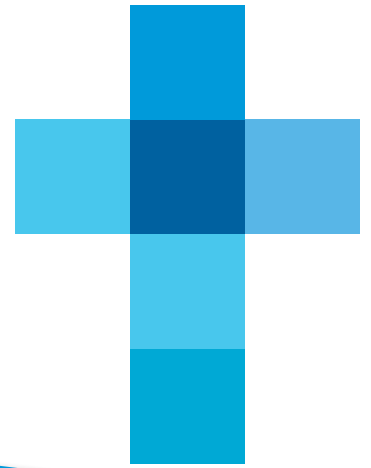


# Catholic Care news



## Welcome from Carol Hill, Director of Catholic Care

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2016. We hope you enjoy reading about the work of Catholic Care, especially as we evolve our services to meet the needs of the people we care for and support today.

Much of our work is only possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters and

donators. During 2015 we were once again touched by the generosity of those who chose to give to the charity, by way of financial donations, time and talents. Your giving is so important to Catholic Care as it allows us to develop community projects and improve our services to those we care for and support. To all those who gave, thank you.



## A big thank you to all who supported our Christmas appeals

At Christmas time we turn our thoughts to those in our own communities who are in need of extra help over the festive period. Your response has been amazing.

Our Christmas Appeals help the different needs of so many.

Thank you to:

- our donators, supporters and schools who have made financial donations to the hardship fund totalling £2,770. With the appropriate care and support and by providing a small amount of financial assistance we can help people back to helping themselves.
- the primary schools in the Diocese of Leeds who made donations to our "When a child is born appeal". The children were asked to think about the gifts they could bring baby Jesus if he was born today. These gifts are used throughout the year through our Gianna project which supports mothers and their babies with an unplanned pregnancy. Your generous gifts have also enabled us to support Headingley Children's Centre and its work with a local refuge, housing asylum seeker mothers and their children.

We have also been able to offer immediate assistance to "We are Wakefield" and "One Nation" in Batley with their work in the refugee camps in Dunkirk, Syria and Iraq and the Syrian community living in Leeds.

- all those who have donated toys. We made over 175 toy deliveries to families most in need throughout our community. Your generous donations have put a smile on the face of a child.
- all those who have donated food and toiletries. Our team have delivered around 60 hampers to families who really struggle all year round and especially so at Christmas. As a result of your generosity we have also been able to support the homeless in Leeds through St George's Crypt and have again reached out to those most marginalised in our society with donations to asylum seeker projects.



The children from St John the Baptist Primary School, Normanton. With their fabulous offerings for the Gianna appeal.

"People's generosity this year has been overwhelming, it really will make a difference to so many."

**Carol Hill, Director**

A service you can believe in

Catholic Care



## Response to the refugee crisis

In October Pope Francis called on our generosity and solidarity to recognise and act upon our common humanity in response to the growing refugee crisis. This was followed by a statement from Cardinal Nichols in which he stated: "The Catholic Church in England and Wales will work alongside Government and local authorities to offer welcome and support to those in need."

Catholic Care has been working as part of the Diocesan response to this crisis. We have been able to provide immediate response through our Christmas Appeal, which focused on baby clothes & toiletries, toys and food. When refugees arrive in our country they have absolutely nothing except for the bag they can carry and are in need of a warm welcome and the basic necessities of life. Catholic Care has supported The Syrian Community in Leeds, Headingley Children's Centre, Yorkshire Aid, Leeds Food Aid Network, One Nation Batley and We Are Wakefield in their support of the refugee camps at Dunkirk, Syria and Iraq.

This is only the start as we continue our work with the Diocese to develop links so we can offer more co-ordinated help and support which is so desperately required in the many different areas.



## A new minibus for The House of Light

The House of Light is one of Catholic Care's residential homes for 6 adults with a learning disability.

This year Christmas came early when the Home was very grateful to receive a brand new minibus from a fabulous donor in Leeds. Words cannot express our thanks. This was a wonderful act of generosity and kindness showed to the Home and one greatly appreciated by all residents and staff.

The minibus plays an integral part in the life of the home; "We can offer our residents a wide spectrum of external activities and exciting day trips which without a minibus would be very sadly missed," said Aileen Donnelly, Home Manager. The residents and staff were all very excited when they heard the news and there were lots of boisterous cheers when it arrived.

2016 now holds many exciting adventures for us all.



## Monday Friends enjoy a festival of carols

Monday Friends from St John's, Normanton had an afternoon to be remembered when they attended the Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School Christmas Showcase. "From the moment we were greeted at the main entrance nothing was too much trouble for the young people involved. We were shown to our seats and throughout the afternoon they ensured each and every one of us had enough tea and coffee, sandwiches cake and mince pies," said Peter Simmons, Catholic Care Community Group Worker.

The group enjoyed continuous entertainment from the choir singing traditional carols, to solo performances of more contemporary music and dance. With a sherry in hand, each member of the group was presented with a hamper from the young people.

Monday Friends runs every Monday at the Canon O'Grady Hall, Normanton from 10am to 12 noon. All welcome.

For further details on the Catholic Care community groups please call 0113 088 5400 or visit [www.catholic-care.org.uk](http://www.catholic-care.org.uk)

## Christmas events



### Christmas is a very busy time at Catholic Care, here is a brief round up:

The celebrations started with "Step into Christmas", the Charity's party night held once again at the Irish Centre, Leeds on 27th November. Guests enjoyed a 4 course meal, games and entertainment including Joe on his guitar and ukulele and DJ Simon who had us all dancing to Christmas favourites into the early hours. All left after a fantastic night with smile on their face and arms laden with raffle prizes. Thank you to all who donated such fabulous prizes. The evening raised £550 for the Charity.

Shortly after we came together for our annual Christmas gathering where staff and people we care for and support enjoyed some festive cheer with an Advent Service, refreshments and lively carol singing led by Stephen Johnson (Director of Finance) on his guitar. This year we were all treated to the beautiful singing from the children at St Patrick's, Torre Road, Leeds.

As the afternoon drew to a close some of the children supported through the School & Family Social Work Service met Bishop Marcus at his house. The Bishop chatted to the children about Christmas and kindly had some photographs with them as a memento. The children (and staff) skipped away from Bishop's House; this visit had definitely been a real highlight and one they will remember for a long time.



## Volunteers bring Christmas cheer to older people

Christmas can be a difficult time for many older people, some even find themselves alone. With this in mind, the senior citizens of St Robert's Parish Church in Harrogate were invited to a Christmas meal at the Parish Centre.

As the finishing touches were made to the meal, crackers were pulled, the wine poured and the seasonal music could be barely heard over the sound of conversation and laughter.

The quality of the meal, prepared by the staff at Giannis Brio, was excellent and was quickly and efficiently served by young people from the parish, staff from St Robert's Centre and volunteers from Catholic Care who came together to support this special event.

The Deanery Luncheon Group runs on alternate Fridays as St Robert's Club from 12.30pm to 2pm.



## The Hand of Friendship

Catholic Care is delighted to announce in partnership with Leeds Irish Health & Homes and the Ciaran Bingham Foundation, the launch of a new telephone support service for older people, The Hand of Friendship – a free and confidential chat line for lonely people over the age of 50.

This pilot has been funded by the National Lottery and the chat line enables trained people to provide:

- a friendly listening ear for a chat
- an offer of friendship
- information to share on social groups in the locality.

The line is open Monday to Friday from 8pm to 10pm. Feeling lonely? Call for a chat on 0800 0902253.



## 'Carols by Candlelight' an evening of Lessons and Carols at St John Fisher School, Harrogate

Parents, parishioners and friends came together to enjoy an evening of Carols and Lessons at St John Fisher School Chapel on Thursday 17th December 2015.

Father John Carlisle opened the service with a call to prayer. The senior choir provided an excellent performance of 'Carol of the Bells', whilst the junior choir led the congregation through many much loved carols including 'Silent Night' and 'The First Noel'. It was a truly wonderful performance.

Janet Kent (School and Family Social Work Service Manager) spoke on behalf of Catholic Care. Janet talked about the work

that Catholic Care is undertaking in the Harrogate area and some plans for 2016. She went on to thank everyone for their donations which would contribute towards the Catholic Care 'Christmas Appeal 2016'.

Mr Pritchard (Headteacher) thanked all those who had contributed towards a hugely successful evening and invited the guests to take refreshments in the school hall where mulled wine and mince pies were served by volunteers. Those who attended kindly raised £604 in donations for the Catholic Care Christmas Appeal. Thank you to all for a wonderful evening.

## Forthcoming events 2016

Friday 20th May 2016  
Fish Supper Evening

11 North Grange Road,  
Headingley, Leeds

4pm to 7pm

We are delighted to invite all our staff, supporters, donators and the people we care for and support to join us in the garden at our offices, 11 North Grange Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 2BR for a Fish Supper Evening. Stalls and games will also be available for us all to enjoy.

Tickets are available at £5 per person, for the fish supper.

From: [joanne.cunningham@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:joanne.cunningham@catholic-care.org.uk) or telephone 0113 388 5400

## Open Day at Leopold Villa

Are you or members of your family or friends interested in finding a real alternative to a care home?

Catholic Care would like to invite you to join them for Morning Coffee and Pastries at Leopold Villa, 5 Robert Street, Harrogate, HG1 1HP on Tuesday 23rd February between 10.30am and 12 noon.

Leopold Villa provides purpose built apartments for senior ladies and gentlemen in a fabulous location in the centre of Harrogate with flexible care and support provided in the privacy of your own home as and when you need it. Apartments are available to buy from £175,000

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?		
LEOPOLD VILLA	OWN HOME	CARE HOME
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 1 weekly fee covering all your household bills, a main meal every day, housekeeping/laundry AND one hour of personal care/support every day, social and leisure programme</li> <li>- Additional care payable as required</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council tax</li> <li>- Electricity/gas/oil</li> <li>- Telephone/broadband</li> <li>- Water</li> <li>- Insurance policies</li> <li>- Cleaning house/garden maintenance</li> <li>- Food shopping</li> <li>- Other care and support</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost of renting a care room</li> <li>- Weekly fee covering all bills, food, maintenance of communal areas and full time care and support (whether you need it or not)</li> </ul>
<b>ASSET PROTECTION</b>		
Buy-back guarantee with the price linked to inflation (your asset is protected)	Your asset is protected but you will have to market and sell your home	No retained asset
<b>COST OF LIVING</b>		
£	££	£££

## Our Mission

In everything we do, we strive to show how the teachings of Christian love, charity and justice can shape the way we live together.

We aim to achieve this by taking the Caring Church into the Community and offering practical services and support for anyone who is disadvantaged and vulnerable, regardless of their faith.

## End of the Adoption Support Service

It is with great sadness after many years of supporting families with adoption and more latterly adoption support, that the time has now come, due to regulatory requirements, that Catholic Care is no longer in a position to carry out its adoption support service. However, we are pleased to say that the Catholic Care files, including those of the Middlesbrough and Hallam Dioceses on whose behalf we have carried out post adoption work, have been transferred into the ownership of Nugent Care, the Diocesan Charity for the Arch Diocese of Liverpool.

We are also pleased to say that, Maria Malcolm-Dabou, the Catholic Care adoption support social worker, who many of you will know, will continue her work with Nugent Care and therefore will be able to provide you with a familiar voice and face.

## Leeds Diocesan Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

O God, Father most merciful,  
 you created the world in wisdom and in love,  
 and you walk with your children on the journey of life,  
 pardoning and welcoming them always.  
 Your Beloved Son, the visible face of your mercy,  
 is present in our midst, and loves us with a heart full of merciful love,  
 and teaches us to be merciful and to love one another.  
 Grant to us your children, as we celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy,  
 an outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, the Consoler,  
 that our hearts may be open to our brothers and sisters  
 who hunger and thirst for mercy,  
 and the Good News of your merciful love which endures forever,  
 may be always and everywhere proclaimed.  
 Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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