

July
2014

FREE

Catholic East Anglia



Newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia

Web edition at www.catholic east anglia.org



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together on
pilgrimage -
centre page**



**Fire brigade visit
to St Francis of
Assisi school
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**Pope meets
Norfolk
police officer
- see page 8**

Bishops' visit to charity

Bishop Alan joined up with Anglican Bishop Graham James to visit the Magdalene Group which has given help and advice to sex-workers and victims of human trafficking in Norwich and beyond since 1992.

The two bishops, who are both patrons of the charity, heard of developments and prayed with the staff and for those the agency seeks to help. The Magdalene Group has

won an honoured reputation for its work affording dignity and life chances to women in prostitution. It has also begun an innovative educational programme helping young girls to identify grooming.

"The girls drawn into prostitution have been getting younger in Norfolk as elsewhere so helping them has become a vital dimension of the charity's work," said one of the agency's staff.



Bishop Alan and Bishop Graham with the Magdalene group

Bishop Alan's letter to Diocese stresses the importance of marriage

Family vital to our society

When God entered our world at the moment of the Incarnation, his Son was born into a human family.

He was cared for by his mother, Mary and his foster father, Joseph. The Holy Family shows us that the family is a sacred unit given to us by God himself.

It is his way of providing stability for the human race. And it has been so from the beginning of human existence.

Much of our society has very different ideas from Christian understanding of marriage and the family, an understanding which is shared by the other two monotheistic religions, Judaism and Islam.

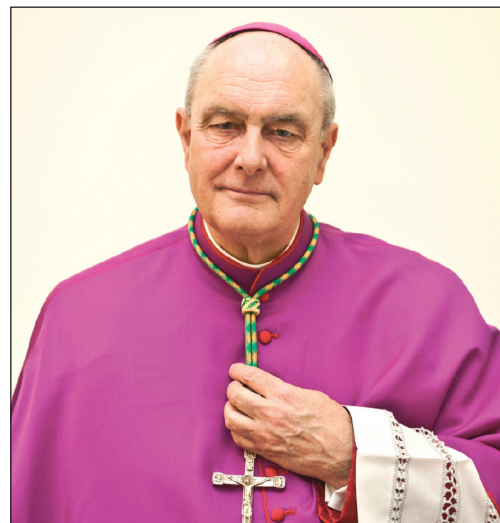
Society's ideas can never replace that understanding. Where the family unit is not supported and the family values of commitment and faithfulness break down, eventually, social order collapses. This is something we are already witnessing in our own country.

The Church must always witness to the gift and ideal of marriage. So it was wonderful to welcome so many married couples from across the Diocese to the Cathedral on 20 June, to celebrate marriage and to mark special anniversaries of marriage.

Between them, they witness to many, many years of married life and of their willingness to commit themselves to each other, come what may! They have something real and exciting to pass on to their children and grandchildren.

It was also a great joy to see that the Catholic Grandparents Association has launched itself in England and Wales. This will emphasise their vital contribution to the Church, the family and society.

Grandparents from across the country have already gathered at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham for some years, united by their common aim of doing the



Bishop Alan's joy at celebration of family

best they can for their children and grandchildren by passing on the Faith through their guidance and love.

I hope that before long we might have a branch of the association in our Diocese to support and encourage all our Catholic grandparents in the part that they play in the new evangelisation.

Let us all promote marriage and family life in the coming years, witnessing positively to what we, the Church, believes.

Alan +

Kerry heads commission

The diocese has a new Marriage and Family Life Coordinator.

Kerry Urdzik lives in Ipswich and is married with seven children.

She worked as a registered nurse until raising a young family became a full-time job.

She is now volunteering as a catechist, marriage preparation facilitator and baptism preparation class provider in her local parish, and working towards a Bachelor of Divinity degree at Maryvale Institute.

Kerry is working closely with Bishop Alan and the Commission to plan and implement preparation and support marriage and family life throughout the Diocese.

You can contact her by email at: mflc@east-angliadiocese.org.uk

Website:
<http://www.catholic east anglia.org/marriage/>



Kerry Urdzik

Walsingham director ordained bishop

The Director of the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, Fr Alan Williams SM, is due to be ordained the seventh Bishop of Brentwood at the town's cathedral on 1 July at 12 noon.

Born in Oldham, Lancs, in 1951 Fr Alan was ordained as a Marist priest in St Anne's at Whitechapel in 1983.

He holds degrees in theology, psychology and religious education and has served in a number of pastoral roles. He has worked as a teacher and school chaplain. He also served as Catholic Chaplain at Sheffield Hallam University and taught Christian Spirituality at postgraduate level.

He is a former superior of the Marist Fathers in England and was a parish priest in Southwark.

On his appointment Fr Alan said: "There is indeed a God of surprises and in my life I have learned to trust ever more in the grace of God for whatever task has been assigned to me."

He is pictured here at the Diocese of East Anglia Pilgrimage with Fr David Bagstaff.



Advertisement



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese



Edrich D'Souza



Alfonso-Jude Belnas

Fr Christopher Back RIP

Retired priest Fr Christopher Back died recently and Mgr Tony Rogers paid tribute to him in this obituary.

Born in Paddington, London, on 21 December, 1946, Christopher spent much of his childhood in Norfolk.

His father, George, had been valet to Fr Alfred Hope Patten, restorer of the Anglican Shrine at Walsingham. He later moved to Enfield where he was two years junior to Bishop Alan at the Grammar School.

He gained a degree in English Language and Medieval Literature at Durham University and was a student of the subjects throughout his life. He never ceased to be scholar and researcher.

After studying theology in Oxford he was ordained an Anglican priest in 1973 within the Diocese of London and eventually became Vicar of Knowle Park.

In 1994, along with so many others, he made the courageous decision that God was calling him into Full Communion with the Catholic Church and was ordained priest by Bishop Peter Smith on 7 September, 1996.

After brief spells at Great Yarmouth and St Neots he was appointed Parish Priest of Aldeburgh where his health collapsed dramatically and he retired to Our Lady and the English Martyrs.

His last 12 months were spent in the Hope Nursing Home.

Prayers asked for two men going to seminary

Bishop Alan has accepted two new men as students for the priesthood for our Diocese.

Peter Wygnanski from St Lawrence's in Cambridge and Anthony Asomugha from St John the Baptist's Cathedral in Norwich, will begin their formation in September.

Peter will be travelling to Rome to begin his studies at the English College and Anthony will be travelling to London to begin his studies at Allen Hall Seminary.

Bishop Alan said: "It is really good news for our Diocese as we welcome Peter and Anthony."

"Please pray for them as they begin their formation, support them and encourage them in their studies, and pray for their families and parish communities."

Peter said: "It's said that seminary can be both the best and hardest of times, so I'm looking forward to it with real excitement, but it comes with an awareness of the challenges that are to come."

"It's a sense of peace, however, that underlines the beginning of this new chapter in life for me; a young man's uncertainty becalmed by placing all in God's hands."

"With the grace of God, and the support of friends, family, our Diocese, and the seminary staff, I trust challenges can be overcome so I will be venturing forth with a guitar on my back



Peter Wygnanski with Bishop Alan and Anthony Asomugha

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Anthony said: "In March this year, Bishop Alan accepted me for priestly formation, and I have been overflowing with joy ever since."

"I am very excited by the prospects of starting priestly formation in Allen Hall Seminary this Autumn."

"I enjoyed visiting the seminary community for my selection conference and I would enjoy being in the vibrant city of London."

"I am sure that seminary formation would make me thoroughly equipped for the task of evangelising the community of East Anglia."

"I have received an immense amount of support and encouragement from friends,

family and the local church."

"Every day, I come to realise that God knows and loves me much more than I know and love myself and so trusting in His plans is key to happiness, fulfillment and joy."

"This is the Gospel message and it should be at the heart of discerning whatever path we choose in life."

Fr John Warrington, the Diocesan Director for Vocations, said: "It's important for our Diocese, as we invite Peter and Anthony to begin their formation, to pray for them, support them and encourage them in their studies. Please keep them in your prayers."

"Please also keep in your prayers Edrich D'Souza from St Peter and All Souls Parish,

Peterborough, and Alfonso-Jude Belnas from St Philip Howard Parish, Cambridge, who began their studies at St Mary's College, Oscott, Birmingham last September and have just completed their first year."

"If you pray the Rosary regularly, please pray a daily decade for all of them and that God will give our Diocese more vocations."

"If you are able to do so, please give generously towards the Vocations Fund for the Diocese which helps to pay the annual cost of educating a seminarian."

"Lastly, do be on the lookout for new vocations within your parish communities and encourage anyone who is displaying those gifts needed for today's priests."

Bishop Alan asks all in the Diocese to remember to pray for and actively encourage vocations and especially for the priesthood."

If you would like to know more about the vocations work in the diocese please look up the pages of our website at or speak to your parish priest or a member of our diocesan vocations team. Information about the team is available on the website and is also displayed at the back of your Parish Church.

Fr John Warrington
Diocesan Vocations Director
322 Woodbridge Road
Ipswich IP4 4BD
01473 728115

Weekend of listening to call

A discernment weekend for people aged 18 to 30 to think more deeply about who God is calling them to be is to be held at St Mary's College in Birmingham 4-6 July.

Called *Invocation*, it is designed for reflection or for people to seek further guidance and inspiration.

Those taking part will be encouraged to reflect on themselves, their relationship with God and their neighbour.

A keynote speaker will discuss a relevant topic each day beginning with a talk on Friday by Curtis Martin, founder of FOCUS USA, on Looking at oneself: Turning away from sin and living a life of virtue.

Vatican Archbishop Rino Fisichella, will talk about Your Mission at the heart of the New Evangelisation on Saturday, followed by Sr Roseann Reddy, from the Sisters of the Gospel of



Life, who will speak on Looking towards God: Christ, the Church, the Sacraments and a plan for life.

On Sunday Dr Andrew O'Connell, from the Presentation Brothers in

Dublin will speak on a life of charity, service and witnessing Christ by our lives.

For more details including free transport see www.callingeastanglia.org.uk/coming-events

Pope Francis gives Peter and daughter two rosaries

Peter Staples, a parishioner at St John the Baptist cathedral, recently met Pope Francis in Rome and described the event as "the most wonderful experience of my life".

Peter is a Catenian and serves on the group's local council.

He has also been a member of the Scout Association for 60 years and is a vice-president of the organisation in Norfolk.

At Mass in the cathedral he forged a friendship with a young couple from Argentina who knew the Pope before his election and counted him as a

family friend.

They helped to arrange a meeting for Peter and his daughter Gabriella with Pope Francis during the General Audience in St Peter's Square.

Peter and Gabriella spoke with Pope Francis who said that strong faith, communities and friendship were of very high importance.

He asked for their prayers and then blessed rosaries for several people at the meeting.

Pope Francis gave two rosaries to Peter. Gabriella has given them to her sons.



Peter and Gabriella with Pope Francis



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese



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Shrine director ordained



Fr Alan with Fr David Bagstaff at the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

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Parishioners at St Luke's in Peterborough welcomed two priests from Ethiopia who thanked them for their support

Art show for parish funds



An exhibition to display the work of local artists at the Church of the Annunciation in Poringland has raised £300 for the parish. Bishop Alan is pictured opening the exhibition to fund proposed works in the church which hosts a growing community from the surrounding villages.

Ethiopian priests say 'thank you'

Two Ethiopian priests visited Peterborough parishioners who have been supporting their community through international charity CAFOD.

St Luke's Roman Catholic Church in Orton Malborne has been involved in CAFOD's Connect2 fundraising scheme for a year and has raised more than £1,500 to help the people of Sebeya.

They plan to raise £5,000 over three years and Sebeya parish priest Abba Solomon Beyene Tesfayohannes visited to thank St Luke's for support to tackle extreme poverty.

People in the area cannot produce enough food due to severe drought.

Along with Abba Teum Berhe Dane, who is diocesan director of CAFOD's charity partner in the country, they explained how St Luke's support was making a tangible difference.

Abba Solomon said: "St Luke's support gives us strength and helps with many problems in our community."

UK supporters have enabled Sebeya villagers to build an irrigation facility, help people living with HIV/AIDS and support and empower women suffering from domestic violence and abuse.

They have also given vital training to unskilled people and given set-up grants to start small businesses.

St Luke's parish priest Fr John Minh said: "I jumped at the chance of supporting a place through CAFOD

where we could get to have proper contact with the people we were actually raising money for. I want the parish to learn from them too. We are not just giving money to them, it is a spiritual connection as well."

CAFOD East Anglia's diocesan manager Stephen Matthews said: "We have become a global family through CAFOD's Connect2 and it is wonderful for parishioners to meet face to face with the community they have helped."

"The priests were also presented with a statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and said they would make sure it was on display back in Sebeya."

"Abba Teum explained their church has a special devotion to Our Lady, so it would be deeply treasured."

Parishioners St George's Church in Norwich, who have also been fundraising for Sebeya, were also there.

Music release

Director of the Diocesan Youth Service Hamish MacQueen has released a new song entitled 'I Am Convinced'. He said: "It will take you back to the 90s when Brit Pop reigned, but with the timeless message originally written by St Paul that 'I am convinced nothing can separate from the love of God'. "It is available on iTunes, Amazon, Spotify, Google, Deezer and others."

NEW EVANGELISATION

“You cannot take God into prison: God is already there”

In the first of a series of interviews with women whose faith finds them evangelising in different ways across our diocese, Rebecca Bretherton talks to Joanne Hornby, chaplain to *Pact* - a charity which aims to help prisoners and their families.

Let's start with a question about who you are.

I am 54, the mother of four grown up children and have three grandchildren. I was born in Manchester but have spent most of my life in Suffolk and around Cambridge. I was brought up as an Anglican. My husband-to-be was a Catholic and I wasn't going to be able to change him! I became a Catholic when I was 20 on St Vincent de Paul's feast day. My faith has been a constant process throughout my life.

So how did you become a prison chaplain?

After spending time bringing up my family, I did an access to higher education course in Humanities. The access course was fascinating, however I found the other students did not understand my faith. I thought I would like to study with other Christians: that led me to the Margaret Beaufort Institute in Cambridge where I studied theology.

Most students went on to ministry within their Churches. I loved being a mature student, though it was hard to be on a residential course while my husband managed family life. Since graduating, I have worked at three prisons within the diocese: HMP Edmunds Hill and HMP Highpoint, both in Suffolk; and HMP Whitemoor in March.

Tell us what prison chaplains do.

A chaplaincy team looks after prisoners and staff of all faiths and none. There's a lot of hanging about on the wings talking to prisoners. Much of the work is just being a support within the system: helping them when things go wrong at home; giving good news, giving bad news.

We plan worship and lead prayer groups, bible groups and adoration with prisoners. Prisoners are resourceful and try to make the best of their situation so we have fun organising events like carol services. I have led some memorial services for prisoners. As a woman, doing that is a real privilege and really important to me.

How do you proclaim the Good News in a prison?

You cannot take God into prison: God is already there. I would say my faith grew in prison. I have learnt a lot from the men. There is a rawness and honesty about faith and our relationship with God in a prison. In a Category C prison, people are preparing to leave the system.

We help them to grow their faith so that they have courage for the change that's needed. In a Category A prison, you are trying to give hope to people who aren't leaving and may be trying to get their heads around a phenomenal sentence. Prisoners know that they are loved by their chaplains: that is entirely



Joanne Hornby describes how she became a Catholic after she married and why she became a prison chaplain

appropriate, as Jesus loves them.

Love is not some kind of matey thing. It is being right there with someone in a dark place. St Paul survived in prison. I often think: how can I give *his* hope to the man I'm talking to now? How do you give hope? You listen, promise to pray, and pray with them. Listening carefully to people and not judging them brings them hope.

So what are you doing now?

I am the chaplain for *Pact*. We're a charity supporting people affected by imprisonment. We provide practical and emotional support to prisoners and their families. Working for *Pact* is great; they are lovely people and very committed.

Appointing a chaplain shows they want to keep their connection with their faith beginnings as the charity grows.

Would you recommend prison chaplaincy to others?

I think I was the only Catholic woman chaplain in the High Security estate but it doesn't mean that I'm extra special. If women feel that little urge inside to be on the frontline, so to speak, then they should explore it - as volunteers too.

I worked with a volunteer who came to help me one night a week. I feel I left the men from our little group in her care.

Come to Lisieux with Bishop Alan

Bishop Alan will be leading a Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lisieux in France from Monday 27 April to Friday 1 May 2015 and invites you to join him.

St Therese is one of the most popular of modern saints and this pilgrimage will visit her birthplace in Alencon, the house where she grew up in Lisieux and the Carmel she entered and where she died.

Travel will be by luxury coach with pick up points across the diocese and pilgrims will be staying in the beautiful L'Ermitage accommodation next door to the Carmel.

Fr Paul Maddison said: "The hospitality of the nuns here is very well known and the accommodation is in comfortable, en-suite rooms."

"The pilgrimage is being organised by Pilgrimage People, an ATOL registered charity, where all surplus income goes to support the Christian community in the Holy Land. You can learn more about their work at www.pilgrimagepeople.org

"Daily Mass is included whilst in Lisieux and there will be a full programme of guided visits to the major landmarks along with free time for you to explore this beautiful town or to spend in prayer at one of the many places associated with the life of St Therese of the child Jesus."

The cost is £450 per person sharing a twin/double room; single rooms are available at a supplement of £100. The price includes all transport and accommodation, all meals whilst in Lisieux, entrance fees, guiding costs and gratuities.

In order to secure a place a deposit of £200 is required by 27 June 2014 with the balance and any single supplement due on or before the 27 December 2014.

A full itinerary, booking form and terms and conditions can be requested via email: info@pilgrimagepeople.org or phone: 0800 6123423.

Please quote reference ANGL02 with all enquiries.



St Therese of Lisieux



Headline to go here

Dates for the cross to visit from Fr Luke



Diocesan Schools in Focus

Bishop celebrates saint's feast day

Bishop Alan visited St Augustine's in Costessey near Norwich to join in the celebrations for their patron saint's feast day.

The morning started with Mass and the day finished with St Augustine's annual football and netball tournaments.

In between Bishop Alan was treated to a play that acted out the arrival of St Augustine to British shores. He also met many of the children during a tour of the school.

Some of the children asked Bishop Alan about his role in



Bishop Alan talking to pupils in one of the classes at St Augustine's the church and diocese.

He was also surprised and impressed by the length of time St Augustine's has been educating children in and around Costessey, as the school approaches the 200th anniversary of its foundation.

Religious attend day of reflection at school

Sr Thomas More Prentice FDC, assistant to the Vicar for Religious, welcomed everyone to the Sacred Heart Convent in Swaffham for a second day of recollection, reflection and communal wellbeing.

Pictured are some of the representatives who came from congregations based across the diocese.

It is hoped that there will be a meeting when brother and priest religious will join with the Sisters for an event in the future.



Art group makes Stations of Cross

Year 8 art students at St Bedes created the Stations of the Cross out of cardboard and plaster bandage, stop-motion animation and air-hardening clay inspired by artists like Eric Gill and Antony Gormley.

The students also studied many different ways of telling the story of Christ's passion in 14 stages.

Photographs of Year 8 clay work were used in Easter

worship. Set to music, the images retold the story of Christ's Passion. The art group are continuing with the project and will be working with the RE department to produce devotional material to accompany the artwork.

Finished set of Stations will be exhibited at school and will also be available for loan to local churches during Lent 2015.

Pupils fasting funds Taizé visit

Pupils and staff from St John Fisher in Peterborough plan to visit the monastic community of Taizé. Currently, 25 students have signed up but they need to raise funds to cover travel and expenses. They recently held a sponsored 24 hour fast spending the evening and night in school, where they played games, got to know each other and took part in night prayer before settling down. There were some tired faces the next day.

£2,514 for charity

St Martha's in King's Lynn were awarded the Bepak prize for having the biggest school participation in the Grand East Anglia Run Mini GEAR and 10k Challenge.

The team, some pictured, were 120 past and present pupils, governors, staff and parents who ran, jogged and walked to raise funds for the Whizz Kidz charity that supplies wheelchairs and



mobility equipment to allow children to participate in sports. The school received £800 in prize money and the team raised £2,514 for the charity.

Families help children with reading

Parents and grandparents of children in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 at St Felix School in Haverhill came to school to work alongside their children on Parent Partnership Day.

The theme of the day was "reading" and was introduced by literacy specialist Sarah Gallagher who then worked with the children to make "story sticks".

Other activities included a nursery rhyme hide and seek, baking bread dough letters, painting rhyming pictures and word and sentence searches. Some comments included: "This was a very informative and worthwhile session"

"Fun, great activities, well planned and lovely to be able to work alongside our children, I've been to both sessions and will definitely come again!"



One of the parents taking part

Mrs Naylor, Parent Partnership Coordinator, said "It was good to see so many of our parents from our diverse school community sharing the joy of reading in all its facets."

The children in Key Stage 2 held a similar event in June.

Firefighters boost history study

Year Two children at St Francis of Assisi in Norwich had some very exciting visitors to help with their topic of The Great Fire of London.

Red Watch crew, pictured with the children, brought their fire engine onto the playground and told the children all about its equipment, when and how it is used. Unfortunately, they had to cut their visit short as because of an emergency at Norwich Airport.



The emergency had a happy ending, with no one hurt and they returned later.

The children had recreated Pudding Lane using boxes and one of the teachers, Ms Gilmore

set fire to them.

Amidst lots of excited squeals, chatter and laughter, Red Watch crew put out the fire, ably assisted by Macey Kelly.

One child said: "It was awesome!"



People of all ages had a great time at the Celebrate weekend event with activities, workshops, prayer, fun and games at St Benedict's school.

Celebrate - family event

Over 300 people gathered at St Benedict's School in Bury St Edmunds for the Celebrate East Anglia conference in May.

Families, individuals, couples, priests, religious, young and old came from across the diocese and beyond, to pray and deepen their faith in a joyful atmosphere.

Approximately a third of those attending were under 18.

"It was really exciting that so many young people came," Hamish MacQueen, one of the organisers, said.

The theme of the weekend was 'Jesus, the hope of all the world' (Matthew 12:21). Jenny Baker, regional coordinator for Celebrate, welcomed everyone on Saturday morning and spoke of the joy and hope that God offers us.

Participants were invited to explore and experience that Christian hope over two days of prayer, worship and teaching.

Music accompanied daily Mass and there were opportunities for praise, adoration and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Children and young people were very well catered for, with five separate age

streams for babies up to teens.

Experienced leaders ran each stream and laid on age-appropriate activities and Christian teaching, giving Mums and Dads the chance to listen to guest speakers and to attend workshops.

One parent said: "My children were apprehensive before we came but have had a brilliant time and are nagging us already to come back next year!"

"It was great for them to spend time with other young people for whom faith is a central part of their lives."

A choice of five different workshops was on offer each day, covering a range of topics, from Fr Sean Connolly exploring CS Lewis and heaven, to Fiona Hendy talking about her work with orphans in Tanzania.

Participants said the workshops were a highlight, delivered by inspiring and knowledgeable speakers.

The event closed with a packed Mass on Sunday afternoon, the feast of the Ascension, celebrated by Bishop Alan. He emphasised the great need to evangelise in our diocese and beyond. He announced plans to establish a full-time diocesan youth mission team which he hopes will go into schools and parishes from next year.

Diary dates

For more details see www.catholiceastanglia.org/youth

July 4 - 6

Invocation - St Mary's College in Birmingham

Discernment weekend full of opportunities to think more deeply about who God is calling you to be.

July 12 - 13

Ignite Youth Festival

Our main event of the year. For anyone of secondary school age to young adults.

July 26 - August 4

Young Adults Pilgrimage to Taizé

August 4 - 9

New Dawn Conference
National family event in Walsingham.

August 18 - 25

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage. For those aged 17+.

August 21 - 25

Youth 2000 Festival

National prayer festival in Walsingham. A group from the diocese is going

August 25 - 28
Diocesan Summer Camp at Eccles Hall

Faith, food and fun in the heart of the Norfolk countryside.

For those aged 8 - 14.

Contact details

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



Building relationships

The Youth 2000 Prayer Festival is to be held at Walsingham 21-25 August and all are invited.

Youth 2000 seeks to draw young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, lived at the heart of the Catholic church, diocesan youth director Hamish MacQueen said.

"Through Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, confession, scripture and devotion to Our Lady, the festival is an opportunity for young people to experience the love of God, to receive the grace of conversion and to begin living anew the Christian life."



"We have never gone as a diocesan group, although many individuals have been before and found it amazing, so we thought it was about time!" he said.

There is an open invitation for young people to go to Invocation For more information, including financial subsidies and transport go to the website - www.catholiceastanglia.org.uk

IGNITE

Catholic Youth Festival

'Go and make disciples' Matthew 28:19

- Talks from:
Bishop Alan Hopes
Fiona Mansford
(National Director of Youth 2000)
- Music from:
Matt Dean and Band
- Drama from:
Rise Theatre

... and much more, including football, relaxing, eating and praying.

**For all young people
of secondary school age to young adult
(Some activities in age appropriate streams)**

12th - 13th July 2014

Organised by the Diocesan Youth Service of East Anglia.

For more information and bookings go to:
www.ignitefestival.co.uk

Advertisement



The group from St Philip Howard included altar servers for the day, left. Bishop Alan addresses the pilgrims before crowning the statue of Our Lady, above. Setting out and arriving at the shrine, right above and below.



Mary, mother of evangelisation, our model



Walking to the shrine and the Chapel of Reconciliation in silence



Mary, the Mother of Evangelisation was the theme for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham this year.

People from a large number of parishes gathered in the village on the early May Bank Holiday Monday for the crowning of the statue of Our Lady before setting out on a walk to the shrine in silence.

Led by members of the King's Lynn parish the pilgrims meditated on the theme of Mary as a Woman of Faith and as a model for holiness as they walked.

The prayer at the crowning of the statue had taught that the gospel message was that those who excel in love and service are the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

As the pilgrims made their way along the road they were encouraged to recite the Rosary following the Mysteries of Light - the Baptism of Jesus, the Wedding at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist.

The altar servers and parish of St Philip Howard at Cherry Hinton near Cambridge also played a prominent part in the day.

They accompanied the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham which was carried at the head

of the procession to be placed before the altar at the Chapel of Reconciliation on arrival at the shrine.

As the pilgrims assembled at the shrine an act of entrustment of the diocese to Mary was made.

Bishop Alan read the text which included the words: "The church of East Anglia, through the voice of the successor of St Felix, in union with the priests, deacons, religious and laity assembled here, seeks refuge in your motherly protection and trustingly begs your intercession as we face the challenges which lie hidden in the future."

The prayer closes with a plea: "To you, Dawn of Salvation, we once more commend our diocese, so that with you as guide all people of East Anglia may know Christ, the light of the world and its only Saviour."

In his homily at the Mass paid tribute to Mary as the patron of the Diocese of East Anglia and the gratitude felt that her national shrine was at Walsingham.

Mary was central to Salvation because it was through her that God came into the world by giving birth to his son.

"Mary is the vessel of exchange by sharing in the life of Jesus and in return gives us a

share of his divinity," Bishop Alan said.

"Mary draws us to a personal encounter with her son. At the foot of the cross Jesus entrusts Mary to the care of John."

John is then entrusted to the care of Mary and in this way she becomes Mother of the Church and takes the faithful back to Jesus, Bishop Alan said.

God calls us to a holy life and to be more like Jesus and to spend time each day in prayer. He wants us to ponder on the life of Jesus, on what he said and what he has done to save all, the bishop said.

"As we grow in holiness and understanding of the implications of the gospel our lives will be transformed.

"Then we can share the New Evangelisation with our families and communities to help transform the world which is the mission we have been entrusted with. This is the message of Pope Francis, Benedict XIV and John Paul II.

"Strengthened by the model of Mary we can show the world a new way of loving and living through Jesus Christ," Bishop Alan concluded. With this in their minds and hearts the pilgrims departed for home after Mass.



The diocesan choir at practice, above, before the Pilgrim Mass begins. Deacon Paul Hiron, below with Bishop Alan, Fr Padraig Hawkins and bishop-elect of Brentwood at the time Fr Alan Williams, the shrine director



Fishers of men at soggy diocesan children's pilgrimage



Catechumens of all ages wrote their names in the Book of Life



A large gathering from around the diocese met in Friday Market Place on the Tuesday of half term week at the end of May and were very warmly welcomed by Bishop Alan on a not-so-warm, damp and soggy day.

It was the bishop's first experience of the Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham.

He offered a prayer and a hymn to Our Lady outside the parish church in the village and then, with the help of Fr Pat Cleary, led the very brave, happy and joyful children, parents, grandparents and all down the mile to the shrine following the old railway path, in heavy rain.

Words by Christine Storman
Pictures by Michelle Byrne

The children carried a large statue of Our Lady of Walsingham, read prayers and sang hymns along the way.

One was "Walk with me through the darkest night and BRIGHTEST DAY!!!!".

They arrived at the Chapel of Reconciliation VERY wet by still smiling ready for 12 noon Mass when each child was given a fish! ... of a colourful decorated cardboard variety, to hold.

Children from different parishes took the reading and psalm, prayers of intercession and brought up the offertory gifts.

Bishop Alan involved the children in a homily

which covered the themes of evangelisation, vocation and St Augustine whose feast day it was.

He had planted the letters of VOCATION in the congregation and those who found them were invited to the altar to spell out the message.

The bishop then spoke of Mary accepting her vocation from God to be the mother of his son.

St Augustine also accepted his vocation as priest and teacher, agreeing to sail to England to bring the faith. He became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

To underline the gospel message all had just heard, Bishop Alan pointed out that St Augustine was a Fisher of Men.

We had heard about Jesus calling Peter and Andrew, James and John to put down their nets and follow him as he would make them fishers of men for God.

The bishop then invited all the children to bring their fish to a large net which was spread in front of the altar and to throw themselves in, while agreeing to speak to others about their friend Jesus, so becoming fishers of men themselves.

Bishop Alan's blessing and an enthusiastic "Our God Reigns" concluded the Mass with Diocesan Youth Service director Hamish MacQueen and head teacher Gerry Batty providing the music.

Because of the exceptional conditions, the picnic lunch was held in the Chapel of Reconciliation with the Blessed Sacrament reserved in a special place.

Bishop Alan mixed and mingled with the children and their families and posed for many pictures with them during lunch.

The bishop, clergy, shrine staff, musicians and

parish group organisers had all worked together to provide a very happy day despite the weather which Fr Cormac McNamara from the shrine summed up beautifully at the end of Mass when he said: "If you are going to bring this many fish to a place then God has to provide enough water!!!" And he did but it may be SUNSHINE next year.



Bishop Alan with the children who became fishers of men at their pilgrimage to Walsingham



News from communities and parishes around the Diocese

Resort celebrates feast of Our Lady of Fatima

Hundreds of people came out to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima in the seaside resort of Great Yarmouth on her feast day.

A procession through the town was arranged by the large Portuguese community and the celebrations began with a Mass in Portuguese at St Mary's.

A statue of Our Lady of Fatima was blessed and crowned and the people walked in procession from the church to the pier through the shopping centre.

People in the procession prayed the rosary in English and Portuguese as well as singing hymns.

Parishioner Joe Kelf said: "The congregation of almost 500 consisted of Portuguese people, English, and other nationalities, united together in a joyful expression of their faith and love for Our Lady."

"Crowds watched in respectful silence as the procession passed by, and customers and waitresses came out of the restaurants to see it."

"Windows in flats over the shops were seen to open on the warm

evening, and many people were noticed making the sign of the cross as the statue went by."

"The statue was provided for the occasion and brought from London by the World Apostolate of Our Lady of Fatima."

"It is one of 18 statues blessed by Pope John Paul II and distributed around the world."

"After returning to church many of the people lit candles, and made vows and promises to Our Lady, while hymn singing went on until the late in the evening," Joe said.



Fr Martin Rear crowns the statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the church, left, and later crowds in procession celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Fatima on the streets of Great Yarmouth, right.



Advertisements

Foodbanks show poverty growing

Following the article on the importance of foodbanks and growing poverty in the eastern counties in the last edition the issue has become more important and more pressing for many people.

It has been publicised in the local press that 1,420 people received three days' emergency food from Wisbech foodbank in 2013-14.

Foodbank figures are "tip of the iceberg" of food poverty claims the Trussell Trust the UK's largest foodbank network.

Wisbech foodbank said it was seeing growing numbers asking for help.

"This shouldn't be happening in the seventh richest country in the world," a spokesman said.

"We don't think anyone should have to go hungry, which is why we're so grateful for the incredible generosity of local people in donating food, funds and time to stop local hunger."

Last year local people donated 12,472 tonnes of food to Wisbech foodbank, and over 30 volunteered. Local schools, businesses and faith groups have provided vital support to the foodbank.

Pope given police helmet by officer



A Norfolk police officer celebrating the centenary of the Catholic Police Guild presented Pope Francis with a Metropolitan Police helmet at a meeting in St Peter's Square. Chairman Andrew Nattrass was one of 30 members of the guild on pilgrimage in Rome May. He is pictured handing the helmet to Pope Francis alongside the guild's chaplain Fr Barry Lomax who in turn presented to the Pope a copy of the guild's prayer illustrated by Sr Elizabeth (OSB) and Sister Bede (OSB) of St Cecilia's Abbey on the Isle of Wight.

Healing Mass becoming tradition

A Mass of Healing with anointing of the sick celebrated at St George's in Norwich during Holy Week by Fr Sean Connolly became a social event when the congregation gathered for tea and coffee in the hall afterwards. The celebration has become a "tradition" for Holy Week in the parish.



Thanks to everyone who sends in material. As with all change and new developments we are still making minor alterations to improve the look and content of your newspaper so please bear with us.

I ask contributors again to send pictures as files and not included inside documents.

Please give documents a descriptive name rather than just labelled diocesan article or news.

Send material to:
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The Editor,
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patrick.byrne5@virginmedia.com
Deadlines: Catholic East Anglia is bi-monthly and printed early in the month.

Material must arrive by 20 JULY for the SEPTEMBER 2014 issue.





News from communities and parishes around the Diocese

Biking for child charity

A 77-year-old grandfather from Poringland parish has cycled hundreds of miles from Le Puy in France to the shrine of Santiago de Compostella in Spain to raise money for East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH).

Ray Sykes and his wife's cousin Derek Reeh have raised nearly £3,000 in the Pilgrimage Cycling Challenge.

They had no back up car so everything they needed was carried in panniers on the very hilly trail.

But it was touch and go from the first day whether they would complete the journey as Ray set out with a severe pain in his thigh which slowed him up considerably and faced the worry that he may not be able to continue!

With the help of a chemist

who strapped it up with plaster dressing and a support bandage, and prescribed pain killers every 4-5 hours, he was able to continue.

The pair aimed to cycle 40-50 miles a day to complete the pilgrimage in 24 days.

They were due home on 11 June after we went to press but Ray's wife Judith said: "Obviously there have been some very hard days and various problems along the way.

"But the donations are making Ray more and more determined to complete this enormous challenge.

"I think the fact that Ray is 77 years old and is determined to prove age is no barrier to fundraising has been of great interest to a lot of people which is why the press did a feature on him



Ray Sykes and Derek Reeh setting out on their biking pilgrimage with all they need stowed in panniers

and why he was interviewed on local TV.

Ray and Derek are doing this pilgrimage properly by staying in the pilgrims' accommodation, attending Mass whenever possible, saying morning prayer

together every day before they set off cycling, and they have very many intentions and people on their prayer lists.

Ray's donation website is www.justgiving.com/Judith-Sykes

Grandparents group plea for statue of St Anne

The newly founded Catholic Grandparents Association is looking for a statue of St Anne and Our Lady together to grace their meetings and other events.

A school, religious order, church or other organisation may have one which is stored away.

St Anne and St Joachim are the grandparents of Jesus and so are the patron saints for the association.

The grandparent's feast day, 26 July, is the day of the National Grandparents Pilgrimage, in England & Wales celebrated in Walsingham.

If anyone can help please contact

Sona McCullough on 01328 560333.

In June there was the first CGA branch meeting in Walsingham, the first branch in the East Anglia diocese.

Sona said she has never heard of a statue of St Joachim, only icons, but someone may know different and she would like to hear from them.

Peace campaigner talks on WW1

Sean Finlay from St Charles Borromeo parish in Wisbech is pictured here with peace campaigner Bruce Kent at the Conscientious Objectors Memorial at Tavistock Square in London.

He was at an annual event to remember the conscientious objectors of all the wars.

But this year an invitation was extended to the families of WW1 COs and about 250 people turned up. He recalled an interview with Bruce to elicit his thoughts on the events planned to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.

The interview also offered the chance to allow Bruce to talk about his own peace pilgrimage.

How do you view the commemorations about World War 1?

This was a war waged by colonial powers intent on retaining and extending their tentacles on the levers of world power. Ordinary people got sucked in by the hype of 'defence of the Fatherland' 'Your



country needs you' etc. . But for most it was a disaster, most visibly and terribly enacted in the fields of Flanders. It is my hope that when people recall these events they will declare emphatically "war - never again".

In the light of the above how would you mark this centenary?

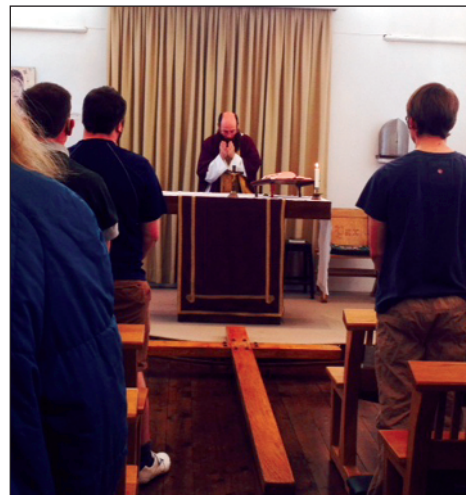
BK. We should honour the ordinary men and women who gave their lives, often in terrible circumstances. Remember the pictures of life in the trenches, water, mud, broken bodies, vermin, hunger and the rest. Their bravery was immense, even if the cause for which they fought was questionable and immensely costly in terms of young lives lost or irreparably damaged.

We will also remember those men who refused to fight; the conscientious objectors who faced ridicule and very harsh punishment because of their unwillingness to fight. Many of them, notably the Quakers served as stretcher bearers and ambulance drivers ferrying the injured back from the front. They suffered the traumas without the subsequent glory.

Were you always a Peace activist?

Not at all. Early in my priestly career in late 1950s London I recall one Easter Monday when I was meant to preside at several wedding in my parish church. I was quite annoyed at a CND parade, (presumably one of the Aldermaston Marches) passing by the church and severely disrupting the wedding schedules.

The full interview is on the diocesan website and Bruce discusses nuclear weapons, the people who have influenced him, his work as a priest and his life now as a Catholic.



Morning Mass before setting off again

Parish hospitality for student Cross walkers

Parishioners in Harleston once again welcomed students on the Essex Leg of the cross pilgrimage to Walsingham.

Twenty pilgrims with their support team arrived weary at the Chapel of St Thomas More in Harleston (part of the Bungay parish), after a 20-mile walk from Framlingham, on the Tuesday of Holy Week.

Parishioners from Harleston, Fressingfield, Starston, Weybread and Hempnall took them home, offered them a shower and cooked them a hearty pilgrim supper, before returning them to the chapel building for a night's sleep on the floor of the adjoining hall.

"Next morning parishioner Peter Williams was there at 6.30am to cook them bacon butties, before one of the two accompanying Franciscan priests said Mass for both students and parishioners," Mary Kirk from Bungay parish said.

NEWS

from

THE

CATHEDRAL

OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Second art show



The Cathedral is joining a summer extravaganza of art across the city of Norwich with its second exhibition in the Narthex. The week long exhibition will begin on Tuesday 15 July and will be called JOINED UP ART: Art in all media 2014

It will be the second time the Narthex has hosted a summer art exhibition after the success of the 2013 event.

The show includes both well-established and emerging artists from around the region.

The exhibition will be open from 10.30am to 4pm and is open to all and will include all art forms. Entrance to the exhibition is free of charge for visitors.

New sound system now on trial

Trials are underway for a new sound system at St John the Baptist Cathedral.

The existing system is 24-years-old and in need of modernising as the cathedral has changed and technology has leaped ahead.

Three sets of trials using different speakers in a variety of positions have been held since Christmas and each one has shown a marked improvement.

Deacon Patrick Limacher said more than 200 people wrote in to say the first trial had resulted in a significant improvement to their hearing.

The next two drew positive results but not on the scale of the first.

The number of new modern speakers is to be reduced from 24 to 12. New cables will be fed through the existing ducting and much of the wire hidden from view.

“The large case containing the sound equipment now kept in one of the confessionals will become a small control unit, the size of a DVD player, which will be hidden away on a shelf.

“We hope to have the new system installed and running by the autumn and certainly by next Christmas,” he said.

Output from individual microphones on the altar and attached to vestments can be controlled by remote by the MC at a service.

The loop system will still work for those with hearing difficulties.

The system will be a vast improvement on the previous one which had come to the end of its working life.

Certain parts, such as cable ducting, will be retained to keep costs down as the new system is likely to cost in the region of £50,000, Patrick said.



One of the new speakers near the statue of St John the Baptist in the Nave



At the display mounted by the Secular Franciscans are Jo Anderton, Anne Murrin, Francis Walsh and Hamish MacQueen

Secular Franciscans explain life

Secular Franciscans put on a display at the Chrism Mass to explain their way of life.

A booklet was given out to those who were interested and in it is described the greatest benefit derived from belonging to the order. That is “to be heir to its time-tested and well balanced spirituality which is rooted firmly in the Gospels”.

More information can be obtained from Robert Hardie on 01603 897609.

Treasures of cathedral



A selection of some of the artifacts that have graced the cathedral and been used in its services earlier in its history are on display

BUILDING BRIDGES in The Holy Land

Pope Francis prefers to dine with the poor and downtrodden to hear about their plight



Pope Francis spoke with power and humility

Who is coming to lunch with the Pope was the question posed to people in the Holy Land when he made his historic visit recently?

After Mass in Manger Square the Pope enjoyed lunch with local families.

When planning the for the visit Bishop William Shomali, auxiliary Bishop of Jerusalem said: “Pope Francis wants to spend a little time with the poor families in Bethlehem and their children to listen to them, permitting them to feel his closeness and tenderness.

“He did not want to have lunch with the cardinals, bishops and politicians, but with poor families. It took time to understand the reasons for this gesture. It really makes the Pope admired: how Jesus wants to stay close to the poor.”

The Assembly of Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land, which oversaw the organization of the entire trip of the Holy Father appointed a committee for the task of choosing which families would join the Pope for lunch.

The Committee established criteria for identifying “categories” of poverty. Each family was then selected to represent a certain category of need.

Bishop Shomali again: “Our poor are those who suffer for humanitarian reasons, political and social. We contacted the parishes and consulted many people. Many lay people offered us names.

“We discussed together and finally arrived at a final list. Many would have liked to be selected, but it was not possible to please everyone. It was a tough choice!”

So who has been chosen? A family from Ikrit, a

village in northern Galilee that was evacuated and razed in 1948 by the Israeli Army. Only the church was spared.

Although there have been court decisions, Christian Arab inhabitants were never able to return to their village.

Another family from the group of 58 families who have land in Cremisan area of Beit Jala, next to Bethlehem. According to the planned route of the separation wall built by Israel, their land will be on the other side of the wall and therefore inaccessible for the owners.

There are ongoing negotiations with the legal authorities that we hope will have a positive outcome.

Another family chosen was one that represents those who struggle for a family reunion. One spouse lives in Jerusalem, the other in the Occupied Territories. Under Israeli law, it is difficult for the Palestinian spouse to obtain a permit for permanent residence in Jerusalem.

Another family chosen has a son sentenced to life imprisonment, another a son exiled to Gaza for political reasons. Another one comes from the Gaza Strip, which is a big prison. These are the families selected for this occasion.

It was a diverse group; parents with children, young and middle aged families and some of the families will have elderly relatives with them. There will be 20 people in total, just according to the number requested in order that the Pope will have the opportunity to talk with them and listen to them.



Meeting young people was a priority

After Mass, they will meet at the Casanova pilgrim hostel, managed by the Franciscan friars. Lunch will last about an hour. Having taken their place at table with the Pope Francis, they will discuss with him their situation and receive from him words of comfort. Some families speak Italian and some Spanish.

There will be an Argentine friar who speaks Arabic to help with translation.

In conclusion Bishop Shomali said: “This is a lesson for us bishops and priests. We need to get closer to the suffering people of God, and not live isolated in our homes.

“The Pope says we are always to go out, to go to the others, to go in search of the sheep and not wait until the sheep seeks the shepherd. This is a great example for us.

“The Pope will not see all the misery of the Holy Land, but he is meeting a number of families, hearing their cares and concerns. It gives us a good boost, it inspires us to continue our mission.”



Pope Francis was greeted by members of all communities

CAN YOU HELP?

Our two ‘Building Bridges’ projects this year are renovating the Taybeh Old People’s Centre in the Holy Land and a new formation centre for children, youth groups and adults at Battambang in Cambodia.

Would you like to support these projects? Cheques should be made payable to the ‘RC Diocese of East Anglia’.

First Name.....

Surname.....

Address.....
.....
.....

Postcode..... Amount enclosed.....

Anything you give will be divided equally between Cambodia and the Holy Land, unless you indicate below by ticking one or other that all your money should go to that project:

CAMBODIA (Battambang Centre)

HOLY LAND (Taybeh Centre)

GIFT AID DECLARATION (if appropriate)

I wish the RC Diocese of East Anglia to reclaim tax on this donation. I have paid an amount of UK Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the tax amount claimed by all the Charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) to whom I have donated in that tax year. Only tax arising from Income or Capital Gains applies to Gift Aid. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

Signed.....

Date.....

Please send to:
‘Building Bridges’, 21 Uppgate, Poringland,
Norwich, NR14 7SH
Registered charity no. 278742



Bishop Alan with members of several faiths at the meeting in Peterborough where he gave the keynote address

Bishop gives keynote interfaith talk

Bishop Alan gave the keynote address at the annual general meeting of the Peterborough Interfaith Group when the theme of the day was Love thy Neighbour.

He had been invited to address faith representatives by the group chairman Dr Jaspal Singh.

The invitation was prompted by Brian Keegan from St Peter’s and All Souls parish, who was keen was very keen for Bishop Alan to meet members of Peterborough’s non-Christian faith groups.

The city is host to the largest number of different faith groups in the diocese.

Brian is the chair of the diocesan committee on Inter Religious Dialogue.

He said the bishop drew extensively on the writings of Pope Francis in his speech.

“Bishop Alan demonstrated that this precept of love for neighbour is common to all the major religions.

“Echoing the Holy Father’s words he urged his listeners to continue the great work which they are undertaking.

“Community is enhanced and built up by people seeing what they have in common and working

together for the common good. This is the message of Jesus,” the Bishop said.

Bishop Alan was followed by speakers from all the other main faith groups and, Gillian Beasley, chief executive of Peterborough City Council, who reminded the audience just how many services for the poor and vulnerable are provided by local authorities.”

“Following the various addresses the Bishop mingled with the audience as everybody partook of some delicious vegetarian food,” Brian said.

Chaplain helps ‘abused’ seafarers

Modern seafarers not only often have to endure low pay and poor conditions but they can also find themselves suffering abuse, says Sr Marian Davey, Apostleship of the Sea chaplain to Felixstowe, Harwich and Ipswich.

Sea Sunday is on 13 July when parishes are asked to support and pray for seafarers.

Sr Marian, based at St Felix church, was asked by three Filipino seafarers to help make a complaint against their captain.

“They had been on the receiving end of constant verbal abuse and public humiliation since this particular captain came on board. Their confidence and morale was undermined daily,” she said.

“It was with great reluctance that they decided to come and talk to me . Their main concern about lodging a formal complaint was fear of consequences which might well result in being blacklisted by the manning agency in Manila.”

She met them as a group so that they could tell their collective story and share their feelings with her and with each other.

They did not want any help from the International Transport



Port chaplain Sr Marian talking to seafarers at Felixstow

Workers’ Federation or other maritime organisations but asked her to help them write a narrative for the complaint.

“While working with them I was really impressed by the way in which they were assessing the risk factor involved.

“For example, possible problems with getting a new contract and anxiety about how they might feed their families whilst trawling round to other manning agencies in order to get the next contract.

“It was quite humbling for me to witness how difficult it was for

them to address their basic employment rights, which we take very much for granted.”

But only one seafarer had the courage to go ahead with the complaint. He had reached the end of his capacity to tolerate such insulting and abusive behaviour. The other two felt that it would be too risky to go ahead.

“As the ship has not since returned to Felixstowe I have no idea of the outcome. I gave them details of chaplains and ITF in case they needed more support.”

www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk



The newly extended church at Clare Priory

Clare extension now open

Parishioners and visitors to Clare Priory are now able to worship and pray the new extension to its church which a finalist for the best public service building in the LABC East Anglia Awards 2014.

Clare Priory in Suffolk was once again able to host the annual Augustinian pilgrimage in May.

“We didn’t have the pilgrimage last year because of the church building work,” Fr David Middleton OSA, Clare’s Prior said.

“The new church has been making a big impression on all our visitors.”

Pilgrims came from nearby parishes and from Augustinian communities in Edinburgh, Birmingham, Hammersmith and Hoxton in London, and a former parish in Hythe, Kent.

For many years the church was too small for the parish and retreat visitors but since its new extension the problem has been resolved.

UEA students return Catenian hospitality

Blanaid Canavan, UEA Catholic Society president, Fr Michael Johnstone, Philip Hoy, Norwich Catenians president



Students at the University of East Anglia recently returned a courtesy to the Norwich Circle of the Catenian Association.

It has been the custom since the university opened for the Catenians to attend an October Sunday Mass and entertain the students with food and wine.

This event has proved to be so popular that this year the students decided to reciprocate by providing refreshments at an annual May Mass.

“Hopefully this enjoyable function will continue for many years to come,” Catenian John Kenny said.

Palm Sunday fresh



Fresh palm branches cut from parishioner Mike Manning’s garden graced the the entrance to Our Lady Star of the Sea in Lowestoft on Palm Sunday. Pictured are Deacon Stephen Pomeroy, Fr Paul Chanh and Fr Neville McClement.