



## Province 15 Hold a Third Contest to Remember

The third Province 15 Public Speaking Contest took place on Sunday 28th February at the Yew Lodge Hotel, Kegworth. It proved to be yet another successful event, attended by Grand Vice-President Vernon DeCruz and the Bishops of Nottingham and Hallam. There were nine contestants from Catholic schools across the Province. Topics ranged from "Imagination is more important than knowledge" to "It's not how long you live that counts but how well you live". Once again the contestants were an inspiration to all in the confident way in which they spoke about their chosen topic. The winner was Emily Cox of Our Lady's Convent school, Loughborough, whose topic was "You don't know what you've got till it's gone".

David Rowley, Provincial President said "This contest is now one of the highlights of the year and there was a real buzz around the room all afternoon. It was so pleasing to see so many teachers and students supporting their contestants. There is now a real momentum behind this event which demonstrates our utter commitment to the development of young people".



The picture shows the contestants with Vernon DeCruz, Grand Vice President; Rt Rev Malcolm McMahon, Bishop of Nottingham; Rt Rev John Rawsthorne, Bishop of Hallam; Jim Kelly, Past Grand President; and Paul Mainon, Director Province 1

## Outstanding Contestants at Midlands Public Speaking

The 25th Annual Midlands Catenian Public Speaking Contest took place on Sunday 28th March at Solihull library theatre in front of a large enthusiastic audience of Catenians, their families and supporters, the families and friends of the 10 contestants, all of whom came from Midlands Catholic schools. The competition was won by Daniel Saunders from St Augustine's Catholic High School, Redditch, whose topic was 'Music is the Food of Love'. In second place was Molly Chatterway from St Joseph's College, Trent Valley, whose subject was 'Is Marriage Relevant in Today's Society?' closely followed in third place by Alex Thompson of Princethorpe College, Rugby, whose subject was 'Money is the Root of all Evil'. The three adjudicators were Grand President Joe McNally, Mrs Sue Whale, and Province 6 President Bill Johnson.

The standard of all the competitors was very high, and no one envied the adjudicators their task of sorting out the first three places. Grand President, as chief adjudicator, in his remarks congratulated all the contestants on their topic knowledge and argument, and the eloquence with which they were presented. Both Daniel and Molly will go forward to the National contest, Alex is reserve.

The contest was excellently organised and run by Redditch Circle's Mike Dean and his team.



Contest winner Daniel Saunders receives his trophy from Grand President Joe McNally



The Judges: Grand President, Mrs Sue Whale and Bill Johnson

## Province 4 Public Speaking Competition

Province 4 held their annual Public Speaking Competition on Friday 26th March in the Lecture Theatre of Liverpool Hope University who, once again this year, were the competition's sponsors. This year's adjudicators were Paul McCarthy (Chair), Peter Moloney, Rose Linnane, and Dermott Glennon and the Catenian National Organiser, Director of Province 1 Paul Mainon, also attended. There were 190 brothers, wives, parents and friends in attendance for a thoroughly enjoyable evening of erudite speaking and a buffet. The competition was eventually won by Matthew Handley of St Francis Xavier's College, Liverpool, whose topic was that well known phrase of Barack Obama "Yes we can!" Matthew and the runner up, Abigail Bradbury, of St Mary's College, Liverpool, will represent Province 4 in the National Final.



Provincial President Terry McCaig presenting the Hope University Shield to the winner Matthew Handley



The contestants with Provincial President Terry McCaig, Director Paul Mainon, and the adjudicators