



Alive in Faith

Building a Sure Foundation for the Mission of Our Diocese

NOVEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED TO DATE

We have now completed the Alive in Faith Campaign stage across the Diocese, although new pledges will be gratefully received. The total funds received to date stands at nearly £1.8 million. We are now fully into the implementation phase with 14 Parish Projects utilising the money available, well under way. The Diocese has 13 Seminarians at varying stages of training at 6 Seminaries in the United Kingdom and in Europe. Plans are also being developed to provide accommodation and support for our retired Priests. The Diocese has 6 Priests still in ministry over 75 years of age who are preparing to retire in the next few years with a further 5 in the following years. There are currently 10 Parish Projects under way with a total of £173,847.63. disbursed to them.

PARISH PROJECTS

OUR LADY AND ST JOSEPH, SHERINGHAM AND CROMER

Our Parish has raised a total of around £185,000 in the campaign phase. This has allowed us to plan a generous amount towards the Parish Project over the next 5 years. Some of this will be spent on ongoing maintenance of our buildings alongside a social outreach project to benefit those who are temporarily homeless and can use Canaan House as a shelter. This is a seven bedroom property owned by the Evangelical Christian Trust and rented by the North Norfolk St Vincent de Paul Conference supported financially by the parish.



We have a first-class Social Worker, Joey Garande, who oversees the whole process of admissions to the house. All potential residents are referred now to us by Local Authorities. Joey Garande has been very successful in obtaining all possible Social Security Benefits for them. Out of this money, rent is paid to the Trustees of Canaan House. Through the money coming to us as a result of the 'Alive in Faith' Campaign, we are able to pay Joey Garande's salary, as well as, on occasion, providing 'one off' financial assistance to residents as need arises. As Parish Priest, I see Joey regularly and I have been most impressed by his professional and business-like approach to the Project. Joey has now very nearly achieved his goal of making the house self-financing (through the Social Security Benefits obtained). There is also a paid 'Caretaker', who lives in a static caravan on site and is always available to help the residents and sort out day to day issues. Normally there are about 12 residents in the house at any one time: using a family room, and both double and single rooms. Any room left vacant is normally almost immediately occupied again. On one occasion earlier this year there was a total of 22 men, women and children in the house; but such a number is exceptional. The house is safe and peaceful (potential residents have to show that they are not addicted to alcohol or drugs). The average stay is between 12 and 16 weeks: that is, the time taken for suitable, secure and permanent accommodation to be found – mostly in local 'Housing Association' houses or flats. On one or two occasions, accommodation has been found in one of the several properties owned by 'Stable Door', a Sheringham-based housing charity. The Chairman and one of the Trustees of 'Stable Door' are members of our Parish.

THE SACRED HEART, ST IVES

The Church at St Ives was designed by Augustus Pugin, the famous church architect. It is known as "Pugin's Little Gem". and is Grade 2 Listed as an important example of his work. Originally built around an internal courtyard, problems began to emerge in recent years with drainage and damp. There were two options to cure this. The drains and courtyard could be excavated to repair the existing drainage



or the courtyard could be enclosed and the drainage diverted. The first option would have been costly and difficult due to the restricted area to work in and the second offered the opportunity to solve the problem whilst enlarging the space available in the Church. With advice from the



Actual Picture of the former Courtyard - 7th July 2017.
Two radiators are in place and only floor carpet is still missing...

Historic Churches Commission a plan for the latter was drawn up. Once all the permissions were in place, work started after Easter on 24th

April 2017. Named the “La Salette Room” it was officially opened and blessed by Bishop Alan on 30th August 2017. Equipped with audio-visual links to the main church, this room provides a most useful space for the many ancillary activities conducted by the Parish and would not have been possible without the money raised by the Alive in Faith Campaign in the Parish.

[ST EDMUND, KING AND MARTYR, HALESWORTH](#)



In Halesworth, where last year the Parish was able to build a new sacristy and meeting room from funds raised locally, we need to repair, renovate and preserve the external and internal woodwork and enhance some safety features as well as improving the access for

disabled and mobility impaired parishioners and visitors. This project will cost £21,000 and is subject to a bid for grant funding from ‘Alive in Faith’. Work is currently underway and will be completed by mid-October 2017.

[PARISH OF WOODBRIDGE AND FRAMLINGHAM](#)



The two parts of this Parish intend using Alive in Faith funds to make major repairs to the buildings. We have started with Woodbridge.

Saint Thomas’s Church in Woodbridge is a Grade II Listed building which dates back to 1850, although it was not converted to use as a

church until 1930. At Woodbridge we have employed the services of the architects, Nicholas Jacob & Associates of Ipswich, to undertake a full survey of the church and to devise a scheme of remedial works and redecoration. This work is needed to combat the problem of damp and mould growth which has increased within the building in recent years. Mr. Jacob has now



written the specification for the repairs (Phase i) and this document has been sent to several firms of builders for tender. After the external

repairs have been completed, all the interior surfaces of the church – walls and ceilings – will be treated with a fungicide before the redecoration of the Church interior (Phase 2) can take place.

[DIOCESAN ALIVE IN FAITH ACTIVITY](#)

[SOCIAL OUTREACH - CARITAS EAST ANGLIA.](#)

The Diocese has formed Caritas East Anglia as part of the Catholic Social Action Network (CSAN). Although the formal structure is still a work in progress, a small panel has been formed and is actively considering applications for financial support for projects aimed at assisting the poor, the disadvantaged and the vulnerable. Development of this will be greatly assisted if a proposal to appoint a Development Officer shared with the Dioceses of Brentwood and Northampton and financed with a grant from CSAN is approved.

[SUPPORT FOR RETIRED PRIESTS](#)

The Diocese is planning to construct a number of retirement bungalows for our retired Priests. The aim is to place these homes in locations which provide for the needs of retired, which include easy access to public transport and shopping centres. They will be designed to take account of the requirements of the elderly

Our very sincere thanks for all the contributions which have been received for the Alive in Faith Campaign. Every penny counts towards the total.