



Christ has Risen
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Catholic News

MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF BRINGING THE
NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

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An Easter Message from Bishop Patrick

Speak Out and Protest

This Easter let us pray for the
grace to find our voice

At Easter we celebrate and rejoice in a God who refuses to leave the dead forever dead. Jesus did suffer a violent death and was buried, as we commemorate in our Good Friday liturgy. But God the Father gives death no permission to hold Jesus as the permanent victim of other people's violence. The Father's constant abiding love for Jesus sweeps death aside as he claims his beloved Son again. It is life and not death which prevails.



This Easter, we not only celebrate the memory of God's great act of raising Jesus from the dead, the glorious victory over death, but we also celebrate God's graciousness in extending this victory to all Jesus' followers. We believe that, if we are faithful to God in the way we live our lives, our own inevitable death will not be the final word that is spoken about us. Instead we will share fully in Jesus' Resurrection when he comes again in glory. Life and not death will prevail. But a question raises itself: is our faith in the Resurrection limited to remembering Jesus' Resurrection, and hoping for our own on the last day? What happens between times, while we are waiting? What about today?

Are we not through our baptism, people who already now share in the Risen Life of Jesus and, as such, people who are called always to promote the sacredness of life and to challenge death wherever we find it? For death is not just something we meet at the end of life; it can take different forms. A German theologian called Moltmann expressed it well: 'it is the economic death of the person we allow to starve, it is the political death of the many people throughout our world who are oppressed and denied basic human rights, it is the social death of those with special needs, the noisy death that strikes with bombs and torture', and it is also the soundless death of those many unborn children who are aborted. For us, as Christians, to accept this litany of death in its many shapes, as somehow inevitable, as 'just one of those things', would be to empty the Resurrection of its power for today. We cannot allow this to happen because we are people for whom life is always sacred and precious, and so we are called to speak out and to protest against a culture of death in all its forms. This Easter let us pray for the grace to find our voice.

May the crucified and risen Lord Jesus bless you and all your loved ones this Easter.

+Patrick
Rt Rev Patrick McKinney
Bishop of Nottingham

Third Blessed Sacrament Procession

The third Nottingham Blessed Sacrament Procession will take place on Saturday the 28th of April, 2018 between 2pm and 4pm starting at S. Mary's, Hyson Green NG7 6FY (14.00), ending at S. Barnabas Cathedral, NG1 5AE (16.00)

"Our Lady is Mother of the Blessed Sacrament...let us bow down in lowly adoration before our God, ask our Mother Mary to feed us with some of her love for this Adorable Mystery of Faith."

Venerable Mary Potter

This event is attended and led throughout by Bishop Patrick, who will be followed by Catholics from across the Diocese. Do join us as we witness to the joy of our Faith through the streets of Nottingham. This event will be accompanied by prayers for the beatification of the Venerable Mary Potter, eminent citizen of Nottingham and foundress of the Order of the Little Company of Mary, and will suitably end at the her tomb in the Cathedral.

There will be an optional free workshop from 10.00 at St. Mary's School in Hyson Green, Nottingham. Please choose from the following titles:



The Eucharist and evangelisation
The Eucharist and the parish
The Eucharist and social action

To book in for this workshop, please contact formation@nrcdt.org.uk.

Exposing children to deal with contemporary issues and challenges

Staff and students at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy celebrated World Book Day in style.

Teachers and staff dressed up as characters from their favourite books and students were treated to a series of literary themed activities throughout the day.



Students and staff were invited to take five minutes of their lessons to share extracts from popular teenage fiction. Titles were chosen specifically for each year group and were received with great enthusiasm, they included: Moon dust by Gemma Fowler for Year 7; One by Sarah Crossan for Year 8; Orangeboy by Patrice Lawrence for Year 9; THUG (The Hate U Give) by Angie Thomas; and Release by Patrick Ness for Year 11.

JOE WALSH TOURS
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MORE THAN 19 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 johnclwson@icloud.com before 10th of the month

How the faithful repetition of the mantra comes to integrate our whole being

JOHN MAIN, the great teacher of Christian contemplative meditation in our times, suggested that when we first set out to meditate, we must look to discover and expand our own personal capacity for peace and harmony. Only then can we come to appreciate the depth of God's gift as the author and source of all deep harmony and serenity.

Meditation, Main insisted, is the process by which we prepare ourselves, in the first place, to be at peace with ourselves so that we can become capable of preparing for the advent of the Godhead within us.

We are going to discover that the longer we meditate the more we come to the awareness that the source of the newfound calm in our lives is precisely the life of God within us.

John Main pointed out that the great conviction of the New Testament is that Jesus, by giving us his Spirit, has dramatically transformed the very fabric of our human consciousness. Our redemption by Christ has opened up for us new levels of consciousness that could only be described by St Paul in terms of a totally new creation.

So the all-important aim of Christian meditation is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become not only a reality, but also the central reality in our lives, giving meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are.

God is our creator and loving father. This is the truth about ourselves that we commemorate and pay full attention to in meditation. It is essential for us to remember our

divine origin: that we are temples of the Holy Spirit. Each of us, as Meister Eckhart insisted, is a spark directly from the fire of God.

We know that God is intimately with us and also infinitely beyond us. It is only through deep and liberating silence that we can begin to reconcile and experience the polarities of this mysterious paradox. Meditation lets us into this.

In our still and silent prayer we come to experience ourselves as drawn to union, totally relaxed, alert and at one with our source. Our stillness is not the calm and silence of sleep but rather of the product of an alert and totally awakened concentration. This is not a state of passivity but of full openness, wakefulness to the wonder of our own being and full awareness of the presence of God.

Our goal here is a calm mind and a peaceful spirit. We come to full realisation that we are at one with God.

John Main recommended the use of the mantra word Maranatha, the Aramaic word meaning 'Come Lord.' So we are restricting our mind here to the poverty of a single word. Main also urged us to take up this practice twice a day.

He insisted the central task of our life, in accord with the Christian vision, is to come into union with God. He said there was no greater requirement in the Church and in the world than for a renewed understanding of the need for deep universal prayer.

We say our mantra lovingly and in a spirit of deep faith

In meditation, our way forward to a growing awareness of the Spirit praying within us, lies simply in our deepening fidelity to the saying of the mantra. It is the faithful repetition of our prayer word that integrates our whole being. It does so because it brings us to the silence, concentration and the necessary level of consciousness that enables us to open our mind and heart to the work of the love of God in the depth of our being — in our souls.

Meditation simplifies us so that we can receive the fullness of truth and the fullness of love. We listen with childlike attention to the Spirit of Jesus within us. God is love dwelling in our hearts, longing for us to come to enlightenment.

Jesus promised: "I have come that you may have life and have it to the full." In our daily meditation we enter each time the twin processes of vitalisation and enlightenment. This is our journey of self-discovery.

John Main insisted that as we learn to root the mantra in our consciousness, in that process our prayer becomes the key that opens the door to the secret chamber of our heart. Initially the saying of the mantra is simply work. It's demanding work. But as we persevere, each time we recite our prayer, we enter into and remain grounded in our heart. "I am with you always," says the Lord, and here we have the key to daily access.

David Mahon

DIOCESE OF NOTTINGHAM



3rd Blessed Sacrament Procession Nottingham 2018

Led by Bishop Patrick

with prayers for the Beatification of the Venerable Mary Potter



"Our Lady is Mother of the Blessed Sacrament... let us bow down in lowly adoration before our God, ask our Mother Mary to feed us with some of her love for this Adorable Mystery of Faith."

Venerable Mary Potter



Join Catholics from across the Diocese as we witness to the joy of our faith through the streets of Nottingham. All are welcome.

SATURDAY 28th APRIL 2018

Start: 2 pm - St Mary's Church, Goodliffe Street, Hyson Green NG7 6FY

End: 4 pm approx - St Barnabas Cathedral, Derby Road, NG1 5AE

finishing with prayers at Mary Potter's tomb

Optional free workshop from 10 am at St Mary's School, Hyson Green, Nottingham. Choose from:

The Eucharist and Evangelisation
The Eucharist and the Parish
The Eucharist and Social Action
Just need to book in! Email: formation@nrcdt.org.uk



A new era for Ancient Archives

The Bar Convent's historic archives have been given a new lease of life after the arrival of Dr Hannah Thomas as special collections manager.

Dr Thomas, who joins from Durham University, also has the task of overseeing the convent's research library. She has already been busy cataloguing the vast array of books, diaries and documents that line the shelves and sit in drawers and cupboards. Some of these pre-date the founding of the convent in 1686. The community had previously carried out archivist tasks themselves.

"It's a fascinating collection, from a book of spiritual exercises that was possibly handwritten by Mary Ward to convent diaries that cover both world wars," Dr Thomas said. "One was even blown out of the building during the 1942 air raid and has a huge chunk missing! And then we have the original deeds of the house that were signed by



'Mrs Long', alias Mother Superior Frances Bedingfield.

"One of the first things I'm doing is digitising our catalogues to make sure the collection is accessible to as wide a range of people as possible. We'll also be developing relationships with universities to encourage more research and generally open up the archives up to a wider audience."

The archives are part of the Living Heritage Centre, which also includes the exhibition that opened two years ago. Now it's hoped

Continued from page 1

The Year 9 text, Orangeboy, was deliberately selected to encourage participation in the Derby Book Festival competition and has now become a shared book in the school's Reading Club.

Dr Tracey Burrell, Librarian and Learning Centre Manager at Saint Benedict CVA, in Duffield Road, Derby, said: "As part of our World Book Day celebrations we wanted to join in with the campaign to get the nation reading stories from breakfast until bedtime.

"Reading out loud can make a real differ-

ence to students' outcomes and is something they really enjoy. It also helps to expose them to stories that they may not have come across before and young adult fiction in particular deals with contemporary issues and challenges that our children face in today's society.

"The books selected dealt with many of these issues and are all available in the school library.

"There were also displays of the collaborative initiatives that the library and English Department run, such as the Reading Competition for Years 7 and 8, 'We Are Writers', Book Club and the Poetry Recital."

CAFOD welcomes forthcoming canonisation of Oscar Romero

Catholic aid agency, CAFOD, has welcomed the news today that Pope Francis has approved a miracle attributed to Blessed Oscar Romero, the murdered Archbishop of San Salvador, ensuring he will now be canonised as a Saint of the universal Church.

CAFOD has a long history of working with Archbishop Romero and promoting his legacy. In the 1970s, CAFOD supported Romero's famous radio broadcasts, which - at a time when the press was heavily censored - were often the only means by which people in El Salvador knew the truth about the atrocities occurring in their country. When Romero's radio station was blown up, CAFOD provided funding to rebuild it.

Clare Dixon, CAFOD's Head of Region for Latin America, said: "Pope Francis' decision to canonise Oscar Romero will give Romero the wider recognition he so richly deserves.

"During three tumultuous years as Archbishop of San Salvador, Romero braved death threats time and again to denounce violence and speak out on behalf of the victims of his country's civil war. He was a remarkable man, who was inspired by his faith to fight not just poverty but injustice, and to give a voice to the voiceless.

"CAFOD staff and supporters, like millions of people around the world, hold him in such high regard. He didn't simply talk about the need to love your neighbour, but courageously denounced the violence and named the injustices that plagued his country. Here at CAFOD, and throughout Latin America he has been regarded as a Saint for years, and we are delighted that the Church has now officially proclaimed him as one.

"El Salvador remains a country in the grip of inequality, and the legacy of the civil war



continues to cause division and polarisation. All around the world hundreds of millions of people live in poverty or under oppressive regimes. The world as a whole desperately needs more figures like Romero - leaders with the courage and faith to stand up for the poor and against injustice."

Oscar Romero was the Archbishop of San Salvador from 1977 until he was assassinated in 1980. He was initially regarded as a conservative choice, but he became increasingly outspoken about human rights violations in El Salvador - particularly after the murder of his close friend Father Rutilio Grande. After repeatedly condemning poverty and injustice, he was shot dead while celebrating Mass on 24 March 1980.

After Romero was martyred, CAFOD's staff successfully petitioned Lambeth Council to rename the Brixton street where their office was located 'Romero Close'. And when CAFOD moved to a new office in 2009, it was named 'Romero House'.

35 years later, Archbishop Romero was beatified - or declared "Blessed" - on 23 May 2015 as a prelude to being made a Saint.

Today, CAFOD continues to work in El Salvador, helping farmers to improve their crops, assisting communities in reducing the risk of disasters, supporting people living with HIV, building peace, defending human rights and trying to create a more just society.

The Oldest Latin Bible

The oldest complete Latin bible is to be displayed alongside the Lindisfarne Gospels at the British Library as part of 'Anglo Saxon Kingdoms' from October this year.

Described by the CEO of the Library as 'one of the greatest acts of creative book production of the entire millennium' the Bible is very rare; it weighs 35kg and is 30cm thick, with its 1030 pages made from over 500 sheepskins. The Codex Amiatinus was one of three bibles produced; one of these is lost, and the third remains only as fragments.

It left Britain as a gift for Pope Gregory II in 761 from the monasteries of Wearmouth.



100 YEARS OF CATENIAN MEMBERSHIP



Four members of the Derby branch of the Catenian Association received their 25 year membership certificates at the February meeting. All four joined the Catenians on the same night back in 1993.

David Perry, first from the left, said joining the Catenians was probably one of the best decisions he ever made; he added: "As an executive in the construction industry, my work took me all over the country. Where

ever I was staying I was always able to link up with Catenian friends. My wife, Anne, and I have had an enormous amount of joy from the friendships we have formed over the last 25 years.

More information about the Derby branch of the Catenian Association can be obtained from Richard Penna at richard.penna@ntl-world.com



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Cardinal and Archbishop of Canterbury: Protect the Status Quo at the holy sites in Jerusalem

The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and the Archbishop of Westminster Vincent Nichols have called on the Israeli Government to protect the status quo at the holy sites in Jerusalem.

In a joint letter to the Israeli Ambassador to London, Mark Regev, the two faith leaders expressed their deep concern at the events unfolding in Jerusalem of unprecedented, punitive and discriminatory taxation of Christian Institutions and their fears that this dispute could inflict long term damage on relations between the two communities.

The letter stated that "they threaten to cause serious damage to the Christian presence in Jerusalem, to Christian families, and to the Christian institutions, including hospitals and schools, which serve many of the poorest people, regardless of their background.

"It is our view that the measures being pressed in Jerusalem and in the Knesset are a clear and evident threat to the status quo. These violations of historic agreements risk

undermining prospects for peaceful coexistence between communities, at a time of already heightened tensions.

The two Archbishops are praying for the peace of Jerusalem and have urged the Israeli government to address this crisis as a matter of urgency and immediately enter dialogue with the local Churches to find a resolution.

The Status Quo

The Status Quo, or 'statu quo' as it is commonly called in the Holy Land, refers to the relations between the Christian communities of the Holy Land with the governments of the region. Specifically, status quo applies to the situation within the Holy Land in which the Christian communities find themselves regarding ownership and rights possessed by each within the sanctuaries - both alone and in conjunction with other rites within the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher, the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Tomb of the Virgin Mary in Jerusalem.

Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

During the spell of extremely severe weather a few weeks ago we decided that we would endeavour to be more self sufficient than normal here at the hermitage and make some home made bread. We were very pleased with our efforts and when the bread came out of the oven we had a great feeling of pride in our resourcefulness that we had achieved this all on our own. (the sin of pride had overcome us). As I looked at the bread on the cooling rack and adored the aroma of it I began to realise of course that the bread before me was not entirely from my own efforts. The bread was wonderful but it was yet another gift from God and it had not sprung entirely from my own hands. It was not simply the work of my own hands, but the work of many hands before myself, many agents were involved, the soil, the sun, the rain, the farmer, the miller and so many other hands had contributed towards the ingredients. We gave thanks to God for all this as we enjoyed the bread over the next couple of days.

However, as human beings we cannot live on bread alone which satisfies our physical hunger. In our lives we suffer from many kinds of hunger. Throughout the Gospels we see the many kinds of 'bread' Jesus offered to people satisfying their hungers. To the people who followed him into the desert and who were starving he offered ordinary bread, to the leper he offered the bread of physical healing, to the woman at Jacob's well he offered the bread of human kindness, to sinners he offered the bread of forgiveness, to rejects and outcasts by mixing with them and sharing their bread, he offered the bread of companionship and self worth, to the widow at Nain, to Mary and Martha he offered the bread of compassion, to Zacchaeus, the rich tax collector who had robbed others of their bread he began inviting them to his table and awoke in them a



hunger for a better life. However, there were some who refused Jesus' offer of bread, there was the rich young man, the Scribes and the Pharisees to whom he offered the bread of conversion, there was Pilate to whom he offered the bread of peace. Jesus continually shared himself with many others in so many different ways and under many different forms before He offered Himself to them as food and drink at the Last Supper.

And so even now Jesus nourishes all in so many different ways but especially in the Eucharist where we are fed by His Body and Blood, it is from this that He is able to satisfy all the longings and hungers of our hearts, because He alone gives us the bread of eternal life, the bread of the Eucharist without which we would not have the strength to follow Christ. Of course we need ordinary bread. This is the first and basic necessity of our lives, but this bread only nourishes half of us - the physical side, we too have a spiritual side, it also hungers for nourishment. In the Eucharistic banquet we have nourishment for our minds, our hearts and our spirits, it is here that we experience the abiding presence of Christ within us - a real living presence that transforms our lives as we receive and adore this Most Holy Sacrament.

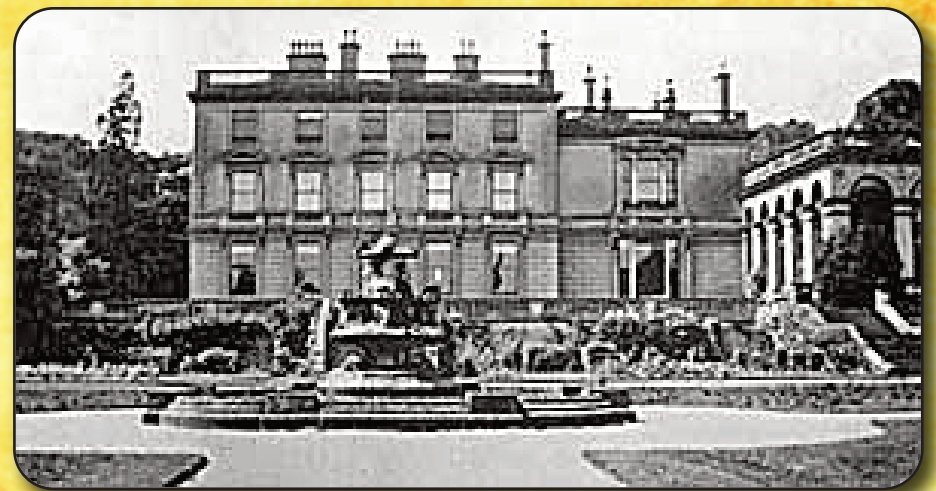
**Fr. David Bowler h.d.n.
Priest and Hermit
Diocese of Nottingham**



Faith in Families – The Catholic Children's Society Our History – Their Future – A Series for our 70th Anniversary Part One – The Beginnings

In Derby in 1945 a distressed young mother left her new born baby at St Mary's Catholic Church. This caused Bishop Edward Ellis to open St Joseph's Babies Home in Borrowash the following year run by the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace and the first home of the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Rescue Society as it was then known. His desire was to provide social care for children and Families within the Nottingham Diocesan area – an area the size of Belgium. This desire led to the renaming of the Rescue Society as the Catholic Children's Society Nottingham to include adoption as part of its work providing food, clothing and shelter for children. This happened in 1948

The demand was so great that St Joseph's soon became too small and in 1949 the Society acquired Colston Basset Hall which became the Society's nursery in 1950. St Joseph's became a maternity home for single women and their babies.



Colston Basset Hall

Just as it is today, however, the number of children in care increased and a Children's home, Carmel, was opened at Kirby Muxloe for older children aged between 5 and 16. The Corpus Christi Carmelite Sisters, originally founded in Leicester moved back from the base in Trinidad and ran the home until 1992. 357 children lived at Carmel and many brought their own children back to receive baptism and there were also three weddings receptions for children who wanted to celebrate their marriages at "home".

Colston Basset Hall provided the first office for the Catholic Children's Society, an adapted butler's pantry within the Administrator's house with just a filing cabinet and a small portable typewriter. The first secretary Sheila Thompson, travelled daily from Nottingham and worked for nothing for the first year as the Society could not afford her wages. Sheila married the head gardener, Peter and their children attended St Patrick's School in Nottingham.

Just as today money was scarce and fruit and vegetables were donated by the wholesale marketers; bread and cakes were donated by the Co-operative ; and donated material from the Lace Market was made into bed linen, curtains and clothes.

Adoption services had become well established and the offices, still used today, at 7 Colwick Road, West Bridgford contained Fr Thomas O'Keefe, the administrator, Sheila Thompson as secretary and three social workers who were appointed between 1957 and 1961. Fr Thomas established the Sunday Parish Appeals with box holders and collectors in each parish which still exists today thanks to the wonderful support of the Catholic community. In addition began the Christmas appeal which spread to the schools and the annual Diocesan Collection. Fr Thomas left the Society in 1970 and Sheila retired after 40 years service in 1992.

Faith in Families: www.faithinfamilies.org

#LiveSimply in the High Peak

Last Saturday afternoon I set out for St Anne's in Buxton and the stunning scenery along the A515. I had been invited by Fr Gerry Murphy and the Parish Council who have registered for the CAFOD LiveSimply Award. They were launching it this weekend and I was going to speak at both Masses.



It was also an opportunity to meet up with Yvonne, CAFOD parish contact; we had first met back in 1993 when we were doing the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS). She was also putting me up for the night!

The parish of St Anne's first registered for the award in 2016 but it was put on hold due to the ill health and subsequent death of Fr Denis Higgins, who had been parish priest for over 30 years. So now with their new parish priest they were ready to revisit their plans.

The Live Simply Award, originally introduced by CAFOD over 10 years ago, but reinvigorated by the letter of Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*, calls and challenges Catholic communities to live simply, to live in solidarity with the poor and to live sustainably with creation. The origins go further back to *Populorum Progressio*, the 1967 Encyclical written by Pope Paul VI which stated: "All Catholics are called to act... Catholics of richer lands must play their part to help development. They should be in the forefront of those who fight

to build a better world, based on justice and equality."



In 2002, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales in their letter *The Call of Creation* stated; Individual actions may seem insignificant but together the small steps of many people can have an astonishing impact." This is truly reflected in the Award being a community achievement, people working together and supporting each other to achieve their Live Simply goals, because "The way we live and the choices we make affect the lives of others."

And so as a community and as individuals, the parish of St Anne's will work together to achieve the award through small, simple acts; continuing to support their local food bank and NightStop, working with CAFOD to fundraise and campaign. A big action is working towards being a Fair Trade parish.



Not only does it give the community an opportunity to nurture their spiritual lives, the Live Simply award also offers opportunities to:

- Strengthen friendships in the parish, school and communities
- Offer support for taking practical steps
- Play their part in big issues that affect them and
- Develop and nourish connection within the wider community in Buxton, in the Diocese, with their global neighbours

So we wish them well on their journey and will encourage them in their efforts as they strive to 'Live simply so others may simply live'.

Our Lady & St Edwards parish in Thorneywood, Nottingham are also working towards the Award!

Are you interested? If so please contact Maggie Mairura Nottingham CAFOD 0115 9756138



Government cuts to support for survivors of modern slavery "deeply disappointing"



Bishop Patrick Lynch has expressed his deep disappointment at the Government's decision to cut the weekly subsistence payments for survivors of modern slavery by more than 40% - from £65 to £37.75.

"It is deeply disappointing that despite the Prime Minister's pledge to go further on protecting victims of modern slavery, the government has chosen to reduce the financial support given to survivors.

"The care of survivors should be at the heart of all work against human trafficking, as a core part of recognising and restoring their God-given human dignity."

The 40% cut places the subsistence payments in line with support given to asylum seekers. Survivors receive this support for 45 days following confirmation that they are victims of modern slavery

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Lent fast days across the Diocese

by Maggie Mairura

East Leake Catholic Women's League host CAFOD evening

Thanks to the CWL of Our Lady of the Angels in East Leake for hosting a lovely evening last Thursday 22 February. Even before I had left for the Philippines in June last year, Ann Sharpe had invited me to come and talk to them about it!



CAFOD supporters from East Leake, West Bridgford and Loughborough

They very generously opened the invitation to other local parishes and a posse from the CAFOD group of Holy Spirit West Bridgford joined us along with a couple of visitors from Loughborough. About 20 people were there to hear about this year's Family Fast Day.

It was also an opportunity for Tom Beall, our CAFOD Campaign Volunteer Coordinator to introduce himself.

Tom is also a CAFOD Climate Champion and volunteers with the National Trust at the Workhouse in Southwell, both organisations being part of the Climate Coalition.



Tom as Climate Champion

And so to my trip to the Philippines and sharing my experience of visiting and working with our partners NASSA/Caritas Philippines. It was lovely to recount my visit to Batangas, a village in Sorsogon Diocese who were beneficiaries of CAFOD donations following Typhoon Melor in 2015. New homes and new livelihoods were provided to families and as part of building resilience and sustainable livelihoods those who had received a pig then 'passed on the gift' when it had its first litter, giving a piglet to a neighbour.



Introducing our volunteers to Rosemarie, Conception, Anna and Medina, Philippines July 2017

My favourite encounter was with a group of women from the village, who are part of the local committee and who were delighted to be introduced to some Nottingham Diocese volunteers in the photos I had taken with me.

Then of course, the case of the famous pig who became the star of one of our School Assemblies. David Brinn, our national schools volunteer programme coordinator, who travelled with me, on his return wrote a primary assembly based on our emergency work, using the story of the three pigs!



Be a school volunteer and deliver this assembly?

Catherine, one of the visitors from West Bridgford said: "it was a very interesting talk & my knowledge of the geography of the Philippines has certainly improved! You got a very good attendance and it was good to meet Tom – a very impressive young man."

Family Fast Day at the Cathedral

Thanks to Liz Doona, CAFOD parish volunteer at the Cathedral and the Women of St Barnabas for organising the Family Fast Day Soup Lunch on Friday 23 February.

Soup and sandwiches were being served and all money raised going to CAFOD. A tombola stall was also organised with a prize every time!

Over 50 people attended and the sum of £275 was raised. As well as enjoying some lovely home made food and cakes, during the 2 hours in Cathedral Hall, I was able to give 3 brief presentations about the work of CAFOD and the work of our partners in Zimbabwe.



Family Fast Day at Our Lady's in Sleaford: School and Parish!

My first stop was the parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel to meet up with Parish Volunteer Barbara and her husband Mike. A group of about 15 people were gathered for coffee after the morning Mass.



After brief introductions it was my opportunity to thank the parish for their continued and steadfast support – from our database records which go back to 1990 they have donated an amazing £60,275.13! Something to celebrate! They have consistently raised funds at Fast Days and also responded to Emergency Appeals. As well as sharing about this Family Fast Day I was also able to recount stories from Livison Chipatiso, our Programme Officer in Zimbabwe who I had accompanied the previous week. For lunch, we joined the Churches Together in Sleaford for their Lenten Soup lunch at the local Anglican church, which will be hosted by Our Lady's next Monday.

Then it was over to Our Lady of Good Counsel School. I was immediately struck by the display in the entrance. A beautiful tree with homemade Romero Crosses hanging from it.

It was lovely to then be able to tell the students that Bishop Patrick had recently re-



turned from El Salvador and had visited the crypt of Blessed Oscar Romero. A real link between school, diocese, CAFOD and our partners overseas.

Once the whole school was assembled it was my second opportunity of the day to share with our students the theme of this year's Family Fast Day and encourage them with their #giveitupchallenge. Every student would be taking home a pledge for them to sign, having given some thought to what they were going to give up and how much they hoped to raise for CAFOD.

Again the atmosphere in the school was warm and welcoming, eager to take an active part in the assembly and keen to answer questions, though maybe not so keen to be in the photo!



As mentioned in my previous post, I find it so inspiring and uplifting to visit our Diocesan schools but that is not my job – mine is to recruit more school volunteers to add to our growing team! So if you want to be inspired and uplifted and have an opportunity to nourish our young minds, please do get in touch!

The National Liverpool Eucharistic Congress



The National Liverpool Eucharistic Congress will be held at the ACC Liverpool Echo Arena on 7,8,9 September, 2018.

The programme for Friday and Saturday for which tickets are required, which is entitled Adoremus Symposium Day and Adoremus Congress Day respectively, includes Keynote speeches and a choice of lectures.

Among the many speakers will be Paul Mason, Auxiliary bishop in the Southwark Archdiocese, Robert Barron, auxiliary

bishop in the Los Angeles Archdiocese, and Dr Ian Ker.

For the Blessed Sacrament procession on Sunday, no ticket is required.

Further information from the Bishop's Conference website.

FRANKLY SPEAKING

Easter Sunday and the weeks that follow are such a joyous and special period for Christians as we rightly celebrate the most important feast in the church calendar. Lent may well have been extra difficult this year for many due to the snow and freezing weather which most of the country experienced in the first few days of March.

Sadly we all know many people who just regard Easter as four Bank Holidays, yet despite this we usually witness a notable increase in church congregations. There is however, great concern for those who are in need of adequate and comfortable housing. During the bad weather mentioned earlier the plight of 'rough sleepers' became worse as the temperature became really cold. Almost inevitably we hear about 'fake homeless' in some areas but there appears little doubt that genuine rough sleepers have tripled in numbers in recent times.

This Easter let us not forget the acts of kindness by the unsung heroes who went the extra mile to help our homeless this Lent.

The Easter Season used to be the signal for either house hunting or moving to a new home for those who could afford property. The families who could only rent usually had secure tenancy, (my parents lived with this arrangement from 1935 to 1986.) We really now seem a long way from those times and

the Prime Minister seemed to recognise this as she made a special speech on housing on March 5th. Prior to this occasion we seemed to be almost confused as to who was taking responsibility for the lack of new and affordable housing with Central Government, local Government and developers all being the subject of critical comment.

Two real areas of concern must also be the high cost of living for our young people at university with its subsequent debts and the huge drop in council house building,

It is perhaps appropriate that Easter comes early this year.

In our country the NHS has rarely been out of the news particularly when operations have been cancelled, some of us will have had family or friends not well or may have lost a loved one. Our young people will have witnessed the continued arguments over Brexit and must be wondering how it will affect their future prospects in Life. The Easter story this year has to be about Hope.

In a rapidly changing world we must do our best to explain why in 2018 it is not just four Bank Holidays.

A Happy Easter to all readers.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish
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Throwing the towel in

By Julia Beacroft

IN MY LAST ARTICLE I referenced the weather, in particular the fact that 'March is traditionally a month which experiences high winds and gusty conditions due to meteorological reasons.' And so I continue the theme, as I muse over the weather anomalies of April...

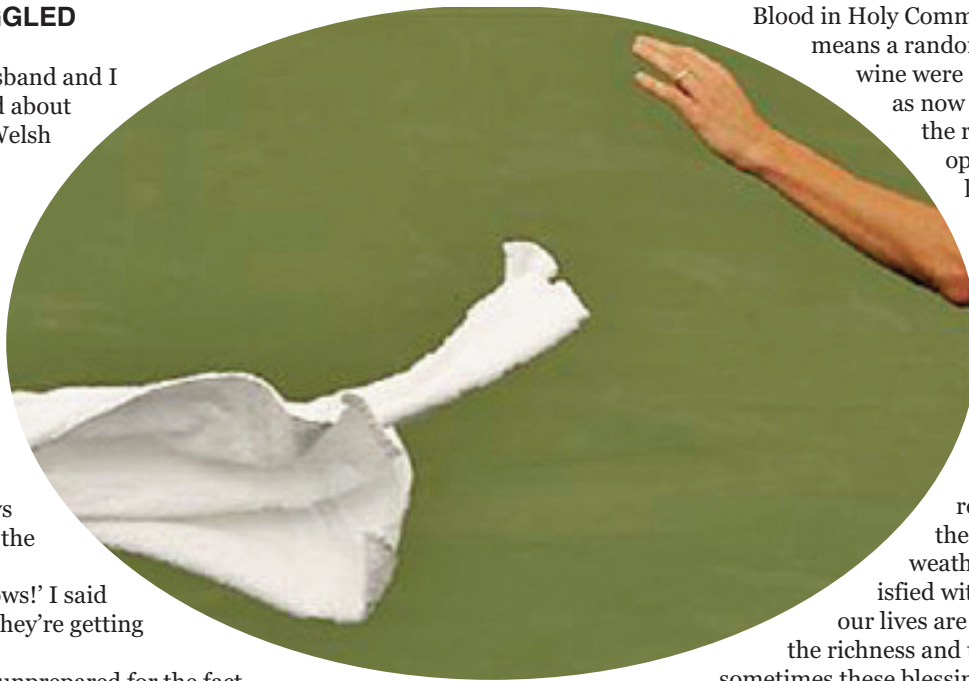
WET AND BEDRAGGLED

Many years ago my husband and I took our little son, aged about three, on holiday to a Welsh farmhouse, and you've probably already guessed that the time of the year was April. It rained relentlessly for most of our week's holiday and during one particularly formidable downpour, I happened to be looking at the rather wet and bedraggled herd of cows which I could see from the kitchen window. 'Oh, look at the poor cows!' I said to my three year old. 'They're getting all wet!'

However, I was totally unprepared for the fact that he immediately rushed upstairs and then reappeared with a bath sheet which he had fetched from the bathroom, 'to dry the poor cows with', he said. Despite our laughter and explanation that cows don't really need to be towel-dried, I have never forgotten my little boy's compassion and care for these animals.

CO-OPERATION

And so it is with our Father in Heaven. Every day we bear witness to his compassion and love for his people, and interestingly when our Lord Jesus Christ choose bread and wine to become his Body and



Blood in Holy Communion, this was by no means a random choice. Bread and wine were readily available then – as now – and are produced as the result of mankind's co-operation with God. We labour to produce the crops, but are only able to do so by God's bounty, which provides the earth, the wind, rain, sun and breeze to enable them to grow.

As United Kingdom residents, we have a reputation for discussing the vagaries of the British weather and rarely being satisfied with it! And yet every day our lives are blessed and filled with the richness and the love of God although sometimes these blessings are inadvertently taken for granted. Nature, which is all around us, our seasons and the animals which inhabit our earth, name but a few of these. Yes, and even the weather!

ETERNAL COMPASSION

The cows in the field didn't need to be dried as their hide provides adequate protection against the elements. We, on the other hand, can become damaged and hurt by life's experiences and need to rely upon the eternal compassion and love of the Lord. This is always given to us unconditionally and we know that He will never throw the towel in.

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The Catenians

Strengthening family life
through friendship and faith

In 1908, in the City of Manchester, a number of Catholic professional and business men came together to form what was to become the Catenian Association; a lay organisation intended to provide mutual support, business and social contacts and open only to men committed to their Catholic faith. With the enthusiastic support of the local bishop and, later, of bishops in other parts of the country, the new association spread quickly, first to London then to Leeds, Liverpool and Newcastle-upon-Tyne and now comprises an International Association of 10,000 men in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Australia, India, Malta, Zimbabwe, South Africa and, more recently, Dhaka and Nazareth.

The aims of the Catenian Association are: to support and encourage friendship between members and their families; to support one another in the practice of their Faith; to support members, their families and widows in times of need; to promote the interests and development of young Catholics; to assist the clergy and support vocations to the priesthood and religious life; to provide support to Catholic and other charities.

Each month members of the Association, known as Brothers, meet at local branches of the Association, which are known as Circles, to pray together, to organise a programme of social and other activities and to share a meal, often with an after-dinner

More to it than hearsay and rumour...

speaker or other entertainment. Ladies Evenings are organised on a regular basis when wives and widows join the Brothers of the Circle for the meal and after-dinner entertainment. All Circles organise a programme of social activities, open to members and their wives and families, and to widows which may, for example, include theatre visits, pub lunches, skittles evenings and outings. Members of one Circle often visit and attend meetings of other Circles. The friendships formed between members are often deep and long lasting. As one member puts it: "The Catenians have given me an extension of my Catholic identity and I, my wife and family, have a better quality of life through the company of like-minded Catholics".

Catenians and their wives and families make an important contribution to all aspects of parish life. Circles have an annual Mass for vocations and the Association provides significant financial support to the Office of Vocations. For the last few years an annual concert has been organised to provide funds for the Diocesan Sick and Retired Priests Appeal.

The Catenian Association provides considerable support to good causes both at home and abroad. Each year the President of each Circle nominates a charity to be supported by the fund-raising activities of the Circle. Around £ 300,000 is raised in this way each

year for the support of a wide range of local and international charities.

The support of young Catholics is an important aspect of the work of the Association. Many Catenians act as school governors and many Circles provide support to local schools by arranging mock interviews, mentoring and helping with the preparation of CVs. A Schools Public Speaking Competition is organised each year with regional rounds and a national final. For 25 years a Bursary Fund has provided financial support to young people between the ages of 16 and 24 who are planning voluntary work overseas or have volunteered to act as helpers on HCPT or Diocesan Pilgrimages. The Association also works closely with the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation and provided £ 28,000 in sponsorship to Flame 2017 – the National Catholic Youth Congress held at Wembley Arena in March this year.

Membership of the Catenian Association is open to all men who are committed to the practice of their Faith. Local Circles exist throughout the Nottingham Diocese and welcome approaches from anyone who wishes to learn more about the Association or is considering membership. An excellent website (www.thecatenians.com) gives additional information and enquiries can be made to: Mike Hopkins email: mike302@btinternet.com or telephone 01455 612874.

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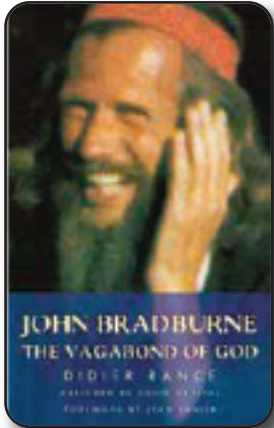
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Book Reviews

John Bradburne... The Vagabond of God

Didier Rance, 2017, pbk.,
ISBN: 978-0-232-53-339-2

I have never been to Africa. But I know several missionaries who have and I also know one member of a Religious Congregation who took umbrage at the mere suggestion that he should be asked to go there!



Those who did undertake this new vocation, though, were so glad that they had accepted this new calling. They speak of the remarkable spirit that seems to be so completely a natural element in the lives of the African people they dealt with and which seems to help them cope with often desperate situations. One missionary, on leave in England, gave me an interesting perspective to consider. He said he longed to return to Africa and when pushed to provide a motive said "The graves are drier there!" He had imbibed the positivity that seems to play such a great part in the African way of life.

That feature helps explain, to some degree, the love that John Bradburne experienced and which he gives voice to in the second half of this biography. There we read of his heroic self-sacrifice in his care for a leper colony as well, of course, as the final act of courage in death.

His first experience of the lepers in Mtemna is graphically described: "The wretched creatures they encountered were repulsive, their faces and limbs deformed by a terrible disease. The lepers were covered in filth and untreated running sores." (p 298)

Interestingly, appalled though he was, John found –possibly for the first time in his life –that he had discovered his real vocation. He wrote to his dear friend, Fr. John Dove: "I'm a reject, they are rejects, so I think we will understand each other." (p.299)

The whole narrative is full of examples of John's fondness for adopting unassuming roles and of inviting less than flattering remarks. He wrote: "I'm sure to be hailed and beckoned by sundry folk who like to have a laugh with or at me...an odd English looney-man." (p174)

At one point we read of his self-image as "the buffoon of Christ the King". And, in a letter to his friend Stephen King he spoke of himself as "a fantastic failure...let it be shouted from the housetops what a chronic, muddling loon I've been." (p157)

Yet this is a fascinating story of a man whose fiftyeight years were simply packed with incident as "the vagabond of God". It is a portrayal of a man involved in an untiring search for his real identity, for his true role in life and also of a man who looked only for what he could do for others. It is for the first half of the book a kind of travelogue covering territory ranging from a little village called Skirwith in the north-east of England to exotic, distant lands.

Many of the foreign outposts are concerned with the Second World War. When John trained with Orde Wingate we see him in a guerrilla mode!

General Wingate created a team of fighters who sported the unusual title of the Chindits (a name derived from the Burmese word for lions). Their role in jungle-warfare was to conduct deep-penetration missions in Japanese-held territory in the Second World War and, having struck, disappear into the forest. We read: "John underwent the rigorous training required to strike the enemy by surprise and disappear again into the Burmese jungle."

(p 65) Exciting 'Boys' Own' stuff and worlds away from the life of religious fervour and poetic instincts of John Bradburne.

The mention of "poetic instincts" prompts one to reflect on the insistence in this text on quoting from quite a considerable number of John Bradburne's poems. David Crystal (an alumnus of St Mary's College, Crosby) abridged this book and also edited John Bradburne's poetry. John found it, in fact, very difficult to get any of his poems published whilst he was alive. Indeed, amusingly, he wrote a poem to staff at the publisher, Gollanz in which we have the immortal lines: "O come on Gollanz/Give us a chance!"

(p231) The following reflection on the mystery of the Trinity is probably a worthy example of what one literary agent, Cecil Hardwicke, spoke of as doggerel: I grappled with the Trinity Till Saint Augustine said, "You'd better stop, God's mystery Hugging the Doctor's good advice With a mug of tea was very nice." (p361)

In one of his poems, John spoke of himself as a "Strange vagabond who knows not what to seek" and, of course, this long narrative gives us so much detail of this pilgrimage. After all his wanderings, though, John finds his true spiritual home in Mtwmwa and knew "I have to stay here. It was not what he had ever envisaged as his vocation. In one poem he wrote:

*"I did not ever dream that I might go
And dwell amidst a flock of eighty such,
Nor did I scheme towards it ever." (p300)*
That was in 1969. John's experiences in that part of Africa are told vividly in chapters 8, 9 and 10 of the book and it is in those pages the dreadful history of the founding of what we now know as Zimbabwe is told. The climax to the account is obviously the killing of John himself when his executioner "emptied his Kalashnikov into John's back." (p 450)

The tortures that preceded this are spoken of in the pages preceding that terrible execution.

The story is absolutely riveting, full of adventure and incident. It is a great testimony to the remarkable effect faith can have on any one human being. It concludes with a prayer for John Bradburne's Beatification. It's not every book that ends with a prayer! Dominic Hyland, who reviews here, was formerly a university lecturer and a deacon in the Lancaster diocese.

By John Shoreland

The Gospels Speak: Addressing Life's Questions

Dorothy A. Lee, Paulist Press, 2017,
ISBN.978-0-8091-5324-4.

When the warden at our church heard the name Dorothy Lee, her face lit up with recognition.

She had heard Dorothy preach in her chapel at Portree, on the Isle of Skye, some years ago. She remembered how interesting she was, how original.

So that gives a head start with Dorothy's book and it does not disappoint.

In *The Gospels Speak*, Dorothy Lee puts some modern questions to the four evangelists. She asks Mark about suffering and evil, Matthew about fear and anxiety, John about the meaning of life and Luke about the divine purpose in the world.

The answers are not easy. They require a well-read, adventurous and imaginative teacher. Magically our author leads us into the world of the Gospel writers, the situations in which they were written and the problems they encountered in those times. In contact with those concerns our problems begin to open up, broaden out, become less narrow.

For example, can we speak of a divine purpose for the world and human history? Do we have a role to play in that history? Do our prayers make any difference?

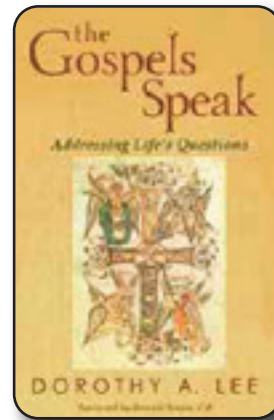
To answer these questions, we are taken to the very reasonable anger of the people of Nazareth when Jesus offends their nationalism and sense of privilege (Luke 4.25) This outrage on the part of the people was not planned by God. At the trial of Jesus, it made political sense that Pilate and Herod should become friends. (Luke 22. 6) Their friendship was not a divine plan. This is human history. We are not puppets of the Gods. But "The history of salvation wends its way in and around the ordinary run of human history, neither dominating it nor manipulating it" (p122).

We are taken to the finding in the temple. (Luke 2.43-49). Any parent would have told off their twelve-year-old son for wandering off in the capital city on his own. But Jesus' reply, "Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?" leaves them speechless. "Salvation history is beginning to gleam out from within the dark folds of human history". Here at the same time, the son of Mary and Joseph exists with the Son of the Father taking His place in His Temple. Such insights and connections are everywhere.

Zachary, the father of John the Baptist, "An old man, a priest from Jerusalem, shows a less adequate faith than a young unmarried girl from the backblocks of Galilee" And it's odd that "Jesus' ministry to the sinners and outsiders is markedly more successful than his ministry to the religious authorities". (p120)

There are many rewards for the reader. But you have to keep at it. You can't just let your eyes slip over the page. Perhaps she is a better speaker than a writer. If she has sent you back to the Gospels with fresh eyes and a new enthusiasm, that is already something. But for the preacher and then teacher she has also shown how, by situating the Scriptures in their time and place, it is possible to speak to the modern mind.

John Baron, our reviewer,
is a priest in the
Lancaster diocese.



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ROSARY ON THE COAST

Rosary on the Coast is an initiative of the laity across the British Isles inviting everyone from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to a day of prayer at 3pm on 29 April.

The idea is that the coastline of the British Isles will be encircled with prayer; everyone will be praying at the same time for faith, light and peace.

There will be inland locations where people will gather in Cathedrals, churches and at shrines. The idea has the blessing of Cardinal Nichols, the Bishops and clergy. The priests of the English National Marian shrine at Walsingham and the Welsh National shrine at Cardigan have given this initiative their support and encouragement.

The CES Census 2017 – What we know about Catholic Education today

The CES annual schools census is the most accurate depiction of the state of Catholic education in England and Wales today. For the fourth year running, the return rate for the census has been 100%, meaning that not only is this year's data completely accurate, our monitoring of five-year trends is now almost totally reliable.

Despite being a mammoth task, the annual schools census is an extremely important document for the CES. This is because the data it provides us with allows us to promote Catholic schools to those in power, the media and key decision makers.

For example, when the Prime Minister Theresa May announced plans to remove the 50% cap on faith admissions, she cited data directly from the Catholic schools' census.

What does the data tell us this year about Catholic education in England and Wales?

Firstly, Catholic schools remain the most ethnically diverse schools in the country. The figures show that Catholic schools educate 26% more pupils from minority backgrounds than the national average.

Moreover, not only are they the most ethnically diverse, they are the most disproportionately ethnically diverse. This means that when you take into account the size of our sector (10% of all schools nationally) we educate significantly more pupils from BME backgrounds than other providers. For example, one in five of all black pupils in England attend a Catholic school; that's a tenth of the nation's schools providing an education for a fifth of one ethnic group.

For the second year the CES has looked at the numbers of other religions represented in the pupil population in Catholic schools.

More than two thirds, 67% of students are Catholic however, the Church's schools provide an education for over 300,000 non-Catholics. After Catholicism, other Christian denominations and pupils with no

religious affiliation were the largest groups. Islam continues to be the largest non-Christian religion represented with more than 27,000 Muslim pupils attending Catholic schools.

When it comes to teaching staff, Catholic schools in England and Wales employ more than 50,000 teachers and over half, 51%, of them are of the Catholic faith.

The census also looked at students' participation in acts of collective worship.

Testament to the inclusive nature of Catholic schools, only 0.05% of non-Catholic pupils were withdrawn from acts of collective worship. That's just one pupil in every 1,735 non-Catholic pupils.

Additionally, the census looked for the first time at the rate of parental withdrawal from Relationship and Sex Education (RSE) classes. Last year, the CES welcomed the Government's announcement about making RSE statutory in all schools (for more information about this see issue 18 of Networking).

We welcomed this move because we knew anecdotally that the vast majority of Catholic schools already teach high quality RSE and fully engage parents, who are the primary educators of their children, in the delivery of these lessons. The data from the census backed this up with the results showing that in 2017 just 0.01% of parents decided to remove their children from RSE lessons in Catholic schools.

Finally, the census showed us that Catholic schools continue to serve the poorest communities in the country. Nearly a fifth, 19%, of pupils in Catholic primary schools come from the poorest households as do 17% of pupils in Catholic secondary schools.

On both counts this is significantly higher than the national average which sits at 13.5% for primary and 11.5% for secondary.

When you consider therefore that Catholic schools outperform the national average at both Key Stage Two and at GCSE this is a huge achievement and something of which our sector should rightly be proud.

The changing face of Catholic schools has always mirrored the changing face of the Catholic community and indeed the changing face of the country. However, one feature remains constant, Catholic schools remain a welcoming environment to all.

**by James
Spencer,
Communications
Manager,
Catholic
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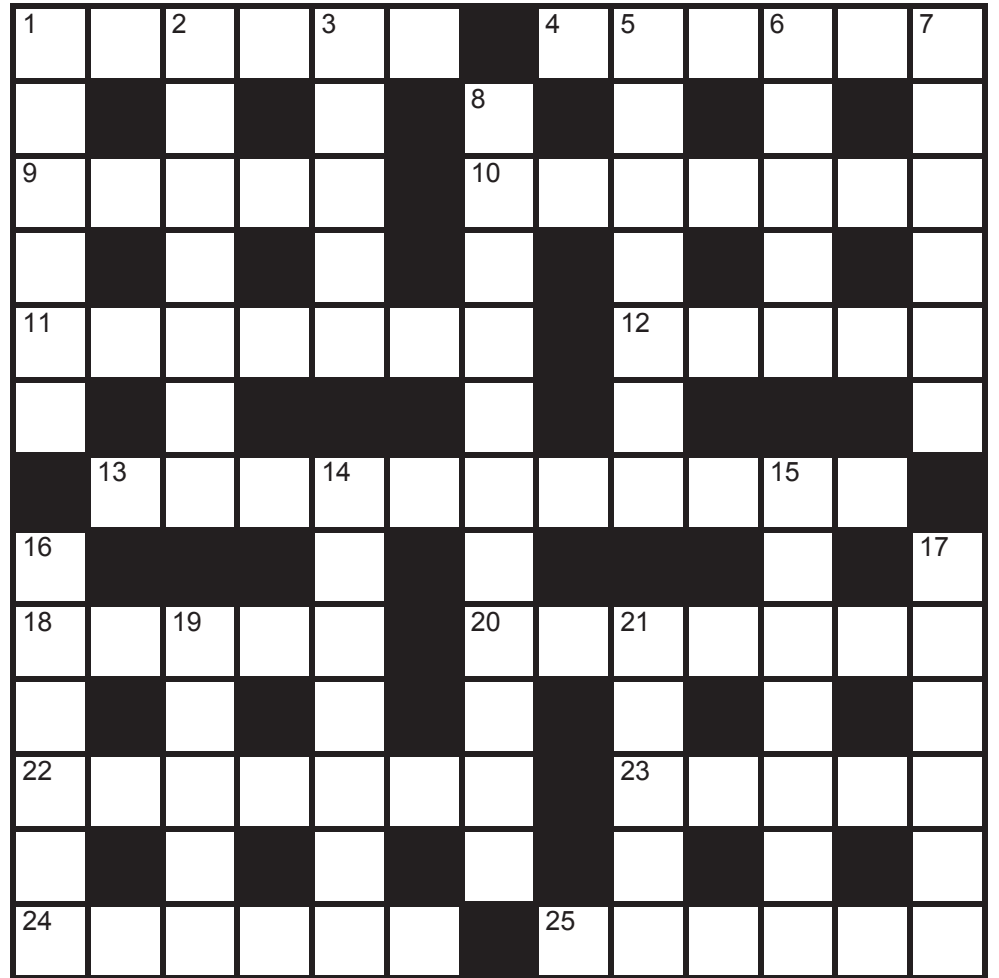
QUICK Across

- 1 Religious teacher, 'elder' in NT Greek (6)
- 4 Alternative name for Tabitha, a woman known for her good works in Acts (6)
- 9 Remains of burnt palm crosses which give their name to the first day of Lent (5)
- 10 Architecture and design movement of the 1930s (3,4)
- 11 Traditional Indonesian percussive orchestra, with xylophone, chimes and gongs (7)
- 12 Major river of Pakistan (5)
- 13 Route in the 1840s used by settlers crossing the Rockies to the West Coast (6,5)
- 18 Highlanders, for instance, and other Erse-speaking Celts (5)
- 20 H, H, H, H, H? (7)
- 22 Ste ----- of Lisieux, 1873-1897 (French spelling) (7)
- 23 Apocryphal book to Protestants, confirmed as canonical by Catholics at the Council of Trent (5)

- 24 Philistine king who twice gave David refuge from Saul (6)
- 25 Saint, 6th century British monk and historian (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 (Car) crashes, bumps (6)
- 2 Youngest son of Aaron and Elisheba (7)
- 3 Fibrous agave plant used for rope, named after a Mexican port (5)
- 5 Younger exposed rock formation, isolated among older rocks (7)
- 6 Words to live by (5)
- 7 Liverpudlian, and a kind of broth associated with one (6)
- 8 Murder One, they figured? (4,3,4)
- 14 The Synoptics and John in the NT (7)
- 15 Son of Phinehas (7)
- 16 Virgin martyred in Catania (6)
- 17 Like now (2,2,2)
- 19 Alternative biblical name for a son of Nineveh and the ancient Mesopotamian city of Uruk (5)
- 21 Piece of music for the whole orchestra (5)



Solution

Across: 1 Priest, 4 Dorcas, 9 Ashes, 10 Art Deco, 11 Gamelan, 12 Indus, 13 Oregon Trail, 18 Gaels, 20 Aitches, 22 Theresa, 23 Tobit, 24 Achish, 25 Gildas. **Down:** 1 Prangs, 2 Ithamar, 3 Sisal, 5 Outlier, 6 Creed, 7 Scouse, 8 Cain and Abel, 14 Gospels, 15 Ichabod, 16 Agatha, 17 As it is, 19 Erech, 21 Tutti.

The Divine Infant of Prague, Bestwood (NG5 5TQ) and Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Bulwell (NG6 9ES), Nottingham Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday 29 March 2018: Mass at 7.30pm at Divine Infant of Prague church

Good Friday 30 March 2018: The Passion of the Lord at 3pm at Our Lady's church

Maundy Thursday 29 March 2018: Mass at 7.30pm at Our Lady's church

Holy Saturday 31 March 2018: Vigil Mass at 7.30pm at Divine Infant of Prague church

Good Friday 30 March 2018: The Passion of the Lord at 3pm at Divine Infant of Prague church

Holy Saturday 31 March 2018: Vigil Mass at 7.30pm at Our Lady's church

Easter Sunday 1 April 2018: Mass at 9.30am at Divine Infant of Prague church
Mass at 10.15am at Our Lady's church

Easter week:
Monday - Saturday: Mass at 10am, Our Lady's church
Sunday, 8 April 2018: Mass at 10.15am at Our Lady's church
Sunday, 8 April 2018: Feast of the Divine Mercy at 2.30pm at Our Lady's church

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH 97 Ashby Road, Loughborough

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 29th March
7:00pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by watching until 10:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY - 30th March
3:00pm: The Passion of Our Lord
7pm: Stations of the Cross and Confessions

HOLY SATURDAY - 31st March
8:00pm: The Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY - 1st April
9:00am & 11:00am: Parish Masses
12.45pm: Polish Mass

St John The Baptist and St Peter Melton Mowbray

Maundy Thursday
Mass 7pm at St. Peter's, Welby Lane

Good Friday
Veneration of the Cross & Holy Communion 3pm at St. Peter's, Welby Lane
Stations of The Cross 7pm at St John's, Thorpe End

Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil & Mass 7pm at St. Peter's, Welby Lane

Easter Sunday
Mass 9am at St. John's, Thorpe End
Mass 10.30am at St. Peter's, Welby Lane

St Mary's, Derby & Holy Family, Allestree Holy Week and Easter 2018

St Mary's Derby Sunday, 25th March Palm Sunday
Masses: 9.00am, 11.00am & 6.30pm
Procession from the Convent Gardens 10.15am

Monday 26th March of Holy Week
Mass: 1.00pm
Service of Reconciliation: 7.00pm

Tuesday 27th March of Holy Week
Mass: 1.00pm

Wednesday 28th March of Holy Week
Mass: 1.00pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's 6.30pm

Thursday 29th March of Holy Week
Mass: 8.00pm (followed by watching at the Altar of Repose until 11.00pm)

Holy Family, Blenheim Avenue Sunday, 25th March Palm Sunday
Mass: 9.30am

Monday 26th March of Holy Week
Mass: 9.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation at St Mary's
Sacrament of Reconciliation at Holy Family after weekday
Monday 26th March of Holy Week
Mass: 9.00am

Canon Geoffrey, Fr Tim, Deacon Chris, Deacon Martin and The Mercy Sisters wish you all every blessing of this Easter

Night Prayer: 10.30pm
Good Friday, March 30th
Children's Liturgy: 10.00am
Liturgy: 3.00pm
Stations of the Cross: 7.30pm

Holy Saturday March 31st
Service of Light and Easter Vigil: 8.00pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st
Masses: 9.00am, 11.00am & 6.30pm

OTHER SERVICES/EVENTS
Exposition at St. Mary's
Mon, Tue & Wed: Noon - 12.55pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Mary's
Mon, Tue and Wed from Noon to 12.55pm
Thurs: 11.00am - 12.55pm (no confessions after Thursday night)

Thursday 29th March of Holy Week
Mass: 8.00pm (followed by watching at the Altar of Repose until 11pm)
Night Prayer: 10.30pm

Good Friday, March 30th
Liturgy: 3.00pm (A.C.T.): Service of Witness Meet at Park Farm 11.25am

Holy Saturday, March 31st
Service of Light & Easter Vigil: 8.30pm

Easter Sunday, April 1st
Mass: 9.30am

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 8th April 2018**

2.30 Welcome
2.40 Prayer to Mary the Mother of Divine Mercy
2.45 Talk given by Fr Daniel Palmer
3pm The 3'O Clock Prayer
3.10 The Chaplet

3.20 The Stations of the Cross
3.40 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
3.50 We will conclude with Benediction
4pm Close

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 Madeleine on 0115 927 7893 or Mary on 0115 849 4309

THE FEAST OF THE DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY 8TH APRIL 2018
An Afternoon of Devotions With Father Ted Mullen (IC) (from the Rosmini Centre House of Prayer) The Main Celebrant at the 5pm Mass.

2.30pm Opening Hymn and Introduction
Blessing of The Divine Mercy Image
3pm THE HOUR OF MERCY
"At this hour I will refuse nothing to the soul that asks with confidence in My Mercy"
The Chaplet of Mercy
Stations of the Cross

3.30pm Break for Refreshments & Bookstall
4pm Holy Hour followed by Benediction
Priests available for confessions during the afternoon.
5pm Holy Mass and Veneration of the Relic St Faustina

"The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment"
(This is the promise made by Our Lord to Saint Faustina)

AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL
Gleneagles Avenue, Rushey Mead, Leicester LE4 7ZB
Tel. 0116 2661621
For further information contact Kath Gambin on 0116 2340103

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

Helped save the planet during a day focused on recycling

Students at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy learnt how to help save the planet during a day focused on recycling.

The whole of Year 7 took part in a series of workshops led by form tutors and Derbyshire County Council.

A theatre company called We Are Gibber also ran a session which began with all students watching a play which follows the story of three Year 8 students all with differing knowledge, attitude and opinions about environmental issues.

Students then took part in a workshop during which they learnt the importance of the 3Rs and considered what actions they could take to reduce, reuse and recycle their waste to help protect the environment for themselves and future generations.

One exercise involved students guessing how long it would take for different objects to decompose including a mobile phone and a plastic bottle.

Eilish Stout-Cairns, from We Are Gibber, said students were surprised by how long it took certain objects to decompose.

She said: "They were shocked when we told them it took 450 years for a plastic bottle to decompose and 1,000 years for a mobile phone. We had a great response from the students and they really took on board the idea of reducing, reusing and recycling."



Other workshops which took place saw students exploring resources used to make common electrical items to gain a greater understanding of where they come from and what happens when they have finished using them.

A Dragons' Apprentice sessions saw small groups of students work together to pitch a reused or recycled item to a panel of judges, explaining what the environmental benefits are.

Students were asked to sort through a clean bag of waste that had been fly-tipped to find the culprit and in another workshop they had to make paper bags to sell.

Andy Ritchie, Learning for Life co-ordinator at Saint John Houghton CVA, thanked everyone who was involved in the day.

He said: "It was a fantastic day where students learnt the importance of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle as well as other environmental issues such as climate change. I would personally like to thank We Are Gibber and the staff from Derbyshire County Council for making the day a success."

#Giveitupchallenge at St Hugh's Lincoln

This Lent and for #FamilyFastDay we at CAFOD are working with our schools and inviting all our students to #giveitup! And through the money raised they will support our projects overseas, focusing on hunger and malnutrition.



Having been invited by Claire, RE Coordinator at the school, to come and give a whole school assembly it was great to visit and experience the commitment and dedication to CAFOD from both staff and students. St Hugh's poster displays around the school demonstrated their strong involvement in living out their Catholic faith. I particularly liked the simplicity and the challenge of Talk, Pray, Do! The Pastoral Cycle for children!

There was also a wonderful display on the Power to Be campaign, and the students had written letters to the World Bank, asking them to spend more money on St Hugh's renewable and sustainable energy.



And finally to talk to the whole school about the #giveitupchallenge

Years 1 & 2 were the first to arrive in the hall and as we waited they happily shared with me what they were giving up; chocolate, sweets, crisps. When everyone was in, and thanks to the help of some of the Year 6 students, the assembly began. The children were very receptive and engaging; especially my two lots of helpers who had a shopping bag each. In one a box of porridge, in the other carrots, onions, tomatoes, peppers.

Students were asked - Who would like to eat porridge for every meal? Would you have energy to play your favourite games on this diet? They sat enthralled watching the video on our CAFOD website telling the story of Svonzo, especially the fact that his mum grew peanuts and made homemade peanut butter!

I love visiting our schools but sadly this is not my priority: (One of my roles is to recruit and support a team of school volunteers who will do what I did at St Hugh's. If you have a couple of days a term to spare, I seriously recommend you do this - you will be inspired, motivated and have fun! So have a think about it and find out more about being a school volunteer! You won't regret it!



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE SCHOOLS ON THIS PAGE FOR SUPPORTING THE PAPER

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01509 212204
Headteacher Mrs L Atkins

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY
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HEADTEACHER MISS P JORDAN
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House of Prayer

April

13 Friday - Healing Service led Fr Denis Labartette. Rosary at 7.00 pm followed by Mass, Adoration and prayers for healing.

21 Saturday - *Deepening our Faith* with Bishop Robert Barron DVD. Mass at 10.00 am followed at 11.00 am by DVD on **Mary, the Mother of God**. Shared table at 1.00 pm with soup and a roll. Please book in advance. Donations welcome.

28 Saturday - *Lectio Divina* starting at 3.00 pm with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by meditation on the Sunday Gospel.

May

11 Friday - Healing Service led by Fr Ted Mullen. Mass at 7.00 pm followed by Adoration and prayers for healing.

19 Saturday - *Deepening our Faith* with Bishop Robert Barron DVD. Mass at 10.00 am followed at 11.00 am by DVD on the **Church Leaders: Peter and Paul**. Shared table lunch at 1.00pm with soup and a roll. Please book in advance. Donations welcome.

26 Saturday - *Lectio Divina* starting at 3.00 pm with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, followed by meditation on the Sunday Gospel.

ROSMINI CENTRE,
433 FOSSE WAY, LE7 4SJ
Tel: 07973 370620 or 01509 813078 or
email: 243mulls@gmail.com

The Rosmini Centre is off the A46, half a mile north of Ratcliffe College entrance on the left, 50 metres before the black and white Speed Camera sign.

