



The Vine

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April 2018
Issue No. 346

Northampton Diocesan News

FREE Every Month

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Turvey**

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to
Joanna**

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makes her
debut**

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An excellent model

Twice a year the Dean of Luton, Monsignor McGinnell, gathers all the parish secretaries, bookkeepers and housekeepers for Mass, a business meeting and lunch. Over the course of the morning, the ladies discussed matters from across the breadth of parish life, including helping the newly bereaved, dealing with the local council, and lunches for the elderly. Monsignor McGinnell said "This is an excellent model which could easily be repeated around the diocese. Our parish staff work very hard, and this is a great chance to share problems and support one another."

JOE WALSH TOURS
PILGRIMAGES

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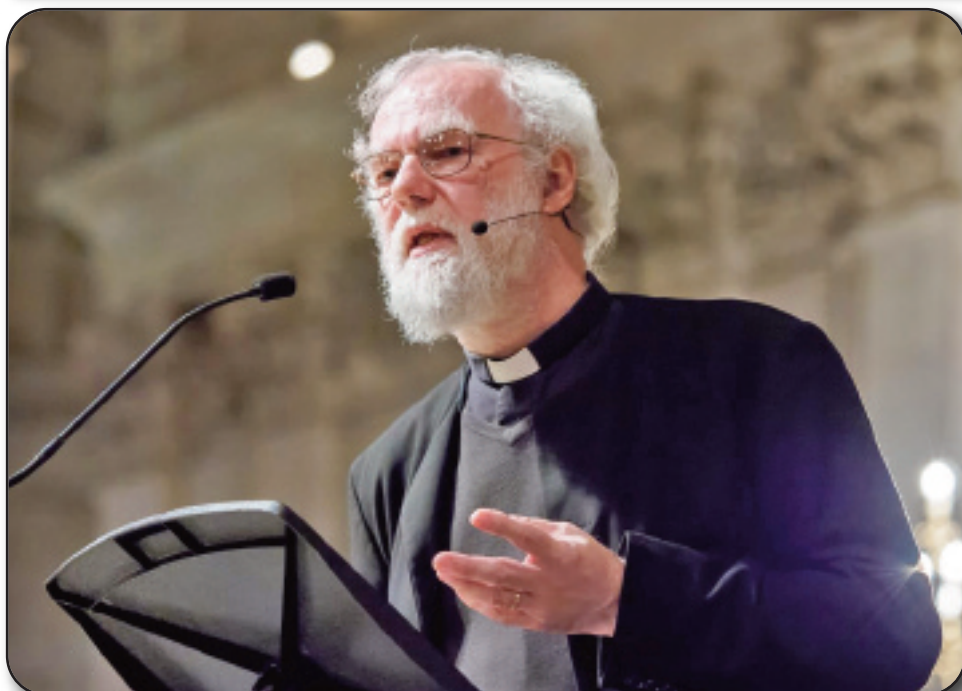
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News beyond Northampton



The former head of the Anglican Communion has joined Richard Dawkins in attacking a new policy that would allow the Catholic church to open new schools.

Dr Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, co-signed a letter to the Daily Telegraph saying it was 'difficult to bring to mind a more divisive policy, or more deleterious to social cohesion than removing an admissions cap that prevents new faith schools from selecting more than half of their new intake from their own religion.'

The cap effectively prevents the Catholic church from opening new schools because, once they reach the 50% limit they would have to turn away students because of their

Catholic faith. This would violate Canon Law. In their 2017 manifesto the Conservative Party pledged to remove the cap. A year earlier Theresa May had made the same pledge shortly after taking office. At the same time the Diocese of East Anglia said it was ready to open eight new schools once the cap was lifted. In November 2017 the Bishops launched a petition calling on the government to keep its promise.

In January this year Damian Hinds was appointed Education Secretary, raising hopes that the promise would be honoured. Hinds was educated at a Catholic grammar school and has previously called for government to lift the cap.

Pope Francis has decreed that the ancient devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Mary Mother of the Church be inserted into the Roman Calendar. It will be celebrated each year on the day after Pentecost.

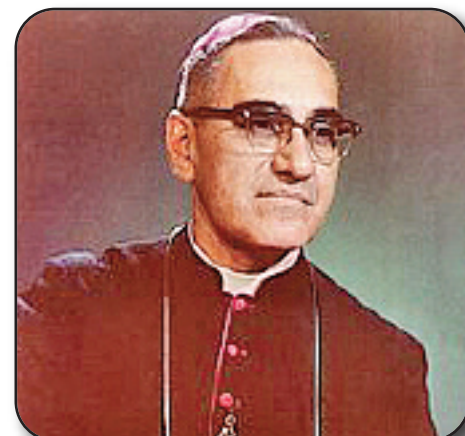
The title was known to St. Augustine and to Pope St. Leo the Great. In 1964 Pope Paul declared Mary to be the Mother of the Church

for all Christian people who call her the most loving mother.

In the Holy Year of 1975 a votive Mass in honour of Mary Mother of the Church was inserted into the missal. With his new decree Pope Francis inserts the celebration into the Church's liturgy as a memorial on a fixed date.



Pope Francis has recognised miracles which pave the way for the canonisation of Pope Paul and Archbishop Oscar Romero.



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

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

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

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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Papal medal for ecumenical editor



The Editorial Board of our ecumenical journal One in Christ met on February 7 to celebrate ten years of the reformatted journal under the editorship of John Bolger. The pictures show Bishop Peter giving John a Bene merenti medal in recognition of all he has done for the journal, and Archbishop Bernard Longley here as an assistant editor

of OIC and presiding at the celebratory mass. John Bolger is an oblate of the two communities at Turvey and was first associated with the journal over fifty years ago when the editor was Dr. Ruth Reardon who now lives in Turvey and was also present on 7th Feb.



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Inspired, Invigorated and Refreshed



The first Catholic Peoples Week to be held in our diocese at the Rock UK Frontier Centre at Nene Valley in October was a huge success. This is what the mother of one family from Dunstable new to CPW has written about the event.

From new friends, new ideas and experiences, to wonderful surroundings and hearty meals we were blessed repeatedly. As a Christian mother, I heard many wonderful testimonies of families bringing their children up in the faith and saw the evidence of such wonderful parenting in the form of the young helpers who supported my own children in their personal walks with Christ. I had the time to think and reflect on the mysteries of the Trinity and how I could develop my own prayer life even amidst the noise and stresses of my daily life simply using movement. I left inspired, invigorated and refreshed.

Now the brochure is out for this year's weeks and weekends. It can be accessed on the CPW website. The first weekend at the Carmelite Convent Boars Hill has already taken place and some from this diocese enjoyed 'sharing Gospel Joy' with the Columban fathers who are celebrating their 100 years jubilee this year. Looking at the Pope's encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* members learnt from the experiences of the speakers that central to being Christian, is participation in the Mission of promoting God's Kingdom. We do this by cooperating with God's liberating and transforming activity in our world. Participants shared their own experiences of Gospel Joy and were given the opportunity of experiencing it more deeply through participating in the preparation of the liturgy and even by painting tiles on the theme.

A second weekend for the 18+ at Hynning Monastery near Carnforth took place in March and in this tranquil place people had the chance to think about how

we can help everyone to understand how, in a time of great population diversity and when people have multiple identities, we can live with each other creating harmonious existence.

In the summer there are to be two family weeks for all ages and in these the children will, as usual, have a vital role as ages will range from 0 to 90 plus! During adult sessions all children on the weeks are looked after by qualified helpers who devise programmes on the theme adapted to the various ages.

The first will be at Abbot Hall, a Christian Guild hotel with all mod cons near Grange Over Sands. The theme will be 'Speaking Truth to power'. All ages will be thinking how the Gifts of the Holy Spirit might give the strength and courage to tackle big world issues in our daily lives by speaking up in kindness either on line or in person for what we know is right.

In the second week at St Cassians Centre Kintbury in Berkshire families will have the opportunity to reduce costs by camping if they wish. In this week participants will be considering Catholic Guilt-taking both a serious and light headed look as to how guilt feelings help or hinder our relationship with God, our sense of self worth and our ability to live our Christian Lives more fully. There will be a parallel programme for children and young people as we try to find ways of acknowledging our sinfulness without carrying the burden of guilt with us

Another opportunity to experience Benedictine life will be a Walking Week centred on the newly founded Benedictine Monastery of Stanbrook Abbey but walking to other Abbeys in the foot hills of the North Yorkshire Moors.

The adult summer week will be held at the Noddfa Spiritual centre near Pen-

maenmaur where, examining the subject of 'the Gift of Ministry', the programme among other things, will include discussion of Pope Francis Commission on Women in the diaconate. This will be with an Anglican Priest who has just completed a year as a deacon and her husband who is a Catholic lay theologian.

Lastly, there will be an all age autumn long weekend at Alton Castle where we will be encouraged to 'keep ourselves refuelled and aflame' so we are in a better place to fill the world no less with the love of God.

In all events liturgy is of prime importance with daily Mass featuring in most programmes. But it will not all be serious, there will also be plenty of opportunities for fun and laughter as we make new lifelong friends and build joyful Christian communities.

More details of these events including how to book, prices etc including the possibility of a bursary for any one needing help with costs from our friendship fund can be found at www.catholicpeoplesweeks.org.uk

A new era for Ancient Archives

The Bar Convent's historic archives have been given a new lease of life after the arrival of Dr Hannah Thomas as special collections manager.

Dr Thomas, who joins from Durham University, also has the task of overseeing the convent's research library. She has already been busy cataloguing the vast array of books, diaries and documents that line the shelves and sit in drawers and cupboards. Some of these pre-date the founding of the convent in 1686. The community had previously carried out archivist tasks themselves.

"It's a fascinating collection, from a book of spiritual exercises that was possibly handwritten by Mary Ward to convent diaries that cover both world wars," Dr Thomas said. "One was even blown out of the building during the 1942 air raid and has a huge chunk missing! And then we have the original deeds of the house that were signed by 'Mrs Long', alias Mother Superior Frances Bedingfield.



"One of the first things I'm doing is digitising our catalogues to make sure the collection is accessible to as wide a range of people as possible. We'll also be developing relationships with universities to encourage more research and generally open up the archives up to a wider audience."

The archives are part of the Living Heritage Centre, which also includes the exhibition that opened two years ago. Now it's hoped the two can be brought closer together.

Entente Cordiale

Dominique and Pesez Anne and their three children Jean-Emmanuel, Samuel and Raphaëlle were officially made UK citizens in a recent ceremony at Hendon Town Hall.

Explaining the reasons to become officially British, Dominic commented; "I still remember landing in Birmingham airport on 17th July 2000 and driving through Birmingham to study for an MSc in International Business at Aston University. I chose the UK firstly because I had visited Father Ken Payne, a family friend, in Northampton a few years earlier and thanks to him, fell in love with this nation and its people as well as the food, the weather and of course the unique British sense of humour! Secondly, Anne, who I was engaged to had previously studied in the USA. She had a plan for me to improve my English, so we could work and discover the world: to study in the UK for a year and then work here for another one to ensure our English did not become too rusty! Anne and I had met 2 years earlier at the Catholic chaplaincy of the University of Strasbourg in Alsace where we did our undergraduate studies. A year after we married Anne joined me in Birmingham to study for an MSc in Business Studies, whilst I joined the European graduate management scheme of Exel Logistics. I originally came from a small village near Colmar in Alsace and Anne grew up in Lagny-sur-Marne near Paris.

Our three children: Jean-Emmanuel (16), Samuel (13) and Raphaëlle (10) were all born in the UK but did not have British citizenship as we did not have the permanent residency when they were born. British citizenship is not a birthright, as it is most of European countries, it still has to be applied for.



Finally, we would like to say that we are very grateful to all the people in Britain – including all the Catenian brothers and their families - who have made us feel welcome over the years. We take very seriously the duty and honour of being British and we ask for your

prayers so that the Lord may always guide us in our choices to build a better and fairer world here in Britain and wherever we may be called".

Title under the photograph:] Dominique Pesez from Luton circle, his wife Anne and

their three children (Jean-Emmanuel (16), Samuel (13) and Raphaëlle (10)) became officially British citizen at Hendon town hall. For more information about this or the Catenian Association visit

www.thecatenians.co.uk or contact **Dennis S Cooper**

Thank you



At the annual Deacons and wives day at Thornton College on January 20 a presentation was made to Joanna Hale. Joanna has been a member of the Diaconal Formation team for sixteen years. She has influenced the training of most of the current Permanent Deacons in the diocese.

Joanna has also been active in the national planning level, including teaching at Womersley seminary. Bishop Peter and Fr Francis Higgins presented her with gifts, including an illuminated manuscript and flowers.

From The Shrine of The Miraculous Relic Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe at the Holy Child and St Joseph Church, Bedford

To The Polish Church of Divine Mercy
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(The image will be at Slough 20th - 24th April 2018)

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We welcome the Elect

Mgr Kevin McGinnell presided at the Rite of Election in Northampton Cathedral on February 18. Bishop Peter was unable to be present.

Twenty seven parishes sent representatives. Twenty three adults and three children were candidates for baptism. Thirty four adults were to be received into full communion with the Catholic church.

The gospel, the story of Noah, came from the Mass of the day. Like Noah, said Mgr McGinnell, you have been chosen and God will protect you in his love.

The Rite of Election began only in 1991, but it is a ritual which brings great joy to the newcomers as they reflect on what is happening to them. Godparents and sponsors are visibly almost bursting with pride.

The candidates follow what have become time-honoured steps. One by one they signed the Book of the Elect and were then formally welcomed by Mgr McGinnell. The Rite of Election may itself be a new comer, but it has also become a central feature of the life of the diocese.

Photos by Rev Noel Guina



Holy Family children visit the Sisters

As Daughters of St. Paul it was a great way for us to celebrate the conversion of our patron St. Paul by welcoming 60 Year 5 children from Holy Family Primary school, Langley, to our convent in Slough. Most of the children had never visited before and were quite excited to meet the Sisters and find out who we are and what we do. We shared all this in the context of St. Paul, his conversion and his mission to evangelisation. Our Founder, Blessed James Alberione, chose St. Paul as our patron purposely since he was the first New Testament writer, predating the four evangelists, using the means of his time to reach around the known world with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

So we welcomed the children, introduced ourselves and our mission and used a series of colourful panels, a sequence of ten images depicting the life and missionary activity of St. Paul. The panels are prints of original paintings by our own Sister Teresa Graselj,

an Argentinian Daughter of St. Paul. They are part of a resource on St. Paul that we produced for schools around the country. The panels were a perfect focus for highlighting the main details of St. Paul's life and exciting, colourful, missionary activity and his martyrdom. They helped to keep the children focused on St. Paul while also giving impetus to a lively dialogue on Paul and his timely message for us today.

Some fun games, done in competing groups, revealed the quickest code-cracking kids to uncover meaningful short phrases from the letters of St. Paul. After a refreshment break we shared a time of prayer in the chapel.

It was a lovely opportunity for us to share our own resources, to see and experience first hand the effectiveness of using visual resources to engage children today in the Good News of Jesus.



Reflection time in the chapel

A comment for World Womens' day

"Any attempt at refraining or limiting the inclusion of women in the civil and political, as well as in the social, economic and cultural fields, could, therefore, ultimately result in a decline in humanity," . "Women's talents and active participation are particularly necessary in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in the maintenance of peace and security, in peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding – so central to the core work of this Organization."

A Vatican spokesman

The Miraculous image goes Polish

The Miraculous Relic Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is based at the National Shrine in Bedford, will be visiting a Polish church in the Northampton Diocese for the first time in April. The Miraculous Relic Image is a replica of the original in Mexico City, which by the decree of St Pope John Paul II in 1979, conveys the same blessings and graces as the original; it travels more than 3,000 miles each year to venues all over the United Kingdom and is seen by some 25,000 people.

This significant visit, the first of the 2018 National Pilgrimage Tour, is to take place from Friday 20 – Tuesday 24 April at the Polish Church of Divine Mercy, 48 Pitts Road, Slough, Berks, SL1 3XH, 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.

Monsignor Seán Healy, Vicar General, will be the Principal Celebrant at the Service of Reception and Guadalupe Mass on Friday 20 April. This will be the beginning of a full weekend of veneration, talks and devotions in both Polish and English.

The local Filipino community will host a Worship Afternoon on Saturday, when there will also be a healing service, and there will also be a Mass for the local Kerala community on Sunday afternoon. Other special events include the monthly All-Night Adoration which will take place from Friday evening to Saturday morning, led by the St Pope John Paul II Community. Holy Rosary on the Saturday evening will be led by the Immaculate Heart Prayer Group, Burnham and there will be Spirit and Light Worship on the Sunday evening led by Fr Andrew Richardson and the Worship Group from St Andrew's, Cippenham.

On Monday morning, pupils from the local schools will come and hear the story of the Miraculous Relic Image via a specially written PowerPoint presentation. The departure ceremony for the Miraculous Relic Image will be on Tuesday 24 April following midday Mass.


For further details please contact: Barbara Kay, Media Coordinator – mbky3@outlook.com

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Share the journey

I invite you to close your eyes for a moment.

You are at home. You can see thick smoke rising from the house across the street. People are shouting. Your neighbour's house is on fire. You escape with your family, leaving everything behind. You start a long journey to find a new home. You don't know how long you will be walking, when you will next eat or where you will rest. Alone and afraid... you need someone to talk to, someone to share the journey with you..

This was just like Dilda's journey. She fled Myanmar to escape violence in her village. She said, "We didn't bring a thing. We just grabbed the children and ran."

Dilda left behind her home, her possessions – everything – for a temporary shelter on the side of the road. Her children are scarred by what they have seen.

We cannot cross by on the other side while our neighbours are struggling. We can share the journey, we can share our hope. As Pope Francis says, "Christ asks us to welcome our brother and sister migrants and refugees with arms wide open."

The Church has been at the forefront of reaching out to refugees and migrants. But so far world leaders are not meeting the challenge. Alongside Catholics around the world, we must call on them to step up as they negotiate two global agreements on refugees and migration between now and autumn 2018.

Inspired by Pope Francis' special concern for migrants and refugees, we invite you to join the Share the Journey campaign. Alongside Catholics worldwide, we call on governments to agree on two global 'compacts' which place the human dignity of people on the move at their heart.

What are the global compacts?

In September 2018, world leaders will agree two new global 'compacts' (or agreements) at the United Nations: one on refugees and one on migration. Pope Francis has spoken of this as a 'unique opportunity' for Catholics worldwide to put pressure on governments.



Share the Journey #sharejourney

In response, CAFOD has launched a petition to the UK Prime Minister, urging Britain to ensure the human dignity of migrants and refugees is at the heart of the global compacts. Parishes and schools will join the campaign this year.

DID YOU KNOW?

- More people are on the move now than ever before. Every minute, 20 people around the world are newly displaced.
- Half of the world's refugees are children, and thousands take flight without the protection of parents or other family members.
- Three out of four of the world's refugees are hosted by developing countries.

What can you do?

You can Share the Journey by joining us on a walk. This is not just any walk, this is a walk around the world. Schools, parishes, and local communities across England and Wales, including our own, will be walking to show solidarity with people on the move. Together, we are aiming for 24,900 miles – the distance around the whole world.

It's an act of solidarity to Share the Journey with our global neighbours fleeing their homes. Every step you take, together with others from across the country, will send a message to world leaders that they must step up, too. They need to act with courage and compassion when they agree ambitious new UN agreements on refugees and migration this year.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world, now and forever.
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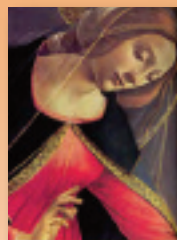
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A blessing for a new crucifix



Sister Eileen O'Mahony

Sister Eileen O'Mahony died on January 4. In 1987, Sister Eileen, a Daughter of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, established out of nothing except a block of condemned flats, the Charity that is NOAH Enterprise. Her vocation and her heart were in the service of the poor and she was unstinting, dynamic, passionate, compassionate, loving and undaunted in pursuing and delivering it. Her faith was her anchor and her trust in God her compass.

In April 1987 Sr Eileen O'Mahony, a nun of the community of the Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul, came to Luton on her way to her Community in Bristol. She came to give some service to a Parish in Luton for 6 weeks. She ended up staying 13 years! She saw the poverty in Luton, particularly street homelessness. In conversations with others about what could be done, she was offered the use of a block of condemned flats. Without any money, she took up the offer and moved in with her then sole supporter, Sister Antoinette, a nun of the community of the Franciscan order of the Sisters of St Claire. When the flats were about to be demolished in 1991, the Council who had seen the value of the work, offered an alternative site on a peppercorn rent. Sister Eileen moved into 141 Park Street, Luton LU1 3HG in October 1991.

The project had been known as the Luton

Irish Advisory Bureau but was re-titled in 1993 as "The Luton Day Centre for the Homeless" in recognition that this better reflected the work that was now undertaken. The range of people helped extended to embrace other socially excluded people including street homeless, those suffering from alcohol dependency, drug and other substance misuse, physical/mental abuse, asylum seekers, those released into the community from mental health institutions or prison as well as those socially excluded through isolation. Referrals come by way of the Police, Probation, Health and Social Services, and personal recommendation as well as through other voluntary agencies. Training courses for the clients were introduced in October 1994, leading to the establishment of a dedicated training centre in High Town Road in the Autumn of 1996 which specialised in craft skills (carpentry), basic and life skills (literacy and numeracy). The Training Centre was run in conjunction with Dunstable College, now Central Bedfordshire College.

In September 1999, recognising that many of the people supported were progressing, and were sensitive about the perceived stigma associated with the term "homeless", the name of the project was changed from The Luton Day Centre for the Homeless and re-launched as NOAH Enterprise. This, it was felt, more accurately reflected the philosophy and ethos of the service as reflected in the in-

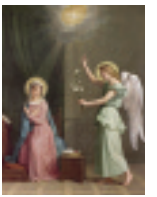


tent behind the name, New Opportunities and Horizons.

Sister Eileen retired in 2000 at the sprightly young age of 75 and Jim O'Connor, himself part of the Vincentian family as a member of the St Vincent de Paul Society, picked up the reins and maintained and developed Sister Eileen's legacy.

And the word was made flesh.
And dwelt among us.

Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord



You are invited to a Rosary gathering/procession to honour the Immaculate Heart of Mary
(transferred from 25th March 2018)
Monday 9th April 2018, after Divine Mercy Sunday, at the Angelus time of 6pm.

Meeting at Christ the Cornerstone church
300 Saxon Gate West
Central Milton Keynes MK9 2ES

"To save poor sinners God wishes to establish devotion to my Immaculate Heart in the world."
Fatima, 13th June 1917

For more information please phone
Monica on 07401 366 330



Little Way Healing Ministries HEALING EVENT

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL, HAZELL AVENUE, AYLESBURY, BUCKS, HP21 7JF

Saturday 28th April and Sunday 29th April 2018

with Fr Laurence Brassill OSA, Mrs Pauline Edwards and Team.

Opportunities for individual prayer

10 am – 5pm

(tea and coffee provided, bring packed lunch)

Booking not required

For further information contact

Nicky Jones on 07936269143

e mail

admin@littlewayhealingministries.com

Masters of Pastoral Arts

It was three years ago on an autumnal September day that an eclectic group of parishioners from the Diocese met at St Teresa's Church in Beaconsfield to tentatively engage on a Pastoral Theology Master of Arts Degree course run by St Mary's University Twickenham.

In the first two years, modules on Scripture and Pastoral Theology, Ecclesiology and Liturgy, Christian Spirituality, Themes in Contemporary Theology and Catechesis and Religious Education were studied on alternate Saturdays during term times. Assignments and presentations were duly undertaken. The third year was devoted to

private study, research and reflective practice to complete dissertations. Lecturers were from the University and Diocese, and from a variety of Christian traditions.

On Friday 2 March 2018, in the Chapel of St Mary's University, seven of the group graduated, Tracey Allan, Helen Burgess, Gerard Felix, Brian Gallagher, John Lees, Brendan Mooney and Christine Murray. Of those, five were able to attend the graduation ceremony and what a happy and emotional day it was.

All who attended the course - students, auditors and lecturers - benefited from the wide experience of each participant, allowing the

exchange of diverse and challenging views with an openness to learn and gain greater insights into the world of today. The Together in Faith adult formation initiative supported some of the students.

Special thanks go to Bishop Peter, Father Francis Higgins, family and friends for their encouragement, help and support. God's grace and love have engendered lifelong friendships.

Those in the photograph - left to right - are John, Helen, Brian, Tracey and Gerard.



THE VIRGIN EYE
by Robin Daniels

The Virgin Eye by Robin Daniels inspires us to see the world anew through the innocent eyes of a child, so as to become more aware of God's presence in everyday life and encounters.

This book offers insights into contemplative prayer and meditation; making wise decisions; enjoying a creative relationship; slowing down; and managing change and stress. Daniels demonstrates how we can find St Paul's challenge to 'seek without ceasing' into practice. He explores how we can turn suffering and trial into opportunity and growth, as we learn to see God, ourselves and other people with a pure heart and a pure eye.

This book is a treasure.
I wish it had been available years ago. It should be required reading.

Highly recommended!
It is less a book and more a journey which will not fail to transform your relationship with God, self and others.

It will be a blessing for all into whose hands it happens to fall.
This wonderful book is a feast of wisdom.

Author: Robin Daniels

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Year 10 pupils from St. Paul's school have won praise from Milton Keynes employers who hosted them for work experience in January. Lisa Shepherd, Head of Year 10 said 'In all the years we have been providing work experience for students this year group has received the best ever feedback from the employers they spent their placements with'.

One student, who worked at a local sports retailer, so impressed the employer that they told the school when he is old enough to take

up part-time work he will be offered a job, if they have the vacancy and he wants the job.

A nursery that hosted one of our pupils said that one of the parents mentioned that he daughter was looking forward to the nursery each morning because she liked working with the St. Paul's student. During a primary school visit where a pupil was working a representative from Milton Keynes Council commented on how well she was doing in the classroom and was shocked to find out that

she was a Year 10 work experience student. The Deputy Head told us it was as if they had another adult on the team. Two students were also offered apprenticeships when they leave school if they would like to take them up.

Lisa added, 'Its clear from this fantastic feedback that our pupils have really risen to the challenge and tackled their work experience placements with maturity and enthusiasm. We would like to thank all of them for repre-

senting St. Paul's so well and to give special thanks to all the employers who devoted time and energy to our pupils at their workplaces'.

Every January Year 10 pupils complete two weeks' work placement at a range of different employers. The school works closely with local company Develop to arrange work experience. Pupils also have the option of arranging their own placements.

All wind and brass

Tegan Dodimead, a talented Year 9 pupil at St Paul's Catholic School, has been selected to play clarinet in the RAF Air Cadets National Concert Band.

She made her debut performance in London at St Clement Danes Church (the RAF church on the Strand), and at the Royal Courts of Justice, where events celebrating 100 years of the Royal Air Force took place on Sunday 11th February.

Straight after the performances Tegan attended the Air Cadet National Concert Band camp at RAF Cranwell in Lincolnshire. The camp is arranged by the Air Cadets HQ and takes the form of a week's work experience with one of the two professional RAF Bands based there. The opportunity to share a stage with the best musicians in the RAF is a priceless experience!

Nicola Andrews, Music Teacher at St Paul's Catholic School, said: "This is a great achievement for Tegan, it's wonderful that her talents are being recognised by the Air Cadets and we wish her well for her future performances."

Tegan said: "I was delighted to be selected to join the National Concert Band, I felt very proud representing my Squadron (207 Cranfield) and performing in London was the highlight of my time so far in the RAF Air Cadets. I'd like to thank St Paul's for giving me the opportunity to have weekly woodwind lessons so I can constantly improve my playing."



He is truly risen

The following are accepted by virtually all historians, skeptic and believer:

1. Jesus died by crucifixion
2. His disciples had experiences which they believed were appearances of the risen Jesus (They claimed it and they believed it.)
3. His brother James, who formerly believed that Jesus was crazy, became a believer
4. Paul, a former persecutor of those that believed, suddenly became a believer.
5. The tomb was found empty 3 days later

You really only need the top 5 to make this argument. With these being accepted facts, even by skeptical and atheist historians, one needs to try and explain these facts. Yet most of those explanations fail to explain all the data.

The most common theories that you will hear to try and explain these core facts are:

• The Conspiracy Theory: Apparent Death Theory: Displaced Body Theory: Hallucination Theory

The Conspiracy Theory essentially says that the disciples conspired to start a religion. But this fails to account what is needed to actually pull off a conspiracy (which I've written about here, here, and here.) It also fails to account for the empty tomb and the conversion of Paul and James.

The Apparent Death theory says that Jesus didn't actually die from the crucifixion, that they only thought that he had died when he was taken down and put in a tomb, and 3 days later he "miraculously" emerged from the tomb. This fails to understand how successful the crucifixions were. First-century Jewish historian reports that during one set of crucifixions, he noticed that 3 of his friends were being crucified. So he went to the Roman governor and made an appeal. The

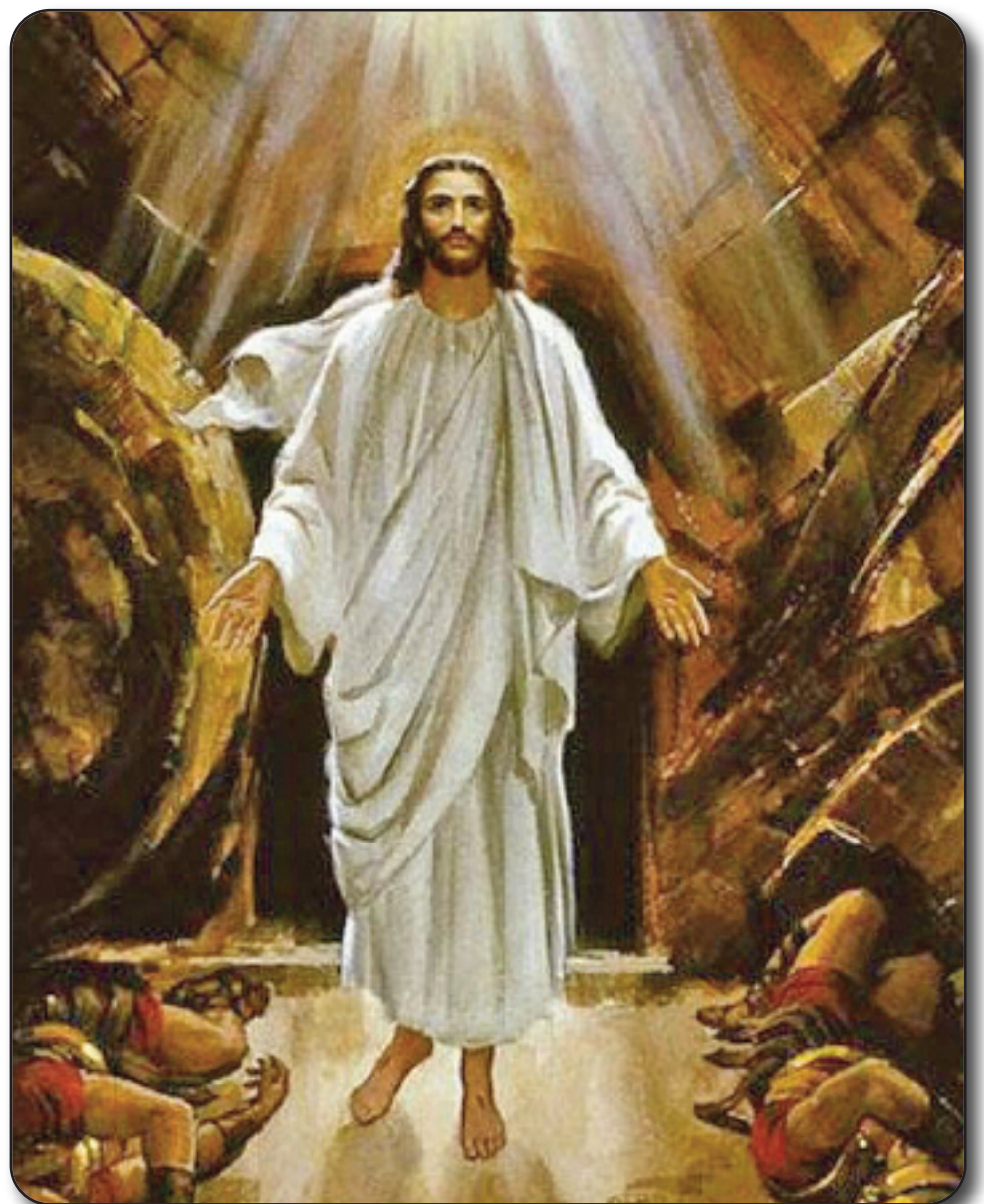
Roman governor ordered those 3 taken down and given the best medical care possible. 2 of those 3 still died. If Jesus didn't die on the cross but was "buried alive", he wouldn't have "miraculously" emerged 3 days later and have been mistaken for risen; the disciples would have taken one look at him and said, "You need a doctor!"

The Apparent Death theory also fails to account on how thorough the Romans were at executing people. Or the charge that if someone didn't die that was supposed to, the guards over it died in their place. It also doesn't account for Paul or James, who became Christians.

The Displaced Body theory says that the body was either moved or that they went to the wrong tomb. But this theory fails to account for Paul and James, as well as for the disciple's claims that the risen Jesus appeared to them. Also, all the authorities would have had to do was present the body, but they never did.

The Hallucination theory might be the strongest natural theory, but even if fails. For one thing, hallucinations are more like dreams, individualistic in nature, not shared. 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, which is the earliest creed (written about here and here), dates to within 6 months of the resurrection. It says that Jesus appeared to the twelve, to over 500 brethren at once, and then to all the disciples. (This creed is one of the evidences that all skeptic scholars accept.) Plus the hallucination theory fails to account for the empty tomb as well as for Paul and James.

When you consider all of the core facts of the resurrection, only the Resurrection theory, the claim that Jesus truly did rise from the dead, accounts for all of the data.



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Use the clues to solve the puzzle: the solution is below

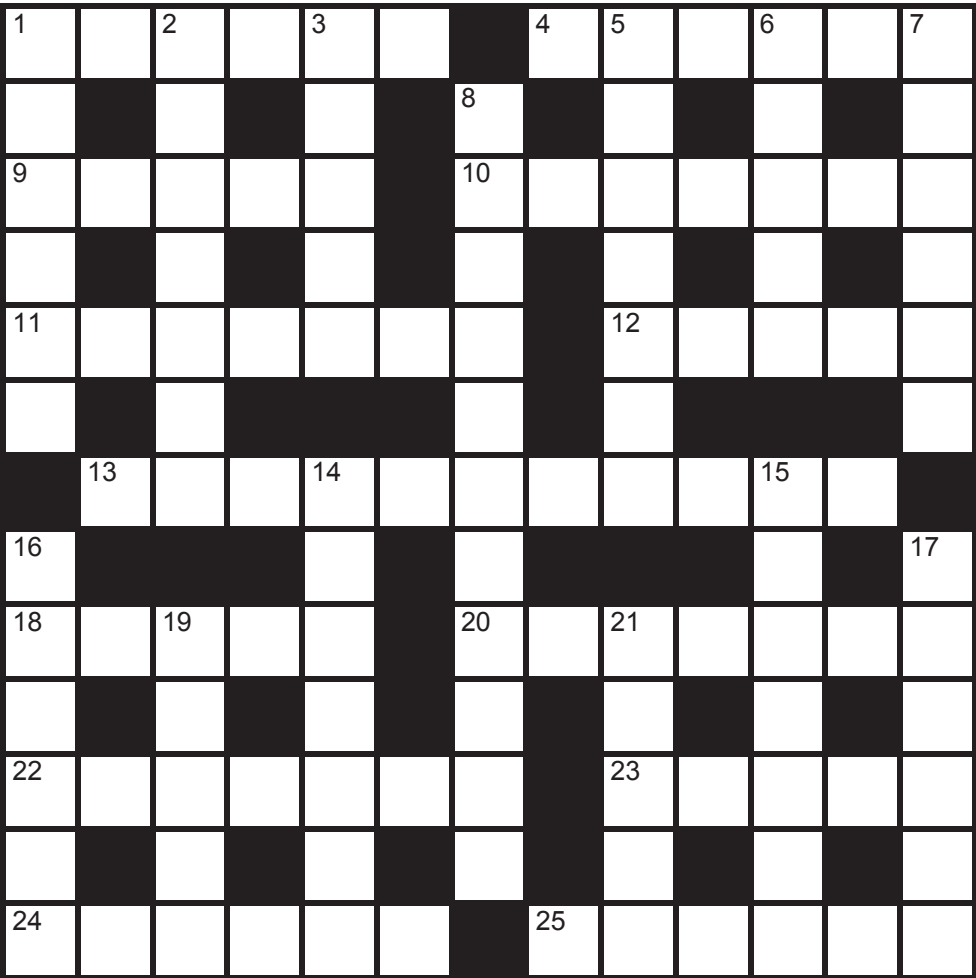
QUICK Across

- 1 Religious teacher, 'elder' in NT Greek (6)
- 4 Alternative name for Tabitha, a woman known for her good works in Acts (6)
- 9 Remains of burnt palm crosses which give their name to the first day of Lent (5)
- 10 Architecture and design movement of the 1930s (3,4)
- 11 Traditional Indonesian percussive orchestra, with xylophone, chimes and gongs (7)
- 12 Major river of Pakistan (5)
- 13 Route in the 1840s used by settlers crossing the Rockies to the West Coast (6,5)
- 18 Highlanders, for instance, and other Erse-speaking Celts (5)
- 20 H, H, H, H, H? (7)
- 22 Ste ----- of Lisieux, 1873-1897 (French spelling) (7)
- 23 Apocryphal book to Protestants, confirmed as canonical by Catholics at the Council of Trent (5)
- 24 Philistine king who twice gave

- David refuge from Saul (6)
- 25 Saint, 6th century British monk and historian (6)

QUICK Down


- 1 (Car) crashes, bumps (6)
- 2 Youngest son of Aaron and Elisheba (7)
- 3 Fibrous agave plant used for rope, named after a Mexican port (5)
- 5 Younger exposed rock formation, isolated among older rocks (7)
- 6 Words to live by (5)
- 7 Liverpudlian, and a kind of broth associated with one (6)
- 8 Murder One, they figured? (4,3,4)
- 14 The Synoptics and John in the NT (7)
- 15 Son of Phinehas (7)
- 16 Virgin martyred in Catania (6)
- 17 Like now (2,2,2)
- 19 Alternative biblical name for a son of Nineveh and the ancient Mesopotamian city of Uruk (5)
- 21 Piece of music for the whole orchestra (5)



Solution


Across: 1 Priest, 4 Dorcas, 9 Ashes, 10 Art Deco, 11 Gamelan, 12 Indus, 13 Oregon Trail, 18 Gaels, 20 Aitches, 22 Therese, 23 Tobit, 24 Achish, 25 Gildas.
Down: 1 Prangs, 2 Ithamar, 3 Sisal, 5 Outlier, 6 Creed, 7 Scouse, 8 Cain and Abel, 14 Gospels, 15 Ichabod, 16 Agatha, 17 As it is, 19 Erech, 21 Tutti.

Your next deadline:
Easter Sunday April 1




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