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Justice & Peace Assembly 2014 Israel – Palestine: Any hope for Justice & Peace

WHAT WAS PRIMARILY a day of learning, focused on the many sad and difficult challenges facing those seeking justice and peace in the Holy Land. Ways of how we, as Christians, should respond were identified, including by prayer. The day opened with a time of worship led by Fr Kevin Dring, Priest Adviser to the Diocesan J&P Commission and concluded with a 'Muslim, Jewish, Christian Prayer for Peace' read by Canon Anthony Ball.

The Assembly was held at DABCEC in Crawley on 17 May and attended by 102 people. The timing of the event was pertinent given another round of peace talks had just broken down in April and the Holy Father was visiting Bethlehem and the region a week after our gathering.

The scene for the day was perfectly set by Canon Anthony who offered an historical, non-biased, context to the situation which proved invaluable in understanding today's issues better. Canon Anthony is a former diplomat in the Middle East and now the Anglican Rector of Worth. He is also a Trustee of Embrace the Middle East who had an exhibition stand.

Mary Lucas, CAFOD's Programme Manager for the Middle East and Sri Lanka, followed with examples of how CAFOD work with their partners in the region and shared stories highlighting the plight of Palestinians, particularly in rural areas.

Bishop Kieran opened the afternoon session with a video message that included a request to parishes to observe an hour of adoration for the Christians in Palestine to coincide with the Pope's visit.

The final speaker was Michaela Whitton who gave a 'powerful and thought provoking' presentation about the 3 months she spent in the Holy Land this year. Michaela was a Human Rights Observer for the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI), and they also held an exhibition stand.

Many of the attendees commented on how impressed they were by the quality of the three speakers.

The Friends of the Holy Land exhibited their work showcasing how they engaged with communities from the 'bottom up'. Pax Christi and the World Development were also well represented and the Diocesan Fairtrade stand boasted of a 'very good day for sales'!

If you would like to learn more about this day or other Justice & Peace initiatives please contact Aidan Cantwell, our Adviser; 01293 651154 aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org.

The Justice and Peace and Social Action pages of the Pastoral Team website [http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/Pastoral Team](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/Pastoral%20Team) now has a link to Aidan's new blog featuring more information about activities around the Diocese.

Story: Aidan Cantwell, pictures: David White



Pictured at the Assembly I to :- Aidan Cantwell, Mary Lucas, Canon Anthony Ball, Michaela Whitton
Below: a section of the audience at DABCEC

Our Diocesan Jubilarians



ON 14 MAY, the Feast of St Matthias the Apostle, Bishop Kieran celebrated Mass in Arundel with the Diocesan priesthood especially those celebrating significant Jubilees this year.

Pictured from left to right:

Monsignor Canon John Hull (50), Canon Daithi Foley (50), Fr Rory Kelly (40), Fr Tim Garratt, seated (40), Bishop Kieran, Canon Gerry Coates, seated (60), Fr Albert Van der Most (50), Fr Séan Finnegan (25) and Fr Paul Turner (25).

Also celebrating jubilees but unable to be present were Fr David Weston (50) and Fr Ian Doyle (25).

Picture: Canon Tim Madely



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Chiddingfold Fund Raising!



WITH HEARTS POUNDING and palms sweating, the leaders of the three Churches in Chiddingfold began to slowly climb the staircase that winds its way up the inside of the Guildford Cathedral Tower!

Fr Chris Bergin [St Teresa's], Rev Sarah Brough [Rector of St Mary's] and Ian O'Herlihy [Minister of the Baptist Church] (pictured above l/r) were wondering why they had agreed to abseil down the Tower! Their cause was the raising of funds for Christian Aid.

It had been decided early in the year that a different approach to the normal street collection was needed and Laura Mead, Christian Aid's Regional Co-ordinator, suggested the abseil! Now, with nerves and harnesses jangling, there was no turning back!

From the foot of the Angel to the ground is a distance of 160 feet. With each descendant controlling the pace at which they dropped, Sarah reported she had recited Psalm 23 one and a half times, Ian admired the view and Chris was accompanied by the theme tune to 'Mission Impossible'!

A crowd of around 100 cheering and applauding parishioners was at the bottom to greet their return! To date the trio's heroic efforts have raised over £4000! Ecumenism at its best!!

Story and picture: Mike Danson

Choir of Our Lady of Lourdes church in Haslemere visit Oxford

THIRTEEN MEMBERS of Our Lady of Lourdes choir spent a wonderful day in Oxford meeting up with their regular organist, Eric Foster, who is the present junior organ scholar at St John's College.

After 11am sung Sunday Mass, three cars left Haslemere for Oxford, gathering first in Eric's rooms before being taken on a tour of the College and seeing all the town's famous sights. Having studied at Merton many years earlier, one of the group was also able to show off the attractive parts of his old College.

At 6 pm all gathered in St John's Chapel for Evensong where Eric shared conducting the choir and playing the organ. Here the highlights were the beautiful sung anthem, Harris's *Faire is the Heaven* and Eric's final Voluntary, *Litanies* by Alain.

Following sherry with the choir and congregation, everyone adjourned to the magnificent dining hall. A traditional harmonised grace preceded the delicious meal known as a 'Formal', and the excellent roast beef and apple pie was much enjoyed. All agreed it had been a really magical day.

Pictured is the choir with organ scholar Eric in the centre.

Story and picture: Fay Foster



First Holy Communion at Saint Joan of Arc church in Farnham



THE CULMINATION of the First Holy Communion programme took place on the weekend of 10/11 May, with over 50 children taking the Sacrament for the first time in two Masses on Saturday.

Our prayers for dry weather were answered and the sun even came out for the families gathering outside for a Bucks Fizz reception to celebrate. On Sunday Fr Niven Richardson welcomed all the children to the altar to receive their certificates (pictured), and after Mass they enjoyed their First Communion 'breakfast' in the Wright Room of St Joan's Centre. A wonderful weekend for all involved.

Story: Michelle Piziis



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This post could include some teaching, but equally could be a non-teaching post.

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How to Apply: Full job details and an application form can be found on: www.notredame.co.uk/jobs.

Please complete the application form and write a covering statement in support of your application and return to the HR Department. Please note that we do not accept CVs.

Deadline to apply: Closing date: **9am on Tuesday 1st July 2014**

Notre Dame School Cobham is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. The person appointed will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check.

Good news from the Good Shepherd parish

One year as 'one'



A YEAR HAS PASSED since Holy Redeemer and St Thomas' churches in Hollington and St Leonards became one parish of the Good Shepherd. In retrospect it has been accomplished surprisingly smoothly, despite our natural misgivings. So on the feast of the Good Shepherd we celebrated our unity in Concordia Hall after Mass.

Each ministry (visiting team, hospital chaplaincy team, St Vincent de Paul, liturgy group etc., etc.) had a table to make a display, and be on hand to talk to anyone interested, and hopefully to add to their number.

Resplendent in the centre of the hall was a celebration cake (Fr Tom is pictured cutting it) surrounded by a generous shared lunch which parishioners had brought.

It was a joyful occasion which helped to knit our community closer as one parish. It was very successful, and well attended. People were indeed interested to know what ministries do and some volunteers of all ages were added to their number. Fortunately, it was a fine day and young families also enjoyed the activities and a bouncy castle in the garden.

So we are one year old as one parish and looking forward to many happy returns.

Story: Sally Hick. Picture: Michael Haywood

The work of Port Chaplain Roger Stone Sea Sunday 13 July



WHEN APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA port chaplain Roger Stone and his team of ship visitors visited an arrested ship in Shoreham-on-Sea last year, little did they know that it would be detained for thirteen months.

This month is Sea Sunday when the Church asks us to support Apostleship of the Sea and pray for seafarers, who bring us most of the goods we buy in our shops.

'I learned that the ship had been arrested pretty quickly because when a ship is in port for more than a few days it's a clear signal something is wrong. Our volunteer ship visitors routinely visit ships and this was one of the many they have visited', said Roger, a permanent deacon.

The arrest of the Independent only ended in February this year, something Roger had not anticipated. 'Initially it was not envisaged that the ship would be arrested for long because the International Transport Federation said the ship owner was hoping to refinance.

When he realised that the promised refinancing was going nowhere he contacted the media and put the Master in touch with a maritime lawyer and he acted to protect their interests and ultimately secured payment of all unpaid salaries of crew on board.

'It appeared, all crew who had gone home without their wages being paid. On application of the Admiralty Marshal, the court ordered the sale of the vessel and unpaid salaries were paid out of the sale proceeds. This took longer than it might have done until a creditor with a prior claim lowered their claim'.

Initially there were several crew on board but the company paid for all but two to travel home, leaving only Mikhail, the master, and Igor, an able seaman, on board.

'Whenever we visited, their spirits lifted but both suffered mental fatigue, angst, and we were seriously concerned that they were becoming depressed. They had nothing to do all day, just keep the ship ticking over at the bare minimum. At one stage one of them went to hospital and I alerted the Maritime and Coastguard Agency to the depression issue.'

He added that the worst aspects of the arrest were the isolation, desperation, loneliness and no money going home to pay for their families' basic needs.

'When a company hits financial problems the first casualty is normally the crew's salaries, which are not paid. But crews tend to tolerate this because the prospect of some money some time is better than no money.'

'Igor had a wife and two young boys to clothe, feed, and educate. He was seriously concerned. His wife was borrowing money wherever she could, just making the debt worse. Apostleship of the Sea gave him an ex gratia payment of \$2,000. That made a huge difference to his family at home'.

During the ship's arrest, volunteer ship visitors took the master and Igor to local churches for Sunday Mass, the Shoreham Airshow and local museums.

'The most important thing we did was to maintain regular visits to the crew. This showed them that we really cared about them. We gave them Easter gifts and Christmas gifts and food and drink. We tried to help them to maintain their human dignity throughout the long, sorry process.'

Members of the justice and peace group at St Mary of the Angels in Worthing wrote to the minister responsible for shipping and demanded answers and action. They also raised funds to give the crew on board something generous at Christmas time.

John Green, Apostleship of the Sea development director, said, 'We come across a lot of abandoned crews, but this is exceptional in the duration. When a firm is in trouble, the crew's wages are pretty much the first things to go. This affair just shows that the welfare of seafarers is precarious'.

The picture above shows Deacon Roger (right) with Volunteer Welfare Ship Visitor Ian Hollows.

Story and picture: Greg Watts

See also our story in last month's A & B NEWS and visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk. Roger is about to commence a recruitment campaign for additional volunteers for his area of Southampton, Fawley, Portsmouth, Cowes, Poole, Shoreham, Portland & Weymouth so if you are interested please contact Rev Roger Stone email: rogerstone@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Honorary Fellowship for Fr Vlad



WHAT IS OUR CALLING? How do we know? Fr Vladimir Nikiforov, born in Russia, made a priest in Czechoslovakia in 1981, immediately organised a clandestine Catholic parish in Moscow, arrested by the KGB and imprisoned as a suspected enemy of The Soviet State, and now priest in our parish of St Paul's in Haywards Heath was, on 22 May installed as an Honorary Fellow at The Royal Holloway College, University of London.

Fr Vlad was given this honour after 10 years of devoted service as Roman Catholic Chaplain to the students of this top 15 UK university. Fr Vlad and his wife Tamara came to the university at a time when organised religion in the UK amongst students was in severe decline. Yet he was the unanimous choice for the position by the students on the interview panel. The students made a wise decision. Fr Vlad brought to the role an openness that is rare and a generous sense of humour. He scheduled speakers of all faiths and openly welcomed and listened to those without a belief in God to

discuss, debate, and come together. He brought together students that were social activists but had fallen away from the Church with those that were active in the Church but were not active participants in social movements and demonstrations. He participated in debates denouncing fundamentalism across both secular and faith communities. Most of all, he listened, he cared, and he loved. And the students adored and respected him.

Before he left Royal Holloway, the students awarded him The Apple for the Teacher Award. This award recognises excellence in teaching as well as providing students with a chance to commend and thank staff whom they feel have had a positive effect on them. He is the only Chaplain in the 135 year history of the College to have been given this honour by the students. He and his wife Tamara consider their time at the College to be amongst the best in their lives. Based on the long and loud applause at his induction ceremony, the College feels the same.

In addition to being a priest in St Paul's Parish, Fr Vlad is now a member of the Chaplaincy Team at St Paul's Catholic College in Burgess Hill where he engages the students in Masses designed to appeal to their age group, with small groups in the chapel and in whole school Masses which are enlivened with drums and dance and song. He and Tamara have followed their calling, and our parish and school are blessed to have them enriching the lives of those around them.

Story: Duane Lawrence. Picture: Deacon Dave Turner

More Mousa's story

THE JUNE 2013 EDITION OF A&B NEWS, featured a summary of the assistances rendered by the St Leonards SVP Conference over 8 years to the Muslim tailor, Mousa, whose father had been killed in a civil war in West Africa; how Mousa had himself narrowly escaped the same fate and how he had eventually become a UK citizen employed as a skilled tradesman with a prestigious furniture maker. Our summary concluded with the news that to help him put his past traumas to rest Mousa had changed his first name to Pierre and his family name to the maiden name of his mother.

(To avoid embarrassment we have used the proxy names Mousa and Pierre in this account).

Those hard won successes have now been capped by Pierre's decision to become a Catholic and marry the sister of one of his childhood friends. Pierre received his First Holy Communion in our parish of St Leonards and a blessing of his marriage.

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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

Celebrations go on

JUNE HAS BEEN A MONTH of many celebrations across the diocese. We are glad to be able to share some of them with you. There have been several individual priestly jubilees, ranging from 25 to 60 years. The priests celebrated together at the cathedral and individually with their parishioners. First Holy Communion celebrations have taken place in every parish and Confirmations in every deanery. Many, many examples of commitment to Our Lord.

As you read this our diocesan celebration on the theme of the Word of God has taken place, looking forward to next year's Golden Jubilee. We will be able to tell you about these celebrations next month.

Some quieter celebrations have also happened. For example, in a parish where they have successfully joined up two parishes and are now able to celebrate their 'oneness'. Grandparents are celebrating more and more, as they see their important role in the lives of their grandchildren.

And last but by no means less, six of our priests travelled to Peru, to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Chulucanas diocese, one year before ours. Some of them have worked there and they all found it yet another occasion for celebration in Peruvian style. We thank God for so much joy in our diocese.

Pauline Groves

Editor: Pauline Groves

Deputy Editor: David White

Editorial Assistants: Vince Gartlan,
Tony Northeast, Frances Rourke

Special Correspondent: Peter Burholt

Administrative Assistant: Ruth Gerun

Editorial Office: DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley,
West Sussex RH10 6RP.

Telephone: 01293 513052

Email: abnews@dabnet.org

Website: www.dabnet.org

Distribution enquiries: Ruth Gerun,
Editorial Office

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JUST A THOUGHT Journeying to Peru

THE ADVENTURE BEGAN at London Heathrow for 3 of the A&B group as the BA 730 a.m. flight to Madrid was taxiing for take-off when it stopped! An indicator light had come on which showed the engine was overheating. A replacement plane had to be found and 2 hours later we were off missing the flight to Lima by 5 minutes. This meant an overnight stay in Madrid and a visit to view Picasso's Guernica. On Friday we were on our way to Lima – distance to your destination 6924 miles! – just managing a late flight to Piura in the North. Our Guardian Angels worked overtime as the tuk tuks in Chulucanas crisscrossed at close quarters and were also on hand as the truck carrying most of the A&B group bounced up the dirt road to Frias round countless blind bends overlooking deep valleys.

Mgr John Hull

The Ray Mooney Story

A&B News Special Correspondent Peter Burholt talks to the recently retired Diocesan Youth Advisor on his life and affection for Lourdes

Ray Mooney is a tall, quiet man. An ex-policeman, born in Limerick on 29 November 1952, he has devoted much of his post-retirement life to the youth of the diocese. Sadly, Ray was widowed after 16 years of marriage to Sue in 1989. This became a turning point in his life.

Are you a 'cradle' Catholic?

Oh, yes. What else would you expect, as I had a true Irish up-bringing! We moved to England after 4½ years and I spent my time being educated in a number of towns in the South. Working life started when I became a cadet in the Sussex police force in September 1969 at the age of 16 – quite a revelation! After 27 years service with the Sussex Police, I had to retire due to a back injury on 13 August 1996.

As expected from an ex-police officer, all the details were very accurate.

What about family?

I have a son Gavin and daughter Siobhan, both married. My family are very important to me, but the apple of my eye is my granddaughter Mia!

So, how did your affection for Lourdes start?

My first experience of Lourdes was at the age of 9 on a school trip, and, to be honest, I just did not get it! I was too young to appreciate the full meaning of pilgrimage. However, what I do remember are the processions, the grotto and the Panorama hotel.

The untimely death of your wife, Sue, must have been a difficult period in your life?

We were not living together when I had the devastating news that she had terminal cancer and had only a short time to live. Something else came out of the blue. My next door neighbour, Hazel, got in contact with Lady Sarah Clutton – who was running the Lourdes Pilgrimage at the time – to say that there was a deserving cause for help in making a trip to the shrine. Lady Sarah agreed. This was ten weeks before the pilgrimage and Sue spent most of this period in Cuckfield Hospital. Of course I remember that time well and for those weeks I prayed the rosary constantly. I used to walk the hospital car park – up and down, up and down. You may be surprised to know that I found myself praying, not for a cure, but that God would grant Sue the opportunity to live long enough to get to Lourdes.

We got to Lourdes and we were all treated like royalty. One day in the hotel Sue and I were coming down in the lift. As we entered the foyer Sue's two helpers, Chris and Phil, were waiting with a mobile stretcher bed made up for her comfort. One of the boys called 'Madame, your chariot awaits!'

Miracles happened that week. At the final Mass Sue was lying on her stretcher. I was on one side of her and one of the pilgrimage doctors was seated on the other side. He had a very serious look on his face, but said nothing. Sue, without much energy, was lying down unable to sit up unaided. At the time of communion Fr Seamus Hester asked if Sue would receive the Host to which I replied 'Yes'. The then Bishop Cormac turned from the Altar and motioned toward Sue. All those around, in complete silence, stepped back to create a pathway for the Bishop to give her Communion. We supported Sue to enable her to sit up to receive Christ. We then gently laid her back down. Communion to other pilgrims then continued.

As the final Hymn began Sue, completely unaided, sat up and joined in the hymn accompanied by an energetic bout of handclapping!

On the journey home I quizzed the doctor about that moment at Mass and, in particular, his worried facial expression. 'I was convinced that Sue was about to pass away' he reflected.

...and then what?

On our return, Sue and I spent a week at home before she moved to St Catherine's Hospice in Crawley. She was terminally ill. Sue peacefully passed away six days later.

The next year I went to Lourdes with Gavin and Siobhan for a return pilgrimage to give thanks to God, Our Lady and the diocese for all the love and generosity expressed the previous year. I have been back every year since then. My children have also been back many times as helpers and group leaders. Yes, it was a turning point, not only in my life, but in Gavin's and Siobhan's too.

How did your family deal with this trauma?

I hated telling my children that their mum was going to die soon, but it had to be done. They each reacted differently and to this day the impact still has its effects on us all in different ways.

So, how did you get more involved with the youth movement?

In 1991 I returned to Lourdes as a Hotel Group Leader and then followed this up by being a coordinator for the Family Group Hotels. For some years I led adult hotel groups. Gradually I just got more and more emerged in the spirit of the place.

Over the years from around 1999 to 2003 with a few experienced pilgrims we looked at the eleven to fourteen years age group and realised there was no real structure in place for them on the diocesan pilgrimage. These young people were in Lourdes with their families. Everything was done informally and often 'just happened'. However, they were given time and space to do their own thing.

Was this the start of the Redshirts?

Yes, in the sense it was a forerunner to what became the Redshirts. From these, more informal experiences, Adam Simon, diocesan Hospitalite President, and I were keen to have a youth ministry section of the pilgrimage. We needed to hang the concept on something, so our first idea was to call the group the Yellow Shirts. The colour yellow was synonymous with the sunflowers we would see from the train as we journeyed through France to Lourdes.

Having made known that we wished to use yellow we had a polite, but firm, message from the Diocese of Liverpool - who often shared our time in Lourdes. They asked us not to clash with their very obvious presence of yellow shirts. So we also couldn't be white (female helpers uniform) nor blue (male helpers uniform) Hence, in 2004 the Redshirts were born! In the first year we had 23 in our group. Again the young people were with their families and spread across a few hotels.

We took a structured approach, which covered prayer time and what we call 'ice cream' time. Initially, not all the kids would turn up and sometimes it was difficult for the group to bond due to inconsistent numbers. The potential was there but we had to re-model the formula. It was decided for 2005 to narrow the age group to fourteen to sixteen years and to travel separately.

The Redshirts came under the Diocesan Youth Office and so, as Diocesan Youth Officer, it fitted in well with my work. However, I must admit the idea took two years for the youth pilgrimage to settle in.

So, what came next?

There is the desire to grow awareness of the work the Redshirts carries out, to grow its credibility and for the young people to use the benefits this movement brings. Now I am working for the Lourdes Pilgrimage Trust, continuing my role as Redshirt Coordinator. An important element of my role is to take the project to a point of handover. In other words to ensure the structure, purpose and vision is sustainable for the future. Our slogan is 'Faith, Fun and Friendship; Once A Redshirt, always a Redshirt' so this is what I want to pass on. We want to get involved in bigger projects.

On 6 and 7 September we will celebrate ten years of the movement and we are inviting back everyone who has been a Redshirt, Redshirt Leader, Redshirt Chaplain and all those people who have supported us on the ten year journey. A CD, recorded at Surrey University Studios, has just been released of songs from the past ten years. Profits will go towards supporting young people's spiritual development. Another idea is to publish a book of poetry by young people about being young and Christian in today's world.

What makes you sad?

Up to this point Ray had delivered all his response with 'policeman' like accuracy and without hesitation. However, it took him a while to think about his answer, as clearly it was not one he is normally asked.

I think sometimes people struggle with the concept of youth ministry. It is arguably the most challenging ministry. Age range, safeguarding, added responsibility that comes with working in this ministry, the temptations and alternative attractions in wider society and such like. My sadness would be around the fact that, although much is happening in this ministry, I firmly believe that more could happen if more resources were available.

What makes you happy?

This can be summed up quite simply by a message I had from a parent, whose troubled daughter had become a Redshirt. On her return from Lourdes he said 'The pilgrimage changed my daughter; my daughter changed our family. Thank you so much, we will never forget'

The Redshirt movement is a success, and has become so by God's grace. I am confident that it can continue to be so. Hand on heart, a huge 'thank you' goes to everyone who has been involved along the way - Redshirts, Leaders, Chaplains, and Supporters. You have allowed me to spend time with my two great loves; young people and Lourdes!

Anything else?

Spending time with my family and the occasional glass of vin rouge. Oh yes, when Brighton beat the Palace!

How would you like to be remembered?

I hope I have a few years left in me! I also hope that people will remember a body of ministry work over the last 22 years (four plus as a parish youth worker). Work that included general and specific support of parishes and schools across the diocese; supporting youth leaders and youth groups; six



World Youth Days (Paris, Rome, Toronto, Cologne, Sydney and Madrid); many, many Youth-Gathers, and, of course, the Redshirts. I hope people will see how positive an impact all these actions have on the participants and the communities within which they live and work.

I would hope that I may have made a little difference in peoples' lives. Perhaps someone who, at some point, has been on the same path. This is not about me, but by God's grace, I have been privileged to play this small part in the life of the youth of the diocese. I have to give a very big 'thank you' to the young people, youth leaders and school staff for allowing me to be involved in the wider youth ministry of the diocese and beyond.

Finally, is there another unspoken wish you have?

Quick as a flash - and with a rare smile - came the answer.

I hope to get invited to the Redshirts' 25th anniversary. And to have a joint 16th/75th birthday party with Mia. Who will go home first!



Celebrating 50 Years with the Diocese of Chulucanas

TOWARDS THE END OF MAY a group of 6 of us headed out to Peru to celebrate the 50th Aniversario (Bodas de Oro) of our twinned Diocese of Chulucanas. The group consisted of those of us who have worked in Chulucanas during the 32 years of our 'inter-diocesan friendship', Mgr Benny O'Shea, Fr Ian Byrnes, Fr Kevin Dring, as well as Bishop Kieran and Mgrs John Hull & Tony Barry. Together we linked up with Fr Hugh Dutton who is still in Peru, having arrived right at the beginning with Fr Jeremy Lear (RIP), who died so sadly and suddenly in a car accident in Peru in 1984.

What a joy to be together, representing our Diocese, and sharing in the immense joy of Chulucanas as they gave thanks to God for 50 challenging but highly fruitful and blessed years. The Diocese was started in 1964, one year before our own 'birth' as A & B, and guided through the first 36 years by Bishop John McNabb who, even though now well into his eighties, was able to come down from Chicago and share in the celebrations as the guest of honour. We were given great hospitality by the current Bishop, Dan Turley-Murphy, and became part of a great crowd: delegations from all the 20 parishes (priests, religious orders, families and individuals young and old, schools etc); the Papal Nuncio and many Bishops and representatives from other parts of Peru; local civic dignitaries and many people from the wider community.

The three days of official celebrations, which consisted of very joyful Masses with great participation (lots of clapping and singing), street processions, speeches and presentations, civic reception with national anthem and raising of flags in the square, and of course, the inevitable nightly music, dancing and fireworks (Peruvian style!). What struck us all was the warmth of hospitality given to us; the participation of the whole spectrum of the diocese as one great 'family' in celebration; the sense of hope and mission looking forward into the next 50 years; and the very real gratitude to God for so much to be celebrating at this important milestone. The Pastoral Plan that has guided Chulucanas through 50 years of growth has at its heart a very simple but challenging and wholesome aim (in line with the vision of Pope Francis): to create a Church AS COMMUNITY (FAMILY) of dialogue and participation where everybody is working together as missionaries and disciples in helping to build God's Kingdom of justice and truth. Their mission ... our mission.

After Chulucanas we all headed up to the mountain parish of Frias where all of us at different times have worked. Again we received a great welcome from the people. It was a wonderful time – for those of us re-connecting with old friendships, and for all of us with Bishop Kieran having an experience that can help us to focus on what we can and should be celebrating next year, as we in A & B reach our very own 50th Anniversary. Que VIVA Chulucanas! Que VIVA Arundel & Brighton!

Story: Fr Kevin Dring, Pictures: Bishop Kieran, Mgr Benny O'Shea and Fr Kevin Dring

Pictures (clockwise from top right) Photo of children in bright costumes, Mass with the Papal Nuncio and Bishops, at the grave of Fr Jeremy Lear, Fr Kevin, Mgr Tony B and Bishop Kieran en route to Frias, Mass in Frias



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The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Pastoral Team

Serving the communities of our Diocese



Session 1 - Sat 20 Sept or 11 Oct 2014 (TBC); 10am to 4pm
 Speaker - Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB
 'Retreat Day – 'Called by Jesus Christ to be a Catechist'
 Session 2 - Sat 22nd November 2014; 9.30am to 1pm
 Speaker - Fr Kevin O'Donnell
 'Encountering Jesus—Scripture, Church and Sacraments'
 Session 3 - Sat 24th January 2015; 9.30am to 1pm
 Speaker - Fr Rob Esdaile
 'Not Less Than Everything - The Catholic Way of Catechesis'
 Session 4 - Sat 7th March 2015; 9.30am to 1pm
 Speaker - Fr Jonathan How
 'Celebrating the Christian mystery in Liturgy'
 Session 5 - Sat 18th April 2015; 9.30am to 1pm
 Speaker - Sr Anne Dunne
 'Personal spirituality and leading others to prayer'
 Session 6 - Sat 6th June 2015; 9.30am to 1pm
 Speaker - David Wills
 'Mission – being and 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

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
11.30 am, Saturday 11 October, 2014
 Booking is essential; for more information please contact
 Mrs Katherine Bergin, Marriage and Family Life Adviser
 01293 651152 katherine.bergin@dabnet.org



**THE ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON DIOCESAN
 SUPPORT TO THE BEREAVED COURSE
 2015**
 Taking place on Wednesdays in 2015
 on 14 & 28 January,
 4 and 25 February, and 11th March.
 ~ Compulsory Introductory Session Wednesday 6th November 2014 ~
 Contact Mrs Katherine Bergin on 01293
 651152 for more details.
 katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

Youthgather 2014

With Bishop Kieran

St Andrew's School, Leatherhead

Sunday 28 September (10am to 5pm)

A day for young people, families and the young at heart to walk, talk, raise funds for other young people, learn and meet and enjoy good company.

Mass, workshops, stalls, food and Fairtrade goods on sale.
 Sponsor forms and more information from the Youth Secretary; 01293 651161

Sr Margaret Shepherd

Formerly Chair of the Council of Christians and Jews and currently Adviser to the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales on Jewish - Christian dialogue

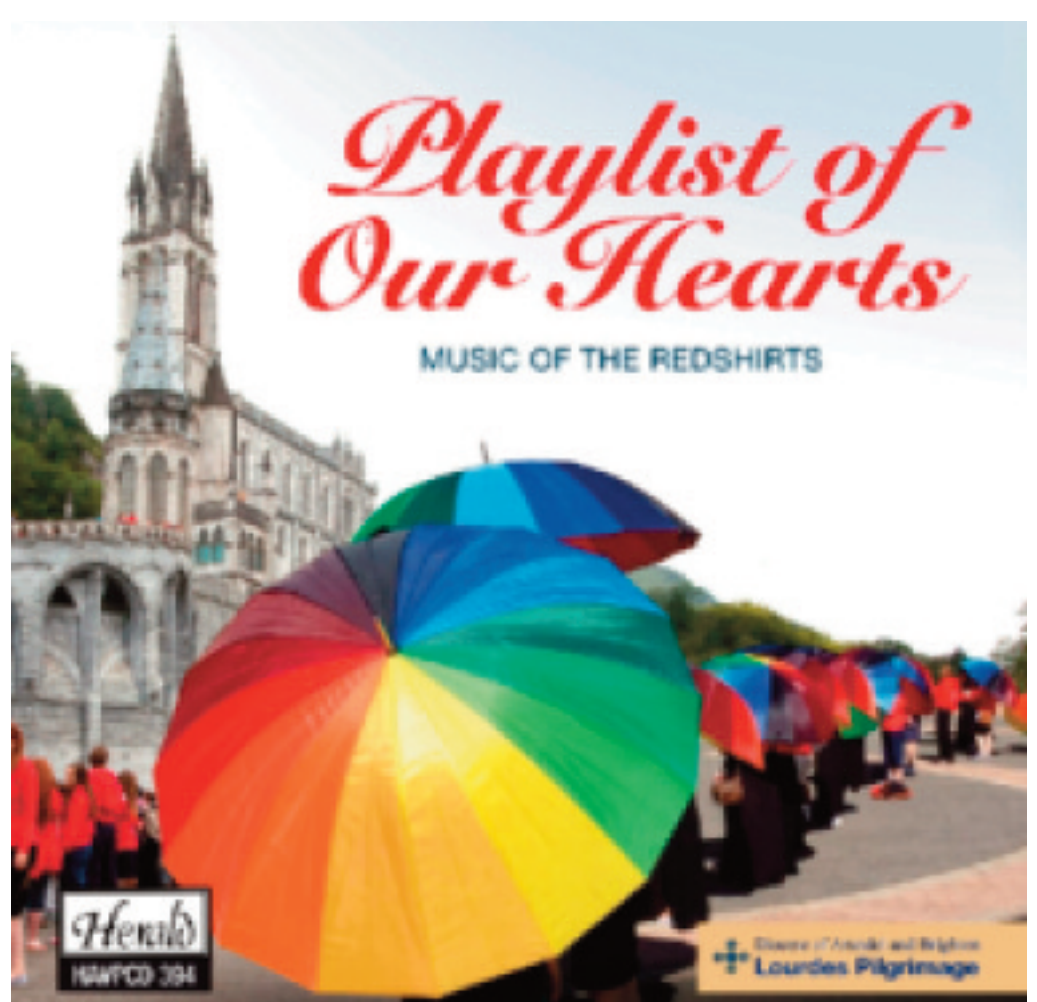
will be leading a Day of Reflection on the Relationship of the Christian Church to Judaism.

Wednesday 8 October 10am to 3pm

Worth Abbey,

Paddockhurst Road, Turners Hill, Crawley RH10 4SB

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



As part of The Redshirts 10th Anniversary celebrations this year Redshirts, past and present, have recorded a CD of some of their favourite songs from Lourdes. "Playlist of Our Hearts" has been a real labour of Love In Action. We hope it will bring a lot of Joy to the listener. (Well hopefully more than one!)

To purchase a CD you can email me on ray.mooney@dabnet.org. It will also be available for sale at Diocesan Festival Day at St. Wilfrid's School, Crawley on 29 June and at various pilgrimage events throughout the year, including the pilgrimage itself. Cost of the CD is £10 (or 15 Euros if purchased on Pilgrimage). All proceeds go towards supporting pilgrims to go to Lourdes.

St Mary's School in Crowborough live their Christianity

Before Easter the children in Year 3, as part of their RE and Literacy work, wrote a thank you letter to someone they felt gave of themselves for the good of others. Each child chose someone to write to and tell them how they felt about what they did, thank them for what they did and wish them a happy Easter.

They have had a few replies. Paddy received a lovely letter from the vets, Lukas' letter was printed in the Trussel Trust newsletter and he got a letter from the Uckfield Food Bank, Harrison received two replies. One was from a padre stationed in Afghanistan and one from a young girl who was at boarding school because both her parents were serving in the armed forces. Ben was surprised by a letter from Lord Astor at the Ministry of Defence writing on behalf of all the service men and women in the Royal Navy. He sent Ben an Airfix model (pictured) and Royal Navy pens for all of his classmates.

'It is wonderful to see that a simple message of thanks can spread like a ripple in a pool and touch so many people's hearts. It was a great lesson to learn for the children that even if they didn't personally get a reply they know their letters are out there being read by people who are very grateful for the outpouring of love and gratitude. We are very proud of all our year 3 students living their Christianity and spreading that love around the world'.

'What does evangelise mean? To give witness with joy and simplicity to what we are and what we believe in' - Pope Francis.

Story and picture: Madeline Judge



St Philip's School in Uckfield celebrate feast day

CHILDREN AT St Philip's School in Uckfield celebrated the feast day of their patron saint with a day of fun and games. Festivities began with a whole school Mass during which parish priest, Fr Stephen Hardaker, set the scene for the day with tales of St Philip's great love of practical jokes.

After Mass children joined their parents, teachers and governors for a picnic on the school field before enjoying an afternoon of activities organised by children from Year 6.

Football, cricket, rounders and a circus workshop were available to anyone wanting to work off their lunch, while children looking for quieter entertainment could enjoy building a Lego city, taking part in various arts and crafts or helping to complete a mosaic of St Philip Neri (pictured).

Melanie Gaughan, chair of governors at the school, described the day as 'a wonderful day of prayer and celebration of a man whose expression of faith, wisdom and sense of fun lie at the heart of the school's ethos'.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding



First Holy Communion in Uckfield

GLORIOUS SUNSHINE bathed the church of St Philip Neri and Our Lady Immaculate in Uckfield as 19 children came together to make their First Holy Communion.

Parish priest Fr Stephen Hardaker, who celebrated the Mass, assisted by his two deacons David Tutt and Simon Kirkdale, described the day as 'particularly joyful' adding that the weekly lessons held for the children at the adjoining St Philip's Primary School had been greatly enjoyed by both him and the children. Deacon David Tutt said how moved he was to find himself offering First Holy Communion to one child who he had baptised as a baby. He had also married her parents. The children, their families and members of the clergy and parish gathered for a post Communion breakfast, provided by families of last year's First Holy Communicants, after the service.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding



Confirmation of young people from Chichester

TWENTY FOUR YOUNG PEOPLE from the three parish communities in Chichester, Bosham and The Witterings were confirmed by Bishop Kieran at Arundel Cathedral on Sunday 11 May (pictured). This followed four months of intensive preparation by four catechists and Fr Paul and included a rewarding weekend away at Lodge Hill near Pulborough. The Confirmation service was a joyous occasion and one which hopefully will live long in the memories of those confirmed and help them to lead full and active lives in the Church - and the sun shone!

Story and picture: Martin Downy



Confirmation of young people from Mayfield Deanery

BISHOP KIERAN confirmed 26 young people from the Mayfield Deanery during a weekend of sacramental celebrations at the church of St Philip Neri and Our Lady Immaculate in Uckfield.

Eight teenagers from Crowborough, one from Heathfield, thirteen from Uckfield (pictured) and four from Wadhurst renewed the promises made at their Baptism and prepared to enter a new phase in their religious life. Bishop Kieran thanked Fr Stephen Hardaker, parish priest, for his part in preparing the young people for their confirmation, he thanked parents and in particular godparents, for the roles they have played in bringing them up in the Catholic faith, he thanked the people of the parishes who had worked so hard to make this day special for the confirmation candidates, but, 'most of all' he said, he thanked the young people themselves who are 'the future of our Church'.

Story and picture: Angela Wilding



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NOTICE BOARD

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION AND CONSECRATION

Saturday 12 July at the church of Our Lady of Consolation & St Francis in West Grinstead, RH13 8LT
Led by Fr David Goddard, Priest Custodian of the Shrine

Starting at 12 Noon with Papal Blessing Holy Mass and ending with Procession and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3.45pm

There will be opportunities for confession.

(please bring packed lunch)
For further information please contact either Linda C-Dominguez Tel: 01273 463463 or Jayne Lock 078 1642 2851 jayne.lock1@gmail.com



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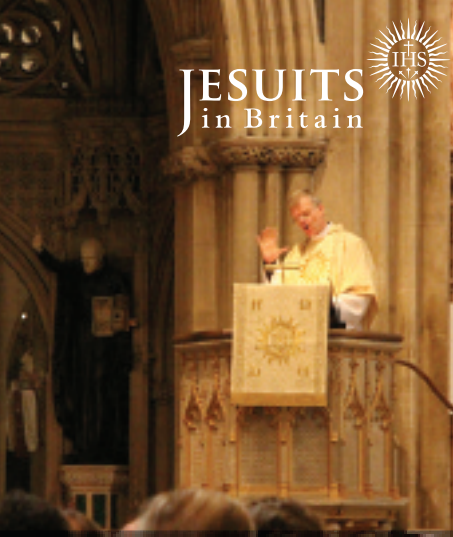
We would like to introduce you to an exciting new CAFOD scheme called **Hands On**. The idea is for you to get involved in one of a series of vitally important new projects that support specific communities as they undertake individual projects. **Hands On** lets you follow the progress of the project you are supporting.

Let's be specific. Our first project is in Kitui in Kenya. The community there desperately needs to restore its water supply. Currently local people have to walk miles to reach a river that is often unclean. But by digging terracing, planting ten thousand trees and restoring an old dam they will lay the foundations of a better and greener future. The task has been accurately worked out and it will take two years at a cost of £205,517.

If you get involved with a regular direct debit donation we'll make this promise to you. Your donations will directly fund the Kitui project until the £205,517 has been raised. Your donations are flexible and can be changed, paused, started or stopped at any stage. When the Kitui project is complete you can get **Hands On** somewhere else if you wish. You will always see the support your **Hands On** support is making.

Get Hands On today by calling CAFOD on 03033 033030 or by visiting www.cafod.org.uk/hands or from the Diocesan Office in Womersley. details above.

Ian Hamilton

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Jesuit.org.uk

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Monthly talks on different aspects of Catholic Social Teaching to be held at St John the Evangelist church, Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2PJ

Meetings are all on Mondays and begin at 7.30pm and consist of the talk; a coffee/wine break; then a full question and answer session. All are warmly welcome.

21 July Archbishop Romero & The Option For The Poor (Julian Filochowski, the Romero Trust)
22 Sep Workers' Rights and Responsibilities – The Church's Viewpoint (Peter Mullarky)
20 Oct Catholic Social Teaching in Our Everyday Life (Martin Brown, CAFOD)
24 Nov Environmental Stewardship – What does the Church Say? (Graham Gordon, CAFOD)

Copies of Papal Encyclicals on Social Teaching and *The Common Good* (issued by the Bishops of England and Wales) may be ordered through the Horsham Parish Office 01403 253667 or obtained online. For further information contact the Parish Office or 01403 257959.

PEACE ACTIVISTS APPROACH TO WWI CENTENARY

On 23 July at 7.30pm Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle have arranged a talk by Pat Gaffney on how peace activists should approach the World War I centenary commemoration. It will be held at Christ the King church, Princes Road, Langney, Eastbourne.
Further details from johncarmody44@hotmail.co.uk

Golden Wedding in Wadhurst

SACRED HEART PARISH were delighted to join with Tim and Anne O'Rourke in celebrating Mass for their golden wedding on 23 May. They were married at Brompton Oratory and have spent all their married life in Wadhurst parish. Anne has been Catechist and Sacristan and ran the holy shop over many years as well as bringing up their family and was awarded the Bene Merenti for her dedicated work. Tim has been our money man, calmly and competently steering us through decimalisation, gift aid and many other headache inducing situations. Sacred Heart parish is indebted to them both for their generosity.



Story and picture: Peggy Purslow

We Hold You In Prayer.

Living in the heart of London, the Tyburn Benedictine Community has as its special mission, prayer for the people of England and Wales. Our monastery is built on the site of the Tyburn gallows where 105 Catholics were martyred during the reformation. Our life of prayer draws Sisters from many nations. If you have a special intention, let us know and we will remember it specifically in our prayer. You may like to use the space below.

Yes, please remember my intention/s in prayer.

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Yes, please send me the free booklet on the Tyburn Martyrs
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RETURN TO: RETURN TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ. Phone: 020 7723 7262.

BISHOP'S DIARY

JUNE/JULY

Sun 29	10am	Diocesan Festival 2014, St Wilfrid's, Crawley
Mon 30	12noon	Retired Priests' Lunch, High Oaks
	5pm	Meeting at DABCEC
Tue 1	12noon	Episcopal Ordination of Archbishop elect Rev Alan Williams at Brentwood Cathedral
Wed 2	9.30am	Visit's St Dunstan's School, Woking to open new extension at 'Rosary House'
Thu 3	9.30am	Visit English Martyrs Primary School, Worthing
	1.30pm	Mass at St Paul's Catholic College, Burgess Hill
	4.30pm	Worthing Deanery Staff Mass at Chatsmore School
Fri 4	9am	Mass at St Wilfrid's School, Crawley
	12noon	Speaks at Staff Retreat, University of Chichester, Bognor Campus
	7.30pm	Woking Deanery Confirmations, Frimley
Sat 5		Reconciliation Conference at Heythrop College
Sun 6	3pm	Confirmations at Christ the King, Eastbourne
Mon 7	10.30am	Trustees' Meeting, Hove
	pm	CiDSE Conference, Brighton
Tue 8 – Wed 9		Standing Committee Meeting, Archbishop's House, Westminster
Thu 10	9.30am	Visits St Robert Southwell Primary School, Horsham
	2pm	Visit to St Cuthbert Maine Primary School, Cranleigh
Fri 11	12noon	Meeting, London
	7.30pm	Adult Confirmation, Ash
Sat 12		A&B Grandparents Pilgrimage, Aylesford
Sun 13	11am	Mass at St Thomas More, Patcham
Wed 16	10am	Meeting, Hove
	1pm	Visit St Richard's Primary School, Chichester
	7.30pm	Mass at St Teresa's Parish, Merstham
Thu 17	am	Visits Ancey Primary School, Seaford
	2pm	Visits Sacred Heart Primary School, Hastings
Fri 18	8.55am	Mass and Sponsored Walk, Chatsmore School, Worthing
Sat 19		HCPT Rugby
Sun 20	11.30am	Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark Kevin McDonald's 40th Jubilee of Ordination, Brentwood
	7.30pm	Portuguese Mass and Confirmations in Epsom Parish
Tue 22	10am	End of Year Mass, St Philip's Primary School, Arundel
Wed 23		Redshirts Pilgrimage Departure Mass, St Bernadette's, Crawley
Thu 24 – Fri 1		Leads the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

25th Anniversary of Fr Paul Turner

ON WEDNESDAY 7 May the whole parish of Chichester came together to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our parish priest, Fr Paul Turner's ordination. St Richard's church was packed for the Mass concelebrated by 20 priests and assisted by three deacons. Many of Fr Paul's family were at the Mass and his parents brought up the gifts at the offertory. As usual the music was of a very high standard with a combined choir from the three churches served from Chichester. The Mass was followed by a social in the newly extended school hall at St. Richard's Primary School. A wonderful spread had been prepared including a special cake. Fr Paul had bravely dug out some of the pictures from his time at the seminary and his ordination which caused some amusement.

Story and picture: Martin Downy



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30th Anniversary of Fr Chris Ingle

PARISHIONERS AT ST MICHAEL'S in Worthing, celebrated



Fr Chris Ingle's 30 years of ordination. He was presented with a Spiritual Bouquet. Pictured is Fr Chris thanking everyone for their kindness.

Story and picture: Jo Smith



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Diocesan Golden Jubilee

Preparing a way for the Lord

Were you there?
 At St Wilfrid's School
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 in the next issue
 of A & B NEWS
 or on the diocesan
 website www.dabnet.org



Sixty years of happy priesthood

ARUNDEL WAS AT ITS BEST on a beautiful Spring day, when a large number of people gathered at the Cathedral to celebrate with Canon Gerry Coates; his fifty years of priesthood.

Although now quite infirm Canon Gerry was able to preside at Mass, attended by a number of clergy and lay friends, whom he had known over the years - around 400. Among them was Bishop Emeritus Howard Tripp (seen on the left in our picture), ordained in the same year. In his homily the Canon traced how he had felt the Holy Spirit working in his life. At the end he listed guests present from his whole career.

Picture: Tony Perri



Busy grandparents from Eastbourne

A GROUP OF GRANDPARENTS from St Agnes and Our Lady of Ransom drove over to Arundel for the Chrism Mass. As I hadn't been before I was informed that we had to get there early to get a good seat, or indeed, any seat. On arrival we refreshed ourselves in a local teashop where most of the clientele seemed to be on the same mission as ourselves; we then wandered uphill to the Cathedral.

The Mass was certainly worth the long wait, those of us for whom it was our first visit, were greatly impressed by the gathering together of the Diocese and it was exciting to see familiar faces. Following Mass we popped into the pub next door for nourishment to sustain us on our way home and there was general agreement that the Chrism Mass was the best build-up to the Paschal Triduum.

On Saturday 10 May members of our grandparents' group attended an enjoyable day at DABCEC organised by Katherine Bergin and Christine Evans where we were led, by Elizabeth O'Shea, through discussions on developing healthy relationships with grown-up children and children-in-law, and skills for positive grandparenting. We are now looking forward to a lunch date with a visit to an interesting small local church in June, and in July, the Grandparents' Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory which is really where the Eastbourne Grandparents Group started their journey

Story: Judith Barnes

BRIGHTON CELEBRATE WEEKEND JULY 5 & 6

THIS IS THE SIXTH Brighton Celebrate weekend at Cardinal Newman Catholic School Hove. The organisers and teams will be taking a break in 2015 in order to better support the Diocesan Jubilee celebrations, so if you were thinking of coming, this is the year to do it. For those who do not know about Brighton Celebrate you can check out the website on www.celebrateconference.org/weekends/brighton or Facebook. It is a unique experience in our Diocese - a Catholic family weekend conference that welcomes all - young, old, families, couples, singles, those from other denominations or from none. The weekend supports families by looking after children and young adults in age appropriate 'streams' which provide appropriately levelled activities from toddlers to teens. Parents will be free to listen to talks, attend workshops, worship and take time out. We also celebrate Mass together both days. It is a weekend for faith exploration and celebration and to enjoy being Church.

This year our speakers are David Payne (known from the CAFÉ DVDs), his wife Gio; a working mum who speaks from the heart and David Wells who brings his light hearted but poignant perspective. So why not give it a try?

Story: Glenda Galvin



Story and picture Denise Adamson

Hand in Hand at St Cuthman's

IT WAS WITH GREAT EXCITEMENT one Friday in May that Hand in Hand arrived at St Cuthman's for our annual Retreat. This was the first time we had been there so, on arrival, we explored our rooms and the house that would be our home for the next few days. After tea and some lovely cake we gathered in the library round our special place to find out about our theme 'Waiting for the Holy Spirit' and our Buddy Groups - 'Flames', 'Doves', 'Hands' and 'Wind' and to get our name badges. Over the time spent at St Cuthman's, some of the highlights were Morning prayer in the beautiful chapel led by a member of the St Cuthmans' team, and Mass with Fr Charles Jeffries at which Brendan and Daniel served and, of course the lovely meals we shared in the conservatory.

During the course of our retreat we reflected on Jesus' promise to send his Holy Spirit and on what He meant when He said He would not leave us 'orphans' but that He would send his 'advocate' We had listened to God's Word where we are asked to keep His commandments, and on the Saturday afternoon we went round the house finding out about the 10 commandments and gathering stickers to stick on our stone tablets. Later that afternoon Fr Charles joined us for our service of reconciliation. Unfortunately the weather was not good enough for us to spend much time in the beautiful grounds, although we got to know well the families of geese with their goslings as they came up quite close to the house.

On Sunday morning, despite one car having a flat battery, we all eventually managed to get to Mass in Burgess Hill where we contributed to the liturgy by leading the gathering hymn 'Lord we are always in your presence' and also the post communion hymn 'Bread of Life'.

After tea on Sunday it was with some sadness that we dispersed to different parts of the Diocese in the firm hope that we would all be able to return again next year. Thank you St Cuthman's for providing us with such a beautiful and prayerful environment.

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FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

THE BIG EVENT this month has been 'Getting to know your parish' where at St Peter's in Shoreham a special day was set aside to show just what is on offer at St Peter's, and indeed in the wider parish. Many displays were set up and a huge number of people came and were surprised to find out just how much was happening. The event is being repeated in June. Just one or two of those things is the St Peter's Older Generation lunches (SPOGS) which have just re-launched as well as the Bible Study Group.

We had a record number of 15 candidates for Confirmation at the Cathedral on 18 May.

Meanwhile fund-raising continues apace with both the Sister's coffee morning at The Towers raising more than £2,000 for their Mission and five girls from St Peters raising funds with a cake sale.

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 compères 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 year.

Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY

Christ the Lord (LEP)
Broadfield & Bewbush

CONGRATULATIONS to Bob and Marie Scott-Martin who renewed their wedding vows to mark their ruby wedding anniversary with Mgr Tony Barry at our Mass on the 4th Sunday of Easter.

Congratulations also to our 10 First Holy Communion candidates who received their First Holy Communion on 18 May. Fr Raphael Majewski celebrated our Mass and the music was greatly enhanced by our wonderful Blue Sash choir and band of faithful musicians, with guest pianist Steven Horsman. At the homily Fr Raphael invited the children to sit in front of the altar and talked to them about Holy Communion, illustrating by producing items out of a box, stones, wheat, flour and bread. During communion the choir sang a meditative song 'Lord, you have come to the seashore'. At the end of Mass each communicant received a rose for their family. Afterwards we continued our celebrations with refreshments in the foyer.

Barbara Winstanley

CRAWLEY

St Francis, St Anthony
and St Bernadette

MAY IS OUR LADY'S month with the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima on 13 May. We celebrated Our Lady's Feast Day with a special Mass followed by a candlelight procession. As we processed we prayed the Rosary with prayers led by our Portuguese community, for whom this feast holds a special place. Portugal was where visions of Our Lady appeared to three children in the village of Fatima, during the First World War. A little chapel in the Friary church honours

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the August 2014 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 30 June 2014 and for September 2014 issue by Monday 4 August 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.

LEWES



FIFTEEN OF US SET out on a three day pilgrimage on Monday 19 May to the Shrine of Our Lady in Walsingham, for the second year running. We stayed in the Anglican Shrine accommodation. Each morning we walked to the Slipper Chapel for our very own Mass. One morning four of us walked the Holy Mile barefoot from there back to the village just like the early pilgrims. We shared in Shrine Prayers each evening in the Holy House and were sprinkled at the well, lovely ecumenical occasions.

Another day we visited Castle Acre Priory where many medieval pilgrims would have stopped en route to Walsingham. This was a Cluniac priory, a daughter house of our very own Priory in Lewes. We enjoyed beautiful weather and great fellowship together, and we plan to maintain this annually.

Ffion Wilkes

Our Lady with a serene, life-size statue in plain, grey stone. During May, a simple crown of blue flowers, adorned the head of the statue, with striking effect.

As June arrived, on the Ascension of Our Lord, we were privileged to listen to Mgr Tony Barry speaking on his experiences in Peru, from where he had just returned. Mgr Tony and Bishop Kieran had spent eight days in the Diocese of Chulucanas which is twinned with the Arundel & Brighton Diocese and celebrates its 50 years of existence this year. As expected, there were plenty of amusing stories, which Mgr Tony recounted with amazing vigour considering he was feeling very jet lagged!

Sue Fellows

EAST GRINSTEAD

THE WET AND WINDY weather earlier in the year damaged part of the roof of Our Lady and St Peter. The appearance of scaffolding in mid-May reassured us that the sacristy will soon be watertight once more.

On 4 May, a 'Rich man, Poor man' lunch was held at St Peter's School to raise funds for this year's Red Shirts from the parish. St Peter's School also hosted the school's fun day on 17 May when parents, pupils and friends enjoyed games, refreshments and a silent auction.

The Gospel of Life Group held a sale of healthy looking plants and delicious cakes after Mass at Our Lady and St Peter on 31 May - the cakes disappeared very quickly.

During Christian Aid Week (11-17 May), parishioners joined members of other local churches as street collectors.

Clive Carpenter

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King, The Holy Rood
and St Joachim

THE PARISH is appealing for extra volunteers to help maintain the memorial garden at Christ the King during the summer months when some of the regular helpers are on holiday.

Fr Neil Chatfield, Chaplain to Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle, gave a fascinating insight into how The Ordinariate came into being three years ago when he addressed a meeting at Christ the King on 21 May. Fr Neil brought us to a greater understanding of some of the problems and challenges involved as well as convincing those present as to the important contribution that the Ordinariate is making to the life of the Catholic Church in our country.

John Carmody

EGHAM

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION continues to be celebrated in Eastertide across the diocese. Our celebration was the week ending 11 May.

On Sunday 18 May after the 9.15am and 11am Masses we held a sale of our lovely knitted goods to raise sponsorship money for one of our young people in our parish. Katie Carter, who is hoping to go to Lourdes as a Redshirt. Katie will also be offering a raffle for a large cake. There are 106 numbered slices for £1 each to win the whole cake! All proceeds contribute towards her funds for the Lourdes Pilgrimage with the Red-shirts 2014.

This is the 50th anniversary of 'Britain in Bloom' and it has been an important way of making our communities look a bit smarter through drawing together volunteers to build a decorative community. Mark Storer has introduced an idea to unite our three communities together - School, St John's and The Assumption. People will be offered a flowerpot, compost and sunflower seeds to plant, germinate and bring back to the church for planting out.

Alice Mabbs

PETWORTH with DUNCTON

THE LITURGIES for the Easter Triduum were split between the churches in Petworth and Midhurst, with the Holy Thursday Mass of The Lord's Supper being held at Petworth and the Easter Vigil Service at Midhurst. Fr Peter Newsam celebrated the liturgy of The Passion on Good Friday in both churches. On Easter Sunday the morning Mass at Petworth was spectacularly well attended and it was wonderful to see the church completely full.

The annual parish general meeting for Petworth was held at Duncton on Monday, 28 April, after evening Mass to celebrate the feast of St George. This was followed by the now-traditional supper of sausages and mash followed by fruit crumbles in Duncton village hall. As always it was well-attended and much enjoyed by everyone.

The season of village Masses is now underway again and so far have been held in Northchapel and Duncton. They are a lovely way for people in and around the villages to celebrate Mass together and share supper afterwards.

For the past few years Petworth has been sponsoring a seminarian in Malawi, and it is wonderful to know that, following the completion of his training, he is to be ordained on 9 August.

Sally Bohane

POLEGATE and HAILSHAM

THE AIM TO RAISE £20,000 for the new St Wilfrid's church, which seemed almost unattainable some years ago, is being fulfilled. Over £16,000 has now been donated. Two recent events have rapidly pushed up the amount. Just after Easter the curry makers were asked to volunteer dishes of curry - there were Indian curries and Sri Lankan curries - and some English curries. As a result £380 was added to the fund - not bad when you think that our tiny hall only has room for 25 people to sit down!

The next event has become an annual one - it's called 'Odd Night Out'. There are all sorts of amusing games including horse racing, and the evening finishes with a fish-and-chips supper, and this event raised the incredible sum of over £1,100. There were several donations to cover the cost of the supper, in memory of recently deceased parishioners, all generous supporters of our fund-raising efforts.

Our parish priest Fr Rory Kelly celebrated 40 years as a priest during June, and there were events in both his last parish in Crawley and in Polegate and Hailsham. Full story next month.

Ruth Ayres

ROTTINGDEAN with WOODINGDEAN

AT 6.30pm MASS on Saturday 8 March we experienced the 'Soul by the Sea Roadshow' brought to us by one of our parishioners. 'Soul by the Sea' is Brighton's not-for-profit community arts project, that uses volunteers from the local community to portray the scripture using dramatic arts. At the end of Mass the group performed a short scripture drama showing the miracle where Jesus cured the blind woman. The group also spoke about 'Passion of Christ 2014' and their ongoing work within the community. 'Passion of Christ 2014' was performed in Brighton over the Easter weekend.

St Patrick's held a Ceili which was well attended and enjoyed by all.

We had a Walk of Witness, held with prayers and hymns during the procession, on Palm Sunday from St Patrick's to the Methodist church and finally the Baptist church. A fellowship lunch was held at the end in the Baptist church -

MERSTHAM, REDHILL and REIGATE

WHEN A SWARM of bees took up residence in a buddleia in the garden of St Teresa's Church, Merstham they made an excellent choice, despite not knowing it is a Butterfly Bush! Parishioner, Liz Braines, who has taken the first steps in learning to keep bees, knew exactly what to do. She contacted Reigate Bee Keepers. Two members, both called Howard, arrived with all their gear: Bee suits, a smoker, a large sheet, a broom and a nuc box. Short for nucleus colony, this is a box containing a few frames, which is used for transporting a swarm. After being puffed with smoke the bees are docile and an efficient tap with the broom drops the swarm, queen and all, into the box. (See picture below) A swarm only hangs around until scouts have found a suitable home for the queen, and they all take off again. In this case they had actually started building a comb and stayed put. The old rhyme goes 'A swarm in May is worth a load of hay, and a swarm in June is worth a silver spoon' so one Howard was delighted with his prize.

There were also swarms of Good Samaritans about when one of our parishioners tripped and fell. Within seconds a car and a motor cycle stopped and she was helped up; simultaneously a police car pulled up. The Officers were on the way to check a burglary, but spent a few minutes calling the paramedics, taking her home and explaining the situation to her family. Fortunately there was nothing serious - only a few bruises.

Story Ann Lardeur: Picture Liz Braines



a true coming together of all religions. For the Sacred Paschal Triduum all Masses very well attended.

At Easter four parishioners were welcomed into the Church at the Vigil Mass.

Jose and Jonathan Sharp

RYE

EARLY IN MAY several parishioners spent a day at the Franciscan Study Centre in Canterbury for an Easter retreat led by Fr Tom Reist OFM Conv. During the day, Gerard Manley Hopkins's lovely poem 'The May Magnificat' was read, Mass was celebrated and the group prayed the Franciscan Crown Rosary in which there are seven decades, each recalling one of Our Lady's joys: - the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Birth of Christ, the Adoration of the Magi, the Finding of the Christ Child in the Temple, the Meeting with Christ after his Resurrection and the Assumption and Coronation.

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

WOKING



A VIBRANT CELEBRATION was held in a packed St Dunstan's Catholic church in Woking recently when the 60 plus different nationalities that form the congregation came together for a multi-cultural Mass to mark the anniversary of St Dunstan – a festival day that brings the whole parish together in May once a year. There was a welcome in 12 different languages from all the major continents - and from Canon Frank Harrington in Gaelic! Prayers for the needs of the world and locally were led by those from a number of other countries and no one will forget the offertory procession by the African communities, bringing up gift offerings with dance, chanting and singing.

After the Mass, a shared lunch was held across the road in St Dunstan's School, with the opportunity to try a huge variety of different foods from across the world, prepared and brought by the churchgoers, and enjoyed by everyone; - and there was a BBQ! More song and individual dancing followed and there was a bouncy castle for the children!

Mark Potter

BEXHILL



ON SUNDAY 11 MAY the congregation of the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary in Sidley, Bexhill, celebrated its 60th anniversary. Bishop Kieran Conry was invited to concelebrate the 10.00am Mass with parish priest Fr David Parmiter, and prayers were said for the whole community; with thanks given to God for all those who had been involved in the building-up of this particular part of St Mary Magdalene's parish, especially the Crowhurst family, whose father Tom had created the wonderful wooden altar in the Church. Afterwards, Bishop Kieran planted a flowering cherry tree at the front of the building, in memory of the joyous occasion. He then joined parishioners in a very crowded church hall, where a splendid buffet and celebration cake helped everyone enjoy the party. On behalf of everyone, Mary Carroll thanked the bishop for attending and raised a glass to a happy future for the church community.

Story Frances Haragan; Photo Sue Jackson. (copyright The Studio Bexhill)

WADHURST

OUR PARISH PRIEST, Fr Martin O'Connor, recently spent some time with his fellow deanery priests at the diocesan seminary in Ars, France. He came back inspired by the Holy Spirit to suggest that our parish, instead of reading about it, should actually read Evangelii Gaudium during Lent. Sixty families bought the book and we started Lent with a DVD on the subject of forgiveness and reconciliation set in South Africa, which was also attended by several members of the other Wadhurst churches. After Easter, and a time extension to accommodate us slow readers, we had a further meeting to discuss peoples thoughts and ideas about the Popes message.

A month ago we gathered to offer Requiem Mass and to celebrate the life of a 37 year old young man, Ashley Bell, whose parents live in our parish. Fr Martin and his parents held his hand and prayed together as he died after four years of illness. The memories and anecdotes related by his young friends brought him vividly to life for us and we hope that our prayerful thoughts and sympathy were some consolation to his grieving parents. R.I.P.

Peggy Purslow

Would you love to go to Mass, but can't?

ST CLEMENT'S PARISH Ewell were lucky recently to have a visit from Gerry Coates (the singer not the Canon!). Gerry is well known as a regular pilgrim in Lourdes. He gave an evening of anecdotes, sprinkled with his own songs, accompanying himself on the guitar (see picture).

Like most pilgrims, Lourdes is a very important place to him, where he says being disabled or sick is normal. You will not find bus lanes, but there are wheelchair lanes.

He has spent his later years attempting to engage with young people with the Faith, making many visits to schools etc and being sensitive to the variety of modern media, which are the tools of communication.

He also appreciates the needs of the elderly and housebound. He has been instrumental in setting up Heavens Road FM, where among other things it is possible to 'attend' Mass every day. Just go on Google and put in Heavens Road FM. It will offer you 'live Masses'. You can then choose from a list. Click on the day of the week and then the time and you can pray with the worshippers somewhere in the world. If you do not have a computer, just find a young person aged 10 - 15 (relative or friend) to bring you a laptop and set it up for you to watch from bed or where ever you are able.

Gerry needs a large team of volunteers to maintain his work. If you are interested you can contact him on 0790 607 3376 or gerry@heavensroadfm.com



Story: Pauline Groves, Picture Fr Graham Bamford



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