November 2026

EA 50

Catholic East Anglia

FREE

Newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia

www.rcdea.org.uk



Deacons gather for Mass celebrating lives of service – page 3



Annual Newsletter from the Diocesan Youth Service – pages 5-8



Fr Peter: Paris gathers for Papal Mass – page 9



Bishop Peter Collins with the banner representatives from schools across the Diocese.

Jubilant Annual Schools' Mass fills Cathedral with song

More than 600 pupils from schools across the Diocese of East Anglia gathered at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist for the Annual Schools' Mass.

■ This year's celebration, held on Friday 25 September, was a joyful and prayerful occasion, bringing together pupils, staff and clergy from across the diocese in thanksgiving for the gift of Catholic education.

Many of the children arrived early and enjoyed lunch outdoors in the cathedral gardens, creating a lively and welcoming atmosphere before the Mass began.

The celebration was led by Bishop Peter Collins and offered a powerful expression of the shared faith and unity of the diocesan schools community. The cathedral was filled with joy and reverence as more than 600 young people joined together in prayer and worship.

A choir of pupils provided the musical accompaniment throughout the Mass, helping to make the celebration especially memorable and reflecting the many gifts and talents nurtured within Catholic schools.

The Annual Schools' Mass is a highlight of the diocesan year and a visible sign of the unity of Catholic school communities across East Anglia. It provides an opportunity to give thanks for the dedication of teachers, leaders, chaplains, governors and support staff, whose commitment ensures that faith and learning continue to flourish side by side.

Throughout the diocese, Catholic schools play a vital role in helping young people encounter Christ in their daily lives. Rooted in Gospel values, they nurture faith, encourage service to others and inspire pupils to grow into compassionate, responsible and faith-filled individuals.

As the diocesan family gathered at the cathedral, there was a strong sense of gratitude for the many blessings of Catholic education. The celebration renewed the shared commitment of schools across the diocese to place Christ at the heart of all they do and to help every young person live out their faith with joy, confidence and hope.

Scholars explore Cathedral conservation

■ **The Cathedral of St John the Baptist was recently delighted to play host to this year's scholarship students from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB).**

The four scholars spent several days in the company of Cathedral Architect Nicholas Warns, learning about the Grade I-listed Cathedral and the challenges of looking after a nationally significant place of worship. All of the SPAB scholars are early-career heritage professionals who are spending nine months travelling the country and visiting some of the most important historic buildings in the UK.

Charley Purves, General Manager at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, said: "It was a delight to host the SPAB Scholars and welcome them to the Cathedral. They attended a morning Mass and witnessed the use of the different spaces around the campus. This informed them of the way the different parts of the Cathedral and Narthex are used, as well as insight into the constraints faced."

The SPAB Scholarship is a postgraduate training programme for those with ambitions to shape the repairs and interventions to historic buildings, set specifications and oversee their implementation.

It focuses on the importance of properly understanding and appreciating old buildings before beginning work on them. The SPAB scholars travel the country to meet leading conservation professionals. They visit architects, surveyors, engineers, conservators, analysts and craftspeople at building sites, offices, workshops, yards, quarries and foundries to see repair work and gain hands-on experience where possible.

During their visit to the Cathedral of St John the Baptist, the SPAB scholars took the opportunity to study every area of the building, from plumbing the depths of the Victorian boiler room to climbing the landmark tower to view the gargoyles.

The scholars also visited the Anglican Cathedral, where they could compare and contrast the different approaches taken towards the care of these beautiful buildings.

"It really is a great learning opportunity for any young professional", stated Matthew Champion, the RCDEA Diocesan Heritage Officer, "and a chance to really get an in-depth understanding of how the Cathedral was built, and the lengths that we have to go to to ensure that the Cathedral remains the iconic local landmark, and centre-piece for Christian worship in East Anglia."

Churches welcome hundreds for Heritage Open Days

■ **Three listed Catholic churches in the Waveney Valley Parish opened their doors for Heritage Open Days, welcoming hundreds of visitors and offering an insight into their history and place within the local community.**

For the first time, all three of the parish's listed churches took part in the annual celebration. St Edmund's in Bungay welcomed 219 visitors across two days, while Our Lady of Perpetual Succour in Gillingham, which is usually locked outside Mass times, received 80 visitors. St Benet's in Beccles opened for the third year, attracting 73 visitors as well as around 60 children from St Benet's Primary School.

Each church offered a different experience. At St Edmund's, visitors could follow a self-guided tour of the church and grounds and explore a display of historic items and old photographs. Our Lady of Perpetual Succour featured information panels, with a guide available to share further details about the church.

Reflecting the Heritage Open Days theme, Lives of Ordinary People, St Benet's displayed wedding dresses and photographs from the weddings of past and present parishioners, accompanied by floral arrangements. Visitors could also view an updated exhibition of plans, drawings and photographs of the church and attend a talk about the history of the site and its architect.

Volunteers found the experience rewarding and enjoyed speaking with visitors, including several former parishioners. Among the most frequent reactions were "Wow!" and "I never knew this was here!", with many visitors saying that they had often passed the churches without previously stepping inside.

The parish described the event as an excellent opportunity to proclaim the Catholic presence within its communities. Following this year's success, all three churches are likely to open again for Heritage Open Days next year.

Catholic East Anglia

Newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia



EDITOR:
Charlie Bohan-Hurst

communications@rcdea.org.uk

Articles and photographs for the next edition are very welcome and should be sent to the editor, ideally via email, by Friday 13 November.

Diocese website: www.rcdea.org.uk

Advertising: Contact Nick at Cathcom on tel 01440 730399 or email him at ads@cathcom.org

Publisher: Cathcom Ltd, 0207 112 6710
Inclusion of adverts is the responsibility of Cathcom and does not imply endorsement by the Diocese of East Anglia.

Eucharistic Congress marks a week of grace

Ipswich has just concluded a remarkable moment of faith and renewal as the town hosted its first Eucharistic Congress, ECI26, from 6–13 September 2026.

■ Timed to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Diocese of East Anglia, the week-long celebration drew together clergy, parishes, schools, religious communities and families from across the Ipswich Deanery. Centred on the Eucharist and inspired by the theme Mary, Woman of the Eucharist, the Congress was an act of thanksgiving for fifty years of diocesan life.

The Congress was led collaboratively by Fr Luke Goymour, Dean of the Ipswich Deanery and parish priest of St Mark's and St Mary Magdalen's; Fr Joseph Welch of St Pancras; and Fr Jude Belnas of St Mary's, supported by a dedicated committee of laypeople. Their shared aim was to place the Eucharist at the heart of the Jubilee and to invite the Catholic community of Ipswich to rediscover the Real Presence of Christ with renewed devotion.

Pilgrimage and School Engagement

The week opened on Sunday with an ecumenical pilgrimage walk through the town, following the historic route laid out by Cardinal Wolsey to the ancient shrine of Our Lady of Grace of Ipswich. This gentle beginning set the tone for the days ahead: a community walking together, honouring its heritage and seeking fresh grace for the future.

From Monday to Wednesday, the focus turned to the town's Catholic schools. The Ignite Youth Mission Team worked across the Ipswich Catholic Trust schools – St Pancras, St Mark's, St Mary's and St Alban's – helping pupils explore the Congress theme through prayer, catechesis and creative activities. Their presence ensured that the Jubilee was embraced by the next generation.

Early-Week Devotions

On Monday evening, St Pancras hosted a beautiful Holy Hour led by Fr Joseph Welch, with adoration, devotions and a thoughtful meditation on Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament. Drawing from Old Testament prefigurations, Fr Joseph brilliantly reflected on Mary's unique relationship with the Eucharist.

Tuesday evening saw St Mark's filled for a preached rosary, adoration and benediction led by Fr Luke Goymour. The strong attendance reflected a deep hunger for Eucharistic prayer and teaching.

Wednesday brought one of the week's major moments: the Our Lady of Walsingham Trust Schools' Mass at St Alban's. Representatives from all primary schools, alongside clergy and deanery leaders, gathered for a joyful liturgy highlighting the central role of Catholic education in the life of the diocese.

Adoration, Confession and Healing

Thursday offered a full twelve hours of adoration at St Pancras, from 9am until 9pm. Confessions were heard throughout the day, with a steady stream of people coming to pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

On Friday, the deanery welcomed the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham (COLW) and Fr Alex Pumfrey, who would later serve as a keynote speaker at the closing event. Fr Alex celebrated a lunchtime Mass at St Mary Magdalen's and preached on the Congress theme, followed by an excellent spiritual conference delivered by Sr Theresa Weight.

The evening brought one of the most moving events of the week: a Eucharistic healing service led by the COLW. Sr Gabriela offered a powerful meditation on Christ's healing presence in the Eucharist, while Srs Catherine-Maria and Theresa provided gentle, prayerful music. The church was packed, and many spoke afterwards of the simplicity, reverence and deep sense of healing that marked the night.

Eucharistic Miracles and Parish Engagement

Saturday saw St Mary's, Woodbridge Road, host the travelling St Carlo Acutis Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition. Parishioners and visitors spent the day exploring the displays and reflecting on the witness of Blessed Carlo Acutis.

A Cathedral for a Day: The Corn Exchange Finale

The Congress reached its climax on Sunday at the Ipswich Corn Exchange, transformed through banners, drapes, lighting and candles into a temporary cathedral. Volunteers began work before dawn, preparing the venue and welcoming musicians from CJM Music, led by Jo Boyce, whose blend of traditional and contemporary liturgical music lifted the day's celebrations.

The closing Mass, broadcast live on Radio Maria, was celebrated by Bishop Peter Collins and concelebrated by Bishop Alan Hopes and priests from across the deanery. In his homily, Bishop Peter reflected on the Jubilee as a moment to look to the past not as historians, but as disciples preparing for mission. He urged the faithful never to "sanitise the Eucharist", reminding them of the sacrificial reality of Jesus at the heart of the Mass and calling all to deepen their reverence for Christ's presence. He reminded people: "Prepare ever so well, [for Mass] for it is a matter of your salvation."

The afternoon continued with keynote talks from Fr Toby Lees OP and Fr Alex Pumfrey, before hundreds joined a Blessed Sacrament procession to Lady Lane, the ancient site of Our Lady of Grace. The Knights of St Columba carried the canopy, assisted by St Michael's Security, in a moving public witness of faith.

A Week of Grace

Reflecting on the Congress, Fr Luke Goymour said: "This was truly a week of grace as we celebrated fifty years of our diocese. The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life, and I believe the Congress captured this. We are looking to follow it up with renewed Eucharistic devotion and the opportunity for people to join the Our Lady of Grace Eucharistic League."

ECI26 will be remembered as a landmark moment for the Catholic community in Ipswich – a week when the town rediscovered its Eucharistic heart and looked with confidence to the mission ahead.



Fr Luke Goymour leads the Congress in Eucharistic Adoration.
Picture credit: *Sophie McGready*

Deacons gather for Mass celebrating lives of service

Deacons from across the Diocese of East Anglia gathered at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich on Saturday 3 October for a Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter Collins.

■ With the deacons alongside the Bishop, the celebration offered an opportunity to reflect on their ministry and the call to serve Christ through the life of the Church.

The first reading, from Deuteronomy 1:9–14, described Moses recognising that he could not bear the responsibility of leading God's people alone. He asked the community to choose wise, understanding and experienced men to share that responsibility.

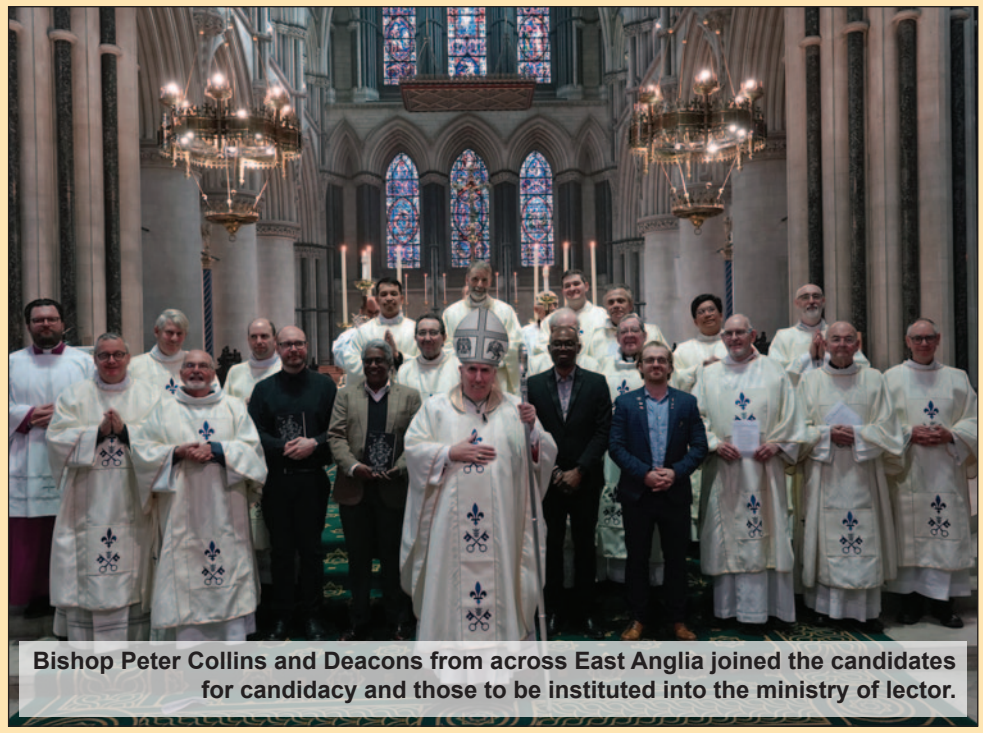
The passage provides a powerful reminder that caring for a community is a shared task. Its relevance to the diaconate lies in the importance of wisdom, discernment and a willingness to accept responsibility for others. Deacons contribute to the Church's mission through their ministry of the Word, the liturgy and charity, supporting the faithful and responding to the needs of those around them.

The Gospel reading, John 12:26, placed this service firmly within the call to follow Jesus. Christ teaches that those who serve him must follow him, and that his servants will be where he is. He also promises that the Father will honour those who serve him.

For deacons, these words express the heart of their vocation: service grows from a close relationship with Christ. Following him means bringing his love into everyday life, particularly through care for people who are vulnerable, isolated or in need. The Gospel also speaks to every Christian, reminding the faithful that discipleship involves both faith and action.

Following the homily, two candidates were called forward for admission to candidacy, marking an important stage in their journey towards ordained ministry. Through this rite, the Church publicly recognises their intention to continue their preparation and discernment.

Two candidates were then called forward to be instituted into the ministry of lector. This ministry carries a particular responsibility for proclaiming the Scriptures and helping others to encounter and understand the Word of God. Its place within the celebration echoed the readings' emphasis on accepting responsibility and serving the community.



Bishop Peter Collins and Deacons from across East Anglia joined the candidates for candidacy and those to be instituted into the ministry of lector.

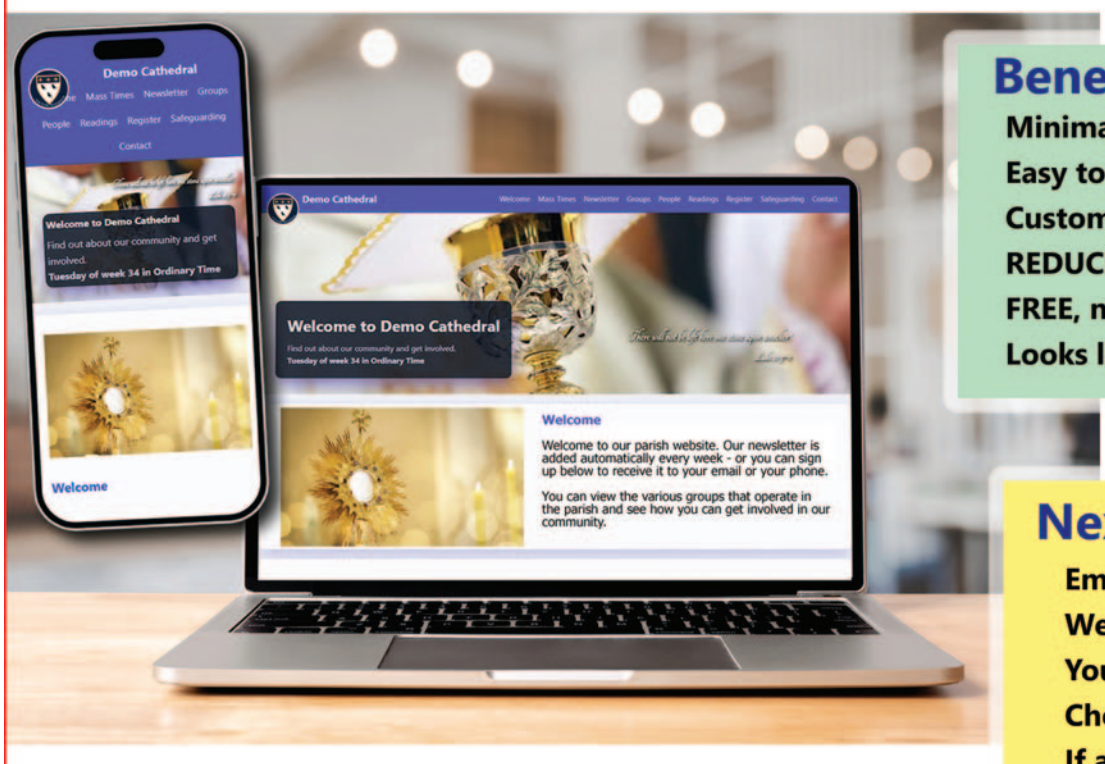
The prayers of intercession followed, bringing the needs of the Church and the wider world before God.

Together, the readings and rites highlighted the relationship between vocation, formation and service, as the diocese gathered to celebrate its deacons and those taking further steps in their response to God's call.

NEW Parish Website

Get a new website in days - with no hassle

CASPAR CHURCH



Benefits:
- Minimal work
- Easy to manage
- Customisable design
- REDUCES your workload!
- FREE, no obligation, set up
- Looks like you update it every day!

Sections
- Welcome
- Contact Us
- Mass Times
- Newsletters
- Parish Groups
- Daily/Sunday Readings
- Library photos or add your own
- Donations with accounts/Gift Aid reports
- Text sections to layout how you want

Next Steps:
- Email us your last 4 newsletters
- We'll send you a link to your website within 2 days
- You can customise it for as long as you like for free
- Choose your website address.
- If and when you are ready, you can publish it.
- Only then, do you start paying for your site.
- And if you want to, you can add the ability to take donations online.

£25 per month

includes VAT, hosting, website address, security certificates

FREE SET UP

send 4 newsletters to websites@caspar.church
or go to www.caspar.church/site

Cantonese catholics come together

Following Bishop Peter's recent encouragement to celebrate our migrant communities, a large congregation of Cantonese-speaking Catholics gathered on Saturday 19 September 2026 for the Vigil Mass of the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time at Our Lady of Lourdes in Sawston. The occasion coincided with preparations for the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees on 27 September.

■ The 105 people in attendance came from across the Diocese of East Anglia and beyond, including Colchester, Bedford, Milton Keynes, Bishop's Stortford, Harlow and London. Most were recent arrivals from Hong Kong who had settled in the UK since late 2021, seeking fellowship with one another in Christ.

A Remarkable First Mass

While gathering to celebrate Christ's supreme sacrifice is a grace-filled event in any language, worshipping in their mother tongue was a profound blessing for those present. What made the day extraordinary was the principal celebrant, Fr Peter Tan Hung Ho. Ordained a priest for the Diocese of East Anglia on 4 July this year, Fr Peter had never learnt Cantonese. Yet this was his first Cantonese Mass.

Fr Peter celebrated the liturgy by carefully reading the Cantonese text word by word from a specially prepared Vietnamese phonetic transcript produced by Canon John Minh. Canon John, who was visiting family in the United States, has been celebrating Cantonese Masses using this method for more than four years. Over time, he has built an impressive collection of Cantonese liturgical texts incorporating Vietnamese phonetics, a resource he generously shared with Fr Peter as a "legacy file".

Having begun his first assignment on 1 September as Assistant Priest at St Edmund's Church in Bury St Edmunds, alongside hospital and school chaplaincy duties, Fr Peter had a full schedule. Despite having little time to learn the Order of Mass and its proper texts, and receiving only a single in-person coaching session, he celebrated the Vigil Mass with remarkable poise and assurance. The congregation expressed deep gratitude for his pastoral zeal, marvelling at the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the collaboration between the two priests.

Following the enthusiastically sung Mass, Fr Peter was introduced to the Jesus Hug Children Liturgy Group at the Our Lady of Lourdes parish presbytery. The session marked the start of a new term following the summer break. The personable Fr Peter offered words of encouragement, prayed with the group and blessed the children, their parents and the catechists. It was a joyful occasion for everyone.

Connections Across Dioceses

Adding to the joy of the day was the presence of the Revd Andrew Cheng, a newly ordained permanent deacon from the Archdiocese of Birmingham, who readily accepted an invitation to attend and drove 220 miles to join the gathering.

Deacon Andrew was ordained at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham on 18 July by Archbishop Bernard Longley, who had also ordained Fr Peter Ho to the transitional diaconate in December 2025. Although both men had undertaken their formation at St Mary's College, Oscott, they had previously been like "ships passing in the night," recognising each other on campus but never formally meeting until this occasion.

A former lawyer and member of Hong Kong's Legislative Council, Deacon Andrew was encouraged to discern his vocation when he was over 60. In a short address following the blessing and dismissal, he spoke humbly about feeling undeserving of God's call. He encouraged anyone who felt they had passed the traditional age limit for diaconate training to reconsider: "God moves in mysterious ways, and His love is unbounded."

God's Grace and Generosity

Confident in the high standard of homiletic and theological training at Oscott, Fr Peter invited Deacon Andrew to preach the homily in Cantonese. Deacon Andrew thoughtfully provided an English translation so that Fr Peter could follow along.

Drawing on Chapter 20 of St Matthew's Gospel and the first reading from Isaiah — "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord" — Deacon Andrew reflected on the parable of the generous landowner who paid all his workers the same wage, regardless of the hours they had worked. He cautioned against envy or interpreting God's grace as favouritism, emphasising that, while God does not make contractual bargains with us, His gifts are always fair and abundant.

Deacon Andrew explained how this Gospel resonated with his own journey. Having felt called to the permanent diaconate for many years, he had previously passed the age limit of 55 set in Hong Kong. However, after moving to the UK, he discovered that local diocesan guidelines allowed flexibility according to individual circumstances. At the age of 66, he received the unexpected gift of ordination in Birmingham, enabling him to serve the wider Hong Kong migrant community — an outcome he could never have anticipated before moving to the UK.

Giving Thanks

What began as a liturgy celebrated through an unusual combination of languages became a vibrant, joyful gathering of people from different backgrounds and at various stages of life and faith. There was much to share and celebrate during the social gathering in the parish hall, which continued well into the afternoon.

The community gives thanks to God for bringing everyone together to celebrate the Eucharist and for allowing them to bear witness, in so many beautiful ways, to His boundless grace and mercy.





School shares shoebox joy

Pupils at St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School in Norwich learned how a shoebox filled with gifts can bring joy to children in need during a visit from Operation Christmas Child (OCC).

■ Mark and Debra Watkins, members of OCC's Church Relations and Community Relations teams, joined a school assembly to explain the impact of the appeal and encourage pupils to take part.

Since 1990, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 244 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. The boxes contain school supplies, hygiene items and toys.

Mark and Debra welcomed the response from Catholic schools, highlighting how the initiative can help pupils learn about compassion, generosity and sharing their faith.

Having met teacher Ellie Mather earlier in the year, they were pleased to meet headteacher Felicity Hope and other staff during their visit.

Mark said: " we have met many adults who previously as a child, filled a shoebox in a school, they all say this was a fond memory. We look to share with prospective schools how the O.C.C ministry can complement school's own ethos and ways to teach both academic learning and values etc. The welcome and positive response from St Francis of Assisi school has been exceptional."

During the assembly, Mark and Debra explained how new pencils and other gifts can bring joy to children facing difficult circumstances. Where permitted, local churches also share a message of God's love when distributing the shoeboxes.

Pupils watched a video following the journey of a shoebox and heard from children about the happiness the gifts brought them. A second video featured a school in Ireland explaining why it supports the appeal and how filling shoeboxes provides opportunities for engaging classroom learning.

Debra said: " what a joy to visit this school, to see the children walk into assembly, quiet, but also very engaging when invited to communicate. The school chaplains is such a great idea, showing the heart of the school to be supportive and helpful, and see young minds developing towards being valued and caring adults."

After the assembly, the school chaplains helped to assemble the appeal's pre-printed shoeboxes.

For more information about involving a church, school, group or business in Operation Christmas Child, contact Mark and Debra Watkins at markdebrawatkinsocc@yahoo.com or visit www.samaritans-purse.org.uk.



Annual Newsletter from the Diocesan Youth Service

Preparing to Celebrate World Youth Sunday on 22 November 2026

World Youth Sunday celebrates the important role of young people in the life and mission of the Church.

■ Marked each year on the Solemnity of Christ the King, it brings parishes and communities together to recognise the faith, energy and witness of young people.

This year, World Youth Sunday falls on 22 November, with events and activities planned both in the lead-up to the celebration and on the day itself.

Schools, parishes and individuals are encouraged to get involved. For ideas and resources to help you prepare, visit cymfed.org.uk/wys/.



Hamish MacQueen.

Hamish MacQueen, Director of Youth Services, introduces the Diocese of East Anglia's first Ignite Team apprentices and asks for prayers for their ministry.

■ September marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter for youth ministry in the Diocese as we welcomed our first two Ignite Team apprentices. Together with Luke Hardy, who is continuing from last year, they form this year's Diocesan Youth Mission Team, known as the Ignite Team.

The new apprenticeship model replaces the previous gap-year arrangement with salaried roles, combining practical ministry with one day of study each week towards a professional qualification in youth work. At the heart of their work remains the team's mission: sharing their faith in Jesus with young people across the Diocese.

Please pray for our new apprentices and for everyone who works with young people. Above all, please pray for young people themselves, that they may discover the hope and freedom found in knowing Christ. As Pope Leo XIV said in his recent address to young people in France: "The source of true freedom is the living relationship with Jesus".



CONTACT DETAILS FOR THE DIOCESAN YOUTH SERVICE

Instagram, X & TikTok:	@igniteyea
YouTube:	www.youtube.com/igniteyea
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/igniteyea
Website:	www.rcdea.org.uk/youth
Phone:	01508 486236
Email:	igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk (enquiries relating to the Ignite Team)
	dys@rcdea.org.uk (general enquiries)

A Year of Faith and Fellowship with the Ignite Team

The past year has been filled with opportunities to bring young people together, share our faith and grow closer to Jesus.
Luke Hardy, Ignite Team Leader reports.

■ It began with our Young Leaders Gathering at Clare Priory, which led to the formation of 'Enkindle': a monthly event bringing young leaders from across the Diocese together for formation, talks, adoration and Mass. These young people also support our school, parish and deanery retreat days, and their enthusiasm and commitment are a tremendous blessing.

During the October half-term, we helped run the Norwich Confirmation group's trip to Letton Hall. With more than 70 young people taking part, it was a tiring but deeply fruitful week.

The Ignite Festival was another highlight, welcoming its highest attendance yet, with around 400 people joining us. It was a weekend of encountering Jesus, growing in fellowship and experiencing the joy of the Holy Spirit.

To celebrate the Diocese's Golden Jubilee, we also organised special Deanery Youth Days in most deaneries. Bringing young people together has been particularly valuable for those from parishes where there are fewer young people, helping them experience the wider community of faith.

A heartfelt thank you goes to all the volunteers whose generosity and dedication made these events possible, and who supported our work throughout the year.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to travel around the Diocese telling people about Jesus. As a team, we have also had many opportunities to deepen our own faith and grow together.

Through prayer, the rhythm of our daily lives and opportunities to study our faith more deeply, we have continued to learn and develop. Quiet conversations with young people have challenged us, encouraged us to think more carefully and prompted us to explore questions of faith in greater depth. The year has offered many opportunities for growth, often taking us beyond our comfort zones.

A team retreat to Oscott, followed by a couple of days in North Wales, where we climbed Cader Idris, stands out as a personal highlight.

For me, it was a year of growth, a deepening relationship with the Lord and one of the best years of my life.



Camping at the Ignite Festival.

Finding Faith and Friendship in Lourdes



Sophie McCready (right of picture).

In August, a group of young people from East Anglia joined hundreds of Catholics from across the country for the Catholic Association Pilgrimage to Lourdes. It was an unforgettable week of friendship, encounter and growing closer to God through loving and serving one another.
Sophie McCready reports.

■ The programme was packed with Masses, celebrations and talks. A dedicated youth programme gave us the opportunity to learn more about the story of Lourdes and reflect on our experiences throughout the week.

As youth helpers, we spent our time supporting assisted pilgrims. Whether we were pushing wheelchairs, serving meals or simply sharing a conversation, we discovered the joy that comes from loving and serving those around us.

A particular highlight was taking part in the torchlight procession. Joining thousands of pilgrims to pray the Rosary in many languages was an experience as humbling as it was uplifting.

By the end of the week, our pilgrimage group had become like a family. It was impossible to walk through the streets of Lourdes without seeing familiar faces.

Leaving was difficult. We had formed lasting friendships, and many of us felt that our faith had been strengthened. Yet we returned home with unforgettable memories and, above all, a renewed desire to follow God's call to love our neighbour.

Until next time, Lourdes!

Meet the 2026/27 Ignite Team

The Ignite team share their faith with young people throughout the diocese leading retreat days, running events and working with First Communion and Confirmation groups. If you would be interested in the team visiting your school or parish do get in touch.

■ Last summer we said goodbye to Luc Wallace and Nicholas Villaroman. We have now welcomed Heather Grancourt and Carmen Esono Ada, our apprentices. Joining Luke Hardy, they form the 2026/27 team.

Luke Hardy:

My name is Luke Hardy, and I am the team leader of the Ignite Team, heading into my second year on the team. Originally from Nottingham, I came to Norwich for my undergraduate degree in history, and in my third year I started RCIA and became a Catholic! After completing a Masters in history at the University of Nottingham, I joined the Ignite team, and after a successful year of youth ministry, I stayed on for a second year to continue hopefully bring the young people of the Diocese closer to Jesus!

Heather Grancourt:

I was born into the Catholic faith, right here in Norwich. After a health scare when I was seventeen, God met me right where I was. During silent prayer at the Ignite Festival, I experienced God's presence for the first time in a way that gave me permission to breathe through years of stress and fear. That moment of true peace marked the beginning of my ongoing journey to love God and build a genuine relationship with Him.

I have always had a love for volunteering and giving back, which scouts helped me do. I have been with my scout group for almost ten years, going from being a scout myself to a young leader and now an adult leader. Other than volunteering with the scouts I have helped out with the confirmation programme at St John's for the past couple years as well as the youth group. Through the Ignite team,I hope the mix my love for working with young people as well as sharing God's love.

Carmen Esono Ada:

As a lifelong Catholic, inspired by my parents' faith, I have always felt called to missionary work. Through my nursing studies and experiences at university, I have realised how many young people are searching for meaning, hope, and love. Visiting my family in Equatorial Guinea also strengthened my desire to share the Catholic faith. These experiences have inspired me to follow Jesus more closely, share His love, and become a voice for young people through Ignite, helping them discover faith and a deeper relationship with God.



Left to right: Hamish, Heather, Carmen & Luke.

We will be recruiting new Ignite Team apprentices to start in September 2027. Could you be one of them? For more information email Hamish on dys@rcdea.org.uk

Last chance to join East Anglia's World Youth Day pilgrimage to Seoul

Young Catholics (18+) across the Diocese of East Anglia are encouraged to take up an exciting opportunity to deepen their faith, build lasting friendships and experience the worldwide Church at World Youth Day in Seoul, South Korea, in summer 2027. The final deadline to book a place with the diocesan group is 5 November 2026.

■ Despite its name, World Youth Day is much more than a single day. This international gathering brings together young Catholics from across the world for a celebration of faith with the Pope and the Christian community of the host country. It is an opportunity to pray together, learn more about the Catholic faith and discover the joy of belonging to a Church that reaches across languages, cultures and continents.

For young people, sharing that experience with others can be especially encouraging. Meeting so many fellow Catholics offers a powerful reminder that they are part of a much wider community, united in faith in Jesus Christ. The pilgrimage also creates space to step away from everyday routines, reflect on life's bigger questions and consider where God might be calling them.

Young people from East Anglia who attended previous World Youth Days in Poland, Panama and Portugal have returned with wonderful memories and renewed enthusiasm for their faith. For some, the experience has been life-changing, helping them to discover or rediscover their relationship with God and gain a clearer sense of vocation.

Next summer, a group from East Anglia will travel to Seoul to share in this global gathering. The diocesan pilgrimage is open to young adults aged 18 and over, offering the chance to grow in faith alongside others from across the diocese while encountering the Catholic community in South Korea.

Whether you have attended a pilgrimage before or are considering one for the first time, World Youth Day is an invitation to take a new step in your journey of faith. You may be hoping to strengthen your relationship with Christ, meet people who share your beliefs or simply explore what your faith means to you. Whatever brings you, there is much to discover through travelling, praying and sharing the experience together.

Parents, parishioners, clergy and youth leaders are encouraged to share this invitation with young adults who might benefit from taking part. A personal word of encouragement could help someone take the first step towards an unforgettable pilgrimage.

To find out more and book your place, visit www.rcdea.org.uk/youth. The final booking deadline is 5 November 2026 — explore the information now and take the next step towards joining the diocesan group in Seoul.



Seoul at dusk.

Dates for your diary: faith, friendship and opportunities to serve in 2027

As well as regular activities with the Ignite Team, young people across the Diocese of East Anglia are invited to look ahead to three exciting events in 2027, offering opportunities to deepen their faith, build friendships and play an active part in the life of the Church.

■ From a retreat for young leaders at St John the Baptist Cathedral to the national Flame gathering at Wembley and our own Ignite Festival in Bury St Edmunds, there is plenty to look forward to. Whether you already volunteer in your parish or are simply keen to meet other young Catholics, these events offer an encouraging way to get involved.

Young Leaders Gathering: 8–10 January 2027

The new year begins with the Young Leaders Gathering at St John the Baptist Cathedral in Norwich, taking place from 8 to 10 January.

Open to anyone aged 16 to 30 who is already helping, or would like to help, in their parish, deanery or the wider diocese, the retreat is an invitation to explore how faith can inspire service to others.

Young people contribute to parish life in many different ways. Some support Confirmation and First Holy Communion preparation or help with youth groups. Others take part in music groups, serve at Mass or read during the liturgy. Across the diocese, a growing number also volunteer alongside the Ignite Team, helping to make events such as the Ignite Festival possible.

The gathering will bring together young people involved in these varied ministries, as well as those considering volunteering for the first time. It offers an opportunity to step away from everyday commitments, reflect on faith and meet others who share a desire to serve the Church.

You do not need to hold a formal leadership role to take part. If you would like to contribute to your Catholic community but are unsure where to begin, this could be a valuable first step. For those already involved, it is a chance to find encouragement and renew their enthusiasm for the year ahead.

Further details and booking information are available at www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.

Flame: 6 March 2027

On 6 March, thousands of young Catholics from across England and Wales will come





together at the OVO Arena Wembley for Flame, the biggest Catholic youth gathering in the country.

Open to young people in Year 9 and above, Flame offers an opportunity to experience the energy and encouragement of being part of a much wider Catholic community.

For young people who may know only a small number of other Catholics at school or in their local area, gathering with thousands of others can be a powerful reminder that they share their faith with people across the country. It is also an invitation to look beyond familiar surroundings and discover a greater sense of belonging within the Church.

Young people from East Anglia are encouraged to take part and share in this major celebration of Catholic faith. Parish youth groups, Confirmation groups and families are invited to make a note of the date and explore the opportunity together.

For more information and to book a place, visit www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.

Ignite Festival: 1–2 May 2027

The annual Ignite Festival returns to Bury St Edmunds on 1 and 2 May, bringing young people together for a weekend of faith, friendship and celebration.

Open to those in Year 9 and above, the diocesan youth festival will feature inspiring speakers, uplifting music, prayer, camping and good food.

The festival offers space to explore faith alongside other young people, with opportunities both to join in the celebrations and to pause for prayer and reflection. The shared experience of camping, eating and spending time together also makes it a chance to strengthen existing friendships and form new ones.

Whether you have attended before or are considering coming for the first time, Ignite is an invitation to discover more about your relationship with Jesus and your place in the diocesan community.

Tickets go on sale in January at www.rcdea.org.uk/youth. Young people, parents and parish leaders are encouraged to save the dates now and look out for further details.

With three opportunities to gather, grow in faith and support one another, 2027 promises to be an exciting year for young Catholics across East Anglia.



Support Youth Ministry Across the Diocese

■ Parishioners across the Diocese of East Anglia are invited to support the work of Diocesan Youth Services through a second collection in many churches on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday 22 November.

Donations help sustain the Diocese's ministry with young people, supporting opportunities for them to grow in faith, build friendships and take an active part in the life of the Church.

For those who do not carry cash, or who would like to contribute at another time, donations can also be made online throughout the year.

To find out more and make a donation, please visit www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.

St Laurence's celebrates Jubilee

Parishioners at St Laurence's, Cambridge, celebrated the Diocese of East Anglia's Golden Jubilee with a lively Parish Day on 13 September.

■ Held at St Laurence's Catholic Primary School, the day featured a talent show, games and activities, as well as a bring-and-share feast and barbecue. Parish groups also took the opportunity to raise funds, showcase their work and reach out to new people.

The celebrations concluded with an outdoor Mass celebrated by Bishop Peter Collins and concelebrated by parish priest Fr Robin Joseph and assistant priest Fr Alex Sunny. They were joined by Fr Peter Ho and parish deacons Dr Geoff Cook and Dr Gianluca Savini.

Reflecting the rich diversity of St Laurence's, the Mass brought together the parish's different cultural communities in a joyful celebration of faith.

During the day, several parishioners were recognised for their years of service and support, while others celebrating a 50th birthday or anniversary were also honoured.

The parish warmly thanked the school for its generous hospitality and for providing such a welcoming setting for the festivities.

Even the weather played its part, with the rain stopping in time for the outdoor Mass.

The Parish Day offered a memorable opportunity for the St Laurence's community to come together and embrace its part in the Diocese's Golden Jubilee celebrations.



Bishop Peter celebrated Mass at St Laurence's Catholic Primary School.

Fr Peter: Paris gathers for Papal Mass

Fr Peter Wygnanski reflects on a powerful celebration of Catholic faith after spending the weekend in Paris.

■ There is something about the great cities of the world that makes us think about the big questions.

I recall once travelling from Rome to Jerusalem via Istanbul, and that journey made me especially mindful, as I considered the monuments to history that those cities represent, of the great human story of which we all take some part. Paris, of course, is no exception to that rule. We recall how meaning was drawn, for example, from the rebuilding of Notre-Dame Cathedral after the fire of 2019. Its (or, as the French would say, "her") new life from the ashes was significant far beyond the boundaries of the Diocese of Paris and the city itself.

That great cathedral, despite its magnificence, was not big enough to contain the 700,000 people who had gathered for Mass with Pope Leo. But the city itself provided a perfect backdrop for a profound expression of our Catholic faith. Shortly before Mass began, aerial footage from the helicopter was shown for the first time on the many big screens. As the crowd saw itself in its entirety for the first time, there were audible gasps throughout the gathering, and I even noticed tears in the eyes of the priests around me, not to mention my own. Who could not be moved by the sight? The great landmarks of the city, the key words of its own story, the Arc de Triomphe, the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, all underlined by a joyful, faithful humanity stretched along the Champs-Élysées.



Fr Peter in Paris.



Fr Peter was only steps away from the Holy Father.

In a mood of thinking about the big questions, I became acutely aware that there is nothing else in our human story that has this power to bring the world together in joy and hope, both young and old, the sick and the healthy, people from every ethnic background and culture. In his homily, Pope Leo explained the theological basis for this. We all have, within our human hearts, deep desires, and so much of what is wrong in the world arises when we try to answer those desires with things that ultimately cannot satisfy. Reflecting on the prophet Ezekiel, Pope Leo reminded us, then, that Jesus Christ alone is the source of that living water which can satisfy the great desires of our hearts.

The Church brings us together to that source of living water. We are gathered as the Church precisely when we all draw near to that same source of living water, made available to us through the sacraments, through the liturgy, and in encountering God and one another: in prayer, in worship, in the common life, and in generous service.

For a day, the heart of Paris became the biggest church in the world and we pray that, whilst the rose-scented incense has dissipated, the joy of the Gospel continues to be made present each day by those who gathered. As the French Church is emboldened by Pope Leo's encouragement to bring all who thirst to the source of living water, may we too each share in that same grace.

Our Lady of Peñafrancia Pilgrimage

Around 700 pilgrims from across England gathered at St Helen's Catholic Church in Hoveton, Norfolk, on 20 September 2026 for the 16th annual pilgrimage and feast celebrating the Filipino devotion to Our Lady of Peñafrancia. Nick Walmsley (Tribu Bicolano) reports.

■ Held during the Diocese of East Anglia's Golden Jubilee year, the celebration welcomed Bishop Peter Collins for a day of prayer, processions, Mass and Filipino hospitality.

Inspired by the great celebrations at Our Lady's Minor Basilica in Naga, in the Bicol region of the Philippines, which attracted 1.2 million people this year, the Hoveton pilgrimage has grown considerably. This year's pilgrims included communities from Norwich, North Walsham, Dereham, King's Lynn, Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge, Colchester, Boston, Louth and Lincoln, alongside visitors from London and Liverpool.

The pilgrimage features processions on both water and land, carrying the statue of 'INA' ('Mother' as she is called) and the image of El Divino Rostro, the Holy Face. It also marks the culmination of Our Lady's 'Pagsunko' ('visitations'), during which her travelling statue, kept at Our Lady and St Walstan's Catholic Church in Costessey, visits Filipino communities across East Anglia and the East Midlands throughout the summer.

This year, Our Lady's statue travelled from St Helen's in an open 1914 Model T Ford to four large Broads Tours passenger boats. Around 350 pilgrims then joined the 'fluvial procession' along the River Bure.

Bishop Peter and Deacon Jonathan Callejo were driven in the Model T to meet the returning boats before joining hundreds of pilgrims for the land procession. The images of INA and El Divino Rostro were carried on flower-decked palanquins through the busy village.

Such was the length of the procession that those at the front reached St Helen's before those at the rear had crossed the ancient river bridge, where the boats had docked half a mile away.

At the church, Bishop Peter gave a moving episcopal blessing to the permanent shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia and to members of Tribu Bicolano, who organise the annual pilgrimage under the direction of Mr Fred Venzon.

The festival Mass was celebrated outdoors in glorious weather, with Bishop Peter as principal celebrant and St Helen's parish priest, Fr Alan Hodgson, concelebrating, assisted by Deacon Jonathan Callejo.

In a memorable homily, Bishop Peter delighted the congregation by revealing that his first pilgrimage in Spain had been to the original shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia.

The traditional anthem "Resuene Vibrante" was sung, and cries of "Viva La Virgen!" rang out around the village. Following Mass, pilgrims enjoyed a sumptuous feast in true Filipino style.



Bishop Peter Collins with the Pilgrims. Picture credit: Studio Embuscado of Norwich.

WW1 Field Hospital to a Chapel

The Catholic Chapel of St Vincent de Paul, part of the parish of Our Lady & the English Martyrs in Cambridge, marked the saint's feast day on Sunday 27 September by welcoming a steady stream of visitors to its Heritage Open Day.

■ The event celebrated not just the life and work of St Vincent, but also the building's remarkable history and the warm, welcoming community at its heart.

Following the regular Sunday Mass, parishioners gathered outside in the sunshine for coffee and cake and opened the chapel's doors to visitors. With enthusiasm and friendliness, they showed people around the church, shared its fascinating story and offered everyone a warm welcome.

The building began life as one of the prefabricated huts of the First Eastern General Hospital, established in Cambridge at the outbreak of the First World War. After the hospital closed, it went on to serve as temporary housing, a working men's club and the original church for St Laurence's parish in Chesterton, before eventually being dismantled, moved and re-erected as the Chapel of St Vincent de Paul.

Visitors were able to discover this unusual history, learn more about St Vincent de Paul and the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, and enjoy the hospitality for which the community is known. For those who wished, this even included a glass of wine made from the grapes in the garden! The occasion was made particularly special by the presence of a former parish priest, Monsignor Tony Rogers, who concelebrated Mass with Father Adrian Gates.

St Vincent's is a small, informal community whose members come from more than 20 countries around the world. This diversity is part of what makes it such a welcoming place, where people of different backgrounds come together in faith, friendship and mutual support.

Yet the event was about more than the story of a building. Its origins as a field hospital offer a powerful connection with Pope Francis's description of the Church as a "field hospital" — a place that reaches out to those who are wounded by life, offers healing and compassion, and welcomes people wherever they find themselves.

This vision has a particular resonance with the example of St Vincent, whose life was dedicated to serving those in need. His example continues to inspire Christians to make their faith visible through practical kindness, compassion and service. At St Vincent's, this calling is expressed in many ways: sometimes through supporting someone facing difficulties, and sometimes through something as simple as making time for a conversation, sharing a cup of coffee or helping a newcomer feel at home.

The Heritage Open Day was a lovely expression of that spirit, and the success of the day was a reminder that the life of a church is about much more than its walls or its history. It is about people coming together, caring for one another and making God's love known.

As the community looks to the future, it hopes that St Vincent's will continue to be a place where everyone is welcome, where friendship can grow and where those in need of comfort and support can find a place to belong.

The building may have changed its purpose, but perhaps its story still has something to teach us…



Visitors at the Chapel of St Vincent de Paul.

Faith in the Home

Guardian Angels

■ **In this *Faith in the Home* article, Dr Antonia Braithwaite, Marriage & Family Life Coordinator, provides an introduction for children to Guardian Angels, explaining how they offer protection, guide us closer to God and can be called upon in prayer.**

Did you know that you have a very special, invisible friend who is always with you, no matter where you are or what you're doing? From the moment you were born, God gave you a Guardian Angel to be your lifelong companion.

Your Guardian Angel is always by your side! Their special mission is to keep you safe from harm, help you make good choices, and always guide your heart closer to God.

Because they are always with you and care for you so deeply, it is important to get to know them! You can talk to your angel throughout the day, just like you talk to a best friend. Whenever you feel scared, lonely, or tempted to make a bad choice, you can pray to them.

A wonderful way to start is by praying this classic Catholic prayer every single day:

"Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day [or night] be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen."

With your angel by your side, you are never truly alone and can always count on them to help you!

On 2 October, the Church celebrates a joyful feast dedicated to our dear Guardian Angels.



Our Lady of Fidelity



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

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

Mature vocations considered.

CONVENT OF OUR LADY OF FIDELITY

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

090699502

Freedom Watchers set the downtrodden free

■ Since the launch of a Modern Slavery Abolition Initiative in the Diocese two years ago, approaching 50 people have begun to learn how to spot and safely report people who are being enslaved, writes Simon John, co-lead of the initiative.

Modern slavery is often hidden in plain sight in our countryside, towns and cities. We call the volunteers "Freedom Watchers" simply because, as they go about their everyday lives, they watch out for the thousands of souls in our Diocese who have no freedom.

Unsurprisingly, given how many slaves live among us, these volunteers have found people who were clearly being exploited. Observant, caring Freedom Watchers helped by calling the Modern Slavery Helpline on 08000 121 700 and reporting what they had seen.

Ten highly vulnerable people have been given the chance of liberty by Freedom Watchers, simply through their raised awareness and willingness to lift a finger to help. That may not be a large number, but imagine the impact on the life of each person freed.

During the summer, a vulnerable woman was identified by a Freedom Watcher in one of our cities and reported to the Modern Slavery Helpline. It seemed that the woman was being cuckooed, that is, exploited by criminals who take over vulnerable people's homes for illegal purposes such as drug dealing. The practice typically involves the coercion, manipulation and exploitation of the victim.

The Modern Slavery Helpline assesses calls and passes referrals on to the police or another appropriate agency. These calls often lead to the rescues of oppressed and downtrodden people that are reported in the media.

The greater the number of Freedom Watchers, the greater the number of enslaved people being found. As Pope Leo XIV put it in Dilexi Te: "The act of rescuing someone from slavery… is seen as an extension of Christ's redemptive sacrifice."

To raise further awareness, a free to attend conference on modern slavery is being held in Newmarket on Saturday 6 February. People may attend in person or, if they are unable to do so, watch via a live-stream. A link will be available nearer the time on the Diocesan Modern Slavery website pages, which also provide more details about the conference and relevant contact information.

On 6 February 2027 the Diocese will be holding its first full modern slavery conference at the RC Church in Newmarket from 10-4pm.

All are encouraged to attend so that we can learn our role in ending this "wound in the body of Christ" that increasingly impacts us all. More details are on the website page above.

Fr Alvan Ibeh: Know God for yourself

In his regular column Fr Alvan reflects on the importance of knowing God personally through prayer, Scripture and lived experience, and allowing that relationship to shape our lives.

■ A few weeks ago, I had an encounter while at work at the hospital that gave me insight into this article.

I went to see a patient in one of the wards. When I got to the ward, the person I came to see was not around (maybe he had gone for a scan, as his bed was not there either). Since he was not there, I decided, as I always do, to say hello to the other patients in the bay. It went smoothly until I got to the last person, and then things changed. The man welcomed me, asked my name and asked what I was there for. I told him my name and was about to tell him what I do when he saw my collar. "Oh, you are a churchman," he said. He said religion is not for him and that he doesn't believe in God. He said that we all originated from dinosaurs and were not created by God. He went further to say that all those who believe in God are delusional and have been brainwashed. He told me that he was brought up as a Catholic and went to church every Sunday as a young man, but at some point he gave up religion because he no longer believed what he was told. He asked if there is a God and why people fight and kill one another. He mentioned that what we believe is nothing but what we have been told by people. Funnily enough, as he was saying all this, I kept hearing a voice in my head saying to me, "These things he is saying may be the truth." But I am convinced of what I believe in—not based on what I was told as a young man or what I heard others say, but based on the experiences and encounters I have had that have made me believe beyond any reasonable doubt that God is real. So it was on this basis that I stood my ground and bore witness, though he also stood by his convictions.

As I left him, something struck me: "What if I didn't know God for myself? What would have happened? What if my knowledge about God was only from what I have heard others say or what others have written about Him, and not from a personal encounter with Him?"

Job, in Job 42:5–6, said, "My ears had heard of you, but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore, I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes." Jesus, in Luke 9:20, asks His disciples a more personal question after asking them who people were saying He was: "And you, who do you say that I am?" It was only Peter who was confident enough to answer that question because he had encountered Jesus personally and intimately. Others kept quiet because they didn't know what to answer. So, it is possible that someone can be a Christian for so many years and yet not actually know God personally. Do you really know God for yourself?

Knowing God personally is not about memorising doctrine or adhering strictly to routine; it is an intentional, transforming relationship that shifts from knowing about God to knowing and experiencing Him first-hand. We can read every biography written about a person and remain a stranger to them. Knowing God requires engaging Him directly rather than relying exclusively on second-hand reports from preachers, books or tradition.

If you want to know God for yourself, you must shift from head knowledge to an experiential relationship. This is because information about God provides the structural framework, but heart engagement transforms that structure into a living connection. We must also cultivate attentive silence and solitude. In a noisy, fast-paced world, hearing a quiet voice requires intentional space, and this is where encounters happen. So we must lower the noise floor and learn to listen actively. We must engage with Scripture as an active conversation. In other words, Scripture should not be treated as a textbook to study for an exam but as a living letter meant to reveal character and offer guidance. Scripture is a place of encounter; it is alive and always active.

As we know God, we grow in humility, patience, compassion and integrity. We learn to forgive because we have received forgiveness, to serve because Christ served, and to seek justice because God cares about what is right. This growth takes time. When we stumble, we can confess our sin and return to God, trusting His mercy (1 John 1:9).

If you want to know God for yourself, begin honestly. Ask Him to reveal Himself as you read the Bible. Tell Him what you are carrying. Consider the life and teaching of Jesus. Seek the support of a faithful Christian community and take the next step of trust God places before you.

You may not receive answers to every question at once. But you can know the God who invites you to seek Him, meets you with grace and remains faithful through every season.

Picture gallery from parishes around the Diocese



■ **Bishop Peter Collins at St Peter & All Souls for the induction Mass of Fr Walter Chenyika and a farewell Mass for Fr Erico, who returned to Brazil on 27 September.**



■ **The annual Macmillan Coffee Morning at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist raised a record-breaking £942.**

Held in the Cathedral's Narthex on Friday 18 September, the event brought people together to enjoy refreshments and support Macmillan Cancer Support.

The impressive total was the highest amount raised at the Cathedral's annual coffee morning, reflecting the generosity of everyone who attended, donated and helped to organise the event.



■ **The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) Conference at St George's Church in Sprowston, Norwich, welcomed Maud Fandoh as its newest member on the morning of 24 September.**

Bishop Peter's engagements

NOVEMBER

Nov 1, Sun
Bishop to celebrate Solemnity of All Saints Solemn Pontifical Mass at 11.00 at the Cathedral

Nov 2, Mon
Bishop to celebrate Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls) Solemn Pontifical Requiem Mass at 17.30 at the Cathedral

Nov 5, Thurs
Bishop to attend the Formal Installation of the Most Reverend Richard Moth as Chancellor of St Mary's University, Solemn Vespers at 3pm at Westminster Cathedral

Nov 6, Fri
Bishop to say Mass for Headteachers' Autumn Conference at 12.00 in Poringland

Nov 8, Sun
Bishop to attend the Norwich Civic Service of Remembrance at 10.30 at City Hall

Bishop to preach at 11.15 at Norwich Anglican Cathedral

Nov 9, Mon
Bishop to attend The Charles Plater Trust Working Group via Zoom at 09.00

Bishop to say Mass for Senior Leaders' Autumn Conference at 12.00 in Poringland

Nov 10, Tues
Bishop to celebrate Mass at 10.00 in Poringland

Nov 12, Thurs
Bishop to attend Pilgrimage People Away Day at Archbishop's House, Westminster

Nov 13, Fri
Bishop to attend Sung Vespers followed by dinner for the Feast of St Edmund of Abingdon at 18.00 at St Edmund's College

Nov 16, Mon – Nov 19, Thurs
Bishop to attend the Autumn Plenary Assembly of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales at Hinsley Hall Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Leeds

Nov 19, Thurs
Bishop to attend the Norfolk Catenian Clergy Night at Wensum Valley Golf Club

Nov 21, Sat
Bishop to attend the Marriage and Family Life Commission Meeting at 11.00 in Poringland

Nov 22, Sun
Bishop to attend the Norfolk and Waveney Church Leaders Meeting at 13.00 at Chapelfield Road Methodist Church

Bishop to attend Christ the King Evensong at 15.30 at Chapelfield Road Methodist Church

Nov 23, Mon
Bishop to attend Safeguarding Commission Meeting at 10.30 at the Cathedral

Nov 24, Tues
Bishop to attend "Pastoral Planning for an Uncertain World" conference at 10.00 in Milton Keynes

Nov 25, Weds
Bishop to attend Chapter of Canons at 12.00 at the Cathedral

Bishop to attend Cambridge Citizens VIP Reception followed by Founding Assembly at 17.00 in Cambridge

Nov 26, Thurs
Bishop to attend Diocesan Music and Liturgy Commission Meeting at 11.00 in Poringland

Nov 27, Fri – Nov 28, Sat
Bishop to attend the KHS Investiture (further details to be confirmed)

Nov 30, Mon
Bishop to attend The Charles Plater Trust Board Meeting at 10.00 in London