

FREE

A & B NEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton
No 279 April 2014 LENT



HCPT St Richards page 7



Pastoral letter
page 9



St Augustine
page 3



Diamond Wedding
page 5

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‘My Father is Glorified When You Bear Much Fruit’

MORE THAN 70 PEOPLE GATHERED at DABCEC on Saturday March 1 to celebrate their study of theology, catechesis and Religious Education. The celebration was organised by the Adult Formation Commission to show how much the diocese values those who undertake such study, and to provide a forum to discuss how the diocese can support and encourage those who feel the call to further study.

Attendees were welcomed with coffee and biscuits and there was much animated chatter as old friends caught up with each other. A short liturgy opened the formal part of the day. A Bible, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Divine Office and a biblical commentary were carried to the altar as symbols of our studies.

We then gathered in small groups and shared the ways in which our studies had ‘borne fruit.’ Dr Kate Williamson, then presented an overview of Adult Formation in the diocese since the 1980’s, noting the much greater involvement of the laity, and expressing gratitude to Brighton University for their support in setting up the CCRS and Diploma courses in Religious Education which Kate delivered and taught over a 16 years period, and which for six years was developed into a degree course in Christian theology.

Participants were then encouraged to offer their own reflections in discussion with Bishop Kieran. In his own thoughts and reflections in particular he emphasised the centrality of Baptism - both in giving us the responsibility to be missionaries for God and making sense of what the Church teaches. The teachings of the Church are there to help us and those we work with to live out our Baptism rather than a set of rules where ‘don’t’s; loom large.

The celebration closed with Mass followed by a shared lunch.

It was very inspiring to see so many people from across the diocese who had committed themselves to a course, or courses, of religious study. Many thanks to Sue Petritz and David Wills for organising the day, and to Bishop Kieran for joining us.

Special thanks to Kate Williamson for playing such a pivotal role in developing religious study within the diocese over many years. This day demonstrated very clearly the real difference the various R. E. courses offered have made to the lives of many Arundel & Brighton Catholics.

Story: Marie Allen, St John’s, Horsham parish. Picture Harry Robertson



Pictured above (l/r) Mel Baird, Kate Williamson, Sue Petritz, Bishop Kieran

A personal reflection from Harry Robertson, Sacred Heart parish, Hove

The invitation was brief... ‘Calling all who have studied theology, catechesis or RE at Certificate, Diploma or Degree level...join Bishop Kieran, Dr Kate Williamson and your fellow students/graduates...in prayer, conversation and celebration.’

About 75 of us assembled in Crawley on 1 March, wondering what we had let ourselves in for. Then Dr Kate Williamson took the floor. She spoke of the need to share our heritage, the historical understanding and development of the faith. Focusing on adult formation, she mentioned the renaissance provided by Vatican II, the yeoman spadework of the Bishops’ Commission of England & Wales, and the fruit of initiatives like RENEW, launched in A&B diocese a few years back.

This success has bred a new generation of catechists – with a higher proportion of men than heretofore - who contribute much to parish life. However, the parish community model can be limiting and inward-looking. Also, the impetus may be faltering and it is time for new beginnings, for another springtime in the diocese.

Kate’s prescription was to establish ‘ring-fenced’ spaces in which people can reflect on their faith, together with a structure to pass on the knowledge and understanding of that faith. This structure should use forms of communications that persuade rather than instruct, that rely on informed consent rather than obedience, and that lead to an infectious joy in living and sharing Christ’s message - rather than merely undertaking a half-hearted duty.

The audience then discussed the proposal and reported back to Dr. Kate and Bishop Kieran on their conclusions. There were a number of interesting ideas but, the two key themes that struck me were open discussion of the

faith, and a less jargon filled language for debate and sharing.

The meeting potentially foreshadows some exciting times if we are bold enough to meet the challenge. The faith, grounded in truth and tradition, has no fear of debate. As Jesus said (John 8:32) ‘...know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’ Roll on the spring-time of adult formation.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols



Congratulations to Cardinal Vincent, pictured right, accompanied by Cardinal Sean Brady of Armagh and Cardinal Cormac

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St Patrick's to be at the Brighton Festival

ST PATRICK'S church in Woodingdean is taking part again in the Brighton Festival in May 2014 with an Artists Open House. We are hosting several painters and jewellers, a potter who makes functional decorative ceramics, and professionals who do weaving and tapestry, crochet, photography, silk work, card-box and print making, photo art and restoration. The church will be open on Saturdays and Sundays 10 and 11 May and 17 and 18



May from 11am until 5pm. We offer a range of refreshments during open times as well as events – Shiatsu massage and flower arranging. Details of our eleven professional artists and events will be on the Artists Open House website, Twitter @stp-woodingdean and on Facebook St Patrick's Woodingdean. Co ordinator is Bernadette Skinner, telephone 01273 309118 berskin@hotmail.com

Story: Irene Green

Picture: Tony Parsons water colour 'Flats'

Wild Weather fails to deter Uckfield Fundraisers

FORTY PEOPLE braved high winds, lashing rain and flooded roads to attend a Valentine's night quiz at the church of St Philip Neri in Uckfield in aid of the parish's CAFOD Connect2 link with Peuntecitos in El Salvador. Parishioner Ann Found organised the event whilst husband Chris masterminded the questions, which included some topical Valentine based music and picture rounds.



'Cupid's Catastrophe' was the appropriately named winning team. Parish priest Fr Stephen Hardaker joined in the quiz and Deacon David Tutt (pictured with the winning team) used his mathematical skills as scorer!

The evening raised £125, some of which was from the sale of baskets hand woven by Julia who lives in the village of Peuntecitos, bringing the total amount raised over the past three years to well over £2000.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding

Would you like to volunteer to make A & B NEWS even better?

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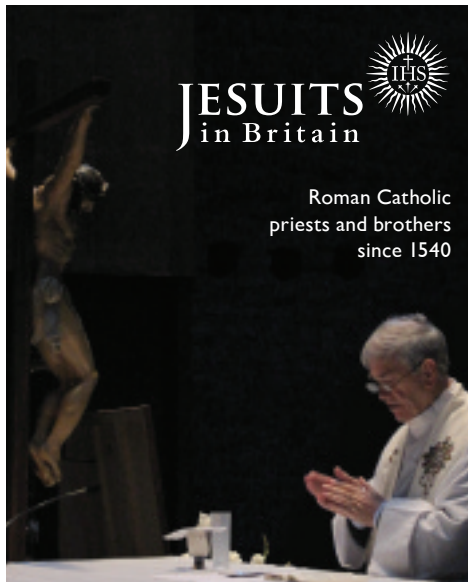
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'in the footsteps of St Augustine'

ON MONDAY 17 FEBRUARY, setting off nice and early (yawns all round), SPY (St Pancras Youth) made a pilgrimage to Kent 'in the footsteps of St Augustine'. Our journey took us, first, to the National Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate, the most beautiful church, built by Augustus Pugin, at the place where St Augustine and his band of monks first landed. The church is a gem! And the inspiring Fr Marcus Holden, its Rector, gave us the warmest of welcomes. After a tour of the church, we had the great privilege of venerating a relic of St Augustine, and then stayed for Holy Mass and the Litany of St Augustine.



After lunch - (Ramsgate now has a Waitrose!) - we drove over to Canterbury (via 'St Augustine's Cross' which marks the reputed site of the saint's first meeting with King Ethelbert in the year 597) to the remains of St Augustine's Abbey, Evensong in the Cathedral, and some suitably Roman fare with Lidia and Stuart, two of our number currently studying at the University of Kent. Our next pilgrimage... VENEZIA!
Pictured are several of the group with Fr Jonathan Martin

Story and picture: Gus Delacroix

Bishop Kieran meets with A&B Spirituality Network

BISHOP KIERAN came and shared a little of his passion for art with the A&B Spirituality Network at their recent gathering at Coolham. He brought along a few examples of his favourite paintings and explained how he found them prayerful, and an aid to contemplation. It was a very interesting, valuable and enjoyable afternoon.

The Network is celebrating its 5th year of operation, and its current membership numbers over 40 lay and religious spiritual directors in the diocese. Over 100 seekers have been matched with spiritual directors since the Network took on the task of individual referrals.

Pictured are the bishop with Fr Charles Jeffries and some of the group at Coolham. If you are a spiritual director in the diocese and would like to join the Network, or if you are someone who is interested in being put in touch with someone who could accompany you on your spiritual path, please contact one of the following:

- Jackie Foster - jackie@fosterja.co.uk;
- Teresa Brooks - teresa_brooks_bisley@hotmail.com;
- Kath O'Brien - loyolakob@hotmail.com; or Caroline King - caromking8@gmail.com

Story and picture: Caroline King

Youth groups sing for Churches Together



ON SUNDAY 26 January the Youth Groups from Holy Family church in Farnham and Holy Angels church in Ash joined in a Churches Together Songs of Praise at Holy Family church in Hale (pictured). These brave young people actually sang without musical instruments and had only learnt the song 'Sing a Simple Song Unto the Lord' two weeks earlier.

This is what the young people wrote and said prior to singing: *Thank you for taking the time to listen to us today. We will be singing 'Sing a Simple Song' as we believe that faith shouldn't have to be complicated and that God will appreciate our worship, no matter how big or small. We hope you like it!* And the congregation did like it as the young people were clapped in congratulation!

Story and picture: Gloria Benson



A Quick Journey Through the Bible (A participants reflection)

THE COURSE is informative and valuable and it is specifically aimed at those new to Bible Study, who perhaps like me, have never felt capable of actually understanding a lot of their Bible and therefore have never tried to.

It is wonderfully designed concentrating on fourteen of the narrative books of the Bible and the twelve major time periods of salvation history. I discovered all the major people, places, events and themes of the Bible and also studied the six covenants God made with humanity, leading to the establishment of the Catholic Church.

The Student Workbook and Bible Timeline Chart, which you take away with you, proves an invaluable tool to the novice, as you begin to study your bible on your own, it is, if you like, a fool's guide to help you as the story develops, enabling you to know what to look for and who to concentrate on. The Timeline specifically is really useful before Mass providing reference to which period of history the readings are from and their reference.

For me, this course was the best seven hours I have spent in a long time, and I would strongly recommend it as I now have the tools to begin a 90 Day Bible Study programme at home.

Story and picture: Rachel O'Mara Miller

Due to the great demand further days have been arranged - see poster on page 6



Pictured at the first course at Woking are from left to right: Aidan Cantwell, Social Action Adviser; Fr Peter Andrews, assistant priest at St Dunstan's; and David Wills, Adult Formation Adviser.



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Dr Joseph Gabor

Tuesday 6 May 2014, 5:00pm - 9:00pm
HEARING AND PREACHING THE WORD:
THE POWER OF THE HOMILY AS DIALOGUE
Dr Dominic Robinson SJ, Dr Con Foley & Dr Duncan McPherson

Saturday 17 May 2014, 10:15am - 4:00pm
ADULT FAITH FORMATION IN THE PARISH
Dr Dominic Robinson SJ

A Certificate of Attendance will be issued at the end of each session. The fee for each session is £50.

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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

The Joy of Lent

IF YOU WEREN'T ABLE to join in one of the Jubilee groups which ran in the autumn, we felt that you might like to get a little bit of the flavour of the rich content in the material provided (see this page).

Sadly in this issue, we have obituaries of three of our priests who have died recently. As we all know, there are not enough men in formation to provide replacements. The laity needs to be much more able to take a lead in the life of the Church in the years to come. Sharing our faith and our learning together is one way to be prepared.

Now the diocesan Lent programme invites us as part of our weekly reflections, to consider some passages from Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation 'Evangelii Gaudium' - the Joy of the Gospel. We need always to be filled with that Joy. As the Pope says in Paragraph 5 'The Gospel radiant with the glory of Christ's cross, constantly invites us to rejoice'. This theme of 'Rejoice' comes up in the liturgy on the Fourth Sunday of Lent.

May we rejoice in Lent,
so that our joy may truly be complete at
Easter.

Pauline Groves

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The universe convulsed
Established order torn apart

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Our despairing
Your loving unrequited
Death
Transformed within the tomb

Eternally
Thorn pierced
Nail pierced
Spear pierced
Your redemptive love
Our resurrection life
Eternally proclaimed

Mary Hale

Another chance to prepare for the Diocesan Jubilee

Last Autumn, the Diocese began the second season of Jubilee preparations with a look at the Word of God. The guiding document for this reflection was the Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum). The sessions were based on the six chapters of this document and subheadings that are found within these chapters.

What follows is a brief summary in which some really significant statements from the document are reprinted (numbered as in the document) together with comments from the presenters. It is hoped that even if you were not able to participate in a group, this article will give you a flavour. It might also inspire you to make some further enquiries, maybe even joining a group for the third season.

Purpose of Revelation

2. In His goodness and wisdom God chose to reveal Himself and to make known to us the hidden purpose of His will by which through Christ, the Word made flesh, man might in the Holy Spirit have access to the Father and come to share in the divine nature.

Fr Graffy: Revelation is God beginning a conversation with us calling us to communion, and that revelation takes place through the deeds of God in history and also through the words God has spoken.

Christ's place in Revelation

4. To see Jesus is to see His Father (John 14:9). For this reason Jesus perfected revelation by fulfilling it through his whole work of making Himself present and manifesting Himself: through His words and deeds, His signs and wonders, but especially through His death and glorious resurrection from the dead and final sending of the Spirit of truth.

Michelle Moran: Central to God's revelation is Jesus Christ, in him the entire revelation of God is summed up, that's what the document tells us. So in a sense God has no other word to speak, he has spoken definitively and for all time in Jesus; the word who is life.

Tradition

7. ...But in order to keep the Gospel forever whole and alive within the Church, the Apostles left bishops as their successors, 'handing over' to them 'the authority to teach in their own place.'

Bishop Kieran: Tradition, as our speakers will make clear, is the way something is handed on and in this case the 'something' is God's self-revelation. Tradition was in fact instrumental in the formulation of the body of Scripture as we have it. Because, at the very beginning the Church had to decide what was authentic and what wasn't; what should be included in the Bible and what should not.

8. This tradition which comes from the Apostles develops in the Church with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture & Tradition

9. Hence there exists a close connection and communication between sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture. For both of them, flowing from the same divine wellspring, in a certain way merge into a unity and tend toward the same end.

Inspiration

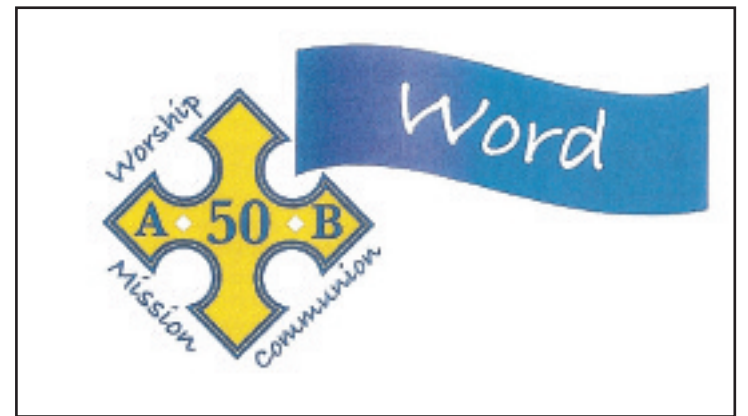
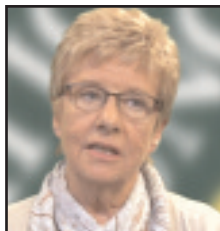
11. ...both the Old and New Testaments in their entirety, with all their parts, are sacred and canonical because written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author and have been handed on as such to the Church herself.

Bishop Kieran:...the human writers themselves had to reflect profoundly and at length on what they thought was the truth they were expressing. It is the word of God but expressed in a way that respects the freedom and the skills of the human author.

Interpretation

12. To search out the intention of the sacred writers, attention should be given, among other things, to 'literary forms.' For truth is set forth and expressed differently in texts which are variously historical, prophetic, poetic, or of other forms of discourse.

Michelle Moran: Those who have been entrusted with a teaching office in the Church, the role of the Magisterium, are guided by the Lord. With the help of the Holy Spirit, the Magisterium listens to the word of God devotedly, guards it with dedication, and expounds it faithfully...to really understand how everything fits together we need to reflect upon the sacred scriptures, read and reflected upon in the light of the tradition of the Church and guided and steered and discerned by the Magisterium.



Old Testament

14. In carefully planning and preparing the salvation of the whole human race the God of infinite love, by a special dispensation, chose for Himself a people to whom He would entrust His promises.

Bishop Kieran: We must also remember too that the Old Testament texts were the Scriptures that Jesus himself was familiar with, and prayed with and referred to, and, through it, in the fullness of his humanity, came to understand his relationship with the Father and his mission to the world.

New Testament

18. It is common knowledge that among all the Scriptures, even those of the New Testament, the Gospels have a special pre-eminence, 19...The sacred authors wrote the four Gospels, selecting some things from the many which had been handed on by word of mouth or in writing, reducing some of them to a synthesis, explaining some things in view of the situation of their churches and preserving the form of proclamation but always in such fashion that they told us the honest truth about Jesus.

Bishop Kieran: It was those Christian communities that produced the particular versions of the gospels that we now have, as they became aware of the need to write down the stories because the Church was growing and original eyewitnesses were dying.

Other New Testament writings

20. Besides the four Gospels, the canon of the New Testament also contains the epistles of St Paul and other apostolic writings, composed under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, by which, according to the wise plan of God, those matters which concern Christ the Lord are confirmed, His true teaching is more and more fully stated, the saving power of the divine work of Christ is preached, the story is told of the beginnings of the Church and its marvellous growth, and its glorious fulfilment is foretold.

Fr Graffy: The epistles of Paul particularly show us how faith in Christ develops and how it has an impact on the various aspects of the lives of the early communities with which St Paul was involved.

Scripture in worship

21. The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the body of the Lord...

Bishop Kieran: Scripture and liturgy go hand in hand. Many parts of Scripture indicate an original liturgical setting.

Fr Graffy: Dei Verbum speaks about the 'table of the word' alongside the table of the Eucharist, (the table of the sacrament). Perhaps the most precious thing which is stated there by Pope Benedict, with the bishops of the world, is to refer to the word of God as sacrament. It is beyond the seven sacraments but it is a real presence of God through the word which is proclaimed. So we are invited to treasure the word just as we treasure the Eucharist.

Scripture in daily life

The [Council] also earnestly and especially urges all the Christian faithful... to learn by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures the 'excellent knowledge of Jesus Christ' (Phil. 3:8). "For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ."

Jo Gilbert ...part of my life involves Lectio Divina which is the prayerful reading of Scripture and that kind of reading is not reading for information, it is reading the Scripture much more for transformation, reading for salvation. It's a reading which allows the word of God to be alive and active and to penetrate and permeate my life to bring about change.

The group material is still available from DABCEC Bookshop:

Participants Book (normal or large print) £1.50

Family Book £1.50 CD or DVD of talks £2.00

The Jubilee Prayer

We stand before you, Holy Spirit,
conscious of our sinfulness,
but aware that we gather in your name.
Come to us, remain with us,
and enlighten our hearts.
Give us light and strength
to know your will, to make it our own,
and to live it in our lives.
Guide us by your wisdom,
support us by your power,
for you are God, sharing the glory of
Father and Son.
You desire justice for all.

Enable us to uphold the rights of others;
do not allow us to be misled by ignorance
or corrupted by fear or favour.
Unite us to yourself in the bond of love
and keep us faithful to all that is true.
As we gather in your name, may we
temper justice with love, so that all our
discussions and reflections may be
pleasing to you, and earn the reward
promised to good and faithful servants.

We ask this of You who live and reign
with the Father and the Son, one God,
for ever and ever. Amen.

With thanks to our presenters, pictured left
(top row) Bishop Kieran, Fr Adrian Graffy, Michelle Moran,
(lower row) Jo Gilbert, Fr Timothy Ratcliffe, Della Shenton

Diamond Wedding at Merstham

THERE WERE HAPPY coincidences when Bill and Maureen Wasson celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary at St Teresa's in Merstham on 23 February. They had married in the Holy Cross Church at Ardoyne in Belfast, a parish run by the Passionist Order. The celebrant when they renewed their commitment to each other and received their special blessing was visiting priest Fr Anthony Hale, a member of the same Order. Not only that, he was familiar with the church in Ardoyne and one of his friends had lived only a few streets away from Bill and Maureen. It was a truly joyful occasion. Remarkably this was the second month running when members of the St Teresa's community have celebrated a Diamond Wedding.

Story and picture: Anne Lardeur



Mayfield Deanery in France

THE PRIESTS of the Mayfield Deanery recently travelled to Ars sur Formans in France to hold their February deanery meeting, to give thanks for the gift of priesthood and to pray for many, many vocations to the priesthood for our diocese.

Staying at the Diocesan Seminary in Ars, (pictured left to right below are) Frs Kevin Griffin, Mario Sanderson, Stephen Hardaker, Michael Creech, Martin Connor and Emmanuel Raja. Michael Creech, Martin Connor and Emmanuel Raja celebrated Mass each day at the shrine of St John Vianney, patron saint of priests and joined the seminarians for their daily divine office.

During their stay the priests made trips to visit the Community of the Chemin Neuf at L'Abbaye de Notre Dames des Dombes, the Basilica of Our Lady at Fourvière, the Cathedral in Lyon and the church where St Vincent de Paul founded the Daughters of Charity. They also found a little time to sample and greatly appreciate the local food and wine of the region!

Fr Stephen described the sojourn as 'a wonderful time of fraternity' for the six priests who journeyed together.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding



White Mass in Eastbourne Deanery

ON THE FEAST of the Baptism of the Lord (11 and 12 January) the churches in the Eastbourne Deanery celebrated a White Mass during which all present recalled their Baptism. Many of the congregation wore white to celebrate the occasion. In at least one church white socks were recorded as well as scarves, shawls, handkerchiefs, shirts, blouses, jackets and hats. In most of the churches the penitential rite consisted of the blessing and sprinkling of holy water accompanied by a suitable hymn such as Water of Life, Flow River Flow or Come to the Water. At least one church distributed white flowers to the congregation. St George's in Polegate had a Baptism welcome to celebrate. Many children brought their Baptism candles which were lit either at the renewal of Baptism promises or during the Lord's Prayer. By the end of the Mass the congregations all knew that they had been reminded of their Baptism during the joyful celebration.

Deacon John Truman

Evening 'visit' to Peru

EIGHTY parishioners from the Parish of the Nativity of the Lord visited Peru just for one evening. Unfortunately it was virtual not actual! It was an evening of information, competition and South American food to launch our project to raise funds to support Warmi Huasi (Women's House in Quetcha, the Indian language of Peru). Eamonn, a seminarian from St John's,



Wonersh, spoke of his recent experience in the materially very poor parish of San Benito, where the effects of industrial pollution and lack of basic amenities, such as clean running water have a dramatic effect on everyday life. Appreciating the generous hospitality he received, he did however have qualms when the water used to cleanse dishes was passed through a sieve and then boiled to make tea.

We explored the area in photos and a video and learned how many women in San Benito have to bring up their children on their own. Husbands are absent for varying reasons; they might be doing seasonal work far away, some are in prison and others are unable to cope with the responsibility of parenthood. Mothers must work to feed and clothe their children, but this is often at the cost of their children's safety and well-being.

The parish of the Nativity of the Lord aims to provide funds to equip and maintain a nursery and homework club; an invaluable service to the community which will give the children of San Benito the chance to learn and develop in a safe environment.

There was a challenging quiz, interrupted by servings of papas papas (papas means potatoes in Quetcha), spicy chicken and quinoa salad. There was a raffle and the chance to purchase FairTrade Peruvian crafts. The proceeds, £850, are being sent off as soon as possible.

Story and picture: Jane Manfield and Ann Lardeur

Christina's Food Waste Charity Box

WHEN CHRISTINA DAVENPORT realised she was wasting food unnecessarily she decided to do two things. A parishioner of St Mary of the Angels in Worthing and member of the Justice and Peace Group, Christina set up a *Food Waste Charity Box*. For every item of unused food she throws away, Christina puts 50 pence into a jar (pictured). The money collected goes to a charity such as CAFOD. While the charity will benefit initially, the ultimate idea of the project is to discourage the waste of food.

Pope Francis said that 'throw away food is like stealing from the table of the poor and hungry'. In the UK household food waste statistics are utterly staggering: 7.2 million tonnes of food and drink are thrown out annually costing each family almost £700 a year. Individual product figures are even more mind blowing: 220,000 loaves of bread, 1.6 million bananas, 5,500 chickens, 5.1 million potatoes, 660,000 eggs, 1.2 million sausages and 1.3 million yoghurts are discarded every year in the UK, costing £10 billion (source: The Independent).

Lent is a good opportunity to stop the waste and Christina has invited everyone to join her in the challenge. Set up your own food waste charity box and see if your loose change will help change your behaviour.

For more information please see www.lovefoodhatewaste.com and www.enoughfoodif.org/onyourplate.

Story and picture: Bryan Robinson



Adult Formation at St Anne's in Chertsey

ST ANNE'S has been alive in promoting adult formation throughout the year. On 23 November 38 readers and ministers of Holy Communion from St Anne's Parish attended a study day held in the Savio Centre. After Mass and Exposition Fr Francis Preston SDB, a former parish priest, gave a talk on Divine Revelation. After lunch Fr Francis' second talk continued with the same theme and ended with thoughts on how Divine Revelation and the Eucharist are linked.

The parish uses the Alpha course as the initial phase of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. Our 26th Alpha course finished on 5 December. The number of people attending this time varied between 12 and 17. To date, 31 people who attended one of our Alpha courses have been baptised or received into full communion with the Church in the parish. In addition to introducing people to the Church, the Alpha course has proved to be a powerful means of parish evangelisation, renewing the faith of many existing parishioners. Recognition should be given to James and Elizabeth Wilkinson who have pioneered the Alpha programme in the parish and have built an excellent team who are all committed to sharing their faith with the enquirers.

In the context of adult formation the parish now has a brand new website due in particular to the enthusiasm and expertise of Claire Struthers. Please visit this attractive website, which recognises on its homepage the central mission of all Christians to be Christ in the world, at <http://stan-neschertsey.org.uk/>

Story: John Lydon

St Peter's Catholic School
Horseshoe Lane East, Merrow,
Guildford, Surrey. GU1 2TN

Tel: 01483 534654

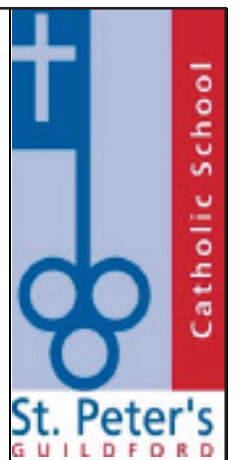
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A One Day Event for Catechists at DABCEC,
4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP
on Saturday 21st June, 2014, 10 am to 4 pm.

(Packed lunch needed)

A training day for those parishes that wish to develop their own tailored course. We will explore the current Diocesan format which is used in the Guildford Deanery which may provide an initial structure from which to develop your own scheme.

This day is aimed at existing and new catechists

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To book go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/N8XKHC6>

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katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

Justice & Peace Assembly 2014 Israel – Palestine

Any hope for Justice & Peace?

What are the challenges in establishing peace in Israel/Palestine and how should we, as Christians, respond?

Saturday
17 May 2014

Christian Education Centre (DABCEC)
4 Southgate Drive
Crawley RH10 6RP

10.00am – 4.00pm

Speakers will include
Canon Anthony Ball
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Mary Lucas
 CAFOD's Programme Manager for the Middle East & Sri Lanka

Other presentations will include people with firsthand experience of life in the Holy Land

To book your place at the assembly please contact
 Ruth Gerun ruth.gerun@dabnet.org or telephone (01293) 651164
 NB: Refreshments will be available, but please bring a packed lunch

CALLING ALL GRANDPARENTS 2014 !

Please come to a day on the joys and difficulties of being a Catholic Grandparent in this busy world?

on
Saturday 10th May, 2014
10am - 4pm
Coffee from 9.45 am
(Bring lunch)

At DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP
Elizabeth O'Shea will lead us in developing skills for positive grandparenting in these challenging times and will look at:

- Developing Healthy Relationships with Grown up Children and Children-in-Law
- Difficult Grandchildren - how you can help

To book or for further information please contact:
 Katherine Bergin 01293 651152 or email
katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

Some Dates for Singers and Musicians

Chrism Mass rehearsals

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

Chrism 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

What's cooking at St Leonards-on-Sea



THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT team at St Thomas of Canterbury church consists of thirteen active members from many countries including, Africa, Brazil, Hungary, Kenya, Nigeria, England, Philippines, Seychelles, Pakistan and Trinidad. The diverse nature of the team and the enthusiasm of team members make it so unique.

The role of the ministry is to fundraise and encourage participation in social events for all members of the community of our parish of The Good Shepherd in St Leonards-on-sea. One thing that brings people together is food. We decided to explore the cultural diversity of our church by holding some themed evening dinners serving food from round the world.

The team kicked off with our host nation Britain. Invited guests enjoyed a delicious meal of roast beef, roast potatoes and fresh vegetables with all the trimmings. You would not resist the yummy puddings of apple crumble with cream, trifle or steamed syrup sponge with custard. In fact some people abandoned resistance and had all three! The rest saved room for the cheese and biscuits, coffee and chocolates.

The otherwise somewhat austere parish room was transformed with a beautifully laid table with roses and candle light, making a relaxed atmosphere to get to know parishioners from our two churches of St Thomas' and Holy Redeemer, who do not normally get the opportunity to meet. All those attending were full of praise for the ladies who made such a splendid event. The British evening of 'come dine with us' raised the sum of £220 and the next is planned sometime after Easter..

Story and picture: Barbara Okoliko

SVP working with flood hit communities

OUR SVP had a phonecall from a lady called Tina Carney of Bagshot Village Community. She was trying to organise help for the many people who had been displaced by the recent floods in West Surrey, but she needed help with donations, transport and volunteers. SVP agreed to help in any way. A joint initiative was born. An appeal for food, toiletries, and the like was launched on the website. Within 24 hours the site had 11,000 hits, people offering donations and help. Drop off centres were set up in Bagshot, Lightwater, Camberley, Windlesham and Deepcut where people could leave their donations. A lady in Bagshot made her empty shop available as a sorting office for all donations. People in Bagshot will remember for a long time the many shopping trolleys which went up and down the High Street, collecting and delivering to the shop. The SVP van collected from the drop off centres, took it to the shop, where volunteers sorted and boxed the donations, before the SVP van was loaded and set off to St Paul's Egham and New Haw day centre where the evacuees were being looked after. The rather large load was gratefully received by the evacuees. The next day, the van went to Englefield Green, Shepperton and Sunbury. This last week we delivered another load to Sunbury, this time mostly cleaning products. Again, the flood victims were very grateful for any goods which were delivered.

The SVP owes a debt of gratitude to the many volunteers and donors who made this possible.
Story: John Looby (SVP President Camberley)



Woking Street Angels celebrate



WOKING STREET ANGELS celebrated three years of operation in a special service held at St Paul's C of E Church on 23 February. During the service both new and experienced Street Angels were (re)commissioned in prayer. Street Angels provide help to the vulnerable and others in need of assistance in towns and cities across the country at night when pubs and clubs are busiest. At the service, Camilla Edmundson of Woking Borough Council and Detective Chief Superintendent Helen Collins of Surrey Police spoke of the valued work of Street Angels since they started in 2011. Working together with the police and door staff at various establishments, there has been a 30% reduction in violent crime on the nights when Street Angels operate in Woking.

Woking Street Angels come from 18 different churches in and around Woking, including St Dunstan's and St Hugh's Catholic churches. Non-Christians and one Muslim are also valued volunteers. New recruits are always sought and a Summer Ball is planned in June to raise funds.

Story and picture: Mark Potter

Fundraising for the HCPT, The Pilgrimage Trust, to Lourdes

St Richard's Catholic College in Bexhill

NINE PUPILS from St Richard's Catholic College have been awarded sponsorship of £75 each for a pilgrimage to Lourdes in April as part of a Bursary scheme from the Catenian Association. The Year 11 pupils were presented with a cheque for £675 during a year assembly by Keith Osborne (pictured) who is the President of the Bexhill Circle of Catenians and the Chair of Governors at St Richard's.

These year 11s are part of a larger group of 23 pupils from St. Richard's who will be going on the HCPT pilgrimage at Easter to Lourdes.

The St Richard's pupils have been putting a huge effort into fundraising over many months in order to send three disabled children on holiday to Lourdes and to pay for themselves to accompany the trip as helpers as part of HCPT Group 715. The pupils have already raised over £2,000 through cake sales, sponsored walks, bag-packing at supermarkets and helping to organise a year 7 charity Halloween school disco.

James Campbell, HCPT Group 715 leader and teacher at St Richard's Catholic College, said: 'I am really impressed by the fundraising and determination of all the 23 pupils going on the pilgrimage this year. Their efforts to raise money have been second to none. It will be a special trip this year as our region will be leading the HCPT trust Mass and our pupils will be closely involved in providing the music and liturgy alongside their other service group duties'.

One year 11 pupil summed up how much the group are looking forward to their pilgrimage: 'We are really excited about going to Lourdes. We have all been fund-raising hard to get ourselves to Lourdes to form HCPT Group 715. On top of that, we are delighted to have raised enough money to help send less able children to Lourdes too'.

Story and picture: Charlotte Chong



Catholic Women's League in Bexhill

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE Bexhill Section invited Mark Elms from HCPT to be a guest speaker at its monthly meeting to explain the work which the Pilgrimage Trust carries out. He told us that HCPT is a charity offering pilgrimage holidays to Lourdes in the south of France, for disabled and disadvantaged people from around the UK and further afield.

Every Easter over 1,000 disabled and disadvantaged children enjoy a week in Lourdes, staying in hotels with their volunteer helpers. Each Summer over 1,500 people, many of them disabled adults, enjoy a week at HCPT's Hosanna House in Bartrès near Lourdes. HCPT is a Catholic charity and its services are open to all. Volunteers and beneficiaries come from all walks of life and from all faiths and none. Mark's talk was inspiring and uplifting, outlining the great work carried out by so many young adults in their caring for disadvantaged pilgrims. The picture shows Mark, together with CWL Chairlady Barbara Elms who presented the CWL's donation cheque to Dave Turner, Group leader of HCPT.

Story and picture: Frances Haragan



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My gift of £ is enclosed payable to Tyburn Mission.
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RETURN TO: RETURN TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ. Phone: 020 7723 7262.

OBITUARIES

MGR CANON GEOFFREY SCOTT

FR JEFF was born in Leeds, Yorkshire on 17 January 1945. He put his conversion down to a visit to Notre Dame in Paris. Fr Ken McCarthy who was parish priest of Langley Green instructed and received him as a Catholic and said that bound up with this was a calling to priesthood.

Ordination to priesthood was on 31 May 1979, this was followed by studies in Canon Law, Ottawa where he gained the LCL and MCL. These he put to good use in the Matrimonial Tribunal as Judicial Vicar and also in lecturing at the Seminary. With his sharp mind and head for figures he served as Chairman of the Diocesan Finance Committee, a Trustee and other positions assisting the Bishop.

Parishioners in Woodingdean, Preston Park, Keymer, Arundel and Knaphill remember him as a kindly, supportive and direct person who loved a meal in good company. What characterised Fr Jeff was his love of dogs - to start with naming them after Popes - Ben, Leo and then Holly, Merlin and Tom the Jack Russell. In quieter moments his methodical streak found its outlet as a philatelist.

Over 9 years he bore his medical condition with courage going to the Lord on 3 February 2014.



Mgr Canon JH

FR KEVIN GASKIN

FR KEVIN, a Brightonian in his younger days, was born on 12 April 1937, educated at the Xaverian College, Brighton and grew up at the entrance to the Patcham railway tunnel. This must have given him his enthusiasm for railways, one which on his 50th anniversary of ordination came to the zenith with a celebratory trip on the Bluebell Railway from Sheffield Park to East Grinstead (pictured).

His ordination to priesthood took place in St Mary's, Preston Park on 29 June 1962. He served as curate in Dorking and Weybridge before becoming parish priest of St Ann's, Banstead, Our Lady & St Peter, East Grinstead and The Sacred Heart, Wadhurst. In 1996 he underwent heart surgery in London and recovered to continue his priestly ministry in Wadhurst. One of his dreams came true with the extension of the church, forming a meeting room and overflow space.

He retired to East Grinstead in 2012 but all too soon he was diagnosed with a condition which led to his death at St Raphael's, Danehill on 5 March 2014.

Fr Kevin was known for membership of his support group, the Council of Priests and his gregarious nature with clergy and faithful alike. For many years he was the spiritual director of the Catholic Women's League in the diocese.

A much loved priest called all too soon to his heavenly reward.



Mgr Canon JH

FR TOM MULVEY

FR TOM was the first Diocesan Youth Service Director from 1964-1967, based at Bishop's House, Hove and attending a Youth Work Course at Swansea University College.


Born in Ireland on 8 January 1928 he trained at St John's Seminary in Womersley 1948-1954 serving as curate in Stockwell, Burgess Hill, Sevenoaks and Hove. He was parish priest in Woodingdean, Eastbourne, St Agnes, West Grinstead, Molesey, Angmering, Leatherhead and Newhaven before retiring to Ireland in 1999. At different stages of his priestly life Fr Tom explored religious life and this searching explains why some of his appointments were for just two or three years.

He retired to Castlepollard, Westmeath, dying there on 3 February 2014. the parish priest of St Michael's, Castlepollard, Fr Patrick Moore, kept an eye on him and conducted his funeral.

Whilst at West Grinstead his devotion to St Sharbel Makhlof (Feastday 24 July) grew and his name was given to his retirement home. A quiet man with a disarming smile.

May he rest in peace

Mgr Canon JH



CAFOD A&B telephone: 01483 898866 email arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

You have helped thousands in the typhoon-torn Philippines

Typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines on 8 November 2013, tearing apart the lives of more than 14 million people. CAFOD supporters responded with amazing generosity raising just under £5 million in the first three months.

So how has the money been spent?
On Emergency kits - containing basic foodstuffs, simple tools, a bucket, a flashlight and essential toiletry items.
On Hygiene kits - including soap and water purification tablets to help prevent the spread of disease.
On Water Bladders - setting up and regularly refilling giant bladders to provide safe drinking water to thousands of families.
On deliveries - of food, shelter and kits to remote islands using convoys of local fishing-boats.

The gratitude is heartfelt
Fr Oscar L. Florencio, who has led the Church response to the typhoon in the town of Palo on Leyte, said: 'The outpouring of support has been overwhelming. Catholics in England and Wales know that we are their brothers and sisters. They have shown the presence of love, the presence of God. I am really thankful for this show of support and concern for us.'

The work continues as does the need
Over the next few months, we will help people who are living in tents or temporary shelters to rebuild their homes. With crops and trees destroyed by the storm, and tens of thousands of fishing-boats severely damaged, we will also support people in making a living again.

If you would like to donate please go to <http://www.cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>

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Free entry - Refreshments in Cathedral Centre

Thursday 19 June, 5.30pm Solemn Mass and Procession to Castle

GIFT AID - HAVEN'T WE DONE WELL

SELF-CONGRATULATION is always a tricky route to follow in life, but when Her Majesty - in the form of her tax-collecting officers at the Inland Revenue - says 'well done', maybe we can do that pat on the back without embarrassment or fear of criticism from onlookers. So, if you see your Gift Aid organiser perform this contortion, it is for a very good reason.

Our diocese is one of the leaders in England and Wales for the advancement of on-line Gift Aid. In a new initiative, it is now possible to not only claim on a monthly basis for Gift Aid rebates but to also use the services of Internet banking. While this may not seem a great advance to the majority of A&B NEWS readers, making the transfer of donations from bank statements to the GiftWise database is, according to Sue Rickard - our Diocesan Gift Aid Coordinator - 'a breeze!'

While most readers of the A&B NEWS will find this an excellent moment to get up and make a cup of tea, the GiftWise initiative will give great pleasure to parish priests and school governors, as tax rebates will be received on a regular basis, rather than wait possibly 15 months under the old manual system.

Gift Aid organisers are being invited to learn more about all the new initiatives at this year's AGM to be held at St Pauls Catholic College, Burgess Hill on Saturday 26 April. The day starts with a GiftWise seminar at noon, at which the Diocesan team will give hands-on demonstrations of how this user-friendly system works. It's a time to ask those awkward questions organisers are often too embarrassed to ask over the phone or via the Internet.

The AGM itself will start at 2.30 pm in the College's main hall, followed by Mass at 4pm celebrated by Bishop Kieran with the assistance of Fr Rick McGrath from Burgess Hill. A 'thank-you' supper will end the day for all the hard working organisers.

Let's face it - the subject of Gift Aid will never set the world alight, but look a bit closer at the statistics. Gift Aid was claimed on £4.6m of your donations, which resulted in £1.1m being repaid from the Treasury. Still not impressed? Come along to the AGM and listen for yourselves.

Peter Burholt



BISHOP'S DIARY

MARCH / APRIL

Sun 30	3pm	HCPT Pre-pilgrimage Mass, Farnborough
Mon 7	10.30am	Trustees' Meeting, Dabce
Tue 8 - Thu 10		NBRIA National Conference, Hinsley Hall, Leeds
Sat 12	12 Noon	Union of Catholic Mothers Mass at Arundel Cathedral
Sun 13	11.15am	Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Tue 15	6pm	Confirmations at HMP Send
Wed 16	6pm	Chrism Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Thu 17	8pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper, Arundel Cathedral
Fri 18	3pm	The Passion of the Lord, Arundel Cathedral
Sat 19	8.30pm	Easter Vigil and First Mass of the Resurrection, Arundel Cathedral
Mon 21 - Fri 25		HCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes
Sat 26	3.45pm	Gift Aid AGM and Mass, St Paul's Catholic College, Burgess Hill
Mon 28		De La Salle Brothers, Liss
Tue 29	9.30am	Secondary Heads/Chairs/Chaplaincy Meeting, Dabce
Wed 30		Day for Religious, Worth Abbey

PASTORAL LETTER OF BISHOP KIERAN

Read at all masses on the weekend of 1/2 March 2014, 8th Sunday of the Year

Dear brothers and sisters of Arundel & Brighton,

SOMETIMES when you go to the doctor you just know that you're not feeling well, but are not sure why. One of the skills of the doctor is that he or she can then get you to identify more precisely what the problem is. What sort of 'disease' is it – in other words, what is making you feel uneasy, what is taking away your normal feeling of ease? It's the same with counselling. A skilled counsellor will get you to identify your feelings; you're feeling bad, but is it anger, fear or regret? All these things can make us unhappy, but often it's difficult to pin the feeling down precisely without some help. And that help is enabling us to put a name either on the feeling of being unwell, or feeling bad and unhappy within ourselves.

This Lent, the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales is publishing material to help people either re-connect with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or get to know it for the first time. The sacrament has been referred to traditionally as 'confession', but the Church has recognised that there is more to the celebration than simply the act of confessing sins. It is a re-building of our relationship with God and with one another.

Over the last few decades, most churches have seen a steep decline in the numbers of people taking advantage of this sacrament, and the reasons are not always clear. One of the reasons may be a different attitude to sin. In the past there seemed to be great emphasis on sin as something that you 'did', or even thought of doing; many people confused sin with temptation and even now there is still confusion about what constitutes sin. Many adults, for instance, will confess anger as a sin, but anger is an emotional response we can't do anything about, and the Church has always taught that sin must be the deliberate and conscious carrying out of something we know to be wrong.

There may also have been a growing sense that the traditional 'penance' such as three 'Hail Marys' can't really put right something that I know to be seriously wrong, or make up for the hurt I might have caused somebody.

Sin is harmful because it does damage. It damages ourselves, it damages others, it damages the community and it damages our relationship with God. The sacrament of reconciliation helps to start repairing that damage. It helps to start, but the actual re-building of those relationships will perhaps take a long time.

While many churches have witnessed a decline in the number of adult 'confessions' there is some evidence of a growth in the numbers of young people celebrating the sacrament, especially in Rome, and probably because of the influence of Pope Francis. He has said some very helpful



things, inviting people to take a fresh look at the notion of reconciliation.

While he says that confessing our sins is not to be equated with psychotherapy or counselling, he does refer to the counselling principle of putting a name on our problems and difficulties. He says that children don't talk in general or vague terms, in the way that adults sometime confess to being 'uncharitable' or 'selfish'. They say precisely what they have done wrong, and recognise it for what it is. And he says that it is important to have this conversation with a priest; it has to be real. To those who say 'I can confess to God,' Pope Francis says that it's not like sending God an email; it is personal encounter. It has to be eye-to-eye contact, he says. And while it is a very private and confidential meeting with a priest, the priest represents the community of the Church, and it is the community, as well as the individual that is being healed.

The Pope uses the word 'shame' when he talks about our response to our own wrong-doing. This seems to be different from 'guilt'. Guilt is something that most of us carry around all the time, guilt for the things we have done and said and guilt for the things we have left un-done and un-said. But shame is possibly less easy to carry around, and must be washed away. And when shame starts to close a door, Pope Francis says, confessing our shame can open that door again, the door of our relationship with others and the door of our relationship with God.

And finally, he reminds us that this is not all about ourselves, it is about God and his mercy and love for us. Celebrating the sacrament of reconciliation is giving praise to God for his goodness and unconditional acceptance of us. This is the God who became like me to save me from my sin, and one of the most immediate and real ways to experience this salvation is in the sacrament.

You don't have to remember any formula of words, or how many times you have done something wrong. The priest will help you. The Pope reminds us that the priest himself, bishops and even the Pope himself need to celebrate this sacrament. So if you haven't 'been to confession' for some time and want to discover it again, this Lent might be a good time to do it. There are even a couple of smart-phone 'apps' that you can look at; one is called simply 'Confession', I think, and the other is 'Mea culpa'. They don't allow you to confess over the phone – the Pope says it has to be person-to-person - but they might help if you have that technology.

So I hope that Lent is a fruitful season for you, that you experience change not only in the weather and the lengthening of the days, but also in the light in your heart and the warmth of your inner self, and come to Easter with a real sense of re-discovered joy in the Lord.

With my best wishes and prayers for you all.

+ Kieran

BISHOP KIERAN has issued an invitation to all parishes to come along to the Diocesan Festival on Sunday 29 June 2014 at St Wilfrid's Catholic School in Crawley in preparation for the Golden Jubilee and the planned Golden Jubilee Festival at the Amex Stadium, Falmer, Brighton on 5 July 2015.

What is happening this year?

The focus of the day on 29 June will be on the Word of God. Alongside Fr Adrian Graffy as a key speaker there will be a whole host of workshops looking at 'Reading the Bible with Children', 'Praying (making) an Icon', 'Quick Journey through the Bible' and many more. There will also be activities for all the family and refreshments will be available, although you would be welcome to bring a picnic.

Volunteers needed

The Diocese is looking for volunteers to help especially for the planned Golden Jubilee Festival in Brighton on 5 July 2015. So if you have a skill that might be of use for the Festival such as communications, music, flower arranging, social media, transport or would just like to volunteer on the day to welcome, help and guide people then why not come along to the Festival this year and get an idea of what is needed. You can either make yourself known on 29 June in Crawley, email festival@dabnet.org or contact Elizabeth Hembrey at DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP.

For more information and regular updates on both Festivals go to www.abdiocese/diofestival

A&B Jubilee FESTIVAL

29th June 2014





Where: St Wilfrid's School
Crawley RH11 8PG

When: Sunday
29 June 10am-4pm

What: Speakers, new ways to read the Bible, fun activities, celebration and chance to make new friends

Mass: 3pm

"By 2015, we the people of the diocese will better understand who we are, and what we are called to do, and that, in turn, we will bring about real change in the communities in which we live"

Bishop KIERAN CONRY

For information: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diofestival
Email: festival@dabnet.org
No Booking Necessary

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Preparing a way for the Lord

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Diocese of Arundel & Brighton

FROM THE PARISHES

BEXHILL



THE TWO Mothers' Prayers Groups from our parish shared a post-Christmas meal. One of the groups meets on Tuesday evenings and the other on Wednesday mornings, allowing mothers to join together in prayer for their own and other children. Intercessions are placed in a small basket and thanks given to God for prayers which have been answered. It was a lovely occasion to meet on a social basis with a shared meal for some of the members from both groups.

Mothers' Prayers is an international, interdenominational organisation open to all women who wish to pray for children of all ages. For more information about your local group, contact Carolyn Hart on 01626 879061 or carolyn@mothersprayers.org.

Frances Haragan

ADUR VALLEY

IN THESE difficult times it is good to know that the Foodbank at Shoreham has been well supported by parishioners from both St Peter's at Shoreham and, although a food bank has not yet been set up at Steyning, the parishioners from Christ the King have contributed to that at St Peter's. The contributions have been gratefully received.

Emma and her friends from St Peter's school held a cake sale at SP's and raised an amazing sum of £162.93 which was sent to Cancer Research.

Congratulations have been in order this month to Sr Frances from The Towers who celebrates the 25th anniversary of her religious profession. She was sent a beautiful bouquet in recognition of the wonderful work she carries out round the parish, visiting the sick and housebound and also those in Worthing Hospital. Then Richard King from the St Peter's choir was awarded a doctorate for his thesis on church music.

Two of our parishioners have kindly offered to create a little garden to the south of the church in memory of Jackie Duggan who maintained the garden at St Peter's so devotedly for many years.

Penny Richardson

ARUNDEL

IT MAY SEEM that pathways are a constant theme at the moment. On Holocaust Memorial Day we gathered together in the Convent of the Poor Clares for prayer and reflection. During a series of thought-provoking readings we were shocked and dismayed by the sheer number of atrocities which have occurred and are indeed ongoing since the horrors of WWII. In silence we offered our responses, perhaps finding new ways to deal with conflict.

A new 'pathway' has emerged in the formation of a 'Mothers Prayers' group, which has had a very successful beginning in the parish.

Keeping our feet on safe ground is the aim of ongoing work creating pathways for all abilities around the cemetery as well as the parish garden, thanks to help from the Friends of

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the May 2014 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 31 March 2014 and for the June 2014 issue by Monday 28 April 2014. Contributions may be sent by e-mail to 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.

Arundel Cathedral.

Hilary Caws

BURGESS HILL

MANY THANKS to Molly Baker and Anita de Lacey who raised £348 for parish funds by making and selling handmade Christmas Cards. We would also like to thank St Paul's Tuesday Morning Bible Study Group whose donations have also been added to the money raised. Many thanks to everyone for your support.

Anita de Lacey

CATERHAM

THE RHYTHM of parish life continues with various activities run by the all important volunteers, Beavers, Scouts, Mothers and Toddlers, Sacred Heart Chill Club (10 to 14 year olds) launch and appeal.

COAT (Caterham Overseas Aid Trust) raised £700 from a successful barn dance on 8 February and the parish had a good St Valentine's day lunch on 16 February.

Despite the rain Caterham escaped the flooding, although neighbouring Whyteleafe was closed on the A22 – the Bourne problem again!

Arrangements are well in hand for the Women's World Day of Prayer, the theme 'Streams in the Desert'. Ann Lardeur will be the speaker in our church (our sympathies are with her and her family on the death of her husband Albert recently).

CAFOD'S World Gifts at Christmas raised £1,254 in the parish.

Our thanks to Frs Anthony Hall and John Oliver for covering for Fr Kieran Gardiner whilst he was away on a short post-Christmas break.

Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY

Christ the Lord (LEP)
Broadfield and Bewbush

MGR TONY BARRY celebrated our Mass on the Feast of Candlemas. Our children processed out with the blessed candles and then at the offertory they presented a beautifully decorated banner illustrating the Light of Christ.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Kieran Conry when he celebrated our Mass on Education Sunday.

Barbara Winstanley

EAST GRINSTEAD and LINGFIELD

A YEAR AND A HALF ago, we greeted Fr Kevin Gaskin on his return to East Grinstead. Retiring from Wadhurst and Rotherfield, he continued his ministry, assisting Fr Stephen Purnell. Sadly within a very short time, a serious illness was diagnosed and Fr Kevin carried on bravely and was open about his health. He recently went to St Raphael's, Danehill, for palliative care but sadly he passed away on Ash Wednesday. Our love and our prayers go with him. (See obituary page 8)

Fundraising for the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes has begun and we are pleased that we have three Redshirts from East Grinstead and Lingfield going to Lourdes this year.

During Fairtrade Fortnight, local churches and schools in East Grinstead (a Fairtrade

WADHURST

ON 2 FEBRUARY we welcomed Bishop Kieran on a pastoral visit and even though he couldn't stay for lunch, we made it a special parish occasion by adding bucks fizz and nibbles to our usual coffee and biscuits. The Bishop stayed long enough to chat with our parishioners and was introduced to our youngest cantor, 17 year old Amelia (sings like an angel) Gabriel, as well as the children's liturgy group, their leader Kim O'Higgins and some of her team. The Bishop engaged with the children during Mass but really couldn't persuade them that the Presentation was 41 days after Christmas not 40. We were all impressed at the Bishop's memory as without prompt he remembered the altar servers' names. Especially impressive as they were called Pudge, Siobhan and Louis.

The following Sunday we had another special Mass when Fr Martin O'Connor introduced our four confirmation candidates, Michael, Freddie, Harry and Siobhan. The theme was Healing and used stones in two symbolic ways. The candidates did all the readings and placed stones, symbolising their stony hearts, before the altar and prayed for their lives to be transformed by Our Lord who is the Living Stone and for Him to become the foundation of their lives. It was an unusual and inspiring Service.

Story Peggy Purslow; Picture Greg O'Higgins



town) and Lingfield (a Fairtrade zone) took part in various associated events. On 23 February, there was a sale of cakes made with Fairtrade ingredients in the parish centre at Our Lady & St Peter.

Clive Carpenter

EGHAM

THE MEDIA informed everyone of the flood problems in Egham and Staines areas. Since Wednesday 12 February the water around St John of Rochester church and house in Egham Hythe have risen, so that by Thursday they sat on an island above the water. Good news, the water did not enter the church or the house, but the hall is under a foot of water because it sits on a flood plane. So for weekending 15/16 and 22/23 February Masses usually celebrated at St John's were celebrated at Our Lady of the Assumption Church.

Alice Mabbs

OXTEAD

ALL SAINTS PARISH has been hosting

FRIMLEY



IT HAS BECOME quite a tradition at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Frimley, that after Sunday Masses, our parish priest, Fr John O'Sullivan, calls up all those who are celebrating a birthday. So back in January the tables were turned when it was Fr John who was congratulated on reaching a rather major milestone of a birthday. As you can see, after the 10:30am Mass Fr John was presented with some non-liturgical accessories!

Jeremy Preece

lunches to provide funds for a CAFOD community water aid project, £750 was the goal. Supported by a lively and generous group, Catholics, members of the URC church and a retired vicar, we achieved our target and more. £895 (final total) is enough for a community to have clean and safe water and also funds to provide a community loo as well. Fr John Oliver is now in the process of deciding on our next project!

Sylvia Young

POLEGATE and HAILSHAM

AT THE END of January the Catholic communities of Polegate and Hailsham came together in the chapel of the Eastbourne and District Hospital to celebrate the weekly service for the patients in the whole of the hospital. It was led by Deacon John Truman with guest musician John Chatfield at the piano. We included five hymns, a prayer by a North American Indian, psalm 100, prayers with simple hand gestures and the prayer of St Teresa of Avila. It was well supported by the two communities who had braved the awful weather - they sang and joined in the prayers with great spirit.

Deacon John Truman and Ruth Ayres

RYE

FR PAUL CLARKE celebrated Requiem Mass for one of our long-standing parishioners, Peter van Heuven. Peter's widow, Dorothy, has asked us all to pray, both for Peter and for her.

An open invitation has been extended to all our parishioners to join a house rosary group followed by tea on the first Thursday of each month. There has been an enthusiastic early response.

Songs of Praise was held at St Anthony's on 23 February as a local Churches Together event. All agreed that it was a very moving and prayerful service; an opportunity to join our fellow Christians in prayer, meditation and readings and in a stirring rendition of two favourite hymns: 'The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord' and 'Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer.'

Jocelyn Rowe

NOTICE

It would be of considerable benefit to the editorial team if contributors would **always** include their contact telephone number when submitting any copy.

Thank you

FROM THE PARISHES

WORTHING

St Mary of the Angels

ON THE FEAST of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Candlemas) Sunday all Masses began with the blessing of candles and procession into church. The Mass for the anointing of the sick took place on 11 February, the feast of Our lady of Lourdes.

During February the parish was involved in collecting tools, excluding gardening tools, for the charity 'Tools for Self Reliance' who collect and refurbish tools and send them to Africa. They also collect haberdashery items - wool, threads, needles, pins and other sewing and knitting items. An amazing amount of items has been collected for this project, these will all be put to good use in African towns and villages.

On Sunday 23 February the 10.30am Mass was an international Mass with readers, musicians, ministers, altar servers and collectors from the many of the 23 nationalities in our parish, national flags and symbols were displayed.

After the Mass there was a well attended shared lunch in the Sion School Hall. People brought along their national dishes to share with others.

A successful collection has been made for a new monstrance as the existing one is small and only shows the host on one side. The new one will be larger and double sided, exhibiting the host on both sides.

Astrid Gibson

Annecy School collects Back Packs for Mary's Meals



THE CHILDREN of Annecy RC Primary School in Seaford collected 130 back packs to send to Africa under the umbrella of the Mary's Meal's Back Pack Project.

The children are pictured proudly displaying their back packs.

This project was co-ordinated by Mr Michael Logan President of Seaford Rotary Club who has adopted Mary's Meals as his Presidential Charity. Other local primary schools have also participated in this project.

Story and picture: Michael Logan

Cranmore School raises funds for Missio

ACTION DAY is an annual fixture in the Cranmore School calendar. Organised by the Director of Music, Richard Harris, every boy in the senior department (aged 8-13) participates in a full day of action which is given over to the performing arts. Richards says, 'Boys can choose to play an instrument, recite a poem or even perform in a humorous sketch. They raise money through sponsorship and all funds go to our chosen charity. We are delighted to support Missio'.

Fr Richard Biggerstaff, who collected the donation of £4,325 on behalf of the charity, delivered a powerful school assembly in which he explained how this sum alone would almost cover the full cost of a new house for the many orphans in need in Zambia.

Pictured are Richard Harris, Fr Richard, the Head Boy, and Miss Crossley - School Charities Co-ordinator.

Story and picture: Shelagh Connolly



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