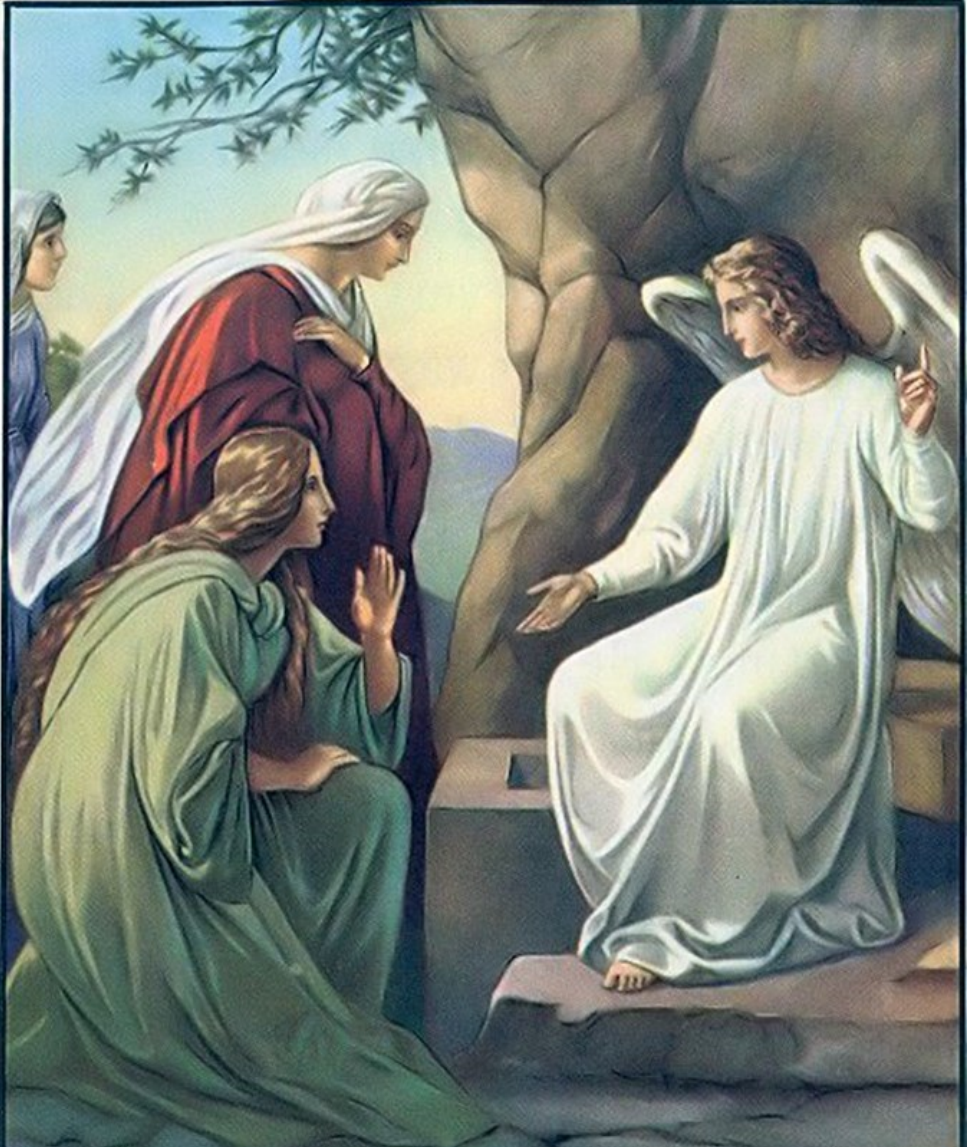


# THE GRAPE VINE

## PARISH MAGAZINE



**He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.  
Come and see the place where he lay.'**

**E A S T E R 2024**

# THE GRAPE VINE

## PARISH MAGAZINE

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# MASS TIMES

## Saturday

**Vigil Mass at 6:00pm**

Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

## Sunday

**Mass at 9:30am**

Holy Family Church

**Mass at 11:30am**

Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

**Vespers and Benediction at 4:00pm**

Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

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# CONFESIONS

## Saturday

**10:30am**

Holy Family Church

**5:00pm**

Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

***ALL OTHER SERVICES CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARISH WEBSITE***

The link to our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8V030I7usRZiKoTlrwBAKg>

Mass readings are daily uploaded on the Parish Website:

<http://www.catholicparish-kingslynn.org.uk/>

The parish newsletter for the week  
can also be found on the website.

# EDITORIAL



*Dear All,*

*'...how can we rejoice in the midst of a world that is seemingly captured by the darkness of despair'? I can't remember who said it. However, what comes to mind are the many instances in the NT when Jesus was teaching the way He has made possible for us to searchingly travel on, especially the passages in John: 'Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know... I am the way, the truth, and the life...' and '...Follow me...'. Isaiah wrote 'I will go before you... ; ... I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD...'. Often, we do not recognise 'the treasures of darkness' and we complain and feel downtrodden. What darker places can there be than the cross on which Jesus died for us? Hell 'He descended into hell' (Creed). Rejection 'He was rejected', (Handel Messiah), He was 'the promised suffering servant' (Acts).*

*'...riches stored in secret places' - We only find them as disciples of Jesus. On our path we encounter mysteries. We find comfort when no one else can help us. We grow in understanding. We have been*

changed because Jesus has called us. We have learned to love devotedly. The holy riches, treasures and gifts of Our Lord are of supernatural kind. Jesus promised us the Holy Spirit so that we have an inner compass to guide us. He promised to be with us for ever.

That's why we are searching. We are on a pilgrimage, leaving everything behind, save for a few necessities. We pray for clarity and find ourselves being called by Our Lord at the most unexpected moments, in the most unlikely circumstances. Everyone's path is different. Jesus Christ knows us.

Anthony Reilly, our seminarian, is on his way to priesthood. We have two adult catechumens who desire to be baptised at Easter, to become fully part of the Christian family, the Body of Christ. We have baptisms and we have children preparing for their first communion. We have pilgrims and Student Cross Bearers visiting. Each way is different.



We can rejoice *'in the midst of a world that is seemingly captured by darkness and despair'* because Jesus has called us. He has opened our eyes, He has planted a kingdom into our souls and He has promised us life everlasting. He died for us, He resurrected, He sent us the Holy Spirit, just as He had promised. *'Who am I?'* He knows.

**I wish you a very happy Easter. Lotte**

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of the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Obituary – Valerie Tucker

Page for the Young

Poems and Calligraphy



## BAPTISMS



Chimbiebube Obiechina Shiloh  
Munachimso Jesse Awokeh  
Timur Dominic Marcimkevic  
Ryan Noah Rozario  
Janette Angelika Laur

---

## DEATHS

Sarah Catherine McGaharn  
Valerie Tucker  
Arijus Valiukas  
Jacqueline Havercroft  
Annmarie Grant  
Martin Gerald Keane



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## BIRTHDAYS

**Peter Martin** celebrated his 84<sup>th</sup> birthday in January.  
**Bishop Alan Hopes** was 80 years old on March 17<sup>th</sup>.  
**Renee Thomas** will be 90 years old in the first week of April.

---

## PRAYER LIST

Pat Athey	Betty Dockney
Caroline Glazebrook	Beryl Green
Mark Griffiths	Mike Griffiths
Ann Lindley	Cathy McNeil
Owen McDonagh	Maria De Rosa
Helen Seaman	Renee Thomas
Susan Young	Lorraine Quigley



Ann Hemming  
Debbie Roper  
Sylvia Waddilove

## FIRST CONFESSIONS

Our children make their First Confessions on Saturday.  
Please pray for them as they continue their journey to their  
First Holy Communion.

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## WALSINGHAM PILGRIMS

On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March we welcome a group of men who are walking  
from Stockport to Walsingham.

They will be staying in Walsingham House overnight.

---

## STUDENT CROSS

As usual, we will be hosting two groups of walkers on  
Wednesday 27th March at Holy Family.

We need volunteers to welcome them  
and prepare and serve an evening meal.  
If you can help, please let Fr. Peter know.

---

There will be

## A SECOND COLLECTION

for the Church in the Holy Land on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

---

## KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

**KSC SPRINGTIME FUNDRAISER (local charities)**

**Saturday 20th. April - From 3.00pm till 5.00pm**

at St. Marthas School, Field Lane, Gaywood, King's Lynn. PE30 4AY

### BIG SCREEN

Games / Bingo

+

LUNCH of FISH & CHIPS and PEAS

£10.00 Entry & Lunch

Everything else @£1. 00

**BOOK IT NOW !**





## **Anthony Reilly.**

### **Our seminarian and our friend.**



Today, January 21<sup>st</sup> 2024, is Anthony's last day in our parish. I think most of us have got to know Anthony Reilly during his placement as a seminarian in training towards his priesthood. Anthony is a student in his 4<sup>th</sup> year at St Mary's College in Oscott and part of his training is to gain experience in parish work.

I have not followed Anthony's every step of his way in Lynn. Does he need an oldie like me trailing along and asking, "What next?" No! Age, however, has its advantages, and with many years in King's Lynn, I am fairly familiar with parish life.

With Father Gordon, Anthony has devoted much time to hospital and care home visits. Together they have given spiritual comfort and friendship to those who may well feel forgotten.

From the elderly to the young and from my own experience of many years in St Martha's School, I can say with confidence that Anthony's presence in the classroom or assisting at a school mass have been greatly valued. Children have so many questions to ask and always want an answer. Did you have all the answers Anthony?

Work at the Night Shelter was greatly appreciated. There Anthony helped with preparing meals and spending time just talking to the Night Shelter guests. They all need a good listener.

Time too was given to First Communion and Adult Formation Classes. I wonder whether Anthony will return when these candidates take the next step?

Anthony has become a friendly face in our parish family. It's been good to see him doing the work of sacristan, serving at Mass, reading and intoning the psalms or simply standing by the church door to welcome or say, "Cheerio! See you again soon."

Well, we hope we will see you back in the parish again. Thank you, Anthony, for all you have given us. We hope you take with you fond memories of parish life in the 'Far East'. Be assured of our prayers as you journey to the Altar of God at St Mary's College.

With fond memories, heartfelt thanks and prayers  
And – a final wee message: "Come back Tony Reilly to Baile King's Lynn. Come back Tony Reilly to Lynn."

***Pauline McSherry***



# Station Mass. Lent 2024

## Parish of Our Lady of the Annunciation. King's Lynn



A large number of parishioners gathered at the Church of Holy Family to welcome Bishop Peter for the Deanery Lent Station Mass. It was our Bishop's first visit, just a year late, as some of us recall! Open doors and a warm welcome greeted Bishop Peter as he stepped in to Holy Family. The prayerful assembly began with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and time for Confessions, an hour of peace, prayer and holy quiet before Mass. That hour was indeed holy, silent prayer pervaded.

Bishop Peter was our main celebrant and in the sanctuary with him were twelve priests, two deacons and altar servers. Music was led by our faithful and gifted organist Robert. In his opening words Bishop Peter made amusing reference to the Station Mass of 2023 when he lost his way. A inspiring sermon was given by Bishop Peter and Mass concluded with the Recessional Hymn "Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us."

In the Narthex we gathered as one joyful family. No strangers here, only friends together. It was such a joy, a real delight to have time to talk to so many church companions. I hope Bishop Peter had time for a bite of supper. Chat and cameras never ceased.

Thank you to all who made our Station Mass such a memorable gathering. Most especially our sincere thanks to Bishop Peter for finding us in Holy Family. Thank you to all kind friends who are always by my side to give a helping hand. Stephen Farr thank you, another gold star for you, a great past pupil. St Martha's is proud of you. God bless you all.

*Pauline Mc Sherry. February 28 2024.*

# ELDERS GROUP 35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION





**It was a privilege and a pleasure to join in the Elders' 35th Anniversary celebrations.** My thanks must go to those who so kindly included me in the guest list. Special thanks to you Rene for organising my transport with Pat Jones who was very kind, prompt and exceedingly helpful. I'm quite certain a word of thanks must go to Jane Ballantine, group leader and behind the scenes quiet guide overseeing whatever members may be getting up.

Back to the party.

Mass was celebrated by Father Gordon, our guest priests Father Shryane, Father Finegan and Father MacCarthy concelebrated. It's always a pleasure to welcome our past priests back again. Special thanks to Father Gordon for a most memorable homily.

There was time after Mass to mingle and chat with friends before we sat down to an excellent buffet lunch, once again thank you to all who catered and served.

The honour of cutting the cake went to our dear Father Shryane. The beautifully decorated cake was the work of our very talented Sue Gosling, always very much in demand, so much so that a slight error appeared on the decorative icing. For "Elders" it read "Odd Fellows". Old or Odd it's a grand story!

It was a very happy parish celebration, sadly over all too quickly. And all too quickly have the 35 years passed since Pat Harrington was inspired to form a society for senior parish members. Pat and Jim are remembered with gratitude and love. Now may they rest in peace with past members whose names are inscribed by John Smith in the Elders' Memorial Book.

Lord, may we journey ahead with confidence in your love Amen.

***Pauline Mc Sherry***



## ELDERS' 35<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 by **Father Gordon***

So – the Elders are 35. We might even say that the Elders are becoming decidedly middle aged! That reminds me of my mother – she said that middle age was whatever age she was at the time.

There are some here today who were involved back in 1989 when the idea first became reality. I think I am right in saying that some now here were first involved by supporting a parent who joined that infant enterprise; many others who nursed this group into being are no longer with us. I think the criteria for joining the Elders is fairly fluid, and as I myself grow older I realise the truth of two other things that my Mother told me. The first is that as you grow older time seems to go faster, and the second is that no matter how old you become there is a deep core part of you that still feels much the same as when you were young.

But growing older is not optional and we all have to cope with it. I think I was first aware that I was now older rather than younger when I had my 50th birthday. I could not avoid the thought that almost certainly I now had less in front of me than lay behind me. Now that 60 has come and gone I am quite certain of that fact.

I find it interesting that if you watch a TV programme such as a quiz show, almost always the first thing the contestants will tell you about themselves after their name is their occupation – the work they do to

earn their living. And if somebody simply states that they are retired, they will be asked what they did workwise before they retired. It is curious that we define retired people by the work they used to do for the rest of their lives. I don't know if this is a peculiarly British, or West European, or First World approach to life, but I find it curious because it defines people by what they were not what they are. More, it defines people by their past economic utility rather than as the person they are today. It is as if being an older person has no intrinsic value, and it speaks volumes about how our society in general views human life.



*The hymns: 'Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today. '*

*'All I have I give you, ev'ry dream and wish are yours; mother of Christ, mother of mine, present them to my Lord.'*

Most of you are parents, grandparents, and even great grandparents. Is the work that you have done, and carry on doing today, in forming these children's, grand-children's and great grand-children's lives of at least as much value to you and your family as every last day of paid work you ever did? Are not these experiences of helping children come to maturity and independence, supporting your adult children as they become parents, and the same again as grand children become parents more meaningful and purposeful than any work target or objective? In many ways things are different for us priests as we do not have the same direct experience of the generations unfolding after us, but equally our pastoral ministry as we help people navigate the joys and sorrows and the hopes and fears of life in the context of Catholic faith has value beyond anything that can be counted or measured.

Human life is of intrinsic value in God's eyes for each and every day from the day we first draw breath to the day our eyes close for the

last time, no matter how many days there may be in between. Sadly, modern western culture is in many ways not a culture of life – it is a culture of death. Often a culture of death dressed up to look like charitable kindness.

At one end of life abortion is viewed by many as a simple approach to birth control. At the other end of life euthanasia is presented as kindly act helping people avoid pain and indignity. But we know that in both cases it is simply killing – killing of human life. We also know that as soon as the door opens to euthanasia it is only short steps to telling people that their life is not worth much so we can get rid of the disabled who cost lots of money to look after, then we can get rid of the seriously ill who cost lots of money to look after ....then we can get rid of the old people who cost lots to look after. Perhaps some of you might have read PD James’ book “The Children of Men”. It was published in 1992 and set in 2021 – now in our past. One key theme is that on reaching the age of 60, people are encouraged to commit suicide so as not to be a burden on the rest of the population. That was written as fiction but spend any time exploring the euthanasia debate and it no longer appears so fictitious.

So let us use this celebration today to remind ourselves that all of us are intrinsically of value in God’s eyes, because on each and every day that we are given, our life is God’s gift to us. Let us ask God for the grace to enjoy the life that he has given us, and to give us the grace and the strength to take up every opportunity to defend all human life from natural conception to natural death. And let us also ask God to receive into the fulness of his presence those who have been the founders and members of this fellowship and who have gone before us to their reward.

<b>THE ELDER'S GROUP</b>		<b>JANUARY</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;">FOUNDED 20TH JANUARY 1989</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>IN MEMORIAM</b></p>	Bridget Limney	14 January 1992	86 years
	John Osborne	12 January 1999	71 years
	Margerie Green	16 January 2001	74 years
	Bob Rostron	23 January 2007	79 years
	Kate Thornborough	29 January 2007	81 years
	Aileen Byrne	18 January 2008	90 years
	Josephine Lee	20 January 2014	
	Emily Gamble	13 January 2015	98 years
	Karina Tomlinson	13 January 2016	73 years
	Daphne Farr	28 January 2018	93 years
	Ruby Cox	29 January 2021	89 years



## Is it something to three yet?"

Please remember in your prayers **Valerie Tucker** who died on January 31<sup>st</sup> 2024. Age 96 years.

I'll explain my title before I bring my tribute to Valerie to a close.

Valerie was a teacher at St Martha's School and, for as long as I can remember Reception Class was her responsibility. A warm, friendly and welcoming person to all the small fry who stepped in to the school for the very first time. Valerie brought good cheer to the staff room, always a smile. Beyond the school, Valerie was a devoted parishioner and for many years an active member of SVP Society. Stan, her husband played an important role in the new church, Holy Family. I'm sure many of our parishioners remember well the Tucker family. Stan, Val and daughters Jane, Jennifer and Susan. May dear Valerie and Stan now rest in peace.

Oh! I nearly forgot to explain the title! "Is it something to three yet?" A whole day at school was a long day for an infant. Sam liked to be told when it was nearly "something to three" and soon time to go home. Sam, dear Sam Blade, has gone home now. Gone to his heavenly home. May he and his teacher now rest in eternal peace.

*Pauline Mc Sherry February 4th 2024*



# PAGE FOR THE YOUNG

## Vincentain Camps for Children!

The work of the SVP is often associated with befriending older people but members' support for young people was never more apparent than in the outpouring of financial and other support for our children's camps this summer.


Around 2000 people who would not otherwise have a holiday benefitted from family holidays and children's camps organised by the Society and in many cases paid for by Conferences. This included 90 young people following an email appeal to members for donations, in the Spring. Children were not the only beneficiaries as mothers and fathers struggling to cope with the strains of daily life enjoyed a brief respite from the responsibilities of parenting.

In addition to financial support, a number of Conferences actually visited their local camp to enjoy the children playing sports, baking cakes, doing arts and crafts and generally just having the time of their life.

From the children and their parents, a huge thank you.



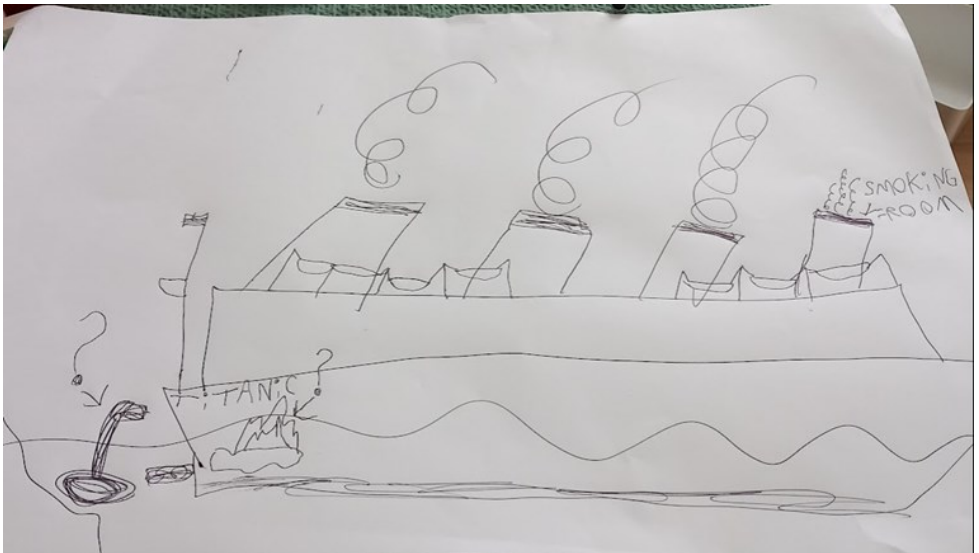
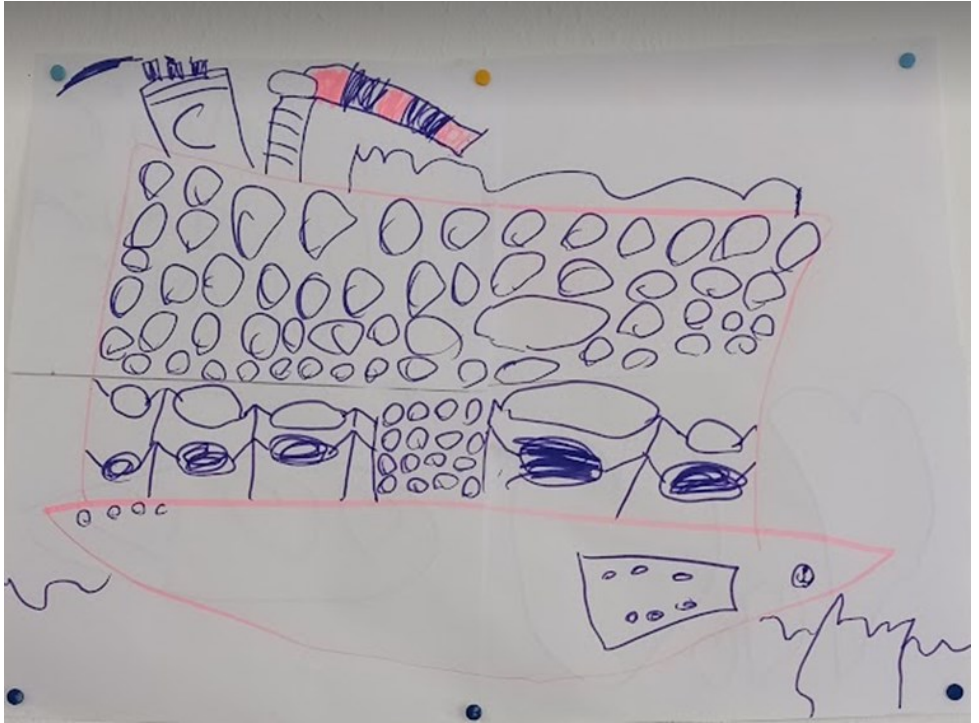
<https://www.svp.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Winter%202016%20issue.pdf>

 <p><b>Scouts</b> Norfolk</p>	<p><b>Water Activity Weekend 2024</b></p> <p>Join us for Water Activity Weekend 2024, Happening on May 24th to May 27th, 2024! 📅</p>
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## 9th King's Lynn RC Scout Group

34 Field Lane,  
King's Lynn,  
Norfolk.  
PE30 4AY



Taras is dreaming of the wide, wide world.



# CHARITY PAGE



the DIOCESE of  
EAST ANGLIA

## St Vincent de Paul Society

### SVP - Foodbank

The SVP are collecting money for the foodbank. There is a box in the wall, on the righthand side of the door, when leaving the narthex of **Holy Family church**. Offerings, large or small, will be gratefully appreciated. Thank you. EC

**The S V P** would like to recruit a **membership support office** for the East Anglia Diocese. This is part time, 15 hour a week . Own Transport essential. For more information see the parish website or read the article in the East Anglia news paper. For details how to apply contact Lance Philpott at [lancep@svp.org.uk](mailto:lancep@svp.org.uk)

### St Vincent du Paul Visiting and Befriending How does befriending work?

Volunteer members visit to understand and assess each request for help individually but also to give people a sense of belonging through the work of:

- providing food
- providing clothes
- providing furniture
- helping with transport
- offering friendship and support
- providing financial assistance, where able
- supporting ex-offenders or people in prison
- raising funds to send children to holiday camps
- organising trips and social events for older people
- supporting migrants, refugees or people seeking asylum
- offering care to the terminally ill and their families through end of life companionship.





## GIVE HELP

We want to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, but we need your help to make this happen. Your gift of financial support, time, business partnership and food can make a real difference.

## DONATE MONEY

Big or small, every gift you give helps transform lives.

## VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the life blood of foodbanks. Your skills could be just what we need.

***King's Lynn Foodbank. TS Vancouver Building,  
St Margaret's Lane, King's Lynn, PE30 5DS***

**e: [info@kingslynn.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@kingslynn.foodbank.org.uk) t: 07582 558143**

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## Homes for Ukraine Host Toolkit.

A resource for those sponsoring or hosting Ukrainians in Norfolk.

[file:///C:/Users/monal/Downloads/  
Homes for Ukraine Host Toolkit%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/monal/Downloads/Homes%20for%20Ukraine%20Host%20Toolkit%20(1).pdf)





Welcome to Churches Together in King's Lynn. We aim to foster understanding and unity between Christian churches of all traditions within King's Lynn and West Norfolk. To do that we hold regular open meetings with speakers of interest to Christians and have an executive committee meeting monthly.

Churches Together in King's Lynn now has a Facebook page!

[www.facebook.com/  
churchestogetherkl](http://www.facebook.com/churchestogetherkl)

Follow us for information on what's happening in our churches in and around King's Lynn, to see forthcoming events for our group and share news and stories that affect our communities. Please tell your church families about this new addition – it's a great way to support each other in reaching out in the love of Jesus across all of our churches.

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There will be

## **A SECOND COLLECTION**

for the Church in the Holy Land on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March.

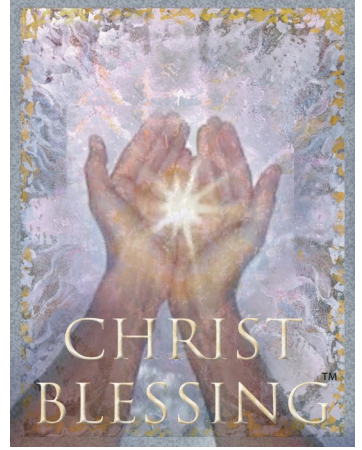
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## **LENTEN ALMS**

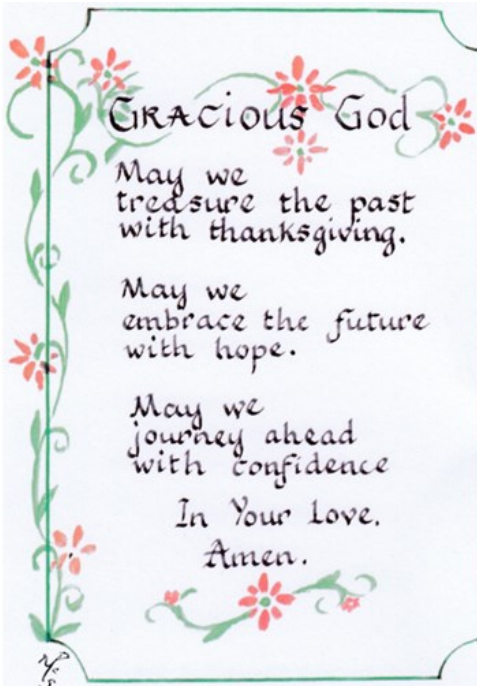
For 'Aid to the Church in Need' to help  
the Church in the Holy Land.

**Blessed are they** who understand

My faltering step and shaking hand.  
Blessed who knows my ears today,  
Must strain to catch the words they say.  
Blessed are they who seem to know,  
My eyes are dim and my mind is slow.  
Blessed are those who look away  
When tea is spilled on the cloth that day.  
Blessed are they with a cherry smile,  
Who stopped to chat for a little while.  
Blessed are those who never say,  
"You've told that story twice today."  
Blessed are they who make it known,  
That I'm loved and respected and not alone.  
Blessed are they who ease the days  
Of my journey home in loving ways.



*Renee Thomas*



## **A Thought for the Week**

If after Church, you wait awhile,  
Someone may greet you with a smile.

But, if you quickly rise and flee.  
We 'll all seem cold and stiff maybe.

The one beside you in the pew  
Is, perhaps a stranger too.  
All here, like you, have fears and cares;

All of us need each other's  
prayers.

In fellowship we bid you meet  
With us, around God's mercy  
seat.

Anon.

*Pauline*

# THE GRAPE VINE

PARISH MAGAZINE

March 2024

The Knights of St Columba  
Our Lady of Walsingham Council No. 319  
King's Lynn  
Support this publication.



The Grape Vine Magazine is printed quarterly.  
Please send in your contributions to Lotte Gaberle.  
June 2024 – September 2024 – December 2024

