THE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER FOR SURREY & SUSSEX



A&BNEWS

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Pope Francis meets Grandparents & the elderly

ON SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER, we joined other members of the Catholic Grandparents Association in St Peter's Square, Rome for a gathering of senior citizens, particularly grandparents, to be with Pope Francis to hear of the joys and difficulties of life for the elderly and how grandparents are an example of faith within families. Pope-emeritus Benedict XVI was present and we heard from elderly refugees from Iraq and others as well as Catherine Wiley, founder of the CGA, and her grandson Tom, who spoke on the key role of grandparents in passing down the Faith to grandchildren.

Pope Francis told us that: 'Old age in particular is a time of grace...in which the Lord calls us to preserve and transmit the Faith. Grandparents, especially, have a capacity to understand the most difficult of situations and when they pray for these situations, their prayer is strong and powerful. To Grandparents, who have been blessed to see their children's children, to them are entrusted an even greater task... to share with simplicity their wisdom and the same faith which is a most precious legacy. Blessed are those families who have grandparents nearby! The grandfather is twice a father and the grandmother is twice a mother'.

This dialogue with Pope Francis was followed by him celebrating Mass. We left St Peter's Square in bright sunshine, elated by the words of Pope Francis, spiritually refreshed from the sharing in Mass with him and the desire to share our experience with other grandparents and Grandparent Groups throughout the diocese.

Pictured: Catherine Wiley and her grandson with Pope Francis Story: Michael & Christine Evans, Picture: Michael Evans

GRANDPARENTS continue to get together across the Diocese, to pray, chat and share joys and sorrows regarding their grandchildren. Some have formed specific groups to which any grandparent or granduncle/ aunt is very welcome, others have a specific part of an existing group dedicated to 'Grandparent Time'. Being a grandparent is not easy and can have its share of anxious moments. The people who attend these groups find support in their shared peer experience and problem solve together! They also receive news from the international parent body, information about national pilgrimages and access to tickets to special events such as the Mass pictured above.

If you are interested in developing a group like this in your parish please do contact Katherine Bergin on 01293 651160, email katherine.bergin@dabnet.org or cevansuk@btinternet.com

Italian choir's visit to Sussex

THE SISTER PARISHES of St Philip Neri, Uckfield and St John the Evangelist, Heron's Ghyll played host recently to the visiting choir of SS Annunziata from Cori in Italy's southern Lazio region.

The choir, under its director, Claudio di Meo, sang at the Sunday morning Mass and then again in the afternoon when it treated parishioners from both churches to a special performance of works by Italian composers from Palestrina to Moricone.

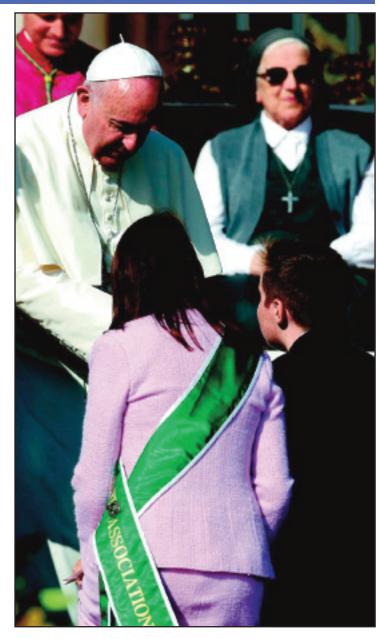
Parish priest Fr Stephen Hardaker praised the 'brilliant performance' given by the choir, who also sang at a vigil Mass at St Patrick's in Soho during their visit to England.

'This has been a wonderful experience for our two parishes,' he said whilst giving his thanks to parishioners Esme Howard and Tobin Dennis who organised the visit.

Choirmaster Claudio di Meo said that the choir had been overwhelmed by the generosity and enthusiasm of the people of Uckfield and Heron's Ghyll.

Story: Angela Wilding, Picture: Esme Howard







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Outline of role for Trust Board Member of the Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

THE DIOCESE OF ARUNDEL AND BRIGHTON is in the process of establishing a diocesan Multi Academy Trust (MAT) in order to enable diocesan schools which wish to become academies to do so. Schools wishing to become academies must be judged as 'good' or 'outstanding' in their most recent Section 48 and Section 5 inspections; have no land issues; and no debt. A school which meets these criteria is eligible to apply to the Bishop and Trustees for permission to become an academy.

As a charity and company limited by guarantee, the diocesan Multi Academy Trust and its schools (the 'Trust') will be governed by a board of directors/trustees (the 'Trust Board').

In preparation for the establishment of the substantive Trust Board, The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton is seeking to appoint individuals with suitable experience and skills in Finance or Law to the Shadow Trust Board, who will become Trustees of the MAT when it is incorporated.

Required Skills

Those interested in this opportunity must have excellent verbal and written communication skills and must be able to work to deadlines. In addition, it will be necessary to be both discreet and empathetic in dealing with sensitive situations. Like governors of a school governing body, the role has fiduciary responsi-

The following are the core competencies and skills expected of all Trustees serving on the Trust Board:

To work as a team;

*To attend meetings and be prepared to contribute to discus-

sions;
To be respectful of the views of others and to be open to new

'To develop a deep understanding of the vision and ethos of the MAT and the Schools and particularly its Catholic mission;

To understand the policies and procedures of the MAT and the Diocese and how these flow down to the Schools;

To support the MAT and the Schools in public and act as an ambassador;

To commit to training and skills development;

* To observe complete confidentiality when matters are deemed confidential or where they concern specific members of staff or pupils;

To exercise prudence and not to disclose details of any internal discussions at board or committee level including discussions with representatives of the schools.

Specific Skills and Experience

In order to complement the skill set of the Trustees recruited thus far, the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton seeks practising Catholics with a strong and demonstrable background in finance or law to join the Shadow Trust Board. Preferred candidates will be suitably qualified in, and conversant with, accounting and

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

Post: Member of Diocesan Multi Academy Trust (MAT) Shadow Trust Board

Dates: Apply by noon, 18 December 2014.

Contract type:

Salary: This is a non-salaried position

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton is in the process of establishing a diocesan Multi Academy Trust (MAT) in order to enable diocesan schools to become academies, should they wish to do so.

As a charity and company limited by guarantee, the diocesan multi academy trust (MAT) and its schools will be gov-

We are seeking to appoint practising Catholics with a strong and demonstrable background in finance or law to join our Diocesan Multi Academy Trust Board. The preferred candidates will be suitably qualified in, and conversant with, accounting and business management practices or education law.

Candidates must have excellent verbal and written communication skills and must be able to work to deadlines.

The Diocese consists of the Counties of Surrey and Sussex, and comprises sixty-five maintained schools, one specialist school and seventeen independent schools.

The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Catholic Schools Service is committed to safer recruitment.

Candidates should submit a full Curriculum Vitae with a covering letter electronically or by post to Fr John Hull, Vicar General, Bishop's House, The Upper Drive, Hove BN3 6NB email: John.Hull@bishops-house.co.uk

Closing date for applications noon, Thursday 18 December 2014 Further information regarding this post is available from Marie Ryan, 01293 511130 Email: marie.ryan @dabnet.org

business management practices or with education law.

Board members may be given primary responsibility for particular functions such as ethos and the Catholic vision, financial and risk management, HR, MAT policy and procedures, School liaison and communication, with a view to matching individuals' skill set, expertise and prior experience to functions. This will not affect collective and overall individual responsibility but Trustees are expected to use their skills and experience in the fulfilment of their duties.

Role of the Trust Board

The Trust Board has overall responsibility for the MAT but will delegate the day to day management and governance of the schools to local governing bodies.

The primary role of the Trust Board and those serving on it is:

to formulate and agree the vision and ethos of the MAT as a provider of Catholic education and to see this vision fulfilled;

in conjunction with the local governing bodies to develop the strategic plan and direction of the MAT; to monitor the effectiveness of the local governance and management arrangements and act as a critical

friend to each of the local governing bodies;

to oversee and manage risk and develop policies and procedures to support the schools and ensure robustness; and

to facilitate the schools working together, utilising existing resources and procuring additional support where required.

The Trust Board will meet at least twice per school term and usually in the evening. Meetings will be held initially at DABCEC.

EBOLA CRISIS APPEAL

Thousands of people have died from the deadly Ebola virus, in the largest outbreak ever known.

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Director of Caritas Kenema in Sierra Leone

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Clergy Retreat - Prayer and Friendship in France



VERY COUPLE OF YEARS, we in Arundel & Brighton Diocese, have a Retreat for EVERY COUPLE OF YEARS, we in Arunder & Disgress, Property of the Property of t found the best venue to be 'across the water' in La France, which actually works out much better value for money, and also helps to really feel you are right away from the normal distractions and temptations! Merville in France is about an hour from Calais, so a simple journey from the south of England via ferry or tunnel. The retreat facilities are great; the former Lille diocesan seminary which has been refurbished as their diocesan retreat/pastoral/youth centre. There are simple but comfortable rooms for up to 100 people, a beautiful church and oratory, nice grounds to walk in and the 'piece de resistance' is great food ... and even a glass of vin rouge to wash it down with!

Enough on the sales pitch for the venue – far more important is WHY we were there! A retreat is a precious gift. Understandably, many people might imagine that clergy are always in and out of chapel saying their prayers and meditatively focused on the mysteries of the Kingdom. The reality is that, like the rest of humankind, we easily get swept along by the torrent of distracting busy-ness that can fill the day. A retreat is a time to step back and stop, and take stock, and simply 'BE' rather than 'do'.

We were very blessed to have our five days together led by Fr Jim Murphy of Kilkenny. I have known Jim since 1993 when I was working with a classmate and friend of his, Fr Benny O'Shea (another Kilkenny man). Jim led us with great humour, gentleness, and wisdom. He has a wonderful talent for telling a story, and (in the best sense!) spinning it out, drawing you in, and leaving you feeling the better for having listened. Not that there weren't also challenges. But we needed to be above all affirmed, confirmed, encouraged and Jim did that beautifully for us. Just 24 hours before the retreat began we had all been very saddened and shocked by the unexpected news of Bishop Kieran's resignation. It was a literal God-send to be able to spend a few days praying for everyone concerned and for the strength and guidance of the Spirit in the testing time ahead.

Time doesn't allow me to share the details of Jim's eight talks but just to list a few of the threads and what, for me, were words, questions and themes that stay with me: are we really 'in love' with Christ? Do we have a heart for love and holy fascination with God's agenda, plans and Kingdom, that is are we somehow caught by the beauty of our faith ... of God ... of the creation that we are part of? Drawing on Pope Francis' call to share the JOY of the Gospel with a hungry world, with people who deserve to know that there is nothing more precious on offer to us than the new life found in Christ (the Gospel made flesh). Jim referred a lot also to the spirituality of the French

Discovering Priesthood Day

 $T^{\rm HIRTY\;MEN\;AND\;BOYS\;attended\;St\;John's\;Seminary\;for\;a\;Discovering\;Priest-hood\;Day\;on\;Saturday\;1\;November,\;drawn\;from\;the\;four\;Dioceses\;of\;Southwark,}$ Arundel and Brighton, Portsmouth and Plymouth.

I arrived at Guildford railway station and asked my way to the buses – the bus station behind the nearby Friary Shopping Centre and bus bay 7. The bus ticket was printed 'St John's Seminary' and the stop was right by the entrance to it. The driver gave me a shout when we were there.

Over tea at 10am, a talk, a tour, we made our introductions. We went to Mass at 12 noon, the Feast of All Saints, Benediction at 4.15 p.m. After lunch in the refectory at 1pm, we had some free time in and about the place. In the afternoon, Martin, a semi narian, talked about the life, followed by a short film, 'Fishers Of Men', - a presentation from priests in the Diocese of Rockford in USA. We had opportunities for questions, discussions, and thoughts. I recalled the words of a priest in Calais, 'c'est pas une montagne' - 'It's not a mountain'; and a South American priest in Hastings, "...be poorhearted", 'be poor-hearted,' he said several times - then I realised he was saying 'pure' be pure-hearted'.

We said our goodbyes and thanks over tea at 5pm. Back in Guildford I explored the shops, and found two pubs, The Three Pigeons and The Star. I enjoyed a quiet pint and remembered the fact that pub bombs had gone off in the 1970's causing so many sorrows. The barman was Canadian. It is a small world.

In Eastbourne we had doctored the notice with A Prayer of Saint Richard in The Sunday Missal. There he was, a statue 'Ricardus' on the steps of the seminary chapel.

Thanks be to thee, Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits and blessings thou has borne for me. O most merciful Friend, Brother and Redeemer, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly.

Story: Andrew Somerville

mystic/hermit Blessed Charles de Foucauld, who was killed in the desert of north Africa in 1916, living a simple life of Christian witness among the local Tuareg Arabs. Brother Charles is a major inspiration for many priests and lay people, in finding God in simple human relations and friendship, in the poverty of our prayer, but a poverty that unites us to our God who stripped himself and shared our human poverty. We also had an opportunity half way through the week to spend a few hours visiting some of the many haunting WWI cemeteries and the very beautiful Island of Ireland Peace Memorial for all the Irish war dead. On this 100th anniversary year of the outbreak of that terrible war, it made for a powerful and very moving few hours.

With help from Pope Francis, Blessed Charles, Biblical stories and characters, and maybe above all our just simply 'being together' in prayer and friendship, Jim really did open our hearts and minds to feel the closeness of God and the beauty of his care and friendship for us all. A retreat isn't an introspective experience, but we were very aware of carrying in our prayer all our parishes, our diocese, the universal Church, and our very troubled and hurting world. We left Merville, back to our little patches of the vineyard, feeling duly strengthened and refreshed. Thank you Jim for your part in making that happen!

Story and picture: Fr Kevin Dring



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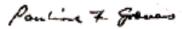
The official monthly paper of the **Diocese of Arundel and Brighton**

Let us leap for Joy
THE DIOCESE CONTINUES to thrive, L as our pages show. There are reports from about 18% of parishes, several schools, as well as a number of organisations. If your parish, school or organisation is not featured, have you something to tell us? If so, please do so!

As usual we offer some something serious and thoughtful as well as stories. The Diocesan Dialogue and Unity Department hosted a forum on Death, Dying and Assisted Dying presented by Sussex doctors' group SUCADO. A most thought-provoking day about a very controversial issue of our day.

As we go through Advent, we are invited by the Church to reflect on our need to prepare both for the coming of the Lord at Christmas, the last days and our own last end..

Before he was born, St John the Baptist recognised Jesus in Our Lady's womb and 'leapt for joy'. May we too recognise Jesus and welcome him with joy when he comes.



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JUST A THOUGHT

His Name is John

THAT STUBBORN LOOK in his wife's **⊥** eye, the glint that he's observed often of a morning or an evening across the breakfast table or when doling out the steaming stew;

that set of mouth which both provokes and yet attracts and which he knows he cannot countermand, voices her conviction that 'His name is John.

And a dozen pairs of eyes are fixed on

as he scribbles down his mute reply: 'She's right!'

Then a dozen tongues are of a sudden wagging, plus his own, restored, pouring out his praise of God against the nosy neighbours' counterpointing commentary.

His name is John, or rather Jehohanan: Meaning, The Almighty has shown forth his favour.

The aging priest already knows the meaning of this blessing: his son is not in his control. For the tiny infant scowl betrays the self-same stubborn rightness of his wife and in a few years, no doubt, the boy will be gone,

lost to wanderlust or to some harebrained plan of revolution, he presumes, but lost in fact (did he but know the truth) to God.

No matter, though: 'His name is John.' God's favour rests on him.

And while he voices his first flush of

this father gives his restless son the tools to do his future work hymning the undying goodness of the

Fr Rob Esdaile

DEATH, DYING AND ASSISTED DYING

A&B News Reports on the recent Dialogue and Unity event

THE NEXT MOST CERTAIN thing to happen after birth is L death. In a few weeks we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, only to be reflecting on His death four months later.

While not the usual subject of this column, Peter Burholt was invited to attend the Dialogue and Unity forum at DABCEC on 'Death, Dying and Assisted Dying', which was put on as a SUCADO event. How do our religious beliefs match medical ethics on dying? Are practitioners sure as to which rules they are working to in a patient's last days on this earth? What is meant by assisted dying? What is death?

An emotional and emotive subject by anyone's standards with significant media coverage from bothends of the debate, and both sidesmaking ever more strident claims. With a room populated by a range of medical professionals and some delegates who had personal stories to recount, three eminent speakers took to the floor. From the outset, it was agreed this was one of the most difficult subjects we might address

A serious subject deserves a serious article.

How Dead is Dead?

Dr Joe O'Dwyer, (pictured above left) of the Lourdes Medical Association, opened the discussion by giving a review of the definitions of death from the death of an organism, through to loss of consciousness, social death and loss of personhood. It was agreed some of these criteria were definite, while others were subjective. On the other hand, life is defined as the unity of the soul and body, and consciousness. Here starts another subjective topic for the authorities to ponder over.

One important issue, often mis-represented in the media or by popular belief, is that Courts still recognise the sanctity of life - it is a cornerstone as to how we treat death and one which we, whether in a personal capacity or as a professional, should never forget. The presumption is in favour of taking life-saving and life preserving measures whenever possible and practical to do so. There is a right to refuse treatment by the patient, not for this to be sought from the patient. This is a clear distinction in the matter of dying.

Mercy Killing and Euthanasia

Dr O'Dwyer gave us an overview, also, of the key legal rulings and some of the legal cases, that have shaped the law. Active euthanasia is not tolerated and the position of the law has changed little since Justice Devlin's summing up. Interestingly, Dr Adams was cleared of the charges on the basis of the 'doctrine of double effect'. If morphine is adminstered to relieve painthen it remains legal, even it also, ultimately results in the patient's death. However, the law clearly states that the life of a person cannot be taken, even with the person's consent. However, there are some exceptions to the law - capital punishment (as it was), self-defence, just war and (in some circles) abortion. On this latter point, our Church is very specific on its support to stopping abortion and to supporting its pro-life policies.

Suicide

The Suicide Act goes back to 1961 when suicide was decriminalised. However, the Act states that it is unlawful to assist in a suicide and unlawful to procure the means to suicide. This law covers a person with capacity and its principals are in force today.

The fear of unbearable suffering, depression or spiritual distress are often used as some of the reasons for committing suicide. Often there are family pressures or a loss of control. How often do we hear of the tragic news of a suicide, when our immediate reaction is 'Well, I never thought he/she was like that'

In 2001 the European Court concluded that the UK's Suicide Act 1961 did not violate the European Convention on Human Rights, as the right to life did not include a right to die at a chosen time. This came about when the government was challenged in a case concerning Mrs Pretty, in that the government was not subjecting her to inhuman or degrading treatment under the Act, but the motor neurone disease from which she suffered. Interestingly, the DPP chose not to make any prosecutions after her life was terminated in Switzerland.

Proposed Change in the Law

There is a Bill before Parliament by two private individuals, Terry Pratchett and Bernard Lewis, both advocates of assisted dying. If passed, this Bill states that a person must have a diagnosed terminal illness which will give a life expectancy of up to six months, with two doctors being involved in the assessment. This will also include the patient's competence to make a declaration of wanting assistance to end their

It is proposed that there will be a 'cooling off' period of 14 days (or less in special situations) before the medication is delivered, which would have to be self-administered. However, the Bill does allow for those who cannot swallow or use a syringe. A coroner may, but is not required to, hold an inquest in the case of an assisted death. The Secretary of State, for example, has the ability to assess capacity and the psychological disorders on decision making.

Both euthanasia and assisted dying are still considered to be serious criminal offences and are prohibited in the UK. The rights, based on the approach to our legal system arising from the Human Rights Act 1998, have led to a new impetus from supporters of euthanasia and they are calling for a change in



the law.

Everyday Real Life Case Studies
Not all cases are high profile and law-making. Dr Marie Joseph (pictured), Medical Director and Consultant in Palliative Medicine at St Raphael's Hospice in Surrey, gave the delegates the real story of a 50 year old patient at the hospice. He was suffering from cancer of the rectum, which had infiltrated the sacral nerve plexus – he was in extreme agony, was embarrassed, was unable to socialise and had lost his 'selfworth' He wanted to die. His wife was distressed and helpless.

The patient saw a palliative care pain specialist and an expert pain management solution was put in place. Previously, the patient had recorded the level of pain at 11 out of 10. In six weeks it was down to two out of ten! He had a wonderful holiday with his wife.

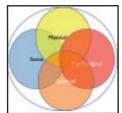
Although this treatment did not stop him from dying six months later, his wife had great comfort in knowing that he died naturally from cancer, rather that prematurely by sui-

In another case in the 1980s a rheumatologist, Dr Cox, had a patient who was severely deformed with rheumatoid arthritis. Dr Cox was known as a kind and compassionate man, but he had inadequate access to expert pain management. She pleaded with him to end her misery and he was emotionally driven to administer a lethal injection of potassium chloride. As it has no pain relieving properties, Dr Cox lost his registration to practice medicine.

As Dr Marie added 'There was the hidden spiritual trauma at not being at peace with God, a sense of alienation and not allowing God's will. We are taking something which is not ours to take. Remember St Augustine's words of wisdom 'We cannot rest, unless we rest in Ğod"

Death is the Changing Point of Life

Dr Victor Pace (pictured right above), of St Christopher's Hospice in Sydenham and who also teaches at the Cicely Saunders Institute, talked on other aspects to the forum. He said that the majority of Faiths held the spiritual value of life paramount to their beliefs and that 'Death is the greatest paradox every human will go through this expe-



rience and yet it is a complete unknown. For most of our lives we spend in trying to stay alive!' He reflected that people do not want to discuss death and, when healthy, we do not want to think about it. Suddenly life changes.

He extolled his fellow practitioners to act like a good salesman 'Listen to what is required and then look at what else they need

The links between social, physical, psychological and spiritual aspects were explained by Dr Victor. 'Spirituality often takes us by surprise and not when expected. Always watch out for it coming! It is very personal and something you have to find yourself.

Finally, Dr Marie gave a number of topics as a way forward which included key steps to be taken as professionals. The maintenance of dignity and sanctity were high on her list, but also to give back to God what is his and to rest in Him. 'Remember, spiritual pain can only be quenched by God'

Grounds for Change

Self-determination or autonomy is generally held in high regard by the law on the basis that an adult of sound mind has the right to determine what shall be done with their body. Such determination includes the right to refuse life lengthening or sustaining treatment. The British Medical Association's stance has altered from one of complete prohibition to one of that would not oppose a change in the law, if robust safeguards and conscientious objection clauses were included in the legislation.

As readers of the A&B News, what do we think? Do we have the right to take from God something God alone can take? The debate goes on between the law, the professional medical bodies and our own conscience.

 ${\it IF YOU\ HAVE\ YOU\ BEEN\ AFFECTED\ BY\ THIS\ SUBJECT}$ OR NEED TO KNOW MORE, PLEASE CONTACT:

Susan O'Brien, Dialogue and Unity, Susan.obrien@dabnet.org; Katherine Bergin, Marriage and Family Life, katherine.bergin@dabnet.org Cruse Bereavement Care: (0870 1671 677) Dying mothers.org

Music at Worth Abbey School for 'Life'

THERE ARE MANY WAYS to raise funds for good causes, but the Life Society decided on a classical concert at the Worth Abbey School of Performing Arts on Friday, 24 October. The pro ceeds went to support their houses in Hayward's Heath and



The concert raised £640 from the amazing organizing ability of Robin Williamson and his team. The cast of professional musicians and singers included Sophia Vaughan, Debra Ogden, D'Arcy Trinkwon and Michael Bevan. Their fine performances filled the soul in the most delightful and peaceful way.

Life Houses are one of the largest providers of accommodation for pregnant women and unsupported mothers, aged between 16 and 25 years in the UK - supporting those who are facing a pregnancy crisis. It is a comprehensive service that provides an alternative to abortion and prepares tenants for independent living, along with their children in the future.

Pictured are from left to right - Michael Bevan, Sophia Vaughan, Robin Williamson, Debra Ogden and D'Arcy Trinkwon. Details of 'Life' are available on their website http://lifecharity.org.uk

Story: Valerie Burholt Picture: Christine Fitz Simmons



Catenian Cheque for Mercy Ships

PRESIDENT John Power invited Dr Stewart Kilpatrick, a volunteer on a Mercy Ship to talk to the West Surrey Circle about it, since this had been the President's Charity last year.



The ship visits the poorest West African countries and stays for about 10 months moored at that country. Each year it moves to a different country. The medical staff are volunteers and provide treatment free-ofcharge. Usually the patients have never had access to medical treatment and have been suffering for years. It is a life changing service which enables the many patients to resume their place in the community. The ship also carries agriculturalists who help farmers to improve their methods.

At the end of the talk Dr Kilpatrick (pictured on the left) was presented with a cheque for £1800 for 'Mercy Ships' by John Power.

Story and picture: Tony Tunstall

St Wilfrid's Day Service in Eastbourne

N SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER an ecumenical service to provide an opportunity to reflect and give thanks for the work of St Wilfrid's Hospice in Eastbourne was held in the church of Our

Fr David King, Assistant priest at Our Lady of Ranson, led the prayers to commemorate St Wilfrid, and the final blessing was delivered by Fr David King of the Church of England. Fr Alex Baxter, also from the Church of England, gave a homily entitled 'Who was St Wilfrid'. Pictured (from left) are Fr David King (RC), Fr David King (CofE), and Fr Alex Baxter.



The service commenced with a welcome and introduction from Sally Attfield, a volunteer, and included contributions from professional staff (Gill Manser and Julie Lee),



volunteers Maria Jenner and David Barker, and the Chaplain Rev Tom Duncanson, Andy Bodkin, a Trustee, led the music with the St Wilfrid's Choir.

Details of St Wilfrid's Hospice are on thei website httrp://www.stwhospice.org

> Story and picture: Mary Barlow

Pilgrimages to link Communities

AGROUP OF PILGRIMS drawn from the communities of Southwick with Portslade, and Hangleton and West Blatchington, travelled for the day to Winchester on Thursday 23 October. Since 1 October 2013 our two parishes of St Theresa of Lisieux (Southwick with Portslade) and St George's (Hangleton and West Blatchington) have the same parish priest, Fr Alistair Simmons, and we are working hard to become linked communities, combining in volunteer efforts, sharing resources and building towards a common future. We are invited to see ourselves as one worshipping community that meets in three different places of worship. (St Theresa's, St George's and the Mass Centre, Portslade)

Fundamental to everything is our unity in prayer. For this reason we have embarked upon a year of three pilgrimages, symbolic of our three places of worship. The first, this weekday trip to Winchester: the second, a weekend pilgrimage to Ladywell, Holywell and the two cathedrals in Liv erpool: the third, still in the planning stage, an overseas pilgrimage to some of the lesser known pilgrimage sites in Spain, France and Andorra.

In Winchester we enjoyed themed and highly informative tours of the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity and of St Peter and St Paul and of St Swithun. A particular highlight

was Mass celebrated by Fr Alistair in the Epiphany Chapel with its four very striking stained glass windows of pre-Raphaelite design depicting the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity and the Epiphany

(pictured above). The great West Window of Winchester

Cathedral is a stained-glass mosaic made up of pieces of glass from the mediaeval original which was destroyed by Parliamentary soldiers during the English Civil War (pictured on the left). Our respective parish communities working together and growing together in worship, faith and action are like the individual pieces of a mosaic which create something new and perhaps more beautiful by being combined together. The scaffolding within the Cathedral and the noise of the workmen hammering and drilling only served to remind us that our coming together as parishes is still a work in progress.

Story and pictures: Gill Sajnog





Stonyhurst Clitheroe Lancashire BB7 9PZ





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

Serving the communities of our Diocese



Thanksgiving Mass

for those celebrating a special Wedding Anniversary

 ${f F}$ or this year's special Anniversary Mass we travelled to the friendly parish of St Joan of Arc in Farnham. Both Fr Niven and members of his parish community welcomed us and facilitated a wonderful day. Fr Niven initially setting the scene meaningfully by lighting 50 candles, one for each of the couples who were celebrating that day.

The church was filled with couples whose anniversaries ranged from 1 to 60 years of marriage and included some who were widowed and were remembering their partner in a special way. Fr Peter Andrews celebrated the Mass and began by introducing himself as a widower, a parent, grandparent, deacon and priest and he explained that he could identify with many of us in the congregation. He said marriage was a cause for great joy but with one simple mission; to get each other to heaven! He talked with great wisdom and inspired everyone to continue

to try to nourish and sustain their marriages. There was a moment of levity when, just before asking the couples to make their vows, he encouraged everyone to 'have a hug'!

The afternoon was rounded off in splendid fashion through the generous hospitality of the Farnham catering group with a glass of wine and a slice of cake!

The message from Archbishop Peter Smith was read by Fr Peter and is shown below. The two couples celebrating 60 years (pictured right) above are Michael and Margaret Gammons of Arundel Parish and below Mary and Earnest Neame of Camberley Parish.

Mass was followed by refreshments in the parish hall and the cake cutting ceremony performed by the one year married couple, Amanda and Martin Stebbings of Dorking Parish, who are pictured on the left with Fr Peter at the cake

Story: Katherine Bergin Pictures:David White



Archbishop Peter Smith, Apostolic Administrator writes:-

My dear brothers and sisters.

As you come together to celebrate the various anniversaries of your marriages, and give thanks to God for your families, my prayer for you is that God will continue to bless you abundantly, whether you are just beginning the journey of married life, or are in the middle of that journey, or whether you are coming to the fullness of that relationship in your later years. As you thank God for the relationship with your husband or wife, and for your families, relationships which have persevered and grown through the joys and sorrows, triumphs and disasters of life, I ask you to also remember those families which have been broken and grievously wounded through separation or divorce. For these especially we must all have the greatest love and compassion, respect and gentleness. These are our brothers and sisters, deeply wounded and suffering. Here in a very special way we meet the wounded and suffering Christ whom we are called to serve.

Please pray too for the Holy Father and the Bishops gathered in Rome for the Extraordinary Synod, that the Holy Spirit may guide them as they deliberate on the challenges faced by married couples and their families, and reflect on how the Church can support and strengthen marriage and family life. May God bless you and keep you always in his love and care, and give you many more years of happiness together.



Marriage and Family Life discussed by the Bishops of the world

N EXTRAORDINARY SYNOD of Bishops met An EXTRAURDINALL STREET CALL AND CALL A lenges of the family in the context of evangelisation'

Cardinal Vincent Nichols attended as President of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and presented an 'Intervention'.

On his return he issued a Pastoral Letter. The following is an extract:

'My brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

Today I would like to tell you a little about the recent Extraordinary Synod of Bishops held in Rome on the theme of the pastoral challenges facing the family in the context of evangelisation. I was privileged to take part in this two week meeting. I found it a rich and moving experience.

You may have heard or read that this Synod has been about changing the teaching of the Church on narriage, family life or sexual morality. This is not true. It was about the pastoral care that we try to offer each other, the 'motherly love of the Church', especially when facing difficult moments and experiences in family life.

Central to the work of the Synod that has just ended was the desire to strengthen and reinvigorate the pastoral practice of the Church. A central principle for this pastoral care emerged clearly: that in trying to walk alongside people in difficult or exceptional situations, it is important to see clearly and with humility all the good aspects of their lives. That is what comes first. From this point, we learn to move together towards conversion and towards the goodness of life that God has for us and that Jesus opens for us all. This positive approach flows right through the 'Synod Report' and I hope will increasingly shape our attitude towards each other'.

Katherine Bergin,

Diocesan Adviser for Marriage and Family Life

In his closing address to the synod Fathers Pope Francis spoke with warmth and affection of all that had been achieved. He highlighted the fact that it had not been an easy journey with many voices that disagreed, but stressed that this in itself was a good thing and reflected an openness to listen. He said that he believed that all that had been put forward was truly with the best interests of the Church and families at heart. This journey tried to take account of all the difficulties that face families today yet also focused on the joy that they can bring.

Each of the paragraphs that had been debated was put to the vote and then gathered together to form the 'Relatio', the document that will be used to work towards informing the final stage of the synod next autumn.

There is obviously much to pray about and think about before the final part of the process next autumn. Within the Diocese we want to use our Festival Day on 5 July 2015 to give the opportunity for some discussion on Family Life. We are very fortunate to have Ms Elizabeth Davies, the Marriage and Family Life Coordinator at the Bishops' Conference, coming to speak to us and there will be opportunities for feedback surrounding the issues raised by the Synod. The national feedback process is in its early stages and the indications are that the dioceses will have the opportunity to present some feedback to the representatives attending the final part of the synod next autumn.

Further information on the synod; the Pope's address, Cardinal Nichols' pastoral letter and the 'relatio' are all available on the Diocesan website under MFl. If you would like to be informed of future developments please do contact me at katherine.bergin@dabnet.org and I will add you to my mailing list.

Justice & Peace Assembly 2015

Taking Action in solidarity with immigrants, migrants, refugees and people on the move

Saturday 31 January 2015 Christian Education Centre (DABCEC) 4 Southgate Drive Crawley RH10 6RP

Speakers Sarah Teather MP Liberal Democrat MP for Brent Central, chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees and chair of the Parliamentary Inquiry into Immigration Detention Fr Terence Bateman PhD

Assistant Priest Bognor Regis, Author, Lecturer and Immigrant Louise Zanré Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service UK

To reserve a place please email ruth.gerun@dabnet.org



YouthGather 2014

A huge "Thank You" to all who took part in the sponsored walk this year. The two chosen charities are Action in Africa and the

Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group.

A reminder that any outstanding sponsorship money should be sent to:

YouthGather 2014, DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley, RH10 6RP, By 15th December, 2014.

Cheques payable to DABCEC.



ADVENT 2014

Prayer and Reflection Programme

Advent 2014 is a booklet of scripture, reflections and prayers written by young people and designed for small group dis-

Six young people were brought together to write reflections on the second reading of each week of Advent, and to design prayer activities and challenges to introduce new methods of prayer to people around the diocese. It is hoped that this approach will help all those involved in Advent 2014 small groups to enter into the preparation of Christmas through Advent and experience the joy that this time of the liturgical year brings.

Each week contains a reflection by young people on one of the readings for each Sunday of Advent followed by a different, stimulating prayer activity and challenge for the week.



Picture: Elizabeth Wang

Booklets can be ordered from DABCEC bookshop: Tel (01293) 651165 Email bookshop@dabnet.org A downloadable version is available from the diocesan website: www.dabnet.org/PastoralTeam/adform More information from David Wills: Tel (01293) 651157 Email david.wills@dabnet.org

Departure for the St Barnabas Society

 ${f F}^{
m R}$ RICHARD Biggerstaff's final Mass in Horsham before taking up duties as Director of the St Barnabas Society in Oxford took place on Sunday 14 September (pic-



Present at the Mass were Canon Tim Madeley, Dean of the Cathedral, Fr Neil Brett (Brentwood), Fr Jonathan Martin, Fr Chris Bergin and Mgr Keith Newton (Ordinary of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham) assisted by Deacon Mark Woods and Duncan Brown (Deacon in training in A&B)

Fr Jonathan, a long time friend of Fr Richard, delivered the homily. In his final ad-

dress Fr Richard explained that in his new position he expected to be meeting Mgr Keith regularly.

The Mass was followed by refreshments in the parish hall when the chairman of the Parish Council, Maurice O'Shea, thanked Fr Richard for his work as parish priest and introduced presentations of gifts from the parish and the Parish Council. Everyone circulated and took the opportunity to thank Fr Richard personally. Pictured in the hall is Mgr Keith talking to parishioner Brian Harris.

Story: David White Pictures: Emmanuel Chimezie



Arts Week at St Joseph's Specialist School and College



URING THE LAST WEEK before October half term Learners at St Joseph's Specialist School and College celebrated Arts Week based on the theme of 'Express Yourself'. Learners took part in a variety of activities throughout the week, helping to create a 'Saints Graffiti Wall' depicting paintings of the Saints whose names are given to each of our classes. The Saints were painted by wellknown Graffiti Artist, Req from Brighton. Req worked with Learners showing them how to use spray paints safely (pictured).

Principal, Mrs Mary Fawcett thanked Req and other visiting artists for their contributions, saying 'We are delighted with all the events ... everyone has worked hard and had fun.'

Story and picture: Hilary Clark

Bake Off at St Philip Howard School

VER THE COURSE of two days St Philip Howard Catholic High School hosted their very own British Bake Off, organised by teacher Emma Smith, head of St Wilfrid's House.

Sixteen keen bakers participated in the thrilling competition, competing for prize points for their house. Just like the Great British Bake Off, we had our very own Mary and Paul! Mary, a Governess of the school, took the role of Mary Berry, and Fr Paul Turner, a priest from St Richards in Chichester took the role of Paul Hollywood. The bar was set high as the judges revealed their standards at the first session.

As soon as the aprons were on, the pressure was on to produce high standard, delicious cakes. On the second day, we decorated and presented the cakes before the judges. As we rushed around putting the finishing touches on the cakes, the countdown began. The kitchen sides were filled with lots of amazing, mouthwatering cakes. After the cakes were judged, they were donated to the Macmillan Charity bake sale the next day. I have high hopes that the Bake Off will return in the following years.

Story and picture: Abi Gaynor



Departure for Bognor Regis

 ${f F}^{
m R}$ TERENCE Bateman departed from Horsham for Bognor Regis on 13 October. The previous evening after the last Mass of the Sunday the parish organised a reception and presentation. As always it was a sad occasion, especially as Horsham no longer has two priests. Nevertheless it turned into a celebration of the new appointment and the arrival a few weeks earlier of Fr Kieran Gardiner who replaced Fr Richard Biggerstaff. Fr Kieran led the singing of 'For he is a jolly good fellow' and he is pictured on the left of Fr Terence at the end of the singing.

Story and picture: David White



Recycling our Candles



OES ANYONE KNOW where candles can be sent for re-cycling? There must be lots of short pieces of altar candles, as well as once-used Paschal candles and sets of Advent candles, lurking in sacristy store cupboards of parishes throughout the diocese, which cannot be used for a second time. If anyone knows of how or where these 'left-overs' can be recycled, or has suggestions for their re-use, pleased contact St Gabriel's in Billingshurst, email st.gab@btinternet.com or 01403 782128.



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accommodation, some outings and activities locally and lots of conversation at meal times and when not studying

This year we are paying around £450 per week to include fifteen hours lessons, accommodation and the activities

Most of our students are delightful French youngsters from 'professional' families who arrive during the school holidays - we are busiest June , July and August but can get students at half term and other school holidays. If you are interested and would like to

> know more please do get in touch. Michael Boyle. 01424221875 michael@englishvillage.org.uk or Michael.m.boyle@btinternet.com

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

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

Address:.

..Please print

RETURN TO: RETURN TO: Mother General, Tyburn Convent, 8 Hyde Park Place, London, W2 2LJ. Phone: 020 7723 7262.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FILL THIS SPACE CALL 01440 730399

Wintershall Nativity -

the new generation
PRODUCTION of the great Wintershall religious
plays performed in Surrey, London and Glastonbury has been passed to the next generation of the Hutley family, ensuring that the tradition stays

Peter Hutley has written and produced first the Wintershall Nativity, and latterly either the Passion Play or the epic Life of Christ as well, every year since 1990. Now in his late 80s, he has passed the baton to his daughter Charlotte (pictured with Peter). He will still be a part of the theatre, acting in the plays and inspiring the cast, but she will take over the responsibility for the productions.

Peter's vision saw Christ's cross, straw, sheep, donkeys and whole families of actors take the plays to central London. Where will Charlotte's vision take them next? Top of her initial wishlist is a new generation of actors to join the cast. 'It's like a family, a community,' she said, 'We don't have auditions and everyone is welcome. It's really about the Body of Christ. We are all part of it and nobody is excluded. Rehearsals are mostly at weekends from October and the actors are trained by first class directors. At least one child had their life changed by the experience as it is such a tremendous confidence builder.'

Rehearsals start next month. Contact 01483 892167 if you would like to be involved. Performances are on December 17 in London and December 18-21 at Wintershall.

Story and picture: Susan Babbington



Searching for Jesus..... and Mary.... and Judas

THE LEWES PASSION **■** PLAY 2015 project is underway! We have recently held a series of workshops reading the script and discussing ideas for development and are now looking for actors. We have begun our search for Jesus and for characters in main speaking roles. Initial auditions for key roles will take place during late November, but if you are interested in acting



please contact us ASAP, as decisions will not be finally made until mid December. All non-speaking minor roles and crowd parts are open to anyone at all, no audition, no matter how little experience; we are also still welcoming all comers to help with the organisation of this community outreach Holy Week Experience, just let us know you want to be involved by email at towardslewes2015@gmail.com or telephone 079 2648 6567.

Lewes Passion Play will take place during Holy Week 2015 Palm Sunday 29 March, Thursday 2, Friday 3, and Easter Sunday 5 April.

Main rehearsals will begin in Lewes during January 2015 on some week-nights and some Saturdays. Visit our website

www.lewespassionplay.org.uk for further information.

Story: Eleanor Austin Picture (2010) by Ruth Martin

NOTICE BOARD Worth Abbey

14 December (3rd Sunday of Advent): Organ recital by D'Arcy Trinkwon A Selection of Advent Music @ 7.30pm

21 December (4th Sunday of Advent): **Traditional Carol Service** followed by refreshments @ 4pm All are welcome - No tickets required

For further information, please contact Mandy Horton on 01342 710313 or at www.worthabbeyparish.co.uk



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

CAFOD LAUNCHES 'ONE CLIMATE, ONE WORLD' CAMPAIGN

THERE WAS A FULL HOUSE in the Cassidy Pastoral Centre at St ▲ Mary's Catholic Church in Brighton on Tuesday 21 October. People had come from across the Diocese for the A&B launch of the new campaign on climate change, called 'One Climate, One World'. Speakers included two of the community leaders that CAFOD works with in Peru, Jesy Romero and Adan Samuel Pajuelo Bula, CAFOD's Director of Advocacy & Communications, Neil Thorns, Campaign Engagement Manager, Sarah Hagger-Holt and the local MP, Caroline Lucas.

Jesy and Adan told how changes in the climate were already affecting the community in the Andes. Most notably, they showed how the glacier above the village had significantly shrunk leading to a serious reduction in the water in the lake on which they depended. Jesy works with the Peruvian Bishops Social Action Commission, supported by CAFOD, which is helping farmers adapt. For example, to try to conserve the lake, water has had to be rationed with some farmers only able to irrigate their crops for one dav a month.

Because of the urgency of the global situation and because action needs to be taken now by all countries, the 'One Climate, One World' campaign is calling on the UK political party leaders to play their part. As they prepare the manifestos for the general election, CAFOD is asking them to include a commitment to work to prevent climate change pushing people deeper into poverty and to move from fossil fuels to sustainable energy.

Caroline Lucas told the meeting that climate change was a question of justice as the poorest countries were being most affected yet they had done the least to cause it. She said: 'Do get stuck in, do believe that your efforts can make a difference because they definitely do'

The CAFOD Diocesan Manager, Martin Brown, said: 'It was great to see so many people turn out to show their support and I hope all readers of A&B News will join us in demanding action and standing in solidarity with people who are being affected by the changing climate. Please take action online at <u>cafod.org.uk/oneclimate</u>.

Pictured from left to right: Caroline Lucas MP, Martin Brown, Deidre McMahon, Jesy Romero, Adan Samuel Pajuelo Bula and Neil Thorns Story: Roger Morton Picture: Ben White/CAFOD



A DONKEY IS FOR LIFE AND FOR CHRISTMAS

DONKEY is just one of the inspiring new gifts that feature in this Ayear's World Gifts from CAFOD. If you can spare £49 to 'give' this gift to one of your loved ones, you will ease the burden on an overseas family or community that has to carry heavy jerry cans of water every day from distant wells. Can't afford £49? Well £20 will buy chickens and training so that poor families can produce eggs to eat and sell. With gifts from as low as £4, (a chicken vaccination to prevent disease or a queen bee to generate more honey), the World Gifts Catalogue contains forty life-changing ideas that will be far more memorably received than a pair of socks or a DVD.

Why not get together a small group or involve your whole parish in raising money to achieve £750 for a community water supply or £400 to buy a camel that will transform transportation of goods in desert cli-

For full details, to order a catalogue or to place your order and receive the beautifully illustrated gift card for you to send, go to www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or telephone 0808 14 000 14.

World Gifts - the true spirit of Christmas giving CAFOD A&B 01483 898866 Email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk Blog: http://cafodarundelbrighton.wordpress.com/

Farewell to Sr Anastasia McGonagle

E BADE FAREWELL to Sr Anastasia at a recent dinner at St Cather-Vine's Parish Centre in Littlehampton. The evening was attended by over 100 people from St Joseph's Franciscan Convent, St Catherine's and other Churches in the town.

Sr Anastasia has spent the last 22 years in Littlehampton, working in St Francis Nursing Home and at the Convent. She came to us from Bradford, where she had spent the two decades teaching in a Catholic Middle School. While here, Sr Anastasia has been a leading light in the local Catholic community and for the last three years has been our Parish Sister, as well as a steadfast supporter of Littlehampton Churches Together and the Redeeming Our Communities scheme. She has also (amazingly?) produced musicals here, including in the last 18 months both Joseph and a variety show,

and was set to produce Snow White with a Difference next spring.

A native of Donegal, she has now moved back to Ireland to work at the Order's convent in the pilgrimage village of Knock in County Mayo. Many in this parish will miss her enthusiasm, encouragement, support and

Story: Mike Webber Picture: Ann Thomas



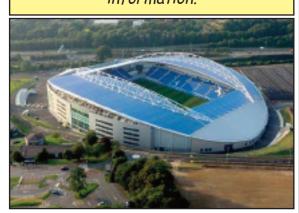
The Jubilee Celebration Walking Pilgrimage Arundel to the Amex Stadium Friday 3 to Sunday 5 July 2015

A fantastic walk along the beautiful South Downs Way, joining the Diocesan Festival at the Amex.

Have you ever thought what it might be like to do a pilgrimage as our medieval forbears did, walking the journey in prayer, fun and fellowship though a lovely example of God's creation, a path that has been used by pilgrims for centuries.

The cost which includes food, basic overnight sleeping on hall floors with showers available both nights, transport of luggage, use of a swimming pool on Friday evening and a barn dance and the route all marked out along footpaths is £50* (*Priests go free, concessions can be discussed)

For further information contact Patrick Reeve by telephoning 07720432958 or emailing patrick.reeve61@gmail.com Visit www.thepilgrims.org.uk for more information.



CHRISTMAS AT ST CUTHMANS

Advent Preparation Retreat

Friday 28- Sunday 30 November Led by Sr Shirley Kelly MA OSM & Sr Sue Haddock

Following the Star- the Christian as Pilgrim

Wednesday 3 December 2014 A Day Led by Sr Margaret O'Shea PSMG £25.00

Dreaming the Impossible—Nurturing the Seed

Saturday 6 December

A Day Led by Sr Margaret O'Shea PSMG £25.00

St Cuthman's Christmas

Wednesday 24 - Saturday 27 December 2014 Led by The St Cuthman's Team

> Please contact 01403 741220, email enquiries@stcuthmans.org



First World War Centenary Cathedrals Repair Fund **Award to Arundel Cathedral**

THE DEAN OF ARUNDEL CATHEDRAL, Canon Tim Madeley was delacksquare lighted by the recent announcement that the First World War Centenary Fund had given a grant of £200,000 to the cathedral.

He said that 'Despite a robust regime of maintenance by the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton for the upkeep of the building, exceptional costs do occur. Over the last few years, there has been a continual problem with the ingress of water into the property particularly on the south side of the building through the deterioration of the lead in the stained glass windows. This has become an urgent matter to stop the fabric of the building deteriorating any further hence the need to apply to the First World War Centenary Cathedrals Repair Fund.

The grant will be used to re-lead the south facing windows: especially the beautiful St Philip Neri window in the south transept designed by Nathaniel Westlake. The work is due to commence in the New Year and will act as a worthy memorial to the 98 men of Arundel who were killed in

the First World War".

The Cathedral is famous for its annual Carpet of Flowers Festival and Corpus Christi procession which takes place in the summer. This year the focus of the Festival was 1914-2014 Great War centenary.



NOTICES

CHRISTMAS CLOSING

The diocesan offices will close on Friday 19 December and re-open on Monday 5 January

MASS FOR THE DEAF

St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, Horsham RH12 2PJ at 3pm Saturday 6 December. Important Notice – From Saturday 3 January 2015 this Mass will be held at 1pm - Future dates to follow

YEAR OF CONSECRATED LIFE

BEGINS ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT. There will be a special Vespers, with Archbishop Peter Smith, at Worth Abbey on Saturday 6 December at 3pm for all religious. Friends and supporters of Religious community are also welcome.

MORE POEMS FROM THE PEN OF FR ROB

IN THAMES DITTON parish, faced with the mammoth task of raising £250,000 for the repair and renewal of their church buildings (which celebrate their 50th anniversary in 2015), it's 'all hands to the pump'. Events range from the Parish Ball run by the Women's Group to a car-wash organised by the Confirmation Candidates.

Fr Rob Esdaile, the parish priest, is making his own contribution, publishing a second volume of poetry, with its title drawn from the theme of the parish's Jubilee Year, Renew, Refresh, Rejoice. It would be an ideal stockingfiller for Christmas!

See 'Just a Thought' on page4 Copies can be obtained for £5 (+ £1.50 postage) from Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church, Hampton Court Way, Thames Ditton KT7 0LP



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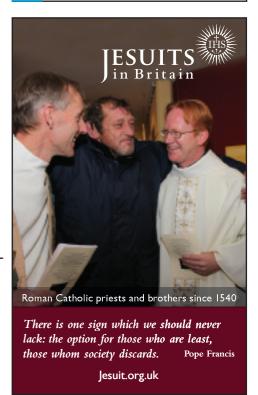
If you are willing to risk a little love and would like to find out how, contact Sister Bernadette

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> For further details please contact: The Secretary, The Fellowship of Meditation Dorchester DT1 1PW Tel: 01305 251396 E: fellowship.meditation@virgin.net

FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

THIS MONTH we have said our sad goodbye to Fr Sean Finnegan with a Mass involving parishioners from all areas of the parish, followed by a bring and share supper and a presentation to him including special gifts from the young people and the school. At the same time we have welcomed the arrival of Fr Graham Ricketts and his family and we are all looking forward to getting to know them and enjoying their involvement in our events.

David Lock visits our parish every year collecting supplies for the Bortnyky Orphanage in Ukraine and, as always, our parish has done well in donating such basic needs as food items, as well as wood for the boilers as often electricity can be cut off and with temperatures reaching 35 degrees below it is essential.

We have been blessed with two baptisms this month, Eden Beckwith and Ted Somerville.

A jumble sale was held at St Peter's which raised over £160.

Meanwhile our regular meetings continue such as the Bible Study Group and the Blessed Peter Vigne Association. Shoreham Churches Together held their AGM which included some speakers on 'Messy Church' and the new Youth Mix Group

Penny Richardson

From Server at Mass -

to serving awards

Luke Selby along with his three brothers – including Reuben featured last month with his charity bike ride - were all long term servers at Mass at Christ the King, Steyning - part of the Adur Valley parish for many years.

Luke recently won the Young National Chef of the Year Award, over seven other competitors some being from the House of Commons and The Ivy in London. The judges said 'He really stood out. He had problems (when his oven wouldn't work) but was always smiling and interacting with the judges. His techniques, his attitude, everything was brilliant.'

Many priests of the Worthing Deanery may well remember how good Luke's meals are when, back in 2007/8, he prepared the lunch for the Deanery meetings held at Shoreham.

Penny Richardson
CRAWLEY
Christ the Lord (LEP)

Broadfield & Bewbush
FR GERARD HATTON celebrated our
Mass on Sunday 8 September and our
lovely Blue Sash Choir sang beautifully
us as they led us in our worship. Our children's liturgy group delighted us with a
little song too when they came back after
the offertory. After Mass Sophie from
CAFOD made an appeal on behalf of
Family Fast Day.

On 26 October Fr Gerard welcomed Sr Michaela who made an appeal on behalf of the Comboni Missionary Sisters. She said she was not just appealing for money but also for our prayers and our love. She told us how she had at times worked in the Sudan, amidst civil war and destruction and how difficult life is for the people there. To illustrate the Gospel message the children had made lines of linked paper dolls, which they brought up to the altar.

Barbara Winstanley

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the January 2015 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 1
December 2014 and for the February 2015 issue by Monday 29 December 2014. Contributions may be sent by email 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.

ARUNDEL



HOSPITALITY seems to have been an ongoing theme in Arundel over the last few weeks. The Fitzalan Chapel was full to overflowing as Friends of Arundel Cathedral joined members of Arundel Museum for a stimulating talk by Oliver Hawkins. The building came to life as he guided us through its 700 year history, marked by events in the lives of the Norfolk family, buried within its walls. The gentle buzz of excited chatter rose and fell as we touched and marvelled at its ancient treasures only to continue our conversations over the excellent cream tea which followed in the Cathedral Cen-

Friends from the other Churches in Arundel joined us for the annual Animal Blessing Service which took place on the Feast of St Francis. This year amid the usual cacophony of squeaks, barks and yowls of prayer and conversation we were delighted at the arrival of two very quiet and slightly nervous donkeys, which helped raise money for less fortunate relatives in the Middle East (see picture).

To end the month the Cathedral parish welcomed friends from all over the diocese joining the celebrations marking the Feast of St Philip Howard. Again conversation, tea and cakes in the Cathedral Centre brought the event to a fitting end.

Hilary Caws

CRAWLEY St Francis, St Anthony and St Bernadette

FR RAFAL MAJEWSKI encourages his fellow Polish countrymen to get involved in the Friary parish life, sharing their cultural traditions. They organised a Polish afternoon for the charity, Friends of the Lisieki Homes in Poland. FLHIP provides care for disadvantaged children. Delicious, home-baked Polish cakes helped to raise £500 for the cause. Fr Rafal expressed in his mother tongue, in the parish newsletter, how proud he was of his people and thanked them for their generosity, declaring the event a resounding success!

Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion boarded the Arundel bound coach for a Day of Recollection at the Cathedral, on 18 October. Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor celebrated Mass followed by a reception with refreshments in the Cathedral Hall.

The Journey into Faith Group hosted a day's pilgrimage to Walsingham on 25 October. About 40 parishioners rose early for a 6.00am departure from the Friary to arrive at the Norfolk shrine, for the 12.00 noon Mass. After the long journey, the Mass and visits to the shrines and village, they were ready for their packed lunches and cups of tea, before heading back at 3.30pm for Crawley and then probably another cup of tea!

Sue Fellows
EASTBOURNE
Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory

and St Agnes
Fr Raglan Hay-Will, Fr David King, Fr
Neil Chatfield and Deacon Paul Scholey
were discussing some books that have
helped them on their journeys of discipleship, and made some of these books available to parishioners from the Repository
as suggested 'Summer Reading'. Each
priest recommended a book of their choice
which was a very popular initiative.

We said farewell to Martin Leonard who was with us during the summer; he

goes to the Seminary in Wonersh to continue his studies for the priesthood; he was particularly remembered along with other seminarians during one of our Holy Hours with Exposition afterwards.

Deacon Paul Scholey led the annual Day of Recollection of the Co-Workers of Bl Mother Teresa. Many people attended and they had a prayerful day followed by Benediction.

Refresher/training sessions have begun again for the Winter Night Shelter which will run in the parish during the coldest winter months on one night a week. Other Churches in Eastbourne also take part so that each Church covers one night; this would not be possible without the help of all the dedicated volunteers and those on the early morning cleaning shift.

A quiz night was held in aid of the Red Shirts hoping to go to Lourdes next year and the St Gregory's roof fund; £840 was raised with half being given to the roof fund.

A Remembrance concert was held in the Church led by the Eastbourne Silver Band together with the choir of Our Lady of Ransom.

St Agnes held a cake sale in aid of the SVP. An Altar Servers get together for pizza and chat was held for the parish altar servers of Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory's and St Agnes.

Mary Staffiere
HASLEMERE

with Hindhead and Chiddingfold PARISHIONERS attended an afternoon of singing when, led by the choir of Our Lady of Lourdes, they started to learn the new Orbis Factor Mass ready for the celebrations next year. Tea and cakes followed in the parish hall.

Another successful quiz night took place in October with 10 tables of eight battling it out for the parish cup. Fr Chris Bergin delivered the questions set by Pauline Prior and acted as ultimate arbiter, while a team of ladies provided a delicious chilli con carne supper.

Around 30 readers from the four Mass centres took part in a workshop arranged by Mary Smith from Woking parish. It proved a most useful morning and everyone was made more aware of the importance of their Ministry. It is planned to commission all readers on Bible Sunday.

Earlier Fr Chris had led a group of pilgrims, including some from the parish, to Turkey and Greece following the steps of St Paul. All agreed it had been a wonderful experience.

Fay Foster

POLEGATE and HAILSHAM ST GEORGE'S, Polegate, had a good response to their CAFOD harvest appeal in October. This was followed by a harvest appeal for the Eastbourne food bank the next weekend. There were several baskets full of tinned goods, mainly meat and vegetables, with long-life milk and fruit juice a close second. These were the goods we were told were in greatest need. The children had worked hard at a display in the front of the altar, and sang a special harvest song when they came in at the offertory.

The children at St Wilfrid's, Hailsham, celebrated our patronal feast on Sunday, 12 October. They learned about our special saint, and brought a cut-out of St Wilfrid to place on the altar. There was a celebration with tea and cakes afterwards, and a feast day raffle made £70 for the new church fund.

Tessa Truman and Ruth Ayres WADHURST

OCTOBER in the Sacred Heart parish has been the usual mix of spiritual, educational and fundraising activity. A small group joined others from the diocese for a day of recollection at Worth Abbey especially focusing on exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and how to promote this devotion.

On Sunday 26 October CTIW met at the Sacred Heart church to have our horizons broadened by a talk from a Street Pastor from Tunbridge Wells who described their work, helping people leaving pubs and clubs in the small hours of the morning and keeping them safe. He also emphasised how important the Prayer Pastors are in underpinning their work.

Our main fund raising activity this autumn has been a barn dance. A week before the event we had not sold enough tickets to cover our costs, panic was setting in so Fr Martin O'Connor read an appeal after all the Masses and suddenly ticket sales doubled. Disaster averted, we had a jolly evening with eight year olds and 80 year olds all the in-between year olds dancing. We also had a posh ploughman's supper and made a profit of more than £700! We've all heard of the Pope Francis effect, we now know we have our own in-house Fr Martin effect!

Peggy Purslow

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

A NEW PARISH CENTRE is a huge asset but to have two opened in 16 months is exceptional. On 11 October the beautiful new building at Holy Family, Reigate, was opened and blessed after a joyful Mass. The opening hymn with its refrain 'All are welcome in this place' said it all. The church looked resplendent after its deep clean, including complete sanding and resealing of the floor. Mass was concelebrated by our resident priests, Frs Chris Spain and Aaron Spinelli, together with Fr Daryl George, the last parish priest of the Holy Family Parish, and Fr Kevin Dring who was at the Nativity of the Lord during the planning stage. Among the 200 present were special guests from architects Tomei & Mackley, from Synergy,(project manager and surveyor) and MCS the builders. In his homily Fr Aaron reminded us that we stand as joyful witnesses, and as we seek to use the fantastic facilities for the mission of the Church, we must be living stones visibly displaying the joy of the gospel.

Fr Chris said the prayer of blessing and Fr Aaron gave the various areas, and those present, a thorough sprinkling with Holy water. Then followed cake cutting and eating, whilst six musicians led by Anne St Hall played delightful background music.

The parish has facilities for every kind of function. St Joseph's, Redhill, offers greater space, a café, plus a dedicated building for pre-school play group. St

Teresa's Merstham has a smaller Community Room and a spacious level garden. Unlike the other facilities, it was built as a millennium project for the benefit of 'Community Groups in the Village of Merstham' and is hired out on a not-forprofit basis.

Ann Lardeur



FROM THE PARISHES

MAYFIELD

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY Mayfield held their annual Harvest Festival Mass on Sunday 5 October. The church was looking particularly magnificent with the amazing autumn arrangements, with real platted breads. The children of the parish proceeded towards the altar with their individual gifts, which Fr Mario Sanderson took and positioned on the altar steps, along with a cornucopia of donations given by the parish. A stall had been made ready in an autumnal sun filled area of the lawn. Business was swift and exciting especially for the children, who approached the CAFOD Harvest Festival stall to buy their items. An amount of £205.65 was donated, which will be forwarded to CAFOD for the excellent necessary work that they do

Story Janet Brodrick-Ward: Picture Lucy Boulter



WEYBRIDGE

THE WEYBRIDGE parish of Christ the Prince of Peace is preparing to celebrate the 25th anniversary of its foundation. Our current church was consecrated by the then Bishop Cormac Murphy-O'Connor on 28 January 1990, following the amalgamation of the previous parishes of St Charles Borromeo and St Martin de Porres. A programme of events, both spiritual and social, is planned throughout 2015 to mark the anniversary. In preparation, later this year, an all-night vigil before the Blessed Sacrament will be held, followed by a celebration Mass on the solemnity of the Christ the King, when we expect many of the past parish priests to concelebrate.

To ensure that even our four-legged parishioners are well prepared for the celebrations our parish priest, Fr Con Foley, performed a blessing of animals on the

feast of St Francis.

 $\begin{array}{c} \textit{Peter Clapham} \\ \textbf{WOKING} \end{array}$

BACK IN 2009, Canon Frank Harrington suggested organising a monthly lunch for elderly parishioners in the function room of our new church. Thanks to willing active parishioners, senior meals were launched and have proved very popular since. Between 40 and 50 OAPs enjoy wine and juice appetisers and a nourishing meal with varied menus, cooked and served by a dedicated band of volunteers. Year 6 pupils from nearby St Dunstan's Primary School joined the diners to serve coffee and hand out raffle prizes.

A more recent addition to our liturgy is a monthly Mass for deceased loved ones, celebrated by Fr Peter Andrews. Parishioners are invited to bring photographs and light candles in memory of their departed. During October the Rosary was

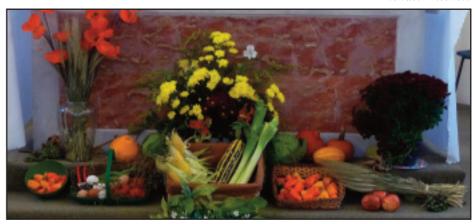
RUSTINGTON

AUTUMN AT ST JOSEPH'S was marked by a number of initiatives both spiritual and social, beginning with the relaunch in September of Children's Liturgy after a lapse of nearly a year. We are delighted to see more families coming to our Sunday Mass.

September also saw the last of this year's 'souper suppers'. This is the second year that we have run these gatherings each month while the evenings are light. They bring together up to 40 parishioners to share a simple meal based on soup and good bread, prepared by a different family or group each time.

Then there was our Harvest Festival on 5 October, when we arrived for Mass to find the sanctuary beautifully decorated with a lavish display of fresh produce supplied and arranged by John Austin with Kath and Brian Pearce. This was followed by our Harvest Supper on 9 October which was fully booked well in advance with 40 people filling our little hall to enjoy fish and chips followed by a selection of desserts supplied by parishioners.

Michael Mitchell



recited every Tuesday evening and has continued being said every month.

Anne Riddoch

WORTHING St Mary of the Angels

THE 10.30AM MASS on Sunday 5 October was a celebration of the Diamond Wedding of Peter and Josephine Saville; Peter has been involved with the training and support of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for many years.

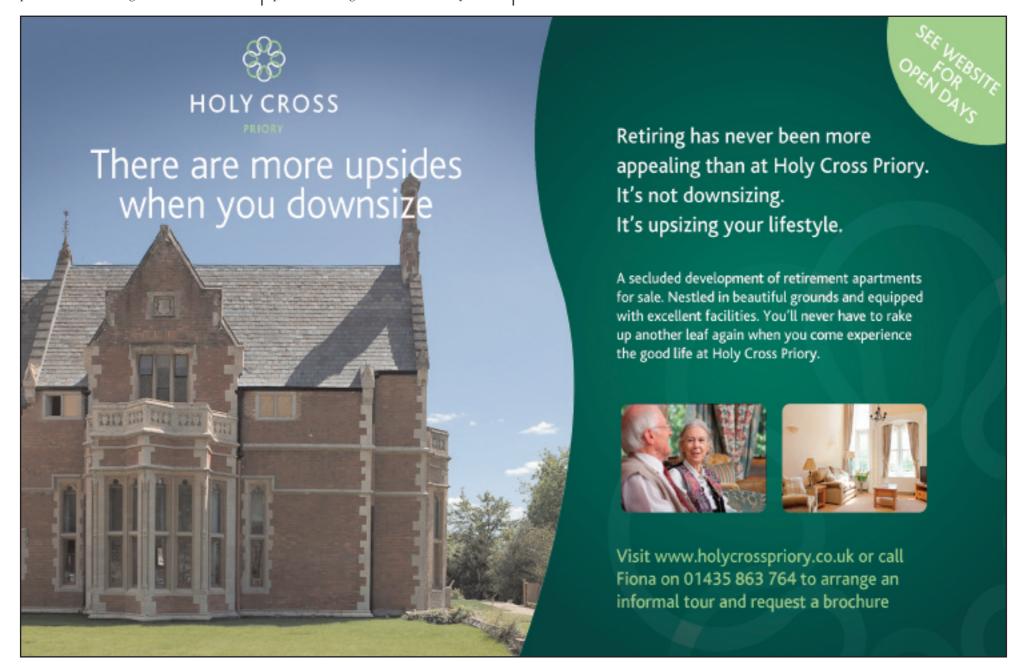
On Sunday12 October the 10.30am Mass was the enrolment Mass for our 43 prospective First Communicants. They all came up to the altar and were each presented with their First Communion books and then put their photographs onto the board to be put up in our social area.

Archbishop Peter Smith, the Apostolic

Administrator of the diocese celebrated the Pontifical Mass to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the dedication of our church on 4 November. There is now a page on our website where parishioners can share their memories and stories of St Mary of the Angels; we hope to build a picture of the community that has built this parish over the last 150 years and preserve these memories for the benefit of future generations of our community for the years to come.

On the feast of All Saints the Church was lit by many candles and a book of entries made by parishioners with the names of deceased relatives and friends was laid before the altar.

 $A strid\ Gibson$



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Salary to be agreed according to qualifications/experience and in line with RSCM recommendations, plus fees for weddings and funerals. A generous budget is also available for the music. As well as necessary musical skills the successful applicant should also have a good understanding of Roman Catholic liturgical practice. Start date - January 2015.

> Applications by mid-December to: The Parish Priest, 39 Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BF sacredhearthove@gmail.com Tel: 01273 732843

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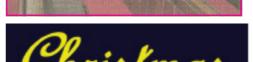
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9.30 am St Stephen's Day Mass Friday 26th Dec

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