

Catholic People

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Magnificent Mass at Westminster Cathedral
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A warm welcome to our new priests!
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Archbishop launches search for Wales' favourite Church or Chapel

With over 4,500 churches and chapels, Wales has some of the most beautiful and historic religious buildings in the world.

Speaking about the National Churches Trust Conference held at The Cornerstone recently, and the launch of 'Sacred Wales' – the search for the 50 best loved churches in Wales, Archbishop George Stack said:

"It was a pleasure to welcome Huw Edwards and over one hundred members of the National Churches Trust to The Cornerstone for a most happy and successful day. The National Churches Trust seeks to support and give grants to churches throughout the United Kingdom which have need of repair and restoration. It supports heritage groups, amenities societies and local volunteers in their fund raising and mirrors the concern of the National Lottery Fund to preserve our ecclesiastical heritage for future generations.

"The members were thrilled with the transformation of the former Ebeneser Chapel and congratulated all concerned on the high standard of the architectural concept, the materials used and the amenities created.

"As Vice President of the National Churches Trust, I was pleased to welcome our president, Huw Edwards, who gave a passionate speech on the need for radical choices to be made as to which of the hundreds of churches and chapels should be kept in order to focus attention and efforts on their preservation, restoration and maintenance. He finished by saying The Cornerstone was a perfect example of maintaining a religious heritage, preserving and enhancing its architecture and using the building in a sympathetic way. Those of us who care for The Cornerstone agree with his comments completely!"

To celebrate and raise awareness of Wales' religious heritage, the National Churches Trust, the UK's church building support charity, has launched 'Sacred Wales' – 'Cymru Sanctaidd' giving people a chance to choose Wales' favourite church or chapel.

From a list nominated by churches and chapels and religious and heritage organisations, you can choose from fifty from all over Wales.

They include St David's Cathedral; Capel Als, the first Nonconformist place of worship in Llanelli; and St Winefried, Holywell, a shrine marking the spot where where Caradog cut off Winefride's head in the 7th century and one the oldest continual pilgrimage sites in Britain.

People can vote online at www.sacredwales.org.uk until 31 August 2017.

The winning church or chapel will be announced on 28 September 2017 and will receive a 'SacredWales' - 'Cymru Sanctaidd' trophy, together with a cheque for £500.

(A video about Sacred Wales can be downloaded at <https://vimeo.com/225285577> (English with Welsh subtitles) and at <https://vimeo.com/224670880> (English only).

Choose your favourite

'SacredWales' - 'Cymru Sanctaidd' was launched on Thursday 13 July 2017 at the Cornerstone, Cardiff at an event hosted by the Most Reverend George Stack, Archbishop of Cardiff.

Speaking at the launch, Huw Edwards, broadcaster and journalist, said: "The churches and chapels of Wales are some of the most beautiful religious buildings anywhere in the world."

Now, 'Cymru Sanctaidd' – 'Sacred Wales', is giving you the opportunity to choose your favourite.

"We should all care about the heritage of churches and chapels which help tell the story of Wales. So let's work together to keep them alive.

"If you're looking for a venue to hold an event of a concert or community



Archbishop George Stack(right), with Huw Edwards (left) and Luke March, Chairman, National Churches Trust and Claire Walker, CEO National Churches Trust,

activity, why not pick one of your local churches or chapels."

"If you're any good at DIY, why not volunteer with some repair work."

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Archbishop launches search for Wales' favourite Church or Chapel

Continued from Page 1

"Or if you're simply looking for a day out in another part of Wales, why not pop into a church or chapel and discover the fascinating history."

"The religious heritage of Wales belongs to all of us."

"So let's celebrate it."

Four Catholic churches

Four Roman Catholic churches feature in 'Cymru Sanctaidd' – 'Sacred Wales'.



Our Lady Star of the Sea, Amlwch, Anglesey

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Amlwch, Anglesey. The Twentieth Century Society called this 1930s church 'a rare and unique church' and it is listed for its 'highly unusual and experimental design'. Italian architect Giuseppe Rinvulcri used reinforced concrete to create the shape of an upturned boat, reflecting Amlwch's maritime heritage.



St Winefride, Holywell, Flintshire

St Winefride, Holywell Flintshire. According to legend, a well sprang up in the seventh century at the spot where Caradog cut off Winefride's head - she came back to life and lived as a nun for two decades. Her well is said to be the oldest continual pilgrimage site in Britain. The shrine building is a sixteenth century Perpendicular Gothic building, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The Catholic parish of St

Winefride cares for the shrine, relics, and holy well.

St David, Maesglas, Newport is a modern church, built in 1963 by P D Hepworth. It replaced a one story building on land gifted by Viscount Tredegar to the parish in 1934. Each brick behind the altar has the name of a pupil at St David's school who paid for it. Its clean modern lines include walls of jewel-like windows.

St David, Pantasaph Flintshire. This Victorian neo-Gothic church was originally built as the parish church for the village, and was donated to the Catholic church by Viscount Fielding and his wife in 1850 when they converted to Catholicism. It was modified by Pugin who designed the high altar, font, Lady Chapel reredos and a statue of the Madonna. Of particular note is the Victorian stained glass.



St David, Maesglas, Newport

Why churches are failing

'Sacred Wales' - 'Cymru Sanctaidd' celebrates Wales' churches and chapels. It is also designed to start a debate about their future.

Once the centre of Welsh society, many churches and chapels are still vital for community life. However, the job of looking after religious buildings is becoming harder as congregations decline.

The Supporting Places of Worship in Wales Survey 2017 a new report produced by the National Churches Trust, published in July 2017, highlights some of the problems being faced by many Welsh churches and chapels including:

1. A severe shortage of volunteers to look after church and chapel buildings.
2. A lack of skills needed to raise funds for repairs.
3. Churches and chapels want funding to help carry our regular maintenance.

Claire Walker, CEO of the National Churches Trust said: "There are around 4,500 churches and chapels in Wales. Around 45% of these are listed due to their historical and architectural significance."

"However, with declining congregations, their future is not guaranteed."

"That's why there needs to be a national debate about their future."



St David, Pantasaph, Flintshire

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BEL – Belmont Abbey – The Retreats Secretary - email: retreats@belmontabbey.org.uk or tel: 07799 811 646. All retreats begin with Vespers at 6.00 pm – check-in at Hedley Lodge from mid afternoon

LL – Ty Croeso Centre, Llantarnam Abbey, Cwmbran tel: 01633 867317

PRC – Pastoral Resources Centre, 910 Newport Road, Rumney, Cardiff tel: 029 20360044

St.P – St Peter's Church, St Peter's Street, Cardiff CF24 3BA

AUGUST

Saturday 5th Open Day . 10.00am-4.30pm. Free admission. Free guided tours. **BEL**

Friday 18th Violin Recital by Dr. Michael Grube in the Abbey Church at 7.30pm. **BEL**

Sunday 20 ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE to the GRAVE of SAINT JOHN KEMBLE . See page 6 for full details.

To list Archdiocesan and Deanery Events in this Diary contact: Pastoral Resources Centre, 910 Newport Road, Rumney, Cardiff CF3 4LL Tel: (029) 2036 5963 Fax (029) 2079 3172 email: publications@rcadc.org



A fond goodbye!

Dominic, Diana and James Neville with Archbishop George and Canon Peter.

See editorial on this page.



Welcome to our new priests

Turn to page 6 for some wonderful news...we have a welcome handful of new priests in the diocese and more are on the way!

At the ordination of Father Peter McLaren Archbishop George, with a beaming smile on his face, pointed to the newly ordained priests, including Fr Daniel Stanton, and also asked his two deacons, due to be ordained next year, to stand up and be welcomed by the congregation.

And he did not miss out the two seminarians also in the pipeline!

Surely the archdiocese is blessed with such a wealth of talent and dedication.

Dedicated laity

At a Mass at St David's Cathedral we said goodbye to the Neville family who have given so much to the musical life of St David's Cathedral and St John's College.

Dominic and James Neville are taking up new teaching appointments and Diana Neville is retiring from teaching.

As with the late Dr David Neville, for many years organist and Director of Music at the Cathedral, who passed away last year, the family will be greatly missed.

Citizens and politics

By Jim Barnaville, Community Organising Leader, Archdiocese of Cardiff

Peter Taylor, Assistant Director of the Catholic Education Service, wrote an article, **Towards Active Citizenship**, in The Tablet's **SCHOOLS PRACTICE** on 8th July 2017. In it he says:

"Teaching about politics in an engaging and informative way must be an integral part of all citizenship lessons. As Catholics, this is especially important. A key element of Catholic Social Teaching is the promotion of the "active citizen" who is both politically and socially engaged in their community. This means that participating in the political process is an essential part of what it means to be a Catholic in twenty-first-century Britain. As Pope St John Paul II said in his 1987 encyclical *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, solidarity is "not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say to the good of all and of each individual because we are all really responsible for all" (38).

In this quote, John Paul II really hits the nail on the head. If we want a society that is committed to promoting the common good, we need to be prepared to engage with it and those who govern us."

Later in the article he writes: "Taking the lead from Pope Francis and from our own bishops, the Catholic Education Service (CES) is committed to assisting schools in helping to develop children into active and politically astute citizens. Teaching our young

people to engage critically with politics and political ideas is an essential part of our Catholic philosophy about the formation of the whole individual. And with increasing numbers of young people showing an interest in politics, it is essential to begin the process of familiarising them with politics and politicians from an early age. The CES has produced a series of resources for schools aimed at developing young people's interaction with elections and the political process. (These can be found on our website: www.catholiceducation.org.uk)

Peter's article is addressed to the "schools' community", in the main, but there is an underlying message for us all in the wider Catholic community. We, too, need to be taught the 'art of politics' which is an ongoing process and does not begin and end with Elections.

Structures of injustice

What does the Church teach us on this matter? In their 1996 statement, **The Common Good and The Catholic Church's Social Teaching**, the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales wrote:

"Not an optional teaching

41) All Catholic citizens need an informed "social conscience" that will enable them to identify and resist structures of injustice in their own society. This will especially be the case at the time of heightened political activity, for instance when a general election is in prospect. Attention to Catholic Social Teaching, both its general principles and its application in specific circumstances, will enable the traditional Catholic custom of "examination of conscience" to be extended into the social and

political realm, an extension which we would strongly encourage."

Recently, Pope Francis, in his Apostolic Exhortation, **Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel** - on The Proclamation of The Gospel in Today's World (24 November 2013), wrote:

"People in every nation enhance the social dimension of their lives by acting as committed and responsible citizens, not as a mob swayed by the powers that be. Let us not forget that "responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation". www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html#_ftn180 Yet becoming a people demands something more. It is an ongoing process in which every new generation must take part: a slow and arduous effort calling for a desire for integration and a willingness to achieve this through the growth of a peaceful and multifaceted culture of encounter."

www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20131124_evangelii-gaudium_en.html#_ftnref180 UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS, Pastoral Letter Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship (November 2007), 13.

In the Archdiocese of Cardiff, we, too, have been engaging in this 'slow and arduous effort' in school and Parish communities in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan through our 'community organising' efforts facilitated by Citizens UK. (See articles on Cardiff Citizens and Vale of Glamorgan Citizens.) It is our hope that we can take the 'teaching' and training to other Parishes and schools across the Archdiocese, building the capacity of our Catholic community across the generations to participate in political life.

More articles on Page 8

Your Catholic People...

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Magnificent Mass at Westminster Cathedral



Director of Music Dominic Neville with the young choristers who sang at Westminster Cathedral

By Joseph Green

In a change of religious venues the Choir of St David's Metropolitan Cathedral sang at London's Westminster Cathedral.

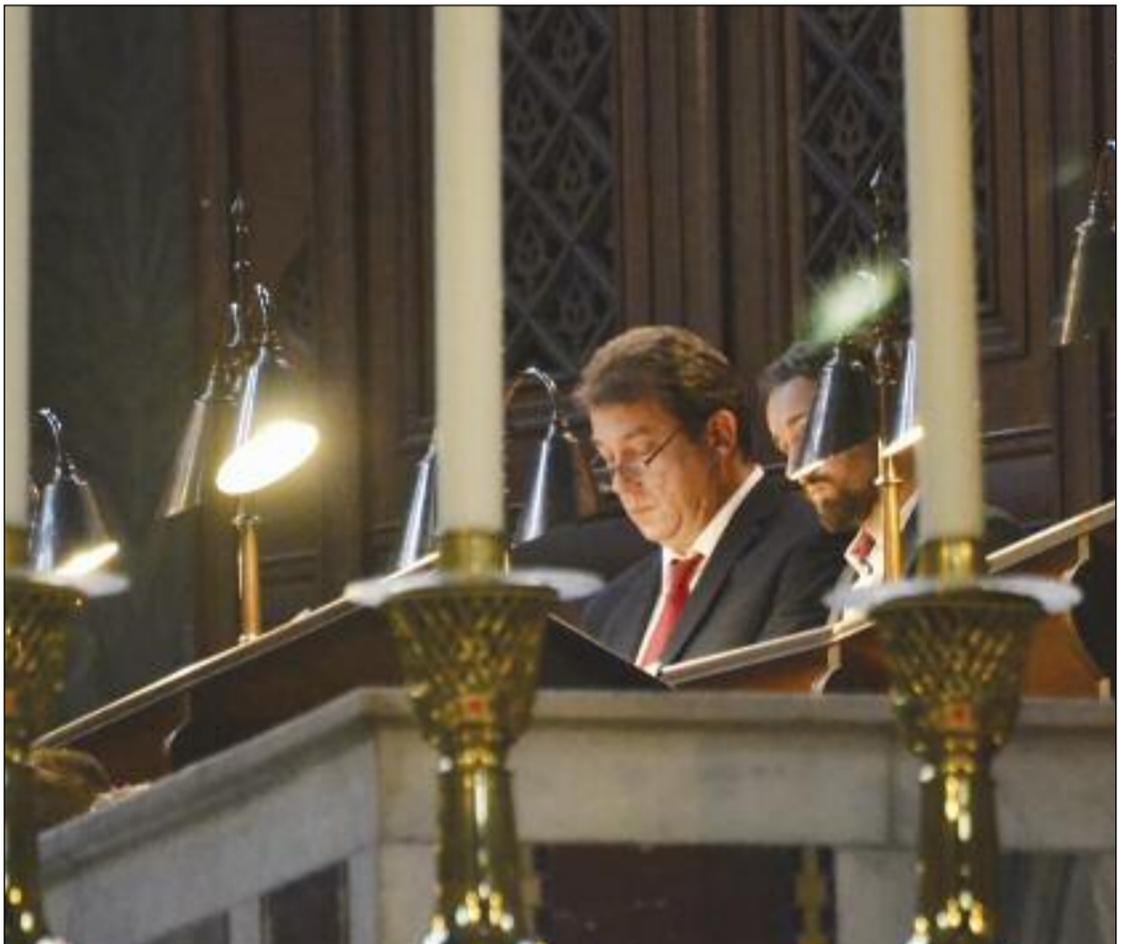
Every seat was taken at the Saturday evening Mass on July 15 and the congregation heard a magnificent performance from adult choristers and boys and girls from St John's College, conducted by Dominic Neville who leaves his post as Director of Music after many years connection with the choir, as a chorister and conductor. He is taking up a teaching post in London.

Also taking part in this Swansong was his brother James, Master of Choristers and the composer of the Kyrie sung at the Mass. James, a splendid counter tenor, also leaves the choir to take up another teaching post.

Parents and grandparents of the college choristers were there to hear their family members sing, including Diana Neville, mother of Dominic and James, and James' wife Helen and their son David

Not there, but in the fond memory of many of us, was the late Dr David Neville, for many years organist and Director of Music at St David's and Headmaster at St John's College, who passed away last year.

This magnificent performance by the visiting choir was a tribute to him and all the Neville family for their massive and lasting contribution to music at St David's Cathedral.



Two of the adult choristers in the atmospheric cathedral choir stalls



The congregation at Westminster Cathedral heard some magnificent singing.



Dominic Neville who has served many years as a musician at St David's



Every seat was full for the choir's appearance at Westminster Cathedral.



Helen Neville and son William David were there to witness husband James' performance.



James Neville conducting the choir.



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A warm welcome to our new priests!



Fr McLaren and Archbishop.: Archbishop George receives a Blessing from his new priest.

There was much joy and celebration on Saturday 29 July at Cardiff Cathedral – the Metropolitan Cathedral of St. David as exactly a week after the ordination to the priesthood of Fr. Daniel Stanton, we celebrated the ordination of a long-serving Deacon to the priesthood.

Fr. Peter McLaren was one of the original 13 Permanent Deacons ordained for the diocese over 10 years ago, and today he approached the altar for ordination as service as priest. Following the death of his beloved wife Marie, Fr. Peter spent time in discernment regarding his future. After a period of discernment within the diocese, Archbishop George Stack sent him to Allen Hall Seminary in London where he has spent the past year in formation.

Originally from Scotland Fr. Peter's family home has been in Cwmbran where has served faithfully and lovingly as Deacon over the years. As part of his formation for priesthood, he spent time on Pastoral Placement in the parish of South Ryslip, London. It was a joy to see parishioners travel from London for today's celebration; a testament to the witness of the man being ordained. It was also a privilege to be joined by Fr. Peter's children and grandchildren to whom this day just as much belong as a testament of love and witness to Almighty God and family life.

A long and poignant journey

Acknowledging the path Fr. Peter has taken to this day and in honour of St. Martha whose feast day was celebrated, Archbishop George reflected upon the

phrase "If only". On the death of her brother Lazarus, St. Martha approaches Jesus saying "If only you had been here my brother would not have died ...". The Archbishop said:

"I think the "if only" questions in life are the most important. And we have all asked them. "If only this hadn't happened. If only I hadn't said that. If only I had made a different decision. If only life had been fairer to me. If only my mother, father, brother, sister, husband or wife had not suffered and died, everything would be all right, and I would be happy". But we need to be careful of what we ask for. As I said, the Lazarus story is ambivalent at the very least. It responds to the needs of Martha and Mary in their grief. They wanted him back. But Lazarus would have to die again having to go through the process all over again. "If he came back to life it was to say a last farewell to it".

The life and ministry of the priest is to be with people at the moments of great joy in their lives and also at times of greatest confusion and sadness. Continually he will be asked the "if only" questions

Peter will have had his own "If only" questions during his life, too, not least with the death of his beloved Marie. But he has been, and continues to be, sustained by his faith and support of a loving family. "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into the world".

Following his words of thanks to the congregation Fr. Peter was met with a warm round of applause at what was a very moving celebration. Thanking Almighty

God, Fr. Peter told the congregation that he will be serving the people of the Rhondda Parish and the Sisters of Llantarnam Abbey in his priestly ministry.

Food for thought

This ordination marks the end of a series of 4 ordinations for the diocese this summer. In June the Rev. Robert James and Rev. Nicholas Williams were ordained to the Diaconate as part of their priestly formation at seminary. Last weekend we celebrated the priesthood ordination of Fr. Daniel Stanton ..

TWO priests in one week! Food for thought and reflection after what was a very arid period for Vocations within the diocese. Next year, pray God, Deacon Robert and Deacon Nicholas will be ordained to the priesthood.

In addition to the ordinations the Archbishop reminded the congregation of our remaining seminarians Laurence Bryce and Elliot Hanson, and he introduced Dale Cutlan who enters a discernment period at the Royal English College in Valladolid, Spain this September.

Continue to pray for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life within our diocese every day. This summer has been the first harvest of your prayers and encouragement. Pray and encourage and the Vocations will continue to come.

For more information about Vocations within the Archdiocese visit the Vocations section of the website. <<http://rcadc.org/vocations/r>>

Fr Daniel moves to All Saints, Newport

Fr. Daniel Stanton, 30, was ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, 2nd July 2017, at Cardiff Cathedral by Archbishop George Stack. Fr. Daniel is the first of two priesthood ordinations this summer. .

The cathedral was full for the celebration, the congregation comprised Fr. Daniel's family & friends, people from the various parishes in which he has served as a seminarian and deacon, people from his home parish of Our Lady & St. Patrick, Maesteg, seminarians from Oscott College where Fr. Daniel has been in formation for the priesthood, and faithful from across the diocese.

During the ceremony Fr. Daniel was presented to the Archbishop for ordination by Canon Matthew Jones, parish priest of Christ the King, St. Paul and St. Brigid's Cardiff where Fr. Daniel had spent part of his diaconal year on placement. The newly ordained Fr. Daniel was vested by his friend Fr. Craig Davies of Birmingham and Fr. Michael Doyle, parish priest of his home parish. The chalice presented to Fr. Daniel was a gift from the people of Our Lady & St. Patrick's Maesteg.

In the homily Archbishop George reflected upon one of the principal questions asked during the discernment process "Who are you looking for?" and the impact that has upon the deeper meaning of the priestly call:

"... the inner meaning of priesthood is the way in which the priest can guide and support, and comfort and challenge and transform the lives of the people he serves by offering the sacrifice Jesus himself

offered – his Body, his Blood, poured out on the cross for the love of sinful humanity. The task of the ordained priest is to empower all those who are baptised to live and worship God in God's way, not our own".

Fr. Daniel will now take a break before starting in his first placement as Assistant Priest of All Saints parish, Newport in September.

Ad multus annos!



Fr Daniel Stanton – to serve as assistant priest at All Saints, Newport

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE to the GRAVE of SAINT JOHN KEMBLE

This year's **PILGRIMAGE** takes place on Sunday 20th AUGUST 2017

10.15a.m. Monmouth to Welsh Newton

Pilgrims set off to walk to Welsh Newton from St Mary's Church, Monmouth after 9.15 a.m. Mass. Everybody welcome - bring a packed lunch.

3.00p.m. Welsh Newton

We meet for Rosary, Readings and Prayers at St. John Kemble's Grave in the Churchyard at Welsh Newton.

4.15p.m. Monmouth

Benediction follows in St Mary's Church, and afterwards tea will be served in the garden, and produce sold.

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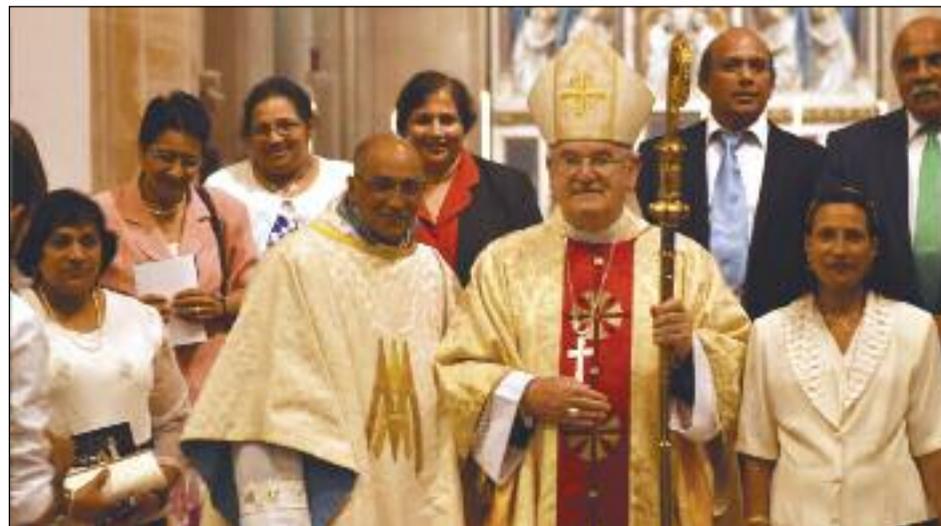
Mrs M Walsh [Telephone Monmouth (01600) 713316]

Dom Patrick Lobo ordained at Belmont Abbey

Archbishop George ordained Dom Patrick as priest on 27 June at Belmont Abbey.

The Abbey was full of friends, family, parishioners and fellow monks for the joyful ordination.

The new priest is pictured here with members of his family and Archbishop George.



Maesteg pupils wow with 'Proms in the Parish'

On Tuesday 18th July 2017 the pupils of St. Mary's & St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School in Maesteg hosted the very first 'Proms in the Parish'. Families of the children and members of the parish were treated to an extravaganza showcasing musical talents from year 3, 4, 5 & 6 pupils. The pupils had been rehearsing for some weeks to entertain using 'old tunes with a new twist'.

The showcase began with their unique take of 'An English Country Garden' aptly renamed 'Fr. Michael's Garden'. They even performed a Rock version of La Cucaracha! Musical talents were showcased using recorders, guitars, cellos, the piano, clarinet and violins. The two hour performance concluded with the choir reminding everyone of how tomorrow is in their hands with a beautiful rendition of 'We are the young'.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the proms joining in with one or two of the pieces, and the children enjoyed running to the refreshment stalls in between sets! The event was a great celebration of the children's talent and the hard work they put into the evening. It was also a wonderful joint event between the school and the parish raising much needed funds for both the school and the church. Congratulations to all involved!



Musical talent in plenty by Maesteg primary school pupils



Proud parents witness a musical feast.

Sixtus Dominic Boniface Christopher Rees-Mogg

These are the names given by Jacob and Helena Rees-Mogg to their sixth child born recently. Sixtus V was the last Pope of this name, elected in 1567. As a well known Member of Parliament for Somerset North and broadcaster (Have I Got News for You), Jacob Rees-Mogg is recognised as one of the finest orators in parliament. He is a practicing Catholic and spokesman on many of the social, moral and religious issues of the day. He will be coming to Cardiff on 29 September and has agreed to give a talk at The Cornerstone entitled "Faith in the Future", exploring the many issues surrounding the importance of faith in the public and private life of our society. The talk will begin at 1.30pm and free tickets are available for Archbishop's House. Please email requests for tickets and the number required to: arch@rcadc.org



Picture by courtesy of the Sun.



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From Conflict to Communion – marking the Reformation

by Lucy Williams (Diocesan Commission for Christian Unity)

'Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you abide in me' (John 15:4)

In this series of articles, we consider the agreement between the Catholic Church and the Lutheran World Federation, which is expressed in the document entitled 'From Conflict to Communion'.

Reflecting on this, we can explore our understanding of how God is directing us to move forward together on our journey to full communion.

'From Conflict to Communion', defines how much progress has been made on the journey towards unity and signposts the way ahead.

In the final chapter, there is a series of statements titled 'The five Ecumenical imperatives'. They can be seen as a summary of what we are invited to do in order to carry out our commitment to Unity.

The underlying aim of these statements is clear and unequivocal in stating that 'Catholics and Lutherans realize that they ... belong to the one Body of Christ.' and that 'the struggle of the 16th century is over. The reasons for condemning each other's faith have fallen by the wayside'

In reflecting on these statements we



need to 'think from the perspective of the Unity of Christ's Body.' And to 'seek whatever will bring this unity to expression and to serve the community of the body of Christ'.

We need a continual conversion of heart and jointly re-discover the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for our times, serving not only the Church but the whole of humanity and the world we live in.

The first imperative 'Catholics and Lutherans should always begin from the perspective of Unity and not from the point of view of division, in order to strengthen what is held in common even though the differences are more easily seen and experienced.'

Catholics and Lutherans



The Rev Martin Junge, Lutheran World Federation General Secretary and Kurt Cardinal Koch, President of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. Both organisations invited Lutheran churches and Catholic bishops' conferences across the world to make use of a jointly-developed Common Prayer to prepare commemorations for the 500 years of the Reformation in 2017

acknowledge that in the past, they have defended themselves against one another. The problems we still face originate from that conflict and very one-sided view of each other.

In order to overcome these remaining issues, Lutherans and Catholics now need to work in common to deepen and strengthen their communion. 'Catholics and Lutherans need each other's experience, encouragement and

critique'.

This first imperative could be summed up by saying we can now move from defensiveness to dialogue.

'As we recommit ourselves to move from conflict to communion, we do so as part of the one body of Christ, into which were incorporated through Baptism'

(From the Joint declaration, Lund, October 31st 2016

Cardiff Citizens shares vision with political leaders

Cardiff Citizens held an Accountability Assembly on 2nd May 2017 with Cardiff Council Party Leaders in the run-up to the Local Elections on 4th May. Representatives from the Catholic community were among the 150 participants.

The Party Leaders were invited to attend and share their vision for Cardiff. **Cardiff Citizens** asked them to work with them to:

- Promote the Real Living Wage & Dignity in Social Care
- Ensure Dignity in Burial
- Make Communities Safer & Greener
- Keep a Welcome for Refugees in Cardiff

Each Party representative was asked to:

Promote the Living Wage & Dignity in Social Care

- Work with Cardiff Citizens to develop a 'Living Wage City' strategy, including influencing other public and private sector employers to accredit with the Living Wage Foundation;
- Sign the Council up to become a Living Wage Friendly Funder;
- Work with Citizens Cymru Wales to develop a sustainable 'Living Wage for Social Care' proposal to Welsh Government.

Ensure Dignity in Burial for the Muslim Community

- Remove unnecessary delays in the Council's burial procedures;
- Improve the experience of Muslims at Ely Cemetery;
- Work with us to explore the option of a privately-managed Muslim Burial Ground near Cardiff

Make Communities Cleaner, Safer & Greener

- Help children get to school safely by installing a footpath from Pentwyn to St Teilo's school on Circle Way East and introduce a bus stop and bus service outside St Teilo's School in Llanedeyrn;

- Help children and parents at Pencaerau school by supporting the proposal to prevent vehicle access to the cul-de-sac entrance at school drop-off and pick-up time;
- Encourage Cardiff Bus to introduce double-deckers at peak times on routes serving St David's College.
- Help us tackle drug dealing in Butetown by supporting the removal of public phone boxes, better street lighting & CCTV in hotspots, and regular needle monitoring and clearance.

Keep a Welcome for Syrian Refugees in Cardiff

- continue to resettle Syrian refugees in Cardiff each year through the **Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme** (VPRS);
 - in addition to the VPRS, engage constructively with applications from local groups to resettle Syrian families via the **Community Sponsorship Scheme**;
 - support our efforts to promote the 'Refugee Welcome Schools' initiative across the city.
- All four Party Representatives agreed to meet and work with Cardiff Citizens on these themes after the Local Elections.

Vale of Glamorgan Citizens builds working relationships with local political parties

Vale of Glamorgan Citizens is an alliance of local organisations committed to acting together for social justice and the common good. Founded jointly with Cardiff Citizens on 22 October 2014, its members include representatives from the Roman Catholic parishes in Barry and Penarth and Dinas Powys, the Vale Methodist Circuit, Vale of Glamorgan Unison and the Church in Wales.

They met with senior representatives of the four main political parties with Councillors in the Vale:

Llantwit First (Gwyn John), Plaid Cymru (Ian Johnson), Labour (Lis Burnett) and Conservative (John Thomas).

They asked them to:

1. Protect the Quality of Jobs and Promote the Living Wage in the Vale
2. Provide a Long-term Safe Route to School for the Children of Eglwys Brewis
3. Ensure Dignity in Social Care
4. Keep a Welcome for Refugees in the Vale

They had four very positive dialogues with the Party representatives and gained commitments from them to work with Vale Citizens on these issues after the election.

