

Issue 50 FREE – Donations Welcome – FREE Advent 2018

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50th Edition!
**A milestone
serving the
Diocese!**

Ten Years a Bishop!



On 15th September 2018, the Diocese celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the Consecration of our Bishop, the Right Reverend Damien Mead, with a Pontifical High Mass in the Pro-Cathedral Church of St Augustine of Canterbury. The guest preacher was The Right Reverend Rommie Starks from Indianapolis in the USA. Bishop Starks was Bishop Damien's chief consecrator in 2008.

After the Mass, the congregation joined both bishops for a buffet, speeches from Dr Roy Fidge and

the Archdeacon, and a presentation of gifts.



Orthodox Faith ✠ Anglican Worship ✠ Catholic Order



"We are so blessed and privileged to have so many good bishops in our Church - Bishop Starks I have mentioned and not least to have a learned and holy Archbishop who sets the 'bar' so high himself."

From the Bishop

Dear Friends,

In September, I celebrated my 10th anniversary as a Bishop in the Church of God. I remember my consecration as if it was yesterday, although it has become harder over the years to watch the DVD of the ceremony because there are so many faces of those no longer with us. Some have been promoted to glory and some have left the ACC. Church members, friends and family gathered at the pro-cathedral on the Saturday before the actual date to attend a Pontifical High Mass in celebration. I am grateful to the Archdeacon and Fr Andrew Scurr for deaconing and sub-deaconing the Mass, respectively. It was also wonderful to have my chief consecrator, Bishop Rommie Starks, from the ACC Diocese of the Midwest, USA, with us to preach.



I have spent a considerable amount of time in contemplation of my anniversary. I still wonder why God chose me, especially because I have had plenty of opportunity to consider something that occurred early on in my episcopacy.

Soon after my consecration, I visited an exhibition of paintings on religious themes and they had a rather large number of "Doom" Depictions, that is

to say pictures of the day of judgement. I am sure you are familiar with the theme – Our Lord sitting in glory, surrounded by the Saints. On one side you can see various folk being directed heavenwards by angels and, on the other side, demons prodding souls into hell. I was standing before one particular graphic representation when a lady came and stood next to me and said, "well bishop, I guess that picture's given you the collywobbles!" "I'm sorry," I said, "I don't understand." She said, "look at all the souls in endless torment being pricked by the little devils – most of them seem to be wearing mitres!"



I have always held the office of bishop in great reverence and awe – although that's not to say I have necessarily respected every man with a mitre on his head! Since joining their ranks, my reverence and awe has increased multiple times. We are so blessed and privileged to have so many good bishops in our Church. Bishop Starks I have mentioned and, not least, we have a learned and holy Archbishop who sets the "bar" so high himself. I am humbled through the great office bestowed upon me, and the grace I know God has given me to be able to endure. Truly God has given me grace because I know better than anyone how, left to my own devices, I am not typecast for this role!

Any invitation from Jesus always involves some risk and self-surrender, and this only becomes possible when one has confidence and trust in the One who is making the offer. Each of the apostles accepted the invitation. Each agreed to lay down his life in the service of the Master because each one of them had confidence through an undeniable and personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Bishops who honestly seek to have this sort of relationship with Our Lord have always done so in recognition of its always primary importance in their ministry. However today, perhaps more so than any time in recent years, it is more important than ever that it not only be our complete and total focus but that it clearly be seen to be so.



The Catholic Church is attacked from without and from within. There is a justifiable horror at the child abuse scandals in the Roman Church – although this is not limited to that Communion – and a common feeling that the Episcopate has failed to act and safeguard the vulnerable. There is a falling away into heresy and false doctrine and confused morality in Anglican circles. There is a loss of the eternal hope afforded by the Gospels for some, because of the lack of leadership from the Episcopate elsewhere.

Truly the warning from the Acts of the Apostles resonate for today that “grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own

elves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them” Even among Continuing Anglicans, the cult of strong individual personalities, a sometimes lack of charity and a failure to recognise the essentials in these urgent times, have been the bane of our movement not to mention those bishops who have abandoned Anglican Catholicism altogether.

However, throughout history, Jesus continues to speak through His Church and, by the Grace of God, through His Bishops, the Church’s apostolic witnesses. The Gospel continues to inspire people of all ages with a vision of hope that is born from the truth of its teachings and the reality of its practice in daily human life. The Gospel continues to give life and hope because it is born from the teachings and the life of Christ Himself. It is not a mere philosophy nor a self-help program: it is the very essence of human need, fulfilment, and the blueprint of our very destiny.



The invitation to witness to Christ begins with sharing His life and work of bringing the Gospel to all mankind. From the beginning, Our Blessed Lord chose men to be with Him in the

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task of establishing His Church. We are all aware of the burden and responsibility that the fullness our Order carries. We are all too well aware of the failings of others in the Episcopate, and I earnestly pray and hope that our bishops may also have the humility to see where we too fall short and the faith and courage to address those shortcomings.

Bishops are placed in charge of, and exercise pastoral care over a portion of the People of God, a part of God’s flock, and are the visible principle and foundation of unity for these people.

Among the offices of a Bishop, the preaching of the Gospel is pre-eminent; bishops lead new disciples to Christ, and are teachers, who proclaim to the people entrusted to them the faith that is to be believed and that is to direct their lives. Just as through the ministry of the Word they communicate the promise of God’s saving power, so too, through the sacraments, they sanctify the faithful: they regulate the conferral of Baptism; they are the ministers of confirmation; they are the dispensers of Holy Orders; they are the directors of penance; and they are the enforcers of discipline and godly fear. Sealed with the fullness of the sacrament of Holy Orders, Bishops are stewards of the grace of the fullness of Christ’s priesthood, especially in the Mass, which they offer or cause to be offered, for it is among other things a symbol of the unity of the Mystical Body.



How blessed are we by Our Lord’s promise to be always with his people,

as a father to his beloved children; as the good shepherd to his flock. Sometimes, in trying to fulfil the call to share in this ministry, I have felt isolated, but I know I am not alone for having been chosen by Our Lord: I know He is with me and I know that my brother bishops in the College of Bishops are with me.

Our Lord sent out His Apostles together so that they might have the strength of fraternity, the assurance of protection on the way, and the guarantee that the integrity of the message would remain true and inviolate. Despite everything that Satan can hurl at us, this apostolic nature of the Church remains intact to this day and is fulfilled particularly in and through the bond we bishops have and our role in the sanctification, education, and leadership of God’s people.

How great is the gift Our Lord bestowed upon me 10 years ago – entrusting me with the care of the Church for which He paid the greatest price!



“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.” Acts 20:28

+ Damien



International News

Flooding in North Carolina



On the weekend of 15th and 16th September, Hurricane Florence came ashore near Wilmington, North Carolina. While winds were not as strong as forecasters had originally feared, the storm dumped massive amounts of rain on the state, not only at the shore, but hundreds of miles inland. In some places rainfall has exceeded 30 inches, causing waterways to overflow and concerns about dams being breached.

Bishop David Haines, of the Anglican Province of America, reports that the parish hall at All Saints, Wilmington has been flooded, and that one parish family has lost their home. Father Robert Hart in Chapel Hill, North Carolina has informed Archbishop Haverland that St. Benedict's escaped significant damage, but that his own home was flooded. A well-known university town, Chapel Hill is over two-hundred miles inland, which shows just how far the damage from Florence has reached. Parishes in South Carolina seem to have been spared the brunt of the storm, but reports are still coming in.

The bishops of the Anglican Province of America (APA), Anglican Catholic Church (ACC), Anglican Church in America (ACA), and the Diocese of the Holy Cross (DHC) have called for the establishment of a fund to assist the parishes and missions in the

rebuilding efforts, regardless of jurisdiction. All the proceeds of this fund will go directly to the congregations in need and to assist parishioners who have been impacted by Hurricane Florence.

ACC in Pakistan on YouTube



Choices & Consequences||Fesle aur un

The ACC in Pakistan has launched a YouTube Channel. Content will include sermons and religious education in Urdu.

New Bishop for Cameroon



Congratulations to Father Alphonse Vascaniat Ndukiye, who was consecrated bishop for the ACC's Diocese of Cameroon on Friday, October 12th, 2018. Thanks be to God!



Around the Diocese

Baptism at Painters Forstal



On Saturday 28th April 2018 the Archdeacon, The Venerable Raymond Thompson, baptised his grandson Aiden Paul Meredith at St Augustine’s Church, Painters Forstal, Kent. Afterwards family and friends enjoyed refreshments in the Fyfe-Graham Parish Room.

New Server



On Sunday 29th April (Easter IV) the Church of St Augustine of Canterbury, Painters Forstal, Nr Faversham, Kent saw Mr Andrew Hall serve in the Sanctuary for the first time at the Sunday Mass. Commenting on the beginning of this important assistance in sacred things, the Bishop said, “Andy has already worked so hard in renovating and decorating our Church building over the past 6 months, and this latest development is simply another manifestation of his desire to serve God and His holy Church.”

Confirmation & Receptions in South Wales

In beautiful sunshine, Bishop Mead visited the Parish of St Deiniol and

Asaph with St Giles / Eglwys Sant Deiniol ac Asaph gyda Giles, Pembrokeshire, South Wales. The congregation meet in the 13th century Chapel of Upton Castle, Cosheston, just outside Pembroke Dock.



The Bishop confirmed (*sub conditione*) Mrs Marcia Giardelli and received into the ACC Mr Lawrence Giardelli, Mrs Anne Powell and Mr Rhirid Darbyshire-Robert, all from the Church in Wales.



Patronal Celebration and Dedication



On Saturday 26th May 2018 the Pro-Cathedral Parish of Saint Augustine celebrated their Patronal Festival. Before Mass, God’s blessing was sought upon the Church and it was formally

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dedicated to the Patron, St Augustine of Canterbury, on his Feast Day. We welcomed members, friends and guests. Bishop Damien celebrated Mass, Brother Juniper, CGS, preached and, after a buffet lunch in the Fyfe-Graham Room, the Archdeacon, Fr Raymond Thompson, officiated at Benediction, at which the Bishop gave a devotional address on the Eucharist.

Diocesan Retreat



Warm thanks and appreciation go to the Roman Catholic Carmelite Community at Aylesford Priory for their hospitality to those of our Diocese on retreat from Tuesday 12th to Thursday 14th June. A good, spiritually refreshing time was had by all. Thanks, too, to Br Juniper, CGS, who organised the Retreat, to Fr Gareth Parry and Fr Miles Maylor for their valuable contribution and to Metropolitan Jerome, OSJV., of Selsey: (Orthodox Old Roman Catholic Communion), who was our guest speaker on the theme of "Worshipping in Spirit and in Truth".



The main Retreat Mass was held on Wednesday 13th, at the Church of St Augustine, Painters Forstal, to give those attending a chance to visit our pro-cathedral parish.

Renewal of Licences



On Saturday 16th June 2018 The Bishop reappointed and renewed the licences of The Venerable Raymond Thompson (as Archdeacon and Dean of the South) and The Very Reverend Charles Johnson (Dean of the North). These appointments are for a further 3 years. The Bishop wishes to thank both Fr Thompson and Fr Johnson for their service in the Diocese.

Bishop Visits Northern Deanery



On Saturday 23rd June Bishop Mead visited the Church of Our Lady and St Edward, Bolton, to celebrate Mass and preach. After Mass some of those attending enjoyed a splendid lunch at a nearby restaurant. In the evening the Bishop had a meeting with a group exploring future affiliation with the ACC.





On Sunday 24th June the Bishop visited St Alban the Martyr, Salford where once again he celebrated Mass and preached. Although the Feast was that of the Nativity of St John the Baptist, the parish was keeping its Patronal Festival that Sunday, so St John was commemorated.

A good congregation of 18 people enjoyed a buffet lunch afterwards. Following the Mass the Bishop met with the Right Reverend John Milnes of the Holy Catholic Church (Western Rite) informally, to discuss matters of mutual interest.



On Sunday afternoon The Bishop travelled to Sheffield to visit Fr Jonathan and Mrs Katherine Munn who are beginning the Provisional Mission of St Anselm & St Odile locally. After this, the Bishop had a meeting with a deacon who is awaiting the regularisation of his position within the ACC.

Reception of Organist and Dedication of Organ



On Sunday 8th July the Pro-Cathedral Parish in Kent celebrated the blessing and dedication of their new organ and also welcomed their organist, Dr Michael Bond, into the full communion of the Anglican Catholic Church.

Bishop Mead blessed the Organ and afterward the Parish gathered in the Fyfe-Graham Parish Room to enjoy a traditional lunch of Roast Beef followed by Apple Crumble with Ice cream!

Resignation of Deacon

On 6th July 2018, the Reverend Richard James Mulholland forwarded to the Bishop a letter of resignation from the Ministry of the Anglican Catholic Church for personal reasons.

Bishop Mead presented the acceptance of this resignation for ratification, under the provision of Title X: Canon 10.8.03 of the Provincial Canons, to the Bishop's Council of Advice meeting in Westminster, London, on Saturday 14th July 2018.

The necessary canonical two-thirds majority of the voting members of Council being in agreement, the Bishop and Diocesan Secretary signed the notice of acceptance of this relinquishment and renunciation and deposed the aforementioned deacon, from the Ministry of the Anglican Catholic Church, thereby releasing him from the obligations of the Ministerial Office, and depriving him of all exercise of the gifts and spiritual authority conferred upon him by his Ordination.

Diocesan Council Breaks a Record!

On Saturday 14th July the Bishop's Diocesan Council of Advice Meeting in Westminster was a little unusual.



At the Diocesan Synod in April, we had a lot of people elected and/or appointed for the first time.



Five were attending their first meeting and we had apologies from another new member who wasn't able to attend. It is always very interesting and very healthy that new people have been willing to volunteer or consent to be appointed. The bishop, commenting on the composition of the Council said; "having six new people in total on the Council probably hasn't occurred since the foundation of the Diocese in 1992 - or perhaps after some of the difficulties we had in 1997!"

The Role of the Council is to advise the bishop and assist with the temporalities of the Diocese. In the event that the See falls vacant the Council also become the Guardians of the Spiritualities until the election and appointment of a new Bishop.

Grateful Appreciation of Diocesan Officer

For many years Mr Roy Hipkiss has served the Diocese in different roles. For many years he has been the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer. With the agreement of the Bishop Mr Hipkiss, who is a Director of a Fostering Agency, relinquished his responsibilities as a Diocesan Officer and stepped down from the Council of Advice to focus on his secular work. Paying tribute to Roy, the Bishop extended the deep grateful thanks for all his commitment and hard work.



In 2017 the Original Province recognised his service to the Church with the Col. Jack Lane Award. Roy Hipkiss is pictured here in the centre at the 2017 Provincial Synod receiving the award from Bishop Mead and the Archbishop.

In his place, the Bishop appointed The Revd Gareth Parry as Diocesan Safeguarding Officer.

East Sussex Priest Received



On Trinity XIII (Sunday 26th August 2018) the Bishop received, before the celebration of Holy Mass, The Reverend Andrew Paul Scurr, into the full communion of the Anglican Catholic Church.

Fr Scurr has become well known to the Bishop and some of our clergy and laity through the cordial relations between his former jurisdiction, the Old Roman Catholic Church, under Archbishop Jerome Lloyd, and our Diocese over some years.

Fr Andrew became a Roman Catholic whilst studying Mathematics at Christ

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Church College, Oxford and received Confirmation under the auspices of the University Chaplaincy. Through conversations with friends and Chaplains, he began to discern a vocation to the priesthood. After graduation, Father Scurr began discerning his vocation studying initially at the Venerable English College in Rome and later as a Novice with the London Congregation of the Oratory at Brompton. However, he did not continue at this time because of the upset caused by the Episcopal Consecrations performed by Msgr Lefebvre.

Father Scurr therefore, taught mathematics at secondary school level for about ten years before studying for a Master of Science degree in Financial Mathematics at the University of Edinburgh. He has since worked in the Financial Services sector in the City as a Quantitative Risk Analyst, presently working for the Bank of England.



Fr Scurr made contact with the Provost of the Brighton Oratory in October 2009 and began discerning his vocation to the Sacred Ministry within the Old Roman Catholic Church. He was ordained a Deacon in February 2013 and a Priest on the Feast of St Matthew (21st September) of the same year. He has since acted as curate to the Brighton Oratory, and run a small mission in Buxted, East Sussex.

In 2016, Fr Andrew graduated with an Ecclesiastical Bachelor of Divinity degree conferred through Maryvale

Higher Institute of Religious Sciences by La Faculté Notre-Dame Paris, having studied for this degree part-time by distance learning.

Fr Scurr, who lives in East Sussex, was received by, and made canonical oaths to, Bishop Mead who was assisted by the Archdeacon, The Venerable Raymond Thompson.



On Saturday 22nd September 2018 the Bishop licenced Father Scurr as Assistant Curate for St Augustine's Church, Painters Forstal. The Bishop also gave him special responsibility for the second Church in the Parish - Our Lady of Walsingham & St Francis of Assisi, Rochester, Kent. The Rochester Church was amalgamated with the Pro-Cathedral Parish at the Diocesan Synod in April 2018.

After Mass, the Bishop presented Fr Andrew with the keys to Rochester.



Bishop Visits Bristol

On Saturday 8th September, Bishop Mead visited the Mission of Our Lady of Glastonbury to celebrate Mass and preach for the Feast of

the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



After Mass Andy Hall, who served at the altar, presented the Mission with a small statue of Our Lady of Glastonbury as a gift from him and his wife Sam. Br Juniper CGS & Dr Robert Wilson expressed their appreciation for the gift. It was also good to see Michael Smales who had made the long journey south from Ellesmere Port to support the Patronal Mass.

First Public Mass in Sheffield

On 6th October, Fr Jonathan Munn ObIOSB celebrated the first public mass of the Provisional Mission of St Anselm and St Odile in Dungworth Village Hall, Main Road, Dungworth, Sheffield.



Masses will be held monthly for the moment as the Mission develops. Anyone interested should contact Fr Munn.

Rochester Patronal Festival

On Saturday the 13th October, Bishop Damien Mead was in

Rochester to celebrate the Patronal Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham and Saint Francis. Fr Andrew Scurr, the assistant curate, was also there and gave the sermon for the Mass.



Changes in Bristol

On Saturday 20th October 2018 Br Juniper (James Tuite) CGS, notified the bishop that he had decided after much thought and prayer (and for personal reasons) to resign from the Ministry of Lay Reader in the Diocese and that he also intended asking Bishop John-Benedict CGS, Governor General of the Congregation of the Good Samaritan, to release him from the Noviciate. The bishop has confirmed that he has accepted the resignation and Br John-Benedict, CGS., has also acted on behalf of the order.

The Mission of Our Lady of Glastonbury, which mainly operated from Mr Tuite's home in Bristol, will now revert in real terms to the non canonical status of a "House Group" - although this will not happen formally until Synod.





Happily Dr Robert Wilson, who is also a Licenced Lay Reader, has agreed to take over as the local contact from his home in Bath.

Bolton Patronal Festival



The Patronal Festival of the Parish's Co Patron, S. Edward the Confessor, was celebrated on Sunday 21st October 2018 at All Souls Church at 10-30am. The Celebrant was Fr. Roger Bell, the Assistant Curate and the Homily given by Fr. Howard. Marsh, the Parish Priest. Refreshments followed the Mass.

Third Order Franciscan Enrolled

During the Parish Mass at St Augustine's Church, Painters Forstal, Kent, on Sunday 4th November 2018, on behalf of the Acting Guardian of the Franciscan Order of the Divine Compassion (FODC), Bishop Damien Mead accepted the Rule of Life and enrolled James Cooper (whose name in religion is Brother Thomas

Augustine) as a Tertiary (i.e. Third Order Member) of the FODC.



Br Thomas Augustine is a member of the Mission of St Bede, Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Those who would like more information about the ACC's Franciscan Order will find it on the provincial website.

Memorial Bench Blessed



On Remembrance Sunday being the 11th November 2018, the Pro-Cathedral Parish Church of St Augustine of Canterbury observed the annual act of remembering the fallen.

After the morning service, the congregation processed and assembled outside to bless and dedicate a memorial bench installed on the forecourt of the Church. One of the youngest members of the parish, Miss Jodie Hall, carried a Wreath of Poppies commemorating all those who died during World War I, on this, the centenary of the end of the conflict. After the dedication she placed the wreath on the bench.

Donations to aid the ACC in our work can be made online. Visit the Diocesan Website and click on



Et en France...

Fr Anthony Chadwick

British people have been coming to live in France for quite some time to enjoy a quality of life that is becoming increasingly unaffordable in the UK. The first waves of wealthy English families moved to places like Nice on the Mediterranean coast in the late nineteenth century and to cities like Florence in Italy. The film *Tea with Mussolini* shows deteriorating conditions for those people, culminating in their expulsion from their homes as the Fascist regime took power. *La Dolce Vita* is something that does attract people. At the same time, the attraction of continental Europe was not always a status symbol for the wealthy, but a quest for a wider and cosmopolitan view of life than would have been possible in our native country. Of course, there will be repercussions from Brexit and we all must navigate those choppy waters when we come to them.



My ministry is one of a chaplain, not a parish priest. Priests have always been put to work by their bishops in different ways, some in parish ministry, and others in teaching and study. I am a believer in “niche ministry”, socialising with people on the basis of common interests, and just trying to be as Christ-like as possible, invisibly like the leaven in the bread. My Chaplaincy is not a community of people living locally,

but its work is worldwide thanks to the technological marvel of the internet and its capability to transcend borders and bigotry. I have my website *As the Sun in its Orb* dealing with the liturgy and *The Blue Flower*, a philosophical review influenced by the Romantic movement. My ministry is essentially one of study and teaching. That’s what many priests do. I also have the *Use of Sarum* Facebook group with nearly a thousand members. It was joined a few days ago by the Principal of *St Stephen’s House*, Oxford, and we have many distinguished members, clergy and academics.

What do I do specifically as a priest? I celebrate Mass and the Office in my little chapel, alone with the Almighty and with the Angels and Saints – just like *Fr Charles de Foucault* in his desert hermitage. The *Use of Sarum* as a liturgical and cultural tradition fired my imagination when I became a Roman Catholic in 1981, and my dream was nothing other than many Romantic dreamers of the nineteenth century and a few present-day enthusiasts. The very area where I live engendered the *Use of Sarum* which was largely based on that of *Rouen*, a city I can drive to in about 45 minutes in good traffic conditions. The *Use of Rouen* is totally forgotten, even by the traditionalists. A few are interested in the *Use of Paris* and the *Lyons rite*. The last of the Norman customs died in the 1990’s with an elderly priest I knew who served for many years as *curé* of a parish in Normandy. He was quite a legend! Celebrating *Sarum* in Normandy seems as natural as the *Ambrosian rite* in the Italian-speaking regions of Switzerland and Austria, as one local culture melts into its neighbour. I don’t have to live in Wiltshire!

. Our faith should be comforting but it should never leave us feeling entirely comfortable.

Millions of years ago, what is now Sussex and Hampshire was ripped away from Normandy, and the sea flowed into the cracks and made the English Channel. What lies both sides shares a common culture.

I take pride in my work of promoting the Use of Sarum and getting others interested in it, not only from the point of view of study and “British Museum religion”, but also the idea of reviving a Catholic tradition on a par with the pre-novus ordo Roman rite (reflected in our English Missal and Anglican Missal) but also many other local rites and customs. I think I am at liberty to say that our Metropolitan Archbishop has shown an interest in my work, and my Bishop is definitely positive about it and supportive as are two of my brother priests. We are here only to sow the seeds, not to reap the harvest, to give and not expect any reward. That is our vocation, to find the knowledge of God and share it with those who are ready to receive the gift.

From my sheltered home in the Normandy countryside, in the midst of the cows, apple trees and linen flax fields, I watch the world. I still offer my poor prayers for my country and its future.

Going Out

By Harry Bendelow

I remember entering Upton Chapel on a very wet rainy Sunday. To my delight on leaving after Mass, the sun was shining. It was as if God smiled on the congregation and the garden. The experience was uplifting.

I am reminded of the priest's words at the end of the Latin Mass: “ite missa est”. The rough translation is, ‘go the Mass has ended’. The

dismissal invites us to leave in order that Jesus is taken into the world.



We are sent into the world to teach, preach and baptise in the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.

It is in stepping out that we fulfil our great commission in the world. The intention is to imitate and follow Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

We are strengthened when we enter the Church and receive the life-giving Bread of Heaven. The Forgiveness of sins and the uplift of praising and worshipping God should send us out with a spring in our heels. However, we know it is not all sunshine in the world. The Christian life is one of sacrifice. The mature Christian realises that his life is not about ‘self’ but about God's plans for him. Our faith should be comforting but it should never leave us feeling entirely comfortable.

Jesus says, in John 10: “I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly”. We all know life can be very difficult; however, once we forget ‘self’, becoming the loving servants of others, the words of Jesus assume their real meaning. The irony is that in forgetting self we find God and the abundance that Jesus promises.



From the Council of Advice

By Dr Roy Fidge, Diocesan Secretary

Here are some of the main issues discussed at the November meeting of the Council.

The Bishop announced that Fr Miles Maylor had accepted his invitation to serve as the Diocesan Health Advisor. This is a post aimed at reviewing the details of applicants' health information and medical reports arising from their application to the Diocese to join the ACC as an ordained member of another jurisdiction or as a layman wishing to be considered for Ordination. It was felt that our present medical section on the application form does not fully cover all aspects of physical and mental health so necessary to perform the duties of clergy within the ACC.

Some members of the clergy and other Diocesan personnel have yet to complete their safeguarding training. Fr Parry has agreed to look into the courses available and organise those still to be trained. This is an important aspect of our responsibilities to the people we serve in our Missions.

Mrs. Samantha Hall submitted the Treasurer's Report pointing out that the Diocese will almost certainly end the year with a deficit, showing income exceeded by expenditure. This is due in part to the need to fund the expenses of the Bishop and to provide for all the expenses needed to operate the Diocese. The major problem is that the Diocese has no form of regular income other than the annual tithes from Missions and the occasional bequest etc. so some means of developing a realistic method of providing necessary income will need to be found. We should not have to rely on our Bishop

and other clergy and Officers financing themselves.

There was a wide discussion regarding Mission finance which was inconclusive as far as improving Diocesan finance was concerned. This is clearly a very important and fundamental issue which must be addressed. Do you have any ideas on ways in which the Diocese could improve and provide funding? Do let the Bishop know!

The Treasurer reminded Missions that, in January, they would be asked to pay their share of the Diocesan insurance cover and would be getting their individual invoices soon.

In his report from the Board of Ministry Fr Walker said they had considered three potential candidates for ministry in the Anglican Catholic Church. Two were advised that their applications could not proceed as they stood at the moment but were satisfied with the third Candidate. The Bishop was informed accordingly.

No reports have been received for this Meeting regarding the Anglican Catholic Fellowship. But we know that these housegroups quietly provide people unable to get to regular Missions with the means to meet, have occasional celebrations of Mass and other services. It is always hoped that they will be able to grow and eventually blossom into new Missions and your prayers are vital to them in supporting this important aspect of ACC membership.

Mrs Hall said that all the Risk Assessments had been received from the Missions. She said the position of all DBS reports for Diocesan Personnel has yet to be completed. Risk management is an



important aspect of our responsibility in maintaining safe places of worship for people to meet.

The Diocesan Retreat 2019 will be held at the Ascot Priory Retreat House near Windsor. Arrangements were started by Br Juniper but, due to his recent resignation from the ACC, Mrs Hall has taken over from him. The retreat will begin round about 19 August 2019 though the dates have to be confirmed but the period between a Tuesday to Thursday is planned. Fr Parry will suggest the programme with Mrs Hall managing the practical details. Further information will be discussed at the next Meeting. If you are interested in coming let Mrs Hall know so she can keep you posted on the details.



Are you sure you want to use that "Doom" imagery with those who disagree with you, Bishop?

If you read the Canons of our Church, you will see that we are governed by rules of membership and organisation etc. which are so important to the correct running and management of the Diocese and the wider ACC. If you have not read them they are on the Diocesan Website, so you might care to take a look.

At the last council meeting, one of the Canons covering the way in which we handle Applications from priests or Ministers from other denominations wishing to join the ACC was discussed. The Canon being reviewed was Canon 16.6.2(v). The question had arisen as to whether there were very occasionally, circumstances in which a priest from another denomination might be received into the ACC, conditionally ordained and licenced without strictly undergoing the full requirements of the interview provided for under the Canon. This was very fully discussed. The Archdeacon had submitted a proposal that, in section 2(v) of the Canon where it says the Candidate 'will' be interviewed by the Council of Advice, it could be

amended to 'may'. This would give the Bishop a certain flexibility in deciding whether or not to have the candidate interviewed whereas, at the moment, it is a requirement that the candidate 'must' be interviewed. A great deal of time was spent on this issue. Many points of view as to the reasonableness of the proposed amendment were put forward and considered. But it was felt in some quarters that, once there is a choice by the Bishop as to whether a candidate may or may not be interviewed by the Council, there is always the danger of accusations of favouritism being levelled and the concept that the 'fairness' and absolute clarity of the present position would be put at risk.

The Canon says that the Regional Dean and/or The Bishop each 'may' interview the Candidate but that the Bishop 'will' arrange for the candidate to be interviewed by the Council. This was initially included as a safeguard that no one could be accused of unfairness or favouritism and regarded as an absolute protection of the Bishop and the ACC in considering the Reception of Clergy in the most transparent way possible. All would be treated the same and the advice available to the Bishop as to their acceptance or not would be as honest and non-partisan as possible. The arguments for keeping the Canon as it is and not recommending an amendment became obvious to all and it was decided to leave the Canon as it stands.

The dates for future CoA Meetings in 2019 are: 19 January; 20 July; 16 November. The XXVIII Annual Synod is to be held on Saturday 4 May 2019 at St Augustine's Pro-Cathedral, Painters Forstal, Nr Faversham, Kent.

Do please put these dates in your diary, especially that for our Synod!

My Emmaus Moment

By Marcia Giardelli. St Deiniol and St Asaph, with St Giles, Pembrokeshire

It was the persistent Anglican-Catholic focus and insistence on the centrality and crucial importance of the Eucharist which made me look further into what really happens when I take Holy Communion:

“The greatest treasure the Church has.” (Pope John Paul II)

“Jesus’ greatest gift to us.” (Pope Benedict XVI)

I would not want to count the times that I have stood in the Communion line, forcing myself into what I thought was the ‘right spiritual attitude’, wondering what I was really meant to be thinking, with a vague notion that eating the bread and drinking the wine would somehow do me good. At least I hoped it would. And then back to my seat, still wondering, and, if I’m honest, feeling disappointed because nothing had changed as far as I could perceive. The service, and my life, carried on as before.

Jesus’ words as written down in St Faustina’s diary were sadly accurate:

“When I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, my hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul but souls do not even pay attention to me. They leave me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. They treat me as a dead object.”

Recently, Vinny Flynn’s book, ‘The Seven Secrets of the Eucharist’, crossed my path, a beacon which confirmed that I had been missing out.

The most significant revelation for me was that each Communion is an actual meeting with a real, living person Jesus. He had been there at Upton Chapel waiting for me! The very next Sunday I would again be offered the

opportunity to meet Him, one to one. This time it was going to be different. I knew not how but I knew it would be.

And it was.

Everything was normal except that this Sunday, having received Communion, I walked back to my seat, a treasured bride. I had gone to the altar a bride alone and returned inexorably linked to my husband. It was a poignant, penetrating moment which began to soften my cold heart.

I sat stunned, pondering the enormity of Jesus having taken me as his bride and made an everlasting covenant with me. We were one, not ‘until death do part’, but forever. The perfect Husband, totally committed to being my protector, my provider, my advisor, my greatest admirer and, as the days go by, I realise, so much more.

I keep returning to this scene in my imagination such was the depth of the impression it made on me. It has become my life’s reality. It can also be yours.

“Come and receive Me. I come daily from heaven for you.”

Extreme Grace

Extreme grace
Gives me space.
Doesn’t rub it in
When I choose to sin.
Comes to me, time and again.
Knows my heart, detects its pain.
Never ebbs, always flows.
Never doubts, always knows.
Stills me when the storms they rage.
Invites me turn to a pure white page.
Tenderly grasps this trembling hand
Bidding me enter
an other-worldly land.
Cascading down, yet makes no sound.
The finest gown,
wraps its arms around.
I need Your grace to be secure,
Your precious gift forevermore.

“When I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, my hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul but souls do not even pay attention to me. They leave me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. They treat me as a dead object.”

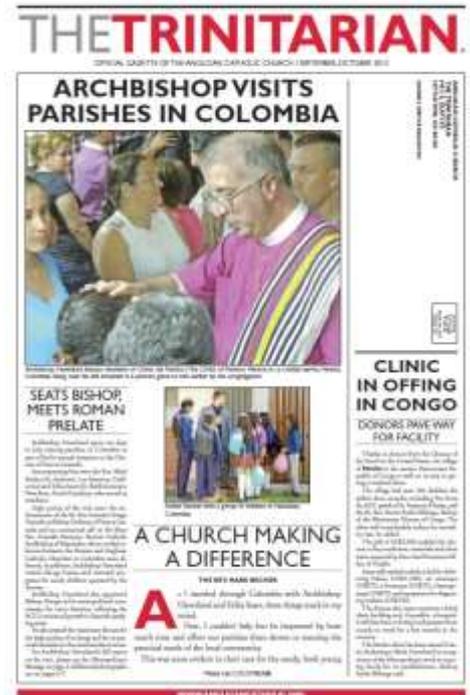
A Tribute to Bishop Damien Mead on the 10th Anniversary of his Consecration

by Dr Roy Fidge (Diocesan Secretary)

Damien Mead came into the ACC in January 1999. He soon began to make his mark and was appointed Diocesan Dean in Nov 2001.



the International Publication the Trinitarian, and we can think of the hours and hours he must have spent over the years in producing and editing the Diocesan Magazine, every edition of which was a work of art and dedication.



“He has always been foremost in thinking up ways and means of improving the way the ACC develops and is publicised and presented”

Following the sudden and rather unexpected departure of Fr McEueene in 2002 Damien became the Vicar General, moving the Diocesan Head Quarters to Lydd and taking over the reins of Leadership, which he has held firmly ever since.

His leadership has been on two levels.

Firstly, the overall, general and overarching management of the Diocese and the oversight of his team of priests and Officers who implement the policies and strategies that he has introduced and developed over the years. He has always been foremost in thinking up ways and means of improving the way the ACC develops and is publicised and presented especially by his magnificent ability to maintain a superb website. We are witness to his tireless efforts to ensure the newsworthiness of the Diocese in

Then, secondly, is his example and leadership as a parish priest. From the early days in Rochester in a room in a house, then a rented hall, then to the beautiful little chapel in the Credo Care Offices in Lydd. This was followed by the very brave and risky move to the cemetery chapel in Canterbury. That was the springboard for the move to the premises in Best Lane, where for ten years he worked so hard to make it a very beautiful, albeit smallest cathedral in the city.



But there is no stopping him, and with prayerful determination he continued his search for a better place to present the Gospel and call people to Christ, and here it is. This former Methodist Chapel has been transformed into a place of beauty with all the hallmarks of Damien's passion for having everything just so. His tireless unstoppable progress is an example and a challenge to us all. This is leadership at it most practical.



But this prince of the Church is not all holiness and piety. Under all that lace and embroidery there also lurks a fun-loving person with a wicked sense of humour and a liking and interest for some of the more ordinary aspects of day-to-day living. Food and travel are probably pre-eminent on his list but there are also, some more unlikely aspects.



For example, very few people know that he always sleeps in his Rupert Bear pyjamas, and many of us have seen him in his Rupert Bear waistcoat and scarf! Then there is photographic proof that he has, at least on one occasion, shaved off his beard, leaving only a little square

moustache in order to attend a fancy-dress party as a very realistic larger member of the comic duo Laurel and Hardy (no prizes for guessing who was the Stanley to his Ollie!).



So... We are here to celebrate and congratulate Bishop Damien on his ten Years as Bishop. We have come to thank him for his leadership of the ACC in the cradle of Anglicanism. We recognise his hard work, his perseverance, his determination, and the fair-minded and charitable way in which he has solved quite a few tricky problems, while he has been leading the Diocese. No one could doubt his sincerity, commitment and dedication to the ACC at all levels. We pray God will continue to bless his ministry and enable him to continue as our Bishop for many years to come.



“His tireless unstoppable progress is an example and a challenge to us all. This is leadership at it most practical.”

ACC Retreat 2018: Recollections of a layperson!

Maggie Bendelow

I looked forward to our first ACC Diocesan retreat with great anticipation. We arrived at Aylesford Priory in the early afternoon and gathered in the quadrant before our introductory get-together. It could have been overwhelming to witness the gathering sea of varied clerical garments. Fortunately, I'm not easily overwhelmed!

The buildings and grounds of the Priory were interesting ranging from medieval buildings to the quite recent additions in the grounds such as the Peace garden and the Stations of the Cross walk with beautifully evocative plaques at each station.

Most of us had rooms in the old building which was very tested by modern standards but nevertheless were quite characterful. The rooms were very clean and welcoming with a pile of soft towels and toiletries on each bed. However, the search for the showers ended in defeat - there was one bath to share!

We were presented with a very full timetable for the three days – several services each day and talks too. It looked a little too much at first but actually one session melded nicely into the next, interspersed only by very welcome meals. On the second day we had a wonderful treat. We all car shared our way to Painters Forstal where we saw the Bishop's new Pro Cathedral, St Augustine's. The hard work undertaken in the previous months has produced an astoundingly beautiful church – an act of worship in its own right.

At St Augustine's Church, Bishop Damien led us in worship with Fr Parry giving an excellent address. We then moved to the community room where

we were served a delicious lunch made by Samantha. Before we returned to the Priory Archbishop Jerome, who joined us for the retreat, gave a talk based on keeping the first commandment before all else.

Between times we had some interesting and informative (and in some instances "jolly") fellowship. The whole time was turned towards God, and I must say that I left feeling spiritually filled, happy and tired! I will certainly be signing up for next year's retreat.

To finish a huge vote of thanks to all involved in organising the retreat, especially Br Juniper, and those presenting sessions - a lot of work went into it! Thank you!

Joint Synods in 2020



SAVE THE DATE: We are pleased to announce that the 2020 Anglican Joint Synod will be held at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia, Atlanta (Dunwoody) GA, January 13-17, 2020. The room rate will be \$159/night + tax (which is currently 16%). The details of the registration fee and the schedule of events are still being developed. If you are interested in coming, do speak with Bishop Damien so that we can get a good delegation representing us there.

"The whole time was turned towards God, and I must say that I left feeling spiritually filled, happy and tired! I will certainly be signing up for next year's retreat."

From the Editor

Congratulations to Bishop Damien on ten years of service to the Diocese as Bishop!

This anniversary occurs not long after we have celebrated twenty-five years of this Diocese and forty years since the formation of our Anglican Catholic Church.

Not to belittle Bishop Damien's long service, but ten years in the eyes of the Church is quite a short period of time, though clearly not as short as Pope John-Paul I's pontificate of little over a month in 1978 – forty years ago now!

If the first Reformation in England dates from 1534, then forty years after that, we are well into Elizabethan England of 1574. In the CofE we are at the beginning of the influence of Puritanism. In 1576, Edmund Grindal, a noted Puritan, becomes Archbishop of Canterbury. He becomes known for opposing Elizabeth I's tolerance of the different parties within the Church and the Book of Common Prayer, finally even offending her in a six-thousand word tract against her with the words, "Bear with me, I beseech you Madam, if I choose rather to offend your earthly majesty than to offend the heavenly majesty of God." He spend the rest of his tenure under house arrest.

In the ACC, we can certainly empathise with the early Church of England with its turbulence. The passing of Bishop Hamlett earlier this year brings to mind the difficulties that he himself imposed upon our diocese, almost destroying it completely. But we have survived. Why?

The series of Reformations in England during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries saw much doctrinal upheaval which, over the centuries, had many ask the question, "is the Church of England Protestant or Catholic?"

We now know the answer. Given that it has chosen to depart from the Catholic

understanding of the Sacraments, it is no longer Catholic. Until our Diocese formed, one could conceivably answer the question with, "the Church of England is both Protestant **and** Catholic" depending on your understanding of what it is to be Protestant.

During our first forty years, we had something that the Reformation lacked – the benefit of hindsight! The ACC has encoded its theological stance firmly in the Affirmation of St Louis and our Canons and Constitution: these keep us together rather than doing our own thing. These keep us committed to preaching the Gospel of Christ.

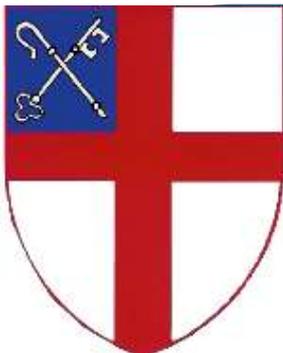
St Ignatius of Antioch says, "Wherever the bishop appears, there let the people be; as wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church. It is not lawful to baptize or give communion without the consent of the bishop. On the other hand, whatever has his approval is pleasing to God. Thus, whatever is done will be safe and valid." The office of the Bishop is vital for keeping the Church together, and our Canons and Constitution help the Bishops to be of one mind and act uniformly across the World.

Our Diocese is not the same as it was ten years ago, but we have held together by the work of the College of Bishops. We are the only Church in this country with the legacy of the Continuing Anglican and we continue that same spirit of 1977 because we abide by the same rules as they and they continue the same rules as the Church of England used to. We can only remain together if we see the Church as a whole, i.e. if we remember what "Catholic" means.

We have to thank God for Bishop Damien and his fidelity to the Catholic Faith. While there have been one or two upheavals, we have been stable over his time as our extraordinary Ordinary and that is something worth celebrating!



The Editor is always grateful for the work of all contributors to ACC UK. Though he cannot promise to include everything he receives he would be happy to receive your contributions and ideas for the next issue. Please email your contribution in a Word document to:



Where to worship ...



St Augustine of Canterbury

Eastling Road, Painters Forstal,
Near Faversham, Kent ME13 0DU

Sunday 11 am Sung Mass
(1st Sunday) 12:30pm Healing
(3rd Sunday) 1:30pm Study Group

Wednesday & Major Holy Days
12 noon Low Mass

Rector: Bishop Damien Mead
01797 321704 dmead@anglican catholic.org
Assistant Curate: Fr Andrew Scurr
07917 800611 ascurr@anglican catholic.org

The Pro-Cathedral Parish



St Alban the Martyr

320a Great Cheetham Street East, Salford
Greater Manchester

Sunday
9.45am Mattins
10.45am Sung Mass
Last Sunday Monthly
11.45am Healing Service

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Johnson
0161 798 6251
frcharles.johnson2@googlemail.com



Our Lady of Walsingham and Saint Francis

Within the grounds of Fort Pitt Military
Cemetery, City Way, Rochester, Kent

Rector: Bishop Damien Mead
01797 321704
dmead@anglican catholic.org
Assistant Curate: Fr Andrew Scurr
07917 800611
ascurr@anglican catholic.org

Masses currently fortnightly.
Further details from Fr Scurr



Our Lady & St Edward

@ All Souls Church, Astley St, Bolton BL1 8EY.

Services in **All Souls Church**
Astley Street, Bolton

Every Sunday

Sung Mass - 10.30am

Services in the **Cobden Centre**
Astley Street, Bolton

First Wednesday
of the month

Requiem Mass - 12 noon

Services in **Claremont Church**
St George's Rd, Bolton town centre

New! **Last Saturday**
of the month

Sung Mass - 12 noon

Priest in Charge: Fr Howard Marsh
07800 744975 hjm324344@gmail.com

Assistant Curate: Fr Roger Bell
07962 985863 rogerbell@hotmail.com

"I will go unto the altar of God, even unto the God of my joy and gladness."



St Deniol & St Asaph
 (Eglwys Genhadol Saint Deiniol ac Asaph)
 St Giles Chapel, Upton Castle, Cosheston,
 Pembrokeshire, Wales

Sunday 11am Sung Mass
Holy Days as announced
Monthly Women's Prayer Group
 Details: Mrs Margaret Bendelow: 01646 687089

Priest in Charge: Fr Miles Maylor
 07967 584670 revmem123@gmail.com

Lay Reader Mr Harry Bendelow
 01646 687089 ralphbendelow@gmail.com



St Nicholas of Myra

St Nicholas House, 42-48 High Street, Lydd,
 Romney Marsh, Kent TN29 9AN

Services: As announced

Priest in Charge: Bishop Damien Mead
 01797 321704 bishopmead@aol.com

The Bishop's Domestic Chapel



St Bede

Vera Fletcher Hall, 4 Embercourt Road,
 Thames Ditton, Surrey.

Sunday: 11.15am Low Mass

Priest in Charge: Canon Donald Walker
 0208 398 4304

The Anglican Catholic Church of St Anselm and St Odile

Monthly Masses in
 Dungworth Village Hall, Main Road,
 Dungworth, Sheffield S6 6HF
 For details, please contact:

Priest-in-charge:
 Rev Dr Jonathan Mann OMCOSB
 jmann@anglican catholic.org
 07596 638248



St Mary & St Eanswythe

31 Highfield Road, Dartford, Kent

4th Saturday Monthly: 12 noon Low Mass

Priest in Charge: Vacant

Warden: Dr Roy Fidge 01322 220172

Please telephone the Warden to confirm details



Anglican Catholic Fellowship

We have a number of housegroups around the country for those scattered Anglican Catholics around the country who are not near an established Parish or Mission. If you are interested in joining – or forming! – a housegroup, please contact the Bishop (St Augustine's) or Fr Howard Marsh (Our Lady and St Edward).

NB: Every effort is taken to ensure these times are correct but please telephone or email beforehand to double check if uncertain



Good Shepherd & St Tudwal
 (Cenhadaeth Y Bugail Da a Sant Tudwal)
 Gwydir Uchaf Chapel, Llanrwst,
 Conwy, Wales.

Services: Regular Mass
Priest in Charge: Fr Gareth Parry
 07899 971570
 penmaen86@hotmail.com

Please Contact Fr Parry for more details



Where to worship...European Deanery



**Chaplaincy of
 St Mary the Virgin**
 193 route d'Héricourt, 76190
 Hautot Saint Sulpice, France.

Services: Daily Mass & Offices
Chaplain: Fr Anthony Chadwick
 (0033) 235 963036
 anthony.chadwick@wanadoo.fr

Please Contact the Chaplain for more details



Chaplaincy of St Boniface
 (Gemeenschap van Sint Bonifatius)
 Mailing Address: Brugstraat 11, 9441 PG,
 Orvelte, The Netherlands

Services: Regular Mass & Daily Offices
Chaplain: Fr Gregory Wassen
 (0031) 06-57281018.
 fr.gregorywassen@gmail.com

Please Contact the Chaplain for more details



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