

# British Federation of Notre Dame de Namur Associations



## Saint Julie News 2021



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## President's Report

This final year of my presidency has been at times sad and frustrating, not least because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. For the same reason our numbers for this Conference weekend are smaller than usual. The 2020 Conference was out of the question on the usual September date. Hinsley Hall did offer us the later weekend Friday 30th October – Sunday 1st November. Lorraine tried very hard to make this work, but in the end our numbers were too small for it to be viable. In early August when local lockdowns were imposed in the north-west, we admitted defeat and I cancelled the weekend altogether. The committee was very sad to have been forced to cancel, but this is not the first time this has occurred. The Conference weekend did not take place during World War II and has been cancelled since then on only one occasion – for another epidemic. In 1965, the Conference had been planned to take place in Blackburn but had to be cancelled because of an epidemic of polio in the town.

Sadly, we have lost some stalwart and much-loved members this year: Pauline Ireland (née Clayden) was President 2003-2006; Sheila Fuller from Sheffield and Moira Metcalf from Southwark - all previously regulars at Conference.

Regrettably, because of Covid restrictions I was only able to go to Moira's funeral which took place at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. In addition, three members of our committee have lost brothers this year.

The Federation charity had been to help the Sisters in Ogwa, Nigeria to build a secondary school on land which had been given them by the local bishop. Unfortunately, at the beginning of 2021, owing to vandalism by local youth and because of a dispute about the ownership of the land, this project had to be abandoned. The Sisters in Nigeria, however, have recently taken over the management of a primary school in Mgbowo, which had been established by the Norbertine Fathers, who have since withdrawn from the locality. The school currently has 96 pupils – 43 boys and 53 girls. It is in a sorry state of repair. The Sisters in Nigeria asked if they could transfer the money given by the BFNDA Charity fund to the new project of the structural repair and managerial restructuring of this school. Having been assured that none of the earlier donations have been spent, the Executive Committee have agreed to this. During my three years as president we have raised a total of £13,500 for the charity, including £5,000 in the past year, there was also a £4,000 legacy from the estate of Father Chris's Aunt Maureen.

We have great cause to be grateful to our chaplain, Rev. Chris Thomas. With travel restrictions, it was not possible to hold physical meetings, but Chris has generously allowed us to hold committee meetings, using his Zoom account. This included last year's AGM when we ratified the appointment of Lorraine Platt to take over from me as President and awarded £3,500 to the Nigerian Charity. I think we are all agreed that although we prefer physical meetings, it has enabled us to manage the business of the Federation.

Chris has also, at the Irenaeus Centre, given a temporary home to the BFNDA archive after we were asked to remove them from the Notre Dame Convent at 266, Woolton Road, Liverpool. The Sisters had sold their premises in Parbold and moved the Provincial offices into 266, so no longer had space for the archive. Helpfully, as no-one on the committee was able to travel at the time, Father Chris also collected the material from 266. The matter of the archive is ongoing; we have hopes that some of the committee can sort through all the material, discarding some of it and putting some of it into a digital form. Even so, there will still be a need for a physical home for some of the material and we cannot impose on Fr. Chris's generosity for much longer.

Lastly, I must thank the Executive Committee. They have all been efficient, generous with their time and have managed their various tasks without fuss. Lorraine is taking over as President. I am sure she will bring all the flair she has shown as Conference Secretary to the job. I wish her well. Louise Enderby, Lesley Freeman and Christina Wood are stepping down. I thank them for their excellent service and hope they enjoy the extra leisure time. As I write, some of the posts on the committee have been filled but we still have vacancies for Literary Editor and Direct Members Convenor. We do need some new blood on the committee, so do please consider if you would be able to take on one of these roles.

I hope and pray that as the world begins to recover from this terrible pandemic, the BFNDA will also recover and that next year we will meet again in greater numbers.

*Diane Donovan*

## Conference Secretary's Report

Good afternoon, I would like to welcome you all to the Conference. I have enjoyed receiving all your letters and cards with your booking forms. So thank you for all your good wishes. I was very pleased to receive so many lovely cards and letters following the conference in 2019. I'd like to particularly welcome our chaplain Fr Chris Thomas and Sr Jo Threlfall. We've all had a difficult time since we were last at the conference together in 2019 and we know that the Covid pandemic is far from over. As you know the conference had to be cancelled twice in 2020. The number of members attending the conference this year is considerably lower than previous years and that is very understandable. So thank you all for coming. I hope that you are all as comfortable as possible and that you are all enjoying the weekend so far.

The morning drive and walking tour of Knaresborough today was one that we had already been on not too long ago. I usually go with Margaret Dolan on a trial run to the town chosen for the morning drive. With the Covid restrictions this year we've been unable to do that. The last time that we went to Knaresborough the weather was so bad that we hardly saw anything of the town so we thought that we'd go again. I hope that you all enjoyed it a bit more today. Special thanks to Margaret Dolan for planning the walking tour.

This evening there will be a pre-dinner drinks reception at 6.30pm and dinner at 7pm. There is a table plan which will be displayed outside the dining room. We are having a served dinner which includes wine or soft drinks and after dinner

coffee will be served in the dining room. We have an excellent after-dinner speaker joining us later and she will be staying with us until after lunch tomorrow. Tomorrow morning after breakfast one of the staff will be taking a group photograph on the steps at the front of the Hall. Before Mass, whilst we have a cup of tea in the lounge, we will have the raffle and prizes.

The staff of Hinsley Hall are looking after us well, as always, we will be presenting the manager and staff with a gratuity, as usual after lunch tomorrow and I will be writing to them after the conference. After lunch tomorrow some of you will be leaving for home. For the people who are staying until Monday there will be an optional walk for an hour in the afternoon to a woodland area not far from here, following the walk we will be having afternoon tea. We will be showing a feature film tomorrow evening followed by supper in the lounge.

Following this AGM there will be a short comfort break (10 minutes or so) then we will go straight to the Chapel (or maybe stay in this room depending on the time available) for evening prayers. This is my sixth and last year as Conference Secretary. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge and would like to thank Diane and Bernie for their support throughout. Fr Chris, Sr Jo Threlfall and Sr Pat Sullivan for their guidance in all things spiritual, Veronica Miles and Mary Lewis for having long meetings and even longer phone calls with me and for giving me the benefit of their experience with the Federation and my good friend, Margaret Dolan and all the committee for their help during the last six years.

I will be handing over to the new conference secretary after this weekend and I know that the role will be in good hands, more of that later. A note for your diary, next year's conference is on 2nd-5th September 2022. I hope you all enjoy the rest of the weekend.

*Lorraine Platt*

## Website report

Mary has not made any changes to the website recently, she is still working on potted histories of Notre Dame schools and will add SJN and reports about the Conference and AGM in the coming year. Mary is hoping to hand over the role of Website Manager by 2022, possibly to Diane Donovan, in the meantime she asked for suggestions for changes to the website, additions or constructive criticism. Mary thanks everyone present for their support during her tenure as Website Manager.

*Mary W Lewis*

*'Every day of our lives, ask the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
our loving Mother to protect us.'  
St Julie Billiart*



## National Board of Catholic Women AGM 12 June 2021

I share all communications from the National Board with the committee as soon as I receive them. This ensures that they know about any NBCW events in good time and avoids an over-long report from me at our meetings. Following this practice, I circulated the paperwork of the last meeting I attended of the NBCW which took place on 12th June 2021 (via Zoom). The National Board had received a reply from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, regarding the matter of inclusive language in the Lectionary. Cardinal Nichols had said that the next edition would be more inclusive. The NBCW had sent a letter of condolence to the Queen on the death of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The series of webinars had proved very successful.

The NBCW booklet on domestic abuse had been generally well received and was endorsed by Abbot Hugh Allan. The Bishop of Portsmouth, however, considered the booklet secular rather than Catholic and was unhappy about the inclusion of an LBQT section. He has withheld Portsmouth's contribution to NBCW funding. There are ongoing discussions about improving and streamlining the Bishops' Conference and its Mission Statement. There are to be four teams: Mission; Education; Policy and Research; Partnerships.

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of the foundation of CAFOD following the first Family Fast Day, the National Board has chosen to support CAFOD's project in the Lebanon: *"Our project is located in Lebanon, a country less than half the size of Wales which is currently hosting over 1 million Syrian refugees on top of more than 400,000 Palestinian refugees already living in the country - and*

*despite high levels of poverty and unemployment among its own population. This initiative will support vulnerable Lebanese and refugee women, many of whom are survivors of violence or have had to flee their homes due to the conflict in Syria. It will play a vital role in equipping and empowering women leaders to create spaces in their communities for women to address issues of discrimination, trauma and stress. Furthermore, by offering opportunities for training and income generation, these women will draw on their own skills and experience to increase their resilience for the future. As it brings together women from both Lebanese and Syrian communities it will also contribute to more peaceful community life."*

The meeting ended very promptly as there was a talk on CAFOD following immediately afterwards. The above report is an account of the last meeting of the National Board. If you wish to learn more about the National Board: its activities, committees and publications please consult the website <https://www.nbcw.co.uk>

*Diane Donovan*

*'Don't dwell on the difficulties; the good God is there to help you.*

*Show God your good will'  
St Julie Billiart*



## Literary Editor's Report

I have been acting as Literary Editor since September 2020 and produced the SJN in the December. It was slightly more expensive than previous years due to using a different printing company and producing an improved quality of finish. I hope you all enjoyed reading it.

I will be producing SJN 2021 but due to the pandemic the Associations will have very little to report this year. For this reason I am appealing to members to share their experiences of the past year, their reflections of surviving the pandemic, and sad, happy or interesting things that have happened during this time. There will be the usual Conference reports and obituaries but I need the support of all members for this year. Many thanks

*Louise Enderby*

*'My God, what thanksgiving can repay so many blessings!'*  
*St Julie Billiart*



## Election of Officers

Diane Donovan passed the Presidency to Lorraine, Diane agreed to remain as President until Sunday lunchtime when she will hand over the badge of office officially.

Thank you, Diane. I am honoured and very happy to accept the role of president of the Notre Dame Federation for the next three years. This feels very unreal to me. I only wish that my mum and dad could have lived to see this day. They loved Notre Dame and would have been proud of my connection with the Notre Dame Federation.

Whilst I've been conference secretary I have worked closely with Bernie and Diane and have got to know some of the other past presidents and it is lovely to see some of them here today. I have known Veronica since she was my teacher and now she has become a good friend. All the past presidents, without exception have been helpful and generously shared their knowledge of the Federation with me whenever I've asked them. Their experience has been invaluable.

In my head I am still that little 11 year old girl in the bottle green uniform and brown, laced-up shoes who started at Notre Dame, Manchester in 1960. I am counting on the past presidents and asking St Julie to guide me through my term of office. I promise you that I will do my best to represent the Federation to the best of my ability.

I would like to thank Diane for the care and attention that she has given to the Federation and its members during the last three years. The last 18 months during the worldwide pandemic have been difficult times for all of us. I'm sure that there have been times when Diane dreaded answering the phone or opening her e-mails fearing more bad news.

She has comforted members who were sick and sympathised with members and their families who had been bereaved and all in her dignified, capable way. Diane has steered the Federation through one of the most difficult times that any of us can remember and all at a time when she was dealing with bereavement in her own family and lately with health issues of her own.

So, on behalf of the members of the Federation will you please join me in thanking Diane with a round of applause I would like to add my own thanks to the members of the committee who have helped me greatly during my time as conference secretary and for the care and attention that they have given to their various offices.

I would like to introduce you to our new committee. Fr Chris Thomas has agreed to continue as our Chaplain, Sr Jo Threlfall will continue to represent the Sisters of Notre Dame Provincial Team. Diane Donovan will now take the role of Vice-President. Bernie Shaw has been instrumental in trying to reform the Notre Dame, Liverpool Association (obviously hampered by the Pandemic) and will represent Notre Dame, Liverpool on the committee. Mary Lewis has agreed to continue as the website manager for now and will hand over the role to Diane Donovan in time. Margaret Dolan has agreed to be the new secretary. We started at ND Manchester together in 1960 and have been involved in many different projects since. She has been a big help to me in my time as conference secretary. Maureen Wilson is taking over the role as treasurer. Catherine Orford will be the new conference secretary. Louise Enderby has been the acting literary editor and has agreed to publish this year's St Julie News. The office of Literary editor is currently vacant. If anyone is interested, and has the technical expertise and would like to discuss this role please let us know later. Lesley Freeman is the Direct member's Convenor. After

many years in the office Lesley would like to retire. We are looking for someone to take on the role but Lesley is a hard act to follow.

I'm sure you will all agree that we would like Diane to enjoy this last weekend of her presidency. She has missed so much of what should have been a wonderful time for her in the last couple of years. She has agreed to preside at this evening's conference dinner and I'm going to do my best to make it a lovely evening for her and all of you.

*Lorraine Platt*

*'Wait with patience for the moments of the good God*

*St Julie Billiart*



## BFNDA Conference 2021

### 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> September at Hinsley Hall, Leeds

This was my first time to attend Conference so I was not sure what to expect. My sister, also a new attendee, came along for moral support for each other.

I am very pleased to say how much I enjoyed the weekend, everyone was very friendly and I joined all the activities organised by the hard working Committee members.

#### FRIDAY

Following on from settling into our rooms we were all encouraged to join in the afternoon's gentle exercise group lead by Lorraine which was healthy, fun and a brilliant ice breaker.

After which we all needed a rest period to recover and get ready for the evening meal and after dinner fun and games. Play your Cards Right, Pass the Parcel and Stand Up Bingo mingled with plenty of laughs and light hearted banter including many answers to the Quiz.

#### SATURDAY –The Busiest Day

After Breakfast many of us including myself went on a trip to Knaresborough. Knaresborough is a picturesque town full of interesting tales of historical incidents. The narrow cobbled streets were there long before the coach trips. The coach driver had to placate a traffic warden while he was unloading his precious cargo of Conference attendees. When it was time to board the coach to return to Hinsley Hall it was time to play 'find the coach and driver'! Before leaving

Knaresborough the coach driver did a manoeuvre that involved a very close shave with a corner of one of the historic buildings, something that would not look out of place in a Harry Potter Movie.

The afternoon began with the AGM which is the business part of the Conference when all new officers are elected and projects undertaken by the charity are updated and future work discussed.

Evening Prayers followed after which we returned to our rooms to don our best finery and turned from Cinderella into Princesses for Conference Dinner, the highlight of the weekend.

The Drinks Reception was followed by an excellent Dinner served by the staff of Hinsley Hall.

Guest speaker, -Veronica Whitty, gave a speech about all the inspirational women she has met during her travels. As I looked around the room I thought to myself –there are many unsung heroes sitting here who do not realise what they have achieved and the impact of their good deeds that were completed without a moment's hesitation.

Many of the Conference's attendees went to bed after having an enjoyable, tiring, memories making day.

#### SUNDAY

After breakfast a group photograph was taken so we could have a picture to look back on in the future as a memento of a lovely time and remind us to be grateful to be able to



actually socialise and look forward, hopefully, to a better, kinder future .

Mass was followed by lunch after which we all said our goodbyes, apart from a few people who were taking advantage of the opportunity to stay another night and leave on the Monday.

After a lovely weekend I left half a stone heavier (from all the excellent food) with at least two bags overflowing with Tombola and Raffle prizes and not forgetting Bernie's craft stall and memories of an uplifting, friendly weekend.

I am looking forward to next year's Conference to meet new and old friends.

*Maureen Wilson (nee Johnson)  
Manchester Notre Dame 1963-1970.*

*'Let us go on from day to day leaving the next day in the hands of the*

*good God'*

*St Julie Billiart*



## Direct Members' Association report 2021

Greetings to all you Direct Members out there. Stay safe and stay in touch.

The Direct Members' Association continues to lose members as we all get a little older. There are now only 54 members on the list and of those only 28 subscriptions have been received for 2021/2022. However, life has changed for us all since the onset of the pandemic. The good news is that the generosity of Direct Members has been maintained. During the twelve months to 31 August 2021 £549 has been donated to the BFNDA charity. Thank you everyone for your continued support.

Three Direct Members have sadly died this year. Pauline Ireland (nee Clayden) was a past president of the Federation. Eileen Shea was a past website manager. My good friend Sheila Fuller was the Direct Members' Convenor until 2015. I am indebted to Sheila for her help and support. They are safe in God's care.

Only three Direct Members (including me) were able to attend Conference this year but we held our meeting as usual and had a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. I hope that we will be a larger group next year.

This is my last report as Convenor. Thank you all for making my role so pleasurable. The new Convenor will introduce herself in the next newsletter.

May God shower his blessings on you all

*Lesley Freeman*

## Liverpool Association Report 2021

There hasn't been any activity within the newly restored Liverpool Notre Dame Association in the last eighteen months. However, we now have high hopes, since the easing of Covid rules, of increasing the membership, We are starting with a Mass and social at St Mary's, Woolton on 6th November and we already have 40 people attending – very promising.

*Bernie Shaw*

## Manchester Association Report 2021

It's been such an unusual time in our history. Many things we took for granted failed to happen during the pandemic and for many of us it was a time when we realised what the important things in life really are.

Members of the Manchester Association met for Afternoon Tea at the Midland Hotel in Manchester on January 31<sup>st</sup> and were joined by Diane Donovan, the Federation President. It was a lovely afternoon and was very well attended. We were then preparing to celebrate our May Mass when Covid 19 took a hold in the UK and the rest of the world. We realised what an important source of support our group was but at least we had our Facebook group to keep us informed of what was happening with our members.

The May Mass was cancelled but we thought it wouldn't be long until the pandemic subsided so we planned the November Mass which once again was cancelled but our Chaplain, Father Dearman was asked to say Masses - one

for deceased members and staff and another for all of us. Sadly the 2020 Notre Dame Conference had to be cancelled but we hoped and prayed that all would be well by September 2021 and we could resume this popular event. The good news later in the year was that the conference could go ahead and we had a wonderful reunion even though our numbers were reduced.

At long last we have been able to plan our November Mass which will go ahead, God willing, on November 13<sup>th</sup>. This is usually celebrated for our deceased members but this year it is also for all of those who have died due to Covid and members of their families.

Many of our members will have stories about our times during the pandemic either with their families or due to Covid restrictions, isolated and alone. These are some reflections from parishioners in one of our parishes which may be similar to some experiences we have all shared.

These were some examples:

“Our grandchild was born during the first lockdown. It was difficult as we could not support our daughter and her husband during the birth of their first child. We felt helpless.”

“The news started to get me down so I eventually I stopped watching the news. One of our friends died and instead of attending Mass we stood outside the church and clapped them as the cars drove around the church grounds. It didn't feel right. It was so sad.”

“I do not like wearing a mask. It makes me feel ill and you cannot see when anyone is smiling.”

“It has been a lonely year. Family and friends have stayed away to be kind and keep me safe, but I have gone weeks without seeing someone in person.”

“I did not know what Zoom was 12 months ago. I do now! I don't like it when everyone talks at the same time.”

“I phone people who I know cannot get out and try and cheer them up. I pray to God that this pandemic will soon end.”

“Streamed Masses were very special and we felt as though we were welcoming God into our homes.”

“This pandemic has taught me not to take anything for granted, to be thankful for my family and friends and the many people who helped me through some dark days.”

“I caught Covid but it was a mild illness. My husband caught it and was hospitalised and is now suffering long Covid symptoms. He will never be the same again. “

“It now feels that the end is in sight. I am hopeful that the world will open up and families will meet. We will hug, we will party and we will thank God that we never have to make banana bread again. I will thank God every day for everything I have and will deal with the highs and lows of life whenever they come along, with my faith by my side. Take care everyone and keep praying.”

*Margaret Dolan*

## Northampton Association Report 2021

I have spent five days thinking about this and still can't really imagine what there is to report, but here goes!

Throughout the pandemic we have kept in contact with our members by sending extra newsletters and trying to keep them advised of any plans for the future – such as they were.

Having cancelled our normal social events we did say that we would hold a scaled down December meeting in 2021. This will be our first meeting in many, many months and we have to wait and see what the response will be.

Our annual reports, up to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2020, were sent to every member by post or email in April 2020. The committee kept in touch, mainly by email and were finally able to hold “proper” meetings on 19<sup>th</sup> May and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021. It had been decided that a double AGM would be held in April 2022 and members had been asked to say, with no commitment at that time, whether they would expect to attend an AGM and Lunch in April 2022 and we were gratified to receive 65 positive responses and so the search was on for a venue. We have found what we believe is a superb venue but, as our members don't all know where that is yet, we will report back on it in next year's St. Julie News.

We now try to look after the Sisters' cemetery on a rota basis. The information boards are kept as clean as we can manage and litter and weeds are removed from the site. It is not an easy task but we do our best.

We were delighted when we collected affiliation subscriptions this year and reached the heady heights of 123 members. I

was astounded when I attended the BFNDA A.G.M. to see that the national membership was currently 305. My maths isn't very good but I believe that means Northampton represents 40 % of the national membership. We must be doing something right and long may it last. We hope that, with a return to as much normality as can be, our numbers may even creep up a bit more.

Sadly, some members have died during the year and their names can be found with all other national members in the R.I.P. section.

*Margaret Bradbury*

## Southwark Association Report 2021

It hasn't been easy for any of us lately has it?

As members of the association we have tried to maintain contact and one way that was really appreciated and understood was via a newsletter that I put together last year and sent out just prior to Christmas. I kept it light in content and included some Christmas jokes, nice recipes and a quiz. We also had a section from the school in Southwark. The head, Sister Anne-Marie Niblock sent an update on how the school had coped and some of the current students also wrote about their experiences and thoughts

about the year! It was a bit time consuming but definitely worth it. During this year we have had the odd letter go out along with occasional email updates and I intend to repeat the Christmas Newsletter again this year.

*Patricia White*

*'The good God will not leave us on the road without giving us light*

*and grace to guide us'*

*St Julie Billiart*



**Reflections on a Year like no other!**  
**Life during the Global Pandemic- COVID-19**

Who would have thought that life today would be so different from life in 2019?

Since March of 2020 living with a global pandemic, has made a great impact on all our lives.

It has given us time to stop and reflect,

to adapt to life with many restrictions,

to be aware of our own limitations and vulnerability

to be aware of the needs of many others around us.

It has impacted on our relationships, and our personal lives,

On our spiritual lives as people of **faith** and members of Christian Church communities.

Pope Francis reminded us a year ago that the coronavirus pandemic “has given us a chance to develop new ways of living”. He gave us three “Cs” to guide us: -

**Conversion**-Listening-being attentive to the signs of the times and to the voices of the “invisible” both people and planet.

**Compassion** – for our fellow human beings of every culture, creed young and old.

**Courage** to face the challenge making choices, in response to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The reality has meant.....

For me as for many others - living in isolation and not meeting with family and friends, not meeting in our church communities. A welcome substitute was the telephone, zoom or webinars. But I have also been aware that many of the elderly and most needy could not even benefit from this, so I have sent gifts of flowers or left food and messages on doorsteps.

Virtual Masses have been a great gift, being able to experience Mass virtually anywhere in the world. It was an opportunity to introduce elderly people who hadn't been out to Mass for many months or years to familiar churches and priests that they knew. Sadly there were others in great need suffering from isolation and confinement to their own homes, without internet access. Several of us SNDs appreciated homilies which enriched our own spiritual lives and gave us the opportunity to reflect together by zoom.

I have always been concerned about the environment and especially the messages of Pope Francis, so our great concern about Climate Change caused me to participate in ecological groups in the Parish and Diocese on the ecological and Climate Change Journey to 2030. I even managed the six weeks zoom course with the Global Catholic Climate Change Forum (now known at the Laudato Si Movement) on learning to be a Climate Change Animator This has provided many ideas about how we can preserve our planet for future generations. What struck me was that people in poorer countries value the natural resources of this world far more than we do. They are recycling not rubbish societies in general.

Another unexpected opportunity during lockdown and being part of an international Religious Congregation has been attending zoom meetings which include SNDs from countries all around the world from California to Japan and northern Europe- Belgium and Britain, to South Africa, and South America- Brazil and Peru. The Congregation includes many different cultures and languages. This was a very enriching learning experience of how others live as SNDs. One thing that is becoming increasingly clear is that our Congregation is turning upside down. The future of the Congregation founded in Belgium in 1804 is now moving south of the equator to Africa and South America where Notre Dame is young, energetic and zealous to spread the Good News of the Gospel in the Spirit of St. Julie.

COVID is teaching us-

A greater awareness, love and respect for all people and our planet.

Every restriction also provides an opportunity

We should value what we have and the goodness of those around us.

St. Julie's message to us today would be:

"Courage my daughter, courage, a great spirit with solid values!

That's what we need in our century.

A lively faith must make us conquer all kinds of difficulties."

*Sr. Jo Threlfall SND*

## **My Lockdown**

During the first week of lockdown I read two books. One of them was called "Lockdown" by Peter May. I started to read in the afternoon and didn't stop until next morning when I had finished it. I don't sleep well but I have never done this before. The second one was "The Second Sleep" by Robert Harris – an intriguing story of interest to anyone who wants to consider a future where computer technology has failed and the effect it could have on civilisation as we know it. Two books made all the more fascinating by the times we found ourselves in.

I then signed up to a local group who were going to provide scrubs for the NHS. There was a delay while they raised funds to purchase materials and I was contacted to see if I could sew some bonding squares for the neo-natal unit. Having duly produced 200 squares we were ready to sew scrubs. I can only say that if I ever go into hospital and I see neon orange or blue scrubs coming towards me, I will run a mile! I found myself working at 3.00 a.m. to meet the demands of the group and have vowed that I will never knowingly purchase goods from a sweatshop!

I have never been an online shopper but I very quickly became one. I can't speak highly enough of the food delivery people who, pushed to the limits with orders, always turned up with cheery words for solitary old ladies like me. There were times when they were the only contacts some people had during a week. I was a lucky one. I was fit and healthy and could go outside and my family all live locally and would take their exercise by bike. Many a happy ten minutes we

spent on my front drive before the cold or the wet drove them on their way – but I saw them. I have so many friends who didn't see their families for so long.

The problem with the first lockdown for me was only being able to go out once a day. I like to go for a half hour jog four or five mornings a week but only do it if it is the first thing I do, after that I can make up all sorts of excuses not to go. Having jogged for half an hour at 7.00 a.m. then made it an awfully long day without going out again! However, when things got a little better and the whole world got to taking a daily walk I met so many lovely people and got to know all about their families, their problems and how they were dealing with the pandemic. I don't necessarily know their names or where they live but I am so grateful for that personal contact in a difficult time.

Through all of this my family were all very fortunate. Too long a story for here but none of them lost their jobs, one grandson even got a much better job having completed an I.T. apprenticeship during lockdown. I know, however, how much that generation have lost out educationally, socially, financially and a future of helping to pay off a national debt, the like of which this country has never seen before. I had a discussion with a friend of many years who also has 5 grandchildren like me. I said that I felt so sorry for the younger generation and her response was they have a lifetime in front of them we don't. I hated lockdown. I have never felt so alone, frightened at times, frustrated and feeling so many emotions I don't even know how to describe, but I have had a good life, I feel I am leaving a good legacy

through my family and I would go through it all again, and not complain, if I could make the future better for my grandchildren.

I can't do that, however, so all I can do is leave the future, for everyone, in God's hands.

*Margaret Bradbury*

### A Visit to the Cinema

I wonder if anyone who was at Southwark in 1961 has any memory of this small incident.

In that year, The Trocadero cinema near the Elephant and Castle in London was showing the recently released film entitled 'Francis of Assisi'. I imagine that as the film was on a religious topic, the cinema management thought that there was a profit to be made by offering a matinée showing for the staff and pupils at the local convent school, Notre Dame Southwark.

I have no memory of paying for a ticket and I am sure that the school must have got a very good deal on a block booking. The management must have calculated that interval sales of ice-cream, soft drinks etc. would more than make up the shortfall.

At assembly, however, in the days running up to the outing, Sr. Magdalen the headmistress warned us that 'Young ladies did not eat or drink in public places' On the day, we all walked up to the Trocadero in twos and took our seats in the cinema. The film began and was quite good; I think we all enjoyed it. In any case, it was a rare break from lessons.

At the interval, however, the usherettes walked down the aisles with trays laden with ice-cream, lollies, chocolate, soft drinks and all sorts of goodies. Nobody moved. The usherettes all looked puzzled. Nothing was sold.

It wouldn't happen nowadays.

*Diane Donovan*

## What an Honour for a Southwark Association member

Housing Justice CEO Executive Kathy Mohan has received an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

The Honours were delayed from the usual June publication date to allow for people who had done exceptional work during the coronavirus pandemic to be added to the list.

Kathy became Housing Justice CEO in March 2017 following a career working with people in housing need and affected by homelessness in the Supported Housing sector.

Housing Justice was at the forefront to the response to COVID-19 among people affected by rough sleeping. It supported central government, local authorities and grassroots charities to decant approximately 1,000 people from winter night shelters in to self-contained accommodation under the government's *Everybody In* scheme. It is estimated that the decant of night shelters and the *Everybody In* scheme saved over 200 lives.

Bishop Rob Wickham, Bishop of Edmonton, Chair of Housing Justice said:

*"In recognising Kathy in this way, we recognise her vision and drive to make a difference to the lives of some of the most marginalised and vulnerable people in society and the benefit that has to us all. I know Kathy views this very much as an honour for all of the winter night shelters we work with and, more widely, faith groups involved in working with people affected by homelessness."*

Kathy Mohan, Chief Executive of Housing Justice said:

*"I'm honoured to receive this OBE, which I accept on behalf of all our team here at Housing Justice and the incredible night shelter charities, churches, faith groups and grassroots community groups we work with. This presents a brief moment in an unrelenting few months to take stock. But coming as it does on World Homeless Day and the same weekend as Homeless Sunday we are reminded but of the huge challenges ahead as we seek to support those affected by homelessness as a result of the pandemic."*

*Article taken from the Housing Justice website*

*<https://housingjustice.org.uk/news/2020/housing-justice-ceo-receives-obe-in-queens-birthday-honours>*



**RIP**  
**2020-2021**

**Direct Members**

Sheila Fuller (Eason)  
Pauline Ireland (Clayden)  
Eileen Shea

**Battersea**

Joy Laundry

**Northampton**

Janet Merriman (Cobby)  
Carolyn McLellan (Botterill)  
Pam Croy (Horwood)  
Mary Cheer (Millward)  
Jackie Williamson (Evans)

**Manchester**

Ann Astwood  
Sheila McKenna  
Pat Hallows  
Josie Nickson  
Mary Ready

***Southwark***

*Wanda Pratt (Kabat)*  
*Eve Walker*  
*Sheila Easton*  
*Paddy Garrad (O'Brien)*  
*Anne Byrne (McCarthy)*  
*Moira Metcalf*

***Sisters of Notre Dame***

*Sr. Veronica Bridget Flaherty SND*  
*Sr. Clare Mary Hughes SND*  
*Sr. Jean Mc Donough SND*  
*Sr. Margaret Howes SND*  
*Sr. Marie Gallagher SND*  
Sr. Anne Therese Doherty SND



**Sheila Winifred Fuller (nee Eason) RIP**  
**19 June 1936 - 24 January 2021**



My Mum, Sheila, was born in June 1936 in Sheffield and was the only child of Winnie and Bill Eason.

Mum attended St Marie's Primary School, then after passing her 11+ went onto Notre Dame High School on Cavendish Street, Sheffield.

After leaving school she worked for The British Council (both in Sheffield and Manchester) and various departments of The University of Sheffield (where she worked until her retirement).

She met my Dad, Michael, in 1956 and they subsequently married in 1967 with me, their daughter, Katherine, born two years later.

Mum was very happy whilst at Notre Dame School and continued to maintain these links through the Notre Dame Past Pupils Association both locally and nationally. She was President of the Sheffield Association and also held the position of Secretary to the National President when Joan

Duggan was President. More recently she was Secretary for the Direct Members.

She had attended the Annual Conference for as many years as I can remember. It was a very important weekend in her year and she enjoyed meeting everyone from the different associations, year after year and travelling to different areas of the country.

After my Dad died in 1995, Mum worked for another couple of years, then retired to look after her grand-daughter (my daughter) Rachael. She then spent the next 23 years looking after Rachael and her younger brother James after school and in the school holidays. She was very proud when they followed in her footsteps to attend Notre Dame High School in Sheffield.

Mum loved her holidays. As a child, many of her family holidays were spent in Bridlington and Scarborough. In her early adult years, before I was born, Mum was able to travel further afield. She travelled to places like Italy, Spain and Yugoslavia. Once I was born, family holidays were often spent caravanning in England, France and Germany.

Upon her retirement, Mum maintained her enjoyment of holidays. She spent a lot of these on walking holidays around the Mediterranean. She loved being on holiday and being in the sun. Over the past few years, Mum also shared holidays with friends, mainly in the UK.

Mum was still very active, driving and living in her own home, the home which my Mum and Dad bought on their marriage. She still loved her holidays and also enjoyed walking, particularly in the Peak District; being a member of the De La Salle Rambling Group. She also loved going to the theatre, cinema and regularly attending classical concerts at Sheffield's City Hall.

Mum was very sociable and made many friends along her life's journey; she still had many friends from every stage in her life; school, work, Church, holidays and many friends from BFNDA.

She had attended the same church all her married life; Our Lady of Beauchief & St Thomas of Canterbury Church in Sheffield where she was a Reader and also helped my children and me with 'welcoming'.

Her funeral took place at Our Lady of Beauchief & St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Church on Tuesday 23 February 2021 and she is buried in Abbey Lane Cemetery with my Gran, Grandad and my Dad.

She is survived by me, Katherine, her daughter and two grandchildren Rachael and James.

*Katherine Bluff*

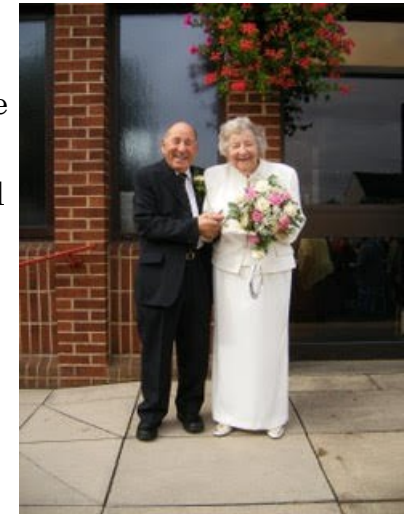
## Pauline Ireland nee Clayden RIP

Pauline became a member of Leeds Association when she left school. Her mother Irene was one of the founder members of the Association. They both became Direct Members when the Leeds Association closed. Pauline and her mother attended Federation meetings regularly. They came to the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee meeting at Liverpool Hope University when Pauline became President – the first Direct Member to do so. There is a photograph of Pauline and Irene at that meeting in the 75<sup>th</sup> Jubilee booklet.

When Pauline was President 2003 – 06 the first and third Federation meetings were held at Hinsley Hall and middle

one was at Swanwick Conference Centre - a venue that Pauline recommended having been there for Guide meetings. Several of the former Leeds members met regularly for lunch and Pauline also organized masses for the group. The group sent generous donations for the Charity.

Federation members were delighted when Pauline and Frank were married in September 2013, and settled happily in Pauline's home. Pauline was sacristan at her parish church for over 40 years. As a result, Pauline also served as sacristan for our Federation masses at Hinsley Hall – the annual Conferences and Council meetings.



Pauline died in March 2021 and sadly no one from the Federation was able to attend her funeral because of Covid restrictions.

May she Rest in Peace

*Veronica Miles*

*'Stone is shaped, wood is carved, cloth is cut and character must be formed'*

*St Julie Billiart*



## JOY LAUNDY RIP

20th October 1918 – 2nd October 2021

Joy was educated at the Notre Dame Convent in Battersea and admitted she was often in trouble because of her love of fun and inability to control her giggles. Despite this she achieved an excellent all-round education which was to stand her in good stead for the rest of her life. It was here that her love of the Catholic faith was nurtured, her inquisitive mind was cultivated and indeed her love of music, art, literature and nature was actively encouraged. She became an accomplished violinist and whilst in rehearsal with a youth orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, her claim to fame was when the famous conductor, Sir Malcolm Sargent, personally replaced her broken string!

In a world without television, the social life attached to the Church was much in demand, especially for a young teenage girl! It was through the affiliated Youth and Social club that Joy met the man of her dreams, Len Laundry.

The annual Pantomime was the highlight of the social calendar. It was fortunate for Len that Joy was not deterred by his first starring role as the back end of a cow, or even his promotion the following year to one of Cinderella's ugly sisters. Her love of pantomimes stayed with her the rest of her life. When taking her sons and subsequently her grandchildren to the Panto, she was embarrassingly vocal in her audience participation and laughed outrageously at the double entendres delivered by the Pantomime Dame.

Joy and Len were married on 21st September 1940 when Len was home on a short leave from the RAF during the 2nd World war. Even an untimely air raid could not disrupt the happy occasion. But it was a worrying time for the young bride particularly when a telegram arrived saying Len was 39 missing in action. Imagine her relief when 6 weeks later it was confirmed he was found alive and well.

Joy's faith was inherent and implicit, and underpinned her whole way of life. She involved herself with flower arranging, church cleaning, running jumble sales, singing in the choir, helping at Parish parties and numerous other tasks. Her and Len's immense dedication to the Church was recognised by Pope John Paul 2 who awarded each of them the prestigious Benemerenti medal.

They had a long and happy marriage, moving to the Sacred Heart Parish in 1979. They loved socialising, entertaining, dancing and generally having fun. Their quickstep and fox-trot would surely have scored a '10 from Len' on Strictly Come Dancing!

Joy's painting was her great passion. She was extremely skilled and worked in many different mediums and styles. She was an active member of the Society of Catholic Artists and local Worple Group and regularly exhibited her paintings both locally and in London. There will be many a home in Wimbledon where her artwork now hangs capturing a spring day on Wimbledon Common or an atmospheric sunset across the sea.

Sadly in 1989, shortly before their golden wedding anniversary and two days before her 71st birthday, Len suddenly

died. He was only 76. It was a terrible shock and massive loss for Joy but she was immensely strong and positive, and bravely took the advice of a close friend to accept every invitation that came her way. She signed up for pilgrimages to Rome and Assisi, Lisieux and Lourdes, and to the Holy Land.

Joy's sense of humour and sense of fun were legendary. Always in her element at the Christmas dinner table, no joke would go over her head and when the punchline came 40 (especially if a little risqué) she would go into hoots of laughter, so contagious it would often result in the whole table finding themselves crying with laughter. And if there was laughter in another room she would hastily go and see what she was missing!

She was thrifty, loved charity shops and sales, and was always super excited to find a bargain! But equally she was incredibly generous, both in spirit and in helping others whenever she could.

Joy was an extremely stylish lady. She loved fashion and had a fabulous artistic flair in the way she put together and wore her clothes. She loved her high heels and was so fed up when she eventually had to jettison them and wear 'sensible' shoes instead. You would never see her without her make-up and jewellery.

Joy had a great affection for one Saint in particular - St Theresa of Lisieux (the little flower). It was therefore fortunate and very appropriate that when the time came for her to move into a home at the age of 99, she was accepted by St Theresa's Home for the Elderly. She was so happy there. In-

deed, when she first moved in, it was her frequent refrain - 'It's so lovely here and it's amazing, it doesn't cost a penny', forgetting that the payment was coming out of her bank account! A few days before she died, a sister came in and asked if she would like her evening drink. "I'll have the usual G&T", Joy replied. The nun left in one direction. A nurse came in and asked her the same question. "I'll have a sherry, please", she said. The nurse left in another direction. Like a Brian Rix farce, the sister and nurse arrived back at the same time. Joy enjoyed both drinks!

I met Joy at a BOND reunion, my first. She immediately decided I could be the next president, the present one wishing to resign. When she also learned that I was an artist, she insisted I join the Society of Catholic Artists and 41 fast tracked me to being the Chairman. I enjoyed many committee meetings of which Joy was the Entertainments Officer. She provided a meal at meetings for as long as she could and everyone was greeted with their favourite tippie. In her mid 90s she turned up to one meeting just returned from a hospital appointment, having had two eye injections, doctor called away for an emergency before treatment, her spinal problem was causing pain and she had fallen and broken ribs just two days before. "Joy, you did not need to come!" I exclaimed. "My dear, I would not have missed it for the world", she replied. "Just don't make me laugh!" Impossible.

Joy loved her school, Notre Dame. She would often burst into the singing of her old school song, 'Hail to Thee Notre Dame', much to the amusement of Len and her sons. BOND was resumed after WW2 due to the efforts of one of the

teaching sisters and former pupils, Joy and two others, all then working. Addresses of former pupils were shared between them. They wrote to all, wrote again to those who did not reply. When asked to write again, they complained that homes might have been bombed, people might have moved. "Write again", was the reply. "A postman or neighbour might know where they have moved to". They wrote again, of course, in the true spirit of Notre Damians, St Julie and those who followed her.

**Mary Sibtain (Donaghey)**

### **Ann Astwood RIP**

Ann was a member of the Manchester Association for many years; she served on the committee for over 20 years. She was a great fund raiser for the Charity. She also served on the Executive Committee 3 times from 2003-06, 2006-09 then after a break from 2012-15 was the Appeals Secretary.

As her health deteriorated she spent long periods in hospital and rehabilitation before moving into a nursing home in Audenshaw in 2019. She spent the last few weeks of her life in Tameside Hospital.

Her Requiem Mass was at St Ann's, Ashton-u-Lyne, 20 November 2020. Margaret Dolan and I were able to attend as numbers were limited because of Covid restrictions.

May she Rest in Peace

*Veronica Miles*

### **Moira Teresa Metcalf R.I.P.**

**6<sup>th</sup> July 1929 – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

I first met Moira through the Southwark Notre Dame Association. Moira had not attended the Southwark School; she had been a boarder at Notre Dame Teignmouth from 1935 to 1938. Her aunt was a Notre Dame Sister, Sr. Rose Julie.

In 1938 she went to board at New Hall in Chelmsford run by the Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre and after finishing her schooling in La Chassotte in Switzerland, entered the Convent at New Hall. She undertook several roles including Procuratrix for the Community and the school as well as teaching religious instruction and having responsibility for boarders. She spent four years in Rome studying for a diploma in theology at the Regina Mundi Institute. She had a sabbatical in the Philippines with the Jesuit mission. Although she left the order in 1976, she maintained a cordial relationship with the Canonesses; in fact, she is buried in their cemetery.

After New Hall Moira worked in several schools: in charge of a house of boarders at Stamford Grammar School, as bursar at St. Aubyn's in Woodford and Careers Adviser and in charge of Sixth Form boarders at Woldingham School in Surrey. Her last job was managing the Augusta hotel in Folkestone, Kent.

After retirement in 1995, Moira did not rest on her laurels. She was involved in many activities. She was on the board of governors at the Cavendish School, including five years as

Chair. Linda Hayes, Head Teacher at the Cavendish during Moira's governorship has written a wonderful appreciation of Moira's life. Moira was an active parishioner of St. George's Cathedral Southwark and tutored priests from abroad to help them perfect their English. Moira was a Catholic Archivist and maintained a lifelong interest in theology. She also attended the nearby Morley College, studying Renaissance art and Italian. She was a keen member of the London Scrabble League, travelling around Britain for competitions. She was also a member of a theatre group. Moira was knowledgeable about a wealth of subjects and consequently was always good company and a great conversationalist.

Moira lived very close to the school in Southwark and thus joined the SNDA and was soon part of the committee, serving as Treasurer during some difficult times for the Association. Moira was always conscientious and helpful. At our annual St. Julie Day celebrations, she was always there running the Bring and Buy stall or selling raffle tickets. During my time as Southwark President, I always found in her a wise counsellor. Whatever she did, she did it well and with enthusiasm. Until her health began to fail, she was a regular attendee at Conference.

In her last few years, Moira suffered greatly from several ailments. Her eyesight, which had never been good was worsened by a fall. Later, she fell and broke her hip and despite sessions with a physiotherapist, never regained her mobility and became unable to manage the stairs to her flat unaided. She remained undaunted and never gave up trying.

Eventually she became bedbound and though I am sure that she endured great pain, I never heard her complain. On several occasions, she expressed concern for one of her carers who was leaving late in the evening and travelling home on the bus. Her sister Mélissa, who normally lives in France, came to help look after her during her final months. Moira died on St. Valentine's Day and was buried on St. Patrick's Day. May she rest in peace.

*Diane Donovan*

## Maire Patricia Quirk nee Gethin RIP

1934 – 2020



My mother was born in East Dulwich on 18<sup>th</sup> April 1934 and attended Notre Dame School in Southwark. She spoke very fondly of her school years. After her school certificate, Maire became a clerk in a drawing office then moved to the London Transport offices. Her love of technical drawing and art later blossomed into her hobby as an enthusiastic and talented amateur artist.

My mother met my father Michael at a catholic youth club in Peckham where they both enjoyed amateur dramatics. In March 1957 they married and a year later I was born. In 1960 my sister Angela was born, followed by my brother Kevin in 1963. The family home moved from London to Aylesford, Kent (the Friary there was our local church), then to Guildford, Surrey.

My mother stayed at home to look after her children until we were all at school, then trained as a primary school teacher. Maire went on to teach in primary schools around the Guildford area.

In 1999, now retired, my parents were able to move to Cornwall to be near my sister Angela, her Cornish husband and their three children. Maire had first visited Cornwall as a child during WW2 when her mother took her away from the bombs of London for a short stay in the relative safety of Polperro. My parents loved being surrounded by the family, new friends and the Cornish countryside. Sadly, after the death of my father in 2005 and my sister in 2010 it was no longer practical for my mother to stay in Cornwall so she came to live near myself and my husband in Southampton.

Throughout her life my mother loved creating designs. Whether it was art, gardening or baking she brought a flair to all she did. Maire designed and maintained at least three of her own gardens, delighting in adding new plants and colour each season. She also enjoyed baking and decorating multi-tier cakes for her daughters' weddings and numerous family birthdays and occasions. All the cakes were of a high professional standard and delicious.

Maire died of cancer in hospital in April 2020 after a short illness, but tragically it was during the Covid period when no visitors were allowed into hospital. I alone was able to visit for an hour the day before she died. We buried Maire in Cornwall where she rests with her husband and daughter. She is survived by her son Kevin and myself, as well as six grandchildren.

*Kathryn Wade*

## **Sr Marie Gallagher, SND RIP**

### **1938 –2021**

Marie Gallagher was born on the eighth of July 1938 and entered Notre Dame on the eighth of September 1958, taking the name 'Mary Loyola', in honour of her great aunt, also an SND, whom she admired. She was professed on the tenth of March 1961. She died in Parbold on the fifth of June 2021.

During those eighty two years she lived a very full and lively life. Everyone who met Marie was the richer for it. She was full of life, joy, creativity and a zest for living for God and for other people. Giving, learning, teaching, sharing, working impossibly hard: all these things typified Marie and were much appreciated by those she lived with and worked for. She loved life and had special gifts for music, singing, art, teaching, communicating and friendship. She was asked to write an account of her various ministries in 2011. She wrote, 'After having been given so much in my life the only response one could make was (and still is), 'How can I repay the Lord for all He has given to me?''



Sr Kathleen McGhee wrote of Marie, 'She was...a source of a lot of life, joy and fun for everyone around her.' Kathleen goes on, 'the joy and life were all the richer for her being extremely talented: not only was she clever, she was a gifted musician and artist. I associate Marie with colour, colour that was big, bold and daring.' Sr Annette Sullivan was a great friend from their first meeting in Mount Pleasant College days, sixty three years ago. Annette wrote, 'Marie was one of the kindest, sympathetic people I've ever known, always supporting the underdog, the excluded, the vulnerable, the poorest whether at work, in the classroom or convent or amongst her favourite down and-out men of Liverpool or working with youth groups...She was both an artist and a woman of passion and it was no surprise that red was her favourite colour.'

Marie's forte was giving retreats to young people and teaching Parish Workers. Sr Margaret Walsh remembers working with Marie in Liverpool and London and commented that the girls from Everton Valley 'continued to speak about Marie long after their retreat days.'

Marie's life was interrupted by several periods of serious illness and hospital treatment because of spinal problems. Each time she bounced back and returned to work,

May Marie now rejoice in Heaven

*Sister Kathleen Ashurst SND*

## News from the Irenaeus Project



Fr Chris Thomas  
Chaplain for the  
BFNDA

In last year's St Julie News I shared with you about the vision we had for the buildings we had been given the use of by the Archdiocese. I shared with you that the new centre will enable us to continue to offer, what is our core work, short courses on methods of prayer and the scriptures and spiritual accompaniment. What is really exciting is the opportunity the centre will give for new developments.

As I shared with you, Covid allowing, we hope that the centre will be open Monday to Friday from 10am – 4pm for people to access a prayer space in the wonderful sanctuary area of the Church. There will be a bookshop and a coffee drop in for those in the wider community. We hope that on two days of the week there will be some professional counsellors available to chat with people. We will also offer support for those living with dementia and their carers, those with mental health issues, particularly in the area of spirituality, and ex-prisoners who often find themselves alone when they are released from prison. Practical needs are also on our mind and our food pantry is ready to go as soon as we open as is our literacy group for those who finding reading and writing a trial. During the fallow time we have all had, our

volunteers have been busy putting together policies and making contacts so that we are ready to go as soon as we can

We have raised the money for the physical alterations of the buildings and we probably would have been open now if it hadn't been for the sudden failure of our boilers and the subsequent need to replace them. They are beyond repair! That has left us with another £40,000 to raise. Any donations will be gratefully received!

So the future is exciting and if you think you can help us in any way then call us on 01519491199 or email [chris@irenaeus.co.uk](mailto:chris@irenaeus.co.uk)



The more difficult  
the times are, the more  
we must expect and hope  
everything from the  
goodness of the good God.

*St. Julie*

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR  
*Making known God's goodness*

