

FREE

A & B NEWS

Diocese of Arundel & Brighton
No 326 March 2018



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Hope Overcoming Fear *The Justice & Peace Assembly 2018*

WELCOMING ATTENDEES and the 14 scheduled speakers to the Justice & Peace (J&P) Assembly 2018, Bishop Richard reminded his audience of the importance of always keeping our eyes fixed on the person of Jesus 'in order to have a sense of where you are coming from and where you are going to'.

Jack Valero of Catholic Voices

The first keynote speaker, Jack Valero of Catholic Voices, (pictured below) gave a highly practical and positive approach to responding to the often negative perceptions people have of various aspects of Christianity or Catholic belief, for example in often contentious areas such as euthanasia, abortion, contraception and traditional marriage.

Appealing for his listeners not to be afraid of controversy, he assured them that there was a compelling story to tell and a three-step way of getting it across effectively.

First, understand the frame – the unspoken assumptions and prejudices – that a person is using. Then, displaying empathy, identify the positive common value – usually a Christian value - that underlies the frame.

Finally, engage in debate using the shared value as an opportunity to articulate the many relevant Christian and Catholic contributions that further that shared value. Quoting Pope Francis' remarks on communications, he stressed the need to 'first listen...listening means paying attention, wanting to understand, to value, to respect...'

Giving several examples, Jack invited the audience to participate – a challenge that was quickly taken up.

Dr Anthony Towey

The second keynote speaker was Dr Anthony Towey, a popular and respected academic, director of the Aquinas Centre for Theological Literacy (pictured right).

In a presentation that was dynamic, humorous, and seeded with challenging ideas and theological insights, he made the compelling case that Catholic Social Teaching was rooted in scripture, with particular reference to the Old Testament and the role of Jesus Christ as social reformer.

Starting from the paradoxical nature of biblical statements, he considered Western functionalism and the lost sense of Sabbath, the role of relationships and covenants, commandments as positive dignifiers, the Magnificat as a manifesto, the theology of liberation, the call to justice and liberation... and much more.

Stalls and Displays

Delegates were then able to visit a variety of stalls with displays to educate, inform and solicit support. There were books to purchase, leaflets to collect, email updates to sign up for and eager stallholders to engage with.

The Traidcraft stall was particularly impressive with a huge variety of decorative and practical products in a variety of rainbow colours. The Christian Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) stall also attracted interested browsers who were promptly greeted and engaged by enthusiastic members; it is hard to believe the CND was formed more than 60 years ago and Christian CND just three years later. The CAFOD stall and its energetic manager, Martin Brown, also drew numbers of browsers and enquirers.

Five-minute Presentations

The final part of the Assembly, held in the assembly hall of St Francis' School Crawley (whose patron is pictured right), comprised five-minute presentations from each of the 14 charities/representatives who had not yet had the opportunity to present their case. These ranged from national charities such as CAFOD to enthusiastic start-ups like the Environment Group that began campaigning just one year ago. A list of the groups represented is provided on Page 5.

To summarise: there are many and huge issues of injustice, inequality and environmental damage that rightly give us fear for the future. Ranged against them are many and varied groups that, drawing upon principles of Catholic Social Teaching and the good news of the Gospel, offer the hope that will overcome fear, telling what Jack Valero calls 'a message that is so great'. The J&P Assembly offered attendees access to many vehicles of hope.

(more photographs of the day on
Page 5)



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Two iconic challenges raise thousands for charity

A PARISHIONER FROM GUILDFORD has completed two iconic challenges to raise money for charity, including CAFOD.

Nick Combes, a financial planner who attends St Pius X church in Merrow, marked his 40th birthday by completing the London Marathon and climbing both the Alpine mountains of Mont Blanc and Gran Paradiso. He did so with his business partner and friend, Ed Holder.

Nick is not unaccustomed to physical exertion. He spent three years in the army, plays competitive rugby and has completed the London Triathlon, the Three Peaks challenge and multiple 10k races, to a name but a few.



Nick had never done a full marathon, however, and in preparation he not only read a book on marathon running but followed a very specific training plan, as well as abstained from alcohol.

His dedication paid dividends as he ran the 2016 London Marathon in under 4 hours (pictured left).

Looking back, Nick remembers how he felt before the race:

'Having never run a marathon before and never run the distance in training, I approached the day with a reasonable amount of trepidation.

Luckily, I didn't really struggle until the last mile when I had to dig deep to keep going. The crowds along the route were a definite highlight, as was realising that after 20 miles I still felt reasonably spritely.'

In Autumn 2017, Nick arrived in Chamonix to climb both Mont Blanc and Grand Paradiso.

For Nick, Mont Blanc was a completely different experience to the London Marathon: 'The Mont Blanc summit attempt was made more difficult by the weather, which meant we had to combine three days into two. And the most challenging part of Gran Paradiso was climbing to the summit in crampons at a 45-degree angle on a sheet of solid ice. Coming down was also very challenging and a bit hairy - a slip would have led to a steep slide followed by a flat area and then a sheer drop'.

Both challenges were physically and mentally tough, but Nick was struck by how humbling certain aspects of the experiences were: 'In the mountains we were accompanied by a number of injured ex-soldiers and one civilian who had suffered a brain injury and lost the use of one arm; to reach the summits of Gran Paradiso and Mont Blanc with those guys was a humbling experience' (pictured right).



'And the biggest heroes in the London Marathon are those who are determined to complete the course, no matter how long it takes. Finishing and then seeing people who were half way through with an inevitable seven hour finish time was a humbling experience.'

Nick and Ed have raised over £17,000 for their five favourite charities: CAFOD, Children with Cancer, Help for Heroes, British Red Cross and Red Earth. Nearly £4,000 of the money raised is going to the Catholic aid agency CAFOD, which works with vulnerable communities in over 40 countries worldwide.

The money raised by Nick and Ed will be used by CAFOD to help those living in extreme poverty to reach their full potential, regardless of religion or culture, by equipping them with the skills and opportunities to live with dignity, support their families and give something back to their communities.

CAFOD A&B representative, Jo Lewry, said: 'Running 26.2 miles and climbing 4,810 metres is an incredible achievement. Many thanks to Nick and Ed for undertaking two such demanding challenges for CAFOD - every penny raised will make a difference to the life of someone in the developing world.'

Jessica Coffin
Regional Communications Assistant
CAFOD

A Very Happy Ninetieth to Mary Barry

MARY BARRY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY was anticipated by a few days so that on Saturday 6 January friends and parishioners from the Mass Centre in Portslade could gather with her after the Vigil Mass for a small, surprise celebration complete with cake and decorations. (Mary is pictured, right, with Fr Alastair Simmons.)

We all appreciated the opportunity to offer our grateful thanks to Mary who spends so much of her time busy helping and doing things for others, including taking communion to the sick and housebound.

Someone who is normally reluctant to be the focus of attention was gracious in the warm spotlight of our affection and sincerest good wishes - the birthday Papal Blessing was the icing on the cake.

Further celebration followed on the actual birthday with coffee and cake after the daily Mass at St George's, Hangleton.

Thank you again, Mary, for all you do.

Story and picture: Gill Sajnog



Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Apostolate of the Eucharistic Adoration

'The Eucharist is a priceless treasure: by praying before Our Lord we are enabled to make contact with the very wellspring of grace.' **Pope St John Paul II**



THE MISSION OF THE APOSTALATE is to help parishes throughout the diocese establish and maintain viable weekly Eucharistic Adoration programmes. **Can we help in your parish?**

Please pray for our efforts to spread this devotion so that more priests and their parishioners will be drawn into the loving presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

'Let us take time, in the course of the week, in passing, to go in and spend time with the Lord who is so near.' **Pope Benedict XVI**

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Walking in the Footsteps of Mary and Joseph

A REAL DONKEY?' one of the teachers at St Catherine's School asked, somewhat taken aback. 'Yes, a real donkey – well Mary and Joseph would have had a real donkey!' And so, on Monday 18 December, as the sun began to set, we celebrated the culmination of our Spirituality Week by joining together as a whole school to re-enact Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem, together with our live donkey.

We began with a Liturgy in the hall where we listened to the Gospel reading calling Joseph and Mary to return to Bethlehem to register. As one of their focus class activities, each child had made a lantern to carry and so as the lamps were lit, we began our journey/pilgrimage around the school field. Each class had made a sign for one of the locations that features on the journey to Bethlehem. We paused at each post in turn and the class responsible read a prayer, poem or reflection based on the title of their topic such as Visitors, and Waiting. As we journeyed around we sang hymns and songs which echoed the message of journeying and its related challenges.



As we went, members of the Liturgy Team were responsible for additional poems and reflections which enhanced the message. We all arrived at the Bethlehem stable (our converted bike shed!) where Mary dismounted from the donkey and she and Joseph settled into the stable. The whole school, together with parents/carers, gathered in a semi-circle around the stable to watch the scene unfold. As the Gospel was proclaimed, baby Jesus arrived. This was celebrated with hymns and sonnets.

What made this event so special? It wasn't just the presence of our well-behaved donkey, but the involvement of the whole school and the coming to celebrate with us of our wider community that made it a thought-provoking and memorable occasion.

Story and picture: Fiona McGonigle, Deputy Headteacher

Nativity Set Makeover

CARDINAL NEWMAN School put out a plea to the BBC's programme *The Repair Shop* to help bring some Christmas cheer to the school's Nativity Set.

The beautiful pieces have been used every year since the school first opened in 1971. They were gifted to the school by the nuns who had lived in the school when it was a convent but had decided to leave Brighton as it had become 'too racy'. Over the years, a number of pieces had become chipped, baby Jesus had lost his hands and the donkey had lost its ears.

The Nativity Set is an integral part of the school's Advent Activities which help to raise money for a number of charities including Mary's Meals, Hangleton and West Blatchington Foodbank, Project Antifreeze, Charlotte's Bag and Meningitis Now. The fundraising efforts are gifted to the charities at a beautiful candlelit Advent Carol Service where the Nativity Set plays centre stage.

Mrs Donna Morgan, Chapel Administrator, and two Year 9 students took the Nativity set to *The Repair Shop* team who worked extremely hard to bring the pieces back to life in time for the important Advent period.

Mrs Morgan said: 'We were so pleased that The Repair Shop team could help us and were really excited to take part. It was a great experience to meet the team and film at the Weald and Downland museum for the day. The Nativity Set is now back where it belongs in our School Chapel and is looking fantastic. Baby Jesus has his hands back and our donkey has its ears!'

The Repair Shop Christmas special was on BBC 2 at 7pm on 19 December and is now available on BBC iPlayer.

Story and picture: Corinne Allen, Marketing and Communications Manager



Amazing redevelopments at Our Lady of Lourdes School

THE LAST THREE YEARS at Our Lady of Lourdes, Rottingdean, have been a very exciting time, during which we have seen some amazing redevelopments to the School both inside and out - having been very fortunate in securing nearly £500,000 in funding.

It has been wonderful to have been able to completely refurbish our Computer Laboratory, providing up-to-date, touch screen computers for every child in the class. Not only that, but all of our KS2 classrooms have been enlarged and refurbished, providing the best possible environments for our children to learn and develop in. Just recently we also completed the refurbishment of the library area, with funds of £15,000 given to buy brand new, colourful and interactive furniture. The area is now an amazing and vibrant learning space for all.

Last year also saw the successful completion of our Playground Appeal, led by our very active PTA. In partnership with the School and the local community, funds of nearly £90,000 were raised to resurface all of the school's outside areas with wet pour and astro-turf, regenerate our pond and wildlife area and install a fantastic Trim Trail, none of which would have been possible without the help of PARC, our wonderful local charity who supported us both financially and with their invaluable advice.



The school held a wonderful celebration of all the above developments with an assembly and blessing led by Bishop Richard and Marie Ryan, Director of Education for our diocese (both pictured). It was fantastic to have representatives from all the agencies that helped to transform our school learning environment present, including our School Council.

Looking to the future, we are currently working with the PTA to install an outside classroom and wildlife learning hub by the end of the year. Please do check the events section of the RVN for dates of our Summer Fair, Summer Ball at The Grand Hotel and our annual Firework extravaganza!

Story and picture: Paul Beverton, Headteacher and Giulia deRosa, Chair of Governors

Careers Evening at Mayfield School

FROM MEDICINE TO AEROSPACE engineering: Mayfield girls attended the annual Careers Evening to hear a host of inspiring speakers.

Monday evening saw over 200 Mayfield pupils from Years 9 to 13 attend the school's annual careers evening, now into its fifth year. The girls had the opportunity to hear from speakers from over 20 different career areas.

Many of the speakers were drawn from the School's alumnae community, and it was extremely empowering for the girls to hear about how they have risen to the top of their professions, in many cases in male-dominated professions. The aim of the evening was to raise the girls' awareness about the wide range of career opportunities so they can make informed choices about their futures. The speakers also highlighted the importance of resilience, flexibility, adaptability and hard work in achieving their goals - qualities Mayfield focuses on developing in their pupils to prepare them for the opportunities and challenges of a competitive and fast-paced 21st century employment market.

Story and picture: Katie Chamberlain



Gospel Choir at Cranmore School

Singing workshops and live performances from a world famous gospel choir transforms Cranmore School choirs

AN ANNUAL EVENT, CRANMORE LIVE, is always an exciting occasion. However, to see a new generation of children learning, sharing and performing to teachers and parents in such an uplifting way, is a big achievement.

After a series of workshops with our choirs during the day, then training



the children for a concert to parents and friends in the evening, the London Community Gospel Choir (LCGC) delivered an inspiring performance to all.

Celebrating our 50th year, and in the London Community Gospel Choir's 35th year, what a concert it was.

As the LCGC said themselves 'Out of Many...One Voice!'

Story and pictures: Shelagh Connolly

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A & B NEWS

The official monthly paper of the
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Making A Difference

IT IS EASY to be a passive Catholic, just fulfilling duties and coasting from one liturgical landmark to the next, feeling time-poor, promising ourselves ‘when we get the time...’

This month’s edition celebrates two exceptional 90-year-olds, Mary Barry and Joan Kennedy; the dozens of parishioners who work in parish Justice & Peace groups, focusing on the needs of others; the schools and parishes that reach out to the homeless or raise funds to improve the lives of others; the wonderful Lourdes musicians who offer praise in music and song – while helping fund needy pilgrims.

And Peggy Purslow. The beautiful tribute on page 11 tells how this exceptional woman made a difference; friendly, caring, welcoming, living her faith in an active but natural way, singing in the choir and writing her monthly correspondent’s report from Wadhurst Parish.

Suffering from motor neurone disease over the last few years, Peggy refused to yield, completing her last report for the A&B News from her hospital bed a few days before she died.

In just over a month we celebrate the Easter Triduum when we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus, who inspires us all to make a difference in our lives. Will you - and I - find the time to make a difference in 2018?

Harry Robertson

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JUST A THOUGHT

HAPPY LENT!

Time is not something we have; it’s something we make and it’s a fact of experience that we make time for who or what we consider important: a relationship, aerobics, learning the piano, Call the Midwife, whatever. It’s amazing how much time we make when we put our minds to it. This Lent we could usefully make time-management our ascetical practice: ‘I will devote half an hour to x, half a day to y’; we will find it demanding but fruitful; the spiritual Fitbit will pay off.

What should we do with the time we make? We could focus on one or several AN Others – limber up for loving our enemies by being more generous to our friends - and/or we could give time to that very interesting person we so often overlook, one’s self. This is not self-indulgence or narcissism; it’s what Christian spirituality calls ‘listening to one’s heart’. We believe that God speaks to us through others but we also believe that He speaks to us through ourselves, that the knocking at the door may be from the inside. Making time to listen to our hearts is therefore time very well spent and we can do it in a variety of ways: prayerfully sitting and staring; working with a Spiritual Director; making Lectio Divina part of our routine; some or all of the above. But time-management is the key; personal growth is time-sensitive. This year Ash Wednesday coincides with Valentine’s Day; hooray! Let’s take the divine hint and use Lent to take our hearts seriously.

Fr Stephen Ortiger OSB

‘LiveSimply’ in Bognor and Slindon



INSPIRED by Pope Francis’ first WORLD DAY of the POOR, the Catholic community of Bognor invited the homeless to Mass followed by lunch in the Parish Centre.

A young homeless woman who was sleeping rough and reluctant to leave her space was visited and given a listening ear, dinner and a gift of woolly hats, socks and gloves generously donated by parishioners.

The three-course dinner cooked by parishioners was enjoyed by Fr Chris, Fr David, the homeless and the parishioners who had volunteered to be part of the day.

It was heart-warming to witness people who were strangers relaxing, talking and sharing experiences.

Individuals expressed something of the harsh reality of day-to-day survival as rough sleepers, sofa surfers or relying on homeless hostels.

Our guests left with gifts of warm clothing. We are aware that the coming months will bring more homeless people to our streets.

The challenge we face is how do we, as followers of Christ, continue ‘to create moments of encounter and friendship, solidarity and concrete assistance’ (Pope Francis) and make living in solidarity with the poor a reality both at home and abroad.

Story: Gabrielle Thorpe

(Gabrielle reports that her parish now has an ongoing project, feeding the homeless on a weekly basis. A number of parishes in the diocese also help the homeless through involvement in a variety of initiatives, including collecting for food banks, volunteering on soup runs, operating winter homeless night shelters and so on. Apart from helping the needy, parishes also report that these initiatives have the effect of building community, strengthening relationships and promoting the operation of the Body of Christ. Ed)

Rev Canon Francis (Frank) Harrington RIP

THE BIG MAN HAS GONE HOME. These were the words uttered by a parishioner of St Dunstan’s Catholic Church, Woking, shortly after hearing the sad news that Fr. Frank had died on Thursday 25 January 2018, aged 74 years. In many respects it was a beautiful and profound tribute and recognition of, not only Canon Frank’s physical stature, but also his deep faith, spirituality. He was a man who made a big impact on the lives of so many.

Early Days

Frank, as he preferred to be called, was born in the picturesque village of Eyeries on the Beara peninsula, county Cork, Ireland on 19 May 1943. His home was surrounded by hills on one side and the Atlantic Ocean on the other. He loved this rural setting and often spoke fondly of his childhood there. He was very proud of his home and heritage and would often greet parishioners in Gaelic.

He attended primary school in Urhan and then St Brendan’s secondary school, Killarney, where he excelled in Gaelic Football (hopefully also in his studies!). On leaving school, Frank entered All Hallows College, Dublin in 1962 to study for the priesthood. One month later the church bells rang out across the world to signal the opening of the second Vatican Council - an exciting time to prepare for the priesthood.

His class was the first to start their education at the very beginning of Vatican II and the students grew accustomed to visits from Bishops and Cardinals who kept them up to date with what was happening in Rome. He embraced the documents of Vatican II with enthusiasm and hope for the growth of his beloved church. He was very much a ‘Vatican II’ man.

Brighton & Hove

Following his ordination in 1968, Fr. Frank served at St Mary’s, Preston Park. Soon after arriving in Brighton this tall dark-haired man used his organisation skills as he gathered a strong team of people around him to sow the seeds of a very successful Irish Social Club. After a short stay in Englefield Green he returned to Hove where he dedicated much of his time to youth work. His work with young people continued in Frimley (Our Lady Queen of Heaven).

During his time in Brighton and Hove he joined West Hove Golf Club - but for some reason never reached the heights of his cousin Padraig Harrington, the holder of three golf majors. He often played golf with the then Bishop of Arundel & Brighton, later Cardinal Cormac Murphy O’Connor, and they became good friends. Bishop Cormac valued Frank’s wisdom, maturity and counsel, and asked him to mentor young students and newly ordained priests.

The Sacred Heart, Caterham

Fr. Frank moved on to become parish priest at The Sacred Heart Church, Caterham. It was here that his emphasis on people being at the heart of the parish came to fruition and he mastered the art of delegation. His philosophy was that parishioners should run the parish; they are the mainstay and should take decisions and implement them – though he always kept an eagle eye on what was happening and stepped in when necessary! This style continued as he moved to St Dunstan’s, Woking, where he spent the last 24 years of his life.

Frank had vision, some would say he was ahead of his time but he simply recognised and promoted the role of the laity. He would cringe if he heard someone say they were, ‘helping Father’ and would quickly remind him or her of our calling through Baptism. He was instrumental in involving the laity to set up and run preparation courses for the celebration of the Sacraments.

A Man of Many Talents

Frank was a man of many talents, with exceptional organising skills. He was a determined man who wasn’t afraid to speak his mind. He had the ability to gather able, loyal and faithful friends around him to enable him to live the mission entrusted to him and the Church. He also had the humility to bring people in from outside the parish to discuss fresh ideas and stimulate debate on what it meant to be ‘Church’ and what a parish should be.

Frank was a man of courage, dedication and perseverance. These attributes were most evident when, at the invitation of the Bishop, he formed a group in Woking to look into the feasibility of building a new church. It took a man with extraordinary gifts and toughness to see this through and the result is the beautiful new church and parish centre in Shaftesbury Road, Woking. His vision of what it means to ‘be Church’ can be seen clearly in the large open welcoming area and the shape of the place of worship, designed to gather people together as community around the Altar.

It would be remiss not to mention his great sense of humour and dry wit. Frank never missed an opportunity to raise a smile or a laugh with throwaway comments, especially if Ireland had beaten England in the Six Nations rugby!

His birthday coincided with the Feast of St Dunstan and each year at the Festival Mass to celebrate that feast he would remind us that it really was his birthday celebrations!

He was immensely proud of his parish - which has representatives from 73 different nations - and of St Dunstan’s Primary School.

He was a stickler for short meetings and renowned for his brief homilies, always to the point and attempting to link the gospel with modern life. He was also a superb spiritual guide on many pilgrimages undertaken with parishioners, including some to The Holy Land.

Pope Francis inspired him and, like the Holy Father, Frank always saw the church as a: ‘Field hospital’, a servant church there for the service of humanity, not just for churchgoers. He himself had great qualities as a human being, he was generous, open and welcoming and a loyal friend. He loved a curry, a Guinness and spending time with trusted friends.

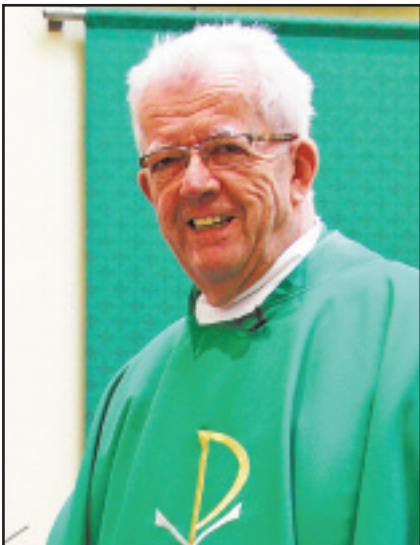
Mass of Thanksgiving

One week after Canon Frank died, the parish celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for his life and work. Approximately 800 people filled the church to overflowing, a tremendous tribute to a man much loved and respected. He will be sorely missed.

‘In the eyes of the unwise, they did appear to die, their going looked like a disaster, their leaving us, like annihilation: but they are at peace.’ (Wisdom 3: 2-3)

One of his sayings was: “I know nothing!” Well, Frank, now you’ll know everything! Be at peace.

John Sexton



As Michael Pulham of St Philip's J&P group put it 'The general feeling as people packed away, was that the day had provided much to help with work for the year ahead.'
More photos can be seen at:
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or search on Google for Flickr + Arundel and Brighton Diocese



EXHIBITORS/INVITEES
Brighton Voices in Exile
CAFOD
Cherish Life Network
Christian CND
Coalition for Marriage
Crown of Thorns
Dialogue – Unim Advisor
Ecological Conversion Group
Environment Group
Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group
Medaille Trust
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Story and pictures: A&B News Staff



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Serving the communities of our Diocese



World Meeting of Families 21 to 26 August 2018

HELD EVERY THREE YEARS, this major international event brings together families from across the world to celebrate, pray and reflect upon the central importance of marriage and the family as the cornerstone of our lives, of society and of the Church.

THE THREE-DAY CONGRESS will include an enriching programme for adults of keynote speakers, workshops, talks, testimonies and discussions; an engaging and exciting programme for young people as well as fun activities for children. The Congress will also include daily celebration of the Eucharist, prayer, exhibitions, cultural events and musical performances. On the Saturday there will be a Festival of Families, comprising a reflective concert style event within a prayerful and joyful atmosphere, in which personal stories of faith will be shared by families from all continents. WMoF2018 will close on the Sunday with a solemn Eucharistic Celebration that will gather thousands of people from Ireland and all over the world. It is very likely that this Mass will be celebrated by Pope Francis.

THE DIOCESE is making the most of this wonderful opportunity by organising accommodation and transport for those who would like to attend. It is open to families of all shapes and sizes, from tiny tots to Grandma and Pops! We will be staying together in Dublin City University accommodation and travelling to events together by coach.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US on this journey, you can contact Lizzie Wakeling of the Diocesan Pastoral team on 01293 651155 or email wmof2018@dabnet.org

There may be opportunities for sponsorship by your Parish or Deanery so please speak to your Parish Priest if you would like to be considered. For more general information about the event visit www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/

The Eucharist

In order to give a flavour of **Adoremus** - National Pilgrimage and Eucharistic Congress, Liverpool 2018, and the **World Meeting of Families** in Dublin, the diocese is hosting morning sessions focusing upon the Eucharist within a family setting.

Come and join Bishop Richard for a series of talks and workshops revolving around the theme of the Eucharist, with particular focus on its relevance to us within our family lives.

All are welcome, whether you hope to go to the events or just want to find out more about the topic.

The sessions are on Saturdays and run from 9.00-1.00 at: St Dunstan's Woking, 24 March; and Holy Cross Priory, Heathfield, 14 April, (changed from 19 May)

To book, email rosie.read@dabnet.org



INSPIRE 2018

DAY FOR YOUTH LEADERS

LAST YEAR, FIFTY PEOPLE from around the Diocese joined us at DABCEC for Breakthrough 2017, our first Diocesan day for youth leaders and catechists. The good news is that this year we're repeating the day! We've got an amazing line up, and we're expecting even more people.

INSPIRE 2018 (yes, we've changed the name) will be at St Joseph's in Redhill on Saturday 12 May, running from 10am to 3.30pm (Doors open 9.30am)

Unlike last year, we're not going to have a single keynote speaker. Instead we're doing things *TED style* with four or five speakers each doing around half an hour and presenting on a number of different topics. We've already confirmed Will Desmond from the ASCENT, as well as somebody from the Youth Alpha team. Bishop Richard will also be joining us for the start of the day, and we hope to complete the line up in the coming weeks.

The event is open to anyone who works with young people in a Catholic context and anyone who is interested in doing so.

To book, email YMBookings@dabnet.org - Tickets £10



LENT 2018

Small Group Materials

in partnership
with House on Rock
Publications

Living Jesus

contains six group sessions on discipleship and the call to holiness for small group faith-sharing. The booklet also contains prayers and artwork as well as pages dedicated to helping parents share the themes with their children.

These booklets can also be used for individual meditation and includes Daily Prayers inspired by the Divine Office

Booklets (£2 each) can be ordered directly from
House on Rock Publications

houseonrockbooks@gmail.com www.houseonrock.co.uk

Tel: 01227 362669

Marriage & Family Life

ADVANCE NOTICE

Annual Formation Day for those who Support the Bereaved in their Parish

Wednesday 23 May, 2018, 9.30am to 4pm

At St Bernadette's Church, Tilgate, Crawley
West Sussex, RH10 5SB

More details of the theme will be issued soon

First Catholic Mass Since the Reformation

-Triggered off by an Unplanned Funeral

Just over a year ago, the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales launched 'The Art of Dying Well' (www.artofdyingwell.org) a new website based in the Catholic tradition, but open to all, that offered a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying.

The website was well received and several months ago A&B News Special Correspondent Peter Burholt identified another resource from the Bishops Conference that would facilitate arrangements for those wishing a Catholic Funeral Mass. This is his story.

IT IS NOT OFTEN the A&B News faces a dilemma about which story to focus on in an article. However, this happened recently when an unplanned funeral led to an historic event taking place. Let's start at the beginning of this story.

Experience of an Unplanned Funeral

The recent passing to the Lord of one of our Diocesan parishioners triggered off the celebration of a Catholic Mass for the first time in over 500 years at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Cuckfield.

Making the arrangements for the funeral was a difficult process, as the family had no real details of her wishes. What service did she want? What were her choice of hymns? Who would take the service? Who would read? Who would give the eulogy? So many questions were left unanswered.

The family's preference was to hold the funeral at the Anglican Church in Cuckfield, near to the family home. However, this lady regularly attended Mass at the Catholic Church at St Paul's Haywards Heath. 'Being an active member of our community over very many years, I felt that we had to do something special to celebrate her life on earth' reflected Fr Martin Jakubas, parish priest of St Paul's.

An Historic Event

The first record of Holy Trinity Church is in 1092, only twenty-six years after the Battle of Hastings! However, it was St Richard of Chichester who endowed the vicarage and appointed his personal chaplain as the first vicar in 1250. The current church is substantially from the 12th and 13th centuries and was recently reordered.

Coming together with the Church of England at this ceremony required the blessing of the parish priest, Fr Michael Maine. 'It was a great pleasure to welcome the use of the church for this Funeral Mass, which I hope reveals to the wider community our shared desire to be drawn into the Resurrection Life of Jesus Christ' reflected Fr Michael.

Making Funeral Arrangements

Talking to Funeral Directors in preparing this feature gives some perspective in seeing matters from a different angle. They will be able to recount numerous occasions when the deceased has not made any instructions or left unclear requests for their committal. Then there are others who have left details which, perhaps, go too far. (Maybe it is a list of people not to be invited. Your correspondent had the experience of being informed as to what make of sausage roll should be served at a friend's funeral reception and at what point to open the white wine!)

The key issue is to make sure you have given instructions which can be clearly interpreted without you being present - not just 'Oh, the family will know what I want'. This subject can cause considerable unrest at a time of the greatest stress and at a time when a family should pull together and not fall apart.

The Importance of Taking Advice

The sensible route is to engage with a trusted Funeral Director, who can explain what options are available and give advice on costs. While this route is not always taken, you should at least leave clear instructions on what you want. There is another route which people take and that is to make arrangements through a financial advisor. In a way, this makes sense because this discussion often comes about when a client is reviewing a number of important life-changing issues.

On the question of a third party becoming involved, a Funeral Director recounted an experience in February 2016 'We were nominated to take on a funeral which was sold to a client by a third party for £2,699, which did not include fees and disbursements. We were requested to undertake the funeral for £1,287. We had to refuse this opportunity as it would not cover our costs, which must have caused the family consternation' So the message is, whoever makes your funeral arrangements, make sure they are being fair and that you know what you are getting for your money. After all, it is your family and friends who will experience your funeral, not you!

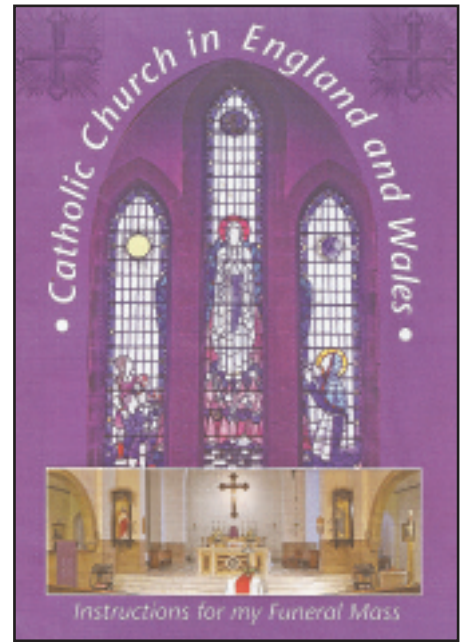
Advice for a Catholic

To help us through this difficult journey, the Pastoral Care Project (Charity No 1094766) has assembled a simple pamphlet entitled 'Instructions for my Funeral Mass' This was approved by the Bishops Conference of England & Wales in 2012 and details can be found on their website www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk and covers everything you need to remember from deciding on cremation or burial, readings, hymns, charitable donations and the post funeral reception.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols in his forward to the pamphlet says 'The subject of death is so often a taboo subject in our secular society. But, in the light of our Catholic faith, it is one we should have the confidence to face. The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead on Easter Day transforms our understanding of death. Faith tells us that, through our Baptism, we already share that risen life of Jesus'

To conclude - once we are born, the next most certain event is death – something not to be ignored. And finally, don't forget to make sure the important people have your instructions – your family, your parish priest and the funeral director. Without it, you may end up with that unplanned funeral.

(Editor's note: In accordance with the wishes of the family involved, we have not identified the affected parties. Also, we are informed that several parishes in the Diocese are using the Pastoral Care Project's funeral instructions. Parishes often make a bulk purchase, which helps to lower the cost of the pamphlet to under £3).



Fr David Weston, RIP

A BRIGHTONIAN BY BIRTH in 1936, he studied at the Xaverian College in Queens Park before joining the Brighton College of Arts where he gained the National Diploma in Design (Painting).

On completion of the course, encouraged by Fr Martin Bennett, he pursued the call to Priesthood, first at Campion House, Osterley and then at St John's Seminary, Womersley, being ordained in his home Parish of St Mary Magdalene, Brighton on 27 May 1964.

Appointments as Assistant Priest in Leatherhead and then Caterham with Whyteleafe followed. In 1979 he was appointed to the Parish of St George's, West Blatchington with Hangleton where he served for 34 years until his retirement.

David loved to paint and the presbytery walls were hung with his own canvasses. His artistic tastes were furthered by his membership of the Catholic Artists Guild and paintings of biblical scenes, ceramics and carvings which adorn the church.

David was a kind pastor, caring and encouraging young and old. His parish must have been the only one with a large train layout.

Despite bouts of ill health he led 41 Pilgrimages to the Holy Land and other biblical locations. He was renowned for his ecumenical involvements in the area, his Chaplaincy to the Air Training Corps and his love of a good party.

Family, parishioners and friends came for his Vigil and Funeral Mass following his death on 10 January 2018.



JH

Women's World Day of Prayer - Friday 2 March 2018



Services in Crawley:

- 10am at the Friary Church, Town Centre, Haslett Avenue West; and
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NOTICE BOARD

MASS FOR THE DEAF

On the first Saturday of the month at 1pm at St John the Evangelist, Springfield Road, HORSHAM, RH12 2PJ

The Wintershall Players presents The Passion of Jesus in Guildford on Easter Saturday 31 March 2018 at 12noon and 2:30pm

The Passion premiered in 1993 on the Wintershall Estate in Bramley, just outside Guildford, and since then has become a highly anticipated Easter fixture, both in Surrey as well as in Central London where it is now performed in Trafalgar Square to an audience of more than 20,000 people each Good Friday.



The play begins at the junction of High Street and Quarry Street at 12 noon and again at 2:30pm. The free 90-minute performances take place amongst shoppers in the home town of many of the cast and crew. Guildford High Street is transformed into the stage for one of the greatest stories ever told.

The story commemorating the day Jesus is believed to have been arrested, tried and crucified by the Romans, two days before miraculously rising from the dead on Easter Sunday is brought to life by a cast of 60, all in resplendent costumes, along with horses, doves and donkeys.

Featuring realistic scenes and a moving crucifixion and resurrection, The Passion of Jesus is an unforgettable Easter experience.

Director Ashley Herman, and producer Charlotte de Klee, both appeared in the very first Passion production in 1993 as Narrator and Miriam and have been associated with it ever since. The actor and artist James Burke-Dunsmore has performed as Jesus on stage for more than 60 different productions to over quarter of a million people and 2018 marks his 21st year in the role. The rest of the company is made up of volunteer actors and stage crew from in and around London and the South East.

The Wintershall Players will also perform the extraordinary Life of Christ at the Wintershall Estate in Surrey from 19-23 June and the now-famous Wintershall Nativity from 12-16 December.

For further press information please contact:
Katherine Camps Kilgour at Bright Media – 01621 784777 or

A weekend away for a lifetime of change

Are you single again following separation, divorce or death of your partner?

Beginning Experience is a weekend programme to help you to move from the darkness of your grief into the light of a new beginning and to help you to face the future with renewed hope.

The next local weekend is from 20 to 22 April at the Domus Mariae Centre in Chigwell in Essex.

If you are interested or would like more information please contact Freda 01322 838415 or Sandra 01292 783965 or email: johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

Diocesan Education Service

Serving in partnership, developing excellence, with Christ at the centre

Courses for March 2018:

Friday 2 March 2018 Primary RE Coordinators CPD (Day 2 of 3) 09.30 - 15.15 at DABCEC

Thursday 8 March 2018 Secondary Heads of RE CPD Day (Day 2 of 3) 09.30 - 15.15 at DABCEC

Wednesday 21 March 2018 Support and training for NQTs who teach Religious Education in Secondary schools (Day 2 of 2) 09.30 - 15.15 at DABCEC

Thursday 22 March 2018

Support and training for Primary NQTs (Day 2 of 3) 09.30 - 15.15 at DABCEC

Future Events to look out for in 2018:

Friday 18 May Secondary Schools' Pilgrimage, at Arundel Cathedral

Wednesday 20 June, Good Shepherd Celebration, 11.30 at Worth Abbey

Wednesday 27 June 9.30 - 15.15 Cross-Phase Catholic Leaders' Conference for Headteachers, Deputy/Assistant Headteachers, Heads of RE, Chaplains and Chairs of Governors

Lourdes Live 2018!

The Music of A&B in Lourdes
Performed live at Worth Abbey
Sunday 8 April 2018

7 for 7.30, and including the Launch of the latest
A&B Lourdes CD *Deep Within*
Tickets £10, children free
(See also article on page 11)

Hidden Entrepreneurs Seek Business Help

THE POPULARITY OF TV shows such as Dragon's Den has highlighted the work of British entrepreneurs who have the talent, drive and opportunity to succeed in business. But what if you have that talent but live in a developing country where opportunities are few and far between? Now entrepreneurs from all across the region are being asked to lend their support.

A new appeal launched by Gateshead-based international development charity **Traidcraft Exchange** sets out to help raise awareness of those *Hidden Entrepreneurs* in Bangladesh, Kenya and Senegal. The Traidcraft Hidden Entrepreneur appeal is one of the schemes supported by the Government's UK Aid Match scheme, under which every donation from the public made before 11 April, is matched by a contribution from the Department for International Development. The appeal encourages people in the UK to donate to support entrepreneurs in some of the world's poorest countries.

Traidcraft Exchange's Chief Executive, Robin Roth, explained how even the smallest donation could make a real difference for the hidden entrepreneurs. 'In this country, we often take business support for granted. Compare that with someone in a developing country where a funded business training session could ignite their potential and change the quality of life for many people. A small donation could pay for basic tools for their business or help them to branch out into new markets. By donating to the appeal, people can help entrepreneurs learn the skills they need to turn their potential into profit and use that profit to feed their families and educate their children. There's the added advantage that every pound donated by the public before 11 April will be matched by the UK Government, enabling us to help double the number of budding entrepreneurs in Kenya, Bangladesh and Senegal.'

The Hidden Entrepreneur appeal will run until 11th April 2018. For more information or to donate go to www.traidcraft.org.uk/hidden

YCW Launches Consultation on Young People and Mental Health

ACROSS ENGLAND AND WALES young people are being asked their thoughts about the current state of mental health in our country.

The Young Christian Workers Catholic charity have said that an overwhelming number of their membership have expressed their deep concerns about the current help available to young people with mental health problems, as well as the stigma attached to it. Because of this concern the YCW has launched a National Action Campaign on mental health among young people, called MIND!

The first stage being run is focused around exploring the issue more deeply and finding out the opinions and experiences of young people. There is a short survey covering a variety of aspects around mental health, which can be found on the YCW website – www.ycwim-pact.com/national-campaign-resources or directly at <https://tinyurl.com/ycw-mental-health-survey>.



BISHOP'S DIARY

FEBRUARY/MARCH

February

Mon 26 7pm St Leonard's Deanery Future Planning Meeting
Wed 28 2.30pm Refugee Steering Group Meeting, High Oaks

March

Thu 1 10.30am Council of Priests' meeting, DABCEC
6.30pm Lent Talk at Mayfield School, Mayfield
Fri 2 12noon Graduations at St Mary's University, Twickenham
7.30pm Mayfield Deanery Future Planning Meeting
Sat 3 10am Graduations at St Mary's University, Twickenham
7pm Lectio Evening, St John's Seminary, Womersley
Sun 4 4pm Vocations gathering, Lewes
Wed 7 10.45am Education Committee Meeting, DABCEC
Wed 7-Fri 9 General Chapter for Grace & Compassion Benedictines
Thu 8 6.30pm St Mary's University Parliamentary Reception, Westminster
Sat 10 10.45am KHS Southern Section Spring Mass, Basingstoke
7pm Lectio Evening, Bexhill
Tue 13 7.30am Mass at Gossops Green Convent, Crawley
Wed 14 11am Episcopal Council meeting, High Oaks
5pm Service of Thanksgiving for HMP Pentonville, St Paul's Cathedral, London
Thu 15 8.30am Meeting at High Oaks
11am Chapter Mass and lunch, Arundel Cathedral
7pm Council of Deacons' Meeting, High Oaks
Fri 16 9am Mass and blessing of new building at St Andrew's School, Leatherhead
Sat 17 3pm NCSF Mass at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark
Mon 19 11.30am Mass at St. George's Park, Ditchling
7.30pm Jubilee Mass at St. Richard's Parish, Chichester
Tue 20 12 noon Visit to Rydes Hill School, Guildford
2pm Visit to Seminarians at St John's Seminary, Womersley
Wed 21 10am Mass and Confirmations at St Joseph's School, Cranleigh
Thu 22 11am Deans' Meeting, St. Cuthman's, Coolham
Fri 23 9am Meeting at High Oaks
9.30pm Visit Woking Street Angels
Sat 24 9am Eucharist and Family Event, Woking
Sun 25 11.15am Mass for Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord at Arundel Cathedral

Gatwick Airport Chaplaincy & English Martyrs Parish Celebrate Together

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER was a threefold day of Celebration at English Martyrs Parish, Horley. As well as being the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of the Church's New Year, Bishop Richard was with us to read his own important Advent Pastoral Letter, containing lots of encouraging messages about the family and challenges for the Catholic Community in the future.

The Parish also kindly welcomed the past and present Gatwick Chaplaincy Team members and friends, who had attended the Sunday Mass at Gatwick over many years. At the 10.30am Mass we witnessed the presentation of the St. Philip Howard Medals and Certificates for long and dedicated service at Gatwick Airport Catholic Chaplaincy to William (Bill) and Margaret (Maggie) Elias *who had been sacristans for over 36 years, from 1981 to 2017.*

St Philip Howard

Bishop Richard reminded us that the Diocesan Medal of St. Philip Howard is named after a native of Sussex and one of the Forty English Martyrs. He died for his faith in the Tower of London in 1595. Although we may not be called to suffer martyrdom we should pray for that same spirit of generosity in living our faith today.

Bill and Maggie Elias

Bill and Maggie, as sacristans at Gatwick, had seen many priests of the Diocese serve the airport over the years and known many of the Catholic airline and airport staff. None of these have remained as long as the Elias family. They have faithfully arrived before 11.30am every Sunday morning for all those years, to prepare for the Sunday Mass and have everything in order for the priest to celebrate the 12.00 Midday Mass. They have also given a warm welcome to anyone who came through the Chapel doors.

What is so remarkable is that they have not missed this in all those years, even arranging their holidays so as to avoid being away on Sundays. They have unobtrusively kept the Chaplaincy going and seen so many clergy and laity come and go. What a wonderful example of service to the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton.

Challenge to Altar Servers

Bishop Richard then invited others to follow their example and offer their services to this and other ministries in the parish. Even the altar servers who are all very young were reminded that they too could be receiving a St. Philip Howard Diocesan Award thirty years from now, if they remained faithful and generous in their service to the Church. Pope Francis constantly reminds us that we are all called to reach out and share Gospel values with family, friends and also those on the margins of society.

Attending Clergy on Sanctuary

Among the clergy on the sanctuary were Fr. Richard Wilson OSB from Worth Abbey, Fr. Alec Fraser, retired from Southwark Diocese, Canon



Pictured are (L to R): Bill and Maggie's daughter Alexandra, Deacon Ian Wells, Maggie and Bill Elias, Sr. Jo Threlfall, SND, Bishop Richard

Eddie Matthews retired from Westminster Diocese and the parish priest Fr. Francis Ezennia MSP along with Deacon Ian Wells, present Airport Chaplain. Fr. Chris Dobson, who had been a Deacon and part of the Chaplaincy Team for five years before his ordination as a priest of A&B Diocese, joined us later after saying his Masses in Crawley.

Parishioners gathered in the Parish Hall for refreshments and a chat. People reminisced about the past years at Gatwick when there was a full-time Catholic Priest Chaplain, along with Anglican and Salvation Army Chaplains. Now, we are a multi-faith team including Buddhist, Muslim, and other Christian chaplains, catering for the religious and cultural diversity in our society today.

Gatwick Airport Today

During holiday seasons there are now over 900 flights a day with up to 30,000 staff working at the Airport, so it really is a busy place. This is why Chapels and Prayer Rooms are an essential part of Gatwick Airport life. People of all faiths make good use of the North or South Terminal Chapels, quietly spending time praying. Some people need a listening ear from a Chaplain who will support them in prayer and give some encouragement and support to cope with their burdens. Sadly, we don't have enough priests to be able to offer this to our travelling community, we only have a priest to say the Sunday midday Mass; but maybe there is something that the laity can offer.

Story and picture: Deacon Ian Wells and Sr. Jo Threlfall SND – (Gatwick Chaplains)

Fifty Years a Catenian



PAUL CARROLL, a joint member of Brighton Regency and Maidenhead Circles of the Catenian Association, was presented with a scroll in recognition of his 50 years in the Association. The presentation was made by the GB National President, Peter Rogers, during a special dinner on January 17 at St. Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. The event was also attended by representatives of Brighton Regency Circle who travelled up for the occasion.

Paul ran his accountancy practice in Brighton for over 30 years. He was a parishioner at St John the Baptist Church in Brighton and, later, at St Mary's in Preston Park, before moving to Berkshire. At the age of 93, he still makes frequent visits to attend Circle meetings in Brighton.

Story and picture: Charles Whittaker

Bishop Richard appointed Honorary Canon



IN LATE JANUARY 2018 Bishop Richard was installed as a Canon of Guildford Cathedral.

Afterwards, Bishop Richard said 'It was a great honour to be installed as Honorary Canon of Guildford Anglican Cathedral as a sign of ecumenical commitment between Christians.'

Picture: Mgr Tony Barry

JOE WALSH TOURS
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This year we are paying around £500 per week to include fifteen hours lessons, accommodation and the activities.

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

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St Mary's Preston Park

The Prayer Group celebrates its 25th anniversary

OUR CHRISTMAS FAIR was a great celebration in the parish raising over £3,000, from which donations have been made to Mary's Meals and the parish SVP.

On 17 December we had a beautiful Advent Carol Service, raising £478 for Mary's Meals in the collection.

The Social Concerns Group raised £469 for Uganda Hands For Hope from their Catholicity stall, raffle ticket sales and quiz.

On 5 January a small prayer group that has been meeting for 25 years marked its anniversary in the Cassidy Centre with a joyous Mass and meal. They welcomed back their celebrant Fr Dominic O'Hara, and other past members and friends, including Fr Bruno Witchalls, our parish priest, and two of the Sisters of Grace and Compassion with their Chaplain, Fr John. A high point of the evening was sharing photographs of deceased group members who were specially remembered and celebrated. In his sermon, Fr Dominic focused on the Epiphany readings and the journey of the Kings, comparing their search with the efforts of the group to move

towards Jesus together and the way in which we all search and wait for His second coming.

In 2017 St Mary's SVP were active in many spheres and built on their skills to develop effective local support, turning concern into action.

Their achievements included over 700 visits to vulnerable people, volunteering at St Anne's Centre, supporting the soup run, collecting donations of food, organising raffles, providing food vouchers to needy local families and providing financial support for overseas projects - £500 for South Sudan and Syria disaster fund, plus support for a sister Conference and projects in India.

A new Community Centre at Tower House for isolated older people was opened and blessed by Bishop Richard in September.

We thank all our supporters who have helped us to raise over £1,500 from donations and collection boxes.

Claire Shelton-Jones and Luke Fernandes
Picture: Rosie Williamson

ADUR VALLEY

GOING BACK TO our wonderful Advent preparations there was a Darkness to Light ecumenical service at Shoreham. As usual, donations were made to the Worthing Churches Homeless Project from our Christmas card savings; our Christmas fair and jumble sale raised almost £1,500. Advent Groups were held in Shoreham and at The Towers. The Youth SVP organised a Nativity for children. Donations of toiletries and gifts were taken to a home for young people between the ages of 16 to 24 and the Youth SVP and some other parishioners went to sing at Homehaven Court for the elderly. The Secret Singing Group donated £100

TO ALL OUR
CORRESPONDENTS

ITEMS for the April 2018 issue must reach the Editorial Office at Crawley by 10am on Monday 26 February 2018 and for the May 2018 issue by Monday 2 April 2018. Contributions may be sent by e-mail to abnews@dabnet.org and if so please always 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. Please use the highest resolution possible when taking photographs and do not reduce the quality when you send them to us. 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 who gave permission and what evidence do you have for children's photos to be published.

to SVP funds.

Moving on to the New Year, Fr Graham Ricketts held an instructional Mass at St Peter's, intended mainly for those preparing for First Holy Communion or Confirmation but appreciated by many other parishioners too. Our Confirmation group were formally enrolled as candidates at Holy Family church in Lancing.

Many parishioners took part in the Week of Christian Unity with services in many churches in Shoreham and an Agape at the Methodist Church in Steyning. A Burns Night celebration was held at The Towers with proceeds going to Extratime, a charity that provides after school play activities for children with learning disabilities.

Penny Richardson

CATERHAM

THE USUAL RHYTHM of a busy parish continues, Youth Club, Mothers and Toddlers, Choir practices and Scouts amongst others. And as always a big thank you to those who make sure that things happen.

Sadly, we have learnt of the death of Fr David Weston who was a curate in this parish when Fr Cyril Scarborough was parish priest.

Also, very recently, and unexpectedly, Canon Frank Harrington, a former very respected parish priest who was at Woking passed away (see obituaries for Canon Frank on page 4 and for Fr David on page 7).

Fr Butrus of Madaba in Jordan has thanked the parish for their valued and continuing help for the Syrian Christian refugees.

On 13 January we had our annual New Year's lunch for the older members of the parish, partly as a thank you for those who have worked so hard in the past and are no longer able to do so. Fr Gerry Devlin from Woldingham School brought some of the girls to wait at table and their youthful presence was much appreciated. And our thanks to Jo Waiton who made sure it all happened.

Peter Patterson

CRAWLEY

WE CELEBRATED Christian Unity week with a joyful shared service on 21 January. Members of the Roman Catholic Church, Church of England, Broadfield Christian Fellowship and the Warriors of God Evangelical Church attended. Sue Petritz chaired the service and our worship songs were led by our Blue Sash choir, Mauri-

tian choir and our own music band as well as musicians from the other churches. Irma, of the Broadfield Christian Fellowship, gave a moving testimony when she told us that since moving to the UK in 1970 from Barbados, she felt at home in both countries as wherever Christ is we are at home. Daniel of our Chagossian community also gave his testimony. He said that in his experience 'God makes the impossible possible'.

Rev Howard Schnaar read the gospel and Catherine Martindale, our diocesan unity adviser, gave a reflection.

After the intercessions we all joined in the Lord's prayer and the ministers gave a blessing.

Refreshments were served afterwards in the foyer.

Barbara Winstanley

EASTBOURNE

Our Lady of Ransom

OVER 50 CHILDREN enjoyed a wonderful Christmas party and thanks were given to the Rotary Club who decorated the parish centre. The Rotary Club also ran their annual Christmas Day lunch for those alone at Christmas and Fr Raglan Hay Will was invited to lead them in thanksgiving.

On the Feast of the Epiphany there was a procession, with children dressed as the Kings, from the church down to the station where they met with King Herod and returned a different way to the church for solemn Benediction and celebrations in the parish centre afterwards.

Joan Kennedy celebrated her 90th birthday in the parish centre with parishioners and friends from far and wide attending. Fr Raglan gave a Blessing and later on the cake was cut and he invited everyone to toast Joan. She gave a speech which was heart-warming and full of humour and she gave thanks to everyone who came.

Table Tennis in the parish centre has got off to a good start with children aged nine years and above playing, after 8.00pm it is open to the adults.

Mary Staffiere

EASTBOURNE

Christ the King and St Joachim

THE RETIREMENT of Fr Barry Anderson, who has served as our parish priest for over 21 years, was marked by well deserved tributes at all Masses during the weekend of 27 and 28 January. Deacon Eugene Adams spoke of Fr Barry as having been a gift to our parish, not only as a priest but also as a man and went on to refer to his ready smile through which he expresses love to all. Altar servers added their own tributes to Fr Barry, thanking him for his kindness and support over the years.

Three of our altar servers have been presented with the St Stephen's medal, Alberto Del Giovane and Theresa Swan having received the silver medal marking their length of service and one of our young servers, Casey Green, having received the bronze medal.

The retirement of Kieran and Moyra Boyle from leading the music group at Christ the King coincided with Fr Barry's retirement and, in paying tribute to them, Fr Barry caused some amusement when he said how much he enjoyed hearing the sound of the harmonica during Mass.

We now look forward to a new era when we welcome Fr Neil Chatfield as our parish priest.

John Carmody

MIDHURST

THE SOLEMNITY of Epiphany was marked with Blessing of Chalk. Fr Peter Newsam explained in the newsletter: 'There is an old tradition of blessing chalk on the Epiphany, which is then distributed to all those at Mass, who use it to bless their homes. We will be blessing and distributing chalk at all our Masses this weekend - take a piece home with you to mark the lintel of your door, or the door itself with the following formula: 20 + C + M + B + 18.

(CMB, of course, are the initials of the traditional names of the Magi - but also stand for 'Christus Mansionem Beneficat - May Christ bless this house').

To celebrate the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we held a service at Midhurst to gather together local Christians of all denominations.

Paula Dempsey

WEST BYFLEET

THE PROGRAMME for the Sacrament of Confirmation has commenced with a meeting for 19 young people who have put themselves forward for Confirmation.

The Children's Club meets every month for children in school years 3-6 and includes games,

dinner and activities to help children grow in their faith.

The Youth Group - for young people aged from 11 to 14 - meets on the second Saturday each month.

A New Parishioners' Lunch will take place in the Church Hall on Sunday 11 February.

The annual Coffee Morning was held in Byfleet by Churches Together for Christian Unity in aid of Woking Street Angels.

The Widowed and Separated Group meets for lunch in Byfleet on 4 February.

At a well attended Meeting on 26 January there was a positive and lively discussion on the Bishop's Consultation on the future of the diocese.

Other regular meetings held during January included the Justice and Peace Group, the SVP, and Exploring Catholicism - the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

Paul Tipple

Remembering Peggy Purslow



THE SACRED HEART PARISH in Wadhurst has lost one of its most treasured and well loved parishioners, Peggy Purslow.

Peggy, with her husband Stanley, came to Wadhurst around 15 years ago after retiring. Peggy had been a teacher of Biology at the Sacred Heart Beechwood School in Tunbridge Wells, and on arriving in Wadhurst immediately threw herself wholeheartedly into all that happens at Sacred Heart Church.

It wasn't long before she was one of the more well-known faces in the parish, with her wonderful friendly and caring nature, her natural interest in people, and her organisational prowess. Many new parishioners have said that it was Peggy who welcomed them and made sure that they very soon felt part of our Parish family.

During the usual coffee get-togethers after Sunday Mass, Peggy was always on the lookout for a new face, or someone who appeared to be alone, and before long all were engaged in happy and friendly conversation. When our 'coffee arranger' had to leave the parish it was Peggy who volunteered to take over, arranging the rota, making sure there was always fresh milk and a plentiful supply of biscuits every Sunday, something she continued to do with great efficiency until just a few months ago.

Peggy had a deep and committed Catholic faith and regularly participated in the parish Lent and Advent course, contributing well thought-out comments and points for discussion, and was a staunch supporter of the many Churches Together in Wadhurst services throughout the year.

Because of her natural enthusiasm for helping, she was a very active member of our PPC and also sang in the parish choir. About 7 years ago Peggy was diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease, an illness she bore with great courage and dignity, and in spite of the illness she always felt her life was worth living. Last year she was interviewed on LBC radio, when she spoke positively about her situation, saying that life was good, she had so much to live for, with her family and friends, and when people spoke about dying with dignity, her response was 'I want to live with dignity'. (continued on page 11)

Peggy Purslow (cont.)

She continued to be involved with everything as much as she could for as long as she could. Peggy wrote the Wadhurst report in the A&B News for many years, something she loved to do and took very seriously and, even while paralysed and in a wheelchair, she ‘spoke’ the report to her iPad! Last month’s Wadhurst news was her last, finalised from her hospital bed a few days before she died.

The world was a better place, and certainly the Sacred Heart Parish too, having had Peggy with us. She is already greatly missed.

Colleen O’Farrell & Chrissie Sturgess

OBITUARY

FR EMMANUEL SULLIVAN SA was born on 5 November 1927 in the USA and died on 19 December 2017. He entered the community of Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, in New York when he was 15; professing his Final Vows in 1952 and being ordained to the priesthood in 1955. After several appointments in North America and England from 1968 to 1989, he served as Director of the Diocesan Christian Education Centre (DABCEC) in Crawley, and after a period of sabbatical leave, was appointed in 1991 as our Diocesan Ecumenical Officer by the then Bishop Cormac Murphy O’Connor. During this time he served as Priest in Residence at St Joseph’s, Dorking, with parish priests Fr Martin Thompson and later, Fr Matt McInerney, and was actively involved in parish life. He retired from active ministry in 1999 and returned to his community in the USA until 2007. He received the Franciscan Peacemaker Award in 2007.

His order, the Franciscan Friars of the Atonement, continues to work to facilitate Christian reconciliation and renewal, and also interreligious dialogue.

Nicky Murphy



The Music of A&B Diocese in Lourdes

WHEN A&B GATHER in Lourdes each year they form one of the largest diocesan gatherings. An average of 750 pilgrims take part in the pilgrimage each year. You may be one of those pilgrims who are lucky enough to take part in many pilgrimages or you may have been once and look forward to another opportunity. You may never have been. Whoever you are you have the chance to experience a little bit of Lourdes here in our diocese at **Worth Abbey on Sunday 8 April 2018. Lourdes Live 2018! - The Music of A&B in Lourdes Performed Live, 7 for 7.30, and including the launch of the latest A&B Lourdes CD Deep Within Tickets are £10, and children are free.**

Last November 60 members of the pilgrimage choir and musicians gathered at the Holy Cross Hospital in Haslemere (pictured below) to record their 7th CD under the leadership of Anne Ward. The Sisters welcomed us and let us have the run of their Chapel with its beautiful acoustic. Instrumentalists arrived carrying a variety of instruments ranging from the huge double bass to the Celtic harp. The choir took up their places and microphones were placed and replaced a number of times. Brian Johnson of Herald AV oversaw the technical proceedings. It was an intensive weekend but in the end a CD with 19 or so tracks was recorded and in the following weeks edited, and the cover photo and the final order were chosen. A catering team led by Yvonne Greaves and Anne Barry kept us well fed. We are grateful to Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Haslemere, who accommodated us at their parish hall for meals.

The weekend started with prayer and throughout the weekend we remembered many of our pilgrims, past and present, as we sang each hymn. Many pilgrims who buy one of the CDs sold on the pilgrimage each year, tell of how the CDs have brought comfort to themselves or to others in difficult times. Others say they have a jolly good sing along whilst driving around the diocese!

To take assisted pilgrims, many of whom require financial assistance to make the journey to Lourdes, there is a constant need to raise funds. Assisted pilgrims also require medical teams and many helpers to ensure they have a safe and happy week in Lourdes. Many of these teams take a week of their annual leave and pay for themselves to serve in Lourdes. Some helpers require a bit of financial support, so throughout the year we raise funds. We have a special collection one Sunday a year in February, around the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, which can be gift aided. Other events such as the Lourdes Live concert make a big contribution to the fund. There will be envelopes on the evening for those who might like to make a gift aided donation to the fund for assisted pilgrims.

Part of the funds raised by the concert will help to make the initial payment to cover the cost of recording the CD; eventually the CDs will pay for themselves and raise additional funds. So, please book the date, 8 April, in your diary and why not get a group up in the parish to fill a coach, minibus or community bus and travel together to Worth?

Is it just going to be an evening of listening to hymns? Indeed not! One of the features of the pilgrimage in Lourdes is the music concert where we are treated to some wonderful performances of instrumental music and songs and this evening will be no exception. We hope also to welcome the youth arm of the pilgrimage, the Red Shirts, sharing some of their beautiful music.

There will be a raffle with some outstanding prizes, an opportunity to buy the CD at £10, pick up some of the previous recordings and then to enjoy some wonderful music. A little bit of Lourdes here in A&B with Bishop Richard as our guest of honour.

For enquiries or to book your tickets in advance please contact Sally Nicholls at salnicholls@hotmail.co.uk

Story: Anne Ward Pictures: Mike Clark



You can use both sets of clues to solve the puzzle: the solutions are the same. So, if you want to try the CRYPTIC puzzle, for instance, but are unsure, use the QUICK clues to help you work out the solution. Similarly, if you try the QUICK clues, use the CRYPTIC clues to help you prove the solution

CRYPTIC Across

- 6 Jesus cured her two girls and little boy with drugs (4,9)
- 8 Contextual material from the Bible, chapter and verse (4)
- 9 Criminal group spotted in pubs (8)
- 10 Whisky bottle? (6)
- 12 Philistines' camp is 'ere – ignore the 'titties! (6)
- 13 Pulled up in transport to see Christian in Troas (6)
- 15 When during Pentecost there are vacuous litanies (6)
- 16 Paul's vision's deserted him, going down this road? (8)
- 17 Breather at Christmastide if not commercial... (4)
- 19 ...various seasonal hints found in letters from Paul (13)

CRYPTIC Down

- 1 Beware in Rome vineyard outlet place (4)
- 2 Various psalters, including month and years, used in medieval dramas (7,5)
- 3 One who teaches Jews to make the ultimate in meat pies, perhaps (6)
- 4 Decorates mariners top in sea-craft after a reception (6)
- 5 They cross the frontier when van dries out (8)
- 7 Going to party at homes round about, Virginia's made to work hard without reward (6,2,4)

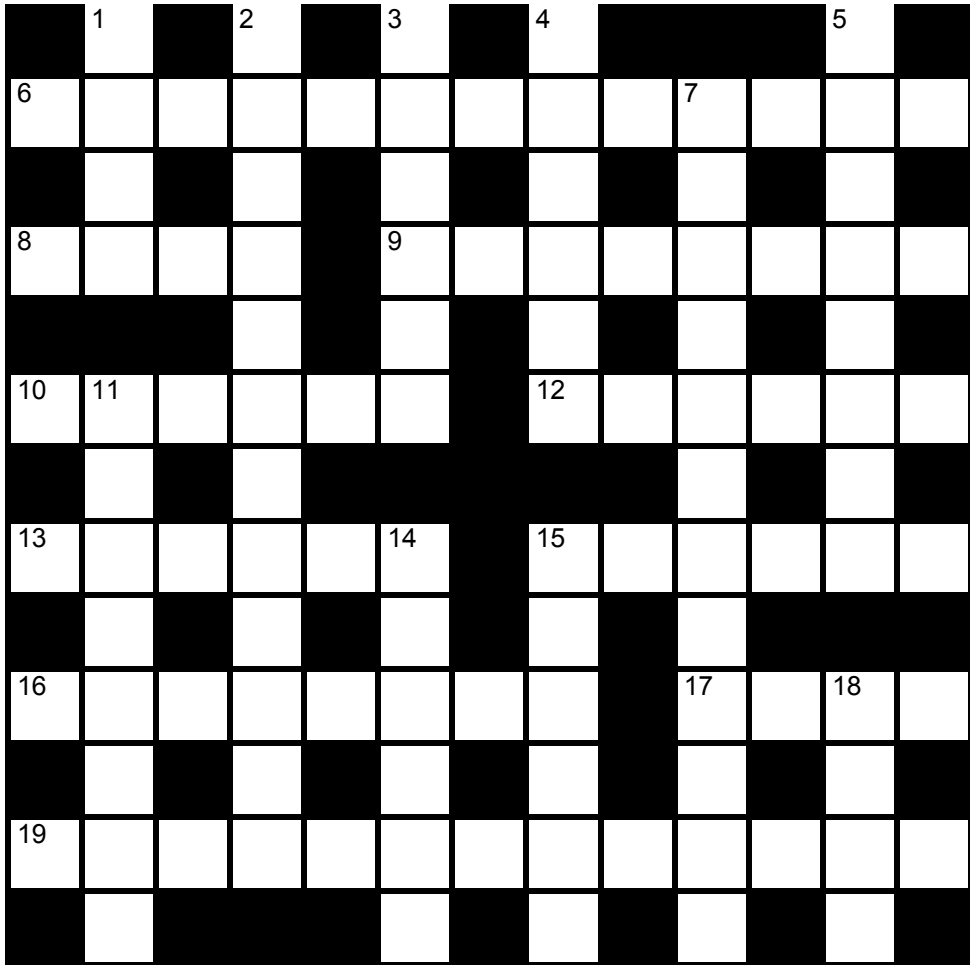
- 11 Cost went up, it's reported, for types of ruler in Egypt (8)
- 14 Samaritan's place is among prissy charlatans (6)
- 15 Norman enlightenment? (6)
- 18 All over English meet with French negativity, which produces zilch (4)

QUICK Across

- 6 KJV name of one of the first people to see Jesus after his resurrection (4,9)
- 8 Sermon basis (4)
- 9 Robber released by Pilate (8)
- 10 Third person of the Trinity (6)
- 12 Philistines' camp when Saul set up camp at Gilboa (6)
- 13 Paul's affiliate in Troas (6)
- 15 Whereas; when (6)
- 16 Syrian capital, home to Aramaeans who fought and lost to David (8)
- 17 Outlet: express (4)
- 19 Macedonians, the object of two letters from Paul (13)

QUICK Down

- 1 Landform, the effect of weathering and subject of speleology (4)
- 2 Medieval dramas representing episodes from the life of Christ (7,5)
- 3 Coney (6)
- 4 Decks, dresses (6)
- 5 Vikings, for instance (8)
- 7 (Make) fruitless efforts (6,2,4)
- 11 Kings of Egypt at the time of the



- Israelites' confinement (8)
- 14 Samaritan town where Jesus spoke to a woman who came to draw water (6)
- 15 From Job to Ecclesiasticus/Ben Sira: the '----- Books' (6)
- 18 Zero (4)

SOLUTION

Across: 6 Mary Magdalene, 8 Text, 9 Barabbas, 10 Spirit, 12 Shunem, 13 Carpus, 15 Whilst, 16 Damascus, 17 Ventr, 19 Thessalonians. Down: 1 Cave, 2 Mystery plays, 3 Rabbit, 4 Adorns, 5 Invaders, 7 Labour in vain, 11 Pharaohs, 15 Sychar, 15 Wisdom, 18 None. EXPLANATIONS Across: 6 Mary+Magda+Len+E, 8 hidden word in 'CONTEXTual', 9 Bar(abb)s, 10 double def & pun, 12 Shun+em, 13 Car(p/u)s, 15 Whi(tl)-tani(e)s, 16 pun, 17 (Ad)vent, 19 anag. Down: 1 double def, 2 anag of psalters+MY+LY, 3 rabbit+L, 4 a+do+RN+s, 5 anag, 7 Labour+in(VA)'in', 11 homophone of 'fare+rose', 14 hidden word in 'prissy CHARlatans', 15 double def & pun, 18 non+E.



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