

A & B NEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton
No 298 November 2015



Celebrating the Year for
Consecrated Life - Page 4/5

**Walking Pilgrimage
40th Anniversary
Page 3**



**The day a Rugby
Team came to
Mass - page 11**



**Bishop Richard's
Pastoral letter on
refugees - page 11**



To read A&B NEWS on line please visit www.dabnet.org

In a 'Cathedral of Love' Thanksgiving for Lady Sarah Clutton RIP

Adam Simon, who gave the eulogy at the Mass of Thanksgiving for the Life of Lady Sarah Clutton said:-

TODAY, I HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE HONOUR of reflecting what we are feeling on this occasion, and to remember a remarkable lady. I can so clearly hear Sarah saying 'Adam, keep it very short!' She would actually have done anything to avoid a eulogy. Sarah just got on and did things, she didn't like a lot of words and she hated above all being the centre of attention. So as I look at this sea of colour, with the rows of priests and deacons lined up on the altar, her beloved friend Cardinal Cormac presiding over the Mass, we are making a fuss of Sarah, but I don't think that anything or anyone could stop us doing so.

Today we recognise a very special, beautiful, unique and generous person. Whoever we are in the rich tapestry of Sarah's life family, friends, estate, charities, hospices, Lourdes pilgrims, the town of Arundel, racehorse lovers, and so many others - today we give thanks for Sarah, and remember her and her achievements.

Sarah was born in Arundel Castle 74 years ago to the day, number 3 of the four daughters of Bernard Duke of Norfolk and Lavinia. The sisters grew up close and have always remained so. They went to school in the Priory at Arundel with the Servite nuns, before going to the Sacred Heart at Woldingham. Sarah loved her schooldays; she was very sporty and participated in lots of teams. As a young girl she was a skilled horse rider, winning the Horse & Hound Cup at White City in 1962, and competing for Great Britain along with her good friend Annie Backhouse, at the time Ann Townsend.

In 1976 Sarah was appointed Coordinator of the Arundel & Brighton Lourdes Pilgrimage by the then director, Mgr Barry Wymes, who is on the altar today, along with her other Pilgrimage Directors. She served unstintingly in that role for 37 years.

She was involved in a huge number of charities. She was an ambassador for the Hospice movement as President of St Barnabas and the Chestnut Tree House, Children's Hospice. She made the Lourdes Pilgrimage what it is today: one of the outstanding works of mission of the diocese.

Sarah was a great example of humility and acceptance in her illness. She was brave and courageous and we never heard her complain. By a wonderful act of God's grace she had an amazing final fortnight on this earth. She was present here at Bishop Richard's installation. She went to the South of England Show at Ardingly, of which she had been President. She attended Mgr Barry Wymes's golden jubilee mass with Mary, and she was on great form. She came back that night to the Dover, pruned some roses with her secateurs in the garden, spoke to helpers from Chestnut Tree House who were visiting with some children, and then, the following morning, passed gently into the next life in a way that we are sure she would have liked to go.

We will not forget you, Sarah.

We thank God for your life and we will always keep you in our thoughts and prayers.

Cycling for Lady Sarah's charity



DEACON MARK WOODS from St Michael's parish in Worthing and Communications Officer for the Diocese recently completed a Charity Bike Ride for the Chestnut Tree Children's Hospice which cares for children who have Life - shortening conditions as well as supporting their families. The Bike Ride took place among the rolling hills of East Sussex.

The Charity Bike Ride was the day before the Memorial Mass for Lady Sarah Clutton who had donated the land on which the hospice stands and was a great supporter of the Hospice movement especially Chestnut Tree house and St Barnabas House for adults in Worthing. She was of course also the moving force behind the A&B Lourdes Pilgrimage for some 37 years. It seemed a suitable memorial to her memory to do the Bike Ride the day before the Mass.

Deacon Mark said: 'I had done a similar distance before, but never with so many hills!' The thought of those children in need of great palliative care and the memory of the great work of Lady Sarah keep me going. I won't be entering the Tour de France any time soon, but I would be happy to try a similar ride again sometime. If you want to donate to Chestnut Tree House and sponsor Deacon Mark then either send a cheque payable to Chestnut Tree House at DABCEC, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP or go to <https://www.justgiving.com/Mark-Woods10/> to donate on-line.



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Barrow Hills School Boosts 'Bags of Hope' Appeal



THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEE CHILDREN fleeing the war in Syria has captured the hearts of pupils at Barrow Hills School and galvanised the entire school community into action by lending its official support to the 'Bags of Hope' initiative which was initially started by two Haslemere mothers and now has an operational team of twelve Mums.

The School has collected over 200 rucksacks filled with essential items such as clothing, blankets, toiletries, books and toys for the migrant babies and children arriving in Kos and other Greek islands on a regular basis. In addition to collecting the 'Bags of Hope', on Friday 25 September the children at the School were raising money to help with transport costs by pledging all monies raised at the parents' weekly 'bacon buttie Friday' sale to the cause together with an afternoon cake sale.

The filled rucksacks were collected in the School's Chapel on Friday 25 September just before Assembly, during which Natasha Davies, one of the main organisers, talked to the whole school about the project which only started a mere 3 weeks ago. The rucksacks were then driven in the school mini bus to the designated collection point in Chiddingfold, by Registrar Pauline McBrowne, where they will now be sorted before onward transportation to the George Lambert & Son Ltd storage unit in Fernhurst which is kindly being used free of charge. Ultimately the bags will be shipped in two 20-foot containers to Athens and onwards to the Greek Islands by the end of October. The next few weeks will be spent raising money to pay for the transportation.

The fundraising project was spearheaded by sisters Madeleine and Bethany Nugent (Year 8 and 6 respectively) and Jennifer Glover (Year 8), who first heard about the Bags of Hope campaign at Mass in their local parish. The girls approached their Headmaster Matthew Unsworth and suggested the School's involvement. Mr Unsworth, impressed by the pupils' compassion and clear commitment to make a difference, immediately sanctioned the idea, with staff keen to volunteer and help coordinate the school-wide response. Emily Mason (Year 6) has also helped with the project. All the girls have done presentations during Friday Assemblies and put up posters around the school to promote this cause.

St Dunstan's Primary School Choir 'A Feast for the Eyes and Ears!'



IT WAS A GREAT NIGHT for St Dunstan's Catholic Primary School recently when they became the winners of Surrey Schools Have Talent competition.

The theme for this year's event was The Magna Carta (freedom and justice, protest and resistance) and the school choir performed an original song 'The Magna Carta' written by two Year 6 pupils, Sarah and Charlotte.

The St Dunstan's choir consisted of 32 pupils ranging in age from 8 to 11 years old and live musical accompaniment included a Samba percussion section. Eleven secondary and primary schools made it through to the final which took place at the Leatherhead Theatre. There was a range of talents on display including acrobatics, dance and choirs but it was St Dunstan's who won the hearts of the judges who commented that the performance was 'A feast for the eyes and ears!'

At the end of the evening the children were overjoyed to hear that they had won the Primary School Gold Medal - but were then astounded a few minutes later when it was announced that they had also beaten the secondary schools to become overall winners of this annual competition.

Story and photo by Mrs Alma Murray

Commenting on the School's efforts, Headmaster Matthew Unsworth says, 'A key strand of the Barrow Hills ethos is to equip children with the ability to have empathy for others, to be kind and to do charitable works. I am immensely proud of the three pupils who inspired the school to play a small part in trying to help those who find themselves in such desperate circumstances.'

While our hearts go out to anyone involved in the refugee crisis, the pupils particularly wanted to help the women and young children/babies caught up in the conflict, who tend to be congregating in Kos and on other Greek islands. We would urge anyone else in the local community to lend their support this worthy cause.'

Further details on the Bags of Hope appeal can be found at <http://www.bagsofhope.org.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/haslemeregiftsofhope> <https://twitter.com/haslemerehope>

Story and picture by Lisa Allen

THUNDER OF GOD CATHOLIC ENGLISH BIBLE CONVENTION SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER 12 NOON TO 5PM ARDINGLEY, HAYWARDS HEATH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ
We cordially invite you to participate in a Catholic Convention, lead by Fr Xaviour Khan Vattayil (Founder of Sehion Ministries, India) and Fr Soji Matthew (Director of Sehion Ministries UK Parish Priest of St Gerard Catholic Church, Birmingham).
Sehion Ministries UK has been conducting Charismatic Healing Retreats in Birmingham and many parts of the UK, since 2009.

By the Grace of God our **Bishop Rt Rev Richard Moth**, will be participating in our convention. The Bishop's participation is a great blessing for us. Come along with your family and friends and be a part of World Evangelisation.

God bless you and your loved ones.

With prayers and blessings

Rev Fr Stephen Hardaker, Parish Priest,
St Philip Neri Catholic Church, Uckfield

Rev Fr Kevin Griffin, Parish Priest,
St Mary's Catholic Church, Crowborough

Venue

St Mary's Hall, South of England Event Centre,
Ardingley, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH17 6TL

Programme

- 12.00 - Praise and Worship
- 12.15 - Preaching the Word of God
- 1.00 - Holy Mass
- 2.00 - Praise and Worship
- 2.15 - Preaching the Word of God
- 3.00 - Break
- 3.15 - Praise and Worship
- 3.30 - Preaching the Word of God
- 4.15 - Adoration and Healing Service
- 5.00 - Final Blessing

For further details contact

Mr Bijoy Alappatt - 07960000217

e-mail: thunderofgoduk@yahoo.co.uk

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40th Anniversary Walking Pilgrimage



Happy pilgrims arrive in Arundel, singing 'Walk in the Light'

THE PILGRIMS WALKED INTO ARUNDEL on a bright August day, climbing up from Storrington for the final eight miles. Atop the South Downs, the view stretched as far as the eye could see: to the Isle of Wight in the south west with Arundel Castle standing proudly in the middle distance. This was the culmination of a 160 mile, two-week walking pilgrimage from the abbey ruins at Chertsey via Worth Abbey and Brighton, returning to Arundel Cathedral, the mother church of the Diocese and start point of the Jubilee Walking Pilgrimage two months earlier.

This year, there was much to share: sunshine for the first week as we crossed the North Downs and Surrey Hills, rain for the second as we walked in the Weald and along the Sussex coast. There were many delights; charming villages, welcoming communities and historic treasures.

Our theme was 'Christian Communities and what these can teach about Discipleship,' led in short reflections by pilgrims and clergy at churches en-route. At the induction service pilgrims were given a wooden cross to wear as a sign of pilgrimage and asked to think about becoming pilgrims. In our journeying we considered the early church as community, we shared our experiences of parish life and the wider church, a URC pilgrim spoke on the gift of the reformed churches, in Brighton some pilgrims visited the Quaker Meeting House for silent worship and we considered new ways of being church, learning about a Café Church in Redhill and work with and a pilgrimage for homeless people at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

The work of East Hoathly Church stands out as a splendid example of how parishioners have endeavoured to serve their village. They also served us tea and cakes as did many other churches! Thank you.

If you are able to walk 12-15 miles a day, do not mind communal arrangements and a few hardships, the pilgrimage experience is not to be missed. Walk the whole two week pilgrimage for maximum benefit but a week or few days will suffice to enjoy the countryside, exercise, worship, prayer and friendships that develop in community life. On your own or with a friend, you will be made very welcome.

For more details of the pilgrimage reunion walk or the 2016 Pilgrimage (13th -28th August 2016) visit www.thepilgrims.org.uk

Pilgrimages are organised by past pilgrims on a voluntary basis.

Story by Susan Adilz, photos by John Chenery

Tea and Chat at St George's Hangleton



THE TEA AND CHAT GROUP at St George's, Hangleton Parish is the small but very friendly group that meets every other Tuesday in the parish hall.

We do gentle sitting down exercises, quizzes, eye/hand co-ordination games, bingo etc, and of course plenty of chatting and laughing, washed down with a cup of coffee and biscuit.

Fr Alistair usually pops in to see us near the end in time for the raffle.

Between the small group, we have 26 children, 54 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren!

Story and picture by Sally Harvey

Young People from Holy Family Farnham and Holy Angels Ash visit Tanzania to help in 'Welcome Home' Orphanage



Pictured above are Fr Robin Farrow with two of the young people who travelled to Tanzania and Dave Gilbert of the Catenians who sponsored three helpers.

AFTER MEETING FIONA HENDY, co-founder of Karibu Nyumbani Orphanage in Tanzania, youth leaders Hilary Gray and Gloria Benson arranged for a group of young people from the Parishes of Holy Family Farnham and Holy Angels Ash, to go and help in the orphanage. They had various fundraising events throughout the year to raise funds for the orphanage and to help with some of their own costs. The Catenians also generously sponsored three of them.

Hilary, her sister Clare and the young people (Cara O'Dwyer, Isabella Haigh, Lawrence Gray, Tom Brennan, Gemma Armstrong and Sian Besley) went out in July and spent three weeks at the orphanage, helping with the day to day jobs, looking after the children, and some extra projects such as painting the classroom. The orphanage aims to provide homes for abandoned children and orphans, providing love, family and education. There are currently fifteen children at the orphanage.

Karibu Nyumbani means welcome home, and we certainly all felt welcome. The young people said that it was an unforgettable experience filled with hard work, love, laughter and happiness.

For further information on the orphanage and to find out how you can help please go to their web site: <http://www.karibunyumbani.org>.

Story and photo by Hilary Gray



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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the
Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

The Communion of Saints

PERHAPS IT IS FITTING as we enter into the month of November that this issue of A & B NEWS contains obituaries of three people, who each in their way have been significant in the diocese. Margaret Staunton was a quiet power house of prayer and thought which she sometimes shared in these pages.

Though always trying to be inconspicuous, Lady Sarah Clutton influenced the lives of many pilgrims to Lourdes over the years and leaves much love behind her.

Canon Brian O'Sullivan was a priest of the diocese for 57 years serving in a number of parishes. In addition he worked tirelessly in Ecumenical affairs. Perhaps it was a tribute to this work that his funeral was actually held in the Anglican church in Steyning.

And so, they all wait to enter the full joys of heaven - or maybe already be doing so.

We do not understand God's time scales, but let us rejoice with all the Saints in Heaven and those still on their way there, including ourselves in God's Church.

Pauline F. Groves

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JUST A THOUGHT

MARY MAGDALEN AT THE TOMB

The tomb was bare. How deeply I had longed to tend his tortured limbs with fragrant oil; to mourn his bitter death, as memories thronged of all his gentle ways and selfless toil.

I, seven-fold sinner, knelt upon the grass amid the blood-red flowers, heard the moan of mournful doves, half-caught light footsteps pass, 'Why do you weep, my daughter, all alone?'

A stranger stood before me, so I thought, until 'Mary', he called, and then I knew, And ran towards him, all my soul distraught, Beloved Master, is it really you?'

Gently, he said, 'Dear friend, don't cling to me, for I have not yet passed through heaven's door; but know that from dark death I've broken free, to offer all men life for evermore.'

Then suddenly, the world was full of light, and exaltation freed my heart from pain; And angels sang of death being put to flight, because my gracious Master lived again.

Margaret Staunton RIP

The Year for Consecrated Life

Pope Francis has dedicated 2015 as the Year for Consecrated Life, Fr Stephen Ortiger introduces our feature which focuses on two examples of this vocation within our diocese

As Episcopal Vicar for Religious in Arundel and Brighton it is my privilege and pleasure to liaise with 500 Religious in Surrey and Sussex: Sisters, Brothers and Fathers grouped in 39 Orders, Institutes or Congregations - 12 of men and 27 of women. During this Year for Consecrated Life, at the invitation of Pope Francis, the Religious have been higher profile than usual and, in line with that, this edition of the A & B News turns the spotlight on two of the 39 Orders, the Poor Clares at Crossbush and the Salesians at Chertsey. They represent, on the one hand, contemplative life and, on the other, apostolic life.

The implication of Jesus's teaching that he is the vine and we are the branches is that every Christian has two vocations: first, to be intimate with Jesus, organically united with the vine, and, secondly, to bear fruit, to be productive. Intimacy is the essential prerequisite for fruitfulness - 'without me you can do nothing' - and continues beyond the grave, long after our lifetime tasks, however important, have finished.

Religious Life spotlights both vocations in deliberately explicit ways; some Orders, like the Poor Clares, put the accent on contemplative prayer; others, like the Salesians, make a particular external ministry - teaching, parish work, nursing - their special care. Together, the various Religious Orders, along with other consecrated men and women, try to offer a lived answer to the second question of the Penny Catechism, 'why did God make you?' 'God made me to know him, love him and serve him in this world and to be happy with him forever in the next' was the answer, and always will be. This is the message that Pope Francis wants Religious to transmit to all disciples of Jesus for their inspiration and encouragement.



Fr Stephen with two religious sisters at the diocesan Festival in July

A power house in our diocese - The Poor Clare sisters at Crossbush, Arundel



NESTLED IN A QUIET TURNING off the busy A27, near to Arundel lies a power house of prayer and caring - the home of a Community of the Poor Clare sisters. The convent's location so near to Arundel Castle is no coincidence. In 1886 a group of sisters travelled from the Poor Clare community in Notting Hill in London to move to a new convent built for them by Flora, then Duchess of Norfolk on land provided by her husband Henry, 15th Duke of Norfolk. The connection with the Norfolk's continues to the present time, with, more recently, regular visits from Lady Mary and Lady Sarah (RIP), whose funeral was held recently in their chapel.

The Community today consists of 21 sisters, who come from Sri Lanka, Portugal, Zimbabwe, Malaysia, France, Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland. There are three more sisters living at their small house in Hollington and the community has a daughter house in Kenya.

The Order was founded in 1212 in Assisi by St Clare, who was a disciple and follower of St Francis. The life of prayer is central to sisters' lives. Each house is autonomous with its own traditions, but in the last fifty years, the Church has encouraged monasteries to organise themselves into Federations within the Order. There are meetings of various kinds, for mutual help and ongoing formation.

The variety of the sisters' backgrounds, not just by nationality, is impressive. As one sister said, 'every sister has a story'. A few entered directly from school or university, but many came bringing a vast amount of life experience. One, for instance is a widow with grown up children and grandchildren. They visit her regularly and her children had to agree formally to her entry. Like all postulants and novices (the stages before becoming a professed sister) she had to go through the discernment and formation process, which at times can be stressful for someone with so much life experience. Nevertheless she says that 'she has never looked back'. Another sister, a Malaysian, came to this country to study, but while she was in university, a call which she had felt since childhood became so overwhelming that she gave up everything and entered the Poor Clares in Arundel. At times the sisters do fall out with each other, but they try in the spirit of the Gospel to resolve their differences through dialogue and forgiveness.

There are none of the grilles associated in past with enclosed sisters, but once within the enclosure, the sisters do not leave unless as an exception, but they exercise their considerable spiritual ministry within their walls. The sisters try to be available as they are able, to those in need of a listening ear, and also host a number of prayer groups of different kinds, eg John Main meditation, Centering prayer, a monthly Taize prayer, and an ecumenical prayer group. There is also an Icon writing retreat each year.

Having the Saturday Vigil Mass in their chapel has been a joy to the sisters as they have got to know the parishioners better and feel more 'part of the diocese'. An 'exception' to the norm occurred when they left their enclosure to join in the Jubilee celebrations at the Amex Stadium.

The diocese is privileged to have this power house within our midst.

For much more information about Arundel Poor Clares, including details of the guesthouse, please visit their very interesting website www.poorclarearundel.org



Year for Consecrated life (continued)

Making a difference in society - the Salesian Order

THE SALESIANS UK

NOT THE BEST OF DAYS to travel along the M25, the Saturday morning journey was stop - start for many miles. However, the satnav suddenly came to life from this monotony and commanded the driver to come off the motorway. Within minutes it was peace and quiet in Salesian Gardens. As far as religious orders' houses go, the house is modern and well fitted for its purpose. Soon the door to Salesian House was opened by a man with a smiling face. 'I have come to see Fr Andrew Ebrahim. Is that you?' Now a bigger smile. 'No, I am Fr Marco Villani, part of the Community. He will be with you in a few minutes'. Fr Andrew arrived in the waiting room - very much a man who looked to be on a mission. 'You are most welcome. You will stay for lunch?' Well, this was a promising start!

Fr Andrew spoke about how the Order was started by St John Bosco over 150 years ago in the city of Turin. What was significant then was his first-hand experience of the dreadful effects of poverty and hunger. 'Today we still have this as a centrepiece of our work in the community' he said. So, how does this relate itself to the affluent area of Chertsey in which the Order works? What do they do with their time?

A clue in the hallway should have been noticed by your correspondence. It was a door from a rally car - not the normal content of a community house. Fr Andrew explained 'We are having an auction and someone has donated this as an item to raise money for Don Bosco Ashalayam. Apparently, it is a collector's item. No, I will not be bidding!'

Turning to their daily work, it was clear to see that it spreads widely in their local community. Fr Andrew is Rector and a teacher at the Salesian School. Others have duties such as being parish priest at St Anne's Church, Chertsey; a chaplain at Royal Holloway University; school chaplain to the Salesian School; Co-operators' Delegate for Chertsey; general advisors and counsellors and - not to



forget the rally car door - fundraisers. This list came as quite a revelation and one which shows just how integrated the Salesians get into the local community.

'We work in these areas, but not always together. We pray together and try to eat as one in the evening, when we can share our experiences of the day. We are known for our humour, which I think helps us to remain together as a community'

You asked about our possessions when we join. Everything is left behind apart from one suitcase. Any income we receive today from activities, such as teaching or lecturing, goes into one pot. We are lucky in Chertsey as we are in the black - we are quite frugal here in the house! For example, our chapel stained glass window fell out and this was renovated by ourselves. However, our Provincial House in Bolton will take any spare money and find another more deserving home for these funds. We do not mind as we work as one. Mostly, we are self-managing and only go to the Provincial House for the larger issues. We have an annual retreat when nearly all seventy of us get together as one UK community.' While the Salesians are located and work in the diocese, they are answerable to their own Order.

The Community is working actively with the school in helping the impoverished in India, much in the way St John Bosco started his life. The school also gets involved in the Lourdes Diocesan pilgrimage and especially with the Redshirts. Fr Andrew commented 'Our young people really benefit from helping the poor and the sick. It builds their characters for a future life in society. Maybe, this is one way of encouraging vocations. However, an initiative called 'Project Europe' has generated a lot of interest and there are a number of young men who are in the process of enquiring at present. Do we need more Salesians to continue to grow our ministry? Certainly!' was Fr Andrew's unequivocal response.

This was one occasion when your correspondent came away with a warm feeling, a feeling that these men are really making a difference in society - and they are human! However, Fr Andrew says he is just a servant. If you want to find out more please contact Fr Andrew on: aebrahim@salesians.surrey.sch.uk or visit their website: www.salesians.org.uk or Facebook. It is a life certainly to be recommended.



New National Scout Chaplain Appointed



Fr Jonathan How, left, pictured at the King Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue Photo: KAICIID

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE of England and Wales has appointed Fr Jonathan How as the new National Catholic Scout Chaplain in succession to the late Fr John Seddon who died earlier this year.

Fr Jonathan a priest of the diocese and is currently Director of Studies at St John's Seminary, Womersley where he teaches liturgy and philosophy. He has been a member of the Scout movement since he first made his promise as a Cub Scout in Burgess Hill, West Sussex. He has held a number of adult roles at local and national level, working mainly with the Scout section, large camps and on spiritual development in the youth programme.

He is currently County Chaplain and Deputy County Commissioner in Surrey, and Advisor on Spiritual and Religious Development to the World Scout Movement, supporting their work in interreligious dialogue and the development of the youth programme.

As well as working on the spiritual aspect of the youth programme, Fr Jonathan is an active climber and experienced mountain leader and enjoys the time spent introducing young people to these adventurous activities and the opportunities they provide to encounter the Lord.

'The education of young people is an important part of the Church's expression of God's mercy' said Fr Jonathan. 'It is, and always has been, a privilege to support Scouting in its work for the development of young people, and I welcome this opportunity to support Catholics in Scouting in bearing witness to God's love in their work within the movement.'

Scout Liaison Bishop, our own Richard Moth, added 'I am delighted that Fr. Jonathan How has taken up this appointment as our new National Catholic Scout Chaplain. He brings a great deal of experience to the role, both as a scout and as a priest. He will, I am sure, receive a warm welcome from all Catholics involved in Scouting.'



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Course for New Catechists in Surrey for 2015/2016

OUTLINE PROGRAMME

Who is this course for? People who have recently been recruited as catechists in their parish, or those who are discerning the call to be a catechist in dialogue with their parish priest.

What will they gain? A deeper appreciation of the Church's teaching on catechesis and its purpose. An understanding of how catechesis fulfils our Christian mission to share the Good News. Practical catechetical skills and tools

Six Saturdays, spread across the 2015-2016 academic year

Session 1 - Sat 14 November 2015; 10.00am to 4.00pm - St Theresa's, Effingham

Diocesan Reflection Day - 'Christ looks at us with Mercy and calls us to Discipleship'

Remaining sessions at Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge (with lunch)

Session 2 - Sat 28 November 2015; 9.30am to 1.00pm

'Encountering Jesus - Scripture, Church and Sacraments'

Session 3 - Sat 30 January 2016; 9.30am to 1.00pm

'Not Less Than Everything - The Catholic Way of Catechesis'

Session 4 - Sat 12 March 2016; 9.30am to 1.00pm

'Celebrating the Christian mystery in Liturgy'

Session 5 - Sat 16 April 2016; 9.30am to 1.00pm

'Personal spirituality and leading others to prayer'

Session 6 - Sat 28 May 2016; 9.30am to 1.00pm

'Mission - being and bringing the Good News to others'

Cost of the course including lunches and refreshments is £50.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Places for this course are limited. Please discuss your application with your parish priest.

For further information, or to book a place, please contact

David Wills on 01293 651157 or david.wills@dabnet.org



Jeff Cavins Saturday, November 14 2015: 10 am - 4 pm - St Teresa's School Effingham

Christ Looks at us with Mercy...And Calls Us to Discipleship

In this seminar, Jeff Cavins will equip you to live a fruitful relationship with Jesus Christ. The specifics of our Faith are very important, but bringing them into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ is what makes life a great adventure.

Topics Include:

God's Amazing Plan for you:

In this talk, Jeff will demonstrate the awesome power of God by looking at creation first from the macro level and then at the micro level. By observing God's amazing creation, you will grow in awe and respond in praise. With God's creation as a backdrop, Jeff will introduce the astonishing truth that human beings are his most amazing creation and that to top it off, God wants a relationship with us.

The Call to Discipleship:

Building on his first talk, Jeff will continue to explain God's desire to walk with us as he introduces the first-century relationship between a rabbi and his disciple as the metaphor for God's relationship with us. Jeff will describe the life of a disciple two thousand years ago and then paint a picture of how that can become a reality for people today. This is a very practical talk about walking with God in a modern world.

Mary, Mercy and Mission:

At the centre of Israel's worship was the Ark of the Covenant, which housed the presence of God. This most precious of temple furnishings played a central role, both as the source of God's presence but also his mercy. Jeff will reveal that the Ark, once hidden in a cave in the Old Testament, is discovered in the New Testament in a cave in Bethlehem. Mary, the new Ark of the Covenant, is the person that God used to introduce his mercy to the world.

Disciplines of a Disciple:

In this talk, Jeff will introduce some practical disciplines in the life of a modern-day disciple. You will learn how to talk to Jesus on a daily basis by utilizing the ancient practice of Lectio Divina (divine reading). This practice of talking to God in Scripture and hearing his daily direction will transform your walk with Christ and enable you to meet problems with real direction and comfort. In addition, Jeff will share some of his personal practices that lead to a more fruitful relationship with Jesus.

Tickets £10 - abdiocese.org.uk e: david.wills@dabnet.org t: 01293 651157 Ruth.gerun@dabnet.org 01293 651164

Marriage and Family Life Notices

For more information (and to register for the Course)

contact Katherine Bergin,

Telephone: 01293 651152,

Email: katherine.bergin@dabnet.org

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.

Limited places - book early to avoid disappointment



Annual Justice & Peace Assembly

Saturday
16 January 2016
at DABCEC, Crawley
with Bishop Richard Moth

Our theme will be

**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

aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org

St Dominic's Day at the Dominican Sisters Missionaries Convent



THE ST DOMINICS DAY EVENT was held recently at the Dominican Sisters Missionaries Convent in Gossops Green to celebrate the feast of St. Dominic

Mass was celebrated at St Theodore of Canterbury, attended by former students and members of the local community, followed by a shared lunch.

Proceeds of the raffle and tombola held on the day will go to a charity of the Dominican Sisters choice. We hope to hold the event next year on Saturday 6 August 2016, when we hope to see more parishioners from the local Parishes in Crawley, including former students.

Story and photo by Priscilla Lambert

Fr Dominic Celebrates his 60th Birthday at St Catherine's



FR DOMINIC O'HARA celebrated his 60th birthday on September 11 with a buffet for 130 people from his parishes of Littlehampton and Rustington. The sell-out event, organised by Paul and Kate Peppard and supported by a team of parishioners, was held in St Catherine's Parish Centre. The evening's music - all appropriately from the Sixties! - was provided by Steve, Karen and Mike - the Boxty Irish Band. The bar was organised by the Arundel Catenian Circle, the Birthday Cake (which looked like an enormous 3-tier papal tiara!) was produced by Ursula Lock, and the gigantic birthday card, containing the good wishes of over a hundred people, was presented by Pat Hannaford.

Fr Dominic was congratulated on his appointment as Dean of Worthing Deanery, following the retirement of Fr Chris Benyon. It was noted that he had a busy month ahead of him, providing the first of three talks on The Family and chairing a Parish Open Meeting as well as welcoming Bishop Richard, who will be giving the final talk in the series.

Story and photo by Mike Webber

Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir/Madam

I saw your stand at the Amex Stadium in Falmer, Brighton on 5th July, for the Diocesan Gold Jubilee Mass. I spoke to two people at the stand, stating that my friend Leslie Sidebottom in Manchester enjoys reading the A&B News just as much as I do. I am sure Leslie would agree with me writing, what a good newspaper for our Diocese.

Yours sincerely

John Partridge

Annual Festival at Henfield Prepares SVP Members for the Year of Mercy



Bishop Richard and Deacon Seamus greet SVP members after Mass

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) SOCIETY from A&B Diocese held their annual Festival Meeting at the parish of West Grinstead and Henfield.

It began with Mass at the parish church of Corpus Christi, celebrated by Bishop Richard assisted by Deacon Seamus Mahon, who is also Spiritual Advisor for the Society in the Diocese.

In his homily Bishop Richard spoke of how the Society works with the disadvantaged in 'a quiet, unassuming and unpublicised way.' He went on to say that the SVP is rooted in a deep spirituality that recognises the good in everyone. The Year of Mercy begins shortly and the SVP can have a special place bringing the mercy of God to the marginalised and weakest.

Afterwards, Bishop Richard and Deacon Seamus greeted SVP members and joined them in the parish hall for a discussion of the Society's work, introduced by Council President Ingrid Phillips, and accompanied by tea and an impressive selection of cakes.

The SVP was founded more than 180 years ago and has around 10,000 members in England & Wales, including more than 400 in this diocese. In addition to its regular work of visiting the needy, sick, housebound and elderly, the activities of the SVP in A&B include soup runs; a furniture scheme; a holiday caravan; community shop; meals and transport for the elderly, as well as support to the homeless over winter and other activities.

If you would like to become a member, speak to your local parish priest to see where your nearest group (Conference) of volunteers is based, or contact SVP National Office on 020 7703 3030 or via info@svp.org.uk

Story and picture by Harry Robertson

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Calling all Parishes

Next month we will be advertising Christmas Mass Times in the December edition

To promote yours please call Alice on 01440 730399 by 11 November

New Diocesan Financial Secretary

MRS SARAH KILMARTIN has been appointed Diocesan Financial Secretary to succeed Fergus Brotherton who retires from this post at the end of the year, after 29 years in the role.

We will be providing more details of our new Financial Secretary in a later edition of A&BNEWS.

NOTICE BOARD

Reflection Day for Year of Mercy

‘Christ looks at us with Mercy and and calls us to Discipleship’

Saturday 14 November from 10am-4pm at St Theresa’s School, Effingham, Surrey RH5 6ST Tickets £10

To book, contact David Wills on 01293 651157 or email david.wills@dabnet.org

ADVENT PROGRAMME WORTH ABBEY

Dates for your diary!

In keeping with popular tradition and in preparation for Christmas, our beautiful Abbey Church will be the venue for an exciting programme of musical events during the Advent season.

Entry is free but there will be retiring collections for charity. Look out for more information in the next edition of A & B News. Everyone will be welcome.

Sunday, 29 November at 7.30 pm - Handel’s ‘Messiah’

A Chamber Choir, Orchestra and soloists will perform some of the favourite movements from this perennial masterpiece. Not to be missed!

Sunday, 13 December at 7.30 pm - Organ Recital

With virtuoso D’Arcy Trinkwon, internationally renowned and Resident Organist at Worth, playing a feast of spectacular organ music reflecting the Advent season.

Sunday, 20 December, at 4.00 pm - Traditional Carol Service

An opportunity for families and everyone to capture the traditional spirit of Christmas in an hour of carols, music and readings.

In the inspiring surroundings of the Abbey church and with organist D’Arcy Trinkwon, an occasion to prepare for the celebration of His birthday.

MASS FOR THE DEAF

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

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

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‘Laudato Si’ - Care of our Common Home

Ten interesting facts regarding Pope Francis’ latest encyclical. How many did you know?

1. It is the first encyclical with a non-Latin name (it’s in an old Italian dialect).

2. It means ‘Praise be’ (to God), taken from St Francis’ Canticle of The Creatures.

3. The letter is addressed to ‘all people’ not just Catholics.

4. It highlights that we are part of nature itself not simply masters over it.

5. It highlights that climate is a common good and that ‘Climate change is a global problem with grave implications...’

6. It has some stark messages: ‘The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.’

7. It also has some fine encouragements: ‘For all our limitations, gestures of generosity, solidarity and care cannot but well up within us, since we were made for love.’

8. CAFOD have a webpage dedicated to *Laudato Si* with a study guide for parish groups to use at cafod.org.uk/Pray/Encyclical and animations for children and young people.

9. Following Pope Francis’ call, CAFOD has joined with the Global Catholic Climate Movement, asking our Prime Minister and other world leaders to take urgent action to prevent climate change pushing people deeper into poverty. We will be raising our voice in advance of, and during, the upcoming climate talks in Paris. More info on our website, please add your name and encourage your friends and fellow parishioners to do the same by the 15 November.

10. Pope Francis says ‘Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.(217)

BISHOP’S DIARY

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

Sun 18	3.00pm	St Philip Howard Mass, Arundel Cathedral
Mon 19	9.15am	Feast Day Mass at St Philip Howard Catholic High School, &11.15am Barnham
	pm	Meets with Wellspring community
Tues 20/Wed 21		Clergy On-going Formation Overnight, East Grinstead
Thurs 22	11.30	Meeting, High Oaks
	2.00pm	Visit St Joseph’s Specialist School, Cranleigh
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
Mon 26		Lunch for Prison Chaplains at High Oaks
Tues 27		Meeting, St Mary’s University
Thurs 29	2.00pm	Meeting at High Oak
Sat 31	9.30am	Meeting, St Bernadette’s, Tilgate
Sun 1	10.30am	Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Thames Ditton
	6.00pm	Solemn Vespers at St Pancras, Lewes
Tues 3	11.00am	Council of Priests’ Meeting, DABCEC
Wed 4	12 Noon	St Mary’s University
	6.00pm	Mass for the Association of Lourdes Pilgrimage Directors of Great Britain, Arundel Cathedral
Thurs 5	11.00am	Chapter Mass and Meeting, Arundel Cathedral
	7.00pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Fri 6	10.00am	Meeting with Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Bishop’s House, Hove
	1.00pm	Visits St Catherineis School, Littlehampton
Sat 7	10.00am	Proclaim ‘15 Meeting, DABCEC
Sun 8	10.45am	Remembrance Service, War Memorial, Arundel
	11.30am	Remembrance Day Mass for War Dead, Arundel Cathedral
	7.30pm	Remembrance Requiem Mass at Royal Holloway University of London Chapel
Mon 9	3.00pm	Joins Weybridge Deanery Clergy, St Cuthman’s
Tues 10		Day of Recollection, Parkminster
Wed 11	11.30am	Meeting, High Oaks
Thurs 12	9.15am	HEFCE Annual Meeting, London
	6.00pm	Newman Society, Oxford
Fri 13	10.30am	Study Day on Marriage Tribunal new rules, DABCEC
	7.30pm	Induction of Fr Chris Bergin as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Sorrows, Bognor Regis
Sat14	10.00am	Catholaity, Brighton Racecourse
	1.00pm	Proclaim ‘15, St Theresa’ School, Effingham
Sun15	3.00pm	Mass for the Deceased Brothers of Knights of St Columba, Arundel Cathedral
Mon 16-Thurs 19		Bishops’ Plenary Meeting, Leeds
Fri 20-Sat 21		Meetings, Rome
Sun 22	10.00am	Mass for the Centenary of Our Lady and St Peter, Leatherhead
Mon 23	10.30am	Feast Day Mass for Notre Dame School, Cobham
Tues 24	9.00am	St Mary’s Mission Group Workshop, St Mary’s University
	10.30am	Day Workshop on Domestic Abuse, St Aloysius, Euston
Wed 25	12 Noon	Meeting, Reading
	3.00pm	St John’s Seminary Trustees’ Meeting, Wonersh
	4.00pm	Bishops’ Staff Meeting, Wonersh
Thurs 26	10.30am	Churches Together in Surrey Meeting, St Anne’s, Chertsey
	5.00pm	Board of Governors’ Meeting, St Mary’s University, Twickenham
Fri 27	10.45am	Education Committee Meeting, DABCEC
	3.00pm	Meeting at High Oaks
Sun 29	6.00pm	Mass at University of Surrey
Mon 30-Thurs 3		Retreat with Prison Chaplains, Leeds

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OBITUARIES

Canon Brian O'Sullivan RIP

BRIAN MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN was born in Forest Gate, London. He described himself as 'the only child of an English mother and an Irish father, who was a police inspector'. They moved to Sydenham, where they lived throughout the war, 'bombed out, evacuated, and bombed out again'.

Educated at St John's College, Beulah Hill by the De Las Salle Brothers, Brian went on to work in Fleet Street for The Western Mail through 1951 before going to St John's Seminary, Wonersh, from 1952-1958.

Ordained on 31 May 1958 by Bishop (later, Archbishop) Cyril Corderoy, Fr Brian was appointed as an assistant priest to the parish of St Mary of the Angels, Worthing, from 1958 to 1963 and then to St Agnes, Eastbourne with special responsibility for Pevensy Bay, from 1963 to 1972.

As parish priest, Fr Brian served in the then new parish of Merrow with Burpham (1972-1981) and Englefield Green from 1991 to 1997. He was Chairman of the National Conference of Priests from 1989 to 1994 and Dean of Weybridge from 1985-1997.

Fr Brian came to Steyning in 1997 and was parish priest here until his retirement in 2002.

Made an Honorary Canon in 1995, Canon Brian was appointed Episcopal Vicar for Ecumenical Affairs in 1998. He worked tirelessly for ecumenical relations both locally and nationally and it is in part a tribute to him that the local churches have been so generous and welcoming in the preparations for his funeral. His ecumenical work has been long-standing. In 1965 he organised the first United Service to be held in Eastbourne and later developed a Local Ecumenical Partnership at Englefield Green. He continued the Partnership already established in Steyning.

As Episcopal Vicar for Ecumenical Affairs, he was able to expand his ecumenical enthusiasm throughout the Diocese and develop warm relations with the Church Leaders and Ecumenical Officers of Surrey and Sussex. He was very excited by taking part in the development of emphasis of ecumenism to Joint Mission and Unity. He also enjoyed a growing friendship and partnership with the Jewish community.

Following his retirement, Fr Brian continued to live in Steyning and valued the friends he had made here. This has been true during his stay at Croft Meadow nursing home where, again, he was warmly received by many people and his humour, wisdom, joy of music and flowers were shared with others. He also shared many memories of his times in previous parishes.

On 31 July this year, Brian went on the Arundel and Brighton Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. He had been many times and felt very much a part of the pilgrimage family. It is a tribute to the Pilgrimage organisation and to the volunteers that it was made possible for him to go this year, and he was very grateful for this.

His time in Lourdes gave him a sense of well-being and, whilst being very tired he felt very enriched by the experience and touched by the Spirit. He came back feeling restored and it seemed that he felt ready to meet the Lord. Brian died on the evening of 21 August, having talked with friends, listened to the Dream of Gerontius, had the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and was anointed. He died peacefully and surrounded by prayer. AL



Margaret Staunton RIP

WHEN WE JOINED the parish 23 years ago, Margaret was one of the first to welcome us. For the parish was Margaret's family she loved the Church of St Peter and St John (now part of the parish of Camberley and Bagshot), and she regarded us all as her extended relatives.

Margaret was at the heart of the Liturgy committee; she was a Eucharistic minister, a Minister of the Word and she was the fount of knowledge of the Bible Study Group, always able to contextualize the book being studied, Old Testament or New. She was also a regular prayer sponsor of first Holy Communion children.

And because she was a 16-year-old at school with her sister, Stella, when World War Two broke out and the daughter of a Scottish father who saw service in both wars, she was the living historian of the parish, vividly recalling the impact of the war on her generation in her reflections every Remembrance Sunday.

She was a teacher of youngsters in many different countries as she travelled the world with her husband, John - including Ghana, Hong Kong and Borneo. She was a great supporter of the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice where my wife Maggie worked and where her beloved John later died. Indeed all the proceeds from her second and third little books, Candles in the Dark and See the Stars, were given to the Hospice in memory of John.

Small in stature, Margaret was huge in wisdom, knowledge and faith, enabling her to endure loneliness since John's death in 2003 and her own physical pain in recent years with stoicism and calm. Her favourite saintly figure was undoubtedly Julian of Norwich, the 14th Century Mystic whom she would quote often 'All will be well... when time shall end'.

So how will Margaret be remembered? She would wish it to be particularly for her writing, for her hymns, for her poems on the New Testament, for her prayers including one for Desert Orchid, whom she will undoubtedly see, as she put it, 'grazing happily in the Great Paddock in the sky.'

Margaret was without any children of her own and wrote in Reflections, one of her little books: 'No child have I to carry on my name, but words are children too, to light a flame in hearts unknown.'

Margaret's words have indeed ignited our hearts and they will be just one way of reminding us of her.

In the words of her last little book, The Well of Peace, sold to support the Parish CAFOD Connect2 Project in El Salvador:

'All will indeed be well' ...as her time on this earth has ended.

RW

Editor's note, we are grateful for a number of her poems published over the years, including one in this issue



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Golden Jubilee Celebrations at St Gregory's



A FOUNDATION STONE to mark the construction of St Gregory's church in Eastbourne was laid in July 1965. In recognition of its 50th anniversary, Bishop Richard celebrated Mass together with some former priests of the parish. Mgr Barry Wymes, Canon Seamus Hester, Canon Tim Madeley and Fr Dominic Rolls were present on the Sunday following St Gregory's feast day together with the current parish priests Fr Raglan Hay-Will and Fr David King. Fr Simon Dray acted as Master of Ceremonies. The Mayor of Eastbourne, Councillor Janet Coles, also attended.

During Mass, the children's liturgy group made a presentation on the life and work of St Gregory.

At the end of Mass the Bishop presented St Philip Howard medals to Gerry and Liz Mason, Barry James and John Purcell, leader of the choir, in recognition of their respective long periods of service to the Church community.

Bishop Richard then blessed a new crucifix which will be hung in the church to record his visit and the anniversary. Bishop Richard wished the community well in its fundraising efforts to raise enough money to replace the church roof. Within the last year about one half of the cost has been raised by various fund-raising activities and generous donations.

After Mass Bishop Richard joined parishioners in enjoying bacon butties cooked on a barbeque in the church garden. Bishop Richard also cut an anniversary cake made by Patricia Rodriguez, a parishioner

Story and Pictures: Nick Price



Catenian Association
Arundel Circle



Quiz Night

in aid of local charities

Friday 13th November 2015
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FROM THE PARISHES

ARUNDEL

OUR CATHEDRAL with its soaring pillars and flowing lines, enfolding some exceptional stone-carving and glass, recently provided an ideal venue for the display of a whole array of local artworks, as part of 'The Gift Art Trail'. Along with other Christian churches in the Arundel and Littlehampton area, the 'Trail' was created, using their special meeting places as 'galleries' and performance spaces.

With the theme 'The Tree of Life', participants of all ages, from the very young in local schools to the young at heart in retirement, all were happy to show their varied, individual talents as unique gifts from God.

Our collection of visual arts used paper and paint, metal, stitch and stone which were then transformed into myriad of shapes and forms which were a delight to the eye. In turn they also served as a stimulating, colourful backdrop to an eventful display of performance arts.

While visitors enjoyed a programme of music, dance, poetry and prose over the three days of the festival, the performers and artists hope that they too will come to recognise and appreciate their own creativity.

Hilary Caws

BRIGHTON

St Mary's, Prestgon Park

NINETEEN CHILDREN in our parish received their First Holy Communion on Sunday 21 June. Our congratulations to them and thanks to all those involved including catechists, flower arrangers, choir and servers.

There was a Going Forth Mass on Sunday 19 July for the Confirmation and First Holy Communion candidates to receive their certificates.

On 8/9 August Fr Franco Maestromauro from the Comboni Missionaries said Masses and preached for the annual mission appeal. £659.43 was raised.

Since the summer holidays ended we have been getting busy again planning sacramental programmes and parish activities. The SVP Group organised a table-top sale of children's toys and books plus a raffle and barbecue on Sunday 13 September. They raised an impressive £388 and encouraged by this will be setting up a parish Food Bank to alleviate poverty in our parish.

On Sunday 20 September the Social Concerns Group ran a coffee morning, cake sale and bring and buy sale raising £130 for Uganda Hands for Hope.

Claire Shelton-Jones

CRAWLEY

Christ the Lord (LEP)
Broadfield and Bewbush

ON THE FIRST SUNDAY of September we were delighted to welcome a new member of our congregation, Naomi Therese Wills, when Fr Gerard Hatton baptised her. Congratulations to proud parents Anne Marie and David and to brothers Elijah, Patrick, Joseph and Simon.

After Mass Mrs Eileen Tompkins spoke to us about the work of the APF-Mill Hill Mission and gave an appeal on behalf of the mission, encouraging us to support the Red Box collection scheme.

On the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary the Friary church was packed out when we sadly bade farewell to Fr Gerard who is leaving to go to the parish of Our Lady

EWELL

JONATHAN INNS and his CAFOD team tried something different this summer, when we enjoyed a lovely Sunday afternoon tea party at St Clement's. As we tucked into sandwiches, scones and cakes, washed down with tea and Pimms, we were entertained by a brilliant jazz band, made up of students and teachers from Richard Challoner School in New Malden. (See picture below). They played typical tea dance music and were much appreciated. The afternoon was a great success and raised over £600 for CAFOD's *Connect2 Cambodia* project.

*Story Charlotte Gregory
Picture: Robin Hannan*



of Ransom in Eastbourne.

We celebrated Rosary and Benediction and afterwards David Wills gave an affectionate tribute to Fr Gerard. He was presented with a cheque and cut the celebration cake, and then it was on to the hall for food and wine and fellowship.

Barbara Winstanley

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King, The Holy Rood
and St Joachim

WE WERE DELIGHTED to welcome Fr Melaku, a priest from the Comboni missionary order, to speak at all Masses during the last weekend in September. He explained to us the history of the order which was formed in 1867 by Daniel Comboni, a priest from Verona, Italy,

CRAWLEY

St Francis, St Anthony
and St Bernadette

TWO OF OUR LADY'S important feasts became significant for us this year. On the Feast of the Assumption, Notre Dame sisters, Sr Joan and Sr Patricia, waved farewell, after a Mass of Thanksgiving followed by a bring and share lunch. The Notre Dame Sisters played an important part in Crawley. The convent and school, stood for many years in Pound Hill until its closure in the late 1990s. Sr Joan, a committee member for The Heritage Centre Project, used her artistic skills to create banners representing the continents on which the Sisters of Notre Dame minister. She has also produced liturgical publications for the Diocese.

Then on Our Lady's Birthday, 8 September, we prayed the Rosary and Benediction before assembling in the Hall to say goodbye and thank you to Fr Gerard Hatton. (See picture below). Always full of fun, he said Crawley was his first parish as an ordained priest and he didn't want to leave. However, he said he must continue to try and do Mary's work in the parish on the sunshine coast of Eastbourne, as he put it! He said he leaves with so much love and wishes our new priest, Fr Simon Dray, a very blessed ministry among us.

*Story Sue Fellows
Picture Hazel D'souza*



who was canonised in 2003.

Fr Melaku described to us the challenging conditions that the early missionaries had to face in Africa and some of the challenges in more recent times including the Ethiopian famine in 1985. In recent years the order has extended its operations to South and Central America and to parts of Asia. A retiring collection was taken at the end of all Masses and those parishioners able to make regular contributions were invited to sign direct debit forms. We will continue to remember the order in our prayers that God will continue to bless their work to bring the Kingdom of justice, love and peace to all hearts and all nations.

A surprise party was given by Toni Harris to celebrate Cynthia Bravin's retirement from the post of sacristan and her other duties over the last 35 years at Christ The King. In acknowledging Cynthia's great contribution to the life of the parish we now welcome Allona Hollands who has assumed Cynthia's duties at Sunday Masses at Christ The King.

John Carmody

EASTBOURNE

Our Lady of Ransom, St Gregory
and St Agnes

THE PARISH expressed an emotional farewell in the parish centre to Fr David King as he left us to take up his ministry in Bognor Regis. Fr David has left a lasting legacy to our parish in so many different ways and everyone will always be thankful to him for this and everything he achieved in his ministry whilst with us, including founding the Ignite Youth Group who took much inspiration from him. We now welcome Fr Gerard Hatton who comes to us from Crawley parish.

There was a joint parish/Ordinate procession singing in honour of Our Lady around the streets adjacent to the church on the Feast of Our Lady of Ransom.

The Catholic Women's League held a coffee morning in the parish centre raising a magnificent £400 for St Gregory's roof fund.

The parish Grandparents Group organised a trip to Chichester Cathedral.

Mary Staffiere

GODALMING

WE WERE very fortunate to hold a parish family day on a sunny September Sunday. Over 100 parishioners came and enjoyed a superb shared lunch at Richard and Hilary Grey's home. Entertainment included party games for the children, tennis and bingo. After tea, a Mass was celebrated by Fr Anthony Meredith on the lawn in the garden.

The SVP arranged a mid-week daytime parish social which was well attended. Ian Honeysett gave a talk on China which was accompanied by photos of his recent visit and this was followed by a lovely meal. Five parishioners took part in the Surrey bike ride raising funds for maintaining local churches. A good sum of money was raised by sponsorship from

RUSTINGTON



ST JOSEPH'S has hosted two major events recently. The first was our local council's Annual Thanksgiving Service, attended not only by our local councillors but also mayors and council leaders from neighbouring authorities and our MP, who later expressed his appreciation of Fr Dominic O'Hara's address.

The second was a vigil of prayer for persecuted Christians, organised by Churches Together in Rustington. Each of the local churches, including our neighbours from Our Lady Star of the Sea, East Preston, led a section of the 12 hour event focussed on the plight of Christians in a particular part of the world. In the sanctuary were items symbolising the different areas, and messages of support are being sent to our fellow believers through Aid to the Church in Need and other agencies. (See picture above)

Michael Mitchell

parishioners.

Damian Wheeler

RYE

OUR NEW PARISH PRIEST, Fr Matthew Chadwick, arrived in Rye early in September. As parishioners we are happy to welcome our Franciscan Greyfriar. He is a member of the Friars Minor Conventual, the order which has cared for St Anthony of Padua since its formation as a parish over 100 years ago.

During September, members of the Guild of St Anthony of Padua came, with the Oblates of Westminster Cathedral, to visit us in Rye.

I would like to quote from the letter of appreciation sent to Rye News: 'Once I was inside the church, I felt awed by what I saw. It was so lovely, small and quiet, and I could feel St Anthony watching over us. I felt elated when I went up to the best pulpit from which I have ever done the reading'.

Jocelyn Rowe

SOUTHWICK

with Portslade and Hangleton

WE WERE TREATED to a very interesting and informative evening in St Georges Church Hall. In preparation for our parish day pilgrimage to St Albans Cathedral we welcomed Mrs Ann Banham, one of the guides from the Abbey and Cathedral Church of St Alban. Ann's 'laptop presentation' enabled us to experience something of what our day might include. This was also an opportunity for those unable to come on the day to St Alban's Cathedral to share some of the delights that await us. Everyone who came along was really impressed and enthused by the presentation and most are now eagerly looking forward to the day. We finished the evening with some light refreshments and an opportunity to socialise and chat.

Also in the parish recently we will see the launch of the First Holy communion programme 2015 - 16 with blessing of Catechists and families both at Southwick and St Georges, Hangleton.

Gill Sajnog

WADHURST



SACRED HEART PARISH recently gathered to celebrate Eva Orrill's 90th birthday. Eva has been our faithful and reliable organist for most of the last 10 years. After food and bubbly and a cake made in the shape of a piano by Niamh Murphy, Fr Martin O'Connor presented her with a beautiful bouquet and said a few words of thanks and appreciation on our behalf. (See picture above)

This month the Sacred Space Service was held at our Sacred Heart church. Organised by Clare Kent and Susan Martin it was a calm quiet peaceful hour of prayer and praise inspired by some beautiful readings and music. It was a gathering of friends from all the local churches.

Two weeks ago we had a dramatic incident during 10.30am Mass. Just after the children's liturgy group had left the church one of the large glass doors between the Annex and the church suddenly collapsed with a thunderous noise. Fortunately it was made of safety glass so it shattered into thousands of round pieces. One-month-old Isaac Fradd's brand-new Guardian Angel had just alerted his father to take him out of church otherwise he would have been covered with quite a weight of glass balls. Perhaps his Angel can now remove his L plates.

Peggy Purslow

TO ALL OUR CORRESPONDENTS ITEMS for the **December 2015** issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on **Monday 2 November 2015** and for the **January 2016** issue by **Monday 23 November 2015 (a week early)** Contributions may be sent by **e-mail to abnews@dabnet.org** and if so **please include a contact telephone number.**

It is helpful to us if Correspondents can type their contributions, keep them to no more than 200 words and include a word count. Original good quality digital pictures (which must be at least 300dpi) are very welcome. They should be sent as e-mail attachments. We regret we are unable to use photocopies or copies printed directly from computers. Please tell us that you have permissions for children's photos to be published.

FROM THE PARISHES

WORTHING

St Mary of the Angels

OUR ANNUAL restart week was from Sunday 6 to Sunday 13 September. Topics covered were 'The Church the Body of Christ', 'Do I know the joy of the risen Jesus?', 'How is the Church Good News to the poor?', 'Is my family a church?', 'Do we seek to unite all in the Christ?', 'Do I know the joy of the Gospel?' and 'Are we Jesus in the world today?'. There were services at 7.30pm each day on these themes. The service on the Monday was a Penitential Service and that on the Thursday a Taizé Service. The Service on Friday was followed by festive refreshments. These services were all based on the Constitution 'Gaudium et Spes' of the 2nd Vatican Council.

Sunday 27 September was the last Sunday before Fr Chris Benyon's retirement - he left on Tuesday 29 September for his retirement in Seaford. After our 8.30am Mass Richard Callaghan said farewell to Fr Chris on behalf of the congregation for that Mass and thanked him for his eight years of service to the parish and all he had done for us.

After the 10.30am Mass there was a shared lunch in Sion school hall and a cheque was presented to Father as a parting gift from the parishioners.

Astrid Gibson

BISHOP RICHARD'S PASTORAL LETTER
ON THE REFUGEE CRISIS

Bishop Richard's pastoral letter (13 September) suggesting further practical ways to help has met with an enthusiastic response to date. We're currently in ongoing discussions with local authorities and agencies to establish the most effective way our diocese can respond in any way possible to:-

- Refugees already here
- Refugees on the move
- Refugees trapped in camps etc

A 'Ways You Can Help Database Form' is helping to collate information from parishes and individuals, please contact Aidan Cantwell Social Action/Justice & Peace Adviser on 01293 651154 or aidan.cantwell@dabnet.org for more information.

Witness to Faith



WE RETURNED recently from the Equipes Notre Dame (END) 3rd International Gathering for Regional Couples in Rome on the theme 'Here I am Lord, Send me' (Isaiah 6:8).

END is an international Christian movement for married couples of all ages. Started in 1938 in Paris by Fr Henri Cafferel, whose cause for beatification has been received in Rome, it now has 30,000 Teams in 80 countries worldwide. END is a lay movement focusing on married spirituality, established in response to the needs of couples to live fully the sacrament of marriage. Small groups of married couples and a spiritual counsellor meet monthly for an informal meal to share, to pray and to develop their relationship with God and with each other.

The importance of the movement within the Catholic Church is recognised by Pope Francis who welcomed END delegates at a private audience in the Vatican in September. During his discourse the Pope focussed primarily on the missionary role of the movement stating 'Christian couples and families are often in the best position to announce Jesus Christ to other families, to support them, to strengthen and encourage them'.

For full details of Pope Francis' message visit www.news.va

To find out more about Teams visit www.teamsgb.org.uk or [facebook@teamsgb.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/teamsgb.org.uk)

Story and photo by Bernard and Susan Kelly

Samoan International
Rugby Team at Mass in
St Mary Magdalen Church,
Brighton

WE WERE VISITED by the Samoan International Rugby Team when they joined us for our 10.30am Mass on 13 September and sang a Samoan Hymn at the end of Mass. We will be cheering them on and praying for them at the Rugby World Cup.

Story and photo by James Melody
(update: just before we went to press, the Samoan Rugby Team lost a key match to the Japanese Brave Blossoms and missed a place at the quarter-finals of the Rugby World Cup. Although they may not have won the cup, they won many hearts and we wish them a safe journey home.)

The 2015
Real Advent Calendar
Launches

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is hoping to donate £15,000 from sales of its 2015 Real Advent Calendar to help fund a baby clinic in Kenya and support overseas farmers through Traidcraft Exchange.

However, it is not just the charitable donation that makes The Real Advent Calendar unique. This year it includes a 32-page Christmas story/activity booklet illustrated by Sophie Allsopp and designed to be used every day in Advent. The new booklet includes all the traditional nativity characters, gives more detail about the Christmas story and has seven Advent challenges. The calendar also comes with 24 Fairtrade Belgian chocolates and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the windows.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said: 'Recent surveys show that knowledge of the Christmas story is fading. The Real Advent Calendar is part of a campaign which hopes to reverse this trend by finding

new ways to share the story. By buying this Advent calendar children, parents and Godparents can share the Christmas story throughout December.'

How to buy

The Real Advent Calendar costs £3.99. Churches, schools and groups can buy directly from The Meaningful Chocolate Company by visiting our special website at www.realadvent.co.uk and take advantage of a free delivery offer.

Retailers stocking the calendar include larger Tesco stores, Traidcraft, Eden.co.uk, Shared Earth, CLC Bookshops and a number of cathedrals. Details at www.realadvent.co.uk

Launching this year's calendar, TV presenter Diane Louise Jordan said: 'Not only is the calendar educational and made from Fairtrade chocolate but it's a great opportunity to raise funds to help equip and support The Funzi and Bodo Trust baby clinic in Kenya.'



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How To Buy

Bulk orders Churches, schools and groups can buy in bulk directly from us at www.realadvent.co.uk/shop. Order from us before 1/11/2015 we will give you free delivery. We supply in boxes of 18. A range of independent retailers, bookshops and cathedrals have stocks of the advent calendars. Traidcraft, TLM, Eden.co.uk and Embrace the Middle East also have stocks and some can send bulk and singles.

TESCO

Tesco is the only supermarket selling the calendar, but only in their larger stores.

See website for details: www.realadvent.co.uk/shop



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