THE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER FOR SURREY & SUSSEX

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A&BNEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton No 281 June 2014 PENTECOST



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Easter Vigil page 5



Good Friday Act of Witness page 5



Palm Sunday page 10

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The diocese gathers at Arundel Cathedral

B ISHOP KIERAN said in his homily at the Chrism Mass that this is the only time of the year when the whole diocese gathers together. This aspect of 'gathering' appealed to many of the people present. Here is what a few of them said:-

- '...the impact of the chance to be together across the diocese (a deacon)
- '...makes you want to become more involved helps to understand the diocese. (this was a comment from one of 25 parisioners who had come by coach from Oxted and Warlingham. He had met a former school colleague from many years ago)
- 'It is wonderful seeing the whole diocese together' (another parishioner)
- A priest ordained this year was aware of being there for the first time as part of the whole presbyterial order and a priest member of an order recently new to the diocese found it an 'exciting social occasion'. Deacons also expressed this sense of the social occasion, especially for their wives.
- A Lourdes pilgrimage nurse was thrilled to be such part of the diocese, as she waited to bring up the Oil of the Sick to be blessed. For the two Confirmation candidates, who brought up the Chrism this was their first visit to the Cathedral.
- For the sisters from the Poor Clares convent at Arundel, this was only the second time the Community had been at this special Mass and they could only leave their enclosure with the permission of the Bishop.
- One young server was delighted to be there supporting his (widower) father
- A monk from Worth described himself as 'delighted of Worth'

Bishop Kieran welcomed this very packed and happy congregation - 'the whole diocese together' and with special mention of various groups, including the Poor Clares, the three men going to the seminary in September, the diocesan staff and 'the whole family of God'. He explained that if he was directing someone he would not give map references but would name 'markers'. The Chrism Mass is about markers or signs. 'The evening is a visual representation of the Church'. 'The oils are a visible reality of God's love.' The Chrism, he said was the most important as it is used for the Sacraments we only receive once. 'We all share with Christ as Priest, Prophet and King and we have a mission as a result'. 'We have tangible, visible things to express the reality of God's presence among us'. We being saved now 'I am the resurrection and the life'.

The Mass continued with the blessing of the oils, the renewal of commitment of priests, deacons and lay people. We all left the Cathedral to 'Lord, you gave the great commission' ... 'With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry'.

Pictured above right; the congregation gathers in the Cathedral; below: the two Confirmation candidates from Haywards Heath parish who brought up Chrism to be blessed by the Bishop

Story: Pauline Groves, pictures on this page and page 2: David White.

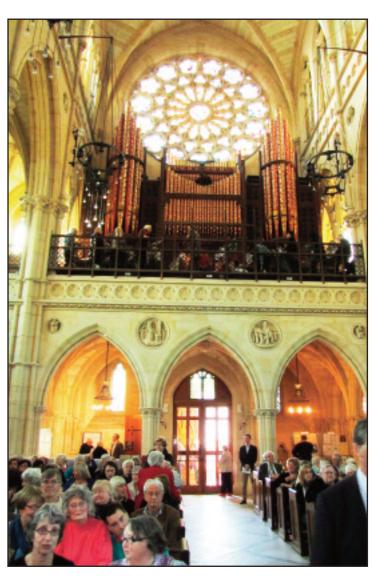


& B NEWS is delighted that some members of the diocese were in Rome recently to celebrate the Canonisation of Pope John XX111 and Pope John Paul 11. The crowd was so large that our representatives found themselves initially unable even to cross the Castel Sant 'Angelo bridge. They did do so eventually and were able to watch the ceremony on one of the many giant screens.

A family who have recently moved to Bognor Regis parish from Ewell share we us (below) their special memory of Pope John Paul 11, when he blessed the daughter, then aged 4

Pope St John X111 and Pope John Paul 11, pray for us.







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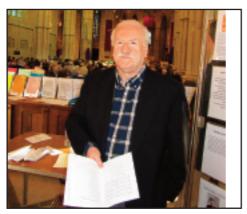


Cowfold Road, Coolham, Horsham, W. Sussex RH13 8QL

Gathering for the Chrism Mass









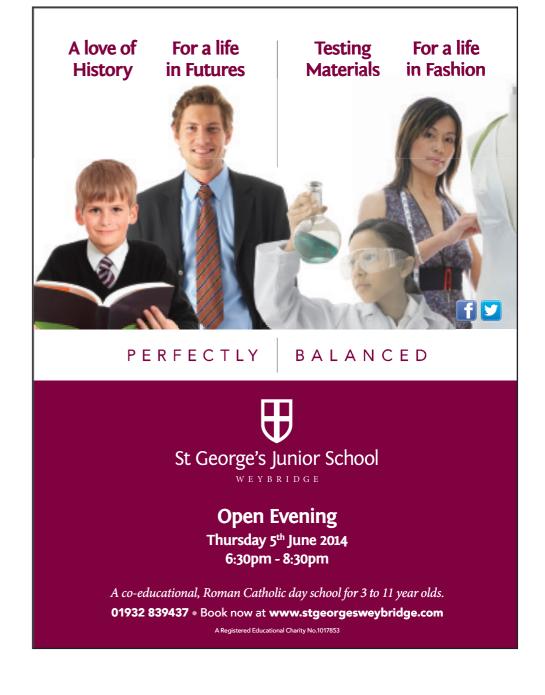




Pictured (from top left) the procession gathers at the Cathedral door; the deacons vest; the priests vest; waitresses wait to serve the the clergy refreshments after the Mass; Paul Inwood holds a copy of his 'Jubilee Mass', the Gloria of which was sung for the first time at the Chrism Mass; and the sisters of the Poor Clares await the begining of Mass.

Pictures by: David White

Wintershall



The Diocesan Gift Aid Seminar and Annual General Meeting

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, there was no Easter last year? - a rather startled Gift Aid Organiser challenged Sue Rickard at the Gift Aid AGM, recently held at St Paul's College in Burgess Hill. Sue, our Diocesan Gift Aid Coordinator, looked patiently at the inquisitor 'No, I am not talking about the calendar year, but the tax year. Yes, some years we have one Easter, some have none and in other years we have two. The last tax year had none' Later in her presentation, Sue proudly reported that the scheme had achieved a tax reclaim of £1.3m, despite the lack of Easters. She congratulated the organisers, going on to say 'This is about the figure we achieved last year, so 2014/15 should be even better'

Starting the day off, Ian Dallas – one of our Diocesan Gift Aid Auditors (pictured below) – held a seminar for those wishing to know more about the online system set up by the diocese a few years ago. GiftWise is a leading edge programme which is geared to make the organisers' life easier, to improve accuracy and to speed up payments back to schools and parishes.

While this may not be the most interesting subject in the world, it does seriously improve cash flow. At the afternoon's AGM, Sue was able to report that, after cajoling an HMRC officer called Harry, an on-line return was made and payment completed in seven days. Remember the days when rebates would be paid in the year after the claim? However, one issue which is coming up for the future is HMRC's pressure to convert to donations being made digitally. More of this at next year's AGM

As Financial Secretary to the diocese, Fergus Brotherton reminded the delegates of the rules for making claims and to make sure that we keep up our excellent accuracy record, which has been carefully built up over many years with the authorities.

Gift Aid Auditor, David Goodge (pictured below), gave his annual audit report. He was keen to point out the merits of using internet banking, as this will reduce errors and speed up the system. He went on to remind delegates 'It is illegal not to disclose the charitable status of the diocese on any document soliciting for money' The room fell particularly quiet at this point, with 100 organisers imagining themselves before their local judge!

Ian Dallas was on hand to extol the virtues of using GiftWise. Having given his paper, it was clear that there are no real reasons for not using the system - especially as the cost to the parish or the school is 'a great big zero'. However, Ian is still looking forward to hearing from one third of schools and parishes still to be converted to GiftWise.

Although not part of the official team at Bishop's House, David Keel from Egham was invited back to share his real experiences of organising an appeal. Last year he talked about the theory – now, what was the reality? Space in the A&B News does not allow the full presentation to be given, apart from saying that David's initiative had been a great success, with a simple principal of keeping up communication with parishioners. This included setting up an email group of Gift Aiders. 'As a result of our work, we gained 48 new declarations in the first year and increased our tax rebate by £7,000' He went on to say how he had even given back a generous donation of £10,000, so that it could be split between two tax years. 'Even I thought it was a very brave act on my behalf!' he quipped.

Some say that the subject of Gift Aid is boring. Well, yes it might be to the majority of readers. But it is important to us all who benefit from the annual rebate of £1.3m last year. As Bishop Kieran mentioned at Mass after the AGM 'We cannot do without it' He particularly thanked the work carried out by the organisers and the dedicated team at Bishop's House. He also remembered Fr Rick McGrath from Burgess Hill parish who concelebrated with him, remarking 'He has to rush off as he has two more Masses this evening!'

Conversation carried on after Mass at the traditional 'thank you' supper, giving an opportunity for people to meet up for the first time, for old acquaintances to be renewed and to ask the team that awkward question which one was too shy to ask in public. And then there was the Bishop in the dining room, open to his pastoral flock to answer those serious and less serious questions we all wanted to ask our Bishop, but never had the opportunity.

Finally, much of what was said at the AGM was of particular interest only to Gift Aid Organisers, However, there was a touching moment when those who were retiring from their positions were asked to make themselves known to the audience. Between the 6 retirees, 139 years of organising had been achieved in service to the diocese and the Lord. Congratulating them on this achievement Sue reflected 'We all work together and we work for the Lord'



Pictured are our three Gift Aid Auditors - Ian Dallas on the left, Dan Meehan in the centre, and David Goodge on the right. Dan Meehan gave the talk reported below on this page on Pastoral Care and Gift Aid - do they mix?

Story and picture: Peter Burholt

PASTORAL CARE AND GIFT AID — DO THEY MIX? S PART OF THE RECENT Gift Aid AGM, Diocesan Auditor Dan Meehan put forward the case

A S PART OF THE RECENT Gift Aid AGM, Diocesan Auditor Dan Meehan put forward the case that there is a definite link between pastoral care and raising money via Gift Aid. This is a subject which has not been talked about in the past and, possibly, not even on the radar of any of our Diocesan family.

'Some time ago I took on another parish's Gift Aid scheme and merged it on GiftWise.' said Dan. 'Much to my surprise a number of donors had stopped giving by envelope and standing order' What, you might think, has this to do with pastoral care? 'Having checked as to why these donors might have stopped, a very carefully worded letter was sent out to these people'

This brought some interesting results. It found that some were unable to attend Mass, some responded that they were no longer tax payers and only two donors ignored Dan's letter. Donors who gave by standing order were also contacted – some had stopped over a year previously. Responses to the letter included that they were too ill to attend Mass and some were limited as to what they could give.

Nobody was upset at being approached and this exercise brought up matters such as a standing order never being processed and another where money had left a donors' account, but never reached the parish account. This is still being investigated by their bank.

This coming together of two Gift Aid schemes brought parishioners closer to the parish - with addresses being corrected, some who were cut off who are now back in the Church and several who receive Communion and house visits on a regular basis.

The experience of Dan and his parish is conclusive. Pastoral care and Gift Aid do mix, with unexpected benefits!

Helping People To Help Themselves

FR ANDREW MOSS from St Richard's parish in Chichester gave a presentation and talk about his recent visit to Mercy House, Johannesburg in South Africa at Our Lady of The Assumption in Bosham, as well as St Peter's Church in West Wittering. Pictured is Fr Andrew modelling some of the aprons and bags made at Mercy House to raise money, at the presentation at Bosham.

Mercy House was started in 1996 by it's founder, Diana Beamish, at the time of genocide in Rwanda. Diana managed to purchase a place in Johannesburg to help young people who had been orphaned by war, or forced into child soldiery. The charity helps refugees, including refugee families who come from Burundi, Rwanda, Congo, Sudan, and more recently, Zimbabwe.

Mercy House has benefited from donations by parishioners of St Richards parish for many years, when it first came to the attention of Judy and Gerald McGregor, two local parishioners. Various events and functions are organised in the parish to help raise money for this so deserving cause.

Diana, a South African teacher and lecturer in English, has given her whole life to Mercy House and is an incredible woman who lives her life by faith. Currently, there are 22 people living in Mercy House. Diana has a policy that families have to move out after 2-3 years, but single children can stay. Children attend school at Phoenix College and Diana pays their school fees. Whilst walking to and from college, the refugees are often held at gunpoint and robbed because the streets are unsafe.

Putting the young through school, makes it possible for them to stand on their own feet and make their way in life. The Dominican Convent of The Sacred Heart is an expensive private Catholic school which takes a small number of Mercy House children at reduced fees.

So many tragic stories surround the refugees who have undergone traumatic journeys when fleeing their countries. Many arrive at Mercy House in tatters, desperate for help. They are met with the healing power of unconditional love - a place where they can feel safe with support and



hope. With the opportunity of education they are then able to help themselves, with many gaining great achievements.

Please remember Mercy House in your prayers and the remarkable work of Diana Beamish.

Story and pictures: Caroline Bullen











Cardinal Newman Catholic School Brighton & Hove, Sussex

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www.cncs.co.uk

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We welcome your application. Closing date for applications: Monday, 16th June at 10.00am

Interview Date: Friday, 4th July

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A&B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

THE SEASON OF CONFIRMATIONS is upon us and soon we shall be celebrating Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. The Holy Spirit who was promised by Jesus and was manifest in tongues of fire on the first Pentecost, is still with us today. The recent double canonisation of two popes showed very different views in the leadership of the Church, yet each can now be seen as guided by the Holy Spirit.

How many of us have memories of one or the other, like the family, whose treasured photo appears on Page 1? We would be pleased to see any photos you may have. Please send them to us – or maybe you just have special memories in your heart – we would like to hear from you.

Back to today in our diocese. As usual we have stories of many worthwhile acts of caring by different parishes and groups, including some across international boundaries. And, of course there are reports of many celebrations around Easter.

June also sees the next step in our diocesan journey to the celebration of our Golden Jubilee in 2015. A & B NEWS will be present at St Wilfrid's School, Crawley on 29 June. Do please come and see us!



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JUST A THOUGHT PENTECOST

AFTER PENTECOST, Peter might well have asked Jesus, 'Why didn't you give me this Holy Spirit long ago, and not have me making a fool of myself, cutting off that man's ear, half-drowning myself, or letting you down at the question of a servant girl?' And Jesus would have smiled and said: 'You weren't ready at all, Peter. You were too full of yourself. You didn't believe for one moment that you needed the Holy Spirit. You are one of those people who has to learn everything the hard way.'

It was only when the apostles came to deep realisation that they really did need the power, that they were ready to go into the upper room and wait for it. I myself find that it is much easier to speak to broken people, to recovering alcoholics, to social failures, about the power of the Holy Spirit, than to those who have not really experienced their own brokenness and weakness.

Fr Jack McArdle from 'It's really very simple'.

Contributed by Fr John Inglis, parish priest of Effingham and Fetcham. Fetcham church is the only church in the diocese dedicated to the Holy Spirit

Developing Catholic Hearts and Minds

Here Fr Rob Esdaile, diocesan Priest Adviser on Adult Formation and parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton, outlines a new initiative to recruit and support parish catechists.

NCE UPON A TIME, 'Catechesis', the handing on of faith, was simple. Children learnt the Penny Catechism (all 370 questions!) in anticipation of First Communion or Confirmation; grown-ups who wanted to become Catholics met with a priest a fixed number of times; couples preparing for marriage did likewise; and that was that. Actually, 'that' wasn't that. The strong community ties that united Catholics in these islands in times of persecution and our very distinctive imagery and rituals (from Family Rosaries and Fish-On-Fridays to Blessed Sacrament Processions) ensured that most people had a vivid grasp of their faith.

But times change. On the one hand, the distinctiveness and defensiveness of 1950s Catholicism have been worn away. Other values and other narratives (Consumerism, Celebrity Culture and the rest) have a much stronger hold on the popular imagination than traditional Christianity. On the other hand, we have recognised that Catechesis is about much more than 'Teaching the Faith'. At the heart of the Greek word Katéchésis is the root 'echo'. Catechesis is about creating just such an echo, a resonance and a recognition in the hearers' hearts – the sort of response that we find on the lips of Doubting Thomas on the second Sunday of Easter: 'My Lord and my God!' But that's a very different task from rote-learning of fixed answers. It is sharing a way of looking and a way of living.

Let me offer a slightly tongue-in-cheek version of old-style recruitment of parish catechists. They were, of course, talent-spotted by the clergy, picked because they were either teachers or parents (or simply because they'd always done it, for as long as anyone could remember ...). And thank God for all those catechists who did allow themselves to be volunteered in this way and who have faithfully shared faith with generations of young Catholics! However, often no training was given. They were simply handed the chosen text-book, course or 'program' and it was assumed they would know what to do.

If that's a bit of a caricature, the assumption underlying the selection of catechists has been pretty universal. We've presumed that those approached have themselves been adequately catechised. But how many of us have really had the opportunity to reflect on the Catholic faith in an adult setting with

space to face our own questions and shape our Christian responses to contemporary culture? Without that foundation, it's not surprising if people are reticent about talking about their faith and sharing it with others.

That's why we've put together a new programme for training new catechists: six sessions spread out over the coming year, beginning in the Autumn, leading to a diocesan Certificate in Catechesis. Significantly, the first session is a Retreat Day (underlining that this is not a 'head-trip' but a spiritual journey). It's an exciting project which we're sure will find a resonance (back to that 'echo' image again!) in many parishes and will give



new volunteers the confidence to offer their gifts. But it also has a certain urgency, for the number of clergy in the diocese is going to fall significantly in the coming years as many of our older priests reach retirement age. It is essential that our parishes prepare themselves for the task of sharing faith with young and old alike in a new situation in which the parish priest is of necessity less involved in the vital task of handing on our faith.

To find out more about the course, contact David Wills, Adult Formation Adviser to the diocese on 01293 651157 david.wills@dabnet.org and refer to the invitation on page 6.

The alleged conflict between Faith and Science

A PRESENTATION BY FR ANDREW PINSENT to the Newman Forum, founded by Esme Howard in 2006, took place at its 24th session on 1 April. The Lourdes Room of St Philip's in Uckfield was packed, and representatives from some of the local Reformed churches, and from the Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle were warmly welcomed by parishioners from St John's, Herons Ghyll and St Philip's.

Fr Andrew's presentation, entitled *The Alleged Conflict between Faith and Science*, lived up to the anticipation. There no doubt continue to be many well-qualified scientists among Catholic priests, though rare to find one who belongs to this diocese. Fr Andrew, with a distinguished academic record in theology and philosophy, also holds degrees in physics and particle physics, and is currently Research Director of the Ian Ramsey Centre for Science and Religion at the University of Oxford. The Forum has touched faith and science in the past, counterbalancing in some small way the efforts of populist television atheists, such as Richard Dawkins, to demolish God by an appeal to science and the 'irrationality' of believers.

Fr Andrew reminded us that God is practically unavoidable in any search for wisdom. In fact, in the past two centuries alone Catholic priests were among the foremost contributors to the further unravelling of scientific mysteries: from Fr Angelo Secchi, the Jesuit Astrophysicist (died 1878), and his contem-

porary Mgr Gregor Mendel, father of Genetics (died 1884), to Fr Georges Lemaître (died 1966) who discovered the Big Bang. Matters of faith are really beyond the scope of the new atheists, since so many of them lack grounding in philosophy and theology. As the Church's contribution to science attests, it is faith that really informs understanding.

This insightful and thoroughly absorbing talk led to excellent discussion. The parishes of both St John's and St Philips are indebted to Fr Andrew for making the trip over from Oxford.

Story: Esme Howard



KEYNOTES

Catholic 'Disaffiliates' in the UK (Dr Stephen Bullivant)

The Art of Compassionate Listening (Brendan Callaghan SJ)

WORKSHOP I

The New Evangelisation (Bishop Kieran Conry)

Separated or Divorced-but not from God (Catherine Townsend)

Reconciling Women (Gemma Simmonds CJ)

An Ecumenical Model of Reconciliation (Craig Cameron)

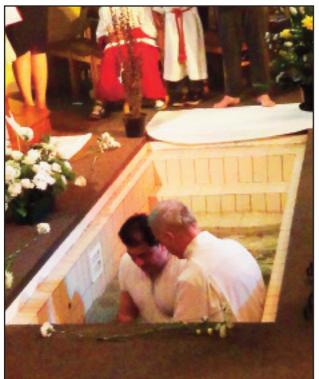
WORKSHOP II
Prison Ministry (Msg Malachy Keegan)
Landings: A Ministry of Welcoming
(Thomas Kane CSP & Patricia Watson)
Interfaith Reconcilation (Michael McGarry CSP)
Listening and Relating at Places of Trauma and Abuse (Alana Lawrence)

£25 inc. lunch, for booking go to jesuit.org.uk/ministriesofwelcoming

Easter Vigil at Christ the Lord in Crawley

UR CELEBRATION of the Easter Vigil at Christ the Lord, Broadfield was very special this year. After the blessing of the new fire, we processed into church lighting our candles at the entrance. Fr Chris Dobson proclaimed the Exultet, and we then sat in the darkness of the night to hear the Liturgy of the Word, respond to the psalms and listen to the prayers.

After the blessing of the baptismal water, Kenny and Alireza were baptised in the immersion font.



We are fortunate that we have this font in our ecumenical church. Fr Chris, climbed down into the waters and then invited Alireza to descend into the water and to be immersed three times while pronouncing the words of baptism. Kenny was then invited into the water for his baptism (pictured). After changing into dry clothes and putting on a white alb, they were anointed with chrism and confirmed. Now known as 'neophytes' the new Catholics brought the gifts in offertory procession to the altar with their sponsors and completed their initiation with the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Although it was 11.30pm when the Mass ended, many stayed behind to join in the celebration. It felt very much like a big happy family, with everyone taking part, including our children in the Blue Sash choir, our music group and organist Stephen, and our young altar servers coached by Nicholas.

Story and picture: Sue Petritz

Easter Vigil at St Pancras in Lewes



A T THE Easter Vigil we welcomed five new members into the Catholic Church. It was a wonderful occasion. They are pictured here with parish priest, Fr Jonathan Martin.

Story and picture: Ffion Wilkes

Laetare Sunday at St Teresa's in Merstham

OW DO YOU DESCRIBE orange to a person born blind? was problem set to the children of St Teresa's, Merstham by' rose robed' Fr Aaron Spinelli on Laetare Sunday. Describing colours to someone who could only feel shapes and sizes is impossible as Fr Aaron knew from his experience of trying to explain a beautiful blue sky in Lourdes. For the blind man, healed by Jesus after washing in the Pool of Siloam, it was a new beginning to his life, just as we experience through the sacraments of Baptism and Reconciliation.

As it was Mothering Sunday the children led the bidding prayers, and also sang There is someone who knows me, Knows me by my name. There is someone who chose me, Chose me to proclaim. There is someone who loves me. Who loves us all the same by Bernadette Farrell as a post Communion reflection. At the end of Mass, the basket of daffodils was taken to the Lady Altar where Fr Aaron led the children in prayer to Mary, mother of Jesus and us all, before they distributed the flowers to the ladies.

Our Parish Centre at St Joseph's in Redhill celebrated its first birthday by releasing a comprehensive list of statistics. 38,740 people passed through its doors during 2012 hours of activities. 3335 cups of tea and coffee have been served, plus 560 litres of beer, 800 of soft drinks and 406 of wine. Volunteers put in getting on for 1,000 hours of work and 4,000 plates have gone through the dishwashers. Over £20,000 has gone to charities and good causes. All this is thanks to a great team. Anyone fancy counting plates instead of sheep?

Story: Ann Lardeur

Good Friday Act of Witness in Woking

THE 550 hand-outs detailing the Order of Service for Worling 5 555 were all given out within minutes of the event starting with many people having to share. THE 550 hand-outs detailing the Order of Service for Woking's Good Friday Act of Witness The procession through the town was the longest ever with many children with drums and rattles joining in with the Salvation Army Band who led it. The main event in the main square (pictured) was blessed by sunshine and included songs led by the Unity Band - comprising members from different churches, as well as a testimony, prayer and a talk on the salvation offered to all through the cross of Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Also included was a sketch performed by an ecumenical group called Engage, telling the story of Good Friday through road signs! Engage have been bringing the message of the gospel into schools, to children who might otherwise not hear it, for the last 20 years.

Ten churches, including St Dunstan's Catholic church were involved in the organisation of the event with many more participating on the day. Many people queued for personal prayer afterwards and we know at least one person from the town who dedicated their life to Christ as a re-

Story: Mark Potter Picture Rob Hill



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The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton **Pastoral Team**

Serving the communities of our Diocese



AN INTRODUCTION TO CATECHESIS

A Morning For New/Recent Catechists Led by David Wills Diocesan Adult Formation Adviser



Discover the principles of catechesis; pray/reflect on what it means to be a catechist

For further information or to book a place please contact David Wills (01293) 651157 or email david wills@dabnet org



Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Pastoral Team Serving the communities of our Diocese

SR. MARGARET SHEPHERD

Formerly Chair of the Council of Christians and Jews and currently Adviser to the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales on Jewish-Christian dialogue will be leading a Day of Reflection on the relationship of the Christian Church to Judaism.

Wednesday 8th October 10.00am to 3.00pm Worth Abbey, Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, Crawley, W Sussex, RH10 4SB

For further details please contact susan.obrien@dabnet.org



BILL HUEBSCH IS COMING TO ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON



What is Pope Francis asking of us?

We offer two events focussing on Evangelii Gaudium, at which Bill Huebsch will explore ways to implement and share the message of this important document.

IMPLEMENTING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN THE PARISH Monday 23rd June 7.30pm to 9.30pm St Joseph's, 12 Eastgate Gardens, Guildford, GU1 4AZ

SHARING THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL IN SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION Tuesday 24th June 10am to 3.30pm St Bernadette's, Tilgate Way, Crawley, RH10 5BS

Arundel & Brighton Certificate in Catechesis New Course starting in the Autumn

The programme will commence with a Retreat Day: Catechesis - Where God's story meets our story. The remaining five sessions will conclude by lunchtime: Encountering Jesus - Scripture, Church and Sacraments; Not Less Than Everything - The Catholic Way of Catechesis; Personal Spirituality and Leading Others to Prayer; and Mission - Being & Bringing the Good News to Others.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL - Places are limited so please discuss your application with your parish priest

For further information, or to book, please contact David Wills on 01293 651157 or david.wills@dabnet.org

Also refer to the article on page 4 - Developing Catholic Hearts and Minds

Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year?.... If so, please join us at the

Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass

celebrated by Bishop Kieran Conry at

The Church of St Joan of Arc, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8DJ

At 11.30 am on Saturday 11th October, 2014.

Booking is essential! For more information, please contact Mrs Katherine Bergin, Marriage & Family Life Adviser, on (01293) 651152 Email: katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

Annual Horsham SVP fundraising Quiz



VER 100 PARISHIONERS attended the annual SVP fund raising quiz night in the parish hall of St John the Evangelist in Horsham on Saturday 26 April. The winning team was yet again that consisting of the clergy – Frs Richard Biggerstaff, Terence Bateman and Dominic Rolls in the picture on the table in front of the stage – winning a donated giant Easter egg. The picture shows the whole event in action.

A total of £602 was raised which will go towards the current projects helping people go to Lourdes, families to go on a caravan holiday, an annual brunch for the home bound, Christmas hampers for those in need and to support twinnage with three conferences in India

Story: Miguel Bravo and David White Picture: Greg Collins

First Mayfield fundraising Boot Sale



ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY parish in Mayfield held their first Boot Sale for CAFOD on Saturday 12 April, in the grounds (pictured) of St Leonards-Mayfield School with their kind per-

The 42 pitches where all booked in advance. On a very bright promising morning business started sharp at 10am. Having limited parking places, it was a turn-around system, with many Mayfield people just walking there.

The atmosphere was very sunny, with many bargains and treasures being bought. The parish supplied a home made cake and soft drinks stalls, along with a general bric-a brac. Fr Mario Sanderson gave a delightful early 18th century child's oak chair, that was soon snapped up. A grand total of £943 was raised, so a successful morning all round

Story: Janet Brodrick-Ward Picture: Annabel Kent

Guildford fund raise on St Patrick's night

ST PATRICK'S NIGHT social was held at St Pius church, a part of the Guildford Cluster of A Churches, on 14 March. The event was to raise funds for the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham. I was impelled to organise this as my mother-in-law died in the hospice just before Christmas and having seen the wonderful work they do I wanted to try and put something back, and show my appreciation.



The event of course would not have been possible if it were not for the wonderful helpers from St Mary's Rydes Hill and St Pius, the Irish band called The Flanagans (pictured), and the Irish dancers who all gave their time free of charge.

We had a wonderful evening vith jacket potatoes and a v riety of fillings together with delicious puddings afterwards (pictured below).

Heartfelt thanks to all those who made it possible, the band, the dancers, Rob for printing the tickets, Tina, Bev, Frankie, Blanca, Michael, Julia and Stephen. We have a wonderfully generous community in the Guildford Cluster who work tirelessly to help one another on these occasions. We raised the grand total of £1,000, and the hospice were delighted with the donation.

Story and pictures: Mary Lawrence



Meeting on Catholic Chaplaincy

ATHOLIC Leadership Cand Chaplaincy in the current educational landscape was the focus of a meeting chaired by Bishop Kieran of headteachers and chairs of governors from independent and voluntary aided secondary schools across the diocese on Tuesday 29 April at DABCEC. Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB, set the scene by noting how in his time as coordinator of school chaplains the number of priests and religious in this role has declined. Currently 82% of those in post are lay people, and of that number over 60% are female. Schools had responded to this change, along with the considerable developments to education as a whole, in very many different ways. As a result chaplaincy is now a separate and unique



role in each school, reflecting the strengths and talents of the postholder and the needs of the school community, and indeed the size and location of the school chapel. It quickly became apparent that the common factor between schools was not the roles discharged but the purpose of school chaplaincy: enabling each young person to meet the person of Christ.

This meeting arose from the termly meetings that Fr Stephen holds as co-ordinator of school chaplains that discuss matters of common interest. One concern was their relative isolation and the need to network both within their school and with parishes and across the local deanery. Having previously attended one of these meetings, Bishop Kieran was keen to understand how issues of chaplaincy were seen by headteachers and chairs of governors and how best to promote links with local clergy. All present agreed that the meeting, facilitated by the Catholic Schools Service and opened by its Director, Mary Reynolds, had been a useful opportunity to share experiences and welcomed the initiatives to be taken to promote closer links between school leaders and

Pictured are Fr Stephen, Mary Reynolds and Bishop Kieran

Story: Peter Ward Picture: Gill Sajnog

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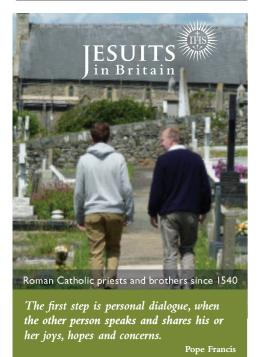


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Lunch for Ray Mooney

COLLEAGUES AT DABCEC gave Ray a special lunch to thank him on his retirement as our Diocesan Youth Adviser. In addition to the gifts and cards a video of the many friends was shown including Redshirts.

Our picture shows Ray cutting his cake.

Story and picture: David White

Ray is contributing to a feature about his work with the diocese over many years. We hope to publish it in next month's issue of A & B NEWS



We came across this 'thought' buried in our archives since last year. It had been titled 'Is Mass boring?', but we prefer 'You're never too old'

Thank you Andrew Sommerville of Eastbourne parish

In THE SUMMER an old lady came into Mass late and sat beside me. As people began singing the Gloria I fetched another hymn book. When I gave it to her she said that her sight was not so good, she couldn't see to read. 'Well you can feel the book' I humoured. Later I learnt that she had celebrated her 100th birthday and had just travelled to Lourdes. After Eastbourne she was going back home to Switzerland. That was pretty encouraging considering the Gospel was about building bigger barns and dropping stone dead next minute.

Another parish visitor was a priest fron the Holy Ghost Cathedral, Mombasa, Kenya. We got talking and I was asked if I could open the church sidedoor, which had been locked after Mass. Well, I turned the catch, drew the top and bottom bolts down and up and it opened. 'You learn something everyday' I joked. He showed me his Golden Jubilee card, ordained in August 1959!

NOTICE BOARD

Summer Celebration for the Friends of Arundel
Cathedral and friends of the Friends
Summer Vespers at Arundel Cathedral to be celebrated
by Rt Rev Richard Moth, Bishop of the Forces
with Schola Cantorum, St Pancras, Lewes
Friday 18 July 2014 at 6pm
(please be seated by 5.45pm)

followed by, for Friends of Arundel Cathedral
Summer Drinks in the Collector Earl's Garden, Arundel
Castle. By kind permission and in the presence of His
Grace the Duke of Norfolk
For further information contact: The Administrator at

For further information contact: The Administrator at aruncathfriends@btconnect.com

MASS FOR THE DEAF

on the first Saturday of every month unless otherwise stated: Please note change from usual venue, as follows:

7 June – Our Lady of Ransom, 2 Grange Road, Eastbourne BN21 4EU 5 July – The Holy Name, 42 Arbrook Lane, Esher, KT10 9EE



Connect2



As we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost, join the Connect2 journey and be inspired.

Connect2 connects communities in England and Wales with communities around the world. It's about solidarity and partnership - getting to really know another community, and standing with them in the fight against poverty and injustice.

Connect2 communities share their news, their hopes and their day to day struggles. Through this supporters can see close up how CAFOD works, and how our work forges connections between Catholic communities in England and Wales and communities elsewhere. And because it's a two-way relationship, Connect2 communities and partners also hear from CAFOD supporters in England and Wales, and get a fuller picture about the support that makes our work possible.

Connect2 is about mutual understanding, partnership, and genuinely twoway solidarity, - getting away from unjust or extractive relationships. It's a chance for supporters to get to know some of the real people at the heart of the issues we tackle, and see how their support and solidarity bring about change. Connect2 is a window on life somewhere else, allowing people to see how we are all in this together.

Choose a community in Cambodia, Brazil, El Salvador or Ethiopia.

More information can be found on the CAFOD website http://www.cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Parish-fundraising/Connect2-sign-up or from the Diocesan Office in Wonersh. 01483 898 866 arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

Our Russian Captain returns home

THE PARISHIONERS OF Our Lady Queen of Peace, Adur Valley are very pleased for him but will miss seeing Captain Mikhail Polyakov at Mass at St Peter's.

Captain Polyakov was the Russian Captain of the ship that was impounded in the port of Shoreham-by-sea due to the company who hired him failing to pay their fuel bill. He refused to leave his ship and remained on board for 8 months without pay and with only one other crew member for company, Igor, a Ukrainian able seaman. The volunteers from the Apostlehip of the Sea have helped him by taking him to shops and to Mass and been able to support them in many ways and our own Gill Ness-Collins from Steyning as a volunteer with AOS visited him on the ship where she was given a full tour of the ship and was treated to a delicacy of Squid Stew!

The ship has now been sold to a new owner and the crew have at last been paid and so Mikhail and Igor have now thankfully been able to return home.

Penny Richardson

 $A \& B \ NEWS \ will \ publish \ more \ news \ about \ the \ Apostleship \ of \ the \ Sea \ next \ month$

BISHOP'S DIARY

JUNE

		JUNE
Sun 1	3pm	Crawley Deanery Confirmations, Worth Abbey
Wed 4	11am	Episcopal Ordination of Mgr Nicholas Hudson,
		Westminster Cathedral
Thu 5	7pm	Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate of Colin Purchase
	1	at St Thomas More Parish, Seaford
Fri 6	12.30pm	May Day event at Our Lady Queen of Heaven Primary School
	•	Crawley
	7.30pm	Brighton Deanery Confirmations, St Theresa's, Southwick
Sat 7	11.30am	Brighton Deanery Confirmations, St Peter's, Hove
	3pm	Brighton Deanery Confirmations, St Mary's, Preston Park
Sun 8	11.30am	St Leonards-Mayfield School Confirmations, Mayfield
	2.30pm	Lewes Deanery Confirmations, Worth Abbey
Mon 9	10am	Dean's Meeting, DABCEC
Wed 11	10am	Mass at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge for
		St Charles Borromeo Primary School
	6pm	Presentation at St Wilfrid's Primary School, Burgess Hill
Thu 12	12 Noon	60th Jubilee of Bishop Emeritus David Konstant, Leeds
Fri 13	2.30pm	Meeting in London
	7.30pm	Redhill Deanery Confirmations, Redhill
Sat 14	11am	St Leonards Deanery Confirmations, St Leonards on Sea
	3pm	St Leonards Deanery Confirmations, Bexhill on Sea
Sun 15	2.30pm	Mass to Celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Fr David Weston,
		St George's, Hove
Mon16	11am	Clergy Meeting, DABCEC
Wed 18	11.30am	Good Shepherd Celebration, Worth Abbey
Thu 19	5.30pm	Corpus Christi Mass and Procession, Arundel Cathedral
Fri 20	10am	Visit to St John's Primary School, Horsham
~ . • .	7.30pm	Guildford Deanery Confirmations, Farnham
Sat 21	11am	Guildford Deanery Confirmations, Guildford
G 22	2.30pm	Guildford Deanery Confirmations, Guildford
Sun 22	3pm	Crawley Deanery Confirmations, Horsham
	– Tue 24	Clergy overnight at St Cuthmans
Wed 25	10.30am	Council of Priests' Meeting, Dabcec
TEI 0.6	1.15pm	Silver Jubilee of St John's Primary School, Brighton
Thu 26	9am	Bless new Theatre building at St Peter's School, Guildford
0-4 20	7pm	Diocesan Pastoral Council Meeting, DABCEC
Sat 28	11am	Woking Deanery Confirmations, Woking
C110 20	2.30pm	Woking Deanery Confirmations, Woking
Sun 29	10am	Diocesan Festival 2014, St Wilfrid's, Crawley

Meeting at DABCEC

Mon 30 5pm

Making Sunshine on 29 June

Wondering what to do on Sunday 29 June?

And will the weather be good?

Here's a suggestion: Come to the A&B Festival at St Wilfrid's School, Crawley (RH11 8PG) on 29 June from 10am to 4pm and enjoy a day of fun, learning and prayer. Put it in your diary now, as the date is fast approaching

There will be lots for the children to do, including face-painting, a bouncy castle, lively music - and space to run around. Why not bring a picnic? Imagine - a whole day at school with no register, no exams, no homework - just fun and worship!

The adults will be well catered for too. Do you want to learn how to make an icon? Or how to read the Bible with children? Would you like some suggestions on easy ways to pray? The highly popular 'Quick Journey Through the Bible' will be there, as well as talks by leading Biblical scholars, workshops on The Bible and Restorative Justice, spirituality, music and much more.

There will also be refreshments, discussions, opportunities for Confession – and the day will conclude with Holy Mass led by chief celebrant Bishop Kieran on this Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul.

Last year's Festival was a great success with over 700 attending and this year we are sure that it will be even bigger, better - so come early.

And the weather? Who cares - we'll be making our own sunshine!

News from St Philip Howard School

At the time of writing, Anne Maguire, the staff, students and parents of Corpus Christi, Leeds, are very much in our thoughts and prayers. We pray for the soul of Anne Maguire and for healing throughout the school community.

THANKS TO BARNHAM STATION being situated so close to The St Philip Howard Catholic High School, Catholic students from across the area are able to attend our school. June 1 sees 150 years of the Bognor to Barnham railway line, with a variety of events to celebrate this anniversary. We have been very happy to support the Sussex Community Rail Partnership in preparing for the celebrations; most notably our students were filmed by BBC South Today. With the help of local historians, we researched the history of the station and the signal box, which is still being restored by local volunteers. You can see the film on our website: www.st-philiphoward.w-sussex.sch.

The students have produced publicity flyers for use across the area, posters which will be on display at the stations, and we are busy preparing a poetry anthology. For more information about the festivities, please see: http://www.sussexcrp.org/arun-valley/arun-valley.html

Our BBC School Reporters were again very active on BBC School Report day. Assisted by Vivien Morgan, formerly of Channel Four news, they reported on a variety of topics, such as life in Kenya and local poverty.

We are very proud that students from St Philip Catholic High School were successful in the recent Chichester Rotary Club and Waterstones poetry competition. Writing on the theme of 'Trees Around the World', first prize went to Eloise Carter in year 9, while Chloe Roberts was fourth and Sibil Sabu received highly commended.

Alison Baker

Council of Christians and Jews - Bexhill MODEL SEDER (Passover)

RABBI MARK
SOLOMON, Interfaith Consultant for Liberal Judaism and Rabbi in
Edinburgh, Manchester
and Leicester, teacher of
Talmud at Leo Becke college, visited Bexhill on
23 April. Two classes at
St Richards College experienced at first hand
much of the Jewish
yearly Seder celebration
and Mark encouraged the
young people to ask
questions, try the sym-



bolic foods, read the Haggadah and drink the four cups of wine (grape juice!) $(see\ picture)$

In the evening parishioners of St Mary Magdalene's Church were treated to a Model Seder meal. Mark explained how the celebration has developed since the time of Jesus. The destruction of the Temple in 70 AD meant that Temple sacrifice was no longer possible and the Seder or Passover Meal as celebrated today developed. A wonderful evening of singing, eating and learning was enjoyed by all and we had the privilege of a superb teacher and communicator with an amazing gift of singing. Many thanks to all who helped prepare this event, including our Jewish friends.

Gillian Meyer (Chair Bexhill/Hastings CCJ)

Weybridge Catenians support Lourdes Helpers

TWO HELPERS WITH THE St George's College, Weybridge, branch of HCPT (The Pilgrimage Trust), Dom & Jack Hudson, have been granted £75 each by the Catenian Association Bursary Fund towards the costs of their Easter pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Weybridge Circle of the Catenians has matched this funding giving the boys £150 each towards their expenses. Weybridge Circle is delighted with the award given many Brothers' close association with the College, and there is also a special link with HCPT in that it was founded by Dr Michael Strode, the brother of one of our members, Peter. So it was a particular pleasure for President Hubert Blackmore to present the cheques with the best wishes of the Circle (see picture).

Story: Peter Clapham Photo: Sam Yarnold



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FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

WHAT IS ALL THIS I hear in the national media about empty churches? Our own St Peter's in Shoreham and Christ the King in Steyning were fuller than ever for the Triduum this Easter. We had some wonderful and motivational services with especially lovely music and singing. There was an Ecumenical Act of Witness in Shoreham on Good Friday. In addition much was raised in the way of charitable funds with over £300 for the work of the SVP on Maundy Thursday and a further £128 from a £2 coin collection.

Sophie and Amelia did a sponsored threelegged walk and raised £191 for Jubilee Action. Contributions to the Foodbank at Shoreham are coming from both Shoreham and Steyning and are much appreciated by those using the service.

CTK have just held a photo quiz with fish and chip supper attended by 28 people and which raised £130 towards the refurbishment of the Cuthman Room at Christ the King.

We are very pleased for him but will miss seeing Captain Mikhail Polyakov from Russia at Mass at St Peters. (see separate story, page Penny Richardson

CATERHAM

THIS PARISH, like so many other Christian communities, has been very concerned about people who are suffering hardship from the recession and on 29 March the Centenary Hall was filled to capacity for a 'Come on down' evening which raised the magnificent sum of £1,600. Our special thanks to Mel and Owen Flaherty for inspiring and organising the event, and to the comperes and many helpers who made the evening such a success.

Our Sacred Heart church was beautifully decorated with flowers over the Easter period. During the Easter Vigil there was one Baptism and five parishioners were confirmed. A vibrant parish with a good community spirit and we shall be sad to see Fr Kieran Gardiner leaving us for another parish at the end of the Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY Christ the Lord (LEP) **Broadfield & Bewbush**

FR CHRIS DOBSON CELEBRATED our Palm Sunday Mass, when we began by gathering outside in the courtyard, then processing into the church with our blest palms.

Our children's liturgy group processed in at the offertory waving bunches of dried flowers and palms woven together, one of them being dressed in a donkey costume! They spread a red tapestry in the aisle and displayed a banner they had created.

Fr Chris celebrated our Triduum. At our Vigil he made use of our baptismal pool to baptise Kenneth Parker and Alireza Miremadi by full immersion, a very special occasion (see page5)

Fr Gerard Hatton celebrated our Easter Sunday morning service and invited the children to gather around him in front of the altar steps at the homily and spoke to them about the significance of the Lamb of God, holding a small knitted lamb which held the flag of St George. Barbara Winstanley

CRAWLEY St Francis, St Anthony

IN UNION WITH the Pope, the Friary Church began a 24 hour vigil, at 4pm on Fri-

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the July 2014 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 2 June 2014 and for August 2014 issue by Monday 30 June 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.

EASTBOURNE Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory and St Agnes



A CHAPEL SERVICE was held for any patients who wanted to attend at the Eastbourne DGH. The service was conducted by Fr Raglan Hay Will and St Agnes parish.

The Lenten lunches concluded and money raised was divided between Mother Teresa's Sisters in London and the St Anne's Trust in Brighton who sent thanks and prayers for everyone's gen-

Easter Masses were wonderfully full and many visitors came into our churches to join in our celebration of the greatest feast of the Christian year.

Parishioners went on a 3 hour parish walk to Littlington on Bank Holiday Monday. Catenian & SVP Support for Eastbourne Pilgrim Aides, the Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage team, has enjoyed support over the past years from very charitable young people. Many of these youth have to devise ways to generate funds to pay for their participation in the pilgrimage to support the sick. All four of these young people are very active members of the Our Lady of Ransom parish, where they have also run various events over the year to generate the necessary funding. The 2014 Pilgrimage will be the first for Molly & Toby Phipps whereas Emily & Amy Staffiere have been active supporters of the Pilgrimage for the past six years. To ensure that they are able to help the sick pilgrims, the Eastbourne Catenians have teamed with the local St Vincent de Paul Conference (SVP), and both organisations have given awards to enable them to help fund their expenses (See picture above). In a similar manner to the Catenian Bursary Fund, the SVP support young people, as it ties in with their ethos to 'Turn concern into action'. By receipt of a Catenian Bursary award and also a SVP award these young people can continue their good works!

Story and picture: Mary Staffiere

day 21 March with Adoration and Reconciliation. Pope Francis asked Bishops to appoint churches in their dioceses to offer Confession for one day. Six priests with Bishop Kieran conducted the service. An opportunity for absolution from the Bishop himself. Prayer and contritions were interrupted briefly by a concelebrated midday Mass. The large attendance proved this spiritual need for reconciliation with the Lord, before Easter.

A touching little service during the Easter Triduum, was Good Friday's liturgy with Stations of the Cross for the children. Warm sunshine allowed the youngsters outside into the Friary garden to follow Christ's journey to the Crucifixion. Each station was represented by a simple image held aloft by enthusiastic little volunteers. Suggestions about each image were posed to the children who were very respectful in their responses. They filed back inside St Clare's Chapel for Easter egg decorating, while their dedicated catechist explained Good Friday with visuals and questions. Not an easy task with toddlers! Thank you Theresa.

The parish held celebrations on Divine Mercy Sunday, at the announcement of the Canonisation of Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul 11. Sue Fellows

EASTBOURNE Christ the King, The Holy Rood and St Joachim

OUR THANKS are due to Fr Barry Anderson, Deacon Eugene Adams, the altar servers, the musicians, choir and all who helped to make the services during Lent and Easter meaningful and spiritually uplifting.

lunches in the hall at Christ the King which raised almost £1,300 to support the work of Matthew 25 Mission which supports unemployed and homeless people in Eastbourne. This raised almost £500.

Parishioners and friends enjoyed a fish and chip supper, a game of bingo and a singsong led by Rodney Hunt at the keyboard at St Joachim's to celebrate St George's Day.

John Carmody Mary Staffiere

the future shape of our parish. The first stage was a paper available to all parishioners and distributed at the begining of Lent. A forum was held on the Tuesday of Holy Week to share the views expressed in response. There will be a future meeting after Pentecost to consider what action we wish to take and we hope to begin to put plans into action in September.

In the meantime, it was good to have three receptions into the Church at the Easter Vigil, where those three and two more new parishioners were confirmed.

Finally, we would like to thank Regina for organising a mini bus to take parishioners to the Chrism Mass at Arundel - it was a joyous celebration; described as fantastic. Alice Mabbs

EAST GRINSTEAD and LINGFIELD

THE PARISH NOW has a website: www.eastgrinsteadcatholicparish.com. The site owes much to Sam O'Neill, who gave her time to assist in design, and to Denis Pimenta for visuals. The website supplements rather than replaces our weekly parish newsletter

Parishioner Edward de Quay, from Lingfield, ran the London Marathon to raise funds for Jesuit Missions UK. Despite injury and wearing a hot Womble costume, he completed the gruelling course in 6 hours 9 minutes. Edward raised more than £1,000

On Good Friday morning, parishioners from Our Lady and St Peter joined an interdenominational act of witness in the High Street, East Grinstead. The open air service followed a procession through the town centre. At the same time, members of St Bernard's congregation took part in the Lingfield and Dormansland Walk of Witness, whose route included St Bernard's. The walk concluded with a frugal Clive Carpenter

WORTHING St Mary of the Angels

HOLY WEEK began with the blessing and procession of palms at all the Masses and our Penitential Service in the afternoon. The Mass of the Last Supper was celebrated on Maundy Thursday with the Gospel of the Washing of the Feet re-enacted by the priest and representatives of each of the Sunday Masses playing the parts of the Apostles. After Mass we processed by candlelight to the Altar of Repose in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel and left the church in silence. The Good Friday Liturgy was celebrated with the dramatic reading of the Passion, veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion. The Easter

vigil was on Saturday evening with readings accompanied with music and pictures, the lighting of the new fire and renewal of Baptismal Promises and the first Mass of Easter. The church was beautifully decorated for Easter with baskets of Narcissi and vases of

On the 2nd Sunday of Easter our representative on the Worthing Churches committee spoke after each Mass. Astrid Gibson

RYE

IT WAS A JOY TO SEE so many people at St. Anthony's over the Easter period. Many parishioners had families in tow and our numbers were increased by seasonal visitors to Rye. Easter Sunday saw our church at its most beautiful, with the lovely arrangements of spring flowers reflecting the glory of the Resurrection. We are all grateful to Elizabeth Turner who is solely responsible for choosing and arranging flowers in St Anthony's throughout the year. We welcomed Fr Peter Geldhart, the Catholic chaplain of the University of Kent at Canterbury, who stayed at the Friary and looked after the parish for the week after Easter. Fr Paul Clarke spent that week at the Franciscan Study Centre in Canterbury, where he enjoyed a well-earned break following the celebration of the holy, prayerful Easter liturgy with his parishioners. The Rosary Group on the first Thursday of each month seems to be a popular event, giving parishioners an opportunity to spend time together in prayer and in conversation over a cup of tea. Jocelyn Rowe

MERSTHAM, REDHILL AND REIGATE

'A HEART FOR MISSION' drawing inspiration from the Anglican Church in Myanmar (Burma) was the theme of the ecumenical Lent based at St Teresa's, Merstham. It gave an unusual perspective and another dimension to our Holy Week and Eastertide celebrations.

These were a very visible demonstration not only of the strength of our faith but also how multi-facetted our parish is. Everyone from the tallest to the smallest (see picture) carried Palms on Passion/Palm Sunday – mercifully the weather let us start outside.

Good Friday morning 'extras' included a choice of Ecumenical Walks of Witness in Redhill and Merstham, and Stations for the Cross for young children. In the evening there were Stations of the Cross in Malayalam and later on Mediation and Veneration of the Cross led by the Confir-

Holy Saturday offered Office of Readings at Holy Family, Reigate, and for the Polish Community Blessing of Food Baskets at St. Joseph's Redhill. The blessing is threefold; a blessing for bread and baked goods connecting Jesus, the Bread of Life and the bread offered at the Eucharist; another for meats linking them with Jesus the Lamb of God and the Paschal Lamb; and for eggs, the symbol of the new life in the Resurrection.

On Easter Sunday there was an ecumenical Dawn Service on Reigate Common. Then finally on Low Sunday, Fr Chris Spain drew from the First Communion children the feelings Thomas would have had at missing the appearance of Jesus. They then responded with perception to question why we make the three crosses efore the gospel - on the head for under standing, on the lips for talking about Jesus and for prayer, and the heart for Story and picture: Ann Lardeur



and St Bernadette

Offertory collections at Easter Masses raised over £2,600 to be shared equally between helping the work of the Sisters of Mercy hospital at Mutomo, Kenya, and a school run by the Infant Jesus sisters in Nigeria.

During Lent the parish organised Friday CAFOD. The parish also held a collection for

EGHAM WE HAVE BEGUN a consultation to consider

FROM THE PARISHES

UCKFIELD WITH HERONS GHYLL

THE CHURCH OF ST PHILIP NERI and Our Lady Immaculate in Uckfield hosted the fourth One Day Convention for its Indian community on Wednesday 16 April. The convention, lead by Fr Cyril Edmana and Fr Jomon Thmmana, included Holy Mass, Adoration, Spiritual Sharing and Confession. It was very well supported by many Indian families and individuals from this part of Sussex and was a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together for a day in a celebration of their faith.



Members of the Polish community in Uckfield & Heron's Ghyll gathered at St Philip's with Fr Stephen Hardaker for the traditional blessing of the Easter breakfast. After the short liturgy, celebrated in English and Polish there was a social gathering held in the Lourdes Hall orgaised by Liz Campbell and Helena Majcher.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding

WADHURST



THE CTIW WALK OF WITNESS on Good Friday started as usual at Sacred Heart church but an innovation introduced by Fr Martin O'Connor meant we all started inside the church where the large wooden cross and the arrangement of stones and crucifix from the penitential service were displayed (see picture above) and the walk started with prayers. We finished in the Anglican church and during a lovely ceremony symbols of Christ's crucifixion were displayed. Simon and seven-year-old Louis Dunn from Sacred Heart took up Jesus' seamless garment and Louis read the lesson very confidently and clearly. Afterwards everyone enjoyed hot cross buns and coffee in the Methodist hall. A truly ecumenical occasion. Our own Good Friday service was made specially reverent and moving by the young men in the parish coming forward to sing beautifully and do the readings.

This Easter was very special in Wadhurst as Nigel and Hannah were received into the Church during a beautiful and uplifting Easter vigil service. Nigel's wife Jana and Joan Grace had walked with them in their journey to the faith and we all joined in renewing our baptismal vows together. Fr Martin then confirmed them both using the newly blessed Chrism brought back Story: Peggy Purslow: Picture; Michael Flegg from Arundel Cathedral.

CAF@D

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