



New Dawn rises again in Walsingham – page 3



Celebration of Marriage and Family Life – page 6



Eco-award first for Suffolk school – page 8



Altar servers gather for special Mass at Cathedral

Altar Servers from across the Diocese gathered for a special service at St John's Cathedral and a BBQ in the garden in July.

■ Around 110 altar servers attended the event, along with family and supporters. The celebration coincided with the ninth anniversary of the ordination of Bishop Alan Hopes as Bishop of East Anglia.

Fr Simon Davies from the Cathedral led the altar servers in a round of applause in appreciation of Bishop Alan's service to the diocese.

The Mass, on July 16, also fell on the Feast of Our Lady of Mt Carmel, and Bishop Alan recalled in his homily how St Simon Stock had received the holy scapula.

In his homily Bishop Alan also held up St Stephen as a model for altar servers. The saint teaches us three things, said the bishop. Firstly, he listened to Jesus and listened to the apostles talking about Jesus.

"So spend a few minutes in prayer each day," advised Bishop Alan, "and grow in love for the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Eucharist."

Secondly, Stephen heard God calling him to do something and he responded with a 'yes'. "You have responded to God's call to serve Him at the altar...God might be also calling some of you to be a priest, a nun or a monk."

Thirdly, Stephen was not afraid to show everyone that he was a friend of Jesus Christ. "So be proud of who you are as a friend of Jesus Christ. Live close to Jesus seven days a week.

"You are blessed to be so close to the awesome mystery of the Mass... Thank you for all that you do, and may St Stephen pray for you all."

Pictured above is Bishop Alan with altar servers at St John's Cathedral.

You can view of Flickr gallery of the celebration by visiting: [flic.kr/s/aHBqjzYy9K](https://www.flickr.com/photos/rcdea/)

Gianluca is ordained a permanent deacon

Bishop Alan Hopes ordained Gianluca Savini in St John's Cathedral in Norwich as the latest member of the permanent diaconate in the diocese. Eldred Willey reports.

■ Gianluca Savini will be serving at Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge. He is married to Erminia and they have four children.

He was born in Italy, near Ravenna, and raised by his grandmother Angiulina, while his parents were working. The grandma's house was beside the church of St Joseph in Fiumazzo and very often the local priest, Don Pio, would come to chat and relax.

Angiulina was a woman of great faith. Gianluca was raised as Catholic, and she had always found peace and joy being in the church.

After college, he wanted to understand big questions such as 'why we are here', 'what is the purpose of life' and he thought that Theoretical Physics was the key to understand the universe and therefore our Creator, God, and therefore be happy.



Bishop Alan Hopes ordains Gianluca Savini at St John's Cathedral on July 2. You can view a Flickr gallery of the ordination by visiting: [flic.kr/s/aHBqjzWPsM](https://www.flickr.com/photos/rcdea/)

He spent about 22 years studying physics and was a researcher at Sussex University (as lecturer), Osaka University (JSPS fellow) and Cambridge University.

One day, while working at the university, his heartbeat rose to 120 beats/minute and this continued for about three

months. Suddenly he realised that his work was not fulfilling anymore, and he took the difficult decision to leave academia.

He started his own business, buying and selling online, to have more time to think. Running a business was easier than being a scientist, but at

the same time he had more responsibilities and soon new problems arose.

This was the time he first questioned God and understood that following Jesus was the key to understanding the universe, our Creator, and to being happy.

He asked God what he should do to follow Jesus, and the answer was simple: "Stay closer to the priest at the altar as much as you can". This was his call for the diaconate, in early 2013.

He started to serve at Mass as altar server while pondering and discerning this vocation. Other big problems arose, and he questioned God again and again, and every time his faith became stronger and stronger.

In the 2017, he spoke with Fr Patrick Cleary, the diocesan Director of Vocations, about his call for the diaconate and at the end of that year he submitted his application to be considered for the permanent diaconate.

His thought about his vocation is to always live your life in full, and aim for the top, we are children of God, the Most High, and thus nothing is impossible for us.

Gianluca's ordination took place on Saturday July 2.

Papworth Mass centre closes

■ After 90 years of Mass being celebrated in the village of Papworth Everard, the Mass centre there has closed.

In 2021, the Papworth Hospital moved to a new site in Cambridge, on the Addenbrookes site. This made a significant difference to the community. Some people moved away from the village and for those who stayed it became more difficult to attend Mass because of the journey time to begin work shifts.

The community gradually reduced in size and with their agreement it was decided to close the Mass centre. There are other Masses nearby, in Cambourne and in St Ives. Within a ten-mile radius there are 11 weekend Masses, so the area is well provided for Mass.

On Saturday June 18, Fr Philip Shryane celebrated the last Mass at Papworth Everard in the Anglican church. He thanked everyone for their commitment to the community and said he felt sure they would continue to support each other.

According to the Diocesan yearbook, Mass was celebrated in the village from 1932. The Church of St Francis of Assisi was built in 1954 and was used regularly, supplied by the parish of St Ives, until 2007 when it finally closed. The building had fallen into a serious state of disrepair and would have cost too much to renovate. The celebration of Mass continued, then supplied by the parish of Huntingdon, first in the local Methodist Church and from about 2014 in the local Anglican parish church.

The picture below shows the group who attended the penultimate Mass at Papworth Everard.



Catholic East Anglia

Newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia

EDITOR: Keith Morris
tel: 07712 787762
Pear Tree Farmhouse,
Wymondham Road,
Wrenningham, Norwich,
NR16 1AT.
keith.morris@rcdea.org.uk



Articles and photographs for the next edition are very welcome and should be sent to the editor, ideally via email, by Monday, September 5.

Diocese website: www.rcdea.org.uk

Advertising: Contact Natasha at Cathcom on tel 01440 730399 or email at natasha@cathcom.org

Publisher: Cathcom Ltd, 0207 112 6710

Inclusion of adverts is the responsibility of Cathcom and does not imply endorsement by the Diocese of East Anglia.

Antonia is new Marriage Co-ordinator

Cambridge-based Dr Antonia Braithwaite has been appointed as the new Marriage and Family Life Co-ordinator for the Diocese of East Anglia and will take up her position in September.

■ Bishop Alan Hopes paid tribute to existing co-ordinator, Dr Bonnie, who will be finishing her work after four years in the role.

"Under her guidance and enthusiasm this work, and especially that of marriage preparation, has gone from strength to strength," said Bishop Alan. "She has also been responsible for setting up the Listening and Prayer ministry in the Diocese which is a very exciting development."

A medical doctor by training, Antonia has been involved in the area of marriage and family life within the Diocese for nearly a decade, volunteering on both the Marriage



and Family Life Commission and delivering marriage preparation courses in the Cambridge Deanery.

"I have also had a long-standing interest in fertility awareness methods, having taught for many years and having taken up the post of Fertility Awareness Methods Co-ordinator for the Diocese earlier this year.

"On behalf of the Diocese, I want to offer

my heartfelt thanks to my predecessor and friend Bonnie for all the hard work and successes of her four years in this position.

"As MFL Co-ordinator I intend to continue and grow the Diocese's solid programme of marriage preparation, as well as events such as the popular annual Marriage Mass and Men's Day.

"In addition we will be aiming to grow some of our more recent initiatives such as the Infertility and Baby Loss Mass, as well as the Diocese's new Prayer and Listening Ministry. We would like to set up a Parish Reps system throughout the Diocese as well as other initiatives to support families and marriages.

"I would welcome any feedback, suggestions or comments, or if you would like to volunteer to support any of these initiatives," said Antonia.

Antonia will be visiting the Deaneries over the coming year to make herself known. You can contact her at: mflc.eas-tanglia@rcdea.org.uk

First Cantonese Mass at OLEM in Cambridge

The Cantonese Congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes Sawston, St John Fisher Cambourne and Our Lady of the Assumption and the English Martyrs, Cambridge joined together in an uplifting Solemn Cantonese Mass on Saturday July 9, to commemorate the 120 Martyrs of China. Dominic Chung reports.



Participants at the Cantonese Mass at OLEM in Cambridge.

■ Canonised by St Pope John Paul II in 2000, 120 Chinese priests and laity and non-Chinese missionaries died for their faith between 1648 and 1930.

How fitting it was that the Universal Church was brought to life in a beautiful church that venerates Our Lady and commemorates the English Martyrs. We asked the Martyrs of China for their intercession, for God's grace and love to be bestowed on the Catholic Church in Hong Kong and China.

Close to 110 were at the first Cantonese Mass ever held at OLEM in its 135-year history, including local non Chinese parishioners and Cantonese speaking Hong Kong Catholics all worshipping together.

The Liturgy and the Sacred Music were the key focus of the occasion, with some in the Congregation so moved that they openly sobbed when we ended the Mass with a rendition of the Te Deum, in Cantonese.

It was also the first time that a Hong Kong born young Organ Scholar played on the magnificent OLEM organ and that the newly ordained Permanent Deacon, Gianluca Savini proclaimed the Gospel in Cantonese.

It was truly a memorable day. The Cantonese community felt very blessed and are humbled by the care and attention shown to them by Mgr Provost Eugene Harkness, Deacon Gianluca, Director of Music Nigel Kerry, and Canon Hoan

Minh Nguyen for continuing to celebrate Mass in Cantonese, and even singing the notoriously intricate Doxology in Cantonese.

There was even an embryonic choir to call our own thanks to the brilliant assistance by a number of Hong Kong Catholics at the Westminster Archdiocese Chaplaincy of the Chinese community at Bethnal Green.

As the congregation all returned to their own parishes in Milton Keynes, in Hitchin, in Harrow and other parts of London as well as Cambridge and other places in Cambridgeshire, they would take with them "our love and prayers" as Mgr Eugene always says near the end of Mass.

New Dawn rises again in Walsingham

The New Dawn in the Church charismatic conference returned to Walsingham this year after a long break caused by the pandemic. Eldred Willey reports.

■ Though smaller than it was at its height, the conference, from August 1 to 5, was peaceful and seemed perhaps friendlier, with participants appreciating the opportunity to meet face-to-face once again. Rather than going for the expense of a big top, the organiser Gary Stephens decided to move the main sessions into the Catholic Shrine itself, and a large marquee was erected to accommodate the overflow from the Church of Reconciliation.

About 650 people, including 15 priests, processed along the Holy Mile, on August 3, to the grounds of the ruined Abbey, where the celebrant noted that he was standing directly on the site of the Holy House which had been constructed in the eleventh century. The pilgrims sat on the yellowed grass, which had been scorched by the extended heatwave and listened to the call for a renewal of faith.

It was the 36th New Dawn conference, and theme for 2022 came from Matthew 11:28-30: "Come to me all you who are burdened and heavy laden and you will find rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my burden is easy, and my yoke is light."

A novelty this year was to have the youth stream led by two Americans. Mike Gaurino is the multi-millionaire president of a healthcare service comprising 3,000 independent physicians and his advice is sought internationally both on questions of healthcare and youth leadership. He has met Pope Francis on a number of occasions and also President Trump, who drew on his expertise during the pandemic.

By way of contrast, Justin Lantz from Florida came from a background of drug abuse but had a powerful encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist during a youth conference at the Catholic University of



New Dawn pilgrims processed through the village of Walsingham to the old abbey ruins. You can see a Flickr gallery from the conference at: [flic.kr/s/aHBqjA2o2E](https://www.flickr.com/photos/ahbqjA2o2E/)

Steubenville in Ohio, and subsequently became a Catholic youth worker. Between them, the two Americans organised a lively and interactive youth programme, with lots of games and noise as well as food for thought.

In the adult stream, Michelle Moran, former President of International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services, launched the conference and was followed by familiar faces such as Derek Williams and Niall McDonagh. Fr John Bashobora from Uganda led the reconcil-

iation service and provided an international angle, as did Allegra Mutanda, who is originally from the Democratic Republic of Congo, but now working as an evangelist in Winchester.

Dr Caroline Farey, who was one of three women experts at the Synod for the New Evangelisation, provided some academic input, speaking on how the Tent of Meeting in the book of Exodus prefigured the Virgin Mary. Damien Stayne, founder of the Cor et Lumen Christi Community, led a healing service and spoke from the heart about finding joy in the midst of grief, something he had needed to do when his wife Cathy died nine months previously.

The exhibition area was more modest than in the past but included tried and tested favourites such as Mary's Meals, Divine Renovation and Good News Books. A scattering of smaller tents on the field opposite the shrine enabled workshops in the afternoon.

New Dawn in the Church has now birthed several annual conferences internationally – in Scotland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Portugal, Uganda and Zambia, and some of these are now larger than their parent. The vision of the conference which Myles Dempsey had in Ars, France, in 1985, continues to unfold.

news in brief

Clergy moves this summer

■ The following clergy moves and appointments have been announced across the Diocese by Bishop Alan Hopes, to be taken up in the autumn.

Parish Priests

Fr Antony Arockiam to St Thomas of Canterbury, Brandon and St John, Mildenhall.

Fr Jude Belnas to St Mary, Ipswich with Holy Family Kesgrave; also with canonical jurisdiction of St James, Ipswich.

Canon Pat Cleary to St Mary, Thetford.

Fr Michael Brookes to St Edmund, Bungay with St Thomas More, Harleston.

Fr Dennis Gallagher, becomes Parish Priest at Our Lady & St Thomas of Canterbury, Wymondham.

Fr Luke Goymour to St Mark Ipswich with Holy Family, Brantham; also with Canonical jurisdiction of St Mary Magdalene, Ipswich.

Fr Padraig Hawkins to Our Lady Star of the Sea, Lowestoft, with St Nicholas, Pakefield.

Fr Peter Raj to Sacred Heart, North Walsham with St John of the Cross, Aylsham and St Helen, Hoveton.

Fr Joseph Welch to St Pancras, Ipswich.

Priest Administrator: Fr Peter Wygnanski to Our Lady & St Joseph, Sheringham, with Our Lady of Refuge, Cromer.

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Chanh becomes Assistant Priest to Fr Luke Goymour with pastoral care for St Mary Magdalen, Ipswich.

"I am very grateful to all the priests who have so generously agreed to take up new appointments in the autumn. Please keep them in your prayers," said Bishop Alan.

Retirements: Fr James Fyfe, Canon Peter Leeming and Fr James Walsh.

"I want to express my gratitude for the many years of service these priests have given to the Diocese as well as the parishes that they have served in," said Bishop Alan. "We wish them many years of happy and fulfilling retirement."

Shrine pilgrimage

■ The annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Grace of Ipswich will take place on Sunday September 4 starting at 3pm from St Peter's Church on the Quay, IP4 1BF. The pilgrimage will travel via Lady Lane (the original site of the Shrine), ending at the Shrine in St Mary-at-the-Elms Church. The route is only one mile and the events is due to end at 4pm.

All are welcome at this annual ecumenical event, which is called Unity through Grace. The pilgrimage route was planned by Cardinal Wolsey and reinstated in 1978 by the Guild of Our Lady of Grace. It is now in its 45th year. The Shrine was once second in England only to Walsingham.

Corpus Christi

■ Corpus Christi was marked in Cambridge by a long procession through the streets around Our Lady and the English Martyrs, followed by an open-air service led by Mgr Eugène Harkness.

65 years of service

■ The parishioners of St Henry Morse in Diss have celebrated in style a remarkable weekend marking ordination anniversaries.

Fr Alex Anaman, along with several members of his family, celebrated his birthday along with the 30th anniversary of his priestly ordination. That same weekend, Deacon David Croucher celebrated 18 years of his diaconal ordination, whilst Deacon Patrick Limacher



reached 17 years.

That represents 65 years of service to the Lord and His people. A series of gazebos seated 90 guests and after a thanksgiving Mass, a barbeque was served.

Our Lady of Fidelity



The church needs religious sisters URGENTLY to bring Christ to others by a life of prayer and service lived in the community of Ignation spirituality. Daily Mass is the centre of community life. By wearing the religious habit we are witnesses of the consecrated way of life.

If you are willing to risk a little love and would like to find out how, contact Sister Bernadette

Mature vocations considered.
CONVENT OF OUR LADY OF FIDELITY



1 Our Lady's Close, Upper Norwood, London SE19 3FA Telephone 07760 297001

When you think all hope is lost

In the latest in his Voice of Hope series, Fr Alvan Ibeh explores what to do when you think all hope is lost.



■ Have you ever felt like all hope is lost, and all you want is to call it quits? Have you been waiting on God for an answer to a prayer request you made a long time ago, yet it feels like nothing is forthcoming, and now you feel like the whole situation is hopeless and God is no longer worth waiting for?

Let us look at the story of a man in the gospel of John 5:1-14 and see the message God has for us.

The gospel reports that there was a man who had an illness which has lasted for 38 years. Jesus met him lying close to the pool of Bethesda, which is believed to have healing powers. The belief is that whoever manages to enter the pool first, whenever the pool is stirred or troubled, will be healed. Well, we are unaware of how many people were healed. We are more interested in Jesus' encounter with this man.

Now, when Jesus asked him if he wanted to be healed, his answer was not Yes or No, but "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me" (verse 7).

As we can see from his response, he has been coming here every time since he became ill, yet not even a single person has noticed him and offered to help him. Guess they were all busy with their problems, too busy to notice him. Sometimes we are also too busy with ourselves that we don't see others around us who may need our help.

We can imagine the frustration in the answer this man gave Jesus. But I think this man has something to teach us still. He had been coming to the pool for almost 38 years and yet had no one offering to help him into the pool like others.

Remember, 38 years is a very long time. That he continued coming even when no one was noticing him means that he was not ready to give up even when things seemed hopeless for Him. Can you pause and ask yourself this critical and challenging question: As a Christian, can I wait on God that long? Can I still trust Him when it looks like the future is bleak? Do I think God is worth waiting for? Though the saying goes that there is light at the end of the tunnel, what if the tunnel is getting so long that I can't see any light? Should I continue to move on?

After 38 years, this man's problem had become a way of life. No one had ever helped

him. He had no hope of ever being healed. His situation looked hopeless. Who knows, he must have been made fun of and laughed at by some people whenever he couldn't jump into the pool like others. Imagine the heart-break, frustration and depression he will be going through.

But all these notwithstanding, when Jesus came, He noticed him straight away, and the gospel says, when Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?" (verse 6). Isaiah 49:8 says, "Thus says the Lord: At the time of my favour I have answered you, on the day of salvation I have helped you."

God has his appointed or favoured time (Galatians 4:4). No matter how long it takes, He is never late but arrives at the right time. Even if it looks like it is taking ages, Habakkuk 2:3 says: "This vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed," (NLT).

He often comes when we are not expecting Him. When it feels like we are feeling hopeless, he comes and restores our hope. God can minister to your deepest needs, no matter how trapped you feel in your problems. Don't let your situation cause you to lose hope. Don't give up too soon because giving up is never an option. Stay faithful to God's promises for you in his word, and He will come through for you. Remain blessed.

plan wealth management



Jonathan Read DipFA
Independent Financial Adviser

- ✓ Retirement Planning
- ✓ Income Drawdown
- ✓ Annuities
- ✓ Savings and Investments
- ✓ Ethical Investments
- ✓ Life Assurance
- ✓ Critical Illness
- ✓ Income Protection
- ✓ Equity Release
- ✓ Long Term Care

Office: 01733 894100 | Mobile: 07972913281
www.jonathanread.2plan.com

SAMARITANS

Bury St Edmunds & West Suffolk

Whatever problems you're facing, you can share them with us

Call us **FREE** anytime on **116 123**

We're here to listen and we're here for you

You can help us too

To donate £5 TEXT **BSESAMS** to 70085

COME TO WALSINGHAM

ON PILGRIMAGE



BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

WALSINGHAM

FOUNDED 1061 - DESTROYED 1538 - RESTORED 1897

THE DOWRY OF MARY PILGRIMAGE

SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2022

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2022

CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE, WALSINGHAM, NORFOLK, NR22 6AL

THE CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE
AND BASILICA OF OUR LADY

Walsingham - "England's Nazareth"

Place a Petition

Request a Mass

Watch Live

Stay With Us

Come On Retreat

Shop With Us

Stay with us

2022 SPECIALS

4 NIGHTS FOR THE PRICE OF 2
6th November to 20th December 2022

For further information please visit
www.walsingham.org.uk

To book accommodation call 01328 820 217
or email reservations@walsingham.org.uk

BUDGET ROOMS
Ideal for School groups

FROM
£36
B&B

STANDARD ROOMS

FROM
£45
B&B

ENSUITE ROOMS

FROM
£60
B&B

The Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham, England - Registered Charity No. 1180690 - Registered Company No. 11655451

Clergy safeguarding training

This summer has seen all the priests and deacons working in the Diocese of East Anglia attending sessions to continue their on-going safeguarding training.

■ At the first event on June 16 at the Belsey Bridge Conference Centre in Norfolk, around 70 delegates heard a message from Cardinal Vincent Nichols emphasising the Church's commitment to care for all those who have experienced harm either within in the Church or in other circumstances. He spoke of the need for all those in leadership in the diocese and parishes to embed safeguarding practices into all aspects of Church life.

Sebastian Carro, National Trainer, from the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) spoke about the work of this new Church's safeguarding body. The CSSA has set eight standards to measure dioceses' achievements. He explained how an understanding of safeguarding is an on-going process of learning, reflection and prayer.

A key session emphasised that safeguarding is a team effort. When dealing



with difficult matters, leaders in parishes can call on the expertise of the Diocesan Safeguarding Office and local parish safeguarding representatives. The Diocesan

Safeguarding Office team has processes which support the work it does providing advice for Bishop Alan and the diocesan trustees.

Diocesan Safeguarding Administrator, Rebecca Bretherton, said: "Last year's Safeguarding for Clergy training was all online. At June's event at Belsey Bridge Conference Centre at Ditchingham, it was good to be back together to share experiences and to learn good practice from each other.

"We want our Church to be a safe place for everyone. Our leaders need opportunities to learn more about this important aspect of their ministry. This year's training aims to give our priests and deacons time to reflect on this important area of their work."

For those who missed the June event, an online session was held in July.

Pictured at the Ditchingham training day are, from the left, Deacon James Hurst, Chris Quinn, Chair, Diocesan Trustees' Safeguarding Sub-Committee, Fr Simon Blakesley, Rebecca Bretherton, Diocesan Safeguarding Administrator, Sebastian Carro, National Trainer, Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency and Mick Thurley, Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Farewell to Fr Bineesh

Fr Bineesh Elanjikkal OCD will be moving back to India in September and St Mark's parish in Ipswich has given him a great send-off. Christine Meadway reports.

■ The parish, which has been run for the last three years by the Carmelites, held a three-day festival to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, patron of the Carmelite order, from July 15-17. This was the first time since the Carmelites arrived in Ipswich in September 2019 that the feast could be celebrated in the more normal way.

Friday saw a flag raising and prayers in the priory garden followed by concelebrated Mass with Fr Peter Raj and Deacon Clive Brooks. Saturday morning was one of great excitement and celebration as the children of the parish were able to gather together with their families and friends to receive their First Holy Communion at a concelebrated Mass with Fr Tijo Xavier OCD from Kensington in London.

The culmination of the festival was on Sunday with the parish Mass being followed by devotions to Our Lady and refreshments. It was a wonderful parish weekend, and all agreed that our priest, Fr Bineesh, was going to be greatly missed.

Fr Bineesh arrived from Kerala in September 2019 to join Fr Paul Vincent at the newly established Carmelite Priory in Ipswich. It was his first trip to England, and he admits that he found it very cold and very strange. As well as being assistant priest in the parish and using English regularly, which he had never done before as he was



a missionary in a rural community in north India, he was also going to become RC chaplain to Ipswich Hospital. This was to prove extremely demanding as the pandemic hit in early 2020. The parish and hospital staff soon discovered that his calm and gentle personality could transcend all language barriers in the face of extreme difficulties.

The parish also realised that Fr Bineesh was a person of many talents – not only is he extremely diligent in his ministry but he has an eye for flower arranging and decoration. The garden has also been transformed.

Unfortunately, reorganisation of the Carmelite Order has meant that both the Carmelite priests who arrived in 2019 will not be able to continue to minister in England. Fr Paul Vincent has decided to leave the order and move to continue his ministry nearer to his family in America and Fr Bineesh will return to India to continue his studies in Bangalore.

MA courses

<https://www.mbit.cam.ac.uk/courses/>






Online or Onsite in Cambridge

Contemporary Ethics

Are you interested in what makes society good and individuals flourish?

Christian Spirituality East and West

What is the meaning of spirituality in the context of Christian and other faith traditions?

Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care

Understand your own practice in relation to theological themes and commitments.

Contemporary Faith and Belief in the Global Context

Participate in a timely debate about the role of faith and belief in the contemporary world.

Bursaries available

Starting Autumn 2022

Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, the Catholic House of the CTF

Synodal Pathway in East Anglia update

Responses to the Synodal Pathway diocesan questionnaire from all parishes and organisations have been collated into a Diocese of East Anglia report, says Angela Wilson, from the diocesan synodal team.

■ The East Anglia report, along with the diocesan and national organisational reports from across England and Wales, were submitted to the Bishops' Conference just before Holy Week this year.

Since then, the National Synthesis Team has been working on producing the "National Synthesis" – reflecting on the reports received, discerning the main themes that have emerged from the listening conversations, and collating them together to give a picture of the synodal process in England and Wales.

The National Synthesis, along with the Bishops' of England and Wales response to it, will be sent to the Synod Office in Rome.

You can read both at: www.cbcew.org.uk/synodal-church

The Bishops have said: "We thank all who have participated so far in the Synodal Process and ask for continued prayers as we journey together towards being a Synodal Church in today's world, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel that brings life and human flourishing to all who hear and respond to it."

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have released a statement titled 'Seeking Our Hearts' Desire' offering their initial reflections on 'The National Synthesis':

You can read the statement at: www.cbcew.org.uk/synodal-church

Please keep the synodal pathway in your prayers and seek ways to continue the work you have begun in your parishes and deaneries, through prayerful listening and dialogue, invoking the Holy Spirit for guidance.

If you have any questions about this process, do contact the Diocesan Synodalway Team of Angela Wilson, Dcn Huw Williams and Fr Andrew Eburne at: synodalway@rcdea.org.uk

Break does not stop Martin

■ In spite of having fractured his wrist, Deacon Martin Sanderson managed to take part in a celebration for the Feast of the Sacred Heart in Dereham. Unable to carry on his normal work in the parish and in prison, he was pleased to be present for the parish feast day.

It started in the garden, then processed around the church and was followed by Mass, and then by a shared meal in the garden for about 30 parishioners. Deacon Martin wishes to thank two new parishioners, Kevin and Rachell Pugh, who moved to Dereham earlier this year and stepped up to ensure that all went well.

Platinum Jubilee prayers

■ During the recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations, parishioners at St Felix, Felixstowe, marked the event both at the parish Mass, and at a celebration in the parish hall afterwards.

The Mass was offered for the Queen; the official prayers were used, and the national anthem sung. And then in the hall, which was duly decorated with bunting, a special cake was cut and shared, its top decorated with the union jack formed in raspberries and blueberries. The local MP, Thérèse Coffey, who is Secretary of State at the Department of Work and Pensions, attended the Mass and reception, and proposed a toast to the Queen.

CARE AT HOME FOR ALL OF LIFE IN PETERBOROUGH

OUR HOME CARE SERVICES INCLUDE

- Help with household tasks
- Cleaning and domestic services
- Cooking and meal preparation
- Considerate Companionship
- Support to attend social and medical appointments



Prestige CARE FOR
NURSING & CARE *all of life*

Call us today to discuss your care needs ☎ 01733 592 852 prestige-nursing.co.uk



This year's Diocese of East Anglia Marriage and Family Life Mass was back in-person at St John's Cathedral in Norwich on June 18. Keith Morris reports.

■ Bishop Alan Hopes presided and the pews were packed, said Dr Antonia Braithwaite, chair of the Diocese of East Anglia Commission for Marriage and Family Life.

"We celebrated 43 couples, whose wedding anniversaries ranged from five years to 65 years. The couple married for 65 years were Patricia and John Simmonds from Huntingdon (pictured right with Bishop Alan).

"In his homily, the bishop encouraged all married couples in their vocation, commending them for the special work of sacrifice they have embraced: giving themselves physically and spiritually to each other, to their children, and to God. Through this loving sacrifice, he said, we come to know God, what God wants for us, and how we can be of service to the world, even just by our continued loyalty to each other, revealing thereby the sacramental nature of married life.

"The Bishop reminded us that we cannot do it alone, that we must pray for help when our lives becomes difficult. Marriage is not first and foremost out work, he said, but the work of God.

"This year we are also celebrating a virtual World Meeting of Families and in the diocese we are planning a year of family days in religious houses where parents can come together to work through the catechesis developed for families by the Vatican, where the children can play and married couples can support each other," said Antonia.

Pictured, above, are all the couple marking significant anniversaries with Bishop Alan at the Marriage Mass and, right, Patricia and John Simmonds from Huntingdon with the bishop. Pictures by Antonia Braithwaite.



celebration



Experts share wisdom on cherishing historic churches

The first Historic Churches Conference in the Diocese took place at St John's Cathedral on June 24, organised by Eloise Limmer, and included a packed agenda of talks, all relating to how we appreciate and manage the beautiful listed churches within the Diocese.

■ Eloise, who was the Historic Churches Support Officer, kicked the day off with images of all the listed churches within the Diocese, showing the amazing variety of architectural styles and periods covered within our relatively small area. This was followed by David Eve from Historic England (which co-funds the Historic Churches Support Officer position) discussing the 'Taking Stock' project.

As part of this project, Historic England are reviewing the list descriptions for most of the listed churches in the Diocese to make sure that their history and quality is properly understood and shared. You can look up information about any diocesan churches at: taking-stock.org.uk/diocese/east-anglia/

The discussions then moved on to the role of the Historic Churches Committee (HCC). The Chair of the HCC, Moira Goldstaub, described the legislative background of the Committee with an explanation of the Ecclesiastical Exemption. This explored the benefits of being able to have a specialist, expert committee that includes clergy and lay people, all with an understanding of the

Catholic Church, to determine applications for change to our churches rather than having to go through the secular listed building consent procedure.

With Moira having set out the background, Cedric Burton, Secretary of the HCC, went on to describe the process of applying for a 'Faculty' and how the HCC determines these applications. The clear message was that the HCC are 'Here to Help' and the expert members are happy to discuss plans even at very early stages.

The guest speaker at the Conference was Sophie Andreae, Vice Chair of the Patrimony Committee of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales. It was great to welcome Sophie to the Diocese as she, along with the Patrimony Committee team, have been a great help to the Diocese in managing the process of securing funding through the Covid Recovery Capital Works fund.

Churches in Great Yarmouth, Gorleston, Lynford and the Cathedral received money for urgent works from this funding which wouldn't have been possible without the hard work and support of Sophie and her team.

Sophie's presentation was one of the highlights of the day with a run through of the history of Catholic Architecture with amazing photographs of churches across the country. She then discussed the national funding picture for historic places of worship which was informative but sobering.

After lunch, the day moved on to more practical topics. Suzi Pendlebury, Cathedral Architect, stressed the importance of maintenance and how a stitch in time can save buildings from major issues down the line.

The key message here was the

importance of parishes taking ownership of looking after their buildings and the maintenance cycle where annual maintenance reports should be undertaken by the parish in between the five-year Quinquennial Report. This will allow the parish to notice any damage or malfunction early and hopefully deal with it before it becomes a much more complex and costly problem. Suzi's presentation was followed by a tour of the Cathedral to highlight how you don't need to be an expert to spot issues and to show the damage that can be done by water if not managed properly.

Sandra Portas, Diocesan Stewardship and Fundraising Officer, was up next with tips for any parishes considering applying for external funding for their projects. This talk really highlighted how important it is for parishes to record all of the amazing things that they do to support parishioners and the wider community. Keeping a record of mass attendance, regular and special events, and any work you do with the wider community – particularly photographs and feedback from attendees – will stand you in good stead if you ever need to apply for funding for a project.

Last but not least, were Tony Walmsley (from OLSOS, Lowestoft) and Brian Lafferty (from St Marys, Great Yarmouth). Describing their experiences of organising major projects within their parishes and accessing external funds to support them. Tony described the Lottery Funded project where they received around £250,000 to repair the tower at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Echoing Tony's talk Brian also stressed the amount of time and energy input needed to complete a large scale project – instructing attendees to 'not take no for an answer'.

Participants in the Historic Churches conference at St John's Cathedral.



SCHOOLS NEWS

Advertorial

School's 380 years of Catholic education

■ New Hall School has focused on providing a pioneering education for 380 years, ever since its foundation in Liège by the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre.

This Catholic foundation plays a central role in life at the School, which moved to its present site, a former palace of Henry VIII in Chelmsford, in 1799. As a community we are often complimented on our warm welcome to visitors, characterising the words of one of our favourite hymns, All are Welcome.

Led by Principal Katherine Jeffrey, who has been in post for 20 years, New Hall continues to innovate, develop and grow.

Beginning as a school for girls denied an education in England, we now offer independent co-educational boarding and day provision for ages 1-18 attracting students from across Essex, throughout the UK and further afield.

We are the only Catholic independent school in the UK to have implemented the successful diamond model of education, whereby girls and boys in the Nursery and Preparatory Divi-



sions and the Sixth Form are educated in co-educational classes while those in Years 7-11 are educated in single-sex classes. Girls and boys may board from Year 3 and many choose to do so for 1-6 days a week to ease travel arrangements and to fit in with their co-curricular timetable such as early morning swimming training or Saturday morning dance class.

Alongside outstanding pastoral care, we pride ourselves on our excellent academic results and an extensive co-curricular programme of sport, music, dance, drama and numerous clubs and societies, provided on our idyllic 70-acre site.

Founded 1642



New Hall School

A Catholic independent boarding and day school for girls and boys aged 1-18



Sign up for our
Open Morning on
24 September



The Avenue, Boreham, Chelmsford, CM3 3HS
newhallschool.co.uk | 01245 467 588 | admin@newhallschool.co.uk

Eco-award first for Suffolk school

Pupils and staff from St Alban's Catholic High School in Ipswich have become the first school in East Anglia to achieve a LiveSimply Award after taking action to demonstrate they are living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor.

■ Bishop Alan Hopes visited the school to present the award and open the school prayer garden on Thursday July 14.

Championed by overseas development charity CAFOD, the school achieved the award after the whole school community implemented a number of exceptional projects that highlighted the importance of caring for people and the planet. Their actions not only had a positive

impact on their school community but also reached out to embrace the local community and our global community.

CAFOD's LiveSimply assessor, Joe Burns from Leeds Diocese, congratulated the school saying: "Working towards a LiveSimply award has clearly had a significant and ongoing impact at all levels within this school. The students, of all ages, were bubbling with ideas of what else they could do to take living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poor forward. The full support of the headteacher and hard work of the coordinator and lay chaplain will ensure that more staff and students become engaged and enthusiastic about continuing this work in future years. The award is very well-deserved."

Jane Crone from CAFOD in East Anglia, who knows the school well, added: "One of the highlights for me has been watching the development of the prayer garden project over the course of

this school year. The community has worked together to create a place for contemplation in the heart of the school. The project has enabled LiveSimply to reach out into the wider community as the benches were made in the workshop of a local prison."

One year 7 student from the Eco Team commented on why they took part in the LiveSimply Award: "The award has given me a purpose. I belong to the eco warrior club and I help care for the school environment. I have made lots of new friends and enjoy implementing positive change. It has helped me grow and develop as an individual."

Vanessa Williamson, Head of Geography, led the LiveSimply journey alongside the school chaplain, Katherine Edwards. She said: "I'd sum up our journey this year with these thoughts. The greatest wealth is to live content with little. Adopt the pace of nature. The secret is patience."

Find out more at: cafod.org.uk



Bishop Alan Hopes with pupils from St Alban's Catholic High School in Ipswich with its LiveSimply Award.

Funding boost for Sacred Heart

■ Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Swaffham has been selected by the Department for Education to be included in the latest round of its Schools Rebuilding Programme (SRP) for priority funding.

The SRP aims to replace or significantly refurbish the poorest condition buildings in 500 of the 25,000 schools in England over the next 10 years. 100 of these schools were identified in 2021, and Sacred

Heart has now been identified within the 2022-23 phase of the programme, which currently includes an additional 61 schools, including four in Norfolk.

The Diocese of East Anglia took over the school from the Daughters of Divine Charity in September 2019 and appointed a new Headteacher, Simon Blain, who started in September 2021 and has recently appointed a new Assistant Headteacher, Jessica Woolner.

The SRP funding is for a large-scale project to replace or significantly refurbish one or more buildings at the school.

The Diocese has made a significant capital investment approaching £1 million in the last three years at Sacred Heart, including a new roof, new boilers, new office and replacement fencing. A new pedestrian access will be provided over the summer holiday to improve safety, as well as other health and safety

YOUTH MATTERS



The quiz team from St John Fisher High School, Peterborough.

School creates a Platinum Jubilee quiz

To celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty the Queen, pupils at St John Fisher Catholic High School in Peterborough have embarked on a royal research project.

■ The project was carried out jointly with St Joseph's Catholic School in Laverstock, Wiltshire. The project, the first Inter-Catholic Schools Quiz, was led by Mrs Pauline Helcoop of St John Fisher and Mrs Sam Barratt from St Joseph's.

Both schools formed a quiz team of eight Year 9 students and since Easter have been busy researching about the Queen, her family, hobbies, the Royal residences and the

Commonwealth, in order to create and take part in a quiz on Thursday May 26 via Teams.

Based on the Mastermind principle, the quiz comprised of two rounds – one general knowledge round and one specialised topic round. However there was a twist to the specialised topic. Each school chose a specialised topic for their opponents, which was kept secret until one week before the quiz.

Study began in earnest after the Easter holidays and Mrs Helcoop began training her quiz team. Alujay Levis, Faiza Khan, Charlie Henson, Alan Chrusciak, Jaciara Correia, Shiprah Muriuki, Zohal Haydari and Emilia Gintauskaite met once a week at lunch times to research and digest as much information

as possible about the successes and achievements of the past 70 years.

With eight days to go before the quiz, the specialised topics were revealed; St John Fisher were to be challenged on answering questions about the Commonwealth and St Joseph's would face questions on the Royal residences. So final preparations were undertaken. St John Fisher's quiz team decided to split up the mammoth task of learning all the facts, flags and population figures of the Commonwealth between them. Team work was paramount.

The day of the quiz finally came and both teams were ready. Both schools had prepared some excellent questions which would have challenged even the best

quizzers. St Joseph's took an early lead in the general knowledge round and St John Fisher found themselves 5-7 down, with still the very tricky unseen specialised topic to come. Fantastic team work and superb quizzing resulted in a victory in the inaugural Inter-Catholic Schools Quiz for St John Fisher. The final score was 12-9. The quiz was enjoyed by everyone who took part and both quiz teams can be justly proud of themselves. Their teachers are certainly very proud of them.

The next step is to expand the project and develop a quiz league within the diocese of Clifton and East Anglia in the coming academic year, resulting in a final quiz between the top schools in each diocese next summer.

Catholic primary school in Swaffham

improvements.

At the same time, the Diocese recognises that the condition of Sacred Heart's buildings was amongst the worst within its family of schools, said Helen Bates, Assistant Director of Diocesan Schools, and submitted a bid to the DfE.

"We are thrilled that the DfE has also recognised this level of need and we look forward to working with them in identifying the scope of the building work to be undertaken over the next few years at Sacred Heart," said Helen.

"Pupil numbers have been growing steadily since September 2019 from around 60 to over 100 now, and with house building continuing in and around Swaffham, we expect these numbers to continue to rise."

Headteacher Simon Blain said: "I am delighted that Sacred Heart has been chosen to be part of the School Rebuilding Programme.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to help our pupils grow and learn in an outstanding environment. We are a relatively new and growing primary school with huge aspira-

tions for its pupils and community. We are very excited for the future of all who are part of Sacred Heart."

Chair of Governors, Flavio Vettese, said: "All the Governors are delighted at this wonderful news. Over the past three years significant support has been given by the Diocese of East Anglia and the rebuilding programme will ensure that Sacred Heart will be brilliantly placed to serve the pupils of Swaffham with an excellent school right at the heart of the town."

www.shcprimary.co.uk

news in brief

£50k Narthex refurbishment

■ Completion of a £50k project to refurbish toilets will make the Narthex a more welcoming and sustainable venue for parishioners and visitors alike.

Last year the Narthex gained £40,660 funding from BIFFA Award to renew the toilet facilities and the project is now complete. The toilet facilities have been in desperate need of renewal for some time. Low water pressure, a lack of ventilation, damage and the age of the toilets all contributed to the fact that many visitors avoided using them.

The men's, women's and the two accessible WCs have all been refurbished as part of the project. The project has improved the ventilation of the space finally dealing with the issue of lingering unpleasant smells and ensuring quality air flow throughout the spaces, the importance of which was highlighted by the pandemic. The taps are now operated on a sensor which prevents overflowing and in contributes to water conservation.

The project received an additional £8,295 through the Platinum Jubilee Fund which meant that new cubicles could be provided alongside a lower-level vanity unit in both the men's and women's toilets and improved baby change facilities in the accessible WCs.

Autumn festival for young adults

■ Building on the success of the Ignite Festival for teenagers, the Diocesan Youth Services is launching a new festival 'Transform' for young adults aged 16-30.

It will be run together with the community at Clare Priory and will take place from September 9 - 11 in the beautiful grounds of Clare Priory.

With powerful talks, passionate prayer and live music, the weekend promises to be amazing. Speakers will include Fr Gladson and Fr Stephan from Clare Priory, Sr Theresa from the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham and Sr Rose from the Dominicans.

Hamish MacQueen said: "Come and join us for the weekend and be transformed!"

For more details and to book tickets, please visit www.transformfestival.uk

Share your story

■ Catholic Voices and Word on Fire are hosting a one-day conference called 'Sharing the Church's Story'. Join a group from the Diocese of East Anglia and 1000 other Catholics who are passionate about the renewal of the Church in the UK and a host of dynamic speakers including the internationally renowned speaker and author, Bishop Robert Barron.

The event takes place on Saturday September 17 from 10am to 6pm at Friends House, Euston Road, London. More information and registration on www.sharingthechurchsstory.com

First communions and confirmations around the Diocese

■ In June, the Parish of St Dominic's Church in Downham Market received its first set of children for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion since the Covid pandemic. Janelle Cleghorn reports.

Fittingly on Sunday June 19, Corpus Christi – the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, sisters Amicie and Ayana, along with Jonas and Nicolas, witnessed by a dynamic and diverse congregation, received their First Holy Communion from Parish Priest, Fr Erico Falcão.

It was a momentous celebration to mark a journey that started in October 2021 when the children had their first catechism session with dedicated Catechist, Lourdes Luyten-Coelho. The children attended sessions weekly during term time, either in person at the Church's Parish Rooms or virtually over Microsoft Teams. Their resilience, dedication and passion for learning were evident and commendable. They overcame Covid along the way, managed catechism lessons alongside their own school and personal schedules, and, most importantly, developed a beautiful friendship amongst themselves.

In putting their learning into practice, the children led the procession into church, participated in the readings and recited the Prayers of the Faithful, which they had collectively agreed upon during their last catechism session.

After receiving their First Communion, the children along with Fr Erico, led a procession to the Altar of Our Blessed Mother and engaged in prayers to our Holy Mother. Before the Concluding Rites, Ayana and Jonas delivered a heartfelt thank you address to the whole church.

After Mass, a celebration was held in the Parish Rooms where the children were treated to a breakfast and a specially personalised cake.

Some attendees had travelled from across Britain, whilst others were nationals of Albania, Belgium, Belize, Colombia, India, Iran, Lithuania, Mexico, the Philippines and Spain. It was a glorious celebration and coming together for the candidates and for the Church.



■ Eight girls and boys, who had been preparing since early October last year at the parish of Our Lady in Stowmarket, finally received their First Communion on Sunday June 19, at the 10.15 Mass.

After a photo they gathered in the church hall for breakfast. First, they sang a song entitled My First Communion Day. Later in the proceedings, they cut a beautiful cake, made through the auspices of one of the mothers.

Finally, before the party broke up, the boys and girls received a certificate to remind them of their momentous day.

Pictured right are Fr Simon Leworthy, Mrs Pat Smith, and an altar boy with children who received their First Communion in Stowmarket.



■ Over 30 young people have celebrated either their First Communion or Confirmation at Sacred Heart Parish, St Ives, this summer.

A First Communion Mass was celebrated in June at Ives by Fr Thomas Walton (pictured below). Nineteen children had been prepared over the year by Mrs Downham who has been a catechist in the parish for 21 years.

Bishop Alan Hopes administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 12 candidates in May. This was the first Confirmation in the parish since before the lockdown (pictured left).



Fr John's 60 years of ministry

Retired Diocese of East Anglia priest, Fr John Fowler, has died after more than 60 years of ministry in the Catholic and Anglican churches. Fr Tony Shryane pays tribute.

■ John was ordained as a priest in the Catholic Church for the Diocese of East Anglia by Bishop Peter Smith on the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, September 24, 1999, at the Church of St Etheldreda's, Ely.

After ordination in the Anglican Church he was placed at St Sidwell's in Georgetown, Guyana, on November 2 1961.

He was moved shortly afterwards, in January 1962, to live in the North West District. Here there were no roads and so he went everywhere by boat. Cecily and John were married in 1963.

They moved back to England in 1965. Later in 1965 they returned to Guyana to St Paul's Plaisance but this was only for four years. After a short break John returned to St Paul's for a

further six years. At this time he became Archdeacon, with all the responsibilities attached to that post.

Back in England, he also served in Sydenham and Coventry and again in Guyana before moving to Bedford in 1990.

John retired from a fruitful and varied ministry in the Anglican Church from St Michael's Bedford and moved with his wife Cecily and their son Andrew to a small house in Sutton near Ely in September 1995.

John and Cecily and Andrew were Received into the Catholic Church in Ely, on December 23, 1995.

During his time in Ely he was well loved for his generosity and cheerfulness. He continued to help out and supply so that other clergy could get away. He was a regular visitor to Addenbrookes Hospital as part of the Chaplaincy team.

Fr John retired to Wellingborough in 2007 and although he still helped, he finally was unable to continue through ill health. After various visits to Kettering General and with care at home he died at home on August 5.

May he rest in peace and receive the reward of his labours.



Fr John Fowler.

Fr Paul marks diamond jubilee

Fr Paul Hypher marked an impressive 60 years of priestly ministry with a celebratory Mass and party at the church of Sacred Heart and St Oswald in Peterborough on July 23. Timothy Fox reports.



Fr Paul Hypher.

■ Fr Paul was ordained on July 22, 1962, in St Ethelbert's Church in Slough, by Bishop Leo Parker of Northampton, having been in seminary in Innsbruck for the previous six years.

On July 23, he concelebrated alongside Parish Priest at St Oswald's, Fr Seelan, with fellow priests and former parishioners, whom Fr Paul had served during his ministry within the diocese, present. Fr Paul gave grateful thanks to God for the graces for his vocation. He expressed sincere gratitude to the many people who supported him and shared faith with him during his 60 years of priestly ministry. Preaching was Deacon John Morrill from Newmarket.

Fr Paul was ordained just before the Second Vatican Council and rejoiced at the many spiritual gifts that were brought into the Church through the Holy Spirit's guidance of that Council.

Over six decades he served in numerous parishes in both Northampton Diocese and then East Anglia, including St Edward Kettering, St Mary Great Yarmouth, St Laurence Cambridge, Our Lady & the English Martyrs Cambridge and Our Lady Stowmarket.

For 16 years Fr Paul was parish priest at St Peter and All Souls, Peterborough, including also covering St Oswald's and Our Lady of Lourdes for six years after the incumbent priests died in post.

Following that, in 1993, Fr Paul moved to St Benet's Beccles and then in 1994 to St Etheldreda's Newmarket, where he remained

until October 2003 when he retired due to poor health and moved to Bentham in North Yorkshire.

Fr Paul was also Schools Commissioner for Peterborough and then for the whole of Cambridgeshire during which time the inter-church schools in March and St Bede's Secondary Inter-Church School in Cambridge were established.

During the jubilee Mass, Fr Paul (now aged 83) and his fellow celebrants renewed their dedication to serve Christ as priests of his new covenant and to unite themselves more closely to Christ, joyfully sacrificing their own pleasure so as to bring peace and love to their brothers and sisters. They resolved to celebrate the Eucharist with sincere devotion and to teach the Christian faith without thinking of their own profit.

Lay people too had a share in the Lord's priesthood, given at baptism and confirmation. Alongside Fr Paul and his concelebrants, they reiterated their commitment to exercise that priesthood in the service of the Church.

After Mass, the congregation enjoyed a sumptuous buffet laid on by the parishioners of Sacred Heart and St Oswald in Fr Paul's honour.

No fewer than three large celebratory cakes, iced and inscribed, were cut by him and distributed to the happy guests assembled in the hall and outside in the warm July sunshine.

Musical visit to Lowestoft church

■ A group of ten organ players from the Organ Society of Great Britain recently enjoyed a musical visit to Our Lady Star of the Sea in Lowestoft.

Having been frustrated by Covid over the last year, a group from the Society visited Our Lady, along with several other local churches, on July 16 to play and listen to the churches' organs.

The interest is in playing the organs but also appreciating the variety of their construction, age, and the organ builder in question.

During the afternoon at Our Lady Star of the Sea, each of the ten or so players from the society chose some music to play and so the audience enjoyed a variety of music styles and periods from the three manual Norman Beard organ of 1902. In a warm and appreciative atmosphere, the parishioners and members of the public attending enjoyed a relaxed and entertaining afternoon.

Tony Walmsley from Our Lady, said: "The church has always encouraged organists to come and play recitals on the organ but some of the gloss of the events was lost by the audience sitting in pews that looked away from the organ. They could hear well but not see the organist playing.

"Our Lady has now overcome this by having a camera in the organ loft and projecting a video of the player at the console which is then projected onto a cinema screen at the front of the nave.

"To avoid the picture of the organist and the sound of the organ becoming out of sync, the camera is hard-wired to an HDMI converter. The set-up had its first outing for the society's visit and proved a great success," said Tony.

It is hoped that this will encourage more interest in recitals in the church from both players and audiences. The Society plans to return next year.

Plea to feed East Africans

■ The Catholic charity SPICMA is appealing for help to feed people in Karamoja, a dry region of Uganda badly hit by the current crisis in East Africa.

Jean Johnson, a parishioner from Ipswich, has been to this area many times and gathered some of the information that has led to the current appeal. "In one district of 87,690 people 228 died of hunger in July," she reports. She has had it confirmed that the two worst districts are Kotido and Napak, which are in the Diocese of Moroto.

A combination of drought and the loss of grain supplies from Ukraine is causing rising mortality in the region. Parish priests and sisters have asked SPICMA to help by setting up feeding centres in schools, parishes and dispensaries.

A Reuters report of July 19 confirmed that over 200 people had died in the region. "People like the elderly, lactating mothers and children are dying silently in their homes. They just succumb to hunger," Jino Bornd Meri, the head of local government for Kaabong district, in Karamoja region, told Reuters.

You can make donation to the Drought in East Africa appeal at: spicma.org.

Picture gallery from parishes around the Diocese

■ A procession of the Blessed Sacrament took place on the streets around the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich on June 19, the Feast of Corpus Christi.

A group of First Communion children led the way strewn petals on the ground followed by priests and altar boys, with Fr Simon Davies carrying the Blessed Sacrament.

One Benediction took place in the cathedral garden and a second one back in front of the altar inside the cathedral.

Around a dozen children took their first Holy Communion during the Mass and they are among around 78 who will do so between Pentecost and the middle of July.

In his homily, Fr Simon said: "After the Mass today, we will process with the consecrated Sacred Eucharistic Host. As we walk behind Christ, we manifest our desire for him to truly lead us. We cannot see the road ahead but we must trust him always that he is leading us properly, as our shepherd and our king.

"The mediaevals who developed this festival and its words and symbols drew on the things that we see and do in ritual to reveal the reality of what is given to us."

To see a full picture gallery visit: flic.kr/s/aHBqjzUTr8



■ Abbey 1000 commemorates 1,000 years since the founding of St Edmund's Abbey and a full programme of events continues throughout the year.

On July 16 it was the turn of 'Picnic in the Park' in the Abbey Gardens at Bury St Edmunds when a huge crowd enjoyed free entertainment in wonderful sunshine. Various stalls were present, and St Edmund's Parish mustered volunteers to sell plants, cakes and the work of artisans and to provide children's entertainment as part of the aim to raise £1,000 for good causes.

Co-ordinator John Saunders was delighted with the efforts of parishioners: "Whilst many donated items to be sold, we used it as an occasion to demonstrate the diversity of St Edmund's and this stood out with people at our stalls from different cultures. In particular, members of the Polish community were striking in their costumes (pictured above). The total is still being calculated but we are well on our way to our target."

More information at: www.visit-burystedmunds.co.uk/abbey-1000

■ After a two-year gap due to Covid, the SVP National Pilgrimage to Walsingham has resumed, welcomed by Bishop Alan Hopes.

Before Mass the pilgrims had the opportunity to share picnics, and chat with friends and strangers.

Mgr Philip Moger and Fr Philip Shyrane were present, along with a number of other priests and deacons.

"The readings, hymns and words from our Bishop were most inspiring and encouraging in our Vincentian service,"

said Pauline McSherry from King's Lynn, who was among the pilgrims.

Special mention and congratulations went to Steve Gibling from Peterborough for 50 years of dedicated service to SVP.

The pilgrims expressed gratitude to Bishop Alan for his continued support of the Society.

"And finally, I would like to add a very special thank you to our coach driver and to kind folk who were always ready to give a helping hand," said Pauline. "Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us."



■ Bishop Alan Hopes celebrated a Mass at St John's Cathedral to mark the Beatification of the co-founder of Missio, Blessed Pauline Jaricot on June 25.

Blessed Pauline was born in Lyon, France in 1799 and is one of the founders of Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission. She was a remarkable young lay woman with formidable faith. Aged 19, she began helping missionaries overseas. She decided to support them through prayer and material help, establishing a penny collection among her father's employees: the first social missionary network.

It spread throughout the world. In England and Wales, the Red Box, in partnership with the Mill Hill Missionaries, fulfils Pauline's vision.

Bishop Alan was joined by Fr Anthony Chantry MHM, National Director for Missio in England and Wales, who preached on the 'remarkable missionary spirit of Blessed Pauline Jaricot, who is an inspiration to us all'.

Fr Anthony shared some of his own experiences of mission in South Africa and how, through prayer and the support of the Red Box, we can make a real difference to poor and young churches throughout the world. Bishop Alan thanked the Missio local secretaries and volunteers for their efforts in supporting the global Church and gave encouragement to continue the faithful efforts within the East Anglia Diocese.

Anne, the Missio Local Secretary for the Cathedral parish, commented, "This has been a wonderful occasion and something we can build on as a Diocesan community." For more information visit: www.missio.org.uk