THE CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER FOR SURREY & SUSSEX

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton

No 297 October 2015

A & B NEWS



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Tragedy at Shoreham Remembered by Local Churches



MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED people from Shoreham and the neighbourhood gathered at St. Peter's Church in Shoreham -by -Sea for the quarterly unity service of Shoreham Churches Together. On this occasion the service had a unique flavour as together Christians of the local church communities remembered those affected by the crash at Shoreham Airshow on 22 August. Fr Graham Ricketts, parish priest, welcomed the people and, with ministers from the other churches, prayed for those who died, those who mourn them and those affected by the tragedy, especially members of the emergency services. Members of the congregation held lighted candles as they sang the Taize chant, 'Stay with me, remain here with me, watch and pray'. Individuals placed candles before the altar. Many wrote messages and prayers in the Book of Condolence in the church and donated to the airshow crash memorial fund.



Reflecting on the tragedy, Fr Graham said 'This is a terrible tragedy. The whole community has been deeply shocked by the events on Saturday and the news each day as we discover more. To hear of such things is bad enough but to have them unfold before your eyes in places that you pass by every day is truly shocking. We pray for all those involved and affected by this: for the injured, grieving families and loved ones, those in shock and the emergency services. We very much pray for those who have died. They are known and loved by God. We commend them to His mercy. Our churches have been open for prayer, lighting candles and silence, to reflect. St Peter's Day Chapel will continue to be open every day as usual'.

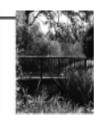
What can we do? Shoreham has been a community in shocked silence this week only echoed by the reverent silence on the Tollbridge *(see picture above)* where people come to reflect, pay their respects and to ask why. At this time we are united in our shock and disbelief. Such events bring out the best in people and we feel closer to one another. In such moments we can only gaze at the cross. We placed a crucifix in the Day Chapel last week to bring our prayers to the crucified one, who suffered in His humanity, like ours, with His mother suffering alongside Him. So we come to Him and bring all those in need of prayer to Him who is the bridge between God and humanity. No words, just prayer. We pray for all who grieve or suffer, for the emergency services and for the souls of those who have died. May they rest in peace'.

Catholic Community in England & Wales offers Loyal Address to Her Majesty

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN ENGLAND & WALES sent a Loyal Address to Her Majesty the Queen to mark the occasion of her reign exceeding that of any British Monarch on 9 September 2015.

In the Address, Cardinal Nichols, President of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, expressed the great loyalty and gratitude felt by the Catholic community for 'the outstanding and unstinting service you gave to our nation and to people throughout the world'. The Address recalls that the burden of high office 'fell upon your shoulders at a young age, and yet ... you have held integrity of service as a high standard and as an examplar for other heads of state and leaders of nations'. Recognising the constant support to Her Majety provided by Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Address goes on to recognise the Queen's 'steadfast insistence on the great importance of the Christian faith, given in both word and example, alongside your appreciation of the contribution made by other religions in our rich and diverse society today'. It concludes by assuring the Queen of our prayers for her, both now and in the future. Indeed, a special prayer (see right) has been prepared for the occasion of Her Majesty becoming the longest reigning monarch in British history.

Almighty God, We pray that Elizabeth your Servant and Our Queen, Who, by your providence has received the governance of this Realm, May continue to grow in every virtue, that, imbued with your heavenly grace, she may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil, And being blessed with your favour May, with her Consort and all the Royal Family,



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Come at last into your presence, Through him who is the Way, the Truth and the Life,

Our Lord Jesus Christ, Who lives and reigns with you In the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God,

for ever and ever, Amen.



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My hundred first days - Bishop Richard in conversation with A & B NEWS

Installed as the fifth Bishop of Arundel & Brighton Diocese on 28 May 2015, Bishop Richard talks to Peter Burholt about his experiences of his first hundred days as our leader.

The day we met at High Oaks was the day of this anniversary. Conversation was aided by mugs of coffee and jam donuts, which quickly proved that our bishop is a real person - liking things that you or I should resist! We talked about the run up to his installation at Arundel Cathedral and onto his thoughts about our future.

You were bishop to the Armed Forces. Did this involve lots of travel and being chauffeured around from one formal officers' mess dinner to another?

A wide smile came across his face as he imagined this image. It wasn't quite like that - a few Mess Dinners each year, yes. I travelled about 25,000 miles in the car in a typical twelve months. As for the chauffeur, I drove myself.

Did you have an official rank and did people salute you?

No, I was a civilian, although - 'accorded the courtesies' (as the Military put it) with three-star rank (Lieutenant General to you and I). I would have saluted on rare occasions - on the Military Pilgrimage to Lourdes sometimes. I was in post for a total of five and a half years and made many good friends - the nearest I got to the combat zone was visiting Camp Bastion - I would have got in the way on the front line as it would have tied up too many with my security.

What was it like at this year's remembrance service at the Cenotaph in Whitehall?

Did you have lunch with Her Majesty afterwards?

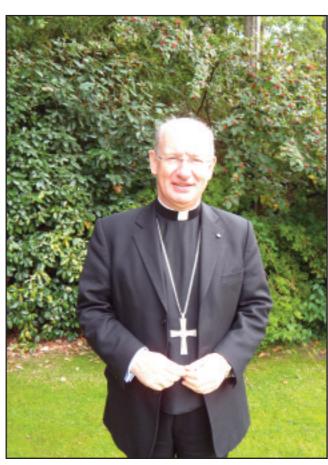
Attending this service is an amazing experience and is a huge privilege as I represent the whole of the Catholic Church. Stepping out into a completely silent street is very moving indeed. We do not

lunch with the Royal Family afterwards as, apart from Her Majesty and Prince Philip, other members of the Royal Family take the salute at other war memorials. I always tried to join the Royal Navy in a pub in Whitehall after event.

Turning to your appointment, did you have any idea that this was about to happen? Where were you?

Absolutely no idea at all, it came as a complete surprise to me. The process for the appointment of a bishop is kept completely confidential, so people are under a strict rule not to divulge anything. Where was I at the time when the Papal Nuncio's office rang? I'm not sure - ah yes, I was in my office in the Aldershot barracks. The message was 'Come and see me in Wimbledon'. I really had no idea what it was all about, however, mypredecessor in the Armed Forces was moved after a similar length of appointment.

Our picture shows Bishop Richard in his garden at Pease Pottage



When you went to the Papal Nuncio, did you get a choice?

At this point Bishop Richard's smiling eves looked straight at your correspondent He chuckled at the memory.

When you are told that the Holy Father has appointed you Bishop of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, it is not the time to even hesitate in one's reply let alone say 'Let me go away and think about it'! My ethos throughout my priestly life is to accept what I am given to do and not to question it. I have and I will always go where I am sent. I wanted to be a priest since I was ten.

Was it a sad moment leaving the Armed Forces?

Most definitely - it had been a great honour to be their bishop and I found tremendous examples of Faith, sometimes in the most unexpected places with the most unexpected people. I made some good friends.

Did you know much about our Diocese?

Yes, I did know a bit. I knew some priests from my time being trained as a priest at Wonersh. I lived in Edenbridge when I was growing up and I could throw a cricket ball into the Diocese! I do not even need a map to find most places I now go to in A&B. Your first one hundred days, by anyone's standard, has been full on.

That is an understatement. My installation at Arundel Cathedral was great. From then on it was a bit like building a jigsaw, quickly going to places like all the deaneries. I have had such a wonderful welcome - I must say that I do like meeting people and I can often remember faces. I must confess to be slower with names. The celebration of Festival 50 at the AMEX was such a memorable occasion, which gave me an opportunity to meet so many from the Diocese. I am still in awe on the way in which it was arranged, especially as it was the first such occasion.

My first 'solo' occasion was celebrating Mass the day after my installation with the Poor Clares at Crossbush. I did enjoy that occa-

sion.

Were you given a Bishop's Guide to Running a Diocese?

No, not at all - although, as a Canon Lawyer, I have a book or two! Handovers can be very quick. I remember my handover in the Armed Forces was over in a couple of hours.I am finding my way, but I have already seen a great enthusiasm and hope for the future from the team and parishioners. One key element is my belief in mission, formation and prayer. For me, without prayer nothing else is possible. The Mission is the 'vardstick' against which we measure everything and formation is vital to fulfil the mission. We have so much that is positive in our parishes and schools - but there will always be so much to be done. Formation throughout life will help people to live in Faith through those big moments of change - when children leave home, at retirement, at moments of bereavement. I would like us to be truly a diocese where formation and growth in Faith takes place right through life.

(Continues on page 3)



Walking and Sharing Tales until Indefinite Immigration Detention Ends in the UK.

A NINETY MILE WALK took place from 13 to 21 June this year to both celebrate Refugee Week and echo the journey that is the migrant's defining experience. By walking from Kent to Surrey along an ancient track, the walkers looked to establish the fact that journeys are integral to our landscape and that they provide the stories out of which our shared histories emerge.

The organisers, Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group, are trying to counter the silencing that is so much a part of the migrants' experience by demonstrating that refugees and asylum seekers are no more and no less than people who have had to move. This group was set up by the Diocesan Justice & Peace Group in 1995 to offer friendship and support to asylum seekers and other migrants held in the two detention centres at Gatwick Airport. Following the success of the walk, awareness raising relating to the intolerable situations of many refugees will continue and increase as follow on events and publications are arranged.

The walk started in Dover on Saturday 13 June and on Sunday the pilgrims arrived in Canterbury where they were welcomed in a prayer service in the Cathedral. The walk continued through Kent and into Surrey and ended on Sunday 21 June with a reprise of the Tales in the Hawth Theatre, Crawley. The walkers experienced warm hospitality from start to finish. The final day began in Ling-field and headed to East Grinstead. Hospitality was organised by the East Grinstead Justice and Peace Group who are a local ecumenical group promoting social justice at the heart of our Christian living. Walkers were treated to a buffet lunch at the East Court Mansion before picking up many more day walkers for the final leg along the Worth Way to Crawley. There was one final opportunity to be welcomed as well over 100 walkers were treated to tea and cakes at St Nicholas Church in Worth.

The modern pilgrims, each day, followed in the footsteps of Chaucer's travellers walking the Pilgrims' Way via Canterbury, in recognition of the long journeys to safety made today by countless refugees.

Each evening they heard stories: tales of flight from persecution and war interpreted by wellknown writers and poets. The Refugee's Tale, The Chaplain's Tales, the Unaccompanied Minor's Tale were just some of the 'Tales' performed along the way. One example of these tales, The Detainee's Tale, can be found on the Guardian website from the award winning writer Ali Smith. (http://www.theguardian.com/books/2015/jun/27/ali-smith-so-far-the-detainees-tale-extract). Leading writers have worked closely with ex-detainees using varied styles to retell their stories. A book containing all these tales will be launched during Refugee Week in June 2016.

The evening events were very well attended by non-walking members of the local community and have been described as 'electrifying' and 'making the hairs on the back of your neck stand up'.



The Refugee Tales website has a page with information about getting involved, this includes, for example, how to

- Contact your MP
- * Volunteer with a local visitors group
- Volunteer with a local organisation supporting asylum seekers, refugees or migrants in your local community
- * Raise awareness about Indefinite Detention in your local area

The next reunion walk is on Saturday 17 October please contact Aidan Cantwell if you are interested in joining it. Aidan has been involved in the planning of the Refugee Tales walk and has enjoyed

enormously the opportunity Refugee Tales has given him to meet new people. In particular the opportunity Refugee Tales has given him to literally walk alongside people who have been held in detention and to get to know them, this has been a real privilege.

For more information about the future of this exciting project either visit the website http://refugeetales.org/ or contact Aidan Cantwell, Diocesan Justice & Peace/Social Action Adviser Tel (01293) 651154 email Aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org

Canon Brian O'Sullivan RIP

We regret to announce the death on 21 August of Canon Brian O'Sullivan We will carry his obituary in our next issue





Prisoners' Sunday 11 October: Sheila's Story



M Y NAME IS SHEILA and on occasion of the soon-to-come Prisoners' Sunday I would like to tell you something about PACT - The

Prison Advice & Care Trust and the work it does. PACT is an independent Catholic charity which has been helping people in prison and supporting their families and children in England and Wales since 1898.

I got to know PACT over 15 years ago. At the time my son was only sixteen years old and was put into prison for the first time. Imagine my reaction, I was in pieces and didn't know what to do. Someone from the Social Services suggested I go to PACT's office and so I did. I was feeling embar-

rassed and hesitant to talk about my situation with other people and I feared that I would be judged, but at Pact they offered me a non-judgemental listening ear to pour my heart out to.

People think that when someone goes to prison it is because they are 'bad' and they deserve it. It is true that my son has made mistakes, committed crime, and therefore has been sentenced to prison: he deserves to be in prison.

However, the situation is more complex than that; my children and I were victims of an abusive and violent father/husband for twenty-two years. What they had to see marked their lives forever. Aren't husbands supposed to love their wives? So what is the world about if instead he beats her, stabs her, and threatens her?

My children grew up with an anger inside them that they simply didn't know how to manage. My older son was able to go beyond the pain, move on from the past, and now has a beautiful healthy family. My other son was not so fortunate and he was overwhelmed by it.

During the 13 years he was in prison PACT helped me with both the big and the little things. I regularly called the helpline; anytime I needed someone they would get me through things I couldn't do alone. They organized meetings with other people who had a family member in prison and that was very important because there I knew that people would understand me. They knew what I was going through. When someone goes to prison the family are often forgotten. We are the hidden victims. We are sentenced too - but there is little understanding or sympathy for us. We have to face the stigma and get on with it. But at PACT they really understand the needs of families and with them you feel supported. I don't know how I would've coped without their help. This is why I decided to become a helpline volunteer myself!



There are many ways you can show your support for people affected by imprisonment this Prisoner's Sunday. You can pray, you can donate money, and/or you can Volunteer your time. No matter what you can do, please remember us - the families, the children, the offenders, the victims - and everyone who has fallen into the whirlwind that follows crime.

Story by Sheila with Sara Boccacci, Supporter Relations Team, PACT

(There are five prisons in A&B Diocese: Banstead, Coldingley, Ford, Lewes and Send)

Open Days: Saturday October 10th (Prep: ages 3–13) Saturday November 7th (Senior: ages 13–18)

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A&B NEWS The official monthly paper of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

Much to look forward to

THE DIOCESE HAS HAD a period of great excitement this summer. We saw the appointment and installaation of our new bishop in time for him to lead us in celebrating Festival 50 with us. That great event has left everyone who was there, and many who could not make it, with many happy memories, new freindships and new ways of growing in faith. Now we can build on that great experience.

Bishop Richard has shared with A & B NEWS some his feelings about his first 100 days and, indeed many people have already met him and talked with him.

Soon the whole Church will be entering into a time of meditating on God's mercy, hopefully, on conciously experiencing it and sharing it with others.

We have much hope in our hearts and much to look forward to.

Pauline 7 granes

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JUST A THOUGHT Married Love

CHRIST, THE BRIDEGROOM so loved his bride the Church that he gave himself up for her, in order to make her holy and his presence at the Wedding of Cana raises marriage to a new dignity, restoring it to the original holiness intended by his heavenly Father.

Marriage is indeed about love, but that word isn't to be reduced to a feeling or emotion. That isn't a solid foundation for marriage, because if we've fallen in love, there's a risk that one day we might fall out of love. Love must be freely given; total, faithful and fruitful, otherwise it isn't love.

And so, Christ gives this 'New Commandment' to love one another as he has loved us. 'Love', says St John, 'comes from God'; best expressed in the incarnation, when 'God sent into the world his only Son so that we might have life through him'. Love is an action. 'Greater love hath no man', says Christ 'that he lav down his life for a friend'. This is that 'agape' love, the total self-offering of one for the sake of another; there's no room for selfishness. It's the depth of love Christ shows in announcing 'the good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind and in proclaiming a year of favour from the Lord' The grace of Christian marriage is a fruit of Christ's redemptive love and the blood and water flowing from his side becomes the



PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP RICHARD for theTwenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 6 September 2015

Dear brothers and sisters,

In today's Gospel, Jesus heals the hearing and speech of a man with a word - 'Be opened'. When we bring children for Baptism, the celebration brings this event before us as we hear the words: 'May he touch your ears to receive his word and your mouth to proclaim his faith.' This little prayer is a wonderful expression of our hope for the newly baptised - that they have the opportunity to hear the Word of God and that they respond by proclaiming it to others.

The word of Jesus and the words of this prayer call us to Mission. For we must open our minds and hearts to the Word who is Life and we must proclaim the Word whom we hear. This is the task, the responsibility, of every one of us. This is the mission of the Diocese.

In the short time since my appointment to the Diocese, I have seen this mission being fulfilled in many wonderful ways - in celebration and witness at the Festival 50 celebrations, in the care and shared prayer of our pilgrimage to Lourdes, in the deaneries, parishes and schools that I have been able to visit, where so much is done to form people in Faith. Yet there is so much to be done, for the mission of the Church is never ending as we seek to respond to the needs of our time and the yearning for truth that is present in the heart of every person.

A first step for every one of us on the road to hearing Jesus' word to us, in all its wonder and challenge is to acknowledge our own frailty, shortcomings and failures. Experiencing the Mercy of the Father does more than encourage us to be merciful. So, mercy - love in action - becomes an imperative, something that is no longer an option. 'Be merciful as your heavenly Father is merciful, says the Lord.' The real encounter with the Love and Mercy of God is an experience of Call - the Call is, as St. James reminds us in today's second reading, to invite all people home to the Love and Mercy of the Father, experienced in the One Whom he has sent.

Pope Francis, in introducing the Church to the Year of Mercy, writes: 'Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. Hence, our preparation and celebration of the Year of Mercy should be related in every way to the Mission of the Church.

Our parishes must be communities of mercy - mercy for one another, lived out in such a way that our witness will be a constant invitation to others to encounter the wonder of the Father's love for us. Our homes should be places of mercy, where all in the family are enabled to grow in the understanding of the mystery of God's love that we encounter in Christ. Our schools must continue in their mission to enable our young people to take their place in the Church and in the wider society as missionaries of God's mercy. As members of Christ's Church, may we open our minds and hearts to be formed completely by our encounter with the mystery of the Lord's Mercy. We experience that encounter in a very particular way in the Sacraments: the Eucharist, the Sacrament of the Sick and in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It must surely be the case that when we realise the wonder of these gifts, we are also called to reflect on the gift of the Priesthood in the life of the Church and in the Mission in which we all share. Pray each day in thanksgiving for the priests who serve in our Diocese. Pray, too, that others will answer the call to serve as priests, for the encounter with a merciful Church will also be an encounter with the wonder of the Sacraments that bring forgiveness, healing and strength for the mission.

Every one of us, in our own way, is unequal to the task that lies ahead. We need to hear the words of Isaiah, in today's first reading: 'Courage! Do not be afraid.' Our encounter with the Mercy of the Father is a life-changing experience. When we recognise our weakness, we find a strength far greater than we could have imagined, or found within ourselves. We have many gifts, as individuals and as a Diocese. Relying then on the mercy of the Father who loves us, in the strength that comes from the Spirit, may we be ever-more committed to the Mission to which Christ has called us to proclaim the wonders of the Lord and call all people to know the Mercy, Joy and Peace that is found only in Him.

With every Blessing,

+ lilitary

Bishop of Arundel & Brighton

My first hundred days (Continued from page 2)

Given your predecessor's departure, did you have any trepidation at becoming our bishop?

A straight reply came to a straight question.

No, I did not. Naturally, I was saddened about the circumstances as Bishop Kieran has done so much good, not only for A&B but elsewhere, especially in Evangelisation. He was a great loss. The way I look at it is that all families have their problems and we must look to the healing in the person of Christ. I am trying to be a good shepherd. Part of the smooth changeover was due to the fact that Archbishop Peter was able to step in and the Holy See did, I am sure, work hard to make the appointment. I was really grateful to be appointed by the time Festival 50 took place. Where do you get your energy from? In Lourdes you appeared to be everywhere.

The Lord blessed me with stamina and I get energy from people. However, a vital part of my day is to find time for prayer. That is most important to me. Often this happens in the early morning.

Did you have any special memories from Lourdes?

Is it true that you like horse riding and drinking Harvey's beer? If so, do you do both together?

Whoever told you that? I have always enjoyed riding since my teenage years. When I was with the Military, I used to ride at Sandhurst. Once I am settled here in A&B I shall start again. I do enjoy the occasional pint - it is many-a-year since I have had a glass of beer while on a horse! What makes you sad?

Up until now, Bishop Richard had bounced back his responses with ease. This question took a few moments longer to find a reply.

Let me answer your question like this. I am, naturally, a person who is half full and not half empty so being sad is not normally part of my make-up. However, it is always sad to learn of someone who has left the Church because of something that was said and to see someone lose sight of the presence of the Lord. I am also sad if I feel I have not done as well as I could.

What makes you happy?

One particular instance springs to mind: receiving a Regimental Seargant

wellspring of the whole Christian life. Fr Simon Dray (preached at the celebration of his parents' 40th Wedding anniversary)

> The Synod of the Family takes place during October

Yes, many memories - but two stick out. The Anointing of the Sick, especially when I anointed Canon Brian O'Sullivan (may he rest in peace) and the Red Shirts candle lighting service at the Grotto. **How would you like to see the Diocese react to the upcoming Year of**

How would you like to see the Diocese react to the upcoming Year of Mercy?

The Pope tells us that 'Mercy is the foundation of the Church's life'. I want this to be an important year for us - it is a tremendous opportunity and it touches on mission, formation and prayer, which we discussed earlier. Discussions have already started with the Diocesan agencies and we will start our programme on 9 December this year. I believe this fits in with our future in A&B. We are on a pilgrimage together. The Year of Mercy does give us an opportunity to re-focus on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You asked about the Holy Doors initiative. It is about having our doors open for everyone, not just in the Cathedral but elsewhere too. People must find a welcome when they go through a Holy Door - so I would, for instance, plan to be in the Cathedral on some occasions, hearing Confessions.

Major into the Church - he having come to faith through the example of his Commanding Officer during a tour of Afghanistan. I guess completing a perfect 20 metre circle on horseback could be included! I am always honeful.

Archbishop Peter commented to the A&B News that he would like to swap his job with yours. How about you?

It is not 'yes' and it is not 'no'. As I said earlier, I will do the work of the Lord - wherever it takes me.

It was time to go and let this busy man take on the rest of his day. It was indeed a pleasure to interview our new bishop, to learn of some of his views and to share some of his experiences. We have a leader who will give us good guidance and, in his words, will try to be our Good Shepherd. Thanks be to God for giving us your servant and may we, in our turn, live up to his expectations of us.

See Bishop Richard's pastoral letter above

New Multifaith Room at Gatwick Chaplaincy



Pictured above are Bishop Richard, Mrs Jean Wells, Deacon Ian Wells and Sr Jo Threlfall

THE NEW MULTIFAITH PRAYER ROOM in the North Terminal was officially opened on 30 July, in a Dedication Ceremony attended by leaders of a number of different faiths. We were very happy to welcome Bishop Richard on this occasion.

A group of about fifty faith leaders and airport staff gathered at the entrance while Her Worship Cllr Chris Cheshire, Mayor of Crawley Borough, declared this prayer space open. The prayer service that followed heard contributions from a wide variety of faith communities including Mufti Huzaifa Bora from the Broadfield Mosque; the Rt Rev Richard Moth, Bishop of the RC Diocese of Arundel & Brighton; the Rt Reverend Mark Sowerby, Anglican Bishop of Horsham; Lieut. Colonel Ray Irving, Divisional Commander of the Salvation Army, London SE Division, Richard Heybroek, Gatwick Buddhist Chaplain and many others.

We prayed for all people of faith and none who had enabled the establishment of the multifaith prayer room and for all staff at Gatwick Airport who have responsibility for the care, wellbeing and safety of passengers. We prayed for air travellers; for their peace of mind and safe arrival at their destination. We prayed for all chaplains and faith leaders in the Airport that they may retain the integrity of their own beliefs while respecting the faith of others.

The ceremony really showed how important it is to have a space for people of faith and of none who come in search of silence, peace or the opportunity to pray for their own needs, in an oasis of welcome and calm.

The Catholic Chaplaincy team includes Deacon Ian Wells and Mrs Jean Wells with Sr Jo Threlfall SND (all part time) who do a Liturgy of the Word and Communion service and are available to respond to any passengers or staff in the airport, on two or three days in the week.

On Sundays we depend on retired priests to say Mass at midday, for which we are very grateful. Until about 15 years ago we had a full time priest serving this chaplaincy but unfortunately this is not possible now with the shortage of priests.

Story by Sr Jo Threlfall SND

Remembering the Lourdes Pilgrimage 2015



The happy pilgrims from Hotel Paradis

HAVE JUST ARRIVED BACK from the Arundel and Brighton Pilgrimage to Lourdes. When you come to Lourdes it is a different experience. There were daily Masses and reflections on the readings, and as always the singing was beautiful. I like the way Anne Ward, who was directing the music, invites everyone to sing in her choir. She invites anyone who can play an instrument and makes them most welcome. She puts in a lot of energy and encouragement to get the music right.

We were privileged this year to have our very own Bishop Richard Moth. He circulated amongst the pilgrims whether sick or able bodied and talked to everyone. He came to the hotel Paradis Party and one night had supper with the pilgrims.

We come away from Lourdes with an inner peace and an overwhelming sense of longing for the Lord and Our Lady.

I would like to give thanks to the priests, deacons, doctors, nurses, care helpers, Red Shirts and all others who have given their time to make this pilgrimage so enjoyable and prayerful for everyone.

Our Lady of Lourdes Pray For Us Saint Bernadette Pray For Us Saint Philip Howard Pray For Us

Story by Anita de Lacey, picture by Lacaze

DAME

Ordinations at St Hugh's Charterhouse, Parkminster

Fr John Babeau, Prior of St Hugh's writes

ONE OF OUR MONKS, Pachomius Vu, born in Vietnam, was ordained a deacon by Bishop Richard Moth on 21 September 2014, and then a priest on Tuesday 1 September 2015. He is the first priest ever ordained by Bishop Richard.

As can be seen on the photo below, there were three Vietnamese priests concelebrating with us, two of them ministering for the Vietnamese faithful in UK, and one in Germany.

Bishop Richard will come again on 28 September to ordain a Deacon. On 21 July, we had another Priest ordination performed by Bishop Paul Hendricks.



It's all about the best years of your life





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The Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Pastoral Team



Serving the communities of our Diocese

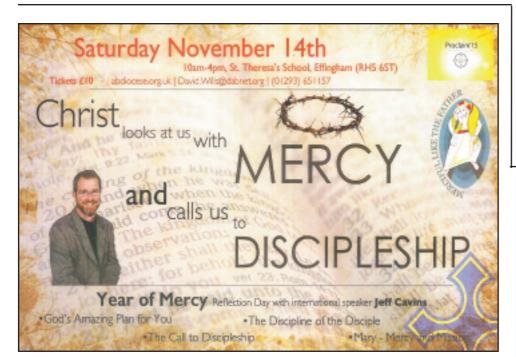
How one parish began Family Groups - could your parish do the same?

A T THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR, I embarked on my mission to start up Parish Family Groups in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton using the Passionist Family Group Movement model. This project is based on the notion that developing stronger bonds between groups of families within parishes will have a strengthening effect on the parish community as a whole. This research project is looking at the benefits of Parish Family Groups in the context of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. There are indications that Parish Family Groups have brought benefits to parishes in other parts of the world.

The intention is to establish and evaluate a minimum of six new Parish Family Groups in the diocese. Parish Family Groups as a model seeks to bring about these benefits through a structured process. I met with Fr Kevin Griffin of St Mary's, Crowborough (my home parish) initially in March to discuss the project. In May, I met with Fr Kevin again and his pastoral team at St Mary's to discuss taking Parish Family Groups forward.

Starting at the beginning of June for 4 weeks consecutively, Fr Kevin inserted a Parish Family Groups newsletter into the parish bulletin. A poster was also displayed on the noticeboard and Fr Kevin spoke regularly to the parishioners about the onset of Parish Family Groups. I also displayed the Parish Family Groups board *(see picture right)* at several key events during the build up to the presentation weekend.

During the last weekend of June, I spoke at both Masses at St Mary's and was available to answer any queries after Mass and hand out leaflets. After the presentation, parishioners were given the opportunity to register their interest immediately. Registration forms and pens were positioned on the chairs in advance. Fr Kevin allowed time for forms to be filled in and collected afterwards. At the end of the weekend, we had approximately 70 forms with an even split over the two Masses. We sorted through the forms and made 7 groups and identified potential leaders. Several further registrations forms were returned after the presentation weekend and were added in. Likewise, one member pulled out unfortunately. Forms continue to filter in.



Marriage and Family Life Notices

For more information (and to register for the Mass or Course) contact Katherine Bergin, Telephone: 01293 651152, Email: <u>katherine.bergin@dabnet.org</u>

Marriage Anniversary Mass 2015

Bishop Richard Moth will celebrate this year's Mass on Saturday 17 October 2015



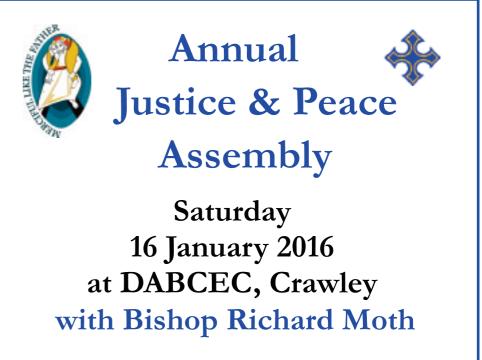
Potential leaders were invited to a leader briefing two weeks later. It took the format of an informal discussion group and we watched the Steering Group film. Most of the potential leaders attended the briefing but many felt they were unable to take on such a role. They also expressed concern that there were too many groups. Taking this on board, I combined the 7 groups into 3 larger groups. This meant that any potential leaders could share the load between them.

About three weeks after the presentation weekend, we held the follow up session for all members. This date had been advertised in the final Parish Family Groups newsletter (week 4) and mentioned by Fr Kevin during Mass. I also emailed and texted members to remind them if they had provided these details. The launch evening was very well attended and there was good representation from members for all three groups. Approx 25 members attended which was nearly half of all families who registered. And apologies were received from around another 20 members who were still interested but unable to attend.

As members arrived, they were introduced to their group and other members and given an icebreaker and leaflets. Fr Kevin spoke briefly, we said a family prayer and I talked about practicalities and housekeeping of groups. We watched the Steering Group film again and afterwards had refreshments. All three groups were successful in arranging a date for their next meeting. Follow up involved writing/emailing to all members including those who were unable to attend and giving them details of their group's next meeting. Groups will then meet up after the summer holidays and will need support to ensure they continue to arrange gatherings and include any new members.

> For further information please contact me - Kat Pond Parish Family Groups Project Officer Marriage and Family Life 01293 651155

(I work part-time so I may not respond immediately)



Our theme will be

at 12 noon in Arundel Cathedral. Couples celebrating a significant or landmark anniversary are warmly invited to apply for places.

Diocesan Supporting the Bereaved Course 2015/16

Does your parish offer support to the bereaved? Could you befriend someone who has been bereaved? Why not speak to your parish priest about setting up or helping with a group. The next diocesan course, which is led by a CRUSE trained Counsellor, will take place over several Wednesdays in January, February and March 2016 at DABCEC in Crawley. *Taster Day* on 21 October 2015. Limited places - book early to avoid disappointment

What does it mean to be A Poor Church for the Poor?

focusing on poverty in the UK and including a Call to Action

Speakers and further details to be announced in due course

To register an interest and to receive more information please email Aidan Cantwell, Justice & Peace/Social Action Adviser <u>aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org</u>

Song and Music in Religious Education



ON THE PRIMARY RE COORDINATORS' DAY, the Education Service welcomed the internationally renowned musician John Burland to lead a training day for teachers at DABCEC. John Burland is currently the Project Officer for Liturgy and Music for the Catholic Education Office in Sydney, Australia. As an educator and composer he has been writing and recording religious music for children for over twenty years. Each year John travels to more than one hundred Catholic communities celebrating the Catholic faith through the great gifts of music and song.

This year, on his visit to England, teachers across the diocese were invited to spend a day with John exploring ways to enhance teaching and learning in RE through music and song. As religious educators we recognise the power of song to enrich our children's journey in faith.

Song deepens understanding, adds enjoyment to learning, nurtures prayer, and fosters celebration. Using song and simple movement John Burland effectively demonstrated how music could be easily incorporated into religious education as a highly effective teaching and learning tool.

Story from the Schools Department

Are St Michael's Altar Servers Unique?



HERE AT ST. MICHAEL'S, WORTHING we have been blessed with many altar servers over the years. At present we have a most unusual situation in that we have a family of four boys and a family of three girls who serve at the 8.30 and 10.30 Masses respectively.

It would be interesting to know if this is unique. The photographs (*above*) show both families.

Story and pictures by Peter Bone

Could You Help a Young Person Become Independent?

Could you offer more than a room? Most people in the South East are familiar with the lack of housing the region has to offer. Whilst the majority of people find somewhere safe to live, the same can't be said of some vulnerable young people. The children's charity Barnardo's and a number of local residents are trying to prevent this from happening by finding new homes for young people at risk of living on the streets.

Olly Davidson, the Service Manager, said: 'We are pleased to be working with some incredibly

It's Ant and Dec...and Fr Aaron?



TWENTY YEARS OLD PROMISE led to a brief encounter. It had nothing to do with the romantic meeting in the classic film, Brief Encounter. Neither did it occur at a railway station. This was an encounter with stars Ant and Dec at an airport. Fr. Aaron Spinelli was flying to Seville to officiate at the marriage of his close school friend Damien Kingsley-Tomkins. They had agreed that should Aaron become a priest he would definitely 'do' Damien's wedding. In July it became a joyful reality.

On the same flight were Ant and Dec, keeping a low profile behind newspapers. However, they were spotted not only by Fr. Aaron but by other passengers. Whilst waiting to reclaim baggage Ant and Dec posed for photos with fans, and Fr. Aaron ask for one too, revealing to Dec he was in the same profession as his older brother Dermott. Fr. Dermott Donnelly is Dean of Newcastle Cathedral and on 1August officiated at the marriage of Dec and his finance at St. Michael's Church, Elswick, Newcastle.

Story by Ann Lardeur

Be inspired every day in your walk with Christ

generous people to offer a second chance to local young people who don't have anywhere else to go'.

The scheme was started at the end of 2014 alongside Brighton and Hove City Council with the aim of supporting young people who may be homeless or leaving the care system. Together with the council, the charity offers supported lodgings to help vulnerable young people make a smooth transition to independent living. Eddie Miller, 78, a Barnardo's Supported Lodgings host said: 'I can see it's a very good idea to have young care leavers staying with a family, so they can learn to budget, cook and live on their own.'

Barnardo's are looking for volunteers to open their doors to young people who are at risk of being homeless by offering them a safe and secure place to live. The service is looking for individuals or families to provide a home for 16 to 21 year-olds, along with emotional care, practical advice and confidence building to boost self-sufficiency. Hosts will receive round-the-clock assistance and a dedicated key worker, a comprehensive training programme and will receive an allowance of £150 per week.

If you live within a 20 mile radius of Brighton & Hove and would like more information about becoming a Supported Lodgings host, contact Olly or Lauren on 01273 412010, email brightonlodg-ings@barnardos.org.uk or follow @bhovelodgings on Twitter.

Story by Oliver Davidson

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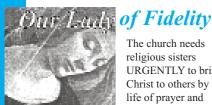
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OBITUARY

MARY MCARDELL was a maid of Kent, born at St Margaret's at Cliffe, near Dover. On leaving school she attended technical college in Folkstone talking courses in shorthand, typing and book keeping. Equipped with these skills, she worked as a secretary for the local cooperative society.

Then providence took a hand! Aged 21, Mary was living with

her aunt and uncle in Hythe. The nearby police training college regularly invited local young women to social events and one evening she attended a dance on someone else's ticket. When taxis were organised at the end, she found herself stuck. Luckily, a handsome young policeman named Bryan McArdell vouched for her and the rest was history. Marrying in 1962 they moved around according to Bryan's postings, ending up in Crawley.

Mary started, at first part-time, then full time, as a secretary at our diocesan Christian Education Centre in Crawley (DABCEC). There she became well known to many in our diocese. Through her fifteen-year tenure and various changes of staff, she put her talents to good use, keeping the administration of the diocese on track.

It was more than just a job; during her time at DABCEC she visited both Lourdes, where she worked as part of the catering team, and the Holy Land on pilgrimage. She made some great friends at work, with whom she kept in contact and affectionately referred to as the DABchicks.

Following the joint retirement with Bryan in 1999 they returned to Hythe and Mary got involved with the local community. She joined the Hythe and District Garden Society, where she was a prize-winning flower arranger, the Saltwood Village WI and the Union of Catholic Mothers.

In 2008 she suffered a debilitating stroke. Just a year ago, Mary and Bryan moved to Redhill, to be nearer family and to make life a little easier. It was always good to see her and Bryan at Mass and the joy she had with her young grandchildren.

The recent diagnosis of a terminal illness came out of the blue. She accepted her diagnosis with great strength. Mercifully, she was only in hospital for a very short time. She died peacefully on 5 August 2015 as she had lived, surrounded by her family and with the comfort of her strong faith.

Adapted by Ann Lardeur from Tribute by her son Ian. Picture: Ian

NOTICE BOARD

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again through divorce, separation or the death of a partner from 2 to 4 October 2015 at the Emmaus Centre in West Wickham, Kent.

For more details please telephone Sandra Maishman 01293 783965, Freda Bacon 01322-838415 or John Brotherton 01992-642443 or Email: johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

MASS FOR THE DEAF

First Saturday of each month - 1pm at St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, Horsham RH12 2PJ



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

Help Niger to reap a rich harvest this coming Fast Day

F IT WASN'T SO TRAGIC you might be encouraged to smile at the irony of Harvest Fast Day this year being used to raise money for the country where it is notoriously difficult to harvest anything. Niger is the world's poorest country with more than six out of every ten people living below the poverty line and life expectancy of just fifty-five years. 120,000 children die each year from malnutrition before the age of five. Although it is 80% desert, because it is totally land-locked, farming is the main source of livelihood. However, with sixteen floods and five droughts in the past ten years, mere existence is extremely precarious. CAFOD and its local partners, with your ever-generous help, is committed to doing all it can to tackle the root causes of so much abject poverty and malnutrition.

Our projects in Niger are teaching people the skills they need to grow crops that can withstand extreme weather and training communities to protect their land, as well as providing the tools to put this into practice. Few of us in our diocese dig the soil to make a living so instead we ask you to dig deep in your pockets this coming Fast Day. Your support will help to bring hope to so many people.

Story: Ian Hamilton, CAFOD Volunteer St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Surrey GU50QX Spread the word: cafodarundelbrighton.wordpress.com

twitter.com/MartinCAFOD facebook.com/cafod.anb

Volunteer with us to transform lives across the world

BISHOP'S DIARY

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Sat 26	12 Noon	Mass for Altar Servers, Arundel Cathedral
Sun 27	5.30pm	Vespers at Oxford Oratory
Mon 28	8.00am	Ordination to the Diaconate of Dom Hesychios Jones at Parkminster
	2 00mm	
Mon 28	2.00pm 7.00pm	Memorial Service for Lady Sarah Clutton, Arundel Cathedral Meeting at DABCEC
Tue 29	1	Meeting in London
Wed 30		Spiritual Day at Worth Abbey
Thu 1		Bless Hall at Effingham and Feast Day Mass at St Theresa's
I IIU I	10.50am	School, Effingham
	7.00pm	Dinner with Crawley Catenian's
Fri 2	7.30pm	Mass at St Peter's, Hove
Sat 3	12.15pm	Safeguarding Representatives Thanksgiving Mass, The Friary, Crawley
Sun 4	10.15am	Preaches at Opening Service of Epsom Mental Health Week, St
14.5	1.45	Barnabas Church, Epsom
Mon 5	1.45pm	Communications Commission Meeting, DABCEC
т. (5.15pm	Religious Meeting, Worth Abbey
Tue 6	10.20	Day of Recollection, Parkminster
Wed 7		Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) Meeting, Romero House
Thu 8		Mass at St Robert Southwell Primary School, Horsham
Fri 9	2.00pm	Meeting, London
Sat 10	9.30am	Southern Region Conference of Teams of Our Lady
Sun 11	9.30am	75th Anniversary of first Mass in St Wilfrid's, Burgess Hill
	5.15pm	Memorial Mass at The Sacred Heart, Caterham
Mon 12		Trustees' Meeting, Esher
	7.30pm	Induction Mass for Fr Tony Milner as Parish Priest of St Joseph's,
-		Dorking
Tue 13	9.45am	Meeting, London
	7.00pm	Littlehampton Lectures Mass and talk, St Catherine of Alexandria, Littlehampton
Wed 14	9.00am	St Mary's University
	6.30pm	Visits Kiltegan Fathers, East Molesey
Thu 15	2.00pm	Mass at Arundel Cathedral
Fri 16	12 Noon	Meeting, Crawley
Sat 17	12 Noon	Marriage Anniversary Mass, Arundel Cathedral
	Overnight	t, National Catholic Scouting Weekend, Brownsea Island
Sun 18	3.00pm	St Philip Howard Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Mon 19	9.15am and	
	11.00am	Feast Day Mass at St Philip Howard Catholic High School,
		Barnham
	Pm	Meets with Wellspring community
Tue 20 and		
Wed 21		Clergy On-going Formation Overnight, East Grinstead
Thu 22	2.00pm	Visit St Joseph's Specialist School, Cranleigh
F : 00	0.00	



life.

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

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CATHOLAITY FAIR

Saturday 14 November 10.30-3.30 pm in The Grandstand Hall Brighton Racecourse, Freshfield Road, Brighton, BN2 9XZ Bishop Richard will open the Fair All the usual stalls and we look forward to welcoming all our supporters to this new venue Parking is free and the Racecourse is on bus routes 2, 21, 22 & 37b Admission £1 Children under 14 free

Fri 23 9.00am Mass in the Chapel at Cardinal Newman Catholic School, Hove 2.00pm Visit to Our Lady Queen of Heaven School, Crawley Lunch for Prison Chaplains at High Oaks Mon 26 Tue 27 3.00pm St Mary's University Committee Meeting

CLERGY MOVES

Fr Michael Creech continues as acting priest in Horsham

Fr Simon Dray to Crawley

Fr Simon Hall to Oxted and Warlingham

Fr Gerard Hatton to Eastbourne

Fr David King to Bornor

Fr Matthew Chadwick OFMConv to Rye

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Catching-up after our Festival 50

Notre Dame Schools' Feast Day THE FEAST OF ST JEANNE DE LESTONNAC, Friday 15 May, marked a day to commemorate her legacy and inspiration; a day when all the Notre Dame Schools in the world unite in celebration of a person whose life has been a witness of living in an extraordinary way, loving God and others.

Our foundress, St Jeanne lived a life exemplifying the faithful response to God's grace in the different stages throughout her life. From a child who continually tried to keep the flame of faith alive in difficult times; being a faithful wife for 24 years and mother of 5 children, creating a home of love and faith; as a widow, bearing new responsibilities with trust in God's help to being a religious and foundress of the Order of the Company of Mary Our Lady dedicated to the education of children and youth, with a special focus on the needs of women.

Notre Dame School in Cobham enjoyed celebrating her Feast Day with the whole school and the whole community around the world. With the celebration of this Feast, they gave thanks for ther own Sisters of the Company of Mary Our Lady that belong to our school community and for the good work they do here and throughout the world. Year 10 girls were able to converse in Spanish with one of their sister schools in Argentina via Skype (pictured).

Story and picture: Louise Plummer

Barrow Hills School Project TEAM OF CHILDREN, PARENTS AND STAFF at Barrow Hills

A School in Witley undertook, on Saturday 13 June, a creative project to raise awareness of global poverty. The Year 8 pupils led a fundraising initiative to raise money for TECHO, a charity building emergency housing for families living in slums in Latin America. On Saturday, the same day as the house in the Dominican Republic was being built, a replica TECHO house was constructed in the grounds of Barrow Hills School and is the first one constructed in the UK (pictured). The pupils' aim was to involve the whole school community and to complete the build during just one day, which they accomplished on Saturday. The day was hard work but also lots of fun as parents, children and staff joined forces to construct the replica. Their mission is to raise awareness in the UK and to inspire others to fundraise for this amazing charity. It is hoped that future generations of Barrow Hills children will pick up the mantra and continue to fundraise to provide housing for disadvantaged families in other parts of the world. TECHO is a global youth-led non-profit organisation that seeks to over-

come the situation of poverty in slums, through the joint work of families living in extreme poverty, businesses and volunteers.

For more information contact Felipe Correa, Development Director, TECHO Charity UK, email: felipe.correa@techo.org

Story and picture: Pauline McBrown





Catenians involvement in our Diocese

Eastbourne support St Thomas a Beckett School

A S PART OF THEIR COMMUNITY support, the Eastbourne Catenians were very happy to work with the school Head Teacher, Mrs Rachel P Turner, and the School Governors in supporting their initiative called Pupil Citizenship Award 2015 at St Thomas a Beckett school in Eastbourne. This initiative involved an award being made to two children, one from Infants and one from Juniors, who demonstrated how they have played an active role as a good citizen. Parents could support their nominated child with a written submission of



up to 100 words. Essentially the award is a recognition of activities that show 'doing something special' by the children in their family or community. The awards, each comprising a book voucher and an individual trophy, are presented to both children. In the case of Dylan, he has supported his family through a long and very difficult time with his father hospitalised and significantly disabled through an accident. Dylan has by his actions shown kindness, helpfulness and encouragement while also showing that 'it's not so scary to be different and that a little love goes a long way'. Meanwhile Erin has demonstrated why she should be rewarded for her monthly support of the local Dementia Club where she waits on those with dementia, serving coffee, tea and cake, as well as talking with them and providing entertainment around St Patrick's Day with exhibitions of Irish Dancing. Erin also takes part every year in the 'Memory Walk' along Eastbourne promenade raising money for 'a world without dementia'.

The awards were presented by Mr Len Brownsell, the current President of Eastbourne Catenians (pictured with the children).

Haywards Heath support Angus ForaetMeNot Fund

LAST YEAR'S PRESIDENT of the Haywards Heath branch of The Catenian Association, Jonty Myles, presented his President's Charity cheque in the sum of £1214 to the Angus Rowland ForgetMeNot Fund on 28 June.

Angus Rowland died from Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) in 2011 aged 14. He was a student at St Paul's Catholic College in Burgess Hill. The fund has raised over £150,000 to date and is a lasting tribute to Angus's life. The Fund is part of the Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research charity and the money raised is used specifically for research into AML and for providing treatment for young people suffering from this disease. Pictured is Jonty Myles with the parents of Angus in red T shirts with members of the band, In Loving Memory, of which Angus was a part. The presentation took place at a Fundraising event by the Band at Alfresco's Restaurant on the Brighton seafront.

Story and picture: Barry Prior







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Story and picture: Rob Dixon

Visit to Carthusian Monastery

 $F^{\rm IVE}$ MEMBERS of the Haywards Heath branch of the Catenian Association, were privileged to visit the Carthusian monastery of St Hugh of Lincoln in Parkminster, West Sussex, where we were shown around the vast and beautiful premises of the Charterhouse. Our jovial guide was Fr Raphael, one of the 26 monks in residence

The life is based on solitude, which is lived in individual hermitages, with the day structured on the liturgical prayer-life of the Church, all balanced with physical work, meditation and study. They also saw something of the many treasures and paintings in the various chapels as well as the huge collection of ancient books and manuscripts. The visit left them profoundly impressed and with a better understanding of the Carthusian way to holiness.

The Carthusian order was founded by St Bruno in 1064 and today numbers around 450 monks and nuns living in 24 Houses or Charterhouses in Europe, the United States of America and South America: all dedicated to the contemplative life of prayer and seeking God.

Establishment of the St Hugh's Charterhouse at Parkminster in 1873 at the request of the hierarchy marked the return of the Order to England after the Reformation. It was built on a large scale to accommodate two communities who had been expelled from the Continent.

For more information about this unique house of prayer visit: www.parkminster.org.uk

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FROM THE PARISHES

ADUR VALLEY

WHILST AUGUST is usually a month of rest and enjoyment this month has also had much sadness.

However lets look at the good things that have happened first; many of our parishioners enjoyed their pilgrimage to Lourdes. On 20 August our young people walked from Our Lady of Consolation, West Grinstead, to Shoreham to reflect, pray and raise money for their later activities. Fundraising events have taken place for one of our young parishioners, Darcey Stride, who has cerebral palsy and who has been accepted for a life changing but costly operation, and in particular a concert is taking place on 28 August involving many of our own musicians.

Sadly, having enjoyed his recent pilgrimage to Lourdes Canon Brian O'Sullivan, who had been our parish priest for many years passed away peacefully with friends around him.

Then just a day later our parish was sadly affected by the tragic air accident at the Shoreham Airshow. Our churches have been open daily for people to pray and light candles at Shoreham Churches Together met at St Peter's for a quiet time of prayer and reflection for all those affected in any way by the tragedy.

Penny Richardson **ARUNDEL PARISH**

AUGUST IS ALWAYS a busy month at the Cathedral as scores of visitors pass through our doors, whether on individual journeys or as part of organised tours. Amid the throng we have been thrilled to receive a whole variety of musicians of all ages who have filled our wonderful building with a whole array of musical compositions. We started when Bishop Richard joined us for sung Vespers, which was followed by an orchestra of young people from Lithuania playing a range of classical pieces. The Little Singers of St Charles took our breath away with their accomplished performance especially the high notes which sent our hearts soaring. Our Sunday Masses were celebrated to the melodies of Gounod's St Cecilia Mass sung by the Malcolm Sargent Festival Choir. Amid all these delights Festival week in Arundel has brought us even more musical offerings.

Hilary Caws CRAWLEY Christ the Lord (LEP) Broadfield and Bewbush

WE ARE DELIGHTED to report that the total sum raised by Fr Chris and Bob Martin's 'shaveathon' now stands at the amazing sum of £6,000! This has considerably increased our roof fund and will go a long way towards achieving our total. Many thanks for all your generosity in so many ways, whether through sponsored events, donations for teas and coffees on Sundays or for home-grown produce or home-made goods like cakes or jam. Barbara Winstanley

EAST GRINSTEAD and LINGFIELD ON 2 AUGUST parishioner Simon Parr took part in the 100 mile (161 km) London-Surrey bike ride to raise funds for the National Autistic Society. Simon received more than £1,000 in sponsorship.

Filipino British Nurses Extra Care East Grinstead held their charity dinner and dance at the Jubilee Community Centre on Saturday

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS ITEMS for the November 2015 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 28 September 2015 and for the December 2015 issue by Monday 2 November 2015. 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.

MERSTHAM, REDHILL and REIGATE

IT HAS BEEN the summer of the noughts, plus a very special four. Following Joe and Maeve's Golden Wedding (50) in June at Redhill, we have celebrated Mary and Gordon Hopkins' Ruby Wedding (40) at Merstham. Next came a party for the 60th birthday of Mgr Francis Twum-Barimah, our very welcome visitor from Ghana, at Redhill. He wore the hat given to him by his nephew. In the shape of a cake, it had candles on top and a red band round the middle which echoed the red cummerbund worn by monsignori! It amused everyone, perfectly captured the jolly occasion. (See picture below) The special fourth was the 65th Wedding Anniversary of Jean and Ken Longley, founder members of St Teresa's and still active in both church and village community. Ken recalled watching the church being built. The stone for a 65th wedding anniversary is a dark blue star sapphire, named for the rare Stuart Sapphire in the Imperial State Crown. Their cake was appropriately decorated in dark blue

Ann Lardeur



29 August.

Malayalam Masses continue to be said periodically at Our Lady and St Peter, the latest being on 28 August.

A fundraiser for Age UK and Alzheimer's Society was held at the Tarana restaurant in Lingfield on 24 August.

In July, we welcomed in Baptism Mariano Liam Perlata and Sophia Evelyn Goodwin.

Clive Carpenter POLEGATE AND HAILSHAM

THE ST GEORGE'S Fund raisers for children have embarked on a trio of bingo sessions. In the hall at Polegate. The money raised is for Polegate Children with Cancer and for Demelza House. The first session raised £125 and they look forward to more from the next two sessions.

The Hall at St George's has recently been improved with a new floor to replace the original which was over 50 years old. It is a big improvement.

The choir at St George's have been practising the music for the Jubilee Mass 'Missa Orbis' and will be introducing it into the Sunday Masses in September.

Deacon John Truman WEST BYFLEET AT OUR LADY'S we have been doing a great deal of work on Justice and Peace. This important area forms part of our wider parish pastoral plan and we hope to continue the vital work in this area that has already begun. We were privileged to be visited by Bruce Kent and his wife Valerie who spoke to us about Pax Christi, the international Catholic movement for peace. We are currently working towards becoming a Fairtrade parish and Fr Malachy Keegan continues to celebrate Mass with, and provide support to, prisoners in HMP Send on a weekly basis. The group will be taking up issues as and when appropriate, including the persecution of Christians in Iraq and Syria, with the expectation also of being more involved with CAFOD. Sarah Crouch

WORTHING

St Mary of the Angels AS MENTIONED in my last article, our 150th anniversary concert was on 25 July. The soloists were Richard Campkin (piano and cello) and his brother Rob (piano and violin). Rob played Rachmaninov's Prelude no 2 in C# minor and violin pieces by Fritz Kreisler and Richard Chopin's Ballade in G minor and Faure's Apres un Reve. They were joined by pianist Jenny Jeffery for the Waltz from Jazz Suite No 2 by Shostakovitch. There was also a violin solo from Tina Rassam and performances by the Choir including a rousing rendition of Offenbach's The Bold Gendarmes from the men and Elgar's The Snow by the ladies. The Concert was produced and directed by Margaret Mary Campkin and Teresa Turner.

We have received a letter of thanks from the Mutemwa Leprosy and Care Centre for our latest donation of £780. This centre in Zimbabwe cares for leprosy and physically challenged patients and the destitute. It was established in the 1930s and has 45 patients and 19 staff.

Astrid Gibson

WADHURST AUGUST AS USUAL is the holiday month, not only are many parishioners away but our parish priest Fr Martin O'Connor SPS is enjoying a well deserved holiday and and we have been pleased to welcome again fellow Kiltegan Fr Martin O'Connell. On 1August there was in our parish quite a unique event, a marriage between two young people, Abigail Collins and Chris Haslam. (See picture below) Abigail is the daughter of parishioners Karen and Mike Collins and a beautiful Nuptial Mass was celebrated by Fr Martin and Fr Liam, Abigail's parish priest in Streatham. Fr Liam was previously a priest in Tunbridge Wells and prepared Abigail for her First Communion and Confirmation. A young marriage in our church is quite unusual due to our proximity to a beautiful 16th century chapel in Mayfield school, and even though we love our 1920s little church it really can't compete as a wedding venue. However we parishioners had the benefit of the most beautiful floral arrangements which decorated our church, arranged by Chris's parents and gave us pleasure for the next two weeks. We wish Abigail and Chris a long and happy marriage.

Peggy Purslow



ROTTINGDEAN and WOODINGDEAN Recently at the Rottingdean Village Fair much-needed funds were raised for the named charities - MyAware and Four Deans Stroke Club. Our Lady of Lourdes had their usual book stall and an assorted items stall. St Patrick's had a mixture on their stall including plants, jewellery, jams and handicraft goods.

The Church as a local charity organization also received a cheque which went into Church funds.

On 22 August Altar Server Bethany Barrow was received into the Archconfraternity (Guild) of St Stephen at Saturday Evening Mass. Bethany was presented with her



medal and certificate by Fr Kevin (see below).

Fr Kevin's teaching booklets on various subjects addressing issues we face in the modern world are proving to be popular and thought provoking. Titles include 'The Common Good' an exploration of Catholic Social Teaching, 'Big God Questions???' talking to children about God and 'A Light in the Darkness' about God and suffering , just to name a few. They are available as copies in the Church porch and PDF versions on line.

SOUTHWICK with PORTSLADE

AUGUST IS OFTEN A QUIET MONTH in the parish, with many parish families on holiday.

Sadly we were all deeply shocked by the tragic news of the Shoreham plane crash. St Theresa's Church in Southwick is less than two miles from the crash site and many parishioners were enjoying the air show. Special prayers were said in the parish on the Sunday and continue to be said for the victims and their families.

We were delighted to welcome a group of young Catholics at the 9.30am Mass last week who were at a Christian weekend at Wiston, not far from us. They had decided to come to Sunday Mass and filled several pews.

Our combined parishes of Southwick with Portslade and Hangleton are now looking forward to a parish day at St Albans Cathedral, planned for October. We are also coming together after the 11.00am Mass at St Georges, Hangleton for some refreshments and games

CHRISTMAS ISSUE - Please note that due to the holidays our Christmas Issue will be prepared one week earlier than usual. The dates for this issue are: COPY DATE: Monday 23 November PUBLICATION DATE: Week Ending 20 December Thank you. on Sunday. So, much to look forward to for the Autumn.

Gill Sajnog

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

Catenians Organise Worth Abbey Mass for Vocations

THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION gives strong support through its Vocations Initiative to both the concerns of the Church and attendant costs by support for the National Vocations Office and the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Office for Vocations, led by Fr Terry Martin. To this end, Brothers of the Catenian Association celebrate a Mass for Vocations somewhere in the world each day of the year and raise substantial amounts to assist these Offices in their work.

The Catenians in Sussex (Province 18), on the Feast of the Assumption, celebrated their annual Sunday parish Mass for vocations to the religious life at the prestigious Worth Abbey. It was both spiritually and organisationally a great success and the message to the Lord was loud, cheerful and clear! With Our Blessed Lady in the lead, God will hear our pleading and many more young men and women will respond by devoting themselves to service in the Church.

Some 100 Catenians and ladies of the Province were in attendance among a congregation of around 400, some of whom had responded to an open invitation from the Catenian Association to join them that was given at Festival 50 in July. Those who missed the Mass missed a really rewarding celebration.

Rev Dom Aidan Murray, Worth's parish priest and also the Prior of Worth Abbey, concelebrated Mass along with 14 others priests from Abbey community. Sadly, Fr Terry Martin, Diocesan Director for Vocations, who normally concelebrates too, had been asked to be supply priest to West Grinstead on this occasion. Fr. Terry is always greatly encouraged by the Province's support for his work financially and spiritually (£1,100 was raised last year).

The words of encouragement to the congregation to pray for vocations and the very well-crafted homily explaining the contexts of reading of the day meant that the whole Mass was spirit-filled.

Province 18 even managed to do a bit of evangelising about the Catenian Association with much interest being evident. A Catenian stand with information on vocations and other interesting materials was evident in the narthex and coffee was supplied by the ever willing volunteers of the parish who added much to the success of the day.

Story and picture by Nigel Corby

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Help, Kindness and Support Recognised by the Knights



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 shown consistently help, kindness and support at home or at school.

Pictured are *(above)* Charlie Kerkvliet of St Mary Star of the Sea, St Leonards on Sea receiving his award from Bro Peter Robinson of Hastings Knights with his proud mother and the Head Teacher and *(below left)* Thomas Bruges at Sacred Heart School, Hastings receiving his award from Bro Joe O'Neil of Hastings Knights of St Columba and Head Teacher Joe Hellett ; and finally, *(below right)* at Bexhill RC Church of St Mary Magdalene, Oliver Peachment receiving his award from Bro Solomon Ezobi, Grand Knight of Hastings and Rother Knights of St Columba 630.









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