

The AUGUSTINIAN

Magazine for the Parish of Springfield

St Augustine of Canterbury Church of Our Saviour New Hall

Autumn 2016

Second Edition

Contents

2. A Word from the
Altar

3. A Word from the
Chair

4. A Word from the
Seminary

6. Parish Prayer

7. SVP

8. HCPT Group 26

12. The Magic of
Lourdes

14. KSC



Our vision for our parish is that we are:

a dynamic worshipping community - where people come for the first time and immediately sense the presence of God

a community where everyone is growing in their understanding of the Catholic Faith

a community where everyone is growing in the life of prayer and their relationship with God

a community where pastoral, spiritual and practical care is given to those in need,

a community where more people are actively involved in the Mission of the Church

A Word from the Altar

WELCOME to the second edition of The Augustinian. I hope that you really enjoy reading this one as much as people seemed to enjoy the first edition. Thanks again to the Communications Group for this contribution to our parish life.

Since the last edition we have begun the Steward of the Gospel process. We have a meeting on 12 October to discuss part B of the Questionnaire and you can find the questionnaire on the Parish website. Please take a look at the questions that Bishop Alan asks us to consider and let Steve Webb know your thoughts either before or at the meeting.

That new Parish website is also a new feature of our parish life. Thanks go to Steve Davey and Roger Sclater who have worked hard to produce a website that we can keep up to date and use to share information amongst ourselves and also with those people who may be looking for a new church or even just browsing.

This on line presence, along with the Facebook page that Aidan Greenwold is running for us, will help us to fulfil a part of our Vision.

St Augustine's



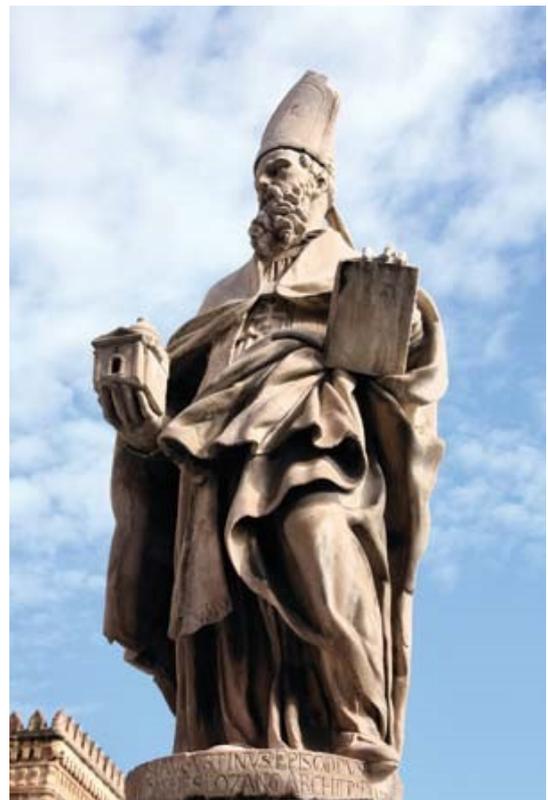
We are striving to be a dynamic worshipping community – where people come for the first time and immediately sense the presence of God.

These days a person's first visit might be a virtual visit. It is therefore important for us to be welcoming to on line visitors and help them to sense the presence of God in what we are about here in Springfield. We want to encourage them to want to come and be with us physically to grow in their understanding of the Catholic Faith, to grow in their life of prayer and their relationship with God, to be givers and recipients of care and to be actively involved in the mission of our Church.

Pope Francis and Bishop Alan have both stressed the importance of every parish being a missionary parish. This is another small step on that journey.

With my best wishes and prayers

Fr Nick





A Word from the Chair

Since Easter quite a lot has been happening.

The Steward of the Gospel process has started its two year journey and we all have an opportunity to contribute to the future shape of our diocese. We had a worthwhile first meeting, where Steven led us through the questionnaire about parish life and resources, to be completed by all parishes.

The Social group is now up and running or should I say “bouncing” because at the recent Fun Day we had a Bouncy Castle for the younger members of our parish community (some of the older members were looking on longingly and clearly wanting a go too!) Father Nick had his face painted and good fun was had by all. We also had the Tea Party and a lovely pilgrimage to Brentwood Cathedral where we passed through the Door of Mercy and attended Mass for the needs of the Brentwood Catholic Childrens’ Society. Thanks go to the social group.

Other highlights have been the parish pilgrimage to Walsingham and to Lourdes with Bishop Allen and the Diocese.

The Bereavement Group has started work on a Mass for the deceased during November and they are exploring new ways of supporting those parishioners who have been bereaved.

The new Facebook page is a new way for us to share current news, photographs or things of interest. If you have not already seen it you can find us on Facebook under the name R.C Parish of Springfield. If you have something to share there is a place for visitors to the page to post articles or if you think it warrants a prominent place on the main page just speak to Aidan and he’ll sort it for you. Thanks Aidan!

If you have any ideas for something new that we could or should be doing please feel free to speak to me or anyone on the Parish Pastoral Council.

Christine Webb

Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council

A Word from the Seminary

By Michael Barwick

A summer of Graces

As I return to Oscott for my second year of formation, I have been reflecting over the past few months of my summer break and looking back at moments of Grace that I have received from God and seen in others. Throughout my first year at Oscott I have been able to explore my prayer life in a deeper way and also find amazing moments of pastoral work. All of this has shaped me and given me the opportunity to talk and pray with others in a different way.

I was blessed to travel to Poland for World Youth Day and be part of something that has definitely had an effect on of my life but also the lives of millions of young people from all around the world. As well as having the chance to talk, dance, laugh and eat with people from a variety of nations, I had the joy of praying with people. I met a lady from France who was talking to me about her youth work projects and we swapped stories of youth ministry and then stood in a field with 1.5 million others, we stood and prayed together. I met a priest who had been ordained 15 days and with all the excitement and singing around us, I knelt down and received his blessing. It was a powerful moment of prayer and the priest prayed for vocations and guidance for all who are discerning. This was a special moment and there are many more that I will cherish from being with the youth service in Kraków.

During the Papal Mass, in the blistering heat with 1.5 million young people, Pope Francis spoke very powerfully to all who were listening. He was inviting us to all think about how we would leave our mark on the world as we left Poland and travelled home; a question that I have pondered, and one that I still reflect on. But as I knelt in a field with all those millions of people I had a powerful prayer experience kneeling before Christ in Adoration. There was silence and stillness and it was spine tingling. How can this be brought home and shared in our own lives and our own parish?

The answer for me is the Eucharist and spending time in Adoration. We don't have to be in Poland, with Pope Francis or with people from all around the world. Jesus wants US present to him and he desires to know us. If we give him our time we will feel his love, his presence and his strength. I encourage you to seek out a time for Adoration, give of yourself to Christ and let him transform your life.

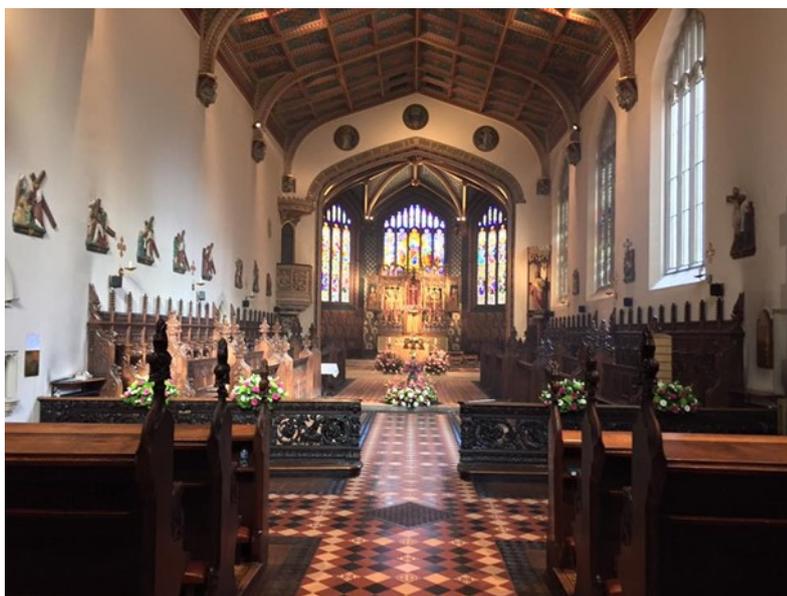


After returning home from the joy of World Youth Day, I was preparing myself to travel on pilgrimage to Lourdes. As many of you know, Lourdes is where my vocation story began and now I have had the privilege of travelling to Lourdes 17 times. Mary visited 18, so I'm one more off my own Grotto!

As with every week in Lourdes I see glimpses of Christ present here on earth. Watching the young people of our diocese serve and talk to the pilgrims from across Brentwood and East London is always heart warming. The love and care they give each pilgrim is so uplifting and wonderful to see. This year I had the role of a being a chaplain to the youth service. A new role for me in Lourdes but one that I absolutely loved. A highlight of the week was sat down queuing for the baths with 30 lads waiting to bathe in the waters. They were nervous, anxious, confused as to what happens but they brought all of this to me but more importantly to prayer. We chatted, laughed and prayed together. I saw them after their bath experience and one of the lads said "that was the best thing ever. I felt well holy!" He was beaming with joy and the Grace he received was clear for all to see. This again is just one story of many that I could share. Please know that when we are in Lourdes we pray as a group for all of you who couldn't be with us. One day, make the brave step of going to Lourdes yourself and, again I say it, let your life and prayer be transformed.

As I journey back to Oscott know that I will keep you in my prayers and I ask for you to continue to pray for me. I still have a long journey ahead of me and your support is precious to me. I look forward to seeing you later in the year and stay close Christ in prayer in all aspects of your life. If you are happy, sad, angry, annoyed, irritated, struggling in faith then bring it to God and let him know. He desires to be with you so give of yourself to him.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, we place all our trust in You!



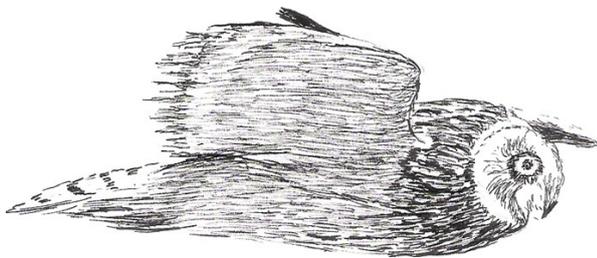


6 BIRD
15.2.16

These beautiful drawings are the work of Paul Newman a parishioner at St Augustine's.



A BROWN BEAR WITH HER COB
A/Jan



Parish Prayer

Loving Father,

You so loved the world that you sent us your only Son, that we might believe in Him and have eternal life.

May we encounter Jesus Christ anew this day and live the Good News with joy.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, Help us to "go out to the whole world and proclaim" our faith with confidence.

Give us the courage to witness to the joy of the Gospel by our words and actions.

Help our parish to become more welcoming and missionary, So that you may be known and loved by all people.

We make this prayer through Our Lord Jesus Christ Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God for ever and ever,

Amen

The St Vincent de Paul Society

St Augustine's has for some time had a vibrant and active St Vincent de Paul Conference. Our Conference is made up of ordinary people from different backgrounds, although we do have a high proportion of Celts! The work of the conference is relatively diverse, but is based on the principle of helping people through direct contact. Our work includes:

Visiting elderly members of our Parish. - Many people in our Parish are unable to get out much and receive few visitors. The SVP provides a friendly face and a sympathetic ear for those who don't get the day to day contact the rest of us take for granted.

Financial assistance for families. - It's an uncomfortable truth that here in Springfield, New Hall, and Chelmer Village in 2016 there are families struggling to make ends meet. We're careful with our resources but through the generous support of our parishioners we can offer limited financial support where necessary.

SVP parties. - Three times a year we host parties for retired members of our community. These are great fun and give our friends the opportunity to get out, renew some old acquaintances and make some new ones. We provide food, entertainment and transport. We rely on the support of lots of our friends in the Parish to make this a success.

Quiz. - Our annual quiz, which will be in October this year, raises crucial funds for the SVP's work in the Sudan. Much of this goes to supporting the society's baby feeding centres in refugee camps near Khartoum.

St John Bosco Camps. - The annual camps provide camping holidays for young boys and girls who would not otherwise get a chance to have a break.

As well as our work here in the Parish, we support our twinned Conference in India spiritually and fi-

nancially. We are blessed to be able to pay for materials and vocational training that enables people to become self-sufficient through setting up small businesses. We've also funded goat banks which can help a number of families in the same village.

Our Conference is made up of a small number of enthusiastic members but we need more active members to continue this important work. If you're looking for an opportunity to get involved in Parish life, to make a difference and to live your faith through action, then the SVP provides an excellent opportunity. If you have a few hours a month to get involved please call Elaine Heyworth on 01245 490625 or email her on elaine.heyworth@gmail.com. The other regular members of the team are: - James and Jane McEvoy, Hilda O'Kelly (secretary), Jenny Clayton (New Hall), Dee Davey, Bernie Barwick, Anna Brewer and Chris Pinto (ex-OLI). We also have several other people who come forward to assist with particular needs that we have - Angela and Steve Pare for the Quiz Night, for example. If you contact any of our team, they would be delighted to discuss membership with you.

We are blessed to have such a generous and supportive Parish family who enable our Conference to continue with our work.

Elaine Heyworth
President, North Springfield Conference, St Vincent de Paul Society



St Vincent
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

An Unforgettable Week's Pilgrimage With... HCPT Group 26

By Ben Hitchen

For the past 5 years running, I have had the privilege of travelling with Group 26 at Easter, a small "family" group within HCPT. For those of you that don't know, our group takes disadvantaged and disabled children to Lourdes on pilgrimage for a week. The children we take have a range of different conditions such as down syndrome or autism or they may just be going through tough periods of their lives. Nevertheless, our goal is to provide them with an unforgettable and enjoyable week away.

Most people do not actually know that HCPT is actually a Catholic charity. It was founded by Dr Michael Strode, who was unhappy that the disabled children in the town stayed in hospitals, as was usual practice at the time. His vision was for these children to be honoured guests, staying in luxury hotels and make their stay in Lourdes much more enjoyable and lively. His vision inspires HCPT groups from all over the world today. Over 250 "family" groups now bring children with difficulties to Lourdes at Easter from HCPT groups all over the world, but still primarily in Great Britain.

Going to Lourdes at Easter is indescribable. Everyone who is fortunate enough to travel on this pilgrimage with HCPT will know what I mean, but this makes writing this article extremely hard. The emotions that you feel and the joy that the pilgrimage brings to everyone, helper or child, cannot be put onto paper easily. But I will try to nevertheless!



Who we are

This year, our group consisted of seven children and ten helpers, of which I was the only male! This Easter marked the 60th anniversary of HCPT and we gave thanks for all of those years. We also gain two "718 helpers" during the week, which are usually St. John Payne students, who help the group out during the daytime. It was the way I originally became involved with Group 26.

HCPT is 60 years old!

In the group itself, I am a one-to-one helper, meaning that I am fully responsible for the care of a child 24/7 over the week. This involves everything from dressing to washing to toileting. On this year's pilgrimage, I had the pleasure to look after John, a 10 year-old boy with down syndrome. He was constantly laughing, smiling, giving hugs and his signing of the alphabet in the talent show was astonishing! He was a fantastic child to spend my week with, like all the other kids that we took this year. I also grew close to the other two boys in the group. They are brothers, separated by one year and who both have autism as well as profound sensory needs, and speech and language difficulties. Their parents look after them at home, but Dad is frequently away on business. This leaves Mum at home, who whilst re-training in her job, also has her hands full at home looking after these two energetic, lively and dependent children. It is important to remember that giving these two brothers a week's holiday also gives their Mum a chance to get some well-earned and deserved rest. Another child we took this year, Sarah, also lives at home with her parents but has autistic siblings. Because of this, her parents are usually extremely busy and to be able to give her a week away is a great opportunity for her. Being out in Lourdes meant that she didn't have to worry about anything at home and could enjoy her week's holiday.

She truly blossomed throughout the week and has one of the most amazing voices I have ever heard for a child of her age! From being extremely shy on the first day to seeing her read a prayer in Trust Mass to over 5,000 people was something very special for us helpers to witness.

Group 26 is made up of children that vary completely in disability, location, ethnicity, gender and ages. We are headed by a fantastic group leader and deputy group leader, both of whom are professional special education teachers (and have been travelling for yonks!) The rest of the helpers come from all walks of life including a barrister's clerk, a piano teacher, a payroll assistant and a student economist! Although the week is extremely tiring and can be challenging at times, all of the helpers get a huge amount from the week. It's the reason I keep going back year after year at my own expense. Knowing that the children can significantly benefit from the week away is something that is very special to the helpers in our group.



HCP T Group 26 2016

What we get up to

The week starts for us on early Saturday morning where we fly to Lourdes and settle into our hotel. For some of the kids, this is their first time flying and they love it, even if our group leader is petrified of it! We designed our Easter egg bags, set everything up and then had an early night to recover from our early start.

Easter Sunday starts with the tour of the town, where we follow the story of Bernadette across Lourdes throughout her life. We then had an Easter Egg hunt, followed by Easter Sunday mass. At this mass, only half of the groups that come to Lourdes have arrived by this time. It has great music and is a great way to welcome all the groups to Lourdes again.

Monday begins in Bartres where Bernadette lived with her foster mother when she was younger. However, our day consists of dancing at a café, going to the playground and having our talent show. I am the compere of the talent show, where some of the kids really shine. It is always so special to see a child surprise you like they do at the talent show. In the afternoon, we spend time at Hosanna House, the villa owned by HCPT, where the children have the opportunity to play lots of games and have their face painted.



On the way to Hosanna House

Tuesday morning was a quieter morning for us in Lourdes. We went down to the grotto and finished our tour of the town and stopped at a café for a drink. Then we went to the panorama to listen to the story of Bernadette. In the afternoon, we had regional mass, where all of the groups from within Essex and East London come together to celebrate. At this mass, I get to see other members of the parish as well as other friends who travel in different groups for the first time out in Lourdes. This year's mass was dedicated to David Silver, a man who has marked his 50th pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter with HCPT. It is an incredible achievement and David is a large reason why I am a member of Group 26. Bishop Alan was present and said a few words. It was a very kind touch of him to be there. We then had our scavenger hunt and ice cream to end the day.

Wednesday is Christmas Day in Group 26! I dress up as Santa and give the children presents! We had an arts and crafts morning and then went to the caves in the afternoon with our friends in Group 8.



Me as Santa!

Thursday morning only means one thing. Trust Mass! This is a mass that is streamed online live to thousands of people and every single HCPT group is present. Thousands upon thousands of people pack into the underground basilica in Lourdes and celebrate. It is a truly special mass and one which we wake early for so that we can get good seats! We were fortunate to have Cardinal Vincent Nichols with us for the diamond jubilee, where Michael Barwick was his book bearer! After trust mass, we had our group photo in the pouring rain. The climate of Lourdes means that it can be extremely hot one minute and then cold and rainy the next! After lunch, we did our shopping for those at home and had some special ice creams.

Friday is the penultimate day in Lourdes, but effectively our last day, as we had to get a 6am coach the next day! In the morning, we went to the zoo, where the kids are able to get some great photos and see some animals that many of them have never seen before. Although it's no London zoo, it is still very enjoyable! In the afternoon, we went on the petit train and then started to pack to go home.

Every evening we would hold night prayer, where we reflect on the day. The week is truly special and as you can tell, it is jam packed. We are al-

ways busy doing something, which makes it great and tiring at the same time.

Annoyingly on Saturday, we had a few minor delays, but we all made it safe and sound back to our loved ones.

Bernadette, Lourdes & Our Lady

Lourdes itself is a special and spiritual place, but when HCPT descend on it at Easter, we take over the town. Awash with colour, singing and dancing, the small town comes to life. Hotels are welcoming and cater to our every need, people are friendly and generous and masses are loud and joyous. Throughout the week, our group spend time following the story of Bernadette. Mary's appearances to her inspired her to build a church and pilgrims spend time at the grotto. I am fortunate enough to get a chance to pray at the grotto every year and at night time especially, it is a very powerful place to be. The grotto itself is a quiet and spiritual place within the bustling town and gives me a chance to reflect on all this holiday brings to our helpers and young people. The photo below, which I took a few years ago, to me sums up the power of the place. It truly is a holy place to be.



Lourdes is a holy and special place

I thank God for allowing me to travel year after year and pray for all of you as well as my nearest and dearest.

Thank you

Our week in Lourdes takes a huge amount of preparation and organisation beforehand, the majority of which falls on the group leader. (We are lucky to have an exceptional leader who works selflessly for the group and deserves much more appreciation than she gets.) We have to plan all the trips that we do, fill out all the paperwork, meet the children, hold several meetings, visit the parents before we take their children on pilgrimage and raise funds. Speaking of the latter, all of the helpers pay their own costs for the week away, but to ensure there is no discrimination, the kids are paid for by money raised by the helpers throughout the year.

I am hugely thankful to all of you who bought raffle tickets after mass to help this year's trip take place. I am also thankful for those of you who have donated year after year at one of the race nights, sponsoring my half marathon or given money at an appeal at mass. Without your generosity and support for our group, these children would not be able to experience the sheer joy that Lourdes brings.

If you would like to see more photos of what we got up to this year, then you can check out our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/HcptGroup26/>

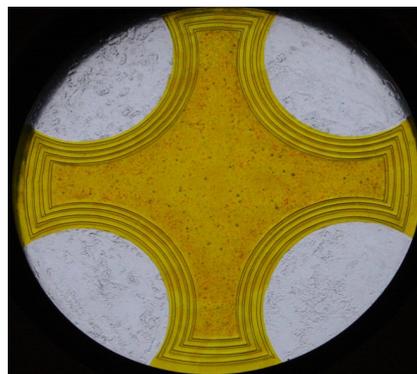
(You don't need to have a Facebook account to see them!)

And... if reading this has inspired you to donate to our group in advance of next year's trip then please do so on the following website:

<https://www.justgiving.com/group26>

Please note that the names of the children in this article have been changed to protect their identities.

Ben Hitchen



- How can our community look to sustain and increase the number of people worshipping with us towards 2030?
- How diverse and active are parishioners within the community?
- How can the parish community invite and prepare more people to support it?
- Are there aspects of our community's regular worship together at Mass that are working particularly well and deepen the spiritual life of those present?
- Is there anything our community can do to encourage a deeper prayer life and engagement with Scripture?
- How can closer relationships be developed between the worshipping community, the school(s) the young people attend, and the families that belong to both?
- How do you feel about the average weekly offertory donation in your community? Does this need to increase to enable our community to flourish in 2030?

These and other questions will be discussed at St Augustine's at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th October. Everyone is welcome to come and join in. The discussion will be chaired by Steven Webb who is the Steward of the Gospel for our parish

The Magic of Lourdes

It was almost 5 months ago that I came to you in mass, with permission from Father Nick, asking for your support in getting to Lourdes, and for your prayers for our trip. And as a way of saying thank you, I want to give you a taste of the amazing thing that you have contributed to.



To a non-religious eye this iconic view in Lourdes may have a strong resemblance to that of the palace in Disneyland. It is a place of hope and joy that attracts thousands of people posing, be it for a selfie, or a polaroid picture - much like Disneyland, but despite this similarity Lourdes is not a place of fairy tale princesses and handsome princes. This is in fact the Rosary Basilica, completed in 1889, and a place of fairy tales for the 69 people who have experienced miracle cures in Lourdes' healing waters.

It was in this once small Pyrenees town that our Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to a young girl, Bernadette Soubirous, on 18 separate occasions; "she told me that I should drink at the fountain and wash myself. She pointed with her finger that I was to search under a rock", the next day a spring began to flow, the very spring which can be seen in the grotto today. Our Lady also asked Bernadette to tell the Priests to come to Lourdes in processions and build a chapel there. Today due to the apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette, Lourdes attracts 6 million tourists and pilgrims every year, to this special place.

Lourdes is also a very important place of pilgrimage for the charity HCPT. When Brother Michael took a small handful of children and helpers on pilgrimage there in 1951, he could not have had any idea what he had just



started. HCPT Group 60 is just one of hundreds of small family groups from up and down the country, and from all around the world, that travel on pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter for the most awe inspiring week of the year. And it is on the first day after landing that Group 60 walk down to the grotto for our first prayer that we are greeted by the presence of our 'Disneyland' Church.

Although if someone were to describe a trip to Disneyland to you they would probably exclaim at how much fun it was, like being a child again, but if you have ever had the experience of Lourdes through HCPT described to you, it will have probably been defined as indescribable, because to be honest, it is. It's an experience that is different for every single person but there is some sort magic at work, something in the water you might say (quite a Lourdes appropriate pun!).

It is one intense week; from touch down to take off you are on the go, we spend every waking minute doing something, be it walking, eating, praying, going to the beach, riding le petit train, visiting the mountains, going to the zoo, and everywhere in Lourdes is pretty much accessed by foot. It is one of the steepest places I have ever visited. And all of this is carried out with children, something which would be tiring enough, but the children we take are sometimes disabled, so they need wheelchairs or they are slow walkers, so they have to be pushed up and down every hill, or

everything takes twice as long as it might do. Some children may need the toilet frequently, or need intense supervision. Bed time often takes encouragement and some children need assistance with the everyday elements of getting ready. Once they are in bed and asleep, as volunteers and carers we then have briefing for the next day, we discuss risk assessments and what progress the children have been making, or things we could do better tomorrow. Then we proceed to take it in turns for night shifts.

Every day we wake up more and more tired, but you never realise quite how tired you are until you stop. Each of the 7 days is a hard, challenging and an intense repeat of this and upon arriving home your whole body gives in to the exhaustion and you feel as though you could sleep for weeks!



Now I have made it seem as though this is an awful, tiring, trying trip, in fact to an extent this has been my intention, because I'm sure if you have heard, you will have heard about how incredible an experience it is. But I wanted to explain to you how in many ways the experience is so indescribable, because what we are doing isn't easy, it isn't as though we have volunteered for a holiday in the Bahamas, yet somehow we all catch the Lourdes' bug.

On a personal level I started going because I wanted to help to give these amazing children a week's holiday that they will never forget, that may help them in so many ways we may never understand. Although I don't think I realised actually how

selfish we become as volunteers, because I think so many of us get far more out of the experience than the children do. Witnessing the simplest things like a child that barely speaks at the beginning of the week really coming out of their shell, a child dancing, with the biggest grin on their face, children joining in in mass, singing from the top of their lungs, even connecting with you and putting their trust in you.

All these things give you an immense feeling of pride, and also immense feelings of appreciation, because if these children who have many obstacles in their lives, be it physical or mental, can just get on with it and take life as it comes, then we should be doing the same and even more so.

The joy that you feel in Lourdes is also beyond words, we feel like one huge family in Lourdes; walking down the street you sing to different groups, chant out their group numbers and that "we love you". Mass is the noisiest, most colourful and love filled part of the trip, with choirs, songs, signing, musical instruments and priests with dozens of pegs all over their vestments; the whole thing is just the most spectacular experience.

The joy is accompanied by life long bonds; those children will probably always remember what you have done for them and you will never forget what they have done for you. For me it also gives me the profound sense or reassurance in my faith, because Lourdes is quite frankly like a little piece of heaven on earth.

By Alice England

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

In August several parishioners including Deacon Kevin, accompanied Bishop Alan and many clergy and hundreds of parishioners from all over Essex and East London on a pilgrimage to Lourdes. Many pilgrims needed to be assisted and the wonderful young people from Brentwood Catholic Youth Service were on hand to help them every step (or roll) of the way.

It was a truly wonder filled spiritual experience for everyone and we were led in prayer through the Door of Mercy, along the Stations of the Cross and we celebrated mass with over 25,000 other pilgrims from all over the world. A reconciliation service was a highlight for many, a visit to the baths for others. The torchlight procession is always one of the most moving of occasions but this year our diocese was given the honour of leading the procession to make it even more special.

If you have never been to Lourdes I cannot recommend it highly enough.

One of our pilgrims was Cath McIntosh who was determined to make her pilgrimage despite being in poor health. It was a privilege to be with her and Henry as she took full part in this her final pilgrimage before her death. Cath was an inspiration to everyone.

Her evident faith and willingness to accept the graces offered by the pilgrimage were wonderful to behold. Cath will be sorely missed by us all but she will live in our memories for ever.

Our prayers are with Henry and the family. May she rest in peace.

Steven Webb

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

It has been all change at Council 302 Chelmsford with John Logue of Blessed Sacrament Parish being appointed as our new Grand Knight and we wish him all the very best in his new appointment. We also welcomed 4 new brothers, Paul Crittall, Robert Hitchen, Philip Stamper and John Fairweather. We sadly lost 2 brothers, Norman Clague and Tony Doherty. We keep them and their families in our prayers – May they rest in peace.

In April we hosted the Provincial Quiz won it! We had a Pitch and Putt evening followed by Fish and Chip supper and 10 pin bowling afternoons. We held our Annual walk on behalf of bccs. This year it was 23 miles and apart from both Parishes donations of £1,200+, for which we are extremely grateful, a further £1,000+ was raised on behalf of Tony Ward (a teacher at St John Payne who tragically died).

A special Mass was held on Sunday 12th June for at St Augustine of Canterbury for St Columba and a cheese and wine evening was held on Sat 18th June to celebrate the 80th birthday of Council 302. Many church organisations were in attendance.

Bro Geoff Pugh gave a talk and a slide show on his visit to Nepal where we are funding a pupil through school and we are also able to assist the family financially.

Knights continue to say a decade of the rosary at meetings using the theme for the month from 'Jubilee Year of Mercy.' We also had a very successful half day retreat run by our Chaplain, Deacon Kevin Lyons.

For further information, please contact John Holland on 01245 476144 or Mike Hiom on 01245 265159.

Brother Tony Doherty Past Supreme Knight. KSG



Tony passed away on April 30th at his Daughter's home in Twickenham.

A Past Supreme Knight, Knight of St Gregory, Past Provincial Grand Knight.

His service in the Order, started in 1970 when he joined Council 302. His leadership qualities enshrined in a happy and caring disposition enabled him to take various Officer positions in the Council, being elected to GK in 1987/9. He received the Meritorious Service award in 1991. In that same year, he was appointed Provincial Action convenor and elected Provincial GK in 1997/99. He then moved to Supreme as Supreme Treasurer and supreme Finance Director of the Headway Hotel. BOD 1999/2002 when he was elected Supreme Knight 2002/05. He also chaired various committees including, just recently, the Structure of the Order. 2015 he was presented with the Columba Cross in recognition of his contribution to the Order.

In 2016 he was asked by the SK to take on once again the arduous task of Finance Director. Although he was not in the best of health, he did not refuse, but Our Lord had other ideas, and called him to his Just Reward, to Rest in the arms of our Patroness Our Blessed Lady.

Tony was a man of great energy, full of joy and kindness. Wherever he went, there was always laughter, coupled with kindness and understanding.

He recognised very quickly the talents of people, and did his best to encourage them to use them for the Good of the Order, either encouraging them to take on a particular task, or to stand for office. When they did so, Tony was always ready to help and support them.

To his family, he was a loving husband, a proud and loving father and very proud and loving grandfather.

To me a Very Kind and Loyal Friend.

Rest in Peace Tony.

J E HOPGOOD Past GK



Editors Note:

As well as being a prominent member of the KSC Tony was also a much loved member of our parish community and we shall all remember him fondly. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family

May he Rest in Peace

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