THE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER FOR SURREY & SUSSEX



A&BNEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton No 283 August 2014



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The diocese looks forward to Festival 50

ON THE FEAST OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL around 600 people from across the diocese came to St Wilfrid's School in Crawley for the 2014 Diocesan Festival. There were many opportunities for informal gathering, for example, over lunch - (see picture below).

Apart from looking forward to the Golden Festival next year, there were opportunities to hear speakers and attend a considerable number of workshops related to the Vatican 11 Constitution 'Verbum Dei' (Word of the Lord).

Peter Burholt reports on a few of them:

With all the hubbub on the ground floor, it was easy to miss what was on offer on the level above. What a miss it would have been to all those festival goers who did not venture up the stairs or took the lift to the first floor.

Twelve workshops – some interactive and some with serious study groups – were available for a wide range of visitors and, dare one say it, the clergy alike. For the serious there was Sr Diane from Lewisham and Sr Maureen Roberts with 'My Soul is Thirsting for the Lord'. Ways of praying and a dramatization of the story of 'Woman at the well' asking 'Who are you?' Videos and a time to contemplate and share. 'We were surprised how many shared their inner-most thoughts with us' said Sr Maureen.

Have you heard of an interactive prayer room? If not, a visit to David Beresford's workshop would have given the visitor a chance to use balloons, post-it notes, building blocks and many other interactive articles to come and see how the Lord will meet you as you pray interactively. It was really 'seeing is believing', no matter what age you were.

As a diocese, we are placing more focus on the important role grandparents play with their grandchildren, in developing the faith of the young ones in their care. Christine Evans and her daughter Claire Hudson presented practical ways for keeping religion in their lives, with a simple array of 'props', many of which were geared to a moment in the garden or at the kitchen table. 'Exploring the Gospel with Grandchildren' was popular with both guiders and the guided.

Well, what a day and how to end our review of the workshops? How about 'The Vision of St John of Christ in Revelation' 'What is that all about?' you might say. Then have a word with Constantina Wood, iconographer in residence at St Paul's Church, Aylesbury. She encouraged the young and old – and many more in between – to indulge in their creative art skills by building up, panel by panel, the icon of Christ. 'I never know what comes out at the end of these sessions as everyone does their own thing' The stunning four metre collage was hanging for all to see, (see picture right) as the happy and spiritually fulfilled supporters left for home. 'I really did not know what the outcome would be' reflected a satisfied Constantina.

The day concluded with an impressive concelebrated outdoor Mass, for which the rain just held off.

Bishop Kieran's homily appears as our Just a Thought on page 4.





For more Festival pictures, taken by Emmanuele Chimezie, David White and Mark Woods and other stories go to pages 2 and 9



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Come volunteer for Festival 2015



Everyone seemed so happy and impressed as they were leaving the Festival on Sunday and I was so pleased that the volunteers got a round of applause as you gathered for the photo. I think your cheerful dedication inspired others for 5 July next year. It's looking good so a huge thanks to everyone.

IN A SHORT PRESENTATION to all who had gathered for the Festival, Bishop Kieran outlined his call for the diocese to mark its Jubilee next year. As well as highlighting some key moments and individuals from the past fifty years, he reflected on the changes that had come about, noting the falling number of priests then, surprisingly, the rise in the number of churches and the apparent decline in the number of regular Mass-goers. Against this mixed picture, he pointed out the great array of organisations and groups now active in the diocese, all of which tells a story of a changing church facing great challenges but with

Turning to the future he challenged the diocese to seize the opportunity of the Jubilee to prepare for the coming fifty years, to deepen our faith and our sense of identity, to reach out to those on the margins and to develop the good work being done to support the individuals and causes who need us.

This brought him to reflect on a key moment in the life of A&B: FESTIVAL 50 at the Amex in Brighton on 5 July 2015. Having shown how suited the venue is as a conference centre and exhibition space (provided we 'Keep off the grass!) he announced some of the key speakers including Archbishop Rowan Williams and the Bishop of our twin diocese in Peru and gave a taste of the many exhibitions, stalls and activities.

He finished by inviting the whole Diocese to attend FESTIVAL 50. He noted that he was asking parishes to have a Vigil and early morning Sunday Mass for those who cannot attend - and to invite everyone else to join him for Mass at 3pm that Sunday.

His last words were to thank and encourage all those who might volunteer for FESTIVAL 50, and for the work of the diocese in future. Using the example of the Scouts he spoke of the incredible things committed volunteers can achieve and he asked A&B to do the same.

(More Information on volunteering for FESTIVAL 50 can be found at <u>www.dabnet.org/festival50</u>) We are particularly looking for parish contacts to help with the logistics of getting together many people on the day from across the diocese



The volunteer desk, staffed by Karen Goldsmith. Information and a form to offer your help is on the diocesan website at www.dabnet.org



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Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Mennini on Two Day Diocesan Visit

THE POPE'S REPRESENTATIVE in Great Britain, Archbishop Antonio Mennini spent two days in the Diocese of Armstel & Britain in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, participating in the life of the diocese from 18-19 June. Accompanied by Bishop Kieran he visited several different parts of the diocese and meeting with both clergy and laity in his two days.

He began his visit by attending the annual Good Shepherd Service for all the Catholic schools of the diocese at Worth Abbey where he took part in a Liturgy of the Word which incorporated a beautiful reflection on the Gospel of the Blind Man in action and dance from St Joseph's Primary School, Epsom. At the end of the service he was presented alongside Mgr Canon James Cronin of Missio with a cheque for over £12,000 to support the work of Missio with young children in Zambia.

The Nuncio then spent the afternoon with the clergy of the diocese and seminarians at St John's Seminary, Wonersh near Guildford. The annual meeting of the St John's Association at which the Archbishop was to speak happily accommodated the additional opportunity for all priests and deacons of the diocese to meet with him.

After a speech reflecting on priesthood he answered questions offering a real insight into his own vocational journey to priesthood, and his work and the role of a Nuncio as someone concerned to build bridges between people of good will. The day ended with a festive Mass of St John and meal in celebration at the end of which he was thanked for his visit and in turn warmly thanked Bishop Kieran and the seminary for the welcome he had received. In particular he invited the Rector, Mgr Jeremy Garrett and the seminarians to come and visit him at the Nunciature in Wimbledon.

The Nuncio stayed with Bishop Kieran Conry overnight before meeting with some of the religious of the diocese at the Dominican Missionary Sisters' Generalate in Gossops Green, Crawley then moving on to meet diocesan staff in the Christian Education Centre in Crawley.

He ended the day at Arundel Cathedral for the beautiful Carpet of Flowers and Corpus Christi Festival where, with Bishop Kieran, he led the Blessed Sacrament procession through the town to Arundel Castle grounds for Benediction. He ended the day with celebratory meal with those involved and at the end thanked Bishop Kieran for a wonderful two days and left impressed by what he had seen and the many people he had met.

A Diocesan spokesman said 'I think all who met the Archbishop were impressed by his warmth, kindness and openness. I believe he left with a very positive impression of the diocese and our Bishop, and'we were left with an equally positive impression of our Papal Nuncio'

Story and pictures: Mark Woods





Pictured above, The Papal Nuncio, pictured below, with Mgr Canon John Hull, who was celebrating the 50th anniversary of his ordination, and pictured left, leading the procession on the Feast of Corpus Christi at



Good Shepherd Celebration

N WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE schools across the diocese gathered for their annual Good Shepherd Celebration at Worth Abbey. The theme of this year's celebration was 'Light of the World'. Pupils from St John the Baptist Primary School in Brighton opened the Liturgy with a jubilant gathering dance to the music 'Gather, gather, gather in the light of his flame', before the Bishop processed in, followed by pupils from each school proudly carrying their school banners.

The readings were beautifully presented by Deacon David Turner and pupils from St Mary's Primary School in Crowborough, and the psalm, which was written especially for the occasion, was performed magnificently by pupils from St Joseph's in Haywards Heath.

Following the Gospel reading, pupils from St Joseph's in Epsom presented a striking liturgical dance to lead pupils in their reflection on the Gospel. St Peter's Secondary School in Guildford ably led the music and Cranmore Preparatory School provided an outstanding team of ushers.

At the end of the Liturgy a cheque for over £12,000 (collected by schools across the diocese), was presented to Mgr Canon James Cronin, National Director for Missio (Mission Together), the charity that encourages 'children to help children' around the world.

Finally, representatives from each school were invited forward to receive a small lantern from Bishop Kieran in return for their pledge to be a beacon of light and faith in their school community. After the celebration schools enjoyed a picnic, bathed in glorious sunshine in the beautiful grounds of Worth Abbey.

Story: Bernadette Connor, Primary RE Adviser







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A&B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

A very busy diocese

WHAT AN EXCITING TIME the diocese has been having!

The feast of Ss Peter and Paul seemed a very good day to hold Festival 2014 - a splash of red that could also have called on the Holy Spirit, a good attendance and rain that held off until the dismissal at Mass.

But there has been much more. We were able to welcome the Papal Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Antonio Mennini, to the diocese and he met many people because he was present at the schools Good Shepherd celebration at Worth and was the principal concelebrant at the the Arundel Corpus Christi Mass and procession. These are two major events in their own right and would have been important stories anyhow. His Exellency also met clergy, religious, seminarians and diocesan staff.

We do not have enough room for some of the stories we have received this month of other events, but they are not forgotten and we will publish them in our next issue, when maybe life will have become a bit queiter. Thank you to our correspondents for their pa-

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Distribution enquiries: Ruth Gerun, Editorial Office

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

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JUST A THOUGHT The need to renew

IF WE ARE OLD ENOUGH to remember Simon and Garfunkel we may know that although they harmonised musically, they did not do so personally – hence their sad songs about parting.

It is not clear that Peter and Paul (whose feast we celebrate today) had a good relationship - the Council of Jerusalem was prompted by Paul, because the conversion of Gentiles had led to tension as to what extent they should adopt Jewish rules.

This tension between tradition and the need to renew has not been just in the earlier Church or over the last 50 years, but over the whole 2000 years of Christianity. We can't get stuck in tradition. The Church has to respond as things change in the world. Hence, for instance the Church's involvement in food banks, credit unions and various forms of counselling.

We are not baptised into A & B (or any other diocese) but to Jesus Christ. He asks each of us 'Who do you say that I am? 'What do you want from me?

And to us all he says 'Go out and proclaim my name'

Based on Bishop Kieran's homily at the open air Mass, which concluded the Festival 2014 celebrations

HCPT Easter Pilgrimage 'We are the House of God'

BISHOP KIERAN marked his first year as President of HCPT by celebrating the Trust Mass in Lourdes during the Easter Pilgrimage. This year's pilgrimage was attended by over 4000 pilgrims including the children with various needs, their helpers, chaplains, doctors and nurses and auxiliary groups from Catholic schools and colleges. Every year a geographical region of HCPT is responsible for preparing and leading the liturgy and worship for the pilgrimage. Easter 2014 was the turn of the 'Metropolitan Deep South' region which is made up of groups from Bexhill on Sea, Brighton, Crawley, Farnborough, Alton, Southampton and Portsmouth.

The theme for pilgrimage is 'We are God's House' was chosen because Met Deep South is, in some sense, the 'home' of HCPT. Dr Michael Strode was working at Chailey Heritage School, in Sussex, when he took the first group of children to Lourdes in 1956. Michael Strode, (now a Cistercian brother at the Caldey Island community) and a colleague, with help from the parish of St Paul's in Haywards Heath, raised the money to take four disabled children from the Heritage to Lourdes for a week. The children did not stay in the hospitals in Lourdes, as other disabled visitors would; they stayed in the hotels - quite unheard of at the time. The following year another group of children wanted to go, and so began HCPT.

The theme 'We are the House of God' was also chosen because Sacred Scripture uses the image of a 'house' to teach about the kingdom of God, and Christian discipleship. Luke 6 'Everyone who comes to me and hears my words and puts them into practice, ... are like a man building a house, who dug down deep and laid the foundation on rock.'. The theme was reflected by many aspects of the Liturgy of the Mass especially the beautiful gospel drama of Luke's parable acted out by children and helpers from the region and proclaimed by Deacon David Turner. Many people from the family groups and schools of our region put in a lot of preparation for the Easter pilgrimage liturgies culminating in the Trust Mass. The music was directed by Kirsty McIharghey and was led by musicians from the region and singers from St Richards School Bexhill, Alton Convent School and Salesian College in Farnborough.

HCPT has grown to over 230 groups (known now as family groups) who all travel to Lourdes for a week each Easter. Each family group consists of approximately 6-8 children/young people, typically aged 8 to 18. Each child/young person usually has two volunteer helpers, who fundraise for their own and the children's fare. Each

group has a Leader, at least one qualified nurse, and usually a chaplain too. Many of the children and young people who travel with HCPT are wheel-chair users; many have learning disabilities and difficulties; many are brothers and sisters of children or young people with disabilities who may have travelled with the trust in previous years. The family groups are now from many countries including the UK, Ireland, America, Croatia, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovakia, Poland, Belgium, Italy, Spain, and the West Indies.

To mark this year's pilgrimage Met Deep South have a new regional banner, with the theme 'We are God's House', which we will have for many years to come and is now in the chapel at Hosanna House, Bartres where the HCPT 'summer pilgrimages' will be staying.

Story: Paul Turner



If you would like to find out more about HCPT and the Easter pilgrimage please go to the website www.hcpt.org.uk

A remarkable trip to Lourdes!

DURING THE EASTER WEEK, students from the Lower Sixth at St George's College in Weybridge took part in a week long HCPT pilgrimage for young children and adults to Lourdes in France (pictured). The following are reflections by four of those who went to Lourdes during Easter Week.

'A few weeks before we left, we spent a Sunday afternoon with the four guests who were coming with us. For the first part, we stayed in school and played draughts or just had chat with them. Then, we walked into Addlestone to have a coffee. This was very useful, because we did similar things in Lourdes and it showed us the type of care our guests would need, but also it was good to get to know what they were like as individuals. Getting to know them was a wonderful experience because they all had great personalities.'

At the start of our trip, all of our guests were excited about flying to Lourdes, and on take-off they all cheered. During the trip we visited Gavarnie, a town in the Pyrenees. We walked through the town and took our guests shopping for souvenirs and presents for their families. When we were done we stopped off in a meadow and celebrated Mass, which combined with the good weather and breath-taking view of the snow-topped mountains, made it one of the more special Masses of the trip. After the Mass we played games with our guests, and then finished our day stopping for ice cream at a nearby café. The day as a whole was great fun for both the helpers and the guests, and seeing the incredible landscape made it one of the most enjoyable days of the trip.'

'One of the best moments of the trip was the Torchlight Procession on the Tuesday night. We took part in a procession along with all of the other HCPT groups, holding candles and walking through the domain. It was a wonderful experience as everyone had come together, to create an oddly peaceful atmosphere, despite the huge number of people there. It really made us feel as though we were truly part of something, and the sight of thousands of candles was amazing.'

'It was hard being a carer during throughout the trip as being a carer in Lourdes requires you to do all of the things you do for yourself that you take for granted - brushing your teeth, showering, or eating, but for someone else. After doing this for a couple of days you get used to it and it becomes habit to help someone to eat their dinner. It was an excellent and worthwhile trip, which we really enjoyed. We strongly encourage anyone to go if they get the chance as it is a very memorable and life-changing experience.'

Story: Sam Yarnold



New Deacons for Arundel and Brighton





Pictured above are newly ordained Deacons Colin Purchase on the left and David Pattinson, pictured with Bishop Kieran. Colin was ordained at St Thomas More in Seaford on 5 June and David at St Michaels in Ashtead on 21 June. Pictured on the left with the bishop are Deacon Colin with his wife Mary and grandson.

> Pictures: Mark Woods

First Holy Communion in Ash

CHILDREN from Holy Angels church in Ash received their First Holy Communion on 14 June (pictured below) and on 21 June the children from Holy Family Church in Heath End also received their First Holy Communion (pictured right).

The services were led by Fr David Buckley assisted by Deacon John Edwards. The following week the children from both churches came together for a Going Forth ceremony.

Story and pictures: Amanda
Watson





Pilgrimage to West Grinstead

PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS SISTERS from the Shrine of Madonna Della Consolata (Our Lady of Consolation) in Turin, Northern Italy, came on pilgrimage to our West Grinstead Shrine once more this year. Led by their Superior, Fr Luis Tomas and assisted by Fr Carlo Bon (recently returned from missionary work) the Community came with parishioners from their parish of Finchley, North London. A lovely day was tinged by sadness as we said farewell to Sr Antonia, soon to return permanently to the Mother House in Turin, after more than twenty five years



working in England. We pray that God will continue to bless the Consolata Fathers and Sisters as they exercise their missionary endeavours in this country and abroad. Pictured are Sr Antonia and Fr Luis Tomas are to the right of Fr David Goddard (Administrator of our Shrine)

Story and picture: Fr David Goddard

The Sixteen perform at Worth Abbey ORTH ABBEY hosted a truly memorable sell-out concert on 15 June when the world fa-

WORTH ABBEY hosted a truly memorable sell-out concert on 15 June when the world famous choir, The Sixteen, performed in the unique Abbey Church in aid of the monastic community's charity - Outreach Peru. An audience of nearly 800 sat transfixed by the ensemble's performance of glorious polyphony with 'The Voice of the Turtle Dove', a stunning programme of music by English Tudor composers John Sheppard, Richard Davy and William Munday. This is The Sixteen's 14th Choral Pilgrimage and a spectacular showcase of the golden age of Renaissance music proving that compositions nearly 500 years old can truly delight a 21st century audience. The ensemble has a devoted following of supporters, some of whom travelled from Lincoln and Nottinghamshire for the Sunday evening performance, and the choir clearly delighted many newcomers to their music with their unique style of polyphonic singing.

Harry Christophers CBE is known internationally as the founder and conductor of The Sixteen as well as a regular guest conductor for many of the major symphony orchestras and opera companies worldwide. The Sixteen's Associate Conductor, Eamonn Dougan, presided over the Worth Abbey performance and delivered a beautifully balanced programme, combining emotional depth with awe-inspiring harmonies.

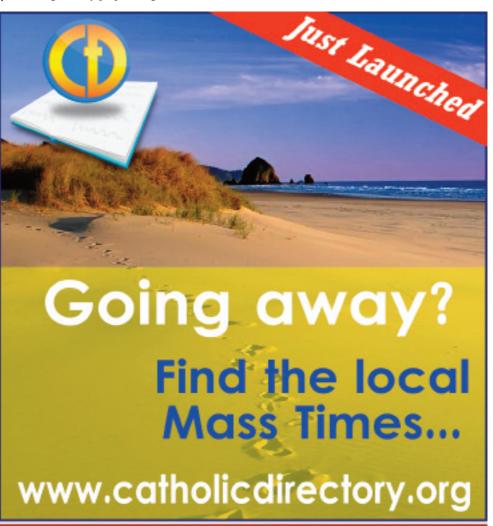
As with previous Choral Pilgrimages, The Sixteen principally perform in prestigious cathedrals and concert halls where the acoustics match the grandeur of the setting. Worth Abbey was no less impressive a venue as the unique architecture was specifically designed to lift and carry music and voices around the circular church. The Sixteen were so impressed with the warmth of the audience reception and the venue that they have asked to come back again and we look forward to welcoming the choir back to Worth Abbey in the future. For more information about The Sixteen and 2014 tour dates, please visit their website www.thesixteen.com

Story: Mandy Horton

Reflecting on ministry



ARECENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION for the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion was attended by about 120 ministers from Epsom Deanery. Fr Laurence O'Keefe OSB provided stimulating input and the surroundings of St Teresa's School, Effingham contributed to a very worthwhile day. Our picture (*by David Rogers*) shows delegates from St Joseph's parish, Dorking, as they prepare to go home.



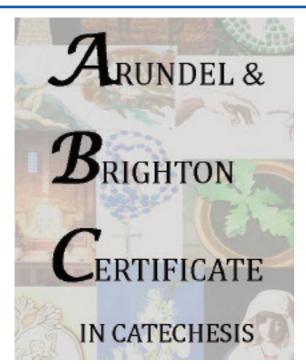




The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton **Pastoral Team**

Serving the communities of our Diocese

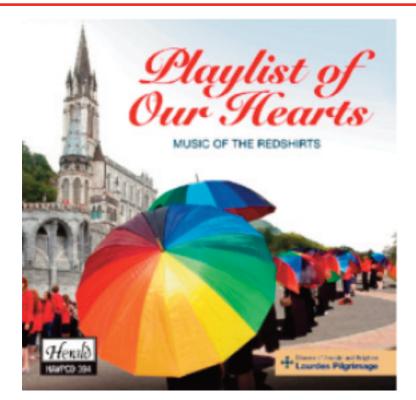




Session 1 - Sat 11 Oct 2014; 10am to 4pm Speaker - Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB 'Retreat Day - 'Called by Jesus Christ to be a Catechist' Session 2 - Sat 22 November 2014; 9.30am to 1pm Speaker - Fr Kevin O'Donnell 'Encountering Jesus-Scripture, Church and Sacraments' Session 3 - Sat 24 January 2015; 9.30am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



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE REDSHIRTS Redshirts past and present have recorded a CD of their favourite songs from Lourdes. 'Playlist of Our Hearts' includes Be Thou My Vision; The Lord's my Shepherd; 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) and many more. Available from the Christian Education Centre (DABCEC) Bookshop and from the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office (email abredshirts@gmail.com) Cost is £10, and all proceeds go towards supporting pilgrims to go to Lourdes.

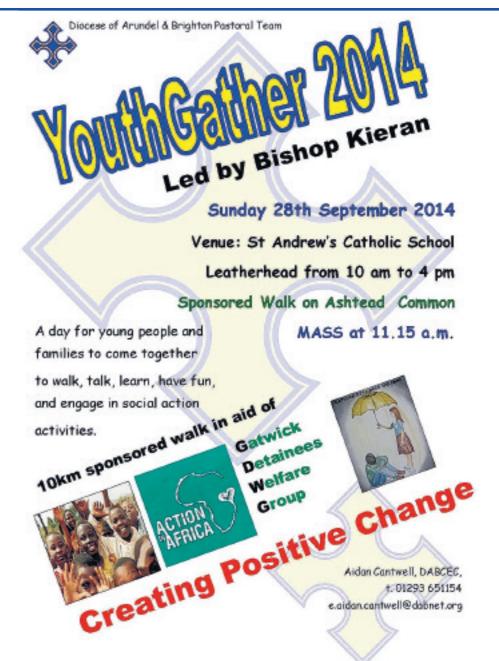
Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year? If so, please join us at the Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Kieran Conry at The Church of St Joan Of Arc, 19 Tilford Road, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8DJ 11.30 am, Saturday 11 October, 2014

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



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Anniversaries at St Joseph's Convent, Littlehampton

THREE SISTERS from St Joseph's Franciscan Convent in Littlemanipon have had significant niversaries this year: Delores Delaney (Diamond), Xavier McNally (Golden) and Susan Rudkin HREE SISTERS from St Joseph's Franciscan Convent in Littlehampton have had significant an-(Silver). Cardinal Cormac joined Bishop Kieran, their chaplain Canon Seamus Hester and priests from across the diocese in a Mass of Thanksgiving (pictured).

Story and picture: Mike Webber



Merstham UCM Member celebrates British Citizenship

MONIKA POREBNA celebrated her becoming a British Citizen with Merstham Union of Catholic Mothers (UC M) at the June Meeting, with cake complete with Union Flag, applause, and displaying her certificate to fellow members (pictured). Monika, originally from Lublin in Poland, came to Merstham in 2006, working in a local care home. She quickly became a well known member of the community and joined the UCM. Next she got a job at East Surrey Hospital, and after studying hard passed her exams to become a state registered nurse in 2011. She is also an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. Now she has completed the big steps and become a British Citizen

To qualify an applicant has to have lived in the UK for five years, demonstrate they are of good character and speak English (or Welsh or Scottish Gaelic) and there is the 'Life in the UK Test' otherwise known as The British Citizen Test, which takes place at a local centre. Monika found she needed to know a lot about history, particularly some great Victorians. She had a question about

Isambard Kingdom Brunel with a picture of the Clifton Suspension Bridge. A pass is necessary before one can even apply. Finally there comes the ceremony, which took place at the Council Offices at Kingston. There the group of new citizens made a pledge of allegiance and sang the National An-

Monika said 'Feeling British did not occur in a flash at that particular moment but it has been gradually growing ever since'

Story and picture: Ann Lardeur



Bognor in Rome - Saint John Paul II in Bognor

VER THE WEEKEND of the Canonisation of John Paul II and John XXIII a small group from Over the Weekend of the Canonisation of John Lat. It all the Support Regis, led by Fr Tony Churchill and Fr Peter Fitch, inspired by Bethan Townsend - one of our young people, went to Rome to join the hundreds of thousands of pilgrims from all over the world for this quite unique event. It was both a joyous and wonderful occasion.

That same weekend at home the Polish community gathered in prayer as Fr Anthony, the Polish Mission chaplain, received at Mass a first class relic of St John Paul II. The relic came as a gift from Cardinal Stanislaw Dziwisz, who was the private secretary to Cardinal Wojtya as Archbishop of Cracow and throughout his twenty seven years as Pope.



Bognor has a large Polish community and together with the wider Catholic parish is very honoured to have such a relic. It is on permanent display in a side chapel dedicated to St John Paul, Blessed Teresa of Calcutta and Blessed John Henry Newman (pictured). It has become a focus of prayer for both communities and John Paul II continues even after death to inspire and bring people to Christ.

> Story and picture: Fr Peter Fitch

The group had their first visit to St Peter's Square after dinner on the Friday evening. On the Saturday morning, the group went to the Church of Santo Spirito in Sassia where Fr Peter celebrated Mass. Afterwards, the group split up with a few people visiting St Peter's Basilica while others visited the Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps. The group then joined up again in the evening to have dinner together.

On the Sunday morning, on the day of the Canonisations, some of the group left the hotel at 5am to find a place to stand for the Mass while others left a bit later. The Mass was celebrated by Pope Francis but Emeritus Pope Benedict was also present alongside many of the Cardinals and Bishops of the world. When the Mass was ended, there were great crowds of people trying to leave as well as many trying to get into St Peter's Square. The group joined up again in the evening for dinner with a few of the group taking a walk to St Peter's Square afterwards.

Monday was the last day in Rome and so the group went to Mass celebrated by Fr Tony in the Church of St Anna which is the Vatican Parish Church where Pope Francis celebrated his first Sunday Mass as Pope. After the Mass, there was the chance to have a last ice cream and last stroll to St Peter's Square before returning to the hotel to board a coach back to the airport. The Bognor six arrived back on the Monday evening.

Sr Frances celebrates Silver Jubilee

SR FRANCES OF THE TOWERS CONVENT in Upper Beeding recently celebrated her Silver Jubilee on the Feast of Corpus Christi along with Sr Zita and Sr Christine who are celebrating their Golden Jubilees this year. They are all pictured cutting their cake.

It was a wonderful celebration with the whole school taking part in the Mass celebrated by Fr Tony Lovegrove. Along with the school pupils and teachers ,clergy, colleagues and friends, two of Sr Frances' own sisters were also there as well as many parishioners from Adur Valley and past

Sr Frances is a popular and well respected member of the local community. In particular Deacon Richard Edwards spoke of the fantastic work she does in visiting the housebound and sick of the parish as well as her chaplaincy work at Worthing and Southlands Hospitals. Sr Frances was presented with many gifts, bouquets, plants and a gift of a set of Office books. During the Mass all the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament renewed

The joyous celebration of the Mass was followed by a meal for all the guests and there was of course the fantastic iced cake for all to share

Story and picture: Penny Richardson



Altar Server serves at Granddaughters Wedding

HE WEDDING of Lucy Myers and Chris Kellaway at St Joan of Arc Church, Farnham on the 7 June was made unique by the presence of Lucy's grandfather Peter Davies as the chief altar server at the Nuptial Mass, celebrated by parish priest Fr Niven Richardson. Peter retired from regular serving after 71 years on Palm Sunday this year, his 80th birthday. He still assists at St Joan's on special occasions. Chris and Lucy met at Lourdes during the diocesan pilgrimage in 2007; they will be living in London where they both work. Pictured are Peter with the bride - his granddaughter and her husband on their wedding

Story and picture: Tony Tunstall



Fr Dominic celebrates

ITTLEHAMPTON with Rustington parish cele-⊿brated on 6 June D (for Dominic) Day, as more than 130 people celebrated Fr Dominic O'Hara's seven years of priesthood with a fish and chip supper. Fr Dominic is pictured with his '7th birthday cake' Story and picture: Mark Webber





Newspaper for parents of children attending Catholic Primary Schools with children's paper inside.



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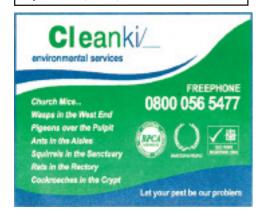
ber it specifically in our prayer. You may like to use the space

[]Yes, please remember my intention/s in prayer.

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 Yes I'm interested please send me vocations details.
- [] I'd like to help your Mission Foundations in other countries My gift of £ is enclosed payable to Tyburn Mission.

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NOTICE BOARD

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

> NO MASS IN AUGUST 6 Sept – Returning to usual venue – St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, Horsham RH12 2PJ

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.

Workers' Rights and Responsibilities - The Church's Viewpoint (Peter Mullarky)

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.

Beginning Experience

A healing weekend for those who find they are single again owing to divorce, separation or the death of a partner 3-5 October 2014, Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For details please contact Freda on 01322-401243 or Sandra on 01293-783965

Sr Margaret Shepherd

Formerly Chair of the Councilof 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

OBITUARIES

SR M PETRONILLA, a Sister of Mercy from Midhurst died on the 5 June. She served the Diocese well from 1965 – 1979, first as secretary to the then Chancellor; later Bishop Michael Bowen, and then to Mgr John Hull and finally for a while to Bishop Cormac, now Cardinal.

At her Funeral Mass on 13 June in the Church of the Divine Motherhood and St Francis, Midhurst, concelebrated by Frs Newsam, Johnstone, Hester and Hull, and attended by her Community, relatives and friends, a letter of appreciation from Cardinal Cormac was read out.

May she rest in peace.

 $\mathbf{F}^{ ext{R}}$ MICHAEL BENJAMIN died on 7 June in retirement. He was born in 1927 in Hove, educated at Stonyhurst, and began training as an architect but felt the call to the priesthood. Because of a shortage of places at Wonersh he was sent to Ushaw College in Durham, ordained in 1957 and posted to Arundel, then to Cam-



berwell in south east London, and from there to the Army as an Army Chaplain. Eight army postings followed in 16 years in; Germany, Northern Ireland, and England. When he came to Langley Green he knew very few priests or people in the diocese. From there he became parish priest of Bagshot and Fetcham. Fr Terry Martin also said how much he valued what he learnt from Michael when Michael retired to Horsham.

Michael and I were friends for over 50 years and when Michael was in Arundel we met regularly and spent many holidays together. During this period Michael became friends with Anne and Peter Hutley, founders of the Wintershall Plays.

Jesus was a light for Michael. He provided him with food for his journey, and has prepared a room for him in the Father's House where I am sure he will soon be exulting in the presence of the Lord. He will be greatly missed by his brother John, his only living relative.

Those of you who knew Michael will have many memories of him and his ministry. Memories are a precious gift. They make the past present for us. We pray for the repose of his soul, and God's comfort for John in his loss.

May he rest in peace

Fr Frank O'Sullivan



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

HUNGRY FOR CHANGE' FINISHES

TO MARK THE END of the campaign, a group of campaigners made the trip to Downing Street to hand in over 60,000 actions against hunger.



As a result of many of you taking action against hunger,

- we have made great achievements which show the power of campaigning: 1. The UK became the first G8 nation to commit to spending 0.7% of national income on international development aid. Archbishop Desmond Tutu paid tribute to CAFOD supporters for their 'tireless work' and 'steadfast refusal to accept the status quo'.
- 2. As a founding member of the Enough Food for Everyone...IF campaign, we urged David Cameron to use the G8 to create positive and long-lasting changes to the global food system. Leaders of the G8 then secured £2.7bn to tackle malnutri-
- 3. A new EU law was passed aimed at making large companies more transparent. Companies that play a vital part of our food system and who exercise a large amount of influence are required to publish information on significant risks to and impacts on the environment and human rights.

As we plan and develop our next campaign on climate and energy (watch this space!), we are so grateful for all your enthusiasm in campaigning with us. All of you who have worked with us, have helped make these achievements a reality. Thank you!

CAFOD A&B 01483 88866 email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk blog: http://cafodarundelbrighton.wordpress.com

BISHOP'S DIARY

JULY/AUGUST

Thu 24 Jul

Fri 1 Aug Leads the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes Sun 10 Vespers to Celebrate 30 years of A&B Diaconate, 4.30pm

Arundel Cathedral Sun 24 9am Mass at Burwash

Mass at Holy Cross Priory 11am Wed 27 Retreat Day at St Philip Neri, Uckfield 9am Sun 31 5pm Installation of Rev Paul Jennings as Canon

at Arundel Cathedral

Haslemere Carpet of Flowers

MPRESSED by the wonderful carpet of flowers **L**at Arundel Cathedral, Our Lady of Lourdes parish, Haslemere, decided to create their own to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi (pictured).

Having been to Covent Garden to source the flowers, a team of seventeen, led by Diane Breen, devised and designed the panels. These depicted the Three Crosses of Calvary, the Chi-Ro epigram of Christ, a portrayal of the church's Holy Spirit window, a cross and Greek letters representing Christ Victor, and a chalice, host and grapes signifying the Eucharist. A separate panel in front of the altar displayed a monstrance.

The Carpet and a display of chasubles with appropriate explanations were on view to the general public on the Saturday. The ninety people who visited were also treated to tea and cakes in the adjoining parish hall.

On Sunday the congregation had to reach their seats from the side aisles, with Fr Chris Bergin being the first to walk on the carpet as he processed around the church with the Blessed Sacrament.



Confirmation certificates were also presented to our young parishioners who had celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation at the weekend. To celebrate further, after Mass there was Pimms for everyone on the church forecourt.

Donations given towards the Carpet of Flowers went to support parish projects and the Hope for Justice Charity - Rescuing People from Slavery in the United Kingdom.

Story and picture: Fay Foster

Lewes Passion Plays 2014 and 2015

LEWES ADAPTATION of the Medieval Mystery plays- a prequel to Lewes Passion Play 2015 took place in Lewes on 19 April 19 in Harvey's yard (pictured), with mem-



bers from all the different churches in the Lewes area working together to bring Old Testament stories out into the town. The plays consisted of Creation: The Fall of Adam and Eve; Cain and the murder of Abel; Noah's Ark in the Flood; Abraham and Isaac. Portraying murder and mayhem, floods and testing times. **Now Lewes Passion Play**

2015 needs you! We are now focussing on

getting the 2015 Passion Play underway. If you would like to find out more, or become involved in any way please con-

Email towardslewes2015@gmail.com or call/text 07926 486567 or visit

www.lewespassionplay.org.uk

Diocesan Golden Jubilee Preparing a way for the Lord

Jubilee Small Groups Leaders Training 3rd Autumn Season - Communion

BEXHILL

Thursday 11 September 7.30pm - 9.00pm Our Lady of the Rosary Southlands Road TN 39 5HG

CRAWLEY

Saturday 27 September 10am - 11.30am DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive RH10 6RP

REIGATE

Monday 15 September 7.30pm - 9.00pm Holy Family York Road RH2 9HF

BILLINGSHURST

Thursday 2 October 7.30pm - 9.00pm St Gabriel East Street RH14 9QH

To book your place, or for more information contact David Wills, *Diocesan Adult Formation Adviser* 01293 651157 <u>David Wills@dabnet.org</u> or book on line @ <u>www.dabnet.org/ab2015</u>

WOKING

Wednesday 1 October 8pm – 9.30pm

An introduction to Lumen Gentium by Fr Laurence O'Keeffe St Dunstan, Shaftesbury Road GU22 7DT

For more details on the Diocesan Golden Jubilee contact
Deacon Andrew Bayes on 01293 651150
jubilee@dabnet.org













Pictures from Festival 2014
on this page:Above: Bishop Kieran speaking
at the Festival
Below from top left:the Arts and
crafts workshop, a young
volunteer, face painting and
Steve Murray miming

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FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

CELEBRATIONS seem to have been the theme of our parish this month. Firstly many of our parishioners attended the 60th Jubilee Mass at the Cathedral for Canon Gerry Coates who had, some years ago, been our parish priest. Then there was the very joyous celebration of Sr Frances' 25th Jubilee at The Towers.

As always the Corpus Christi Mass and procession at The Towers took place on a beautiful day with many children and families joining in.

Then on the Feast of SS Peter and Paul to celebrate 30 years in the 'new' church there was an evening get-together with shared food and a display of photos taken of the building taking shape.

We were also so pleased to have a visit from Bishop Francis Walmsley who had been a curate in the parish in the 1960s (See page 11).

In the midst of all this celebration there is a note of sadness too when we heard that our parish priest Fr Sean Finnegan will be leaving us for pastures new in September. He will be greatly missed. Penny Richardson

BRIGHTON St Mary's, Preston Park

THE SOCIAL CONCERNS Group organised a coffee morning on Homelessness Sunday raising £150 for St Anne's Day Centre for the Homeless. We had another coffee morning on 29 June raising £85 for CAFOD.

On Friday 9 May the Social Concerns Group ran a quiz night with five enthusiastic teams which raised £130 for Christian Aid.

We were sorry to lose a long-time parishioner; Denis Bachelor who has moved to Rustington. He was our MC and put much time and work into serving the parish and local commu-

We were very saddened to hear of the death on 3 February of Fr Jeff Scott. Ordained in 1979 he served St Mary's parish twice, first as a curate from 1981, then as our parish priest from 1992-1997. Bishop Kieran celebrated his requiem Mass at St Dunstan's, Woking, with 50 priests concelebrating. Cardinal Cormac who attended, remembered ordaining Fr Jeff 35 years ago. Fr Jeff has been buried at St John's Seminary, Wonersh.

May he rest in peace. Claire Shelton-Jones

CATERHAM

PENTECOST was a good point of the year to take stock of the contribution made by RCIA to the life of the parish. Five members were Confirmed, two of whom were also Baptised, and we wish them all well in the future.

Our 'Journey of Faith' evenings are for all parishioners and we were very pleased with the numbers who joined us for our two annual retreats. The autumn retreat at Aylesford saw Fr Michael Manning inspire 35 of us with thoughts on the 'Year of Faith', and our Palm Sunday retreat in the parish Centenary hall found nearly 40 of us meditating on 'Hints of Heaven' and sharing a lunch in the sunshine! Maybe next year we can include the children and young people as well.

The parish Women's Group and other parishioners enjoyed their visit to Arundel Cathedral's carpet of flowers.

Peter Patterson

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the September 2014 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 4 August 2014 and for October 2014 issue by Monday 1 September 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.



ON PENTECOST SUNDAY the sun shone on us at St Joan of Arc's. Mass was a wonderful celebration attended by many, and as the full church emptied onto the piazza, the tea and cakes tent opened for business. Free cakes donated by many wonderful cooks!

Families reached for their picnics and soon delicious lunches were being set up on the many tables on the lawn in front of the church. The sun continued to shine, and the weather was warm, although the trees in the garden gave ample shade to ensure everyone's comfort.

Irenie set up her Bus Stop Game, and Danny of Red Hat Magic performed amazing magic tricks. The Arc Band played a number of well known songs and a few of their own too. What a talented parish we have! Boys and girls danced to the music, and a few older girls too!

With all that we needed to eat and drink, and with entertainment galore, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves until it was time to pack up....but this is never a chore when so many helpers come forward to assist.

Story Andrew Torjussen Picture Beth MacCulloch

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

OUR CAKE SALE on the Feast of Pentecost was a great success, many thanks to those of you who helped out by donating cakes or helping out on the day. £120 was raised and everything was sold, proceeds to an outing for our excellent Blue Sash choir, celebrating two years since their formation.

Many congratulations to Fr Rory Kelly on celebrating the 40th anniversary of his priesthood. The church was packed out on the evening of Friday, 20 June, when Fr Rory and Fr Kieran Gardiner concelebrated Mass, followed by a buffet and dancing at the Emerald Sports and Social Club.

Barbara Winstanley

EASTBOURNE Christ the King, The Holy Rood and St Joachim

PRAYER BEFORE The Blessed Sacrament has now been taking place at Christ the King on a regular basis on Fridays from 1pm to 7.30pm and on Saturdays from 11.45am to 1pm for more than a year.

A special thanksgiving Mass was celebrated on 20 June to mark the first anniversary of the prayer rota having been in operation, after which parishioners enjoyed a buffet supper in the parish room. Christine Mowbray has worked very hard to keep the rota going and additional participants in this devotion will always be welcome to ensure that every hour is covered.

Sr Alice Kilbride of The Infant Jesus sisters in Nigeria has written to acknowledge the parish's gift for the Women's Centre. She went on to say 'Life is very difficult here at present, two of the recent bombings, one involving a loss of 118 lives, happened in Jos, the town beside which our sisters live, within a week of each other.... The trouble is one never knows where the next terrorist attack will be. So it gives our sisters great encouragement when they know that people like yourselves are thinking of them and participating in their ministry in a very practical way.'

John Carmody

EAST GRINSTEAD

LINGFIELD PARISHIONERS generously provided an excellent spread for the parish barbecue on 15 June at St Bernard's. The event was well attended and an enjoyable time was

On 21 & 22 June, Kris Favor took part in the 64-mile London to Brighton Trek 2014 to raise funds for the repair of the roof of Our Lady and St Peter and for the British Heart Founda-

Members of the parish attended an ecumenical service organized by Churches Together in East Grinstead at Moat United Reform Church

Clive Carpenter

FARNHAM

EGHAM

WE WELCOMED BACK Fr Hugh Flower from holiday this weekend and a big thank you to Mgr Michael Jackson who was with us for

We had a Hog Roast on Sunday 22 June at Englefield Green church; thank you Jim for all

We held a Race Night which was a really enjoyable night! Horses owned by three parishioners won a bottle of bubbly for their owners and the overall event made a net profit of £705!

Alice Mabbs

GODALMING

ON A FINE, sunny day parishioners enjoyed a parish day which was organised to celebrate the Feast of Corpus Christi. The event started with a shared lunch and was followed by a treasure hunt and a variety of games and entertainment for the children. Fr Michael Perry and Rev Jeremy Oliver led a procession to the statue of Our Lady. The day ended with tea and cakes followed by a few games of bingo. Our grateful thanks go to Hilary and Richard Grey

for letting us use their beautiful grounds.

St Edmund's school held a summer fair with stalls and entertainment. The human fruit machine and Sumo suits proved to be two of the popular attractions. The fair raised about £1,400 to be spent in the school.

The newly formed St Vincent de Paul Society in the parish raised a commendable £260 at the Milford fete. Damian Wheeler

FR PAUL CLARKE OFM Conv organised the annual parish lunch which was held at Simply Italian in Rye on Friday 13 June, the feast day of our patron, St Anthony of Padua. Over 30 members of the parish sat down to a splendid meal and a very jolly time was enjoyed by all. A raffle was held and there were almost as many prizes as people present. About £500 was raised for vital restoration work on the church.

It is interesting to read in The Catholic Herald that forensic experts have reconstructed the face of St Anthony of Padua who died in Jocelyn Rowe 1231 aged only 35.

WORTHING St Mary of the Angels

ON THE 18 MAY ten of our young people were confirmed at Arundel Cathedral and received their certificates at Masses on the following Sunday.

On 30 May two of our altar servers, Stephanie and James, were married and went on to have their honeymoon in Florence. On Pentecost Sunday two people were baptised and two more were received into the Church and confirmed, including the wife of one of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

On 24 June, the feast of St John the Baptist, our annual Mass on Highdown Hill took place at 5am; the weather was good this year and more people than ever attended. The Mass was followed by a shared BBQ breakfast.

Two large carloads of tools and haberdashery we had collected have been delivered to Southampton to be sent to people in Africa to help provide support and training for artisans there to set up their own businesses.

Astrid Gibson

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

MERSTHAM, REDHILL and REIGATE

PENTECOST is a double birthday feast in the parish of the Nativity of the Lord. Not only is it the birthday of the whole Church, it is the anniversary of when our separate parishes of Holy Family, Reigate, St Joseph's, Redhill, and St Teresa's, Merstham formally became The Nativity of the Lord. Our fifth birthday was marked by the production of a special brochure looking at various aspects of parish life, and messages from various people including Bishop Kieran and priests who have moved on to fresh pastures. It can be viewed on our website. http://www.thenativityofthelord.org.uk/community/index.html

The evening Mass of Pentecost at Redhill was an international Mass; bidding prayers were in a range of languages across Asia, Africa and Europe including Tagalog, Vietnamese, Maylalam, French, Spanish and German. The Hail Mary was in Polish, Gospel in Italian, the Eucharistic Prayer in Latin, and of course the Kyrie is Greek from ancient times. Fortunately the homily was in English, but as Fr Aaron Spinelli said 'whatever language is used, the fundamental message is that of God's love'. (See picture below)

Some of the congregation were wearing national dress and members of the Malayalam and Filipino communities sang in the choir. The celebration was also the regular monthly Mass which the Scouts attend. They take the collection and carry up the offerings. Afterwards feast-Story and Picture Ann Lardeur ing on international dishes took place in the parish centre.



Bishop Francis Walmsley visits Adur Valley



THE PARISH OF OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE, Adur Valley recently had a surprise visit from Bishop Francis Walmsley. He is now retired but had been a curate at St Peter's in Shoreham and Christ the King in Steyning in the early 1960s. He had been very involved with organising the Young Christian Workers group, many of those, not

now so Young, Christian Workers were invited to the presbytery to meet with him again.

We had a wonderful evening of reminiscing and poring over old photos and even looking through some of the baptismal records from his time there. Bishop Walmsley has recently written an autobiographical book called from Sea to See; The Extraordinary Voyage of a Very Ordinary Priest. In it he recalls his time in various parishes, his time at sea in the Navy, once being Chaplain on the Ark Royal and becoming Bishop to the Armed Forces.

After sharing a supper that evening Bishop Walmsley celebrated Mass in the parish on the following day.

Story and picture: Penny Richardson

Man and His Pan at Farnham

Lin April in the kitchen at St Joan's Centre, Farnham. There is a 2-hour session each week with a different type of dinner each time. Everybody helps with preparing the vegetables, etc and has a great time. When the dinner is cooked we sit round a table and enjoy the fruits of our work, usually with a bottle of wine. The sessions are great fun with much laughter - maybe we shall end up being useful in the kitchen one day!!

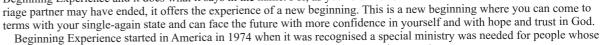


The Beginning Experience

IF YOU ARE HAPPILY MARRIED, you are blessed. You have been touched by God who brought you together. The Church will recognise that later this year when Bishop Kieran offers a special annual Mass for those celebrating certain wedding anniversaries.

But what if your happy marriage has ended? What if you are now separated, divorced or widowed and you are single once again? Your grief may well be as great as your happiness once was. You may be experiencing feelings of anger, guilt or sadness. And, while the Church celebrates those happy wedding anniversaries, you may feel abandoned, unrecognised and even unwelcome within the faith community.

If you are in this position, there is a ministry within the Church for you. It's called the Beginning Experience and it does what it says in the name. For, as your old life as a mar-



marriages had ended. It came to England in 1984 and so this year is its 30th anniversary here.

In Arundel and Brighton, Beginning Experience has the full support of Bishop Kieran. It consists of a local team of men and women who are themselves all separated, divorced or widowed. Twice a year they run a residential weekend at the Emmaus Centre in West Wickham, Kent.

The weekend contains a carefully-structured programme which encourages the participants to acknowledge their grief and to recognise that their feelings are normal and shared by others. They may then choose to close the door gently on the past and so begin to face the future more positively.

This is not an instant cure. There is no instant cure for the sense of loss which can overcome and overpower us. But it is a beginning. And, after the weekend, regular follow-up meetings are held and open to all participants to attend.

You may be interested in comments received after the most recent weekend earlier this year. They included 'Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to take stock of how my life can move forward', 'This has been a fantastic weekend – it has moved a great block within me' and 'The weekend was absolutely what I needed'.

So if you are separated, divorced or widowed and have read this right to the end, then maybe you are being invited to consider attending a Beginning Experience weekend at Emmaus. The next one will be from 3 to 5 October 2014.

If you are interested, or would just like more information, you can contact one of the team members, Freda on 01322-401243 or Sandra on 01293-783965. They will be more than happy to speak with you. Then you can decide whether the weekend is right for you at this time.

John A Brotherton

Catenians celebrate 300 meetings in 55 years

THE RECENT 300TH MEETING of the Association's 18th Province, was of particular importance as it reviewed among other matters the many changes and challenges that are being faced by members, not only as Catenians, given the internal developments being championed by the Association's Grand Council, but more importantly, as faithful adherents of the Catholic Church itself as it struggles for relevance and commitment in the 21st Century.

In a challenging address to the 30 members of the Council and it's guests Brother Peter Woodford, Grand Vice-President stressed the need to embrace the new demands of being a faithful Catholic and of turning the Association into an inclusive body. He wished the Province every success for its next 300 meetings (about 25 years' worth by his reckoning), but he expected it would be another who would be offering a toast to success in 2039!

An earlier meeting had spent some time on the current calls faced to pursue a reforming agenda to bring the Association to a new generation of Catholic men and, perhaps in time, women and faithful Christians who are not Catholics??? This, some current members could well see as anotherm.

A number of developments in the Sussex area were considered - the expansion of Catenianism in Brighton, the development of new Circles in the region and the general enhancement of membership Province wide.

Council also spent some time reviewing a diocesan request of this Province to support its 2015 Diocesan Golden Jubilee. This was embraced with enthusiasm by the Council who will be seeking any and all ways to provide assistance.

Nigel Corby



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