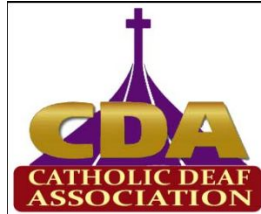


[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

[View this email in your browser](#)



Pope Leo's Intention

For mental health ministry.

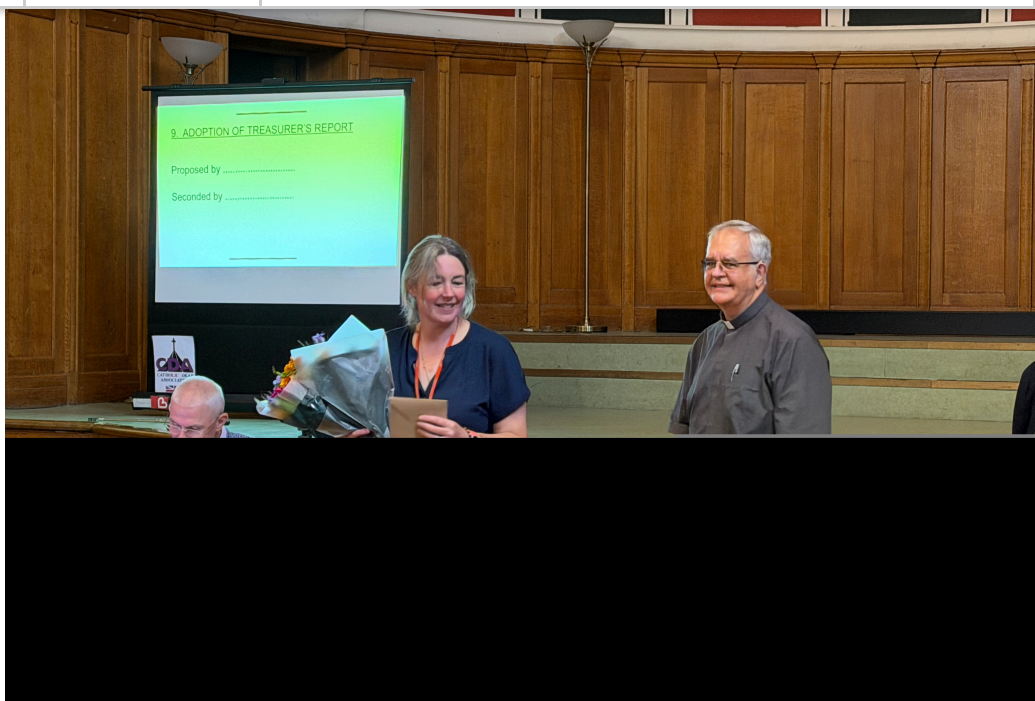
"Let us pray for mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness."

Fr Paul writes: Following Pope Leo's prayer intention last month, we pray after this summer's heatwaves, droughts and widespread wild-fires that we all save rainwater and be careful with our use of water because water gives us life!

CDA 2026 AGM



The CDA held its AGM In Westminster Cathedral on 26th September, 37 people attended. Chairperson, Joselyn Taylor, wishes to thank Shell from Caritas Westminster for their generosity and help. It was appreciated. Joselyn stated that CDA now has a Safe Guarding Policy in place. The main person to contact if you have concerns is Theresa Higgins, second person, Fr Paul. Theresa explained that she has been trained in safe guarding from her diocese. Several members queried about this and more explanations were given explaining deaf access to Safe Guarding. One mentioned having QR to click on in order to see a signed version of Safe Guarding policy. This will be discussed. Joselyn also mentioned that every week there are roughly 100 views on Fr Paul's signed Mass each Sunday. He does not get paid for his time and generosity, and we have readers who do so on a voluntary basis. We discussed finances, future plans, and upcoming events.



Thanking Shell Roca for her help

New members of the committee was voted in. Denise Armstrong-Hart, Martin Schwarzacher and Angela Davies.

Joselyn demonstrated a way to fundraise for CDA at no extra cost to anyone.

"'Easyfundraising' donates percentage of what you buy directly to the CDA. All you need to do is to sign up to 'Easyfundraising' be sure to choose '**Catholic Deaf Association**' to donate to, every time you want to order anything online, go to Easyfundraising and type the company you want to buy from, for example Boots. Easyfundraising will take you to Boots website, and you order as normal. Boots will donate 3%, Argos - 4%, you can even order home delivery from Asda, Sainsbury and they will also donate percentage. You do not pay extra. By joining via this QR or link, £5 will be donated to CDA per person if you raise £5 by buying things online as normal but using this site.

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1?
char388662&invite=nc5bqk&referral-
campaign=c2s&utm_source=easyfundraising-
app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1?char388662&invite=nc5bqk&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=easyfundraising-app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link)

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[Invite supporters, get £5](#)

When supporters you've helped sign up raise
£5, your cause will receive a bonus £5*



The AGM ended at lunchtime, we all came back to Westminster Cathedral at 2pm to enjoy a special Mass for Caritas.

Caritas Westminster at 50



The CDA would like to wish Caritas Westminster a very happy birthday. We were saddened to hear Shell Roca is stepping down, and wish her all the best in her new chapter. We would like to thank Shell for her generosity in all aspects of work with the deaf community. We also are grateful for Shell's help in hosting AGM in the Hall. I am sure she won't be a stranger and look forward to seeing her outside Caritas. The buffet was absolutely delicious, and thanks to Joselyn's stern reminder about not piling plates sky high leaving food for others, there was plenty to go around. 150 people were in attendance.

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/55920>

Lectionary 'Signs of God'

Did you know that the Lectionary 'Signs of God' is now available on our website?

edition was that, at the end of the first and second readings, we no longer sign or say **‘THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD’**, but simply **‘THE WORD OF THE LORD’**.

There have also been some other minor adjustments.

However, Fr Paul Fletcher SJ and I are still working on and updating the Lectionary ‘Signs of God’. For this reason, we ask you not to print the complete download, which is now well over 200 pages. Instead, please print only the relevant Sunday’s reading when necessary. We will keep you informed of any further updates.

In the past, we had three books: the **blue book for Year A**, the **green book for Year B** and the **red book for Year C**.

Did you know that there is now a **fourth book**? This one is **gold** and is for **Feasts and Solemnities**. This gives us many more readings and choices than we had in the original three books.

Members can view and download the complete set of all four books by logging in to the **Members Log in** page on our website. If you are not a member, you can view a free preview of the first four readings from each book on the **Resources** page.

We would like to thank Dorothy for regularly publishing the CDA newsletter. This helps us to keep you all better and more regularly informed about the progress of the Lectionary ‘Signs of God’.

Please do keep us in your prayers. We are both very busy, but we always try to find time to work on this important resource for the Deaf community throughout the United Kingdom and Ireland, both North and South.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Peter and Fr Paul

Fr Paul on Lourdes

Fr Paul with Vincent, the 5th great nephew of St Bernadette who is deaf himself. A few corrections are needed following some mistakes in last month’s newsletter. The hearing people were from NW/Lake District not NE and London. Lower Stations of the Cross on the Prairie meadow by the River Gave de Pau. Fr Paul said this was

pictures he wanted. Fr Paul said it was very hot there but everyone enjoyed themselves and wanted to go again.

World Mission Sunday

On the 18th of October, it is World Mission Sunday. It was established 100 years ago in 1926 by Pope Pius XI to help missions overseas - we Roman Catholics are one globe-wide family in Christ.

Fr Joseph Thermadom, CSC

Fr Joseph Thermadom with Fr Paul, is India's first deaf Catholic priest, 3rd in Asia and only the 26th in the world. Interesting interview sharing his journey to the priesthood and his vision for a more inclusive Church can be found here.

<https://www.wherpeteris.com/called-in-silence-faith-deaf-identity-and-priesthood/>

CDA Membership

A few years ago, members at the AGM agreed to suspend the Life Membership. We continue to offer a one year and three year memberships, and the membership form is available to download from the home page of www.catholicdeaf.org.uk (you need to scroll down to the bottom of the page).

However, a few members have generously chosen to give up their Life Membership and return to individual membership so that their membership fees each year can continue to support and fund the work of the CDA.

There is absolutely no obligation for you to give up your Life Membership. We simply wanted to let you know about this option, as not many people knew about the change to CDA membership a few years ago.

Blessed Fulton Sheen

Blessed Fulton Sheen was beatified on 24th September 2026 at the Dome at America's Centre Stadium. There were over 50,000 people there for the special Mass, over 15,000 people watched EWTN YouTube channel which lived streamed the event. Staggering 850 seminarians, 260 deacons, 1,000 priest and nearly 90 bishops led the procession which took 40 minutes to complete. The Diocese of Peoria decided to have the event in St Louis 150 miles away, as the church was too small to hold the anticipated turnout of thousands. On his TV series, 30 million people tuned in to watch, of which he won an Emmy for.

Fr Christopher Klusman from Milwaukee, a deaf priest, was in attendance.

Blessed Fulton Sheens mandible (lower jaw) is now a First Class relic. James Fulton Engstrom, a baby born stillborn with no heartbeat or respiration for 61 minutes was suddenly alive after his mother repeated Fulton Sheens name over and over, carried the glass case containing the relic.

<https://pro.tpms.cloud.sitfinity.com/news/stories/story/2026/09/21/fulton-sheen-miracle-james-engstrom>

Blessed Fulton Sheen could be Canonised in three years thanks to an obscure rule on miracles.

<https://www.ncregister.com/news/sheen-miracle-sainthood>

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/66996dd143567376c0980ae8/t/6ab4b162eca7c0415dee236b/1790226786898/Beatification+Program+2026+print.pdf>

<https://youtube.com/live/8dUwKFXDrAE?is=81KIRTiHU-YjA4sZ>

<https://aleteia.org/2026/09/24/lost-homily-of-fulton-sheen-resurfaces-in-newark/>

https://www.thebostonpilot.com/AMP/amp_article.php?ID=203347

Catholic Deaf Auckland, NZ

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Bishop Steve Lowe led the Deaf Mass for the first time, it was such a lovely moment for many when Bishop Steve signed "Good Morning" in NZSL and brought several smiles.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO JANUARY 2027.

If you are interested in attending, or would like to know more, please contact -

Fr Paul Fletcher SJ - email: pmf1uk@yahoo.co.uk

Peter McDonough - email: peterjpmcdonough@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

January 2027 - CCRS Course - (Manchester)

6th March 2027 Saturday - Blackpool Conference -

26th May 2027 - Pilgrimage to Warmia and GDansk, Northern Poland -

1 - 4th June 2027 - Trip to shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Ireland - **CCRS members only, limited numbers.**

16th October 2027 - AGM - Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool
2028 - Holy Isle Lindisfarne Retreat

<https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/lindisfarne-priory/History/>

<https://www.shepherdswalksholidays.co.uk/news/the-history-of-holy-island-the-story-of-lindisfarne>

Prayer Wall

Sr Marika Rebicsek (Essex)

Sr Angela (Manchester)

Irena Lindsey (Brentwood)

Brian Davies (Greenford)

John Davies (North Wales)

Karla Huggins (Southampton)

Roy Plumbley (Hove)

CDA Faith Group

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Please contact either [Peter McDonough](#) or [Maria Booker](#) to have your names added.

CDA Rosary prayers

Wednesdays at 8am Join us for Rosary via Zoom.

Please contact [Maria Booker](#)

IMPORTANT NOTICE - no Rosary on 28th October.

Saints of the Month

St Ignatius of Antioch

Born - c 33

Died - 108 possibly later

Canonised - Saint Ignatius of Antioch was **not canonised by a formal papal or church decree**, as he lived during the early Christian era and was recognized as a saint through **pre-congregation** tradition (popular acclaim and martyrdom).

Feast day - 17th October

<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-ignatius-of-antioch/>

To honour Saint Francis of Assisi, we will have quotes of him every month.

This month is -

"Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words."

The Catholic Deaf Association created a ground-breaking resource called “Liturgical Signs: Mass, Prayers & Glossary” which was a first of its kind initiative to adapt the text of the Roman Missal for BSL and SSE. While general sign language dictionaries existed, this project explicitly adapted the complex theological language and responses of the 3rd edition of the Roman Missal specifically for signing Deaf congregations. The CDA developed a multimedia approach, distributing a specialised DVD and digital catalogue that covers the complete order of the Mass, standard Catholic prayers and an extensive liturgical glossary.

<https://catholicdeaf.org.uk/liturgical-signs/>

Events NOT organised by CDA

3rd October, 7th November & 5th December 2026 - The Deaf Service signed Mass.
St Bernadette's RC Church, Tilgate Way, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 5BS
Mass at 1pm - followed by refreshment. All welcome.

21st & 28th October and 4th November 2026 - The Catholic Deaf Community begins a Sycamore faith formation course in St Aloysius, Glasgow. 6pm

<https://www.catholicdeafglasgow.org/events/>

https://www.catholicdeafglasgow.org/wp-content/uploads/GPDC-Brochure2026_2027.pdf

4th October 2026 - Deaf Community Mass at Westminster Cathedral Hall. 4.30pm - confession beforehand.

<https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/events/category/deaf-service-events/>

14th November 2026 - MUDS - Meet Up Deaf Swindon. 3pm til late. Blunsdon Arms, Swindon, SN25 2NA

19th December 2026 - Bridgwater and Taunton Deaf club Christmas party. 1-10pm
Games, laughter, enjoyment

Ticket - member £4, non-member £7. Lisieux Way Methodist Church, TA1 2DD
contact Debbie Elliot at bridgwaterandtaunton74@gmail.com

31st December 2026 - New Year's Eve party - Torbay Deaf Club. Back due to popular demand. £15 members, £20 non-members. Please contact Chivonne Chapman on Torbay Deaf Club via Facebook.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Information

If you know of a **Get Together** café, club, or fellowship, and would like this information included in the CDA Newsletter, or if your church offers a signed Mass that is not listed in the Directory on our **website**(or if the information there needs correcting/updating), please email the **Secretary**.

News compiled by Dorothy Hester

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

You are receiving this email because you have opted in to receiving news and updates from Catholic Deaf Association.

Contact secretary@catholicdeaf.org.uk if you have any questions or concerns regarding this Newsletter.

If you do not wish to receive any more emails from Catholic Deaf Association, you can 'unsubscribe'.

We take your privacy and the security of your data very seriously.

Catholic Deaf Association will not share your data with any other organisations without your permission.

CatholicDeaf Association

Registered Charity Number 262362

CDASecretary

Email: secretary@catholicdeaf.org.uk

Newsletter editor

CDA.newsletter.ed@gmail.com

Email regarding website: secretary@catholicdeaf.org.uk

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Catholic Deaf Association · Hollywood House · 2 Nobby Stiles Drive · Manchester, M4 4FA · United Kingdom