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A&B News

FREE

The Catholic Newspaper for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

JANUARY 2020- No.348

A happy and holy Christmas to all our readers



Our Lady of Walsingham in Arundel Cathedral

ARUNDEL CATHEDRAL hosted the statue of Our Lady from the Slipper Chapel in Walsingham from 28-30 November, together with an exhibition on the history and significance of Walsingham.

From 2018 to 2020 the statue from the Catholic National Shrine at Walsingham is being taken to each cathedral in England for a three-day triduum of prayer.

This is part of the preparation for the re-dedication of England as the Dowry of Mary on or around the Solemnity of the Annunciation on 25 March 2020. A report and pictures of the Arundel visit will appear in our next edition.

Picture: A&B News Team

Christmas Message



from Bishop Richard

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT saw the beginning of the year entitled 'The God Who Speaks.' This was marked in a particular way during Vespers at the Cathedral as the Book of the Gospels was carried around the Church as all present sang the 'Maranatha' - 'Come, Lord Jesus.' Jesus is 'The Word made flesh' and this year dedicated to the Scriptures is a wonderful opportunity for us all to reflect ever more deeply on the Word of God - Incarnate, born, for us in Bethlehem. He is 'Emmanuel - God with us.'

In this Advent Season, we prepare ourselves to celebrate His birth and we also prepare ourselves for His coming at the end of time. In both senses, therefore, our prayer is 'Come, Lord Jesus.' As we celebrate the God who, out of love, sent His Son to live amongst us - and to Whose coming again we look for with real hope - let us respond to the One who loves us with lives dedicated to Him through conversion and prayer, that we may be bearers of the Word to our brothers and sisters. This is the mission to which we have been called. We must not shrink from this call, for it is a call that comes from the One who was born for us, the 'Word Who is Life.'

With every Blessing for the Christmas Season,

Richard



Knitted Crib

IN THE EFFINGHAM & FETCHAM PARISH we have the Do and Raise Group (founded by the late and sadly missed Kit Oliver), a friendly group of parishioners who get together every other Tuesday for chat, coffee, support and to make a variety of goods that are sold for charity.

In the past the group has made a quilt, cards and decorations. The group has spent the past few months making a knitted set of nativity figures which will be raffled in the Parish, with the proceeds going to The Passage charity, which helps homeless and vulnerable people.

Story & Picture: Michael Bray

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Bookshop & Repositories in A&B

WORTH ABBEY BOOKSHOP

THE BOOKSHOP is situated in the narthex of the Abbey Church and serves both the parish and the wider Christian community. It is used by visitors taking part in weekend, mid-week and individual residential retreats, quiet Fridays and anyone who comes to enjoy the stillness and solitude of the modern Church and the Abbey's ancient woodlands.

The shop offers a wide and varied range of religious and spiritual reading, especially titles which reflect the Benedictine atmosphere of the Abbey.

Authors include C.S. Lewis and Thomas Merton and titles cover subjects ranging from contemplation and meditation to the most recent Vatican documents. There is also a

small selection of children's books, CTS booklets and prayer books.

Greeting cards for religious occasions include sympathy and Mass cards from Quidenham Carmelite Monastery. CDs, which include



Worth's very own Chants for Saint Benedict, are also available. Brother David in the monastery produces icons of St Benedict, Our Lady and other religious themes.

The shop is unmanned but is always open and payments can be made either by cheque or cash through the safe in the wall. Please come and visit us or if you have any questions contact: megrew@btinternet.com

Story: Meg Rew

Picture: Robin Hannan

THE SACRED HEART CATERHAM BOOKSHOP

THE Sacred Heart Parish shop in Caterham is luckily very spacious, allowing us to stock a variety of items including rosaries, statues, greetings cards, books and many other items. The shop is run by a team of 10 volunteers and is open after Sunday Masses and available most mornings at 10.30 or by request.

We get our stock from CBC, Kevin Mayhew, CTS and Laverty's. We are also very well served by Redemptorist Publications who supply us with books and other items on sale or return. This is particularly useful as such a small operation cannot afford



to buy and stock books. The Redemptorists offer a good selection of children's items such as games and calendars to enable them to prepare for Christmas and Easter and other occasions in a colourful and interesting way.

We value our shop as a resource enabling our parishioners to expand their religious understanding and keep alive many of our Catholic traditions.

For further information contact: elizabeth.wood11@btinternet.com or telephone 07905292936

Story & Picture: Elizabeth Wood

St Dunstan's 25th Christmas Fair

ST DUNSTAN'S PARISH, WOKING held our 25th annual Christmas Fair two days ago on Saturday 23 November. By tradition, all money raised goes to charities. This year the Fair was in aid of:

Cherry Trees - a small local charity providing exceptional home-from-home short breaks/respite for children and young adults with a range of complex disabilities.

Community First Responders - a group of volunteers who are trained to respond to emergency calls through the 999 system in conjunction with the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust. Based in Woking, they are

able to attend the scene of an emergency in a very short time. The responder then could begin vital life saving First Aid before the arrival of an ambulance.

Your Sanctuary is based in Woking, supporting survivors of domestic abuse. They have a helpline, offer protection for survivors and their children. They also have two safe houses and work towards the prevention of domestic abuse.

We raised just under £7,000 and this will be shared between the three charities. Over the past 25 years we have donated all proceedings from the annual Fair to charities - well over £100,000.

Story & Picture: John Sexton



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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.

Annual Retreat for Headteachers

HHEADTEACHERS from Primary, Secondary and Independent schools gathered at Worth Abbey for their Annual Retreat on Friday 22 November.

This year the retreat was hosted by the Crawley Deanery, and Tobias Melia, Head at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Crawley, welcomed colleagues on behalf of the Crawley deanery.

The day began with the celebration of Mass in the Sacred Heart chapel at Worth; a beautiful and uplifting start to the day. After Mass, Fr Stephen Ortiger gave a captivating and awe-inspiring presentation, in his usual inimitable style, reflecting on **'What it is to be fully human'**; speaking to the headteachers with compassion and understanding about their role as educators to be the visible face of Christ in their school communities.

Over lunch headteachers warmly welcomed the opportunity to sit and discuss the

morning and share their thoughts on the presentation.

Following community prayers with the monks, headteachers were then treated to an inspirational presentation by James Kibble, Headteacher at the Salesian School in Chertsey.

The theme of his presentation was

'The Vulnerable, Humble, Hopeful Leader' which James delivered with great passion, humility and humour; leaving headteachers deeply touched and affirmed by the content.

During his warm and engaging presentation, James invited heads to reflect deeply on:

-What is God calling me to do which will make me vulnerable?

- How willing am I to ask for help?

- What part might God play in helping me to meet the challenges ahead?

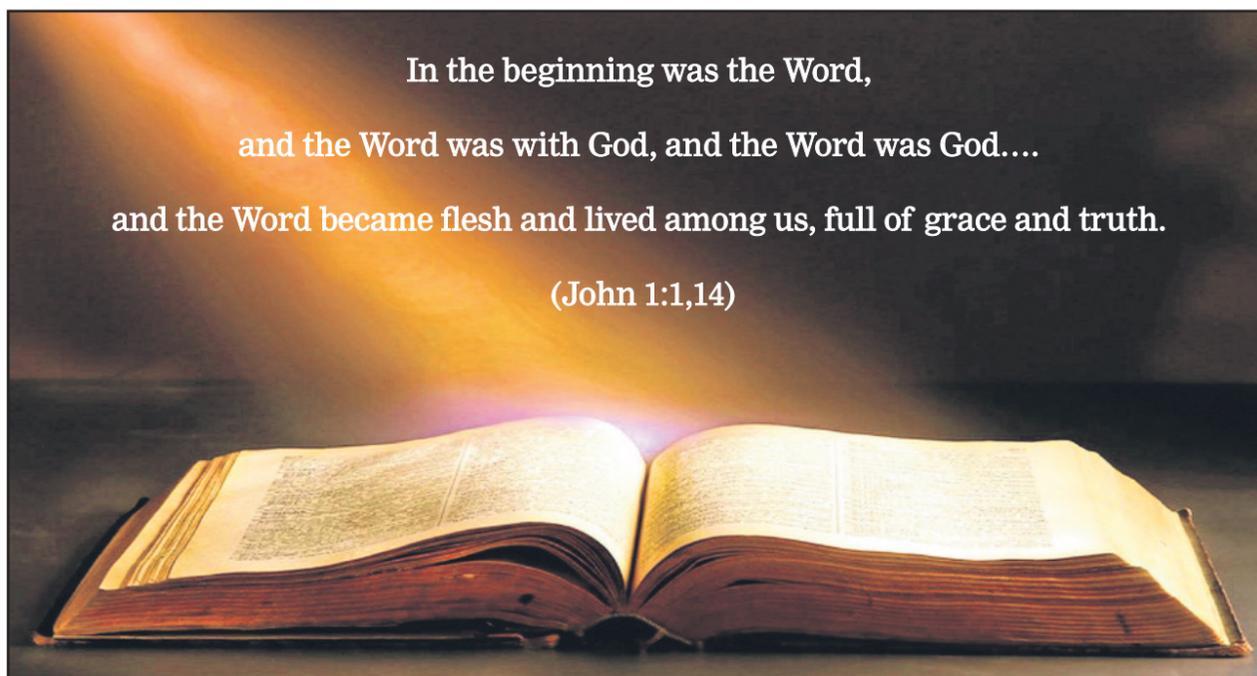
- Where do I go to draw hope in times of difficulty?

- What is God hoping for from my leadership?

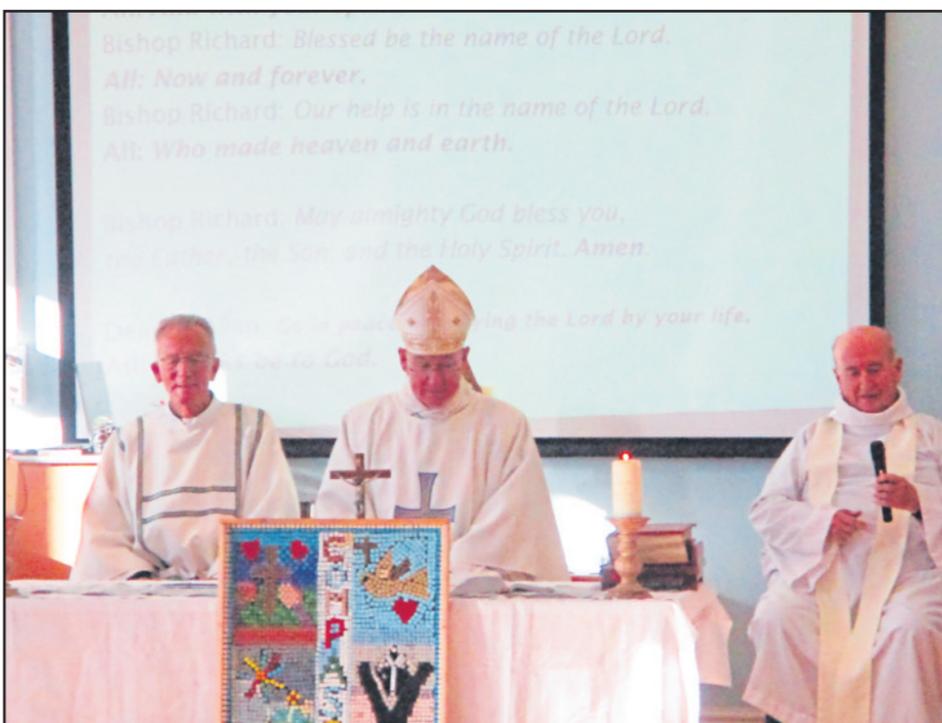
For school leaders, taking time out from their busy school communities is always a great challenge.

By leaving behind the usual daily distractions temporarily, headteachers were able to set time aside for personal and spiritual growth.

During the retreat headteachers were encouraged to find space to allow God's grace to enter so that they could return to their schools refreshed, uplifted and nourished.



Thanksgiving Mass for Fr David Rae



ST WILFRID'S SCHOOL in Angmering welcomed Bishop Richard on 12 November to celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass for Fr David Rea's long association with the school as Parish Priest for over 20 years.

Pupils and staff were joined in this special celebration by parents and governors.

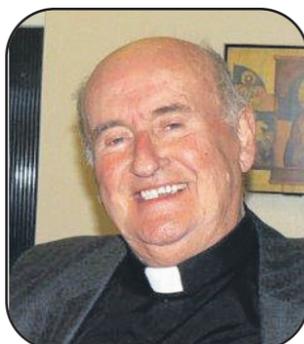
At the end of Mass, each class came up to present Fr David with home made 'Thank you' cards.

Mrs Sharon Reynolds, Headteacher, then presented him, on behalf of the school, with a well filled hamper of all

kinds of 'goodies'.

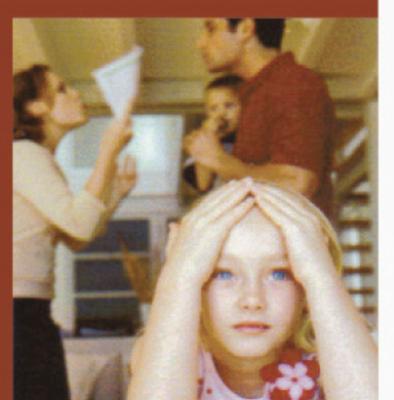
Fr David (pictured above on right, and inset below) thanked Bishop Richard for celebrating Mass and the school for his cards and gifts.

Story & Picture:
Deacon
Allan
Veness



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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

IF THE PAPER LOOKS SLIMMER this month – it is! The size is 12 pages compared to our usual 16, due to a lack of advertising revenue at the beginning of the calendar year. We have also limited the number and size of the illustrations in order to share as many reports as possible.

The content continues to reflect some of the many worthy things that are happening in the Diocese; to single out just two, page 5 reports on the work of our diocesan volunteers, whose contribution was recognised by Bishop Richard and COO Sarah at the recent Quartet Meeting in Arundel, while pages 6-7 give a flavour of the varied areas in which the Formation Team makes a contribution.

2020 is almost upon us...time for some New Year resolutions. Here are three suggestions: go on a CCRS (Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies) course; participate in a Week of Guided Prayer; and make a point of beginning to read the Bible regularly (we plan to supply some guidance in the next edition).

In the meantime, the A&B News Team wishes you a wonderfully happy and holy Christmas season.



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Publication date: Last Sunday of the month for the following month. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Diocese.

The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a registered charity: No. 252878.

Advertising: Janet, janett@catchcom.org

01440 730399 or 07931 836907

Publishers: Bellcourt Limited, Business Centre, Steeple Bumpstead, Haverhill, Suffolk, CB9 7BN

JUST A THOUGHT

The True Meaning of Christmas

AT CHRISTMAS TIME we must take a moment out of our busy lives to acknowledge and remember the true reason why we are all here today.

God gave us his greatest gift, his son Jesus, to show the world what is right and just. We learn today that Christmas is a time for giving, especially to the poor who are struggling to provide for themselves. The Bible teaches us to share our wealth with those who need it to fulfil our role and duties in life by loving our neighbours.

May we learn the responsibility of being humble and modest when giving and not expecting anything in return. As Jesus is the light of the world, may he guide and strengthen his children and show them the right path in life to blossom into compassionate and charitable people.

May we appreciate and be grateful for the food we receive on Christmas Day and be able to spread the love and joy to our families and the wider community.

We can do this by donating food to the foodbanks, giving money to charities, helping the homeless or even a small gesture like giving somebody a smile. By doing these small actions of kindness we are respecting the Christmas values of togetherness.

Confirmation Candidate -
Ewell Parish

Reflection for Peace Sunday

'Little Boy and Fat Man' - by Fr Rob Esdaile,
Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton, Surrey

SEVENTY FIVE YEARS AGO the Manhattan Project perfected the first viable nuclear fission device, tested in the desert of New Mexico on 16 July 1945, at a site named 'Trinity'. Three weeks later, on the Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ, a simpler uranium weapon called 'Little Boy' was dropped with devastating impact on Hiroshima. Then three days after that the more complicated plutonium weapon that had been tested at Trinity, this type code-named 'Fat Man', was dropped on Nagasaki.

Three Generations of Learning To Love The Bomb

The age of nuclear terror had begun. However much we might pretend, like Stanley Kubrick's Doctor Strangelove, to have "learned to stop worrying and love the Bomb", nuclear terror is the only adequate description of the last three-quarters of a century, during which the nuclear-weapon states rapidly gained the capacity to destroy human life on this planet many times over.

Several times we have come within a whisker of a nuclear exchange, most famously during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962 but also more recently when defective software, misunderstood military manoeuvres or even crashes involving nuclear-armed aircraft have nearly brought the USA and the USSR (latterly the Russian Federation) to the brink.

Now India and Pakistan have nuclear missiles pointed at each other across the disputed territory of Kashmir, while North Korea has joined China, Israel, France and the UK in possessing a nuclear arsenal.

This nuclear proliferation presents a much less predictable range of potential flashpoints than did the old Cold War stand-off between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Small wonder that the 'Doomsday Clock' (the measure of nuclear threat set since 1947 by the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*) is currently set at two minutes to Midnight, its highest ever threat-level.

Yet most of us hardly give a thought to the nuclear threat or to the level of expenditure required to maintain it.

Blasphemous Names, Blasphemous Dates

My purpose here is not to rehearse yet again the arguments for and against the replacement of the UK's Trident submarines (though I personally believe their purchase to be morally unjustifiable, economically unsustainable and militarily inept) or to make any directly political point at all. Rather, I'd simply like to invite you to reflect on the names chosen by those first thermonuclear scientists for their weapons – 'Little Boy' and 'Fat Man' – and on the theological elements introduced into the saga by calling the test-site Trinity and by dropping the first atomic bomb on the Feast of the Transfiguration. Because there's a whole implicit anthropology and theology here.

A little boy that could kill so many children; a fat man with such murderous intent: this is where the logic of total war took those scientists on the Manhattan Project. After witnessing the experimental detonation of the first 'Fat Man' device, the Project's director, J. Robert Oppenheimer, said that the words of Vishnu in the Hindu holy text, the *Baghavad Gita* came to mind: 'Now I am become Death, the destroyer of



worlds.' He too it was who named the test site 'Trinity', apparently with reference to the poet John Donne, maybe alluding to the line: 'Batter my heart, three-person'd God' – a joke of sorts about the nature of the device they had made, which used conventional explosives to drive the plutonium core towards the device's heart and 'go critical', triggering the fission chain reaction.

What a blasphemy to liken this destructive power to the Christian Cre-

ator, the One who is love and whose whole energy is communion! How much greater the accidental blasphemy (for meteorological reasons of cloud cover and wind direction rather than theological ones) of dropping the Hiroshima bomb, with its light 'brighter than a thousand suns,' on the day when Christians recall Christ's face transfigured, made glorious, whiter than any fuller's bleach could muster, and remember the heavenly voice that directed the three apostles to 'Listen to him!' – to Him, the innocent, non-violent and merciful one.

From One Transfiguration To Another

After his Transfiguration, when (according to St. Luke) Moses and Elijah spoke with Jesus about his forthcoming Exodus, his 'passing over' through death to life, which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem, Jesus took Peter and James and John back down the mountain to His cross. After Hiroshima, all humanity has made a similar downward journey into the valley of potential nuclear death, a new plutonium-fuelled Passion of the Christ.

75 years ago a bomb called Little Boy destroyed our innocence. 75 years ago Fat Man's fallout drew us into the nuclear age. Will we let these evil instruments continue to corrupt our conscience and our politics, or will we let the voice from that other, non-nuclear cloud awaken us from our torpor: "This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him" (Lk 9.15)?

75 years ago, in the very months when the Manhattan Project was coming to murderous fruition, a French school teacher began a campaign of prayer for reconciliation between France and Germany. The result was the Catholic Peace Movement, Pax Christi – now established in countries around the world, committed to work for peace. It offers a space in which to question the logic of militarism and the threat of mutually assured destruction. It also engages in practical initiatives to build peace in our broken world. Will you join us? For details: www.paxchristi.org.uk.

Image: all-free-download.com

Induction of Dean of Arundel Cathedral

CANON DAVID PARMITER was officially welcomed as Dean of Arundel Cathedral in November at an evening Induction Mass presided over by Bishop Richard. The role of the Cathedral Dean is to act as president of the cathedral chapter or college of clerics and, as such, among his other duties, takes charge of the celebration of the services, taking specified portions of them by statute on the principal festivals.

The Cathedral Choir accompanied the celebration which was followed by a buffet and reception at the Cathedral Centre.

A considerable number of distinguished guests attended the Mass including: the Duke of Norfolk, the Earl and Countess of Arundel, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, Wendy Eve and Angela Standing, the Dean of Chichester Cathedral, Stephen Waine, the Vicar of Arundel and Rector of South Stoke, Canon David Twinley, Fr Dominik Chmielewski of St Nicholas' Church and Arundel Baptist Minister, Steve Lomas.

Parishioners from the Cathedral warmly welcomed their new Dean accompanied by members of Canon David's family and parishioners from two of his previous parishes in Bexhill and Godalming.

Having been Dean at the Cathedral for 14 years, Canon Tim Madeley is returning to academia to study Church History at Blackfriars, Oxford.

We wish both Canons well and look forward to sharing further news and updates.

Story & Picture: Diocesan Communications Team



Induction at Tadworth

FR STANISLAW MYCEK was inducted at a well attended Mass on 2 October, presided over by Bishop Richard.

In addition to the large number of Tadworth parishioners, the church choir and children from St Anne's Catholic Primary School in Banstead, there was a contingent of people from Bognor Regis, Fr Stanislaw's previous parish.

Concelebrating the Mass were fellow priests from around the Diocese; Fr Aaron Spinelli, Fr John Inglis, Canon Tony Churchill, Fr Ruslan Kurdiymov, Canon Bill Davern, Fr Stephen Dingley, Fr Chris Bergin and Fr Sebastian Paul.

Pictured afterwards are (L-R): Canon Tim Madeley, Deacon David Clifton, Bishop Richard, Fr Stanislaw, Fr Chris Bergin, and Fr John Inglis



Quartet Meetings During Volunteer Day at Arundel

Diocesan Administration Volunteers Meet in Arundel on 2 November for the Second Parish Volunteer Day

Introduction

THE WEATHER IN NOVEMBER can be notoriously unpredictable. Thankfully heavy rain and storm force winds were not sufficient to deter around 300 delegates from attending the second annual Parish Volunteer Day on Saturday 2nd November in Arundel.

The Diocese is fortunate to be supported by a large number of very talented individuals who regularly volunteer as church Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Finance and Gift Aid representatives. The annual Parish Volunteer Day is run for people volunteering in these areas and provides a valuable platform to share best practice, training and news. It also allows staff working at Bishop's House in Hove to meet those who support our parishes by generously giving of their time and talents.

Parish volunteers spend many hours helping the Diocese to run smoothly. As Bishop Richard said during the event 'Where would we be if it was not for these wonderful people?'

The day covered the four key administrative disciplines: Finance, Gift Aid, Safeguarding and Health & Safety

At midday Bishop Richard celebrated a Thanksgiving Mass for attendees and Bishop's House staff at the Cathedral. At the conclusion to his homily Bishop Richard said 'Today, we celebrate All Souls, a time of hope and, although the connection with the day and the work you do may appear remote, your individual roles are firmly a part of the Church's mission and hope for the future. We remember those volunteers who have gone before us – those who have carried out your roles in the past – and we pray that they are resting in the Kingdom of the Father. I am so grateful that you all continue the support for your parishes and for each other'.

After Mass delegates enjoyed a lunchtime reception where they were able to mingle and share their experiences of parish life. The A&B News used this short break to speak to volunteers, asking them for their experiences of the day and reasons for attending;

Linda Crosby from St Dunstan's Woking explained 'I look after safeguarding both in the parish and at work. This gathering gives me an excellent opportunity to better understand global Diocesan issues. The presentation by guest speaker Sr Jane Bertelsen FMDM, who gave an excellent and most informative talk on Safeguarding, was so worthwhile and helpful'

Kieran Maloney, a Diocesan Trustee from the parish of The Holy Name Esher added 'It gives me a once-a-year chance to mix with people from a wide range of disciplines from throughout the Diocese and, particularly, to get feedback. It's important to know what is going on elsewhere and to know what we can learn for our parish.'

Peter Burholt

Finance

The Chair of the Diocesan Finance Committee, Fr Jonathan How, began the morning's Finance presentations. Fr Jonathan was followed by Chief Operating Officer (COO) for the Diocese, Sarah Kilmartin, who introduced the Diocesan Finance team, provided a number of important updates and gave a comprehensive overview of the implementation of new Parish finance software (AIQ). This section of the day explored the development of reporting capability and how parishes will be able to communicate their financial position both to the Diocese and parishioners – a very positive development. Dave Newman, the Diocesan Financial Controller provided an overview of running reports in the system, with those training notes since uploaded to the Diocesan website.

Those gathered heard about changes taking place at a national level. These included greater attention from HMRC and the Charities Commission and an enhanced focus on Safeguarding and compliance. The consequence for the Diocese is, quite clearly, an increase in costs that need funding.

The Diocesan finance team used the event to launch the Parish Finance Committee Handbook to help Parish Finance Committees understand more clearly their role and responsibilities. Bishop Richard joined the session to thank volunteers and remind delegates of the importance of Parish Finance Committees within Canon Law. Following this was a 'question and answer' session which included:

- Q: Can we set-up an AIQ user group? A: This will be investigated with volunteers sought.
- Q: Electronic payments – when will we have the ability to use this system? A: A trial will be run in 2020.

David Innes

Gift Aid

Over 50 Gift Aid Organisers from across the Diocese attended the Gift Aid section of the day at 2pm. Chief Operating Officer, Sarah Kilmartin, opened the meeting, introducing Bishop Richard who thanked Gift Aid Organisers for the invaluable work they do and asked them to keep up their good work. Patricia Wrightson, the Diocesan Gift Aid Coordinator, went on to deliver a comprehensive overview of the latest developments:

- The Diocesan online recording program 'GiftWise' is now being updated every three months.
- Developments in the HSBC net banking program caused some problems in terms of online recording, though these have since been successfully resolved.

• New Gift Aid envelopes are available from Bishop's House for 'one-off' donations.

Dave Newman, the Diocesan Financial Controller, informed the group that there was now additional Gift Aid information on the Diocesan website, and that internal audits of parish Gift Aid records would restart in 2020.

The need for contactless electronic payments was discussed, as the use of cash has dramatically declined. There is currently no 'preferred supplier' of a contactless solution but various pilots are under way. It is hoped that a solution will be provided through the Diocese' procurement company ChurchMarketplace. Importantly, Sarah Kilmartin highlighted that the Diocese is now regulated by the Fundraising Regulator, which sets standards for charitable organisations.

A 'question and answer' session followed which included:

- Q: Will there be a Diocesan Fundraising Officer? A: The Diocese will soon have a someone in post, which should be a great help to parishes.

• Q: Is everything in hand in terms of the disbursement of rebate payments to parishes? A: Yes, this is up to date.

• Q: Gift Aid seems to make a significant difference? A: Absolutely - the total Gift Aid rebate received for year ending 5 April 2019 was £1.35M.

David Goodge

Safeguarding

This year's Safeguarding Session was introduced by Bishop Richard who thanked everyone for the work done and added 'we could not spread the Gospel without you'. Bishop Richard then lead everyone in prayer and remained for almost the whole of the Safeguarding presentation.

Philip Wright (Safeguarding Case-worker) and Rosemary Terry (Assistant Safeguarding Coordinator) introduced the main session and explained the new structure with Angela McGrory taking over from Philip as the Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator. Bethany Arthur is the new PA to the Safeguarding Team.

Rosemary thanked everyone for their patience during the year and explained that the regular training sessions for the rest of the year and next year would soon be on the Diocesan website. The sessions will remain to be deanery based with the aim for an initial and a refresher course being run in each deanery.

The main presentation this year was

made by Sr Jane Bertelsen, a Franciscan Sister, and a Member of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (PCPM). Sr Jane took us through her extensive personal journey from the 2001 Nolan Report, as Vice-Chair of the National Catholic Safeguarding Commission, the Cumberlege Commission review to the current Independent Enquiry into Child Sexual Abuse, and finally her appointment to the PCPM.

A complete description of the PCPM followed including the membership, their meetings and communications, and that each plenary session commenced with a testimony from a survivor. Sr Jane answered questions from participants before being thanked by Rosemary and Philip for giving up her time to speak on her work on the Commission whilst missing out on watching the Rugby World Cup Final.

David White and Philip Wright

Health & Safety

The Volunteer Day provides a valuable opportunity to share experiences and learn more about the subjects parishioners help to manage. The Health & Safety session was introduced by Bishop Richard who thanked all those who give up their time and effort to support their Parish and reminded everyone that this aspect of parish life is first and foremost about making our churches safe and welcoming spaces. The session included the following topics:

Planning Events - Property Team Administrative Assistant, Claire Johnson, explained when and how to use the online Event Manager to help plan parish events and evidence the planning process. It was noted that Night Shelters have their own Risk Assessment.

Accidents and Emergencies – Diocesan Health & Safety Consultant, Nicki Worley, (SafetyToolbox Ltd) discussed emergency planning and reporting and managing accidents and accident investigation.

Managing Residential Property – Buildings Officer, Sue Forrest, highlighted the key issues to remember where the parish is a landlord. This includes residential property which is rented out to paying tenants as well as the grace and favour accommodation provided to the Parish Priest.

Pictured below are, from left to right, Sue, Claire and Nicki.



The session was very well attended by local Health & Safety Representatives and other people from parishes who have an interest in Health & Safety and property management. Also attending was Fr Jonathan How who is a member of the Diocesan Health and Safety Committee. Fr Jonathan was on hand to assist with questions and reinforced the Bishop's gratitude for the support volunteers provide to their parishes in the administration of health and safety and property matters.

Health & Safety Team & David White

The day ended as it started – wet and windy! But despite the weather, delegates certainly departed uplifted by what they had learnt and by those experiences shared with other volunteers.

A date for next year's diary; the third Quartet Annual Meeting of Volunteers will held on the 7th November 2020 at 9.30am in the Cathedral Centre, Arundel.

The presentations shared at the Finance and Gift Aid meetings can now be found on the Diocesan website.

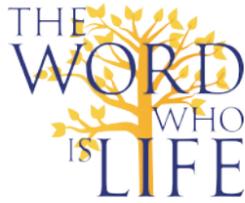
**DIOCESE OF
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A comprehensive updated guide to the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton including:

Contacts, curia, parishes, Mass times, priests, schools, hospitals, diary dates, a pictorial review of the year and the authoritative Diocesan Calendar for Arundel & Brighton 2020



The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese

Home for Good

'Every fifteen minutes in the UK, a child will be taken into care'

KATHERINE BERGIN AND I had the pleasure of attending the National Marriage and Family Life Commission early in November. It was a wonderful opportunity for those involved in the Ministry of Marriage and Family life across the country to come together, sharing ideas and understanding.

As part of the conference we were introduced to a truly special organisation called **Home for Good** (www.homeforgood.org.uk). They are an organisation focused on supporting couples who are interested in adopting or fostering children and are founded firmly on the values of the Christian Church. It was a truly humbling mo-

ment when they explained that 'every fifteen minutes in the UK, a child will come into care. Many will have suffered neglect or abuse; all will experience trauma and loss. Each one deserves a home where they will be loved, nurtured and enabled to thrive, whether that's through short-term foster care, a long-term foster placement, or with a new adoptive family.' They also shared that 40% of the prisoners in the Young Offenders units in the UK have been through the Care system and that over half of the young homeless have also experienced the Care system. There is such a need for loving families to help support and break this cycle.

The work they do is very wide and varied. They work to raise awareness within the Church communities of the needs of the vulnerable children. This includes identifying potential adoptive or foster parents, creating a Church environment that supports those who already actively foster and becoming a Home for Good Parish to raise awareness or raise essential funding. They also provide support for people preparing to adopt children, they provide ongoing support, care and encouragement to children and foster/adoptive parents and they actively lobby Government and local authority policy makers to ensure the good of the children is at the

heart of every decision. Finally, they offer training for youth leaders to work within the Parish. Details of all the amazing work can be found on their website.

They are looking for support at so many levels, please take a moment and have a look at their website for ideas and inspiration. Alternatively, you can speak with the team directly on 0300 001 0995. And above all, let us keep Home for Good and all the children in our prayers.

Simon South, Project Worker Marriage and Family Life
Telephone: 07415 306222

Which is the Best Bible Translation?



THE YEAR 2020 IS THE 'YEAR OF THE WORD' for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. If you are thinking of buying a new Bible (or downloading a version), which is the best translation to use?

Do you prefer a modern language, inclusive version or prefer the poetry of 'thee' and 'thou'? Do you want a version that reflects the latest biblical research or a traditional version? One that's easy to read and

understand or one that is strictly accurate but needs more concentration and some effort to follow?

Probably the biggest decision is whether to go for a strictly accurate word-for-word translation ('formal equivalence') or one that is easier to read and gets the ideas across in modern language ('dynamic equivalence').

There is a range of Catholic versions across this spectrum from formal to dynamic equivalence, shown below are some examples.

Look for a Catholic version. It will have all 73 books in the canon, arranged in the familiar order, and may come with the bonus of illuminating quotations from the Catholic Catechism of the Church, from the Saints or with explanatory sections.

Of course there are many more Bible versions. One of the most widely published translations is the New International Version, a very readable Protestant version that uses both formal and dynamic equivalence. In addition, there are paraphrases (not full translations) such as The Living Bible and The Message that are highly dynamic.

The current lectionary (official collection of Mass readings) of the Church is based on the Jerusalem Bible translation, but the bishops have proposed a new lectionary based on the English Standard Version - Catholic Edition (ESV-CE).

When choosing a Bible translation, the use to which it is put may affect choice. For example, if it is simply for the pleasure of reading, a dynamic equivalence version will be suitable but, for more formal study, a formal equivalence version is recommended; it catches more of the detailed implications of the text - but at the price of readability.

Finally, for physical Bibles, there is the question of design and readability. For example, what about print size? As we get older we need larger font sizes and some versions are produced with larger front sizes, typically 10 to 14 points, for example, there are large print RSV, NRSV, NAB and Ignatius versions. Does the print 'bleed through' so that it is difficult to read because of the intruding shadow from the reverse of the page? A large print size with thicker paper also means a heavier Bible, so maybe a pocket New Testament is best for travelling - or a version on your mobile phone?

It is easy to order Bibles from the internet but if the look, feel, weight and readability are important, it is critical to hold and view a version. The A&B News reports regularly on parish bookshops/repositories in the Diocese so you can check if your nearest one has Bibles in stock. If not, try the Arundel Cathedral bookshop or, if you happen to visit London, then there is St Paul's Book Centre, next to the Cathedral or the Pauline Bookshop in Kensington High Street.

...and the best translation? Obviously whichever you select to read since, as 'The God who Speaks' booklet says 'The whole point of reading and understanding the Bible is to encounter God, understand how he reveals himself to us and to grow in faith.'

A&B News Team

MAINLY FORMAL EQUIVALENCE	SOME OF BOTH	MAINLY DYNAMIC EQUIVALENCE
Douay-Rheims (15th-18th C)	New American Bible (NAB) (1970)	Jerusalem Bible (1966)
Revised Standard Version (RSV) Catholic Edition (1965-6)	NAB Revised Edition (1986)	New Jerusalem Bible (1985)
Ignatius Bible (as RSV 2 Catholic Edition)		Revised New Jerusalem Bible (2018)
New American Standard Bible (1971)		Christian Community Bible (1988)
RSV 2nd Catholic Edition (1991)		Good News Translation Catholic Edition (1993)
CTS New Catholic Bible (2007)		Contemporary English Bible; Catholic Pastoral Edition (1995)
English Standard Version (2018)		

What is a Week of Guided Prayer?

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE different ways of praying in the midst of your daily life. You will be accompanied by a trained prayer guide who will listen, encourage and help you to explore how to deepen your relationship with God.

Who is it for? Wherever you are on your journey, whether you find it easy to pray or not, this is a week for discovering more.

At the beginning of the Week, each person is assigned a prayer guide who will accompany you throughout the week. Those taking part commit to set aside 20-30 minutes each day for personal prayer. Your prayer guide will offer you resources. You will also meet with your guide for 30 minutes each day.

You can meet with your prayer guide in the morning, afternoon or evening to fit around your other commitments.

If you are housebound, your prayer guide may be able to come to you.

Trained Prayer Guides The team of prayer guides are men and women, religious and lay. All have received training in helping others with their prayer life. The role of the guide is to listen, to encourage and to support you in your everyday faith journey.

Everything that you share is confidential

Participants will not be matched with a Prayer Guide from their own parish

Worthing Deanery

Sunday 12 January to
Friday 17 January 2020
English Martyrs Parish
Goring-By-Sea BN12 4UE

To book contact Sr Catherine Quane
catherine.quane@iolmercy.org.uk

Guildford Deanery

Sunday 9 February to
Friday 14 February 2020
St Joan of Arc Church
19 Tilford Road Farnham GU9 8DJ
To book contact Sarah Style
sarah412@gmail.com

Lewes Deanery

Sunday 26 January to
Friday 31 January 2020
St Wilfrid's Church, Station Road
Burgess Hill RH15 9EN
To book contact Teresa Brooks
teresa_brooks_bisley@hotmail.com

Epsom & Redhill Deanery

Sunday 15 March to
Friday 20 March
St Michael's Church,
the Marld, Ashtead KT21 1RS
St Joseph's Church
Ladbroke Road, Redhill RH1 1LF
To book, contact John Roberts,
johnandmau@yahoo.co.uk



Arundel & Brighton Diocese

Justice and Peace Assembly 2020

St Paul's at Arundel

Saturday 25th January 10am - 4pm
St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, RH10 6RP

How can we respond to the homelessness crisis facing our society?

There are an estimated 4,000 people sleeping rough on British streets every night. Homelessness among vulnerable groups has risen by 75%, with 1 in 200 people without a home or living in temporary accommodation [Shelter, 2019]. Hear from speakers working on the frontline of the homelessness crisis as this complex issue is explored.

Bishop Richard will launch Caritas Arundel and Brighton, the Diocesan Social Action arm of the national Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) during this event.

Tickets are free | Registration & Refreshments: 9.30am
Please let us know if you have specific needs
For further information or to book:
E: rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk T: 01293 651 161
Registered Charity No. 252878

The HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

How can we respond? There are an estimated 4,000 people sleeping rough on British streets every night. Homelessness among vulnerable groups has risen by 75%, with 1 in 200 people without a home or living in temporary accommodation [Shelter, 2019]. Hear from speakers working on the frontline of the homelessness crisis as this complex issue is explored.

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E: rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk
T: 01293 651 161
Registered Charity No. 252878



The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Formation Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese

New Diocesan Youth Advisor

MY NAME IS LIZZIE and I am the new Youth Advisor for the Diocese. I have been in post a couple of months and stand on the shoulders of incredible predecessors, the most recent of which are Jack Regan and Ray Mooney. What a hard act to follow! But I come with a plan. My plan is to not work with young people... 'What madness is this?' I hear you cry!

My aim is to work with adults who want to work with young people. In the coming months I will be preparing and launching a formation and discernment programme for those in the Diocese who feel that they have a calling to work with the young of our communities. Throughout the course you will be empowered and encouraged to deepen your faith and learn how to share it with others. Everyone will be welcome, whether you are a complete novice or have years of experience.

Another big problem among youth ministers is integrating our youth streams into the mainstream church. This is where my even more revolutionary idea comes in - Young Adults ministry will become Singles and Vocational ministry. This will not only help young adults to discern what they are called to, but also to give them practical ways of making that possible. I am talking about ways of introducing those who feel called to married life to meet other like-minded young Catholics, links to the Diocesan vocations team for those called to priesthood, and links to religious orders for those called to religious life. As someone who has helped her sister discern her calling to become a 'Sister', I am really keen to help other young women do the same. There will also be opportunities to explore paths for those called to the single life.

In this way, young adults will meet other Catholics who can then raise Catholic families in our parishes. Single young adults will contribute to communities and society. Young men will become priests who will serve our parishes. And our religious communities will grow to become great power houses of prayer that can sustain us in our mission.

If you feel passionate about nurturing the future of our church, please do get in touch. Contact me: elizabeth.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk, or telephone: 01293 651158 or find me on Social Media @ABCatholicYouthService

Update on Social Action

WE MANAGED to get a quick word with Tessa Ricketts, Social Action Adviser, who told us about the various Social Action projects keeping her very busy indeed.

'We're busy planning the Justice & Peace Assembly - taking place at St Philip Howard Centre on 25 January - looking at how we can respond to the homelessness crisis, especially as temperatures drop. We are also planning the launch of Arundel and Brighton Caritas to coordinate social action initiatives in A&B Diocese and become part of Caritas Social Action network (CSAN).

At the same time, we have formed a steering group to take forward the human trafficking work looking at raising awareness of the issue in the Diocese and developing an accommodation project working with the police.

We are still responding to requests for funding to help refugees across the Diocese - but we need to look at raising funds as the Diocesan fund has been well used and is running low. Can you help?

Finally, we are in the process of producing a new refugee crisis newsletter to provide updates on how money raised for the Diocesan fund has benefited refugees and also look at the situation of refugees internationally and at ways A&B parishioners can help.

An end to modern day slavery and trafficking!

We can all play our part in bringing an end to this horrific criminal activity! St Josephine Bakhita is a saint who was a slave and we celebrate her feast day on 8 February. It is a day we can dedicate to praying for an end to slavery and trafficking. Our bishop/diocese is urging that we dedicate our daily rosary, or a time of prayer, especially on that day for an end of slavery and trafficking, and for all its victims and those engaged in fighting it.

The finding of the 39 victims in a trailer in Essex recently has particularly highlighted this evil trade. This criminal activity is present in all our communities, hidden below the surface and Arundel and Brighton Diocese, along with other faith groups and agencies is working to raise awareness and find ways to help victims.

If you would like to be kept up to date or more information on any of above, please contact Tessa Ricketts, Social Action advisor
Email: tessa.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk or anti.slavery.dab@gmail.com

Mental Health - Feeling the strain?

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS can be a time of excitement and joy for many people. However, many of us find the stress of the expectations of this season very difficult. It has become clear that mental health diagnoses are on the rise, and while our younger people are of obvious concern, those who are older are also suffering more too.

Mental illness comes in many different forms and sometimes there is a definable cause for the difficulties and sometimes the cause is not clear at all. No one asks to be mentally ill. Spiritual support that is appropriate can really help believers in their recovery.

The poster (shown below) gives the contact details of organisations that can offer support. It is important that we all know that there is always someone who will listen. Members of the Diocesan Formation Team have been working with some colleagues from other Christian churches. Our aim is to further develop as communities of solace, and hope. If you would like to be involved in our project contact catherine.martindale@abdiocese.org.uk. We are looking for: **Parish/Deanery Contacts**

We are looking for people who would like to be a parish contact for Mental Health, not to be everyone's counsellor, but be willing to signpost people to local services and encourage mental health awareness and mental health first aid training for appropriate people in your parish.

We would hope that contacts can gather a team around them to look at what the mental health priorities are for their parish community. As the project is ecumenical, we would hope the contacts would liaise across the churches in your locality. This might help with numbers for training. We also hope that there will be mutual support between the contacts. This speaks to the call from the Bishops Conference that, as Christians, we do what we can together.

There will be training for the Mental Health Contact role which we hope will take place in the spring, at which time we will provide you with information about the services in your area. There will be resources regarding training and initiatives that you may like to consider proposing to your parish.

If you are interested and would like to apply for the contact role or ask for more information, please email Catherine. Please note that due to the nature of the role we will be asking for references

and it may be that not everyone who applies will be selected. However, there are always other roles to take on and we will work with your parish to help use your skills for the project in another way.

Mental Health Professionals

If you have professional training in the area of Mental Health we would love to hear from you to discuss how you might support our work, either by keeping us in touch with the services you work in or by offering your expertise. You might wish to be considered for the role of contact in your parish, although we appreciate that such visibility may not suit everyone. Please do share this article with anyone who might be interested.

Ecumenical Mental Health Project Team Advisers

Catherine Martindale - Dialogue and Unity
Katherine Bergin - Marriage and Family Life
Margaret Fraher - Inclusion

Green for Go, Go for Help!

EMERGENCY! Ambulance, Fire, Police 999

Refugee Council 0207 346 6770 www.refugeecouncil.org.uk	Homelessness StreetLink 0300 500 0914 Shelter 0808 800 444	Mental Health Crisis Line Sussex 0300 5000 101 Textphone 0300 5000 101 Surrey 0800 915 4644 Text: 07717 989024 Textphone 18001 0800 915 4644
Samaritans Tel: 116123 need to talk?	Domestic Abuse 24hr 0808 2000 247 Text 07970350366	Modern Slavery 08000 121 700 www.modernslaveryhelpline.org
Bereavement Cruise 0808 808 1677	Non-emergency 111 for NHS 101 for Police 24 hours every day	Drug & Alcohol Surrey 0300 222 5932 West Sussex 0300 303 8677 East Sussex 0300 3038 160
Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 www.crimestoppers-uk.org/	Carers Support West Sussex 0300 028 8888 Surrey 0303 040 1234 SMS 07714 075993 East Sussex 01323 738390 text: 07860 077300.	Relationship Counselling www.relate.org.uk/
Rape Crisis 0808 802 9999 www.rapecrisis.org.uk	Child Line 0800 11 11	Life-Pregnancy Matters lifecharity.org.uk 0808 802 5433 07860077339 Text support
Shout for Support in a Crisis Text Shout to 85258	Debt Christians against Poverty 01274760720 National Debtline 08080804000 www.nationaldebtline.org	Victim Support 0808 168 9111 www.victimsupport.org
FamilyLives.org.uk 0808 800 2222 Parenting advice	Mind.org.uk Information about mental health	

This poster is brought to you by
The Ecumenical Mental Health Project in Surrey and Sussex.

Divine Renovation

Come along to meet others interested in, inspired by or utilising the Divine Renovation programme in their parishes.

An opportunity to network, share your achievements and challenges and build parish communities for the future.

For more information and to register, please contact Jon Harman
Adviser for Formation and Spirituality jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk
30 January 2020 - 1-4pm, St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley
Sandwich lunch provided

PILGRIMAGE ~ HOLY LAND NOVEMBER 2020



Tuesday 17~24 inclusive

Return flights: Gatwick ~Tel Aviv

Twin Room/Half Board Basis.

Staying in Jerusalem 17~20 & Tiberias 20th pm~24th
Price: £1,695 includes Flights, taxes, some entrance fees, accommodation as stated, all coach Tours in Israel.

Not included is personal travel insurance, and some entrance fees.

Attractions include Jerusalem, Mount of Olives, Holy Sepulchre, Bethlehem, Nazareth, The Galilee, Cana, River Jordan, Jericho, Masada, Dead Sea & much more. A busy itinerary with walking each day.

Contact: Fr. Tom Grufferty,

13 Halsey Close, Alverstoke, Hampshire, PO12 2PJ

We are Pilgrims not Tourists

This is the initiative of a group of Parishioners in Sacred Heart Parish Hook.

For more information relating to the Sacred Heart Parish contact

Eileen Cashman, Email eileen.cashman@pugsley.org

NB The Pilgrimage is open to all with a limited number of places.

£100 deposit required refundable to you until flights are booked.

Payable to St. Joseph's Parish Pilgrimage. £500 will be requested prior

to a firm booking with the Airlines. Booking form available on request

tomgrufferty1@gmail.com

Pilgrims will need a valid Passport with a life of six months after arrival back to the UK

02392520167 M07905949198

House of Prayer
35 Seymour Road,
East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB

We hold a space of silence and solitude which will support and deepen a developing life of prayer and relationship with God.

We welcome individuals and groups for day and residential retreats.
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T: 020 8941 2313 E: admin@christian-retreat.org
www.christian-retreat.org

St Joseph's Nursing home
East Street,
Littlehampton,
West Sussex. BN17 6AU

All denominations welcome. Mass everyday. Within view of the town centre. Caring and supportive environment.

Contact:
Home Manager Sarah Etherington
01903 - 711325

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Already We hold you in prayer.

Living in the heart of London, the Tyburn Benedictine Community has as its special mission, prayer for the people of England and Wales. Our monastery is built on the site of the Tyburn gallows where 105 Catholics were martyred during the reformation. Our life of prayer draws Sisters from many nations.

Please remember my intention/s in prayer.
.....
.....

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

Please send me vocations information.

Name:
Address:
..... Please print.
REPLY TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ Tel: 020 7723 7262

WE HAVE MOVED

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton
Lourdes Pilgrimage

The A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage Office moved on
27 Nov 2019

Our new address is:
The A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage Office
St Philip Howard Centre
4 Southgate Drive
CRAWLEY
RH10 6RP

If you need to, you can call us on:
01403 740110

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton
Lourdes Pilgrimage

WE HAVE MOVED

NOTICE BOARD

Deanery and Dean Details

Cathedral	Fr Peter Newsam
Brighton & Hove	Canon Colin Wolczak
Crawley	Fr Aaron Spinelli
Epsom & Redhill	Fr Stephen Hardaker
Guildford	Fr David Osborne
Lewes	Canon Jonathan Martin
Mayfield	Fr Brian Lowden
Weybridge	Canon Rob Esdaile
Woking	Fr Peter Andrews
Worthing	Fr Terry Martin
Eastbourne & St Leonards-on-Sea	Fr Anthony White

Christmas 2019 at St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth near Guildford

ALL ARE WELCOME, as always, to this Catholic Benedictine monastery, which is open to the public every day.

Tuesday 24 December - 12pm - Midnight Mass of the Nativity, preceded by carols at 11.30pm - followed by light refreshments.

Wednesday 25th December - 10am - Mass of the Nativity

Catholicism - a journey to the heart of the faith
by the acclaimed author and speaker Bishop Robert Barron, on Saturday 11 January

This is a Chilworth Abbey Study Day given by Fr John Seddon OSB, Benedictine monk, who will contextualise the episode and teach and lead discussion about its subject matter. The day begins with Mass at 9am, followed by coffee. The fifth film, which is entitled 'Our Tainted Nature's Solitary Boast' is on Our Lady, will be shown, chapter by chapter followed by teaching and discussion. Midday prayer and lunch will divide the day which concludes around 4pm. Come to all or part of the day as it suits. Bring a packed lunch and if you can, a friend. Tea and coffee is provided. Free to attend. No need to book. Future course dates in 2020 are: 8 February, 7 March, 4 April, 2 May and 6 June.

Plus: Mass Mondays to Saturdays 9am, Sundays 10am and Divine Office daily throughout the year.
Find out more at www.chilworthbenedictines.com or call 01483 899360, Sample Oak Lane, Chilworth, Guildford GU4 8QR - a short walk from Chilworth Station

Golden Jubilee of English Martyrs Parish, Goring

Sunday 5 January 2020 at 10.30 am for Mass followed by a reception
Bishop Richard will concelebrate the Mass with Fr Liam O'Connor the Parish Priest followed by the Blessing of the new Stations of the Cross Goring Way, Worthing BN12 4UH

Evening Prayer for Divorced, Remarried & Separated
23February 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
St John The Evangelist, 3 Springfield Road RH12 2PJ
Come together with Bishop Richard for afternoon tea, conversation and concluding with the celebration of Evening Prayer on Sunday. To know the approximate numbers for catering please send name and number details to: Katherine.Bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

New Year's Resolutions giving you the January Blues?
Put a smile on someone's face and become a CAFOD volunteer

WE ALL KNOW that dreaded sinking feeling. It's 2 January and, despite promising this year was going to be different, your New Year's Resolution feels hopelessly impossible.

2020 is the time to shake things up. Make a commitment to help others and **volunteer with CAFOD**. Not only will you gain new friends and skills, but you'll be integral in supporting our life-saving work.

From **volunteering with your local parish** to **spreading the word through campaigning**, this resolution will support our mission to ensure everyone can reach their full potential and live with dignity.

We have a whole range of volunteering opportunities available, from parish and school volunteering, to campaigning and events opportunities, to prayer writing and working to promote CAFOD in local and social media.

It doesn't matter how much time you can volunteer for - it matters that you're doing it.

Despite what our climate **zero heroes** would have you believe, not all heroes wear capes and every volunteer is a hero in our eyes. Let's step into the new year together and make a real difference.

Want to get involved? Contact us now.
CAFOD A&B Telephone: 014 8389 8866
Email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk
Website: www.cafod.org.uk
Elouise Hobbs, CAFOD Regional News Officer

FAIRTRADE NEWS

WE ARE ALL SLOWLY WAKING up to the fact that 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. Our entire range of products has been chosen carefully: always fair, but also sustainable and organic wherever possible. We have been supporting farmers and artisans for 40 years now and many have long understood that their future lies in farming such that their land and families remain healthy and strong.

See www.traidcraftplc

Fairtrade Fortnight: 24 February to 8 March
Fairtrade Foundation UK and International is a wide organisation comprising community organisations: churches, towns and villages, schools, universities, businesses, campaigners, shoppers - all supporting by their actions a better and just livelihood for farmers and growers worldwide. Each year we have Fairtrade Fortnight and this year will continue the focus on fairer wages and conditions for cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, particularly women. There will be lots of local celebrations and events. Please support and enjoy! See www.fairtrade.org.uk. Thank you.

BISHOP'S DIARY
DECEMBER/JANUARY

December		
Sat 28-Tue 31		Minster Abbey, Ramsgate
January		
Thu 2	2pm	Meeting with Seminarians and Enquirers at Arundel Cathedral
Sun 5	10.30am	Golden Jubilee of English Martyrs Parish, Goring
Tue 7	11am	Meeting at High Oaks
	4pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Thu 9	5pm	Meeting at Bexhill
	7pm	Meeting with Little Common Pastoral Team, Bexhill
Thu 16	5.30pm	Meeting at Arundel Cathedral
Fri 17	7pm	Golden Jubilee Celebration Mass for Fr Desmond Baker, St Mary Magdalene's Parish, Bexhill
Sat 18	6pm	Visitation to St Michael's Parish, Ashted
Mon 20	7pm	Meeting at Our Lady and St Peter's Parish, Leatherhead
Tues 21	3.30pm	Standing Committee Meeting at Eccleston Square
Wed 22	9.30am	Standing Committee Meeting at Eccleston Square
Thu 23	11am	Department Meeting, Eccleston Square
	7pm	Induction Mass for Fr Jack Lusted, East Grinstead Parish
Fri 24	7pm	Evening of Reflection at St Joseph's, Redhill
Sat 25	10am	Justice and Peace Assembly, St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley

Richard



Bishop of Arundel & Brighton
PASTORAL LETTER
 for the 1st Sunday of Advent
 1st December 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today marks the beginning of the Church's Year. The Season of Advent is a time of joyful anticipation of the coming of Jesus Christ. We reflect not only on His Birth and on His coming at the end of time; but we must take time also to reflect on the way He comes to us each and every day and the life He calls us to live.

In today's readings, Jesus commands us to "wake up" and "stay awake". These words call the whole Church to be attentive and vigilant to what is happening in our local communities, our country and our world. Christ calls us to live lives of virtue and goodness so that we are prepared for the second coming. This Season of Advent calls us to reflect on the world around us; to see where we have been sleepwalking and failed to realise the impact of our actions. Christ calls us to examine our hearts and to see where sloth has replaced our desire to love and serve our neighbours both locally and globally.

One particular area in which we must "wake up" and seek conversion is in our attitudes towards our common home. So today I write to you about a very urgent matter about which I think most of us are at least aware, even though we may not yet have made a practical response. This urgent matter is climate change, our ecological crisis and how we care for our planet. We may have been fortunate, so far, in experiencing only relatively minor indications of Climate Change in the United Kingdom. Elsewhere in our world severe and long-term droughts, floods, rising sea-levels and record-breaking temperatures are clear evidence of the damage that our

actions and our way of life are inflicting on the world. These have affected millions of people, most often in the poorest countries of the world.

Pope Francis is leading the way in calling us to be aware of what we have done to our world and the certainty that, without immediate and sustained action, we will inflict irreparable damage on our planet, adversely affecting the lives of future generations. The Holy Father tells us that every one of us must make changes to our lives and begin to repair the damage before matters become irreversible. It is time for us all to "wake up" and, if we have not already done so, engage in the practical actions necessary to make the essential difference.

This is a matter rooted in our Faith. Creation is God's gift to us and we are called to be stewards of creation. But for too long we have exploited our world and its resources, often in ignorance as to the consequences, having no regard for the impact of our actions. But now we are coming to understand what we have done. We have time to correct the damage, if we act quickly.

This Advent we begin the Journey to 2030. The Journey to 2030 is an initiative which aims to mobilise the Catholic church to act on our ecological crisis. It was created by lay Catholic youth volunteers in our own Diocese, called the Ecological Conversion Group and is supported by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has pinpointed 2030 as the date by which we must curb our greenhouse gas emissions, in order to prevent irreversible damage to our planet. It is also the target date for the

implementation of the UN's sustainable development goals. The Journey to 2030 aims to aid the Church in a conversion towards community building and caring for our planet and global family. It asks all people and organisations to come together and use their varied skills and influence to make a difference.

Resources will be sent to parishes to launch this campaign and I urge you to consider gathering friends and family to implement them. Copies of these resources will be also be available from the Journey to 2030 website: www.journeyto2030.org. May we all take a lead in following the Holy Father's call and make the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton a great example to our wider society in modelling behaviour that cares for our common home.

As we journey together towards our celebration of the Lord's Birth, let us pray for one another, for all our families and for all our parish communities, that we may be renewed in our commitment to the task the Lord has given to us, to be stewards of the gifts that God has given us and to call all around us to live in the love that exists in Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

May Mary, who rejoiced at the coming birth of Her Son, pray for us that we may truly be His disciples.

With every Blessing,

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

Christmas Tips from the Global Healing Group

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE GLOBAL HEALING GROUP!

THE BISHOPS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, following the Pope's lead, are encouraging us to change our lifestyles so as to help reverse climate change. Here are some suggestions for Christmas from the Milton Keynes Cluster Global Healing Group:

PRESENTS Try to avoid buying unnecessary presents. Each year the UK spends about £700 million on

unwanted presents. Find out what people would use before you buy. Home-baked treats are always appreciated! Buy locally to reduce transportation. Try arranging a spending limit with family and friends. Ethical items ensure that workers are paid an honest wage. Also con-

sider choosing items that are not tested on animals and are sustainably sourced. Lists of ethical companies can be found by searching online. Best of all, you might choose to make reciprocal

arrangements with family and friends not to buy each other presents. They may be relieved!

WRAPPING PAPER In Britain every Christmas we throw away 226,800 miles of wrapping paper. There is no need to throw it away. It can be re-used many times. Try using wrapping paper made from hemp, or from recycled paper. How about using attractive and re-usable cloth material instead of paper? Use ribbon instead of tape for sealing, so that the paper can be more easily re-used or re-cycled. The ribbon can be re-used as well, as can the bows.

CARDS Do you need to buy cards for people you see regularly? If you decide not to, explain that you are trying to reduce consumerism. Home-made cards are a great idea; people

like the thought and effort that goes into them, and you can re-use leftover resources – cards, calendars, things around the house etc... Another idea is to send your Christmas greetings via email. If you receive cards, recycle don't bin them. It's estimated that each year we bin 1 billion cards instead of recycling them.

CHRISTMAS TREES Millions of Christmas trees both real and artificial are discarded every year in the UK. To cut down on plastic dependence and to offset carbon emissions, buy a living tree, and keep it in the pot in the house or garden when not being used as a Christmas tree. They can be used year after year. Norfolk pines are suitable, as they don't grow large. Many Local Councils will collect and compost your tree when you've finished with it. Or you can take it to the local recycling centre, or compost it yourself in your garden. Decorations can be home-made or home baked. Use LED lights, as they use up to 95% less energy than traditional bulbs.

MEALS You've probably seen headlines like "Tackling the world's most urgent problem: meat" (United Nations Environment Programme). Growing animals for food involves destruction and pollution of the land, forests, waters and atmosphere, and takes resources from the poorest people. Why not try some vegan meals over the Christmas period? Vegan meal recipes can be found online – at Veganuary.com for instance - and there are plenty of vegan ready meals in the shops.



FOR MORE IDEAS look online. Type in something like 'tips for living sustainably over Christmas'. Also, see the short films on the Global Healing website – www.ourcommonhome.co.uk.



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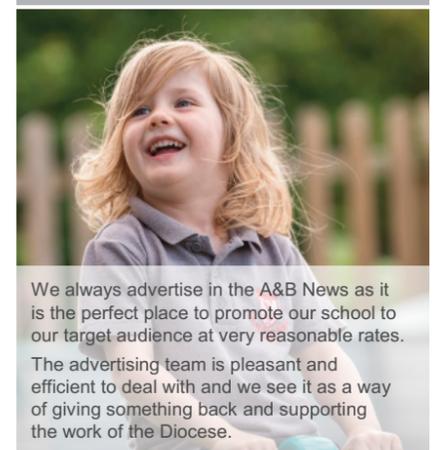
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Story: Virginia Bell

FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

HAVING ANSWERED Bishop Richard's call to assist with the refugee crisis we are really happy to say that a family of refugees from Syria has now moved into Steyning - a husband and wife and two little girls as well as a Grandma. They are being supported by interpreters and specially assigned social workers and have been provided with household essentials. Credit must go to Clair Dodgson and Fran Cable from Christ the King who have done so much to make them feel welcome along with some other parishioners who have provided household extras.

At St Peter's this week they have held their Christmas Fair which in spite of dreadful weather managed to raise an amazing £1,259 for parish funds.

It was good to see parishioners from St Peter's; The Towers joining in with those at Christ the King in Steyning for their feast day. *Penny Richardson*

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King and St Joachim

WE CELEBRATED our patronal feast of Christ The King by having Benediction immediately following the 11.30 am Mass after which parishioners entered the hall where they enjoyed a bring and share brunch. The day was not only our patronal feast day but also marked the 30th anniversary of Christ The King becoming an independent parish.

Earlier in November Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle met in the parish room at Christ The King when John Paul De Quay spoke on the Catholic Church's position in relation to the current climate emergency. John Paul graphically illustrated to us the challenges that we and future generations face and that we all have a responsibility to rise to these challenges. A lively discussion then ensued concerning the steps we all need to take to care for our planet.

On All Souls Day ceremonies were held to bless our memorial garden where the ashes of some of our former parishioners are stored and also the graves of former parishioners at Langney cemetery. Later that day we were pleased to welcome the Patcham Silver Band who, as in previous years, entertained an appreciative audience with a varied programme of music. *John Carmody*

EAST GRINSTEAD

HARVEST FOOD donations to be given to Crawley Open House were brought to the Masses at Our Lady and St Peter, East Grinstead, and St Bernard, Lingfield, over the weekend of 5-6 October.

The scaffolding inside Our Lady and St Peter has been taken down to reveal the good results of the interior renovation of the church. However, scaffolding and sheets of corrugated iron still cover much of the exterior. We are hopeful that the external scaffolding will be removed by Christmas.

Taking place over four nights in October, a 'charity feast' was held in Indian and Italian restaurants with part of the cost of each meal being donated to East Grinstead Foodbank, Crawley Open House, Age UK East Grinstead and District, East Grinstead and District Mental Health Association and Crawley Prison Fellowship.

Lingfield SVP have launched their Crawley Open House winter appeal. Every year, Lingfield SVP provide 30 sleeping bags, flasks and ground sheets, which are distributed to people seeking shelter but are not able to be accommodated when the hostel is full. *Clive Carpenter*

GODALMING

DURING THE Vigil Mass of the patronal Saint on 19 November the parish was delighted to formally welcome and celebrate the Induction of Fr Jonathan How as their new Parish Priest. On the altar to concelebrate with Bishop Richard were many clergy from the Deanery, including Fr John McKay, a former curate in the parish during Fr Michael Perry's time as PP, and Fr Duracz, chaplain of the Polish community at St Joseph's Milford, as well as many

altar servers led by Mgr Tony Barry. There was incense, ritual and beautiful hymns - accompanied by organ and trumpet - and Bishop Richard read Fr Jonathan's letter of appointment and presented him with the symbols of office. During his homily Bishop Richard praised Fr Jonathan's many gifts and expressed his belief that the parish would continue to grow under Fr Jonathan's leadership, and urged the parish to pray for him. Fr Jonathan thanked the members of other Christian denominations for attending, as well as former parishioners from Cobham and colleagues from the scouts, along with current parishioners and family members. At the reception which followed Mass, parishioner Francis Quinlan offered a toast to Fr Jonathan on behalf of all parishioners. *Sarah Stilwell*

WEYBRIDGE

WE ARE FORTUNATE to have a wonderful range of nationalities and cultures among our parishioners. On the feast of Christ the Prince of Peace - which is our parish feast day - we celebrated this diversity with an international Mass. We were first welcomed by parishioners from Singapore, Romania, Spain, South Africa and Brazil, all speaking in their own languages. The readings were delivered in Spanish and Polish (with simultaneous translation projected on a screen) and the bidding prayers came from parishioners from Argentina, Paraguay, Belgium, the Philippines, India, Australia, the Lebanon, Iraq and Zimbabwe. Even the homily was delivered in a delightful Irish brogue! There was lots of lovely music - some supplied by children from St George's junior & St Charles Borromeo schools - and it was altogether a very happy but holy event. Afterwards, an international buffet rounded off an evening of great joy.

Staying with the international theme, the Mass marked the end of our overseas charity initiative supporting Iraqi Christian refugees in Zarqa in Jordan. Over the past three years we have supported these brave families and formed a close association with the priest and parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Peace in Zarqa. They will all remain in our prayers. *Peter Clapham*

WEST BYFLEET

As part of the Remembrance Day weekend, Fr Alex blessed the graves of departed parishioners at the local cemeteries.

Later in the month the SVP held a successful Quiz Night including a fish and chip supper. Over 80 people attended and a healthy profit was raised to support the needy.

Earlier on the same Saturday we held a Parish Retreat, a prayerful and moving occasion during which we reflected on the origins of the Eucharist and the teachings of St Julian of Norwich. *Jean Wells*

EFFINGHAM

EFFINGHAM AND FETCHAM Grandparents Group hosted a lunch recently for Parents from the Parish with babies and toddlers. The initiative was to start new Catholic friendships and to thank the parents for the effort required in bringing the little ones to Mass and coping with them whilst in Church! The result was a very happy, noisy atmosphere and a delicious lunch of homemade dishes provided by the Grandparents. *Jean Wells*



HAYWARDS HEATH

WE GATHERED for Fr Martin Jakubas' farewell Mass on Sunday 17 November. Friends had travelled from near and far to be with him, as he marked the end of his ministry in Haywards Heath.

Fr Martin had chosen the music for the celebration himself, a reflection of many of the musical influences from liturgies he had put together during his 20 years with us.

Many children from St Joseph's primary school were in attendance, to both sing a hymn (In Christ Alone) after communion, and to present Fr Martin with a very special painting of St Joseph, created from the coloured fingerprints of every single child in the school.

One of Fr Martin's last acts at his farewell Mass was to present Sylvia Foley with the St Philip Howard Medal, in appreciation of her dedicated musicianship which



has enhanced so many of our liturgies and celebrations over many years.

Fr Trevor Welland was inducted by Bishop Richard as Parish Priest on 10 November. The Church was full and there was a quiet expectation as to what might happen. Rev Canon Jonathon Martin, the Dean of Lewes, read the Letter of Appointment and Fr Trevor affirm his service to the church of St. Paul.



Bob Tunks, 92, our flower arranging stalwart for many, many years was presented with the St Philip Howard Medal. He was loudly applauded and seemed delighted to be recognised in this way.

We were all invited to a magnificent buffet meal in St. Joseph's School hall which was a very happy time and everyone wished Fr Trevor well. *Jo Turner and Valerie Burholt*



HORSHAM

At the end of October, parishioners from St John the Evangelist in Horsham, made a short pilgrimage to Walsingham in preparation for the re-consecration of England as Our Lady's dowry in 2020 by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. On day one the pilgrims attended a short talk about the '1536 Walsingham plot' and its effects on the local community, mainly the martyrdom of the sub-prior and parish organist in a field on the outskirts of the village.

On day two the pilgrims walked the holy mile to the Catholic Shrine and Basilica, where the day was spent in prayer and recollection.

The pilgrimage concluded with Holy Mass in the slipper chapel celebrated by our guest Fr Tristan Cranfield and our parish priest Fr Aaron Spinelli. *Michelle Crabb*



New Headteacher for St Robert Southwell Primary School, Horsham



URSULA HARGRAVE was inducted as Headteacher of St Robert Southwell Primary School, Horsham, at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Richard and Fr Aaron Spinelli at St John's Horsham on the evening of Monday 11 November 2019. Pictured are, left to right: Irene Innes, Chair of Governors at St Robert Southwell; Fr Aaron Spinelli; Ursula Hargrave and Bishop Richard. *Marie Ryan*

Memories of 25 Years of Marriage

WE CELEBRATED our Silver Wedding on 30 July this year. The summer is a difficult time to gather family and friends together so instead we focussed our celebration around the Anniversaries Mass at Arundel Cathedral on Saturday 12 October.

And what a wonderful day it was. The whole event exceeded our expectations. The damp October weather was no match for the high spirits within the resplendent cathedral, buzzing with 77 couples and their guests all gathered to celebrate a milestone wedding anniversary. Bishop Richard, with Fr Irek Stadler our parish Priest from Our Lady of Lourdes in Haslemere, concelebrated a moving and joyous Mass with uplifting singing and readings. All couples present were invited to renew their vows - not something we have considered before. However, it was very emotional. *I even wore my wedding dress - last worn on our wedding day in Arundel Cathedral in 1994 - and we took photos in the same positions as before (both pictured).*

There was just the two of us in 1994 embarking on our married journey - now there are 5 of us journeying together, for which we are very blessed.

If you have a special anniversary we cannot recommend this Mass highly enough.

Story and pictures:
Sarah & Jonathan Adam



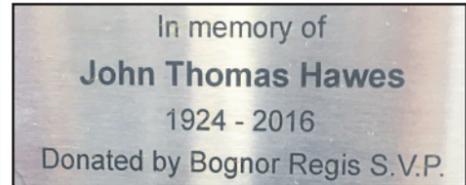
SVP in Bognor and Rottingdean

THE BOGNOR REGIS Conference of the St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Society handed over three benches to the local hospital on 7 November. The gift was made possible because of a generous bequest made by John Hawes, a resident of Bognor Regis who wished his legacy to be spent on the people of Bognor (plaque on bench pictured). The benches are sited outside the entrance to Physiotherapy and make an imposing sight. The benches were given to The Friends of the Hospital. There was a small service and prayers given by David Knight - Chaplain for the local area Foundation trust, to bless the benches.

Story and picture: David Parker

ROTTINGDEAN are Celebrating 40 years as a SVP group in Our Lady of Lourdes. The current members and founder member Ann Knox (in red jacket) are pictured.

Story and picture: Maureen Buni



Horley UCM Campaign

THE UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS of English Martyrs ran a Shoebox Campaign in October and collected 62 shoeboxes from young and old parishioners and raised £435 in donations towards the cost of postage.

The campaign is part of the Operation Christmas Child Initiative administered by the Samaritan's Purse - a non-denominational Christian relief organisation providing spiritual and physical aid to victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease and famine. They collect shoeboxes filled with a variety of gifts for children in need around the world. Pictured are some of the parishioners with UCM officers and Fr Francis Ezennia.

Story and picture: Teresita Chandler



Slindon Pumpkin Cafe

A BIG THANK YOU to Brenda Lombard and Mary Moor (pictured) who have organised the Pumpkin Cafe for over eight years during which over £40,000 has been raised for local causes. This year despite inclement weather and a reduced number of days of opening we still managed to achieve the remarkable profit of over £5,000. The café is a joint ecumenical venture with the proceeds being shared equally between St Richards and St Mary's (C of E). In previous years St Richards has supported the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage, Samara's Aid (a Brighton charity sending clothes to refugees in the Middle East) and DEC Appeals for Myanmar and Indonesia. This year most of St Richard's share will go to the Nick Webber Trust for their great work in Malawi.

Story and picture:
Anthony Jenkins



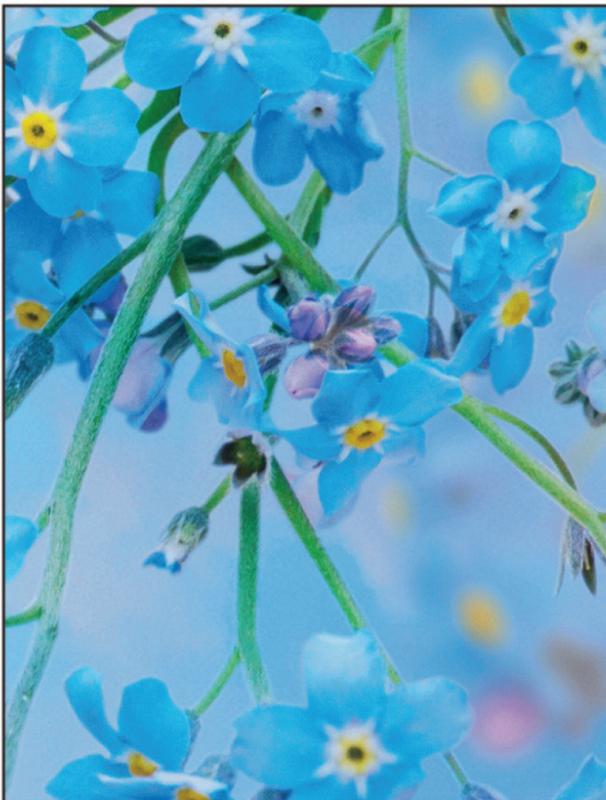
UPDATED NOTICE

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS ITEMS FOR THE February 2020 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 6 January and for the March 2020 issue by Monday 27 January. 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.

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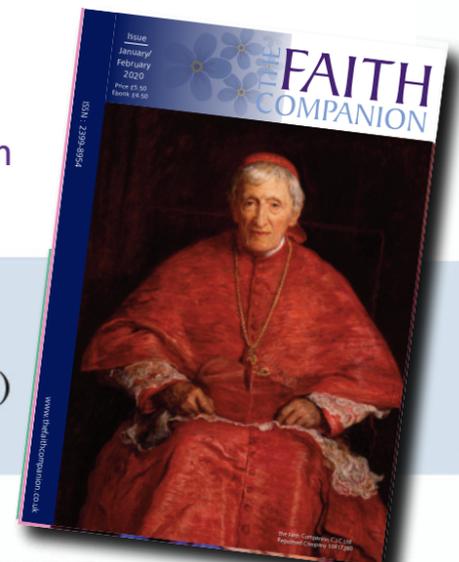
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