



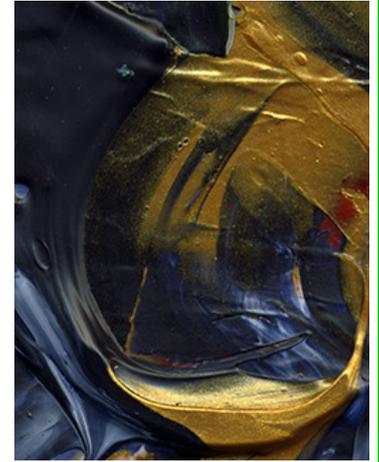
## NEWSLETTER Advent 2013

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does.  
*(Margaret Mead)*



### PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

'Sssh. Can you hear it? An expectant silence, a hushed anticipation, as if the very galaxy is holding its breath. There are some truths even the stars know, like darkness, like loneliness and how the night can be a living thing. And how once, long ago, the night waited in wonder along with the darkness and the loneliness, for the sound of a baby's cry, for the miraculous to come down to the earth mundane.' Lucinda Hynett



### ARCHIVE EXHIBITION IN BRENTWOOD

On Saturday 19th October the Community took their mobile exhibition to Brentwood.

S. M. Magdalene and S. Teresa joined with Dr Caroline Bowden, Dr James Kelly and Dr Carmen Mangion to deliver a series of talks on the story of women religious from foundation in exile to the present day.

S. M. Magdalene, the Community's archivist, gave special permission for a rare display of some old manuscripts, music and artefacts from the Community's time in Liège. It was a most interesting afternoon and more information can be found about the ground breaking study by Queen Mary University and their *Who were the Nuns?* project on

<http://wwtn.history.qmul.ac.uk>



### WELCOMING NEW COMPANIONS

On Friday 25th October we welcomed five new Companions in a moving Liturgy of Commitment. This was followed by a celebratory supper and everyone who came brought a contribution for the Colchester Foodbank.

## NOVEMBER... REMEMBERING PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED



On All Souls Day the Community gathered in New Hall Chapel for a Mass to pray for people known and unknown who have died, especially those who have died in the last year. After the Mass, which was celebrated by Fr Paul Keane, people were invited to visit the Cemetery before coming to tea in the Barn.

Earlier in November the Parish of the Royal Docks East London (our Community's Parish) had its first Mass to commemorate people who had died in the World Wars and most especially family and friends of Parishioners. The names of those who had died in the last twelve months were read out and a family member was invited to light a candle in their name and place it in front of the altar.



In November the Community met in the Barn with Companions and friends to look at and discuss Pope Francis's interview - "A Big Heart Open to God". People were very encouraged by the open and inclusive spirit of the interview, and if you haven't already read it we encourage you to look at in on the internet.

<http://www.americamagazine.org/pope-interview>

## INTERNATIONAL PRIORESSES' CONFERENCE

Members of the Association Worldwide gathered in Herkenrode, Belgium in November for their ten-monthly Conference. During the week Conference members celebrated with the Herkenrode Community their 375th Year of existence in Hasselt.



For the first time there were five Sisters from Africa at the Conference.

## St AUGUSTINE



"Nothing was so necessary for raising our hope as to show us how deeply God loved us. And what could afford us a stronger proof of this than that the Son of God should become a partner with us of human nature?" St Augustine

## WORLD HOMELESS DAY



Thursday 10th October 2013 brought together individuals from a wealth of different backgrounds to mark World Homeless Day at a reception at the House of Commons.

The event was organised by the homeless charity "Anchor House" - S. Teresa Ann is a member of the Anchor House Management Committee.

Every year, Anchor House provides support and accommodation to single homeless people and last year alone, they provided a home for 202 people, helping 67 move on into independent living and supporting 50 into employment.

## REMEMBERING THE PAST



Over the years S. Ann has been encouraging older people in the Melbourne Wisdom Group to recall and record their memories from the past. She has put this together into exhibition form, and it was shown for the first time in November. As you can see some people dressed as in times past!

## A BIRTHDAY TO REMEMBER!

S. Thérèse's birthday coincided with the opening of a Foodbank at St Andrew's Anglican church in Melbourn which was officially opened by the Bishop of Bradwell, seen here with S. Margaret Mary and S. Thérèse.



John, came to Howe Close with a mighty noisy saw and with S. M. Gabriel as a helper sawed more of our fire wood to join the pile which S. M. Stephen had begun. She, then made this very handsome wood shed which keeps everything well protected. No end to her talents!



## CHARITY LUNCH IN WIVENHOE

The recently formed SVP of the Wivenhoe parish were so inspired by hearing from S. Thérèse of the situation in Congo that they held an International lunch on the 26th October to raise funds for Health Care in Congo. They raised the wonderful sum of £1,000. Many thanks to all.



## HOLIDAY COOKING FOR CHILDREN

Over thirty children enjoyed learning to make a pasta bake and an apple crumble in the November half-term in Melbourne.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**8th and 15th December:** Tea at 74 Howe Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3XD 4:00pm with Evening Prayer at 4:30pm.

**13th December:** Advent Time of Recollection led by Fr Christopher Jamison OSB 7:30pm at St Anne's Church Custom House. If you would like to join the Community for a light supper beforehand phone us on 020 7476 5490.

**15th December:** BBC film "The Nativity" at Blessed Sacrament Church Hall 3:00pm followed by tea and Evening Prayer.

**16th December:** Advent Reflection Blessed Sacrament Church 7:00pm followed by seasonal refreshments.

**20th December:** Quiet Day at 74 Howe Close, Colchester, Essex, CO4 3XD 10:00am-3:00pm.

All welcome to any of the above -  
for details contact [crssuk@canonesses.co.uk](mailto:crssuk@canonesses.co.uk) or phone 01206 867296

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