



MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

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## Confirmation Celebration at Holy Spirit Church, Parish of The Annunciation



Bishop Patrick with some of the candidates

We are delighted to congratulate the 46 members of our community who recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Patrick. This special group includes 32 young people and 14 adults who were baptized or received into our church this Easter.

In a heartfelt homily delivered by Bishop Patrick on 18 May 2024, young Catholics were encouraged to begin a profound spiritual journey with their Confirmation.

"Starting now with your Confirmation, you each begin to put your trust more and more in God's personal love for you," Bishop Patrick emphasized. He encouraged the newly confirmed to open their hearts to God daily, sharing their lives with Him through prayer.

Bishop Patrick's message resonated deeply with the attendees, as he invited the confirmands to engage with the Holy Spirit, using a simple yet impactful prayer: 'Holy Spirit, walk with me this day, and help me

to walk more closely with you'. This call to spiritual intimacy and daily reliance on divine guidance underscored the importance of nurturing a personal relationship with God.

The Confirmation Mass was a beautiful and joyous occasion, made even more special by the active involvement of so many young people. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who supported this significant event.

As we celebrate this milestone, we hope these newly confirmed members will continue to grow in their faith and become more active in our parish community. Thank you all for making this day a remarkable and inspiring occasion.

Ceci Li  
Faith Formation Coordinator

More pictures of the day on  
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The monthly paper for the  
Diocese of Nottingham

**Catholic News** 

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**“Enlarge the space, spread out your tent cloths; lengthen your ropes, make firm your stakes.” (Isaiah 54:2)**

By the time you read this the general election will be about to happen or has just taken place. Whatever the result, the country will be experiencing change – leadership, opposition, implementation of new policies, systems and laws – and there will be hope that the new government will make our lives better.

Prior to the election the SVP and CAFOD have been working hard raising the profile

of the initiative to promote the common good by challenging electoral candidates to respond to questions about they would improve the lives of those in poverty; how they would deal with migration and asylum; how we could improve food systems globally; what will be done about the issues posed by a changing climate; and how they would address regional inequalities.

Whatever the election result and whoever becomes an MP, one hopes the challenge from the SVP and CAFOD as well as from other Catholics energised by this initiative will have made a mark with those in power and improvements are seen to happen. In the meantime the SVP will continue to work tirelessly to promote social justice and support those in need, as has been the case for the last 180 years in this country.

## FRANKLY SPEAKING



Writing this article just 9 days into a General Election campaign I am aware that the days and weeks prior to polling day will be dominated by personal actions as well as disagreements over policy.

The media do not hesitate to report on individual politicians if they appear to be news worthy especially if it is of a controversial nature. With regard to policies these are often promoted when it is “fully costed”. After a long campaign I just hope that our would be MPs have been honest with the electorate in recent weeks. Fully costed implies that our economy can really afford to bring about changes but all too often that is not the case.

Speaking on Divine Mercy Sunday Bishop Tom Neylon told a national radio 4 audience of his fears that more than 30 wars were being activated in our world. I

recalled my first Parish Priest telling a school audience that “wars are caused by sin”. This was in 1953 and I fear it is just as true today.

We know that cyber actions are sadly likely to be relevant in those wars and that conflicts can lead to persecutions with refugees which inevitably bring about immigration issues. Immigration was a huge area of disagreement in this election. At times compassion seemed lacking.

In last month’s article I mentioned the issue of foreign aid to parts of the world in greatest need. When a grave disaster occurs the DEC group of charitable causes work together with the Government. There are some who only seem to speak of aid being wasted surely with all we know about climate change some fresh thinking is necessary.

In the last Parliament both the House of Commons and the House of Lords debated the plight of Christians who are being persecuted in large areas of the world.

Sadly there were not many MPs or Peers present to witness these expressions of deep concern. Many sections of our media also gave little or no concern. Many sections of our media also gave little or no coverage to brave Christians who are often in danger of their lives. In our country we have a heritage traced from Saint Augustine and Saint Bede the Venerable.

Christianity needs to be part of our future as well as our past, we should all be involved with this whoever is elected to govern at Westminster.

**Frank Goulding,  
Holy Trinity Parish, Newark**

On the 10th Sunday of ordinary time, last month, the second reading referred to folding up the tent we live in on earth to move into God’s house. The SVP has a commitment to making the tent we use on earth as welcoming and accommodating as possible as members pursue the mission to seek out and help those in need. Life post-election will continue to be difficult for some people and the work of the SVP will continue, offering support to anyone in need and providing a welcome into the tent, a place where the doors never close and the space is constantly expanding.

Members in conferences all over the diocese and in other dioceses will be working hard to offer support and succour to people in need, whatever guise this takes.

If your parish has an SVP conference your support and prayers are much appreciated. If you are interested in joining, please approach your local conference or contact Joe Gasan, Membership Support Officer at [joeg@svp.org.uk](mailto:joeg@svp.org.uk) for further information.

# Confirmation Celebration

Continued from page 1



Bishop Patrick with some of the candidates



Young Candidates presenting a Thank You Card to Bishop Patrick and Fr Simon



Beautiful home-baked cake featuring all 46 candidates' name



Youth Appreciation



# St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy Derby Crowns Mary in Convent Grounds

St Philomena's Convent in Derby was the setting for a lovely service to mark the month of May for the children of St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy.

Each class processed up to the Convent with banners of Our Lady, for a special service led by the School Chaplain. It included the Crowning of Mary with yellow roses, the saying of a 'mini-Rosary', reflecting on some of the many titles of Mary, particularly that she is the 'Cause of Our Joy.' It concluded with singing 'As I Kneel Before You,' and a blessing from three of the priests from St Ralph Sherwin parish - Fr Greg, Fr Benjamin and Fr Filbert, who is visiting from the Arusha Diocese in Tanzania.

It was a beautiful occasion, and reminded many of days gone by when these traditional practices were the norm. It is hoped that this will mark the beginning of a new generation who fondly remember taking part in the 'Crowning of Mary.'

**Fran Hazel, Lay Chaplain**



## From: Elston Hermitage.....



Here we are half- way through the year and how quickly time has slipped away - in our diocese and parishes there has been much to keep us occupied and here in the hermitage the daily round continues as we live the eremitical life as a small community of hermit/ priests alongside supporting our brothers priests and laity in various parishes.

July is always a special month here with some celebrations, on July the 11th we keep the Solemnity of Our Holy Father Saint Benedict and also on that day the anniversary of our Ordinations to the Priesthood. For most part it seems that we wear two hats, one as hermits and one as priests of the diocese.

The life which we live for most part is contemplative or eremitical although we are not cloistered - it is the most ancient form of monasticism, it flourished in the 4th century in the Egyptian and Palestinian desert as a new and radical way of living out the Gospel. St Paul the hermit and St. Anthony were among the first in a call to search for God in this way. Many others followed in their

footsteps and often, although living in solitude, some would look for the proximity of fellow solitaries to seek advice and mutual support. Some of these emphasized the communal life while others kept a stricter solitude.

St Benedict followed a call to solitude to seek God and retired to desert living for some years hidden in a cave in the mountains of his Italian homeland. He was much sought after and wrote his rule for his monks, which we follow today, a portion of which is read every morning here in Elston.

It would seem that the 20th century saw a revival of hermit life especially in developed countries. It seems that the multiplication of material riches and comfortable conditions of our society have brought to light in some people the deeper hunger for the spiritual. Some of the best known hermits of our time were Sister Wendy Beckett and the monk and writer Thomas Merton.

In our Catholic Church a new Code of Canon Law was published in 1983, which



defines and recognises individual hermits. A hermit is recognised by law as one dedicated to God in a consecrated life, who publicly professes the three evangelical counsels, confirmed by vow to the hands of the diocesan bishop. This plan or rule of life approved by the bishop is characteristic of the individual hermit.

Here in Elston we live a very simple lifestyle. Thank goodness we do not have to live in a cave and have the blessings of modern 21st century life, however still living out the charisms of our ancient fathers. Everyday begins at 4 am with prayer, which continues to be spread throughout the day. The hermitage here in Elston is a sacred place of communion with

God, where we pray, work, study and reflect, for most part in solitude. However, the hermitage door is open to visitors in the Benedictine tradition. As hermit/priests we have the privilege of celebrating the daily Mass and can often be found working in parishes.

Prayer's are offered for the work of our diocese and our world and we receive many requests for prayer and Mass offering.. We would be most grateful if you would remember us in prayer on the 11th July - in Thanksgiving for our Vocations both as Hermits and Priests.

**Fr David + h.d.n.  
Priest and Hermit**

# Flower Festival a jewel amongst Church's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Sixty floral arrangements marking sixty years of the Church of the Good Shepherd greeted parishoners attending Holy Mass on Ascension Day this year.

The new Church in Woodthorpe, Nottingham was completed in 1964 and year-long events and celebrations have been taking place since Advent, starting with a Christmas Tree Festival and a performance of Handel's Messiah.

On the eve of the Ascension, posy bowl arrangements, each sponsored by a parishioner, were placed around church. The small posy created a beautiful ribbon of colours, from whites and creams in the Lady Chapel changing to pastel pinks and blues in the Baptistry. Deeper reds and golds were displayed nearer the Altar in preparation for Pentecost. The final colours being lilacs and purples around the statue of Pope John-Paul. The simplicity of the posies allowed the words of dedication to be the focal point, as the parishoners expressed their feelings of what the church meant to them, past and present. Some parishoners chose to provide a poignant photograph of loved-ones too.

Created by the Church Flower Team, the Flower Festival lasted for three days.

Additional flower arrangements from the parish's schools - St Margaret Clitherow, The Good Shepherd and Christ the King - and St Anthony's Church in Calverton and St Barnabas Cathedral were also on display and much admired.

Enhancing the occasion, llve guitar, flute and piano music was provided by talented members of the Folk Group throughout the Festival.

Invitations to residents in the neighbourhood were also extended, welcoming them to a free Afternoon Tea with parishoners in the church's Social Centre on the Saturday afternoon. As well as the flowers and the music, guided tours of the church were also on offer. This event was very successful, with over 125 attending.

Blessed with sunny weather, the Festival was enjoyed by many and lots of positive comments were received, Parish Priest Fr Philipp Ziomek declaring the Festival 'a triumph!'

Let's hope we can repeat this success at our Platinum Jubilee in 2034!



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# Feast of Our Lady of Fatima Children's Eucharistic Holy Hour

The Good Shepherd Church, Nottingham



On Monday 13th of May, we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima with a children's Eucharistic Holy Hour. This was to respond to the Children of the Eucharist's request to spiritually unite with children across the world at 6pm to pray the Mission Rosary for peace, peace in our families and communities and peace in the world.

The World Mission Rosary is a prayer for peace. It was created in 1951 by Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen who was the Director of Missio (Pontifical Mission Societies) in the United States. He designed a special colour coded Rosary to represent the different continents to help us focus our rosary decades on those in need throughout the world.

We asked Our Lady of Fatima, Queen of Peace, to put an end to war in the world, particularly in Ukraine and the Middle East as well as in other areas such as Nigeria where people are persecuted for their faith.

The first decade of the Rosary was prayed on the green beads for Africa, the green representing the forests and grasslands of the continent. We prayed for the families there and throughout the world that they will grow in the virtue of hope.

The second decade was prayed for the Americas, the red beads showing the continent's fire of faith. We prayed for the families of the Americas and throughout the world to grow in their love for God and for one another.

We prayed the third decade on the white beads for Europe. Europe is represented by white beads because it is the home of the Holy Father who wears white. In the third decade we prayed for the families of Europe and throughout the world that they grow in the virtue of purity.

The Fourth decade was prayed on the blue beads for Oceania, the colour blue for the oceans surrounding the islands there and we prayed that the families there and worldwide would grow in their love for the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The beads of the fifth decade are portrayed in yellow as a symbol of the sun rising in the East. We prayed for the families of Asia and throughout the world that they will grow in holiness.



We prayed the prayers given by the Angel of Peace in 1916 to the three shepherd children in Fatima – Lucia dos Santos and Francisco and Jacinta Marto. We also prayed the "Prayer of Entrustment to the Immaculate Heart of Mary" from the Children of the Eucharist:

**O Virgin Mary, my Mother,  
I give to your Immaculate Heart  
My body and my soul,  
my thoughts and my actions.  
I want to be just what you want me to be  
And do just what you want me to do.  
I am not afraid because you  
are always with me.  
Help me to love your Son,  
Jesus, with all my heart and  
above all things.  
Take my hand in yours so I can  
always be with you.  
Immaculate Heart of Mary, protect me  
and my family. Amen.  
[www.childrenoftheeucharist.org](http://www.childrenoftheeucharist.org)**

Venerable Lucia who was the oldest of the three Little Shepherd children, left us a message on the power of the Rosary in these times:

**"The Most Holy Virgin in these last times in which we live has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families... that cannot be solved by the Most Holy Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary."**

(Lucia dos Santos)

We hope you will consider this means of praying the Rosary for the families of the world, especially during the Holy Hour and to entrust our children to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Queen of Peace.

**"Continue to pray the rosary every day for peace in the world".  
Our Lady of Fatima**

**Caroline Smith  
On behalf of the  
Good Shepherd Church**



# Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



## LEARNING FROM ELIJAH

On 16th July we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which is a feast dear to the Carmelite order. Carmelites trace their origin to medieval hermits living on Mount Carmel in the Holy Land, following the pattern of the prophet Elijah.

In many ways, Elijah is a surprising prophet, suddenly appearing in the First Book of Kings (17:1). His Hebrew name sums up his ministry, because Eli-yahu means: "My God is Yahweh." Elijah was totally dedicated to the one true God in an age that had turned away to follow false gods.

He lived in the time of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel, who had led the Israelites into the worship of Baal. In Canaanite belief, Baal was regarded as the god of the storm and the bringer of rain. Hence Elijah called a drought on the land to show who was the true God.

After three years of severe drought, the conflict came to a head. On Mount Carmel, a contest was held to see which deity would send rain on the parched land. The 450 prophets of Baal

cried out to their god to send rain, but there was no answer.

But when Elijah prayed, all alone, God answered him by sending a sudden thunderstorm. Fire from heaven (lightning) struck the animal being offered for sacrifice, and the people cried out: "Yahweh is God!" And within a short time, there was a huge thunderstorm, marking the end of the drought.

Despite his courageous witness, the stress of the contest took its toll on Eijah, who fled exhausted from the scene. He decided to seek refuge at Mount Horeb (Sinai), where he could be alone with God. On the way, an angel strengthened him with food to sustain him on the long journey there.

Like Moses, Elijah encountered God on Mount Sinai. Moses had experienced God in dramatic signs, including thunder and cloud, fire and trumpet blasts. But when Elijah was on the mountain, God was not present in the mighty wind or earthquake or fire.

It was only in the still small voice, the sound of a gentle breeze, that Elijah encountered

God. There he received new instructions, opening the way forward for him. Rather than carrying the prophetic burden alone, he was told to anoint Elisha as his successor, to continue his work into the future.

Like many biblical prophets, Elijah was an outspoken advocate for justice, speaking out against the abuse of royal power. When a vineyard keeper called Naboth refused to sell his ancestral land, Queen Jezebel had him condemned to death for treason, whereupon King Ahab took over the property.

Elijah quickly protested against such a flagrant injustice and boldly rebuked the king: "Have you killed and also taken possession?" As a punishment Ahab would meet an untimely death and the dogs would lick up his blood.

The end of Elijah's earthly life was very dramatic. His journey with Elisha across the Holy Land led him down to the Jordan Valley. Like Moses parting the waters of the Reed Sea, Elijah divided the waters of the River Jordan and crossed safely over.

Instead of Baal being the God of the storm, as the pagans imagined, it was Yahweh who could send stormy weather. A sudden tornado arrived, and Elijah was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot, while Elisha lamented the loss of his father figure.

Still drawing inspiration from Elijah, the Carmelite tradition today seeks to emulate his life of prayer and dedication to God. In a world where many false gods are being avidly followed, the Carmelites focus on the one true God, Maker of heaven and earth.

Just as Elijah encountered God in the still small voice, we can seek to develop the habit of listening to God in quiet prayer and reflection. This is not easy in our noisy world, where we are often bombarded with messages from TV and social media. But by following Elijah's example, we can be brought to a place of tranquillity and peace, where we may be ready for an encounter with God.

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## View from the Pew

By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams



# D is for Devil, Dragon, Drama and Dance

The devil is the personification of what numerous cultures and religious traditions consider to be evil. This objectivation extends at times beyond personification into the world of zoomorphism, figuratively giving a person or an inanimate object the characteristics of an animal by way of graphic illustration.

Cue the dragon. Enter St George.

Saint George, also known as George of Lydda, was an early Christian martyr, of Cappadocian Greek origin, and a soldier in the Roman army who has been especially venerated as a military saint since the Crusades (1093-1300) when Christian armies and those of the Muslim empire were at loggerheads. His feast day, Saint George's Day, is traditionally celebrated on 23 April, the date in 303 of his martyrdom under the Roman emperor Diocletian. The oldest known record of Saint George slaying a dragon is found in a Georgian text of the 11th century.

According to legend, the city of Silene in Libya had been terrorised by a large dragon which had infested the waters of a lake. At first, in appeasement of their enemy, the people of Silene fed the dragon with sheep, resorting subsequently to human victims, eventually selecting the King's daughter as the sacrificial maiden. George rides onto the scene (pictured). With a quick cut and thrust of his sword he slays the dragon, itself perhaps symbolic of Diocletian who had been persecuting Christians. Being celibate, George cannot accept the princess's hand then offered to him in marriage.

Saint George becomes the patron of England, a post for which Saint Edmund the Martyr, a ninth century Anglian killed by the Vikings, and Saint Edward the Confessor



had competed. However, it was King Edward III (c. 1003 – 5 January 1066), usually considered the last king of the House of Wessex, who decided on Saint George.

Graphic illustration, as in the image of the dragon, is forged by the combination of visual elements such as colours, lines, shapes, forms and layouts. Our Catholic churches house a host of such in the various teaching aides, statements and aides-mémoire such as we see in the Stations of the Cross, the crucifix, the altar, icons, stained glass, the font, the Pietà and the Sacred Heart among other statues, music, readings and song ... not to mention the very structure and layout of the church. Yet our churches are more than just points of reference. With the celebration of Mass they assume what is tantamount to an enactment – almost like a prelude to the Mystery Plays of yesteryear – a theatrical role involving the participation of the assembled laity under the guidance of the

priesthood. Stagecraft and performance are paramount.

In this regard, I'm always amused by the suggestion that the 'The Hokey Cokey' song and dance routine is an established parody of the Catholic priest celebrating Mass. Admittedly numerous variants of the song and its related British folk dance do date back to the 19th century, despite claims about the song being a later invention. Robert Chambers' Popular Rhymes of Scotland from 1842 bears testimony, recording one of the earlier variants.

However, it was not till 2008 that the Anglican cleric, Canon Matthew Damon, Provost of Wakefield Cathedral in West Yorkshire, mischievously came up with the amusing idea – rather tongue in cheek and even perhaps prompted belatedly by Vatican II when the priest in Mass, no longer ad orientem, turned to face the congregation – that the whole routine was a parody, mimicking our traditional Latin Mass which had remained 'virtually unchanged since the third Century', as Saint John Henry Newman pointed out, and as such would have been known to St George.

God, of course, gave us our sense of humour. No doubt Canon Matthew and I would immediately agree that it's a pity not to use it.

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



# A Eucharistic People

"... give thanks for all those who gave so much to win the victory, whose fruits we still enjoy to this day and let us once again commit ourselves to remember, cherish and honour those who served that day and to live up to the freedom they died for ..."  
(The King, D-Day anniversary speech, Portsmouth, 5th June 2024)

D-Day (6th June 1944) saw the largest naval, air and land invasion to be ever formed and performed in history. It is regarded as the beginning of the end of World War II and Lincolnshire, known as Bomber County because of its RAF history, played a vital role in D-Day operations. The International Bomber Command Centre (IBCC) serves to memorialise the work and sacrifice of the individuals (over one million of them) who contributed to the RAF Bomber Command in World War II, the unit which suffered the highest losses during the war. It comprises of an exhibition centre, a landmark spire measuring 102ft in height (equal to the wingspan of the Lancaster bomber) and an installation called the Wall of Names, commemorating the 58,000 men and women who lost their lives (the average age of death was 23 years old, with the youngest being a cadet of 14 years old). There are also two peace gardens, one paying homage to the twenty-seven stations in Lincolnshire used by the unit and one representing the sixty-two nations who served or supported the unit.

Eighty years after D-Day and a few days after the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, members of the Catholic community in Lincoln gathered at the IBCC, which is located on the outskirts of the city, for an afternoon outing. The afternoon started for part of the group with lunch in the cafe, this was followed by free time for reflection, visiting the exhibition or taking a tour of the memorials and gardens and ended with uplifting music from the 1940s, courtesy of an outdoor concert by a group called the



Blighty Belles (a special event put on for the anniversary of D-Day). Some individuals were sent home with a mission - to assist with the Poppy Appeal for the Royal British Legion. The visit proved a lovely way to come together and to remember and honour those who lives were sacrificed so that we can enjoy the freedom and peace many people of our world are still denied. For more information about the IBCC please visit: [www.internationalbcc.co.uk](http://www.internationalbcc.co.uk) and for anyone willing to volunteer to assist with the Poppy Appeal the application form can be found at [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)



Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us.

# Feast of St Barnabas

Nottingham Cathedral of St Barnabas feast day celebration took place on Sunday 9 June . As always the feast celebration did not disappoint. Very reasonably priced ticket entitled one to a three course meal on the day. The marquee went up, the grill was lit and the burgers, chicken and sausages were tossed until done, delivered to a very long queue of parishioners who were patiently to indulge. Lots of good chat, time with friends and a huge thank you to all who helped prepare, grilled and cleaned up afterwards. It couldn't have happened without you all. Thank you.

Submitted on behalf of the Nottingham Cathedral.



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## St Mary's Children become Aid to the Church in Need Ambassadors

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby are delighted that eight of their children have been commissioned as ACN ambassadors to the School and Parish.

The children will highlight the work of ACN, which is one of Pope Francis' Pontifical Charities. Christians are the most persecuted minority faith in the world, facing extreme dangers in some countries, and discrimination and hostility in others.

The children led an act of worship to the whole school, reminding them that Jesus was a refugee as a child. He and his family had to flee to Egypt to escape Herod's murderous intentions. They acted out a play of how it might have been for the Holy Family during this difficult time. They reminded the children that we are all called to be friends to those in need.

The children wear their ambassador badges with pride.”

**Fran Hazel, Lay Chaplain  
St Mary's CVA Derby**



# Deus Providebit

On Saturday 4th May, a special Mass, led by Bishop Patrick, took place at St Peter & St Paul Church, in Lincoln, as part of a celebration to mark sixty years as a nun for Sr Ann Heaney. The homily, given by Monsignor McGovern, spoke of the tremendous contribution she and her fellow nuns had made to the city and gave a rallying call for more people to serve the Church, and the needs of the world, through ordination and religious life.

Sr Ann is a member of the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence, which was founded, in 1806, in the village of Ruille-sur-Loir, in France. Their motto is "Deus Providebit" (God will provide). God did provide and the number of nuns grew, such that the order subsequently spread to other countries including England. Sisters from the order arrived in Lincoln in 1902 and founded St Joseph's Convent in 1908, a school for pupils of age 4-18 years. Sr Ann, originally from Brighton, attended the boarding school of the Sisters as a pupil and then trained as a teacher, before joining the Order. Sr Ann later returned to Lincoln, teaching first at the convent, followed by St Peter & St Paul Catholic School. She was subsequently sent on mission to other Dioceses and came back to Lincoln, only recently, in 2021.



Following the service, the sisters, together with family, friends, clergy and parishioners moved from the church to the parish centre, where a delicious lunch, prepared by a team of parishioners, awaited them. In a speech, Sr Ann spoke of her trust that God will, going forward, continue to provide, for Lincoln, people whose lives reveal Jesus and witness to the



love and goodness of God, even if not through the Sisters of Providence. The occasion also served to mark the 25th anniversary for another Sister, Gilles Quigley, who had traveled over from France, where she serves at a pilgrimage centre for the foundress of the Sisters of Providence in America, Saint Mother Theodore Guerin. It was a really lovely afternoon and a good time appeared to be had by all.

Inspired by the celebration, may we turn to God in trustful prayer to bless and provide Lincoln (and the Diocese of Nottingham) with individuals who are willing to hear and heed the call of Jesus. Thank you, Sr Ann, for your vocation and congratulations on 60 years of religious life. God bless you!

More information about the Congregation of the Sisters of Providence can be found at: <https://www.providenceruillesurloir.com>



# All 220 children decorated a stone

More than 200 messages and images of positivity from pupils are part of a new Kindness Path that has been installed at St Anne's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Buxton.

During anti-bullying week the school asked all 220 children to decorate a stone with either a positive message or image.

The stones have now been cemented into a path which leads from the school entrance to the front door and can be seen by pupils, parents and staff as they make their way into school.

Julia Wiggins, Headteacher at St Anne's, said: "The Kindness Path is a very visual way to welcome everyone to our school, whether they be pupils, parents or visitors. It's wonderful to look at or read the messages on the stones and is a permanent reminder of the positive attributes our children learn at St Anne's, both now and as they journey through life." Stephanie Clarke, Assistant Headteacher at St Anne's, said that everyone was thrilled with the new Kindness Path.

She said: "One of the themes of anti-bullying week was around being positive

and showing kindness. Stones were donated by parents and our Friends of St Anne's group and we asked every child to decorate one with a picture or a positive affirmation.

"We've had to wait for the weather to get better before we were able to have the stones cemented into the path. It was lovely to have it in place during the week that pupils sat their SATs tests as that was a nice way to welcome children into school, it helped them to feel a bit calmer. We think the path looks great and it's a nice way to welcome everyone to our wonderful school."

Hattie, five, said: "It's important to be kind and everyone at St Anne's is kind to each other. I saw the path and I think it looks nice."

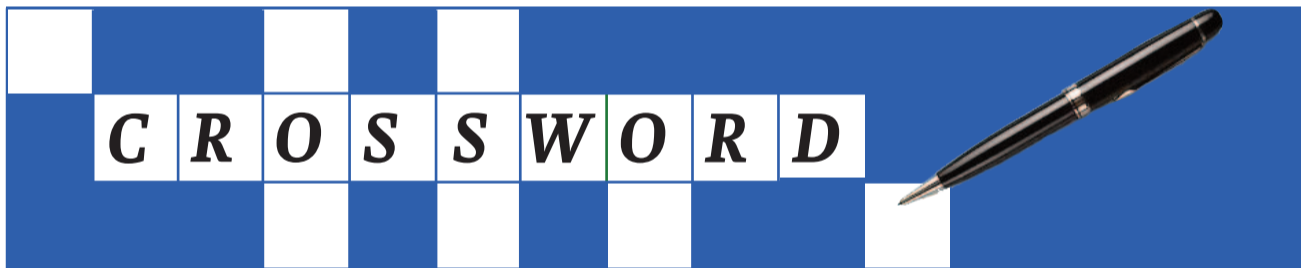
Archie, nine, said: "My pebble had a sunset theme. I think we should always show love because the world needs more love. I like the path because it reminds me of what St Anne's represents."

Ten-year-old Darcie said: "I put the words stay kind on my pebble. The path is really nice. It was good to see the path when we



were doing our SATs tests. We were reading the messages on the pebbles as we walked into school."

Lily, 11, said: "I put the word positivity on my pebble because a positive attitude changes everything. It brightens up my day when I walk past the path."



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

**CRYPTIC Across**

- 1 Samuel's crafty man, cursed sailor almost catches fish (7)
- 5 When in Paris I discover Ecclesiasticus' Ben Sira (5)
- 8 Paul's detailed letter describing the Empire (5)
- 9 'Papae Sixti nisi est' is translated in chapel (7)
- 10 Move against female martyr (7)
- 11 One of two helping David find themselves amongst rabbit tails (5)
- 13 American girl's written first 18 for the 8 Church (6)
- 15 Abram's Amorite ally, Chloe's opposite (6)
- 18 Microphone, small American contribution to St Cecilia's art (5)
- 20 Abram's servant high priest announced 'easy', being first to Rebekah (7)
- 22 Girl, old golfing type, attends Baptist chapels (7)
- 23 Savings account he's almost sacrificed (5)
- 24 Chaplain of Artillery's name is forgotten (5)
- 25 Morning, is he wrong in thinking there are no Gods? (7)

**CRYPTIC Down**

- 1 Parry's hymn from John's first letter includes line in dubious measure (9)
- 2 Some Old Testament volumes (7)
- 3 Had Ulster divided, all over Jacob's daughter (5)
- 4 Vehicle to get to old Number One: was it Ave Maria for him? (6)
- 5 Society of 5 business types follow the first person in speaking French (7)
- 6 Being second in the East End isn't one of the blessed dead (5)
- 7 View bishop's domain (3)
- 12 Sick with icy rum, plying, 8s said, this part Aegean coast (9)
- 14 One relative, the first maybe to describe lepers in the Bible (7)

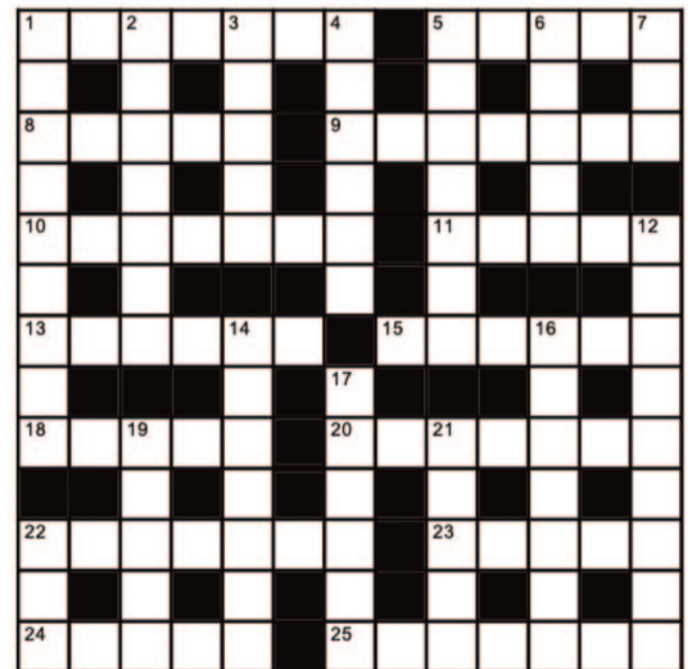
- 16 Old footballer swapping cap? It's over for one writing 18 for the 8 Church (7)
- 17 Biblical country, to scupper Siamese, partly invaded (6)
- 19 Angel is originally sadistic, and threatening and nasty (5)
- 21 One quiet small US state imbibed whiskey (5)
- 22 Tooting, when passing over an abbey in France? (3)

**QUICK Across**

- 1 Friend of Amnon, 'a very shrewd man' (7)
- 5 Another name for Elymas: Bar ----- (5)
- 8 Empire which ruled Palestine and Asia Minor in NT times (5)
- 9 Chapel of the Vatican whose ceiling was famously painted by Michelangelo (7)
- 10 First Christian martyr (7)
- 11 Leader of the Gittites (5)
- 13 Orlande de -----, with Palestrina and Victoria, the three giants of late medieval Church 18 (6)
- 15 Vale where the Israelites cut a cluster of grapes as proof of the Promised Land's bounty (6)
- 18 Integral aspect of many church services (5)
- 20 Son of Moses and Zipporah (7)
- 22 Name applied for a group of 19th century nonconformist chapels (7)
- 23 The second patriarch; son of Abraham and Sarah (5)
- 24 Priest who is a member of a cathedral chapter (5)
- 25 Lack of belief in the existence of God or gods (7)

**QUICK Down**

- 1 Holy city for Jews and Christians and Muslims (9)
- 2 Fourth book of the Pentateuch (7)
- 3 Daughter of Leah and Jacob (5) 4 Ferruccio -----, one of many to have composed a version of Ave Maria (1877) (6)



- 5 Followers of Ignatius of Loyola (7)
- 6 Holy person deemed worthy of canonization (5)
- 7 Bishopric (3) 12 8 province from 27 AD, covering much of the eastern Adriatic and Balkan interior (9)
- 14 Having a physical or moral blemish so as to make impure (7)
- 16 Maurizio -----, important early 17th century composer and maestro di cappella at Bologna (7)
- 17 OT empire created by Cyrus the Great and destroyed by Alexander the Great (6)
- 19 Adversary of God; tempter of mankind; master of Hell (5)
- 21 Scots Gaelic (5)
- 22 Influential Benedictine abbey of Normandy at the time of the Conqueror (3)

**SOLUTION**

Across: 1 Jonadab, 5 Jesus, 8 Roman, 9 Sistine, 10 Stephen, 11 Ittai, 13 Lassus, 15 Eschol, 18 Muscol, 20 Eliezer, 22 Bethel, 23 Isaac, 24 Canon, 25 Atheism. Down: 1 Jerusalem, 2 Numbers, 3 Dinah, 4 Busoni, 5 Jesuits, 6 Saint, 7 See, 12 Illyricum, 14 Unclean, 16 Cazzati, 17 Persia, 19 Satan, 21 Irish, 22 Bec.