

## DIOCESAN NOTICES 15/11/20

### **GETTING READY FOR ADVENT: Treasuring God's Word with Sr Gemma Simmonds.**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 7-8pm. The Diocese is delighted to host a Zoom talk by theologian and broadcaster Sr. Gemma Simmonds. Lecturer at the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology in Cambridge and a regular contributor to various BBC programmes, Sr Gemma will prepare our Advent journey with a Scriptural presentation on the mysteries of Our Lady through the work of contemporary artist Stephen Foster. To book a place, please email Year of the Word promoter Fr Henry Longbottom on [henry.longbottom@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:henry.longbottom@dioceseofleeds.org.uk).

**SYCAMORE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE:** The Youth Service are delighted to invite you to Sycamore, an online series of short films and discussions for young people aged 13-17 exploring the Catholic faith and what it means for us today. The sessions will be taking place on Wednesday from 4:30pm-6pm on Zoom. The first session will be Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. For more information/to register, please email [youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofleeds.org.uk).

**JUSTICE AND PEACE DAY OF REFLECTION:** "What does empowering justice look like in our time?" An online day of reflection with Fr Diarmuid O'Murchu. Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 10am – 4pm. Donation: £1. Tickets available at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/what-does-empowering-justice-look-like-in-our-time-tickets-125853201313>.

**CATHOLIC CARE COMMUNITY RESPONSE SERVICE:** Are you finding lockdown isolating and would welcome some support? Catholic Care have organised a number of initiatives that are designed to help. We have weekly relax and revive sessions, a telephone befriending service or an online social group with different themes and speakers each week. For more details contact Catholic Care 0113 3885400 or Janet 07739 975008. Further information attached.

**CATHOLIC CARE'S COMMUNITY MARKETS:** The COVID-19 pandemic is bringing untold economic hardship, the impact of which is leaving many feeling unable to feed their families for the first time. Supporting families positively with dignity is the aim of our Community Markets. If you are interested in supporting us with this work please contact Janet Kent 07739 975 008 [janet.kent@catholic-care.org.uk](mailto:janet.kent@catholic-care.org.uk). Further information attached.

### **EVENTS AT THE BRIERY**

The Gift of Jesus – Advent Unwrapped' an Advent Day of Recollection given by Fr Dennis Cassidy, Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December and repeated on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December. The suggested offering is £32.00 per person, to include a 2-course lunch. To book a place please contact The Briery on 01943 607287 or email: [briery@btconnect.com](mailto:briery@btconnect.com)

'The Ever-Coming God' an Advent Preached Retreat given by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy, CSSp beginning Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December until Sunday 13 December. The suggested offering for the weekend is £175.00 per person, to include all meals. To book a place please contact The Briery on 01943 607287 or email: [briery@btconnect.com](mailto:briery@btconnect.com)

A Zoom Meditation is held every Thursday, 7.30pm – 8.15pm. This is free and open to everyone. Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83610083525>

Meeting ID: 836 1008 3525. Looking forward to seeing you.

**AT SEA: AWAITING ORDERS:** A book by Fr Colum Kelly. Fr Colum draws us into the lives of those seafarers, details how freight ships are the lifeblood of industry, and illustrates the hugely important role played by the priests, chaplains and lay visitors of Stella Maris. His humour and kindness - and his keen sense of the whimsical - will keep you reading, and will leave you with a smile on your face. Learn more about the hidden world of shipping today! With foreword by Rose George, author of *Ninety Percent of Everything*. Available on Amazon.

**PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust):** Christmas 2020 is going to be a very difficult time for many people. We may or may not be still 'locked down'. Who knows? What is certain is that about 80,000 men in prison and some 4000 women will certainly be 'locked down' in one of the 117 prisons in England and Wales, and without very minimal family contact. Some 89,000 children will have at least one parent in prison at this special time. However, PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust) has established a Christmas Gift Scheme to help strengthen links between imprisoned parents and their children. In past years the Scheme has involved gift parcels but this year, for obvious reasons, it is simpler to ensure that a BOOK TOKEN FOR £10 is sent in a Christmas card from the parent to the child. This is called **OPERATION ELF**. If you would like to participate in this scheme, please send £10 book tokens (with Christmas designs) to: OPERATION ELF PACT 29 PECKHAM RD LONDON SE5 8UA. Much more information about Operation Elf and contact details are available on the website [www.prisonadvice.org.uk](http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk). (November 23rd is the closing date for Elf delivery and organisation..!)