

FREE

# A & B NEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton  
No 275 December 2013 ADVENT



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## Pope Francis welcomes families

*HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH* reawaken in our society the awareness of the sacred and inviolable character of the family, an inestimable and irreplaceable good....

Pope Francis' concluding words encapsulated the theme of the inaugural pilgrimage of families to the tomb of St Peter. Tens of thousands of people, from across the world, gathered during the weekend of October 26 and 27 in response to the Pope's call to come together on pilgrimage. Amongst them were a group from England and Wales representing the Catholic Grandparents' Association.

Saturday's event was extraordinary in its informality. Helium balloons waving in the air greeted the pope on his arrival and gymnasts and acrobats entertained us.

A variety of families were introduced to the Pope; Young engaged couples came forward to explain how they longed for their marriage and the start of their families. A couple who had been married for 50 years came forward with their children and grandchildren, they said the secret to a good marriage was to say yes to each other and to put their marriage first. A young Syrian refugee spoke to share his belief that politicians won't solve the problems of war; he said we need to pray for peace and he thanked all the families of the world for praying for peace in Syria.

The atmosphere was one of a happy family party as children moved freely around the top of the steps hugging the Holy Father and holding his hand.

Everyone joined together to make a profession of faith and the balloons were released into the sky; a very visual statement of the joy and faith of the people gathered. (see picture above)

In his address Pope Francis said 'The life of a family is filled with beautiful moments: rest, meals together, walks in the park or the countryside, visits to grandparents or to a sick person... But if love is missing, joy is missing, nothing is fun. Jesus always gives us that love: he is its endless source and he gives himself to us in the Eucharist. There he gives us his word and the bread of life, so that our joy may be complete.'

The Pope reflected on the icon of Jesus' Presentation in the Temple, He highlighted that it depicts three generations that come together to fulfil a single mission: the elderly persons represent faith as memory, they have the wisdom and he reminded us of his affection for his own grandmother. Mary and Joseph are the family, their lives enriched by the person of Jesus. He stated firmly that there are three words every relationship needed; Please, Thank you and Sorry. He stressed that these needed to be said everyday and accepted with a good heart. He acknowledged that life is not easy and we all have problems in our relationships but insisted that if we used these phrases well we would be at peace with each other and could continue to grow in love. He concluded that the Lord is the fountain of all love and if you are short of love, His love and love for another, then your lives are poorer.

The crowds gathered again for Mass on Sunday and the Pope repeated his theme of the importance of families. He said 'Dear families, you know very well that the true joy which we experience in the family is not superficial; it does not come from material objects, from the fact that everything seems to be going well... True joy comes from a profound harmony between persons, something which we all feel in our hearts and which makes us experience the beauty of togetherness, of mutual support along life's journey. But the basis of this feeling of deep joy is the presence of God in the family and his love, which is welcoming, merciful, and respectful towards all. God alone knows how to create harmony from differences. But if God's love is lacking, the family loses its harmony, self-centredness prevails and joy fades. But the family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world; it is the leaven of society.' Full texts of the pope's speeches can be found at [www.news.va/en/news/pope-to-families-live-the-joy-of-faith](http://www.news.va/en/news/pope-to-families-live-the-joy-of-faith)

Story and picture: Katherine Bergin

His recognition of the importance of the family has resulted in him calling an extraordinary synod in October 2014. Everyone is invited to participate in putting forward their views by going to [www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/Featured/Synod-of-Bishops-on-the-Family-2014/Questionnaire](http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/Featured/Synod-of-Bishops-on-the-Family-2014/Questionnaire).





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Diocese of Arundel & Brighton

### New Headteacher of Cardinal Newman School in Hove

DR JAMES KILMARTIN was inducted as the fifth Head teacher of Cardinal Newman School on Thursday 19 September. In a ceremony full of music and symbolism Dr Kilmartin committed himself to working for a future in which the school would become known not only for its work in providing young people with an excellent education but also for its commitment to social justice and inclusion.

The opening bars of Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance* set the tone for what was to be a vibrant, varied and moving celebration of Dr Kilmartin's vision for the school. The chapel was full as Bishop Kieran called in his homily for the new headteacher to be an inspirational leader. As the choir sang *For the Beauty of the Earth* by John Rutter, eight groups, representing parents, students and other members of the wider school community created a tableau, designed and made by the Design and Technology Department, which recreated the logo of the Catholic Year of Faith. The tableau is pictured with the Bishop, Dr Kilmartin and five of the students. The image of a ship, its sails filled and its direction clear, formed a clear and powerful visual symbol of the school community moving forwards with confidence into the future.

In his response to Bishop Kieran, Dr Kilmartin spoke of his sense of being both honoured and privileged to take on the leadership of the school and thanked those present for their help and support.

Soloist Paula OSullivan, a parent, sang *La Vergine degli Angeli* with a clarity and intensity which provided one of the most moving moments of the afternoon. The chapel echoed to the words of the final hymn, *Praise to the Holiest in the Height*, and then a reception in the school's new dance studio provided an opportunity for further celebration of this important moment in the history of a unique and very special school community.

Story and picture: Peter Shears



### Presentation at St Teresa's School in Effingham

DEACON IAN WELLS, outgoing Chair of Governors, is pictured proudly holding the Papal Blessing presented to him at St Teresa's Feast Day Mass concelebrated at school on 1 October by Frs John Inglis, Alex Hill, Stephen Ortiger and Dominic Rolls. The special Papal Blessing was presented to Ian at the end of the Mass by Gill Nelson, Head of PE and the longest serving member of staff at the School, by Penny Smith, the School Head Girl, and by Georgina Hayes, Chaplaincy link Head Girl Team, in recognition for Ian's time as Chairman of Governors. Also pictured are from left to right: Michael Bray, incoming Chair of Governors; Fr Dominic Rolls; Headmaster Mike Farmer; Mrs Jean Wells; Fr John Inglis, parish priest of Effingham and Fetcham; and Angela Eddy, School Chaplain.

Ian said 'This is totally unexpected and I am overwhelmed by this very special blessing from the Holy Father. I have hugely enjoyed my 20 odd years involvement with St Teresa's, firstly as a parent and then as Governor and Chair to the Governors. I am going straight home to hang it in pride of place - it will be the first thing you see as you come into our house!'

Story and picture: Angela Eddy



### Harvest Festival at Barrow Hills School

PUPILS FROM Barrow Hills School in Witley celebrated harvest festival on Friday 4 October. The day started with an assembly led by the school chaplain, Mrs Gillie Nicholls. Following the assembly, the Year 3 children, along with a group of parent helpers, loaded the harvest gifts to take them to Dower House and The Clock House in Milford to distribute to the elderly residents and visitors there.

As is the case every year, it was a lovely morning. The children represented Barrow Hills beautifully and were so at ease chatting to the people they met. One of the classes was accompanied by Director of Music, Mr Mark Wardell, so they had the opportunity to sing to the residents at Dower House. They sang all the songs from memory, with lots of the children volunteering to sing solos, and they were brilliant.

In a slight change to proceedings from previous years, all the fresh food was taken to the Salvation Army in Guildford where they have a drop in session on a Friday evening and food is given to people who are in need. One of the school parents was kind enough to take the food there in the afternoon so that it could be shared whilst still nice and fresh.

Story and picture: Pauline McBrown



### Towers Convent School celebrates 110th Anniversary

THE TOWERS CONVENT SCHOOL is going from strength to strength after 110 Years. Sisters, pupils and staff at The Towers Convent School were in celebratory mood on the school's birthday - 110 years old! All those years ago, on 10 October, 1903, the first five pupils, four from St Maur and one from Paris, arrived at Bramber station from France having been escorted by two sisters of The Blessed Sacrament. Five other sisters, accompanied by the Chaplain had arrived the week before to make ready the house.

Having started in such a small way the school now has over three hundred pupils from the age of two and a half to sixteen and is a complementary mixture of well-loved traditions and state-of-the-art facilities. It is still very much a family community in which pupils are guided and encouraged towards achieving their potential; whether that be in Art, Drama, Sport or Music. All Towers pupils excel academically regardless of their ability on entry in to the school.

Year 9 girls, Erica, Harriet and Alice helped Catering Manager, Mrs Yorke-Johnson decorate several hundred cakes. New Headmistress, Mrs Clare Trelfa described herself as extremely blessed to be leading such a wonderful school, before tucking into a birthday cupcake!

Story: Louise Crick



# STONYHURST

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the gifts that God has given  
you! Do not be afraid to  
dream of great things!"

Pope Francis

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## Celebration and thanks to Fr David Weston

AT ST GEORGE'S IN HOVE there was a full church on 12 October as we gathered to celebrate and give thanks for the 34 year ministry here of our much loved and recently retired parish priest, Fr David Weston. Bishop Kieran, Fr David and other priests from the deanery concelebrated at the Mass. All are pictured with Fr David on the left of Bishop Kieran.

Parishioners past and present were joined by others who have been touched by Fr David's contribution to the local area. Clergy from churches of other denominations in this corner of Hove, who had met frequently with Fr David, were there as were the headteachers of the Catholic schools that Fr David had visited so often. Also present were John Armstrong and Balavendra Elias, painter and woodcarver, who had collaborated with Fr David in creating bible-based artwork for the church. Members of Fr David's family joined us for the evening.

At the ensuing reception in the hall, Fr David was presented with a card and cheque from parishioners and many cards and greetings from the children of Cottesmore St Mary's School. All enjoyed the buffet supper prepared by parishioners and, of course, no celebration would be complete without a special cake!

Fr David is still living in the parish house at St George's and contributes to parish life as and when his health permits him.

Story: Helen Granger-Bevan Picture: Dominique Lennon



## Farewell and Welcome at St Leonards-on-Sea

A FOND FAREWELL to Fr Ian Byrnes and a warm welcome to Canon Tom Treherne was the theme of our evening here at the parish of The Good Shepherd on Saturday 19 October.

Fr Ian had been with us for seven years, latterly guiding us through the choppy waters of the amalgamation of St Thomas of Canterbury and Holy Redeemer communities. Canon Tom was welcomed as our new spiritual leader to enable our growth as the parish of The Good Shepherd. Fr Ian is off on a sabbatical year, full of travel to both pastures old and new.

The Mass was celebrated in St Thomas of Canterbury church and the main celebrant was Bishop Kieran. Many of the altar servers from both churches played their parts and Bishop Kieran commented that he had never seen so many servers! The joint choirs sang joyfully including the African Alleluia *Wamuka Muponesi*. As requested by Fr Ian, many wore their national dress which was beautifully colourful.

Bishop Kieran joked that he was not popular with Canon Tom's previous parish (see the story below) for taking him away and his only recourse was to give them the youngest priest in the Diocese. Canon Tom officially accepted his appointment and the documents were signed, followed by applause of welcome.

After Mass, which ended with more spontaneous applause, everyone made their way to Concordia Hall where Barbara Okoliko and the Community Development Team had organised a buffet, including two large decorated cakes made by Pat Lee.



Presentations were made to Fr Ian with speeches of gratitude and farewell, including some humorous memories from Ian Moon. After much eating and chatting, Fr Ian and Canon Tom jointly cut the cakes which were enjoyed by all.

The whole community wishes Fr Ian well during his current sabbatical year; he shall be missed. We also welcome Canon Tom as our new spiritual leader, and look forward to working alongside him as we continue to grow in God's strength and love.

Story and picture: Sally Hick

## Weybridge bids a fond farewell to Canon Tom Treherne

FOLLOWING HIS RECENT MOVE to St Leonards-on-Sea, Canon Tom Treherne returned to Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge, to celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving and, of course, to enjoy a farewell celebration. Canon Tom had been with us for eleven years and his parting was felt with great sadness but enormous gratitude. All parishioners will have their own special memories, but Canon Tom has left his permanent mark in many ways - his wise and spiritual counsel, concern for our elderly and sick, comfort to the bereaved, the encouragement of our youth, increased devotion to the Blessed Sacrament - the list goes on.

All this was reflected in the great warmth with which parishioners bade him farewell and presented him with a handsome cheque. Given his enthusiastic support for Churches Together in Weybridge, it was particularly fitting that the Rev Steve Brunn of the neighbouring Anglican parish of St Mary, Oatlands, presented Canon Tom with a splendid hamper in recognition of his commitment to ecumenism. We all wish Canon Tom every happiness in his new parish and he is pictured with our new parish priest, Fr Con Foley (left), and Rev Steve Brunn (right).

Story: Peter Clapham

Picture: Fiona Simonds-Gooding



## Formal blessing of new Abbot of Worth Abbey

ON A FESTIVE AFTERNOON on Sunday 13 October Worth Abbey church was packed with more than 700 well-wishers, gathered to participate in the Abbatial Blessing of Dom Luke Jolly, the monastery's sixth abbot. Bishop Kieran presided at the Abbatial Blessing, in the presence of Cardinal Emeritus Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, the former Archbishop of Westminster, along with English Benedictine Abbot President Richard Yeo, and Benedictine abbots and abbesses from all over England. More than 50 Catholic clergy and Religious from the Sussex area joined the celebration. Bishop Martin Warner of the Anglican Diocese of Chichester was a welcome presence, along with several of his clergy. The locality was represented by the High Sheriff of West Sussex, Patrick Burgess. Pictured are Abbot Luke with Bishop Kieran after the Abbatial Blessing.

Occurring only when a new abbot takes office, the Abbatial Blessing does not confer any new authority upon Abbot Luke. Instead, it is an opportunity for the monastic community of Worth Abbey and its new abbot to gather with the diocesan bishop, who is the head of the local church, and the faithful of the wider community and pray for God's blessing.

Abbot Luke, who was elected on 8 August, received a copy of the Rule of Saint Benedict, a signet ring, a mitre, and a pastoral staff from Bishop Kieran. The rule and the staff are the most ancient signs of the abbot's authority, and of his pastoral responsibilities. Bishop Kieran reminded the congregation that an Abbot is chosen to be a 'guide, teacher and encourager' within the monastic community. As part of the promises made during the service, Abbot Luke undertook to 'always be concerned' for those entrusted to his spiritual care.

Following the blessing, Abbot Luke received the kiss of peace from the bishops and abbots present, as well as from the members of his own monastic community.

Commenting at the end of the ceremony on the wet weather on the day, Abbot Luke noted that it is 'good to be reminded that we are not in control of everything'.

Abbot Luke is the first old boy of Worth School to become abbot. He left Worth to study History at Manchester University, before training as a Probation Officer. He has been a monk at Worth since 1980 and has served as both Prior and Novice Master, manager of the Abbey Estate, as a Boarding Housemaster and as Senior Chaplain in Worth School. He was also the primary spiritual guide to the participants in the BBC TV documentary 'The Monastery', based at the Abbey.

Originally from East Anglia, Abbot Luke's personal interests include a love of the countryside, walking, medieval East Anglian churches and following many sports.

Story and picture: Catherine Forrester



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# A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the  
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

## GRANDPARENTS

WE ARE PROUD in this edition of A & B NEWS to feature several stories about grandparents events.

Some readers may have seen a delightful news item on television of a little boy at the families Mass in Rome, which was attended by a number of families from our diocese. (the story is on page 1). He sat on Pope Francis' chair as soon as he stood up to speak and afterwards had a conversation with the Pope and gave him a cuddle. Good news stories about Pope Francis seems to have increased in our media, even in places not known to be friendly towards the Church.

We also have had other more modest, but no less important events nearer to home. All these celebrate the importance of grandparents in family life, not just as baby minders while parents go to work or take time out to strengthen their own relationships. In many situations it is the grandparents who are leading the grandchildren in their faith.

We are now in the season of Advent, when Our Lady was awaiting the birth of her son. Surely her parents played their part in supporting Mary through the special strains of her life.

St Anne and St Joachim, pray for us all and especially for all the grandparents among us.

*Pauline F. Groves*

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## JUST A THOUGHT

### Advent Adventure

THE WORD advent is a rather ambiguous one. Dictionary definitions give it the meaning that the Church gives it – looking forward to or anticipating an event, but it is also defined as a thing achieved; a *fait accompli*.

Quite a number of the readings and prayers for Advent seem to be touched by this ambiguity; readings from the Old Testament that anticipate the New Testament are, of course, all relevant but seem, for me, to lack a sense of movement towards the great event that is about to take place

As a minor if facetious example – children quite often give up little treats like sweets for Lent but are encouraged to regularly open Advent calendars to find chocolate.

I find it is much easier to focus my mind in Advent by remembering Our Lady and St Joseph – they of course were very much looking forward to and anticipating an event! They were also experiencing a great deal of travail. I am especially drawn to St Joseph. Having overcome the fear and worry of understanding Mary's pregnancy he found himself having to transport them to Bethlehem only to find that he then has somehow to transform a stable into a safe place for the birth of Jesus.

Quite an adventure for both of them - and us!

Vince Gartlan

## From Russia without love

Fr Vladimir Nikiforov in conversation with Peter Burholt as he talks openly about his extraordinary life, including imprisonment for his faith in Moscow. He and his wife, Tamara, now live in their fourth country and their 15th home, in a small leafy village in central Sussex. He now tells his story.

### My Early Life

I WAS BORN IN 1947 in the Soviet Union. Our home was a full household, with four generations of our family all living together. I am the only child. My mother was a teacher and my father a medical doctor. However, when they had me they were still students and when they went to their classes I stayed home with my great grandmother, who shaped my formative years.

Looking back, I think my future destiny to live on the move came about with an escape from home when I could only just walk. Apparently, I got as far as 300 metres before I was captured by the neighbours! Typically, in Russia children start school at the age of seven. I taught myself to read before then at the age of five. My first book happened to be Robinson Crusoe. It was ominous that I should end up in Britain.

The English language entered my life quite early too. I began learning it by myself before it became a compulsory subject at school. At the age of 12 I was already able to write my diary in English. My parents understood German, but not English. That's why I chose English for my diary! This gave me a good chance to improve my language, but I also used to read my uncle's American engineering magazines and listen to BBC World Service. By the time I was 20 I was quite prolific.

Our city, Ufa, had a vibrant community where people of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds lived peacefully side by side. Muslims made up a significant part of the population and I used to see people going to the mosque down the road.

At school my classmates were racially and ethnically different. These days I get bored when people around me have all the same backgrounds. All schools were co-ed, so I didn't understand the problems people have with the opposite sex. In fact, I had my first date at the age of 12 and at 13 I had a sweetheart. At 14 I had my first relationship. As it happened, all these girls were older than me!

Music was part of my education. I spent seven years by my piano, the same one my mum used to play. She was so proud when I was asked to play on the local radio. For my final exam at music school I had to play Haydn's piano concerto No 11 in D. Later I was able to earn some money by playing in a jazz band.'

### Moscow and University

'When I was 15 we moved to Moscow as my father decided he wanted to be a small fish in a big pond, rather than a big fish in Ufa's small pond. It was time for me to go to university. The competition was fierce for university places – I had to compete against 15 others and, even after selection, I had to go through one term with exams to prove I was worthy of this sought-after place. I studied medical biology for two years. Then I realized that it was not my cup of tea and switched to mathematics and logics, which I studied for another four years. In fact, my dissertation was published in a national mathematics journal.

I never paid for my education, but instead was paid if my marks were good (they were!). The idea of paying for university education makes me sick. At the university I developed interest in Oriental philosophy. I studied Indian and Chinese philosophy, and I tried to practice Buddhism meditation and Hinduism. Even today I still practice Qigong meditation.

Just after my graduation in 1970 I married Tamara. In a few years after university I became a highly paid computer programmer and Tamara was a doctoral student of biology.'



### Religion Starts Here

'In the Soviet Union religion was not entirely forbidden. Formally the Soviet state was secular. But what was left of religion was strictly limited and thoroughly controlled by the secret police, the KGB.

I was baptised as a baby in the Russian Orthodox Church. My great grandmother saw to it - she was the only believer in the family. There was no paper trail of my baptism as it could damage both my parents' futures.

I had no contact with the church whatsoever until my mid-20s. I was 22 when I first read the Gospel. My friend stole a book of the New Testament from his landlady. She had another, he said, so wouldn't miss this one. We lit the candles, read the Gospel out aloud and drank red wine – I think this must have been my first liturgy.

There was an underground religious renaissance among the intellectuals in Moscow at the time, something shunned by the authorities. With Tamara, we started to become involved in this Christian movement; to hold ecumenical prayer groups and Bible studies. As our group grew the KGB noticed us, even if I did not notice their interest at that time.'

### My Journey to Priesthood

'In 1975 I got a Russian translation of the documents of Vatican II. That was the turning point of my spiritual journey. Vatican II was the only reason I became a Catholic and then a priest. We had a good knowledge of the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow or Catholic Church in the Baltic States. It was clear that they both were ossified and unable to develop. From Vatican II came a fresh wind, calling the Church to raise the sail and move into the future.

In 1977 a visiting Catholic priest, Professor Chlewinski from Poland, after seeing our work, suggested that I should start training for the priesthood. He contacted Cardinal Wysinski and a programme of my studies was set up for me. I travelled to Czechoslovakia and became a priest on 23 April 1981. It may make you smile, but I had to be conditionally baptised and confirmed as there was no written certificate of my original baptism.

On my return to Moscow Tamara and I, together with our friends, started organizing a clandestine Catholic parish. A priest only for few months, I needed all the support I could get. The clandestine character of my work excluded any help from the official church. Fortunately I came in contact with Fr Eugene La Plante, a Catholic chaplain to the diplomatic mission. He helped me with his advice and he also was able to supply us with religious literature, particularly for teaching children.

I was rather naïve not to understand that, by virtue of his ministry, Fr Eugene had wide range of contacts among diplomats. Because of this, the KGB would watch every step he made and my contact with him became immediately known to them. On the other hand, among the members of our community there were people who had access to certain classified information. I did not link all these associations up – however, the KGB did! They had bugged our apartment and, with their months of surveillance, they tied up all the loose ends and gave reason to put me in jail.

In 1983 I was imprisoned for 8 months for 'subversive religious activity sponsored by the West'. This was a very difficult time for Tamara as she could easily be put behind bars for teaching children religion, which was forbidden by the criminal law. Every morning she left home not knowing if she would end the day in a prison cell. My arrest came two weeks before her doctoral exam and she was immediately sacked from the university. Her career in science was ruined.

In prison the KGB did their best to break my spirit by putting me into the psychiatric unit for 40 days. During this period I had to prove I was sane; it was the hardest time in my life. Perhaps I wasn't sane?

What I say next may sound strange, but imprisonment gave me the chance to meet with all sorts of people – something which lasts with me even today. In the end I had to give a promise to stop my activity, on which condition the court trial was indefinitely postponed. How could I continue a clandestine community which was no longer clandestine?

After prison, there was no life. The surveillance continued as the KGB suspected I had more contacts unknown to them (they were right!). With my qualifications I could easily get a job only to be informed after a while 'Sorry, I have been told that you must leave'. Fortunately, there was one man who defied the authorities and refused to sack me. I shall always be grateful to him for that as long as I live.

However, at the start of 1987 I was attacked by the Soviet media, which portrayed me as an agent of the hostile Western forces. Life was getting very difficult for both of us. I consulted fellow priests and my situation was discussed in the Vatican. It was decided it would be better if we leave the country. But how were we to leave? Nobody was allowed to leave at that time.'

### How We Became Stateless

'People from different countries helped us. A Moscow friend of mine was married to a Swedish man who brought me into contact with Bishop Brandenburg of Stockholm. He issued an invitation to work in his diocese. The Swedish government granted us political asylum and entry visas.

This sounds all very straightforward, but every application we made for exit visas was refused for two years. Help came first from Graham Green, who was a personal friend of President Gorbachev and his First Lady. After his visit to Moscow I was informed that the exit visa may be granted, but only on the condition that we would discard our Soviet citizenship. How to discard it? It seems to be just another plain refusal.

The final push came when President Reagan came for his first visit to Moscow. Some of my friends put our names on his list. Almost immediately I was called to the authorities and offered to fill an application for an exit visa. Twenty five years ago on 20 November 1988 our plane landed in Stockholm.'



continued on page 5

## St Philip Howard Catholic High School welcomes survivor from the Holocaust Educational Trust



ON 4 OCTOBER, over 350 students from St Philip Howard Catholic High School heard testimony from Holocaust survivor, Professor Ladislaus Löb, as part of a visit organised with the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET).

*Sam Finniear in year 13 writes:*

During a short talk Ladislaus explained his torment as he and his father made their way across Europe seeking refuge. His emotive story gave the pupils an insight into the horrors of the Nazi's 'Final Solution' and the desperation of outcast minorities as they fled countries occupied by Nazi Germany.

Although Löb, determined to plug his book, 'Rezső Kasztner', was limited to only an hour-and-a-half, he was bombarded with questions during the question-answer session which followed and afterwards was crowded by students, asking for his autograph. As one of two students from Philip Howard visiting Auschwitz as part of the Lessons from Auschwitz programme, I was fascinated by Löb's incredible story and how he eventually found solace in Sussex, as a lecturer of German for the university. It's brilliant how a man who endured so much during the war as a child can finally speak about the Holocaust and make difference in so many young people's lives.

The visit is part of the Holocaust Educational Trust's extensive all year round Outreach Programme, which is available to schools across the UK.

*Mr. David Carter, Headteacher at St. Philip Howard High School, said:*

'It is a privilege for us to welcome Professor Ladislaus Löb to our school and his testimony will remain a powerful reminder of the horrors so many experienced. We are grateful to the Holocaust Educational Trust for co-ordinating the visit and we hope that by hearing Ladislaus' testimony, it will encourage our students to learn from the lessons of the Holocaust and make a positive difference in their own lives.'

*Karen Pollock MBE, Chief Executive of the Holocaust Educational Trust added:*

'The Holocaust Educational Trust educates and engages students from across the UK, from all communities about the Holocaust and there can be no better way than through the first-hand testimony of a survivor. Ladislaus' story is one of tremendous courage during horrific circumstances and by hearing his testimony, students will have

the opportunity to learn where prejudice and racism can ultimately lead.

At the Trust, we impart the history of the Holocaust to young people, to ensure that we honour the memory of those whose lives were lost and take forward the lessons taught by those who survived.'

*For more information about the Holocaust Educational Trust Please visit [www.het.org.uk](http://www.het.org.uk)*

### From Russia without love (continued from page 4)

#### Time in Sweden and Our Move to England

'In Sweden we had first to learn the language. I was seconded to a parish in Stockholm. Then Bishop Brandenburg sent us to London for studies at Heythrop College. Tamara got her Master's degree in Pastoral Studies and I was awarded my doctoral degree after seven years of research, which I had to combine with my ministry. The results of my work were published as a book in New York in 2006.

We became Swedish nationals 4 years after our arrival and, today, we are still citizens of the country which took us in - in our desperate time of need. When we eventually departed, part of my heart was left behind in Sweden.

Back in Sweden, we moved to Gothenburg where I was appointed chaplain to the retreat centre. By that time it was clear that I could not stay in Sweden because in the dark Nordic winters I developed seasonal affective disorder - more commonly known as SAD - in simple terms, winter depression.

The first opportunity to move came from Liverpool. I got the job as teaching chaplain at Liverpool Hope University. Later the position of chaplain was advertised by one of top 20 universities in the UK, Royal Holloway at the University of London. Much to my surprise I got it. I heard later that the students' interviewing panel gave me a unanimous vote in my favour because I was against fundamentalism of all kinds. The 10 years at Royal Holloway were probably the best in our lives. I wanted to return to parish work while I am not too old and still able to make a fresh start. That is why I am now residing in mid-Sussex. Who knows what is in store for Tamara and me?'

*Footnote*

*It is not often that I have the opportunity to meet with such an extraordinary man. He ends our conversation giving the impression he has his feet up and watching the birds in the trees. How wrong I am!*

*Apart from supporting a very busy parish, he is chaplain to the local Catholic College and hospital; is giving weekly talks on post-Vatican II; gives talks at prominent inter-faith gatherings, both in our diocese and elsewhere; is creating links for his parish with the local Muslim community .....and so the list goes on and on.*



*One is told never to judge a book by its cover. Here is a very good example and we have yet to see many more chapters written on this extraordinary priest's life. We are so fortunate he and his wife landed on our spiritual doorstep.*

*Finally, have you thought how far you would go for your faith?*



Diocesan Golden Jubilee  
Preparing a way for the Lord

#### Season Two – Divine Revelation: The call to communion and friendship with God

THE DIOCESE IS NOW UNDERWAY with the second season of its preparations for Jubilee 2015. As you will know from Bishop Kieran's pastoral letter, this season is focusing on Divine Revelation. In many parishes, groups have already begun to meet to discuss the meaning and implications of this revelation, as presented in Dei Verbum, the document of the Second Vatican Council.

As Bishop Kieran and other presenters make clear in the DVD, this revelation contains a startling invitation, the invitation to relationship, even friendship, with God. Such a claim is worthy of attention and contemplation so that as men and women hearing this call we can respond wholeheartedly.

The Council document on Revelation urges Catholics to spend time with the Bible, to deepen their knowledge of these inspired texts which contain the word of God, expressed in human language through the grace of God and gifts bestowed upon the human authors by God who willed that they should be his messengers.

As with Season One, participants are encouraged to submit their questions, arising out of reflections on the document and the presentations in the DVD. These questions will be answered by Bishop Kieran and will also feature in the round of open meetings which he will host in the spring, as the diocese continues its journey to Jubilee. Any questions should be forwarded to the Jubilee Office at DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP, or by email to [jubilee@dabnet.org](mailto:jubilee@dabnet.org)

It is hoped that you have found a group to join. If not, why not form a group with family and friends. Materials will continue to be available from the DABCEC Bookshop.

*Andrew Bayes, Pastoral team co-ordinator*

#### The Jubilee Song

Verse 1

We are young, we are old, in your world our lives unfold.  
All around us earth's abundance brings more than our hands can hold.  
Set us free, make us see what our stewardship must be:  
All the gifts of your creation shared out equally.

Refrain:

Let the trumpet sound to announce the year.  
Let it tell God's people that their time is here.  
Like a living stream, let mercy flow.  
Like a mountain high, let justice grow.  
Let the reign of God from sea to sea set captives free. Cry "Jubilee"

Verse 2

For the sake of the poor Jesus came and gladly bore  
condemnation and derision from those who enshrined 'the law.'

He proclaimed endlessly laws of love and jubilee,  
breaking chains of debt and empire, setting nations free.

Verse 3

All the land, soil and seed, can provide for ev'ry need,  
yet God's children thirst and hunger, divided by human greed.  
Let the earth, sea and sky, now reflect and glorify  
God, whose tenderness and mercy lift the lowly high.

Verse 4

Jesus Christ yesterday and tomorrow and today  
through all times and through all ages, your word is our living way.  
That the world be made new, keep your gospel people true.  
Let us once again with courage rise and follow you!

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# The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Pastoral Team

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Some Dates for Singers and Musicians

### Rite of Election

Saturday 8 March 2014, Arundel Cathedral, 2.30pm  
Rehearsal at 1.00pm

### Chrim Mass rehearsals

Saturday 22 March, Arundel Cathedral Centre  
1.30 – 4.00pm  
Saturday 5 April, St Joseph's, Guildford, 1.30 – 4.00pm

### Chrim Mass

Wednesday 16 April 2014, Arundel Cathedral, 6.00pm

To register your interest in joining one of these celebrations please email [catherine.christmas@dabnet.org](mailto:catherine.christmas@dabnet.org)

**M**Y NAME IS AIDAN CANTWELL, and I'm writing to introduce myself as the new lay Diocesan Social Action Adviser in succession to Sue O'Brien. I am a native of A&B, having grown up in the parish of St Bernard's, Lingfield in Surrey.

Following an early career in the five star hotel industry, I spent 5 years in the role of Director of Finance and Support Services for Woking and Sam Beare hospices. I hold a Masters degree in Voluntary Sector Organisations and was a Trustee for a social care charity in my home village for nearly 20 years.

In 2009 I moved to Ghana to be a VSO volunteer. Over nearly two and a half years I enjoyed a number of diverse roles including Business Development Advisor and Project Manager for many local NGOs. I finished my time in Ghana working for Christian Aid leading a pilot project to support organic farmers from the country's poorest regions.

Since returning to the UK in 2012 I've been working for the Social Action charity Envision which operates in some of the most disadvantaged areas of the country. Their focus is empowering young people to create positive change, so that they can build the sort of society we all want to live in.

You can contact me here at DABCEC on (01293) 651154 or [aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org](mailto:aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org)



### Advent 2013

### Prayer and Reflection Programme by the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

readings for each Sunday of Advent followed by an excerpt from the Bishops of England & Wales' teaching document *The Gift of Scripture* which will complement this year's diocesan Jubilee focus on Divine Revelation.



Booklets can be ordered from the DABCEC bookshop:  
Tel: (01293) 651165 Email [bookshop@dabnet.org](mailto:bookshop@dabnet.org)

A downloadable version is available from the diocesan website:

[www.dabnet.org/PastoralTeam/adform](http://www.dabnet.org/PastoralTeam/adform)

More information from David Wills Tel: 01293 651157

Email: [david.wills@dabnet.org](mailto:david.wills@dabnet.org)

### YouthGather 2013 Sponsorship Money

#### Reminder from Ray Mooney

Thank you to all the wonderful walkers, and helpers, who took part in Youthgather 2013, and made it such a successful and prayerful event. Please could I kindly ask that any outstanding monies be sent to Youthgather 2013, DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP.

Cheques should be payable to DABCEC

This year's charities are CHEC – Chailey Heritage Enterprise Centre, in East Sussex, which employs severely disabled children with skills in computing and graphic arts and ETC-Empower the Children – a charity in Calcutta, India, which provides an education and daily cooked meal for underprivileged children.

Youthgather 2014 will take place at St Andrew's School, Leatherhead.

Love, Prayers, and Thanks – Ray

Next year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Redshirts. By the time the new group for 2014 is selected well in excess of 500 young people will have worn the famous Red Top. To mark the achievement of the Redshirts and to profile the importance and success of youth ministry the diocesan youth service will be hosting a big celebration. It is hoped this will take place in autumn 2014

We would love to make contact with every Redshirt and Redshirt Leader both past and present (including the new 2014 group). This way we should ensure a Big celebration.

And speaking of the Redshirts 2014 group - if you are interested in applying to join this amazing group next year please contact

Ray Mooney on 01293 651158 or [ray.mooney@dabnet.org](mailto:ray.mooney@dabnet.org)



## CALLING ALL REDSHIRTS!

Can you spot yourself here?  
Do you recognise your year group?

I would like to invite you to a very special event to be held next year to celebrate the

## 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE REDSHIRTS

so please get in touch with me...  
I would love to hear from each and every one of you

**RAY MOONEY,  
DIOCESAN YOUTH ADVISER  
01293 651158  
[ray.mooney@dabnet.org](mailto:ray.mooney@dabnet.org)**

A background image showing a row of multi-story houses with white facades and red brick accents, set against a clear blue sky. The houses are viewed from a low angle, looking up.

# Homes & Property

Property Section for A&B News

For advertising contact Alice on 01440 730399 or [properties@cathcom.org](mailto:properties@cathcom.org)

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## Grandparents' Groups

HERE ARE MY IMPRESSIONS of the first meeting of the Grandparents' Group in the recently combined parishes of Our Lady of Sorrows in Effingham, and the Church of the Holy Spirit in Fetcham.

Any meeting that can get together two groups of people of differing character in the name of Jesus will inevitably be positive, and we proved that once again we love each other and are indeed one.

To be absolutely frank I was not that enthusiastic prior to the meeting, for the simple reason that I felt that we had probably been there before and done that. Having been involved in many prayer groups, faith groups, bible study groups and the like over many years in which inevitably, and with the trust that is created, we would have shared most of the joys and sadness that life had brought us.

The difference from any of those groups is that the Grandparents' Group binds us together in the one mutual respect that we are not only parents but are indeed grandparents, with the desire to concentrate our efforts to that one noble calling.

In fact our guest speaker, Christine Evans, from the Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Commission, eloquently outlined the background to the Catholic Grandparents' Association and the importance of being within a group solely in the role of grandparent. As we know, part of our role is to help to pass on the Faith. There is no doubt the Lord knows we need this in the fragmented society that exists in the world with which we are most familiar.

The breakdown in the family unit is the sad tragedy of our times and the results are there for all to see. Without doubt a strong family unit is at the very heart of a civilised society and therefore is a good enough reason to belong to a group of people, who at the very heart have the desire to preserve and strengthen it and embrace the essential spirituality that binds it together.

And so, how enthusiastic was the desire to discover what a Grandparents' Group was all about? The short answer is amazingly so. Our small hall was well filled: I guess 50 or so grandmas and 6 grandpas.

The meeting was organised and admirably led by Jean Wells, wife of our Deacon Ian, It was, of course opened and closed with prayer. We had: Christine's excellent address; conversation; a questionnaire by Jean to discover how we would go forward in the future; tea; cake; and even a Grandparents Quiz! We shared love and goodwill.

It was indeed a good start for an inaugural meeting and we have agreed to meet monthly in future. We hope and pray that this enthusiasm will continue.

Story: Tony Farino

## Grandparents' week at Anney School



ANNEY SCHOOL celebrated Grandparents' week with a hugely popular and successful series of tea parties hosted in turn by every class in the school. Many grandparents of children at the school participated and parishioners who were grandparents also attended. Several parishioners kindly volunteered to help serve the refreshments and parents and volunteers provided a delicious selection of cakes for the celebration. One of these events is pictured above.

Story and picture: Debbie Berridge

## Food for thought in Wadhurst

FR MARTIN O'CONNOR OUR NEW-ISH parish priest in Wadhurst recently challenged us to do something practical to help others and we are now involved with a local food bank, Nourish, and have a monthly collection of food. This initiative has led to interest from the other Churches. So last Sunday evening one of the founders of Nourish, Olga Johnson came to talk to CTIW About the nitty-gritty of the organisation. She described the importance of a proper structure. Nourish has two co-chairs, a treasurer and six trustees who meet monthly. Nourish only provides food bags for families who are referred by authorised agencies such as the Citizens Advice Bureau and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

She described the kinds of situations which lead families to need this basic help, for example, getting into debt due to bereavement, being made redundant, fleeing domestic abuse or just because they are experiencing benefit changes or are in very low paid jobs. She also outlined some of the unexpected problems which dictate the most useful type of food to give as so many people just can't cook. They therefore decided to provide recipes with the food bags only to discover that in the most deprived areas 21% of people have poor literacy and cannot follow a recipe.

There are 40 volunteers and a paid part-time administrator. Clearly some of the volunteers are skilled in the gentle art of arm-twisting as last year Asda gave a ton of food, AXAPP Staff gave half a ton of food, the Potato Shop give 50 kg per week and local schools, Churches and the public are continuously generous. Some families are now given weekly £5 vouchers (Unforgeable!) donated by a local butcher and greengrocer. Nourish realise that increased fuel charges will increase poverty and their future plans include; asking more GP surgeries to refer clients, increasing their voucher schemes, acquiring more storage space and being part of the new Resources Centre planned for 2014. Our parish are privileged to be able to contribute.



Story and picture: Peggy Purslow

## Annual Marriage Anniversary Mass

OUR ANNUAL MASS for those celebrating a personally special anniversary took place in Crawley on 5 October. Nearly 50 couples gathered to share a beautiful Mass which was enhanced by some members of our diocesan choir.

During his sermon Bishop Kieran spoke of the importance of anniversaries as a time to take stock and reflect on how we have developed. He said that it is a time to look at ourselves, at what we have become and to renew ourselves in love. He reminded us that marriage is a natural state to be in, and that couples can give an important witness to the strength of relationships in our modern society.

Wedding fayres may appear to provide all that is needed for a good wedding; all the trimmings and extras that people feel they need, can be found under one roof, however, they do not provide what is needed for a real marriage. Real marriage is not just an event of one day, it is two people establishing themselves and grounding themselves in love for the rest of their lives. The soul is where this love resides and it is this soul that is missing from the heart of our society. We live in a world which would appear fixated on helping others if you examine our health and safety policies but these lack translation into any reality and often exist solely for the purpose of self preservation and to prevent being sued. The love married couples have for each other needs to demonstrate to society what love truly is all about. Bless one another today; reflect on what you have become, on how we show God's goodness to others through actions generated from our souls, the soul of love.

After Mass everyone lingered in the Friary Hall, sharing happy memories and a slice of cake. Pictured with the bishop cutting the celebration cake are Frank and Alison Healey who are celebrating their 50th anniversary this year.

Story: Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser



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**From Dr Salvo Xerri at 4000 metres**

I AM NOW BACK from my adventure on Kilimanjaro. I'm sorry to say that I did not make it to the top but only reached 4000 metres. The problem was altitude sickness which affected my breathing and forced me to retire. The good thing is that the donations have kept coming and there is a good chance that it will reach the £4000 mark.

I am leaving the justgiving site open till the end of this month and hopefully by first week in November I should be able to let you know the final tally.



**NOTICE BOARD**

**MASS FOR THE DEAF**  
on the first Saturday of every month unless otherwise stated:

**7 December (2nd week of Advent) - St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2PJ**

**THE RETURN OF THE KING!  
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**IRAQI CHRISTIANS IN NEED  
A Christmas Celebration,  
Reading and Carols followed by Grand Iraqi Buffet  
1 December 2013 - 7.30pm  
St Margaret's of Scotland Church  
Twickenham TW1 1RL**

£25 for concert only - £55 to include buffet. More details and tickets available from Joe on 07730 363038 [jba-hoshy@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:jba-hoshy@blueyonder.co.uk) or Maysoun on 079 7988 7968 [mbjuma@yahoo.com](mailto:mbjuma@yahoo.com)

**LOURDES MEDICAL ASSOCIATION -**  
calling all pilgrimage doctors.


The Lourdes Medical Association is the national organisation for doctors who accompany sick pilgrims to Lourdes

The 40th Annual Conference and AGM will be held at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow on Saturday 1 February 2014

Friday - Tours of museums, galleries, etc.  
Conference dinner on Saturday evening.  
Full details on the LMA website  
[www.lourdesdoctors.org.uk](http://www.lourdesdoctors.org.uk) or contact [lourdesmedicalassociation.secr@gmail.com](mailto:lourdesmedicalassociation.secr@gmail.com)

**SCHOLA CANTORUM OF ST PANCRAS, LEWES RELEASES FIRST CD 'O SING JOYFULLY'**

The Schola Cantorum of St Pancras Catholic Church in Lewes released its first CD 'O Sing Joyfully' on 27 October to raise funds for the work of the Catholic Church in Cameroon. The recording features music sung by the Schola during the liturgical year, including highlights such as: *Justorum Animae* by William Byrd, *Exsultate Justi* by Viadana and *Beati Quorum Via* by Stanford. The Schola, which has 12 members, currently sings at the 9am Mass on alternate Sundays during term time and for major feasts. Founded in 2009 by parishioners at St Pancras, the Schola offered 3 Choral Scholarships to students from the University of Sussex in the academic year 2012/13. This year we have 4 scholars from the Universities of Sussex and Brighton. The Schola will be singing Byrd's *Mass for Four Voices* on All Saints Day 2013. CD cover design by Chris Arran [www.chrisarran.com](http://www.chrisarran.com).



Andrew Robinson Musical Director  
Schola Cantorum of St Pancras Catholic Church, Lewes  
[andrewrobinson79@gmail.com](mailto:andrewrobinson79@gmail.com) tel: 01273 480 868  
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**Images of Christmas and Syria**

IN THIS SEASON OF ADVENT, as we look forward to Christmas, we are surrounded everywhere by images and symbols of Christmas. For me one of the strongest images is that of the child Jesus in the arms of his mother Mary in a stable. For me this image is thought provoking and somewhat sad but yet one of hope, expectation, happiness, new beginnings and family.

At this particular time, the picture of the Holy Family in a stable brings to mind other less hopeful images, images of Syria's people living in makeshift camps, in derelict or half-built buildings, in cowsheds, even in the open air. The scale of the crisis caused by the war in Syria is enormous: millions of ordinary families have had their lives torn apart. Over 100,000 people have been killed and more than six million children, women and men driven from their homes.

Advent is a time when we are called to prepare a way for the Lord, to reflect and make changes so that we are ready for the coming of Christ who is the light of the world. We have heard that we will no longer walk in darkness, but will be a people of light. We are also called to think about how we can bring light to others, especially those who are struggling in any way. This Advent, let us bring light to the people of Syria by praying for them and giving to them.

<http://www.cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Syria-Crisis-appeal>

Deirdre McMahon

**Pope honours Camberley worker**


WHEN CATHOLIC PARISHIONER Jane Lawlor went to her regular Mass at St Peter and St John church in Camberley on Saturday 21 September, she hardly expected to come home with a medal but she did! At the end of the service Camberley and Bagshot parish chairman, Brian McBride read the citation from Pope Francis recommending Jane for the Bene Merenti medal.

Bishop Kieran had come to the parish for the occasion and presented the medal to a very surprised recipient. Bishop Kieran commented, 'Pope Francis has sent to me this medal and this certificate to present to you, Jane, to honour the good works which you have done for the parish over the last 40 years. On behalf of His Holiness I am delighted to present this Bene Merenti Medal to you.' As the medal was pinned onto Jane's lapel there were loud cheers and prolonged clapping. Pictured with Bishop Keiran and Jane is parish priest Mgr Richard Madders MBE.

Jane has been an active Church member in various capacities since she and her husband Don came to the area in the 1970s. Among the duties she has been involved in are the Camberley Care project, children's instruction, flower arranging, cleaning, social events, and ensuring that the church is a very welcoming place for all.

After the Mass the congregation gathered in the church hall for a celebration drink.

Story and picture: Angela Fehrenbach



**Guildford Artist**

STEPHEN Hornsby-Smith, pictured with the Mayor of Waverley, Mrs Pat Ellis at his exhibition at Cranleigh Arts Centre in October. Stephen, is a parishioner of St Pius X Church, Merrow, Guildford. To find out more about his work see [www.stephenhornsby-smith.com](http://www.stephenhornsby-smith.com)

Story and picture: Julia Steele



**BISHOP'S DIARY**

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**

Saturday 30	12.15pm	Healthcare Workers Mass, The Friary, Crawley
Sunday 1	6pm	Friends of Arundel Cathedral, Advent Vespers, Arundel Cathedral
Wednesday 4	10.45am 6.45pm	English Martyrs School, Worthing Cathedral Deanery Schools' Advent Service, Arundel Cathedral
Thursday 5	6.30pm	Worthing Deanery Schools' Advent Service, Arundel Cathedral
Saturday 7	9.30am	'Crossing the Threshold Day', Nottingham Diocese
Sunday 8	11am	Mass and Lunch at St George's parish, Polegate
Monday 9	11.30am 6.30pm	Visit to Firgrove Hill, Farnham Mayor of Worthing's Christmas Carol Service, St Mary of the Angels, Worthing
Tuesday 10		CAFOD Board Meeting
Sunday 15 - Monday 16		Bishops' Meeting in Clifton Diocese
Tuesday 17		Carol Service, St Peter's School, Merrow
Wednesday 18	5pm	Carol Service, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Langley Green
Friday 20	12 Noon	Diocesan Staff End of Year Mass, DABCEC
Saturday 21	3pm	HCPT Carol Service, Crawley
Tuesday 24	11pm	Carols and Readings Followed by Midnight Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Wednesday 25	9.30am	Christmas Mass, Arundel Cathedral

## Centenary celebration of the parish church of Effingham with Fetcham

OUR LADY OF SORROWS church in Effingham celebrated the centenary of its consecration on Sunday 6 October. Bishop Kieran celebrated Mass with parish priest Fr John Inglis and Kiltegan Frs Patrick McCallion and Martin O'Connor - the previous parish priest, supported by Deacon Ian Wells. All joined the parishioners at a celebration in the church hall afterwards. Pictured is the bishop with the resident clergy and some of the parishioners outside the church after the Mass.

The cost of the church and the priest's house was met in full by George Pauling who had made his name expanding the railways in southern and central Africa under his great friend and confidant, Cecil Rhodes. At the

latter's request, George Pauling accepted the portfolio of Mines and Public Works for Rhodesia and became a Member of the Executive Council, holding office from 1894-1896.

While in England in 1897, Pauling settled at the The Lodge at Effingham. In 1912 Pauling was granted the privilege of a private oratory in The Lodge by Pope Pius X and Mass was celebrated in his home until he built the church of Our Lady of Sorrows. The church was consecrated on 8 October 1913 by Archbishop Amigo of Southwark.

Story and picture: Michael Bray



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## 50th Jubilee celebration of the parish church of Cranleigh and Bramley

THE PARISH OF Cranleigh and Bramley gathered on Saturday 14 September with special guests in the parish church of Christ The Redeemer of Mankind to celebrate a Mass for the 50th Jubilee of the consecration of the new church. The church was packed which saw Fr Tony Lovegrove return as a concelebrant 50 years after he had concelebrated the first Mass in the new building. Ministers of other churches of Cranleigh were also invited and attended. Also present, and honoured, were parishioners who had attended the first Mass in 1963 - many of whom had, at the encouragement of the parish priest of that time, Fr Von Weyrother, also contributed to the actual building of the church.

In many ways the celebration of the Jubilee was also a remembrance of the untiring inspiration of Fr Von Weyrother who had fought with planning authorities as well as anyone who doubted the parish could actually build such an ambitious design project. Fr Von, as he was known, looked very much to the future for his design foreseeing the rapid expansion of the Catholic population of Cranleigh, and the changing circumstances of Catholic worship. His new church was going to encourage active participation by the congregation and so was built in the round even though it

still had an eastward facing altar.

The celebration in September was a joyful thanksgiving for the gift of the church through Fr Von's foresight and the dedication of the parishioners of 50 years ago. During the homily Fr David Osborne, the current parish priest, encouraged today's generation of Catholics to see this building as their spiritual home and to care for, and develop it, for their and future generation's use in serving the village and surrounding people.

After Mass a wonderful party was held in the parish's school hall, St Cuthbert Mayne, and was attended by well over 250 people. It was a great sight to see the young children of today's families milling around with those who had been there at the start of the whole enterprise. The food was provided by the whole parish and proved to be of high quality and generous proportions - nobody went hungry or thirsty. The evening was rounded off with a short disco which sent the older generation scurrying for the exits while the younger ones danced!

Pictured are the parishioners who were present 50 years ago, with their celebration cake.

Story and picture: Fr David Osborne



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## FROM THE PARISHES

### ARUNDEL

IT COULD BE SAID that Arundel parish-ioners have spent a good deal of time working with creation these last few weeks. In true Franciscan spirit animal lovers with their pets gathered for the annual ecumenical animal blessing Service. Singing, praying, wagging tails, yaps and barks joined together in a glorious harmony of thanksgiving. Next year the service will fall on the actual feast of St Francis and we hope for an even bigger gathering.

Taming Creation in full force was the order of the day when the Friends of Arundel Cathedral turned out with forks, spades and a whole array of pruning equipment to tidy the Cathedral Cemetery. The weeds and brambles were cleared away as amid friendly banter and chatter we remembered those laid to rest in such beautiful surroundings. *Hilary Caws*

### BRIGHTON St Thomas More

THE 14TH ANNUAL RACE NIGHT was held at St Thomas More's church hall in Brighton on 12 October, raising £605 for the Cabrini Children's Society. More than 50 racegoers packed the hall and enjoyed a glass of wine and a fish and chip supper while they watched the races. Odds were calculated by computer and bets were placed before each race. Progress down the race track - decided by the toss of dice - was a little haphazard. Indeed, the races were more wild west show than Ascot, with the jockeys whooping and waving their caps. Winning owners received a certificate and a bottle of bubbly.

It was a fun evening and a marvellous example of what ingenuity, a little craft skill, imagination, dedicated volunteers and a lot of hard work can achieve. Congratulations to Peter and Jo Cropp and their colleagues from St Thomas More church. *Harry Robertson*

### CRAWLEY Christ the Lord (LEP) Broadfield and Bewbush

AFTER OUR MASS on 29 September Josie made an appeal on behalf of CAFOD, speaking about how we are a global family and so if children in the slums of Nicaragua do not have enough to eat we should do something extra to share our harvest with the rest of our family. Donating to Family Fast Day also enables the poor to learn the skills they need to gain freedom from poverty.

On 19 October Charlie, Julie, Ania and Maja shared their experiences of their sponsored cycle to Poland at the Friary Hall over light refreshments.

On World Mission Day we were delighted to welcome Fr Vincent (Anne-Marie Willis' uncle) to celebrate our Mass, assisted by Deacon Andrew Bayes. During his homily he said that the mission field is outside our door and that our mission is to bring the message that God is infinitely merciful to a world that has the wrong idea about the nature of God.

*Barbara Winstanley*

### TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the **January 2014** issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 25 November 2013** and for **February 2014** issue by **Monday 30 December 2013**, very promptly please due to the Christmas holidays.

**Contributions received after 30 December may not be included.**

Contributions may be sent by e-mail to [abnews@dabnet.org](mailto:abnews@dabnet.org) and if so please include a contact telephone number.

It is helpful to us if Correspondents can type their contributions, keep them to **no more than 200 words** and include a word count. Original good quality digital pictures (which must be at least 300dpi) are very welcome. They should be sent as e-mail attachments. We regret we are unable to use photocopies or pictures stored on computer floppy disks. **Please tell us that you have permissions for children's photos to be published.**

### BEXHILL



FOR THE FIRST TIME in many years, a whole parish autumn fayre was held at St Martha's church. What a wonderful occasion! Attendance was high, with parishioners from all three churches running stalls, selling hot food, joining in the music and games and generally joining in the fun. The idea had started in the mind of Ron Brazier who, together with a steering committee, planned and organised the event over the course of the year. Fr David Parmiter opened the fayre on a bright, breezy morning. There were many stalls inside the hall, including bottle tombola, grand draw, name the teddy, cakes, refreshments, religious items and Fairtrade. In the grounds there was crazy golf, a human fruit machine, craft sales, a steam train, and hot curry cooked by the Kerala community. There was music to be enjoyed inside the church from The Wacky Band and also The Hand-Bell-Ringers. A wonderful sum of over £2,600 was raised for charity and parish funds.

*Story Frances Haragan,  
Picture Mary Carroll*

### EASTBOURNE Christ the Lord, The Holy Rood and St Joachim

WORK CARRIED OUT during the summer has seen impressive new entrance doors to the church and the hall at Christ the King resulting in improved accessibility, particularly for wheelchair users and others who experience mobility problems.

Fund raising events have been taking place during the autumn at both Christ the King and St Joachim including an evening of sea shanties, a race night and a variety concert.

The important issue of communicating the faith to young people has been the subject of much comment recently and it was, therefore, appropriate that The Newman Association meeting in October, held in the parish rooms at Christ The King, involved a presentation by Katrina Avery, Chaplain, and Peter Byrne, Head of Religious Education at St Richard's Catholic College, Bexhill on this topic. (See picture on page 12) The speakers demonstrated how a lively and innovative approach can motivate students in the development of their spiritual lives. By the end of the evening it was easy to see how St Richard's has acquired such an excellent reputation in the way it provides its students with the spiritual formation to equip them to face the challenges of the outside world.

*John Carmody*

### EASTBOURNE Our Lady of Ransom St Gregory and St Agnes

FR RAGLAN HAY WILL repeated his talk on Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the Lutheran Pastor and theologian executed for joining the attempted assassination plot upon Hitler.

The co-workers of bl Mother Teresa held their annual day of recollection conducted by Fr Neil Chatfield in the parish centre.

A Filipino evening was held to continue with our fund-raising for repairs to the church and presbytery boiler, tickets were sold out in the first week of sale.

Dr Nick Woodall ran the Beachy Head marathon on Saturday. It was Nick's initiative which inspired so many other parishioners to launch their own fund-raising evenings and we are so grateful to everyone for becoming involved in this way. It has also been a great opportunity to bring many of us united together socially, in a cause which affects us all.

Fr Raglan and Fr David King continued the preparation for the Diocesan Jubilee by an evening exploring the Vatican Council's document on Revelation with another evening to follow later this month.

*Mary Staffiere*

### EGHAM

CATECHISTS TASTER DAY was on Saturday 19 October; 25 people took up the invitation to explore what it is to be a catechist; to help share our faith with others, especially our children, with Sunday Liturgy and the Sacramental programmes ie Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage. Fr Hugh Flower says, 'if the Church is to thrive and develop then we need more people to take up this ministry.'

Knit and Natter is held on Tuesday mornings after the 10am Mass at St John's church meeting room. Everyone invited knitters and non-knitters alike.

Members of our mothers prayer group thank all those who supported their homebake stall after Sunday Mass on 30 September. We raised a splendid £286 and we have reached our 2013 target of £500 to support a Vocation to the priesthood

A Coffee morning at St Johns raised £300 for Macmillan cancer support. Thank you to everyone who donated to this good cause.

*Alice Mabbs*

### HASLEMERE

#### Hindhead and Chiddingfold

A GROUP FROM THE PARISH, led by Fr Chris Bergin, spent an enjoyable week in Krakov, following in the footsteps of Pope John Paul II and visiting Auschwitz among other places.

Starting in October, several small groups have been set up in the parish to discuss the next document from the Second Vatican Council in preparation for the diocesan Golden Jubilee.

Congratulations to Eric Foster, organist at Our Lady of Lourdes, Haslemere, and St Teresa's, Chiddingfold, who has just gone up to Oxford to take up the Organ Scholarship at St John's College. During term time his 15-year-old sister Verity, will be taking his place. Following the sad early death of Jenny Deeming, Verity has also been appointed as the regular organist for St Anselm's, Hindhead.

With funds needed to refurbish the youth centre underneath the church hall, several social events have been held within the parish. A murder mystery evening was tremendous fun with parishioners joining in as the suspects, many showing hitherto unsuspected acting talents. The annual quiz involving all parts of the parish, was another enjoyable evening and excellent fund-raiser, with a delicious supper provided by the ladies.

*Fay Foster*

### FARNHAM

AS PART OF RAISING MONEY for St Joan's refurbishment fund a new venture has been started, ie inviting members to a Fivers Lunch. This involves each host inviting five guests to a very simple lunch such as bread and cheese and soup - asking for a suggested donation of £5 and, in turn, asking each guest to invite a further five guests to a similar meal. This creates a snowball effect and a good amount of money has to date, been raised. The idea came, in these difficult times for us all moneywise, of doing something which would not demand too much and an enthusiastic launch began earlier this year. This first Fivers Lunch (see picture below) started things rolling with Cecilia Woelwarth, Sheilagh Flanagan, Anne Cheesman, Sheila Potter and Peny Hearn. Many thanks to those five concerned

*Story Sheilagh Flanagan  
Picture Peny Hearn*



### POLEGATE and HAILSHAM

AFTER ANY NUMBER OF DELAYS, it looks as if the project to build a new St Wilfrid's church in Hailsham is about to take off. The new church will be built next to the existing one, and the present church converted into a hall. The Diocesan Arts and Architecture Committee and the Finance Committee have approved the plans, and we now have an architect, Simon Franks, of Innerdale Hudson. Simon will now firm up the design brief and costs within our budget constraints, and then prepare a detailed plan to show to the parish - and finally, put in for planning permission.

The co-workers of Blessed Mother Teresa from the parishes of St George's and St Wilfrid's hosted a meeting at St George's hall with a good number of visitors from Eastbourne and Polegate. We had a most interesting talk about Polish food customs on Christmas Eve from Renata Sapieha, a Polish lady who lives in Eastbourne. Questions were posed and answered and we were reluctant to conclude the meeting. The funds for our charities were swelled by everyone's generosity at the raffle and gifts stall.

*Tessa Truman and  
Ruth Ayres*

### RYE

WE WERE SPARED the earthquake and fire, but had plenty of wind on the feast of Saints Simon and Jude. Unlike many other parts of the country, we escaped with only minor local structural damage, with reports of trees and fences down, but not much else, although some footways were hazardous with small branches and big twigs to trip the unwary. Unlike the great storm of October 1987, our parish church came through unscathed.

Fr Paul has a long list of parishioners to whom he takes the Eucharist, and was able to perform this sacred duty in spite of the obstacles.

Home is where a lot of accidents actually happen, and both Peter and Dorothy Van Heuven ended up in hospital after falling. Ignoring the forecast, Rye and District Churches Together successfully held a 'Songs of Praise' in pre-reformation 'All Saints' church, at Iden, just outside Rye on the Sunday evening before the storm.

*Royston Godwin*

### SELSEY



SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER was the feast of St Wilfrid and to mark the occasion a group made up of parishioners and members of Sussex Heritage Centre set off on their own small pilgrimage from the church in Church Road, Selsey, along the beach path to St Wilfrid's Chapel in Church Norton. (See picture above). Despite the poor forecast the sun shone throughout the trek. A short 'lay' service took place in the chapel before the return walk the same way back to Selsey. A pleasant way to recreate what may have happened more than once or twice since 681AD! More photos [www.stwilfrid-selsey.co.uk](http://www.stwilfrid-selsey.co.uk)

To 'literally' keep a roof over their heads, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Wilfrids Church, Selsey held a ploughman's supper and quiz night in their church hall on Friday 18 October. Starting at 7pm, six teams of six brains were kept occupied across the nine round quiz night with a break for food and raffle. Despite calls for 'more' a halt was called at 10.30pm. 'Avisé La Fin' won the coveted 'St Wilf's Big Brainbox Tankard' and will be required to defend their title, probably sooner than they first thought. A great time was had by all. The roof fund was better off by £400 at the end.

*Story: John Bradley,  
Picture: Chntal Panochou*

FROM THE PARISHES

MERSTHAM REDHILL and REIGATE

AS THE FEAST OF ST TERESA of the Child Jesus fell midweek the Merstham community celebrated their patron saint on Sunday 29 September, the children remaining in the church throughout the Mass. Fr Aaron Spinelli gathered them together in the sanctuary to help them explore the gospel of Dives and Lazarus, and helping us to understand how important it is to speak to people.

Then he told of a recent encounter, explaining that when priests preach they preach to themselves and not just the people at Mass. On his day off he was in London and going to Mass at Westminster Cathedral. A man was begging in the street. Remembering how Dives ignored Lazarus Fr Aaron sat down beside him to chat for a few minutes. The man was from the Czech Republic and had come to England to work. Then he had fallen on hard times and was trying to get together money to return home to his family. It was the first time for a long while that anyone had stopped to speak to him. Fr Aaron gave him a donation; the man never knew that he had been befriended by a priest.

The children read the bidding prayers beautifully and with great confidence. On the same day Linda and David Corcoran celebrated their coral (35th) wedding anniversary and received a special blessing. After Mass we continued with festivities in the community room with a selection of food, a stunning 'coral cake', and wine.

The first 'whole parish' Harvest Supper held in the new parish centre at St Joseph's church, Redhill, was a sellout and a resounding success. 200 hundred early birds got tickets, unfortunately others missed out! During the meal; delicious pasta bake followed by fruit crumble, violinist Edel Magee, accompanied by Anne St John-Hall, entertained the guests. Afterwards there was more entertainment; Irish dancing, performed by Maisy Sinclair, Alice Craig, and Maddy Wood, year 8 pupils at St Bede's School, Redhill; followed by the group 'Three Chicks and a Piano'. The event raised £830 for CAFOD. Much of this was thanks to the generous food donations, which mean the financial cost was only £1 per person. Surplus food went to the Salvation Army.

Story and picture Ann Lardeur



Festival of Holy Bands

A HOLY BANDS FESTIVAL was held in Chatsmore primary school on Sunday 20 October 2013. There was a whole afternoon of singing and performing in which I met many Redshirts and young people from other parishes. I had never been to anything like this before, but when I'm old enough, I'd really like to go to Lourdes.

This was the first Holy Bands festival and overall it was quite a success. I thoroughly enjoyed the whole thing! The event was opened and closed by the Redshirts singing some hymns, led by John playing the guitar. However, when I say hymns, I don't mean the old, classic, traditional hymns! These hymns were new modern ones which were just as good as the traditional ones, if not better.

There were three main parishes who attended: Weybridge parish that I came with but unfortunately we didn't perform because we had only had our first choir rehearsal the Sunday before. Guildford Youth Ministry (GYM) also came (led by Aseel) and played some really good music in their band which they usually play at youth Masses in Guildford. The other parish that came was Slindon that accompanied most of the songs and played music during the interval.

Some Redshirts also did solos and there were a few compositions which were very inspiring such as Will who performed an awesome piece on the keyboard and James who arranged a version of 'As I Kneel before You' which I really enjoyed. However, overall my favourite piece was 'Ave Maria' sung by Bryony. This piece was unaccompanied; however it was so beautiful and left me completely awestruck with my mouth hanging open!

Overall, I really really enjoyed the Holy Bands festival because it was a very inspiring and holy event and if there is another one next year I will definitely be there.

Story: Emma Brown Picture: Catherine Christmas



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# Nuclear weapons of mass destruction

Michael Pulham writes: In July, our Diocesan Justice and Peace Co-ordinator, David Thomson, wrote how Pax Christi commemorates the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. My wife and I are members and often help with the Pax Christi stall for this at Westminster Cathedral.

**I**N MAY, AS MEMBERS ALSO of the Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, we had met the Holy See's Attaché at the United Nations in Geneva. He read a paper to the delegates on the wickedness of nuclear weapons and another on the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of their use. We then attended a meeting where the Vatican's Permanent Observer to the UN spoke about the immorality of possessing these weapons.

We ourselves had arranged another meeting there. On our panel we had the British Disarmament Ambassador, the French Disarmament Ambassador, the President of the Nuclear Information Service and a French particle physicist. This event concerned a new treaty between Britain and France:

In 2010, Prime Minister Cameron and President Sarkozy agreed for their two countries to collaborate for fifty years (!) on nuclear warheads. This treaty is named 'Teutates', after a Celtic god of war. The evidence produced at our meeting showed how the new treaty conflicts on several counts with the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In July we contacted Pax Christi France with the news that a group of us were joining the fast, linking Hiroshima and Nagasaki Days due to be held in Paris by the French peace movement. First we travelled to the French equivalent of Aldermaston at Valduc, near Dijon. Outside this now twinned bomb factory we said the Lord's Prayer. The Dijon peace group gave us a great welcome and had us on local TV, which resulted in our being televised again when we arrived back in Paris, and making more friends.

Here we joined a big witness for peace at the Peace Memorial in front of the Military Academy. It was impressively sombre, employing both silent mime and incredible 'music of agony'. After this, a slow procession of us all, spread sideways and with frequent pauses every few steps, approached the Eiffel Tower. There everyone dropped, as if dead.

Later, we British took our banners to our own Embassy in Paris. (In London, before going to the UN Nuclear Non-Proliferation Meetings each year, we visit the embassies of all the nuclear weapons-related countries and the Foreign Office to find out the latest positions and develop contacts with delegates to the United Nations.)

The question of the renewal of Trident will soon be looming, so the Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is about to re-launch its guide for the Churches: 'Nuclear Weapons - What Can Christians Do?'

**DIOCESAN OFFICES AND BOOKSHOP CHRISTMAS CLOSING**

Diocesan offices will close at 3.30 pm on Friday 20 December and reopen on Monday 6 January

The Bookshop will close at 4.30 on Friday 20 December and re-open on Monday 6 January

The Bookshop's normal trading hours are now as follows:  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.30 – 1.00, 2.00 – 4.30  
Wednesday: 10.00 – 1.00, 2.00 – 4.30.

We regret that in last month's A & B NEWS, we published the wrong picture of the ordination of Fr Philip Penfold RIP. He is shown below as Bishop Kieran anoints his hands.



The Newman Association meets at Christ the King church, Eastbourne to discuss communicating the faith to young people (story on page 10). Picture: Mary Barlow



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