

## FAITH IN FOCUS: DIAL-A-DISCIPLE

Have you noticed how as a society we are becoming less "hands-on"? We seem to do things at a distance or get others to do things for us that previously we would have sorted out ourselves. I know someone who has never done her own cleaning, washing and ironing for years because she has a woman who comes in and "does" for her. Recently it has become popular to go on the internet and get the supermarket to deliver the groceries to your front door. You never have to leave home or enter a store again! On a more serious level we have for years handed over the care of our loved ones to "professionals" claiming that we cannot cope with them at home. And at the drop of a hat we invite people into our homes, from decorators to funeral directors, on the grounds that if we pay them they will do the job for us.

In today's gospel Jesus summons the twelve apostles together and sends them out in pairs to teach people all that he himself has been teaching them since they met him. They are to be disciples, people who learn at the feet of their master and then in turn become devotees of his teaching and witnesses to its power in their own lives.

The call to be a disciple is one that Jesus continues to make in our day. If we agree to be Christians then we are signing on the dotted line to being disciples who pass on the message of eternal life.

But how exactly are we doing this? Do we make a conscious effort to be mouthpieces of the gospel in our neighbourhood, on the streets where we live and in the places where we work? Are we active apostles, bold believers or just closet Christians? If people wanted to have some idea of what it meant to follow Christ would they pick up any clues from the way we live and behave?

It would be understandable, but sad, if we fell into the trap of "distance discipleship" and "hands-off" Christianity given the way that today we put a premium on convenience rather than involvement. Yet no one else can do what Jesus asks of us. There is no person who can come in and "do" for us, no website that can absolve us from preaching Christ on the front line, no professional clergy or teachers who can make life easier for us. There's no such thing as an armchair Christian; being a disciple is a "hands-on" job.

11<sup>th</sup> July 2021  
15<sup>th</sup> Sunday Year B

*(Prayer of the Church Week 3)*



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### *Sunday Masses*

6:30pm(Vigil) 8:30am & 10:30am

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*Parish Clergy - Salesians of Don Bosco*

Fr Michael Hynes

10 Highfield Road, KT16 8BU

Tel: 01932 562375

Web: [www.stanneschertsey.org.uk](http://www.stanneschertsey.org.uk)

email: [Chertsey@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:Chertsey@abdiocese.org.uk)

Deanery website: [www.veybridgedeanery.org/](http://www.veybridgedeanery.org/)

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## Sunday

Vigil Mass Sat 6.30pm

8.30am, 10.30am Mass

## Collection for the Apostleship of the Sea

### Monday

9.30am Mass

### Tuesday

9.30am Mass

### Wednesday

9.30am Mass

### Thursday

#### St. Bonaventure

9.30am Mass

### Friday

9.30am Mass

### Saturday

10.00am Morning Mass

### Next Sunday

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Year B. 3pm First Holy

Communions Mass

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## Congratulations

To **Bryan Martin and Maedelyn Albuera** who were married in St. Anne's Church. We wish them a very happy and long life together. To **Bro. Stephen and Bro. Augustine** who made their final vows as Salesians last Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> July. To **Monica Fitton-Brown** who was received into the Catholic Church. May God be with them all.

## This Sunday (11 July) is Sea Sunday.

Congregations across the Diocese are asked to kindly remember seafarers and fishers in their prayers and to hold the second collection for Catholic charity Stella Maris - formerly called Apostleship of the Sea. Stella Maris provides pastoral and spiritual support to seafarers and fishers by deploying chaplains to visit ships in port. The past year has been particularly difficult for seafarers due to the pandemic and the charity has continued its ministry through gangway visits and virtual support. Now that restrictions have eased, and ship visits have restarted, the need for face-to-face contact is more important than ever. Your prayers and support are greatly needed.

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## Death by Appointment: A Rational Guide to the Assisted Suicide Debate Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 7.30 to 9pm

The assisted suicide debate will be centre stage once more with a Bill to legalise this in England and Wales recently tabled in the House of Lords. All prior attempts have failed but the pressure continues and we need to be ready to play our part.

You are invited to a webinar organised by the Bishops' Conference in which speakers

with key, relevant expertise will look beyond the headlines: from law, to clinical practice, social attitudes, end of life care, public safety and the experience of those jurisdictions which have already legalised it. This is our opportunity to get informed, to prepare to protect the vulnerable. Please join us. For further information and to book your place see:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/death-by-appointment-a-rational-guide-to-the-assisted-suicide-debate/>

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## Calling all Confirmation Catechists:

Our Diocesan Youth Adviser, Lizzie, is hosting another round of Deanery Confirmation Catechist meetings this week, and is delighted to be able to tell you that your local secondary school chaplains have been invited, which will give you a chance to get to know them better. We will also be looking at the theme 'Known and Loved'. If you are not already a member of your local network, please contact Lizzie directly [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

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## The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is beginning again in our Diocese this September. The course is

designed for teachers in Catholic schools, for Catechists and for anyone who would like to grow in understanding as they live their Catholic faith. The CCRS offers a very flexible and accessible way of learning, it includes some online content and is made up of eight modules: six core and two specialist modules. Each module involves ten hours of course time and an assignment. For more information or to register your place please [contact our Formation Adviser](#)

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## NEW Colour and Shape website launch! Mass resources for families.

Colour and Shape developed over the pandemic providing a weekly video liturgy for families to use at home during lockdown. This video - Connect Sunday - has now changed into a new shorter format, along with a set of accompanying resources on a brand new website. Head over to [www.colourandshapeonline.com](http://www.colourandshapeonline.com) to check out the resources reflecting on the Sunday Gospel each week, plus links to Spotify playlists, ideas on how to pray together as a family, and information on how to join the online community supporting families.