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Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2014 - The Joy of Conversion



AT ST JOHN THE BAPTIST SCHOOL, WOKING we always send an excellent number of our students to Lourdes to act as Helpers and Redshirts on the Arundel and Brighton pilgrimage. This year is no exception when 32 young people attended, seven as Redshirts and 26 as Sixth Form helpers. This is in addition to seven members of Staff being full time attenders and five members of the school's Senior Leadership Team jetting in for shorter periods.

The occasion of our patronal feast day has been used recently to raise money to help the student's fund their trips to Lourdes. This is important to keep the numbers attending the Lourdes pilgrimage high when it costs between £590 for a sixth form Helper and £700 for a Redshirt for the week in Lourdes. Consequently we had one hour's 'fun and festivities' on the Friday before St John the Baptist day. This was after a specially lengthened assembly to remind us all of the role of our patron St John the Baptist in the life of Christ and his Church. During the hour the astonishing sum of £4,163 was raised to help the students play their various roles on the pilgrimage. This is in addition to other activities that raised £4000 before SJB day even arrived. This will mean a substantial contribution can be made to every student's costs who attend the pilgrimage. The activities indulged in were varied and numerous and included face painting, 'wound creation' using stage make up, penalty taking and even pony rides that our Head Teacher Miss Magill enjoyed!

We, at SJB, would like to thank everyone, staff, students, parents and governors who helped us raise such a considerable sum of money and we know the money will be put to great use before and during the annual pilgrimage to enable the student numbers from SJB stay high and enable the sick pilgrims to have as fruitful a time as possible.

Phil Robinson



THE THEME of this year's pilgrimage was the 'Joy of Conversion'. As usual over 800 people from the diocese went by train or air, led by our Bishop Kieran. In Lourdes, they met with other pilgrims.

At one point the Bishop presided at an international Mass and preached in English, French, Italian. He was roundly applauded, which gave members of the diocese great pleasure.

Our pictures (Courtesy of Bishop Kieran) show:

- (top left) Fr Chris Ingle, pilgrim Will, Bishop Kieran, Anne Ward, pilgrims Kayleigh and Bill.
- (top right) A Redshirt welcome and
- (bottom) The last pilgrimage express train



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Sussex Catenians in prayer for Vocations

BROTHERS of the Catenian Association celebrate a Mass for Vocations somewhere in the world each day of the year. In addition, the Catenians in Sussex (Province 18), recently celebrated a Sunday parish Mass for Vocations to the religious life at Worth Abbey. It was both spiritually and organisationally a great success and if God hears the pleading, many more young men and women will respond by devoting themselves to service in the Church.

Some 80 Catenians and ladies of the Province were in attendance and those who missed the Mass missed a really rewarding celebration.

The Mass was concelebrated by many of the community of Worth Abbey led by the Rev Dom Philip Gaisford and they were joined by Fr Terry Martin, Diocesan Director for Vocations - 10 priests in all. Fr Terry (pictured with some Brothers and ladies after the Mass) has been greatly encouraged by the Province's support for his work financially and spiritually (£1000 was raised last year).

The words of encouragement to the congregation to pray for vocations and the very well-crafted homily, which included reference to the subject while fully exploring the readings of the day, was exceptional. The whole Mass was spirit filled and an entire prayer in itself.

Province even managed to do a bit of evangelising about the Catenian Association with much interest being evident. So thanks go to all; for being a part of this significant day for Province 18.

Story and picture: Nigel Corby, Provincial Vice President, Province 18



St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough

A SMALL GROUP of Chichester parishioners, along with other local people, went on a coach trip to St Michael's Abbey in Farnborough in July. This abbey (pictured) is a little known treasure trove of faith, history and architecture. The Empress Eugenie commissioned the building of a monastery and mausoleum to bury her husband, the Emperor Napoleon III and her son, Louis Napoleon, Prince Imperial; commending their souls to the prayers of Benedictine monks. It was featured in the Michael Portillo's series of *Great Railway Journeys*. It is well worth a visit to this hidden gem, where, in 1895 the first monks of Farnborough arrived from the Abbey of Solesmes in France.

Story and picture: Caroline Bullen



Day of Recollection for the Ministers of Mayfield Deanery

THE MAIN CHAPEL at Holy Cross Priory in Cross-in-Hand was an excellent location for an afternoon of Recollection for the people of Mayfield Deanery who minister at Mass. Some 150 people attended the service led by Fr James Hurley, the Chaplain to the Monastery of the Visitation in Waldron. He was introduced by the dean, Fr Stephen Hardaker, parish priest of Uckfield and Heron's Ghyll, who pointed out that Fr Jim really belonged to Southwark Diocese and was merely on loan to the monastery! Among other clergy present was the host, Fr Michael Creech, parish priest of Heathfield and Burwash. With introductions out of the way, Fr Jim delivered a thought-provoking talk about service and ministry in general.

There was then an opportunity for quiet reflection. This could be accomplished by strolling in the extensive gardens; taking advantage of the beautiful weather which prevailed that day, attending Adoration, and/or going to confession. This was followed by a second talk in which Fr Jim dealt more specifically with the different ministries of reading, welcoming and being Eucharistic Ministers.

Attendees were then treated to tea, and delicious scones and cakes, with a chance to socialize with people from various parts of the Deanery, before departing or attending the regular 4.30pm Mass in the Chapel.

Story: Angela Wilding



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A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF A PARISH PRIEST

FR KEVIN DRING, FROM THE SACRED HEART PARISH IN HOVE, SHARES HIS DIARY WITH A&B NEWS

HOW OFTEN HAVE you heard the quip made to your parish priest after Sunday Mass ‘Still on one day a week, Father?’

A&B News’ Special Correspondent, Peter Burholt, asked Fr Kevin Dring to keep a diary for a typical mid-summer’s week to find out what it is really like working in a parish.

MONDAY: Monday morning is always a busy one, as the week begins and all the overspill of messages and action points from the weekend to deal with! I wake up at about 6.45am, listen to the radio for a few minutes, catch the news headlines at seven and then (theoretically) jump out of bed ready for the new day. I usually do some exercises while listening from my mobile phone to the daily download from ‘Pray as you Go’ (www.pray-as-you-go.org) with music, daily scripture and some reflection points. This helps me to begin to prepare for Mass at 10am. It lasts about 10 minutes (Pray as you Go, not Mass!!), which is perfect for a few stretches and jogging on the spot. I thoroughly recommend ‘Pray as you Go’ ... and the accompanying physical exercise, of course!

For a few years now we have had silent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before Mass, from 9 to 10am on Monday and Tuesday and for an hour on Thursday at noon before Mass. It’s a great blessing and well attended. After breakfast and a quick hit at the desk, with all the ensuing emails, I try to make my way into the church for this time of silence and prayer. I succeed about two thirds of the time, as long as no unexpected distraction comes my way via phone or the front door. As I head into the church, the secretary Marilia and the team of money counters arrive.

After Mass, back into the house for a coffee with the money counting team and Marilia, our young Brazilian parish Secretary. Marilia joined us about six months ago. She is a warm and friendly person, a qualified lawyer doing further human rights studies via Sussex University. Interestingly, she worked in Sao Paolo Archdiocesan legal offices – Sao Paolo diocese being as large as the whole of the Catholic Church in England & Wales! I said to her in her interview she might find booking Mass intentions and preparing newsletters a bit ‘tame’ after Sao Paolo, but so far so good!

The rest of the day goes by in a blur of desk work, a crazy number of emails (many of them junk), then lunch with a friend, a couple of pastoral visits and a meeting with a family to help plan a funeral.

TUESDAY: Much the same start-up of the body and the mind as Monday. Today and Thursday our Pastoral Assistant, Lara, is in the office. She works closely with the young people’s ministry and also supports catechists and sacramental programmes. She’s a great support and help. Today’s Mass is for the recently bereaved. We celebrate every few months a special Mass and always an important moment to remember parishioners, loved ones, victims of war, Ukrainian plane crash and the like. At 11am I have a primary school governors’ subcommittee meeting (the PPCC ... ‘Parents, Pupils and Community Cohesion’). Afterwards I slip across the road to have a quick sandwich lunch with my brother Dominic, chaplain at Cardinal Newman, and then back to the primary school early afternoon for the Year 6 (leavers) performance of Aladdin. It felt slightly bizarre on a mid-summer afternoon, in a very warm darkened hall, with all windows and doors closed... but a great performance.

Then on the bike across town to visit a parishioner quickly at the hospital, followed by a 4pm planning meeting of all the ministers of churches involved in the Churches Winter Homeless Shelter project. We’ve been part of this for three winters, with St Joseph’s RC parish and many other churches of all denominations. This coming winter we will increase the shelter period to four months and involve even more churches. It’s the best ecumenical project I’ve ever been involved in.

It’s back to the parish for a 7pm Baptism Preparation session ... then rest

WEDNESDAY: DAY OFF ... praise the Lord!

THURSDAY: I go up on the 7.19am train from Hove to Godalming to give a Day of Prayer. The 2¼ hours of train time gives good opportunity to go over what I am going to share. I always find with talks and prayer days (preaching) that my mind ... and heart ... only come into focus at the last moment, so I’m always a bit panicky. But ‘it’ll be alright on the night (on the morning)’ always seems to work.

I enjoy days like this as it gets me out of the parish to a different place and mixing with a different group ... makes me take stock of my own prayer life and priorities - ‘practice what you preach’ and all that.

Back on the 4.03pm from Godalming and in Hove by six thirty. I’m tired, but happy with the day. Oh yes, I almost forgot – at seven there is a Catechists Evaluation meeting with the Confirmation catechists, planning for next year. Evaluating and planning is the last BIG task of the term before summer holidays start. I now have in my diary ALL the dates for First Communion, RCIA, Baptism Preparation and celebrations, Marriage Preparation from September this year to July 2015. A bit overwhelming when you have to diary in 50 meetings – but once ‘in the diary’ I can forget about them ... for a few weeks at least!

FRIDAY: Mass on Friday is at 8am, which makes for a nice calm and peaceful start to the day. Then breakfast and some office work (please somebody show me how to make it go away!). Then I go to say an 11.30am house Mass for a housebound parishioner, Ernest. He is one of the bravest people I have met. He had to have both legs amputated in the last couple of years, but always stays

positive and with great faith – as also does his amazing wife, Kate. It’s a privilege to be able to share Mass with them in this intimate environment.

After a quick lunch with them, it’s on to Cottesmore St Mary’s Catholic Primary School to concelebrate a whole school Mass - with Fr Jerry O’Brien - for the deputy head, Paul Beverton. He is moving on in September to be head of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School in Rottingdean. Then back to the parish for another quick hit at ‘things administrative’ and some preparation for the weekend, which always comes ‘like a thief in the night’!

At 4.30pm, it’s back to the school for a party with teachers and governors. They have a ‘hog roast’ and, even though I’m going on to a 7pm dinner with some parishioners, my resistance collapses and I have a big(ish) plate of food and get into the party mood. Away at six, back to the parish for evening prayer and off out again at 7pm for a four course Slovakian meal with two young couples from the parish. It was a lovely evening. Why am I not a few kilos heavier? One of life’s lesser mysteries!

Talking of nationalities: we recently conducted a poll of all those regularly worshipping here on a Sunday and found we have just under 50 countries represented. That’s great - and what being Catholic is all about. We even have the added bonus of Peruvians!

SATURDAY: A couple of visits in the morning and then get the sermon and other bits ready for the weekend Masses. Also, this evening I give a talk to parishioners on the recent trip to Peru (with Bishop Kieran and our little diocesan group – featured in the July edition of the A&B News). Confessions at 5.15pm, Mass at six and the Peru talk at seven. There was a good turn out of probably over 50 people. For the first time since returning, it was lovely for me to be able to share with others the joys of being back in Peru. Lots of good photos and a few little stories to go with them. Then, once cleared up, I am weary and nearly ready for my bed!

SUNDAY: ‘Your busy day, Father!’ I can of course understand WHY people say or think this. But it also makes me laugh, or occasionally gives me a stressy twitch of the eye, when I look back over the week that’s just gone by in a blur. Actually, Sunday is SO straightforward, as it’s the one day of the week when you know what will happen and when it will happen. People generally wouldn’t disturb you, as it’s ‘your busy day, Father’. Roll on Sunday!

After the Masses I make my way over to a BBQ with a family from the parish, then have a quick dip in the English channel, some desk work in preparation for Monday morning, watch the end of the golf (well done Rory!), say my prayers, read a little ... and then dream of Monday morning once again.

With his diary concluded for another week, perhaps we should let Fr Kevin have the last word. ‘Without wanting to state the boringly obvious – what makes my life as a priest feel really fulfilled and makes me happy to do what I do are the many, often ‘unscripted’, pastoral encounters with people, phone calls, visits to the sick, chats in the street or outside church (or even in Tesco). Having that sense of being able to offer a simple ‘link to God’, a Christ inspired word of encouragement or reassurance, is a great joy and privilege.’

Thanks be to God for our clergy – what would our life be without them



Pictures by Fr Kevin including ‘selfie’ above



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A time of mellow fruitfulness

WE ARE NOW OFFICIALLY in the time of 'mellow fruitfulness', but our diocese seems to have much fruitfulness at all times, for which we should thank God.

Again, we have been sent so much good news that we can't fit it all in. And such a variety!

There is still someone, possibly many in the diocese, whose memories include stories of the First World War. In contrast, we have so many young people who are giving service to others, without fuss or obvious reward, including a very young Master of Ceremonies in his parish.

Our priests, too, celebrating their jubilees and one telling us, that he does truly work on other days than Sundays!

We also have teachers, some retiring to a well-earned rest, others doing great work with the citizens of the future.

Against the background of so many tales of violence from across the world, we have many beacons of hope in our Church, all around us.

Quite a few are in the pages of A & B NEWS.
Do enjoy reading them

Pauline F. Groves

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JUST A THOUGHT



Serving at the altar is one of the most vivid memories of many Catholics. Being able to assist the priest on the sanctuary is a privileged experience. The sanctuary represents heaven and as we gather, Our Lord's wish that we receive Him in Holy Communion is once again achieved. Girls and boys are encouraged to assist the priest so that the prayer of the Mass is unhurried and reverent. Vocations to the priesthood have their roots in these early experiences and parents are keen to have their children on the altar so that they are encouraged in their Faith. Our Lord Himself welcomed children to be close to Him and serving is one way of doing this.

Fr Dominic O'Hara

PASTORAL LETTER OF BISHOP KIERAN

read at all Masses on the weekend of 26/27 July 2014

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

FOR REASONS TO DO WITH RECORDING and mailing deadlines, I am writing this on the day of the World Cup Final. You will be hearing it when I am in Lourdes with our diocesan pilgrimage. The two events have some similarities, but the connecting thread is fragile. The pundits will claim that an event like the World Cup unites the country behind our national team, when this is simply not true; most people in the country don't care about football, and it appears that the team itself didn't show a great deal of interest and came back home after a few days to go on holiday to Dubai. The team is not 'England'; it is the English football team.

Likewise, when we are in Lourdes, I occasionally remind people that this is not 'Arundel and Brighton' or 'A&B' (other dioceses in Lourdes refer to us as the 'affluent and beautiful') but that we are people from the diocese on pilgrimage. Because not everybody wants to go to Lourdes, and many that do want to go simply can't afford either the money or the time.

But while football might not unite the nation, there is something that unites the diocese. You might expect me to say at this point that it's the bishop, but that would be arrogant (that's the other word that dioceses in Lourdes use when they don't say 'affluent'). The diocese was united still when there wasn't a bishop between March 2000 and June 2001.

What unites us is our faith in Jesus Christ. We all experience that in different ways and to different degrees, but in the end that is what we have in common, and that is what I can assume when I meet parishioners in parishes, when I meet children in our Catholic schools, and when I had the privilege of confirming many of our young people over the past few months. It means that we don't have to start searching for points of reference to establish some sort of relationship. I say to our new Redshirt pilgrims before we go to Lourdes that everyone wearing a red shirt is someone you can trust and make a friend of, and that when they're in Lourdes, anyone wearing an Arundel and Brighton badge is someone who would love to meet and talk to you.

The gospel reading today is that rather odd collection of little images of the Kingdom of Heaven; the first even suggests some sort of deceit - the man finds treasure in a field, hides it again and buys the field at a bargain price. The parables are as much about discernment as anything: the mer-



chant realises that he has a very precious pearl and the fisherman sorts out the good fish from the ones that won't sell. They all realise that they have something very dear to them and something that brings happiness and hope.

Faith is a very precious gift, and we're invited to appreciate just how precious it is. Personally, I have to say that I can't imagine not believing in God. I wonder what people believe in if there is no God-space, or how they look to their future without much to believe in.

This morning I celebrated Mass in a parish with a parish community gathered round their parish priest who recently celebrated his Golden Jubilee of priesthood. It was an enormously happy and blessed occasion, one where the parish came together as a community of faith, of joy and love - that is not an exaggeration, where love is often used so casually and thoughtlessly as a word today.

Next year in July we will celebrate our Golden Jubilee as a diocese, and I hope that you will come along to the Amex Stadium in Brighton on 5 July to join the rest of the diocese in our celebration of fifty years. But it's not about the diocese only; the diocese is a means to an end. The diocese exists as a collection of parishes and the parishes exist as communities of believers and disciples of Christ to celebrate their relationship with Christ and encourage others to enter that relationship.

I hope that you have a relaxing and peaceful summer break, whatever that means for you. I hope that your parish priest gets a break, too. This might mean that at some time, even this year, there might not be a Sunday Mass - this is the reality in most of the Catholic world. I was in Peru recently in the diocese in which a number of our priests have worked, and Sunday Mass in many parishes is not a weekly event. Our faith is not based exclusively on Sunday Mass; you know that is the heart of it, it is based on what the Mass expresses, that Jesus died to wipe away our sins and invites us to receive the call to holiness that his sacrifice extends to us. It is a pearl of great price.

With my good wishes and prayers for you when I am in Lourdes.

+ Kieran

A Personal View of the First World War

*There's a silver lining
Through each dark cloud shining,
Turn the dark clouds inside out
Till the boys come home.*

MY VIEW of the First World War is based on the fact that my father fought through the entire campaign in France - and later in Gallipoli - without sustaining a severe injury - and yet, as far as I remember, only one other of his classmates at Forfar Academy remained after the war, when they had a poignant meeting.

My father joined the Highland Light Infantry as a Captain, aged 21, when studying medicine at Edinburgh University, and was posted almost immediately to France. After the war he never spoke to us about the horror of the trenches, the devastating loss of so many of the young men under his command, the necessity of killing young men of his own age for no clear reason. But he did sit at the piano and sing many of the wartime songs to us in his pleasant singing voice. One - I remember particularly was;

*Keep the home fires burning,
While your hearts are yearning,
Though the lads are far away,
Yet they dream of home.*

After the endless fighting my father was sent, on his way home, for 'rest and relaxation' to Ceylon (Sri Lanka) where he met my mother, aged 17, youngest daughter of one of the senior Government officials who ruled the country at that time. He fell in love with her, and having no wish to continue his medical studies, he decided to remain in the Army, and thus became one of a small number of Army officers to serve in the Second World War as well as the First. But that is another story!

He also told us about his younger brother, Uncle George, who at the age of 17 joined the Royal Flying Corps (which preceded the RAF) received the DFC for bravery, but was later shot down and received such severe head injuries that he spent the rest of his long life in a mental home.

A very tragic story.

Margaret Staunton

People of Faith in Woking gather in a peace Vigil

WORKING PEOPLE OF FAITH has responded to the current violence in the Middle East in three ways:

- By issuing a statement condemning violence perpetuated in the name of religion.
- By calling all faith groups to pray within their own traditions particularly in the week up to Sunday 13 July for peace in the region. (We know that most are already praying regularly). As we pray within our own traditions we do so acknowledging that our sisters and brothers in other faith groups are doing the same. WPOF issued a 'joint' prayer for those who wish to read it. Some will not. The call to pray 'together' for peace is about being of one mind in our call for peace and unified in our action - whatever theology informs our particular prayer.
- By holding a short peace vigil on Sunday 13 July. This was not an act of worship but a demonstration of our joint commitment as people of faith, to peace, and an act of solidarity with the victims of violence. Around 50 people gathered at Al Asr Centre in Woking. WPOF chairperson, Somia Shafiq, welcomed everyone with the following words:

As a community of people of different faiths in Woking, we are here to express our joint condemnation of violence carried out in the name of religion - and especially that which is taking place in the Middle East at this time. We meet today for two reasons

1. *To stand in solidarity with and express our compassion for the victims of this violence.*
2. *To commit ourselves to working together for peace and peaceful relationships within and between our communities here in Woking.*



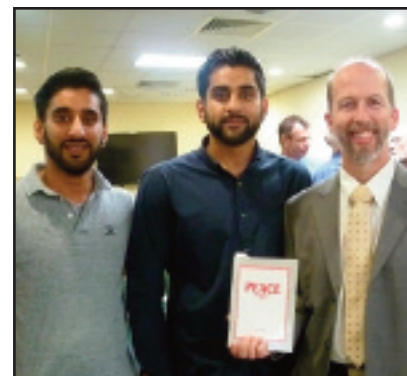
This peace vigil is a small and humble act which speaks to complex human and political issues. However, Working People of Faith has never shied away from small beginnings. We believe that learning to un-

derstand one another's faiths and cultures, and building friendship is an important step in promoting harmony for the benefit of the wider community of Woking. Standing together and working together for peace is complex but vital. We hope that the unity and friendship we display today will provide evidence that it is possible to live in this way without having to agree on everything.

The question 'can we pray together?' raises many theological questions with which we, as friends, continue to wrestle. If you wish to pray, you are invited to do so within your own tradition.

The meeting heard short readings on the theme of peace from four different faith perspectives. Candles were lit and silence was kept. Participants were invited to pray within their own traditions and the meeting ended with the sharing of peace.

By all accounts this was a significant and moving event. Working People of Faith continues to press forward with the slow but important task of building relationships between people of different faiths and cultures in Woking for the good of the wider community. Strong relationships are a vital foundation for robust conversation, and joint action even when we disagree with one another on some things.



*Story and pictures:
Pippa Ross-McCabe*



50 Years of Union of Catholic Mothers at.....

Merstham

and

Haywards Heath



FOUNDED JUST 5 YEARS after the building of St Teresa's Church, Merstham UCM celebrated their Golden Jubilee on evening of 16 July; appropriately the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Bishop Kieran was chief celebrant at Mass and both Fr Hugh Flower, former parish priest of Merstham and Fr Andrew Moss were also present. Among the guests were Judy Harkins, Diocesan President, and ten members from the Horsham Foundation. Included in the bidding prayers was valued member Hilda Henderson who had sadly died the evening before. Bishop Kieran spoke of the important role that women, and especially the Union Catholic Mothers, had played, and continue to play in the building up of our parish community. He especially thanked young Joshua and Byron who had given up their evening to serve Mass. The Merstham Foundation Banner was carried in the procession of gifts.

After Mass members, husbands and families and all the guests enjoyed a celebratory supper in the church garden. Conversation on this warm summer evening continued until it grew too dark to see clearly despite birdcage lanterns and candles on the tables! A commemorative certificate was presented to Merstham Foundation UCM and individual certificates to Anne Moon and Jean Longley both of whom have been members for all of the 50 years.

Story: Ann Lardeur Picture: Hannah Corcoran

Left to right Linda Corcoran (Foundation Secretary), Anne Moon, Patricia Wilding (Foundation Treasurer), Judy Harkins (Diocesan President), Anne Ager (Foundation President)

Hastings Knights of St Columba Awards



THE KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA, Hastings and Rother 630 made their annual presentations at the three Catholic Primary Schools in Hastings, St Leonards and Bexhill this week. The awards are made to the child considered to have consistently shown help, kindness and support at home or at school.

Pictured are:

Billy at Sacred Heart School, Hastings (Top) receiving his award from Bro Joe O'Neil of Hastings Knights of Columba and Head Teacher Joe Hellett.

Rose of St Mary Star of the Sea, St Leonards on Sea (Middle) receiving her award from Bro Sean Harkins of Hastings Knights with Head Teacher Jane Smith and the proud parents of Rose.

Jay of St Mary Magdalene, Bexhill (Bottom) receiving his award from Bro Solomon Ezobi, Grand Knight of Hastings and Rother Knights of St Columba and Head Teacher Mrs Vander-shelden.

Story and pictures: Patrick Coates



Pilgrimage to Lourdes

THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S diocesan pilgrimage was the joy of conversion being a call to the Lord. To turn around and see ourselves in a different way, our relationship with the world and our relationship with God. Treasures are to be found from a different perspective and by opening up our hearts to have a fresh look at things.

I was told that no one is ever turned away from this pilgrimage. The younger helpers were fantastic, cheerful and willing. To the doctors and nurses I would like to say thank you. The sick were cared for with dignity and kindness.

What struck me most was the music group lead by Anne Ward, she was tremendous! Music means such a lot to the sick and the elderly, the infirm, and the invalids. The singing was lovely and the young musicians played well. Anne welcomes everyone into the love of music and puts such an effort into getting everything right.

The Bishop said the pilgrimage was like a bottle of liquor from which you need to uncork the memories from time to time to remind yourself how great it was in Lourdes.

Anita de Lacey

MASS WAS CELEBRATED by Fr Martin Jakubas assisted by Deacons Gerard Irwin and Dave Turner in St Paul's Church at 11am on Tuesday 3 June to mark the occasion of Haywards Heath Union of Catholic Mothers' foundation fifty years ago.

Diocesan President, Mrs Judy Harkins, came for the special festivities with several members of the Diocesan Committee and presented Haywards Heath President, Mrs Rena Burns, with a framed 50-year certificate. Mrs Vera Keating, a Founder Member, was also presented with a framed certificate and flowers to thank her for the many years service she has given the UCM.

Clergy and members of the parish joined us for a celebratory lunch prepared by the members and cake made by our Secretary, Mrs Margaret Barter.

Story Rosemary Tierney: Picture Deacon Dave Turner



Bognor SVP welcomes Ann Widdecombe

ON THURSDAY, 10 July, the Catholic parish of Bognor Regis was the venue for an evening with the Society of St Vincent de Paul, guest speaker Ann Widdecombe (pictured) who, despite her 10 hour journey, energetically entertained a large number of parishioners and their families and friends, including a number from other Churches.

Ann Widdicombe spoke about how her faith affected her political life, and she followed this with requests for any questions, which covered many topics including, naturally, her 'Strictly Come Dancing' performances.

She has been associated with the SVP over the past few years and is best known as an MP and for her broadcasting and journalism.

Story: Maire Wells. Picture: Catherine Peppard



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Celebrating the Vocation of Grandparents

ON THE 12 JULY, FAMILIES came from all over the South East of England to celebrate the fifth Annual Grandparents Pilgrimage to the Shrine at Aylesford. Several parishes had booked coaches and came together to enjoy a great day out. Set in the beautiful Kent countryside the day was blessed with excellent weather and we welcomed around 600 grandparents and grandchildren to a full day of faith and fun. The day was organised jointly by the Dioceses of Arundel and Brighton, Brentwood and Southwark.

It started with an opening prayer and song service and continued with reconciliation, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, a huge Rosary Procession (*see picture right*) and concluded with Mass, celebrated by Bishop Kieran. During his homily Bishop Kieran spoke of the importance of grandparents and likened them to the roof of a house in that we recognise the strength and shelter that grandparents give to the family.

During the day, people had written prayer intentions on balloons which were released at the end of Mass.

There were also a wide range of other activities for the young and young at heart including face painting, sports and games and bouncy castle, funny photos and a prayer wall.

The day was a relaxed friendly experience with families mixing and sharing their stories. Children felt safe and enthused as they moved between the variety of different experiences, decorating the statue of Mary and then walking with her in the rosary procession. Quiet conversations revealed the joy which several grandparents were feeling that their adult children, not generally in touch with the Church, who had accompanied them were obviously feeling comfortable and, please God, were touched by the joy of a fun-filled, prayerful day of worship and play.



Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Marriage and Family Life Adviser

A Grandparents group which booked a minibus to go to Aylesford was from Effingham and Fetcham Jean Wells writes:

Some members of the Effingham and Fetcham Catholic Grandparents Group enjoyed a ride in a mini bus belonging to St Teresa's school and had a wonderful day out at the Fifth Annual Grandparents Pilgrimage to Aylesford in July. It was a day of 'Faith and Fun' for all the family, which included a picnic lunch, the Rosary Way and Mass with Bishop Kieran.

In September the group welcomes Peter Harris, Vice President of The Grandparents Association who will speak on the role of the Association and how it supports Grandparents separated from Grandchildren and Grandparents who are full time carers of a Grandchild.

This Pilgrimage has become a firmly fixed date in the calendar and we are already planning next year's event which will be on Saturday 11 July.

We are producing a short video which we will be able to share.

**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
11.30am, 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**

Arundel & Brighton Certificate in Catechesis

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



Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Pastoral Team

YouthGather 2014

Led by Bishop Kieran

Sunday 28th September 2014

Venue: St Andrew's Catholic School

Leatherhead from 10 am to 4 pm

Sponsored Walk on Ashted Common

MASS at 11.15 a.m.

A day for young people and families to come together to walk, talk, learn, have fun, and engage in social action activities.

10km sponsored walk in aid of

Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group



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Aidan Cantwell, DABCEC,
t. 01293 651154
e. aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org

Our Diocesan Catholic Primary Schools celebrate Anniversaries

ST BERNADETTE'S IN BRIGHTON celebrated their 40th anniversary with Bishop Kieran who was joined by the Mgr John Hull, Fr Bruno Witchalls, Mary Reynolds, the Director of our Catholic Schools Service as well as former head teachers, deanery head teachers, staff, governors, parents and children. Pictured with the bishop are Jacqueline Lance the headteacher and Mary Reynolds.

St Bernadette's is blessed with beautiful grounds and the Liturgy took place within them. The pupils contributed to the occasion with hymns, a celebration song, liturgical dance and prayers. The psalm was read in English and ten different languages to reflect and celebrate the diversity of the school. Past and present pupils shared what St Bernadette's meant to them. A Year 1 pupil revealed that the school felt 'like home'. In his address, the bishop spoke about the palpable sense of family within Catholic schools and how the people within them cared for and looked out for each other



At the end of the liturgy, Bishop Kieran blessed three commemorative trees, which will be planted in the school's new Ruby Jubilee Garden and a selection of healing plants, which will be added to the garden of the Sacrament of the Sick.

After the Liturgy the guests were invited to enjoy an afternoon tea.

Story and picture: Anna Mullans

ST CHARLES BORROMEO IN WEYBRIDGE celebrated their 25th Anniversary with a Mass presided over by Bishop Kieran. Past teachers, pupils and parents were invited.

Lindsey Brown the RE co ordinator organised a beautiful liturgy for the Mass, and pupils participated in the readings and singing. They had the pleasure of Fr Tom Treherne, the former parish priest joining the Mass, and also Fr Sylvester a visiting priest from Poland.

Pictured with Bishop Kieran are Stephen Holt the headmaster and Fr Con Foley the parish priest of Christ the Prince of Peace in Weybridge.

Story and picture: Mary Lee



ST JOHN'S IN HORSHAM celebrated its 150th Anniversary with a Mass for past and present children, parents and teachers on Thursday 19 June, a visit by Bishop Kieran the following morning, and a party for all on Friday 27 June.

The Mass was celebrated by parish priest Fr Richard Biggerstaff and present in addition to children, parents and teachers were this year's First Holy Communion returners, the headteacher of the deanery secondary school St Wilfrid's – Mike Ferry, and the Director and Primary Adviser of our Catholic Schools Service – Mary Reynolds and Bernadette Connor.



After the Mass and refreshments all the visitors were shown documents and artifacts from the previous 150 years and a 'Complete History of St John's Catholic Primary School from 1863 to 2013' assembled by Liz Cherry, a regular supply teacher (pictured on the left being presented with flowers by headteacher Joanna Brown). Even the 19th century punishment book was available describing the misdemeanors and physical punishments meted out.

On Friday 20 June the children and staff were joined by Bishop Kieran when they buried a time capsule. It was the idea of Year Five children Dominic and Charlie (pictured below with Bishop Kieran) who thought it would be a wonderful way of sharing the history of their school with future generations. Each class made their own contribution with every single child being involved in some way.

Story: David White Pictures: David White and Steve Cobb of the West Sussex County Times



Youngsters success at National Lacrosse Finals

SPORTY YOUNGSTERS from St Charles Borromeo Catholic Primary did their school proud by reaching the National Schools Pop Lacrosse Finals held at Hertfordshire University on 15 June. 24 teams from across Great Britain took part.

Despite fierce competition, the team (pictured) progressed through the group stages finishing level on points with St John's from Wales. St Charles then progressed through to the final eight, losing a tense battle with Drymen Primary from Scotland 6-4. Stephen Holt, headteacher, commented: 'We are all so proud of the achievement of all of our children and their enthusiasm is infectious. To compete at a National final is something we will never forget and to reach the final eight was incredible. We are a small school with limited facilities, but the dedication of our staff, parents and pupils makes anything possible. I would like to thank in particular Cobham Lacrosse club for providing some excellent coaching advice over the year, it gave us the boost we needed to reach a National final.'



Mass of Thanksgiving at St Robert Southwell school

BISHOP KIERAN visited St Robert Southwell Catholic Primary School in Horsham on 10 July to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving to mark the retirement of Susan Pirie the Religious Education Coordinator. Deacon Tom Murray assisted the bishop who also blessed the new freestanding library and outdoor classroom. Bishop Kieran is pictured talking to the children.

The school thanked Susan for her outstanding service to Catholic education over thirty seven years. During her fourteen years at St Robert Southwell Susan contributed to the outstanding, leadership and management of the Catholic life of the school and was inspirational in developing an innovative curriculum. Families and governors joined the whole school community to celebrate the outdoor mass. This event was followed by a lovely picnic lunch and an afternoon of activities.

Story and picture: Liz Wilsher



Society
of the
Little Flower
will be celebrating



St Thérèse's Feast Day

on Saturday 27th September 2014 at St Patrick's, 21a Soho Square,
London W1D 4NR

and on Sunday 28th September 2014 at The Friars, Aylesford, ME20 7BX

St Patrick's, Soho Square programme:

3.00 Gathering Service, Blessing of the Prayer Banner and Talk on St. Thérèse
4.00 Tea and Exhibition
6.00 Mass and Blessing of the roses

The Friars, Aylesford programme:

12.00 Gathering Service, Blessing of the Prayer Banner and Talk on St. Thérèse
2.15 Blessing of the roses
2.30 Mass

Silk roses will be available for purchase at Aylesford from 11 am from SLF staff. Refreshments are available from The Friars Tea Rooms 11 am – 5 pm. The book and gift shop, as well as the Pottery, are also open during these hours.

A photographic exhibition of Carmelite projects, funded through the generosity of Society of the Little Flower members, will be on display at both venues.

All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Society of the Little Flower: 0845 602 9884 (local rate); ukweb@littleflower.org

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NOTICE BOARD

MASS FOR THE DEAF

3pm on first Saturday of every month
6 September, St John the Evangelist,
Springfield Road Horsham RH12 2PJ

A series of talks in Autumn 2014 at Worth Abbey on
Christ, the Light of Nations

Dr Oonagh O'Brien

Principal, Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology

Whose Church is it? The role of the laity

The role of the laity in the Church and how this has changed; how has Vatican II been implemented?

Monday 15 September 7.30pm

Charles Wookey

Assistant General Secretary of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

Unity, Authority and the call to Holiness

The role in particular of the Bishops and the dioceses within the Church; the role of the Bishops' Conferences.

Monday 20 October 7.30pm

Sister Cathy Jones

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Monday 10 November 7.30pm

For further details please see

www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk

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Fr Gregory Person OP, Fr Matthew Goddard FSSP

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A NEW DISCIPLESHIP: READY AND WILLING?

A series of meetings organised by 'A Call to Action' (ACTA), Arundel & Brighton Diocesan area at the request of

Bishop Kieran

Our Church grows and changes in every age. Pope Francis calls us to renewed responsibilities, to active collaboration in that growth. What might that mean? How can we contribute? Come and join the debate!

The Friary, Crawley

20 September 1.30pm for a 2pm start, till 5pm

led by **Gemma Simmonds CJ**

Our Lady of Ransom, Eastbourne

4 October 1.30pm for a 2pm start, till 5pm

led by **Pat Jones**

Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge

18 October 1.30pm for a 2pm start, till 5pm

led by **Pat Jones**

For more information email acta.aandb@gmail.com

Annual Altar Servers Mass at Arundel Cathedral

Saturday 27 September at noon

All Altar Servers and aspirant servers are welcome. Just come with your albs about 15 minutes before. Drinks will be available in the St Mary's Hall afterwards but bring a packed lunch. If you are coming please let

Fr Dominic know - telephone 01903 731171

email: saintcatherine1863@gmail.com

Visit of St Peter's Cricket Club of the Vatican

ST PETERS CRICKET CLUB in Brighton, will be playing a 20/20 match against their namesakes St Peter's Cricket Club of the Vatican on Sunday 14 September. The Vatican squad consists of eight Indians, two Sri Lankans, and one from each of Pakistan, England and Ireland (nine Seminarians and four priests). The match will take place at the Preston Park Cricket ground and Cycle Track, starting at 2.30pm. Food and drink will be available for spectators to purchase.

On Friday 19 September, at 4pm the Vatican squad will play a Cof E XI at the Kent County Cricket Club's ground in Old Dover Road, Canterbury. Admission is free and a collection will be taken for the Global Freedom Network. This is a joint Anglican and Roman Catholic initiative to combat slavery and people-trafficking.

The team are managed by Fr Eamonn O'Higgins, LC, pictured with the team in Rome. Fr. O'Higgins is in charge of spiritual formation at Rome's Maria Mater Ecclesiae college where the majority of the team members study.

Story: Fr Paul Turner and Kevin Dignum, picture: Chris Warde-Jones



'The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, meets with some of the team in Rome

BISHOP'S DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Tue 9	11am	Meeting, Archbishop's House, Westminster
Wed 10	10am	Autumn Day for Religious, Worth Abbey
	7.30pm	Evening with Catechists and parents at St Joseph's, Epsom
Thu 11	7pm	St Peter's Catholic School Presentation evening, St Joseph's Church, Guildford
Fri 12	12.30pm	Meeting in London
	4.00pm	Crawley Deanery Head Teachers Mass, Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Crawley
Sat 13	12.15pm	Thanksgiving Mass for Parish Safeguarding Representatives, The Friary, Crawley
	5pm	100th Anniversary of All Saints, Oxted
Sun 14	9.30am	Induction of new Head Teacher of St Philip's Primary School, Arundel Cathedral
	3pm	SVP Mass, Corpus Christi Church, Henfield
Fri 19	7pm	Mass for Deacons and those in formation, St Paul's, Haywards Heath
Sun 21	9.30am	Mass at St Philip's Church, Uckfield
Mon 22	6.30pm	Alzheimers Café, Camberley
Tue 23-Fri 26		CSS Head Teachers Trip, Rome
Sat 27	12 Noon	Altar Servers' Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Sun 28	10am	Youthgather, St Andrew's School, Leatherhead
Mon 29-Fri 3 Oct		A & B Diocesan Clergy Retreat, Merville, France

The Youngest MC in the Diocese?

FOLLOWING THE RETIREMENT of Peter Champion as MC at St Martha's church in Little Common (reported in the March A & B News) Andrew was appointed by Fr David Parminter as his replacement (pictured). Andrew, who attends St Richard's Catholic College in Bexhill, takes his responsibilities very seriously and has expertise beyond his age.

Story and picture: Ron Brazier



Polegate and Hailsham celebrate Fr Rory's 40 years

ON FRIDAY, 14 JUNE, St George's, Polegate and St Wilfrid's, Hailsham jointly celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Ordination of their priest, Fr Rory Kelly. Mass was held in the church of St George in Polegate with approximately 100 members of both churches in attendance. This was a momentous occasion, with carefully selected hymns beautifully sung by the choir, ably supported by the congregation. The rafters of the church rang with the joy of thanksgiving. Deacon John Truman gave the sermon, in which he was able to reflect upon the benefits Fr Rory had brought to the parishes. Deacon Eugene Adams, from Christ the King in Eastbourne and altar servers from St George's and St Wilfrid's brought a pleasing dignity to the occasion.

Fr Rory was presented with a Bulova wrist watch in grateful thanks for the spiritual leadership and care which he so generously dispenses to every member of his two congregations. He also received a contribution towards a well-deserved holiday in Guernsey. Fr Rory was born in Borrisoleigh, Ireland, in 1949, to a large farming family. He was ordained in St Patrick's College, Thurles, Co Tipperary in 1974. Eighteen other students from across the world were ordained with him.

Bishop Cashman, the first Bishop of our diocese was visiting the Irish Seminary to recruit prospective candidates. He made a deep impression on the young priest, which resulted in Rory volunteering to join the relatively new Diocese of Arundel and Brighton.

Fr Rory's first appointment in 1974 was as Assistant Priest to Fr Jim Kenny of Banstead. He subsequently served as Assistant Priest in St John the Baptist, Kempton in Brighton, and at St Dunstan's in Woking.

Fr Rory then joined, and helped establish, the very first parish team in Haywards Heath, working with Fr Peter D'Ath (RIP) and Fr Keiran Gardiner. He remained in Haywards Heath for nine years. He was then made parish priest of the Ecumenical Church of Christ the Lord in Broadfield. Fr Rory served as Parish Administrator at St Mary the Angels, Worthing, before taking up his present position with us seven years ago.

It was with joy and thanksgiving we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of our priest's Ordination.

Story and picture: Margaret Piegrome



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Diocesan Golden Jubilee
Preparing a way for the Lord



**Jubilee Small Groups
Leaders Training
3rd Autumn Season -
Communion**

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

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

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

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
david.wills@dabnet.org
or book on line @
www.dabnet.org/ab2015

WOKING
Wednesday 1 October 8pm - 9.30pm
An introduction to Lumen Gentium
by Fr Laurence O'Keeffe
St Dunstons, Shaftesbury Road
GU22 7DT

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

CLERGY MOVES

BISHOP KIERAN would like to express thanks to those who have accepted moves and appointments recently; they are:

- Fr Kieran Gardiner to Horsham (Fr Richard Biggerstaff has been appointed Director of the St Barnabas Society)
- Fr Sean Finnegan to Caterham
- Fr Graham Ricketts to Adur Valley
- Fr Kevin O'Donnell to Woodingdean and Rottingdean
- Fr Ian Byrnes to Peacehaven and Newhaven
- Fr Brian Lowden to Heathfield and Burwash
- Fr Tom Ryan retiring from Womersley
- Fr Michael Creech is retiring from Heathfield and Burwash




FESTIVAL 50 IS SET for 5 July 2015 at the Amex Stadium in Falmer celebrating 50 years of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and looking forward to the future.

As well as our own Bishop Kieran we have a selection of key speakers, Fr Timothy Radcliffe, Archbishop Rowan Williams and Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor as well as much more for all the family from age 1 to 100.

The diocese is currently looking for volunteers who can help on the day. There are lots of areas in which people can help either in the build up to the day or on the day itself. To find out more about volunteering visit www.dabnet.org/Festival50. Once you decide how you might be able to help then either download the form from the website or complete the form below and return to DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP or email: Festival50@dabnet.org

If you can volunteer, please complete the form below and return it as soon as possible



**DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON
JUBILEE FESTIVAL 2015
SUNDAY 5 JULY 2015
Amex Community Stadium in Brighton
(Set up on Saturday 4 July 2015)**

If you can offer help or skill in any of the categories below please tick the appropriate box.
(Please tick as many as boxes as possible!)

Please return to: DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley. RH10 6RP or Festival50@dabnet.org

Full name(s).....
Address.....
..... Parish
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Email

Please tick below if you can help in any of these ways

Help before the day
Setup on Saturday 4 July 2015
Setup early Sunday 5 July 2015.....
Welcoming/hosting.....
Music / Choir.....
Help with Media & Communications.....
General helper 1 - Light duties.....
General helper 2 - Some manual handling.....
Liturgy / Serving etc.....
Sunday dismantle / Clear.....
Be a parish contact (check with your parish priest).....

PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY OTHER SKILLS YOU MAY HAVE!

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.....

.....

(Please note overleaf any query you have in respect of the help you are offering so we can respond accordingly in due course.)

DATA PROTECTION

Please note that data on this form will be used to keep you up to date with information regarding activities, initiatives and events within the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and nationally. Please could you keep us informed of any changes to your contact details and we will update our database accordingly. When the information you have provided is no longer required, we will delete it from our database. Thank you.

FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

THE FEAST OF Our Lady Queen of Peace was celebrated by a Mass followed by the Secret Singers hosting a social evening which raised a fantastic £138; A Cake and plant sale raised £124; just two of our many fund raising events.

On the feast of the Sacred Heart a Day of Adoration was held and on a hot sunny Saturday many of our parishioners along with many from other parishes in the Diocese attended the Annual Pilgrimage of Reparation and Consecration at the Shrine in West Grinstead.

On Sea Sunday, Gill Ness Collins, a parishioner at Christ the King, who has also from time to time undertaken ship visits, gave us a talk on the work of the AOS and as we are a 'Port' parish I suppose we should not be surprised that the collections that were taken for the work of the AOS raised an amazing £387.

Penny Richardson

CATERHAM

NOTHING IS FOREVER, and in this parish, and no doubt in many others, changes are taking place, the major one for us being the departure of Fr Kieran Gardiner in September after six years. We thank him for his ministry and wish him well in his new parish.

The Sacred Heart parish held a three hour period of reflection, comprising background music and poetry readings on 3 August for those who died in the First World War. Our church at that time was the Chapel for the Irish Guards, and one of their flags is still on display.

Karen Rapps who has run the 10.30am Mass folk group for six years has handed over to Dominic and Tash Palmer. Our thanks to her for a job well done.

We were pleased to see our young Italian visitors at the 10.30am Mass on 27 July. A group have been coming to our parish each year for over 30 years.

On 11 July Fr Rob Esdaile gave the parish and other members of the Deanery an interesting talk and discussion on the changes facing us in the future, especially with regard to the shortage of priests, sadly no concrete results!

The parish Mission Statement was well received. Would that the world would accept the love of God and justice and peace.

Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY

Christ the Lord (LEP)

Broadfield and Bewbush

CAROLINE, VIV AND KEN, attended Celebrate Brighton. Ken writes 'To say that we had a good time would be the understatement of the year! The worship was so uplifting, the speakers so gifted, the music ministry so heaven-inspired that we came away refreshed, full of the Holy Spirit, and determined to play our part in the New Evangelisation that Pope Francis has emphasised so much as an urgent need for the worldwide Catholic Church'.

Barbara Winstanley

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King, The Holy Rood and St Joachim

OUR PARISH was honoured by a visit from Bishop Kieran on Sunday 6 July when 22 young people from Christ The King and

ARUNDEL

BISHOP KIERAN celebrated a farewell Mass in the cathedral on 22 July for the St Philip's Primary School year 6 leavers, Mrs Sarah Foster, the Year 6 teacher and for the retirement of Margaret Fraher after 13 years as head.

The meaningful St Philip's hymns were sung with gusto, complete with actions, reviving happy memories of special occasions for which they were written.

Margaret and Peter Fraher then presented Bishop Kieran with a chalice and paten as gifts for the school, (see picture below) which he blessed and used in the Mass. These will be used in future Masses in the school community.

The Mass ended with an exuberant rendering of 'A man went out to sow...' and so our journey continues.

Story Hilary Caws

Picture Canon Tim Madeley



St Joachim and seven from St Thomas More in Seaford were confirmed at a special afternoon Mass at Christ the King.

Later in the month Pat Gaffney, General Secretary of Pax Christi, reminded us (if we needed reminding) that the world in its present state presents many dangers and uncertainties. At a meeting at Christ the King organised by Eastbourne and Bexhill Newman Circle Pat argued that we should commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War by challenging the culture of militarism that has been so influential right up to the present day with its horrifying conflicts in so many parts of the world. She also spoke of the efforts of Pope Benedict XV to prevent World War I, which were sadly ignored by the great powers.

For the sake of the future of all our young people Pat will have inspired us to work and pray for a world free from conflict and where people are treated with dignity and respect.

John Carmody

EASTBOURNE

Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory and St Agnes

A WONDERFUL confirmation ceremony conferred by Bishop Kieran was held with 23 young people being confirmed, we are all asked to pray for them as they start this new chapter of their journey; again this year we were delighted to welcome the Principal of St Richard's Catholic College, Miss Cronin with many members of her staff, some of whom participated in the music, it is so heart-warming to see the staff support the young people in this way.

A grandparents' get together was held at Berwick Church with lunch at the Cricketers. First Holy Communion took place at Our Lady of Ransom; in all over 50 children will receive the Sacrament across our three churches. Twenty-three pilgrims from Eastbourne had the experience of a lifetime led by Fr Raglan Hay Will; parishioners went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land staying four days in and around Bethlehem and Jerusalem; the Palestinian Christian guide welcomed 'You are not strangers,' he said. 'This is the land of Jesus.' Midnight Mass of Christmas with carols was celebrated in the chapel of St Jerome beneath the Church of the Nativity. From the hustle and bustle of Jerusalem they travelled to Galilee - to the peace and tranquillity of the hills and sea where Jesus spent most of His life. Our last day was in Nazareth where it all began.

Mary Staffiere

EAST GRINSTEAD

ON THE NIGHT of Saturday 12 July, members of the Justice and Peace Group took part in a sponsored 'sleep out'. They spent a warm night,

fortunately with only one brief shower, on the pavement beside the war memorial in East Grinstead High Street. Money raised went to the Crawley Open House, the Easter Team and Worthing Churches Homeless project.

On 17 July, the leavers' Mass for pupils of St Peter's School was held at Our Lady and St Peter.

In late July, a number of pilgrims from East Grinstead and Lingfield, including three Red-shirts, went with the Diocese to Lourdes.

In July, we welcomed in Baptism Zachary Seth Tuban.

Clive Carpenter

EGHAM

THE COUNCIL OF PRIESTS has approved the amendment to the title of the our parish set up by Canon Law 515.2 on the 9 November 2007, The parish will now be known as the Catholic Parish of St Cuthbert Egham, making a distinction, between our community and that of St John the Baptist Egham ----- The Anglican parish church.

We return to that which had originally been intended early last century, before the church of the Assumption was dedicated and confirms our inclusion with our school.

Alice Mabbs

EPSOM

A TEAM OF CYCLISTS from St Joseph's Epsom parish rode to Brighton on Sunday 15 June to raise funds for the parish Faith in Action mission. Some of the team started in London and joined the rest of the team on the North Downs near Banstead. As they cycled towards the sea the riders were clapped and cheered through the many beautiful villages in Surrey and Sussex. One of the team, James Fryatt, elected to start from London at 06:30 and took just 3 hours and 15 minutes to reach the Brighton sea front finish! The other riders started later, and cycling at a more leisurely pace, arrived within quite a short time of each other to collect their finishers' medals and to be greeted by their support team and given a welcome glass of Prosecco. The team hopes to raise about £2,000 for Faith in Action, a mission started within the parish to support, educate and care for people in India, Peru, Zambia and Kenya. If you would like to learn more about Faith in Action please contact Kevin McDonnell by email mcdonnk@btinternet.com

Audrey Arden-Jones

HENFIELD

SISTERS FROM THE TOWERS convent celebrated Sr Zita's 50 years of service to the community at a joyful Mass in Corpus Christi church, Henfield, along with parishioners and visitors from far and wide. Sr Zita's brother and his wife travelled all the way from Ireland for this milestone celebration. The church was filled to capacity and many past parishioners came back to celebrate in the spirit of a true extended family. In his homily, Fr David Maskell, parish priest, called on the congregation to recognise and witness Sr Zita's commitment to the Faith, the community and to her responsibilities and praised her for her 'staying power'. Mass was followed by a party in the church hall at which Sr Zita cut the proverbial celebratory cake.

In the following week, the SVP used Corpus Christi as their organisational meeting place and delegates again came from afar to be welcomed to Henfield parish.

As if this was not enough, the priests and deacons of Crawley deanery were also welcomed by Fr David Maskell and Deacon Seamus Mahon when they chose Corpus Christi for their deanery meeting and lunch, a week or two later.

Neville de Moraes

MAYFIELD

ON A VERY inclement July 5 Saturday morning, St Thomas Of Canterbury, Mayfield, held their annual Summer Fayre at St Leonard's Mayfield Girls School. The decision was made to erect the stalls inside, and the Old Court Yard with its splendid old fireplace was transformed into a coffee shop. It was soon doing excellent business, with ploughman's lunches and home-made cake and afternoon teas, plus strawberries and cream, all being served swiftly. The bottle stall was doing brisk business along with the excellent main raffle, which many local traders had again generously contributed to.

Fr Mario Sanderson, looking very dapper in his summer panama, arrived to encourage us all. Everyone was so pleased to see him, after his

knee operation in the spring.

The weather had not put off parishioners and locals from attending and enjoying the day as a parish. An amazing £3,163.48 was raised for the parish after one third was given to The Sussex Ambulance Service and The Horder Centre, Crowborough who specialise in orthopaedic surgery. All this made possible by the diligent Fayre committee and loyalty of the people who attended and contributed in many different ways.

Janet Brodrick-Ward

MERSTHAM, REDHILL

and REIGATE

AFTER FIVE YEARS as a parish, much thought has gone into a review of progress so far and future planning in the light of where we are now. Conclusion: a new model of doing things which reflects Pope Francis' vision of a missionary Church seeking to evangelise and renew rather than seeking self-preservation. Parish Mission Groups, one for each of our three churches, concentrating on renewal with fresh eyes and ideas. St Teresa's Merstham kicked off with a well attended informal meeting after Sunday Mass facilitated by several members of the retiring Core Group. Holy Family, Reigate, and St Joseph's, Redhill, Groups will meet before long.

Sue Verando, a significant presence in the parish office, has retired after 20 years. As she does not like the limelight, she was presented with a message from Bishop Kieran and a St Philip Howard Medal at a small gathering of clergy past and present and fellow staff members.

We welcome to our parish family Br Gabriel Dobson from Worth Abbey. Recently ordained a deacon for his community he has come to gain experience of regular parish life, and meet with a wider cross section of people, and hone his preaching skills. We look forward to getting to know him better in the next few months.

Ann Lardeur

HOVE

IT HAS BEEN a busy summer at St Peter's. Specialist workmen have been in to clean the marble pillars and reredos, our lighting designer has re-lit the sanctuary, and a new sanctuary carpet has been laid; all this as part of our refurbishment programme in preparation for our centenary celebrations next year.

Meanwhile parish life has continued unabated with 27 of our young people receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Kieran and 61 children receiving their First Holy Communion, all in June.

In keeping with tradition we rounded off the school year with our parish day on 13 July in the grounds of Cardinal Newman School. The weather had us on tenterhooks until the day itself when torrential rain gave way to glorious sunshine, no doubt in answer to volleys of prayers during the week beforehand.

Almost 600 people crowded into a huge marquee where Fr Jerry O'Brien celebrated Mass at 11am and paid tribute to the 30-odd different nationalities that make up our parish family. (See national flags picture below)

Following Mass we picnicked on the playing field and enjoyed barbecued hot dogs and burgers. Games were organised for the children whilst we all got to know each other a little better.

Story and picture; Vincent Joyce



TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the **October 2014** issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 1 September 2014** and for the **November 2014** issue by **Monday 29 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 copies printed directly from computers. **Please tell us that you have permissions for children's photos to be published.**

FROM THE PARISHES

PETWORTH with DUNCTON

SIX CHILDREN received their First Holy Communion in Petworth on the feast of The Most Holy Trinity and, as always, it was a very special and happy occasion attended by many family and friends. After Mass coffee and cake was served in the presbytery garden.

Over 100 people attended the annual parish barbecue on the 21 June following evening Mass in our church in Duncton. For once the weather really co-operated and it was a perfect midsummer's evening, allowing everyone to eat outside in comfort. The younger members used up a lot of energy playing cricket and football. As usual there was a wonderful array of interesting salads to accompany the barbecued lamb, followed by an equally mouth-watering selection of puddings. It was a very good evening.

The Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in both parishes were re-commissioned at all Masses on 29 June, the feast of SS Peter and Paul.

The monthly series of informal prayer and fellowship meetings continue to be popular as people have a chance to meet, talk and pray together as well as enjoy a simple supper.

Our congratulations to Fr Peter and Cathy Newsam on their recent 27th wedding anniversary. *Sally Bohane*

POLEGATE and HAILSHAM

THE THIRD United Nations lunch on 20 July in aid of the new church was highly successful - nearly £1,000 was raised. The weather was kind, and the cooks responded with enthusiasm to provide the international menu.

On 5 July St George's Childrens Liturgy Group had a day trip to Paradise Park in Newhaven. The children enjoyed a train ride round the gardens and saw and heard some life-size dinosaurs. They were also treated to a display of owls in aid of the Newhaven Lifeboat, and they were able to stroke the owls and handle them wearing suitable protective clothes.

The Mother Teresa Group held an open afternoon with a bring and buy sale, which raised £210 for their three charities - the Mus-

tard Seed Project, the homeless in Brighton and Mother Teresa's Sisters of Charity. A hand-knitted blanket was raffled, two quizzes kept the brains busy, and there was a plentiful supply of home-made cookies and cakes

Deacon John Truman and Ruth Ayres
RYE

THE FEAST OF St Peter & St Paul was the occasion for celebration in our parish as Francesca Doughty received her first Holy Communion at the 10.45am Mass.

Simon South is representing the parish at meetings being held to plan next year's celebrations for the Diocesan Golden Jubilee.

Repairs to the external fabric of St Anthony's have been completed and it is hoped that the Sanctuary is now protected from damage caused by invasive damp. Work on the internal restoration of the Sanctuary walls and ceiling is planned for next summer, subject to sufficient funds being available.

Fr Paul Clarke OFM Conv conducted a Requiem Mass on 28 July for Royston Godwin who was the Rye correspondent for A & B News for many years. His understanding of electrical systems and computers rendered his advice to successive parish priests invaluable.

Jocelyn Rowe

Royston sent in the parish news to A&B NEWS for many years, for which we are very grateful. May he rest in peace.
Editor

WADHURST

OUR PARISH'S local charity project, the food bank Nourish, is £750 richer this month thanks to our quick-thinking parishioner Noel Kent. Noel is a keen amateur thespian and recently took a leading role in a charity gala performance of 'When we are Married'. The £9,000 profits were divided between local charities and Noel suggested ours. This donation will probably reach the parts that tins of food don't.

On a more spiritual level, Fr Martin O'Connor suggested that we mark The Sacred Heart feast day by hosting a 'Sacred Space' Service at our church. Clare Kent and Susan Martin composed the service around the theme 'The Temple of

the Holy Spirit' as a mixture of prayer, music, readings and silent meditation. Clare and Susan have been organising these quiet services for some time but it was the first time it has been held at the Sacred Heart church. It was an oasis of peace in our busy lives. *Peggy Purslow*

WALTON

IN RECENT WEEKS young people of the parish have been fundraising to help some of them to go as helpers on the Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. They showed their cooking skills with jams, preserves, cakes and flans. This was followed by a Bingo evening. Over three Sundays about 50 children received their First Holy Communion. Each group were able to celebrate their special day with a party in the presbytery garden.

Parishioners continue to support St Michael's House in Uganda with amazing generosity, bearing in mind our own economic problems.

There are great changes regarding childcare and education due in 2015. This may result in a sponsorship scheme of which we will receive details in due course. Funds are still crucially needed but may be used differently.

A group of new Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion started their preparations in

mid-July - they are much needed and very welcome.

Mary Hales

WORTHING**St Mary of the Angels**

WE ARE PREPARING to celebrate the 150th anniversary of our church this year. It was built in 1864 on land bought by Thomas Gaisford, whose private chapel had previously been used for public Masses, at the same time as the adjacent Our Lady of Sion Convent. The architect was Henry Clutton and it was opened by Thomas Grant who was Bishop of Southwark at the time. Under James Purdon, who was parish priest from 1870-1923, the church congregation expanded greatly. A parish was formed in 1918 and in 1938 the average Sunday attendance was about 1500.

On Saturday 26 July Fr Chris Benyon offered Mass in Homefield Park at the annual Filipino Festival which was attended by the Deputy Mayor of Worthing. The organiser of the Festival, Earlash Leonardia, said that the community wanted it to be a thank you to the British Government for its support during the aftermath of the deadly Typhoon which struck the Philippines.

Astrid Gibson

SEAFORD

JUNE WAS A busy month in Seaford parish with the Ordination of Colin Purchase as Deacon on 5 June and First Communion Mass on 22 June.

The First Communion children had a beautiful sunny day for their First Communion Mass. Again the church was full for this special celebration for the children and their families. The children continued their celebration with a communion breakfast in the hall.

Story and picture
Debbie Berridge





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