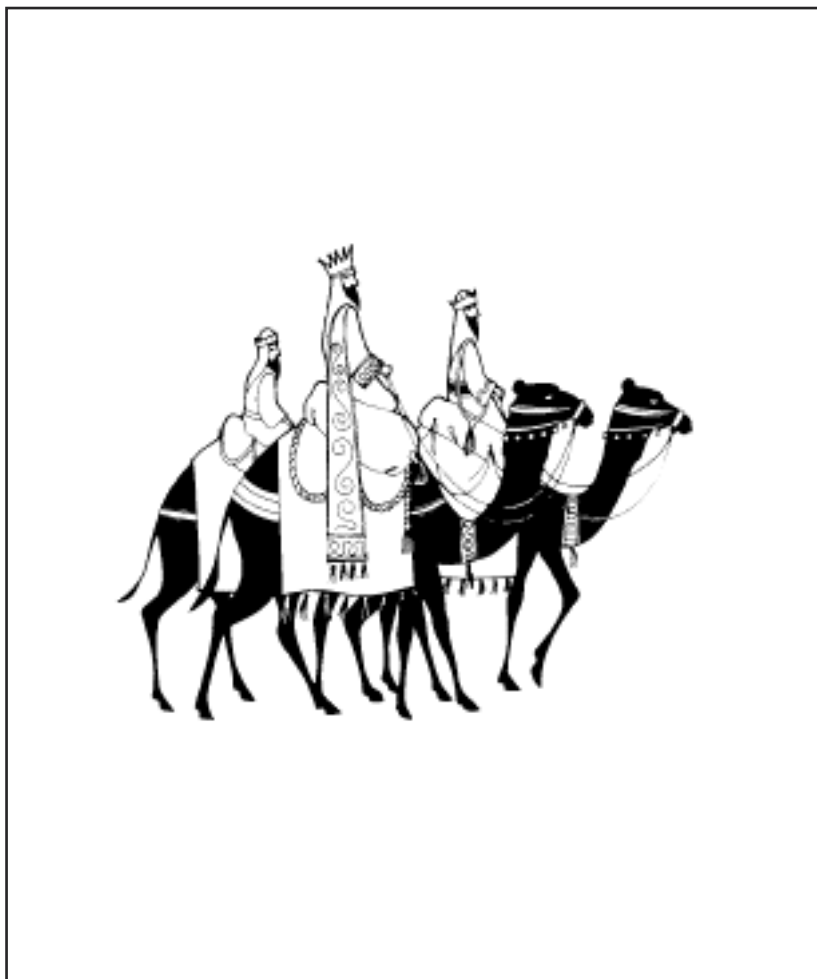


The Parish Proclaimer

Advent 2011



Cathedral Parish of Our Lady & St. Philip Howard,

Arundel, West Sussex

Published in November 2011

All about the Parish

Rev. Canon Tim Madeley - Dean

Rev. Mr. David Clifton - Deacon

Louise Sharp - Parish Secretary*

Cathedral House, Parsons Hill, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9AY

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* The Parish Office is open 9am – 1pm, Monday – Friday

MASS TIMES AT THE CATHEDRAL

Sunday	9.30am	Family Mass on the third Sunday of the month; Children's Liturgy available other Sundays.
	11.15am	Cathedral Choir.
Weekdays	10am	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Saturday: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass.
Saturday	11am	Benediction.

MASS TIMES AT THE CONVENT OF THE POOR CLARES, CROSSBUSH

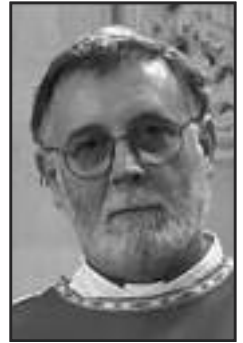
Saturday	5.30pm	Vespers.
	6.15pm	Vigil Mass (entry at 6pm).
Sunday	4pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
	5pm	Vespers and Benediction.
Thursday	8.30am	Mass - <i>for Mass times on other weekdays please call the Convent the night before on 01903 882 536.</i>

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday	Cathedral:	10.30am otherwise by appointment.
	Convent :	Before/after the Saturday 6.15pm Mass.



A Reflection on
 Advent
 by
 Deacon David



Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year so the season of Advent is as long as it can possibly be, lasting for a full four weeks – some extra time not only for shopping but also to prepare ourselves spiritually for the great feast of the Incarnation. The whole of the Old Testament is an unfolding of God's plan of redemption leading up to the Incarnation, the birth of the Messiah, the Redeemer, so it is instructive to look at the Old Testament readings for the Sundays of Advent. Meditating on these, however briefly, would make a very good preparation for Christmas.

The Old Testament Readings for the first three Sundays are taken from the prophet Isaiah. The first two speak in different ways about the presence of God among his people. On the first Sunday we hear how his presence guides and forms us like clay in the hands of a potter. On the second Sunday Isaiah almost seems to break into song with his exultant poem in which he visualises another 'Exodus' – a journey from slavery to freedom. But this time instead of wandering about in the wilderness without any clear idea where they are going, the people will make a triumphant march on a straight path cleared of all obstacles, because God will be with them. They are confident and joyful.

Continued overleaf...

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ARTICLES FOR THE **LENT ISSUE** OF THE PARISH PROCLAIMER:
26 January 2012

Email your written piece and photos to clouter@mac.com
 or post to Cathedral House, Parsons Hill, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 9AY

On the third Sunday we have another poem, still confident and joyful, but more measured and calm. This is a prophecy of the Messiah, describing the freedom and integrity that his age will bring. It is this text which Jesus will use (Lk 4: 16-21) to introduce his public ministry and claim the title Messiah.

On the fourth Sunday the reading is from the second Book of Samuel. It makes a play on the word 'house', using it in the sense both of 'dwelling' and also of 'dynasty'. King David is prevented from building God a house (a temple). Instead he is promised that his house will last forever – another prophecy of the Messiah, who will be a descendent of David.

It is our privilege and joy to live in this 'Messianic Age'. God did, indeed, come to dwell with us in the person of Jesus. And he still remains with us in his spirit-filled Church.

This is what we celebrate at Christmas. We rejoice at God's deep and personal involvement with us. 'God so loved the world ...' (Jn 3: 16). Amid all the tinsel and presents, the rich food and drink, it would be good to remember to thank God for his goodness to us, and try to make our involvement with him more deep and personal. Have a prayerful Advent and a Happy Christmas. All good wishes from Canon Tim, Louise and myself.

+++++

Au revoir, Father Malcolm!



Father Malcolm has left the deanery to take up the post of Catholic Chaplain to Morden College - a retirement complex - in Blackheath, South London. We all enjoyed his stay with us and wish him the very best in his new role. For the time being there will no longer be 10am Mass on Mondays at the Cathedral but there is the 8.30am Mass in the Poor Clares Convent.

Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham

By Ruth Johnston

It was 1 June 2011 and the calling of “8am sharp at the Cathedral” spoken in Father Malcolm’s best military voice, so we all dutifully fell in by 8am and hadn’t very long to wait for the coach coming from Chichester. It was already very full of pilgrims from St. Richards and it took a little time for everyone to find seats, but then we were off via Pease Pottage to pick up the Bishop (or so we thought). We stopped there for a comfort break, then onward minus Bishop (who was busy but promised to be in Walsingham by 9pm). Stopped for lunch at a delightful spot called Burford Mills and sat by the river and ate our packed lunches, or in the café, before carrying on with our journey, arriving in Walsingham about 2.30pm.

The weather was beautiful and we sat in the garden at the Catholic shrine and said the Rosary before moving into the Chapel of Reconciliation for the adoration and evening prayer. Then back into the coach to drive the miles into the Walsingham – a charming, mainly 15th century town with street names to match – Friday Market Place, Common Place, Knight Street, to name but a few. The coach could only go as far as Friday Market Place, where the Catholic accommodation is, as the streets are so narrow. Those of us staying in the Anglican accommodation walked through the town to our rooms in the shrine complex. We all joined together for supper in the Anglican refectory and got to know each other a little better before walking to the Church of the Annunciation by the Catholic accommodation for the Pilgrim Service taken by the Shrine Director, Fr. Williams, a very charming man, after which several of us retired to the pub in true pilgrim fashion!

After a good night’s sleep in very comfortable beds, breakfast and morning prayer in our respective accommodations, we all met by the Church of the Annunciation to proceed with the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham along a path made from the old railway track, to the Catholic shrine, singing hymns along the way, a truly wonderful and uplifting experience.

On arriving at the shrine, Fr. Malcolm led us in a prayerful and thought-provoking “Stations of the Cross” in the garden around the 14 oak crosses carried in the great cross-carrying pilgrimage of 1,948 from all parts of the country. Although Bishop Kieran was not there to hear confessions, he did arrive in time for the Pilgrim Mass at mid-day, as the Bishop was the main celebrant and homily-giver, though I’m sure Fr. Malcolm would have been a great substitute with a Plan B (although he swore

there was no Plan B!!). We were all provided with a scrummy packed lunch from the tea rooms at the shrine, which most of us ate together in the picnic garden there and had the opportunity to visit the shop and other facilities! The afternoon was then free until 5pm. The coach driver, Mike, was a great chap and also a Catholic, so joined us in all our celebrations, nothing was too much trouble. He offered to take the coach to Wells-Next-The-Sea, which offer several people took up. Some went on the small steam train that ran the 4 miles from Walsingham to Wells-Next-The-Sea and back. Some rested from quite an action-packed few days. Some took the chance for quiet reflection, or a tour of the town, or a chance just to sit in the Holy House. Margaret and I had a cup of tea in our comfortable residence and then went to see the ruins of Walsingham Priory built c.1150 by the Augustinian Canons, the site of the original shrine and its Holy wells, all being destroyed in the Reformation by Henry VIII, entrance to which was through the Shire Hall Museum – that in itself being very interesting, built in the 16th century and used as a hostel for important visitors. In the 1770s it was converted into the Shire Hall for the Norfolk Quarter Sessions. The original court room and holding cell still there untouched with the Coat of Arms of George III above the judge's chair. The grounds of the Priory were extensive and beautiful and we wished we had more time to walk around them – a good excuse for another visit to Walsingham (as if one were needed!).

We all came together again for the Sacrament of the Sick in the Church of the Annunciation, taken by Fr. Malcolm. After another excellent supper together in the Anglican refectory we all met outside the same church again for a nice torchlight procession to the Anglican shrine, carrying our candles high and all singing “Immaculate Mary” with gusto. There we were met by Bishop Lindsay (Emeritus of Horsham), who gave an informative and entertaining talk about the history of the shrine and the discovery of the Saxon well, found when building the church and replica of the Holy House in 1930. We then all went to the well and Bishop Lindsay and Fr. Malcolm gave us the water in the three traditional ways:

- A sip to drink: we offer prayers for healing and receive refreshment;
- The sign of the Cross on forehead: reminds us of our baptism & God's love for us.
- Poured into our cupped hands: we offer ourselves to God.
- The priest says: May Almighty God at the intercession of Our Lady of Walsingham grant you health and peace.

After the service, the Bishop and Fr. Malcolm had quite a long chat, renewing their friendships.

Our last morning, after breakfast and morning prayer, we took our luggage to the coach, parked outside the Catholic refuge and drove to the Catholic shrine for Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation and after collecting another excellent packed lunch from the tea rooms, set out on our journey home - after some delay, owing to a missing person who thought she had lost her purse and returned to the Slipper Chapel in search of it. Eventually, not finding it, she had been driven by Maria (our organiser) in her car to the person's accommodation in town, where it was found under her mattress!! We had to drive back into Walsingham to collect her, but 'all's well that ends well!' Traffic was very heavy and roadworks seemed to have sprung up everywhere since we had set out on Wednesday but with two comfort breaks, our amazing driver still managed to get us back to Arundel by our target time of 6pm.

What a wonderful three days we shared together - a joyful, prayerful and fun-filled time, to be treasured for a long while to come. We extend our warm thanks to the wonderful and leadership of Fr. Malcolm, the truly efficient organisation of Maria Whitehouse and our great and helpful driver, Mike, of Woods Coaches.

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Convent of the Poor Clares

A poem by Ray Weatherley



Background: Sister Gabriel, Foreground: Sisters Ælred (left) and Clare (right)

The convents of the order of Poor Saint Clare,
where nuns live in the shadow of that loving pair,
Saint Francis and their patron, who set the trend,
into the path of righteousness, is a life they spend.

To attend a daily Mass, always a great wish,
for this they may need help from the local parish.

To attend such a Mass is a sumptuous feast
of beautiful singing, smiling faces and a happy priest.

In many countries Poor Clare convents are found,
following the principles on which they are bound,
to helping the destitute poor improve their lives,
by showing them Christ's way and the reason He dies.

They take in gifts in the spirit of the founder saints,
and in return show love and kindness with no restraints.

Under the eyes of God they may become old and frail,
but the fellow sisters are there and never fail
to provide food and comfort in the hour of need,
as this has always been Clare's faithful creed.

At all times they greet those who come to the door,
with kind words and a smile, who could want more?

Saint Francis and Saint Clare must be a proud pair,
to know their ways are followed with such a great care.

Festival of Kings

By Lulu Willis

Last year Arundel Cathedral held an 'Angel Festival' where groups in and around our community were invited to make an exhibit on the theme of Angels for display in the Cathedral over the Advent/Christmas period.

The results were amazing and the Cathedral looked even more delightful over this period. Many schools, parishes, and community groups were involved and the enthusiasm of those that took part was wonderful.

This is also an opportunity to show the various groups that make up our community and demonstrate the good work that we all do.

This year we will be hosting another festival on the theme of the three kings, or wise men, and we would like to invite your organisation to take part in this over the period 17 December - 8 January. If you would like to know more in the meantime, please ring Lulu Willis, Festival Co-ordinator, on 01903 884055 (after 4pm).

+++++

Comedy with the Clergy

Two teenagers were coming out of church, one Sunday following the morning service and one, Joe, introduced his cousin, Alfie, to the priest.

"Haven't I seen you before?" the priest asked Alfie. "Probably," the young lad replies as he shook the hand of the priest.

Well, perhaps you need to join the Army of our Lord!' the priest replied. "I am already in the Army of the Lord," Alfie answered, watching Joe talking to the deacon a little further away.

"How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" the priest continued. Alfie whispered back, "I'm in the secret service."

Parish People: Wendy & Brian Rimmer

By Colin Swanton



“We did what many people dream about - took early retirement, sold our house, bought a yacht and sailed off into the sunset!” said Brian when I visited the couple just after their Golden Wedding anniversary on 9 September this year.

Wendy was born in Perth, Scotland, but was brought up in Edinburgh where, although not Catholic, she attended school at St. Margaret’s Convent, run by nuns from the Ursulines of Jesus. This is where she first encountered the Catholic faith which, she says, has stayed with her ever since. In 1952, her family moved to Southport, Lancashire.

Brian was born and brought up in Southport and first met Wendy at school, when they were young teenagers. They both left school at the age of fifteen and started their respective careers. Brian became a police cadet and Wendy a cadet nurse, and, in 1961, she qualified as a State Registered Nurse. Three years after they left school they met again at a dance when they were both eighteen and just before Brian joined the military police where he served for three years at Colchester in Essex, then a large military base. They married just after Brian was demobbed at the age of 20. The couple first settled in Southport, where Brian joined the police service and Wendy became theatre sister at Southport General Infirmary.

It was during this time that they were blessed with the birth of two boys, David and Peter. David now lives in Hertfordshire but Peter was tragically killed when he was knocked down by a motor vehicle at the age of 29.

Continued on page 13

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They moved from Lancashire to Hertfordshire on St. Patrick's Day in 1975 when Brian was promoted to Sergeant Dog Handler. They lived for 17 years at Brookmans Park, just north of Potters Bar. Wendy was theatre sister and then worked for a while at King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers in London.

Brian and Wendy bought their Contessa 32ft yacht 'British Tiger' in the early 1990s, and being Yachtmasters they sailed round Britain in 1992, before joining the RORC Two-handed Transatlantic Yacht Race, from Plymouth to Newport, Rhode Island, in 1994. Starting on 5 June, the voyage took them 45 days, as their yacht was the smallest and the slowest in the race. Only 10 out of the 18 starters finished – the starters included Steve Fossett in a large trimaran who was to fail when his mast broke less than 48 hours after the start of the race when they ran into bad weather. Whilst this race was for two people per yacht they did increase their numbers to three by taking their Jack Russell dog, Lucy, suitably attired!

Once in America the Rimmers sailed down the East Coast, going from port to port before reaching Melbourne in Florida. During this journey they made many friends including a couple from New York who offered them use of a dock in Melbourne, which they made their base. In 1996, they received the devastating news of their son Peter's accident. It was this personal tragedy that was instrumental in Wendy and Brian becoming Catholic. At this time they became friends with a Catholic lady who introduced them to the Catholic Church. Wendy said that this was what saved them from falling into despair following the death of their son. They realised that they now both wanted to become Catholic and were received into the church during the Easter Vigil service in 1997 at the church of Our Lady of Lourdes in Melbourne, Florida.

In 2003, when their US visas ran out, they sold the yacht and returned to England to live in Southport. Six months later they moved to Yorkshire and in 2006 to retired police housing in Yapton. They now live in Tau Cottage in Crossbush, where they took up residence in 2009. It was from Yapton that they first attended services at the Cathedral and have since become involved in a number of ways. Brian does sacristan duties as well as being a server at Mass. They both are members of Monica Clifton's Music Group as well as acting as cantors at Mass on occasions.

They decided to spend their Golden Wedding alone and quietly at a first-class hotel on the Isle of Wight. As you can see from the photograph, they celebrated in style with Champagne - and Brian presented Wendy with a bouquet of fifty red roses to mark the occasion.

Letter from Rome ~ my time in San Giovanni

By *Tristan Cranfield*



L - R [standing] Antonio (seminarian), Franco, Mike (seminarian), Ryan (seminarian), Maria-Christina, Andrea, me [sitting] Catarina, Giovanni, Francesca, Anna

It was always going to be a particularly trying mission: a month in Tuscany, living with a family to learn Italian, but someone had to do it. After a sweltering night at the Venerable English College in a Rome largely deserted during the summer months by discerning locals, I arrived at San Giovanni Valdarno along with the other new seminarians in the late afternoon, on a stopping train bound for nearby Florence.

San Giovanni turned out to be a town roughly the size of Littlehampton, but instead of boasting a “Look and Sea” Centre and a Peacocks, it has a piazza surrounding a medieval town hall, flanked by a basilica and several old churches. The Basilica marks the site of an event known as *il Miracolo del Latte* – the “Miracle of the Milk”.

In the year 1478, the town found itself ravaged by the plague. A certain baby boy had lost his parents and no young woman was left in the town able to feed him. The boy’s grandmother, *Monna Tancia*, took him to the fresco of the Virgin and Child that adorned the town’s gate tower and prayed for help, a petition which resulted in her producing milk despite her great age, thus saving the child from starvation. We were able to join the local parish every evening for Mass in the Basilica at the altar,

Continued on page 16



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which now stands below the miraculous image as well as in the neighbouring church.

Two of the leading lights of the parish are Anna and Franco Frosali, and they became the hosts for me and two of my brother seminarians. Every evening, Anna would lay out a sumptuous meal, complete with antipasto, pasta and main course, washed down with plenty of red wine. Accordingly, we made a resolution not to eat too much at lunchtime in anticipation, but inevitably succumbed to a lazy set meal on the piazza, just the thing to unwind after the four hours of intensive Italian lessons at the local language school which occupied the mornings!

The assistant priest of the parish, Don Ricardo, did his best to make us feel welcome in the parish, as did many of the regular Mass-goers. Part of this welcome involved taking part in an intriguingly named “Festival of Forgiveness and Lanterns”, a three-week long affair culminating in a slap-up four course meal for 400 parishioners in the parish centre under the basilica, followed by a firework display on the banks of the river Arno.

The week before, my housemates and I took part in a special annual pumpkin sculpting contest – the sort of thing children might do for Halloween in England, but which they do to commemorate Our Lady’s Birthday in Tuscany. Our vegetal masterpiece was created by carving the shape of the Earth’s landmass into the pumpkin’s skin and then colouring in the oceans with blue poster paint, forming a convincing representation of the globe - see my photo on the next page!

The contest is taken extremely seriously by the locals. What started as a bit of a joke soon turned into an earnest effort, and before long we found ourselves on stage in the main piazza in front of the whole town with Giovanni, Anna and Franco's grandson, hoping that the judges wouldn't ask us any questions. Sadly, we didn't win – but Giovanni did go home with a medal for taking part.

Back in Rome, we're all concentrating now on getting ourselves acquainted with life in the College and preparing for the start of year Retreat. However, San Giovanni has provided me with plenty of fond memories and I'm sure I'll be back there someday to reminisce.



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Friends of Arundel Cathedral (FAC) Update

Exciting news announced at the AGM in October – thanks to past and present members, and careful husbandry of their funds, the Council of the FAC has been able to respond to an appeal for help from the Diocese by matching an extraordinary grant of £150,000 towards renewal of the Fleche. The FAC has pledged a further £150,000 towards urgent repair and refurbishment of St. Mary's Hall!

Both grants are very much in line with the objectives of the FAC which include support of the Diocese in maintaining the fabric and beauty of Cathedral properties. Anyone wishing to consider joining the FAC will find a leaflet on the noticeboard in the Cathedral.

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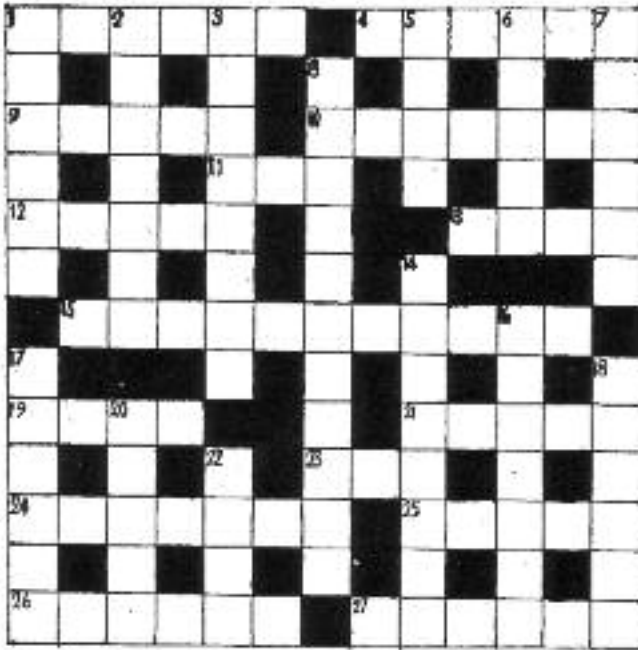
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Proclaimer Crossword Puzzle 15

By Chris Dinham



CLUES ACROSS

- 1) Peace & quiet; serenity (6)
- 4) Expand; take up further space (6)
- 9) Genuflect; curtsey (5)
- 10) Aperture or perforation (7)
- 11) Pub or small hotel (3)
- 12) Made dust-free; cleared away the dirt (5)
- 13) Line along a fabric, mostly made by stitching (4)
- 15) 'Yes, tree tops' (anag.) (11)
- 19) Trick or subterfuge (4)
- 21) Enclosure or platform for contests or sport (5)
- 23) Verge; border; edge (3)
- 24) Do better than; excel; transcend (7)
- 25) Colourless gas also known as trioxygen (5)
- 26) Long metal pin to hold oven meat-joints together (6)
- 27) Take your choice (6)

CLUES DOWN

- 1) Breezy with a devil-may-care attitude (6)
- 2) Senior school pupil who may help to maintain discipline (7)
- 3) On one's own (8)
- 5) Bucket (4)
- 6) Deport; banishment (5)
- 7) Musing; half-asleep (6)
- 8) Argument, squabble or dispute (11)
- 14) "Rosy came" (anag.) with a tree? (8)
- 16) Atrocity; hideous to be seen (7)
- 17) Major problem; emergency (6)
- 18) Most recent (6)
- 20) An action needed in playing tennis (5)
- 22) Come to and open your eyes (4)

Anne Dacre

By Ian Caws

Beneath this flagstone which I cannot move.
Is a vault in which there lies Anne Dacre,
Who carried a faith quietly with love,
Who, in the dark, had her light to flicker.
Who never dazzled but still keeps a flame
In this bleak chapel, whose muted colours
Caught sunlight then and now in a stone tomb,
Absorbs warmth from what were seen as failures.

Who desired no attention, no applause,
Counted a faithless husband in her lot,
Children for whom things rattled then worked loose
And left Anne Dacre in the fading light.
What must have been her loneliness who knew
Love to be the most durable in life?
What secret is she keeping even now
Beneath this flagstone which I cannot move?

Who had an essence that was beautiful,
Who cloaked herself in silence on cold nights.
Who had trust like Anne Dacre? Who could call
A melody from such disparate notes?
People on the road pass by unaware
That the radiant anonymity
Of a death returned home once and is here,
Far from the court which scorned her piety.

Remember Anne Dacre, her quietness,
Take from her life its truth and how it hid.
Remember Anne Dacre and the greatness
Of the spirit God gave her and be glad.

Anne Dacre, wife of St. Philip Howard, died in 1631 and was buried
in the Fitzalan Chapel, Arundel Castle.



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The Patriarchal Basilicas of Rome 2

By Ian Fricker



Dedicated to John the Baptist and John the Evangelist, the Basilica of Saint John Lateran (Basilica di San Giovanni in Laterano) is the first among the four major basilicas of Rome. Its rank is head and mother of all churches, including St. Peter's and as such is the only Archbasilica in Rome. The official dedication is *Archbasilica Sanctissimi Salvatoris et Sanctorum Iohannes Baptista et Evangelista in Laterano*, which translates as: Archbasilica of the Most Holy Saviour and Saints John the Baptist and the Evangelist at the Lateran.

It is also the Cathedral of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope, and is thus known as *Omnium urbis et orbis Ecclesiarum Mater et Caput*: 'Cathedral of Rome and of the World'. Although technically in Rome, and thus in the Italian Republic, it has been granted special extra-territorial status as property of The Holy See. It is the seat of the Pope, and when he goes out for the first time after his Coronation, he goes to St. John's to take possession of it.

Built by Constantine the Great in the 4th century, San Giovanni in Laterano was the first church to be built in Rome. In ancient times, the site of San Giovanni Laterano was occupied by the palace of the noble family of the Laterani. Their 1st century mansion has been located below the nave of the church. In the 2nd century, the mansion was replaced by the barracks of the mounted Imperial Guard. On the pretext that the Imperial Guard had fought on the side of Maxentius at the Battle of Milvian Bridge (312), Constantine razed the barracks and filled in the basement to form a foundation for a church that was to be the Cathedral of Rome.

The Lateran Palace next to the barracks came into the hands of Constantine as a dowry of his second wife Fausta, sister of Maxentius. This was used in 313 for the First Lateran Council, a church council that condemned the Donatist schism.

The Cathedral was dedicated to the Saviour on 9 November, 318. It was embellished with beautiful decorations given by Constantine, including seven silver altars with seven gilded candlesticks inlaid with images of prophets; 111 chandeliers and gold foil for the apse vault. Constantine also built the baptistry on the north western corner of the church, which still survives in its original form.

From the fifth century there were seven oratories surrounding the basilica. Before long these were incorporated into the church. The devotion of visiting these oratories, which held its ground all through the medieval period, gave rise to the similar devotion of the seven altars, still common in many churches of Rome and elsewhere.

In the 10th century, Pope Sergius III (904-911) added John the Baptist to the basilica's dedication, and in the 12th century, Pope Lucius II (1144-1145) added John the Evangelist.

A Benedictine monastery of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist adjoined the basilica and its members were charged with the duty of maintaining the services in the church for a period of time.

A great many donations from the popes and other benefactors to the basilica are recorded in the *Liber Pontificalis*, and its splendour at an early period was such that it became known as the 'Basilica Aurea', or Golden Basilica. This splendour drew upon it the attack of the Vandals, who stripped it of all its treasures.

Pope Leo the Great restored it about 460, and it was again restored by Pope Hadrian, but in 896 it was almost totally destroyed by an earthquake - the damage was so extensive that it was difficult to trace the lines of the old building however the reconstruction was of the same dimensions as the old.

This second church lasted for 400 years, before suffering extensive damage from a series of fires, the worst of which was in 1308. It was rebuilt by Pope Clement V and Pope John XXII, only to be burnt down once more in 1360 and again rebuilt by Pope Urban V.

When the Popes returned to Rome from their long absence at Avignon in 1377, they found the city deserted and the churches almost in ruins. Great works were begun at the Lateran by Pope Martin V and his successors. The palace, however, was never again used by them as a residence, the Vatican, which stood in a much drier and healthier position, being chosen in its place. (See footnote).

Pope Sixtus V replaced most of the remaining structure with work by his favourite architect Domenico Fontana, and a further renovation of the interior ensued, carried out by Francesco Borromini for Pope Innocent X (1644-55). This is the definitive remodelling that created the present church. Finally, Pope Clement XII (1730 - 1740) launched a competition for the design of a new facade, which was completed by Alessandro Galilei in 1735.

The two-storey portico that makes up the facade of the basilica dates from the 18th century. It is from here that the Pope gives his Benediction on Maundy Thursday. Large statues of Christ and the saints, also dating from the 18th century, top the façade. The central bronze doors are Roman originals from the Curia (Senate House) in the Imperial Forum. At the left end of the portico stands a restored Roman statue of Constantine the Great, which was found in the ruins of the Baths of Diocletian – one of the few statues we have of him since he actually visited Rome only three times in his life!

Inside, despite many alterations over the centuries, the Basilica of San Giovanni in Laterano still retains its original plan: a nave flanked by two aisles and ending in a semi-circular apse to the west. Unusually, the basilica is oriented to the west instead of the east: this is because it was built before the tradition of east-orientation had taken hold. Some of the original decoration survives as well, although not in its original position. Parts of the 4th-century nave colonnade can now be seen supporting the triumphal arch (two red granite columns), flanking the Altar of the Holy Sacrament (four bronze columns), and flanking the enormous statues of the apostles in the nave (24 green-speckled marble columns).

The huge statues in the nave date from the time of Pope Clement XI (1701–1721) and depict Apostles and Evangelists. Closed doors painted on the wall behind the statues represent the gateways to Heavenly Jerusalem. Above the statues are 17th century reliefs with Old Testament scenes on the left and related scenes from the New Testament on the right. Above are oval paintings of prophets, also from the 17th century.

The Baldachino over the high altar dates from 1369. At the top are two golden head statues containing the skulls of Saints Peter and Paul. Beneath the Baldachino is the High Altar which can only be used by the Pope. This altar contains a relic, said to be part of St. Peter's communion table.

In the left transept is the Altar of the Blessed Sacrament containing, what is thought to be, a cedar table that was used by Christ at the Last Supper. The marble and bronze columns are said to have been taken from the Temple of Jupiter on the Capitoline Hill. The bronze columns in that temple had been recast from the bronze prows of Cleopatra's ships, taken in battle by Emperor Augustus.

The stercoraria, or throne, of red marble on which the popes sat, is now in the Vatican Museum. It owes its name to the anthem sung at the papal enthronement, "De stercore erigens pauperem" ("lifting up the poor out of the dunghill", from Psalm 112). The current papal throne (Cathedra Romana) dates from the late 19th century. Whilst the Basilica of Santa Giovanni Laterano cannot compete with the classic beauty and authentic antiquity of Santa Maria Maggiore it is, from a historic and religious aspect, the most important of all Christian churches.

Continued on page 26

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The Holy Stairs

FOOT NOTE

The old Lateran Palace was demolished by Pope Sixtus V (1585-1590), The only remaining part is the Santa Sanctorum (the Pope's private chapel) at the top of the Scala Santa (Holy Stairs) across the road from the basilica. These stairs consist of the twenty eight marble steps from Pilate's Palace in Jerusalem and brought to Rome by St Helena. Christ climbed these stairs several times as he underwent sentencing and flagellation. The faithful climb these stairs on their knees. The current palace built in the XVI Century houses the Vicariate of Rome and is where the Lateran Treaty was designed.

The universal Feast Day is 9 November – The Dedication of The Lateran Basilica

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Proclaimer Crossword Puzzle 14 - Solution

By Chris Dinham

Across: 1. Stationary 7. Rob 8. Mercenary 9. Socks 10. Annuls
13. Spaniel 14. Yet 15. Elm 17. Rescuer 20. Lesson 21. Sinew
24. Enrolment 25. Gas 26. Emolument

Down: 1. Summary 2. Apron strings 3. Ideals 4. Near 5. Rays 6. Abyss
7. Recklessness 11. Spice 12. Angel 16. Monster 18. Result
19. Usage 22. Weed 23. Cove

The Golden Jubilee of the Diocese

Written with acknowledgement to Deacon Andrew Bayes

On 28 May 1965, the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton was formed by a division of the Diocese of Southwark. The new Bishop, David Cashman was an auxiliary Bishop in the Diocese of Westminster and, at the time of his transfer, was in Rome attending the Second Vatican Council. It could therefore be said that the new diocese had its roots and identity in the Second Vatican Council as an authoritative assembly of the Catholic Church.

The year 2015 therefore marks fifty years of the Diocese (and the Cathedral) and this event helps it to reflect on its history of renewal, mission and unity which will form the basis of the jubilee itself, helping us to look forward with confidence. When Bishop Kieran began his ministry in the diocese in June 2001 he said that his vision for the Church of Arundel & Brighton was to be found in the documents of the Second Vatican Council. The Council issued numerous documents but the most important were four Dogmatic Constitutions:

Sacrosanctum Concilium – concerning the Liturgy – promulgated 4/12/63

Lumen Gentium – concerning the Church – promulgated 21/11/64

Dei Verbum – concerning Divine Revelation – promulgated 18/11/65

Gaudium et Spes – concerning the place of the Church in the world –promulgated 7/12/65

These four constitutions, the very heart of the Council, will form the basis of the preparation for the Diocesan Jubilee. The Bishop's stated aim is that by 2015, the people of the Diocese will better understand who we are as Catholics and what we are called to do, and that, in turn, we will bring about real change in the communities in which we live.

Thus through these documents we will prepare for the future through prayerful reflection, renewal and rededication to the Church's Gospel mission.

How this scheme will operate and its effect on the Cathedral will be examined in later editions of The Parish Proclaimer.

Come to the Manger, and much more

By Mary Corbyn



Back in 1896 Arthur Boosey, of Boosey and Hawkes, music publishers, reported that: “We are already asked for *Come to the Manger* and have one order for six dozen.” By December 1897, Charles Gatty was receiving royalties at ten shillings per one thousand copies of this carol – “eventually to be included in my ‘Hymn Book’”. Clearly he had struck gold.

So who was Charles Gatty who claimed this carol for his hymn book?

Charles Tindal Gatty, RSA, was born in 1871, the son of an Anglican cleric, the Vicar of Ecclesfield. He was educated at Charterhouse and worked in various public offices until his career took an unexpected turn. This was brought about by his conversion to Catholicism and his taking up residence in Yeovil in 1887, where there was neither priest nor church. Charles Gatty then engaged the Rev. M. Badger, OCD, to celebrate Mass in his own house, to which he invited, by means of a notice in the local press, any who wished to attend. 16 people came to this first Mass, but the congregation grew so rapidly in the following months that Mr. Gatty found it necessary to rent a small, disused chapel in the locality as a Mass centre for Yeovil.

Charles Gatty’s horizons expanded dramatically when he became the collaborator in the production of a hymn-book, his partner in this enterprise being Henry XV, Duke of Norfolk. How this came about is something of a mystery, but *Arundel Hymns* was published in 1905 with the blessing of Pope Leo XIII; a translation of the letter sent to Duke Henry appeared in the introduction to the hymnal:

“TO OUR BELOVED SON HENRY, DUKE OF NORFOLK

Dearly Beloved Son,

‘We wish to make known to you how gratifying it has been to us to receive the First Part of the Book of Sacred Hymns in which you are engaged in publishing for the welfare of religion in England.’

The letter continues with a brief review of liturgical music over the centuries and concludes:

‘As a token of Our fatherly affection, receive, dearly beloved Son, the Blessing which we give to you and to your fellow-Editor.

From the VATICAN, June 8th 1898.

LEO XIII, POPE

The *Note* introducing the hymnal explains that being ‘intended for the use of Catholics’, the Editors have thought to limit their selection to the works of Catholic writers, prominent among them being Cardinal Newman and fellow-Oratorian, Fr. Frederick Faber, most prolific of nineteenth-century hymn-writers and famous above all for *Faith of Our Fathers*. The energetic Charles Gatty travelled far and wide to gather material, besides using many translations of ancient Latin hymns. There was, also, a small number of hymns from the Reformation years and it seems entirely fitting that the first item in the *Arundel* hymnal should be the hymn written by Duke Henry’s ancestor, Philip Howard, during his long imprisonment in the Tower of London.

To conclude, a page at the back of *Arundel Hymns* gives the ‘commercial’ including: “Words only, Complete Edition, containing 308 English and Latin Hymns. Price, in leather with gilt edges, and printed on special paper, two shillings; in cloth one shilling; in stiff paper, nine pence. Published by the Editors from 3 Queen Street, Mayfair, London W.”

Also: “‘Come to the Manger’, a Christmas Carol edited by C.T. Gatty. Price one penny. Published by Boosey & Co. 295 Regent Street, London W. - from ‘author unknown’ tradition, a carol that has featured in countless Nativity Plays – and looks set to last for ever.”

With acknowledgements to His Grace the Duke of Norfolk and to the Community at Downside Abbey for granting me access to their respective archives where they concerned the correspondence between Duke Henry and Charles Gatty.

Come to the Manger Carol

1
He lies 'mid the beasts of the stall,
Who is Maker and Lord of us all;
The wintry wind blows cold and dreary,
See, He weeps, the world is weary,
Lord, have pity and mercy on me!
Refrain

2
He leaves all His glory behind,
To be born and to die for mankind;
With grateful beasts His cradle chooses,
Thankless man His love refuses,
Lord, have pity and mercy on me!
Refrain

3
To the manger of Bethlehem come,
To the Saviour Emmanuel's home;
The heav'nly hosts above are singing,
Set the Christmas bells a-ringing,
Lord, have pity and mercy on me!
Refrain

REFRAIN
Come, come, come to the manger,
Children, come to the children's King;
Sing, sing, chorus of angels,
Star of morning, o'er Bethlehem sing.

+++++

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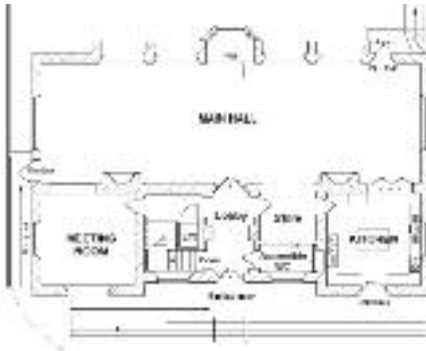
St. Mary's Hall

Transformation of Cathedral Hall



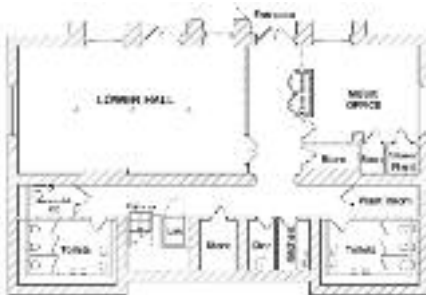
St Mary's Hall

St Mary's Hall has served Arundel Parish for 130 years, and the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton for 46 years. It is now having a, long overdue, comprehensive 'makeover' to transform it into a fitting venue for meetings and social events for the Parish and Diocese for the 21st century.



Upper Level

All parts of the Upper and Lower Halls will be made accessible to the disabled, and a new meeting room will be created which can be used on its own or in conjunction with the main hall. New heating, lighting and fire alarm systems will be installed. Improved storage space, a much enlarged, and fully equipped, kitchen and updated toilets will complete the transformation.



Lower Level

This is a big project for a small parish, so any contribution to the cost would be very gratefully received. Cheques should be made out to 'Arundel Cathedral' and sent to: Cathedral House, Parsons Hill, Arundel, BN19 9AY. If you can 'gift-aid' your donation, so much the better.

Greek Catholics in Hungary

By Peter Cullinane



Ornate icon screen, leading to the altar behind, from Hajduborszormeny

In my Pentecost article about Pannonhalma Archabbey and school, I indicated I would contribute a further article about the Uniate or Eastern Rite Catholics, called Greek Catholics in Hungary.

The history of the Eastern rite Churches is extremely complex but in the simplest of terms, the Greek Catholics joined the Catholic Church from Greek Orthodoxy in what constituted the remains of the Byzantine Empire during the 16th and 17th centuries and retained substantial parts of their elaborate liturgy and practices.

They are wholly in communion with Rome and mainly live in the eastern part of Hungary, numbering about 300,000 among some six and a half million Catholics in a population of almost 11 million. In Britain their centre is near Oxford Street but outside London they are almost unheard of.

There is a separate Greek Catholic diocese in the rural extreme east of Hungary, close to the Ukrainian and Romanian borders, and the bishop is an equal member of the Hungarian hierarchy.

The diocese includes 150 parishes and other parishes are found here and there in Hungary following population movements to the larger cities. There is an overlap with Ukraine following the significant boundary changes in the 20th century.

Priests are allowed to marry only before final orders, but the bishop must be celibate and Orthodox style dress and vestments are used.

My first encounter with a Greek Catholic was a student guest some twenty years ago who was the son of a priest – frequently the priesthood runs through families - he is now a married priest with a family of his own, whom I visited in NE Hungary. The latest was a sixth form student guest in the summer of last year - he likewise was the son and grandson of Greek Catholic priest whom I met last autumn - we are hoping that he will continue the tradition!

The liturgy is almost entirely sung and takes place partly perfectly audibly behind a screen with the celebrant rejoining the congregation for the readings. Sermons are substantial. A cantor, typically with a house provided by the parish, leads the congregation and the presence of young people is happily noticeable.

The sacraments are the same but the Blessed Sacrament is not always reserved in the tabernacle and of course the icon screen is a prominent part of the church.

The shrine of Mariapocs (MAR-ia-poach) is the most important place of pilgrimage with hostel facilities for young pilgrims and a boarding school and seminary are



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The hosts during my stay

provided. However some parents send their sons to Pannonhalma - about ten Greek Catholics attend at any one time. One of the most impressive scenes in the villages where I was taken, many of them with no more a couple of hundred inhabitants, was the frequent presence of three churches, Catholic, Greek Catholic and Reformed, the first two usually in Baroque style, all seeming to co-exist peacefully.

For further reading the CTS pamphlet " The Eastern Churches " of 2006 is an excellent guide to the wealth and complexity of Churches both Catholic and Orthodox, which are to be found in Eastern Europe and the Near East.



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Final Postcard from the Camino ~ Part 5

By Ruth Johnston



The 3 of us relaxed & refreshed by the sea at O'Porto

O'Porto - Gatwick, Our final leg of the trip

We caught the 'bus in Compostela, 10.30am, yesterday. What an excellent and comfortable journey! Arrived at O'Porto at 1 pm (2pm Spanish time), 3.5 hours - we had spent 13 days walking there!!

We walked down to the riverside and had some lunch then caught the 'bus along to the hostel (where we set out from 18 days ago). Before supper we had a lovely walk out to the mouth of the estuary... it was a beautiful evening sun and sea was rough. Had a good supper in the hostel and then to bed.

Up at 7am the next morning... showered, washed hair and packed. Had breakfast in the hostel before taking the 'bus and metro to the airport. We met a lovely English couple on the metro, going to walk in the National Park so we told them all about walking the Camino - they were impressed!

So here we all are, will be home in a few hours but the amazing journey will stay with us for ever. All the wonderful people we met and 20 others we now call firm friends; I could feel Bishop Kieran at my shoulder all the way and we know he is so proud. It was truly a spiritual journey for me and a big thank you to everyone who supported me with your prayers and good wishes. I will pray for you when I return to Santiago de Compostela, which I know I shall.

Parish Notice Board

WELCOME!

If you are a new parishioner, we hope that you will quickly feel at home with us...

Please make sure that you have completed one of the special forms kept at the back of the Cathedral (to the left of where the newspapers are displayed) so that you can be registered on our Parish Database.

Parish Core Team

Following on from nominations, Jack Kelly and Mike Bloxham have agreed to serve on the team for the next three years.

We thank them for their kind offer and also thank Ian Caws and Peter Honiball who now retire from office following the November meeting

Make a bequest to Arundel Cathedral

A leaflet is available to all parishioners who would like to include Arundel Cathedral in their will. The leaflet gives some guidance as to how to make a bequest using the right wording if you wish to make...

1. A bequest to the Cathedral Parish
2. A bequest for Masses
3. A bequest for a Foundation Mass

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DO VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO READ ABOUT THE RESTORATION OF THE CATHEDRAL FLECHE

www.arundelcathedral.org

Abstaining from meat on Fridays

The Bishops wish to remind us that every Friday is set aside as a special day of penitence, as it is the day of the suffering and death of the Lord.

They believe it is important that all the faithful again be united in a common, identifiable act of Friday penance because they recognise that the virtue of penitence is best acquired as part of a common resolve and common witness.

The law of the Church requires Catholics, on Fridays, to abstain from meat, or some other sort of food, or to observe some other form of penance laid down by the Bishops' Conference.

The Bishops have decided from Friday, 16 September 2011 to re-establish the practice that this penance should be fulfilled simply by abstaining from meat (or other food/penance) and by uniting this to prayer.

See the noticeboard at the back of the Cathedral.

CONFIRMATION 2012

The Parish Programme will start in the new year. If you have children in Year 10 or above and wish for them to be confirmed, please take a form from the back of the Cathedral/Convent.

Forms should be returned by 18 December 2011.

Darina Beesley

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Parish Diary

NOVEMBER

Sunday 27th **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Mass at the Convent of the Poor Clares Sat 26th at 6.15pm
Masses at 9.30am & 11.15am in the Cathedral

Tuesday 29th 7pm Cathedral Deanery Schools Advent Service

DECEMBER

Saturday 3rd 7pm Arun Choral Society Carol Concert with local schools; tickets from ACS Box Office 01798 812481 or via their website: www.arunchoralsociety.co.uk

Sunday 4th 2pm Baptism

Wednesday 7th 6.30pm Worthing Deanery Schools Advent Service

Thursday 8th **SOLEMNITY: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
8.30am Mass in the Convent of the Poor Clares
7.45pm Mass in Castle Chapel

Friday 9th 7pm Friends of Arundel Cathedral Advent Service - free admission

Saturday 10th 10am Mass in the Fitzalan Chapel
7pm Arun Choral Society Carol Concert with local schools; tickets from ACS Box Office 01798 812481 or via their website: www.arunchoralsociety.co.uk

Sunday 11th 7.30pm 'Messiah' Concert by Sussex Festival Choir; visit www.sussexfestivalchoir.co.uk or call/fax 01372 741100

Wednesday 14th	2pm	St. Philip's School end of term service
Friday 16th	7.30pm	Parish Penitential Service
Saturday 17th	onwards	Festival of Kings until 8th January.
	2-5pm	Joint Christingle Service and Craft Workshop at St. Nicholas' Church and service in the Cathedral. More details via the Parish Office.
Saturday 24th		CHRISTMAS EVE
		Cathedral closes at dusk
	11.00pm	Carols and Readings
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass with Bishop Kieran Conry
Sunday 25th		CHRISTMAS DAY
	9.30am	Family Mass
	11.15am	Sung Mass
Tuesday 27th	2.00pm	Visiting Dutch Choir – open rehearsal; free entry

JANUARY

Sunday 8th		THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
		Mass at the Convent of the Poor Clares Sat 26th at 6.15pm
		Masses at 9.30am & 11.15am in the Cathedral

Friday 27th		Holocaust Memorial Day
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FEBRUARY

Saturday 11th	1.00pm	Baptism
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St. Philip's Catholic Primary School News

By Elizabeth Hargreaves, Deputy Headteacher



This September we were delighted, as a school, to have the official opening of St. Philip's Primary School 'Taking Learning Outside' area.

For the last 12 months, parents and professionals have worked tirelessly to create an area where children can work and learn outside. The disused strip of land we once had is now transformed into 3 distinct sections featuring a planting area, a quiet seated area and a pond area.

Parents, Governors and members of the community were invited to celebrate and walk around the 'Taking Learning Outside' area, which was funded by the 'Friends' of St. Philip's.

The opening ceremony, which was led by headteacher Margaret Fraher and Canon Tim Madeley, also included the opening of the bandstand feature that will be used for liturgies, dramatised pieces, quiet reading and learning opportunities.

There is also a new play area that was named, by school pupil vote, 'Monkey World'.



St. Philip Howard Catholic High School News

By D J Todd, Headteacher

We were very sad to bid farewell to Mrs Anderson at the start of the school year. She has been our 'Business Manager' for six years, working as a member of the 'leadership team' with responsibility for site development, the school budget and health and safety. She has left St. Philip Howard a very different school from when she joined us, having achieved so much through hard work, determination and unshakeable resolve; we owe her a great debt of gratitude. Without Mrs Anderson's determination we would not have the Sports Hall, the 'Learning Resource Centre', the new Chapel, the new kitchens, the additional 'hard play area' and the school site would still flood in heavy rain! Mrs Anderson kindly remained with us until the summer works had been completed.

In June a very nervous group of eleven Year 7 girls and three members of staff, collectively known as "Amici Christi" ("Friends of Christ") took part in the annual Music and Flowers Festival at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Bognor Regis. Although this was the group's debut public performance there were no signs of nerves as the group stood high up on the altar steps and shared their love of singing with an appreciative audience. Father Tony Churchill summed it up perfectly when he said "I have only one question for you and that is when can you come back?" Amici Christi wants to gain as much experience as possible and would welcome any opportunities to perform again. Amici Christi can be contacted through Mrs McNally at the school.

At our 2011 Summer Concert music was heard from our familiar ensembles and soloists, as well as from students performing for the first time. These students included Naomi Easterbrook playing the keyboard, "Waterside": a year 10 band comprising boys who study GCSE music - Julius Alcantara, George Ashcroft, Kees Phillips and Joe Rogers. Katie Mead and Catherine Wells performed in the flute ensemble and Oliva Bricker as a solo flautist. It was good to hear the Barbershop Group, one of our new ensembles this year, comprising boys from years 7-12 singing 3-part arrangements of popular songs. It is always very sad to say goodbye to year 11/13 students who have given years of loyal service to our extra-curricular music activities – Daniella Keane, Alex Barnes, Molly Morgan, Helena Collins, Nathan Sampson, Louisa Lane, James Barwis, Harlan Geraets and Keri Heffernan. Our Christmas Concert will be on **7 December** and Carols by Candlelight for local retired folk, on **8 December**. We hope to see you there!

During this season of Advent we pray to the Lord...

1st week of Advent

Sunday 27th Nov	That we follow you more closely in prayer and deed
Monday 28th	For healing - in ourselves, our families, and in our parish and local community – that we may give greater witness to your love
Tuesday 29th	For those overwhelmed by disappointment or anxiety, that they find strength and peace
Wednesday 30th	In thanksgiving for all who cheer us with kindness and good humour
Thursday 1st Dec	For those who fear rejection
Friday 2nd	That we may be less judgmental
Saturday 3rd	For migrants and refugees throughout the world; and that we do what we can to help them find sanctuary and rebuild their lives

2nd week of Advent

Sunday 4th	That we are prepared to be changed by the message of the gospel
Monday 5th	For those struggling with debt
Tuesday 6th	For the grace to seek forgiveness from you and each other, and the humility to be more forgiving
Wednesday 7th	For those who dedicate their lives to helping those who are overlooked by society
Thursday 8th	In celebration of Mary's part in our salvation
Friday 9th	That we are considerate to neighbours who live alone or find life especially difficult in winter
Saturday 10th	That we recognize your presence and gifts in those about us

3rd week of Advent

Sunday 11th	For all those who give of their time and talent to our parish in so many ways – THANK YOU
Monday 12th	For those whose lives are dominated by anger and resentment, that they may experience your healing
Tuesday 13th	That writers use their gift with integrity; and for those who contribute and organize our parish magazine
Wednesday 14th	For parents, as they strive to bring up their children to live by Christian values
Thursday 15th	For those, both here and abroad, who risk their lives for the freedom and safety of others
Friday 16th	That we are given the grace to pray for and offer practical help to the poor and needy
Saturday 17th	That in the hurly-burly of the coming days, we remember to give thanks for your incarnation

4th week of Advent

Sunday 18th	For those expecting babies at this time, and those enjoying recent additions to their families
Monday 19th	For women who suffer miscarriages or still-births and those who experience the pain of the death of a child
Tuesday 20th	For those who will find Christmas difficult or lonely, and those for whom it has no meaning
Wednesday 21st	For the grace to show hospitality and kindness to those who make life difficult for us
Thursday 22nd	That parishioners who are unable to join us at Mass feel assured of our prayers and interest
Friday 23rd	For loved-ones who we miss seeing at Christmas; those who have died and those, who, through illness, distance, or work, cannot be with us
Saturday 24th	That just as you shared life on earth, we also learn to share our lives for the benefit of others

Christmas Week

Sunday 25th	Happy Christmas; we rejoice in you as ‘God made man’
Monday 26th	On the feast of St. Stephen, we give thanks for our dedicated team of altar servers
Tuesday 27th	That we may be inspired by the writings of John
Wednesday 28th	For children who are missing, or threatened by abuse, negligence or exploitation; and that we strive to make the world a safer place for them
Thursday 29th	For church leaders, that they may exercise their authority by faithfully following in your footsteps
Friday 30th	For the health and strength of those who care for frail or vulnerable members of their families
Saturday 31st	For those who are fearful of what the year ahead may bring

Octave of Christmas

Sunday 1st Jan	That, starting today, we make more time to share with you
Monday 2nd	For our schoolchildren returning to their studies and all teachers who care for their development
Tuesday 3rd	That we may always welcome new members, talents and ideas into our parish community
Wednesday 4th	For the gift of discernment, especially when we have to make decisions in difficult situations
Thursday 5th	For the inmates of Ford Prison; that they will receive support and have the courage to reform their way of life
Friday 6th	That through our faith, we may make your love manifest to those we meet
Saturday 7th	That confident of your promises, we do not become engrossed by our world

1st week of the year

Sunday 8th	That like the wise men, we recognize our need to pay homage to you
Monday 9th	For those who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Baptism in the coming months
Tuesday 10th	For young people who lack stability in their home-life and become drawn into drugs, alcohol and promiscuity
Wednesday 11th	For a deeper understanding and respect between people of different faiths
Thursday 12th	For those in hospital, hospices and nursing homes, and for all those caring for them
Friday 13th	For the gift of patience and gentleness with those we find extremely difficult
Saturday 14th	For victims of oppression; and for the work and safety of those committed to freeing them

2nd week of the year

Sunday 15th	For forgiveness for our failure, as Christians, to bring harmony into the world
Monday 16th	That we may be more determined to work for Christian Unity
Tuesday 17th	For those responsible for peace negotiations in our war-torn world
Wednesday 18th	For those who have drifted away from their faith as a result of our poor example
Thursday 19th	That we may face the future confident that you are there for us with your love and protection
Friday 20th	For those who are mentally sick and those who care for them
Saturday 21st	For those who suffer from persecution

And finally...

Do we want a little more light-hearted things in our parish magazine?

Let's hope so and we wait on you, the readers of *The Parish Proclaimer*, to send in any ramblings, observations, verse, humorous quips, etc that you feel you would like us to include here.

From Mary Corbyn.....

Lines written upon discovering diametral conflict between tea mug and biscuit
Bis cuit etiam contra calicem conflictat

(Tune: 'St Denio' 11,11,11,11)

Annoying, undunkable biscuit too wide.
to dunk it you must take a bite off the side,
O biscuit most glorious! Digestive, you see
Can, only when narrowed, be dunked in your tea.

No problem with ginger nuts nor malted milk,
Nor hobnobs, nor bourbon nor those of that ilk,
But none of these others though easier they be,
Can equal Digestive to dunk in your tea.

Too crunchy, too crispy before it is dipped,
When dunked it's much nicer before tea is sipped,
The timing of dunking is crucial, I think,
One second too long and it falls in your drink.

Some biscuits collapse and go soft too far soon,
You have to scoop out from the dregs with a spoon,
But mightly Digestive (with capital 'D')
Reigns ever the favourite and nought changeth tea.

Angus Bentley - reprinted with permission.

Send in your written piece by email to clouter@mac.com or by post to The Parish Office, address on the inside front cover. You know you want to... so go on!!

Congratulations & Commemorations

Baptisms

25 September - Arabella Freyja Trent

6 November - James Anthony Bracken

Marriages

17 September - Luke Searle & Natalie Dore

24 September - James Buirds & Joanne Hill

29 October - Daniel Ginks & Francesca Newton

Deaths

13 September - Eugene McGing (aged 74 years)

22 October - Sr. Mary John Murdock (aged 78 years)

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The Parish Proclaimer has been produced by Alexander Clouter, a parishioner who happens to be a writer, proofreader and graphic designer. Email: here@rite4u.biz

A Prayer for Advent



Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your
Father and ours.
Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord
who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me a hunger for peace: peace in the world,
peace in my home, peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy.
I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus.
Excite in me the joy and love and peace
it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord.
Raise in me, too,
sober reverence for the God who acted there,
hearty gratitude for the life begun there,
and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ,
whose advent I hail.

Amen.

Courtesy of www.catholic.org