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FREE

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

October 2018 - No.333

Warm Irish Welcome for Families & Holy Father



Mass in the Royal Dublin Society arena was held after each Keynote Speaker's Presentation

OUR DIOCESAN FAMILIES' group arrived in Dublin with Bishop Richard on 21 August for the World Meeting of Families. All met up at the accommodation in Dublin City University (DCU). We each then made plans for which presentations and activities of the Pastoral Congress we wished to attend. The Congress was located at the Royal Dublin Society (RDS) facilities on the other side of the city. The group is pictured below in the Inter Faith Room at DCU after group Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard; inserted photos add the pilgrims not present for the group photo, and the photographer.

The programme each day was based on *Amoris Laetitia*, the Joy of Love, divided into the three parts, each day comprising three of the nine chapters. Activities were available for children and teens, for prayer and reconciliation, and of course for food and drinks.

In each of the three afternoons there were presentations by Keynote Speakers in the RDS Arena. On the Thursday the speaker was Cardinal Vincent Nichols on the *Support and Preparation for Marriage in the light of Amoris Laetitia*. Mass (pictured on left) followed each Keynote Speaker.

Saturday was taken up with a Festival of Families in Croke Park Stadium.

Over 80,000 attended to listen to choirs, soloists, and dancers including Riverdance. The Holy Father (long distance photo, left) arrived towards the end of the programme and listened to and met groups from many parts of the World. After that, our group walked back again the several kilometres to our coach, arriving back at DCU at midnight.

On the Sunday there was an early start on the bus which took the group to a drop-off location outside the cordon of Phoenix Park, leaving a walk of over seven kilometres in a heavy rainstorm. The rain resumed to soft Irish rain later but it did not spoil the final Mass celebrated by the Pope.

The follow-up meeting will take place in DABCEC on 15 December when all our diocesan families will be invited. All the videos and texts are available on www.worldmeeting2018.ie.

Story: David White, Pictures: David White and (c) Mike Evans



A&B Pilgrim Group in the Inter Faith Room at Dublin City University

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Congratulations to our Silver Jubilarians



CONGRATULATIONS on their recent silver jubilees to Frs Kevin Dring, Director of Human Formation at St John's Seminary, Womersley (pictured left), and Parish Priests Jonathon How of Sacred Heart, Cobham (below), and Tony Milner, St Joseph's Dorking (below, left).

Bishop Richard presided at all three Masses and joined in the happy celebrations with parishioners, families and friends.

Fr Tony commented on the celebration being part of parish family life, and mentioned friend and former parish priest Fr Dominic Rolls R.I.P. who would have been celebrating his ordination at this time too. Fr Jonathon asked for prayers that others may also hear and answer the Lord's call to serve. Fr Kevin paid tribute to his family, friends, and parishioners from all those places he has worked, for their support and encouragement on his journey in the priesthood. Fr David Rea, who had been his PP through most of his childhood years in Brighton, spoke with warmth and humour of Kevin's transition from reluctant teenager to seminarian!

Story: Jackie Ballard

Pictures: Kelly Walsh, Geraldo Cantarino, A&B News staff



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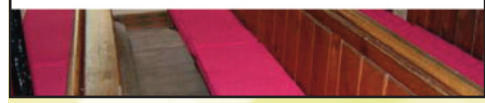
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Lourdes and the Reality of Healing



THERE SEEMS TO BE a popular misconception amongst the world at large that Lourdes is a place where sick people go to be cured. If someone who thinks this way were to be told that many of the Assisted Pilgrims on the annual A&B Pilgrimage return to Lourdes time and again, they might well respond, 'Well isn't it about time they gave up?' How to explain what brings people back?

Last year I spoke to a number of people about their experience as a 'first timer'; this year I sought out Assisted Pilgrims who had been to Lourdes with A&B Diocese a number of times before.

Sue

I was keen to talk to Sue Sherlock (*pictured below*) who had spoken at the Lourdes Live Concert held at Worth earlier in the year, where she had talked about the impact the music had made on her first pilgrimage to Lourdes.



Sue has now been on the pilgrimage '15 or 16 times.' Over 20 years ago, her life changed dramatically when she contracted Lyme's disease which was not diagnosed until after irreversible damage had been done, leaving her confined to a wheelchair. Struggling to adjust from being a fiercely independent person to one who had to rely on others, as well as coping with physical pain, Sue says she felt angry with the world and angry with God.

She was not a Catholic but had attended a R.C. school so, when a friend suggested she should go to Lourdes, she decided to give it a go. She says that although she found the week physically exhausting, 'I went depressed and came back as high as a kite.' No wonder she has been returning for more of this medicine!

Sophie

I had a long and reflective conversation with Sophie, a very young looking 39 year old, who was staying in the Accueil. Sophie has a neurological condition that led to her losing her sight at the age of eight with her condition worsening over the following 18 months until she too was confined to a wheelchair. Like Sue, she was not brought up a Catholic, but as an adult she started to attend a Catholic church 'and it felt right.'

Sophie recalls that her first visit to Lourdes was prompted by a curiosity to find out for herself what it was about Lourdes that made it so special but which people found so difficult to describe. When she asked people why they

went, they would say, 'It's a wonderful place, but I can't explain why' or simply 'It helps me'. So Sophie went on her first visit to Lourdes with no expectations – with an open mind – 'and by the end of the week I could perfectly understand why people have such difficulty explaining its impact!'

'The first few days were quite overwhelming.' In what way? 'How much love there was! In Lourdes it feels as if everyone opens their hearts to everyone around them – with no ulterior motive. That's quite a miracle, if you think about it,' said Sophie.

On a practical level, Sophie had wondered whether the week might be too much for her physically, aware that there is quite a full programme in Lourdes. And would she be able to find quiet time whenever she felt she needed it? But as she says, "You are not obliged to take part in anything you don't feel like doing. I mean, you really aren't. You can be very involved with a group, or free to find your own space. You are supported just as much as you want/need.'

After that first pilgrimage, Sophie (*pictured below*) hesitated about undertaking a second one as she felt that it couldn't be as special and she didn't want to risk a disappointing experience. However, she determined to adopt a similar frame of mind to that with which she had embarked on her first visit – 'No expectations! Let's just go and see what happens.'

Now on her fourth pilgrimage, she reflects that in Lourdes she is quite different to how she is in everyday life. 'I'm usually quite a planner and analytical, but in Lourdes I seem to be able to switch that off and just go with my feelings.'



As we concluded our chat, Sophie paid tribute to the whole ethos of the A&B Pilgrimage. 'You know, this really is the best model of care I have ever experienced. We are not assisted pilgrims and carers – we are all simply pilgrims together.'

Diane

While visiting Sophie in the Accueil, I met Diane who is bed-bound and needs a high level of care (*see below*). Hearing that this was her 6th time in Lourdes and aware that the journey by jumbulance must have been tiring for her, I asked her what brings her back? 'Our Blessed Lady,' she answered simply.



She recalled her first pilgrimage when she had felt rather anxious about the visit to the baths, but nevertheless had

wanted to try it. 'The moment I went down into the water, all my fears and worries disappeared and I just felt fantastic.' When in Lourdes, she says she feels surrounded by quietness and a special peace, even though all around her might be noise and movement and busyness. The peace that surpasses all understanding ...

I came away from the Accueil feeling very humble. I found myself thinking about the time when my mother had been on a pilgrimage to Lourdes when I was 12 years old. I remember asking her if she had 'seen any miracles'. When she didn't answer immediately, I prompted her – 'I mean, was anyone cured while you were there?' She looked at me thoughtfully for a moment, then said carefully, 'I believe miracles do happen at Lourdes. I think they probably happen every single day. But most of them aren't the sort you see.'

Story: Veronica Peppiatt
Pictures: A&B Lourdes Office

The Skydive for Lourdes

BY THE TIME THIS OCTOBER EDITION is on the pews and ready to read, Bishop Richard and Lucy Barnes will have made their skydiving jump in aid of the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage (DLP).

Readers can still help to raise funds to send disabled pilgrims to Lourdes next year. Mike Thoms, Director of DLP, explained 'Over 700 pilgrims travel with us and, of those, 120 are sick, frail, elderly or disabled. Some pilgrims and their carers find it hard to fund their trip and so, from time to time, we raise money to help make a contribution to their fares and accommodation in Lourdes.'

As this article goes to press, funds have already exceeded the original target of £1,450. But, as Bishop Richard said, why not send more than two disabled pilgrims to Lourdes – why not five? why not 10? With your help, this now seems a distinct possibility. **Here are the various ways in which you can donate:**

By using the purple Gift Aid parish envelope, marked '+R sky dive';

By a pilgrimage envelope, available in your parish;

By going to:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/bishoprichardskydive>

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The 'mydonate' website will stay open for donations until Friday 14 December.



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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

THE NUMBERS attending the activities in Dublin may have been fewer than anticipated but there was no mistaking the enthusiasm, commitment and joyful participation of the A&B delegates who were there – despite having to walk several kilometres in the rain to reach venues.

Exuberance, joy and inspiration were also hallmarks of the recent charismatic conference in Brighton. Also, our silver jubilarians' recent anniversary was the occasion for three happy celebrations.

Perhaps joy, even in adversity, is a Christian hallmark because our pilgrimage stretches beyond the cares of this world to one where 'lemon-sucking' – to use Pope Francis' memorable expression – is unknown.

Harry Robertson

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JUST A THOUGHT

On pilgrimage with the Rosary

WHEN WE TRAVEL on pilgrimage, to Lourdes, Walsingham, West Grinstead or wherever, we have an opportunity to remind ourselves of the larger pilgrimage of life – a journey that begins in the waters of Baptism and will end (by God's gracious providence) in the glorious life of heaven. Our personal pilgrimage is not a solitary affair; rather it is a journey that we share with others: hopefully with our family and friends as well as with the wider Church community. Along the way we come across all sorts of milestones, cross roads and junctions; some of which can easily distract us from the route we should be following.

Just as the North Star steered the ancient sailor to the safety of harbour and home, so Our Blessed Lady (our Maris Stella) points us towards our eternal destination.

Maybe you pray the Rosary every day; or you have become a little lapsed; perhaps you have as yet never considered praying it. One way or the other, why not use this month as an opportunity to grow closer to Jesus through Mary; and by meditating (reflecting) on these fifteen mysteries of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Our Lord and by trying ever harder to imitate the truths contained within them, you may obtain all they promise – nothing less than a share in the most perfect end to a wonderful pilgrimage journey.

Fr David Goddard, Shrine of Our Lady
of Consolation, West Grinstead

Brighton Celebrate Conference 2018

See, I Am Doing A New Thing! A Personal Observation

'Celebrate runs Catholic Charismatic, faith-filled, fun events for all ages, combining good Christian teaching, inspirational speakers and celebration of the liturgy, all in the power of the Holy Spirit. Young and old alike join together in a vibrant atmosphere to celebrate the love of God.'

(<https://www.celebrateconference.org/>)

CELEBRATE BEGAN with a large family conference in Ilfracombe, Devon, in 1994 and has since grown to include 13 Regional Weekends, of which Brighton is one, a youth event (Joel's Bar) and a young leaders formation programme (Release).

Many of the folk involved in Celebrate are Catholic Charismatics, part of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, but they welcome people from other Christian traditions, including some of their speakers.

I had been aware of the advertising for Brighton Celebrate over the last few years and considered attending but had at least two reservations: the emphasis on a 'family' event suggested it was targeted at young families; also, it was run by the Charismatics and weren't they a little...intense?

SATURDAY 14 JULY – DAY ONE

Entering Cardinal Newman School on the Saturday morning, I saw ahead of me four elderly attendees, proceeding very slowly, one with a walking aid. Turning the corner I came across several young children running free, laughing and full of the joys of life.

Lesson one: Celebrate is for everyone.

Sitting in the main hall (school gym), in an audience of around 300 people, banners from previous Celebrate Conferences adorning the walls, lesson two became apparent.

Lesson two: the Celebrate speakers are rather good.



David Wells (above), the first speaker was hugely entertaining, dramatically self-deprecating and very funny. His variation on the Conference theme – *See I am Doing a New Thing!* – managed to incorporate light-hearted comment on some churchgoers, quoting Pope Francis – You look like you're sucking a lemon – but there was a serious message behind it, and he again cited Pope Francis: 'When someone has an answer for everything, it is a sure sign they are on the wrong path.'

After Mass, the first workshop I attended, on 'Divine Renovation in your Parish', was full of insight and hard-won experience.

Rev John Ryeland, the day's other main speaker, has been director of the Christian Healing Mission for the past 20 years. He led the second workshop, titled 'Experiencing the Presence of



Jesus', held in the main hall before a large audience.

His approach was similar to what I imagine Pentecostal ministers might employ, prayerful but using suggestion and imaginative scene-setting, including a red carpet in the shape of a heart, long periods of quiet, before inviting participants to share their experience of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

The first volunteer saw the face of a woman on the red carpet, others felt restless, a couple felt that in some way they had experienced being held by Jesus. While interesting, the experiences seemed very personal to the individuals and limited in scope, both in terms of numbers affected (or those willing to share their experience) and in the type of phenomena. I was expecting, even hoping for, more dramatic displays that affected more people; personally, I experienced nothing.

In the evening I attended the second main talk, by Rev John Ryland, not convinced it would result in anything more than an occasional and very personal 'experience'.

The process was similar, except now people were invited to the front of the hall to be prayed for by teams of trained prayer hosts, normally in mixed pairs (the practice of praying for one another is recommended in the Bible and seems to be common in charismatic circles).

I decided to join, having prepared myself spiritually over the previous couple of weeks, hoping for an increased infilling of the Holy Spirit to supplement that already received through Baptism and Confirmation. Also, as a bonus, I was keen to hear 'speaking in tongues' a hallmark of Spirit-filled worship in many Pentecostal congregations and generally recognised as one of the fruits of the Spirit.

Around me, people were visibly affected. Almost immediately, to my left, a young man crumpled and fell forward to the floor. I understand that falling forwards is quite rare, mostly people who fall – and not everyone does – slowly fall backwards and are assisted by the people praying for them and by stewards so that they collapse gently to the floor, ensuring they do not get hurt – and a pillow is then placed under the head.

Others swayed gently, as if moved by invisible winds. And me? I swayed too and wondered if I was going to lose consciousness. Roger Galvin, Coordinator of the Brighton Celebrate Core team, explained afterwards that participants do not lose consciousness and people who wish for the experience of 'resting in the

Spirit' are conscious of things around them, while enjoying the comfortable and comforting experience of the fresh outpouring of the Spirit.

For me personally, it was certainly a gentle experience, restful, undramatic but, in my opinion, not necessarily proof of the presence of the Holy Spirit, certainly not the dramatic, life-changing experience that many report.

And what of the 'praying in tongues'? I did hear some praying in tongues, an earnest melodic sound that may indeed have been prayer in a regular language not known to the prayer, or a personal prayer communication in an unknown form.

Lesson three: do not judge too readily, there are phenomena that are not susceptible to ready explanation. It is not normal for people to be so overcome by an experience that they sway or even fall. Whatever the process, the outcome was that the people who were prayed over appeared to experience a restful, enjoyable experience and to be perfectly happy at the conclusion.

SUNDAY 15 JULY – DAY TWO

Michelle Moran, an energetic and plain-speaking woman, wears her fame lightly. With her husband Peter, a founder of the Sion Catholic Community for Evangelism, she has engaged in evangelism and mission full-time for the past 30+ years. Author, trainer, President of the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Service s (ICCRS) from 2007-2017, member of the Pontifical Council for the Laity from 2008-2016, she was appointed by Pope Francis to work on new structures for Renewal and Mission.

Her presentation, on practical ways to share the Gospel, was energetic and laced with self-deprecating humour that put everyone on her side. In fact, she was so sensible and funny that I made sure I got another dose by attending her workshop – and wasn't disappointed.



Rise Theatre group performed a series of dramatic playlets

Brighton Celebrate (cont.)

Testimonies

The conference included testimonies from two people whose lives had been hugely impacted by the effect of the Holy Spirit during (or following) a Celebrate Conference.

Art Gallagher, the director of the Alpha Course at Sacred Heart (see last month's A&B News) explained his team's inspiration at Brighton Celebrate 2017 to work together on their parish mission. He described how strongly he felt the Holy Spirit supporting, guiding and driving him through the challenges of serving in his faith, to spread the news of God's love.

Art also recalled that Canon Law says every Catholic Christian has an obligation and privilege to share the Gospel, quoting Canon Law 211 – *All the Christian faithful have the duty and right to work so that the divine message of salvation more and more reaches all people in every age and every land.*

Lesson four: Being a Catholic Christian involves spreading the Gospel, not merely being a passive recipient.

The second testimony was given by Fr Peter Fitch who attended Brighton Celebrate in 2017 – and was hugely unimpressed, sitting at the very back of the hall, arms folded, glowering, wondering how soon it would end and he could leave.

It was only later when he attended Joel's Bar, the Celebrate youth conference, that the Holy Spirit came upon him, overwhelming him with His love and transforming his life, making the Gospel come alive to him, transforming Fr Peter's service to the sick in Brighton's Royal Sussex Hospital and filling him with great joy.

Both testimonies were impressive, received in utter silence – and followed by long and loud applause.

Lesson five: Whatever the Catholic Charismatic experience amounts to, it clearly changes people in a profound way and can make them powerful ambassadors of the love of God and keen to serve Him.

Speaking of long and loud...attendees

THE CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL (CCR)

FOLLOWING ON from late-19th century radical evangelical revival movements in Great Britain and America, in 1901 Bethel Bible School in Topeka, Kansas, was the source of a revival of baptism in the Holy Spirit and the speaking in tongues. By the 1950s Pentecostalism had spread across America.

In 1967, students and staff from Duquesne University, a Catholic university in Pittsburgh, USA, received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Baptised members then formed prayer communities that spread throughout the US and overseas, assisted by missionary priests who received baptism in the Holy Spirit while visiting the US and took the practice overseas. The movement called for a personal encounter with Jesus and ongoing discipleship through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Vatican approval and granting of official status to structures such as the International Catholic Charismatic Renewal Services (ICCRS) in 1993 helped spur development. The ICCRS is a Private Association of the Faithful, linking the Vatican with the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement worldwide. By 2013 it was estimated that Catholic Charismatic Renewal could be found in 230 countries with more than 160 million members, more than 13% of all Catholics.

POPE FRANCIS ON CHARISMATICS

ORIGINALLY SCEPTICAL and dismissive, possibly because of the Pentecostal Church's recruiting success in South America – to the cost of traditional Catholic churches - Pope Francis disparagingly compared Catholic Charismatics in Argentina to a 'samba school' although the Catholic Charismatic Renewal had received endorsement from his two papal predecessors.

Francis himself came to admit 'I was wrong' and his energetic participation in the 37th annual Convocation in Rome's Olympic Stadium in 2014 left no doubt about his views. He said 'The Charismatic Renewal is a great force meant to serve the preaching of the Gospel in the joy of the Holy Spirit.' He then invited Catholic Charismatics, on the feast of Pentecost 2017, to celebrate the Golden anniversary of their founding at the Vatican.

should be prepared for percussion-led music and lyrics that favour repetition over development of a theme - but it may just be an age thing!

The Conference ended with family Mass, celebrated by Bishop Richard. In other parishes in the diocese, congregants listened to a recording of the Bishop's homily. Here, Bishop Richard spoke on the readings of the day; in the first reading, the prophet Amos, a shepherd in 8th century BC Judea and a reluctant prophet, was tasked by God with delivering messages to His people; in the second the Gospel tells how the 12 were sent out in pairs to proclaim repentance. In both cases, God was 'doing a new thing' as the Conference theme proclaims, and people were tasked with sharing God's message.

Some Conclusions

As the conference ended and people slowly streamed out, I pondered what I had observed. I had arrived expecting a small, sincere faction prone to spontaneous emotional outbursts, performing strange rituals, speaking in tongues, healing and prophesying.

Instead, I saw an important part of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, active for more than 50 years, enjoying the sponsorship of Popes and Bishops, around 160 million strong, over 13% of the global Catholic population. I saw an energized community, comfortable with evangelisation and ecumenism, developing their Baptism and Confirmation Sacraments into a personal relationship with Jesus.

It made me aware how the Catholic Charismatic Renewal serves the Church and has the potential to help it flourish, transforming and energizing people, building and growing faith communities from the kernel of a transformed relationship with God through the agency of His Holy Spirit.

Of course, there is also the danger that the experience may amount to no more than shallow thrill-seeking and the novelty may wear off. But then, that is no different from the parable of the seed that fell on rocky ground (Matthew 12.20); God always encourages but does not compel.

Attending the Celebrate Conference and doing research into the Catholic Charismatic Renewal movement has made me much more knowledgeable about - and comfortable with - charismatic phenomena. I still have questions and a few reservations however, so I will be attending the Southampton Celebrate Conference at the end of September to continue my education.

Story: Harry Robertson

Pictures: Esme Soiza, Harry Robertson

GIFTS AND CHARISMS OF BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

AT LEAST 27 gifts are listed in the New Testament (Acts 2, 1 Cor 12, Romans 12 and Ephesians 4) covering a broad range of gifts. A modern listing by Catholic Charismatics includes:

- a deepening awareness of the presence and love of God the Father
- a new understanding of the Lordship of Jesus Christ
- a growth of intimacy with God in prayer
- a hunger for God's Word and the Sacraments
- a love for the Church
- a new power and desire to witness
- a growth in the fruit of the Spirit – peace, love, joy

- manifestation of charismatic gifts such as the gift of tongues
- an experience of the promptings and guidance of the Holy Spirit
- an awareness of the reality of spiritual warfare
- a call to purification and holiness
- a desire for Christian unity and a call to serve the needs of others

(from: *As By a New Pentecost: The Dramatic Beginning of The Catholic Charismatic Renewal* by Patti Gallagher Mansfield, New Life Publishing, 2016, Golden Jubilee Edition, ISBN 9781903623961)

Mary Scott Receives St Philip Howard Medal



MARY SCOTT'S MANY ROLES within the Parish were recognised at Sunday Mass at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Langley Green, Crawley, when Fr Chris Dobson presented her with the St Philip Howard Medal.

In addition to being Bursar at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Primary School in Crawley, Mary has served as Chair of Governors at St Wilfrid's Secondary School (during the planning and construction of a completely new building) and also as Chair of Governors for St Francis of Assisi Primary School in Crawley.

Further, in addition to her roles as School Governor and Bursar, Mary also retired recently after ten years as Parish Accountant.

Many congratulations and best wishes to Mary from all at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Parish.

Story and Picture: Karen Smith



Advertisement for Director of Heritage Centre Nottingham, England

Overall purpose: Management and development of Heritage Centre

The Little Company of Mary (LCM) is an International Congregation of Religious women, founded by the Venerable Mary Potter in Nottingham, England in 1877. We invite applications for a Director for the Heritage Centre in Nottingham. The role is required to ensure the provision of a unique, innovative and interactive service that honours the legacy of Mary Potter and the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary. The centre opened in 2010, is home to the artefacts of the LCM and provides an interactive experience journeying with the Founder, Venerable Mary Potter. The centre depicts the life and spirituality of the founder as she began the LCM in Hyson Green, Nottingham and how the story continues to the present day. It provides space for individuals, local and international groups to meet with guides and avail of the experience.

The successful applicant will:

- Promote the life and vision of Mary Potter and the Mission and Spirituality of the LCM by working on projects and programmes that will assist the LCM to further develop the Centre.
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- Ensure effective and efficient operation of the Heritage Centre, is responsible for the overall monitoring of planned maintenance, staff and resources inclusive of budgeting.
- Further develop the Heritage Centre by means of networking and promoting the Heritage Centre locally and internationally.

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Salary Package: Commensurate with experience

Method of application: Initial enquires to the Province Leader to request a Position Description via e-mail at lcm.ef@btinternet.com or via the website at www.lcmsisters.org.uk

Applications close: 17 December 2018 at 5.00 pm

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 28 January 2019

Support Catholic Charity Pact on Prisoners' Sunday

ON 14 OCTOBER 2018, Catholic parishes across England and Wales will be invited to support Pact, the national Catholic prison charity, on Prisoners' Sunday - the national day of prayer and action for prisoners and their dependants, marked by the Catholic Church. It launches the week long ecumenical campaign of prayer for all those affected by imprisonment, a time to reflect on how we - as individuals and as a Church - can serve those whose lives are entwined with the criminal justice system.

For some, this may not be the easiest of causes to support. However, in drawing our attention to Jesus' well known teaching in the Gospel of Matthew, in which he identified himself with a prisoner (Mt 25:35), and to the fact that Jesus himself reached the end of his earthly life as a prisoner, it is clear that prisons and imprisonment are not things that the Christian community can lightly ignore or easily forget.

From Little Acorns...

120 years ago, one man who felt passionately about this cause was Canon John Cooney. Canon Cooney was an Irish Priest, who acted as a chaplain to the men in prison at HMP Wandsworth, in the Diocese of Southwark. He recognised 'the necessity of help being given to prisoners on their discharge and to their families while they were in prison, if these unfortunate men were to make a new start in life.' So, on 16 September 1898, with a small group of enthusiastic Catholic laymen by his side, Canon Cooney created the Catholic Prisoners' Aid Society. We, the Pact society writes, wasted no time in getting down to the business of supporting prisoners, people with convictions, their children and families.

The very first recorded beneficiary was a child known only as the 'Child Roots', believed to have been a little girl, who was placed in the care of the nuns at the Home of the Good Shepherd in East Finchley when her parent was sent to prison. From the very start, we concerned ourselves with the children of prisoners, who have no voice and who fall through the cracks in the system.



A Different World. The Same Mission...

120 years later and our name has changed more than once. Starting out as the Catholic Prisoners' Aid Society, we have also been known as the Catholic Prisoners' Social Service and The Bourne Trust. Today, we are known as Pact - the Prison Advice and Care Trust.

Despite the name changes, our vision and mission remains the same. Pact works in over 60 prisons today in most of the Dioceses of England and Wales. We run a free national helpline for prisoners' families. We continue to support children of prisoners, and champion their right to a happy, healthy family life and a bright future. We continue to support both men and women in prison, and on release. And we support prisoners' families, in all their diverse shapes and sizes. We take calls from desperately worried mothers, who are fearful that their son in prison is being bullied, taking drugs or may be suicidal. We support men and women in prison to become better parents, so that their children don't follow in their footsteps. We care for people of all faiths and none.

Our belief in the innate dignity of each and every person, regardless of what they have done, remains unshaken, and is the core of our culture and practice. As does our conviction in the potential of every person to make a fresh start.

We continue to champion strong, stable families, and the rehabilitative power of loving, affirming human relationships, which has been proven to reduce reoffending by 39%. We work with prison governors and others of like-mind, with the vision of a justice system which is restorative, focused on rehabilitation and learning, and which harnesses the power of families, communities, volunteers - of all of us - to ensure that when people leave prison, they not only stay out but have the opportunity

to rebuild their lives, raise children who will avoid offending, and contribute to the common good.



This is Our Legacy. What Will Yours Be?

Prisoners' Sunday is a time to reflect on how we as individuals, as a Church and as a community are serving those whose lives are entwined with the criminal justice system. But there are

other ways you can get involved and support prisoners, people with convictions and their families, to make a fresh start.

We rely on the hard work and dedication of volunteers who, in the past year, helped us to support nearly a quarter of a million children and families to maintain contact with their loved ones in prison. Without volunteers, we simply could not carry out this work.

If you would like to volunteer with Pact we'd love to hear from you! In the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton, Pact works in HMPs Coldingley (male), Downview, Send (both women's), High Down (male) and Huntercombe (foreign national prisoners). We run play, visitor centres, catering and casework in these prisons and we offer mentoring in the community to men and women who have been through the criminal justice system. Across the diocese, this service is delivered through volunteer mentors and we are in desperate need of more volunteers who can give their time to support our team in delivering these services, and who share our values, vision and mission.

If you would like to find out more visit www.prisonadvice.org.uk/volunteer or email us at parish.action@prisonadvice.org.uk



As a Catholic charity, Pact depends on donations from Catholic parishes, as we receive no core government grant aid. If you would like to make a donation to support us in delivering these vital services, please visit our website www.prisonadvice.org.uk or call us on 0207 735 9535.

Story: Charlene Greave

There are a number of ways in which you can mark the national day of prayer and action and support Pact's mission. Pact have created a number of resources which can be used in your parish, community, school, university group and social group. We are always happy to discuss your ideas of how to mark the day and support you in any way we can. If a date other than 8 October is more convenient to mark Prisoners' Sunday please do so. None of the resources are dated. Some examples are available in www.prisonadvice.org.uk/Pages/Category/marking-prisoners-sunday

Update on the SVP Caravan in Bognor Regis

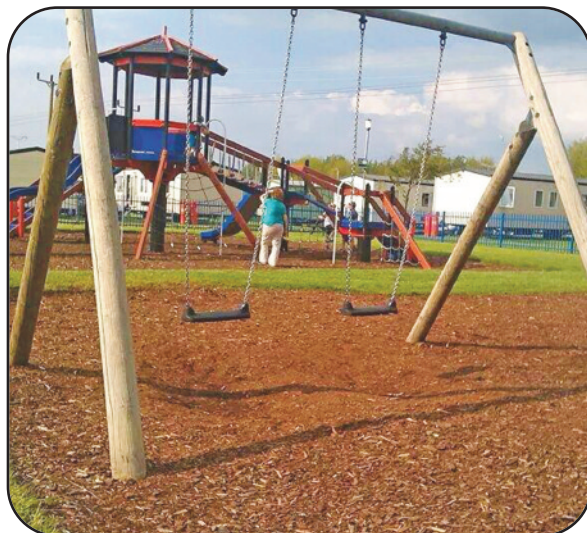
THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL Society in the Diocese has for many years been providing caravan holidays at Bognor Regis for families who would otherwise be unable to afford a well-earned holiday break.

The facility has recently been upgraded to a six-berth, double-glazed and centrally-heated caravan, thereby offering holidays from March to the end of October. The upgrade to a new caravan was as the result of a legacy left to the Guildford SVP Conference.

The school holiday period is booked very quickly, as families are normally unable to take their children away during school term time. Outside of the school holidays families, with young

children not yet of school age, can also take advantage of the caravan. The local SVP Conference usually contributes the £250 cost and bookings are arranged through contacting their Conference.

Additionally, this year, we can offer a week's holiday outside of the summer period to parishioners and SVP members for £250. We feel this is great value, and to make a booking please contact one of the numbers listed at the end of the article.



Comments left by families using the caravan and the park facilities have always been very positive.

To find out what facilities the Riverside Holiday Park offers please visit their website at www.rivcentre.co.uk and pictures from the website are shown.

The SVP will be taking bookings for next year from 2 January 2019.

If any SVP member is interested in helping to run the caravan please contact either Laurence Kelly on 077 8896 3909 or Ray Hingerton on 077 6701 3629.

Story: Laurence Kelly, Guildford SVP

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton



LETTER FROM BISHOP RICHARD

Launch of the Pastoral Plan for Arundel & Brighton Diocese

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

In September of last year, as you will all remember, I began a series of visits to Deaneries in order to present some thoughts about the future provision for the Diocese. Those presentations led to discussions in parishes and deaneries and at the beginning of this year I travelled round again to listen to the results of those discussions.

These discussions produced a good deal of material and I am very grateful to Clare Wordsworth, from Weybridge, whom I asked to distill the responses into a number of themes.

The responses from the Deaneries have proved very helpful indeed in the formulation of a Pastoral Plan that will, I pray, assist us all in the coming years.

On 18th September, I am presenting the plan to the Clergy of the Diocese and all the staff in the Diocesan offices. Please pray for us all as we gather for this meeting.

I have asked Clare Wordsworth to chair this meeting and Sarah Kilmartin, the Chief Operating Officer for the Diocese, will also give a presentation on the financial implications of the Plan. This model will be repeated when, beginning in October and ending in December, the

three of us will visit each Deanery for an open meeting to present the Plan. Please do come to these meetings, for it will be important for us all to engage with the Plan, so that the whole family of the Diocese can work together in the Mission to which we have been called.

The Plan itself falls into two parts. The first part, which outlines the way forward for Prayer, Formation and the Mission of Evangelisation, is the key element of the Plan. It is the Mission that must drive everything that we do and the central offices of the Diocese will, in new ways, support all that we do in the Diocese as we respond to Christ's call to us.

Much has been said about the number of priests who will serve the Diocese in the future. Alongside the meetings in deaneries, a group of priests - those who will be 65 years old or younger in 2030 - met with me and have continued to meet together for prayer and informal discussion. This is important, since it is this group of clergy who will be carrying much priestly responsibility in the years ahead.

The second part of the document will outline, in broad terms at this stage, the future shape of deaneries and parishes.

With a smaller number of priests, it

will be absolutely vital for everyone to listen carefully to the call the Lord gives to us and respond wholeheartedly.

Every one of us has a part to play in the Mission. We must all deepen our understanding of the Gospel, give more time to prayer and be ready to go out to others with the wonder of Christ's message.

This is an exciting time for the Diocese. I will not pretend that there will be no challenges and the changes that will need to be made will not be easy. As the family of the Diocese, we cannot remain static. We must work together as we move into the years that lie ahead, focusing our minds and hearts on the work the Lord has given us to do. Many opportunities will open up before us as we grow deeper in our prayer and in our understanding of the gift of Faith.

A prayer card accompanies this Plan for the Diocese. Please join me in praying this prayer every day. Pray for one another, for the priests, deacons and religious who serve in our parishes. Pray for Vocations to Priesthood, Diaconate, Religious Life and for those called to Marriage and dedicated single life. Please pray for me too.

The Lord calls us to be his people and

to do great things for Him. May we all respond with generous hearts.

Let us Pray:

Lord, the Word who is Life.
May all the people of our Diocese grow in openness
to the power of the Holy Spirit,
so that through a growth
in understanding and courage,
and truly open to Your call,
we may bear powerful witness
to all around us,
for you are Lord for ever and ever.
Amen.

With every Blessing,

Richard

Richard, your Bishop

Deacons Celebrate 50 Years of Ordination



ON TENTH AUGUST 2018, the feast of St Laurence, Deacon and Martyr, Deacons across the world celebrated 50 years since the ordination of the first deacons as a permanent order in the Western Church for more than 1,000 years.

Following the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, the diaconate was restored as a permanent order that could include married men. After final permission was granted in 1967 by Blessed Pope Paul VI, the ordination of men to the diaconate began in 1968. The first of these deacons were ordained in Germany and Cameroon. In England and Wales the first men were ordained six years later in 1974 in Portsmouth and Arundel & Brighton Dioceses.

Since that time thousands of men have been ordained as deacons across the globe and there are now more than 45,000 deacons in more than 50% of the Roman Catholic Dioceses across the world and the number continues to grow.

The National Conference of Diaconate Directors and Deacon Representatives (NCDDDR), which as part of the Bishops' Conference's Department of Catholic Education and Formation supports the work of the diaconate in England and Wales, welcomes this milestone in the life of the Church.

Deacon Mark Woods, the Chair of the NCDDDR said 'The Diaconate is clearly one of the great fruits of the Second Vatican Council. In England and Wales we have over 800 Deacons working in all sorts of ministries from care of seafarers to prisoners and the homeless as well as at a local parish level. We rejoice with Deacons and indeed the whole Church in Germany and Cameroon who this year celebrate this Golden Jubilee of the first deacon ordinations.'

In Arundel & Brighton Diocese, Bishop Richard recently set up a Council of Deacons alongside the Council of Priests and a planned Council of Laity to advise him.

Deacon Mark summed up: 'The diaconate has been a success of the Second Vatican Council and the understanding of the diaconate and its role continues to grow. Our essential ministry is one of altar, word and charity. The deacon is not a substitute priest but has his own distinct ministry which we are, after 50 years, beginning to understand more clearly. The Diaconate is an ancient order that has its roots in the early Church and is now restored to its proper place in the life of the Church. We look forward to what the next 50 years will bring to the Diaconate and how this ministry might grow.'

Story and picture: Mark Woods

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The church needs religious sisters **URGENTLY** to bring Christ to others by a life of prayer and service lived in the community of Ignation spirituality. Daily Mass is the centre of community life. By wearing the religious habit we are witnesses to the consecrated way of life. If you are willing to risk a little love and would like to find out how, contact Sister Bernadette. Late vocations up to the age of 46 welcomed.

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or Fax: 0208 766 6579
Mobile: 07760 297001
Ministers of Religion

CAFOD
Just one world

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day - Friday 5 October

FOR 28 YEARS, LONGORA has lived in the same rural community in Uganda. Every morning, she fetches water from the borehole for herself and her family. Before the borehole was built in her village, Longora would collect water from the river which was unclean and carried diseases.

For a while after the borehole was installed, the village were able to access clean water easily. But the borehole became faulty. Longora was pregnant and had to drink and cook with water from the river once again. Longora noticed that she had lost her appetite and was finding it difficult to eat. Her eyesight deteriorated and, after four weeks of sickness, she travelled to a government hospital to be treated. After a week in the hospital, shortly before she left to get medication from a health centre 7km away, she went into premature labour and while she survived, her baby didn't.

It took a long time for Longora to recover and sometimes her joints still ache, but CAFOD partner, Caritas Moroto, fixed the borehole and offered training so that if it ever breaks again, the local community can repair it. They have also been providing water, hygiene and sanitation training.

The help provided by Caritas Moroto's project, funded by CAFOD supporters in England and Wales, is making a huge difference to the lives of Longora and her family: 'We are healthier and feel better. We can bathe, and because we have pit latrines, we no longer defecate in the river... Our life is better with water, but our granaries are empty. Our life is hard.'

This Harvest, you can help by praying for Longora and our sisters and brothers across the world. By donating to CAFOD's Harvest appeal, you can empower communities overseas to live with dignity and support each other.

Please join our work by donating via your parish, school or see cafod.org.uk/harvest

CAFOD A&B 01483 898866 arundelandsbrighton@cafod.org.uk

Family FAST DAY appeal
Fast, pray and give

Story: Rosie Heaton, Pictures: David Mauta

FAIRTRADE NEWS

Traidcraft's remit is wide. In a world of finite resources and a rapidly changing climate, the current model of trade is harming the planet – it's unsustainable. Traidcraft Exchange, Traidcraft's charity, believes in supporting trade and business to become environmentally responsible and climate resilient. Poverty and environmental degradation are closely interlinked. In Northern India, Traidcraft Exchange is working with artisans who produce handcrafted textiles to help them reduce the environmental impact of their businesses. Many of these businesses make use of chemical dyes. Traidcraft Exchange's work has helped reduce the use of these dyes. Read more at www.traidcraft.org.uk/protecting-the-environment.

Marika de Pena, former Chair of Fairtrade International, has been confirmed as a member of the Fairtrade Foundation UK Board of Trustees. A passionate and tireless advocate for the power of Fairtrade, Marika was named among the *10 women who rule the world of food* at the Milan Expo 2015. Marika de Pena said: 'I am delighted to join the board of the Fairtrade Foundation. Throughout my time as part of the Fairtrade Movement I have seen first-hand its ability to combat poverty and unlock the power of producers. Fairtrade empowers producers to drive development and take charge of their futures.'

Day of Reflection
for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Led by Bishop Richard
Saturday 17 November
at Christ the Prince of Peace
Portmore Way, Weybridge, KT13 8JD
11.00am to 4.00pm

- Theological and Practical Talks
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Mass

Tea/coffee from 10.30am. Please bring a packed lunch
Booking is essential as numbers are limited
To book: ruth.gerun@dabnet.org
or telephone -1293 651164

Catholicism course at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth

The Benedictine monks of St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth near Guildford warmly invite you to a presentation of 'Catholicism - a journey to the heart of the faith', by the acclaimed author and speaker Bishop Barron.

The 10 episodes of the series began on Saturday 22 September 2018 and the remaining 9 will be shown consecutively over a period of 9 months.

These Chilworth Abbey Study Days will be given by Fr John Seddon OSB, who will contextualise each episode and then teach about the episode's subject matter after lunch. Each day begins with

- Mass at 9.00 am, followed by coffee.
- A brief introduction will precede the showing of the film.
- Questions will follow.
- Midday Prayer and lunch.
- After lunch there will be teaching to clarify further the film's theme.
- The Day concludes at 4.00 pm.

Come to part, or all of the day, as it suits you. Bring a packed lunch and a friend. Tea and coffee is provided. Free to attend. No need to book.

St Augustine's Abbey, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth
Guildford, Surrey GU4 8QR
Visit us online at www.chilworthbenedictines.com

BISHOP'S DIARY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Sat 29 September	Mon 1 October	Ad Limina, Rome
Tue 2 October	7.30am	Mass at Gossops Green Convent, Crawley
Wed 3	11.30am	Meetings, DABCEC
	3pm	Hospital Chaplains' Meeting
Thu 4	10am	Meeting at High Oaks
	4.30pm	Grandparents' event, St John the Evangelist, Horsham
	7-9pm	Meeting at Frimley
Fri 5	9am	Confirmation Catechists' Evening, St Dunstan's Woking
	2pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Sat 6	11.30am	Meetings at St Mary's University, Twickenham
	2.30pm	Marriage Anniversary Mass, Redhill
Sat 6/Sun 7		Animal Blessing, Arundel Cathedral
Mon 8	12.30pm	Visitation, E. Molesey, Hersham and Walton-on-Thames
	2pm	Mental Health Symposium, Eccleston Square
	7pm	Mental Health Round Table, Eccleston Square
Tue 9	7pm	Meeting with Confirmation Catechists, St John's, Horsham
Wed 10	10am	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Lewes
	1pm	Safeguarding Commission Meeting at DABCEC
	7-9pm	Joins GDPR Meeting at St John's, Horsham
Thu 11	11am	Confirmation Catechists' evening, Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne
	7pm	Trustees' Meeting, High Oaks
Fri 12	11am	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Brighton
	7pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Sat 13	12 noon	Pastoral Plan Meeting at St Philip Howard School, Barnham
	11am	Meeting at High Oaks
Mon 15	2.30pm	Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere
Tue 16		Vicars for Religious Conference, Hinsley Hall, Leeds
Wed 17	11am	Vicars for Religious Conference, Hinsley Hall, Leeds
	11.30am	Episcopal Council, High Oaks
Thu 18	8.30am	Meeting at St Chad's, Cathedral House, Birmingham
	10.30am	Meeting at High Oaks
	2.30pm	Meeting with Council of Priests, DABCEC
Fri 19	6-8pm	Prisons' Week Lecture, Christchurch, Spitalfields
	3pm	IEA, London
Sat 20	7pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Sun 21		Pastoral Plan Meeting at Eastbourne
Mon 22-Sat 27		Visitation to Rye Parish
		Visitation to Rye Parish
		Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, Pilgrimage to Holy Land

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Education Service Team



MISSION STATEMENT

Placing Christ at the centre and empowered by the Spirit, we serve and support our schools in the name of the Bishop, by aspiring to be the very best we can, identifying, encouraging, nurturing and developing excellence in all aspects of Catholic education.

As the Diocesan Education Service, inspired by the Gospel, we are committed to serving in partnership with our family of schools to be the visible face of Christ and to promote the Common Good through the ministry of education.

INDUCTION TRAINING FOR NEW CHAIRS OF GOVERNORS

"We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves."
Pope Francis, Gaudete et Exsultate

Monday 15th October 2018

19.00 - 20.30

Education Service, DABCEC

4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, West Sussex, RH10 6RP

Cost: £35

This annual training welcomes newly appointed Chairs of Governors and provides a refresher course for experienced Chairs of Governors. The course explores the roles, responsibilities and opportunities that this post entails and highlights the support and training offered by the Education Service.



Is God calling you to be a Foundation Governor in a Catholic school?

What does it mean to be a Foundation Governor?

Foundation Governors agree

- to ensure that the school is conducted in accordance with the Trust Deed,
- to know and implement the Bishop's policies on education, and
- to understand and promote the distinctive nature of Catholic education.

Foundation Governors are therefore responsible for understanding, maintaining and developing the distinctive nature of the Catholic school within the Church's mission of education and in awareness of the contribution the Church makes to society through this mission.

All governors are able to contribute their rich experience, values and views to enhance and promote the school's ethos and vision. Real and exciting opportunities exist for regular discussion and debate across numerous aspects of school life and provision.

Being a governor affords you the opportunity of collaborating with a wide range of colleagues to ensure all children and young people receive enjoyable and developmental learning experiences within a Christ-centred environment. The governing body plays a key strategic role in the direction of and accountability for the school but is also part of a network of relationships which includes children and young people, parents, staff, clergy, religious, the Diocese, local authority, DfE and the wider community.

What can I expect?

Governors need to be able to commit interest, enthusiasm and time to the tasks that being a governor brings. You will find that the role of a Foundation Governor brings great personal reward and satisfaction.

Who makes sure the coffee cups are cleared?!

Ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes in a school? A primary school has an income (and expenditure) of one or two million pounds and tens of staff; a secondary school might have a turnover of up to ten million pounds and 300 staff...

Whilst Governors have a strategic role, on the operational side one of the reasons the Headteachers can focus on education in (and out) of the classroom is because of the support they get from teaching and non-teaching staff, including School Business Professionals (often known as School Business Managers, or "SBM's").

Keeping track of the money; managing the payroll; ensuring the buildings are kept clean, safe and the environment as good as it can be for learning; ensuring school dinners are not just available, but also healthy and nutritious; First Aid; Health and Safety; IT; administration; insurance; marketing the school for lettings (and managing them); raising additional funding – all these (and more) are covered by our splendid SBM's and their teams – frequently unsung, working quietly in the background, often lonely and stressed out.

We offer our heartfelt thanks to this dedicated group and all those who they manage, without whom the coffee cups might still be in the meeting room the next morning...

The Education Service co-ordinates a network forum for SBM's, both on-line and at regular meetings, to help them share best practice, solutions to problems and mutual support. The next School Business Managers' Forum will be held on **Monday 8 October 2018, 10.00 – 12.00** at DABCEC Crawley.

National Board of Catholic Women - AGM and WMoF

Swanwick in Derbyshire was the venue for this year's AGM of the National Board of Catholic Women (NBCW) that I attended. It was part of a residential weekend from 29 June to 1 July which included a spirituality conference led by Sr Monica Butler on *Women and Holiness*. Most of us had not come across Sr Monica before but we all found her spiritual guidance to be most uplifting and hope to welcome her back in the future.

On Sunday we celebrated Mass with Bishop Kenny and then moved on to the business part of the AGM. Organisations and diocesan links had provided reports showing the work they were carrying out. These reports can be found on the website at www.nbcw.co.uk.

I also attended the World Meeting of Families 2018 (WMoF) in Dublin in August, and attended a number of interesting sessions. All the videos and texts are available on www.worldmeeting2018.ie.

There were some interesting insights about ordinary people who in-



spired women to fulfil their own role within the church. I am pictured here on the right at the presentation on *Faith, Formation and Development: the Witness of Women in Leadership* with two of the speakers: Jestina Mukoko, human rights activist and director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project; and Yvonne Aki-Sawyer who changed her career from financial services in the city of London to working to contain the Ebola outbreak in Sierra Leone and is currently Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone.



Story and picture : Sue Petritz, Diocesan Link to the NBCW

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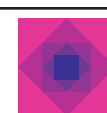


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FROM THE PARISHES

CATERHAM

AUGUST IS a relatively quiet period of the year with summer holidays in full swing, but this year the parish was sorry to learn that Fr Sean Finnegan, our parish priest, had had a heart attack, and, although out of hospital, will have to rest for some weeks. Our prayers are with him and his mother.

We have had Masses said by Fr Gabriel Diaz Patri and Fr Anthony Hale and we are grateful for their assistance.

On Sunday, 26 August we welcomed Fr Donie O'Connor MHM who said Mass and took the opportunity to thank the parish for their support of prayers and donations to the 1069 World Missions.

We had a visit in early August from the Legion of Mary from the Republic of Ireland who enjoyed their time in the parish as our guests, and the parishioners enjoyed their company at a special lunch on 7 August.

Various Parish activities are beginning to resume. The parish Toddler Group are looking for a new leader. As always volunteers are in short supply.

Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to Katie George-Dunlevy once more. She and Eve McCrystal defended their two world titles at the UCI 2018 para-cycling road World Championships in Maniago, Italy, where they won both the women's B tandem road race and the time trial.

At our Mass on Saturday 4 August we said farewell and God-speed to Fr Simon Dray as he is about to move to the parish of Christ-the-King in Bexhill-on-Sea.

New Mass times have been announced for Crawley parish. Sadly St Theodore's at Gossops Green will no longer be a Mass centre. The last Mass was said by Fr Chris Dobson on 29 July.

Barbara Winstanley and Sheila Ranson

EASTBOURNE

Our Lady of Ransom

MARY ROSE BRACUTI, a teacher from St Thomas a Becket Junior school was consecrated as a Bride of Christ according to the Solemn Rite by Bishop Richard. Everyone was welcomed to this special Mass and invited to celebrate with refreshments afterwards.

Forty Hours of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament was held for ADOREMUS 2018 with Holy Mass and the Rosary throughout the day, finishing with Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Te Deum. The Pope's Gaudete et Exsultate proved very popular.

Another excellent response was received from the parishioners to the SVP Food Bank Collection. We welcomed Fr

Emmanuel from the Spiritans, the congregation of the Holy Spirit. They are entering their third century of service throughout the world and this is their Mission Appeal. We held a farewell party for Fr Gerard Hatton who is moving on to become parish priest of St Hugh of Lincoln, Knaphill. He has been an exciting presence in our parish and we wish him well for the future. We welcomed Fr Tristan Cranfield who was ordained by Bishop Richard at Arundel Cathedral on 20 July 2018.

Mary Staffiere

MERSTHAM, REDHILL and REIGATE

EACH YEAR the Borough of Reigate & Banstead celebrates the part played by committed volunteers, who give their time to help others in their community, at an award ceremony in the town hall. It is hosted by the Mayor, currently Mrs Dorothy Ross-Tomlin. This year Jean Longley, from St Teresa's Church, together with her friend Margaret Merry, were jointly presented with certificates for their long years of delivering library books to residents who are unable to get to the local library.



Jean with her certificate

Naturally it is not as simple as it sounds; it involves building relationships with their 'clients', getting to know their interests and the kind of books they like. Having made what seems to be an appropriate selection, the library staff will, if needed, check whether the recipients have already had the books. In some cases talking books are required.

The long service category is for 10 or more years of service. Jean has achieved 30 years, firstly in partnership with the late Mary Neal, and then with Margaret, and she is not giving up yet! In acknowledgement of the length of her involvement with Library Direct Home Service, she was also given a lovely houseplant.

Ann Lardeur

MIDHURST

JULY WAS A relatively quiet month when Fr Peter Newsam took the opportunity to take a holiday.

August had some special feast days and Fr Peter's Sunday homilies were thought provoking, a well prepared series of repeat homilies, preached on a pilgrimage to Assisi. The reference to St Francis of Assisi linked into the solemnity of St Clare on 11 August.

The Mass for the Feast of the Assumption, with its dramatic and powerful readings, was well attended.

Fortunately the parishioners were paying attention to the slightly earlier Mass time I didn't spot anyone embarrassingly arriving at the end of Mass! This was to allow Fr Peter to celebrate a morning Mass at Petworth too.

Wednesday 22 August was The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In liturgical tradition, there were white flowers around the church and in front of the statues, particularly that of Our Lady.

Paula Dempsey

WEST BYFLEET

AS WE ENTER late Summer the restart of our regular programmes commences, including preparation for First Holy Communion and for the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

On 29 September a Day of Retreat for Eucharistic Ministers will be held in the Parish Centre.



We were delighted to congratulate our former long-serving Sacristan, Ted Free, and his wife, Elizabeth, (pictured above) recently on the occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary.

Ted and Elizabeth 70 years ago



We wish them many more happy years together.

Paul Tipple

ST JOSEPH'S HALL EXTENSION



TWO YEARS AGO, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Haywards Heath arranged its annual May procession. Children were rehearsed and parents, grandparents and friends turned up in great expectation. But the heavens opened and everything had to be moved into the school hall. Problem - with a squeeze the hall would just about accommodate the children and teachers. All the guests were sent home in disappointment.

This made the school think about how to avoid this happening again. It had grown over the years to a two-form entry, but the hall had remained the same size.

Rolling the clock forward - and after raising £400,000 from the Diocese and other interested parties - on Monday, 18th June Bishop Richard Moth helped celebrate the opening of the newly extended school hall. 'It was a wonderful way to mark this occasion with a liturgy that show-cased the unique talents of this special school community. We can now accommodate all the school in our various gatherings' reflected head teacher Mrs Catherine Walker.

The children used the theme from St Joseph's specially created hymn, 'To Answer God's Call', to remind everyone present that we all have a unique and special calling to do God's work. Invited guests included parents, governors and colleagues from the locality. They enjoyed witnessing the children's dancing, singing and reading during a very prayerful liturgy.

After blessing the new hall extension and all those present, Bishop Richard told the children how much he had enjoyed his visit and that he could sum up the occasion in one word 'Wonderous!'

Story Cath Walker

Photograph Louise Fingermeissl

Happy Tenth Anniversary
Fr Aaron Spinelli

CANON SEAMUS HESTER

Happy Eightieth Birthday!!!

Picture: Stephen Bloy

TO ALL OUR
CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the November 2018 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 1 October 2018** and for the **December 2018** issue by **Monday 29 October 2018**. Contributions may be sent by e-mail to abnews@dabnet.org and if so please always include a contact telephone number.

It is helpful to us if Correspondents can type their contributions, keep them to no more than 200 words and include a word count. Please use the highest resolution possible when taking photographs and do not reduce the quality when you send them to us. Original good quality digital pictures (which must be at least 300dpi) are very welcome. They should be sent as e-mail attachments. We regret we are unable to use photocopies or copies printed directly from computers.

Please tell us who gave permission and what evidence do you have for children's photos to be published.

Helping the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP) to Give Hope and Rebuild Lives in Kerala

As media focus on the Kerala floods gradually fades, a charity in England and Wales is drawing attention to its continued efforts to rescue and restore lives in this latest climate catastrophe.



WITH 10,000 VOLUNTEERS in England and Wales and 66,000 volunteers in India, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is well placed to carry out its extensive aid efforts to help lives damaged by the floods. Together, volunteers in the two countries are busy raising and distributing funds to people affected by the flooding, using donations to purchase materials including food, clothing and livestock to help Indian people rebuild their lives.

UK members are fundraising in their local communities and



sending the aid through the SVP's network to groups on the ground in Kerala, where they can directly reach and help vulnerable people. In this way, lives that have been destroyed by the loss of loved ones, homes and livelihoods are gradually being given hope.

Johnson Varghese, National President of the SVP in India, said: 'The SVP in India has been extremely busy working with local fishermen to help rescue people trapped in flooded homes. SVP volunteers are collecting and coordinating the distribution of aid materials, using resources available from British donations together with their own money to buy vital goods.'

'We desperately need donations as the rescue effort goes on. As people move back to their damaged homes, we'll be using funds to help rebuild their houses, purchase household utensils, school materials such as uniforms and books, and even livestock to replace lost farm animals.'



The floods – the worst in decades – have so far cost 400 lives and destroyed 20,000 homes, with 800,000 people displaced. The full extent of the damage and cost to life will only become clearer once the flooding has receded and people have returned to their homes so that the number missing can be identified.

The SVP, founded in 1833, now has 800,000 volunteers in 153 countries worldwide. Kerala in SW India has a population of nearly 35 million. Christianity has been a major religion in Kerala since St Thomas the Apostle visited there in 52 AD. It has the largest number of churches in India. The SVP has more than 36,000 members in Kerala and 68,000 in India as a whole.

To donate to the SVP's Kerala flood appeal, go to www.svp.org.uk or telephone 020 7703 3030. Donations made to the appeal will be passed to the SVP in India without deductions of any kind.

Story and pictures: Anita Boniface

Awards for Kindness



HASTINGS AND ROTHER 630 Knights of St Columba have made their annual presentations at the three Catholic Primary Schools in Hastings, St Leonards and Bexhill.

The awards are made to the child considered to have shown consistently help, kindness and support at home or at school.

The award at St Mary Star of the Sea, St Leonards went to Murielle Mercado seen receiving her award from Bros Sean Harkins and Fidelis Okoliko (pictured above).

The award at Hastings Sacred Heart School went to Ella-Marie Deeproose who received her award from Bro Andrew Patmore.

At Bexhill St Mary Magdalene the presentation by GK Stephen Bradshaw to Kyla Roberio took place in church.

Story and picture: Patrick Coates

Correction

In our September edition we included an article on the Syro-Malabar Rites in Merstham, Surrey. This was incorrectly credited and the attribution should have read 'Evelyn Silpa Mathew, submitted by Fr Binoy and the Syro-Malabar community'.

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Day 1 To Chambéry

Meet your Tour Manager and the rest of your group at London St Pancras. Here, board the Eurostar service to Paris and continue on to Chambéry where you overnight.

Days 2-3 To Toscolano-Maderno

Venture into Italy today by rail as you journey to Milan in Italy. From here travel on to the shores of the azure Lake Garda and to the picturesque lakeside town of Toscolano-Maderno. You check into our hotel before enjoying dinner later. Day 3 is at leisure.

Day 4 Historic Verona

Your excursion today takes you on a journey to one of the world's most romantic cities - the charming metropolis of Verona. On arrival, you are taken on a guided tour which includes the ever-impressive Roman Arena, Juliet's iconic balcony and the majestic city gates.

Days 5-6 Magnificent Sirmione

Take a boat journey across the tranquil Lake Garda waters to beautiful Sirmione today. Sat on a peninsula stretching out across the lake, Sirmione is one of Italy's prettiest towns,

looked over by the majestic Scagliar Castle, a 13th century medieval port castle. Enjoy free time here to explore the winding streets and sunny squares with their traditional Italian cafés and bars. Your following day, Day 6, is yours.

Days 7-8 The Passion Play

Bid farewell to Italy today as you travel first to Verona by coach, before continuing from here across the Alps through to Innsbruck in Austria. From Innsbruck, we continue north across the Austro-Germanic border to the small, quaint town of Oberammergau. On Day 8, you experience the iconic Passion Play. Just once a decade, the unassuming town of Oberammergau hosts the world's largest and most famous passion play detailing the final days of Jesus Christ. With your tour, you are granted top tier seats near the centre of the auditorium, the perfect place to witness the 2,000 strong cast and crew put on one of the oldest continuous religious plays in the world. Oberammergau truly comes alive with the production which sees hundreds and thousands of visitors come to the village.

Day 9-10 Return home

Leave Oberammergau today as you travel by rail to the

Bavarian town of Nuremberg where you overnight. On Day 10, continue to Brussels where you board the Eurostar to London.



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- ✓ City tour of Verona
- ✓ Boat journey across Lake Garda to Sirmione
- ✓ Time at leisure in Toscolano Maderno
- ✓ Free time in Nuremberg

Dates and Prices

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2 Jun 2020	£2,145	15 Sep 2020	£2,195
9 Jun 2020	£2,145		

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You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same.

CRYPTIC Across

- 1 Hard following maths class for Adam's boy (4)
- 3 I love Roman customs, one's we can find in the Bible (8)
- 9 Find here Edam 'maarkt', translated no time after the Spanish retreat (7)
- 10 Fantasy he created in Inverness (5)
- 11 Prepare favourite, but take only second place with Ruby riding, close to Derby (5)
- 12 Untold murky connection between Di and Mary (6)
- 14 Masses other churches would like? (13)
- 17 Italian island's church is ahead, taking a back road (6)
- 19 Dress for a Muslim bachelor to go about the old city, the Kalif's capital (5)
- 22 Running last in league, Villa, after awful May, anticipate new season (5)
- 23 He painted sports ground with Lego-shaped terracing (2,5)
- 24 'I am', as blue-collar type announced, 'the Messiah'! (8)
- 25 State the tipping of headgear is obligatory after you texted (4)

CRYPTIC Down

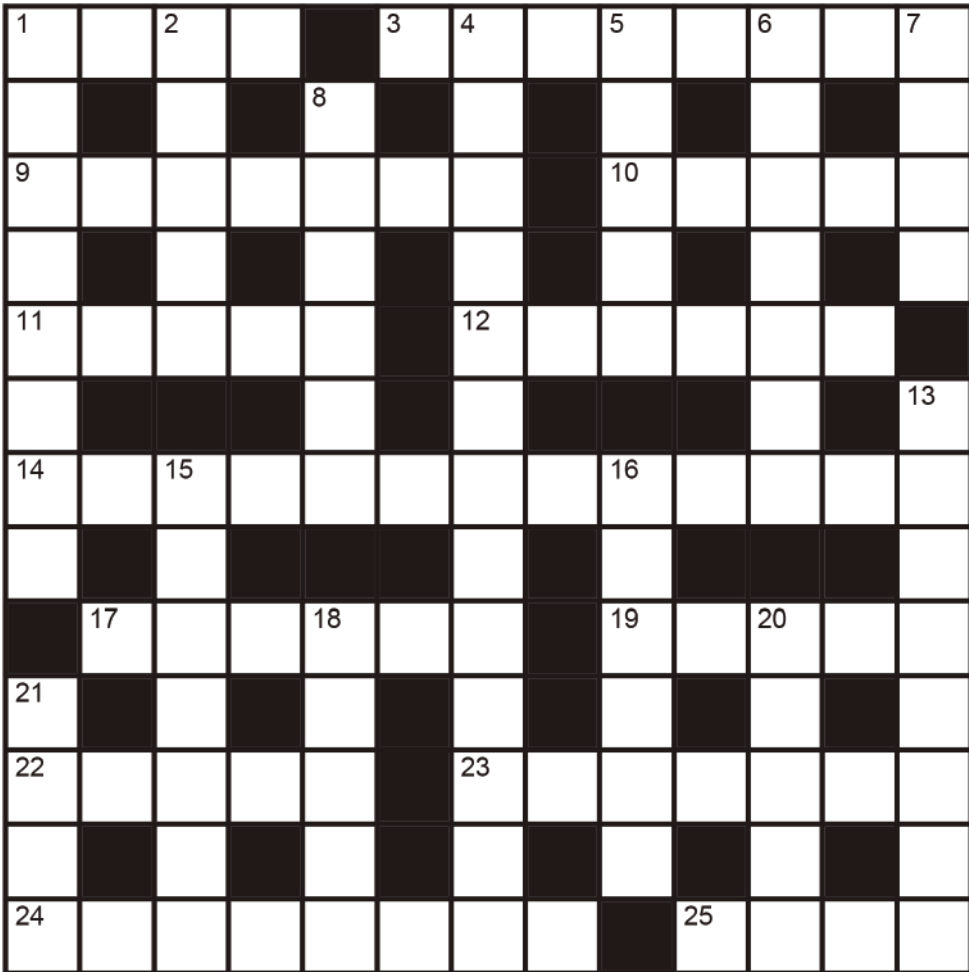
- 1 One of Dan's mate made dash with compass, but lost direction (8)
- 2 Note US pilot's affirmative, returning to where Amos lived (5)
- 4 Jesus healed her two girls and little boy with drugs (4,9)
- 5 Drifter cowboy tipped off (5)
- 6 Navy commercial's also about violent air-to-land action (7)
- 7 In US large number, some British (almost all), get rejected (4)
- 8 Point to year in fear, primarily, resulting in one cutting up (6)
- 13 Arcane stuff boxed in wood featuring one of the evil trinity (8)
- 15 Remedy negative way to play the guitar (7)
- 16 Caribbean island's the place to shoot duck (6)
- 18 Masses he wrote, marginally down after book fair (5)
- 20 Butler's right man to be retained over time (5)
- 21 Noisome in the end in move to become the top patriarch (4)

QUICK Across

- 1 Brother of Cain and Abel (4)
- 3 Early biblical people living west of the Euphrates River (8)
- 9 Dutch city famous for its Edam market (7)
- 10 Jules ----- author of 20000 Leagues Under the Sea (1870) (5)
- 11 Poised for action (5)
- 12 Immeasurable (6)
- 14 Groups of people who adhere to a common faith and habitually attend a given church (13)
- 17 Italian volcanic island in the Tyrrhenian Sea (6)
- 19 Loose garment as worn by Muslim women, with veiled holes for the eyes (5)
- 22 Premature (5)
- 23 Spanish painter, nicknamed for his place of birth (2,5)
- 24 Christ or the Messiah, as named in Matthew from a reference in Isaiah (8)
- 25 In the US, the Beehive State, the 45th of the Union (4)

QUICK Down

- 1 Companion of Daniel, Hananiah before his named was changed (8)
- 2 Town south of Bethlehem, home of Amos (5)
- 4 First person to see Jesus after his resurrection (KJV spelling) (4,9)
- 5 Vagabond (5)
- 6 Twister (7)
- 7 Killed, as per the KJV (4)
- 8 The Adventures of Tom -----, novel by Mark Twain (1876) (6)
- 13 Along with Beelzebub and Lucifer, one of the Evil Trinity (8)
- 15 Quack medicine (7)



- 16 Trinidad and -----, Caribbean nation (6)
- 18 Classical German composer whose Masses include the 'St Cecilia' and 'Nelson' (5)
- 20 ----- Butler, most prominent male character in Gone With the Wind (5)
- 21 Son of Jacob and Leah (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 1 Seth, 3 Amorites, 9 Alkmaar, 10 Verne, 11 Ready, 12 Myriad, 14 Congregations, 17 Ischia, 19 Burkha, 22 Early, 23 El Greco, 24 Immanuel, 25 Utah. Down: 1 Shadrach, 2 Tekoa, 4 Mary Magdalene, 5 Rover, 6 Tornado, 7 Slew, 8 Sawyer, 13 Astor, 15 Nostum, 16 Tobago, 18 Haydn, 20 Rhett, 21 Levi.