

The official logo.



## Holy Doors of Mercy were opened at Arundel Cathedral and at Chichester Cathedral in December 2015



*Photos and text from Diocese of Arundel and Brighton's online blog - [aandbblog.blogspot.co.uk](http://aandbblog.blogspot.co.uk)*

Bishop Richard Moth opened a Holy Door at Arundel Cathedral on Sunday 13th December to officially begin the Year of Mercy, called by Pope Francis, here in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. Several hundred people from around the Diocese including clergy along with ecumenical presence of the Anglican Bishop of Chichester, Rt. Rev Martin Warner, were present for the opening of the Holy Door.

Pope Francis had already opened a Holy Door on Tuesday 8th December at St Peter's in Rome and had called upon fellow Bishops around the world to open a Holy Door in their own Cathedrals and important churches in their diocese for the Year of Mercy.

Bishop Richard Moth of Arundel & Brighton Diocese was pleased to join Bishop Martin Warner from the Anglican Diocese of Chichester for the opening of a Holy Door at the Anglican Cathedral in Chichester to celebrate a Year of Mercy in the Anglican Diocese of Chichester at the same time as it is celebrated in the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton and worldwide within the Catholic Church.

St John the Divine, West Worthing - ([stjohnwestworthing.org.uk](http://stjohnwestworthing.org.uk))

## Pilgrimage to Arundel and Chichester Cathedrals

Saturday February 20th 2016

Church members from 4 parishes - St Symphorian's, Durrington, St Andrew's, West Tarring, St Andrew's, Clifton road Worthing, and St John's - travelled by coach to visit the Holy Doors of Mercy at both Cathedrals. First stop . Arundel.



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## Information displayed at Arundel Cathedral about the Year of Mercy

**The mercy of God our Father for all his people,  
a mercy that we must reflect to others  
through the doors of our hearts.**

### **What is a 'Jubilee Year'?**

In biblical times, a Jubilee Year was a time for special honour to God and occurred every 50 years.

In the Jubilee Year:

- Land taken in pledge was returned to the original owners
- Sins were remitted
- Universal pardon was granted
- Prisoners released

- Slaves were freed
- All debts were forgiven
- God's mercy was celebrated

(Leviticus 25: 8-13)

In 1300AD Pope Boniface VIII introduced Holy Years for the Church celebrated every 25 or 50 years. These have a goal of the conversion of heart which was always at the centre of the ancient Jubilee Year celebrations.

Brothers and sisters! God's face is that of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience that He has with each of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, is always patient with us, understanding us, awaiting us, never tiring of forgiving us if we know how to return to him with a contrite heart. 'Great is the Lord's mercy'.

Pope Francis  
From his first Angelus Address  
17<sup>th</sup> March 2013

### **A time for Prayer**

- Read and think over the Scriptures
- Go on Pilgrimage (to another Holy Door or shrine)
- Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
- Receive Holy Communion more often

Christ has no body now on earth but yours; no hands but yours; no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes through which the compassion of Christ must look out on the world. Yours are the feet with which He is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which He is to bless His people.

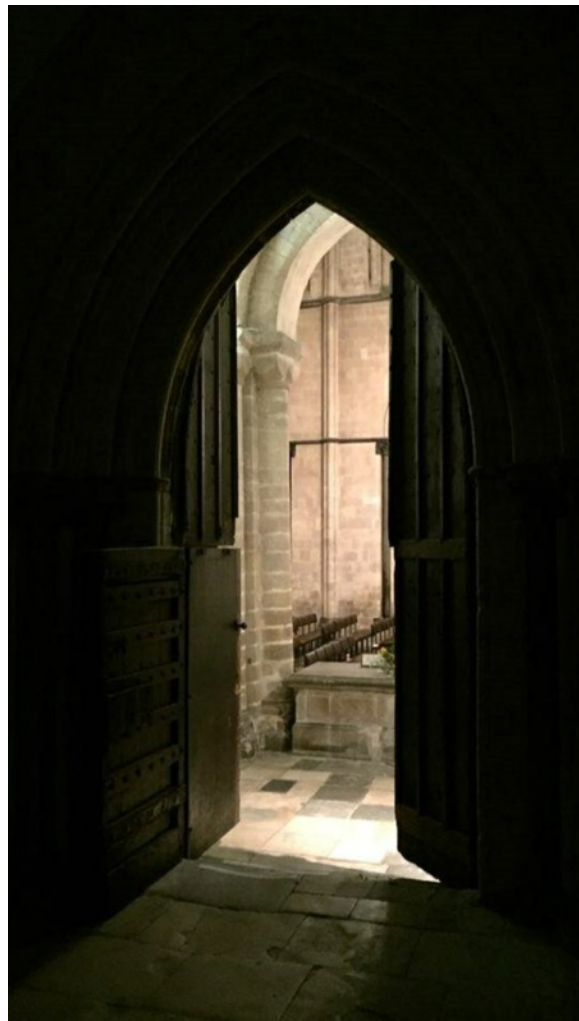
Prayer of Saint Teresa of Avila

We crept in as Mass was in progress, and had our own brief liturgy in the baptistry.





At Chichester we gathered by the Door of Mercy in the cloisters, where there was a specially written liturgy for pilgrims to pass through the door.



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Passing through the Holy Door, on our way to the Lady Chapel.



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In the Lady Chapel for readings and prayers.





At noon, we gathered in the Bishop's private chapel, where we celebrated the Eucharist. Fr John presided.



The concelebrating clergy consecrating the elements.





## Receiving the bread and wine.



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Our priests - Fr Mark Lyon, Fr Beau Brandie, Fr John Eldridge,  
Fr Gordon Spencer, Fr Ben Eadon and Fr Keith Richards.



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## Group photo of the happy band of pilgrims.....



**KNOCK, KNOCK, WHO'S THERE? (From the Parish magazine April 2016)**

When Jesus speaks about doors, he is either standing outside and asking us to let him in, or he is saying that he is the door through which we, his flock, can enter. Pope Francis has challenged all Christians this year to concentrate on the Mercy of God and to help them “enter the mystery” he has called for the opening of special “Holy Doors” through which we symbolically enter into the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Challenged by the Lent Course to go on pilgrimage, we joined with neighbouring parishes of St. Andrew Tarring, St. Andrew Worthing and St. Symphorian Durrington. 65 altogether, the Happy Band of Pilgrims travelled to the Holy Door at our Cathedral. Since the Bishops of Arundel and Brighton and Chichester had been at the opening of each other's Holy Doors, we decided to visit Arundel Cathedral on the way.

As we passed through the flower decorated door at Arundel we coincided with that Cathedral's Saturday morning Mass which the Bishop was celebrating. We gathered in the Baptistry for Unity prayers before having a look around the cathedral and then off to Chichester.

At Chichester we gathered in the Cloister before the St Richard Door “The Door of Mercy” and, were led by the Dean's Verger in procession to the Lady Chapel where we completed our devotions. By kind permission of Bishop Martin, we crammed into his historic chapel where, inspired by St Richard's devotion to our Saviour and his Holy Mother, we obeyed the Lord's command to “do this” and in this way to “know, love and serve” Him more nearly.

After free time for lunch or shopping, both of which pilgrims enjoyed, we made our way back home rejoicing!

Parishes have been encouraged to have their own door of mercy, so St. John's has designated the South Door as **OUR DOOR OF GOD'S MERCY** this was set up just before Palm Sunday and decorated. This door will remain for the rest of the Year of Mercy. ( Photos on next page)

Leaflets and cards are available in Church with details of the Door of Mercy and its origin.



St John's Door of Mercy was first opened  
20th March 2016 Palm Sunday  
(South doors of the church)

