



The Vine

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March 2018
Issue No. 345

Northampton Diocesan News

FREE Every Month

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Out of this world

Science students at St. Paul's school, Milton Keynes, have created miniature sculptures, no larger than a sugar cube, which will be launched into space on board a real life NASA Black Brant 1X rocket. The rocket, which is about 20m tall, will fly to about the height of the International Space Station before falling back into the Pacific Ocean where it will be recovered. From take-off to splash down the round trip will take about thirty minutes.

Lift off will be from Kwajalein Atoll in the South Pacific Marshall Islands on April 4. The sculptures will be filmed as they experience micro gravity for around five minutes. Once the rocket is recovered from the Pacific Ocean the

sculptures, along with a video of them, will be returned to school.

Mr. Ruprai, Science teacher at St. Paul's said, 'our students have been excited to be involved in this micro-gravity and 3D imaging experiment. Their sculptures have now been sent to Dynamic Imaging Techniques LTD at Bletchley Park Science and Innovation centre and will then travel to the USA where they will be fitted into the rocket and then go onwards to the Pacific Marshall Islands.

The students' sculptures included a rocket, cat designs and a tiny cube engraved with the names of a student's family members.



JOE WALSH TOURS
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Cathedral Centre

The Cathedral Development Campaign received a boost recently with the news that work could begin as soon as July this year! Father Mark Floody, Dean of the Cathedral, announced the news at Mass last weekend. Having raised a magnificent £2.4 million, our diocese is confident to authorise the beginning of this building project. To see Fr Mark's

presentation, please go to the Cathedral website northamptoncathedral.org/live/ and click on the recordings tab navigating to the homily of the Sunday Mass on 4th February recording; or to donate and/or find out more, please call Angela Madge on 01604 712065 or email cathedralcampaign@northamptoncathedral.org



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**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AWARENESS WEEKEND**

Speaker: Sister Patricia Mulhall CSB
Sister Patricia is a Brigidine sister who has been campaigning in the area of human trafficking since 2006, nationally through TRAC and internationally through RENATE [Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation].

**For more information contact
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The travels of Our Lady

The Miraculous Relic Image of our Lady of Guadalupe, based at the Shrine in Bedford, will be visiting a Polish church in the Diocese for the first time. The Guardians have received requests for such a Pilgrimage Visit via our website and from people whom we have met on previous National Pilgrimage Tours. This significant event is to take place from Friday 20 – Tuesday 24 April at the Polish Church of Divine Mercy, 48 Pitts Road, Slough, Berks, SL13XH at the kind invitation of Fr Dariusz Kuwaczka, Parish Priest. The Polish community has a great love for and devotion to Our Lady, and members from far and wide are expected to attend, thus giving a unique opportunity for integration with their English fellow Catholics and other honoured guests.

We are delighted to announce that Mgr Séan Healy, Vicar General, will be our Principal Celebrant at the Service of Reception and Guadalupe Mass. This will be the beginning of a full weekend of veneration, talks and devotions in both Polish and English, some of the highlights of which are as follows:

Friday 20 April
7.00 pm Service of Reception and

Guadalupe Mass
10.00 pm All Night Adoration until 10 am on Saturday, led by the St Pope John Paul II Community

Saturday 21 April
2.30 pm Filipino Worship Afternoon 7.30 pm Holy Rosary led by the Immaculate Heart Prayer Group, Burnham

Sunday 22 April
12.30 pm Kerala Mass (Malayalam)
7.30 pm Spirit and Light Worship led by Fr Andrew Richardson and the Worship Group from St Andrew's, Cippenham

Monday 23 April
9.30 am Visit by local Catholic Schools
3 pm Hour of Mercy: Adoration with sung Chaplet of Divine Mercy
7pm Thanksgiving Hour of Adoration Tuesday

24 April
10 am Stations of the Cross
12.00 noon Holy Mass in English and Service of Return for The Miraculous Relic Image All are warmly welcome to participate during this very blessed time for the Parish Church of the Divine Mercy and the Deanery.

Dates to note

Thursday, March 29:
Maundy Thursday. Chrism Mass 11.00am
Friday, March 30:
Good Friday: a day of fast and abstinence
Sunday, April 1:
Easter Day

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.

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Farewell to Fr Noel

Fr. Noel Connolly SPS has retired after serving for the last 14 years as parish priest of Holy Redeemer, in Wexham, Slough. It is 53 years since he was ordained as a priest of St Patrick's Missionary Society. After ordination in 1965 he was posted to Kenya. He spent more than 30 years there, working mostly in the Kitui diocese, with a final year on Nairobi.

On January 13 2018 Fr Noel concelebrated Mass at Holy Redeemer with Bishop Peter, Canon Kevin O'Driscoll, Holy Family and

dean of Slough, two fellow Kiltegans Fr Joe McCulloch SPS, District Leader, Fr Chris McGuinness SPS Fr Noel's successor and five local clergy, Fr Andy Richardson, Fr Raymond Abuga MSP and Fr Michael Bates. They were joined by deacons Michael Ossei-Williams and Graham Jones.

Several hundred members of the congregation sang their way through various national hymns of thanksgiving, joy and blessing, with particular emphasis on Ireland and Kenya.

Fr Noel Presided over and embraced an energetic, dynamic, multicultural parish. There are more than a dozen nationalities represented at Holy Redeemer. In Fr Noel's address to the congregation at the November 2005 celebrating the church's 25th anniversary he said 'We are celebrating a multi-cultural church and all the blessings it is giving. Peoples from many countries and traditions are coming to this small church celebrating our togetherness in Christ-our king-our Holy Redeemer'.

Almost a Christmas baby, being born on December 23 1938, he was baptised Thomas Noel. In a sermon he said that Jesus is the focal point of his life. = The Spirit is his thinking left behind to help us. When you die you bring that Spirit back to God. The Spirit of God is like a very good friend, helping me on my way. Following the farewell Mass the congregation continued to celebrate the man and his mission with a huge feast in the school hall.



St Patrick's Missionary Society was founded on St. Patrick's day in 1932. For more than eighty years it has continued the work of spreading the gospel, following the words of Jesus, 'God, therefore, make disciples of all nations'.

The headquarters are in Kiltegan, County Wicklow.



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Liverpool's Eucharistic Congress

The last Eucharistic Congress in England was in 1908, when permission for a public procession of the Blessed Sacrament was refused.

Adoramus, is a national Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress, due to take place in Liverpool from 7-Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, Religious and laity that promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. The last Eucharistic Congress in England was in 1908, when permission for a public procession of the Blessed Sacrament was refused.

Participants will take part in a series of catechism sessions focusing on different dimensions of the Eucharist and the daily celebration and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. On the first day of the Congress there will be a theological symposium, with workshops for parish catechists, especially those involved in first Communion preparation, RE teachers, hospital and prison chap-

lains and for extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The sessions will focus on Scripture, ecclesiology Eucharistic language and catechism and a workshop on the rites and music for Eucharistic adoration.

The Liverpool Echo arena, which can accommodate 10,000 pilgrims, will be home to a six hour stage programme on the second day of the Congress. Bishop Robert Barron will address the assembly, as will Cardinal Vincent Nichols. The programme will include other speakers and a drama highlighting the beauty and reverence of devotion. The day will end with adoration. On Sunday, the final day there will be pilgrim Masses and a street procession open to all.

Every diocese in England and Wales will take part in the Congress. Delegates from parishes

will be commissioned to represent the diocese on June 3, Corpus Christi. Each bishop has appointed a representative to disseminate information to parishes, groups and religious communities. Bishop Peter has asked Fr. Andy Ollard to do this in Northampton.

Ahead of the Eucharistic Congress in Genoa in 2016 Pope Francis encouraged everyone to visit the Blessed Sacrament. He said, 'I want to encourage everyone to visit, if possible every day, especially amid life's difficulties, the Blessed Sacrament of the infinite love of Christ and his mercy, preserved in our churches and often abandoned, to speak with him, to listen to him in silence and to peacefully entrust yourself to him'.

The Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress has been given the name Adoramus (Let us

adore). This pilgrimage will bring people together from across the dioceses for a time of focus and renewal of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Adoration calls us to focus our minds and hearts on the Lord's gift of himself in the Eucharist - the source of our life and the mission to which we have been called. Those taking part will bring much home to parish communities that will enable us to renew mission centred on, and growing from, the Eucharist. It will be wonderful to see each parish and pastoral area send delegates to this important event.

Adoramus will also aim to provide practical resources to develop the mission of the Church in prayer, contemplation and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Fr Andy Ollard

CAFOD supporters gather in Beaconsfield

Lent Supporters' day - Beaconsfield. Nearly 30 people from 15 parishes attended the first of two Supporters' days in the Northampton Diocese. It was lovely to see old friends as well as a few new faces. The day opened with a talk from Deborah Purfield (CAFOD coordinator) on El Salvador and CAFOD's work there as she had been there recently. This was so well received as people really appreciated the first-hand account from the country, to hear that despite the difficulties and sufferings the people have endured, they are full of hope and want to improve their lives.

Gerard Buffham (St Augustine - High Wycombe) said, "the talk on El Salvador was amazing, sad, uplifting and humbling". Rose Njoroge (Holy Family - Slough) added, "It encourages me to do more". There was a group exercise, led by Mike Coote (Parish volunteer of St Teresa's Beaconsfield), enabling people to see some of the decisions CAFOD faces, in collaboration with our overseas partners, in spending our money. The day ended with input from Ged Nolan (campaign volunteer Coordinator and schools volunteer) about CAFOD's work in Zimbabwe, the Lent 2018 focus country. Ged explained how Fasting allows us to focus on what re-

ally matters - Our relationship with God and love for our brother and sisters. All were shocked to hear that 70% of Zimbabweans live in poverty and that the unemployment rate has been estimated at 95%! 1 in 3 Zimbabweans are undernourished.

CAFOD is working with the local Catholic Church, through Caritas partners in Zimbabwe to tackle hunger and malnutrition. We are delighted that we have been given matched funding by the UK government up to £5m and donations made from Ash Wed up till Sat 12 May 2018 will be matched his spurred people to want to carry out activities during Lent. Sheila Ashmore (St Augustine - High Wycombe) said, "We will be putting on a meal. As our parish hall is unavailable, we are looking to using another parish hall and will be inviting all parishes in the area to attend." The parish is also thinking of linking with other CAFOD groups in the pastoral area so as to share ideas and get more support. Wonderful! The day ended with a shared lunch. Thank You to St Teresa for hosting the Supporters' day, to Mike and Ged for leading the various sessions and to all who attended. A really wonderful and inspiring time together!



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Let there be Lux

Young people, youth leaders, priests and deacons gathered together for the annual LUX weekend at the beginning of February. The NYMO produced the event and developed the theme alongside our diocesan year of prayer and vocation. Prayer as always was the focus with the young people encouraged to "Get into the boat" for the calming of the storm so as to wake up Jesus and trust Him. For this a full size sailing boat was bought into the Kings Park Conference Centre.

We are blessed to have so many amazing, spirit filled young people

This year the NYMO team were joined by Sister Angela Marie, a Dominican Sister of St Cecilia from Elgin in Scotland. Sister Angela Marie formed part of the voca#on panel and the young people did not hold back on some challenging questions. Neil Roseman, our diocesan Director of Youth Ministry, said " We are blessed to have so many amazing, spirit filled young people in our diocese.

This alongside the dedicaton of our clergy and youth leaders can fill us all with hope for the future of the Catholic church in the diocese of Northampton.

Alongside the Sacrament of Reconciliaton, Mass and Adoraton the young people also love the workshops of dance and sign language. This year we were also joined by James Trewby from the Columbans educaton service who facilitated a 'talk to a missionary' session where the young people where offered the opportunity to speak to a Columban priest, Fr Liam who lives in Pakistan. A highlight this year was the silent disco. Each participant has a headset and chooses on of three music channels to listen to. The funniest bit is when you take off your headset and see and hear over 100 people listening and singing to different songs!



Golden Wedding Celebration



Bob and Barbara Bryant from Our Lady of Peace in Burnham are celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary this month.

Alongside being active members of the Parish community on Burnham they also support our diocesan youth ministry team NYMO on a regular basis.

Whilstvolunteering recently at the LUX residential weekend, they were surprised by Bishop Peter, who offered them a blessing for this great celebration of matrimony.

***Your next deadline:
Easter Sunday
April 1***

Pray the rosary for vocations



The Diocesan year of Prayer and Vocation is a timely reminder that Jesus gave instruction to pray for workers: The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers. (Matthew 9. 37)

This call extends to both Religious and lay vocations. Our level of care and engagement will be reflected in the results and we reveal our own hearts. For your heart is, your treasure will be too. We know also that God in his wisdom knows how to open hearts. When we petition he will respond 'for nothing is impossible to God. Matthew 19.26

Fr Damien` Walne took Jesus at his word and together with Mrs Donna Gardner they launched what was to become The Rosary Link for Vocations in December 2004 when the first Mass and rosary was offered for Religious and lay vocations at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Great Billing. This parish later became the Diocesan Shrine and the Rosary Link for Vocations flourished under the patronage of Our Lady and the chaplaincy of Fr Damien. The aim was simple. 'Let us pray for vocations'.

Fourteen years later we are united with many parishes around the diocese in quarterly Mass, Rosary and Exposition for vocations. Bishop Peter has attended and expressed encouragement to continue, as these efforts are bearing fruit for our diocese. Special thanks go

to all parishes who have participated.

The parish of SS Philip and James, Bedford, hosted the link in December 2017. Fr. Wayne Coughlin was a great host. Frs Christopher Perry and Fr Michael Bates, with seminarian Daniel Rooke led a special evening of prayer for vocation. All are welcome to join any of the following parishes to pray for vocations.

The Rosary Link poster is available on the diocesan website with additional dates:

Friday, March 2

Church of Divine Mercy, Slough:
7pm rosary
8pm Mass.

St. Thomas Aquinas, Bletchley
8.30am, with rosary after Mass.

Saturday, March 3

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart,
Wellingborough"
10.30am

Tuesday, March 6

St. Mary, Dunstable:
9 30am

Wednesday, March 7

Our Lady, Great Billing.
In memory of Fr. Damien.
Consult the newsletter or diocesan website for the time.

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Join us in Lourdes

August 24-31

Each year, the Catholic Association (CA) Hospitalité of Our Lady of Lourdes is responsible for coor-dinating the welcome and care of our 'assisted pilgrims' - those on our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes who have particular care and support needs. For our pilgrimage in August 2018 (24 - 31 August), the CA Hospitalité is appealing for everyone to invite any friends, family members or follow parishoners who might want to come to Lourdes as an assisted pilgrim, or as a volunteer helper in order to help provide the support that our assisted pilgrims need.As-

sisted PilgrimsOur assisted pilgrims can choose to stay in either a hotel with some basic support given by volunteer helpers (such as wheelchair assistance in getting around town or to services), or in the Accueil Notre Dame, where medical and personal care is provided. Our assisted pilgrims are very much at the heart of our pilgrimage and we welcome anyone interested in coming to this beautiful place in the picturesque Pyrenees. In addition, financial help may be available through your Diocesan/Group Director.

of all ages and backgrounds come to Lourdes as volunteer helpers to answer Our Lady's request for people to 'come in procession', but more importantly they come in response to the command of her son Jesus to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves (Gospel of Mark 12:29-31). These volunteer helpers, who are pilgrims themselves, strive to encounter Jesus in each pilgrim, caring for their physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. The Catholic Association Hospi-talité includes doctors and nurses as well as non-medical helpers, who are known as brancardiers (male) and handmhandmaids (female). The minimum age for helping is 16 and there is no maximum age.All are welcome and all have an important contribution to make to the community that we form dur-ing our pilgrimage week.



The CA Pilgrimage also includes the Glan-field Children's Group. Since 1987 the group has travelled to Lourdes with many children with learning difficulties, as well as chronic and terminal illness each year. Full details of the work they do can be found on our website.Volunteer HelpersMen and women

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Our amazing hospital chaplaincy

Since joining the diocese in September as the new Pastoral Ministry Advisor, Avril Baigent has been travelling the length and breadth, meeting hospital chaplains, both priests and lay volunteers. The experience has been a wonderful one. "Although I've been a Catholic all my life, I never realised the amount of work that goes on in hospitals by very dedicated priests and lay people. Every week, people are giving up their time to visit the sick and the dying, bringing the consolation of prayer, Scripture, and the Blessed Sacrament to those who are sometimes at the lowest points of their lives."

Although the chaplaincy teams visit mainly Catholic patients, they will pray with anyone who asks them, and are a help to non-practising families when a loved one dies. Kay Gatt, volunteer hospital visitor at Wexham Park, says, "I love what I do. I love being able to visit people, to pray with them and have a chat, to sit with them and hold their hand in their last minutes. Taking them communion is very special. I'd love to have more people on the journey with us, but it takes a particular kind of person to be on a chaplaincy team."

One of the big issues with hospital ministry can be finding out who would like to be visited.

In most of the hospitals in the diocese, even if the staff have asked if you are a Catholic, they are not allowed to pass this on to the chaplains. So if you are going into hospital, or you know someone who is, please let your parish priest or the local hospital chaplain know. There are contact numbers for the major general hospitals below. If you are in hospital, you can request a visit from the chaplaincy team, but you won't necessarily be visited by a Catholic unless you ask. In most places, Eucharistic Ministers bring communion straight from church to the hospital on a Sunday, while the priests tend to do their rounds one day in the week, visiting anyone who would like to make confession or be anointed. The priest chaplains also come to the hospital when there is an emergency, and are often there several



times a week. In some hospitals there are also Catholic volunteer visitors who come in during the week to spend time with anyone who wants to see them.

In the Bishop's Year of Prayer and Vocation, we are raising the profile of hospital visitors around the diocese. We are asking people to pray for those in hospital or housebound, but also to explore whether you have a vocation for this ministry, whether it be visiting the hospital, care homes or, with the SVP, visiting people at home. As this is a serious ministry of the church, volunteers are asked to make a regular commitment on a rota and to do a safeguarding check. To become part of the hospital chaplaincy team, they will have to do the local NHS training, and some training with their priest chaplain. However, the payback is enormous. As Kay says "it's a privilege".

**Kettering General Hospital,
St Mary's Hospital and
The Cransley Hospice**
Canon John Koenig, 01536 512497

Northampton General Hospital
Canon Mark Floody, 01604 714556

**St Andrew's and St Matthew's
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Fr Andrew Behrens, 01604 713015

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Fr Jude Iroh, 01296 290545

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On a hill far away stood an old wooden cross,
the emblem of suffering and shame.

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1. The agony in the garden
2. The scourging at the pillar
3. The crowning with thorns
4. The carrying of the cross
5. The crucifixion

**Spy Wednesday, 28th March 2018
after the 12:30pm Holy Mass**

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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)
5:00pm - Laetare Sunday Refreshments!
ALL WELCOME

**The Miraculous Relic Image of
Our Lady of Guadalupe
will visit the Polish Church of
Divine Mercy, Slough,
Friday 20 April to
Tuesday 24 April 2018
Service and Reception & Guadalupe
Mass Friday 20 April at 7pm
Principal Celebrant: Rev Mgr
Provost Séan Healy, Vicar General
Diocese of Northampton**

The sacrament of the sick

The sacrament is no longer seen as the sign of impending death. It is given regularly to anyone suffering the frailty of old age or a serious illness.

The sacrament is celebrated only by a priest. Using the Oil of the sick, blessed by the bishop each year at the Chrism Mass on Maundy Thursday the priest anoints the brow and the hands of the recipient.

What does the sacrament do?

It unites the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church.

It strengthens the peace and courage to endure the illness.

It offers the forgiveness of sins if there has been no opportunity for confession.

It enables restoration of good health.

Provides the preparation for passing over through death to eternal life.



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2018 theme - "Do whatever He tells you"



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Pastoral Letter for Lent

At the beginning of his Pastoral Letter for Lent Bishop Peter speaks of the power of the liturgy. 'There are two moments which move me deeply-the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday and the veneration of the cross on Good Friday. Why? Because everyone in the church is able to take part. No-one is excluded. These two moments bring home to me the infinite mercy of God. The days of Lent are a time for us to open our hearts to the mercy of God in prayer, in fasting and in almsgiving.

In his message for Lent Pope Francis points out how easy it is for us to become desensitised to those around us, to the world in which we live, to our faith in God. There are so many pressures on us, and so little time. We get caught up in momentary pleasures and addictions. We become slaves to money and what money can buy. We think we are self-sufficient and end up trapped by loneliness. Appearances become more important than what is real or true. Our hearts can grow cold.

The Holy Father speaks of hearts that grow cold because of a greed for money. That, in turn, leads to a disregard for the unborn child, for the elderly and the infirm, and for the migrant and the foreigner. It negates our concern for creation and the consequent poisoning of land and sea. Within our families and parish communities we can become self-absorbed and pessimistic. We can war among ourselves and forget the call to holiness, to be brothers and sisters in the Lord.

I wonder if some of these phrases touch you as much as they touch me. Or maybe you feel broken inside and don't know how to fix it.

The bishop refers to the Sunday gospel. A leper comes to Jesus and pleads with him for healing. 'This is what Lent is all about. It is a time to come back to Jesus wholeheartedly

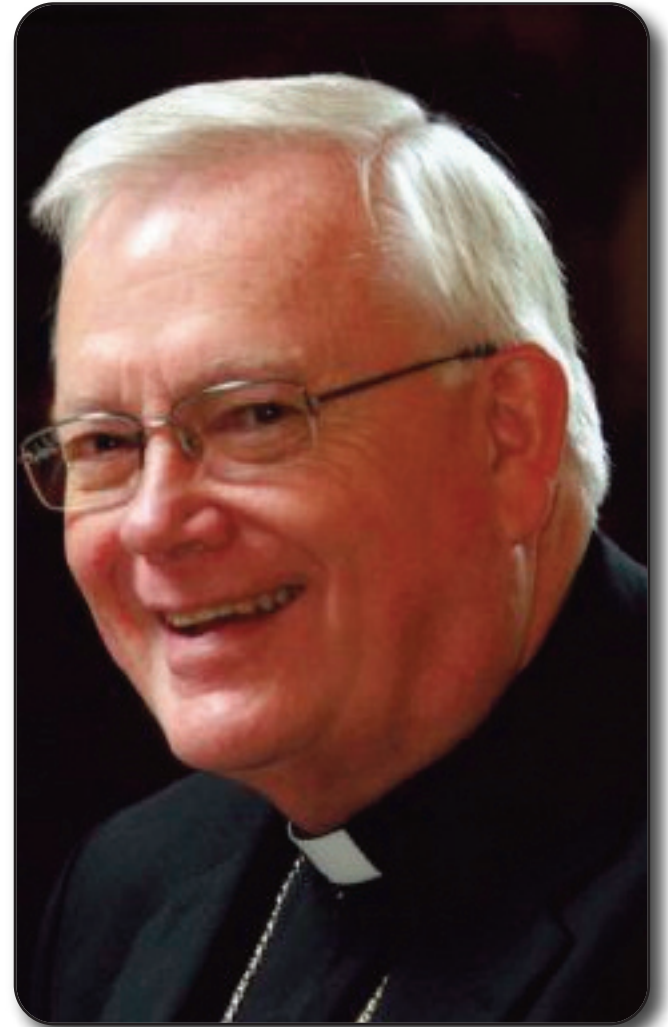
and in every aspect of our lives, to be soothed by God's healing grace.' As Lent starts let each of us plan what we can do to pray, to fast and to give alms. For all of us time is an issue. Yet it is amazing how we can find time to do what we want on our social media platforms.

So, a time for prayer, to raise our hearts and minds to God, just to be in the presence and what sometimes feels like the absence of God. Let God shine a light on all that takes us away from truth deep inside us. Then there is fasting, not just to lose weight, but to wake us up to God, helping us to hunger and thirst for God in our lives. And, finally, there is an opportunity for almsgiving, to recognise Christ in those who are in need and to counter selfish greed.

On the eve of the Fourth Sunday of Lent, Mothering Sunday, with Pope Francis, I would like to encourage parishes to engage in what is called "24 Hours for the Lord." From Friday evening, 9 March to Saturday evening, 10 March, I hope that at some point some parishes will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the context of Eucharistic Adoration. May it be a time of conversion when we turn back to Christ and receive his healing forgiveness. So, together let us take up the

Lenten journey with enthusiasm. May God sustain us in our prayer, in our fasting, and in our almsgiving for his greater glory. Then we will be ready to receive the light of Easter, the light of Christ rising in glory and dispelling the darkness of our hearts and minds. "May God, the Father of mercies, who has given you an example of love in the Passion of his Only Begotten Son grant that, by serving God and your neighbour, you may lay hold of his wondrous blessing. Amen."

***With prayers for a fruitful Lent,
+Peter Bishop of Northampton***



Bishop Youens under scrutiny

The English Catholic History Association (ECHA) has recently published its 2018 programme of events and for the first time in 7 years, will be hosting an event in the Diocese of Northampton. The venue will be St Teresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church in Princes Risborough, Bucks on Saturday 5 May 2018. The morning speaker will be Mrs Margaret Osborne, Archivist Emeritus, Northampton Diocese. Her subject will be Bishop Laurence Youens, born in High Wycombe in 1873 who was Bishop of Northampton 1933-1939. On Whit Monday 1937 he was in Princes Risborough where he laid and blessed the foundation stone of the present church. He conducted the Solemn Opening of the Church on Whit Monday 1938. He was also responsible for the restoration of the Slipper Chapel at Walsingham in 1938. There will be two speakers in the afternoon, Lindsay Mullaney and John Mullaney, Their subject will be - The Founding of Reading Abbey, with a glimpse at its Art, Architecture and Music. The Hidden Abbey Stones Project (HASP) is a new venture, instigated by John and Lindsay Mullaney. The Project's aim is to involve the people of Reading in the rediscovery of the fabric of the great Benedictine Abbey of Reading, founded by King Henry I in 1121. They hope to establish whether the Abbey changed much during its 400 years as an active monastery. To what extent will we find evidence of changing styles of architecture? And from this information can we say more about what life in the Abbey and in Reading may have been like?

After his death in France, King Henry I was buried in Reading Abbey. Whereas the main aim of project is not to find the King's remains, their discovery would be a great bonus. Music associated with the Abbey will be examined and played during the afternoon's proceedings, including that from the Douai Cantatorium (pictured). A brief look at how pilgrimage developed in the years following the Abbey's foundation will be presented. Why did Henry choose Reading as his mausoleum? What happened to the Abbey during the Anarchy of the wars between Matilda, the Lady of the English and King

Stephen? Mrs Sheila Mawhood, Diocesan coordinator of the ECHA and organiser of the event in Princes Risborough added "John Mullaney told me that he and others in the working party (pictured) made a very significant discovery the other day when clearing rubble and undergrowth from the back of St James' Church in Reading (this Catholic church lies within the ancient Abbey's boundaries). They found the base of a pillar (pictured) which had not seen the light of day for many a year. I think that visitors can expect a day full of interest, not only for people of this area on the life and work of Bishop Walter Youens but also for the wider community

on an active ongoing project just down the road in Reading on a parallel with the Search for Richard in Leicester"

Admission full day £15 (including refreshments), half day £8 Bookings from the ECHA website www.echa.org.uk/ or by contacting Mrs Sheila Mawhood 01844 343669. Some tickets will be available on the door. All welcome. People of all faiths and none. Acknowledgement

***Photos courtesy of
Mr John Mullaney***



***Your next
deadline:
Easter Sunday
April 1***

Kiera The Voice

A talented Sixth Form student from St.Paul's, Kiera Baird, has won the vocal category in the Milton Keynes Secondary Schools Young Musician of the Year contest. Kiera competed against three other vocalists and won the judges over with her outstanding renditions of 'You're still the one' by Shania Twain and

"Thinking out loud' by Ed Sheeran. She accompanied herself on the guitar. She prepared for the competition for three weeks and, although she was nervous, put her nerves behind her to deliver a fantastic performance on the night.



Kiera received her trophy and certificate from the Mayor of Newport Pagnell. She has now been asked to take part in the district finals, which take place in March.

Mrs Andrews, music teacher at St. Paul's said 'Kiera was at the top of her game and really did herself, her family and St. Paul's proud'.

The competition is run by Milton Keynes secondary schools in partnership with local Rotary Clubs and MK Music Hub.



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

- 5 A poem aims to desecrate an ancient civilization (11)
- 7 Jaguar engine sound? (4)
- 8 Teacher training familiar Egyptian English
- has almost finished a drink (8)
- 9 Mix small fish into Chinese dish (4,3)
- 10 Model hairpiece – a bit out on a limb, perhaps (4)
- 12 Principal guitarist featured in heavy metal (4)
- 14 Heavenly cathedral's Scottish name (7)
- 17 Time, after a Fourth of July drenched in alcohol, for a special glass (8)
- 18 Bear first left for archaeological site (4)
- 19 Invasion team prepared to drive out Eastern antipope's doctrine (11)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 One who takes great interest in money matters? (6)
- 2 Arrogant newcomer raises trenchant support (7)
- 3 Second gallery in Washington, for instance (5)
- 4 Charm a stubborn beast over time (6)
- 5 Sirion nun, Mother Superior, appears after a short time (5,6)
- 6 Manic signal coming from Canterbury? (11)
- 11 Refuse Aeroflot's American passengers

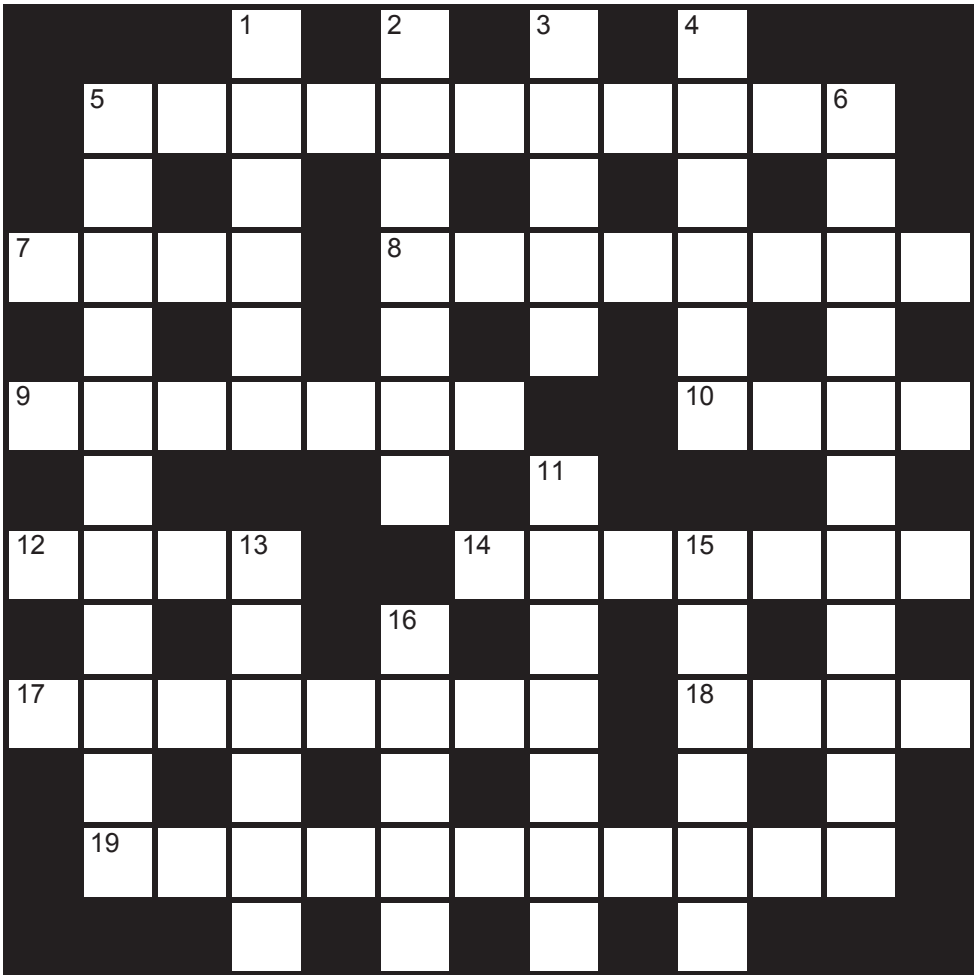
- (7)
- 13 Kind of case meeting is set, about four (6)
- 15 Even the odd involvement with US tax returns is seedy (6)
- 16 Tokyo? No, somewhere else nearby (5)

QUICK Across

- 5 Biblical land, 'between the rivers' (11)
- 7 Sound of contentment made by a feline (4)
- 8 Guardianship; education (8)
- 9 Wok style of cooking (4,3)
- 10 Part of a tree branch (4)
- 12 Starring role (4)
- 14 Blissful (7)
- 17 Blue-purple gemstone (8)
- 18 Bankruptcy (4)
- 19 Relating to a third century antipope, or his party or sect, who favoured severity against the lapsed (11)

QUICK Down

- 1 Extortionate money lender (6)
- 2 Cheeky new kid on the block (7)
- 3 Express; affirm (5)
- 4 Trinket usually hung about the neck, thought to be a magical protection against evil or disease (6)
- 5 Possible site of the Transfiguration, aka Sirion (5,6)
- 6 Principles of the Church of England (11)
- 11 Floating wreckage of a ship (7)
- 13 In grammar, the case expressing an indirect object (6)
- 15 Dirty, squalid (6)
- 16 Japanese capital until 1868 (5)



SOLUTION

Across: 5 Mesopotamia, 7 Tur, 8 Tutelage, 9 Stir fry, 10 Twig, 12 Lead, 14 Elysian, 17 Amethyst, 18 Ruin, 19 Novatianism. **Down:** 1 Usurer, 2 Upstart, 3 State, 4 Amulet, 5 Mount Hermon, 6 Anglicanism, 11 Flotam, 13 Dative, 15 Sordid, 16 Kyoto.

EXPLANATIONS

Across: 5 anag, 7 pun, 8 Tut+elage(-r), 9 stir+fry, 10 T+wig, 12 double def, 14 Elys+ian, 17 Ruin, 18 Ruin, 19 Novatianism. **Down:** 1 Usurer, 2 Upstart, 3 State, 4 Amulet, 5 Mount Hermon, 6 Anglicanism, 11 Flotam, 13 Dative, 15 Sordid, 16 Kyoto.

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