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Facing Our Future With Hope

Some of you may be aware that I have been on a visit to the Tombs of the Apostles (*ad limina Apostolorum*), which every bishop has to do every five-to-seven years. Part of the visit is to celebrate Mass at the Tombs of SS Peter and Paul, in St John Lateran, (the pope's cathedral) and St Mary Major.

Each bishop has to submit a report to the pope of what has happened in the diocese since the last visit. Below I offer a very brief résumé of my report (the original is just under 100 pages).

Several statistics stand out in my mind. Since my last visit, the Mass attendance throughout the diocese has gone from 16,500 to just over 12,000. The overall finances have fallen by 8.3%. There have been four ordinations since the last visit and there have been 32 deaths and retirements of priests.

In the last report to the Holy Father in 2010, I expressed the hope (somewhat naïve in hindsight) that by informing everyone of the situation regarding vocations and priests stepping down from pastoral responsibility, we might have been able to foster vocations to the priesthood, the permanent diaconate and to lay ministry in sufficient numbers to provide for our needs. Sadly, this has not happened.

Given that there are fewer and fewer clergy year by year, it is vital that we have a pastoral strategy that enables the faithful access to the sacraments and growth in their spiritual life. At the same time, we also need to make the best use of the diocesan clergy, especially the younger ones, while ensuring that they are not overburdened. Therefore, I have set up a new Vicariate for Pastoral Strategy. Given that there is a good proportion of lay and clerical representation on the council of this vicariate, we should achieve an equitable solution.

I feel that if we are not able to achieve such a solution or no solution at all, then we will need to turn our minds to the question of the viability of Middlesbrough as a diocese;



Bishop Terry with Pope Francis during the ad limina visit – © Servizio Fotografico – Vatican Media

whether, indeed, it is not the amalgamation of parishes that we should be looking at but the amalgamation of the diocese with another!

On a more positive note, we must continue to develop and facilitate lay ministries. We need some role in the Catholic Church in our countries which is equivalent to the role of a Lay Reader in the Anglican Church. One whose qualifications are recognised outside the Church, enabling them to take on such roles as lay prison chaplains, hospital chaplains, school chaplains etc.

Already we are developing and trialling the ministry of lay-led funerals. While the number

of priests grows less, the number of funerals either remains the same or grows.

The development of the Diocesan Caritas has been a very positive thing and causes much enthusiasm and commitment to the Social Teaching of the Church and a way of working ecumenically with other Churches. It inspires peoples' imagination and gives a way to put the Gospel into daily action. There is a real desire for this right across the differing age groups and social backgrounds of the diocese. This is certainly something to be celebrated and developed over the years to come.

My own personal motto is "Expectantes Beatam Spem" – *As we wait in blessed hope (for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ)*. I have often said that I truly believe that we remain in the loving and providential hands of the Father and so I can never feel hopeless or fearful. *The Lord is our light and our help whom shall we fear (Ps.26)*. I tried to be realistic and honest in the report and in the end all is by the grace of God. *Glory be to him in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever. Amen. (Eph 3.21)*

+ Tony

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NEWS



The bishops of England and Wales in Rome with Pope Francis – © Servizio Fotografico – Vatican Media

Bishops' Statement As Ad Limina Visit Ends

As we end our visit, *ad limina Apostolorum*, we offer these reflections on our days together in Rome. On Friday September 28 we were immensely privileged to share conversation with Pope Francis for over two hours. It was a most remarkable and intimate experience.

We asked the Holy Father for a message which we could bring back to our dioceses, to our priests and people. His message was simple: we are to live the gift of our faith with joy. Joy was his great emphasis. He explained that this joy is rooted firmly in our relationship with Jesus. It is a joy of knowing that he is with us; of knowing the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives, drawing and guiding us towards the will of God; a joy of knowing our Heavenly Father is waiting for us, longing to hold us in his embrace of loving mercy. This is the joy of the faith by which we are to live. He added that this joy is the source of lasting peace in our hearts and lives, no matter our circumstances.

As we spoke with Pope Francis we realised, more and more, that he simply radiates this joy and peace. He is indeed gifted with a unique grace of the Holy Spirit of God. Even in this time of turmoil, the Holy Father is so

clearly rooted in God and blessed by God. His peace is secure. His life is serene. We know, because he showed us his heart. It is the heart of a loving father. In our turn, we affirmed our deep communion with him and promised him our love, support and prayers. We expressed confidently these sentiments on behalf of all the faithful Catholics of England and Wales.

We spoke with the Holy Father about the difficulties of fulfilling our role as bishops. In turn he reflected on the importance of prayer and preaching in our lives, and of paternal closeness to our priests and people, with care and with firm justice. He spoke of the encouragement he wishes to give to priests today, who can sometimes feel vulnerable in the face of difficult circumstances, in a critical environment. He spoke, movingly, of the wounds inflicted by abuse and neglect, wounds that wreak such harm in the lives of its victims and in the life of the Church. Wherever they are found, these are wounds in the Body of Christ and are painful to touch. He encouraged us, in our pastoral work, never to neglect even the tiny flames of faith that exist in so many communities and people. We have been given a warm welcome in our

visits to all the departments of the Roman Curia. We were asked to speak freely about our endeavours and problems. In the officials of the Holy See we have found a spirit of true cooperation. Everywhere we have been encouraged and given helpful advice. We have seen clear evidence that the life of the Catholic communities of England and Wales is generally well respected and even admired here in Rome.

Our reports of the Eucharistic Congress, Adoremus, have been well received, as has the strength of our compassionate outreach to those in need. Indeed, the leaders of our diocesan charitable works were present in Rome at this same time, at the instigation of the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), and we were able to spend time and pray together. In encouraging this work of outreach, Pope Francis urged us always to walk with those engaged in its projects so as to draw them nearer to the Lord who is the source of compassion and mercy. We know so well that it is from our prayer, especially before the Blessed Sacrament, that the mission of each of the baptised truly springs.

In a number of our visits we have been accompanied by two bishops of the Church of

England, Bishop Martin Warner and Bishop Christopher Foster. On one occasion we were joined by Sister Frances Orchard CJ of the Conference of Religious in England and Wales. We also visited the Pontifical Commission for Communication, whose prefect, Dr Paolo Ruffini, is a layman. These are all firsts, examples of openness and change.

Our ad limina visit is now completed. We have celebrated Mass together in the four great Roman basilicas, at the tomb of St Peter and the tomb of St Paul. We have been embraced by the Successor of Peter, Pope Francis. Our pilgrimage has been richly blessed and we are glad to share this sense of the deep encouragement and powerful grace we have received.

Pope Francis commended us to our Blessed Lady, Mary our Mother, reflecting beautifully on her role as the “untier of knots”, a deep devotion in his own life. May she always be at our side. We pray that God bless and strengthen our Holy Father, Pope Francis. May God guide us in all our ways that we may share the joy of our faith and the ways of peace.

The Bishops of England and Wales

Cause Hamper Campaign

Catholics Against Unemployment and Social Evils (CAUSE) would like to remind all its kind donors that the time has come to launch its annual appeal to provide Christmas hampers for needy families.

Requests to CAUSE for help are greater than ever. If you can spare just a little, it will go a long way and be greatly appreciated.

Cash donations, or cheques made payable to CAUSE can be sent to Pat Wilson (Treasurer), c/o Curial Office, 50a The Avenue, Middlesbrough TS5 6QT.

CAUSE would also be grateful for help with deliveries or any other assistance. If you have time to spare and would like to help, please contact co-ordinator Pat McBride on 01642 310854.

Rugs Tell 200-Year-Old Story

The small church of St Mary’s, Crathorne, the second Post-Reformation church in this diocese to be built on the ground floor, can be found just a few miles from Yarm.

It is a beautiful building, plain and restrained externally but with a baroque sanctuary and boxed pews and gallery. The congregation have started fundraising to renovate the church for the bicentenary in 2021. Supported by the Crathorne family, Catholic worship continued in the village after the Reformation, despite persecution. For many years from 1742 onwards there was a resident priest, supported by an endowment from Ralph Crathorne. The original church was a cowshed adapted by the Crathorne family and used for Mass from about 1777.

The two rugs on the sanctuary were made by Mrs Flintoff and Mrs Laverick in the mid-1960s, during a major restoration of the historic grade II* church. Mrs Flintoff dedicated the larger rug in memory of her mother, Mrs Atkinson, a parishioner from 1917 to 1947, and incorporated many motifs and symbols that represent individuals and families who served and worshipped in the church in the past and during the restoration.

Other symbols represent priests associated with the church, as well as Ushaw College, Ampleforth Abbey and Bishop Wheeler. There are also the letters FCJ in reference to Newlands Convent pupils Rose Flanigan, Maureen Ebbs, Maura King, Nellie Barry, Monica Kelly and Eileen



Parishioners with one of the rugs at St Mary’s, Crathorne

Gollogly.

We have not been able to identify all of the symbols and would appreciate help to complete the history of a unique and beautiful record of worship in the church. We hope former parishioners and their families will join us during our celebrations in 2021.

Kay Rush

Caritas: The Heart Of The Church



CANON JOHN LUMLEY, Episcopal Vicar for Christian Discipleship, introduces a new regular series highlighting the good work done in the name of the Church, both in our diocese and throughout the world...

Most of us have heard of CAFOD – the Catholic Agency For Overseas Development – which does so much work in developing countries, both in terms of response to emergencies and also long-term development projects.

Here in England and Wales, we also have an umbrella organisation to coordinate the Catholic Church's social outreach at home. This is Caritas, a Latin word meaning "charity" or "love".

Caritas is a worldwide organisation of the Catholic Church, although it varies in size and scope from country to country. Caritas is in a sense one way in which we as Church fulfil the fundamental command of Christ: "Love one another as I have loved you."

The Lord himself described his own ministry as being good news for the poor, and that is

essentially what Caritas is about.

There is a Middlesbrough Caritas Group for our diocese – people who represent various aspects of the Church's outreach.

They include those working with the homeless – especially young people who are vulnerable – and with asylum seekers and refugees here in our own towns and cities such as Middlesbrough and Hull.

There are also those working with people with dementia and our Diocesan Justice and Peace Commission and our SVP conferences are represented, as well as those working in various ways to alleviate poverty and hunger – yes hunger – in our own diocese.

There are also representatives on our Diocesan Caritas Group from CAFOD and the Medaille Trust, a charity that combats human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Middlesbrough Caritas doesn't employ anyone as such – we are an umbrella organisation of Catholics who either work full time for specific charities (Catholic or not) or who work as volunteers to improve people's lives in one

form or another. We meet several times a year to see what we can do to work together to coordinate our efforts and collaborate with each other where possible.

Middlesbrough Caritas is part of Caritas England and Wales, the overall Catholic organisation for social outreach in our home country. In September we met in Rome to hear about the work of Caritas across the world – to hear the good news of the many ways in which the Church works to relieve poverty.

As well as meeting with the Vatican department that coordinates the work of Caritas, we also met with our own bishops who were visiting Rome, and had lunch with the UK's ambassador to the Holy See – a recognition of the importance of the Church's work in alleviating the lives of people living with poverty in our country. See the page opposite for further details of the bishops' visit.

Even just looking round our own group of 50-plus Caritas dioceses and charities gathered in Rome, it was evident just how widespread the Church's activity is: representatives from the Medaille Trust, the Trussell Trust (think food banks), those working for child services, DePaul UK, Woman at the Well (working with women who feel compelled to work as prostitutes), the Cardinal Hume Centre (youth homelessness), PACT (working with prisoners and their families), CAFOD, Welcome Me as I Am (mental health), SVP, NOAH (homelessness), Marriage Care and so on.

All living examples of Good News – of how the Church is putting into practice the command to bring good news to the poor. All done quietly, without huge fuss and usually out of the headlines. But the essence of who



Canon John Lumley pictured in Lourdes

we are as Catholics.

Pope Benedict described Caritas not simply as at the heart of the Church but as the heart of the Church. It's what we are about – to be a Church of the poor and for the poor, as Pope Francis puts it.

Pope Francis initiated the World Day of the Poor as an annual event in November to try to highlight the centrality of those living in poverty to the Christian message.

In recent editions of the *Catholic Voice* we have contributed some ideas as to how parishes and individuals might respond to the World Day of the Poor. The goal is to make sure that "being good news to the poor" is not simply something for one day of the year but is very much at the heart of the life of every single parish and every single Catholic – to see solidarity with those living in poverty, in its many forms, not as an add-on to our faith, but the heart of our faith.

With this in mind, a different Caritas member will be contributing an article in each month's *Voice* – both to raise awareness and also, perhaps, to encourage action. And further material and events are planned to help parishes and individuals to respond to this fundamental call of the Gospel. Watch this

What Can We Do For World Day Of The Poor?

In recent editions we've carried a series of articles about the second World Day of the Poor, which takes place on Sunday November 18. This month TERESA LYTH gives us a practical checklist of things we can do to answer the call of Pope Francis to hear the cry of the poor...

Listen and hear the cry of the poor

Start at home and listen and hear the cry for help in those around us, including our family, friends, neighbours, colleagues at work and in people of our town. Respond in person or direct them to help.

Support local charities where we can through food banks and clothes and household goods collections, either individually or through your parish. Look outward to the desperate needs of the poor of our world, which is so great in these times of war, troubles, famine, persecution, climate change and migration.

Encounter and accompany

Volunteer for local programmes that help refugees, the destitute, those in poverty and the homeless. There are many groups who have great need of your time and talents.

Keep advice and a list of contacts, telephone numbers and emails of organisations who support the poor, and where help is needed locally, available to enable you to direct, facilitate and encourage volunteering, so that anyone coming forward can be matched to where help is needed and the skills they have to offer. Keep this information updated and arrange personal contact and visits to see the work that can be done. Offer training where needed.

We must encourage the joy of volunteering, which also helps the giver. Perhaps hold a volunteering event, as we did during Sunday Mass at the cathedral on World Day Of The Poor last year. We used special bidding prayers and the message was reinforced in Monsignor Gerard's homily.

Facilitate

Form or join a Justice and Peace Group in your parish, as those involved in this work can pool resources to encourage and support each other in their work and projects for the poor.

Care of Creation

Be aware of how the way we live affects others and can lead to poverty. We can all do a little more to reduce climate change and lobby world leaders to implement agreements. See our diocesan environmental policy.

Human Trafficking

Human Trafficking is much more common than we think so we should be aware and support those who rescue and rebuild the lives of victims.

Pray

Continue to pray for the poor and those who work with them individually, in our bidding prayers, within prayer groups and in special services.



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SCHOOLS

The Second Joyful Mystery:



The Visitation

Are you ready with the next ten beads on your Rosary? When the angel Gabriel went to see Our Lady, he told her that her cousin Elizabeth was also expecting a baby. Mary decided to go to visit Elizabeth. When she arrived at her cousin's house she called out to her. Picture Elizabeth with her hand on her tummy, saying, "My child jumped for joy when he heard your voice!" Mary stayed there for three months, helping Elizabeth around the house. Can you imagine all this as you say your ten Hail Marys?

Word Search

A	Z	R	V	S	D	E	P	N	O
S	E	A	D	J	L	Q	I	R	D
M	G	X	O	E	U	C	U	E	X
V	N	Y	P	Y	V	M	D	I	O
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COUSIN
VISIT
BABY
DECIDED
HAND
VOICE

EXPECTING
ARRIVED
HOUSE
CHILD
JUMPED
JOY

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St Edward's Primary School
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Tel 01642 819507

Headteacher Mrs Mary Brown
email: stedwardsrc@mcschools.org.uk
www.stedwardsrcprimaryschool.co.uk

St. Augustine's RC Primary School
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If Your School would like to wish our readers a Happy and Holy Christmas in the next edition, or would like to advertise a Christmas Fayre or Carol Concert, please get in touch by the 12th November 2018. Contact Caroline on 07931 836926

Schools Chief Sets Out Ambitious Vision

Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty has been speaking of his confidence in the bright future of Catholic education across Teesside as he reflects on his first few months in the role.

Excellent academic results, a rich life experience and a distinctive Catholic ethos that includes playing a more visible role in parish life top his list of requirements for the 25 schools in the north of our diocese.

The trust unites 21 primary and four secondary schools and around 9,000 students and 1,000 staff, enabling them to strengthen governance and leadership, pool resources and benefit from greater spending power.

Mr Hegarty, from Northern Ireland, has been impressed by the positivity and willingness to improve he has found in our schools and says they know what is required to deliver the high-quality education he believes every child deserves.

"Parents want Catholic education, but they want it linked to high academic standards," he said. "Our schools need to deliver a wonderfully rich experience that includes academic outcomes but also excellent behaviour and strong Catholic values and ethos."

"Our diocesan community values Catholic education and recognises that it needs to have a strong platform in order to chart its way through the financially difficult waters of the next ten or 15 years."

"We're going to get better, we're going to be more confident and we're going to ensure that we play a more central role in parish life. We know what's required for effective Catholic education and we will make sure we're successful."

"If we do that we're giving every child the opportunity to go out into the world at the age of 19 with a strong sense of faith and if life takes them on a route where they fall away from their faith, then at some point in

time they have a reference point back. Without Catholic education, the route back is so much more difficult."

While most of the schools within the trust have good or outstanding Ofsted reports, three of the four secondary schools, St Peter's, in South Bank, St Patrick's, in Thornaby, and Trinity, in Middlesbrough, have all been told they must do better. However, St Peter's is now moving out of special measures and both St Patrick's and Trinity have new leadership in place that Mr Hegarty says has already instilled a new sense of direction based on rigorous self-evaluation.

He said: "We'll target our resources appropriately to those schools, individual teachers and children in need of them, because that's what Catholic means – we're universal, we share, we're part of the one family and we're not self-centred."

"An example of that is being able to bring Eggleston School head Simon White on board as a part-time consultant to the trust. But we also need the commitment from the teachers and leaders of those schools to embed the practices that will bring about ongoing improvement."

Another key element of the NPCAT strategy is helping talented young teachers take on leadership roles and eventually training our own teachers.

Mr Hegarty said: "We want to identify good Catholic leaders from within our schools to become deputy headteachers and headteachers, men and women who know the context and the community and are willing to engage long-term in the viability of this trust, ultimately ensuring Catholic education in Teesside is fit for purpose, not just today, but over the next 25 and 30 years."

"We also want to attract good quality Catholic teachers from across the UK and retain them in our schools. This trust has the structures in place to do that, both within the organisation



Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty

and also in terms of our quality assurance mechanisms. All the building blocks necessary for effective schooling are in place."

Mr Hegarty began his teaching career at St Anthony's Roman Catholic School in Forest Gate, East London, in 1992 and worked in Catholic schools in West Belfast before establishing schools and education programmes for governments in the Middle East. Now he is relishing the opportunity to take up the baton and help continue Teesside's proud heritage of Catholic education.

"We have a chair of governors' forum, so we can listen to what our community are telling us about our schools," he said. "But while we're listening and learning we still have to keep moving, so we also have a strategic direction."

"Our board of directors includes both educationalists and business leaders, such as Kevin Duffy, the diocesan director of schools, and diocesan finance director John Walton, as well as Joe Hughes, a highly experienced educationist, and Nick Mack, a successful

lawyer.

"The governance framework allows the governors to challenge in respect of performance management, professional development, teaching and learning and all the fundamentals required to make schools outstanding."

"Both the academic standards and Catholic standards are being lived out on a daily basis, with robust structures and firm foundations in place. The efficiencies we need to find will come from the increasing economies of scale and purchasing power and leverage when it comes to securing contracts. All those benefits will feed back into our students – and that's what everything we do is about."

"For some children, the only chance they have in life is coming into school and someone saying, 'Good morning, how are you doing?' and making them feel safe. Everybody should have their dignity and self-respect intact as a consequence of going to or working in a Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust school."

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SCHOOLS

Service Recognised At Education Masses

Parents and teachers from schools throughout the diocese gathered as Bishop Terry celebrated our annual Education Masses in York, Hull and Middlesbrough.

The Masses welcome in the new academic year and are an opportunity to recognise the achievements of those retiring from working in schools and academies.

The bishop presented Episcopal Blessings to retiring teachers, support staff and governors and thanked them for their many years of service to Catholic education.



Bill Scriven, left, headteacher of All Saints School in York, Bishop Terry and Julie Couttie, of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs, York – Photo by Lars Karlsson



Bishop Terry with Middlesbrough staff Clare McCabe, who teaches at St Augustine's Primary School, Sylvia Mackin, teaching assistant and chaplaincy team member at Corpus Christi Primary School, Dianne Irwin, a pastoral team member at Trinity College, and Karen Newbould, a teacher at St Pius X Primary School – Photo by Les Clark



Bishop Terry with Sarah Seeley, from St Peter's School, Scarborough, who was awarded a National Future Leaders' certificate, Carol Thompson, who retires after 26 years' service at St Mary's College, Hull, and Elizabeth Shaddick, who retires after over 30 years' service at St Richard's Primary Academy, Hull. Not pictured but retiring from St Mary's College after more than 20 years' service is former assistant headteacher, Angela Ogilvie – Photo by Olwyn Reading

A Gift I Could Not Live Without

As a child, I watched the little Catholic girls in white "bridal" dresses from the window of my Protestant home and wondered what the heck was going on.

My own First Communion came when I was 18 years of age. It was quite "illegal", but it changed my life. The story began when, in a dramatic conversion experience, God poured his love into the marrow of my being. In the space of a few radiant minutes, I journeyed from not being sure if God existed or knew me, to exulting in a profound union with my beloved Lord.

I didn't know how my life would unfold after that, but I did know that I wanted nothing more than to live in this union of love with God. A month after this experience, I met and fell in love with a wonderful Catholic man, who introduced me to his Church. I will never forget the first time I ventured into a Catholic church with Jacques.

It was overwhelming. At first, I thought this was because the Church was so full. I wasn't used to statues, stained glass windows, candles or an altar. But in time, I realised it was the Blessed Sacrament that so overwhelmed me, the Blessed Sacrament which filled the church with the presence of Jesus.

The more I accompanied Jacques to Mass, the more I realised that Communion would bring me to that point of unity with God that I had experienced in my conversion experience. And I wanted that – badly.

I also realised the Eucharist was sacred – not something to be taken lightly. So I resolved to study and pray for three months, to prepare myself to receive Jesus in



Communion at the Easter Vigil Mass.

Since no one told me I shouldn't receive Communion without being in full communion with the Roman Catholic Church, I happily and assiduously prepared my heart. And in his tender mercy, God honoured the desire of my soul.

I don't remember anything of that Easter Vigil Mass except receiving a jolt of spiritual electricity as I received my Lord and my God in the Eucharist for the first time. For hours I felt a tingling penetrating my body and soul and later on even permeating my bedroom.

I experienced that night that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of my Lord and Saviour. After that no one would ever be able to convince me otherwise. And I knew I could never again live without it.

My first Communion was, in a sense, the continuation of my conversion experience. For the next year and a half, I continued to receive Communion, but without joining the Catholic Church. That blissfully ignorant liberty came to an abrupt halt when I came to Madonna House for my first visit. There I was told, kindly but firmly that, as a Protestant, I was not permitted to receive the Eucharist.

The reason lay in the sad division in Christianity. Except in exceptional circumstances, I was told, the Catholic Church did not permit this because for Protestants to receive Communion would imply a oneness which does not yet exist and for which we must all pray.

To say I was devastated would be putting it mildly! I had feasted on God for these many months and now I was suddenly cut off! More than ever, I knew that the Eucharist was my food and drink and life. I could not live without it.

What an excruciating two-week visit! As soon as I returned home, I contacted my university's Catholic chaplain. I received a few instructions in the Catholic faith and within a couple of months I was told I could make my Profession of Faith, thus entering the Catholic Church.

Then, a week before the great event, I was told that my Protestant family and friends would not be given a dispensation to receive Communion at that liturgy.

All the hurt, anger, and rebellion I had experienced towards the Catholic Church at Madonna House swept back in a great tidal wave, threatening to drown me.

A Letter From Madonna House

"Why did the Catholic Church bar someone from receiving Jesus in the Eucharist," I asked myself angrily, "if the person truly believed in his presence there?" (Obviously, I had not accepted the explanation I had been given.)

A blackness descended upon me as questions and murmurings swirled in my heart and mind. Then I began to realise that I couldn't just use the Church to get what I wanted, which was the Eucharist. The Eucharist belongs to the Church, is protected by the Church, is of a whole with the Church.

Could I be a faithful member of the Church, even if I didn't understand all her teachings? Could I accept Our Lady, even if I hadn't met her? Could I say, "Yes" to the whole of the Catholic Church and not just the Eucharist? And how could I become a Catholic with these unresolved issues?

I was too inexperienced to know that this spiritual darkness was in part my "temptation in the wilderness." But as I cried out in desperation the night before my Profession of Faith, God gave me a tool of discernment that I have clung to ever since.

That night, God taught me not to discern his will solely through my thoughts and emotions. Yes, I was to listen to all that my humanity was telling me, but then I had to beg for the grace to plunge deeper – to dive underneath the tumultuous waters of my conflicting thoughts and emotion. For only then would I be able to hear what God was saying in my heart of hearts.

When I finally was able to do that, I knew what God's will was. His will was for me to join the Catholic Church and to eat freely and drink deeply of his Real Presence in the Eucharist. And I needed to trust that he would gradually fill in the gaps, so that my *fiat*, my surrender to him, would be more and more true.

The next night, as I made my Profession of Faith, my face was as radiant as a bride's. I was a bride of love, and my first legal communion was our wedding night.

God was faithful. As my 30 years as a Catholic unfolded, I have been falling more and more in love, not only with Jesus present in the Eucharist, but also with Jesus present in his Church – the Church which safeguards and offers him in the Eucharistic Feast.

Cheryl-Ann Smith

Meeting Shows Full Colours Of The Church

The Gospel of the Family for the World was the title given to the five-day World Meeting of Families (WMOF) event and it certainly proved to be that in the experience.

Our week was divided into three different segments. The first three days were given over to a pastoral congress and filled with more than 50 talks and presentations, 200 exhibition stands and hundreds of musicians playing in the Royal Dublin Society Showground.

Each day had a keynote speech followed by Mass, with our own Cardinal Vincent Nichols talking on day two, addressing the importance of marriage and marriage preparation in our parishes.

Popular speakers included Father James Martin SJ, who talked about building a bridge for those often on the margins, in our parish communities, including LGBT people and their families. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle of the Philippines spoke on the power of love in relationships across the family.

He spoke of the challenges of the throwaway culture. "Now you are a cardinal you must get a new watch," he was told. "No," he replied. "This watch was given to me by my parents on graduation who took out a loan to pay for it...and the face of the watch for me is the face of sacrificial love."

There was something for every season of life, from conception to grandparenting. The YouCat organisation launched its new catechism YouCat for Kids and ran a constant cycle of workshops.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales launched Seeking God Together, a new resource for supporting parishes and schools in their pastoral accompaniment of families from cradle to the grave. This was very well received and is available from catholicfamily.org.uk.

The second element was the Festival of Families, which took place in Croke Park, with 82,000 people. The highlight was seeing families from around the world being presented to the pope and telling him something of their lives, illustrated by a five-minute film clip.

I was particularly struck by the family from India challenged by the issue of balancing the amount of time their children spend on social media, in place of the vital face-to-face relationships in forming human identity. It was also wonderful to experience the joy of Irish music and dancing, including a full Riverdance line-up!

The final element of WMOF was the Mass with the pope in Phoenix Park. Getting there meant a round trip of ten miles walking in the rain, so the element of pilgrimage came to the fore – especially with three small grandchildren in tow!

Being with Pope Francis celebrating Mass with more than 300,000 fellow pilgrims was both inspiring and energising, before being sent out in love and solidarity to love one another in the



Caroline Dollard, from our diocese, speaking at the launch of *Seeking God Together* during the World Meeting of Families in Dublin

little things of family life.

On reflection, WMOF was an experience of the domestic church at "full volume" and in all its full colours. The five days were truly traditional Irish hospitality at its best. A joy-filled and energising event. Bring on Rome WMOF2021.

Kit Dollard

TOP TIER TICKETS TO SEE THE OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY

The Oberammergau Passion Play

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ITINERARY

Days 1-2. To Zell am See. Our tour begins at London St Pancras International, where after meeting your Tour Manager, we board the Eurostar service to Paris where, on arrival, we continue to Stuttgart where we stay overnight. On Day 2, we travel to Zell am See, where we stay for the next three nights.

Day 3. The Krimml Waterfalls and the Pinzgaubahn. Our excursion today, takes us by coach to Krimml in the Hohe Tauern National Park, the second largest wildlife preserve in Europe and home to the glorious Krimml Waterfalls, the largest waterfalls in Austria and thought to be the highest in Europe. After some time here, we transfer to Mittersil for a journey on the wonderful narrowgauge Pinzgauer

Lokalbahn Railway which treks to Zell am See, offering marvellous views across the forests below.

Day 4. The Grossglockner High Alpine Road. Today sees us visit the Hohe Tauern National Park and journey along the superb Grossglockner High Alpine Road. Regarded as one of the world's finest roads, this section provides us with unparalleled views across the stunning valleys and mountains, crowned by the ancient and magnificent Grossglockner, Austria's tallest mountain. We stop at the pretty town of Heiligenblut on our way.

Days 5-6. The Passion Play. Leaving Zell am See today, we travel by rail to Oberammergau where we check into our hotel, in or around the Ammergau region.

Day 6 features the highlight of our tour: the magnificent Oberammergau Passion Play. Divided into two halves, this behemoth of a production showcases the final days of Jesus Christ's life, chronicling his Passion in a performance which features over 2,000 villagers as both cast, crew and members of the live choir and orchestra. It is only performed once every ten years, making it an event of huge importance.

Days 7-8. Return home via Cologne. Bidding Oberammergau a fond farewell today, we travel by rail through Germany to Munich, and then on to Cologne where we stay overnight. The following day on Day 8, we continue to Brussels where we transfer to the Eurostar service to London. Here our tour comes to an end.

DEPARTURES

14 MAY 20	£2,595	8 AUG 20	£2,775
23 MAY 20	£2,595	29 AUG 20	£2,845
6 JUN 20	£2,745	5 SEP 20	£2,845
13 JUN 20	£2,745	12 SEP 20	£2,845
20 JUN 20	£2,775	19 SEP 20	£2,695
11 JUL 20	£2,775	26 SEP 20	£2,595

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NEWS

Our Emotional And Spiritual Adoremus Experience

Cathedral parishioners TERESA LYTH and PATRICIA HAWKINS give us their personal reflection on their three-day pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool...

As we gathered together in the Echo Arena at the start of Adoremus, we were filled with excitement and anticipation for what lay ahead.

The focus was the centrality of the Eucharist, the most precious gift, the source and summit of Christian life, but it was also a strategic opportunity for parishes to reflect on their mission and purpose and look out at the broader landscape of everyday life, where people sometimes struggle to find God.

There was a busy, well-planned programme and an excellent parallel programme. Bishops, priests, religious and lay people in their thousands came together to hear why the Eucharist should be at the centre of our lives and how we should receive the sacrament with faith and love.

The presence of so many from all walks of life, joined equally as one in prayer, with great faith in the spirit of love and side by side with those of other faiths was immensely profound and spiritual and it was a privilege to be part of this moment.

Keynote speaker Bishop Robert Barron spoke with love, joy and hope about the importance and meaning of receiving the Eucharist through the Holy Mass and about the path to sanctity. His charismatic presence at the congress was a privilege and we all felt refreshed, with hope for the future of our Church.

The youth, the future of our Church, were represented in their hundreds too. Their



Priests take cover during the procession of the Blessed Sacrament through the streets of Liverpool – © Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

testimonies, presentations and drama were extremely powerful and emotional. The Eucharist is not always about knowing, but loving, one of the speakers said, and you could certainly see that in the actions and words of our young people. The Cathedral of Christ the King was full of prayer, song and love for the Blessed Sacrament during the final Mass before the procession through the city that marked the end of Adoremus.

The service ended with a reflection by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

“In many ways, ours is a penitential procession, for we are focused on Jesus whom we have crucified,” he said. “Yet we walk with a humble joy, for he takes our failure, cruelty and deceit and overcomes it all with his love and mercy.

“He is our salvation and it is our humble joy to let his face be seen, his face of tender compassion and hope for our broken world. The Gospel still has to be proclaimed and there is no-one else to do it except us poor sinners.”

In this reflective mood, we stepped out from the cathedral, aware that we must share the gift of the love and mercy of Jesus and bring this love to others. The weather matched our mood as the sky darkened and the gentle shower became a downpour.

Umbrellas appeared, while others walked on unprotected from the unexpected cloudburst.

As we turned to walk the street back to the cathedral, the rain slowly eased as the sun shone through and blue skies appeared, as if to show us that his love, mercy and hope will shine through on our broken world, helping us to reach out to those in need and rebuild his Church.

In spite of the torrential rain, the procession will always stay with us. It was overwhelming how many people lined the streets and followed in procession. Liverpool certainly was aware of the presence of God that afternoon.

During November we should ask how have we shared the fruits of this congress and what difference Adoremus has made in our life, in our parish, in our Church and to those in need around us.

Lord, create in us a new heart. Give us a new spirit in which to know you more clearly and love you more dearly. Recreate your Church, the visible body of your son.

Talks and resources from Adoremus are available at catholicnews.org.uk.

AMPLEFORTH ABBEY TEA ROOM

Christmas Menu 2018

Available 12:00pm to 2:00pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from Tuesday 4th December to Friday 21st December - booking and pre-order essential.
£17.95 for two courses or £20.95 for three courses

Roasted Parsnip, Apple & Honey Soup with Garlic Croutons
Smoked Salmon Pate & Toast
Ham Hock Terrine & Spiced Pineapple Ginger Relish with Crusty Bread

...

Roast Yorkshire Turkey with Traditional Trimmings of Pigs In Blankets,
Christmas Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce & Roast Gravy
Oven Baked Salmon with Cranberry Breadcrumb Crust & Lemon Hollandaise
Beets, Goats Cheese & Chestnut Filo Tart

All served with Traditional Roast Potatoes, Sautéed Sprouts and Vegetable Panache

...

Classic Christmas Pudding with Rum Sauce
Christmas Bakewell Tart filled with Mincemeat, topped with
Almond Frangipane with Brandy Butter
Warmed Mulled Wine Cherries topped with Ice Cream or Cream

...

Mince Pies & Fresh Coffee

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tearoom@ampleforth.org.uk 01439 766868

Adoremus Inspires Prayer At St Bernadette's

Parishioners at St Bernadette's, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough, used Adoremus as the inspiration for their response to Pope Francis' request for prayer in penance for clerical child abuse.

Monsignor David Hogan decided to focus on Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for a series of three opportunities for prayer during the month of October.

“Following on from the Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool, we responded as a parish through prayer and especially Eucharistic adoration,” he explained.

“Our response to the pope's letter for prayer for everybody involved – the victims and indeed the whole Church – is fundamentally based on St Paul's description of the Church as a body.

“The Church is the Body of Christ and if any part of the body is damaged, the whole body is affected. To think we're not affected is simply not the case.

“The Holy Father asked for prayers, and that means practical penance, giving up our time, but we did this by focusing also on the sacramental presence of Christ in the Eucharist.”

All the clergy of the deanery were invited to the second of the three days of prayer for the Church at St Bernadette's.



The Blessed Sacrament is venerated in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King during Adoremus, which inspired the prayer opportunities in St Bernadette's parish – © Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk

NEWS

Raise Your Voices For Justice!

St Mary’s Cathedral will be one of the many places around the country to host a choir concert as part of Raise Your Voices this advent.

Many people in this country find they are not heard and Raise Your Voices will combine fantastic singing and music with speaking out about social concerns.

Those seeking asylum or experiencing homelessness, families facing food poverty and financial exclusion and people who feel they are on the edge, isolated and lonely all face considerable challenges.

Please come and join us on Monday December 10 at 7pm to enjoy a fantastic evening of music with Middlesbrough Town Hall Community Choir and Streetwise Opera.

You will also hear the voices of people who have faced struggles in life and how simple acts of human kindness and new opportunities have helped to bring transformation.



Tickets are only £5, so please spread the word, bring a group from your parish or community and be part of a life-changing evening.

Contact Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland on 01642 593273 or visit togethermc.org for more details, posters and ticket sales.

All proceeds will be used by Together Middlesbrough & Cleveland and the Church Urban Fund to support local projects and activities that help people and communities to flourish. Now that’s something to sing about!

Heather Black

Hymn-writer’s Life In The Spotlight

Journalist and writer Veronica Whitty will give a talk entitled “Gentle as silence: the life and hymns of Estelle White” at this month’s meeting of Cleveland Newman Circle.

Veronica leads Enneagram and dream workshops in the UK and abroad and as a teenager she volunteered to go to India with VSO, working in a Hindu orphanage and meeting Mother Teresa. She has retained a link with the Daughters of Charity, witnessing their work in Japan and Colombia.

She published her autobiography in 2007 and is currently writing a book on the single practicing Catholic laywoman.

A member of Pax Christi, she has worked in the Department of Interreligious Relations for the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, promoting a joint Christian and Muslim women’s event for the past seven years.

Born on Tyneside in 1925, Estelle White wrote more than 160 hymns, including *As Bread My Lord Comes To Me*, *Walk With Me Oh My Lord* and *O, The Love Of My Lord Is The Essence*.

She became a Catholic while living in Canada and later settled in Dewsbury. She died in 2011 at the age of 85.

The talk, on Wednesday November 21 in St Mary’s Cathedral Hall, Middlesbrough, begins at 7.45pm with tea and coffee served from 7.30pm onwards. All are welcome.

On Tuesday October 30 Stefano Acralolici gives his rescheduled talk on “Mater Admirabilis: the birth of a global sacred icon”.

Cheryl-Ann Smith, from the Madonna House community in Robin Hood’s Bay, gave an inspiring account of her conversion to Catholicism during a recent talk. Cheryl-Ann was 18 when she felt God’s love so deeply as the choir sang the Hallelujah chorus at a performance of Handel’s *Messiah* that it changed the whole course of her life. See Cheryl-Ann’s column on page 6 for more on this.

Cleveland Newman Circle holds six talks a year. For information, email sandamerckx@btinternet.com or call 01642 316493.

November’s Choral Services At The Cathedral

- Thursday 1, 7pm: Solemn Mass for All Saints (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday 4, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Wednesday 7, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)
- Sunday 11, 10am: Family Mass (Junior Choristers)
- Sunday 11, 5pm: Solemn Mass for Remembrance Sunday (Cathedral Choir)
- Wednesday 14, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Cantor)
- Sunday 18, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Wednesday 21, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)
- Thursday 22, 6.30pm: Solemn Mass for St Cecilia (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday 25, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday 25, 4.15pm: Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)
- Wednesday 28, 6pm: Sung Benediction with Vespers (Low Voices Schola)
- Sunday 2, 10am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday 2, 3pm: Festival of Carols for Advent (Cathedral and Diocesan Choir)

For more information about our choral services and music visit us online at sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic

Sister Marie Returns To Preach In Hull

Members of the Vincentian family and friends gathered in St Charles Borromeo Church in Hull to celebrate the Feast of St Vincent De Paul.

Principal celebrant Father Paul Dowling was joined by Father Frank Gallagher and Deacon Chris Lawson and Sister Marie Raw, a member of the general council of the Daughters of Charity with special responsibility for the English speaking provinces, to preach the homily.

Sister Marie is a Hull girl who attended Endsleigh Primary School and St Mary’s High School, so it was a special joy for her to be with us on this occasion.

She spoke about the Vincentian charism and how it should inform every aspect of our

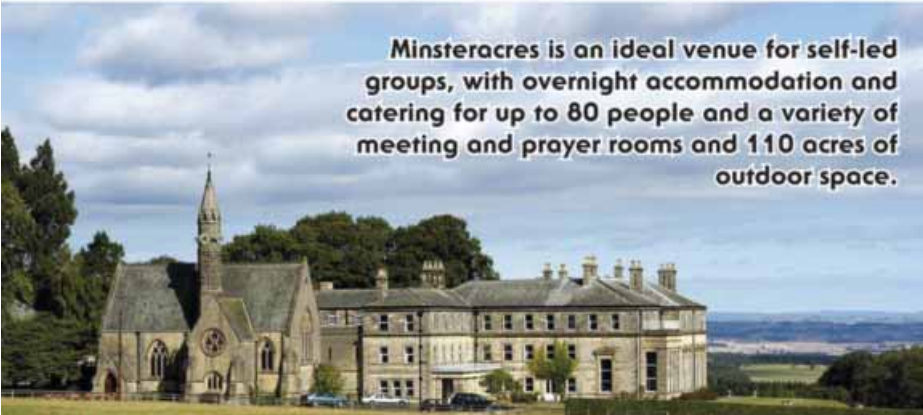
ministry to the poor and most needy in society.

She asked the same question Jesus put to his disciples in the Gospel reading: “Who am I to you?” and the answer every Vincentian should give is: “You are Jesus, the Son of God, whom I see and serve in people who are poor.”

After Mass, SVP Society district president Jim Norton thanked everyone for coming and presented Sister Marie with a token of our appreciation. Old friends then spent time together during a buffet lunch.

Our thanks to Sister Maria Robb and the Daughters of Charity in Hull for organising the event and making it such a success.

Chris Cuthill



Minsteracres is an ideal venue for self-led groups, with overnight accommodation and catering for up to 80 people and a variety of meeting and prayer rooms and 110 acres of outdoor space.

ON PILGRIMAGE WHILE STANDING STILL – JOHN BELL

A series of reflections on how, throughout our lives, we are gradually moving to a deeper understanding of ourselves, our world and our Maker. John Bell is a member of the Iona Community’s Wild Goose Resource Groups, hymn writer, author and occasional broadcaster.

Friday 9 (7pm)– Sunday 11 November (2pm) £140

WEEKEND OF INNER HEALING – ALAN GUILLE, GERRY & ANNE CONNOR

Come and learn more about how Jesus can bring emotional, spiritual healing and peace. Confidential individual prayer ministry and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available during the weekend. The Saturday Mass will be for intergenerational healing.

Friday 23 (7pm) – Sunday 25 November (2pm) £130 Residential £40 Saturday

TAIZE RETREAT MINSTERACRES TEAM

This Advent retreat offers space to prepare for the coming of the Lord. It will be conducted in Taize style with scripture reflections. Taize chants and time of silence.

Friday 30 November (7pm) – Sunday 2 December (2 pm) £125

For information and bookings visit www.minsteracres.org or call 01434 673248 Email: info@minsteracres.org

Music for Advent and Christmas

Calling all parish musicians and singers! Come and join us for a look at music to enrich and refresh the liturgies at your church during Advent and Christmas.

Middlesbrough Cathedral: Wednesday November 14 from 7pm

Our Lady’s, Acomb, York: Saturday November 17 from 10am

Hull (venue TBC): Saturday November 24 at 10am

There is no charge for these events, but advance booking by emailing timothykraigharrison@gmail.com is essential.

For more information visit

sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic/formation-for-parish-musicians



Smiles in Windy Whitby

Father Bill Serplus and parishioners from St Aelred’s in York are pictured smiling as they brave the windy weather during their annual trip to Whitby.

NEWS

Just Another Busy Day In Basankusu

Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel's Parish, Ormesby, in Middlesbrough, lives and works in Basankusu Diocese in the Democratic Republic of Congo as a lay missionary with Mill Hill Missionaries...

We had yet another busy day today here in Basankusu. After my morning wash in a bucket of rainwater, I set off on foot. First I called in at the new centre to follow up hospital treatment for Mama Julie, who is from Baringa, 120 miles away, where I worked in the 1990s.

Next, we welcomed Sister Felicity and Sister Petronella to our original centre for malnutrition, on the other side of Basankusu. The sisters are local nuns, both with experience in health and community development. They were very impressed by our work in feeding malnourished children and teaching their parents. We'll share our experiences another day with a view to developing a common project.

On the way back, we called in at the wake of one of Judith's grandmothers. The all-female meeting had women chanting and dancing mischievously in a traditional ceremony that distracts people from their grief.

This afternoon, back at our new centre, we made a further follow-up of the woman from Baringa. In her 70s, she has an enlarged spleen because of suffering from malaria so many times. We're trying to convince her son that she should stop working in her vegetable garden. Typical work in a garden includes chopping firewood with a machete, digging and carrying huge baskets of wood and vegetables on your back. It's not very good if you have a medical condition like hers!

Then a woman arrived with four small children and a pair of newborn twins. She needed help to get back home, 140 miles, after her husband died.

At the same time, a woman appeared with a six-year-old child who looked like he was two years old. He'd had severe diarrhoea for two weeks and she decided to come to us in the evening. We took her next door to our hospital and they said he needed a blood transfusion. We had to get the nurse from his house and watch the transfusion by torchlight. Then we went to find medication for three of the malnourished children at a nearby pharmacy kiosk.

Just as we were getting served, a motorbike pulled up beside me on the dirt track. It was Father Franklin, one of our local priests, who asked if I would be opening our internet this evening. I climbed on the back of the bike and soon found myself back at Mill Hill opening up the internet room for local priests and NGO staff.

Our Chinese shopkeeper arrived and asked to charge all his gadgets, one in each room, while our generator was running, and then talk a little business. Finally, I've been able to grab a sandwich and write this!

•Follow Francis Hannaway on Facebook. Donate via PayPal (type PayPal.me/FHannaway into your browser), or internet banking: Pay: St Joseph's Society for FM, Ref: F Hannaway Congo, sort code: 16-00-15, account: 23114537. Cheques to: Mill Hill Missionaries, St Joseph's Parish Centre, PO Box 3608, Maidenhead SL6 7UX. Pay: "Mill Hill Missionaries" (enclose a note to say it's for F Hannaway and request a gift aid form).

Bishop Blesses Mass House Plaque

Bishop Terry has blessed a plaque erected by the Postgate Society on the site of the original Egton Mass House, which was used for the celebration of Mass in secret during penal times.

It was rediscovered in 1830 when a servant girl accidentally pushed her hand through the ceiling of a ground-floor room and found a roof space above containing an altar with vestments still laid out for Mass.

By the late 1920s the house had fallen into such a bad state of repair that it had to be demolished but the more modern building on the site is still known as "The Mass House". A small gathering of clergy and people attended the blessing ceremony and enjoyed a cup of tea afterwards in St Hedda's School canteen in Egton Bridge.

David Smallwood



Bishop Terry blesses a plaque on the site of the Egton Mass House – Photo by Joe Harrison



The original Egton Mass House

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From the Archives



50 Years Ago

(From the Log Book of St Francis' Primary School, Middlesbrough)

Mr Wells HMI came this morning for first-hand information re accommodation difficulties and protest by parents, who have now written a second time to the Secretary of State. Mr Wells inspected the new converted classroom, the cloakroom facilities, visited the class in the Holy Trinity Methodist building, and discussed the questions of fire risk, space and ventilation.

In the afternoon Mr Denison visited the school to discuss the same topics. As parents have now been informed that no new temporary accommodation is being provided and that they will have to wait until the new RC St Clare's School opens in about nine months' time, when about 120-140 children from St Francis' will be transferred, many of them are not prepared to wait or accept a compromise and are seeking admission for their children into County Schools.

100 Years Ago

(From The Hull Catholic Magazine)

With regards to the proposed restriction of church lighting, Cardinal Bourne pointed out that to apply such an order to churches only and not to theatres, cinemas, etc, was unreasonable, especially as a single theatre probably used more light in one night as one of our churches would use in a month.

David Smallwood

Centenary Reflections On Remembrance

This month brings the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War One and there will be many ceremonies across Europe and other parts of the world to mark this historic event.

I was reminded of the universal cost of sacrifice during a recent visit to Berlin. I have visited for the last 42 years and have witnessed a divided city become a thriving capital.

We visited sites of commemoration, sacrifice, persecution and loss. Places of historical importance are signposted and accessible, with plenty of information and exhibits. The city makes the past visible and well documented.

The impact of the Cold War forms part of a range of exhibitions and writings on a divided city. The Berlin Wall memorial, in Bernauer Strasse, tells the story of division and loss. The chapel of reconciliation here holds daily prayer services for the victims of the wall.

On a visit with a group of Catholic friends in July 2014 we attended the 70th anniversary of the attempted assassination of Hitler. This is a national commemoration and German president Joachim Gauck gave the keynote speech.

More than 150 descendants of military, trade union, youth and church resistance groups attend every year. There is a permanent exhibition in the offices of would-be assassin Claus Von Stauffenberg and others. One floor in the building is given over to the "Silent Heroes", the men and women who risked their own lives to save the persecuted and provide shelter.

Another section records the sacrifice and courage of church leaders, clergy, religious and laity who resisted tyranny. Many lost their lives.

One particular visit stands out.



A memorial to the victims of the Berlin Wall

This March, I took Bini. Bini and I established Investing in People and Culture, one of the charities based at the St John Paul Centre. It was a special experience seeing Berlin through the eyes of a refugee and a victim of torture.

As we stood at one commemorative site, he remarked to me that there are no signs or information at the prison in Eritrea where so many were tortured and murdered. Bini was one of the lucky ones. He made a remark that had a particular resonance.

"It does not matter that the sites of hardship and persecution are not acknowledged in Eritrea," he said. "What matters is that we are remembered and cared for by the good people of Middlesbrough and the John Paul Centre."

Remembrance is not just a ceremony, or a recording, though this is important. Remembrance is reconciliation. Remembrance is action and practical assistance to support the victims and ensure change for the common good.

John Hinman, Caritas Core Member

This Month's Clergy Anniversaries

Please pray for the following priests of our diocese whose anniversaries are during the month of November...

1	1972	Rev George Empson	Dumfries
2	1939	Rev Patrick Buckley	Hull
2	1944	Rev Geoffrey B Cremer	York
6	2002	Rev Seamus Brennan	Newry
7	2014	Rev Norman Jacobson	Hull
9	1927	Rev Benventus Guy	Masham
9	1955	Very Rev Canon Patrick Nerney	South Bank
10	1936	Rev David O'Connor	Staithes
12	1995	Rt Rev Mgr Philip Purcell	Tipperary
13	2006	Rev Eamon P Carson	Whitby
13	2012	Very Rev Canon Louis J Collingwood	Middlesbrough
17	1983	Very Rev Canon Austin Pippet	Hull
19	1893	Rev Thomas Smith	Beverley
22	1955	Most Rev Archbishop Thomas Shine, Second Bishop of Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough
22	1999	Rev John Bury	Scorton
22	2005	Rev Arthur Dutton	Marske by the Sea
23	2008	Rev James Purcell	Emly
25	1881	Rev Maurice Trant	Thirsk
25	1990	Rev John Aldridge	Middlesbrough
26	1938	Rev John Conlon	Yarm
27	1973	Rev David O'Donnell	Staithes
27	1987	Canon Patrick Loughran	Middlesbrough
29	1989	Rev James Johnston	Halifax
30	1958	Very Rev Canon Denis Luddy	Thornaby

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Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 2018

3

Attends Feast of Douai Martyrs at Ushaw College 12.30pm

5

Attends CDVD at Wonersh All day

6

Celebrates Mass for Deceased Clergy at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 12 noon

Attends meeting of Council of Priests, St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 1.30pm

7

School visit to St Mary's, Grangetown 9.30am

11

Attends Armistice Parade at the Cenotaph, Middlesbrough 11am

Celebrates Mass for the Fallen and for Peace on Armistice Day 5.30pm

14

School visit to St Paulinus VA, Guisborough 9.30am

15

Attends Extraordinary Meeting of Diocesan Board of Trustees at Ampleforth 10.00am

17-18

Parish visitation to St George's, York All weekend

20

Attends CSAN Parliamentary Reception at the Houses of Parliament 1.00pm

21

School visit to St Thomas More, Middlesbrough 9.30am

22

Attends meeting of Bishop's Council, at Bishop's House, Middlesbrough 11.00am

23-25

Parish Visitation at Scarborough Parishes All weekend

30

Attends Unveiling of Robert Aske Plaque, York 11.00am

Celebrates Mass for Diocesan Commissioning Inspectors at Our Lady's, York 3.00pm

1 Thur

7pm Solemn Mass for All Saints (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

2 Fri

Dates of events and articles for inclusion in the December issue of Voice must be received by today.

3 Sat

11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact: jl@rcdmidd.org.uk

12 noon Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

4 Sun

10am Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

11am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Grace (18 North End, Osmotherley Village, DL6 3BB)

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

6pm Sung Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

6 Tues

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

7 Wed

12 noon Mid day prayer/Wednesday Word/Rosary (dependent on season) at Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley Village

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

6.30pm The Secular Franciscan Order meets every first Wednesday of the month at More House, Heslington, York. Contact: Mrs Lyn Bradbury OFS, tel (01904) 470041 for further details.

9 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

10 Sat

12 noon Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

11 Sun

10am Family Mass (Junior Choristers), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

3pm Diocese of Middlesbrough LGBT+ outreach and service; Mass giving an explicit welcome to LGBT+ Catholics, their families and friends, in the chapel of The Bar Convent, 17 Blossom Street, York YO24 1AQ All Welcome

5pm Latin Mass, St Charles Borromeo, Jarett Street, Hull, HU1 3HB

5pm Solemn Mass for Remembrance Sunday (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

6pm 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.

12 Mon

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

13 Tues

12.45pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull. Paul Schofield 'Beverley Town Trail'

2pm-4pm The Life Ascending Group, York West meet at Our Lady's, Acomb, York in the Fr Kelly room.

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

14 Wed

10.30am The Life Ascending Group at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hessele meets after morning Mass

10.30am The Life Ascending Group at St Leonard & St Mary, Malton meets

12 noon Mid day prayer/Wednesday Word/Rosary (dependent on season) at Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley Village

2-3.30pm 'Music for the Mind' in particular for those with dementia, their families, carers and friends, St Mary's Cathedral Hall. All welcome.

2.30pm Prayer Group, John Paul Centre, 55 Grange Road, Middlesbrough. New members welcome.

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers (Cantor), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

7pm 'Music for the Mind' in particular those with dementia, their families, carers and friends, St Mary's Cathedral Hall. All welcome.

17 Sat

10am Music for Advent and Christmas, Our Lady, Acomb. Join us for a look at music to enrich and refresh the liturgies at your church during Advent and Christmas. No charge, advance booking essential by email: timothyraigharrison@gmail.com

10.30am Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact: christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact: jl@rcdmidd.org.uk

7.30pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance (Sally Glennon) Erimus Club, Cumberland Road,

Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. Contact Eddie: 01642 860227

18 Sun

10am Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass, St Peter's, South Bank

6pm Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

19 Mon

7.30pm York Newman Circle, at the Bar Convent, Blossom Street, York. 'Vulnerability and Growth: exploring a theology of disability through the life and work of Jean Vanier and other writers' by Rev Dr Chris Hughes, priest of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle. Contact judith.smeaton@btinternet.com for information

20 Tues

10.30am-4pm St Bede's Pastoral Centre, York – exploring how the arts can access parts of ourselves that the intellect can't with Linda Courage – no experience of the arts a benefit! Contact admin@stbedes.org.uk for details

2pm-4pm Open Mass followed by a cup of tea and short reflection offered by Canon Pat Hartnett, Madonna House, Thorpe Lane, Robin Hood's Bay, YO22 4TQ

21 Wed

1.30pm Rosary, Mass 2pm at the Shrine of Our Lady, Mount Grace: Presentation of Our Lady

12 noon Mid day prayer/Wednesday Word/Rosary (dependent on season) at Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley Village

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

7.30pm Cleveland Newman Circle, 7.30pm, St Mary's Cathedral Middlesbrough. 'Gentle as Silence' the life and hymns of Estelle White. A liturgy in music for a post Vatican II church' by Veronica Whitty MA. Contact 01642 316493 for details.

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

22 Thur

6.30pm Solemn Mass for St Cecilia (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

24 Sat

10am Music for Advent and Christmas, venue in Hull to be confirmed. Join us for a look at music to enrich and refresh the liturgies at your church during Advent and Christmas. No charge, advance booking essential by email: timothyraigharrison@gmail.com

12 noon Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

25 Sun

10am Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir) St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

4.15pm Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

6pm Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

December Voice is available from churches.

28 Wed

12 noon Mid day prayer/Wednesday Word/Rosary (dependent on season) at Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley Village

12.45pm-3pm Life Ascending Group, York Central meets at St Wilfrid's, York in the Upper Room after 12.10pm Mass

6pm Sung Benediction with Vespers (Low Voices Schola), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

LOURDES

Let's Get Knitting!

As the dark nights have now well and truly set in, it's time to get your knitting needles out again!

A few years ago you took up the challenge and we were swamped with lots and lots of beautiful blankets, which are still being put to very good use in Lourdes. Believe me, they have been so appreciated by our own supported pilgrims and sick pilgrims from around the world!

I would love to replenish our stocks a little. If you can support our request, don't forget to tag your blanket with your name or parish so

that a prayer can be said for you when the blanket is used.

Please share your stories as to how the blankets are created in your homes, families or parishes.

If you have any questions about the blankets or thoughts about coming and working in Lourdes, please give me a call on 01642 324043 or email chris.tillotson@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you for your continued support.

Chris Tillotson, Head Handmaid

Supported Pilgrims Invited To Register Interest

Anyone wishing to go to Lourdes as a supported pilgrim next year can now register their interest.

Forms are usually available by this time but this year are not expected to be ready until around mid-November.

In the meantime, please call Pat Ling on 01642 760105 if you would like to join the pilgrimage under our medical supervision.

This year's pilgrimage dates are Friday May 24 to Friday May 31.

Thank you to all those who supported Summertime Special at Middlesbrough Theatre, either by buying tickets or giving of your talents.

The show was once again a huge success and star guest Jimmy Cricket was delighted with the evening, which helped raise money for our Lourdes fund.



A performance from Dom Jones and friends was among the Summertime Special highlights

29 Thur

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

30 Fri

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

First week of December

1 Sat

11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact: jl@rcdmidd.org.uk

12 noon Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com

2 Sun

10am Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

11am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Grace (18 North End, Osmotherley Village, DL6 3BB)

1.30pm Celebrating Christmas with family and friends, St Thomas More's Church Hall, Beechwood TS4 3EE; tombola, raffle, cake and bottle stalls and much more. Come and join

the fun with family and friends.

12 noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

3pm Festival of Carols for Advent (Cathedral and Diocesan Choir), St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

6pm Sung Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF

4 Tues

A Quiet Day at Ampleforth.' Contact 01439 766000 for details

5 Wed

12 noon Mid day prayer/Wednesday Word/Rosary (dependent on season) at Our Lady of Mount Grace, Osmotherley Village

7 Fri

Diary dates and articles for the January Voice must be received by today.

Advance Notices

The diocesan choir rehearses from 2pm-4pm on the third Sunday of each month at Our Lady, Acomb and is open to singers of all ages and abilities. We are always delighted to welcome new members. There is no formal audition process – just come along and join us. For more information e-mail: mbrocahedralsmusic@outlook.com

8 December – The Immaculate Conception, Rosary 11.30am/Mass 12 noon at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace

14 December, 2pm Dementia friendly Carol Service, St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough TS8 0TW

10 December, 7pm at St Mary's Cathedral 'Raise Your Voices for Justice.' Enjoy an evening of music with Middlesbrough Town Hall Community Choir and Streetwise Opera.

13 December, 6.30pm opening Mass at St Mary's Cathedral of the Dowry Tour of Our Lady of Walsingham statue. More details of this visit 13-15 December in December's Voice.

Copy Deadline

Copy and photographs for inclusion in the Catholic Voice should be sent to:

The Editor, Middlesbrough Diocesan Catholic Voice, Curial Offices, 50a The Avenue, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, TS5 6QT.

Tel (01642) 850505,
email catholicvoice@dioceseofmiddlesbrough.co.uk

By Friday 2 November for the December 2018 issue

By Friday 7 December 2018 for January 2019 issue

Where possible please send articles in Word and photographs as jpegs.

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NEWS

CAFOD Partner Is Now A Saint

We recently celebrated the canonisation of Archbishop Oscar, who we are proud to say was a CAFOD partner.

His deep commitment to those living with injustice and passionate belief in preaching love as “the force that will overcome the world” continues to inspire our work.

On the same day, Pope Francis also canonised Pope Paul VI, who was a great friend to Archbishop Romero throughout his life. His encyclical, *Populorum Progressio*, on the development of peoples, underpins much of our work and gives us our *modus operandi*, speaking as it does about concern for the poor and for the earth.

We hope the two new saints will bless our work in the future. Thank you for all you do to help us to bring about a more just and fairer world and transforming the lives of some of the poorest people on earth through your efforts.

- Canon John Lumley will celebrate a CAFOD Memorial Mass for our deceased loved ones, supporters and volunteers at St Gabriel’s Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough, at 7pm on Tuesday November 6. All are very welcome to join us.
- A CAFOD retreat day on “Countering Consumerism, reflections from *Gaudete et Exsultate*” will take place at Minsteracres, Consett, Co Durham DH8 9RT on Saturday November 17 from 10am to 4pm.

Carol Cross, CAFOD Diocesan Coordinator

Pope Paul VI and Oscar Romero, who were canonised on the same day in Rome during October



One of the CAFOD displays at St Leonard and St Mary's in Malton

Season Of Creation In Malton

The CAFOD group at St Leonard and St Mary's in Malton introduced and explored the diocesan environmental policy during the Season of Creation in the month of September.

The initiative was designed to demonstrate how we can act locally and globally towards creating a better world.

“The policy was given out in Masses and different objectives from the policy were taken each weekend and highlighted via informative and eye-catching displays that were full of ways we can enact its ideals in our daily lives,” said CAFOD parish volunteer Helen Jenkins.

“Fittingly, the last weekend coincided with our annual harvest table, which raised £190 for Connect2ElSalvador, our parish link. It was a lot of work but well worth the effort.”

The main themes were...

Weekend 1: People were given the

environmental policy as they entered Mass.

Weekend 2: Buy what we genuinely need, purchasing Fairtrade and ethically and organically sourced items where possible. A table in church displayed environmentally friendly cleaning products, along with relevant information and leaflets.

Weekend 3: Look at the effects of the careless use of plastics on the world's poorest and most vulnerable people. Avoid single-use plastic and look for alternatives. Encourage recycling and composting. Dispose responsibly of what we don't need. The table displayed alternatives to single-use plastic, along with relevant information and leaflets.

Weekend 4: Let us disinvest from fossil fuels and explore purchasing energy from green providers. Let us give particular support to CAFOD'S campaigns for safeguarding the environment. Information about green energy, ethical and unethical companies and living simply was on display.

CAFOD Supports Indonesia Appeal

More than 1,347 people have been killed and thousands of homes destroyed after a 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck Indonesia's Central Sulawesi province and triggered a tsunami.

Our local Caritas agency, Caritas Indonesia – known as Karina – is already on the ground in two dioceses near the affected area, Makassar and Manado.

They are making their way to the worst-hit areas, getting emergency aid to where it's needed and carrying out rapid assessments.

For updates please see the Emergency News page of CAFOD's website.

The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC), of which CAFOD is a member, has launched an appeal in response to the earthquake and tsunami.

CAFOD will share in the money raised by DEC to help our response in Indonesia. Supporters can also donate directly to CAFOD. Harvest Fast Day appeal donations help all our work, including emergencies.

Couple Celebrate Golden Milestone

Sheila and Tim Cronin celebrated their golden wedding with family and friends at St Aelred's Church in York, where they were married on August 24 1968. Sheila taught in the school and was part of the children's liturgy group, while Tim helps at parish lunches. Both read at Mass. The flower ladies gave Sheila a bouquet.





Advertisement for Director of Heritage Centre Nottingham, England

Overall purpose:
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The Little Company of Mary (LCM) is an International Congregation of Religious women, founded by the Venerable Mary Potter in Nottingham, England in 1877. We invite applications for a Director for the Heritage Centre in Nottingham. The role is required to ensure the provision of a unique, innovative and interactive service that honours the legacy of Mary Potter and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. The centre opened in 2010, is home to the artefacts of the LCM and provides an interactive experience journeying with the Founder, Venerable Mary Potter. The centre depicts the life and spirituality of the founder as she began the LCM in Hyson Green, Nottingham and how the story continues to the present day. It provides space for individuals, local and international groups to meet with guides and avail of the experience.

The successful applicant will:

- Promote the life and vision of Mary Potter and the Mission and Spirituality of the LCM by working on projects and programmes that will assist the LCM to further develop the Centre.
- Be accountable for the day to day operations of the Heritage Centre and work with LCM Sisters on future programmes and opportunities.
- Ensure effective and efficient operation of the Heritage Centre, is responsible for the overall monitoring of planned maintenance, staff and resources inclusive of budgeting.
- Further develop the Heritage Centre by means of networking and promoting the Heritage Centre locally and internationally.

Hours of employment: 35-37.5 hours per week with flexibility.
Salary Package: Commensurate with experience

Method of application: Initial enquires to the Province Leader to request a Position Description via e-mail at lcm.ef@btinternet.com or via the website at www.lcmsisters.org.uk

Applications close: 17 December 2018 at 5.00 pm

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 28 January 2019

New Students Wanted For Pastoral Ministry Course



Certificate in Pastoral Ministry student Marion Cuthill

A North Yorkshire parishioner's experiences while studying for a Certificate in Pastoral Ministry have spurred her on to volunteer as a bereavement counsellor.

The course is a customised professional development programme offered by Loyola University Chicago in partnership with the Archdiocese of Liverpool and dioceses in the north of England and Wales.

Our diocese has secured funding to enable others to take the course and is inviting people who may be interested to find out more.

Marion Cuthill read about the certificate on

the parish newsletter at St Leonard and St Mary's in Malton, where she is a Eucharistic Minister, and says she couldn't think about anything else during Mass.

"I felt the Holy Spirit was asking me to do it and I don't know why yet!" says Marion. "It's not academic, which will hopefully encourage more people to take part.

"We have some reading and a short video each week of each module. We then post a 250-word answer to a question online and we read each others' responses and write at least two replies, although most do more because the discussion gets quite lively."

A former Samaritan, Marion is currently training for Cruse Bereavement Care and is hoping to assist with similar work in her parish.

"I'm a cradle Catholic and since my husband died 15 years ago I've done various courses, including a degree in psychology at Hull University when I was 60," she says.

"It was the course, and lots of prayer, that helped me decide to volunteer for Cruse. I'm still not sure where the pastoral ministry course will lead me but I am drawn to helping people who have been bereaved.

"I also hope to look more at the Bible when the course is finished because we've only been able to scrape the surface but it's whetted my appetite to find out more."

This non-degree, non-credit programme offered over two years is designed to equip teachers, deacons, catechists and lay leaders with up-to-date knowledge, skills, and education for contemporary pastoral ministry. It has ten six-week online modules,

LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO INSTITUTE OF PASTORAL STUDIES



beginning in February 2019 and running until December 2020. Each module requires around 20 hours of online engagement, reading and reflection.

The modules are

1. What Is Pastoral Ministry?
2. God Who Reveals: Looking At The Old Testament
3. Christ And His Disciples: Looking At The New Testament
4. Missionary Disciples: The Story Of The Church In Britain
5. Vision Of The Church: Vatican II
6. Holiness And Wholeness: How We Grow As People Of Faith
7. Building A Fairer World: Catholic Social Teaching
8. Building Parish Communities
9. Making Connections: Catechesis As Sharing Faith Today

10. Serving And Leading: Skills And Strategies For Ministry

Three days are also set aside for participants to meet each other and the course co-ordinators face to face, along with time for prayer, reflection and creative engagement.

Participants must be serious about their own faith development, willing to serve in the local church and have competent computer skills.

• A series of information sessions are being held, including two near our diocese, both on Saturday November 3.

10am for 10.30am to noon: SS William and Francis De Sales, Darlington, DL1 2NL.

2.30pm to 4pm: Hinsley Hall, 62 Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 2BX.

Please visit luc.edu/ips/Liverpool or contact Deacon Vince Purcell at adultformation@rcdmidd.org.uk for more details



Clifford's Tower, where Robert Aske was martyred

Plaque To Honour Pilgrimage Of Grace

Bishop Terry will unveil a plaque in honour of Catholic martyr Robert Aske at Clifford's Tower York at 11am on Friday November 30.

Robert Aske was the leader of the Pilgrimage of Grace, the popular uprising against the rule of Henry VIII that began in Yorkshire in October 1536.

He was tricked by the king into dispersing his army and then executed at Clifford's Tower on July 12 1537 by being hung in a cage until he died of starvation and dehydration.

Before the unveiling there will be an ecumenical service in All Saints Pavement arranged by Rev Jane Nattrass, which will be followed by a procession to the plaque site, opposite the Hilton Hotel. All are welcome to a reception in the hotel after the event.

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NEWS

Remembering My First Visit To The Lady Chapel

In his book *Mount Grace Lady Chapel (2001)*, Father Anthony Storey wrote: “Camping up there shortly after the end of the war with a group of scouts, the Marist Fathers celebrated Mass probably for the first time since the Dissolution, among the bushes in the old ruined chapel.”

In May 1952 I was a scout in the St Mary’s College troop, the 16th Middlesbrough, when I was told of the plan to cycle to Osmotherley, where Mass would be celebrated in the ruins of the Lady Chapel. I immediately volunteered. We were to make our way there in the evening and once we began the approach to the chapel we were to proceed in silence as we would be trespassing on private land.

I cannot remember the details of the 15-mile cycle ride, who knew the way or who all my companions were, but I recall Ronny Oliver, Brian Flanagan and Francis Smith. After we arrived at the ruined chapel at the end of a stony track, we were joined by Father Anthony Storey, Father Philip Graystone SM, Father Wilfred Duffy SM and John Coleman (later Father Aelred OFM).

We spoke quietly – this was a clandestine operation! In the dark we said the Rosary before sliding into our sleeping bags. I well remember being overwhelmed by the sight of thousands of bright stars illuminating the night sky as I lay down to sleep.

The next morning, fasting before Communion from midnight, we cast lots to decide who would serve at the three Masses. Mass was always in Latin and there was no concelebration in those pre-Vatican II days.

The celebrant of the first Mass was Father Graystone and I was fortunate enough, with John Coleman, to be a server. That may have been the first Mass offered at the Lady Chapel since the Reformation. I shall never forget that early morning Eucharist among the weeds and grass in the ruin of the ancient chapel. Sometime later I heard that the three priests had received a rocket from the bishop. They had been guilty not only of trespassing on private land but of saying Mass there without



The Lady Chapel as it is today

the knowledge or permission of the parish priest of Stokesley. I may be the only survivor of that happy band of trespassers, so I thought I’d better write down my memories of my first visit to the Lady Chapel.

Peter Grainger

• Father Anthony Storey’s booklet describing the history of the Lady Chapel has been updated by Father Neil McNicholas and is available from the Curial Office, St Mary’s Cathedral or the Lady Chapel itself, priced £1.

Friends of the Lady Chapel members are united in the spirituality of the Lady Chapel through an annual Mass and daily prayers and also receive newsletters and invitations to events. A suggested membership donation is £10 a year for an individual or a family group. Schools are also welcome to join. Visit ladychapel.org.uk/friends for more information.

• Have you ever thought about leaving a legacy to the Friends of the Lady Chapel in your will? By doing so you will be helping to preserve this important shrine to Our Lady for future generations and bequests are free of inheritance tax.

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