

## Bishop Mark O'Toole

Last Wednesday, it was announced that the Holy Father has appointed Bishop Mark to be the Archbishop of Cardiff and the Bishop of Menevia, these two dioceses being united *in persona Episcopi* (in the person of the Bishop). This process of transition will take two months, during which time Bishop Mark will continue to lead our diocese with the more limited powers of a Diocesan Administrator. Once Bishop Mark has formally been installed into his new dioceses on 20 June, our Cathedral Chapter of Canons will meet to elect a priest to be our Diocesan Administrator and, with the help of other members of the clergy and diocesan officers, he will lead and oversee the daily life and mission of our diocese, its parishes and schools until a successor to Bishop Mark is appointed by the Holy Father in due course.

During the period until a new diocesan bishop is appointed, the ancient principle *sede vacante, nihil innovetur* (when the diocese has no bishop, nothing new may be done) must be observed whereby there is a limit to the decisions and actions that can be taken. However, this certainly does not mean everything must come to a halt. The Gospel of Salvation must continue to be proclaimed and the life and mission of the Church in the Diocese of Plymouth carried forward, albeit in anticipation of the gift of a new successor to the Apostles to lead us and, through whose communion with the Bishop of Rome, our diocese is fully united with the Catholic Church throughout the world.

During this time of transition, our **primary task** as a diocese and in our parishes will be to unite together in earnest prayer that:

- the Holy Spirit will guide all those involved in the process leading to the appointment of a new bishop for our diocese;
- the one who is called to take on this essential apostolic ministry among us will be given the generosity and courage to accept it;
- we - the clergy, consecrated men and women and lay faithful of the diocese - will welcome our new bishop with joy and respond eagerly to his leadership in faith and mission.

A Diocesan Mass of Thanksgiving for the leadership and ministry of Bishop Mark as Bishop of Plymouth will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St Mary and St Boniface, Plymouth, on Monday, 30 May, at 12noon.

# CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY PLYMOUTH (CCSP)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### Annual Mass – Thursday, 30 May 2022

If you would like to attend this year's annual mass at St Nicholas' Catholic Primary Academy in Exeter, please contact **01364 645420** or email [ccs@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:ccs@prcdtr.org.uk)

Everyone is welcome, but we are limited on numbers so please let us know if you would like to attend.

### Great Big Diocesan Quiz – Friday, 1 July 2022

We are delighted to announce that we have a new date for our next Great Big Diocesan Quiz, as the last two planned quizzes have been cancelled due to the pandemic.

We're looking for parishes to join us on **Friday, 1 July 2022 at 7.30pm** and we would love to make this our biggest quiz ever. The last quiz in 2019 saw **9 teams** including one school compete for the trophy, which was won on the night by Heretics from Blessed Sacrament and **almost £1500** was raised.



All you need is to find a quiz master and a venue to host your parish quiz and then ask for teams to come forward to compete against each other in your parish on the night and against all the other parishes. If you would like to register an interest to take part or would like to discuss the quiz in more detail, please email [vicki.dunstone@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:vicki.dunstone@prcdtr.org.uk) - all materials will be supplied by CCSP – you just need to find a venue, a quiz master and some teams to compete. **Good luck !**



### 2022 Annual Appeal – Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 August

The theme of our CCSP Annual Appeal this year is '**Extend a Hand: Give Hope**'. Packs will be sent to all parishes soon and we hope that even more parishes will be able to support this year's annual appeal as 30 parishes helped to raise

over £17,000 in 2021.

We have just received £875.90 in Gift Aid from last year's donations so it's wonderful if supporters are able to tick the Gift Aid box if you can, as this money alone can help an extra 5 families through our Essential Grants programme.

**From November 2022, packs of Christmas cards will be on sale slightly earlier this year following feedback received last year.**