

# NEWS FROM BISHOP MICHAEL

## A Summer of Celebrations

The summer in East Anglia is always full of different celebrations, but there are more than usual this year. Besides the various Confirmations, Diocesan Pilgrimages, Marriage & Family Life Celebration, Clergy Jubilees Mass, etc, we have also had the opening of the Cathedral Narthex, the Cathedral Centenary Celebration and Diaconal Ordinations, and we are looking forward to the Priestly Ordinations on 10th July. All of these should lift our hearts and spirits, and give us an even greater sense of being a single diocesan family.

## Cambodia to East Anglia

We are becoming accustomed to friends from our twin diocese in Battambang, Cambodia, visiting us, and it is wonderful to be able to welcome them. Bishop Kike was here for a few days in April.

If their visa applications go smoothly, we will have five more visitors coming this July: Fr Heri, the parish priest of Siem Reap (twinned with Bury St Edmunds) is coming with Ratana, Soklin and Thon, who were both here in 2006, and Pol Daly. They will be here for the priestly ordination of Michael Collis and Luke Goymour on 10th July, representing all our friends from Battambang; Michael and Luke spent time in Cambodia several years ago as a pastoral placement with a difference.



*Fr Heri being greeted with a flower in Cambodia – I am sure we can do even better*

## September Manoeuvres

As some of you have already heard in your parish or on the diocesan grapevine, there are quite a few changes and moves this September.

Buckden and St Neots will be merged, with Fr Jim Kennedy (Buckden) as parish priest.

Fr Pat Cleary is moving from St Neots to St Laurence's, Cambridge.

Fr David Paul moves from St Laurence's to St Mary's, Ipswich.

Mgr Peter Leeming moves from St Mary's to Our Lady and English Martyrs, Cambridge.

Mgr Tony Rogers will be completing his Masters Degree at Heythrop College during a one-year sabbatical, and will return to take up a new parish appointment in September 2011.

Hadleigh and Sudbury are being merged, with Fr Peter Brett (Sudbury) as parish priest.

Fr Michael Vulliamy will move from Hadleigh to Downham Market.

Fr Edmund Eggleston will move from Downham Market to

Woodbridge, which has been without a resident priest since their parish priest Fr Ivan Rudkin died.

Two Polish La Salette priests - Fr Edward Tredota and Fr Marek Pabis (both currently in Goodmayes, Ilford, Essex) – will move to St Ives, with Fr Edward as parish priest and Fr Marek as his assistant. We are planning ahead for just a few years time when St Ives parish will include a new town – Northstowe – which will eventually be much the same size as Huntingdon and Godmanchester combined. Fr Marek is staying at the Cathedral for a few weeks to begin to get used to our strange ways in East Anglia.



*Fr Marek (left) and Fr Edward, both looking forward to coming to St Ives & East Anglia*

Fr Paul Maddison will move from St Ives and spend three years working with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and others to encourage and enable pilgrimages to the Holy Land and support for Christians there. This is an important part of the 'outward' dimension of our diocese. In the midst of concerns about fewer priests to serve our diocese, it is all too easy to forget the greater needs of the Church.

And two parishes in the dioceses will be getting a newly-ordained Assistant Priest each!

All of this means that the autumn will be a time of transition for many of you. Change can be difficult, but I know you will be warmly welcoming to your new priests. I look forward to being with each of those parishes to induct the new parish priest there.

## LEARNING TOGETHER

**There is just one module for our diocesan adult religious formation programme. Everyone is warmly welcome.**

### Was the Reformation good for Catholicism?

3rd July 2010

at St Luke's Catholic Church, Benyon Grove, Orton Malborne, Peterborough PE2 5XS

Deacon John Morrill, Professor of British & Irish History at Cambridge University, asks whether the Reformation was ultimately good for the Catholic Church.

You can register for this module by e-mailing: [learning.together@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:learning.together@yahoo.co.uk) or by going to the 'Adult Education' pages on our diocesan website and registering on-line, or by writing to:

**Diocesan Learning Together Programme, Parish Office, 14 Exeter Road, Newmarket CB8 8LT**

All modules are on Saturdays, with registration and coffee at 10.30 and finishing at 3.00. Bring your own packed lunch – & perhaps a cushion!

## Second Collections

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July (Sea Sunday) APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

The Apostleship of the Sea is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It is both a mission and welfare outreach of the Church, providing help to all seafarers regardless of colour, creed or nationality. It works closely with its ecumenical partners. This mission is a very important but often forgotten work.

Those who work on the ships that bring to our country so many of the goods that we take for granted, are among the poorest people and are separated from their families for long periods. They deserve all the support, hospitality and care we can give them during their short stays in our ports between trips. Many seafarers are Catholics. Large numbers of Filipino seafarers work on ships coming to the United Kingdom.

### Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July DAY FOR LIFE

On this annual Day for Life, this special collection supports the Linacre Centre (the Catholic centre for bioethics) and certain pro-life charities. This year's focus is on the Christian meaning of death and the care of the dying.

## Giraffe sighted in Norwich!



Mgr Kike Figaredo, Apostolic Prefect of our twin diocese in Cambodia, managed to pay a brief visit to East Anglia in April, despite the clouds of volcanic ash from Iceland. Although he was here just for a few days, he celebrated Sunday Mass in Costessey (twinned with his own parish of Ta Hen) and visited St John's Infant School in Norwich and St Augustine's Primary School in Costessey.

At St John's School, he came across one of his favourite sights – a giraffe (a rather short-legged one!). There are no giraffes in Cambodia, but Mgr Kike sees them as symbols of the ability to look over and above all that immediately surrounds and concerns us, and to see our way to the future together. Perhaps we should have a giraffe as our diocesan mascot!

## The Pope is coming!

When the next edition of our newspaper arrives in September, we will be getting ready for the visit first to Scotland and then to England of Pope Benedict. I will focus on the Holy Father in that edition.

Meanwhile, have a good summer break. May God's blessing be with you.

+ Michael

# THE BISHOP TEACHES

## WE OFFER OUR LIVES TO GOD FOR HIS PEOPLE: ordination as priest

A wonderful celebration takes place at St John's Cathedral in Norwich on Saturday 10th July: East Anglia will have its first ordinations to the diocesan priesthood for nine years. After six long years of formation and training at Oscott College near Birmingham, Michael Collis (from Ipswich) and Luke Goymour (from Peterborough) are to be ordained priest.



Michael Collis and Luke Goymour - all smiles at the thought of being priests for East Anglia

### A Cathedral Celebration

Why are they being ordained in the Cathedral rather than their home parishes? The Catholic Church regards this as the norm. Priestly ordination is very much a celebration of the whole diocesan family. Luke and Michael will be welcomed into the 'presbyterate' of the diocese, that body of priests who work with the bishop to lead, shepherd and care for God's people. They will have their home parish celebrations the next day. Bishops are the 'high priests', sharing the fullness of the priesthood; priests (sometimes called 'presbyters', from which we get the word 'priest') share the bishop's ministry together.

### What happens at an ordination?

Hopefully some of you reading this will be coming to the ordination. But even if you cannot join us, a priestly ordination reminds us of the special ministry of the priest. Here is a brief summary of what happens at an ordination.

The Mass begins as usual, with Scripture readings specially chosen for the celebration. Luke and Michael have chosen a first reading from St Paul, reminding us that God chooses the weak, and the passage from St John's Gospel where Jesus asks Simon Peter: 'Do you love me?'. The Risen Lord is calling Luke and Michael, like St Peter, to 'Feed my lambs' and 'Look after my sheep'.

### The calling of those to be ordained

After the Gospel, those to be ordained are asked to come forward, and the bishop asks if they are worthy for service as priests. He then says: 'We rely on the help of the Lord God and our Saviour Jesus Christ, and we choose these men, our brothers, for priesthood in the presbyteral order.'

After the homily, the bishop will ask Luke and Michael to declare their intention to undertake the priestly ministry. He will ask them both:

*'Are you resolved, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to discharge without fail the office of priesthood in the*

*presbyteral order as a conscientious fellow worker with the bishops in caring for the Lord's flock?'*

*'Are you resolved to celebrate the mysteries of Christ faithfully and religiously as the Church has handed them down to us for the glory of God and the sanctification of God's people?'*

*'Are you resolved to exercise the ministry of the word worthily and wisely, preaching the Gospel and explaining the Catholic faith?'*

*'Are you resolved to consecrate your life to God for the salvation of his people, and to unite yourself more closely every day to Christ the High Priest, who offered himself for us to the Father as a perfect sacrifice?'*

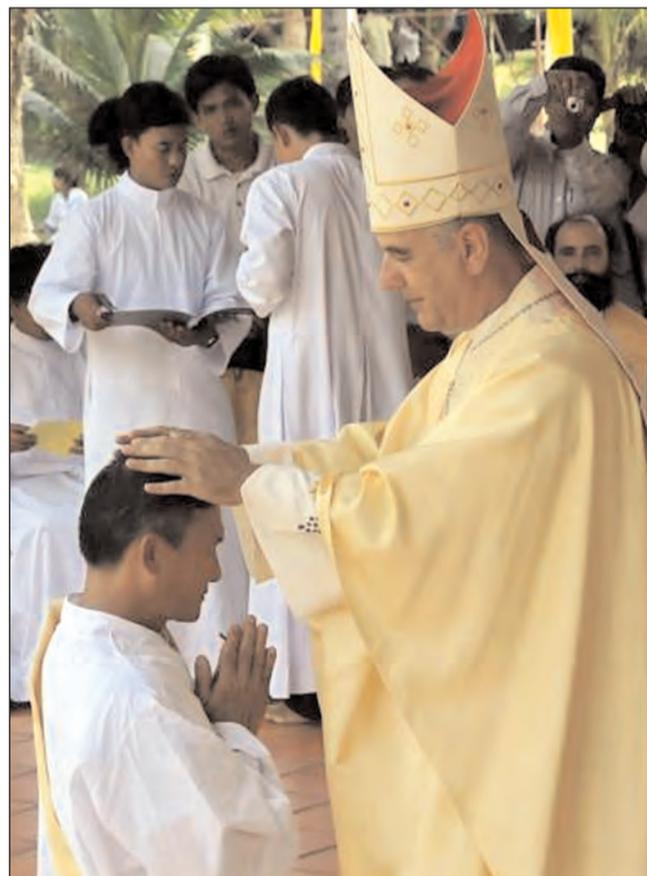
After each question, Luke and Michael answer 'I am', before coming forward to promise respect and obedience to the bishop and his successors.

### Prayer and consecration

Next comes the heart of the Rite of Ordination, which is soaked in prayer. While the congregation asks for the intercession of the saints, the great family of the Church through the ages, Luke and Michael prostrate themselves, placing their lives in God's hands for his service. This sums up the spirituality of the priest, as someone who offers his life to God in love for his people



Each comes forward to the bishop who lays his hands on his head in silence. This is the ancient gesture of ordination. All priests present then come forward and lay their hands on them.



Mgr Kike Figaredo lays hands on Fr Jub after his ordination by Bishop Emile in Cambodia

Luke and Michael will then kneel before the bishop as he says the solemn prayer of consecration over them. His laying-on of hands and this prayer of consecration together are the moment of ordination. Towards the end of the prayer, the bishop prays: 'May they be faithful in working with the order of bishops, so that the words of the Gospel may reach the ends of the earth, and the family of nations, made one in Christ, may become God's one, holy people'. Proclaiming the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ, and bringing people together in unity and holiness, lie at the heart of the ministry of every priest.

### Vesting, anointing and presentation

Luke and Michael will then be vested as priests. Their stoles will be re-arranged as worn by priests, and they will put on our diocesan chasubles, as a special sign of joining the diocesan body of priests.

Each comes forward to the bishop who anoints the palms of his hands with chrism, for the service of God and his people. The bishop says:

*The Father anointed our Lord Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. May Jesus preserve you to sanctify the Christian people, and to offer sacrifice to God.*



Members of Luke and Michael's families bring forward the offertory gifts. The bishop then hands to each of the new priests a paten with bread and a chalice with wine. As he does so, he says:

*Accept from the holy people of God the gifts to be offered to him. Know what you are doing, and imitate the mystery you celebrate: model your life on the mystery of the Lord's cross.*



The bishop, and then all the priests, give the newly ordained a sign of peace, and Mass continues as usual, with the new Father Luke and Father Michael concelebrating Mass with the bishop for the first time.

Please keep Luke and Michael in your prayers in these last few days before their ordination as priests for our diocese.

+ Michael

# DIOCESAN SCHOOLS IN FOCUS

## St John Fisher ends special measures

St John Fisher Catholic High School in Peterborough is celebrating after an Ofsted visit in March when it was judged that the school no longer required special measures.

A team of four inspectors visited the school unannounced for two days to monitor progress against previously set targets.

The team decided progress was sufficient for the visit to be turned in to a full inspection resulting in a

satisfactory judgement overall and the school was immediately removed from special measures.

This is a significant achievement as it came a term earlier than expected.

It was further boosted by 12 out of 30 judgements shown as "good".

Head teacher Sean Hayes said: "I am delighted with this outcome as are the staff and students.

"It reflects the progress that we have made in the last 18 months and

the inspectors were satisfied that this is likely to continue."

Bishop Michael immediately sent a message of congratulations to the school, as did the Chief Executive of the city council and Christine Gilbert, Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools.

The school has also gained Healthy Schools and Eco Schools status this year, is now full and has a growing sixth form.



Professor Colin Humphreys, a materials scientist, came to talk to year 9 students at St Mary's Independent School in Cambridge about his work and "its wonders". This was a workshop in a project for the Faraday Institute at the University of Cambridge and the University of Reading. The students watched as 'metal with memory' was demonstrated as a scientific miracle and they listened to Professor Humphreys talk about his understanding of miracle in the religious context, in particular the crossing of the Red Sea and the Resurrection. He then answered searching questions from the students about science and religion, such as, how can a scientist think that prayer can be answered if God began the laws of nature?

## Lunch supervisor leads pupils in dance success

Pupils at the Sacred Heart school in Peterborough have gained a highly commended accolade in a competition for their ballroom and Latin American dance.

Success has been attributed to coaching by Mrs McDermott, lunchtime supervisor, who was a Dance Champion for seven years.

She has trained 41 pupils between the ages of 4 and 15 to waltz, salsa, jive and rumba and entered them for the national dance examinations.

The examiner was very impressed and gave all 41 pupils the top grade.

Katie McDermott gained her silver award and some of the boys, new to dance, really entered into the spirit and showed the same stamina and



Pupils put on a rousing show for parents and staff after their examinations enthusiasm as their teacher.

On Friday 21 May all the pupils received their certificates from national assessor Olive Bailey and later treated parents and staff to a variety show to

demonstrate their skills.

Olive Bailey said there are future national champions amongst the school's dance troupe and that gives them more incentive to perform.

## Day retreats enjoyed at Clare Priory

St Louis Catholic Middle School Year 7 pupils have recently experienced day retreats for young people at Clare Priory.

The school has also received a good report from Ofsted and celebrated with a production of The Pied Piper.

"The unique atmosphere of England's oldest Augustinian priory at Clare has a very special ambience which the children quickly became aware of," Anne Mansfield, the head teacher, said.

"They were welcomed by one of the priests, who explained the origins of the present church, the Augustinian order and their habit which a few pupils were able to try on.

"Children then went to particular areas of the priory where they had time to produce reflective artwork, poetry, and prose inspired by their surroundings.

"They then took pride in mounting their work during their retreat for a display. The days ended with time to

relax followed by prayer."

Three days of retreat were experienced with two of the six classes going for a day. Anne was delighted to receive a telephone call from one of the community complimenting the children on their exemplary behaviour and attitude.

The school is grateful to the Prior and community for enabling children to have this unique opportunity to take time out to think, to pray and to reflect.



St Bede's Inter-church School, Cambridge, was delighted to welcome the jazz composer, saxophonist and teacher Jeffrey Wilson in February (picture above). Jeffrey is a teacher at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, but his experience of teaching over several decades has taken him all over the world, including Cambridge from time to time!

The school jazz band were raring to go, having looked forward to the workshop for many weeks along with their leader, Mike Rocca-Terry, their visiting guitar teacher.

## Raising money during Lent highlight of year

One of the annual highlights at St Laurence primary school in Cambridge is 'Lenten activity day' when funds are raised for charity.

Each class has to organise and run five stalls to raise money and children come up with several novel ideas.

Stalls vary from face painting and penalty shoot outs to treasure hunts, karaoke, sucking smarties up on a straw, picking up jelly tots with chop sticks and hunting a lucky penny.

Plenty of maths practice is involved before the

event with giving change and working out good deals like 1 go for 20p or 3 goes for 50p.

The children design posters and advertise their stall in assemblies leading up to the great day. They tempt every one to go on their stall with amazing prizes especially Easter eggs!

Also, during the last week of the spring term Hot Cross buns are sold at break. The buns are donated by local stores so that the children can sell them to raise money for charity.

These usually include CAFOD and various

children's charities.

Another highlight is the Year 6 Passion play. Every year the children aspire to the role of Jesus.

The children first visit the parish church to make the Stations of the Cross. They then put together a very moving mime accompanied by their own thoughtful personal prayers and readings for the whole school, friends and parents who watch and who are made to feel they too are accompanying Jesus on his journey.



Fundraising activities

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

# YOUTH MATTERS (Oh Yes We Do!)

## Colourful musical

A group from the Youth Council visited the London Palladium to see Sister Act, the Musical. The narrative follows Deloris Van Cartier, a Las Vegas lounge singer, who finds herself in a witness protection scheme in a convent.

After joining the choir, her style, and enthusiasm for singing manages to turn around the parish in more ways than anticipated. The lights dimmed on the auditorium, and the stage was ablaze with bright lights and vivid colour.

We were treated to the beautiful voices of the talented actors and actresses. The costume changes throughout the performance were seamless and the set was tremendously well built, and utilised to its full potential.

As the drama progressed so did our enjoyment, right up to the final act which was a glittering conclusion to a fantastic show.

By Heidi Barham

## Tradition of walk

It is now a tradition that each year a group of young people join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham by walking the last bit. This year, Sacred Heart School in Swaffham kindly hosted many of the group who camped over the night before.

Others joined in the morning making the total number walking around 40.

Although the mileage was increased to 15 (12 last year) everyone arrived in time for Mass!

As well as walking being a good way to do a pilgrimage, most of the group were sponsored to raise money for World Youth Day, CAFOD, Cambodia or the Holy Land.

One of the walkers, Ruth Waterson raised over £500 by herself. Altogether several thousand pounds was raised.



Walsingham walkers raised money for good causes



## Raft Building and Abseiling delight

**D**uring summer half-term the first 'Abseiling and Raft Building' event, suggested and planned by the Youth Council, was held at Eaton Vale Activity Centre.

The day was one of the hottest so far this year and the thought of possibly getting a little wet certainly did not put people off - in fact they could not have taken any more!

After a short briefing, everyone was led to the riverbank where there were four sets of logs, barrels and ropes and simple instructions.

They were told: "In four groups, you have 30 minutes to build your raft!"

Thankfully the instructors were not that strict on time and after about 45 minutes, there were various structures - some with a good chance of floating, some less so!

Climbing onto them and launching them further weakened even the best crafted vessels, shown in the pictures above.

Then it was time to set sail followed by various renditions of 'The Grand Old Duke of York' with the instruction to jump every time the word 'up' was mentioned and this caused rafts to rock substantially.

On the way back there was an inter-raft

water fight and a few people (but less than expected) ended up in the river amidst a mixture of laughter and screaming.

After a quick shower and a change of clothes it was time for the abseil down a specially constructed wall.

It was entertaining to watch some of the toughest tremble at the moment before jumping off, while others could have been in the SAS!

One of the participants summed up the day by saying 'it was just sheer fun, simple as that'.

Thanks to the instructors and staff at Eaton Vale who made the afternoon so enjoyable.



## OLEM questions Bishop Michael

Back in April, the youth group (for those in year 7 upwards) from Our Lady and English Martyrs Church in Cambridge headed to Ringsfield Hall in Suffolk for a weekend away.

There was not much time to take in all that Ringsfield has to offer, but everyone eagerly took advantage of the beautiful grounds and the delicious cakes.

The weekend began on Friday with evening prayer as a group, led by Fr Tony Rogers, but for most of the time, presentations and small group

discussions were the order of the day. The theme was 'Hope' - what is hope, and how our faith gives us hope.

One of the highlights was a trip to see Bishop Michael when the group were given the opportunity to ask any question they wanted which created great excitement both before and afterwards.

On Sunday morning, Mass was celebrated in Ringsfield's own chapel by Fr Mark Barrett, a monk from Worth Abbey.

It certainly was not all sitting down

or serious discussion.

On Saturday afternoon, Ciaran O'Kane led a team-games session, in which some of the leaders were at least as competitive as the members of their small groups. The weekend was about fun as well as faith - as Angela, a 7-Up member said: "Ringsfield was really fun and a great time to make new friends and reconnect with old ones."

"We were also able to get in touch with our faith without feeling out of place."

by Mary Boyle

OUR MAIN DIOCESAN EVENT OF 2010 FOR YOUNG PEOPLE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL AGE



## The BIG One 2010

Lunch • Team Games • Live Music

• Barbecue • Mass with Bishop Michael

AND IT'S ALL FREE!

Held at St. Benedict's School, Bury St. Edmunds  
Sunday July 11th, 12:30pm - 6pm

(or stay later to watch the World Cup Final on big screen)

Just turn up on the day and join a team  
or bring a team from  
your parish, deanery or school!

Unless you are over 18, you MUST have a completed parental consent form with you. This can be downloaded from [www.catholiceastanglia.org/youth](http://www.catholiceastanglia.org/youth)

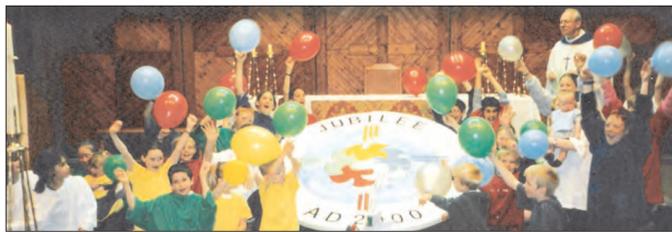




Organisers ensure every year there is a theme to interest and entertain all



Many clergy attend every year and Fr David Jennings, below, at the millennium



Religious themes at all the celebrations are expressed in words youngsters can relate to easily and reflect much of their learning at school



Good News, above, at the beach, top right, and 25th celebration, right



### Children celebrate Silver Jubilee of diocesan Walsingham annual pilgrimages

# Happy 25th birthday at shrine

**T**his year's annual Children's Pilgrimage celebrated a Silver Jubilee of "faith, food and fun" and for once the weather was kind.

Those themes express just what the past 25 years of the Children's Pilgrimages have been all about. Welcoming everyone to Walsingham, Bishop Michael predicted rain within 10 minutes!

But it actually remained dry for the duration of the walk to the shrine, if not all day. The Bishop led the pilgrims on their walk, pausing for prayer at various points along the path on the old railway track.

The themes of the day were The Visitation, 'Offering our lives to God' and the event reaching a milestone 25 years, writes one of the organisers Chris Storman.

Bishop Michael included all three in his homily, but paid particular attention to the offering of ourselves, focusing on our hands and their caring of and service to

others, mentioning Our Lady and St Elizabeth's example.

This led into the Offertory activity by the children who on arrival had each been given a card with hands on.

They were invited to write their names in the palms. All were brought to the altar symbolically offering themselves to God.

Children from Thetford also brought forward a collage depicting 25 years of the pilgrimage.

The Pilgrimage Mass was, as usual, a joyful celebration with Bishop Michael presiding.

Fr Tony McSweeney, who organised the music, said: "The liturgy is planned very much with the children in mind, so that they are able to take a full and active part...and this they do, and how!"

"Although the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary was the day before, it was thought appropriate to focus on that feast as the diocesan theme for the year was 'I give my life to God' and it was also Year of the Priest'.

"As well as many old favourites such as 'Holy Virgin by God's decree' and 'Gifts of Bread and Wine', we learned 'Sing of the Lord's Goodness' and for some the 'Lord hears the cry of the poor'.

"Children from St Augustine's school in Costessey, led by Rosemary Walters, sang after Communion and musicians and singers from St George's parish in Norwich, led the music.

"A great way to celebrate our Silver Jubilee."

Bishop Michael thanked all involved in the celebration, including Fr David Jennings and Julie O'Connor for the special displays and activities as well as Fr Tony and those who organised the parish groups.

He concluded that, despite the weather recently, people still came and enjoyed the day, so it would continue.

Fr Pat Cleary and Chris Storman received anniversary gifts, both having been instrumental in the inception of the event in Thetford.

Quite a number visited the beach at Wells, despite the

drizzle.

Fr David Jennings said: "Let's take the children to Walsingham - you'd expect that within any Catholic family's conversation.

"That is what one parishioner at St Mary's in Thetford 25 years ago asked parish priest Fr Pat Cleary and he acted on the suggestion.

"Well, thus was born the beginnings of the Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage.

"Each Pilgrimage has had its own theme ranging from in recent years Jubilee (2000), Celebrating and rejoicing (2001 and 25th anniversary of Diocese), Believe the Good News (2007), Mission (2008), May they be one - gathering of the peoples (2009) and to this year's theme Offering my life to God.

"Food always follows the Mass - but always as a way of sharing - moving from the table of the Eucharist to the table of fellowship.

"This sharing is most notable when the clergy usually

having forgotten to bring their own are at the centre of others food sharing (it was ever thus!).

"After a visit to the shrine to light a candle and say a prayer then to the shop, the buses would head off to Wells-next-the-sea for games on the beach. The day always ends with an ice cream!

"Why has this pilgrimage retained such an important part in the life of the diocese?

"It's a child-focused, uncomplicated way of bringing so many people together - children and families, priests and their bishop, stranger and friend - it seems to have evolved so naturally as a way of being family - consistent with the spirit of the Holy House of Nazareth and personified in Walsingham.

"Thanks to 'Chrissy' Storman and Fr Pat Cleary for taking up and running with the initial idea 25 years ago and for those who continue the work, among them Fr Tony McSweeney and Julie O'Connor.

"I count myself fortunate to be included among them."

## Altar servers take pride of place at diocesan pilgrimage



Pilgrims set out from the village



Fr Peter Rollings leads the Angelus

Despite the wintry weather, a good number came to the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on 3 May.

They gathered in the village to see the crowning of Our Lady's statue before it was carried in procession to the Chapel of Reconciliation.

Those who walked the Holy Mile included altar servers from various parishes and at the end of their journey, Bishop Michael enrolled some of them into the Guild of St Stephen.

Several others received long-service medals. Then all the servers renewed their commitment

to their ministry.

During the walk pilgrims prayed the Rosary's Mystery of Light focusing on the Baptism of the Jesus, the Wedding at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist.

Each decade began with a reading and was completed with an appropriate hymn.

After a break for packed lunches when the pilgrims arrived at the shrine, Mass was celebrated.

As it was the Feast of the Apostles Philip and

James, Bishop Michael focused on our calling together to continue the Apostles' work of bringing the Good News to everyone.

In this 'Year of the Priest', he reminded all priests: 'the greatest joy of your priestly service is to bring the Good News of God's love in Jesus Christ to the people entrusted to your care.'

Bishop Michael was assisted by deacons Michael Collis and Luke Goymour, who will be ordained priests at the Cathedral on 10 July.

He commended all priests to the prayers of Mary, Mother and Queen of Priests.'



Bishop Michael with Our Lady's statue



Altar servers lead the procession along the Holy Mile to the Chapel of Reconciliation



The young people who walked to the shrine arrive, left, the people prepare for the pilgrim procession, right, and the altar servers who were enrolled in the Guild of St Stephen or received long service awards from Bishop Michael, below





# CATHEDRAL FOCUS

NEWS FROM OUR MOTHER CHURCH

## Duke officially opens Narthex

**The 18th Duke of Norfolk came to St John's Cathedral to mark the official opening of the new Narthex six years after the campaign to build it was launched.**

He was the guest of honour at a Service of Thanksgiving presided over by Bishop Michael at the cathedral which is also celebrating its centenary this year.

The Duke toasted the success of the fundraising and said: "The cathedral is now 100 years old and there is a new part of it which really helps mix the modern with the traditional.

"The Narthex is a great project and the building can be used by a wide range of people.

Everyone has been incredibly supportive and it is a great welcome to the cathedral and to Norfolk."

Cathedral dean Fr James Walsh said the parish would now be looking to the next 100 years with a "sense of hope" and that the "best is yet to come".

Clare Goddard, Narthex development manager, said: "This is a landmark occasion. The Narthex acknowledges the past, the present and the future and celebrates it.

"This is a versatile facility which welcomes anyone, regardless of their religion."

Ann Mason from the Heritage Lottery Fund which provided a large grant said she was delighted and the money had been well spent.

St John's is sometimes said to be the second largest Catholic cathedral in the country.

Among the civic guests, leaders of other denominations in Norfolk, parishioners, friends and guests were the Lord Mayor and Sheriff of Norwich.

Bishop Michael said the Narthex was a real asset to the parish and the diocese of East Anglia.

He paid tribute to the many people who contributed money, time and energy to create the Narthex as well as to the expertise of the architects and contractors who turned it into a reality.

He hoped many people, both residents and visitors, would take time to come and visit.



*The Sheriff of Norwich and the Lord Mayor with their partners, left, and above Bishop Michael blesses the Narthex entrance from the cathedral at the Service of Thanksgiving. The Duke of Norfolk (left) and Bishop Graham of Norwich and other Anglican leaders (below)*



*Sunday 9 May the cathedral welcomed the choir of Lillehammer Church, Norway and they sang a joint Mass and then had lunch in the Narthex. There were many favourable comments about the singing (and eating!) and we hope to be able to collaborate with other choirs in the future. The Norwegians sang a lunchtime concert in Ely Cathedral and Evensong at Norwich Cathedral as well, before heading home. The two choirs are pictured above in harmony.*

### News in brief



*To mark the centenary of the building of St Joseph's church in Sheringham, Norfolk, the parish has published a devotional book.*

*The Sheringham Stations of the Cross contains meditations composed by parish priest Fr Denys Lloyd.*

*It also contains additional archive material which supplements the history of the parish published in 2008 when the community celebrated the centenary of its founding.*

*The books costing £3.50 are available from Fr Denys Lloyd, St Joseph's Presbytery, Sheringham, Norfolk NR6 8RT.*

### Thanks for all the news

Thanks to everyone who sends in material most of which is used and I hope you will continue to keep us supplied but please send pictures as jpgs at 72 ppi and no bigger than 1MB.

You can also send a photograph in the post but please do not embed pictures in Word or other documents as quality is impaired when extracted.

Please send material to  
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**Deadlines: Our**

**Diocesan Family is a bi-monthly newspaper and is printed early in the month before publication. Material for must arrive by 23 July for the SEPTEMBER issue. Patrick Byrne - Editor**



# BUILDING BRIDGES in the Holy Land

**Five gospels record the life of Jesus, four you will find in books and one you will find in the land they call 'holy'. Read the fifth and the world of the four will open to you. So what is it like to go on pilgrimage? Here are the comments of three individuals; maybe they will inspire you to consider making such a journey.**

'You said it would take a couple of weeks to let the dust settle on the Palestinian experience, and you were right. When I tell people what we saw they have very mixed reactions – many don't really believe me or accept it as my experience, or make excuses.

Meanwhile there's so much to miss - hummus, falafel and salads, chicken and rice, good company and laughter, Palestinian accents and the influence wielded by simply knowing Fr Paul! I appreciate sharing what has been one of the key experiences of my life with you.'

*(Sue – Head of RE Catholic Secondary school in the East of England)*



*Some of the bagpipes our diocese paid for in 2009*

'It seemed almost like a miracle to be gathered into your expedition to Palestine this year. I gained more from the experience than I could have ever imagined.

It was an incredible 12 days, still terribly vivid to me; we were so lucky to see the city of Jerusalem through the eyes of our guide, Bishara. He provided so much knowledge, and his love, respect and sense of belonging in his city, his admiration of its beauty and heritage, seemed quite tangible.

Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to experience the marvellous culture and gain a little insight and knowledge into the situation which I hope in the future to make stronger. It is a place I would otherwise really have had absolutely no idea about.'

*(Beth – 18 year old student from Hertfordshire)*



*A warm welcome awaits*

'To my friends and work colleagues, the idea of taking our five children, aged 8 to 16, to Palestine was at best bizarre and at worst downright irresponsible. While my wife and I could understand this viewpoint it was clear that it was based largely on the portrayal of Palestine in the British media.

Conversations with people returning recently from the Holy Land, however, provided a different description of a hospitable people with a long history of welcome.

As might be expected from a piece like this, our experience was entirely positive. We were welcomed as a family wherever we went, and the children experienced a range of treats from camel rides, to swimming pools and ice creams, to riding the village donkey.

Buffet food in the hotels ensured that eating was no problem and air-con in the minibus kept everyone cool during the various journeys. The only real complaint was the number of churches we visited; by contrast the days spent with a school, a parish and an orphanage were considered by all to be the best of the trip.



*Prayer together in Bethlehem*

One of the benefits of the strong military presence is that you feel very safe – assuming you trust the uniformed youngsters at the checkpoints – and quickly realise that this is not the lawless environment that you might associate with the Lebanon of Terry Waite.

Strangely the children seemed not to notice the obvious signs of the occupation, and were more shocked by the litter at the checkpoints than the barbed wire and guns. They return engaged but not traumatised or radicalised, and with knowledge that not everyone lives as we do in the UK.



*Together at the wall*

One week in the Holy Land is clearly not enough to fully understand the political situation; however it is enough to realise that the coverage we see in the media does not adequately describe the ordinary lives of families like ours.

This was illustrated by a conversation between my 16 year old daughter and a girl of the same age at school in Bethlehem. "Are you frightened living here under occupation?" "Not at all; I have my family and there is no crime in our community. It must be so much worse in the UK where we hear that all the children carry knives".

*(Graham – parent from Suffolk)*

For help and advice in organising your pilgrimage, contact Fr Paul Maddison on 0800 6123423 or by email at: [pm@palestinepilgrimage.org.uk](mailto:pm@palestinepilgrimage.org.uk)

## CAN YOU HELP?

Our diocesan 'Building Bridges' projects are this year supporting children's projects in Kompong Chhnang, Cambodia, and to provide a catechism room at Al-Wahadneh in Jordan.

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 .....

HOLY LAND.....

### 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 tax or capital gains tax equal to any tax claimed.

Signed.....

Date.....

### Please send to:

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

## ...and in Cambodia



Our new diocesan project for Cambodia is to support the work of the Catholic community in Kompong Chhnang.

Fr Franco, the parish priest, has restored a school building to serve 140 children; this will include a kindergarten. There is also special work to be done for children with mental health difficulties, so often abandoned and ignored by others.

Fr Franco wants to develop a centre for the disabled. As he put it, 'there we can live the love we celebrate.' Caring for the disabled in Cambodia is a challenge to the local culture. There will be more details in September.

# Cambodian visit by Ely

**S**t Etheldreda's Parish visited Cambodia in February 2010 and found itself linked with the watery counterpart of Prek Toal on the edges of the massive Tonle Sap lake.

Although parishioners in Ely no longer have to attend church by boat, they found, on their recent visit, their fellow Catholics have to as both their homes and the church are afloat.

Fr Tony Shryane and two parishioners from Ely had previously visited with parishioners from Bury St Edmunds and North Walsham.

But in early 2010, a total of 16 from St Etheldreda's found themselves in Cambodia.

For those who had experienced Cambodia before, part of the pleasure of the visit was seeing the reaction of sheer joy in the faces of their friends and family as they shared the sights and sounds and friendships in the various places visited in Cambodia.

Fr Tony's opposite number in Cambodia is the enthusiastic Father Heri, who delightedly welcomed the party at Phnom Penh airport and appeared at frequent intervals to enliven the visit.

The purpose of the visits by parishes from East Anglia is to reinforce in person the link between the parishes, as well as to visit other locations where the Church is at work.



*The parish group from Ely who travelled to visit Cambodia*

There was also some time for sight-seeing a, Fr Heri's responsibility for the area around Siem Reap includes the awesome Angkor Wat.

The group met Bishop Kike, Bishop Michael's opposite number, in Battambang, at the diocesan centre.

He also showed us his Khmer dancing skill, joining the young dancers at Ta Hen, a magnificent church and centre in the countryside.

The group also spent an evening singing with the young disabled people at the Arrupe centre and had a chance to meet some of the catechists, priests and sisters working throughout Cambodia as they were attending a conference.

They visited some schools and learning centres at Kbal Spien, Cham Nom, New and Old Pheasang.

Kindergarten aged children poured out of the school rooms at Cham Nom to greet them and matched a rendition of 'Old MacDonald' with their far more tuneful Khmer version.

At Kbal Spien they were asked to teach the whole school for the morning, and had great fun singing a variety of action songs.

They were very impressed with the standard of education taught at the Buddhist college where everyone is welcome. The Catholics and Buddhists work well together throughout Cambodia.

The group felt very much like honoured guests and old friends, and left with the firm view that they would return. In the meantime they will consider how best to continue to help.



*Michael Howlings, a parishioner at St George's in Norwich, was recently presented with a gold medal and certificate to mark his loyal support for the St Vincent de Paul Society which he joined in 1958.*

*Parish priest Fr Tony McSweeney made the presentation and is pictured here with Michael.*

*Michael has made hundreds of visits over the years to people in need in the parish to offer a helping hand, to chat and offer comfort.*

*He has also taken part in events and drives to raise much needed funds for the group at St George's parish.*

*He took over the mantle of treasurer and president for many years and both he and his wife Mary are still much involved in the work.*



*The Easter Garden created by the talented team of church gardeners in the Parish of Sacred Heart and St Oswald, Peterborough.*

## Support for Zambia students



*St John's Cycling Group, students from the University of East Anglia, friends, teaching staff and others went on a sponsored bicycle tour to the Walsingham Shrine recently to raise money for the Notre Dame Zambia Project. They were led by Fr Peter Marsh from the cathedral and this picture was taken at Whitwell on the 100 kilometres (60 miles) ride.*

*Students from Notre Dame High School will spend two weeks giving extra tuition in Maths and English to children in a parish in Lusaka.*



*Children of All Souls parish in Peterborough with Sister Cinzia (Working Sisters of the Holy House of Nazareth) to mark the occasion of her departure to Italy to take her final vows. The children sang a song wishing Sister the joy of her vocation. Sister will return to Peterborough to continue her work as Chaplain at St John Fisher High School.*

*All Souls parish also recently welcomed the relics of St Arcangelo Tadini, founder of the Working Sisters of the Holy House of Nazareth, on the first anniversary of the canonization last April by Pope Benedict. The relics were accompanied by 12 sisters from Italy.*

## Clare craft fair filling up

More than 130 artists and craftsmen and women have already booked their stalls for the Clare Priory Craft Fair on 10 and 11 July, with more in the pipeline.

Volunteers organising the annual fund-raising event are hoping for similar crowds to last year, when about 10,000 visitors arrived.

On 12 August, 350 young people attending an international youth gathering in the UK will descend on Clare Priory. The 16 to 30-olds, from Augustinian schools and parishes on five continents, will be meeting from 9 to 15 August at the Westminster Diocesan Youth Centre near St Albans.

## BISHOP'S ENGAGEMENTS IN JULY AND AUGUST

JULY		AUGUST	
1 <sup>st</sup>	Diocesan Finance Board at Poringland	8 <sup>th</sup>	Council of Priests at Poringland
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Notre Dame Pyramid Schools Pilgrimage to Walsingham	10 <sup>th</sup>	Ordinations to Priesthood at John's Cathedral at noon
	Confirmations at Bury St Edmunds at 7.30pm	11 <sup>th</sup>	'The Big One' youth event at St Benedict's School
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Diocesan Celebration of Marriage & Family Life at Cathedral at 11.00	12 <sup>th</sup>	Blessing of Chapel at Hilborough
	Confirmations at St Luke's, Peterborough at 6.00		Commission for Evangelisation (Newmarket) at 7.30
4 <sup>th</sup>	SVP Pilgrimage of the Sick to Walsingham	13/14 <sup>th</sup>	Bishops' Conference Standing Committee in London
6 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmations at St Ives at 7.30	15 <sup>th</sup>	Clergy Jubilees Mass at Walsingham at noon
		16 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmations at St Mary's, Ipswich at 7.30
		18 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmations at St Peter & All Souls, Peterborough at 10.30
		21 <sup>st</sup>	Cambridgeshire Church Leaders meeting
		24 <sup>th</sup> July – 1 <sup>st</sup> August:	Diocesan Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taize
			<b>AUGUST</b>
		7 <sup>th</sup>	Wedding in Tunbridge Wells
		14 <sup>th</sup>	90 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass at Holy Family, Brantham at 6.00
		15 <sup>th</sup>	Mass at Walsingham noon
		20– 27 <sup>th</sup>	Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes