

Recently died

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mrs Mary 'Madge' O'Keefe R.I.P. – The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 22nd January at 11.00am.

Mr Bernard Stanton R.I.P. – The Funeral Service will be celebrated at St Mary's on Monday 25th January at 11.15am.

Mr Domenico Malacrino R.I.P. – The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Tuesday 26th January at 11.45am.

Mr Leslie Oliver R.I.P. - The Funeral Service will be celebrated at Holy Family on Wednesday 27th January at a time to be determined.



**Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.**

Pray for the Sick

Holy Family: David Rogers, Catherine Driscoll, Kay & Paul Parris, Sheila Ferriter, Bernard Perry, Collette Griffin, Vivian Miller, Valentine, Brian Webster, Henry Fernandez, Hanna Marengi, Mary Bodman, Susanna, Martin, Gary Sutton, Chris Collins, Louise Macpherson.

St Mary's: Fr Christopher Delaney, Bethan Williams, Jean Allen, Madison Lane, John & Marian Lamb, Jean Hayman, Nadasiri Ifada, Cecily Hughes, James Church, Anthony Jackson, Margaret Griffiths, Tom Hopkins, Joanne Coakley, Helen Ward, Doreen Utley, Carina Foster, Ben Foster, Maria Sullivan, Thomas Hyde (now living in Canada), Ivan Sadka, Mary D'Alpa, Robert Partridge.

Sunday Readings continued.

John 1:35-42.

Corresponding to the call of Samuel in our first reading, here we encounter the call of the first disciples according to the account given in John's Gospel. The call made by Jesus is just as peremptory as that received by Samuel and the response of the disciples is just as unconditional as that offered by Samuel. Two disciples of John the Baptist are encouraged by their teacher to behold and follow the 'Lamb of God'. It is interesting to note that just as Samuel would rest in the Lord's presence at Shiloh, Andrew and his unnamed companion spend an extended period of time in the Lord's company. The phrase "Where do you live?" represents the most profound enquiry even though it sounds merely perfunctory. The response is the invitation to "Come and see." It was late in the day, the tenth hour, and the two disciples spend most of the night in the company of Jesus. What did they talk about? The scenario prompts us to be inquisitive. Spending time with the Lord allows the seed of faith to be sown, provides an opportunity to simply listen and finally there is the engagement of prayer. This deceptively simple encounter enables the embrace of the apostolate. Early next morning, Andrew is driven to go in search of his brother Simon. Andrew tell his brother that he must 'come and see' what he has discovered, the one whom he has encountered, the Messiah. Only by spending time with the Lord, listening and praying, will we be inflamed with the desire to tell others what we have discovered, empowered with the courage to invite others to share what we have experienced.

Parish Contacts

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Parishes of St. Mary's and Holy Family
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Deacon Christian Mahoney

Contact details to follow

Retired Priest in Residence:

Monsignor Canon John Maguire

Website: cardiffwestcatholics.org.uk

Bank details for standing orders, which are directly linked to the respective parish accounts are as follows:

Account name: Archdiocese of Cardiff

Sort code: 20-18-23 (for both)

St Mary's Acc No: 03285375

Holy Family Acc No: 63656861

St Mary's SVP contact number 07731847622.

Parish Safeguarding Reps

Mrs Ellery Hennessy (Holy Family)

Mr Jack Meggitt-Phillips (St Mary of the Angels)

Primary Headteachers:

Holy Family

Mrs Louise Mills Tel: 20565354

St. Mary's

Miss Claire Russell Tel: 2022 5680

Secondary Headteachers:

Corpus Christi

Mr Patrick Brunnock Tel: 20761893

Mary Immaculate

Mr Huw Powell Tel: 2059 3465

St David's 6th Form College

Mr Mark Leighfield Tel: 20498555

Holy Family & St Mary of the Angels

Keyston Rd, Fairwater CF5 3NP

Kings Rd, Canton CF11 9BX

17th - 24th January 2021 Second Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle B

Holy Family Masses

NO PUBLIC MASSES THIS WEEKEND
2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (17th January)

6pm Vigil Mass Cliff Jones

11.00 Dorothy Faiers

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (24th January)

6pm Vigil Mass Morgan & Rona Jones

11.00 Colin Webber

St Mary's Masses

NO PUBLIC MASSES THIS WEEKEND
Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time (17th Jan.)

10am Dr Richard Watson

12pm People of the Parish

6pm Maisie Molloy

Monday: 2nd Week of Ordinary Time (18th Jan.)

9.30am Bernard Jones

12.15pm DWA & DR Utley

Tuesday: (19th January)

9.30am Sinead Lane

12.15pm Dec'd members of Jones Family

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Wednesday: (20th January)

9.30am Forsey Family

12.15pm Reg & Peg Palfrey

Thursday: Memoria of St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr (21st January)

9.30am Margaret Corcoran

12.15pm Dr Richard Watson

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction

Friday: (22nd January)

9.30am William 'Billy' Brown

11.00am Funeral Mass Mrs Mary 'Madge' O'Keefe

Saturday: (23rd January)

12.15pm

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (24th Jan.)

10am

12pm People of the Parish

6pm Intentions of Thomas Family

Angelus and Prayer During the Day live-streamed at 12pm daily. Evening Prayer live-streamed at 7pm daily except Sundays.

Tuesday & Thursday 7-8pm Adoration & Benediction (including Evening Prayer).

NO CONFESSIONS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Readings for the Second Sunday of the Year

I Samuel 3:3-10, 19.

Samuel, son of Elkannah and Hannah, became the last of the Judges within the history of Israel. He could also rightly be described as the first of the great Prophets. Hannah longed for a son and pleaded with the Lord to grant her request, promising to dedicate her future child to the Lord's service. When she eventually gives birth to a son, in what seems to us to be an incomprehensible act of generosity, Hannah expresses her thanksgiving by entrusting the child to Eli the priest at the Shrine of Shiloh. In today's reading we hear of the beautiful account of the young child Samuel being called by the Lord God. "Samuel! Samuel!", says the Lord. "Here I am", replies the trusting child. Not knowing that the call comes directly from God, Samuel hurries to Eli thinking that the priest has called for him. Eli declares that he did not call for the child and sends Samuel back to his rest. It is only when Samuel came to Eli the third time that the priest realised that the Lord was calling the boy. "Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'" Samuel accompanied Eli until the priest's death. Samuel would assume leadership over the House of Israel at a most challenging time. Israel had been defeated by the Philistines and the people felt abandoned by God. Samuel would confront the strands of foreign idolatry that had polluted the religious practices of Israel. Obedient to God's instruction, Samuel intended that his sons should become Judges in succession to himself. However, the people of Israel clamoured for a king. Although Samuel at first opposed the demand, he was eventually prompted by the Lord to anoint Saul as the first king. Following Saul's disobedience, it was Samuel who anointed David as successor. Let us acknowledge the generosity of Hannah and the trusting spirit of Samuel, made manifest in his childhood and in his maturity.

Psalms 39.

Response: Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

I Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20.

Today we listen to the first in a sequence of extracts over the coming weeks from the first letter of St. Paul to the troubled and troublesome community at Corinth. Paul employs a blunt physical realism to emphasise how fornication is abhorrent to the Christian way of life. "You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; but anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him." Paul makes clear that the body is the 'temple of the Holy Spirit'. Our spiritual communion with Christ intimately integrates the body and the soul. We cannot live two separate lives in two separate spheres, the spiritual and the physical. The body, as well as the soul, is for the glory of God. The dogmatic and moral teaching of the Church are derived from the same source, the fullness of revelation in Christ. Saint Paul reminds us that we are not our own property. God's gift of life is fashioned in body and soul and both are to be sanctified.

Continued on the opposite page.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Thursday 21st January – Memoria of Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr



It was during the persecution perpetrated by the Emperor Diocletian that St Agnes was martyred for the faith, around the year 304 AD when she was barely a teenager. A description of her martyrdom is given in writings dating from the fifth century, details of which are not entirely reliable. It is said that a group of young Roman noblemen were competing to marry the young girl, attracted by her beauty and her family wealth. Agnes is said to have rebuffed all approaches, claiming she was already bound to a 'Spouse'. This led to a number of her suitors accusing her of being a Christian. She was brought before a court and even threatened with torture, the instruments of which were displayed for her to see. Despite these threats, Agnes remained resolute. She was released from custody but soon arrested and confined once again. She faced execution with great courage and proclaimed her desire to set forth on the final journey, openly proclaiming her faith. She was buried on the Via Nomentana and the Emperor Constantine erected a Church in her honour. She is one of those named in the Roman Canon – the First Eucharistic Prayer for the celebration of Mass.

THE ANGELUS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary,

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

R. Be it done unto me according to your word. Hail Mary,

V. And the Word was made flesh:

R. And dwelt among us. Hail Mary,

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. He puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted. He casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly. He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy, the mercy promised to our fathers, to Abraham and his sons for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Request for Prayers

Please pray for Canon William Isaac, Parish Priest of St Teilo's in Whitchurch, who has had his appointment for major surgery delayed due to Covid-19. Your prayers are also requested for Fr Raymond O'Shea, who was recently in hospital. I also ask your prayers for Mr Mark Leighfield, Principal of St David's 6th Form College, who is recovering from major surgery.

ACTS OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

A Prayer by St Alphonsus Liguori.

My Jesus, I believe that You are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as being already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

A Prayer by St Thomas More.

Give me, good Lord, a longing to be with You ... give me warmth, delight and quickness in thinking upon You. And give me Your grace to long for Your holy sacraments, and specially to rejoice in the presence of Your blessed Body, Sweet Saviour Christ, in the Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

PRAYER OF SORROW / ACT OF CONTRITION

Wash me from my guilt and cleanse me of my sin. I acknowledge my offence; my sin is before me always. Psalm 50:4-5.

Father, I have sinned against you and am not worthy to be called your son. Be merciful to me, a sinner. Luke 15:18; 18:13.

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Saviour Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and with the help of your grace I will not sin again.

LET US DAILY OPEN OUR HEARTS IN CONTRITION TO ALMIGHTY GOD AND REMIND OURSELVES HOW ESSENTIAL IT IS TO GRANT MERCY IF WE EVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE MERCY.

PRAYER FOR WALES

O Almighty God, who in your infinite goodness have sent your only-begotten Son into this world to open once more the gates of heaven, and to teach us how to know, love and serve you, have mercy on your people who dwell in Wales. Grant to them the precious gift of faith, and unite them in the one true Church founded by your divine Son: that, acknowledging her authority and obeying her voice, they may serve you, love you, and worship you as you desire in this world, and obtain for themselves everlasting happiness in the world to come. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Lady, Help of Christians, pray for Wales.

Saint David, pray for Wales.

Saint Winefride, pray for Wales.

MAINTAINING OUR VIGILANCE AS WE STRIVE TO REMAIN OPEN AND ABLE TO CELEBRATE PUBLIC MASSES

The conditions of our current 'Lock-Down' have allowed for the continuance of our public masses. Our ability to thus celebrate is facilitated by the continuing generosity of our cohort of Stewards at St Mary's and at Holy Family. I once again express my gratitude for their substantive service. In order to minimise the risk to one and all, our adherence to guidelines has proven to be outstanding. As I mentioned some weeks ago, the various Funeral Directors who have visited our two parishes over the past months have been eager to express their appreciation for the quality of our operating protocols. They have repeatedly said that our systems are the best they have seen in any church across the denominations. Particular thanks for this achievement should go to Fr Nicholas. We must continue to exercise the greatest vigilance over the coming weeks as we confront the threat of increased transmission resulting from the spread of the new strain of the COVID-19 coronavirus. Needless to say, we will respond rapidly and appropriately to any change in circumstances.

Celebrating First Holy Communion

Having accompanied our children through their first celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Christmas, we had scheduled dates for the celebration of their First Holy Communion, starting from 10th January. As you will be aware, we had to close our churches last weekend and they will remain closed for this coming weekend. I intend to reopen both churches for Masses on 23rd and 24th January. We will maintain the schedule of celebration from that date. The parents of children who missed their celebrations on 10th and 17th January will be contacted by me to establish convenient dates for future celebration. Two children at each of the 10, 11 and 12 o'clock Masses are due to celebrate their First Holy Communion on their given dates. Please keep the children in your prayers, together with their families.

Octave of Prayer for the Unity of Christians

The following text has been received from the Archdiocesan Commission for Christian Unity: The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts this week on Monday, January 18th. The theme for 2021 is 'Abiding in Christ', based on John 15:1-17. It expresses and encourages the vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the Church and the human family. Although many of us are unable to meet with our fellow Christians this year, the Commission for Christian Unity encourages us to make use of the prayerful material available as a download. Find it at <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2021/> and sustain our prayer for the Unity for which Christ prayed. Contact email: unity@rcadc.org

A NOTE FROM DEACON MAURICE

'REACHING OUT': Many thanks to all who have made donations over the last few weeks and to all our volunteers who have enabled us to provide food parcels, hampers, children's toys and food vouchers to around 100 families in need across West Cardiff over the Christmas period. We are now continuing this weekly food distribution programme for which we need ongoing funding of around £500 weekly so please continue to help if you can with money or food donations or both. Perhaps you may be able to make a regular weekly or monthly donation of £5, £10 or £20 - or more or less, by Standing Order? If you are willing and able to contribute with a one-off donation or on a more regular basis please contact me on 07747038274 or email: mfscanlon@hotmail.co.uk or Neil O'Toole on 07860647367 or email: neilgot@me.com Thanks for your ongoing generosity in these troubled times. God bless you all and keep safe and patient for just a few more months!

Reverend Father James McKnight IC RIP

We were informed on Thursday of the death of Fr Jim. He was a priest of the Institute of Charity (Rosminian). He was well known in the Cardiff Archdiocese, particularly for his service at St Peter's. He was a faithful priest for nearly 60 years and ministered for a time in the United States. He will be greatly missed. The arrangements for his funeral have yet to be announced. Please pray for his eternal rest.

Mass Intentions

There are a number of Mass intentions available at the moment, particularly for weekday Masses. In addition, please note that when a Mass is said in either parish for the People of the Parish, this refers to the members of both parishes.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:

10th January - £ 0.00

St Mary's Standing Orders per week amount to £ 600.00

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:

10th January - £75.00

Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £ 250.00

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?



"WHOSE CHILDREN ARE THEY ANYWAY"

The Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Bill currently before the Senedd will effectively remove the rights of parents as the first educators of their children. It will threaten the nature and purpose of Catholic schools as well as being an affront to devout Jews, Christians, Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims in Wales.

In the provisions concerning Human and Sex Education, the responsibility and privilege of parents to choose the right moment and language to discuss love and human sexuality with their children will be overridden by the imposition of a curriculum not in conformity with Christian teaching and that of many other faiths. The right of parents to remove their children from such classes will be removed.

The implications of this Bill places the right of the State before that of the parents of a child in such an important part of life. Should this ideologically driven Bill become law, it will remove the ancient freedoms and duties of parents in the education of their children. It would restrict freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, freedom of worship and conscientious objection. These are fundamental human rights which should be respected in a pluralistic society. They are not being upheld by this proposed legislation.

The assertion of power by Welsh Government in the lives of its citizens is not always malicious, but it cannot go unchallenged. The responses to the consultation on this Bill have been largely ignored. The First Minister of Wales and the Members of the Senedd need to be reminded very clearly that they were elected by us in order to represent us. We do not elect members of the Senedd to usurp our role as parents, grandparents and families. The rights and duties of parents are more significant than party view and politics. This abuse of government power cannot go unchallenged. If we remain silent, there will be no appeal.

ACT NOW AND URGE YOUR LOCAL MS TO REJECT THE CURRICULUM & ASSESSMENT (WALES) BILL BY USING THE LINK BELOW:

<http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk/welshparents?tmpl=component&print=1>

This link will take you to a pro forma from the Catholic Education Service, they will provide you with details of your local MS on the basis of your postcode. Individual letters registering your objection to this proposed legislation are better than copied circulars.

**CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES
STATEMENT ON SAFEGUARDING 20TH November 2020**

The account given in the IICSA Report of abuse known to be inflicted on children in the Catholic Church in England and Wales in the past 50 years is shocking and overwhelming. At our meeting this week, we Bishops have stood together in profound shame. We express our sorrow and contrition before God.

We have reflected on our need to reach out afresh to those who bear the wounds of permanent damage caused by this abuse. We commit ourselves to listen more intently to those who have been abused so as to learn from them and benefit from their wisdom. It is through learning from their testimony that hearts are changed.

We are grateful to those survivors who have come forward, not only to lay before us their experience of abuse, but to help us understand the depth of their pain. We invite anyone who has experienced abuse to come forward, no matter how long ago the abuse took place. We undertake to listen carefully to them with open heart and mind and support them on a journey of healing.

We have carefully considered the recommendations of the IICSA Report and formally accepted them. We have already begun work towards their implementation. The IICSA's generic hearings into the Church began last October. Around that time we commissioned an Independent Review of our Safeguarding Structures and Arrangements in the Catholic Church in England and Wales. This was carried out by Mr Ian Elliott, an experienced safeguarding professional who has worked across the world in this area. This week, alongside the IICSA Report, we have also examined in depth the Final Report of the Elliott Review and fully accepted its recommendations. It is a searching analysis of our safeguarding work, in its weaknesses and strengths. It proposes a number of remedial and forward-looking recommendations, which accord with the IICSA Report's own recommendations. The work of implementation will begin immediately. It will be carried out in close cooperation with the Religious Orders who play such an important part in the life of the Church.

In all our activities, our desire and resolve is to be a Church in which every child and vulnerable person is not only safe but nurtured into human flourishing. These recommendations present us with steps towards this goal. Key to them is a standards-based approach to safeguarding together with a specially commissioned national body with powers of effective audit and oversight of safeguarding in both Dioceses and Religious Orders. Everyone in the Church will be required to work to clear, published standards of behaviour and action. Most significantly, the Elliott Report has been fashioned with the participation of survivors of abuse. Their insight and wisdom has been crucial. We thank them for their great courage and generosity in working with us and we look forward to continuing this growing collaboration. The Elliott Report builds on all that has been achieved in our safeguarding ministry in the past 20 years, achievements also recognised in the IICSA Report. Therefore we thank profoundly all who contribute to the work of safeguarding in the Church today: the thousands of Parish Safeguarding Representatives, the professionals who work in our Safeguarding Offices In every Diocese, the Safeguarding Commissions who oversee this work and give objective and professional advice to guide our decisions, the staff of the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service and those who serve on the National Catholic Safeguarding Commission. These, and many others, have contributed greatly to the current work of safeguarding in the Church. Today, however, we acknowledge without hesitation, our failings, our mistakes, our lack of adequate co-operation. We express our deep sorrow and ask forgiveness, especially from victims and survivors. We affirm our resolve to effect the next step in our work of safeguarding and care for survivors. In prayer we turn to Christ the Good Shepherd, the fount of healing and compassion, asking that this moment of painful truth becomes a time of grace as we strive to fulfil the ministry entrusted to us as bishops in an unshakeable unity of purpose.

Personal commentary in response to IICSA Report

Some years ago, the U.K. Government established and appointed an Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) which was charged with examining the safeguarding record of public authorities, agencies and institutions, including churches and other religious groups. You will recall how this Inquiry has highlighted the historic failures of many public bodies, such as the B.B.C.

During the autumn of 2020, IICSA published its findings in relation to the Church of England and to the Catholic Church in England and Wales. IICSA was critical of the Catholic Church in England and Wales in terms of some structural failures and in terms of how a number of specific safeguarding scenarios were addressed. IICSA acknowledged that, since issuing its first set of national policies and procedures in 1994, the Catholic Church has undertaken a process of continual evolution regarding the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults. The Nolan Report of 2001 and the Cumberledge Report of 2007 were significant milestones. In response to criticisms highlighted in two preliminary reports from IICSA, regarding the record of the English Benedictine Congregation and of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, the Bishops' Conference initiated an internal review of all its safeguarding structures, policies and procedures. This review, now published as the Elliot Report, presented a number of significant recommendations to the Bishops in response to the criticisms levelled by IICSA. All these recommendations have been adopted by the Bishops' Conference for implementation.

I have been directly involved with safeguarding since my appointment in 1994 as Bishop's Delegate to the first national catholic conference on child protection and I remain Clergy Advisor on Safeguarding. In accordance with national guidelines, the Archdiocese of Cardiff established a Safeguarding Commission in 1995 and Monsignor John Maguire was appointed as the first Safeguarding Co-ordinator. I succeeded Fr John as Co-ordinator for a number of years before we appointed Mr Martin Mahoney to the post. Martin was a qualified Social Worker who had gained great experience within the Probation Service. He held the post for over ten years, rendering great service to the archdiocese until his retirement in 2020. Martin's successor is Mr Christopher Mullane, a retired Detective Inspector who served a career of thirty years in South Wales Constabulary. Chris served as a lead officer in Public Protection and has led training for the famous Lucy Faithful Foundation and for the NSPCC.

Over the last twenty-five years, the archdiocesan Safeguarding Commission has been served by a strong gallery of professional expertise. Our current Commission Chair is Mr Tony Bishop, a retired Police Inspector, with the remaining membership composed of the following: a retired District Judge; a serving Solicitor with wide experience in criminal and family law; an officer from the Probation Service; an officer from the Family Support Unit; a serving medical G.P.; two diocesan priests, one of whom provides expertise in Canon Law; a priest from Belmont Abbey; a representative from the Sisters of St Joseph of Annecy. We can be proud of and should be thankful for the service that has been provided by the members of the Safeguarding Commission, past and present.

You will be aware of the two high profile cases that brought criminal convictions to two of our diocesan priests in the late 1990's. Over the past twenty-five years, the archdiocesan Safeguarding Commission has dealt with a number of other cases, including some convictions, involving diocesan clergy, members of male and female religious orders and congregations, as well as many more situations involving lay members of the Church. The Archdiocese of Cardiff has an excellent record of dealing with such matters in close cooperation with statutory authorities. In accordance with national guidelines, we have maintained a robust structure of safeguarding in our parishes that has been sustained by a great cohort of volunteer Parish Safeguarding Representatives. Our parish network of well over two thousand volunteers has been guided through the formalities of the former C.R.B / and the current D.B.S. checks. The work of safeguarding is a continuum that requires on-going vigilance. We have not built our vigilance upon the foundations of fear but upon our confidence in the Gospel and the values of God's Kingdom. The work of safeguarding is the work of us all and it demands there be no place for naivete nor timidity. Over the years we have all had to educate ourselves regarding safeguarding matters, learning to confront and overcome our anxieties, learning how to deal effectively with concerns when they arise. The Safeguarding Commission is keenly aware of its responsibilities to advise, to support and to monitor. There is always more to learn as we adapt to changing circumstances, not least within the context of the current pandemic. We must strive for best pastoral practice within the wide spectrum of scenarios that forms our vibrant and diverse diocesan and parish experiences.

Following an archdiocesan safeguarding audit, conducted by C.S.A.S (Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service) in 2018, we received a highly favourable report. Following another audit, this time conducted by the Charity Commission in 2019, there was another highly favourable report. Such outcomes must never lead us to become complacent but rather they should reinforce our commitment in striving for continuing best practice. As our national and diocesan structures evolve further in response to the criticisms highlighted by IICSA, we will need to ensure that all of our Catholic communities within the Archdiocese are equipped for the task of maintaining a safe environment for all, especially the most vulnerable.