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PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

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PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

The Church is always YOUNG! You are young because the proclamation of the Gospel continually brings with it freshness, vitality and hope! As Catholic Christians it is Jesus who we proclaim and live; it is His power working with in us that calls us constantly to life and joy.

In the nineteen seventies, to mark the tenth anniversary of the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI wrote a letter to the whole Church entitled *Evangelii nuntiandi* on the task of evangelisation. In this tremendous document the pope invited the Church to contemplate the passing on of faith in the Risen Jesus as the task of every baptised person. We – every one of us, young and old, lay or ordained – have the responsibility to pass on the gift of faith intact. Paul VI reminds us that no matter what our age, Christ invites us to share his hope with others.

One of the challenges that face all of our communities is how to engage with our children and young people in a meaningful and effective way, to help them know the Lord and live fully Catholic lives. Pope Francis has convened a meeting of the Synod of Bishops in Rome this October on the theme of Young People, he invites us to reflect upon how we take seriously the voices and needs of young people in the Church.

Here in Heavenfield Partnership, along with our neighbouring parishes in Brinkburn, we have engaged Thomas Carrott as our new Youth Ministry Co-ordinator. His role is one of support and co-ordination of new ways to engage our young people to help foster community, formation and fun opportunities for them to grow in faith. The success of his role depends almost entirely upon the generosity of parishioners in offering their time to support our young people and the various initiatives planned for the autumn. Please support Thomas – in supporting his work we support our young people and help them to find for themselves the unparalleled joy of knowing Jesus!

Please be generous towards our ministry to young people – we don't need your money – we need your time and gifts!

Every blessing,

Reverend Fr. Christopher Warren (Partnership Dean)

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NEWS FROM THE PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GROUP: (Meeting held on 20th June 2018. A set of the minutes of this meeting is available from St. Mary's Parish Office. A summary of each forthcoming meeting will be provided in the Partnership Bulletin issued after each individual meeting.)

June's PDG meeting was held at Saint Oswald's, Bellingham.

Thomas Carrot, our Youth Ministry Co-ordinator, attended to outline his role and what he is hoping to achieve for the young people within our parishes. Thomas works for our Heavenfield Partnership along with the Brinkburn Partnership which includes Morpeth, Bedlington & Ashington. He will work closely with other Youth Ministry Co-ordinators within the Diocese in what is potentially a very exciting future for the young in our parishes. The plan is to run a "Life Teen" group for those of "post-Confirmation" age and "The Edge" group for those in school years 5-8. The success of these groups will largely depend on volunteers within the Partnership. Keep an eye on parish newsletters and noticeboards, and let's all aim to bring something hugely positive to the young in our Parishes.

A "Heavenfield Partnership" FaceBook page has now been created. If all members of our Partnership who also use FaceBook could "like" our page then we will have a powerful and simple way of keeping all parishioners informed and updated.

There are a number of Partnership costs which will need to be shared amongst the parishes. The PDG have yet to decide what is a fair way to divide these costs but all can be assured that a fair resolution will be reached.

No model for the potential future of reduced priest numbers has been confirmed. The process of speaking to the Parishes within the partnership has started. Where possible, the aim is to listen to the needs of the individual Parishes within the Partnership to try and reach a resolution that both works and provides a strong future for faith in our community. We ask for your patience and support whilst difficult decisions are made.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS WITHIN THE PARTNERSHIP:

Confirmation Preparation 2018 - This year, the Confirmation Preparation Programme for the Heavenfield Partnership will be held at St. Mary's, Hexham, and will be led by Fr. Peter Stoddart. It was originally intended to begin this year's Confirmation Preparation Programme on 19th July. **However, due to several events taking place within local schools during that week, Fr. Peter has arranged an additional Introductory Session on Thursday 12th July.** The Introductory Session arranged for Thursday 19th July will still take place. **Confirmation, by the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, will take place at 7:00pm on Tuesday 20th November.** It is not too late to sign up for this Preparation Programme. If you are interested, please forward names and contact details to St. Mary's Parish Office **as soon as possible.**

Special raffle to take place during the summer! – A football shirt signed by the Newcastle United team and other exciting prizes will be raffled within the Partnership during the summer. All proceeds to go towards St. Oswald's Church funds. Further details will be sent to your local parish very soon.

Saturday 14th July – Minsteracres will host their annual **Summer Fayre**, from 11:00am until 3:00pm. Attractions include games, tombola, raffle, flower exhibitions etc. Hot and cold refreshments will be available. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Saturday 14th July – Saint Oswald's History Society, Bellingham, have arranged a **fully guided tour of Heavenfield**, by Temple Willcox. Please meet at Heavenfield at 2:30pm. All are welcome to attend.



Sunday 15th July – the Heavenfield Youth Ministry Team will host a **Family Fun Day and Hog Roast** at Saint Mary's, Hexham from 1:30pm. **Tickets must be purchased in advance** from Saint Mary's Parish Office (email@stmaryshexham.plus.com or 01434 603119) and will cost £10 per adult, £5 per child or £25 per family. For more information, or to volunteer your help on the day, please email youth.brinkburnheavenfield@rcdhn.org.uk

Saturday 11th August – Save the date! Saint Elizabeth's, Minsteracres will hold their annual **Rosary Rally** from 12:00 noon until 4:00pm. A prayerful day out at Minsteracres with celebration of the Eucharist, rosary procession through the grounds and benediction. Tea/coffee will be available but please bring your own packed lunch. All are welcome to attend.

Sunday 12th August – for those of you who would have liked to have joined the Partnership Walk to Heavenfield, but thought the distance too far, a **Short Walk** has been arranged at Minsteracres. The event will start at 12:30 pm and will include a picnic, the walk and a short service in the peace garden led by Fr Jeroen Hoogland. If you are interested in joining this event, please contact Saint Mary's Parish Office (email@stmaryshexham.plus.com or 01434 603119).

Tuesday 11th September – Saint Oswald's History Society will host a talk by Moira West, entitled "Saint Columba of Iona – Fox or Dove". This event will take place in the Parish Hall at Saint Oswald's and will begin at 7:00pm. Admission is £3, to include tea/coffee.

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EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION!

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion need to SAVE THE FOLLOWING DATE:

Saturday 6th October – Saint Mary's Parish Centre will host The Heavenfield Partnership **Day of Recollection** for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. The day will be led by Fr. Frank Trias. The event is open to all Extraordinary Ministers within the Heavenfield Partnership of Parishes. Tea & coffee will be served from 10:00am, with the day itself starting at 10:30am. Please bring a packed lunch. If you are interested in attending, please forward your name and contact details to Saint. Mary's Parish Office (01434 603119 or email@stmaryshexham.plus.com) before Wednesday 12th September.

Note – there is an expectation that all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will attend a Day of Recollection every year.

PRAYER CORNER ...

Prayer keeps us in touch with each other and with God. In our Bidding Prayers each week we pray for the needs of our world but there are often times when we wish to pray for particular people in our parish or partnership.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Thomas (Tom) Stoddart (Fr. Peter's dad) who died on 24th June. Mr. Stoddart's Requiem Mass was held at Saint Joseph's, Ushaw Moor 5th July. **Requiescat in pace.**

HEAVENFIELD PARTNERSHIP WALK

Organised by Heavenfield Partnership's Justice and Peace Group, on Sunday 24th June, 36 adults and children made a walking pilgrimage from Saint Mary's Hexham to Saint Oswald's church at Heavenfield. All of the parishes within the Heavenfield Partnership were represented, and completed the walk as part of Pope Francis's **Share the Journey** campaign. Since the launch of this campaign individuals and groups have been combining their miles walked, the total having now reached to more than the equivalent of walking around the world! On the day, the Heavenfield group walked 290 miles. Also, they raised almost £200 in donations, to be shared between CaFOD and St Oswald's, Heavenfield. The weather was sunny and hot as the walkers left Saint Mary's after 10:00am Mass. The group walked and talked; the conversations and camaraderie helped the miles to pass more quickly. At times, they stopped to catch their breath, whilst at the same time listening to tales of the harrowing experiences of refugees, outlined by fellow walkers. On arrival at Heavenfield, there was time for rest and refreshments before attending a beautiful, meaningful service, led by Fr Christopher Warren, in the historic little church. During the service, solidarity with refugees and migrants was symbolised by shoes of all types and sizes, which were carried to the foot of the altar. For those who would have liked to join this Partnership Pilgrimage Walk, but thought the distance too far, there will be a short walk held on August 12th, at Minsteracres.

After the event, a ring and brooch were found within Saint Oswald's Church, Heavenfield. If you think that these items may belong to you, please contact the Vicar of Saint Oswald's, Rev. Christine Bull (01434 672303).

NEWS FROM OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS: OFSTED SUCCESS!

Congratulations to Saint Joseph's Middle School, Hexham, who, during their recent Ofsted inspection were judged as **continuing to be a GOOD school**. The lead OFSTED inspector recognised the strength of the leadership team and noted how pupils "felt part of a vibrant and inclusive community". He also noted that "'Yours is a caring school that provides a supportive environment for your pupils". This is a tremendous achievement for Saint Joseph's, and congratulations must of course go to all of the staff; very well done indeed!

ADVANCED NOTIFICATION ...

An overnight Retreat at Minsteracres during November 2018. If there is sufficient interest, it is proposed to organise a 24-hour retreat: Friday evening, Saturday morning and afternoon. Cost and dates will depend upon number of people, so if you are interested, please forward your name and contact details to Saint Mary's Parish Office (01434 603119 or email@stmatyshexham.plus.com)

A Requiem Mass to Commemorate all of the World War I Dead from within our area. It is proposed to hold this Mass at Saint Mary's Church, Hexham, during week commencing Monday November 5th 2018. For further information, please contact Saint Mary's Parish Office (01434 603119 or email@stmatyshexham.plus.com)

A pilgrimage to Walsingham. It is proposed to organise a 5-day pilgrimage to Walsingham, from 13th to 17th May 2019. Price will depend upon number of people travelling, but may be in the region of £325 per person (includes return coach travel, half board accommodation at Elmham House, visits to the National Catholic Shrine, the Anglican shrine and either Sandringham or Cromer). Only 35 places are available, so if you are interested, please forward your name and contact details to Saint Mary's Parish Office.

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COMMUNICATIONS:

Each of the parishes in our Partnership has a representative on the Partnership Communications Group (PCG) which meets regularly and is responsible for the communications media within the Partnership including the Newsletter, website, and social media. If you have any issues/comments regarding communications within our partnership feel free to contact a PCG member.

ST. ELIZABETH'S, MINSTERACRES:	Mr. Frank Balloch
ST. JOHN OF BEVERLEY, HAYDON BRIDGE:	Mrs. Pat McMullen
ST. MARY'S, HEXHAM:	Mr. Henry Winthrop
ST. OSWALD'S, BELLINGHAM:	Mr. Steve Hunneysett
ST. PETER'S, OTTERBURN:	Mr. Peter Softley
ST. WILFRID'S, HALTWHISTLE	Mrs. Veronica Yarwood

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

John of Beverley (died 7 May 721) was an English bishop active in the kingdom of Northumbria. John was said to have been born of noble parents at Harpham, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. He is said to have received his education at Canterbury. In 687 he was consecrated Bishop of Hexham and in 705 was promoted to the Bishopric of York. Of his new activity little is known beyond that he was diligent in visitation, considerate towards the poor, and attentive to the training of students whom he maintained under his personal charge. He ordained Bede as a deacon and as a priest. He went on to found the town of Beverley by building the first structure there, a monastery. He resigned in 717 and retired to the monastery which he had founded at Beverley, where he died on 7th May 721. John was canonised in 1037, and his feast is celebrated annually in the Roman Catholic Church on 7th May. His translation is celebrated on 25th October. John was associated with miracles of healing both during and after his lifetime. His pupils were numerous and were devoted to him. The popularity of his cult was a major factor in the prosperity of Beverley during the Middle Ages. He was celebrated for his scholarship as well as for his virtues.

SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS AND SERVICES WITHIN THE HEAVENFIELD PARTNERSHIP

St. Elizabeth's, Minsteracres	Sunday	8:30am 10:30am	Holy Mass Holy Mass By Appointment
	Confessions		
St. John's, Haydon Bridge	Sunday	9:30am	Holy Mass By appointment
	Confessions		
St. Mary's, Hexham	Sunday	6:00pm (Vigil)	Holy Mass (at Corbridge)
		10:00am	Holy Mass
		5:00pm	Rosary & Benediction
	Saturday	6:00pm	Holy Mass
		10:45am 5:45pm	Confessions Confessions (at Corbridge)
St. Oswald's, Bellingham	Sunday	11:00am	Holy Mass
	Confessions		By appointment
St. Wilfrid's, Haltwhistle	Sunday	11:00am	Holy Mass
	Confessions		By appointment

NOTE – the timings above are correct as of 1st December 2017, but may be liable to change. Please consult individual Parish Bulletins and/or websites for the most up to date information about service times.

ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN FUTURE PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTERS SHOULD BE EMAILED TO ST. MARY'S PARISH OFFICE (email@stmaryshexham.plus.com)

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