



Plans to make music across diocese
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Marathon to boost CAFOD funds
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All colour of Lourdes revealed
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'Before coming to the Ignite Festival, I didn't believe in God. Now I know he's real and loves me.'

One of the young people who attended

Life changing Ignite Festival

The Ignite Festival was for many of the young people who attended a life changing experience as the comment above shows.

Held on the first weekend of May at Sacred Heart School Swaffham, it was the largest diocesan youth event for many years with more than 300 people attended over the two days.

Saturday

After a sensational opening, complete with pyrotechnics the first act was Christian comedian *Andy Kind* who helped everyone relax into the weekend.

After something to eat, the school hall was transformed into a chapel for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament accompanied by Taize chants. Many young people took the opportunity to go to confession

The evening ended with *Galactus Jack* – Christian DJ and producer, but his set was cut five minutes short by the triggering of a fire alarm.

“With the festival being called Ignite, you could say we asked for it but thankfully it was a false alarm,” Hamish MacQueen, one of the organisers, said.

Sunday

After a night's camping, the morning started with prayer and praise led by Matt Dean and the band and then *Steve Murray* spoke and performed a moving mime.

The keynote talk was given by Fr Christopher and Br John Bosco, who are Franciscan Friars of the Renewal. They talked through the seven things everyone could do to stay close to Christ.

“After a very joyful Mass, celebrated by Bishop Alan, the afternoon offered a variety of workshops and activities ranging from tennis and sumo suit wrestling to making rosaries and adoration... and pretty much everything in between,” Hamish said.

For many people, the Sunday evening was the most powerful part of the festival.

After an introduction by a visiting Gospel Choir, Matt Rennie, the Ignite team leader spoke about God's love and invited people to come to the front and be prayed with.

Continued on page five with more pictures



A weekend of faith and activities at the Ignite Festival was enjoyed by about 300 young people and many of them came away with a new perspective on life as well as newly formed friendships



Families enjoy children's pilgrimage

The children's pilgrimage to Walsingham, see pictures right, was once again a great success with families travelling from all over the Diocese of East Anglia to celebrate a day with Our Lady.

The children carried the statue along the former railway line that links the village with the shrine where they held their own Mass at the Chapel of Reconciliation.

Their theme was to listen to the Word of the Lord and for this they carried cardboard ears as a symbol of their hearing attention.

After a lunch at the shrine many went to the seaside where they enjoyed the sunshine and ice cream as an additional half term treat.

More pictures and a report by Christine Storman on centre pages.



Advertisement



Symposium on Vatican2 interfaith relations

A symposium is to be held at St John the Baptist's Cathedral on Sunday 1 November to mark the 50th anniversary of the promulgation by Pope Paul VI of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relations of the Church to non-Christian Religions – Nostra Aetate.

It is a very short but very important document and its full text can be found on the Vatican website.

It symbolises the spirit and direction of the renewal of the Church in the Council and of the way in which she understands herself - one that is some way inclusive of other Christians, other religions, and of all people of goodwill.

Brian Keegan, Diocesan Co-Ordinator for Inter Religious Dialogue, said: "First and foremost the Declaration speaks of the Church's relationships with the Jewish People and of the bond that ties the people of the New Covenant (the Christians) to those of the Old Covenant made with Abraham and his descendants.

"It repudiates all forms of anti-Semitism.

"What is said about other Religions is also quite remarkable. "The Catholic Church makes it clear that she holds Moslems with great esteem and how we have things in common: worship of the One God, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Merciful and Omnipotent One who has spoken to men; our respect for Mary and Abraham, and for Jesus (whom they consider to be only a prophet)."

The document also suggests that hostilities and differences of the past should be forgotten and that we should work together for mutual understanding and benefit. The symposium will follow the 11am Solemn Mass and will be led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald, chairman of the Bishops' Conference Committee for relations with other Faiths. He will be joined by Dr Jonathan Gorsky, from Heythrop College and Dr Musharraf Hussain, of the Karimia Institute.

They will speak about the progress of inter-religious dialogue over the past 50 years from their own perspectives. A question and answer session will begin at 2.00pm after a buffet lunch from 1.00pm. The event will end around 3.30pm.

All are welcome but please register with Brian Keegan, who can be contacted with more information on 01733 265769 or email him at briankeegan@demon.com



Bishop Alan inducts Fr Sean as parish priest of St George's, left, and later celebrates with John Pinnington, above, and many others from the three communities he will look after, below

Fr Sean inducted at St George's

Fr Sean Connolly has been inducted as parish priest of St George's in Norwich.

Bishop Alan set the theme from the gospel as feed my sheep and keep my flock in view as appropriate for a new parish priest.

He expressed confidence in Fr Sean who had been looking after the parish for more than a year.

Paul Alcock, speaking for the people of St George's, St Boniface and Our Lady at Thorpe - the three churches in the parish - pledged their support and encouragement.

Bishop Alan said he knew they had taken Fr Sean into their hearts and he had pledged to serve them.

"The time has come for him to be canonically appointed as parish priest entrusted fully with the



pastoral and sacramental care of its people."

He then said there were four parts to this vision. A parish priest was called to be a man of prayer, of the Eucharist, of reconciliation and study.

The bishop knew Fr Sean would

work to fulfil this vision and grow in the holiness that must be at the heart of the parish as this would challenge, attract and convert.

He then offered his best wishes to the new parish priest who had accepted the role and the challenges it would bring.

Bishop led pilgrimage to St Therese's shrine at Lisieux

Over 40 people from across the Diocese joined Bishop Alan on a pilgrimage to Lisieux in France to the shrine of St Therese.

After a very smooth journey by coach and ferry we arrived at the accommodation at L'Ermitage in the town of Lisieux, right next door to the Carmel where St Therese lived.

The following morning the group, some pictured right, celebrated Mass in the Carmel chapel and had a guided tour of the small museum where they learnt about the life of the "little flower" during her time in the monastery.

After lunch they travelled to the house where St Therese lived as a child and were able to see the room where she had the vision of "our Lady of the smile".

The following day found them in the Basilica for Mass in the crypt and a tour of the shrine church, the afternoon was free to explore the town and they gathered again in the



evening for a Holy Hour and Vespers.

Next day they visited Alencon to see the house where Therese was born and celebrated Mass in the Cathedral.

Everyone said how much they enjoyed the pilgrimage, the accommodation and food provided by the sisters was wonderful and there was a real spirit of both prayer

and enjoyment among the group.

In June 2016 Bishop Alan will be leading a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome to mark not only the Holy Year of Mercy but also the start of the 40th anniversary celebrations for our Diocese.

Details will be available in parishes soon, or contact Pilgrimage People (info@pilgrimagepeople.org) for more details or call 0800 6123423.

Final goodbye and thanks for all your help from editor Patrick Byrne

I want to thank all the hundreds of people across the Diocese of East Anglia who have helped me bring out a newspaper so frequently. Without you and your many activities there would have not have

been a newspaper.

I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting people in the parishes. I have made friends and, although it may sound like a cliché, it was a privilege to be let into your lives.

Here is a new email address editor@east-angliadiocese.org.uk and please send post to the Diocesan Newspaper Editor, The White House, 21 Uptgate, Norfolk NR14 7SH
Goodbye and best wishes - Patrick.

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy - Celebrating God's mercy
8 December 2015 - 20 November 2016

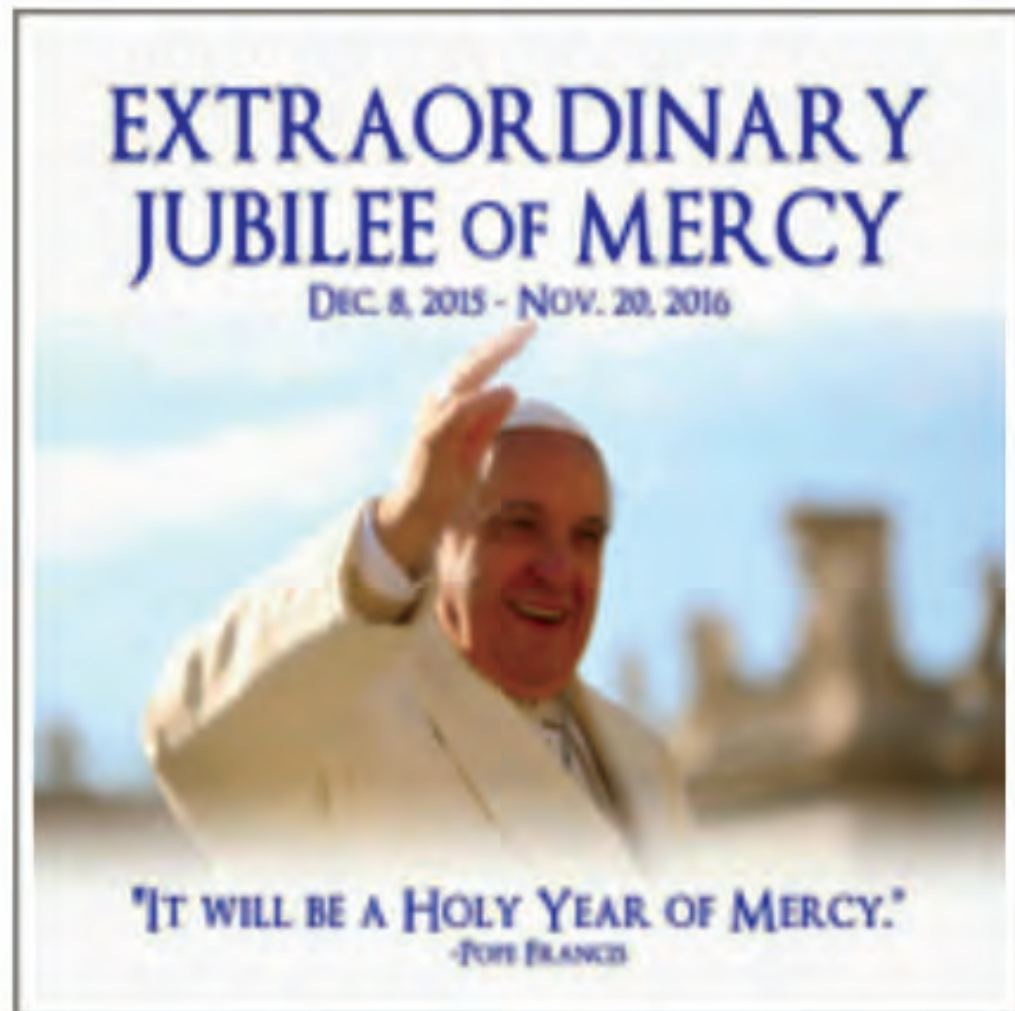
Pope Francis has announced an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy to start on 8 December 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and finish on 20 November 2016, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King of the Universe.

The Pope explained on the day of the announcement: "This is a time for the Church to rediscover the meaning of the mission entrusted to her by the Lord on the day of Easter: to be a sign and an instrument of the Father's mercy.

The Holy Year must keep alive the desire to know how to welcome the numerous signs of the tenderness which God offers to the whole world and, above all, to those who suffer, who are alone and abandoned, without hope of being pardoned or feeling the Father's love.

A year in which to be touched by the Lord Jesus and to be transformed by his mercy, so that we may become witnesses to mercy. Here, then, is the reason for the Jubilee: because this is the time for mercy".

This Jubilee Year of Mercy challenges each of us to consider how we will respond to God's unconditional love and mercy



Merciful like the Father



This logo, designed for the Year of Mercy, provides a good summary of what the Jubilee Year is all about.

The motto Merciful Like the Father, which is taken from the Gospel of Luke (6:36), acts as an invitation for us to follow the example of God: a God who asks us not to judge, nor condemn, but to forgive without measure (Lk 6:37-38).

The picture (by Fr Marko I. Rupnik) at first glance is of The Good Shepherd, with the straying lamb slung across his shoulders being carried back to the flock.

But a closer examination reveals it is Adam (a human being) who is carried. We are reminded that it is Christ who carries us; Christ who burdens himself to bring us home; Christ who draws himself close to our humanity - indeed, shares in it - so that we can be saved.

Notice how the eyes of the Good Shepherd and the one being carried seem to merge. Jesus sees with the eyes of Adam, and Adam sees with the eyes of Christ.

The Year of Mercy is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to evangelise: to try and show by our care and conversation, especially to our lapsed friends and family, a Church of mercy; a parish congregation of warmth and welcome; and ourselves as people more than willing to carry others when they need support.



Four Peterborough schools collaborate

Four Catholic schools in Peterborough city and surrounding area have agreed a more formal way of collaborating with the message "Where children flourish and teachers inspire through the love of God".

The schools involved are St John Fisher Catholic High School, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and All Saints Inter-Church Academy in March.

This joint initiative follows a request from Bishop Alan for diocesan schools to find ways of working more closely in mutual support, sharing

expertise and facilities for the benefit of their students.

The Peterborough schools have a long history of joint working including sports and PE opportunities, staff and governor training and also children working with one another.

Each school remains individual, with its own character, own staff, own governing bodies and funding. However, this joint approach to Catholic Education will enable our schools to work more closely together, pooling resources and expertise for the benefit of all children and adults.

Over the coming terms, the

four schools will be working closely to hold inter-school collective worship, jointly led by the schools and parishes, and aim for the staff and governors to work in collaboration on projects and policies.

They plan to start the new academic year in September with a joint Mass for the school staff at which the chief celebrant will be the local Dean, Father John Minh

The group is committed to delivering the highest level of education for all learners in a distinctly Catholic manner and we see Peterborough Catholic Schools as the start of a very exciting journey.



Maths awards for St Louis pupils

Pupils from Years 7 and 8 at St Louis Catholic Middle School in Bury St Edmunds, pictured above, achieved one gold, three silver and six bronze award certificates in this year's Intermediate Maths Challenge.

Over 200,000 UK pupils sat the challenge with the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, the next 13% a silver certificate and the

next 21% a bronze certificate. Two Year 7 pupils, Leo Saiu-Bell and Alan John, were invited to sit a follow-on Europe-wide Kangaroo round.

The Intermediate Maths Challenge, run by the UK Mathematics Trust, is aimed at those in Years 9, 10 and 11 (England & Wales), S3 and S4 (Scotland) and 10, 11 and 12 in Northern Ireland.



Olympic silver medal rower proves role model for St Mary's athletes

Olympic silver medal winning rower Gillian Lindsay was the guest speaker at St Mary's School, Cambridge annual Sports Award Dinner.

Gillian was part of the first Team GB women's team to win a rowing medal at the Olympic Games; taking silver in the Women's Quadruple Sculls in Sydney in 2000. She has competed in three Olympic Games and rowing is a very popular option for Sixth Form students.

Gillian said: "It is always a pleasure to take a new audience through my sporting career. Quite simply I started off as the 'little sister who was always slower'.

"I was then introduced to rowing and never looked back. My journey was decorated with setbacks and frustrations until I connected with my coach Mike Spracklen. He got the best out of me every day, which eventually led me to my ultimate dream.

"Role models were my motivation, but in the end hard work and determination got me there."

Four girls from the school have won places in national squads for U20 duathlon, rowing, artistic roller skating and hockey.

Headmistress Charlotte Avery, pictured left with Gillian, said: "We were delighted to welcome Gillian Lindsay, she is an impressive all round athlete and role model."

Musical spirit winning at St Martha's

St Benedict's Catholic School has received a Gold Award from the Religious Education Council of England and Wales recognising the quality teaching and learning.

Only seven other schools have gained the Gold Award in England and Wales for high quality teaching, exam results, and central importance of RE.

This was the first time that St Benedict's had applied for the Quality Mark award.

The Gold Award was confirmed on a visit to St Benedict's by Corrine Riddell, one of the RE Council's senior assessors.

She met a number of staff and students throughout the morning and made it clear that it had been an overwhelmingly positive experience.

"I met Corrine when she arrived," said headteacher Hugh O'Neill.

"She was already bubbling with enthusiasm after having been here

for a network meeting two weeks earlier.

"It took her just two hours, reviewing the evidence, meeting the staff and students, before making her decision."

The Gold Award for RE Quality Mark confirms the outstanding quality of religious education at St Benedict's, and sits alongside an "outstanding" diocesan Inspection judgement from two years previously.

Hugh was quick to thank those responsible for securing the award.

"I would like to thank all the students and staff for collaborating to achieve this honour.

"In particular, the RE teaching team, and particularly Sarah Cobbold, have spent many hours collecting all the evidence together - and, of course, that evidence is of all the hard work and inspiration that they have brought to RE teaching in the school over many years."

Icon cross welcomed at Moreton Hall



The diocesan icon cross, shown here, was on display for two days at Moreton Hall Prep School in Bury St Edmunds before Form VI took it in procession to St Benedict's school who were taking over the vigil from them.



Youth Matters

Life changing Ignite Festival

Continued from page One

One young person recalled ‘...we had a time for prayer to experience Gods presence. The feeling was indescribable and I could clearly feel Gods spirit’.

Indeed, the presence of God was tangible, and many young people have since commented on how powerful that evening was. A month on and they are still ‘buzzing’.

The Festival ended with a set by Haverhill based band ‘Stereo Jack’.

Then it was another night’s camping to try and get a good night’s sleep as many of the festival goers were getting up early to do a 7 mile pilgrimage walk to Walsingham the following day.

Thanks to everyone who helped make the Ignite Festival happen.



Sumo wrestling in costumes, entertaining presenters, Bishop Alan and basketball were all part of the Ignite Festival



Invitation to great summer event

Diocesan Youth Director Hamish MacQueen is asking young people: “What are you doing over the summer?”

Highly recommended is the Youth 2000 festival ‘This Promised Land’ at Walsingham 27- 31 August.

“It’s a five-day prayer festival, packed with dynamic talks, live-band worship, powerful prayer times, fun social activities, creative workshops,

discussions, evening entertainment and loads more.

“Our own Bishop Alan will be celebrating the Sunday Mass.”

For more information see www.youth2000.org

The Diocese is willing to subsidise any young people from East Anglia who would like to go.

Please contact www.east-angliadiocese.org/youth.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2015

- July 25 - 1 Aug Pilgrimage to Santiago Compostela (to be confirmed)
- Aug 3 - 8 New Dawn Family Conference, Walsingham
- Aug 20 - 29 Pilgrimage to Lourdes
- Aug 27 - 31 Youth 2000 Prayer Festival, Walsingham
- Aug 28 - 31 Summer Camp, Norfolk

For more details of each event please go to www.east-angliadiocese.org/youth

Update on WYD

We are coming close to filling the 80 places we have available for World Youth Day 2016 in Krakow, Poland. However there are still places available so if you are thinking of coming, BOOK NOW! Booking are accepted on a first come first served basis, and when they’re gone... they’re gone!

Ignite Mission Team Vacancies

We have had lots of inquiries from people interested in joining our new full time mission team. So far we have appointed two people in addition to the team leader, but we would like to appoint at least one more person. **Could this be you?**

More information on both WYD and the Ignite Mission Team contact www.east-angliadiocese.org/youth.





We are looking for people to join the first
IGNITE TEAM
The brand new full time
Diocesan Youth Mission Team

Sharing the Gospel Message with Young People

- Develop your skills in music, drama and tech
- Gain valuable experience working with children and young people
- Gain a recognised youth work qualification
- Accommodation food and all living expenses provided plus a monthly allowance
- For those age 18 (by September 2015) - 29
- From September 2015 – July 2016
- Ideal as a Gap year (can be extended)

Bishop Alan calls all to 'excel in love' Diocese recalls martyrs' sacrifice

Diocesan pilgrims to Walsingham this year were asked to remember the 284 women and men who gave their lives for the faith during the reign of Henry VIII and later monarchs and were canonised or beatified.

St Edmund, king and martyr; an East Anglian monarch gave his life during a Viking raid but 10 others from Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk suffered the same fate between 1588 and 1678 - nearly a century of persecution.

Bishop Alan began the pilgrimage with a prayer and a reminder that "those who excel in love and service are the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven".

He then crowned the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham in front of the pilgrims gathered in the village.

After Regina Coeli was sung the procession made its way down the Holy Mile to the Chapel of Reconciliation singing a hymn to Our Lady, as they left the village, and then reciting the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary.

At the shrine a litany of martyrs was prayed before priests gathered under the crosses around the grounds to hear confessions as part of a penitential service.

After lunch Mass was celebrated by Bishop Alan accompanied by priests of the Diocese of East Anglia.

In his homily Bishop Alan referred to the poem by the Jesuit priest Gerard Manley Hopkins that May was Mary's

month with its promise of growth, life and her service to God as the Christ child grew in her womb.

It was good to hold the annual diocesan pilgrimage in May to honour Our Lady and "ask for her maternal intercession".

Bishop Alan said it was a time of year when plants were pruned to obtain the best fruit.

"There is no growth without sacrifice, no increase of faith without a decrease in sin.

"Christ must be seen more clearly in us.

"The lives of the English Martyrs, 284 men and women, were branches that bore the fruit of truth and sacrifice for the sake of the world."

Those who died were Carthusians, Brigettines, diocesan priests and lay people.

St Thomas More, former Chancellor or England, went to his death as happy as going to his wedding, the bishop said.

He asked all to open their lives to renewal in Holy Spirit. "The primary task of a christian is to introduce everyone of the great mystery of God's mercy" as the the English Martyrs had done.

He also asked everyone to pray for the conversion of England and work to bring it about so that all would be united in one church and bear fruit in abundance.



Pilgrims gather in the Friday Market (top). Bishop Alan leads welcome and prayers before crowning the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham (above) and servers for the day (below)



Hundreds of people from different parts of the diocese gathered for Mass at the Chapel of Reconciliation celebrated by Bishop Alan after all walked the Holy Mile from the village and enjoyed lunch in sunshine



Pilgrims left the Friday Market singing a hymn to Mary and prayed the prayed the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary as they made their way to the Shrine for a penitential service and Mass



A large number of diocesan young people taking part in the pilgrimage (below) and many parishes and abilities were represented in the procession



Children spend day with families and Mary on pilgrimage

Half term Tuesday in May saw children from around the diocese gather at Walsingham for their Annual Pilgrimage and day together.

The day began with a warm welcome and prayer from Bishop Alan in front of the Church of the Annunciation in Friday Market.

After a hymn to Our Lady and with statue and banner carriers in place, the procession to the Shrine and Chapel of Reconciliation began.

Fr Pat Cleary led us in singing on our way and some of the children led us in prayer at three stopping points.

"Happy, joyful children, enthusiastically participating made the walk a pleasure.

Bright and warm weather also helped!" Christine Storman said. "We arrived at the Chapel of Reconciliation in time for Mass at noon. All were welcomed and given a Mass sheet, plus an EAR to hold - from a variety of coloured cards.

Diocesan Youth director Hamish MacQueen

and Gerry Batty led a hymn practice before all sang Our God is a great big God as the opening hymn and children from different parishes dramatized the reading, read the psalm, prayers of the faithful and brought up the gifts.

"Bishop Alan involved the children in his homily which spoke of all of our senses and their use, with particular attention given to our EARS. He invited them to show their ears, cardboard or other!"

"Several of our priests on the altar donned their additional ears too!" Christine said.

Bishop Alan encouraged all to listen to the Word of God quietly at Mass and to hear how Our Lord wanted them to live their lives.

"We had listened to the story of young Samuel and his response 'Speak Lord, your servant is listening' and of Jesus listening in the Temple as a boy."

Parents were asked to visit the Slipper Chapel with their children before leaving for

more quiet prayer and listening. As the shrine theme this year is 'Mary, Mother of Silence' and the Diocesan theme is 'The New Evangelisation', a period of stillness followed Holy Communion and the children were then invited to pick up coloured streamers and go onto the Sanctuary for the final hymn.

After a blessing from Bishop Alan Sing it in the Valleys, Shout it from the Mountain Tops rang out and streamers were waved with great fervor.

"Encouraged by our wonderful musicians and with vocals by Hamish and Jo Graham, it was repeated several times.

Proclaiming at its best!

"A picnic and fun in the meadow followed in warmth and sunshine. The day finished at Wells-next the-Sea, playing and eating ice cream. We think tired but happy families left us by car and coach, hopefully to return next May," Christine said.



Bishop Alan at the Children's Pilgrimage (top left) with families in prayer, procession and enjoying themselves later at the beach



NEWS

from
THE
CATHEDRAL
OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Philippines community honour Mary



The Philippines community at St John the Baptist Cathedral held a special Mass in their own tradition to honour Our Lady as Queen of May



New director of music Daniel Justin

Daniel takes over as director of music

New diocesan director of music Daniel Justin, 23, is visiting schools to bring music to the children.

He is responsible for the music at St John the Baptist Cathedral but sees his role as wider.

The former Downside pupil, who studied music at Huddersfield University and went on to gain a Masters while also working at Wakefield Cathedral aims to boost the choir at St John's.

"I have set up a programme beginning with the schools in the Norwich area. I am introducing a wide range from songs from the two world wars and from musical as well as Victorian hymns."

He enjoyed a rich music heritage at Downside including plainsong and chant which are likely to be featured in cathedral services.

"The Catholic Church has a tradition of solemn liturgies that can be enhanced by music sung well," he said.

"I want to reintroduce some of the best Catholic hymns, which may not have been sung for a while especially those celebrating Our Lady - specially appropriate for East Anglia which some say is Our Lady's back garden.

"The Salve Regina is also going to be sung at the end of the 11am Cathedral Mass on Sundays."

Daniel hopes to recruit more young people as choristers and aims to work with the University of East Anglia on this.

The Cathedral organ is to be upgraded as it is becoming more difficult to find replacement parts.

Daniel aims to visit the parishes offering training days to musicians and will give an organ recital once a month at St John's. He has also recorded a disc of organ music available from the cathedral shop.

"We also have a wonderful opportunity to spread the message of the New Evangelism through music," Daniel said.

Candlelight procession planned

A candle light procession of the Blessed Sacrament is to be held in Norwich on 2 October making its way through the city's streets to St John the Baptist Cathedral where a prayer vigil will be held to mark the increasing commitment of the Diocese of East Anglia to the New Evangelism.

The whole diocese is invited to take part and to gather on the Castle Mound in the centre of the city for prayers at 7.30pm.

The procession will set off at 8pm, accompanied and guided by security, crossing Norwich to the Cathedral for Mass at 10pm followed by an all night vigil including prayerful activities for young people.

The celebration will conclude with Benediction and Morning Mass at 10am on Saturday 3 October.

A similar event was staged two years ago when more than 1,000 people walked in a silent procession to celebrate the end of the Year of Faith.

Fr Sean Connolly said: "It was a wonderful occasion to see so many

people ready to witness publicly to their Catholic identity and then spend time in prayer together.

"This year, again, Bishop Alan invites Christians, especially those from our schools and parishes right across the diocese, to join him in walking the streets of Norwich, praying for all the people of our region and for anyone throughout the world in need.

"This time our procession and prayer vigil will be under the banner, Ignite!

"The focus will be on asking God to ignite within us a zeal for the Gospel, a willingness to share our faith, the confidence to be publicly identified as Christians," he said.

Deacon Patrick Limacher, who is liaising with the Castle Mall and city council, said parking for buses and coaches will be provided in addition to access for the disabled on nearby Farmer's Walk.

Extra parking will be available at Notre Dame High School on Surrey Street which is within walking distance of the Castle Mound.

Parish children and parents enjoy BBQ



Children and adults enjoying the parish BBQ where the magician and Punch and Judy were great attractions as well as the tasty food.

Beatification of Blessed Oscar Romero

To mark the Beatification of Archbishop Oscar Romero by Pope Francis on the weekend of 23-24 May a group gathered at the Cathedral to remember his life and works in a liturgy and reflection.

A specially prepared video that celebrated his life and witness recounted his words in the face of violence, and his martyrdom.

Stephen Matthews from CAFOD said: "We spoke about the inspiration Oscar Romero had on our work, through CAFOD, the St Vincent de Paul society, the Cathedral's Justice and Peace group and Network for a better world."

Bishop Alan paid tribute to Archbishop Romero, and said: "Blessed Oscar Romero lived amid poverty and injustice of Latin

America. As Archbishop of El Salvador he was the leader of the Church in his own native land. He also became the leader of the poor, standing alongside them and speaking for them, to demand justice."

Mass at Our Lady and the English Martyrs on the Sunday also gave thanks for Blessed Oscar Romero.

Stephen said: "We sang hymns from Latin America, echoing the words of the Archbishop who, throughout the world, is described as giving 'voice to the voiceless' in calling for justice and peace.

"We were joined by parishioners from St Laurence and St Philip Howard, to celebrate this step towards Blessed Oscar Romero being recognised as a saint."



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese

Plan to complete Walsingham shrine

A £10m project is underway to complete the Walsingham Shrine and equip it for the needs of the Catholic Church in the 21st century.

Since the vision of Our Lady to Richeldis in the 11th Century the Holy House of Nazareth Shrine has undergone many transformations, destruction, restoration and development.

In many ways the current shrine falls short of the needs of today's pilgrims.

Just like any priest moving to take over a new parish, the rector Mgr John Armitage looked at the shrine and thought "what needs to be done" and after consulting widely he has set out a three phase plan from 2015, when the Year of Mercy begins on the feast of the Immaculate Conception on 8 December, to 2018.

The first phase will see a new pilgrim hall and conference centre to accommodate more than 100 people with technology and catering for pilgrims and to stage social and educational events.

A new media centre is to be established with live television stream of the daily pilgrim mass and broadcasts of talks and interviews on the Catholic faith.

A blog will keep people up to date with issues and an interactive web page will help foster discussion.

The second phase will see a wider range of accommodation at the shrine with 52 en-suite bedrooms, 20 more with disabled access, family rooms, upgrading of dining areas and a hostel for younger pilgrims.

The shrine has secured a 99-year lease of the former Sue Ryder building, Elmham House, which is to become a new retreat centre.

The shrine itself is to have a new look with improved pilgrim



Mgr John Armitage plans to bring the Walsingham Shrine into the 21st century

catering, a cloister to house religious art and exhibitions as well as providing a shelter from the rain.

The Chapel of Reconciliation is to have a canopied area for outside masses and a new roof.

Inside there are plans for a new ceiling and new lighting.

Mgr John said this was a major project to complete the shrine min readiness for the needs of the 21st Century and also to make it a resource for the Catholic Church in England.

"I hope that people will contribute to the project. Within weeks of the launch the shrine had already received £325,000 in donations and bucket collections from pilgrims and visitors had brought in another £20,000.

"I have been coming to Walsingham regularly since I was a teenager and know the shrine well.

"This is a medieval shrine and it is important to show its history through the ages through the lives of the saints.

"I aim to express that through the art shown in the cloister areas.

"The infrastructure work will make it possible to improve the shrine to pilgrims with better accommodation but the media hub will make it appropriate to today's world by communicating the Catholic faith through the internet.

"Pilgrims visiting the shrine need somewhere to stay, a refreshing cup of tea without queuing too long and shelter from the rain.

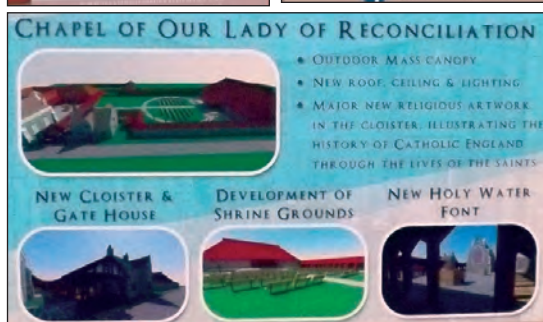
"We also want to attract more young people as pilgrims, visitors and helpers.

"The shrine has a paid work force but relies very heavily on volunteers who do a wonderful job.

"But many are getting on in years and we hope teenagers from the schools that visit will want to make a contribution by helping out at the big events we hold.

"I also hope that many people will contribute to our target of £10m to complete the shrine and to create a venue for the 21st century."

Anyone who wants to help as a volunteer or make a contribution please email Mgr John at rector@walsingham.org.uk.



Poster plans of the new scheme are on display at the Shrine near the entrance to the Chapel of Reconciliation and in the village too



Some of the stewards who help pilgrims enjoy and get the best possible experience from their visit to Walsingham are pictured above. Mgr John hopes more volunteers will come forward especially young people and sixth form students at schools around the diocese as pilgrimages are getting larger and help is needed.

St Teresa exhibition discusses the relevance of her teaching today

As part of the Carmelite celebrations during this the 500 centenary year of the birth of St. Teresa of Avila 1515 - 2015 a specially designed Teresa 500 Exhibition has been touring the UK.

Designed to provide a powerful

introduction to the life, times and teaching of St. Teresa and cover topics such as Teresa's teaching on prayer, her understanding of the human person and relevance today.

The exhibition will be visiting 16

Cathedrals across Britain and will be on display at the National Shrine, Walsingham from 10 - 19 July.

Leaflets and prayer cards accompany the exhibition and please visit www.teresaofavila/exhibition

Colour and singing at Lourdes celebration

Groups from Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge, Norwich, Peterborough and Stowmarket celebrated Easter in Lourdes with more than 4,000 pilgrims from the Handicapped Children's Pilgrimage Trust.

This year's theme was 'Rejoice' which was the perfect inspiration for the West Indies to lead the music in liturgies.

It may also explain why the pilgrims had wall to wall sunshine and blue skies the whole week!

A number of current and past students from Notre Dame High School in Norwich came to help look



after the children and lead activities.

Their group was given the honours of processing with the official HCPT banner, performing a dance at the Trust Mass and even singing in the massed choir.

Neil Culley, from the school, said:

St Mary's world communities celebrate Pentecost

On the evening of Pentecost Sunday at St Mary's Church in Ipswich, parishioners gathered to celebrate being 'One in the Spirit'.

Different communities in the parish rejoiced together with music and prayer. Fr John Warrington, pictured left, led the celebration which included a Litany to the Holy Spirit.

The highlight of the service was an invitation to everyone to join in the 'Our Father' in their own languages

"One of the highlights of the week was the Torchlight Procession including colourful HCPT banners from around the world and an open air candlelit celebration on the Esplanade.

"The pilgrimage culminated in an awe inspiring Trust Mass which filled in underground Basilica with colour and joyful singing as shown left."

Next year 2016 marks the 60th anniversary of this children's charity. It will make next year's pilgrimage even more special so anyone interested in going as a young pilgrim or a volunteer contact a local group at www.hcpt.org.uk

simultaneously, reflecting the 'speaking in tongues' of the first Pentecost Day.

About 80 people took part in this joyful and moving ceremony which included members of the Filipino, Polish and Malayalam communities.

Even technology touched hearts as a colourful presentation simulated sounds of rushing wind and crackling fire and all enjoyed a huge Pentecost cake in the shape of a flame.



Chaplain helps seafarers fight for better pay

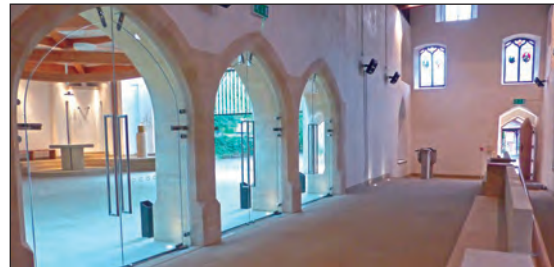
The arrival of sailors from across the world and their personal, religious or human needs are hidden to all except those working at East Anglian ports like Chaplain Sr Marian Davy, a member of the Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary.

He work at Felixstowe, Harwich, Ipswich, and Kings Lynn, is to offer a lifeline to sailors.

Sea Sunday is on 12 July when the church asks all to pray for seafarers and support the work of the Apostleship of the Sea (AoS).

Increasingly Sr Marian is asked to help resolve issues over pay or conditions as life gets tough.

"My role is putting yourself at the service of someone else in a spirit of mutual respect," she said.



Clare Priory's church extension is the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors' Project of the Year for the East of England.



Rosemary Walters, from St George's parish in Norwich, ran all 26miles 365yards of the London Marathon in 5 hours 16 mins, which really pleased her as she thought it would take 6 hours at least! She also raised more than £5,000 for CAFOD from sponsorship but it was more than just an achievement.

"The whole day was a wonderful event. There was so much 'goodness' around - so many thousands of people running for their different charities, and the support of the crowds was absolutely brilliant. "They clapped and cheered as we ran past, and held out jelly babies and other sweets to 'fuel us up' and spur us on.

"There were inspirational signs and musicians playing all helping to keep us going. "I was proud to be a part of the venture, and proud to be running for CAFOD."

BUILDING BRIDGES in Cambodia

Students help St Mary's parish Friends of Cambodia group

As in many other countries, the ability to speak English is widely perceived in Cambodia as essential to securing a 'good' job, typically working for an NGO or an international firm.

As opportunities to practise your English with fluent speakers are rare, it has become a tradition among St Mary's parishioners visiting their Twin Parish to spend time interacting in English with Tep Im students, from running English classes to chatting over the evening meal.

Tep Im is a hostel located in the Battambang church compound which enables around 35 students from poor rural families to attend university. The church provides food and accommodation and helps pay for tuition fees. In return, the students do all the cleaning and cooking in the hostel and at the weekend organise educational activities for children in the surrounding villages.

We knew from previous visits that some of the students are extremely good at drawing and painting. So, at the beginning of this year's visit, we explained that St Mary's Friends of Cambodia send all the money they collect to Cambodia and do not have fundraising materials such as a banner.

We asked whether they could help with this, stressing that the fundraising is for Chomnaom, our Twin Parish, rather than Tep Im.



Tep Im student teaching English in Chomnaom

They really took the idea to heart, working in groups to produce not one but four banners. The design and execution were entirely theirs, the results absolutely stunning. Receiving the banners on the last day was a very emotional experience. What made the work truly special was the willingness of the students to spend their spare time creating something that would not benefit them directly.

We were told that those who were not artistic had helped in other ways, for example by rubbing out pencil marks. In this sThe banners are also, of course, tangible evidence of the relationship between this diocese and the Battambang prefecture. We brought the banners back in our suitcases. Two were placed in front of the altar in May. The others were used for St Mary's Cambodian Open Day, which showcased the impact of donations and included several illustrated talks on our Twin Parish.



Bishop Kike admires the banners in Battambang



Tep Im students working on a banner

The Open Day also saw the launch of St Mary's Thankfulness Jar, inspired by the fact that many Cambodians face crippling doctor's and medicine bills – e.g. \$500 for an emergency caesarean, \$250 for Hepatitis treatment – while we benefit from free medical care and subsidised or free medicine. The thankfulness jar is a recycled jam jar with a picture of our Twin Parish to be placed in the home as a reminder that we have much to be thankful for.

It works like this: you choose one specific advantage to focus on, say access to medicine, or to clean water or luxury items. Then as you collect your subsidised/free medicine, drink some cool water, or open a bottle of wine, depending on what you chose, you say a prayer of thanks, pray for an improvement of living standards in Cambodia, and put some money in the jar. Again, the amount is up to you but should be sustainable. At certain points in the year you empty the jar and bring the money in.



Banner on display at St Mary's



If you would like to know more about the scheme or make a donation, please contact Marie-Madeleine Kenning (mariemadeleinekenning@gmail.com). Or just borrow the idea.

Thankfulness Jar, left

CAN YOU HELP?

Our two 'Building Bridges' projects this year are renovating the Taybeh Old People's Centre in the Holy Land and a new formation centre for children, youth groups and adults at Battambang in Cambodia.

Would you like to support these projects? Cheques should be made payable to the 'RC Diocese of East Anglia'.

First Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode..... Amount enclosed.....

Anything you give will be divided equally between Cambodia and the Holy Land, unless you indicate below by ticking one or other that all your money should go to that project:

CAMBODIA (Battambang Centre)

HOLY LAND (Taybeh Centre)

GIFT AID DECLARATION (if appropriate)

I wish the RC Diocese of East Anglia to reclaim tax on this donation. I have paid an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the tax amount claimed by all the Charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) to whom I have donated in that tax year. Only tax arising from Income or Capital Gains applies to Gift Aid. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

Signed.....

Date.....

Please send to:

'Building Bridges', 21 Ugate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH
Registered charity no. 278742

Cycle pilgrimage annual event hope

A visitor to St John the Baptist Cathedral from Poland was so inspired by a group of cyclists riding to Walsingham on the Whitsun Bank Holiday Krystyna borrowed a bike and joined them.

About 30 sponsored cyclists, pictured right, raised more than £1,000 for the charity, N4BW, working to finance new houses for people in Sitima, Malawi, whose homes were washed away by floods in February 2015.

The money will also provide seeds and farm tools to plant crops this November.

The cyclist pilgrims were accompanied on the ride of more than 30 miles to Walsingham by a support team including medical helpers.

“They also included youngsters from St

John’s and Holy Apostles. Some cyclists joined en route at Reepham and Hindolveston,” Colin Harper said.

“Every one arrived in Walsingham for the Mass at 12noon. A large number of valiant cyclists made the return to St John’s where they were welcomed by Bishop Alan.”

Fr Seelan who organised the cycle pilgrimage has ideas for a range of events and activities to encourage both the young and older members of the parish community to get together.

As part of this vision he hopes that the Cycling Pilgrimage will become an annual event and that participation can be extended to include other parishes.



Altar server’s 90th birthday



Altar server Jim Allen, a parishioner at St Cecilia’s Church in Dersingham, celebrated his 90th birthday in Ma and is pictured above with Fr Henry MacCarthy.

Pauline McSherry said Jim may be ‘old’ perhaps in years but a very energetic, active and young at heart nonagenarian. He serves Mass regularly and is always there on a Wednesday to hand out hymn books and give each of us a warm smiling welcome.”

Jim is also a faithful member of the Rosary Group which meets on a Monday at 2pm (All welcome). Jim is a member of the local cycling club and is frequently seen, round the village on his bike and that keeps him fit.

SVP veteran passes on experience

James McTavish, president of St George’s Parish SVP attended a recent meeting of Notre Dame Sixth Form SVP Conference.

James began the meeting by imparting some real wisdom from his son, presently a missionary priest in the Philippines.

“Pray hard, study easy,” as both required the same discipline - to focus hard and make it meaningful. “If we pray this way, then study should come easily.”

It was very apt for those about to embark on A level examinations, the students said.

They went on to discuss the work of Notre Dame’s SVP Youth Conference and shared positive experiences



James McTavish with Notre Dame school SVP Youth Conference

of the various activities the members were involved in.

These included a break time club for younger students and links with Corton House residential home.

Rei Bolano talked about the Christmas Carol Service at Corton House and how lovely it was for the students to spend time with residents,

singing and then chatting and listening to their stories.

A number were Notre Dame girls of yesteryear and recalled times in Norwich, Plymouth and Sheffield.

The students also helped with a ‘mini-zoo’ experience chatting with residents over cups of tea with owls and hedgehogs as additional company.

These people spent a week at Clare Priory painting the face of Christ with Fr Richard Cannuli OSA, professor of fine arts at Villanova University, USA

