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Dedication of Memorial to Aborted Children in St Mary's Church Cemetery, Carmarthen

On Sunday September 28th, after the 10.30am Mass, we dedicated a child's headstone in our parish cemetery -

'In loving memory of all aborted children'.

The qualifier 'all' is significant because it includes not only the 7 million killed by surgical abortion but the countless others who have been destroyed by abortifacient birth control coils and pills - which some or all of the time work after fertilisation - as well as those lost in IVF, embryo experimentation, etc.

All of these categories are equally important because our Catholic Christian faith (and indeed science) informs us that the continuum of our human existence begins at fertilisation. Furthermore we have every reason to believe that we were all endowed with an immortal soul made in the image and likeness of God at this point of our development as were Jesus and Mary. Many people today are not aware of these secondary forms of abortion, deceived as they are by the duplicitous medical ethos of our times.

In the dedication service, composed by Luton Good Counsel (a pro-life group assisting women with crisis pregnancies), the Opening Prayer summed up the inspiration of the project:

'God our Father, we confess before you the truth that each one of us began our human life when we were conceived: and by this Headstone we honour the many millions in our land whom we or others have murdered before they were born: by abortion - or abortifacient contraception - or in the processes of in-vitro fertilisation - or the experiments of scientific research. Through the Cross and Resurrection of your Son, we commend them all to your heavenly care; and



The memorial in St Mary's cemetery is... a solitary and prophetic witness to the abortion holocaust that continues in our midst

even as not one is forgotten in your sight, may they be an unfathomable well of grace to our world, a great light reminding all that eternal life comes not from lies and forgetting but through truth and remembering and repenting and finding your love that passes all understanding. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord.'

The prayer of blessing itself said: 'On behalf of our country and ourselves, in reparation, we dedicate and bless this Headstone, in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.'

The ceremony ended on a note of expectant hope with the following passage which mirrors the Church's funeral liturgy:

May the Angels lead you into Paradise, the Martyrs welcome you as you draw near and lead you into Jerusalem, the heavenly City. May the choirs of Angels welcome you and lead you to the bosom of Abraham and there where Lazarus is poor no longer may you find eternal rest!

Finally the congregation sang...
Thine be the Glory/ risen conquering Son/ endless is the victory/ thou o'er death hast won...

In the preceding Mass the guest preacher Fr Jeremy Davies (Westminster) with reference to the first reading (Ez 18:25-28) spoke about the Culture of Death, a favourite phrase of Pope John Paul II.

The above is part of an extensive report, with more photographs of this event, sent in to us by Fr. Morty O'Shea SOLT, parish priest of St Mary's, Carmarthen. Unfortunately it was much too long for inclusion in its entirety and included the homily at the Mass by the guest preacher Fr Jeremy Davies (Westminster). This and the other photographs can be viewed on the Menevia Diocesan Website - <http://www.dioceseofmenevia.org>

PAPAL AWARD of KNIGHT OF St. SYLVESTER

On Sunday 9th November, Alan Randall was invested as a Knight of the Pontifical Equestrian Order of a Knight of St. Sylvester (K.S.S.), by Bishop Mark Jabalé, Bishop of Menevia, in recognition of his services to the Holy Catholic Church in Menevia. The ceremony took place at St. Mary's Church Carmarthen, during Mass, which was concelebrated by Bishop Mark, Bishop Daniel Mullins and Fr. Morty O'Shea.

Alan is a parishioner of St. Mary's and, amongst his many other duties and contributions to the life of the Church, he is the Diocesan Archivist - a painstaking job in any language! He is also responsible for the diocesan website.



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