

# Catholic People

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## OUR MARTYR SAINTS COME HOME

By Archbishop George Stack

In the November 2020 edition of *The Catholic People* we reported a significant event which took place in Cardiff Castle in honour of our Cardiff martyrs, St. Philip Evans and St. John Lloyd.

The statues of the two saints were brought from St. David's Cathedral to the cell in which they were held before their execution for the faith on 22 July 1679. A prayer service was held in the cell before the statues were carried in procession to Gallows Field, the place of execution, which is now known as the junction of Richmond Road. Flowers were placed at the blue commemorative plaque outside the National Westminster Bank. "Is it nothing to you, all who pass by? Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow which was brought upon me..." (Book of Lamentations chapter 1 verse 12)

Earlier this year, the national press reported

that relics discovered in the attic of a house associated with the Jesuit Order in Holywell have been identified as those of St. Philip Evans and St. John Lloyd. The identification was made by Jan Graffius, the curator of the extraordinary museum of Catholic relics and other artefacts of the English Jesuit Province housed at their college of St. Mary's Stonyhurst in Lancashire. Speaking of the identification, Dr. Graffius said: "The starting point is to look at the evidence in front of you. You have two skulls, one with a hole in the cranium, and many other bones associated with the two skulls show evidence of having been cut with a sharp knife. The immediate premise I that at least one of these two was dismembered after death and that one of the heads was stuck on a spike".

"The clinching argument was that the coccyx – the bone at the base of the spine – had been severed very clearly. When you are hanging, drawing and quartering, the



Father Daniel reflects on our two martyred saints in the cell in Cardiff Castle where they were imprisoned before their execution

quartering is literal. You cut the body into pieces. And that indicates where you would normally expect the cuts to come from severing the legs from the body".

Having been told of the great devotion in Cardiff to St. Philip Evans and St. John Lloyd, Dr. Graffius received permission from the Jesuit provincial and the authorities at Stonyhurst College to bring the relics on pilgrimage to the city and diocese of Cardiff. This will take place between Sunday 18 October and Monday 26 October 2021. A fascinating program of devotional and educational events is being planned for that week, involving Cardiff Castle, St. David's Cathedral, the schools and parishes dedicated to our martyr saints.

Fr. Brian Gray has formed a planning committee to co-ordinate these events and will keep the diocese informed as plans develop. The program is still fluid enough to receive suggestions and proposals for additional 'stops' along the pilgrim way. Fr. Gray may be contacted at [llanrumney@rcadc.org](mailto:llanrumney@rcadc.org)

**"The Blood of the Martyrs is the Seedbed of the Church".**

**Tertullian 160 -220 AD**

### MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP GEORGE STACK

I have been informed by the Apostolic Nuncio that the Holy Father has accepted my resignation from the pastoral governance of the Archdiocese of Cardiff having reached the canonical age for retirement.

Pope Francis has added the formula "Nunc pro Tunc" in his decision. The simple translation of these words is "now for then". In other words, a decision has been made which will be implemented some time in the future. In practice, this means I shall continue my service as bishop of the diocese until the Holy Father appoints a successor. There is no fixed term or date for this canonical arrangement. I am sure you will join with me in prayer to the Holy Spirit as Pope Francis makes provision for the diocese in naming the 8th Archbishop of Cardiff.



The Statues of our Saints, normally housed in St David's Metropolitan Cathedral, were carried in procession to the site of their execution in Cardiff. The plaques on the wall commemorate their great sacrifice for our faith

# News of diocesan vocations

**Introduction by Fr Nicholas Williams-Vocations Director**

**Welcome to the second annual edition of our Vocations Magazine, following on from another most extraordinary and unprecedented year.**

Nevertheless, our release date, tending to fall around Vocations Sunday each year, presents an opportunity for us to reflect and report on how the last few 12 months has impacted the life of our priests and seminarians in various different ways.

At this point of writing (late April 2021) we are beginning to emerge from yet another lockdown and are all I'm sure at the very least feeling tired, disconnected and quite frankly, fed up of discussing the pandemic.

For this reason, I decided not to dominate this magazine by discussing

Covid. However, at the same time I feel that it is important to celebrate the role of our many hospital chaplains (only a selection of whom are able to be included here) and suggest that this important role deserves to be highlighted.

These volunteers exercise a ministry that most, if not all, priests become involved in at some point in their life and is one of the most rewarding aspects of priesthood.

Some of our chaplains have also caught covid themselves as a direct consequence of their presence amongst the sick and, in cases, have suffered quite serious effects.

However, recognising the importance of focusing on other aspects of life that have continued despite the disruption, in this issue, we give an overview of what's been going on our schools department

and provide other other vocations stories.

I am, personally, very much looking forward to the opportunities that being a University Chaplain will bring to the fore in all sorts of respects, not least how that ties up with vocational discernment.

Whether our calling lies in marriage, religious life or priesthood, to stand any chance of being able to discover what we are being asked to live out, at a personal level, we must first learn how to be a Christian. More particularly, this means to learn how to become a disciple of Christ.

We must ensure that we do not place obstacles between what we selfishly plan for ourselves and what is God's will for us. If we do not learn how to carve out the space for prayer, we are simply unequipped to hear the voice of God that comes through silence.

This principle applies equally to parents and their own children; it is now common for children to be afraid of what their own parents might say, if they feel that they are genuinely being called to follow God in a way that doesn't involve a conventional career or lifestyle.

If God our Father, the beginning and end of all happiness and fulfilment, has called a person to a vocation, our role is



only to help guide them to hear that calling more clearly.

Vocations in their different respects don't come from other people's families; they don't happen to other people; It is our solemn duty to understand what God's purpose is for us, personally, in our own lives. Otherwise we are destined to a life that does not fulfil us, that does not challenge us and does not cause us to grow closer to God. This is a life that does not require courage or sacrifice and does not lead to the greatness that God wishes for us.

For more details go to <https://rcadc.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Vocations-mag-2021.pdf>

## Let Biblical Inspiration Fire Your Imagination!

**IT IS WONDERFUL WORSHIPPING GOD IN CHURCH TOGETHER!**

What joy to taste freedom again! While keeping a beady eye on Covid-19 variants, many of us are grabbing the chance to reunite with loved ones. (If things have deteriorated by the time you read this, I hope you maximized the respite!). Best of all, for me, is getting back to church – where I found strict safety measures in place. I feel so blessed receiving Holy Communion physically again, as opposed to spiritually. I was, though, grateful for the ability to tune in, through a variety of mediums, to Holy Mass, during lockdown. I suppose, like me, you will never take your religious freedom for granted again! Try this meditation to ponder briefly on that.

1. Read Luke 22:14-20
2. Sit up straight and close your eyes. Breathe in deeply through the nose. Hold a few seconds. Breathe out through the mouth and as you do so feel the whole of your body relax.
3. Now meditate for a few moments on the times you had to follow Mass by computer or phone.
4. Now say this prayer – or one of your own – 'Dear Lord Jesus, I thank You that You and I never have to stay socially distanced from each other! Please let me feel Your nearness as I worship in church again. I ask this in Your name. Amen.'
5. When you are ready breathe in and out deeply as before. Then open your eyes and have a big stretch.

May you never take the privilege of worshipping God publicly for granted.

**God bless**

**Teresa**

For more on the above topic please see Teresa's blog: <http://teresaodriscoll.blogspot.co.uk/>

*Teresa O'Driscoll is the author of 9 Days to Heaven, How to make everlasting meaning of your life*

**3 minute reading and meditation with Teresa O'Driscoll**

Email: [teresa@teresaodriscoll.co.uk](mailto:teresa@teresaodriscoll.co.uk)

**"This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you"**

**Philippians 4:13**



## Settled Status for EU citizens in UK or residency rights for British citizens in EU countries?

**By Jim Barnaville**

**This Special News Item was prompted by the item in the CBCEW Newsletter. It contains News items and links to remind people of the UK Government's deadline for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK to apply for Settled Status by 30.06.2021.**

At the same time, I have provided a reminder that British citizens living in the EU need to apply for residence status in the country they are residing in.

In both the EU and the UK there are people who need assistance in securing Settled / Residency rights.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), for example, has provided practical support to UK Nationals who may have found it harder to complete all their residency applications to secure and maintain their residency rights in EU countries now that the UK has left the EU.

In March 2020, IOM, through the UK Nationals Support Fund (UKNSF), aimed to reach 30,000 at-risk UK

Nationals during that year through information activities and practical support in France, Spain, Poland, Slovakia, Germany, Italy and Portugal.

IOM, together with its partners, raised awareness among UK Nationals living in the seven EU states, sharing accessible information on residency requirements, and providing direct practical support in completing applications for those in situations where access to information and application processes have been difficult.

While information provided online and through other media has been available to all, for targeted events and referrals for direct case support, IOM focused on individuals who faced specific challenges, such as people living with disabilities, those grappling with chronic illness, language and literacy barriers, or barriers in accessing technology.

I'd be grateful if clergy and laity, parishes and organisations, in receipt of this email, would circulate it to as many of their members as possible.

### Your Catholic People...

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Articles to be received by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month.

# Golden wedding celebration



## On Saturday 19th June 2021, Christine and Peter Searle celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Their day began with Mass at St Davids Cathedral, during which they renewed their vows, and had their wedding rings Blessed by Fr Daniel. Afterwards Chris described this as a truly amazing celebration at the very heart of their marriage. Family celebrations followed

Their story began in 1969 in Bristol Chris having left the Rhondda to start her nursing training and Pete had just returned to his Bristol family after working in Canada. Peter was very "Catholic" and Chris "Very Welsh Baptist", her mam had told her "not to have anything to do with those Catholics... they do weird

stuff!! (she did not listen of course).

They were engaged and were married at St Andrews Tonypandy.

Peter's brother Mark, a Franciscan priest, was allowed to give a Blessing at their marriage. In due course Chris became a Catholic and their two sons Ben and Joe have continued in their Faith having been educated at Cardinal Newman School in Pontypridd.

Incidentally, Chris's mum (In spite of her earlier warning!) herself became a Catholic!

Congratulations to them both and may their future years together continue to be Blessed with Joy and Happiness



Archesgobaeth Caerdydd

## Editorial

### Remember your grandparents!

We have several articles in this edition when we are urged to appreciate our grandparents this month on the First World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly.

Your editor has a vested interest in this, being the grandfather of three boys 2 years old, 8 years old and nine years old.

What a joy they bring to my wife and myself in our aged years, bringing back memories of looking after their lovely parents who gave us our lovely grandkids!

Pope Francis started this initiative as you can see from the article in this edition contributed by our own correspondent Joanne White. She has given some great suggestions on how schools and grandchildren at home can appreciate their loving grandpa and grandma, as well as other elderly relations.

Do take her suggestions to heart!

### Our Martyrs

The article on page 1 by Archbishop George is intensely moving.

These priests died for their faith and for us and we must remember the horrible sacrifices and deaths of Saints Philip Evans and John Lloyd. I always look up to their statues in St David's Cathedral when I attend Mass.

What courage they had for our faith.



# Caritas Calling!

## – July / August 2021

• Continued from Page 8

valued so that complementarity of skills and diversity of roles can lead to a common resource of mutual participation” because “poverty is not the result of fate but it is the result of selfishness” and “individualistic lifestyles are complicit in generating poverty, and often saddle the poor with responsibility for their condition.” Pope Francis went on to underline the need for a different approach to poverty which should motivate us “to creative planning, aimed at increasing the freedom needed to live a life of fulfilment according to the abilities of each person,” instead of talking about the poor in the abstract and in terms of statistics.

“Be open to reading the signs of the times...”

“We need to be open to reading the signs of the times that ask us to find new ways of being evangelizers in the contemporary world,” Pope Francis urged, warning that immediate assistance in responding to the needs of the poor must not prevent us from showing foresight in implementing new signs of Christian love and charity as a response to the new forms of poverty experienced by humanity today. Concluding his message, the Holy Father expressed hope that the World Day would grow in our local Churches and “inspire a movement of evangelization that meets the poor personally wherever they may be.” He urged everyone not to wait for the poor to knock on our doors but to rather urgently reach them in their homes, hospitals, on the streets... Read the Pope’s Message:

<https://tinyurl.com/nh4zrwwx>

### 9. Film sheds light on realities facing migrants to Europe

29th June 2021 <https://www.csan.org.uk/news/fortress-eu-film/>

Caritas organisations around Europe are promoting a new film, “The Game: Fortress of Europe”, which reveals some of the harsh conditions faced by people on the roads through the Balkans, and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while trying to reach safety in Europe. Financed by the “Active citizens fund Slovenia”, the documentary is the fruit of collaboration between Caritas Slovenia and the Slovenian national television station. As a continuation of the MIND Project on migration and development, the documentary supports efforts by national Caritas agencies advocating in the European Union for more humane and welcoming European migration policies. The documentary is available to watch here: [Televizija Slovenija - RTVSLO.si](https://www.rtvslo.si)

### 10. Grassroots Participation

Preface to Small Steps, Big Difference - Grassroots Participation Handbook, Jorge Nuño Mayer, Secretary General, Caritas Europa, 2018.

<https://tinyurl.com/hvedmpt4>

“There might be people who think: “Why would Caritas Europa care about the local level of Caritas? This is the role of the Diocesan or national Caritas.” – For me that question is as if the leaves or branches of a tree shouldn’t care about the roots. We have to care! My own experience in Parish and Diocesan Caritas tells me how motivating it is and how much it fosters innovation and new ways of doing things when you sense very concretely how the ‘upper’ levels in the organisation care for you, support you and transmit the best experiences of other places. We have to care!

A brief reflection on the two words in the title of this handbook:

“Grassroots.” It is the space of encounter of people in need, volunteers and Caritas staff. It is a space of constructing local community. It is the most genuine Caritas work of direct help and accompaniment. All the other levels of Caritas, also the European level, are just there to enable this encounter. Although we are all important with different roles, Caritas’ priority is at this level where the love-the-neighbour-commandment takes place.

“Participation.” The Social Teaching of the Catholic Church, based on the Gospel and the practical experience of accompanying people in need, is very clear on this. Already in 1965 the Decree Apostolicam Actuositatem stresses the importance of participation of people in need to manage their own lives (chapter 8) and the participation of the laity in parishes and society (chapters 9-10). When a Caritas organisation is well rooted in the local level (parishes, communities, volunteer groups, Young Caritas, etc.), with a high degree of ownership by and participation of the entire community; when Caritas ensures that people in need are not just objects of its help and assistance, but participate actively in their own development and that of their communities, then Caritas is strong and the organisation is sustainable. And the other way round: Caritas is weak when this is not cared for. A Caritas organisation can have many employees, many projects and a high budget, but if the grassroots participation fails, it is a weak Caritas.

“Strengthening the Network” is one of Caritas Europa’s three priorities. Grassroots participation is at the very essence of Caritas, a core element to make our network stronger. Based on many experiences in different Caritas organisations, this handbook intends to be an inspiration for all levels in our network. We hope it will serve to reaffirm good practices, it will guide communities in their development and it will encourage new developments to strengthen Caritas. Together we make Caritas stronger!

### 11. Caritas development in the Archdiocese of Cardiff

We can help to build ‘grassroots participation’ in our parish communities by providing workshops on community development and organising skills through deanery workshops.

**For details please contact: Jim Barnaville, Coordinator, Caritas Archdiocese of Cardiff. Email: [caritas@rcadc.org](mailto:caritas@rcadc.org)**



# Cardinal: Appreciate grandparents and the elderly as ‘gifts of God’

## 25 July 2021 is the inaugural World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly in the Catholic Church.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishops’ Conference, is echoing the Pope’s words to young people encouraging them to talk to their grandparents if they want to be a sign of hope for the world.

Promoting the important connection between generations, Cardinal Nichols said:

“Elderly people get isolated, grandparents often get forgotten. But a day of prayer will help us to remember that we are gifts to each other because we are gifts of God. And if we give thanks for those gifts, we’ll appreciate them.”

Full Message

Pope Francis is not young. In fact, he’s getting on in years, but he has this terrific sense of the connection between generations and its importance.

So I’m not surprised that he’s established for this year on 25 July, a World Day of

Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly.

One of the most remarkable things I remember him saying to a million young people at one of the World Youth Days was this:

“If you want to be a sign of hope for the world, go and talk to your grandparents.”

And in that way, he expressed so much of what we need in our society of the continuity between the generations. And a day of prayer is important because we’re lacking in that often. Elderly people get isolated, grandparents often get forgotten. But a day of prayer will help us to remember that we are gifts to each other because we are gifts of God. And if we give thanks for those gifts, we’ll appreciate them.

So please remember to pray for grandparents and the elderly on 25 July, and remember, if you want to be a sign of hope, go and talk to your grandparents and may God bless you all.

## Priest Training Fund Appeal

**Investing in vocations ensures that future generations will enjoy the support and guidance of a parish priest.**

We ask our friends, and those who share our vision for a world transformed by Jesus Christ, to consider how they might be able to help.

This Year donations to the Priests Training Fund will be matched pound-for-pound by the Jesuit Seminary and Mission Fund.\*

If you would like to support the Priest Training Fund appeal please follow this link to our donation page or scan the attached QR code poster. Alternatively you can request a gift aid envelope at your parish church.

Your generosity and prayers make this possible. Thank you.

\* Up to a maximum of £20,000

# The Pope urges: “Remember your grandparents this month”

The First World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly - July 25th 2021

By Joanne White

**Pope Francis has decided to institute a Church-wide celebration of a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Starting this year, it will be held on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the liturgical memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.**

The Holy Father explained he has done this because “grandparents are often forgotten, and we forget this wealth of preserving roots and passing on” what the elderly have received.

He emphasized the importance of grandparents and grandchildren getting to know one another, because “as the prophet Joel says, grandparents seeing their grandchildren dream,” while “young people, drawing strength from their grandparents, will go forward and prophesy.” (Vatican News)

Here in the Catholic Archdiocese of Cardiff, the Family Life Commission, are inviting our families, parishes and schools to mark this special day of prayer in some special way by celebrating our own grandparents, and would like to offer our suggestions with those of the Pope, his Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life, and others.

Even though we are still living under restrictions of the pandemic, there are many opportunities still open to us to enable us to celebrate; we just need to think creatively and with the experience and new skills learnt during the past year or so.

## Honour the elderly

### In parishes

- Celebrate one of the Sunday Masses of July 25th for the intentions of all grandparents and the elderly of our parish community, especially those who have been impacted by the pandemic.
- Include bidding prayers for the elderly and for grandparents
- Make the Pope's message to Grandparents and the Elderly available to all via social media, email or letter as appropriate

### In schools

- Remember grandparents and the elderly in prayers during July
- Hold a special assembly, that could be live streamed, celebrating grandparents and the elderly
- Ask pupils (and staff) to complete the following, "My Grandparents (Grandmother/Grandfather) is/ are special because....."
- This can be written down, spoken as a recording or as a video
- Your school could compile a celebratory video to show how important our grandparents and elderly friends are to us
- Your compilations, or individual responses, could then be shared with the Family Life Commission by email to [flc@rcadc.org](mailto:flc@rcadc.org) by July 16th
- With your permission, compilations and a selection of responses will be shared via social media to celebrate collectively the grandparents and elderly of our archdiocese – we will also include them in an article for the August edition of the Catholic People (which is now available online)

### Contact grandpa and grandma

#### At Home

- Remember grandparents and the elderly in prayers during July
- If possible, visit a grandparent or older member of your family
- If it's not possible to visit, ring or chat with them virtually
- Draw a picture, write a letter or make a card especially for a grandparent or older member of your family to show them you care and that they are always in your thoughts
- Grandchildren (of any age) to complete the following, "My Grandparents (Grandmother/Grandfather) is/ are special because....."
- Grandparents (of any age) complete the following, "The joy of being a grandparent is....."
- These responses can be written, spoken as a



recording or as a video

- Responses should be sent to [flc@rcadc.org](mailto:flc@rcadc.org) by July 16th
- A compilation of responses will be produced and shared via social media to celebrate collectively the grandparents and elderly of our archdiocese, as well as an article in the August edition of the Catholic People (which is now available online)

There are many websites offering creative ideas of things to make and do as 'gifts' for grandparents and the elderly so have some fun! For example, the Catholic Grandparents Association is inviting families and parishes to 'Plant a Tree in their Memory' as part of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, on Sunday 25 July.

The First World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly is being celebrated midway through the year dedicated to family by the Holy Father on the fifth anniversary of the apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*. The “*Amoris Laetitia* Family Year” is an initiative of Pope Francis, which aims to reach every family around the world through several spiritual, pastoral and cultural proposals that can be implemented within parishes, dioceses, universities, ecclesial movements and family associations.

The experience of the pandemic has highlighted the central role of the family as the domestic Church and the importance of community ties between families. Such ties make the Church an authentic “family of families” (AL 87).

‘The family deserves a year of celebration, so that it can be given a central place in the commitment and care of every pastoral and ecclesial reality.’ (Dicastery for Laity, Family & Life)

To find out more about the *Amoris Laetitia* Family Year 2020 – 2021 please visit the website <http://www.laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en/amoris-laetitia.html>

However you celebrate the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, please don't forget to let us know... and we'll let others know too! [flc@rcadc.org](mailto:flc@rcadc.org)

Good Listener? ✓

Passionate about healthy relationships? ✓

Looking to make a difference? ✓

Join us today!



## Relationship Counsellor?

Are you looking to volunteer in a friendly environment and to make a difference in your community? Then **Marriage Care** has the opportunity you are looking for!

We are currently recruiting **Relationship Counsellors** to support couples, particularly from across the Cardiff Archdiocese, via webcam and face-to-face, who are experiencing difficult times.

To apply, you will need a **recognised qualification** in Relationship Counselling & **150 hours of client experience**. All our volunteer Counsellors are provided with the necessary supervision and CPD necessary to fulfil their role.

For more information, please visit [marriagecare.org.uk/getinvolved](http://marriagecare.org.uk/getinvolved) or contact [rachaelo@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:rachaelo@marriagecare.org.uk)

With thanks to the Cardiff Diocesan Trustees for their financial support of this recruitment process.



# CELEBRATING THE ARCHDIOCESAN EVANGELISATION PROGRAMME

**Members of the Diocesan Evangelisation Commission delivered the last Unit of the Programme: Spread the Gospel: Developing a Missionary Parish on Wednesday, June 16th.**

The Commission reports that the Programme was very well received by both the clergy and laity from across the Archdiocese from parishes representing each of the six Deaneries. Between 30 and 40 people attended each of the seven sessions.

Please see below a sample of the feedback I've had. It has come to me voluntarily through emails. We have not asked for it as yet.

*"I have found the Programme both helpful and challenging and enjoyed listening and sharing with the other participants. I am sure it will continue to grow and be an important part of the process of evangelisation. I will pray that God will bless you in your work in this important and vital area of the Church's mission."* **(Chris, Barry)**

*"I really enjoyed the whole course. I thought it was really well put together and every member of your team did such a great job. I thought it was wonderful and the Holy Spirit breathed on us....."*

*Please thank your team and a big thank you to YOU*

*too."* **(Maria, Maesteg)**

*"I would like to thank you and your colleagues for the time and effort you put into the Evangelisation Programme. I found it very powerful and hope I can use what I learnt to make a difference in my parish. I also found that attending the course via Zoom worked very effectively."* **(Martin, Cardiff)**

*"This is a highly developed programme, enabling individuals and parishes to acknowledge and take out to others what comes from our baptism, the encounter with Jesus Christ. The programme is steeped in scripture and prayer, and strives to prepare modern day disciples to be heralds of the Gospel in their own personal circumstances. It equips us to be participants in the mission of Jesus Christ in delivering the Good News to those we encounter."* **(Kate Duffin, Scripture Champion)**

Following the success of the Programme and in answer to further applications, the Diocesan Evangelisation Commission is offering it again, beginning in September 2021. We have already had 22 applications!

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 November 2nd, 9th and 16th. It will once again be delivered by members of the Diocesan Evangelisation Commission.

The Programme is open to all parishioners and clergy across the Archdiocese.

The new Programme 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 September Programme, please email Madeleine Walters at [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org)**

## Safeguarding organisation to be set up

**A new organisation made up of survivors of clerical abuse is to be set up to advise the Catholic bishops on safeguarding matters within the Church as part of wide-ranging child protection reforms.**

The new survivor reference panel will be made up of victims of clerical sexual abuse with the aim of ensuring they have a voice in the management of the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults within the Church and the issues arising from it.

The group will replace the Survivor Advisory Panel (SAP) of the now decommissioned National Catholic Safeguarding Commission, which has been replaced by the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA).

Previously, SAP provided the commission with advice and recommendations on matters relevant to survivors, including insights into how to improve responses in such areas as victim disclosures and pastoral support. It also helped to highlight unidentified areas of concern to safeguarding professionals.

The new panel will support and inform the work of the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency by ensuring that the voice of victims and survivors of clerical abuse is heard and learnt from.

Although the appointments to the new panel will be announced a later date, it is expected that the majority will replace SAP members who either have, or are imminently due to, complete their terms of office.

The announcement of the new panel comes just a month after the bishops appointed Nazir Afzal, a former Chief Crown Prosecutor, as the first Chair of the CSSA.

Nazir Afzal, the Chair of CSSA, said: "At the centre of our work is ensuring that victims and survivors voices are heard. This refreshed Survivor Reference Panel is one important part of our overall engagement with victims and survivors, who we will seek to engage with in a number of different ways.

Two members of Catholic Survivors England, who were core participants at the Independent Inquiry into Child Sex Abuse, said in a statement: "We welcome the news of the setting up of the new survivor reference panel. We hope that it is a positive indicator of the Church's commitment to increased engagement with survivors, so that Ian Elliott's recommendation that 'it is imperative that those who have been harmed through their involvement with the Church is heard and learnt from' is fully implemented and embedded in the culture of CSSA from the outset."

Carol Lawrence, a director of the CSSA, said: "SAP has been an important resource for the last six years supporting the work of NCSC. On behalf of the CSSA I should like to express my thanks to the members who have served on this panel for their contribution in that time"

## Archdiocese of Cardiff "The God Who Speaks": Scripture Study Days

The next Scripture Study Day will be given on Saturday, July 10h from 11am-12.30pm.

Rev. Dr Gareth Leyshon will be giving a talk on "A Biblical Journey through the Mass".

Rev. Dr Gareth Leyshon holds a PhD in Astrophysics and a first-class honours degree in Theology. He currently works as a full-time missionary for the Sion Community for Evangelism, based in Essex, following 12 years of parish ministry in South Wales. He is well known as a very engaging and creative speaker.

Details of the programme of talks for the year can be found on the Archdiocesan website <https://rcadc.org/events>.

How to Access the online Talks You can access the talks on the day via Zoom at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82409256453?pwd=YktlYnQvWjNzQjI5L0xnZkFsaHNYUT09>

Meeting ID 824 0925 6453  
Passcode: 633303

The talks will also appear on YouTube. Please go to the ACES YouTube channel  
Contacts for enquiries: Madeleine Walters at [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org) or Kate Duffin at [kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kate.duffin@hotmail.co.uk)

# A message from one of our new deacons in Rome

**Archbishop George was due to travel to Rome to preside at the Diaconate ordinations for the students of the English College on 4 July.**

Our own Elliot Hanson was one of the ordinands. Unfortunately, travel restrictions, Covid legislation and increasing bureaucracy made that journey impossible. Bishop Paul Tighe, an Irish bishop working in the Holy See, presided at the ordinations. Below there is a reflection from Elliot on taking this important step towards the priesthood. It comes with his gratitude to all who have supported him during his discernment and preparation for the priesthood.



## **Servare non Servari**

The Alban hills have long been a welcome escape for Romans seeking respite from the oppressive July sun and the heat of the city. The students of the Venerable English College are no exception. During this last week of term, we have decamped to the Villa Palazzola, the college's summer get-away perched on the hills overlooking the mighty Lake Albano. A peaceful and idyllic spot in many ways, but also one of faith and great prayer as the students prepare to receive ministries and several, myself included, ready ourselves for the grace of ordination to the diaconate.

My own journey to the diaconate has been a long and winding path. After first sensing a call to the priesthood at university in Southampton, my life as a seminarian began in the Archdiocese of Cardiff in 2015. Originally from Barry, I was initially sent to the "big city" as I began my formation at Allen Hall Seminary, London. After two years of philosophy and a challenging but very fruitful year at St Helen's, Caerphilly, I was asked to continue my studies at the Venerable English College in Rome. My three years of theological studies at the Gregorian University have been years of learning and great grace that have nurtured my vocation and brought me to this important moment. It has been a great privilege to study at the very heart of the universal church and, in my small way, to fly the flag for Wales in the Eternal City!

On Sunday 4th July, this stage in my journey of vocation comes to an end as I am ordained to the diaconate. Diaconal ordination is the final step before, pray God, priestly ordination next year. It is a profound configuration to Christ the servant who proclaims the Good News to the poor, liberty for prisoners, health for the blind, freedom for the oppressed and the Lord's favour for all who will receive it (Cf. Lk 4.18-19). Deacons are called to do likewise for their brothers and sisters through their own proclamation of the Word, their preaching and their acts of service towards the lowly. So please pray for me as I begin this ministry that I may worthily emulate Christ the servant and bring many others to know the great love He has for them.

So as I look for a final time over the mist covered Alban Hills, I give thanks for these years of formation. For lessons learned, friendships formed and graces



**Pope Francis on a visit to the Venerable English College**

given. But I also look forward with faith and trust as my own journey takes me onward to Paris and to further studies in Catechetics and Pastoral Theology at the Institut Catholique. To anyone considering a vocation at this time I would encourage you wholeheartedly to embrace it, explore it and follow where the Lord is calling. My own journey has taken me to three European capitals. I have met many fascinating people and experienced things that will remain with me for the rest of my life. Formation has been challenging but at the same time a source of grace and growth. God has

proved Himself faithful time and time again and His strength is sufficient for us all. So when love calls your name, follow Him, for the adventure of a lifetime, the adventure of following Jesus Christ begins with but a single step.

**Elliot Hanson**  
Seminarian for the Archdiocese of Cardiff  
Venerabile Collegio Inglese,  
Via di Monserrato 45,  
Rome,  
00186, Italy



**The Venerable English Collage in Rome**

# Caritas Calling! – July / August 2021

## A Monthly Bulletin for our local parishes, charities and Catholic Agencies

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### 1. What will happen to British citizens living and working in Europe?

<https://tinyurl.com/mp5ajfk3>

British citizens who are currently living in the EU, or who move there during the transition period, will need to apply for residence status in the country they are residing in by 30 June 2021. However, on 28 September 2020, the EU confirmed that some member states were looking to extend this deadline as a result of the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic. The exact terms and procedures for settlement vary between EU countries.

Brexit: how UK nationals and their family members resident in an EU country can stay there after 31 December 2020. If you are a UK national, you and your family may need to apply for a new residence status in the EU country where you are living. The deadline to apply varies from country to country.

Visit article for link to each country.  
<https://tinyurl.com/5ez7j6td>

### 2. First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly - Sunday 25 July 2021

Press Conference to present the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and the Message prepared by the Holy Father for the occasion, 22.06.2021

On Tuesday morning, 22 June 2021, a press conference was live-streamed from the Holy See Press Office to present the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, and the Message prepared by the Holy Father for the occasion. The Day will be held on the fourth Sunday of July – this year on 25 July – on the theme “I am with you always” (Mt 28: 20). The speakers were His Eminence Cardinal Kevin Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life; Dr. Vittorio Scelzo, head of pastoral care of the elderly of the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life; Ms. Monique Bodhuin, president of Vie Montante Internationale, via live link from Strasbourg, France; Ms. Maria Sofia Soli, “Viva gli anziani” of the Sant’Egidio Community; and Ms. Elena Liotta, “Giovani per la pace”, of the Sant’Egidio Community:  
<https://tinyurl.com/u4pd3ar8>

Pope Francis Message First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly:  
<https://tinyurl.com/fn5pbu7a>

Video Message:  
<https://youtu.be/bFUSWj3fjLA>

Sunday 25 July will see the celebration of

the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The theme chosen by the Holy Father for this World Day is “I am with you always” (cf. Mt 28:20) which is a way of expressing the closeness of the Lord and the Church to every older person, especially in these challenging pandemic times. “I am with you always” is also a promise of closeness and hope that young and old can mutually share. Not only are grandchildren and young people called upon to be present in the lives of older people, but older people and grandparents also have a mission of evangelisation, proclamation and prayer, and of encouraging young people in their faith. In order to encourage the celebration of this World Day in the local churches and associations, from mid-June the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life will offer some pastoral tools that will be available on the website [www.amorislaetitia.va](http://www.amorislaetitia.va).

### 3. Pope on Laudato si' Platform: 'What world will we leave our children?'

Pope Francis sent a video message to launch the new Laudato si' Action Platform, bringing the Laudato si' Year to a close but continuing the battle to protect our common home: <https://youtu.be/bBOL1A35q7Q>

In his video message for the launch of the Laudato si' Platform, Pope Francis notes that “with the Encyclical Laudato si’, promulgated in 2015, I invited all people of good will to take care of the Earth, which is our common home.” This “house that hosts us” has been suffering for a long time, from “the wounds that we cause by our predatory attitude,” laments the Pope. He highlights the fact that “the current pandemic has now brought to light in an even stronger way the cry of nature and that of the poor who suffer most the consequences, highlighting that everything is interconnected and interdependent and that our health is not separated from the health of the environment in which we live.” It is for this reason that we need “a new ecological approach,” says Pope Francis. In this way we can “transform our way of dwelling in the world, our styles of life, our relationship with the resources of the Earth and, in general, our way of looking at humanity and of living life.”

### Responsibility to future generations

We have a great responsibility, continues the Pope, “especially with regard to the future generations.”

“What world do we want to leave to our children and our young? Our selfishness, our indifference and our irresponsible ways are threatening the future of our children!” he warns. Pope Francis then goes on to “renew” his appeal: “Let us take care of our mother Earth; let us overcome the temptation of selfishness that makes us predators of resources; let us cultivate respect for the gifts of the Earth and creation; let us inaugurate a lifestyle and a society that is finally eco-sustainable: we have the opportunity to prepare a better tomorrow for all. From God's hands we have received a garden, we cannot leave a desert to our children.”

### The platform

The Pope then goes on to explain that the Laudato si' Action Platform is “a seven-year journey that will see our communities committed in different ways to becoming totally sustainable, in the spirit of integral ecology.” He invites everyone to “embark on this journey together,” and particularly calls on the involvement of “families - parishes

and dioceses - schools and universities - hospitals - businesses and farms - organisations, groups and movements - religious institutes.” Work together, he stresses, as “only in this way will we be able to create the future we want: a more inclusive, fraternal, peaceful and sustainable world.” Bringing his message to a close, Pope Francis recalls that “there is hope.” Working together, he says, “each one with his own culture and experience, each one with her own initiatives and capacities, so that our mother Earth may be restored to her original beauty and creation may once again shine according to God's plan.” For details on the Laudato si' Action Platform visit: <https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/>

**4. CAFOD Calling! - Take action to reclaim our common home:**  
<https://youtu.be/WoAAvioYEW8>  
<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Reclaim-our-common-home>

As we seek to plan a world after the pandemic, let's tackle the other challenges that plague our common home: the pandemic of hunger, the pandemic of poverty and the pandemic of runaway climate change. In 2021, let's reclaim our common home.

Sign our petition to the prime minister:  
<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1>

**5. The Year Of The God Who Speaks 2021**  
Scripture Study sessions are delivered via Zoom and YouTube on certain Saturdays from 11am to 12.30pm.

July 10th, 2021: A Biblical Journey through the Mass - Revd. Doctor Gareth Leyshon

For more information and to register for the talks so that you will receive the Zoom link, please email Madeleine Walters at [madeleine.walters@rcadc.org](mailto:madeleine.walters@rcadc.org). In the Archdiocese of Cardiff, Kate Duffin and Madeleine Walters, promote The God Who Speaks initiative and, for Newsletters, contact Madeleine.

Fr. Jerome Ituah OCD is the contact in the Diocese of Menevia: [pk@menevia.org](mailto:pk@menevia.org)

**6. The Pope's Prayer intentions: [Visit: [www.thepopevideo.org](http://www.thepopevideo.org) each month for the latest video]**

**July** - Universal intention - Social friendship: “We pray that, in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship”

**August** – Intention for evangelization - The Church: “Let us pray for the Church, that She may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel”

**7. The Cycle of Prayer/Ordinary Time: <http://www.liturgyoffice.org.uk/Calendar/Cycle/SummerCP.shtml>**

Throughout Ordinary Time/Summer: - we are asked to pray for the following intentions:

A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews

Jewish Relations - The Department of Dialogue and Unity has a Committee for Catholic Jewish Relations. It works to build the relationship between the Church and Jewish people, thus implementing the official teaching of the Church. Bishops' Conference: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/jewish-relations/>; Pontifical Biblical Commission - The Jewish People and their Sacred Scriptures in the Christian Bible: <https://tinyurl.com/yv64yy2k>

Those Who Suffer Persecution,

Oppression and Denial of Human Rights

The intention is inspired by the Feast of St John Fisher and St Thomas More (22 June).

Links: Aid to the Church in Need:  
<https://acnuk.org/>

### Human Life

especially on the Day for Life (3rd Sunday in June). Origins of the Day for Life are found in St John Paul II's encyclical Evangelium Vitae. Preparation for the day is shared with the Bishops' Conferences of Ireland and of Scotland – though each marks the day on a different date. Since its inception it has focussed on a wide range of life issues. This year's Day for Life is celebrated on 20 June in England and Wales.

Links: Evangelium Vitae:  
<https://tinyurl.com/5ne6xyb9>; Day for Life website: <http://www.dayforlife.org/>

### Europe

Background

Pope John Paul II dedicated 6 patron saints to Europe: St Cyril and St Methodius (14 February); St Catherine of Siena (29 April); St Benedict (11 July); St Bridget of Sweden (23 July); St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (9 August) They reflect the rich spiritual history of the Continent from East to West and across the centuries. In the Cycle of Prayer Europe is remembered in the Summer when a number of the Feasts days occur.

### Seafarers

The Apostleship of the Sea (Great Britain) is a Bishops' Conference agency supporting seafarers from across the world meeting their needs by offering help, support and advice.

In 2020, the Apostleship of the Sea name was updated to Stella Maris to better reflect the way the charity was known by seafarers around the world. Our History - Stella Maris: <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/our-history/>

### 8. Pope Francis releases his message for the fifth World Day of the poor

Pope: The poor enable us to discover the true face of the Father  
<http://www.pcpne.va/content/pcpne/en/news/2021-06-14.html>

From the Pontifical Council for Promoting the New Evangelization, By Vatican News staff writer:

Pope Francis has released his message for the fifth World Day of the poor. He highlights the need for conversion and for an approach that counters new forms of poverty in the world and promotes the freedom needed to live a life of fulfilment according to the abilities of each person. The theme of the fifth World Day of the Poor is “The poor you will always have with you” taken from the gospel of Mark. Pope Francis released the message for the annual observance on Monday 14 June 2021, ahead of the actual date of its commemoration which is slated for November 14, the thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time in the Church's liturgical calendar.

“Generate development processes...”

“How can we give a tangible response to the millions of the poor who frequently encounter only indifference, if not resentment? The Pope asked. “What path of justice must be followed so that social inequalities can be overcome and human dignity, so often trampled upon, can be restored?” Proposing concrete steps, he said that it is necessary to generate “development processes in which the abilities of all are

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