

# Holy Cross Abbey, Whitland 2018 News

## The Year of Visitors and Weather



Morning Mist



Noon Day Sun



Evening Glory

## Greetings from the Whitland Community

Visit our new website [www.hcawhitland.co.uk](http://www.hcawhitland.co.uk)

### Snow

After a cold, wet winter, we began to look forward to Spring. And then the snow arrived in February and again in March. For Sr Elsie this was her first experience of snow, which she enjoyed. Sr Usia from Poland took it in her stride!



### Fr Michael & The Juniors Course

In May we welcomed Fr Michael Casey for a few days prior to the Juniors Course at Caldey. During his stay he gave us a couple of talks. The Juniors had a day out to visit St David's Cathedral, and came to Whitland en route.



### Emeritus Bishop Daniel

Mass on Low Sunday was celebrated by Fr Laurence Pelosi for Emeritus Bishop Daniel's intentions, marking the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Priestly Ordination. After Mass everyone enjoyed tea and cake sharing with Bishop Daniel their best wishes. It was a happy occasion.



### Fr Bede

In May Dom Bede, recently retired abbot of Calvaire, New Brunswick, Canada, came to stay for a month with us. We look forward to his return in Spring 2019, when he will be giving us a retreat.



## Sr Elsie's Temporary Profession



On the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Sr Elsie made her First Profession, Deo Gratias

## Sr Stephanie

A few days later Sr Stephanie celebrated 65 years of profession: on what used to be the Feast of the Visitation.

## School visit

On the feast of St Thomas, the Apostle, Fr Mansel, teachers and First

Holy Communion & Year 6 children from St David's Catholic Primary school in Swansea visited our Abbey Bakery to see how altar breads are made. They had many tastings and afterwards joined the community for Sext.

## M. Katarina Shibuya of Imari

M. Katarina arrived on 28<sup>th</sup> September for a two week visit which everyone enjoyed.



## Sr Elizabeth's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday



Celebrating with friends and the community

## Ecumenical Vespers and Storm Callum

Canon Patrick Thomas, Vicar of Christ Church, Carmarthen, and his parishioners were unable to attend because of the havoc wreaked by Storm Callum, so we improvised! We had 26 guests which was amazing due to the weather.

## Garden & Grounds

This year we have invested time and energy in our grounds. We acquired four swarms of bees and had masses of tomatoes which we enjoyed right up to November. The ongoing battle with bramble and the Ash Die-back in the woodland continues but this year we can really see the results. The top garden is blossoming



## Thank you

We thank Fr Michael Hart for his ministry. Thanks also to Jan & Julian, Dave, Suzanne, Clem, Eleanor our volunteer gardener, Luke and his team, Sue and hers. And all who have helped to make 2018 a good year.