


Christ is the morning star who, when the darkness of this world is past, brings to his saints the promise of the light of life and opens everlasting day.
The Venerable Bede

The Catholic MOTHER

THE UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS NEWSPAPER



www.theucm.co.uk

Winter edition 2011



Wishing all our readers a Happy and Blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year

National President's Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi

Monday: (East Anglia)

Pilgrims met at Stansted or Manchester Airport. The Stansted mothers met at 4.10am so most of us had very little sleep or none at all.

Maureen Jones was there to meet us and make sure everyone had the right documentation. After a long walk to the departure gate the plane took off at 6.20am. We arrived at Ciampino Airport, Rome, at 9.20 local time. Norman met us and took us to the bus that would transport us to Hotels. The many historical buildings were pointed out and interesting information given on the way through Rome. We all eventually found our rooms where we were able to refresh, find some lunch and catch up on some sleep. Our first Mass was held at Parrocchia Sant Anna in Vaticano. Canon John Koenig and Fr Marcel Fangoo celebrated and it was a beautiful beginning to the spiritual part of our pilgrimage.

Tuesday: (Salford)

An early start and as we walked to St Peter's Basilica, the sun began to rise and as we reached the gates of the Vatican we looked back over the Vatican Hills the sun rose with its early morning colours and rays.

Our Mass began at 7am and our group went quietly to celebrate Mass at 'Altare della Tomba di San Pietro'. It was the feast of St John Chrysostom, a fearless and eloquent preacher and great friend of the poor. He suffered exile because he was so outspoken.

Unfortunately Bishop Brain was unable to be with us through illness, we prayed for him and all our Bishops before Mass.

After breakfast we walked or went by taxi to the Vatican Museum where we met our guides, who took us around the beautiful Vatican Gardens. (The temperature was 34degrees). A piece of the Berlin Wall was displayed in the garden. This had been sent to Pope John Paul.

We were shown where Pope Benedict sits to pray and saw the building where the Vatican radio is broadcast from. After lunch we



were met by our guides again who took us into the Museum galleries, through the Persian and Greek ones, the tapestry gallery and the early drawings of map readings; then through to the Sistine Chapel, which was very busy with all the different groups.

It was so breathtaking and peaceful; one has to see the Michelangelo ceiling paintings to admire his skill and its beauty. Our afternoon ended with an hour's tour of St Peter's Basilica. The Pietà, the Jubilee Bronze Door, all concreted up, the newly blessed

John Paul II altar. On leaving the sun had gone over the sky to the back of the Basilica and shone through the only stained glass window above the chair of St Peter.

Wednesday: (Southwark)

A visit to the Vatican General papal audience.

We arrived at St. Peter's Square at 8.30am to join a huge queue of pilgrims and we shuffled forwards slowly finally ending up in a large auditorium. We faced a stage with a beautiful carved statue and a chair in front of the statue. To one side was a statue of our Lady of Walsingham.

The anticipation and buzz was

electric. No one knew which way The Pope would enter the auditorium.

No one wanted to miss His entrance. His Swiss guards entered and then His Holiness entered to loud cheering by adults and children. The Pope gave a speech and then various groups were introduced in their own language, including the members of

The Union of Catholic Mothers. We cheered loudly and the Pope acknowledged with a wave (we cheered louder). His Holiness said prayers and blessings in different languages including English for families and children.

We sang the Lords Prayer in Latin. On his way out He stopped at the statue of our Lady of Walsingham. That was the most amazing experience.

Basilica of St Augustino

Tucked away in a side street was the beautiful Basilica of Saint Augustine. On our way we had passed the English College where Canon John had trained to become a priest and this church was very special to both priests, who belonged to the Holy Ghost fathers. We attended mass in the church and saw the shrine to Saint Monica, the mother of Saint Augustine.

Saint Paul's Outside the Walls

This beautiful church was begun at the end of the 4th Century over the burial place of Saint Paul. Over the centuries it has been added to, burned down and rebuilt. Our guide, Richard, told us about the church and showed us important artefacts of Paul's life, for example the door depicting the death of Saint Paul. A most informative visit to a beautiful church.

Thursday (Shrewsbury)

Up and out early for our transfer from Rome to Assisi. We had spent three hectic days in the hustle and bustle of Rome with busy people and very fast traffic. Now we were on our way through the beautiful countryside to Assisi where St Francis spent his time in prayer and meditation. On the coach Canon John led us in prayer.

We arrived in the lower village and peacefully walked the quiet streets to the beautiful church of St Maria degli Angeli, where we attended Mass in a small chapel by the rose garden.

After Mass time for a quick tour of the Church where we saw the Porziuncole, the girdle of St Francis.

Then it was back on the coach

up, up and away to the magnificent upper village of Assisi where we booked into our lovely hotel overlooking wonderful countryside.

Coaches must have a permit and are only permitted into the village at certain times. After free time to wander the local streets and shops we had dinner at our hotel.

What a difference from Rome, we had arrived in the City of Peace.

Friday: (Northampton)

After breakfast we all filed into mini vans and ascended the mountain to visit St Francis Hermitage. A wonderful guide, Emilio, accompanied us.

We found this very special, the peace tangible, we felt transported back to St Francis' time. There was a statue of St Francis looking upward listening to his beloved birds under the flex tree (Holm Oak). The views from the Hermitage were stunning. St Francis was born in 1182 and died 1226.

Then back to the mini vans to visit San Domiano's Church. St Francis, who came from a wealthy family, but gave up his wealth to live a life of prayer and contemplation, rebuilt this in 1200.

St Clare, was born in 1193 and died on 11th August 1253 and she also came from a wealthy family and gave it all up to live a life of prayer and contemplation; her sister Agnes also joined her.

In 1240, with the force of her prayer holding the Eucharist, she repulsed the Saracens.

We then went for lunch at different restaurants and a little shopping, finishing with ice cream.

We all met again in Francis Basilica for Mass taken by Canon John Koenig from Kettering Foundation and Fr David Irwin from Westminster Foundation, followed by a little info overload by Emilio!

After a rest, we 'glammed' up and had dinner at the hotel, after which our National President, Sheila Goodchild thanked everyone for attending her pilgrimage, then presented a gift to Maureen Jones, our National Treasurer for all her hard work organising the whole event.

33rd JUSTICE & PEACE CONFERENCE 15-17th JULY 2011

(Organised by members of National Justice & Peace Network)

THE theme this year was 'JUSTICE AT WORK, a place of safety, fulfilment and growth'?

After opening prayers and welcome, Academic and Christian Worker, David McLoughlin gave us an historical insight into the struggle of workers in Jesus' time and the division of labour that existed then comparing it with the struggles going on throughout the world today.—Palestine was under Roman occupation, small holdings gave way to vast centralised estates, thus creating a super rich class. This meant that the individual only had his or her labour to sell. As a tekton, a craftsman, Jesus and Josef may have taken part in the re-construction of Sepphoris (a huge palace) 6 km from Nazareth authorised by Herod Antipas. Drawing on the experience of the people, Jesus by his parables provoked the people to see their world from a new perspective of the "Kingdom of God" inviting them to become subjects of their own history. He called them to a collective vision of a creation under God where all are of equal worth, distribution of the goods of earth, the sharing of them, and solidarity in service, this should be the centre of our collective concern rather than accumulation for profit and personal security.

John Battle a former National Co-ordinator of Church Action on Poverty, Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry

and MP, posed the question: do we live to work or work to live? And is there a gospel based call to renew collective solidarity?

Labour MP Jon Cruddas identified the real challenge facing society today as being how to provide secure jobs, housing, public services and safety nets for the poor and vulnerable. The poor he said are being made to pay disproportionately for the deficit, comparing £18 billion being taken away from the most vulnerable via the Welfare Reform Bill and the £2 billion levy being placed on the banks.

In his East London constituency they were trying to build the concept of the good society. This need was being created as the safety nets were taken away from the poor, with people from faith and community groups stepping up to fill the vacuum by creating food banks. There are also moves to help and support vulnerable migrants. He quoted the "Living Wage" campaign in London as an example of how an idea can start at grass roots and finally permeate national politics with political parties taking the initiative forward. Mr. Cruddas noted how there was much demonising of the poor as the feral underclass but what recent years had really seen was the arrival of a feral overclass. "It is only the little people who pay tax" he said. The overclass are beyond notions of civic responsibility and citizenship.

John Battle quoted Catholic So-

cial Teaching (CTS), pointing out that going back to Rarum ISovarum (1891) the Church has always prioritised labour over capital. He quoted John Paul II saying "we are all together at the workbench of human life". The Church has also urged that solidarity and subsidiarity must go together. There were also personal testimonies on experiences of: church employment, young people, discrimination as a Muslim woman, and of good practice in the work place.

Rachel Maskell who is a national officer for the 60,000 Community, Youth Workers & Not

For Profit sector workers in the 1.5million strong public sector union Unite also spoke about the difficulties encountered by her members.

Fact box; 1 out of 5 young people are out of work.

One third of young people are employed in catering and hospitality, and are traditionally hostile to trade unions.

A carer on the south coast being paid the minimum wage is allowed a maximum of 15 minutes with each patient.

The average pension for a public sector worker is £7,000 a year.

Frances O'Grady, Deputy General Secretary of the TUC claimed the need for a moral compass at this time is more important than ever. Workers should have the right to do work that is meaningful and fulfilling. Making the case for trade unions in an increasingly unequal

society she said "Trade Unions want to tackle poverty and social exclusion around the world" Places of employment that are unionised provide for better pay and safer environments of work, and also provide a voice for the most vulnerable, often migrant workers and women. Frances singled out seafarers as a group particularly hard hit, with many not getting even the minimum wage. John Battle pointed out that the most recent Papal encyclicals on work, declare it an obligation to belong to a trade union. He asked the people present to support the 178 people and their families put out of work as a result of the closure of the News of the World newspaper.

Overall there were 20 workshops, the first one I chose was "Making Business work for the Poor". Speaking about her work, Sheila Kambobe from Zambian partner JCTR (Jesuits) which supports workers, small farmers and business people to improve their conditions and develop their communities, while lobbying at the same time the Zambian government for greater transparency with regard to their books. She told us the Zambian Government had given the Chinese permission to build a railway line and to extract the valuable copper. For every Zambian worker paid below a living wage, 15 Chinese are employed earning well above. Eight people protesting about their low wage to the Chinese were shot. The

case was brought to court but because there were no witnesses the charges were dropped!!!

New supermarkets provided by foreign investors importing foreign food are putting local farmers and shops out of business. Government farming subsidies have been dropped or cut so farmers have no money to provide food storage, many farmers can only grow enough food to store in their homes. Foreign investment does not appear to be infiltrating down to the native population that is why the people are asking for more transparency from the Government.

Creation and Work was my second choice. Ellen Teague, Editor of 'Vocation for Justice' gave participants an opportunity to explore a theology of creation and how we understand the role of work.

Mass was celebrated by Bishop William Kenny.

Saturday's Question Time, was chaired by Bishop William Kenny and included in the panel, David McLoughlin and Rachel Maskell.

Children and Young People played their own vital part at the conference.

The above is just a flavour of what was discussed at the meeting.

For electronic copy contact Ann at admin@iustice-and-peace.org.uk

For further information about the Conference see www.iustice-and-peace.org.uk

Veronica Lynch
National Vice President

LEEDS

PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday 17th September saw a large contingent of pilgrims travel from Leeds to Walsingham by coach and car. Ann Shaw and myself, both members of St Thomas More Foundation Chickenley, were among those Pilgrims.

Following a very early start, we arrived in Walsingham just in time for the Noon Mass celebrated in the Chapel of Reconciliation - due to unexpectedly heavy rain showers. Happily, the rain stopped just as Mass was ending and it was 'non-stop' sunshine for the picnic in the Slipper Chapel Grounds, the Procession to the village and the outdoor Benediction at Elmham House.

We shared the day with Pilgrims from both Coventry and London - all of whom originated from Kerala, Southern India. Several of the ladies were wearing the traditional Saris! We felt it was wonderful to see so many families worshipping together and enjoying the uplifting atmosphere of Walsingham. At the end of the day we made the long journey back home, somewhat wearied by the return

journey but uplifted by an exhilarating day of pilgrimage.

Eileen Goodwin, Secretary,
St Thomas More Foundation, Chickenley

ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH, GARFORTH

Supper & Pop Legend Tribute Evening
On a dark and miserable evening in September UCM members, their families and friends, gathered in St Benedict's Parish Centre to be enticed by the smell and then the taste of handmade chocolate amoretta truffles, followed by homemade steak and ale pie. The evening's entertainment was provided by a Cliffe Richard tribute act (complete with leather trousers!)

An excellent evening was had by all and successfully raised £104 for the Medaille Trust.

WEDDING CELEBRATION

A Mass was said to celebrate the Golden Wedding of Christine and Lionel Kearney at St Benedict's Church, Garforth. Christine is member of the St Benedict's UCM Foundation. Their son, Father Gerald Kearney, who is the Parish Priest at St Benedict's Church, officiated. Following the Mass a party was held in the Parish Centre.

Janet Daniel Vice President, St Benedict's Foundation Garforth

LEEDS ROSARY RALLY

On 1st October I travelled with UCM members from Liverpool (complete with packed lunch and candle) to join in the sixth annual Rosary Rally, which was held in the beautiful Cathedral of Leeds. On the way we saw a beautiful 'white feather' in the clouds - surely a sign the angels were with us".

Diocesan President Aileen Queenan greeted us and made us feel most welcome and after a cup of tea we gathered in the Cathedral for Mass at noon. It was the feast day of St Terese of Liseaux and by chance I had brought the candle I had purchased in Liverpool Cathedral when I had gone there



Diocesan President Aileen Queenan (fourth from right) with some of her guests

to venerate the relics of St Terese and it was two years exactly since the relics had been in Leeds Cathedral. A most poignant moment.

Following Mass we adjourned to the meeting room for our picnic lunch and had the opportunity to catch up on news with our fellow friends and members.

Guests included members from Liverpool, Shrewsbury, Salford, Hallam, Middlesbrough, and Lancaster and National Officers, Maureen Mayers (International), Maureen Hurst (Public Service), Shirley Brooks (Welfare) and Veronica Lynch (Vice President); also present were past National and Diocesan Officers.

We assembled back in the Cathedral at 2pm for the Rosary, which began with a short meditation, and our written intentions were taken forward and placed in a box on the altar.

The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary were led by individual Officers, Mary Hallas (Past National Secretary), Mary Gilmartin (Past Diocesan President), Carol McKenny (Past Diocesan Treasurer), Shirley

Brooks and Veronica Lynch, and we processed around the Cathedral carrying our lighted candles in a most prayerful and meaningful Rosary.

After the final decade the candles were placed upon the altar steps and remained there until the end of the service.

Leeds Diocesan President Aileen Queenan gave an inspiring talk on St Terese and St Maximilian Colby who had both said 'Yes' to God.

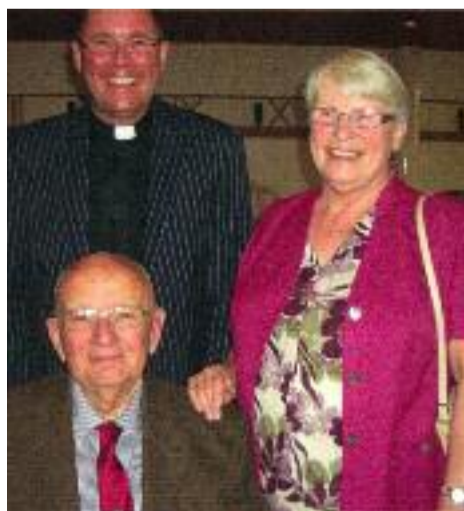
Benediction followed led by Mgr. Philip Moger, Dean of the Cathedral; Basil Walsh from Bradford played the organ and the soloist was Maureen Thompson.

Aileen would like to thank you all for your help and support of this, now annual, event.

We returned to the meeting room for a final drink and piece of cake before departing for home. I would like to thank Leeds Diocese for a wonderful spiritually uplifting day.

I have heard next year's event is all arranged! Please can I come again?

Val Ward,
Features Editor



L to R - Seated Lionel Kearney, standing Father Gerald Kearney, Christine Kearney

LIVERPOOL

Pilgrimage to Iona and Western Highlands

ON September 13 a small group of members together with our Chaplain, Fr. Mark Madden, travelled up to Scotland to visit Iona and trace the steps of St Columba.

Prior to our visit gale force winds swept across the country so we travelled up north through rain, not knowing what to expect.

We arrived at our hotel in the late afternoon and found all our rooms looked out across Loch Leven. The hotel was situated at the beginning of the Glencoe Pass.

The next morning after breakfast the hotel had set aside a small room where we could have mass and

they had set it up ready for us. The backdrop to the altar through the windows was a calm loch surrounded by the magnificent Glencoe mountain range.

The weather over the next couple of days was lovely although there was a slight breeze it was warm.

On Friday we set off for Iona. Due to the bad storms over the previous weekend, the main ferries sailing out of Oban were fully booked so we decided to Island hop to Iona; this involved taking three local ferries between the islands. It was very fine rain, but still warm. It takes 2 and half hours to get to Iona from Ballachulish. As we stepped off the ferry onto the island the sea was

washing over the runway and one person said it was if we were having our feet washed before stepping onto this holy island!

We went straight up to the Roman Catholic House of Prayer where we were having mass, there we were joined by a couple who were from Australia. The mass was offered for UCM intentions.

People who live on Iona told us that their nearest Catholic Church involved a 100 mile round trip.

In 1996 a resident of Iona Mary Burn-Murdoch bought a property, demolished it then rebuilt it as the Roman Catholic House of Prayer 'Hill of the Dove' this was officially opened by the then Archbishop Keith O'Brien in 1967 the 1400th anniversary of St Columba's death on Iona and after 400 years Roman Catholics had a place where they could come together in prayer and thanksgiving and also to celebrate Mass.

When we were waiting for the ferry to cross back to Mull we saw a pod of Dolphins swimming in Martyrs Bay. Journeying across Mull, we spotted an Eagle in full flight and a stag in a nearby field.

Throughout our travels in the Western Highlands Scotland was wearing its autumn colours. The backdrop of deep green



St George's Maghull

pine trees, surrounded by a mass of golden and red leaves from the foliage and on the ground a carpet of purple heather. Nature at its best.

On our last day we travelled up to Loch Ness (Nessie was no where to be seen) after some lunch and a visit to the museum we set off back to the hotel.

We travelled through a small village called Invermoriston, there we stopped off at St Columba's well. It is believed that there has been a well or spring on that site since early Pictish times. Up to the 6th century people believed the water was poisonous causing boils and ulcers if splashed on the skin. Then in AD565 St Columba was passing this place drove out the evil spirits around the well and blessed the water for all time.

The water was then

clean and pure and was said to have great curative powers. As we all stood round the well we said the Litany of St Columba and although the well is situated in a leafy and mossy glade the water was as clear as crystal, despite being by a main road there was an air of quietness around us. When we arrived back at the hotel Fr Mark said Mass.

This was a lovely way to end our pilgrimage. *Margaret McDonald President Archdiocese of Liverpool*

English Martyrs enjoyed a pilgrimage to Walsingham and raised £200 for the Air Ambulance service.

St. George's Maghull enjoyed a day out at Clitheroe. They had lunch at the Shireburn Hotel and finished the day at Oswaldtwistle Mill.

NOTTINGHAM

CHRISTMAS BOXES FOR SEAMEN

LADIES from most foundations in the Diocese gathered in Holy Cross Church Whitwick for Mass.

We then moved top the hall to fill empty shoeboxes with goodies for the foreign seamen who come through our ports bringing cargo destined for the UK.

We filled about 45 boxes and sent three large bags of left over goods.

These will be taken to Immingham in the NE of our diocese for the Apostleship of the Sea to give to the seamen at

Christmas.

All the goods we collected were sorted into piles and then we filled the boxes.

Goods sent included woolly hats and mittens, socks, underwear, assorted men's toiletries, note pads, pens, envelopes and other goods, including an individual Christmas card.

The boxes were then wrapped in Christmas paper ready for Maureen Jones to take to Immingham for them to deal with.

We finished with a shared table lunch before we made our way home.

Geraldine Hallam, Media Officer



Father Bill

NORTHAMPTON

ROSARY RALLY

OUR UCM held its Rosary Rally at Our Diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Great Billing. This was our Third Rosary Rally and Our Topic was Safeguarding our children from harmful media influences.

We were welcomed by Fr Damien who reminded us how prayer was very powerful, and almost immediately prayers had been answered in our Diocese after our previous rallies. We started our day by celebrating Mass in The beautiful Chapel Shrine. Our Speaker was Elizabeth Brown who is Faith and Policy Advisor for The Mothers Union.

She gave a very inspiring talk entitled 'Recapture Childhood' and said that children should be

valued as children and not treated as a consumer commodity. She explained acronyms such as KGOY, (Kids getting older younger), and media phrases such as 'Age Compression' (taking themes aimed at adults and directing them at young children) She outlined Reg Bailey's report for the Government on the subject and how a positive result has recently come from this.

The British Retailers Consortium was so concerned about their code of practice being undermined that it has set up a website entitled 'parentport' for people to contact if they have any complaints, also the Internet Service Providers will put Parental Control on their computers; if consumers ask them the ISP will customise your computer.

These measures have government backing. After a friendly

shared lunch we continued with The Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary with reflections on the theme read by UCM mothers, a candle was lit in front of The Icon of Our Lady during a quiet time of prayer. Petitions were then placed in front of the Altar.

Our wonderful day concluded with Benediction and Divine Praises, We said a prayer for England and sang Lady of Walsingham before embarking on our journey home.

We were delighted by the number attending Our Rally (a portaloo was shipped in for the event!) and also delighted with the message of support from Aileen Queenan from Leeds Diocese, and thank them for giving us the inspiration for these wonderful days.

Jenny Hyde, Media officer

MIDDLESBROUGH

NORMA BECKETT

PRESENTED with a certificate for 53 years in the UCM- the 50th one was obviously overlooked! Norma is an independent member and was formally a member of the Redcar Foundation which closed a few years ago.

WELL DONE FATHER BILL!

ST AELRED'S (York) Union of Catholic Mothers and Parishioners have been supporting their Parish Priest in a sponsored swim.

On September 24th Fr. Bill Serplus set off for Strathclyde Country Park in North Lanarkshire for the British Gas Great Scottish Swim, this being Scotland's largest outdoor swim event.

The country park has been chosen as the venue for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Earlier in the year Fr. Bill had decided on this event and throughout the year had been preparing to swim outdoors by wearing a wet suit for the first time in a lake near York and then by improving his swimming indoors. The swim should have been 2k but due to the inclement weather the organizers reduced this slightly to 1 mile.

As this was Fr Bills first venture into outdoor swimming it was met with a certain amount of fear and trepidation especially when the water temperature was 12.8C! Nearly 2000 swimmers entered the water and Fr. Bill was placed 519th overall. In his age group he was 80th with a time of 35mins-48sec.

The amount raised to be divided between St Aelred's Building fund and the Alzheimer's Society. Special congratulations must go to Fr. Bill for all the effort and preparation that he had put into the event and also to the parishioners of St Aelred's at this stage £1070 has been promised.

Kath Stubbs St Aelred's UCM York

PORTSMOUTH

CARDINAL NEWMAN

THE 31st annual Joint Mass for the CWL and UCM in Portsmouth Diocese was held on Saturday 17th September. This year we were most fortunate to have Dr. Joyce Sugg as our speaker to talk about the life of Bl. Cardinal John Henry Newman. She is an authority on Cardinal Newman, you may recall her as one of the panel discussing his life during the Beatification Mass.

Dr. Sugg proved an excellent speaker and very knowledgeable about the Cardinal taking us deeper into his life than perhaps we already knew and kept our attention for best part of an hour following which she answered several questions.

She is called on regularly to lecture on Newman's life both in UK and abroad including America. Dr. Sugg has written several books about aspects of the Cardinal's life bringing some along, both her own and other author's writings, for members to browse and consider.

Recommended books are:

John Henry Newman – A Mind Alive Dartmann & Todd

Snapdragon in the Wall by Dr. Joyce Sugg - published by Birmingham Orationary

Ever Yours Affly, by Dr. Joyce Sugg - anthology of letters which JH wrote to the women who came into his life.

Realisation of Newman's Sermons, by Vincent Blehl - an American publication which Joyce thought the best.

Pat DurrantMedia Officer



MESSAGE FROM JEAN HARTNELL'S GRANDSON

Jean and her husband John came to grandparenthood later in life than most and they have been overwhelmed by the response of UCM friends to their joy.

"Hello! My name is Isaac Peter Hartnell. I thought you may like a photo of me, especially after you have sent so many good wishes and cards after my birth.

All this publicity has been due to the Portsmouth Media Officer. I was pleased I was able to arrive at a memorable time for the Portsmouth members – the news reached them whilst they were in Southampton Airport Arrivals on their way back from Guernsey. Let us hope I can always be so obliging! Since then I have tried not to be too troublesome to everyone - they say I am a contented baby and I try to be.

Of course when you read this I will be seven or more months old so will have grown even more and doing all sorts of things. My love to all the UCM ladies."

DURING the summer months our Mothers took advantage of the lovely weather and went to visit two of the lovely historic houses over the 'bridge' into Cornwall.

We live very close to these houses which date back to the early 15th century, Lanhydrock House and the vast gardens belonging to Mount Edgecombe, we took a couple of husbands and baby Harry to Mount Edgecombe and had Lunch and a cream tea. Harry tried out an old horse trough and didn't wish to get out but the lure of a milky button won the day.

After visiting the magnificent Lanhydrock House some of the Mothers braved a ride around the estate on a trailer pulled by a tractor, although getting into the trailer was a challenge, and a few creaking joints it was worth the ride.

Myself and other mothers attended an event held in the Plymouth Pavilions, September 2011 called

'Made for Love'; an event to mark a year since Pope Benedict visited the UK, and where Bishop Christopher Budd, many Priests and over 1500 people attended to celebrate all those whose life and work is carried out in the name of the Catholic Diocese of Plymouth.

One of the moments of the event, for me personally, was a talk given by Sister Helen Prejean, an American Nun who became the Spiritual Advisor to a man on Death Row, Louisiana, America, and who was condemned to die in the electric chair.

After his execution she decided to share her experiences with the Prisoner, the Prison Guards and other Death Row Inmates, the Families and the American Judicial System.

She wrote a book entitled 'Dead Man Walking', which became a Hollywood block buster.

Her talk was thought provoking and inspiring and had a lasting and profound effect on me; Sister Helen is a very eloquent and passionate speaker, I could have listened to her for hours!!

We continue to raise money for various charities, our most recent being for CAFOD, involving ourselves in the song for CAFOD 'Count on Us', which our Mothers had practiced and on the day, 18th October 2011, we sang the song nearly note perfect.

In late September mothers from the Cathedral and Plymouth Foundation went on an Ecumenical Pilgrimage, to Walsingham with the RC Cathedral and St Peters CoE Church Plymouth. We were fortunate and had very good weather.

The journey to Walsingham is always a challenge from Plymouth as it takes about eight hours to reach our

destination.

Whilst we were there we met a group from St Thomas More, Niagara Falls, Canada.

This was a first visit to Walsingham, and a first visit to England for most of their group and, we were invited to join them on the Pilgrim Mile.

They told us that part of their Pilgrimage was to visit as many of the Churches of St Thomas More that were in London and Birmingham; they did think our countryside was beautiful, and Walsingham was how they imagined a Holy Place to be, and were surprised it didn't rain(all the time).

Sadly the lady who originally helped organize the Pilgrimage Maureen Goddard became terminally ill and died the day after we returned to Plymouth.

Caroline Mills, Media Officer

SALFORD

CATHOLIC FAMILY CARE
AGM 8TH OCTOBER 2011

ON Saturday 8th October we all gathered in the lovely church of St. Bernadette Whitfield Bury, for Mass and AGM of Catholic Family Care.

(CFC) previously known as Catholic Needlework Guild, a registered charity under the Patronage of Our Lady and St. Peter.

Mrs. Ann Barrett President opened the meeting and welcomed all present and asked Father Wilson to lead the CFC Prayer.

Mrs. Marjory Dyson M.B.E. (awarded for her work as Creche coordinator at the magistrates court), treasurer of CFC read her report and told us that in the last year:-

Garments received 2,641
Garments Distribute 2,861
Shoes Bought 564 pr

She said the quality of goods received was as always of a very good quality.

Each member contributes two warm garments and 50p, per year juniors under sixteen donate one garment and 25p.

At least three UCM foundations

in Salford support CFC very well. In the picture are all the committee Ann Barrett, Moira Beardwood, Pat Skelly, and Ann Smith (diocesan Media officer) all from St. Mary and St. Philip Neri Radcliffe foundation, with Marjori Dyson from St. Bernadette's and Father Wilson spiritual advisor.

All the goods go to people a little less well of than most. In our Diocese,

requests come from social services, S.V.P., U.C.M. and Schools. Help with school uniforms and shoes are also available. Layettes are made up Blankets, Towels, and Clothes for 9-12 months.

It was announced that help was greatly needed, if people from Salford could give a couple of hours of their time perhaps once a month on Tuesday and Friday between 10.30am and 2.30pm, to assist in receiving sorting, packing, making up layettes. If interested please ring 07949356503.

ST HILDA'S
TOTTINGTON BURY

A special Mass and social was held at St. Hilda's Tottington Bury, Salford Diocese on the 23rd

of June 2011, to celebrate 60 years of UCM, the event was very well attended by surrounding foundations and representatives from various denominations. Also present was Mrs. Shirley Hanley Salford president with all committee and officers.

During the Mass long term certificates were presented to Edna Nuttall 60yrs, Catherine Barratt and Winifred Brooks 50yrs, Bette Fletcher, Margaret Kay, Sheila Murphy, and Maureen Woodward 40yrs, Jennifer Carroll, Joanne Cartledge, Margaret Conroy, Kim Fletcher, Jean Gee, Lorraine Howarth and Veronica Mountcastle 25yrs.

Then in the Parish hall for refreshments and entertainment.

A most enjoyable evening well done to everyone.

Also at St. Hilda's in June, Jean Gee and Maureen Woodward raised £500 in aid of The Rossendale and Pendle Mountain Rescue Team by climbing Pendle Hill, all of its 1,827 feet. What a feat rather than me! Well done to you both.

*Iris Riley
Diocesan Secretary*



Catholic Family Care Team



St Hilda's Celebrations

WELCOME

ST MICHAEL'S KNOTTINGLEY LEEDS



L to R, Janet Crawshaw, Canon Lawrie Hulme, Maxine Anderson and Aileen Queenan

UCM 'COMING OF AGE' AT ST MICHAEL'S KNOTTINGLEY

At our July meeting this year St Michael's UCM celebrated the 21st Anniversary of the Foundation's formation on 10th July 1990.

This was a double celebration as during the Mass of Thanksgiving a new member, Janet Crawshaw, was enrolled

by Canon Lawrie Hulme and our Diocesan President, Aileen Queenan. After the Mass, which was also attended by members from other local foundations, there was a short meeting followed by celebratory drinks and light refreshments.

Maxine Anderson
President, St Michael's
Foundation

SOUTHWARK

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL, HYTHE.

On 13th July our new Parish Priest, Fr. Ave Bermundo, enrolled Hazel Barnes, Sheila Hardy and Mildred Howley.

Our three new members bring us a wealth of experience in their faith - Hazel being an ok) friend of our UCM who was among the Anglicans welcomed into the Church at Easter and sisters-in-law Sheila (formerly a member of CWL Canada) and

Mildred recently moved from Bromley to Hythe. After enrolment and Benediction we celebrated with a small party and discovered Fr. Ave's musical talent as he entertained us on the guitar.

Gillian Badcock, President
Canterbury Foundation

Three new members were enrolled at Canterbury Foundation on 2nd October.

SHREWSBURY

SACRED HEART MORETON

At the Diocesan Mass on Sunday 6th November at St Alban's Church, Liscard, Spiritual Advisor Fr. Michael Murray enrolled Anne Skinner from Sacred

Heart Foundation, Moreton into the Union of Catholic Mothers.

Anne was supported by many members from the Foundation and after Mass refreshments were taken in the Parish Centre.



Val Ward Foundation President, Anne Skinner, Paddy Roberts, Diocesan President and Fr Michael Murray

SALFORD'S NEW CHAPLAIN

THE New Chaplain of Salford UCM is Father Anthony Sudlow. Fr Anthony is assistant priest at Salford Cathedral and was ordained on 26th June 2010 after four years training and studying at the Pontifical Beda College, Rome, as a mature student for the Sacred Priesthood.

A local 'boy' Fr Anthony is a former parishioner of Corpus Christi, Miles Platting, where he was born and brought up, at-

tending that school and also Xaverian College, Manchester. A widower, Fr Anthony was married to his dear wife, Marie for over 37 years until her death in 2004.

They were involved in SVP and the Crusade of Mary Immaculate and were both enthusiastic annual pilgrims to Lourdes. We welcome Fr Anthony to UCM, Salford, and wish him every success in his new post.

Maureen Hirst



At our September bi-monthly Mass at St Oswald's, Fr Mark enrolled five new members from St Margaret Mary's foundation.

Michelle Rusk, Cathy Boardman, Diane Callaghan,

Stella Wildeman and Clair Egan who was enrolled with her Mothers Badge.

They are pictured with Fr Mark and Archdiocesan President Margaret McDonald.

Ann Hogg,
Media Officer

Catholic Woman of the Year

MARY OUR RADIO STAR

It is Wednesday 10th August and I have just finished listening to Mary Vaughan from Northwood Foundation and one of the Catholic Women of the Year 2011, speaking on Premier Christian Radio, about her experiences of being a pen friend to many people on Death Row in the USA.

Mary has always enjoyed letter writing and in 2001, read about becoming a pen friend to these people.

She has befriended many prisoners since she first found out about *Human Writes!*

It gives the prisoners some sort of contact with the outside world, without condoning their actions, but letting them know that there is someone out there, thinking of them and giving them encouragement to carry on while being kept in very, very harsh conditions.

Being on Death Row is not at all like 'normal' prison.

They are in solitary confinement for 23 hours of the day and for one hour let out into the 'exercise' yard which is nothing as it seems, but only a small area which is caged. They can however, converse with other prisoners while on exercise and this enables them to at least have some fresh air, even for a short amount of time.

Some of the prisoners have lost all contact with the outside world, their friends and families, either because of the stigma it carries and also the distance from where they once lived.

Mary's interview came over loud and clear without any hesitation or sign of nerves.

She made it most interesting, although it was harrowing to imagine what it must be like in that situation. Mary was able to give a deeper insight into 'Human Writes' itself!

She has visited Death Row three times now and told of a happy ending for one of the prisoners who, through his lawyer having one last stab to clear his name, had DNA re-tested.

It was found that after 23 years on Death Row, this man was not even at the scene of crime and so was exonerated and released.

He came over and visited with Mary and her family and while in England met a lady whom he later married and

they now have a daughter.

I am sure that we all congratulate Mary on her fine work that she does and is an inspiration to us all.

Anyone who might be interested in finding out more about 'Human Writes' log onto - www.humanwrites.org

The Spelling of Human Writes is of course a play on words

Val Gould, Media Officer
Archdiocese of Westminster

Mary Vaughan has been a friend of our family since 1998 when our daughter Elizabeth, was a member of the RCIA support group when Mary was received into the Church. She has since become a valued member of our parish, and is particularly in demand as a Reader when her clear and confident delivery is put to good use.

Mary is a devoted wife to Tony, mother to Paul and Howard and grandmother to Isobel. She is also one of the busiest people I know but manages to include a swim at the local gym in her daily routine.

I think you could say that Mary is making good use of the many gifts which God has given her, particularly at this stage in her life, by her work with the prisoners on Death Row.

By giving of her time and energy so selflessly, she is certainly "caring for those experiencing difficulties and generous in support" as we say in our UCM Membership Prayer.

Monica Scudder

Star of Ocean

*Sometimes a child is born who doesn't cry or not much;
who sleeps calmly through the night
eats sprouts without more than a cat's-face
grimace of disgust, and shares its toys;
a child who is good, but not disliked; who's born
without a selfish gene.*

*If you have ever thought of the Mary
(Virgin, mother of Christ)*

*perhaps it was someone just like that.
I think you're wrong.*

*I think that Mary was a Boudicca
A Katy in 'What Katy did', Elizabeth of Hungary,
Lady Godiva*

*or one of Shakespeare's feistier heroines.
If you were God, choosing a mother to bring up your
Son, your Self, who would you pick?*

*A characterless white mouse, a nullity?
Little Dorrit? Nell?*

*or someone with the steel to bear the weight of hope and
love and death?*

*Someone unformed, as rough as carborundum;
someone who would be polished by her choice*

into a sapphire with a perfect star.

Lynn Roberts

one of her five poems sequence 'Rosa Mundi'

The closing date for items for inclusion in the Spring (March) edition of The Catholic Mother Newspaper is 11th February 2012. Last date for Eternal Rest is 16th February 2012.

SHREWSBURY

Garden Party Fundraiser

On a lovely summer's day in August our Treasurer, Bernadette Keogh held a Garden Party to help raise funds for various causes. We had a contingent of Irish Relatives of Mrs Keogh who came over from Ireland and joined our UCM members and friends for an enjoyable afternoon with cream teas, raffles, tombola, 'Good as New' and cake stalls.

The event was a great success, raising a total of £750 of which was split between our UCM funds, Famine Relief and also a local child with Cerebral Palsy, who is hoping to go to America for an operation.

May Shepherd St Mary's Foundation, Dukinfield

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Members of Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Joseph, Seacombe UCM with Bishop Mark Davies in July 2011. See photo below.

St Luke's Foundation Fundraiser for MacMillan



St Luke's Frodsham

Nurses

In the summer, members of St Luke's Foundation in Frodsham raised £450 when they held a coffee evening and raffle at their local church selling jewellery, handbags, scarves and cakes to raise money for MacMillan Nurses.

Every year the ladies hold a special evening to raise money for a chosen charity and this year's event was

a great success. We were delighted to see our fundraiser was reported in the local newspaper, The Chronicle.

Sue Smith, Secretary, St Luke's Foundation, Frodsham

Annual Mass

St Wilfrid's Church in Northwich hosted this year's Annual Mass. Guest of honour was National President Sheila Goodchild and other guests included Teresa Metcalfe CWL President, officers and members of the Diocese of Salford and Archdiocese of Liverpool. Mass followed the procession of banners and at the end of Mass 50 year certificates were presented by the National President to Cath Morrison from St Anne's Foundation, Rock Ferry, Kathleen Manley from St Mary's Dukinfield and Angela Barry Holy Apostles and Martyrs afternoon group. Refreshments were served in the Parish Hall and Diocesan President Paddy Roberts presented a gift to Sheila Goodchild as a memento of her visit.

Marian Hughes, Media Officer



Back row L to R Anne Jones, Norah Jeffrey, Sarah Fleming, Mary Craven, Kathleen Davies, Bernadette Davies Front Row L to R Sheila Robertson, Joan Roberts, Bishop Mark and Joan Walsh

WESTMINSTER

MARYLEBONE FOUNDATION

Sponsored walk for the Cardinal Hume Centre and other good things too!

On Sunday 29 July, members and families of Marylebone UCM did their annual sponsored walk around Regents Park in aid of the Cardinal Hume Centre in Victoria.

This year the Centre is celebrating its 25th anniversary. When Cardinal Hume established the Centre in 1986 it was to help some of the poorest people

he saw living in Westminster - homeless young people sleeping rough and families in need. Today the Centre supports the homeless, badly housed families and local people with little or no income, enabling people to break out of poverty and lead better lives.

In October last year the UCM did bag-packing one Saturday at Sainsbury's Victoria and raised £475 for the Centre. This July, with the generosity of friends, Father Terence and parishioners of Our Lady of the Rosary Church, we raised a further £3,000 to help with its vital work.

Please see photos attached of the UCM and



Presenting Cheque

families at the start of the walk - some people are wearing Cardinal Hume Centre t-shirts; and members of the UCM with Sandra Deebles from the Centre accepting the cheque for £3,000 at Mass on Sunday 9 October.

I also attach a photo of our recruitment poster for the Church that one of our mothers designed, showing pictures of us on the walk as well as our annual kids Christmas party.

We will be bag packing again in November - this time for a Mother and Baby centre in Kenya

Ann-Marie Darcy President UCM Marylebone



At the start of the walk



Recruitment Poster

SOUTHWARK

Memorial Mass for Maureen McVann

On Monday 3rd October 2011, Southwark UCM celebrated a Memorial Mass for Maureen McVann who died on 6th May 2011. Maureen was a UCM member at New Maiden, and then came on Southwark Diocesan Committee, becoming Diocesan President in 1999.

Following this she was asked to go on National Council, and ultimately became National President. Maureen was a very special lady, always caring for others and her love of UCM showed in her tremendous leadership.

She had a wonderful sense of humour and brought fun to all our activities.

The Memorial Mass was a reflection of her specialness.

THE WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

On Friday, September 30th, St Joseph's Foundation, New Maiden port.

This was attended by parishioners, other UCM members, friends, members from other churches and people from the local community.

Of course in true UCM style we ran a Cake Stall and a Raffle!

The weather was beautiful, which added to a successful and enjoyable event.

For this very worthy cause we were delighted to raise -£1,295-55!



Fish and Chips All Round!

Fish and Chip Supper

ST JOSEPH'S New Malden held their annual fish and chip supper on Tuesday July 12th in the Parish pastoral Centre.

Those attending including parishioners, friend and UCM members. The desserts were provided by members and of course there was the usual UCM raffle!

It was a very enjoyable evening, *Maureen Jakob, President*

HEDNESFORD PILGRIMAGE

On Sunday September 11th, 70 ladies from the Wolverhampton Section of the Birmingham Diocese descended on Hednesford together with their diocesan officers for their annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Lourdes.

Mass was concelebrated by our new Spiritual Director Fr Patrick Brennan from Our Lady's Cannock and Fr Philip Newbold, Parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Hednesford. Following Mass we processed to the Grotto, which has been beautifully refurbished since

last year; here we recited a decade of the Rosary. The sun shone on us the whole afternoon.

We then returned to church for Benediction.

Afterwards we went to the hall, newly refurbished after a flood last year and were welcomed by the ladies of Hednesford with a sumptuous tea and wonderful hospitality.

Altogether, a wonderful afternoon both spiritually and socially.

Margaret Holmes Wolverhampton Section President



Hednesford Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

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More Photos of the National President's Pilgrimage to Rome



WALSINGHAM WHISPERS FROM OUR 66TH NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

MONDAY evening the Church of Reconciliation was filled to capacity. The Statue was carried in resplendent in its flower carpet.

The Service of Light was lovely, at the end of which the procession of our blessed candle carried by our National President to the Slipper Chapel takes place, the candle remains lighting throughout out whole pilgrimage, and it is from this candle that all the candles carried in the Torchlight Procession are lit.

It was rewarding to see so many members respond to the plea from the Walsingham Administrating Committee to come off the steps before lighting your candles.

It was a great sight, to see members set off in procession with lighted candles into a lovely evening just starting to get dark, to walk along the Pilgrims Way to the Village and the Prayer Garden in which Fr Alan Williams the Shrine Administrator lead us in some short Night Prayers to end the evening.

Tuesday was a bright sunny day. Bishop Terence Brain, Bishop Alan Hopes Auxiliary Bishop Westminster 40 Priests and two Deacons concelebrated our Mass and joined in our afternoon procession to the Abbey Grounds.

This was again a reflective Silent Procession dwelling on this year's theme.

Fr David Irwin, Westminster Chaplin wrote following our Pilgrimage of how special the Service of the Sick in the Abbey Grounds is and how privileged he felt to be part of it, this same sentiment had been expressed by Fr Douglas Bull Southwark the previous year, however Fr David Irwin commented that he did not know of this service until asked to take part in this year.

We must try and have our Diocesan Chaplin's more informed in

future.

Many letters of thanks have been received also some helpful comments all of which have been considered and will be acted on if found useful. Now at the start of a new year in the life of our Walsingham Pilgrimage we are busy making plans for next year.

Sister Bernice the Marist Sister who had been working at the Shrine having replaced Sr Marina last year, has now had to retire through ill health, it is going to be difficult to find a replacement for her within the Order so prayers needed please.

On November 11 some members of our Committee will be in Walsingham attending the Planning Meeting to arrange next year's Liturgy for our Pilgrimage, which will be our 67th on 2nd & 3rd July 2012.

The Walsingham Sub Committee wish to thank all our Stewards for their invaluable assistance throughout the day, without which life would have been very hard.

To the many other volunteer stewards and road Marshalls provided by the KSC from Kings Lynn for their invaluable assistance in the afternoon, all of which is greatly valued by our Committee, also a big thank you to Westminster our Lead Diocese this year, to Mrs Janette Woodford President and all there Stewards who were really a great team and who so good naturedly carried out all their duties.

Thank you to you our pilgrims who make the effort to come along to the pilgrimage this year, it makes an extra special and holy two days, and we all then go home feeling up-lifted and refreshed ready to face the coming year.

The Walsingham Sub-committee wish all our members a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

Kate, Brigid, Joan and Una

ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

Horley Foundation

On the 14th July, Horley Foundation had their Annual Strawberry Tea and were joined by Diocesan President, Mrs Joan Hodge

and members of Merstham Foundation. As well as Strawberries and Cream, they enjoyed homemade Shortbreads, Sponges, and Trifles, etc. Each year members bring

delicious extras – not good for the figure but delicious.

On Tuesday 19th July, we celebrated Father Ian Vane's Silver Jubilee Mass attended by Bishop Kieran, to priests

and our congregation. Lola Patterson, who is 94, our oldest parishioner and a member of the UCM, presented our gifts to Father Ian.

Pat Flanagan Secretary



L-R Hazel Seymour, Pat Flanagan, Joan Hodge, Sandra Maishman, Jean Longley and Jean Kelly



Lola presents gifts to Fr Ian

From the National President



THE year has rushed by so quickly and the summer is now a memory. I do hope that you all enjoyed your holidays and have returned feeling refreshed. Throughout the summer months I have been kept busy visiting various dioceses on your behalf, a very enjoyable occupation.

Early in September we flew to Italy for The UCM National Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi. For some like myself and Tony who had not been before it was an awesome experience, so much to see, with wall to wall sunshine. Our Hotel was so close to St Peter's. The early morning Mass at the Tomb of St Peter in the crypt was inspiring as there were very few people about.

The highlight was the Papal Audience, 10,000 people all gathered inside as it was too hot outside and everyone would have melted in the heat. We all cheered and waved with our arms held high when it was announced that The UCM from England was present at the audience. The Pope then spoke to us in English a truly memorable experience.

Mass was said in many churches including Parrocchia Saint Anna, Basilica Sant' Agostino. We also visited the Tomb of St. Monica and St. Paul's outside the walls. We left Rome by coach for Assisi, so beautiful and peaceful. We had Mass at lower Assisi in the church of St. Maria Degli Angeli. The next day we were transported by minivans to St. Francis Hermitage, it seemed like the top of the world. You could feel the peace of the surrounding countryside. We also visited San Damiano and the Basilica of St. Clare. To be in the very place where they lived their lives was truly holy.

I would like to say thank you to all of you who accompanied me on this Pilgrimage for the love and prayers, friendship and laughter we shared in spite of the early mornings, and the walking.

The clocks will change shortly so winter is on its way. During the next few weeks as we approach Christmas and look forward to the Birth of the Infant Jesus, let us remember those who are sick and housebound and also those who have died.

May I on behalf of the National Committee wish you and your families a very happy and Holy Christmas, God bless you and your loved ones.

Sheila

Diary Dates 2012

- 21 January – Westminster Diocese
- 23 January – NBCW Executive Meeting
- 3 March – Leeds Diocese
- 5-7 March – UCM Wales National Conference
- 21 – 23 March – National Study/Welfare Days
- 28 April – Tri-Annual National Mass, St John's Cathedral, Norwich – 2.00pm,
- 19 May – NBCW Executive Meeting
- 21-23 May – National Council, Swanwick

World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations

THE World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) would like to congratulate Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Leymah Gbowee and Tawakkul Karman for jointly being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2011 for their non-violent struggle for the safety of women and for women's rights to full participation in peace-building work.

WUCWO is committed to

protecting all human life and dignity and we seek to join our efforts with all men and women of good will in building a culture of justice and peace.

We realise the great potential for democracy and peace that women represent.

We know that women throughout the world reach out anew each day to build peace and promote human rights

through simple actions offered with great love, that countless women are working tirelessly every day for the good of humanity: to right the wrongs which exist in their communities, countries and the world at large.

Founded in 1910 and headquartered in Paris, WUCWO is comprised of almost 90 member organisations from more than 60 countries, representing

more than five million women worldwide.

For more information please contact:

Maria Giovanna Ruggieri, President
General World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations (WUCWO) wucwopregen@gmail.com
woparis@wanadoo.fr
or Liliane Stevenson, Secretary General wucwosecgen@gmail.com
Please visit our website: www.wucwo.org

† Eternal rest grant to them O Lord †

BIRMINGHAM

Rosa ZUBAC, St Mary's Foundation, Cannock
Marge PICKERILL, Holy Cross Foundation, Stone Cross
Sarah PAWLAK, St Mary's Foundation, Cannock

CLIFTON

Hugh MacDONALD, husband of Midie, St Dominic's Foundation
Bill SCANLON, husband of Gertrude Past President of Clifton Diocese
Christine HALE, Past President of Clifton Diocese

EAST ANGLIA

Sybil DRURY, Dereham Foundation
Betty EVANS, Dereham Foundation
Peggie MALONE, Dereham Foundation

LANCASTER

Jean ALDERSON, St Patrick's Foundation, Heysham

LEEDS

Margaret CASSERLY, St Clare's Foundation, Bradford (Previously St Peter's Foundation)
Mary FOX, St Clare's Foundation, Bradford (Previously St Mary's Foundation)
Mary SYKES, St Ignatius Foundation, Ossett

LIVERPOOL

Fr Michael WILLIAMS, Hospital Chaplain

and parishioner of Holy Rosary
Brian CAMERON husband of Terry also Ivy CONNELLY mother of Terry, Blessed Sacrament Foundation

Peggy FEARON, Blessed Sacrament Foundation
Chrissie FOGERTY, Blessed Sacrament Foundation

Harry OVERMEER, husband of Ella, St Helen's Foundation, Crosby
May CONNELLY, St. Edmund's Foundation, Waterloo
Anthony BURKE, husband of Pat, St Gregory's Foundation, Lydiate
Ann DARBY, sister in law of Sheila, St Gregory's Foundation, Lydiate

MIDDLESBROUGH

Celia CLIFT, St Margaret Clitherow Foundation, York
Bernadette ROWAN, St Margaret Clitherow Foundation, York

PORTSMOUTH

Peter WILLIS, husband of Carol, Fareham Foundation
John LAMBKIN, husband of Anne, Study Day Officer, Yateley Foundation

SALFORD

Sheila MULLANEY, St Patrick's Foundation, Rochdale
Kenneth BURGESS, husband of Marie, St Teresa's, Foundation, Irlam

Angela GREENE, St John's Foundation, Corton

SHREWSBURY

Erna BAMFORTH, St Joseph's Foundation, Malpas
Peggy SMITH, Holy Apostles and Martyrs Foundation (afternoon group) Wallasey
Marjorie MAHER, Sacred Heart & St Peter, Baguley
Eunice NOLAN, Holy Family, Sale Moor
Pat RATHBONE, Holy Apostles and Martyrs, (evening group) Wallasey

SOUTHWARK

Margaret SCALES, Holy Cross Foundation Catford
Donal O'CONNELL husband of Rosa, Holy Cross Foundation Catford
Ellen DAVIES, Walworth Foundation
Marriette DILL, Walworth Foundation
Tom O'BRIEN husband of Moira, Walworth Foundation
Maura KELLY, Norbury Foundation
Gerard TIMMINS, husband of Hazel, Norbury Foundation
Betty MAJOR, St Joseph's Foundation, New Malden.

WESTMINSTER

Anne KIELY, White City Foundation
Muriel AGIUS, North Finchley Foundation

A place of welcome – Reporting from Africa

IN the summer I went to Africa, for the first time, to attend the 13 World Congress of the International Commission of Catholic Pastoral Prison Care.

It was the first time that the Congress had been held in Africa and The Cameroons was the country to host us. About one hundred and fifty people attended from all over the world: men and women, ordained and lay, who serve in the world's prisons in chaplaincy work on behalf of the Church.

This was the fifth Congress I had attended in my capacity as the Catholic liaison bishop for prisons in England and Wales. The world congress is held every three to four years and I had been to Poland, Mexico, Ireland and Rome before this year in Cameroon.

Attending the Congress

as part of the Executive Committee I was required to make various visits with the other members of the Executive Committee to dignitaries both of the Government and the Church.

We attended the Ministry of Justice and met the Minister together with the whole of his senior management team and Heads of Department, about 30 people in all.

They placed considerable value in the fact that the Catholic Church had chosen Cameroon for the conference and it became clear that they had given great assistance to the Catholic Church in preparing for the Congress, and it was good to see. Presents were exchanged and we all came away with copies of the Constitution of Cameroon in English and French since, like Canada, the country is bilingual. I donated mine to the Catholic



University library where it will get better use than at Wardley Hall.

We also paid our respects to the Apostolic Nuncio and the local Archbishop of Yaounde, where we were holding the Congress in the Catholic University campus. One evening, the Bishops' Conference of Cameroon hosted a Reception for the Executive Committee which was hosted by

two cardinals and four archbishops – one of whom was a friend of Bishop Crispian Hollis. A very splendid buffet had been prepared by the Catholic women's society who also served the guests and hosts, then the Bishops' Conference staff, then the chauffeurs and door staff, then the ladies who had prepared the food were served and we all ate to-

gether, one big family. I told the ladies that, at home, I was the chaplain bishop for the UCM which caused a giggle and was an opportunity for a photograph. I promised to publish the photo in the *Catholic Mother* paper and sent them a copy.

If I can get the technology right you will see the photo in this edition. This is the reason that I have been

telling you about my trip to Africa – to introduce Seraphine, the President of CWA and her team of ladies who, like Catholic women all over the world, are supporting and collaborating with their skills and experience in making the church a place of welcome: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me" Matt 25:35.

Teresa Rain

NORTH STAFFS UCM VISIT TO COLWICH ABBEY

ON Sunday September 25th a coach load of North Staffs UCM members set off for their annual Day of Recollection at Colwich Abbey. We arrived there at ten fifteen with time to have a drink before mass at eleven o'clock.

Fr mPeter Weatherby Dean of North Staffordshire and our spiritual leader said the mass and remained leader for the day. At

twelve noon we joined the nuns for the Angelus and then their daily office after which it was time for lunch.

Packed lunches were the order of the day and instead of queuing up to wait for the one kettle to boil several times; as we did in previous visits, we could use the tea urn that we had bought as a present for the nuns. This was also the time to meet up with friends

from the various foundations. It was a lovely sunny day so some went for a stroll in the grounds during the lunch break.

At 1.45 we met up again in the hall for the talk by Fr Weatherby titled "Ten things we don't know about the new translation of the mass."

It turned into a question and answer session. This brought out some likes and dislikes. One of the

comments was that we are so intent on reading the new words we were not concentrating on the mass. From Father's point of view, he said that because of the changes he had to read from the missal instead of looking at the congregation. Of course this would soon change when we had got used to it.

Time went by quickly and it was soon time for quiet prayer and

exposition, during which the sacrament of reconciliation was available.

The day was brought to a close with Benediction. Before leaving for the coach we were joined by the nuns for a chat and some of their delicious homemade fruit cake and a cup of tea.

We thanked them for their hospitality and then presented them with a donation of 80 pounds.

BIRMINGHAM



L to R Peggy Keenan, Sadie McCormick, Anne Coughlan, Fr Dan, Angela Levins

St Ambrose Foundation Kidderminster

On Thursday the 29th of September, St Ambrose's UCM in Kidderminster organized a great night of entertainment in aid of our chosen charity Sight Concern. The event was well attended, both by UCM members and the parish itself.

All the acts that took part, gave their time for free. The main star was a young lady called Laura Broad (who is destined for big things). She has appeared on TV and at various music events. As well as some outside talented singers, we had our own talented

ladies performing also. The grand finale of which was a fairy routine, complete with tutus.

An enjoyable night for everyone concerned, which brought attention to our cause Sight Concern and in turn ourselves at the UCM.

Miriam Cunliffe

Sacred Heart and Holy Souls Foundation

At a gathering in our parish to welcome new parishioners of different nationalities, everyone brought their homeland traditional dishes for sampling and the occasion was a great success. We had people from Europe, Africa, the Far East and the West Indies

and it served to highlight the diversity within our church. Our parish has a long history of supporting the APF and the missions and we feel we have been blessed in return by a succession of priests coming from Africa to assist our parish priest, Father David.

In the photograph is one such priest Father Dan Oryema, who thankfully has stayed with us and has been of tremendous help. He is in his native dress of Uganda and joined by UCM members. Perhaps other UCM foundations might consider this 'getting to know you' idea.

Sadie McCormick President



Congratulations to all



Diamond Wedding Anniversary



Jean and Tom STUDHAM, Tolworth Foundation, Archdiocese of Southwark

Frances and Tom COSTELLO, Windsor Foundation, Diocese of Portsmouth
Margaret and Leo DUCKWORTH, Good Shepherd and St. Mary's Foundation, Morecambe, Diocese of Lancaster

Golden Wedding Anniversary



Christine and Terry BANCROFT, Holy Cross Foundation, Diocese of Nottingham



Hazel and Peter SUMMERS, Tolworth Foundation, Archdiocese of Southwark

Hazel and George HENDRY, Lordswood Foundation, Southampton, Diocese of Portsmouth
Christine and Lionel KEARNEY, St Benedict's Foundation, Garforth, Diocese of Leeds
Eileen and Dennis KEOGH, Horley Foundation, Diocese of Arundel and Brighton
Anna and Paul GILBERT, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Peggy and Alan BROOKMAN, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Teresa and Peter THOMPSON, Good Shepherd and St. Mary's Foundation, Morecambe, Diocese of Lancaster
Pauline and Fred PHEYSEY, St Gregory's Foundation, Lydiate, Archdiocese of Liverpool

Mary and Austin SWEENEY, Holy Rosary Foundation, Archdiocese of Liverpool
Pat and Eddie CALDWELL, Holy Rosary Foundation, Archdiocese of Liverpool
Christine and Brian RIPLEY, St Benedict's Foundation, Garforth, Diocese of Leeds
Joan and Mike KNOWLES, St. Ambrose Foundation, Kidderminster, Archdiocese of Birmingham
Ann and Brian FOSTER, Filey Foundation, Diocese of Middlesbrough
Veronica and Geoff ANDREWS, Holy Rood Foundation, Barnsley, Diocese of Hallam
Angela and Robert MELLORS, Sacred Heart and Our Lady of Victories, Clowne, Diocese of Hallam

Ruby Wedding Anniversary

Eileen and John WOODS, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Rosemary and Stephen BAILEY, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Angela and Tom MOORE, St Joseph's Foundation, Penketh, Archdiocese of Liverpool
Sue (Diocesan Treasurer) and Ron MEESE, Diocese of Portsmouth
Denise and Noel HOLDSTOCK, St. Ambrose Foundation, Kidderminster, Archdiocese of Birmingham

Silver Wedding Anniversary



Kate and Patrick BOYLE, Anerley Foundation, Archdiocese of Southwark



Caroline and Gary MILLS, Cathedral Foundation, Diocese of Plymouth

Danuta and Charles DUNCOMBE, St Ambrose Foundation, Kidderminster, Archdiocese of Birmingham

100th Birthday

Mary BILLINGTON, St Thomas of Canterbury Foundation, Waterloo, Archdiocese of Liverpool



Phyllis HOWELLS, Dereham Foundation, Diocese of East Anglia (Story on Page 7)

90th Birthday



Eileen WALSH, St Cuthbert & First Martyrs of Rome Foundation, Bradford, Diocese of Leeds

Joan SMALL, past Diocesan Officer now associate member Diocese of Clifton
Theresa O'NEILL, St Augustine's Foundation, Preston, Diocese of Lancaster
Lena LIVESEY, St Augustine's Foundation, Preston, Diocese of Lancaster

80th Birthday



Dorothy SELLARS, Filey Foundation, Diocese of Middlesbrough

Jeannie SHERRIFFS, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Joan GENTLE, Hitchin Foundation, Archdiocese of Westminster
Helen COADY, Past Diocesan President, Diocese of Clifton
Margaret DUCKWORTH, Good Shepherd and St. Mary's Foundation, Morecambe, Diocese of Lancaster
Sheila LYONS, St Peter's Foundation, Bloxwich, Archdiocese of Birmingham
Veronica SUTTON, Waterlooville Foundation, Diocese of Portsmouth
Nellie YOWARD, St Margaret Clitherow

Foundation, York, Diocese of Middlesbrough
Anne LYON, St Saviour's Foundation, Great Sutton, Diocese of Shrewsbury
Joan CADWALLADER, St Saviour's Foundation, Great Sutton, Diocese of Shrewsbury
Betty CHAMBERLIN, Our Lady & St. Walstan Foundation, Costessey, Diocese of East Anglia
Lillian BATES, Our Lady & St Walstan Foundation, Costessey, Diocese of East Anglia
Ruth BEALEY, Our Lady & St Walstan Foundation, Costessey, Diocese of East Anglia
Joyce POTTER, Our Lady & St Walstan Foundation, Costessey, Diocese of East Anglia
Sheila ROBERTSON, Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Joseph, Seacombe, Diocese of Shrewsbury
Sheila HARDY, St. Luke's Foundation, Frodsham, Diocese of Shrewsbury



Doreen SMITH, Filey Foundation, Diocese of Middlesbrough

70th Anniversary



St Joseph's, Hansworth, Diocese of Hallam. Parish priest, Fr Adrian Tomlinson, presents the 70 year certificate to President P Williams, with Secretary P DeRouffignac on the left and Treasurer S Armstrong on far right

50 year certificates



Diocese of Shrewsbury
L to R Cath Morrison, St Anne's Rock Ferry, National President Sheila Goodchild, Kathleen Manley St Mary's Dukinfield, Angela Barry, Holy Apostles and Martyrs Wallasey

World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations

Launch of the San José Articles Expert Document Issued at United Nations, New York

October 6, 2011

Dear Friends,

The Centenary Declaration of the World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations reaffirms: "the aim of WUCWO is to promote the presence, participation and co-responsibility of Catholic women in society and the Church, in order to enable them to fulfil their mission of evangelisation and to work for human development in unity, particularly for increasing educational opportunities, poverty reduction, and the advancement of human rights beginning with the fundamental right to life." (Jerusalem, October 2010). That same day, women of WUCWO solemnly committed to Campaigning for a Culture of Life through

the adoption of Resolution 4.

The fundamental human right to life is endangered more today than ever before, not only within our countries but also at the international level. It is a well known fact to those working in the international arena that United Nations personnel, and others, claim that there exists an international right to abortion in international law. Governments worldwide are put under pressure to instigate this 'right' in their national constitutions and legislation. As recently as a few weeks ago, the UN Special Rapporteur on Health, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, together with the UN Secretary General have all said such a right exists. And, according to Human Rights Watch, the CEDAW Committee has directed 93 countries to change their laws on abortion.

There is no such thing as an 'international right to abortion'. The problem is that people on the ground, even government officials, have little with which to refute this claim that abortion is an internationally recognized human right.

Today, thanks to a group of over 30 international experts in law, medicine, and public policy, we have a tool to help us refute these claims and to assert the rights of the unborn child in international law. These are the 'San Jose Articles'. The San Jose Articles provide expert testimony that no such right exists. To the contrary, the Articles also demonstrate that the unborn child is protected in human rights instruments and that governments should begin protecting the unborn child by using international law. These Articles will support and assist those around the world who are coming under pressure from

UN personnel and others who say, falsely, that governments are required by international law to repeal domestic laws protecting human beings in the embryonic and fetal stages of development against the violence of abortion.

You can find these articles attached to this message and, for further information, on the following web site: <http://www.sanjosearticles.com/>

We urge you to read these articles and make them known to those around you. As members of WUCWO, let us make a universal and united stand for the protection of every human person, beginning with unborn children. 5 million committed Catholic women united in faith, prayer and action can make a difference!

May God bless all our efforts,
Liliane Stevenson, Secretary General

SAN JOSE ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 As a matter of scientific fact a new human life begins at conception.

ARTICLE 2 Each human life is a continuum that begins at conception and advances in stages until death. Science gives different names to these stages, including zygote, blastocyst, embryo, fetus, infant, child, adolescent and adult. This does not change the scientific consensus that at all points of development each individual is a living member of the human species.

ARTICLE 3 From conception each unborn child is by nature a human being.

ARTICLE 4 All human beings, as members of the human family, are entitled to recognition of their inherent dignity and to protection of their inalienable human rights. This is recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and other international instruments.

ARTICLE 5 There exists no right to abortion under international law, either by way of treaty obligation or under customary international law. No United Nations treaty can accurately be cited as establishing or recognizing a right to abortion.

ARTICLE 6 The Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW Committee) and other treaty monitoring bodies have directed governments to change their laws on abortion. These bodies have explicitly or implicitly interpreted the treaties to which they are subject as including a right to abortion.

Treaty monitoring bodies have no authority, either under the treaties that created them or under general international law, to interpret these treaties in ways that create new state obligations or that alter the substance of the treaties.

Accordingly, any such body that interprets a treaty to include a right to abortion acts beyond its authority and contrary to its mandate. Such ultra vires acts do not create any legal obligations for states parties to the treaty, nor should states accept them as contributing to the formation of new customary international law.

ARTICLE 7 Assertions by international agencies or non-governmental actors that abortion is a human right are false and should be rejected.

There is no international legal obligation to provide access to abortion based on any ground, in-

cluding but not limited to health, privacy or sexual autonomy, or non-discrimination.

ARTICLE 8 Under basic principles of treaty interpretation in international law, consistent with the obligations of good faith and pacta sunt servanda, and in the exercise of their responsibility to defend the lives of their people, states may and should invoke treaty provisions guaranteeing the right to life as encompassing a state responsibility to protect the unborn child from abortion.

ARTICLE 9 Governments and members of society should ensure that national laws and policies protect the human right to life from conception. They should also reject and condemn pressure to adopt laws that legalize or depenalize abortion.

Treaty monitoring bodies, United Nations agencies and officers, regional and national courts, and others should desist from implicit or explicit assertions of a right to abortion based upon international law.

When such false assertions are made, or pressures exerted, member states should demand accountability from the United Nations system.

Providers of development aid should not promote or fund abortions. They should not make aid conditional on a recipient's acceptance of abortion.

International maternal and child health care funding and programs should ensure a healthy outcome of pregnancy for both mother and child and should help mothers welcome new life in all circumstances.

We – human rights lawyers and advocates, scholars, elected officials, diplomats, and medical and international policy experts – hereby affirm these Articles.

San Jose, Costa Rica March 25, 2011

* Institutions named for identification purposes only.

Signed,
Lord David Alton, House of Lords, Great Britain

Carl Anderson, Supreme Knight, Knights of Columbus Giuseppe Benagiano, Professor of Gynecology, Perinatology and Childcare - Università "la Sapienza", Rome, former Secretary General - International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) Hon. Javier Borrego, former Judge, European Court of Human Rights Christine Boutin, former Cabinet Minister - Government of France, current president Christian Democratic

Party Benjamin Bull, Chief Counsel, Alliance Defense Fund Hon. Martha De Casco, Member of Parliament, Honduras Jakob Cornides, human rights lawyer Professor John Finnis, Oxford University, University of Notre Dame

Professor Robert George, McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University, former member of the President's Council on Bioethics

Patrick Kelly, Vice President for Public Policy, Knights of Columbus Professor Elard Koch, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile

Professor Santiago Legarre, Professor of Law, Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina Leonard Leo, Former Delegate to the UN Human Rights Commission

Yuri Mantilla, Director, International Government Affairs, Focus on the Family

Cristobal Orrego, Professor of Jurisprudence, University of the Andes (Chile)

Gregor Puppinc, Executive Director, European Center for Law and Justice

Ambassador Graver Joseph Rees, former US Ambassador to East Timor, Special US Representative to the UN on social issues

Austin Ruse, President, C-FAM William Saunders, Human Rights Lawyer, Senior Vice President, Americans United for Life, former delegate to the UN General Assembly

Alan Sears, President, CEO and General Counsel, Alliance Defense Fund

Marie Smith, President, Parliamentary Network for Critical Issues

Professor Carter Snead, Member, International Bioethics Committee, UNESCO and former U.S. Permanent Observer to the Council of Europe's Steering Committee on Bioethics, University of Notre Dame School of Law

Douglas Sylva, Delegate to the UN General Assembly

Hon. Francisco Tatad, former Majority Leader, Philippine Senate

Hon. Luca Volonte, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, President of the European People's Party (PACE)

Lord Nicholas Windsor, Member of the Royal Family of the United Kingdom

Susan Yoshihara, Director, International Organizations

Research Group Anna Zaborska, Member of the European Parliament, former Chair, Women's Committee of the European Parliament

National Council – May 2011

At the AGM which took place on Friday 20 May our National Secretary and National Treasurer submitted their annual reports to Council for approval and these were adopted by Irene Mitchell and Tina Huckle and not Joan Gettins and Tina Huckle as stated in the report. Please accept my apologies for any inconvenience or upset caused by this error.

Sheila Godley

CLIFTON

A VISIT TO WELLS

ON an afternoon recently, Rita Dawes and myself caught the bus to the smallest city in England. It was a special afternoon as we were going to the Bishop's palace for tea. Soon after we arrived a short service was held in the Cathedral choir stalls behind the famous Scissors Arch. All the people there were supporters of the Sailors Society. We then left the Cathedral, crossed over the moat and under the portcullis and into the palace which is still the Bishop's home - 800 years old.

The chapel inside is made from maple and stone with beautiful carving, interesting bosses, windows with very fine tracery and French medieval glass.

We went all over the Palace, which is full of examples of art, woodcarvings and needlework, but still obviously a home. We were overcome with so much beauty. Candles mark the prayers of pilgrims and other guests. Reluctantly we left the palace to enjoy the 14-acre garden. This spacious lawn included an arboretum full of colourful shrubs, rare and also recognisable. A remarkable afternoon, experiencing so much beauty both inside and outside the palace.

Gwynneth Connock

FROM THE OLD TO THE NEW –
UPDATING OUR UCM BANNER

FOR some time we have been concerned about our diocesan banner which was beginning to show signs of wear and tear. Furthermore as more and more people were taking the mobility bus to the Abbey Grounds during the Walsingham pilgrimage there were fewer of us remaining to share in the carrying of the banner in procession.

What to do? Make a new banner? Who had the skills and inclination to take on the task? Former Diocesan President, Mrs Helen Cordy had had a hand in the making of the original and with Diocesan Vice President, Mrs Gertrude Scanlon thought she might have a try at repairing the existing one but the materials were proving difficult to work with and it didn't alter the fact that the standard was becoming rather heavy and awkward to carry.

At Clifton Cathedral we had our own foundation banner made by past president, Mrs Doreen Smal and her daughter Irene. We couldn't leave it on permanent display in the cathedral for fear of thieves, so it spent most of the time folded in a drawer. We hit upon the idea of modifying the design to change it from a foundation banner to a diocesan one.

Once again Doreen came to the rescue and this time with the help of her other daughter, Elizabeth, she set to work with needle, braid and beads.

We carried it for the first time in Walsingham last July.

While adopting the new we have not totally discarded the old. In fact Mrs Scanlon has arranged with her parish priest to have it in the church of St Gerard Majella in Knowle, Bristol, where it will be cherished.

The attached pictures show Margaret Maddelena holding the original banner and Mrs Doreen Smal with daughters Irene and Elizabeth showing both faces of the new one.

90th Birthday

ON October 2 Joan Small celebrated her 90th birthday; Joan was a former foundation and diocese officer. Joan and her husband Jim have been living in Weston Super Mare for several years, unfortunately this is not a UCM area but Joan has remained a strong associate member attending meetings whenever possible. Next year Joan & Jim will have been married for 70 years. – God Bless them.

Pam Durcan, Clifton Diocese



Margaret Maddelena with the original banner



Doreen Smal with daughters Irene and Elizabeth showing both sides of the new banner for Clifton

Sing a hymn for Charity – 2011

ON Thursday October 20, Diocesan Members of the Union of Catholic Mothers; friends from the Mothers Union, and the Parish Priest were welcomed to the 30th Diocesan annual "Sing a Hymn for Charity"; today in the sacred Heart Church, Westbury on Trym.

The format of the programme was as in previous years, inasmuch as each foundation chose a hymn; in addition our guest invitees made their choices, as did Rev. Canon Bernard Massey, Parrish Priest of the Sacred Heart Church. The hymns chosen were a mixture of those relating to Faith, Hope, and Love; some were old favourites while others were new to the programme.

Research on the life and time of the men and women, (the authors) was made by the compiler, and accompanied each hymn, whilst our organist and musical adviser, Jane Dyer, set each hymn in the appropriate theme. The Rev. Cannon Bernard's input of three different reflections, in between the hymns, gave a welcome dimension to the afternoon, much appreciated by all present.

The appeals by Mrs. Rita Daws, Diocesan President, and Mrs. Pat

Parry, Secretary of the Sacred Heart Foundation, were for the SVP, and the Royal National Lifeboat Institution respectively. The collection taken raised £302, to be divided equally between the two charities.

Before the blessing and retiring hymn, Mrs Daws made a presentation to Mrs Patricia Tester, standing



L to R Canon Bernard Massey, Helen Cordy, Patricia Tester, Rita Daws

down after 10 years as compiler and co-ordinator. Mrs. Helen Cordy, who presented the first Sing a Hymn thirty years ago joined Patricia, Rita and Cannon Bernard for a photograph to mark the occasion.

The final hymn, 'Praise my Soul the King of Heaven' was urged by Patricia to be sung lustily. One of Wesley's rules for hymn singing. After which, light refreshments were served in the Newman Hall.

Patricia Tester, Sacred Heart Foundation

BLOCK INTERNET PORNOGRAPHY CAMPAIGN

MANY of you may have read the articles that have been published in the press concerning the above campaign, headed by Claire Perry MP, which calls for all UK-based Internet Service Providers (ISP's) to provide anti-porn filters at network level.

This would stop most pornography reaching our computers and other internet

enabled equipment. These filters would block adult sites at source rather than relying on parental controls which would protect our children much more effectively.

This campaign is supported by 70 MPs and numerous organisations including The Union of Catholic Mothers.

If you have not already done so, please give your support by writing to your MP and

Internet Service Provider as soon as possible.

Templates of both letters devised by Safermedia are available on their website: www.safermedia.org.uk. Templates of these letters are also available on the issues page of The Union of Catholic Mothers website www.theucm.co.uk

Sheila Godley National Media Officer The Union of Catholic Mothers

EAST ANGLIA

Our Lady & St Walstan Foundation, Costessey

IN September six members and three husbands attended one of the Heritage Day's at St John's Cathedral, where we had a tour of the Cathedral followed by a look at the Costessey Archives. It was very interesting looking at the history of Costessey Hall and our Church.

Our annual Quiz and Chips evening had 52 parishioners trying to answer the questions, set by a new quiz master but just as hard as last year. £207 was raised for our charities the Smile Train and Ellen McCarthy Trust.

Marguerite Wayling

St Joseph's Foundation, St Neot's Roma!!

It was simply amazing, we didn't stop, saw so much, and it was very hot. The pilgrimage was led by Canon John from Kettering and Fr Marcelle from Leicester. Our accommodation in Roma was great, with a lovely roof garden from where we could see St Peter's at night with its shining lights.

Mass on Monday was at St Ann's very close to the Basilica, and after Mass the St Neot's ladies went to confessions in St Peter's. Tuesday's early Mass was at the tomb of St Peter's, then a guided tour of the Vatican gardens, lunch, the Vatican Museum and St Peter's Basilica. A long hot day. Wednesday's audience with the Pope moved many to tears, and when the UCM from England was mentioned a big cheer went up. Assisi Accommodation in Assisi was a bit of a let down compared to Roma, but somewhere to rest your head.

Thursday's Mass was in lower Assisi at St Maria de Angeli. Friday there was a tour of the caves of St Francesco, St Damiano Church, St Chiara Church, Mass

at the Basilica St. Francesco followed by a tour of the Basilica.

Maureen Jones kept us all in order, clapping her hands and head counting, we met some wonderful people and lost count of how many Maureen's there were in the group.

The Kettering group were a lively bunch with Ernie who was our photographer, and not forgetting the many restaurants where we shared delicious food and drinks, with good company and a little entertainment. Mass at the tomb of St Peter, when all was quiet and solemn, the theme music to the Lone Ranger sounded, not once but three times, yes you've guessed it, a mobile phone. A brilliant time was had by all, my name is down for the next one in three years.

Maria Taverna

Holy Apostles Foundation, Earlham

Fund raising events have been held, firstly in June a BBQ was held by Irene Gray which raised £135 and in September a Coffee Day/Bring & Buy Sale was held by Connie Smith which raised £170 (this money will go to our charities). The parish is raising money for St Joseph's Hospice in Romania, and members are supporting this.

Beryl Stock

Our Lady and St Peter All Saints Foundation, Aldeburgh/Leiston

On Friday 23rd September, we were given a talk by a very special Chaplin Sister Marian Davey and her assistant David, from the Apostleship Star of the Sea. Sister Marian is the Chaplin for Felixstowe Port and the Haven Port's. She talked about the sailors who come into port on the freight ships and are away from home for



L to R Maureen Morrison, Margaret Edmondson, Peggy Osborne, Cathy Barley, Christine Hembury

approximately 10 months at a time. The Chaplin and her assistant David go on board these freight ships and give communion or talk to the crew if needed.

Following on this we have decided to put a box in the porch at both churches so that goods can be donated, e.g. toothpaste, combs, talc, hair spray, wool hats and gloves, polo neck inserts to keep them warm, also socks and of course they love sweets!

Kate Hoare

St James Foundation, Ipswich

Five ladies from St James Foundation, Ipswich, along with a group from another parish in Ipswich, visited Westminster Cathedral recently for a conducted tour. The tour, which was given by an ex-member of the Cathedral staff, included all the side chapels, the crypt and sacristy.

Although quite tiring, we all enjoyed and appreciated how lucky we were to be able to see some places not generally open to the public.

Cathy Bailey

Dereham foundation

Friends at Dereham Foundation were delighted to receive a special invitation recently, when one of their members, Phyllis Howell, reached her 100th birthday!

Phyllis had lived independently until last October, when she moved in with her daughter, Pam. Apart from problems with her eyesight, she is in good health, and enjoys quiz programmes and keeping up with the news on television!

Phyllis was up early to begin the day with a special hairdo, then our Welfare Officer, Maureen Wilde, took along a friend to treat her to a make-up session.

She was delighted with the result.

A number of us were invited, together with our parish priest, to a splendid buffet lunch. A pretty basket of pink and white flowers was sent to her from our Diocesan Committee: and we were interested to learn that Sheila Goodchild, our National Chairman, had worked with Phyllis for several years, and had been a guest at her wedding.

As we suspected, the house was filled with cards, balloons and flowers, so knowing her love of teddy bears (she had quite a collection in the past!) we bought her a special teddy to mark the occasion: wearing a pink t-shirt marked "Best Friends"!

Our President, Anne Nicol, was unable to attend, but she made a warm blue blanket for Phyllis, which you can see in the photograph.

It was a delightful day to remember – we wish her many more!

See photograph on page 4
Photo shows Phyllis (center) with friends
L to R Janice Tinney, Brenda May, (Phyllis,) Maureen Wilde Kathleen Borthwick

LANCASTER

STUDY DAY

OUR Study Day this year was slightly different. Held on Saturday 8th October in the Cathedral Social Centre we were joined by Angela Batey and Maureen Jones, National, who talked to us about "The Way Forward" for our diocese.

We had coffee and a chat in the morning and were joined by Bishop Michael.

After attending Mass in the Cathedral and having lunch we had our study afternoon.

Rev Fr Michael Hall from Dewsbury, who was a speaker at Swanwick, carried on the theme "What's gone wrong with

childhood?"

He is an interesting priest and an excellent speaker.

The raffle and sale of homemade Christmas cards raised £130; this was donated to the Medaille Trust in memory of Jean Alderson. Jean, a member of St Patrick's Foundation, died in September after a battle with cancer. The Medaille Trust was close to her heart, so in keeping with the theme of childhood we thought this appropriate.

60 members attended and as usual they thought it was a very rewarding day.

*Maureen Jones
Study Day Officer*

A DAY of reflection, dialogue and prayer for peace took place on October 27th in Assisi, when the Holy Father, Pope Benedict made a pilgrimage to the home of St Francis inviting fellow Christians from different denominations, representatives of the world's religious traditions and all men and women of goodwill to join him in prayer.

The theme of the day was "Pilgrims of Truth Pilgrims of Peace". In the days leading up to the 27th, responding to the request from WUCWO, many of our members have prayed to Our Lady Queen of Peace (the Patroness of WUCWO) and also the special prayer of St Francis, for a fruitful pilgrimage.

Those of you who went on the pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi in September will remember the peace to be found at The Sanctuary of San Damiano, where on an autumn day in 1205 the Lord met St Francis, and on an April morning in 1211 the lord welcomed the 18 year old Clare and the first sisters, called by St Francis the Order of the Poor Ladies.

Here also in 1225 an infirm Francis composed and sang his Canticle of the

Creatures. What better place than Assisi could his Holiness Pope Benedict have chosen to pray for peace and truth?

The CWYL was held on 7th October and as usual was a well-organised, enjoyable occasion. Four very different ladies being acknowledged for the outstanding work they do quietly every day not expecting notice or thanks.

The Keynote speaker was The Rt Rev Mgr Keith Newton Former Anglican Bishop now the First Ordinary of the Personal Ordinate of Our Lady of Walsingham. He spoke very eloquently about the joys and problems facing those Anglican Priests and Religious who have sacrificed their homes and livelihoods to become Catholics. Not the least of these being monetary, as a number of them are married with dependant children.

To date some 60 Priests a number of religious and some 1000 laity have applied to enter the Catholic Church. All of them were received into the full communion of the Catholic Church in Holy Week and many of the former Anglican clergy have already been ordained to the priesthood.

I'm Fine Thank You

*Arch supports I have for my feet,
Or I wouldnt be able to be on the street.
Sleep is denied me night after night
But every morning I find I'm all right.
My memory is failing,
My head's in a spin*

Please remember them all in your prayers.

Mgr Newton also spoke about Blessed John Henry Newman, who was an Anglican priest for 20 years before being received into the Catholic Church on October 9th 1845 at the age of 44. This date being known as the feast day of Catholic Converts.

The chosen charity this year was Terra Sancta Education Trust.

A special project being a Children's Home in the Parish of our Lady of the Mountains, in Anjara Jordan. The founder of the Trust, Jordan Lancaster also spoke eloquently about the children they help and the work carried out by the priests and nuns there.

She commented that when her parents were looking for an unusual biblical name for her and came up with Jordan they could never have known that her life's work would be in the country of that name. You can find details on terrasancta.co.uk

"Building Bridges not Walls" is their ethos.

*Maureen Mayers,
International Officer*

*But I'm awfully well
For the shape I'm in.*

*The moral of my tale I unfold
That to you and me
Who are getting old,
Its better to say "I'm fine"
with a grin,
Than to let folks know
the shape we are in.*

*There is nothing the matter
with me,
I'm as healthy as can be.
I have arthritis in both my knees
I walk with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak,
And my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well
For the shape I'm in.*



MARY BROWN

Congratulations to our oldest member Mary Brown (97) being presented with a basket of flowers by the members of Carlisle UCM

The UCM Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham



Blessing of the statue



Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham



Statue bearers



Statue bearers

In 1982 the National Committee decided that a new statue of Our Lady of Walsingham was needed for our National Annual Walsingham Pilgrimage. Janet Quail, a Sculptor who lived locally, was commissioned to carve a statue that was to be carried in the procession.

The Statue was presented to the members at the 1983 pilgrimage it was blessed at Mass and duly carried in the procession. However, the Statue, carved from a solid piece of Elm was very heavy and the members had great difficulty carrying it. In those days the statue was carried from the Shrine Grounds, down the Holy Mile to the village and into the Abbey Grounds. Various solutions were tried including whittling some wood out of the middle; taking the statue to the bottom of the High Street in the Village by car as we do now, I assume that is how this custom started; they would then only have to carry it from there into the Abbey Grounds, but the wooden statue proved just too heavy for four people to carry.

Eventually a decision was taken that UCM would use the Shrine's statue and our beautiful wooden statue was given a place of honour by the Carmelite Sisters at Langham Priory. A legal agreement was drawn up in respect of the Sisters housing and taking care of the Statue for us. They were building a new chapel at the time and had a special niche made for it, members of the UCM were always welcome to contact the Sisters and arrange a visit. Our Lady's Statue remained at Langham until 2008 when the Mother Prioress Sister Judith, contacted UCM to say that sadly the Priory was to close.

Shrine Director, Fr Noel Wynne went to Langham and brought the Statue to its temporary resting place in the Pilgrim Bureau Library and there it remained for the next 3 years. During this time a number of



Our Lady of Walsingham is welcomed to her new home Sr Carolyne Joseph, Fr Williams and Sheila Goodchild

suggestions and ideas were put forward in relation to the statue but nothing came of them. Possibly because Our Lady had other ideas that as yet we had no knowledge.

At our Pilgrimage this year, Bishop Alan Hopes an Auxiliary Bishop of the Westminster Archdiocese greatly admired the statue; during the evening meal we chatted to him and told him that we were looking for a good home for it. Bishop Hopes, who is also the Bishops' Conference's Episcopal Delegate for the Ordinariate, suggested that we could present the statue to the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. He was shortly to have a meeting with the General Council of the Ordinariate and would speak to them about it.

Monsignor Keith Newton and the General Council were delighted to accept the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and suggested

that it was given to the Ordinariate's first religious community that was being set up; the Marian Servants of the Incarnation. The Sisters, Carolyne Joseph, Jane and Wendy, who were three former professed Anglican Sisters, have recently taken up residence in the Docklands parish of Our Lady Immaculate, in Limehouse, where they will undertake parish work as well as hospital and school chaplaincies.

On Thursday the 1st September, our National President Mrs Sheila Goodchild, arranged to meet the Sisters at the Pilgrim Bureau, in Walsingham, to formally hand-over the Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham into the safe keeping of the Sisters where she will have a permanent home and a place of honour within their community.

Angela Batey
National Secretary

Programme of the Day

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS 38th ANNUAL NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

5th July 1983
Programme

- Monday 4th July**
9.00 p.m. Torchlight Procession, Slipper Chapel
- Tuesday 5th July**
5.30 a.m. Slipper Chapel and Chapel of Reconciliation open. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament in Chapel of Reconciliation
- 6.15 a.m. Teas available at the Shrine
- 7.00 a.m. Teas and Repository available in the village. Parties for breakfast booked in advance MUST be on time
- 8.30 a.m. Conclusion of Exposition in Chapel of Reconciliation
- 11.15 a.m. Slipper Chapel closed until after Mass
- 11.30 a.m. Concelebrated Mass
- followed by
LUNCH
Refreshments are available at the Pilgrim Centre
Slipper Chapel re-opened for private visits. Please make your devotions as you pass slowly through the Chapel, do NOT kneel down
- 1.00 p.m. Coaches for the Sick Pilgrims will leave the Main Entrance of the Pilgrim Centre (Ticket holders only)
- 2.00 p.m. Procession forms facing the outside altar
- 2.15 p.m. Procession leaves the Slipper Chapel Field
- 3.45 p.m. Procession arrives at the Abbey grounds
- 4.15 p.m. Arrival of the Blessed Sacrament in the Abbey grounds
- 4.45 p.m. Recessional procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Church of the Annunciation
Teas will be available in Ethenham House
- 5.15 p.m. Onwards. Coaches depart from coach park

CONFESSIONS
Confession will be heard from 6.30 a.m. to 7.30 a.m. and from 9.00 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. There are 4 confessionals in the Chapel of Reconciliation and there will also be priests available in the grounds.

Details of the new Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham prepared by the Sculptress - JANE QUAIL

The 4 hands on the right side stand for the 4 Gospels; the 3 hands on the left for the Holy Trinity. These hands meet together at the back and interlock.

Mary holds in her right hand a three flowered lily, a symbol of the Trinity and also of her purity. Her finger points to her breast, showing that she is also a mother.

The Christ Child holds up 3 fingers of His right hand for the Trinity and holds the Gospel with His left hand with 4 fingers outstretched for the 4 Evangelists. Two of Mary's fingers touch those fingers of His which stand for Matthew and Luke. These are the two Evangelists who mention Nazareth in the context of the place where the Child was brought up.

Mary's robe symbolises, with the crown, that she is Queen of Heaven. It is gathered mostly to the side of the Child to show her protection of Him. His belt touches the robe and the lily touches her hole. Mary's foot crushes the serpent—a symbol of evil.

Today is the culmination of a great deal of effort by many people, and, as Chairman and Secretary of the Walsingham committee, we would like to express our thanks to the following for their generous help:

- The Director, Father Olive Birch S.M.
- Mr. and Mrs. Gurnay, for permitting the use of the Abbey grounds, and the wate staff.
- The Chief Inspector of Police and his Staff.
- Members of the Walsingham Association.
- The Shrine Volunteer helpers.
- Guid of Walsingham Stewards.
- Knights of St. Columba.
- Catholic Police Guild.
- The Medical Organisations.

All others whose services, so freely given, have helped towards the success of the Pilgrimage. We would also like to thank especially the members of the Walsingham committee and all the members of the U.C.M. who have been actively involved in the organisation of the day. We are very grateful to you all.

MARGARET GUY (Chairman)
ANNE BYRNE (Secretary)

Concelebrated Mass in Honour of Our Lady

Entrance Hymns: O worship the King

- O worship the King of glorious above; O gratefully sing His power and His love: He stilled and defended, the ancient of days, mentioned in splendour, and greeted with praise.
- O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy shade, His chariot of wrath, the deep thunder—clouds form, and dark is His path, and dark is His path, on the wings of the spirit.
- This earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath furnished in thee by a thousand stores, and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- Thy beautiful cars what tongue can relate? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light, it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly doth lie in the dew and the rain.
- O mercifullest might, ineffable love, while angels delight to hymn thee above, thy heavenly creation, though feeble their lips, with love adoration shall sing to thy praise.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. Laudamus te, benedicimus ti, adoramus te, glorificamus te, gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam, Domine Deus, Rex caelorum, Deus Pater omnipotens, Dominus Filius unigenitus, Jesus Christus, Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis: qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere deprecationem nostram. Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis. Gloriam tu solus Sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, Aene Christus, cum Sancto Spiritu: in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

Repository/Pedestal
Reps.
My heart exalts in the Lord my Saviour.

Blessing of the Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham

May the Lord bless this statue of Our Lady of Walsingham. May all who use it in prayer and with faith to show their devotion to the Mother of God experience an abundance of blessing from her hands. May our devotion to Mary lead us to a closer union with Christ, our Brother and her Son, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

CREDO IN UNUM DEUM. *Patrem omnipotentem, factorem caeli et terrae, visibilia omnia et invisibilia. Et in unum Dominum Jesum Christum, Filium Dei unigenitum, et ex Patre natum ante saecula saeculorum. Deum de Deo, lumen de lumine, Deum verum de Deo vero, genitum, non factum, consubstantialem Patri: per quem omnia facta sunt. Qui propter nos homines et propter nostram salutem descendit de caelis. Qui sedet ad dexteram Patris. Et iterum venturus est cum gloria iudicare vivos et mortuos, cujus regni non erit finis. Et in Spiritum Sanctum, Dominum, et vivificantem: qui ex Patre Filioque procedit. Qui cum Patre et Filio simul adoratur et conglorificatur: qui locutus est per prophetas. Et unum baptisma in remissionem peccatorum. Et expecto resurrectionem mortuorum, et vitam saeculorum saeculorum. Amen.*

Offertory

Hymn: I wish one we all are gathered

- I wish one we all are gathered through the love of Christ, let us then rejoice with gladness, in him we find love, let us fear and love the living God, and love and cherish all mankind.

Chorus: Hail Mary and Ave are, there is God.

- Therefore, when we are together in the love of Christ, let our minds know no division, unite us together: may the Christ our God be in our midst. Through Christ our Lord all love is found.
- May we see your face in glory, Christ our loving God, With the blessed saints of heaven give us lasting joy, We will then possess true happiness, and love for all eternity.

Hymn: In bread we bring you, Lord.

- In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodied labour, in wine we offer you our spirit's grief. We do not ask you, Lord, who is my neighbour? But stand united now, one in belief. Oh we have gladly heard your Word, your holy Word, and now in answer, Lord our gifts we bring. Our selfish hearts make true, our falling faith true, our lives belong to you, our Lord and King.
- The bread we offer you is blessed and broken, and it becomes for us our spirit's food. Over the cup we bring you Word is spoken: make it your gift to us, your healing blood. Take all that daily soil plants in our heart's poor soil: take all we want and spoil, each hopeful dream, the dreams we have missed, the grace we resist. Lord, in thy goodness, take and redeem.

Hymn: Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty

- Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and more shalt still be.
- Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee; though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see, only thou art holy, there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.
- Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Hymn: All that I am.

- All that I am, all that I do, all that I'll ever have, I offer now to you. Take and sanctify these gifts for your honour, Lord. Knowing that I love and serve you is enough reward. All that I am, all that I do, all that I'll ever have, I offer now to you.
- All that I am, all that I do, all that I'll ever have, I offer now to you. Take and sanctify these gifts for your honour, Lord. Knowing that I love and serve you is enough reward. All that I am, all that I do, all that I'll ever have, I offer now to you.

Eucharistic Prayer 3

Father, you are holy indeed, and all creation rightly gives you praise. All life, all business comes from you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by the working of the Holy Spirit. From age to age you gather a people to yourself, so that from east to west a perfect offering may be made to the glory of your name. And so Father, we bring you three gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate this eucharist. Do the right be well beloved, to look bread and give you thanks and praise. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: TAKE THIS, ALL OF YOU, AND EAT IT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH WILL BE GIVEN UP FOR YOU.

IT WILL BE SHED FOR YOU AND FOR ALL MEN, SO THAT SINS MAY BE FORGIVEN. DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory. Father, willing to mend the death your Son endured for our salvation, his glorious resurrection and ascension into heaven, and ready to grant him when he comes again, we offer you in thanksgiving this holy and living sacrifice. Look with favour on your Church's offering, and see the Victim whose death has redeemed us to yourself. Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ. May he make us an everlasting gift to you and enable us to share in the inheritance of your saints, with Mary, the virgin Mother of God; with the apostles, the martyrs, St. Catherine of Alexandria, St. Lawrence, St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Thomas More, and all your saints, on whose constant intercession we rely for help. Lord, may this sacrifice, which has made our peace with you, advance the peace and salvation of all the world.