

Fr Hugh Writes:

Thank you for your reflections on our statue of Our Lady. It is an important part of our church. We think that the way forward is to explore other ways of cleaning it up and perhaps repaint at some point. That is not at the top of the priority list!

This is 'Good Shepherd Sunday' the 4th of Easter. It is a day of prayer for Vocations, with a focus on Priesthood but not exclusively. There is a new leaflet for you to take home and have close to hand for our prayer time between now and Pentecost on May 19th. You will find various suggestions within the leaflet for these remaining weeks of Easter.

There is a retiring collection today for the education of future priests. Your purple gift aid envelopes maybe used.

Tuesday is the Solemnity of St George Patron of England. I think it may be preferable to celebrate the Mass here on Monday as far more of us come to that weekday Mass than on a Tuesday. I shall go to our Poor Clare Sisters on Tuesday to celebrate Mass with and for them.

Thursday is the feast of St Mark, Evangelist.

I'm taking a weeks holiday from 30th for a week with friends in Krakow, Poland, back in time for Ascension Day on Thursday 9th May.

Looking forward to celebrations here: we have Sinead and Theo's wedding on May 17th, followed by the Confirmations of Caithlyn and Grace on Pentecost Sunday. I'm also in conversation about Baptism celebrations in the summer.

Have you noted our summer party on June 30th in your diaries, to celebrate the Golden anniversary of our current church building? It will follow the same format as for last year's Coronation brunch in the hall or if it is a lovely early summer day in the garden.

Mass at 10am as usual for a Sunday, for the Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul, and then a gentle move onward for our brunch together.

There is no charge, but you will need to book a place from 2nd of June, which is also the solemnity of Corpus Christi.

The soil has begun to dry out, probably more so for we few on the lower greensand in the parish, so it has enabled me to sow seeds of vegetables for a new season.

On a windowsill, brassicas are beginning to germinate. As one season closes, another begins.

Time to prune, those early flowering shrubs, such as forsythia and perhaps flowering currant. Remember to be bold, not just snip the ends but take out 1/3 of the oldest wood at ground level and so always renew with good vigorous growth, that will carry good flower in a year or two. Don't forget to feed your plants too!

Notices

There will be a cake sale in the hall during coffee time this Sunday, 21st, to help Caitlin raise funds for her trip to Lourdes as a helper. Please support.

The next **Group Together** lunch is this Wednesday 24th April in the hall at 1pm. If you would like to come please confirm with Marie Anne so that we can cater accordingly. Hoping to see you there.

Food Bank: The basket is back in the narthex ready for your generous donations. Thank you, *Celia*

Cont/d...

Notices Cont/d...

The Divine Mercy Prayer Group will be meeting this Thursday 25th April at 10am. If you have an hour to spare, we would love to have you join us. Tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided. For the address please phone me on 01273 491412 or email: sally.a.bartle@gmail.com. *Sally Bartle*

The House Group which is exploring the Bible (the other house group is thinking about 'discipleship') is currently looking at and comparing the four gospels. Penny Ann McKeon has done some very interesting research for us, and has prepared some notes which she is happy to share with anybody who might be interested to look at them. If you would like a copy, just let Penny Ann or Deacon Paul know.

Sister Patricia is collecting used stamps for the Air Ambulance Charity and would welcome your support. Thank you so much, *Sister Patricia*.

Hope and Aid Direct are collecting again for Ukraine.

Please bring any of the following items to our hall between 10am and 2pm on Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd May.

Also between 2pm and 7pm on Thursday 23rd May.

Tinned food: Vegetables, Beans, Pulses, Fish Pate, Luncheon Meat. *Dried food:* Beans, chickpeas, lentils, Flour, Pasta, Chocolate, Energy bars, Packet Soups, Black tea. Rapeseed or Sunflower oil. Emergency or Camping rations. Sanitary pads, Tampons, Nappies. Toothbrushes and Toothpaste. NEW underwear for men, women and children, except Bras (clean or as new please). Soap, Shampoo, Body Wash. Power Banks for phone charging. Camping mats. Washing Powder. Blankets (ideally fleece type). Sleeping Bags in stuff sacks.

For more information please get in touch with Celia: celiaexplorer@btinternet.com or go to <https://www.hopeandaiddirect.org.uk/> Reg. charity number 1077146

Arundel Cathedral will be open to view the carpet of flowers in celebration of the Feast of Corpus Christi on Wednesday 29th May from 9.30am to 7pm and also on Thursday 30th May from 9.30am until 5.30pm when Mass begins.

Mass is followed by a procession of the Blessed Sacrament from the Cathedral to the courtyard of Arundel Castle, where Benediction is given.

Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead: Wednesday 26th June. A day of sharing and prayer with other Grandparents led by Bishop Richard to include Mass, Benediction, Rosary, tours of the secret chapel and lots of chat. Please bring a packed lunch and a travel mug if possible. Arrival from 10.30am for refreshments. As always please car share if possible as parking is limited. Please dress appropriately for the weather.

Places can be booked through this link [Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead \(26-Jun-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

"The Promise of the Father" is a free course to help us to live our lives empowered by the Holy Spirit. 10th April to 23rd May. To be held over seven sessions, each with a speaker and small group discussions. More details from Deacon Dominic or go to <https://www.catholicparishofworthingandlancing.co.uk/the-promise-of-the-father/>

Cont/d...

Diocesan Notices

Received from Lizzie Wakening, the Youth Ministry Adviser at A&B Diocese.

Worth Abbey June Gathering

The Abbott and Community invite you to Worth Abbey from 11.00am to 4.30pm on Saturday 1st June for a social and spiritual day. Share monastic prayer in the Abbey Church and enjoy the beauty that is Worth. Enjoy a guided walk through the woods and fields and visit St Bruno's retreat centre. Families welcome, there will be activities for children.

Live Life to the Full Summer Camp for young people in School years 7-11.

The Lay Community of St Benedict are running a residential event for young people. With opportunities for inspiring talks, uplifting prayer, fun activities and space to just be this Summer camp will help your faith soar! 20th to 24th August at Worth Abbey. Contact Pete for more information email: icsb.pete@gmail.com. Early bird prices available before 30th June.

Work Experience with The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) & CAFOD, 7th to 13th July, Romero House, London, SE1 7JB. The [SVP](#) and [CAFOD](#) are working together to offer residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. Candidates must be aged 20 - 30 years old and have a passion for social justice. To find out more contact [Sarah](#) by email.

Celebrating the Feast of St Joachim & St Anne there will be Mass at 3pm at Arundel Cathedral on 20th July. A celebration for grandparents and senior members of our community, a time to savour the fruits of family life and the wisdom of experience. Mass, celebrated by Bishop Richard, will be followed by refreshments in the Cathedral Centre, please [register here](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Tuesday afternoons at the Convent, Golden Square.

One hour for quiet prayer - 2pm to 3pm.

Sunday 12th May and the following second Sunday of each month

Holy Hour after Mass - 10.45am to 11.45am.

Sunday 12th May

Henfield's Artisan Market in the Coopers Way car park, 10am - 2pm.

Monday 20th to Thursday 23rd May

Ukraine Collection. See notice for items needed

Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th May

Carpet of Flowers at Arundel Cathedral. See notice for times

Wednesday 26th June

Grandparents Pilgrimage to West Grinstead

Sunday 30th June

10am Mass and Golden 50 years church celebration