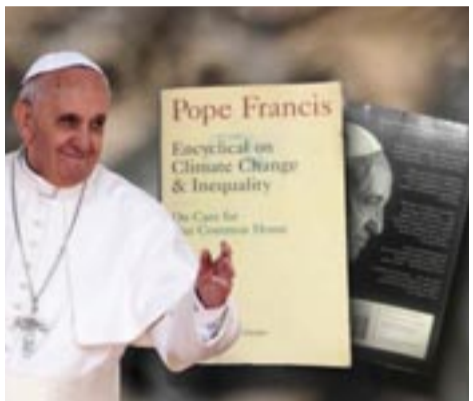




Bishop's Column



As I visit our schools in the diocese, it is very evident that much is being debated and done about Climate Change. So, I was surprised to see in a report from back in 2022 which I was recently re-reading, which said that 67% of KS3 (Key Stage 3) pupils in Catholic secondary schools have not heard of Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'*. Yet at the same time, 86% of KS3 students were concerned about climate change – 13% extremely, 38% slightly, 35% somewhat. Students showed a range of emotions, from anger and frustration to confusion. One of the main purposes of the report was to provide a *Laudato Si* Champions' toolkit to increase students' confidence in understanding climate change and to help them to be more strongly convinced that their actions contribute to addressing climate change.

The report goes on to say:

The active participation of young people in addressing climate change, the ecological crisis, and its related issues is a crucial concern of Pope Francis' encyclical letter, Laudato Si'. Francis emphasises how "we are faced with an educational challenge" as more young people develop "a new ecological sensitivity" while having "grown up in a milieu of extreme consumerism". Though this call to action makes sustainability essential for the Catholic education sector, the challenge remains for how educators engage young people in Laudato Si's message and related Catholic teachings. Existing student anxieties and attitudes surrounding climate change, alongside sector-wide pressures of attainment, finance, and prioritisation can make ecological education demanding to facilitate.

I strongly recommend that all our schools should take advantage of the *Laudato Si'* Champions' toolkit. It can positively motivate our students to take ecologically conscious action in their school communities. With the support of their teachers, they can begin to ask deep and searching questions which in turn make young people's ecological education part of their local and regional faith community's ecological spirituality. One question that might be asked is, "How green are the energy sources that are employed in our school?" And then see where the truthful answers to these questions take us.

+ Long

What's Inside

T6 team's soccer success
Page 5



Return of the Chancy Brothers
Page 15



Cardinal Roche to preach at 50th Postgate Rally

Organisers are hoping for a bumper turnout when Cardinal Arthur Roche preaches at the 50th anniversary Postgate Rally in Ugthorpe, North Yorkshire, this summer.

Yorkshire-born Cardinal Roche, who is Prefect of the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, kindly accepted an invitation from Bishop Terry and will travel from Rome for the event, which takes place on Sunday July 7.

Thousands attended the early rallies, travelling by coach from all over the diocese, but figures had reduced dramatically since Covid.

However, last year around 500 people – more than twice the previous year's number – gathered in the open air to honour Blessed Nicholas and the martyrs of England and Wales.

Scarborough, York, Hull, Driffield and Middlesbrough were all represented in the large crowd and a coach from Our Lady of Lourdes and St Peter Chanel Parish, Hull, was organised by Father William Massie.

Monica Ventress, chair of the Postgate Society, said: "This year marks 50 years since the first Postgate Rally, which was held at Ugthorpe on Sunday June 30 1974.

"It has alternated between Ugthorpe and Egton Bridge every year since, apart from during the Covid-19 lockdown.

"To mark this special occasion, Bishop Terry has arranged for His Eminence Cardinal Arthur



Cardinal Arthur Roche, who will preach at the Postgate Rally at Ugthorpe on Sunday July 7 – © Mazur/cbcew.org.uk

Roche, STB, STL, to be this year's preacher. "We hope as many of you as possible will be able to come to this special event. Bring a picnic to enjoy in the field after Mass or treat yourself and go into Whitby for a fish-and-chip tea."

Blessed Nicholas was one of 85 martyrs beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1987. Born in Egton in 1596, he trained for the

Continued on Page 2

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NEWS

Cardinal Roche to preach at 50th Postgate Rally

Continued from Page 1

priesthood in France before returning to Yorkshire.
 He was martyred at York in 1679 and was one of the last Catholics in this country to be put to death for their faith.
 Canon Paul Farrer, whose role as Episcopal Vicar for Spirituality and Worship includes responsibility for pilgrimages, is hoping as many people as possible will come together on this very special occasion.
 "Blessed Nicholas Postgate rightly enjoys a cherished place in our diocese and his

intercession continues to strengthen us all," he said.
 "It is important that we continue to celebrate the Priest of the Moors. He is a gift to our diocese."
 Blessed Nicholas, known as the Martyr of the Moors, lived from 1596 to 1679, when he was executed as part of the anti-Catholic persecution in England at the time.
 He is one of the 85 martyrs of England and Wales beatified by Pope St John Paul II in November 1987.
 The 2024 rally takes place at Lawn's Farm, Ugthorpe YO21 2BQ. Hymns will be sung from 2.30pm, with Mass at 3pm. Free parking is

available. Please bring suitable seating and your own picnic.
 The Postgate Society, which is under the patronage of Bishop Terry, exists to spread knowledge of Blessed Nicholas and to promote interest in Catholic history during penal times, has a brand-new website at postgatesociety.org.uk.
 Everyone is welcome to attend meetings, which take place at St Anne's Hall, Ugthorpe.
 For more details visit the website or write to Monica Ventress, The Postgate Society, 53 Ceremony Wynd, Clairville Grange, Middlesbrough TS4 2WG or email postgatesociety@rcdmidd.org.uk.

A commemorative badge to mark the anniversary will be on sale at the rally.
 This year, Dr Emma Morrison plans to resurrect the Walk for Vocations ahead of the rally. The walk, from Whitby to Ugthorpe, is 12.7km (7.9miles) on a variety of terrain including forest tracks and fields. Please ensure you wear sturdy footwear and all members of your party are fit enough to walk this distance.
 Bring your own packed lunch. Under-18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian and the terrain is not suitable for wheelchairs or buggies. Walkers are asked to meet at Whitby Abbey car park at 11am.

Diary of diocesan events

The diary of diocesan events is usually published in the year book but was accidentally omitted this year due to a printing error.
 Here are the important dates for the remainder of 2024...

BISHOP'S DIOCESAN RETREAT (Ampleforth)
 June 17-21

ANNUAL POSTGATE RALLY (Ugthorpe)
 Sunday July 7

ANNUAL ASSUMPTION PILGRIMAGE
 Sunday August 18

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM
 Saturday September 30 to Sunday October 1

MINISTERS' EVENTS
 Inspirational Day: Saturday October 19, at Spa, Scarborough

WORLD DAY OF THE POOR
 Sunday November 17

DEANERY CLERGY CONFERENCES
 Thursday July 18
 Thursday September 19
 Thursday November 21

DIOCESAN TRUSTEE BOARD 2024
 Tuesday July 2
 Tuesday September 10
 Tuesday October 15
 Tuesday December 10



This year's Assumption Pilgrimage is on Sunday August 18

BISHOP TERRY'S JUNE ENGAGEMENTS

- 4 Attends Ushaw Trustee meeting 10.30am
- 5 Attends Bishop's Council meeting 10.30am
 Celebrates Confirmations in the Northern Deanery, St Thérèse of Lisieux, Ingleby Barwick 7pm
- 6 Celebrates Confirmations in the Northern Deanery, St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 7pm
- 7 Attends Bishop's Study Day, York Racecourse All day
- 9 Attends the Lectorate, Hornsea 11am
- 11 Attends Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales 10am
 Celebrates Confirmations in the Central Deanery at Wilfrid's, York 7pm
- 12 Celebrates Confirmations in the Coastal Deanery at St Paulinus, Guisborough 7pm
- 13 Attends Council of Priests meeting, Curial Offices, Middlesbrough 1.30pm
- 14 Celebrates Sacred Heart Centenary Mass and celebrations, Middlesbrough 7pm
- 15-16 Parish Visitation to St Mary Queen of Martyrs and St Francis, Hull
- 17-21 Annual Diocesan Retreat to Ampleforth
- 21 Celebrates Golden Jubilee of Canon Jerry Twomey 7pm
- 22 Celebrates Golden Jubilee of Monsignor David Hogan, St Joseph's Church, Stokesley 11am
- 25 School Visitation to St Vincent's School, Hull 9am
 School Visitation to St Thomas More, Hull 1pm
- 27 Celebrates the School's National Singing Programme Mass, St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough 1pm

Summer openings at Guisborough's stunning secret garden

The stunning Tudor Croft Gardens at Guisborough will soon host their summer open weekends.

This year's events are on Saturday and Sunday May 25 and 26 and on Saturday and Sunday June 8 and 9, from 11am to 4pm each day.
 The first date is earlier than usual, which will be a treat for those who love the flowers of

late spring, such as rhododendrons.
 As always there will be free, signposted and supervised car parking, weather permitting.
 There will be lots of special home-grown plants for sale, homemade teas and prosecco.
 Money raised will go to the Kids Kabin charity.
 The programme of musical entertainment is:

Saturday May 25: Paula Odell's choirs
Sunday May 26: A quieter day with birdsong and without music
Saturday June 8: The Lavender Mob; Mike Gutteridge and Frank Porter with 1930s and '40s songs.
Sunday June 9: Mike and Frank; Teesside Wind Band; The Lavender Mob
 Admission is £10, children free.



Mike Heagney at Tudor Croft Gardens, which will again host charity open weekends this summer – Photo by Joe Cornish

Gold chance for classical music lovers as The Priests prepare to say a fond 'farewell'

An exclusive concert by The Priests is heading for a sellout – and now the classical singing group have announced this will be their last year singing together.

The award-winning trio, who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their first musical performance, will sing at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough, on Friday June 28.

Later in the year they will embark on a Time To Say Goodbye Concert Tour in Ireland.

But before that, music lovers can experience an evening filled with beautiful music and their unique brand of Irish banter.

Father Martin O'Hagan, his brother, Eugene, and schoolfriend Father David Delargy, say they can't wait for their first ever visit to the town.

The Priests' self-titled debut album became the fastest-selling debut album for a classical act in the UK when it was released in 2008 and went gold and platinum around the world as well as topping the classical Billboard chart in the United States.

Their first three albums were all nominated as Classical Album of the Year in the Classical Brit Awards.

The three men have sung together since 1974 in various ways, including in the "Holy Shows", helping raise funds for parishes, and as founding members of a choir that sings liturgical music.

The vast majority of The Priests' music income goes into a charitable trust that has



The Priests will perform in Middlesbrough ahead of their 'Time to say Goodbye' tour of Ireland

helped build schools in Cambodia, Uganda and Thailand, as well as looking after retired priests and homeless people.

The three men, who were awarded MBEs in the Queen's New Year Honours in 2020, continue to serve as full-time priests in the

Diocese of Down and Connor.

However, they always promised they would never allow their musical careers to encroach on their diocesan work, which is now becoming more difficult as they take on additional responsibilities.

The event will also feature the Cathedral Choir and Cantabile. Tickets range from £22.50 to £27.50. To book, call the cathedral on 01642 597750 or email cathedralevents@rcdmidd.org.uk.

Chance to join our patrons' programme as cathedral launches concert series

This autumn will see the launch of an exciting series of concerts at St Mary's Cathedral, together with the chance to support the musical life of the church by becoming a patron.

Five concerts make up the 2024/25 Cathedral Series season, including arrangements of Albinoni's famous Adagio and Handel's Cuckoo and Nightingale Concerto performed by St Mary's Strings, with director of music Steven Maxson on the organ.

Patrons of the Cathedral Series will receive a host of benefits, while supporting music-making at the cathedral.

"We are delighted to present the 2024/25 Cathedral Series season, which features a wide range of music from different styles and genres, ranging from music familiar to all, to pieces equally worthy of being widely known." Steven said.

"Through these concerts, we are aiming to cater for different musical tastes, giving our audiences the chance to encounter wonderful music in the beautiful setting of the cathedral.

"Music is something which reaches people in a way that not all art forms can. We hope people from the diocesan community and beyond will join us for individual concerts or take the opportunity to support our wonderful singers and musicians by becoming a patron."

Cathedral dean Canon Paul Farrer added: "The Cathedral Series is a welcome addition to the programme of events we have planned at the cathedral. They will show the very best of the Cathedral musicians and their colleagues in the Tees Valley.

"We are a relatively small cathedral with limited resources, and I am proud of what we

achieve musically at the service of the liturgy. By supporting these events, people will have the chance to experience the versatility of our musicians and help raise funds to support them in their work."

Patrons' subscriptions range from bronze level at £10 per month (£15 per year for students) with benefits such as an annual patrons' reception and a regular e-newsletter.

At silver level, (£20 per month) a free drink per concert and discounted tickets are also available and gold membership (£50 per month) will also include opportunities to observe a Cathedral Choir rehearsal and a unique musical experience, such as a guided taster session on the cathedral organ.

Corporate sponsorship is available at £100 per month, which also includes acknowledgement of support on the St Mary's Cathedral website.

Faure's Requiem will be performed by the St Mary's Cathedral Singers on Saturday November 9. Also featured in this concert will be Mozart's Laudate Dominum and Ave Verum Corpus, along with other well-loved pieces.

Audiences can enjoy a Valentine's concert of romantic music on Friday February 7 2025, performed by the Choirs of St Mary's Cathedral and friends, and on Saturday April 5, the cathedral will host a special come-and-sing event, featuring Handel's Messiah. Singers will rehearse from 4pm to 6pm and perform at 7.30pm.

All concerts will start at 7.30pm, with doors opening at 6.30pm, including licensed bar. Tickets for all concerts, priced at £10 (free child's ticket available when booking) are available at middlesbroughcathedral.org.

Confirmation candidates welcomed at parish

Pupils and confirmation candidates from Sacred Heart Roman Catholic School in Redcar came to morning Mass at St Paulinus in Guisborough.

The purpose of the visit was to expand the candidates' knowledge of the parish and meet some of the parishioners.

After Mass, which was celebrated by Father Phil Cunnah, the candidates served coffee and tea in the church hall, where the Kraft Club and other parishioners were present, and they also assisted in the weekly draw.

The candidates were accompanied by staff members Mrs O'Brien and Mrs Corcoran.



Candidates on the altar steps with teachers Mrs Corcoran and Mrs O'Brien

SCHOOLS

Leadership, staff and pupils celebrate glowing report

St Richard's VC Academy in East Hull has reached a significant milestone in its journey to excellence with a "good" grading from its recent Ofsted inspection.

After a period of required improvements, the school has soared to new heights, securing this commendable rating in four out of five areas.

However, what truly sets St Richard's apart in this report is its exceptional "outstanding" rating in the fifth heading, for personal development of its pupils.

This achievement is a testament to the dedication and commitment of the school's leadership, staff, families, of course, the pupils.

Headteacher Emma Cook is elated with the outcome of the inspection, emphasising the collective effort that has brought about this impressive result.

"This report reflects the sustained hard work and dedication of the staff of St Richard's, who work tirelessly to ensure our pupils shine like stars, helping them to flourish and reach their potential, both academically and through the development of their talents, skills and interests," said Mrs Cook.

"We are especially proud of our amazing pupils who really impressed the inspectors with their knowledge, love of learning, positive attitudes, and, most importantly, their compassion and respect for their peers, school staff and for the wider community."

Under Mrs Cook's guidance, the school has undergone a transformative journey, focusing not only on academic excellence but also on fostering holistic development and nurturing

well-rounded individuals. Ofsted said: "The school provides pupils with exceptional opportunities to develop their talents. For example, some pupils worked with the Royal Shakespeare Company to perform in Stratford-upon-Avon.

"Leaders have established a strong team culture. The school is considerate of staff's workload. Staff feel valued. They appreciate the support they receive from leaders and the academy trust."

The school is particularly proud of the outstanding rating of its personal development, which underlines its commitment to the holistic growth of pupils.

St Richard's recognises that education extends beyond the classroom and involves the development of character, values and life skills.

Through initiatives including after-school activities, pastoral care and community events, the school instils in its students the confidence needed to thrive in an ever-changing world.

"Pupils have an excellent awareness of strategies that promote mental health and wellbeing," said Ofsted. "The school promotes equal opportunities very well. Pupils have a strong understanding of what it means to discriminate against others. They know this is wrong. Pupils provide high levels of care to their peers who have additional needs."

St Richard's, on Marfleet Lane, is one of 15 schools that make up the St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Academy Trust, which serves Hull, the East Riding and North Yorkshire.



St Richard's VC Academy headteacher Emma Cook is elated with the outcome of the school's latest Ofsted inspection

Miles of smiles from Faith in Action team

The Year 7 Faith in Action Group at St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby are busy working towards achieving their bronze pin badge from the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFed).

The focus of the group throughout the year has been to look at ways they can live out the Gospel values, mainly by putting the needs of others before their own.

So far they have taken part in lots of fundraisers, raising money for the Butterwick Hospice and Macmillan Nurses as well as collecting food for our local food bank.

During May they rose to the challenge of walking a mile a day for Dementia UK. The

pupils were shocked by the latest research facts that one in two of us will be affected by this horrible disease, either by contracting it ourselves or being a carer for someone living with it.

They wanted to do something that would not only raise awareness but also (hopefully) a little money to help those affected.

I'm so proud of their commitment and enthusiasm in taking on this new challenge, giving up their lunchtimes for such a worthwhile cause. They are an amazing bunch of youngsters and a credit to our school.

Alison Fisk, Chaplaincy Coordinator



The Year 7 Faith in Action Group at St Patrick's Catholic College in Thornaby walked a mile every day in May to raise money for Dementia UK

Inspectors praise school's Catholic ethos

In a clear validation of its commitment to excellence in education, St Peter's VC Academy in Scarborough has been awarded a "good" grading by Ofsted.

This grade not only reflects the dedication of the school's pupils and staff, but also underlines the support from the parents and carers in fostering a vibrant learning community.

Executive head Andrew Krlic expressed his delight, saying: "I am very proud of our latest Ofsted report. It reflects the hard work that staff, pupils and parents put in to make St Peter's a wonderful school community."

Ofsted recognised how well the school prioritised pupils' personal development, saying: "The Catholic ethos in the school ensures that pupils understand equality and celebrate difference."

"The personal, social, health and economic curriculum is carefully planned and taught to ensure pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. This includes understanding healthy relationships and how to stay safe online. Pupils know how to keep healthy."

St Peter's VC Academy stands alongside fellow St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Academy Trust school St George's Primary in Scarborough as examples of educational ambition and inclusive cultures.

With sights now set firmly on the future, both schools remain dedicated to further nurturing the minds, hearts and spirits of their pupils and working together with parents, carers and the wider community to help the children to reach their full potential and make a positive difference in the world.



St Peter's VC Academy in Scarborough has been awarded a "good" grading by Ofsted

Elite football academy celebrates title success

An elite youth football team based at T6 Trinity Catholic Sixth Form pipped rivals from top pro clubs to win a coveted league title at just the second attempt.

Middlesbrough FC/T6 Academy under-19s clinched the National Football Youth League North-East Premier Division with a game to spare.

The team – run by the Middlesbrough-based college in an exclusive partnership with Middlesbrough Football Club – was only formed two years ago.

The squad, comprising players aged 17 and 18, lost just once all season in a league that included opponents such as Everton and Sunderland.

Head of T6 football academy Dave McTiernan said: “Winning the league title in such a competitive environment is a testament to the talent and commitment of our players and staff.

“To see our players rise to this level within a short period is truly remarkable. It has been a fantastic journey for us.”

Backed by Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust (NPCAT), the T6 Academy boasts impressive facilities at its Phoenix Park home, including high-quality grass and 4G pitches, a strength and conditioning suite including weights and cardiovascular areas and a video analysis room.

“Our facilities are excellent and are still being upgraded and that’s helped us,” said Mr McTiernan. “Families and fellow students and staff come along to games and it’s starting to really grow within NPCAT, not just within the academy.”



The triumphant Middlesbrough FC/T6 Academy team – Photo by Stuart Boulton

Some T6 Football students also represent semi-professional football clubs, while others have secured scholarships in the United States.

“Our success results from the dedication and expertise of our staff, who have played a crucial role in shaping the players’ careers,” said Mr McTiernan.

“The partnership with Middlesbrough Football Club is invaluable. We’ve been able to use their training facilities, we play in Boro kits and they’re always there to offer support. None of our players have progressed into

their system yet, but who knows what the future holds?”

Boro Academy manager Craig Liddle added his own message to the triumphant team.

“Congrats to the team and everyone involved in the T6 Football Academy,” he said. “It’s a hard-earned and well-deserved success, and we wish the Under-17s the best of luck as they go for the title as well.

“Middlesbrough FC’s Academy is enjoying working in partnership with T6 to develop talent from our area, and it’s a partnership we see going from strength to strength.”



As well as their football training, T6 students also study for qualifications including A-levels and BTECs.

Recruits all have outstanding youth football pedigrees, with most having narrowly missed out on scholarships with professional clubs.

NPCAT runs 38 schools throughout Teesside and North Yorkshire, including the city of York.

Most of the T6 students come from secondary schools in the NPCAT family, but there are also trainees from as far away as York and Northallerton.

CEO Hugh Hegarty paid tribute to all the staff and thanked parents for embracing the programme.

“NPCAT continues to be system-leading and this is a further example of our determination to have a positive impact on our communities. Congratulations to the players!”



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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I want to thank everyone for their contribution to our schools since being formed in 2018. Today our schools continue to build on the efforts of the generations of committed parishes, school staff and governors in our Diocese.

Ensuring Christ is at the centre of all schools.

The Trust wishes everyone an enjoyable summer.



SCHOOLS

Earth Day excitement as pupils focus on recycling

Pupils from St George's School in Eastfield, Scarborough, were excited to celebrate Earth Day 2024.

Each class made links to the environment through the curriculum and presented a case for reusing plastic items.

The children loved hearing Pope Francis' message on the environment and are keen to share this with the wider community.

They regularly work with the local councillor Tony Randerson on a range of environmental projects such as litter picks, environmental walks and campaigns to save the habitat of wild animals.

message on the environment and are keen to share this with the wider community. They regularly work with the local councillor Tony Randerson on a range of environmental projects such as litter picks, environmental walks and campaigns to save the habitat of wild animals.



Earth Day celebrations at St George's School in Eastfield

Flowers say thank you for helping us serve

The Youth SVP group at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough is a thriving and enthusiastic group of Year 7 and 8 pupils who follow in the footsteps of St Vincent de Paul by seeking to alleviate poverty and help the homeless.

Adult members of St Bernadette's, Nunthorpe, SVP conference are supporting the group and our picture shows Susan Gardiner and Sharon Pemberton receiving flowers as a mark of the group's appreciation of our involvement.

This term's project is to collect items for the food bank at St Thomas More's Church near the school and to provide small comfort gifts for homeless visitors to the SVP's special work project, the Upper Room.

These young people are "Turning Concern Into Action" every day by their charitable work and spiritual support for each other. Well done everyone!

Susan Gardiner



The Youth SVP group at Trinity Catholic College in Middlesbrough present flowers to St Bernadette's, Nunthorpe, parish SVP members Susan Gardiner and Sharon Pemberton to thank them for their help – Photo by Peter Tucker



What are you thankful for?

(Plenty of people are thankful for YOU)

At Your Catholic Legacy we've been working together for a whole decade. Looking back, we're grateful for people like you who have pledged gifts in your Wills to Catholic causes.

When you look back over the last 10 years of your life, what makes YOU thankful? Tell us what you're grateful for.

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Please could you consider a gift in your Will to Catholic causes today?

Visit yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk to tell us what you're thankful for and find out how to leave a gift in your Will.

CATHOLIC LEGACY WEEK
20-26 MAY



TEN YEARS
OF WORKING
TOGETHER

Leeds Trinity becomes first university to partner with CAFOD

A global justice leadership programme aimed at students signified the launch of a new partnership between CAFOD and Leeds Trinity University – the first of its kind for the charity.

CAFOD worked in collaboration with the university's director of Catholic mission Dr Ann Marie Mealey to organise and deliver the pilot leadership programme at its main campus in Horsforth.

The full-day programme was led by North-East-based Kirstie Hutchinson, CAFOD's young leadership coordinator, and Carol Cross, the charity's community participation coordinator in the Diocese of Middlesbrough. It encouraged students to think differently about the world and use their skills and voices to help shape the next generation of leaders.

Participants explored what leadership looks like and how they can raise awareness and contribute to a more just world. They discussed historic and current issues, statistics and injustices, including climate change, poverty and the impact of conflicts. They also engaged in group activities aimed at fostering critical reflection on the challenges facing the world. This included a group task which challenged participants to design a campaign inspired by love, compassion and leadership, to raise awareness of what a better world could look like.

The day also featured a showing of a TED talk from leadership expert and author Simon Sinek that focused on how strong leaders can articulate their purpose and mission to others in a way that brings support, understanding and desire to work towards a shared goal.

Amy Kiani, a Philosophy, Ethics and Religion student and president of the Philosophy, Ethics and Religion Society, said: "I wanted to attend the event because I am passionate about combating global injustice and poverty.



CAFOD has worked with Leeds Trinity University to create a pilot leadership programme – Photo by Sam Charlton

I strongly believe that more young people should be involved in such projects as future leaders and skilled professionals.

"I very much enjoyed the compassion CAFOD evoked in me and other attendees, and it was lovely to see people of all faiths and backgrounds come together as one.

"It awakened and further strengthened our voices to positively contribute to changing our planet for the better by spreading love by helping others. I will reflect on the discussions I had as I continue to work towards global justice, peace and creating positive change."

Carol added: "Kirstie and I are pleased the day was so well received and were amazed by the depth of discussions and engagement of the participants. It has been an encouraging start to what we hope will build

into a fruitful and positive relationship for the new partnership between Leeds Trinity University and CAFOD."

In line with Leeds Trinity's Catholic mission, values and behaviours, the new partnership reinforces its aim to create a more equal community by providing students and staff with knowledge, experience and support to aid academic, professional, personal and spiritual development.

Leeds Trinity also focuses on developing graduates who are equipped to recognise their own skills and strengths and identify how they can make an impact in the world.

Director of Catholic mission Ann Marie Mealey said: "We are thrilled to be working with CAFOD to help deliver our Catholic mission through high-quality, values-driven and informed leadership and development

opportunities.

"Having the confidence to speak up and act for justice and change in our world in relation to some of the most pressing issues of our time is part of what we do at Leeds Trinity. Working with CAFOD will help us to develop a global perspective on issues affecting the most vulnerable and engage in the much-needed advocacy that the world needs for a better, shared future."

Further opportunities for staff, students and people in the wider community who have an interest in global affairs will take place soon.

For more information on Leeds Trinity's Catholic mission and background visit leadstrinity.ac.uk/about/catholic-mission/

Adapted from an article by Sam Charlton, corporate communications officer at Leeds Trinity University.

Giving back in gratitude

What are you thankful for, in your life? This year marks a whole decade of more than 20 charities working together, through Your Catholic Legacy, to encourage people like you to remember Catholic causes in your will.

The milestone prompted us to look back, with thanks, over the last 10 years...

We remembered kind people whose legacy gifts have changed lives and transformed ministries. We chatted about the survey showing Catholics are more generous than most people. We recalled the time you "shared your saint" and told us about the heroes of faith who inspire you.

Looking back with gratitude is good for us. After all, Scripture says we should "give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (Thess 5:18).

So today, please join us in looking back over the last 10 years of your life – and tell us what makes you thankful.

We'd love to know what fills your heart with gratitude. We'll publish all the messages of thanksgiving on our website, so you can be inspired by other Catholics.

As well as looking back, we invite you to look forward too. Many people choose to express gratitude by leaving a gift in their will to Catholic causes. It's a way to give back, in thanks to God, for all we've been given. And it's a gift of faith which will continue through generations.

Please could you consider a gift in your will to Catholic causes today?

Visit yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk to tell us what you're thankful for and find out how to leave a gift in your will.



New audio trail celebrates Bar Convent trailblazers

The UK's oldest living convent is celebrating the lives of the brave women who dedicated their lives to helping those in need and protecting the faith in a new exhibition trail.

Foundress of the order that has lived at the Bar Convent since 1686, Yorkshire woman Mary Ward has such international significance that her followers and supporters are building a case to have her officially recognised as a saint by the Catholic Church.

She believed women were intellectually equal to men and deserved an education that reflected that equality. Providing a proper education for girls was central to her work, and she travelled widely across Europe, founding schools in ten European cities by 1628.

She noted in 1617: "There is no such difference between men and women that women may not do great things – and I hope in God it will be seen that women in time to come will do much."

In the mid-18th century, Mother Ann Aspinall wanted to construct a new convent chapel with an Italianate-style dome, but it was still illegal to construct Catholic churches at that time.

Rather than hiding the building project, she

instead added a whole new suite of rooms to the front of the building, including a beautiful Georgian parlour, to disguise the real building project taking place at the back of the house.

More recently, Sister Gregory Kirkus wrote more than 20 books about the convent's history and researched the lives of many of the sisters who have lived here.

She set up the first ever museum at the Bar Convent and saved historic books and documents. It is thanks to her that we know so much about the history of this building.

The Bar Convent is a living heritage centre and is open to the public, welcoming those of all faiths and none. The chapel, where the relic of St Margaret Clitherow is housed, is free to visit and Mass is celebrated on Fridays at noon.

Using QR codes throughout the exhibition, visitors are invited to discover more about the trailblazing women of the Bar Convent story whose bravery and determination made history.

The trail is included in admission to the exhibition. Complete the trail to be in with a chance to win a £30 voucher for the café.

NEWS

Stella Maris celebrates 20th anniversary Holy Island pilgrimage

“I wouldn’t miss Stella Maris’ annual Day of Pilgrimage and Prayer in Holy Island for anything,” says Brenda Bland, a volunteer ship visitor with Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the pilgrimage, and Hartlepool-based Brenda has been organising coaches to ferry Stella Maris supporters from County Durham for 15 years. She always looks forward to this annual opportunity to escape the busyness of daily life and spend a day in a peaceful place.

“It’s called Holy Island for a reason. It’s a chance to walk in the footsteps of some of the great Northern Saints. The whole place speaks of the presence of God: St Cuthbert’s Island, the priory, being cut off from the mainland, a time to reflect on life. Plus, there’s time to pray, sing and share a few laughs together.”

This year’s pilgrimage will be led by Paul Mason, Bishop of the Forces and Stella Maris bishop promoter.

The idea of holding an annual Stella Maris (then known as Apostleship of the Sea) pilgrimage in each UK region was first mooted in 2004.

Here in the North-East, the mantle was picked up by Monsignor Ronnie Brown, together with Tony McAvoy, former Stella Maris port chaplain for an area that included the Tees, followed by recently retired port chaplain Paul Atkinson.

“We came up with the original idea of



The Stella Maris team, with regional port chaplain for Tees and Hartlepool Deacon Peter Barrigan on the left and St Aidan behind them

holding Celtic prayers on the beach followed by Mass later in the day, giving pilgrims time to walk and enjoy this special and holy place,” says Paul, who has been involved with the organising from the start.

The pilgrimage was seen as a way of raising awareness of Stella Maris at a time when the charity was expanding.

Fast forward 20 years and the pilgrimage remains as popular as ever, if not more so, and bus-loads of pilgrims join in from throughout the UK. There is great support from North-East volunteer ship visitors, who work all day to make the pilgrimage a

success.

Deacon Peter Barrigan, Stella Maris’ regional port chaplain for Tees and Hartlepool, has been involved since 2006.

He said: “I like that we set aside a day to come together to pray for seafarers and to give thanks to God and Our Lady Star of the Sea for our ministry. Having the Celtic prayers on the green early in the day creates the right atmosphere for the day. It’s a prayerful pilgrimage.

“Even the visitors to the island stop to see what we are doing and then ask about our work with seafarers. It’s a chance to catch up

with our supporters and thank them for their continual support over the year.

“For anyone reading this who hasn’t been to the island ever or for a few years, please come along to help us celebrate 20 years of this special pilgrimage. I’m sure you will enjoy the day with Mass. Plus we have a wonderful piper to lead a procession to the church.”

This year’s pilgrimage is on Saturday June 29. A light lunch will be provided. For more information, or to register, contact Deacon Peter Barrigan at peter.barrigan@stellamaris.org or 07713 924 504.

20th Anniversary

Stella Maris Annual Pilgrimage to

Holy Island

Saturday 29th June 2024

Prayers on the Green

1pm

Mass (St Mary the Virgin Church)

3.30pm

Safe Tide Times

12noon-8pm

Please join us for a peaceful day of prayer and pilgrimage. Parish groups, individuals and families all welcome.

For more information please contact:
Peter Barrigan on 07713 924 504

STELLA MARIS

Stella Maris Registered charity in England and Wales number 1069833. Registered company number 3320318.

Porridge Prize celebrates kindness and friendship

Canon Stephen Maughan has announced a brand-new award for St Charles’ VC Academy in Hull – the Porridge Prize.

This award recognises the wonderful values of kindness and friendship encapsulated by Canon Stephen’s beautiful King Charles Spaniel, after whom the prize is named.

The children at St Charles’ are a source of joy and as a highly diverse school family, they pride themselves on welcoming everyone who joins them or who visits.

That makes it a difficult job for the staff member chosen to find the prize winner, who is awarded a framed certificate and their very own “Porridge” King Charles’ Spaniel teddy.

Winners so far have been very deserving of this special award, and we look forward to finding our next winners over the coming weeks.

We are so grateful to Canon Stephen and Porridge for this incredible award and for their continued support and presence in our school. We are very lucky, and the children and staff love their visits.



Alison Bentley

Canon Stephen and Porridge with a young award winner from St Charles’ VC Academy in Hull

Queen honours parishioner Diane for years of dedicated service

A dedicated parishioner of the historic St Mary's Church in Crathorne, North Yorkshire, was chosen to receive the traditional Maundy Money from Queen Camilla.

Diane Gent was nominated by parish priest Monsignor Gerard Robinson for her hard work since moving to Hutton Rudby with her husband, Colin, in 1971.

She initially attended the Catholic church in Osmotherley before switching to St Mary's in about 1974.

She has been instrumental in helping organise everyday parish life as well as social events in the parish and wider ecumenical community.

On most Sunday mornings she can be seen welcoming parishioners into church with a smile and a warm greeting.

She sets up the church ready for Mass and, with other parishioners, provides monthly tea and coffee to support St Mary's social community.

Diane is on the cleaning rota and along with her close friend, Kay, uses her skills as a flower arranger to produce beautiful displays for weekly Mass and for many special occasions and celebrations over the years.

"I have many happy memories of going to

church with Mum to help vacuum and dust, although my brother and I usually ended up playing while she cleaned," said Diane's daughter, Pippa Smith.

"Mum is heavily involved in fundraising for the restoration project at St Mary's. She had a stall at a Hutton Rudby village event with extensive information relating to the church and its history and its importance within the community.

"She spent the day raising the profile of St Mary's and the need for restoration. Her enthusiasm and dedication to the church and the church family encouraged many donations.

"Mum spent many years on the ecumenical committee and has organised social events such as the continental breakfasts and the parish picnic. She is also a great supporter of social events at the parish's two other churches, St Joseph's (Stokesley) and St Margaret Clitherow (Great Ayton).

"We are so very proud of Mum. She has been a steadfast, loving and active role model for our Catholic faith and showing how to really put faith and its teachings into practice.

"Mum has shown our family about the importance of helping others and being active members of a church family."



Crathorne parishioner Diane Gent was chosen to receive the traditional Maundy Money from Queen Camilla

Pippa accompanied her mum to the Maundy Money ceremony at Worcester Cathedral.

"She was so overwhelmed when she received the letter from Buckingham Palace and she felt so very privileged and honoured to be

nominated," said Pippa.

"Mum and I had a wonderful day, with all the pomp and ceremony of the presentation, and the experience will stay with us forever."

Pilgrimage target for new Lady Chapel canopy

The diocese is hoping to unveil a new outdoor canopy at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace in time for the annual Assumption Pilgrimage on Sunday August 18.

The design first had to be approved by the diocese's own Historic Churches Committee, before being submitted to the North York Moors National Park Authority.

A revised design was then drawn up, taking into account comments made by Historic England.

The project has been led by Diocese of Middlesbrough property manager Sharon Westcough.

"We're delighted to see the new outdoor canopy at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace come to life," Sharon said.

"It has been a collaborative effort involving various stakeholders, including members of the Friends of the Lady Chapel group, and I'm

pleased with the progress we have made.

"The new canopy will hopefully be in place in time for the August gathering, when everyone will be able to see how it adds to the existing facilities at the Lady Chapel.

"This work underlines the importance of the Lady Chapel to the diocese and how we are constantly working to maintain and improve the site."

The canopy covers the main outdoor altar opposite the main door to the chapel and will replace the existing structure.

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

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



How the new canopy at the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Grace will look

Thank you for the music, Paul!

A presentation was made to thank Paul Burns for his contribution to the musical life of St Mary's Cathedral and diocese over many years.

Paul sang with the Cathedral Choir and the Diocesan Choir and was also involved in music more widely across the diocese, supporting and encouraging musicians, as well as composing music for use in worship.

At the end of a Mass where Paul sang with the Cathedral Choir, Father Rejimon Devasia MF presented him with a long service medal from the Royal School of Church Music, along with a painting of St Mary Magdalene, to Paul's own specification, painted by talented

artist and Cathedral Choir member Jo Falloon-Shakespeare.

Diocesan director of music Steven Maxson said: "It was an honour and privilege to be able to celebrate Paul's contribution to the music ministry of the cathedral and diocese over many years.

"We very much miss him singing with the choir. We miss his voice, his knowledge of the music of the Church, and his sense of humour. We wish Paul well for the future."

Speaking after the presentation, Paul added: "It was a very special occasion; thanks to Steven and Jo, and all the choir."



Artist Jo Falloon-Shakespeare, Paul Burns, Father Rejimon and diocesan director of music Steven Maxson

NEWS

Retreatants discover the power of silence

“Tasting the Silence” was what five retreatants sought to do at a recent contemplative weekend retreat held as part of the Oasis of Silence programme at Whitby Priory.

As they were quick to discover, silence is more than an absence of sound. Being silent opens participants to an awareness of presence. Whether remaining before God in silent meditation in the chapel or outside in nature, they discovered that by staying alert with all their senses they became more aware of the presence of God at each moment.

During the four days, apart from times of sharing, the retreatants were invited to give each other the gift of silence.

“I found it fascinating how much we got to know each other during the days we were here, even though we weren’t talking together,” said one retreatant.

Another said: “I found the silence at mealtimes quite challenging at first, but I got used to it and found it helpful not to break the stillness of the day with chatter. I also noticed how I appreciated what I was eating much more when I wasn’t chatting at the same time. And the meals were delicious!”

Angela Simek, who leads the Whitby Priory retreats, said Tasting the Silence is a gentle way into contemplative prayer.

“There’s a clear structure to the contemplative retreat, with guided meditations alternating with other activities,” she said.

“The retreatants find they have plenty of time and space – whether to enjoy the priory gardens with their extensive views of the moors and sea, have a nap or simply relax in the sitting room.”

They are invited to remain centred on whatever they are doing and simply enjoy the experience of doing so in God’s presence.

“Tasting the Silence is basically the first few days of the full 10-day retreat,” Angela said. “The hope is that the retreatants will feel drawn to come for longer another time. It’s certainly worth it. What did the psalmist say? ‘Taste and see, for the Lord is good!’”

The Oasis of Silence retreat programme follows the steps of the Gries Path, just one of many paths to contemplative prayer. It describes the path the Hungarian Jesuit, Father Franz Jálcs (1927-2021) walked himself and taught to others over many years – a school of awareness inviting to a closer relationship with Jesus Christ.

The next retreats are the 10-day retreat from Monday July 1 to Thursday July 11 and Tasting the Silence from Monday October 21 to Thursday October 24.

Monthly one-day retreats are on Saturday June 8 and Saturday October 18. Everyone Interested in contemplative prayer is welcome.

For more information email Angela Simek at angela.simek.hall@gmail.com.



Retreatants at Whitby Priory

Talk focuses on Bethlehem charity’s work with disabled children

A charity’s work helping improve the lives of children with disabilities across Palestine, regardless of faith, race or gender, is the subject of a forthcoming talk.

Anthony Glaister is a trustee of the charity Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability (ABCD), which has more than 35 years of experience supporting local health centres to deliver high-quality, child-centred care, guided by principles of humanity, neutrality, independence and impartiality.

Anthony has worked and travelled in Israel and Palestine for over 10 years and is a passionate advocate of peaceful co-existence.

The visit has been organised by St Mary’s Cathedral Justice & Peace Group after choosing ABCD as one of its supported charities this year.

Given the escalating violence in the region, these are difficult times for everyone involved and as well as giving our

financial support to ABCD, we feel it is important to hear about their work.

The meeting is at St Mary’s Cathedral Hall, Middlesbrough, at 7pm on Monday June 17. Tea and coffee will be provided.

We invite anyone throughout the diocese who would like to, to attend this event and we hope you will join us. For further information email lauriehaley2@hotmail.com.

Laurie Haley

A Letter From Madonna House - Living under Mary’s mantle

This article will be my last for the Voice, as I will soon be returning to the Madonna House headquarters in Combermere, Ontario.

I am so grateful for these past three and a half years, living in North Yorkshire (God’s own country).



The first and most lasting impression of living in our house in Robin Hood’s Bay is that it truly is Our Lady’s home. It’s as if Mary’s mantle covers this house and all the activities therein.

Sometimes people will ask what we do here at Madonna House. One good answer is, “We try to keep up with Our Lady’s plans!” [Note to those unaccustomed to such an articulation: Mary wants whatever God wants and her principal activity is to intercede, praying that his will be done at every moment.]

I am convinced that Mary is the true organiser of our diary. She has led us to give talks to various schools and groups as well as to be present to dozens of diocesan, ecumenical and community events (even bringing us to Lourdes).

She has given us opportunities to explore and cherish the many treasures of this beautiful land. And she has even made use of various unforeseen circumstances to free up our diary when we were liable to run ourselves ragged by saying ‘yes’ to more than what God was asking!

But, what I have most cherished during my time here is witnessing the very simple and gentle ways in which so many individuals (and groups) have experienced a restorative

peace come upon them by simply being, even for a moment, in this, her home.

Many people have told me they have felt loved and accepted here. I have seen people walk away with problems somehow lessened, and I have watched burdens, large and small, fall from people’s shoulders, as joy and openness returned to their faces.

What I am absolutely certain of, is that such experiences are not a result of our personal greatness! In fact, I think one conviction people must walk away with as they leave this place is that Madonna House members are diverse individuals who are ordinary, bumbling along, sort of messy and certainly not having it all together!

We are no experts in any particular area, except that just maybe Our Lady is making us “experts” in being imperfect, little and humbled (in spite of our pride), and desperately reliant on God’s Divine assistance for everything. Perhaps this is why at least some individuals feel at home among us ☺.

In any case, Mary seems to be at ease among such a lot. And it is her presence, most of all, that brings peace.

It seems that Mary often leads us to an interior place where we cannot make our

home in self-reliance, where we need God’s help, and where we need to fall into His loving arms. Then, with Mary, we are truly home—home in his merciful love.

Thank You, God, for these past years, living in Mary’s home here in Robin Hood’s Bay.

Father Michael Weilt



An ancient fresco in Assisi – Photo by Father Michael Weilt

Service with a smile at the Upper Room

It was with some anxiety that we opened the doors of the Upper Room in February, for the first time in exactly four years.

We had done all we could to keep visitors and ourselves safe and we had many volunteers anxious to serve, at last able to offer a welcome, warm space and food.

Though we had thought of every eventuality in this changing world, we found many of our concerns unfounded.

Visitors remain polite, they watch out for and support each other and often say thank you for the little we offer them.

Sadly, among the 40 to 50 visitors, we still see new faces each week, a few we knew from before, more people struggling with addiction and younger adults.

Middlesbrough's Salvation Army Hall is proving to be an excellent venue, and we have been amply supported by Captain Naomi Kelly and her team in setting this up.

The two hours are more relaxed with space and time to listen and chat, signposting to more support where needed. We hear that having these two hours of warmth, to meet up and eat food together, does help.

Twelve visitors had free podiatry treatment through the Forgotten Feet service and others are already looking forward to the next session. Thank you for the socks and trainers already donated. The need for new or second-hand trainers in excellent condition is ongoing.

We would like to thank the Diocese of Middlesbrough and Caritas for their support and funding, the Tees Valley Community Foundation, Stokesley Rotary and private donors.

Working with the SVP is proving to be an excellent empowering experience for us, and we look forward to future years developing this project together. Thank you to all at the SVP.

The Upper Room Project with Middlesbrough SVP offers a hot breakfast and takeaway lunch every Saturday morning. New volunteers are welcome – call me on 07885 599810 or Margaret Hinman on 07796 910278. Trainers can be left at St Mary's Cathedral.

Teresa Lyth



Serving a sausage bun and a smile at the Upper Room in Middlesbrough – Photo by Barbara Lynas

Exploring the history of the archbishop's palace

St Aelred's UCM members were joined by parishioners and friends from St Aelred's, English Martyrs and St George's parishes in York for a visit to the Archbishop of York's palace at Bishopthorpe.

Some of us had met Archbishop Stephen Cottrell on Mary Ward Day at the Anglican church of St Thomas, Osbaldwick, where he preached to a joint Anglican and Catholic congregation and commended the contribution women make to the Church. He would have been there to greet us at Bishopthorpe, but he was attending an important debate in the House of Lords that day.

We had a wonderful tour of the palace led by David Atkinson, who has worked there for many years and lives in the mediaeval building that predates the 18th-century Strawberry Hill Gothic residence.

He explained how the site has developed since the 12th century and gave us some highlights from the lives of former archbishops, many of whom have portraits displayed in the drawing room and great hall.

Now used as a dining room, the great hall is where the late Queen Elizabeth II had lunch and Queen Victoria also visited before her coronation.

We enjoyed afternoon tea beside a cosy log fire and were shown the modern gallery that displays photographs of the work of people across the archdiocese. The mediaeval chapel has

been used for regular daily prayer by archbishops and their staff since 1241, an unbroken tradition that continues to this day. In 1892, a craftsman and carpenter from Oberammergau was employed to put in the panelling on the chapel's western wall and many of the northern saints are represented in the stained-glass windows.

After tea we wandered in the gardens and on the riverside terrace on what became a magical spring afternoon. We came away feeling we could not have been made more welcome had we been royalty ourselves.

Kath Stubbs



Visitors admire panelling on the western wall of the chapel at the Archbishop of York's palace at Bishopthorpe

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NEWS

Out & About

1 Saturday

10.30am York Catholic History Day at the Bar Convent. The cost of the day is £18.50, students £9 (cash only). For more information contact judith.smeaton@btinternet.com

11am Catholic women are invited to share an hour of feminine communion including meditation, via Zoom. Text Barbara on 07796 117704 with your mobile number and email address so she can add you to the WhatsApp group, or email catholicwomenmdl@gmail.com for Zoom link.

3 Monday

9.45am-10.25am Beverley Christian Meditation Group meets online. Further information from christianmeditation.beverley@gmail.com. This takes place every Monday.

4 Tuesday

10am Coffee at the Cathedral. Tea, coffee and treats every Tuesday after 9.30am Mass. A warm welcome and friendly atmosphere. Make new friends and enjoy some fellowship. Those who are alone especially welcome.

10am Christian Meditation Group meets online. Further information from Terry Doyle terry-doyle@live.co.uk. This takes place every Tuesday.

7pm Mass for Knights of St Columba Council 29, followed by a meeting at St Mary's Cathedral.

5 Wednesday

5.30pm Sung Evening Prayer and Benediction. Join us every Wednesday at 5:30pm at St Mary's Cathedral for a time of prayer and quiet reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.

6 Thursday

7pm Sacrament of Confirmation, St Mary's Cathedral. Join Bishop Terry and the people of the parishes of Middlesbrough as they celebrate this special sacrament together with their young people.

7 Friday

Events, articles and photographs for the July edition of the *Voice* are due by this day.

8 Saturday

One-day retreat at Whitby Priory. For more information email angela.simek.hall@gmail.com.

9 Sunday

3pm Mass for LGBT+ community, family and friends at the Chapel of the Bar Convent. Doors open from 2.30pm.

10 Monday

2pm Music for the Mind at St Mary's Cathedral for people who enjoy singing and connecting memories. No charge, all welcome. Tea, cake and biscuits followed by fun. For details call 01642 710179. You can also join in on the Diocese of Middlesbrough YouTube page.

11 Tuesday

12.45pm The Catholic Women's Luncheon Club meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Kingston Theatre Hotel, Kingston Square, Hull. Gather at 12.45pm, lunch at 1pm. All ladies in the Hull and East Riding area welcome. Call 01482 446565 or email jayne.wilson24@ymail.com.

12 Wednesday

7pm Hull Circle of the Catenian Association will hold a meeting at the Lazaat Hotel in Cottingham. Meeting followed by Mass and a buffet-style meal. Email Charles Cseh at hullcirclesecretary@gmail.com.

13 Thursday

7.45pm Middlesbrough Catenians meet at Middlesbrough Cricket Club, Green Lane, Middlesbrough TS5 7SL. Call Peter Carey on 01642 317772 or Chris Rhodes 01642 319161.

14 Friday

7pm Bishop Terry celebrates Mass for the centenary of Sacred Heart Parish, Middlesbrough.

15 Saturday

6pm Mass in Italian in the Father Kelly Room at Our Lady's in York, followed by refreshments. All welcome.

7.30pm Dermot Hegarty is the guest performer at the Eddie White Sacred Heart Parish Dance at the Erimus Club, Cumberland Road, Middlesbrough TS5 6JB. £5 on the door. For further details contact John Brown on 07871 958412.

16 Sunday (Day for Life)

3pm Catholic Fellowship Mass at All Saints, Thirsk, with Father Anil Narisetti.

17 Monday

7pm Action around Bethlehem Children with Disability (ABCD) trustee Anthony Glaister talks to the Justice & Peace Group about the charity's work at St Mary's Cathedral Hall. Email lauriehaley2@hotmail.com.

22 Saturday

Noon LGBT+ Ministry Social at the Bar Convent café in York. All are welcome to come along for a coffee, or a meal, and friendship.

26 Wednesday

10am-3pm Day of prayer and reflection at St Bede's Pastoral Centre, York. Email fiona@stbedes.org or call 01904 464900 to reserve your place.

28 Friday

7.30pm An Evening with The Priests, featuring the Cathedral Choirs and Cantabile, at St Mary's Cathedral, Middlesbrough. Email cathedralevents@rcdmidd.org.uk.

29 Saturday

Stella Maris pilgrimage to Holy Island. Contact Deacon Peter Barrigan at peter.barrigan@stellamarismail.org or 07713 924 504.

If you have any events that you would like to include in the Out and About section, please email heidi.cummins@rcdmidd.org.uk

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JOHN BRADBURNE PILGRIMAGE WALK 2024

Saturday 8th June 2024

This year JBMS will be climbing Cross Fell. This is the highest mountain in England outside the Lake District. John Bradburne climbed and wrote about it many times in his poetry. The summit is just 8 miles from Skirwith where John was born and spent his early years.

We start at Kirkland church, walk to Wylharts, then up Grungly Hill to Whitbar Towl and on to the summit where we stop for lunch and prayers.

11 miles and 2400 feet of ascent which will take approximately 6 hours. You will need to be fairly fit and dressed for a boggy walk with possibly a cold wind, even in June.

Before the walk, there will be a Mass held at St John the Evangelist Church, Skirwith, CA9 8PQ at 10am. All welcome to join the Mass.

There will be refreshments, talks and an exhibition on John Bradburne and the Muxtona Legragy Care Centre in the Skirwith Village hall after the walk.

To book your place and make your donation please visit www.johnbradburne.com or call Kate on 0781987486

Parishes urged to prepare for Day for Life

This year's Day for Life falls on Sunday June 16 and has the theme "The Lord is my Shepherd – Compassion and Hope at the End of Life".

The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death.

A debate on end-of-life issues has been in the headlines in recent months, with calls for assisted suicide being expressed, especially by celebrities.

This opposes the Catholic view that life is a gift and that we are called to care for others at the end of their lives.

On this day in particular, parishes are asked to promote the Catholic view of life as a gift and the importance of care at the end of life.

For more details and resources, visit cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life.

- Last month's *Catholic Voice* contained an article stating that the Church opposed Caroline Ansell's amendments to the Criminal Justice Bill.

In fact the Church supported the MP's amendment, which sought to lower the time limit for abortion from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. We apologise for the error and are pleased to put the record straight.

If you would like to advertise please contact Charlotte Rosbrooke on 01440 730399 or email charlotter@cathcom.org

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

Deadline Friday June 7 for July edition.

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.

Walking to Santiago on the Camino Portuguese

Having heard many positive comments from folk who had completed the Camino to Santiago de Compostela, I resolved to follow in their footsteps.

Covid-19 delayed my journey long enough to propel the Portuguese variation into my consciousness. This seemed to fit the bill perfectly: a 280-kilometre coastal meander due north from Porto, crossing into Spain after 100 km.

A fortnight off work would even provide enough time to walk to Santiago and cycle back to Porto. September seemed an ideal month to go, with the sea sufficiently warm for a swim at the end of each day's efforts.

I talked my mate Mike into coming with me. We've run and climbed together for well-nigh 30 years, and he didn't take much persuading.

We flew into Porto, planning 10 days for the walk and four more for the return bike trip after a rest day in Santiago. We had obtained our Pilgrims' Passports in advance and started at Porto Cathedral, where the way begins.

Sometimes the journey is more important than the destination. That felt so true on the Camino. It was the people we met and the experiences we shared that mattered, more than getting the Compostela for arriving footsore in Santiago.

Setting off we walked up the coast and joined the wooden walkway that defines the Camino from Matosinhos. We passed lovely beaches and a chapel built into the rocks, where we collected our first pilgrim's stamp.

These *sella* were an essential element of each pilgrim's journey, being the only accepted proof of passage along the Camino. Several *sella* each day ensured clear documentation and often afforded the chance for a rest, being available in cafes or chapels where light refreshments were often available for a small *donativo*.

We covered 32km on our first day and arrived at the municipal *albergue* at 4pm to discover it was already full. Municipal *albergues*, we learned, open at 2pm and take pilgrims on a first-come-basis. This has the distinct disadvantage of curtailing one's walking hours, but on the plus side they're cheap and generally cheerful.

Albergues had warm showers, communal

kitchens and nearby shops, making the evening meal a central aspect of each day. Fellow pilgrims would offer olives in exchange for wine or cheese in return for pasta. Conversations further flavoured the food and friendships were forged over shared experiences.

Folk usually bunked down in the common dorms around 10.30pm and started to leave around 7am, while it was still quite cool and dark. Our usual schedule was to walk for a couple of hours and then find breakfast around 9am once the sun was up. A coffee served with the local delicacy, *pastel de nata*, felt hard-earned and sustained us through until midday when we'd sometimes stop for a swim before eating again.

There were beautiful panels illustrating history and decorating the coastal Camino. We were surprised by our fellow pilgrims. Naively, I had expected them to be older, slower and mainly Mediterranean. However, most were young and fit. Many came from other continents and fewer than a third were male.

We met many Americans, usually in family or friendship groups, while Germans dominated among European pilgrims. There were sizeable representations from central Europe, and I had plenty of other Irish for company, although we met only three British people on the road.

Beautiful though the cathedrals are at either end, we will better remember the quiet mornings in the ancient oak forests, the warm afternoons on the herb-scented mountains, welcome clear-water swims to escape the glaring heat and the long evenings sharing wine, olives and stories with our fellow pilgrims.

At Caminha we crossed the Minho estuary into Spain. We swam in the calm clear waters on the Spanish side, and after coffee, walked on to A Guarda.

A young Czech pilgrim called Tereza explained that many pilgrims carried a stone representing their internal conflicts. They were deposited at the waymarks once they were resolved. She described her dilemma and that she was trying to figure out what to do with her life – aren't we all?

Our fellow pilgrims had many different reasons for walking. Few stated primarily religious motives, but rather most saw it as a



Clive Kelly and his friend Mike walked the 280-kilometre coastal Camino to Santiago de Compostela

challenge or an opportunity to take stock of what really mattered to them.

Early morning on the Camino was our favourite time of day while it was still cool, and you could almost smell the breakfast coffee around the corner.

On our final day of walking, we had reserved accommodation at the monastery in Santiago and arrived at 11am. Dropping off our rucksacks, we ventured to the cathedral for midday Mass. But the queue for Mass was so long we were turned away.

We spent the afternoon collecting our Compostela, awarded to those pilgrims still alive at the end of their journey.

We did make the 7.30pm Mass and it was well worth the wait. The great ball of incense (*botafumeiro*) was swung after the service. Its original purpose was to fumigate the cathedral from the smell of unwashed pilgrims! Afterwards we had a grand little meal to celebrate in a tiny restaurant in the city centre.

On the Friday morning we explored the cathedral complex before collecting our bikes for the return journey.

On our last morning we revisited Porto Cathedral and explored its cloistered interior before leaving this impressive city with all its colour and charm to fly home.

It's right that we can worship at the temples we build for God, but for us it's equally important to allow ourselves to marvel at the beauty of the world God created for us and our fellow time travellers.

If only we could all learn to live in peace: not an angry word heard in 15 days of mixing with people from 25 countries, but so many shared honest expressions of doubt and courage, uncertainty and wisdom, hesitation and commitment.

Most of all, a shared determination to explore and forgive ourselves. If only the world shared this perspective we could avoid the conflicts that beset so many of its peoples!

Clive Kelly



Clergy from Blessed Nicholas Postgate Parish in Redcar joined Monsignor Ricardo Morgan at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Saltburn to celebrate his birthday. Our picture shows Father Jose Michael MF, Monsignor Ricardo, Father Paul Dowling, Deacon Len Collings and Father Philip Cunnah.

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NEWS

Reflection: A journey to the gates of the Holy City

St Paulinus, Guisborough, parishioner Ian McLean, who has been living with cancer for some time, sent us this reflection, which he hopes others in a similar position will find uplifting...

The morning sun roused the boy from sleep and upon looking around he found his father already awake and preparing for the day's journey.

"How far must we travel today?" asked the boy.

"It is not far, my son. Today will be our last day on this road, for we are very near to the Holy City where you will find peace and much to bring you comfort and indeed much joy."

"That would be wonderful, Father, for I am tired and have found this road so very long and arduous."

Having eaten their frugal meal they packed their meagre possessions and continued walking together along the dusty, potholed road.

As they crested a hill, they could see in the near distance a light burning with such fierce intensity that the boy had to shield his eyes.

"What is that light, Father?" asked the boy.

"It is the Holy City, my son, the New Jerusalem, where every tear shall be wiped away and there will be no more death, crying, sadness or pain.

"It is the end of our long journey, and the



They could see a light burning with such fierce intensity that the boy had to shield his eyes – Photo courtesy of pxhere

start of our new life together. I have to leave you now, as I must go to prepare a place for you in the Holy City, but do not be afraid. I shall still be walking beside you and will meet you at the gates."

The boy walked on towards the gates, feeling his father's loving hand, still, yet guiding him.

As he reached the gates he was imbued with such an awareness of overwhelming love, and saw that his father was, just as he had

promised, waiting for him with arms open in love.

"Come with me now my precious, precious child, for today I have made a home for you in paradise."

Records in spotlight at York Catholic History Day

This year's York Catholic History Day will focus on the importance of records and year books.

York University PhD student Laura Atkinson will take us back before the Reformation to explore "Record keeping and the Care of Souls in Late 13th-century York", a paper based on her research in the registers of Archbishops William Wickwane and John le Romeyn.

Dr Hannah Thomas, special collections manager at the Bar Convent, will talk about "Secrecy and Survival: Georgian York through the Eyes of a Catholic Convent", using the convent's archives to explore the lives of Catholics in York in a period when practising the Catholic faith was still illegal.

Information about many aspects of Catholic life since Catholic Emancipation, which enabled Catholics to participate in public life, can be found in diocesan year books and their predecessors, particularly those of the 20th century.

Diocese of Leeds archivist Robert Finnigan will talk about "Diocesan Almanacs, Directories and Year Books: An Invaluable Archival Reference" and explain the wide range of material about both national and local Catholic life that can be found in these often-overlooked publications.

The event takes place at the Bar Convent, York, on Saturday June 1. The programme begins at 10.30am, with tea and coffee available from 10am.

Lunch is available at the Bar Convent Café (please phone 01904 464910 to book a table, as the café gets busy) and participants may like to visit the Bar Convent Living Heritage Centre during the lunch break.

The day will end with Mass in the chapel at approximately 4.30pm.

The cost of the day is £18.50, students £9 (cash only). For more information contact judith.smeaton@btinternet.com

Parishioners gather for Anointing Mass

Around 50 parishioners gathered at St George's Church in York to take part in a Mass of the Anointing of the Sick organised by the parish's SVP group.

Mass was concelebrated by Canon Jerry Twomey, Canon Pat Harney and Canon Michael Ryan, and the social event afterwards at the nearby Victoria pub provided an opportunity for relaxation and chat, with music provided by Steve Cassidy.

Thank you to our clergy and everyone who attended the Mass and social, to Rosa and Norman for the music, the Victoria and Julie's Caterers for the hospitality and to St George's SVP members for organising the event and making it such a success.

David Harper



The Anointing of the Sick Mass at St George's in York – Photo by Lars Karlsson

Environment Corner – Bees need our help!

Now we are enjoying some sunshine and warmth, it's good to look at ways in which our gardens can contribute to the care of creation.

We have become more and more aware of the importance of bees to our environment. Bees are in trouble, with around 13 of the UK's bee species now extinct and 35 others under threat of extinction.

Unfortunately, our countryside isn't currently up to the task of helping them. Some areas have become more like industrial units, with huge fields of single crops replacing the hedgerows and the variety of plants bees need to thrive.

Our gardens and windowsills can be vital fast-food takeaways for bees and other beneficial bugs. As well as

servicing up a varied menu of plants, they provide the shelter and nesting places that bees need. Many plants are bee friendly – from herbs to larger bushes and trees.

Lavender is a big hit with bumblebees. Ivy is an important late source of nectar for honey bees and queen bumblebees before hibernation.

Phacelia – a sweet-scented flower – is simple to grow from seed and according to researchers is the single most attractive plant for bees on the planet.

In the herb family, marjoram, chives, sage and rosemary are all attractive to bees providing their much-needed nectar.

The Friends of the Earth website has a wonderful section on bees and instructions for creating a "bee hotel", which can be used by all sorts of cavity-nesting solitary bees. By



creating bee-friendly spaces we can help to restore some of their lost habitat and help Britain bloom for bees.

Barbara Hungin

Variety evening raises spirits as well as charity cash

Talented parishioners from Scarborough's three Catholic churches came together for an international variety concert at the town's famous YMCA Theatre – and proved what a wide range of talent there is among our community!

Both halves of the programme opened with young Irish dancers from long-time altar server Kevin O'Connor's dancing school. The next day the girls went on to win their place in the British Arts Award finals in London in May.

Colourful dances from other cultures lit up the stage throughout the evening. Eight Filipino ladies, all nurses at Scarborough Hospital, produced a gracefully choreographed display of the different ways to wear a malong, a tubular wraparound that can be a dress, a shawl, a skirt, a hideaway, all demonstrated in unison movements.

Boys from the community from Kerala in the south of India wore traditional dress as they performed a stunning dance, followed in the second half by the girls.

There was also lots of singing, with the standard set by popular tribute act, the Chancy Brothers – Canon Eddie Gubbins on guitar with Father Pat Keogh and (mostly) blended voices singing Irish ballads.

The four members of the community of Madonna House at Robin Hood's Bay sang some joyful and prayerful pieces (and

something less serious about beans) and a quartet of parish cantors performed close harmony songs. And in a well-rehearsed mix of singing and dancing, the Union of Catholic Mothers gave a rendition of Abba's Mamma Mia!

Among the many stars of the show were the Fernando family, originally from Sri Lanka, who are being supported by the parish while their application for settled status is processed, and who have made an enormous contribution to Catholic life in Scarborough.

The four children danced and sang traditional pieces and played on the keyboard. Their father has established a children's choir that leads the music during Sunday Mass at St Peter's once a month.

But the most important aspect of the evening was the special atmosphere generated by a vibrant, faithful, mutually supportive community enjoying itself.

The theatre was full, the audience appreciative and the evening was entertainingly held together by MC Michael O'Brien, lector, special minister and veteran of many a light opera and musical.

We hope the evening – which raised £2,000 for St Catherine's Hospice – will become an annual event. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Andrew Carter



The Filipino dancers, who are all nurses at Scarborough Hospital, preparing to go on stage



The Chancy Brothers, Canon Eddie Gubbins and Father Pat Keogh, in action

Book sale and Smarties boost for Lourdes funds

St Patrick's, Thornaby, parishioner Kath Hall organised a book stall at the back of the church during Lent to raise money for the Diocesan Lourdes Fund.

Parishioners wholeheartedly supported Kath's initiative, generously donating and purchasing books.

Kath also distributed Smarties to the children

of the parish, encouraging them to return the tubes filled with coins. Together, these efforts resulted in a total of £620 raised for the fund.

Father Pat O'Neill acknowledged Kath's dedication and she received applause from the congregation.



Kath Hall presents the cheque to Lourdes pilgrimage director Mark Taylor

Spring cleaning fun at St Leonard's

Around 50 volunteers turned out to give St Leonard's, Malton, a thorough spring clean and tidy the church grounds.

Many spiders were swept out of their homes, benches were polished, internal windows washed, stonework swept and carpets vacuumed.

Outside, weeds were dug out, shrubs cut back, grass was cut and hedges trimmed.

Ample refreshments were consumed and a good time was had by all.

Perhaps more important than the tasks completed was the joyful spirit of cooperation in which the work was done.

It was a great community effort, with people making connections and building friendships.

Johanna Davis



Volunteers spring cleaning at St Leonard's, Malton

NEWS

Water project helps 48 Bethlehem families

Christian charity Friends of the Holy Land (FHL) has completed phase one of its Water Emergency and House Rehabilitation Project in Bethlehem.

The project directly improves living conditions for 48 families in the area by installing water tanks and solar panels, giving them access to clean water and the ability to cope with water shortages. This phase of the project cost £50,000.

The project used only local Christian suppliers and contractors, providing paid work when there are few construction jobs around because of the war. Young people from the Christian community were taken on as apprentices.

The FHL team worked in partnership with Pro Terra Sancta to identify the families most in need and to manage the project.

There is now a growing waiting list for phase two, which it is hoped will start later this year. To support this work, visit friendsoftheholylan.org.uk or call 01926 512980.



Some of the new water tanks provided by the Friends of the Holy Land project

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