

## PAST NATIONAL EVENTS 2018

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### **Newman Reading Group, Saturday 3 February**

The reading group met in Birmingham to discuss Mike Aquilina's *The Fathers of the Church*. There have been two meetings on this book and the discussion focussed on texts relating to the dogmatic formulations of the Council of Nicea, prayer, grace and the veneration of the saints. Prior to this the group has discussed works by Newman: his letters and the Idea of a University. The future venue and next book have yet to be decided.

### **Manchester Newman Lecture, Thursday 26 April**

The 2018 Manchester Newman Lecture was given by Sarah Teather (Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service). The talk was well attended (80-90) and her title, *Conscience and the Image of God- Revelations from accompanying refugees*, had attracted non-members and many Catholic groups working with refugees in Manchester. Fr Brendan Callaghan SJ opened proceedings with a prayer. Sarah's talk was followed by a lively discussion involving members and non-members. An edited version of her talk is printed in the May Journal.

### **London Newman Lecture, Thursday 17 May**

The 2018 London Newman Lecture was given by Francis Campbell on *The Role of the University in Promoting Reconciliation in a Modern Society*. The new venue, the Crypt of St Etheldreda's Church, was very successful but the talk only attracted a small audience of members and non-members. Francis's excellent talk was published in the September Journal.

### **2018 AGM, Saturday 9 June**

The 2018 AGM was held in St Albans and about 40 members were present to take part in a lively debate which continued after lunch. Council had proposed updating the Articles and Regulations and there were two other resolutions. In the event all four resolutions were defeated or failed to reach the required majority. In the light of the above, voting for Officers and Council members continued under the current Memoranda and Articles.

Fr Pat Kilgarriff celebrated his first Mass as national Chaplain. When the voting had taken place, several members made their way to St Albans Abbey for choral evensong.

### **Pax Romana, 13 to 16 December**

A European Assembly of Pax Romana was held in Barcelona in conjunction with a conference held on the topic *Reason and Emotion: Society, politics and religion*.