



Parish Magazine

Our Lady and St Peter

East Grinstead

St Bernard

Lingfield

Christmas, 2015

Issue 69

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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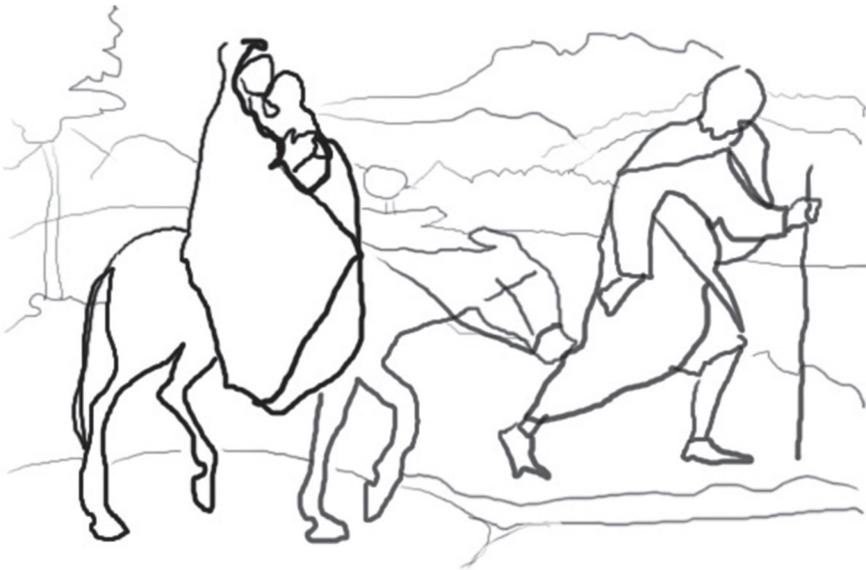
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When Robbie Burns' plough upturned a poor "wee mouse" from its nest on a cold November in 1785, the ploughman-poet lamented the havoc caused to a poor creature—after all, he was a fellow mortal creature with it on this earth. He had meant it no harm.

The poor fleeing displaced mouse reminds us of the many refugees and homeless people in our world who have been in the news of late. Refugees and homeless because of the ravages of war, because of floods, famine or economic distress. Even because of broken homes and broken relationships.

If we have a home and a happy one, we are twice blessed. But we need to be aware of and concerned for those who are troubled and stressed because they do not. Out of love for our fellow mortal creatures, more than any mouse, they are our concern too. May we not fail to help in the opportunities that come our way and demonstrate through our support God's love for them.

Father Steven



Our contributors have once again made sure that we have an interesting, relevant issue: my thanks to them all. Most of the articles show the valuable work being done by so many in the parish, people giving their time, their care, and their love to those who need it. A special thanks to the Crown of Thorns knitters, whose nativity scene is on the front cover.

The next issue will be in early summer, but contributions can be left at any time at the back of the church, marked for my attention, or, better yet, emailed to me at the address below.

Eric joins me in wishing all parishioners a blessed and merry Christmas and a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year.

*Klara King [EG 321581]
email: klara.m.king@comcrafts.co.uk*

First Holy Communion

Thirty-one children from our parish successfully completed their sacramental programmes for First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion.

The programme included two retreat mornings at St Bernard's for the children and parents which were enjoyed by everyone.

The Sacrament of forgiveness was celebrated with a Pizza party and the First Holy Communion day with a party for all at St Peter's School. Please pray for the children and their families as they journey on in their faith.

Our thanks must go to Fr Steven, Deacon Ted, and our Catechists who spend many hours preparing for the sessions with parents and children—please keep them in your prayers and pray for future members of our congregations to consider joining the team. We must also thank our musicians, flower arrangers, church cleaning team, servers and all parishioners for their prayers."

Our Lady and St Peter

Saturday, 2 May 9

Sienna Ridley-McDonagh, Jacob Cooper, Diya Anna Biju, Cian O'Connor, Sofia Bacon, Martin Glassborow, Oscar Wisniewski, Fabio Inserra, Nishan De Leon, Ors Andras Varga, Esther Bindloss, Francis Greenacre, Katrina Mutimba, Eva Geraghty, Yuel Harvey Bagcat, Tanya Siby, Juan Tre Manalus

Saturday, May 9

Ivan Deverick, Rowan Englishby-Allen, Philippa Jenkins, Amelia Fraser,
Finn Fraser, Sammy Lane

St Bernard's

Saturday, 16 May

Sebastian Fryszia, Talia Valles, Mary Day, Arthur Thilo, Helen Bellinger,
Alannah Brind

Eileen Lyons

Confirmation 2015

It was again a great experience to work with our young people during their Confirmation preparation programme last winter and spring. The group was characterized by a very generous, reflective, and caring approach to our time together. The "journey" word can sometimes be overused, but in this situation it is true that during the period of the programme, candidates, and catechists do unite on their faith journey, and the Holy Spirit guides each of us as needed. It is always then a joy to celebrate with the young people when they receive the sacrament of Confirmation.



Confirmation was on the Feast of the Ascension, at Worth Abbey, on 22 May. Our parish was not only represented by the young people with their friends and families, but we also have to thank our many parishioners who were involved in other ways: we had parishioners serving on the altar; the car parking was wonderfully and efficiently spearheaded by our Catenians; the inspiring music was organized by Liam Bauress. We can be truly proud of everyone.

Our team of catechists was pleased to welcome Thaddeus Dell this year.

The young people confirmed in 2015 were: Róisín Bell, Zoe Clark, Lucy Drury, Millie Hopkins, Dominyka Jonikaite, Bethany Keen, Niamh Mahoney, Charlotte O'Neill, Jesse O'Sullivan, Philip Ruttley, Ana Silva-Louro, Rebecca Stevenson, and Gareth Worts.

Thaddeus Dell, Mike Hope, Eileen Lyons, and Ruth Longley

Catholic Women's League

We had two social events this summer. The first was lunch at The Peacock; the second, a cream tea in the beautiful garden of Peter and Pauline Wells. There we celebrated their recent Golden Wedding anniversary and the 80th birthdays of two of our members with champagne. It was a lovely afternoon. Many members attended the Diocesan Jubilee celebrations in Brighton, and three manned the CWL stall for a while, explaining more about the organization to any interested ladies. Our regional representative, Kath Tomlin, came and spoke at our two parish masses about the work we do. As a result of this recruitment drive, we held a cheese and wine evening for prospective members and we hope to see some of them in the future. Three members attended the National AGM in Torquay and helped with the display table for A&B branch.

In September, Nicholas Castiglione and Richard Osterfield gave us an informative talk on Christian meditation, and we all had a chance to meditate for a short time afterwards.

Our November speaker was Anne Marie Micallef from the Guild of St. John Southworth at Westminster Cathedral. St. John Southworth is one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales and was put to death at Tyburn for exercising the priesthood. He was buried in France in an unmarked grave, as he had studied and was ordained in Dorrai, but in

1927 his body was returned to England and now lies in the Chapel of St. George and the English Martyrs. Members of the Guild meet visitors, answer their questions, and guide them round the Cathedral.

In November, we had a flower workshop—always enjoyed by members. After a demonstration by Bozena Parfitt, her arrangements were raffled and then we made our own table decorations . We now look forward to our Christmas lunch in December.

C.W.L are active in all aspects of parish life, including visiting the sick. If you would like to join us please phone Gill O’Driscoll on EG 323601

Gill O’Driscoll

Christian Meditation Group

During May and June this year we ran a six-week introductory course on Christian meditation. Six people came along and meditated with us, listened to talks about the tradition of Christian meditation how and why we meditate, and joined in with discussion and questions. Their reactions varied from “The length of meditation [20 minutes] is too long” to “This practice is making all the difference to my hectic life”. As one of those running the course, I learnt much from those who joined us, and the experience has deepened my practice and commitment to Christian meditation.

We hope to run the course again next year during the evenings, so that those with work and family commitments are able to join us.

We have recently started meeting with the Christian meditation group at Worth Abbey. Our group in East Grinstead continues to meet each Thursday, 4.30 to 5.30 pm, and once a month we meet with the meditators at Worth on a Wednesday evening, 8–9 pm .

If you would like more information or would like to join us, please contact me by phone (EG 326118) or by email (gabrielle.joyce@btinternet.com).

Gabrielle Joyce

“What are you looking for?” (from “Relationship with Jesus”)

An excerpt from a talk in a series given by Laurence Freeman OSB, summarized by Richard Osterfield

The very first words of Jesus in the gospel of John are “What are you looking for?” This question can lead us to a deeper understanding of Jesus as our teacher. The gospel is full of significance, full of deep meaning, every detail of it, just as every moment of our lives is filled with wonder if we can change ourselves to see it. Very often we don’t see the meaning of our experience.

Everything that happens to us is charged with the meaning of God. Who were the people in our lives who pointed out Jesus to us in the way that John the Baptist points to Jesus? We may not know fully what Lamb of God means, but something attracts us and we start to follow. This may go on for many years, until a decisive moment occurs, the moment in which we are aware that Jesus is aware of us. That he has turned towards us and sees us following him. That is when our relationship with him really becomes a relationship and we are not just following him. There has to be an interest both ways. There comes a certain moment in our Christian life that we become aware that Jesus is interested in us. That is a moment of deepening conversion, a moment when our prayer becomes deeper. It is the moment we discover the contemplative dimension of prayer. This may take time to mature, and then Jesus asks his question: “What are you looking for?” It is not easy for us to answer this question. What are the real priorities in our lives? It cannot be an answer once and for all. It is a question we need to listen to every day.

The disciples didn’t give him a straight answer to the question. They relied on another question: “Where are you staying?” If they know where he is staying, they might know what they are looking for. They ask a student’s question. Staying is a word meaning dwelling. Jesus speaks about the Father dwelling in him and he dwelling in the Father and both of them coming to dwell in us the disciples. Staying is not just where you are living but where you are in relation to Jesus. In reply to the question, Jesus doesn’t give information but an invitation, a personal invitation: “Come and see.” Experience the answer to the question for yourself. It is not theoretical answers but the experience found by entering into meditation, the life-changing experience that invites you to come and see for yourself. It is what you yourself have felt and experienced. Jesus’s invitation is to a personal experience.

The disciples accepted the invitation and entered into the experience of his presence and spent the rest of the day with him until 4 pm. This was a traditional time for prayer in the early Church, where either alone or in groups they would stop to pray.

The whole of our encounter with Jesus, from our infancy, as we mature, and as our prayer deepens, takes place in the context of prayer. We can come to a deeper experience of what we are looking for. We are all looking for a deeper experience of God and a closer relationship with Jesus. Meditation brings us to a deeper personal relationship with Jesus.

East Grinstead Catenian Circle

Faith, friendship, family, fun—these are the words that best describe what Catenians are all about. And here are some examples of how each has been demonstrated in the last few months.

Faith: Our Catholic faith is the foundation of the Catenian Association. In addition to starting and ending all our meetings with prayers, in October we offered a Mass for vocations and in November a Mass for deceased Brothers.

Friendship: We are an International Brotherhood of some 10,000 members in the UK, Australia, Africa, Goa, Malta, Ireland, and Hong Kong. We enjoy social bonds and care for each other in sickness and health, caring for widows, and helping those of our membership who have suffered misfortune.

Our Bursary Fund is designed to help young Catholics (16–24) seeking to help others. In the last 12 months, across the whole organization, grants of over £114,000 have been made to help young volunteers with their costs when taking part in overseas projects in 52 countries and for helpers on Diocesan and HCPT Lourdes Pilgrimages.

Locally, each year our President chooses his “President’s Charity”, and in September the 2014/15 President, Phil Pentney, was delighted to present a cheque for £950 to Maxine Smeaton, Chief Executive of the Blond McIndoe Research Foundation based at Queen Victoria Hospital. The funds were raised primarily through raffles at each monthly meeting and at other more formal functions.



Family: Our families are very important in our association, and social events so far this year have included the annual “Ousting Dinner” (for the outgoing President, held at EG Rugby Club), a buffer lunch at the home of the current President, and a tapas lunch at La Farola following the October Mass for vocations. All these events included wives and children of Brothers.

“Family” also extends to our wider parish family, and Catenian Brothers dutifully manned the bar at the St. Peter’s Summer Fun Day and also “managed” the car parking at the annual Confirmation Service at Worth Abbey.

Fun: Naturally the social events above—and most of our other activities—are great fun and are thoroughly enjoyed by those who participate.

Summary

Simply put, the Catenian Association is an international brotherhood of Catholic men who meet socially, at least once a month. The East Grinstead Circle meets at Rowfant House at 8 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. The meetings are short, and the whole idea is for us to socialize in our faith.

Come and join us

If you are a practicing Catholic man, over 21, and are interested in any of the above, you will be welcome to come and have a look at our Circle. There is no obligation to join unless you think it is right for you after experiencing Catenian fellowship. Wives of members are not required to be Catholic; many are not and enjoy Catenian life to the full.

To find out more contact Bill Blackledge on EG 317599.

Nick Bozzini

The Guild of St Stephen

St Stephen is the Patron Saint of altar servers. Our boys and girls, and ladies and gentlemen as well, in the Parish who are part of this special ministry can become enrolled in the Guild of St Stephen. The Guild is an



Sunnychan Joseph, Margaret Pond, Treesa Thomas, Teon Sunny, Chris Pond, Elizabeth Kurian, Bishop Richard, Tanya Siby, Jim Fitzpatrick, Trisha Fitzpatrick.

archconfraternity founded in 1904, and you can recognize its members by the distinctive red cord and medal they wear when serving at Holy Mass.

Each year on a Saturday in September, the Bishop presides at a special Mass at the cathedral in Arundel for all Diocesan altar servers. This year a group of us attended from the Parish, wearing our cassocks and cottas, and the photograph shows a picture taken with Bishop Richard afterwards.

Being a server is a special ministry in support of assisting the priest when he celebrates Holy Mass. The support that our present team of servers provides is very much appreciated, and new servers—boys and girls, adults as well—are always welcome. Just speak to Father Steven or our Parish MC, Mr Jim Fitzpatrick.

Chris Pond

Gospel of Life Group

Father of the broken-hearted, make me a protector of the vulnerable, a refuge for the lost, a memory for the forgotten, and a voice for the voiceless. Through Jesus Christ. Amen

The prayer above was said at the start of Walk for Life 2015. Some 40 walkers and supporters gathered at the memorial for unborn children lost before birth, at Mount Noddy Cemetery, on Sunday, 4 October, the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. Accompanied by Denis Pimenta on guitar, the hymn "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" was sung, in recognition



Where there is hatred, let me sow love

of the special day. In addition, St Francis images and quotations were hung along the walk route for walkers and members of the public alike to read and ponder.

Another happy coincidence was that the scriptural inscription on the memorial, which remembers, with love, all children lost before birth, was part of the day's Gospel Reading at Mass:

"The kingdom of heaven belong such as these."

Walk for Life was first held in October 2000, to raise money for the memorial itself, which was dedicated in December 2001. Since then it has



been held most years, to raise money to support vulnerable young mums and their babies, and also other causes, such as helping vulnerable older people in the East Grinstead area. This year, half of the money raised will be set aside to pay for the future essential maintenance of the memorial, as the stonework has deteriorated in places; the other half will pay for the continuing support of the mums and babies in the homes run by LIFE in Crawley, Haywards Heath, Worthing, and Littlehampton.

Eleven men women and children joined the walk for the first time this year, which was heartening to see. The route followed the Worth Way bridleway to Crawley Down. On the return journey, litter was picked up, using litter pickers lent by Mid Sussex District Council. The Worth Way was, in fact, officially closed for resurfacing works, but the council gave Walk for Life special permission to use it, given the charitable nature of the event, and the fact that we were helping to keep the route litter-free.

The walk finished with tea and cakes at the Trinity Methodist Church Café, organized by Beverley Lake. That really capped off a truly joyous afternoon.

The walk raised £1,682. The Gospel of Life Group thanks parishioners for the tremendous support given to this and other fundraising events, which makes possible the pro-life support work we do.

Leslie Whittaker

All change in the choir loft

Retirement of Mary O’Sullivan, Musical Director since 1987

I started playing the organ quite by accident. I sang in the choir, and the organist at the time, John Barnet, asked if I would stand in for him. He knew I played the piano, but I knew nothing about the organ. He offered me lessons if I agreed, and my love affair with the organ at Our Lady and St. Peter’s Church started.

After John moved away I searched around for another teacher and came across Janet McCleery, who took one look at the organ, tried it, and said “I’ll come and teach you here”. Janet was an inspirational teacher

and taught me for about 20 years, a friendship that only ended with her death about 5 years ago. I went on to take all my exams and, finally, a degree in music, with her help and support.

I have greatly enjoyed the talents of singers and instrumentalists over the last 28 years. Many of you will remember Arthur Gibbins, who was my chief cantor and whom I taught to play the organ. In later years Eleanor Johnson has given me great support and pleasure with her singing. I mustn't forget my husband Danny, who has always supported me, sang everything that I threw at him, and bought me a practice instrument at home.

In my early days, there was a move to introduce a lighter style of music that would appeal to the children. Cathy McCall learnt to play the guitar, and various other musicians came and joined us. We have enjoyed guitarists as well as people playing accordions, flutes, oboes, clarinets, and saxophones, sometimes with the piano and sometimes without; I have enjoyed it all, and it extended my repertoire. Our guitarist Denis has been with us for many years, and I am very grateful for his continued support.

About 14 years ago Julian Spencer suggested starting a children's band, which then progressed to playing for the monthly Children's Mass. Grade 1 was the starting level, and many of the children stayed with us until they left school or moved away. There have been many very talented youngsters over this time, two of whom have become professional musicians. None of this would have been possible without Julian's playing and arranging music and his infinite patience with the children.

Because I have always been involved in choosing the music and drawing up the programmes, my knowledge of liturgy has grown. I have been a member of the Society of St. Gregory for many years and through their Summer School have extended and deepened my understanding of liturgy.

I have now decided to retire. It has all been a wonderful experience and great fun. I haven't completely disappeared, and you will still hear from me either playing or singing. Liam Bauress has now taken over from me in a fairly seamless handover, and I'm sure you will enjoy his playing and direction of the choir.

Thank you for all the support from the choir and congregation.

Mary O'Sullivan

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Our Lady & St. Peter Conference, East Grinstead

As we begin The Year of Mercy, we constantly remind ourselves that Christ is firmly the focus of our efforts to serve those in need, and that we have no desire to exist as a Society, for its own sake. So, have you thought of joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society, as one way of fulfilling the suggestion in the Year of Mercy booklet to commit to being more active Christians, or reading about St. Vincent de Paul, who was renowned for his mercy to others?

It is commonly known that our main Patron, St. Vincent de Paul, was known as “The Apostle of the Poor”, even in his own lifetime. He believed in doing things without double dealing, or manipulating others, his focus being on the will of God. He believed that his gifts came from God, and that we can do very little of worth without the help of God’s grace, through the Holy Spirit.

Our Founder, Frederic Ozanam, stood up for his Catholic Faith at a time of great revolutionary upheaval in France when “The New World” was favoured rather than the Catholic Church, which many saw as being part of the Establishment. He and his companions responded to the challenge “*You say you are a Christian, but you do nothing to help the poor*”—this was at a time of great poverty, particularly in the slums of Paris. On his deathbed, at the age of only 40, the priest in attendance asked Frederic to turn to God. He replied: “*Why should I fear Him, when I love Him so much?*”

In our modern times, the Society carries on the concept of “person-to-person” visiting of people in their own homes, among many other things, befriending and bringing the love of Christ to those being visited. So, in this Year of Mercy, if you are teetering on the brink of doing something extra in the name of Jesus, just ask yourself: Am I a caring person? Am I a good listener? Am I respectful of others? Can I keep confidences? Can I spare an hour a week? The answer to all of this is probably “YES!” But you might still say: “*I don’t think I am good enough.*”

Well, don’t worry, you are not alone! None of us are!—take heart from St. Vincent and Frederic who put themselves at God’s mercy and put Christ at the centre of things. For each one of us, undoubtedly, the fundamental question is “*Am I available?*”

The SVP Sudan Appeal

The SVP Sudan Appeal, started in 2006, is a major ongoing appeal and is operated in conjunction with other European organizations. Parishioners who have supported fund raising, here in East Grinstead and Lingfield Conference, will no doubt be interested to read this timely update from Ian Maudesley, our National Organiser.

Currently, the SVP in Sudan is experiencing difficult times, for many reasons. The 148 SVP indigenous groups—or, as we say, Conferences—in the Khartoum area are faced with large numbers of displaced people returning to camps around Khartoum from the fighting in South Sudan, as well as others coming from Eritrea. SVP members there are helping widows, orphans, the disabled, blind and elderly people, with clothes, food, money, medicine, shoes, toiletries, blankets, and plastic sheets, as well as giving counselling and encouragement.

In Khartoum, the existing major projects of baby feeding, medical clinics, and water distribution continue, and they desperately need our continuing financial support.

The civil conflict in South Sudan, which started in 2013, is adding to the work of our SVP members. We have 29 Conferences, mainly around Juba, the capital. Their regular work is attending to elderly disabled widows and orphans. Many people were killed in the civil strife, and there are now many grandparents struggling to bring up their orphaned grandchildren.

The work of the Lullugu Training Centre in Juba is continuing to give young people a future. Some 97,200 meals each year are being provided for baby feeding. The civil conflict causes other major needs, and SVP members are providing 50 kg of maize, 30 kg of beans, 5 litres of oil, plus salt and soup, for 2,200 households every month, providing sustenance for 12,000 people.

In 2014/15, our Sudan Appeal funded medical treatment for over 27,000 people, clean water for 30,000 people in the Khartoum area, and regular feeding for 4,000 as part of the baby feeding programme. In Khartoum, 25 homes were provided for street children, and over 400 young people have received vocational training at the Lullugu Centre in Juba.

Many thanks for your past donations and support.

IT COSTS £1 A WEEK TO FEED A BABY and £1 FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATION AND TREATMENT FOR LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESSES SUCH AS MALARIA.

If you wish to make a donation this Christmas to a very worthy

ongoing SVP cause, to help our brothers and sisters in Sudan, then please contact our SVP Treasurer, Jean Holland on 077169 16245.

Thank you.

*Peter Wells, SVP President, Our Lady & St. Peter
(07851938727)*

Justice and Peace

Justice and Peace Group round-up

A picnic lunch for 60 people on the Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group Refugees Walk from Dover to Crawley was provided by J&P Group members at East Court on Sunday 21 June. Thanks to Mayor Dick Sweatman for attending and welcoming everyone.

The 2015 Sleep Out held on 27 June raised £4,006.96 and was divided between Crawley Open House, The Easter Team and Worthing Churches Homeless Project—thanks to all those who sponsored us.

The Autumn Charity Feasts at Mediterranean Cuisine, The Ghurka, and Tarana raised £1,853 with £1,000 match funding from Barclays Bank which resulted in £715.90 each for Crawley Open House, Crawley Prison Fellowship, EG Street Pastors and Age UK.

226 shoeboxes were sent off to Moldavia and the Ukraine on 9 November from East Grinstead schools and churches as part of Mustard Seed's Love in a Box scheme.

The J&P Group is supporting our Diocese working with Syrian refugees. Families will be settled in Brighton initially, and the Government has provided funding to Brighton City Council and Brighton Voices for Exile. A&B is working closely with the Anglican Dioceses too. www.brightonvoicesinexile.co.uk

Further info from Aidan Cantwell. Social Concerns Officer for A&B. Tel: 01293 651154.

J&P members visit Lewes Prison, take packet food, tins, clothes, and sleeping bags to COH, take clothes and bags to Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group, write letters for Prisoners of Conscience, help at the Foodbank, etc.

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7.30 pm at Moat Church. Please join us, as we are an ecumenical Group working together for over 25 years in EG.

Dates for the Diary

- *Saturday 16 January:* Study day at DABCEC 10–4 pm with the theme What does it mean to be a Church for the Poor? Details from Aidan Cantwell or Ruth Gerun. Tel: 01293 651154. www.dabnet.org
- *Sunday 17 January:* Homeless Sunday and Peace Sunday. Second collection for the work of Pax Christi, the international peace movement. www.paxchristi.org.uk
- *Wednesday 20 January:* 12.30 pm at Trinity. Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.
- *Friday 19 February:* Churches Together AGM 7.30 pm at Trinity. Guest speaker Faith Axten, Surrey Fairtrade.
- *29 February–13 March:* Fairtrade Fortnight (see elsewhere in magazine)
- *Friday 4 March:* Women's World Day of Prayer 2016 prepared by the women of Cuba. Services to be held at Jubilee Community Church at 11 am and 8 pm.
- *25th March:* Good Friday Witness in the High Street at 11 am
- *Spring Charity Feasts:* 11 April Tarana, 18 April La Farola
- *Sunday 5 June:* Ecumenical Celebration Service. 6 pm at Our Lady and St Peter's. Care for Creation. Speaker: Simon Elliott, Jubilee Community Church.
- *Saturday 2 July:* 26th annual Sleep Out.

Sue Joy

Crown of Thorns

Thank you to the "Crown of Thorns" team.

Our team of volunteers from the parishes of Our Lady and St Peter and St Bernard's has done an incredible work recently and been huge support not only in the main work but also in encouragement in times of exhaustion. Like the beads on a rosary, the team has worked side by side each one giving time and energy and enthusiasm.

We are particularly proud of young Adam and Ellie, who delight us with their individual contribution to the work, Adam having decorated the side of many cartons with his lovely drawings, and Ellie contributing to the content of the recently produced Advent Calendar.



If anyone has sewing or knitting skills and would like to be involved in our work, please do get in contact. We have various people knitting squares for blankets for the homeless and baby goods for the poor. We are also using a number of knitted nativity scenes in our Advent work and will need extra figures knitted for next year. Nativity scenes have been loaned out this year for school "Travelling Nativity" project.

Work with support of priests continues, and we ask your continued prayer support for the clergy. This is so important, and we encourage our elderly parishioners, particularly, to take on this special role.

We continue to work with chaplains in many different situations, from prisons to schools, and have recently reprinted our rosary card for the armed forces chaplaincy.

With regard to our work in redistribution of ecclesiastical items, church furnishings, and items of piety: we have sent three shipments this year to poor dioceses in Ghana, these being most enthusiastically and gratefully received by the dioceses assisted. Their thanks go out to all who have donated religious, church and educational supplies for their benefit. Desks donated and shipped last year from St Peter's primary school are now safely in the diocese of Yendi in Northern Ghana. We hope to have some pictures shortly.

We are most grateful to those who have set up standing orders and donated in any way financially towards the work of the charity. Thank you for each and every type of support that you have given.

*Lisa de Quay, for Crown of Thorns
www.crownofthorns.org.uk*

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

As usual, the annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes at the beginning of August was a very enjoyable experience for both pilgrims and helpers;



the theme was Lourdes, the joy of mission. This year was the first time Bishop Richard Moth attended with Arundel and Brighton Diocese, and he spent a lot of his time visiting Hotel Groups and chatting to everyone. The picture alongside is of our very own Valerie Powell with Bishop Richard in front of the Basilica.

Our young people were well represented among the helpers as always and there were also two Redshirts—Daniella Coxall and Helena O'Brien.

Next year's pilgrimage is from 29 July to 4 August and a special day for those thinking of going for the first time will be held on at St Dunstan's, Woking on Saturday 13 February. So far three of last year's Confirmation candidates have expressed a wish to go as Redshirts in Summer 2016, and in anticipation of them being accepted there will be a Rich Man Poor Man fundraising lunch at St Peter's School on Sunday 12 March 2016—watch the parish newsletter for details.

Further information from Sue Joy, EG 835190. or www.ablourdes.org (more info and photos on here)

Sue Joy

Age UK

Age UK East Grinstead & District is a small, locally run, and locally funded charity which supports older people in East Grinstead and the surrounding rural areas.

We run an activity centre in Queens Road, offering home-cooked meals, activities, and exercise (such as Zumba, Tai Chi, and chair-based exercises). Our new Chef, John Clark, is working on developing menus for the winter, and we are hoping to be able to offer cooked breakfasts in the near future.

We work with Outset Youth Action to provide IT support for older people. Students from Outset offer one-to-one sessions with our members to help with them understand how IT can help them with receiving information, keeping in touch with friends and family, and with internet shopping.

Our Activities Manager, Lana Scott, is constantly developing ideas for holidays, day trips, and outings for our members. In 2016, we will offer three holidays as well as a programme of outings. Last year, outings included holidays to Cheshire and the Isle of Wight, as well as day trips to The Shard, Hampton Court Flower Show, the London Riverboat to Greenwich, and local outings to places such as Cats Protection, Eastbourne, Penshurst Place, and the ever-popular Greyhound Racing outings.

Our Help at Home service is run by Jackie Dowling, is self-funding, and employs staff to provide services to older people to enable them to remain in their own homes, including cleaning, ironing, and shopping. We would like the finance to expand to include other services we are asked for, such as gardening, IT, and DIY, but we also need someone with business acumen to advise us in this.

The Saturday Club project is run by Kate Strong and is currently part-funded by the West Sussex County Council Carers Short Breaks Grant. The service provides respite to carers of people with dementia by offering a service for their loved ones to receive a break during two weekends per month. The service is currently looking for volunteers.

We would like to offer new services such as information and advice, home visiting and befriending.

It is a popular misconception that Age UK East Grinstead & District is funded by National Age UK in London and is part of the national charity. However, all local Age UK services are independent local charities.

Another fallacy is that because Age UK East Grinstead & District has been working in the community for some 45 years, it will always be here to serve older people in East Grinstead and the surrounding rural areas. However, the truth is that funding is getting tighter and tighter, the avenues that used to be open to us are disappearing, and there is a real danger we will not survive.

Older people in today's society are living longer, but struggle sometimes to stretch their finances, can be asset-rich but cash-poor, can lose confidence, are all too often unable to go out, and are sometimes very isolated and are looking for services such as information and advice, support and friendship, as well as practical services to enable them to maintain involvement in local communities.

If you would like more information about this or would like to donate some money to enable us to continue, please contact me on 07803 538638 or email ceo@ageukegandd.org. I would be happy to give you more detail of our service and how you can help us.

Pam Mitchell, Chief Officer

Street Pastors

Each week at the end of each Mass, we are instructed with the words, "Go in peace glorifying the lord by your life." This really does emphasize our Christian call to mission; and the Street Pastor Initiative is without doubt, an answer to that call. I find those words "strike a chord" with me on Saturday nights, especially when I am due to make up the street team from 9 pm until 3 am on Sunday morning.

A couple of years ago, my other half was not keen for me to be a Street Pastor. He was concerned for my safety, and knew I needed my sleep! I believed in the idea of bringing Street Pastors into our town, so signed up to help on the steering Committee instead.

In time, after hearing all about what really goes on in our town at night, and the positive feed-back the teams were receiving from the youth, Andrew gave his blessing for me to join up!

In another town, it was reported that a Street Pastor had had her hat taken by a tipsy lad. Another lad ran after him, hauled him back to the team, and said as the hat was given back, "Do you want me to smack

him for you?" That Street Pastor said that was not necessary, as she would prefer to forgive him. There is no doubt at all, that our team in East Grinstead is as loved and cared for by our youth; and we too, have many opportunities to show them "the way".

I can honestly say that I have never been afraid when "on duty", I know I am in the right place, meeting people who most often just want to talk, share their life experiences or want to ask me questions about my faith. I meet young people who used to go to church with Mum and Dad, and they reflect on those days. I met a couple of girls who used to attend St. Peter's School, and we chatted about their faith; they thought they really should start going to Mass again.

Parents of teens have stopped me to say, "Thank you for looking out for my Son". A homeless man, found in a sleeping bag outside the Whitehall building, thanked us for a food parcel we gave him. A local resident gave us a donation after he saw the man's plight, and knew that we would help. We heard a young woman call to us for help in Queen Street. She said she'd found an older woman, who had fallen over a low wall, into a front garden. We helped the woman find her house a couple of streets away and made sure she was safe. Recently we walked along West Street after Midnight, and noticed that the door to the Laundrette was open; the team notified the owner. We supported a young man, whose friend had recently "lost" his Brother in a car crash. He told us that he didn't know how to help his "angry and upset" friend. He thanked us for our support. We asked our prayer team at the Base (West St. Baptist church) to pray for these lads, and to send a prayer text to our "Home prayer team".

We would love to welcome more prayer supporters from our church. You might like to receive texts when our teams are out, informing you of their movements and prayer requests. Do join our emailed prayer letter supporters group, and be kept informed about street stories and prayer requests. Please email me b.lake@live.co.uk

Please pray for our town community and our Street Pastors.

Pray: That those in any kind of need, will be found by our street team; that small acts of kindness make significant differences to people's lives.

An Observer's report by Geoff Bell, Trinity Methodist Church

It was with much anticipation that I donned a bright yellow tunic, with "Street Pastor Observer" emblazoned on the back, and headed out onto

the streets of East Grinstead. Oh dear, what have committed myself to? It was midnight as we headed into town. I wanted to discover for myself what the Street Pastors actually did, in these wee small hours of the morning, every Saturday night. Everything was surprisingly quiet, but the night was still young, I was reliably informed, and things will get noisier!

There were three experienced Street Pastors out that night, I was in good company. They spoke to folks as if they were old friends, as well they were, in a way, as they'd been out many times before. At about 1.30 am we headed back to base camp—Zion Chapel, in Ship Street, where the prayer team were stationed for the night. We had coffee and cake, then headed back out for the late shift—it was now 1.45 am. Not so quiet now.

The pubs were turning out and the fast food outlets busy—the town was coming alive. The main dance club, Poison IV, (what a lovely name!) was beginning to turn out—the road was packed with revellers—a loan police car stationed itself 50 yards up Little King Street—watching—waiting—but doing nothing. Well, there was nothing for them to do, not really—not yet (not at all as it turned out), for although it was extremely busy the mood was light—fun and funny! This was a busy time for the Street Pastors—chatting, helping, directing, caring and supplying the vital bottled water, to prevent dehydration, and shoes (flip-flops) to prevent swollen feet (many of the girls, and some boys, lose their shoes in the darkness and haze of celebration!). At about 2.45 am, it was all over, the streets were clearing and peace returning.

It quite amazed me how most of those out on the town that night welcomed the Street Pastors, with open arms (literally some of them!) chatting and laughing together, but also recognizing their need for a sober presence in their midst—a helping hand in the night.

Street Pastors operate as part of Churches Together in East Grinstead, in conjunction with Sussex Police. We have 21 Street Pastors trained up at the moment, with, potentially, another 5 coming on. They are all volunteers, co-ordinated by our own Mary Nicholls. It was a huge privilege for me to witness this amazing ministry of care and love—and see the way God was using it to shine a light onto the hearts of our young people, out on the streets of our town, each Saturday night.

Geoff

Come join us on the street for an hour or so as an “Observer”.

Beverley Lake

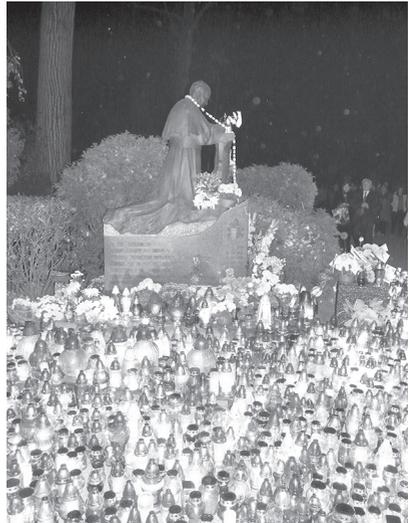
All Saints and All Souls Day in Poland

Halloween in Great Britain has become very Americanized in recent years and is now regarded more as a “retail opportunity” than as a religious festival. Happily, this is not the case in Poland, where it is one of the highlights of the Catholic calendar.

On November 1st and 2nd, virtually the entire country decamps to cemeteries across Poland. Day and night, candles and flowers are laid on the graves of the departed. This may sound like a pretty heavy scenario, and not the kind of thing that foreigners might want to investigate but if you’re visiting Poland at this time of the year, this is ritual that is not to be missed.

As it happens, Krakow is one of the most evocative places in Poland on All Souls. The former Royal Capital has many beautiful old cemeteries, and these come into their own in the first week of November. Step through the Gothic gateway of Rakowicki Cemetery as night falls and you’ll find yourself in a parallel world. Thousands of candles in transparent, coloured vases gather on graves and at the foot of memorials. Priests singing psalms wander the paths, clouds of incense wafting over their shoulders. Fresh flowers adorn every corner. It feels like you’re walking through a sort of lagoon of glowing colours. All about, there’s a hushed, respectful atmosphere—it’s an incredibly dignified tribute to the departed.

Rakowicki Cemetery makes an especially powerful impact, as the majority of the graves stand up as works of art in their own right. Like Paris’s Père Lachaise, this nineteenth century necropolis holds the tombs of many great historical figures. Mausoleums of illustrious families stand side by side with the tombs of artists, soldiers, philosophers and men of the cloth. There is always a sea of colour around the graves of the parents of Pope John Paul II, who was priest and cardinal to the residents of Krakow before he became Pope. Memorials to some of the major dramas in Poland’s



history—uprisings during the nineteenth century occupation, the 20th century wars, communist persecution campaigns—have rivers of candles flowing from them by November 2nd. A military graveyard includes sections for Commonwealth and other overseas service personnel who met their deaths fighting for Polish freedom.

An inspiring alternative to Rakowicki is the hillside graveyard at Salwator. Again, this beautiful cemetery houses the tombs of many distinguished Poles, and it has a fantastic view over the surrounding valley. Families wander the illuminated paths late into the night, and if you spot an owl or a raven, you can be sure that you've encountered one of the departed souls... Suffice it to say that Poles love Gothic melancholy.

Visitors may well be curious as to where this tradition actually came from. As it goes, the custom of All Saints is now firmly intertwined with the Catholic Church, but it has its roots in pagan traditions. In the historic lands of Eastern Poland there was a custom called "Dziady" (Forefathers) that fell at this time of year. As was the norm with the Church, the Pope endeavoured to absorb the tradition into the Catholic calendar. All Saints and All Souls fall one after the other.

The candles burn on for many days after the holiday has passed, so there's still a chance to savour the magic during the first few days of November.

Liz Siwicka

Annual Inter-Community Bonding

The 2nd Annual Inter-Community Bonding recently hosted by Danny & Maribel Favor on Bank Holiday Weekend, 29th to 31st August 2015 at Blackland Farm was attended by more than 80 representatives from at least 12 community groups and organizations from East Grinstead and London areas. This yearly combined event not only promotes unity and friendships but enhances family values, leadership, team building, various skills, and other learning experiences. The whole three-day event was full of fun and learning activities that made their stay at the campsite worthwhile, meaningful, and memorable. The activities included singing, role-playing, games, bonfire with great group's activities, physical and sporting activities such Zumba class each morning, leadership training,



and other lectures for members to reflect and learn. On behalf of the EG Town, Danny & Maribel welcomed and gratefully thanked the organizer and community leaders for holding another very successful, enjoyable, and rewarding event in East Grinstead. They are looking forward for similar events in the near future and hope this will help improve tourism in the town by increasing awareness that East Grinstead has so many beautiful places to offer, share, and worth visiting.

Danny Favor

Anniversary charity dinner, dance & entertainments for good causes

The Filipino British Nurses Extra Care East Grinstead had successfully celebrated its Annual Anniversary Celebration for good causes with Charity Dinner, Dance & Entertainment on Saturday 29th August 2015 at Jubilee Community Centre East Grinstead. This was one of the rewarding charity events that Danny & Maribel Favor and team have organized since this public and charitable club was founded in 2011. The successful and memorable evening was attended



Anniversary charity dinner and dance organized by Danny & Maribel for the benefit of Age UK EG & District and for their Church and school projects of families and school children in difficulties in the Philippines.

and supported by more than 200 guests from various community groups and organizations of East Grinstead and surrounding areas. It was graced by East Grinstead Town Mayor & Mayoress Cllr Dick Sweatman, Chairman of Mid Sussex District Council Cllr & Mrs Peter Reed and Leader of the Town Council Cllr & Mrs Rex Whittaker and team of Councillors. Extra Care Team had raised a total of £2,270.00 for their beneficiaries. £1,270.00 of the fund raised was for Age UK East Grinstead & District and 1,000.00 for their current ongoing public school and church projects for less fortunate families, youth, and elementary school children in the Philippines.

The Extra Care Team would like to extend their sincerest gratitude for the kind-heartedness and generous support extended by everyone involved in making this Anniversary Celebration for good causes a great success, enjoyable and meaningful, This was another achievement that helps make a difference to its beneficiaries, the Age UK East Grinstead & District and their current ongoing projects in the Philippines.

Danny Favor

Mater Salutis College Seminary

Letter from Mater Salutis College Seminary, Daraga, Albay, Philippines

“Dear Kuya Danny, Ate Maribel, FBNECEG Team, Residents of East Grinstead and supporters, Warm greetings to you all and your family from our Seminary Community. We are deeply grateful for your assistance to our formation program. Thank you very much for your generosity and kindness. May God reward your goodness. God bless all of you.”

*Rev. Fr. Frederick Azul Naga,
Director Pre-College Department & Diocesan Vocations Director,
Diocese of Legazpi Mater Salutis College Seminary, Sipi, Daraga,
Albay, Philippines 4501*

The Mater Salutis College Seminary is one of the beneficiaries of the recent charity fundraising event organized by Danny & Maribel Favor and Extracare team. The funds raised go towards the rising costs of the seminary formation and sustainability of the programmes. Seminarians are being prepared in all aspects of formation—human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral, so that they will become philosophically and theologically equipped. Designed programmes included are daily class sessions, academic symposia, spiritual conferences, counselling &



spiritual direction, retreats & recollections, sports & recreation, among others. The aim is to support the seminarians to pursue their vocation to priesthood and to become good and holy priests in the near future. There is no doubt that Catholic Church is in need of more priests; however, funding is needed to help them achieve their aspirations. The Catholic faithful and Christian Community are then encouraged to include with their prayers the seminarians and their formators, and to help out in the formation in every way possible. Again, thank you so much for your kindness and generosity in making this happen. God bless and best wishes for the festive season & year ahead.

Danny Favor

East Grinstead Foodbank

Another year has passed and quite a lot has happened. Some people who will be greatly missed have moved on, but new people have joined; in addition we now have two paid part-time staff. The Foodbank gets great support from the general public, churches, schools, and company organizations, particularly Sainsbury's and Waitrose, who each allow us one collection a year; the latter also allows us a permanent collection point in their store. Lloyds and Barclays Banks both have a supermarket trolley by their counters from time to time, and other local companies make us their charity for the year.

We need all this support, because we are open three times a week at the Jubilee Community Centre, Charlwood's Road, on Monday and Friday 1.00–3.00 and Wednesday 10.00 to 12.00, and at Lingfield Community Centre twice a month. In addition, we supply the Probation Service in Crawley, who issue parcels to men who have just been released from Lewes Prison.

At the moment we are dealing with, on average, 30 referrals a month, and volunteers hear some quite harrowing stories. From our statistics it is clear that over 60% of the problem arises because of delays/changes to peoples' benefits. December will be a busy month, so there will be teams of five people instead of the usual four at JCC. School holidays are when children on free school meals will be at home, and Christmas, as we all know, is an expensive time. There is also a distribution of Christmas hampers to clients who have used the Foodbank in the last year.

We are still seeking new volunteers, so if anyone can spare a couple of hours a month, you are always welcome to join us; full training is given. Further information from info@eastgrinstead.foodbank.org.uk

Patrick Kiley

The Charity Feast

The Charity Feast and the concept of fundraising by eating out locally.

What a year 2015 has been for the charity feast idea and for local charities to raise money by using local restaurants on a normally quiet night of the week (Monday or Tuesday).

Since July there has been a meal each month to November 30 for a variety of charities and of course in October like last year several meals at different local restaurants. October made £2,863.60 and the August meal made £2,000 these 2 being helped by Barclays Bank matching the first £1,000. The others made between £1,000 and £1,500. (about £9,500 total)

Thank you to all who took part and next year the charity feast will be in April and October. The dates in April are Monday, 11 April, Tarana, Lingfield, and Monday, 18 April, La Farola, East Grinstead. For the April one the same four charities will benefit: The East Grinstead Street Pastors, Crawley Open House, Crawley Prison Fellowship, and Age UK East Grinstead.

Why not get some of your friends and associates together closer the time and all go out and have a good time. A good opportunity to see others and for others to get to know people from the churches in the town—and of course to keep raising money for local charities.

Nicolas Castigione

Fairtrade

10th Fairtrade Birthday Party

Fairtrade EG and Fairtrade Lingfield and Dormansland celebrated their 10th birthday on Sunday 19 July in Old Town House Garden in Lingfield, with 65 guests and friends on a lovely sunny afternoon. Deputy Mayor



Going Bananas for Fairtrade! Deputy Mayor of EG, Bob Mainstone, and Councillor Vivien Hepworth, Lingfield Parish Council, joined Paul Pirie, Chair of Fairtrade Lingfield and Dormansland and Sue Joy, Convenor of Fairtrade EG, together with former East Grinstead Town Council Leader, James Baldwin. Elizabeth Philp is the banana.

of East Grinstead, Bob Mainstone, and Councillor Vivien Hepworth, Lingfield Parish Council, joined Paul Pirie, Chair of Fairtrade Lingfield and Dormansland and Sue Joy, Convenor of Fairtrade EG, together with former Leader of East Grinstead Town Leader, James Baldwin, who was responsible for setting up the EG Town Group in 2005 with Ali Hill, and former EG Councillors Ginnie Waddingham and Lee Mamara. Fairtrade wine, scones, strawberries and cream, and a special birthday cake made with Fairtrade ingredients were served and enjoyed by all. Fairtrade is about local people supporting global communities and ensuring that farmers and producers in developing countries receive a fair wages and an additional premium for producing a wide variety of goods which we can buy in local shops and supermarkets.

Building on the last 10 years of promoting Fairtrade in the local community, Fairtrade EG (www.fairtrade-eg.co.uk) will be organizing

a number of events in Fairtrade Fortnight 2016, which runs from 29 February to 13 March. We would like to hear from any Community Groups that would like to take part—local Fairtrade Groups can provide speakers, leaflets, Fairtrade stalls, and help with events. The focus this year is on food security—it’s a sad irony that millions of farmers and workers in the developing world who are feeding the world are going hungry. Buying and using Fairtrade goods means a basic human need can be fulfilled—to put enough food on the table for the people they care about, all year round. So the focus for Fairtrade Groups will be on encouraging Big Fairtrade Breakfasts. Martin Luther King said in his Christmas sermon on peace in 1967 “Before you finish eating Breakfast in the morning, you’ve depended on half the world.” Would you like to have a Fairtrade breakfast event using Fairtrade tea, coffee, hot chocolate, orange, bananas, cereals, chocolate spread, honey, peanut butter, jam? If so, please contact Susan Joy, Fairtrade EG (EG 835190; email: SusanJoy471@hotmail.com), or Chris Vasey, Lingfield and Dormansland Fairtrade Group (EG 834436; email: LDFairtradegrp@aol.com). To obtain a Breakfast Event Pack, please go to www.fairtrade.org.uk/shop

Sue Joy

Fairtrade East Grinstead

Fairtrade EG continues to progress steadily in the Town working with Community Groups, churches and schools. Filipino British Nurses Extra Care East Grinstead also supports our town being one of the 500 towns, boroughs, and villages in the UK recognized by the Fairtrade Foundation, an international movement to reduce poverty in developing countries. Danny & Maribel Favor, the founders and leaders of this team, have also used Fairtrade products for many years since they arrived in the UK. The team would like to encourage everyone to buy Fairtrade products such as tea, coffee, chocolate, sugar, bananas, wine, flowers, nuts, etc. and support EG Fairtrade activities in bringing about positive change and make a difference to the lives of farmers and workers in most poverty-stricken areas worldwide.

Danny Favor

Refugee Tales

1,500 people enjoyed free Refugee Tales evening events across Kent, Surrey, and Sussex, culminating in a celebration of Refugee Week at the Hawth Theatre, where Baroness Shirley Williams stated her support for an end to indefinite detention. Yasmin Alibhai-Brown was the Host for the evening with music from award winning folk band “The Young ‘Uns” and readings of new work describing the refugee and detainee experience shared by Ali Smith, Patience Agbabi, David Herd, and Dragan Todorovic.

The Hawth event was the finale of a walk across 80 miles from Dover to Crawley via Canterbury, reflecting on the experience of those who seek sanctuary in the UK. 39 core walkers who undertook the full nine days were joined by 400 additional day walkers, and all enjoyed talks from experts such as writer Iain Sinclair, Canadian poet Stephen Collis, and naturalist Ben Stammers along the way. Highlights included the Refugee Tales event in Canterbury hosted by Niamh Cusack, John Hegley performing in Knockholt Village Hall, and Ali Smith reading “The Detainees’ Tale” in Charing Church Barn to an audience spilling out onto the grass outside and visibly moved by her affecting Tale.

Hospitality and welcome were given to the walkers in East Grinstead courtesy of East Grinstead Town Council at East Court Mansion. Mayor Dick Sweatman welcomed the walkers, while a buffet lunch provided by the East Grinstead Justice and Peace Group was being eaten on the terrace with its fabulous view over The Weald. The EGJPG has long supported the work of Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group, providing clothes, trainers, and cases/bags for individual detainees, with some



Group members being visitors/befrienders at Tinsley House and Brook House, immigration detention centres near Gatwick Airport. Further information about the work of GDWG is obtainable online (www.gdwg.org.uk) or by telephone (01293 657070).

Sue Joy

Lives remembered

Chaplain in Colditz: Father Cyril P. Scarborough

The late Father Scarborough (RIP) spent the last years of his remarkable life in East Grinstead as a retired priest assisting the parish priest at Our Lady and St Peters often celebrating the Sunday evening Mass. The homilies were always thoughtful, delivered with the light touch and ease of a chap who knew his business.

The Reverend Cyril Scarborough had served as chaplain with the 4th Bn Royal Sussex Regt in GB and France and was taken prisoner at Dunkirk in June 1940. He was offered a place on a boat to England, but he declined, considering it his duty to stay with the soldiers who could not be evacuated. The consequences of his decision were profound, and he spent the next 5 years in prisoner of war camps in Germany.

He was the Roman Catholic chaplain in Laufen, Tittmoning, and Berlin, before spending the last 18 months of the war in Colditz. During his time in Berlin, on Sundays he went to POW camps with an armed escort, to say Mass for prisoners, dressed in his British army uniform complete with clerical collar; astonished Berliners stared at him everywhere he went.

Following his release in April 1945 he returned to England, and after some years,



**Cyril P.
Scarborough**

1905 - 1985

Ordained July 31st, 1932

Died 24th May, 1985

MAY HE REST IN PEACE

became parish priest at the Church of the Sacred Heart Caterham. During this time he was officiating chaplain to the Irish Guards at Caterham barracks, until they were replaced by the Coldstream guards in 1973. Father Scarborough was interviewed in 1981, and for those who would like to hear the tapes, these can be found on the web by calling up his full name "Cyril Praxedes Scarborough".

This prayer is known to have been a favourite of Fr Scarborough's:

Keep us, O Lord, from all Pettiness:
let us be large in thought, word and deed.
Let us be done with all fault-finding
and leave off all self-seeking.
May we put away all pretence and
meet each other face to face,
without self-pity and without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgement
and always generous.
Let us take the time for all things and
make us grow calm, serene and gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better
impulses, straight forward and unafraid.
And, O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind.

Amen

Cyril Scarborough died on 24 May 1985, and in a final tribute at his funeral Mass a piper from the Irish Guards played a lament. May he Rest in Peace and rise in Glory.

Liam Cherry

A prayer by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945) was a German Lutheran pastor, theologian, anti-Nazi dissident. As a result of his staunch resistance to the Nazi dictatorship, including vocal opposition to Hitler's euthanasia programme and genocidal persecution of the Jews, he was arrested by the Gestapo in 1943, imprisoned, transferred to a Nazi concentration

camp, tried, and executed by hanging in 1945, just two weeks before the US Force arrived at the camp.

I Cannot Do This Alone

O God, early in the morning I cry to you.
Help me to pray
And to concentrate my thoughts on you:
I cannot do this alone.
In me there is darkness,
But with you there is light;
I am lonely, but you do not leave me;
I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help;
I am restless, but with you there is peace.
In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience;
I do not understand your ways,
But you know the way for me . . .
Restore me to liberty,
And enable me to live now
That I may answer before you and before me.
Lord, whatever this day may bring,
Your name be praised.

Amen

submitted by Mary Barham

A Memory from 1940 in Lingfield: *Silent Night*

*Cyril Bridgland (deceased)
Cyril was a parishioner of St Bernard's, Lingfield*

The Church is now built, a wooden hut, or that is what it looked like. It looked different from the hut beside the Greyhound where we used to go. Now we have our own church, the year 1940; me, I am eight.

"This is a special day", my Mother said, "We are going to Mass in the new church for the first time, so behave yourself." We arrived and went in, lots of chairs in rows on both sides with a path up the middle, and

the Altar at the top. We sat at the back—my Mum didn't trust me. Mass started, I couldn't see much. I couldn't understand what was said, because they didn't talk like me or my Mum. I got a poke, and was given a rosary and started to say it.

When Mass ended, Father said we were going to have a party. The doors were closed across the Altar and tables were brought out, cakes and tea put on them, and we all sat down and had a party. I went to Mass the next Sunday looking forward to the party: there wasn't one!

Christmas came, the church was full, special chairs for the German Prisoners of War with their guards. We didn't like them, they came from the race-course, which was a Prisoner of War Camp. No one talked or looked at them.

Mass started, and at the Offertory these men started to sing "Silent Night, Holy Night" in German. I had never heard it before, we didn't sing anything that was German at school. It was the most beautiful singing I have ever heard before or since. We all turned to look, a lot with tears in their eyes. Because of Christmas, hatred went out of the door and love came in.

*Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
Nur das traute; hochheilige Paar,
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.*

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

submitted by Margaret Vasey

Christmas Day The Feast of the Nativity 25th December

Behold a virgin shall be with child
and shall bring forth a son and
they shall call his name Emmanuel
which being translated is "God is with us."

So the Christ child born in a stable
For there was no room at the inn
Came to life surrounded by love
Sent by God to fight mortal sin.

Across the desert came ancient Kings
While shepherds followed an angel's wings
All were gathering from near and far
Guided to the infant by the brightest star.

In this moment of blinding light
Mary bore a child who as time went by
Would preach the faith to all around
Spreading hope throughout the land.

Tired from the journey and exhausted by birth
Mary placed the child upon her breast
And suckling her son for the very first time
Knew in her heart she was truly blessed.

In common with mothers everywhere
Mary's love and compassion burned like fire
Each child is special, each child is rare
Such wonderful innocence we all desire.

Jesus would learn and then go forth
To complete his mission through life to death
In adversity he would prove his worth
Holding the faith to his dying breath.

What now do we talk of here?
A man who preached a way of life
Morals and faith blended together
Brought to us by Mary's son.

Faith will help us stay the path
Hope guide us in adversity
Charity will lift our hearts
But love is the core of humanity.

David Tas

I wish you enough

When a tearful old man said goodbye to his daughter at an airport, he was overheard to say, "I love you enough". A passer-by heard this and asked exactly what he meant.

It transpired he was dying and she lived far away, so the next time they met would be at his funeral. As if from memory, the old man then recited seven things which can be summarized as follows:

I wish you *enough* . . .

- – *sun* to keep your attitude bright, no matter how grey the day.
- – *rain* to appreciate the sun even more.
- – *happiness* to keep your spirit alive.
- – *pain* so that even the smallest of joys appear bigger.
- – *gain* to satisfy your wants.
- – *loss* to appreciate all you possess.
- – *hellos* to get you through the final goodbye.

submitted by Sue Wade

Himself at the pub

Paddy had been drinking at his local Dublin pub all day and most of the night celebrating St Patrick's Day. Mick, the bartender says, "You'll not be drinking anymore tonight, Paddy". Paddy replies, "OK Mick, I'll be on my way then". Paddy spins around on his stool and steps off. He falls flat on his face. "Damn" he says and pulls himself up by the stool and dusts himself off. He takes a step towards the door and falls flat on his face, "Damn, Damn!" He looks to the doorway and thinks to himself that if he can just get to the door and some fresh air he'll be fine. He belly crawls to the door and shimmies up to the door frame. He sticks his head outside and takes a deep breath of fresh air, feels much better and takes a step out onto the sidewalk and falls flat on his face.

"BeJeebers" ... I'm a little crocked", he says. He can see his house just a few doors down and crawls to the door, hauls himself up the door frame, opens the door and shimmies inside. He takes a look up the stairs and says "No damn' way". He crawls up the stairs to his bedroom door and says "I can make it to the bed". He takes a step into the room and falls flat on his face. He says "Damn it" and falls into bed. The next morning, his wife, Jess, comes into the room carrying a cup of

coffee and says, "Get up Paddy. Did you have a bit to drink last night?" Paddy says, "I did, Jess. I was really crocked. But how d'you know?" "Mick phoned . . . you left your wheelchair at the pub."

submitted by Patrick Kiley

Social Media

Daughter: "Daddy, I am coming home to get married so please get your cheque book out. Although I live in England, I'm in love with a boy in Australia whom I met on a dating website. We became friends on Facebook and had long chats on WhatsApp. He proposed to me on Skype and now we've had two months of relationship through Viber. I need your blessing and a big wedding."

Dad: "Wow! Really! Then get married on Twitter, have fun on Tango, buy your kids on Amazon and pay through PayPal. Remember, if you get fed up with your future husband you can always sell him on eBay!"

submitted by Sue Wade

Mealtime in the fifties

Pasta had not been invented. It was macaroni or spaghetti.

Curry was a surname.

A take-away was a mathematical problem.

Pizza? Sounds like a leaning tower somewhere.

Bananas and oranges only appeared at Christmas time.

All chips were plain.

Rice was a milk pudding, and never, ever part of our dinner (unless you grew up in the deep South of the USA)

A Big Mac was what we wore when it was raining.

Brown bread was something only poor people ate.

Oil was for lubricating, fat was for cooking.

Tea was made in a teapot using tea leaves, and *was* never green.

Cubed sugar was regarded as posh.

Chickens didn't have fingers in those days.

None of us had ever heard of yogurt (unless you lived in the country, but it was called clabber)

Healthy food consisted of anything edible.

Cooking outside was called camping.

Seaweed was not a recognized food.

'Kebab' was not even a word, never mind a food.

Sugar enjoyed a good press in those days, and was regarded as being white gold.

Prunes were medicinal.

Surprisingly muesli was readily available. It was called cattle feed.

Pineapples came in chunks in a tin; we had only ever seen a picture of a real one.

Water came out of the tap. If someone had suggested bottling it and charging more than petrol for it they would have become a laughing stock.

And, things that we never ever had on or at our table in the fifties . . . were hats, mobile phones—and elbows!

submitted by Pat Kiley



. . . and spam was something you relished, not swore at!

Parish Organizations East Grinstead

Altar Society: Flowers – Margaret Pond [01342 327002]

Catholic Women's League: meetings second Wednesday of the month,
October to March: 2.30 p.m., April to September: 6.00 p.m.
Brenda Crannigan [01342 328110]

Children's Liturgy: at the 10.30 Mass on Sundays,
Parish Catechists: Eileen Lyons [01342 317424]

Choir: practice 6:30 pm Friday at the church,
extra practices (e.g. major feasts) will be announced,
Director of Music: Liam Bauress [01342 825035]

Christian meditation group: Thursdays, 4.30 p.m., term-time
Gabrielle Joyce [01342 326118]

Crown of Thorns: Lisa de Quay [01342 870472]
www.crownofthorns.org.uk

East Grinstead Catenian Circle: President: Bill Blackledge [01342 317599]

Friends of St Peter's: Sara Vaughan [contact school: 01342 321985]

Gift Aid Secretary: Frank Lilley [01342 321987]

Gospel of Life Group: Les Whittaker [01342 315484]

Guild of St Stephen: Jim Fitzpatrick [01342 317177]

Justice and Peace Group: Sue Joy [01342 835190]

Lifts to Mass: Peter Wells [07851938727]

Lunch Club: third Wednesday of the month,
at the Parish Centre, East Grinstead
Ivy Pimenta [01342 323240]

Parish Magazine: Klara King [01342 321581]
klara.m.king@comcrafts.co.uk

Readers at Mass: Sue Wade [01342 317246]

Saint Vincent de Paul Society: Peter Wells [01342 811543]

Welcomers: Maribel Favor
[for copy of rota: maribelfavor@gmail.com].

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.

