



## CAAPA NEWSLETTER JULY 2020

Hello everyone,

I hope this finds each and every one of you healthy and optimistic, and looking forward with anticipation to the joys and freedoms which will hopefully come with the easing of this interminable lockdown!

We pray that everyone this reaches is safe and is cared for.

Many thanks to all the contributors who responded to last month's Newsletter with their memories, lockdown experiences and general items of interest. Please remember I am very happy to report any of your future activities, plans, thoughts and messages for the delectation and delight of all our members!

**\*\*\* Please send any messages to [kennethmichaels@hotmail.com](mailto:kennethmichaels@hotmail.com) for inclusion in future newsletters \*\*\***

In case you missed the invitation last month to write in with any recent experiences, here it is again!

*We hope you are all coping as well as is possible and we would dearly like to hear your lockdown experiences – the challenges of being in a restricted space with family - or perhaps alone; the kindness of friends or neighbours; perhaps you've volunteered in your communities, had to care for children or home-learning teenagers, or elderly relatives; taken part in Zoom meetings (religious or dramatic - or both!), witnessed the extraordinary work of the NHS staff and other key workers. All of your contributions will be very welcome!*

And please remember **Mgr Vladimir Felzmann's** suggestion that you might contribute some of your funny or more embarrassing experiences - either on-stage or off! We could all do with cheering up during these frustrating times!!

CaAPA HQ (*which increasingly seems to be in the gardens of a certain personage – well-known to CaAPA folk, i.e. **Michael Slater** - in Kenilworth Court, Putney*), has recently witnessed some hastily convened meetings for the exchange of items for the Newsletter, for impromptu voice recordings by several CaAPA members for an audio account of the Apparitions at Lourdes and the recalling of many theatrical reminiscences! This has all been achieved, of course, with due regard to social distancing! (*CaAPA acknowledges the invaluable technical support of one of Michael's neighbours - radio veteran and local DJ Mark Phillips.*)

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Before we begin with our members' contributions, this month's In Memoriam:

### MEMORIAL LIST FOR JULY

- 1996** Barbara Fellowes
- 2005** Reginald Eppey - Committee member
- 2007** John Normington
- 2009** Fr Columba Ryan - National Chaplain



# Catholic Association of Performing Arts

*Eternal rest grant unto THEM O Lord,  
And let perpetual light shine upon them,  
May they rest in peace,  
Amen.*

Michael writes: **Reginald Epey** was a valuable asset to the Catholic Stage Guild as a soloist in the Holy Week services at Corpus Christi when we supported Canon John McDonald with readers. Reg could then switch to the Musical Theatre with ease, appearing in the West End in *Me and My Girl* and *Whistle Down the Wind*. When we entertained Cardinal Hume in the Throne Room and Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor at the Garrick Club, Reg sang with a very large fan *A more Human Mikado never did in Japan exist!!* Reg was also very much a Gentleman and found it hard to cope sometimes with "dressing room banter"!

**John Normington** was also a very valued member and some of us have very vivid memories of his memorable performances whilst at the National Theatre, particularly in *Guys and Dolls*.

And remembering **Ian Bannen**, whose anniversary was last month, Michael continues:

Ian was a very much-loved leading actor for many years and a very supportive Vice President. We held a Memorial Requiem Mass at Corpus Christi, a sung Mass including Faure's *Pie Jesu*. After the Mass I arranged for a screening of *Waking Ned* at a small cinema within a hotel in the Aldwych. It not only had Ian Bannen in it but also our dear **Kitty Fitzgerald**, so we thought it would be a fitting tribute. I asked his widow Marilyn if she would like to join us; after a pause she said, "perhaps for a few minutes." Marilyn stayed to the end and said, "I am so glad I stayed". A very memorable evening!

Michael adds that when he contacted the film company for a copy of the film, expecting to pay a hire fee, not only did they waive the fee they also delivered the film completely free of charge. Ian was held in such high esteem!

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**Michael Slater** – 'Funny happenings':

In the early 60's I had an agent - Denton & Warner - whose office was at Cambridge Circus Mansions just across the road from the Palace Theatre. If you remember "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier Spy" my agent was where Mi5 agents used to meet at "The Circus". One morning I called in to see Smithey who ran the office. "No nothing doing. Very bad at the moment. Would you like to play the Inspector in "Night must Fall"? "Yes O.K." "Right, nip over to Paddington and get the train to Aberystwyth." In those days I travelled light! I arrived at the Stage Door at about 7-15 p.m. to be greeted by an actress called Grania Hayes; "Are you Michael Slater?" "Yes". "Well you're on". The producer playing the part had taken an overdose! So, I had to tumble onto the stage and read from a script without even knowing the title of the play! Two days later we were given notice! At least we had a good party on the beach. Freddy Jones was in the company (father of Toby Jones) and he went on to play in a production of "The Dresser" in the West End. A brilliant actor.

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**Martin Gordon** writes from Cork:

*(he begins by informing me where I must have stayed in Cork when I was on tour with Peter Pan – starring Frank Finlay):*

Dear Kenneth,

The digs you stayed in would have been in Shandon, one of Cork's most historic districts.

I first became involved with the Catholic Stage Guild in 1963, when as the junior Pallottine priest at SS Peter & Paul's, Amwell Street, London EC1, I decided to stage a concert at St Pancras Town Hall. I was encouraged to do this by the presence of so many singers from Sadler's Wells Opera living in the parish, some of whom I knew personally. Having made the decision to proceed with the venture, I contacted the secretary of the Catholic Stage Guild and told her of my plans and wished to know if the Guild's chairman **Eamonn Andrews** would be willing to appear. She invited me to attend the next Guild meeting at the Spanish Club, where she would introduce me to Eamonn. It was while having a drink at the bar that John O'Sullivan, I think it was, suggested that I become Guild chaplain at Sadler's Wells Opera. As Catholic Guild chaplain at Sadler's Wells Opera 1962-66, I knew Eamonn very well, and ended up working for him in Dublin in 1967.

The night of the concert, Eamonn appeared on stage for ten minutes and had a photograph taken with the Pallottine Provincial, James Maher, boxer Henry Cooper and I, and this appeared in that week's Islington Gazette. It also featured a report on the concert, which was opened by the Jack Ruane Orchestra from Ballina, Co. Mayo, whom I knew in person. The Sadlers Wells mezzo-soprano Mary Gilmore sang *Danny Boy* and Michael O'Duffy pleased the many Irish in the audience with his rendition of several well-known Irish ballads. The compere was another Ballina man Jack Cunningham, who had been a member of the Ballina Dramatic Society which had the previous year won the All- Ireland Best Drama Group award.

Another member of that group was **Paddy Stephens** who many of those reading this will remember was the angel in an advert and was the priest in that episode of *Fools and Horses* in which Del Boy manufactures a miracle of the weeping Madonna.

Why was **Henry Cooper** present? Fr Maher had given religious instruction to the boxer prior to him being received into the Catholic church and his marrying Albina in the Italian church, Clerkenwell Road. In later years, I became close friends with them both and obtained the Knight of Saint Gregory honour for Henry.

*(I'll deal with the football match between Eamonn Andrews Sports Paraders v The Top Ten X in my next correspondence. **Here is a photograph from the game. Anyone recognize the players?**)*



# Catholic Association of Performing Arts

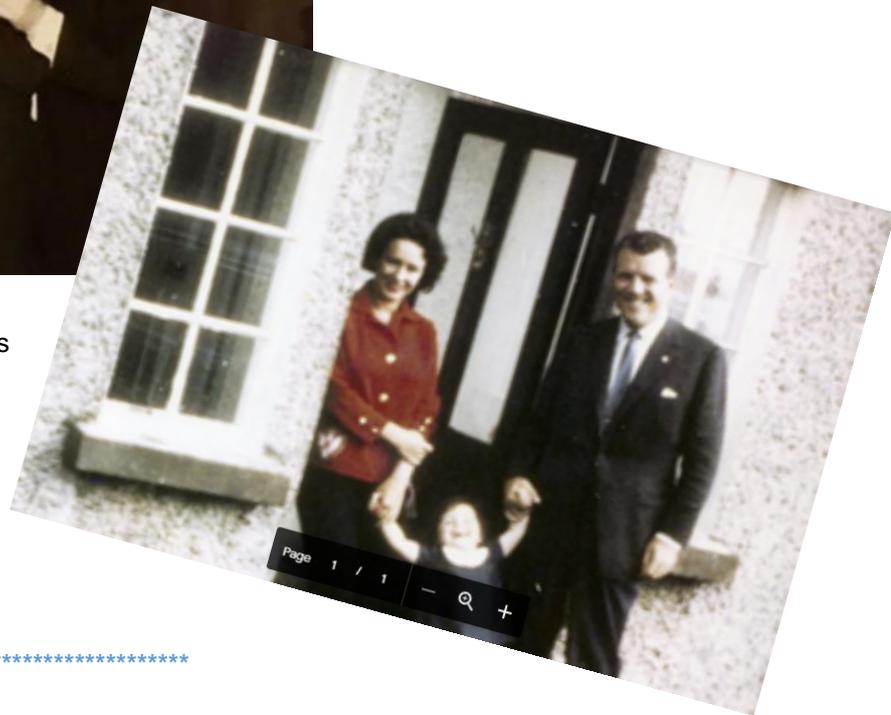
By the way, I'll be looking for eleven men between 35 years and seventy to play the parts of priests in the film adaptation of my autobiography. Photos and cv to: [hackson1914@gmail.com](mailto:hackson1914@gmail.com)  
The film has OSCAR potential!



The photo below is of myself and my friends after a concert at St. Pancras Town Hall, 1964:



This is a photo of Eamonn and Grainne Andrews with their first child, Emma - circa 1964 and taken by me at their holiday home in Malahide, Co Dublin.



God bless,  
Martin Gordon

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**Fr David Ward** writes:

Very many thanks for the latest newsletter. Even though I've only managed to be at one CaAPA event (or, more accurately, CSG as it was some time ago) I always enjoy hearing about what is going on in the Catholic theatrical



world. My distance from London, and busy life as a parish priest, makes it impossible to get to events, but I was delighted to lead a Day of Recollection for the association at Allen Hall, probably about ten years ago.

During lockdown, I'm still saying Mass every day, albeit on my own. I'm not very technical and have a great fear of ending up on "You've Been Framed" (!), so my Masses aren't streamed. However, I shall be offering Mass for all the members of CaAPA on the morning of Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup>.

I've been spending some of my lockdown time preparing for Christmas. Every few years I stage a one-man show for the parish (different to the usual Sunday pantomime...) in aid of a charity, and am planning to do a Christmas show on December 12<sup>th</sup>, as long as social distancing is no longer a major part of our lives. The show will consist of Christmas songs, monologues, etc. I must admit that learning the words to some of these pieces during our very warm and sunny May was rather bizarre. At least it keeps the brain active.

With every good wish to all the members of CaAPA, and thanks for your work.

God Bless,

Fr David (Ward)

*(Many thanks Father for offering mass for CaAPA. And sorry your email arrived too late for last month's Newsletter!).*

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... And **Fr Alan** from Corpus Christi wrote last month:

Of course, this has been, and will continue to be, a very difficult time for all those who are concerned with the performing arts. There is no date set for the reopening of the theatres around the Shrine (at CC)– and for many venues opening with social distancing in place is completely economically unviable. So please do pray for all those in the performing arts whose lives have been affected – and for the resolution of this situation.

And with prayers for all of you from the Shrine

Fr Alan

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And now a welcome email from **Jeremy Rowe**, one of our Playlets playwrights:

Thank you very much for your varied and most interesting newsletter, with all the moving inclusions.

I am wondering whether we could collect CaAPA's short plays, with the idea of publishing them? They could be arranged thematically, and could be used, singly or in groups, for drama schools, for amateur and professional companies, and, at best and after much selection and editing, they could be worked - probably with music and visual aids - into a full-length drama. They could find their way into radio! It's just an instinct, for fundraising, evangelization, and art.



I am glad to hear you are well. We elderly folk are well looked after here in East Kent and have few cases of the virus to contend with. That doesn't mean we are free of the horrible thing and its consequences yet. Here's hoping and praying.

All best wishes,

Jeremy

*(What do the members think about publishing? Comments please!)*

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And now a very heart-warming letter from **Jane Garioni**:

... Thank you for your newsletter which I enjoyed reading.... There have been good things about these last few months - mainly fostering new friendships and being able to help in what ways I can. Much love, Jane xx

Over the past few months, since the outbreak of the corona virus, I have been busy painting and decorating parts of the house including walls, cornices, ceilings, bookshelves, sanding floors, fixing broken things, and generally making good. Never underestimate the work of a painter and decorator! Michael Slater has been encouraging me and giving me a few very useful tips (i.e. when using poly filler, wipe down with a wet cloth!). I needed the help of a local plumber / electrician, so called upon my friend Sean whom I have known for some 20 years. Over time, he tended to stay longer for coffee and a chat (respecting social distancing of course!) and I gradually learned a lot more about him; he is primarily a carer for his partner Maria, who has been in a care home suffering with mild dementia, Crohn's disease amongst other things. Being unable to visit her has been particularly hard on him but he often stayed in the afternoons to use the Wi-Fi to skype her as she was getting understandably agitated by the lack of his customary daily visits. Sean at times was despairing and upset, especially when Maria tested positive for corona virus and it has been a real joy keeping him company and listening to his thoughts and worries (and hopefully I provided him with some degree of comfort and company throughout).

Sometimes he would bring his lovely friend Sue who struggles with unemployment and is living in a bed sit. Weather permitting, I would open the door of the balcony, seat her comfortably on a garden armchair and leave her magazines to read. Sue, Sean, and I would often sit in the garden to have a snack for lunch. We have all stuck together during this time and kept each other's spirits up. Sue has taught me a lot about nutrition and music, Sean has taught me how to fix a leaking tap and a thing or two about electrics. More importantly, we have all recognised each other's needs and supported each other throughout these strange times. There have been tears, laughter, comfort, and many wonderful and witty exchanges!

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**Emily Swain** has been very busy during lockdown:

I have gone for a colourful tryptic life COVID times!

I found myself really busy in not only 1 but 2 'front-line' jobs. Great 'real life' roles to play.



One, juggling organic veg and fruit box deliveries around the West Sussex countryside - including I may add - a regular delivery to a house a few doors away from our illustrious chairman Richard on the blustery South Coast. Richard, Richard's wife Elisabeth and I have been exercising our thespian muscles in a way CaAPA members would be immensely proud of - communicating in ways only actors should be allowed to do - observing social distancing - but being very clever in our cheery hoots and snorts peering into the back of my van and the box contents overflowing with glistening and delicious fruit and veg. Gesticulations and bonny smiles reflecting and ruminating on these exceptional times.

I have also been working as a care worker (nurse assistant) in the local hospice - including nursing COVID patients on their end of life journeys. A privileged, humbling job.

But don't forget my 3rd life - that of my love affair with my acting career ever present. I have been delivering some self-tapes - 2 of which landed me gigs (one for Panadol online as they love my veggie box delivery job - but no 'air' date) and one for a rather dark - but exceptionally well written feature film (4-hander) - in a lead role that starts shooting in Sept. So, something to work on and look forward to. **I attach 3 photos:**

Warm wishes and love to all CaAPA members - wherever you may be.

Emily Swain x



*(Well done Emily! Three times over!!!).*

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**Nadia Ostacchini** writes:

I thought it might be nice to catch-up with our members online via Zoom on a monthly basis perhaps, by holding an online retreat of sorts one evening, say, from 7.30pm – I suggest this time since it works well for me, what with my caring duties at home!

I have been keeping in touch with Lisa Doran and she said that she would be delighted to be involved in some way. She has been on many a retreat and her input would be valuable. I would be happy to organise it.

I would like to take this opportunity in asking all CaAPA members to pray for a vaccine soon. I have been shielding with my parents since March and it has been a challenging time, as, indeed, it has been for many. I have spent a



lot of time in the kitchen cooking new Italian dishes and tried to emulate Alan Titchmarsh by improving our garden. I have you know that I have now purchased several Angel statues as well as a Carrara marble outdoor crucifix all the way from Modena in Italy, turning it into a mini 'Paradiso' for my family. Take a look at: [www.holyart.co.uk/](http://www.holyart.co.uk/)

Warmest regards

Nadia xx

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**Victoria Kinmonth** writes:

Whilst furloughed from my acting day job I have been volunteering at hospitals looking after NHS staff.

Giving back to the Community." In this time of a combined health pandemic and economic crisis furloughed airline staff in the true spirit of "To Fly to Serve" volunteered with Project Wingman to provide NHS Staff a unique First-Class experience. Fellow CaAPA member Victoria Kinmonth whose part time Acting day job as a British Airways Purser along with colleagues from other airlines ran a First Class lounge at Northwick Park Hospital which was the epi centre of Covid 19 in London to thank NHS Staff for their selfless dedication to provide them with some respite and support away from the wards. Project Wingman included fifty-five other ventures in the UK.



The highlight of Victoria's experience was to witness the joy of a young terminally ill child who has an encyclopaedic knowledge of aircraft and would test the crew on tail fins. He was especially passionate about the A380. We presented him with a cake, model aircraft and pilot mementos.

*(The child couldn't have had a nicer experience Victoria, and one you'll treasure.). Here's a photo:*

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The writer and broadcaster **Joanna Bogle** will be leading a Catholic history walk at 7pm on Wednesday July 15, to celebrate the re-opening of churches for Mass. Groups will be meeting at St Elizabeth's church, The Vineyard, Richmond, and walking - keeping the correct social distancing - along the river to Ham, to the birthplace of St John Henry Newman. They will be hearing about some of the local history on the way. There is no charge - there will be a collection at the end to give a donation to St Elizabeth's parish for the turret fund. Please let Joanna know if you are coming by emailing her at: [auntiejoanna@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:auntiejoanna@yahoo.co.uk)

**Poem: A Prayer to Shine Through**

*I must admit, God,  
Sometimes it's hard  
To follow You.  
There are so many people sick,  
So many people dying,*



# Catholic Association *of* Performing Arts

*So many people struggling  
For justice, for peace, for breath,  
For life's simple needs.*

*Yes,*

*Sometimes it's hard*

*To seek You,*

*To find You,*

*To praise You.*

*Yet Sunday morning dawns,*

*And, though virtually,*

*Though unorthodoxly,*

*The Masses,*

*The worship,*

*The prayer*

*Still happen.*

*You created us*

*To be social-*

*To thrive*

*By enjoying life*

*Together.*

*Pandemics*

*Try*

*To ruin that,*

*Forcing*

*Us*

*Into isolation*

*Indefinitely.*

*Yet the phone still rings,*

*Voice and video calls are still incoming,*

*And texts still arrive.*

*Schools,*

*Offices,*

*Public places,*

*And events*

*Face*

*So many*

*Changes*

*And cancellations.*

*So many people flood the streets,*



# Catholic Association *of* Performing Arts

*Risking their lives,  
Crying out for change.  
We now live in a world that bursts  
With infection,  
Injustice,  
Anxiety,  
And fear.  
It's  
Everywhere,  
With no end yet in sight.  
Nowadays,  
It's hard  
To seek  
And follow  
You.  
Yet peace and grace  
Can still be found.  
We traipse along  
Morning, noon, and night,  
Watching the Earth's finest scenery,  
The dandelions,  
Daffodils,  
Dogwood,  
And cherry blossoms  
In full bloom;  
The birds' chorus  
Singing  
Throughout the land.  
And as I look up at the sky each evening,  
Watching it ignite  
Into incandescent shades  
Of pink and gold,  
Suddenly I find  
You.  
For, even on uncertain days,  
You reveal the beauty  
Of life.  
You give us the hope  
And the promise  
Of brighter*



# Catholic Association *of* Performing Arts

*And more beautiful  
Days.  
Keep reminding us  
Of how  
Your presence and grace  
Shine through  
Even the most  
Trying  
Of times.  
For that  
Is what we need  
Right now.  
That  
Is what  
We  
All  
Need  
Right now.*

Margaret Moore is a 2020 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Fairfield, currently beginning her Master's degree in the Fairfield University Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program. She writes: "I wrote this poem in the midst of the pandemic and the current period of US unrest surrounding the murder of George Floyd. Throughout my Catholic Jesuit education at Fairfield, I have learned about, and have been inspired by, Saint Ignatius of Loyola and his philosophies of finding God in all things and of praying an Examen prayer to detect God's presence in the positive and negative moments and trials of daily life. My poem speaks to both of these ideologies and aims to shed light on God's presence and graces during these turbulent times."

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## **Cardinal pays tribute to Ennio Morricone - a man of faith**

*Source: Vatican News/ICN*

The President of the Pontifical Council for Culture, Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi, has paid tribute to the legendary Italian composer Ennio Morricone, who died today in Rome at the age of 91 after a fall ten days ago.

Born in Rome, on 10 November 1928, Ennio Morricone was the son of Libera Ridolfi and trumpeter Mario Morricone, and had four siblings. He began playing and writing music from the age of six.

He entered the National Academy of St Cecilia in 1940 at the age of 12, enrolled in a four-year harmony program which he completed within six months. In 1941, Morricone was chosen from the students of the Academy, to be a part of the Orchestra of the Opera directed by Carlo Zecchi. In 1946, he received his diploma in trumpet playing. After his graduation, he continued to work in classical composition and arrangement.



In his decades-long career Morricone wrote the scores for more than 400 films, working across all film genres. His soundtracks are among the most famous in the history of cinema. He was closely linked to the film director Sergio Leone, whom he first met in primary school. Together they created some of the most famous Spaghetti Westerns including *A Fistful of Dollars* (1964), *For a Few Dollars More* (1965), *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (1966), starring Clint Eastwood, and *Once Upon a Time in the West* (1968).

Morricone won his Oscar for his work on Quentin Tarantino's *The Hateful Eight* in 2015 and was nominated for his original scores for Terrence Malick's *Days of Heaven* (1978), Roland Joffe's *The Mission* (1986), Brian De Palma's *The Untouchables* (1987), Barry Levinson's *Bugsy* (1991) and Giuseppe Tornatore's *Malena* (2000). In 2007, he received an honorary Oscar for his "magnificent and multifaceted contributions to the art of film music".

Morricone's score for the *Mission*, evoking the music of the 18th century Spanish Jesuit missions in Paraguay, is one of his most popular works with a Catholic theme. He also composed the music for 1983 film, *The Scarlet and the Black*, starring Gregory Peck, based on the story of Mgr Hugh O'Flaherty a Catholic priest who saved the lives of thousands of Jews and escaped Allied PoWs in Rome during the Second World War.

Morricone lived in Italy his entire life and never desired to live in Hollywood.

Sharing his memories of the late composer with Vatican News' Giancarlo La Vella, Cardinal Gianfranco Ravasi recalled that Ennio Morricone was a man of strong faith.

The President of the Pontifical Council for Culture said he would remember this great cinematic composer for at least two particular spiritual events.

The first, Cardinal Ravasi recalled, was in Poland when he was preparing an Oratory for Pope St John Paul II. "The second event is the most recent meeting on 15 April 2019, when I presented him, in the name of Pope Francis, with the Pontifical Gold Medal for his musical work. These two moments testify to what he has always attested: his faith." The Cardinal went on to say that there was always a religious and spiritual dimension to the composer's music, whether he was scoring a film like "The Mission" or a western.

Cardinal Ravasi said, with the music of Morricone, the score was the protagonist, along with the screen images. Elaborating on this, Cardinal Ravasi said he once invited Morricone to speak during a plenary session on the theme of beauty, starting from his experience as a musician.

*"If we review the films of which Ennio Morricone composed the soundtrack, it is almost spontaneous to remember, not only the visual dimension, but also the sound dimension. There is a musical thread, which goes hand in hand with that of the image."*



In particular, Cardinal Ravasi mentioned the film "The Mission" in which, he said, the musical commentary is of a religious nature and illustrates the theme of the film. "That is why I believe that we should all be grateful to Ennio Morricone ... for having been able to express the ineffable and the invisible at the same time, which are the soul of religion."

Morricone was married to Maria Travia for more than 64 years. They met in 1950 and married on 13 October 1956. Maria wrote lyrics to complement her husband's pieces. Her works include the Latin texts for The Mission. They had three sons and a daughter: Marco (1957), Alessandra (1961), the conductor and film composer Andrea (1964), and Giovanni Morricone (1966), a filmmaker, who lives in New York City.

In a moving text, issued after his death, Morricone thanked his family and close friends for their companionship, naming his children and grandchildren and saying: "I hope they understand how much I loved them."

He dedicated "the most painful goodbye" to his wife saying: "to her I renew the extraordinary love that bound us together and I am sorry to abandon."

Morricone said he wanted a private funeral because "I don't want to disturb."

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#### **Modern Good Samaritan retires from Aid to the Church in Need**

Mgr Andrzej Halemba ©CAN

Source: ACN

A priest, who is retiring from a leading Catholic charity after 14 years risking his life to bring aid to the Church in need, has been named a modern-day Good Samaritan by Iraq's most senior Christian leader.

**Monsignor Andrzej Halemba** served as Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) projects coordinator for Asia-Africa, covering hot spots including Syria, Iraq and Eritrea - countries across the Middle East and parts of South Asia. Chaldean Catholic Patriarch Louis Cardinal Raphael I Sako of Baghdad honoured the 65-year-old Pole with the title Chorbishop, equivalent to monsignor in the Western (Latin) Church. Describing Mgr Halemba as "the Good Samaritan of today", Patriarch Sako said he "was always present with us, building housing caravans for the displaced, polyclinics and schools and everything."

Dr Thomas Heine-Geldern, Executive President of ACN (International), said that he "has repeatedly put his life on the line, going to places of acute danger in the service of the suffering Church.

"His faith, his courage, his organisational ability, his good humour, his language skills and his professionalism - these qualities and many more he has harnessed for the good of persecuted faithful. When they needed somebody for them, he came to their aid."

Mgr Halemba's ministry had been largely confined to Europe and Africa until 2010 when ACN appointed him to lead the charity's project outreach to the Middle East at a time of unprecedented upheaval in the run-up to the Arab Spring.



Travelling repeatedly into Syria and Iraq during the height of the Daesh (ISIS) invasion, the monsignor significantly up scaled the charity's work, providing emergency relief as well as pastoral aid for hundreds of thousands of people, especially Christians.

His task was to enable persecuted Christians to find refuge and in due course enable - where possible - their return home once occupying Islamist forces had been forced into retreat.

The monsignor's aid programmes are credited with slowing the exodus of faithful, in a region where Christianity has been threatened with extinction.

Mgr Halemba worked to bring closer cooperation between the many different Catholic and Orthodox Church communities and was frequently commended for his emphasis on ecumenism.

ACN (UK) Head of Press and Information John Pontifex, who travelled with him extensively in the Middle East and Pakistan, said: "In every respect, Mgr Halemba has made a huge impact - his capacity for work is matched only by his unfailing compassion for those he serves."

Mgr Halemba, who stressed that he was always inspired by Father Werenfried van Straaten, the founder of ACN, said: "What always needs to be stressed is the spiritual character of ACN as we can never become a secular, humanitarian agency.

"Instead, we are a Catholic charity, helping people to live the life of Christ - we enable people to respond to the needs and suffering of humanity and above all we are there to dress the wounds of the bleeding Church and dry the tears of the God who weeps."

Last year, the President of Poland awarded the Polish priest with the golden cross of merit.

For his work helping refugee Christians fleeing from Syria to Lebanon, in 2015 Melkite Greek Catholic Archbishop Issam John Darwish of Zahle and Furzol in eastern Lebanon, named Mgr Halemba an Archimandrite, an honorific title.

In his first four years with ACN, starting in 2006, Mgr Halemba was projects coordinator for English and Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa, drawing on more than 12 years as a missionary in Zambia.

***And please remember that Action for the Church in Need is the subject of this year's Playlets evening which we hope to present at the CAA.***

You will be able to find out about the excellent work this charity does on their website (*Founded in 1947 as a Catholic aid organisation for war refugees and recognised as a Pontifical Foundation since 2011, Aid to the **Church in Need** is dedicated to the service of Christians around the world, through information, prayer and **action**, wherever they are persecuted or oppressed or suffering material **need**. [acnuk.org](http://acnuk.org)).*

*We hope all you budding writers will start to think about this theme and start creating!*



You can use up to about 5 actors and we would like to have a closing date of **1 October**. This should give every successful writer time to find a director and cast (CaAPA can help with this!) and even have time for a rehearsal! Use your time in lockdown! **Wednesday 25 November** is the intended date, but this is dependent, of course, on the CAA having reopened by then.

We also have a very tentative date for the Christmas meal – **Tuesday 8 December** – but this has not been confirmed yet and is subject to the above caveat.

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*Further information on last month's photo:*

**Eamon Andrews** - Icon in his memory at Our Lady of Grace, Chiswick.



## In Memory of Eamon Andrews

Family and friends of the much-loved television presenter Eamonn Andrews gathered at his parish church, Our Lady of Grace, in Chiswick on Good Shepherd Sunday, 13 April, for a special Mass and dedication of an icon in his memory, depicting St Genesius, patron saint of actors



Eamonn Andrews' daughter Emma with husband Charlie (right) and their three sons Johnny, 14, Edward, 11, and Daniel, aged 8 with the icon.

Some years ago, a Foundation was set up by the Catholic Stage Guild in memory of Eamon Andrews, to help young people. After a time, it was not attracting any requests for funding, so it was decided to have Eamon remembered at Our Lady of Grace Chiswick. Mgr Jim Curry was Parish Priest at the time. always a good friend to the Guild. He arranged for a Russian nun to create an icon in his memory,

which is in a side chapel to the left of the sanctuary and near where Eamon used to read. A celebration was held in his memory and, after a memorial mass, a lovely reception was held in the Parish Hall where we were able to meet his family who had flown over from Dublin to attend. There were also leading representatives from Thames Television where Eamon was associated for many years.

A very fitting evening to the memory of a lovely man, also a hard-working chairman of the Catholic Stage Guild. We look forward to receiving your lockdown stories, amusing on-stage and off- tales and any items you think might be of interest to the members.

***(Once again, please send any messages to [kennethmichaels@hotmail.com](mailto:kennethmichaels@hotmail.com) for inclusion in future newsletters).***

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# Catholic Association of Performing Arts

Finally, as promised, we include information on data protection. We are following the guidelines set out in this Society of St Augustine of Canterbury.

*Document herewith:*

In the meantime, please stay safe and may God bless and protect you, your families and friends.

Kenneth Michaels  
(Hon.Secretary).



## THE SOCIETY OF ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

Registered Charity No: 249033 Founded 1922

### GDPR Privacy Statement - please keep

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) is a regulation by which the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission intend to strengthen and unify data protection for all individuals within the European Union (EU). The GDPR aims primarily to give control back to citizens and residents over their personal data and to simplify the regulatory environment for international business by unifying the regulation within the EU.

#### What data do we hold?

We hold the names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses and Gift Aid declarations provided to us by members. We also hold information on payments and donations made by members to the Society.

#### What are the lawful bases on which we "store" and "process" your data?

We store your data because there is "legitimate interest" in being able to record your membership and donations made to the Society. We will send information to you and/or contact you about any queries because you have given your "consent" for us to do so.

#### Your rights:

You have the right to ask for a copy of information we hold on you and ask for it to be amended or deleted.

#### The Society's Responsibilities:

We will ensure that your data is kept private and only used by relevant people to carry out Society activities.

March 2018

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THIS FRIDAY ITV4 at 7p.m. - 19th stage of the Tour De France is in Lourdes. It was in 2018, after a gap of 18 years, that the 19th stage began from Lourdes. Well worth watching as it has some interesting images of Lourdes!



Wearecaapa



@Wearecaapa

