



Bishop visits sisters at care home see page 2



History of Notre Dame for 150th anniversary see page 4



Parish work helps families in Cambodia see page 11



The pupils in their East garden near a busy bus route

Pupils' Easter garden tells Christ's story

Pupils from St Albans primary school inspired residents of Cambridge to dig deep into their pockets for the world's poorest people when they created an Easter garden beside a busy bus stop. They transformed a plot on Lensfield Road to reveal the Easter story to captive audiences while raising awareness of CAFOD's Dig Deep appeal. The Lent appeal highlights the scandal of global hunger that one in eight people around the world do not have enough food to eat. The garden which included a seven-foot cross, depicts the journey Jesus took to Calvary and the tomb where his body was laid to rest. Headteacher Joseph McCrossan said the Dig Deep campaign was the catalyst for a gardening project

on a large scale and "we wanted to do something that raised awareness of CAFOD and also told the public about the Easter story".

Using materials that pupils chose from Cambridge's Scotsdale Garden Centre, each class was given a different part of the project to complete.

Joseph said: "The children are learning a deeper understanding of Easter and poverty around the world from doing this, using CAFOD resources."

CAFOD East Anglia diocesan manager Stephen Matthews said: "St Alban's backs our CAFOD appeals very publicly every year.

"We are very grateful for the continued efforts and their unwavering support in helping us to help poor communities lift themselves out of poverty."

Join Bishop Alan on pilgrimage to Lisieux



Bishop Alan will be leading a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisieux in France from Monday 27 April to Friday 1 May 2015 and invites you to join him.

St Therese is one of the most popular of modern saints and this pilgrimage will visit her birthplace in Alencon, the house where she grew up in Lisieux and the Carmel she entered and where she died.

Travel will be by luxury coach with pick up points across the diocese and pilgrims will be staying in the beautiful L'Ermitage accommodation next door to the Carmel.

Fr Paul Maddison said: "The hospitality of the nuns here is very well known and the accommodation is in comfortable, en-suite rooms.

"The pilgrimage is being organised by Pilgrimage People, an ATOL registered charity,

where all surplus income goes to support the Christian community in the Holy Land. You can learn more about their



St Theresa - the Little Flower

work at www.pilgrimagepeople.org

"Daily Mass is included whilst in Lisieux and there will be a full programme of guided visits

to the major landmarks along with free time for you to explore this beautiful town or to spend in prayer at one of the many places associated with the life of St Therese of the child Jesus."

The cost is £450 per person sharing a twin/double room; single rooms are available at a supplement of £100. The price includes all transport and accommodation, all meals whilst in Lisieux, entrance fees, guiding costs and gratuities.

In order to secure a place a deposit of £200 is required by 27 June 2014 with the balance and any single supplement due on or before the 27 December 2014.

A full itinerary, booking form and terms and conditions can be requested via email: info@pilgrimagepeople.org or phone: 0800 6123423.

Please quote reference ANGL02 with all enquiries.



The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Monday 5 May and Bishop Alan hopes as many people as possible will take part. The theme this year is Mary and the New Evangelism and those on the pilgrimage will be able to reflect on what this might mean for them. Pilgrims will gather in the Friday Market Place before midday and the Angelus will be prayed before setting out for the Chapel of Reconciliation for Mass at 3pm.

Welcome at deanery Station Masses

During Lent Bishop Alan was welcomed to deanery Station Masses across the diocese.

He had brought back this practice and travelled to each of the eight deaneries in turn.

He began his pilgrimage at King's Lynn and then went to All Souls in Peterborough, OLEM in Cambridge, Sheringham, St Marks in Ipswich, Sacred Heart Southwold, St George's in Norwich and finally Haverhill which had just been consecrated.

At each station he celebrated Mass with the local people after Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and later enjoyed their hospitality.



The Norwich Deanery Mass was celebrated at St George's



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News from communities and parishes around the Diocese



Bishop Alan at Montana Care Home

Bishop's care home visit

Bishop Alan recently visited Montana Care Home run by Sisters of Grace and Compassion Benedictines at Great Barton near Bury St. Edmunds.

"The day of the visit dawned with plenty of sunshine to welcome Bishop Alan for the first time,@ Sr Thaya Moses OSB said.

"He celebrated a lovely Mass, attended by a good number of parishioners as well as residents of our care home and Oakampton retirement flats.

Concelebrating with the bishop were parish priest Fr Philip Shryane with Fr Chris Hogan, chaplain and Fr Paul Mercer.

"After Mass Bishop Alan greeted each participant individually outside the Chapel, before touring our house and speaking with each of our elderly residents in the dining room," Sr Thaya said.



Bishop Alan greeting members of the congregation

"He also gave blessings for one of our seriously ill residents and he and his family were extremely grateful. We found him a down-to-earth, very warm and congenial person, and having him with us was an experience everyone will cherish.

"The Sisters thoroughly enjoyed his company over lunch and in the afternoon. We cooked a mild curry especially for him but he actually wanted, and enjoyed the hot one!"

Sr Thaya talked about other houses run by the Grace and Compassion Benedictine Sisters, and he saw the stained glass windows gradually being installed in the chapel through people's generosity. "The windows are dedicated to the memory of our residents, their friends and family and their names are commemorated by a plaque under each window," Sr Thaya said.

"We have some way to go, and would be delighted to receive any help in the way of donations. When we have achieved our goal and can finally install the last window, (we still need £3,000 for this), we hope to welcome Bishop Alan back here for an opening ceremony and blessing."



Bishop Alan talking to some of the care home residents

Priests go on Retreat to Salamanca

When we think of training priests or deacons our thoughts turn to colleges like Oscott or Womersley, students who have worked in our parishes, or maybe parish visits to a seminary. It is easy to forget that formation of our clergy does not stop with ordination; it is a life-long process needing time and commitment, hence the Diocesan on-going formation team providing courses and retreats throughout the year.

Formation comes in many shapes and sizes, indeed just working in a parish setting can itself be a very formative process; but knowledge and skills require constant updating, who would – for instance - trust another professional who had not honed their skills since their qualifying some 30 years earlier!

Within the Diocese of East Anglia, the focus is on both contemporary skills and information along with spiritual development. Our clergy recognise the need to not only keep up to date with current liturgical and practical developments, but also to encourage their own



spiritual growth in order that they might better serve those to whom they minister.

A regular programme of study days is provided each year looking at issues such as mental wellbeing, preparation for retirement, communications skills, child protection issues, and preaching skills. There is also the provision of a residential study week or retreat to encourage more in-depth learning and also time away to enjoy each other's company. Often these weeks away are more economically organised abroad and give insight into a different culture. This year the priests' retreat is based in Salamanca where they will be learning about

the lives of both St Teresa of Avila and St John of the Cross.

The spiritual demands on the clergy; especially during seasons such as Lent or Advent has led us to recently introduce a day of reflection before each of these great seasons begin. Two spiritual talks in the morning are followed by lunch after which there is exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for an hour followed by Evening Prayer. These days continue to be both popular and inspiring.

We ask a lot of our clergy and it is only right that we should expect them to take seriously their commitment to continue their formation in order to encourage us in our own spiritual development. We continue to pray for our clergy, knowing their commitment to the on-going formation which underpins the service they give to our parish communities. So the next time Father says he will be away on a course, it might not necessarily be the golf course!

Fr Paul Maddison

Fr Olindo's 60th anniversary

Fr Olindo Cramaro recently celebrated the Diamond Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood with a concelebrated Mass at St Luke's church in Peterborough.

Fr Olindo, who originates from the most northern region of Italy, went to seminary in Italy and was originally known as Fr Anthony.

He reverted to his own Christian name of Olindo when he felt called to request to be released from his order to become a diocesan priest in England, though never losing his love of all things Italian!

Frances Presgraves, whose husband Keith took the photograph, said Fr Cramaro always tried to live by the Gospel



and is a kindly, shy and holy man, who works hard, lives simply and has a generous, gentle heart.

"He shuns fuss, but did concelebrate Mass to mark the occasion with Fr John Minh, Priest in Charge (pictured above), where many people congratulated Fr Olindo on 60 years as a priest."

Before moving to London Fr Tony Philpot celebrated Mass in the Parish of Sacred Heart and St Oswald in Peterborough. On behalf of the parish Denis White thanked Fr Tony for all his support. Matthew Goodliffe and Natalie Tunkuda presented Fr Tony with a farewell gift.



Bishop Alan opened an exhibition at the Annunciation church in Poringland to display the work of local artists. The art will help raise funds to again extend the church for the growing community in the village and surrounding area.

Marriage celebration

I extend a personal invitation to all those who have celebrated the Sacrament of Marriage, together with their families, to join me at the Cathedral in Norwich for the annual Mass for Marriage and Family Life on Saturday 21 June at 11.00am.

Those who are celebrating significant wedding anniversaries will be presented with a special Diocesan certificate to record the event. I would also like to invite any engaged couples who are preparing for their marriage to join us for this joyful affirmation of marriage and family life.

This is a very special occasion and in my first year as your Bishop I look forward to welcoming you to it and meeting you afterwards.

+Alan S Hopes
Further information will be in parish newsletters and on the diocesan website.

DIOCESAN YOUTH CROSS - ICON OF THE NEW EVANGELISATION

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us”

The incarnation: the moment when God became flesh, tangible and visible for us, stands at the heart of the Christian faith. God has come to us and has made Himself knowable in a personal way in Jesus Christ.

On 22 November 2013 the diocese celebrated the close of the Year of Faith in a monumental way. At the centre of the celebrations was the person of Jesus Christ, visible for us, present to us in the form of the Blessed Sacrament. About 1,000 people processed silently in prayer through the streets of Norwich with the Eucharistic Body of Our Lord held high for all to see.

All night - right through until Saturday morning people gazed, prayed, adored and rested in the presence of God in the Blessed Sacrament. Amongst those gathered in prayer were many young people from across the Diocese. During the evening, prayer took many forms and when not in front of the Blessed Sacrament many young people contributed to creating an icon of Jesus on the Cross. Painting or ‘writing’ an icon - as it is often referred to, is a prayer in itself.

An atmosphere of quiet prayer was maintained and the young people were encouraged to pray before and during painting. Many of the brush strokes laid onto the cross were prayers. People, places, situations were literally painted into the cross and just as the many brushstrokes were transformed into an image of the Word made Flesh – Jesus Christ, so the prayers of the young were offered to God who took them to himself on the cross and transformed them.

The painted cross, the unspoken words and prayers of the young became flesh that night and the end result remains a kind of living - prayer, an offering to God. Young people carried the icon up with the offertory where it was blessed by Bishop Alan at the end of the Mass.

The Diocesan Youth Cross of the New Evangelisation is now a symbol of the faith of young people and a focus for prayer. It stands as a living, tangible and visible



Painting or ‘writing’ the icon at St John the Baptist

reminder of the prayers of the young which were offered to God. The Cross now begins its journey around the diocese to be received in parishes and schools by young people as a focus for prayer.

It is a reminder that we have been sent out into the world, to spread the Gospel and to allow the Eternal Word: Jesus Christ - to become flesh in our lives and in the lives of others. Although created by young people the icon is for each one of us. As the cross goes to spend a period of time in every parish, each community is invited to spend 40 hours in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

During this prayer, we pray especially for the work of New Evangelisation: that through our lives, the life of our parishes and our diocese the good news of Jesus Christ will reach all people. **by Fr Luke Goymour**



The icon cross will be taken around to parishes as a focus to 40-hours of prayer

Mary and Evangelisation is Walsingham theme 2014 by Fr Alan Williams

In his recent Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis said: “I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ... I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day”.

Strong stuff, but we should not be surprised. At the Papal retreat 25 years ago, Pope John Paul II heard these words from a Franciscan preacher to the Papal household, “What is the primary aim of all evangelization and of all catechesis? ...it is to bring people to a personal encounter with Jesus Christ the only Saviour by making them his disciples”.

When the directors of the European national shrines gather for our annual meetings the locations vary [Walsingham, Rome, Malta] but the agenda in recent years has been dominated by the theme of the **New Evangelization** - this remains “the first task” and “the greatest challenge of the Church” [Pope John Paul II].

Like many other Marian Shrines, Walsingham has experienced a surge in popularity. This coming pilgrim season we hope for our biggest numbers ever of day pilgrims, youth and casual “religious tourists”. The Catholic groups will be from diverse backgrounds including dioceses, parishes, church organisations and numerous ethnic chaplaincies. Our numbers can vary from a handful up to over 10,000 pilgrims on the same day.

If I felt personally responsible for the success of all these pilgrimages I would, of course, be a nervous wreck! Fortunately in a holy place like Walsingham we can always rely on the grace of God.

In 2014 our pilgrim theme, chosen to animate preaching and liturgy at the shrine, will be **Mary, Mother of Evangelization**.

“With the Holy Spirit, Mary is always present in the midst of the people. She joined the disciples in praying for the coming of the Holy Spirit [Acts 1.14] and thus made possible the missionary outburst which took place at Pentecost. She is the Mother of the Church which evangelizes, and without her we could never understand the spirit of the new evangelization” [Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation, *The Joy of the Gospel*, 2013].

Mary is the great example of faith and discipleship in the New Testament. This is seen most clearly in the gospel account of the Annunciation- the founding mystery of Walsingham.

At the Annunciation Mary questions and ponders but then gives a total assent to the Word of God- “fiat”, let



People gather in the Friday Market Place at last year’s Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, above. The statue of Our Lady of Walsingham will be crowned before the pilgrims set out, below.

it be to me as you have said. “Mary is the woman of faith, who lives and advances in faith, and ‘her exceptional pilgrimage of faith represents a constant point of reference for the Church” [Pope Francis quoting Pope John Paul II].

Of the many pilgrimages we will welcome two have unique connections with Walsingham. The Catholic Grandparents took place first in Walsingham in 2002 and from this small beginning the Catholic Grandparents Association, founded by Walsingham resident Catherine Wiley, is now the fastest growing organisation in the worldwide Catholic Church.

The only pilgrimage that is organised by the shrine itself is the Dowry of Mary Pilgrimage on Sunday 5 September. This year we will be led by our Bishop Alan Hopes of East Anglia; Bishop Alan, a former auxiliary of Westminster Diocese, is already well known to many of the ethnic chaplaincy groups who will join us.

It is always great to see our future priests in Walsingham. Last year we welcomed the first Bishops and Seminarians pilgrimage led by Archbishop Vincent Nichols; I am delighted that they will be with us in 2015 again led, of course, by Cardinal Vincent!

I look forward to meeting our own East Anglian pilgrims on the Diocesan Pilgrimage on 5 May and all our visitors through the season under the patronage of Mary, Mother of Evangelization.





Diocesan Schools in Focus

Nathan led fitness circuit

Great Britain triple jumper Nathan Fox recently visited St Mary's Primary in Lowestoft and led the whole school in a fitness circuit.

Children from Reception up to Year Six completed star jumps, leg drives, 'spotty dogs' and push-ups as part of a Sports for Schools scheme.

Year Six managed to secure a private audience with Nathan and interviewed him in depth for newspaper articles as part of their extended writing exercises.

During a final whole school Assembly, Nathan demonstrated some of his fitness and training routines and chose several pupils to join him.

New deputy head

Former student Tom Leverage is the new second deputy head at Notre Dame High. He studied at Cambridge University and in Rome.



Christine Walkden inspired the children to grow cabbages

Inspired to grow veg

Gardening and its importance in feeding people across the world were the topics discussed at St Laurence primary in Cambridge when Patrick Jumiru from Sierra Leone came to talk.

He was highlighting the CAFOD Dig Deep Lenten project and addressed the school gardening club about cultivation for food in the abandoned diamond mines in his country.

The children asked him several questions about gardening ranging from his favourite implement to what is the best

time to plant crops.

Christine Walkden from the BBC One Show and Gardeners Question Time accompanied Patrick, the CAFOD team including Stephen Matthews, and the children to the recently established vegetable plot with its newly acquired green house.

Christine showed the children how to prepare the ground and plant cabbage seeds.

She was so inspirational and enthusiastic "many children wanted to rush home and clear a patch to plant cabbages".

Bananas for Fairtrade

Members of the environment committee and the Fairtrade team dressed in banana outfits during assemblies at St Mary's in Cambridge to highlight hardships in the Third World caused by supermarket price wars in the UK.

Prices have almost halved for their customers but the costs of production have more than doubled over the past year, trapping farmers and labourers in a cycle of poverty.

The school was marking Fairtrade Fortnight by revealing only third of the UK banana market comes from Fairtrade producers in a bid to increase demand.

Activities that students were encouraged to take part in throughout the fortnight included a raffle for a Fairtrade hamper and a "Go Bananas" day on the last Friday of the campaign, where students wore yellow for the day in exchange for a Fairtrade donation.



Pupils begin Lent

All teaching staff and children from Reception to Year 6 from St Mary's in Lowestoft went to Our Lady Star of the Sea church on Ash Wednesday to begin Lent. Many parents, grandparents, guardians, parishioners and those who might find going into church difficult joined the children's celebration shown left.

Bikes mean care for environment



Helping pupils keep bikes in good order

Sacred Heart School in Peterborough has become more environmentally aware as a new Bike It School.

Gemma Murphy has established a Bike It Crew with two pupils from each of our Key Stage 2 classes. Nicola Ward, eco teacher, said: "The Bike It Crew have met four times since the beginning of this academic year so far and have discussed, organised and carried out several exciting whole school activities."

These include a Dr Bike session where the Bike It Crew (with Gemma's and TA, Brenda Chilvers' help) fixed minor problems with 20 pupils' bikes to ensure they were roadworthy and can be ridden safely to school.

The crew was also involved in a national event, Big Pedal, encouraging pupils to bike or scoot to school over a two week period and many other activities.

The school's Fairtrade committee recently attended Peterborough's first ever Fairtrade after issues were raised during topic work on chocolate.

Pupils felt very strongly about the inequality suffered by farmer producers in many parts of the world.

The goal is to become a fully fledged Fairtrade school.

150th anniversary day

To mark the 150th anniversary of the founding of Notre Dame High School an open day will be held on 12 July 2014 from 11am - 3pm in the school grounds and all are warmly invited. The day is also the anniversary of the birth of the founder of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who founded the school, Saint Julie Billiart. There will be a photographic display for visitors and light refreshments and entertainment.

If you have photos or other memorabilia you would be willing to loan or donate for the celebration, please contact Neil Cully via post or e-mail ncully@ndhs.org.uk

The school is also publishing a history written by John Eady, entitled Notre Dame High School Norwich - a celebration of the first 150 years 1864 - 2014, available on the day.

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New sixth form building at St Albans

St Alban's in Ipswich is to have a new sixth form building for six classrooms and a study space with an outside social area. A public consultation was held in November where plans were put on display for comment.

The funding for the project was secured from the Demographic Growth Capital Fund and the Diocese of East

Anglia. Building work will start in the summer and will take about 10 months.

The project is expected to cost in the region of £900 000. There will be additional car parking as part of the scheme on the school site.

The need for the new build is in response to the growth of the school, particularly in the sixth form.



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese



Pupils gave up their favourite snacks to donate money to CAFOD's Dig Deep appeal.

Pupils give up treats for CAFOD

Schools around the East Anglia diocese have dug deep this Lent to help CAFOD feed some of the hungriest people in the world. Pupils and teachers took part by giving up favourite snacks, taking part in gardening projects and sponsoring non-uniform days to support CAFOD's Dig Deep campaign.

CAFOD's diocesan manager Stephen Matthews said: "Sierra Leone is one of the countries which will benefit from the funds raised. The West African country emerged from a decade of brutal civil war in 2002 and extreme poverty remains a major issue."

With CAFOD's support, families are transforming former diamond mines, which fuelled the conflict, into fertile land to grow crops all year round.

At Sacred Heart Primary in Peterborough every class was given £5 and set the task of raising as much money as possible through sales and events. They raised £600, with half going to CAFOD.

St Joseph's Primary in Sudbury quit sweets, crisps and other tasty treats and give the money they saved to CAFOD.

One day's journey through the Bible

Thirty people came to Sacred Heart Primary School in Bretton, Peterborough, in March to embark on a one day's journey through the Bible. Most were from the parish of Sacred Heart and St Oswald in Peterborough and the surrounding deanery parishes, but others came from Luton, Bourne in Lincolnshire and Norwich.

The day consisted of watching and discussing eight DVD which are part of an eight week study called A Quick Journey Through The Bible.

"But we condensed it into a day!" David Edwards, one of the organisers said. "It is one of a number of excellent studies in the "Great Adventure" series - the brainchild of Catholic bible teacher and evangelist Jeff Cavins.



Each class aimed to raise enough money from the idea to buy a special gift to improve the lives of people in developing countries, through CAFOD's World Gifts fundraising scheme.

At St Augustine's Primary in Costessey, Norfolk, on CAFOD Fast Day all the children participated in a special liturgy and year three pupils read out prayers and performed a short role play.

All the pupils dressed in their own clothes and brought in a donation, raising £206.

Gardening guru Christine Walkden visited Cambridge-based St Laurence's Catholic Primary to share her passion for plants with pupils - see page four.

At St Mary's School in Cambridge the religious studies teacher Carolyn Johnson said they had a lot of CAFOD focus in their Lenten activities. They discussed social justice issues and used many CAFOD resources.

African charity worker Patrick Jumiru also visited St Francis of Assisi Primary in Norwich to report on CAFOD's work in Sierra Leone and he helped them with a gardening project.

"He admits the technique is not unique to him but was used by the Early Church Fathers. He divides biblical history into 12 periods.

"Through just 14 narrative books of the Bible he takes you through 12 periods to tell the story.

"You become more familiar with the great people, places and events and gain a greater understanding of their significance as well as how they all relate to each other.

"You are also given an insight into how closely linked many events in the New Testament are to events in the Old.

"In June we will start the next course on the Gospel of Matthew."

Contact David Edwards at thegreatadventure@alfidog.co.uk

The Augustinian retreat house at Clare Priory is holding another iconography workshop from 26 May to 1 June. Open to artists and non-artists alike it will be led by Fr Richard Cannuli OSA, Professor of Fine Arts at Villanova University in Pennsylvania, seen at work right. He regards icon making as a spiritual exercise.

New colour boost for St Edmunds church

Work has been completed on the redecoration of historic church St Edmunds church in Bury St Edmunds after years of planning and fundraising.

Architect Charles Brown presented five different colour schemes and the Parish Council spent time choosing one which won the approval of the parish and the Diocesan Historic Churches Committee.

Parish priest Fr Philip Shryane said "We were able to celebrate our first Sunday Masses on Palm Sunday back in the church.

"It was closed during the work and we had to use a variety of venues for Mass.

"Sunday mornings we met in St Benedict's school hall, Sunday evenings in St Edmund's school hall and on Ash Wednesday we met at the United Reformed Church.

"We are very grateful for the hospitality of these communities. We managed Lent without a church, which was difficult and very different.

"We continued having Stations of the Cross, using some slides from the internet, displayed on a large TV screen in the Crypt.

"I think these difficulties made people more aware of their faith, it also made them speak to different people as they sat in different places in the different venues," Fr Philip said.

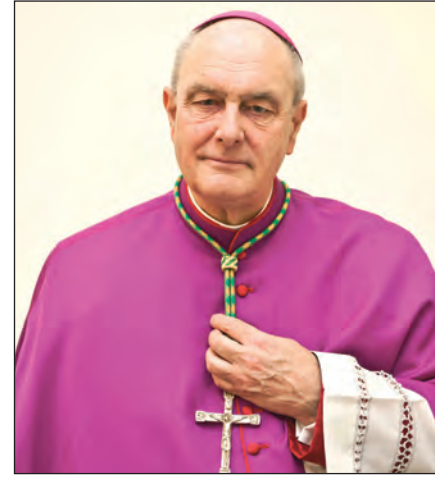
Other work included a new altar and lectern, complete rewiring and new lighting; PA system, carpet and the restoration of some stencil painting and lettering that had been over painted in the past.

The painting in the apse of the church was also cleaned and renewed. So it was a big scheme.

Bishop Alan was due to come to consecrate the church and the new altar on Monday 28 April.

Fr Philip has invited anyone who visits Bury St Edmunds to come to the newly decorated church to be pleasantly surprised by the changes.

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Bishop Alan Hopes

Bishop Alan's letter to the people of East Anglia

On Easter Day Christians celebrate the fact that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, having been put to death on a cross, was raised to new life. This unique event has significance not only for Christians but for the whole human race.

Jesus Christ's resurrection brings us JOY. It shows us that God has an immense and unending love for us all - good and bad alike. It shows us that no one is beyond his love and divine mercy, whatever mistakes we might have made in our lives. For each one of us is precious in God's sight.

Jesus Christ's resurrection brings us HOPE. It shows us that in the face of life's challenges, suffering and even death, we can remain confident that the Risen Jesus Christ is walking with us to encourage us and strengthen us on our journey.

Christians believe that after death we shall come to share in that same resurrection life of Jesus Christ in heaven - and that is a cause of real joy and hope.

This is the message we have been called to proclaim to the world. And we do it in so many different ways,

sometimes even using words (St Francis)!

As we serve God in our neighbour, in the poor, the hungry, the homeless and the neglected in the world and in our local communities, so we make it possible for others to experience the joy and hope that the Risen Christ brings into our world and our hearts.

A very happy and blessed Eastertide to you all.

+ Alan

Diocese comes together at Chrism Mass



Bishop Alan celebrating the Chrism Mass at St John the Baptist Cathedral
Below: the Deacons with the Holy Oils

Bishop Alan celebrated for the first time as a bishop, and as the bishop of East Anglia, the Chrism Mass in the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist, Norwich on Wednesday 16 April.

Joined by his brother priests, his deacons and many of the lay faithful from across the diocese, Bishop Alan blessed the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of Catechumens, and then consecrated the Oil of Chrism.

These three Holy Oils are used throughout the year as the Church's ministers continue the work started by Jesus Christ.

The Oil of the Sick is used as prescribed by St James in the New Testament: "Are any among you sick?"

They should call for the elders of the Church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord".

The Oil of Catechumens is used to anoint those, both children and adults, who are to be received into the Church through the Sacrament

of Baptism and is the oil of salvation which strengthens each Christian with the power of Christ our Saviour.

The Oil of Chrism is used for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation for Ordination as a priest and for the Consecration of Bishops remembering the words from the Rite of Baptism: "As Christ was anointed priest prophet and king, so may you live always as a member of his body, sharing everlasting life."

In his homily, Bishop Alan spoke to his diocese about the vocation to be a disciple of Christ which begins at the moment of our baptism and calls each of us to "live the life of heaven here on earth".

Quoting Pope Francis, he reminds us that "we are called to be God's leaven in the midst of humanity", which means that we are entrusted with the duty of "proclaiming and bringing God's salvation into our world which often goes astray and needs to be encouraged, given hope and

strengthened on the way".

Speaking to his deacons bishop Alan reminded them of the third of the three responsibilities which have been laid upon them, "to be a minister of loving service to others" and how they should be both an inspiration for and a leader of the people in this area.

Turning finally to his brothers, the ministerial priests, who are co-workers with him throughout the diocese, he reminded them of their unique vocation to share in the work of Jesus, the Great High Priest.

A work which draws them out from within the people of God and sets them apart for a special duty - to be an Alter Christus, an other Christ, and celebrate the Sacraments always in Persona Christi, in the Person of Christ.

They are not representing themselves but him "who died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves but for him who died and was raised for them" (2 Cor 5:15).



Some of the priests who attended



The Cathedral was packed for the Chrism Mass
Below: Bishop Alan blessing the Holy Oils



Bishop Alan delivers the Homily seated in the Chancel



The Deans, together with the Deacons, carrying out the Holy Oils at the end of Mass

Catechumens and Candidates begin journey to Easter reception at Rite of Election



Catechumens of all ages wrote their names in the Book of Life

People from parishes all over the Diocese of East Anglia came to the Cathedral on the first Sunday in Lent came for the Rite of Election as they began the last stage of their initiation into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

They had been helped to grow in their faith in the parish courses, leading to Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil.

Bishop Alan welcomed and greeted each of these Catechumens and candidates who were taking this important step in their lives.

In his homily, Bishop Alan told them that Jesus spent the forty days in the desert preparing for his work for our salvation which culminated in his death and resurrection.

This last part of their preparation for the sacraments at Easter was an opportunity to journey with Jesus to the Cross "for those who are called, the Cross is the power and wisdom of

God". "Today," said the bishop, "you are being elected or chosen. It is a celebration of your hope and trust in Jesus Christ to whom you turn for salvation."

They were being called to a deeper commitment to the Lord and to grow in holiness, the bishop continued, to become his witnesses and to hand on the faith they were discovering and rejoicing in to the next generation.

"This call to become like Jesus Christ in our lives is a big challenge and is a life-long journey. It will lead to the temptation to take the easy way and conform to the norms of society.

"The gift of the Holy Spirit will fill your life with his gifts and the divine food of the Eucharist will strengthen for your journey through life."

Assisting the bishop were Cathedral Dean Fr James Walsh and deacons Patrick Limacher and Andrew Eburne.



Bishop Alan speaks to each of the Catechumens and Candidates



Youth Matters



Advertisements

All roads lead to Rome conference

Hamish MacQueen, Director of Diocesan Youth Service shares some of his experiences at the recent CYMfed Conference in Rome and is pictured above with some of the people who took part.

One of the beautiful things about the Catholic Church is the richness of so many different spiritualities.

CYMfed – the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation consists of religious orders, organisations and movements which have a specific purpose to work with young people on a national level, along with every Diocese.

Since CYMfed was born five years ago, there has always been enthusiasm to work together to serve young people.

Holding this year's conference in Rome further strengthened this unity, reminding us we are all rooted in the Church.

We had fruitful meetings with the Pontifical Council for Culture, and the Pontifical Council for Laity exploring the New Evangelisation.

There were also discussions on the National Vision for Youth Ministry and planning Flame 2.

(Flame was a gathering of 10,000 young Catholics in 2012.

Flame 2 is a similar event planned for March 2015 – more information coming soon.)

There was also time for all important networking over a glass of wine or two!

More important diary dates to remember

For more details see www.catholic east anglia.org/youth
May 5

Pilgrimage Walk to Walsingham
 Joining with the Diocesan Pilgrimage. For young people of secondary school age upwards.

May 31 - June 1
Celebrate East Anglia
 Faith filled weekend for all ages.

July 26 - August 4
Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé

July 5 - 6
Ignite Youth Festival

Our main event of the year. For anyone of secondary school age to young adults.

August 4 - 9
New Dawn Conference
 National family conference in Walsingham.

August 18 - 25
Pilgrimage to Lourdes
 Joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage. For those aged 17+.

August 21 - 25
Youth 2000 Festival
 National prayer festival in Walsingham.

A group from the diocese will be going **August 25 - 28**

Diocesan Summer Camp at Eccles Hall
 Faith, food and fun in the heart of the Norfolk countryside. For those aged 8 - 14.

Contact details

The Diocesan Youth Office,
The White House, 21 Uppgate, Poringland, Norwich, Norfolk NR14 7SH Tel: (01508) 494833 Mobile: (0781) 2004934
 Email: dys@eastangliadiocese.org.uk
 Leave a message if no answer.

Thanks to everyone who sends in material most of which is printed. I want to thank also all those people who wrote and phoned to say how much they like the redesign. As with all these developments we are still making minor changes to improve the look so please bear with us,

I ask contributors again to send pictures as files and not included inside documents.

Please give documents a descriptive name rather than just labelled

diocesan article or news.

Send material to Patrick Byrne
 The Editor, Our Diocesan Family,
 The White House, 21 Uppgate,
 Poringland, Norfolk NR14 7SH.
 Tel: 01603 627409 and email:
patrick.byrne5@virginmedia.com
Deadlines: Our Diocesan Family is bi-monthly and printed early in the month.

Material must arrive by 28 June for the JULY 2014 issue.





Fr Luke aspires to be next Dr Who

Many young people around the diocese will know of Fr Luke Goymour, pictured right.

He was on the Diocesan Youth Council before training to be a priest and has been involved in diocesan youth work ever since, amongst other things, going to four World Youth Days and countless pilgrimages to Taize.

For his 30th birthday, knowing Fr Luke is a massive Dr Who fan, many of his friends and family clubbed together to buy him a surprise present..... a TARDIS!

It was delivered while he was saying Mass and when he came out of church, there it was, as if it had just landed after flying through time and space! The inscription on the plaque inside read

To our dear friend Fr Luke - Over the past 30 years you have touched all our lives.

On this day of celebration we give to you our love, prayers and a TARDIS.

Fr Luke was lost for words! But once he got over the shock, he said he was looking forward to sitting in it reading, and praying.

Time travel may be a bit more ambitious but you never know...



...but in this day and age time travel can be hard work as this picture clearly shows

Ready for Mission? Apply now to join team

Plans are underway for a full-time Diocesan Youth Mission Team to go into schools and parishes sharing the Gospel Message in a way young people can relate to.

“This is incredibly exciting and something I have been keen on developing for several years. With Pope Francis’ call to begin a ‘new chapter of joyful evangelisation’, now is the time!” said Hamish MacQueen, Director of Diocesan Youth Service.

“They will be trained to work with all ages from primary to secondary and beyond, leading retreats, mission days, assemblies, and working with youth groups, First Communion and Confirmation groups.

“There are real benefits to having a team, with each person bringing their own unique gifts and approach, offering a variety of ways to share the Gospel Message.”

Initially, the Mission Team Leader will be appointed by this September 2014 to work closely with Hamish to set the project up. Then in September 2015, the rest of the team will start.

“Being part of the team may particularly appeal to someone thinking of taking a gap year or two after school or university.” Hamish added.

If you would like more information on the Diocesan Youth Mission team and in particular if you are interested in applying for the post of Mission Team Leader, please see www.catholic east anglia.org/youth

Date change for ‘great’ Ignite

For all young people of secondary school age to young adult, this year’s Ignite, promises to be a great festival with amongst other things talks by Fiona Mansford, National Director of Youth 2000.

There will also be drama sketches and a workshop by professional Christian theatre company ‘Rise’; and music by Matt Dean and Band.

Bishop Alan will be offering a ‘Grill the Bishop’ question and answer session.

There will also be plenty of time for relaxing, playing football, eating and praying!

Do come along .

Please note change of date: Ignite is now 12 – 13 July

To book online, please go to

www.ignitefestival.org.uk

IGNITE
Catholic Youth Festival

‘Go and make disciples’ Matthew 28:19

- Talks from:
Bishop Alan Hopes
Fiona Mansford
(National Director of Youth 2000)
- Music from:
Matt Dean and Band
- Drama from:
Rise Theatre

... and much more, including football, relaxing, eating and praying.

For all young people of secondary school age to young adult
(Some activities in age appropriate streams)

12th – 13th July 2014

Organised by the Diocesan Youth Service of East Anglia.

For more information and bookings go to:
www.ignitefestival.co.uk

Live Mime
Talks
Music
Love
Hope Alive
Eucharist
Faith
Reconciliation
Inspiration
Prayer
Vocation
Sports



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese

St Patrick celebrated in Fens

About 75 people from the various towns and villages in the Fens assembled in the Rosmini Centre for a traditional Irish lunch and entertainment on 16 March this year.

On their arrival the guests were treated to a shot of Baileys Irish cream which put everybody in the mood for a great party.

This was followed servings of 'Dublin Coddle' or Gammon. The entertainment was provided by Manea based Irish entertainer Tom Kennedy.

Tom, very generously waived his fee for the afternoon and besides enthralling the audience with his voice led the assembly in a chorus of traditional Irish favourites.

He was aided by Sister Dorothy from March who gave a delightful rendering of 'Phil the Fluthers Ball'.

The event raised £824 to be split between the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland and the March Catholic Church Hall improvements.

A video showing the

tremendous work which Corrymeela undertakes was played.

Michael Green, from March parish, MC for the afternoon said: "I am thrilled with the way the afternoon went, that everybody had a great time and that such a sum was raised."

Maureen Harty, of Fridaybridge, said: "I am pleased the tradition of celebrating this day continues in the Fens and am delighted to welcome friends from March, Chatteris and the villages."



Altar servers from St Thomas of Canterbury church at Wymondham in Norfolk enjoying a night out in Norwich with Fr Michael Ryan.

Bury's Catenian circle inaugurated

A new Catenian Circle with the number 362 was inaugurated for Bury St Edmunds when Grand President, Bro John Rayner, recently presented a Charter to Bro Pat Gould, its new president.

Bishop Alan was present, alongside brothers representing 16 other circles throughout the diocese and those from neighbouring ones.

Guests of Honour included the Catenian Grand President, John Rayner; Grand Secretary, Mark Allanson; Province 2 President Gerry Elliott with Provincial Director, Bernard Noakes.

The parish priest of St Edmunds, Fr Philip Shryane, bishop's secretary Fr Padraig Hawkins, Fr Martin Fears, parish priest at St Henry Morse in Diss, and the Mayor of Bury St Edmunds, Stefan Olive also attended.

The Grand President was presented with a

commemorative goblet, and the president of the newly formed circle, Bro Pat received the New Circle Spoon from Bicester Circle, and a Lectern given by the West Norfolk Circle.

Dinner was concluded with Fr Philip Shryane giving a very warm address to the work of the Catenian Association and proceedings ended with a blessing from Bishop Alan.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF BECOMING A BEAVER, CUB, SCOUT OR LEADER? WE OFFER FUN IN ALL WE DO, INSIDE OR OUT, ACTIVITIES YOU HAVE NEVER DONE BEFORE. COME TO ST GEORGE'S, SPROWSTON ROAD, NORWICH. CONTACT GILLIAN 01603 401850 OR DIANE 01603 401415.

St Thomas of Canterbury church at Wymondham in Norfolk celebrated Pancake Sunday this year, see right. The delicacies made by church volunteers were spread with chocolate to give the parishioners a last taste of the delight before Lent when many of them would abstain.



BUILDING BRIDGES in Cambodia

A group from Sacred Heart parish in North Walsham discover how the church works

Katie Maidment of Support Cambodia at the Sacred Heart parish in North Walsham writes about the group's eighth visit.

It only seems like yesterday we returned from the annual visit to Cambodia. In fact, it is now four months since we were there and the temperature may have risen to 40C!

In that heat, water is essential and yet, many rural communities still have no regular water supply of any kind, clean or otherwise.

At Pailin on the Thai border, the Marist Brothers have an exciting new outreach programme which may improve this.

In Battambang, a different innovation: an ethically run garment factory making knitwear for the British market and providing employment for disabled workers.

Provision for the mentally disabled, often rejected by their families, is evident in Kompong Chhnang through the work of Italian Catholic NGO, New Humanity.

Their monthly 'Activity Fun Day' for all the disabled of the area is an amazing event, hosted by a local family, in a remote location miles down a rough track, but attended by over 80 disabled children and youth with their carers, parents and the local village! We were the first foreign group to be invited to join in: a great privilege.

The Church is showing the way in Svay Sisophon too. We had a particular interest here as it is our twin parish and for some of us, it was our eighth visit!

In an action-packed three days, we saw many examples of the Church at work, serving the poorest people, irrespective of background or faith.

Two stand out: first, the opening of a new church kindergarten in Deilo Village near Svay, working in co-operation with the local village chief **Support Cambodia** are funding equipment and two teachers here during 2014].

Secondly, we viewed the proposed site for the first Catholic School in Cambodia, to be built on a 17 hectare site in Svay Sisophon over the next 10 years by the Jesuit Service at a cost of \$8m. The first stage, the Kindergarten, is planned to be up and running by the end of 2014 – and it will be!

The main role of **Support Cambodia**, a charity based at Sacred Heart Parish in North Walsham, is to coordinate the practical response from those who wish to be part of the Church's vision for the future in North West Cambodia. **Further information on 01263 577784 or at www.sacredheartnorthwalsham.com**



Some of the Support Cambodia group are pictured above left.

Above is the church kindergarten that their work is helping to finance through paying for equipment.

Left, Fr David Bagstaff at one of the Activity Days that brings together many of the families facing mental health problems.



Disabled workers at the garment factory, below



Fr Heri dies in Indonesia

Some of you will remember Fr Heri from Cambodia, with the marvelous and infectious laugh, he visited our diocese two or three times, sadly he died of stomach cancer on 26 February 2014 in his home country of Indonesia.

May he rest in peace. This is part of a letter from Andrea Allemagna, who usually makes travel arrangements for those visiting Cambodia, remembering his final visit to Fr Heri.

I went to see Fr Heri and I could notice immediately that the situation was serious, he was suffering a lot and could not speak, I told him I was Andrea visiting on behalf of his friends in Cambodia.

I asked if he could remember me, he said 'yes' by moving his head up and down, he had some tears in his eyes as well. I also passed the greetings from everybody in East Anglia, he was however exhausted and after a while he showed that he wanted to try to sleep.

I decided to leave and greeted him with my thumb up, it was a sign for us that used to mean: "let's go on with Christ"... he answered back by raising his thumb up as well.. Let's go on with



Fr Heri who died recently

Jesus... was his silent reply.

Next morning I went to the hospital again, he was very frail, I spent a couple of hours next to him, gripping his hand, then I left and returned later the same day.

The Indonesian people who were visiting him as well told me that he would have very short time to live, he was hardly breathing, the nurses turned a machine on, and we could notice his blood pressure was getting

lower and his heart beat was very weak, we were all singing and praying around his bed waiting for the time of his death.

Suddenly it looked like his condition was a bit better, the blood pressure was up again and heart beat more regular, at this point most of the people went out from the room, I remained there together with four others, they were praying silently and looking down, I then realized that Fr Heri was not breathing anymore, we called nurses and doctors and few minutes later at about 19:40 he went forever with God among our prayers and songs.

Everybody said that Father was waiting for me, I think I did not do anything special at all, we all know how Father loved the people of Cambodia and I am convinced that my trip was a wonderful gift from God who wanted someone from Cambodia to be next to him during the last moments of his life.

Father Heri is very alive now, helping, interceding and praying for us. Let's pray for him as well and let's thank our Lord for all His marvelous work.

Andrea Allemagna

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

LIFE founder Gerry retires to Midlands

Gerry Kersey, a mainstay and founder member of LIFE East Anglia over 20 years and Norwich LIFE Group for many years more has retired.

A gathering of LIFE members from groups round the region at Ipswich, Norwich, Lowestoft and Wisbech, recalled fond memories with her at a farewell party recently, see picture.

Margaret Gregorios, chair of LIFE East Anglia, paid tribute to her service to the movement and wished her and husband

Bobby well in their future home at Kenilworth to be close to where her daughter lives.

Treasurer Chris Brooks said: "A letter of appreciation for her work for LIFE and for the Parish of Poringland expressing good wishes for a happy and well-earned retirement was received from former Bishop of East Anglia, Peter Smith.

"Gerry occasionally liaised on ethical and moral issues and all agreed Gerry would be greatly missed."



Franciscan sister to talk about evolution and Jesus

Secular Franciscans from across the diocese are welcoming the director of Catholic Studies at Georgetown University in Washington DC in the USA to Norwich as part of a lecture tour.

Professor Ilia Delio OSF is a Franciscan sister who will speak on the Emergent Christ at St Luke's Church,

Aylsham Rd, on 6 and 7 June.

Sr Ilia said: "Christ is not just Jesus of Nazareth risen from the dead, but rather (and also) a huge, continually evolving being as big as the Universe.

"In this colossal, almost unimaginable being, each of us lives and develops in consciousness."

Robert Hardie OFS, from the East Anglia Secular Franciscan Order said: "She is involved in research projects on evolution, ecology and education through exploring the theology of Fr Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ."

More information from Rev Nicholas Vesey on 01603 416973.



St George's celebrates exactly 50 years since church was built

St George's parish in Norwich took a break from Lent fasting to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its church with a cake made by Edna St John pictured left with Fr Sean Connolly.

Designed by architect Sebastian Comper and built at a cost of £76,500 (the original quote had been for £47,575), the new building was opened on 18 March 1968.

Fr Sean Connolly, priest in charge, said: "The work had taken two years, beset by delays right from the beginning, and ending with craftsmen still putting the finishing touches to

the inside of the church up to half an hour before the opening Mass. No such last minute organisation this year.

"The parish celebrated Mass to the exact minute the church was first opened and then enjoyed a party in the hall afterwards."

The parish plans to hold further celebrations to mark the half-century of St George's consecration in 2016, including the publication of a history of the parish written by Fred Corbett and including reminiscences and photographs provided by parishioners.



As a mark of the cordial relations built up between Fenland Catholics and the Muslim community Sean Finlay from the Diocesan Subcommittee for Inter Religious Understanding attended a groundbreaking ceremony at the Husaini Islamic Centre in Peterborough. The extension costing £2.5m will create the largest Shia mosque in Western Europe. It was established in 1978 largely by people fleeing the Idi Amin purge. Sean said: "The new facility will provide vastly improved facilities for the madrasa classrooms, including the most modern teaching facilities. The organizers were at great pains to state that their youth are their most important concern.

"What was also instructive was the warm welcome accorded to the visitors and how keen this community is to play its part in the betterment of the wider Peterborough area."

Diocesan youth officer Hamish MacQueen is also keen to create links between the Catholic and Muslim youngsters in Peterborough and the Fens.

Now on the website

Catholic East Anglia is now on the website and can be found at the address catholic eastanglia.org. File copies will remain there for 12 months and past issues will become available later on request from an archive.