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## Walsingham visits Northampton

**The statue of Our Lady of Walsingham, taken from the Slipper Chapel, visited Northampton cathedral in early February. The visit was part of a nationwide tour, taking in every Catholic cathedral in the country.**

In their November 2017 meeting the bishops to the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary around the feast of the annunciation in 2020. The original dedication possibly dates from the reign of St. Edward The Confessor in the eleventh century. It represented the gift of England to Mary.

The re-dedication will be different. It will be the personal gift of the faith of the people of England to the mother of God. It seeks her help in building a strong spiritual foundation for the new evangelisation.

“We call upon Our Lady”, say the bishops, [to] guide and protect our country in the years to come. We ask for her intercession, that the people of our country may work together to build the common good, as we seek to embrace the truth of the gospel that inspires us to create a culture that respects life, that embraces the great diversity of our people, and inspires all to a greatness of heart that will serve our community by seeking the good of others before ourselves, especially the poor and marginalised of our world’.

The organisers invited visitors to be pilgrims, open to what God may be asking of them at this moment in their journey of life. They quoted Pope Francis: ‘As followers

of Jesus Christ we must learn to follow, and follow we must learn to trust. A physical journey through unfamiliar territory is a great lesson in trust. One must accept whatever the road has to offer- the accommodations, fellow travellers, the weather the inconveniences, the hardships the annoyances. A pilgrim heart looks to the journey with willingness, openness and a good sense of humour If we choose to trust that God has called

us on this journey, and he is directing it, we can relax and be open to the lessons he is seeking to teach us. We trust that God will walk the way with us, no matter what happens. He doesn’t promise to make the way easy; he simply says “I will be with you”.

Along with the statue came a whole Walsingham package. There were displays on the life of Mary, on the history of the Walsingham shrine. and a lively display of its modern revival, along with pictures of its devotional life. There was also a detailed explanation of the history and significance of the dowry of Mary. Colourful leaflets added deeper explanations

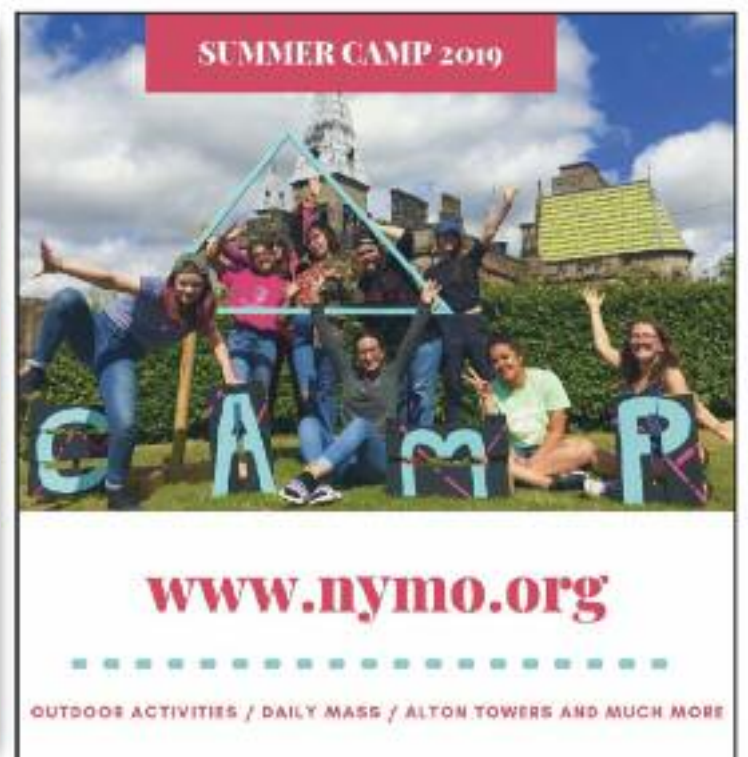
And pilgrims were invited to a full programme of prayer. There was a succession of Masses, rosaries, litanies and Marian devotions. The recitation of the angelus punctuated the process. With so much to absorb, what memory did the visitor take away?

It must surely be the prayerfulness and quiet devotion of the congregation. They showed what it means to be the Dowry of Mary today, a thousand years since the original inspiration.

Pope Leo XIII declared: ‘When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England’.



At his Mass in Wembley stadium in 1982 Pope John Paul said: “Our society needs to recover a sense of God’s presence and a new sense of respect for his will. Let us learn this from Mary our mother. In England, the Dowry of Mary, the faithful, for centuries, have made pilgrimage to her shrine at Walsingham. Today Walsingham comes to Wembley, and the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham, present here, reminds us it is Mary who will teach us how to be silent, how to listen to the voice of God in the midst of a busy and noisy world. We need to live as Mary did, in the presence of God, raising our minds and hearts to him in our daily activities and worries”.





# News beyond Northampton

## Rome



During his General Audience with pilgrims, gathered in the Paul VI Hall, Pope Francis reflected on his Apostolic Journey to the United Arab Emirates.

Although the visit was brief, he said the Apostolic Journey to the United Arab Emirates "wrote a new page in the history of dialogue between Christianity and Islam."

Pope Francis said that he was mindful that his Journey - the first ever papal visit to the Arabian Peninsula - came during the 800th anniversary of St Francis of Assisi's encounter with the Sultan al-Malik al-Kamil. "I thought about St Francis during this journey," the Pope said. "It helped me to keep the Gospel, the love of Jesus Christ, in my heart as I experienced the various moments of the visit."

The Holy Father went on to reflect on some of the high points of the journey. He pointed to the signing of the Document on Human Fraternity, with the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, which the Pope said represents another step forward. In this document, he said: "we affirmed the common vocation of all men and women to be brothers and sisters, insofar as all are children of God."

The two leaders also condemned "every form of violence, especially those clothed in religious motivations", and committed themselves "to spreading authentic values and peace throughout the world."

The Holy Father encouraged people to read the Document "because it gives so much impetus to move forward in the dialogue on human fraternity."

Pope Francis noted that there is "a strong temptation" in our day "to see a clash between Christian and Islamic civilisation, and to consider religions as a source of conflicts." He explained that the signing of the document was meant to be a "clear and decisive" sign that, "despite a diversity of cultures and traditions, the Christian world and the Islamic world appreciate and defend common values."

## Newcastle



The Holy See today announced that Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Robert Byrne as Bishop of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle.

Bishop Byrne succeeds The Right Reverend Séamus Cunningham, who has been Bishop of the Diocese since 2009. Bishop Byrne will be the fourteenth Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle.

Bishop Byrne was born in Manchester on 22 September 1956. He was ordained priest in 1985 and Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Birmingham on 13 May, 2014.

Speaking of his appointment, Bishop Byrne said: "I am deeply humbled by the trust Pope Francis has placed in me with this appointment as Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle,

"I would like to thank the people and priests of the Archdiocese of Birmingham where I have served for the past five years and, in particular, Archbishop Bernard for his constant kindness and support.

"I look forward to making my home in the North East, with its rich Christian heritage, and also getting to know and serve the people, deacons, religious and priests of the Diocese. I ask all of you to keep me in your prayers as I pray for you."

Bishop Cunningham said: "I am delighted to welcome Bishop Byrne as my successor at a time of great challenge and hope in this Diocese. The Lord Jesus is leading us along a road of rich discernment for the future of the

Church and its mission. I know that the priests, deacons, religious and people of the Diocese will warmly welcome him and assure him of our prayers. May the Lord bless his ministry among us. We commend him to Mary the Mother of God, St Cuthbert and all the saints of our Diocese."

The Most Reverend Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham, said: "I am delighted for the Church in Northumbria and Durham and for Bishop Robert that he has been appointed Bishop of Hexham & Newcastle. Bishop Robert has spent his entire priestly ministry in the Archdiocese as an Oratorian in Birmingham and Oxford and we shall miss him very much.

"Bishop Robert will carry his love and knowledge of Blessed John Henry Newman into his new ministry. Bishop Robert renews the bond of affection and faith between our two dioceses which the late Bishop Kevin Dunne had done so much to encourage. May St Chad and St Cuthbert inspire Bishop Robert as he prepares for his new ministry."

Bishop Robert Byrne's Episcopal Installation will be celebrated in St Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, on Monday 25 March.

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And the word was made flesh.  
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## Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord

You are invited to a Rosary gathering/procession to honour the Immaculate Heart of Mary Monday 25th March 2019 at the Angelus time of 6pm.

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We promise to print your news as soon as we can find space for it. Material should be emailed whenever possible. If this cannot be done for digital pictures they should be sent to us on disc. Send photographs in jpg format, as separate attachments, and not embedded in Word documents. Urgent and dated items should reach us by the first Sunday of the month before publication.

A booklet of advice on writing news reports for The Vine is available on request.

Parental permission must be sought before photographs of children are sent for publication. While we accept unsolicited feature articles, we reserve the right to edit the text or not to publish. Letters for publication must include a name and address, which will be omitted on request.

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# Walsingham



## Focus on Newman

John Henry Newman, Cong. Orat. was a theologian and poet, first an Anglican priest and later a Catholic priest and cardinal, who was an important and controversial figure in the religious history of England in the 19th century. He brought the Oratorians to England.

Born: 21 February 1801, London

Died: 11 August 1890, Edgbaston, Birmingham

Education: University of Oxford, Trinity College

Feast day: : 9 October (Roman Catholic Church), 11 August (Church of England);

### Quotes

To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.

Fear not that thy life shall come to an end, but rather fear that it shall never have a beginning.

Growth is the only evidence of life.



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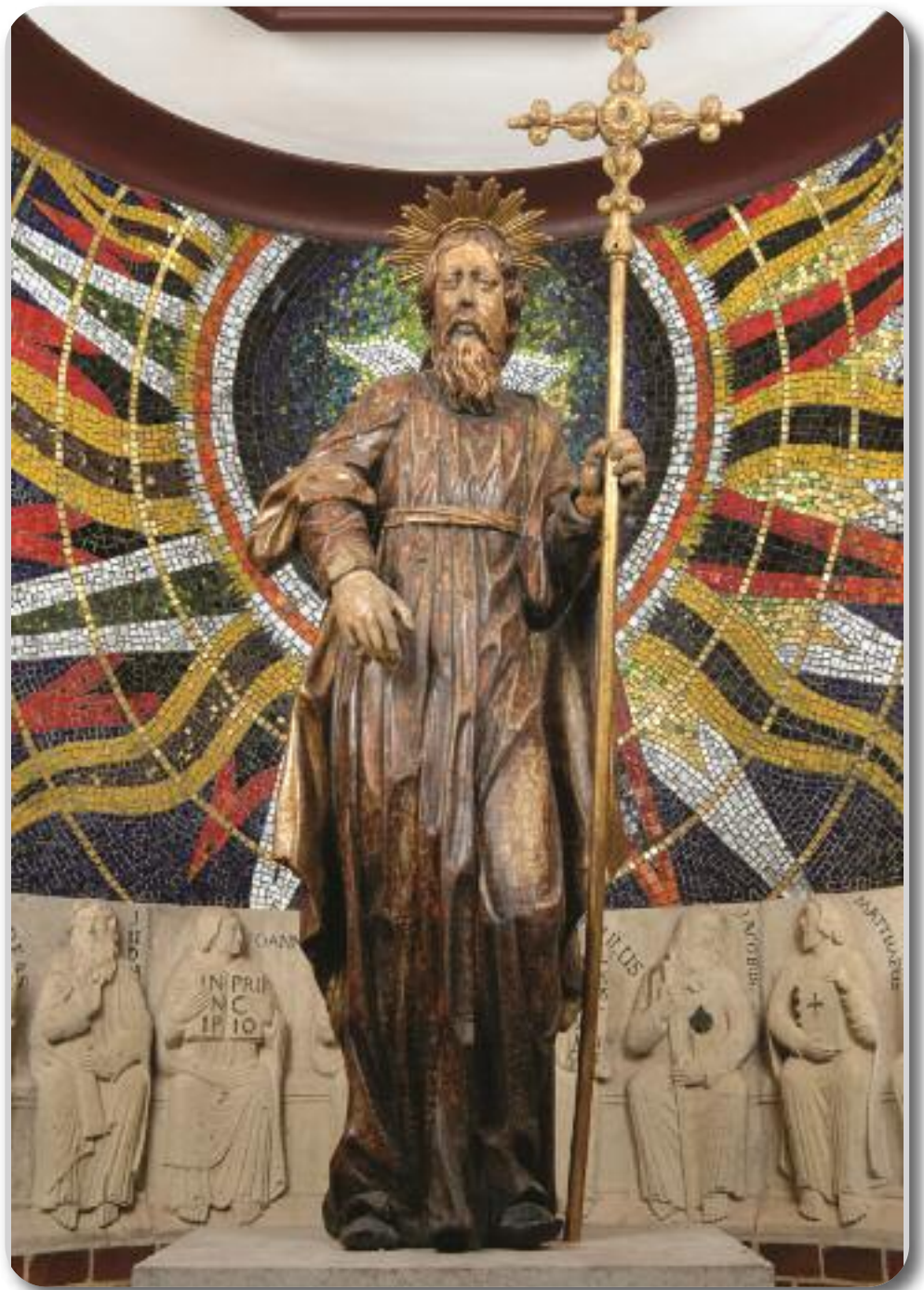
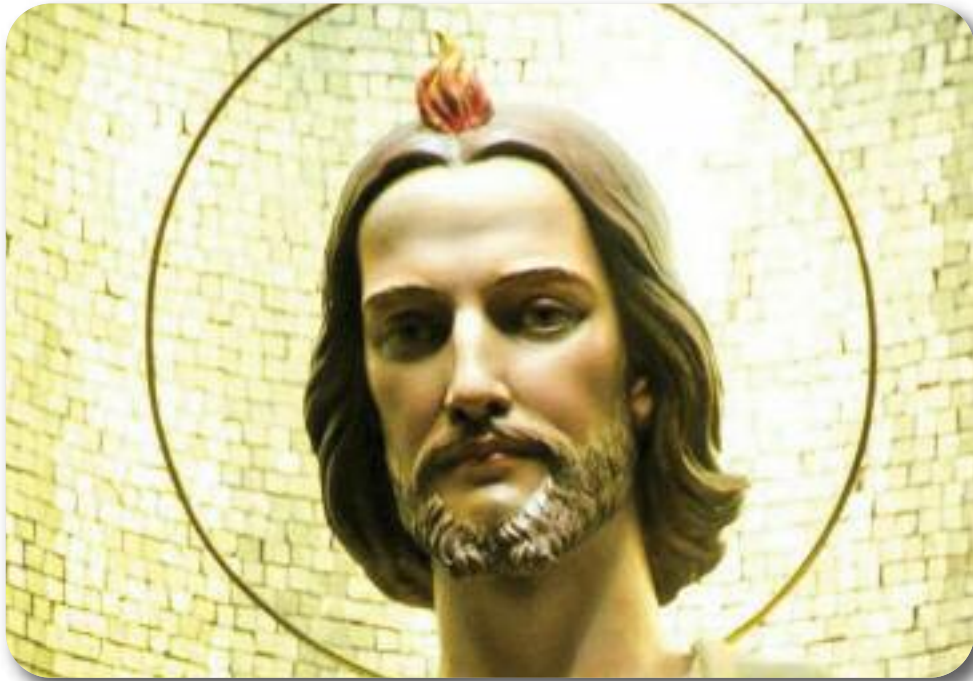
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# Everything is possible

## The shrine to St. Jude



The Shrine of Saint Jude was founded in 1955 and is served by the Carmelites. The Shrine distributes a quarterly newsletter called Carmelite News, written by the Prior Provincial, Fr Kevin Alban. If you would like to receive a copy of our free newsletter, please send your contact details to: [newsletter@stjudeshrine.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stjudeshrine.org.uk), or call 01795 539 214.

Our online shop includes various religious items for Saint Jude, Carmelite saints, British saints and many more - medals; prayer cards; books; rosaries; statues: <http://tinyurl.com/SaintJudeShop>.

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A loyal group of parishioners in the church of St. Joseph's, Bedford, pray the rosary before daily Mass. At the end of the rosary prayers, a single voice calls out, "St. Jude, pray for us". The voice belongs to a lady called Bernadette, and she is not alone in her love of St. Jude, the apostle and martyr; Patron of Hopeless Cases. St. Jude has devout followers in every corner of the world and thousands of people visit St. Jude's Shrine in Faversham, Kent. Many national newspapers and magazines carry in their personal columns a thank-you to St. Jude, as prayers to St. Jude often brings help to seemingly hopeless cases. People turn to St. Jude praying for assistance in sickness and help in low points in their life

On my last visit to my home city of Canterbury, I decided to pay a visit to the National Shrine of St. Jude to light a candle for Bernadette. Faversham, in beautiful Kent, is an historic market town ten miles from Canterbury, and forty-eight miles from London.

I sat in Canterbury bus station waiting for the Faversham bus wondering how hard it would be to find St. Jude's Shrine, when an elderly lady sat by me and in conversation asked me why I was going to Faversham. I told her I was visiting St. Jude's Shrine in Tanners Street. On the bus this kind lady asked a couple of people to help make sure her "friend" got off the bus at St. Jude's Shrine. I started to feel St. Jude wanted me to pay a visit.

St. Jude's Shrine is delightful. It lies in an annex room below the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. The church and shrine are under the expert care of the Carmelite Order. The fine church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel looks unusual outside, as it was once a Quaker school and then became a cinema. The interior design of the church is very beautiful, and I especially admired the backdrop behind the high altar of the Crucifixion of Our Lord.

The shrine of St. Jude was founded by Fr. Elias Lynch, O. Carm. in 1955. It was established because of popular demand and a deep love of St. Jude, as he is a favourite saint of many people. This holy place can be entered through the church, or by the rear door; this door leads out

into a spacious, attractive garden bordered by a stream. The garden has a large area of grass which in the Spring was edged with bluebells and tulips. In the grass there are lovely colourful pictures of the Rosary; this is called the Rosary Way.

I entered the Shrine of St. Jude from the garden. Inside, the room is ablaze with colour, with vase upon vase of donated fresh flowers, vibrant stained glass images, and at the heart of the shrine is a striking 15th Century statue of St. Jude Thaddeus; Patron of hopeless cases. This impressive statue stands on red cloth in front of a sparkling mosaic - representing the Fire of Pentecost. Row upon row of candles offer up prayers to this well-loved saint, whose relic can be seen in a glorious monstrance.

St. Jude Thaddeus was one of the beloved twelve apostles, and also a relation of Jesus. The New Testament includes one of his letters, which stresses that the faithful should persevere in harsh and difficult circumstances. It was St. Jude that asked Jesus at the Last Supper why He chose to reveal Himself only to the disciples. St. Jude received the reply from Jesus, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him and make our home in him." (John 14:22)

After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit with Our Lady and his fellow apostles at Pentecost, St. Jude went forth to preach. We are told he preached around Judea, Samaria, Idumea and Syria. St. Jude died a martyr, and his feast day is October 28th; which is shared with St. Simon. St. Jude's relics lie in the Vatican in Rome.

In Faversham, I grew to love the busy small Shrine of St. Jude; who is a saint who brings hope to many. I will return, as I have discovered a new favourite saint, a friend I will pray to; and I know he will pray for me. A visit here brings peace and contentment to all the pilgrims, many of whom are seeking help with distressing problems.

"St. Jude,  
Holy Apostle and Martyr, pray for us"

Marguerite Cook



# Was it Richeldis or Edith?

Following the article in the February edition of "The Vine" readers might be interested in this illustration of Richeldis, which has a connection with the Northampton Diocese.

The artist was the late Geoffrey Houghton Brown, who was one time owner of Winslow Hall in Sheep Street, Winslow. It was Geoffrey who gave part of the Hall buildings to the Diocese in the 1940s for use as a Catholic church, which became known as St Alban's Chapel. The church closed in 2016.

Geoffrey Alban Michael Houghton Brown was born 12th April 1903 in Wimbledon and died 3rd February 1993 at Kingston on Thames. Educated at Rugby School, he converted to Catholicism. He trained as an artist at the Slade College of Art and when a young artist he once shared a studio with Rex Whistler. He was a member of the Guild of Catholic Artists and many of his works were of Christian subjects.

Frank Preece



## Dialogue in Daventry

The four churches in the town came together for prayer and worship following the booklet prepared by Indonesian Christians. Justice was the focus during the week and at the closing service in the Methodist church. We were warmly welcomed by their minister Rev Andy Hardwick. Fr James from St Augustine's gave the address and Cannon Michael Webber from Holy Cross led the service, his last contribution to Churches Together before his retirement.

Each meeting in the various churches began with readings and discussions followed by a simple lunch of soup and cheese. It was a very successful week something to build on in the future. The photos were taken in St Augustine's.



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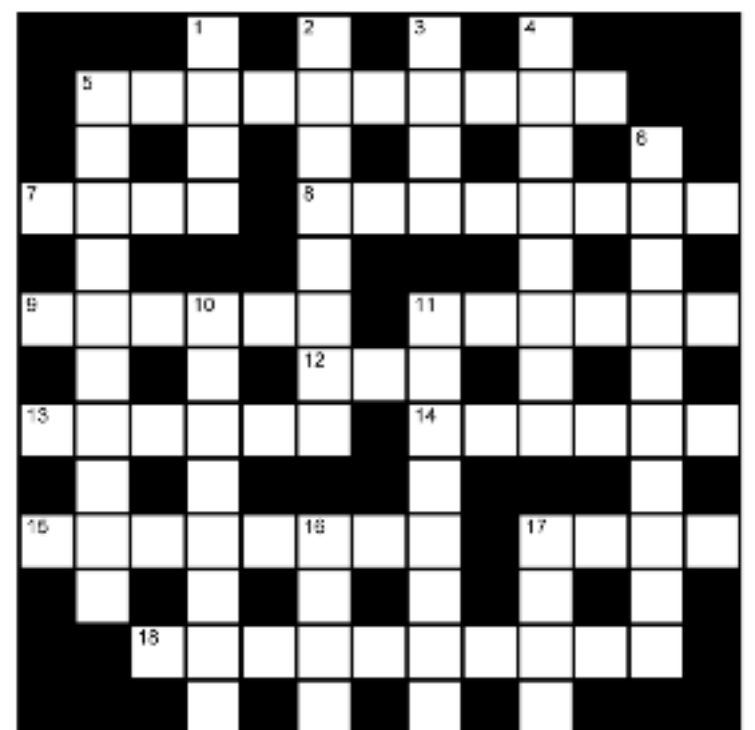


### Across

- 5 Recipients of a letter from Paul, probably; NT book (10)
- 7 Ancestor of a race of giants, as mentioned in Exodus and elsewhere (4)
- 8 Stay on pace; marching order (4,4)
- 9 Sabotage (6)
- 11 '----- and Shepherds', song by Purcell and others (6)
- 12 Poetic paean (3)
- 13 Third-largest Nigerian city, site of the country's first university (6)
- 14 Preoccupy; haunt (6)
- 15 Scottish North Sea fishing town, famous for its 'smokies' (8)
- 17 Horizontal intrusion of igneous rock as seen in much of Hadrian's Wall: window feature (4)
- 18 First of three divisions of the Hebrew Scriptures (10)

### Down

- 1 Anti-aircraft fire: criticism (4)
- 2 Israeli Mediterranean resort in its alternative, biblical, name (8)
- 3 Bird of prey, the red variety of which has been regenerated in the UK after near extinction (4)
- 4 Runaway slave owned by Philemon (8)
- 5 City synonymous with Anglicanism (10)
- 6 According to the Bible, he lived to be 969 years old (10)
- 10 Third largest of the Channel Islands (8)
- 11 Apprentice, novice (8)
- 16 City of the Italian Piedmont, noted for its sparkling wine (4)
- 17 Handel oratorio; united Kingdom of Israel's first ruler (4)



### SOLUTION

Across: 5 Colossians, 7 Anak, 8 Keep step, 9 Derail, 11 Nymphs, 12 Ode, 13 Ibadan, 14 Obsess, 15 Arbroath, 17 Sill, 18 Pentateuch.  
Down: 1 Flak, 2 Ashkelon, 3 Kite, 4 Onesimus, 5 Canterbury, 6 Methuselah, 10 Alderney, 11 Neophyte, 16 Asti, 17 Saul.



# Last pints please

It's last orders at Holy Family Club, Langley.

It was a sad day at Holy Family Parish in Langley on Saturday with the closure of their social club. In an open letter from the Diocesan Authorities in Northampton, their spokesperson, Ricky Davies reported that following some years of difficult trading and loss, the authorities realised that the situation is unlikely to improve. Unfortunately as a charity the Parish is not allowed or able to meet their short-fall and loss and regrettably there was no option but to close the club.

And so after 50 years of activity, covering an incredible variety of events, last orders were finally called and the doors were closed.

The parish and diocese has offered their very sincere thanks to staff, committee, members and customers for their support and custom over the years.

There will now be a period of consultation in the parish to decide the future of the building.

There was a final night party in the club for members and friends and the band was Robert and the Remoulds.

In the meantime, the bingo sessions and Sunday night dance, which was a weekly feature of the club, will continue under parish control.

As there is no longer a club drinks licence for the property, parishioners and visitors are invited to bring along their own drinks and snacks to enjoy during the evening.

The first of these bingo and boogie sessions took place on Sunday night and was incredibly well supported by ex-club members and friends.

On that evening there was a mixed reaction to the club's closure. Many people accepted that the closure was inevitable due to a fall in profit, while many thought that the closure was too premature and that the bar manager had not been given sufficient time to implement the new ideas that she had been working on.

One unanimous theme was the members sincere appreciation for the current and previous bar management and their staff's hard work that had built the club into one of the major church and community center's in the Dioceses.

**Bernard Stanley.**



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# Chris Nelson, 'stambassador'

For Science Teacher, Chris Nelson, stammering has been a part of his life since he was at primary school. Now he is using his experience of living with a stammer to help others by being a 'Stambassador' for the charity Action for Stammering Children.

The charity helps young people navigate their way through the more difficult transition periods in their lives. Whether they're moving on to secondary school, university, or their first job, they want young people who stammer to take every opportunity that comes their way. To help inspire young people they have videoed a number of Stambassadors, including Chris, about their jobs and why they chose their careers.

The overall message is that people should not be held back by stammering, a sentiment that Chris wholeheartedly agrees with. He said: "My stammer was very severe at secondary school, it could sometimes take two to three minutes to complete a sentence and that's difficult when you're an already angst-filled teenager." One of the hurdles that Chris faced was that he wasn't allowed to do the speaking component within the French GCSE exam, although he acknowledges that things are different for pupils nowadays.

Chris's father also stammered and he had pushed himself by working on a market stall where he had to speak with customers every day. Following his father's example Chris also made sure he interacted with people as much as possible by working at Wicksteed Park, a famous regional leisure destination with rides and activities for families. He also became involved in youth politics whilst in his school's Sixth Form, identifying politics as a possible future career path.

His original plan was to be a solicitor so Chris gained a Law degree at university and then worked in politics for a political party and for an MEP. Chris also had a spell as an Examinations Officer at a school and whilst there did a Science degree at the Open University. This led him to



teacher training and he trained at St Paul's, later becoming a full time member of the Science Department teaching Chemistry. St Paul's by delivering an advice session to give them hints and tips on working with children who stammer. He said: "People often assume that because you have a stammer you don't like public speaking, but I love it and it will be good to share some of my experiences with my teaching colleagues."

He continued: "When you have a stammer it's important to push through and keep trying. You're not alone so try not to worry about it and just keep going. There is help out there if you need it."

Chris's tips for talking to someone with a stammer are:

- Don't interrupt and don't try to finish words or sentences
- Don't make assumptions – just because someone has a stammer doesn't mean they don't want to be part of a conversation
- Be aware of your actions and be kind



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## Pope Francis says ...

Taking their cue from Christ, moral theologians can see that people need to be liberated and healed, not condemned, Pope Francis said.

But the earth -- humanity's common home -- is also in great need of care, he added, asking that moral theology expand to include an "ecological dimension."

The pope held an audience at the Vatican 9 February with professors and students of the Alphonsian Academy. The pope said St. Alphonsus knew what was needed was not defending oneself from the world or condemning it, but working "to heal and liberate, in imitation of Christ's action."

The church must give attention to people who are subjected to the many "forms of the power of sin that continue to condemn them to insecurity, poverty and marginalisation," he said.

Moral theologians also should be inspired to face with "great willingness the new, serious challenges stemming from the speed with which our society evolves" and which in turn fosters attitudes of competition, the law of "survival of the fittest" and the "throwaway culture."

The same attentive response is needed "for the cries of the earth - violated and harmed in numerous ways by selfish exploitation," he said.

People are missing a sense of their responsibility and their nation's duty to care for the earth, the pope said.

In all the years he has heard confession, he said, "rarely has anyone blamed themselves for doing violence to nature, to the earth, to creation. We are not aware of this sin."

Moral theology, he said, must do its part in helping people become aware of the urgency and conviction needed to work together in caring for "our common home through viable ways of integral development."





# STEM at Thornton

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Thornton College hosted its fourth STEM event on Wednesday 30th January where over 200 students from local schools attended to learn about careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The evening opened spectacularly with a display of the World's First Gaming Robots, as seen on The One Show.

Reach Robotics is a UK tech-start up based in Bristol. Over the past four years, Founding CEO Silas Adekunle has been developing MekaMon, the world's first gaming robot. It was fantastic for Thornton College to secure such a globally followed and recognised company to open their event which aimed to inspire students to enter a career in technology. Silas himself was galvanised to set up Reach Robotics after attending coding courses at his school.

Sixteen companies, all industry leaders, attended the event to meet students and tell them all about the breadth of opportunities and job roles available.

Megan King, PR Manager, Reach Robotics said "It was amazing to engage with so many

passionate students. Education is central to the Reach Robotics brand ethos and it has been so valuable to showcase our new education offering here at Thornton College this evening".

Ben a student from St Columba's said the evening was 'packed with information' and Amy the Deputy Head Girl at Thornton College said that it was 'a very inspiring evening opening many doors for young students'. Jo Scott, Employment and Enterprise Advisor at Thornton College said of the evening "It was brilliant to see the students so engaged and gave so many the opportunity to find out more about jobs in the creative and innovative STEM sector."

MK is the fastest growing start up economy in the UK and Thornton is the only girls' independent school in MK - less than 23% of women enter STEM careers worldwide. Thornton school is proud of its commitment to give its students regular access to a variety of events to inspire and stimulate interest in the Science and Technology sectors. It is worth noting that most roles that the students will be filling don't even exist yet!



## Top marks for Corby school



Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Primary school in Corby, is celebrating receiving a letter from the Secretary of State for Education, Rt. Hon Damian Hinds MP congratulating them for being amongst the top 3% of primary schools in the country.

The progress that the children have made from the end of Key Stage One to the end of Year Six is well above the national average for the second year in a row and has been recognised by Ofsted and now, by the Department of Education.

Head Teacher and former pupil of Our Lady's, Mrs. Maire Hayes, told us: "We are exceptionally proud of everything that our pupils have achieved. However, we are also pleased that our primary concern is the children's emotional well-being and that this is reflected in their academic outcomes."

Our Lady's is a member of St. Luke Academies Trust - a multi academy trust of four successful primary schools: St. Brendan's, St. Edward's and St. Thomas More schools in Corby and Kettering, formed in 2015.

## Teenagers have their say

Students from St Paul's Catholic School have been voting in Milton Keynes Youth Cabinet's (MK YCAB) Youth Issues Ballot. In conditions simulating a regular polling station, with polling booths and a ballot box, students had to cast their vote for the local issue that was most important to them.

They could choose from eight issues:

- Feeling safe in MK (young people need to feel safe in all areas of MK)
- Reduce our environmental impact (let's do our bit for the planet and make MK a greener place)
- Child exploitation (inform young people of how they can protect themselves and

others)

- Anti-bullying (we know bullying is still happening and it needs to stop)
- Affordable things to do (MK has great leisure activities but needs affordable activities too)
- First Aid (young people to be given the skills to save lives)
- Life skills (continue work to educate young people with skills to prepare them for adulthood)
- Personal health (help young people to be physically and mentally healthy)

The Youth Issues Ballot is taking place across Milton Keynes throughout February

and the results will be announced in March. This Year St Paul's has 10 representatives on MK YCAB.







# Lux. Gold

At the beginning of February, record numbers of young people enjoyed the Lux weekend hosted by the NYMO team. This years theme of 'Gold' encouraged us to train, practice and develop our gift of faith. Offering tools for daily prayer and techniques to help us enjoy our faith and build on our relationship with our loving and merciful God.

Great fun was had through the weekend whilst friendships were formed and in this environment, learning taking place. Joining us for the weekend were Will Hince, managing Director of Beyond The Wild the outdoor survival expert who teaches survival in the wild mixed with spiritual survival techniques. Also,

Joe Black, nephew of Mary's Meals founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow. Both these guys inspired a life of prayer to live life to the full – and our young people certainly did that!

A 90ft survival inflatable arrived on Saturday afternoon, whilst some of the participants enjoyed wheelchair sports. Highlights from the weekend include Mass with Bishop peter and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Director of Youth Ministry, Neil Roseman commented "It is amazing to see the desire in our young people to be as close as possible to God. To witness them queuing to recognise His forgiveness through the Sacrament is always a very special moment for my own faith journey".

NYMO rely heavily on a strong volunteer team of young adults who are always so bold in proclaiming their faith within the reality of life. This witness is a profound influence on the young people and it is this and their ability to have have which makes the Lux weekend so special. As one parent put it " It was my son's first time attending the Lux weekend and he had such a great time. He has already asked if he can go again next time and how great all the leaders were". Next time is Summer Camp from 4th -8th August 2019. For more information visit [www.nymo.org](http://www.nymo.org)

## Focus on Newman

Paul McHugh, Secondary RE Adviser and Inspections Northampton Religious Education Service, RC Diocese of Northampton was the guest speaking at the Luton Circle of the Catenian Associations recent dinner.

He gave a wonderful résumé on the life of Blessed. John Henry Newman, commenting "He has been part of my doctoral study

Picture: center, Paul McHugh, left, Luton Circle President, Dennis Cooper, right Dr Peter Ward, Vice President.




**MISSIO** The Holy Father's official charity for mission

Please hold in your prayers the "Year of Missio" which is being celebrated in our Catholic schools! Each school will receive monthly resources to observe this special year and to help us celebrate our 175th anniversary of foundation.

**To invite someone from Missio to your school or parish please contact the Diocesan Director:**  
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# CAFOD

## Just one world

## No-one beyond reach

'No one beyond reach' : that is CAFOD's new ambition,' Deborah Purfield (Northampton Diocesan coordinator) announced to 20 or so CAFOD supporters on Saturday 2 February. We came from parishes across the Northampton and Birmingham Diocese to Great Missenden, battling the snow. We had a warm welcome from Debbie and the other office volunteers (as this is where the CAFOD volunteer centre is now based).

We were reminded of how CAFOD has its global Catholic network and local presence because it is a member of Caritas Internationalis - the second largest humanitarian network (after the Red Cross/Red Crescent) in the world operating in 165 countries! Through these networks CAFOD knows where the need is and we literally go to the end of the road and beyond to reach the poorest people who may be forgotten.

It was sad to learn that CAFOD currently cannot meet 1 in 3 documented requests for support from some of the poorest communities. These are projects that could be reached and would be supported if there were the funds. This is what CAFOD hopes to achieve with the ambition of *No one beyond reach*.

To reflect CAFOD's membership with Caritas Internationalis and explain what it is about from the outset, a new logo has been introduced. The "O" has been replaced with the Caritas Internationalis flaming cross - the symbol of Christ's burning love for the world. The strapline *Just One World* has been replaced by what CAFOD stands for.

### Lent Fast day 2019

We heard about the life of a mother - Mahinur from Bangladesh. Due to climate change, cyclones are common, salty sea water floods the rice fields, and - most devastatingly for Mahinur - a drought last year killed all the fish.

With a disabled husband and son, she struggles to put food on the table and sometimes the family goes to bed with just drinking water! Currently, there is no happy ending to Mahinur's story. This is the situation she faces today, because we haven't been able to support her. She is the one in three

### CAFOD in Sierra Leone and Liberia

We had an inspiring talk from John Guy (CAFOD trustee member) about his experiences in Sierra Leone and Liberia. Both countries ranking unenviably among the poorest nations in the world. Among many facts he shared, this one stands out: in both countries, maternal mortality is over 1200 per 100,000 live births compared to the UK which is 8!

We heard how women in Sierra Leone and Liberia had no right to own property because they themselves were legally the property of their husbands. Thanks to the work of CAFOD through Caritas, working with members of the government, that has changed in Liberia. This means that women are able to, for example, buy a shop, train as a hair-dresser (thanks to a loan scheme organised by CAFOD), and so send their children to school. True progress!

After some discussion, a Quiz and a shared lunch, we left feeling inspired and energised, keen to do more to spread the message and encourage others to share in this vision that No one should be beyond our reach.

Written by Jim Cargin - St Joseph Aylesbury





**"Open my eyes, that I may see wonderful things."**  
- Psalm 119:18



**Theo has spent his childhood in darkness, but you can help children like him. Give before 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and every £1 you donate to our See the Way appeal will be doubled by the UK government.**

Dear The Vine reader,

As a fellow Christian, I want to share with you how incredibly powerful it is to witness a child seeing for the first time, after eye surgery.

As we carry out our work at Christian Blind Mission, we are constantly moved by the astonishment and wonder on the faces of children when the bandages are removed and they get their first clear look at their smiling loved ones.

You can help this happen for more children. Until 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019, your donations to our **See the Way** appeal will be doubled by the UK government. So your gift could help twice the number of children **See the Way** to a brighter future.

The photo to the right shows 2-year-old Theo from Rwanda, East Africa, who has cataracts that leave him barely able to see. But cataracts are straightforward to treat. Surgery taking just 45 minutes could restore his sight.

Just think, in this short time his entire life can be transformed. Instead of living with darkness and confusion he could have light, colour and a future filled with opportunity. He could go to school and one day find employment that would allow him to **See the Way** out of poverty.

Cataract removal surgery costs £95, but families like Theo's can barely afford even basic necessities, so I am turning to you in the hope that you can help.

You could open a child's eyes to the beauty of God's creation. And we'll send you an update on Theo's surgery.

God bless you,

Rebecca Molyneux  
CBM Programme Manager



Theo has been living his life in darkness, due to his cataracts



When he tries to walk or run, he bumps into things



Your gift could help children see and transform lives

Every day, people in the world's poorest places become needlessly blind because of conditions that can be easily treated. Donate today and your gift is multiplied x2.

**Until 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019, the UK government will match all public donations to our See the Way appeal.**



**Yes, I will give £95 to help a blind child see the wonder of God's creation.**

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We will send you an update on Theo's surgery.

We'd love to keep you informed about our life-changing work and how you can support it by making a donation. By giving your email address or phone number below you give CBM UK consent to contact you using these methods:

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We like to contact our supporters with postal fundraising messages and updates from the projects we support. If you do NOT want to receive such messages from CBM UK in the future please contact us on 01223 484700 or email [info@cbmuk.org.uk](mailto:info@cbmuk.org.uk). You can update your contact preferences or unsubscribe at any time. You can view our privacy policy at [www.cbmuk.org.uk/privacy](http://www.cbmuk.org.uk/privacy).

**Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RSKK-HXAX-CYGZ, CBM, Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Oakington, Cambridge CB24 3DQ**

Public donations will support CBM's work preventing blindness and transforming lives wherever the need is greatest. Match funding from the UK government will improve access to sight-saving eye-health services in Rwanda.



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**We will need your name and address to claim the additional 25% of your donation from Gift Aid.**

**Call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today. THANK YOU.**

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# Celebrating our Schools

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

If your School would like to wish our readers a Happy and Holy Easter in the next edition, please get in touch by Monday 18th March. Contact Janet on 07931 836907 or email [janett@cathcom.org](mailto:janett@cathcom.org)

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