

After 79 years of loyal service

Arthur Dobbins Retires

Arthur Dobbins is retiring as Altar server at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Southbourne, Bournemouth having served the parish for a total of 25 years; 14 years with Father John Dunne and prior to that 11 years with Canon Henry Murphy. Arthur began altar serving at just 7 years old in the London area - as he is now 86 years old, this means 79 years of loyal service to the Catholic Church.



Arthur has been tireless in his work over the years, welcoming parishioners, organising altar server

training, making sure everything runs smoothly in the sacristy. He and his late wife Connie have shown faithful commitment and dedication to the smooth running of our Parish life. Even when not too well and undergoing various operations over the years, Arthur has wasted little time in getting back up on the altar and helping Father.

Arthur always had a welcome and a handshake for all at church old and young alike; his example of a joyful christian is an inspiration to us all. Happy retirement Arthur, we will miss your guiding hand and friendly face!

De La Salle Brothers Leave

Sadly the De la Salle Brothers have left. Our prayers go to the Brothers along with grateful thanks for their work over the many years they have been part of our parish. They came as a Community to take over St Peter's School, from the Jesuits, in 1947.

Strong ties bind St Peter's School and our Lady Queen of Peace Church. This was largely due to the initiative of Father Hetherington that the School came under the care of the De La Salle Brothers.

Father Murtagh, our Parish Priest in 1949, continued to offer every help and encouragement to the school, even sitting on the Board of Governors. He was hugely energetic in school planning, building and fund raising.

In 1947 Father made the first move in the negotiations with the De La Salle Provincialate and organised financial assistance through the Catholic Parents and Electors Association.

During the 1970s the Brothers were key players in the re-organisation of Catholic secondary education in Bournemouth. The school we now know as St Peter's School came into being in 1980 through the merger of Boscombe Convent, St Thomas More School and the St Peter's independent boys' grammar school.

Many of the Brothers have been involved in the parish life of OLQP over the years. They have helped with Sacramental preparation, as readers and as musicians.

In the first week of January we said our last goodbyes to the remaining Brothers at Sterlings and Briar Patch. A few months before Brother David moved to Kintbury, Brother Ignatius to Portsmouth and Brother William to London.

A lasting memorial to them will be the De la Salle theatre at the school's Southbourne site. We wish them all the best and hope they will visit from time to time.

May God bless them all.

St Josephs' Junior School



New Headteacher of St Joseph's Junior School
Louise Buxton



Chaplain Maggie Belcher &
Headteacher Anthony McCaffrey