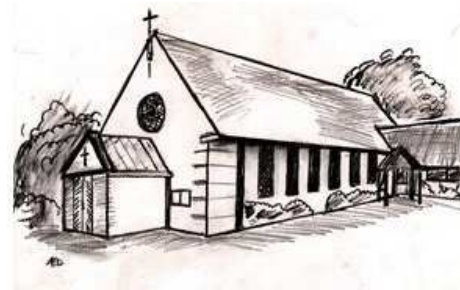


# The Pilgrim

St Laurence's Parish Magazine, June Edition 2018



## *Celebrations at St Laurence's*

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## What's New?

St Laurence Parish & Blackfriars invite you



*A celebration of Fr Bob's Jubilee of Ordination on 29th June 2018*

Sung Mass of SS Peter & Paul  
at St Laurence's Church, Milton Road, Cambridge, CB4 1XB  
on **Friday 29th June at 7.30pm**,  
followed by refreshments in the Parish Room & Garden

AND

On **Saturday 30th June from 12.30pm**  
Buffet lunch and Garden Party, with some music-making  
at Blackfriars, Buckingham Road  
Cambridge, CB3 0DD

Friends who would like to contribute food and drink to Saturday's celebration  
are invited to visit the list at St Laurence's after Mass,  
or contact Mrs Jeanette Milbourn. Tel: 01223 563927  
or email [jeanette.bannon.milbourn@gmail.com](mailto:jeanette.bannon.milbourn@gmail.com)

**RSVP before 16th June** for Saturday's party at Blackfriars  
by either signing our guest list, or by a note to Fr Bob at Blackfriars or St Laurence's

Absolutely no presents, please, but very welcome are any donations to the  
'Dominican Council for the Dominican Friars' Training Fund'  
for the formation of the next generation of Dominican brothers.

A collection will be taken at Mass on 29th June.

## 2018 Synod on Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment

### Susan O'Brien

'Every young person has something to say to others. He or she has something to say to adults, something to say to priests, sisters, bishops and even the Pope. All of us need to listen to you.'

Pope Francis, Prayer Vigil in preparation for World Youth Day, 2017.

### The Synod and how it is prepared

In October 2016, Pope Francis announced that the next Synod of Bishops would meet in Rome in October 2018 and that its focus would be on young people, the faith and vocational discernment. Young people aged 16 to 29 are to be 'the centre of attention' at this worldwide gathering of bishops. As Pope Francis has noted on many occasions, listening is the starting point of every pastoral encounter and the role of bishops is fundamentally pastoral. So how have bishops, who are mainly of the Baby Boomer generation, gone about listening to the concerns, hopes, needs and aspirations of the Millennials, sometimes known as Generation Y? And what have young Catholics of England and Wales told our bishops about the challenges they experience in living a life of faith today and the making of good life choices on the one hand and on the other how the Church assists them, or could assist them, to encounter God and discern what God is asking of each one.

If the bishops are to hear the voices of the many rather than the few, of those at the margins of church life as well as confidently at its centre, a good deal of thought has to go into the consultation process. Vatican documents are rarely an easy read and, as the consultation for the previous Synod on Marriage and the Family showed, serious effort is required to translate the intentions of the Synod Office into questions that people can answer from their experience and from the heart. When the 2018 Synod wants each Conference of Bishops to be able to speak about 'the main challenges and most significant opportunities for young people in your country today' or 'what young people really ask of the Church in your country today' it is not enough to consult experts on youth or to go by impressions. Young people have their own voices and must speak for themselves. In England and Wales the bishops imaginatively bridged the significant gap between the language and perception of young people and the Synod Office by devising an online survey with its own title, *Mega Youth Poll*. A second online survey – *Your View* – was devised for anyone who works with and cares for young people (parents, youth workers, teachers, chaplains).

How did this work out in practice? The shortened online survey approach was widely welcomed. Some teachers, catechists, parents and youth leaders felt that it took too long for news of the Poll to reach them and the young people they know. They wondered about bottle-necks in communication and how to open up better channels to make such important initiatives better known. Communication problems are common to all organisations and the Church is larger than most, but there may be something to be learned from this experience. In the event more than 12,000 young people responded to the *Mega Youth Poll* and 660 to *Your View*.

### The responses from England and Wales

An excellent report, pulling together the responses and putting them into a wider context, was published in February by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (*Report on Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment in England and Wales*). Its compilers, Teresa Carvalho, Home Mission Officer at the Bishops' Conference and Fr Christopher Jamison OSB, now Abbot President of the English Benedictine Congregation and formerly Director of the National Office for Vocation, have written a wise, encouraging and hopeful document. They have succeeded in enabling the voices of young people to come through clearly in ways that also help older generations to listen. But they don't pull any punches:

'Young people are asking the Church in England and Wales for a monumental change of attitude, orientation and practice.' (p.13)

'[The] desire for meaningful relationships is felt ever more keenly by many young practising Catholics who have been shunned for their beliefs.' (p.28)

'Accompanying young people in their discernment is most successful when placed in the context of a wider sense of vocation to which every Christian is called to respond (i.e. not solely focused on the call to priesthood and the religious life).' (p.42)

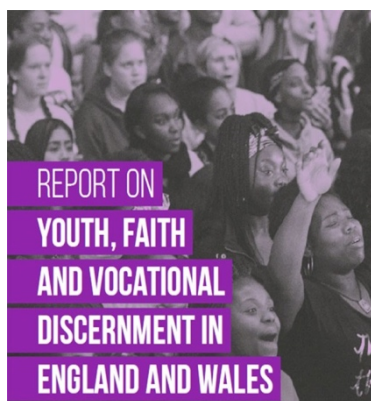
As a Baby Boomer, accurately described in the report as a 'digital migrant' (young people being 'digital natives'), I could have found the call for 'a monumental change' daunting. Instead I found what was being said about vocational discernment through experience of life, about the real consequences for young people of not following the secular norms of our culture, and about the centrality of authentic relationships to their search for God properly challenging. As the *Report* says, 'If we are brave enough not to dismiss them, it is possible to hear their yearning for a compelling narrative of how to live as

Christians, faithfully and authentically in today's world.' (p.34)

This is just a taste of the consultation responses. You can read more, including the activities, settings and approaches young people have identified as most helpful for encouraging or deepening their faith – and why – in this 50-page report. What comes through clearly is the plea to combine modern communication and professionalism with the stability and emphasis on relationships that the Church has always provided. Useful appendices classify and list the places and organisations providing services and activities for young Catholics (such as retreat centres, vocational services, social justice activities, evangelisation) – all with website addresses.

You can buy the report online for £1.50 a copy. Search using the title and it should take you to the Bishops' Conference and to a link for ordering.

### What happens next?



Further consultations at diocesan level have taken place or will take place to reflect on the *Report* itself and inform the two bishops attending the Synod. A Synodal consultation of young people took place in Rome during March. To keep this

small enough for real conversation numbers were limited to 300 worldwide (England and Wales had one representative; the United States three). Out of this came 15 'hashtags' identified as themes for young people to engage with before the Synod, ranging from #WhoAmI and #InteriorWorld to #Jesus and #DigitalWorld.

Read about this and much more at <http://www.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en.html>.

The *Report* from our Bishops' Conference will inform our own bishops (who have access to the survey responses). With reports from other parts of the world it will form material for the Synod discussions. After the Synod it is usual for the Pope to issue a teaching document to the Church and the world. Pope Francis has already stated that 'God believes in young people and entrusts them with responsibilities without hesitation'. No one can predict a Synod but the process underlying this one seems likely to produce an emphasis on trusting young people to help steer the Church at this time of transformational change.

## Forthcoming at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology



MARGARET BEAUFORT  
INSTITUTE OF  
THEOLOGY

### 1. *Living Theology: Society of Jesus/Margaret Beaufort weekend in Cambridge open to all*

Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July 2018

Presenters: Dr Anna Abrams, Dr Nick Austin SJ, Dr Ela Lazarewicz-Wyrzkouska, Dr Susan O'Brien and Fr Mike Smith SJ.

Topics: Discerning Church; science and religion in the thought of Teilhard de Chardin, Women in the Jesus movement and early Church; art as a means to explore questions of salvation and the social message of the Bible.

### 2. *On the Im/possibility of Talking about God*

Thursday afternoons for 1.5 hours from 4th October to 22nd November 2018

Can we talk about God? If so, how and why? This course is for Catholic women who want to explore how our experience and understanding of God is impacted by the different ways we use language. This course will examine the ways in which language has been understood in relation to God and consider the implications for our own lives and practices. Specifically, we will discuss what God-talk can and cannot do, how it relates to experiencing God, and how it enables us to communicate to and about God. Topics will include: Creation and God-talk (the idea that language is a God-given capacity); Metaphor and Poetic Language (the importance of non-literal language); Sacramental Language (specifically the Eucharist understood as what Herbert McCabe calls 'the creative language of God'); Prayer and Language (what is prayer, and who speaks to whom?); and God-talk and Gender (why do some

forms of God-talk prevail, and do some kinds of language bring us closer to God than others?).

Closing date is Monday 24th September. Apply early to avoid disappointment.

### 3. *Margaret Beaufort Institute Silver Jubilee Lecture*

20th September 2018

Dr. Barbara Jatta: Director of the Vatican Museums

On 1st January 2017, Dr. Barbara Jatta found herself projected onto the international news sphere when she was appointed as the first female Director of the Vatican Museums: a job, *The New York Times* joked, known for its ceilings. An academic/curator/art historian she will give the Margaret Beaufort Silver Jubilee Lecture at 5pm in the Divinity Faculty. The lecture will be followed by a reception at the same location.

### 4. *Beyond Teresa: A Colloquium*



9th June 2018 | 10am – 4pm

A one-day colloquium exploring the nature of Carmelite reform ‘after Teresa of Avila,’ addressing central issues of the ‘post-Teresian’ world from a multidisciplinary perspective. This event is a collaboration between the Margaret Beaufort Institute (where it is being held), St Mary’s University, Twickenham, and the British Carmelite Provinces. Confirmed speakers include Fr. Joy Alumkal OCD, Revd Prof. Kevin Alban O.Carm, Sr. Jo Robson OCD, Dr. Joana Serrado and Prof. Peter Tyler. The cost is £30, including a sandwich lunch and refreshments.

The Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology is a Roman Catholic academic institution whose primary mission is to educate and theologically empower women in the Church, while remaining committed to serving society at large and providing the opportunity to study what promotes the common good locally, nationally, and globally. We set out to offer transformative experiences for women, the community and the Church through theological education, professional pastoral practice and personal formation, assisting women to discern God's call and preparing them for lay ministries and Christian discipleship in today's world.

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### Contact details for each event

*Living Theology: Society of Jesus/Margaret Beaufort weekend in Cambridge open to all*

For details of the programme and booking see [www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk/events/public-events](http://www.margaretbeaufort.cam.ac.uk/events/public-events)

*On the Im/possibility of Talking about God*

For more information, and to apply contact:

Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology

12 –14 Grange Road

Cambridge CB3 9DU

01223 741039 | [mbitadm@hermes.cam.ac.uk](mailto:mbitadm@hermes.cam.ac.uk)

Closing date is Monday, 24th September

*Margaret Beaufort Institute Silver Jubilee Lecture*

If you would like to attend please contact Thea

Reimer, Communication Intern:

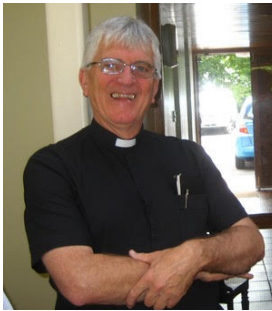
[thea.reimer@gmail.com](mailto:thea.reimer@gmail.com).

*Beyond Teresa: A Colloquium*

For booking, please contact Ela Wolbek via

[ew263@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ew263@cam.ac.uk) or 01223 741039.

## Dates for your diary: 60th anniversary celebrations of St Laurence's at Milton Road



We began our celebrations with Songs of Praise, but we're not finished yet!

Here are a few more dates for your diaries:

### **15th July the Bishop will say Mass**

Having heard of our plans to celebrate St Laurence's 60th, The Bishop was keen to be involved and asked to come and say Mass. We now have a date. Bishop Alan will come to St Laurence on 15th July and celebrate the 11am Sunday Mass. He will unveil a plaque which lists all the past priests who have served our Parish.

### **10th August St Laurence's Feast Day**

Concelebration Mass: We have sent invites to all previous members of the clergy and current seminarians connected to St Laurence's to come and join us on 10th August for Mass at 7.30pm, followed by a party in the garden with a hog-roast.

## Features and Opinions

### **The Cup of Blessing which we bless: 1 Cor. 10.16**

#### **Fr Bob Eccles**

Let's talk about the chalice. Let's start with two truths in mind. The first is that many Catholics let the Cup of Blessing pass them by. Having received Our Lord under the form of bread, they return to their seats without receiving the Precious Blood. No doubt there are explanations for this, mostly practical, non-religious reasons, it doesn't mean that they lack faith in the real presence. One everyday reason has to do with their country and culture. Both grapes and wine are unfamiliar where they come from. They have no associations for people, except as something foreign and exotic. On the other hand, for some wine may be an everyday, ordinary drink and not particularly special. Wine may be on the table every day for those who want it. Then we were taught as children not to share cups and plates in the family. What about the health risk? These are just some of the ordinary, everyday motives that lie behind not receiving the Precious Blood.

The second truth is that until we understand what Peter, James and John thought they were doing by drinking from the cup (those not especially bright disciples!) its true meaning will pass us by. Let's think about it. Like the English, first-century Jews only drank wine on special occasions, perhaps when there were guests, not every day, and there was a special way to do it properly. There was one big bowl of wine on the table. When the first course was finished, the father of the family had to raise the bowl in both hands and pronounce over it the prayer of thanksgiving in the name of all present: "Blessed are you, Lord of all creation, who gives us the fruit of the vine to drink!" Then he passed it round. They all drank out of the one cup (they had already been given a piece of the one loaf). You can see how drinking out of the same bowl expressed life together, sharing, fellow-feeling, communion. Just in same way, when today newly-weds cut the cake, every one of the guests must have some, and absent friends too, to share their joy.

You see also how sharing the cup is emblematic of a person's share in the things of life, his or her portion, or lot, or destiny. Sometimes the blessing or even the suffering that awaits us all. Open the Psalms, or the prophet Jeremiah, or Ezekiel, and find expressions like, 'Lord, you are my portion and cup, you yourself are my prize', 'The cup of salvation I will raise, and call upon the name of the Lord' (to express gratitude), 'my cup overflows' (signifying God's generosity), and 'take from my hand the cup of my anger' (signifying God's blame and displeasure). When Jesus asks James

and John, "Can you drink the cup that I shall drink?" he means, I shall be put to death, do you really want to come too? We see why in the Garden he prayed, "let this cup pass me by, nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done."

What is in the cup is also very special. When Jesus speaks of 'the fruit of the vine' he touches on this. Joshua sent his spies into the Promised Land before invading, and they smuggled out a mega bunch of grapes, so big it needed two to carry it! (Someone is exaggerating here!) The Lord God says in Scripture, "I brought a vine out of Egypt, to plant it I drove out the nations." How many gospel parables do you know where there's a vineyard? God's acre, that vineyard. Where our coins have roses and leeks and thistles, the coins of Israel – ancient and modern – put grapes and vines. The emblem of the Holy Land. And in St John's Gospel, Jesus calls himself the vine and his disciples the branches. At the Last Supper he says, "I will not drink wine with you again until I drink it new with you in the kingdom of God." So the vine and the fruit of the vine are rich symbols. They speak of God's plan for Israel that comes to its wonderful flourishing in the Messiah who shares the Cup of Blessing that spells communion and fellowship with him and sharing in the life of God.

Our story now gets even richer and more rewarding. Before the Passover, Jesus told his disciples to prepare the Passover Supper (the readings for Holy Thursday, drawn from the Old Testament and the New, have it all). By sharing in the Passover, the Jews in every generation make memorial of how they were rescued from cruel Pharaoh and became the people of the Covenant. On the table, with the unleavened bread and the lamb and the herbs, stood splendid cups filled with wine (since the destruction of the Temple, there is no longer a paschal lamb). The account found in the first three Gospels and in St Paul of the consecration of the chalice tells what happened; the cup he takes into his hands receives a new interpretation. We ourselves know what we understand by life-blood, by being of the same flesh and blood as all human beings, even by ties of blood (belonging to one's family of birth). Christ Jesus says, "Take this, all of you, and drink of it." Here is sealed for us the seal of the Covenant that binds the new Israel, in the blood that is shed for the forgiveness of sins. Ours the sharing in the redemption won at the cross, and living communion with him, his victory over death made ours, his living presence all the way down our lives. The cup that we bless is a sharing in the Precious Blood of our Saviour, who is our Way, our Truth and our Life. When we put out our hands to receive this holy and life-giving cup, it is so that we may find life in him, the life of the Blessed Trinity. "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not our communion in the blood of Christ?"



## Voice of Hope Series

**Theme: All things work for our good**

### Fr Alvan Ibeh SMMM

In Romans 8:28, St Paul wrote, ‘And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose’. This may be a little bit difficult for some people to accept, especially when someone finds himself or herself in a very difficult situation. One thing is sure in life, no one wants to be uncomfortable. Nobody wants stress. We all want to be comfortable and relaxed. We want things to happen exactly the way we want them to happen. That is the reason why when things begin to happen against our will, we start getting confused and frustrated. Even as Christians, most of the time we believe God is in control when everything is going our way. We are getting good breaks. Business is up. The family is happy. The kids are making good grades. We are in good health, etc. We know God is directing our steps. Life is good.

But here is the raw truth: having faith doesn’t exempt us from difficulties. The storms of life come to every person. We get a bad medical report. A friend or close relative betrays us. Business takes a downturn. In the difficult times it’s easy to think, ‘Where are you? How could you let this happen to me?’ But just know that the same God who is in control in the good times is just as in control in the rough times. God will not allow a storm unless he has a divine purpose for it. God never said he would prevent every difficulty, but he did promise that he would use every difficulty. That is the reason why we must not grumble or feel low when difficulties rise up against us. When we trust the all-powerful God who always has a perfect plan for us, He will always work out something perfect for us. So just be aware that nothing happens unknown to God. If he allows, it is for a reason, even if he doesn’t come down to explain things to us. All he wants from us is absolute trust and dependence on him.

A friend sent me this story and I want to share it with you to help you understand that when we feel that God has abandoned or forgotten us, he is actually up to something. When we are down to nothing, God is up to something. He makes everything work out for our own good.

One day, a man decided to travel by ship with his friends. While in the middle of their journey, the boat began to sink. Everyone tried to escape by swimming but it was all in vain, all drowned except this man who succeeded in clinging to a floating object. With the effect of the strong winds, this thing brought him very far, to a small island where there were no men or animals, just a few insects. With the sweat of his brow,

he managed to build a small box entirely made of straw. He stayed there for several days eating fruit and began to get used to his new life of suffering (even if we do not get used to it). He had already lost all hope of seeing his family again one day. Every night he lit a fire in front of his house to warm himself. One evening, as usual, he lit the fire. He stayed there for a long time until he dozed off. Late in the night, he was awakened by an overwhelming heat – it was his straw hut that had caught fire. He cried, cursing God, shouting, “Oh God, what have I done to you to hurt me so? You separated me from my family to bring me to this deserted island, then you killed all my friends and now you let my hut burn. Why are you so mean? It is better to die because I am tired of living in this suffering!”

But at dawn, he saw a small boat coming towards him. When the boat landed, he ran straight to the captain and said to him in astonishment, “Captain, how did you get here? No boat can get here unless he gets lost.” The Captain replied, “In the night we saw a fire and we thought it was a burning boat, and if we did not arrive immediately it was because the journey was long. We used the fire to help us find you.” The man cried, fell on his knees and asked God for forgiveness, and he got into the boat and went home.

God has many ways to solve our problems. You can lose a job and think that God has left you when he wants to give you a better job. Your friends can leave you, do not believe that the Lord has rejected you; he wants to keep you away from bad company. Do not curse your God even if you suffer, keep faith and hope, he will act. Do you know that sometimes, to succeed in life you need enemies? Yes! God can use your perceived enemy to work out something good for you. After all, it was through the perceived enemies of Jesus Christ that God fulfilled his plans for our salvation. It may be hard to accept, but it is true. You need people who will mock you, so that you can run to God. A very good example at this point is Hannah in 1 Samuel 1:6–7, 10. The passage says, ‘And because the Lord had closed her womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her. This went on year after year. Whenever Hannah went up to the house of the Lord, her rival provoked her till she wept and would not eat... In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly’. You see it? She needed her rival to provoke her to seek the face of God and God allowed it to happen. You need people who will try to intimidate you, so that you can be courageous. You need people who will say ‘No’ so that you can learn how to be independent... I mean how to do it yourself. You need people who will disappoint you so that you can put all your trust in God alone. You need people who will work towards you losing that job, so that you can start your own big business. You need people who will sell

your ‘Joseph’ so that you can get to Egypt and be a Prime Minister in a strange land of captivity (Genesis 37–47).

But sometimes, when we are disappointed, we feel very bad and we tend to remain on that spot. Not knowing that the end-point of disappointment is the beginning of your accomplishments. Understand this, every disappointment you once had, came with a blessing! However, it is not everyone that partakes in this blessing that I’m talking about.

You cannot see a new open door while you are still putting all your attention, time and energy in trying to force the closed one to open. And again I say, no disappointment can ever come without an attached blessing! So, when disappointments come, thank God for it and tell Him to open your eyes to see the new blessing that he has for you! Disappointment is Phase One while accomplishment is Phase Two. I doubt if one can jump the protocols. That is why it is called breakthrough; something must ‘break’ so that you can go ‘through’! Be encouraged. Stay lifted. This is a Voice of Hope.

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## **Bishops Be Brave – we need you to be**

### **John Hobson**

*Dominus vobiscum.* It’s time to give the old mitre-wearing Bishops of England and Wales a bit of a bashing this week; after all what did soldiers used to say about the Queen’s guards wearing their bearskin hats outside Buckingham Palace, “If you can’t fight, wear a big hat”. Dear Pope Francis is gently washing the Church through with love (*Amoris Laetitia*), joy (*Evangelii Gaudium*), kindness, mercy (the Year of Mercy) and subsidiarity (empowering Bishops’ collegiality). The Bishops’ Conferences around the world are showing some signs of response and not all of them it has to be said are as welcoming of the Holy Father’s approach as they may be. What of our dear Bishops then? It certainly seems that they cower on multiple fronts in fear of moving forward or take some quite resolute steps going onto supposedly safer ground and even more steps going backwards; it is so comforting to go backwards after all. Their craven attitude to meekly thanking the Vatican Curia for telling them that they could not apply a rule retrospectively to resurrect the 1998 non-approved but very beautiful English liturgy was shameful, not least because the Vatican so rudely dismissed the 1998 liturgy and imposed a replacement that is unprayable and, in places, even unreadable.

Revised pastoral guidelines for reception of Communion by the divorced and mixed marriage couples have been released in several Bishops’ Conferences and they have been released with the intention of embracing not obstructing the direction of travel signified by the Holy Father in his *Amoris Laetitia* paper. The Bishops’ Conference for England and Wales did, to be fair, adopt a very reasonable and welcoming resolution embracing the Holy Father’s document and its re-interpretation of how to implement the existing set of rules in a non-judgmental and merciful way. Also, the Bishop of Northampton released a very caring pastoral review of the Pope’s paper. Sadly, a clearly dissenting approach was taken by Bishop Philip Egan of the Portsmouth diocese, a Professor of Fundamental Theology, and this was clearly evident in his 14th February 2016 pastoral letter complete with its 20 footnotes – very theologically intense. Here was a pastoral letter which stripped all joy of love, all merciful understanding and all sense of reconciliation out of the Pope’s exhortation and reinforced the general sense of judgementalism that the Pope was so anxious to depart from. Just to maintain the tone and keep his flock firmly on track for Vocation Sunday this year his pastoral letter addressed the evils of abortion and birth control. Controversy avoided, nothing learnt, nothing new, nothing innovative, a safe pair of hands; should be a wicket-keeper.

Meanwhile we have a need for some safer wicket-keeping from our dear Cardinal Nichols who was quite unable to think clearly when he seemingly pronounced in favour of defending Alder Hey Children’s Hospital in Liverpool whilst failing to see that the rights of that little boy Alfie’s parents should have carried more legal standing than those of the State; what was he thinking? Once the hospital declares it can do no more and recommends cessation of all treatment then what right should they have to refuse the child’s return to its parents?

More parochially what then have we all heard of the vexed matter of closing parishes and the possible discussion of ordaining married men? Any change or open discussion in this field? Of course we have the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham (which was established in 2011 by Pope Benedict XVI to allow Anglicans to enter into the full communion of the Catholic Church whilst retaining much of their heritage and traditions – it now has the full support and blessing of Pope Francis) which provides for married ex-Anglican priests to join us, so all is well in that sphere. Already we have married priests then and so the matter need not be addressed further.

What is the English Bishops’ view of ordaining ladies to the Diaconate? You don’t know about that either? I

guess not, nobody really does. What we do have though is a tour of the land by our Lady of Walsingham's statue so that England can be re-dedicated as the Dowry of Mary; well that's lovely, safe and traditional and reassuring isn't it, and cannot really be found anything but virtuous.

Controversially though we do have the promotion of more Latin in the Mass and that serves to show some activity in the liturgy sphere but forward thinking it is not. I can't help wondering what popular show of enthusiasm for more Latin in the Mass led the bishops to seek this particular initiative or was it just a seminary-inspired academic and musical elite reflecting a desire to move the liturgy debate away from the glottis-throttling English liturgy we have currently. It wouldn't be so bad if this was the rebranding of the Latin Mass Society as the Association for Latin Liturgy (ALL) – see the Diocesan website for more details – but sadly it is not. In any event our dear Bishop Alan, who is the Bishops' Conference Liturgy Chair and is a member of the Bishops' Conference Department of Life and Worship, is right behind the *Graduale Parvum* initiative (a sort of Church In the Rear View Mirror Group) which aims to bring the 'essentially Catholic' language of Latin back into the Mass. *Graduale Parvum* was launched in April at the seminary in Oscott (yes the Pope was right, seminaries are in urgent need of revision) and workshops for you all will be at the Cathedral in September. Hopefully the invitations to attend will be in Latin and attendance will reflect this and therefore only attract the 'right' people!

So there you have it. Lots of work on the liturgy that we all struggle with, but not the English one; just what the laity really needs. Vatican II clearly did not wish the eradication of Latin from the Mass. We all lustily sing the Greek *Kyrie* as well as the Latin *Agnus Dei* so we could equally sing the *Credo*, the *Gloria*, the *Sanctus* and the *Pater Noster* – so why don't our gallant bishops promote some or all of that? It's dead easy, costs nothing and we could embrace it overnight without expense, and many of us already more or less know them and could lead the younger ones. What we don't need is a fresh injection of Latin we never sang in the first place or a back door approach to re-introducing a regular Latin High Mass.

Finally it needs to be asked who paid for the *Graduale Parvum* range of books and CDs and why? We already have a Latin Mass Society and now we find another funded group supporting Latin in the Mass. We simple fools in the pew in all the parishes, without musical directors or fancy church organs or specialist choristers, look to the bishops to give us a proper English liturgy; or do we have to wait for the Catholic

Truth Society (or whoever publishes the lectionaries and missals) to make their profit over time before we dare change things; or maybe for the complete liturgy directorate in Rome to retire and be replaced before we dare raise the topic again.

This is the progress we need on liturgy and in the meantime we are frustrated simply to observe liturgical tinkering in the margins creating the Church in the rear view mirror. I am drawn to the texts in *Evangelii Gaudium* dealing with the spiritual worldliness which hides behind the appearance of piety and even love for the Church and particularly paragraph 94 which addresses worldliness in terms of gnosticism and neopelagianism. To avoid selective quoting I offer the whole text as I scream 'J'accuse':

'This worldliness can be fuelled in two deeply interrelated ways. One is the attraction of gnosticism, a purely subjective faith whose only interest is a certain experience or set of ideas and bits of information which are meant to console and enlighten, but which ultimately keep one imprisoned in his or her own thoughts and feelings. The other is the self-absorbed promethean neo-Pelagianism of those who ultimately trust only in their own powers and feel superior to others because they observe certain rules or remain intransigently faithful to a particular Catholic style from the past. A supposed soundness of doctrine or discipline leads instead to a narcissistic and authoritarian elitism, whereby instead of evangelizing one analyses and classifies others, and instead of opening the door to grace, one exhausts his or her energies in inspecting and verifying. In neither case is one really concerned about Jesus Christ or others. These are manifestations of an anthropocentric immanentism. It is impossible to think that a genuine evangelizing thrust could emerge from these adulterated forms of Christianity.'

*Pax vobiscum.*

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## May Crowning of the Statue of our Lady



## Cambridge Churches Homeless Project – CCHP

### Petra Tucker

CCHP, a small charity started in November 2017 and evolving from Hope Cambridge, has provided a winter months' shelter in Cambridge for several years.

The project offers an evening meal and bed every night of the week for 15–17 men from the beginning of December until the end of March. Six city churches and Beth Shalom, the city centre synagogue, each take responsibility for the same night every week. We have one paid worker (Jemma) who is passionate about this kind of work and has abundant energy for clients and volunteers alike. Now that the shelter has finished until next December the trustees have decided to continue funding her post so that she can work with the handful of clients whom CCHP is now supporting in their new homes. The shelter only caters for men for very practical reasons and because there are other 'beds' that can be used for women who are homeless. CCHP supported three women in this accommodation during 2017–2018.

So how does the shelter actually work? The host church/synagogue has to have its own kitchen where a team of cooks prepare a meal for that night. A volunteer lead cook works with three or four volunteer assistants, arriving at 6.30pm to prepare and serve a very good hot meal by 8pm. Another team of three or four volunteers act as hosts, arriving at 6.45pm to prepare the beds and set out tables and chairs for the evening meal. The men are provided with a sleeping kit, comprising a mat, sleeping bag and liner, pillow and slip, which Jemma collects every morning from the current host venue to take on to the next venue.



Bedding ready near the altar at Great St Mary's

The men arrive from 7pm onwards. There is a small amount of paperwork to be completed by the team

leader for that night and the two trustees who are on duty each evening to support the volunteers. Guests are referred from several agencies: Wintercomfort for The Homeless, Jimmy's Assessment Centre, Cambridge Mental Health and Street Outreach Team and The Dual Diagnosis Outreach Team. Many of the men have addiction problems and/or mental health problems. Once they arrive they find 'their space' for the night and have a hot drink while waiting for the supper.



Drinks for the guests at Great St Mary's

The meal is a real communal time with lots of chatter and generally a relaxed atmosphere. The cooks, who also clear up after the meal then leave, as do the hosts, unless they are part of the team of four volunteers who stay overnight. The men are woken up at 6am and leave by 7.30am. Another group of volunteers come in at 7am to clean the kit and pack it up for Jemma to collect and to clean the hall where people have been sleeping and the loos. The pillowslips and sleeping bag liners are taken away and washed by one of the volunteers; the sleeping bags are sent to a laundry once every two weeks. If someone turns up and there is no space for them, they will be given a sleeping bag and usually offered a meal before they leave. This happened on several of the very cold nights last winter.

So what about our guests? In one way it is very simple – they are homeless and have nowhere to sleep. In reality they are people with families; people who would like to have their own bed to sleep in every night and people who would like the ability to earn their own money; people who find maintaining relationships and navigating the 'everyday doings' of life extremely difficult. Addiction and poor mental health act as a heady cocktail which prevents them from getting and holding down a job, and securing and maintaining a tenancy. Their problems are complex

and often they find it extremely difficult to engage with people who might be able to help them. There are also guests who are working but because they are on zero hours contracts are unable to save up for a rent deposit. A friend said to me once that some of the men they met at the shelter didn't look like homeless men. The image of 'the gentlemen of the road' is not the only type of homeless person. Most of the guests if you met them wouldn't 'look homeless'.

There are rules to adhere to at the shelter and the drinking of alcohol is not allowed on the premises. To this end all alcohol has to be handed in and bags checked at signing in. Abusive behaviour is not tolerated and will always result in a ban for several nights. If a guest is completely unable to adhere to the few rules, he will be banned from the project.

The Dual Diagnosis Team (substance abuse and mental health) visit the project regularly to speak with the various guests with whom they are working. Jemma will sit with the men each evening and help them to look for accommodation. CCHP itself has recently taken on a tenancy and two of the guests are now housed and living well on their own with support from Jemma.

Finally, a few numbers to show the scale of the project. During last winter 45 people were looked after, including three women who were placed in short-term B&B pending access to hostels. Twenty-four of the guests are now accommodated, although one of these remains in a B&B while work is followed through with the Council and other agencies to place him. 17 of the guests (mostly short-term or in-and-out) are rough sleeping again and four have moved on in some other way.

CCHP is a wonderful example of ecumenism at work, where what brings us together is something very simple – our desire to give someone a bed for the night and a hot meal. Our doctrinal differences are of less importance. It is also very special to work with our Jewish brothers and sisters. One of my shifts is at Beth Shalom. The atmosphere is very warm and welcoming and it is the only venue with under floor heating! Indeed the commitment, friendship and generosity of Beth Shalom is a real testament to inter-faith working.

## **Stephen Hawking, 1942-2018**

### **Dick Wilson**

Born in Oxford in 1942, the physicist Stephen Hawking, followed in his parent's footsteps and studied for his undergraduate degree at the University of Oxford in 1959. He gained a first-class degree which meant he was able to take up a post-graduate degree in Cosmology at the University of Cambridge. Diagnosed with motor neurone disease at the age of 21, he was given just two years to live. However, his condition developed more slowly than expected and defying all predications he went on to live until the age of 76 when he died in Cambridge on 14 March 2018. Despite his debilitating illness, including undergoing a tracheostomy in 1985 after contracting pneumonia, which left him only able to speak using a speech synthesiser, he was able to carry out his duties and teaching throughout his life. At his funeral on 31st March, they clapped as he was carried from his college, Gonville and Caius, along King's Parade and into Great Saint Mary's Church.

As Hawking's condition did not worsen so quickly, he was able to concentrate on his studies of the universe. Inspired by Roger Penrose's theory of a space-time singularity in the centre of black holes he applied the same thinking to the entire universe and wrote his thesis on this in 1965. A copy of the thesis has recently been deposited, under Open Access, at Cambridge University Library and can be accessed and read on the Cambridge University Digital Library website.

From the start, he took up basic problems. His first book, *The Large Scale Structure of Space-Time*, 1973, was co-authored by George F. Ellis (Emeritus Professor of Complex Systems at the University of Cape Town in South Africa) and attempted to explain the foundation of space itself. Hawking described the book as 'highly technical and unreadable to the common reader', but it has now become a classic which has been reprinted many times.

He spent some time in the 1970s living and working in the US where he held a visiting professorship at the Californian Institute of Technology. He returned to Cambridge in 1975 as a Reader in gravitational physics and in 1979 was elected Lucasian Professor of Mathematics; a post held previously by, amongst others, Isaac Newton and Charles Babbage.

Possibly to counter balance the unreadable status of his first book, at the age of 46, he wrote *A Brief History of Time* (1988), which he called "a popular book about space and time." He writes in non-technical terms about the structure, origin and development of the universe and proposes its potential fate. His aim, he

says, is for anyone who looks through it too to acquire some indication of what goes on in the world of physics – the infinitesimal, the universe, and between them a day to day to understanding of that world.

He includes some references to religion, as an example of something neither provable or disprovable. He describes attending a conference on cosmology at the Vatican, where he was told by the Jesuit organisers that the Church made a bad mistake over Galileo Galilei. A Papal audience followed, and the Pope said, “that it was all right to study the evolution of the universe after the big bang, but we should not inquire into the Big Bang itself because that was moment of Creation and therefore the work of God...”. Hawking says, “I was glad then that he did not know of the subject I had just given at the Conference – the possibility that space-time was finite but had no boundary, which means that it had no beginning, no moment of creation.”

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## News from All Saints in Cottenham

### Lynda Davies

All Saints’ in Cottenham has seen much change over the last six months. In October 2017, after a year’s interregnum, I arrived as the new Priest-in-Charge. I hadn’t come far, just from the neighbouring benefice comprising of Longstanton, Swavesey, Over, Willingham and Lolworth, prior to that I had been in Oundle, Northamptonshire for several years. I come with a real passion for church growth –in number, in the depth of faith and how we reach out to our local community. I also love the breadth of the Anglican tradition, from Messy Church (family orientated) to Book of Common Prayer [BCP] Choral Evensong.



an incredibly moving drama, inviting people to reflect on where they might have been in Christ’s Passion. As we think about the future the new space gives us much opportunity to think about how we might like church to look, for example Messy Church and Café Church, both being expressions of church being practised by Anglicans in many places.

During the weekend of 16th and 17th June, All Saints’ will be holding a weekend of celebration to mark the completion of the works. On the afternoon of Saturday 16th June there will be guides to show people around the church which will be full of music, flowers and other displays. Other activities include a treasure hunt

The other big change is in the building itself. After years of planning and fundraising, the church was closed for the first three months of 2018 to enable a re-ordering project to be completed. The first stage, completed just before Christmas, was the building of a new central dais enabling Communion to be celebrated in the nave, and the installation of a new communion rail. The rail was designed by a church member, Mac Dowdy, and brought to fruition by artist Nigel Kaines of Designs on Metal. We are proud to follow in the Church of England’s tradition of commissioning new artworks and are especially grateful for financial support from the Parish Council for this element of our refurbishment programme. The title of the rail is ‘The Rail of Life’ and the decorative forms in each of the six panels are inspired by every aspect and emotion of our lives, from exciting birth to the thanksgiving of death. Some talented needle workers designed a new frontal for the nave communion table which reflects one of the images from one of the panels. Now that both are in situ, I’m sure you’ll agree how splendid they look.



Phase 2 of the re-ordering project involved removing pews from the front section of the nave and the laying of a new floor. This has created a large open space at the front of church which can be used flexibly for worship. On Easter Sunday the new space was used for in the churchyard, tower tours, a quiz, a teddy bears’ picnic and cream tea in the rectory garden. We will also have opportunities for teddies to descend from the church tower! The day concludes with an evening of varied music in the church, including local choirs.

On Sunday 17th June, the Family Communion Service at 10.30am will be led by Bishop Stephen, followed by a barbecue for the church family. From 2pm the church will be open again with games in the Rectory garden as well as a treasure hunt in the churchyard, followed by the always popular Songs of Praise at 4pm with Cottenham Brass. Do feel free to pop along and see the church for yourself! Everyone is welcome.

# ABLAZE

## Mass



Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June , 5pm

@ St Laurence's Church, Milton Road.

A Joyful, upbeat Worship

For Youth and the Young at Heart

(With pizza and treats afterwards)

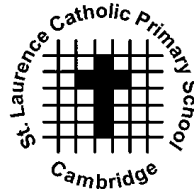
We have had to move the day as there is so  
much happening in June!

(back to the "teenth" next month...15<sup>th</sup> July)

## St Laurence School Golden Jubilee Year

Mrs Rachel Chalklin

History Curriculum Lead and Past Pupil



### *St Laurence Catholic Primary School Celebrating 50 Years of Faith Based Learning 1968-2018*

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the consecration of our Parish Church on Milton Road in 1958. A decade later at 9am on 29th April 1968 the Parish primary school finally opened with 86 children on role and 5 members of staff.

*Shortly after (the opening of the church) Father Oates inaugurated a School Building Fund with the aim of providing a school for the children of his parish. The chosen site, at the northern end of Arbury Road, was at that time far removed from established residential areas, though nowadays the school is surrounded by later housing developments. The project was not included in the Local Education Authority's list of future schools and this meant that instead of receiving an 80% grant towards building costs, the parish had to find virtually the entire cost, about £110,000, when building work started in 1967.*

The above extract was written by Ron Ellison the first headmaster (1968–1986) and taken from the book *Catholics in Cambridge* ((2003, Ed. Nicholas Rogers, Gracewing Publications). This source of wonderful reminiscences along with the Headteacher's Log Book from 1968–1989 have provided the current pupils with a wealth of information about the history of their school. As part of our Golden Jubilee celebrations the teaching staff have wanted to ensure that the children could use this invaluable opportunity to develop their historical research skills, with each of the Key Stages focusing on an element of the school's history, challenging and developing their understanding of what is important in a local history study.



On Monday 30th April, we began the day with an assembly to explain the events planned for the week ahead. I explained – whilst holding his first school cap – that my brother Daniel started his Reception year in 1967 at the then-named Shirley Infants School on Green End Road. When the Parish school opened the following April, he transferred to St Laurence's. In the years that followed myself, my two sisters and all of my parent's eight grandchildren also attended our Parish school. I am by no means the only past pupil now working at school; several members of staff are also past pupils or the parents of past pupils. I discussed with the children why our parents chose our school. It was lovely to hear the children's responses noting that our faith in Jesus unites us all and is shared in all we do. At the school's recent Ofsted inspection, the inspector commented that he was under no requirement to comment on the ethos of the school but wished to note, 'This is a school whose values are intentionally built around its Catholic ethos'. Over the past 50 years our belief has bound us together.

We teach the children about our Christian values, the children show wonderful examples of this in their R.E. learning, but far more importantly, they live their faith implicitly in all they do at school and in other areas of their lives. The beginning of a week of celebrating 50 years of faith based learning.



## 1960's dress up day in Kingfishers (Year 1 and 2)



As part of our focus on the school's opening in 1968 the children reflected on what it might have been like 50 years ago. The children in Years 3 and 4 compiled a questionnaire for past pupils to complete, some of us were even lucky enough to be interviewed. We held a couple of competitions which had been very popular in the 1960s; Guess the Baby and Spot the Ball. The staff kindly provided baby photos for the Guess the Baby competition – some babies easier to identify than others! And the Mini Vinnies had a game of football in order to provide the competition photo for Spot the Ball. On Wednesday, the whole school dressed in 1960s clothing. Walking around the

school at lunchtime I passed all four of the Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, at least two Thunderbirds and a large gathering of hippies. Mrs Taylor, the school secretary, had a visitor from the Local Authority who quietly asked at 5pm if all the staff at this school always came to school in such brightly coloured clothes or was it a special occasion!

Friday was a very special day; we began the day by making party decorations and, after a quick break, streamed into the hall for Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan, Father Pat, Father Bob, Deacon Geoff and Father Padraig. We were joined by parents past and present, members of the Parish and past members of staff, including Mr Ellison, the first Head and Miss Adams, the first Deputy Head. The service was beautiful, all the children signed the hymns. Our school dance group, 'Unity 12', gracefully sung and danced the psalm (including soloists Jelissa and Sean). The Year 6 children read the readings and bidding prayers and the presidents of our Mini Vinnies presented the commemorative bookmarks for Bishop Alan to bless. One very special moment occurred early in the service when Bishop Alan noted that our current head teacher, Mrs Clark, was sitting to his right, but he wondered if anyone knew who was the first headteacher of our school? Without hesitation, a sea of hands went up in the air all eager to answer that it was Mr Ellison. Glancing over it was lovely to see the smile on Mr Ellison's face.



**Commemorative book mark blessing after Mass**

After Mass the whole congregation filtered out to the front lawn where Bishop Alan kindly helped to plant a commemorative tree with Mrs Clark and the youngest and oldest current pupils at school. Included in the tree planting was a very shiny time capsule that the children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 had filled with objects that were representative of our lives at school in 2018. They had squashed in newsletters, examples of their writing, local and national newspapers, till receipts and small maths resources that are used daily in class.



**Bishop Alan with Mrs Clark, Anthony (Year 6) and Hania (Reception)**

Bishop Alan and our other guests then visited the exhibition that the children had created illustrating the wealth of historical study that had gone on throughout the week across the school. Many of the old photos were shared, as well as insightful incidents from the Headteacher’s Log Book. It was a privilege to share it with Mr Ellison noting how the school roll went from 86 in April 1968 to 162 at the start of the Autumn term that same year. The Headteacher’s Log Book is full of a wealth of information about the school and also primary school life in general through to 1989. Over the week children had used it to find out about different aspects of school life in the past including school trips, the sports children played (St Laurence’s mostly won), the names of previous members of staff and the cost of items in the 1960s through to the 1980s. Each time a member of staff picked it up they found it very difficult to put it down.



**Mr Ellison and Mrs Clark**

Bishop Alan stayed for lunch and then headed back to Norwich whilst the children all helped to prepare for a whole school party. Parents generously donated party food and drink. We moved 80 tables and 300 chairs out on to the Key Stage 2 playground and, with the hard work of all the staff, prepared and served a sit-down party for the whole school. Music from the 1960's filled the air and Ms Hawkins very kindly made a delicious birthday cake big enough for everyone to share. The cake was cut by Mrs Clark and Hyung Mo from Eagles class who had played the piano so beautifully at Mass in the morning. Walking around the tables staff commented that it was such a lovely party and that we needed to think of a good reason to have a party every year!



**Our whole school tea party**



**Mrs Clark and Hyung-Mo (Owls Year 5)**

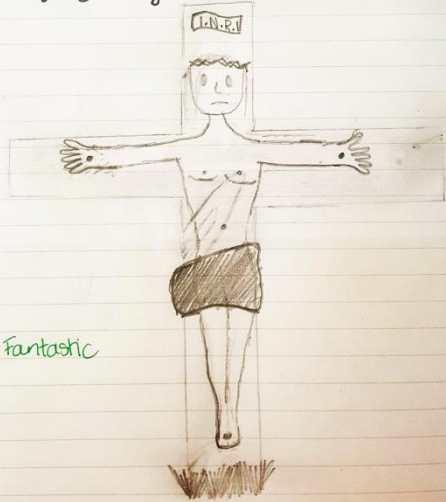
As part of their understanding of time, some of the children in Years 1 and 2 thought about what they would like to be in 50 years' time: scientists, zoo keepers, dancers, artists, rock stars, spacemen and teachers were some of the responses. If the next 50 years at St Laurence Catholic Primary School are as good as the first what a wonderful place it will continue to be.

*Over the next twelve months the children will continue to mark this important landmark year in our history with a series of activities and events. We would like to create a commemorative memory book for the children to share as a record of our historical findings this year. If you have any special memories of your time at St Laurence's you would like to share please email [office@stlaurence.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:office@stlaurence.cambs.sch.uk)*



**Mr Ellison with Magpies (Year 5)**

As we entered the hall, Y4 were sitting on each side of the stage. It was very ~~quite~~ <sup>quiet</sup> and the mood was very sombre. When it started Ms Darnada read out the story. I felt very reflective, it was so powerful. I was thankful because Jesus gave his life for us. It made me think that Jesus really does love us all. The silence made me think about the message that they were trying to give us.



/// Fantastic

As we entered to hall, the Y4s were sitting on each side of the stage. Everyone was quiet and the mood was sombre.

I found the play very calm, their actions were very serious and so were they.

My favourite part was when Mary, Simeonet, hugged Jesus, who was Olaf. Simeonet was very good at her part; she made me feel very emotional.

Also they had the two criminals next to Jesus this made the play look really realistic. I felt like I was one of the crowd members and it made me realise I should be grateful that Jesus sacrificed himself for us.



/// Fantastic work.

Our Year 4 children prepared this year's Passion Play and performed it for the school on 28th March. At the end of the play, all the children left the hall in silence (listening to Taize's 'Jesus Remember Me') and returned to their classrooms. Magpie Class (Year 5) went straight to their RE books to record their reflections upon the Passion Play. Here is some of their writing.

As we entered the hall Y4 were sitting on each side of the stage. Some people were wearing black and Jesus was Olaf the play sombre and Jesus gave his life to us and he was grateful and the ending was amazing. It was upsetting that I almost cried.



## EASTER WORK FROM ST LAURENCE'S SCHOOL

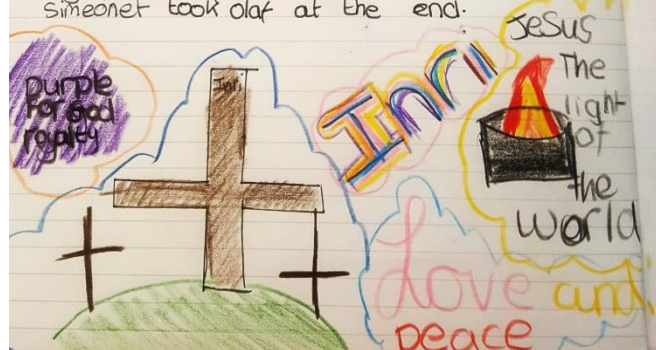
As Magpies walked in the hall Y4 were sitting on each side of the stage.

MS Damada was reading the text in a really sad, somber voice, whilst Y4s were acting out. I felt sad when Olaf (Jesus) was crucified on the cross.

It reminded me of the sacrifice of Jesus that God gave to us. It is very sad that God gave his only son and helped us.

All the silence in the hall made you really reflect and it made it even better; and you felt that you were actually there.

My favourite part is when Simeonet took Olaf at the end.



## Parish Organisations and Activities

### The Catholic Clothing Guild

#### Margaret Plumb

The Catholic Clothing Guild meeting was held at the Church of Our Lady and St Etheldreda, Newmarket on Wednesday 11th April 2018 at 2pm. The speaker this year was from 'Leeway', a group who care and support men, women and children suffering domestic violence and abuse. A copy of the Annual Report can be found in the Church Porch on the CWL noticeboard. Next year's meeting is on Wednesday, 1st May 2019

The Catholic Clothing Guild provides clothing for organisations in need of clothing and the following are some of the charities which are being supported at the present time.

**Operation Christmas Child:** the shoeboxes – children's woolly hats, gloves and scarves only.

**Apostleship of the Sea:** woolly hats, scarves, socks, pullovers, T-shirts, underwear.

**Gatehouse (Bury St Edmunds):** adults, children and babies' garments and knee blankets

**Gambia through Education:** children's and young adult's shorts, skirts, dresses, t-shirts, underwear, packets of seeds, shoes of all sizes.

Christmas donations last year went to the following:

SVP Norwich £100; St Martin's Housing Trust £50; Jimmy's Cambridge £50; E.A.C.H. £50; Apostleship of the Sea £25; Gambia Aid through Education £25; Gatehouse Project £25; Samaritan's Purse £25.

The rules of the Guild are:

- 1 The object of the Guild is to exercise charity by supplying useful and warm clothing for those who through unfortunate circumstances are unable to provide for themselves and their families
- 2 Clothing shall be distributed to societies and organisations whose work is concerned with the relief of the poor, the needy, the aged, the chronically ill, and to families and individuals recommended by such societies and other reliable sources.
- 3 All persons – Catholic and non-Catholic – are eligible for membership.
- 4 Members undertake to provide two articles of new clothing and a subscription of £2 annually. Junior members (under 16) to give one article and a subscription of £1 annually.

### The Guild's Prayer

Increase in us, O Lord, the gift of Thy love, that we who help to clothe the bodies of Thy needy children, may ourselves be found at the hour of death clothed with the nuptial garment of charity. Stir up, O Lord, in the hearts of Thy faithful, a zeal of works for mercy, that while many of Thy family are suffering from bodily wants, those who are able may be moved to assist them. Purify, O Lord, our hearts and minds, that we who work for each other may hear from Thee on the last day, 'As long as you did it to one of your brothers or sisters, you did it for me.'

O Sacred Heart of Jesus, have pity on those in need.  
St Elizabeth and St Zita pray for us.

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### The key to unlocking the power of God in our lives

#### Pamela Sephton

In 2002, I went on a Saga holiday which had a religious theme. We stayed at Durham University and from there went on daily visits to places of religious interest. One wonderful visit was to Lindisfarne Holy Island. This is reached and departed from when the tide is out! Another lovely place that we went to was Hexham Abbey. Whilst there I went to light a candle and noticed and read this lovely prayer of St Maximilian Kolbe:

The day was long, the burden I had borne  
Seemed heavier than I could longer bear,  
And then it lifted – but I did not know  
Someone had knelt in prayer,  
Had taken me to God that very hour,  
And asked the easing of the load, and He,  
In infinite compassion, had stooped down  
And taken it from me.  
We cannot tell how often as we pray  
For some bewildered one, hurt and distressed,  
The answer comes, but many times those hearts  
Find sudden peace and rest.  
Someone had prayed, and Faith,  
a reaching hand,  
Took hold of God,  
and brought Him down that day!  
So many, many hearts have need of prayer,  
Oh, let us pray!

Reading this prayer led me to thinking that it would be good to have a band of people at St Laurence's who would pray for anyone in an emergency – an important interview, a child gone missing, a marriage in difficulties, an impending operation etc.

I was able to 'recruit' about 30 willing volunteers.

The prayer line is conducted on the telephone. The volunteers are divided into three columns. The person at the head of each column has their telephone number on the front of our newsletter. Whoever receives a request for prayer immediately calls the other two heading a column and passes on the request. Then all three call the person below them on the column, and that person does the same, and so the message goes on down the line.

We only ask for the Christian name of the person for whom we are praying, but I do like to know the age and as much as is necessary to know of the problem.

The very first request we had was on the 12th of January 2003. It was for Annie, 7 months old, who had been rushed to hospital, very ill. Two days later I had a call to say that she was out of danger, so that was a wonderful start. Since then we have had nearly 900 requests for prayer.

The number of volunteers has gone down a little – one has died, a couple moved away and a few are not able to cope because of increasing deafness; good hearing is really necessary as it is important that the correct message is passed on.

If anyone feels that they would like to be part of The Emergency Prayer Line, please call me on 276577. You will be most welcome.

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## CAFOD Update

### Nora Darby

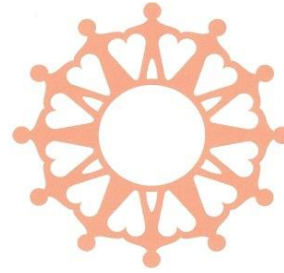
**The Lent Fast Day** appeal was very successful. We raised £1,731.45 which doubled when matched to government funds so a grand total of £3,462.90. Thanks to everyone concerned.

**Pound for Peru** continues each month. In the March 2018 CAFOD update, we are told the children of Warma Huasi (we support them) gathered for a show, where the price of entry was not money but sugar, milk, rice and noodles. These were used to provide food baskets for the very poorest people, and which the children delivered.

The main activity for this summer is **Share the Journey**.

Pope Francis has asked us to join the 'Share the Journey' campaign for the rights of people on the move. We are asked to walk in solidarity with refugees. More people are on the move than ever, and

every minute 20 more people are displaced. The aim of the campaign is to walk 24,900 miles which is the distance around the whole world!



Here at St Laurence's, the CAFOD group are asking all parishioners and Parish groups to take part in our walk. We are planning to meet on Sunday, 22nd July at Milton Country Park. You can bring a picnic to eat at 1pm, with the actual walk starting at 2pm. "Whatever the weather," Mary says!! The walk will last about 45 mins, with stops for prayer and refugee stories.

Please think about this, join us, bring along the children, other family members and friends. There is more information available, look on the CAFOD noticeboard and there will also be posters in the porch and the Narthex .

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## Summary of St Laurence's Parish Forum. 23rd April 2018

Stephen Warde (Chair), Fr. Pat, Fr. Bob, Deacon John Steel, Sarah Sykes (Minutes), plus about 20 other parishioners in attendance.

**Matters Arising.** Amendment from Fr. Bob with reference to details of his 50th Anniversary at last Forum meeting. The correct version of the Invitation can be seen on page 1 of this magazine.

**Finance.** Deacon John Steel presented the year-end accounts, which were very positive for the Parish. Full details have been published. Thanks were offered to Deacon John and the Finance Committee for their work looking after the Parish accounts.

### Update on 60th Anniversary Celebrations.

**Plaque in memory of previous Parish Priests.** Joanne Kerrigun updated those present on progress made. She showed some photo examples, and explained that one quote has been received and others quotes are awaited. Permission to go ahead with the most appropriate quote was agreed.

**Other activities.** Sarah Sykes gave a brief overview. Preparations for 'Songs of Praise' on 13th May are going well, hymns have been chosen and music practice planned. She asked that people contribute

photos of family and Church events over the last 60yrs. It is planned to exhibit them on the day. Invites have been sent to other parishes within our boundaries. Preparations are also under way for a Concelebrated Mass on 10th August. Stephen Warde proposed a vote of thanks to those who had come forward as volunteers to help with planning the events. A small Steering Group has been selected to help with co-ordinating the various preparations needed.

**Building and Grounds.** Flooring was the main topic, replacing carpets in the Sanctuary, Parish Room and Narthex. Joe Tucker had samples of carpet tiles for the Sanctuary and vinyl for the Parish Room and Narthex. Costing was approx. £7,000 in total. Fr. Pat indicated that it would be two projects, with the Parish Room and Narthex to be done first. Christine Knight suggested a second quote be sought. It was agreed a small group be organised to look at options. James McQuillan and Karen Rogers volunteered to become members of this group. Fr. Pat mentioned briefly it was time to think of new roof at some point. There was also some investigation into new clear glass windows. Virginia Bird had been doing this with Fr. Pat but, as she has now left the Parish, he was looking for offers of help to progress this plan.

**Site management and garden.** Again with departure of Virginia Bird who had maintained garden and grounds, new arrangements were needed. It was agreed that it might be better to try for a paid gardener, if no volunteers come forward. It was suggested that we should look for a volunteer to manage the fabric and grounds of the Church. This person would need to have a professional background in building / architecture and would be the contact point for recruiting personnel to do whatever was needed.

**Tech. Group.** Update of live-streaming of Mass. The group are continuing to work on a solution, various systems are being investigated. They are also willing to look at other tech equipment in the Church and would welcome like-skilled volunteers. Helena Judd reminded the Forum that permission is now needed from the parents/guardians of altar servers for broadcasting of children online. Fr. Pat said as a member of the Diocesan Safeguarding group he would speak to the relevant officer.

**Liturgy.** The Chair offered thanks to all who prepared and participated in the Easter Liturgy, to all involved with the various Ministries. It was agreed that all the Masses were wonderful! Fr Pat also made special mention of Margaret Plumb, thanking her for her faithful service at all times.

Fr. Bob requested that the Bidding Prayer Group include prayers for all preparing to receive Sacraments – for example Communion, Confirmation, Baptism – be mentioned on a regular basis.

**Catechesis.** Fr Pat reported that the First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes continue to run very well. Baptism preparation evenings for parents are also successful.

**School.** Will be celebrating 50th Anniversary with a School Mass led by Bishop Hopes on 4th May.

#### **Parish Organisations.**

**SVP.** Reported a successful Parish lunch in conjunction with CWL. Offered grateful thanks for Maundy Thursday collection and also for ‘Alive in Faith’ money. They are organising a social afternoon with tea at a local Garden Centre in June; details later. Reminded us to contact them if we know of anyone needing help, not necessarily monetary, and visits.

**CAFOD.** The Lent Fast Day appeal raised £1,731.45 which was doubled by the government.

Pound for Peru continues to do well and we have regular updates from the children we support there.

CAFOD have urged us all to join Pope Francis’ initiative ‘Share the Journey’ to help refugees. On 22nd July we will meet at Milton Country Park, 1pm and have a picnic with the walk starting at 2pm, There will be stops for prayer and refugee stories. Suggested we invite refugees? Fr Pat said a group gathered on Thursday to learn English. He suggested contacting the lady who co-ordinates the group.

#### **AOB.**

**Walsingham Pilgrimages.** A coach will be taking St. Laurence parishioners to the Diocesan Pilgrimage.

Fr Pat plans to offer a coach to the Children’s Diocesan Pilgrimage.

SVP is also organising a Pilgrimage on 1st July, they will have a coach with a lift, enabling people with mobility issues to get on and off.

**Mass for pre-school children** takes place every 6 – 8 weeks on Thursday at 12.15pm in the Upper Parish Room followed by a bring & share lunch.

**Ablaze.** Helena Judd reported that the April Mass was attended by Confirmation candidates from OLEM, St Philip Howard and Cambourne. It was followed by an Ignite presentation. They all enjoyed themselves and Cambourne would now like an Ablaze at their Mass Centre.

**Fr Bob** highly recommended the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral which he said was great fun with great music! He wants to encourage people to go to the next one in 2019.

**Full details of the meeting can be found on the Forum section of the Parish website.**

**Next Meeting:** Thursday 5th July at 8pm.

## SVP update

### Melanie De Souza

The annual lunch for senior citizens hosted jointly by the SVP and CWL was held on 14th April at St Laurence's.



Beautifully set tables greeted our guests on their arrival. Thanks to a generous donation from Karen Rodgers (in memory of her late father, Leo Hyland), the tables were bedecked with

beautiful white tablecloths. Red serviettes and vases laden with daffodils (provided by Eileen and Michael McEwan), complementing a beautiful spring day, completed the scene.

It was a full house with Fr Pat and Fr Jay joining our guests. SVP members were on hand to set up, transport people and serve. Thanks to brilliant organisation by the CWL, a three-course lunch was enjoyed by all. After lunch, attendees participated in an alphabetical quiz. This was conducted by the quiz organiser from Arthur Rank Hospice, invited by SVP member Tony Ashdjian. Prizes were awarded to the first three winning teams. The occasion was a fantastic opportunity for meeting up with old friends and making new ones. By all accounts everyone had a good time. A comment from one of the guests summed up the event – the food was good, people were kind and a glass of wine with the meal made me very happy.



### Lifts to Mass needed?

Some people are given lifts to church by fellow parishioners who are neighbours – that is a great service. The SVP can also assist if you need help to get to Mass or other Parish events.

If you need a lift please do not hesitate to speak to a member of the SVP, or email [svp@saintlaurence.org.uk](mailto:svp@saintlaurence.org.uk), or ring Catharine Warren on 07421 253100. We will arrange for an SVP member or associate to give you a lift, or can book a taxi, including a specialist wheelchair taxi. The SVP Taxi Fund was set up following a suggestion and donation by a parishioner and continues through using funds from 'Alive in Faith' donations.

## SVP Summer Holidays for Children

The St John Bosco Centre, in the Essex countryside, provides an opportunity for over 350 children to have an exciting, activity-packed camping holiday. Brentwood Diocese SVP organises the holidays, with a large team of volunteers. Children live in tents, in groups of seven or eight and the entire week is taken up with a full programme of planned and supervised activities.

Holiday dates are:

For boys aged 8–13

21 – 28 July and 28 July – 4 August

For girls aged 9–12

4 – 11 August

St Laurence's SVP can help with the cost of the holiday for up to 4 children and if you wish to apply for a place for your child, please contact me, Catharine Warren, on 07421 253100 for more information, as soon as possible.

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## St Laurence's Church celebrates 60!

### Sarah Sykes

On 8 March 1958 the foundation stone for the Church of St Laurence's, Cambridge and on 13 May 2018 we celebrated our Parish and the last 60 years with a Songs of Praise.

We were delighted, to welcome several ecumenical guests. Invites had been sent to churches which fell within our Parish boundaries, and we were also pleased that some took up our request to send prayers to share.





Hymns were chosen by members of the Parish using the results of the vote held to find the People’s Favourite Hymn.

Over several weeks in Lent, our Parish voted on what their favourite hymn was. What did we vote for? Well, with 10% of the votes across over 50 different hymns, the hymn ‘Christ be our Light’ by Bernadette Farrell, was the number one choice. We asked people to comment on why this was their choice. Here are some of the reasons given:

“This is the reason we are Christians. Sharing with our neighbours.”

“What more perfect hymn to celebrate our Church?”

“One of my favourites – every line is very meaningful to me”

“It’s uplifting. Speaks to the world and speaks to all and sundry”

“A song of hope and inclusive of everyone, whatever their life is.”

In amongst the hymns a selection of readings from the Bible, Julian of Norwich on love and thanksgiving, some poetry, prayers, and a short history of the Church were sprinkled. Some of the children from St Laurence School Choir joined us and sang and signed, ‘We are the Church’ by Christopher Walker - a hymn they had learnt on a trip to the Cathedral in Norwich last year.



Afterwards, we had a wonderful tea party organised and served by the CWL and other volunteers. A slideshow of photos of St Laurence’s over the years, which had been collected from parishioners, was shown and brought back many happy memories.

The whole congregation found the celebration to be an amazing time of prayer, praise and joy; a

moving, prayerful occasion which uplifted everyone who came.



Many thanks for all who took the time to place your vote for the People’s Favourite Hymn. Below are the results. The hymns in **bold italics** are the ones we sang on the day:

A	
Amazing Grace	1
A new commandment	1
Abide with me	1
Amazing Grace	1
Agnus dei	1
As a deer pants for the water	3
At the name of Jesus	2
B	
Be not afraid	2
<b>Be still for the presence of the Lord</b>	6
Bind us together	1
Before the throne of God of above	1
<b>Be thou my vision</b>	2
C	
Colours of Day	2
<b>Christ be our light</b>	12
Christ the rock vs 1,3,& 4	2
D	
Dear Lord and Father	2
E	
<b>Eagles Wings</b>	3
F	
From heaven you came (see S - Servant King)	

Firmly I believe and truly	1	M	
Follow me, follow me	1	Make me a channel of your peace	4
Faith of our fathers	1	Majesty	1
Father I place into your hands	1	My song is love unknown	2
G		N	
Gather us in	2	Now the green blade riseth	1
Glory & Praise to our God	2	Now thank we all our God	3
Go tell everyone	1	O	
Great is thy faithfulness	1	One way to peace by the power of the cross	1
Gloria (Joncas)	2	One more step along the way	1
H		On Eagles Wings (see E – Eagles Wings)	2
He will raise you up on Eagles wings (see E – Eagles Wings)		O Lord my God when I in awesome wonder	3
Hail the day that sees him rise	1	O Lord all the world belongs to you	1
Hail Queen of Heaven	1	P	
Hail Redeemer	2	Panis Angelicus	1
He's got the whole world in his hands	1	S	
How great thou art (see O – O Lord my God)		Sing to the mountains	1
I		<b>Shine, Jesus, shine</b>	6
Immortal, invisible, God only wise	1	<b>Soul of my saviour</b>	2
I danced in the morning (see L – Lord of the Dance)		Sweet sacrament divine	2
I Lord of sea and sky	3	<b>Servant King</b>	2
K		<b>Sing of the Lord's goodness</b>	3
King of Glory, King of Peace	1	Sing it in the valley	2
L		T	
Lord I life your name on high	2	Tell out my soul	2
Lord of the Dance	4	To God be the Glory great things he has done	2
Longing for light (see C – Christ be our light)		<b>Thine be the glory</b>	4
Lord of all hopefulness	1	This is what Yahweh ask of you, only this	1
Lord for tomorrow & its need	1	The Servant King (see S – Servant King)	
Lord you came to the seashore	2	W	
Love divine, all love's excelling	1	When I call, answer me	1
		Y	
		You know me Lord	1

## Personal Stories

### **A Poem on DISTRACTION By Chioma Ubajaka**

Life is fickle.  
Life is short.  
Life can be more.  
If we'd just see.

Facebook. Instagram,  
WhatsApp, Snapchat.  
Oh ...something shiny,  
Must Look, Tweet, Share.

My Likes, my Comments,  
My Smilies, my Stickers.  
Do they really matter?  
Am I just a nutter?

The links, the videos,  
The Pins, the Pics.  
Alas, it's time for bed,  
That book I never read.

That call I never made.  
That project I never started.  
That walk I never took.  
That prayer I never said.

Tomorrow! Tomorrow!  
I'll get to it tomorrow.  
The things that mattered,  
I never glanced at.  
My Talents, my Gifts,  
My Dreams, my Goals.  
Ships now into mists,  
Not a Captain to steer.

Stingy and a foe,  
I've been to Time.  
For when Time knocked,  
I kept the door locked.

I Liked, I Tweeted,  
I Pinged, I Pinned.  
Time kept knocking,  
But I kept rocking.

I'm wiser, I'm ready,  
I'm focused, I'll get the door.  
But Time's moved on.  
The Reaper says... "You're On."

Life is short; but was long for me.  
My life could have been more.  
If I'd just seen.

So, focus your mind and head and heart,  
On something worthwhile or two.  
Open the door when Time comes knocking,  
And at your sunset, you'll say,  
– 'I'm ready. Let's go.

---

## **Carving**

### **Patricia Sherlock**

One of my earliest memories growing up with my brothers and sisters was hiding notes in a carving on the hall wall, never asking questions about it. After our parents died and I was entrusted with the carving I wanted to know its history. Fortunately, my older sisters had some information, apparently our Dad was in the Cheshire Regiment and one of my sisters has his service book. He enlisted in 1923 and in 1927 he was sent with his regiment to Shanghai; he returned home in late 1927. He brought back with him the carving. It is quite heavy and elaborately carved, I wonder how he carried it in his kit bag, and there is slight damage.



I was very fortunate that I was chosen to keep the carving and hope that it will always remain in my family. I am very fond of my family heirloom and there is a lesson to be learnt. Talk to your children about your life and experiences. I wish I had spoken to my parents about their lives in the early nineteen hundreds.

## Camino Challenge

Rachel Rose - first published in CCR April 2018



### Nature's beauty and the changing seasons

Walking the Camino is a wonderfully outdoorsy, physical, visceral experience, and both of my Camino adventures provided opportunities to appreciate the natural world in different seasons. My first walk, the final 112km leg of the French Way from Sarria to Santiago in Easter week 2013, was damp to say the least. A combination of torrential rain, hail and even snow proved challenging! Walking the same stretch, plus an additional 100km from Ponferrada, the following summer was an entirely different experience; here, we were up and walking by 6am to avoid the heat of the midday sun and enduring temperatures of 30+ degrees C. However, with each walk, I was reminded of the changing seasons in my own life and led to a deeper appreciation of the opportunities each provides. With rain and damp feet comes the promise of shelter and dry socks back at the hostel. Sunshine may mean sweat and dehydration but a renewed joy at finding an unexpected watering hole.

### Openness to others

“Buen Camino!” is the cheering greeting frequently exchanged among pilgrims and I found the friendliness of fellow walkers in the simple willingness to acknowledge another on the path both healing and encouraging. So often in life, we walk with our heads down, busily rushing from place to place, too preoccupied to exchange even a smile or eye-contact with someone in the street. I walked both times with friends but on each occasion, we developed familial-like bonds with strangers also walking the route. The openness I experienced in conversation with people from all nations and the desire to form a group along the way is truly special and since walking the Camino, I have undoubtedly become more open to spontaneous exchanges and let down my guard which says, ‘I’m too busy to stop.’

### Physical challenge

My moderate level of fitness prior to walking each time meant the walking aspect of the Camino was not too far out of my comfort zone. However, the hilly undulation of the landscape and the distances covered daily (between 25 and 35km) did take their toll and a combination of sore shoulders from heavy bag-carrying, blistered and tired feet plus mild sleep-deprivation due to snoring dorm-companions did contribute to the physical challenge of the experience. The Camino's lesson to me in this regard has been about pushing myself; while a distance of 25km can be covered comfortably by car in half an hour, on foot it can constitute a day's activity. The sense of satisfaction and achievement at making it on two legs rather than four wheels is without comparison.

### Journey not destination

For me, life has often been about the destination rather than the journey – where I'm headed, not what I'll see along the way. The Camino forced me to focus on the sights, sounds, smells, feelings and flavours on offer in my immediate environment. A cup of fresh coffee had never been more welcome; a blister-plaster provided by a kind stranger never more needed; the sounds of the dawn chorus heralding the beginning of a new day never more joyful. Instead of concentrating on arrival at the cathedral in Santiago (journey's end), the Camino was an important reminder of the way, the walk, the path.

### Appreciation of solitude

A natural extrovert, my moments of solo-walking along the Camino were among the most blessed and fruitful periods of thought and prayerful reflection. As somebody who habitually surrounds themselves with conversation, music and general noisy bustle, the silence and solitude of walking alone was not an obvious or even entirely comfortable choice. Undeniably, these stages of the journey were vital for me to tune in to the ‘still small voice’ and to listen to God's word for me along the way.



By Juanje 2712 [GFDL (<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>) or CC BY-SA 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>)], from Wikimedia Commons

## Tailpiece

### Shaggy Dog Stories

#### Dick Wilson

Have you heard a shaggy dog story? If you listen and I drone on telling you the same sad, tragic, heartless stories, what's new, you think, and the story grows more and more boring. Till the end, all of a sudden, and the story seems, you might say, sort of..., well, inconsequential. But that's where it stops, and you feel rather dissatisfied, though it may dawn on you if you wait long enough.

Here are two good ones. You may have heard them. They are quite long stories, and they keep, like good wine, as least I think they do. First, the Rabbits story.

There were three rabbits, called Phut, PhutPhut, and PhutPhutPhut. They lived in a hole. One day Phut was ill and died. PhutPhut and PhutPhutPhut were very sad.

Then PhutPhut was ill. PhutPhutPhut hurried, with PhutPhut in the ambulance, to the hospital. "Oh, save PhutPhut," cried PhutPhutPhut. "We've already one Phut in the grave."

Has anyone heard the story of the sailor and the parrot? You must have done, I've told it to everybody, and probably often.

My father spent about eight years in the Merchant Navy as a radio operator (wireless operator in those days), though really that has nothing to do with telling the parrot story. He told it to me when I was still quite young, say nine. It was a story about a sailor who had a parrot. It liked to sit on his shoulder. The sailor was one of the entertainment crew on a tour boat, which had a conjuror amongst other entertainments. Every time the conjuror finished a trick the sailor said, "That was a good trick."

One day during the show the ship struck a rock, and started to sink. In the chaos the sailor found himself on a raft, his parrot still on his shoulder. The parrot turned to the sailor and said "That was a good trick."

Now there is a town on the coast of Australia in New South Wales called Narooma, about 60km south of Bateman's Bay. It is a good place for a holiday, and as they will tell you, in good weather you can see up the coast to Ulladulla (about 100 miles).

They have a beautiful inlet, running miles inland behind the harbour. We went on a boat trip along it, daily in the summer. The captain told us that his father, and then he himself, had run the trip since 1912. He

had a lot to say about the town and the people, the beach and the visitors. And then: "My father used to tell us a story about a sailor and parrot..." And sure enough, it was the same sailor, the same parrot, and so on to the punch line, "That was good trick".

The question is, was it my father who exported the joke to Australia? Or was it my father who learnt the joke there and brought it back to England? A mystery.

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#### Something for the weekend?

When Joseph of Arimathea arrived home one Friday night, he told his wife that he had given their tomb to someone to use. She got upset and said to him,

"How could you do that? After all the time and money that you spent building it... It was just finished and has never been used. What are we going to use now for ourselves?"

Joseph just said, "Don't worry, it's only for the weekend!"



## **Editorial**

There have been two big celebrations over the last couple of months – not including Easter – and consequently we have a very full edition this month with some lovely photos. We have more to look forward to, not only with more events to mark our 60th, but with First Holy Communion and Confirmation Masses in June. If anyone would like to share their photos of these events in our next edition, please email them to the Pilgrim email address below by the submission deadline.

We are very lucky to have the services of Dominican priest, Fr Bob, and this month he will be celebrating 50 years in the priesthood with two days of celebrations. We wish him a very happy and special anniversary with plenty of fine weather, fine wine, good food and friends.

A big thank you to Fr Bob for all his work and support in the Parish – not only in faithfully saying Mass every Sunday as well as through the week, but also for his stimulating scripture studies and work behind the scenes.

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Wondering where to send your article, photos or drawings? Our email address is at the bottom of the page and you'll also find it every week on the front page of the Parish newsletter.

**The deadline for the next edition is 3 August for publication 1–2 September**

Please send to: [pilgrim@saintlaurence.org.uk](mailto:pilgrim@saintlaurence.org.uk)

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Personal Stories and Experiences

Parish Organisations & Activities

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Sarah Sykes and Nora Darby

Nora Darby

Melanie De Souza

Cover (contents etc)

Proof reader 1

Layout (preparation for printing)

Obtaining and Commissioning materials for publication

Proof reader 2

**We thank all who have contributed to this edition and welcome interesting and original material for all sections in forthcoming editions.**

## Some Regular Events

**The Parish Forum** is where **ALL** parishioners can come together to discuss and debate Parish matters, and decide when and where things need to be done. The Agenda is planned in advance and the meeting is led by the chairman and Parish Priest. It meets every 3 months.

To go on the list to get the agenda in advance and the full minutes after the meeting, email [forum@saintlaurence.org.com](mailto:forum@saintlaurence.org.com)

*You can raise a topic at the meeting but it helps if you send a short note about 10 days before the next meeting, again, to [forum@saintlaurence.org.com](mailto:forum@saintlaurence.org.com), which can then be circulated.*

### The Pilgrim by Email

Away for the week-end? All copies taken? Don't miss the Pilgrim on publication day! You can receive a pdf version by email. Send a request to [pilgrim@saintlaurence.org.uk](mailto:pilgrim@saintlaurence.org.uk)

**Extra Pilgrim copies:** Do you know anyone who has difficulty coming to church but would like to receive the Pilgrim? Please feel free to take an extra copy.

### Pilgrim on the Web

The most recent back editions are now available on the Parish website  
<http://www.saintlaurence.org.uk/pilgrim>

## ABLAZE

The St Laurence Youth Mass is known as Ablaze. The Mass is designed to encourage our youth to build their confidence in running the Mass for the benefit of us all. It is held approximately once a month, is vibrant and fun. We encourage young readers, Eucharistic Ministers, budding musicians of all ages and the only requirement is enthusiasm for God. If you are looking for 'perfection' you won't find it here, so if you fancy it, pluck up your courage and join in.

Ablaze Masses over the next 4 months are shown in the upcoming Parish events and poster in this bulletin.

## CAFOD

Connect 2: Peru retiring collections will take place in subsequent months, usually the first weekend in the month. These monies go directly to the projects CAFOD is supporting.

## Upcoming Parish Events

Fr Bob's Jubilee of Ordination:	
SS Peter and Paul Mass Buffet lunch and Garden party, at Blackfriars	29 June 7.30pm 30 <sup>th</sup> June from 12.30pm
60th special events: Bishop to celebrate Mass St Laurence's Feast Day Mass followed by hog-roast	15 July 11am 10 August 7.30pm
Confirmation Mass	25 June 7.30pm
Going Forth Mass for First Holy Communicants	17 June 3pm at School followed by a party
CAFOD – Share the Journey and walk in solidarity with refugees, Milton Country Park	22 July picnic from 1pm walk at 2pm
ABLAZE Youth Mass, Sunday 5pm	24 June, 15 July, 16 September (no Mass in Aug)
Holy Hour	Every Weds 6-7.00pm
Rosary Group	Every Weds after 12.30pm Mass
Soulfood Prayer Group 1 <sup>st</sup> / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues: St Laurence's 2 <sup>nd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> Tues: OLEM Parish Hall	Every Tuesday 8pm
Parish Forum Dates for 2018	Thurs 5 July Mon 8 Oct 8pm



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ecambridge](https://www.facebook.com/stlaurenc<br/>ecambridge)

# ST LAURENCE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

91 Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1XB

Tel/Fax: 01223 704640

Email: [office@saintlaurence.org.uk](mailto:office@saintlaurence.org.uk)

St Laurence's Parish is in the Diocese of East Anglia, and covers the area of Cambridge north of the river Cam including Arbury, Chesterton and King's Hedges, and also the villages of Histon, Impington, Girton, Cottenham, Milton, Landbeach and Waterbeach.

## Parish Priest:

Fr Patrick Cleary

01223 704640

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## Assistant Priest:

Fr Bob Eccles O.P.

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01223 704640

## Deacon:

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01223 351650

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[office@saintlaurence.org.uk](mailto:office@saintlaurence.org.uk)

## Treasurer:

Rev. John Steel

01223 704640

## Safeguarding Coordinator:

Petra Tucker

[petratucker@gmail.com](mailto:petratucker@gmail.com)

## Service Times

Saturday 9.30am

6pm Vigil Mass (sung)

Sunday 8.00am

9.30am (sung)

with children's liturgy

This Mass is held at St Laurence's School, Arbury Road.

During school holidays it is held at the Church.

11am (sung)

with children's liturgy

Join us for coffee in the Parish Room afterwards.

Mon, Tues, Thurs 9.30am

Wed, Fri 12.30pm

*Check the weekly newsletter for changes to the above times*

## St Laurence's School

Head Teacher

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