



THE MESSENGER

St Joseph & St Nicholas Moorends

Issue 11

March 2004

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER



The Women's World Day of Prayer service held at our Church on Friday 5th March was well attended by ladies from our own parish, Thorne Methodist, Pentecostal, St. Wilfriths, and St. Nicholas Churches.

The theme chosen was prepared by the women of Panama. Most of us will have heard of the country mainly because of the Panama Canal, completed in 1914, built to link the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Panama is a beautiful land with dense and tropical rainforests, inhabited by exotic flora and fauna.

From the 16th Century, Panama was exploited by the Spaniards, and the country was raided by pirates, and ravaged by storms, destroying much of the ancient culture. Despite all of these setbacks the people have rebuilt their lives and homes, and have managed to preserve many art treasures and memorials. With the help of more contact with the U.S.A. and many support groups, such as W.D.P. the women

of Panama are establishing themselves as full citizens in the community.

The display in Church, of pottery and artefacts gave us an insight into their world of culture and diversity. We congratulate the women of Panama on fifty years of participation in W.D.P. and along with our sisters, we ask God to help us to shape the future when God's justice and truth will fill the world. A most enjoyable afternoon service, finished off by tea and biscuits in the Presbytery.

**IN FAITH
WOMEN SHAPE THE FUTURE**

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Many thanks to all the parishioners who so cheerfully bought free trade goods at church on Sunday March 7th. It is good to know, as you drink your tea or coffee, that the money you have paid is enabling a family to get a fair price for the crops they grow and to strive with hope for a better life.

Ten years ago the Fairtrade mark was introduced – the very first being given to Green & Black's Maya Gold chocolate made with organic chocolate from Belize. In that country they suffer from extreme weather, such as hurricanes, which can destroy the entire cocoa crop in a matter of hours. No crop, no money. No money, no food. The good news is that with a guaranteed fair price for what is grown, rather than the lowest price big companies offer, the farmers in Belize are able to see that their hard work pays off. They can't control the weather but they can work hard – and they do. As a result their children can go to school, are better fed and better housed than before. This will remind many in our parish of their own struggles, or their parents' sacrifices in the past so that we can now enjoy a better life.

Café direct was the first coffee to be granted the Fairtrade mark and there is now Tea Direct, which was on sale on the stall at church. A tragic example of what can happen where workers on tea plantations are cruelly exploited is the story of a young fourteen-year-old girl from India. Her name was Velankanni. She was a good student who cheerfully walked the five miles to and from school every day. Her father worked on the Pashumalai tea plantation but had received no wages for months. His family were reduced to utter poverty and starvation. The final blow for Velankanni was that she had no school uniform and could not go to school. She committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her home. The loss of a young life was caused by injustice. The people who suffer the exploitation cannot always help themselves to escape but we can. And that is why whenever you buy fairly traded goods, whether from church, from the supermarket in your weekly shop, or elsewhere, you are helping to bring justice and hope into lives where they do not exist. A practical way of doing God's work. Enjoy your cuppa!



WELCOME TO OUR MAGAZINE

Hello and welcome once again to the Messenger. A big thank you goes to all those of you who have contributed material to this edition, with a special mention going to Laura and Abby, thank you very much! We are hoping that the June edition will have a follow up article on the football team, and also a detailed account of the work being done in the Deanery to further the work of the Hallam Assembly.

Please don't forget to have a look at the parish web site: www.ourjo.org.uk

THE BISHOP'S VISITATION 2003

Bishop John came to our parish in November of last year, to fulfil his "Canonical" duty of "Visitation". Canonical means that it is Church Law that he should visit every parish regularly and inspect the premises, talk to the priest and people, and celebrate the Mass, and the other Sacraments.

This is not unusual. Bishops have been visiting their people regularly and frequently since the foundation of the Church. St. Paul's tours around the Roman Empire were at first "missionary", but subsequently they became "pastoral" – that is he went back to see how the churches were surviving, and attempted to tackle any problems that may have arisen – and there were plenty of those.

So, the Bishops are "on tour" most Sundays of their lives. They go from parish to parish and do almost exactly what Paul and the other Apostles did, encouraging, teaching, directing, gaining information and over all this, celebrating with us the New Life we all have in Christ.

Then, as the Bishop reminded us, he goes to Rome every five years to report to the Holy Father how things are going in the Diocese of Hallam. Thus a direct line of pastoral concern and charity is made between us in our parish and the Chief Shepherd of the Church, in Rome.

The Bishop thoroughly enjoyed his visit, he said the two Masses, and visited a good number of sick and homebound parishioners. On the Tuesday morning I took him to the BUNGALOW PROJECT in Moorends, which looks after the families of those addicted to drugs, and helps with the rehabilitation of drug addicts themselves.

As the Bishop goes around the Diocese, he is able to build up a picture of its present needs, but also begin to capture a vision for the future. In these times, things are constantly changing. There are new opportunities and challenges for the Church opening up all the time. There are many joys and many anxieties; the Bishop is in a strong position to lead us into the future, with confidence.

After his visit, I would say that his greatest task is to come to us and strengthen us; as The Lord said to Peter – "Feed my Sheep – and Feed my Lambs".

After his visit I think we feel "encouraged".

Father Roy Pannell

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On the 21st December, a Christmas Party was held for the Children's Liturgy Group in Father Roy's house. We had sandwiches, crisps, and drinks, then we played party games. Father Roy won the first two games of picture bingo. We all got lots of sweets and chocolate. Nichola showed us how to make an angel for the top of the Christmas tree.

At the end of the party we sat around the organ with Father Roy and sang Christmas carols. Silent Night was interrupted when James Cantley pulled his tooth out. We couldn't sing because we were laughing so much! When it was time to go home, we all received a book, balloon, and more sweets!

Laura Green



One Sunday I was at Mass at Moorends and went into the Children's Liturgy. After Mass Mrs Heywood asked if I would like to go into the party. When I got in everybody was getting food from the table. Every one liked the sandwiches and biscuits. We then played a few games of picture bingo and pass the parcel. Four girls had their faces painted by Nicola. Everybody was making things and a lot of girls made fairies and cards.

We listened to Father Roy play the piano and then we sang carols with him and Happy Christmas. At the end everybody got some presents, sweets and a balloon. I am glad I was invited to the party. Thank you everybody.

Abby O'Neill

**THE CHRISTIAN ANSWER TO A GLOBALISED ECONOMY,
IS A GLOBALISED SOLIDARITY WITH THE POOR.**

THE PATH TO ROME

Last autumn many of you may remember the visit by Dr. Cyprian Blamires from The St. Barnabas Society to Moorends, to talk about the work of the society in assisting converts to Catholicism. I bought the book he brought with him which had the above title. It was of particular interest to me as a convert myself and the various stories in the book reveal the varied and various ways that people come “home to Rome”. Several people in our parish have personally told me their stories of conversion and one of these is printed here.

I was born and raised as an Anglican. It seemed natural to follow the basic teachings of the Church as I knew it and this was all sufficient for me. But my thoughts and aspirations began to change when my life’s work took me away from home to other places in England.

One day a friend and colleague handed me a small picture of the Sacred Heart, which I have in my possession still to this day, almost half a century later. As the years unfolded I found myself attending a succession of High, Low or Anglo-Catholic services of the Anglican Church depending on where my work took me. It was when I was posted to an urban town near Bristol that I was drawn away from the Low Church becoming interested in the local Roman Catholic Church of St. Dunstan. Everything seemed to fall into place when I met the Assistant Priest at the invitation of a friend. My mind was made up at that point and I attended Instruction for one year before being received into the Catholic Church. I was conditionally baptised on March 7th 1943, which was then the Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, the great theologian. The following year I was confirmed. I thank God for the great gift of faith and the unfailing protection and grace He has always shown me.

The words of the well-known hymn “O Sacred Heart” sum up the longing of all people to find their eternal home:



*O Sacred Heart
Lead exiled children home
Where we may ever rest near thee,
In peace and joy eternally,
O Sacred Heart.*

Or that rousing hymn

*To Jesus Heart all burning with fervent love for men,
My heart with fondest yearning shall raise its joyful strain.
While ages course along,
Blest be with loudest song,
The Sacred Heart of Jesus
By every heart and tongue*

It would be deeply interesting and edifying to learn how others have trodden the path to Rome – perhaps you might like to tell us your story?

PARISH WALK

On 30th December 2003 we gathered at the Victoria Public House at Southend Thorne to partake in our second Parish Walk. We received apologies from a few of our walkers, due to bereavements; they were unable to join us. We welcomed Barry Newton and Reg Brockelsby to the group (although Reg may have been a bit disappointed when we said we were only walking back from Crowle to Thorne instead of there and back). We jumped into a couple of cars, nine of us in total, and headed off to park up in Crowle. The morning was a beautiful one, very cold with a thick frost on the ground. It was ideal for walking as long as you were wrapped up well; it certainly was enough to blow the cobwebs off. We were amazed at the knowledge that Reg portrayed; he was able to fill us in on a lot of the history of the sights along our canal walk. Along with the chat and the wildlife time passed very quickly and it was a very interesting experience. The first spectacular sight was that of ten deer in the nearby fields, something that had us captivated because none of us had ever seen so many wild deer together at any one time. Further along the canal we came to two swans, who proudly boasted their six cygnets. Mick Welsh had come prepared with bread and he proceeded to feed the whole family. A lovely and peaceful walk was had by all, and of course to round the day off nicely, the majority had to finish it off by going for food and liquid sustenance at the Canal Tavern Public House. Watch the weekly parish bulletin for details of our next planned walk, and please do try and join us everybody and their friends are welcome!

THORNE ROVERS U 16'S



Thorne Rovers compete in the Doncaster and District Sunday League. The squad consists of fourteen players, ten of whom attend the McAuley School, Cantley. Five of the players' families belong to our parish, and one to Stainforth parish.

All the boys from both parishes attended the Holy Family Primary School at Stainforth, and it was there, when they were aged nine, that the football team was formed. Over the years the team has won the League, the League Cup, and the Goole and Thorne Cup.

This year the lads are going for the grand slam. That is the League and three cups. At this stage it is still possible. They are second in the League, in the semi-final of the League Cup, and the West Riding County F.A. Cup, and are already in the final of the Goole and Thorne Cup.

Although March and April are going to be very difficult months due to the amount of football the lads are going to play, they are very confident that they can succeed and win the trophies. On behalf of the management team, and the players' families, may I wish the lads every success, in their quest for the trophies.

Mark O'Neill

WALK WITH ME

When I was given "Walk With Me" to read, and write a few words for the magazine, the first thing I said was "yes", then I thought, me, write a few words, why me?

So I read the small book "Walk With Me". I was surprised by its fresh approach to the Lenten journey we travel each year. The words are easy to digest, the meanings are powerful. It is about real life in to-days world, which makes a change.

I learned something new. "The Luminous Mysteries" that are said on Thursdays, so if time is limited, try every Thursday. I also enjoyed the reading at the beginning of each of the six weeks; it helped to put life into perspective. We sometimes get lost and do not realise it!

Last but not least, the prayer for the family on the back cover is beautiful! When I had finished it I felt I wanted to pass it on to my siblings. I will pray about it and see what comes!

Do use it!

CAFOD COLLECTIONS

Many parishioners have enquired as to how much has been raised in the "white bucket" collection in the porch. In just over twelve months up to 7th March, the amount of £501.40 has been collected on behalf of Cafod.

This does not include the Lenten Friday collection (2003) of £233.45 or the Harvest Collection (2003) of £114.17

CONGRATULATIONS! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Dear Lord look down upon me
now,
and help me with this task,
Have tried my best, but still I
fail,
It's not too much to ask.
I know you're busy all the time,
so many things to see,
but please, if I might ask you,
would you give a glance to me?
So help me now with this here
task, so sorry if I wheedle,
Then bless me with a steady
hand,
and help me thread this needle.

Doreen Foster

Come, Holy Spirit
Wrap your love around me,
protecting me from harm.
Send your peace upon me,
at night to keep me calm.
Heal me with your presence,
so troubles I can bear.
Instill your joy within me,
for sleep without a care.
Inspire me with your gifts,
and patience please please send!
Come close because I wish
to know you as a friend.
And comfort me forever,
when my life on earth will end.

**Fr. Patrick Sayles
Columbian Fathers**

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

A Nursery teacher observed the children in her class doing their drawings. She drew close to one little girl who was working with great intensity and asked her what she was drawing. The little girl replied "I'm drawing God". The teacher objected, "but nobody knows what God looks like". Without lifting her eyes from the drawing the little girl responded, "They'll know in a minute".

PARISH JUSTICE AND PEACE CONTACTS ANNUAL MEETING

In the Hallam Diocese there is a Justice and Peace Commission. This produces a quarterly newsletter Justice & Peace that is available for anyone in the parish to read and pass on. Many people, I know, do this and are up to date with current developments in the issues addressed. Each year there is a meeting for parish contacts, held in different venues in the diocese. Last year it was at Holy Rood, Barnsley; this year at St. Bernard's School, Rotherham. I have just been to the day in Rotherham and would like to tell you about it.

The day began with shared Morning Prayer during which as the Gospel Canticle, The Song of Zechariah was sung. One verse of this explains the reason for meeting.

*The tender love God promised from our birth
Is soon to dawn upon this shadowed earth,
To shine on those whose sorrows never seem to cease,
To guide our feet into the path of peace.*

The first session was concerned with looking again at The Parish Covenant with The Poor. Ours was devised for The Millennium in the year 2000. Then we promised to dedicate ourselves to work with and on behalf of the poor, to listen to them and to ensure their voices are heard. Four years on we need to look again at this and see what has changed, what has worked well and what new areas of poverty have become apparent. This revisiting will take place in all the parishes of the diocese over the next three months. Please give some thought and prayer to this during Lent.

The second session was devoted to the question of asylum seekers. A brief quiz devised by Deacon Andrew Crowley to find out how much we did know causes me to admit that I failed dismally with a score of two out of six correct. There are a lot of misconceptions about asylum seekers that they are scroungers, benefit tourists, criminals and are flooding into Britain illegally. The real facts contradict the negative picture painted by the sensational tabloids and show that: -

- the number of asylum seekers at 60,000 is half what it was a year ago.
- in South Yorkshire there are between 2500 and 5000.
- half of the asylum seekers are allowed to stay using the government's own very strict criteria.
- far from flooding into Britain the UK has 1 asylum seeker per 1000 of the population. There are more in France, and Austria has 1 in 4 per head of population.
- compared with other EU countries in the number of asylum seekers taken in the UK is number 9 out of 12. (Latest statistics available. The number of EU states will shortly double.)
- in world terms the UK ranks 78 in taking in refugees despite being the fifth richest economy in the world.
- In answer to the question- *Do asylum seekers contribute less, the same or more to the UK economy than they take out?* The answer is: *More*. Many are well educated and skilled people who want to work. They consider it undignified NOT to work.

For those who wish to check out these figures there is a list of relevant web sites at the end of this article.

Bishop John asked us to reflect on the fact that the Catholic population in Britain was originally almost 90% immigrant, the vast majority coming from Ireland after the famines of 1840 –1850. Then came immigrants and exiles from occupied Europe during and after WWII – many of them Poles and Eastern Europeans. In the last ten years we have had refugees from the Balkan States. As Christians we remember that Christ himself with his parents was a refugee for the first years of his life.

Reference web sites:

Refugee Council www.refugeecouncil.org.uk
Home Office Research www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/immigration1.html
Yorkshire and Humberside Local Authority Consortium www.refugeeaccess.info

HALLAM ASSEMBLY DONCASTER DEANERY

The first meeting of the Doncaster Deanery was held in St. Peter's Doncaster on Sunday 22nd February, to carry forward the work of the Hallam Assembly into the Church at parish level.

The main thrust of this initial meeting was to elect a committee, and decide upon an agenda of issues which need to be addressed, in order to achieve this.

The overall feeling of the meeting was optimistic, because, although this seems like a mammoth task at the moment, with the help of your prayers, great things will be achieved.

A much more detailed report will be included in the June issue of the Messenger, so please "watch this space".

DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS 2004 BY ORDER OF THE BISHOP

1. 8th February Catholic Education Service (towards Assessment)
Treasurer.. Director of Finance, Diocesan Pastoral Centre, St Charles Street,
Sheffield S9 3WU.

2. 21st March Hallam Support for LIFE
Treasurer: Rev Peter McGuire 28 College Road, Spinkhill, Sheffield S21 3YB

3. 9th April Holy Places
Treasurer: Rev Andrew Graydon, The Presbytery, 62 Cemetery Road,
Mexborough S64 9PN

4. 2nd May Priests' Training Fund
Treasurer. Rev Darren Reid, The Presbytery, 311 Queen Mary Road,
Sheffield. S2 1EA

5. 23rd May World Day of Communications
Treasurer., Director of Finance (Cheques payable to Diocese of Hallam within 1 month)

6. 4th July Peter's Pence
Treasurer.. Director of Finance (Cheques payable to Diocese of Hallam within 1 month)

7. 11th July Apostleship of the Sea
Treasurer: Apostleship of the Sea. Herald House. Lamb's Passage, Bunhill Row,
London EC 1 Y 8LE (Cheques payable to Diocese of Hallam within 1 month)

8. 24th October Mission Sunday Collection (APF)
Treasurer: Director of Finance (Cheques payable to the Diocese of Hallam within 1 Month)

9. 7th November Needy Parishes Fund
Treasurer: Director of Finance (Cheques payable to Diocese of Hallam within 1 month)

10. 21st November Catholic Youth Service (towards Assessment)
Treasurer: Director of Finance

MOUNT GRACE THE LADY CHAPEL

Osmotherley is just east of the A19, seven miles from Northallerton.

It is possible for groups of any size to go for a day pilgrimage, or a day retreat for smaller groups.

Father Pannell writes:- "I first visited The Lady Chapel in 1994 while on retreat at Ampleforth. The winter wind was so strong that we had to hang on to the trees along the track that leads to the Chapel.

My last visit was last Monday (16th February). I said Mass for both our parishes, and especially for those people who have asked me to pray for their intentions, and for the sick. It certainly is worth a visit.

Christians have visited this Chapel of Our Lady, the Mother of Divine Grace, for hundreds of years simply to pray. It is a holy place, sanctified by the prayers of ordinary people who know the necessity of quiet prayer in order to listen to God and speak with him. The shrine stands high *on* the hill above the village of Osmotherley in North Yorkshire. It is a most beautiful, spectacular spot, facing out to the west towards the Pennines.

The origins of the Lady Chapel are not known, but a licence for Mass to be said regularly in the Chapel was granted *in* 1397, which implies that it existed before that date.

Squire John Ingleby of the manor of Bordelby on whose land the Chapel stood, gave it with Bordelby Manor to the monks of the Carthusian Order in 1398. It is possible that the monks came to live at the Chapel while they built their monastery of Mount Grace Priory below, on the site of the manor. The Priory was dedicated to the Assumption of Our Lady and Saint Nicholas. After the monks came, the Chapel was also used as a hermitage.

The last hermit was Thomas Parkinson, who was a Franciscan for a time, and he became a hermit first in Thirsk, then moved to the Lady Chapel, living here with money provided by Queen Catherine of Aragon. The Queen Catherine Inn in the centre of Osmotherley is a reminder of that connection.

MOUNT GRACE THE LADY CHAPEL (CONTINUED)

At the Reformation the Priory was dissolved and the monks dispersed in 1539. The Prior, Wilson, foreseeing this, had leased the Lady Chapel to relatives and so it remained untouched. In fact he was allowed to live in the hermitage, and when Queen Mary came to the throne, he went to Sheen where she re-established the Carthusians.

The chapel continued in Catholic hands. In 1614 a commission was set up by Archbishop Toby Matthew of York, to find out why so many were visiting the chapel, especially on the eves of Our Lady's feasts. For example, on 7 September 1614, the eve of Mary's birthday, a group of 17 Catholics was arrested for praying in the Chapel.

In 1642 the Chapel had no roof when a group of Sisters belonging to the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary arrived on pilgrimage to pray for their foundress, Mary Ward, who was then gravely ill. One of the sisters wrote: 'The Chapel is to this day a place of great devotion, where many graces are granted, though so destroyed as only the four walls remain without roof or cover; and in regard to the height of the mountain on which it stands, exposed to great winds. Yet there you shall find Catholics praying together for hours.' Mary Ward did recover from her illness and herself made a pilgrimage to the Chapel in thanksgiving. In 1651, a Jesuit Father Robinson was arrested near Malton as he returned from the "celebrated chapel of the Immaculate Virgin in the County of York, which takes its name from Mount Grace".

In 1665 Lady Juliana Walmesley arranged for the foundation of a Franciscan Friary in the village of Osmotherley. Its purpose was 'for performing duty there for the benefit, devotion and comfort of pilgrims'. The Friars remained there for 167 years despite the persecution and harassment of Catholics. Unfortunately, due to lack of vocations, the Friars had to withdraw in 1832 and the house was handed over to the Vicar Apostolic of the area.

Some time after this the Chapel was lost to Catholic hands by default; but local people still visited it, especially on Our Lady's feasts. In the summer of 1942, when Middlesborough was being bombed, two priests went for a bicycle ride in the country and eventually came to Mount Grace Priory. There they rested in the overgrown ruins. Looking at the map they spotted the site of the ruins of a Lady Chapel. They climbed up the hill and found the ruins beside an abandoned cottage, which was locked. No wall of the chapel was over seven feet high. Both priests were fascinated by the place and on their return home began to research the history. In 1948 a Catholic Scout Group visited the Chapel and stayed the night in the cottage.

On the death of Sir Hugh Bell, the ruins of Mount Grace Priory and the Lady Chapel were put up for sale to pay death duties. Through Fr Storey, Lord Eldon and Mr Ralph Scrope, the Chapel was bought with the cottage and the surrounding field. A trust was formed for the rebuilding of the Chapel. Organised pilgrimages resumed immediately. The Annual Assumption Pilgrimage was started about 1956 under the direction of Fr J. McDonnell, the Parish Priest of Stokesley. Meanwhile, the Trust was collecting stone from a ruined cottage in Rosedale and rebuilding the Lady Chapel on its old foundations. During all this activity it was discovered that there were still people making solitary pilgrimages, as their ancestors had done. In 1961 the rebuilt Chapel was completed and opened on Our Lady's birthday by Cardinal Godfrey.

In 1969 Bishop McClean invited the Franciscans to return to the house in Osmotherley with the same commission to look after the pilgrims.

Under Fr Dunstan Baker O.F.M., pilgrimages increased and additional facilities were built at the chapel. A window was cut between the Chapel and the Barn so that it could be used as an extension of the Chapel. In 1985 the Blessed Sacrament Chapel was built using the foundations of the old hermitage, together with a small cloister connecting it with the Barn and the Lady Chapel. In 1990 the complex was completed by the rebuilding of the toilets. But at the end of 1993, they again had to withdraw because of a shortage of Friars. Bishop Crowley invited the Benedictine monks from Ampleforth to take their place, so once again there is a monastic house to care for the Lady Chapel.

The monks, assisted by lay volunteers, look after the buildings, and help organise pilgrimages and quiet days for a variety of different groups. It is encouraging that so many people now come to the Lady Chapel, including many members of different Christian denominations.

Regular Masses and Services are held; for example Mass is said every Saturday at 3.30p.m. (this fulfils the Sunday obligation). Every day pilgrims come, singly or in groups with a simple aim, to pray, to ask Our Blessed Lady to help them with specific problems, to grow closer to God, who chose Mary to bear his Son. This is a holy place, sanctified by the prayers of Christians for over 600 years.

A fuller, illustrated, history of the Lady Chapel, by Fr Anthony Storey, is available from the Monastery, 18 North End, Osmotherley, price £7.50 plus £1 for postage and packing.

Further information is available from: The Monastery of Our Lady of Mount Grace, 18 North End, Osmotherley, Northallerton, North Yorks., DL6 3BB

Tel' 01609-883308 fax 01609-883740 or

email Fr Terence Richardson on t.richardson@frcuk.com

