

Bishop's Column

At the beginning of last month, on September 1, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor returned to the Father's House. He had been aware of his illness for some months but continued to live each day as it came. He himself had said many times that the way to prepare for a good death was to live a good life. He had been on retreat with all the bishops at the end of April and the beginning of May, and although more fragile and weak, he joined us for everything during the course of the week. He celebrated Mass and preached for us at the end of the retreat, and he knew that for some of us, it would be the last time we would see him this side of eternity. However, there was nothing melodramatic about our encounters and farewells. His humour and good nature were as present and lively as ever.

We will miss him at our meetings, but he has left us many good memories and an excellent legacy as a national Church. I am sure we will all remember him in our prayers, that he will be given the reward of his labours and share in the joy of Trinity for ever.

The coming month of October is filled with feasts which resonate with us as a diocese. On October 10 we celebrate St Paulinus of York. He was part of the group that Pope St Gregory the Great sent to England to bring the faith to us. Then on October 12 we honour our second diocesan patron, St Wilfrid. He lived in difficult times but through his efforts and holiness of life he brought the unifying blessing of the Roman Rite to our local Church. St John of Bridlington is celebrated on October 21. He was a member of the Thwing Family and lived as a canon regular of St Augustine at Bridlington Priory, eventually becoming prior there. He was a man of prayer and had great devotion to the Mass. Then on October 26 we have the feast of the brothers, SS Chad and Cedd. Among many other things, both were abbots of the Monastery at Lastingham in our diocese and St Cedd is buried there. They were great missionary bishops as the faith began to take hold and grow in our country.

We pray that, through their intercession, our local church of the Diocese of Middlesbrough may make known God's wonders and tell of his truth and that, together with our local saints, we may receive the reward prepared for all God's faithful.

Yours in blessed hope,

What's Inside

**Tribute To
Catholic MP –
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**Protecting
The Faith
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Exploring The Pope's Vision For Parishes

An internationally renowned speaker and author is to visit our diocese to deliver a study day focusing on how the message of Pope Francis can transform our parish lives.

It will be Bill Huebsch's third visit in the past five years and those of you who were able to attend either of the previous events will know he is a very engaging and inspiring teacher.



The forthcoming study day in York is entitled "Pope Francis and his Vision for Parish Life" and is based on his most recent book, *The Art of Accompaniment*, which is published by Twenty-Third Publications.

Pope Francis has had a lot to say to the Church and the world over the past few years, but the one thing he has emphasised more than anything else is the urgent need for "pastoral accompaniment".

This idea of accompaniment is a call to mercy and compassion in parish life and it has to involve each and every parishioner. All of us are called to accompany one another in faith, no matter whether we are priests, deacons, religious, catechists, teachers, members of a family or simply neighbours and friends.

And when we are able to accompany others with such mercy and compassion, we'll discover that many who have felt edged out of the church may indeed find their way back into fuller participation.

Bill holds a Masters in Theological Studies from the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago. He has been a farmer, a writer, a diocesan administrator, a master catechist, a gardener, a college professor and a spiritual director. He is on the adjunct faculty at the Institute for Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago.

In this pastoral workshop, Bill will help us to consider the principles and practices of accompaniment as they are presented by Pope Francis. He will also help us to develop a better understanding of what it means to be an active, missionary disciple in today's Church.

The day will take place on Saturday October 28 at All Saints Lower School in York, which

POPE FRANCIS AND HIS VISION FOR PARISH LIFE

A talk by
internationally
renowned speaker
and author
Bill Huebsch



Photo copyright Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

is located behind the Bar Convent. Some car parking spaces are available in the grounds but the school is also easy to reach from the train station (about ten minutes' walk) and it is also well served by the Park and Ride system.

The cost of the event will be £12 per person – this includes tea and coffee but in order to

keep costs as low as possible, you're asked to bring a packed lunch.

To make a booking, please contact Jenny Dowson at the Curial Office on 01642 850505 or by emailing reception@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk.

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NEWS

MP Whose Politics Were Underpinned By Catholic Values

BRIGID FRAZER pays a moving tribute to father, the long-serving Labour MP for Hull Central Kevin McNamara, who died aged 82 on August 6...

Watching Pathé News' footage of Dad's 1966 by-election win is always a joy. As Dad and Mum seemingly dance down the steps of Hull City Hall to be greeted by the crowds in Victoria Square, I am filled with an admiration verging on awe at the film star-like poise of my mum and the achievement of my dad.

It was the moment that revitalised the fortunes of the Labour government and changed the direction of my dad's and the family's life forever.

Dad was the second of four boys born in Bootle, Liverpool, to Agnes and Patrick McNamara. Dad spoke of watching his mum scrubbing the steps of the local pub to help make ends meet and of the warm Irish Catholic family and community that banded together to help in times of need.

An often remembered golden time was a trip Dad took alone as a young boy, not yet 13, as a foot passenger to visit relatives in Dublin. That city, like Liverpool, was home to terrible poverty, inadequate housing, poor sanitation and families in desperate need of the dignity of decent homes: a mixed starting point for his lifelong passion – peace and reconciliation for the island of Ireland.

Dad benefited from the post-war revolution in education, passing the 11-plus and gaining a place at St Mary's College, Crosby. Roger McGough, a contemporary at St Mary's, said the Christian Brothers "took working-class Catholic boys, gave them an education and got them to university".

In Dad's case it was Hull University to read Law. On arrival at the train station, Dad met Roy Hattersley and together they formed the Hull University College Labour Club. It was also at Hull that Dad met the love of his life, my Mum, Nora.

By 1952, Dad was already a keen speaker and debater. He cut his teeth standing on a soapbox at Pier Head, Liverpool, speaking for the Catholic Evidence Guild. By the time the Hull by-election came round in 1966 my parents had married, had three of their five children and made Hull their permanent home.

In Dad's maiden speech he said: "The theme throughout my by-election campaign was the need to organise the nation's resources to achieve social justice and the proper recognition of the dignity of the individual and the sanctity of family life."

Dad was a democratic socialist and Labour through and through, but if you think you hear something else there, you'd be right. The Gospel and Catholic Social Teaching were the driving force behind Dad's absolute commitment to social justice. In *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Leo XIII declared that the role of the state is to promote social justice and provide for the common good.



Kevin McNamara pictured with his wife, Nora

All Catholic social doctrine is based on the innate dignity of the human person, with the family, within the commonwealth, as the basic building block of society. Dad had a very clear vision that in the political sphere, democratic socialism was the means by which the state could promote social justice and the common good. It's not enough just to alleviate suffering.

As Father Paul Farrer preached at Dad's Requiem Mass, we are called to change "all the social, political and economic structures that disadvantage the poor and marginalised and keep them where they are". Charity is good, social justice is better.

Dad's interest in social justice wasn't just parochial. In the 1970s he watched with increasing anxiety as the situation in El Salvador deteriorated. Archbishop Oscar Romero was speaking truth to power and Dad wanted to find a way of offering international support and protection. In 1978 he and

Conservative MP Peter Bottomley garnered the necessary parliamentary support to nominate Archbishop Romero for the 1979 Nobel Peace Prize.

My earliest memory of Dad is sitting at my bedside weaving a magical story out of the adventures of a favourite bear, or a near-mythic retelling of a family tale – always followed by night prayers, *There Are Four Corners At My Bed*, and a song – rarely a lullaby, barely in tune.

My earliest political memory is from May or June 1975. It was a bright sunny day and Dad and a couple of other campaigners arrived in our kitchen. I could see rolls of stickers tumbling out of all their pockets saying "No!". Of course, the country spoke loud and clear giving the answer "Yes!" to continued membership of the European Economic Community.

Forty-one years later, Dad was on the losing side again. Principles don't change, but the policies to enact them can. Dad voted in 1975 to protect British workers, but by 2016 he had long been a convert to European cooperation on workers' rights and human rights. The potential for difficulties on the island of Ireland would by itself be enough reason to stay in.

Dad never wavered on the principle of the dignity of every human from conception to natural death. He voted against the 1967 Abortion Act and in 1998 moved the amendment that finally put a constitutional bar on capital punishment in this country. In his absolute belief in the dignity and worth of every human person, he excluded none.

After Dad's very unexpected diagnosis of late stage pancreatic cancer while on holiday in Spain, we were all very grateful that it happened while we are still part of the EU. Dad's EHIC card opened the door to the Spanish health care system. He was old, sick, a stranger, unable to speak the language, and yet he was welcomed, diagnosed quickly and was nursed with gentle, tender care.

On his return to England, the district nurses and palliative care team helped create a haven of warmth and love in his final days at home. After a lifetime's tough campaigning for dignity at every stage of life for others, it seems fitting that strangers, who became friends, gave Dad that dignity when his own time came.

Charity is good, social justice is better. If you'd like to make a donation to continue Dad's work by making a donation to either CAFOD or Shelter, please visit justgiving.com/teams/kevinmcnamara.

Interest Grows in Parish Refugee Scheme

A growing number of parishes are expressing an interest in a Catholic community sponsorship scheme that organisers believe can revolutionise the way refugees are settled in the UK.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the Church's domestic social action agency, says more than 30 parishes in 12 dioceses have already enquired about taking part.

Community sponsorship is part of the Syrian Resettlement Programme for 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next few years.

It has been praised by Cardinal Vincent Nichols for offering "a very real and tangible way for people to help new arrivals settle into their communities".

CSAN established a national coordinating group including representatives of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, the National Justice and Peace Network and others to support the Catholic contribution to the scheme.

Host parishes need the support of a sponsor, which must be a charity. The sponsor provides professional social work support, safeguarding and insurance.

The first family to be settled in a parish was at St Monica's, Flixton, in the Diocese of Salford.

CSAN's chief executive Phil McCarthy is hoping community sponsorship can now be rolled out throughout the country.

"It's a practical way for the Church to respond to Pope Francis' call to welcome refugees into our communities," he said. "The experience from St Monica's is that the effect has been transformative for the parish."

Sean Ryan, who led the St Monica's pilot, has been appointed as Caritas national community sponsorship coordinator and can advise and support parishes that are considering or undertaking community sponsorship.

Contact s.ryan@caritassalford.org.uk for more details.

PRISONERS' SUNDAY

Help Bring Hope And Healing This Prisoners' Sunday



To mark Prisoners' Sunday, on October 8, we take a look at the work of prisoner support charity Pact...



By the age of 45, David had spent almost half of his life in prison. With no support network, David was anxious about falling back into old habits.

While in prison he met a Pact worker, who set him up with a group of volunteer mentors, motivated by their faith, who could offer him practical and emotional support for the first crucial months after release.

This gave David immense hope, helped him find his feet, resettle back into the community and build a life. Thousands of men like David leave prison every day.

"My upbringing was very dysfunctional," he says. "At the age of ten I found drink and drugs. I'm a person who has spent 19 years

of my life in prison. Pact support gave me hope, not only to stay out of prison, but to help me find meaning in my life.

"It helped me when I had no food, no travel and no job. The mentoring service has built my self-confidence and has given me a life worth leading and a future."

Many former prisoners are homeless with no support network. They are often some of the most marginalised people in society and are among those most in need of hope for a fresh start. Without support, men like David may not have the chance to get back on the right path.

On October 8 we mark Prisoners' Sunday, the national day of prayer and action for

prisoners and their dependants. Our theme, "We press on – together – in hope", recognises the vital role we all play in coming together as a Catholic community, working to bring light and a fresh start to people affected by imprisonment. We ask you to put your faith into action and help us to support more people like David.

A resource pack will be sent to every parish in England and Wales with more information. Please make use of the resources to mark

the day. Additional resources such as children's activities and liturgy and discussion group topics are available on Pact's website.

If you would like to get involved or host a talk on Pact's work in your community, please visit prisonadvice.org.uk or contact Naomi by emailing Parish.Action@prisonadvice.org.uk or calling 020 7735 9535.

Church Welcomes Prison Report

The Church has welcomed the publication of the Farmer Review on the importance of strengthening prisoners' family ties.

Led by Lord Michael Farmer, the report highlights the vital position of families in supporting people's rehabilitation, with recommendations in areas including family visits, video communications and parenting classes.

"As the lead Catholic bishop for prisons, I

strongly welcome Lord Farmer's report, which highlights clearly the central role families can play in helping prisoners to turn their lives around and making our society safer," said Bishop Richard Moth.

"It is also encouraging that this report recognises the importance of supporting families themselves, including the great number of children with a parent in prison, who are all too often the forgotten victims of

crime.

"I hope the government will begin implementing the report's recommendations as a matter of priority. The Catholic community will, of course, continue to play our part and I am grateful to Lord Farmer for recognising the contribution of faith groups.

"We know that around one in four Catholic prisoners have received direct support from a

chaplain concerning family issues, while charities and volunteers linked to the Church provide invaluable support both inside and outside the prison gates."

To find out the work of prisoner support charity Pact, including information about parish support and volunteering opportunities, visit prisonadvice.org.uk.



Bishop Richard Moth – photo copyright Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

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CAFOD

MP Backs Power To Be Campaign



CAFOD supporter Christine Renshaw with Stockton South MP Dr Paul Williams

A passionate Ingleby Barwick volunteer met Stockton South MP Dr Paul Williams to discuss climate change and renewable energy.

Christine Renshaw met Dr Williams at his constituency surgery and spoke on behalf of aid agency CAFOD.

CAFOD's Power to Be campaign focuses on how supporting cleaner, renewable forms of energy can help people living in poverty around the world.

After the meeting, the MP agreed to write to Theresa May about issues surrounding climate change and renewable energy.

Dr Williams said: "I was pleased to meet with Christine. She told me about the brilliant work being done by the organisation to encourage community renewable energy projects, meaning children in some of the poorest countries aren't doing their homework in the dark.

"Helping these kids fulfil their potential while expanding renewables improves life chances and combats climate change."

Christine was left very happy with the meeting. She said: "Dr Williams was very welcoming, supportive and genuinely

interested in what I had to say. I am thrilled he agreed to reaffirm the issues with Theresa May."

"He agreed with the principles of the Power to Be campaign and believed it was an important topic."

The campaign hopes to raise awareness that currently, one in six people live without electricity globally. Local, renewable energy is usually the cheapest and most efficient way to bring power to the poorest communities.

It means families don't have to rely on dangerous and unhealthy energy sources, such as paraffin lamps and firewood. It enables children to study after dark, nurses to keep vaccines cold and farmers to irrigate crops.

CAFOD representative in Middlesbrough, David Cross, said: "Christine has done a lot of good work for CAFOD and it was great for her to be able to meet Mr Williams.

"For our local MP to agree to write to the Prime Minister is a great result and we look forward to Dr Williams continuing to support CAFOD."

For more information on CAFOD's Power to Be campaign, visit cafod.org.uk/powertobe.

York Teens Go Extra Mile For CAFOD

Twelve selfless York teenagers raised £800 for charity after some impressive fundraising efforts, including a 15-mile walk and a night sleeping on the city's streets.

The youngsters, who are all aged between 15 and 17, raised the money for CAFOD as part of their experience with the National Citizen Service (NCS), which involves youngsters in social action projects to help them build skills for life and work.

The money raised was used to buy a CAFOD community water supply gift, which will help a community establish their own supply of clean, safe water by providing the materials and training to build and maintain hand pumps and water tanks.

The group ran a treats stall at St Mary's Church in Selby before embarking on their long walk to York, where eight slept on the streets for a night.

To make it more realistic, many slept on spare pieces of cardboard given to them by local businesses rather than in sleeping bags.

The teenagers also carried ten litres of water, which was later given to homeless people on the streets of York.

Group leader Josh Oldridge was very proud of his team's efforts, which all took place on one day. He said: "The walk actually took a lot longer than expected, it was about six hours in total and it was dark by the time we got to York.

"Everybody did an amazing job, it was a long day but definitely worth it to stand together with those less fortunate. I can't believe how well everybody did.

"The group only had two weeks to organise the whole event and some even managed to fit in some car washing for charity beforehand as well."

The NCS group decided to raise money for CAFOD as many of them attend All Saints School, which regularly donates to the aid agency.

"This was a remarkable effort from the NCS group and on behalf of CAFOD I would like to say a big thank you," said David Cross.

"There was clearly a lot of thought, time and effort put in to the fundraising and this is reflected by the great result they have achieved."

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Quick Quiz

With TV quiz champion Ged Askins

Connection question

1. Who co-presents BBC TV's *Strictly Come Dancing* with Claudia Winkleman?
2. Which actor received Academy Award nominations for *The Talented Mr Ripley* and *Cold Mountain*?
3. Which four words precede "ignoble strife, Their sober wishes never learn'd to stray; Along the cool sequester'd vale of life, They kept the noiseless tenor of their way" in Thomas Gray's *Elegy Written In A Country Churchyard*?
4. What is Sadiq Khan's current role?
5. Which England rugby player was joint leading try scorer along with Josh Lewsey when England won the 2003 World Cup?

Thinking cap question

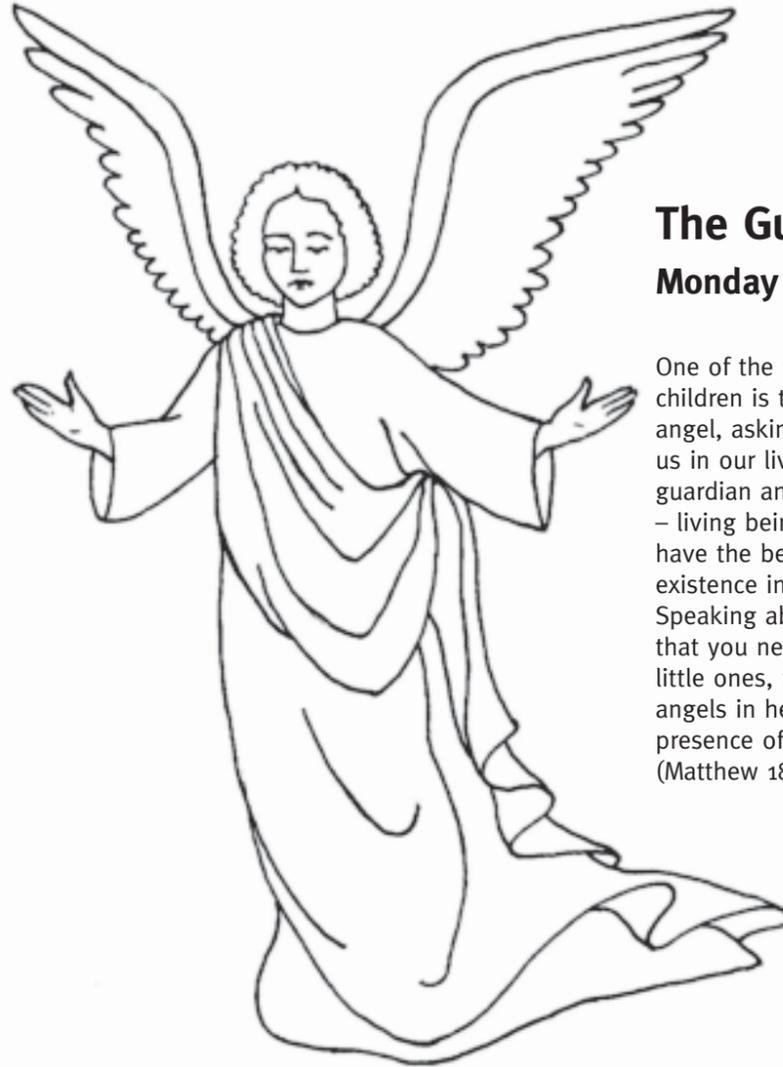
What are the highest mountains in each of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales? Give your answer in descending order, highest first.

Please send stories and photos of what's been happening in your school to catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk – we'd love to hear from you!

SCHOOLS

Word Search

W	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	G
E	S	F	R	E	H	T	A	F	I
H	X	P	O	D	F	I	N	P	W
T	H	I	I	O	D	J	G	R	Q
T	B	E	S	R	R	V	E	O	U
A	G	C	A	T	I	P	L	T	I
M	E	U	L	V	E	T	S	E	R
H	G	O	I	P	E	N	S	C	Y
K	A	S	N	D	M	N	C	T	X
T	P	R	E	S	E	N	C	E	Z



The Guardian Angels
Monday October 2

One of the first prayers we learn as children is the prayer to our guardian angel, asking them to guide and protect us in our lives. We may never see our guardian angel because they are spirits – living beings without a body. But we have the best possible proof of their existence in the words of Jesus himself. Speaking about children, he said: “See that you never despise one of these little ones, for I tell you that their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven.” (Matthew 18:10).

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|----------|-----------|
| GUARDIAN | EXISTENCE |
| ANGELS | CHILDREN |
| GUIDE | HEAVEN |
| PROTECT | PRESENCE |
| SPIRITS | FATHER |
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REFLECTIONS

**A Letter From
Madonna House**

**The Struggle To
Wake Up**

We had a group of people visiting our house, and one said, "Of course it would be easy to live a prayerful life here, it is so beautiful."



I felt a little guilty. She was right; it was easy to live a prayerful life in the midst of the natural beauty of Robin Hood's Bay. And I did – for a couple of days when I first arrived. Then I just started to take it for granted. Now I barely notice the majestic cliffs that plunge down to the beautiful North Sea.

I heard a homily recently that the spiritual life is about waking up. Waking up to the truths about God and ourselves. I am so busy with my to-do list that I am asleep to the beauty that is around me. It is a work to wake up and notice the creation that God made for us – for each one of us.

I need to learn from the children who visit the beach at Robin Hood's Bay. They are enthralled by it all – rocks, seaweed, fossils, little creatures in the rock pools. Each of us could look at the most beautiful landscape, or flower, or night sky and say this is for me. It is not sentimentality. It is true. Each one of us is that important to God.

I find that so hard to remember and believe. Each of us is infinitely important to God. We are not sharing his attention with seven billion other people and each of us getting a little bit of time before we have to step aside and let the next person talk to God. Each one of us has all of God's attention all of the time.

It seems like the work of a lifetime to wake up to the reality that there is no relationship more profound, more total, or more transforming than each of us has with God. Even when I forget to pray or be aware of God's presence, he does not stop drawing near.

We have the tradition in our community of going to poustinia. It is to spend 24 hours in silence, solitude and prayer. There are so many things competing for our attention that I find I need to do something a bit drastic like poustinia in order to hear God.

After a couple of hours of silence and solitude, I start to notice things, such as how beautiful flowers are and the really interesting insects on the ground – things I am usually too busy to notice. It is like waking up. To simply be with God. He does not have anything better to do than to be with me, but I usually have a lot of things that I consider more important than to be with God. It can be hard to tear myself away from these things and choose to give uninterrupted time to the Lord. But when I do, I never go away disappointed.

Sara Matthews

If you would like to visit or support us in any way, contact us at madonnahouserhb@gmail.com or 01947 880 169 or visit www.madonnahouse.org. Thank you so much.

How Do You Tune In To The Lord?

"Jerry! Jerry! Jerry!" my then 17-year-old son chanted, along with the TV studio audience. He was, of course, watching the Jerry Springer Show. Television presenter, former lawyer, Democratic Mayor of Cincinnati, news presenter, actor and musician Jerry Springer remains well known for hosting his own chat show, which continues to be popular.

In fact, the current trend of reality TV, docu-soaps and chat shows command a huge proportion of air time on our televisions and there are so many of them.

You name it and there's been a programme about it, whether it's the armed forces, cookery, hairdressing, MI5, sugar or survival, as well as the big guns such as *Big Brother* and *Keeping Up With The Kardashians*. These days our screens seem to feature them all.

Yet what does Reality TV really mean? Wikipedia, as ever, provides us with an answer. It says: "Reality television is a genre of television programming that documents supposedly unscripted real-life situations, and often features an otherwise unknown cast of individuals who are typically not professional actors."

This type of programme usually feature a whole range of human emotions. And in our own daily living, these so-called "real-life situations" are also funny, emotional, humdrum, upsetting or angry, but more importantly, they can also involve love.

Without doubt, love makes the world go round. In fact a child first learns about love in the home.

And where there is love, there is God – we're all familiar with the expression "God is love".

Our own personal realities involve our relationships with each other and with the Lord. And in these relationships our emotions are always engaged. But of course, the primary focus of Jesus' reality was his Law of Love.

There are many distractions in our world today but there are two things which will endure forever – love and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reality TV is cult entertainment for our time, which we can tune into if we are so inclined. But we can be certain that Jesus Christ is the supreme reality for all time and he is readily available for us to tune into whenever we want to.

If Jesus were to appear on our screens today as a chat show guest, would you follow my son's example, but instead enthusiastically shout: "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!?"

Julia Beacroft

Julia is an author, editor and catechist whose first book, *Sanctifying the Spirit*, is available to buy from Amazon, Waterstones or Book Depository.



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AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

In a special feature this month, we look at some of the work currently being carried out to help persecuted Christians throughout the world by Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)...

Protecting Around T

Hard Work Ahead As Christians Come Home

Iraqi bishops have urged the faithful to support Christian families returning home after being driven out of their towns and villages by jihadist group Daesh (ISIS).

ACN (UK) is continuing to provide ongoing emergency aid for more than 10,000 displaced families who are being cared for in the Diocese of Erbil in Kurdish northern Iraq but has also begun restoring Christian homes in the Nineveh Plains.

The charity is giving an additional £400,000 to provide shelter as part of an aid programme for 100,000 people forced out of their homes by invading Daesh (ISIS) forces.

Neville Kyrke-Smith, ACN's UK director, said: "Our benefactors have been wonderful in their tremendous response in providing emergency help for Iraqi Christians driven from their homes.

"Having visited the displaced families sharing homes in northern Iraq, I know how much this vital help means to them. It has put them on the road to recovery."

At least 46 per cent of the emergency help provided by Erbil Archdiocese has come through ACN. Initially, the families slept out in the open before they moved to other accommodation including purpose-built flats.

With Daesh forced out of Nineveh last autumn, the charity is now helping families return to the region, which had been their homeland for thousands of years.

Syriac Catholics made up 60 percent of 150,000 Christians and others forced to flee from the area due to Daesh violence. Father Andrzej Halemba, coordinator of ACN Middle East projects, said about 5,000 Christians have returned to the town of Qaraqosh out of the 50,000 who were forced out



A Dominican sister with schoolchildren

by invading Daesh forces.

"This is a historic moment for the future of Christianity in Iraq," he said. "Every day, we receive phone calls from Christian families who want to return home," added Father George Jahola, who is helping with the rebuilding of Qaraqosh. "Our engineers check on the structural condition of their homes and record the damage."

Stressing the urgent need to rebuild, Father Jahola said: "Before the arrival of Daesh there were 5,000 Syriac Catholic families here, of whom around 60 per cent have school-age children.

"If their homes are not yet ready for habitation these families might well decide to go elsewhere and this time for good."

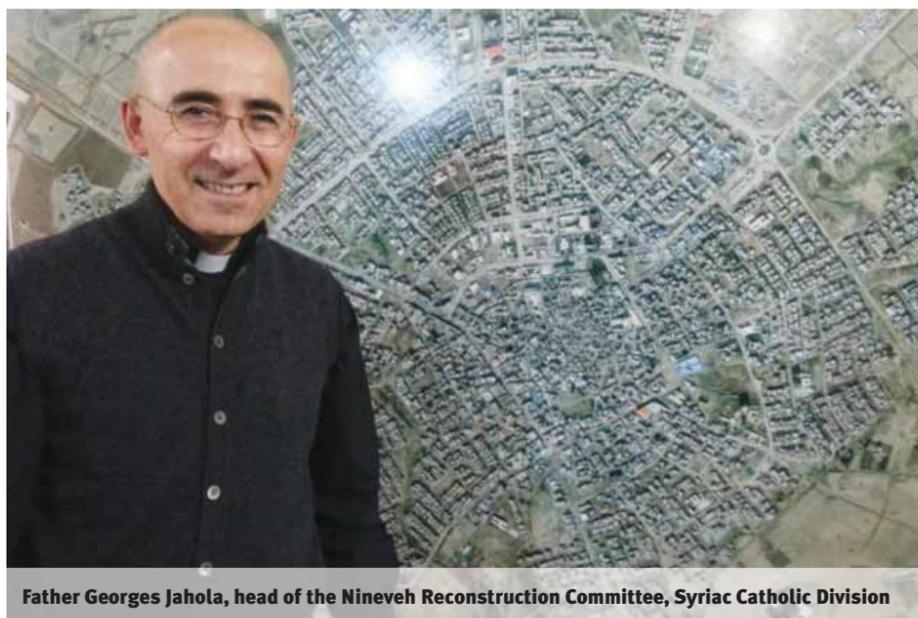
ACN has prioritised the repair of some of the 13,000 homes damaged in Qaraqosh and 12 other Christian-majority towns and villages in Nineveh.

Sister Clara Nas, prioress general of the badly damaged Immaculate Mary (Al-Um Al-Tahira) Convent in Qaraqosh, says it's important to maintain the Christian community in Iraq.

"We trust that our presence in the area would encourage the Christians to return to their land and nourish the Christian presence," said the Dominican Sister of St Catherine of Siena.



UK aid is distributed in Erbil



Father Georges Jahola, head of the Nineveh Reconstruction Committee, Syriac Catholic Division

Cathedral Liberated In Philippines

St Mary's Cathedral in Marawi, Philippines, has been retaken by the country's army after more than three months in the hands of Islamist extremists.

Forces cleared the church of improvised explosive devices left by the radical Maute group, which seized the church in May. The altar was largely demolished and a beheaded figure is the only statue left standing inside the complex. Icons were destroyed and other items scattered on the floor.

Muslim clerics denounced the desecration of the cathedral,

defying threats by the terrorists to execute Muslims who criticise Islamist radicals. ACN donated £23,000 to fund the distribution of sanitary kits to 1,500 displaced people coming from Marawi.

Bishop Edwin de la Peña of Marawi said rebuilding relations between the Christian and Muslim communities was even more important than repairing the cathedral.

He said: "We do not distinguish whether the people we are helping are Christians or not. We help because precisely the

Lord is telling us there is the need."

The Daesh-inspired Maute, now down to 30-to-45 members from its original 200, still control a small area of Marawi and hold about 56 Christian hostages, including Marawi Prelature's Vicar General, Father Teresito "Chito" Suganob. Marawi is the capital of Lanao del Sur Province on the island of Mindanao.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

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Workers Renew Commitment To Poor

Church workers have stressed the need for a renewed commitment to poor people in Burkina Faso after a suspected Islamist attack at a restaurant.

At least 18 people were killed during the incident in the capital Ouagadougou. Raphael D'Aqui, head of ACN projects for parts of Africa, said Catholic outreach in education, healthcare and other welfare was vital in a nation coming under growing influence from countries promoting Islamism.

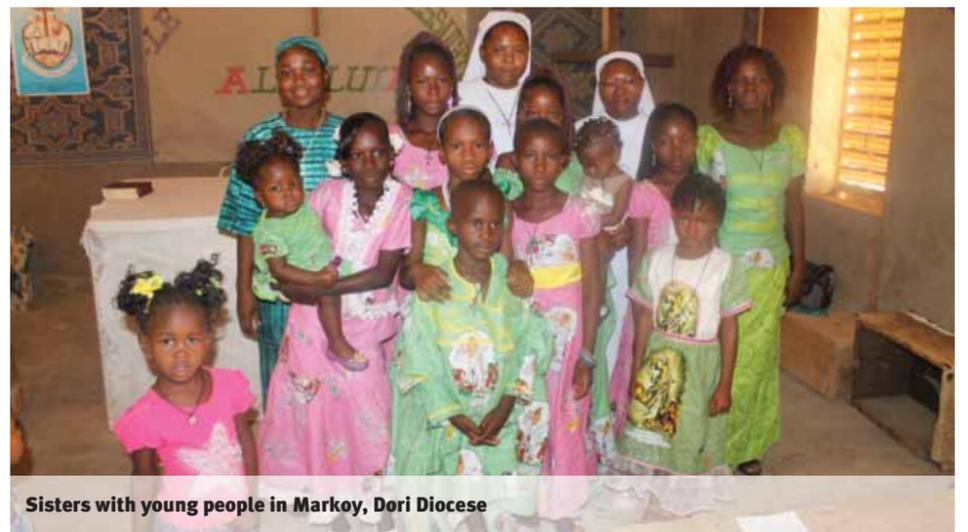
"There are NGOs here from Qatar, Kuwait and other countries which, together with the social help they provide, are exporting their own ideology and their own interpretation of the Qur'an," he said. "They are prepared to bore wells, build mosques and help the poor, but they focus their aid

exclusively on Muslims."

He said that the Church was providing care for people of different faiths. The aid extends to the north of the country, where Christians make up less than one per cent of the population.

Mr D'Aqui said: "The Church maintains important education centres for young children, with a special care for the poorest and for girls."

ACN is supporting religious sisters providing medical care irrespective of faith background as well as helping the Church's pastoral work, such as the construction of a parish church and multi-purpose centre in the Diocese of Tenkodogo and also a new chapel in Arbinda parish, in the Diocese of Dori.



Sisters with young people in Markoy, Dori Diocese

Feeding The Thousands In Syria

ACN is providing much-needed help for families struggling to buy food in war-torn Syria.

Working with local Church leaders, ACN announced fresh support for thousands who are at risk of starvation. The cost of living has spiralled upward since the war's outbreak, with wheat flour up 300 per cent and rice up 650 per cent.

Father Andrzej Halemba, ACN's Middle East project head, described an "appalling daily struggle to buy food" endured by Christians and others.

With nearly two-thirds of families in Syria living on less than £1.60 a day and the remaining third in even worse hardship, thousands of families have fallen into debt just to get the money they need to buy food.

ACN has recently provided new food aid – as well as other vital supplies including

medicine – for 3,000 families in the country. The charity's UK office gave more than £92,000 to help widows, victims of the war, young people who have lost their jobs, and families in particular need.

Sister Annie Demerjian of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary and her team of volunteers are also helping more than 2,000 displaced families in Hassake and Aleppo. They make monthly visits to the families, bringing food baskets and other essential aid backed by ACN.

Sister Demerjian said: "Every time we visit one of the families we ask them to pray for those who have contributed and are still contributing to ease their suffering. It's beautiful to see their open hands thanking God and thanking you for your brotherly love."



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LOURDES



Sun Shines On Lourdes Reunion

The late-summer made a welcome appearance at the Hospitalité Barbecue at the Sacred Heart, Middlesbrough. There was an excellent turnout for Mass celebrated by pilgrimage director Canon Derek Turnham,

before music and food in the parish gardens. One of the musicians, Joe Harrison, presented executive director Keith Tillotson with a cheque for £235 raised from sales of his *Faux Pas* magazine.

Lourdes 2018 Plans Underway

Plans are well underway for our 65th Pilgrimage to Lourdes, which takes place from Friday May 25 to Friday June 1 2018. Once again we will be travelling with Joe Walsh Tours after the success of last year's pilgrimage. We hope to bring you more details including prices in next month's *Voice*. All helpers are asked to note the date of the Formation Day at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough, Saturday April 21.



LOURDES 2018

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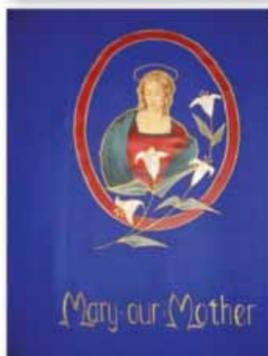
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Pope Gives Thanks For Cardinal Cormac

Pope Francis has written to Cardinal Vincent Nichols to offer his "heartfelt condolences" after the death of Archbishop emeritus of Westminster Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor.

In praising Cardinal Cormac's service to the Church in England and Wales, the Holy Father lauds the late cardinal's "unwavering devotion to the preaching of the Gospel and the care of the poor and his far-sighted commitment to the advancement of ecumenical and interreligious understanding."

Pope Francis concludes by commending his soul to the mercy of God and imparting his Apostolic Blessing. The two men were elevated to the rank of cardinal at the same Consistory in February 2001.



Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor – Photo copyright Mazur/catholic-news.org.uk

Obituary: Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor

Cormac Murphy-O'Connor was born in Reading on August 24 1932, the fifth son of Dr George Murphy-O'Connor and his wife Ellen. His parents originally came from County Cork.

During the Holy Year of 1950 he began training as a priest for the Diocese of Portsmouth at the Venerable English College, Rome, where he joined his two brothers, Brian and Patrick. He joked that the Rector, Monsignor John Macmillan, needed some persuading since two Murphy-O'Connors in a seminary was quite enough. While in Rome he gained licentiate in Philosophy and Theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University and was ordained in 1956.

In 1966 he became private secretary to the Bishop of Portsmouth, Derek Worlock and in 1971 returned to Rome as Rector of the Venerable English College. The years

following the Second Vatican Council were challenging ones to be a seminary rector, with much uncertainty about the future and the constant need, as he later put it, to "broker a peace between the people who want to change everything and the people who want to change nothing". He proved to be a steady pair of hands and hosted Archbishop Donald Coggan of Canterbury during his historic visit to Paul VI in 1977.

In 1977 Cardinal Cormac was appointed third Bishop of Arundel and Brighton. From 1982 until 2000 he was co-chairman of the Anglican and Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC), and ecumenism remained a cause close to his heart.

In 2000 he was appointed tenth Archbishop of Westminster, in succession to Cardinal Basil Hume. The following year he was created a cardinal priest. As a cardinal, he

was appointed to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, the Pontifical Council for the Study of Organisational and Economic Problems of the Holy See and the Pontifical Council for the Family.

Aware of the scourge of child abuse and having had personal experience of cases as Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, he commissioned Lord Nolan to chair an independent review on child protection in the Catholic Church in England and Wales. This was a landmark document and led to the establishment of an independent office to oversee the protection of children and vulnerable adults.

He enjoyed good relations with the royal family and in 2002 read a prayer at the funeral of the Queen Mother and preached

before Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip at the Sunday service in Sandringham.

On reaching the age of 75, Cardinal Cormac submitted his resignation to the Holy See and he became the first Archbishop of Westminster to retire, all his predecessors having died in office.

He continued his work in Rome, taking up new posts on the Congregation for Bishops and the Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples and he participated in the 2013 conclave as a non-voter.

Throughout his life, Cardinal Cormac kept up a keen interest in sport, especially rugby and golf, and music. He was a talented pianist and occasionally performed at charity events and celebrations. He will long be remembered for his personal warmth, humour and persuasive leadership.

Cardinal Explores The Meaning Of Hope

The importance of hope in our uncertain world and how we can make a positive difference is explored in a new book by Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Hope In Action is described as an inspiring and practical book and is based on the cardinal's talks, lectures and broadcasts.

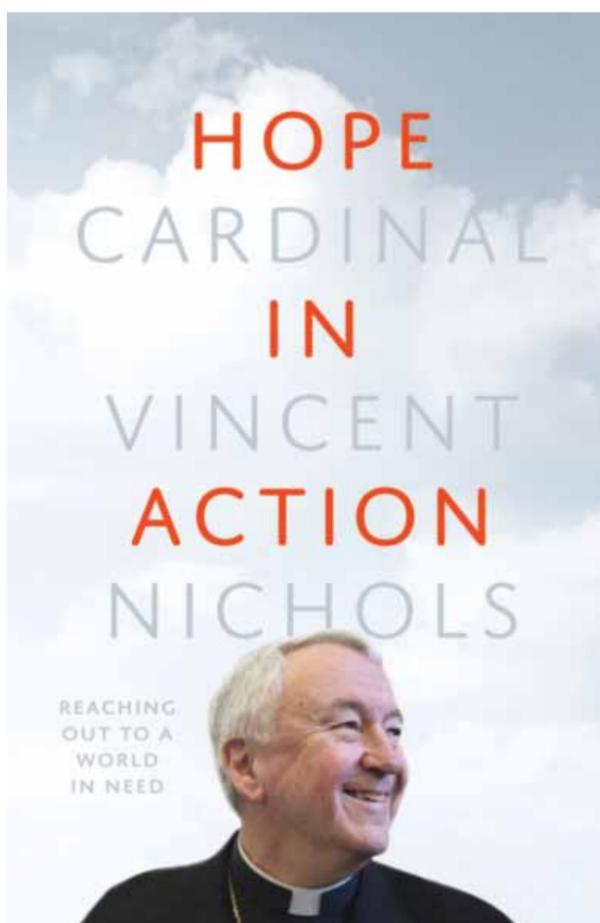
He explores what we mean by Christian hope, what it means to be a disciple of mission, the importance of mercy and how we can put our Christian hope into action to make a difference in our world today.

Each chapter includes questions for reflection or discussion, encouraging the reader to engage more deeply with the text and the issues it raises.

In a moving epilogue, the cardinal writes of the power of weeping as a true sign of what makes us human – whether tears of grief, pain, rage, regret, repentance or joy.

"Our tears must move us to act in ways that will help to heal these wounds in the body of humanity," he concludes.

The book is published by SPCK and priced £7.99.



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NEWS

Worldwide Mary Ward Gathering



Friends of Mary Ward from all corners of the globe gathered at York St John University for an international conference with the theme "Mary Ward: Prophetic Woman".

Among the 120 participants were teachers in

Mary Ward schools, colleagues from other ministries of the Mary Ward sisters, sisters themselves from overseas or simply those for whom she is a key figure in their own lives as Christians.

They arrived from every continent and from 25 different countries. Sadly, some guests from Cuba, East Africa, Nepal and Zimbabwe were refused visas and prevented from coming, but those who made it enjoyed an excellent opportunity to deepen their love and knowledge of Venerable Mary Ward in her own country.

The general superiors of both congregations founded by Mary Ward, Sister Jane Livesey of the Congregation of Jesus and Sister Noelle Corscadden of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary were able to be present throughout the conference together with members of their leadership teams in Rome. Sister Frances Orchard, leader of the Congregation of Jesus in the UK, said: "Planning for this number across both branches of Mary Ward's family was a challenge of logistics, but the hard work paid off."

"We felt it was important, especially for participants who had never been to Mary Ward country, or who might never come again, to visit those places in Yorkshire closely associated with Mary Ward's life."

"Seeing and touching these places, praying in them and sharing spiritual reflections with friends from all over the world helped to bring her to life and gave us a sense of what a very important place this Yorkshire woman holds in the lives of people all across the world."

First stop was York Minster, where a special tour revealed the Catholicity of York Minster. Then it was on to the Bar Convent's new Living Heritage Centre and an opening Mass in the convent's famous hidden chapel.

Further visits took in Mulwith, Mary Ward's birthplace, Ripon Cathedral and Ripley Castle. Mary Ward stayed there as a child with her Ingleby cousins, who included Blessed Francis Ingleby, one of the priests harboured by St Margaret Clitherow and

subsequently martyred on the Knavesmire in York in 1586.

Pilgrimage was an important element, with visits to Bishop Thornton Church, with its stained glass window of Mary Ward, Mount Grace, where she is known to have prayed, and the church of St Thomas, Osbaldwick, where Mary Ward is buried and where prayers were led by the Anglican Rector, Reverend Andrew Clements

Between these trips, keynote addresses were given and participants discussed and shared their own reflections and experience. The three main keynote speakers were Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ, of Heythrop College, University of London, Dr Elaine McDonald, from Dublin City University and Sister Imelda Poole IBVM, who is president of RENATE, Religious and Co-workers in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation.

There was also a presentation by Sister Liz Cotter IBVM, who is vice-postulator for the Cause of Mary Ward, on the current state of play in efforts towards her canonisation. Copies of all these talks can be found in the news section at congregationofjesus.org.uk.

The conference looked at how Mary Ward was prophetic in her own times.

A final joint presentation by Sister Jane Livesey and Sister Noelle Corscadden focused on Mary Ward's Family today. Quoting her own words, they encouraged all participants, sisters and lay, Christians from all traditions and non-Christians, to "cherish God's vocation in each other".

Asking where this goes next, they urged all 120 participants to take the experience back, share it with colleagues and friends and most of all to live out of this new reality as one family who bear a "dangerous memory" of a woman many hope will be Yorkshire's next saint.

Sister Gemma Simmonds CJ

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Marist Family Gathers In Walsingham

Members of the Marist family including priests, sisters and lay people travelled to Walsingham for their annual pilgrimage. This is always a special occasion when communities scattered around the country can come together.

The day began with midday Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation led by chief celebrant Bishop of Brentwood Alan Williams, a Marist father who is a former director of the shrine. The homily was given by European Marist provincial Father Martin McAnaney.

Mass was followed by a picnic in the shrine grounds. The meeting of friends old and new and the opportunity to experience the peace of the Slipper Chapel and Chapel of Reconciliation was followed by the pilgrimage walk along the holy mile (pictured). Following in the footsteps of pilgrims who have trodden this route over hundreds of years, we made our way across the open fields of the glorious Norfolk countryside. Our day together ended with evening prayer in the grounds of Elmham House.

Some of us stayed overnight to enjoy the contrasting moods of Walsingham – the busyness of our pilgrimage when the pilgrims have gone their separate ways and the quietness and peace of the village and the Catholic and Anglican shrines.

Pat O'Connor



Funeral Directors – Who Cares?

Funeral directors and all those involved in the funeral industry have it tough, according to a Catholic website set up to offer practical and spiritual support to those faced with the prospect of death.

The role involves dealing with sadness, grief and loss on a daily basis and they also have to deal with very traumatic events – the death of a child, murder, suicide and deaths in all kinds of horrific circumstances.

But the Art of Dying Well site says they often don't have anyone to talk to when it all gets too much or if they have had a very bad day. It can be pure chance whether a funeral director has access to professional help.

In a Onepoll of 2,000 UK adults commissioned by the Art of Dying Well, almost half of UK adults (44.9%) think funeral directors should have access to professional counselling. More than a third (36.85%) think funeral directors must struggle with the constant theme of death and grief and 39.35% of those surveyed believe they face more sadness than many other professions.

The survey was released on the Feast Day of St Joseph of Arimathea, the wealthy nobleman

who buried Christ's body in his own tomb after the Crucifixion. He is the Patron Saint of Funeral Directors, Undertakers and Morticians.

The Art of Dying Well has published a new online Guide to Catholic Funerals and Cremations, a helpful step-by-step planner setting out the options for anyone who is organising a Catholic funeral.

The guide gives answers to questions such as:

- Burial or cremation?
- Requiem Mass or Service of the Word?
- How can the family be involved?
- What readings and music should there be?
- What about a eulogy?

Just as the Catholic Church has a wealth of experience in helping people to die well, it also has comforting rituals for those who are left behind.

For more information on the site, which was devised and commissioned by the Catholic Church in England and Wales, visit artofdyingwell.org.

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Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR OCTOBER 2017

Bishop Terry has no formal engagements in the month of October.

1 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

2 Mon
11am Day for Life Pilgrimage, The Lady Chapel. Meet in Osmotherley village

3 Tues
7pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 29, meet at St Mary's Cathedral, Dalby Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough commencing with Mass in the Cathedral Chapel

4 Wed
6.30pm The Secular Franciscan Order meets at More House, Heslington, York. Contact Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, tel (01904) 470041 for details
6.30pm Latin Mass, St Charles Borromeo, Jarratt Street, Hull

5 Thurs
7pm Education Mass, St Charles Borromeo, Hull

6 Fri
 Dates of events and articles for inclusion in November's issue of Voice must be received by today.

7 Sat
10am-3pm UCM Diocesan Study Day, St Aelred's, York, commencing with Mass at 10am (lunch provided)
2pm Rosary Pilgrimage, The Lady Chapel;
 2pm Rosary, 4pm Mass

8 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Mass in the Malayalam language at St Joseph's Church, Marton Road, Middlesbrough. Contact tel (01642) 818203 for details.

9 Mon
7.30pm Justice & Peace meet at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, Blossom Street, York. Contact: Nan Saeki, tel (01904) 783621 for further details.

10 Tues
12.45pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull.
2pm-4pm The Life Ascending Group, York West meet at Our Lady's, Acomb, York in the Fr Kelly room.
7pm Education Mass, St Wilfrid's, York

7.30pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meet at Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York

11 Wed
10.30am The Life Ascending Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessle meet after the morning Mass
10.30am The Life Ascending Group at St Leonard and St Mary, Malton will meet
2.30pm Prayer Group at the John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough. New members welcome.

13 Fri
7pm-8.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets in St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact John (01759) 380415 for details.
7.30pm Marian Evening at the John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough – Rosary, Holy Mass, talk, witness. Contact Marie Bedingfield, tel (01642) 530739 for details

15 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
 3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass, St Alphonsus, Middlesbrough
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

16 Mon
 York Newman Circle, 'Poland, the Test of Sincerity: the Newman Association's aid to Polish Intellectuals in Britain 1942-1962,' 7pm Bar Convent

18 Wed
8pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meet at St Joseph's Church, West Hull

19 Thur
7.30pm-9.30pm Bible study in Our Lady's, Acomb looking at one complete set of Sunday readings (first, second and gospel). Contact Lukasz (07540981429) for details

20 Fri
7.30pm Aquinas Reading Group in the Upper Room at St Wilfrid's, York. A guided reading of the Summa Theologiae. Contact Steve Evans, tel 07800697975 or e-mail: steve_evans21@tiscali.co.uk. Further details at <http://readingthesumma.blogspot.com>

21 Sat
7.30pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Sally Glennon), Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. Contact Eddie: 01642 860227

22 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

25 Wed
12.45pm-3pm Life Ascending Group, York Central meets at St Wilfrid's, York in the Upper Room after the 12.10pm Mass
7.30pm Cleveland Newman Circle: 'Science as God's Gift – the Search for Wisdom' Prof Tom McLeish, Cathedral Hall, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough

26 Thurs
7.30pm-9pm The Pastoral Support Group for carers especially of people with mental ill health meets in Middlesbrough. Contact Margaret, tel (01642) 865668 for venue and other details

27 Fri
7pm Marian Prayer Group, St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Pat (01482) 802483 for details.

29 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
 November Catholic Voice available in churches

First week of November

1 Wed
6.30pm The Secular Franciscan Order meets at More House, Heslington, York. Contact Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, tel (01904) 470041 for details
6.30pm Latin Mass, St Charles Borromeo, Jarratt Street, Hull

5 Sun
12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF
6pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

Advance Notices

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help takes place every Wednesday after the 9.30am Mass in St John of Beverley, North Bar Without.

19 November, 3pm, Catholic Fellowship Mass, St Peter's, South Bank
21 November, The Presentation of Our Lady, 1.30pm Rosary, 2pm Mass, The Lady Chapel, Osmotherley
 St John of Beverley parish has started a new Christian meditation group on Saturdays, 12 noon, St John of Beverley RC Church Lady Chapel (11.45am introduction for new meditators). Silent meditation practice in the Christian tradition. Free, all welcome. More information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

NEWS

Help YCW Celebrate Its 80th Birthday

On December 5 1937, a group of 100 young workers from various parts of the country met in Wigan for the first national meeting of the Young Christian Workers (YCW) of England and Wales.

Soon afterwards, Father Corboy started the first YCW section in our diocese at St Philomena's (now Sacred Heart) Parish in Middlesbrough. The late Bernard Connolly and Kevin Muir were early members.

In the post-war years, sections were

established in many Teesside parishes as well as York and Hull. Over the last 80 years, thousands of young people in our diocese joined the YCW, studying the Gospels every week and using the, "See, judge and act" method to discuss social issues and, where appropriate, campaign for change and social justice.

Large rallies were held to celebrate the feast of St Joseph the Worker and the feast of Christ the King. The formation in faith and

social awareness members received has had a lifelong effect on their lives.

To celebrate the anniversary, current and former YCWs are invited to attend Mass and a reunion on Sunday November 26, the Feast of Christ the King and Youth Sunday, at 6.30pm at the Sacred Heart Church, Middlesbrough. Refreshments will be served in the parish hall afterwards. Hope to see you there!

Mick McCann

Quiet Days At Ampleforth

Quiet days at Ampleforth are an opportunity to spend time with Christ, remain in his presence and discover what he wants for us in our lives.

They include a shared exploration of the Word of God followed by an opportunity to spend some time in silence, with some written material to aid reflection. Guests are then invited to join the monastic community for midday prayer and afterwards to share a meal.

After lunch there is some more time for quiet and conversation before coming together as a group at the end of the day to share experiences and insights. The next quiet day takes place on Tuesday December 5, starting at 10am with morning coffee and ends at 5pm.

There is a suggested donation of £30 per person to fully defray costs, but this is left entirely at the donor's discretion. Please call the Hospitality and Pastoral Office on 01439 766486 or email pastoral@ampleforth.org.uk

Course Examines Catholic Social Teaching

A one-year part-time Postgraduate Certificate in Catholic Social Teaching (CST) course has recently been launched by St Mary's University in Twickenham. CST is a branch of moral theology based on social encyclicals of successive popes on issues such as justice, human dignity, the common good and poverty. This programme is aimed at those who want to study the subject in depth, including permanent deacons and other clergy and interns working for charities and NGOs. It is hoped to form the basis of a future Masters degree course. To find out more, please contact course organiser Father Ashley Beck on 020 8240 2358 or 07769214903 or email ashley.beck@stmarys.ac.uk.

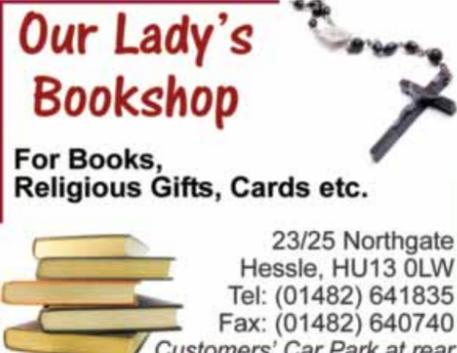
Countdown Begins For World Meeting of Families

The one-year countdown is underway for the World Meeting of Families, which takes place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, County Mayo, from August 21 to 26 2018. The WMOF2018 icon of the Holy Family has been unveiled and has begun a journey around the dioceses of Ireland. The meeting takes place every three years and brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, and of society and of the Church. For more information visit worldmeeting2018.ie.

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New SVP Shop Blessed

Father Leonard Jioke has opened and blessed the new SVP Community Shop in Middlesbrough. Middlesbrough president Kathy Warrick welcomed Father Leonard and guests to a special open evening and thanked managers Steve Milburn and Angela Wilson, volunteers and SVP members for making the occasion so special. The shop is at Belle Vue Shops on Marton Road and new volunteers and donations are welcome. Father Leonard, who has been based at St Joseph's in Middlesbrough, is due to return to Nigeria this month.



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By Friday October 6 for the November 2017 issue
By Friday November 3 for the December 2017 issue
Where possible please send articles in Word and photographs as jpegs. Thank you!

JOHN PAUL CENTRE 200+ CLUB DRAW

Date of Draw – on 11 September 2017:
1st Prize - £100 Winning No 117
2nd Prize - £60 Winning No 45
3rd Prize - £40 Winning No 210

Next meeting and monthly draw
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NEWS

Bishop Ferries Pilgrims To Lady Chapel

Bishop Terry turned chauffeur to ferry elderly pilgrims up a steep track to the Lady Chapel at Mount Grace.

He augmented the regular service of two mini-coaches from Ampleforth Abbey for the half-mile trip. The bishop, who also celebrated Mass and preached, gave pilgrims a lift up and down several times.

In his homily he thanked the Scope and Eldon families of local landowners for allowing land to be used for the chapel. He said the 5th Earl of Eldon, who died in January, had a great devotion to the Virgin Mary. The feast of her Assumption into heaven was marked by the 650 pilgrims.

Bishop Terry told a moving story during his homily. Some 20 years ago when he was a priest at Bury, Lancashire, he was called to a hospital where the baby of an expectant mother had died in the womb.

The parents were not Catholics but the mother wanted to find out if her baby would go to heaven "sustained in God's love".

"What I want to know is that someone is there to care for him," she said.

The then Father Terry assured her that Mary would be there.

"Their desperation increased my faith," said the bishop, who admitted he was still moved at the thought of the couple and their questions.

He admitted initially to feeling defensive when he found out what they wanted to talk with him about. Bishop Terry ended his homily soon after telling the story and there was silence on the sunny hilltop.

He thanked all who had taken part, including organisers the Knights of St Columba and ladies who prepared and served refreshments after the Mass. Prayers of intercession included some for more vocations to the priesthood, religious life and marriage.

The 15 priests at the Mass were assisted by Richard Marsden, who was ordained deacon by Bishop Terry during the summer. Peter Taylor is the only other seminarian for the diocese currently studying for the priesthood.

Michael Morrissey
Photo by Les Clark



Quick Answers

Connection question

1. Tess Daly (*Tess of the D'urbervilles*)
2. Jude Law (*Jude the Obscure*)
3. Far From The Madding Crowd
4. Mayor of London (*The Mayor of Casterbridge*)
5. Will Greenwood (*Under The Greenwood Tree*).

Connection: Thomas Hardy novels

Thinking cap question

Ben Nevis (Scotland), Snowdon (Wales), Carrauntoohil (Ireland), Scafell Pike (England). Bonus point for anyone who got Carrauntoohil!

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