

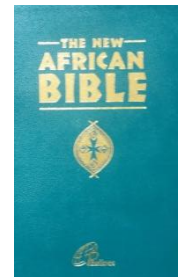
Manchester's Magnificent Moments

In the many months of 2016 Manchester members have manifestly availed themselves of multiple occasions of blessing and spiritual renewal. We do not remember days but moments such as those captured in the following photographs.



Our Lady of Schoenstatt (20 Feb 2016)

This Shrine of Our Lady of Schoenstatt houses one of the Holy Doors of Mercy designated by Bishop John Arnold of Salford Diocese of Manchester as instructed by Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Poignant it is, therefore, that members of the City's Zimbabwe Catholic Community held their 2016 Day of Recollection here last February. Many avenues of grace were explored and discussed under the spiritual direction of Fr David Musgrave (whose insight for our particular needs is deep due to the fact that he grew up in Lesotho and spent most of his priestly life in South Africa). He also enriched us by raising our awareness of the Pilgrim Mother circle of prayer and pertinent Scriptural perspectives expounded in the New African Bible.



Our Lady of Walsingham (25-26 June 2016)

Every year the North Manchester Walsingham Association organises a two-day-one-night pilgrimage with a Half-Way prayer stop at the Holy Trinity Church in Newark where penitential opportunities are available and Holy Mass is celebrated (including anointing of the sick). Members of the Zimbabwe Catholic Community integrated with their local Parishes and participated in pilgrimages such as this one to Walsingham in June 2016.



In the Footsteps of Jesus (18 June 2016)

The Bishop of Rome is the successor of St. Peter. This confers on the City the special symbolism of Christian faith that has fostered countless martyrs and attracted millions of prayerful pilgrims from all over the world for two millennia. It is inconceivable for the pious powerhouse of Manchester to be devoid of roadways and airways that lead to the Vatican and her environs. Thus a unison of Guild members (St Anne, St Joachim, St Joseph) pooled resources to visit the Country and City of residence of our Pope, the Vicar of Christ.



This **Basilica of St. John Lateran** is the cathedral church of Rome and as such she houses the *Cathedra* (ecclesiastical seat) of the Pope. In this Church our Manchester Catholics paid homage and were privileged to walk where Jesus walked during the gruelling Passion: the *Scala Sancta* (*Holy Stairs*) – a flight of 28 white marble steps reputed to have been transported by St Helen from the Jerusalem office of Pontius Pilate.



Down to Earth (2 July 2016)

“Laborare est Orare” (to work is to pray) is a Latin motto that derives from the Rule of Benedict. Manchester’s Zimbabwe Catholic Community owes a debt of gratitude to those members who contributed in cash or in kind or by sheer attendance and participation in the July Fundraising occasion that raised nearly £1000. May God’s bounteous providence in turn provide for all their material and spiritual welfare.

Pastoral Committee for Manchester

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