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 Caritas 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. The journey was too long. I had to sit on the way, 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 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 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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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 themselves to be born again to new life and cleansing from sin.

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 themselves to be born again to new life and cleansing from sin.

The Gospels of weeks three, four and five offer regular weekly opportunities for individual penitents to avail themselves of the Sacrament which the Church makes available to us all the time. General Absolution.

In our part of the world. Even in these times with sufficient priests available, only extraordinary events with opportunity for individual confessions.

The Gospels of weeks three, four and five offer regular weekly opportunities for individual penitents to avail themselves of the Sacrament which the Church makes available to us all the time. General Absolution.

Sister Consilia – photo by Zinyange Auntuny/Caritas Gokwe
Emergency In Southern African States

We have been monitoring a situation of drought and food shortages 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 7.2 million 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 and order posters and emergency collection envelopes at cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising. You can also donate online 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

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 alongside them. They share the challenges they have met and ask us to walk on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years.

The service was written.

has become much worse since this year’s poignant because the situation in Zimbabwe 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, wwpd.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 Bergstrom-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.
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 different characteristics 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 of those who says: “We have always done it this way.” Pope Francis “invites[s] everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking theologies that say: ‘We have always done it this way.’” (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 33)

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:

- 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.

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 1976 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 Men’s Club.

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

Food and Friendship Between the Generations

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.” – Henry, aged 9
- “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.

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 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
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.”

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

SCHOOLS

St. Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School
Part Of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
South Bank, Middlesbrough TS6 6TA
Tel: 01642 835370
Headteacher: Miss C McNicholas
email: enquiries@smc.npcat.org.uk
Tel 01642 248225 or 01440 730399 or email charlotter@cathcom.org to book your advert

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. Contact Charlotte on 07932 248225 or email charlotter@cathcom.org

St. Edward’s Primary School
A Catholic Voluntary Academy
Part of Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
Eastbourne Road, Linthorpe
Middlesbrough TS5 6QS
Tel 01642 819507
Headteacher Mrs Mary Brown
email: enquiries@stedwards.npcat.org.uk
www.stedwardsrcprimaryschool.co.uk

St. Peter’s
Part of Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
Teddier Avenue, Thornaby
Stockton-on-Tees TS17 5JP
Executive Headteacher: Mr M Ryan
Head of School: Miss H Ucless
Tel: 01642 885909
Email: enquiries@cttng.npcat.org.uk

St. Peter’s Catholic Primary School
Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
North by Road, South Bank
Middlesbrough TS6 6SP
Interim Headteacher: Mr Neil Skerry
email: enquiries@stpeters.npcat.org.uk
www.stpeters.npcat.org.uk

St. Benedict’s Catholic Primary School
Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
Nerney Road, Redcar TS10 1LS
Headteacher: Mrs Sandra Sill
Tel: 01642 495370
E-mail: enquiries@stbenedicts.npcat.org.uk
Website: www.stbenedicts.npcat.org.uk

St. Gabriels Catholic Primary School
Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
Allendale Road, Great Ayton
Middlesbrough TS7 9LF
Headteacher: Mrs L Phelps
Tel: 01642 315538
Email: enquiries@stgabriels.npcat.org.uk
www.stgabriels.npcat.org.uk

St. Andrew’s Catholic Primary School
Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
Saltersgill Avenue
Middlesbrough TS4 3JW
Headteacher: Mrs Louise Dwyer
Email: news@trinity.npcat.org.uk
Telephone: 01642 298100
Website: www.trinitycatholiccollege.org.uk

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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.”

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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*

‘Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God...’

offering high-quality Catholic education for students aged 11-16 based upon the teachings of Christ

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

Part of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust
The infamous Kristallnacht (the night of the broken glass) – the night of November 9, 1938, when Nazis smashed in synagogues and Jewish-owned businesses – on the eve of Gabriele’s 12th birthday – saw windows smashed and Jews beaten.
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 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.

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

I will give: £195 ☐ My choice amount of: _______

☐ I enclose a cheque/postal order/CAF voucher made out to CBM or
☐ Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/Debit Card/CAF Card

Card number:_________________________ Expiry date: ____________

3-digit security number:

Cardholder’s signature:

Date: ____________

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:

Phone: ________________________________

Email: ________________________________

We like to contact our supporters with postal fundraising messages and updates from the projects we support. If you do NOT want to receive such messages from CBM UK in the future please contact us on 01223 484709 or email info@cbmuk.org.uk. You can update your contact preferences or unsubscribe at any time. You can view our privacy policy at www.cbmuk.org.uk/privacy.

Please return this form to: Freepost Plus RSKX-HXAX-CY62, 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.

Increase the value of your gift by 25%

Giftaid it:

If you are a UK taxpayer and 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 claim Gift Aid on 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 then it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

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

You can also call 0800 567 7000 to make your donation today, or visit our website seetheway.org.
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...

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 to provide a service for those in need. People will often feel better about themselves to provide a service for those in need.

Hannah Leech

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.

Nicky Coyle

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.

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.”

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.

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 Cuthbert’s Academy Trust (SMC and Primary)

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

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. 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.

Nicky Coyle, Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, St Cuthbert’s Academy Trust

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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 2nd 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.

Organisers hope at least 20 people from each diocese in England and Wales will travel to Budapest for the 2nd 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 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 Kaszuth Square to Heroes Square and a closing Mass on Heroes Square. Apply by Easter to guarantee a place. Visit 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 open 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

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.

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 gospel 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, 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

CTTP

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The deadline for applications is 18 April 2020.
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 year on the ground, 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 realities. 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.

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 Nichols said people of goodwill should seize the opportunity to put the rifts that have been evident in 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, a seminary in Birmingham for training future clergy to the ordination of religious, particularly those with the greatest hardship and uncertainty.

“As Catholics, with all people of goodwill, we commit ourselves to playing our role in this endeavour.”

Litter Pick Triggers Exciting Chain Of Events

The families of Pray and Play in Scarborough were delighted to receive a donation of £50 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, or mixing up the censer as part of a family activity.

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.

St Joseph’s Church, Middlesbrough, parishioner Luigi Brancati and his nephews, Giacomo and Mattea, 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 Giacoma, Chiara and Matteo at the front.
NEWS

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 Vinnie groups. They focus on being beacons of care for one another in their own school communities, 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.

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 or locally by emailing me at presidentc3@svp.org.uk or our membership development officer Seb on 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
Out & About Around The Diocese

March Choral Services at The Cathedral

March’s Choral Services At The Cathedral
Sunday March 1 at 8am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
Sunday March 1 at 10am: Rite of Election (Diocesan Choir) – includes motets by JS Bach and Fauré

Wednesday March 4 at 6pm: Benediction with Vesperas (Ladies Schola)
Sunday March 8 at 8am: Family Mass (Cathedral Choir)
Sunday March 8 at 4.15pm: Solemn Vespers (Cathedral Consort)
Wednesday March 11 at 6pm: Benediction with Vesperas (Cantor and congregation)
Sunday March 15 at 10am: Family Mass (Cathedral Choir and Junior Choirs)
Wednesday March 18 at 6pm: Benediction with Vesperas (Ladies Schola)
Thursday March 19 at 6.30pm: Solemn Mass for St Joseph (Cathedral Choir)
Sunday March 22 at 8am: Solemn Mass (Cathedral Choir)
Wednesday March 25 at 6pm: Benediction with Vesperas (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/middlesbroughcathedralservices

BISHOP TERENCE PATRICK DRAINEY

ENGAGEMENTS FOR MARCH

1. Attends CSAN Board Meeting at Romero House, London
2. Board at the Curial Office, London
3. Lecto Divinia at St Peter Chanel, Hull 7pm
4. Lecto Divinia at St Augustine’s, Scarborough 7pm
5. Institutes Paul Griffin to Lectorate at St Peter’s, Scarborough 11.30am
6. Attends CSAM Board Meeting at Romero House, London
7. Attends meeting of Bishop’s Council at Bishop’s House, Middlesbrough
8. Lecto Divinia at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel, Hull 2pm
9. Attends Safeguarding Study Day at Lakeside Conference Centre
10. Lecto Divinia at English Martyrs, York 7pm
11. Attends St Cuthberts Day and Trustees Meeting at Ushaw
12. Attends Episcopal Ordination of Rt Rev. Andrewes, Teesville. Contact terry-a@rcdmidd.org.uk.
13. Attends meeting of Diocesan Trustee Board at the Curial Office, Middlesbrough 10.30am

17 Tues 12.45pm 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. For details contact John Brown on 01642 710179.
18 Wed 10.30am Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmontherly Village D16 3BB, Midday prayer and Wednesday Word, followed by refreshments.
19 Thur 7.30pm Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.
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20 Fri 7pm-8.30pm Divine Mercy Prayer Group meets at St Anny’s Church, Beverley Road, Hull. Contact John (07593) 390415 for details.
21 Sat 9am Latin Mass at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
22 Sun 10.30am Inauguration of our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmontherly Village D16 3BB, Benediction at 7pm. Further information fromadastrofestival@rcdmidd.org.uk.
22 Sun 11.00am Latin Mass at the Catholic Chaplaincy of Hull University, 115 Cottingham Road, Hull.
23 Mon 10.45am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets at St John of Beverley Church every Monday morning from 10.45am-11.30am (for new meditators). Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.
24 Tues 12.45pm The Life Ascending Group, York West meets at Our Lady’s, Acomb, York in the Father Kelly room.
25 Wed 7pm Knights of St Columba Council 29 meets at St Mary’s Cathedral, Middlesbrough, beginning with Mass in the Cathedral Chapel.
26 Thurs 7pm-8.30pm Christian Meditation Group, St Gabriel’s Church, Ormesby, Middlesbrough. Contact Canon Lumley jl@rcdmidd.org.uk.
27 Fri 7pm Latin Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel, Hull 7pm
28 Sat 11am Latin Mass at St Wilifrid’s, Condance Place, York Y01 7EF
29 Sun 4pm Sung Latin Vespers and Benediction, St Wilifrid’s, Condance Place, York Y01 7EF

1 Sun 8am Mass at Our Lady of Mount Grace (38 North End, Osmontherly Village, D16 3BB) (first Sunday).
2 Mon 8.05am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets at St John of Beverley Church every Monday morning from 8.05am-9am (for new meditators). Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com.
3 Tues 7.30pm Father Henry Wansbrough will speak at the Robin Hood’s Bay Church Together Lenten Series on “Papal Leadership in a Divided Church”. RHIB Methodist Church, Thorpe Lane Y022 4PW. All invited.
4 Wed The Little Flower Project Baby Bank at St Andrew’s, Teesville. Contact terry-d@live.co.uk.
5 Thurs 7.45pm 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.

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ADMIN ASSISTANT

Wanted for the Missionary Sisters

Large Statues,
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Please phone or write
Mr. Ferris KSC,
102 Moor St,
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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 2003, 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 2005, one of the Sisters of the Cross and Passion had opened another convent at St Anne’s House, Eston, where they lived as parish sisters. 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 31, 2017.

The apostolate she followed was her heritage from our foundress, Mother Mary Joseph. Although born in Shrewsbury as Elizabeth Prout, she made the journey to Stone, Staffordshire, in 1841 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 Northernham. 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 cooperate with him and Father Croskell, with the approval of Bishop William Tumer 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, 1845, when Father Gaudentius presided over the first clothed ceremony.

You may like to make a pilgrimage to Sutton, where Mother Mary Joseph’s remains are in a sepulchre in Blessed Dominic’s shine, 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 csbooks.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

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Tel (01642) 850905, email catholicvoice@rcdmidd.org.uk

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If you would like to advertise please contact Charlotte Rosb THC 07932 248225 or email charlotte@cathcom.org
**Trousers Are Hot Off The Press**

Francis Hannaway, from St Gabriel’s Parish, Middlesbrough, lives and works in Basankusu, 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 it took 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.

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 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.**

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**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 £15) including sheet music hire are available online at hullboxoffice.com/event/come-and-sing-with-bob-chilcott. For more information email musiclessons@smchull.org.

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**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 household 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 30°C.** Based on only two washes per week, washing clothes at 30°C can save £55 and 88kg 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!

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**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.

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**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.
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 Hospitality

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 www.lourdes和地区.org, call 0161 820 8790 or email info@orawlshours.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:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1908 Ver Rev Canon James Wells York</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1944 Ver Rev Canon Thomas Noone Pocklington</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2015 Rev Joseph Brennan Enfield</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>1927 Rev Patrick Clancy Hull</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>1927 Rev Charles Donovan Wycliffe</td>
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<td>1999 Rev James Gannon Middlesbrough</td>
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<td>2007 Very Rev Mgr Patrick Lannen Dungarvan</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>2005 Rev Michael Murray Castlise</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>1934 Rev Very Rev Canon Patrick Cronin York</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>1951 Rev Michael McEldowney Grangetown</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>1886 Very Rev Provost Henry Walker South Bank</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>1932 Very Rev Canon A D’Hooghe Thomomy</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>1908 Rev Edmund Hickey Egton Bridge</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>1969 Very Rev Matthew O’Connell York</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>1968 Rev Richard O’Riordan Hull</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>1949 Very Rev Canon John Owens Hull</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>1969 Rt Rev George Brunner Third Bishop of Middlesbrough</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>1991 Very Rev Canon Patrick Bluett MC TD Florida</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>1935 Rev Stephen Hines York</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>1997 Rev Matthias Smyth Ballyjamesduff</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>1963 Rev Eugene O'Reilly Hedon</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>2012 Rev Hugh Curristan Letterkenny</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>1960 Rt Rev Mgr Provost Patrick Lynn Scarborough</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>1972 Rev Oswin Corboy BA Scarborough</td>
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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

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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 WYCLIFE.

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 adoption by a builder and contractor, 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

Bill 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, Luneald, 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. Simon Alsop, on March 26 1967.

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
MARCH 26TH 1967

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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