

PAST NATIONAL EVENTS 2013

Bioethics Conference 9th March 2013

Another conference in partnership with the Centre for Catholic Studies at Durham University. The well-organised programme attracted over 100 participants, with the venue having to be transferred to the larger Assembly Rooms; this gave space for discussion round a generous buffet lunch.

The theme was *Death and Dying in Catholic Perspective: A Study Day for Clergy, Laity, and Students of Theology*

A range of speakers from different disciplines, including the health sector, were brought together to explore: the practices of death and dying in Catholic tradition; the legal, medical, pastoral, and live ethical issues around death and dying; and theological reflections on death and dying. Speakers included: Prof. David Albert Jones, Prof. Eamon Duffy, Prof. Janet Martin Soskice, Kathryn Turner, Rev. Caroline Worsfold, Dr Kathryn Mannix.

For a summary of the conference by Anthony Baker, click on the the link above.

London Newman Lecture 14th March 2013

The 2013 London Newman Lecture was given by Fr Michael Campbell-Johnson SJ on the theme *Crisis in the Church* at Heythrop College, London. Father Michael, a Jesuit for more than sixty years, is currently a member of the Jesuit community at Farm Street, London. A former provincial of the British province, he was at the centre of the Society's reforms following Vatican II, spending a quarter of a century working alongside Father General Arrupe in Rome as Head of the Society's Social Justice Secretariat. Fr Michael's talk was given the day after the election in Rome of the Argentinian Jesuit Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio as Pope Francis. As to be expected Fr Michael was questioned about our new Pope and he gave us a very brief insight into his encounters with him. To read his excellent talk click on the link above.

The 2013 National AGM

The 2013 Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at Christ the King Community Centre, Westhill Road, **Coventry CV6 2AA on Saturday 15th June**. After a successful AGM, Father Fabian celebrated Mass in the Church of Christ the King, we had a splendid buffet lunch back at the Centre. With the enthusiastic help of Chair Maureen Porter most of us then trekked off to the City Centre, and to Coventry Cathedral for a guided tour. We learnt that the Cathedral was not only a physical expression of hope, love and celebration for Christians in Coventry but also for all citizens of Coventry and the wider world. All in all, much praise to the Coventry Circle for their organisation and welcome: it had been an enjoyable and very satisfactory day. For more detail, see the report on the AGM.