

Fr Hugh Writes:

The diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes has concluded, August begins and for many a holiday month, we are told that the drought is now across much of the country.

We pray for the many who are affected by the wildfires in southern Europe and especially those working tirelessly in the fire services. I can only imagine how tiring it must be to try and cope with many long hours. Being young, many of those working in fire services will have younger families too. We should also remember and pray for our farmers who will have many challenges this season in trying to provide food in this drought.

From this Thursday, the feast of The Transfiguration of the Lord, Mass will be in the church at 7pm rather than in our Sisters home. It gives them a chance to be free as well to do elsewhere what needs to be done, or at home.

A couple of priests in Plymouth diocese died recently and we will offer Masses for their repose during the week.

Tuesday 4th is the Memoria of St John Vianney patron of the pastoral clergy.

The parish Hall: as we look forward to new structures away from single parishes to a greater group, so the finance committee see the needs for development of use and bookings as well as admin for our hall.

Our thanks to Agnieszka who has looked after bookings for many years. However, we see the need for an online booking system so that all can see what the availability is for use of the hall. This will evolve over the coming weeks.

It is important that the hall is managed away from clergy responsibilities which includes repairs etc. It does however remain the responsibility of the priest to authorise expenditure who in turn relies on the advice of the finance committee.

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Notices:

Pope Leo XIV's August prayer intention is for mutual coexistence, specifically asking people to pray that troubled societies avoid confrontation and choose dialogue instead.

You can watch the monthly announcement and follow the global prayer initiative through the [The Pope Video](#) platform managed by the prayer network.

Alternatively Pope Leo's monthly prayer intentions can be found on YouTube.

All weekday Masses at the Towers are at 4.30pm.

GROUP TOGETHER: PLEASE NOTE CHANGE of VENUE and TIME

Our GT Afternoon Tea planned for 11th August in Brigid Hilton's garden will now be taking place in our PARISH HALL from 2.30pm until 4.15pm.

If you haven't already let Brigid know that you're planning to attend, please speak to her after Mass on Sunday or contact her directly on 07743 229828 or email brigid.hilton@btinternet.com

There are no House Groups meeting this week.

The 3pm Thursday afternoon group will meet 13th August, location to be confirmed.

The 7.30pm Thursday evening house group will also meet on 13th August at 'Sunnyside', Upper Station Road.

The Convent Wednesday afternoon group will not be meeting until September.

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Notices cont/d...

For any parishioners unable to get to a church there are many churches in the Crawley Deanery that live stream Holy Mass.

Go to <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/livestream> where you will find over 30 churches plus Arundel Cathedral to choose from.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It was reintroduced to Parliament in June and will have its vote on Friday 11th September despite strong opposition from Christian, Muslim and Jewish groups.

Significant ethical and medical concerns have been raised by many organisations including the British Geriatrics Society, The Association of Palliative Medicine, Disability Rights UK and The Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Last Wednesday the Prime Minister affirmed his view that the funding of palliative and social care should be "fixed" before a change in the law to allow Assisted Dying (also referred to as Assisted Suicide) is considered.

It is thought that the Government will hold a neutral position on the Bill, with people of all faiths and none, who oppose the legislation urged to contact their MP before September's parliamentary vote.

Please write to your MP to make your voice heard and oppose the bill [>>here](#) or [Contact your MP](#). The Charity [Right to Life](#) also has a quick and easy way to do this.

There will be a Mass for Altar Servers on Saturday 12th September, 12noon at Arundel Cathedral. Fr Aaron Spinelli, Diocesan Director for the Guild of St Stephen, invites all diocesan altar servers to this special Mass for all those who have served, all those who are serving and anybody who would like to serve – all are welcome.

Please bring a cassock, cotta or an alb.

Holy Mass will be followed by light refreshments (please bring a packed lunch).

[Email Fr Aaron to confirm your place](#)

Marriage Anniversaries Mass, Saturday 3rd October, 11.30am, Arundel Cathedral. Mass for couples marking a special anniversary or simply giving thanks for their marriage. Followed by a drinks reception. [Reserve your free place](#).

Following the Holy Father's appointment of Fr Stephen Wang as the sixth Bishop of our diocese, Bishop-elect Stephen's Mass of Episcopal Ordination will take place on Monday 19th October, the Feast of St Philip Howard, at 12noon. Space within the Cathedral is limited, with lay, religious and clergy representatives attending the Mass by invitation only. The celebration will be livestreamed, to enable as many people as possible to participate in the Mass online. [Visit Arundel Cathedral's Livestream](#)

Five days after the Episcopal Ordination, on Saturday 24th October at 11.30am, Bishop Stephen will celebrate a special Mass of Welcome at Worth Abbey near Crawley, attended by representatives from diocesan deaneries, new parishes and schools.

Further details will be shared as soon as available.

The 'Horsham Matters' Food Bank "Hub on the Move" is in the Henfield Library Car Park on Thursdays from 11.30am to 12.30pm. If you are currently unable to afford food, in the first instance please call 0300 124 0204 or email: info@horsham-matters.org.uk

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Notices cont/d...

The Horsham Matters food bank is very thankful to everyone who continues to donate food to the basket in the Narthex.

The Henfield Community Fridge opens at Henfield Leisure Centre at 5pm on Tuesdays and 9am on Fridays and Saturdays. Once the food is gone they close!

Please click below if you wish to subscribe to the **A&B Diocese E-bulletin** to receive the Diocesan news and events by email. This is free of charge and issued weekly, usually on a Thursday. Click to be included: [Subscribe to this newsletter](#)

NB

The E-bulletin is taking a break for the month of August, and will return on 3rd September.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

***TODAY Sunday 2nd August – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10am Mass***

***Tuesday 11th August
Group Together***

2.30pm to 4.14pm Tea in our Parish Hall
(Please see notices re change of venue and times)

***Thursday 13th August
House Groups:***

3pm afternoon – location to be confirmed.

also

7.30pm at 'Sunnyside', Upper Station Road