



Parish Magazine

Our Lady and St Peter

East Grinstead

St Bernard

Lingfield

Summer, 2012

Issue 63

The Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Peter,
with St Bernard's, Lingfield

Priest in charge of the two churches

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Someone asked me recently how they could get more out of the Mass, as the Mass is the summit our worship. They felt they had been just sending their photograph to sit in the pew—that it was all going over their head, and they were off in another dream-world. So here are some suggestions for getting more out of the Mass.

1. Learn about the Mass—its meaning—by watching Catholic DVDs or reading books. How can we appreciate its wonder if we really know very little about it?
2. Read the Scripture passages before going to Mass—either during the week or on the morning before you go. Ask yourself, what do they mean—especially in your life? This simple habit will enable you to get more out of both the homily and the passages when they are read.
3. Arrive early. We can't get settled and pray if we rush in late or arrive at the last minute. Leave home early so you can be there ten minutes before Mass to quietly pray and talk to God and bring your needs and concerns to Him. You will notice a difference in your attention.
4. Really listen and pray during the Mass. It is easy to be distracted and to daydream. It is easy to be critical of the liturgy, the music, the priest, or those around you. If we make a determined decision to listen and concentrate, it really helps. Imagine that the words spoken are for us—which they are. And when Christ becomes Really Present at the Consecration, you can welcome and adore Him. Everything then becomes precious and personal.
5. Pray in thanksgiving after Mass. Don't rush out. Thank Him for all you have received, and ask for His help to live your faith as you go back to ordinary life.



Father Steven

My thanks again to the many busy people who have taken the time to contribute to this issue of the Magazine. Our next issue will be at around Christmas or shortly thereafter; contributions can, in the meantime, be left at the back of the church marked for my attention, or, best of all, emailed to: klara.m.king@comcrafts.co.uk

Klara King, EG 321581

First Holy Communion

Thirty-four children from Our Lady and St Peter and St Bernard successfully made their First Holy Communion on the 5th, 12th, and 13th of May. The weather was rainy on two occasions, but this did not dampen the spirits, and a great time was had by all the children.

Our thanks must go to the choirs at Our Lady and St Peter's and at St Bernard's, who did a wonderful job in creating and enhancing the occasion, and to the flower ministry in both churches, which was outstanding too. The church cleaners also deserve a mention, as do all the parishioners who have supported and prayed for us this year. The celebration coffee morning at St Bernard's was a great occasion too. Our thanks also to St Peter's Primary School staff, who have encouraged and shown great interest in their pupils in this special year.

All the children came together for a party at St Peter's School to celebrate their Sacrament, with a splendid lunch (donated by their parents) and photographs in the lovely sunshine. Fr Steven and the Catechists also shared in this occasion, and many thanks must go to Karen and the team of parents for a wonderful spread. We would like to thank all our parents for the beautiful and thoughtful gifts they gave the Catechists and the helpers too.

Our First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programmes are very popular and always create a special time in our children's (and their parents'/guardians') lives for God to touch them and their families. Consequently, we cannot run these programmes without our valued Priests, Deacons, Catechists, and helpers, and I ask that you pray for them and ask God to send more people into this valued ministry for the future. Please pray for: Fr Steven, Fr Peter, Fr Laurence, Deacon Ted, Ivy, Mapande, Karen, Ghiselle, Sarah, Clare, Joan, Anja, Laura, and Eileen and all those parents who supported us last year.

Here is a list of our children—please keep them in your prayers.

Our Lady and St Peter, East Grinstead, 5 and 12 May 2012

Oliver Ally	Llewellyn Harrison
William Berry	Olivia Hodges
Daniel Brooks	Harry Humphreys
Thomas Bacon	Sonnie Haynes
Alexandra Chadd	Daisy King
Olga Chlopek	Louis Kinsella
Joshua Cooper	Matthew Mason
Rhianna Coxall	Nicole Noakes
Daniel Duarte	Eoin O'Donoghue
Oliver Edwards	Natalia Sikorska
Colm Geraghty	Kamil Stawinski
Christian Given	Charles Thorogood
Joel Gordon-Clark	Cameron Wells
Maximillian Hammersley	

St Bernard, Lingfield, 13 May 2012

Niamh Brind	Ciaran Fitzroy
Madeleine Day	Jonathan Fines
Madeleine Fisher	Mia Stubbs.

Please ring Fr Steven or any of the Catechists if you feel you could support this valued ministry in any way in the future. God Bless.

Eileen Lyons, EG 317424

Baptisms at the Church of Our Lady and St Peter, 2011

2 January	Jamie Sarmiento
2 January	Clayton Sarmiento
27 February	Lawrence Garcia
13 March	Isabella Rykala
20 March	Frazer Hunt
20 March	Edizon Hunt
29 March	Deborah Coxall

2 April	Abigail Pys
3 April	Ava Petherbridge
17 April	Charlie Cook
26 April	Joseph Cooper
11 June	Jacob Clark
12 June	Aiden Duffy
19 June	Bethany Riley
10 July	Ava Whittaker
16 July	Kristina Coxall
30 July	Dylan Strzypezak
14 August	Summa Veranga
28 August	Daisy King
28 August	Orla King
28 August	Benjamin Cherry
28 August	Evie Cherry
11 September	Mia Stubbs
12 September	Zach Noble
24 September	Riley Clayton
15 October	Nicholas Trevino
16 October	Asher Fireman
16 October	Ava Fireman
30 November	Julianne Red
27 November	Laylah Whiting
4 December	Connor Lemon
4 December	Zachary Lemon
10 December	Archie Oates

Baptisms at St Bernard's Church 2011

16 January	Maisy Charlotte Parker
3 June	Freddie James Hodges
17 July	Amelie Grace Shaw
24 July	Matthew James Tomlinson
7 August	Ruby Josephine Atkinson
18 September	Jacob Victor Cox

Weddings at the Church of Our Lady and St Peter, 2011

30 July Leszek Strzypezak & Kirsty Moore

Weddings at St Bernard's Church 2011

12 March Nicholas Williams & Louise Munns

12 August Edward Lovett & Dorine D'Silvia

10 September Stefano Modena & Vanessa Avenell

Funerals at the Church of Our Lady and St Peter, 2011

8 January Barbara Paterson (73)

5 January Fr Gordon Simmons (83)

8 January Isabel Page-Wood (96)

13 January Deirdre Simms (63)

21 January George Mott (70)

25 February Suzanne Henderson (42)

22 April Sylvia Youldon (88)

24 April Joan Hughes (92)

10 July Robert Watson (86)

13 July Fr Leonard Turner (87)

10 August Richard Mahoney (76)

14 August Mary Hannigan (81)

20 August Dina Hart (84)

13 September Kathleen Edwards (81)

16 September Keith Gidley (84)

8 September Starlett Timbol (0)

14 October Georgina Moore (71)

19 October Rosemary Jenner (70)

6 November Flora Ridley (87)

17 November William Taylor (69)

19 November Bella Crane (89)

7 December Jenny Searle (21)

26 December Peter Stampton (77)

Funerals at at St Bernard's Church 2011

4 January	David Stripp
9 February	Iris Secular
30 January	Daniel Dineen
1 June	Paul Dingli
14 August	Anne Glendenning
11 August	John Cashmere
11 September	Hugh Martin
13 October	Aileen Whitehead
23 October	Clarence Dean
30 November	Andrea Bastin
7 December	Shirley Robbins

Fairtrade School Status

St Peter's School is pleased to announce that its application to be a Fairtrade school has been successful and that it can proudly bear the Fairtrade logo on its letterhead. The staff and children have worked very hard for this during the last few years, and we were able to produce lots of evidence of the school's commitment.

Our thanks to parishioners who came along to The Big Brew on Friday, 13 July. The good news arrived just half an hour after they left!

submitted by Sue Joy

Confirmation 2012

Sixteen of our young parishioners were confirmed at Worth Abbey on the 6th of May by Bishop Kieran.

It was not the sunny warm day we've got used to when Confirmation is June or July, but the Confirmation Mass was as splendid as ever and our young people just as much a credit to their families and parish as they always are.

It was great, too, to have our parishioners involved serving, reading, and leading the super music.

Our weekend away at Worth was at the heart of our preparation programme. The mixture of prayer, reflection, fun, discussion, and sharing



experiences was central to enabling the young people to be ready to renew their Baptismal promises, receive the sacrament of Confirmation, and embark on the rest of their faith journey.

We were very pleased that Jack Regan, the Chaplain at St Wilfrid's, was with us for the weekend. His ability to lead young people in prayer and liturgy was a real asset.

Those confirmed this year were:

Sean Brougham, Eleanor Chadd, Alice Curran, Miriam de Quay, Emma Edwards, Emily Englishby-Allen, Henry Groves, Matthew Hill, Luke Hollidge, Sean O'Leary, Michael Peacock, John Carlo Perez, Maria Purnell, Isla Thomas, Lawrence Trueman, and Hannah Watson.

Sue Joy, Eileen Lyons, Mike Hope

Choir Notes

It's been an eventful year coping with the new translation of the Mass, but it has on the whole gone quite well. I'm still hoping a composer will come up with a suitable Gloria for young children, as we are only allowed two years' grace using the present setting.

We have switched our choir rehearsal from Friday evening to Sunday morning at 9.45 am but still rehearse the Folk band and the Junior band on a Friday evening. The attendance has been better, but I find it quite difficult to rehearse adequately in the limited time available.

I still have no deputy, so it is quite difficult to take a holiday without it becoming a drama. The ideal person would be someone with keyboard skills who is in the parish and is familiar with our repertoire. Please contact me if you think you can help.

The children's band has missed the experienced players who have gone to university. However, we do have some new players, but more would be welcome. Please contact Julian if you are interested.

I would like to thank the choir and instrumentalists who have supported the music throughout the last year and Julian who continues to organise the children who play in the Junior band.

Mary O'Sullivan, EG 322959

Julian Spencer, EG 324560

Friends of St Peter's

Dear Friends: Another great year for the Friends of St. Peter's. We have held a variety of events at the school to raise both awareness and money for the school. The funds we raise benefit the children directly.

This year has been a busy one for the Friends of St. Peter's. We have had numerous events, including children's discos, a wine-tasting evening, a ladies' pampering night and a quiz night as well as our Funday. These events have meant that we have been able to provide the children with enough laptops for a whole class.

Our current incentive is on an even grander scale. St Peter's School will be building a new extension. As a voluntary-aided school we are required to contribute 10% of the overall cost of projects such as this from our own funds. Therefore, you can easily see why our combined efforts are needed so that we can make these kind of major projects a reality. The extension is due to be completed by early 2013.

We are thrilled with the amount of support the parish constantly gives to the School. In donating raffle prizes, advertising in our publications, sponsoring, and especially attending our events the help is invaluable and always appreciated.

We are always looking for volunteers—there is always something you

can offer, whether it is daytime, evenings, at school, or at home once the children have gone to bed. If anyone would like to help out in any way and make a huge difference to the children in our parish school please don't hesitate to get in touch. We have many more details about the things we do on our website (www.friendsofstpeters.co.uk).

You can contact the Friends of St. Peter's by email (admin@friendsofstpeters.co.uk), Twitter (@stpetersfriends), or Facebook (www.facebook.com/friendsofstpeters); or telephone the school and they will put you in touch.

One final thought—you can also help the school by shopping through the www.easyfundraising.org.uk website. This website has hundreds of popular retailers, and by registering your purchases to the Friends of St Peters you will generate income for the school—at no cost to you! Happy Fundraising!

*Sam O'Neill, Chair
The Friends of St Peter's*

Maura Dodsworth, R.I.P.

Mary, Maura, Moira, Tissa, Mum and Gran—
what's in a name?

Mum loved Ireland, where she was born, and especially the beautiful town of Clonmel in County Tipperary, close to Slievenamon, one of Ireland's many magical mountains. She grew up there in a large, loving family and later in life liked nothing better than to return there every summer holiday with Dad (Frank), Michael, and me.

She joined the ATS during the War and served in Belfast. She was very proud to receive her corporal's stripes and to lead the Catholic parade in Queen's Square, Belfast, despite the snowballs thrown at them by the workers from the Harland and Wolff shipyard. She made many long-lasting friendships in Northern Ireland, including her great friend, Norrie. Dad, from South London, also ended up serving in Belfast, and



so they met and, in 1945, married in London. Mum and Dad endured the death of a premature baby, Francis, in 1946, before Michael was born in 1947 and I (Anthony) in 1950. In looking through some old papers at home recently I came across a letter from the Irish government telling Mum she would have to apply to keep her Irish citizenship as she had moved to England and married an alien. I picture Dad now and think, "Alien—What a disguise!" Mum always greatly admired the good qualities of people in England and was appreciative of the welcome most people here gave to migrants from Ireland. She really loved Dad's Dad, Grandad; he was very kind to her, among other things introducing her to all the antique markets around London, like the Caledonian Market and Petticoat Lane.

After they married, Mum and Dad set up house at 56 Trinity Rise, Tulse Hill, and while Mum settled to make a house into a home and made great friends with Olive Hunt next door, Dad resumed his walk through Brockwell Park every morning to catch the train at Herne Hill to work at various Westminster Banks in central London, something he did for nearly 50 years.

Mum served her family faithfully and lovingly throughout her life, first nursing Dad's father, Dad's aunt, and Dad's mother for many years in London and then later in East Grinstead gave great care to Dad in his last few years. She was immensely proud of Michael and me, whether we deserved it or not, and many people noticed that when they tried to praise her for something she had done, she always managed to change the subject and end up talking about her "two boys".

She made friends easily because of her never-ending hospitality and, perhaps more important, kept friends for decade after decade with visits and with her undoubted talent for letter-writing. She wrote every week to her much-loved sister, Maggie, in Dublin and received an equally long letter back. My Uncle Jerry used to joke about them and call them the "Epistles". Even later in life, she befriended Anne, across the way in Garden Wood Road, and when Anne could not write letters to her family any more, Mum wrote them for her and brought happiness and joy to still more people.

In Tulse Hill, 56 Trinity Rise was an open house for friends and relatives throughout the 1950s and 1960s, a haven of hospitality and good care in one of the world's biggest cities. Looking through some old letters that had been sent to Grannie when Grandad died in 1964—and, to be honest, Mum was a bit of a "hoarder"—many mention Mum's

wonderful hospitality when she put on a meal at Trinity Rise following the funeral. I also discovered recently that Mum had saved all my letters from Birmingham University, which rather shows me up, because I saved none of hers. My letters were rather—"Thanks for the food parcel you sent, the cake and apples were very welcome", "Thanks for your letter and the ten shillings you included", "Could you get me tickets for the Crosby, Stills and Nash Concert at the Albert Hall?" etc. Still looking after me, even when over 100 miles away!

Now Mum could talk! When I was young I used to wonder how she could meet so many people to talk to between Trinity Rise and Rosendale Road, where she went shopping. It wasn't very far, but it seemed to take ages, and me desperate to get home to kick a football against the house wall. I did realize, though, when we went to Clonmel on holiday, she was strictly Second Division when faced by the Premiership class of chatting of Auntie Nellie and Auntie Maggie. More important, though, she could listen, and so many people appreciated her sympathetic ear both in London and East Grinstead. She was generous with her time even when she had little to spare.

She served her Church faithfully throughout her life, not generally on parish councils and committees but behind the scenes in hundreds of ways largely unseen by most people. At St Simon and St Jude's in the 1950s and 1960s there was no need to look for the church cleaning rota, it was Mrs Dodsworth. Helping with the Union of Catholic Mothers at St Matthew's, West Norwood, and the Catholic Women's League in East Grinstead was second nature, and for years she ran the repository here at Our Lady and St Peter's. She attended weekday Masses here regularly when she could and had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart and Our Lady. She maintained her prayers until very close to the end of her life, despite all the health problems she faced. She also sang carols at the BBC for several years that were broadcast to Canada on Christmas Day, sold poppies for over 20 years on the streets of East Grinstead, loaned a special chair to a Polish family up the road for a visiting bishop to use, and served her community in too many ways to mention here.

She was a loving and attentive Gran to her three grandchildren, James, William, and Helen, and always enjoyed their company. Any time Jane, Helen, and I came to visit in Garden Wood Road, on leaving we would always be presented with a collection of "goody-bags" to take away, separate ones for me, for Jane, for Helen, for Jane's Mum, and for Jane's Aunt. She enjoyed giving presents much more than receiving them.

At this point I would particularly like to thank those people who looked after Mum, visited her, and cared for her over the past few years and especially the staff of Littlefair, the Catholic Women's League here, Adrienne, Pauline, and Chris and Margaret Pond. Their kindness was much appreciated by Mum and all her family.

She was a worrier, and she did use to make me wipe my feet "29 times" on the mat before I could come into the house, but overall she was a wonderful wife, mother, Gran, and carer whose example of selfless service and bottomless hospitality should be a guide to us all. When Jane and I visited Mum last summer, she asked, as she often did, how old she was, and I replied "You're 88 now—you're getting on". She pondered on this for a moment, smiled and replied "I think I've got on".

Anthony Dodsworth

St Wilfrid's Talent Project

Congratulations to the children in Years 5 & 6 at St Peter's School for managing to raise together the incredible sum of £822.56 for CAFOD. The fund-raising efforts were inventive, enthusiastic, and at times entertaining. Thanks go to St. Wilfrid's for the initial investment and to parents and guardians for their help and support (and patience). Each child was given £2 and asked to double it and beyond. Projects included raffles, tombola, cake sales, a second-hand toy and book sale, a ping-pong game—you name it, they did it. CAFOD are coming to visit the school in October, and we intend to surprise them with our cheque at the assembly they are giving!

Mrs Claffey, Headteacher, St Peter's School

Catholic Women's League

We held our AGM in March. At present we have 22 members, and we would welcome more. We had a very enjoyable quiz in April supplied by Pauline Wells. Also, we hosted a Branch AGM at St Bernard's in Lingfield, which approximately 40 members from Arundel and Brighton Branch attended. In May we had a talk by Jane Dawson on "Relief and Refugee". Jane is the CWL National Representative for R & R. She told us of the facts about asylum and dispelled some of the myths that are

portrayed in the press. Asylum seekers are not allowed to work and are forced to rely on state benefit, which can be as little as £5 a day. Accommodation is usually "hard-to-let properties" where other people do not want to live. She spoke of the work the R & R team do, meeting monthly to assess applications and award small grants. All CWL sections raise money towards this project. Refugee work has been part of the CWL's activities since as early as the First World War, when refugees were coming to England from Belgium, and this work continued after the Second World War.

We are having our Jubilee celebration at our June meeting, with cake & fizz. We will also have a talk by Bozena Parfitt entitled "Unusual Hobbies". In July we are having a Mass and cream tea to honour our founder, Margaret Fletcher, and to commemorate her birth 150 years ago. She set up the Catholic Women's League in 1906 for the education of women. There will be a National Mass in her former church in Oxford, which members from all parts of the country will attend.

For anyone wanting to know more about CWL or R & R, there are leaflets at the back of the church.

Gill O'Driscoll

Gospel of Life Group

"I will protect life, because that life is created by God for greater things: To love and be loved.

And for that little one, Jesus has died on the Cross, and He died because He loved. He gave His Precious Blood for this little one.

Help these young mothers. They give you a chance to share the joy of loving in all you do for them.

"Whatever you did to the least" Jesus said, "you did it to me."

Mother Teresa

This year's Walk for Life takes place on Sunday, 7 October, the 62nd anniversary of the establishment of the Missionary of Charity Congregation. We will use quotations like those above by Mother Teresa to help publicise the walk and underline why as Christians we must do all we can do reaffirm the dignity of every human person, created and loved by God. To be pro-life means to promote human dignity and development in every sphere of life; to say "yes" to life.



The money raised by the sponsored walk will help the group continue the support we have given to vulnerable young mothers and babies for some 10 years now. They live in supported housing run by the LIFE Charity, located in Crawley, Haywards Heath, Worthing and Littlehampton.

“Mother and baby packs” are given to expectant mothers when babies are due. For the new mum we provide a range of toiletries; soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, bath/shower gel, deodorant; tissues; facecloth, hand-towel. For baby, we provide sleep suits, mitts, socks, hats, bibs, bathing towel, shawl, baby wipes, and cardigan.

For mothers who move in with baby already born, we send them a £30 Boots voucher to help them meet essential costs in looking after their child.

We receive letters and cards from mums who have received packs and cards, touched by the fact that they have been helped by a group who they probably had not met, often wondering what it was that made them so special to make us want to give them presents.

We also provide emergency bedding when mums arrive in very difficult circumstances and small gifts at Christmas and Easter.

If you would like to join the Walk for Life on the 7th of October, from Worth Abbey to East Grinstead, or help in another way, please contact Les Whittaker (EG 315484, or 07502 274450).

Youth Groups

Please may I make an appeal for parishioners to come forward to run a Youth Group for our young people. For many years we had two very successful groups—SOS for Years 7, 8, and 9, and Peanuts for Years 10 and 11. Apart from having a good time, those Groups contributed much to Parish and Diocesan life through participation in Youth Masses with great dramas, Rich Man Poor Man lunches, Youthgather walks, etc. Recently

Jack Reagan, Chaplain at St Wilfrid's, visited and spoke at Masses about the monthly Mass at The Friary in Crawley for young people—this is on the third Sunday of the month at 5.30 pm. Young people are asked to go along at 4.30 pm and then stay after Mass for a meal and social time. Our young people are the Church's future, and youth work is a vital Christian Ministry, which other churches in East Grinstead seem to have no problem with providing. Please contact Father Steven or Sue Joy if you can help. As a youth leader with many others in the parish for 12 years, I can confirm that it is very rewarding and great fun.

Sue Joy, EG 315440

Vincentian Family Pilgrimage to Paris, 13–16 April 2012

On Friday, 13 April 2012, Pauline and I took the first train out of East Grinstead and arrived at Westminster Cathedral in time for Mass at 7 am. There was no Mass, probably because it was the week after Easter!—so a few of us went to McDonald's for a cup of coffee! A few homeless people, having spent the night on the streets, were warming up inside, and although not pressing for money, were extremely glad of the tear-off vouchers that would afford them a free drink.

Forty-eight participants, including members of the Vincentian Daughters of Charity, Fr Fergus Kelly, of the Congregation of the Mission, a Lady of Charity and members of the SVP, joined together on this memorable Vincentian Pilgrimage.

We visited 140, rue du Bac, the motherhouse of the Daughters of Charity, where the Virgin Mary appeared on two occasions to St. Catherine Labouré in 1830; from which came the Miraculous Medal, engendering the message of Faith, of Hope and of Love. Sr Catherine was in no doubt about who appeared to her—Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception—and this preceded the apparitions of Lourdes in 1858.

Why "Miraculous" Medal? Well, in 1832 a cholera epidemic in Paris claimed 20,000 lives. The Daughters gave out the medals, and people who were thought to be lost got better.

Amongst other locations, it was very moving for us SVP members to visit the tomb of Blessed Frederic, the founder of the Society of St.

Vincent de Paul, at the church of St. Joseph des Carmes, and renew our commitment to the Society.

A walk up the steep incline of Mont Martres to the Basilica of the Sacre Coeur was a pilgrimage in itself, being bitterly cold! And taking refuge inside, on the Sunday morning, was wonderful, as we stayed to witness a beautiful sung Mass in a magnificent church.

We visited Clichy Church, where St. Vincent was resident parish priest from 1612 to 1613. The original church, which St. Vincent began to build, still survives, and is joined to the new church, which we visited. Notable were the several stained-glass windows that depict incidents in St. Vincent's life.

A river cruise on the Seine for an hour gave a great impression of the grandeur of Parisian architecture: the Louvre, Notre Dame, the Eiffel Tower, and several ornate bridges. On our way back to the hotel, who would have thought that we would be singing *Abide with Me* going around the Arc de Triomphe in the coach!

The pilgrimage was an emotional experience, and thanks go out from us all to Srs Maureen, Bernadette, Brenda, Teresa and Marlene, and, of course, to Fr. Fergus.

Peter and Pauline Wells

Innocence Is Priceless

One Sunday morning, the Vicar noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small flags mounted on either side of it. The 6-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, "Good morning Alex."

"Good morning Vicar," he replied, still focused on the plaque. "Vicar, what is this?"

The Vicar said, "Well, son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service."

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked,

"Which service, the 8:30 or the 11:00?"

submitted by Mike Causton

Justice and Peace Group

The ecumenical J&P Group continues to meet monthly to discuss and take action on a wide variety of issues of social justice. As always your contributions are much appreciated as donors of packet and tinned food for Crawley Open House; sponsorship for the annual Sleep Out; completing postcards to send to the Government on a range of issues, from the Rio Summit held in June to the need for clean water for the world's poor; and gifts of clothes, trainers, and bags for the Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group. Thank you for your support.

Our annual Homelessness service was held on 29 January at Trinity Methodist Church with the theme "Breaking Barriers", and we welcomed the Director of Housing Justice, Alison Gelder, a frontline campaigner on homelessness issues. A total of £225 was raised for that charity. Further information at www.housingjustice.org.uk

Members of the Group continue to visit detainees at Tinsley House as part of Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group and attended a special show, *The Longest Day*, at The Hawth on 21 June—a very moving evening with



St David's Palace, by Martin Payne (Parish Art Group)

poetry, music, and stories of refugees and their hardships. Two members go to Lewes Prison to run the *Sycamore* programme for prisoners (a restorative justice course welcomed by Prison Governors countrywide) and support individual prisoners in the community. Monthly we write letters to Governments in connection with a wide range of Prisoners of Conscience.

The Group also helps the family support worker of the Diocese of Chichester, Sarah Richardson-Cornish, who works with disadvantaged families in East Grinstead, which are many and increasing (see *EG Courier and Observer* article of 5 July). Sarah welcomes volunteers for a variety of tasks including babysitting and is always in need of “white goods” and donations of food. Please ring 07747 481690 if you can help. Another East Grinstead town development is the setting up of a Food Bank for people suffering from financial hardship—the official launch will be soon, and further details are available from Jane Crossman (EG 324642).

Looking forward to the Autumn, the J&P Group will be coordinating the Shoebox scheme promoted by Samaritan’s Purse and ask parishioners to save shoeboxes *now*. We have to start this project in early October to get the 300 or so boxes ready for transportation in early November; last year our boxes from church and school went to Montenegro. Any knitters out there—please knit hats, gloves, and scarfs?! Thank you.

This year’s Sleep Out was as noisy as usual but no hardship for one night; nine people completed it this year, including two Councillors, Dick Sweatman and Peter Wyan, and Mayor Liz Bennett came along to encourage us. Peter Mansfield Clarke from Crawley Open House told us about current projects at his Centre, now helping many more people than ever, including those who had lost their businesses, houses, and experienced family break-up in the recession, thus illustrating once again that homelessness can happen to anyone. COH’s share of sponsorship money will go towards a new kitchen at the Centre—major upheaval for somewhere that feeds in excess of 60 people per day. The street collection taken in the town on Sleep Out Day (30 June) raised £517.76. Sponsorship is coming in from all churches as we got to press, and together with the proceeds of the Forest Row Orchestra’s concert on 7 July (£347.00) and from the Food Fest event, we hope to raise in excess of last year’s figure of £3,292.06.

East Grinstead has been a Fairtrade Town since 2005 and is just

renewing its status; a Group meets six-weekly to promote Fairtrade goods and activities in East Grinstead and would welcome new members to take this forward. Imberhorne, Sackville, and St Peter's Schools are very involved in Fairtrade and join in Fairtrade Fortnight as well as promoting it through the curriculum.

Dates for the diary

Welcome Stranger: Sunday, 30 September at 4 pm at St Mary's Church, Windmill Lane—an event to highlight the difficulties of being a refugee and genuine asylum seeker

One World Week Service: Sunday, 18 November at New Life Church at 4 pm—theme, "Sharing Destiny towards One World".

Sue Joy

CAFOD Lent Appeal 2012 Update

The following letter was sent by email to CAFOD volunteers. We feel that it should also be addressed to all of you who support CAFOD with such dedication—thank you:

Dear friends, following the exceptional response of the Catholic community to our Lent appeal, I would like to thank you personally for all you do.

The total for the Lent appeal is now in excess of £9m (before we receive UK Aid Match Funding from the Government). We had been planning a £2m programme to ensure the provision of safe water for thousands of people. We are now significantly scaling up that programme which means that many thousands more people currently in dire need will be provided with sustainable water resources for the long term. This will have a huge and transforming impact on their lives. We will provide updates on progress in future issues of the CAFOD magazine (*Side by Side*) and on our website.

In addition to donations given to support those most in need, 65,000 campaign action cards were handed in to 10 Downing Street calling on the Government to take action to ensure clean water is provided for those living in poverty. More than 30% of those actions were taken by children and young people. In a letter to CAFOD following the Lent campaign

Andrew Mitchell, the Secretary of State for International Development, said:

“Let me start by congratulating you on the success of your ‘Thirst for Change’ campaign. I received huge correspondence from CAFOD supporters on this topic, particularly from school children. It is really encouraging to know that young people in the UK care so deeply about the problems facing others around the world.”

The life-saving work now underway could not happen without the dedication of people like yourself. CAFOD is most grateful to you. In fact you are very much part of CAFOD—whether you hand out the Fast Day envelopes, speak at Mass, organise events, visit schools or engage with the local media. The range of work undertaken by our volunteers is really impressive and inspiring and is also highly valued by the communities with which we work around the world.

If you have any feedback, suggestions or comments about CAFOD’s work please let us know. We are very keen to listen and ensure that your perspective informs our work.

With best wishes,

Tom O’Connor, CAFOD
Director—Communities and Supporters
(020 7095 5300; Mobile 07721 923166; www.cafod.org.uk)

East Grinstead Foodbank

Thirteen million people live below the poverty line in the UK. Every day, people in the UK go hungry for reasons ranging from redundancy to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income.

Families in OUR area are struggling. Local professionals say that requests for food parcels have increased due to the current economic climate. Wanting to help address this need, Trinity is currently entering into partnership with *The Trussell Trust* (www.trusselltrust.org), a Christian organization that empowers local communities to combat poverty, and we are very much hoping that *YOU* will want to join us and make it a *truly ecumenical project*.

The Foodbank Project

Foodbanks show Jesus’ love in action by giving food to people in crisis in the local area, providing short-term emergency relief. Church-

based **Foodbanks** engage the whole community in providing food to local people going hungry.

Food is collected at “Supermarket Collections”: These are events held at supermarkets where volunteers give shoppers a “**Foodbank** shopping list” and ask them to buy an extra item or two for local people in crisis. Food is also collected from churches and through local groups and schools.

The **Foodbank** stores or “banks” food donated by the community and can be drawn on by people in crisis. It is a simple and unique concept designed to help individuals in crisis by providing free emergency food for three days (10 balanced meals). Three days is the period assessed as the minimum time it takes for the appropriate agencies to be in a position to assist. This period can be extended if necessary.

Food is drawn as a result of referrals from registered Care Professionals such as Social Services, Health Visitors, Probation Officers, Church Pastoral Workers, schools, CAB, and others working in front-line services.

Vouchers redeemable at the **Foodbank**, which will operate out of Trinity’s Welcome Café, will allow clients to exchange their voucher for 3 days of tinned and dry food for their family. This enables volunteers to come alongside those in need, offer them a cup of tea or coffee, and provide a safe non-judgmental place in which to sit and be heard and to find out about possible areas of help.

This is where you come in!

We will need volunteers:

- To collect food—with enough people on a rota this may only require a commitment of a couple of hours once or twice a year.
- To sort and pack the food.
- To meet clients in Trinity’s Welcome Café when they come to collect food parcels.

If you think you would be able to offer some time to support this project or would simply like to know more, please contact Trinity’s Administrator on EG 302862 or send an email headed “EG Foodbank” to admin@trinitymethodist.org.uk

* * *

The following poem, based on Matthew 25, is written from the point of view of a homeless woman.

I was hungry and you formed a humanities group to discuss my hunger.

I was imprisoned and you crept off quietly to your chapel and prayed for my release.

I was naked and in your mind you debated the morality of my appearance.

I was sick and you knelt and thanked God for your health.

I was homeless and you preached to me the spiritual love of God.

I was lonely and you left me alone to pray for me.

You seem so holy, so close to God,

But I am still very hungry—and lonely—and cold.

John Stott, Issues Facing Christians Today

Extra Care Health & Wellness Support Club

Extra Care Health & Wellness Support Club continues its voluntary work for the community. The team of Health Care Professionals headed by Danny Favor and Mrs Maribel Favor had another session of free health





checks on Sunday, 29 April 2012 at Our Lady & St Peter Church Hall, East Grinstead. Many parishioners came and had their blood pressure, blood glucose, and BMI checked. These are quick, painless tests that can prevent serious illnesses or can mean a difference between life and death or serious disability. The team is doing this good cause once a month and will work closely with various communities. Any community group who would like to avail themselves of this free health check please contact ECHWSC at extracare.df@googlemail.com or telephone Danny (07867846495) or Maribel (07528694112). Further information can be found on our website, www.extracareeastgrinstead.com

Danny & Maribel Favor

A Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The way my pilgrimage to the Holy Land in February 1980 came about was really out of the blue. We were on a trip to Malta in December 1979 when Dan, my husband, seeing how interested I was in the history of Malta, said "I really must take you to the Holy Land." He was in the Middle East during the war and had spent a lot of time in Israel.

We were in a travel agent's in January actually looking for a 1980 holiday when he spotted brochures on Israeli tours. We took these home but found them not to suit our pocket, so I pointed out the "Mancunia" tours in *The Universe*. Their itinerary suited our needs both spiritually and financially, so I very quickly got organized, telephoning Manchester and verbally making a booking.

Our trip started from Stansted Airport, and we were a little bit apprehensive to find such a rigorous security set-up. We were stopped at the entrance gate on arrival, through normal airport security, and then a double-check by Israeli security. Finally we went to the departure lounge to await the bulk of our group to arrive by coach from Manchester. We were beginning to think we were going on our own, as they only arrived within the last half-hour before take-off. They had been delayed en route because of coach trouble. Luckily Stansted stipulated check-in 2 hours before departure and not 1½ hours, as at Heathrow and Gatwick. We left Stansted at 4 pm, with a journey of 4¾ hours to follow.

It was dark when we landed at Tel Aviv, and then after clearance we had another hours' journey by coach to our hotel in Jerusalem. Fr Bryne made himself known to us on the plane; there were 6 of us from the south. After collecting our keys, Fr said we could have a late breakfast, and then he would take us on a walkabout and show us a "tourist view" of Jerusalem.

So Wednesday morning saw 36 of us on our way to the walled city of Jerusalem. Our hotel was only a stone's throw from Herod's Gate, but Fr B. took us into the Old City via the Damascus Gate. He explained to us that the meaning of "Jerusalem" was "city of peace" but that the history was very turbulent and it has been razed several times by wars and earthquakes. Every time the city was demolished, they rebuilt on top of the debris. At the present time the city that Jesus knew is approximately 9ft below present ground level, so all the holy places have been excavated over many years.

Once inside the Damascus Gate, it was like entering another world, a labyrinth of narrow streets lined with bazaars. The streets are divided into quarters owned by Arabs, Jews, Muslims, and Christians, and on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays each quarter is closed according to their respective religious beliefs.

We made our way to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which holds the shrine built over the Tomb of Jesus. Calvary also is within this Basilica. Fr B. then said our first Mass within this HSC. Then we

made our way to the roof of the HSB, passing on the way up a small chapel where an Abyssian priest offered us a prayer, then onto the roof, where these people live like hermits, very, very poor. The religious are Franciscans in Israel. Then we carried on to the Convent of the Sisters of Zion. These nuns seemed to be Americans, and there are many young lay girls there. The convent was built in 1862 on the site of the praetorium of Pontius Pilate. This place is unique on earth, and in recognition of the awful memories it holds, the religious repeat, three times a day, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." The nuns' mission is to bring back to the Christian faith the Jewish people. Also, the Pavement where Christ was condemned by Pilate is on the lower floor, and we also saw the "Game of Kings" etched into the Pavement. On Saturday (3 days later) we had a Mass said here.

Next day, Thursday, we were joined by an official Israeli guide, whose mission was to tell us the history and dates. He took us to the Pool of Bethesda, where Jesus cured the lame man who could not reach pool, wherein lay a multitude of the lame. When the Jewish people saw the cured man they were cross as it was the Sabbath, and it was from this time that the Jews began to understand that Jesus was proclaiming himself as the Son of God, and they consequently began the persecutions that lead to His death. Excavations are also going on at the pool. Our guide then took us to the Dome of the Rock, built in the Temple area where Jesus preached, the El Aqsa Mosque, and the Western Wall. While we were at the latter, two Jewish boys were going through the Bar Mitzvah ritual. The Wall is separated into two parts, females having only a small section to pray, and they are not even allowed into the section where their sons are being initiated. After lunch we had a coach excursion to the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and the Church of All Nations; Fr B. said Mass here.

We then went off to Mount Zion to visit the place of the Last Supper. Then next day, Friday, we took our coach to Bethlehem to the Church of the Nativity. This church is mainly Greek Orthodox, but the Franciscans were allowed to build a chapel. We were most fortunate as the friars allowed Fr B. to celebrate Mass at the site of the Manger; of course, only a few of us could actually get inside the small cave. Then we went on to Ein Kerem, to the Church of the Visitation. (This pilgrimage may seem rather haphazard, but it is in the order that we saw all these places.)

Saturday was a day free for our official guide, so Fr B. took us back to the Old City of Jerusalem to the Convent of Zion, where we collected

a cross, and then we went along the Via Dolorosa and followed the Way of the Cross. Between the stations we took it in turns (two of us) to carry the cross. The Via Dolorosa runs right through the bazaars, but we were not bothered by the shopkeepers with their wares as they respected that we were on a pilgrimage of the Way of the Cross. We returned the cross and then celebrated Mass on the Pavement.

On Sunday we left Jerusalem in the morning, taking our coach up to Tiberias. We stopped first on our journey at Nazareth and visited the Church of the Annunciation. This was a most beautiful church, modern, only completed 6 years previously. The newly built churches in Britain do not appeal to me, but this was magnificent, in fact breath-taking, designed so that there are two floors. Mass was said at a free-standing altar, alongside the place in which the Incarnation of the Word occurred. On the walls of the upper floor were large murals, 20ft × 18ft approximately, given by Catholic people all over the world, the British one depicting Our Lady of Walsingham. Then on to Joseph's workshop, but we could not go down as there was a power strike, so all was in darkness. Our next stop was at Cana, to the church built as a memorial of the first miracle. Then to our hotel and dinner by candlelight, as the power strike struck again

On Monday we took a boat journey across the Sea of Galilee to Capernaum. Here we saw much excavation work in evidence at the house of St Peter and the pillars of the synagogue where Jesus preached. From here we went to the Mount of Beatitudes to the church built as a memorial of the Sermon on the Mount. A French group was in the church having a Mass said. Then on to Tabgha to a small chapel on the lakeside of Galilee (we bathed our feet here), which commemorates the visit of Jesus to the Disciples. It was here inside this chapel that Pope Paul VI, on his visit, was so overcome.

From here, a short walk took us to a small chapel commemorating the miracle of the 2 fishes and 5 loaves. The chapel was being rebuilt, but outside under cover were the original mosaics of the second-century church, which will be laid again. After our lunch, 8 taxis arrived to take us to the Church of the Transfiguration, which is right at the top of Mount Tabor. The reason we had to have taxis instead of the coach was the extreme steepness of the very narrow road that led to the church. Once up at the top, we were 18,000ft above sea level.

And so this was the end of my pilgrimage to the Holy Land. No doubt I have forgotten much to tell—we saw so much that it is very confusing

and hard to remember all the details. I should have made notes at the end of each day; I would have done, had I known that I would write this. One thing I am sure of in my mind is that I want to return.

Vera Adams

Elizabeth of England

This poem was written by George Turner for the Coronation of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Queen of Royal Birth
Loved by all your people
Ev'rywhere on earth
May your reign be peaceful
Happy and secure
May Our Lord protect you
And help you to endure

There are many countries
Ruled by your gracious hand
They all look towards you
Queen of their motherland
They'll give you inspiration
To govern just and wise
Their affection strengthening
The bond of Royal ties.

ELIZABETH OF ENGLAND
Your blessed name we'll roar
The bells will ring
As people sing
Aloud from every shore
ELIZABETH OF ENGLAND
Your crown is firmly set
Our Lord who watches over you
Will make it firmer yet.

submitted by Sue Wade

Meditation

Many times, we have said how our prayer was individualistic in the past. Even during the celebration of the Eucharist, every Christian prayed in silence or said his or her rosary while the priest prayed in Latin. We have to make a certain effort to get rid of these habits and discover the beauty and strength of a real community prayer. What are the conditions required? First of all, we must find the essential link between community prayer and brotherhood. If there's no fraternity, if there's no living and warm relation among the persons involved, community prayer is impossible. Without fraternity, we pray next to one another, but not together. A true fraternity allows for a real community prayer, and this prayer in turn feeds the fraternity. Secondly, it is important for everyone to feel responsible for others. I ought to be convinced that I need others and others need me. Don't forget that we received faith in Christ through others: our parents, our teachers, our Christian community. With others, this faith grows and flourishes. Through others, Christ comes to me, speaks to me, calls me, enlightens me, sometimes provokes me. We are living in a society full of contradictions: we complain about loneliness, isolation in the midst of the crowd and, at the same time, we are individualistic to the utmost, refusing what it takes to belong to a group.

To be Christian is to want to build a solidarity among persons. Community prayer builds this solidarity since it brings to us the One who nourishes us: Christ. Community prayer is not a pastor's whim looking for something new. It is necessary to every Christian who wants to live the Gospel.

That's why Christ taught us how to pray by saying, Our Father. Prayer ought to bring us together and not isolate us. It expresses and nourishes this union among persons, which is the very heart of the life of the Church.

* * *

The word *TRINITY* does not occur in Scripture, yet we firmly believe in this fundamental article of our Faith because the early Church harmonized the various scriptural texts and defined it at the early Councils, ratified by the Popes. Trinity means that there are three distinct persons in one divine nature, i.e. not 3 Gods, but 3 persons in 1 God. This is what we call a theological mystery, which means something that is true but is beyond



Black Rhino Calf,
by Tessa Darlison (Parish Art Group)

our comprehension and competence to understand. For instance, poetry, TV, computers are mysteries to my cat but not to the human race—these things are simply true but beyond a cat’s competence to understand.

So it is with theological mystery: mystery is not nonsense but simply something beyond man’s competence to understand, but not beyond God’s understanding. We simply believe it because it has been revealed to us by the teaching authority of the Church. However, since we are intelligent beings, there are words, ideas, and analogies *towards* an understanding of this great mystery. I have thought of two very good ones: (a) The formula H_2O can be expressed in 3 distinct ways, as water (liquid), as steam (a vapour), and as ice (a solid)—in other words, 3 different forms of one substance. (b) When you shoot a ray of light through a solid prism, the 7 colours of the rainbow come out the other side showing that these 7 seven colours are aspects of that white light, together make a white light—like 7 component aspects of one light. If these 7 colours are shot through an inverted prism, they become one ray of white light again !

The first 4 centuries of the Church’s existence was plagued with threats of heresy concerning the true doctrine of the Trinity. Scripture alone could not solve this problem because the Bible is not a textbook of doctrine but the reflections of a believing community. The *earliest* New Testament book is 1 Thessalonians, written about 13 years after the death and resurrection of the *HISTORICAL JESUS*. The other books, especially the Gospels, were written *much* later. It was the teaching authority of the Church in the early Councils under the authority of the Popes that

solved the heretical problems and established the true faith and doctrine concerning the Trinity. It is interesting to note that Our Lady had a great deal to do with it because the Gnostic, Nestorian, and Arian heretics were refuted at the Council of Chalcedon in AD 451 under Pope Leo I when they bestowed the title of THEOTOKOS to Mary = BEARER (MOTHER) of GOD. The various heretics would have given MARY any other title but this: e.g. ANTHROPOTOKOS [bearer of man], CHRISTOTOKOS [bearer of Christ], HUYOTOKOS [bearer of the Son], THEOFOROS [carrier of God] (in the same way that we do)—the Trinity dwelling within.

But the Council, by defining and pronouncing Mary *THEOTOKOS*—bearer (Mother) of God—made it clear that her Son Jesus was *TRUE GOD* and *TRUE MAN*, that the *DIVINE* nature and the *HUMAN* nature of *CHRIST* are *DISTINCT* but *INSEPARABLY UNITED*, therefore Mary is truly the Mother of God—that is, she conceived and bore the *SECOND PERSON OF THE TRINITY*, not indeed according to the Divine *NATURE*, but according to the assumed human nature. The doctrine of the Trinity leads to a (1) profound *HUMILITY* . . . because it baffles our intellect we submit in humility to the *TEACHING AUTHORITY* of the Church; (2) profound *JOY* because we can enter directly into the life of the Trinity dwelling within us in the one word or silent prayer of mediation; (3) profound *WONDER*, as each day we can be renewed in deep wonder beyond comprehension through our consciousness and union with the Trinity: *before silent prayer* we are bogged down and profoundly conscious of our limitations; *after silent prayer* we are conscious of our infinite expansion of consciousness and union with the Trinity dwelling at the centre of our being. Today we celebrate more than a mere doctrine but a beautiful reality, hope, and inspiration daily in our lives.

Father Peter ap Morris

The Hon. Member of Parliament

While walking down the street one day a Member of Parliament is tragically hit by a truck and dies.

His soul arrives in heaven and is met by St. Peter at the entrance.

“Welcome to heaven,” says St. Peter. “Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a high official around these parts, you see, so we’re not sure what to do with you.”

“No problem, just let me in,” says the man.

“Well, I’d like to, but I have orders from higher up. What we’ll do is have you spend one day in hell and one in heaven. Then you can choose where to spend eternity.”

“Really, I’ve made up my mind. I want to be in heaven,” says the MP.

“I’m sorry, but we have our rules.”

And with that, St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell. The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a green golf course. In the distance is a clubhouse and standing in front of it are all his friends and other politicians who had worked with him.

Everyone is very happy and in evening dress. They run to greet him, shake his hand, and reminisce about the good times they had while getting rich at the expense of the people. They play a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster, caviar and champagne.

Also present is the devil, who really is a very friendly & nice guy who has a good time dancing and telling jokes. They are having such a good time that before he realizes it, it is time to go.

Everyone gives him a hearty farewell and waves while the elevator rises....

The elevator goes up, up, up and the door reopens on heaven where St. Peter is waiting for him.

“Now it’s time to visit heaven.”

So, 24 hours pass with the MP joining a group of contented souls moving from cloud to cloud, playing the harp and singing. They have a good time and, before he realizes it, the 24 hours have gone by and St. Peter returns.

“Well, then, you’ve spent a day in hell and another in heaven. Now choose your eternity.”

The MP reflects for a minute, then he answers: “Well, I would never have said it before, I mean heaven has been delightful, but I think I would be better off in hell.”

So St. Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down to hell.

Now the doors of the elevator open and he’s in the middle of a barren land covered with waste and garbage.

He sees all his friends, dressed in rags, picking up the trash and putting it in black bags as more trash falls from above.

The devil comes over to him and puts his arm around his shoulder. “I don’t understand,” stammers the MP. “Yesterday I was here and



Bear, by Gordon Townsend (Parish Art Group)

there was a golf course and clubhouse, and we ate lobster and caviar, drank champagne, and danced and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage, and my friends look miserable. What happened?"

The devil looks at him, smiles, and says, "Yesterday we were campaigning . . . Today you voted."

Tina Causton

Reconciliation Prayer for the 100 Days of Peace

Pax Christi, the international peace movement, is asking Christians everywhere to pray for Peace prior to the Olympic and Paralympic Games, during them, and for 50 days afterwards, with a special Peace Day on Wednesday 19 September.

O God of forgiveness, you gave us your son to reconcile us to you so that we may know your peace. In this sacred icon, we recall men and women down the ages whose stories have witnessed to your healing mercy. We ask you to make London 2012 a special time of unity between peoples. May all who visit find a welcome in our cities. Bless all those involved in the Games, so that together we may build a legacy of peace for the future. We ask all this through Jesus your Son, by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen

Address by His Eminence Card. Odilo Pedro Scherer to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, 22 June 2012)

Madame President, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My delegation warmly thanks the Government of Brazil for hosting this important Conference on sustainable development, expresses gratitude to the people of Brazil for their warm hospitality, and is pleased to participate in this timely gathering of representatives of the international community meeting at this significant juncture in human history.

Now is the opportune time to address the many threats to the human family and its earthly home posed by the persisting injustice of hunger, poverty and underdevelopment which continue to plague our societies. It is the firm hope of the Holy See that this opportunity may provide the occasion at last to set aside the hermeneutic of suspicion underpinning partisan self-interest and protectionism in favour of a true solidarity between us, especially with the poor. This is the time to commit ourselves to a more just distribution of the abundant goods of this world and to the pursuit of a more integral development which corresponds to the dignity of every human being.

For the Holy See, this requires above all maintaining the proper relation of the means to its end. Standing at the centre of the created world is the human person—and, therefore, also at the centre of sustainable development, as affirmed by the First Rio Principle. Each individual human life, from conception until natural death, is of equal value and dignity.

Any new model of development, such as the “green economy”, must be anchored in and permeated by those principles which are the basis for the effective promotion of human dignity, namely: responsibility, even when changes must be made to patterns of production and consumption; promoting and sharing in the common good; access to primary goods including such essential and fundamental goods as nutrition, health, education, security and peace; solidarity of a universal scope, capable of recognising the unity of the human family; protection of creation linked to inter-generational equity; the universal destination of goods and the fruits of human enterprise; and the accompanying principle of subsidiarity, which permits public authorities at all levels to operate in an efficacious manner for the uplifting of each and every person and community. This is

all the more marked in international relations where application of these principles between and within states favours an appropriate transfer of technology, the promotion of a global commercial system that is inclusive and fair, as well as respect for obligations in aid-for-development and the determination of new and innovative financial instruments which place human dignity, the common good, and the safeguarding of the environment at the centre of economic activity. The unique and fundamental role of the family—which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares the fundamental group-unit of society—deserves special mention here because education and development begins in the family, where all these principles are transmitted to and assimilated by future generations so that their members assume their proper responsibility in society.

The right to water, the right to food, the right to health and the right to education are intrinsically linked to the right to life and to the right to development. Therefore, we must be bold in affirming them, and equally resolved to safeguard the evident reality that these rights are at the service of the human person. The risk of obscuring this correct relationship seems particularly to be the case in the right to health, where the promotion of a conception of health can be observed that profoundly menaces the dignity of the human person. Imposing death upon the most vulnerable human lives—namely, those in the safest sanctuary of their mothers' wombs—cannot conceivably be brought under the nomenclature of health-care or simply health. This performs no true service to authentic human development or its true appreciation; indeed, it constitutes the greatest violation of human dignity and unjustifiable disservice because development, at all stages of life, is at the service of human life.

Madame President,

The ongoing economic and financial crisis has risked undermining the great progress made in recent decades in technological and scientific development. Engaging such problems honestly and courageously will challenge the international community to a renewed and deepened reflection on the meaning of the economy and its purposes, as well as a renewal of models of development which will not allow the “why” of development to be overwhelmed by the urgent “how” of technological solutions. This examination must include not merely the economic or ecological state of health of the planet, but must also require taking stock of the moral and cultural crisis, the symptoms of which are now evident in all parts of the world. This is undoubtedly a complex challenge to

confront, but the Holy See stresses the importance of moving from a merely technological model of development to an integrally human model which takes as its point of departure the dignity and worth of each and every person. Each individual member of society is called to adopt a vocational attitude which freely assumes responsibility, in genuine solidarity with one another and all of creation.

Madame President,

In conclusion, Madame President, it is people who are charged with stewardship over nature; but as with everything human, this stewardship necessarily possesses an ethical dimension. In the discharge of this right and duty, a just solidarity with our fellow human beings is always implicit, including those yet to be born. This requires of us a duty towards future generations who will inherit the consequences of our decisions. In this regard, this Conference provides an opportunity for governments to come together to help chart a course for advancing development for all people especially those who are most in need.

Once again, Madame President, we express our gratitude for the leadership of Brazil in hosting this Conference, and sincerely hope that this will help promote the future that together we all need.

Thank you.

The touch of the master's hand

'Twas battered and scarred, and the old auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
to waste much time on the old violin,
But he still held it up with a smile:
"What am I bidden, good folks," he cried,
"Who'll start the bidding for me?"
"A dollar, a dollar"; then, "Two!" "Only two?"
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?
Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;
going for three . . ." but no.
From the room far back, a gray-haired man
Came forward and picked up the bow;
Then, wiping the dust from the old violin,
And tightening the loose strings,
He played a melody pure and sweet
As a caroling angel sings.



Tina's daughter,
by Tina Causton (Parish Art Group)

The music ceased, and the auctioneer,
With a voice that was quiet and low,
Said; "What am I bidden for the old violin?"
And he held it up with the bow.
"A thousand! And who'll make it two?
Two thousand! And who'll make it three?
Three thousand, once, three thousand, twice,
And going, and gone," said he.
The people cheered, but some of them cried,
"We do not quite understand
What changed it's worth." Swift came the reply:
"The touch of the master's hand."

And many a man with life out of tune,
And battered and scarred with sun,
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like this old violin.
A "mess of pottage," a glass of wine;
A game; and he travels on.
He is "going" once, "going" twice,
He's "going" and almost "gone."
But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd
Never can quite understand
The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought
By the touch of the Master's hand.

Myra Brooks Welch
submitted by Sue Wade

Parish Organizations East Grinstead

Altar Society: Flowers – Margaret Pond [327002]

Art Group: Tessa Darlison [322562]
(self-help group, meets on Tuesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.,
in the Parish Centre, East Grinstead)

Catenians: Phil Pentney (Membership Officer) [327109]

Catholic Women's League: Brenda Crannigan [712947]
(meetings second Wednesday of the month,
October to March: 3.00 p.m., April to September: 6.00 p.m.)

Children's Liturgy: Sarah Hill & Eileen Lyons [317424]
(at the 10.30 Mass on Sundays)

Choir: Mary O'Sullivan [322959]
(practice is held at 7.30 p.m. on most Fridays at the church
in East Grinstead; children's practice as announced)

Christian meditation group:
Gabrielle Joyce [326118] and Les Whittaker
(Thursdays, 7.30 p.m., term time)

Friends of St Peter's: Sam O'Neill (contact school [321985])
(monthly meetings in members' homes)

Gift Aid Secretary: Debbie Brook [328215]

Gospel of Life Group: Les Whittaker [315484]

Guild of St Stephen: Jim Fitzpatrick [317177]

Justice and Peace Group: Sue Joy [315440]

Lifts to Mass: Peter Wells [811543]

Lunch Club: Ivy Pimenta [323240]
(third Wednesday of the month in the Parish Centre, East Grinstead)

Mothers' Prayers: Jane DeCaestecker [311232]
(first Friday of each month after the 9.30 a.m. Mass)

Parish Magazine: Klara King [321581]

Readers at Mass: Sue Wade [317246]

Saint Vincent de Paul Society: Peter Wells [811543]

Welcomers: Robert McInnes [327582]

Times of Services

Our Lady and St Peter, East Grinstead

Saturday Mass: Vigil 6:15 p.m.

Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.

Weekdays: Morning Prayer: 9:15 a.m.; Mass 9:30 a.m.

Holy Days of Obligation:

Vigil 8 p.m. evening before the feast; on the day 9:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 10 to 10:30 a.m. and
5:30 to 6 p.m. and on request

St Bernard's, Lingfield

Sunday Mass: 9.00 a.m.,
preceded by Sacrament
of Reconciliation:
8.15 to 8.45 a.m.

Weekdays:

Adoration of the Blessed
Sacrament: 9.00 a.m.
Morning prayer: 9.15 a.m.

