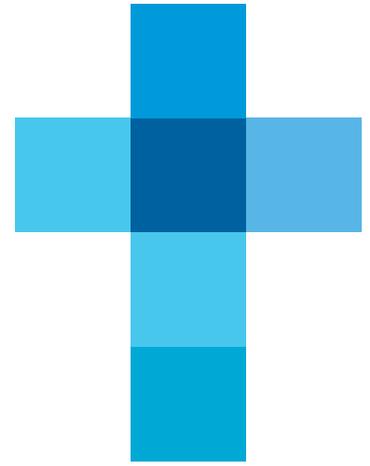


Catholic Care news



Welcome to the Summer Edition of the Catholic Care Newsletter



Welcome to the Catholic Care Summer Newsletter and I hope you are all enjoying the wonderful sunny weather we currently have.

Summer is a very busy time for our charity as the people we care for and support go on holiday and day trips as they continue to enjoy life, and I look forward to telling you about their adventures in our autumn edition.

As usual our newsletter is packed with the activities of the charity and the good works of so many of our staff and volunteers. If you enjoy your read and would like to work or volunteer for the charity please do not hesitate to contact us.

Trustees On Tour

Trustees at Catholic Care take their duties very seriously. The Charity's Mission includes within its Governance duties: 'knowing what difference your charity really is making and making balanced and informed decisions'. What better way to be informed than to meet the staff, volunteers and, of course, the people Catholic Care cares for and supports.

So on Thursday 3 May 2018 Sue Rix, Maureen Fletcher and Deacon Joe Cortis set out to visit the Stay & Play Group run at St John the Baptist Church in Normanton; a supported living home in Brighthouse and a residential home in Dewsbury, both for adults with a learning disability.

At Normanton, there was lots of time to chat with the three tremendously loyal and valued volunteers: Margaret, Maureen and Sandra, without whom the group simply would not happen. The children were occupied having fun with beautifully coloured toys and a creative, very messy, table which was everyone's favourite!

Following this the trustees sped off to Brighthouse where they were greeted by one of the tenants, Jim, who warmly invited everyone into his lovely home. Love and respect resounded in the beautiful calm and homely place. Then Jim, Pauline, Dean and Christopher, [4 out of 5 tenants at home] shared a scrumptious buffet lunch with us. They were attentive and caring to each other and ourselves and very relaxed in their chat about the activities and classes they attended, especially cookery! The smiling faces were a lovely memory.

The last stop of this whistle stop tour was at Westhaven, Dewsbury. This included a very special opportunity to see Mavis on her 90th birthday – such an amazing lady! Mavis happily posed for photos in her balloon-festooned room which was ready for the impending family party at the weekend. Trustees had a tour of the home and were entertained en route by John who played impromptu guitar and keyboards. Back in the kitchen, John then made all the teas and coffees to order whilst other residents shared their memories of happy holidays as they looked forward to this year's adventures.

**Such an inspiring and happy day!
Sue Rix, Trustee**



National Volunteer Week 1st to 7th June 2018

National Volunteer Week is our time to champion the contributions made by our volunteers and say thank you for all they undertake within the projects they support.

Volunteering is often seen as a selfless act; a person gives their time, skills and experience to help others without expecting anything in return. Volunteers tell us “you get more than you give”. It’s meaningful and all our volunteers, who are a vital part of Catholic Care, are appreciated for the huge contribution and for the significant difference they can make to people’s lives.

Through their actions our volunteers demonstrate their personal qualities and values, which helps build self esteem and self confidence. Our volunteers have the opportunity to meet people, develop new skills, and improve knowledge but also to share their skills, experience and abilities with others.

The benefits of volunteering are not only enjoyed by the community they are involved with but by the volunteers themselves in knowing they contribute to the betterment of society in some way.

Thank you to you all.



Mgr Canon John Murphy Prot Ap RIP

Sadly Mgr. John Murphy passed away on 29th January 2018, just as our Winter newsletter was being printed. He had such a long connection with Catholic Care, we also wanted to remember him in our Summer newsletter.

He first started in 1949, just after WW2 when he was appointed curate to St Francis in Holbeck, Leeds, where the Parish Priest was Father John Kelly who was also the Administrator of the Diocesan Rescue Society, as Catholic Care was known then. Father Kelly asked his young curate to help him with his work and so Mgr. Murphy’s long association with Catholic Care began.

In 1962 Mgr. Murphy was appointed Assistant Administrator before taking over the reins in 1969. He held this post until 1982 when he became Vicar General of the Diocese. Following this he continued his involvement with the charity taking on a very active role as Trustee, a position which he held until 2007.

During his 58 years working with the charity the world moved on at a great pace. The early years saw the recruitment of trained and experienced staff. This was just the start of the regularisation and professionalisation of children’s services. During the early 1970’s, a partnership working with the Social Services Departments of Local Authorities began; the world was rapidly changing.

When Catholic Care celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2013, Mgr. Murphy took an active role in the celebrations. He recalls reading through some of the reports he had prepared and how they evoked happy memories of the growth and expansion of the society. Back in 2013 he said: “Our Diocesan story of the care of children is indeed an honourable one.” He gave the credit for this to the Priests, Religious Orders and dedicated lay people of the Diocese, yet throughout he was the constant rock.

Change is still happening quickly today but it is thanks to Mgr. Murphy, who laid such a strong foundation, that we can respond with confidence and continue to evolve our services.



Thursday and Friday Friends Celebrate the Royal Wedding!

Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hall in Huddersfield was buzzing on Thursday 17th May and Friday 18th May about the Royal Wedding on 19th May. Two of our volunteers were so excited they decided to dress up as Harry and Meghan to greet everyone as they came in!

The children from Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School came and helped to serve sandwiches, wash and dry up. They were a great help. We were also treated to violin music by Siobhan Vink. We toasted the Royal couple with a glass of sherry, finished off with a game of bingo, but nobody wanted to leave!

A big thank you must go out to all our volunteers who helped at either session, we couldn’t do it without you.

All are welcome to join the luncheon groups. Volunteers are also most welcome.

Thursday Friends runs 11am to 1.30pm weekly. Friday Friends runs 11am to 1.30pm weekly. All groups take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish rooms, Sheepridge HD2 1HF.



Good Shepherd Celebration 2018

On Friday 11th May school children and their teachers from all around the Diocese gathered at St Anne's Cathedral in Leeds for the Good Shepherd Celebration. This annual event, first introduced by Bishop Cowgill in 1911, celebrates the efforts of the schools in raising funds for Catholic Care during Lent.

During the celebration pupils from Our Lady of Lourdes and St Patrick's Primary Schools, Huddersfield presented the liturgy, telling the congregation how the money raised will be helping others through readings, poems and songs which reflected the work of Catholic Care. A very special moment was the praying of the Our Father which was accompanied with signing. The choirs from the Diocesan Music Programme sang beautifully throughout.

The children raise their money in so many different ways, these include the usual favourites of non-uniform day/pyjama day, bun sales, name the Easter bunny, crazy hair day and Easter egg raffle to name but a few. This year saw some new themes emerging including designing and selling prayer cards, danceathon, name the teacher from their old school photo, dressing up for a "dream job", sponsored runs which covered the distance to Jerusalem, Russia and Lindisfarne on St Cuthbert's Day and even wet sponge throwing saw an emergence.

The children take great delight in presenting their donations and telling Bishop Marcus what they have been up to.

At the end of the service, Bishop Marcus was presented with a cross by pupils from the lead presenting schools which included all the names of the schools in the Diocese to commemorate the occasion.

Catholic Care Welcomes New Trustees

Following a recruitment campaign Catholic Care are very pleased to welcome two new trustees to its Board.

Mark Davison

Mark is an internationally acclaimed composer, producer and humanitarian. Under his professional name of Benson Taylor he has been writing music for film, television and writing/recording for over 10 years. He co-owns and runs two successful recording studios. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate for his services to Music & Humanitarian Causes.

Mark's other charitable positions include:

- Member of the Justice & Peace Commission Leeds [2017]
- Celebrity Ambassador, CAFOD [2016]
- Patron, Music & The Deaf [2015]

Vivienne Birch

Vivienne is the Quality and Compliance Director for Bupa Care Services for whom she has worked for many years, holding various management positions. She is an experienced Care Home Leader and an experienced nurse with a Masters Degree in Advanced Nurse Practice. Vivienne began her career as a Registered Nurse and qualified as a Midwife in 1983. She is also experienced in dementia care.

Carol Hill, Director of Catholic Care said: "I am very excited to be working with these two new trustees who can contribute to the continued quality and involvement of our services in such very different ways."

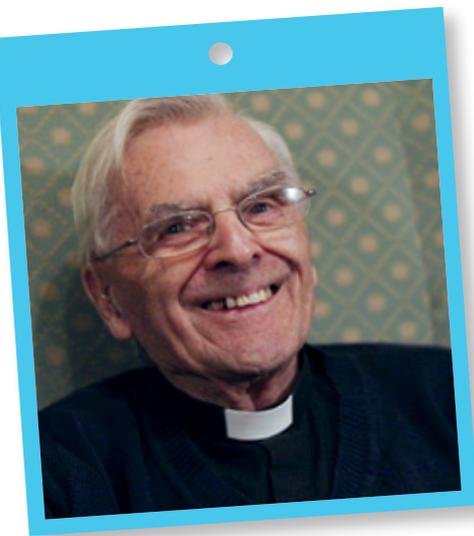


Catholic Care Launches New Services

Provision of Support for Retiring and Retired Priests in the Leeds Diocese

In March Bishop Marcus and Catholic Care launched a new service supporting the retiring and retired priests across the Diocese.

Retirement is a major event in the life of any individual and especially for a priest who retires generally at the age of 75. There are many factors which a priest needs to consider: where to live; his health; finances; as well as spiritual, physical, psychological and emotional needs and wishes. It could be argued that this time of change can be more difficult for a priest than for most other people as he will retire from a 24/7 role to a position where potentially he will have few or even no pastoral responsibilities.



It is for these reasons that Bishop Marcus asked Catholic Care to assist the Diocese in supporting the retiring and retired clergy. The new service will provide a personalised service of advice and support to priests as they approach and prepare for retirement as well as a range of support for those already in retirement including:

- Choosing a property, based on an awareness of current and future need
- Moving into a new property and settling in
- A daily phone call providing a feeling of reassurance and security
- Personal care
- Practical support with meal preparation, housework and laundry
- Support in the community with grocery shopping, collecting prescriptions, transporting to appointments

When a priest can no longer live independently in their own home Catholic Care will support them with a move to accommodation that will better meet their needs including a residential or nursing home.

Bishop Marcus and Catholic Care hope that this new service will provide significant help and support to priests both in preparation for, and during retirement.

Community Counselling Service

A confidential counselling service for adults in our Catholic Community

Life is rarely straightforward and we recognise that there are times when we become unable to see a way through our difficulties. This new free and confidential service is available from three locations in the Leeds area. All locations are discreet ensuring the upmost confidentiality for all those attending. Alternatively this confidential service is also available through a telephone consultation. Our team are BACP registered counsellors and psychotherapists and they provide support for up to six sessions free of charge. Catholic Care is funding this service from the Canon Maguire Legacy Fund.

Appointments can be made or further information obtained either via a confidential telephone line 0113 388 5406 or email counselling@catholic-care.org.uk



If you would like to receive this newsletter by email, or if you no longer wish to be contacted by us, please let us know.

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