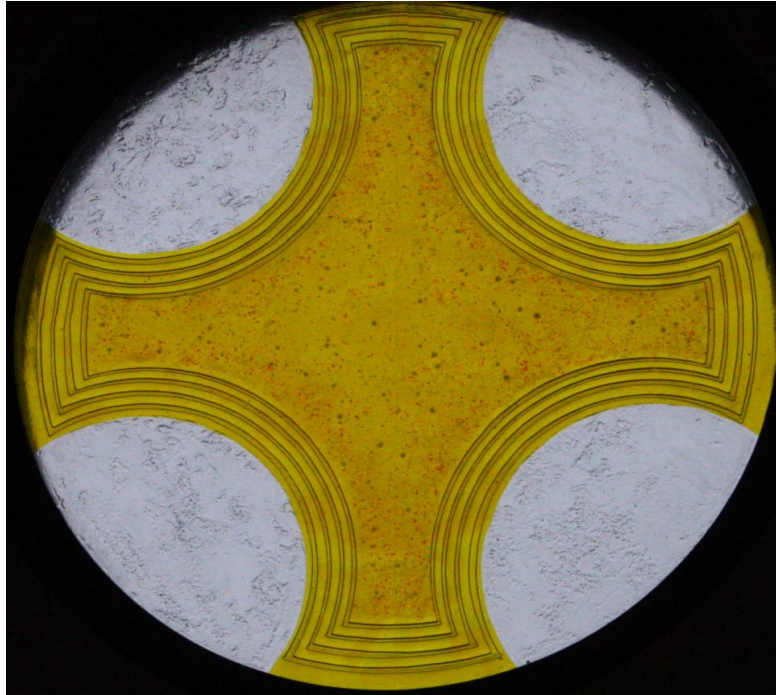


# THE AUGUSTINIAN

The Parish Magazine for the R.C. Parish of Springfield



## Contents

Page 2	Goodbye
Page 3	Parish News
Page 4	Oberammergau
Page 5	Exploring Christian places in the Alps
Page 8	Knights of St. Columba Council 302
Page 10	Catenians
Page 11	Heart and Sole
Page 12	Teams of Our Lady

# Goodbye

---

There is a verse of scripture I loved so much. King Solomon made a profound statement in Ecclesiastics 3: 1 that there's a season and a time for every purpose under heaven. In verse 3, he goes on to say that there's a time to be born and to die. I feel like a newborn every time I find myself in a new Parish. God has never told me why I would be moving to a new place but things were made clear to me as days pass by in my new parish. I came among you not as a strong, confident and know what to do person. Well I was here among you like a tree swaying from one side to the other with the passing wind. Not being sure of myself was my strong positive side, you know. With that positive side of me at work in me, I was asked to move into St. Augustine of Canterbury Church. A place out of London, with no known friends around and among total strangers, that too an English community. My heart was pounding and I found nothing in me that was helping me to alleviate my desperate heart which kept on pounding and with fearful thoughts in my head. This is the worst and fearful place anybody can be, being caught up with in oneself (an unduly puffed-up place). You cannot share your thoughts on yourself because somebody can puncture you with one courageous word and to make things worse you are a priest, for the love of my Lord. The only assurance was Catholics are same everywhere, they have the same liturgy, sacraments, the blessed tabernacle and you know the rest.

I promised one thing to the Lord, I would spend an hour or two before the Lord. There were times when I thought I would lose myself, I would give away my priesthood that I am not cut out for this vocation. An earthen pot which was about to be shattered into pieces by my own hands. Even though this was the case I said I would walk with the Lord. It was very hard but made those little steps a child makes to reach the arms of his Father or Mother when encouraged by them to walk up to them. The child on the other hand falls and cries out howling, he wants to be taken care off and consoled but the parent still stay at a distance, calling out the child's name encouraging, when he sees that help is not coming he cries with anguish, beats his legs and hands on the ground and shows lack of confidence but then all of a sudden he stands up, still crying and then walk into the consoling and loving hands of his dear ones who then attends to him with love and affection, which is enough to sustain him in the future in this new found courage and strength within himself. That I think was me in the presence of the Lord. September 2021 to September 2022 I am not disappointed in me, I can make that walk and I know he is there to care for me, to nourish me, and to give an extended, raised hand towards me though wounded by my own mistrust, with a heart burning but covered with thorns of my insensitivity to his needs in the community and with a bruised face were I failed to see him in others and respond to them. My Jesus looks so disfigured when will I stand up and take his responsibility as my own.

Time really flies so fast! Well, I thank God for everything and every one of you because you've added flavour and colour into my life and are a tremendous blessing from God. Just the goldsmith fashions a precious metal until it's pure and shine bright, so does the Lord refines us until we become a reflection of his glorious presence. That's one of the beautiful things I have realized in our walk with the Lord Jesus Christ! Well, He tells us in John 8: 9 that he is the light of the world and if we follow him we would not walk in darkness at all. The beautiful thing about having that illuminating light of God is that we can't keep that bright light in an obscured place. That's why I have to leave so the light of love he has filled my life with will be spread abroad to others.

You have been so good and so kind to me. But I am filled with grief and sorrow because all I see outside the walls of this church are men and women groping in darkness. And I know if Jesus were to come visit us in bodily form right now, he will chastise us all because we have not fully obeyed the master's voice to make disciples of all nations.

I know a lot of you are troubled. Well, that's true. When I got the letter informing me of my departure to the new place, there was this cold shiver down my spine because going there is like building myself again like a baby, again called to take those tiny steps. Well, the Bible verse: Isaiah 41:10 "*Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*" That verse set my soul on fire and I could feel the Holy Spirit reminding that he will always stand by me. But please don't stop praying for me because your prayers will make a difference.

If our God was able to rescue Daniel from the mouth of the lions, your prayers can do wonders for this poor of God. My hope is well expressed in Philippians 1: 20-21 "*My eager expectation and hope is that I shall not be put to shame in any way, but that with all boldness, now as always, Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me life is Christ, and death is gain*". Let us be united in prayer.

**Fr. Jijo George**

# Parish News

---

## Headteacher of Bishop's School named best in Essex

Greg Waters, the Headteacher of the Bishop's School, has been named as Essex Headteacher of the Year. The citation said that he was "*the joy and soul of the School*" and that he had turned it from a School into a Community. It also said that he sets the tone for the School, and "*has made it a loving, nurturing and supportive foundation for all children*". Another teacher, David Mann was also highly commended, saying that he inspires children to be the best version of themselves, and commending his commitment, consistency and care. The certificates were presented by Claire Kershaw, Essex's Chief Education Officer.



## SVP quiz night

Don't forget the SVP Quiz on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at St. Augustine's. It is to raise much needed money for the SVP's work in Sudan and South Sudan. Doors open at 19.30, tickets are £7.50 and there will be coffee (or tea) and cake for sale at the interval. From past experience it is worth coming for the cake alone!

## Parish changes

Farewell to Fr. Jijo, who has been moved to Chingford. He said to several people that he wanted to slip away without fuss, but we will be having a collection to make a presentation to him (we may have done o by the time you read this). Best wishes to Fr. Jijo in his new parish.

Welcome to Fr. Martin Hardy, Fr. Oliver Tham and Fr. Damian Wade, the new priests at Our Lady Immaculate. They will also be serving St. Augustine's and Holy Name, and we understand that they will be all saying Mass at each of the Parishes so we will get to know them all over time. Details of how it will work are not clear at the moment but we will learn as we go.

Fr. Martin has pointed out that we are approaching the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our parish. Exactly when we celebrate it has yet to be decided but think we will celebrate it somehow. It would be nice to have an anniversary edition of "The Augustinian" as part of the celebrations, so if you have any articles or pictures that could contribute towards it, please let us have them.

# Oberammergau

---

In 1633, at the height of 30 Years War, Germany was struck by the plague. When it reached Oberammergau, a small village in the Bavarian Alps, the people sought refuge in prayer. They vowed that, if they were spared from the plague, they would stage a play of the Passion, death and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ every ten years. No one in the village died of the plague from then on.



That vow has been kept up to the present day, starting in 1634. In fact, it was performed annually until 1674, and then ten yearly from 1680. It has been performed almost every 10 years. The only actual cancellations were in 1770 and 1940, but it has been interrupted or deferred a number of times, including, of course, 2020. There have also been special performances, including 1815, 1934 and 1984 (postponed from 1980) for the 300<sup>th</sup> and 350<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of the original production.

From the start, it was realised that the production was too large for the Church, and it was performed in the cemetery on a wooden stage. Its renown grew from early on, and seating was provided from 1674. The first tickets were sold in 1790, by then on a larger site, and organised "package" trips began in 1870. The first theatre was opened in 1900, now modernised on the same site, between May and early October, seating 4,000 people.

The script is based on the work of Joseph Daisenberger in the nineteenth century. However, there have been substantial revisions, as can be seen from the variation in length of performance between under 5 and over 7 hours. In addition, earlier performances often had anti-semitic tones. Since the war,

Jewish groups and academics have been involved to ensure that Jewish culture and practice are accurately portrayed. This year's edition emphasised the divisions and political manoeuvring amongst the Jewish authorities among other things.

The production is on a spectacular scale but still a village production (at least three Daisenbergers are still involved). Anyone taking part has to be born in the village, but it is a major commitment, taking over a year from the beginning of rehearsals to the end of performances. Many Oberammergau natives work away from the village and some companies give those chosen to take part leave for the period of rehearsals and performance. The cast list comes to over 300 people, with over 100 in the choir and over 100 in the orchestra. Only about half are used in an individual performance, but for crowd scenes, there can be up to 200 people on stage.



Many others are involved in the technical and administrative work of the production and the whole village is involved in accommodation and hospitality. The booking is handled by a community organisation and the income administered for the benefit of the village and, over the years, has paid for all the community facilities in the village.



# Exploring Christian places in the Alps

**Fügen**, a small town in the Swaz district of the Austrian Tyrol, has a Catholic Parish Church dedicated to Mary, with a well-kept cemetery on the northern side and a modern window dedicated to the 7 Sorrows of Our Lady.

Up the valley on the western side is a steep Way of the Cross which terminates in a modern Chapel, the Astenkapelle.



**Rattenberg** is Austria's smallest historical town, with just 400 inhabitants currently. One of its specialities is glass-craft. The town is dominated by Rattenberg castle which was an important fortification of the Duchy of Bavaria on the Lower Inn valley. It has a Parish Church dedicated to Saint Virgil and St Catherine and a side chapel commemorating a local saint.



## Geneva: St Pierre Cathedral

It was built as a Roman Catholic Cathedral and begun around 1160 in Gothic style.

It became a Reformed Protestant Church during the Reformation, and the adopted home church of Jean Calvin (see his chair in the picture).

During the French revolution, the church was appropriated by the Commune and it has become a multi-purpose building hosting civic functions, as well as offering summer services to French and German speaking Protestants.

On 5th March 2022, a Catholic Mass was celebrated here as a gesture of ecumenical hospitality, after nearly 465 years.





### **Grenoble: the Cathedral**

One of the joys of visiting the Roman Empire part of Europe is that a few of its churches and cathedrals are very old indeed.

Grenoble Cathedral boasts 17 centuries of history, with the Diocese created around 380. The remains of a baptistry dated from the 4th century were found in the area in front of the Cathedral.

St Hugh, bishop of Grenoble, is credited with installing St Bruno and his companions in the Chartreuse mountain range north of Grenoble. They became the Carthusians. A church dedicated to him is abutted to the north side of the Cathedral. St Jean-Marie Vianney offered his first Mass there.

Abbe Pierre, the founder of Emmaüs, was from 1942 a curate at the Cathedral. He is known to have been active in the French Resistance, sheltering Jews in the Cathedral.

### **Conflans**

Overlooking the city of Albertville (1992 host to the Winter Olympics) is the medieval city of Conflans. Surrounded by 14th century walls, it protected the entrance to the Tarentaise valley at its confluence with the Isere and was the administrative seat of the Haute-Savoie province in the 19th century. It has narrow streets (some rather steep) and a Baroque Church dedicated to Our Lady of the Assumption. Replacing an earlier building destroyed by fire on April 2nd 1632, it was reoriented to the north in order to extend it. Its pilastered doorway, highly original façade, three naves and six cruciform pillars supporting the vault served as a model for all other churches in the Tarentaise valley. The church tower was partly demolished in 1794 during the French Revolution, and reconstructed "exactly as it was before" ten years later.



### **St Chef**



The Abbey was founded at the beginning of the 6th century (year 500). The Abbey Church of St Theudère with its flamboyant gothic portal dates from the 10th to 13th centuries. It was one of the first monuments in France to be classed as Monument Historique in 1840 by the writer Prosper Mérimée. The main building houses one of the most important sets of Romanesque frescoes dated from the 12th century, on the theme of the Apocalypse.



Above the choir there is a strange pattern of holes. Inside the holes, thin pottery vases could be found. Recent research has shown that these, known as acoustic vases, were deliberately placed in the wall to dampen the echoes and amplify specific frequencies and thus make the chants of the monks clearer and more agreeable.







Further research has established that the technique is documented in the writing of the Roman architect Vitruvius in the 1st century B.C. for Roman theatres and that it was used in churches all over France and particularly in Brittany.

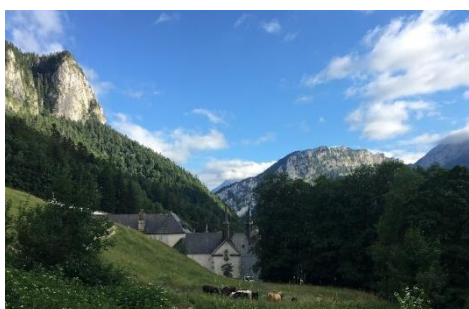
In a side chapel dedicated to St Theudère, we find an arch supported by two columns and displaying a fresco of sea creatures, mermaids and monsters. This is a representation of the Crystal Sea (Apocalypse 4:6), the waters that separate the celestial world from the earth... thus elevating the saint to the heights of heaven and keeping mortals firmly in their place.

## La Grande Chartreuse



And so, we come to the highlight of our trip, the Carthusian Mother-house of La Grande Chartreuse, inspirational and yet so far above daily life in our modern world.

The Abbey may be famous for its medicinal liqueur, but the museum covering that aspect of their work has now moved down the Isere valley. Thanks to its commercial value, the monks have been able to support themselves whilst they concentrate on their spiritual (not spirituous) calling.



When St Bruno and his companion arrived in Grenoble and saw Bruno's teacher Hugh, now Bishop of Grenoble, they were looking for a desert experience, a place to settle that would be removed from the world. They were led to an almost inaccessible valley within the high plateau of the Chartreuse.

There they settled to a life of prayer, contemplation and devotion, highly regulated in one the strictest disciplines of the monastic world.

They remain closed to the casual visitor but have developed for him/her a very informative museum in an outbuilding 500m down the hill.

In that environment, they share the pattern of their days, their frugal fayre and the simple joys that they (or their masters) have experienced in their life of seclusion.



*Monks in Chapel*



*Monk in a cell*



*St Bruno*



*Carthusian Sisters*



# Knights of St. Columba Council 302

---



## Knights of St. Columba

The purpose of the Knights of St. Columba is to promote the social and spiritual lives of our Brothers and their families, and much of what we do is intended to work towards that. However, we also aim to support the work of our parishes and the various organisations in the parish and Diocese. Chelmsford Council have had long standing relationships with Farleigh Hospice and CHESS, being involved in setting up both.

In the early days of Farleigh, before the present site was built, Chelmsford Council was part of a City wide movement to get a hospice founded. This included a number of sponsored walks, including one occasion when we organised dozens of people to walk from Maldon, along the canal bank, to the site on London Road. We were one of the first visitors to the (then) new site to do a presentation of the money raised by a later walk.



Many of you will remember when concern started to grow about homelessness in Chelmsford in the early 1990s. Many Chelmsford Churches participated in a scheme to provide a place for homeless people to sleep overnight during the winter. Knights were prominent among the volunteers who brought along their sleeping bags to join homeless overnight in church halls and give them breakfast before they dispersed for the day. It

became clear, fairly quickly, that something more permanent was needed and Knights joined others from Chelmsford churches on a Steering Group to establish the night shelter. The Steering Group became CHESS and we continued to volunteer when the Night Shelter was established on George Street. Our connection has continued and the Director of CHESS, Rob Saggs, was one of the guests who contributed to the Songs of Praise which we held to celebrate the centenary of the Order, in 2019.

Since the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society was founded in 1984, the Knights of Province 10 have been constant supporters, and our Brothers have been prominent in managing and fund raising for BCCS. The Director of BCCS, Bernadette Fisher, came to speak at the March Provincial Council of Province 10 (Brentwood).

Bernadette spoke about the work of the Society and the Knights' support. When it was founded, BCCS was involved in arranging adoptions. However, following changes to the rules governing adoption agencies, they felt unable to continue with this work. They now concentrate on work supporting children and families. As well as helping children with mental health problems, they support those affected by bereavement or relationship breakdown. Their Social Workers counsel and offer other forms of support, but they also help with small things that bring happiness into a child's life.

The Knights of Province 10 have a track record of raising money to help to fund this work. For some years a major sponsored event took place in which Brothers and friends walked from a number of churches round the Diocese to the Cathedral. When the logistical challenges of doing this became too great, many Councils held their own local Walks until prevented by covid.

In response, in 2021, BCCS came up with the idea of "Relay 100", a scheme to link the 100 (or so) parishes and Mass Centres in the Diocese by walking (or running) and cycling,



with intention of bringing each into a single chain. In the end, Knights completed over a third of the total distance, contributing over £8,000 of the £25,000 raised. The event was repeated this summer, and this year we planned to have all the churches linked in a single, rather long and winding, route. Contributions can still be made through the BCCS website.

Helping to coordinate Relay 100 was Provincial Action Convenor, Damian Dillon, in his capacity as a volunteer with BCCS' marketing and fundraising team. Brother Damian is pictured along with Provincial Grand Knight, Andrew Burns, who presented Bernadette with a cheque for £250 to support their work.



When the Pope called on Catholic parishes around the world to rise to the challenge of the "refugee crisis" in the middle of the last decade, Chelmsford Knights responded by launching Chelmsford Community Sponsorship. The project is independent of the Knights but several Knights continue to be involved. The project works under a Home Office scheme and is now supporting a family as they become integrated into Chelmsford society. There is still a lot of work to do, particularly on learning English, but much progress has been made.

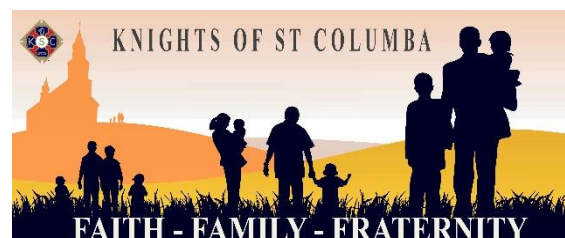
One of our Knights was, for many years, Treasurer to Christian Aid in Chelmsford. Before covid, Christian Aid ran an annual fundraising Fair at Christchurch and he regularly recruited a group of Brothers to help him to run the finances. Several of us used to spend a morning and afternoon delivering floats, collecting cash and counting up at the end, usually after a pleasant lunch in their kitchen.

We have regularly reported our Canon Manning Trophy awards, and you will remember that this year's award was to year 13 at St. John Payne, recognising their support for a fellow student during her terminal cancer. Chelmsford Council agreed to purchase a tree to be planted in her memory and that was planted on the last day of Year 13's attendance. Grand Knight Paul Crittall joined Year 13 and Headteacher, Tom Coen, to plant the tree.



The Knights, in Chelmsford and throughout the Diocese, continue to support the work of the Church and its organisations. However, we need a steady stream of new recruits to refresh our work. If you can join us and help our work, please contact Membership Officer, Chris Thompson ([thompsoncjt01@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:thompsoncjt01@blueyonder.co.uk)) or any Knight.

Our Social programme continues with a Race Night at St. Augustine's on Friday, 23 September and a Wine Tasting at Blessed Sacrament on Saturday, 29 October. The Race Night leader has done well received Race Nights for us in the past and the Wine Tasting will be lead by an experienced sommelier.



# Catenians

Once a month a group of men meet to pray together and then we dine together at Pontlands Park Hotel. Every third month our wives accompany us and during the year we all participate in social activities together. Every year we have a particular charity that we support but our members all participate in individual charity activities. We support one another and our community inspired by our shared Catholic faith. This is the Chelmsford Mid Essex Circle of the Catenian Association.

Catenian Circles exist across the globe in Australia, Malta, Zimbabwe, South Africa and India and of course here. Locally there are circles in Billericay, Brentwood, Southend, Colchester, Ipswich, Ilford, Epping Forest and London.

When we come together in our circles to pray and dine together members of other local circles join us to share friendship even more widely. Over a short span of time you find yourself friends with Catholics from all over the diocese and beyond.

The Catenian Association originally grew out of a need for catholic businessmen to support and protect one another in a time when religious freedom was not as it is now. Today it has evolved into an association of practicing catholic men who enjoy being in an environment where their faith is their common bond and where they can be Catholics and have fun at the same time. Just knowing that you have your brother Catenians around is a blessing, enjoying each other's company is a massive bonus and praying together is a privilege.

The Chelmsford Mid Essex Circle meets each month at Pontlands Park Hotel. We come mostly from the Chelmsford parishes and Ingatestone but some of our members originate from far beyond our shores (Goa and Malaysia to name two). We represent a wide variety of occupations and professions. Some are retired and others still working but we all make a commitment to meet regularly, to support one another, our families, our communities and the Association and we eat together sharing conversation and stories (some true others maybe slightly exaggerated!). We laugh a lot.

Each year the person who is President of our circle chooses a charity for us to support. In the recent past we've supported Alzheimer's Research UK, The Sick and Retired Clergy Fund but this year we are once again raising funds for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society again. In common with many other local Catenian circles we firmly believe in the work they do for children in our wider

catholic community. The Catenian Association as a whole has a proud tradition of supporting young people. We help with trips to Lourdes both through HCPT and Diocesan pilgrimages and the National Association plays a prominent role supporting FLAME.



Earlier this year we celebrated our 1000<sup>th</sup> meeting at a very special dinner which was held in the presence of Bishop Alan and with the brilliant wit of an after-dinner speech from Fr Stephen Morrison. Prominent Catenians from the National Association joined us for the evening. It was a wonderful evening never to be forgotten, but such wonderful evenings are only possible when so many other convivial evenings have gone before to create our Catenian family.

Here at St Augustine's, we have three Catenians (Roger Sclater, Paul Mear and Steve Webb) and with apologies here is a photo of what we look like.



If you would like to find out more about the Catenian Association please feel free to speak to any of us. Alternatively, you might like to look at Association website:

<https://www.thecatenians.com/>

Men who would like to find out more are invited to come along as visitors to experience our monthly meetings and dinners before committing to join. If you're interested in coming along please feel free to talk to us. **Steve, Paul and Roger**

# Heart and Sole – walks in the community

Did you know there is a local Wellbeing Walking Scheme, Heart and Sole, operating within our community? Managed by volunteers and partnered with the Ramblers, the scheme is ideal for anyone wanting to improve general fitness, aid recovery from or prevent illness or injury and socialise. All walks are led by trained walkers and free of charge. There are a range of 12 walks and locations spread throughout the week.



There are three grades of walks available:



*Suitable for people who have not walked much before, are looking to be more active, or are returning from injury or illness. The walks are between 30-45 minutes on flat ground or gentle slopes with mainly firm surfaces with no steps.*



*Suitable for people who are looking to increase their activity levels. The walks are between 30-60 minutes and may include some moderate slopes, steps or uneven surfaces.*



*For people looking for more challenging walks and increasing their level of physical activity. The walks are generally 45-90 minutes and may include steeper slopes, steps and uneven surfaces.*

The table below shows walks, days and times along with walking grade.

Walks	Day	Start time	Approx length in minutes	Walk Grade
<b>Hanningfield Reservoir</b> *3rd Sunday monthly	Sunday*	13.30	60	
<b>Riverside</b>	Monday	10.30	40	
<b>Chelmer Village</b>	Monday	11.00	45	
<b>Writtle</b>	Tuesday	12.00	40	
<b>Moulsham Mill</b> *1st Tuesday monthly	Tuesday *	10.00	90	
<b>Great Baddow</b>	Tuesday	12.00	30	
<b>Beauchamp House</b>	Tuesday	12.00	35	
<b>Anglia Ruskin University</b>	Tuesday	12.15	30	
<b>Springfield</b>	Wednesday	10.00	40	
<b>Bell Meadow</b>	Wednesday	10.30	40	
<b>Newlands Spring</b>	Thursday	10.00	40	
<b>Admirals Park</b>	Thursday	12.30	35	
<b>Beaulieu Park</b>	Friday	10.30	50	
<b>Galleywood</b>	Saturday	12.00	40	

Heart and Sole have over 25 volunteer walk leaders with 150 walkers enjoying Wellbeing Walks on a weekly basis. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer walk leader or joining walks please go to the following link for more details.

<https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/community-sport-and-wellbeing/heart-and-sole-walks>  
or simply telephone 01245 606569



# Teams of our Lady

---

A meeting of a Team of Our Lady is held around a meal. This has meant that there has been a lot of imaginative thinking about how Teams would be able to work in a time of Covid. Some Teams have been meeting online, others have had outdoor meetings. However, as a movement we are now talking about how we go forward as things are opening up again.

To start to think about how we develop the movement in the near future, the Trustees recently met to discuss the state of the movement. We adopted the mechanism of a SWOT analysis, identifying the movement's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. We felt that Teams had significant strengths. Our structure of small, local, often parish based, Teams means that members get to know each other well, so that sharing and discussion flow easily. Another strength is that the movement is very friendly and when Teams members get together, they become friends. The monthly guidance in the quarterly Newsletter gives a focus to the meetings, but Teams are flexible, so the guidance is for advice and use as it suits each Team.



*The International Couple make a point during the discussion.*

Offsetting that, the very local nature of the movement means that in large areas there is no local Team to direct people to. Also, where there are no Teams, the profile of the movement is quite low, so we need to work hard to make ourselves known. The website ([teamsqb.org.uk](https://teamsqb.org.uk)) will be useful but we need to publicise it.



*The Southern Regional couple chair the meeting and document the discussion*

During the pandemic, the Trustees have continued to meet by Zoom. This is quite satisfactory for many purposes, and the business of the movement has been conducted quite efficiently. However, meeting in person emphasised that something is lost in the online meeting. Particularly for a loosely structured discussion, it is valuable to see the nuances of expression and hear slight variations in tone of voice to get a fuller understanding of what we are all saying. And apart from that, getting together in person was a welcome social occasion after three years of only seeing each other on screen.

The other main item of discussion was our planned national Gathering to be held at Swanwick, in Derbyshire, in April 2023. Before Covid, we tried to hold a Gathering every two years, with the aim to bring as many Team members as possible together. The organisation coordinates accommodation, speakers and services, along with social activities, for as many as 100 people. We have a team of facilitators, with representation of the Trustees, who will take responsibility for different aspects of the weekend but meeting together regularly to ensure that the various aspects of the Gathering blend together.



*Hayes Christian Conference Centre, Swanwick*

We will meet on Friday evening for dinner and there will be evening prayer and then the evening will be social. After breakfast on Saturday, throughout the day, there will be two speaker sessions with workshops to discuss the speakers' ideas in between, before and after lunch, and then a break to relax before dinner. After evening prayer, there will be another social evening. Sunday morning will be taken up with Teams' business and information before lunch, and then there will be Mass in the afternoon before we all disperse.



The aim is twofold. We want Teams members to have an introduction to the ideas and material which will be offered for discussion topics at Teams meetings during the coming year. But just as important, it is an opportunity for long standing Teams couples to renew their acquaintance after covid restrictions, and for new members to become fully au fait with the Teams spirit.

We are always seeking to extend the pleasures and benefits of Team membership to new people so please contact us. You can look up our website, at [teamsgb.org.uk](http://teamsgb.org.uk), or contact:

Chris and Dominique Thompson at [treasurers@teams-transatlantic.org](mailto:treasurers@teams-transatlantic.org).



# we're on top of your business

Whether you need help with legal advice for your family or in business, we're here to help.

Speak to Peter on:

01245 453 813

PETER.ALLEN@BIRKETTLONG.CO.UK

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No: 488404



Colchester Chelmsford Basildon  
[www.birkettlong.co.uk](http://www.birkettlong.co.uk)





## OUR PARISH VISION

1. A dynamic worshipping community - where people come for the first time and immediately sense the presence of God
2. A community where everyone is growing in their understanding of the Catholic Faith
3. A community where everyone is growing in the life of prayer and their relationship with God
4. A community where pastoral, spiritual and practical care is given to those in need
5. A community where more people are actively involved in the Mission of the Church.

## OUR 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

## EDITOR'S NOTE

And finally, a word from the Editor.

Thank you to everyone who has helped to put this edition together. We want to reflect what is going on in the Parish, and are always looking for articles about what you are involved in. As well as those who wrote or sent material, thank you to those who have commented, added material or contributed information. A particular thank you to Ben Hitchen, who has formatted and laid out the magazine. Thank you also to New Hall for printing the magazine.

We are starting a new phase in the life of the Parish with the link to Our Lady Immaculate and Holy Name. We have yet to see how it will work. However, we are starting work on our Christmas edition (although it isn't intensive until we get towards getting the master to New Hall, collecting material is a continuous process) so if you have anything that would interest readers in the Parish, let us have an article.

**Chris Thompson**