



The Vine

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February 2018
Issue No. 323

Northampton Diocesan News

FREE Every Month

**Diocesan
patron's
Mass**

Page 2



**Thornton
Sisters' bicentenary**

Page 7



**Charlotte's
off to
Bolivia**

Page 8



**School
Advent
Service**

Page 12



God gives the growth

St Thomas Aquinas Primary school in Bletchley is 50 years old and a year of celebrations has begun. The celebration began with a Mass of Thanksgiving on October 5 attended by parishioners and past pupils.. It was followed with a childrens' Mass on November 20th. An open day is planned for January 29th. Bulbs have been planted and an orchard of fruit trees will follow the new path around the football field .So flowers will bloom in the spring and there will be fruit to harvest in the autumn.

There are many stories from 50 years ago when the school opened. Apparently the school wasn't quite ready and the children had lessons seated on the floor

until the tables and chairs arrived. The school was full, with 49 pupils in each class. This conytasts with the much smaller number of 30 pupils in each class today.

Mrs Fionnuala Fleming was one of our first teachers in 1967 teaching the equivalent of Year 3 today. parent and a great supporter of school events and activities. We asked her to reflect on the school opening

"50 years. It seems like yesterday! The excitement of a new school; lining up in the hall, sorting out classes and rooms, meeting new friends and colleagues.

Continued on page 3



FAMILY CATECHISM DAYS WITH FATIMA DEVOTIONS

Led by the Priestly Fraternity of St Peter (FSSP)
at Christ the King Roman Catholic Church, Harrowden Road, Bedford MK42 0SP

FIRST SATURDAYS

3 February, 3 March, 7 April, 5 May, 2 June 2018

All welcome

10 am Fatima Devotions (Rosary & meditation, Confessions)
11 am Holy Mass
12 pm Lunch (bring packed lunch)
12.30 pm Catechism (for under-8s)
1 pm Catechism (for under-16s)

1.45 pm Catholicism in 2018 (for adults)
2.30 pm Altar server training / Gregorian Chant practice

Evenings: Priest on pastoral visits

THIRD SATURDAYS

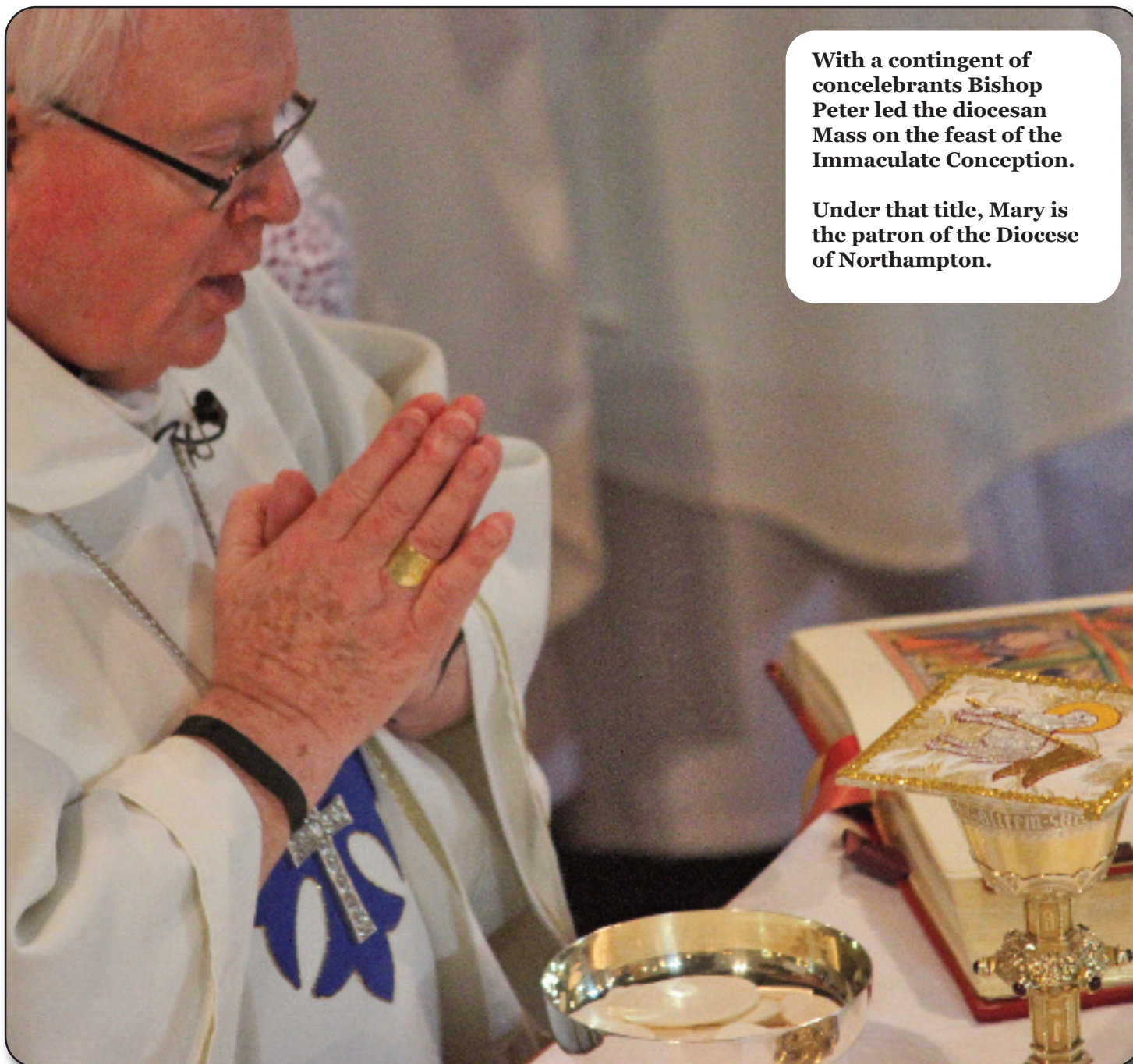
17 February, 17 March, 21 April, 19 May, 16 June

All welcome

2.30 pm Altar server training / Gregorian Chant practice

5 pm Young Adults' Group, 18-35s (talk /discussion / dinner)

Mass in the Traditional Rite is said every Sunday at 8.30 am with a Sung Mass on the first Sunday of the month.
To arrange a visit from an FSSP priest, or for more information, please contact: james.mawdsley@fssp.org



With a contingent of concelebrants Bishop Peter led the diocesan Mass on the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Under that title, Mary is the patron of the Diocese of Northampton.

Karen Jenkins RIP

The Year 1 teacher at St. Patrick's Primary school, Corby, Mrs Karen Jenkins, was involved in a collision with another car on New Year's Eve on the A508 near the village of Roade. She died at the scene. Her husband, seriously injured, was airlifted to hospital in Coventry. They were on their way back after visiting their son and first grandchild. Karen had been teaching at St. Patrick's for eleven years

Liturgy and beauty

The prestigious Catholic Theological Association of Great Britain is holding a conference in Luton on 21st April.

It will be looking at the topic of Liturgy & Beauty. The event will take place at the Holy Ghost Centre, Westbourne Road, LU4 8JD from 10.30 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. All those interested in liturgy and theology are invited.

The Chair of the Conference is Fr. Tom O'Loughlin, a professor at Nottingham University, who is currently Chair of the Catholic Theological Association. He will be talking about how best our worship can adapt to complex pastoral situations. Also speaking will be Mgr. Kevin McGinnell, on the translating of the Missal, following the recent Vatican document; Fr. Kevin Alban, O. Carm, will look at the various rites in the Catholic Church, especially the Carmelite Rite, on how they can express beauty; and Fr. James Cassidy, C.R.I.C., will be examining liturgy and law.

The cost will be £10 (£5 concessions); tea and coffee will be provided, but those coming are asked to bring a packed lunch. For more information contact thomas.oloughlin@nottingham.ac.uk

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Getting into print

Send news reports, photos and other material to the editor, Fr. Paul Hardy, St. Edward's, Burchard Crescent, Shenley Church End, Milton Keynes MK5 6DX (vine01@btopenworld.com).

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.

The content of each issue is decided by the editor.

Views expressed in The Vine are not necessarily those of the editor or of the diocese. The publisher of The Vine deals with all advertising. To place an advert ring 01440-730399. For difficulties with distribution contact the editor.



Former parish priest Canon Michael Harison with pupils of St. Thomas Aquinas

Continued from page 1

We had no furniture so we all sat on the floor. Yes, that really happened.

There was intense pressure for places as locals who had contributed funds for years, and had competition from the Inner London Education Authority, who gave a generous grant for each child re-settled in the school. This grant made the new school possible and many places were allocated to newcomers to Bletchley.

The smell of new paint in the early September heat made everyone a bit nauseous. The paint had been laced with an insecticide to kill flies. It reduced thousands of wasps to a soporific state. They lay in hiding under desks or climbing frames, benches and bags and caused a deluge of wasp sting

Morning and evenings were marked with the arrival and departure of buses, organising children from the different routes. It is surprising how soon we settled down, became a family, establishing traditions for uniforms, behaviour, football and netball.

The most striking custom of the school over the years has been the huge number of past pupils who return time and time again to

re-live old memories and renew friendships. They are always received with interest and pride in their continual development. I hope that St. Thomas Aquinas school gave them a sense of worth and belonging with high ideals to strive for that served them well in the many roles they are called to lead. At St Thomas Aquinas school we often recall them with pride, sometimes with merriment, but always with great fondness.

Some rivalry between the local schools led to our nickname 'The Holy Terrors'. Our football and netball teams certainly lived up to it".



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A new Catenian crucifix

Province 8 of The Catenian Association has recently acquired an altar cross to add to its collection of the items needed for a Mass to be said in a location other than a church, such as the venue for its annual Provincial weekend. It is an olive wood silhouette cross and was made in Bethlehem. The Provincial President, John Sharkey, is taking this cross on his visit to Circles in Province, so that as many Brothers (and their families) as possible can see it. When visiting Northampton Circle on its November Clergy and Ladies Night, Bishop Peter Doyle (Bishop of Northampton Diocese and whose

father was a Catenian) was a guest and kindly agreed to bless the cross. There is a plaque on the base of the cross dedicated to Brother Bart Fossey (RIP) of Newbury Circle, who was the sacristan for the Mass at the Provincial Weekend for many years. Reverend Brother Gordan Nunn of Ealing and Chiswick Circles, kindly made the arrangements for the acquisition of the cross and the plaque.

Picture: Bishop Peter Doyle blessing the cross, held by Province 8 Provincial President, John Sharkey.



Busy Northampton circle

The President and Brothers of Northampton Circle were delighted to welcome their ladies and 8 members of clergy, including Bishop Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton, to their Clergy Night. The principal Catenian guest was Province 8 Provincial President, John Sharkey, along with other Catenian visitors.

In proposing a toast to our clergy, ladies and guests, Circle President, Eugene Sinnott, referred to his personal appreciation of the dedication and commitment in the work of the clergy through several family members

who were Priests. Provincial President, John Sharkey, replied on behalf of the guests. He recalled that Northampton Circle was the oldest Circle in Province 8, having been inaugurated on the 12th November 1918, the day after Armistice Day. He said he looked forward very much to Northampton's milestone centenary celebration in November next year.

Bishop Peter reflected that in the present confused and complex world that troubled us all it was important not to give way and to use the opportunity as a channel of love.

Referring to the busy year ahead, both globally and nationally, Bishop Peter outlined some of the upcoming major events in 2018, including in August the world meeting of families in Dublin. The Bishop referred to 2018 as a year of prayer and vocations, requesting support, living in the presence of God and being a channel of love. He went on to say he was very fond of Northampton Circle, expressing a big thank you for their kindness and generosity. Bishop Peter also took the opportunity to thank his clergy for their work and dedication.

A tombola raised f 350 towards President's and Circle charities.

Picture: Clergy front row only (left to right): Deacon Michael O'Leary, Deacon Michael Fleming, Fr. Andrew Behrens, Deacon Peter Hurrell, Northampton President Eugene Sinnott, Bishop Peter Doyle, Provincial President John Sharkey, Fr. Paul Gonsalves, Fr. Paulnman, Fr. Jerry Manomey.





To celebrate Princess Diana's Birthday this 20th Anniversary year, Sacred Heart Primary in Luton Year 5 and Year 6 Anti Bullying Committee members were included in The Diana Award Roll of Honour for 2017. These exceptional young people embody Princess Diana's qualities of kindness, compassion and service. The Diana Award was set up in memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, and her belief that young people have the power to change the world for the better. It is committed to fostering, inspiring and developing positive change in the lives of young people through practical social action. Today The Diana Award has the support of both her sons The Duke of Cambridge and Prince Harry.

All the award winners – who come from every region in the UK and USA, Canada, UAE, India, Belize, Australia, Greece, Indonesia, Croatia, Liberia, Jersey, New Zealand, Indonesia and Liberia – have had a monumental impact on society and lives of those in their communities. Many of them only know Princess Diana as a historical figure but they carry the honour of the Diana Award with pride and admiration for whose memory it was set up in.

Tessy Ojo, Chief Executive, The Diana Award says: "We are delighted to announce our Roll of Honour on Princess Diana's Birthday as we shine a spotlight on her legacy twenty years on. Today we celebrate young people for their selfless contribution to society, their courage and bravery, some-

times in the face of adversity. During this 20th Anniversary year The Diana Award is actively seeking supporters to help us continue this youth legacy, in memory of Princess Diana, and expand our work that fosters change through positive action with young people."

The ABC (Anti-Bullying Club) play a vital role in the safety and happiness of the students in Sacred Heart Primary School. The group work tirelessly every day to raise awareness of bullying issues, identify and implement strategies to combat bullying and promote their ethos of respect, acceptance and appreciation that we are all unique. The group identify potential bullying issues in the school and plan actions for individual children, year groups and the school as a whole. The ABC are a creative group who constantly update their activities and bring a level of commitment and passion to their role that has inspired and engaged their entire school community. The children were invited to visit Althorp House with their families over the summer holiday. They all had a wonderful day at Althorp House and some of them were lucky enough to meet Earl Spencer. Wayne Sleep and Tessy Ojo presented the awards to the children on October 13th during a presentation ceremony at the Barclay Bank Headquarters in Canary Wharf.

Pictures: above, award winners. Below Wayne Sleep presents an award.

Happy birthday Princess Diana



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"I was amazed given the weather conditions that people had come from as far as Crewe, Liverpool, Lincoln, Sussex and Kent but such is the power of their answer to Our Lady's calling" commented Co-ordinator Andrew Hinde the morning after the 2017 Feast Day Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Shrine in Bedford on 12 December.

The Guardians had been worried earlier in the day that because of the recent snow and hazardous driving conditions, not many people would make the journey to the Shrine in Bedford, but they were proved wrong.

The Shrine was packed with guests, including Supreme Grand Knight Bertie Grogan, his Deputy Joe Rodriguez, a number of Provincial Grand Knights and supporters from all over the country. Mr Vinod Tailor, the current High Sheriff of Bedford, was also an honoured guest, as were a number of visiting priests.

The Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe featured on new chasubles worn by Rector of the Shrine, Canon Seamus Keenan, and Fr Jeremy Davies, Spiritual and Faith Director to the Guardians and the Shrine, who gave the homily.

This was immensely powerful and spoke very directly about abortion. He used the passage of St Peter from Acts to illustrate his point that St Peter's listeners were cut to the heart when they learnt the part they had played in Jesus' Crucifixion. The remedy for this was to repent and be baptised, and Fr Jeremy was saying this is still the remedy for the guilt of abortion, for when we repent, forgiveness and healing is possible.

Many of the sung parts of the Mass were in Latin from the 'Missa Angelis' and a fine soloist and a small male choir in the organ loft performed this.

An integral part of every Feast Day Mass is the Renewal of the Home Shrine Families' and also the Renewal of the Guardians' Promises to serve our Lady of Guadalupe in the coming year.

At the end of the Mass, those present were invited to come together to socialise and eat at nearby St Frances Cabrini church hall; they had been told that there was plenty of food!

A happy hour or so was spent as old friends recognised each other and new friendships were forged. Bertie Grogan spoke of the continuing very successful partnership between the Guardians and the Knights in organising the 2017 Pilgrimage Tour and Andrew Hinde gave a brief outline of where the Miraculous Relic Image will be going in 2018

Barbara Kay

Bedford's Feast Day Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe



Sponsors for Bedford school racers

St Thomas More Catholic Teaching School are delighted to announce that local business man Mr Clive Wiley and MD of Parrott Construction, Mr Chris Layram, have become the new sponsors of the St Thomas More Car Racing Team. On the 5th of December, our new sponsors came to STM to meet the team and see what they are plan-

ning. All of the cars were on display as well as their development ideas and designs. The team couldn't wait to show off their hard work, demonstrate how the cars work and share their plans.. The STM Design & Technology department along with students aged 12-18 have designed & constructed two electric powered racing cars which, thanks

to the generous support of Mr Wiley and Mr Layram, can now be entered into the Greenpower International races at Rockingham Raceway.

Cars from all over the UK enter this competition and in previous years, our successes to date have included third place in annual

races as well as winning awards for the 'Best Looking Car' and the 'Most Interesting Technology'.

Powered by a 24 volt DC motor and two 12 volt batteries, the cars can reach speeds in excess of 30 mph, enabling the drivers to complete two, 90 minute races, with pit stops for driver change over.



Two hundred years for the Religious of Jesus and Mary

Since 1860 The Sisters of the Congregation of Jesus and Mary have been working in the diocese of Northampton – in Ipswich and Felixstowe as well as in Thornton College, founded in October 1917. This year the school celebrates its centenary.

At the same time, events to mark the bicentenary of the Congregation (1818-2018) have begun, with representatives from its Provinces travelling to Agra in India to join the opening ceremonies and gatherings, sharing their local knowledge of the work and expansion of the JM communities worldwide.

Why Agra? Well, it was in 1842, five years after the death of St Claudine Thévenet their foundress, that a small band of intrepid Frenchwomen from Lyon set out on a long and arduous journey by sea and overland, re-

sponding to the invitation of the Bishop of Agra to come and work in his diocese.

As you know, this was not the epoque of easy travel and worldwide knowledge of distant places. The sisters, therefore set out, rather like Abraham – in faith and obedience, not knowing where they were going and, by today's standards, little prepared for what lay ahead.

So it was fitting, in the first week of October, for today's sisters to repeat that journey to Agra, marking the beginning of the expansion of the Congregation and opening a year in which all remember the goodness of God to them and those who went before them throughout the past two hundred years.



Pictures above: ceremony in Agra. Top right, St Claudine Thevenet.

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GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN BEDFORD!

Afternoon of Reflection in Ss Philip and James' Church, MK41 7BX
Saturday, 17th February
 2:00pm - Stations of the Cross
 3:15pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Confession
 4:00pm - Vigil Mass (fulfils Sunday Obligation)
 5:00pm - Lent Refreshments!

ALL WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The Beaconsfield feast

Regulars at the St. Teresas SVP conference in Beaconsfield, Tuesday morning Coffee & Company enjoyed a full Christmas Lunch with all the trimmings on Tuesday 12th December. Also invited were residents at the Care Home where the SVP organise Word & Communion.

Despite the snow over 70 guests sat down to a traditional Turkey dinner with Christmas Pudding, mince pies or Trifle as dessert. The new Parish Priest at St. Teresa's Mgr Sean Healey said Grace.

Kevin Broderick



Charlotte's bursary for Bolivia

On the 4th Sunday of Advent at the end of morning mass at the Catholic Church of the Good Shepherd in Haddenham, Michael Pitt-Payne of the Chiltern Catenian Circle presented a cheque for £650 from the Catenian Bursary Fund to Charlotte Evans. Charlotte has obtained a Volunteering Placement for three months starting on 5th January 2018 in Bolivia where she will be leading a team of four volunteers working for Tearfund on educational based projects. Part of her duties will involve transporting young children who are living with their parents in prison to school and back to prison each day.

member of the parish has been awarded a bursary grant it was a very special and happy occasion with Charlotte's parents and twin sisters on hand to give her their moral support.

If you would like further information about the Catenian Bursary Fund, please follow this link. bursary@thecatenians.com



Help for the homeless

During Advent Term the RE Department at St Paul's organised a fundraising activity to help homeless people in Milton Keynes. The 'reverse Advent calendar' initiative was enthusiastically supported by pupils, staff and parents.

Each form room displayed a reverse Advent calendar showing a list of items that pupils could sign up for and bring into school. These included shoe boxes (to contain gifts), essential toiletries, clothing, treats and Christmas cards to write a message to the person who would receive the box. Pupils could elect to bring a single item or even do a whole shoe box themselves. The

idea was to encourage pupils to think about giving what they can during Advent rather than focusing on the things that we receive.

Laura Maw, Head of RE, said: "With the number of homeless people in Milton Keynes increasing by 500% since 2012 we know that the help we can provide is needed now more than ever. Thinking about this during the Advent season has helped pupils to remember the meaning of Advent and allow us all to live out our school motto of loving and serving others."

In total 110 shoe boxes were created and special thanks go to our Sixth Former stu-

dents who wrapped and filled them. The shoe boxes have been donated to Help Our Homeless MK, a group of volunteers who have been supporting the homeless community since 2014. Alongside a Soup Run a few nights a week they give out clothing, toiletries, bedding, and tents to the homeless. They also have a shop unit on the Lakes estate where they store stock and are able to sell some donated items.

Picture shows Sixth Former students, members of the RE Department and some of the shoe boxes they wrapped.

Come to me

The day held at Turvey on 16 December was a wonderful start for the Diocesan Year of Prayer and Vocation for those 40 or so people who gathered from around the Diocese to consider the theme of Come to Me.

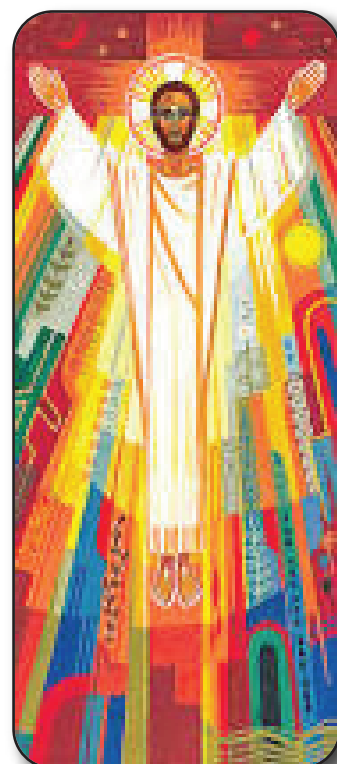
The day was Coordinated by Marie Heath with the support of the Spirituality Network that is a loose group of individuals with a special interest in Christian Spirituality.

Monsignor McGinnel welcomed all to the day including Bishop Peter who was able to be with us up to celebrating the Mass at midday.

The Key note address was given by Br John OSB who helped us to think about how it is that Jesus comes to us and unites us in Him.

The afternoon started with a prayer of stillness which enabled us to enter into the time with prayer places; giving the opportunity to approach Christ through different mediums and ways of thinking and feeling.

Having time to spend in quiet reflection at the different prayer stations made for some very helpful opportunities to draw close to Christ and to think about his calling to each one of us. Appreciation for this was expressed when we gathered at the end of the day



Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes



Jesus says: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am among them." Matthew 18:V, 20

You are invited to a
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note: these devotions will not be cancelled due to bad weather. Praying in the wind, cold and rain is penance and reparation (wind and rain bless The Lord).

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GREAT THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN BEDFORD!

Lent Day of Reflection in

Ss Philip and James' Church, MK41 7BX
Saturday, 10th March



12:00pm - Angelus - Blessing of new Our Lady of Guadalupe icon - Holy Rosary - Divine Mercy
1:00pm - Bring and Share Lunch
2:00pm - Stations of the Cross
3:15pm - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Confession
4:00pm - Vigil Mass (fulfils Sunday Obligation)
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BOOK REVIEW

Confession: The Healing of the Soul

By Peter Tyler
Bloomsbury £14.99

Peter Tyler is both professor of Pastoral Theology and Spirituality at St Mary's University and a psychotherapist. So it is safe to assume that his reflections on the sacrament of Confession will come from an unconventional perspective. He does not disappoint. Writing primarily as a Catholic psychotherapist who has counselled many people, he suggests that often they "lock up the forces of the unconscious and are terrified of opening up their contents..."

But what does the unconscious have to do with Confession? A great deal, says the author, for it is our unconscious scars and wounds, of which we are ignorant, that lead us to sin and thus to the need to confess. It is also the reason why, in the modern age, self-revelation and disclosure are very common; a "secular panacea", removed from its religious sacramental necessity.

Reflecting not only on the writings of the early Desert Fathers, but also on the mythological significance of the Arthurian legends – especially the story of Tristan – as well as the mystical experiences of men as various as the philosopher Wittgenstein, the Breton priest Henri Le Saux (later known in India as Swami Abishiktananda) and the Spanish Carmelite saint, John of the Cross, Tyler argues persuasively that they are all inter-linked.

The Fourth Lateran Council of 1225 codified the sacrament of Confession within the canons of the Church. It meant that the early Desert Fathers' practice of counselling and spiritual direction was joined with St Augustine's insight that confession was a transcendental encounter with God, to become the form as we know it today. In the



same century Gottfried von Strassburg began writing about the myth of Tristan, and the Carmelite Order was founded on Mount Carmel in Israel. For Tyler, these three key events throw light on each other and provide the key to allowing "the tortured 21st century soul to begin the process of healing it so badly needs."

He writes that the two essential elements of Confession, the psychological healing of the soul and the "window on the transcendent" became "yoked to the canonical requirements of the Sacrament". Counselling or spiritual direction can often be helpful when used alongside the Sacrament, in order to guide people in self-understanding and why they often act contrary to what they know to be their best spiritual interests. It is not for nothing that Tyler's book opens with the sentence, "We are strangers to ourselves".

Tyler quotes Dom Bede Griffiths, a friend of Henri Le Saux, who also went to India to explore the Hindu way of self-transcendence and who wrote, "It is Christ alone who can

set us free from the unconscious" and that in our Christian life "the Holy Spirit should penetrate to the...ultimate root of being, and transform us."

The chapter on the philosopher Wittgenstein, whose tortured search for an authentic way of life drove him to live in isolated places and led him to multiple public "confessions" to his family and friends, is especially noteworthy. Tyler points out that confessions such as Wittgenstein's, "remind us that at the heart of true knowledge lies the confessional act." Similarly, St John of the Cross recognised that "all true examination of the divine must start with the groan of the confessional." To repent we need to know ourselves; and then the sacramental grace can heal and transform us. Otherwise, as the author points out, confession can easily descend to simply wanting a "clean slate", with the consequent repetition of the same sins, rather than the true, healing touch of Christ.

Francis Phillips

Empire gong for Leighton Buzzard colonial

In last year's Queen's Birthday Honours Bill Duperouzel, who has been a parishioner of the Sacred Heart Parish Church in Leighton Buzzard for more than 40 years and a Catechist since 2008, was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to Charity and the Community in Bedfordshire.

Bill was born in Western Australia where he qualified as a CPA accountant before moving to England in the early 1970's and spending his working life in the IT computer services environment. In 1991 he was

inspired by his wife Janet who had founded Headway South Bedfordshire, a brain injury charity based in Luton, to become involved in charitable activities; working together they established an annual charity bike ride for Headway. This event ran for the next 16 years and raised more than £60,000.

Bill retired in 2006 and became the Administrator of the charity Workaid which is based in South Bucks. Workaid collects old tools and equipment which are refurbished by volunteers at its premises in Chesham.

Workaid tackles poverty by supplying disadvantaged people in Africa with the tools and equipment they need to acquire practical skills and become self-supporting. During Bill's period as Administrator Workaid acquired the Old Boot Factory in Chesham and he supervised its conversion from an abandoned building to a well organised storage and refurbishment workshop. Bill retired as CEO of Workaid in 2011 and is now a trustee of the charity and carries out public speaking engagements to promote its work. He is also a trustee and treasurer of a

local charity, the Centre for Health, Healing and Counselling in Leighton Buzzard.

The medal ceremony took place at the Putteridge Bury Conference Centre in Bedfordshire on 18th September 2017 and was conducted by Helen Nellis HM The Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire. This was a very happy occasion and Bill was supported by his wife Janet, their daughters, Adele and Suzanne and his son-in-law, Ernesto.





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

- 6 Jesus cured her two girls and little boy with drugs (4,9)
- 8 Contextual material from the Bible, chapter and verse (4)
- 9 Criminal group spotted in pubs (8)
- 10 Whisky bottle? (6)
- 12 Philistines' camp is 'ere – ignore the 'Itites! (6)
- 13 Pulled up in transport to see Christian in Troas (6)
- 15 When during Pentecost there are vacuous litanies (6)
- 16 Paul's vision's deserted him, going down this road? (8)
- 17 Breather at Christmastide if not commercial... (4)
- 19 ...various seasonal hints found in letters from Paul (13)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Beware in Rome vineyard outlet place (4)
- 2 Various psalters, including month and years, used in medieval dramas (7,5)
- 3 One who teaches Jews to make the ultimate in meat pies, perhaps (6)
- 4 Decorates mariners top in sea-craft after a reception (6)
- 5 They cross the frontier when van dries out (8)

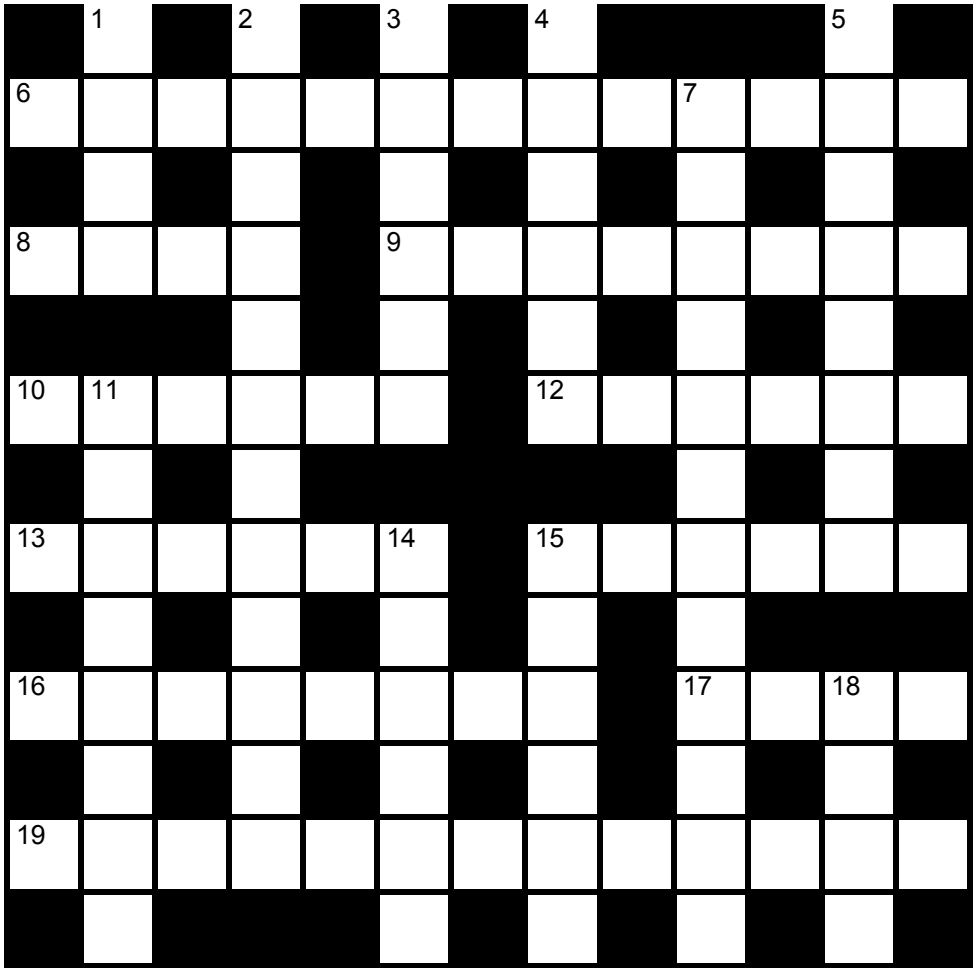
- 7 Going to party at homes round about, Virginia's made to work hard without reward (6,2,4)
- 11 Cost went up, it's reported, for types of ruler in Egypt (8)
- 14 Samaritan's place is among prissy charlatans (6)
- 15 Norman enlightenment? (6)
- 18 All over English meet with French negativity, which produces zilch (4)

QUICK Across

- 6 KJV name of one of the first people to see Jesus after his resurrection (4,9)
- 8 Sermon basis (4)
- 9 Robber released by Pilate (8)
- 10 Third person of the Trinity (6)
- 12 Philistines' camp when Saul set up camp at Gilboa (6)
- 13 Paul's affiliate in Troas (6)
- 15 Whereas; when (6)
- 16 Syrian capital, home to Aramaeans who fought and lost to David (8)
- 17 Outlet: express (4)
- 19 Macedonians, the object of two letters from Paul (13)

QUICK Down

- 1 Landform, the effect of weathering and subject of speleology (4)
- 2 Medieval dramas representing episodes



- from the life of Christ (7,5)
- 3 Coney (6)
- 4 Decks, dresses (6)
- 5 Vikings, for instance (8)
- 7 (Make) fruitless efforts (6,2,4)
- 11 Kings of Egypt at the time of the Israelites' confinement (8)
- 14 Samaritan town where Jesus spoke to a woman who came to draw water (6)
- 15 From Job to Ecclesiasticus/Ben Sira: the '----- Books' (6)
- 18 Zero (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 6 Mary+Magda+Len+E, 8 hidden word in 'CONTEXTual', 9 Bar(Abba)s, 10 double EXPLANATION, 11 Pharaohs, 14 Sychar, 15 Wisdom, 18 None. Down: 1 Cave, 2 Mystery plays, 3 Rabbit, 4 Adorns, 5 Invaders, 7 Labour in vain, 11 Pharaohs, 14 Sychar, 15 Wisdom, 18 None. Down: 1 Cave, 2 Mystery plays, 3 Rabbit, 4 Adorns, 5 Invaders, 7 Labour in vain, 11 Pharaohs, 14 Sychar, 15 Wisdom, 18 None.



A chance to share the good news

Out of the 80 million Easter eggs sold in this part of the world every year, The Real Easter Egg is the only one which has a copy of the Easter story in the box, is made of Fairtrade chocolate and supports charitable projects. To date, we have sold more than one million eggs with 750,000 of these sent through the post directly to churches and schools.

*delivery is free if you spend more than £45 (that's just 12 eggs) and order by 6th March 2018.

Gifts for individuals and groups

There are five types of Real Easter Eggs available in 2018, all with new content. The Original, Dark and Special Edition Eggs are designed to be a personal gift for people of all ages. For people looking to buy for Children's Easter events, Messy Church or for outreach give-aways, we have our Egg Hunt and Sharing Boxes.

How your church can be involved

To allow us to continue to make The Real Easter Egg, we need people to switch and buy. We need a champion (maybe you) to spread the word, collect orders and buy directly from us.

Original (RRP £3.99)

The 2018 design includes a large 24 page Easter story-activity book, a bag of Swiss Chunky Buttons (25g) and a milk chocolate egg (125g) with a lovely creamy taste. 35% cocoa - Palm Oil free.

Dark (RRP £5.50)

Includes a large 24 page Easter story-activity book, a chocolate egg made from dark Belgian chocolate (165g) and 3 dark chocolate squares (3 x 5g). Delicious, smooth and fruity. 71% cocoa - Palm Oil free.

Special Edition (RRP £9.99)

Inside this specially crafted edition you will find a simple guide to Easter, an olive wood holding cross keyring from the Holy Land, an orange milk chocolate bar (80g), and a luxury milk chocolate egg (200g). 35% cocoa - Palm Oil free.



Sharing Box (RRP £30)

Contains 30 high quality midi Fairtrade Belgian chocolate eggs and 30 cross shaped Easter story - activity booklets. Foil reads 'Christ is Risen'. 600g (20g x 30 midi eggs). 35% cocoa - Palm Oil free.

Egg Hunt Box (RRP £5)

Have fun with enclosed Easter story and activities, then hide and hunt the eggs. Includes a 12 page cross shaped Easter story-activity booklet, and six Fairtrade Belgian milk chocolate eggs with a lovely creamy taste. 120g (20g x 6) 35% cocoa - Palm Oil free.

Buy eggs now or download posters and sign up forms from www.realeasteregg.co.uk



St Paul's Advent Service

In early December St Paul's school, Milton Keynes, celebrated the Season of Advent by holding our Annual Advent Service in the Maureen Grant Room. We used the Liturgy for Advent written by CAFOD as the basis for our service. The Advent service invites us to reflect on how we can welcome Christ into our lives, and to pray for our sisters and brothers who are seeking refuge. Advent brings us closer to Christ who is with us. We wait with joy for the Lord, the hope of the world. Today, millions of refugees are fleeing war, natural disaster, poverty or persecution in search for a better life. We are called to stand alongside our sisters and brothers in solidarity, sharing our hope for a world transformed.

The evening told the story of Aza, a Syrian Refugee, and her journey to find a safe and better future for herself and her 9 month old son. This was related to readings from the bible referring to Moses leading the people of Israel through the desert. At one point those who attended were invited to come to the Altar and light a candle whilst watching a video of refugee's fleeing war. We were asked to think of a challenging journey we had made or may be making this Christmas and pray Maranatha as we came forward. Students and Staff took part in the various readings and the music was provided by the 6th Form Choir and members of the school Orchestra and music department.

After the service our Sixth Form Ambassadors provided refreshments together with mince pies donated by staff! Each year the school raises money during Advent to buy Advent World Gifts. Each year group picks a number of gifts and then holds events to buy as many as they can. Events this year have included inter year group football, netball and basketball together with bake sales and DVD sessions. Donations from our Advent Service went towards our Advent Fundraising for Cafod World Gifts.



ADVERTISEMENT

NEW FILM ON MARY FOR VINE PARISHES

Catholic Faith Exploration (CaFE) have been producing TV-quality film courses on all aspects of the Faith since being launched by Cardinal Hume in 1996. Many parishes have run CaFE courses in the Diocese to great effect over the years. A new course and book on Mary for parishes and individuals called LET IT BE has recently been launched. Cardinal Nichols is one of the well known experts who powerfully share about Mary's vital role in our discipleship today. The inspiring travel journey through Mary's life past and present begins at our National Marian Shrine in Walsingham, where Monsignor John Armitage sets the scene, before the five session series takes viewers to the wonders of the Holy Land filmed at all the key Marian sites. After that, the traditional place of Mary's older life in Ephesus is explored before visiting Rome, Montserrat near Barcelona, and Knock. One of the highlights is the beauty of Lourdes with filming of the Cardinal and several diocesan pilgrimage. Let It Be also features moving testimonies from Mary's Meals, ex-gangster John Pridmore and many others from around the UK plus an interview with the Papal Preacher, Fr Raniero Cantalamessa. Full details of the very affordable five session film & book plus a short trailer

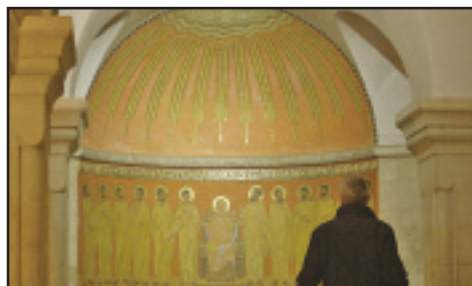


are available at www.faithcafe.org or by calling CaFE on 0845 050 9428.

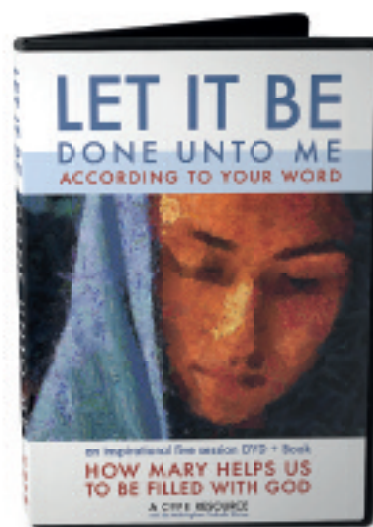
David Payne, the film's director, says; "The time is ripe for a fresh and inspiring film about Mary's life, her inspiring witness of faith and her powerful intercessory prayers. We need all the help we can get."

Cardinal Nichols says; "Mary's 'Let it be' was a clear, deliberate and definitive act - powerful, strong, free and life-giving. It was Mary's commitment to the Word of God as the supreme value of her life which needs to be at the very core of our discipleship today."

Msgr Armitage says "It's very important to have a resource like LET IT BE to help us to do more than just 'go through the motions'. It will help us grow in our prayer and give us a deeper relationship with our Blessed Mother Mary."



NEW CaFE FILM ON MARY 5 sessions for individuals & parishes



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