rather than terror at an immense God (v.17). The third understanding is to realise the great cost of redemption - the shedding of Christ's blood, the Paschal Lamb of God. Fourth, the Christian must understand the final age of the ages has begun. The Incarnation marked the beginning of the end (v.20): the manifestation of Christ is the sign of the world's becoming complete. Finally, the Resurrection is seen as Christ's being raised from the dead - rather than his rising from the dead. We wonder whether the resurrection was seen by the first Christian community as the Father's work or as Jesus' own divine power?

Gospel Reading Luke 24 : 13-35

Two disciples go to Emmaus on the afternoon of the day of the Resurrection. One of them is Clo(e)pas whose wife, Mary, was at the cross alongside Our Lady when Jesus was dying (John 19:25). Is she the other disciple, or is it one of their sons - James or Simeon (both, later, leaders of the Church in Jerusalem), or even Levi Matthew? The disciples do not recognise Jesus, even when they stand still (v.17). It is an interior vision that allows Jesus' disciples to see, believe in, the risen Christ. Almost amusingly, they tell the Lord about himself. He listens and then tells them about himself, starting from Moses and going through all the prophets. He is preparing them for the breaking of bread. When Luke tells of the breaking of bread he uses the words of the Eucharist at the Last Supper, the four actions: "took, blessed, broke, gave". It is a wonderful moment, and the eyes of faith of the two disciples are opened: they know they have seen the risen Christ. In the light of this faith they return to Jerusalem to share their experience with the others - who already believe because of an appearance by Jesus to Simon. (All through the Passion Simon Peter is called Peter: suddenly he is Simon again.)

St Mary's Derby Bible Story Club tell the Story of Moses



The Bible Story Club at St Mary's Academy in Derby, recently read about Moses and how he led God's People to the Promised Land. They chose to act out the events for the whole school.

At the end of the play the Chaplaincy Team shared their fundraising idea for Lent - a sunflower growing competition. Pupils and staff can buy a pot of sunflower seeds for £1, take it home and nurture it, then bring it back to school on June 19th to see whose is the tallest! Lots of prizes to be won. Money raised will go to the Inter-Care charity for medical aid to Africa."

Fran Wickes



Loughborough Council of Knights of St Columba Help Local Charity

Loughborough Council have been running regular quiz nights for 16 years, and while the main purpose has always been to hold enjoyable social events for local parishes, the quizzes have also raised nearly £7,000 for good causes. The one held at Sacred Heart church hall in November, for example, raised £125 for 'The Carpenters' Arms', a Loughborough based Christian charity that helps men with addiction problems. Grand Knight Will Holland said, 'We are particularly pleased to support 'The Carpenters' Arms' because, being local, they don't enjoy the same level of publicity as some of the big national charities. The work they do is vital in helping men with serious problems get back to a normal, fulfilling life, and there is simply no-one else in this area who does this so well.'



Grand Knight Will Holland (right) hands Carpenters' Arms Deputy Manager Kevin Dillon a cheque for £125

Kevin Dillon, Deputy Manager of 'The Carpenters' Arms', said, 'We have 58 men on our programme at the moment, which shows the need for our work. We couldn't function without the support of local people, and I thank the Knights sincerely for their donation.'

*Will Holland
GK Council 197*

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Ministers of Religion

Continued from page 1

Cardinal Vincent Nichols handed over the grant to T4CG at a ceremony on 20 February 2020. He said: "Together for the Common Good is exploring some of the most important themes in our society today: how do we build a more resilient sense of shared endeavour? What will bring about a common effort across our society? These challenges are so important as we face deep-seated changes in our way of life, in new relations with Europe, and with the created world. I am delighted that this work will be strengthened by this award from the Plater Trust."

Underpinned by Catholic Social Teaching, the programme inspires and equips lay people to fulfil their vocational responsibility by putting Common Good principles into practice and by working with others of different opinions and backgrounds. Through building local relationships, participants will tackle the breakdown in social trust within their communities. Jenny Sinclair, Founder Director of T4CG, said: "We're excited to be working with five fantastic partners. The Here: Now: Us programme makes explicit the connection between faith and action. It acts as a catalyst to inspire lay people to play their part, from the grassroots to the boardroom. In this era of social fragmentation, developing Common Good lay leadership is a gift the Church can bring to help strengthen our communities and contribute to national renewal."

Bishop Patrick McKinney, Bishop of Nottingham, was delighted to hear the news: "I warmly congratulate T4CG on their success. This initiative comes at an exciting time for our diocese, as we listen afresh to the Gospel's invitation to encounter Christ,

grow as disciples, and step out in mission. Soon we will be able to answer that call yet more faithfully as members of Caritas, the Church's worldwide ministry of charity. Every parish that takes up the invitation of 'Here: Now: Us' won't just make an impact at home; it will be joining the universal Church in making Christ's love known on earth."

The toolkit will help Catholic parishes engage with local communities and cultivate leadership, drawing on the riches of Catholic Social Teaching. It is also well suited to working ecumenically with other local churches. It helps people to articulate why they do what they do, and guard against mission drift.

Here in Nottingham, the programme will help all of us, parishes and individuals, to grow into a 'Caritas diocese', one that is confident, generous and outward-looking. By investing in the faith, commitment and know-how of layfolk, it will help them play their full part in the mission of the Church and share the joy of the Gospel in a world in need.

If you or your parish would be interested to

How can Christians build the Common Good in their communities?

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know more about taking part, get in touch. Email me at paul.bodenham@dioceseofnottingham.uk or call 07470 907656, and I'll gladly tell you more

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Faith into Action



A Word for Lent

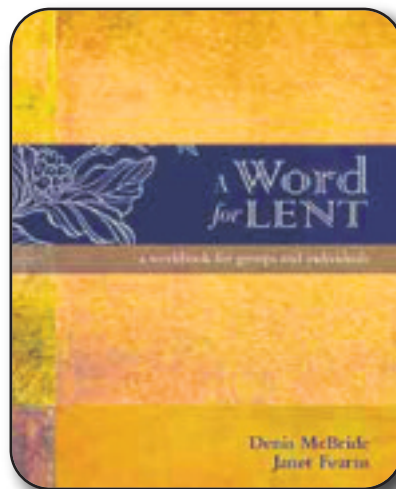
by Denis McBride and Janet Fearn.
Redemptorist Publications
ISBN 9780825 315682 £4.95

For a book that is carefully structured to enable its readership, individually or in groups, to enter once more into the Lenten journey, any anticipation of another formulaic, overly pious traipse along a well-trodden path is instantly dispelled. Each of the six weekly sessions begins with a strikingly absorbing piece of art that draws the eye into that Sunday's Gospel reading with a seductively inviting gentleness that characterises this valuable resource.

The structure allows the Word to be savoured then linked in prayer to a 'listening to life' feature complete with prompts to reflection, all prior to opening up the Word in powerfully engaging and insightful reflection. In each session, before the final prayer there is a challenging 'What can I do?' question relating to the theme of the week. By way of offering a flavour of the tone of this little gem, in Week 2 focussed on Transformation, it suggests: 'Pray for all those people who feel disfigured through lack of being loved.'

Can you make someone radiant this week by something you say?

Going straight into the Final Prayer: 'We pray for those who feel defeated



by life, who believe that life has passed them by.'

We pray for ourselves ...that we might never ... ignore the little people in life who hunger to be noticed and counted.'

Sometimes, one is just struck by the scholarship, wisdom and cultural sensitivity of an authorship than can produce such a treasure in 47 pages and all for less than a fiver.

Highly recommended.

Review by Willie Slavin

"Where There is No Doctor"

If that sounds like a scary situation, it is reality in some parts of the world today! On 6th February, Nottingham's Catholic Medical Association (CMA) held a talk of this title at the Good Shepherd, Arnold. Dr Andrew Connery shared about his time in rural Mozambique with the charity MSF, also known as Doctors Without Borders. A wide-ranging audience (in age, medics and non-medics alike) listened as Andrew showed slides and explained the very real challenges and dilemmas in managing conditions such as HIV. For example, many in the local population, were wary and reluctant to take the regular medication needed to keep them well. He spoke about the ART group (- no, nothing to do with painting!) - women supporting one another in taking Anti-Retroviral Therapy. Andrew also clearly explained the practical difficulties in successfully managing a Cholera outbreak, with poor basic hygiene and facilities. In addition, the local officials had concerns to significantly play down the numbers involved and seriousness of the outbreak: tackling which requires awareness. Andrew took questions afterwards, followed by mingling, and tea and biscuits. There was no charge for the evening, but donations were gratefully received to cover costs.

Caroline Zdziarska (President of the Nottm CMA) reflected that the audience genuinely appreciated Andrew's presentation, and indeed his work in such a needy part of the world. She invites interested Catholic healthcare workers to simply sign up for email updates of local CMA events. Joining CMA UK, for a modest subscription provides a number of benefits, including getting the CMQ (Catholic Medical Quarterly). This offers articles and perspectives from a Catholic viewpoint, not likely to be in journals such as the BMJ or Nursing Times. The Nottm CMA is planning to hold further events/talks in the coming months. (We will need to review this in the light of the Coronavirus situation now impacting on the UK.) If anyone is interested to find out more, please get in touch with Caroline on 07757 285 888.

A year's journey, so far

Live Simply that others may Simply Live



During Lent 2019 our Parish Priest asked us to look at the 'Global Healing Course' as requested by the Bishops of England and Wales. We did and for those that attended our lives were touched and changed, I think for most of us forever.

As one of the many outcomes of the Global Healing Course and with Father Eddy's encouragement we chose to apply for the Livesimply Award given by CAFOD. It took a few meetings of a small steering group to work out what would be the way forward for us as a Parish Community to demonstrate our commitment to Pope Francis' appeal in his Laudato Si' letter to all Christians. After at least three meetings we all had a much clearer understanding of what we needed and how our particular parish could maybe achieve it. One member of the group had been involved in this in a previous parish in 2011 but the difference between then and now is enormous – we are all clearly seeing the effects of Global Climate Change not only here in the UK but much more seriously in the poor countries which rely so much on agriculture and fishing for subsistence living!

We began simply by putting a 'Tip of the

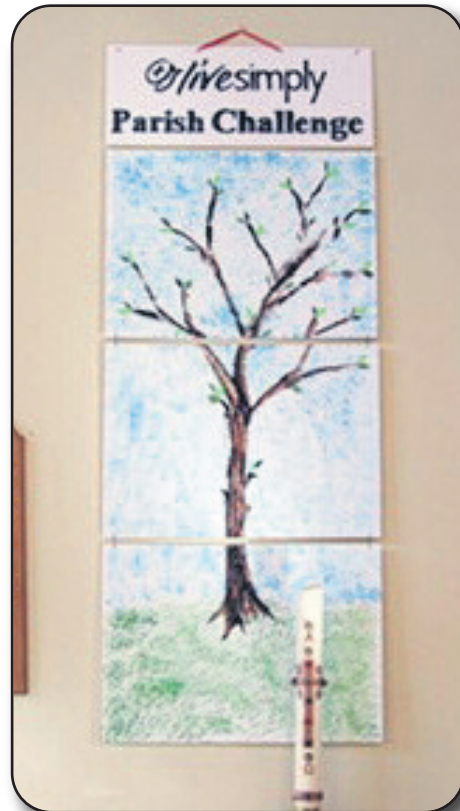
Week' in our Parish Newsletter for two months and then had a break for the season of Advent. After the Christmas Season we were raring to go! We planned our launch for the weekend of January 25th/26th to explain the award. It was followed up by an outreach after all Masses on the 2nd February. One of the steering group had the great idea of the Parish Live Simply Challenge – a simple tick chart each week for

the very simplest of steps individuals could take in everyday life to help reduce our Carbon Footprint.

Father Eddy signed off the application and we began our Award, hopefully on a two year journey which will give us all the chance to change small behaviour patterns in our life in order to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with those less fortunate than ourselves.

Our first major task includes an audit of our energy use in the church and implementing the results.

One of the sections of the Award is about worship and liturgy and we had our first liturgy on the launch weekend. Our choir learned the Live Simply Hymn and sang it for us during Communion – it is beautiful. On the 2nd Friday of Lent we had a Live Simply Stations of the Cross, which were originally written in response to Laudato Si' and the Year of Mercy by Caritas Canada. They were a challenge and very moving. We have four long-term Charitable Projects along with many others and hope for a reduction in energy use in the parish buildings and Church.



Our first month of the challenge was exciting and we hope that as the months go by the response will grow and the challenge will become the norm in all our lives wherever possible. The tree in the picture, made by a member of the steering group, is our record of the, hopefully, increasing success of the Challenge. Each leaf on the tree represents 50 small and large changes in parishioners' lives that they have lived every day in order that we as a community may live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with our brothers and sisters worldwide. We will shortly be gathering month 2 results.

Going forward we are looking forward to a Parish Picnic with Benediction in the summer, and to Celebrating the Season of Creation with a Parish Meal and a special Mass in honour of creation.

All of these things are probably going on in almost every Parish Community in the UK. We know that many parishes are working towards this award and we just hope that this article will be an encouragement for others to perhaps think about it and have the courage to go for it. Our Holy Father says quite clearly one small change means we are on the right road.

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Sunday 19th April 2020

<p>2.30 Welcome</p> <p>2.40 Prayer to Mary the Mother of Divine Mercy</p> <p>2.45 Talk given by Rev Father David Palmer</p> <p>3pm The 3'O Clock Prayer</p> <p>3.10 The Chaplet</p>	<p>3.20 The Stations of the Cross</p> <p>3.40 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</p> <p>3.50 We will conclude with Benediction</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4pm Close</p>
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There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the end of the service.

However, St. Faustina always prepared herself to receive Holy Communion on the Feast day by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the Saturday before the Feast.

Tea and cakes will be served in the church hall after the service Jesus promises special graces to those who celebrate Mercy Sunday. He told St. Faustina 'I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My Mercy.

Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy. My desire is that the Feast will be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter'

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Keeping history alive: relocating the Italian Hospital's altar to St Joseph's, Matlock

Deacon Crispin Walkling-Lea (Diocese of Northampton/GOSH); Deacon Nicholas Johnson (Diocese of Plymouth/Benefactor) and Bishop Patrick McKinney (Diocese of Nottingham)



Deacon Crispin Walkling-Lea (Diocese of Northampton/GOSH); Deacon Nicholas Johnson (Diocese of Plymouth/Benefactor) and Bishop Patrick McKinney (Diocese of Nottingham)

Building is underway to transform the Grade II listed Italian Hospital building into the new Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) Sight and Sound Centre, supported by Premier Inn. But what happens to a beautiful 100-year-old altar secluded within the old building's chapel? We talk to Crispin Walkling-Lea, Head of Healthcare Planning at Great Ormond Street Hospital.

"For nearly three years, as an entertaining diversion from my day job, I was supporting the relocation of this altar," says Crispin.

"The altar's history is interesting. For 120 years, it stood in the oratory chapel of the Italian Hospital in Bloomsbury. Although our earliest photograph of the altar dates to 1903, we believe that it was installed in 1898, when the building was erected.

"The hospital was founded for members of the London Italian community, and run by the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul at first, and the Sisters of Verona later on. The Sisters managed the hospital and provided the nursing care. The chapel and altar would have been used every day by the sisters for morning and evening prayer, meditation, and of course, it was used by patients and families whenever they wished.

"On the evidence of two stonemasons, we now believe that the altar was moved from a different chapel or church before arriving at the Italian Hospital in 1898. Perhaps it came from Italy. In any case, behind the altar, the fabric of the room is pretty much intact. It wasn't designed for this space. This was also highlighted with a prayer card that was found attached to the underside of the shelf. There's a splinter of wood on it, which could have been believed to be a

part of the true cross. It would have been put there as a kind of devotion or blessing when it was installed."

The decision to remove the Italian Hospital's chapel

"As we have a beautiful Victorian chapel complete with its own bespoke altar at GOSH, along with facilities for other faith groups, the Italian Hospital chapel was effectively redundant.

Instead, as part of the new Sight and Sound Centre, it will become a very beautiful rest room for our hard-working staff, and a space for workshops with children.

"Once we'd decided what purpose the room was going to serve, we felt that relocating the altar was the best course of action, for both the hospital and the altar itself.

The primary reason to move it is so that it can continue to be used for its purpose.

"Instead, the new room will pay historical tribute to the old chapel. The intention is, where the altar used to be, the flooring will be filled in with parquet in a different colour, so that there will be a slight shadow of where the altar used to be. The room will be known as the old chapel. We will include in the chapel an information display to explain its history.

"The other elements of the chapel – stained glass windows and Latin inscription around the frieze, will all remain. Everyone will be able to see lasting evidence of the room's rich history."

"This aligns with our overall approach to refurbishing the building. We want to preserve the history of the building where we can and wherever it is appropriate. That's our responsibility as part of developing a grade II listed building, but also something we're very passionate about. The exterior will be unchanged, and GOSH will be reintroducing signage on the frieze above the ground floor windows which, although displaying the new building naming and donor recognition, will be in the style of signage that was in that location in the early 20th century. We will also be restoring Goivanni Ortelli's coat of arms above the entrance door on Queen Square."

Relocating the altar

"The Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster was very supportive of our project to relocate the altar. We received lots of responses to our advert in search for a new home, and we narrowed the potentials down to two options.

"I spoke with the GOSH Chaplaincy team, Jim and Anna Maria, and we decided that the church in Matlock was the most appropriate. The primary reason was that it would be used regularly and included in weekday masses.

"The final pieces of the puzzle were coming together. One: starting to see the chapel transformed into its new function. The other: seeing the altar in its new home. A closing ceremony in the hospital and an opening ceremony in Matlock marked the end and beginning of a new era for the altar."

We caught up with Sister Bernadette, Provincial Archivist at the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, who attended the closing ceremony of the altar at the Italian Hospital.

"The ceremony to deconsecrate the altar was a joyous and beautiful occasion," says Sister Bernadette. "It took us back many years, and looking at the beautiful altar with the engraving of the back of the Miraculous Medal (medal of Our Lady) was truly moving. It was a little sad that the time had come to move the altar, but to know that it was going to another home was a bonus and a remarkable feat.

"I had previously worked for 16 years with young people who were blind or partially sighted and some who were deaf or hard of hearing, and to learn that the Italian Hospital was going to be used for children with visual and hearing impairments moved me greatly. It was as if I was meant to be there."

A divine touch: the opening ceremony

"The opening ceremony for the altar in Matlock was something of a culmination of events for me personally," says Crispin. "In my spare time, I am a Catholic Deacon, but my secular job is unrelated to my ministry. Bringing the altar to Matlock was particularly special to me, as I attended that parish with my family as a young boy when we lived in Matlock for five years. You can imagine my surprise and delight when one of the enquiries I received about the altar was from Matlock's Father Robbie O'Callaghan, who, on behalf of his community, made the most compelling case to provide a new home for it.

"In many ways, it is chance and coincidence that brought together my ministry and my work at GOSH. As a believing Christian, I believe that it was more than chance and coincidence that conveyed the altar to this church and that made it such a personal journey for me."

Blessing of the Altar

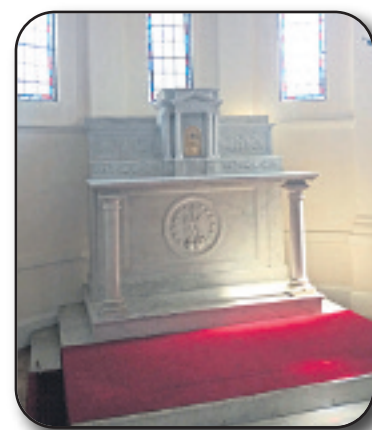
It was with great joy that after careful dismantling, cleaning, and reconstruction by local Derbyshire stonemasons, that Bishop Patrick McKinney was able to be with the community in Matlock to bless the new Lady Altar on Sunday 6th October 2019 at 10:30am Mass. It has brought the statue of 'Our Lady with the Child Jesus' to new life and compliments the main sanctuary and its beautiful reredos.



The Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, 1941



The altar in 1903



and 2019

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Pupils at St Alban's CVA take part in Right Road project

Pupils at St Alban's Catholic Voluntary Academy learnt how to stay safe online as part of an innovative scheme run by a local wrestling club in partnership with the police.

Wrestlers and coaches from Aspire Wrestling Alliance deliver the Right Road project sessions to three classes in Year 5 and 6 at St Alban's once a month.

The project is a partnership between the Local Safer Neighbourhood Team, Aspire Wrestling Alliance and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and it runs from September to May.

It is designed to be a form of early intervention in order to keep youngsters on the 'right road', reducing anti-social behaviour in the community and increasing the visibility of police officers from the local Safer Neighbourhood Team.

The most recent session at St Alban's focused on staying safe while playing computer games and children discussed the use of passwords, not giving out personal information and telling someone if they receive an unsolicited approach.

There was also a special visitor during the session when Lord Burlington, High Sheriff of Derbyshire, paid the school a visit as he has nominated the Right Road project for an award.

Deputy headteacher Kate Johnson said the sessions were having a positive effect on children at the school in Chaddesden.

She said: "This is the second year that we have engaged with the project. This year, it is being run in a different way in our school as the staff that come in work with 3 classes of year 5 and Year 6 children in one afternoon. This has a wider impact as the positive messages from the project reach out to more children.

"A variety of elements are covered throughout the project such as an understanding of criminal



responsibility, criminal behaviour, impact on victims, mental health awareness, positive self-talk and affirmations, physical health session, conflict management and staying safe online."

Pupil Freddie Cokayne, nine, said he found the sessions informative and interesting. He said: "I do play computer games but not all the time because I play sport. In today's session we learnt about scamming and grieving. I think it's really important to learn how to stay safe online when we are playing computer games because we don't want to be putting ourselves at risk. The sessions with the coaches and wrestlers are really interesting and it's good to know what's safe online and what isn't."

Katrina Tooth, operational manager for Aspire Wrestling Alliance, said they were currently working with 10 schools in the local area.

She said: "The project was set up by a local police officer to keep children in Chaddesden and Spondon on the right road, to keep them out of trouble and to get the police into local schools. The project has evolved to include police community support officers and the focus has widened to include mental health. Our coaches and wrestlers are a good hook to get children interested and they are now fully trained and delivering the sessions in schools. Each session will have a different focus so at St Alban's today we focused on gaming with three classes and next time it will be social media and staying safe online."

Lessons in online safety on the timetable for Saint John Houghton CVA students

Lessons in online safety were on the timetable for students at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy.

Students in Years 7-10 took part in Safer Internet Day 2020, which was celebrated in over 100 countries with the theme 'together for a better internet'.

The day started with a talk by Tracy Casson, from the charity Stand Against Violence that delivers workshops focusing on personal safety, emotional resilience, basic life support, substance associated violence, bullying and the awareness of choices and consequences surrounding violence.

Tracy's talk focused on bullying and cyber bullying in particular.

She said: "When bullying goes on, at first it's seen as harmless, it's just banter and often the victim just laughs at the beginning because that's their way of coping with it. But this is serious, when someone is talking about taking their life because of it, it's very real, it's not banter."

A video was shown about a young girl called Amber Jackson who took her own life in September 2015 after being bullied.

Tracy said: "Amber was bullied and picked on. When it got really bad was when it went online because there was no safe space any more, it was in her home, in her bedroom, until she began to believe what people were saying. It's not banter when it causes someone so much distress.

Imagine if that was your brother or sister that had happened to."

The talk was followed by a series of workshops delivered by teachers based on the theme of e-safety.

Students in Years 9 and 10 also learned about the dangers of online grooming and child exploitation while all students were given the opportunity to use their phones to delete old social media posts and make sure their privacy settings were correct on suitable social media sites. They were also asked to design a poster with the #freetobeonline.

Andy Ritchie, Learning for Life co-ordinator at Saint John Houghton CVA, in Kirk Hallam, said: "The content of the workshops and talk were very hard-hitting and made the students aware that being online is not always a safe place and there are dangers."

Safer Internet Day is co-ordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre which is a partnership of Childnet, Internet Watch Foundation and SWGfL and helps to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people all across the UK.



Use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution.

QUICK Across

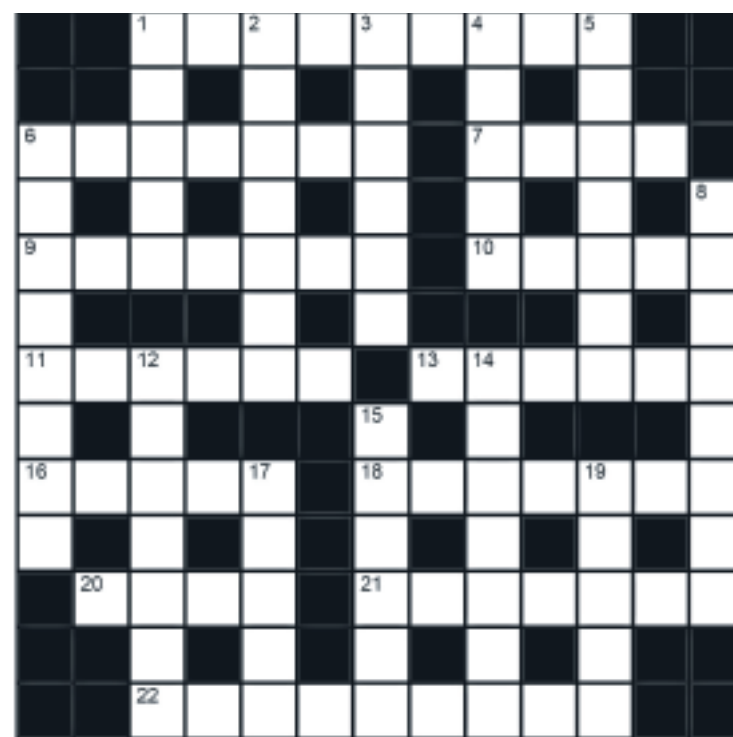
- 1 Those from Asia Minor with Charlie murdered Sicilian (9)
- 6 One tribe's adopted son, the first from Seleucia to become king in Parthia (7)
- 7 Gold's next after dropping half off by Sword Beach river (4)
- 9 Peter Nally's intrinsically indestructible (7)
- 10 Repeated theme brings staleness to essence of duet (5)
- 11 He foresaw, in dividing bread, hard time to return (6)
- 13 Elegant lieutenant to ex-England manager's not quite English (6)
- 16 Cripples saint, and blacksmiths? (5)
- 18 For St Peter's he wrote an unfinished dirge, retro-style, following everyone else (7)
- 20 Mildew found in the US, and many an

ancientplace in North Wales (4)

- 21 Card needed to enter a hospital in Gadite town (7)
- 22 Mad Seneca's angry being representative of yrian city (9)

QUICK Down

- 1 Indian division English players head (5)
- 2 Part of old Italy for Santa to drop in on a number (7)
- 3 Cellist's a class apart (6)
- 4 Cool American? Idiot's totally revolting (5)
- 5 Raised roads, for example, in an African country (7)
- 6 Mate of Daniel's gone funny after lying in (8)
- 8 Wicked heathenism divided saint shortly abandoned (8)
- 12 What road engineer has to inform carmaker? (7)
- 14 Almost rude and extremely trite book of verse (7)



- 15 About to 'allez', as they say, landing in France (6)
- 17 Very bad place sees Norman bishop entering extremes of sadism (5)
- 19 Gill's going to order round (5)

SOLUTION

12 Telford, 14 Vulgate, 15 Calais, 17 Sodom, 19 Globe, 3 Casals, 4 Aioof, 5 Senegal, 6 Abednego, 8 Nehemiah, 21 Aiaroth, 22 Damascene. Down: 1 Caste, 2 Lucania, Fugue, 11 Nathan, 13 Svelte, 16 Giles, 18 Allegri, 20 Mold, 9 Eternal, 10

Ratcliffe College's Singing Star

Singing star in the making, Richard Pullan from Ratcliffe College has won multiple senior awards after attending a music competition in February.

Richard took part in Music Fest at English Martyrs School in February and certainly impressed the judges across multiple categories. In the junior age group he came 1st in the Advanced Stage and Screen solo category.

Not only this, but Richard also took part in the adult (18+) events and won the Advanced Stage and Screen and Advanced Arts Solo categories. It is unusual for a 17 year old to place in the advanced adult categories, but Richard won both of them!

Headmaster Jon Reddin spoke about Richard's recent success, saying: "This is an outstanding achievement and the College is extremely proud of Richard. He has a wonderful talent, and it's great to see him continue to strive to develop his talent and share it with others. He is a fine role model for our musicians and indeed all students and we can't wait to hear him perform again."



Music at Ratcliffe gives our students a superb wealth of opportunities to take part in the broad programme of activities across the school. Students learn many skills as well as having the enjoyment of working with like-minded musicians. The many ensembles and choirs work across the different years, strengthening the community atmosphere of the school. In addition to these activities, our students can also choose to have individual music lessons with specialist teachers.

To find out more about music at Ratcliffe College visit our music page here bit.ly/3cq-Zllt. Or better still, why not see our music facilities in person at our Open Morning on Saturday 7th March from 9:30 – 12 noon.



Colour Run at St George's CVA raises money for children's hospice

Pupils and staff at St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy took part in a Colour Run and raised more than £1,000 for Rainbows Children's Hospice.

The event was held at the academy, in Littleover, and saw every class run around the playground whilst teachers covered them with powder paint.

Money raised will go towards Rainbows, which is based in Loughborough and cares for children with life-limiting illnesses. Rachael Snowdon-Poole, headteacher at St George's, said the Colour Run was part of a focus on giving, fasting and praying at the school throughout Lent.

She said: "The Colour Run for Rainbows marked the start of Lent and is part of our focus on giving throughout Lent. This was the first time that we'd done anything like this and the children were all very excited about taking part."

"The children took part in an Ash Wednesday liturgy beforehand and we talked about how we can be more giving during Lent in a variety of ways."

"Last year during Lent we asked pupils to dress in rainbow colours and stand in the



shape of a gigantic rainbow on the playground and this raised £500.

"We are also supporting a charity called Upbeat Communities which supports refugees new to Derby and we are creating welcome boxes for families that might contain toiletries and toys. We also raise money for CAFOD too."

Rainbows is one of the charities being supported by the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust, along with Bluebell Wood Children's Hospice in Sheffield. So far, the Trust has raised more than £10,000 for both charities and is supporting them for two years.

Schools across the Trust have contributed to the total by holding various sponsored activities and more than £3,000 was raised when Trust chief executive, Sean McClafferty, and Trust chair, Jacqueline Rodden, jumped 13,500ft from a plane.

Paula North, Community Fundraiser for Rainbows, said: "It is fabulous to see the Trust doing so many fun things to raise money for Rainbows. Everyone seems to be getting involved and we are really overwhelmed by their support. On behalf of the children and young people, I would like to thank everyone for supporting us and we look forward to seeing what other fundraising ideas they come up with."



FEAST OF THE LITTLE SHEPHERDS ST FRANCISCO and ST JACINTA

100th Anniversary of the death of St Jacinta Marto
20 February 2020



Thursday 20th February was the Feast Day of the Little Shepherds, Saints Francisco and Jacinta Marto of Fatima. It was also the 100th anniversary of the holy death of St Jacinta.

One of the central messages of Our Lady of Fatima is reverence and love for the Holy Eucharist. The "little shepherds" of Fatima had a great love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the Mass and they also spent many hours in adoration outside of the Mass consoling and adoring the "hidden Jesus"

In order to commemorate and celebrate the occasion we held a service of Eucharistic Adoration here in the Good Shepherd Church with hymns and music, prayers and readings, quiet time for personal adoration, the Holy Rosary and Benediction with the first hour being particularly suitable for children and young people.



gelic witness and I also wanted to urge the entire church to take care of children"

We prayed to Saints Francisco and Jacinta and to Our Lady for their intercession for the children and young people in our parish; for those about to make their First Holy Communion and Confirmation; for children and young people in our country and throughout the whole world.

Saints Francisco and Jacinta, pray for us.
Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us.

The fact that Our Lady chose Francisco and Jacinta is significant. It is a reminder to us of how precious children are and to show us that holiness is not just for adults, but that children too are called to holiness.

Pope Francis said the following: "With the canonisation of Francisco and Jacinta, I wanted to propose to the entire church their example of bonding with Christ and their evangelic witness and I also wanted to urge the entire church to take care of children"

Submitted by Caroline Smith,
The Good Shepherd Church,
Arnold, Nottingham

