

## Bishop's Column

As we continue to celebrate the year of "the God who speaks", it is especially important that, as Lent begins, we focus on the Word of God, and try to listen to that word in a new way. The Sunday readings have a particular structure. The gospels on the first two Sundays tell the same story every year: The Temptation of Jesus in the desert and the Transfiguration.

The Gospels of weeks three, four and five have a special significance for those who are to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter – the woman at the well, the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. These gospels describe Jesus' power over sin, and the different forms of sin – individual sin, social sin and the deadly effects of sin. The first readings trace significant events of salvation history, and the second readings highlight a theme which arises in one of the other readings.

On weekdays the scripture develops various themes of Lent throughout the first half of the season. During the second half, however, we hear a semi-continuous reading of St John's Gospel. The Lectionary chooses those passages that lead up to the death of Jesus. The first readings for the second half of Lent are chosen to match something within the gospel's theme each day.

The catechumens have been preparing themselves to be born again to new life in Christ with their sins forgiven in the waters of baptism. Those of us who were baptised some time ago need to copy their zeal and realise our need for new life and cleansing from sin.

Lent is the perfect season for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Every parish offers regular weekly opportunities for individual penitents to avail themselves of the sacramental grace, but during this holy season there are often communal events with opportunity for individual confession. Usually these are organised by several parishes coming together so that there are sufficient priests available. These are the normal forms of the sacrament which the Church makes available to us all the time. General Absolution is restricted to extraordinary circumstances which are most unlikely to occur in our part of the world. Even in Kenya, where numbers for confession could be huge, we were not allowed to use General Absolution.

So all the ingredients are there for us to receive God's gracious gifts as we await the paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure. Have a very fruitful Lent!

Yours in blessed hope,

+ Long

## What's Inside

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# Support CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day

**This year's Lent Fast Day focuses on healthcare work in Zimbabwe's Gokwe Diocese, where CAFOD works closely with Caritas.**

The region has benefited from match-funded projects that have enabled CAFOD to build on previous work and positive outcomes in several sectors across society.

Caritas Gokwe has its own network of parish volunteers, just like ours in the Diocese of Middlesbrough. They fundraise just like we do, albeit with more limited means, and raise alerts about needs in the community.

We work with local health experts in Gokwe who not only treat sick people but provide vegetable gardens to grow healthy food and offer health and nutrition advice.

Sister Consilia works at the mission hospital as a pharmacist, giving medicines to people suffering from life-threatening diseases such as malaria and typhoid and those living with HIV. She has also developed expertise in mother and baby health.

Her work has helped reduce the incidence and the number of deaths from malaria. Infant mortality rates are a problem in Zimbabwe but at the mission hospital they did not lose any mothers or babies last year. Sister Consilia's own life was transformed when she received treatment for malaria at the age of 16.

"The hospital is very far from the place where I come from and in those days there was no transport," she said. "I had to travel on foot, and it was during the rainy season. "On the way, the river flooded. There was no one to help us across the river. I went with



Sister Consilia – photo by Zinyange Auntuny/Caritas Gokwe

my young sister – we were both sick and it took four hours to travel to the hospital on foot. The journey was too long. I had to sit on the way – it was too hard, especially for someone who was not well.

"I felt afraid because it was raining, and we didn't think we would find help. It was very difficult making that journey."

When they reached the hospital she was given tablets and then sent home.

She says: "I was itching when I went home and I can remember scratching. When I

became well, the itching stopped. It took almost a week to get well again. Now I treat girls who have malaria. I give them treatment and I know it helps."

Please support CAFOD's work on Family Fast Day by giving what you can and help us to share your love, expressed through their hands, with people in the greatest need. Thank you.

**•CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day is on Friday March 6.**

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NEWS

# Emergency In Southern African States

**We have been monitoring a situation of drought and food shortage in Zimbabwe and neighbouring Zambia for several months.**

Climate change in that region means temperatures are rising, water has become increasingly scarce, and harvests have failed.

Last year, the United Nations warned that Zimbabwe faced a major food crisis which affected a third of its population – more than five million people. Today, that figure has increased to more than 7.7m people, more than half the population of 14m.

As the situation has escalated we have responded with emergency aid. Our local aid experts are supporting the worst-affected communities. We have so far committed more than £160,000 to the emergency response.

This currently includes delivering emergency food aid to the people in greatest need through our church network and creating access to safe, clean water through new pipelines, boreholes and water points.

Verity Johnson, CAFOD’s country representative for Zimbabwe, said: “Years of economic turmoil and climate change, as well as the recent Cyclone Idai, are pushing families to the brink of starvation. Last year’s

harvests failed, largely due to extreme weather, from droughts that lasted for months on end, to flooding which wiped out whole villages.

“The cost of food has risen exponentially and there are severe bread shortages across the country. Where it can be found, a loaf of bread in Zimbabwe now costs up to 15 times more than it did a year ago. In the struggle to feed their children, parents are going without themselves.

“The prolonged drought means dams have failed to fill. Wells and rivers are drying up, leaving communities with no option but to walk tens of kilometres to reach water.”

You can find out more at [cafod.org.uk/Southern-Africa-food-crisis](http://cafod.org.uk/Southern-Africa-food-crisis) and order posters and emergency collection envelopes at [cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising](http://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising). You can also donate online [cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Food-Crisis-Appeal](http://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Food-Crisis-Appeal).

Thank you as always for your consistently generous support of all our work, including our emergency work. Please join us in holding the people of Zimbabwe and Zambia in your prayers.

**Carol Cross, CAFOD Diocesan Coordinator**



Helping people affected by the emergency in Zimbabwe – photo by Gilbert Phiri and Livison Chipatiso/CAFOD

# Zimbabwe Focus For World Day Of Prayer

**Women, men and children of all ages are called to “Rise, take up your mat and walk” and join World Day of Prayer on Friday March 6.**

Women of Zimbabwe have prepared this year’s service and encourage us all to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years.

They share the challenges they have met and their hopes for the future and ask us to walk with them as they continue their often-turbulent journey towards full reconciliation.

World Day of Prayer is a woman-led, global,

ecumenical movement, which enables us to hear the thoughts, hopes and prayers of women.

Each year the service is prepared by women from a different country and preparation begins long in advance. It is particularly poignant because the situation in Zimbabwe has become much worse since this year’s service was written.

Years of economic difficulties, coupled with the effects of climate change, the recent cyclone and severe drought, which caused the failure of last year’s harvest, have

resulted in extreme food shortages and the UN has warned that more than half the population of Zimbabwe are on the brink of starvation.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in more than 170 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer, in native languages, travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas – before finishing in American Samoa more than 36 hours later.

In York, parishioners from English Martyrs’ Church will join friends from neighbouring St Chad’s and St Clement’s Church of England

parishes and Southlands Methodist Church and some students from All Saints School to celebrate day in English Martyrs’ hall at 2pm on Friday March 6.

Other services will take place elsewhere in York, throughout the diocese and the country. Details of services can be found on the World Day of Prayer website, [wwdp.org.uk/services/](http://wwdp.org.uk/services/). All are welcome. Do find a service near you and join us in prayer with and for the people of Zimbabwe.

**Judith Smeaton, English Martyrs’ Parish, York**

# Congratulations, Paul And Johan!



**Two people from our diocese were among the first cohort of students on the Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Course who graduated at a ceremony at Liverpool Hope University.**

Archbishop Malcolm McMahon celebrated Mass and presented the certificates. Undertaken by distance learning, the qualification is issued by the Institute of Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago.

Our pictures show Paul Griffin, below, from Scarborough, with the archbishop and the assistant dean of the programme, and Dr Johan Bergström-Allen, left, pictured with his mother, Angela, and parish priest of Our Lady’s, York, Father Tony Lester.



# Speakers Battle It Out For Catenian Trophies

**Representatives of Catholic schools from all over the North-East will battle it out at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough in the Catenian Association public speaking contest.**

Contestants will compete for the Bishop Augustine Harris trophy, the Bishop Ambrose Griffiths Trophy and the Thomas Clifford Trophy in Key Stages three and four and over-16 categories, with winners receiving a cash prize of £100 and runners-up winning £50.

The event takes place on Sunday March 8 from 10am to 4.30pm. It’s the first time the contest has been staged in the town and there’s still time to apply.

For further information, email Joe James on [jjames9241@aol.com](mailto:jjames9241@aol.com).



# The Road To Becoming Missionary Parishes

**Bishop Terry invited every parish priest and deacon along with two to three people for their parishes to come together in York last June for a day to explore what it is to be a missionary parish and a missionary diocese. The day was led by Father Eamonn Mulcahy, a Spiritan Father from Salford.**

Father Eamonn spoke at length about the work of the Spiritan Community and its mission of outreach, particularly to the poor and marginalised. He shared with us the importance of Christians acting on the commission that each of us received at our baptism. Father Eamonn invited the participants of the day to ask themselves: "Am I a missionary disciple? Am I a member of a missionary parish? Do I live in a missionary diocese?"

While posing these questions, Father Eamonn offered some examples of the kind of activities that help us to answer these for ourselves. The whole point of the day was to encourage us to begin thinking, reflecting and acting upon Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* – the proclamation of the Gospel in today's world – in which the Holy Father makes a number of key points, three of which are mentioned here...

1. The parish is not an outdated institution. Precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and community. (para 28)

2. Pastoral ministry in a missionary key seeks to abandon the complacent attitude that says: "We have always done it this way." Pope Francis "invites[s] everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelisation in their respective

communities." (para 33)

3. "Pastoral ministry in a missionary style is not obsessed with the disjointed transmission of a multitude of doctrines to be insistently imposed. When we adopt a pastoral goal and a missionary style which would actually reach everyone without exception or exclusion, the message has to concentrate on the essentials, on what is most beautiful, most grand, most appealing and at the same time necessary. The message is simplified, while losing none of its depth and truth, and thus becomes all the more forceful and convincing." (para 35)

These points were highlighted amid the backdrop of the context of our own diocese where together, over the next few years, we increasingly face the amalgamation of parishes, no resident priest in some parishes, falling congregations, fewer young people in our parishes and so on.

Father Eamonn stressed that we should not feel disheartened or threatened but should face this with enthusiasm and seek to be Spirit-filled evangelisers. But we need to ask ourselves the question – If our parish closed tomorrow, would anyone in the wider community notice? As parishes, as Church, we do not exist solely for ourselves. Our mission is to make the Kingdom of God visible in our world.

At the end of the day, every participant received a worksheet and was asked to take it back to their parish and over the next six to 12 months to convene a series of parish meetings to explore the invitation placed before us to become missionary disciples, missionary parishes and ultimately a missionary diocese.

The process involves holding four meetings to which all parishioners should be invited, under the following headings:



Father Eamonn Mulcahy, who led our missionary parishes retreat

- Being Bold and Creative
- Building a Community of Faith
- Becoming Missionary Disciples
- Towards a Missionary Option

The invitation has been greeted with mixed enthusiasm. Some parishes have taken the work forward, while others are still trying to identify how to go about this. Parishes are at different steps along the way, but this is well and good.

There is a follow-up day planned for Saturday June 20 in York. Once again, Bishop Terry will be inviting all parishes to attend and to be prepared to share with others how they have responded since the day with Father Eamonn.

If you haven't started out on this journey yet, it's not too late to begin. If your parish was unable to be represented at last June's meeting and you would like a copy of the worksheet, please either email [adultformation@rcdmidd.org.uk](mailto:adultformation@rcdmidd.org.uk) or call me on 01642 850505

If you feel you would like some help and support to get things started, I'd be very happy to help.

**Remember to put Saturday June 20 in your diary. If you would like to attend on behalf of your parish then speak to your parish priest.**

David Cross, Adult Formation Coordinator

## Platinum Celebrations For Dedicated Jimmy And Chris

**Jimmy and Chris Duffy celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary by renewing their vows during Mass at St Alphonsus in North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.**

Regular Lourdes pilgrims Jimmy and Chris met in 1949 and were married by Canon Lynam at St Francis Church in Acklam the following year.

Their happy union has been blessed with nine children, but they have also experienced sad times.

Their eldest son, Joseph, was killed in a road accident in 1971 and then their daughter, Christine, was killed in

a road accident in 1976.

Their faith and the strong support of their family helped them through these times.

Parish priest Father Pat Day presented the couple with a papal blessing and the celebrations continued afterwards with a party at North Ormesby Working Mens' Club

Jimmy and Chris recently became great-great-grandparents. We wish them good health and many more happy years together.



Jimmy and Chris Duffy with Father Pat Day and their papal blessing

## Food And Friendship Between the Generations



One of the young helpers from St Thomas More Primary School in Middlesbrough at the Food and Friendship project

**Children from St Thomas More Primary School in Middlesbrough have been making new friends from the older generations as part of their Food and Friendship project.**

Every Tuesday after school, Year 5 pupils gather at the nearby church hall to reach out the hand of friendship to elder members of the parish and surrounding community.

The idea is to cook up delicious meals, dine together, create arts and crafts and make new friendships, enabling those in the community who may feel alone at this time of year to come together to share.

This is what some of the children have said ...

"We cooked delicious tomato soup and blueberry pancakes." – Henley, aged 10

"I invited my next-door neighbour. She hasn't been out much since her husband died and meeting new people really cheered her up." – Harriet, Year 5

"My favourite part was making Christmas decorations. My new friend helped me make a clay Father Christmas." – Moses

The Food and Friendship project is funded by Ageing Better Middlesbrough and delivered in partnership between Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland and Middlesbrough Environment City.

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SCHOOLS

MIRACLES OF JESUS

THE REWARD OF FAITH (HEALING OF THE WOMAN WHO TOUCHED JESUS' GARMENT)

Jesus was on his way to help a man whose daughter was very ill. As he walked along, a large crowd of people followed him. Among them was a woman who had a complaint which no doctor had been able to cure. She had heard about the wonderful things Jesus had done, and she thought: "If I just touch the hem of his clothes, I'll be healed." So she quietly pushed through the crowd, touched the hem of his cloak, and at once she was cured. Jesus turned and asked who had touched him. The apostles replied: "Master, with so many people here, how could we know?" Then the lady came and knelt at his feet and told him she had done it. Jesus smiled at her and said: "Go in peace, your faith has made you whole."



Word Search

T	H	G	U	O	H	T	R	I	E
D	F	U	W	X	N	E	K	L	A
A	E	M	R	A	T	J	U	L	T
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ILL

WALKED

WOMAN

WONDERFUL

THOUGHT

TOUCHED

HEALED

CLOAK

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APOSTLES

MASTER

FAITH



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If your School would like to wish our readers a Happy and Holy Easter in the next edition, please get in touch by

**Monday 16th March.**  
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# Glowing Report Charts St Patrick's 'Significant' Progress Under New Head

**St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby has been praised by inspectors for the "significant" progress made since the appointment of a new headteacher and strengthening of its leadership and teaching teams.**

The school was judged to be inadequate and placed in special measures after a full inspection in May 2018. But following a monitoring visit on December 17 and 18 last year, inspectors have now concluded: "Leaders and managers are taking effective action towards the removal of special measures."

The report says that although previous efforts to improve the quality of education had mixed results, this picture is now being transformed. New headteacher Michael Burns took up his post on October 21 2019 and Ofsted says he has made "significant strides in a short space of time."

"The headteacher has a clear vision for improvement," the report says. "He wants all pupils to succeed. In just eight weeks, he has made a number of important changes."

"He has brought in new systems to check pupils' progress and the quality of education. Prompt action is now being taken to support pupils who fall behind. His team holds weekly meetings to check on the most vulnerable pupils. The senior team are working more effectively together."

"The headteacher is developing the quality of senior leadership. He has made sure his team are much more visible around the school site. As a result, staff and pupils feel

more supported. Senior leaders will not accept bullying or poor behaviour."

There is also praise for Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust (NPCAT), which runs St Patrick's along with 25 other schools across Teesside and North Yorkshire.

A new trust standards officer and trust subject directors for English and maths are described as important appointments which are improving the quality of planning, teaching and assessment.

Headteacher Michael Burns said: "We're all delighted to have made such significant progress in such a short space of time and it's reassuring to see the inspectors have acknowledged the transformation that's taking place."

"I'm extremely proud of this report and of all the children and staff who have worked so hard to take this school forward. I'm also very appreciative of the support of our parents and the whole community."

"I'd especially like to highlight the comment the inspectors made about how we as a school will not tolerate poor behaviour and bullying. We will continue raising expectations in the months ahead as we build on the strides we have made so far."

Trust chief executive officer Hugh Hegarty added: "Together with Ofsted's recent positive findings at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough, the report is evidence of the impact our trust-wide infrastructure is having across all our secondary schools."

"I must thank all the staff who have

embraced the necessary changes and who work relentlessly to assist all students. I also want to thank every parent for working in partnership with the trust as we continue to progress."

"The governors provide crucial support and

their desire to restore St Patrick's to its previous status within the community remains a key target. We have a long way to go, but this external validation is a boost to everyone within the college and within the trust."



Michael Burns, headteacher of St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby



*"Leaders are building a positive atmosphere through increasing praise and rewards"*  
Ofsted, January 2020



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## SCHOOLS



Mayor of Scarborough Hazel Lynskey with staff and children from St George's Roman Catholic School in Eastfield

## When The Dragons Came To St George's

**Year 3 and 4 children at St George's Roman Catholic School in Eastfield wrote to Scarborough Borough Council to complain about a problem with dragons.**

They had been hunting on the playground after reading the book, *How to Train Your Dragon* and wrote complaining about the creatures making a mess on the school field. The council promptly wrote back, sending

the children some dragon-repelling sweets.

Mayor of Scarborough Hazel Lynskey then visited for a special assembly and asked the children if the dragon problem had been resolved. She also spoke about her role as mayor and gave them the chance to ask questions.

Stephany Jones

## Delight For St Augustine's After Diocesan RE Inspection

**Pupils and staff at St Augustine's, Scarborough, are celebrating the outcome of their recent diocesan inspection, which judged the school to be "Outstanding."**

The two-day inspection looked at the Catholic life of the school, provision for the teaching of RE and its outcomes and collective worship. Inspectors noted that the quality of leadership, outcomes and provision for the Catholic life of the school is outstanding.

Their report also commented on, "the sensitive and hard-working staff in school, whose work has created many opportunities for pupils and staff to grow spiritually," highlighting the "committed and faith-filled leadership of the school, which inspires excellence, service and integrity."

Chief executive officer of the St Margaret Clitherow Trust Amy Rice said: "I am delighted that the great work at St Augustine's has been recognised with an Outstanding judgement.

"It reflects the deep commitment to Catholic life at the school, something we cherish in each of our schools.

"The staff and pupils are rightly proud to be part of the caring and ambitious school family at St Augustine's."



Pupils at St Augustine's, Scarborough, which has received an "Outstanding" Diocesan RE Inspection

# Children Inspired By Holocaust Survivor's Moving Story

**Children spoke of being inspired after a 93-year-old Holocaust survivor came to tell the moving story of how she left her family behind and fled Nazi persecution.**

Gabriele Keenaghan visited St Alphonsus Catholic Primary School in North Ormesby, Middlesbrough, where her granddaughter Emily Smith teaches, ahead of Holocaust Memorial Day in January.

Born in Vienna in 1926, the daughter of a Catholic mother and a Jewish father, Gabriele was brought up by her grandmother after her mother died when she was young.

Labelled as a "mischling" by the Nazis after the Anschluss on March 1928, when Austria was annexed by Hitler's Germany, she was sent to a Jewish school and forced to wear a yellow Star of David at all times.

The infamous Kristallnacht (the night of the broken glass) – on the eve of Gabriele's 12th birthday – saw windows smashed in synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses.

Fearing for Gabriele's life, her grandmother reluctantly made plans for her to join 150 other children on a Kindertransport train to England in April 1929.

"In my mind I can still see my grandmother on the platform and every time I talk about it I get emotional," said Gabriele.

"There were 150 children on the train and the Nazis were

there with lists of people and we all had labels around our necks.

"The Nazis told the adults there had to be no emotional scenes – even though people were putting their children and grandchildren on the trains to they didn't know where, not knowing whether they'd ever see them again."

At the end of a 1,000-mile journey she stood alone on another platform in London's Liverpool Street Station, before being met by a female member of the Catholic Committee for Refugees.

Gabriele spoke no English but quickly learned the language at a school run by the Sisters of Notre Dame in Ashford, Kent. After the war she trained as a teacher at Wynyard Hall and met and married a young flight sergeant. She was also reunited with her grandmother, who died in 1974.

"I don't think I can put into words how proud of her I am," said Emily. "It's Holocaust Memorial Day later this month and we thought it would be good for her to talk to the key stage two children because they study that era within the history curriculum. We also have quite a few refugees in our school and it means a lot to them to hear this kind of story."

Gabriele brought the British Empire Medal she was received from the Queen at Buckingham Palace for services to



Gabriele Keenaghan with children from St Alphonsus, Middlesbrough

education to show the St Alphonsus children.

"Their faces show surprise because they've never heard a story like this but they really listen and absorb it and have the intention that it will never happen in their lifetimes," she said.

"We need to repeat the message until young people are aware that this kind of behaviour is never acceptable."

## A Letter From Madonna House – Reflecting God's Light



**One of my favourite sights is the full moon reflected on the North Sea on a clear night in Robin Hood's Bay. Last summer on the Feast of the Assumption I was able to share this experience with my parents and brother who came to visit. The night before their departure, we walked down to the sea one last time and were met by a glorious full moon.**

The moon always reminds me of Our Lady. As with the moon, which has no light of its own but reflects the light of the sun, so it is with Our Lady, who always reflects the beauty and goodness of God.

During this month, when England is rededicated as Our Lady's Dowry and each person is encouraged to make a personal consecration, I reflect on my own consecration to Jesus through Mary.

For many years now I have been aware that it is Our Lady who brought me to where I am today. This consecration which I prepared for and completed (at first half-heartedly) to appease my mother, changed and continues

to change my life.

And although initially I did not observe a distinct change, it was when upon looking back after some years that I noticed a definite shift had occurred from that moment.

All of us long to be fulfilled, healed and made whole. This is what holiness is – whole-ness, joy, being fully alive.

Often we do not recognise that it is only in Christ that we find this. When we entrust ourselves to Our Lady, she takes us on in a special way and leads us into the heart of her son. Her desire for us, like the desire of any good mother, is that we have JOY.

I can liken my own experience to that of a person with a map, not sure exactly where I wanted to go, interpreting the signs and symbols my own way, sometimes asking for help when I felt lost, and sort of stumbling along the best I could.

After entrusting myself to Our Lady, she took me by the hand and began to guide me. My desire began to be clear to me.

Opportunities to grow in my faith arose and became appealing to me. The courage to step away from other people's expectations of me and to follow my own heart grew.

I went from fearing and resisting God's will to joyful acceptance. The journey continues and little by little I feel as though I am becoming more and more free.

Our Lady knows the shortcuts. When there is a difficult lesson to be learned, she is the one who provides the "spoonful of sugar to help the medicine go down." She helps us shoulder our heavy burdens and encourages us along our way.

God chose Our Lady as the gateway through which he passed so that he could dwell among us. Do not be afraid of passing through this gateway, which is the surest and easiest way to the heart of the Father.

• Look for a free copy of Father Michael Gaitley's booklet, *33 Days to Morning Glory*, in your parish, or ask your priest about it.

Joanne Slugocki





**Help people in the world's poorest places  
See the Way to a brighter future – give  
before 12th May 2020 and every £1 you  
donate to our See the Way appeal will be  
doubled by the UK government.**



**Dear Middlesbrough Voice reader,**

Life with cataracts has not been easy for three-year-old Leah, living in East Africa. Unable to see, every morning she sits on an old car tyre, hearing the sounds of her brother and cousins going to school. She feels left out and alone.

Leah's mother is heartbroken that her daughter is needlessly blind. She told us, "Sometimes she cries because of the discomfort. It is as if she sees stones instead of light in her eyes." Cataract surgery to restore sight can take just 45 minutes, but many families in low-income countries cannot afford the £95 for surgery.

You can change that with a gift to CBM today. £95 could fund cataract surgery for **not one but two** children like Leah. That's because every pound you give will have double the impact - you could fund twice as much equipment and medical supplies, medication and a skilled surgeon's time, as well as any follow-up care, including eye drops and glasses.

**Give before 12th May 2020 and every £1 you donate to our See the Way appeal will be doubled by the UK government.**

God bless you,

*Louise*

Louise Shute  
CBM Programme Manager

Public donations will support CBM's work preventing blindness and transforming lives wherever the need is greatest. Match funding from the UK government will improve access to sight saving eye-health services in Malawi.

### How it works

Help people in the world's poorest places  
**See the Way** to a brighter future - give  
before 12th May 2020 and every £1 you  
donate to our **See the Way** appeal will be  
doubled by the UK government.



**Yes, I want to donate to help twice as many blind children like Leah.**

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Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

We will send you an update on Leah's surgery.

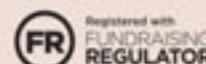
We'd love to keep you informed about our life-changing work and how you can support it by making a donation. By giving your email address or phone number below you give CBM UK consent to contact you using these methods:

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**Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RSKK-HXAX-CYGZ, CBM, Oakington Business Park, Dry Drayton Road, Oakington, Cambridge CB24 3DQ**

Until 12th May 2020, the UK government will double all public donations to our See the Way appeal up to £2 million.



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your gift by 25%** *giftaid it*

If you are a UK taxpayer and if you tick the Gift Aid box when you make a donation, HMRC will add an extra 25p for every pound you donate.

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Christian Blind Mission. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

**We will need your name and address to claim the additional 25% of your donation from Gift Aid.**

**You can also call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today, or visit our website [seetheway.org](http://seetheway.org).**



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. This month it's the turn of people who work in school chaplaincy...



Nicky Coyle

My favourite passage of scripture is... James 2:14-18, 24

*But someone will say, "One person has faith, another has actions." My answer is, "Show me how anyone can have faith without actions. I will show you my faith by my actions." You see, then, that it is by our actions that we are put right with God, and not by our faith alone.*

I have been amazed by the personal journeys of young people when given the opportunity to help others – often digging deep within themselves to provide a service for those in need. People will often feel better about themselves and their self-confidence grows when they are working to help others. To me, this is a very special way the Holy Spirit is so visible in today's world. I feel that Jesus wants us to be kind to others, serving them as best we can, and that is how we can show our faith in him.

**Nicky Coyle, Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, St Cuthbert's Academy Trust (SMC and Primary)**



Hannah Leech

My favourite passage of scripture is... Romans 9:13

*Do not pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honouring each other.*

I love St Paul's letters, he constantly reminds us of the example Jesus gave us and shows us how to bring Christ's love to others. This passage particularly helps me in my work with young people – it reminds me that even the most difficult of characters need love, affection and a genuine ear.

**Hannah Leech, Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, St Mary's College, Hull**



Micki Coyle

My favourite passage of scripture is... Luke 5:1-8

*When Jesus had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets."*

The words that struck me then and still do today are "Put out into deep water." God achieves nothing by people playing it safe, taking it easy. There is risk that comes with this Good News. It comes with a call to be where the danger is, where we are well outside our comfort zone, where we are sent. But the subtext of this is: "If you choose to go where I send you, I go before you."

**Micki Coyle, Primary Chaplains, St Cuthbert's Academy**



Catherine Holtby

My favourite passage of scripture is... Matthew 5:14-16

*You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

This passage is special to me because I use it a lot in the work I do in school and the children really identify with it – they can visualise themselves as shining lighthouses. Our favourite song in school is *City on a Hill*, which is based on this passage. I love the fact that when we do good in our lives other people don't see our light, but they see the light coming from the reflection of Jesus, the true light of the world. I hope that any good I do in my life reveals God to those who otherwise may never have known him.

**Catherine Holtby, Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, Endsleigh Holy Child Academy, Hull, part of the St Cuthbert's Catholic Academy Trust**

## Meditating On The Scriptures

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.

## Budapest Eucharistic Congress Continues Work Of Adoremus

Organisers hope at least 20 people from each diocese in England and Wales will travel to Budapest for the 52nd International Eucharistic Congress in Budapest from September 14 to 21.

The event will offer a deeply spiritual experience together with a cultural programme and provide an effective continuation of the work of Adoremus in 2018.

Tangney Tours have put together a choice of two packages, staying for either seven nights from Monday September 14 or five nights from Wednesday September 16.

Prices (subject to confirmation) start at £1,027 for five nights and £1,321 for seven nights, including include flights, transfers and four-star accommodation as well as entrance to major public events, a programme and liturgical booklet, map and backpack.

The programme includes catechesis from all over the world, workshops, a Eucharistic candlelight procession from Kossuth Square to Heroes Square and a closing Mass on Heroes Square.

Apply by Easter to guarantee a place. Visit [iec.tours](http://iec.tours) or call 01732 886666.



# Retreat Examines Apostolic Exhortation

**Dom Leo Maidlow Davis gave a homily on the Beatitudes from St Matthew's Gospel during Mass to begin a Year of the Word study day retreat at St Aelred's, York.**

The theme of the day was Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exultate* (Rejoice and Be Glad) and St Matthew's Gospel.

After Mass, Dom Leo, of Downside Abbey, led the day's first activity, the plenary presentation focusing on chapters 2 and 5 of the exhortation. He then gave a brief narration of St Benedict's life and a description of Benedictine life.

The afternoon session was devoted to *Lectio Divina* and started with everyone being

divided into groups. An extract from St Matthew's Gospel was read followed by meditation, sharing reflections and silent and shared prayers in keeping with the Pope's call to dedicate this year to the Word of God.

The retreat – which was organised by the Diocese of Middlesbrough Union of Catholic Mothers – was well supported from York parishes, York University and others from the diocese, as well as from Wetherby and Leeds.

It provided a beautiful opportunity for participants to take time out to interact with scripture at a deeply personal level and come together to share in prayer.

Kath Stubbs



Rose Cartledge, Dom Leo Maidlow Davis and diocese Union of Catholic Mothers' president Jean Rigg

## Holy Island Pilgrimage Honours Memory Of St Oscar Romero

**A one-day pilgrimage to Holy Island will invite participants to honour the memory of St Oscar Romero.**

This year the celebrates the Year of the Word – The God Who Speaks, which echoes the words of St Oscar's homily when he foretold his martyrdom and implored the people to become "The microphones of God."

March 24 is the 40th anniversary of St Oscar Romer's assassination while he was celebrating Mass in San Salvador.

This pilgrimage, on Saturday April 4, will draw participants from the North-East and Scotland for a day with prayer and liturgy, a film, dance performance and a pilgrim walk around the island.

Safe crossing times for the causeway mean that all participants need to be on the island no later than 10.30am and the welcome gathering and prayer will begin in the Anglican Parish Church of Mary the Virgin at 11am.

The day will end around 5pm after an ecumenical service and keynote address from Methodist theology professor Edgardo Colon-Emeric of Duke University, North Carolina.

The pilgrimage is sponsored by the Romero Trust, with the collaboration of CAFOD staff and volunteers. For more information contact Mark Harris at [sj23it@gmail.com](mailto:sj23it@gmail.com).

## Guisborough Churches Come Together To Pray For Unity

**Churches Together in Guisborough began the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with a Sunday evening service in St Paulinus Catholic Church.**

Canon Michael Bayldon conducted the ecumenical worship service, which was attended by worshippers from most churches in Guisborough.

In his welcome, Canon Michael told the congregation the resources for this year's Week of Prayer were prepared by Christian churches in Malta, explaining how the history of Christianity on the island dated back to the time of the Apostles.

According to tradition, St Paul reached the shores of Malta in 60AD and the readings in the service recounted his experiences at sea before being shipwrecked on the island.

Continuing on the nautical theme, Canon Michael quoted John Masefield's iconic poem, *I Must Go Down To The Sea Again*.

In his Gospel, St Luke describes St Paul's journey to Rome via Malta to preach the epistle to the pagans.

"We are on a journey still in the hands of God," Father Michael concluded. "We don't know the stopping points. We are the Gospel takers of today, as Peter and Paul were."

Eight single bricks, each representing an oar, were presented to the assembly before the altar. They bore the words trust, perseverance, harmony, courage, unusual kindness,

transformation and generosity and each presentation introduced a prayer.

Services were held later in the week at St Nicholas Church, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, the Salvation Army Citadel and the Guisborough Christian Fellowship.

Brian Gleeson



Canon Michael Bayldon with the display representing oars during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service



## Maths & Physics

### Paid Internships

**Improve Your Career Opportunities**

Schools across England are recruiting undergraduates following Maths or Physics related degree programmes to work as interns in schools. There are opportunities to work with young people in Secondary schools and you will receive full training free of charge.

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Full training, a school based mentor and careers advice. You don't have to want to become a teacher, but if you are inspired to join the profession while working in our schools, we provide carers advice, a guaranteed interview for a teacher training programme and advice on applying for scholarships and bursaries up to £30k to support you while you train.

Whatever your career aspirations, we promise that you will develop your communication, planning and organisation skills and gain invaluable experience that will enhance your CV.

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- Be an Undergraduate at University
- Be studying a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) related degree subject
- Be willing to help young people in schools
- Be potentially considering a career in teaching

**To apply or find out more**

Get in touch with Tyler Holmes for further information or for the application forms. [tholmes@carmel.org.uk](mailto:tholmes@carmel.org.uk) | 01325 254525  
The deadline for applications is April 2020.

**What Does It Involve?**

A four week internship in a local school after your exams in June 2020 – You will be paid £300 per week.



NATIONAL NEWS

# Voices Of The Holy Land ‘Must Not Be Ignored’

**A joint message from clergy from throughout the world – including Catholic Bishop of Clifton Declan Lang, Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham William Kenney and Church of England Bishop of Southwark Christopher Chessun – after their annual Holy Land Coordination visit...**

**Every year we come to encounter and hear the people of the Holy Land. We are inspired by their enduring resilience and faith in a worsening situation.**

In their recent powerful message, the local Catholic bishops lamented the international community's failure to help realise justice and peace here in the place of Christ's birth. Our governments must do more to meet their responsibilities for upholding international law and protecting human dignity. In some cases, they have become actively complicit in the evils of conflict and occupation. The local bishops also warned that people are facing further "evaporation of hope for a durable solution." We have witnessed this reality first-hand, particularly how construction of settlements and the separation wall is destroying any prospect of

two states existing in peace. In the same message, the local bishops have sounded the alarm about living conditions becoming "more and more unbearable". This is painfully clear in the West Bank where our sisters and brothers are denied even basic rights including freedom of movement. In Gaza, the political decisions of all sides have resulted in the creation of an open-air prison, human rights abuses and a profound humanitarian crisis. We were welcomed by families whose focus is now day-to-day survival and whose aspirations have been reduced to bare essentials such as electricity and clean water. Amid these circumstances, we are moved by the sacrifice of religious sisters, lay people and priests who are reaching out with respect to every side, in order to build a better future for all. They offer vital services, especially education, job opportunities and care for the most vulnerable people. We give thanks for their witness. We encourage Christians in our own countries to pray for and support this mission. The increase in people making

pilgrimages to the Holy Land is encouraging and we call for those who come to ensure they encounter the local communities. At the same time, we implore our governments to help build a new political solution rooted in human dignity for all. While this must ultimately be shaped by the peoples of the Holy Land in dialogue, there is an urgent need for our countries to play their part by:

- Insisting upon the application of international law
- Following the Holy See's lead in recognising the State of Palestine
- Addressing the security concerns of Israel and the right of all to live in safety
- Rejecting political or economic support for settlements
- Resolutely opposing acts of violence or abuses of human rights by any side.

In taking these steps the international community can meaningfully stand in solidarity with those Israelis and Palestinians who are refusing to give up their non-violent struggle for justice, peace and human rights. **We pray for the peace of Jerusalem.**



Chair of the Holy Land Coordination Bishop Declan Lang during a visit to the Latin Patriarchate School in Ramallah – Photo © Mazur/cbcew.org.uk

## Cardinal Nichols Calls For Kindness To Heal Brexit Divisions

**The Archbishop of Westminster has called for an end to the divisions brought about by the Brexit debate after the United Kingdom formally left the European Union.**

Cardinal Vincent Nicholas said people of goodwill should seize the opportunity to put the rifts that have been evident at many levels in our society in the past. "It is important for everyone to renew a commitment to each other through everyday acts of kindness, being good neighbours, welcoming the stranger and caring for the most vulnerable in our society," he said. "In these ways we contribute to the common good at every level of society, from national politics to individual generosity, particularly for those in greatest hardship and uncertainty. "As Catholics, with all people of goodwill, we commit ourselves to playing our role in this endeavour."

## New Rector And Bishop Appointed

**Diocese of Leeds priest Monsignor Philip Moger is to become the next Rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk.** He will take up his new responsibilities in September. The appointment comes as Monsignor John Armitage ends his five-year term as rector. Meanwhile, Pope Francis has appointed Canon David James Oakley as the 13th Bishop of Northampton. Bishop-elect Oakley has served as rector of St Mary's College, Oscott, a seminary in Birmingham for training priests for ministry in England and Wales, since February 2013.

NEWS IN BRIEF

**Father Pat To Shed Some Light**  
National chaplain to the Newman Association Father Pat Kilgariff will give a talk to the Cleveland Circle entitled "A light for my steps and a lamp for my path" at St Mary's Cathedral hall in Middlesbrough on Wednesday March 18 at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start. All are welcome.

**Invitation To Easter Event**  
St Barnabas Anglican Church in Linthorpe, Middlesbrough, invites those living with dementia and their carers to a "Looking Forward to Easter" afternoon on Thursday April 2. The event will start at 2pm with a short service for all denominations, followed by afternoon tea and entertainment, ending at 4pm. If anyone requires transport, contact Dot Fellowes on 01642 714274.

**Super Boost For Pray And Play**



The families of Pray and Play in Scarborough were delighted to receive a donation of £250 from Proudfoot supermarket. The group meets once a month for children to hear a Bible story or some tenet of the faith, before families spend time in adoration in St Edward's Church. This is followed by fun activities and crafts associated with the day's theme. The money will contribute to future crafts and the group are especially looking forward to a party hosted by magician Magic Mike in April to celebrate their second anniversary. – Sarah Barron

**RAF Charity Offers Mental Wellbeing Training**  
Families of serving RAF personnel and veterans who are finding life tough are being offered training to help them identify and deal with the symptoms of poor mental wellbeing by the Royal Air Forces Association charity. The "Finding It Tough?" initiative is open to all RAF veterans and their families, plus partners, parents, siblings and children (over 18) of anyone serving in the RAF, as well as MOD civil servants and defence contractors). Training sessions will be delivered at the Resource Centre, Meath Street, Middlesbrough, from Monday March 2. For more information visit [rafa.org.uk/finding-it-tough](http://rafa.org.uk/finding-it-tough).

## Litter Pick Triggers Exciting Chain Of Events



St Joseph's Church, Middlesbrough, parishioner Luigi Brancati and his nephews, Giacomo and Matteo, brother-in-law Patrick and niece Chiara were invited to tea with the Mayor of Durham as a thank-you for helping to keep the local community tidy and promoting recycling. The story began when Luigi and Chiara noticed lots of litter dropped on her route to and from school. They began picking up cans and plastic bottles and their efforts even made the pages of the *Sunday Mirror*. The family have signed the No Plastic Waste petition and recycle items often considered non-recyclable, such as toothpaste tubes and crisp packets, through the TerraCycle initiative. Our picture shows Patrick, Durham County Council chairman Katie Corrigan and Luigi at the back, with Giacomo, Chiara and Matteo at the front.

If you would like to advertise please contact Charlotte Rosbrooke on 07932 248225 or email [charlotter@cathcom.org](mailto:charlotter@cathcom.org)





## Who Are The SVP And What Do They Do In Our Diocese?

In the first of a regular series of articles looking at some of the organisations that make up Caritas Middlesbrough – part of Caritas England and Wales, the Catholic organisation for social outreach in our home country – we focus on the work of the SVP....

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay organisation and part of the worldwide Vincentian family.

Its members meet regularly, praying together and organising ways to help the poor and marginalised. While financial poverty is well recognised among families and homeless people, many people in our parishes are lonely. Often as they get older and become less mobile, they feel isolated from their parish community.

Last year our 300-plus members in the Diocese of Middlesbrough helped 2,713 beneficiaries, with 74 being from ethnic minorities. These members made 19,753 visits.

Practical help was given on 2,434 occasions, many lifts to Mass, doctors and dentists, banks and shopping. Members gave 26,501 hours of their time to help the needy. They also spent 851 hours on soup runs, feeding the homeless and helping other organisations.

As part of the global society, members from our diocese support twinned conferences, mainly in India and the Sudan. A total of £12,923 has been given overseas, £9,017 direct to twinned conferences in poorer

countries, £2,958 to special projects, £520 to support students and £428 to other projects, such as baby feeding in Sudan.

Without members' contributions and support from our parishioners we would not be able to do much of this work. For this, we thank you all.

Thirty-three of our primary schools have Mini Vinnies groups. They focus on being beacons of care for one another in their own school communities, as well as doing charitable work such as hamper appeals and concerts for elderly parishioners.

Youth SVP groups are active in most of our secondary schools and encourage our young people to practise Vincentian values, as well as developing self-confidence and organisational skills among members. We are indebted to our teachers and support staff who give their time and enthusiasm to encourage our young Catholics.

The SVP shop at Belle Vue on Marton Road, Middlesbrough, serves the local community, as well as supporting the society. Thank you for your donations, which are always welcome. If you take goods in yourself and pay tax, please ask to gift aid your donation. A number of members and others volunteer in the shop.

If your parish has an SVP group you will have seen some pictures of their work in September. If you would like to know more, please contact one of the group. If your parish does not have an SVP group and you

would like information about starting one, you can contact the organisation through the website [svp.org.uk](http://svp.org.uk) or locally by emailing me at [presidentc13@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentc13@svp.org.uk) or our

membership development officer Seb on [sebs@svp.org.uk](mailto:sebs@svp.org.uk).

Frances Gilchrist

### Father Colman's Meditation On St Joseph

The late Father Colman Ryan wrote this Priest's Meditation on St Joseph, whose feast day is on Thursday March 19. With thanks to Father Dominique Minskip for sending it in.

Had you been mindful this betokened more  
As with His Mother through the Temple door  
You entered in His Father's house...  
This absence of three days?  
Now would come the parting of your ways.

Unborn, with Him to Bethlehem you went  
And Pharaoh's land. As prophesied you spent  
A time and brought Him home to Nazareth.  
And all these 12 years you His father played  
With strength and guidance, love and care and aid.

Then at the moment you behold Him found  
With Temple priests his wisdom gathered round  
The Father-God He owns!  
A breaking heart completes your life of giving  
To men of God through sacrifice comes living.

*The test of every man of God and measure of his pride  
To play the role God-given and then to stand*



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# Out & About Around The Diocese

**BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH**

**3 Attends meeting of the Diocesan Education Sub-Committee 10.30am**  
**Lecto Divinia at St Mary's Cathedral 7pm**

**4 Lecto Divinia at St Augustine's, Scarborough 7pm**

**8 Institutes Paul Griffin to Lectorate at St Peter's, Scarborough 11.30am**

**10 Attends CSAN Board Meeting at Romero House, London Noon**

**12 Attends meeting of Bishop's Council at Bishop's House, Middlesbrough 11am**  
**Lecto Divinia at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel, Hull 7pm**

**13 Attends Safeguarding Study Day at Lakeside Conference Centre, York 10am**  
**Lecto Divinia at English Martyrs, York 7pm**

**18 Attends St Cuthberts Day and Trustees Meeting at Ushaw 11am**

**19 Attends Episcopal Ordination of Rt Rev David Oakley at Northampton Cathedral All day**

**21-24 Visitation to the Beda College**

**24-28 Visitation to the Venerable English College, Rome**

**31 Attends meeting of Diocesan Trustee Board at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 10.30am**

**1 Sun**  
**11am** Mass at Our Lady of Mount Grace (18 North End, Osmotherley Village, DL6 3BB) (first Sunday).

**2 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.

**3 Tues**  
**7.30pm** Father Henry Wansborough will speak at the Robin Hood's Bay Churches Together Lenten Series on "Papal Leadership in a Divided Church". RHB Methodist Church, Thorpe Lane YO22 4RW. All invited.

**4 Wed**  
The Little Flower Project Baby Bank at St Thomas More's Church Hall, Beechwood, Middlesbrough, drop-in from 10am–noon. For further details contact Marie Graham at thelittleflowerproject@gmail.com.

**March Choral Services at The Cathedral**

**March's Choral Services At The Cathedral**  
**Sunday March 1 at 10am:** Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)  
**Sunday March 1 at 3pm:** Rite of Election (Diocesan Choir) – includes motets by JS Bach and Fauré  
**Wednesday March 4 at 6pm:** Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)  
**Sunday March 8 at 10am:** Family Mass (Cathedral Choir)  
**Sunday March 8 at 4.15pm:** Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)  
**Wednesday March 11 at 6pm:** Benediction with Vespers (Cantor and congregation)  
**Sunday March 15 at 10am:** Family Mass (Cathedral Choir and Junior Choristers)  
**Wednesday March 18 at 6pm:** Benediction with Vespers (Ladies Schola)  
**Thursday March 19 at 6.30pm:** Solemn Mass for St Joseph (Cathedral Choir)  
**Sunday March 22 at 10am:** Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)  
**Wednesday March 25 at 6pm:** Benediction with Vespers (Low Voices Schola)  
**Sunday March 29 at 10am:** Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)  
**Sunday March 29 at 4pm:** Solemn Vespers for the Dowry of Our Lady (Diocesan and Cathedral Choir) – includes music by Stanford and Fauré  
**For more information about our choral services and music visit us online at <https://sites.google.com/site/middlesbroughcathedralmusic>**

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

**6 Fri**  
Events and articles for the April Voice are due by today.

**7 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](mailto:jl@rcdmidd.org.uk).

**8 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.

**9 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.

**10 Tues**  
**12.45pm** 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.  
**7.15pm** The film Global Caring – Living in Harmony with God's Creation will be shown with reflection and discussion at St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Coulby Newham, TS8 0TW.

**11 Wed**  
**10.30am** Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley Village DL6 3BB, Midday prayer and Wednesday Word, followed by refreshments.  
**After 10.30am Mass** The Life Ascending Group, Central York, meets at The Upper Room, St Wilfrid's Church, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.  
**2pm–3.30pm** Music for the Mind at St Mary's Cathedral Hall, Coulby Newham. For details call 01642 710179.

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

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

**14 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](mailto:jl@rcdmidd.org.uk).

**15 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 Joseph's Church, Tanton Road, Stokesley.

**16 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.  
**7.30pm** The Eddie White Sacred Heart Parish Dance, Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. Admission this month by ticket only. Contact John Brown on 07871 958412.

**17 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.

**18 Wed**  
**10am–noon** The Little Flower Project Baby Bank at St. Thomas More's Church Hall, Beechwood, Middlesbrough, drop-in. For further details contact Marie Graham at thelittleflowerproject@gmail.com.  
**2pm–4pm** Madonna House Apostolate invites you to their Open Mass, Thorpe Lane, Robin Hood's Bay YO22 4TQ. Father Phil Cunah will be the celebrant and will give a short talk and reflection over a cup of tea after the Mass. All are welcome.



NEWS

Sisters Mark Bicentenary Of Foundress’s Birth

The Sisters of the Cross and Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of our Foundress, the Servant of God, Mother Mary Joseph of Jesus, on September 2.

Several sisters from the order have been active in the Diocese of Middlesbrough. In 1999, two sisters opened a convent in Park End, Middlesbrough, and when St Pius X and St Alphonsus parishes were amalgamated in 2001, they moved into St Pius X presbytery to continue their apostolates in the community.

In 2009, Sister Maire became ill and had to go to our care home in Ilkley, where she died in 2010. Her companion, Sister Rose, also left the parish and the convent closed.

In 2002, two other Sisters of the Cross and Passion had opened another convent at St Anne’s House, Eston, where they lived as parish sisters.

One of them, Sister Cecilia, was appointed in 2010 to the Passionist Retreat House at Minsteracres, Co Durham, and so Sister Maria Magdalena Varley CP, who had come to St Andrew’s Parish, Teesville, in 2005, joined Sister Gabrielle in Eston while continuing to be on the St Andrew’s parish team.

Sister Maria loved her apostolate. An experienced teacher, she visited the schools, worked very closely with the parish priest and other helpers, visited parishioners in hospital and at home and helped with First Communion and Reconciliation programmes and a bereavement support group.

In 2015, however, she became ill. She knew there was no cure and in October 2015 she had to go to our care home Ilkley, where she died on May 6 2017.

The apostolate she followed was her heritage from our foundress, Mother Mary Joseph. Although born in Shrewsbury as Elizabeth Prout, she was living in Stone, Staffordshire, in 1842 when Blessed Dominic Barberi CP arrived there to found England’s first Passionist retreat.

Previously an Anglican, Elizabeth became a Catholic and in 1848 she entered a convent in Northampton. She became ill, however, and had to return to Stone.

In early 1849 Father Gaudentius Rossi CP gave a mission in St Chad’s, Manchester, and heard that parish priest Father Robert Croskell was looking for a schoolmistress to take charge of St Chad’s Girls’ School in Ancoats.

After Elizabeth recovered from her illness and while she was being pressurised by her mother to abandon her Catholic faith, Father Gaudentius suggested that she take the post.

Later that year she arrived in Manchester and Father Gaudentius invited her to co-operate with him and Father Croskell, with the approval of Bishop William Turner of Salford, in founding a new congregation to give a contemplative and active religious life to women who could not afford the dowry required by the established orders and did not wish to be lay sisters.

She agreed and founded our congregation with six other sisters on November 21 1852, when Father Gaudentius presided over the first clothing ceremony.

You may like to make a pilgrimage to Sutton, where Mother Mary Joseph’s remains are in a sepulchre in Blessed Dominic’s shrine, and to the places where she was born and lived. There will be a public pilgrimage to Sutton in her honour on September 26 but you are free to visit at any time.

Two books about Elizabeth Prout are available from the publishers gracewing.co.uk and a small booklet is available from ctsbooks.org. Please pray to her and let me know if she answers your prayers so I can send the information to be forwarded to Rome as part of the cause for her canonisation.

Sister Dominic Savio CP



The Sisters of the Cross and Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of our Foundress, the Servant of God, Mother Mary Joseph of Jesus, on September 2

**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.

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

**21 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.

**22 Sun**  
**Noon** Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid’s, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.  
**4pm** Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid’s, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.

**23 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.

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

**25 Wed**  
**12.45–3pm** The Life Ascending Group meets at St Leonard and St Mary, Malton.

**26 Thur**  
**7.30pm** Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.  
**27 Fri**  
**7pm** Marian Prayer Group, St Anthony’s Church, Beverley Road, Hull. All welcome. Contact Pat (01482) 802483 for details.  
**7pm** Holy Hour for the Sanctity of Life and in Thanksgiving for God’s Gift of Creation at St Thomas More’s Church, Beechwood, Middlesbrough.

**28 Sat**  
**9am** Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.  
**10am–4pm** Day of Prayer in Preparation for the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary at St Thomas More’s Church, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Mass at 10am followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 4pm. Includes hymns, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Marian devotions and an opportunity for silent prayer.  
March Voice available from churches.

**29 Sun**  
**Noon** Sung Latin Mass, St Wilfrid’s, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.  
**1.30pm** Easter Eggstravaganza at St Thomas More’s Church Hall, Beechwood, Middlesbrough. Tombola, raffle, Easter bonnet competition and refreshments. Come and join the fun with family and friends.  
**4pm** Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilfrid’s, Duncombe Place, York YO1 7EF.

**30 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.

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

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 March 6 for April issue

Friday April 3 for May issue

Where possible please send articles in Word and photographs as jpegs. Please confirm when you send in your photographs that those who appear in them have given their permission for publication.

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NEWS

# Trousers Are Hot Off The Press

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

I bought the suit in Asda six years ago. It wasn’t expensive, but it “would do” if I needed to wear a suit.

I never did, really. In the sweltering, steamy jungle, a t-shirt was as much as I could usually bear. Eventually, I put it in my bag and took it from Kinshasa to Basankusu. Then I found a reason to wear it. The Bishop of Basankusu was going to celebrate his episcopal silver jubilee.

Judith arrived and told me to give her the suit. “My cousin will iron it,” she smiled. I knew that offering to do it myself wasn’t an option.

As I got ready for what I knew would be a very long Mass at Basankusu Cathedral, perhaps four hours, I heard a scraping noise outside. I went to find out what it was. Judith had bought a brand new charcoal iron – the type we see in museums, normally

from Victorian times. You fill it with hot, glowing charcoal to make it hot. Her cousin was scraping it on the concrete stand around our well.

“It’s too smooth,” he beamed. “I need to make it a bit rough to iron properly.” I started to lose confidence in the whole process.

“I’m sure they made it smooth for a reason,” I explained, as he continued to remove the shiny surface – but to no avail.

About 20 minutes later, Judith popped her head in and asked if the suit only had one pair of trousers. I knew something must have gone wrong. She’d seen that I had another pair. It was true that they weren’t part of the suit, but in her opinion, they were much nicer.

“No,” I said. “A suit should have the same trousers that came with it.”

“Well, there’s been a little accident,” she offered sheepishly. She showed me the trousers. There was a hole, the size of an iron, completely through one leg.



Francis, wearing a suit with the wrong trousers, with his volunteers after the Mass for Bishop Joseph Mokobe

We all had a great day, including the reception at the bishop’s house. And do you know what? Nobody even noticed that I was wearing the wrong trousers!

I’m back in Basankusu once again. We’ve had two months support from Doctors Without Borders, an international group a bit like the Red Cross, but now they’ve gone. Our numbers will build up again in the next couple of months. Please pray for my work with malnourished children. I rely on donations – so please don’t forget to include

them as well.  
My visa problem isn’t completely resolved yet, I’m still struggling with that – but at least I remembered to pack my suit again this time.  
**•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.**

## Workshop For Choral Singers

**Choral composer and conductor Bob Chilcott will host an all-day workshop for avid singers at St Mary’s College in Hull on Saturday April 4.**  
Bob has enjoyed a lifelong association with choral music, first as a chorister and choral scholar in the choir of King’s College, Cambridge, and for 12 years as a member of the King’s Singers. He became a full-time composer in 1997 and has produced music for all types of choirs.  
The event runs from 10am to 4.30pm in the school’s main hall. Tickets £20 (students £8) including sheet music hire are available online at [hullboxoffice.com/event/come-and-sing-with-bob-chilcott/](http://hullboxoffice.com/event/come-and-sing-with-bob-chilcott/). For more information email [musiclessons@smchull.org](mailto:musiclessons@smchull.org).

## Lose Your Voice This Lent

**Catholic youth charity Million Minutes is inviting supporters to take part in a sponsored silence during Lent and help young people change their lives and local communities.**  
The charity’s siLENT campaign invites individuals, parishes, schools and communities to give up the things that fill their lives with noise. Money raised will support youth-led social action projects across the country that live out Catholic Social Teaching principles.  
Million Minutes’ Danny Curtin said: “This Lent, let’s speak up with silence. Instead of simply cutting out sugar or chocolate, take time to

give up the things that fill life with noise and restlessness.  
“By doing this you will not only allow time for silence, but your sponsorship will make a real difference to young people supporting the Church to accompany other young people, especially those without a voice.”  
Last year siLENT clocked up 353,936 minutes of silence and this year they hope to do even better. To sign up, visit [millionminutes.org/silent](http://millionminutes.org/silent).

## Environment Corner

### Some ideas to help you reduce your carbon footprint

- There are growing positive signs concerning public awareness of the need to improve our energy efficiency. Many of the steps we can take are small and simple. Here are a few...**
- 1. Switch off standby.** Appliances left on standby such as mobile phones, laptops and iPod chargers still use energy to keep them powered down. Simply switching off and unplugging items is a great way to be more energy efficient. According to the Department of Energy and Climate Change, the average household wastes around £40 a year simply by leaving appliances on standby.
  - 2. Buy energy-efficient appliances.** When replacing household appliances, choose energy-efficient replacements. You can check their Energy Star ratings for a quick reference.
  - 3. Switch to 30C.** Based on only two washes per week, washing clothes at 30C can save £15 and 80Kg of CO2. Make sure to fully load each wash and also do the same with the dishwasher.
  - 4. Flexible working.** If your company allows “working from home”, this is a good way to cut personal carbon emissions.
  - 5. Consider alterations to your diet.** This is obviously a serious decision. However, a meat-free diet can have a huge impact on your carbon footprint. A vegetarian diet generates only half the carbon dioxide in comparison to a diet which consists of 30 per cent meat, dairy and poultry. If going meat-free is too big a step, cutting down to one meat portion every other day is a good target. It’s fun to explore new vegetarian recipes and to encourage family members to join in creating tasty and healthy dishes. Share them with your friends!

Justice and Peace Commission



Children from St Peter’s RC Primary School in Scarborough, who excelled at the Scarborough and District Athletics Competition

## Pupils Smash Athletics Records

Two pupils from St Peter’s RC Primary School in Scarborough broke long-standing records in the Scarborough and District Athletics Competition. Yukina Generoso was successful in the girls’ hurdles while Connie Williams won the vertical jump. Everyone at the school, which is part of the St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Academy Trust, is very proud of Yukina and Connie and all those who took part.

If you would like to advertise please contact Charlotte Rosbrooke on 07932 248225 or email [charlotter@cathcom.org](mailto:charlotter@cathcom.org)



LOURDES

Could You Help Plan Our Meals?

Many of our Registered Pilgrims who go to Lourdes may rarely see anybody else when they get back home and may otherwise feel isolated. We would like to try to carry on the experience and enjoyment of Lourdes here at home.

Therefore we would like to try to hold regular monthly or bi-monthly gatherings of our registered pilgrims in the surrounding Middlesbrough area, to enjoy each other's company and share a hot meal.

To facilitate these gatherings we would need a couple of small teams of volunteers who would be prepared to come together to organise menus, buying and preparing food, food hygiene records, serving, washing and cleaning.

If we can get enough volunteers, we may be able to have more than one team and therefore share the commitment of time. If you feel able to volunteer, please let me know and we would look to have a meeting to discuss the possibilities we can offer.

John Brown, Head of Hospitalité

Prayers Offered During Annual Planning Visit

Members of our Lourdes committee gathered to say the Rosary at the Grotto together at the end of their annual February planning pilgrimage to the shrine.

They then crossed the river to light a candle for the intentions of all our pilgrims, past and present.

"Although there has been work to do, we as a committee view this as our Lourdes time," said treasurer Sue Crossman.

"Without the responsibilities that the main pilgrimage brings, these few days allow us time to pray and be together. We also meet other pilgrimage organisers and get to share ideas and problems.

"A big part of the weekend is us coming together to pray for you all back at home. Father Phil Cunnah has guided us spiritually and we've shared beautiful Masses and prayers."

This year's pilgrimage takes place from Friday May 22 to Friday May 29 and places on the main flight are available from £709 including accommodation and all meals. For more details visit [joewalshtours.ie](http://joewalshtours.ie), call 0161 820 8790 or email [info@joewalshtours.ie](mailto:info@joewalshtours.ie).



Father Phil with the candle lit for the intentions of all our pilgrims, past and present – Photo by Sue Crossman

This Month's Clergy Anniversaries

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

1	1908	Very Rev Canon James Wells	York
6	1944	Very Rev Canon Thomas Noone	Pocklington
7	2015	Rev Joseph Brennan	Enfield
8	1927	Rev Patrick Clancy	Hull
8	1927	Rev Charles Donovan	Wycliffe
8	1999	Rev James Gannon	Middlesbrough
9	2007	Very Rev Mgr Patrick Lannen	Dungarvan
10	2015	Rev Michael Murray	Carlisle
12	1934	Very Rev Canon Patrick Cronin	York
12	1951	Rev Michael McEldowney	Grangetown
14	1886	Very Rev Provost Henry Walker	South Bank
15	1932	Very Rev Canon A D'Hooghe	Thornaby
16	1908	Rev Edmund Hickey	Egton Bridge
16	1969	Very Rev Matthew O'Connell	York
17	1968	Rev Richard O'Riordan	Hull
21	1949	Very Rev Canon John Owens	Hull
21	1969	Rt Rev George Brunner	Third Bishop of Middlesbrough
21	1991	Very Rev Canon Patrick Bluett MC TD	Florida
24	1935	Rev Stephen Hines	York
26	1997	Rev Matthias Smyth	Ballyjamesduff
27	1963	Rev Eugene O'Reilly	Hedon
27	2012	Rev Hugh Curristan	Letterkenny
29	1960	Rt Rev Mgr Provost Patrick Lynn	Scarborough
30	1972	Rev Oswin Corboy BA	Scarborough



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From the Archives



50 Years Ago

(Part of the obituary of Father Basil McCreton from 1970 Diocesan Directory)

He was born in 1901, and was ordained at the English College, Rome on 6th June 1925, after his earlier education at St Mary's College, Linthorpe.

As an assistant priest Basil served at St Peter's, Scarborough, the Sacred Heart parish, Middlesbrough, and St Wilfrid's, Hull before being commissioned as a chaplain in the Regular Army in 1930. During the war he served in France, was awarded the Military Cross after Dunkirk, and then served in the African theatres of war.

He resigned his commission for health reasons and served for some years as parish priest at Lealholm where he is buried.

100 Years Ago

(From Hull Catholic Magazine, March 1920)

The Flag Day for the St Vincent's Orphan Boys' Home takes place this year on Saturday, April 3rd. A meeting of the Ladies has been held, and all arrangements have been made to make it a success. The cause is good, one of the best, and with united effort it should be made a record collection. Don't forget. Remember that the cost of each orphan in the Home now is more than twice as much as before the War. Give generously, and a record is assured.

David Smallwood



NEWS

# Bell Story Becomes Clear After Research

In preparation for our forthcoming bicentenary next year, parishioners wanted to research some of the forgotten history of St Mary's Chapel in Crathorne, south of Middlesbrough.

In the course of this, what appeared to be a mundane item proved on closer inspection to be a rather remarkable and poignant object.

The handbell used at Mass each Sunday was discovered to have two inscriptions. One side reads...

AT THE CALL OF MY VOICE  
OF YOUR CHARITY PRAY  
FOR THE SOUL OF  
W. S. ROCHESTER  
WHO CAUSED ME TO BE CAST FROM  
THE BELL BROKEN AT THE  
DESTRUCTION, BY HURRICANE, OF  
ST MARY'S CHURCH WYCLIFFE.  
9 JANUARY 1936

After lengthy research, I eventually found out who this man was and an interesting and intriguing but sad story emerged. William Storey Rochester was born in Sunderland, in 1895. He and his brother Richard were orphaned by the deaths of their mother in 1900 and their father in 1907.

It would appear that they had no relatives who could look after them, so they ended up at St Peter's Catholic Orphanage School, Gainford, County Durham, as the 1911 census shows he was employed as a gardener there at age 16.

He was subsequently said to have been adopted by a builder and contractor, Martin Hardy, and his wife, in the Gainford area. He later ran the business.

I then came across an entry in the probate register recording his death. It said he was last seen alive on June 8 1937 and his dead body was found on June 21 1937 at Middleton-in-Teesdale. His effects were valued at £2,976 11s 6d.

Articles from the Northern Daily Mail and Yorkshire Post of June 23 1937, after the discovery of his body, and the next day reporting the inquest, make sad reading.

"The mystery of the disappearance a fortnight ago of Mr

William Storey Rochester, aged 42, a builder, decorator and contractor of Gainford, has been partly solved by the discovery of his body seated in his car in an old quarry at Cocklake, Lunedale, on the Wemmergill [North Yorkshire] estate of Lord Glamis, the Queen's [the mother of our present Queen] brother.

"The discovery was made by Mr Jonathan Nattress, head gamekeeper, while on his round of the grouse moor. The condition of his body suggests that death took place a considerable time ago. He had been missing a fortnight. Mr Rochester lived at Gainford with Mr and Mrs Martin Hardy who adopted him in his infancy."

The cause of death was carbon monoxide poisoning from the exhaust fumes. A verdict of "Death from carbon monoxide, self-administered, while of unsound mind" was returned.

So this bell was probably commissioned by Martin Hardy as a memorial to his adopted son. However, how did the bell come about in the first place?

The inscription states it was cast from the bell broken at the destruction by a hurricane of St Mary's on January 9 1936. St Mary's Church is a Grade I Listed Building, at Wycliffe with Thorpe, County Durham, and was originally a domestic chapel to the Tunstall family at Wycliffe Hall.

On that date, St Mary's Church suffered severe damage in a hurricane resulting in the bell tower being demolished and the bells broken. At least one handbell was cast from the broken bells. One with the inscription relating to WS Rochester came into the possession of Ethel Alsop, who had lived at Gainford, not far from Wycliffe, and then this was given to her nephew Stan Alsop and his wife who, in turn, presented it to St Mary's, Crathorne.

As the second inscription explains, it was rung for the first time at Easter Sunday Morning Mass by Stan and Bunty's son Simon Alsop, on March 26 1967.

PRESENTED BY THE ALSOP FAMILY TO ST MARY'S RC CHURCH CRATHORNE



One side of the inscribed bell from St Mary's, Crathorne

RUNG FOR THE FIRST TIME AT EASTER SUNDAY MORNING  
MASS BY SIMON ALSOP  
MARCH 26TH 1967  
FOR THOSE THAT THINK OF THEM TO-DAY  
A LITTLE PRAYER TO JESUS SAY  
So what is the moral of this tale? Don't ignore what might appear to be insignificant – and an inquisitive mind helps!

Mike Toogood

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