

RECENTLY DIED

Please pray for the eternal repose of the following:

Mr John Barry R.I.P. - The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Tuesday 14th September at 12.15pm.

Miss Nadia Dailoo R.I.P. - The Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St Mary's on Thursday 23rd September at 12.00pm.



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**

Pray for the Sick

Holy Family: Catherine Driscoll, Kay & Paul Parris, Bernard Perry, Mary Bodman, Valentine, Collette Griffin, Vivian Miller, Brian Webster, Henry Fernandez, Hanna Marengi, Susanna, Martin, Chris Collins, Sharon Dobson, Joseph Stancombe, Zaid Saffo.

St Mary's: Fr Christopher Delaney, Bethan Williams, Jean Allen, Madison Lane, Marian Lamb, Nadasiri Ifada, Cecily Hughes, James Church, Anthony Jackson, Tom Hopkins, Margaret Griffiths, Joanne Coakley, Helen Ward, Carina Foster, Ben Foster, Maria Sullivan, Phyllis Shannon, Mary D'Alpa, Patricia Sadka, Mary Williams, Donald Rees, Michael McLoughlin.

Readings continued

Up until this point, the disciples have been so slow to understand what is unfolding. From this point, the disciples gradually begin the process of recognising that Jesus is the Messiah. This recognition has to involve comprehension of the fact that Jesus, the Son of Man, will face the passion of his suffering. When Peter remonstrates with Jesus regarding the possibility of suffering, there is an immediate riposte from Jesus. The suffering that is prophesied is integral to Christ's mission, not something that can be by-passed. Suffering in itself is not being exalted but is recognised as the necessary path that leads to exaltation. If this path of suffering was the necessary route for Christ it is also necessary for his followers.

"Who do people say I am?"

"Who do you say I am?"

"Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.'"

"He began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again."

"... Peter started to remonstrate with him."

"If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Parish Contacts

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Parishes of St. Mary's and Holy Family
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Monsignor Canon John Maguire

Retired Priest in Residence at Holy Family

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

LEPRA APPEAL

LEPRA is the Catholic Charity dedicated to eradicating the disabilities caused by leprosy and is further devoted to confronting the prejudice that can erupt around an outbreak of the disease. You will find more information about LEPRA's work later in the newsletter.



There will be a **SECOND COLLECTION** at all Masses this Sunday in support of LEPRA.

Holy Family & St Mary of the Angels

Keyston Rd, Fairwater CF5 3NP Kings Rd, Canton CF11 9BX
12th-19th September 2021 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (Cycle B)

Readings for the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Isaiah 50:5-9.

Today's text from the Book of Isaiah provides us with an extract from one of the four great 'poems' or 'songs' that describe the identity and mission of the 'Suffering Servant of the Lord'. This Suffering Servant, by his willing self-sacrifice, embraces the mission of reconciling Israel to the Lord God. There is another dimension to his mission which involves nothing less than drawing all nations into the embrace of salvation. The Suffering Servant, innocent though he be, voluntarily takes upon himself the burden of the sins committed by others. The imagery of the 'suffering servant' could be understood as referring to Israel itself. Our perspective can rightly interpret the imagery in terms of Christ being the Suffering Servant through his passion, death and resurrection. In the eyes of the world Christ is made subject to humiliation but we perceive that his suffering leads to exaltation. The dignified patience of the One who suffers for the sake of others becomes the guiding strand that takes us to the heart of the redemption.

"For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle."

"The Lord comes to my help, ..."

"... I set my face like flint; ..."

Psalm 114.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

James 2:14-18.

When Luther led the protestant movement to separate from the Catholic Church, he believed he was rightly criticising the abuse of indulgences, highlighting the falsehood of some kind of automatic salvation gained through almsgiving. The disreputable lives of many who were misinterpreting the nature of indulgences and misusing their application was rightly open to criticism. Indulgences, properly understood and applied, bring us to an understanding what St James speaks of in his Letter. Our salvation is intimately bound up with our care for others. Good works are the necessary manifestation of faith. Faith must be made manifest. Framing the issue in terms of a choice between faith and works is itself a profound falsehood. The profession of faith, as an authentic act of the human will, must never be merely an employment of words but must become the employment of charity.

"Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith."

"You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show."

Alleluia. Alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia!

Mark 8:27-35.

The earliest account of St Peter's profession of faith offered at Caesaria Philippi is found here in Chapter 8 of Mark's Gospel but most of us are more familiar with the account of the event as it is described in Chapter 16 of Matthew's Gospel. The function and content of the scene are different in the two Gospels. In Matthew's account, Peter's confession gives rise to a series of promises by Jesus regarding the stability and authority of the Church founded on the Rock (Peter). In Mark's account, the tone is far simpler and it forms the turning point of the entire Gospel.

Continued opposite

Holy Family Masses

Sunday: 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (12th September)

6pm Vigil Mass For the Repose of the Victims & Wellbeing of the Survivors of 9/11

11am Zaid Saffo (Healing)

Thursday: (16th September)

9.30am Christopher & Rose Beattie (Wedding Day)

Sunday: 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (19th September)

6pm Vigil Mass Richard Emes & Sheila

11am Felix & Agnes Macpherson

St Mary's Masses

Sunday: 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time (12th Sept.)

10am Muriel Moriconi RIP

12pm For Peace in Afghanistan

6pm Intentions for the Thomas Family

Monday: St John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (13th September)

9.30am Wellbeing / birthday intentions Nazia Fernandes

Tuesday: Exaltation of the Holy Cross (14th Sept.)

9.30am Michael Maher

12.15pm Funeral Mass for Mr John Barry RIP

Wednesday: Our Lady of Sorrows (15th September)

9.30am Stephen & Ellen Hunt

Thursday: St Cornelius, Pope, and St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs (16th September)

7-8pm Adoration & Benediction PUBLIC ACCESS

Friday: St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church (17th September)

9.30am DWA & DR Utley

Saturday: Weekday in Ordinary Time (18th Sept.)

12.15pm Graham Baker

Sunday: 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time (19th Sept.)

10am Mary Cox

12pm Peg & Reg Palfrey

6pm Rose Anyaegby (Anniversary)

The Angelus and Prayer During the Day live-streamed at 12pm daily.

Evening Prayer live-streamed at 7pm daily except Sundays.

THIS SCHEDULE WILL INCREASINGLY BE DEPENDENT UPON MY TIMETABLE OF APPOINTMENTS.

Thursday: 7-8pm Adoration & Benediction (including Evening Prayer) open to public access. Confessions on Saturday 10am to 11am. Access to the children's liturgy room via the side gate.

FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Monday 13th September – Memoria: St John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.



John was given the epithet of Chrysostom (meaning ‘golden-mouthed’) because of his eloquence. He was born at Antioch in the year 344, his father being an army officer. Although his mother was widowed when she was barely twenty years of age, she ensured that her son received the best education possible. John studied under Libanius, a pagan philosopher and the most famous orator of the age.

In the year 374, John decided to embrace the life of an anchorite monk in the mountains surrounding his home city. Due to ill-health, in 381 he was forced to reside once more in Antioch and was soon ordained a deacon. In the year 386 he was ordained a priest. During this period, he wrote many works and became particularly famed for his commentaries on the writings of St Paul. Twelve years later, in 398, The Emperor Arcadius nominated John to become Bishop of Constantinople.

Chrysostom immediately confronted moral corruption, imperial and ecclesiastical. He would become a great Pastor and a great Theologian, bringing the light of his clarity to an era when the Church was dealing with many heresies and threats. John Chrysostom had enemies in high places. He was even opposed on a number of theological issues by Theophilus, Patriarch of Alexandria. Theophilus made common cause with the Empress Eudoxia in opposition to Chrysostom.

We must remember that during this period the seat of political power within the Roman Empire had shifted from Rome to Constantinople. As a result of machinations, political and theological, John Chrysostom was sent into exile at Cucusus in Armenia. He maintained an inner peace throughout these difficulties, being sustained by the consolation of knowing he had Papal support. Nonetheless, enemies at the Imperial Court desired to inflict still greater hardships of him and he was consigned to the extremity of the Empire at Pythius. It was whilst being transported to this location that John Chrysostom died on the 14th September in 407. Thirty-one years later his body was repatriated to Constantinople and buried with honour in the Church of the Apostles.

St John Chrysostom is honoured as one of the Four Greek Doctors of the Church, alongside Athanasius, Basil and Gregory Nazianzus.

Tuesday 14th September – Feast: The Exaltation of the Cross.

In the year 312, Constantine the Great (as he became and not yet a Christian), whilst battling the forces of Maxentius for the Imperial throne, invoked the power of the God of the Christians for aid. A luminous Cross is said to have appeared to Constantine bearing the inscription: “In this Sign you will Conquer.” Having secured victory under the banner of the Cross at the Milvian Bridge on the 28th October, Constantine decreed that the Christian Cross be incorporated into all Roman Standards and inscribed on the shields used by the army. Constantine’s mother, St Helena, ‘discovered’ the True Cross of Christ outside Jerusalem in the year 326.



In the year 614, Chosroes II, King of Persia, invaded Syria and Palestine. He sacked the City of Jerusalem and carried off the great Relic of the True Cross. The Roman Emperor Heraclius of Constantinople set out to invade Persia, finally recaptured the Relic and brought it back to Jerusalem. At the gates of Jerusalem, Heraclius himself bore the Cross to Calvary before restoring it to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

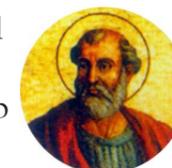
Wednesday 15th September – Memoria: Our Lady of Sorrows.

Today’s feast focuses our attention on the spiritual martyrdom of the Mother of God. Mary fostered in her heart a full compassionate communion with the sufferings of her Divine Son. Today we acknowledge the seven sorrowful events of her life: the Prophecy of Simeon; the Flight into Egypt; the Three Days Loss of Jesus in Jerusalem; the Encounter with her Divine Son on the Way to Calvary; the time when Mary Stands at the Foot of the Cross; the moment when Jesus is taken down from the Cross and laid in the arms of his afflicted Mother; the Burial of Jesus. “Come, all who pass by the way, look and see whether there is any suffering like my suffering.” (Lamentations 1:12)



Thursday 16th September – St Cornelius, Pope, and St Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs

Today we honour Pope Cornelius who suffered not only persecutions from Imperial Rome but also faced political and heretical opposition from within the Church. He died as a martyr in 253. We also honour St Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, who offered resolute support to Pope Cornelius in the midst of all his difficulties. Cyprian died a martyr’s death in the year 258, under the persecution perpetrated by the Emperor Valerian.



Friday 17th September - Memoria: St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.

Robert Bellarmine was born at Montepulciano, Italy, on the 4th October 1542, the third of ten children. His mother, Cinzia Cervini, a niece of Pope Marcellus II, was a devout member of the Church. Robert entered the novitiate of the newly formed Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1560. Following his ordination to the priesthood he was sent to teach the University at Louvain (in modern Belgium). He taught at Louvain for six years. He revitalized biblical and patristic studies as well as his more polemical writings that confronted protestant errors. His methodology was truly systematic. His work entitled ‘Controversies’ was a three-volume examination of the teachings promulgated by the so-called reformers.

Most Catholic writers of the time merely asserted their condemnation of what the protestants were saying, but Bellarmine was truly argumentative in confronting errors. He was direct in opposing the protestants, but always conducted himself with dignity and expressed himself with respect. Considering the context of his times, Bellarmine was innovative in outlining his opinion that the proper and primary power of the Pope is spiritual and that the use of temporal power by the Papacy was only justified in terms of it being applied to matters of genuine spiritual concern. In 1576 he was appointed to the Chair of Controversial Theology at what was then called the Roman College (now the Pontifical Gregorian University). We must remember that the Protestant ‘Reformation’ formed the backdrop of Church life in the sixteenth century. In 1592 Robert Bellarmine became Rector of the Roman College. In 1594 he became Provincial of the Society in Naples and in 1598 became a Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church. He wrote a famous work countering the religious tenets sponsored by the Protestant King James I of England. He wrote significant and progressive works on Church-State relations. He outlined the democratic principle that all authority originates with God, but is vested in the people, who then entrust that authority



to fit governors / rulers. Robert Bellarmine inspired and guided another Jesuit, St Aloysius Gonzaga. He assisted St Francis de Sales in his efforts to obtain Papal approval for his Visitation Order. It was Robert Bellarmine who prudently opposed any severe action against Galileo in the arena of the cosmological controversy. Bellarmine was an outstanding scholar and an eloquent preacher. He died in the year 1621. Although the process of his canonization began in 1627 it was not completed until 1930 because some elements in the Church thought Bellarmine suspect. He was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1931.

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
REMINDE OURSELVES HOW ESSENTIAL IT IS TO GRANT MERCY
IF WE EVER EXPECT TO RECEIVE MERCY.

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.

ARCHDIOCESAN EVANGELISATION PROGRAMME (SECOND RUN)

Spread the Gospel: Developing a Missionary Parish

The Programme has been approved by His Grace, Archbishop George Stack. It is a seven-week programme, running for one and half hours via Zoom on one evening a week. The dates will be Tuesday, September 28th, October 5th, 12th, 19th and 26th and November 2nd and 9th. It will be delivered once again by members of the Evangelisation Commission.

The Programme is open to all parishioners and clergy across the Archdiocese. It will remind participants of the Great Commission and the basic Gospel message. It will cover a rudimentary history of the early church and will consider important messages from recent papal papers, how to give witness testimonies, evangelise non-church going Catholics with practical approaches and tools for building a parish team to evangelise.

The Genesis Mission will be an important follow-on activity offered to participants, providing the necessary skills for successful encounters.

For more information and to register for the Programme, please email Madeleine Walters at madeleine.walters@rcadc.org

REFERENCE FOR CANDIDATES FOR RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

*** N.B. FIRST CONFESSIONS FOR CANDIDATES FROM ST MARY'S PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER – TIME SLOTS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED.

*** N.B. FIRST CONFESSIONS FOR CANDIDATES FROM HOLY FAMILY PARISH WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 2ND OCTOBER – TIMES SLOTS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED.

*** N.B. THE NEXT MEETING FOR CANDIDATES FROM ST MARY'S PARISH IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER FROM 6.00PM TO 7.00PM.

*** N.B. THE NEXT MEETING FOR CANDIDATES FROM HOLY FAMILY PARISH IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY 21ST OCTOBER FROM 6.00PM TO 7.00PM.

*** N.B. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS FOR ST MARY OF THE ANGELS WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 6TH NOVEMBER AT 2.00 PM.

*** N.B. FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS FOR HOLY FAMILY WILL BE CELEBRATED ON SATURDAY 13TH NOVEMBER AT 2.00 PM.

BELMONT ABBEY RETREATS

Please see below details of 2 retreats on the Psalms offered by Belmont Abbey Retreats in September. The first will take place at Belmont Abbey as an **in-person** day retreat on Saturday 18th September. An **online option** is offered as a series, on the mornings of 1st, 15th and 29th September, combining live Zoom sessions with video reflections. The videos will remain available on the Belmont website to view at a later date.

1) The Mirror of the Psalms

Led by Dom Brendan Thomas, Saturday 18th September, 10am to 4pm at Belmont Abbey. An **in-person day** exploring the spiritual riches of the Psalms, with lunch and refreshments. For further details or to book see our website or contact the Retreat Secretary, Fr Augustine on retreats@belmontabbey.org.uk or phone 01432 374750

2) September with the Psalms.

<https://www.belmontabbey.org.uk/september-with-the-psalms>

A series of **3 online days** led by Dom Brendan Thomas. On the mornings of 1st and 15th September, beginning with Opening Prayers and an Introductory Talk, concluding with final reflections, conversation and closing prayers at 12.00pm (via Zoom). On 29th September the timetable includes Mass for the Patronal Feast of St Michaels and All Angels, livestreamed from the Abbey Church. VIDEO REFLECTIONS will be available on the website to watch during each morning or view at a later date.

For further details or to book see our website or contact the Retreat Secretary, Fr Augustine on retreats@belmontabbey.org.uk or phone 01432 374750.

LEPRA - We will beat leprosy together

Our vision is a world free from prejudice and disability due to leprosy.

LEPRA is an international charity working to beat leprosy. We work directly with people in India, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe, prioritising marginalised and hard to reach communities to support people affected by leprosy and refer them for treatment and care.

Leprosy is a Neglected Tropical Disease which affects the skin and attacks nerves in the hands, feet and eyes. Leprosy is curable with a combination of antibiotics, known as multidrug therapy. However, if left untreated it can cause severe disabilities and even blindness. Reconstructive surgery followed by physiotherapy can reverse the damage, helping people to use their hands, feet and eyes again.

LEPRA offers a holistic approach to the treatment of leprosy, providing mental health support, and social and economic advocacy to ensure the needs of each individual are addressed.

LEPRA's 5 key areas of work are: Prevention; Detection; Treatment; Disability Support; and Inclusion.



St Joseph's Leprosy Centre
Madhya Pradesh, India

St Joseph's Leprosy Centre was established in 1993 in the Khargone district of Madhya Pradesh, India and is run by the Sisters of St Joseph's. Reconstructive surgery is carried out at the centre to reverse damage caused to hands and feet, and the sisters care for and support people through faith and love. St Joseph's also provides activities including counselling and self-care services, ulcer care,

screening camps, advocacy, protective footwear and the teaching of new skills. These are all important for patients to support their families, particularly if they are unable to return to their old employment.

For more information on the work of LEPRA, visit lepra.org.uk

THANKSGIVING MEAL FOR OUR COHORT OF STEWARDS

I have booked The Cornerstone at the Cathedral for a meal of thanksgiving on Friday 22nd October at 7.00pm in honour of our cohort of stewards from St Mary of the Angels and Holy Family. All of the stewards are invited and they may be accompanied by a guest. On behalf of the parishes, this event provides me with the opportunity to express our gratitude for their sterling work in facilitating the re-opening of both churches following the lockdown and sustaining our continuous operation over the following months. As I have previously stated, third party commentators unanimously declared that our system of operation was second to none. Our stewards not only enabled us to adhere to the protocols, week-in and week-out, but also provided a warm and encouraging welcome to all parishioners and visitors during very challenging times.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*** Two Volunteer Administrative Assistants:

One two-hour slot on Tuesdays from 10.00.am to 12.00.pm and another two-hour slot on Thursdays from 10.00.am to 12.00.pm. These suggested times are flexible. Can you help?

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO KATHRYN ELLEY AND ELLERY HENNESSY FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO OFFER ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE. I WOULD STILL WELCOME OTHERS WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO ASSIST.

*** Volunteer(s) to Administer the Piety Stall at St Mary's:

The task would involve opening a stall for access to parishioners before and after 10.00.am Sunday Mass. It would involve ordering stock from our established wholesale suppliers in anticipation of needs – according to liturgical seasons, feasts and sacramental programmes etc. Can you help?

*** Volunteer to Administer the Parish Website:

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO BRIAN TAKAEDZA MUVIRIMI FOR HIS WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST WITH THIS PROJECT.

*** Parish Safeguarding Representatives (P.S.R.).

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO AMY HEWETT AND ALEX KYDD FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS TO JOIN OUR PARISH SAFEGUARDING TEAM.

*** Volunteer to Administer the Parish Safety Toolbox at St Mary's.

N.B. I AM MOST GRATEFUL TO AMY HEWETT FOR HER WILLINGNESS TO JOIN KEITH SIMS IN ATTENDING TO THIS PROJECT.

NEWS FROM A.C.N. - AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

In the monthly A.C.N. Magazine I was reminded recently of an example of oppression/suppression that would perhaps surprise most people. When we think of the countries that make up the territory of Central and South America it is most likely that we consider them all to be thoroughly Catholic in religion and culture. Such thinking would constitute an incorrect assumption. Take Uruguay as an example, the second smallest country in South America. Since the middle of the nineteenth century the political elite of Uruguay has adopted a radical secularist agenda, with the national constitution expressing the intention to remove religion / to expel Christianity from public life. This translates into open civic hostility to Catholicism in particular. Despite this sustained effort to suppress the faith, around half the population are baptised and remain allegiant. There are no officially recognised celebrations of Christian festivals in Uruguay. Instead of Christmas there is a 'Family Day'; instead of Holy Week and Easter there is 'Tourism Week'. The A.C.N. are sending 2,000 Bibles to a Uruguayan Diocese in order to assist with the catechetical formation of young people. This single initiative will cost £14,000. For further information please consult www.acnuk.org

A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR FOR ALL PUPILS AND STUDENTS

Pupils and students, not to mention teachers and support staff, will be recovering from the first few days of the new academic year. We pray that the coming year will be marked by the sustenance of a safe and stable learning environment, enabling a fruitful progress towards examinations and other evaluations next summer.

THE CATHOLIC PUPIL PROFILE

A few years ago, our Archdiocese adopted the structures of the Jesuit Pupil Profile for use in our schools. The aim of Catholic education is the formation of the whole person, fostering improvements in all the circumstances of living and learning for the greater glory of God and in service to the common good. The Profile is comprised of eight pairs of virtues, a structure rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and crafted by the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola.

The starting point for Ignatius is always GRATITUDE – an attitude of mind that habitually notices daily blessings and the good things that happen to us, giving our lives meaning and enjoyment, and sometimes pause for thought and a nudge to put things right. The end point of Ignatian spirituality is GENEROSITY – the impulse to give and not to count the cost, to serve without reward, to have big hearts and great minds, to live for others.

Ignatius tells us that we need to be ATTENTIVE to the big and small things, to the responses of other people, to the stirrings in our hearts, to the preoccupations that thread their way through our lives. Being attentive takes practice; it is much easier to rush from one thing to the next, taking little time to notice anything. Once we develop the habit of being attentive, we can begin to DISCERN what is good for us and what is not; what God calls us to be; what God calls us to do with our lives.

Our Catholic tradition teaches us that it is never enough simply to notice: we must allow ourselves to be moved by what we see, especially by the plight of those who suffer. COMPASSION – the ability to sense deeply the predicament of the other – is fundamental to seeing the world with Jesus's eyes. Being compassionate leads to LOVE – a deep and genuine bond with the other person, something that is outgoing and not focussed on myself. The love God has for us is the model of the love we are called to show others, including those who are against us.

Having FAITH is crucial to human wellbeing – faith in myself, my emotions, my judgements; faith in others and their faith in me; faith in my family and in the communities to which I belong; and faith in God. Faith cannot be taken for granted; it has to be built up day by day. Once we begin to have a little faith, we have HOPE, because we can trust ourselves and those around us with the decisions which will shape the future. Without hope we become insular, lacking in love, and ultimately despairing. The three core virtues of the Gospel of Jesus are faith, hope and love.

ELOQUENCE – the ability to articulate clearly what we believe and feel and to do so in a way that, with integrity, engages and persuades others – is a central characteristic of Catholic education. But eloquence must be used in a TRUTHFUL way – to speak truth about myself, about others, about God and the world around us. Education is the search for truth and the eloquent articulation of what we discover. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life."

To be educated is to be LEARNED – to know about God's creation and about the people who are part of it. But facts and skills are of little value unless we have WISDOM also – the ability to see what is important and what is not.

THE CATHOLIC PUPIL PROFILE (Continued)

CURIOSITY is needed to sustain learning. It is what keeps us going. It is what opens up new horizons. It leads us to find God in all things. In the Ignatian tradition, learning is something to be ACTIVELY engaged in the probing, seeking, asking, challenging, questioning until truth is plain – it is to think for oneself and become a lifelong learner.

Activity can easily become the distraction of being busy. Using wisdom and discernment, we can live our lives more INTENTIONALLY – getting the balance right; living in the present moment rather than in the unchangeable past or the unknown future. Living in this way is to be PROPHETIC- announcing the new perspective of the Gospel on what it means to be human. Jesus is the example of someone who lived his life intentionally and prophetically.

GRATEFUL AND GENEROUS.
ATTENTIVE AND DISCERNING.
COMPASSIONATE AND LOVING.
FAITH AND HOPE.
ELOQUENT AND TRUTHFUL.
LEARNED AND WISE.
CURIOUS AND ACTIVE.
INTENTIONAL AND PROPHETIC.

Obviously, the application of this sequencing profile is pertinent not only for application in a school context but more widely. Let us reference its structure for our spiritual reflection over the coming months as we contemplate the future of our parish mission.

MEETING OF ST MARY OF THE ANGELS PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL

The next meeting of St Mary of the Angels Parish Advisory Council is scheduled for Sunday 26th September at 7.15pm in The Priory.

A WORD OF THANKS FROM LORRAINE JONES

On Sunday 5th September Lorraine participated in a sponsored walk with the intention of raising funds in support of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children. A network of volunteers across the country work alongside a very small number of employed national officers in sustaining the work of S.P.U.C. which seeks to defend the dignity and value of human life from natural conception to natural death. Lorraine raised over £200 and she wishes to express her thanks to all those who provided sponsorship. For more information, please go to spuc.org.uk

Our live-streaming facility is now available again on the website. If the problem should arise again, please be aware that you can also access the service via the following link: <https://mcnmedia.tv/Camera/st-mary-of-the-angels>

REFERENCE FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

*** N.B. THE NEXT MEETING FOR ALL OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER FROM 6.30PM TO 8.00PM IN ST MARY OF THE ANGELS.

*** N.B. THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 30TH OCTOBER AT 2.00PM IN ST MARY OF THE ANGELS.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

A homily for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Apostles, who had received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost in fulfilment of the Lord's promise, had power to complete the work of Baptism by the giving of the Holy Spirit, as we read in the Acts of the Apostles. When St Paul had laid his hands on certain people who had been baptized, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

The Bishops, as successors of the Apostles, possess the same power and, either in their own right or through Priests lawfully appointed to fulfil this ministry, they confer the Holy Spirit on those who have already been born again in Baptism.

Even if today the coming of the Holy Spirit is no longer widely made manifest by the gift of tongues, we know by faith that the Spirit, through whom the love of God has been poured into our hearts and through whom we are gathered in unity of faith and in diversity of callings, is received by us and is working invisibly to make the Church holy and one.

Dearly beloved candidates, the gift of the Holy Spirit, which you are about to receive, will be a spiritual seal, by which you will be conformed to Christ and will be made more fully members of the Church. For Christ himself, anointed by the Holy Spirit in the baptism he received from John the Baptist, was sent forth for the work of his ministry, to pour out on the earth the fire of the same Spirit.

Therefore, you who are already baptized will now receive the power of his Spirit and be signed with the cross on your foreheads. And so, you must always bear witness to his Passion and Resurrection before the world, so that your manner of life, as the Apostle says, may be in every place the pleasing fragrance of Christ. His Mystical Body, which is the Church, the People of God, receives from him diverse graces, which the same Holy Spirit distributes to individuals for the building up of that Body in unity and love.

Be living members of this Church, therefore, and, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, seek to serve all people like Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. And now, before you receive the Spirit, call to mind the faith which you professed in Baptism or which your parents and godparents professed with the Church.

The Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Do you renounce Satan, and all his empty promises? I DO.

Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth? I DO.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father? I DO.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost? I DO.

Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting? I DO.

This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

AMEN.

The Laying On of Hands

Dearly beloved, let us pray to God the almighty Father, for these, his adopted sons and daughters, already born again to eternal life in Baptism, that he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them to confirm them with abundant gifts, and through his anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

The Bishop then lays hands on the head of each Candidate

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, freeing them from sin: send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete; give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and fortitude, the spirit of knowledge and piety; fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Anointing with Chrism

The Bishop inscribes the Sign of the Cross with Sacred Chrism on the forehead of each candidate as he says:

(Using the chosen Confirmation name of each Candidate) N., BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Candidate replies: AMEN.

The Bishop adds: PEACE BE WITH YOU.

The Candidate replies: AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

FINANCE & PROPERTY

Parish Offertory Collection at St Mary's:
5th September - Gift aid £305.50 Loose £428.65

St Mary's Standing Orders per week amount to £600.00 of which 90% is gift aided.

Parish Offertory Collection at Holy Family:
5th September - Gift aid £161.00 Loose £155.80

Holy Family Standing Orders per week amount to £250.00 of which 95% is gift aided.

WHY NOT GIFT-AID ALL YOUR PARISH DONATIONS?

These are still unusual times and fewer than 50% of parishioners are currently attending Mass regularly. A large number of parishioners who use the gift aid envelopes are still absent, for a variety of reasons, and this explains to some extent the low proportion of gift aid donations in the weekly cash collections.

If you are a taxpayer, I would encourage you to consider joining the gift aid scheme, which gives a gain of 25% on all your parish contributions. Our current diminished income covers costs but no more so that in both parishes there has been no deposit gain to cover the inevitable backlog of repairs and ongoing capital expenditure. In September, I intend to provide an exact breakdown of the financial situation alongside a projection of essential works and other outgoings over the coming year.

AUTUMN EDITION OF 'MISSION TODAY'

The autumn edition of 'Mission Today' is now available for collection from the tables in the porches of both churches.

STRATEGIC FINANCIAL PLAN FOR BOTH PARISHES

I have appointed John Antoniazzi as my advisor in structuring a Strategic Financial Plan for our parishes. John is a parishioner of St Mary of the Angels though he lives in Llandaff and serves as a Trustee of the Archdiocese. He chairs the Archdiocesan Investment Committee. He is a retired senior partner of Deloitte. I am very grateful to John for his willingness to offer his professional expertise.

NEW ELECTRONIC DONATION STATION AT ST MARY OF THE ANGELS

Our new electronic donation station is now operational at St Mary of the Angels. It is currently located within the entrance porch. The display screen offers clear instructions for use. You can make a donation securely either by the contactless method or by inserting your card and using your PIN.

FROM DEACON MAURICE – APPEAL FOR REACHING OUT

As you may be aware we have obtained funding from the SVP (London - £50k) and the Welsh Government (£25k) to refurbish the former St Clare's Church on Mill Road in Ely as a Vincentian Community Centre to provide help to those in need in our communities. This will form an important link between the SVP groups and all our volunteers in St Mary's, Holy Family and St Francis Parishes. The work is due to start in the next week or so and the projected time scale to completion is around 4 – 5 months. Our food distribution/food bank programme, which forms part of our 'Reaching Out' service, will move from Holy Family parish hall to this new community centre when refurbishment is complete and in addition we plan to open a charity shop for good quality clothing, a café/meeting room and facilities for counselling/support. This is an exciting and important development and we will need volunteers to help bring it to fruition. So please, please let me know if you would be willing/able to give a few hours of your time to take this important and exciting charitable project forward, remembering that more hands make light work. (mfscanlon@hotmail.co.uk or 07747038274).



Our food distribution work continues really well, so many thanks to all who have made donations so far and to all our volunteers who are enabling us to provide food boxes to 60-70 families on a weekly basis across Ely, Caerau, Canton, Fairwater and Pontcanna. We need ongoing funding of around £500 monthly 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 but improving times. God bless you all and keep safe and patient for just a little longer (hopefully).

BANK DETAILS FOR STANDING ORDERS

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

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

We are still awaiting training dates for using the defibrillator. Please remember that you can put your name down for training whether you are a parishioner of Holy Family or St Mary's. Contact canton@rcadc.org.

