



MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF BRINGING THE NOTTINGHAM DIOCESE TOGETHER

Published by Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN Telephone: 01440 730399 Editor Nick Layton E-mail cn@catcom.org or davidl@catcom.org

The Lord's Prayer in 40 languages

Ah Dad, who is ov'r in 'eaven. Ittsimm whose holy.

In case you are wondering what this line is, ask anyone from Nottingham. It is the opening line of the Our Father, written in Nottingham dialect. It's part of a project Holy Family Parish in Nottingham recently embarked upon as part of the Year of Prayer in 2024. Pope Francis has declared 2025 to be a Jubilee year, something which happens every 25 years.

The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. The Jubilee Year is a special year of grace, in which the Church offers the faithful the possibility of obtaining a plenary indulgence. In preparation for this, Pope Francis has asked that we take time in 2024 to focus on prayer, in particular the Our Father.

To help us with this, our richly diverse parish of over 40 nationalities has written the Lord's Prayer in some of our languages. These are displayed in each of our three churches; St Augustine's, Our Lady & St Edward's and Sacred Heart. The Our Father is displayed in over 25 languages spoken in our parish; Romanian, Malayalam, Portuguese, French, Gaelic, Kiswahili, Maltese, Hausa, Chinese, Lebanese, the list goes on, and includes our own city's dialect.

Last Pentecost, we prayed the Our Father at Mass in all our native languages ... at the same time, creating a wonderful babble of prayer and we plan to do the same later in the year. What a wonderful way to celebrate our diversity and rejoice in our unity in prayer!

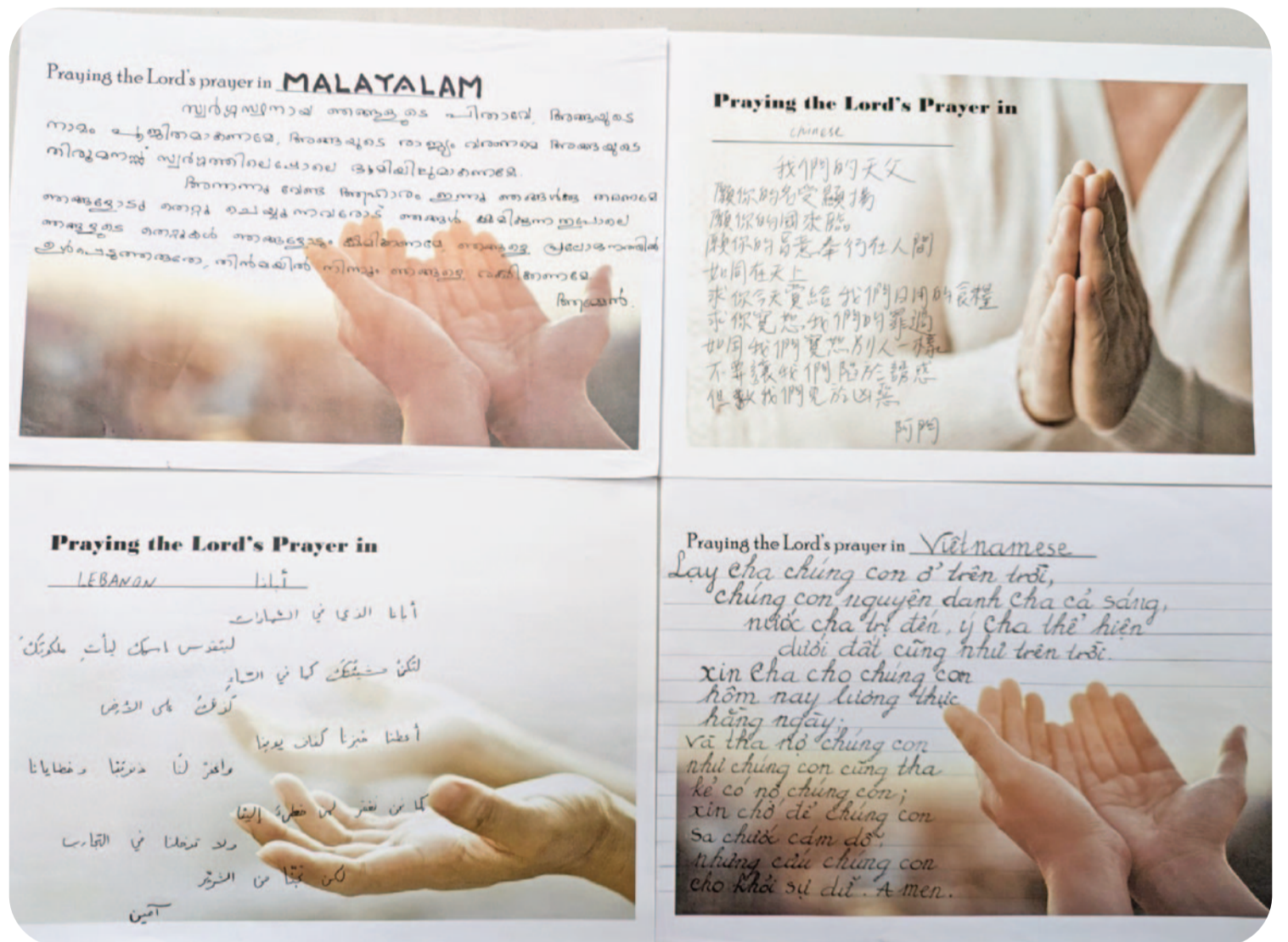
And just in case you don't come from Nottingham

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name

Ah Dad, who is ov'r in 'eaven. Ittsimm whose holy.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Yorn kingdom comes ova'ere, yorn work be done, daan ere like it is up there.



The Our Father in Lebanese, Chinese, Malayalam and Vietnamese

Give us this day our daily bread
Gir'us oat we need.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Soz f'what we've done, cos we forgive others us done wrong t'us
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
Keep us oss reet road, n'help us not t'sin
Amen. T'is reet.

This was first written for and then displayed in St Pius X underground basilica in Lourdes as a project for the millennium; each pilgrimage group that year was asked to send in the Lord's Prayer in their own language. The Diocesan Youth Service wrote this with a group of young people from Nottingham and cheekily sent it in, suggesting that our own dialect should be counted as a language. It was! For the Millenium year, the prayer was displayed on the wall of the basilica, much to the pride of pilgrims from our diocese.

Our Father (who art in Nottingham)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name

Ah Dad, who is ov'r in 'eaven. Ittsimm whose holy.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Yorn kingdom comes ova'ere, yorn work be done, daan ere like it is up there.

Give us this day our daily bread

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And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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Amen. T'is reet.



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The monthly paper for the
Diocese of Nottingham

Catholic News 

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Bellcourt Limited,

Publication date: Fourth Sunday of the month
for the following month. Opinions expressed
by contributors are not necessarily those of
the Editor or the Diocese.

Publishers and Owners:

Bellcourt Ltd, N2 Blois Meadow
Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead,
Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN

Advertising: tel: 01440 730399

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Wanted Parish Correspondents

The Catholic News is looking for a
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to send in local news for publication in
this newspaper.

All items to be emailed to
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Walking with the Holy Spirit

September is an important month for Vincentians as the society has celebrated the feast of its founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, on the 9th and its patron, St Vincent de Paul, on the 27th. It is a time for reflection and also raising awareness of the society, what it does and what its impact is. Nearly 200 years after its inception the SVP continues to adapt and evolve in terms of how it functions in this modern age, but still remains faithful to its fundamental Catholic antecedents and mission. Spirituality is at the heart of the society and a belief in the support and guidance of the Holy Spirit today, as back in 1833, is as strong as ever.

Part of the Vincentian way is prayer and through prayer we invite the Holy Spirit to guide and support us in our work: to successfully recruit and welcome new members, to attract volunteers and encourage funders to support and enhance our work. Seeing the Holy Spirit as Providence, which is one of the key elements of Vincentian spirituality, is a growing sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's promptings concerning the needs we should address and the way we should tackle them as Vincentians. It will lead to a deepening and broadening of our love for others. It is also a trust that God will make good whatever may be lacking despite our best efforts, and that he will compensate for our frailties.

Nottingham Central Council enjoyed its own Festival, held at Sacred Heart in Carlton on Saturday 28th September. We were delighted to welcome Bishop Patrick



Blessed Frederic Ozanam



St Vincent de Paul

to celebrate mass with us and were entertained by a presentation from Sister Maria Parcher, an expert on Vincentian history and spirituality. In addition Joe Gasan, our Membership Support Officer spoke about his role and the importance of membership recruitment and development

and Lance Philpott, the SVP's Head of Membership spoke about how the SVP is adapting to our modern age while remaining true to its origins. The festival event was an excellent opportunity for Vincentian brothers and sisters to pray and socialise together as well as affirming their trust in providence. In walking with the Holy Spirit we know there will be success but we don't always know how to get to that point which is why we trust in Providence.

The Vincentian life has always been walked in close step with the Holy Spirit who is Providence. At its most blatant we see this partnership lived out in identifying need which quickly finds fulfilment... "we had a request for a microwave and the very next day someone rang us to ask whether we could make use of a donated microwave". More subtly though through reflection we can see the Holy Spirit working through the Beneficiary who had grown to trust us, the members being present to hear, the community supporting our good work.

In recent years Conferences have found some beautiful and simple ways to welcome more members to serve alongside them. One conference recently undertook a discussion about those they befriend and reviewed whether they are being enabled to share their best passions and interests. One example of this was an older gentleman who had a passion for Nottingham Forest, sadly none of the members were Forest fans and in truth not even really football fans. A simple request to the parish to see if there were any chatty Forest fans and suddenly an opportunity opened up to welcome a new visitor who would soon become a regular member.



FRANKLY SPEAKING



On September 4 Pope Francis commenced a gruelling 11 day visit covering four nations in tropical south-east Asia and Oceania. In Indonesia which has the world's largest Muslim population he chose his words carefully as he spoke of that country's diversity. The pope added that "political leaders had a role to play," he also assured his audience of the Catholic Church's commitment to increasing inter-religious dialogue.

Prior to the visit Amnesty International had noted the repeated instances of destruction of places of worship, attacks and violence against religious minorities. Pope Francis' itinerary had also included a visit to the "Tunnel of Friendship" which connects a Mosque and the Catholic Cathedral of our Lady of the Assumption. On this point of his

pilgrimage the Pope was accompanied by the Grand Imam Nasaruddin Umar. According to reports the meeting at the Mosque showed the personal side of the Catholic Church's commitment to greater fraternity, political leaders please note.

If as our still newly elected Prime Minister claims that politics can be a force for good then this needs to commence at local level. Perhaps a slogan of country first. Constituency second and party last would be a start. The recent General Election statistics told us that many people did not vote, clearly there was much apathy, this could get worse, but we must never give up.

In Southport the Faith Groups are clearly working together in a town which has experienced a tragedy which the local community never could have anticipated.

I recently briefly looked at 3 areas of local government when local politics of a coalition or alliance should have worked together for the local community. In 1895, 1978 and 2024 they all failed with rows of a very personal nature instead of progress being made. As we commence the month of the Holy Rosary with the feast of Saint Theresa the guidance of Pope Francis could surely help all of us in the coming months.

The Darzi report reveals the need for many more good Samaritans and less party politics.

Frank Goulding
Holy Trinity Parish, Newark



Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Carlton

Holy Family Parish in Nottingham has recently recruited two new members of staff to the Pastoral Leadership Team

Lee Summers has joined as Adult Faith Formation Coordinator. He replaces Pauline Baptist who retired earlier in the year after fulfilling the role for 6 years. The role was created to support the parish in providing opportunities for adults to grow in their faith. Working with catechists and other volunteers, the coordinator makes sure catechetical programmes are well-organised and welcoming, catechists and other ministers in the parish are supported and trained and that the parish always tries to reach out to and welcome those who

might have drifted away from their faith or who might be wanting to explore it.

Through the RCIA, 1st Holy Communion parents' sessions, weekly Scripture reflection groups, training for readers, work with Welcomers, provision of one-off events such as retreat evenings and spiritual film nights, guided prayer, Alpha course Lee will work hard to ensure that Holy Family Parish provides opportunities throughout the year for adults to grow in their faith.

At the same time, Steve Pepper has joined as a part-time Facilities Manager. This post has been created in partnership with the parishes of Our Lady's, Bulwell and Holy Cross Hucknall. Steve works 18 hours a week, split equally across the parishes and works alongside the parish administration staff to manage the Health and Safety, maintenance and improvement aspects to all our buildings. In Holy Family Parish alone, this involves overseeing 10 buildings across 3 sites! Steve comes to us with a

wealth of experience working in facilities management with the City Council and Nottingham City Homes and has very quickly got to grips with the systems and practices of the Diocese. He's a great addition to the team and will release other people to focus not on buildings, but on building up the community of the parish and engaging people in the mission of the Church.

Fr Joseph Wheat

Christian organisations and churches plan national week of prayer for UK

Christians from around the UK and British Isles are being urged to join church leaders and Christian organisations, NGOs and civil society in a National Week of Prayer from 12-20 October.

The campaign, which has been created from a partnership - including Open Doors UK & Ireland, 24-7 Prayer, CARE, the Evangelical Alliance and other national prayer networks - is hoping to gather Christians from across the four nations to humble ourselves, repent and pray for lives to be transformed by Jesus, and to see a spiritual awakening in the nations.

Organisers are encouraging people across all four nations of the UK and British Isles to organise their own local events or to attend events in their region and focus on prayer for various areas of society, including education, politics and the arts. The week will include an event at the Emmanuel Centre - close to the Houses of Parliament in London - on Wednesday 16 October, where hundreds will gather to remember the good things God has done across the nations and what He continues to do.

Kamesh Flynn, the project co-ordinator, says: "Throughout the past few months, we have been humbled at how open and engaged people across the nations have been in committing to praying for the nation as a Church collectively. No matter the denomination, individual area of

influence, or whether you are gathering three people or 3,000 people, we believe this is a moment for the UK to return to God and flourish in the identity found in Him." Church leaders from across denominations have been quick to throw their support behind the campaign.

Archbishop Angaelos, the Coptic Archbishop of London says: "There is nothing more powerful for us to do, than to pray. Stand together, pray together. When we gather together, the Lord is in our midst. This week of prayer, let us pray for our nation for those deprived the right to believe or have their own faith."

The Lord Bishop of Winchester, the Rt Rev Philip Mountstephen commented: "We are an empowered people and in the Spirit we can pray to the creator of the universe and believe that things can and will change. Let us pray!"

Father Dominic Robinson SJ, from Central London Catholic Churches says: "We want to invite you to gather for the National Week of Prayer as Christians together, remembering our need for God, thanking God for His great gifts, and praying as Christians together for the reawakening of the soul of our nation."

Partners for the National Week of Prayer include Open Doors UK & Ireland, 24-7 Prayer, CARE, the Evangelical Alliance, Christians in Government, the City Prayer



Breakfast, Christians in Politics, the National Day of Prayer and Worship, Liberal Democrat Christian Forum, Conservative Christian Fellowship, the Coptic Orthodox Church, Christians on the

Left, transformwork, Local Houses of Prayer, Word & Worship, and the Christian Embassy London.

For more details see:

www.nationalweekofprayer.uk/

St Mary's Derby lit up to mark Air Ambulance Week

St Mary's Church in Derby's clergy and parishioners were proud to have their historic AWN Pugin designed church chosen to be illuminated to mark the start of national 'Air Ambulance Week.'

Across the country landmarks were lit up, including the Space Centre near Leicester

and Warwick Castle, to highlight the essential work this organisation does.

During the evening, passers-by were welcomed into the Church to light a candle and say a prayer."

Fran Hazel



From: Elston Hermitage.....



These last few weeks we have been having a sort of autumnal spring clean here at the 'hermitage' especially clearing out filing cabinets, bookshelves, and cupboards - and it is amazing what we found!. Things misplaced for years, school reports, even my school bible and things we had forgotten existed. Among the many finds was an old DVD and one which seemed almost topical at this time of year the film, It's a wonderful life. Some will remember this 1946 film with Clarence who was the guardian angel in this classic movie, and when despair leads the main character of the movie George Bailey to contemplate suicide, Clarence the guardian angel intervenes to save his life.

I say the finding of this film last week is topical because on the 2nd of October we keep the Holy Guardian Angels in our calendar. The film's wide appeal to us Catholics may stem in part from the fact that it reflects two basic truths of our faith, that guardian angels do exist and that they play an important part in our

lives. These protectors and guides are our constant companions from the beginning to the end of our lives and we are "surrounded by their watchful care and intercession." (C C C 336) This is why the Church sets a day aside each year to celebrate them.

We have it from the lips of Jesus in St Matthew's Gospel that each of us has a guardian angel appointed to be our protector and guide." For I tell you that their angels in heaven are continually in the presence of my Father in heaven " (Matt: 18: 10) Jesus' testimony about the existence of angels reveals something of the greatness of God whose creation includes much more than the material world. Not only does humankind have a spiritual aspect, but there is a whole realm of spiritual beings created even before the material universe.

St. John Henry Newmam wrote a poem called 'The dream of Gerontius, which describes the journey of a soul through the gates of death and into the very presence



of God -Newman's words highlight the role the soul's guardian angel plays in leading the soul to God's presence and to salvation. Although we may relate guardian angels to bedtime stories for children or in children's liturgy classes. Pope John XXIII saw them differently. " Our Father in Heaven " he wrote, " has charged his angels to come to our assistance during our earthly journey... so protected by the angels help and care, we may avoid the snares upon our path, subdue passions and follow always the straight and sure road that leads to Paradise".

St Bernard of Clairvaux had a name for guardian angels that seems especially appropriate - he called them our

"bodyguards" Bernard wrote "We need only to follow them, remain close to them, and we will dwell in the protection of the Most High God. So as often as you sense the approach of any grave temptation or some crushing sorrow hangs over you, invoke your protector, your leader, your helper in every situation" (Sermons on Psalm 91, Sermon 12)

And so, let's reflect that God's love is so great for us, that he has given each one such a faithful guide and our own guardian angel. Thanking God and asking Him to help us be more mindful of the presence of our guardian angel.

Fr David + h.d.n. Priest and Hermit

A Diamond Jubilee Double at the Good Shepherd Church - Two Mayors and a Jubilee

This 60th anniversary year of the Good Shepherd Church continues to be one of celebration. Already a number of activities ranging from children's parties, Concerts, (Various visiting choirs beginning with the Cathedral Choir's rendition of the Handel's "Messiah" last Advent) and many social activities for all, culminated in the celebration of a Thanksgiving Mass presided over by Bishop Patrick with the homily of encouragement into the future shared with us by one of the former parish priests, Bishop John Sherrington, Auxiliary Bishop in Westminster.



Many of our activities have been supported by the Civic Authority of Gedling Borough Council, not least the Civic celebration once again for the new Mayor of the Borough, Councillor Ron McCrossen, one of the parishioners. This tremendous event was the third time the parish has hosted this celebration over the last five years, as Councillor Mrs. Viv McCrossen had previously been Mayor and one of the retired School teachers at the Good Shepherd School, Councillor Mrs. Julie Najuck was immediate predecessor of the current Mayor. Canon Philipp, our parish priest has been invited for the Mayoral Year of all three of these parishioners to support their Civic duties as Mayor's Chaplain. As Chaplain, Canon Philipp is involved in leading prayer and thought to open Council Meetings, and throughout the year to accompany the Mayor on such occasion as Remembrance etc.... The Civic celebration inaugurating the new Civic Year was attended by the Chair of Nottinghamshire County Council, various local neighbouring mayoralties, Lord & Lady Coaker (Lord Coaker had previously been our local MP.) and many members of the parish community.



The 22nd of June was undoubtedly the highlight of the Jubilee Year, when Bishop Patrick presided of the Mass of thanksgiving. The parish was honoured with the presence of the Deputy Lieutenant of the County of Nottinghamshire as well

as the Mayor of the Borough on this occasion. Bishop John (Auxiliary in Westminster) encouraged all to Mission in the future with generous words of the foundation of the parish and the Church by the strength of the Faith of the people who formed the parish family and of course Canon Bernard Mooney; the inspiration of the magnificent Church which we enjoy today. It was the occasion of great joy to welcome Canon Mooney's nephew and family to share the celebration. Assured by the strength of the foundation, the Parish

community looks to the future with a renewed confidence and vigour for evangelisation and continued engagement with the local community.

Appreciation was received from Canon Mooney's nephew which perhaps sums up the occasion:

"Just to say what a wonderful occasion the Mass on Saturday was. My brother and I were delighted to be invited to see the fruits of the work done by our Uncle, Canon Bernard Mooney and his successors, and, though he was a man who avoided publicity and praise he would have been so proud to look down on the coming to fruition of his great vision for the parish and the Church at large.

The Mass was beautiful and very moving. The excellent music, the altar servers and readers, to say nothing of the celebrants, made it very much an occasion to remember. We were also very flattered to receive such a lovely welcome from everyone.

With grateful thanks and very happy memories."

Mike Walmsley



"TO BE ALWAYS CLOSE TO JESUS, THAT IS MY LIFE'S PLAN"

Blessed Carlo Acutis

"Out of sight - Out of mind" A saying which I believe is often true. One group of people who might easily slip into this category are our own young prisoners. While they are "serving time" their friends and acquaintances have naturally grown older and in a lot of cases moved on, leaving a lonely space when the young "offenders" return to their family homes - if they have one. An older prisoner told me he seldom gets visits from his family. They seem to have lost touch. Thankfully there are Chaplains and various agencies who may befriend and assist the young adults who often re-offend.

Some time ago I wrote a book of the sort where each chapter "stands on its own theme" making it an easy read to pick up and put down at one's leisure. One chapter is entitled "A Letter to Young Offenders" through which I tried to help them recognise their goodness and be encouraged. Further on another chapter is entitled "Getting to know Carlo" (Blessed Carlo Acutis) Some time after the book was published I felt drawn to bring these two chapters together in a small booklet which I called "Dear Friends". By so doing I hoped to introduce Blessed Carlo into the lives of young offenders. Carlo had lived a very happy life fulfilled by the love of God and the Blessed Virgin. He had a big heart for the poor and helped many needy people especially those living on the streets. It is likely many Catholics will already be familiar with his life story however, I will give an outline of his young life.

Carlo was born in London on May 3rd. 1991 but when he was still very young, he and his Italian parents returned to Milan. He was very popular at school and loved all sports and his many pets. Carlo delighted in his computer work but disciplined himself to only a short time each week to play computer games and making funny videos! He always noticed when any pupil was being bullied at school or needed comforting due to family problems etc. He would often take them back to his home to give them a change of environment and help encourage them. He insisted that all people should always be themselves.

"All people are born as originals but many die as photocopies"

Carlo's prayer/spiritual life developed rapidly from him being a young boy. Attending daily Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament were the most important parts of his life. He became a highly skilled website designer for someone of his age and documented all the approved Eucharistic miracles he could discover. This work is now a unique

exhibition which has been translated and shown in thousands of parishes worldwide. His prayer life and love for the Eucharist was beyond doubt. God always had to be first in his life!

"The Eucharist is my highway to Heaven"

Carlo died aged just 15 years in 2006 following a very short illness. He said to his mother "I am happy to die as I lived my life without wasting a minute of it on anything displeasing to God". The crowds at his funeral amazed his parents who had no idea he had befriended so many people. Carlo was buried in Milan but later his body was taken to Assisi, the town of his great friend, St. Francis. He was Beatified by Pope Francis on October 10th 2020. His body now lay in a glass fronted tomb where he can be seen attired in his jeans and sneakers! Pope Francis has approved his Canonisation during which he will be declared "Saint Carlo Acutis" I am sure there will be much rejoicing not least among his parents and family. Wouldn't it be wonderful if teenagers of Carlo's age, and young adults were to pray and consider ways of telling others about Carlo's life. In fact, this is a fruitful task in which people of ALL ages might participate.

Those who already have copies of the "Dear Friends" Booklet or would like to have one, please feel free to adapt the script in whatever way would best suit your own outreach ministry. After all, not every young person is in prison! I have no problem with this. My permission is granted!! Bringing Carlo to a spiritually hungry population is the most important thing, in whatever way one can. Long ago I placed the booklet into the hands of Jesus and Mary, so what right would I have now in using handcuffs? Perhaps Prayer Groups may be formed under the patronage of Blessed Carlo? Members may seek permissions to speak to pupils in their local Catholic schools and colleges or seek ways of bringing booklets into our Young Offenders Institutions and maybe speaking to the "inmates" about the life of Carlo as part of a "Faith Sharing" gathering. Chaplains may offer help or why not seek a meeting with the Governor to discuss your ideas? This task may seem challenging or even impossible BUT let us all remember that NOTHING is impossible to God. Many times I have heard it said that young people will evangelise other young people so, let us all pray that the Holy Spirit will turn keys and open doors to bring Christ into the lives of young offenders - all with the help of Blessed Carlo!

Maybe prayer groups (or similar) around the diocese are already "spreading the

word" and might consider linking up and becoming "Internet Missionaries" together? All these are thoughts which include my dream of there being a statue of Blessed Carlo Acutis in each of our Catholic Schools!

Wouldn't that be amazing? Perhaps a Petition Box might be available also - just another thought!

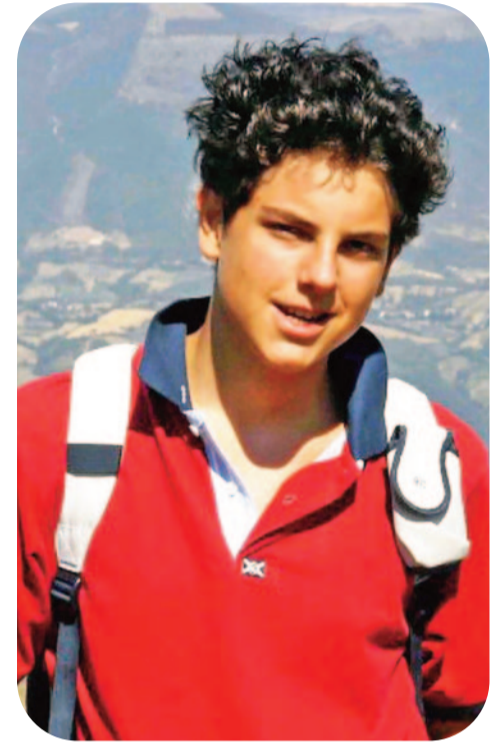
I had better ease up on my enthusiasm and ideas now, for fear I may go overboard and cause yawns and sighs - sorry!!

It may be pleasing to note how St. Eugene's Cathedral in Derry have a life size statue of Blessed Carlo which was commissioned and blessed by Bishop Donal on Carlo's birthday May 3rd. 2023 as part of the 150th Anniversary celebrations of the opening of the Cathedral. They also have a lock of his hair given by his mother as a relic. Some readers may recall that Bishop James McGuinness 8th. Bishop of Nottingham 1974 - 2007 was a "Derry Man". Small world eh?

"Dear Friends"

If you would like copies of the booklet please feel free to contact me (email below). As you will see the booklets in print at the moment are addressed only to "young offenders" as these are the people I primarily wanted to reach. I now feel I am being reminded that others may find this booklet helpful and affirming. I believe Carlo can do so much good for all our brothers and sisters by leading them in "his way" into the arms of Jesus and Mary. Some booklets have been left in church book racks, prisons, Catholic Guest Houses & Centres etc. to pick up as people wish. I gave a few to a Carmelite friend asking if she might leave them in their small monastery repository to which she happily agreed saying.... "I don't think we have any ex-prisoners coming here!" Surprisingly, a short time later I was contacted by a priest who had visited the Carmel, asking for 100 booklets! (He is a Prison Chaplain) "so it just goes to show"

At first I was a little disappointed these booklets were not up to the standard I had hoped. The script and layout could have been better but, I then realised God wasn't interested in a perfect booklet; He could work much better with little and imperfect things - that made me happy! So, to brothers and sisters working for the Lord I would say, "be encouraged and uplifted, the Holy Spirit can do mighty things with imperfection."



I learnt another lesson during the printing process; I began wondering what I should charge for the booklets. I mused with a few figures...£1.00 - NO. 50p - NO. 25p - NO. Nothing - YES !! At this point I laughed out loud and felt at peace on the matter. I was sure the Lord had a hand in this. It was as if he was saying; Paul, no charges must be involved. When your pockets are empty then I will pay the bills." Suddenly a light went on in my head. Didn't Jesus tell us to Seek First His Kingdom and His righteousness then all else would be given to us? There will be no more mention of money. I have learned my lesson!

For booklets, please email me with your address:
paulgerrard16@yahoo.com OR
peaceprayer@icloud.com

Let us all do our best to evangelise with the help of our friend Blessed Carlo Acutis!!

Paul Gerrard



Scripture Focus

By Fr Jeremy Corley



Letting Creation Be Beautiful

The Feast of St Francis of Assisi (4th October) brings to a close the Season of Creation, when we have been renewing our efforts to care for creation and pray for its wellbeing.

When we think of scriptural texts about creation, naturally we turn to the first pages of Genesis: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." We treasure the world, not only because it is our common home, but also because it was beautifully made by God.

An important text comes in the first chapter of Genesis. God tells humanity: "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over all creatures." This points to the key role of human beings at the top of the pyramid of creatures.

But what does the word "subdue" mean here? Surely it does not mean that humans can do what they like with God's creation. We cannot just cut down all the rain forests or slaughter

all the rare animals. In fact, most people today understand God to be speaking about careful human stewardship of creation.

Such a view could imply that all creatures need to be ruled by human beings. But God's speeches in the Book of Job remind us of creatures that live in the wild without any human supervision.

Job's terrible trials and tribulations have caused him to become preoccupied with himself, but God seeks to broaden his outlook and open his eyes to the marvels of creation.

Chapter 38 of the Book of Job offers a brilliant description of creation's wonders, including sunlight, rain and snow. The chapter ends by pointing to the wild lion, which never needs to be fed by human beings (except in a zoo).

Job chapter 39 depicts a whole series of wild animals that are not under human control. No human serves as a midwife when wild goats give birth in mountain caves. No human being feeds the wild

donkey that roams across the semi-desert. No human can tame the wild ox or buffalo that likes to run free over the plains.

Another curiosity of creation is the ostrich, which lays its large eggs on the ground, where they could easily get trampled. Although it is a bird, it can hardly fly, but over a short distance it can outrun a horse.

God then points to the military horse, which surprisingly is trained to run towards a battle, not away from it. When the trumpet sounds and it catches the scent of battle, it will fearlessly race into the heart of the conflict.

Hawks and eagles do not tend to stay near humans. Instead they live in inaccessible crags of rocks. Without any humans to feed them, they use their sharp eyes to single out prey from a great height, before swooping down to catch them.

In this way, God reminds Job that creation is vast and mysterious and full of marvels. Hungry animals do not need humans to feed them. An ostrich is a bird that cannot

fly, yet it can run faster than a horse. Whereas most animals flee from a noisy attack, a trained war horse will run straight into battle.

In other words, God's world is full of a whole variety of strange and wonderful creatures. God is perfectly able to look after the entire range of creatures in his creation without human involvement. Perhaps Job needs to let God be God.

Sometimes we human beings think that we need to intervene to manage creation or even to save it. But perhaps what we most need to do is to avoid harming it. Without polluting the planet, hunting wild creatures, cutting down rain forests, and carelessly burning fossil fuels, maybe we would give creation more of a chance to be its beautiful self.

We join the psalmist in acclaiming the Creator: "How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your riches."

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View from the Pew

By Dr Jay Kettle-Williams

Where there's a will ...

No doubt we've all been the object of falsehood or the brunt of a wrongful accusation at one time or another (1). It's at such times that we might witness that fissiparous nature of humankind. No doubt it's then, in the face of such injustice, that we either retaliate tit for tat or simply think that to do so would be beneath ourselves, merely pyrrhic, not worth the candle, getting us nowhere but to highlight our resentment, however much justified, at the wrongful, baseless actions of others. So, which way to jump in such circumstances? It's entirely down to us, or is it?

The ability to make choices and to act on one's own account - the concept of free will and its implementation - have long entertained the minds of many, among them philosophers, scientists and theologians of any number of religious or other persuasions. How come God can be all-knowing, but the ability to jump one way or another is down to us? Where do I stand with regard to such '-isms' as determinism (to the effect that only one course of events is possible), incompatibilism (that free will is incompatible with determinism), metaphysical libertarianism (that determinism is false)?

I'm no theologian. How to address the apparent contradiction of exercising free will within the constraints upon us? I once put the matter to my mentor, a Catholic bishop, who had been tutoring me in a specific course of study. 'We have the free will,' he explained 'to act in any one of a number of ways within prescribed parameters [and perimeters].' And that made sense. We are bound by the human dimension, a dimension which, in itself, might afford some flexibility as our abilities and the opportunities before us develop. A

trite example, for which I ask you to excuse me, is that we might well acknowledge certain constraints when driving down a country road, constraints which we perhaps need not take into account when driving down a five-lane motorway. Not that that image, I admit, really serves in any way as a cautionary tale.

A cautionary tale we recognise as a story, experience or situation that serves as a warning or alert to others. It might involve a lesson or address a moral issue. So perhaps the following personal experience of mine might well fit that bill:

He was standing on the edge of the pavement, sporting a bushman's leather hat, his toes on the curb as he faced the roadway, his head bowed as if listening intently to the cars driving past. I was walking towards him, approaching from his left side. 'You ok?' I asked. 'Is there anything I can do?' It was then that I saw he carried a white stick in his right hand.

'That would be very kind of you,' he said and smiled broadly. 'Perhaps you could help me get across. The traffic is very heavy today.' He took me firmly by the arm. 'By the way, would you mind if, when it's all clear, we could stride across purposefully, march even, like soldiers on parade?'

We set off, arm in arm, vigorously overtaking the other pedestrians crossing the road like us, meeting head on and marching through the ranks of those doing likewise but coming in the opposite direction.

'That was great,' he enthused when we reached the opposite pavement. He then

looked a little coy as he said, 'I don't suppose I could ask another favour?'

'Why not?' I replied, wondering what he was going to say.

'Let's stay arm in arm and when it's all clear, when there's nobody in the way, we just run like mad along the pavement. I haven't run for years.'

What then followed was like a pantomime moment, to the obvious bemusement of onlookers: two grown men grasping each other firmly by the arm, running along the pavement for all they were worth, both laughing, one spasmodically giving way to raucous giggles as he tried not to lose his hat.

Well, that incident has stayed with me for years. Do we accept the bondage of our limitations or choose instead to work with the opportunities? Well, where there's a will...

(1) See Deuteronomy 5:20; Exodus 20:16; Proverbs 6:17; The Ninth Commandment

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**Dr J L Kettle-Williams is an
experienced business
communications consultant
and wordsmith (tutor, writer,
translator).**

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The Hodder Sunday Missal

For use with the new Lectionary from Advent 2024
Publishing 21 November 2024

Hodder & Stoughton is delighted to announce the publication in November 2024 of The Hodder Sunday Missal.

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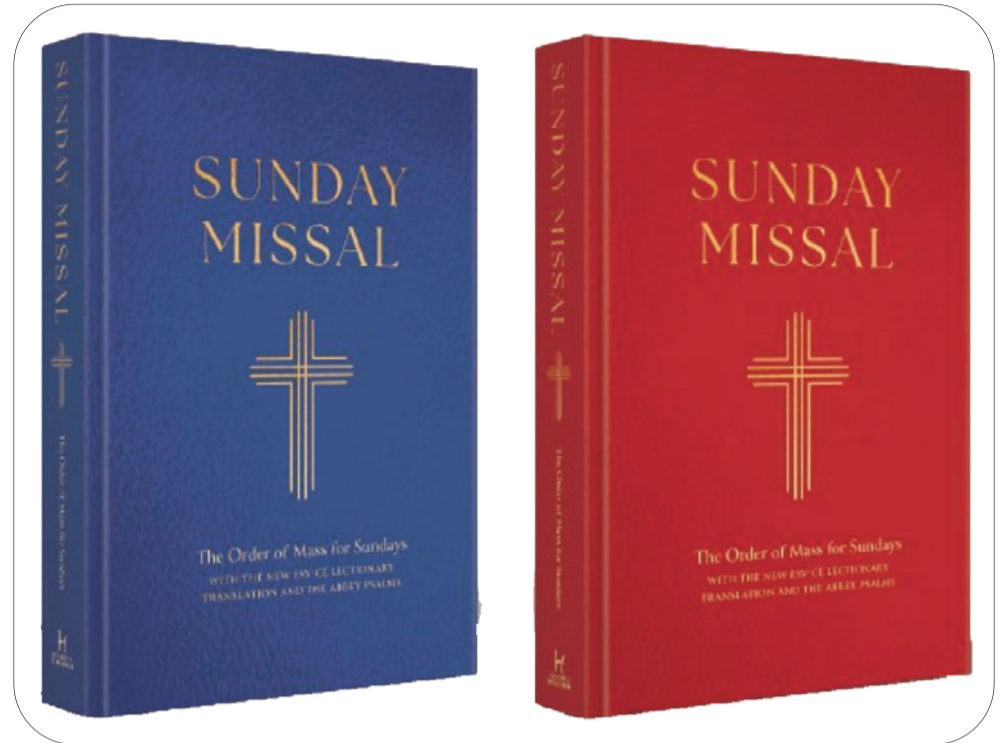
Published by religion and theology imprint Hodder Faith (part of John Murray Press), The Hodder Sunday Missal is a brand-new edition to add to the range of missals currently available, and will provide the proper texts for all Sundays in the three-year liturgical cycle, along with the major feasts and solemnities in the universal calendar. Publication will coincide with the introduction of the new lectionary this Advent which will use the English Standard Version-Catholic Edition (ESV-CE) translation of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter.

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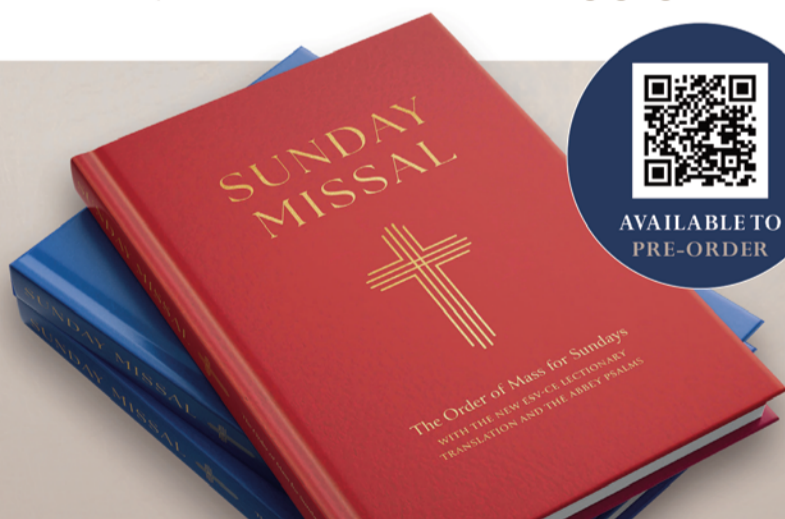
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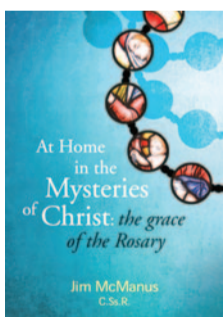
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At Home in the Mysteries of Christ, great encouragement, enlightenment and a new desire for a deeper, personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In the Rosary, we contemplate the love and mercy of God the Father, now made manifest to us in the person of Jesus his son; we ponder too the presence of the Holy Spirit through whose power Jesus was conceived in his mother's womb, performed all his great works of mercy, offered himself for our sake on the cross and rose triumphantly from the dead; we become more aware that the risen

Jesus has given us that same Holy Spirit when he established his Church on earth. We contemplate all these mysteries of Jesus through the eyes of his Mother Mary as we pray the Rosary. All our great saints and mystics tell us that the Rosary is the great Trinitarian and Marian prayer of our Catholic tradition. It is a spiritual treasure. That is why the subtitle of this book is The Grace of the Rosary.

Praying the Rosary: A Journey through Scripture & Art

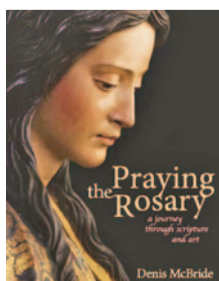
By Fr Denis McBride
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Fr McBride takes a fresh look at the Rosary in this beautifully illustrated book. Through the four sets of mysteries he takes us on a leisurely journey through twenty episodes in the lives of Jesus and Mary, offering us prayerful



insights on the way. The format for each decade is simple: first there is a reading from scripture, which is followed by a reflection on the passage; a painting is also included which offers its own take on the subject, accompanied by a brief reflection; finally there is a prayer on some aspect of the mystery. Focusing on a scriptural understanding of the mysteries, this prayerful book will prove a sure companion for everyone who loves the Rosary.

Sacred Space – The Prayerbook 2025

The Irish Jesuits

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yet cohesive collection of material, perfectly suited for individual or group use.' Intercom.

Sacred Space (www.sacredspace.ie) is a kind of 'anam cara' or soul friend. It journeys with us and helps us to slow down, pay attention and find the greatest anam cara of all – God.

Every day is rich with possibilities. Yet modern life is busy and can be stressful. It can be challenging to incorporate a prayerful rhythm into our day, to help us find guidance and insight in everyday life.

Through Sacred Space, the Irish Jesuits have brought the daily practice of prayer in the Ignatian tradition to people all over the world, across twenty different languages. Here, in Sacred Space: The Prayerbook, all the tools of Sacred Space are gathered in one place.

Each day of The Prayerbook includes a Scripture reading with points for reflection, as well as a weekly topic enhanced by six steps of prayer.

The prayers and reflections in Sacred Space: The Prayerbook 2025 are written by members of the Irish Province of the Society of Jesus, the Jesuits.

New science block at St Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy

A new multi-million pound science block has opened at Saint Benedict Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby.

The block has been built on the tennis courts at the front of north block on the school site in Duffield Road.

The building is a venture between the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust and Derby City Council, to support Derby with a surge in the population of children going into Year 7 this year and last year.

The school has also been selected to be part of the Government's School Rebuilding programme and is waiting for more detail in terms of timescales and what this will entail.

Previously, science classrooms at Saint Benedict were spread out across the school site and Headteacher, Hazel Boyce, said the new block was a fantastic addition.

She said: "The new science block is incredible and a much-needed improvement at Saint Benedict. To have the whole department all together, under one roof is a dream come true.

"The benefit to our pupils is going to be immense and their delight at the new block is a joy to behold! The innovative design of the building coupled with the wide expanse of glass in all the labs makes it a beautiful environment in which to learn. We would encourage parents and children who are moving into Year 7 next year to come along and see the new block for themselves at our open evening on Thursday, September 26th."

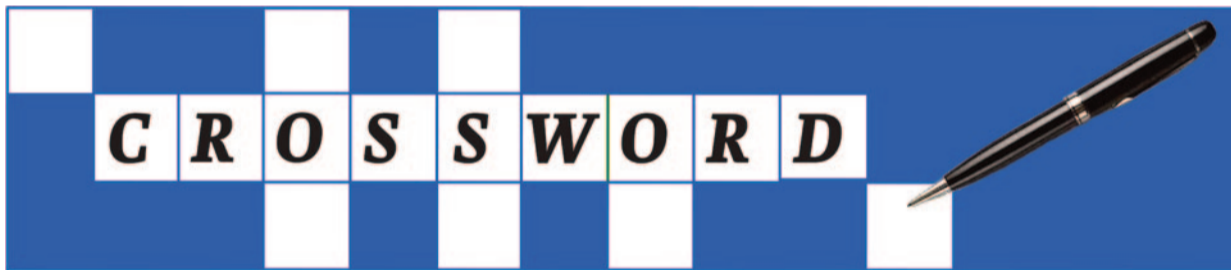
Dr Mala Mistry, Director of Learning, Science at Saint Benedict, said: "At last, the science department is together in our new science block! M block contains 12 bespoke laboratories, each fitted with an interactive whiteboard, and specialist prep rooms, this move will ensure that the



science teachers are able to deliver the already robust curriculum in new and innovative ways."

Kevin Gritton, Chief Executive Officer at St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust, said: "It is fantastic to see this new

building at Saint Benedict and we know that it is a welcome boost for staff and pupils. We hope that this is just the start of an exciting new chapter for Saint Benedict after the school was also selected to be part of the Government's School Rebuilding programme."



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same.

CRYPTIC Across

- 1 Enemy of Gideon's defeated during the witching hour, said one (9)
- 6 Musical about a High Priest (7)
- 7 Riddle to penetrate? (5)
- 9 Change in a little while going back to protect the testament (5)
- 10 Fielder's body parts used to take wickets in the end (3,4)
- 11 Foot part's essential to dancing, they say (6)
- 13 Grand aura about directions for the Holy Roman Emperor (6) 16 Hymn book each sailor kept (7)
- 18 One has a habit of getting into minicab bother (5)
- 20 Harsh being back at sea (5)
- 21 Bigbrewersarenuts,ridiculous(3-4)
- 22 Tyre here company backs after one phone order (9)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Recommendation when weather's bad in French wine area? (5)
- 2 Poles follow east Maine river banks to estate (7)
- 3 Saint Poles back from 2, and the Spanish, see in the morning (6)
- 4 One's no good in charge at first, but is very sweet (5)
- 5 Christian Roman's spreading mostly rubbish between Europe and America (7)
- 6 Paul's fellow soldier damaged pup's chair (9)
- 8 It runs in Iraq on Brussels tariffs top two phones supported (9)
- 12 Disturbance with fish supper only half wolfed down (5-2)
- 14 Spooks wreck a comeback, totally, for ancient language (7)

- 15 Frenchman's to the fore in Brexit – real European traditionalist on nationality (6)
- 17 'Beat retreat' code-word (5)
- 19 Gunners in the ascendant during support for Hebridean island (5)

QUICK Across

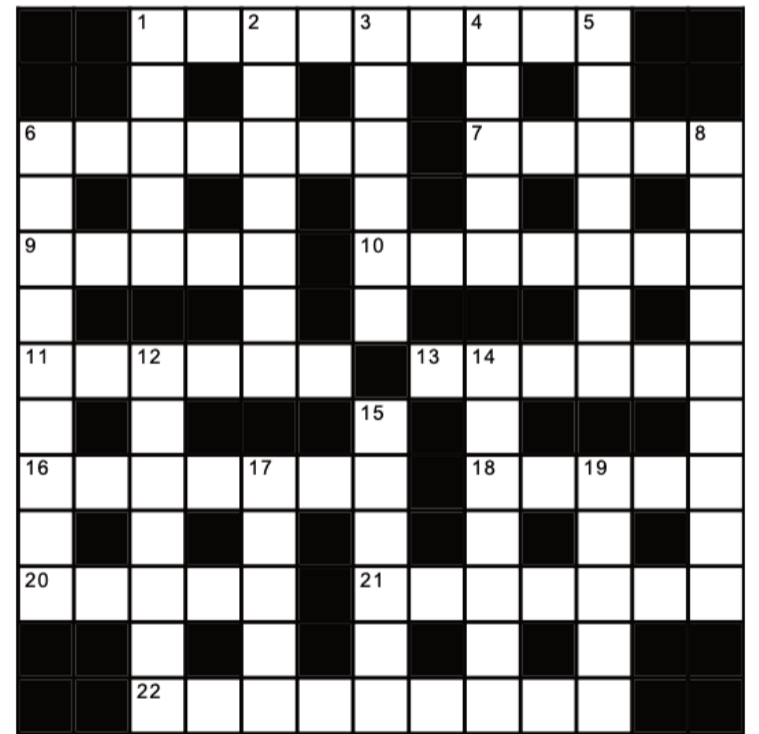
- 1 One of a tribe from whom Moses took a wife (9)
- 6 High Priest who opposed the Maccabees (7)
- 7 Soak;suffuse(5)
- 9 Eurofractions?(5)
- 10 Close fielding position in cricket (3,4)
- 11 Arch area of the foot (6)
- 13 The -----'s War: alternative, now dated, name for World War I (6) 16 Book of hymns or poems associated with the Old Testament (7)

QUICK Down

- 18 Archimandrite;prelate(5)
- 20 Demanding;forbidding(5)
- 21 Large vats for steeping and serving beverages (3-4)
- 22 Ancient Levant maritime country with ports at Tyre and Sidon (9)

QUICK Down

- 1 Town noted for its Chardonnay and Pinot Noir/Gamay Burgundies (5)
- 2 Manorhouse;estate(7)
- 3 Abbot of Bec who became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1093 (6)
- 4 Cupcake topper (5)
- 5 Roman Christian who sent greetings to Timothy via



- Paul... (7)
- 6 ...and Christian at Colossae cited by Paul (9)
- 8 Western river boundary of Mesopotamia (9)
- 12 Organize a new restructure(5-2)
- 14 Language probably spoken by Christ (7)
- 15 French, previously Armorican (6)
- 17 Staccato, energetic, South American dance (5)
- 19 Outer Hebridean island home of Dad's Army's Private Frazer (5)

SOLUTION

15 Breton, 17 Tango, 19 Barra, 5 Eubulus, 6 Archippus, 8 Euphrates, 12 Shake-up, 14 Aramaic, 22 Phoenicia, Down: 1 Maccon, 2 Demesne, 3 Anselm, 4 Icing, 11 Instep, 13 Kaiser, 16 Psalter, 18 Abbot, 20 Stern, 21 Tea-urns, Across: 1 Midianite, 6 Alcinus, 7 Imbue, 9 Cents, 10 Leg slip,