



IN THIS ISSUE



We take this opportunity to remember and give thanks for the life of the late Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. Many religious brothers, sisters and priests were able to be present at the Solemn Vespers on Tuesday the 12th of September, to pray and show their respect. May the Lord grant him peace. Cardinal Cormac was a man dedicated to the service of his Church.

WHAT'S COMING ?



Goodbye Fr Christopher...

Dear friends,

You may have heard that Fr Christopher Jamison OSB, who has been the Director of the National Office for Vocation for some years now, has been elected by his congregation to be Abbot President. This means that he has had to leave his post here in NOV. I'm sure you will join me in thanking him for all he has done over the years for his work in building a culture of vocations in the English and Welsh church, as well as supporting religious communities in promoting their charism. We wish him the very best and remember him in our prayer especially in these coming months.

We do not know who the next director of NOV will be, so please keep this in your prayers.

www.benedictines.org.uk

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2018 will be a year for celebration, as we prepare for the **Eucharistic Congress from the 7th to the 9th of September 2018** in Liverpool. It will be 10 years since we had a Eucharistic Congress, and although the Bishop's Conference hasn't all of the details mapped out, we believe there will be something vocational. So, do prepare to have that weekend free in your diaries. This congress will have a strong focus on Eucharistic adoration so please keep your thinking caps on - we are always looking for ideas.



NRVP

The National Religious Vocations Personnel conference is soon. Please see the ukreligiouslife.org to download the form to book your place, or drop me a line in the office.

The conference will take place on Saturday 4th November at Holy Apostles Church in London. Fr Nicholas Crowe OP and Sr Lynne Baron FCJ will speak about their experience in accompanying young people through discernment to the early stages of formation. This will be a good opportunity to exchange ideas and share experiences!

The other contributor to the day will be Fr Christopher Jamison, the new Abbot President of the English Benedictines, who will speak to us about the upcoming synod "Youth, faith and vocational discernment". This can help Vocations Personnel learn about how the Church is moving in regard to Vocational Discernment especially in 2018.

The conference will take place at Holy Apostles Church Hall, 47 Cumberland Street, Pimlico, London SW1V 4LY. Refreshments will be available from 10.30am, with the conference beginning at 11am and concluding with tea at 3.30pm.

NEWS



On Friday the 8th of September our religious brothers,

sisters and priests celebrated the launch of Vocations Scotland. I'm sure you will join us in congratulating them on this new initiative and give them our support. Do go and like their facebook page:

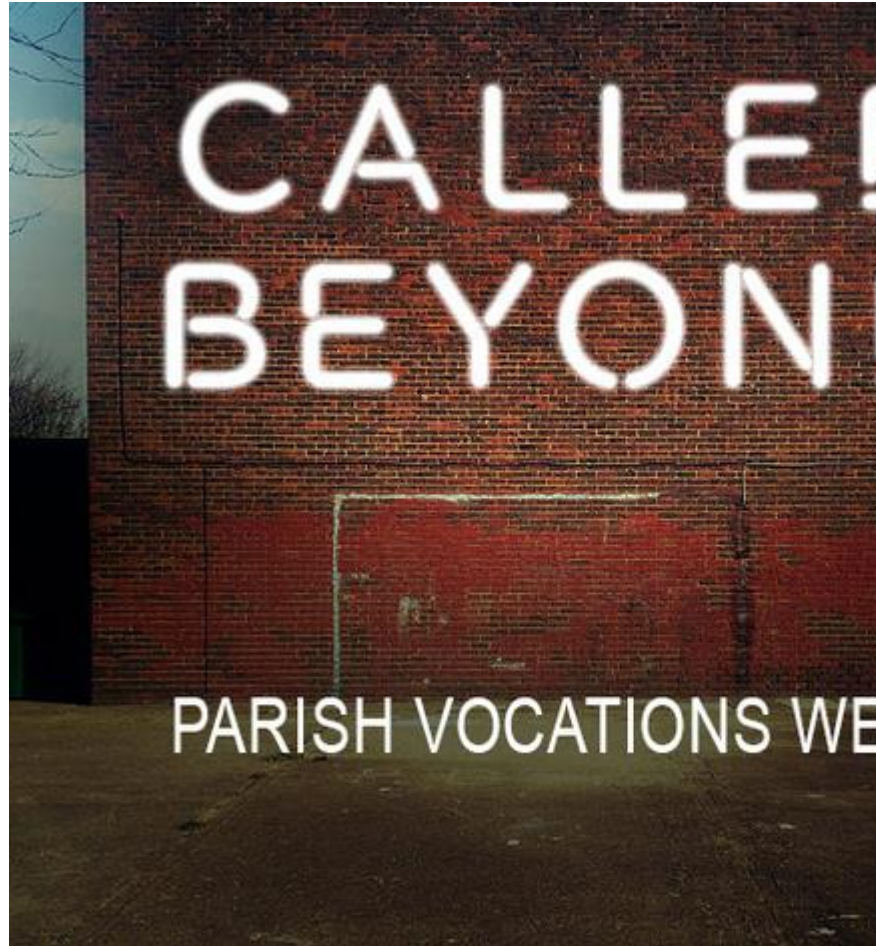
[VocationsScotland](#)

We look forward to collaborating with them in a creative and lifegiving way.



The dates for Compass 2017-18 have been set. Please recommend this opportunity to anybody you know who is seriously considering religious life. We are told that one of the most difficult things that discerners find at the beginning is where to start from, and I'm sure we can all understand that. Compass is ideal for those who don't know where to start. From last year's group, one of the most striking comments was to hear how the discerners were surprised and delighted to find so many religious in the

The cost of the day is £50, which includes a buffet lunch.



Called Beyond Parish Vocations Week

NOV has been working for some time on CALLED BEYOND - a parish based vocations week. This is a week in which a parish priest can decide to hold as a way of celebrating all the vocations in the parish. Many people still do not know that we all have a vocation, and there is still a problem with it being a word difficult to bring up in conversation because people think we are trying to get them to be priests and nuns and brothers. We would like to help de-sensitise this word and help people rejoice that God Calls them. Please help us promote this initiative by inviting your parish priests to hold the event in 2018. You can find more information on the new website: Calledbeyond.org.uk

HELP Please

one place! More information can be found at the [Compass website](#).

Our Vocations retreats and discernment opportunities on the ukreligiouslife.org website are diminishing. Please send us information about any events you are organising or which are in your area and we can advertise them for you.

Also, I need to start preparing for Vocations Sunday 2018. If anybody would like to volunteer to be on my helping team please let me know. I can't promise I will accept everybody's help (if I get lots of offers) but I would be grateful for people who can help advise, review or write things. Help on a social media campaign would be good too. I hope to have the focus on younger people to take into consideration the fact that we have the Synod on Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment. You can find the preparatory document on the [Vatican website](#), or an abridged version from [Alive](#) Publication: 9781906278243 £1.50, which can be purchased directly from the publisher or [Pauline Books & Media](#).

Thank you!
Sr Elaine

National Office for Vocation England & Wales

