

CBS

March 2007 - May 2007

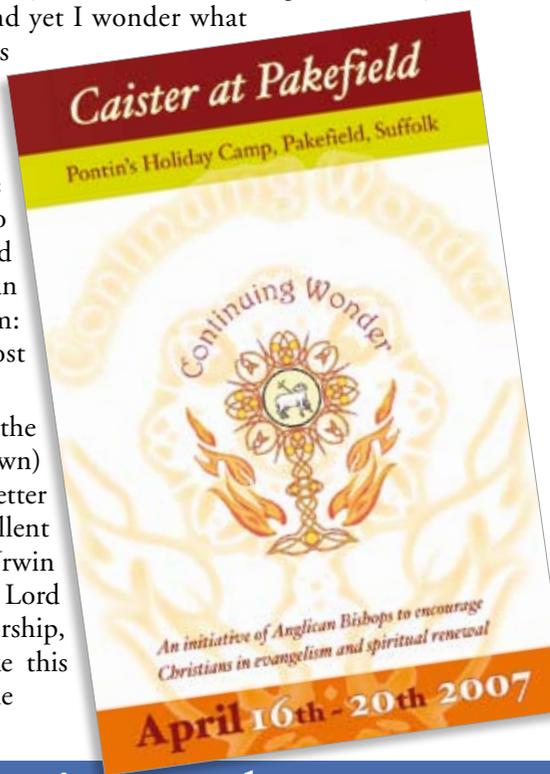
QUARTERLY

The Superior-General writes...

Spiritual Recharge

We are the oldest devotional society in the Church of England—it says so on most of our literature. And yet I wonder what most people's first thought is when they think of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament? My guess is, that we make grants; that we fund big events; that we are 'well off'. One of my hopes during my tenure as Superior-General is to restore that all important first love, indeed the very reason for our creation as human beings, to worship God and to adore him: that we may be known, first and foremost as a devotional society.

It is with joy that we are supporting again the Caister at Pakefield (as it has become known) Retreat. It might be a different and better location, but once again there are excellent speakers—and of course Bishop Lindsay Urwin brings his own charism, with a love for the Lord and the Gospel that is infectious. The worship, the social activity, the study groups make this Retreat a very special event in the life of the



THE SUPERIOR GENERAL WRITES

Church, equipping us for the work of Mission and proclaiming the Gospel in our daily lives. But best of all, the retreat will have at its very heart—at the middle of the day—an hour of silent devotion before the Blessed Sacrament. What could be more fabulous than that?

Events like this are all-so-important, not only for our devotional life, but also for equipping us for life: a kind of recharging the batteries. One might even say that that is the 'real' life from which we go back to a fantasy of daily living. It also helps us to realise that we are not alone. It is tremendously moving to be united in prayer and praise with so many people for that Holy Hour, so I encourage you to sign up for the Retreat and share that experience. Praying before the Blessed Sacrament in a Holy Hour alone might seem different, but in truth of course, we are never alone: at every moment of the day or night, there is a Mass and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament going on somewhere in the world. Somehow being together makes us realise that when we are alone, we are not in fact alone! You should have received a mailing about the Retreat, which is during Low Week 16-20 April 2007. Telephone **01403 211139** if you have not received the mailing, and remember that CBS half-bursaries are available.

One of things that Caister at Pakefield should encourage us to do is to take that devotional activity to our own churches. Why not prepare for the Retreat by spending some time (maybe working up to an hour) before the Blessed Sacrament; form a devotional cell that meets at a

mutually convenient time each week if you don't have a CBS Ward; or even better, form a Ward of the CBS. My hope for the Confraternity to be known as first and foremost a devotional society can only be achieved with your help. We must be more than a people who wear our badges because we have paid our subscriptions!

In a few years we will be celebrating the 150th anniversary the CBS. I have a dream that can be realised only if every member takes part: that on that anniversary day we should celebrate and give thanks by having the Blessed Sacrament exposed for at least an hour, or better still the whole day, in every Ward. Can you imagine what an effect that would have on our Church and on our world? The big events are important, but so are the smaller life-converting experiences. We have lots of time to prepare for that, and prepare we must. So, I also encourage you to be regular in your attendance at Ward meetings; help and encourage others to be faithful – ideas are always available; ask your priests to expose the Blessed Sacrament in addition to celebrating Mass daily; and encourage others to join the CBS. (Fr Lawson, our Secretary General, has some leaflets which are available both for information about the CBS and membership.)

Our Festival this year, on **9 June** at St Alban's Holborn, will also include a time for devotion. I will write more about this next time, but put the date in your diary and dust down your CBS or Blessed Sacrament banner.

The other hope I have is that we

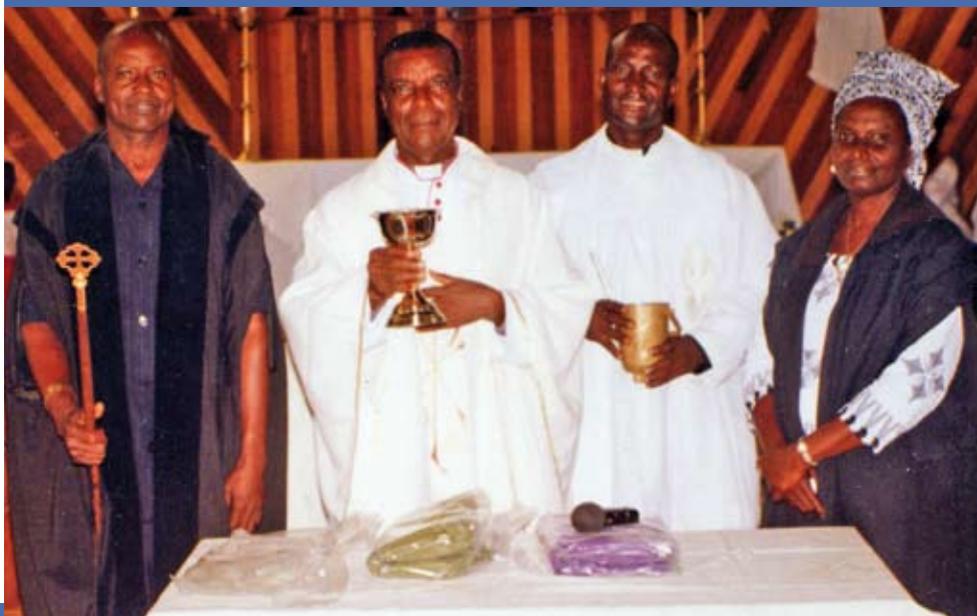
will continue as a Catholic Society which has something to offer to the world. The Gospel is as relevant today as it has ever been—especially now, as some sociologists see the unwinding of Western Civilisation! So as well as being a devotional society, I hope we will continue to be a contemporary devotional society – one which has a message and a challenge to the wider Church and the world; willing and able to tackle misconceptions and to offer people a better way. To be taken seriously, and to be effective in mission, we cannot retreat into a self-indulgent cul-de-sac of ecclesiastical nostalgia. We have lost our way if we are

considered to be an historical or literary association which makes grants! What is your first thought of the CBS—and more importantly what should it be?

Fr Allan Buik, one of our Trustees and District Superior for Lichfield Diocese, has recently been appointed Guild of All Souls chantry priest at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. In addition to this retirement post(!) he will be the parish priest at Hempton and help at the Shrine. We offer him congratulations and the assurance of our prayers.

*Fr Christopher Pearson SSC
Superior-General*

CBS vessels and vestments are welcomed at S Andrew's, Akim Oda, Ghana.



VESTMENTS FOR CONCELEBRATION

CBS has 20 sets of vestments in white, red and purple that can be borrowed for a fee of £1 per vestment. Applications for their use must be made to the Superior-General. The vestments are kept in South London, and must be collected and returned there by the borrower.

'HIS BLOOD BE UPON US'

Those words, from a famous hymn, took on a new and deeper significance for me a couple of years ago when I first saw Mel Gibson's film *The Passion of the Christ*. Until then I probably had something of an 'antiseptic' view of Our Lord's Passion; but no one who has seen the film can be left in any doubt as to what a horrendous, cruel and bloody event our Lord's Passion actually must have been.

As Our Lord is arrested, tortured, tried and executed, his blood flows from the wounds of his scourging and piercing. Those around are splattered with the blood of the Lamb of God who is sacrificed for us in this supreme act of love. Just as the blood of the Passover Lamb was smeared on the doorways of God's chosen people so, in the Passion, those who abuse and kill Jesus are marked with his blood that they might live.

S Matthew tells us that those present outside Pilate's house shouted, to a man, 'His blood be on us and on our children'. After much protest, that statement was deleted from the sub-titles in Gibson's film. Such an omission is understandable given the deplorable anti-semitic way in which those words have at times been misused. There have been appalling assertions that in those words the Jewish people call down upon themselves a curse which extends through history. However, such interpretations cannot stand up to scrutiny.

In his Revelation, John is shown a great multitude of people in Heaven and he is told 'they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the

*Glory be to Jesus,
Who, in bitter pains,
Poured for me the life-blood
From his sacred veins.*

Lamb' (Rev 7:14). These are the people who have suffered for their faith and who are redeemed by Jesus' precious blood. That redemption extends to all men and women

who plead the sacrifice of Jesus and place their hope and trust in him. Jesus dies to save the sinful, to show the extent of God's love to all who have rejected it and to gain for us eternal life. If the guilt for Christ's death is restricted to the Jewish people then salvation must, logically, be restricted in the same way. This is simply not the case. All humanity is guilty and all of humanity is offered salvation. Indeed, the words 'His blood be on us' must be spoken by the crowd not as 'Jews' but as representatives of humankind. They are not a curse but a blessing, and this Lent they should be our heart-felt prayer.

As members of CBS we are committed to worshipping Jesus in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. In the Mass we enter into the one, perfect, sacrifice of Jesus and we receive, in communion, his Body and Blood. That same blood splattered on the people at his Passion is given to us as the cup of salvation. The Lord bestows on his holy people all the benefits of his Passion and raises us, with him, to the glory of Heaven.

This Lent, let us make a renewed effort to place the Mass at the centre of our lives; to cherish this great sacrament; and to give thanks for our redemption and for God's divine mercy revealed most fully in the bloody death and glorious resurrection of Christ.

*Fr David Waller SSC
CBS Trustee*

*Lift ye then your voices;
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious Blood.*

RECENT GRANTS

Cowbridge (Llandaff), S Mary the Virgin (Canon Derek Belcher): *Vestments*

Owthorne (York), S Matthew (Fr Stephen Cope): *Ciborium*

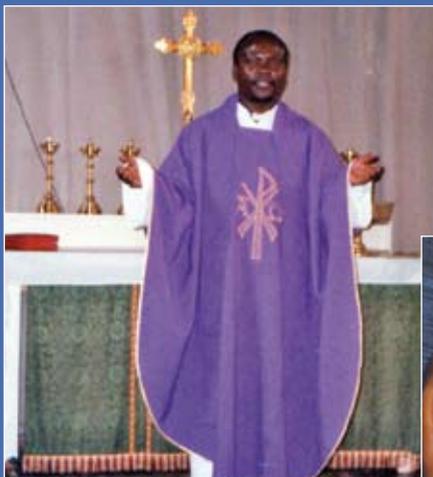
Gokwe South (Zimbabwe), Convent of the Chita che Zvipo Zve Moto

(Community of the Gifts of the Holy Fire) (Sr Phoebe CZM): *Tabernacle and ciborium*

Maidstone (Canterbury), S Michael & All Angels (Fr Paul Gibbons): *Altar bread cutting machine*

The Trustees also approved financial grants towards the costs of:

- The Bishop of Richborough's visit to Ho Diocese, Ghana in February 2007 for a teaching seminar on the Eucharist
- The Bishop of Edmonton's 'Living the Eucharist in the City' Conference for at Walsingham in February 2008



Rev'd Friar Joshua CZM celebrates in Zimbabwe.



Sister Phoebe and Sister Gladys CZM in Zimbabwe with another vestment granted by the Confraternity.

NEWS FROM THE WARDS

Revived Ward

Leytonstone, The Epiphany

Superior: Fr Robert Page

New Priests Associate

Fr Nigel Zimmerman

Fr Richard Oakley

Mr Matthew Peat

Fr John Bannister

Fr William Andrew McCafferty

Fr John Mark David Hughes

Fr Jonathan Olanczuk

Fr Nicholas Spicer

THE OBJECTS

The Confraternity exists for the advancement of the catholic faith in the Anglican Tradition and in particular to promote:

- ✚ The honour due to Jesus Christ our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament of his Body and
- ✚ prayer for one another at the Eucharist,
- ✚ careful preparation for and reception of Holy Communion, including the Eucharistic fast,
- ✚ the reverent and dignified celebration of the Eucharist and the reservation and veneration of the Blessed Sacrament,
- ✚ the continuance of the catholic priesthood, and
- ✚ catholic theological teaching, learning and development.

THE RULES

- ✚ To take part in the celebration of the Eucharist on all Sundays, greater festivals and holy days whenever possible;
- ✚ To promote the reverent celebration of the Eucharist as the Church's daily offering;
- ✚ To make special intercessions as set out in the Intercessions Paper.

THE OFFICERS

Superior-General:

The Reverend Christopher Pearson
37 St Agnes Place, London, SE11 4BB

Treasurer-General:

The Reverend Canon Alan Cross, S Barnabas Vicarage,
127 Snakes Lane East, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 7HX

Secretary-General:

The Reverend Canon Lawson Nagel, Aldwick Vicarage,
25 Gossamer Lane, Bognor Regis, West Sussex PO21 3AT

Please send to the Secretary-General: completed application forms, Gift Aid forms, subscriptions, changes of address, changes in ward officers, names of recently departed Associates.

Associates may obtain CBS Medals (£2), Manuals (£2), Constitutions (£2) and Lapel Badges (£2) from the Secretary-General. Payment includes postage and must accompany order.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Perhaps you would like to contribute to the publication with news of events or articles relating to what is happening in your Ward? We welcome photographs of any recent CBS related activities - please send all information to the Secretary General at the address on the previous page.

Material for the next edition must be received by 15 April 2007

DAILY CONFRATERNITY PRAYER

Almighty God, look, we pray, on the face of your beloved Son, and for the sake of his merits mercifully hear the prayers which throughout our Confraternity we continually offer to you; and grant us unity, a true faith, and a life agreeable to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MARCH

- 1 S David – *The Church in Wales*
- 2 The Ward of Our Lady & Corpus Christi, Cambridge
- 3 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 4 **LENT 2**
That we may listen to God's beloved Son
- 5 The Ward of S Edmund, Downham Market
- 6 The Ward of S Mary, Great Yarmouth
- 7 The Additional Curates Society
- 8 The Ward of Our Lady, Walsingham
- 9 The Ward of SS Peter & Paul, Uppingham
- 10 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 11 **LENT 3**
That we may share the Lord's compassionate love
- 12 The Ward of S Clement, Exeter
- 13 The Ward of S Michael, Paignton
- 14 The Catholic League
- 15 The Ward of S Peter, Plymouth
- 16 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 17 S Patrick – *The Church of Ireland*
- 18 **LENT 4**
That we may rejoice in God's welcome to sinners
- 19 S Joseph – *husbands and fathers*
- 20 The Ward of S Margaret-Mary Alacoque, Cheltenham
- 21 The Church Union
- 22 The Ward of the Little Flower, Longton
- 23 The Ward of Our Lady & S Andrew, Newcastle under Lyme
- 24 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 25 **LENT 5**
Thanks to God for sins forgiven
- 26 **THE ANNUNCIATION –**
Thanks for God's promise fulfilled
- 27 The Ward of SS Mary & Dominic, Wednesbury
- 28 Fr Chris Pearson, our Superior-General
- 29 The Ward of the Holy Grail, Wolverhampton
- 30 The Ward of the Sacred Heart, Lincoln Diocese
- 31 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*

APRIL

- 1 **PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION**
Strength to follow the Way of the Cross
- 2 Monday in Holy Week
Confessors and spiritual directors
- 3 Tuesday in Holy Week
Grace to make a good Confession
- 4 Wednesday in Holy Week
The Society of the Holy Cross (SSC)
- 5 **MAUNDY THURSDAY**
Thanksgiving for the institution of the Blessed Sacrament
- 6 **GOOD FRIDAY**
Thanksgiving for our Redemption
- 7 **EASTER EVE**
The Guild of All Souls and all the Faithful Departed
- 8 **EASTER DAY - Thanksgiving for the Resurrection**
- 9 The Ward of S Magnus, City of London
- 10 The Ward of S Cedd & The Saints of Essex, Colchester
- 11 The Ward of The Sacred Heart with S Andrew, East Finchley
- 12 The Federation of Catholic Priests
- 13 The Alexander Mackonochie Ward, Holborn
- 14 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 15 **EASTER 2 - The happiness of those who believe**
- 16 The Caister at Pakefield Retreat
- 17 The Corpus Christi Ward, Kenton
- 18 The Ward of Our Lady & S George, Winchmore Hill
- 19 The Ward of S Giles, Reading
- 20 The Love of Jesus Ward, Wantage
- 21 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 22 **EASTER 3**
That we may proclaim the Risen Christ as Lord
- 23 **S GEORGE – The Church of England**
- 24 The Ward of S Francis, Derby
- 25 S Mark - *Evangelists*
- 26 Fr Alan Cross, our Treasurer-General
- 27 The Ward of S Laurence, Long Easton
- 28 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 29 **EASTER 4**
That we may know the care of the Good Shepherd
- 30 Fr Lawson Nagel, our Secretary-General

INTERCESSIONS

MAY

- 1 SS Philip & James – *Bishops*
- 2 S Athanasius – *Forward in Faith*
- 3 The Ward of All Saints, Collingham
- 4 The English Martyrs – *The Anglican/Roman Catholic International Commission (ARCIC)*
- 5 My Ward – *its Superior and Members*
- 6 **EASTER 5**
That we may be made new in Christ
- 7 The Ward of the Holy Cross, Nottingham
- 8 The American CBS
- 9 The Ward of S Martin, Salisbury
- 10 The CBS Council-General
- 11 The Ward of S Michael, Croydon
- 12 My Ward - *its Superior and Members*
- 13 **EASTER 6**
That we may share God's Spirit of love for the world
- 14 S Matthias – *All whom God chooses*
- 15 The Ward of S Agnes, Kennington
- 16 The CBS Trustees
- 17 **THE ASCENSION**
That we may reign with Christ
- 18 The Corpus & Sanguis Christi Ward, Plumstead
- 19 My Ward - *its Superior and Members*
- 20 **EASTER 7**
That all may be one in Christ
- 21 The Ward of S Peter, Streatham
- 22 The Ward of The Sacred Heart, Bude
- 23 Isolated Associates on the Secretary-General's List
- 24 S Bede – *Church historians*
- 25 The Ward of the Annunciation, Truro
- 26 My Ward - *its Superior and Members*
- 27 **PENTECOST**
Thanksgiving for the Gift of the Holy Spirit
- 28 My parish and its priest(s)
- 29 The Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary
- 30 The Ward of S Martin, Roath
- 31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary –
The Society of Mary



R.I.P.

We commend to God the souls of all Departed Associates of the Confraternity, especially the following who have died recently:

Clergy

- † Raymond Piggott
- † Kenneth William Wright

Laity

- † Gladys Ward
- † Daphne Bulwer
- † Philip Saunders
- † Barbara Saunders
- † Christine Drummond-Hall