

The Ascension of the Lord
May 10th

Catholic News

MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF BRINGING THE
NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

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Our shared commitment to stemming the spread of fake news

Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for World Communications Day

The Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 13 May 2018. It's a day when we pray for those who work in the media and have a second collection after Mass to support the Church's important work in this area. Pope Francis, in his message for communications day, focuses on 'Fake News and Journalism for Peace'

This year's theme is "The truth will set you free" (Jn 8:32). Fake news and journalism for peace". In his introduction Pope Francis said 'Communication is part of God's plan for us and an essential way to experience fellowship. Made in the image and likeness of our Creator, we are able to express and share all that is true, good, and beautiful. We are able to describe our own experiences and the world around us, and thus to create historical memory and the understanding of events. But when we yield to our own pride and selfishness, we can also distort the way we use our ability to communicate. This can be seen from the earliest times, in the biblical stories of Cain and Abel and the Tower

of Babel (cf. Gen 4:4-16; 11:1-9). The capacity to twist the truth is symptomatic of our condition, both as individuals and communities. On the other hand, when we are faithful to God's plan, communication becomes an effective expression of our responsible search for truth and our pursuit of goodness.

In today's fast-changing world of communications and digital systems, we are witnessing the spread of what has come to be known as "fake news". This calls for reflection, which is why I have decided to return in this World Communications Day Message to the issue of truth, which was raised time and time again by my predecessors, beginning with Pope Paul VI, whose 1972 Message took as its theme: "Social Communications at the Service of Truth". In this way, I would like to contribute to our shared commitment to stemming the spread of fake news and to rediscovering the dignity of journalism and the personal responsibility of journalists to communicate the truth.

The Pope also takes inspiration from a Franciscan Prayer for World Communications Day so we might turn to the Truth in person:

*Lord, make us instruments of
your peace.*

*Help us to recognize the evil latent in a
communication that does not build
communion.*

*Help us to remove the venom from
our judgements.*

*Help us to speak about others as our
brothers and sisters.*

*You are faithful and trustworthy; may
our words be seeds of goodness for the
world:*

where there is shouting,

*let us practise listening;
where there is confusion,
let us inspire harmony;
where there is ambiguity,
let us bring clarity;
where there is exclusion,
let us offer solidarity;
where there is sensationalism,
let us use sobriety;
where there is superficiality,
let us raise real questions;
where there is prejudice,
let us awaken trust;
where there is hostility,
let us bring respect;
where there is falsehood,
let us bring truth.*

Amen

Full details of Pope's message here
[www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/News/
Pope-s-Comms-Message](http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/News/Pope-s-Comms-Message)



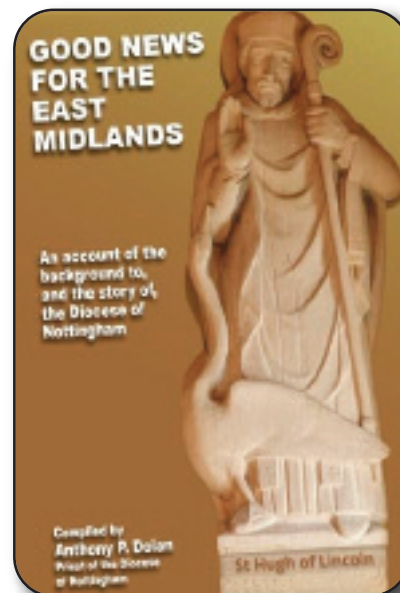
Good News for the East Midlands

We would like to announce the publication of the new book compiled by Canon Anthony Dolan, entitled Good News for the East Midlands, which will become an important part of the archival history of the Catholic Church in the East Midlands. From the back of the book, the following:

"This book outlines the history of Christianity in the English East Midlands (including Lincolnshire) from its beginnings in the fourth century until the Reformation in the sixteenth. From this point onwards, it deals specifically with the story of Catholic Christianity leading to the establishment of the Diocese of Nottingham in 1850. Brief biographies of the Bishops of Nottingham are followed by accounts of each of the parishes of the diocese; these take up the major part of the book. In addition to the diocesan (or secular) clergy, the

diocese has been served, at various times, by members of some fifty Religious Congregations of men and women. An outline of their origins, specific charisms and work in the diocese leads onto a consideration of the Saints and other holy people connected with the Diocese of Nottingham. The post-World-War-Two era has seen many significant developments, and some of these are now listed."

If you would like to obtain a copy of the book the retail price is £20, with a reduction to £16 on orders made by parish offices. Orders may be mailed, marked "for the attention of Carla Brown" and with cheques made payable to "Retired Priests Appeal Office, Holy Trinity Presbytery, Boundary Road, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG24 4AU."



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The monthly paper for the
Diocese of Nottingham

The
Catholic News

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Pope Francis releases Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Call to Holiness in Today's World'

The Holy Father Pope Francis has released the Apostolic Exhortation 'Gaudete et Exsultate' on the call to holiness in today's world.

There is an emphasis on the document being practical and useful in modern times and it is not intended to be an academic or doctrinal text per se. As its accompanying summary document states, its goal is "to re-propose the call to holiness in a practical way for our own time."

The call to holiness in one that cries out to all of us in our daily lives. Gaudete et Exsultate encourages us to take inspiration from the 'Saints next door' - people who may not be officially canonised but can be decisive in bringing about change. Pope Francis quotes Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross:

"The greatest figures of prophecy and sanctity step forth out of the darkest night. But for the most part, the formative stream of the mystical life remains invisible. Certainly the most decisive turning points in world history are substantially co-determined by souls whom no history book ever mentions. And we will only find out about those souls in our personal lives on the day when all that is hidden is revealed."

Holiness is described as the "most attractive face of the Church" and is attainable despite the challenges of everyday life. Pope Francis wants people to know that they don't need special education or qualifications, nor to have taken religious vows to be holy - just an open heart and a desire to spend some time with the Lord in prayer and by reading the



Gospel. He also wants people to know that the Church makes available everything they need to become holy.

A far reaching and accessible document, 'Gaudete et Exsultate' examines many subjects tied in to our relationship with Christ -

prayer, reading scripture, helping others, maintaining and upholding human dignity not to mention challenges to holiness such as the danger of gossip.

It also looks at two ancient heresies - Gnosticism and Pelagianism.

Our Contemplative Journey in Ten Steps

1. Are you ready to respond to the call: "**Be still and know that I am God?**"

If you answer that with a purposeful affirmative then you may well be ready.

2. There are three golden rules:

A. Be relaxed and then be in faith and love to God who dwells at the centre of your Being.

B. Take up a short prayer, ideally your mantra word, and let it support you in your being directly present to God. Listen intently to your mantra.

C. When your mind becomes aware of anything else, simply return to the Lord through the use of your prayer word. This was the method highlighted in the meditation practice of John Main, founder of the World Community for Christian Meditation.

3. What counts here is our Being - not our thinking, feeling or imagining, but our being in faith and love to God. This giving of ourselves to God is paramount. The stillness, silence, simplicity and repetition of our prayer word, coupled with the longing of our heart, sustains our meditation.

4. Jesus promised: "The Father and I will come and make our home in you."

5. The words are not the prayer. They are simply a symbol of our intention to say "Yes" to God.

6. In this prayer we go direct. We have to replace our habit of mind with our habit of being, a habit of presence. Meister Eckhart reminded us: "God's ground is my ground"

7. Our fuel power here is the longing of our heart. Our goal is oneness with the Divine.



Three basic prayers, common to the Christian contemplative tradition, affirm our willingness to be united and enraptured in God.

A. The Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me."

B. "O God come to our aid, O Lord make haste to help us."

C. "Maranatha," Come Lord Jesus come. This is the Aramaic prayer word, taught by John Main, and used widely today in the Christian contemplative tradition.

9. How can we start out? Many contemporary practitioners, leaning on their own experience, would urge us to accept the simplicity of the way outlined here by John Main.

We keep returning daily to the practice of the repetition of the mantra 'Maranatha', meaning "Come Lord Come." Main would have us return twice daily to this specific prayer practice, morning and evening.

10. John Main recommended that initially we practice this style of meditation for 20 minutes over a period of 21 days. He urged us to "engage our listening heart."

Main also warned us against trying too hard. He wanted us to "Let go, and let God." He urged us to keep returning to the practice every day.

David Mahon

Wanted - Parish Correspondents

The Catholic News is looking for a Parish Correspondent in your parish to send in local news for publication in this newspaper. All items to be emailed to johnclawson@icloud.com before 10th of the month



House of Prayer

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.

June

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

16 Saturday - Deepening our Faith with Bishop Robert Barron DVD.

Mass at 10.00 am followed at 11.00 am by DVD on The Church as Sacrament. Shared table lunch at 1.00pm with soup and a roll. Please book in advance. Donations welcome.

23 Saturday - "We shall be saved by Beauty" - a look at Pope Francis' teachings on care for our planet, our "common home" by Fr Antonio Belsito. Mass at 10.00 am with talk at 11.00 am and shared table lunch at 1.00 pm. Please book in advance. All are welcome.

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

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Faith in Families – The Catholic Children’s Society

Our History – Their Future – A Series for our 70th Anniversary

Part Two A Changing Service

During the 1950s and 1960s as many as eight babies a year were placed with adoptive parents. But with the change in attitudes to pregnancy and with more financial support available for parents from society in general which meant that single women had a real choice in the future of their children, the main focus of the Agency moved to the provision of adoptive families for older children who were being looked after by Local Authority Social Services Departments. To support this work the first social worker was employed during the period when Father Patrick Reidy was Administrator between 1957 and 1961.

At the same time the Agency began to close its homes and Colston Basset Hall was closed as a children’s home in 1961. This closure was followed by the closure of ST Joseph’s Mother and Baby Home in 1976. However, in 1975 the Agency acquired St Joseph’s in West Bridgford which was adapted to provide each resident with a bedsit and a small kitchen so the young mothers could learn independent living skills in parenting, housekeeping, etc. In order that they could learn how to care for their babies. With the care and supervision of the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace many young women moved on to flats or houses on their own with their babies.

Over the years the work at St Joseph’s West Bridgford was further developed to provide assessment services for young parents and children who were considered to be at risk and became St Joseph’s Family Assessment Unit in 1993. It provided a service at the very heart of child protection because the Community Care Act of 1990 gave Local Au-



thorities clearly defined duties particularly where children were at risk. St Joseph’s was well placed to take up referrals where an assessment report was required to enable informed planning for a child’s future or for court proceedings.

A highly skilled team provided many parents with the help they needed to develop their self-esteem, to help them bond with and care for their children and to look carefully at their relationships. At the same time it provided a safe environment for their children together with child development work and nursery facilities. Volunteers offered a valuable contribution, not only drawing on their professional skills and personal experiences but also providing weekly sewing

and home-craft sessions.

Just as St Joseph’s was about to celebrate its fiftieth year it had to close as Local Authorities could no longer afford the assessment fees. We know, however, that the impact of St Joseph’s continues in the lives of those parents and children with whom the Society has worked.

In 1978, at the request of the Tameside Metropolitan Authority near Manchester the Society was asked to provide a residential home in the Peak District and again with the help of the Sisters of St Joseph of Peace a family group home, Kinder Lodge, was provided in a large leased house in Hadfield. This Children’s Home continued

until 1984 when the Local Authority developed its own services.

The Agency benefitted from several committed administrators appointed following Bishop James McGuinness’s appointment as the eighth Bishop of Nottingham when he set about building on the work started by Bishop Ellis. Father Thomas Maloney (1970-1974), Father Owen O’Neill (1974-1980) and Canon Christopher Fisher (1980-2000) all served with great distinction as Administrators. Sadly Canon Fisher died in a car accident in the course of his duties in 2000. He was the last ordained Administrator being succeeded by Margaret Dight.

Faith in Families: www.faithinfamilies.org

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Donations help provide children's bereavement packs



The Grand Knight of Lincoln Council 142, Brother Tim Mavers-Chance, supported by Brother Martin Cook, PGK Province 9, presented a cheque to Deacon David Knight- principal chaplain at Lincoln County Hospital. This was from donations made at the Christmas Crib at the hospital, and will be used to help provide children's bereavement packs.

Thoughts from Elston Hermitage.....

As a hermit it may sound odd that as I travel mostly at weekends around the diocese parishioners are intrigued as to why a hermit is among them, the image of a hermit for most being one who never leaves his or her 'hermitage' and of course for some hermits this remains true. However I often simply explain the way of life I live as a modern 21st century hermit. It is a challenging and unique vocation as a contemplative hermit who is not enclosed all of the time, but does live a life of simplicity, semi solitude, entirely committed to prayer and walking in union intently with God both within and outside the hermitage. The great contemplative monk Thomas Merton once said that 'the hermitage is the centre of the world', I have an understanding of this concept and I always says that I take 'hermitage' out into the world and bring the world back to the 'hermitage' in prayer. Despite this the idea of hermitage life rests uneasily with many people and the concept is hard to understand however much explanation is given - people who live busy lives find pausing and praying difficult for a few moments- let alone to live a life entirely with and for God, trying to say 'Yes' to God in all things.

As we approach the month of May we recall especially and dedicate this month to Mary. The special character of Our Lady was of course her entire devotion to God Himself, she valued being altogether in the direct line of union with the will of God, and as we think of Mary we can think of one very simple, very direct and wonderfully brave in her love of God. It was not to one busily engaged in all sorts of active work, (as important as this maybe in our lives) but to one humble and without any consciousness of self, it was to Mary who completely



offered to do God's will and cooperate with Him by her affirmative Yes that He came to dwell with us.

Whatever vocation we follow in this life what God asks of us is something we can all give- He asks us to give ourselves. If our world is to be brought into a right relationship with God, if there is to be harmony, peace and justice, it will be brought about by 'saviours' individuals who are learning to pray and bring their lives into union with God, those who are learning to be still and to hear, as Thomas a Kempis said "the throbbing whisper of the Lord '.

This Year of the Eucharist hopefully will enable us to have many opportunities to spend time in prayer and reflection that we may find our vocations as 'saviours' of our world by our 'Yes' to God in Mary's month of May.

O Mary teach us always to say YES to the Lord, every moment of our life.
O Mary teach us always to give THANKS to the Lord, every moment of our life.

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

Grandma Duty Attending Stations of the Cross

On Grandma duty today and attended English Martyr's Primary School in Long Eaton to join staff, students, parents and grandparents for the last day of term and a most beautiful and moving Stations of the Cross.



Mrs Mann informed us that each class had been preparing all week for their 'station', each presenting some visual to share. The children processed into the hall so quietly and prayerfully. As each Station was announced we reflected on scripture and each class presented their work.

The choir performed 'Something inside so strong' – beautifully and powerfully sung! Wonderful images were presented for the 4th Station, when Jesus met His mother; the children having written about the qualities of their own mothers. We ended with the 12th Station, the chaplaincy team placing candles on and around the wooden cross which was placed in the middle of the hall.



A most beautiful service! Thank you especially to the Chaplaincy Team who led the service and afterwards told me about their CAFOD fundraising activities during Lent; sponsored silence, sponsored run, nail bar! Their eyes lit up when I reminded them that all their donations would be doubled this Lent, thanks to UK government!

What a creative idea to engage with the Stations of the Cross. How easy it would be to adapt for a parish setting; different groups in the parish preparing and presenting each Station.
 Maggie Mairura



The Chaplaincy Team

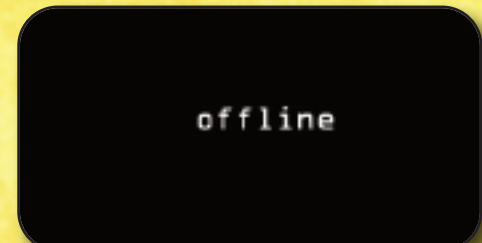
All Quiet at Holy Trinity School

It's great keeping up with our Catholic Schools through Twitter! Wonderful photos and activities being shared so we can celebrate and say thank you for all their hard work this Lent. Especially as all donations, up to £5million will be doubled, yes doubled, by UK government!!

And then a strange photo appears..... What's this? What's going on here? holy trinity offline

And then the explanation.....

"You might have noticed things were a little quiet yesterday! This was because Holy Trinity went 'paper and technology free' for the day to raise money for @CAFOD during the season of Lent!



We had a great day! Lots of different creative activities going on around the school and making the most of our wonderful outside space as well!"

Well done Holy Trinity, so creative and as well as raising money for CAFOD, raising awareness of the many school children who don't have access to electricity.

Maggie Mairura

Conference to celebrate almost half a millennium of pioneering Catholic Education

Fr Laurence Lew O.P.



Ushaw College is marking the 450th anniversary of its predecessor institution - the English College at Douai - with a special conference to celebrate the extraordinary, pioneering Catholic education that it has provided over the centuries.

With the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University, Ushaw is hosting an anniversary conference titled '450 Years Pioneering Catholic Education: Past, Present, Future' from Monday 30 April to Tuesday 1 May 2018.

Rather than simply presenting an institutional history of the English College, Douai, the conference will place its achievements in a wider context, highlighting how the college has adapted to a changing world whilst pioneering innovative educational formation and contributing to Catholic life.

Historic, often overlooked, the English College at Douai was, nominally, the first

purpose-designed seminary in the world following the Council of Trent.

It initiated a missionary endeavour on the western fringes of Europe - something mirrored by other nations in the region.

As well as being part of the wider European and global Church, the college was also a key part of the Catholic exile movement, in which women featured prominently.

Conference Format

Two sets of parallel sessions will engage with facets of these developments - both during the exile period and at Ushaw.

The conference will also consider the challenges facing seminaries today and into the future, exploring ways in which the pioneering spirit of the English College at Douai remains relevant the 21st century.

Rare Papal Bulls found

In a brick-lined tomb at St Alban's Cathedral have been found the remains of John of Wheathamstead, who died in 1465. He was a former Abbot of St Alban's Abbey, and the tomb had been lost for centuries. Important as this find is, Director of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, Dr Paul Bennett, enthused that three papal seals or bulls from letters from Pope Martin V were found with the remains.

The abbot was given special privileges during an audience in 1424. A man of 'letters and learning' who wrote books and poetry, he lived a long and active life. He was an extremely reserved man who nevertheless fought legal battles, even one against the Archbishop of Canterbury, said Dr Bennett.

Although there are other bulls extant, such as those at Canterbury, it is unique to find three together. Dr Bennett will be researching the matter further at the Vatican archives.



St. Gregory's, Sileby, Leicestershire Four generations of the same family at Sunday Mass



Palm Sunday - 25th March - saw four generations of the same family at Sunday Mass. Parishioner Jean Richardson proudly posed with her daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter. This was a rare and very special occasions. Congratulations to all the family.

Peter Fryer

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Casper the Prodigal Cat?

Sinead Love, Parish Catechist at St Georges Church, Derby really had a story to tell the children when they returned to their First Holy Communion Class after Easter, her family cat that had vanished from her home in Derby over two years ago had been found safe and well over 64 miles away in Wakefield. Casper ran away during a thunder storm and Sinead had spent months of searching and the family were left heartbroken and accepted they would never see him again. Then just after Easter 2018 Sinead got a phone call from a vet to say he had been handed in and her details had been tracked down because he had been chipped.



Casper adjusted to life back in Derby? Sinead said "It like he hasn't been away he returned home and seemed to know exactly where he was, he went to sleep on his favourite chair, woke up and went to the kitchen to sit by the cupboard we used to keep his food in! and is as affectionate to us as he always was. On another note the First Holy Communion lesson that week was Reconciliation and the reading the Prodigal Son, So it was good to share with the children Caspers' story and my families sadness of losing him but the unexpected Joy of his return and our reconciliation" As for Casper, he has yet reveal the secrets of his adventure!

Sinead, said: "I got a phone call from a vet out of the blue, when I was busy at work, asking if I had a cat called Casper because it had just been handed into the vets. I said yes, but he had gone missing two and-a-half years ago. The Vet told me Casper was with them,. I could not believe it. I was absolutely amazed and overjoyed"

Sinead was in for another surprise when the vets tried to arrange for her to collect him - Sinead said: "When they asked me where in the country we were I just 'oh Sunny Hill' . I never imaged he could have gone very far. So when they said Wakefield I was flabbergasted We have no idea how he got to Wakefield and never will"

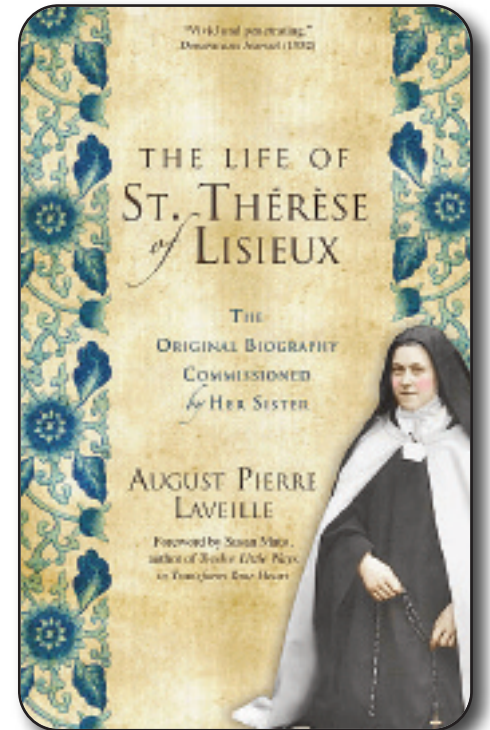
The family travelled to Wakefield to collect him and Sinead said: "He was my companion and a huge part of our family life the family grieved his loss, but that loss has turned to joy now he is back home" . So Has

Mrs Karan O'Connor
St Georges Derby,
Parish Corespondent

Book Reviews

The Life of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

The Original Biography
Commissioned by Her Sister
Author: August Pierre Laveille
Foreword by: Susan Muto
Translated by:
Michael Fitzsimons, O.M.I.
Price: \$18.95
Format: Paperback
Pages: 448
Trim size: 5.5 x 8.5 inches
ISBN: 978-0-87061-302-9
Imprint: Christian Classics



This remarkable biography of Thérèse of Lisieux, one of the most popular Catholic saints of all time, was commissioned by her sister and religious superior and was the first published in English in 1928. Msgr. August Pierre Laveille was able to portray Thérèse, as well as her parents Zélie and Louis who were canonized in 2015, with exquisite detail, having interviewed those who knew them best.

When the autobiography of the life of Thérèse of Lisieux, Story of a Soul, was first published a year after her death in 1898, the response was immediate and overwhelming, with tens of thousands of copies of her book sold in just a few short months. It was decided that an official bi-

ography should be written from the documents that had been gathered on the life of Thérèse Martin, whose cause for canonization was taken up without the customary fifty year waiting period.

First published in French in 1925, the first English edition became available in 1928. This exhaustive record of the life of one of the most beloved of all Catholic saints includes biographical information about her parents and grandparents, her early years at home, her years in the cloister, her illness and death, and information about the miracles attributed to her after her death, when she made good the promise on her deathbed that she would "spend her heaven doing good on earth."

Strengthening family life through friendship and faith



3 x 30+ Catenians

At the March meeting of the Catenian Association, Derby Branch, three members received their certificates celebrating over 30 years each as members. From left to right; Eddie Gray, from The Holy Family Parish, Allestree, Derby, Norman Cottrell, St Mary's Parish, Derby and John Lawson from St. George's Parish, Derby. Each one in turn said that their Catenian membership had brought a great quality of friendship

not only for themselves but for their wives also. John, in particular, mentioned the comfort he had drawn from being able to meet Catenians in his business life and so to be able to work with like-minded people

Kevin Hurst
Derby Catenian Publicity Officer

Easter egg hunt around the church grounds



On Easter Sunday, the parish of St. Mary's in Brigg held its traditional shared Easter lunch after Mass, followed by the Easter egg hunt around the church grounds.

Derby Nightshelter comes to St. Mary's

Since Sunday December 3rd last year St. Mary's Parish Centre has been the home on Sunday evening for Derby Nightshelter. Working with 6 other church venues in or near the city centre, they have each opened one night per week in rotation throughout December 2017 - March 2018. Volunteers gave a warm welcome and a substantial meal was served for up to 35 guests. At 10pm, paid overnight staff took over as the guests go to sleep in sleeping bags on mattresses on the floor. Next morning there was a breakfast served again by volunteers and the guests left the hall by 8am.

The project is coordinated by Derby City Mission, but the volunteers come from Churches all over Derby. Some volunteers work in the kitchen, some serve food to the

guests at the tables, while others just sit and chat to the guests; in many ways a crucial role for it gives the guests someone who listens to them.

Derby City Mission organise the hot dinner which is brought in about 8pm after which a hot pudding and custard, supplied by the Parishioners of St. Mary's, is served. This is the 5th year of the project and the volunteers return time and time again to help the project over the cold winter months.

The last night at St. Mary's was Easter Sunday, and the project finished on Easter Monday April 2nd at Derby Cathedral.

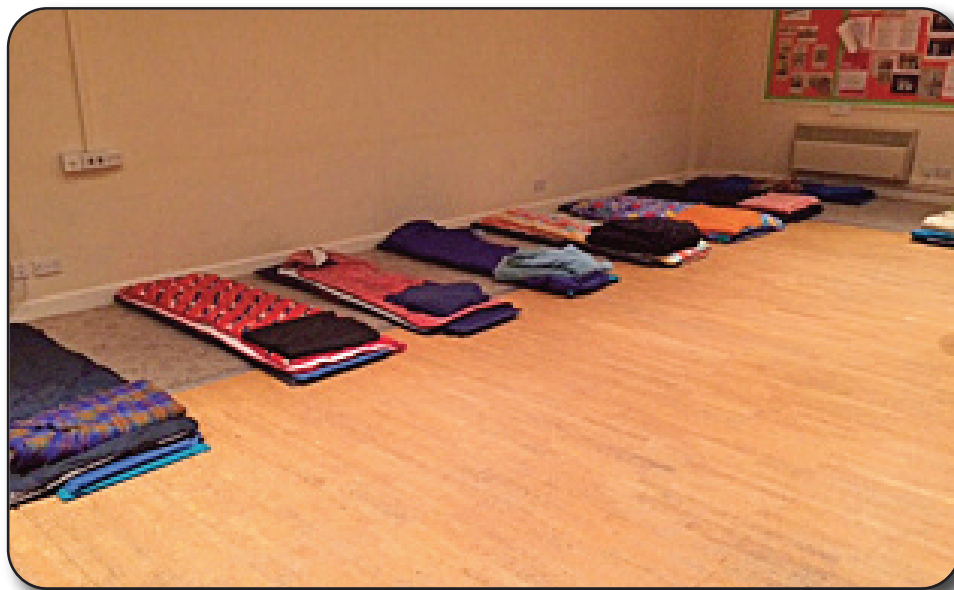
Thanks to all parishioners for their support either by providing refreshments when



asked, the financial donations or by keeping the project in your prayers. At the last count 318 individuals stayed for a night in a Nightshelter this season; 34 females and 284 males. Last years number was around 260 so a massive increase. Numbers steadily increased from the start from

around 20 a night to 28 a night but the churches were above capacity recently through the bad weather to 46 attending one night at one of the other venues.

Deacon Chris Blunt



FRANKLY SPEAKING

The "problems" that may occur pale into insignificance

The Easter edition of my local newspaper told its readers of the brave fundraising by a mother who, having being diagnosed with terminal cancer, was determined to ensure that her autistic son would remain in his childhood home. Much of the money was raised by selling off many of her personal possessions. This outstanding lady has a truly inspiring son who has received an award "for courage" from the local Rotary Club.

This story coincided with the rare act of bravery in France by Lieutenant Colonel Arnaud Beltrame who died on the last Saturday of Lent from gun and knife wounds having voluntarily taken the place of a female cashier in a supermarket in south Western France. Pope Francis, President Macron and Cardinal Nichols all paid warm tributes to this brave hero who was due to be married on June 9th.

The Cardinal spoke of Lieutenant Arnaud's Catholic Faith and his local priest having given the brave police officer the sacrament of the Sick spoke of his "Christian Faith associated by love which demanded of him this superhuman sacrifice."

These two Easter factual events this year surely emphasise the importance of living our lives in their fullness even if decisions have to be taken that we would rather not

make. Our society is moving towards an age when the over sixty fives are about to outnumber the under fives for the first time in history. The advance of modern medicine has ensured that by 2030 around 20 per cent of people in England will be over the age of 65. When the NHS was founded on July 5th 1948 nearly a half of the population would not see their 65th birthday. As we approach the 70th anniversary decisions on health and adult social care are long overdue, we are in 2018 not 1948.

Just after Christmas a much respected MP appealed for cross party cooperation as thousands of operations had to be postponed by the NHS. We have certainly heard similar outbursts in the past not least on adult social care. Now that the NHS is incorporated in its new title "Department of Health and Social Care" it is surely time for a cross party agreement on the long term future of the NHS. Yes the convening of the political party members of Parliament will meet some problems but that is why we send MP's to Westminster. The "problems" that may occur pale into insignificance when compared to the two examples at the start of this article.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish
Newark

Nottingham Cathedral MUSIC FESTIVAL

Roderick Williams & Iain Burnside

Thursday 7 June, 7pm

The renowned baritone and pianist give a recital featuring works by composers who served in the First World War. Programme to include George Butterworth's A Shropshire Lad together with Songs of Travel by Ralph Vaughan Williams, as well as music by Ivor Gurney, John Ireland, and Gerald Finzi.



Papagena - Nuns and Roses

Friday 8 June, 7.30pm

From the chart of Hildegard of Bingen to Bach, Byzantine hymns to Norwegian lullabies, the all-female a cappella group Papagena present an exquisite musical cocktail of folk, medieval classical and contemporary styles, woven into a tapestry which is both sacred and profane, tender, witty and urbane.



Tobias and the Angel

Saturday 9 June, 3pm

The Cathedral Choirs join forces with Streetwise Opera and Music for Everyone to give a performance of the uplifting church opera Tobias and the Angel with music by Jonathan Dove to David Lan's witty and direct libretto.



Festival Mass

Sunday 10 June, 11.15am

The Cathedral Choir sing music by female composers - including a new work by our Composer-in-Residence, Amy Summers.



Letters from the Front

Sunday 10 June, 3pm

Essentially Brass present a recital of music and readings to mark the centenary of WW1, with percussionist Helen Shelton.



Booking opens April 2018 - www.nottinghamcathedralmusic.com/festival

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Beanie Bonanza

The March meeting of the St Peter & St Paul's CWL was busy but, as always, an interesting one. We had arrangements to make for future coffee mornings and plans for a recruitment drive.

One of our members, Liz Aldridge, had organised a speaker from the Nomad Trust to visit us and talk about their hopes and ideas for the coming year. The work they do in supporting the homeless and those in need is splendid and worthwhile. The association relies on donations and volunteers who give so much of their time.

Melissa arrived just in time for a cup of tea and a biscuit. After a warm welcome we heard all about the Nomad Trust, their plans and the possibility of increasing the number of beds they have to offer.

Jennifer, another member of the CWL, had been busy knitting beanie hats with wool donated by the ladies of the parish. You can see us modeling the hats and presenting Melissa with a cheque.

Well done, CWL!

Jennifer, St Peter & St Paul's Parish, Lincoln



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NOMAD TRUST SLEEPEASY EVENT

I knew of this event from my neighbour whose daughter had taken part a few years ago but I lacked the courage to volunteer. This was until the CWL hosted Melissa Gaffney from the YMCA. Melissa asked for volunteers and I put my hand up.

The venue was the area outside Lincoln Cathedral's Chapter House and I was advised by those in the know to arrive early, grab the best site and choose the largest box. All the boxes were the same size and I was given two. I befriended Jess and Anne. Anne, who knew exactly what she was doing, brought her own boxes and proceeded to design a long snake like tube of boxes, covered with blue tarpaulin. Mine was much more minimalist, one box, the size of a small coffin, with a flattened box acting as a door. I crawled in at 9 but was disturbed by the nervous chatter of my neighbours who were regaling each other with talk of Raulph Fiennes.

My inadequacy increased. Courage, I said to myself, think about those who are forced to live like this, night after night. I crawled back in. I couldn't get myself into my sleeping bag; I developed cramp. I got up, drank another coffee, trekked off to the loo, spent ages drying my hands in those wonderful Dyson hand dryers. My inner voice told me to get a grip and GET BACK IN THERE!

It was 3 a.m. when I suffered another invasion of cramp as I tried to keep the roof of my box from collapsing. I was dragged out by one of the Nomad team. I was incoherent with rage, disappointment and probably hypothermia. A bed was made up for me in the cloisters. I slept on stone now instead of grass and waited for the morning chorus and rosy-fingered dawn.



The raucous tones of a crow greeted the greyest dawn in Christendom. And then, at 6.30 am, the smell of frying bacon and wonderful Stokes' coffee. And home at 9 to sleep in my wonderfully warm bed until 2pm.

How lucky am I!

*Liz,
 St Peter & St Paul's Parish,
 Lincoln*

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VIP tour of Rolls-Royce



A Derby teenager has enjoyed a VIP tour of Rolls-Royce after he spoke of his desire to work for the company when he appeared on The One Show.

Reuben Litherland, who attends Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby, told the show's presenters Alex Jones and Ore Oduba that working for Rolls-Royce was his 'perfect dream'.

The 14-year-old is profoundly Deaf and was invited on to the BBC One programme to talk about how he copes with everyday life and footage of him filmed throughout the school day was also shown.

Bosses at Rolls-Royce were so impressed by Reuben's interview that they invited him for a special behind the scenes tour.

He visited the company's Derby site, touring the Apprenticeship Academy and Workshop, Heritage Centre, Engine Build and a Test Bed.

During his visit staff from Rolls-Royce stopped to shake his hand, describing him as an inspiration, and even asked for selfies with him.



Reuben said his visit had fuelled his dream of working for Rolls-Royce.

He said: "I was excited and nervous ahead of my visit. We went to the apprentice workshop where I could see the basic machinery in action. We walked through the Heritage Centre which was really interesting because I got the chance to learn more about Rolls-Royce history.

"Then we visited Engine Build where we looked at engines being assembled. That was very exciting and I learnt that all engines are assembled by hand.

"I also received bags full of goodies from Rolls-Royce, I couldn't believe it. I am very grateful and I would like to thank Rolls-Royce for an amazing experience which has made me more determined to work there one day."

Paul Broadhead, Global Head of Community Investment and Education Outreach at Rolls-Royce, organised Reuben's visit. He said: "When Reuben appeared on The One Show he inspired the nation. When he mentioned he wanted to be a Rolls-Royce



Aero Engineer we simply had to invite him in to see us up close.

"Having now met Reuben I have to say he is a fabulous young man who is a credit to Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy and his parents. He tells me that now he has met some of our people and seen our Trent engines he is doubly keen to turn his dream job into a reality.

"I think we might be seeing Reuben again in Rolls-Royce some day in the not too distant future."

After being encouraged by well-wishers following his TV appearance, Reuben has also set up his own Facebook page called 'Learn How To Do British Sign Language' where he posts video tutorials and it has already amassed almost 10,000 likes and followers. Kevin Gritton, headteacher at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy, in Duffield Road, said: "I'm sure that Reuben will never forget his visit to Rolls-Royce and we would like to thank everyone at the company for giving him such an incredible experience. Reuben is a fantastic ambassador for our school and we are proud to say that he is one of our students."

Poles Apart!

By Julia Beacroft

THE SEASONS AND the weather have been the focus of my last couple of articles. Therefore, continuing this theme, I move on to the 'marvellous month of May'...

My elder son is a teaching assistant in a primary school – a rewarding, demanding and often challenging role, but one which he, nevertheless, gives his heart and soul to. Yet he has been a bit fed up lately...

UNRAVELLING

As the season is now set to change again, most schools are turning their thoughts to spring activities. And of course, his is no exception. Some of the children there have been tasked with learning to maypole dance. The dance is performed by pairs of boys and girls who stand alternately around the base of the maypole, each holding the end of a ribbon. They weave in and around each other, boys going one way and girls going the other and the ribbons are woven together around the pole until the merry-makers meet at the base. My son explained that this sounds so simple in theory, but the practice is a very different matter! The children apparently, seemed unable to grasp the idea at all, going the wrong way and tangling the ribbons until it was impossible to continue. And there are no prizes for guessing who had the monumental task of unravelling them! But unfortunately, there was still worse to come! In despair, the class



teacher nominated the long suffering teaching assistant – my son – to be one of the maypole dancers, in a bid to 'sort the children out'. To say that he was reluctant and felt an absolute fool during the process would have been an understatement!

GRATEST COMMISSION

During the month of May we honour the Virgin Mary as 'the Queen of May'. And rightly so. And yet this was not only because she was born without spot or stain of sin – a perfect vessel to carry the Lord – but also because of her absolute obedience and faith in God. This great faith enabled her to give an unequivocal "Yes" to God, when asked if she would become the mother of Jesus Christ. Mary must have wondered what would become of her when the news of her impending motherhood became known, as this would have been completely flying in

the face of Jewish conventions at that time. Yet despite this, her commitment to the Lord was absolute – 'Let this be done to me'.

My son was reluctant and embarrassed about performing his allotted task – dancing around the maypole. In contrast, our Lady, Queen of May, did not for a moment hesitate to undertake the greatest commission of all time, and one which was to have the most far-reaching effects for mankind – ever.

And so during this month of May, may we celebrate the life and commitment of Mary our Mother, Queen of May. And as for my son - his advice regarding the May dancing is: 'Don't touch it with a barge or any other kind of pole!'

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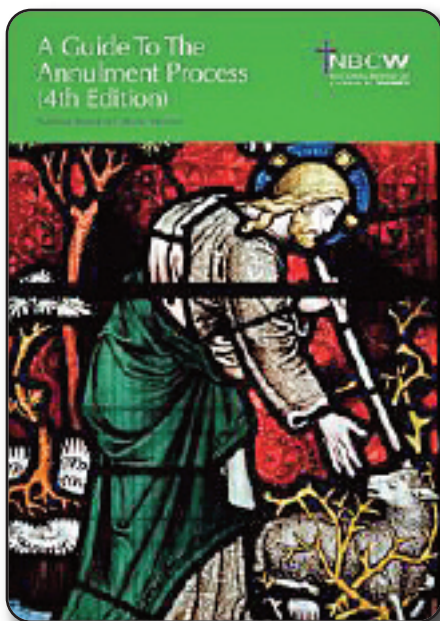


New Guide to Marriage Annulment

The National Board of Catholic Women (NBCW) has published a revised 4th Edition of 'A Guide to the Annulment Process' supported by the Marriage and Family Life Office at the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. First published in 1998, the Guide seeks to de-mystify the annulment process, making it easier to understand, and hopefully less stressful. The 4th Edition also takes into account *Mitis Iudex Dominus Iesus*, 'The Gentle Judge, our Lord Jesus, the Shepherd of Souls', the document issued by Pope Francis in 2015 which gives a more streamlined and readily accessible way of proceeding in cases concerning the declaration of the nullity of a marriage.

Pope Francis' emphasis on mercy is at the heart of these new procedures which help reduce the time taken to process a case, and assist diocesan bishops to use their judicial power for the good of those in their care. It is therefore fitting that the front cover of NBCW's Guide depicts Jesus, the Good Shepherd, reaching out to aid one of his flock caught in the thorns. In his foreword, the Rt Rev Peter Doyle, Chair of the Bishops' Committee for Marriage and Family Life, describes the 4th edition as, 'a resource to assist all those in our communities whose marriages have failed, and those accompanying them; and restore to them, with the mercy of God, hope and confidence on the journey of faith in the light of the Gospel.'

NBCW is a forum, founded in 1939, in which Catholic women of England and Wales come together to share their views and concerns at diocesan and national level. NBCW is a Consultative body to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and has consultative status with the United Nations (ECOSOC). Commenting on the new 4th Edition, NBCW President, Mrs Maureen Meatcher, said, "The National Board of Catholic Women actively



seeks to enable the spiritual growth and development of all Catholic women. Applying for an annulment may have procedural and emotional difficulties for some, but it is a time of learning and understanding about themselves. Pope Francis has urged us to go out to the marginalised, so we hope and pray that this booklet will facilitate a healing process and a fresh start for some.'

Printed versions of the new Guide are available to purchase from the National Board of Catholic Women priced at £5 including P&P. Please download an order form at www.nbcw.co.uk or www.catholicfamily.org.uk and email to: nbcwtreasurer@gmail.com.

A FREE electronic version of the Guide is also available to download at www.nbcw.co.uk, www.catholicfamily.org.uk and www.marriagecare.org.uk

Missing the point

By Elise Harris

During one of his Wednesday addresses during April, Pope Francis said the Eucharist is key to living an authentic Christian witness, and that those who leave Mass unchanged, continuing to gossip or hold onto unholy habits, have missed the point.

"While the Mass ends, the commitment for Christian witness opens. We leave the church to go in peace to bring the blessing of God to our daily activities, to our homes, to our work, to the affairs of the earthly city, glorifying the Lord with our lives," the pope said.

The Mass, he said, is not just a weekly commitment that can be forgotten once people exit the church doors.

"No. Christians go to Mass to participate in the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord, and to live as better Christians," he said. "If we leave the church gossiping" or talking badly about other people, then "the Mass didn't enter into my heart, because I am not capable of living Christian testimony."

"Every time I leave Mass I must leave better than I went in," he said, adding that the Eucharist should leave a person with a better heart, a better spirit and "a stronger desire to live as a Christian."

Pope Francis spoke to pilgrims in a wet St. Peter's Square for his weekly general audience. It was dedicated to his last round of catechesis on the Mass.

Francis said that the flowers adorning the facade of St. Peter's Basilica are representative of the joy and happiness that blossom after Christ's resurrection.

He asked pilgrims to join him in wishing retired Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI well - whom he said was watching the audience on television and the Pope led them giving his predecessor a big round of applause.

In his speech, the Pope focused on the concluding rite of Mass, in which believers are told to "go in peace to love and serve the Lord".

The Mass, particularly with this commission, "finds fulfilment in the concrete choices one makes [and] involves us first-hand in the mysteries of Christ," he said.

"We cannot forget that we celebrate the Eucharist to learn to become Eucharistic men and women," he said, explaining that this means allowing Christ to act in and through the choices one makes, taking on his thoughts, feelings and actions.



St. Paul expresses this clearly when he speaks of his own assimilation to Jesus, saying he no longer lives, but Christ lives in him, Francis said, explaining that the apostle's experience "also illuminates us."

"In the measure in which we mortify our egoism, meaning we allow what opposes the Gospel and the love of Jesus to die, greater space is created in us for the power of his Spirit," he said.

And while the liturgy is a prime way to gain great unity with Jesus, Francis noted that the presence of Christ in the consecrated bread and wine "does not end with the Mass."

Rather, the Eucharist is kept in the tabernacle in order to give communion to the sick who are unable to attend Mass, and it is also kept for moments of "silent adoration" through the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

"Eucharistic worship outside of the Mass, whether in private or in community, helps us to remain in Christ" and imitate his words and actions, Francis said, adding that Christians are men and women "who allow their soul to grow with the strength of God."

"Not these small, tight, egotistic souls," he said, but "great souls" who allow themselves to grow with the strength of the Holy Spirit and after being washed by the body and blood of Christ.

The Eucharist also separates us from sin, he said, because "the more we participate in the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to separate ourselves from him with mortal sin."

Community is also an essential element of the Mass, he said, because the Eucharist "makes the Church," and ought to lead to an increased commitment in service of the poor, who bear the flesh of Christ. Pope Francis closed his audience asking pilgrims to give thanks to the Lord "for the path of re-discovering the holy Mass which he has given us to walk together," and prayed that each person would allow themselves "to be attracted with a renewed faith to this real encounter with Jesus, died and risen for us."

"May our lives always flourish like this, like Easter, with flowers of hope and good works, that we always find the strength for this in the Eucharist, in union with Jesus".

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“Amazing Love”

Performed by St Georges Voluntary Academy Derby



St George's RC Voluntary academy Derby, brought to life through a musical interpretation the events of Easter, The play performed by the pupils was appealing to children and adults alike with the children's wonderful acting, singing and music keeping everyone engaged throughout. The new and varied twists to the traditional story caused both smiles and serious thoughts.

The cast auditions and performance were directed by Mrs Hume along with Ms Webster and Ms Davis on hand to help, the children performed the play twice for the school with two additional performances for Parents, Governors, family and friends.

Fr Burbidge parish priest said "I really enjoyed this year's play, and I could see the children enjoyed taking part. The songs were great and we all clapped along. The play was also visually entertaining with lots

of energetic musical numbers but still with the message of the Easter story of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection of Christ in the centre.

Ian Uppington, Foundation Governor said "What a brilliant performance by children and staff they have worked tirelessly to deliver it. " Our school plays really draw on the talents of the whole school, it was lovely to see parents, family and friends support the shows with full houses at both.

The Parish Twitter account wrote

#StGeorgesDerby. Amazing Love Passion Play - Wonderful afternoon at the Easter Passion play at school -Well done to all the children for bringing the story to life - thanks to all staff that helped deliver this great piece of theatre and all Mums who donated their Tea Towels.



Raised more than £600 for homeless people



A student at Saint John Houghton CVA has raised more than £600 for homeless people by sleeping outside all night.

for what we do at YMCA Derbyshire to support vulnerable people." Megan said she was thrilled with the amount she had raised.

Megan Harper, 13, and her dad took part in YMCA Derbyshire's Sleep Easy, sleeping overnight outside at Derbyshire County Cricket Club with fellow fundraisers.

She said: "My original target was £200 and I really didn't expect to raise as much as I have. Sleeping out all night was hard and I got soaked. It was really cold but I was just thinking about the people who have to do that every night."

So far, a total of £27,000 has been raised although money is still coming in. All of the funds will go towards the YMCA's Safe Front Door campaign, which provides accommodation related support to hundreds of vulnerable people.

Joan McCarthy, headteacher at Saint John Houghton CVA, in Kirk Hallam, congratulated Megan on her incredible effort.

Sarah Crane, fundraising and communications manager at YMCA Derbyshire, attended a special Act of Worship at Saint John Houghton CVA to present Megan with a certificate for taking part in the Sleep Easy.

She said: "We are extremely proud of Megan who has raised a fantastic amount of money for YMCA Derbyshire. Sleeping outside on such a freezing wet night can't have been easy but Megan did it. She did it to raise money to support vulnerable people and raise awareness of what it's like to be homeless. We always encourage our students to think of others and Megan is a great example of just one of our students who is making a difference."

She said: "Over 100 people slept outside at Derbyshire County Cricket Club in cardboard boxes. It was very chilly and there was a lot of rain. This event raises funds



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution. Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Globe is nailed on after publicity to produce superficial film (6)
- 8 Need directions to follow... (6)
- 9 ...typical London street, it's east to west, in the script (4)
- 10 Calms freaked-out characters fleeing grammar school's destruction, one of biblical proportions (8)
- 11 Visitors to council ICI appropriated in the Tarsus region (7)
- 13 Place in Scotland when it turns hot is vacated by traveller (5)
- 15 Ones to follow, being young (5)
- 17 Agrippa's sister's diamonds appear the consequence of Swiss capital (7)
- 20 Line through the country, like the border, hems in Greek hero (8)
- 21 Fly back, initially rest and evaluate trip (4)
- 23 Sorry, tired last part in key programme's been clipped (3,3)
- 24 'Beast from the East' to hit Limerick in the west - it's on the Black Sea (6)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 One cuts even notes, going through the alphabet (4)
- 2 Little tree smells new when opening top notch (6)
- 3 David's wife's an enormous pain (7)
- 4 Italian physicist, one down on the farm in Normandy briefly (5)
- 5 Fast run wanted to break up a piece of music (6)
- 6 Brobdingnagian soldier's acting suspiciously... (8)
- 12 ...Father's bearing a fish... (8)

- 14 ...he's head of a Levitical family some strangers honoured (7)
- 16 Idiot's admitted change due to being married (6)
- 18 Lower and grab at girl (6)
- 19 Pull the final string of smooth move for the close of sale (5)
- 22 Cathedral area for additional parking south end and north ends only (4)

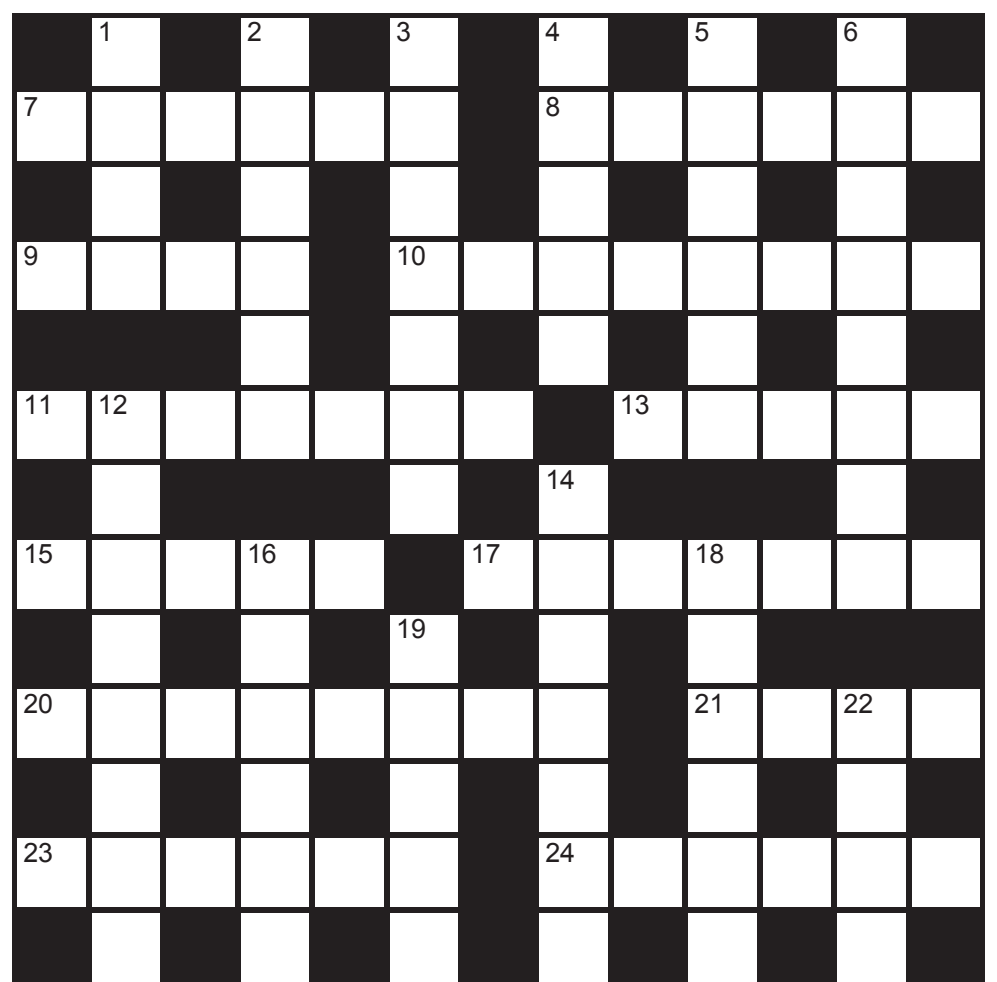
QUICK Across

- 7 Gather on the surface chemically (6)
- 8 Involve; necessitate (6)
- 9 Former stable block or blocks re-envisioned as chic town dwellings, especially in London (4)
- 10 Town used throughout the Bible as a warning of God's judgment (8)
- 11 Biblical region, in the NT a Roman province of Asia Minor (7)
- 13 Capital of Western Australia (5)
- 15 Concern: edition (5)
- 17 Sister of Herod Agrippa II (7)
- 20 Foremost Greek warrior at the siege of Troy (8)
- 21 Rip: race (4)
- 23 Cigarette butt: remaining or worthless part of something (3,3)

- 24 Port of Ukraine (6)

QUICK Down

- 1 Wood worker? (4)
- 2 Art of growing dwarf varieties of tree (6)
- 3 Wife of Nabal, initially (7)
- 4 Enrico -----, physicist who worked on the first A-bombs (5)
- 5 Deprive; be in want (6)
- 6 Enormous (8)



- 12 Patriarch son of Jacob and Leah (8)
- 14 Head of one of the three Levitical families (7)
- 16 Leeds, Sheffield or Manchester, perhaps (6)
- 18 Lower part or region (6)
- 19 Omit, suppress or abridge (a syllable or vowel) (5)
- 22 Church recess (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 7 Adsorb, 8 Entail, 9 Mews, 10 Gomorrah, 11 Cilicia, 13 Perth, 15 Issue, 17 Bernice, 20 Achilles, 21 Tear, 23 Fag end, 24 Odessa. Down: 1 Adze, 2 Bonsai, 3 Abigail, 4 Fermi, 5 Starve, 6 Gigantic, 12 Issachar, 13 Fag end, 14 Gershon, 15 United, 16 United, 18 Nether, 19 Elide, 22 Apse.

Derbyshire secondary school teachers to help improve education in South Africa

Teachers from two Catholic secondary schools in Derbyshire are set to spend two weeks helping to improve education for children in South Africa.

Joan McCarthy, headteacher at Saint John Houghton Catholic Voluntary Academy, will be returning to South Africa with Mellon Educate after her first trip with the charity last year.

This year, she will be joined by Fiona Molumby, Religious Studies teacher at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby.

Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Molumby, who worked together for five years when Mrs McCarthy was a teacher at Saint Benedict CVA, will work in schools, supporting teachers and finding out more about the country's education system.



know what real poverty is until you actually see it, you just don't realise.

"Although teachers out there have their qualifications they don't have much teaching experience so we were running workshops with them.

"There were 55 children in one class and often there aren't enough desks for them all. They also live in a township where there is a massive problem with gangs and violence.

"But South Africa is a country of great hope, it's a country where people believe they can achieve anything and they believe that education is the key."

Both teachers will travel out at the end of July 2018 and Mrs Molumby said she was looking forward to joining Mrs McCarthy and helping to make a difference.

She said: "I think it's just a great opportunity. I've volunteered at sporting events abroad before but I've never done anything like this. I've always wanted to do some volunteer work with CAFOD so this my chance

to do something similar."

Mrs McCarthy needs to raise £2,700 to fund her trip while Mrs Molumby's target is £3,200. Visit their JustGiving pages here: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/joan-mccarthy2> www.justgiving.com/fundraising/fiona-molumby

They are looking to take basic teaching supplies out to South Africa with them including pens, rulers, glue sticks and Post-it notes. If you would like to donate items please take them to Saint John Houghton CVA, in Abbott Road, Kirk Hallam, and Saint Benedict CVA, in Duffield Road, Derby.

With support from 25,000 volunteers, Mellon Educate has built houses for 125,000 homeless people in South Africa's poorest townships and the charity has pledged to provide better education for more than 100,000 African children.

To find out more information visit the Mellon Educate website www.melloneducate.com/



Last year Mrs McCarthy spent much of her time at Siversands High School, teaching and supporting teachers.

She described the trip as a 'life-changing' experience and was keen to return.

She said: "It was what I was expecting and more, it was so humbling. You think you

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