



Northampton Diocesan News

FREE Every Month

The new Canon

Fr Mark Floody joins the Chapter

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Dunstable celebrates

St. Mary's church reaches 50

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Catenian Circles expand

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Do you want a job?

School explores the shop floor.

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Chosen for Easter

More than 100 people preparing to be received into the Church at Easter gathered for the Rite of Election at the Cathedral on Sunday, 9th March.

Along with their sponsors, their families and friends, their priests and deacons they filled the Cathedral for the joyful occasion.

"Welcome to this special celebration," said Bishop Peter. "It is lovely to see everyone – candidates, deacons and priests, joining as the family of God. I really appreciate the effort you have made to come here."

In his homily he said that he had recently flown to Austria for the anniversary of Mgr Peter Hocken, and while waiting for his flight he was tempted to buy all sorts of things he didn't really need.

"How easily tempted we are, in all kinds of ways," he said. "It's easy to make choices that take us away from God. It's part of the human condition."

"In the gospel we have Christ our Saviour, led by the spirit into the wilderness, and he chose the decision of the heart for his Father. He said: 'Do not put God to the test'. Jesus is

our example for our lives, to make the decision for the Father."

"I congratulate you for the decision you have made. Each of you has a unique story to demonstrate – not just to be received into the Universal Church. You will have wonderful gifts to communicate by your witness. It is a very special moment. Do not be nervous, be at peace. What a great joy it gives me."

The catechumens – those to be baptised at Easter – were presented first with their godparents to the assembly before being declared members of the Elect.

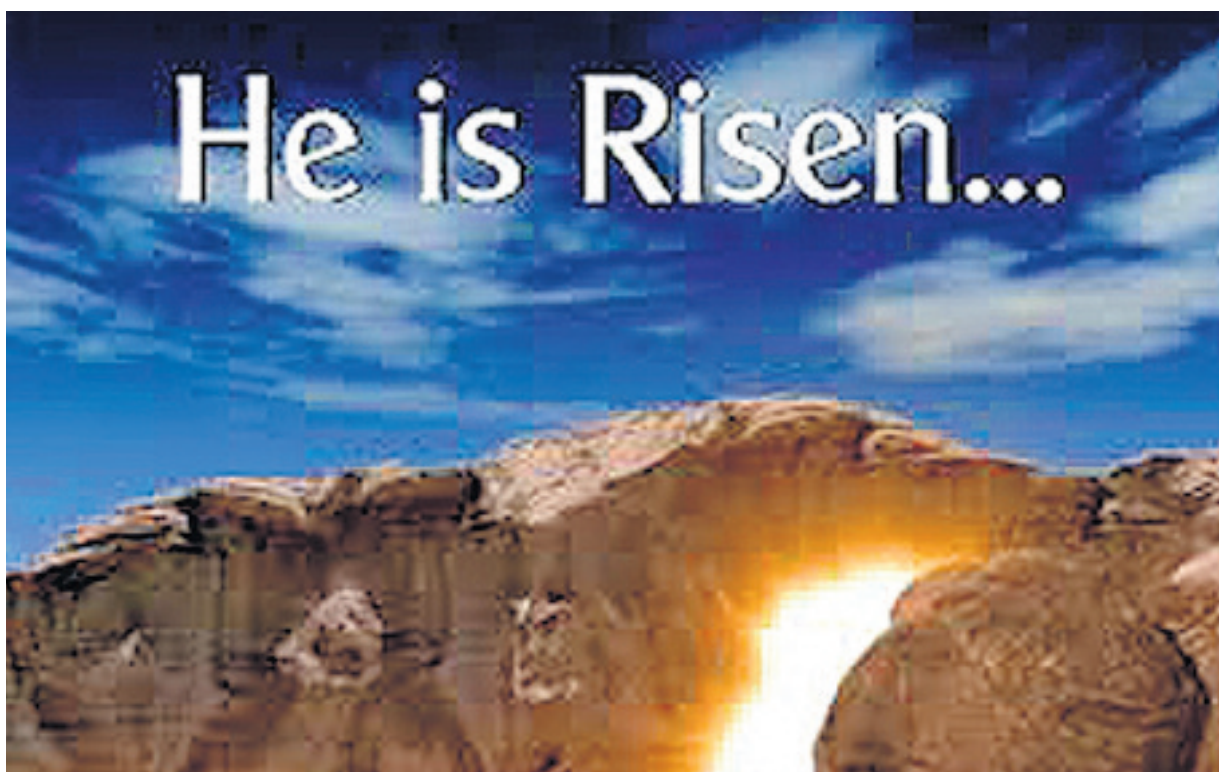
Next the Candidates to be received in full communion were affirmed by their sponsors and the assembly and declared members of the Elect. The catechumens and candidates then inscribed their names in the Book of the Elect and were presented individually to the Bishop.

Finally Bishop Peter signed the Book of the Elect for this year and the ceremony ended joyfully!

More pictures,
page 11



***The Vine wishes all
it's readers every blessing
this Easter***



He is Risen...

**NATIONAL CELEBRATION
THE 2014 MASS FOR THE WORK
OF THE
PRO-LIFE ORGANISATIONS.**

**CELEBRANT BISHOP JOHN SHERRINGTON
AUXILIARY BISHOP OF WESTMINSTER**

TUESDAY 27TH MAY 2014 7.30pm

**THE
SHRINE of OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE,
(PROTECTRESS OF THE UNBORN)
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SPUC
(Society for the Protection of Unborn Children)
BEDFORD**

The Christian World see from your editor's desk

Getting into print



I am grateful to my family and friends, my Dominican brethren, and the priests and people of the Diocese of

Bishop Thomas Williams, Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Liverpool welcomed the Archbishop-Elect saying: 'I have to say on behalf of Archbishop Emeritus Patrick and the priests and people of the Archdiocese how pleased we are to welcome Archbishop-Elect Malcolm. We have always been well blessed with our Archbishops and are grateful and appreciative of the gifts and talents and service given by Archbishop Emeritus Patrick. 'We welcome Archbishop-Elect Malcolm with open arms and fully commit ourselves to him in a spirit of brotherly love

Archbishop-Elect McMahon is Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department of Education and Formation, the Catholic Education Service (CES) and the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CATEW). He is also National President of Pax Christi, the International Catholic Movement for Peace. He will be installed as Archbishop on Thursday 1st May 2014, the Feast of St Joseph the Worker.

Material should be e-mailed 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.

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Bishop-Elect Hudson was born in Hammersmith, 14 February 1959, fourth son of Richard and Marie-Charlotte Hudson. After education at Wimbledon College he graduated from Jesus College, Cambridge. He trained for the priesthood in Rome, and was ordained in 1986. After further studies in Leuven he became director of the Southwark Christian Education Centre. He returned to Rome in 2000 as Vice Rector of the Venerable English College, and as Rector from 2004-13. In January 2014 he became parish priest of Sacred Heart, Wimbledon.



The content of each issue is decided by the editor, Fr. Paul Hardy, email: vine01@btopenworld.com

Views expressed in The Vine are not necessarily those of the editors or of the Diocese. The publisher of The Vine, Bellcourt, deals with advertising. Those wishing to place advertisements should telephone 01440 730399. Difficulties with distribution should be referred to Mrs Busby.

Canon for continuity

Fr Mark Floody, who was appointed Dean of the Cathedral in September 2011 by Bishop Peter, was installed as a member of the Cathedral Chapter at an Induction Ceremony on Tuesday 25th February.

Provost, Mgr. Sean Healy, conducted the induction and vested the new Canon with the rochet and cappaparva, the Choir dress of the Cathedral Chapter. After the induction service Bishop Peter celebrated the Chapter Mass in the Cathedral.

Canon Mark was joined by over 200 people including family, friends, parishioners from Northampton and from his previous parish of Holy Family and St John's in Luton.

It was a wonderful occasion with many proud smiles clearly seen on people's faces, especially his Aunt Marie and his sisters Joan and Shirley and brothers Liam, Peter, Brendan and Gerard – as they watched the induction.

The Friends of the Cathedral arranged a buffet for all the guests following the Mass.

Canon Mark said: "I feel very honoured but somewhat surprised to have been made a member of the Cathedral Chapter. I am extremely happy and grateful to all those who came to the Chapter Mass to support me."

Glen Bowen, head of the Pastoral Planning Group for the Cathedral, said that the day was a wonderful occasion for the Cathedral and where



Canon Mark's family and friends could see at first-hand the support and encouragement he receives from the close Cathedral community.

A Cathedral Chapter constitutes an ecclesiastical organisation whose role is to oversee and celebrate the solemn liturgies in the Cathedral. It is for the Cathedral Chapter to fulfil those roles entrusted to it by the Diocesan Bishop. One of its most important roles is submitting aterna of possible candidates to the Apostolic Nuncio when the See of Northampton is vacant.

There is evidence that the existence of 'Canon'

goes back to early Christian times and the term 'Chapter' is found in pontifical documents from the 12th century. The chapter advises the Bishop and oversees, under his authority, the running of the Cathedral. And as Bishop Peter reminded everyone, the Chapter is the body in the diocese that remains after the death or retirement of a Bishop and helps ensure the continuity of the heritage and traditions of the diocese.

Article: Brendan Seery

Pictures: Bernard Hales

Well done, Dougie

Dougie Rentle was presented with the Bene Merenti Medal on 16 February at his Parish Church of SS Philip and James, Brickhill, Bedford, by Fr Jonathan Hill.

Dougie and his late wife Theresa were founding members of the parish and between them devoted much of their time in helping to build up the parish. Dougie finally retired late last year from his familiar role of organising the collection each week, showing visitors to their

seats and generally greeting all parishioners as they arrived for Mass.

Dougie is well known throughout the Bedford Catholic population for the tireless work that he and his wife gave to the community.

The award of the medal is greatly cherished by both Dougie and his large family, many of whom are pictured with Dougie after the presentation.



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-oo0oo-

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Happy feast after Jubilee Mass

Father Bernard Hughes celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination at St Joseph's in Luton earlier this year.

The church was packed to capacity for the Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter and twenty priests.

Fr Bernard's family was represented by his brother Deacon Bob Hughes, twin sister Kathleen Reilly and sister Marie Hughes. Friends Fr Tom Colreavy came from Leitrim and Fr Tom Kenny from Westmeath.

Fr Bernard was born in Peterborough. His late brother was also a priest. He went to Luton, newly ordained, in 1964. He discovered that most of his flock came from Ireland so he began visiting there regularly.

He served for three years in Langley and returned to Sacred Heart, Luton as assistant priest.



Concelebrants. Below, Fr Bernard & family

He was asked to co-ordinate the building programme at Holy Family, Marsh Farm, which opened in 1983. He had previously been involved in the building of Cardinal Newman School. He was chaplain at Keech Hospice and the TA. He had been a keen footballer, a long distance runner and rugby player, had rubbed shoulders with royalty and met the Queen and the Princess Royal.

He is happy in his bungalow home where neighbours drop in to check on him. He says that Luton is his home and hopes there is space for him at the Vale when the time comes.

After the happy Mass there was, of course, an excellent feast.



On 15th March 1964, in a snowstorm, Bishop Leo Parker officiated at the Solemn Opening and Dedication of St. Mary's Church in Dunstable. Photos show the Bishop protected by a server bearing an umbrella and the local civic dignitaries waiting in the snowstorm with similar protection.

On 16th March this year a special celebration and remembering Mass was held in brilliant warm sunshine! The two normal Sunday masses were cancelled and a special one held at 11.30 in a packed church.

Former parishioners, and those who had not been to Mass for a while, were invited. People came from as far afield as Nottingham and Portsmouth. There were several who had been at the opening ceremony, the oldest being Phyllis Kay, aged 98, who had played the organ at the last Mass in the old

church and the first one in the new.

Fr. Kieran Magovern C.M. was the celebrant with Frs. Jimmy Shiel, Harry Slowey, Padraig Regan and Canon Benny Noonan, Dean of the Central Bedfordshire Pastoral Area.

Young people were involved with the Scouts, Guides and the Youth Group taking part in the procession and the readings.

The offertory was taken up by representatives of those present 50 years ago. Bert and Pat Sackett, still active parishioners in their 90s, Kathy Hopkins, daughter of Margaret Kirby, a former catechist, now housebound, and Teresa McGlynn - in a wheel chair - grand daughter of the late Alf Duncan, one of the original parishioners who used to walk to Luton for Mass.

The children's liturgy group sang about 'building community' and dis-

played a banner showing the church.

A display showed scenes of the building and opening of the new round church as well as the old church which is now the social centre for the parish. A buffet meal was provided by the Union of Catholic Mothers and other helpers.

On Saturday 29th March a special Golden Jubilee Concert took place in the church. This was arranged by Judy Smither, the church organist, and involved several local choirs who combined to sing "The Heavens are Telling" from Haydn's Creation and the Halleluia Chorus from Handel's Messiah.

Further events are planned for the year. The most important being a Mass on 22nd June with Bishop Peter and local dignitaries being invited. We hope they won't need umbrellas this time!

And fifty for the church as well



Chesterton's virtues & spirituality



The Bishop of Northampton, Peter Doyle and over 70 participants attended a one-day Chesterton conference in Borlase Hall, St Teresa's Parish Centre, on Saturday 29th March 2014.

Following the suggestion that a procedure for Chesterton's possible canonisation be initiated, the Conference concentrated on Chesterton's personal virtues and spirituality as well as his large corpus of journalism, popular novels, articles, biographies and poetry.

Keynote speakers were: Dale Ahlquist, president of the American Chesterton Society and writer of a long running series on Chesterton for a US TV channel; Martine Thompson, who has just completed her doctoral thesis on Chesterton's 'religion of little things'; Dr Marco Semrini, President of the Italian Chesterton Society, and Dr Dermot Quinn on Chesterton's 'wholeness and holiness'.

Canon John Udris, spiritual director of Oscott Seminary, and a former parish priest of St Teresa's has been appointed by Bishop Peter to do the preliminary investigation of Chesterton's suitability for eventual canonisation. He gave a fascinating account of Chesterton's favourite saints and used them as a pointer to the sanctity that was in essence part of Chesterton.

Part of the preliminary investigation involves looking at any possible dubious aspects of the candidate's life and discussion turned to whether or not there were any traces of anti-Semitism in Chesterton's writings. Dale Ahlquist used Chesterton's writings and personal history to demonstrate that this rumour was untrue.

Further information can be obtained from Deacon Michael Phelan on 01494 678259, 07860 381510.

Pictures: above, the Question Panel. Below, Dale Ahlquist, president of the American Chesterton Society



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‘A lovely relaxing, spiritual reflective day’

CAFOD Northampton held its first CAFOD Day of Reflection On the 15th March. 28 people attended from around the Diocese. It was held at St Teresa's Centre, Beaconsfield.

Evelyn Kemah, a CAFOD school volunteer said, "I wasn't going to come as my Saturdays are really precious to me. But then I thought 'I will give it a try this time, especially since it is Lent. I am so glad I came. It was so helpful and inspiring."

The day started off well as the glorious sun was pouring through the Centre. People began arriving from 10:30am and while having their coffee/tea they browsed at the CAFOD stall and chatted to each other.

We were very blessed to have Brian

Purfield, from the Mount Street Jesuit Centre, leading the reflections for the day. The opening reflection focused on CAFOD's Lenten theme of digging deep and included Mohammed's story in Sierra Leone. Brian then spoke about where we find God and this was followed by some quiet time to reflect on two Scripture readings. The afternoon focused on how the love of Christ urges us on and the day closed with an invitation to offer our prayers together.

Val Hughes from St Peter's Biggleswade said, "I'm a newcomer. I really enjoyed the day very much and hope to come to future events." Majella Hurley (St Teresa's, Princess Risborough) was thankful for the day, adding "It was very helpful on all levels,

the spiritual, practical and providing the CAFOD message". Anne Hoskins (St Alban's, Winslow) noted that it was a lovely relaxing, spiritual and reflective day. These views were generally reflected by those who attended.

Deborah Purfield, CAFOD Diocesan manager, remarked, "I was delighted that so many people took time out of their busy schedules to come together to prayer and reflect. From the feedback, everyone seemed to have left enriched! The excellent facilities of St Teresa's Beaconsfield, and the warmth and welcome CAFOD received there, really helped make the day very special. I hope to make this an annual event and hold at various venues around the Diocese so all get a chance to come."



A fond farewell

Sunday the 23rd of February was a day of celebration and of sadness for St John Ogilvie Parish in Corby.

A special Mass was organised for Helen and George Jobe who were returning home to Newcastle after many years as parishioners.

Helen was the CAFOD organiser in the parish and carried out the work with great gusto, involving herself in many of the activities of the charity. A strong member of the Choir, Helen was also a reader and an Extraordinary Minister of Communion, so you could say a real all rounder!

With her husband George and other members of the Parish they put together the Christmas Bazaar, which was enjoyed by all the parishes in the town and raised many hundreds of pounds for the work of CAFOD.

Fr Stephen Mc Guinness the Parish Priest said a few words as Helen and George were presented with a bouquet.

After Mass all attending adjourned for tea and the cutting of the cake, which was baked especially for them by a parishioner.

The Parish of St John Ogilvie will miss them both and wish them a long and happy life in their home town of Newcastle.

Picture: Helen and George with Fr Stephen McGuinness and the cake!



Thank you Mass for Luton Good Counsel

It was with much sadness that Pro-Life groups received the news Luton Good Counsel was to close at Easter. Over the 15 years they had been in existence, Luton Good Counsel saved more than 500 babies and helped many young mothers, irrespective of class, colour or creed.

The Guardians of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the SPUC Bedford committee wished to show their appreciation of the commitment of the Luton Good Counsel team and so a special Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated on Friday 14 March at the Church of Christ the King, Bedford. Prior to the Mass, members of SPUC Bedford and Luton Good Counsel held a meeting to explore ways in which the void left by the closure of Luton Good Council could be filled.

In her welcome address Teresa Williams (Guardian/Bedford SPUC), quoted from Psalm

82: "Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked". The readings were by Christopher Langley (LGC) and Maggie Sloman and the bidding Prayers were read by Catherine Bolam (LGC) and Anne Reddin (Guardian/Bedford SPUC). The principal celebrant was Father Jeremy Davies, Chaplain to the organisation, who was joined by Father Patrick Hutton and Father Michael Patey.

The sizeable congregation was made up by Guardians, members and supporters of Luton Good Counsel, SPUC Bedford and parishioners from the Bedford Pastoral Area as well as visitors from London, Corby and elsewhere in the Northampton Diocese. A certificate of appreciation was presented to the members of Luton Good Council at the reception which followed the Mass.

Sue Sarsfield

Dream of the Rood



In March a large group of parishioners gathered in the church hall of Our Lady of Light in Long Crendon for a talk by Prof Vincent Gillespie, the J.R.R. Tolkien Professor of English Literature and Language at Oxford University, on "*The Dream of the Rood*".

This is one of the earliest Christian poems in the corpus of Old English literature and is an example of the genre of dream poetry. Rood is an Old English word meaning 'crucifix'.

A part of *The Dream of the Rood* can be found on the 8th century Ruthwell Cross in Dumfries. On this cross there is an excerpt that was written in runes along with scenes of Jesus healing the blind, the Annunciation and the story of Egypt. Although the cross was torn down and destroyed during a Protestant revolt, it was reconstructed as much as

possible after the fear of iconography had passed. Fortunately the words in the runes were protected in the 10th century *Vercelli Book*, which is kept in a museum in the Italian city of Vercelli.

The poem is set up in three separate sections with the narrator having a dream. In this dream or vision he is speaking to the Cross on which Jesus was crucified. In section one the narrator has a vision of the Cross. Initially the dreamer sees the Cross covered with gems. He is aware of how wretched he is compared to the glorious tree, but he comes to see that amidst the beautiful stones it is stained with blood. In section two, the Cross shares its account of Jesus' death. The Crucifixion story is told from the perspective of the Cross. It begins with the enemy coming to cut the tree down and carrying it away. The tree learns

that it is not to be the bearer of a criminal, but instead that of Christ crucified. The Lord and the Cross become one, and they stand together as victors, refusing to fall, taking on insurmountable pain for the sake of mankind. It is not just Christ, but the Cross as well that is pierced with nails.

The cross itself is portrayed as his Lord's retainer who's most outstanding characteristic is that of unwavering loyalty. Then, just as with Christ, the Cross is resurrected, and adorned with gold and silver. It is honoured above all trees just as Jesus is honoured above all men. The Cross then charges the visionary to share all that he has seen with others.

In section three the vision ends, and the man is left with his thoughts. He gives praise to God for what he has seen and is filled with hope for eternal life and his desire to once again be near the glorious Cross.

Michael Pitt-Payne
Pictures: above,
Professor Vincent
Gillespie.
Left, the Ruthwell Cross



The joy of the Gospel

The twinned parishes of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Great Missenden and St Anne in Wendover are starting a series of study meetings.

It is part of a programme of events to help deepen Faith, build bridges between the two churches and to encourage others to hear the message of Jesus Christ.

They have organised the series of gatherings to explore the CaFE ("Catholic Faith Exploration") DVD "The Joy of the Gospel".

This is inspired by Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, "Evangelii Gaudium". To launch the series (1st May) the Director of CaFE, David Payne, will share his Faith story in person in Damien Hall at the Church of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Great Missenden.

David is an ex-drug addict who found free-

dom in Christ 25 years ago and since then has been helping Catholics to find fullness of life in the Spirit. He is an inspiring and entertaining speaker and author of *Alive, dare to believe* and *Strength*. He is married to Giovanna and they have 3 teenage children."

1st May - David Payne will share his faith story and launch the series.

8th May - The Lord Jesus Christ

15th May - St Francis - A Heart for the Poor

22nd May - Deeper - Why Jesus?

5th June - Passion for Jesus

12th June - Making Mission Possible

For more information please contact:

Peter Harris: 01494 863572 /

pm.harris@talktalk.net

Margaret van Duyvenbode: 01494 726809 /

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Rev Dr Con Foley, Saint John's Seminary, Womersley

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Rev Dr Duncan Macpherson, Saint Mary's University, Twickenham

These services are frequently attended by people of all faiths and none. To this extent they constitute a 'Court of the Gentiles', requiring different preaching strategies from those appropriate for the Sunday Mass.

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Rev Dr Dominic Robinson, SJ, Heythrop College

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2014 theme - the Joy of Conversion

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Memories of the Monsignor

The article "Memory Lane" regarding Bishop Carey Elwes brought memories of Monsignor Valentine Elwes flooding back to me.

As a child of Irish immigrant parents we lived in Earls Barton - a village not far from Great Billing. As one of only two Catholic families in the village in the early 1960s, we shared a taxi to Mass in Great Billing every Sunday as it was the nearest Catholic Church. That trip each Sunday filled me with terror as a young child; it was the equivalent of a fairground ride as so few people owned cars.

Monsignor Valentine was the first priest I remember. As token Catholics in the village, he visited my parents at our new council house. Hospitality was obviously very important to my mother and I remember Mgr. Valentine sitting in front of our coal fire eating a slab of my mother's fruit cake. Their backgrounds were poles apart but their faith was the cement that ensured the future of Catholicism in Earls Barton.

My main memory of Mgr. Valentine was of "fun". He was ahead of his time, always laughing and joking and keeping things light for the children. Catechism was obviously important for us who could not attend a Catholic school so Mgr. Valentine organised this at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour. However, one day he took all of us - all five of us - out in his Morris 1000 Traveller. We were to go on a conker hunt!

Down the winding lanes of Great Billing and Overstone we went on that Autumn afternoon. In fact so much hopping in out to find conkers became so tedious for some of the boys that



Mgr. Valentine opened the back doors of the Morris Traveller. There we all sat, in the boot of the car, staring out at the receding road, as the car travelled slowly down the country lanes in search of Horse chestnut trees. The boys were just in their element; I was just petrified! Hanging on for dear life, I grinned through it all and actually enjoyed it in the end!

Trying to explain to my mother why my woolly hat was full of conkers when I got home was difficult, but in hindsight what a wonderful introduction to the Glory of God and the fruits of Autumn.

The annual Corpus Christi procession was another celebration of faith introduced by Mgr Valentine. For two years, as a child I kissed the rose petals and dropped them in a trail along with many other children, as the statue of the Virgin Mary was processed around Great

Billing.

Later, the Elwes family opened their beautiful house and gardens for our Summer Fetes and memories of raffles, horse rides and fun again was part and parcel of that Elwes' approach to life.

As the Catholic population began to grow in Earls Barton, my father, Denis Kelleher and his friend, Vince Kearns, became the driving force behind building a new Catholic church. Father Denis Roberts was the wonderful priest who made this all possible, sadly dying prematurely after opening St Anselm's.

However, Mgr Valentine Elwes was the first priest I ever knew and my memories of him are of abiding faith, but more importantly a joy of living where his love of God and faith overflowed to everyone.

Marian Colyer

Olney digs deep for Lent

To link in with the CAFOD message Dig Deep, the CAFOD group in Our Lady Help of Christians, Olney gave parishioners a bottle of water and a small plant. They were asked to use the water (to drink or water the plant) pray for those who do not have enough food or water and fill the empty bottle with their Lenten offerings for CAFOD.

Maureen Curtin



First for Fair Trade

St. Joseph's Catholic Junior School, encouraged by Mrs. Killian, has been working hard for a couple of years to promote Fair Trade and so attain Fair Trade Status.

Fair Trade has been taught as part of the curriculum. Fair Trade products have been sold every half term by members of the school's Fair Trade group, who have also visited Sainsbury's to check on how many goods on sale have the Fair Trade logo and to encourage customers to purchase Fair Trade products. Some of this group also took part in the 2013 Peace Walk in Luton, during which they did a presentation on Fair Trade at Holy Ghost Church and also at the Luton Catholic Day.

Having satisfied all the criteria for becoming a Fair Trade school they were awarded Fair Trade status in January 2014 and, on 28th February during Fair Trade Fortnight, members of Grassroots, the Luton Council of Faiths and the adult Fair Trade Team met at St. Joseph's to attend the Assembly and to present the Fair Trade Certificate.

All members of class 6TR took part in the excellent and entertaining assembly where they enacted the reasons for supporting Fair Trade and finished with everyone singing the hymn "I'm trading my sorrows", with accompanying gestures.

Ryad then presented Mrs Killian and headmistress Mrs. Lee with the Fair Trade certificate, after which the guests toured the school and then joined parents for Fair Trade refreshments.

We are so proud that a Catholic School is the first school in Luton to achieve Fair Trade status and hope that the other Catholic schools will soon follow suit.

Pictures:

Pupils in school with head & deputy

Pupils @ fair trade awards

Maureen Borbone



Catenians go east



The spread of Catenianism – faith, family, friendship and fellowship – took significant strides forward with the two new circles in India. This Catholic laymen's association's party of 42 Catenians and wives, lead by Grand President, John Rayer and his wife, Anne and International Development Officer Tony Godden and his wife Kelly, travelled with Catenians from the UK, Malta and Australia, to be present at the formation of the new circles and to attend Masses, meetings of established circles and social gatherings.

The formation of the first circle in Mumbai was preceded by a Mass of Thanksgiving concelebrated by the Archbishop of Mumbai, Rev. Fr. Agneto Gracias, and Fr Daniel Fernandes. In his homily Bishop Gracias extolled the virtues of Catenianism and its commitment to faith, family values and mutual support.

Commenting on the visit John Rayer from

Swanley Circle in Kent said:

'The Catenian Association has a mission to spread its ethos to other Catholic men and their families, and is very excited about the expansion to India. The support given by such a large number of visiting brothers and wives and the hospitality and enthusiasm shown by our friends in India demonstrates that Catholics, wherever they live, can benefit from uniting in brotherhood'.

Tony Godden, from West Lothian Circle, Scotland, added, 'The wonderful progress being made in India is the result of a considerable amount of pioneering and hard work over a number of years by many people both in India and in the UK. It has already achieved outstanding results, but what is truly exciting is the future. The sense of energy and commitment to the Catenian movement by our Indian family was truly magnificent'.

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So then the Lord after He had spoken to them, was taken up into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God. Mark 16.v19



Feast of the Ascension

Rosary gathering/procession to honour the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus. Meditating on the Glorious Mysteries. Also praying the Joyful Mysteries to acknowledge the Feast of the Visitation two days later. Thursday 29th May 2014 at the Angelus time of 6pm. meeting outside Christ the Cornerstone church 300 Saxon Gate West, Central Milton Keynes MK9 2ES St John the Baptist, St Elizabeth and St Zacharias pray for us. For more information please phone Catherine on 07768 161 664

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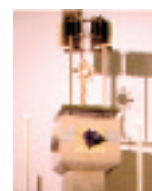
For further details please contact: The Secretary, The Fellowship of Meditation 8 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester DT1 1PW Tel: 01305 251396 E: fellowship.meditation@virgin.net

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Obituary

William Price Davies

Mr W P Davies was the first Headteacher of Cardinal Newman Secondary 11 – 18 School which opened at the end of September 1968.

He was a tall, slim, athletic looking man and to the pupils (and some staff) was a rather stern and formal figure, and very much a traditional Catholic.

From the outset he was determined to generate the best Catholic and Academic opportunity school for the Catholic community of Luton. This had been the ambition of Monsignor Arthur T Brewer assisted by Canon Brian Frost, and Bill Davies was the man to realise this ambition.

He had grown up in Manchester gaining a scholarship to De La Sal College in Salford where he became head boy. In 1947 he got a scholarship to Manchester University to study Physics. It was an exciting time to be at Manchester with the likes of Sir Bernard Lovell and Alan Turing putting down the foundations of radio astronomy and computer science. After graduating Mr Davies (he will always be ‘Mr’ Davies) became a teacher and discovered a life long passion for education. He flourished in the environment – moving quickly through the ranks, head of a large Science Department and then Deputy Head of Dunstable Grammar School and from there was appointed Headteacher of Cardinal Newman School at the age of 39.

In the 60s, there was some criticism that Catholic Schools did not see academic success as a top priority but Bill Davies strove to establish Catholic and academic standards and did his best to appoint academically-able staff.

With the able help of Mr Ken Lapsley, the first Deputy Head, a strong house system was established which was the power house for pupil social development, parental involvement and student pride in the school. Tutors were involved in the social and academic development of students and the instruments through which Mr Davies worked to generate the ethos of the school. This house system was seen as a major strength of the school in a succession of inspections.

The Cardinal Newman School prided itself on no student leaving without a place in college, university or going into an apprenticeship. Under his leadership the staff worked closely with local businesses to try to place students as they left school. It led the school being an important part of the community. He left education at a time of great change – not all of which he approved. He was always a man who was ‘values driven’ and it was time to take early retirement.

Of course, there was a very interesting and generous man behind the public image and Bill Davies was a devoted family man to his wife, Joan, and three children. There were many acts of kindness to staff and many families received much needed and much appreciated help. He was a Catenian, a very keen Lake District hill walker, golfer and later he became a talented painter.

There was much to Mr Davies that was not formal and Headmasterly. The school opened with 9 classes using only the top floor of the main house block and room 9. The rest of the building was a very active construction site with no handrails on the stairs. Construction seems to have been a recurring theme. How Mr Davies coped with the ‘health and safety’ of the day was a mystery, but he did. He was always very ‘hands on’, designing the original science labs at the school himself.

Following a spate of school burglaries and a hint from police that Newman could be next, Mr Davies led a scary looking group of male teachers on a security patrol around the school site between 11 pm and 1 am. Even the mice hid!

The Gospel was fully proclaimed and Mass was at the heart of the school.

The school that exists today owes much to the standards service and ambitions for all the pupils established under the leadership of Mr W P Davies.

He is remembered with much fondness by staff, former staff and former pupils. May he rest in peace.

Mike White

Obituary

Maurice Thevenin



Obituary

Fr Frank Calnan



Father Frank Calnan SCJ, much loved Parish Priest of The Sacred Heart Church, Northampton, died in his home on the morning of Saturday 15th March 2014 at the age of 83. Bishop Peter was the principal celebrant at his Requiem Mass on April 9.

Born in Ilkeston Derbyshire on 10th December 1930 he was one of a family of five children and is survived by his sister, Margaret. Fr Frank was ordained priest on 29th June 1957. A member of the Sacred Heart Fathers, Fr Francis became a missionary to Indonesia, but unfortunately contracted malaria quite quickly and was forced to return to Britain. For a short while he was based in Lincolnshire, but he spent the majority of his priesthood ministering to the Roman Catholic community of Northampton.

Fr Francis was Parish Priest of the Sacred Heart Parish in Weston Favell from its foundation in July 1974. He was, however, active in the area for two years before this, having arrived in 1972 to start establishing the parish and to minister to the growing number of people moving into the area as a result of the development of the town. He oversaw the building and development of the new church building in the pyramid church of Weston Favell. The interior of the church is well known for its amazing murals depicting the Stations of the Cross.

In his younger days Fr Francis was a keen golfer and tennis player, and greatly missed being able to participate in these sports. He was a fun loving, sociable man who reached out to all, and was always generous of his time and efforts.

Father Francis was always keen to involve as many parishioners in the work of the parish as possible, and was a great listener and enabler who was always willing to let people try out activities and ideas. For 28 years he was the spiritual director of the parish’s annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, which thanks to his support is still very successful to this day, and he was hoping to return to Lourdes with this year’s group in August. The Lourdes pilgrimage gave the young, and not so young, members of the parish time to spend together both spiritually and socially, and many great friendships have been formed during the pilgrimage. One of the offshoots of the Lourdes pilgrimages is a very active music ministry, which has been leading the music in the parish for many years, which helps the community to really celebrate Mass, and is but one example of Father Francis’ desire for the parish to be inclusive and encouraging to all.

Fr Francis was a true shepherd to his people, and will be greatly missed by all who have had the privilege to come into contact with him. His legacy of the Sacred Heart Church and Parish will be a lasting monument to his many good and selfless works in the town.

Gareth Davies

The funeral of Maurice Thevenin, aged 104 took place at St. Edward’s Church in Kettering on 25th February 2014.

Maurice was born on the 15th April 1909 and died on 10th February 2014.

He was born in France and moved to England as a young boy. Most of his working life was spent in London working in Restaurants. In the late twenties he worked on the White Star Line Trans-Atlantic Ocean Liner the RMS Olympic, as a Steward, travelling between Southampton and New York.

When the Second World War started he was called back to France to serve in the French Army. He was captured and spent 4 years as a Prisoner of war in Germany and Poland.

He returned to England after the war and continued to work in the Restaurant trade, also serving others as a member of the Saint Vincent DePaul Society in London.

He retired to Broughton in Northamptonshire in 1976 and joined the St Edward’s SVP Conference in Kettering, serving members of the local Community. He was also a member of the Church Choir, and up until last year frequently sang the Kyrie Eleison during Mass.

He enjoyed playing Chess, and frequently walked from Broughton to Kettering to teach children to play the game at St. Thomas More Primary school. In recognition of his dedication to the game, at the age of 98 he was awarded a trophy by the English Chess Federation.

In his latter years, Maurice was able to remain in his own home supported by Carers, visits from the SVP and assistance from many parishioners of St. Edward’s Church. May he rest in peace.

Rite of Election 2014

Pictures:

Margaret Busby & Noel Guina



"I congratulate you for the decision you have made. Each of you has a unique story to demonstrate - not just to be received into the Universal Church. You will have wonderful gifts to communicate by your witness. It is a very special moment. Do not be nervous, be at peace. What a great joy it gives me."

Bishop Peter





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Apprentices in prospect

To commemorate the end of National Apprenticeship Week Year 10 students from Cardinal Newman Catholic School in Luton were invited for a tour of the entire Vivaro plant in Kimpton Road on Friday 7th March to inspire the students about a possible career in IT, Business Admin, HR, Manufacturing, Engineering and Robotics.

The tour began with a warm welcome from

Vauxhall Apprentices and Undergraduates who are currently going through training and placements there.

After a brief Health & Safety lesson, the students were taken straight to the heart of the factory to watch how a Vivaro was made from start to finish. They were able to find out all about aspects of the van making process.

Students and staff began the tour of the plant

by watching computerized robots welding the entire body of the Vivaro together before the shell was sent off into the paint shop for colour. Students were impressed to see how robots and skilled technicians worked together to create the complete body shell.

Within the General Assembly area undergraduates greeted students at the end of the production line where finished Vivaros awaited delivery

to their new owners. Students were then escorted straight into the heart of the action. They watched as dashboards, seats and windows were fitted by Vauxhall Technicians on the non-stop production line and the undergraduates explained to them how important working as part of a team is.

After the tour a challenge was set to see which student team were the most efficient and could construct a wooden model vehicle. Each small group was lead by a Vauxhall Undergraduate who encouraged the students to follow instructions and work together to finish the task in record time.

Students were also given a presentation by Sam Thomson, a former Cardinal Newman student who is now a Vauxhall IT apprentice. He spoke to the students about his journey and why he favoured an apprenticeship.

Careers Manager at Cardinal Newman Mrs Michelle Everitt said:

"The visit was an ideal opportunity for young people to find out more about one of Luton's most famous companies. It was great to see how engaged they all were throughout the morning. The tour raised aspirations on what type of opportunities are available to students once they finish school.

It was a delight to see an ex-Cardinal Newman student enjoying the start of his career within this iconic company.

I would like to say thank you to the entire staff of Vauxhall for their hospitality and well organized event."



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You will be educated to degree level with professional experience of working with young people. You will have strong motivational skills with a creative flair and enjoy spending time with young people. An ability to keep things in proportion and be resilient are key to the success of this role. The role requires excellent organisation and leadership skills with an ability to continually reassess priorities. You will be required to lead the majority of retreats which includes working evenings and weekends. Some experience of community life would be an advantage. Post to commence in August 2014.

Other Benefits: Contributory pension scheme, childcare voucher scheme.

Closing date: Tuesday 6th May 2014

Interviews: Friday 16th May 2014

Application packs are available from: Miss Emma Jarvis, Savio House Retreat Centre, Ingersley Road, Bollington, Cheshire, Macclesfield, SK10 5RW, Tel: 01625 575405, Email: saviooffice@saviohouse.org.uk

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