



MORE THAN 24 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

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40 years ordained for two Nottingham priests

Following our Easter Sunday Mass, the community St Anthony's in Calverton were delighted to be able celebrate with our former parish priest Father Keith Frisby his 40th Ordination Anniversary. During our post Mass tea and coffee refreshments there was a stunning handmade decorated cake made by parishioner Liz Ellis in honour of this special occasion, which was enjoyed by all.

Father Keith was our parish priest at St Anthony's in Calverton (together with Our Lady of Victories in Southwell) from 1990 to 2007.

Prior to 1993 Mass at Calverton was held in a wooden shed: all this changed when in 1993, our current church building was built upon this original site. Father Keith was an instrumental driving force in the creation of our beautiful new church. We say a very heart felt "Thank You Father Keith" for our wonderful church.



Fr Gregory Tobin Celebrates his 40th Anniversary of Ordination

Fr Gregory Tobin, parish priest at St Mary's Derby, Christ the King Mackworth and Holy Family Allestree was congratulated at all three of his churches with cake and a gift. The parishioners thanked him for his long service and dedication to the priesthood. Fr Greg has served in many areas of the diocese including Glossop, the Briars Youth Centre and currently Derby, his home town. He is also the coordinator of the annual Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes, where, fittingly, he will be on the actual date of his anniversary."

Fran Hazel



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The monthly paper for the
Diocese of Nottingham

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
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SVP – What We Do

Preparing for Winter – SVP Warm Spaces

It must seem strange reading about the winter when we are well into the summer with warm days, long hours of daylight and a reassurance that our heating and lighting bills are much lower at this time. However, we are now past the summer solstice, and some would joke it is all downhill now as we begin to pick up pace towards the winter.

Some parishes provided a 'warm space' last winter for those in need of support, company and sustenance, usually in the parish hall. The SVP was at the heart of many of the warm spaces set up around the diocese, viewing it as a natural extension of their mission to help those in need. The success of these facilities was clear for all to see with very positive feedback from both those attending and those volunteering to run the 'warm space'.

Some winter spaces, at the request of attendees, have kept going in a modified way with shorter hours but still providing the core service of physical, social and spiritual refreshment. An example is at St Joseph's in Matlock, where the 'Drop-In' is open on a Monday from 11am until 2pm, run by a rota of volunteers. Monday was St Joseph's designated day as it worked with other churches in the town that offered a warm space on other weekdays.

Planning is taking place for the coming winter where there is already speculation in the news about increasing fuel costs and higher food prices. The need for such a provision will be out there in the community

again! SVP groups in parishes around the diocese and beyond will be considering how to offer such a service but the key to success, in true Vincentian spirit, is a team effort with support from all parts of the parish. My experience last year was how effective this teamwork can be. Facilitated by the SVP, we had excellent support from our parish priest, Fr Robbie, as well as contributions – groceries, books, games etc – from the parishioners, many of whom also stepped up to volunteer their time on a Monday – our day during the week.

Warm spaces do not just happen – they require careful planning and budgeting, but the results have proven to be phenomenal. The SVP will again be at the forefront of offering such a provision around the diocese, working alongside supportive parishioners as well as other churches and external agencies. If your parish did not offer a 'warm space' last winter perhaps it is something to consider. The SVP would be delighted to offer any advice or support it can. For further details on this or to find out more about the SVP please contact Lance Philpott at lancep@svp.org.uk

Catholic Union to host "An Evening with the Ambassador"

The Catholic Union will be hosting a webinar with His Majesty's Ambassador to the Holy See, Chris Trott, next month.

The webinar is taking place on Thursday 13 July from 6.30-7.30pm. It is free to attend and open to everyone, but people will need to register in advance in order to receive the link to join the talk.

The event will give people the opportunity to hear about the work of our Embassy in the Vatican and the life of an Ambassador. The evening will be hosted by Catholic Union Deputy Director, James Somerville-Meikle.

Chris Trott became the British Ambassador to the Holy See in September 2021. He has



been a British diplomat since 1991 and has previously served as Ambassador to South Sudan and Ambassador to Senegal. Before international postings, he was Deputy Head of the Human Rights Department at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in London.

The webinar builds on the Catholic Union's proud history of leading public discussion on Catholic matters, including our annual Craigmyle Lecture and a new "Pub Talk" series which started earlier this year.

Ambassador Chris Trott commented: "I'm delighted to have the opportunity to speak to Catholic Union members and supporters about the work of our Embassy in the Vatican. Since taking up my post as Ambassador, I have seen first hand the importance of the relations between the Holy See and the United Kingdom. Clearly, this relationship is important to the Catholic community in Britain, but there are many shared cultural, economic, and diplomatic interests that are of much broader interest. I'm looking forward to sharing something of my life and work as an Ambassador in this webinar."

FRANKLY SPEAKING



The month of August coincides with most school holidays and for many it is usually the period for a break. With the rising cost of inflation in recent times there will be instances of families who in past years have always got away but simply cannot afford the cost this year. Whilst some are just about managing many for the first time are resorting to using food banks.

Many of our MPs do not comment much about food banks but their presence is well known in many towns and cities. I live in a small but rapidly growing town which forms part of a district known as Newark and Sherwood. Earlier this year the Trussell Trust advised me that in my area last year the food banks gave out

4,570 emergency food parcels of which 1,521 were provided for children. The Trust stated that many are living in crisis.

Clearly the use of food banks cannot be promoted without the support of a good number of volunteers who are succeeding with enthusiastic teamwork and relevant communication. as to which items they specially need. My local team say they are supplying more people than ever this year and remain committed to keeping people, families and children supplied when they need it most. This support of our churches is surely an example of what can be achieved if Christians work together.

There are so many other areas where good teamwork would clearly make life more

tolerable or easier for those in greatest need. Those in positions of authority must realise that only by working together with good will can progress be made. The pandemic and cost of living crisis has made life much more challenging. The Government support is unlikely but can anything be achieved?

In last month's article I said that I am not a theologian or historian but we are all aware of the care and compassion that is needed today. We are also aware that Peter, Andrew, James and John left everything and worked together to follow our saviour

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish, Newark

Thank you John and Happy Retirement



Message from Bishop Patrick

"Bishop Patrick, on behalf of all of us who have benefitted from John's gifted journalism, welcomes this opportunity to thank him for his work as editor of 'Catholic News', a newspaper which has enjoyed a wide reach across the Diocese of Nottingham. Thanks to John's editorship, the monthly publication - of which there have now been 314 editions - has been a trusted and engaging outlet, profiling the excellent work of parishes, schools, and organisations alike."

Catholic journalism is such an integral tool for mission; indeed, Pope Francis puts it well in noting that "Journalism is not so much a matter of choosing a profession, but rather of embarking on a mission". Our heartfelt thanks go to John, for his mission and for giving so fully of himself in this vital field of work for more than 24 years. In recognition of such work, Bishop Patrick will present John with the diocesan 'Saint Hugh Of Lincoln Award'. We assure John of our prayers as he embarks on this next step of his journey."

Messages from around the Diocese

From Fr David, Elston Hermitage

It is with sadness we learn of your retirement as Editor after 25 years - but as scripture reminds us "there is a time for all things"

I am sure over those years you will have witnessed many changes in our diocese.

I know that we are most grateful for your faithful and diligent service to us many bishops, priests and religious throughout those years and not least as a parishioner of Holy Trinity our own parish which I get very little opportunity to share in these days.

John, both Fr Richard and myself wish you every blessing for your retirement and hopefully will see you and your good wife around Elston for many years to come.

With the assurance of our prayers

From David Lodge

Having worked for and alongside John from the very first issue of the Catholic News, I would like to say it has been a pleasure working with you over the past 24 years and I would like to wish you the happiest of retirements.

From Frank Goulding

I would like to associate myself with all the good wishes to John Clawson as he retires. In an age of reduced circulation of print editions of newspapers he has given outstanding service to the Church and Catholic journalism at a crucial time for all of us.

From Annette Stuart

We very much appreciate all the coverage you have given to Through the Roof as a charity over the last year - it has made such a difference in helping us get better known throughout the UK, so we can support churches more with disability inclusion.

All blessings on you and your colleagues.

From Denise Ead, St Mary's, Marple Bridge

It has been so nice to send articles to John and have them printed in the Nottingham Catholic News.

The paper has meant we could share information with the rest of the diocese and it has kept us in touch with other parish news.

Best wishes and I hope John has a good retirement.

From Lance Philpott, SVP

I have been offering articles to the Catholic News about the SVP for the past 18 months and John has kindly included them in each monthly edition.

On behalf of the SVP I would like to express my thanks for all the support John has provided to ensure regular articles from the SVP have featured in the monthly editions. Despite some late submissions John has always managed to find space for the

article. I am grateful for his consideration and thank him for helping promote the work of the society. I wish him well with his retirement.

From Fran Hazel

John has done a fabulous job with the diocesan paper, and has been a pleasure to work with. I wish him all the best from St Mary's School and Parish, Derby.

From Cheryl Broodryk

It was an absolute pleasure to work with John in the past, approachable and always encouraging. I wish him all the happiness, peace and joy going forward with the next chapter of his life. God bless.

thank
you

Annual Padley Pilgrimage, Derbyshire



**Bishop Patrick McKinney,
Bishop of Nottingham**



**Bishop Ralph Heskitt,
Bishop of Hallam**

The annual inter-diocesan Hallam Nottingham Padley Pilgrimage, which started in 1898, took place on July 9th.

Led by the bishops of both dioceses, Ralph Heskett (Hallam) and Patrick McKinney (Nottingham), the pilgrimage from Grindleford Station to Padley Chapel honours the martyrdom of Robert Ludlam and Nicholas Garlick, Catholic priests from Derbyshire, who, while staying overnight with a Catholic family at Padley Manor, were arrested for treason on the basis of being Catholic priests and were executed in Derby in 1588. They were beatified in 1987.



Procession from Grindleford Station to Padley Chapel

Evening of Appreciation



The Keralan Community Nottingham have held Miss Reilly (Headteacher of St. Margaret Clitherow School, Bestwood Park, Nottingham for 29 years) in such high esteem, that on news of her forthcoming retirement they decided to mark it with an Evening of Appreciation at the Good Shepherd Parish Assembly Rooms. Accordingly, a day of preparation transformed the entrance and Marian Hall

with Festive balloons and decorations complimenting the existing décor for the Coronation parties that have been taking place, as well as a sumptuous meal of Keralan delicacies that was enjoyed by all. A great crowd assembled to welcome Miss Reilly, her sister and nieces and great nieces and nephews in what became a tremendous evening of appreciation in which Miss Reilly was gifted with flowers,



gifts and accolade describing her as generous of time and talent; always smiling and welcoming, immediate in encouragement and advice and a tremendous support to so many of the children, many of whom now in early adulthood have achieved great positions in the modern world thanks to the ground work of St. Margaret Clitherow School under her guidance. Current and past

pupils joined together in song to accolade Miss Christine Reilly on her achievements and to wish her well for the future.

The school will arrange its own "farewell" towards the end of the summer term. Well done Miss Reilly!

Fr Philip Ziomek

Catholic Union launches campaign to "scrap the cap"

The Catholic Union has launched a major new campaign to lift the 50 percent cap on faith-based admissions to new free schools.

People are being asked to sign an open letter to the Education Secretary, Gillian Keegan MP, to "scrap the cap".

The letter is available for people to sign on the Catholic Union's website and will be delivered to the Department for Education after the summer holidays.

The 50 percent cap on faith-based admissions applies to oversubscribed free schools with a religious character in England. Introduced by the Coalition Government in 2010, the cap has made it impossible for new Catholic free schools to open as the policy is incompatible with Church law.

The Catholic Union, along with the Catholic Education Service and others, has been calling for the policy to be reversed since it was first introduced. The 2017 Conservative manifesto committed to lifting the cap, but this was never achieved.

As well as making Catholic education more widely available, the letter to the Education Secretary says that lifting the cap "would help boost morale" in a sector that has struggled with pay and conditions and the pressure of inspections.

Rt Hon Sir Edward Leigh MP, President of the Catholic Union, comments: "The 50 percent cap is a source of huge frustration to the Catholic community in this country. There has never been any justification for the policy or any evidence to support keeping it in place. I have raised this matter with successive Ministers in the Department for Education. We have come close to getting the cap lifted in the past and with the help of Catholic teachers we can make the Government see sense. Lifting the cap would be a huge vote of confidence in Catholic schools in this country and I know would be welcome by people from other faiths."

Professor John Lydon, Chairman of the Catholic Union's Education Committee, adds: "This letter is a very important initiative from the Catholic Union. There is a bright future for



Catholic schools in this country, but we need to be honest about the challenges we face. One of those challenges is the cap on faith-based admissions. It has without doubt restricted access to Catholic education in England and prevented the Church from

realising the benefits of the academisation programme currently underway. The letter to the Secretary of State is a timely intervention and I encourage everyone involved in Catholic education in this country to add their name in support."

Royal Maundy Distribution at York Minister

The Good Shepherd parish community were proud that one of their members was recognized for the tremendous support given over many years to the parish and local community. Mrs. Patricia Faulconbridge, a member of the parish of long standing, with much of it devoted to the work of the Society of St. Vincent de

Paul and more recently in leadership of the Parish Friendship Society providing fortnightly opportunities for talks, afternoon tea etc., as well as organizing the Friday Soup and Warm Spaces luncheons and the Breakfast refreshments for the Parish Think Tank (aka Parish Council) was invited to meet with King Charles and the

From: Elston Hermitage.....



The month of August holds for us the wonderful Solemnity of the Assumption of Our Blessed Lady on the 15th. This feast celebrates the understanding that our Blessed Mother the Ever Virgin Mother of our Saviour was assumed body and soul into heaven. It was in 1950 that Pope Pius 12th made the infallible statement in the Apostolic Constitution Munificentissimus Deus which officially defined for the Catholic Church the Dogma of the Assumption. It may have seemed a little late in a faith and Church that today dates back two thousand years that in 1950 the Church would finally get around to declaring the official Dogma of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And if we remember it was not until 2002 that the Church officially included the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary. These mysteries cover the three years of Jesus Christ's ministry.

But just like the Luminous Mysteries the understanding of the Assumption was already well developed in the early Church. Both the Luminous Mysteries and the dogma of the Assumption rely on sacred scriptures. In looking at the Dogma of the Assumption we can turn to Kings 8:17-31 and we see that Solomon brought the Ark of the Covenant to the Temple, Mary the Ark of the New Covenant was brought to heaven to dwell where Christ is. Chapter 12 in the book of Revelation speaks of a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars, and she gives birth to a child. This chapter of the book of Revelation is seen by many scholars as referring to Mary and her unique relationship with God and her part in the salvific plan for humanity. Neither in the Old or New Testament there is no direct reference to Mary being assumed body and soul into heaven, however it is clear that scripture lays the foundation stones for understanding the development of the Dogma of the Assumption.

We only have to turn to the saints and see how the Dogma of the Assumption has been embraced from one generation to the next in the life of the Church, according to St. John of Damascus at the council of Chalcedon in AD 451 the Byzantine Emperor Marcian requested the body of Mary for adoration in Constantinople. It was St. Jevanal the Bishop of Jerusalem who informed him that Mary had passed away in the presence of the Apostles, but that her tomb, when opened upon the request of St. Thomas the Apostle was found to be empty.

It is on the solemnity of Our Lady's Assumption that the Gospel reading comes from Luke and relates the visit that Mary made to her cousin Elizabeth. Mary makes this visit after she was informed by the Angel Gabriel that she is to be the mother of the Saviour of the world. At that same time the Angel informed Mary that Elizabeth was six months pregnant.

Mary chose not to stay at home and focus on herself but chose to go to Elizabeth and be there for her. Here surely is the message for us today, a practical message that we should share Christ with the world. Our Lady's focus was one of looking outward to help others and share Christ with the world. Mary did not focus on herself, but on others.

So this month as we celebrate that joyous Solemnity of the Assumption, we all have a role model and example of who we should be in our daily lives. Our focus should not be on looking inwardly in our lives, in our parishes, but rather looking externally in a missionary way so that we are able to bring Christ to others and to our world.

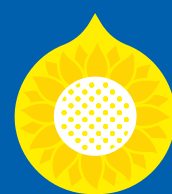
**Fr David + H.D.N. Priest and
Hermit Diocese of Nottingham**



Queen Consort at York Minister for the Royal Maundy celebration this year. Their Majesties offered thanks for the tremendous support offered to the local community over many years. The picture

(by kind permission of Dr. Caroline Forde) was taken immediately after the ceremony by Patricia's daughter who accompanied her mother on such a wonderful occasion.

Fr Philip Ziomek



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Sealed with the Holy Spirit!

On Friday, 7 July, it was an honour to have Bishop Patrick to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, confirming 60 of our Parish's young people with the seal of the Holy Spirit. We thank Bishop Patrick, Fr Simon and Canon Philipp, our catechists and the army of volunteers who made the evening very special - from our cleaning crew to the flower members, the folk group, altar servers, stewards and everyone who supported this wonderful event. Enriching the spirituality of the evening posters were displayed of St Pope John Paul II with encouraging and inspiring quotes for us all, especially for our young candidates of the evening. We were also proud to acknowledge 26 of Yr 6's "Faith In Action" award. Congratulations to them all. We pray that our newly confirmed will become know in our parish life, and begin to explore their unique gifts as they all further their journeys and embrace walking closer with Our Blessed Lord Jesus Christ.



Submitted on behalf of the
Good Shepherd Church, Arnold



One thousand people at the Bethel Conference Centre, West Bromwich.

OVERFLOW – an inspiring Conference

The re-awakening of Catholic Charismatic Renewal
By Fr. Jonathan Cotton

Rallied to raise over £2,700

The whole school community at St Anne's Catholic Voluntary Academy has rallied to raise over £2,700 to send children on an unforgettable trip.

After signing up for free tickets to visit Chester Zoo, St Anne's received enough to be able to take the whole school, which is made up of over 220 pupils and staff.

But the cost of transporting everyone to the zoo in December was coming in at over £2,500 so the school launched a fundraising drive in a bid to pay for the travel.

Now the school has more than met its target, raising over £2,700 from a fundraising page, a 12-hour sponsored walk at school by staff and some pupils and a Summer Fair/Meet the Teacher event.

One of the biggest events was a car wash held all weekend by a family who have children at St Anne's. They were supported by local firefighters and together they raised a total of £575.

Headteacher Julia Wiggins said: "The community has really stepped up to support our children and we would like to thank everyone who helped out and contributed, especially in the current economic climate. The Meet the Teacher event was fantastic, parents were saying it was the best one ever and that they really enjoyed it.

"The sponsored walk at school involving three of our staff was great and we were



trying to keep them going. The money has just been trickling in and we are thrilled that we have exceeded our target."

The members of staff who took part in the fundraising walk at school were Assistant Headteacher Frankie Dodd, pastoral and pupil support lead Faye Minshull and Year 5 teacher Callum D'Souza, who is also the school's PE lead.

Frankie said: "The walk started on the playground at 7.30am and finished at 7.30pm. I did 45,000 steps which was about 23 miles. Callum ran some of it and did about 60,000 steps. We were all shattered at the end of it. It's been fantastic to see the whole community coming together, I wasn't sure that we would be able to reach this point. I thought we might raise so much and have to ask parents to pay for the rest but everyone rallied around."

July 1st 2023 will be remembered as the day Catholic Charismatic Renewal in England and Wales, now called CHARIS, was awakened from its long Covid sleep. Representatives from parishes, communities and groups from around the two countries, together with friends from Scotland and Ireland, responded to God's call "to be open to the overflow", quoting from Psalm 22: You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my enemies. You have anointed me with oil, and my cup overflows.

A thousand of us on the Conference, including a large number of teenagers and young people, were reminded that our Baptism authorises us to go and evangelise. Our Baptism was when we were anointed as priests, prophets and kings, to praise our God, proclaim his Word, and serve the poorest of the poor. We were warned that "some people look as if they've been baptised with lemon juice!" And again, "Some people are living, but barely alive!" So, now is the time, at this Conference, for us to fall on our faces and repent as a prerequisite for a revival. Otherwise, the "overflow" of Psalm 22 may pass over our heads.

In response, we repented and the whole Conference spent over an hour in lively praise, even with loud shouts to silence the temptation to despondency. There is a new season upon us! We started a pandemic of praise. We heard inspired preaching remembering that when the Word of God is proclaimed effectively, when we don't shy from preaching the Jesus whom we know and love deep in our hearts, then the Holy Spirit can fall upon us anew, as on that first Pentecost day. And we cried out so many times, "My mind is clear! My eyes are open! My heart is ready!"

And finally, our hearts were filled with hope as we listened to humble and uplifting testimonies both recorded and live on the stage. In particular, a whole team of young people, mostly teenagers, shared testimonies of their renewed Catholic faith as a result of participation in the ASCENT programme of formation, and then they stretched out their hands over the whole Conference participants and called down God's blessing on us all. It was as if the colourful display behind the young people, representing the colours on the CHARIS Banner, had come alive and was overflowing on us all. What a memorable day, equipping us for our Mission, to take up Pope Francis' three-fold call for us: to share baptism of the Holy Spirit; to build greater Ecumenical Unity; to serve the poor.

We thank God for the many who ministered to us on the day, both up front and behind the scenes, including the stewards, the sacristans, the Tech Team, and the many who had stalls in the Market Place & others who provided refreshments. Dr. Maria Heath welcomed us on behalf of CHARIS. Fr. Simon Penhalagan and Jasmine de Krester co-ordinated the various parts of the day. Our morning speakers were the powerful evangelists Deacon Larry Oney and his wife Andi, who had flown in from the USA. Nicky Gumbel, from Alpha, provided an ecumenical perspective. Michelle Moran urged us to seek God's presence today and not to dwell on the past. The music was led by Fran McLean and Band. Bishop David Oakley gave us an inspiring address during the final Mass, sending us out, ready for our mission.

Keep in touch and find out more at: www.ccr.org.uk.

Visit to Norwich Council of Christians and Jews



On Tuesday 13 June 2023 the Lincoln Branch of the Council of Christians and Jews (or CCJ) embarked on a visit to CCJ Norwich. This event was a return visit to the one made by Norwich before the COVID Outbreak in 2020.

Our party of sixteen included Jewish, Methodist, Church of England and Catholic representatives. A very extensive itinerary was arranged by the Chairman of Norwich CCJ, the very reverend David Gillett, Auxiliary Bishop of Norwich.

The day began at 8am when we boarded our minibus at St Peter and St Paul's Church. Setting off in glorious sunshine, the temperature was 27°C. We made good progress and arrived fifteen minutes earlier than scheduled at our destination, the Catholic Cathedral, where a space had been reserved for us.

On disembarking we crossed the road to the Synagogue where our host Bishop David was waiting with members of his Committee to welcome us to the city. The Jewish Community had laid on



refreshments for us, including a very welcome cup of tea. Many interesting discussions took place between members in a very relaxed atmosphere. We were then given an introduction to Jewish Norwich, and the history of the Synagogue by Barry and Maureen Leverton.

Then followed a very interesting tour of the Catholic Cathedral by Dean Alan. A buffet vegetarian lunch was then laid on for us in the Synagogue hall. Our appetites fully satiated, we embarked on a brisk walk through the old Jewish quarter of the city, led by Bishop David. He took us to see the commemorative plaque honouring the finding of several bodies in a well shaft,



discovered during redevelopment of the city in 2004. They had a burial by the Jewish and Christian ministers together on 19 March 2013.

On the way back to our last venue we passed streets in which the early Jewish Community had their business offices and shops.

Our final visit of the day was to the Anglican Cathedral, where we were taken on a very fascinating tour by Canon Peter Doll. During a break for drinks, the Canon outlined the story of William of Norwich, a 12-year-old boy who was murdered in 1144 and whose death was blamed on the



Jewish Community. This led to the further persecution of the city's Jews.

On heading back to our minibus we posed for a group photo.

We arrived back in Lincoln at 6pm, tired but elated and reflected on the wonderful day we had, the sights we saw, the friendships formed; long may our association with Norwich continue to blossom and grow in the years to come.

Mike Costello
Chairman of Lincoln and District CCJ
and a Parishioner of
Ss Peter & Paul, Lincoln



St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy Derby enjoy pilgrimage to Walsingham



Ten children from St Mary's CVA Derby spent 4 days in the beautiful village of Walsingham, as they took part in a pilgrimage with the Anglican Shrine. They walked the Holy Mile to the Slipper Chapel, celebrated Mass at the Catholic Shrine; visited churches of other traditions, including the Russian Orthodox and Methodist. One of the highlights was seeing the remains of the original Abbey in the walled gardens in the centre of the village. The children took part in a Marian Procession through the grounds of the Shrine, the Sprinkling with holy water ceremony and prayed the Way of the Cross. It was an incredible experience for all of them."

Fran Hazel

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View from the Pew

By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



Oil and Water: a cautionary tale

I'm not sure where I stand on whether human social history develops in a linear or cyclical fashion. Is the direction of travel like an arrow, you can't reverse the trajectory, you can't undo time, or is it more like a boomerang, like some merry-go-round? In the latter case, it's just a matter of time - I might even say 'confusion' - before a previous predicament or situation comes round full circle and re-presents itself. I think I remain sitting firmly on the fence in this debate. However, nowadays it seems agreed that time is *linear*. And suffice it to say that linear time prevails in the three religions deemed as descendants of Abraham: *Judaism, Christianity and Islam*. Yet such development, more often than not throughout human history, has been considered *cyclical* and rhythmic, mirroring the seasons. Perhaps the schism in 1534 (Henry VIII) could not have been so totally unpredictable nor unanticipated, particularly in the light of the great Schism of 1054.

1054 saw the mutual excommunication between Pope Leo IX and the Patriarch of Constantinople Michael Cerularius. So started the 'Great Schism' splitting the two largest denominations in Christianity: the Roman Catholic, with its basis in Roman law, and the Eastern Orthodox, rooted in Greek philosophy. The excommunications were not revoked until 1965, when Pope Paul VI and Patriarch Athenagoras I, following their historic meeting in Jerusalem in 1964, presided over simultaneous ceremonies.

A highly respected member of the Eastern Orthodoxy of late has been The Very Reverend Archpriest Michael Fortunato (19 May 1931 -19 February 2022) who, for 45 years, was choirmaster and priest at London's Russian Orthodox Cathedral, the Moscow Patriarchate being an autocephalous Eastern Orthodox Christian church. Born in Paris, the eldest of three sons of Russian émigré parents who had lost everything in the Revolution, Fr Michael had continued to play a large part in the life of the Russian émigré families in France.

Fr Michael and I met once. We had been asked to attend the London HQ of a global mining company. The company was looking 'in common accord and to mutual benefit' at how best to engage both in spirit and in practice with the local village community of some far-flung region of the Russian hinterland where drilling was about to commence. Fr Michael and I had arrived in good time and had just been ushered into the atrium: 'A Temple to Mammon', he called as he opened his arms wide and looked around at the structure dwarfing us. A secretary hurriedly announced that, due to unforeseen circumstances, our meeting had to be put back by half an hour or more. So we just sat there. And we got to talking. About this and that. And more besides. Notably about 20th century history.

He explained that his compatriots who had left Russia in the wake of the Revolution (1917) were of one of two types of political refugee fleeing persecution. There were those who had left a lot behind and who wanted to stay close at hand, hoping against hope that they could one day return to recoup what they had left behind. 'Heavy fruit never falls far from the tree'. Conversely there were those for whom Mother Russia offered little promise and who, with little or no 'ballast', might as well pick up sticks, move away and look for a new life much further afield. A high percentage of each group remained loyal, yet in varying degrees, to their Christian faith, be they in Paris, London, the Americas or points beyond.

Fr Michael continued, explaining that, with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, there had come a new Russian exodus, a new diaspora bringing a tide of different Russian refugees looking to better their lot with their worship of the dollar in a new, brave post-Soviet world. They had been born and educated under Communism in an otherwise Godless society. For them pre-Soviet Russia and all it stood for was considered anathema, despite some among their number coming round to



Evelyn De Morgan:

The Worship of Mammon (1909)

renouncing the religion of 'the dollar', ultimately to revert to the religion of their forefathers.

In short, the stage was set with the ageing wave of political emigrés and their direct modern-day descendants to meet with their latter-day fellow countrymen and women, latter-day economic migrants. Such was the issue which we now see reflected on a different and even broader canvas.

Perhaps I should look at life more 'cyclically' than I once did.

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Dr J L Kettle-Williams is an experienced business communications consultant and wordsmith (tutor, writer, translator).

First secondary school in the East Midlands to achieve CAFOD's LiveSimply Award



A Burton school has achieved a prestigious award in recognition of its efforts to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities.

Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy has become the first secondary school in the East Midlands to achieve CAFOD's LiveSimply Award.

At the centre of the school's efforts to earn the award is a new Eco Prayer Garden, which was funded as part a project run by East Midlands Airport.

The airport asked schools to submit designs for gardens or green spaces that substantially boost biodiversity and lead to improved wellbeing.

Pupils created the garden design and considered the local wildlife and how they

could incorporate the school values of Love, Respect, Hope, Kindness and Resilience, whilst looking after nature.

Students also identified the need for the school community to be recycling, composting, growing their own herbs and vegetables to be used in Food and Nutrition lessons and considering the packaging of food in the canteen, which was reviewed to ensure it was more sustainable and able to be recycled. Locally, regular food bank collections were held, students made ceramic poppies for local care homes and delivered and installed them for Remembrance Day, sent Christmas cards and regularly raised money for local charities.

Globally the school has helped to raise £15,000 over the years to build 15 freshwater wells in Africa. Other annual

events to support CAFOD, the official aid agency for the Catholic Church, are the sharing of simple lunches for family fast days and taking part in the Big Lent Walk.

This latest accolade follows the school being shortlisted in the Secondary School of the Year category at the upcoming TES awards and being judged 'Outstanding' by Ofsted earlier this year.

Laura O'Leary, Headteacher at Blessed Robert Sutton, said: "We are extremely proud to have received the LiveSimply Award, as it validates the remarkable efforts of our pupils and staff in promoting sustainable living and supporting those in need.

"Our school community has shown great dedication and commitment to creating a better future for all. We are grateful to CAFOD for their recognition and to East Midlands Airport for their invaluable support. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence in our pursuit of a more just and sustainable world."

Siobhan Farnell, CAFOD LiveSimply Award Assessor was delighted to confirm Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy is the first secondary school in the East Midlands and in the Nottingham Diocese to achieve the LiveSimply Award.

She said: "The pupils and staff have truly embraced living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities. Their inspired actions have and will continue to make a real difference to the lives of others in their school, local community, and our global neighbours. We wish them continued success in all they do.



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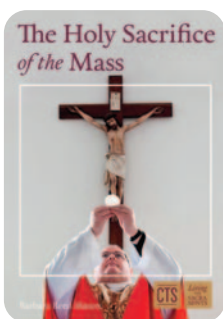


The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Barbara Reed Mason
£3.95

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Every time the Mass is celebrated something astonishing occurs: the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross is made truly present. Drawing on Sacred Scripture, the Catechism, and the words of saints and popes, this book explains how the Sacrifice of the Mass unites the faithful with God.



"When God provides our necessities through Mary's hands, then we become more affectionate towards our spiritual mother, and our trust in God grows."

What is it like to have a close relationship with Mary, the Mother of God? Our Lady is the spiritual mother of all Christians, but it is the saints who know her best.

This book tells stories about ways the saints encountered Our Lady, not necessarily through the miraculous, but rather as their spiritual mother in everyday life.

The saints' experience shows us that any growth in our awareness of Mary's presence and care for us deepens our relationship to Christ. It is their testimony that an ever-deepening relationship with the Mother of God is a path to sanctity.

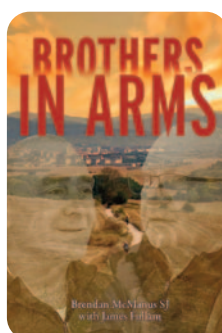
Reflecting on the wisdom of the saints who so loved Our Lady shows that this path through Marian devotion to holiness is one open to all Christians. She is our mother and she seeks always to lead us to her beloved son, Jesus.

Brothers in Arms

Brendan McManus SJ
£12.95
ISBN 9781788126144
www.messenger.ie

'I absolutely loved this book – the reflections, the songs, the stories of people you met along the way. I've no doubt it will help many people make the right choices along their chosen path in life.'

Patricia McCann, Playwright and author of Bring Me Back Alive



The summer of 2022 saw an unprecedented heatwave in Spain and the author, a Jesuit priest was accompanying a Dublin taxi driver on a walking retreat on the Ignatian Camino to Manresa, near Barcelona. This book tells the story of that testing pilgrimage: trying to find a way through severe heat; the challenges of walking together, finding accommodation and negotiating unexpected hurdles; and the retreat that they did together that looked at faith, prayer and blocks to progress. On one level it is a story of friendship between two very different personalities, and also a story of two souls on a spiritual search for God.

As in his other books, Brendan highlights the Ignatian learning points and narrates the many adventures they went through to cope with exceptional circumstances. The pressure of the intense heat forces them to adapt their walking and find balance and discernment in making good decisions on the road. The pilgrimage took in some key Ignatian sites such as Montserrat and Manresa, but readers are given a unique perspective on the experience of St Ignatius Loyola through the eyes of these two pilgrims' unique journey, as well as illustrating how a customised Ignatian retreat works. This is a pilgrimage story of finding God in the messiness of less than ideal situations, developing a heart-warming friendship, and finding a way through using Ignatian principles of reflection and flexibility.

Brendan McManus SJ works as a Spiritual Director and retreat giver in Belfast. He has published a number of books with Messenger Publications including Channelling the Inner Fire, Contemplating the Camino, Surviving Suicide Bereavement and, co-authored with Jim Deeds, Discover God Daily, the best-selling Finding God in the Mess and Deeper into the Mess.

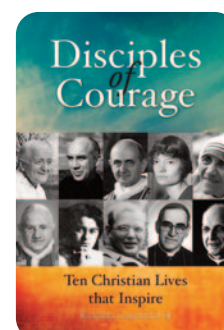
Disciples of Courage: Ten Christian Lives that Inspire

Brendan Comerford SJ
£19.95
ISBN 9781788125673
www.messenger.ie

This book tells the story of ten very unique people from the recent past, all of whom showed immense courage and daring in their pursuit of Christ.

We learn much about the following people and their rich lives of service: Edith Stein, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI, Dorothy Day, Oscar Romero, Pedro Arrupe, Teresa of Calcutta, Thomas Merton, Roger of Taizé

Brendan Comerford studied philosophy at the Milltown Institute of Philosophy and Theology, Dublin, theology at the Gregorian University, Rome and spirituality at the Weston School of Theology, USA. He served as Jesuit novice master and lectures in the history of Christian spirituality. He is an experienced spiritual director. He has



previously published 'The Pilgrim's Story—the Life & Spirituality of St Ignatius Loyola (2017) with Messenger Publications.

Living with Ignatius: On the Compass of Joy

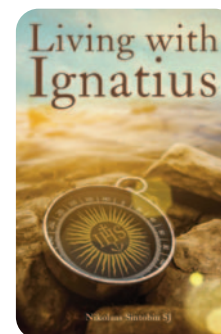
Nikolaas Sintobin SJ
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ISBN 9781788125987
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What makes a successful life, and how do I decide what do with mine? What does it mean to believe in God? Does God still hold the same meaning and relevance in our time, and if so, how can I tap into that meaning? What

makes a successful life, and how do I decide what do with mine? What does it mean to believe in God? Does God still hold the same meaning and relevance in our time, and if so, how can I tap into that meaning? These are just some of the questions addressed in this new book on how the lived experience of St Ignatius Loyola can be used as a guiding principle towards a more intensely and consciously lived life in today's world.

It provides an insight into the life of Ignatius, as well as an introduction to Ignatian spirituality, presenting it not as a doctrine, but as a spiritual toolkit from which we can draw strength and knowledge. An illuminating read for those familiar with Ignatius as well as those new to Ignatian spirituality.

A Flemish Jesuit priest, Nikolaas Sintobin SJ has been a teacher and a chaplain in the Jesuit high schools of Paris and Antwerp, specialising in Ignatian spirituality and pedagogy. He has worked as an internet chaplain for the past 10 years, sharing the Gospel in our current secular and multi-religious culture through humour, podcasts, reality TV, YouTube and blogging.

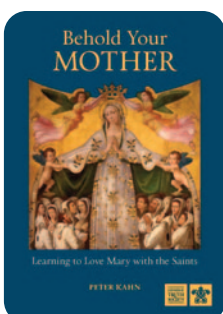


Behold Your Mother

Peter Kahn
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Behold Your Mother tells stories about ways the saints encountered Our Lady, not necessarily through the miraculous, but rather as their spiritual mother in everyday life, showing that any growth in our awareness of Mary's presence and care for us deepens our relationship to Christ.



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Celebrate God's Gifts on Disability Awareness Sunday, 17 September 2023

Christian disability inclusion charity 'Through the Roof' is offering free resources for Disability Awareness Sunday on the 17th September 2023 (or a day of your choice). All churches are invited to celebrate the unique gifts God gives to each one of us – including disabled people. Follow this link to request a free resource pack:

<https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/disability-awareness-sunday/>

In the UK approximately 20% of the population has a disability (Family Resources Survey, 2021). Yet our churches do not always reflect that percentage – especially not in leadership and other roles serving in the church. We are all 'fearfully and wonderfully made' by God and we are 'all parts of the body of Christ'.

Is your church or Christian community including disabled people in its ministry?

– by enabling the God-given gifts and talents of disabled people to be shared with others.

You can use Disability Awareness Sunday as a positive message to disabled people.

We invite each church congregation to celebrate disabled people and to use the free resources we have produced to hold a 2023 Disability Awareness Sunday service or event.

There are two sets of free Disability Awareness Sunday resources available:

For your first event: we recommend using the full resource pack from 2022, on the Luke 5 account of the paralysed man going through the roof, with suggestions for a complete service and 8 videos.

For a further event: use the new 2023 resource on 'The unique gifts God gives us', with a service outline and a short video of Ashleigh: a Roofbreaker disability champion who overcomes barriers.

Ashleigh is a fantastic example of a disabled person using her gifts to serve in



the church, as she helps lead the Edinburgh Roofbreaker Network. In the new video, Ashleigh shares her inspirational message that "it's so important to use the gifts God has given you as you – not as the person you think you need to be."

Katie Mobbs, Through the Roof's Roofbreaker Team Leader, who is a wheelchair user, says "A church without disabled people is an incomplete church. We need disabled people – especially in leadership – because they know what is needed to make the path clear for more disabled people; there is also a lot that can be gained by the whole church."

Join us in raising awareness by holding a Disability Awareness Sunday service or event this year, recognising and valuing the gifts and talents God gives to disabled people.

Access the free resources <https://throughtheroof.org/forchurches/disability-awareness-sunday/>, including free Disability Awareness postcards to order for your event.

Through the Roof is a Christian disability inclusion charity whose name is inspired by the Bible account in Luke 5. Our mission is to transform lives through Jesus with disabled people. For more information, visit www.throughtheroof.org or @TTRChangesLives.

Iraqi cardinal urges global unity in Walsingham visit



Bishop Peter Collins (left), with His Beatitude, Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako at the Abbey Grounds site.

Cardinal Louis Raphael Sako, Patriarch of Babylon and Head of the Chaldean Church, underscored the urgent need for global Christian unity and solidarity during a recent significant visit to Walsingham on Saturday June 17, accompanied by Bishop Peter Collins and several Iraqi clergy.

Their visit to Walsingham began with a stop at the Orthodox chapel, St Seraphim's in Walsingham. They then visited the Abbey grounds, which is the site of the original Holy House. They were given a tour of the site, accompanied by a comprehensive talk on the history of Walsingham by Fr Michael Rear.

After their tour, the group shared a meal, followed by a visit to the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady.

A notable moment during the visit was Cardinal Sako's in-depth interview with EWTN GB, where he addressed the challenges faced by Christians in Iraq and called for support from Western Christian communities.

The Cardinal began by expressing the hopes and aspirations of his clergy for the future, saying: "All the Iraqi bishops are with me, trying to keep our people busy, and also hoping for a better future, and I am sure the future will be different from this situation and the future will be much better than now. What we need is the proximity of our sisters and brothers, Christians in the West, and also this solidarity to support Christians there, and to support them morally, humanly, and spiritually, especially because in Iraq and other oriental countries the system is tribal, but Christians only have the Church, so their force is the Church."

He went on to stress the significance of the Church to the Christians in the East: "The real shelter for them is the Church. What we need is this proximity, closeness, but also support. I mean, by visiting them and staying with them for a while to see their situation, to give them more hope, to raise their spirit. That is what we need."

Turning to the role of Britain in Iraq, he said: "First of all, the British have a responsibility towards Iraq, because we were a British colony for years, and also the British were a part of the coalition to change the old regime. I think the duty of Britain and other Western states is to establish one standard of human rights, not a double standard. We have rights, all Iraqis, Muslims and Christians to live in freedom and dignity. This kind of conviviality cannot be done without a state of citizenship and a state of equality and justice."

He then suggested the idea of partnerships and dialogue: "Maybe there are two ways to influence political leaders, but also Church leaders. Maybe at the beginning you can invite deputies or prime ministers, or the speaker of the Parliament, to speak to them directly here in Britain, a kind of symposium or a conference on how to develop Iraq, how to help Iraq to be a real state with its own sovereignty."

Reflecting on the contribution of Eastern churches and the need for peace, he said: "We can give a lot to the Church because our spirituality, our liturgies, our theology – it is a richness for the whole Church... We have many goods to give to the West, oil and other products. So that should be really in a civilized way and not always tensions and conflicts and dead people – that is a pity."

Regarding the future of his Church and Iraq, Cardinal Sako remained optimistic: "I am hopeful not only for the Church, but also for the Iraqi people. Overcoming the evil doesn't remain impossible. The good is a little bit slow, but it remains. And this kind of situation cannot continue. There will be a change, a positive change."

This visit marked a significant moment for the whole Christian community. It brings to the fore the pressing need for unity and support, echoing Cardinal Sako's call for solidarity among Christians globally, irrespective of geographical boundaries..

A pioneering new eco building for a Derby primary school that was destroyed by fire is taking shape

All of the five main single storey structures of St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy's building on the school's Broadway site have been erected and the process of cladding them with cedar is well underway.

The installation of windows has begun along with the construction of the large central covered walkway which will connect the buildings. A multi-use games area is also being created.

Painters and decorators will begin work in the coming weeks and the building is scheduled to be completed in late autumn.

The biophilic design focuses on connecting those inside the building – set to be the UK's first biophilic school - with nature, with the goal of promoting physical and mental health.

As part of the unique scheme, the site will be planted with 96 new semi mature trees in late autumn.

St Mary's original building, in Broadway, was destroyed by fire in October 2020 and the school has been based at St James House in Mansfield Road, Derby, since April

2021. Work started on the new building in February 2023.

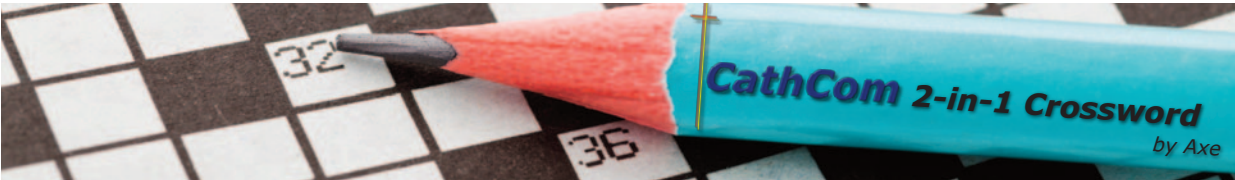
Amanda Greaves, Executive Headteacher at St Mary's, said: "It is so exciting following the progress of our wonderful new school and we are very much looking forward to returning to our permanent home on the Broadway site. We appreciate how much moving into our new building means to our whole school community and we would like to thank everyone who has supported us on this journey."

Kevin Gritton, Chief Executive of the St Ralph Sherwin Trust, said: "It is fantastic to see work progressing well on the new school for St Mary's. We are all excited to see the finished school, which promises to be a wonderful space for staff and children."

Tilbury Douglas's Project Manager, Neil Holland, said: "Tilbury Douglas have delivered many school projects, and there's no doubt that this school is a real precedent for quality and sustainability. Employing modern methods of construction has really aided this programme to move at pace, and we look forward to handing this project over to the school in the autumn."



Photographs: Matthew Ling Photography



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same.

CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Book about a Norseman on Latin (6)
- 8 Philistine town where a quiet religious academic's hosting a ball (6)
- 9 A-lister, one that shines, wise men follow (4)
- 10 Woman's bad times with those in an early sect (8)
- 11 King of Jerusalem's barren victory (7)
- 12 Draw a holy place for Muslims (5)
- 15 Promote Tottenham's home theme (5)
- 17 Two containers I split are for the church in Rome (7)
- 20 One with a Uniat community girl returns, staying in touch (8)
- 22 Council beginning at Arles gets Dijon epilogue (4)
- 23 Get girl, university student, in a classical bear hug (6)
- 24 Syrian soldier's cured Indian bread mother tucks into (6)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 National Theatre-Shakespeare character's elevated South American saint (8)
- 2 Abbot of Rievaulx's distress, getting flushed (6)
- 3 Chap's name's changed by Necho; the priest's goal is protecting the king (7)
- 4 The bridge between Ruth and 2 Samuel? (5)
- 5 Site of homage at quiet river in Spain (6)
- 6 Spare St Thomas? (4)
- 13 Abraham, for example, had clean resolution (8)
- 14 Women on right to be brought up in a 6th century archbishopric (7)
- 16 Book for the going... (6)
- 18 ...and the coming? (6)
- 19 Had Ulster divided, all over Jacob's daughter (5)

21

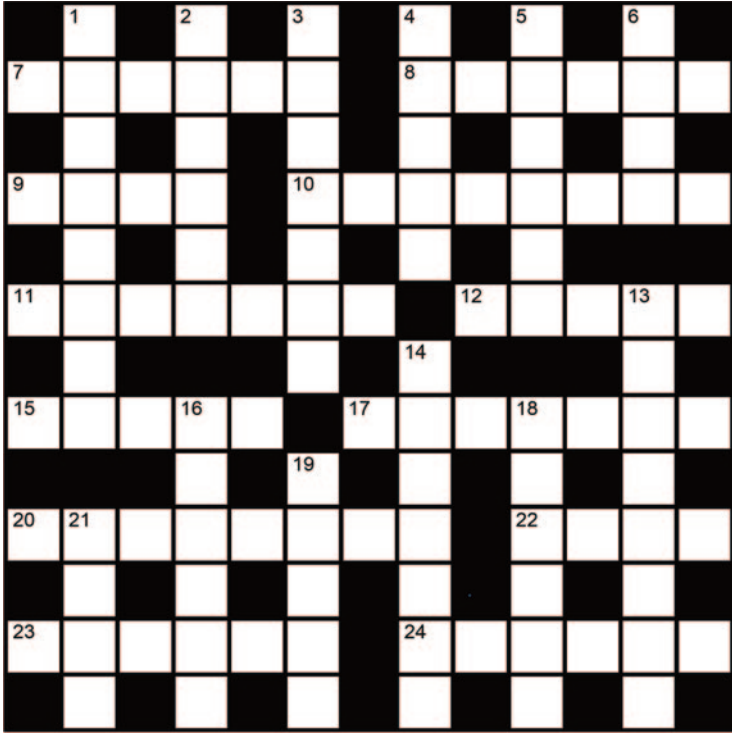
Account about a battle in the Crusades (4)

QUICK Across

- 7 One of the four Major Prophets (6)
- 8 Philistine city taken by Uzziah and later restored by Herod the Great (6)
- 9 ---- of David, insignia of Jewish identity (4)
- 10 Early Christian sect members who aimed to return to innocence through nudity (8)
- 11 Archbishop of Canterbury, 1184-90, who died on the Third Crusade (7)
- 12 Muhammad's birthplace (5)
- 15 Sacred choral anthem (5)
- 17 ----- City, the world's smallest country by area (7)
- 20 One of a Syrian Uniat community, in formal communion with the RC Church since 1182 (8)
- 22 Council of 560, from which 47 genuine canons are preserved (4)
- 23 Romano-British 'saint', removed from the Catholic calendar of saints in its 1969 revision (6)
- 24 Syrian army officer healed of leprosy by Elisha (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 South American capital named after one of the apostles (8)
- 2 Abbot of Rievaulx, 1147-67 (6)
- 3 Steward n the household of Hezekiah (7)
- 4 Woman raped by Amnon and avenged by her brother Absalom (5)
- 5 Site of homage on a pilgrimage (6)
- 6 Saint (1478-1535), Lord Chancellor of Henry VIII's England (4)
- 13 Relating to Aramaic-speaking people of Babylonia (8)



- 14 Italian city, overrun by invaders after the fall of Rome, made an archbishopric in the 6th century (7)
- 16 Second book of the Pentateuch (6)
- 18 Major OT prophet (6)
- 19 Daughter of Jacob and Leah (5)
- 21 Important Crusader base experiencing sieges in 1189-91 and 1291 (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 7 Daniel, 8 Ashdod, 9 Star, 10 Adamites, 11 Baldwin, 12 Mecca, 15 Motel, 17 Vatican, 20 Maronite, 22 Agde, 23 Ursula, 24 Naaman. Down: 1 Santiago, 2 Ailred, 3 Eliakim, 4 Tamar, 5 Shrine, 6 More, 13 Chaldean, 14 Ravenna, 16 Exodus, 18 Isaiah, 19 Dinah, 21 Acre.