



St. Patrick's Church

Broad Green/Cowley Drive Woodingdean BN2 6TB

St. Patrick's Newsletter



Our Lady of Lourdes

Whiteway Lane Rottingdean

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Our Lady of Lourdes <https://www.ololandstp.org/>

MASS is streamed live: 09.30 Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri (Most Sacred Heart of Jesus); church open from 08.55 Mon, from 08.30 Tues, Thurs, Fri; **Vigil Mass** Saturday 18.30 ; **Sunday Mass:** 10.30

Church open for Adoration/Private Prayer: Tues 10-10.30, Fri: 10-10.30 (Divine Mercy/Private Prayer)

St Patrick's – Mass on Sunday 6th June 9.00 am – The Body & Blood of Christ – Corpus Christi

Welcome to the thirty-first "apart but together" e-newsletter (6th June 2021)

"Because where two or three have come together in my name, I am there among them." Matt 18

On Moments in Time

Barbara Bond

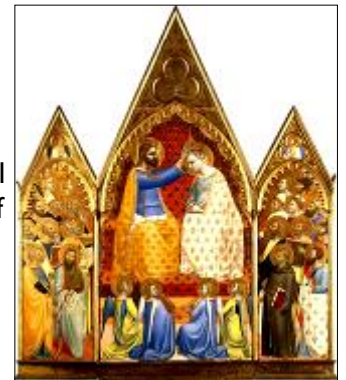
The Almighty has done great things for me (Luke 1)

The idea of making memories is almost a cliché, but I think the past year, when so many people have had to endure painful and long separations from family and friends, has made us all aware of finding joy in the small things of life.

Last weekend I found myself learning a new skill: stand-up paddle-boarding. First of all I had to fight my way into a wet suit... and then the fun really began. The first stage of getting out on to the water – in this case the River Hamble – was relatively straightforward. Kneeling on the board feels quite stable and it's just a case of finding your direction and being able to steer where you want to go.

Then comes the standing up bit... Getting into an upright position without up-ending yourself into the water is a bit of a challenge, but that is nothing compared to how your legs feel when you are standing up, but not on solid ground!

I managed to achieve all of this without an early dunking, then just as I was thinking I knew what I was doing – a wave tipped me in.



The Coronation of the Virgin

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour; since he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.

For see, from now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name, and his mercy is from generation to generation on those who fear him.

Luke 1: 46-50

Getting back on to the board cannot be done in any dignified fashion, you have to wiggle your belly on! I was really grateful for the help of a lovely family who steadied my board whilst I hauled myself back into position.

This week we have celebrated the Feast of the Visitation, and each day has been commemorating a different martyr; profound meditation on lives in the service of God and one another is a kind of steadying. Before my sortie into watersports, I had visited Southampton City Art Gallery with my son, Tom. Amongst the works is a 14th century altar piece, *The Coronation of the Virgin*, by Allegretto Nuzi. The vibrancy of the colours in this 700-year old painting is breath-taking.

Driving home, reflecting on the day (which my son declared was "the best day of 2021") I thought that perhaps the boarding experience in some way describes my faith journey! And the literally shining beauty of that altar piece, undimmed after seven centuries, is a finding of joy and a celebration of hope.

The newsletter appears fortnightly. For the next issue, please send contributions by 18th June to Barbara Bond: bond_barbara@ymail.com

CAFOD: Reclaim our Common Home



In 2020, we experienced the worst global health crisis in a century. The coronavirus pandemic has devastated lives and shattered families in Britain

and across the world, with disastrous consequences for people's jobs and livelihoods.

"Anyone who thinks that the only lesson to be learned was the need to improve what we were already doing, or to refine existing systems and regulations, is denying reality."
Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, #7

The pandemic exposed many of the inadequacies of how our world currently works. It has proved that we need greater cooperation between nations, solidarity between people and a greater focus on the poorest in society.

A system based on unregulated free markets has created extreme inequalities, and has allowed some countries and companies to become wealthy at the expense of others while the precious gifts of climate,

DID YOU KNOW... ?

- As a result of the pandemic, 150 million people are set to fall into extreme poverty and an additional 130 million people will be left hungry.
- The British Government has spent over £3.9bn on climate-destroying fossil fuel infrastructure around the world since Paris Agreement 2015.
- African countries will pay more than \$10bn in debt repayments in 2020 and 2021 alone. More than half will go to firms like HSBC & BlackRock, some of the richest companies in the world.

LET'S DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT

As the host of two major international conferences, the British Government has a crucial role to play in 2021.

In the summer, Britain will host the G7 Annual Meeting where the leaders of the seven richest countries will gather to discuss how to rebuild after the pandemic. This will be followed by the UN 'COP26' Climate Talks taking place in Glasgow in November, where world leaders will come together to agree how they will work towards ending the climate crisis.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

As Catholics, we are called not to stay silent and not to be passive. This is why Reclaim Our Common Home is a call to action! It's a call to participate both individually and collectively in rebuilding a more dignified and sustainable world after the pandemic. To do this we need to:

RECLAIM nature so that everyone can breathe clean air and be protected from the threat of climate disasters.

RECLAIM the world's land and resources so they are more fairly distributed, and all our brothers and sisters around the world can live in dignity.

RECLAIM power so that everyone can be involved in decision making and have control over their own lives.

Stay in touch.

To join our campaigns this year, sign up at cafod.org.uk/actionnews

Why 2021 must be a year of transformation

"Global society is suffering from grave structural deficiencies that cannot be resolved by piecemeal solutions or quick fixes. Much needs to change, through fundamental reform and major renewal." Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, #179

"Each day offers us a new opportunity, a new possibility. We should not expect everything from those who govern us, for that would be childish. We have the space we need for co-responsibility in creating and putting into place new processes and changes."
Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, #77

nature and biodiversity have been destroyed.

To begin the journey of reclaiming our common home this year, we invite you and your parish to work towards achieving three major goals.

- Tackling the climate crisis: Global solidarity
- Ending unjust debts: Global justice
- Holding business accountable: Global responsibility.

"Yet I was always in your presence; you were holding me by my right hand. You will guide me by your counsel and so you will lead me to glory." Psalm 73

We are fortunate to have a large garden. It's large enough for us to leave about 50ft as a residential area for wildlife and they certainly make the most of it.

There's a gate to this area, and a hedge round it, so you do feel you are visiting when you venture through the gate to check on who and what is about.

Recently Ted found a very nice red leather gauntlet. The latest fox cub toy. None of the neighbours claimed it so it was washed and put in the garden shed. Its pair arrived a couple of days later. However Ted's flip flop was taken in exchange! – Fair game, as he had left them outside overnight by the patio doors.

There are 3 or 4 cubs and mum leaves them each evening to go hunting and scrounging. Two are particularly curious and join me to check on the hens. It's quite disconcerting as I turn round to top up the feeders and they are there, circling and watching and sometimes drinking from the hose.

Beautiful animals and delicate enough to thread their way through the beans and courgette plants but they can't resist playing trampoline on top of the hedges. We do have a camera down there but not good at getting it to work.

Our son Benjamin lives in Chapel Allerton Leeds, and has a fox family who regularly sleep in his garden in the day time. He doesn't like to disturb them even if he wants to get some jobs done. They seem to know who will tolerate them and allow them space in their ever decreasing world.



Fox curled up asleep in Benjamin's garden

Food for thought...

Secret Wedding

Irene Green

If you are a Catholic like me who has been through hoops in order to marry a non-Catholic, or if there have been other issues like divorce you may have been surprised at the politically timely wedding of the Prime Minister last Saturday in Westminster Cathedral.

The P.M. is a man of reputation who was baptised a Catholic but changed religion when at Eton. Of course everyone knew.

I don't intend to comment here (though Catholics and clergy have) – but am very interested in the reaction or lack of it in N Ireland, especially within the Democratic Ulster Unionist Party.

The DUP is intensely anti-Catholic, it has close associations with the Free Presbyterian Church and with loyalist paramilitaries – the Ulster Defence Association and Ulster Volunteer Force.

When you realise
Bojo is a catholic



It is 100 years since Irish partition and there is a TV series on at the moment about how the land border was made. The DUP still don't wish to understand who is responsible for N Ireland's current border down the North Sea and the Catholic wedding hasn't changed anything.

Shame.

However, I would like "Norn Iron" to be peaceful when we visit later this year. I hope for enlightenment (from any direction) among politicians stoking something worse than recreational rioting...

"What else have I in heaven but you? Apart from you I want nothing on earth. My body and my heart faint for joy; God is my possession for ever. To be near God is my happiness. I have made the Lord God my refuge." Psalm 73

Fund Raising: calling cooks and gardeners

Next weekend Saturday 12th June we will be fund raising outside St Patrick’s 10am until 12.30.

On Sunday 13th June our stalls will be open from after Mass until 11am.

We have very desirable **plants, produce and home made preserves**. If you can provide items in these categories we will sell. Food is always very popular, home cooked, can be anything of your choice, savoury or sweet. Please donate and let us know in advance so that it can be listed.

Barbara Bond has assembled **something for children** - they get a prize. Will set up and run on Saturday – there are 36 prizes, they may have all gone by Sunday! It’s a 1-in-5 chance of winning – but a sweetie for everyone who tries...

Finally, you can add to all our categories including our **eclectic bric a brac items**. Some of these will be advertised and displayed as freebies, which is a usual feature for householders using Woodingdean community Facebook page.

Selling plants eats into our supply of small plant pots, please donate any which are spare. Bring them to St Patrick’s or to 3 Sycamore Close.

Next week we will provide a list of plants, preserves and food, so please let us know what you intend to donate. We will assemble some of our wares on Friday afternoon 11th June 2pm -3pm.

Contact person Irene, 07960 567 544, icgreen@ntlworld.com

1. I was listening to Raymond Blanc on TV a few weeks ago. He was vivacious, ebullient, joyful, enthusiastic, his normal self. He had COVID last year, and spent a month in hospital in Oxford. He didn’t lose his sense of smell or taste, but I am still bemused as he reported he found hospital food “challenging”.

He was very appreciative of the staff who looked after him and he is to invite them to Le Manoir.



2. I have been following the Bible Timeline course with Mauro Iannicelli and there are dates for your diary if you missed it or if you want to do more in Advent. It's free: go to comeandsee.org

Bible Timeline Course – Autumn 2021: **Wed 29th Sept, 2021 - Wed 17th Nov 2021**

Advent 2021 – Sunday Gospel Reflections: **Wed 24th Nov, 2021 - Wed 22nd Dec, 2021**

A Rather Neat Summary of Catholic Social Thought

Patrick Bond

“Catholic social thought places emphasis on the cultivation of virtue rather than the exercise of liberty or the accumulation of prosperity as mankind’s goal.

In economic terms it thinks of the common good, with individuals given the chance to find dignity in the exercise of skill, as the guiding principle, rather than profits or abstract equality targets.

And it is particularly concerned about the dignity of work and workers. It celebrates vocation, believes in worker participation in industrial decision-making, and sees firms as institutions which exist to serve society and imbue individual lives with purpose rather than just maximising shareholder value.”

From a speech by Michael Gove, Minister for the Cabinet Office. (From The Tablet, leader article, 5/6/21)

“O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next. Before the mountains were born or the earth or the world brought forth, you are God, without beginning or end.” Psalm 90

In the Light of the Moon

On Eric Carle

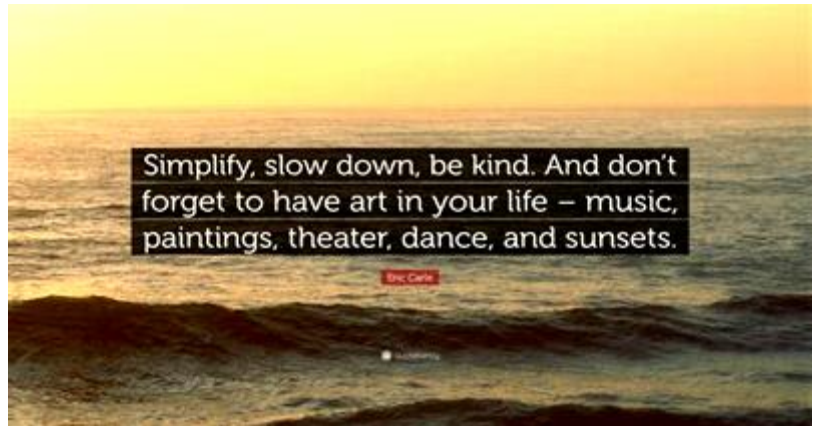
Barbara Bond

It was very sad to hear this week of the death of Eric Carle; I am sure *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* evokes a memory for most people.

I loved the quote (right) and I realised that over the past year my phone's photo album has more sunsets – and sunrises – than anything else.

I grew up in quite a “word” orientated family. Puns and doggerel were the stuff of daily life and my parents met doing “Gilbert and Sullivan” – now quite a difficult listen in the light of our 21st-Century re-evaluation of those times.

Visual art, however, was something that I did not come to appreciate fully until the second half of my life. We are very lucky to have some excellent regional galleries not too far away (e.g. the Towner in Eastbourne — see picture) and even more fortunate that many of them are free.



Virtual access has been a lifeline over the past year but once you are standing in front of a work something rather magical happens.

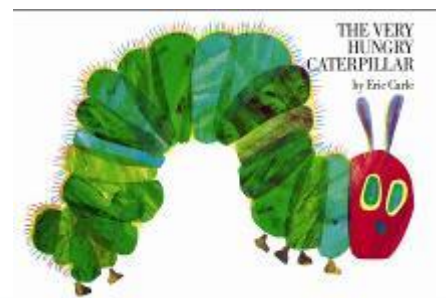
A quite recent example of this was when the National Gallery took a recently acquired painting to Send Women's Prison, among other places. The idea was to take art to people who would not or could not normally encounter it.

This particular 17th Century work, by Artemisia Gentileschi, in which she depicts herself as St Catherine of Alexandria, is significant for a number of reasons. She was a highly skilled woman artist painting in her own right, who had suffered rape by a teacher, and who had tried to bring him to justice.

For the women in Send it was an opportunity for them to resonate and respond. To find out more, follow the link below

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/jun/02/the-guardian-view-on-artemisia-gentileschi-on-tour-the-peoples-painting>

Of course, above all else, having the chance to behold something beautiful is a blessing, and if it's been created by the skill and dedication of someone else that's a blessing too.



Quotations Trivia Interlude – Various: Who said, or wrote: (– see p.8 for answers)

1. Gladstone spent his declining years trying to guess the answer to the Irish Question; unfortunately whenever he was getting warm, the Irish secretly changed the question.
2. I'm Irish. We think sideways.
3. We've never been cool, we're hot. Irish people are Italians who can't dress, Jamaicans who can't dance.
4. Pat: He was an Anglo-Irishman. Meg: In the blessed name of God, what's that? Pat: A Protestant with a horse.
5. I know I've got a degree. Why does that mean I have to spend my life with intellectuals? I've got a life-saving certificate but I don't spend my evenings diving for a rubber brick with my pyjamas on.

“In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Give us joy to balance our affliction, for the years when we knew misfortune.” Psalm 90

Back a People's Vaccine

The UK must support a patent free vaccine to save lives

Maybe you are awaiting your Covid-19 vaccine. Maybe you have already had it. The UK has shown how vaccines can be rolled out quickly, to everyone, for free. The hope this brings is priceless.

But it's a hope denied to billions of people in poorer countries who may not have access to a vaccine for years to come. The consequences are devastating. The death toll is spiralling. And the longer the delay, the more people suffer.

Right now, the whole world is dependent on just a handful of pharmaceutical corporations who simply cannot make enough vaccines for everyone. But Big Pharma are refusing to share the vaccine science and know-how – science that was largely funded by taxpayers. If this vital information was shared freely, qualified manufacturers around the world could produce Covid vaccines at the scale we urgently need. We could have a People's Vaccine – not a profit vaccine. Over 100 low-income countries, 170+ Nobel laureates, former world leaders and over 2 million people worldwide are calling for the patents to be temporarily lifted, and the vaccine science shared, until everyone is protected. President Biden has now joined this call. But right now, the UK Government is blocking – not backing – this request.

Please take action with us today – sign the petition and urge Boris Johnson not to stand in the way of billions of people getting access to the protection they need. Stand up for the people who most need support, instead of corporate profits. Back a People's Vaccine, not a profit vaccine!



Join our campaign and urge the Prime Minister Boris Johnson to:

- Back the proposal to suspend intellectual property rules at the World Trade Organisation for all Covid-19 vaccines, tests and treatments until we reach global herd immunity
- Insist big pharma corporations share the vaccine science, technology and know-how, through the World Health Organisation, so that more manufacturers can help scale up production
- Push big pharma to reduce the cost of vaccines, by setting the price that nations pay as close to the true cost of manufacturing as possible

Oxfam GB is part of the Peoples Vaccine Alliance



**THE
PEOPLE'S
VACCINE**

[https://
actions.oxfam.org/
great-britain/peoples-
vaccine-v3/petition/](https://actions.oxfam.org/great-britain/peoples-vaccine-v3/petition/)

Prayer for our Leaders

*O God, almighty Father, King of kings
and Lord of all our rulers,
grant that the hearts and minds of all
who go out as leaders before us,
the statesmen, the judges, the men of
learning and the men of wealth, may
be so filled with the love of thy laws,
and of that which is righteous and life-
giving, that they may serve
as a wholesome salt unto the earth,
and be worthy stewards
of thy good and perfect gifts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

*The Prayer of the Most Noble Order of
the Garter (1348)*

*“And I will lead the blind in a way that they know not; in paths that they have not known I will guide them.
I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground.” Isaiah 42: 15-16*

Trip to Edinburgh

Irene Green

On 21 May we travelled to Edinburgh by train and returned on 1 June. We visited grandchildren in Edinburgh last August, when we flew Easyjet. At that time, virus levels were at their lowest for 2020. We haven't been on local public transport since Feb 2020 and rarely go to shops.

When the Scottish government announced a relaxation in the overnight stay last month we tried to book travel. Air travel prices, already high and with little choice, went stratospheric.



The numbers of people in compartments on the LNER London to Edinburgh route is regulated and passengers are socially distanced on board, density was low. Everyone wore masks everywhere. The train did serve food. In first class there was table service of soft drinks, sandwiches biscuits, reduced from the previous norm which also included hot food and alcohol. We wore N95 masks for 8 hours.

Can't describe how wonderful it was to see the family in the flesh and to have a change of scenery after 9 months.

We have visited Edinburgh a lot over 20 years. We know its many galleries, castle, shops, amenities, parks and parts of "secret Edinburgh." There is also a catchment area accessible by car and train. Previously we have taken trains for the day to Dundee, Pitlochry and even Gleneagles, where we stayed over.

On Saturday 22nd two of the grandchildren removed their headsets and took us to Starbank Park, which is within reasonable walking distance. On Thursday 27th William and Kate were there – volunteers had been renewing the walled garden which dates from 1890 <https://www.expressandstar.com/news/uk-news/2021/05/27/william-and-kate-join-children-for-gardening-session-in-edinburgh-park/>



There is no late May bank holiday in Scotland but the 24th May was an Edinburgh holiday, we had our first indoor café experience at the New Hopetoun Garden Centre.

Most gardens of old Edinburgh houses are walled. The family had design plans drawn up by Lesley Watson and Dougal Philips <https://www.newhopetoungardens.co.uk/> for their garden – the house is from 1869. Lesley Watson used to present Beechgrove Gardening on TV. I was introduced to her at Gardening Scotland a couple of years ago where she was telling the other grandparents about making the Queen

laugh the previous week at Chelsea Flower Show – she and her husband were Chelsea Show garden judges. The Queen likes to hear about things which go wrong.

I am accustomed to gardening in the evening at home. In Scotland it is easy to work outside until 10pm. The family did not have a budget to get professionals to install the garden design but we helped with the slower makeover.



There are many cycle paths and walks beside water such as Union Canal, the Water of Leith and the Almond River. All have long histories, as does the Fife coastal path and its villages. We walked as much as possible and when the bank holiday weekend arrived Edinburgh was packed with visitors, it is remarkably accessible.

"Praise the name of the Lord, praise him, servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God. Praise the Lord for the Lord is good. Sing a psalm to his name for he is loving." Ps 135

Afterthought

Corpus Christi in the Back Garden

Patrick Bond

“Nothing exists that does not owe its existence to God the Creator” (Catechism 337)

Now that warmer nights and summer-like days have set in, the garden has revived. Bushes whose leaves had remained stuck, paralysed by the cold, are now covered in foliage which is rich, velvety green, and plump. Or papery-purple, if you are looking at the Smoke Bush, *Cotinus coggygria*. (Yes, I did look it up – took ages to find out what it was.)



The first roses have come out of hiding, slightly shame-faced with being so late, I feel, but sewn on to this gaunt summer like the brightest of buttons on an old coat.



Creeper which is growing all over the cypress trees.

Suddenly my accidental hedge is verdant and imposing. What used to be a bare strip in front of the neighbour’s cypress hedge, is now a tall (3 metres) block of cotoneaster, purple-leaved hazel, bay, photinia, holly, hedging honeysuckle, ivy, *Lonicera japonica*, wisteria, and of course the burgeoning Virginia



I call my hedge accidental because it is made up of stray seedlings from the garden, or items going cheap at the garden centre because they were leggy and pot-bound. Bounding away now though, ho-ho... (Apologies).



Despite all those cold nights, two frogs are resident in our pocket pond (2 feet by 1 foot, by 18 inches deep). They came out and watched me doing some weeding the other day, apparently astonished that I had finally noticed the rampant weeds in the rose bed. One was in the water, only

his eyes above the surface, sprawled on a convenient piece of flint; the other was perched to one side on a thick patch of leaves of Spanish Bluebell. I felt privileged, as I usually do when creatures stare at me.

Some unexpected sightings recently: two swifts over our garden, and high above them, proceeding in a straight line in an easterly direction, a Red Kite! On a walk from Southease to Bo Peep, a Grizzled Skipper butterfly,



and in the garden, Brimstone, Comma, Orange-tip and Large and Small Whites. At Tidemills, two Sanderlings running up and down the edge of the waves at low tide. And while, for the first time, cycling along the Ouse, huge numbers of Little Egrets and Swans! Finally, on the wall of the house one morning, a damselfly *Agrion splendens*. It flew, the minute I looked, but I like to think it fledged in our pocket pond.



mywildlife-tomhines.blogspot.com

Trivia answers (from p.5)

1. W.C. Sellar (1898-1951) & R.J. Yeatman (1898-1968) *1066 and All That*, 1930.
2. Spike Milligan (1918-2002) in *Independent on Sunday* 20/6/1999.
3. Bono (1960-) in *The Independent* 26/2/2001.
4. Brendan Behan (1923-64) *Hostage* 1958.
5. Victoria Wood (1953-2016) *Mens Sana in Thingummy Doodah* 1990.

“Your will is wonderful indeed; therefore I obey it. The unfolding of your word gives light, and teaches the simple... Let your face shine on your servant, and teach me your decrees.” Psalm 119: XVII (Pe)