



**KEEPING IN TOUCH
WITH
FR. GORDON ADAM**

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF KING'S LYNN

The Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation

London Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 5HQ.

and

Holy Family Church

Field Lane, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 4AY

Tuesday April 27, 2021

Dear All

As ever, I hope and pray that this finds you well.

Last week I said to you that I would be inviting Mark Dunning, our "intern" to write something about himself by way of introduction to you. He has done so and it is cut and pasted below. I will be in touch with you again in my own right later in the week.

Mark writes:

Hello,

As Fr. Gordon mentioned in last week's post, Bishop Alan has placed me in your care as I continue my journey of discernment. My name is Mark, and I come to you from the great port city of Liverpool, so to be here in King's Lynn a port town is a great joy, and I look forward to being able to explore my new home during my time here.

I grew up in Liverpool, although like many a Scouser I have roots in other lands, Ireland, Scotland, and Poland are all part of my family history, and indeed Liverpool enjoys a kaleidoscope of people from every corner of the globe, adding to our rich culture and no doubt our unique accent.

My journey of faith has been one of many parts, being baptised in a beautiful little Catholic church in my village of West Derby some 6 miles from the city centre. St Paul's shares with Our Lady's a connection with Pugin, as he was the architect of the church. However, St. Paul's is only a youngster being built in 1914.



My mum being a good Catholic lass insisted on my , brother and sister and me being brought up in the faith. However, being from a mixed marriage, and my father's mum being somewhat

a matriarchal woman and a committed Orangewoman there was unending pressure on my parents regarding church, and so as a compromise we found St John the Baptist church a C of E church about a mile or so up the road. Content my “little” nana felt triumphant, and we found a new home. Little did little nana know. St. John’s was “high church”, and in fact was some distance away from the Protestant ideals hoped for! In fact my very first pilgrimage to Walsingham aged 13 was with St. John’s, and I have had a deep love for Our Lady since.



We are very used these days of hearing the word bubble, and we had found one. Untouched by the ever increasingly mad innovations of the Church of England St. John’s remained resolute in its tradition until the sad death of Fr. Sampson a truly holy man and vicar of St. John’s for 48 years. Somewhat lost, and longing for the tradition I had grown to love I discovered the Old Catholic church. A small independent church, with a love of liturgy and a very real love of God, the Gospels and Sacraments, but nonetheless separated from the church. God though continues his gentle and loving call, and perhaps inspired by the story of Samuel, I opened my heart praying God would “Speak Lord for your servant is listening.” So my journey brings me to you.

I have now been here a week, and despite the facemasks, the social distancing and other restrictions, I have enjoyed a very warm welcome, thank you. Fr. Peter has generously opened his home, and will be along with the other clergy a splendid mentor, I hope too to learn from you and to get to know you as we emerge from this lock down. Please keep me in your prayers, as I will you.

Mark.

Fr. Gordon

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