



Welcome to A&B eNews with National and International News The Bishop's Pastoral Letter and Video can be viewed on the [Diocesan website](#). In the letter he talks about both the World Meeting of Families in Dublin in August , and the National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool in September. You can find more information and links below.

If you are thinking of renewing your Parish website then the Diocese is able to offer you *Parish Portal*, a reasonably priced and easy to administer website, in association with *allinteractive.com*. There is currently a special offer of free setup if you order your site before 1st March 2018. You can find information about this special offer

Rt Rev Richard Moth, Bishop of
Arundel & Brighton



The information contained in this email is included in good faith. Please take up any queries with information from outside the

at parishportal.net.

A reminder as we approach the festive season to watch out for scams both in person and online. Recently several parishes have had a visit from someone who was very plausible, claiming to be in need of money, but it turns out was just on a tour of parishes with the same story.

Please do share this eNewsletter with others and invite people to subscribe by sending me an [email](#) - you can unsubscribe at any time. Also a reminder that you can also add parish and other events and courses on the [Diocesan Website](#) at any time.

Finally, a request to *take action* to safeguard the future of Catholic Schools and keep this Government to its manifesto promises to remove the cap on the number of Catholics in a Catholic School.

With every prayer and blessing for the Advent Season,
Mark Woods

diocese with those who have provided it.



Christmas Cards and materials are available from the Diocesan Bookshop in Crawley. See [website](#) for opening times and how to order online.

Please note the new opening times referred to in a previous eNewsletter only take effect from January and opening times remain as indicated on the [website](#).

Items marked in **red** are ones that have been added to the eNewsletter this time around.

Safeguard the Future of Catholic Schools

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Click [HERE](#) to take action

Schools Vacancy - Primary Headship

St Mary's Primary School, Worthing is looking to recruit a Headteacher. This is a wonderful opportunity to build a successful and thriving Catholic School. Full details including application forms are available via the [Diocesan Education website](#).

National & International Events

Catholic Bible Sunday falls on 10 December 2017 and takes the theme 'Welcome the Word'. In partnership with Bible Society, we've created a resource pack to support scriptural engagement in the Catholic community. These Scripture-focused materials will help each of us to explore Advent, Christmas and beyond. We want to enable every man, woman and child to engage with the Bible in ways that are appropriate to them. Find more

information here: <http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk/Home/Featured/Catholic-Bible-Sunday-2017>

Peace Sunday 2018: This will take place on *Sunday 14 January*. The theme this year is 'Migrants and Refugees - Seekers of Peace'. Information and resources is available from the [Pax Christi website](#). This includes the full text of the Pope's letter for Peace Sunday. There can also be a collection in parishes to support the work of Pax Christi.

Holocaust Memorial Day 2018: Please note that Holocaust Memorial Day 2018 falls on January 27th.

Catholic Rural Conference 2018: The conference which runs from Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th February in Garstang, nr. Preston, Lancashire. Any Catholic interested enough to come is welcome. For more information and booking form contact Fr Robert Miller on 01747 870228 or rwhm274@btinternet.com.

Altar Servers Rome Pilgrimage: At the invitation of the Holy Father, the Archconfraternity of St Stephen (Guild of Altar Servers) is organising a five-day trip to Rome in July, 2018. For more information and to book go to <http://www.paxtravel.co.uk/guild-of-st-stephen>.

Bishop Richard invites you to join him for the World Meeting of Families in Dublin with the Holy Father, Pope Francis: 21-26 August 2018 sees the arrival of the World Meeting of Families in Dublin, Ireland. The Diocese is making the most of this wonderful opportunity by organising a pilgrimage for those who would like to attend. It is open to families of all shapes and sizes, from tiny tots to Grandparents. We will be staying together in Dublin City University accommodation and travelling to events together by coach. A three day congress will be followed by a Festival of Families and a Solemn Eucharistic Celebration with Pope Francis.

If you would like more information about the event visit

www.worldmeeting2018.ie/en/

If you would like to join us on pilgrimage, please speak to your parish priest about how he can support you financially, and for a booking form. Alternatively you can contact Lizzie or Katherine of the Diocesan Pastoral team wmof2018@dabnet.org

Adoremus - National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress - Liverpool 2018: The bishops of England and Wales have announced that they plan to hold a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in Liverpool next year (7-9 *September 2018*). Eucharistic Congresses are gatherings of clergy, religious and laity which promote an awareness of the central place of the Eucharist in the life and mission of the Church. Participants at the Congress will take part in a series of Catechism sessions, focusing on different dimensions of the Eucharist and the daily celebration and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. On the first day of the Congress, there will be a Theological Symposium, with workshops for Parish catechists, (especially for those involved in First Holy Communion programs), RE teachers, Hospital and Prison Chaplains, Seminary Communities and Extraordinary Ministers. The sessions will focus on Scripture, Ecclesiology, Eucharistic Language and Catechism and a Workshop on the Rites and Music for Eucharistic Adoration.

The Echo Arena in Liverpool (which can accommodate 10,000 pilgrims) will be the home to a six- hour stage programme on the second day of the Congress, which will include a Congress Mass, keynote speakers and a drama highlighting the beauty of reverence and devotion. The day will conclude with Adoration. On the final day of the Pilgrimage and Congress, Sunday, there will be pilgrimage Masses and a street procession, open to all.

National and International Appeals and Programmes

Christmas Cards for Prisoners of Conscience: Every year Action by Christians Against Torture produces a list of Prisoners and Campaigning

Organisations for who we pray and send our greetings. You can find this list on their [website](#).

Friends of the Holy Land Appeal at Christmas: Each year FHL distributes around £96,000 of medical grants in the Holy Land. Since forming in 2009, we have enabled hundreds of Christians to have medications, operations and investigations that would have been beyond their means otherwise. Our Bethlehem office regularly identifies upwards of 200 cases a year needing urgent medical attention, many of whom also lack the income for the most basic essentials of life. FHL is meeting a need that few others can fulfil. As well as cases in the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, we are receiving more applications to support Christian refugees who have fled Iraq and are now living in Jordan. To donate and for more information visit their [website](#).

Counting our Blessings is a new, simple scripture-based resource produced by the Department for Christian Responsibility and Citizenship at the **Bishops' Conference of England and Wales**, designed for accompanying families in faith. It aims to help families connect their ordinary, everyday living, giving and caring **for life with the sense of being 'blessed'** – i.e. that God who is love is present with them, sharing life with them, in and through their love. *Counting our Blessings* aims to help reveal what Pope Francis calls a "shepherding" in mercy that is going on in family life all the time. (**The Joy of Love** #187). You can order the book from the [Diocesan Bookshop](#).

Premier has launched its Christmas Alone map, to help people find companionship on Christmas Day. It highlights various Christmas day events happening across the UK so that people who would otherwise be alone can find a place to go. Churches and community groups across the country are opening their doors to ensure no one spends Christmas alone. There will be food, entertainment, cheer and great company for everyone! If you know of a church or organisation that will be holding a Christmas day event, please do let them know so that we can add it to the map by [registering here](#).

Funeral Planning for parishioners: Help parishioners to ensure that their wishes for their funeral are known by friends, family and the parish using the form provided by the Pastoral Care Project. See their [website](#) for more information.

CAFOD is part of the DEC Rohingya crisis appeal. You can donate directly to CAFOD at cafod.org.uk/RohingyaCrisis or by calling 08085 858 885

Synod on Youth Website: The Vatican has launched a new website focusing on the upcoming Synod of Bishops on 'Young People, Faith, and Vocational Discernment.' which will take place in October 2018, Please share this website with Youth leaders and Young people

<http://youth.synod2018.va/content/synod2018/en.html>

Boarbank Hall, Cumbria run by Augustinian Canonesses offers courses throughout the year. They have recently published their programme for 2018. See their [website](#) for full details.

The Art of Dying Well website has recently received a media award for its podcasts. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the final journey. Please add a link to your site – www.artofdyingwell.org – Adding the link will boost how the Art of Dying Well website ranks in Google searches for terms related to death and dying, thereby helping people to easily find the site when they are searching for help with these issues.

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network: Please share the Monthly Intention of the Holy Father www.thepopevideo.org and his new, “Urgent Action” intentions announced each month; there will also be, in some dioceses, a local intention too. There's no cost to join, but there are lots of resources, online and printed – see www.popesglobalprayer.net where you'll also find a reflection on each month's Intentions that can be used in parish bulletins and websites. Fr. David Stewart SJ is ready to visit parishes and Chaplaincies to

promote the network in your Catholic community – just ask him:

dstewart@jesuit.org.uk @JesuitsinBritain

Catholic Women Preach: A new website offering reflections on the Sunday readings by Catholic women. An additional resources for preparation for Sunday Mass. Click on www.catholicwomenpreach.org

LIFE Charity Pregnancy Help: Through their network of Care Centres around the UK, National Helpline or Text to Talk service, LIFE Care provides counselling and support for anyone facing an unplanned pregnancy, suffering the loss of a baby or coping after abortion. Just click on the [Life Website](#).

Life have recently launched a new Social media page aimed at reaching people who really need their support. To help them to find LIFE log on to our Facebook page to “Like” and “Share”

us! <https://www.facebook.com/pregnancymatters/>

Churchmarketplace is a national collaborative buying group, a not-for-profit organisation, created by the Catholic Church to help our community. They have negotiated contracts you can trust, saving you time and money on all your purchasing needs. To find out more, please visit the website www.churchmarketplace.org.uk

Cinnamon Network aims to make it as easy as possible for local churches to transform their communities by reaching out to those in greatest need. They help churches respond by providing a menu of best-practice Cinnamon Recognised Projects that can easily be replicated. Alongside the projects *they offer advice, funding, support and leadership training*. For more information go to their [website](#).

National Churches Trust: The National Churches Trust have launched an initiative. It is the new maintenance grant. This is a fantastic grant that can/will help those who are in the planning stages of a project to get access to some hard found start up funds. More [here](#) on this and other funding.

Marriage Matters is an online collection of 60-word snippets, adapted from the Sunday Mass Scripture Reading reflections found in *I Am With You Year A*. These can be placed in a newsletter, bulletin, website or blog. The idea is to support, encourage, inspire, challenge and motivate couples to deepen their relationship with one another and with God. See [website](#).

Million Minutes - a Catholic Youth organisation inspired by Catholic Social Teaching is offering *small grants* for projects which support youth-led activities linked to Catholic Social Teaching. See their [website](#) for more details and information.

The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors now has its own [website](#) for you to view. You may also be interested in The Centre for Child Protection which is part of the Pontifical Gregorian University which also has a [website](#).

Do support and help promote '[We're all Equal](#)' and '[Don't Screen Us Out](#)' two important campaigns; one to remove disability as a ground for abortion and the other to ensure Down's syndrome babies are not screened out by a new test.

This Worldpriest website has one overarching aim – to unite priests and laity so that everyone can come into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. They want www.worldpriest.com to be a place where you receive answers to questions of faith, where you can find information on church teaching, resources to support our priests, prayers for all occasions and where you can discover the truth of our faith – that God loves us and provides for us on a daily basis, in every situation. You can also sign up for their regular newsletters.

The Ephatta website puts in touch people looking for a temporary accommodation with other people willing to open their door and welcome them. Members can list a couch, a private room or an entire home. Hospitality can be **provided for any event: holidays, pilgrimages, gatherings, professional trips...** They created the [Ephatta website](#) because welcoming and travelling are unique ways to make meaningful encounters and strengthen our faith. As [Ephatta](#)

means “be opened”, the website gathers those who want to open to others, whoever they are.

Maryvale Institute: The Institute offers various long-distance formation courses especially in evangelisation and catechetics from ongoing education courses to undergraduate and post graduate degrees including an Ecclesiastical Licence in Catechetics recognised by the Holy See. For more information on all their courses visit their [website](#).

Interreligious Newsletter from the Catholic Bishops' Conference; You can subscribe at <http://eepurl.com/cavnJ9>, It is a newsletter aimed at Catholics who are interested in interreligious matters, and their friends.

Readings in different languages - Handy downloadable (pdf) Sunday readings in about a dozen European languages, for those who have different language groups in their parish. Download [here](#).

Papal Blessings for weddings, anniversaries etc - As from January 2015 only available online from the Vatican @ www.elemosineria.va

Sarum College Courses and Events in Coming Months. [See their website](#). They now have a new brochure for the academic year 2017-18 which you can see [here](#).

Ammerdown Retreat Centre - Various events and retreats. [See their website](#).

