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School children in Bethnal Green take part in the Telco Citizens Olympics rally. Photo: East London Advertiser

HEYTHROP JOINS LONDON CITIZENS

From Fr Dave Stewart SJ, College Chaplaincy Team

Community organising has come to Heythrop College University of London. Having been inspired by the involvement in TELCO of St Ignatius Parish in Stamford Hill (see below), the college, founded by the Society of Jesus in 1614 in Louvain, has become a fully-fledged affiliate organisation of West London Citizens (WLC), which is itself the newest branch of the Citizens-UK movement.

From its origins 15 years ago, this growing movement allows members of the local community, who are serious about making things better in their society, the opportunity to do so. It challenges ordinary people, including students, to imagine the change they

want to see and to take real local control of the agenda for change.

So many local communities and organisations that it's hard to keep count. Mosques, trade unions, churches, community and youth leaders, sixth forms and now, with Heythrop's affiliation, a university college. A local Borough Organiser is in post to help support and resource the smooth running of this coalition. They gather usually on a borough basis – West London Citizens covers several London boroughs and leaders come from the various member organisations and communities and

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St Ignatius Parish is a member of The East London Communities Organisation (TELCO), part of the London Citizens Organisation. It is a diverse alliance of active citizens and community leaders organising for change and committed to action for the common good. Launched in 1996, it consists of faith groups, schools, student organisations, union branches and charities across five East London boroughs. Together with South London and West London Citizens, their aim is to campaign for a more realistic living wage, better housing, safer streets and the rights of immigrants, and to make London a safer, fairer and better governed city. St Ignatius is also involved in setting up the North London Citizens Group.



CITIZENS UK

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meet to review progress and to share ideas for planning for the future. Campaigns and causes all originate from among the membership itself; they have included attempts to re-connect communities across neighbourhoods after this year's summer riots, and organising groups to clean up the streets physically, as well as meetings with the 2012 Olympic authorities to press for several guarantees for local people in Newham.

A major event in the life of the capital is the London Mayoral elections of May 2012. London Citizens is currently launching the "2012 Governance of London Campaign", aiming to develop a "Citizens' Agenda" for the mayoral candidates. Unlike the usual election hustings, it's the candidates who are to do the listening, not us: if they try to make political speeches during the meeting, they won't get far!

We want to participate in this Mayoral Listening campaign, and also to recruit at least 15 Heythrop people as delegates to the WLC Assembly on Tuesday 15 November, which will give us at least three votes in the meeting. The Annual General Meeting of London Citizens will be held in City Hall on Wednesday, 7 December.

Heythrop, as a college in the Jesuit tradition, seeks to encourage its members to become "Men and Women for Others". The Student Union and the Chaplaincy hope that our exciting new partnership with West London Citizens will provide us all with a great opportunity to do just that – and to bring about lasting change in this great city, change for the poorest, change for the better.

Adapted from The Lion, the Heythrop student newspaper



Guyana: The Church faces up to its Challenges

Adapted from a report by
Edwin Thadheu SJ/Gujjest

Several Jesuits were among the delegates for the Diocese of Georgetown Clergy Conference 2011 that took place at the beginning of this month. After a day of recollection and sharing guided by Sr Mary Ann Clifford RSM, the priests involved turned their attention to the state of the Catholic Church in Guyana, and in particular, the complex reality of people leaving the Church in the country.

Under the title 'The Hidden Exodus', Fr Joachim D'Mello SJ presented a comprehensive report on 'The Cause and Effect of the Emergence of Various Denominations in the interior districts of Guyana. Among the reasons identified for this trend were the pressures on priests' time which meant the other denominations were better equipped to serve the faithful economically, physically and spiritually, as well as a failure to use scripture more effectively. A passive liturgy and a lukewarm welcome were also viewed as contributory factors.

To deal with this challenge, it was suggested that the priests should form "lay units" who would visit the sick and carry out house visiting. Lively liturgy is to be encouraged in the parishes. And the introduction of Bible study and other activities, it was felt, would deepen people's knowledge of the Christian Faith.

One day during the Clergy Conference was dedicated to the issue of domestic violence, which includes psychological, physical, sexual and financial abuse, and also intimidation. In summing up the day, Bishop Francis Alleyne OSB said, "The Bible and the Catholic faith never encourage any form of subjugation or violence. Men and Women are created in the likeness and image of God and so there is no room for subjugation".

On the fourth day, Shaloakie Fernandes from the Guyana National Faith and HIV coalition addressed the clergy on 'Multi-faith, multicultural and collaborative approaches to HIV issues within communities'. She placed her emphasis on integrated preventive measures for AIDS and removing stigmas attached to patients.

After the input sessions, the participants entered into business sessions which included an update from the bishop on the current status of the diocese, the issue of permanent deacons and extraordinary ministers in the diocese, and the news that the Missionaries of the Institute of the Incarnate Word is to open a formation house in Hague to the west of Georgetown on 22 October.

The clergy conference 2011 came to an end with a Eucharist concelebrated by 24 priests of the Diocese of Georgetown, Guyana, in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Brickdam.



EAST MEETS WEST

Loyola Hall team follow in the steps of Matteo Ricci



Last year marked the fourth centenary of the death of Matteo Ricci, one of the great Jesuit pioneers of inculturation. For 30 years he worked to make the Christian faith understandable by, and acceptable to, the educated class of Chinese society. In July this year a team from Loyola Hall were able to continue something of this work.

Its director, Ruth Holgate, with team member, Vron Smith, and myself (the Jesuit novice master) travelled to the diocesan seminary in Beijing to offer a month-long intensive course in spiritual accompaniment. We went at the invitation of Eamonn O'Brien, a Columban priest who helps to build up the Chinese church by bringing in people from Europe and North America to offer appropriate training.

The course targeted priests and sisters responsible for religious and seminary formation. Fourteen took part, from across the country. All had previously studied to master's level in English-speaking institutions, so language didn't present too much of a problem. After a six-day retreat, there followed three weeks of theory, role-play, and

reflection on supervised experience of directing one another.

Discernment was the core skill being taught, the ability to recognise the signs of God at work in the experience of those being listened to, and helping them to become more aware of this work for themselves. Just as in Ricci's time, one key question this raised was how the Catholic church in China relates to the Christian community worldwide.

Both the team and the participants expressed their satisfaction with the course, and plans are already being made to see how it can be followed up, perhaps by inviting some to direct the full Spiritual Exercises. For the team, the trip scratched the surface of a culture which, if not quite as unknown in the West as it was in Ricci's day, still represents an intriguing challenge for the proclamation of the Christian gospel.

From Paul Nicholson SJ, pictured above with Ruth Holgate (left) and Vron Smith at the tomb of Matteo Ricci in Beijing.

Olympic Prayer Relay

In the countdown to the Olympic Games July 2012, a group of pupils from Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall and Stonyhurst College in Lancashire joined children from 210 other schools in the Salford Diocese to launch a Relay of Prayer.

The event, which was launched by the Bishop Terence Brain Salford via video link, was the first of many over the next nine months which will involve an Olympic Torch of Prayer being taken from school to school igniting prayer and interest in this coming international event. Bishop Brain emphasised the importance of young people in the Church using their gifts in sport for the greater glory of God.

Each school involved in the Prayer Relay will be twinned with a competing country and will offer up prayers for that particular country: Stonyhurst will link up with Comoros – islands in the Indian Ocean east of Africa. The aim of the relay is to mark the significance of the Olympic Games by looking at the links between religion and sport as well as celebrating their common ability to bring people together.

Pictured below are children from Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall with pupils from St Joseph's Primary, Hurst Green, who are also taking part in the Relay of Prayer. At the back of the group (centre) is the Deputy Head of Stonyhurst College and former Olympian, Andrew Gordon Brown, who competed in the South African rowing team in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.



Novices, Students and Two Royal Neighbours

In this year, and in this month of October, we are celebrating the 150th anniversaries of two great occasions in the British Province, which at that time was, in fact, the English Province. Brother James Hodgkinson SJ has been going through the archives to find out more.

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On 8 and 9 October 1861, the Jesuit noviceship moved from the Beaumont estate in Berkshire, where it had been for seven years, to Manresa House in Roehampton in South West London, where it stayed for the next 100 years. The actual contract was signed on 24 September 1861, and the first Mass was said on September 27, the Birthday of the Society. All the furnishings were transported from Beaumont, presumably by horse and cart. The novices came by boat to Kingston and then walked to Manresa House.

The house was originally called Bessborough Lodge. It was built in 1762 by Sir William Chambers while he was also engaged in laying out Kew Gardens. The Bishop of Southwark, Dr Thomas Grant, came and said Mass on the eve of the feast of St Stanislaus and welcomed the community to the Diocese.



A portrait donated by Queen Victoria to commemorate her visit to Beaumont College in March 1882



Beaumont College in 1907

Manresa House in Roehampton continued to flourish until the noviceship moved to Harlaxton in Lincolnshire in 1950. In addition to the work that the novices did, especially catechetics in most of the local parishes, it added a printing press, a farm and a private cemetery. Apart from being bombed during the Second World War, with one Scholastic killed, it was a great start for many in the Society.

When the novices moved to Manresa in 1861, it was decided Beaumont should become a college for boys; this took place as soon as the novices left. As the novices had taken all the furnishing to Manresa House, life at the start was rather hard. The first boy arrived on 22 October and the second on 28 October, and it took four months to get the numbers up to 18. This Catholic boarding school for boys, with the full title of St Stanislaus College, Beaumont, was a school with a strong Jesuit tradition. Originally, there were three Fathers, seven Scholastics (Jesuits in training) and nine Brothers on the staff. By 1901, the staff was comprised of headmaster, Fr John Lynch SJ, one other priest, three "clerks in minor orders" and a lay brother, eight servants and 23 schoolboys including one American, one Canadian, one Mexican and two Spaniards, one of whom was a Spanish royal prince.

The name Beaumont comes from one

of the titles of the Duke of Roxburgh, Marquis of Bowmont. When the property was purchased by the Society in 1853, all the negotiation had to be done through a third party. Being adjoining to Windsor Great Park it was not known what Queen Victoria would think of having Jesuits as neighbours. But later on, she visited the school, as did the present Queen in May 1961. The photo below shows her at St John's Beaumont in 2009, admiring the picture that commemorated her 1961 visit.



Beaumont College closed in 1965, but the annual old boys dinner is still held, 45 years after closure. Its prep school, St John's Beaumont, was opened in 1885; continuing the Jesuit tradition of educating boys from 4 to 13 years old to, in time, become "men for others".

THE MANVI MIRACLE

Wimbledon College's Project Manvi returned to India for the ninth year last July. Fifteen Sixth Form students from the college were joined by seven girls from the Ursuline High School and six teachers, as they travelled to Manvi in Karnataka state, one of the poorest rural areas in South India.



There they worked alongside locals to help complete a hostel for Sixth Form girls and the new PUC (Pre-University or Sixth Form College),

and to help the children at Xavier School, Manvi with their studies.

This year the trip took a slightly different direction with small groups also spending a week in the village of Pannur, where they helped with the construction of a kindergarten school, assisted children living in the hostel with their studies and also visited local villages with the Sisters who operate the clinic in Pannur. So impressed were the Sisters with the commitment of the group that two students hoping to study medicine were offered work experience placements in the clinic as preparation for their studies, if they wish to return.

“Since starting the partnership with Pannur Mission nine years ago the Project has grown from strength to strength,” says Sharon Wheatley of Wimbledon College. “The original 30 children that we



began work with in India has grown to 1,200; students range in age from 3—17. Some of the students have achieved examination grades commensurate with those in some of the most elite schools in India. Before they joined the school, the children were looking after the goats or the buffalo; or they worked in the fields or as bonded labour.”

Next year, which will be Project Manvi's tenth year, it is hoped that a first small group from Manvi will come on exchange to Wimbledon College; 2012 will also see some students from Karnataka go on to graduate studies. “It's not normal,” says Sharon Wheatley. “It's a miracle!”

ANIMAL FACTS AT HODDER HOUSE

The children of Hodder House, the prep at Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall at Hurst Green, Lancashire, celebrated the feast day of their patron saint Francis of Assisi earlier this month, by finding out about his special friends – animals. All the children brought in a toy animal and were set a task to discover some facts about whichever animal they chose.

The children loved sharing the animal facts they had learnt, discovering, for example, that hippos can open their mouths really wide and have their babies under water, and that bears are omnivores. They also discovered where their animals come from. For instance, Jim found out that pandas come from China and eat bamboo, while Oliver's Dalmatian dog originated from Croatia:

“When it is born, it is born just white,” he added. Jasmine discovered facts about reindeers: that they are good swimmers and can run very fast. And Gabriella decided that camels could have one or two humps which contain fat.

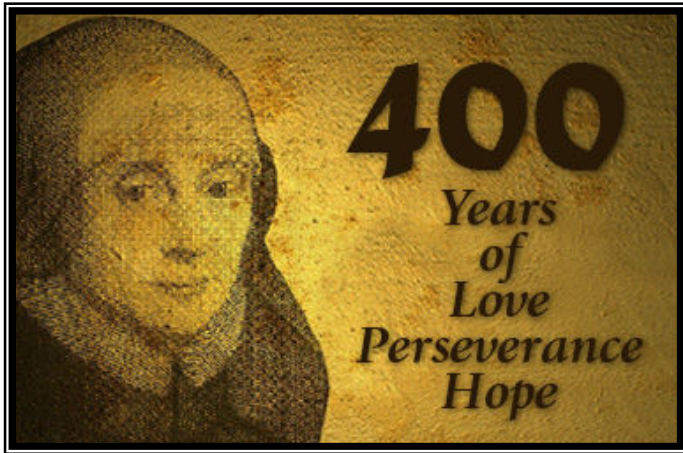
Fr Peter Wilcox, the school's chaplain, visited to tell the children all about St Francis of Assisi and the children learnt St Francis' famous prayer, ‘Make me a channel of your



peace’. After a special lunch the children completed their celebrations with a special cake!



“Women in time will do much”



A one-hour documentary made by TV production company, New Decade, based in Dublin, Ireland, about a 17th century woman who established a religious order based on Jesuit principles, has been made available on DVD. It tells the story of Mary Ward (1585-1645), known in her day as 'that incomparable woman' - through the lens of the 21st century.

Mary Ward was a divinely inspired advocate of a radical new way of religious life for women, based on the apostolic model first set out by St Ignatius Loyola in the 16th century. She offered an audacious vision of what women could and would do in religious life and pioneered a system of education which prepared them for a role in the service of the

Church and society which was not confined to the cloister or marriage.

Mary Ward: Dangerous Visionary is the story of a woman who remained, despite all her trials and the shabby treatment meted out

to her, a loyal servant of the Church. Many hope and pray that one day she will finally be recognised as the saint her followers and friends knew her to be.

The documentary is directed by Ciaran O'Connor of New Decade and produced by Sarah Mac Donald. It tells the story of the religious pioneer through re-enactments of seminal moments in her life and historical commentary. It focuses on two projects where Mary Ward's Sisters are working today 400 years after she founded her first Institute in 1609, the same year that Ignatius of Loyola was beatified.

Like the Jesuits, availability was an attribute which Mary Ward saw as essential for her members and so she wished them to be free of a vow of stability.

While education has traditionally been central to her Sisters' work, she herself wanted her members to respond to the needs of the times. Their ministry, she wrote, would be 'care of the faith and other works congruous to the times'.

The documentary incorporates visually arresting images from locations in Southern Sudan and Canada in a gritty format which challenges viewers on issues such as educational discrimination and the marginalisation of the mentally ill and homeless. Footage from the Bar Convent in York, the English city which was so central to Mary Ward's life, is juxtaposed with aspects of her story in the 21st century work done by her Institute.

To order the DVD of this production, go to www.marywarddocumentary.com or e-mail: info@marywarddocumentary.com

'I hope in God it will be seen that women in time to come will do much' - Mary Ward (1617)

RUGBY EXCELLENCE

Mount St Mary's College were the outright winners when they welcomed a team from South America and a boarding school from Yorkshire for the triangular rugby tournament played in the school grounds in Derbyshire.

St John Conception from Chile were on a tour of England and Ireland, and joined Read School from Drax in Yorkshire for the sporting contest. Mount St Mary's recorded a 50 - 0 victory over the British team before beating St John Conception 21 - 0.

Meanwhile, the Under-16s rugby team from Stonyhurst College played its way to victory in the annual St Ambrose College Peter Whiting Memorial Tens Tournament. In a thrilling semi-final, it maintained its composure in the face of an early lead by Wilmslow, eventually winning 22-12 to put them into the final against St Ambrose College, Altrincham.



In the final, Stonyhurst exerted defensive

pressure on their hosts, and achieved a convincing 19-0 score line.

Equipping students to face life's challenges

Boarding schools praised for their quality, care and dedication

Boarding has become increasingly popular in recent years and is particularly attractive to Sixth Form pupils before they move on to university, according to the headmaster at Mount St Mary's College in Derbyshire.

His comments followed a glowing report by government inspectors, in which the school's boarding provision was praised for its high quality and management. Ofsted inspectors highlighted the care and support pupils receive from a dedicated team of staff who are continually striving to further improve the boarding experience. Overall, the Jesuit school, which has more than 60 full time boarders, was rated as 'good' with some 'outstanding practices'.

Headmaster, Laurence McKell, said: "Boarding is at the heart of life at Mount St Mary's so we are delighted to receive such a positive report from Ofsted inspectors. Our aim is to create a home from home family atmosphere amongst our boarding community. The safety and welfare of pupils is paramount and we encourage good routines and positive relationships.

"This fantastic report is a testament to the boarding staff who work so hard to make life at school so enriching for pupils ensuring they leave ready to face whatever challenges may lie ahead."

Full, weekly and occasional flexi boarders are accommodated in Hopkins House, for girls, and Loyola, for boys, which have furnished shared and single rooms with en-suite facilities, a desk and study space and wi-fi. All year groups have a common room and kitchen area as well as access to a medical centre, sporting and gym facilities and opportunities for social and leisure activities in the evenings and at weekends.

All day pupils are offered a night boarding each term to experience every part of school life.

"In the last few years, the popularity of boarding has increased significantly and sixth form boarding is particularly attractive to pupils as a



Boarding at the Mount offers company as well as privacy

halfway house before university. The combination of private and shared space means pupils have time to themselves," said Mr McKell. "But they can also develop many key life skills such as confidence, independence, self motivation and responsibility within a safe and friendly environment."

The Ofsted inspection follows a report by the Independent School's Council earlier this year which rated many areas of school life at Mount St Mary's as 'outstanding' and 'excellent', terms that were also applied to its preparatory school, Barlborough Hall, by an Independent School's Council Interim report.

MEAT-FREE FRIDAYS IN JESUIT SCHOOLS



Following the decision of the Bishops of England and Wales to restore the Catholic tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays as an act of penance, Jesuit schools have introduced new menus for the end of the week.

Among them are Mount St Mary's College, and its preparatory school, Barlborough Hall, in Derbyshire.

Ms Wanda Parkinson, head teacher at Barlborough Hall School, explained: "Spiritual life is at the heart of both schools and introducing the 'Fish on Fridays' tradition is just one of the

ways we are bringing faith into the daily lives of pupils. Meat will be an option on the school menu throughout the rest of the week, but all the pupils are enjoying 'Fish Friday' already!"

Egg and vegetable-based meals may also be a culinary option.

Father Simon Ellis, the schools' new director of chaplaincy, said: "It's been good for the Mount and Barlborough Hall, as Catholic schools, to embrace the tradition of refraining from meat on Fridays, given that it is an important day of devotion, together with Sundays."



2012 Prayer Guide Training in South Africa

The Jesuit Institute South Africa will be offering Prayer Guide Training at Trinity Methodist Church, Linden, Johannesburg throughout 2012.

Over 22 Thursday evenings, the course will be spread over four modules. The course will introduce students to several ways of praying, traditional and contemporary. It will explore how they can share these methods of prayer during supervised work with groups and individuals with whom they will be praying. Sensitive ethical aspects of the ministry of prayer guiding are also covered.

Each session will last for two hours, starting at 6:30pm. For more information, visit their web site: www.jesuitinstitute.org.za

Exploring Jesuit Life

Are you curious about Jesuit life and want to find out more? Or maybe you are beginning to wonder whether or not you might have a vocation to the Jesuits. In either case, you are invited to a weekend to explore Jesuit Life at Loyola Hall on Merseyside from 11—13 November.

The weekend will offer both a wealth of information and, more importantly, a feel for what the Jesuits have inherited through the life of St Ignatius Loyola and what they seek to contribute to the life of the Church and to the world. It will begin on the Friday evening with Mass and will include an introduction to the life of St Ignatius, a look at the characteristic Jesuit ways of proceeding that arise out of his life and experience, praying through imaginative contemplation and some reflections on the particular mission of the Jesuits in the Church today.

For further information and to book, please contact Fr Matthew Power SJ by phone: 0151 426 4137 or e-mail matthew.power@jesuits.net

'It's still ME, Lord'

Following last year's successful workshop on understanding and working with dementia in religious communities, the Caritas Social Action Network will be running an overnight residential on 28 and 29 November at the Domus Mariae Conference Centre in Chigwell, Essex. For more information, contact Christopher Driscoll, Membership Co-ordinator, by Friday 11 November. E-mail: chris.driscoll@cbcew.org.uk; or phone: 0207 901 4877.

The parish priests from the five London Jesuit parishes - Wimbledon, Stamford Hill, Southall, Farm Street and Walm Lane Polish church - are planning a one day conference on Saturday November 19 in Euston. This is a follow-up to last year's successful Jesuit Parishes Conference and they will be using the Living and Working course model as a template. Now that the Polish Jesuit church in Walm Lane has become a responsibility of the British Province (see *SJ* issue 50), this will be the first opportunity for them to be fully involved in such an event.

Please remember in your prayers our sick, including Fr Anthony Meredith SJ, Fr Aloysius Church SJ, Fr Hilary Thomas SJ, Fr Dean Brackley SJ; also Andrew Cameron Mowat's stepmother, Pat and Bishop Crispian Hollis (OS).

And all who have died recently, including Philip Twist, brother of Fr John Twist SJ, and former members of the province: Rick Murphy who graduated from Heythrop in about 1977 and, on leaving the Society, went on to become a highly regarded professor at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Ma; and Sean O'Sullivan, who was a scholastic between 1957 and 1970.

May they rest in peace

PROVINCE EVENTS

OCTOBER 2011

13—19: Meeting of Provinces of the Western European Assistency at Czestochowa

28/29: Trustees and Consultors

NOVEMBER 2011

5: Fr Simon Bishop SJ, Final Vows, Oxford University Chaplaincy and Campion Hall

7—11: Heythrop College Michaelmas Reading Week

19: London Parishes Day Conference, Euston, London

25/26: Trustees and Consultors

DECEMBER 2011 and into 2012

2: Ignatian Family meeting

3: Feast of St Francis Xavier. Celebrations at SFX Church Liverpool: Mass with Provincial, followed by discussion with Frank Cottrell Boyce and refreshments.

19: Consult

20: Christmas Concert, Farm Street Church, London W1

29 December—3 January 2012: Province Congregation, Loyola Hall

PROVINCIAL'S VISITATIONS

October 24—26: Loyola Hall

November 1—3: Favre House, Wimbledon

November 15—18: Stamford Hill

November 22 & 23: Wapping

December 6—9: Glasgow

December 13—16: Birmingham