



## March 2023 PROVINCIAL NEWSLETTER Arundel and Brighton Province 34

# Message for Lent from Pope Francis

**The following is an extract from the Pope's Message for Lent 2023**

*Dear brothers and sisters!*

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke all recount the episode of the Transfiguration of Jesus. There we see the Lord's response to the failure of his disciples to understand him.

Shortly before, there had been a real clash between the Master and Simon Peter, who, after professing his faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, rejected his prediction of the passion and the cross. Jesus had firmly rebuked him: "Get behind me, Satan! You are a scandal to me, because you do not think according to God, but according to men!" (Mt 16:23).



Following this, "six days later, Jesus took with him Peter, James and John his brother and led them away to a high mountain" (Mt 17:1).

The Gospel of the Transfiguration is proclaimed every year on the Second Sunday of Lent. During this liturgical season, the Lord takes us with him to a place apart. While our ordinary commitments compel us to remain in our usual places and our often repetitive and sometimes boring routines, during Lent we are invited to ascend "a high mountain" in the company of Jesus and to live a particular experience of spiritual discipline – *ascesis* – as God's holy people.

Lenten penance is a commitment, sustained by grace, to overcoming our lack of faith and our resistance to following Jesus on the way

of the cross. This is precisely what Peter and the other disciples needed to do. To deepen our knowledge of the Master, to fully understand and embrace the mystery of his salvation, accomplished in total self-giving inspired by love, we must allow ourselves to be taken aside by him and to detach ourselves from mediocrity and vanity. We need to set out on the journey, an uphill path that, like a mountain trek, requires effort, sacrifice and concentration. These requisites are also important for the synodal journey to which, as a Church, we are committed to making. We can benefit greatly from reflecting on the relationship between Lenten penance and the synodal experience.

In his "retreat" on Mount Tabor, Jesus takes with him three disciples, chosen to be witnesses of a unique event. He wants that experience of grace to be shared, not solitary, just as our whole life of faith is an experience that is shared. For it is in togetherness that we follow Jesus.

Together too, as a pilgrim Church in time, we experience the liturgical year and Lent within it, walking alongside those whom the Lord has placed among us as fellow travellers. Like the ascent of Jesus and the disciples to Mount Tabor, we can say that our Lenten journey is "synodal", since we make it together along the same path, as disciples of the one Master. For we know that Jesus is himself the Way, and therefore, both in the liturgical journey and in the

journey of the Synod, the Church does nothing other than enter ever more deeply and fully into the mystery of Christ the Saviour.

And so we come to its culmination. The Gospel relates that Jesus “was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light” (*Mt 17:2*). This is the “summit”, the goal of the journey. At the end of their ascent, as they stand on the mountain heights with Jesus, the three disciples are given the grace of seeing him in his glory, resplendent in supernatural light. That light did not come from without, but radiated from the Lord himself.

The divine beauty of this vision was incomparably greater than all the efforts the disciples had made in the ascent of Tabor. During any strenuous mountain trek, we must keep our eyes firmly fixed on the path; yet the panorama that opens up at the end amazes us and rewards us by its grandeur.

So too, the synodal process may often seem arduous, and at times we may become discouraged. Yet what awaits us at the end is undoubtedly something wondrous and amazing, which will help us to understand better God’s will and our mission in the service of his kingdom.

The disciples’ experience on Mount Tabor was further enriched when, alongside the transfigured Jesus, Moses and Elijah appeared, signifying respectively the Law and the Prophets (cf. *Mt 17:3*). The newness of Christ is at the same time the fulfilment of the ancient covenant and promises; it is inseparable from God’s history with his people and discloses its deeper meaning. In a similar way, the synodal journey is rooted in the Church’s tradition and at the same time open to newness. Tradition is a source of inspiration for seeking new paths and for avoiding the opposed temptations of immobility and improvised experimentation.

The Lenten journey of penance and the journey of the Synod alike have as their goal a transfiguration, both personal and ecclesial. A transformation that, in both cases, has its model in the Transfiguration of Jesus and is achieved by the grace of his paschal mystery. So that this transfiguration

may become a reality in us this year, I would like to propose two “paths” to follow in order to ascend the mountain together with Jesus and, with him, to attain the goal.

The first path has to do with the command that God the Father addresses to the disciples on Mount Tabor as they contemplate Jesus transfigured. The voice from the cloud says: “Listen to him” (*Mt 17:5*). The first proposal, then, is very clear: we need to listen to Jesus. Lent is a time of grace to the extent that we listen to him as he speaks to us. And how does he speak to us? First, in the word of God, which the Church offers us in the liturgy. May that word not fall on deaf ears; if we cannot always attend Mass, let us study its daily biblical readings, even with the help of the internet. In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need. Let me say something else, which is quite important for the synodal process: listening to Christ often takes place in listening to our brothers and sisters in the Church. Such mutual listening in some phases is the primary goal, but it remains always indispensable in the method and style of a synodal Church.

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

**Rome, Saint John Lateran, 25 January,  
Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul  
FRANCIS**

## Provincial Grand Knight

Brothers, it is the 252<sup>nd</sup>. meeting of our Provincial Council Arundel and Brighton and we welcome back our Chaplain Fr, David Osborne.

Early in December 2022, the Provincial Spirituality and Welfare officer, Bro Hugh and I met with Canon David of Arundel Cathedral to discuss the KSC’s future involvement at the Cathedral. It was a very useful and fruitful meeting and Bro Hugh will be reporting in detail.

On 28<sup>th</sup> January, a training was conducted in Liverpool for Provincial Grand Knights delivered

superbly by Past Supreme Knight Bro. Charlie McCuskey KSG. The day began with Mass celebrated by Bishop Tom.

Let us remember our obligations at this Lenten season; prayers, arms giving and fasting. As we prepare for Easter, let us create space for God and reflect on His sacrificial love.

Thank you and God Bless.

## Welfare

We are a family so it is only fitting that we remember not only our brothers but also the Death of Pope Benedict XV1

With great sadness the announcement was made of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict who died on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 aged 95.

Please remember in your prayers Helen Osborne, wife of our Provincial Chaplin David Osborne, who died on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2023. also Bro Ken Hargreaves former Supreme Knight and member of Blackpool Council 91 who died on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Sadly we also lost the following Brothers from Province 34

Bro Pat Hudson Worthing Council 280 died on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Bro Fred Byrne Eastbourne Council 433 died on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Please remember them in your prayers.

May they Rest in Peace

The following item has been received from Brother Sean Mulligan, Director for Spirituality and Welfare:

### National Deceased Brothers Mass

The date is fixed for 10<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 15.00 (3pm). The intention is for "The Deceased members of The Knights of St Columba family". The Order deceased family members and not forgetting our clergy.

It will be held in the cathedral of Christ the King, Liverpool.

**Bro Hugh Brentnall - Provincial Spiritual & Welfare Officer**

## OBITUARY



### Brother Patrick O'Regan Hudson

**Died 9th January 2023**

**Aged 88**

**Worthing Council 280**

**R.I.P.**

Bro Patrick was a member of the Knights of St Columba for over 50 years, having been a Supreme Board Director, Pilgrimage Convenor, Provincial Grand Knight, Council Grand Knight and Chancellor.

For his services to the Catholic Faith he was awarded The Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice by Pope Benedict in 2011.

He did his National Service as a Military Policeman in Scotland and then worked as a Policeman in Chichester, Horsham, Shoreham and Worthing.

He was Governor and Chair of Governors at English Martyrs Catholic Primary School.

He was also a member of the Diocesan Education Commission and an Auditor with the Diocesan Marriage Tribunal.

He lived in various places but mainly in Worthing where he was an active parish member of St Mary's, St Charles', English Martyrs and St Michael's where his funeral was held on the 1st February 2023.

Rest in Peace Brother Patrick

**Brother Frederick Martin Byrne  
Died 16th January 2023  
Aged 82  
Eastbourne Council 433  
R.I.P.**

Bro Frederick became a member of Eastbourne Council when he was initiated on 16 October 2016.

He was an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist at Our Lady of Ransom, in Eastbourne.

He regularly attended meetings of the Council at Christ the King parish rooms until the pandemic forced the closure of all our meetings.

Unfortunately, he became ill just as meeting restrictions were lifted and was not able to attend any further meetings of the council. He died suddenly on 16 January 2023 and his funeral took place on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Rest in Peace

**Bognor Regis Council 324**

We enjoyed an excellent Christmas lunch organised by the Social Committee, who have organised an extensive calendar of events for the coming year and this will include the running of the Bingo previously organised by the Parish Social group.

I have been given permission for a 4<sup>th</sup> year as GK by the Supreme Knight and all other Officers have been elected. The one change for this year is that Bro Nick Moyart will be the Deputy Grand Knight.

The Council have introduced the Kindness Award, a Shield that will be presented to a student of St Marys Primary School voted for by the pupils each year. This has been well received.

We are pleased to advise that Bro Alex Nagle has now had his Welcome ceremony and we are currently about to organise the full Knighthood of Bro Ferdinand.

Supreme/Prov. Treasurer has been advised of the number of Brothers in Council and the FA5 will be submitted shortly.

The Brothers of Council 324 discussed the increase in dues and the concerns and disappointment were passed to Supreme Knight, Brother Harry. He requested the time to reply.

We continue to have the Rosary for the Unborn on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the Month. All are welcome to join us.

All Brothers report being well, and we pray that this continues to be the case.



**Bro Tony Moran GK**

**Welcome Brother Alex**

# ACTION

The lunch at the Norfolk Arms, Arundel, following the Mass for deceased brothers was held successfully on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Co 280 were joined by brothers from other Councils.

Nativity Scene Painting Competition entries were received from primary schools in Council 551 Guildford and Godalming and from Co 280 Worthing and District.

I am pleased to report that up to 40 pupils from St Oscar Romero School, Goring-By-Sea are planning to attend the FLAME Youth Event at Wembley Stadium on 4th March. Co 280 will be making a donation to assist with travel costs. The event was brought to our attention by SD for Youth and Young People Brother Michael Akinrele. It is organised by the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation CYMFed. Their aim is to shape and support youth ministry, encouraging members to work together. They aim to provide a national voice for youth ministry and insight into youth culture to the Bishops' Conference and other bodies within and outside the Church.

Co 280's Action, Youth and Social Officer is working closely with the St Oscar Romero Chaplain and all of our local primary schools to promote activities for the benefit of young people.

## Worthing and District Council 280

Christmas posters were received and distributed to the 8 parishes that we support.

A cheque for £1,000 was sent to the John Foster Home belatedly for the National Action Project. This was raised by our race night in October but delayed by the time required to vote monies out of the Council. A charming letter of thanks was received from the beneficiaries.

An eChristmas card was produced and donations raised £150 for the Turning Tides, Worthing homeless project.

A Christmas meal was held at a Worthing restaurant in December. This was well supported by brothers, their wives and friends, many of our widows as well as local PPs as guests.

Our traditional New Year's Day Mass was held on Monday January 2<sup>nd</sup> at St Mary of the

Angels Worthing at 10am. This included the full Knighthood ceremony for Brother John Lelliot.

A brother, who was not well enough to attend, watched on-line. He suggested that little could be heard of the Knighthood ceremony and that microphones need to be provided for participants in the future. This has been noted and is offered here to make other Councils aware of potential shortcomings of live streamed services.

Brothers assisted our local branch of SPUC to make the White Flower Appeal at two parishes in January.

We were very sad to bid farewell to Brother Pat Hudson. The night-before vigil was attended by brother Pat's family and friends, IP SK Brother Bertie Grogan and Supreme Director Welfare and Spirituality Brother Sean Mulligan, Past Director Brother John Edwards, members of Co 280 and brothers from Province 34. The Knights' Farewell was performed. The ceremonial handbook description for this was followed where possible but limitations imposed by the layout of the church required some adjustment. Brothers involved in arranging this in the future would do well to be sure that they are familiar, in advance, with the requirements of the Clergy and any limitations due to space.

The Requiem Mass on the following day was attended by five priests, two Deacons and a full congregation of relatives, friends, many brothers and ex police colleagues. Brother Pat received, as they say "A good send-off"

Welfare work continues for our widows and for brothers who are unwell. These and the deceased brothers of Worthing, Adur and Arundel councils are remembered in our prayers.

St Mary's Primary School, Worthing submitted 24 entries to the Order's Nativity Scene Picture Competition 2022. Winners were selected and forwarded to Provincial AY&S Officer.

The Order's Grand National Draw tickets have been distributed to all members and returns should be made as required.

A memorial Mass will be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February for Phyllis Jansen who died on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Phyllis was the widow of Brother Jim Jansen, Past Supreme Treasurer and in his later years, a member of Co 280. Phyllis was a great supporter of our Council but in compliance with her family's requirements and contrary to her own specific request, a Requiem Mass was not permitted.

A non-religious service, held at the undertakers, was provided instead. In death, the wishes of the deceased are not binding.

The Council are planning to hold a Race Night on May 20<sup>th</sup> at St Oscar Romero High School, Goring-By-Sea. Our Race Night is growing by reputation, requiring more space. We hope to involve students and possibly parents to assist us with the increased workload. The Race Night will raise funds for pupil helpers for the A&B Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes later this year.

**Bro Trevor Stauss GK**

## Guildford Council 551

Over the Christmas Season the Council placed two Nativity cribs in Guildford High Street – one outside Holy Trinity Anglican Church and the other in Nicklin's Optician's window display. Christmas posters and stickers were distributed in parishes within Guildford, Milford, Woking, Knaphill, Weybridge and St Augustine's Abbey.

We were pleased to be informed that Jack O'Connor of St Dunstan's Catholic Primary School, Woking, was the Provincial winner of the Year 2 2022 Nativity Scene Painting Competition, and that Year 6 pupil, Alice Watkins of St George's Catholic Primary School, Weybridge, received a Provincial Highly Commended Certificate.

Fifteen Junior Schools, and four Secondary Schools have been invited to participate in the KSC 2023 Easter Scene Painting Competition. The Senior Schools have also been invited to participate in the KSC Essay and Prayer Competitions.

At our February 2023 Council meeting the Action Plan for the year was approved, and a committee formed to arrange a fundraising talk in one of the parishes in May 2023. The brothers of the Council are actively involved in various ministries within their respective parishes.

We are pleased to advise that the Knighthood Ceremony for four members of the Council will take place at the 10am Mass at St Dunstan's, Woking, on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**Bro Roderick O'Connor GK**

## Membership

Good news:

Bro Roderick O'Connor GK Council 551, Guildford, has four Brothers ready to be elevated to full Knighthood. Date yet to be set as two of the Brothers are overseas. The plan is for the occasion to happen at a Monday 10am Mass at St Dunstan's, Woking, date time and place is yet to be finalised.

Bro Tony Moran GK Council 324, Bognor Regis held a Welcome Ceremony for a new Brother, Alex Nagle, during the 10am Mass on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

Bro John Hydes, MO Council 280, Worthing have elevated Brother John Lelliot to full Knighthood in January

The council continues to use strategies to recruit.:

"I have mentioned in previous bulletins the importance of our Parish Priests and using their contacts and skill sets to recruit new gentlemen to the Order. It really does work! This month, I'll be heading over to Leigh Park, a Parish in the suburbs of Portsmouth, to hopefully launch a new Council there. I became friends with their Deacon, Nick O'Neill a few years ago. They want a Council in the Parish, so I contacted their PP last year, HO sent them some posters and brochures and a date is secured for us to try and attract men to join us and form a working Council".

It would be good to hear from other councils where they have successful recruitment strategies which could be shared.

It would be good to receive reports from other Councils regarding membership.

**Bro Stephen Horsman Provincial Membership**

# Congratulations

**To Brother John Lelliot  
of Worthing Council 280 on his  
Full Knighthood in January**

## PROVINCIAL DISTRICT DEPUTY EAST

I have been informed that the UCM Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Consolation Shrine at West Grinstead is scheduled for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September to which we as KSC members with our family members are welcome to attend.

**Bro Sean Harkins Deputy East**

## Chichester Council 546

We continue to keep in touch with our sick brothers; some of our active members, too, are having serious medical problems. One of our members represented the Council on the sad occasion of the funeral of Past Director Bro. Pat Hudson, a great man in the Knights of St. Columba, whom we shall all miss.

Another of our members gives a lift in his car almost everyday to our assistant priest – who is a member of honour – whose own car, a Citroen Ami, is causing problems, partly due to the fact that its top speed is 28mph! It was suggested that such acts of kindness as this one to a priest should come under the heading of 'Action'.

We are planning another Quiz and Fish & Chip night for April, ensuring as always that it takes place outside Lent. We are also planning one or two other fundraising events, including experimenting with a Bingo night, we have been told that these are quite good evenings for fundraising.

We have already raised quite a bit by selling some of our allocation of Grand National Draw tickets, though we confidently expect to sell quite a few more.

We are also looking forward to welcoming one more new member, who seems very keen to join.

**Bro Richard France GK**

## Eastbourne Council 433

Council Meetings were held in January and February in the home of Bro Gerhard, whose wife is unwell.

We pray for all our deceased members, especially Bros Derek Foreman and Fred Byrne who have recently died. May they rest in peace. The death of these two members has reduced our membership to 5 brothers. Of these one is in a nursing home and another is the fulltime carer of his wife who became paralysed when she fell and broke her neck in church a few years ago.

So we just have 3 members who are able to attend meetings, two of whom are over 80 years old!

We have Holy Week posters ready for distribution soon. The Christmas Posters that we ordered were unfortunately lost in the post.

We notice that the Daily Mass Scheme is restarting on 1 April and our Council's turn is in September.

**Bro Rod Barker GK**

## Hastings and Rother Valley Council 630

We have about 12 Brothers who meet at 7.00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month at the John Fisher Room, St. Thomas of Canterbury Church, St Leonards on Sea. The attendance does fluctuate but recently, I am pleased to say that it has been steady and we have had a number of potential new brothers attending.

I am very happy to inform you all that we are still busy recruiting. We are currently waiting for possible 2 new initiations and the full Knighthood ceremony for our 4 Brothers which we hope will take place soon. I will like to thank Fr. Míceál Beatty of the Parish of the Good Shepherd, St. Leonards on Sea and Fr. Eamonn of St Marys Star of the Sea Church, Hastings for their continued support.

We are now expecting our Easter posters and we will be distributing them at different Masses and Churches throughout March and April. We will use the opportunity for fund raising by holding collection buckets for parishioners who wish to donate to our charities.

God bless and keep you safe.

**Bro Fidelis Okoliko GK**

## Provincial Officers and Councils 2023

<b>Provincial Grand Knight</b> Solomon Ezobi 01424 422712 <a href="mailto:pgk_province34@ksc.org.uk">pgk_province34@ksc.org.uk</a>	<b>Imm Past Provincial Grand Knight</b> Geoffrey Breeze 01243 671082 <a href="mailto:geoffreybreeze99@gmail.com">geoffreybreeze99@gmail.com</a>
<b>Provincial Secretary</b> Patrick David Coates 01424 439871 <a href="mailto:p.coates625@btinternet.com">p.coates625@btinternet.com</a>	<b>Provincial Spirituality &amp; Welfare</b> Hugh Brentnall 01903 715958 <a href="mailto:radoc1971@gmail.com">radoc1971@gmail.com</a>
<b>Provincial Finance</b> Bertie Grogan 0771 4763862 <a href="mailto:ipsk@ksc.org.uk">ipsk@ksc.org.uk</a>	<b>Provincial District Deputy East</b> Sean Harkins 01424 442018 <a href="mailto:judesean@hotmail.com">judesean@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Provincial Warden</b> Tony Moran 01903 774804 <a href="mailto:tonymoran07@gmail.com">tonymoran07@gmail.com</a>	<b>Provincial Membership and Development</b> Stephen Horsman 01293 540112 <a href="mailto:spe.horsman@btinternet.com">spe.horsman@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Provincial Action &amp; Youth</b> Trevor Stauss 01903 366152 <a href="mailto:grand-knight-council280@ksc.org.uk">grand-knight-council280@ksc.org.uk</a>	<b>Provincial Press Officer. Newsletter Editor</b> Charles Yarham 01243 582908 <a href="mailto:rookfold@btinternet.com">rookfold@btinternet.com</a>

Council Grand Knight	Meeting time	Council meeting Venue
<b>Bognor Regis 324</b> Tony Moran 01903 774804 <a href="mailto:tonymoran07@gmail.com">tonymoran07@gmail.com</a>	2nd Mon 7.30 pm	St Peregrine's Hall, The Parish Centre, Hislop Walk, Bognor Regis
<b>Brighton 277</b> Paul Lowry 01273 565437 <a href="mailto:pelowry@aol.com">pelowry@aol.com</a>	2rd Wed 7.30pm	St Thomas More, Patcham <i>(Provincial Council meetings also take place at this venue first Sunday of each quarter at 3pm)</i>
<b>Chichester 546</b> Richard France 07765 516223 <a href="mailto:richardfrance67@gmail.com">richardfrance67@gmail.com</a>	3rd Mon 7.30 pm	St Richard's, Cawley Road Chichester
<b>Crawley 358</b> Stephen Horsman 01293 540112 <a href="mailto:spe.horsman@btinternet.com">spe.horsman@btinternet.com</a>	4th Tuesday 7.30pm	The Friary Not currently meeting
<b>Eastbourne 433</b> Rod Barker 07729936666. <a href="mailto:barkeruk@btinternet.com">barkeruk@btinternet.com</a>	2nd Mon 3pm	Venue varies. Please check with GK
<b>Hastings 630</b> Fidelis Okoliko 07946689934 <a href="mailto:okoliko61@hotmail.com">okoliko61@hotmail.com</a>	3rd Tues 7.30pm	St Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs Magdalen Road. St Leonards-on-Sea.
<b>Guildford &amp; Godalming 551</b> Roderick O'Connor <a href="mailto:mocandroc.uk@gmail.com">mocandroc.uk@gmail.com</a>	3rd Mon 8pm	St Pius X, Lauston Close, Merrow, Guildford, GU1 2TS
<b>Worthing 280</b> Trevor Stauss 01903 366152 <a href="mailto:grand-knight-council280@ksc.org.uk">grand-knight-council280@ksc.org.uk</a>	2nd Tues 7.45 pm	English Martyrs Goring Way, Goring, West Sussex, BN12 4UH