



Our Lady of Walsingham at Arundel

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Grandparents and children

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A&B News

FREE

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

NOVEMBER 2019 - No.346

Friends Before God Catholicism and Islam



Left to Right: Ashwin Soni, Simon Trick, Kate Williamson, Kauthar Akhtar and Fr Martin McGee

RESPECT WAS A KEY WORD on our day on Catholicism and Islam. More than 80 parishioners from across the Diocese gathered on Saturday 28 September for the Annual Dialogue and Unity Day which this year had an interreligious focus.

As Dialogue and Unity Adviser for the Diocese, I was privileged to welcome everyone to the day.

I felt it was important to set the scene by explaining that we were not intending to pit Catholicism against Islam and see who wins. Indeed, as the day went on, it became clear that such a perspective does not reflect our call from the teaching of the Church.

Canon Tony Churchill, Episcopal Vicar for Ecumenism, also welcomed everyone and offered a message from the Bishop to wish us well on our endeavours.

The Catholic Approach

The day began with **Fr Martin McGee**, Interreligious Priest Adviser for the Dialogue and Unity Commission. Fr Martin explained the approach we, as Catholics, are called to take through the model of different types of dialogue.

He made a distinction between what we can do ourselves and what needs to be left to the qualified theologians.

This was echoed in the afternoon by **Kate Williamson** from St Peter's in Hove who gave a presentation about the work of the Brighton and Hove Interfaith Contact Group. Dr Kate explained how her involvement is grassroots, and that we do not need to be theologians to build relationships with those of other faiths and to work for the common good with them.

Dialogue of Life, Action and Religious Experience

Fr Martin McGee explained this model dialogue. He highlighted the importance of being a good neighbour, the Dialogue of Life and the Dialogue of Action, where we can work with those of other religions for the common good.

The final area we can all be involved in is the 'Dialogue of Religious Experience' where we share with each other our spiritual riches.

(continued on page 8)

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We are able to keep our costs down, as the shop is run by volunteers, but any profit made goes towards Parish

expenses.

We mainly buy our stock from CBC Distributors in Newry, Ireland, and from the Catholic Truth Society.

We, Michael and Roz Burholt, are in overall charge of buying, displaying the stock and organising volunteers to serve.

We appreciate the support of our parish priest, Fr Terry Martin, and all the wonderful helpers and of course the parishioners for all their support.

Our phone number is: 01903 507167

Story & Picture: Michael and Roz Burholt

St Theresa Chapel HORSHAM

THIS WAS STARTED by a parishioner with some retail experience, who was given a £500 start-up budget from our forward thinking parish priest who suggested we could use the St Theresa Chapel which was sympathetically refurbished a few years ago.

Following a visit to West Grinstead parish to ask advice on suppliers and find out popular items, the next task was to source card stands from eBay, along with bags for purchased merchandise, a money box for takings, and then we just needed to get stock!

We purchase our stock from CBC in Ireland - all online. It is easy and enjoyable, and the company are extremely helpful.

We launched the repository in December 2018 with Christmas nativity sets, Advent candles, candles, crosses, rosary beads, and cards for most occasions. Communion and con-

firmation merchandise were well received.

A volunteer's son has brought a good selection of items from Medjugorje, whilst another parishioner brought us religious bracelets from Poland to give variety and interest to the stock we sell.

We have a small team of dedicated volunteers and open after as many Masses as possible. We are still looking for more volunteers in the hope we can open after every Mass going forward.

Many parishioners in Horsham have told us they enjoy the social contact after Mass and being able to order and buy religious items in St John's Repository.

We are still learning but the foundations are in place to hopefully grow and expanded the repository going forward.

Story & Picture: Debbie Bovey



THE VARIETY of responses has been impressive and so we have details of two more parish resources this month - and more to come. If you would like to let us know what your parish can offer, please contact us:-
Eliz Wood: elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com
Pauline Groves: pauline2@waitrose.com

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New Canons for Arundel Cathedral Installed by Bishop Richard



ON THE FEAST OF ST FRANCIS, 4 October 2019, a full Cathedral attended Pontifical Vespers and the installation by Bishop Richard of two new Canons to the Arundel Cathedral Chapter of Canons.

Diocesan Chancellor Canon Jonathan Martin read out the letters of appointment for Mgr Tony Barry and Fr Chris Spain, who then proclaimed their declarations of faith and made promises of obedience. Bishop Richard then vested them in their fur-trimmed mozzettas before Canon Timothy Madeley led them to their choir stalls and the welcome of fellow canons.

The new canons replace retiring Mgr Provost John Hull and retired Rev Canon Seamus Hester.

In his homily Bishop Richard recalled a recent observation he had made about

grandparents and their influence for good; likewise canons are wonderful examples all can look to and the new canons are similarly priests of proven zeal, prayer and wisdom.

Recalling it was the Feast of St Francis, he spoke of Francis' simplicity and reminded us that titles and positions are not about self but offices given to us in connection with the vocation that the Lord calls us to.

Cardinal Newman, soon to be canonized, is another worthy example to be followed. He helps us to understand more deeply the mystery of Christ, the Bishop said, while demonstrating care for the poor. Bishop Richard then led the congregation in a Novena to celebrate the canonization of Blessed John Henry Newman.

Story & Picture: A&B News Team

Sister Jo Honoured with the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice



BISHOP RICHARD PRESENTED SISTER JOSEPHINE Threlfall S.N.D with a Papal Award in September, during a special Mass held at Gatwick Airport.

Sister Jo received the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice in recognition of her work at Gatwick as part of the chaplaincy team.

Having served at the airport for a number of years Sister Jo was

commended for her dedication to chaplaincy, attentiveness to people in need and inspiring presence.

Members of Sister Jo's Congregation joined in the celebrations, as did chaplains past and present and monks from Worth Abbey. The celebration also marked the 45th anniversary of the foundation of the Chaplaincy at the airport.

Story and photo: Diocesan Communications Team

TAXING TERMS (explained)

SIX MONTHS AGO we wrote about SACRAMENTS, which are defined in YouCat, the youth catechism, as holy, visible signs instituted by Christ of an invisible reality, in which Christians can experience the healing, forgiving, nourishing, strengthening presence of God that enables them to love in turn; this is possible because God's Grace works in the Sacraments; they are signs like Baptism, Confirmation, Confession and Anointing of the Sick.

But, what are SACRAMENTALS and how do they differ from Sacraments?

SACRAMENTALS are defined as 'sacred signs' instituted by the Church, preparing us to receive the fruit of the sacraments and sanctify different circumstances of life; they are sacred signs or actions in which a blessing is conferred.

The YouCat gives examples: holy water; the consecration of a bell or organ; the blessing of a house or a car; the blessing of throats on the feast of

St Blaise, and receiving ashes on Ash Wednesday or palm branches on Palm Sunday.

To that list we can add many others that may be divided into 'actions' and 'things'.

Actions are mainly blessings but also include exorcisms and liturgical gestures, such as making the Sign of the Cross, genuflections and bows.

Things include holy medals; crosses and crucifixes; relics; scapulars; cords and cinctures; holy oils; holy candles; sacred images; the Rosary and chaplets – and, of course, the Bible.

In addition to the blessings, consecrations/dedications and exorcisms that are described as SACRAMENTALS in the catechism, it also speaks of Christian Life being nourished by 'popular piety'.

One way of thinking of SACRAMENTALS is that they extend God's presence to every part of our life, so that through the blessing of everyday objects they encourage devotion and spiritually aid us.

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Illustrations: Linda Bronson

A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

AFTER THE HIATUS of August when everyone seemed to be on holiday, on pilgrimage or just hard to find, things have suddenly got very busy: new staff, new projects, schools bursting with enthusiasm and parish groups doing new things – like the variety of Laudato si initiatives.

Among the events that we can look forward to, there are two that I would particularly like to commend.

On November 28, 29 and 30 Arundel Cathedral is hosting the Dowry Tour with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham and displays on the Holy House. This is part of the Dowry Tour leading to the rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary in early 2020; see page 5 of this edition.

This is 'the Year of the Word; the God who Speaks' and there will be a range of events, activities and resources to participate in, all around the country as well as in our own Diocese.

Also coming soon - the Schools of Prayer and Weeks of Guided Prayer that launched in Worthing, Lewes, Guildford and Epsom Deaneries from October.

There is a real and tangible sense of activity and involvement that bodes well for the future. Deo gratias.

Harry Robertson

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JUST A THOUGHT

How do we hear God speaking to us through his Word? Interestingly, Jesus is sometimes described as The Word. And, of course he speaks very directly to us throughout the New Testament and especially in the Gospels. Each Sunday and sometimes on weekdays we hear him speak. But do we really hear him? Are we distracted or do we think 'Oh, yes that's the parable of the...' and don't really listen. But, truthfully, each hearing of the readings can reveal a new aspect of the passage, relevant to our lives.

Our Bishops have joined with the Bible Society to celebrate the year of 'The God who speaks' from now, sixteen hundred years since St Jerome's death, until December 2020.

Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation suggested that it is good to ask 'Lord, what does this text mean to me? What is it about my life that you want to change by this text? What troubles me about this text? Why am I not interested in this? Or maybe, what do I find pleasant, or that moves me, in this text?'

We pray that we may all listen more fully to the God who speaks.

PFG

Blessed Virgin Mary: The Four Dogmas



The Annunciation, Thurles Cathedral, East Transept

Perpetual Virginity

Another ancient belief, this dogma holds that Mary was a virgin before, during and after giving birth to Jesus.

Early writers refer to their belief in Mary's ever-virgin status, authors like Origen of Alexandria, whose *Commentary on Matthew* in AD248 ascribes to her the first fruit of (perpetual) virginity. Perhaps surprisingly, the early Protestant Reformers Luther, Zwingli and Calvin did so as well, as did later ones including Latimer, Cranmer and Wesley.

The dogmatic constitution for the Church, *Lumen Gentium* or the Light of the Nations, put it like this: '(Our Lord)...did not diminish His mother's virginal integrity but sanctified it...' (S57).

Immaculate Conception

The dogma that Mary was conceived without trace of original sin was defined by Pope Pius IX in 1854. It says that the Blessed Virgin Mary was 'from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin.' (CCC491).

It has been suggested that this belief

originated in England with Eadmer, the companion and biographer of St. Anselm, Archbishop of Canterbury in the twelfth century, indeed, that St Bonaventure, teaching in Paris, called it 'a foreign doctrine', reflecting its association with England.

Assumption into Heaven

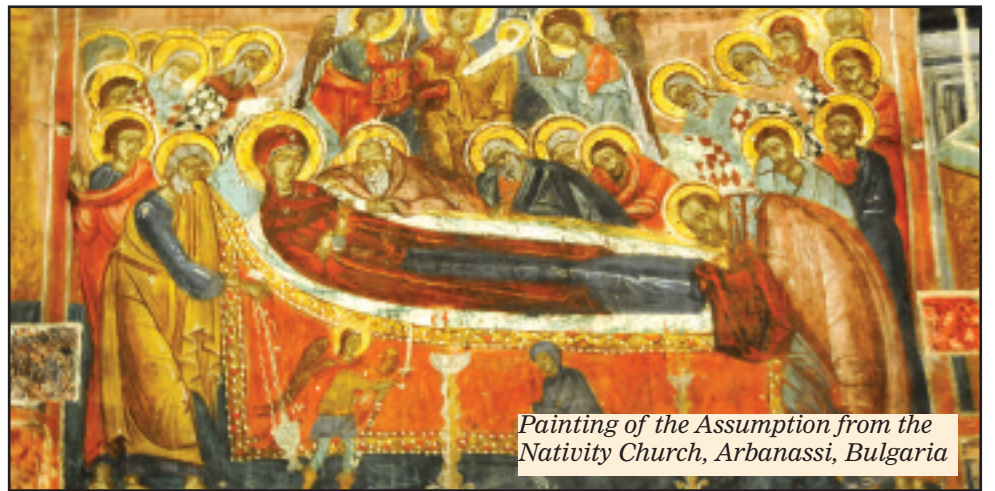
Defined in 1950 by Pope Pius XII, this dogma holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary 'when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven...' (CCC974)

The dogma does not state how Mary passed from this life, whether she died or was taken up before death (although the former is the more common belief).

Certainly, the belief in Mary's Assumption has a long history, from apocryphal accounts titled 'The Crossing Over of Mary' dating to the second and third centuries, with a more substantial foundation in the 'Transitus Stories' from the sixth century. When Pope Pius polled the Catholic bishops for their agreement with his proposed dogma, an overwhelming 98% of the 1,232 bishops concurred.

(CCC = *Catechism of the Catholic Church*)

A&B News Team



Painting of the Assumption from the Nativity Church, Arbanassi, Bulgaria

Dedicated to Mary: Parishes and Schools in A&B

As many as on-quarter of parish churches and more than ten percent of Catholic maintained and independent schools in the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton are dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

PARISHES

Our Lady of Lourdes	Haslemere; Thames Ditton
Our Lady of Fatima	Staplefield
Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Wilfrid	Selsey
Our Lady of England	Storrington
Our Lady of the Rosary	Sidley
Our Lady of Sorrows	Bognor Regis; Effingham & Fetcham
Our Lady of Consolation	West Grinstead
Our Lady of the Assumption	Bosham
Our Lady of Ransom	Eastbourne
Our Lady, Queen of Peace	Shoreham;
Our Lady, Star of the Sea	East Preston with Angerming; Hastings; Portslade
Our Lady, Help of Christians	Crossbush Chapel; West Byfleet
The Abbey of Our Lady, Help of Christians	Crawley
Our Lady of Lourdes, Queen of Peace	Rottingdean
Our Lady, Queen of Heaven	Langley Green; Frimley
The Assumption of Our Lady	Englefield Green
The Immaculate Conception of Our Lady	Peacehaven
Our Lady & St Philip Howard	Arundel Cathedral
Our Lady Immaculate & St Michael	Battle
Our Lady Immaculate & St Philip Neri	Uckfield
Our Lady & St Peter	East Grinstead; Leatherhead
St Mary	Brighton; Guildford
St Mary, Mother of Christ	Crowborough
St Mary of the Angels	Worthing
The Divine Motherhood & St Francis of Assisi	Midhurst

SCHOOLS

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary	Brighton
Our Lady, Queen of Heaven Primary	Crawley
St Mary's Primary	Bognor Regis; Worthing; Portslade; Crowborough
St Mary Star of the Sea Primary	St Leonards on Sea
Cottesmore St Mary's Primary	Hove
The Marist Primary	West Byfleet
Notre Dame Preparatory School	Cobham

Walsingham Comes to Arundel in November

WHEN ENGLAND GOES BACK to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England - such are the prophetic words of Pope Leo XIII, indicating that Walsingham is intimately associated with the spiritual health of England.

During the course of 2018 to 2020 the statue of Our Lady from the Slipper Chapel at the Catholic National Shrine in Walsingham will be taken to each Cathedral in England for a three-day triduum of prayer, as part of the preparations for the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary in 2020.

England was last dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1381 by King Richard II at Westminster Abbey. The dedication next year will be different; instead of dedicating the whole country, the dedication will be a personal gift of the faith of the people of England to the Mother of God, to help her in building a strong spiritual foundation for the New Evangelisation.

Come to Arundel Cathedral on Thursday 28, Friday 29 or Saturday 30 November to be a part of this historical and potentially life-changing experience. You will be able to see and pray before the statue from the Slipper Chapel, view a likeness of the Holy House and exhibits of life in the shrine today.

Origins

In the year 1061 Richeldis de Faverches, Lady of the Manor of Walsingham, was praying when she received a vision of the Virgin Mary, followed by

a vision of the Holy Family at home in Nazareth. She was asked to build - in Walsingham - a replica of the Holy House in which the Annunciation took place.

This was done - allegedly with angelic assistance - and Walsingham rapidly became a centre of pilgrimage. Augustinian canons and Franciscan friars built houses to care for the pilgrims and

accounts of miraculous healings multiplied. By the twelfth century the King himself was a patron and gold, fine metalwork and precious jewels began to be donated.

Chapels were erected on surrounding ground to serve the vast number of pilgrims, the last in the fourteenth century dedicated to St Catherine of Alexandria, patron saint of Holy Land pilgrims. It

was renamed the Slipper Chapel as pilgrims removed their footwear to walk the last holy mile to the Holy House. (*The Slipper Chapel with the enthroned statue of Our Lady of Walsingham is shown below left.*)

This all came to a halt when the Protestant Revolution swept across northern Europe and in 1538 the Shrine at Walsingham was destroyed and its statue taken to London for burning.

Rebirth

In 1829 the Catholic Emancipation Act restored freedom of worship and 34 years later a lady called Charlotte Pearson Boyd purchased the Slipper Chapel (which was dilapidated and had been used as a poor house, a forge, a cowshed and a barn).

The following year Pope Leo XIII approved restoration of the original Catholic Shrine and just over thirty years later pilgrimages had resumed. In 1934 Cardinal Bourne led the Bishops of England & Wales and 10,000 pilgrims to the Slipper Chapel, when it was declared to be the National Shrine of Our Lady for Roman Catholics in England.

Almost 1,000 years after Lady de Faverches' visions, England is about to be recognised once more as the 'Holy Land, Our Lady's Dowry' and Walsingham may once more earn the title of 'The New Nazareth.'

*Story: A&B News Team
Pictures this page, courtesy of www.walsingham.org.uk*



Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham

AT ONE TIME WALSINGHAM was one of the greatest pilgrim shrines of Medieval Christendom, like Rome or Santiago de Compostela, and, in England, it ranked alongside Glastonbury and Canterbury.

Early Descriptions

So, it is perhaps a little surprising to learn from the pilgrim Erasmus, who visited Walsingham in 1512 and 1524, that the statue of Our Lady, placed in the dark at the side of the altar, was 'a little image, remarkable neither for its size, material or workmanship,' while it was surrounded by a glittering brilliance of 'gems, gold and silver.'

The records suggest that after the original Shrine was destroyed in 1538, its statue of the Virgin was taken to London and burned.

Image From a Seal

We believe we know what the statue looked like because there survives a 15th century seal of the medieval Walsingham Priory. On this seal is the figure of a seated woman in a high backed chair. She is holding a child in her left arm and a sceptre in her right, her long dress spilling to the ground at her feet. Around the figure is the Annunciation text in Latin: 'Ave Maria Gratia Plena Dominus Tecum,' 'Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.'



Latest Version

Post-medieval statues of Our Lady of Walsingham have been constructed to this model and the statue in the Slipper Chapel, the National Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, is no different. The first statue was enthroned there in 1934 by Cardinal Bourne accompanied by 10,000 pilgrims. In 1954 a new stone statue was commissioned from Mon-

sieur Marcel Barbeau, who used the model Mlle Marcelle Mandar and, in 1954, it was crowned near the site of the original shrine on behalf of Pope Pius XII by his Apostolic Delegate.

The statue was modelled on the ancient design with Our Lady dressed in traditional style and seated in a high-backed throne with a curved back (the arch reflecting the rainbow covenant between God and his people). The seven rings on the throne's uprights refer to Our Lady's seven sorrows.

The Child Jesus is seated on her left lap. In his left hand the 'Word made Flesh' holds a book of the Gospels, while his right hand is extended towards His mother in a gesture of blessing and protection.

Mary wears a royal crown; in her right hand is held a three-fold lily-sceptre of virginity/sovereignty, while her fingers point to her son. Her feet rest upon a green toadstone, the East Anglian symbol of evil.

Interesting Fact

Interestingly, there is a possibility that the original statue was hidden, not burned - and is now in the Victoria & Albert Museum in London. Certainly, the mysterious Langham Madonna, possibly a 13th century statue - and the only one of its type to have survived - although much damaged,

resembles the 15th century seal from Walsingham Priory. Now believed to have originated in Norfolk, it bears physical signs such as dowel holes and the marks of a band used to fix a crown in place, that suggest it is the original Walsingham Virgin - or a copy from the same period (although carbon dating has not yet been done to prove this).

To investigate the Langham Madonna for yourselves, visit the Victoria & Albert Museum, Medieval & Renaissance, Room 8, The William and Eileen Rud-dock Gallery, case 4.

Story: A&B News Team

Rededication Agenda & Timeline

1 January 2020 - The Feast of Mary, Mother of God. A formal public announcement by the Bishops of England & Wales regarding the rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary.

21 February 2020 - All Catholics (and interested others) invited to begin a personal 33 day consecration to Jesus through Mary following the method of St Louis de Montfort

25 March 2020 - The Feast of the

Annunciation. The consecrations to Jesus take place on this day.

26 - 28 March 2020 - A three day triduum of prayer including recitation of the litany of Saints and Martyrs of England, praying the Rosary and Confession.

29 March 2020 - the personal rededication, taking place in Walsingham, in every Cathedral and in personal homes, following the guidelines of the book 'The Angelus Promise' (available from the Shrine).

More details at www.dowrytour.org.uk/

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Excitement Mounts for the Canonisation of John Newman

THERE IS A GREAT DEAL of excitement surrounding the impending canonisation of John Henry Newman in St Peter's Square in Rome on Sunday 13 October, not least in the two Arundel & Brighton schools named after Cardinal Newman, a primary school in Hershams and a secondary school in Hove, where 14 pupils from the two schools are eagerly anticipating a trip to Rome to join in the celebrations.

Dr James Kilmartin, Principal at Cardinal Newman Catholic School in Hove, said: 'We are absolutely thrilled to be invited to attend the canonisation of Cardinal Newman and are delighted to be taking a delegation of 10 students to the event in Rome. Our students will gain so much from this and we will make sure that this experience is shared with our school and parish communities.'

Describing what the experience means to him, Rocco Di Rienzo, a Year 9 pupil at the school, said: 'I am very honoured to have been selected to go. It's

such a big occasion for the school and for me. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity!'

Annmary Antony, Year 8, agreed: 'I feel so honoured to have this opportunity. I am eager to see the canonisation and learn more about what this is like first hand. It is really going to be an amazing experience!'

The students will be accompanied by a number of parents and school staff. A busy itinerary of events is planned for their stay in Rome culminating in the celebrations at St Peter's Square on 13 October, accompanied by Bishop Richard Moth.

The students will return to England the day after the canonisation, having first attended a Mass of Thanksgiving with Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

Pictured are a group of the students going to Rome with Dr James Kilmartin (right), RE teacher Ms McManus (left) and Governor Mgr Canon John Hull.

Story & Picture: Diocesan Communications Team

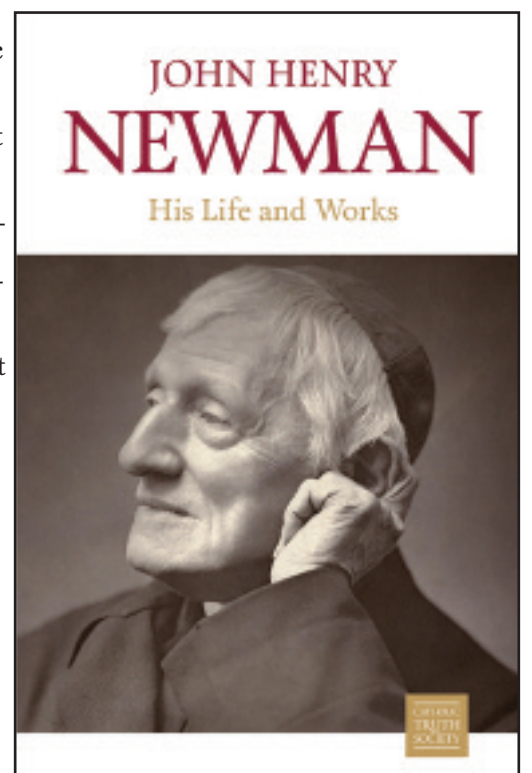


CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY (CTS) are very excited to share a fantastic new title: **John Henry Newman, his life and works**. They are available from www.ctsbooks.org/newman and now at a 10% discount.

CTS have worked closely on this title with Fr Ignatius Harrison, the Procurator for Newman's cause – arguably the most influential person regarding Newman in the world. He has written a beautiful forward for the book and provided us with many images and content pieces that are unavailable anywhere else. It is the definitive publication on Newman from the CTS, publishers to the Holy See, and produced with close collaboration from the organisers of Newman's canonisation.

'One of the last letters that John Henry Newman wrote was to the founders of the newly established CTS, congratulating them on their aim of producing Catholic literature and teaching in a form, and at a price, which made it accessible to the widest possible audience. It is fitting, therefore, that his canonisation is being celebrated by the publication of this anthology of his writing, and I warmly commend it to those who want to know why it is that Newman has been raised to the altars of the Church.'

Fr Ignatius Harrison



Special Mass of Thanksgiving for the new Saint
Thursday 31 October, Solemnity of All Saints, at 7.30pm
celebrated by Mgr Keith Newton of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham,
at Saint Peter's, Portland Road, Hove
After Mass there is a reception, at which Mgr Newton will speak, as will the Parish delegate at the canonisation.

Please note that the A&B NEWS goes to press before the canonisation, which will be reported in full in our December edition.



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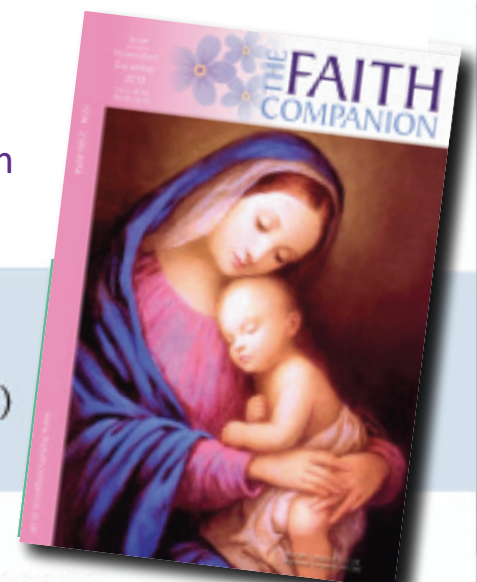
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Richard



Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

PASTORAL LETTER

for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th October 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the effects of persistent prayer and in the second reading, St. Paul, writing to Timothy, reminds him of the necessity of openness to the Word of God if he is to be ready for the work that lies before him and be effective in his witness to the Gospel.

Indeed, in reflecting on the life of our own Diocese and the Pastoral Plan that has been slowly gathering momentum since the presentations in Deaneries last year, prayer, the Word of God and preparation for action are enabling us to be ready for the work that lies ahead for every person in our Diocesan family.

The working out of the Plan thus far has, in many respects, been preparatory. It has consisted, as it were, in the laying of some new foundations that will be almost hidden from view as the building progresses. This is necessary if we are to be grounded in the person of Christ and truly ready for the action that is to follow. The closure of a small number of church buildings has been painful for all concerned and I am grateful for the way in which parish communities have worked towards these changes, even though it has been difficult. Changes to Deanery boundaries, enacted in August, will enable formation to be delivered more effectively.

Our Diocesan Formation Team has been working very hard to prepare for the delivery of the Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies that will enable people from every Deanery to take on new responsibilities in

their communities. The initial response to the CCRS is very encouraging indeed and I ask you all to remember in prayer those who have begun the programme this term and to consider embarking upon this course in the future.

One of the key elements of the Plan is the delivery of Weeks of Guided Prayer in each Deanery. These weeks are now beginning and will be a very important element in the mission of the Diocese. Doing everything from a place of prayer will be absolutely necessary if we are truly to be ready for every good work.

Some of the younger ones amongst us are already showing us the way, for the first group to engage in the Ascent Programme has already begun this wonderful journey to a deeper relationship with the person of Christ.

School Chaplaincy, an increasingly important aspect of pastoral life, has also seen the laying of good foundations through 'taster evenings' for those interested in Chaplaincy. A programme of formation will be made available in the coming months so that those whom the Lord calls to this work will be ready to apply for chaplaincy posts as they become available.

It is a little while now since everybody in our Diocesan family received the prayer card for vocations to priesthood. As part of our mission it is really important that each and every one of us prays for vocations to priesthood. We have wonderful priests serving in our Diocese and so that we can continue to be served by devoted and well-formed priests, this prayer is absolutely vital. As our Pastoral Plan unrolls, I call on you

to redouble your efforts in prayer for vocations to priesthood. Our vocations team is working on new resources and I shall be leading a retreat for those interested in priesthood early in the coming year.

This outlines just some of the groundwork that has been carried out thus far. A fuller account will appear in the next edition of A & B News – so please ensure that you take a copy when it becomes available.

Now that we are at a moment when the foundational work of these last months is beginning to bear fruit, may I thank you all for the commitment that is being shown across the Diocese. The time has now come to embrace the new possibilities that prayer and formation afford us. Such engagement will enable us to carry out the mission to which the Lord has called us – a mission that is for each and every person in our Diocesan family.

Let us seek the intercession of the Patrons of our Diocese: Our Lady, Assumed into Heaven and St. Philip Howard, whose Solemnity it is today, for the work that lies before us.

With every Blessing,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

Our Lady Queen of Heaven Grandparents' Day

GRANDPARENTS JOINED PUPILS at Our Lady Queen of Heaven (OLQH) School in Crawley for a morning of learning fun on Friday 20 September. Grandparents joined the school's celebration assembly and then attended class with their grandchildren and took part in a range of reading, writing and art activities.

The event was held in support of our Diocesan Grandparents' Week.

Pope Francis spoke fondly of the role of grandparents on his Twitter account in 2018 saying 'Grandparents are a treasure in the family. Please, take care of your grandparents: love them and let them talk to your children!'

On the same day, OLQH held a MacMillan Coffee Morning and raised £300 for the cancer charity.

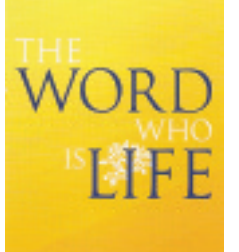
Story & Pictures: Lauren Kluge





The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese



Friends Before God (continued from page 1)

Dialogue of Life, Action and Religious Experience (continued)

This in itself is a call for us to deepen our own prayer life, to become the best Catholics we can be.

Fr Martin used the story of the Monks of Tibhirine in Algeria to illustrate how far the call to harmony with those of other religions can take us.

Our love for all humanity is rooted in the teaching of the Second Vatican Council which clearly points us to understanding that there are 'seeds of the Word', or fragments of truth, outside the boundaries of the Catholic Church. **We can be Friends before God.**

Fr Martin quoted Pope St John Paul II 'The differences [between human beings] are a less important element, when confronted with the unity which is radical, fundamental and decisive.' Fr Martin went on to say that this fundamental unity is a work of the Spirit.

What our children are taught about different religions

What are our children being taught in our Catholic schools about other religions? **Sarah Feist**, Primary Adviser in our Diocesan Education Service offered an inspiring summary to give answer to this question. We heard how the teaching is about developing a deeper understanding of beliefs and practices.

Religious education is not taught in isolation in the schools but is embedded in the ethos of our schools. The purpose is to equip our young people to live and work in a world of diverse beliefs, bringing clarity to the relationship between faith and life, and between faith and culture.



Sarah Feist

The key, Sarah explained, is to ensure respect, not just tolerance.

Sarah's presentation was very well received by those in attendance and they were grateful to know this important work is being carried out in our schools.

A Muslim Response

In the afternoon we were privileged to hear from **Kauthar Akhtar** who is the Surrey Faith Links Adviser, a member of the Shah Jahan Mosque in Woking, and is married to the Imam.

Kauthar is also the current Chair of the South East England Faiths Forum, which recently held an inspiring event on faith perspectives on Climate Change.

Kauthar responded to Fr Martin's talk, explaining to us the references to interreligious dialogue that can be found in the Qur'an and how the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH), allowed Christians to pray in his Mosque and served them with food, offering the hospitality with his own hands.



Kauthar Akhtar

As Fr Martin and Sarah Feist had done, Kauthar draw our attention to the meeting between Pope Francis and Iman Ahemd el Tayeb (Grand Imam, Alazhar). This meeting marked the 800th anniversary of the meeting between St Francis of Assisi and Sultan Al Kamil during the 5th Crusade.

When answering questions later, Kauthar expressed her sadness that each time she comes to other faith groups to talk about Islam, violence is always what she is questioned about.

She challenged us to consider where we get our information from, do we rely on information from our Muslim friends and neighbours or do we get it from the media. She asked us to consider how she feels in this situation, to put ourselves in her shoes.

This was indeed a pause for thought and I wondered about how I feel when people I meet only know Catholicism from the TV comedy 'Fr Ted' or by the bombs of the IRA.

Also, in the afternoon we heard from

our friends from Woking People of Faith, **Simon Trick** who follows the Bahá'í Faith and from Crawley Interfaith Network, **Ashwin Soni** who is a Hindu. They explained about the work their groups are undertaking to help people in their locality to have a good relationship and understanding with and of faith communities.

How to get involved

Other questions moved us forward to action by asking about where Catholics might find interfaith groups in the Diocese. Kauthar explained that she has links with many of the groups across Surrey and the wider South East and she would be happy to put people in touch.

Evaluations for the day were overwhelmingly positive. For a full report of the day with slides and texts please contact the following:

catherine.martindale@abdiocese.org.uk

Also contact me if you are already part of or are interested in becoming part of a local interfaith group.

I am looking to arrange some gatherings of Catholics on this subject area to cover issues of interest, for example, how we pray in this context and what attitudes may help us to flourish in this work. Be part of the conversation and get in touch, and we can work out where we might best hold these gatherings and what we might include.

*Story: Catherine Martindale, Dialogue & Unity Adviser and Diocesan Formation Team
Pictures: Diocesan Communications Team*

Three Secrets of Good Relationships with Grandchildren

EMPATHY, quality time and unconditional love – these are the three secrets of good relationships with grandchildren and the message taken away by a large group of grandparents from across the diocese who have taken part in the Annual Diocesan Grandparents' Day of Reflection held recently.

Grandparents' Formation Day

We had been invited by the Diocesan Advisor for Marriage and Family Life, Katherine Bergin, to be a part of a day led by parenting expert Elizabeth O'Shea (pictured below, presenting to group), exploring strategies to support young people with the pressures they live under today.

This was our seventh Formation Day since the Diocese became affiliated to the Catholic Grandparents Association (CGA) founded by Catherine Wiley. The Mission Statement of the CGA is to pass on the faith, to keep prayer at the heart of family life and to support other grandparents.

We are blessed that Bishop Richard is unstinting in his support of grandparents and, as at all our diocesan events, speaks to us with great understanding and encouragement, strengthening our faith which is witnessed by our families.

After the celebration of Mass and a welcome by Fr Aaron Spinelli at St John the Evangelist Church in Horsham, Katherine set the scene for the day reminding us of the value which Pope Francis places on grandparents and older people. She related some of

his many quotes and read the message which Pope Francis carries in his breviary written to him by his beloved grandmother Rosa, who he tells us was very important in the growth of his faith.

Developing Listening Skills

Elizabeth then led us in a session to develop our listening skills helping us to encourage children to open up about issues with which they are dealing, children's expectations of happiness and what to do if a child is unhappy, exploring happiness and sadness using bible stories and real life examples.

The importance of empathising with our grandchildren was stressed throughout.

Bishop Richard's Observations

The afternoon opened with a talk by Bishop Richard who understood and spoke with great understanding about our faith and its importance for us in family life. He was reassuring, saying

that, when our own children may not profess the faith, our Grandchildren would see something attractive in us, who see with the eyes of Christ.

He said we should borrow Christ's eyes when we look at young people and place them at the foot of the cross as we stand there. Asked about 'Limbo', he pointed to Blessed John Henry Newman and his writings on the development of doctrine and the way in which Pope Benedict had affirmed that the God who loves us would not deny an unbaptised baby the wonder of Heaven. These words were very reassuring for us to hear.

Most importantly he stressed the need for us to pray for them as we then are involved in a conversation with God about our grandchildren, taking an active part in that relationship.

Bishop Richard likened grandparents to the canons of the diocese: in the same way that canons are examples to brother priests, grandparents are examples to their children and grand-

children.

Mental Health Issues

During the second session with Elizabeth we listed the types of mental health issues affecting young people and the reasons why they are more common today.

We were given invaluable advice on how to spot issues and the use of different types of self calming methods which can be helpful to children, prayer of course, being a key one.

One of Elizabeth's outstanding statements for us was the reassurance of the enormous effect on children when witnessing the joy and strength of the faith of much loved adults. This speaks volumes to them....

We went back to our families and parishes strengthened by Bishop Richard's words, all that Elizabeth had led us to be aware of, knowledge of new-to-us strategies in communicating with young people and feeling that batteries had been re-charged in our spiritual lives and in our roles as loving, understanding and empathetic Christian grandparents.

Elizabeth may be contacted by email at elizabeth@parent4success.com or www.parent4success.com.

If you would like to know more about Grandparents Groups in the diocese please contact Katherine : katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

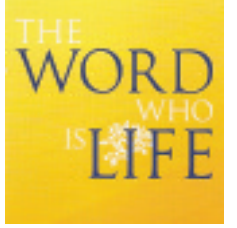
*Story: Christine Evans
Picture: Michael Evans*





The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese



Below is the first in a series of reports on the work and mission of the Formation Team, particularly in regard to their contribution in enabling the Pastoral Plan for A & B Diocese.

In December's edition we will look at the work of the remaining members of the Formation Team, covering the areas of Social Action, Liturgy & Music, Inclusion and Youth.

Progress Report on the Work of the Formation Team in Support of the A&B Pastoral Plan

The Pastoral Plan's first 2019/2020 Catholic Certificate in Religious Study (CCRS) class with tutor Kathleen O'Gorman, far left



EACH PARISH received a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Richard on the weekend of 20 October highlighting the important progress being made with the Word Who is Life Pastoral Plan for the diocese.

Many of you will be familiar with the Formation Team and their role delivering important elements of the Pastoral Plan from previous A&B News articles.

In this month's issue we explore some of the projects the Formation Team are working on across Arundel & Brighton's eleven deaneries.

Marriage & Family Life

Each member of the Formation Team is responsible for a different part of the Pastoral Plan with Katherine Bergin and Simon South working in the area of Marriage and Family Life.

The recent Marriage and Anniversaries Mass in Arundel Cathedral was one of a number of events for those living the vocation of Marriage. This extremely popular annual Mass provided a wonderful opportunity for couples to celebrate important marriage milestones and special anniversaries with family members and friends, and was very well attended.

In the coming months there are a number of one-day courses and longer term initiatives planned, including a *Day of Reflection for Marriage Preparation Catechists* with Bishop Richard in November and the expansion of the diocesan Ministry of Consolation bereavement programme.

the Ministry of Consolation

Grief and loss affect people many different ways and can be extremely isolating. The Ministry of Consolation, overseen by Simon South, aims to support the work of Parish Priests by providing trained bereavement volunteers, able to help people within our church communities, at what can be an extremely difficult time.

The Ministry enables compassionate

and dedicated volunteers to understand the issues around life-limiting illness, the needs of the carer, the grieving process and the importance of active listening.

The latest intake began training in early October and will be ready to begin serving in parishes from April next year.

Parish Family Groups

Bringing parishioners together is an important element of the Marriage and Family Life team's work.

Another of Simon's projects is the Parish Family Group initiative, which is in the process of being rolled out across the Deaneries.

The Family Group programme aims to combat loneliness and enhance church community links by establishing a programme of enjoyable monthly functions, picnics and social activities within each parish.

The Family Group project is open to everyone, regardless of whether they have a family or not, with everybody welcome.

Formation & Spirituality

The *Word Who is Life* Pastoral Plan has a strong focus on the importance of prayer.

Deacon Jon Harman oversees the spirituality elements of the Pastoral Plan and has worked closely with the Jesuits and the diocesan Spirituality Network to create the School of Prayer and Week of Guided Prayer programme, which will eventually provide an annual week of guided prayer in every Deanery.

The course begins with an introduction to ways of praying called the 'School of Prayer.' This is followed up to 12 weeks later by a 'Week of Guided Prayer' in which people meet with a prayer guide.

The Spiritual Network will eventually deliver both courses and have received four training sessions in readiness for this from the Jesuits.

Course participant John Roberts was

full of praise for the initiative. In describing his experience of the course he said 'The prayer guide leaders were excellent communicators and everybody left feeling very inspired.'

The scheme is due to launch with Schools of Prayer in the Worthing, Lewes, Epsom and Guildford Deaneries before Christmas and, in time, will be delivered right across the diocese.

Deacon Jon is also responsible for The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies course, known as the CCRS. The course offers participants the opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of the Catholic faith, equipping them for catechetical ministry (see picture above).

This year's course is now underway with a cohort of 27 students from a variety of backgrounds, parishes and schools.

Students need to complete eight modules in total including two elective modules chosen from subjects as wide ranging as: Evangelisation, Interfaith and Unity, Education in Catholic Schools, Bereavement Ministry and Parish Administration. Elective modules will be advertised beyond the student group so that people outside the course can attend.

Dialogue & Unity

Catherine Martindale works on the Dialogue & Unity aspects of the Pastoral Plan, liaising with people from other Christian denominations in Surrey and Sussex.

Catherine is currently working with the Anglican Dioceses of Guildford and Chichester and the South Eastern Baptist Association on an awareness raising Ecumenical Mental Health Project.

Their first collaboration has been a poster Green for Go! Go for Help! which highlights relevant and useful contact details for those in crisis.

The poster was launched throughout the Diocese in time for World Mental Health Day on 10th October.

The collaboration continues and

hopes to include other faith denominations over time.

Catherine is looking forward to visiting Deaneries with the Formation Team and working with parishioners and clergy to identify the needs and interests in our diverse localities.

She recently delivered a very well attended Dialogue and Unity Day - see report on pages 1 and 8 of this edition - which highlighted the need for more formation in this area and plans to make opportunities available for Catholics who feel called to this work in their towns and villages.

Story: Diocesan Communications Team
Picture: A&B News Team

Social Action Ministry

Advance Notice

Annual Justice & Peace Assembly

'Still No Room at the Inn?'
How can we respond to the
Homeless Crisis Today?

Saturday 25 January, 2020
at the St Philip Howard
Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP

Save The Date!

A New Headteacher for St Richard's, Chichester



THE INDUCTION OF JAMES FIELD as Headteacher of St Richard's Primary School took place at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard in Chichester on Tuesday 17 September. Clergy from Chichester and Selsey concelebrated at this joyful Mass at which a congregation of school staff, children, parents and parishioners pledged, with God's help, to support James as he takes on this vital role.

Until recently, James was Headteacher at St Robert Southwell School in Horsham and earlier in his teaching career was a class teacher at St Richard's.

James and his family attend Mass at Chichester and he is very keen to build on and strengthen the relationship between parish and school.

James is pictured above (*centre*) with (*left to right*): Canon Tom Treherne, Parish Priest; Marie Ryan, Diocesan Director of Education; Mike Beal, Chair of Governors at the school and Bishop Richard.

We wish James all the best in his new role.

*Story: Becky Steven
Picture: Martin Downy*

Re-cycling award at St Richard's College, Bexhill...



THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT at St Richard's, Bexhill-on-Sea were delighted recently to be awarded prizes by John and Mary Carden who have pioneered a recycling scheme transforming milk bottle lids into playground equipment, while raising

money for medical facilities at our local hospitals.

Ewan Hoyle and Grace Gillen accepted engraved awards as they collected more than 1,000 bottle tops each. Geography teacher, Mrs Clare Akraši, (*pictured left with Ewan and Grace*), was awarded a beautiful rose bowl to say 'thank you and well done' for promoting recycling at St Richard's.

The Geography department is continuing to develop the recycling opportunities at the school in the coming months, adding pens, printer cartridges, and clothing to the existing facilities to recycle glasses, football boots, paper, plastic and milk bottle tops. Mrs Akraši, along with the Geography Club and Eco Reps, is seeking to reduce our waste and improve our use of the world around us. The plaque and lovely rose bowl will take pride of place in school.

Stories & pictures: Miranda Pennington

...and New Head Girl and Head Boy are Twins!



FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER at St Richard's, the Head Girl and Head Boy are twins - Madeline and Joseph Baszczak.

Here they are pictured at the forefront of the new team of prefects, flanked by their deputies Hannah Chan and Ben Simmonds.

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The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Education Service

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.

Denominational Catholic School Inspection

DID YOU KNOW that a Bishop has the right and the duty to inspect any Catholic school within his jurisdiction at any time?

Canon Law 806 §1 states that *the diocesan bishop has the right to watch over and visit the Catholic schools in his territory, even those which members of religious institutes have founded or direct.*

Bishop Richard has designated the Education Service to be responsible for administering and carrying out the inspection process in all schools in the diocese of Arundel & Brighton including Catholic Education Trusts, Catholic Independent Schools and Sixth Form Colleges. We are proud to work in close partnership with all our schools and are delighted to celebrate all their achievements.

Similarly to OfSTED, Catholic schools are inspected every five years. However, if a school's last overall effectiveness judgement in their Catholic School Inspection (CSI) was less than 'Good', there will be a CSI within three years. Should he feel it necessary, Bishop Richard may request a Catholic school within his diocese to be inspected at any time.

We are proud to say that of our 53 primary schools, 30 (57%) are graded as Outstanding and 23 (43%) are graded as Good. None of our primary schools are graded less than good. Of our 11 secondary schools, 10 (91%) are graded as Outstanding and 1 (9%) graded as Good. None of our secondary schools are graded less than good.

The Diocesan Education Service provides practical advice, support and guidance to all our schools in preparation for a CSI through administrative support, CPD sessions, workshops in schools and resources to support school self-evaluation.



CSI in the Diocese

Diocesan inspectors are trained by the Education Service and are kept up to date with new initiatives and changes in Catholic education through regular CPD meetings with the Education Service.

Inspectors judge the overall quality of Catholic education provided by the school considering three headline judgements:

- The quality of the Catholic life of the school;
- The quality of Religious Education
- The quality of Collective Worship and prayer life of the school

For each of these headline judgements, inspectors evaluate

- The quality of pupil/student outcomes and responses (Impact)
- How well the school provides for that area of school life (Implementation)
- How well leaders and governors ensure the quality of that provision (Intent)

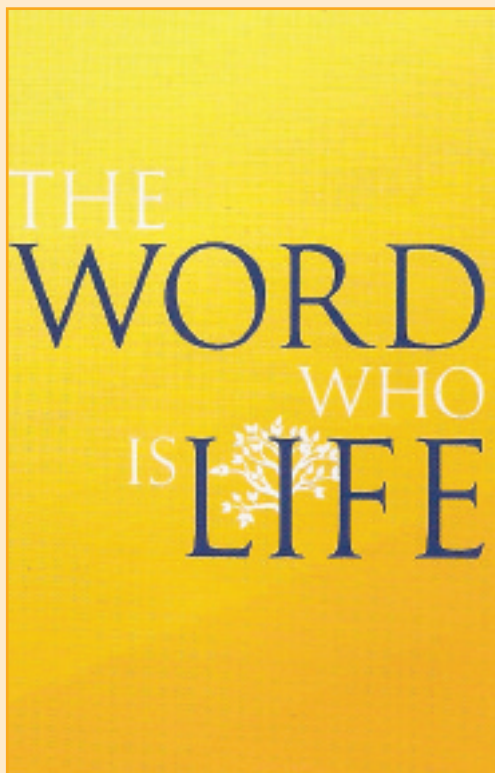
Inspectors use nationally agreed descriptors and weigh up evidence against each aspect to come to a judgement of either Outstanding (1) Good (2) Requires Improvement (3) or Inadequate (4). In making these judgements, inspectors will consider the evidence a school makes available against the descriptors and consider which grade descriptor best fits the evidence presented. These descriptors are a guide, not a checklist, and do not replace the dialogue with schools and professional judgement of inspectors that we encourage.

Further information and supporting information are held on our Education Service website www.abdiocese.org.uk Sarah Feist, Lead Officer for CSI, can be contacted at the diocese on 01293 511130

Pastoral Plan - 22 Oct 2019 The Word who is Life

After three 'Taste and See' sessions held in June 2019 to learn more about the Bishop's Pastoral Plan and his vision for the role of Chaplains in our diocesan schools, the Education Service has now planned three further sessions exploring key aspects of the school chaplaincy role that may be of interest to those considering Chaplaincy in the diocese.

The training will take place at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley on the following dates:



22 Oct 2019 - 'Christ at the Centre'

- The Distinctive Nature of our Catholic Schools;
- What it means to deliver a Christ centred education;
- The role of the Chaplain in developing the Catholic Life of the school.

20 Nov 2019 - Chaplaincy in a school setting

- Professional Standards – working with students/pupils;
- Pastoral Support - Expectations of the Chaplain;
- Religious Education / Catholic School Inspections;
- Safeguarding.

10 Dec 2019 - Collective Worship in schools

- The role of the Chaplain as sacristan;
- Planning Masses, liturgies, collective worship;
- Supporting, leading and guiding staff;
- Working with clergy and the parish.

Training will begin at 4.30pm and

finish at 6.00pm, light refreshments will be available. There is no charge for the training.

To book a place on any of the above sessions please contact: Claire Martin, CPD Administrator on claire.martin@abdiocese.org.uk

Bernadette Connor
Deputy Director, Education Service

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I would like to help your Mission Foundations. My gift of £_____ is enclosed (payable to Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus). Thank you!

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Address:
..... Please print.

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Light a candle for a loved one this November

DURING NOVEMBER, the month of remembrance, we take time to pray for those who have died and give thanks for loved ones who have made a deep and lasting impression on our lives.

For many people, remembering someone through an act of charity which helps poor and vulnerable families around the world is a way of celebrating a loved one's life and memory.


A Candlelight Fund is a special fund set up in memory of a loved one who has died, combining any donations made in their memory.

Just as we light a candle for a loved one who has passed away, creating a Candlelight Fund in their name is a special way to remember them. Candlelight funds celebrate a life and touch thousands more.

Over the years, CAFOD has been blessed to work alongside the kindest and most committed friends any charity could hope for.

If you would like to remember someone who has passed away, please join us for the Candlelight Funds and Blessing of the Memorial Book for Arundel and Brighton Diocese at Christ the Prince of Peace Church, Portmore Way, Weybridge Surrey KT13 8JD on Thursday 7 November at 19.30 pm.

Story: *Elouise Hobbs, Regional News Officer for CAFOD*



For further information please contact Jenny Finlayson Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Arundel and Brighton Volunteer Centre, St John's Seminary, Womersley, Surrey GU5 0QX Telephone: 01483 898 866

Wheelchair push raises over £1,000 for charity

AN ANNUAL SPONSORED Wheelchair Push has this year raised over £1,000 for local homeless organisation the Snowflake Trust and international development charity, CAFOD.

Michael, who has been taking part in the wheelchair push for many years, has raised thousands of pounds with his annual sponsored challenge. Being pushed by friend, Fidelis (pictured) - who met Michael at the church they both attend, the Parish of The Good Shepherd in St Leonards-on-Sea - the pair set off on the two and half mile stretch between Hastings Town Centre and Hastings Old Town, and back. They completed the walk in good time, raising £1,040 which will be split between the two charities.

Jenny Finlayson, CAFOD's Community Participation Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton, said: 'This is a wonderful event that over the years has raised thousands of pounds to help make other people's lives better. From everyone at CAFOD, I would like to say a big thank you for what your challenge has achieved - and of course a massive well done!'

The money donated by Michael and Fidelis to CAFOD will go towards helping communities around the world gain the tools, skills and knowledge to lift themselves out of poverty. Through The Snowflake Trust, their donation will help provide overnight accommodation to local homeless people during the extreme winter months.

Story: *Elouise Hobbs, CAFOD Regional News Officer*
Picture *Raymond, son of Fidelis*



Find out more at cafod.org.uk/snowflake-nightshelter.org.uk

FAIRTRADE NEWS.....


SEE TRADCRAFT Autumn/Winter 2019 catalogue, the entire range chosen carefully: always fair, but also sustainable and organic wherever possible.

Hope you will enjoy reading through, discovering the stories behind the products and understanding how products grown or made thoughtfully can be part of our everyday journey to more sustainability and fairness. Our lifestyles are having a profound effect on the planet that sustains us. The choices we make and the things that we consume have consequences and how we choose to consume today will directly affect the



lives of our future generations.

On 25th anniversary of the FAIRTRADE Mark it is interesting to read about the first product to have the Mark. Craig Sams, founder of Green & Blacks (and Whole Earth Foods from which it grew) was in the foothills of the mountains of Belize trying to find a new source of organic cocoa for his chocolate. The Maya Indian farmers stared ruin in the face having borrowed money and planted trees encouraged by a promise to buy their cocoa but the price fell. It takes five years for cocoa trees to produce pods. Craig put an offer on the table. The result, chocolate flavoured with citrus and spices, named Maya Gold.



NOTICE BOARD

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Lewes Passion Play 2020

We are inviting anyone interested in taking part in any way to come along to one of the following sessions or contact us directly on: thelwespassionplay@gmail.com or call: 07971 398 146 or sign up via our website: www.lewespassionplay.org

Looking for actors to take main roles, minor roles and 'Crowd'. Looking for helpers to make costumes, assist with tech, work backstage, produce publicity or get involved in some other capacity.

Performance week April 5 - 12 2020 - Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.
Not all roles are required every performance day.
Are you interested in costume design or making?
Technically minded? Want to help backstage?
Find out more - Join the team

Fri 8 November 7-9pm Eastgate Hall, Eastgate Street, BN7 2LR

Open Casting - Try out for a major or minor role, or join the crowd - Sat 23 November 10-12 noon Chapter House, Southover Church, BN7 1JH
Sun 24 November 2.30-4.30pm Eastgate Hall, Eastgate Street, BN7 2LR
Mon 25 November 7-9pm Eastgate Hall, Eastgate Street, BN7 2LR
Fri 29 November 7-9pm Chapter House, Southover Church, BN7 1JH

BISHOP'S DIARY
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

October

Sun 27 9am Mass of Thanksgiving, HMP High Down
11.30am EMM Celebration Mass, Sacred Heart, Sunningdale

Mon 28 - Thu 31 Supporting Clergy Leadership, Hothorpe Hall, Leicestershire

November

Fri 1 10am Mass, Arundel Cathedral

Sat 2 9am Parish Forum Meeting, Arundel Cathedral
6pm Parish Visitation to Chichester

Sun 3 8.30am Parish Visitation to Chichester

Tue 5 11am CSAN Criminal Justice Forum, Romero House, London

Thu 7 11am Chapter Mass and lunch at Arundel Cathedral
3.30pm Meetings at Arundel Cathedral

Fri 8 6pm KHS Vigil, St George's Cathedral Southwark

Sat 9 9am KHS Investitures, St George's Cathedral, Southwark
6pm Mass at St Dunstan's Woking, Big Encounter event

Sun 10 11.15am Remembrance Sunday Mass at Arundel Cathedral

Thu 14 Deans' Meeting, St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley
4pm Meeting at Eccleston Square, London

Fri 15 7pm Induction Mass for Canon David Parmiter, Arundel Cathedral

Sat 16 9am Marriage Preparation Catechists' Day, St. Philip Howard Centre, Crawley

Sun 17 11.15am Mass for deceased KSC, Arundel Cathedral

Mon 18 10am Mass at St Richard's Catholic College, Bexhill
7.30pm Induction Mass at St Edmund's Parish Godalming for Fr Jonathan How

Wed 20 10am Meeting at High Oaks
3pm Bishops'/Staff Meeting Womersley

Thu 21 10.30am Meeting at High Oaks
5pm Governors' Meeting at St Mary's University, Twickenham

Sat 23 1pm Alton Day of Renewal

Sun 24 11.30am Mass at Mayfield School, Mayfield

Keymer Youth Sleep Out to Help Homeless Charity Off The Fence



THE BIG SLEEPOUT is a fundraising challenge organised by the young people of St Luke's in Hurstpierpoint and St Edwards the Confessor RC church in Keymer to raise much needed funds and awareness for Antifreeze - Off the Fence in Brighton and Hove.

Off The Fence is a Brighton-based Christian charity that works with vulnerable individuals and rough sleepers in the city. The mission of Off the Fence is to eradicate social and spiritual poverty in Brighton & Hove, engaging with individuals to create a new level of hope in the City.

St Edwards is raising money for Off the Fence so they can continue to support rough sleepers and the homeless in the local area.

Even though homelessness charities like Off the Fence exist, many of the everyday things that we take for granted – food, homes, warm and clean clothes – are hard to come by and, especially when temperatures drop

below freezing, the lack of such basic necessities can be life threatening. Because of such conditions, crime, disease and feelings of hopelessness and isolation are daily realities for many.

This was our third sleep-out. We've raised over £6000 in the last two years and we have a target of £4000 this year!

So on 20 September 15 young people and 3 adults built a shelter and slept in it overnight. Thanks to 'Carters' electrics for providing huge cardboard boxes every year!

One young person said 'my feet got very cold and it kept waking me up'. Night time creatures came out and there were lots of slugs and snails.

Another said 'the slugs were coming into my box and it was horrible. I could not sleep'.

The group watched a clip about female rough sleepers in Brighton. They learnt about the causes of homelessness, the links to mental health issues and drug addiction.

They also learn about cuckooing, county lines and how young people who have been through the foster care system are more vulnerable and often end up on the streets.

Many said when they are next in Brighton and see a rough sleeper they will have a greater understanding of what they are going through.

In November each year we have a collection in the parish asking for toiletries, sleeping bags and winter clothes.

If you would like to donate clean and new items please bring them along to St Edwards RC church - Keymer on the first weekend of December.

Here is the link to our just giving page uk.virginmoneygiving.com/StEdwardsYCC

For more info on the work of the charity please visit: www.offthefence.org.uk.

Story & Pictures: Pam Murray



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St John Beaumont's Eighth Ignite Conference

ST JOHN'S BEAUMONT SCHOOL is delighted to be hosting the 8th annual Ignite Conference in October.

The conference provides an opportunity for pupil delegates from each of the Jesuit Province's seven junior schools to collaborate on leadership and ecology projects throughout the year.

The event this year will allow St John's to further its work in both of these areas and it will be a pleasure to welcome students from St Joseph's School and St Mary's Hall in Lan-

cashire, Barlborough Hall in Sheffield, Donhead School in Wimbledon and St Aloysius School in Glasgow.

During the conference the children will work collaboratively to promote the worldwide mission of the Society of Jesus in caring for our common home as well as taking the opportunity to visit Windsor Castle and Runnymede, the site of the signing of the Magna Carta over 800 years ago.

Story: Sarah Feist

CLERGY MOVES

Fr Rod Jones to University of Sussex as Chaplain
Fr Paul Jenkinson is on sabbatical

Fr Rod Jones advises that, while Claire Barrie, Brighton University Chaplain is on maternity leave, she is replaced by Marie Ann Enriquez, from the Wellspring Community.

Catholicism at Chilworth

BISHOP ROBERT BARRON'S 'Catholicism' course is being presented monthly for a second time at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth near Guildford after a highly successful run earlier this year, which showed how much a desire to learn more about their faith is present in the hearts of believers.

Each of the ten episodes is shown month by month, chapter by chapter with explanations, teaching and discussion led by Benedictine monk Fr John Seddon OSB. The presentations are on the first Saturday of every month, con-

tinuing on November 9 and December 7. Then in 2020, January 11, February 8, March 7, April 4, May 2, and June 6.

Each Study Day will begin with Mass at 9am, followed by coffee. The first teaching session will conclude with Mid-day Prayer, with the second beginning after lunch until about 3.30 pm.

Please bring a packed lunch and, if you can, a friend. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided. Free to attend. No need to book. Visit us online at <http://www.chilworthbenedictines.com>

Richard Morris

Orange the World Day



OUR A&B DIOCE-SAN LINK to the National Board of

Catholic Women (NBCW), Sue Petritz, reminds us that 25 November 2019 is **Orange the World Day**.

It is a day to raise awareness about the need to eliminate violence against women and girls worldwide. This is the United Nations Development Programme Campaign (UNDP) where everyone, businesses, schools etc are encouraged to wear orange, a colour that will stand out, and symbolises a brighter future for women and girls to live in a world free of violence. Do consider supporting this in 2019.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/end-violence-against-women>

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FROM THE PARISHES (continued on page 16)

UPDATED NOTICE TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS FOR THE December 2019 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 28 October 2019** and for the January 2020 issue by Monday 25 November 2019. Contributions may be sent by e-mail to abnews@abdiocese.org.uk and if so please always include a contact telephone number.

It is helpful to us if Correspondents 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 CONSENT FOR PUBLICATION and the SIGNED written and/or email evidence you have FOR ALL NAMED PERSONS INCLUDING ALL children's photos. Our photo consent form will be sent on request.

ADUR VALLEY

AFTER SOME BEAUTIFUL early September days it is now very firmly into Autumn. However with Autumn come all our usual activities back again. Like the Secret Singers; our Lunches; our prayer groups; and receiving applications for the next group of First Communion and Confirmation candidates.

However our most important event I am proud to tell you about is that we were privileged to host a Visitation of the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue (NPVS) of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco on Saturday 22 September. This was organised by the Apostolate of Fatima in England and Wales and we had the National and Diocesan Directors of that organisation here. It is a lay apostolate approved by the Holy See and our parish priest Fr Graham Ricketts has just been appointed Diocesan Spiritual Director.

The day was well attended with around 120 people coming from all around the diocese. It started with the arrival at St Peter's in Shoreham and was followed by Procession and Enthronement of the NPVS of Our Lady of Fatima followed by crowning and incensing. A very beautiful Mass followed and particularly moving was the mo-

ment when some were invested with the Brown Scapular. It was followed by Recitation and Meditation of the Rosary and Fatima prayers; then Veneration of the Relics. After lunch we watched the Fatima film The Little Shepherds with a talk on the Message of Fatima, next was the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Enrolment and investiture of the brown scapular; concluding with Adoration and Benediction.

A truly wonderful day in which people from far and wide participated and for which we must thank all our parishioners who helped in so many ways. We do want to say a big thank you to all those who welcomed, made cakes or helped in any way.

Penny Richardson

BRIGHTON

AT ST MARY'S PRESTON PARK on 14 July SVP/Social Concerns held a tea party for the parish with proceeds going to the essential upkeep of the presbytery. Over 50 people enjoyed the event which was organised by a dozen volunteers. It was a lovely social occasion and we raised £600.

After the summer break our children are back at school, the new sacramental programmes are being set up and thoughts are already turning to the Christmas Fair with jam jar collecting!

On 15 September the Social Concerns Group held a coffee morning, cake sale and bring and buy stall, raising £135.50 for the Uganda Hands-For-Hope charity.

Claire Shelton-Jones

CATERHAM

OUR PARISHIONERS congratulated Fr Sean on the 30th Anniversary of his Ordination on Tuesday, 24 September, and at a small gathering after Mass he was presented with a mosaic of Petra made by refugees and brought back from Jordan by Eliz and Mike Wood who had just returned from visiting the Catholic community in Madaba.

During September the Parish have been hosting the ecumenical morning prayer services connected with Caterham Churches together.

The SVP excess garden produce stall after Sunday Masses has been very successful and some of the money raised will go towards finding gloves and hats for the homeless in Croydon and London.

Mass for the Scouts was held on Sunday 22 September and our thanks to Peter Lovat for his hard work in this important area of Parish life for the youth.

The family of Samir Kikhwa, whose successful operation we funded, have been granted visas to go to Sydney and will be able to leave Madaba, Jordan, where life is very difficult.

And on a sad note our thoughts are with the family of David Hodgson who

died suddenly at the beginning of his holiday recently. He was an active member of this parish and the local community being involved with Dial-a-Ride which does so much to help the elderly to get around.

The Parish Women's Group had a house Mass celebrated by Canon Frank O'Sullivan, aged 96 from the Southwark Diocese, whose sister Olive Wood had been an active member of the Group. As always he gave a challenging and interesting homily. Refreshments were enjoyed afterwards.

Peter Patterson

PETWORTH

IN DUNCTON THE CHURCH OF St Anthony and St George celebrated the 150th anniversary of its consecration on 12 September, that event having been celebrated by Archbishop (later Cardinal) Manning. We were delighted and honoured that Bishop Richard was able to visit the Parish this time to mark the occasion.

Many people worked so hard, especially Fr Peter Newsam, to make this a wonderful and truly special event, and it was certainly that. The church and graveyard had been rigorously cleaned and tidied so that it looked its very best. The evening Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard was joyful and heartwarming with a gratifyingly large congregation, and I think the Bishop probably made the right decision in not emulating Archbishop Manning, who apparently had preached for 110 minutes! His, much shorter, homily was thought-provoking and very pertinent to our role in today's world.

Following Mass there was a buffet supper for everyone in the Village Hall, which was most enjoyable and a lovely way to round off a memorable evening.

Sally Bohane

WOKING

THERE'S NO DOUBT, especially with all the recent protests around the world, that climate change is really beginning to concern all of us. In June 2015, Pope Francis released an Encyclical entitled *Laudato Si*, in which he has invited us to take care of our shared home. He calls us to an 'ecological conversion' and encourages us to make a fresh start. All changes towards a better world, no matter how small, are changes for the better. The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) took up this call and in the last year has been campaigning on climate change, because, as a global agency reaching out to the poor, they have seen first-hand how climate change affects our global family and the fight against poverty. It is already affecting us all - our health, our homes, our heritage and our beautiful landscapes, our community centres where

we meet, our sports fields where we play and our places of pilgrimage where we reflect.

As CAFOD volunteers in Woking we were inspired by this call in our parish, and on the weekend of 14/15 September, St Dunstan's Church held a Creation Mass. This was not only to celebrate the gift of God's creation and our beautiful home, but a call to action. The youth of the parish and volunteers created displays for the Mass on the climate, showing not only the damage we have done, but what we can do to help in our own way, and during the Mass, special offertory gifts were presented, with creation inspired prayers and hymns. We gave short talks at the end of all Masses, highlighting that although we've made huge progress on climate change, we now know if we are going to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C we need to be going much further, faster. To stop temperatures from rising, and to stand the best chance of keeping below 1.5°C we need to make sure that a target of global net zero emissions (that is the emissions we put into the atmosphere being no greater than the ones we remove), is reached by 2045. Not only would we end up with a cleaner Britain, but we would be sending a signal to other countries around the world that we are leading the fight against climate change and encouraging the rest of the world to follow suit.

We asked our parishioners to call on our politicians to go further and faster with emission cuts, specifically to push for zero net emissions by 2045, by signing petitions after Mass, addressed directly to the Prime Minister. We also gave out prayer cards inspired by St Francis of Assisi and handed out packets of plant seed to help green up gardens, kindly donated by Longacres in Bagshot and RHS Wisley Gardens. We were rewarded with over 700 signatures - a show of just how much this matters to us as a parish, and how much we want change.

Thank you St Dunstan's, and thank you to everyone who helped us put forward this great cause!

The petitions will be presented to the Prime Minister, and the event will be publicised to encourage others to make a difference. To read more on how you as an individual can make a change, go to cafod.org.uk/News/Campaigning-news/Rewrite-climate-change.

Audra Schlachter

'We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realising that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.' Saint Oscar Romero

EGHAM

IT WAS LATE MARCH this year and my brother, who lives in Christchurch, New Zealand heard a loud knocking at the door. He opened it to a policeman who was warning people to stay indoors. There had been a mass shooting at the local mosque and they were looking for the gunman. Over the next few days the full reality of what had happened came to light. 50 people had been killed whilst at prayer. Shocked and appalled at this news we offered up prayers at Mass for our Muslim friends.

At Easter, in Colombo, the capital of Sri Lanka, three churches were similarly targeted by suicide bombers whilst Easter services were being held. Many people lost their lives. Three hotels and a housing complex were also attacked and the dreadful death toll rose to 259 people killed and 100's more injured. Our local Muslim friends expressed their sincerest prayers and sympathy for these terrible atrocities. Meanwhile the world looked on in horror.

On Fridays throughout the year the local Muslim community comes to pray at the Jurgens Centre, part of the Parish of Egham at the church of The Assumption of Our Lady. This has been ongoing for some time and inevitably many of us have got to know each other over the years. Following these awful events we felt a mutual need to build something tangible to express our common human-

ity and passionate longing for peace in the world. The idea of a Peace Garden was established and we worked on it throughout the summer, digging and planting over the months and jointly funding a plaque (below) to be



placed in the bed on which our common sentiments were simply expressed. Much of the plaque was made freely by a local Carpenter 'Spike' Cole. Finally, on 30 August a short service was held next to the Peace Bed taken by Fr Chris Spain and Arshad Hamiet. Prayers and poems on the theme of peace were said. After refreshments, we left feeling a little more hopeful that peace can be won.

Since that time, across the whole world many more people have been killed simply for their religious beliefs. How important it is to demonstrate love and respect for our neighbour as an essential cornerstone in building a peaceful world.

Nina Tresilian

CRAWLEY

GOSSOPS GREEN CHURCH, Crawley, was packed leaving some standing, to celebrate the feast of our patron, St Theodore of Canterbury. The Mass was celebrated by Fr Louis Ezeilo, hymns sung and music supplied by the Dominican Sisters for the offertory procession.

In the sermon parishioners were reminded of how highly influential Theodore of Tarsus was in the development and harmonisation of Christianity in this country during the seventh century. It was surprising to learn that his ordination did not take place until he was sixty five and he had to wait for his hair to grow for this to take place!

It was also a pleasure to welcome the Rev Ann Alexander, Vicar at St Albans Church in Gossops Green, to our celebration. A special cake (pictured) was



baked by parishioner Pat Tarbin and cut by Fr Louis to celebrate the sixtieth year of the church's founding. Afterwards refreshments were shared by all and sentiments expressed the hope for a return of a regular Sunday Eucharist in the future. St Theodore's worshipping community continue to meet twice a month for Praise, Prayer and Coffee.

Nick Crocker



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FROM THE PARISHES (continued from page 14)

REDHILL, REIGATE & MERSTHAM

AT ST TERESA'S in Merstham Pamela Schwenk, a very active member, was temporarily 'arrested' in the Community Room by Simon Langton (pictured).



Simon, of Denhams the Sussex Auctioneers, gave members of Merstham UCM, and their visitors from Horsham UCM, a fascinating talk about his career as an auctioneer. We were also given an insight into how prices paid for antiques rise and fall according to fashion.

Pamela's arresting handcuffs dated from 1917.

Our chief altar server, Clare, brought some silver spoons which were a baptismal gift from her grandfather. There is an heiress in waiting! Clare's baby, Lena, was baptised only six months ago.

Simon donated his fee and the valuation donations to The Order of St Lazarus Charitable Trust who work closely with expert charities on a range of projects, from sponsoring student medical electives in leprosy-hit areas of the world, to supporting local initiatives in India, Nepal and parts of Africa.

Ann Lardeur

EWELL

THE LAST TWO weekends in September saw **three major events** in the life of St Clement's parish in Ewell

First, we were able to welcome Bishop Richard for his **first formal visitation** to the parish. Some parishioners thought it was a sort of 'Ofsted' for the parish, but it was nothing of the sort! In fact it was a very happy occasion for everyone. The Bishop joined the congregation and preached at all the Masses and afterwards he did his best to speak to as many people as possible. By a happy coincidence two of them (pictured) had been his parishioners when he was a newly ordained priest in Southwark diocese. He even met the parish priest's cats, Chico and Lily.



He celebrated the main Mass, during which a large number of Children's Liturgy youngsters came back at the Offertory to show him and the congregation the work they had done. Afterwards, he joined the regular coffee morning, circulating from table to table.

Of course there were some official things in his visit. He met the Finance Committee and he was invited by parish priest Fr Graham Bamford to also meet the parish Live Simply team. Later he went with Fr Graham to visit the sick, including a nursing home within the parish.

The next Saturday was a **Live Simply based retreat**, run by the team, for which more than 20 parishioners were welcomed by the Community to the

Compass Room at Worth Abbey. After a leisurely settling in, the group attended Midday Prayer and then ate lunch together. The afternoon began with a quiz to test the knowledge of our impact on the climate in small domestic decisions. It revealed many misconceptions.

There followed a time of reflection based on Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The retreat continued with a 'Meditative Wander' and then the group spent some time considering what we have done and what we could do to further Live Simply. The day concluded at the vigil Mass of the Sunday in the Abbey church.

On the Sunday another important parish event, when Mrs Lisa Kelly was inducted as the **new headteacher** of the parish Primary school. The ceremony was conducted by the parish priest, on behalf of the Diocesan Education Service and took place during the 10.30am Mass. In introduction, Fr Graham told Mrs Kelly that as a result of her appointment, she now had the responsibility for ensuring that the school is centred on Christ and that every pupil is valued as an individual who is loved and gifted uniquely by God. She was to provide the best possible learning environment so that each pupil can develop knowledge and skills for life as a Christian.

Fr Graham then asked staff, parents, pupils present and all parishioners to agree to support her and pray for her.

In conclusion Mrs Kelly was presented by the Chair of Governors, Michael Davies, with the keys of the school to symbolise the practical aspects of her task and by Fr Graham with a Bible, the Book of God's Word as the foundation of all learning and wisdom.

At the end of the Mass all were able to greet the school head at the usual coffee morning.

Story: Pauline Groves
Picture: Mary Savage

OBITUARY

Monsignor Bryan Chestle

BRYAN was from Southwark and was educated by the Jesuits at Wimbledon College from 1944 to 1950. He attended the Gregorian University in Rome from 1956 to 1963 and was ordained priest in 1962.



His first and only appointment in England was to St Joseph's, Mark Cross, in Sussex; the minor seminary for St John's College, Womersley.

In 1969 he moved to The Secretariat of State in the Vatican. Bryan lived at the English College all the time he was in Rome. During his time in the Secretariat of State he was directly serving the Holy See, 'I answer letters,' he said, 'letters sent to the Pope, and it doesn't matter if that letter comes from a diplomat or a child in school, a head of state or any office worker, each one has to be answered as if Jesus were talking. Each one is important.'

The daily grind began to take its toll and he lost interest and made the decision to leave the Vatican. What happened then was a spiritual turning point. He explained this to the College students some years later. 'It was based on the fact that God is love and that love is the meaning of everything. Prayer suddenly became very easy, Doubt of the existence of God is now inconceivable. I never feel alone or abandoned.'

Retiring in 2003, he returned to England in 2011, having lived for 49 years in the College. The Sisters of Our Lady of Pity in Kiln Green welcomed Bryan.

Due to illness, last years were spent at St Clare's Home in Ditchling Common, where he received nursing from the Augustinian Sisters and Staff.

One who had lived a life of faithful and diligent service deserved nothing less. (Above extracts are from an obituary prepared by Bishop John Hine)

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