

# ***St. Teresa's Parish Magazine***



## ***Advent & Christmas 2010***





### **Sunday Mass Times**

**Enstone** 9.00am  
**Charlbury** 11.00am

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...and more

 Cover picture drawn by Agnieszka - if anyone would like to design a picture  
for the next issue, their contributions would be very welcome 

## INTRODUCTION

My dear Parishioners,

A lot has happened in the world since the first issue of our magazine, in particular the visit to the United Kingdom of Pope Benedict XVI. Some of our parishioners were at Cofton Park for Mass he celebrated there. Their experiences are part of the contents of this publication. There are also personal reflections on elements of our faith and worship that may enrich other people's appreciation of these areas of their lives.

Please give your friends and others an opportunity to read the magazine. It is part of our contribution to the preaching of the gospel within our area.

Many thanks to all our contributors and to Alison for producing another interesting magazine.

Wishing everyone a fruitful Advent  
Canon Evans



*Photograph from Dawn Wilson*

♪ *Hark a Herald Voice is Calling* ♪



Join us for the annual  
service of  
**Carols and Readings**

**St. Teresa's Church  
Charlbury  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> December  
3.30pm**

Followed by refreshments  
*All Welcome*

♪ *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* ♪

*Ding Dong Merrily on High* ♪ *The Angel Gabriel*

*Unto Us is Born a Son* ♪ *Gaudete* ♪ *In Dulce Jubilo*

## ONE WORLD WEEK: PIECE BY PIECE TOWARDS PEACE



Sunday 17 October was a sunny autumn afternoon and 40 people from Charlbury's five different churches gathered together to celebrate a united service in St Teresa's Church.

One World Week gives us a unique opportunity to view the world, our divided world, God's one world, from perspectives both of reality and hope. Motivated by a vision of a peaceful world where people live in harmony, have enough to eat and respect the environment, we share and reflect on unexpected and powerful experiences which have taught us important lessons.

Our first speaker Malcolm Harper spoke to us about Palestine. It was heartening to hear what ground roots efforts are being made by Israelis and Palestinians to bridge the chasm created by political restrictions and warfare over the West Bank - small private initiatives such as Israeli women braving security checkpoints and cultural taboos to collect Palestinian women and children and taking them for a day trip to the seaside. He also mentioned the fair trade of Palestinian olive oil and other foodstuffs which many people in

Charlbury are already supporting.

Hilda Joy-Jones, our second speaker, told us the story of Father Clement, a parish priest in West Hartlepool. While a seminarian in Rome in the 1930s he made friends with a German confrere, and they kept in touch throughout the Second World War.

When war was over, Europe was recovering from the devastation and the people in Great Britain were suffering great shortages and rationing, Father Clement received a letter from his friend in Germany with a desperate plea that his parishioners were starving and lacking in many basic items of clothing and goods. Father Clement shared this with his parish and asked them to spare what little they could.

Most people felt resentful and outraged at the request, given their own privations and their family's losses. But some, including Hilda's own mother, could see that even in their straightened circumstances they could still spare a few things, a bar of soap, some old clothes, some small items of food. These parcels made their way to the German parish and then the letters flowed in both directions. German families spoke of their own terrible experiences under the Nazi regime, how many Christians had resisted and suffered for their outspoken opinions and they



expressed their profound gratitude.

This very rare and precious outreach from the Hartlepool parish was a beacon of hope that one day peace would be restored.

The united service continued with readings and intercessions read by members of various churches. It was a truly collaborative and ecumenical service.

St Teresa's church was decorated with golden twigs and branches covered with paper doves and origami paper cranes of peace made by groups of children from St Teresa's and St Mary's churches. These recalled Sadako Sasami and her "A Thousand Paper Cranes". Sadako was a 12 year old Japanese girl who developed leukemia after the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. She knew the legend of the sacred bird - that if a sick person folded 1000 paper cranes, they would get well again. Very sadly, she died after only 644. Inspired by her, children all over the world formed paper crane clubs and raised money for a Children's Peace Monument in the centre of Hiroshima Peace Park.

The message of One World Week is a powerful one:

*Be aware of your power to make a difference. By taking a stand to live peacefully you will not only enhance your life and the lives of those around you but your actions will spread the idea of peace far and wide.*

*Remember, peace is not just an absence of war; it is also environmental stability, economic and social justice, and understanding.*

*Madeleine Wheare*



*The May 2010 Christian Aid week Churches Together united service took place in St.Mary's. It coincided with the annual Rogation Sunday 'beating the bounds' walk, so each church contributed a station to a virtual boundary walk inside St.Mary's church, giving five stations: hill, river, farmland, quarry and boundary/neighbours.*

*St. Teresa's contribution was "Hill". Madeleine Wheare hosted a creative workshop for young people in the parish to help create the station. The photo shows Zoe, Max, Tom and Hannah with part of their artwork for the station.*

## VISITING CAMPSFIELD HOUSE

I first started to visit Campsfield House in October 1995. At that time it was a detention centre for men and women. My first detainee was a young Sudanese girl who was of Italian / Somalian extraction, as I spoke Italian we were able to communicate. She was trying to find relatives in Britain who had now moved on and was about to be deported back to Sudan. After getting her a lawyer, many phone calls and several visits, she was able to go to relatives in Canada.

Going to Campsfield for the first time was daunting, the high fence with barbed wire, the locked gates, queuing to go into the portacabin to fill out a form with your details, being patted down and having your hand bag searched was all very intimidating. Then you passed through 3 locked gates, before reaching the visitors centre, where you could sit and chat to your detainee. At first all this took a very long time but now you are logged into the computer and can leave belongings in a locker. The search is much more detailed and sometimes they have sniffer dogs too.

We can take in only magazines or photos, nothing else. We can give clothes or money but these have to

be sealed in a plastic bag and go past security.

Asylum Welcome was set up by Sheleagh and Terry Ranger who used to be in our Parish but now live in Oxford. At first it was to help detainees, but it expanded to help people given Leave To Remain (LTR). Asylum Welcome helps refugees in many ways, if you want more details there are leaflets (see Hilda)

I don't know how many people I have visited and talked to over the years. I visited one man from Ghana for two years before he was deported. Some have been given LTR and I'm in touch from time to time. I've learnt a lot about other countries, heard tales of desperation and anger, love and amazing bravery, torture and violence.

I think I have gained more than I have given, most of the ones I have visited have been frightened and upset. Asylum Welcome can give friendship and help to people so they know they are not abandoned, forgotten.

I have been given so much. I am glad I am able to give time and help to those in need. I am also very grateful to my drivers who take me or pick me up from Campsfield.

*Hilda Joy Jones*

### THE PAPAL VISIT I: ZOE'S STORY

*Seven members of the parish went to the Beatification Mass at Cofton Park as 'pilgrims'. This is Zoe's story:*

I went to the Papal Mass at Cofton Park and it was such an amazing experience. We started the day by getting up at 2am... That was not easy! We then piled on all our layers of clothing in preparation for the traditional English weather that was expected! We got to Banbury ready to get on the bus that would then take us to Birmingham. The buses just kept coming, which first gave me an idea of how big this event was actually going to be!

It was still pitch black as we travelled to Cofton Park. We got to the bus park and there were already loads of buses there! We got off the bus and walked quite a way until we got to the park and found a good spot and got ourselves settled! There was quite a wait before the Mass actually started but all too soon, it was over.

To be part of such a huge group like that really made me realise how big the Catholic faith is. I had only really experienced being a Catholic on a small scale – within my family or the parish of St. Teresa's - so to be at Cofton Park with so many fellow Catholics of all

ages was brilliant. The amount of young people and children in the crowd was great. It was like a dream to be so close to the Pope! When we first saw him coming in his Pope-mobile it was unbelievable to see him in the flesh and not on the TV screen! Everything brightened up when he arrived, including the weather!

Despite the miserable weather it was a truly memorable day and I am so glad and grateful that I got the opportunity to go

Zoe

### FAIRTRADE – A NEW VENTURE

Recently, St Teresa's became the fifth and final church in Charlbury to actively support the FAIRTRADE movement. Our launch was held most successfully at the Parish Bar B Q in September. A selection of the TRAIDCRAFT / Fairtrade product line was made available - mostly food but also fashion and gift items from around the world.

TRAIDCRAFT was established as a Christian response to poverty, working with people of all faiths and none. As a dedicated fair trade company, they buy from disadvantaged producers, and as a charity they help producers to engage in trade and campaign for



trade justice. Their vision is A WORLD FREED FROM THE SCANDAL OF POVERTY.

The wonderful thing is that many parishioners are already Fairtrade savvy and alive to the benefits of sharing our wealth in a more direct way with suppliers in the developing world. The advantage to them is that of convenience, availability and a wider range of products not sold in supermarkets.

Our parish's contribution is to sell/buy these goods at cost on a weekly basis. There is a stall outside St Teresa's after the 11 am Mass on Sundays when the weather is fair. The catalogue is also available for orders from those who attend St Kenelm's. These orders can be taken any time.

St Teresa's belong to the Charlbury Fairtraders group and we pool our weekly orders to save on delivery charges and minimise costs.

Thank you for supporting our mission of fighting poverty through trade.

*"My children, our love is not just to be words or mere talk, but something real and active."*

1 John 3:18

To receive or order from our catalogue please contact:

*Madeleine Wheare*



### MUSIC AT ST. TERESA'S

The recent musical tradition at St Teresa's owes itself to the imagination and energy of the late Claire Davies, who sought out and obtained the four modern Mass settings we currently use and arranged the acquisition of our modern electronic organ, as well as being heavily involved in the Christmas carol service.

The organ uses modern electronic organ technology to reproduce sound recorded from real pipe organ stops. It is compact and easy to play and, though a loudspeaker can never quite capture the clarity of sound of an organ pipe, it certainly makes a much more authentic sound than the rather synthetic noise produced by the old generation of electronic organs - and, for that matter, by its predecessor at St Teresa's, a Hammond organ of the type played by Georgie Fame in the



1960s! It also uses clever electronic wizardry to make the lowest note you play sound an octave lower, mimicking the low bass notes that can be obtained on an organ with pedals.

Having five Mass settings, all of which you sing very competently, provides a nice degree of variety. There are not many small churches or congregations that can manage the *Missa de Angelis* as well as you all do! The modern English language settings vary from the tuneful but simple (and easy to play!) *New People's Mass* by the late Dom Gregory Murray through Macmillan's *St Anne's Mass* and Thorne's *Mass of St Thomas* to Margaret Rizza's more demanding *Mass of the Bread of Life* (the one with all those chords in it).

After Claire's sadly early death, the burden of keeping the music going fell upon Ivy Glare, who devotedly plays at Mass most Sundays and on other occasions as well. Together with her, we are lucky to have in the parish John Garrick, who is organist and choirmaster at St Hugh's Witney but plays for us on his Sundays off from there as well as arranging the musical side of the carol service. I fill in when I'm around. With an enthusiastic congregation with some lovely voices in it (remember the solos at some of the carol services), St Teresa's produces, to my mind, a

very good standard of music for a church and congregation of its size.

Though you might not think it when you hear me, hymns are not difficult to play. The majority of them are written in the so-called common metre, with four lines of alternately eight and six syllables in each verse (think of 'While Shepherds watched their flocks by night'). The music is for the most part designed to be capable of being sung by a choir in four-part harmony, which means that the tunes consist of a series of four-note chords – two notes for each hand.

You may have guessed what this is leading up to. It would relieve some of the burden on Ivy if a member of the congregation who plays the piano or another keyboard instrument were prepared to join our crew. I am not in the parish every weekend and John has commitments at Witney, which means that there are occasional Sundays (I think two this year) when no organist is available and you get organ music most Sundays of the year because Ivy gives up her place in the pew to provide it more often than we can fairly ask her to. The transition from the piano to the organ is not difficult and Ivy or I would be happy to give anyone a demonstration of how the thing works – without obligation of course!

*Nick Paines*

## THE PAPAL VISIT II: SINGING AT COFTON PARK

The fourth verse of the hymn "For all the Saints" contains the line "We feebly struggle". This became our family motto for the adventure that was rehearsing for and singing in the choir at the Beatification Mass. Hannah and I were part of the Banbury rehearsal group, between 25 and 30 people of all ages who met for six Tuesday evening rehearsals between May and September. By 9pm on Tuesday nights Hannah was definitely flagging.

Our summer break was punctuated by increasingly long and complex e-mails detailing the security arrangements for the weekend and ominously telling us that we should take enough food and medication for 24 hours. During the week before the Mass the BBC weather forecast for Sunday was horrendous – heavy persistent rain. We kept praying for good weather.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> – we were at Banbury at 7.30am to catch the coach to Birmingham for a rehearsal at Cofton Park. Security was tight. Even on Saturday we were sniffed by police dogs, and filtered through airport style metal detectors and bag searches before being allowed into the maze of temporary structures and marquees that made up the backstage area. The largest structure was the choir pavilion; we spent a lot of time waiting there. At times it was surreally like waiting in an airport departure lounge ("Sopranos, your flight is ready to board, please leave through door number 1"\*), but it  
\*well, almost

was a happy airport departure lounge. Everyone was friendly.

Saturday morning was the first time the choir, lead by Fr. Peter Jones, had sung together as a group. It was a very large group with around 2000 singers. We were split in two with the parish groups and the schola on one side of the sanctuary and the school groups on the other side. So we had two choirs, who could not hear each other; two conductors (one each side), trying to hold everything together; and an organist and brass players who were housed in a marquee in the backstage area with only an audio video link to Fr. Peter. It quickly became apparent why we needed a rehearsal on Saturday.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> – the choir coach left Banbury at 3.30am. We were sniffed and metal detected in the dark this time. It was raining ("keep praying for good weather"). At around 6am we left the pavilion for our morning rehearsal, dressed in our extremely fashionable clear plastic rain capes. Hannah and I played spot the flag, how many different nations' flags could we recognise in the sea of colour beneath us. James MacMillan came to say he was happy with our singing of his Mass setting. Archbishop Longley came with words of encouragement. By 8am, back in the pavilion, we were ready to eat lunch. We had a short break, then it was outside again. By now the backstage area was buzzing. We were trying to think up collective nouns for the improbably large numbers of bishops. The pope-mobile was casually

parked near the steps to the choir stands.

It was still spotting with rain when we filed onto the choir stands for the final time. The mounting excitement was infectious. People waved their flags when a press helicopter flew overhead. Then, as everyone prepared for Mass and waited for the Pope, it went very quiet. It felt like the moment before a conductor moves his baton and the orchestra begins to play – except that it lasted much longer. The Pope arrived and the sun broke through the clouds. The congregation cheered. The Mass began. We were concentrating on singing, and on the Mass, and on singing again. And soon we were singing the final hymn, “For all the Saints”, but it no longer felt like we were feebly struggling.

We were close enough to smell the incense and, although the sun had retreated behind the clouds again and it was cool, the rain had stayed away.

One of the programmed communion motets was Elgar’s “Ave Verum Corpus”, but communion finished sooner than expected and the motet was dropped. After the Pope left, we sang it anyway, unaccompanied to start with until the organist caught up with what was happening. It was wonderful to sing it not for rehearsal, or for any particular reason, but just for joy and fellowship and fun.

*Alison and Hannah*

## CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CHARLBURY

Churches together in Charlbury started in the 1970’s when Fr.Bulbeck was our parish priest. Catholics, Anglicans, Methodists and Baptists met together to form a committee. A liturgy committee was started to plan the ecumenical services, usually held in St. Mary’s Church on a Sunday. There were four Sunday morning services and four evening services in the churches’ own tradition so people could learn about each others worship and traditions. In the late 80’s The Friends were welcomed to Churches Together and have contributed to our efforts.

After a few years the liturgy committee disbanded and each church in turn took on the responsibility of planning and organizing the ecumenical service. We now have three United Services, one in January – the week of prayer for Christian Unity, one in May – Christian Aid Week and one in October - One World Week. This year it was St.Teresa’s turn to host the - One World Week service.

Churches together in Charlbury also hosts lent lunches and The Church Friends in Charlbury, and fund raises for Christian Aid.

We have a committee of two people from each church who meet regularly to help plan and organize. The chair is elected each year at the AGM. This year it is Hilda JJ.

*Hilda Joy Jones*



**MEDITATION**

'At the moment when the Mother of St. Alexis recognized her son in the dead body of the beggar, who had lived for thirty years under the stairs in her palace, she exclaimed "O my son! Too late have I known thee!". The soul leaving this life will see at last Him whom it possessed in the Eucharist, and at the sight of the consolations, beauties and riches that she had ignored, she will likewise cry out, "O Jesus! O my life! O my treasure! O my love! Too late have I known thee! Divine Saviour, while I meditate on the proofs of your presence under the sacramental veils, enlighten my mind, influence my heart, inspire me with the lively, ardent faith, which is already a vision of your beauty." '

*St. John Vianney; taken from:  
"Jesus Christ is Present in the  
Eucharist"*

*Contributed by Damayanthi Winder*

**PAPAL VISIT III: THE MASS AND THE SPIRITUAL FAMILY "DAS WERK"**

The idea of getting up in the night, in the cold and dark, was daunting. The Holy Father's visit had been going well but how would the Pope be received here? Would there be protest and disruption? Would the rain make everything impossible? The reality was very different

There was a great feeling of companionship not only in our group but with the huge crowd and the Holy Father too. The Mass and the beatification were beautiful.

"Consoling", "piercing", "thrilling", "overcoming" are the adjectives used by John Henry Newman to describe the great mystery and drama of the Mass. The Papal Mass and the beatification of John Henry Newman were no less than this. There were deep prayerful silences. The huge choir rehearsed before the Mass and, throughout, the music and singing were beautiful. There was pride that two from our parish were singing in the choir. It felt special that Newman was so closely connected with our Diocese.

It also felt special that the Holy Father thanked The Spiritual Family "Das Werk" for their contribution to the beatification cause. Two of their members were presented to him during Mass and he blessed them and the members of their spiritual family who were present.

The Spiritual Family The Work,

was founded by Julia Verhaeghe on 18<sup>th</sup> January 1938. The name is a programme of life and is taken from Jesus's words: "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He (the Father) has sent." Mother Julia, as she is known, was born on 11<sup>th</sup> November 1910 at 11am in Geluwe, Belgium, a village in West Flanders, which became a battleground on the Western Front. She and her family and so many there suffered hardship and deprivation and all the horrors of war. Her education was disrupted and at an early age she had to begin work as a nanny and domestic. At the age of 15, after a crisis of faith, she had an experience, an encounter with St Paul, a second conversion for her. She saw that the Church would go through difficult times and she saw the frailty of many within the Church. She spoke of the Church having two parts, Christ as her head and weak human beings as her body and remembering this, she said, made her love people more and more and gave her correspondingly more and more love for Holy Church.

Mother Julia never intended to found anything. God had founded the Church and that was enough, but a special charism grew in her. From tiny beginnings a large international organisation of sisters, priests and brothers has grown. She died in Bregenz in Austria on the 29<sup>th</sup> August 1997 but continues to influence many through her writings

and through her Spiritual Family, whose joy and love for God are striking and infectious.

Hers was a very different background from Newman's whose writings were first given to her in the early 1960's. She was much impressed by what she read and stated that she had found a "a brother of my soul." It seems too that these two people, who did not know each other, shared many ideas. Mother Julia encouraged her sisters to read and study the life and work of Cardinal Newman. This led to the Holy See asking The Work to continue their studies and to run Newman Centres in various countries. The Birmingham Oratory asked The Work to become custodians of the College at Littlemore, which became and still is a Newman Centre. Sisters of the Work are still in Littlemore, praying for Holy Church and for us all, welcoming visitors and helping people in all kinds of ways, practically and on their individual journeys of faith.

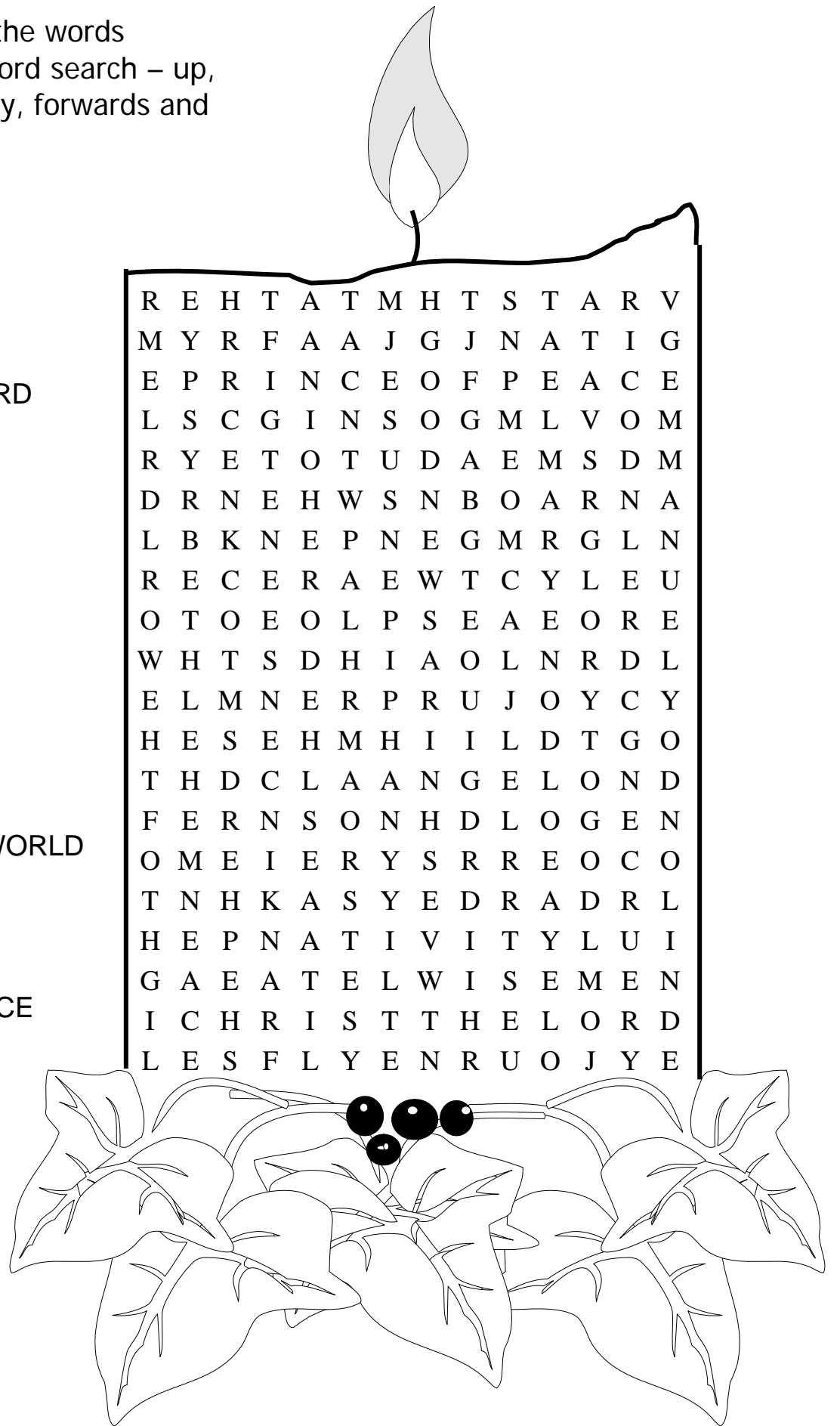
It was fitting that the beatification should take place in this year of celebration of the centenary of Julia Verhaeghe's birth.

The Papal Mass brought together so much of interest and wonder and all of us who attended were humbled by it but loved it.

*Louise Littledale*

Find and circle the words  
hidden in the word search – up,  
down, diagonally, forwards and  
backwards.

ADVENT  
ALLELUIA  
ANGEL  
BETHLEHEM  
CHRIST THE LORD  
CHRISTMAS  
EMMANUEL  
EPIPHANY  
FRANKINCENSE  
GIFT  
GLORY TO GOD  
GOLD  
GOOD NEWS  
HEROD  
JESUS  
JOSEPH  
JOURNEY  
JOY  
LIGHT OF THE WORLD  
MANGER  
MARY  
MYRRH  
NATIVITY  
PRINCE OF PEACE  
SHEPHERDS  
STAR  
WISE MEN



R	E	H	T	A	T	M	H	T	S	T	A	R	V
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G	A	E	A	T	E	L	W	I	S	E	M	E	N
I	C	H	R	I	S	T	T	H	E	L	O	R	D
L	E	S	F	L	Y	E	N	R	U	O	J	Y	E