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**FREE**

# A&B News

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

November 2018 - No.334

## Adoremus - We adore You, O Lord



Above: the carpet of flowers in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool, handiwork of the talented and experienced flower arrangers of Arundel Cathedral. Below: A&B Diocese delegates.

Photos: Mazur.catholicnews.org.uk



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### The Moth has Landed!



**THE 'MOTH' HAS LANDED** reported the official tweet from A&B Diocese. Dozens of newspapers and media outlets in the UK and overseas rejoiced in the safe landing of both Bishop Richard (above, tethered to an instructor) and Lucy Barnes.

For a full report, see page three.

Photo:Diocese of Arundel&Brighton

### A&B Pilgrims Honour the Real Presence

**A**BOUT TEN THOUSAND CATHOLICS from around England and Wales gathered in Liverpool from Friday 7 to Sunday 9 September for the National Eucharistic Congress – the first to be held in our country since 1908. The purpose of Adoremus was to celebrate our faith in the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist and to encourage the revival of Eucharistic adoration in our parishes. It was a joyous and truly inspirational weekend which we were really privileged to attend.

The Friday comprised a number of talks and workshops on, among others, the scriptural context of the Eucharist, the Eucharist as the source and summit of the Church's life and mission, the ministry of the Eucharist in hospitals and prisons, preparing children for First Holy Communion, the ministry of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, the Eucharist and social justice, the Eucharist and church unity.

(continued on page 5)

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# Remember, Remember...the 'Great' War ended 100 Years Ago

THE AWARD WINNING 1969 film 'Oh! What a Lovely War' caused considerable controversy. Billed as a comedy, the story was thought-provoking and drove home the message that the Great War, as it was strangely called, was great only on one scale.

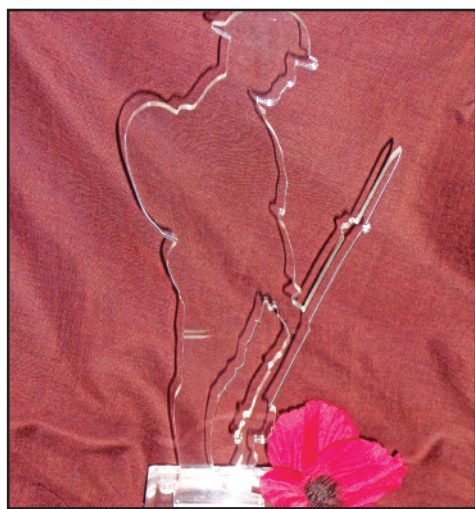
## The 'Great' War

It involved 135 nations and cost the lives of 15 million people. Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries alone saw 880,000 soldiers lose their lives. The youngest soldier from the UK was Sidney Lewis at 12 years old – he lied about his age so that he could go to war.

Did we learn from the experience of WW1? No! We were at it again 21 years later.

So, here we are commemorating the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day at 11am on 11th November. With only 640 residents left in the UK who were born when WW1 started – and in a few years there will be no one left – great effort has been and continues to be made not to forget the fallen and the cause which created this mass destruction.

The Armed Forces Covenant Trust Fund has pledged £2m to help drive local community support throughout the UK.



## There but Not There

With the encouragement of the local council, Arundel Cathedral and nearby St Nicholas Church have joined in the 'There But Not There' project. This is an awareness initiative to focus not on the war as a whole, but to remember the 93 soldiers who lost their lives from the town and surrounding villages. Ghostly silhouettes have been placed in pews (see picture on right) to depict the shadows of soldiers left absent in the wake of the war and displays give visitors background to some of the local heroes.

It was noticeable in watching visitors to the Cathedral that they were left in awe at the sight of the silhouettes. Why were they there? What was their purpose?

## The Effect of the Silhouettes

Jenny Bloxham, who manages the shop, explained: 'We did not know what to expect, especially as we unwrapped the Perspex statues. We did not know if there would be a resonance with visitors and we certainly did not think we would sell the commemorative silhouettes (left) in the shop. The reality is that the Cathedral has had a considerable number of people of all ages visiting the exhibition, coming from far and wide including Belgium, France, Holland, America, Australia, New Zealand and even Germany.'

Many are taken by the personal stories of local people, who are often related to the visitors. Only yesterday, two women in their 30's were physically moved by what they saw. Young people are interested and they are keen to ask about WW1 history; we do get quite a few school trips. We have noticed that people stay much longer than usual.

How many commemorative silhouettes have we sold since 10th May? This has surprised us – it is 151 to date, and we have had to order more!' continued Jenny.



This is a unique exhibition, so how did the silhouettes come to be placed where they are? Mike Bloxham, Jenny's husband and the Cathedral's 'Mr Fix it', explained.

'Yes, unwrapping the silhouettes came as quite a surprise. They are life size and came with no particular instructions on how to exhibit them. We quickly decided that they should be within the congregation and you can see them dotted around the pews; each one has a name engraved on it. People have no issues sitting next to them. In fact, we have noticed a number of regular parishioners making a point of sitting next to the same silhouette on each visit.'

## Four Brothers Remembered

You ask about the four men grouped together. On the role of honour there are the four Maxwell Stuart brothers who lost their lives in WW1 – Joseph, Edmund, Harry and James. We felt that they should be together as a family in

the Cathedral.'

So why go to all this trouble for something that happened 100 years ago? In some way we are all involved – Bishop Richard, for instance, recalls that his grandmother was due to be married to one of the fallen heroes.

The aim is to commemorate, educate and, last but not least, to heal. Funds raised will go to The Royal Foundation, Walking with the Wounded, Combat Stress, Help for Heroes, housing veterans and medical students (Project Equinox) and the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation.

For further information visit: [www.therebutnotthere.org.uk](http://www.therebutnotthere.org.uk)

Perhaps the last word should be left with Jenny... 'I now regard the silhouettes as people' she said.

Story: Peter Burholt

Photos: Peter Burholt and A&B News

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# Bishop Richard and Lucy Fall for Lourdes

IS IT A BIRD? Is it a plane? ... Wait, it's a bishop! tweeted a spokesman from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales on hearing that the charity skydive by Bishop Richard and Lucy Barnes had taken place safely. This unique event happened on Friday 14 September at Old Sarum in Wiltshire. All funds raised go to support disabled people and their helpers to make the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes - those who may not otherwise be able to afford the trip. So far, with the help of Gift Aid, the total raised is over £8,000 - enough for five pilgrims and their helpers.

## Last Minute Collections & Offers

Excitement had been building up over a number of months and donations have been flowing in. Lucy was still collecting funds up until the night before in a local pub, The Royal Oak at Wishford. However, Bishop Richard did decline an offer from one donor to have the donor's contribution doubled if he, our Bishop, skydived without a parachute!



Ready for the 'off', Bishop Richard with Lucy and instructor Craig

Well, what was it like? A few months ago the A&B News was told by Bishop Richard: 'There are no particular fears, but possibly this could change when the instructor tells me to jump out of the plane!' and by Lucy Barnes: 'My head is firmly in the ground. I'm not thinking about it!' Instructions were clear - be on parade at 8.00am. Here the day started, but not before another instruction had been followed: 'Have breakfast before you get to Old Sarum as it helps if you feel unwell on the way down. However, try to avoid a full English!'

Eight o'clock in the morning was early for a sky dive, which was not due to take place for another three hours. But the time went quickly as the training was

thorough; even weighing in and dressing for the occasion took a while. 'Although I was Bishop to the Armed Forces, this is the first time I have parachuted,' reflected Bishop Richard as he donned his jumpsuit and harness. To help calm the nerves, he produced slices of blackberry and apple crumble from his bag for himself, Lucy, Bob (Lucy's husband) and their dog. This made up the entire entourage from the Diocese.

Our duo's in-flight travelling companions included a camera crew and six women, one of whom had never flown before. The weather was overcast, but with just enough cloud clearance to make the jump possible. Surprisingly, the plane only had a single engine, but everyone managed to pile in and it was soon bumping along the grass airstrip and gathering speed to get airborne.

## How Clouds Taste

There was definitely no turning back. The six women were prepared for their descent first as they were due to dive from 10,000 feet. Five left the plane according to plan, but the sixth - the lady who had never flown before - declined the kind offer to jump into mid-air with a man strapped to her back. Seeing this, Bishop Richard enquired if he and Lucy could get out now and not bother to go to 15,000 feet. 'Sorry,' replied the pilot, 'you're booked in for the full ride.' However, he added a word of encouragement: 'When you come through the cloud, stick your tongue out and it will taste like candy floss.'

In a few moments the time had come to do something quite unnatural. They both went out of the side of the plane with an instructor strapped to their backs. But, as anyone who has skydived before will know, the descent has two quite distinct parts - the terrifying and the serene. Travelling without a parachute open at 120 miles per hour is not everyone's idea of fun, with the wind tearing into the unprotected parts of the face. But then, quite suddenly and without warning, the parachute opens. 'It was so peaceful as we glided safely to earth. We felt that God was with us,' recalls Lucy. Everything was over in six minutes.

Back on terra firma the adrenalin was still pumping around the skydivers' bodies. What next to help calm the nerves and get back to some normality? Natu-

rally, it was back to The Royal Oak for fish'n'chips and a large gin and tonic!



## We did it!

Catching up with Bishop Richard after his recent visit to Rome, he told the A&B News: 'The skydive was an amazing experience and I am delighted that so many people have given such wonderful support. Kindness like this will be of great help for our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes - a big THANK YOU to you all.' Has this chapter closed? Maybe not, so watch this space for the next adventure.

## You Can Still Donate

Here are the various ways in which you can still donate:

- By using the purple Gift Aid parish envelope, marked '+R skydive';
- By a pilgrimage envelope, available in your parish;
- By going to: <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/bishoprichardskydive>

Gift Aiding your donation will add 25% to your donation and the MyDonate website will stay open for donations until Friday 14 December.

Story: Peter Burholt  
Pictures: Go Skydive

## Fr Chris Ingle - another Sky Pilot

ON A BRIGHT afternoon in early September Fr Chris Ingle, parish priest of St Michael's, Worthing, took to the skies over historic Biggin Hill Aerodrome in a WWII Spitfire.

Once airborne Fr Chris, a former RAF fast jet pilot, was allowed to take the controls. 'It was a moving experience to fly in such a graceful and historic aircraft. Completing a couple of victory rolls was the icing on the cake!'

Built at Castle Bromwich in late 1943, the MK IX machine entered service in September 1944 from an advanced landing ground in Belgium and was converted to a two-seat trainer after the war.



The flight was made possible through the generosity of parishioners who organised a collection to celebrate Fr Chris's 'big birthday' a couple of years ago. The company provided in-cockpit videos of the flight, and one from an observation aircraft hired by friends which flew in formation with the Spitfire allowing them to capture the experience on camera.

Story and picture: Neville Barrie

## Dear Editor,

### ...Lourdes Exceeded all my Hopes, Dreams and Expectations...

Dear Editor,  
'Do whatever He tells you'...Lourdes 2018.

While at the Lourdes Reunion and prompted by the reminder of the theme for the A&B Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year - 'Do whatever He tells you' (the words of Our Lady to the steward at the Marriage Feast of Cana) - I feel that I'd like to share something of our Diocese Pilgrimage with readers of A&B News. It was such a very special experience for me and my husband, Ian.

I had spent 80 years avoiding Lourdes, thinking it would be too organised, too busy, too commercial, etc., but the diagnosis that my lung cancer, that had been operated on a year ago, had now spread to my bones and liver, as well as the fact that I was looking forward to my 80th birthday in August, left me with a feeling deep down that I could not say that I didn't want to go to Lourdes if I hadn't given it a try...

My husband agreed to come with me (very supportive, although not a Catholic) and I can say from the bottom of my heart that **the experience of Lourdes exceeded all my hopes, dreams and expectations. It was a real experience of life, love and laughter amidst deeply prayerful and spiritual**

**moments.** My husband also found it a very special week and it was a precious gift that we were able to share.

I think we were very blessed to be in the Hotel Stella, where we felt part of 'the family' from the word go, even though I had only recognised one name from the hotel guest list. We had excellent and very hard-working leaders, David and Sue, as well as Maria, our Deputy Leader.

Our Chaplain, Fr Trevor Welland, was there for each one of us, always generous with his time, listening and sensitive to all, whether young, old, sick, healthy, a helper, etc. I feel that he was the hub of the wheel around whom the whole community worked so well, and I am particularly grateful to him for enabling my husband to feel included...

I'm so grateful that I listened to the deep-down promptings of my heart and managed to override the 'what ifs' and questions of my head, so that I was able to apply to go to Lourdes this year. Now, reminded again of the theme for this year - 'Do whatever He tells you' - I am trying to live, relish, enjoy and celebrate each moment of life and love that I am given...CARPE DIEM.

Clare, Burgess Hill



## 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.
- Be accountable for the day to day operations of the Heritage Centre and work with LCM Sisters on future programmes and opportunities.
- 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.

**Hours of employment: 35-37.5 hours per week with flexibility.**

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Applications close: 17 December 2018 at 5.00 pm

Interviews: Week commencing Monday 28 January 2019



# A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the  
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

OUR NOVEMBER ISSUE is packed with good reading. Apart from reports on these two great assemblies, in Liverpool (p5) and Dublin (p4), we have the full story on Bishop Ricard and Lucy's skydive (p3) – did you know that clouds taste of candy floss?

In an inspiring and passionate article, Carol D'Souza challenges us to make disciples (p9), telling us that 'God doesn't call the equipped. He equips the called.'

Peter Burholt's article on remembering the Great War (p2) reminds us that it is already winter time. Spare a thought for the homeless as temperatures fall, chill winds blow and rain saturates clothing. Sleeping in the open can be beautiful – but not in winter, as the youth of St Edward's Keymer know (p7). ...and there's even more inside!

*Harry Robertson*

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**Editorial Office:** DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 6RP

**Telephone:** 01293 513052

**Email:** [abnews@dabnet.org](mailto:abnews@dabnet.org)

**Website:** [www.abdiocese.org.uk](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk)

**Distribution enquiries:** Ruth Gerun,  
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## JUST A THOUGHT

### The Communion of Saints

DURING NOVEMBER we normally reflect on the lives of all who have passed through our world into eternity. We remember those who are spiritually in the presence of God – the saints. Also, we think about those who wait to come into that Special Presence, those we traditionally call Holy Souls.

I remember many years ago hearing a homily given by the late Cardinal Basil Hume at a Mass in his Cathedral - Westminster - about that existence called purgatory. He said: 'We cannot imagine the total reality of God's wonderful and awesome presence. As we approach that presence in death we feel we are not ready'. The Cardinal compared it to the Queen knocking on our door and wanting to come in for tea. We would immediately feel not prepared and want time to get things ready.

In some ways this is the feeling we may have as we approach spiritually the most mysterious and indescribable Presence of our Heavenly Father with his Son, with the Holy Spirit, and Our Lady and all the saints.

May all those we have known in life and who have passed beyond this existence find that indescribable life awaiting the final resurrection at the end of time.

*Fr Graham Bamford*

## The Role of Christian Unity in the Renewal of the Church

OVER 60 PEOPLE gathered for the annual Dialogue and Unity Day on Saturday 29 September in DABCEC, Crawley, organised by our diocesan Dialogue and Unity Commission. A day of sharing, prayer, lego, water and song all centred on Christ, as we explored the theme 'The Role of Christian Unity in the Renewal of the Church'.

Fr Sebastian Ostrynski (pictured with Canon Tony Churchill) of Chemin Neuf gave a moving presentation in the morning which included a powerful video of Pope Francis' message to a gathering of Charismatic Christians from Kenneth Copeland ministries in USA. Fr Sebastian reminded us that the church is the means of unity between God and the whole human race, not just for us, and asked us to consider that perhaps we need to consider the effect of our disunity on society and on politics.

The day provided times of prayer and reflection and of sharing and discussion. Music was provided by newly married couple Lisa and Patch Doyle with Triona Horrocks, all from Crawley parish.

Another high point was the talk by Neil Allison of the Banstead Five churches, a covenanted partnership that the local Catholic church, St Ann's, has been involved in since its



inception. Neil provided an engaging presentation looking at the fruits of past endeavours and the challenges that are now faced.

We also heard from the Dialogue and Unity Adviser, Catherine Martindale, who explored five virtues for interreligious dialogue from Catholic theologian Catherine Cornille. These are Humility, Commitment, Interconnection, Empathy and Hospitality.

This was followed by our Episcopal Vicar for Ecumenism, Canon Tony Churchill, presenting information about English ARC, of which he is now a member.

The feedback from the day has been overwhelmingly positive. Attendees were encouraged to consider what the fruits of the day would be for them and what they needed from our diocesan Formation Team.

Pictured below are three of the prayer stations, from top left to right: - Christ is at the centre calling us to unity John 17:20-21; - Unity grows in the soil of humility.' Jean Vanier; - and We build each other up and so serve God in the World, Romans 14. Two have their prayer notes and the third, the centre picture has the thumb prints on the prayer tree.

*Story: Catherine Martindale Pictures: David White*



## World Meeting of Families - the Way Forward

FOLLOWING THIS SUMMER'S EVENT in Dublin, subsequent meetings are being planned in the next two months. Everyone who attended the World Meeting found inspiration in different ways, so we are inviting all attendees to bring a guest (or guests!) so that they can share some of that inspiration with other members of the diocese.

At the next meeting, we will be reminding ourselves of what we learnt in Dublin from the huge range of truly motivating speakers; we will then spend some time thinking about practical ways of bringing that to the Diocese.

Anyone who has a passion for Marriage and Family Life is invited to join us – just let us know you are interested by emailing [mfl@dabnet.org](mailto:mfl@dabnet.org) and we will send you the details closer to the time.

The comments from and the effect the whole event in Dublin had on several participants follow:

**Grandparents** are the past, present and the future.

**Remember that if your grandchildren** have been baptised the Holy Spirit remains with them all of their lives.

**On Safeguarding** strong policies and Canon Law should be implemented fully as children are very precious. Why has this not been done?

**The safeguarding presentations** provided a new insight into a major issue of today. The various contributors spoke from their hearts. I believe that I gained a lot just listening to the various questions and answers.

**I enjoyed being in the company** of such wonderful and caring 'church' people - sharing, exchanging views on the challenges of today's world and the coming together for Mass.

**The privilege of concelebrating Mass with Pope Francis** with many people from various countries - a true image of our Universal Church - a replica of Pentecost!!

**I found the Irish Bishops** the humblest of people with a deep pastoral yearning to work together both within and

outside the Church community to develop an environment where God's loving presence can be truly experienced.

**I learned that the way you treat your spouse**, both in public and at home, shapes and moulds and has a profound effect upon children. So, if you really value marriage and family, never grow tired of or embarrassed to show love towards your wife/husband. I will now make a real effort to spend quality time with each member of our family unit.

**The penitential rite at the Mass** given only by Pope Francis was the most striking. The words were so powerful; it made real that our brokenness is transformed by the mercy of God. (It was followed by a very short stunned silence and then immediately by spontaneous applause - noted the A&B News representative who was present).

**So many lay individuals and groups** taking the lead in all areas, including the children and youth programmes.

**I learned a lot from other families'** experiences of how to demonstrate their faith in God and in each other, but also how to have hope when things get tough.

**Try to show more appreciation** for each other and for the blessings we receive.

**The farewell by Pope Francis**, 'good night, sleep well and see you tomorrow', was just like hearing a dad or grandad saying goodnight to the family before going to bed, whilst everybody else is still in the living room. It brought memories of my own extended family, when we used to gather at my grandmother's on special occasions!

**Our group Mass** at the DCU chapel on Saturday morning provided a special touch.

Pictured are members of the group at Phoenix Park in Dublin before the Mass commenced. Note that the rain has not and never did dampen spirits on this or any other occasion.



*Story: Lizzie Wakeling and David White  
Picture: David White*



# Adoremus, the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress

(continued from Page 1)

SATURDAY was the main Congress day. With all the talk of a reduction in the practice of the faith, it was wonderful to see the massive Echo Arena completely packed for the day. After a welcome by the Archbishop of Liverpool, Malcolm McMahon, and the Apostolic Nuncio reading a message from Pope Francis, we were treated to two outstanding talks by Bishop Robert Barron from Los Angeles.



## Bishop Robert Barron - on the Mass

The first talk was on the Mass. Bishop Robert (above with Cardinal Vincent) described the Mass as being a privileged encounter with Jesus Christ; Christianity is not a philosophy but a relationship with a person, a friendship with Jesus, and there is no more intense encounter with the Lord than in the Mass.

He described the Mass as a supreme mystery, a supreme form of play in the sense that play is not something you do to achieve another goal but is beautiful in itself – wasting time with God. The structure of the Mass is a call and response between Christ and ourselves – Christ our Head calls to us in love and we respond in love.

He then took us through each part of the Mass in detail, drawing out the deep meaning, from the initial gathering together to the final dismissal. He did not just make sense of the liturgy, he brought it to life – the Mass will never seem dull or boring again.

## Bishop Robert Barron - on Sainthood

His second talk was on sainthood, sanctity and what makes us holy. Again, it was eye-opening and hugely engaging, including quoting from John Lennon!

Christian holiness involves walking three paths. First, find the centre – when Christ is the centre of our lives, the rest falls into harmony around that centre. Second, know that you are a sinner – it is the breakthrough of Grace that shows us we are sinners, and a saint is someone who truly knows how great a sinner he or she is. Third, realise that your life is not about you – it is about something that stretches infinitely beyond you, not your little plans but God's plan for you.

The day also included some moving testimonies from three young people

about how they had been brought back to the faith through the Blessed Sacrament, together with a drama by the Rise Theatre group, again young people, which took us from the disciples in the company of Jesus, not being sure who He was, to us in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament, perhaps with our own doubts and uncertainties, with the repeated question from Christ: 'What do you see when you look at Me?'

The day finished with exposition, silent adoration, a reflection by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and evening prayer of Corpus Christi.

## A Parallel Programme

In addition to those plenary sessions in the Arena, throughout the day there was a parallel programme of events at various locations around the city. There were too many to mention them all but they included the opportunity to talk to a missionary in another country, an exploration of a sacramental theology of creation led by Pax Christi, an interactive workshop featuring stories and bread from around the world led by CAFOD, a chance to experience Lectio Divina led by a group of lay people from Chile and a gospel concert with Frank Cottrell-Boyce.

The problem was that, because these were at different venues, going to any would mean missing the main talks in the Arena. But it did mean that people who had not got tickets for the Congress could still be involved as these events were open to all.

## Sunday Mass

The weekend came to a climax on Sunday morning with Mass in the amazing Metropolitan Cathedral – because of the numbers, there were two Masses, at 9:30 celebrated by Archbishop McMahon and 11:30 celebrated by Cardinal Nichols.

We went to the second Mass and it was superb. The cathedral is stunning anyway, but it was made more so by the central aisle being a carpet of flowers – a gift from our diocese. (As you probably know, a carpet of flowers is laid in Arundel Cathedral every year for the feast of Corpus Christi.)

The worship was enhanced by excellent music – the beautiful voices of the cathedral choir accompanied by the mighty organ, trumpets, trombones and timpani, plus a capacity congregation in full voice (it was worth going just to hear the Gloria).

## The Procession

After Mass, the streets around the Cathedral were closed to vehicles so dozens of bishops, hundreds of priests and thousands of people could walk in procession with the Blessed Sacrament.

Unfortunately, just as the procession moved off, the heavens opened with a torrential downpour – but it did not dampen our spirits nor our singing. As often happens with long processions, the



singing at the back became out of time with those at the front and, at one point, we were actually singing different hymns – but that did not matter (*processing in the rain, above and below*).

Adoremus ended with the Cardinal giving Benediction from the top of the Cathedral steps to the crowd filling the piazza and the road.



However, the two of us were not finished and decided to spend some time quietly in the Blessed Sacrament Shrine – yes, in the middle of the bustling city, among the shops, restaurants and bars, is a large chapel with all-day exposition and adoration. That was a perfect end to a perfect two days.

Recordings of the talks, both video and audio, are available on the Bishops' Conference website at <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Special-Events/Adoremus-National-Eucharistic-Pilgrimage>. We strongly recommend that you watch the two keynote talks by Bishop Barron.

Story: Roger & Rosemary Morton

Photos: Mazur/catholicnews.org.uk  
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/catholicism/albums/72157673157676628>



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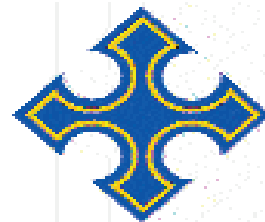
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# The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

*Serving the communities of our Diocese*



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### Led by Bishop Richard

- Theological and Practical talks
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Mass



**Saturday 17th November 2018**

at Christ the Prince of Peace  
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**11.00am - 4.00pm**



Tea/coffee from 10.30am  
Please bring a packed lunch



**Booking is essential as numbers are limited!**  
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*With Bishop Richard*

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[katherine.bergin@dabnet.org](mailto:katherine.bergin@dabnet.org) 01293 651152

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The Justice & Peace Assembly 2019

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING; SLAVERY ON OUR DOORSTEP

**26/01/2019  
09:30 - 15:30**

Learn about the slave trade hidden right  
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With guest speakers from local, national  
and international organisations working  
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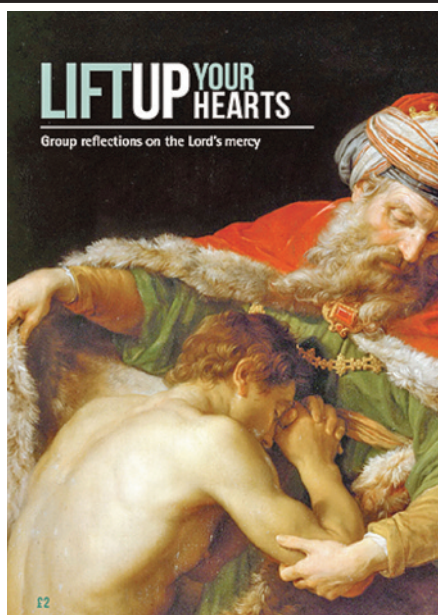
To book a free place please call  
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### THE BIG ENCOUNTER 2018

BRYONY WELLS - YOUTH 2000 WORSHIP BAND - BISHOP RICHARD

**Saturday 10  
November at  
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It's a diocesan-  
wide festival for  
15-30s and every-  
one is welcome.  
We've got Bryony  
Wells speaking,  
as well as Bishop  
Richard, and  
music from the  
Youth 2000  
worship team.



### ADVENT SMALL GROUP MATERIAL

THE DIOCESE itself is not producing an Advent  
booklet this year. We can recommend *Global  
Healing* which is a film-based resource for parishes,  
groups and individuals, responding to *Laudato Si*  
and Pope Francis' vital call to care for our common  
home. Further details from  
[www.ourcommonhome.co.uk](http://www.ourcommonhome.co.uk).

Alternatively, from House On Rock we can suggest  
their *Lift up your Hearts* programme, which has the  
themes of mercy and forgiveness, in preparation for  
the Christmas period.

Go to [www.houseonrock.co.uk/faith-sharing](http://www.houseonrock.co.uk/faith-sharing)

Jon Harman Adviser for Formation and  
Spirituality

[jon.harman@dabnet.org](mailto:jon.harman@dabnet.org) Telephone 01293 651157

## Grandparents' Week at St Joseph's Specialist School

THIS ANNUAL DIOCESAN EVENT at  
all schools and parishes was cele-  
brated on Monday 1 October with a  
Grandparents' Liturgy in the school hall  
at St Joseph's.

On the following three days Grandpar-  
ents were invited to join their grand-  
child's class and then accompany them to  
lunch.

Pictured are the altar decorated with  
pictures and paper models of grandpar-  
ents., and the activity during the liturgy.

*Story and pictures: David White*





## Sleeping under the Stars: Beauty, Pain and Vulnerability



**T**HE BIG SLEEPOUT is an annual fundraising event run by Off The Fence. The event provides participants a glimpse of what life is like for rough sleepers and raises much needed money to help rebuild their lives and get them off the streets.

For 20 years, Off The Fence's vision has been to see an end to social and spiritual poverty in Brighton and Hove. This was the second year that St Edward's Youth Church Council (YCC) have taken part and they are very proud to have raised over £3,500 for the charity so far with donations still coming in.

George Laws, who took part for the second time, said: 'It was great fun and the

sense of community was electric. However, this was in a controlled environment and we have to realise that people have to do this on a daily basis. I slept under the stars so it was quite an accurate experience and *it was beautiful but I also felt it would be very vulnerable if you were sleeping out on the street because anything could happen to you.*'

Tania, the mother of Lucy who took part, said: 'This is a great opportunity to raise awareness among the young people and through our children, we as parents and the whole parish community are made more aware of homelessness issues. Saoirse, a participant, said: '*It was a really rough experience, especially waking up in*

*the morning which was very painful. I can't imagine doing that on a daily basis.* I'm so happy that this one night experience has managed to raise so much money for those for whom this is their reality.'

Pam, one of the organisers, commented that all the young people and parents have worked very hard to make this happen. 'The young people have a great empathy and increased understanding of the reasons why people become homeless. They have raised an incredible amount for the charity and we are all very proud of them.'

The YCC is very grateful for the generosity of all in the parish and to Fr Trevor for supporting the young people. Fr Trevor thanks all of those who have supported the 'sleep-out' this year and especially the young people of YCC. Their energy, commitment to social action and sheer joy at taking part in this event has been an inspiration for all of us. Yet again, the young people of YCC have drawn us closer together as a parish community and continue to act as a prophetic voice for us - calling us to a faith shown through loving and serving our neighbour.

To donate, please see the link on our parish website:

[www.stedwardskeymer.co.uk](http://www.stedwardskeymer.co.uk)

Story: Andrew Hornett  
Picture: Off The Fence

## Building School in Borneo



**T**HIS SUMMER BROUGHT an incredible charitable adventure for 21 girls from Farnborough Hill when they travelled to Borneo to help with the extending and modernisation of a school (pictured above).

Having spent the past year fundraising to be able to donate new classroom chairs, new tables, stationery supplies and building materials for Nalapak Primary School in Ranau, the girls were thrilled when the opportunity arose to travel there themselves to help with an ongoing project.

The girls' adventurous spirit and willingness to learn were called upon when they were challenged with cementing a drive from the road to the main building, building an extension for a new kitchen, and painting the hall - all of which were undertaken with joy. A particular highlight was being able to spend some time with the children in their classrooms between the sessions of heavy labour, assisting the teachers and entertaining the pupils.

Mrs Alexandra Neil, Headteacher, commented, 'I am thrilled the girls had this extraordinary opportunity to help others while experiencing a country and culture so different from our own. The wonderful generosity of the School community enabled fundraising for the supplies needed by Nalapak Primary School; for the girls to then be able to travel there and offer themselves as helpers was a real bonus for this adventurous group.'

Story & Picture: Lauren McCready

## School Celebrates Anniversary



school cook. The Headteacher, Richard McKenzie, thanked everyone for helping to make our celebrations so happy.

**S**T PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL in Leatherhead recently marked its 70th Anniversary with an Open Afternoon for past pupils and staff. Bishop Richard celebrated Mass with Fr Tony Churchill and Fr John Inglis, parish priests (pictured). The congregation of children and parents was joined by Councillor Raj Haque, Chairman of Mole Valley District Council; Chris Grayling MP; Fr. Michael Masteron, parish priest; headteachers from deanery and local confederation schools and both present and past governors and staff. The celebrations ended with lunch and a beautiful cake baked by the

Story & Picture: Jackie Shabankareh

## Grandparents Back to School

**G**RANDPARENTS WERE INVITED into Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Primary School, Langley Green, Crawley, on Friday 21 September to participate in Grandparents' morning, an annual event in the diocese.

Grandparents joined the whole school for their celebration assembly when certificates are awarded to pupils for good work and attitude. They could then join their grandchildren in class and be involved with their learning.

Early Years children showed off their classroom and playful learning including painting, jigsaws, building, role play, sharing books and more. Year 1 shared books and designed new front covers. Year 2 explored capacity as part of their maths learning and even made fruit cocktails! Key Stage 2 shared their artistic skills with grandparents, year 3 and 4 children sketching cave men images on tea-stained paper and year 5 and 6 sketching arctic foxes linked to their topic.

Grandmother Lynn said she always feels welcome at the school and has attended the event for the last 3 years. Penny Foreman, grandmother to a pupil in the reception class, really enjoyed the event; she said it was lovely to see such a range of activities.

Grandparents were invited to join parents and staff in the school hall for a McMillian Coffee Morning, raising £300 for the charity.

Story & Picture: Lauren Kluge



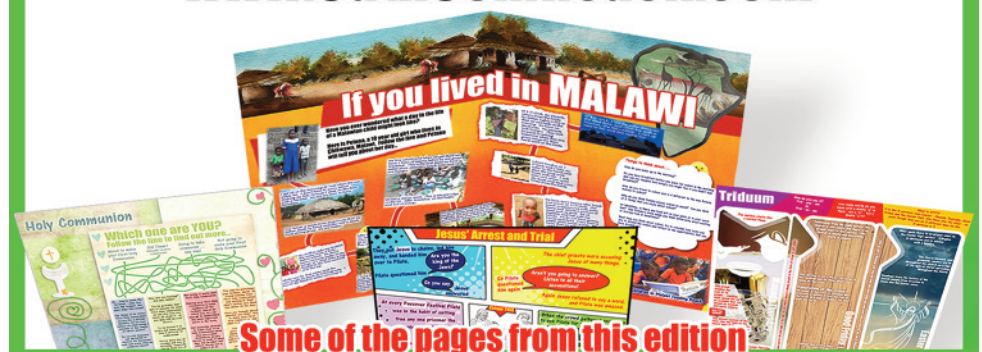
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## NOTICE BOARD

**Catholaity Christmas Fair**  
 Saturday 10 November  
 10.30am to 3.30pm  
 Admission £1 Children under 14 Free  
**Cardinal Newman Sixth Form Building**  
**The Upper Drive, Hove BN3 6ND**  
 Free car parking at school  
 Bus 27 to Dyke Road Tavern on Dyke Road  
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**The Wintershall Nativity Play**

On the Wintershall Estate in Surrey  
 Wednesday 12 - Sunday 16 December  
 Details or to book from 01793 418299

[www.wintershall.org.uk](http://www.wintershall.org.uk)

**15th National Conference for Rural Catholics**

25-27 February 2019

Sarum College, The Close, Salisbury  
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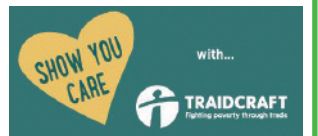
Details from Fr Robert Miller [rwhm274@byinternet.com](mailto:rwhm274@byinternet.com)

**FAIRTRADE NEWS.....**

There's nothing quite like the warm glow you feel when you open up a hand-written charity Christmas card. Someone's spent time to think of you, write you a special message, and delivered it – just to wish you a happy Christmas. And when you choose to buy one of Traidcraft charity Christmas cards, you know you're making a difference to lives around the world. With Traidcraft charity Christmas cards, a donation is made to Traidcraft Exchange, CAFOD, SCIAF, and Christian Aid. That's a lot of good to come from just one charity Christmas card!

When you choose Fairtrade you are helping to ensure that the person who grew the banana you are eating, or the coffee beans used to make your drink, was paid fairly for their work. When you choose Fairtrade your choice makes a difference to someone's life; their family, their home, their community. When you can, always choose Fairtrade.

Each year, Fairtrade puts a spotlight on trade through the Fairtrade Fortnight campaign: 25 February-10 March 2019. Together with Fairtrade farmers and workers and campaigners up and down the country, we highlight the difference fair trade can make to lives and communities. See [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) for lots of stories.

**BISHOP'S DIARY**

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER	
Sat 27 October - Fri 2 November	Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, Pilgrimage to Holy Land
Sat 3	Parish Finance Meeting, Arundel Cathedral
5pm	Induction Mass for Fr Stephen Dingley and Jubilee of Holy Spirit at Fetcham
Sun 4	10.00am Mass and Visitation to Effingham/Fetcham Parish
Tue 6	11am Prison Chaplains' lunch and meeting, High Oaks
2pm	Episcopal Council, High Oaks
7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Weybridge Deanery
Wed 7	11am CSAN Criminal Justice Bureau, Romero House, London
7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Woking Deanery
Thu 8	11am Chapter Mass and Meeting at Arundel Cathedral
3.30pm	Meeting at Arundel
7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Worthing Deanery
Fri 9	7.30pm Induction Mass for Fr Simon Dray, St Mary Magdelene, Bexhill
Sat 10	6.30pm Encounter event at Worth Abbey
Sun 11	10.40am Town Square Service, Remembrance, Arundel
11.30am	Armistice Day Mass, Arundel Cathedral
7.30pm	Remembrance Mass at Royal Holloway University Chapel, Egham
Mon 12 - Thu 15	Adoremus Bishops' Debrief, Bishops' Conference, Leeds
Fri 16	9am Meeting at High Oaks
3pm	Opening of new library at St Robert Southwell Primary School, Horsham
7pm	Mass for Diaconate Ministries, Henfield
Sat 17	10.30am Eucharist Ministers' Day, Weybridge
6pm	Consecration as Virgin of Michelle Crabb, West Grinstead
Sun 18	10.am Parish Visitation to Mayfield
Mon 19	7pm Pastoral Plan Meeting Guildford Deanery
Tue 20 - Thu 22	Mental Health Retreat Douai
Wed 21	3pm Bishops'/Staff Meeting at St John's Seminary, Womersley
Thu 22	5pm Board of Governors' Meeting at St Mary's, Twickenham
Fri 23	9am Advent Retreat for Headteachers, Ashdown Park
6pm	Knights of the Holy Sepulchre Vigil, Southwark
Sat 24	9am Marriage Preparation Providers, DABCEC
2pm	Visitation to St Mary's Preston Park, Brighton

**THE WORD WHO IS LIFE Diocesan Pastoral Plan**

Deanery Meetings where Bishop Richard will unveil the Pastoral Plan to the Deanery. Everybody is welcome to attend their local deanery meeting.

6 November Weybridge Deanery  
 7 November Woking Deanery  
 8 November Worthing Deanery  
 19 November Guildford Deanery  
 4 December Epsom Deanery  
 10 December Redhill Deanery  
 11 December Crawley Deanery  
 13 December St Leonards Deanery  
 14 December Mayfield Deanery

Please look out in your parish newsletter or ask your parish priest for times and places.



# Go and Make Disciples...



*Carol D'Souza was born in England but has roots in Goa, India. She is a parishioner at the Friary in Crawley and works full-time in the City. When she is not sitting in front of three computer screens, she enjoys reading, travelling, dancing, playing Catan and volunteering in her parish. Carol recently returned to England after spending three months in Canada and one month in Central and South America.*

I FLEW TO VANCOUVER on the first of May to join Impact, a mission project run by Catholic Christian Outreach (CCO), a University movement dedicated to the renewal of the world. There, I served at St Luke's Parish in Maple Ridge, living in community with 13 young Canadians who knew their identity as sons and daughters of Jesus Christ, and who were abandoned to God's will and fired up to evangelise.

The first couple of weeks were spent outreaching at the church entrance, school carpark and shopping malls. Come rain or shine, we'd have leaflets in one hand, pastries in the other, and our challenge was to go where the people were, offer the invitation and leave the rest to God.

We all shared our personal testimony at Mass, which proved to be a powerful tool for evangelising. Sharing our faith journey and conversion moment encouraged people to attend a faith study. Reflecting on the power of this action, I would encourage all Christians to spend time recalling and sharing the moment they said 'Yes' and chose to follow Jesus Christ.

## Discovery Faith Study

Over 100 participants chose the *Discovery* faith study and ***in that short time, we saw many people give their lives to Christ; some for the first time and others in a deeper way.***

Participants made the decision to live a Christ-centred life. We made it clear that their commitment did not mean having a 'perfect' relationship but indicated their willingness to invite Jesus into all areas of their lives.



## Nightfever Events

We organised 'Nightfever' events with adoration, praise and worship, confession and prayer ministries. We would go door-to-door, knocking and inviting people to the event. Non-Catholics joined us

and we received many prayer intentions. ***People were pleasantly surprised to see a Catholic knocking on the door - as it was so uncommon!***

Despite all my evangelisation efforts, I realised and accepted willingly that it was not me who was going to convert hearts but rather the Holy Spirit working through me.

## Great Expectations

At one event I was praying over a woman experiencing marital difficulties. That same night the couple had an encounter with the Spirit that started the healing process for their marriage. When they told me, I was very surprised, even somewhat doubtful. Why was I surprised? Because I had forgotten to have *Great Expectations of God* (Ephesians 3:20). I had forgotten the promises made in Scripture. I had forgotten that ***God's Spirit lives in all Christians, and if we give God permission to work in our lives, we can do great things.***

Our favourite saying on mission was 'God doesn't call the equipped, He equips the called.' All those who encounter Christ's intimate, personal love and friendship are called to be missionary disciples. This does not mean travelling across the world to share the Gospel; ***step outside your house and you are in mission territory.*** We are in a world of spiritual poverty.

Faith is strengthened when it is given to others and from personal experience I know that there is great joy in sharing the Gospel and seeing lives transformed.

***Jesus' Great Commission 'go and make disciples of all nations' is not an easy command but everyone deserves to hear the kerygma (proclamation).*** We are called to be faithful and courageous but we are supported in the knowledge that we are never alone.

## Sometimes, there is Rejection

As a disciple of Jesus Christ, there is no escaping rejection. We had people ignore us, brush us off, cross the road, slam the door, shout and swear at us just for extending an invitation. It hurt, but it wasn't me they were rejecting, it was Jesus. Not everyone is ready to hear the Good News - and that's ok, God has a plan. However there will be people who by God's grace are ready and need to hear they are loved and forgiven and have a chance at eternal life. We will never know where people are until we go

out.

Before we go out, we have to ask ourselves some hard questions. *'Who do you say Jesus is? Do you have a heart for the lost? Do you understand the importance of Jesus' salvation?'*



*Discovery* is a great tool with which to discuss the core message of the Christian faith, and to offer people both an opportunity to make a decision for Christ and the confidence to explain the Gospel message clearly to others. Many parishes across the UK are running the faith studies including Crawley, Guildford, Wimbledon and Richmond.

Many participants have had their lives changed through Impact and two participants gave me permission to share their story.

## Stephanie's story

'After the first *Discovery* session, for the very first time, I felt I was truly forgiven; I felt loved for who I am right now and I was suddenly hopeful for who I am to become as a child of God. To finally understand how much God loved me, how much he wanted to have a personal and intimate relationship with me, was, to say the least, revolutionary.'

## Chris's story

'Every session I participated in made me grow stronger in my faith and more connected to God. I re-taught myself how to read the Bible and I now have a new appreciation for the readings. After lesson 5, when I said the prayer to put Jesus at the centre of my life, a CCO leader asked how I was; I broke down in tears and was speechless. I had never felt so good about my spiritual life and so loved by our Lord.'

## More Information

If you would like more information on *Discovery*, e-mail Carol: carol.dsouza@hotmail.co.uk or visit <https://cco.ca/>

Story & pictures: Carol D'Souza

# Redshirts are now 'Green' Shirts

THE REDSHIRTS of the A&B Lourdes pilgrimage have undergone many changes over the past couple of years - in leadership and residence - but one change that has perhaps flown under the radar is that, as of 2018, the iconic redshirt hoodies and tops are now fairly traded, organic cotton.

## The Fashion & Textile Industry

The fashion and textiles industry has come under scrutiny in the past for excessive use of pesticides, wasting large quantities of water and even maintaining conditions of modern slavery. An integral part of Redshirts is exploring how the Christian faith should impact upon our behaviour towards ourselves and others.

The choice to switch to organic cotton allows Redshirts to include their global neighbours in this mission to serve others as young Christians.

In comparison to previous years, this shift means that the red shirts no longer contain polyester (or any other synthetic fibres). The Pope wrote in *Laudato Si'*: 'Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue, it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.'

## Caring for People

Our mission of stewardship is not confined to caring for the environment but also for the people who inhabit it. Choosing materials certified by Fair Wear (an organisation which inspects and regulates the working conditions of garment makers in various companies) allows us to move towards a future in which conditions are just and all people receive the dignity they deserve.

Exploitation does not have a place in a Christian world and therefore every ef-

fort should be made to ensure that modern slavery is eradicated.

## Motto - Love in Action

The motto printed on the back of the 2018 Redshirt hoodies is 'Build. Serve. Pray. Explore. Connect.' This itself is printed by the organisation CHEC, which provides opportunities for disabled people in the workplace. The entire pilgrimage motto is 'Love in Action'. We can see these mottos realised in all areas of life by extending our belief in loving our neighbour to include all people worldwide.

We should be stewards of the environment, preserving and improving it for our future neighbours, and the Redshirts' shift to more sustainable materials has demonstrated the importance of love in action which stretches beyond Lourdes.

Story: Ella Shattock and Lucy Bergin

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## FROM THE PARISHES

## BRIGHTON

## St Mary's Preston Park

ON 20 JULY the SVP organised a high tea at Tower House – the local community centre which provides companionship and social events for the lonely and housebound. 75 of us enjoyed a lavish spread and enjoyable social occasion which raised £800 for funds towards the running of the centre.

The Social Concerns Group organised a coffee morning on 16 September with cake stall, bring and buy stall and raffle, in aid of Uganda Hands For Hope and the final total including donations came to £126.53.

Golden Jubilee congratulations to Chris and Glenn Rodrigues who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on 28 September with a special Mass and who received a Papal Blessing at the 10.00am Mass on 30 September.

*Claire Shelton-Jones*

## CATERHAM

FR SEAN FINNEGAN is making a good recovery from his heart attack, but, sadly, we have to report that his mother, Nancy Finnegan, died at the end of September. The thoughts and prayers of the parish are with him at this time. We thank the various priests who have said Masses over the past weeks, Canon Jim Pannett, Frs Gus Kinnane, Aidan Murray, Gabriel Diaz Patri, Anthony Hale and Bindy whilst Fr Sean is recuperating.

Wednesday evenings sees Roy Peachey conducting discussions relating to the 'Introduction to the Catholic Faith'. And now that summer is over preparations are already in hand for the parish Christmas Market!

The Toddler Group have acquired a new leader, the very experienced Tracey Mangan who is introducing a new and exciting programme for the toddlers.

On Sunday, 30 September the Parish Women's Group, organised by Joy Cutler, arranged to sell cakes and coffee after all the Masses on that day and raised over £500 for the Macmillan Nurses Cancer Charity.

*Peter Patterson*

## CRAWLEY

MANY OF our parishioners enjoyed the Crawley Irish Festival at the end of August, despite the damp weather! During the opening ceremony, Katie-George Dunlevy expressed her gratitude for all the support she had received in her sporting endeavours. We sang along to the well-known and well-loved Irish songs performed by local bands, including our own Eddie Hurdman with Reel strings.

## TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the **December 2018** issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 29 October 2018** and for the **January 2019** issue by **Monday 19 November 2018**. Contributions may be sent by e-mail to [abnews@dabnet.org](mailto: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.

Many thanks to Fr Kenneth who celebrated our Mass on 15 September and made an appeal for the Holy Ghost Fathers.

We were sad to hear of the recent death of Marie-Odile Herve, who for many years served as a parish sister and first Communion catechist before retiring to Rennes in France. We hope to arrange a memorial Mass for her soon.

*Barbara Winstanley*

## EWELL

ST CLEMENT'S has been celebrating again, this time with not one but two parties to mark the 25th anniversary of Fr Graham Bamford's arrival as our new parish priest in 1993. He looked so young when he first came to Ewell and he really hasn't changed that much in his quarter century with us. It must have been a great shock to the system coming from quiet Lancing by the sea to the noisy, often congested Ewell Bypass, but he conquered his misgivings and we think he rather likes it here now!

During his time with us the church has been reordered and just the other evening, when we hosted the AGM of Churches Together in Ewell, several visitors said they were always impressed when they came to St Clement's as it radiated welcome.



Our three young candidates with Canon Jonathan Martin

Three of our young people were admitted, and it was good to hear them making a firm pledge to commit themselves to Adoration of and Devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. They were presented with a medal blessed for the occasion, and they led us in prayer at the end of Mass. We hope that many more will be moved to join them.

*Ffion Wilkes*

## MAYFIELD

THE PARISH are delighted and very grateful to Bishop Richard for sending us Fr Patrick Fitzgerald-Lombard a Carmelite Friar as our new parish priest. We are also very indebted to the wealth of retired priests who have traveled great distances to celebrate our 10.00am Sunday Mass. Led by the Bishop himself on Fr Mario's departure to hospital, we have been privileged to six months of wonderful service and a great variety of homilies. Our very great thanks go out to all those who have put themselves out to allow us to remain a working parish.

*David Flood*

## MIDHURST

FOLLOWING THE RECENT Adoremus Eucharistic Congress Bishop Richard had asked all parishes to have time of Adoration during the congress, so there was a Holy Hour in the church at Midhurst following the Saturday, 09.30am Mass. We were invited to unite ourselves with those attending the congress. Fr Peter Mewsam had promoted this special observance to the three churches within our parish. Falling on the Feast of the Birthday of The Blessed Virgin Mary, it was an appropriate, prayerful, reflective and rather beautiful experience. The focus for prayer was a precious space for silence and reflection in our often very chaotic lives; certainly a special event, which united Catholics all around the country.

*Paula Dempsey*

## PETWORTH with DUNCTON

IN AUGUST there was a new social event in Petworth; a 'Pizza and Pool' party hosted by a couple of our parishioners. Not only swimming but tennis,

trampolining and other fun things to do, as well as your own individually crafted pizzas cooked in a wood-burning oven. And some of the young people were very creative with their toppings! It was a lovely afternoon and a great way for families to get together.

Two representatives of our parish write vividly on the recent Adoremus Congress in Liverpool: The first two days were filled with lectures, notable among them being Bishop Robert Barron who captivated the audience, the young people with their drama contribution about the Blessed Eucharist, the work done by the charities Mary's Meals and the Apostleship of the Sea, and so much more.

On Sunday, solemn High Mass was celebrated in the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King (known locally as 'Paddy's Wigwam') and in the afternoon there was a wonderful procession through the streets of Liverpool led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols carrying the Blessed Sacrament and followed by thousands of pilgrims. The Congress concluded with Benediction in the Cathedral. Our correspondents finish: 'It was a most uplifting weekend and an opportunity to be with, and pray with, one extended national family.'

*Sally Bohane*

## ST LEONARDS on SEA

WELL DONE to all our Year 3 pupils and their teachers. We are very proud of the children from our primary school, St Mary Star of the Sea after the Year 3 children won a Sussex-wide reading challenge. As part of their prize they were treated to a story time session with CBeebies' Mister Maker. Mister Maker, otherwise known as Phil Gallagher, read shark-themed picture story 'Gilbert in Deep' to youngsters. The class was also rewarded with free tickets to Drusillas Park Zoo.

*Elizabeth Fitch*

## STELLA MARIS MASS



MONSIGNOR RICHARD MADDERS was the celebrant for the Apostleship of the Sea's Stella Maris Mass on 12 September in Arundel Cathedral. During the Mass, Michael Cranfield, Patrick Byrne and Deacon Allan Veness were commissioned as ships' welfare visitors for the Apostolate of the Sea.

This small team of volunteers is based at Shoreham Port and makes regular visits to its berths to welcome and befriend seafarers from around the world.

*Allan Barry*

## CHILWORTH CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

YOU ARE WELCOME to join our group on Wednesdays from 7.30pm to 8.15pm in the Assisi Room behind St Augustine's Abbey, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth, Guildford GU4 8QR. A period of quiet meditation. No need to book. Typically, around ten or more people attend from all backgrounds aged from 30+ to 85+! More information from Sheila Longman - Email: [sheliaannlongman@aol.com](mailto:sheliaannlongman@aol.com) Tel: 01483 505814

We follow The World Community for Christian Meditation



## Fr John Pearson, RIP, is interred in Uganda

**F**R JOHN PEARSON, former very much loved parish priest of St Erconwald's, died in March this year. His ashes, as per his wishes, were interred in Uganda on 7 September 2018. In around the year 2000, Father John became interested in St Michael's children's home in Uganda and he was instrumental in forming 'The Help Uganda Trust' which has been a parish project for both Billingshurst and Walton on Thames churches.



The charity he established has transformed the lives of more than 100 young people over the last 20 years. The final service for him was conducted by Bishop Ssemogerere as well as the Vicar General of Kampala, who represented Cardinal Wamala. Fr Edward Kannada, a dear friend to us in Walton, was also present.

More than 40 young people from St Michael's formed a choir to sing in his honour and the parish church of Nsambya was full. His ashes were finally interred about an hour from Kampala on

land he had secured for one of the young people of St Michael's.

Fr John was born in Kent and brought up an Anglican. He initially became an Anglican priest and served several parishes in Dorset. As an Anglican priest he also acted as chaplain to a Borstal, something that touched him greatly and resulted in him becoming committed to transforming the lives of young people.

His love of Mary led him to an interest in the Catholic church and, following many discussions with the then Bishop Cormac, he spent time studying at the Pontifical Bede College in Rome and was ordained in 1987.

Fr John's first parish as a Catholic priest was in Eastbourne, then Billingshurst and Pullborough (1996) and finally Walton on Thames (2006-2018). Whilst Parish priest in Billingshurst and Pullborough Fr John had a conversation with a Ugandan parishioner which led

him to St Michael's orphanage, Kampala. The young people of St Michael's are all victims of either HIV/AIDS or war. They are of mixed faiths.

Fr John decided he would help the young people by transforming the home. Children would be truly loved like a family and he would ensure that all were supported with high quality education and training until they could support themselves often to their mid-twenties because of the early disruption to their education and family life. More than 70 are now independent adults thanks to his plan, with some 35 remaining to finish Fr John's programme.

If you would like to support the remaining 35 young people at St Michael's you can donate via the website [www.helpugandatrust.org](http://www.helpugandatrust.org).

*Story and pictures: M2M team  
St Erconwald's Parish  
Walton on Thames*



## Secular Franciscans in Lithuania



MY 16 YEAR OLD SON AND I from St. Joseph's church in Epsom, recently joined four other Secular Franciscans from the UK to go to a European Congress of the Secular Franciscan Order and Young Franciscans in Lithuania. This gathering welcomed people from all over Europe and as far east as Russia, Ukraine, and Belarus and was 150 people strong. What an incredible blessing it was!

In Lithuania, with its rich heritage of devotion to Our Lord and His Blessed Mother, the Parish of Kretinga opened their homes to us and we stayed with individual parishioners there. At the Hill of Crosses, at Pakutuvėnai and the Samogitian Calvary we learnt about the attempts to destroy the human spirit in Soviet times and the power of faith in God to have hope and rebuild. We learnt how Our Blessed Mother watched as the Catholic Churches were destroyed during the reformation, only to call the people back to their faith at Siluva and protect them at the Gate of Dawn.

The Secular Franciscan Order of Lithuania have commissioned an Icon (above) dedicated to The Queen of the Franciscan Order. This icon has been touring through Europe and we hope that eventually it will come to the UK.

Lithuania is a country sustained by the intercession of Mary and the blessings that we have received from being there will remain for a very long time.

*Story: Kathy Maskens (OFS)*



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**Day 3. Verona.** Our first excursion takes us by coach to Verona - a city of Roman ruins, medieval buildings, culture and romance. On our guided tour of the city which takes us into Verona's historic heart, we will see Juliet's balcony and Verona's great Roman Arena. Later in the afternoon, we take a guided tour of a local winery, before enjoying a dinner and a wine tasting.

**Day 4. Cruise on Lake Garda.** Today, our excursion takes us on a cruise across Lake

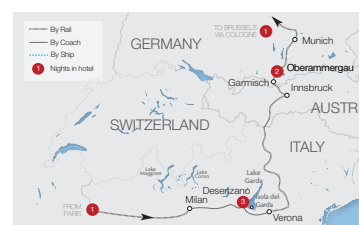
Garda to the attractive island of Isola del Garda. Looked over by the impressive Scaliger Castle, an extraordinary Venetian neo-Gothic style villa, this delightful place currently privately owned by the Cavazza family, who opened it up to visitors in 2001.

**Day 5. To Oberammergau.** We leave Italy and Lake Garda behind today, as we make the scenic rail journey (Standard Class) through the Italian Alps to Germany and into Bavaria. We travel to Oberammergau where we check into our hotel in or around the Ammergau region, for the next two nights.

**Day 6. The Passion Play.** Today we are treated to Oberammergau's brilliant Passion Play. Detailing the death and resurrection of

Christ during his final days, this production occurs once every ten years and attracts nearly half a million audience members over the course of its run. Our top tier tickets provide us with excellent seats at the front and near the centre, under the impressive dome which houses the stage. The production has a break halfway through, during which we enjoy a special Passion Play dinner.

**Days 7-8. London via Cologne.** Leaving the wonderful Oberammergau behind today, we make our way by rail to Cologne. Here we spend the night before leaving Germany on Day 8, as we head to Brussels in Belgium. On arrival, we board the Eurostar service to London, where our tour concludes.



### DEPARTURES

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