

**ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE EDINBURGH EH10 4BJ FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2007  
REF NO: AN 07/1**

**Archdiocesan Website: [www.archdiocese-edinburgh.org.uk](http://www.archdiocese-edinburgh.org.uk)**

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**NEWS FROM AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE:**

**PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS ARCHDIOCESAN NEWSLETTER RECEIVE FURTHER CIRCULATION – EITHER BY REPRINTING THE NEWSLETTER IN ITS ENTIRETY OR BY USING ITEMS AS YOU WISH IN YOUR OWN PARISH OR DEANERY NEWSLETTER.**

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**LETTER FROM CARDINAL:**

I take this opportunity of thanking most sincerely those who sent me Christmas cards and gifts. I assure you that I remembered you all in my prayers and would ask God's blessing on you all and on our Archdiocese for this year which lies ahead.

Our Archdiocese was thanked by Pope Benedict XVI for the greetings which were sent to him at Christmas. On his behalf, Cardinal Bertoni, the Secretary of State writes: "In the name of the Holy Father, I am writing to thank you for the greetings which you sent to him for Christmas and the New Year. He appreciates your thoughtful gesture. Upon Your Eminence and the people of St Andrews and Edinburgh His Holiness invokes an abundance of joy in Christ the Prince of Peace, and he cordially imparts his Apostolic Blessing".

As you know, the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and I issued a joint New Year Message of Peace this year and reminded all our people: "When we pray for peace we pledge ourselves to work for peace, to be peacemakers, and there has never been a time when peacemaking was more necessary".

I myself visited projects in India funded by SCIAF, during the last two weeks in January – in Delhi, Bangalore and in Chennai. I returned from what was a fascinating trip on Thursday 1 February 2007 – and a fuller report on my visit is enclosed. My thoughts also turned to El Salvador where I have visited our priests on three occasions. An annual Archbishop Romero Mass (this year on Saturday 24 March 2007) will, I am sure, inspire all involved in justice and peace work in our Archdiocese.

I thank all involved in meeting with me during Advent with regard to our discussions regarding 'Now is the Favourable Time'. Prior to and during Lent, I will be meeting with the priests of each of our 10 Deaneries and the members of our 10 Deanery Pastoral Councils engaging in further discussions prior to Easter.

Let us continue our prayers for peace and harmony throughout the world and for that same peace and harmony within our own family circle and within the family circle of our Archdiocese.

## 1. APPOINTMENTS:

### (1) The Oblates in Wester Hailes:

In June of last year, **Father Willie Fitzpatrick OMI**, was elected Provincial of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He and his team have asked that the proposed withdrawal of the Oblates from St John Ogilvie's Parish, Sighthill, be deferred from June 2007 to June 2008, as further decisions are being made within the Province. Consequently, I am more than happy for **Father Tony Quinlan OMI** to remain on with us as parish priest of St John Ogilvie's at this present time.

### (2) Changes in Office Staff at Gillis Centre:

As you know, **Mrs Molly Wade** recently retired as Secretary to the Curia – and a number of other tasks which she had undertaken over her 11 happy and fruitful years with us. Following on her retirement, a number of changes within the Gillis Centre are announced:

**Mrs Paula Grant**, will now be responsible for Finance Office correspondence as well as Minute taker for the Finance Committee.

**Mrs Charlotte Hamilton** joined the office staff on Monday 4 December 2006. She has been appointed as Administration Assistant in both the Pastoral Development Office and the Parish Support Services (Child Protection) Office. She has also been appointed as Secretary to the Curia.

The Chancery office hours of business have changed and as from the beginning of January 2007 the office will only be open on a Tuesday and Thursday. Anyone wishing to contact the office on any other day should leave a message or send an email to: [charlotte.hamilton@staned.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.hamilton@staned.org.uk) who will contact you on her return. If it is an emergency, then you should contact Father Nicholas Hodgson.

**Mrs Jackie Mooney** has been appointed Finance Assistant within the Archdiocesan Finance Department, as from Monday

12 February 2007, and she will leave her current post on the main Receptionist desk on Tuesday 6 February.

**Reception:** As of January 2007 all phone calls to the Archdiocesan Office on 0131 623 8900 will be answered by the main reception at the Gillis Centre. This will now be the main reception for the whole of the Gillis Centre complex. We would however encourage everyone to call individuals or departments on their direct dial.

**Mrs Joyce McLeod**, who has been a dedicated Secretary to the Religious Education Office for almost 20 years, is retiring and will be leaving in mid-February. Consequently, a suitable Secretary to the Religious Education Office is being sought to replace Joyce. **The post is full time (10am to 4pm, 5 day week) based at the Gillis Centre, Edinburgh. For more details and an application pack please contact Mr Robert Belderbos, Vice Chancellor, Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road, Edinburgh, EH9 1BB, or email [Robert.belderbos@staned.org.uk](mailto:Robert.belderbos@staned.org.uk). Closing date, 19 February 2007.**

## 2. PILGRIMAGES TO ROME:

### (1) Spring Pilgrimage:

As a member of the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, I will be absent from the Diocese from Monday 5 March – Friday 9 March 2007. Prior to that week, I have been invited to lead the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Parish of Ss Joachim and Anne in Rome – the titular church given me by the late Pope John Paul II. These jubilee celebrations take place on Saturday 3/Sunday 4 March 2007.

Consequently, a pilgrimage to Rome has been arranged around these two events for those who would like to join in the silver jubilee celebrations at Ss Joachim and Anne; take part in the Opening Mass of the Pontifical Council; visit to the Scots College; and join in the Audience with Pope Benedict XVI on Wednesday 7 March 2007.

A pilgrimage has been arranged from **Thursday 1 March to Thursday 8 March 2007**, departing Glasgow Prestwick on Thursday 1 March 2007 at 5.20 pm; and departing Rome on Thursday 8 March 2007 (Ciampino) at 9.40 pm. Seven nights bed and breakfast has been arranged at Hotel Alimandi, which is very convenient for the Vatican, being situated opposite the entrance to the Vatican Museum. The cost for the week's pilgrimage, including return coach transfer to and from Prestwick and airport transport in Rome, is £690 per person. For further information, please contact Mr Joseph Reddington at 113 Pumpherston Road, Uphall Station, Livingston, EH54 5PH (tel: 01506 433266).

### (2) Summer Pilgrimage:

Canon Hugh White is leading a group to Rome and Assisi from 1 July to 8 July 2007. The pilgrimage group will be staying half board in the Domus Carmelitana in Rome (with a trip to Subiaco/Tivoli); and half board in the Hotel Giotto in Assisi. The cost, twin rooms, is approximately £735. You are advised to contact Canon White at St Matthew's, Rosewell (tel: 0131-440 2150 as soon as possible).

### 3. EDUCATION WEEK:

As you will know, the **annual Education Week** takes place this year from Sunday 4 February to Sunday 11 February 2007. This gives us an opportunity both to learn more about our local Catholic schools – and also to thank God for the gift of these schools. I am sure that your own local Catholic Primary and Catholic Secondary Schools will be involved in various parish activities during this national Catholic Education Week.

### 4. FERTILITY CARE SCOTLAND:

Various posters and postcards have been sent to each of our parishes concerning Fertility Care Scotland. The group of trained tutors is involved in giving information about the Billings Ovulation Method of Natural Fertility Regulation and have helped hundreds of couples to plan their families naturally. They have also helped couples to achieve a much wanted pregnancy, even when it seems that there is no hope.

For further information please contact Fertility Care Scotland at Gillis Centre, 100 Strathearn Road Edinburgh, EH9 1BB (tel: 0131-623 8932).

### 5. ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES TO LOURDES:

As previously announced, the dates of our annual Archdiocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes for 2007 are from Friday 6 July to Friday 13 July. **For sick pilgrims** applications for the St Frai Centre should be addressed to Mrs Bernadette Barry, 61 Hailes Gardens, Edinburgh, EH13 0JN.

Obviously, this is the time of year when parishes, parish groups and priests think about possible sick pilgrims to be cared for in Lourdes. Any questions about fitness or suitability of pilgrims should be directed to the Pilgrimage Doctor, Dr Ken Richie, preferably by email to: [Drkritchie@aol.com](mailto:Drkritchie@aol.com) or by telephone on 01383 413508.

Information with regard to **hotel applications** will be posted in the parishes when available. You may wish to contact initially: Access Travel (Lancs) Ltd, 6 The Hillock, Astley, Manchester, M29 7GW (tel: 01942 888 844) to request an application form.

With regard to **helpers** it is necessary that the pilgrimage organisers know as soon as possible the names of all those people who intend to work with our sick pilgrims in Lourdes next year. If you intend travelling to Lourdes in July 2007 as a helper, nurse or doctor, please inform **Mr Scott Mackenzie, 17 Allan Park Gardens, Edinburgh, EH14 1LN** as soon as possible or email: [Edinburgh-lourdes@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Edinburgh-lourdes@tiscali.co.uk) (mobile: 0784 348 9287).

For details of the **holiday pilgrimage** from **Monday 2 July to Friday 13 July 2007**, which includes a 3 day holiday in Barcelona before leading the Archdiocesan Pilgrimage from Friday 6 – Friday 13 July 2007, please contact Mr Joe Reddington at 113 Pumpherston Road, Uphall Station, Livingston, EH54 5PH (tel: (01506) 433266).

## 6. ASH WEDNESDAY YOUTH GATHERING

Mrs Lynn Gemmell, the Archdiocesan Youth Co-ordinator, cordially invites you to an Ash Wednesday Youth Gathering at Gillis Centre on Wednesday 21 February 2007 at 7.00 pm.

I will open the evening with an Ash Wednesday service with the young people – and this will be followed by refreshments and an opportunity to hear what has been happening in the Youth Office from our Youth Co-ordinator, who has now been in post since October 2006.

Those interested in coming to the evening are asked to email the Youth Co-ordinator at: [lynn.gemmell@staned.org.uk](mailto:lynn.gemmell@staned.org.uk) or telephone: 0131-623 8917.

## 7. VENERABLE MARGARET SINCLAIR:

### (1) Dates for 2007:

The Annual Pilgrimage Day at St Patrick's, Edinburgh will this year be **Sunday 16 September 2007**. As in previous years, the celebrations will begin at 2.00 pm, with Mass in St Patrick's at 4.00 pm.

An Anniversary Mass at the shrine will take place on **Saturday 24 November 2007** at 12.30 pm. Monthly devotions take place on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.00 pm in St Patrick's.

### (2) Year End Review:

A newsletter (Issue No 4 – December 2006) gives information on the previous year's interest in the Venerable Margaret Sinclair. Articles have appeared in the national press, including the Scotsman, the Herald, Daily Record, Edinburgh Evening News, Scottish Catholic Observer and other Catholic papers, as well as, of course, various items on the radio. At the annual pilgrimage in 2006 on Sunday 17 September, I was principal celebrant at the Mass and the Vice Postulator, Father Stephen Robson, recently returned from Rome, following on his 8 years of service as Spiritual Director at the Pontifical Scots College, was the preacher.

### (3) Favours received:

If you have received an answer to prayer or would like your petition placed at the Venerable Margaret Sinclair's shrine, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the custodians of the shrine at: The Redemptorists, St Patrick's, 5 South Gray's Close, 40 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1TQ. If you have a story or information about the Venerable Margaret and would like to have included in the next edition of 'The Venerable Margaret Sinclair' Newsletter, then please write to the custodians of the shrine at the above address.

## 8. ARCHBISHOP ROMERO COMMEMORATIVE MASS – SATURDAY 24 MARCH 2007:

An annual commemorative Mass for the life and work of Archbishop Oscar Romero will take place in dioceses throughout the world on the anniversary of his assassination each year – 24 March. Over the years, a cross-section of our priests have worked in El Salvador and particularly in the Archdiocese of San Salvador, of which he was Archbishop until his assassination in 1980.

This year, the Romero Mass will be celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, Lauriston by myself and any priests who are able to concelebrate. The Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Faustino Sainz Muñoz, will also concelebrate at this Mass which will begin at 6.30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Please remember in your prayers Father Gabriel Rodriguez, the Vicar General of the Diocese of Chalatenango, El Salvador, who died on Saturday 6 January 2007. He had previously worked closely with Archbishop Romero, had been a good friend to our priests on loan in El Salvador, and visited us here in Edinburgh some years ago.

I will be delighted to receive to our Diocese Monsignor Ricardo Urioste, who was Vicar General of Archbishop Romero, in our Cathedral for Mass on Thursday 17 May 2007 at 12.45 pm. Again, all interested in Justice and Peace issues are particularly welcome to this Mass.

## 9. LENT AND EASTER ADULT EDUCATION COURSES:

### (1) Edinburgh:

During Lent and the Easter Season, at the Lauriston Jesuit centre, Lauriston Street, **Father Basil Clark** will repeat the two courses he gave in the autumn at Broxburn.

**The Sacraments in the Scriptures** seeks to help Catholics understand the rooted-ness of our sacramental life in Sacred Scripture and will form a series of themed Bible studies to be held as follows:

Wednesday 28 February	Baptism
Wednesday 14 March	Eucharist
Wednesday 21 March	Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the sick
Wednesday 28 March	Marriage

*Participants should bring a Bible if possible. (Note that because of another event in the parish, there is no meeting on March 7)*

**The Development of the Creed** will look at some of the historical developments (and controversies) leading up to 325 and 381, while aiming at helping people to get a grasp of the richness of meaning encapsulated. They will take place as follows:

Wednesday 18 April	God: Father and Creator
Wednesday 25 April	God: Son and Saviour
Wednesday 2 May	God: Spirit and Sanctifier
Wednesday 9 May	The Destiny of the People of God.

**Each of the evenings will begin at 7.30 pm and should finish by 9 pm**

### (2) West Lothian:

A course for Lent and Easter will be held in the Canon Hoban Hall, Broxburn on Thursdays at 7.15 pm.

An introductory evening will take place on Thursday 1 March 2007 at 7.15 pm; subsequent evenings for the course will be: 8, 15 & 22 March; 26 April; 3 & 10 May 2007.

The course is based on the fourth section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and its Compendium and will be run over 7 sessions. The core educational content will be provided by the Maryvale Institutes 'Adult Studies in the Catholic Catechism' supplemented by other material. The cost of attending the course is only by donation – but there will be a cost for the material from Maryvale. Further details can be obtained from Father Basil Clark at: 01506 852040.

Note that the material on offer and a certificate would certainly be an appropriate grounding for parish catechists and RCIA programmes etc. Further, the Maryvale certificate is in 6 units and constitutes an entry qualification to their degree course accredited by the Open University.

## 10. VISIT OF JEAN VANIER TO EDINBURGH:

Jean Vanier, author of several books on spirituality and described as one of the great spiritual giants of our time and who is the founder of groups L'Arche and Faith and Light, will be in Edinburgh from 28 February 2007 to 2 March 2007. He will be visiting St David's High School, Dalkeith, where pupils have been working on a project to increase awareness of the global spiritual message. He will also give the 2007 Middle East Festival Lecture at the Usher Hall on 1 March 2007 at 7.00 pm, with the topic being: 'Spirituality and Civilisation of Love'. Tickets for this evening are £9.00 (£7.00 concessions). Booking hotline is at: 0131-228 1155 (Usher Hall); or further information at [www.usherhall.co.uk/index.php](http://www.usherhall.co.uk/index.php).

## 11. PRAYING WITH THE HEART:

The inner journey towards God is the most important one we will ever make. Prayer is key to its success. Starting in February there will be a short course of six evenings where different traditional methods of prayer will be shared. There will be an opportunities to discuss thoughts and feelings about them in a confidential setting. The spirituality underpinning the course is based on the teachings of

Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits. Topics covered include coming to stillness, praying with scripture, praying through art and music, using imagination, contemplation and understanding God's movements in our lives.

Praying with the Heart is based on a short course written by the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow and the Church of Scotland. The Tutors are trained Spiritual Directors and previous participants have said "Very inspiring and thought provoking", " I am more open to God and more aware of what he is doing in my life" and " I have enjoyed the various approaches to prayer and wonderful sharing of ideas".

The course will run on six Wednesday evenings in St Margaret's Convent, Edinburgh, 7.30-9.30 from the 21st of February and will cost £45 (concessions available). If you would like further information or want to book a place please contact either Elaine Fyfe tel 441 7956 [elainefyfe@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:elainefyfe@blueyonder.co.uk) or Juliet MacKellaig tel 447 6936 [julietmackellaig@yahoo.com](mailto:julietmackellaig@yahoo.com). <http://www.prayingwiththeheart.org.uk>

## **12. COLLECTION OF BIBLE SHARING:**

A book of Bible sharing entitled: 'I Am With You' with the aim to encourage us to read the Bible, is on sale in parishes. The proceeds of this book will go to Gwalior Hospital in India. It has been compiled by youth (18 – 30 years). Please contact Fr Kerr at St Peter's Parish if you have any queries (tel: 0131 447 2502).

## **13. VOCATIONS:**

### **(1) Vocations to Permanent Diaconate:**

Those considering permanent diaconate are invited to discuss this with their own priest or contact the Director of our Permanent Diaconate Programme:

Reverend Paul Kelly MA D Phil (Oxon)  
St Joseph's  
30 Broomhill Road  
BONNYBRIDGE  
FK4 2AN (tel: (01324) 812417).

Further information about selection and training may be had by contacting Father Paul Kelly directly and by accessing the Scottish Deacons website at: [www.scotsdeacons.org.uk](http://www.scotsdeacons.org.uk).

**Reverend Jim Griffin**, a permanent deacon, formerly of the Diocese of Northampton, has now moved into our own Archdiocese. He is very willing to talk to deanery and parish groups about the nature of the Permanent Diaconate and his own experiences as a permanent deacon. He can be contacted at: 3/19 Portland Gardens, Edinburgh, EH6 6NY (tel: 0131-553 1216).

### **(2) Vocations to the Priesthood:**

As previously indicated, any young men interested in the priesthood are advised initially to contact their own priest or one of our Archdiocesan Vocations Directors.

Reverend Stephen Robson BSc MTh STL JCL STD,  
Our Lady, Star of the Sea  
9 Law Road  
North Berwick  
EH39 4PN (tel: (01620) 892195; fax: (01620) 980924; mobile: 07823 338610; email: [fatherstephenrobson@msn.com](mailto:fatherstephenrobson@msn.com)).

Reverend Alex Davie BD  
St Margaret's  
149 Main Street  
Davidson's Mains  
EDINBURGH  
EH4 5AQ (tel: 0131-476 0413; email: [saintmargarets@instantemail.co.uk](mailto:saintmargarets@instantemail.co.uk)).

## **14. LENT AND PREPARATION FOR EASTER:**

### **(1) Beginning of Lent:**

Note that Ash Wednesday this year is celebrated on **Wednesday 21 February 2007**. I myself will celebrate Mass at 12.45 pm in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh.

**(2) Lenten Station Masses:**

Please note the list of Lenten Station Masses for this year. A poster is available at the back of your church. The Chrism Mass this year will be celebrated in our Cathedral on **Tuesday 3 April 2007 at 7.00 pm.**

**(3) Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:**

The Rite of Election for all those to be received into full communion with the Church this Easter will be celebrated in St Mary's Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent, 25 February 2007 at 3.00 pm. A copy of the form to be completed should be returned to Father Michael Regan at St John the Baptist's, 37 St Ninian's Road, Edinburgh, EH12 8AL by Saturday 10 February 2007. Please fill in the number of catechumens preparing for baptism separate from the number of candidates preparing for reception into full communion with the Church.

**(4) Meetings with Cardinal:**

I enclose with this letter, a list of dates for my meetings with our priests' deaneries and also with the members of our Deanery Pastoral Councils. This follows a series of meetings during Advent between myself with each Dean and a representative from each Deanery Pastoral Council.

I found these meetings very fruitful and the results of the meetings will be discussed at these further meetings to take place before Easter.

**15. LITURGY COMMISSION: MUSIC NEWS:**

**Organ Workshop in Blackburn:**  
Saturday 3 March 2007 at 2 pm, Our Lady of Lourdes, 30 Bathgate Road, Blackburn, West Lothian. Led by Evelyn Stell. Cost £5, £3 concessions. Hands-on organ technique for beginners and would-be beginners, especially pianists, using the Organ Learning Project material. More details from Evelyn (see below).

**Advance notice of next Autumn Music Day:**  
Saturday 22 September 2007 in St Michael's, Blackness Road, Linlithgow.

**February Music Newsletter** will be issued shortly with further event details and a note of the latest *Forth in Praise* publications. To be added to the newsletter mailing list, or for any other enquiry, please contact Dr Evelyn Stell, 01506 510366, [forthinpraise@gmail.com](mailto:forthinpraise@gmail.com). (NB Please note new email address).

**16. EDUCATING IN A TIME OF HIV/AIDS:**

The Lauriston Jesuit Centre is delighted to welcome to Scotland Professor James F Keenan SJ, STD, Professor of Theological Ethics at Boston College, USA. Jim is a Jesuit priest and one of the world's foremost moral theologians. He is adviser to the US Catholic Bishops' Conference on health care ethics, and has specialised in the ethical areas surrounding HIV/AIDS. He will be delivering his lecture in Lauriston Jesuit Centre, 28 Lauriston Street, Edinburgh on **Tuesday 6 March 2007 at 7.30 pm.** The evening is free and open to all.

**17. REMEMBERING SERVICE:**

There will be a Remembering Service in St John the Baptist's Church at 3.30pm on Sunday, 4th March 2007. The service is for those who have suffered the death of a child from the beginning of pregnancy onwards, whether recently or at an earlier time. Could the enclosed poster be displayed in your parish. If you would like any further information, please contact Margaret Knops, 0131-334 5291.

**18. WARNING TO CAR OWNERS/CAR DRIVERS:**

I have been warned by the 'Force Intelligence Bureau of a new car-jacking scheme. Car thieves in various parts of the country are sticking a piece of paper or something similar to the middle of the rear window of cars. Invariably this noticed by a driver when he has started the engine and is ready to move off. The initial reaction is to leave the car in neutral while getting out and removing the paper. That is when the thieves can jump into your car and drive off with keys and whatever other contents there are in the car. Please be warned!

**19. DATE FOR COPY FOR NEXT  
ISSUE:**

material for inclusion in the Newsletter being  
**Friday 16 March 2007.**

It is intended that the next issue of the  
Archdiocesan Newsletter will be issued on  
**Friday 23 March 2007** – with the last date for

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**SECOND ANNIVERSARY MASS MARKING ELECTION OF POPE BENEDICT XVI:  
SUNDAY 25 MARCH 2007:**

Invariably Mass marking the election of the Pope is celebrated in Westminster Cathedral, London. However, His Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio has indicated his desire to celebrate such a Mass, not only in England, but in Scotland. Last year, such a Mass was celebrated about this time for those involved in 'Lay Apostolate' activities for the Church and with representatives of our various Catholic organisations, groups and movements at Scotus College, Glasgow.

This year, the Mass will be celebrated in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on **Sunday 25 March 2007 at 11.30 am**. This will be a national celebration, with all of the members of the Bishops' Conference of Scotland present, in addition to the Apostolic Nuncio. In the congregation there will be representatives from the Scottish Parliament, Consular Corps, legal and other professions and various other dignitaries.

Seats will be reserved for the principal guests, but otherwise all are welcome to this important occasion in the life of our Church.