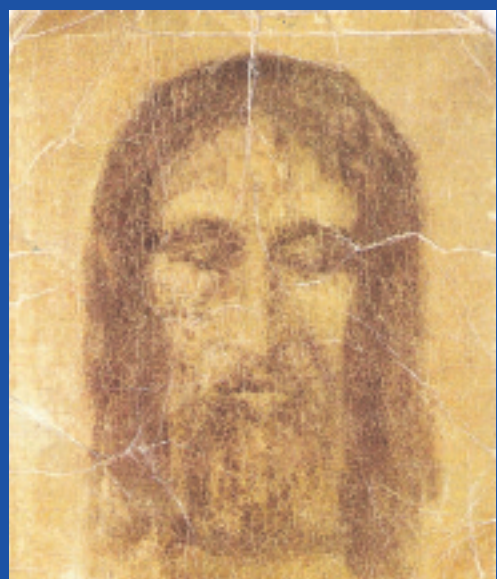


Catholic News



Exposition of the Holy Shroud in Turin 19 April - 24 June 2015



Congratulations to Cardinal Vincent, pictured right, accompanied by Cardinal Sean Brady of Armagh and Cardinal Cormac

Picture Mazur-CatholiicChurch.org.uk

MORE THAN 16 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

April 2014

20p WHERE SOLD

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Gatherings nationwide bring people together from far and wide who are preparing to become Catholics

From Newcastle to Plymouth, Cardiff to Norwich and Liverpool to Brighton, the first weekend of Lent saw groups coming together to celebrate their decision to become Catholics.

For Michelle, who took part in a celebration in Nottingham Cathedral, she shared that it was something of a family affair: "My fiancé decided to join with me... Then

my two sisters also decided to do the same as well, and one of my sisters' fiancé's followed suit, so we're all going! I also have a little girl who is nearly 8 and she's following the children's version of the Rite too, so all-in-all it's quite a family thing!"

This year on 8-9 March over 3,500 people came together in Catholic Cathedrals, for a celebration that is called the 'Rite of Elec-

tion'. It is an annual moment in the Catholic calendar when adults share their intention, in a public way, to become Catholics. The Rite usually happens in the local Cathedral with the Bishop officiating. Bishop Kieran Conry is the national Chair of the Bishops' Department that oversees the work of Catholic evangelisation and said: "This is one of the most joyful and expectant times of the year for those adults, and some children, who have chosen to prepare to become Catholics at



Easter. It marks the approaching culmination of a unique moment on people's journeys of faith. It's important that we celebrate with them, that we share their joy, and are also attentive, if and when the moment presents itself, to invite those we know to consider finding out more about the Catholic Faith."

The wilderness of the sea reflects the immensity of God's love for us

During Lent port chaplains encourage seafarers to focus on the appropriate scriptures and see Lent as a journey home, like the ship they are sailing on, to their families," says Paul Atkinson, port chaplain to Blyth and Tyne "We encourage them to read the book of Exodus, which tells of the journey and struggle of the Israelites to the Promised Land, which was their journey home. We also encourage them to read about Jesus' 40 days and nights in the wilderness that the gospels describe." Father Colum Kelly, port chaplain to Immingham, Grimsby and the River Trent, explained that the liturgical season for a seafarer doesn't always coincide with that in parishes. "For example, I will start to celebrate Christmas Masses way before December 25, simply because ships may be leaving our port on long voyages with little chance to celebrate the feast on the particular day. It's the same with Lent. Father Colum drew a parallel between a seafarer being at sea, which is a kind of wilderness, and Lent. "The oceans are vast. But I always stress that the wilderness of the sea is not emptiness. Some of the most powerful messages from the Lord were delivered in the wilderness, the Ten Commandments, exile in Babylon, etc.

Fr Colum often celebrates the Ash Wednesday liturgy on board a ship. One particular celebration he remembers was on a ship which had spent six weeks in Immingham undergoing repairs after being battered in a



force 10 gale in the Bay of Biscay. "It was due to leave on Ash Wednesday. The crew were happy and relieved. They were wearing the new clothes we had provided for them. "When I sat down after Communion I looked at the faces of the lads, marked with the sign of the cross, and thought of them not as the crosses of the sinner in Lent but as signs of God's delight in them. "They had endured their Lent in the weeks of uncertainty prior to this Ash Wednesday, and now they were truly marked with the sign of redemption." If you'd like to view and purchase Apostleship of the Sea range of Easter cards, please visit their website www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/

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MORE THAN 16 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

The monthly paper for the Diocese of Nottingham

The Catholic News

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Wanted Parish Correspondents

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

All items to be emailed to john@bellcourtltd.co.uk before 10th of the month

SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH OF PEACE
 Community Seeking Justice and Peace
 An international Religious community of vowed women and associates
 If interested please contact: Sr. Laurette Bergin C.S.J.P., St Mary's, 157 Walm Lane, Cricklewood, London NW2 3AY
 e-mail: laurette1@live.co.uk www.esjp.org

Already We Hold You In Prayer.



Living in the heart of London, the Tyburn Benedictine Community has as its special mission, prayer for the people of England and Wales. Our monastery is built on the site of the Tyburn gallows where 105 Catholics were martyred during the reformation. Our life of prayer draws Sisters from many nations. If you have a special intention, let us know and we will remember it specifically in our prayer. You may like to use the space below.
 Yes, please remember my intention/s in prayer.

 Yes, please send me the free booklet on the Tyburn Martyrs
 Yes I'm interested - please send me vocations details.
 I'd like to help your Mission Foundations in other countries.
 My gift of £ is enclosed payable to Tyburn Mission.
 Name:
 Address:
 Please print
 RETURN TO: RETURN TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ. Phone: 020 7723 7262.

Liturgy Matters – News from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission

Annual Music Workshop – Save the date!

Preparations for this year's Music Workshop are continuing, with guest speaker Tim Harrison meeting with members of the team recently, to plan the finer details of the day! We will soon be in a position to share these details with the musicians of the Diocese, and to others via Catholic News.

Just by way of a reminder, this year's Music Workshop (Make Music for the Lord) will be held on Saturday 21st June at Holy Trinity Centre, Newark.

We will be led this year by Tim Harrison. Tim previously taught music at Ushaw College and is now the Diocesan and Cathedral Director of Music for Middlesbrough Diocese. You can find out more about Tim at middlesbroughcathedral.org/people/director-of-music or https://sites.google.com/site/timothycraigharrison/ (NB: don't confuse with the Canadian musician of the same name). Please take note of the date and please do share it with other musicians in your Parish, or any others who you think may be interested in it. As ever the Music Day will include an assortment of new music, opportunities for singing, and we hope again to have up-to-date resources available for purchase on the day.

Updated document for Celebrations of Word and Holy Communion in the Absence of a Priest

Many Deacons and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be aware of the above document which was released




Tim Harrison

back in 1996. The so-called "beige booklet" is used - typically on weekdays - if you are called upon to lead such a Celebration if your priest is away from the Parish. The online version of the document has recently been updated by the National Liturgy Office, and is available for download. Our colleagues in the Commission for Extraordinary Ministers in the Diocese are producing some additional supporting information for those called to use this particular Liturgy. In the meantime if you have access to the internet and wish to

download a copy it is available at <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Resources/CWC/CWAC.pdf>. The Commission are always happy to hear from people within the Diocese. Possibly you have a question you would like to raise, or have some other information that you would like to be considered for inclusion in our pages. Please feel welcome to email us (sec@nrldc.org.uk) with the details.

Damian Norton NDLC

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 Telephone: 07973 6002563
 or Fax: 0208 766 6579
 Mobile: 07760 297001
 Ministers of Religion



NEWS FROM THE BRIARS

24 February – 9 March was Fairtrade fortnight! This campaign was focused on transforming the banana industry to ensure those at the sharp end of the supply chain, the millions of struggling banana farmers and workers, get a fair deal. Saint John Houghton took part in the Fairtrade Bonanza by taking part in lots of different challenges to help us understand the banana supply chain, and what we can do to make the whole process a fairer deal for everyone. Thanks to The Co-operative East Midlands for the donated bananas! They were very much appreciated and enjoyed by everyone




Obituary
Patrick John Lynch
 17th May 1928 – 23rd January 2014



A service of thanksgiving for the life of John Lynch was celebrated in a full church on Thursday 6th February at Our Lady of Victories in Southwell with a congregation that included more than 30 Knights of St Columba who had travelled from many parts of the British Isles. John had been a Knight of St Columba for 50 years and, at the time of his death, was the Grand Knight of Newark Council 333. Born in Dublin John was educated by the Christian Brothers and, although he left school with no formal qualifications, he excelled in sport and he represented Dublin in Gaelic football. John married Cora in 1954 and this happy union was to last 54 years. John and Cora came to England when Mary their daughter was two years old. They came to seek a better life due to the economic situation in Eire at the time and they were happy to make England their home. John's spiritual commitment to his faith and his personal energy and commitment helped him to form two new KSC councils. He was also a steward for the visit of Pope John Paul to Eire in 1979 and, after two sisters from Newark were sent to Albania and reported back describing the appalling conditions there, John decided he would help. He set about raising money for various projects in Rubik, a small town in Albania where the sisters lived and he arranged the collecting and distributing of practical aid for the people of the town. John was awarded the KSC Merit Medal and a Papal Blessing for his work in Albania. In later years, over a period of 10 years, John became a tireless worker for the Chaplaincy at Kings Mill hospital in Mansfield. John will be remembered by all at the Mass of Thanksgiving and also by the many people in Eire, England and Albania, in the KSC and at Kings Mill Hospital whose lives were enhanced by his tireless love and endless enthusiasm. May he rest in peace.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY DEVOTIONS



Our Lady of Lincoln
 Laughton Way
 Lincoln
 LN2 2HE

3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and Eucharistic Adoration
 4pm Mass of the Day
 Preacher: Fr. John St John
 Confessions will be available during Exposition

Philosophy and Ethics Day at Christ the King

On Wednesday 12th February the year 9 students of Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy in Arnold, Nottingham, were challenged to put their thinking caps on as budding philosophers! The Academy held their first (and hopefully now annual) Philosophy and Ethics Day. The day was organised for year 9 students beginning their GCSE studies in RE. Lay Chaplain Joe Hopkins explained: 'We wanted to put together a day that would show the stu-

dents that faith isn't just something to be studied, it is an experience to be lived.' The Academy welcomed five speakers of the highest quality: The Very Reverend Archpriest Daniel Joseph of the Russian Orthodox Church and lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Derby; Dr Musharraf Hussain OBE, CEO and Chief Imam of the Karimiara Institute; Dr Phil Henry, Director of the Multi-Faith Centre in Derby; Mairín Casey, Her Majesty's Coroner for



The panel and a few of the students involved in the debate. The Panel from left to right Joe Hopkins, Lay Chaplain (Chair); Dr Phil Henry; Miss Mairín Casey; Dr Martin Von Fragstein; Dr Musharraf Hussain OBE; and Archpriest Daniel Joseph.

An Extraordinary Day in Leicester



On Saturday 22nd February, St Peter's Leicester hosted a highly successful day of introduction to the Extraordinary Form Liturgy. Thanks to the prominent advertising on the diocesan website and elsewhere the event was very well attended as can be seen from the picture of the participants gathered for lunch in the parish hall. A significant youthful element was particularly noticeable. The day began at 11am with Solemn Mass celebrated by Fr Stephen Brown (chaplain of Bradford University), assisted by Fr Dominic O'Connor (Parish Priest of Barton and Brigg) as Deacon, and Fr Michael Brown (Latin Mass Society Northern Chaplain) as Subdeacon. The servers were

ably marshaled by Mr Stephen Parker and the singers expertly guided by Mr Paul Beardmore supported by Fr Stephen Dye (Parish Priest of Oakham) as organist. After lunch participants had the opportunity to attend two of five sessions on serving in the Extraordinary Form, on how to sing the Gregorian Chants for Mass and Benediction, and also a talk on the history of the Mass. The day concluded shortly after 4.30pm with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. The social, prayerful and instructive elements of the day helped to generate a good deal of enthusiasm which may well necessitate a repeat event in the not too distant future.

Fr John Cahill



Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City; and Dr Martin Von Fragstein, Lead Forensic Medical Examiner for Leicestershire and South Yorkshire Police.

The speakers lead 20 minute workshops on Christianity, Islam, Eastern Religions, Ethics and Law, and Medical Ethics. The Philosophy workshops showed the students how what they are learning in class can be put into practise in the lives of believers; while the Ethics workshops showed how themes like justice, right and wrong, and equality are put into action in the work of Doctors, Lawyers, Nurses, and Coroners. Stephanie Morrell, one of the year 9 students said she liked the Ethics and Law workshop because 'it was interesting to learn about the Coroner's work and how ethics are used in that work.'

The day concluded with a Question Time-style debate in the school hall; the panel were asked to give their opinion on a number of questions including: Is it ever just to

have a death penalty? Has Science and Technology made the belief in a God irrelevant? And Should Religion and Faith be kept separate from Public Life?

The students really engaged with these questions and enjoyed challenging the panel on their thoughts and debating with each other. Dr Phil Henry said after the debate: 'I thoroughly enjoyed the engagement and think the school has a strong group of would be debaters and/or a philosophy group in the making.' The Academy said they were very proud of their students feeling confident enough to put forward, and defend, their thoughts and belief in front of 200 of their peers.

All the staff and students at Christ the King were very grateful to the speakers for leading what the students called 'interesting and inspiring' workshops, as well as taking part in a lively and thought provoking debate. Everyone involved is looking forward to doing it all again next year!

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Letters to the Editor

The editor welcomes readers letters for publication which may be submitted by post or email. Full names and postal address must be provided. Names of correspondents will be published. Letters sent anonymously will not be published. Views expressed in The Catholic News are not necessarily those of the editor nor those of the diocese.

Dear Sir,

A Date for your Diary



The annual Mass for deceased members of the Knights of St Columba (KSC) and their families in Nottingham diocese is to be held in Lincoln Cathedral on Wednesday 28th May. The mass, which we hope will be celebrated by Bishop Malcolm, is open to anyone so please keep the evening free and join us. .

Fraternally
Deacon Kevin Pearson
St Hugh's, Lincoln Province 17 & Province 9
Knights of St Columba

Dear Sir,



I think some of your readers may be interested in Sophie Walbeoffe's forthcoming exhibition 'Golden Jerusalem, Our Splintered World' at The Osborne Studio Gallery, 8th to 26th April 2014. Sophie has produced a series of etchings of the 'Stations of the Cross', following in the footsteps of artist/pilgrim Peter Anson, a priest who visited in 1929.

Yours sincerely
Caitlin Collinson

Dear Sir,

In your March issue, Father David Palmer suggests that ACTA ('A Call to Action') is promoting an agenda similar to that which he attributes (I think rather harshly) to Mr John Wijngaards. As an ordinary ACTA member, I can assure him that ACTA is not that kind of movement at all - it is committed not to 'an agenda' but open to discussion, both internally and externally, among its members and with bishops, priests and laypeople, whatever their views.

We want to talk about lay ministries, the English of the new translation, the administration of the sacraments, Catholic social teaching, the crisis affecting marriage and family life, not to further any sort of pre-packaged 'progressive' revolution, but to reach a deeper understanding of the Church and all our fellow Catholics, and in the hope that they will come to a deeper understanding of us as their sisters and brothers in Christ. We do not 'belong to' Benedict, or 'belong to' Francis. Rather, like Father David, we know that only God gives the growth.

Sincerely,
Deacon Bill Myers

Dear Sir,

Conor Gaffey's article Feb 2014 regarding Luke's Gospel raised my interest as I had not considered the 'angelic injustice' to quote Conor.

I was quite shocked by the final retort that 'Zechariah was rather hard done by'.

Zechariah was an old man and he and Elizabeth had wanted a baby for years and prayed hard to God mainly due to feeling ashamed.

Instead of being overjoyed when his prayers were answered he questioned the power of God and his ability to answer prayers..That's a lot like asking your parents for a new house for Christmas, getting it and not saying thank you..

Zechariah got his voice back when he named the child John, rather than Zechariah. Chances are that the child would not have been named John had his father not been silenced.

Thy will be done strikes a huge chord here.

As for Mary, let us imagine then that she, like Zechariah was struck dumb by Gabriel.

She is pregnant, 15yrs old, unmarried..and is betrothed to a man who she has not had sexual intercourse with..and cannot say with words how she became pregnant..you are her parents, community etc what would your thoughts be?

I do not like to think what Our Blessed Mother and Jesus' fate might have been..

Luke's gospel is believed by many to be a dictation of Jesus' life by Mary herself..who at 15yrs, unmarried, being female was well aware of how vulnerable she was, especially under the Roman Empire ruling. I suggest that the reason Mary was not treated in the same way as Zechariah was because she accepted in all humbleness, once Archangel Gabriel explained to her that her virtue would remain in tact..How could anyone, let alone a 15yr old girl know about any other way of getting pregnant ?..

Her acceptance was also due to her fundamental belief and pure love of God, as well as a huge sacrifice ..why would God mute that?

Yours
Susan Allen

Dear Sir

Living Stones

I was able to attend one of the Living Stones Deanery meetings - the last one in our Deanery - and I was surprised at the attitude of some of the lay participants.

I was lucky enough some years ago to be a member of the Long Eaton Christian Fellowship and two of the pastors of other churches told me how much busier the Catholic priests were than the rest of them. Further, an Ethiopian pastor once told me that we should always pray for our pastors because they are too busy to pray for themselves.

These comments came from pastors who had wives to shop, cook, clean, wash and mend for them, which ours don't. Now, on top of all that, we are expecting our priests to take on two or three parishes instead of just one. I would venture to suggest that perhaps our priests must be tired and demoralised with the expectation that they should take on more and more - but there was no suggestion at the meeting I attended that the lay people should do more to help our priests get through their busy days.

We, the lay people, are living stones and I cannot help but think that we should all be looking at what we can do to make life easier for them instead of looking at how the priests could do more for us.

Perhaps our priests should be discussing how this can be best achieved.

Yours faithfully
Mrs Jubith Spittle

Dear Sir,

Far from fearing that Catholic News is in danger of being "hijacked by particular pressure groups who have a dubious and partisan agenda", as stated by Fr.

Palmer in the March edition, we commend you for publishing the account of the annual ACTA conference held at Newman University last October. My husband and I were present and found it to be a most uplifting experience. We hope that Clare Hickie's account may well encourage even more people to attend next time.

Three cheers also for publishing the Rev'd Stephen Monk's letter with his positive views and encouragement to follow the teachings of Pope Francis to experience the joy, love and hope which they radiate.

Yours sincerely,
Maureen Lillie.

Dear Sir

I consider myself a supporter of the Catholic media. As a parish priest I make the weekly Catholic newspapers and a host of Catholic devotional publications.

I am reconsidering listing your 'Catholic News' monthly newspaper amongst those publications.

I have just recycled your March edition, and will discuss with devout parishioners - including the finance committees - whether it is felt that our parishes should allow back-of-church table space or what is clearly doubtfully promoting the Catholic faith and its interests.

I refer in your March publication to the letter from the 'rector of Darley Dale and Winstar'.

Not only was the letter scarcely literate - that is the least of imperfections - it was in mind false, heretical and vindictive in its judgements on the contemporary church.

I plan to help my parishioners journey through Lent with the help of the Holy Father's wise teachings. But I will endeavour to encourage their love for our Church which radiates from his teachings.

I would certainly not wish to poison their spiritual bloodstream with the sentiments in the rector's letter.

I find its inclusion in a "Catholic" periodical a denial of your masthead.

Yours faithfully
Canon Daniel Bowdren

Dear Sir

The Retired Priests Appeal is making continued sound progress and I would like to thank all who have made this possible. Despite requests we have decided not to publish the diocesan total in The Catholic News simply because we move on so fast, but at intervals put it on our website (www.retiredpriestsappeal.com). Our next milestone will be getting to being a third of the way to the total of £5,000,000.

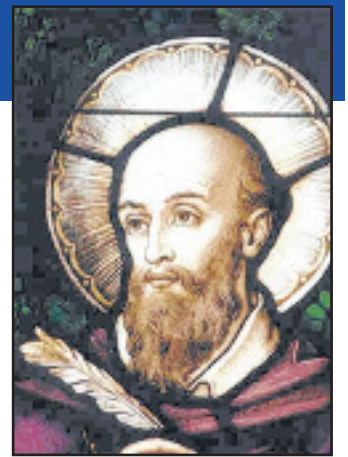
So far more than 2,500 parishioners have contributed led by 102 parish representatives and local teams, the youngest aged 14, the eldest aged 86 years. Special thanks go to our fourteen deanery leaders.

Some of the parishes who started the appeal in spring of last year have reached the contribution we sought of them and others are well on the way. Most of those which have finished started the appeal in Spring of 2013 as did those close on their heels. Those who have raised the bulk from 'pledges' are now moving to local fundraising events to round off their efforts. The next phase is to seek parish representatives from the remaining parishes and to support those still out 'on the course'. Early progress has shown how planning for success has led to success.

Meanwhile we are trying to identify other non-parochial sources. For instance by the time you read this the third of three concerts organised in our schools will have taken place.

As the appeal progresses we will make some changes in our office arrangements as the earliest parishes rely less on our direct support. We'll tell our parish representatives and deanery leaders and publish it on the website.

John Curran, Appeal Chairman.



Going Above and Beyond

“The first Sunday of half term saw staff and pupils from St Mary’s School and Nursery, Derby warmly welcomed by the parishioners of Christ the King Church in Mackworth. We were there to celebrate Education Sunday, which this year took as its theme ‘Going Above and Beyond.’ Education Sunday is an ecumenical celebration that for over a century has offered church communities the opportunity to thank all those people who work so hard in our schools to promote the development of young people. This includes teachers, TAs, Governors, and all the other behind the scenes staff who keep our schools organised and running. Fr John Martin celebrated the Mass, and happily involved the children throughout the service, asking them questions and letting them share their experiences of school life. A big thank you goes to the children

who read for us: Karina, Gabriel, Danny, Thomas, Daniel, Kacper, Henry and Milli-Mai. As well as to those who brought up the gifts at the Offertory: Imogen, Charlie, Ellie, Sophie, Gabriel and Mia. Along with the bread and wine, the children brought forward gifts that represent our school community, including our Prayer Bear, Francis.

It was a special moment when, during the Eucharist, Fr John brought the children round the altar to help them more clearly understand the Mass and see the celebration up close.

Thank you to Christ the King for welcoming us to their Mass and to all the parents, children and staff who attended”.

Fran Wickes
[St Mary’s School Chaplain]

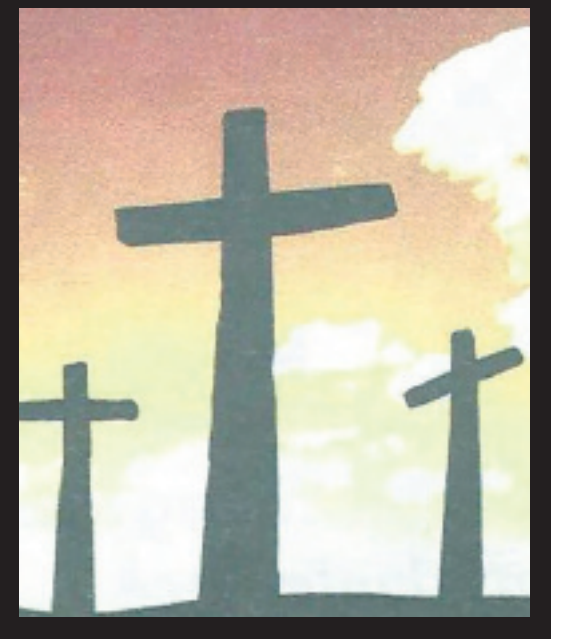


The Good Thief

The day you lwill be with me in Paradise, My Father will set us free. Thank you for speaking out for me, My Father has made you see.

He has not left me all alone, He has heard every groan, The spirit has heard your every word. We’ll be as free as a bird.

You have testified for me, an Earth. I will testify for you, before my Father and his angels in heaven. You will live forever with us. Your story is written in Golothia and your future, in Paradise.



A warm welcome for Bishop Malcolm


Bishop Malcolm accepted our invitation to make an informal visit to St Ralph Sherwin Church, in Chellaston, Derby. He came to celebrate Mass with Fr Mark Brentnall, our parish priest, on 9th March, 2014, the first Sunday of Lent, a beautiful sunny morning. The St. Ralph Sherwin Church was opened in 1971. However, in the thirteen years of Bishop Malcolm’s tenure he has not managed to fit in a visit to us, and felt it was high time he did. After Mass, Terry Spencer, Chair of the Parish Council, presented Bishop Malcolm with a gift of a pair of hand turned candlesticks in English Oak and a beautiful crucifix of yew from our local Anglican Church. Incorporated in to the base of the crucifix is a piece of the famous Chellaston al-



abaster, now sadly all mined out. This set was designed and crafted by one of our parishioners Captain Peter Newton. Warm hospitality was shared as Bishop Malcolm had the opportunity to stay for some light refreshments after Mass and chat with the community. He admired the flower arrangements in Lenten colours created by Colleen Newton, Helen Nutman and Barbara Rusk. He also admired the large crocheted altar frontal cloth, lovingly crafted by Sacristan Freda Copeland. The Bishop’s homily left us with food for thought on our Lenten journey. We hope it won’t be too long before he returns to lay the foundation stone for our new St Ralph Sherwin Church and Hall replacing the existing building.



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NEWARK**
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DEVOTIONS**
SUNDAY APRIL 27TH



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Notts NG24 4AU

Retired priests appeal website
www.retiredpriestsappeal.com
Please visit our website

It can be reached on the above address or via a link on the diocesan website. Already it has useful information and it is our intention to not only provide progress reports but more detailed information which is simply too big to include in our ordinary material. Suggestions for material to post are welcome and can be sent to the appeal office (srpfappeal@nrcdt.org.uk).

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Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

Here at the hermitage daily is read a portion of the Rule of Saint Benedict, which is prayed, meditated upon and practised. The opening words in the Prologue –Listen – always commend themselves to me, a positive directive, as if every word in the rule hinges upon this, one simple word attracting our attention and focusing us on the advice which follows.

It is so easy to read and study scripture without having heard God's word through them, did not the Pharisees do this? And so it is for this reason that our lives need stillness and solitude to enable us to listen to God's word.

Lent is a time for us going the extra mile towards listening to God's word in recollection, prayer and solitude.

We recall how Jesus led his disciples 'apart to pray' from this we learn that silence and solitude are an integral part of the Christian life, our busy, hectic world availing little opportunity for standing still and quiet. As we move towards Passiontide and Holy Week we need to retrain ourselves towards inward quiet, it was while Jesus was apart that Transfiguration took place, it is by our being apart –Listening – that Transfiguration can also take place in us.

For St. Benedict silence was important, especially in church, in his rule he directed that those who wished to pray should not be disturbed by others, it is in church we should foster quiet and prayerfulness.

For us to establish in our daily life then some being apart with God, in quiet and prayer, however brief it be in our daily routine –Listening – in order that we may too may be transfigured and God's will seen clearly in our lives.

In the conclusion of these final weeks of Lent let us be attentive –Listening- to Our Lord in stillness that he may lead us along the paths to eternal life, remembering that Jesus leads us, he does not ask that we forge ahead, or run alongside him, but sim-

ply to take up our cross and follow him, enabling us to enter into an encounter with himself, which need not always be a form of activity, but simply of being apart in stillness –Listening.

Esther de Waal in her writings says that Benedict's word –Listen- "is an exhortation to arouse and awaken us, a trumpet call " Saint Benedict then deemed it necessary for there to be silence and stillness, it is needed in all our lives, it is a challenge

then for us to respond to this call to –Listen – because only through this, being attentive to God's word through prayer shall we in St. Benedict's words " see good days and gain everlasting life " Let us clothed with faith, in accordance with the Gospels walk in God's paths, that we may hear and see him who is calling us to his kingdom.

Br. Richard
Hermit of the Diocese of Nottingham.
wordly values



NOTTINGHAM GIRL SOCKS IT TO THE COMPETITION

by Cafod Nottingham

Milly, a 10-year old from Abbey Gates Primary School, Ravenshead, has beaten over 6,000 budding young fashion experts from across the country to make the Top 10 of a nationwide sock design competition.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first Fairtrade products sold in the UK, CAFOD – a founding member of the Fairtrade Foundation – teamed up with SockShop to launch the special competition for 7-11 year olds to design an exclusive Fairtrade-themed sock.

Designs were submitted by more than 6,000 pupils from a staggering 142 schools, but Milly, a Key Stage 2 pupil, was selected as one of nine runners-up thanks to her beautifully creative design, and understanding of Fairtrade. The panel of judges impressed by Milly's design included award-winning actress Jo Joyner, formerly Tanya Branning on Eastenders, and a senior designer from SockShop. As a prize, Milly will receive a £25 voucher to spend at SockShop.

On finding out that she was chosen for the Top 10, Milly said:

"It's really nice to be one of the runners-

up in this competition, I'm really proud that my entry was good enough to make it to this stage. When I began to design my sock I started by researching the Fairtrade logo I found that the blue in the logo represents the sky, the green at the bottom represents the ground and the black represents a person with their arm held up for victory.

"I thought it would be a great idea to include all of these things within my design. It's a really good idea to buy Fairtrade because more money goes to the farmers and I really like this idea because it's fair and it will help farmers to grow more in the future."

Jo Joyner said: "I know it's a cliché but it truly was so difficult to choose the 10 finalists and even harder to then choose a winner. There was so much thought, time and creativity that had gone into the designs. Some of the slogans were worthy of a top ad agency! Most impressive was the fact that all the kids seemed to have grasped completely the concept of Fairtrade. Congratulations to the runners-up, the overall winner, and everyone who entered the competition."



CAFOD's Regional Manager for Nottingham, Marie Molloy said: "We are absolutely thrilled at the number of schools and individuals who entered the competition from all over the country, and I'm personally very proud that a pupil from Nottingham did so well. It's clear that the children have loved learning about the important issues surrounding Fairtrade in an interactive and creative way whilst taking part in a unique competition. This has been the perfect way to celebrate 20 years of Fairtrade products in the UK."

Fairly traded and handmade in Leicester



St Patrick's Parish Hall in Leicester was the venue for our latest Handmade Sale, which was combined with a Fairtrade event last Saturday.

For sale – creme egg chickens and rabbits; hairslides and brooches

Those who came along could browse the hand made goods as well as items on the Traidcraft stall and buy a raffle ticket before succumbing to a slice of tasty homemade cake and a Fairtrade drink.

Many thanks to Nancy and the J&P group in St Patrick's and to all those who supplied the items for the sale and raffle and those that came along on the day.

The event raised just over £150 which will be given to the CAFOD Syria Crisis Appeal.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Given a sharp reminder that there is much in our world which needs praying for



The international and national news in Ash Wednesday week was not easy to digest. As Lent started we were given a sharp reminder that there is much in our world which needs praying for. At the time of writing events in Ukraine are far from clear as MP's in Crimea had voted for a referendum to see if they would join part of the Russian Federation. There is much more involved as the world awaits the outcome and unlike our country the referendum has come remarkably quickly. Our referendum on Scotland is still months away and there is no likely vote on our membership of Europe until after the General Election scheduled for next year. I am no authority on world politics but we have travelled a long way since the US Presidential Candidate Mitt Romney warned in 2012 that "Russia was a major geographical threat". Christians in Ukraine will be praying for a peaceful transition if that is the will of the people.

In our own country the start of Lent coincided with two contrasting news stories. We have long got used to unwelcome revelations about our banks but was it really necessary for two of them to pay out bonuses of £1million (or more)? We are usually told that if we do not pay out these vast sums we will lose their investment skills and they may go abroad. I personally found this too difficult to take in as on the same day we learned more revelations from Age UK on the lack of basic care for the elderly in our communities. Unlike those bankers the Age UK study revealed a "Crisis" with some older people being left to "fend for themselves" instead of getting the care and support they need for getting out of bed, bathing or preparing meals. The report also revealed that despite the rising demand for care the amount spent on services has dropped by £1.26bn since 2010. I know this is all tied up with local authority cuts but surely if older people

do not receive the care they need they will put further strain on A & E units and hospital wards as Age UK have warned. If ever there was need for a political "Truce" and an agreed action plan it is that local authorities must spend all of the money diverted to them from the NHS for social care.

Despite all our concerns for current affairs the month of March has brought out the Spring flowers and some better weather. We can look forward to the start of British Summer Time and Mothering Sunday which might just bring us some joy before we celebrate Easter. On the day after Ash Wednesday I spoke to 3 different friends in a variety of parishes, they all reported large congregations. As Holy Week approaches we need to encourage many more to strengthen their faith.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish, Newark

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH, LEICESTER

THE YEAR OF FAITH

The Year of Faith began on 11th October 2012 with a global call from Pope Benedict to rediscover and find new ways of proclaiming the gift of faith. In Blessed Sacrament Parish we began the year with a morning Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament throughout the day and an evening Mass where many parishioners made a commitment to the year and received the Sacrament of Confession. To allow everyone an opportunity to explore and deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith a series of four talks was

provided on the major documents of the Second Vatican Council: Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), Sacrosanctum Concilium (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy), Dei Verbum (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation) and Gaudium et Spes (Pastoral Constitution on The Church in the Modern World). The talks were given by excellent speakers enabling a fuller understanding of these important documents. Throughout Lent we had a series of meetings where we viewed and discussed a DVD which dealt with

some of the misconceptions that people often have about the Catholic Church. As previously mentioned in LiFE, we held a Parish pilgrimage in April to Mount Saint Bernard's Abbey. A group of parishioners walked from the church in Braunstone to the Abbey which is situated in the Charnwood Forest about 12 miles from Leicester. I must admit I drove but it was a lovely occasion and an opportunity to learn about the Abbey, the lives of the monks and their work. I have regularly returned to its tranquil environment with pleasant walks round the Abbey grounds and the excellent coffee shop down the road at St Josephs.



One of the most notable events of the year took place over a long weekend from 31st May to 2nd June. We had planned a "Faith in Art Weekend" when we hoped that parishioners would display in the church their paintings, poems, embroidery, collages and other of their artistic gifts and talents. Our Bishop then made a call for 40 hours of prayer over the same weekend, from the Friday evening to the Sunday morning, in celebration of the great feast of Corpus Christi. We decided that we would respond to the Bishop's call and to continue with plans for the "Faith in Art Weekend". We drew up a rota for the 40 Hours of Prayer and invited parishioners to commit to one hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament; by Sunday 26th May the rota was complete and we knew that there would be people praying before the Blessed Sacrament throughout the days and nights of the weekend.

The weekend began on Friday, 31 May with Mass at 8pm – a lovely celebration in itself and a wonderful preparation for the two days that would follow. The Blessed Sacrament was taken in procession to our little Chapel where it remained for Exposition for the 40 hours. At times more chairs had to be taken in as people came to pray; even during the night-time hours others would come who had not added their names to the rota, wanting to be part of this outpouring of love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. The peaceful atmosphere of the Chapel encouraged many to stay longer than their committed hour. Saturday morning saw a bustle of activity

in the church as final touches were added to the displays of art, needlework, knitting, poetry, flower arrangements and a boat – yes a boat! – a model of a Galilean fishing boat called 'Petros'. Volunteers offered a warm welcome to visitors throughout the day and the weather, which at long last was sunny and warm, allowed tables and chairs for refreshments to be set outside. Highlights for visitors included two dances by a group of parishioners from the Philippines whose exhibition of liturgical dance was truly moving and uplifting. An organ recital by our parish organist also lifted the spirits and many people were able to watch and to ask questions about the music. It was the happiest of days as a steady stream of visitors examined the exhibits and enjoyed free refreshments and, when the day finally ended, all those involved went home tired but smiling. At the evening Mass there was a lively celebration led by the Filipino members of the Parish family.

Continued on page 8

MAURICE NAYLOR, CBE

The President, Brothers and visitors to the February meeting of the Market Harbour Circle of the Catenian Association were privileged to hear a brief but moving account of Maurice Naylor's war time experiences as a Japanese Prisoner of War (POW).

Maurice Naylor, CBE, now 93 years of age and an active member of the Kirby Muxloe Circle of the Catenian Association, recalled how he was taken a prisoner by the Japanese, along with 100,000 other prisoners following the fall of Singapore on the 15th February 1942. Many were used as slave labour and one in four died due to untreated disease, neglect and brutality at the hands of the Japanese.

He contrasted the situation then and the lack of support and understanding from the authorities to the situation now and was amazed how attitudes have changed towards those returning from war.

For further information about the Catenian Association please visit www.thecatenians.co.uk

Jim Cooper



Ordinariate Meetings in Rome

The leaders of the three ordinariates - the structures set up to allow former Anglican clergy and lay people to enter the full communion of the Catholic Church, bringing with them much of their Anglican heritage - have met together for the first time to forge closer ties and discuss their growth and development.

Mgr Keith Newton, Ordinary of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham in England, Mgr Jeffrey Steenson, Ordinary of the Personal Ordinariate of the Chair of St Peter in the United States and Mgr Harry Entwistle, Ordinary of the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross in Australia, met on 17 and 18 February in Rome, where they also visited senior officials in both the Catholic and Anglican churches.

Mgr Newton said: "Each ordinariate is different, but we share a common goal and a lot of the challenges we face are common ones, so this was a good opportunity to meet and discuss where we all are and how we might help each other and learn from each other's experiences in the future. The idea is that we should meet perhaps once a year from now on".

While in Rome, the three ordinaries were going to see the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Cardinal-designate Gerhard Ludwig Müller and other officials there, to report on how the ordinariates are faring. They also had meetings at the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and with Archbishop David Moxon, director of the Anglican Centre in Rome and co-chairman of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC).

The Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham was set up by Benedict XVI in 2011 in response to repeated requests from Anglicans who felt that the Anglican

Church was moving further away from making unity with Rome possible. More than 80 former Anglican clergy have since been ordained as Catholic priests under its jurisdiction and there are some 40 Ordinariate groups around the country. The ordinariates in the United States and Australia followed it in 2012.

The meetings in Rome came as the Church of England's governing body moved a step closer to appointing women bishops, an issue which has been a major stumbling block to hopes of achieving unity between the two communions.

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If you are interested in being part of a team representing CAFOD, do get in touch with the CAFOD Nottingham office and we'll put you in touch with any like minded people.

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2.30 Opening Hymn and Introduction	3.30 Break Refreshments and Bookstall
Blessing of the Divine Mercy Image	4.00 Holy Hour
3.00pm Hour of Mercy	5.00 Holy Mass and Veneration of The Relic of St Faustina
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Success for Students of Our Lady's Convent School

Our Lady's Convent School (OLCS), Loughborough has an established ethos of educating the whole individual, focusing on helping each student achieve to their best abilities both academically and in life skills; as demonstrated by the School's senior public speaking team.

Recently a team of three reached the Rotary Youth Speaks District Final. The Year 12s; Amelia (Millie) Elliott, Frances Devine and Christina O'Dowd, battled against teams from other schools for a place in the National finals. Whilst they didn't make it through to the next stage Millie was presented with an award for the Best Speaker of the regional competition. The following day Millie competed at the Catenian Public Speaking competition; an extremely challenging contest. Our Lady's Convent School has a strong tradition of developing excellent public speakers and in the last six years students have achieved three



Amelia, Christina and Frances with their Rotary Youth Speaks 2014 awards

first places and one second in this competition. Millie spoke on the topic "Technology is not necessarily improving the quality of our lives" and impressed the judges with her delivery and argument to finally be announced winner of the Regional Catenian Public Speaking 2014 event. She will now represent the School at the National competition in Manchester in September.

Homily of the Right Reverend Malcolm McMahon OP Bishop of Nottingham Parish of Christ the King, Mackworth Saturday 1st / Sunday 2nd March 2014 – Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



In the Gospel which we have just heard (Mt 6:24-34), Jesus tells us not to worry about our lives. Rather we are called to set our hearts on the Kingdom of God, and all these other things – food, drink, clothes – will be given to us. This is not very practical advice but the point that Jesus is making is that God must come first; as Christians, we are asked to make God the prime focus of our lives. If we get our relationship with him right, then our other relationships will fall into place and we can live in harmony with God, each other and ourselves.

But Saint Paul reminds us in today's Second Reading (1 Cor 4:1-5) of the awesome responsibility in the sight of others which comes with being a follower of Christ: 'people must think of us as Christ's servants, stewards entrusted with the mysteries of God'. As baptised Christians, whether ordained or lay, we hold within us a treasure that is like the pearl of great price, the Holy Spirit. And at Holy Communion, Christ himself comes to dwell within us. As his servants, we are sent on a mission at the end of each Mass to glorify the Lord in our lives, to proclaim his Good News, to be Christ to the people of Mackworth, and we are expected, in Saint Paul's words, to 'be found worthy of his trust'.

I regret very much that one of your parish priests, Paul Cullen, did not make God the centre of his life; he was not found 'to be worthy of his trust' and he committed terrible offences against innocent children. The gravity of those offences was made worse by the fact that he was a Catholic priest, a priest who was entrusted in a particular way with the mysteries of God.

This is a cause of shame for me, your Bishop, for the good and hardworking priests of our Diocese whose names have been besmirched by his actions, and for all of us. I am truly sorry for the wrong that has been done by Cullen to his victims and their families; their trust was betrayed and their dignity violated.

I am also mindful of the effects that the recent proceedings have had on your parish and the wider community here in Mackworth, in other parishes where Cullen served, and beyond. There are all sorts of emotions which we will be feeling in the light of his arrest and last Monday's ver-

dict: anger; bitterness; betrayal; shame. Some of you may have fond and happy memories of his time here, remembering the good he did, and do not understand fully what is going on; that is fine, because we cannot help how we feel.

The abuse of children, in whatever form it takes, is reprehensible – it is evil, a scourge on society and family life, and, when it is perpetrated by priests, a scourge on the Church of which we are all members. It is thanks to the bravery of Cullen's victims, in this parish, in Hyson Green and in Buxton, and their willingness to come forward and no longer be kept silent by this man,

that Monday's verdict was brought about. I am pleased that Paul Cullen has accepted responsibility for his behaviour and pleaded guilty. I can assure you that we have worked closely with Derbyshire police and will continue to do so. The Catholic Church takes the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults extremely seriously, and it is our hope and expectation that no child or vulnerable adult should ever suffer at the hands of another, whoever that other may be, in church, in school or at home. We will ensure that our churches and parishes are safe and welcoming for all members of the community.

Continued from page 7

On Sunday 2nd June, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi and the Feast Day of Blessed Sacrament Parish, we changed our normal Mass times so as to have just one Mass at 11am. This ended our 40 hours of Prayer and brought together a large number of parishioners for a wonderful celebration. The African community brought their own vitality and rhythm to the Mass as well as familiar hymns with organ accompaniment. At the end of the Mass the Blessed Sacrament was taken into Braunstone Park in a procession led by the altar servers and the African choir; then came the congregation followed by all the children who had made their First Holy Communion the previous week – the girls strewing petals and the boys each carrying a candle. Our two priests, Father Joel Nwalozie and Father John Joe Maloney entered the park, Father John Joe carrying the monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament; we sang hymns, had a reading from St Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, recited the Litany of Saints and incensed the Blessed Sacrament after which we returned to the church for Benediction. There then followed a mass exodus to the Parish Hall where a shared table lunch awaited both visitors and parishioners. Many comments spoke of the inspirational nature of the whole weekend; it was indeed a wonderful occasion and one which we will

never forget.

Towards the close of The Year of Faith we held a Healing Service, a Service of Reconciliation and a Service for the Bereaved. During October we held an Hour with Mary.

So what is to follow – The Year of Faith has been an inspiration to many and we continue to encourage people to deepen their faith and to invite those who may have lapsed to return to their faith. We have already started preparing our children for First Holy Communion and classes have begun for adults who are interested in becoming Catholics. Planning for our annual Pilgrimage to Ireland, which takes place every spring, is well underway and is just one of a number of events on the horizon. We continue to support local and international causes. A significant number of our parishioners have friends and family in the Philippines and we were able to support the appeal launched following the recent disastrous floods. Our Christmas Appeal supported the work of a young doctor who grew up in the parish and who is now working in Uganda with sick children and their families.

Finally our planning is now focused on another major celebration as Father John Joe Maloney, our Parish Priest, celebrates his Golden Jubilee on 21st June. So another busy year begins!

Catholic Parish in the News St Joseph's Parish, Leicester

The Catholic parish of St. Joseph's began in 1938 when people gathered for the celebration of mass on Christmas eve in a converted stable. There have been three churches on this site. The temporary second church was built in the 1950's with the intention of its becoming a parish hall when the third and present church was built in 1968. There are around 700 homes in the parish which is served by two churches - St Joseph's and Our Lady of the Rosary . .

It was the 64th Scouts (Sacred Heart Group) who helped clear out the cow shed and stables in the Summer of 1938. The stable was to become our first church with the first mass celebrated on Christmas Eve of that same year. The men pictured clearing the stable were (left to right) William Sawbridge, Jack Walker, Noel Bowne, George Smith, Charlie Bishop, John Coulfield and Reg Day.



An altar was built from the pig troughs for the stable church by Mr Pinchbeck and Mr Eaton. Over the years the parish can be grateful to many such people who have helped with the growth of St Joseph's community.

Parish priest Fr John Daley told us, "The parish is blessed with the involvement of many people in spiritual and pastoral work. We have a dedicated branch of the St Vincent de Paul Society, a strong children's liturgy team of ten members, an active hall social committee, various charitable and Church organisations - MISSIO, Let the Children Live, Home from Home - the sacristy team, our liturgy ministries - Eucharistic ministers, altar servers, readers, the garden team, and people willing to help when further help is required.



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We are blessed with musicians and singers who prepare and practise so faithfully, and lead and inspire the people in our congregational singing.

Our two churches share a strong sense of community. There are regulars at both, but everyone feels at home in either church. I feel blessed to serve the people of the parish and families and friends who visit.

Our relations with the local Christian Churches are good. We have Advent and Lent programmes, unity services on special days during the Christian year, and members of the Churches come on pilgrimage with us to Rome and Malta."



Altar boys from 1961



Mass Times and Regular Services
The following times of Mass and their intentions are confirmed each week in the parish newsletter. (Holy Days will be notified through the newsletter and Christmas and Easter through this page).

Usual Mass Times
WEEKEND
Sunday (Saturday Vigil), St. Joseph's, 6.00 pm
Sunday, The Rosary Church, 9.00 am
Sunday, St. Joseph's, 10.30 am
Sunday, St. Joseph's, 6.00 pm

WEEKDAY
Monday, St. Joseph's, 7.00 pm
Tuesday, St. Joseph's, 10.00 am
Wednesday, St. Joseph's, 10.00 am
Thursday, St. Joseph's, 10.00 am
Friday, St. Joseph's, 7.00 pm
Saturday, The Rosary Church, 9.30 am

PRAYER
The Blessed Sacrament Chapel is open every weekday, 10.30 am - 7.00 pm
Open Saturday 10.30 am - 5.15 pm and Sunday, 11.30 am - 5.15 pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
There is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Benediction twice a week
Saturday, 5.15 - 5.50 pm
Sunday, 5.15 - 5.50 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
There is opportunity for Confession three times during the week.
Saturday, The Rosary Church, 10.00 - 10.30 am
Saturday, St. Joseph's, 5.15 - 5.50 pm
Sunday, St. Joseph's, 5.15 - 5.50 pm

THE ROSARY
The Rosary is said before the evening mass on Monday.

EVENING RETREATS AND DAYS OF PRAYER
There are regular monthly "Twilight" retreats on a Wednesday evening and seasonal Saturday retreats. These are notified through the parish newsletter and on the Watermead Apostolate website

The Watermead Apostolate
The Watermead Apostolate came to St. Joseph's in February 2001, having begun their music and publishing apostolate in 1994 at the parish of St. Theresa's, Birstall. In 2006 the "Old Stable" Church at the back of St. Joseph's car park was refurbished to house the work of the apostolate and this is now known as the Watermead Centre - offering a large repository shop with a wide range of religious items, cards, gifts, music, CDs, DVDs, books, rosaries, etc., alongside Watermead's own published items. The various offices and store rooms in the centre are used for the production and distribution of Watermead's own items - which are ordered from across the UK and various countries around the world. The Watermead Shop opens regularly throughout the week (all their profits are shared with charities).

Weekday Shop Opening Times
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday (10.45 am - 3.30 pm)
Weekend Shop Opening Times
Saturday from 5.00 - 5.50 pm
Sunday from 11.45 am - 12.45 pm

Each week the apostolate produces "The Lord's Day" - a free downloadable newsletter giving a background to the Sunday readings, along with other regular columns - "Question of Faith", "People of God", "Thought for the Week", etc. For further information on the work of the apostolate telephone 0116 220 7881 or 0116 220 7881 or email info@watermead-apostolate.com The Apostolate also has its own website www.watermead-apostolate.com

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Feast of the Divine Mercy
will be celebrated at the church of **Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Brooklyn Road, Bulwell, Nottingham NG6 9ES**
on **Sunday 27th April 2014**
Speaker **Fr John Martin**

2.30 Welcome	3.20 The Stations of the Cross
2.40 Prayer to Mary the Mother of Divine Mercy	3.40 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
2.45 Talk given by Fr. John St John	3.50 We will conclude with Benediction
3pm The 3'O Clock Prayer	4pm Close
3.10 The Chaplet	

There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the end of the service. However, St. Faustina always prepared herself to receive Holy Communion on the Feast day by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the Saturday before the Feast.

Tea and cakes will be served in the church hall after the service. Jesus promises special graces to those who celebrate Mercy Sunday. He told St. Faustina "I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My Mercy. Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy. My desire is that the Feast will be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter"

Please come and join us and the Poor Clare Sisters for this great feast.

For further information please ring
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Book Review

The Catholic Guide to Depression

By Aaron Kheriaty with Fr John Cihak
Sophia Institute Press

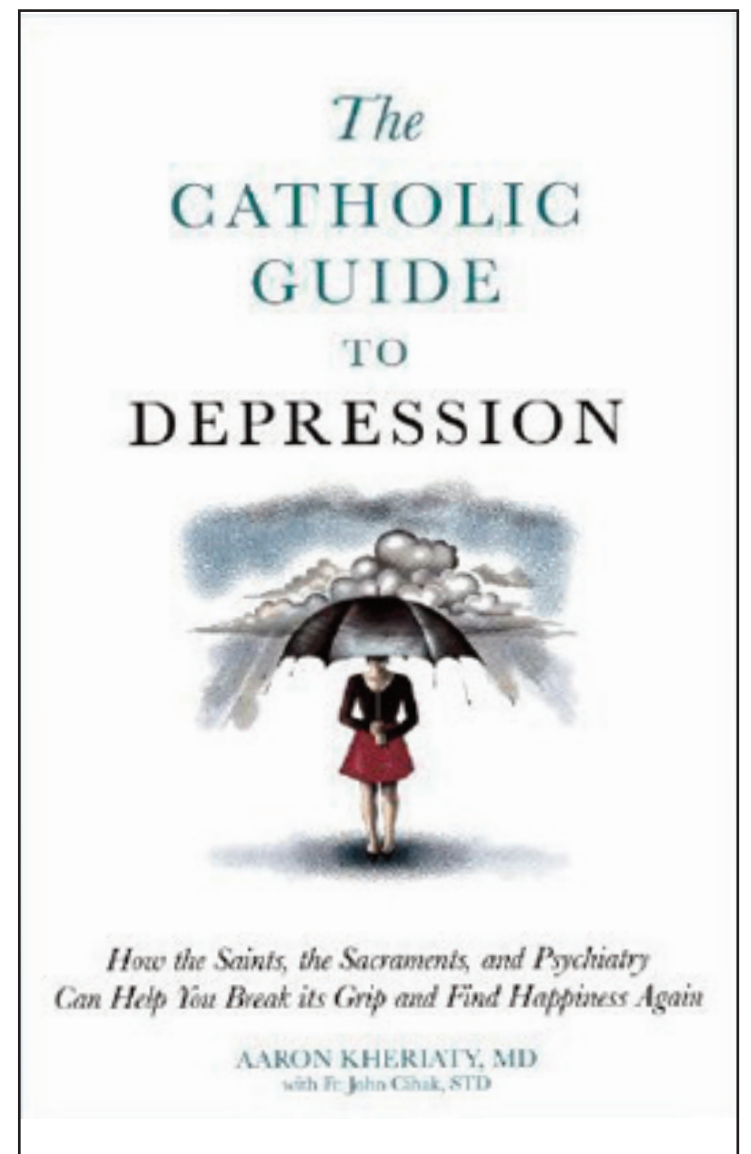
This book, excerpts of which have appeared in the Herald, is very timely. Mental illness, especially depression, is increasing and as the secular medical world struggles to find strategies to cope with it, it is crucial that the Church brings her own wisdom and experience to the debate. Dr Kheriaty believes that depression can be influenced by cultural and spiritual factors as well as, more obviously, biological and psychological ones. He makes his position clear at the start: as an experienced Catholic psychiatrist, he states, "This book is grounded in the conviction that to know ourselves as human beings, we must know Jesus Christ." This said, he is also clear about the different approaches of psychiatry and religion, emphasising that "the confessional was never meant to cure neurosis...and the couch was never meant to absolve sin." Faith and the world have different attitudes to suffering; in the secular mind, it is always bad news; for the religious outlook, although suffering should not be exalted morbidly, it can have meaning "when it is united to the redemptive suffering of Christ." Kheriaty takes the Christian perspective that we are spiritual beings as well as bodily and rational ones; wounded but "redeemed and capable of being sanctified by God." He would like to see greater cooperation between all those involved in mental health – doctors, theologians, priests, patients and scientists. His book is written with the cooperation of a priest, Fr John Cihak who explains the spiritual dimension of depression. As he observes, many psychiatrists and therapists "operate with unexamined biases against religious belief and spiritual practices", rather than seeking to harness them in (religiously inclined) patients' best interests. He makes careful distinctions between appropriate

feelings of grief and clinical depression and discusses the various origins of depression, such as insecure attachments in early life; "Often the emotional wounds from insecure attachments lie outside the person's awareness", he observes.

He raises the question of healing – a word with as many religious connotations as medical ones; depression, he believes, is "no more part of our fundamental human nature than cancer or dementia; it is the result of the Fall and its consequent rupture of man's harmony with God." Christ is always the true and ultimate source of all healing; with his coming the human race no longer has to be "irredeemably sad."

At the same time it is important to emphasise that religious practice does not have "magical powers"; if science or medicine can help cure medical or psychological conditions, they should be used. Where they are limited is when the sufferer's illness is spiritual in origin – the dark night of the soul or the result of unacknowledged sin. Speaking with his Catholic hat on, he is convinced that "neurochemistry and the soul are inseparably connected." He is not dismissive of psychotherapy, explaining its benefits as well as its limitations; it cannot cure the problem of sin or the problem of death. Naturally he is keen on the healing nature of a good confession. In line with confession is modern forgiveness therapy, which is liberating because patients discover that forgiveness "makes them stronger than the wrong that was done to them." He ends with quoting a remark of GK Chesterton: "Every man who knocks on the door of a brothel is looking for God."

Francis Phillips



Talk on 'Anne Line - Shakespeare's Tragic Muse'

A new biography has just been written on St Anne Line by Martin Dodswell who gave a talk on his book in the Parish Hall of St Anne Line Parish, South Woodford on Sunday 2 February

It is very appropriate that Martin Dodswell gave his talk in the only parish dedicated to St Anne Line in London where she was martyred in 1601 - and on Candlemas Day. Candlemas Day, known more formally as the Feast of the Presentation and in the past as the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady.

It commemorates the time that Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the temple to offer the sacrifice required in the law and were greeted by the holy widow Anna and the prophet Simeon (Luke 2:22-38).

Candlemas is also the day on which the holy widow Anne Line was arrested 413 years ago when there was a raid on the rooms she rented in Fetter Lane, London. It was the eve of her 18th wedding anniversary.

At the scaffold she repeated what she had said at her trial, declaring loudly to the bystanders: "I am sentenced to die for harbouring a Catholic priest, and so far I am from repenting for having so done, that I wish, with all my soul, that where I have entertained one, I could have entertained



a thousand." St Anne Line, who was a convert from Calvinism, is the patron saint of widows and of priests' housekeepers.

Making churches dementia friendly



To coincide with the National Week of Prayer and Awareness of Dementia (12 - 19 March), Catholic charities are calling on Churches to do more to become "dementia friendly communities". There are currently 800,000 people with dementia in the UK and the number of people affected is estimated to rise to over 1 million by 2021 and 1.7 million by 2050.

Kathleen Pitt, Director of Nugent Care, which runs a number of residential homes as well as care in the community projects for people with dementia said: "As the number of people living with dementia continues to grow, providing care for them is becoming increasingly important. Church communities and parishes, working together with charities and the health and care system, can play an important role in creating care environments for people living with dementia that enable people to feel safe, supported and which help to promote independence and reduce distress and anxiety."

Nugent Care is currently gathering signatures for a petition to raise awareness of dementia and the importance of dignity in care for people living with dementia. To sign up to their petition visit: <http://www.nugentcare.org/articles/nugent-care-dignity-in-care-campaign> Highlighting the importance of creating dementia friendly church communities, Ben Bano, Director of 'Welcome Me as I

Am' which specialises in training parishes, deaneries and chaplaincies on dementia issues said: "Just as in many other places it can be difficult to raise the issue of dementia in our parish communities. It is important that parishes and faith communities welcome and include people with dementia as well as their carers. Through our 'Welcome me as I am' project, we seek to promote understanding about the causes and treatment of different forms of dementia, how we can adapt church buildings to be more dementia friendly and help parishes to develop the skills to enable them to work with people with dementia as well as provide liturgy and worship for people with advancing dementia."

Rebecca Hedges, Convenor of the CSAN Older People's Services Forum added: "Many people with dementia become increasingly anxious and feel isolated. Churches have an important role to play in being places of welcome."

"CSAN's Older People's Services forum is currently developing a Dementia Toolkit for parishes to create a person-centred approach to people with dementia, looking at how we meet the physical, sensory and emotional needs of people with dementia and how the Church as a whole can contribute to the wider network of outreach services available."

THE WORD IN SEASON

DEATH WITH LIFE CONTENDED NOTES ON THE PALM SUNDAY GOSPEL

On Palm Sunday (April 13th) we hear the long account of Jesus' passion from St Matthew. The sad story unfolds with one tragic episode following another, culminating in Jesus' death. We may feel overwhelmed by hearing of all the sufferings experienced by Jesus within the last hours of his earthly life.

St Matthew borrows the basic storyline from St Mark, who may be preserving the tradition told by St Peter in Rome. But St Matthew adds a few unique details that are significant. It seems that St Matthew's Gospel was written some time after the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70, when people in the Jewish community were asking why God had let this disaster happen.

Following years of heavy domination by the Roman overlords, Jewish zealots revolted against the imperial power in AD 66. The mighty Roman legions were sent into the Holy Land. Finally in AD 70 after a long siege, the city of Jerusalem fell to a general named Titus, who later became Roman emperor.

The Roman victory in AD 70 was a tragedy for the Jewish people. Many zealots suffered the same Roman punishment (crucifixion) that had been meted out to Jesus as "King of the Jews". Yet already Jesus had warned his fellow countrymen that the temple would be torn down: "I tell you

solemnly, not a single stone here will be left on another. Everything will be destroyed" (Matt 24:2).

When Jesus was arrested in Gethsemane and one of the disciples took a sword to attack the high priest's servant, the non-violent Jesus gave a stark response: "All who draw the sword will die by the sword" (Matt 26:52). These chilling words would later be fulfilled dramatically in the failed zealot revolt of AD 66-70, with disastrous results for the people of Jerusalem.

Moreover, St Matthew presents Jesus' passion as fulfilling the divine plan foretold in the scriptures. After narrating his arrest, the evangelist says: "Now all this happened to fulfil the prophecies in scripture" (Matt 26:56). Here he may be thinking especially of the prophecy of the Suffering Servant who "offers his life in atonement" (Isaiah 53:10).

Another detail unique to St Matthew is the mention of a dream experienced by Pilate's wife, who sent a message to her husband during Jesus' trial: "Have nothing to do with that righteous man. I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him" (Matt 27:19). In his infancy, Jesus had been saved from Herod's murderous plan because St Joseph heeded the divine warning given in a dream to take his family and escape into Egypt. This time, however, Pilate

ignores the divine warning given to his wife in a dream and instead hands Jesus over to be crucified.

At the end of Jesus' trial, when the Roman governor Pilate finally hands him over to be crucified, St Matthew narrates the people's cry: "His blood be on us and on our children" (Matt 27:25). For the evangelist, this cry may have served to explain the tragedy of AD 70. According to Daniel Harrington, the evangelist seems to have viewed the fall of Jerusalem as a kind of divine punishment for the rejection of Jesus (compare Matt 23:36).

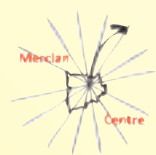
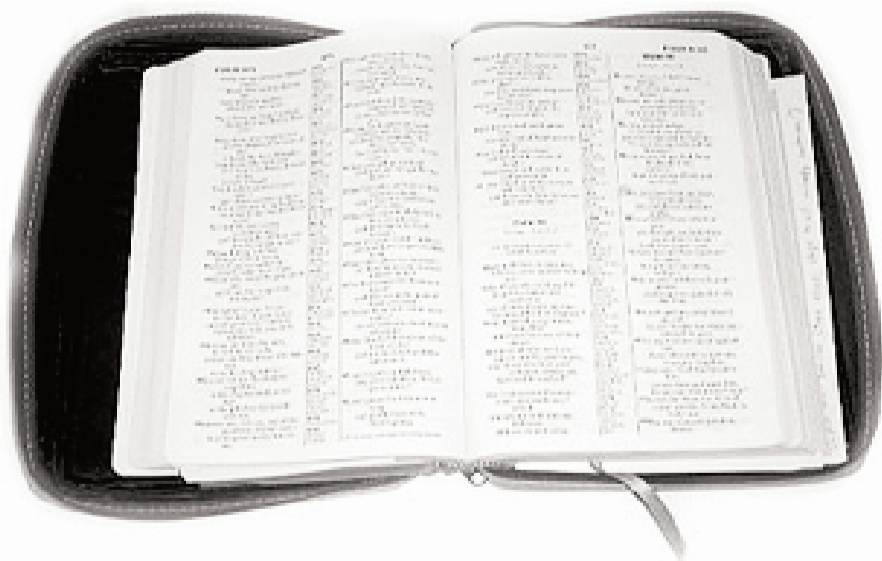
At some stages of later Christian history, this verse has been misused as a pretext for persecuting Jews. Yet almost fifty years ago, the Vatican II declaration *Nostra Aetate* (paragraph 4) taught: "Even though the Jewish authorities (and those who followed their lead) pressed for Christ's death, neither all Jews indiscriminately at that time, nor Jews today, can be charged with the crimes committed during his passion."

The Vatican II declaration then emphasizes that Jesus freely sacrificed his life to save us: "The Church has always held and continues to hold that Christ out of infinite love freely underwent suffering and death because of the sins of all, so that all might attain salvation."

Hence, a positive interpretation of this verse was given in 2011 by Pope Benedict in the second volume of his book *Jesus of Nazareth* (P,187): "Jesus' blood does not cry out for vengeance and punishment; it brings reconciliation. It is not poured out against anyone; it is poured out for many, for all. These words are not a curse, but rather redemption, salvation."

The story of Jesus' passion would be depressing for us to hear if we did not believe in the resurrection. Our faith is well expressed in the Easter sequence: "Death with life contended-combat strangely ended! Life's own champion slain-yet lives to reign!"

Father Jeremy Corley



The Mercian Centre 'A Centre for Christian Spirituality'



Located in the heart of the National Forest in Leicestershire, **The Mercian Centre**, at Abbey Grange is in the beautiful Charnwood Forest. The Centre is being developed to serve the Church and wider community in 'Mercia' (the Midlands), and beyond, and is available for groups and individuals for day events or overnight stays. You can also call in and have something to eat and drink in the Tearoom.

To find out more or to make a booking:
Phone: 01509 600137
Email: info@monos.org.uk
Or visit our Website:
www.monos.org.uk

The Mercian Centre has a selection of single, double, twin, en-suite and family rooms and can



'Martin' Bedroom

accommodate residential groups of up to 15 people where some are willing to share rooms. The day booking of the conference/training room can accommodate up to 35 people. The building has disabled access, including a lift and wet room facilities.

There is a **conference/meeting room**, a separate lounge and a well-stocked library.



Enjoy extensive grounds that offer an opportunity to find a quiet space to reflect in this beautiful location. There are a number of local walks including those passing through the grounds of nearby Mount Saint Bernard Abbey, a Cistercian Monastery. Bradgate Park and Beacon Hill are a ten minute drive away for walking and leisure activities.



The Mercian Centre runs **St Joseph's Tearoom** which is ideal for individuals and groups to use for lunches and snacks. Catering can be provided or groups can organise this themselves utilising the facilities available. Please discuss this at the time of booking.



St Joseph's Tearoom is open Tuesday to Sunday from 11am to 4.30pm, offering a selection of wholesome food for the weary traveller or visitor. Try our homemade soup or selection of jacket potatoes, sandwiches, cakes or famous Cream Tea with homemade scones! Why not pre-book for a group Afternoon Tea?

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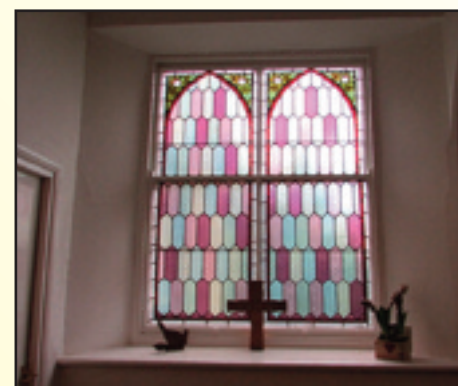
The Mercian Centre sells a selection of craft items made by local crafters and regularly hosts Coracle

making workshops and supports local wood crafts.

The Mercian Centre is a place of rest and reflection. Come and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.

The Centre also hosts **Monos Education**, which is an organisation that seeks to nurture a monastic spirit within society through workshops and conferences. For more information contact Anthony Grimley: ant@monos.org.uk

For those who want a **guided retreat** please ask on booking.



A quiet corner

The Mercian Centre is expression of the Little Community of John and Mary

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Catholic Sixth-formers excel in Competition

Province 15 of the Catenian Association held its Annual Catholic Secondary Schools Public Speaking Contest at the Best Western Premier Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth on Sunday 2nd March 2014. Students from 8 schools across the East Midlands competed in the Contest, which was sponsored generously again by Stewart Jones of Loughborough 173 Circle, Managing Director of the IRL Group Ltd.

Bishop Malcolm McMahon OP, Nottingham Diocese and Bishop John Rawsthorne of Hallam Diocese were present again this year since most of the schools came from within their dioceses. We were especially pleased to be joined by contestants from Peterborough (East Anglia diocese) and Nuneaton (Birmingham diocese) as our Province extends over four dioceses. Bishop John opened the afternoon's proceedings with a prayer and short reflection. On the judging panel, experienced adjudicator Wendy Sutcliffe was joined this year by former BBC Religious Affairs presenter Sandra Herbert of BBC Radio Leicester and to assist them we were delighted to welcome two newcomers, His Honour Judge Jeremy Lea and HM Coroner for Nottinghamshire, Mairin Casey QC. The ability to communicate clearly and effectively is crucially important in the professional and business world of today and speaking in front of an enthusiastic but critical audience is a daunting experience for any speaker. However, our young contestants knew they were in a safe environment with everyone in the audience willing them on to do their best. After the interval, Bishop Malcolm gave an excellent summing up of what The Catenian Association's Public Speaking Contest for Catholic Secondary Schools means to him and the schools, stressing his confidence that the future of the Church and so-

ciety is in excellent hands with young people such as these. This was followed by a presentation about the Catenian Bursary Fund, which is available to all Catholic young people over the age of 16 and supports projects for the benefit of the community at home or abroad which was given by David Rowley, Director of Province 15. In her adjudication comments, Wendy Sutcliffe emphasised that all eight contestants were winners to be in this final heat. The overall winner was Amelia Elliott of Our Lady's Covent School Loughborough, very closely followed by Clare Bracken of St. Thomas More Catholic School & 6th Form College, Nuneaton. The adjudicators found it impossible to separate the next two contestants so decided to award joint third places to Alex Brown of Becket School, Nottingham and Yvonne Lee from English Martyrs School, Leicester. The prizes & Certificates were presented by John Rayer,

Grand President of the Catenian Association. Provincial President Jeff Curran presented the cheque and trophy to a teacher representative from the winning school. Amelia and Clare will now go forward to represent Province 15 in the National Catenian Public Speaking Contest which will be held at the University of Manchester in September. As with our previous contests, we are grateful to our two recording specialists for capturing the atmosphere of the afternoon. Paul Clark Electronic & Audio Consultancy made a high quality sound recording of the contest which will soon be available on his website; last year's event can be heard by logging into www.paulrclark.co.uk/ (to hear the recordings, key in User name "Catenians" and Password "Kegworth" when requested). Additionally, the whole event was recorded on video by Peter Yeomans from whom copies of the DVD can be obtained, priced £10 (to place an order contact: peteyeomans@btinternet.com).



Winner, Amelia Elliott receives her certificate from Grand President John Rayer



(l to r: Bishop John Rawsthorne, Aleksandra Tetnowski, Oliver Spencer, Christopher Marshment, Yvonne Lee, Grand President John Rayer, Amelia Elliott, William Mirfin-Boukouris, Clare Bracken, Alex Brown and Bishop Malcom McMahon)



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