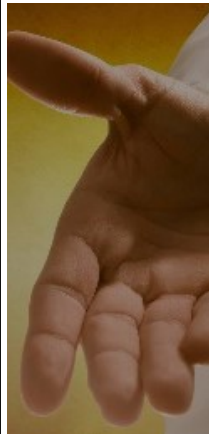


Looking Forward



9th July 2023:
14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
In Matthew's Gospel,
Jesus says :
"Come to me, all
you who labour,
and are burdened,
and I will give you
rest."



LOOKING FORWARD TOGETHER



Yesterday was Sea Sunday.
It is very easy to forget the role
that the sea and seafarers play in our lives.
Britain imports over 25 billion pounds worth of
food and drink each year, for example.
The seafarers who crew the ships are looked after
and visited by the charity Stella Maris who helped
113,982 seafarers and fishers in the UK in 2021.
They make 70,000 ship visits
around the world each year.
Seafarers were helped in 328 ports
across 54 countries in 2021.
There are chaplains in London and in other ports
who help seafarers in need
with practical, spiritual, and emotional support.

††† Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo. †††

St Benedict (480-548) founded 12 monasteries at Subiaco before moving on to found the great monastery of Monte Cassino. His Rule for his followers and communities is based on a spirit of balance, moderation and common sense. His feast day is on 11th July. Pope John Paul II declared St Benedict to be one of the patron saints of Europe.

St. Bonaventure (1221-1274) was born as Giovanni di Fidanza and became the seventh Minister General of the Franciscans, who gave him the name Bonaventura, meaning "good fortune." He was a scholar of the University of Paris, and is regarded as one of the greatest philosophers of the Middle Ages. Canonised in 1484, he was declared to be one of the Doctors of the Church in 1587 by the Franciscan pope Sixtus V.

"A better world can be built as a result of your efforts, your desire to change and your generosity" – Pope Francis,

(*Letter to Young People 2018*)



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES, JULY 2023

The Domain and the Statue

The statue of the Crowned Virgin is a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes very similar to the statue in the grotto of Massabielle. It has been known as the "crowned statue" after its canonical coronation on 3 July 1876 by the papal legate. The statue stands across Rosary Square from the Rosary Basilica and faces the entrance. This prominent statue is a traditional meeting point.



C. McKenna, Secondary Link Adviser,
Brentwood Diocese Education Service



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The statue of the Crowned Virgin is a statue of Our Lady of Lourdes very similar to the statue in the grotto of Massabielle. It has been known as the "crowned statue" after its canonical coronation on 3 July 1876 by the papal legate. The statue stands across Rosary Square from the Rosary Basilica and faces the entrance. This prominent statue is a familiar landmark and a traditional meeting point. The statue is 2.5m high and cast in bronze, painted white and blue in the traditional colours. Her rosary is of the Birgittine style and incorporates six decades. Behind the Crowned Statue is the *Esplenade*, a large open walkway which is used for the processions.

Will you walk in procession at Lourdes one day?