

News letter Addendum June 2013

Its been decided that it would be better to produce the addendum on the last Sunday of the month so the list of events that are available for the next month can be included.

Our Weekend Retreat at Noddfa Spirituality Centre by Pauline Stitt

16 Parishioners from St Luke's spent a wonderful weekend at Noddfa. As always we were made really welcome by the Sisters (Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary) with tea and 'buns' early evening on Friday 10th May. After Supper we all gathered in the chapel for the Evening Prayer of the Church. The theme for this weekend was **The Motherhood of Mary**. Before retiring for the evening the group were asked to place a label on the Hawthorne Branches which had been placed in the Chapel, and write on them the words that came to mind when they thought of our Lady. Some of the words shown were:

- Compassionate; Gentle; Humble; My Heavenly Mother; Queen of Peace; Mother of Divine Grace;
- Understanding; Helpful; Security; Caring; Protector of Life; Mother of all Virgins
- Optimistic; Santa Mari; Powerful Intercessor
- Obedient; Loving; Submissive; Peace; Life

Then a copy of a poem called the 'Mary of your Christmas Cards' was distributed and the group were asked to reflect on this and bring their thoughts about Our Lady after this reading to the next day's sessions. This poem makes you reflect on some different characteristics of Mary and not always see her as the gentle, submissive lady in Blue. During the course of the weekend we discussed how Mary was stronger than she was often depicted both in art and literature. The group were then asked to add other characteristics that they associated with Our Lady following this reflection. Whilst many of the same terms remained, others that appeared were:

- Lady in Purple/Red; Steadfast; Strong; Courageous; Suffering
- Life-giving; Faithful; Pure
- Mater Christi

The whole weekend is dispersed between prayer, discussions, private time for reflection, and also some recreation for example - on the Saturday evening as always we had a social gathering and this was made up of a quiz, some dancing by the young people, and singing.

Whilst this is only a brief resume of our weekend we hope that it may encourage some of you to join us next year – dates will be announced by July 2013

Please Remember in your prayers!

For those of us with a long memory, you might remember Kathy & Dave Barchick and their Children Steve & Matt who joined our parish while Dave was posted to England from the USA with his job at Pilkintons about 17 years ago??? Sadly they had to leave early because Kathy became unwell. Unfortunately she's still not too good.! So your prayer for her would be appreciated.

Secondly Steve has joined the marines and has been posted to Helmund province in Afghanistan and they would appreciate your prayers for his safe keeping whilst he is there. If anyone who was his mate at the time wants to email him, his email address is stephen.r.barchick@gmail.com and that would be appreciated too.

Date to remember in June

Tuesday 6 th 10:15	Overtom primary school visit to St. Luke's
-------------------------------	--------------------------------------------

Friday 14 th 19:30	Alternative race night
Sunday 23 rd	Coffee morning
Sunday 23 rd 14:00	LPA mass at Norton Priory
Monday 24 th 10:00 to 12:00	Adoration
Friday 28 th 19:00	Quiz night & hot pot supper @ Our Lady's