

# Alongside

The magazine for AoS Supporters  
Issue 26 ~ Spring 2011



## Piracy: When will it end?

See our 'Focus On' article on page 3



**Apostleship of the Sea**

**By Martin Foley**  
**AoS National Director**



*“If there is anything which distinguishes religion at all... it is the power of prayer.”*

– Blessed John Henry Newman

In the Acts of the Apostles we read of what happened when the early Christian community gathered in prayer:

*“As they prayed, the house where they were assembled rocked. From this time they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to proclaim the word of God fearlessly.”*

The house rocked! Indeed, prayer is a powerful thing.

Last October, I joined AoS Trustees and National Directors from across Europe to celebrate our 90th anniversary. In his message to this gathering, Archbishop Veglio, President of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerant People, wrote:

*“We should remember that the first members of AoS were formed in the Apostleship of Prayer and their main trust was prayer. We should rediscover this distinctive characteristic of the Apostolate not only by gathering regularly in prayer with the volunteers, but also by organizing people to offer daily their prayers for the people of the sea and those who minister to them.”*

Archbishop Veglio’s clarion call to make prayer the bedrock of our mission in AoS deserves a response. We live in an uncertain world. Seafarers face many challenges, not least the threat of piracy as you will read more about in this issue. Let us then commit to praying for the work of AoS, individually, in families, in groups and as parish communities. The richness of our Catholic faith offers plenty of opportunities to pray for seafarers – devotions, rosaries, masses etc.

Please make prayers for seafarers and the work of AoS a fixture of your prayer life. Send me your prayer intentions (personal or family intentions are also welcome) and I will ensure that we remember them in the prayers we offer at head office.

The mission of AoS extends across the world but prayer has the power to unite us all – seafarers, supporters, volunteers, chaplains, management and trustees.

Expect miracles!



# Piracy

The welcome release from captivity last November of Rachel and Paul Chandler, a retired couple held hostage by Somali pirates for 13 months, was cause for much celebration and, no doubt, relief.

Watching the news coverage of the happy couple readjusting to freedom, my thoughts turned to the hundreds of seafarers currently held hostage by pirates or navigating piracy-affected waters fearing for their safety and well-being. We don't tend to hear much about the plight of these seafarers in our mainstream media. This is not surprising when one considers that we hear little about seafarers – on whom we depend so much – full stop! It is only when individuals like Rachel and Paul Chandler are kidnapped that the reality of what hostages endure is brought home to us.

Between 2006 and 2009 the reported number of actual and attempted attacks by pirates and armed robbers on merchant ships increased from 239 to 406. The main piracy affected waters are off the coast of Somalia, especially the Gulf of Aden and western Indian Ocean, the South China Sea, and the Gulf of Guinea. During the same period the reported number of violent acts against crew members, including killing, also increased dramatically from 218 per annum to 726 per annum.

Piracy thrives in so-called 'failed states', like Somalia, where the breakdown of law and order allows criminal gangs, including pirates, to operate with near impunity. The Royal Navy and other fleets continue to patrol piracy-affected waters to protect merchant ships and deter and capture pirates. However, the scourge of piracy can only be tackled effectively by international action, coordinated by the United Nations, to foster democracy and good governance in countries like Somalia.

In the meantime, charities like the Apostleship of the Sea have a critical role to play in supporting the crews of ships who have either been the victims of a pirate attack or, more commonly, are about to set sail through piracy affected waters and fear for their safety. One can imagine that in such circumstances one's thoughts turn to family, to home and to loved ones. The isolation and loneliness experienced by many seafarers is exacerbated.



*Image: FreeDigitalPhotos.net*



*Image: FreeDigitalPhotos.net*

It is in these circumstances that our chaplains and volunteers stand 'alongside' seafarers. Words of comfort are spoken, prayers offered and the love of Christ made real.

Effective action to tackle piracy may be beyond AoS but your support for our ministry enables us to make a real difference to seafarers who live with the very real threat of piracy. Thank you. Please continue to remember seafarers and their families in your prayers.

**Martin Foley, National Director**

# AoS Additions

## **New Fundraising & Communications Director**



We would like to announce that John Green has taken over the role of Director of Fundraising and Communications. He amalgamates this with his current work as Development Director and will now use the title, *Director of Development (Fundraising & Communications)*. He tells us he will be focusing on building up the fundraising department and focusing on core elements to bring in increased funds. John has been with AoS for seven years and

so is well versed in what the charity needs to be successful. We wish John good luck in his new role.

## **A New Chaplain for Tilbury**



We would like to welcome Deacon Paul Glock as our new chaplain in Tilbury. Paul is 59 years of age and has been employed in the Port Industry for 39 years. He is a permanent Deacon and has also served as a chaplain in the Prison Service for 16 years. We would like to say hello to Paul and hope he settles into his new post well.

## **London Office Volunteer Required**

Do you have experience with digital photographs and photograph storage? Do you have one or two days to spare a week for a few months or more? We are looking for a volunteer to help us in our Head Office based in Moorgate, London.

We require a person to help us implement a new photograph sorting and storage software. Experience of working with digital photographs and Photoshop would be helpful but not essential. The main job would be to sort through all our photographs to decide which are useful to keep, labelling and sorting them in the new computer programme. Knowledge of press and media and what makes a good photograph for PR purposes would also be helpful. If you think you may be interested please give Marina a call on 07758 871289 or email [marina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](mailto:marina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk) and she can discuss it further.

# AoS Fundraising News

## The Great Big Small Charity Car Draw 2010

Thank you to all those who bought tickets to the FSI Charity Car Draw. The draw was such a success in 2009 that we participated again in 2010. This year the prize was a brand new MINI First and every ticket buyer had a chance to help out their own nominated small charity. For those who bought tickets and nominated us as your charity, you managed to raise £70. Thank you. Unfortunately it was not an AoS supporter who won the car, but maybe next year.



## Our Marathon Man Did It!



Gareth our brave marathon runner ran well in the London Marathon 2010 and we can now tell you that he completed the course in 6 hours 28 minutes. We are very proud of him for sticking with it and completing the whole run!

Not only did he manage this immense physical task but he also raised a whopping £1625 for Apostleship of the Sea. We would like to thank Gareth for all his hard work and efforts over the last few months.

However he could not have done it without your support. Thank you to those kind supporters who helped Gareth reach and exceed his fundraising target.

## London 10K 2010

We once again have spaces for the London 10K Run 2011. If you are interested in running this and raising sponsorship for AoS, please contact [annie@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](mailto:annie@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk) or call 020 7012 8609 and she will discuss it further with you.



# Sea - Wheeling Challenge

We are sure most of you are now familiar with Sea-Wheeling. For those of you who do not know, it was our major charity event of 2010 and was a bike ride consisting of 60 towns in 60 days around the coastline of the UK; with one aim - to raise funds for AoS.

The idea for this event came from AoS Trustee David Savage, who a few years ago, completed a sponsored bike ride. On the 15th November 2008, David rode from Liverpool to Hull, non-stop, on a charity bike ride to raise funds for AoS. This challenge spiked his enthusiasm and Sea Wheeling was conceived.



**We are proud to report that Sea-Wheeling was an immense success and that David Savage completed the mammoth task he set himself. David cycled 60 towns in 60 days around the Coastline of the UK, starting from Hull on 3rd September 2010 and finishing in Hull on 11th November 2010 on Armistice day.**

He met many friends along the way, who were there to welcome him, support him, help him on his way, cycle part of the route with him and fundraise to help him meet his target. From the rich and famous such as Lord Prescott, to loyal AoS supporters and seafarers in local towns and routes along the way; David was made to feel welcome in every town, and was given a place to stay and generous hospitality. To all those who helped David we would like to take this chance to say a big thank you.

David himself summed up the reason for his journey with these words:

*“In the past two months, with the support of everyone I have met along the way, I’ve been fortunate to see first hand some of the work done for seafarers by AoS chaplains and ship visitors round the country. I’ve visited ships and also seen the gratitude felt by those same seafarers for such concern. If this ride raises public awareness of our dependence on seafarers and of the AoS people who care for their welfare, it has been worthwhile.”*

**David has so far raised £16,017.36, which for us is a phenomenal amount of money; and the funds are still coming in. We want to congratulate David again and thank him for his time, effort and support. This event was not only a year or more in planning but two months of his life devoted just to cycling and raising funds for AoS. We cannot thank him enough.**

On the next page is a small selection of photographs documenting this great challenge. You can find more information and stories from the ride on our website. David also dutifully blogged about his cycle experience on a day by day basis, and it is fantastic reading. He tells his story from his own point of view and each day is illustrated by beautiful pictures from the places he cycled through. It is well worth a read. You can visit his blog by going to <http://seawheeling.blogspot.com>



# AoS News

## In 2010 We Celebrated Our 90th Anniversary



Last year we celebrated our 90th anniversary. In addition to numerous celebrations throughout the year on 19th and 20th October, members of the Pontifical Council for Migrants and Itinerants in Rome and representatives of AoS from eleven European countries and a few from further afield met in the Conforti Institute, Coatbridge, to celebrate the anniversary and to look at what the future will bring for AoS.

The meeting brought an encouraging message, full of practical common-sense about future challenges in seafaring ministry and how AoS worldwide would adapt it's ministry to encompass any development in merchant seafaring. Martin Foley was there to represent AoS GB; and he reports:

*"It was a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the relationship between the different national AoS organisations and consider how we can cooperate more closely for the benefit of seafarers. We were also given the opportunity to reflect upon and learn from our history in meeting the challenges of today."*

The highlight of the conference was a Mass celebrated in St. Aloysius church Glasgow, which saw the original formation of the AoS on the 4th October 1920. By kind permission of Father Peter Griffiths SJ, the Parish Priest, Bishop Peter Moran Bishop Promoter (Scotland) of the AoS, presided and preached at the parish evening Mass. He was assisted by Deacon Brian Kilkerr, AoS chaplain for the North-East of Scotland. Local volunteers and supporters of AoS came along to show their support and all moved to an informal reception after the Mass.

### **A bit of History in case you didn't know....**

AoS was officially created when on the 4th October 1920, a small group of lay people including Mr. Peter F. Anson, Mr. Arthur Gannon and Bro. Daniel Shields S.J, gathered in Glasgow and decided to unify the efforts amongst many coastal towns to help and support seafarers. They called it Apostleship of the Sea (AoS).

In 1922 the Archbishop of Glasgow, as Chairman of AoS at the time, submitted to the Holy See a copy of their Constitution. The Holy Father Pius XII responded with a letter addressed to P. F. Anson in which he blessed the "work" of religious assistance to the people of the sea and expressed his hope that the initiative would reach the coasts of the two hemispheres. This it certainly did and the global AoS that we know today grew and came about.



*Original Watercolour by Peter Anson*

## Visiting Seafarers Are Able to Go to Mass

Ship visitor Pat Morrissey and his team from the port of Sharpness recently had the opportunity to take some Polish seafarers who docked in port to a local Mass in Thornbury town.

Providing access to Mass and the sacraments is one of the services AoS provides for visiting seafarers, whether that be arranging for a priest to say Mass on board ship or taking seafarers to a Mass. This time the seafarers had the time whilst in dock to leave the ship - this is becoming an increasing rarity.

These lucky seafarers however had the pleasure of enjoying time away from the ship. The seafarers were from the MV Eva Maria Muller. Those pictured are Capt. Andrew, First Mate Jan and crew member Jan. They were very grateful to the team for helping them to celebrate their faith.



## Christmas Spirit - St Hugh's Shoe Box Appeal & Dinner



*Fr. John (left), Fr. Colum (right) and the captain on the bridge of the RBD Shanghai.*

St Hugh's Parish in Lincoln decided to support seafarers through the Christmas period. AoS fundraiser Helen Townsend asked parishioners to fill shoe boxes with toiletries, sweets, socks and phone cards for the seafarers at Immingham Docks.

The parish priest Fr. John Kyne and Helen took an amazing total of 51 boxes, together with donations of warm clothing and footwear to the docks.

They were met by Fr. Colum and luckily their timing was spot on and a ship was in dock. They took some boxes over to the coal ship RBD Shanghai where they handed out boxes to the captain and crew. The crew were touched by the gifts and the captain said "although they had travelled around the world, this was the first time that anyone had given them anything." They had just arrived from Indonesia and were bound for Russia the next day so the donations were much needed.

St Hugh's also decided to donate money to AoS that was raised from their annual Christmas Party, held on 17th December. They raised a total of £150. Clearly AoS and seafarers are very much in the thoughts at St Hugh's and we thank them and Helen, the parish contact, for their tremendous efforts.



*Team who prepared the Christmas dinner at St Hugh's*

## Christmas in Portsmouth



The four week period of Advent leading up to Christmas can be a busy time for ship visitors. In Portsmouth, ship visitors Elfi Ip and Geoff Breeze held Holy Communion services every Monday evening on board their regular ships, Klipper Stream, Agulhas Stream, Benguela Stream and Royal Klipper. The services were invariably very well attended by the seafarers. Included in the services were several Christmas carols sung with enthusiastic vigour by the seafarers, often accompanied by a seafarer playing his guitar.



*Elfi & Geoff*

All of the seafarers, including the ship's masters, received an individual Christmas present personally provided by Elfi and Geoff, as they do every year. After the services, Elfi and Geoff were also entertained by the Filipino seafarers who continued to sing in their own language and were encouraged to join in with them. The Masters and crew of all the ship visited are always very welcoming and hospitable.



## Cameron Speaks Up For AoS



Ten year old Cameron from Norwich has once again flown the flag for AoS. On the back of his joke machine and computer game he designed to raise funds for AoS, he has been busy designing new ways to raise awareness and funds.

Just recently he created and gave a presentation to his Parish, Our Lady of the Annunciation, Poringland, which highlighted what seafarers do for us. Cameron was given inspiration for his presentation after he was invited by AoS chaplain Sr. Marian Davey to

visit the port of Felixstowe.

While at the port Cameron had the opportunity to look around at a working docks and to visit a ship and the seafarers' centre. He commented that 'Seafarer's cabins were tiny, the freight trains were very long' and he decided 'seafarers were like Pringles!' in their tiny cabins.

Cameron has his own website in which he links all the work he does for AoS, and you can see all his different ideas and creations if you go to <http://theoval.cmp.uea.ac.uk/~gcc/family/cameron/aos/>



## Bishop Declan Lang Visits AoS in Bristol



*Bishop Declan with the Filipino crew*

Rt Rev Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton, visited AoS in the port of Bristol recently in his capacity as Chairman of the International Affairs Department of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. He was hosted by our National Director, Martin Foley. During the visit Bishop Lang was given short presentations on the work of AoS nationally and locally. He had a further briefing on some of the current issues in the International Shipping industry and then paid

a visit to the crew of a car carrying ship, Queen Sapphire. A gathering of 14 Filipino seafarers met with him during a break in their work routine. There were 21 crew members in the vessel, which had earlier arrived in Portbury Dock after a lengthy passage from Japan with 5,000 cars on board. They had encountered stormy weather on part of the journey and were glad to be in port again. Before going to telephone home and buy essential supplies and enjoy a couple of hours shore time respite, they were delighted to welcome the Bishop aboard their ship. They told him about their appreciation of all the support they receive from Stella Maris (AoS) during the lengthy periods of time which they spend away from home and families. The men were mostly on 10 month contracts, but one young seafarer told the Bishop that he had spent the last two years continually at sea.

The visit ended with the Bishop meeting the co-owners of the Bristol Port Co over lunch and being able to exchange experiences from different perspectives. The port owners have been very supportive of the work of the AoS in the port.

## Thanks For Your Support

### 2010 AoS In Numbers:

Ships visited	9,547
Seafarers assisted	190,940
Masses celebrated on ships	316
AoS port chaplains	13
Ship Visiting volunteers	103
Seafarers helped in hospital	20
Ships provided with transport for seafarers	1,349
Ships requesting phone or SIM cards	2,010
Seafarers helped with serious welfare problems	28
Ships requesting faith resources	1,456
Cruise chaplaincy days	207



## Fishing Crew of the Athena Cared for by AoS

A few months ago a Faroes registered fishing vessel, the Athena, caught fire about 230 miles (370km) south west of the Isles of Scilly. Ann Donnelly AoS South West chaplain was on hand to help out where needed. She confirmed that there were 112 crew on board. 98 of the crew landed at Falmouth docks and were transferred to a Plymouth hotel; the rest were taken into medical care for smoke inhalation. The nationalities of the crew included Chinese, Russian, Peruvian and Swedish. Also among the crew were six Russian women which is an unusually high proportion of females considering the domination of males choosing careers in the seafaring industry.

Both Ann and local AoS volunteers visited the stricken crew to provide them with clothing and other items they needed (in particular supplying the ladies with personal toiletries) until they were repatriated or joined a sister ship. Ann Donnelly spoke to one of the ships engineers who reported that *“All the crew were dreadfully upset and shocked by the events as the fire was pretty well out of control!”* He also said that it had taken at least 48 hours for the crew to calm down since the incident.

The vessel itself is still at sea awaiting a decision as to where they may bring it in closer, as Falmouth is considered not deep enough. AoS will continue to support the crew and provide any practical and pastoral care they may need until their future is decided.

Often fishing vessels and their crew are a forgotten area of seafaring. However AoS helps fishermen working out of many GB ports, especially the centre of the industry in the Scottish ports of Troon, Peterhead and Fraserburgh. To highlight our increasing work with fishing vessels we recently convened our chaplains for training on the new International Labour Organisation (ILO) fishing convention and laid down measures for action in case of emergency or incident.



Image: FreeDigitalPhotos.net

### A Quick Question

Do you currently work in shipping? Or have you worked in shipping in the past? We are looking for contacts within the shipping industry. If you think you know anyone who would be able to help support our cause then please contact [john@apostleshiofthesea.org.uk](mailto:john@apostleshiofthesea.org.uk) or call him on 020 7012 8607.

## Cruise Chaplaincy is Vital

Just before Christmas we organised an awareness day to promote our cruise chaplaincy programme. Seven priests who would be undertaking cruise chaplaincy over Christmas on P&O cruise ships met together to discuss the benefits of their work and the possible difficulties they will experience whilst at sea, especially over the Christmas period which can be very lonely for seafarers away from family and loved ones.



For cruise chaplains the focus of their work is centred on the crew of these ships, away from home for up to nine months, working long hours, seven days a week. Often the crew are glad to have an independent 'ear' to share their concerns and also pray and celebrate the sacraments. They also celebrate Mass for passengers and lend a friendly ear to all who sail.

In 2010, AoS provided 200 days of cruise chaplaincy free of charge and the aim is to expand this over the next few years. P&O cruise director, Neil Oliver, was himself present on the day and described the research done surrounding the needs of cruise ship crews and the noted the benefit P&O see in having a chaplain on board for both passengers and crew.

Over Christmas last year (2010), AoS deployed seven priests on cruise ships. Sailing around the Mediterranean, across the Atlantic and around the Caribbean may sound 'just the ticket' during the winter months but these priests were there to serve the crew. This floating parish they minister to experiences in an intense fashion the joys and stresses of a community working seven days a week and living and working in close proximity. This quote from a ship's doctor on one P&O cruise ship sums up a chaplains role:

*"I should like to thank you on behalf of all the medical team on board for your ministry whilst you have been here. Not only are you always a cheery face for us all to see but we have all, individually, thought that we see far fewer crew on here with emotional and psychological problems than on other ships. I have never worked on a ship with a chaplain before, and I am sure that a lot of this decrease in patients with these particular problems is due to the work that you do. The little things that you do for the crew make a big difference, and I am sure that they all appreciate having someone like yourself that they can talk to. I wanted you to know that your work does make a tangible difference. Thank you and God bless you."*

**Have you been on a cruise with a cruise chaplain on board? Have you in the past, or are you now working in the cruise industry?**

We would like to get your opinions on our chaplaincy service, so do please contact

[john@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](mailto:john@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk) or call 020 7012 8607.



Please give  
generously

Apostleship of the Sea



*In stormy  
times, in rough  
times and in  
calm times,  
Apostleship  
of the Sea is  
there to support  
seafarers.*

*In what is a difficult time of your life, can you look  
within yourself and find the strength to support seafarers,  
with the peace and knowledge that your gift is the wish  
of your friend or loved one.*

Apostleship of the Sea, Herald House, Lambeth Palace,  
Southill Row, London, E.C.13 8LJ. Tel: 0207 588 8284  
Reg. charity no. 1059833 Company Registration No. 3220318

## In Memorium Tributes

We have recently been asked by a few people if we could provide an In Memorium scheme where donations can be made to Apostleship of the Sea during a funeral or wake, at the expressed wish of the deceased or their family.

These donations are either as a retiring collection, or in these times of being eco friendly and reducing our carbon footprints, families now often prefer people to donate money to charity rather than buying flowers and wreaths.

Whichever people prefer, we have now produced a special donation envelope for uses in such circumstances. It is sensitively worded and themed to be relevant to the situation.

If you would like to see an example or would like more information about

how you could use these envelopes in the future do please contact us and we can discuss this further with you. If you or a relative has supported Apostleship of the Sea in their lifetime, what better way to honour this by continuing to support us and spreading the word.

## Brian Helps Seafarer at Death's Door

Visiting Rogelio Dalumpines at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary became a daily discipline for our chaplain, Brian Kilkerr, throughout December and the Christmas period. Rogelio is a Filipino Fisherman, working on a vessel in Fraserburgh, who collapsed at the quayside. Luckily a worker in the harbour office saw him fall to the ground and rushed out to give assistance; she used CPR to restart Rogelio's heart as paramedics were scrambled. He was taken to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary where it was diagnosed as a heart defect. On the 2nd December he underwent heart bypass surgery resulting in him being unable to fly home for Christmas. So Brian stepped in to support him through this difficult period. Brian organised for a priest and some of the Filipino community to visit to keep up Rogelio's spirits. Eventually Rogelio was given the all clear to fly home. Brian assisted in getting him to the airport and safely on to the plane home.



## Where Did We Come From?

A few days ago in the office, in an unmarked postal bag we received a pleasant surprise; this beautiful knitted nativity scene arrived! There was no note or letter with it, and no indication of who or where it was from. If you were the person who sent this to us, or you know who it might be, could you please get in touch so we can thank you properly and find out more details, such as if you hand knitted it or bought it, and if there are more where these came from. We would love to hear from you.



## An exercise in collaborative working!

By Tony McAvoy Regional Chaplain to the North

The Captain of the Maersk Lancer, a very smart modern ocean going survey ship, called me to see if we would be interested in taking possession of a rowing machine which the ship no longer needed as they had taken delivery of a newer model. Having seen this impressive piece of kit we readily agreed to take it and we placed it at the South Tees Centre where the mission already had another exercise machine.

Our joint plan was to advertise the availability of the two items, as a pair, to ships in port, with the first to declare an interest being able to acquire them. However, during a visit to the m/v Wilson Trent at Hartlepool our volunteer Ship Visitor Brenda Bland became aware that the newly assembled Russian crew were looking for exercise equipment and called me to see if the two items were still available. They were, so I in turn had a chat with Colin my Mission to Seafarers colleague and we arranged the transport of two pieces of equipment the 25 miles or so to Hartlepool in the Mission mini-bus where the crew members were delighted to receive them.



*Crew members of the Wilson Trent with the equipment at the dockside.*

## **Would You Consider a Standing Order to AoS?**

We are grateful for any donations we receive, all money donated goes towards our work with seafarers both practically and pastorally. However allow us to share an interesting fact with you.

**Recent research has shown that a significant proportion of people intend to donate to a charity or respond to an appeal; however for various reasons they never end up sending in their donation.**

A standing order for a set amount each month negates the need to remember to give. Even a small amount such as £3 a month makes a big difference to a charity.

**Let us take the stress out of donating. If you are ready to help a seafarer, please give a regular gift by completing and returning the standing order form on the next page.**

***By supporting us YOU are changing the lives of seafarers, and we can't thank you enough.***





## AoS Standing Order Form for Regular Giving

A Standing Order enables you to make regular donations to AoS, so that you can support our chaplains and volunteer ship visitors without having to remember every week, month or quarter to send us a cheque (and it'll save you stamps, too!). Can you give a small amount every month? £3 per month is only 10p per day and £10 per month is only 33p per day.

**When you are ready to set up your standing order, please use the form below and send it to us at:  
AoS, Freepost LON21409, London EC1B 1NB**

After the Standing Order has been set up, it is entirely under your control. If you change your address, or want to change the amount or frequency of your donation, you can do so by contacting your bank. It is useful, however, if you let us know of any changes you make.

**Please fill out the form below** (in block capitals).

I \_\_\_\_\_ (Full Name in Capitals)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Would like to make a regular gift to AoS of (please tick) **£20**  **£10**  **£3**  or **£** \_\_\_\_\_ (other amount) each month until further notice.

Please debit my Account number: 

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 Bank sort code: 

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Starting on: 

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 Signature: 

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To the Manager (branch name & address) 

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 Postcode: 

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For office use only: To AIB City Branch, 9/10 Angel Court, London, EC2R 7AB Sort Code: 23-84-82 Account No: 00342017

### Gift Aid Declaration

I am a UK tax payer. This is a Gift Aid Donation. My income tax and/or capital gains tax payment is more than AoS will reclaim. (28p for every £1).

Please reclaim tax on my donation(s)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

For AoS to reclaim tax, you must pay income or capital gains tax in the UK more than or equal to the amount of tax we will reclaim – currently 28p out of every £1 you give.



Please cut along line and send back the whole form

Charity Number: 1069833 Business Number: 3320318



## Ryder Cup Comes to City of Newport

In September 2010 a 6\* cruise ship quietly docked into the Port of Newport. It was to act as a floating hotel for those attending the world famous Ryder Cup (Europe Leg). The ship was called Le Diamant, and its home port was Marseille.



*Le Diamant*

The 120 strong crew on board ship were a mix of nationalities, including Filipino, French, Portuguese, Ukrainian and Russian. Very soon requests for Mass were coming in from some of the Filipino crew. The team of ship visitors in Newport, John Marengi, Tony Boddy and Peter Roberts sprang into action. They visited the crew on board on a regular basis throughout the ships time in dock. Often Mass was attended by over 40 crew and they also provided faith resources such as rosaries and religious icons, kindly collected by Sister Ann Gabrielle of Llantarnum Abbey, Cwmbran.

One crew member informed Peter Roberts that he had a sister he had not seen for many years and who now lived in Bradford. He had arranged with the captain that she was allowed to visit the ship, but on the day she had been refused entry into the dock itself by security staff. Luckily Peter was on hand and drove the seafarer to the dock gates, however it was too late as she had left. Peter, never one to give up, contacted the sister and asked her to return another day. This time he ensured she was able to enter the docks and board the ship where she and her brother spent two hours together. This is the first time they had seen each other in 10 years. He had in fact, being the eldest, paid for her to come and live in England and study to become a nurse.

This is a great example of how the little actions that our AoS chaplains and volunteer ship visitors perform everyday have such a great impact on those individuals involved. Thanks to the Newport ship visiting team.

## Could You Be A Ship Visitor?

Volunteer ship visitors go on board vessels to visit seafarers, approaching them as friends, listening to their concerns and where possible offering practical help, for example providing news from seafarers' home countries, local information and arranging for Mass or liturgy on board.

Do you think you have what it takes to be a ship visitor? We are always looking for people to join our ship visiting teams. If

you would like to learn more about what being a ship visitor involves then please contact us at the office on 020 7588 8285.



## Resolve to Get Involved: Ebay for AoS

If any of you have ever sold anything on Ebay you will be interested to hear that they now do a charity donation scheme, in which if you list an item for sale you can choose for a certain percentage of the sale monies to go to a nominated charity. We have now registered to be one of these nominated charities; and so, if in the future you are going to sell on ebay, please think about giving a proportion of the sale to AoS. If you would like more information then please contact Marina at [marina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](mailto:marina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk) and she will discuss it with you in more detail and give you help and advice if necessary.

We are constantly looking for new and interesting ways to raise much needed funds for seafarers. So if you have a novel fundraising idea do let us know.

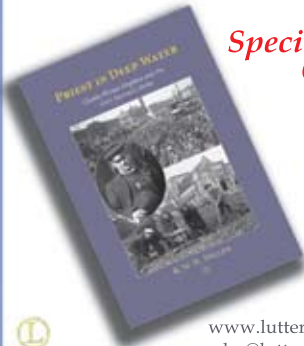


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