

Bishop's Column

I'm always glad when we get to February. Although it can throw the worst of winter's weather at us, at least we are moving away from the dark and into the light, from the winter into early spring, from the bleak into the not-so-bleak.

The lengthening of the days becomes more noticeable as the month progresses. Also we move from the feasts surrounding the Incarnation (Christmas, Epiphany, the Baptism, the Presentation) into the feasts of our Redemption beginning with Lent on Ash Wednesday, the last Wednesday of the month.

During the period of Lent we are called to spend more time listening and reflecting on the Word of God, this is especially so in this Year of the Word as we listen to "the God who speaks." Next month, March, I will spend an evening in each of the deaneries of the diocese talking about and providing an opportunity for *Lectio Divina*. *Lectio* is a way of allowing the Word of God to speak to our hearts and to change our lives. The following are the dates and the venues. It is open to all people of all ages who want to listen and encounter the God who speaks to us.

**Tuesday March 3 – St Mary's Cathedral
Coulby Newham at 7pm.**

**Wednesday March 4 – St Augustine's School,
Sandybed Lane, Scarborough at 7pm.**

**Wednesday March 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes
and St Peter Chanel, Cottingham Road, Hull
at 7pm.**

**Thursday March 12 – English Martyrs, Dalton
Terrace, York at 7pm.**

It would be good to see as many of you at these events as possible. We will finish by 9pm. Let me be your Lenten penance!

Also this year, as we prepare to celebrate the great events through which we were redeemed, we are preparing to personally rededicate England as the Dowry of Mary. On February 21 all Catholics, and anybody else who wants to join in, will be invited to begin a personal 33-day consecration to Jesus through Mary following the method of St Louis de Montfort.

This includes an invitation to go to the Sacrament of Confession. Free books will be sent from the shrine, on request, written by Father Michael Gaitley entitled, *33 Days to Morning Glory*. These have been distributed throughout the tour: shop.walsingham.org.uk/33-days-to-morning-glory

• **Wednesday March 25 2020 (the Feast of the Annunciation):** All who are following the consecration will consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary on this day.

• **Thursday March 26–Saturday March 28 2020:** A three-day triduum of prayer in which all will be invited to recite the litany of Saints and Martyrs of England, pray the Rosary and go to Confession in preparation for the rededication.

• **Sunday March 29 2020:** A personal rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary. This will be done in Westminster, Walsingham, every cathedral, every parish, and as many homes as possible. It is a personal rededication following the guidelines in the book *The Angelus Promise*, which can be obtained from the shrine (see the link above).

+ Terry

Yours in Blessed Hope

What's Inside

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Diocese Is Among First To Divest From Fossil Fuels

The Diocese of Middlesbrough and the Diocese of Lancaster have announced their commitment to divest from fossil fuels, becoming the first Catholic dioceses in England and Wales to do so.

The announcement came in a press release from Operation Noah, a Christian charity working with the Church to inspire action on the climate crisis.

It was made together with two Catholic religious orders – the English Provinces of the Congregation of Jesus and the Presentation Sisters – alongside nine other local churches and Christian institutions in the UK.

They join more than 160 other Catholic institutions around the world that have already committed to divest from fossil fuels. Faith institutions constitute the greatest number of organisations contributing to the global fossil-free movement.

The announcement was made at the start of a key year for climate action globally, and particularly in the UK, with the COP conference with the next Conference of the Parties, known as "COP26", to be held in Glasgow in November.

Bishop Terry said: "With growing awareness of people's concerns for the care of our common home, supported by the trustees and Council of Priests of the diocese, and after thorough scrutiny of diocesan investments and with support from Operation Noah, the Diocese of



Pope Francis with Bishop Terry

Middlesbrough has decided that now is the time to divest from fossil fuels.

"The evidence and the urgency of the climate crisis are all around us. However, as Pope Francis points out very clearly in his Encyclical Letter on The Care of Our Common Home, *Laudato Si'*, nothing will succeed if

we do not begin with personal conversion, a change in lifestyle, a change of mindset."

For more information on Operation Noah visit operationnoah.org/.

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NEWS

Westminster Mass Launches First Saturdays' Centenary

Holy Mass will be celebrated at Westminster Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday February 22 to launch the centenary of the request for the Fatima five first Saturdays' devotion.

This is part of the work of the World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) in England and Wales in promoting this devotion, which was requested by Our Lady in July 1917 and then in more detail when she appeared along with the Child Jesus at Pontevedra in Spain to the Servant of God Sister Lucia, one of the three seers, in December 1925.

The event takes place three years after the visitation of the national pilgrimage virgin statue of Our Lady of Fatima to Westminster Cathedral, when Cardinal Vincent Nichols presided at Mass and reconsecrated the country to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The five first Saturdays' devotion is one of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and involves going to confession, receiving Holy Communion and keeping Our Lady company for 15 minutes while meditating on all the mysteries of the Rosary, all with the intention of making reparation to her.

Our Lady promised to assist anyone who does this on the first Saturday of five consecutive months at the hour of death, with all the graces necessary for salvation.

The centenary of this wonderful promise will occur in December 2025 and WAF is



The statue of Our Lady of Walsingham being carried by Knights of St Columba during its visit to St Mary's Cathedral in September 2017 – Photo by Les Clark

commemorating this event with a five-year programme of preparation, with each year having a different theme.

This year's theme is taken from the greeting of the Angel Gabriel to Our Lady at the Annunciation, "Hail full of grace" (Luke

1:28,).

The catechetical focus for the year is the importance of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, promulgated by Pope Pius IX in *Ineffabilis Deus* in 1854.

The five first Saturdays' devotion is of great importance for our times as Our Lady linked it with the conversion of Russia and the promised period of peace for the world.

Those who carry the devotion on beyond the initial five first Saturdays develop a commitment to frequent confession, Mass attendance and a meditative way of reciting the Rosary.

If enough people around the country can be persuaded to take up this devotion, then it will surely lead to a great spiritual boost for our parishes and dioceses and help to bring about the renewal of England as Mary's Dowry.

Please show your love and devotion for Our Lady by attending the launch Mass, when you will have the chance to see the national pilgrim statue of the Immaculate Heart and be blessed by the Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco.

**Donal Anthony Foley,
WAF England and Wales**



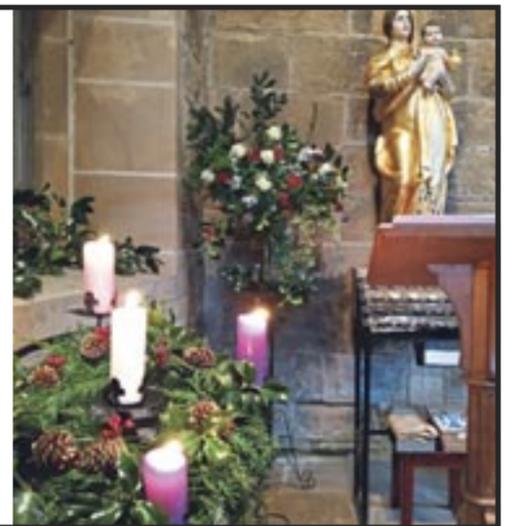
Pilgrims Make Boxing Day Visit

The Lady Chapel at Mount Grace looked as beautiful as ever for the annual Feast of St Stephen Mass, which was concelebrated by Father John Bane, Monsignor Gerard Dasey and Father Albert Schembri.

Pilgrims, including some who have attended the Mass for many years, enjoyed a bracing walk up the hill and gathered for refreshments afterwards.

The Friends of the Lady Chapel was set up by Bishop Terry to enable people to give financial and practical support to our diocesan Marian shrine.

Membership is by donation and families, schools and other organisations are welcome to join. For more information visit ladychapel.org.uk/friends/.



Could You Donate The Price Of A Cuppa?

Coffee lovers are being urged to give up just one cup a week and help boost the income of the North-East's only dedicated baby hospice. Zoë's Place says every penny raised will go to providing care for babies and children aged up to five living with life-threatening or life-limiting conditions and supporting their families.

It costs Zoë's Place £30 to provide an hour of care for a child, or £700 to pay for a cot for one day, with annual running costs of £1.4m. Since opening more than 15 years ago, Zoë's Place has helped many sick children and their families, providing round-the-clock practical assistance and even assisting families with the practicalities of registering a death, arranging a funeral and providing support for siblings, parents and grandparents. For more information visit zoes-place.org.uk/Middlesbrough/.

Mini Vinnies Put On Spectacular Party

Mini Vinnies at St Bernadette's Primary School, Nunthorpe, invited SVP beneficiaries, retired staff and helpers, parishioners and neighbours to a Christmas party.

SVP members and parishioners helped transport the elderly and the partygoers were welcomed by headteacher Paul

Conway and his senior staff, along with the Mini Vinnies.

Everyone enjoyed the company and party fare served by the Mini Vinnies, as well as the infant nativity scene, quiz, carols and Christmas songs led by the choir.



St Bernadette's headteacher Paul Conway with children at the Mini Vinnies' party

Tributes Paid To College's First Principal

Father Henry Graystone, the first principal of St Mary's College in Middlesbrough, died a week before Christmas. His funeral was celebrated in Blackburn on December 30 before interment at Pleasington Cemetery. Father Graystone's nephew looks back on his life...

Henry Graystone was born on November 24 1928, at 9 Suffolk Street, Hull, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, the seventh of eight children of James William Graystone and his wife Kate.

He remembered his childhood as idyllic – carefree, in a large, happy family. Highlights included outings in the car to Hornsea and the open ground at Beverley Westwood.

Henry was academically gifted, winning the Dr Watson Exhibition in 1939 as the top child in Hull in the entrance exam for secondary school, where he later came top of the class.

As the Second World War loomed, the life of the family changed forever as they were dispersed in the first well-organised evacuation, on Friday September 1 1939, two days before the declaration of war. Henry and his younger brother Francis went to a hotel in Scarborough, with their mother as a helper.

This was the period of the Phoney War, and everyone drifted back to Hull by Christmas 1939. After the fall of France in June 1940 there was a rushed, poorly organised second evacuation. Henry went to the elderly village blacksmith in Holme-on-Spalding Moor, staying for the next two and a half years. Henry was homesick and wrote every week until his family were reunited in Hull in the summer of 1943.

Two of Henry's older brothers became priests of the Marist Order and his thoughts turned that way. At Henry's secondary school – the

Marist College – he was impressed by the young Marist priests. He also wanted to teach maths and the Marists were a teaching order. Thus, he was ordained on June 28 1953.

As the third brother in the order, Henry remembered being known for a while as "Father Graystone's other brother". Thereafter, he moved around the country according to his posts and in 1974 he became the first principal of St Mary's Sixth Form College in Middlesbrough.

In 1977 there followed a four-year stint as provincial of the English Province of the Marist Order. He remembered some troubleshooting during his term of office. The next life-changing event in his history was the dramatic car crash on August 20 1980 as he collided with another car on his way to meet a friend.

He remembered nothing of it, but a witness saw his car flying through the air, spinning round horizontally. He had broken just about all the bones in his body. Firemen eventually freed him and he had a dozen major operations, including a total hip replacement.

Henry became interested in family history in 1964, when he came across his father's marriage certificate and learned his grandfather's name for the first time – James Arthur Graystone. He looked for the family name in Hull local history library and his mother told what she knew. He caught the family history bug, and traced the family back to James Graystone, servant, who died in 1843.

In the 1980s, I joined Henry in his family history research. I found out that James Graystone was under-butler to the first Duke of Wellington. We filled out the family story between us, until I was able to produce a series of ring-bound books covering every



The first principal of St Mary's Sixth Form College in Middlesbrough, Father Henry Graystone, who has died

generation of the family.

Henry was always proud of his family and loved the occasional gatherings. He very much looked forward to his 90th birthday on November 24 2018. He was able to get to the table by using his three-wheeler walker and tucked into a hearty three-course dinner and gave a little speech. He was also tutoring Maths until he was 90!

By July 2019, he had lost his appetite, and

using the three-wheeler walker became too big an effort. He accepted his move into the McAuley Mount Care Home. He survived to his 91st birthday on November 24, when I wheeled him downstairs to his little party. By the time of our last visit, on December 17, he was lying helplessly and not responding, and he died peacefully that day at 8pm.

Peter Lionel Graystone

Community Says Farewell To Much-Loved Chris

There was standing room only in the Holy Name of Mary Church in Middlesbrough on December 23 for a joyful celebration of the life of Chris Payne.

Chris, who had Down's syndrome, died on December 17 aged 61. He was greatly loved by so many people who had the privilege of knowing him through the many groups and communities he belonged to.

His great love of life, infectious smile and ready humour enhanced so many lives. He invariably made you laugh whenever you met him, which brightened your mood.

Mass was concelebrated by parish priest Father Tom O'Neill, Father Peter Keeling and Father Peter Ryan.

The organist who led the outstanding music was Andrew Ramsey, who the family learned shortly before Mass is headteacher of St Michael's, Billingham.

This was particularly apt as Chris's father, the late Eddie Payne, was headteacher between the school's opening in 1964 and his retirement in 1976. Was the hand of God in the choice of the organist? I think so.

Eddie loved his school and it was always a great source of pride to him. He would have been delighted that one of his successors was playing at his beloved son's Requiem Mass.

Chris had a full and active life until two or three years ago when the onset of dementia curtailed some of his activities.

Attending Catholic Fellowship functions was a feature of Chris's life for almost 50 years, including the Fellowship Mass, which is held in a different parish every month.

As a result of the collection taken after

the funeral, the family were able to forward £1,000 to help the Fellowship continue its great work.

For 25 years, Chris attended the Mixed Ability Club at St Patrick's Catholic College, Thornaby. In recent years, he attended a prayer meeting at St Mary's Cathedral and in the final two years of his life he went to the Music for the Mind group's monthly meeting at the same venue.

Chris loved Lourdes, going almost every year, until five years ago. He also loved singing in church but was completely tone-deaf. He sang very loudly, invariably an octave above

everyone else in the congregation – and loved the attention it gained.

Following Middlesbrough Football Club was a big part of his life. He was vociferous in his support and always gave the referee a hard time.

In 1982, 1983 and 1984 he went for a week to Ushaw College for the annual Charismatic Renewal Conference with young families from St Joseph's Parish, Norton. He camped in the grounds and, of course, was the life and soul of the proceedings.

Despite his learning disability, Chris has had a great life – one that, in many ways, we

could all be envious of. He never had the struggles and stresses most of us have to contend with.

His quality of life over the last three years deteriorated to such an extent that death came as a blessing.

Many people are sad because they have lost a very special person who has enriched their lives, but they will cherish happy memories of a well-loved son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, great-uncle and friend.

God bless you, Christopher. Up the Boro!

Frank Conway



Chris Payne with his sister, Mary, at the Riverside Stadium, home of his beloved Boro



Reach

Our website has moved to

www.ReachNewspaper.com

SCHOOLS

**THE MIRACLE OF THE LOAVES AND FISHES
(FEEDING OF THE FIVE THOUSAND)**

Now we have finished the Rosary, we are going to look at some of the miracles of Jesus. These are wonderful actions that Jesus performed during the last three years of his life on earth. One of my favourite miracles happened when a large crowd of five thousand people followed Jesus to a place by the Sea of Galilee. They had eaten nothing all day and Jesus asked his disciple Philip where they could buy something for the people to eat. (He was just testing Philip, because he already knew what he was going to do).

Philip was shocked and answered that it would cost a fortune to feed so many people. Another disciple, Andrew, said: "This little boy has five loaves and two fishes, but that won't go far." Jesus told everyone to sit down. Then he blessed the loaves and fishes and asked the disciples to give the food out to the people. To their amazement everyone had enough to eat, and when they gathered up the scraps that were left over, they filled 12 baskets!



Word Search

F	M	I	R	A	C	L	E	S	A
A	I	E	V	N	O	I	L	P	U
Q	U	S	Y	D	Z	T	G	A	R
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MIRACLE
LOAVES
FISHES
GALILEE
FIVE
THOUSAND

PEOPLE
ANDREW
LITTLE
BOY
BASKETS
SCRAPS




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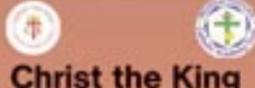

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Delight As Ofsted Praises Trinity Transformation

School leaders have expressed their delight and optimism for the future after inspectors recognised that their action plan is helping Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough progress towards being rated as “good”.

Fifteen months ago the school – which has more than 1,300 pupils aged from 11 to 18 – was found to “require improvement” overall, with the same rating in each of the individual categories inspected.

But when Ofsted returned for their first monitoring inspection visit in December they found a vastly improved picture, concluding that: “Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified in order for the school to become good.”

Since the previous inspection there have been sweeping changes in Trinity’s leadership and management, including the appointment of a new headteacher, Louise Dwyer, and the installation of a new interim advisory board.

Ofsted praised the transformation they can see beginning to take place at Trinity, which is part of Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust (NPCAT), a family of 26 Catholic schools across Teesside.

“Leadership and management across the school has been and is being, strengthened,” the report says. “Leaders have introduced new behaviour, attendance, teaching and learning and marking and assessment policies. Staff are positive about the changes which the trust and school leaders have made.

“They comment on how they have been involved in the quality assurance and improvement strategies which have been adopted and on how leaders consider their workload and well-being. Leaders encourage all staff in the school to be open to the

support from both the trust and from external partners.

“Pupils and staff report that behaviour has improved markedly. Pupils also say that this has had an impact on teaching and learning, which they feel has improved too. During this inspection, pupils were polite, courteous and cooperative in lessons and during social times.”

The report says support from NPCAT, including new specialist directors of curriculum subjects, a trust standards team and a newly formed attendance support team, is beginning to have a positive impact. It adds that the school should take further action to speed up the pace of change, share best practice and improve attendance.

NPCAT chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty said the report validates the work the trust has undertaken over the last year.

“The trust has always recognised the great potential at Trinity Catholic College, but we also recognised that there needed to be new direction,” he said.

“That appointment of Louise Dwyer as the new headteacher has provided that clear direction and the appointment of the new interim advisory board with a wider variety of experience and skills provides the necessary support and challenge for the headteacher.

“The standards team at the trust is working collaboratively with the leadership of the school and as a consequence of that we’re beginning to realise some of Trinity’s great potential.

“This is by no means the end of the journey, but it does give important external validation to the work done to date and the significant progress we are making.



Trinity Catholic College headteacher Louise Dwyer, whose school has been praised by Ofsted

“Every child who attends Trinity Catholic College can do so with confidence, knowing that their learning needs and their aspirations and dreams can be realised.”

Headteacher Ms Dwyer added: “As a school community we still have a long journey ahead of us. But I’m delighted that our work, drive and commitment to improve the life chances of our young people is being recognised.

“I would like to acknowledge the hard work of all my staff, who have embraced the need

for change and are working so positively to bring about the improvements needed.

“Parents and carers have acknowledged the need for change and understand and accept the high expectations that have been set.

“The wonderful students of Trinity Catholic College deserve the very best. We are a family, and as such I am determined to ensure that every member of our family has the highest quality opportunities and all the support they need as they progress through our school.”



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Acknowledged by Ofsted in January 2020 to be “taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified in order for the school to become good.”

For more information go to trinity.npcat.org.uk  



Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust

LOURDES

Last Chance To Join Supported Pilgrims

Anyone wishing to go to Lourdes as a supported pilgrim this year is asked to apply immediately to register their interest.

Our pilgrimage takes place from Friday May 22 to Friday May 29, with the main party flying direct from Teesside Airport.

If you would like to join us as a supported pilgrim, please call Pat Ling on 01642 760105 or 01642 850505 extension 264 or email lourdessecretary@rcdmidd.org.uk as soon as possible, as the organisers have to confirm numbers with the Lourdes authorities shortly.



Father William Massie blesses a support pilgrim in Lourdes

Masses As Preparations Gather Pace

As plans for our forthcoming pilgrimage gather pace, I invite you to St Mary's Cathedral on Saturday February 22 for the celebration of Mass at 2pm.

This will be followed by tea and cake in the hall immediately afterwards and a handmaids' meeting. It's an opportunity for me to share with you any updates from Lourdes after our visit in early February and the proposed plans for pilgrimage.

It would be lovely to see you there, especially if you're not able to be with us in Lourdes this year or for those who haven't been, but are thinking of coming. You're very welcome, as is anyone wanting to join us for the celebration of Mass.

For the first time in several years we will travel back from Lourdes in time to be able to celebrate Our Lady of Lourdes' feast day together here in Middlesbrough on Tuesday February 11. Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's Cathedral, 7pm.

Our Lady of Lourdes's pray for us

St Bernadette pray for us

Chris Tillotson, Head Handmaid



Peter and Anne Carr at St Francis Church with Monsignor Gerard Robinson, who is pictured in the rose vestments traditionally worn on Laetare Sunday

Friends Help Welcome Anne And Peter Into Catholic Church

Our Lourdes family turned out in force to welcome Anne Carr and her son Peter into the Catholic Church during Mass at St Francis in Acklam, Middlesbrough.

"A big thank you to all who came to celebrate Peter and I being welcomed into the church," they wrote afterwards. "You all made our day extra special.

"How lucky are we to have such lovely friends? Special thanks also for the beautiful flowers we received, all the lovely cards and messages and the gifts given to us, all to be treasured always.

"And last but not least it's so lovely to belong to the nicest, biggest family ever. Thank you all so much for being there for us. Love to all."

Not Only Relevant – Alive!



I remember having a conversation with my mother about a song by Amy Grant entitled, *In a Little While*. It spoke of God's Word as a letter. Like the person in the song who looked forward to reading a letter from a friend, the "letters" in the Bible are from a friend who knows us better than anybody ever could.

Recently I was in a group and the question came up, "Is the Bible relevant?" But I think the question should be, "Is the Bible alive?" Most of us could probably come up with a poem, song or quote that has moved our hearts or changed our lives. These words give us vision, motivate us to reach beyond what we, in our limited capacity, could ever aspire to. Words have the power to bring us together, to fight evil, to push against the darkness, to know there is someone greater than any enemy or force.

Truly, "the pen is mightier than the sword". I, myself, carried an excerpt of Winston

Churchill's May 13 1940 speech: "...our policy... is to wage war, by sea, land and air, with all our might and with all the strength that God can give us ... victory at all costs, ... in spite of all terror, ... however long and hard the road may be; for without victory, there is no survival."

These words inspired this great Nation in a time of tremendous darkness. They inspired me to persevere in trial. They are alive – with a little "a". How much more alive *The Word* – Jesus Christ, the Word made Flesh!

This too, is a crucial time. The forces of darkness that come against us are not waging visible war. The falling bombs do not tear down buildings, but structures that have upheld society for 2,000 years. The battle we engage in is mostly imperceptible. And yet, it is critical that we know we are at war and with whom we are allied.

It is no mere coincidence that we will soon re-consecrate England as Our Lady's Dowry.

A Letter From Madonna House

Who better to help us know the Word than she who pondered and nurtured that Word?

Yet, as with a letter, it sometimes takes a few readings before I understand "the heart" of the writer. For instance, reading a letter from my dad as a teenager or adult, as opposed to now that he has passed away. Or a note from someone with whom I have fallen out – I see it only through that lens. And yet, when I make the effort, I begin to understand. Just so, the voice of the Good Shepherd – it takes time.

Therefore, let's approach the Bible expectantly, knowing that like the old happily married couple who have stood the test of time, our receptivity to and relationship with the author of these letters will only deepen as we take up his letters and get to know him, our best friend, ally, creator of all things; father who knows and loves us beyond imagining.

Margarita Guerrero

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WORLD LEPROSY DAY
26 JANUARY 2020



Let's create a leprosy-free world

For thousands of years leprosy has been the scourge of poverty-stricken communities across the world. The disease frequently leads to severe, life-changing disabilities and those who suffer from it are often excluded by their community, and struggle to fend for themselves.



124 years dedicated to the relief of suffering

St Francis Leprosy Guild has been dedicated to the relief of suffering caused by leprosy for more than a century, during which time many religious sisters, brothers and priests have made it their life's vocation to care for those with the disease. Today we are determined to build on their legacy and seize our opportunity to help eradicate leprosy once and for all.

A leprosy-free world is now within sight

Just a few decades ago, more than five million people were being diagnosed with leprosy every year, their lives destroyed physically, emotionally and socially by the disease. Today, this number has reduced significantly but remains stubbornly at over 200,000 new cases annually, worldwide. St Francis Leprosy Guild is committed to achieving a leprosy-free world and we genuinely believe



it is possible, if only people like you are prepared to help.

Early detection can stop leprosy in its tracks

By supporting early detection and treatment - before the disease takes hold - you can help to prevent untold suffering. **If you are able to send a donation of just £30 today**, you will help us support ongoing health initiatives, such as the hospital ship that serves patients in the Amazon

region. This initiative has already helped to train 600 local healthcare assistants, and the ship visits remote communities along the river where leprosy is still rife, monitoring people for early symptoms and providing prompt medication.



Winning the battle against leprosy

- 1980s - some 5.2 million cases of leprosy reported annually.
- 1995 - World Health Organisation extends free access to leprosy treatments.
 - 16 million people cured of leprosy in past 20 years.
 - Today, over 200,000 new cases diagnosed annually, worldwide.
 - Early diagnosis and treatment are key to total eradication.

Help to beat leprosy for good

The hospital ship is just one of around 60 inspirational partner organisations supported by St Francis Leprosy Guild, which are working with remote and marginalised communities in countries such as India and Brazil. **Please send £30 today to help this essential work continue. Together, let's seize the opportunity to create a leprosy-free world and help put an end to people's suffering at last.**

I WANT TO SEE A LEPROSY-FREE WORLD. HERE IS MY GIFT TO HELP.

Please donate at www.justgiving.com/stfrancisleprosyguild or return this form with your gift.

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Surname

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YEAR OF THE WORD

How God Speaks To Me

My Favourite Words Of Scripture

Throughout the Year of the Word: The God Who Speaks, we're asking different groups of people to reflect on their favourite Scripture passage and why it's so important to them...



Sheila Swift



Edwin Bainbridge



Paul Bowen



Sarah Bowmaker

My favourite passage of scripture is... Matthew 20:1-16, the Parable of the Labourers and the Vineyard: "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous? Thus the last will be first, and the first last."

God, our Father, treats each one of us with love, justice and fairness, and always keeps his word. He gives us all different gifts, but he always gives us what we need. As a mother of four children, this passage spoke to me offering reassurance and encouragement. Every child is unique and has different needs – but it is not possible to treat each one exactly the same – as long as they know that they are loved equally. It is also very reassuring to know that however late in the day we come, the door to the Kingdom is always open.

Sheila Swift, CAFOD Rep, Parish Catechist, St Anthony and Our Lady of Mercy, Hull

My favourite passage of scripture is... John 3:3; 16-18: "I tell you most solemnly, unless a man is born from above he cannot see the kingdom of God...Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world not to condemn the world, but so that through him the world might be saved. No one who believes in him will be condemned."

You can't get a much straighter or to the point message than this from Jesus. No one can see the kingdom of God unless he or she is born again. And what did God do to help this happen? He gave his only Son to the world so that whoever believes in him would not perish but have everlasting life. Now that's the Good News for us all!

Edwin Bainbridge, Parishioner at St Thérèse of Lisieux, Ingleby Barwick

My favourite passage of scripture is ... John 14:6: Jesus says: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me."

I've been an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion for almost 30 years and I use this reading when I take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. It has a very profound effect on me, as it makes me stop to think about what Jesus means by these words. We find our way to the Father through Jesus in that we do our best to act like him in kindness, tolerance and love of others. Often, the people I have taken Communion to say, "What a beautiful and thought-provoking reading it is."

Paul Bowen, Minister of Holy Communion, St Mary's Cathedral Parish

My favourite passage of scripture is... Matthew 9:20-22: "Then from behind him came a woman, who had suffered from a haemorrhage for 12 years, and she touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, 'If I can only touch his cloak I shall be well again.' Jesus turned round and saw her; and he said to her, 'Courage, my daughter, your faith has restored you to health.' And from that moment the woman was well again."

I love the simple, startling truth of the woman's affirmation. Her faith and her humility. Our Lord's response to her is a constant source of consolation to me.

Sarah Bowmaker, Parish of Blessed Nicholas Postgate, Redcar

Study Days At Ampleforth

Ampleforth Abbey continues its series of monthly study days looking at different aspects of the Bible, with speakers helping participants to reflect and celebrate God's Word in a variety of ways.

Wednesday February 12: "Engaging with the Bible: See, Judge, Act", led by Dr Patricia Kelly, honorary senior research fellow in the School of Divinity, University of St Andrews

Wednesday March 11: "The Bible and families", led by Kit and Caroline Dollard

Wednesday March 25: "Holy Book and Holy Week" (speaker to be confirmed)

The events take place from 1pm to 4.30pm. For further details, please contact the pastoral office at Ampleforth on 01439 766486, email pastoral@ampleforth.org.uk or visit ampleforth.org.uk/visitors.

Year Of Matthew In Focus At St Paulinus

Bishop Terry is asking us to look more closely at the Gospel of St Matthew and proposing invitations to follow *Lectio Divina* with him in various parts of the diocese.

Supporting this, we here at Guisborough intend to use the Wednesday evenings of Lent to open up and read the Gospel of Matthew together. We hope to start on Wednesday March 4, with five sessions ending on Wednesday April 3 (not Ash Wednesday or the Wednesday of Holy Week). The reading sessions begin at 7pm.

We did this in Advent, reading Matthew chapters one and two. Using the "greater themes" of the Gospel, we were able to see the Biblical idea of fulfilment in two lights.

Through the lens of Matthew's insight, we grew in understanding of Jesus coming as the Messiah in world

history. We also began to appreciate how Jesus speaks to us as a community of faith, with a personal call to each one of us. We are members of an "assembly of fulfilment".

In common with other members of the Churches Together in Guisborough, we hope with will be an experience shared across the denominations.

Although Guisborough may be a little isolated for some, we thought it would be good to extend invitations to a wider Catholic community through the Voice.

We would welcome visitors to join us. There may be similar parish initiatives, and we would be delighted to compare our experience and findings.

Canon Michael Bayldon

Returning To Observation Of The Angelus

At certain points during the day, the bells of many Catholic churches peal to remind us that the "Word was made flesh and dwells among us".

The Angelus bells, traditionally rung at 6am (or 9am in some places), noon, and 6pm, invite us to begin that great prayer which originates from a catechism written in Venice in 1560.

As Pope Francis has said, the Angelus "punctuates the rhythm of our daily activities" and reminds us of the Incarnation, "a luminous event which transformed history." (*Angelus Address: World Youth Day, Rio de Janeiro, 2013.*)

During 2020, a commitment to pray the Angelus at the traditional times is to be commended for two reasons. Firstly, in the year in which we will rededicate England as Mary's Dowry, we remember what we might call "English" Marian devotion is centred upon the Incarnation, the whole focus of the Angelus prayer.

After all, it was at Walsingham where Our Lady appeared to Richeldis de Faverches and asked her to build a replica of the Holy House of Nazareth, where the Annunciation took place. Secondly, in this Year of the Word of God, the three versicles of the Angelus which beautifully encapsulate the wonder of the Incarnation will help us enter more deeply into the mystery of the Word of God becoming man in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Firstly, there is a summary of the Annunciation account (Lk 1:26-38): "The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary, and she conceived by the Holy Spirit." Pondering this line alone can be a wonderful beginning to a silent meditation, helping our minds and hearts to enter deeply into Mary's role in the

mystery of salvation. The *Hail Mary*, the great Marian "prayer within the prayer" of the Angelus is, in itself, at least in its first six salutations, a richly scriptural prayer that unites the two great accounts of the Annunciation and Mary's Visitation to Elizabeth.

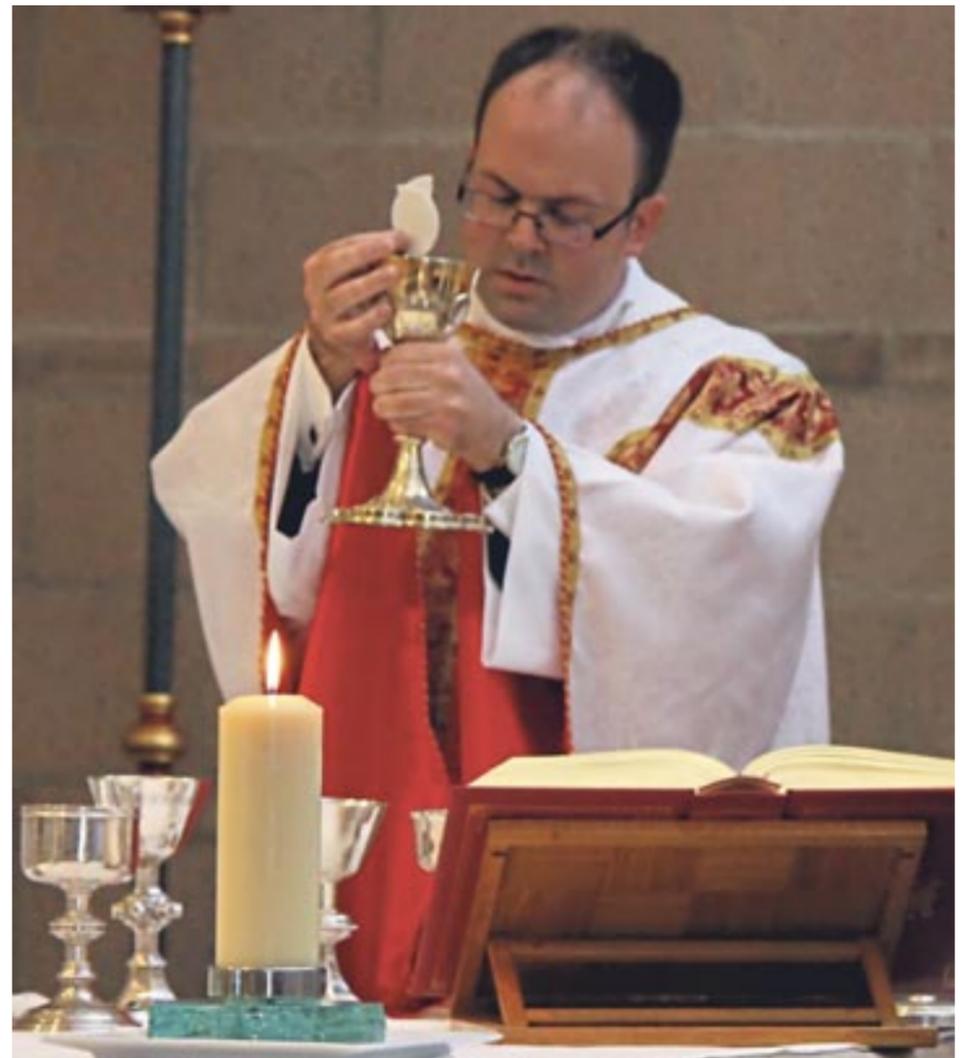
After the first *Hail Mary* we have a direct biblical quotation: "Behold the Handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to thy word." (Lk 1:38) Mary's "yes" to God's plan for her helps us too to discern our vocation and God's will in our lives. It also reminds us to ask for her help in accepting that Divine Will and gives us courage to carry it out.

The third declaration and response, "And the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us" (Jn 1:14), perhaps sums up in nine words the message of the "Year of the God who speaks", a year which marks the 10th anniversary of Benedict XVI's apostolic exhortation *Verbum Domini*.

As the Pope Emeritus writes in that document: "The Son himself is the Word, the Logos: the eternal word became small – small enough to fit into a manger. He became a child, so that the word could be grasped by us. Now the word is not simply audible; not only does it have a voice, now the word has a face, one which we can see: that of Jesus of Nazareth." (Benedict XVI, *Verbum Domini*, 2010, #12.)

Praying the Angelus each day this year will bring us closer to our Our Lady, who can then lead us to her Divine Son, the Word made flesh. "Pray for us O Holy Mother of God: that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ."

Father Richard Marsden



Father Richard Marsden – Photo by Ryan Christopher

Inspiring Prayer: Meditating On The Scriptures With Bishop Terry

The inspired words of the Bible are God's letter to his people. When we pray, we talk to God, but we can also take the time to listen to him talk to us.

Bishop Terry invites you to join him for an evening of prayer with the Bible, learning to listen to God. No experience necessary, just an open heart.

Tuesday March 3: St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough

Wednesday March 4: St Augustine School, Scarborough

Wednesday March 11: Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel Church, Hull

Thursday March 12: English Martyrs Church, York.

Each session begins at 7pm and ends by 9pm.

All Invited To Day Retreat In Preparation For Lent

All are invited to a day retreat in preparation for Lent hosted by the Parish of St Aelred's, York. The retreat will be led by Dom Leo Maidlow Davis of Downside Abbey and based on the Pope's encyclical *Gaudete et Exultate* (Rejoice and be Glad) and on St Matthew's Gospel, in preparation for Lent. The event, which is organised by the Diocese of Middlesbrough Union of Catholic Mothers, takes place on Saturday February 1, beginning with Mass at 10am and finishing at 3.30pm. For more information or to book, please call or text 07855 288851 or 07891 143761.

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Follow the dove to Easter

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Twenty-two jam-packed pages with puzzles and facts – adults might learn something too!

CAFOD

Volunteer And Put Your Faith Into Action

We love to hear from people from around the diocese. Helen Jenkins, our parish volunteer at Ss Leonard and Mary's parish in Malton, sent this message...

"Our CAFOD Christmas fair raised £687 and was a wonderful event, bringing the church community together and our Christmas fundraising continued with the communal Christmas card."

They also held an Advent service and afterwards began planning for the new year's activities. Having someone in a parish who is willing to coordinate activities that support our work makes such a difference.

It's wonderful to hear all about their activities and to see the photographs they

share, and as Helen says: "It can be a really good way of bringing the community together while helping the people we work with overseas."

We have good coverage in many parishes within the diocese but we are always happy to hear from people who would like to get involved. You don't have to make a long commitment, you can try it for six months or a year and if you don't enjoy it, you can stop at any time.

There are areas where we still need some help and support. In particular, we would love to hear from interested people in parishes around Easingwold, Kirkbymoorside and Ampleforth, who would be happy to receive information and materials from

CAFOD to share with their parish communities.

Or use your free time to inspire young people to build a fairer world – CAFOD is looking for volunteers who have a passion for, and experience of, working with young people.

We need people who have a commitment to CAFOD's aims and values and an interest in sharing our work in secondary schools through delivering assemblies or workshops. CAFOD will provide training and support and expenses will be paid.

Volunteering assignments will be in local Catholic schools and you can either work on your own or as part of a team. None of our

work is possible without you, so join us and put your faith into action.

We currently need people to visit schools around the diocese, particularly in the coastal areas of Redcar, Marske, Whitby and Scarborough. You don't need to have teaching experience to take on this role, as there are two training days, but you would need a DBS check in line with our safeguarding policy.

Anyone who is involved with children's liturgy in a parish would find this role enjoyable and rewarding.

If you are interested or would like to know more please call 01642 822301 or email middlesbrough@cafod.org.uk.

A Celebration Of Care For Our Common Home



CAFOD parish volunteers from Hull joined Bishop Draine at St Charles Borromeo Church for the annual Advent service.

It was attended by young people from Our Lady and St Edward's parish in Driffield, who created posters highlighting ways in which we can all help to care for the earth, our common home.

It was also as a response to the papal encyclical *Laudato Si'*, in which Pope Francis calls us all to celebrate this moment to "reaffirm our personal vocation to be stewards of creation, to thank God for the wonderful handiwork that he has entrusted to our care and to implore his help for the protection of creation, as well as his pardon for the sins committed against the world in which we live."

Young parishioners Benjamin, Catherine and Jodie were praised for their skills and the way they participated in the readings and for their ongoing thought-provoking work.

Throughout the service displays highlighting projects our young people had been working on were shared with the Bishop and congregation. The young people were supported throughout the project work by Ethna Connell, who is Our Lady and St Edward's CAFOD volunteer.

The liturgy was adapted from the Creation celebrations some churches held last year, highlighting our campaign calling on the government to implement policies that will ensure we reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 and also drawing attention to the Synod on the Amazon held in Rome during October.

The Amazon stretches across nine countries and millions of people. Policies driven by our lifestyles have resulted in drilling, mining and industrial farming operations that destroy the forest.

Fires have been deliberately started, destroying indigenous peoples' lands to instead grow crops such as soya and to graze cattle to be used by global organisations in fast-food industries.

The synod explored how to better serve the Amazon region and its people while sharing the Good News of Jesus. At its conclusion, voting members produced an outcomes document. These suggestions have been sent to Pope Francis for his review and he will issue a final statement this year.

The document has expressed the longstanding values of our Church in new ways for this extraordinary time. Many critical issues were named under the common theme of conversion – integral, pastoral, cultural, ecological and synodal.

Integral ecology, which sees the deep connections between how we relate to God, each other and our common home, is the way forward.

Ecological sin is defined as "a sin against future generations that manifests itself in acts and habits of pollution and destruction of environmental harmony, transgressions against the values of interdependence and the rupture of the networks of solidarity between creatures and against the virtue of justice."

Divestment is proposed as a concrete way to recover from this sin. Beyond divestment, an overall move away from fossil fuels is encouraged as a way to live in harmony with creation.

We're called to move from the era of human-induced climate change which deeply harms the Amazon and all creation, into an era in which creation flourishes in accordance with God's will.

Along with a move away from fossil fuels, adopting simpler and more sustainable lifestyles can help us recover from this sin. We can do this by reducing our dependence on fossil fuels and the use of plastics, reducing our excessive consumption of meat, fish and seafood.

We can actively participate in the planting of trees, searching for sustainable alternatives in the areas of agriculture, energy and mobility that respects the rights of nature and the community.

Young people from Our Lady and St Edward's parish in Driffield at the CAFOD Mass in Hull – Photo by Mary Hann

From the Archives



50 Years Ago

From obituary for Father Leonard Cornwall from Hull Catholic Magazine, February 1970

A Hull man, Leonard Cornwall attended school at Endsleigh and St Vincent's before moving on to the Marist College at Middlesbrough and thence to Ushaw to train for the priesthood. As a Seminarian he served in the Royal Fusiliers in the Great War, before transferring to the R.F.C. (later to become the R.A.F.). Ordained in 1925, he spent ten years in Middlesbrough under Bishop Shine and Mgr. Canon Claus at St. Philomena's, before his appointment as Parish Priest at Howden in 1935. A year later he was back in Hull as Parish Priest of Corpus Christi, upon which Parish he has indelibly imprinted his character and personality over the past 34 years. A familiar sight in the street, proudly arrayed in cassock and biretta, he perhaps was the last of a great generation.

100 Years Ago

From Hull Catholic Magazine, February 1920

A Purity Campaign Week begins in Hull on February 29th and continues till March 7th. Fr Bernard Vaughan and the Abbot of Ampleforth were both invited to speak at the great public meeting in the City Hall on Sunday night. The Men's and Women's Confraternities, the Girls' and Boys' Guild in each Parish are asked to make this matter the effort of their prayers, and by word and example promote the spread of this Angelic Virtue.

David Smallwood



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The Diocese of Middlesbrough would like to point out that while every care is taken with advertisements placed in the Catholic Voice, publication does not suggest an endorsement of any views expressed.

Party Celebrations For Hull Homeless

More than 60 people attended St Charles Drop In Centre for the Homeless in Hull's Christmas party.

They were treated to a delicious meal served by the volunteers and there were also plenty of hot and cold drinks. After the meal, everyone was given a Christmas parcel containing warm clothing, toiletries and delicacies.

For the last year, ever since the fire at the St Charles Parish Centre, the Salvation Army has very kindly allowed the group to use its

premises each week, so the party was held in their Citadel in Harley Street.

All this was possible due to the generosity of the parishes, schools and individuals in Hull and the East Riding who are unfailing in their support of the centre's work.

The number of homeless people in the area has increased greatly over the years and the St Charles' volunteers regularly feed more than 40 people each week. They are looking for new premises in the New Year and are determined to continue this vital work.



Guests enjoying the Christmas party held by St Charles Drop in Centre for the Homeless



The Diocese of Middlesbrough LGBT+ Ministry celebrated its second anniversary with Mass at the Bar Convent in York. The community welcomes LGBT+ people, their parents and families, offering friendship, support and encouragement in their lives as Catholics. For more information email frtony@lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk or visit lgbtmiddlesbroughcatholic.org.uk.

Tudor Croft Open Garden Weekends

Thanks to the warm weather at the start of the year, signs of new life are appearing every day in the garden and we are pleased to let you know that Tudor Croft, near Guisborough, will be open over two weekends.

The first will be on Saturday February 15 and Sunday February 16 from 11am to 3pm for you, your family and friends to enjoy our ever-expanding collection of named snowdrops – remarkably, all different – in a lovely garden setting.

We shall then be open again in high summer on Saturday June 27 and Sunday June 28 from 11am to 4pm, when the garden should be at its very best.

There will be home-made refreshments and special plants for sale at each opening, appropriate to the time of year. Admission remains at £5, children free.

We do hope you can visit Tudor Croft again and that with your help we can continue to raise funds for local charities.

Mike and Gel Heagney

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Out & About around the Diocese

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR FEBRUARY 2020

- 6** Attends meeting of Department for Social Justice in London 11am
- 11** Attends meeting of Diocesan Board of Trustees at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 10.30am
- 12** Attends meeting of Bishop's Council at Bishop's House, Middlesbrough 11am
- 13** Attends meeting of the Diocesan Safeguarding Commission at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11am
- 14** Attends Family of Schools Catholic Inset Day at All Saints Primary, York 9am
- 20** Attends meeting of the Northern Province at Hinsley Hall, Leeds 10.30am
- 21** Attends Golden Jubilee Celebration of Canon Michael Bayldon in Guisborough 7pm
- 22** Celebrates York Oratory Thanksgiving Mass Noon
Attends York Catenians' 100th Year Celebrations at York Racecourse 5.30pm
- 24** Attends meeting of Friends of the Lady Chapel Committee at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 11am
- 25** Attends meeting of the Council of Priests at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 1pm
- 26** Celebrates Mass distributes ashes at St Mary's Cathedral 7pm

7 Fri

Events and articles for the March Voice are due by today.

8 Sat

9am Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk.

9 Sun

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 are welcome.
4pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.

10 Mon

10.15am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets at St John of Beverley Church every Monday morning from 10.15am-11am (10am for new meditators). Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.

11 Tues

2pm-4pm The Life Ascending Group, York West, meets at Our Lady's, Acomb, York, in the Father Kelly Room.
7pm Knights of St Columba Council 29 meets at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough, beginning with Mass in the Cathedral Chapel.
7pm-8.15pm Christian Meditation Group, St Andrew's, Teesville. Contact terry-doyle@live.co.uk.

12 Wed

10.30am Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB, Midday Prayer/Wednesday Word/Prayer Intention for January 'Those persecuted for their faith' followed by refreshments.
After 10.30am Mass The Life Ascending Group at St Leonard & St Mary, Malton meets.
2pm-3.30pm Music for the Mind at St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Coulby Newham. For details call 01642 710179.

13 Thur

7.30pm Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.

14 Fri

7pm-8.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets in St Anthony's Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact John (01759) 380415 for details.

15 Sat

9am Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk.

16 Sun

Noon Sung Latin Mass at St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.
3pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.
3pm Fellowship Mass at St Thomas More Church, Kirkham Row, Middlesbrough.

17 Mon

10.15am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets at St John of Beverley Church every Monday morning from 10.15am-11am (10am for new meditators). Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.

18 Tues

12.45pm Hull and District Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meet at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Hull.
7pm-8.15pm Christian Meditation Group, St Andrew's, Teesville. Contact terry-doyle@live.co.uk.
7.30pm The Knights of St Columba, Council 95, meets at Council Chambers, English Martyrs Hall, Dalton Terrace, York.

19 Wed

7.30pm Hull Circle of the Catenian Association meets at Lazaat Hotel, Woodhill Way, Cottingham, HU16 5SX. Contact Bernard Swift (01482) 348272 for details.
8pm The Knights of St Columba, Hull Council 45, meets at St Joseph's Church, West Hull.

20 Thu

7.30pm Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.

22 Sat

9am Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
11.30am Centering (Contemplative) Prayer Group, St Gabriel's Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk.
Noon Christian Meditation Weekly Group, St John of Beverley, Church (11.45am for new meditators). Contact christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.

23 Sun

Noon Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid's, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.

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February's Choral Services at The Cathedral

- Sunday February 2 at 10am:** Sung Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir), Motet When To The Temple, by Eccard
- Wednesday February 5 at 6pm:** Sung Benediction with Vespers (Cantor and Congregation)
- Sunday February 9 at 10am:** Family Mass (Cathedral Choir and Junior Choristers)
- Sunday February 9 at 4.15pm:** Sung Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)
- Wednesday February 12 at 6pm:** Sung Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)
- Sunday February 16 at 10am:** Sung Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday February 23 at 10am:** Sung Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
- Sunday February 23 at 4.15pm:** Sung Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)
- Wednesday February 26 at 7pm:** Sung Solemn Mass of Ash Wednesday (Cathedral Choir)

Please note, there is no Benediction with Vespers at 6pm on during half term week (Wednesday February 19) or Ash Wednesday.

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

NEWS



The Gospa Choir entertained residents of Alexandra Court Care Home in Hull with Christmas carols and a retelling of the story of Christmas. Choice members come from parishes throughout Hull and the choir also sang for residents at the Holy Name Care Home.

Catherine Holtby

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Spring Lecture Programme Unveiled

York Newman Circle has announced its latest lecture programme.

Monday February 17: Father Andrew Downie, "Newman's Theory of Development of Doctrine and its influence on Vatican II."

Monday March 16: Sister Marion Bettenworth CJ, "Albania Hope – Empowering through freedom, justice and sincerity – Sister Imelda Poole's mission in Albania."

Monday April 20: Dr Marcus Pound – Title to be confirmed.

Monday June 1: AGM at 7.15pm followed by Dr Ruth Beckett, "Christianity in a World Come of Age": Reflections on Dietrich Bonhoeffer."

All talks take place at the Bar Convent, Blossom Street, at 7.30pm. All are welcome and tea and coffee is available from 7pm.

For more information contact Judith Smeaton 01904 704525 judith.smeaton@btinternet.com

Talk Considers Chaplaincy Role

Father Marc Lyden-Smith and Mary Palmer, from Sunderland University Catholic Chaplaincy, will give a talk to Cleveland Circle of the Newman Association on "University Chaplaincy: is it really necessary?" on Wednesday February 19.

As usual, the event will take place in St Mary's Cathedral hall, Middlesbrough, beginning at 7.30pm with refreshments, followed by the talk at 7.45pm. Everyone is welcome.

Exploring The Pope's Peace Message

Pope Francis' message for Peace Sunday 2020 will be the foundation for our next Diocesan Justice and Peace meeting.

We are looking forward to welcoming Sister Katrina Alton, who will explore the theme of "Tools for the Journey – Hope, Dialogue, Reconciliation and Conversion" and facilitate the session for us.

Sister Katrina, of the Congregation of St Joseph of Peace, works in Nottingham and lives in with two other sisters. Her current ministry involves spiritual accompaniment to women discerning their discipleship, as well as those struggling to find their place in the Church.

She is a peace activist, focusing on the arms trade, and organises a regular ecumenical prayer vigil at the Heckler & Koch gun manufacturers in Nottingham. She also writes and gives talks on justice and peace.

The meeting, on Saturday February 15 at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, 21, Blossom Street, York YO24 1AQ, will begin at around 10.30am, with tea and coffee available from 10am. We finish with a shared lunch at around 12.30pm. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact me on bhungin@yahoo.co.uk.



Barbara Hungin Sister Katrina Alton

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24 Mon
10.15am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets at St John of Beverley Church every Monday morning from 10.15am–11am (10am for new meditators). Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.

25 Tues
7pm–8.15pm Christian Meditation Group, St Andrew's, Teesville. Contact terry-doyle@live.co.uk.

26 Wed
12.45pm–3pm The Life Ascending Group, Central York, meets at The Upper Room, St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.

27 Thur
7.30pm Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.

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

29 Sat
9am Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred

Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
7.30pm Sacred Heart Parish Dance, Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough TS5 6JB.
March Voice available from churches.

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@rcdmidd.org.uk

Friday February 7 for March issue

Friday March 6 for April issue

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NEWS

Dentist Visit Soothes Mama Mimi's Pain

Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel's Parish, Middlesbrough, lives and works in Basankusu Diocese, in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"The church bell rings at five in the morning," Mama Mimi explained. "I'll be at your house by half-past."

In Basankusu, dentistry is normally do-it-yourself. The conservation group for bonobos, (which are like chimpanzees, only better), had invited a dentist to come along. The conservation village is about half an hour upriver. Although the dentist would be checking-up on the bonobos, she would provide a free service for the local population – mostly by pulling out teeth!

I've known Mama Mimi since she was 12. She never went to school, but now makes a living selling snacks from a stall near our hospital, and now toothache was making her miserable. It took a while for me to persuade her to go to see the dentist.

"They're only here for one week," I told her. "After that, what will you do?" She reluctantly agreed to follow my advice. At 5.30am the next morning I was already waiting for Mimi. I waited and waited. I decided she'd chickened out, and so started walking to her house to fetch her. Just as I set off, I saw a lone figure walking slowly up the earth road towards me.

We arrived at the riverside. No canoe. It was already 6.20am but only a few people were waiting to go. One of our malnutrition centre volunteers came along – she also had toothache. I gave them each about £1 to pay for the ride in the canoe. Then I saw one of the nuns, Sister Patience, waiting in the shelter with a friend.

"I want to see the dentist, but I haven't got any money for the ride there," she pleaded. I gave her some money. Her friend's eyes lit up.

"I'll need my fare as well," she whispered. I gave it and told her not to tell anyone else.



Mama Mimi is pictured sitting on the edge of the boat on the left of the picture

A few others discretely asked me for the price of their ticket, which I paid, knowing that my donors would think it was a good use of their money.

The longer we waited for the canoe, the more people arrived. Little by little they started drifting away again to buy some food for the long day ahead. At about 7.30am, we heard the outboard engine of the canoe. We all went down the steep hill to the river and everyone climbed aboard.

Mama Mimi arrived home late in the evening and went straight to bed. I went with Judith to visit her the next morning. I asked her if they'd sorted out her painful tooth.

"They took out four teeth!" she retorted. She told me she was very pleased. Showing me the antibiotics and painkillers they'd given her, she said: "If they hadn't taken them out, I would have been in pain all the time."

Not many of us like going to the dentist but

imagine if you only had a chance once a year! Let's count our blessings each day and be ready to reach out to people like Mama Mimi, who need our help.

• **Support Francis' work in the Congo. Donate via PayPal type [PayPal.me/FHannaway](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.paypal.me/FHannaway) into your browser, or tap the link on his Facebook page, or internet banking: Pay: Francis Hannaway, Ref: Congo, sort code: 40-33-01, account: 01172115.**

Work Gets Underway For Missionary Disciples

The parish of Blessed Nicholas Postgate in Redcar has begun its Missionary Discipleship journey.

Around 30 people attended the two initial meetings where Carole Bennett and Sarah Bowmaker gave a short introduction by sharing what had happened at Bishop Terry's study day, when Father Eamonn Mulcahy addressed more than 200 priests, deacons and lay people from across the diocese.

His message was that through our baptism we are all sent to be missionary disciples wherever we find ourselves. He said we need to accept Christ's invitation to become missionary disciples in missionary parishes and a missionary diocese, with more and more parishioners taking ownership of parish life and work in proclaiming the Good News. Many parishes around the diocese are following up on this in all kinds of ways.

In Redcar, Carole and Sarah were encouraged by Canon Derek Turnham to get the process going. All three churches in the parish were represented and people got down to the task of doing a SWOT analysis, working in groups to look at the strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities presenting themselves as the parish moves forward.

This was followed up by a further meeting exploring how their analysis fits into the celebration of the liturgy, proclamation of the Word, the parish and the local community. This work will continue into the New Year and culminate in a plan owned by the parish forward. Watch this space – and tell us about what you're doing in your parish!

David Cross, Adult Formation Coordinator



Redcar parishioners take up the Pope's challenge



Special Awards For Altar Service

Bishop Terry surprised two young men from the parish with a special award as Midnight Mass ended at St Mary's Cathedral.

He presented Joseph Duffield and Aidan Sleight with silver medals of the Guild of St Stephen in recognition of each giving over 10 years' service on the altar.

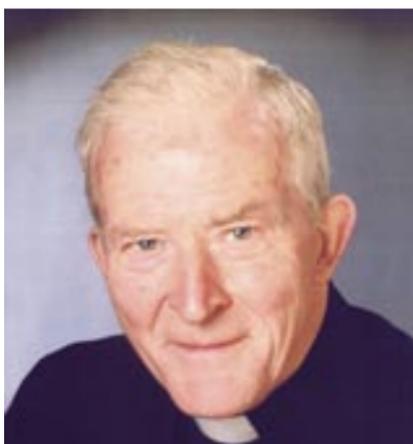
Joseph and Aidan have served since their First Holy Communion and both have held the post of head altar server. Although Joseph now lives and works away and Aidan is at university, both still serve whenever they come home.

Bishop Terry blessed the medals before presenting them to Joseph and Aidan, thanking them for their years of dedication and service.

This Month's Clergy Anniversaries

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

1	1919	Rt Rev Mgr Canon Gerald Shanahan	Thornaby
1	1937	Rev Edward H Bryan	Pickering
1	1973	Rev Michael Barry	Market Weighton
2	1920	Rt Rev Mgr Provost Charles Dawson	York
2	1982	Rev Francis Gresham OP	York
2	1989	Rt Rev Mgr J Liam Carson	Teesville
3	1912	Very Rev Canon Joseph Dodds	Leyburn
3	1981	Canon Gerard T Rickaby	Guisborough
3	1999	Rev Thomas Burke	Scarborough
3	2018	Rev Thomas Ryan	Caherconlish
5	1978	Very Rev Canon W Hughes	Hull
5	1979	Rev Dan Breen	Scarborough
7	1985	Mgr T Alban Nolan	Billingham
7	1988	Very Rev Canon Robert Carson	Redcar
8	1991	Rev John Shanahan	Knocklong
9	1975	Rev Joseph Bickerstaffe	Connah's Quay
9	2011	Rev Sean O'Donnell	Falcarragh
10	1933	Rev Richard Lewis	York
10	1970	Rev Leonard Cornwall	Hull
12	1947	Rev Thomas Reilly	Skirlaugh
12	1965	Rev Gerard Culkin	Ushaw
14	1897	Very Rev Canon George Brunner	Wycliffe
15	1931	Rev William Kirkham	Ulshaw Bridge
16	1999	Rev John Joseph Ryan	Scorton
17	2003	Rev Francis Daly	Middlesbrough
18	1995	Rev Desmond Cush	Richmond
18	1938	Rev George Kiernan	Thornaby
18	1942	Rev Bernard Wilson	Staithe
23	2015	Very Rev Canon Gerald Cox	Hull
23	2018	Rev Patrick Grant	Thurles
27	1963	Rev Joseph Blake	Hull
27	1900	Rev James Atkinson	Middlesbrough
27	1981	Rev James O'Brien	Staithe
28	1988	Rev John MacDonnell	Middlesbrough



Father Tom Ryan, whose second anniversary is this month



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NEWS

Reaching Out With Care From The Coast

Five years ago, Father Pat Keogh asked what we parishioners of St Hilda's, Whitby, could do to support asylum seekers based in Teesside.

We learned of young people scarred after witnessing the murder, torture, rape and abduction of family members. Many have been trafficked here, hoping for a safe place, but often finding themselves trapped in even worse situations. They are housed in places where no-one else will live, with no furniture or light bulbs.

Thankfully, many have found support and friendship on Teesside, though they can suffer abuse and even violence. They work hard to learn English but a lesson once a week isn't enough. They need people like us to chat to them whenever we meet. We were all touched by the moving stories and we undertook to follow up some practical ideas suggested by Mary Frankland, who is a huge support to them.

Over these five years we have welcomed asylum seekers to a social day in Whitby and have built many friendships. The United Reform Church offered the use of their upper room where we could host the visitors in comfort and the staff from the Trinity Centre volunteered to help with food preparation.

The group of supporters has grown each year, including representatives from other churches in the town, Quakers, an art group in Hinderwell, the WI and many others, everyone keen to provide a day where our visitors can forget how long they have had to wait for their applications to be processed, some more than nine years. They all want to contribute but are not allowed to work until they have been given permission to remain.

This year we also decided to try to provide 20 Christmas hampers with basic foods, toiletries, hats, gloves and scarves and hot



Guests having fun at the social day in Whitby

water bottles. In only a couple of weeks donations came rolling in and we were able to provide 23 large bags of food, as well as 30 bags of toiletries.

The asylum seekers couldn't believe how generous everyone was and were overjoyed with the gifts they received. A lady from the Congo said it reminded her of when Jesus said, "When you do this to the least of my people, you do it to me."

At the recent diocesan inspiration day, held in Scarborough, a question was asked about

how our better-off parishes could support asylum seekers who are concentrated in the poorer areas.

A smaller initiative to the one in Whitby was held in Ampleforth when a group of asylum seekers were taken by Ailsa Adamson of MAP (Methodist Asylum Project) to Ampleforth, where parishioners of Our Lady and St Benedict's joined the local Anglican congregation to welcome them for a day out in their beautiful area.

Could your parishioners offer something

similar, a day out by the sea, a walk through the woods or climbing Roseberry Topping, with a warm meal and a friendly smile to welcome the visitors?

If your parish would like to be involved, please leave your contact details with Father Pat at St Hilda's or email me at atkinsonelizabeth20@gmail.com. We can pass on your details to Mary Frankland who may visit your parish and discuss what you could offer.

Liz Atkinson

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