



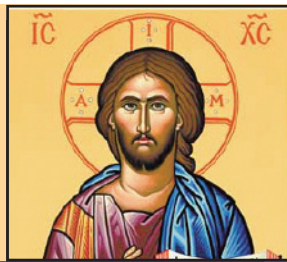
**Skydiving:
money
raised to date**

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the strong
roots we
grow from**

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**Teaching:
come and
teach in our
A&B schools**

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FREE

A&B News

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

December 2018 - No.335

ifab Celebrating Who We Are



PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE DIOCESE gathered at St Wilfrid's Catholic School in Crawley on 16 September to celebrate the diversity and value of each person in our Diocese at ifab, Inclusion Festival of Brighton & Hove (pictured above and below). Everyone was delighted to have a chance to chat with Bishop Richard – and we even saw a film of his recent skydive!

River of Prayer

The morning offered opportunities for participants to write their own prayer intentions on a River of Prayer. There was a space where people of all ages could sit quietly to reflect on Scripture while colouring Scripture cards using a range of different materials.

Sensory Walk

Outside there was a beautiful Sensory Walk where we could reflect on Scripture by using our senses. It was really powerful to focus on each sense through the use of stones, water, fabrics, shells, sticks and lavender.

Four Workshops

There were also four workshops for people to choose which workshops they wanted to attend.

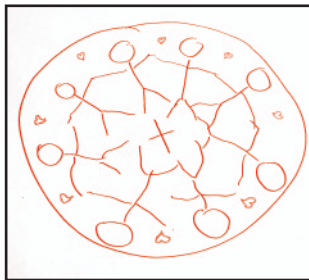
One of the four was led by our **Diocesan Hand in Hand group** where they explored **Scripture through thoughtful drama and movement**. Many people enjoyed this reflective and active opportunity to reflect on Scripture.

The **Catholic Bible School** provided an opportunity to explore a **Sensory Prayer Room** where we could reflect and pray using our different senses and record our prayers and thoughts in a variety of creative and explorative ways.

Our **Diocesan Deaf Community** provided an opportunity to learn some basic BSL (British Sign Language) through learning to sign some of the Mass responses and the Our Father.

The fourth workshop focused on **Lectio Divina** where there was the opportunity to reflect on the Readings that would be proclaimed in the Mass.

(continued on Page 5)



Marriage: The Impact of Love

OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE was held at Redhill on 6 October and the couples present between them celebrated over 2,407 years of marriage. We welcomed over 50 couples for whom this particular year was important, whether that was 70, 17 or 3 years of marriage.

Reflecting on the first reading from Tobit, Bishop Richard reminded us that by being at this celebration we were echoing Tobit's desire to give his thanksgiving to God. *Our married lives are transformed by God's grace as we move from those initial feelings of desire for the other, to a desire to give ourselves for the benefit of the other.* This lack of selfishness is one of the important marks of Christian marriage.

The Bishop reminded us that even through the ups and downs of life, Christ is always with us, within our marriage. He commented that we were only present today because we had been open to the fact that, despite the 'bumpy' bits, the love of Christ has been central to our married life.

He concluded by drawing our attention to the fact that we have lived this vocation and have been a witness to others; that through us they have seen something of the love of God: *'You are His instruments, never forget that. You might never know how your love for each other has impacted upon other people.'*

(cont. Page 4)



Catherine and Paul with Bishop Richard



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Impressive Epsom Interviews

CATENIANS FROM EPSOM CIRCLE this summer supported their local Catholic Secondary School, St Andrew's, Leatherhead, with two initiatives aimed at giving students vital experience of being in interview situations. All Year 10 pupils (14/15 years of age) were interviewed for a job of their choice, having submitted a letter of application and a CV. Eight Epsom Catenians, along with a number of parents, conducted the short interviews accompanied by a teacher. This was followed by feedback to the students.

Later in the summer term, six Epsom Catenians were involved when all Year 12 students (16/17 years of age) gave individual five-minute presentations followed by a question and answer session and individual feedback.

This was the first time that these initiatives have taken place with Headteacher Alan Mitchell and Staff members Keith Warbis, Hannah McLaughlin and Adam Brooks very efficiently and thoroughly organising the two events.

Feedback from both the school and Catenians was very positive. 'Our students had a great experience. Hopefully we can grow this partnership and make sure that all future St Andrew's students get the same learning opportunity,' said Alan Mitchell, the Headteacher.

Epsom Catenian, solicitor Alvin David said: 'It was a pleasure interviewing the students. They were very impressive and the quality of their responses was very good.'

Teddy Totman from Epsom Circle commented that the students did not shy away from difficult topics. 'All presentations were well researched and argued and delivered with confidence. Two, in particular, on difficult subjects - euthanasia and using live animals for testing - were very balanced considerations of the issues. The student who presented on elocution exhibited particular confidence and used imaginative props,' he said.

Story & Picture: Vince Yearley



Cyclists Conquer the Camino

TWO CATENIANS have together cycled over 1000 miles from Le Puy en Velay in France to Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain, known as the way of St James, or the Camino trail, to raise funds for the Nomntu Project, a charity providing aid to people in the Eastern Cape, Africa's poorest region.

Brother Chris Devereux from Guildford Circle and Brother Gordon Clifford from Epsom Circle (pictured right) covered an average 60 miles a day - the equivalent of a London to Brighton ride daily.

They left Le Puy on 15 May and arrived in Santiago on 31 May. Their ride was entirely unsupported and self-funded. Each of them carried over 25kg of luggage on their bike. Gordon did the ride to mark his retirement from the Metropolitan Police while for Chris, at 71, this was the second time he has done the ride having last done it 16 years ago. Amazingly, this time he shaved five days off his time.

Having completed the Camino de Santiago, Chris and Gordon went to Mass in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela, where they were joined by Gordon's wife, Elaine.

The high point - literally - was the Cross of Iron in Spain, marking the summit on the Spanish side of the Camino, at about 1,500m. In total they climbed the equivalent of Everest with over 8,800m of climbing on the bikes.

Speaking about his experience, Gordon said: 'I found the experience life-changing. We met fantastic people and saw some amazing things, not least an eagle trying to catch a small deer on the Mesita plain about 50 me-

tres from where we were cycling, and attending the pilgrim prayers in the 12th Century chapel at Rabanelles, which was a very spiritual experience. They say the Camino looks after you and I really felt this was the case.'

Chris echoed these thoughts: 'A wonderful yet challenging experience, I am so grateful that I have been able to ride the Camino Trail to Santiago again.'

While they were away, Gordon's home Circle in Epsom were also busy raising funds for Nomntu, which is Epsom President David Walsh's chosen charity this year. Chris and his wife, Jane, run the Nomntu Project which provides educational, social and practical support to those suffering from poverty, abuse, and HIV/AIDS in small communities in the Eastern Cape.

The total raised from both Circles and other supporters is now over £4200. To donate please visit the Charity's webpage at www.nomntu.org

Story: Vince Yearley



SVP Works with Asylum Seekers

SVP ACTIVITIES over the last year include significant developments on the 'City of Sanctuary' project and an increase in the number of families on the Syrian Vulnerable Families Resettlement scheme.

An increased demand for emergency food has also been seen along with the extension of the 'Buddy' scheme to those families on the government's Syrian Vulnerable Families Resettlement Scheme.

Trafficking is on the increase, especially amongst young women from Albania entering the system within the last two years.

Although lower total numbers of asylum seekers are now entering the UK, there is an accumulation of applicants who have received negative decisions and, as a result, have been in the country for a number of years without a positive outcome.

Providing food and emergency aid and trying to help them back into the asylum process is taking up an increasing amount of SVP time.

Destitution amongst failed asylum seekers is now a major problem and is due largely to an accumulation of failed applicants who have been left lingering outside the system and with no recourse to public funds.

Understandably, the vast majority are opting not to take voluntary repatriation. Not only has this resulted in high levels of destitution, those still in the National Asylum Support Service system frequently suffer from chronic mental health problems.

Story: David Roberts



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Skydive Fundraising Target Smashed

DIFFICULT DECISIONS come all that sweeter when hopes are exceeded. That was very much so for Bishop Richard's and Lucy Barnes' charity skydive for the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage.

To date, the event has raised £9,500 – a figure over six times higher than first thought.



Our Intrepid Duo Step Out

When the fund raising campaign started last June, a modest target was set to raise sufficient funds to send one disabled person and a carer to Lourdes who might, otherwise, not have experienced the unique power of that place.

Now the skydive has been successfully completed, it is wonderful to be able to announce that this aspiration has been well and truly exceeded – current funds raised would indicate that the Pilgrimage can now send twelve people; six pilgrims with disabilities and their carers.

Lucy has the final word: 'The discomfort is a distant memory - replaced by a huge feeling of support!'

As the A&B News goes to press, donations are still coming in.

There are a number of ways in which you can still participate:

- 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. **The MyDonate website will stay open for donations until Friday 14 December.**

Story: Peter Burholt
Picture: Bob Barnes

Open Day at Crowborough

ON SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2018, we held an open day at St Mary's church. Our church is open to all, every day, until late afternoon and we have welcome at every weekend Mass. So you might well ask, why do we need to hold an open day?

The Need for a Welcome

We might think that our church is welcoming to all but perhaps think about how you would feel walking into a Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall or a local mosque without an invitation or someone to show you around?

I would certainly be slightly apprehensive and a bit worried that I might disturb someone praying or do something 'wrong'. Even going to another catholic church for the first time isn't always a welcoming experience.

There are lots of people who walk past our church and may have questions about Catholicism or be interested in coming in but perhaps have never felt brave enough to do so. Going to Mass for the first time can be a confusing experience if you don't know what is going on.

We have held such open days a couple of times before in the past five years and had about half a dozen people turning up each time, ranging from people living across the road from the church, who were delighted to meet their neighbour (Fr Kevin Griffin), to parents of Reception Class children at our neighbouring St Mary's Primary School, to a United Reform Minister.

Promoting the Open Day

This year, we printed A1 posters which we displayed outside the church (see above, right), put listings in the local newspaper, free neighbourhood magazines and the school newsletter. Flyers were handed out after Mass inviting parishioners to bring a friend and two

neighbourhood Facebook sites promoted our open day.

Four parishioners and Deacon Jack were on duty to serve tea and cakes and to show people around.

Results

In two hours, we had 12 people come, including a Catholic family who had moved to the area a couple of years ago but had never come in before, an Anglican priest, an evangelical Christian family and a couple of parishioners bringing friends.

The numbers were not great but those who came enjoyed their guided tours. We showed them around the church, giving some history of the building and an explanation of how it links to our beliefs. Genuflecting in front of the tabernacle and blessing oneself with holy water created much interest and discussion, while seeing inside a confessional for the first time was fascinating for many. The hospitality of cakes and tea was appreciated and allowed for longer chats.

As a result of the open day, the local population can see that the church is open and welcoming and we have since had one request for infant baptism and an adult enquirer showing interest in our faith. We would highly recommend that other parishes should consider trying it.

Story: Mark Donaghy

St Mary's Catholic Church,
Chapel Green, Crowborough
OPEN DAY 3pm-4.30pm
Sunday 16 Sept



Come along for a look around
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Eastbourne Organist Honoured



STEPHEN LLOYD was given the St Philip Howard medal by Fr Neil Chatfield at St. Joachim's church, Eastbourne, on Sunday 1 October in recognition of over 40 years' service as our very gifted organist.

Story & Picture: Sally Ann Donohue

Dear Editor ...The Permanent Diaconate

WE CAN ALL CELEBRATE the re-introduction of the permanent diaconate in 1968 by Pope Paul VI after a 'great period' of 1000 years.

In the sixties and seventies I was a special adviser to the American Catholic Bishops on the deacons' return.

The diaconate is unique in that deacons are within the hierarchy yet are not minor priests. They are very special in the service they contribute under the categories of worship, word and charity.

Those of us who welcome deacons and their ministry will understand their restoration and the fact that there are now about 40,000 deacons across the world, including about 800 here in the UK, many of them married men.

Those who know deacons and their work recognise that they serve among us and yet are different in the work they

do and the way they do it. Those of us who enjoy the restored and married diaconate are especially fortunate in having them to minister with, as well as to, us. We especially welcome those who serve within many of our parishes as deacons.

May God continue to bless them and their work and all whom they serve.
Dr Edward P. Echlin (author of The Deacon in the Church: Past and Future, Alba House, 1971.)

Correction

In our October 2018 article on deacons, we mentioned that the first deacons were ordained in England & Wales in 1974 in Portsmouth and Arundel & Brighton Dioceses. We have now learned that the first deacons were ordained even earlier, in Leeds Diocese in 1971.



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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

CHILL WINDS, falling temperatures and heaps of sodden leaves mark the passing of autumn. The fireworks are just a memory now and the first Sunday of Advent will shortly mark our preparations to commemorate the birth of our Saviour.

For my wife and I, the change in the weather also marks the beginning of our eighth successive winter helping at Sacred Heart church, Hove, night shelter.

For up to 15 homeless men and women, this means shelter, safety, good food, warmth and caring; they are relieved and grateful - no surprises there.

It also means that around 40 volunteers will cook, clean, sort, serve, drive the van, greet and befriend our guests.

The surprise - and it shouldn't really be one - is what wonderful, caring, funny, generous, thoughtful, loving and empathetic people they all are.

What is it that the Gospel says? 'By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' (John 13:35, RSVCE)

Harry Robertson

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Grandparents: Our Strong Roots



GRANDPARENTS' MORNING is always such a great event at St Mary's Primary School, Portslade, and each year we are blessed by the number of grandparents that take the time to come along and share their morning with us.

Our assembly reminded us about how we are all beautiful people due to the 'strong roots' that we have grown from.

For many of us, our grandparents are a huge part of our lives and influence the people that we become. In their classes the children created flowers of all the different things they have learnt from their grandparents, including some words of wisdom.

The grandparents enjoyed getting to know other grandparents over tea and biscuits as well as sharing some of their favourite memories as a grandparent.

The children loved having them visit their classrooms and shared with them work that they are especially proud of.

The grandparents then each wrote a little note to their grandchild which we have given them to take home.

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved for supporting this wonderful morning at St Mary's.

Story & Picture: Rosy Lloyd

Annual Diocesan Grandparents' Formation Day

A&B GRANDPARENTS' FORMATION DAY took place in Horsham on 4 October. It was a wonderful meeting of grandparents from around the diocese who were looking forward to exploring ways in which they might 'pass on the faith' to their grandchildren.

The day began with Mass with Bishop Richard at St John the Evangelist church in the centre of Horsham town. We then all gathered in the Parish hall for coffee and biscuits before the talks began.

We were blessed to be addressed by Bishop Richard whose talk was inspirational and reassuring. He spoke wisely about the struggles we face in being a committed Christian and reminded us that Christ didn't say it was going to be easy.

He focused particularly on the tendency some people have to blame themselves for a failure to transmit their faith, and reminded us that all God wants is for us to do our best. He encouraged us to reflect on our own decision to choose to follow Jesus and encouraged us to allow our grandchildren to make their own choice.

He commented on the end of St John's gospel where Jesus allows those who don't want to follow Him to leave yet he still holds them in His love. As grandparents, continuing to love and show an example is often all we can do, however we may never know the impact that prayer and witness will have. Continuing to follow Jesus is the greatest example we can give.

Christine Evans, who leads the Grandparents Groups in the diocese with her husband Mike, then gave a wonderful reflection on the reality of being a Catholic grandparent today. With amusing anecdotes, she demonstrated how children pick up

on the smallest of things and can learn so much from our actions alone. She also spoke powerfully about the amazing unconditional love a child has for their grandparents and how we must trust in God, reminding us to 'Let Go, Let God'.

Following our picnic lunch, Lucy Hall, Education Officer from Wintershall, gave an inspiring talk about the resources you can use to engage children in talking about faith and their relationship with God. She demonstrated the actions that a toddler could use to sign 'Please, Thank you and Sorry', the Pope's favourite three words for the family, and showed us a variety of ways we could support young children in Mass, including making 'busy bags'.

Lucy talked about the impact of biblical drama on children and encouraged us to bring our families to The Nativity play at Wintershall this December instead of taking them to the Panto. 'If we want our grandchildren to love Jesus like we do, they need to know the story.'

Jack Regan, head of Youth in the diocese, then spoke about the role of those in the community with greater life experience and suggested some ways in which we could welcome younger people in our community, the main one being to not be afraid to talk to them!

Katherine Bergin, Marriage and Family Life Adviser in A&B, finished our formation day by reflecting on the wonderful position we are in as grandparents. She spoke about how a child's unconditional love for us is just like God's love for each of us, and encouraged us not to miss out on seeing God in both our own grandchildren and those young families in our parishes.

Story: Lucy Hall & Katherine Bergin

JUST A THOUGHT

SO MUCH OF LIFE consists of waiting that it seems to be part of God's plan for us: waiting for birth, to start school, to get married, even waiting to die. Advent is also a time of waiting, but often these days waiting is perceived as a negative experience and something to avoid. We use self-service checkouts to avoid a queue. We shop online to receive things quickly. At this time of year, some feel they are too busy to enjoy Christmas celebrations until the shops close on Christmas Eve. Our busyness and impatience can mean that we fail to fully experience the joyous anticipation of Advent.

One period of waiting that never changes through the ages is pregnancy, just as Mary the mother of Jesus was experiencing at this time. Having recently given birth to twins myself, I am aware of the emotions of anticipation, nervousness and excitement that Mary must have been feeling. I spent some time during my pregnancy thinking about the everyday miracle of bringing new life into the world, and although at times it seemed to drag, it's true that good things come to those who wait. This was certainly the case for Mary.

This Advent, we are not waiting for a baby like Mary but celebrating how God entered human history and became one of us and part of a family. 'The word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.' (John 1:14.)

And so we should celebrate family and enjoy waiting for the commemoration of the birth of Jesus. We should embrace the opportunity to reflect and enjoy the sense of community that can be experienced at this special time.

Ashleigh Hodges

Marriage: The Impact of Love (cont. from Page 1)

At the end of Mass, John and Tina Nichols from Guildford parish (who were celebrating 50 married years) were each awarded the St Philip Howard medal in recognition of almost 20 years of service in the Diocese. They both sit on the Marriage and Family Life Commission and are instrumental in developing the marriage preparation programme favoured by the Bishop.

After Mass we had a wonderful reception where our Liturgy adviser, Catherine Christmas, who was celebrating 25 years of marriage, cut the cake! (See picture on Page 1; below are wedding day pictures of some of the couples.)

Story: Katherine Bergin



ifab '...a fantastic, prayerful and spiritual day.'

(continued from Page 1)

These were in a variety of different formats so that people could choose which one was most appropriate for them. This workshop was sensitively and successfully led by Jenny Lochner.

assisting. All the workshops had enabled people with different challenges and disabilities to prepare for celebrating this Mass together.

Our celebration was especially enhanced by the music provided by Cather-

In Hand led a very moving post-communion reflection through movement to the hymn 'Bread of Life' by Boyce & Stanley.

It was a really joyous celebration!

Farewells and Take-Home Bags

It was then time for fond farewells and giving out the Take-Home bags. These contained information about the various groups and contacts in the Diocese that support people with a range of different disabilities and a feedback form. In addition there was a pen and notebook with an IFAB sticker proclaiming 'Bishop met me at Ifab 2018'!

Included in each bag was a beautiful handmade cross made by David, one of the deaf members who regularly serves at the Deaf Mass each month in Horsham. (Pictured right with Margaret Fraher, Diocesan Inclusion Adviser)



By then it was time for lunch and an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Everyone brought their own lunches and some even brought cakes and sweets to share!

We are thankful to Toni and Gerry Lavelle and Phil Bleasdale for serving refreshments throughout the day with great commitment and ready smiles.

Mass in the Chapel

After lunch it was time for the celebration of Mass in the Chapel with Bishop Richard and Mgr Benny O'Shea concelebrating and with Deacon Jon Harman

ine Christmas and David Purcell.

Many people who have specific needs were directly involved in the Liturgy in a variety of different ways. People joined in signing some of the responses, ably assisted by Cathy Marchant and Jo Cropp who were the Communicators for the Mass. The Ireland family helped to proclaim the first reading with visual placards.

At the Procession of the Gifts Maria Booker and David Turner brought up the Gifts and Anna brought up the River of Prayer, assisted by her parents. Hand

As we reflected on the event at our Inclusion Commission meeting, it was agreed that 'The Mass with Bishop Richard was beautiful and visual, and everyone was able to participate. It was a fantastic prayerful and spiritual day.'

Huge thanks go to Bishop Richard, Mgr Benny O'Shea, Deacon Jon Harman, Margaret Fraher, Rosie Read and the Diocesan Formation Team, the Inclusion Commission members, the

So, what did you most enjoy about ifab?

'Talking to and meeting people who want to enable people with disabilities to encounter God and grow in faith' - Jenny

'The Mass was brilliant and its message carried through in every contribution from the different groups in the congregation' - David

'Watching Hand In Hand's beautiful interpretation of the hymn' - Cathy

'The signed song after Communion was particularly moving because the participants so obviously enjoyed it' - Maggie

'The workshops, Mass with Bishop Richard, getting to know different people' - Susie

'The Lectio Divina workshop - I really enjoyed being part of such an unusual prayer experience' - Jenny

'The School Chapel was perfect for the number of people there' - Peter

'The Mass was beautiful, very prayerful' - Maria

workshop leaders, Mark Woods for taking the photos and more importantly, everyone who came to make the day so special.

Together we really did all celebrate the value of each person and the diversity in the Diocese!

Story: The Inclusion Commission

Consecrated Virgin takes Vows in Eastbourne

ON THE FEAST of the Most Holy Name of Mary, on 12 September, at Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne, Mary Rose Bracuti took her vows as a 'Bride of Christ' to be a Consecrated Virgin living in the world.

It is a ceremony rarely seen and is one of the most ancient rites of the Early Church, involving the consecration of the whole of life, the consecration of virginity, to the person of Jesus Christ.

Mary Rose Bracuti listened with the

ear of her heart to the Lord's call to fulfil her vocation as a Consecrated Virgin. The life she has been called to is not easy - it is quite difficult to live a consecrated life in the world.

She lives a consecrated life for the parish community and the world around her.

Mary Rose committed her life solely and utterly to the person of Jesus, giving her whole being to the love of God, the God who called her to this way of life.

It was a great moment for Mary Rose and the whole community. Over 200 people, including friends and family, gathered in a wonderful celebration to support her in prayer with Fr Raglan Hay Will and Fr Gerard Hatton.

The parish had taken great delight in

the preparations making the day possible and very special for Sr Mary Rose.

Sr Mary Rose's discernment began seven years ago and during that time she had formation and guidance. As well as receiving direction, she has been living a life of apostolic service and solitary prayer, together with ongoing study of the Scriptures.

Under the direction and guidance of Bishop Richard, Sr Mary Rose has formed a rule of life and a year ago, in the chapel of Our Lady of Ransom, took her vows as a novitiate.

One of the marks of Sr Mary Rose's rule of life is simplicity: simplicity of life dedicated to God; simplicity of life that is a model and an example to us all and those around her; a life wholly dedicated to the life of Christ; a life dedicated to the service of her brothers and sisters.

All of us give thanks to God for Sr Mary Rose's self-giving to God, for her openness to His call. We will continue to pray for her as she continues in the call the Lord has given her. In the promptings of the Holy Spirit, Sr Mary Rose had the strength and courage to answer His call.

Story: Mary Staffiere



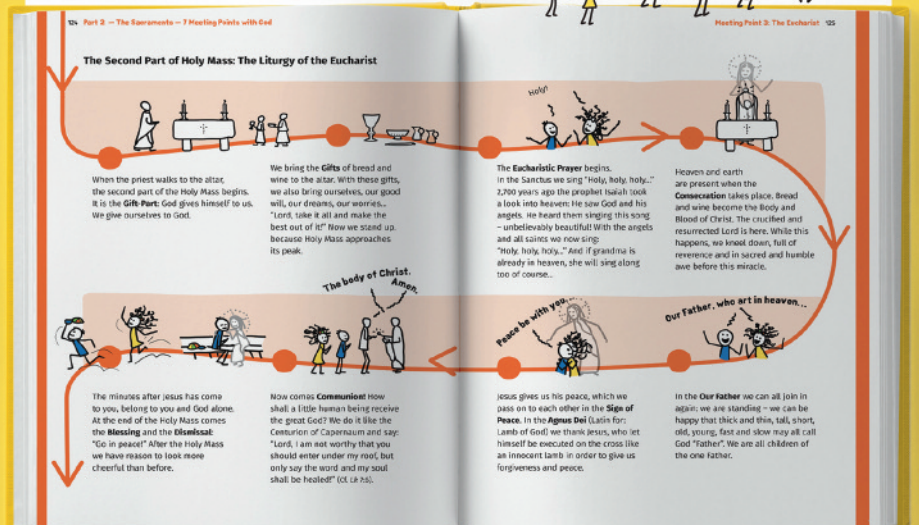
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26/01/2019 09:30 - 15:30

Learn about the slave trade hidden right under your nose and how you can help those affected.

With guest speakers from local, national and international organisations working to stop human trafficking.

Mick Duthie,
Deputy Director of the Santa Marta Group
Fr Mark Odion,
African Project Coordinator, Santa Marta Group
Richard Lancashire,
Pan Sussex Modern Slavery Manager, Specialist Crime Command, Sussex Police.

Venue: The St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCEC),
4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP
All are welcome.

To book a free place please call
Rosie on 01293 651161
or email rosie.read@dabnet.org



Visit from our Twin Diocese in Peru

DURING THE SUMMERS of 2006 and 2007 Fr Rosendo Cruz Pinin from our twin diocese of Chulucanas in Peru visited Bognor to learn English. Last year he came to Esher to 'brush-up' on his English (spoken with an Irish accent!) and followed this year for the same in Rottingdean in September.

Fr Rosendo is now studying for a Doctorate in Biblical Theology at the Gregorian University in Rome, having studied previously in Rome 2005-2008. In Chulucanas he was Parish Priest and also Vice-Rector of the Seminary for five years followed by Rector for two years before returning to Rome. He will finish there in two more years and return to his diocese. He is pictured with Fr Benny O'Shea.

Story and picture: Fr Benny O'Shea



Guildford Parish - Project Francis

ST PIUS X church in the parish of Guildford held a fundraising dinner on Saturday 20 October. It was provided by Catherine Hughes and her team to support Project Francis – our parish project aimed at finding a home in Guildford for a vulnerable Syrian refugee family. In response to the Government's pledge to find homes for 20,000 vulnerable Syrian refugee families, over 50 families have already been re-settled in the Woking and Guildford area.

The total funds raised, including Gift Aid, amounted to £2,864. Diane Peters, Refugee Adviser to the Anglican Diocese of Guildford, gave an inspiring account to the gathering of over 60 supporters of the work undertaken by the Diocese in collaboration with the local borough councils, who provide indispensable financial and services support for the resettlement programmes. Karen Nethercott also spoke of her experiences in teaching English to refugees – wide-ranging support by volunteers is a crucial part of the re-settlement activity.

Through Project Francis, our parish is looking to establish one or more homes for vulnerable Syrian refugee families in the Guildford area and intends to work closely with the experienced teams in the Anglican Diocese of Guildford to achieve that goal.

Story: Michael Combes

Celebration for Marjorie Kinne

Is Marjorie the Oldest Parishioner in the Diocese?

AT 108 YEARS OF AGE, is Marjorie Kinne the oldest parishioner in the Diocese? Marjorie, who is pictured here on the left with Joanna Barba from St Paul's Parish Senior Citizens Club, celebrated this great achievement when she reached this milestone on 1 August. Regularly seen at Sunday Mass in Haywards Heath, Marjorie is an example to all our parishioners in her determination to keep the Faith.

Story: Peter Burholt



Celebration for John Buchan

THE THURSDAY CLUB at St Mary's Church, part of the Parish of Guildford, hosted a very special celebration for one of its members, John Buchan. John would be celebrating his 90th birthday on 21 September with his family, but the Club wanted to sing 'Happy Birthday' to John on Club day. Fr Roy Waters visited to send greetings from Mgr Tony Barry and Fr Sebastian Paul as John has been a regular reader on Sundays for a good number of years. John is pictured with Fr Roy and other members of the club.

John was delighted to have so many members present to congratulate him, and the entertainer who came to the club that day, Tony Parkins, was only too happy to join in the festivities.



Story and picture: Mary Lawrence

Shared Sunday Lunch in Horsham



AFTER THE LAST SUNDAY MORNING MASS on 11 October the second Shared Parish Lunch was held at St John the Evangelist, Horsham. The Filipino Community, who hosted it in honour of Fr Aaron Spinelli's 10th Anniversary which they could not attend in the summer, provided two whole roasted pigs! Parishioners also brought contributions to share.

It was also a celebration to welcome Fr Alban to the parish as well as any new parishioners. It was a superb occasion; Fr Alban and Fr Aaron were even persuaded to do some Karaoke - pictured below! A rare treat indeed!

Story and pictures: David White



The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Education Services 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.

CONSIDERING TEACHING?

Come and work in Arundel and Brighton and make a difference!
servicing in partnership, developing excellence, with Christ at the centre.

I pray Father that the work of my hands would be a blessing to all who I come into contact with.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH understands the vocation of a teacher as a form of ministry within the Church. Catholic schools are communities in which pupils are nurtured and supported through an educational process which will help them grow in God's image. A teacher's influence in this process is never neutral, and its effects can be inestimable. The role of a teacher therefore, is a crucial one and their influence may reach further than they will ever know.

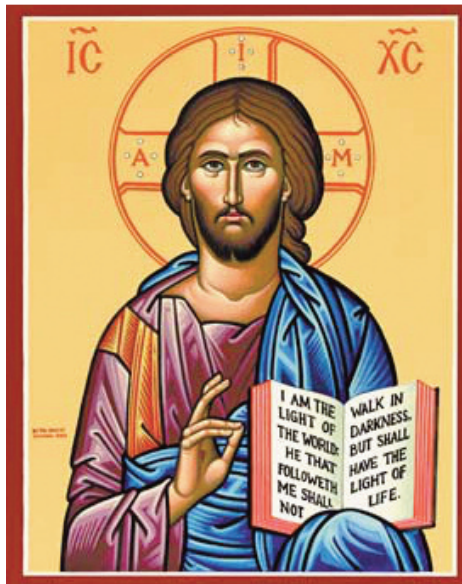
Why the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton?

Our diocesan schools and academies have an excellent record of attainment and progress. To ensure young people in our schools continue to receive the best possible education we seek highly motivated and imaginative teachers who are looking for exciting opportunities to make a positive difference and place at the heart of their practice a desire to improve the life chances for all children in our diocesan schools.

As a Diocese we are small enough to create a family feel amongst all our schools. We have a wide range of schools in all possible geographical settings, coastal, rural and urban. Our schools stretch along the coast from Hastings in East Sussex as far as Chichester in West Sussex. We take in the City of Brighton and Hove and extend as far north as Camberley, Egham and Weybridge.

Realising potential – Building Capacity

As an Education Service we firmly believe that the staff serving in our schools are vital to every school's success. We are blessed to have so many outstanding teachers serving in our family of schools. We provide excellent Professional Development opportunities to nurture, encourage and support all members of our school communities so that they can develop and achieve their full potential.



Our Professional Development programme is explicitly designed to effectively engage and retain staff and facilitate learning that supports professional development at every stage of a teacher's career.

Collaborating closely with outstanding Diocesan Teaching Schools, Catholic Education Trusts and St Mary's University in Twickenham, we provide an extensive range of excellent local, diocesan and national training and professional development to enable staff to:

- have a clear understanding of working in a Catholic school setting;
- continue to develop key skills, knowledge, attitudes, and competencies;
- have extensive opportunities to discuss and reflect on their own aspirations and professional development;
- benefit from the expertise of experienced practitioners, coaches, mentors and professional partners;
- build strong professional networks.

So, if you are considering going into teaching or are an experienced practitioner currently working outside of the Catholic sector – we would love to hear from you.

A warm welcome awaits you!

To find out more about teaching in the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton contact:
Gill Sajnog, Assistant Education Officer at gill.sajnog@dabnet.org or telephone the Education Service on 01293 511130

Education Sunday Mass

OUR LADY QUEEN OF HEAVEN Catholic Primary School pupils and staff joined Our Lady's parish church in Langley Green, Crawley, for Mass to celebrate Education Sunday on 9 September. Pupils volunteered to read from the Bible, shared the bidding prayers and brought forward the gifts during the offertory. It was a joyous occasion led by Fr Chris Dobson. During his homily, the deacon, Rev Andrew Bayes, reminded us that our first teachers are our parents. Past and present pupils are pictured on the altar with their parents at the end of Mass.

Story and picture: Lauren Kluge

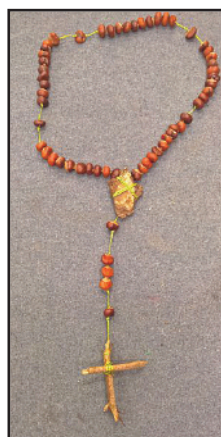


Celebrating Autumn

CHILDREN IN CLASS 4I at St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary school during their morning liturgies were inspired to create a rosary from conkers (pictured) and write poems reflecting their prayerfulness and respect of God's creation. Erin, aged 8 years, wrote the following poem :

When I feel the conker in my hand,
I remember my childhood,
My palms close round it smoothly and calmly,
It is autumn,
I use my conker to pray to God,
I take my conker to church to pray,
My conker goes with me everywhere and everywhere I pray to God.

Summer has ended and the chilly mornings have started,
I place the warm conker on the ground,
Waiting to be planted,
I take my conker and place it in a dark resting place in the ground,
So my conker can grow into a tree,
God's creation,
Creation from one small seed that I held in my hand.



Story: Sr Mary Rose Bracuti



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.

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

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15th National Conference for Rural Catholics
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 Details from Fr Robert Miller
rw274@byinternet.com

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 The Meeting House, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9QF, 01273 878217

BISHOP'S DIARY

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

Sat 24	9am	KHS Investiture and lunch at St George's Cathedral, Southwark
	pm	Marriage Preparation Providers, DABCEC
	7pm	Visitation to St Mary's, Preston Park Brighton
Sun 25	10am	Visitation to St Mary's, Preston Park Brighton
Mon 26	9am	Headteachers' Retreat, Ashdown Park
	pm	Clergy Overnight at St Martha's Convent, Rottingdean
Tue 27	am	Clergy Overnight at St Martha's Convent, Rottingdean
Wed 28	10am	Education Committee meeting DABCEC
	7pm	Induction Mass for Fr Gerard Hatton, Knaphill
Thu 29	8.30am	Meeting at High Oaks
	10.30am	Deans' Meeting DABCEC
Sat 1	9.30am	Mental Health Symposium at St Mary's University, Twickenham
Mon 3	pm	Clergy overnight Rottingdean
Tue 4	am	Clergy overnight Rottingdean
	7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Epsom Deanery
Fri 7	9am	Meeting at High Oaks
	7.30pm	Parish Feast Day Mass at St Ambrose Warlingham
Sat 8	5.30pm	Youth Group meeting, Womersley
Sun 9	11.30am	Mass at Mayfield School
	6.30pm	Friends of Arundel Cathedral, Advent Vespers Service
Mon 10	1pm	Carol Service at HMP Lewes
	7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Redhill Deanery
Tue 11	7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, The Friary, Crawley Deanery
Wed 12	11am	Mass and lunch, DABCEC
	6.30pm	Worthing Deanery Advent Service, Arundel Cathedral
Thu 13	11am	Episcopal Council Meeting
	2.30pm	Meeting at High Oaks
	7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, St Leonard's Deanery
Fri 14	11am	Meeting at High Oaks
	7pm	Pastoral Plan Meeting, Mayfield Deanery, Mayfield School
Sat 15	9.30am	Day of Recollection for Clergy Wives, Worth Abbey
Tue 18	7.30am	Mass at Gossops Green Convent
	5&7pm	Meetings in London
Wed 19	1pm	Bishops' House, Hove
	7pm	Ordination of Jack Lusted, Arundel Cathedral
Thu 20	7.30pm	Confirmation Steering Group Meeting, High Oaks
Mon 24	2pm	Christmas Eve Mass at HMP Coldingley

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 AS CHRISTMAS approaches, you might be beginning to wonder what to buy for your friends or family members. If you're looking for a sustainable, ethical and unusual present, why not consider giving your loved ones a CAFOD World Gift?

World Gifts
 by CAFOD

World Gifts are a range of virtual presents that will delight your friends and family, all while transforming the lives of communities and families living in poverty overseas. You could purchase the Goat that Gives, providing milk and fertiliser for a family, or a Happy Queen Bee to produce honey for families to sell.

You could even buy a water supply for a community; ensuring individuals have access to clean, safe water and protecting them from becoming unwell.

All World Gifts are available to buy individually, or you could fundraise within your parish to make it a community effort. Once you have chosen your gift you will receive a beautiful certificate, explaining how the gift will be used. Buying a World Gift is a wonderful way to make a lasting difference this Christmas, providing hope to some of the poorest communities living overseas.
 Jenny Finlayson
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 CAFOD A&B 01483 898866 arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

FAIRTRADE NEWS...

AS MANY of you will know, Traidcraft plc is currently exploring a new business model. Traidcraft Exchange has been working alongside Traidcraft plc producers since the very beginning and is concerned for the future of these small businesses, their employees, and their families. As Traidcraft plc's sister charity we want to offer support to these producers. Our immediate mission now is three-fold: use our expertise in trade to support Traidcraft plc producers worst affected; secure enough support and funds to continue our work in helping over 300,000 very poor people get a better deal; continue to fight for a world where all trade is fair.

THE FAIRTRADE FOUNDATION website www.fairtrade.org.uk is a fount of Fairtrade knowledge from recipes to '7 Things people get wrong about Fairtrade'. Most people are familiar with Fairtrade, so why do the same misconceptions about what it is and how it works keep cropping up? It is said that Fairtrade products are more expensive; anyone can stick the Fairtrade badge on their product and claim it's ethical; only a small percentage of the price you pay for a Fairtrade product goes back to the producer, and so on. Please read responses from the Fairtrade Foundation.

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.

- 4 December Epsom Deanery
- 10 December Redhill Deanery
- 11 December Crawley Deanery
- 13 December St Leonards Deanery
- 14 December Mayfield Deanery

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

Parish Pilgrimages to Rome

Molesey and Horsham

A GROUP OF 44 PILGRIMS from the two parishes joined on pilgrimage in October for five days. Parish priests Fr Richard Biggerstaff and Fr Aaron Spinelli led the group.

Day two comprised a visit outside Rome to Castel Gandolfo with time to explore the Apostolic Palace and reflect on the pictures of the popes that had influenced our lives.

On day three we walked to St Peter's Square for the General Papal Audience. As there was a concurrent Synod of Bishops in Rome it commenced earlier than usual and only those with walking aids and their helpers had actually arrived when the announcer welcomed the pilgrims from St John the Evangelist in Horsham so only five of us were there to rise and cheer.

In the afternoon we walked to the Basilica of St John Lateran and later to the English College to join them for Mass and refreshments. Fr Aaron, who studied here, added that 44 of the previous priests from the college were martyred when they returned to England - the exact number of pilgrims in our group.

Day four was 11 October - the Feast Day of St John XXIII - and our two priests concelebrated Mass in St Peter's Basilica at the altar containing his tomb - pictured. Later in the day we walked to Chiesa Nuova and on to two further churches, concluding our day at the Pantheon.

On the final day we drove to the Basilica of St Paul Outside the Walls where once again our two priests concelebrated Mass. The group is pictured after this Mass. A visit to the Catacombs of St Sebastian concluded our pilgrimage.

Story: David White

Pictures: Mark Birdseye & David White



St Michael's, Worthing

A GROUP OF 32 PILGRIMS set off early one October morning from St Michael's, Worthing, on pilgrimage for eight days. Fr Chris Ingle, their parish priest, and Deacons Ian Moon and Mark Woods were part of the group as spiritual guides for the week.

Four of these days were spent in the centre of Rome with visits and tours of all the major pilgrimage sites including, of course, St Peter's. We had the privilege of not only celebrating Mass close to the tomb of St Peter, Apostle, Martyr and first Bishop of Rome, but also of attending a General Audience with the successor of St Peter, Pope Francis. There was a resounding cheer from our group when we were given a special mention during the welcome to English speaking pilgrims.

Exhausted after walking round much of Rome and the Vatican, we then headed to the hills outside of Rome, to Villa Palazzola, for a few days of rest and reflection, and where the group is pictured. There we were able to ponder on pilgrimage among the silence and beauty of Lake Albano.

On the final day we sadly said goodbye to Palazzola before heading home via Subiaco, the place of St Benedict's first monastery and where he wrote his Rule, the foundation stone of Western Monasticism. Finally, well fed with pasta and wine in a local restaurant, we set off for the airport and home with much to remember, reflect on and give thanks for.

Story: Mark Woods Picture: Keith Padwick



The Basilica of St Peter in Rome at night



Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

AT THE BEGINNING of October, 15 parishioners from St Pancras in Lewes and our parish priest, Fr Jonathan Martin, made our sixth annual pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk. We were blessed with good sunny weather, so we enjoyed the beautiful countryside.

We celebrated Mass in the Slipper Chapel each morning, and shared in Sprinkling at The Well. We prayed The Stations of the Cross around the Basilica. One pilgrim walked the Holy Mile barefoot, as is her custom.

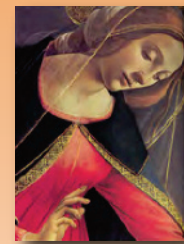
For further spiritual refreshment we visited the Archangel Distillery near Fakenham where we learned that it is on one of the early routes to the original Shrine, and the water used in the making of the gin is from Walsingham. Our guides there gave us a chance to taste the finished product - hence the smiling faces in the picture.

Story: Ffion Wilkes

Picture: Peter Allingham



Our Lady of Fidelity



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FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

WHAT A LOVELY start to the month when we had a celebratory Mass and reception afterwards for Fr Tony Lovegrove who was celebrating his 60th jubilee and Sr Mary Patrick who was celebrating her 50th jubilee. We thanked God for their presence and ministry in our parish.

Later on, we had a special Healing Service at St Peter's celebrated by Fr Claudio Barbut who is leading the Ruah Mission. This was attended by a huge number of our parishioners who found it incredibly moving.

Our Youth SVP have just celebrated their first anniversary. We are very proud of all they have achieved and look forward to hearing about their future adventures.

The events and appeals for Mary's Meals continue to raise funds - £678 has just been sent to them - along with contributions of essential items.

Several of our parishioners recently attended a Breakfast for Women event at The Hub in Upper Beeding to hear about the future of the Worthing Churches Homeless Project. It has now changed its name to Turning Tides but continues with its wonderful work as before with even better facilities.

Penny Richardson

BANSTEAD

CHANGE AGAIN at St Ann's. Fr Alban left us for St John the Evangelist in Horsham and Fr John Inglis from our Lady of Sorrows Effingham joined us.

Fr John celebrated his first Mass on 23 September. Many parishioners came to say farewell to Fr Alban at his celebration party where we all shared in an abundance of good food and a glass or two of refreshment. We wish to thank him for all he has done to keep our parish moving along and we are sure his Ministry will go from strength to strength.

As this goes to the news desk, Fr John is still surrounded by boxes. His beloved cat is under house arrest until it is safe to venture out with the A217 running so close to the Presbytery. We welcome him and ask God to bless him in his new Ministry at St Ann's.

Christine Gilbert

CRAWLEY

A WARM WELCOME to Fr Joseph Xavier, our new parish team member.

Congratulations to all our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who were re-commissioned at Mass on 27 October. Heartfelt thanks to them all for their faithful and vital ministry to us.

Barbara Winstanley

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the **January 2019** issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 19 November 2018** and for the **February 2019** issue by **Monday 7 January 2019**. 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 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.

EAST GRINSTEAD and LINGFIELD HARVEST FOOD donations to be given to Crawley Open House were brought to the Masses at Our Lady and St Peter, East Grinstead, and St Bernard, Lingfield, over the weekend of 6-7 October.

Parishioners attended an ecumenical vigil for peace led by East Grinstead Justice and Peace Group at Moat United Reformed Church on the afternoon of Sunday 14 October.

On Saturday 6 October, Filipino parishioners organised the Filipino British Nurses Extracare East Grinstead charity dinner and dance at the Jubilee Community Centre, raising funds for the East Grinstead food bank, the East Grinstead Music and Arts Festival and Montero Elementary School, in the Philippines.

Clive Carpenter

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King and St Joachim PARISHIONERS who attend St Joachim have been offering warm congratulations to Stephen Lloyd, who was presented with the Philip Howard medal and a framed certificate on the first Sunday in October, in recognition of his 45 years as an altar server and organist at the church. His family have expressed their appreciation to Fr Neil and to Deacon Eugene Adams for ensuring that Stephen's outstanding contribution to the parish has been recognised and to the parishioners who arranged the refreshments that were enjoyed following the presentation.

During the last weekend in October parishioners responded to an invitation from Fr Neil to donate various items of food and clothing etc to Absolute Angels, a local charity which provides a soup kitchen in Eastbourne for homeless people in the town.

The DVD presentation entitled 'A Quick Journey through the Bible' has continued following the 10.00am Mass on Mondays and we have recently been exploring the later chapters of the Book of Exodus, recounting the history of God's chosen people after their escape from Egypt.

John Carmody

EASTBOURNE

Our Lady of Ransom

BISHOP RICHARD gave a presentation of the new Diocesan Pastoral Plan in the parish centre that was very well attended. It was positive and very encouraging to everyone with prayer cards being issued for the fruitful outcome of the Pastoral Plan.

St Agnes community held an autumn get together praying for the wider parish community with music, games, food and drink.

The Co-workers of St Mother Teresa held their annual day of retreat and reflection led by Deacon Paul Scholey.

A meeting was held for all volunteers of the Winter Night Shelter; it was good to see four new volunteers sign up and training is organised for existing and new volunteers.

All Hallow's Eve was celebrated in the parish centre with food, games and

prayer for all children and their parents and they were encouraged to dress up as Saints.

The SVP held a coffee morning after Mass in October in aid of the Young Vincentians.

A special tea was held in honour of Renata Sapieha who will be sorely missed as she moves away from the area; our prayers and love go with her.

Mary Staffiere

HASLEMERE

with Hindhead and Chiddingfold

THE PARISH celebrated Fr Irek's 25 years in the priesthood in Poland, Canada and Haslemere with a special lunch and a presentation was made on behalf of the three churches.

It also marked the start of the big restoration project for Our Lady of Lourdes. This took two months and involved re-decoration and cleaning of the stained glass, wooden ceiling and stonework. During the interim, Sunday Mass was offered in the church hall and, with a keyboard instead of the organ, everything carried on as normal. Meanwhile, to augment the donations given by parishioners, fund-raising events are taking place to pay for the work.

The latest was an elephant racing evening with people taking it in turns to be mahouts and dressing accordingly. Bets were placed at a tote and odds announced for each race. Fr Irek proved himself particularly good at racing his mount and won a race himself. Two parishioners served a delicious curry supper and a good sum was raised for the restoration fund.

On 14 October Bishop Richard paid a visit to mark the opening of the beautifully restored church. It was a very special Mass with every altar server wishing to be present for the occasion. The choir were especially delighted when the Bishop congratulated them and encouraged them to make a CD of their music - he even offered the name of a company who specialised in such recordings!

Fay Foster

MERSTHAM, REDHILL and REIGATE

PRECIOUS METALS and jewels were in the ethos at the Wedding Anniversary Mass celebrated in St Joseph's Church, Redhill on 6 October. Two couples were celebrating 70 years (platinum), two more 65 (sapphire), followed by a further pair 60 (diamonds). There were twenty couples celebrating 50 (gold) six 40 (Ruby) and three 25 (silver).

The youngest couple had been married just three years and brought with them the smallest member of the congregation, baby Anish, just three months old. Bishop Richard revealed the total years of marriage was 2,074, which would take us back to 389 BC.

At the end of Mass, St Philip Howard medals were presented to John and Tina Nichols, who were celebrating 50 Years of marriage, for their 25 years of service to the Marriage & Family Life Commission in the field of marriage preparation.

CATERHAM

THE PARISH is organising its fourth fund raising lunch for the Christian refugees from Iraq who are in Madaba, Jordan and hoping to raise sufficient funds and sponsorship for four young people to attend the Cambridge school in Madaba to improve their English.



Sadly we have to report the death of Kathleen Saunders at the end of October and our sympathies are with her husband John and their family. Requiem Masses were held in October for Marguerite Delicata and John Delia, both long serving members of the parish and Nancy Finnegan, Fr Sean's mother.

The Beaver Group planted spring flowering bulbs in the Church lawn and the youth clubs are re-co-ordinating the Parish Youth Club (7 - 11) and the Parish Chill Club (11 - 15): very important work by the volunteers.

Afterwards a 'wedding breakfast', with wine and cake plus a display of wedding photos, was enjoyed by everyone. (See full report on page 4)

Ann Lardeur

MIDHURST

THERE WERE leftovers from our Macmillan Coffee Morning, so one of our enterprising parishioners, Agnes decided to hold a cake sale after the Sunday Mass on 1 October. There are obviously many sweet toothed parishioners, as £200 was raised for this national charity.

Paula Dempsey

RYE

AS WE APPROACH the great Feast of the Nativity, we are fortunate to look back upon a year during which we have, as a parish, enjoyed a number of opportunities, both spiritual and social, to strengthen the bonds of friendship and shared faith which we all cherish.

The parish pilgrimage to Assisi and Padua in April is still a talking point. The Feast of St Anthony of Padua on 13 June was another very special day for us all, when Mass was followed by a merry lunch at Simply Italian.

A number of parishioners - too many to mention by name - have worked tirelessly to ensure that our beautiful church is looking at its very best. Fr Matthew Chadwick was happy to have the company of a number of visitors during the year. Fr Aidan, our former parish priest was with us in August and Fr Jobe Abbas OFM Conv came in late September. Fr Jobe is of the Maronite rite and he gave a most interesting talk about the many different rites in the Eastern and Western churches.

The Scripture study group continues on Monday evenings and the Rosary group meets once a month. And - best of all - Fr Matthew has introduced a period of Adoration followed by Benediction after Mass on Friday evenings.

We were blessed with a visit from Bishop Richard towards the end of October - he attended all three weekend Masses.

Jocelyn Rowe

WEST BYFLEET

DURING SEPTEMBER we held a Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise funds for this charity. The month also saw the restarting of the Badminton Club on Tuesday evenings, and meetings of the Catenian Circle and the Justice and Peace Group.

The St Vincent De Paul Society held their popular annual Quiz Night on 3 November.

From 11 to 15 October a group of pilgrims were in Fatima in conjunction with Knaphill parish. On the day of their return there was a day of continual prayer to Our Lady.

Many thanks to Egham parish for organising an enjoyable inter-parish golf competition at Sutton Green Golf Club. After a distinct lack of success in recent years, our team of Peter Heath, Vernon Da Cruz, Phil Wildman and Paul Tipple were lucky enough to win the event this time.

Paul Tipple

And on a topical note in this year of the First World War centenary we congratulate Catherine 'Kit' Monk on celebrating her 107th Birthday with her family at the Oak-

leigh Care Home in Godstone. Born in Fulham in 1911 she was a State Enrolled Nurse and worked with her husband, Fred, at St Lawrence's Hospital.



Peter Paterson



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Rebecca

Rebecca Molyneux
Programme Manager for West and Central Africa

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