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FREE

A&B News

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

CHRISTMASTIDE - No.336

A happy and holy Christmas to all our readers Angels in Brighton & Hove



The Interfaith Choir entertains the audience in St Peter's, Hove

THE INTERFAITH CONTACT GROUP of Brighton & Hove held its annual interfaith service in St Peter's Church, Hove.

Welcomed by Parish Priest Fr Alexander Lucie-Smith, the attendees were from a variety of faiths and traditions, including Muslims, Jews, Quakers, Baha'i, Humanists and Christians. Councillor Dee Simson, Mayor of Brighton & Hove, and Caroline Lucas, MP for Brighton Pavilion, attended the event.

The key theme for the group this year was celebrating angels, 'across all faiths and across all people,' and many of the presentations and talks addressed the idea of angels, material and spiritual.

The varied presentations were much appreciated by the large audience and the choirs - St Peter's Youth Choir and the Interfaith Choir (pictured above) - both performed lively pieces that were loudly applauded.

The event ended with a selection of organ pieces by John Williamson, after which the audience moved to the parish room for refreshments - and tubs of 'the oldest dessert in the world.'

On the walls were displayed the prize-winning posters from the 'Angels in the City' competition, and Mayor Simson happily posed with two of the young winners.

Story and photo: A&B News Team

Christmas Message



from Bishop Richard

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

NOW THAT WE ARE IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT, we are invited to look forward in hope to the coming of the Saviour. We look to His coming in two ways: at the end of time when he comes in Glory and to our celebration of His coming amongst us at His birth.

Advent is a short season in our Church's year. With ending of a long school term, the rush to prepare for Christmas, the commercial pressure that so many feel at this time of year, the call to this Hope in the coming of the Saviour can be lost. Yet, Hope is a wonderful gift. It is a virtue that takes us beyond the immediate to the One who makes sense of our lives, to our destiny as the children of God, to the 'Life to the full' that Jesus came to bring.

As we join in singing the Advent Hymn 'O Come, O come, Immanuel', may we witness to the coming of the Lord in our families, in our schools and parishes and to the world around us, so that the reality of Christmas - that God is with us - can become a reality for all.

With every Blessing for this Advent Season and for a prayer-filled and joyous celebration of the Lord's birth.

+Richard

The End of DABCEC

(...and the beginning of the St Philip Howard Centre)



DABCEC, the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Christian Education Centre in Crawley, has been renamed *the St Philip Howard Centre*, after the sixteenth century saint and co-principal patron of the Diocese (with Our Lady Immaculate).

DABCEC was opened in summer 1979. The building was formerly the old St Francis School and for the first time it brought together under one roof the Schools Commission, the recently formed Adult Education team and the Religious Education Service.

Today, the St Philip Howard Centre is home to the Education Service, the Formation Team and secretaries - and the A&B News Team.

In fact, two of the present Centre staff also studied as school pupils in the same building more than 50 years ago when it was St Francis School.

The Centre continues DABCEC's work of Christian formation or catechesis at all levels - from the cradle to the grave, with a focus on the homes, the schools and the parishes of the diocese.

New signage is now in place, as seen in the picture to the left, with Bishop Richard and Amanda Jones, Office & Facilities Manager of the St Philip Howard Centre.

Story & Photo: A&B News Team

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St John's Seminary – Wonersh

Mgr Gerry Ewing, Vice-Rector (Photos: Thomas Lawes)



THERE ARE THREE seminaries in England - St John's Seminary, Wonersh is one of them (the other two being Allen Hall in London, and Oscott in Birmingham). There are also three Seminaries overseas - the Venerable English College and the Pontifical Bede College, both in Rome, and the Royal English College in Valladolid, Spain which now offers a pre-Seminary year.

Wonersh has been forming priests for service in the Church (including Bishop Richard) since 1891. It is just three miles from Guildford, Surrey and was originally in the Southwark Diocese, but now finds itself in this Diocese of Arundel & Brighton (A&B).

Currently we have 30 or so seminarians from the following Dioceses: A&B, Clifton, East Anglia, Liverpool, Portsmouth and Southwark.

My Role as Vice-Rector

I trained for the priesthood at Wonersh myself (overlapping with Bishop Richard), and I was ordained a Southwark priest in 1981. After 36 years mainly in parish ministry, and with a number of other jobs in the Southwark Diocese and beyond under my belt, Archbishop Peter asked me to become

the Vice-Rector in September 2017.

My role is described in the Ratio of 2016 (which I shall refer to later)

The Vice-Rector must be suitable for the work of formation. He is called to assist the Rector, with due discretion, in the service of formation, and to substitute for him in the case of absence. In general, the Vice-Rector 'must demonstrate strong pedagogical abilities, a joyous love of his service and a spirit of collaboration'.

Looking back over my first year in the post - shall we say that I am growing into the job! It is a huge privilege to be part of the team of formators, who help those who feel called to the priesthood to discern whether or not this is God's will for them.

The Rector and Team

Canon Brian Coyle (Southwark) is the Rector and the 'Father of the House' at Wonersh. He leads the team of formators; in addition to myself, they are: Fr Kevin Dring (A&B), Fr Michael Fontaine (Clifton), Dr Pia Matthews (a wife and mother from Wallington, Surrey), and Canon Luke Smith (Southwark). Currently, we are awaiting the appointment of one more formator.

In addition to the formation staff, some 30 or so others - priests and lay men and women - come in to lecture, for spiritual direction or for human formation work. They are not all in at the same time!

It is great to have so many people involved in the life of the Seminary and we are truly grateful for their professionalism, their dedication and their commitment.

Formation, not Training

Our youngest seminarian is in his early 20s, and our oldest is in his late 60s!



We don't talk about *training* for the priesthood any more (as I did earlier). Rather, we talk about *formation*. During initial formation, seminarians are very much introduced to the requirement for on-going formation after ordination - emphasising that formation for the priesthood is never complete - it is a life-long process.

In 1992, Pope St John Paul II wrote an Apostolic Exhortation on the Formation of Priests - *Pastores Dabo Vobis* - which focused on four essential areas of priestly formation: human, intellectual, spiritual and pastoral. These areas are developed during the Seminary course - the average length of time being six years - which includes a pastoral year in a parish in the seminarian's home diocese in Year 4.

Seminaries do not do whatever they want as far as the six year formation course is concerned; rather, all Seminaries are closely directed by the Congregation for the Clergy in Rome, which has the responsibility of determining the overall formation requirements in Seminaries throughout the world.

Universal and Local 'Ratios'

In 2016, the Congregation published the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis* (*The Fundamentals of Priestly Formation*) with the more user-friendly title - *The Gift of the Priestly Vocation*.

(Continued on page 3)



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St John's Seminary - Wonersh (cont. from Page 2)

This universal Ratio will lead to the Bishops in each country throughout the world preparing a local Ratio for their specific territory and culture - which then has to be approved by the Congregation for the Clergy in Rome.

Priestly formation is taken very seriously, as the Church has a duty to prepare its priests as best it can - and the People of God have a right to the best prepared priests possible (and priests who will then continue to be formed after ordination).

Is formation for the priesthood taken more seriously these days than it was before? This is a difficult question to answer. Suffice to say that there is much more professionalism evident in today's society - along with more accountability - and the Church cannot operate in a vacuum.

Character

For example - particularly in the light of priestly scandals that sadly continue to rock the Church and society these days - we need to ascertain the integrity of character of those applying for the Seminary, so psychological and other assessment is undertaken to determine the mental and the emotional health of a potential seminarian.

During the six years at Wonersh, human formation work is undertaken in order to deal with unresolved issues and 'excess baggage', and seminarians will have personal targets to achieve.

The Ratio speaks of the importance of the seminarian knowing himself, and letting himself be known - relating to his formators with sincerity and transparency. It refers to a seminarian working humbly and ceaselessly on himself in order to be open to the truths of life and the demands of ministry.

Intellect

Intellectually, the Ratio provides a descriptive list of materials that must be included in philosophical, theological and related studies. Being an Affiliated Institution of St Mary's University, Twickenham, it is possible to gain a Bachelor of Theology (BTh) degree. So university regulations have to be followed at Wonersh and various internal and external checks are in place to en-



sure that this happens. The professionalism and the accountability that today's society demands are addressed as normally and as naturally as possible - but those coming to Wonersh these days are used to these demands, as it is all part of the world that they have come from and, of course, to which they will return.

Life Here is 'Quite Normal'

However, Wonersh is not isolated from the world by any means. In the main, we follow university terms - and we have university holidays! On one level, life at Wonersh could be described as similar to university life, and a good number of our seminarians would look exactly like today's average student.

Life at Wonersh is 'quite normal' really and visitors are pleasantly surprised. We have a gym, we have a bar, we have a day off. Seminarians can visit friends and family, who are also warmly welcomed at Wonersh. But we are not simply a university Hall of Residence. Wonersh is much more than that, and much more is expected of the seminarian.

Chapel, Prayer - and Music

Central to the life of the Seminary is the Chapel - loved by so many over the

years. **Any seminarian sitting in our Chapel will have been both challenged and supported by the inscription over the old High Altar from John 15:16 *Non vos me elegistis, sed ego elegi vos ... You did not choose me, no I chose you.***

Daily prayer and meditation is central to the life of the seminarian. Each seminarian has a Spiritual Director and the House Spiritual Director has overall responsibility for the spiritual life of the Seminary. Needless-to-say, we have daily Mass and Devotions and over the years the seminarians are prepared to be presiders and preachers at Mass and other liturgical celebrations.

During their time at Wonersh they are exposed to a broad range of music to prepare them adequately for parish life.

Parish Life and Service: the Focus of all Formation

In addition to the Pastoral Year spent in a parish in Year 4, seminarians are involved in a great variety of weekly pastoral work throughout their years at Wonersh, and sometimes during the holidays too. This work is monitored and assessed.

It is on Parish life, and on the service of the People of God, that all formation

at Wonersh is focused. The seminarian is formed to acknowledge and to respect the priesthood of *all* the Baptised, while being aware of the distinct character of the ordained priesthood ... and the gift of the priestly vocation with its call to service.

I will let the Ratio have the final word, as I ask for your prayers for Wonersh and issue a warm invitation for Parishes to visit us by arrangement...

The priest is, therefore, called to form himself so that his heart and his life are conformed to the Lord Jesus, in this way becoming a sign of the love God has for each person. By being intimately united to Christ, he will be able: to preach the Gospel and become an instrument of the mercy of God; to guide and give correction; to intercede and care for the spiritual life of the faithful entrusted to him; to listen and welcome, while also responding to the demands and the deep questions of our time.



Seminarian Room Refurbishment Appeal

RECENTLY, letters from the Seminary were sent to all parishes in the dioceses where the majority of Wonersh seminarians come from - Arundel & Brighton, Clifton, Portsmouth and Southwark - asking for financial help to redecorate and refurbish all the seminarian rooms, which had received little or no attention for some 40 years.

Many of the rooms had threadbare carpets and curtains close to disintegration. Some beds and other furniture had begun their life in the Junior Seminary at Mark Cross, Sussex - which closed in 1970!

The response from the parishes has been amazingly generous with donations coming from Parish funds, special collections, individuals, organisations and charities.

So far, £237,000 (including Gift Aid) has been raised. This means that a little more seminarian bedroom furniture has been able to be bought than was originally intended - and of much better quality. There is a target now of £300,000 in order to do the best possible for our seminarians and future priests.

Every donation has been acknowledged where possible, and to those who sent donations anonymously - heartfelt thanks and an assurance of the Seminary's prayers.

As well as the generosity of so many in support of our seminarians, what has been so touching are some of the letters received with the donations, which show the great interest that so many people have in Wonersh and the great love that so many have for the Seminary - either directly or indirectly.

One donation, for example, was sent in memory of the donor's father, who had been at Wonersh in 1909 aged 14 years. (Wonersh was also a Junior Seminary at that time.) The donor's father had obviously left the Seminary at some stage, but in 1909 he had sent a postcard from Wonersh Village to his mother in Ireland. The donor had enclosed a copy of his father's postcard - which he still treasured!

Donations for the Refurbishment Appeal are still being gratefully received! If you can help in any way, please send a cheque (made payable to St John's Seminary) to Mgr Gerald Ewing (Vice-Rector), St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0QX.

All identifiable donations are acknowledged and Gift Aid forms are sent, if requested. Bank transfer is also possible. Email vice-rector@wonersh.org for further details. Thank you so much!



St Patrick's Weekend - Pilgrimage To Knock Shrine Arundel, Brighton & Southark

FLIGHT DETAILS:
Saturday 16th March 2019
Depart London Gatwick 12:50 - Arrive Knock 14:30
Wednesday 20th March 2019
Depart Knock 15:05 - Arrive London Gatwick 16:30

Saturday 16th March 2019
Depart UK - arrive in Knock, 20 minute transfer to Knock House Hotel in the grounds of Knock Shrine. Dinner and welcome introduction.

Sunday 17th March 2019 - St. Patrick's Day
St Patrick's Day mass in Knock. Tour of the grounds. Local Parade in the afternoon followed by traditional Irish meal in the hotel. Irish music to end of this special feast day.

Monday 18th March 2019
Guided tour of Ballintubber Abbey with mass. Lunch. Visit Westport and the holy mountain Croagh Patrick. Return to hotel for Dinner and entertainment. Optional exposition of Blessed Sacrament.

Tuesday 19th March 2019
Morning mass in Fr. Peyton Centre. Guided tour of Hennigan's Heritage Centre with tea and scones. Onwards to Foxford Woollen Mills and gift shop. Dinner followed by traditional Irish entertainment. Optional evening Rosary Procession.

Wednesday 20th March 2019
Morning mass, enjoy your private time before return flight to the UK.

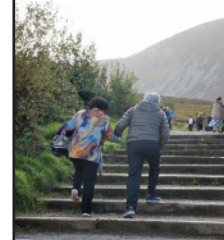
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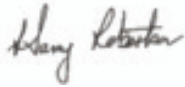
The official monthly paper of the
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

WE LOOK FORWARD, on December 19, DV, to celebrating the ordination of Deacon Jack Lusted as a priest of this diocese.

In this edition of the paper we learn about the role of St John's Seminary at Womersley in forming Deacon Jack, as well as many of the current priests of our diocese - including Bishop Richard.

It is also proper to remember the many volunteers whose hidden but very significant work enables the diocese to function effectively. This was the first time that the major operating functions met on the same day in Arundel, and our Chief Operating Officer, Sarah Kilmartin, plans to make it an annual event.

There is much to look forward to in the coming year and your (volunteer) editorial team of the A&B News wish all readers a happy and holy Christmas and every blessing in the new year.



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JUST A THOUGHT

'Wesolych Swiot'

Our congregations contain many people from different cultures. Our 'Thought' this month is about Polish Christmas customs.

WE START TO celebrate Christmas a month before December. Every morning, we go to church to get ready for Jesus' birth. On the 24th of December we put the Christmas tree up. The adults make twelve special dishes, ready for Christmas Eve. We have twelve dishes to represent Jesus' twelve disciples. To start the meal, we wait for the first star to appear in the sky. It is called the Bethlehem star. Then we all stand round the table and say a prayer thanking for the gifts. Just before we sit down, we share the Christmas Eve waffle with each other and wish everybody Christmas wishes. Then we take a seat at the table and eat our delicious meal. When we have all finished, we open our presents. Then we sing carols and if you know how to play on an instrument you would play on it. At midnight, we go to church to celebrate Jesus' birth. We also celebrate on the 25th, when we spend our time with family, and the 26th with friends. That's where Christmas would end for my family and friends in Poland.

Julia (aged 10)

'Hidden work, but very significant work'

Bishop Richard commenced his homily at the Mass for Parish Volunteer Representatives with these words and continued: 'Without these roles we could not do the Mission the Lord has given us so it is right to celebrate today.'

Introduction

A VOLUNTEER IS DEFINED as a person who freely gives time for another person or for a good cause. Well, the 240 volunteers who came to Arundel Cathedral and the Cathedral Centre on Saturday 3 November certainly fitted into this group. This unique gathering from throughout the diocese encompassed volunteers whose skills ranged from Finance to Health & Safety, Safeguarding and Gift Aid. Most of whom possibly did not know what they were getting themselves into at the time of offering, or maybe it was a parish priest who gave the nudge! However, all would agree, it was to spread the Word and for the glory of God.

In the past the four disciplines held their annual meetings in separate places and at separate times of the year. This year the diocese had the bright idea to bring everyone together, albeit with their own meetings, but to attend Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard and to share in a simple lunch.

The A&B News covered this unique coming together in Arundel with correspondents at each of the forums (or is it fora?). Also covered was the award presented to Sue Rickard, the past Gift Aid Co-ordinator.

Story: A&B NEWS Team

Where Would We Be Without Finance Committees?

WHAT MAY COME as a surprise to readers of the A&B News is that a parish has to have two things in order to function. You guessed the first - a priest. The second requirement - a Finance Committee! Why? Training in the seminary does not cover a lot to do with money and buildings, so here are the volunteers who support our priests and act as an important sounding board for decisions on spending money and maintaining premises.

At the Finance Forum, 75 committee delegates listened to a presentation by Sarah Kilmartin, Chief Operating Officer, and Dave Newman, Diocesan Financial Controller. Financial reviews included the actual results for 2017, the year-end planning for 2018, and the budget and forecast levy for 2019. Sarah presented an overview of audit feedback from haysmacintyre. Much praise was given to the hard working financial teams for the reduction of errors - from 37 in 2012 to 27 in 2017.

One practical issue was raised - getting cash from the parish to the bank by volunteers, most of whom are over 65 years of age. As the Public Injury Insurance only covers volunteers up to the age of 65, a question was raised on the entitlement of these older couriers in the event of accidental incidents. The Finance team are investigating the availability of top-up insurance.

Other matters were raised, especially with reference to the deficit in central funds in 2017. Under-funding for retired priests is an issue and a fundraising project is planned to rectify this situation. The Principle Levy will stay at 35% for next year and a windfall levy of 35% will be introduced for land sales.

To keep Chairs of Finance busy next month, year-end paper returns and declaration forms will be sent out during the first week of December and all agency collection ('pink sheet') returns should be received at Bishop's house by 17 December 2018.

Coming up in the future, a new cloud-based accounting system called ACCOUNTSIQ - already in use at Bishop's House - will be rolled out to parishes early in 2019. Each parish will have its own stand-alone database with a consolidation module taking care of year-end reporting to Bishop's House. Don't worry, members of Finance Committees - training will be carried out in small groups throughout the Diocese early next year. To close the forum, Sarah was joined by the Bishop and three of the Diocesan Trustees for a question and answer session. This continues the tradition that the annual forum is a two-way discussion where members of the parish finance community can share ideas and queries with the Diocesan team.

In conclusion to the successful forum, Sarah announced that there will be a repeat of this event at 10am on Saturday 2 November 2019 in Arundel. So, no excuses delegates, the Diocese needs you!

Story: Delanee Fernando,

The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady, Peacehaven

The Growing Importance of Safeguarding

PHILIP WRIGHT INTRODUCED himself and his Assistant Rosemary Terry, followed by a quote from Pope Francis commencing 'If one suffers, everyone suffers...'

Updates from the Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS) were provided. It can be accessed at <https://www.csas.uk.net/> and contains all the resources that each Parish Safeguarding Representative (PSR) could require. The resource for organising and running Church events involving children, young people and adults at risk was described in detail and reference was made to the ongoing Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors and to the recent Bishops'

Ad Limina statement.

The training to be provided by Deaneries in 2019 was explained by Rosemary. In future each Deanery will have their annual refresher course in the same month each year and details will be accessible on the Diocesan website together with links to other information and resources. It was stressed that the current DBS versions of forms on the CSAS or the Diocesan websites should be used and that paper based forms are still required.

Philip provided a list of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) introduced in May 2018 that PSRs must now follow and concluded by advising that the Update Day in 2019 would be on Saturday 2 November at the same venue.

Story: A&B NEWS Team

Health & Safety in the Diocese

HEALTH AND SAFETY - a subject which normally brings a few sighs and dropping of the eyelids - had its annual airing in Arundel as part of the Diocesan Meeting Quartet. Sarah Kilmartin, Chief Operating Officer, opened the meeting by introducing herself and her role in the Diocese. While we may want to ignore this important subject, it is quite clear from Sarah that we cannot survive without it.

Delegates were reminded of the target of 30 April 2019 for completion of all the Very High and High assignments; all corresponding Tasks should be well in hand by then.

Nicky Worley, the Diocesan Health & Safety consultant who provides support on the Parish Safety Toolbox - a well-respected management tool - then took over and explained new plans to support parishes in the instruction of Third Party Contractors. A preferred supplier database is being developed through collaboration with the Deaneries and will be available through Safety Toolbox in 2019.

Nicky advised that the Diocese has the responsibilities of a landlord in relation to each priest living in our parishes; thus we must comply with the minimum standards regarding the safety of utilities, monitoring of asbestos and provision of smoke and carbon dioxide alarms. Online tasks were explained further and delegates were introduced to Sue Forrest, based at Bishop's House, who is now also available to assist and to give advice on buildings. It was noted that it is now possible to provide access for additional users to particular sections of a Parish Safety Toolbox.

The new online tool, Event Manager, is now available to assist organisers. Nicky stressed that it is not to be used for Night Shelters, as they already have their comprehensive tools. The requirement for Fire Plans and what should be included was described in detail and the meeting concluded with the Accident Reporting Procedure.

Many questions were asked throughout and at the end by an obviously involved and attentive audience, and all were answered comprehensively by the presenters.

Story: David White, St John the Evangelist, Horsham

Diocesan Gift Aid Rebates Reach £1.3m

IT HAS BEEN PERHAPS the busiest year ever on the administrative front for Gift Aid in the Diocese. Major changes to the team at Bishop's House, plus a new computer system, plus new data protection regulations, plus an updated banking system have all happened while the ordinary business of claiming tax refunds still carried on. It was good to know, therefore, that total tax reclaims received in 2017/18 were £1.3 million, a significant sum of money which underlines the importance of Gift Aid to parishes and schools.

Sue Rickard had decided to retire at Easter, so Sarah Kilmartin introduced the new Gift Aid Co-ordinator, Patricia Wrightson, who is settling in well into her new role replacing the much-missed Sue - see article on page 5. The Gift Aid office has also lost Lara Smith, who left to have a baby girl so congratulations and best wishes. However, it's suspected that Lara will not be getting as much rest as Sue!

Patricia took the delegates through an overview of the impact of all the changes before handing over to the Audit Team. The three Gift Aid Auditors, David Godge, Ian Dallas and Dan Meehan, have provided much appreciated ongoing support to Organisers across the Diocese over the years. They had prepared very useful update presentations for the day. All three have worked hard to update the computer system to a new web-based platform and then introduce it to Organisers. In addition, there have been major changes to data protection regulations to be incorporated into our procedures.

All of this meant a complete rewrite of the Gift Aid Manual to take these changes into account, simplifying and reducing the size of the manual at the same time. Dan explained the highlights of all these changes and their impact on Organisers. Ian gave a walkthrough of some of the new approaches to uploading records (Gift Aid declarations and standing order forms) to the web-based system, which will ultimately lead to a paperless system.

(continued on page 5)

Gift Aid (continued from page 4)

A lively open forum session followed, which shed light on many areas of Gift Aid activities, not just the recent changes. Plenty to think about and plenty to keep the Organisers busy over the year to the next Arundel Forum.

Story: Brian McKendry, St Dunstan's Woking

Conclusion

With all this planning, did the day work?

Sarah Kilmartin, Chief Operating Officer, gives her opinion, below:

IT WAS GREAT to get all the volunteers with administrative roles together for training and updates, and we had very useful sessions in all areas.

Above all, Bishop Richard was particularly keen to celebrate the contribution made throughout the Diocese by these teams and to thank them in person.

The Bishop reminded us that the hidden ministries of finance, health and safety, gift aid and safeguarding are God's work: a crucial contribution

to the Mission of the Church. I envisage that this new format will be the way ahead in future and that the community of volunteers will have an annual gathering in Arundel in November.

The opportunity to celebrate Mass together in the Cathedral made the day really special.

I am greatly looking forward to seeing all the parish delegates again next year on 2 November.

Sarah Kilmartin

Surprised Sue Accepts Award From Bishop Richard

SUE RICKARD WAS QUIETLY sitting in the front row of Arundel Cathedral listening to the conclusion of Mass, which was being celebrated by Bishop Richard.

However, on arrival at the Cathedral she had been surprised at being asked to sit in such a prominent position, her preferred seat being in the back row. Now all was revealed, with Bishop Richard coming forward to present Sue with the St Philip Howard medal for her sterling services to the Diocese.

Let Bishop Richard take up the story.

'Sue Rickard joined the Diocese in March 1998 and served a full 20 years as Gift Aid Co-ordinator in Hove before retiring at Easter this year. She knew every single Gift Aid organiser in the Diocese personally and established a strong network and community of volunteers, including a highly effective team of auditors.

'Sue led the way in computerising Gift Aid, adopting the Giftwise system and embedding this as the norm across the Diocese. As a very early adopter of this approach, she was much sought after at the national Gift Aid conference.

'She served on the steering group for many years, offering guidance and support to opposite numbers in other dioceses as they sought to emulate the success of Arundel and Brighton in implementing a computerised system and reclaiming over a £1 million in Gift Aid each year.

'Sue is much missed in Hove and even more so amongst the wider Gift Aid community, many of whom are here today and will be delighted to catch up with her over lunch.'

How did Sue feel about all this attention?

'I was totally overwhelmed – I thought this had been dealt with when I left at Easter! Nevertheless, I must say I was very happy indeed to receive this award. Out of the corner of my eye I saw Sarah (Kilmartin) coming down the side aisle with a large bunch of flowers. She came over and gave them to me – even the colours matched my jacket!' concluded a very content Sue.

Sue is pictured outside the Cathedral next to the bishop with Sarah and two Gift Aid Organisers, from left to right Dan Meehan and Ian Dallas.

Story: Sarah Kilmartin/Picture: A&B News Team



SVP Appeal for Sudan

John Wild writes 'A&B Conferences and Parishes have raised over £66k in the last five years (over £35k in the last two years) for the Sudan Appeal and we would very much like to exceed those annual totals this year.'

BOTH SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN (since its formation in 2011) have suffered histories of conflict that have left behind trails of destruction and millions of displaced people in urgent need of assistance.

The SVP in England & Wales currently supports 151 twinned Conferences in Sudan and 30 in South Sudan (mainly around Juba). This has helped us to build close links with members and to support their work for the poor and needy in local communities.

Since 1997, the Society has also helped to fund some larger programmes of work in both countries including:

- Baby feeding and pre-school meals in the camps for internally displaced people;
- Medical centres staffed by volunteers and providing vital medicines and life-saving treatment;
- Clean water supplies for local communities using an SVP tanker that is in urgent need of replacement;
- Vocational training enabling both men and women to learn a trade such as tailoring, carpentry, mechanics, first aid and IT;
- "Be in Hope" home for street children near Juba.

The National Twinnage Committee oversees the twinnage arrangements and programmes of work on behalf of the SVP. Ian Mawdsley, the Country Manager, visited Sudan in 2017 with Helen O'Shea, the National President, to review the work and there is a full



report on the website (www.twinnage.org.uk).

Dr. Betram Kuol, SVP Programme Manager in South Sudan, recently visited the UK and offered his whole-hearted gratitude for support provided through the Vincentian family in England & Wales.

Can you help by making a gift over the Christmas / Lent period to the Sudan Appeal? For example, it costs less than £1 per week to feed a baby and the SVP is providing emergency food and water for some 11,000 people in the camps and providing life-saving medical support to 50,000 each year.

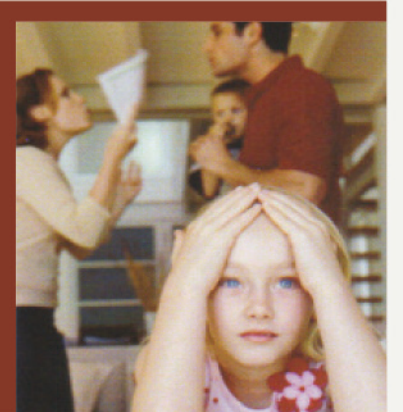
Cheques should be made out to "SVP Twinnage" and may be gift-aided using forms on the website; please include a note marked Sudan Appeal. They can be channelled through your local SVP Conference or sent to SVP Twinnage, PO Box 318, Whitstable, CT5 9BS.

Thank you for your support.

John Wild, Twinnage Officer for Arundel & Brighton

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Program details

Our next program takes place: 8th - 10th March 2019
Follow-up post days: 16th March, 30th March, 13th April, 27th April 2019
Location Welwyn Garden City

Please contact

Tel: Michael and Frances: 07887 296983

or Julie and Gearoid: 07973 380443

Email info@retrouvaille.org.uk

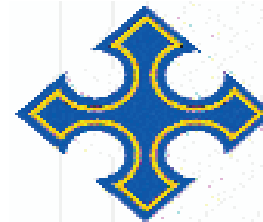
Website: www.retrouvaille.org.uk



Retrouvaille England/Wales receives no government funding

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese



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 under your nose and how you can help those affected.

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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.

Also introductory workshops to Justice & Peace and environmental issues and volunteering opportunities.

Venue: The St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCEC),
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All are welcome.

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



The latest edition of the Refugee Crisis Newsletter is now available!

Read about how your donations are being spent on supporting refugees in our communities. Includes articles from local groups. Gives information on fostering Refugee Children. Do you have a project in your parish which may need financial support? Read how you can apply for a small grant. More funds needed. Please pray for all refugees. Thank you.

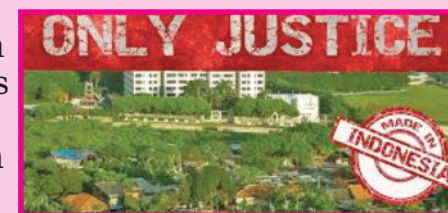
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01293 651161



Week of prayer for Christian Unity

18 - 25 January 2019

THE CHURCHES OF INDONESIA have provided the resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from 18 - 25 January 2019. They focus on the increasingly pressing areas of peaceful unity between different peoples and global economic injustice.



There are the usual daily prayer resources for the week, an order of service that can be adapted for your context and which includes prayers that could be adapted for the prayers of the faithful on Sunday 20 January 2019, and also some great all age resources.

Even if you cannot pray with other Christians during the week itself, consider committing to say the daily prayers as a family, or with a friend, or use the resources in some way in your usual activities and meetings with fellow Catholics. ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-resources Catherine Martindale catherine.martindale@dabnet.org is happy to support you if you need help or advice on how to use or adapt these very good resources.

Catherine Martindale, Dialogue & Unity Adviser 01293 651162

Your Catholic Legacy - will you share how a Saint has inspired you?

ONE OF THE WONDERFUL THINGS about the Catholic church is our devotion to the saints. It is a great gift that we have this spiritual family to learn from and to intercede for us. The saints are a constant inspiration to us.

Through their 'Share your Saint' campaign, the Your Catholic Legacy group is asking Catholics to reflect on the legacy of the saints and how they've touched our lives, and to consider how their example can inspire us to leave our own mark on the world by remembering Catholic causes with a gift in our Will.

The saints worked and prayed tirelessly to help bring about a brighter future. We are called to this too, and a gift in our Will can be a special part of that mission. A legacy is a very powerful gift. It is a concrete sign of our hope and faith that the world can be a better place.

The inspiration of the saints

Many of us have a devotion to particular saints who are special to us. Perhaps we can relate to their story, we are inspired by their example or they have been shared with us by a loved one. Examples of three saints follow:

Apostleship of the Sea

At the Apostleship of the Sea, we're inspired by **St Peter Claver**, the patron Saint of seafarers. This remarkable man spent 44 years caring for African slaves who crossed the Atlantic Ocean in horrific conditions. He met every slave ship as it arrived in Central America, and brought medicine, food and clothing. Most of all, Peter brought the slaves to Christ - showing them that God loved them more than men abused them. Today, Peter's legacy lives on in the work of our port chaplains and ship visitors, who reach out in friendship to share the love and hope of God.

HCPT

The Saint who inspires us is **St Bernadette**. She was a weak, poorly 14-year-old peasant girl when Our Lady appeared to her. Bernadette became a nun and a nurse and spent her life praying and caring for the sick until her death aged 35. The spot where she saw Our Lady is now, of course, the shrine at Lourdes where 70 miracle healings have been recognised by the Catholic Church. Today, we take around 1,000 disabled children to Lourdes, every Easter, on life-changing pilgrimage holidays. Bernadette continues to inspire not only us, but around five million Catholics who visit Lourdes each year.

CAFOD

St Oscar Romero, a Central American Archbishop assassinated in 1980, is the per-

son who inspires us here at CAFOD. He dedicated his life to speaking out on behalf of the poorest and most disadvantaged people and broadcast radio sermons which brought hope to thousands of people. Today, his legacy inspires us as we stand beside people in poverty and campaign for global justice so everyone can reach their full potential.

What mark do we want to leave on the world?

When we look to the saints, we give thanks for the wonderful legacy they have left. Their actions, examples and inspiration have changed lives. They've changed the world. When we reflect on them we can also think about how we want to make a difference and how we want to be remembered.

Of course, there are many ways to do this in our lives. But we can touch and shape the world for the future, too, by supporting Catholic causes with a gift in our Will. In this way, we continue to share our faith and values with future generations. We can help many more people experience the faith and love of Christ.

If you'd like to share your inspiring saint with us, and find out more about the difference you can make by remembering Catholic causes in your Will, the Your Catholic Legacy group would love to hear from you.

To find out more call 020 7095 5370, email info@yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk or visit www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk where you can Share your Saint and see the stories other Catholics have shared.

Your Catholic Legacy represents 27 causes and helps inspire Catholics to consider a gift in their Will to the Catholic charities they feel most passionate about. Even a modest gift can make a real difference. These charities are Ace of Clubs, Aid to the Church in Need, Apostleship of the Sea, Archdiocese of Southwark, Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust, CAFOD, Catholic Childrens Society (Westminster), Columban Missionaries, CSAN, Depaul UK, Diocese of Portsmouth, HCPT The Pilgrimage Trust, Jesuits in Britain, Marriage Care, Missio, Nugent, Pact, Society of the Little Flower, St Barnabas Society, St Joseph's Hospice, Hackney, St Vincent de Paul Society, The Cardinal Hume Centre, The Medaille Trust, The Passage, Walsingham Trust, World Villages for Children, Wrexham Diocesan Trust.

Christine Reidy, Project Manager 07718366202 christinepunter@hotmail.com



Diamond Wedding Celebration



Pauline & Roy Butler celebrating their Diamond Wedding at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Rottingdean, Brighton.

Picture: Maureen Buni

Autumn Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

THE KNIGHTS AND DAMES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land recently with Bishop Richard Moth as their Spiritual Director. There were 15 members of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem and five guests on the pilgrimage this Autumn.

The mission of the Order is to support by prayers, presence on pilgrimage and financial contributions to the Christian community in the Holy Land via the Latin Patriarchate.

They visited the Seminary in Bethlehem where they met many Seminarians. They also visited the Annunciation School in Beit Jala, mixing and talking with the pupils. A substantial donation was given to both the Seminary and the school.

Sunday Mass was celebrated in the parish of Aboud, on the West Bank. After Mass, dancing boys and girls welcomed the pilgrimage and then stayed for lunch. This was an opportunity to talk to parishioners about their daily lives. Their deep faith, even in very difficult circumstances, was very striking, as was their commitment to the land of their birth.

Many Holy Sites were visited and Mass was celebrated in the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. The pilgrims returned home strengthened in faith and with a deeper understanding of the problems faced by Christians in the land of Our Lord.

Pictured are Bishop Richard with His Excellency Michael Byrne KCHS being welcomed by pupils of Latin Patriarchate School, Aboud.

Story: Kitty Hooey KCHS, Picture: Anthony Hooey KHS



80th Birthday Bouquet for Min Merchant

PICTURED ON SATURDAY 29 September is Min Merchant, having received a bouquet celebrating her 80th birthday, as well as a hearty round of applause recognising her commitment to the Crawley Parish over many decades. Thank you for all you have done and continue to do.

Story & picture: Ray Doyle



TAXING TERMS (explained)

AT THE COMMUNICATIONS & MEDIA DAY in October, one of the recommendations of the Content Workshop was that the A&B News explain some of the more challenging words and phrases we encounter in

our worship life. Here's the first example. If you have words or phrases that you would like us to explain, please email us at abnews@dabnet.org with your suggestion. Thank you.

transubstantiation

THE COMPLETE CHANGE of the substance of bread and wine into the substance of the body and blood of Jesus Christ by a validly ordained priest during Mass, so that only the appearance of bread and wine remains. The faith behind the term dates from apostolic times and was given concrete expression by the Fourth Lateran Council of 1215 and the Council Of Trent in 1551.



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BISHOP'S DIARY

DECEMBER/JANUARY

December
 Mon 24 2pm Mass at HMP Coldingley
 11.30pm Midnight Mass at Arundel Cathedral
 Tue 25 9.30am Mass at HMP Highdown

January
 Thu 3 2.30pm Vocations Gathering, Arundel Cathedral
 Tue 8 7.30am Mass at Gossops Green Convent, Crawley
 11am Meeting at Worth Abbey
 Wed 9 7pm Council of Deacons' Meeting, High Oaks
 Sat 12 10am Healthcare Day of Reflection, St Katherine's, Limehouse
 Tue 15 8.30am Meeting at High Oaks
 7pm Evening of Reflection, St Joseph's, Redhill
 Wed 16 Joint Catholic Anglican Bishops' Meeting, Leicester
 Fri 18 7pm Reigate Catenian Association's Annual Clergy Night, Reigate Manor Hotel
 Sat 19 10am Adoremus Event, Worth Abbey
 7pm Evening of Reflection, St John's Seminary, Womersley
 Mon 21 7pm Evening of Reflection, St Joseph's, Epsom
 Tue 22 6pm Baptism and Confirmation, HMP Send
 Thu 24 11am Episcopal Council, High Oaks
 5pm Governors' Meeting, St Mary's University, Twickenham
 Fri 25 11am Catholic Bible School Trustees' Meeting, Nutbourne
 6.30pm St Paul's Day Mass, St George's Cathedral, Southwark
 Sat 26 9.30am Justice and Peace Assembly

NOTICE BOARD

Fr David Goddard RIP
 As we were going to press, the news reached us of the death of Fr David Goddard, parish priest of Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, West Grinstead. We hope to include a tribute to Fr David in the next edition of A&B News.

MASS FOR THE DEAF
 On the First Saturday of the month at 1pm at St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2PJ
 Next Mass 5 January 2019 - Epiphany

Women of the Diocese
 set aside a day to grow in faith, share and discuss with Bishop Richard!

Saturday 23 February 2019 from 10 - 1pm
 St Philip Howard Centre (formerly DABCEC)
 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP

All women of all ages are warmly invited to come and meet our Bishop to share and explore ways of engaging with 'The Word who is Life'

This is an opportunity to meet with our Bishop and explore the role of women in our Diocese. There is a chance to:

- Highlight what women are doing
- Discuss what you would like to achieve
- Share what you can offer
- Learn about what the diocese can offer
- Discuss opportunities and Next Steps

To book email Sue Petritz A & B Diocesan Link
nbcw@rcdab.onmicrosoft.com

15th National Conference for Rural Catholics
 25-27 February 2019
 Sarum College, The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EE
 Details from Fr Robert Miller
rwHM274@byinternet.com

Residential Retreat for Doctors
 Worth Abbey - March 01-03, 2019
 Retreat Organiser: Dr Joe O'Dwyer.
 Spiritual Director: Fr Stephen Ortiger. OSB.

Theme: *Love your neighbour as yourself*
 Sessions include:

- Who and what we are
- Personal challenges we face
- Drawing strength from prayer
- Nurturing our healthcare vocation

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CAFOD
 Just one world

CLIMATE CHAOS
TEN YEARS AGO, the UK became the first country to pass a Climate Change Act which committed us, by 2050, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mainly carbon dioxide and methane) by 80% of 1990 levels. However, in October 2018 the IPCC report stated that we had to go further. We have just 12 years to prevent global warming reaching a level that would be catastrophic and irreversible.

This is important to CAFOD as it is the poorest people in the developing countries who are already being affected by climate change and who will be hit worst. These are the people we work with and are the ones who have done least to cause global warming. These countries have the least resources to cope with the impact and the progress that has been made is being put at risk.

CAFOD is calling on the UK Government to take the lead and commit to net zero emissions before 2050. We will be launching a new campaign on this issue in spring 2019.

Meanwhile, we can play our part by switching to renewable energy, and being careful not to waste energy, by eating less meat and by consuming less. We should also take the time to read and pray about Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*.
 Roger Morton CAFOD Campaign Volunteer Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton
 CAFOD A&B 01483 898866
arundelandybrighton@cafod.org.uk

Pictured below by Liam Finn are two groups of CAFOD Climate Champions



FAIRTRADE NEWS.....
THE BOARD OF TRAIDCRAFT has accepted a plan for the future of the Plc and will begin its work at the start of 2019. It will maximise the profitable parts of the business, phase out loss-making lines, create a membership culture and set a new high bar for ethical trading in the UK.

As such, Traidcraft wishes to build on the extraordinary success of fair trade for a new generation of trading, sourcing and buying, in the manner of its pioneering fair trade founders. Returning the business to profit will involve a simpler range of products: see www.traidcraftplc.com.

Fairtrade Fortnight 2019
 Fairtrade Fortnight 2019 will be 25 February until 10 March. Each year for two weeks over February and March Fairtrade puts a spotlight on trade through our Fairtrade Fortnight campaign which in 2019 will focus on cocoa. Together with the Fairtrade farmers and workers, and campaigners up and down the country, we highlight the difference fair trade can make to lives and communities. It's the most important time of the year for us all to celebrate Fairtrade achievements, whilst encouraging further commitments from the public, companies and governments to take action for fairer trade. www.fairtrade.org.uk

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The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Education Services Team



Most Active Pupils in Sussex?

CONGRATULATIONS to St Peter's Primary School in East Grinstead who have been awarded Platinum Awards in the KS1 Quality Start Award and the School Games Awards. They are the only Primary School in Sussex to have achieved this double accolade and have been shortlisted as finalists for the Active Primary School of the Year at the prestigious Sussex Sports Awards.

Over 30 Different Sporting Events

These awards recognise the school's commitment to PE, School Sports and Physical Activity. Pupils at St Peter's participate in over 30 different sporting competitions and festivals across the academic year ranging from traditional sports such as Football and Netball to Pop Lacrosse, Tri Golf and Badminton. The school enjoys great links with Imberhome and Sackville Secondary schools in East Grinstead, who organise events and provide support from their fantastic Sports Leaders.



Glow n Dance

The school runs a range of extra-curricular opportunities from 'Glow n Dance' to Football which are well attended. Less active children are targeted by the school's popular Sports Crew, through specific sports festivals and lunchtime '#thisgirlcan' clubs using specialist coaches.

The award-winning Sports Crew have

been recognised regionally for their success in promoting physical activity for all, opening the school's all-weather track during playtime and running physical activity sessions during lunchtimes.

Premier League Primary Stars

Additional sporting highlights of this year at St Peter's have included links with Brighton and Hove Albion in the Community with a whole school Inclusive Sports Day, as well as taking part in Crawley Town FC School of the Week programme and the Premier League Primary Stars scheme. The school has also invested in new Active Playground lines and installed an all-weather 'Daily Mile Track' to maximise use of the field area all year round with great success.

Well done, St Peter's. Great sporting work!

Story and picture: Jo Harrington
PE Subject Leader
St Peter's RC Primary

Operation Christmas Child



CHILDREN AT Our Lady Queen of Heaven Catholic Primary school, Crawley, recently held a non-uniform day in exchange for bringing in items to go in shoeboxes for the Operation Christmas Child appeal. The appeal is run by the charity the Samaritans, who distribute the shoeboxes to children all around the world who would otherwise not receive a present at Christmas.

The appeal was a huge success, with over 76 shoeboxes filled by donations from the families and staff (pictured left).

Teacher Sarah Ward helped to organise the shoebox appeal in school as it is a charity her family has supported over the years: 'I am overwhelmed by the generosity of the families at our school. Many children brought in multiple items to put into the class shoeboxes. With this many shoeboxes donated, lots of under privileged children will have something to open on Christmas Day this year. I cannot thank the families enough. The shoeboxes have now been delivered to the collection point at Crawley Baptist Church in West Green.'

The school will be tracking which country or countries the boxes are sent to so they can inform the children in the new year.

Story and picture: Sarah Ward

St Cuthman's Lives on in Horsham

AS ST ROBERT SOUTHWELL Primary School, Horsham, was completing a new library and prayer room earlier this year, St Cuthman's Retreat Centre was closing; consequently St Cuthman's donated their altar and piano for the new library and prayer room at the school (pictured below).



At the blessing of the new building by Bishop Richard on 16 November, head-teacher James Field announced that as St Cuthman's had always been a special place for their school, they wished to recognise this by naming the new facility St Cuthman's.

James is pictured at the event between Bishop Richard and Marie Ryan, Diocesan Director of Education, together with Deacon Jon Harman, Spirituality and Formation Adviser.

The building was partly financed by the parents and friends of the school



who have made tremendous efforts to raise £30,000. With fundraising continuing, they hope to increase this by at least 10% to pay for additional items needed at the school.

This new facility follows the recent expansion of the school which necessitated the old library being converted



into a classroom to allow each year group, from Reception to Year 6, to have their own room. Pictured above is the Bishop talking to the children just before blessing them - and the building - with copious amounts of Holy water.

Also present were Fr Aaron Spinelli, parish priest in Horsham, Simon Gillibrand representing the builders (TG Escapes), Mark Brunet, Buildings Officer, and Joan Kelleher, Chair of the Friends of St Robert Southwell School.

Story and pictures: David White

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FROM THE PARISHES

EASTBOURNE Christ the King and St Joachim



THE WELCOME MUSIC of the Patcham Silver Band, under the baton of their enthusiastic conductor, James Benka-Coker, raised the rafters of Christ the King Church in Langney, at their annual 'Last Night of the Proms' concert. The first half was a wonderfully eclectic mix of rousing marches and elegiac pieces, plus the music of Bob Dylan, Bon Jovi and Frank Sinatra.

Special guest singer Margaret Thompsett then led the audience who, energetically waving their Union Jack flags, joined in the usual 'Prom' songs - Jerusalem, Fantasia on British Sea Songs, concluding with Elgar's Land of Hope and Glory. All proceeds went to the Missions in Africa.

Mary Barlow

CRAWLEY

SERVICES AROUND the town during October and November 2018 gave tribute to those lost in battle during the Wars. On 28 October, Christian Communities of South Crawley gathered to remember their loved ones in a special Memorial Service.

As the rest of the country celebrated Halloween, on 31 October, parishioners at the Friary gave glory to the Saints with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by a Vigil Mass and Candlelight Procession. Children were allowed a late night to dress up as saints and angels! Some might say, not a trick but a rare treat!

We commemorated the centenary of World War 1 with a full remembrance service at St Edward's Church at 11.00. Many of our ancestors were affected. Fr Chris Dobson recounted the amazing story of his own grandfathers; one recovered as a casualty in a prison hospital, while the other survived a torpedo attack on a mail boat on which he and his new wife were honeymooners. 500 of 800 passengers perished in the Irish Sea.

Families and friends gathered for a parish Memorial Service in the Friary

at 3.00pm on 18 November to pray for loved ones lost during the year. The blessing of Friary graves followed. May they rest in peace.

Sue Fellows

EASTBOURNE Our Lady of Ransom

AS PART of the centenary commemorations for the Armistice at the end of the First World War a Memorial Board has been produced for the Eastbourne parishes, showing 84 names of those who died in the two World Wars. This project was begun by Joan Kennedy when she was parish archivist and has been completed by John de Waal. Those commemorated all have some connection with Eastbourne - either as residents, some who had died from wounds in one of several military hospitals in the town or had other family connections. Joan Kennedy is now house-bound but a special effort was made by her carer to enable her to attend Mass on Remembrance Sunday when the Memorial Board was presented to the parish and was blessed by Fr Tristan Cranfield. Joan was thrilled to be there. Fr Raglan and Fr Tristan welcomed students from the Brighton University to supper after Mass. 6.30am Rorate Masses were started again this year for Advent with a breakfast in the parish centre to follow.

Mary Staffiere

HOVE

ON 10 NOVEMBER, the Ashdown Singers accompanied by the Wealdon Wind Quartet gave a delightful rendition of Dvorak's Mass in D, the movements of which were interspersed with

readings and songs by Parry and Ireland. These were mostly of remembrance though two readings were different, one celebrating the centenary of the establishment of the RAF and the other marking the Parliamentary approval of votes for women. The concert was arranged to contribute to the church's support of The Martlets Hospice but sadly, the weather being inclement, the audience was smaller than we had hoped, smaller indeed than on previous occasions when the Singers had entertained us. Nevertheless the concert was a truly spiritual experience for those present and a splendid prelude to the next day's Centenary of the Armistice.

John Williamson

MIDHURST

NOVEMBER: month for the Holy Souls. Our parish priest, Fr Peter Newsam, brought tears to our eyes with his thought provoking homilies, with special services to remember our loved ones: for All Souls, Blessing of the graves, Remembrance Sunday and weekday Holy Souls Masses.

Fr Peter's homily on the 11th brought the message home: 'A hundred years ago the guns fell silent, and by chance the Church gives us readings about widows.' The final words were: 'But perhaps the best way to know if the time has come and conflict cannot be avoided is to ask the widows.'

Paula Dempsey

The full text of Fr Peter's homily can be seen at

www.cathchurchmidhurst@gmail.com

POLEGATE and HAILSHAM

AFTER THE 10.30am Mass on the 11th day of the 11th month, the new Brian Winter Memorial Garden was blessed and opened by Fr Rory Kelly. This beautiful garden of remembrance occupies a long, fairly narrow site alongside the new church. It is dominated by 12 wooden crosses and on the day of dedication a poppy was placed on each cross with a card bearing the names of parishioners' deceased family members and friends. The statue of Our Lady of Lourdes stands on a slightly raised area at one end, while at the other end is a bench by Lutyens, who designed all the World War One cemeteries in Europe.

Brian Winter, now deceased, gave the money for the new garden; Bill O'Rourke headed the committee which designed it and made the crosses; David and Lulu took care of the planting.

On 10 November Fr Rory gave a splendid tea for about 60 people to mark the departure of Ann Fielder who has worked so hard in the parish of Hailsham. Ann goes to live near her daughter in Surrey. She was given a generous farewell donation, and she plans to buy an ikon for her new home. Ann and her husband Leon came to Hailsham in 1993. Leo died in 2009.

Ruth Ayres

WEST BYFLEET

THE SVP QUIZ and Supper was a great success, raising over £700 towards the SVP's funds.

At the Marist School Christmas Bazaar, the parish donated prizes and cakes for the parish cake stall.

Our Sacristan, Vincent Reardon, spent a night sleeping rough in London in November to support the Celtic FC Foundation 2018 Appeal for funds to assist families in poverty.

Before Christmas parishioners will distribute leaflets to most of the roads in the area giving details of our Christmas services.

During Advent a Christmas crib will be hosted each night in a different home. On arrival the new hosts welcome those who brought the crib, and all take part in a brief prayer service.

On Friday 16 November the Children's Club, for children in school years 3-6, resumed with games, dinner and activities to help children grow in their faith.

West Byfleet's Community Christmas Day Lunch, for those who might otherwise be alone, will be held in our parish centre, with the support of volunteers from our parish and other local churches. Carols and optional games will enhance the festive mood.

Paul Tipple

ST LEONARDS - on - SEA

ON SUNDAY November 11, at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, we held a Service of Music and Prayer from Taize, to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War.



The Service was attended by around 40 people, both from our parish and from other local churches, and included the sounding of the Last Post followed by two minutes' silence, Reveille and a reading from the poem 'For the Fallen'. The reflective nature of the music, prayers and Scripture Readings focused on a theme of hope and trust as well as repentance and remembrance.

Linda Dignum

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the February 2019 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 7 January 2019 and for the March 2019 issue by Monday 28 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 physical evidence do you have for children's photos to be published.

Co-Workers of Mother Teresa in Midhurst

THE ANNUAL COFFEE MORNING of the Co-Workers of Mother Teresa was another success. The stalls were full of items suitable for Christmas gifts. There were delicious cakes to tempt us to forget our pre-Christmas diets, and there was a stunning table of raffle prizes.

The Co-Workers had begun back in 1977 as an ecumenical group after a UCM talk given by Bunty Watts who had known Mother Teresa when Bunty was in Calcutta. Our present group began and developed in working with each other, monthly, providing Christmas parcels for the homeless in London. Wonderful knitting of scarves, hats and gloves make up the parcels which are delivered to the main London centres and are distributed by the Sisters at Christmas. Sr Joan is the inspirational leader of the group. Proceeds from the coffee morning go to the homeless in London and to buy more knitting wool for the following year.

Story and picture: Paula Dempsey



Lest We Forget...



YEAR 4 PUPILS at St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary School, Eastbourne, (pictured left) led a special Remembrance Day assembly. It was a prayerful, reflective assembly with bible readings, poems and prayers written by the children themselves.

Story and picture: Sr Mary Rose

Tribute to the Fallen at St Mary Magdalene RC Primary



OVER HALF TERM, as part of their homework, our children were all asked to make a poppy to help us commemorate the centenary of the Armistice. We were absolutely amazed at the fantastic efforts of the children – we had so many poppies of all shapes and sizes.

One of our talented teaching assistants drew the outline of a soldier and the father of one of our teachers then kindly made him for our tribute. On Friday 9 November our team of teaching assistants came to school early in the morning to put our tribute together so that it would be ready for parents and children as they

came into school.

The whole school was later led in a short prayer service at our wonderful memorial and a minute's silence was held to remember the fallen.

One of our teaching assistants was lucky enough to be chosen from the public ballot to take part in 'The Nation's Thank You – The People's Procession' which followed the national Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on 11 November and she was able to take a wreath made from some of our poppies to be laid during the march.

Story and picture: Sue Furness

St Paul's Hunger Fund Success

ST PAUL'S PARISH, Hayward Heath, runs a Hunger Fund Campaign, supporting five projects in the Third World which try to reduce poverty and with whom we have personal contacts. Through revenue raised by a 100 Club, we are able to send assistance, providing a well for a maternity hospital in Africa, feeding orphans in Lesotho and street children in Chimbote, Peru.

Our most recent project has been to establish an apiary in Bungoma, Kenya, through our contact, Vincent Musiko, a highly qualified bee specialist with a wide knowledge of sustainable agriculture.

Beekeeping is an ideal environmentally sustainable activity, providing pollen for bees from fruit trees which are also a food source for farmers. Vincent reports that since 2016 our hives have produced 124kgs of honey. Sold at roughly \$8 per kg, this generates about \$992 as income for poor local Kenyan farmers.

To raise funds St Paul's holds sales after Mass of Sussex honey and bread donated from the Cynrel Bak-



ery in Forest Row. Our latest sale provided beekeeping suits and smokers to pacify the bees. But we are hoping to purchase a centrifuge machine, which will leave the Kenyan honeycombs intact when the honey is extracted, rather than forcing the bees to spend valuable time re-building the combs.

For more information and details on the work of the Hunger Fund Campaign, please contact Deacon Dave Turner,

david.turner@dabnet.org

Story: Lucy Morrissey



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution. Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 7 Judge disheartened Vatican scholar (6)
- 8 Jordan valley where a local chap finds a leader among Hittites (6)
- 9 Part of the church is in a Dublin avenue (4)
- 10 Jack has a nasty turn at home earlier – he's put in charge of the Ark (8)
- 11/12 Chilean had my workings: he's a composer of masses (7,5)
- 15 Bishop shortly is to run against boy – or not (2,3)
- 17 Flock's built-in bearings are leading one along the Nile (7)
- 20 Female's first out: instead is about to spin on ice, being a gymnastic type (8)
- 22 Muslim one imprisoned Persian leader contracted (4)
- 23 To infuse divine grace, nation must change (6)
- 24 Biblical canon police popularized? (3,3)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Receive a boost after a hitch? (3,1,4)
- 2 Carreras, with Egyptian leader seen in the wings, is one that worked there (6)
- 3 Old Hindu city almost turned to a god of war (7)
- 4 Language of the masses, or the elite? (5)
- 5 Jews are besieged here, which is through Christmas, a danger (6)
- 6 Bubbly Spanish-American states? (4)
- 13 Gershwin passes on English bit of the Requiem (4,4)
- 14 Communists at summit, many angry over international support Tibetans seek (7)

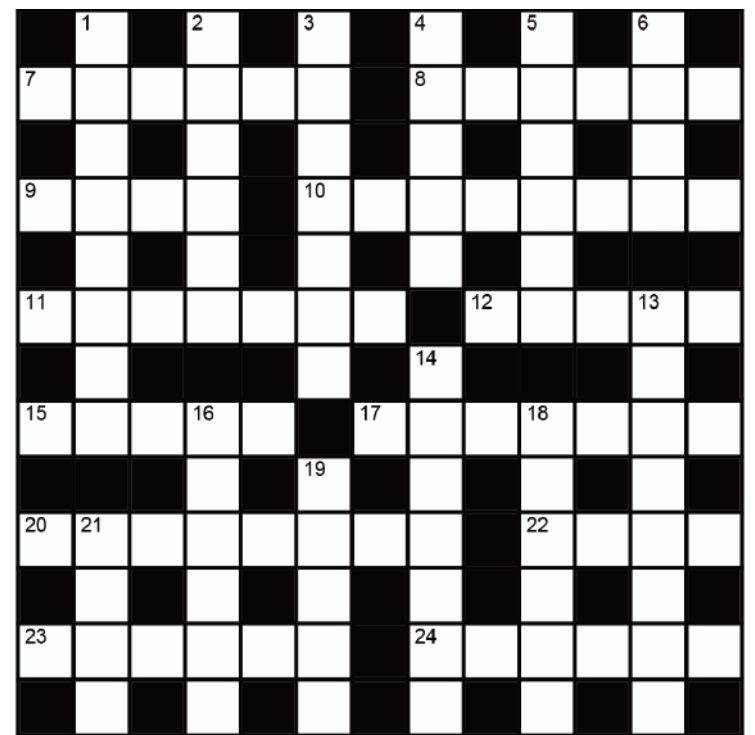
- 16 Serpent turned a little girl white (6)
- 18 Religious celebration oriental found pointless (6)
- 19 Paul's epistles, perhaps, as sent today? (5)
- 21 Gold's next, after dropping half off by Sword Beach's river (4)

QUICK Across

- 7 Christian scholar; saint and Doctor of the Church (347-420) (6)
- 8 In OT the name often used for the Jordan Valley and Dead Sea (6)
- 9 Main part or body of a church (4)
- 10 Man in whose house the Ark was temporarily stored (8)
- 11/12 Composer whose Requiem in C minor was played at his more famous brother's funeral in 1809 (7,5)
- 15 Bish? (2,3)
- 17 Any of twelve Egyptian kings between 1315 and 1090 BC (variant spelling) (7)
- 20 Nadia -----: multiple Olympic champion, 1976-80 (8)
- 22 One of the two main branches of Islam (4)
- 23 Consecrate (6)
- 24 God's instruction on moral, social and spiritual behaviour laid out in the Pentateuch (3,3)

QUICK Down

- 1 Receive a boon; raise the spirits (3,1,4)
- 2 Eleventh son of Jacob (6)
- 3 Former name of the holy Hindu city, Varanasi, on the Ganges (either spelling) (7)
- 4 'Vulgate' language of 7 (5)
- 5 Ancient mountaintop fortress where the Romans besieged the Jews for a year in 72-73 AD (6)
- 6 Spanish fizz (4)



- 13 First words of a medieval 4 hymn describing the Last Judgment (4,4)
- 14 Chinese communists, acolytes of the thoughts published in the 'Little Red Book' (7)
- 16 Highly poisonous snake family which includes the cobra (6)
- 18 Oldest and most important Christian feast (6)
- 19 Passages from the Bible and other religious works used as subjects of sermons (5)
- 21 River of Normandy which flows through Caen (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 7 Jerome, 8 Arabah, 9 Nave, 10 Abinadab, 11/12 Michael Haydn, 15 Rt Rev, 17 Ramesses, 20 Comaneci, 22 Shia, 23 Anoint, 24 The Law. **Down:** 1 Get a lift, 2 Joseph, 3 Benares/Benaras, 4 Latin, 5 Masada, 6 Cava, 13 Dies Irae, 14 Maoists, 16 Elapid, 18 Easter, 19 Texts, 21 Orme.



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