

## *Altar Servers enjoy their day at Arundel Cathedral*

*What a privilege it was for us to attend the special service at Arundel Cathedral for Altar Servers last Saturday afternoon. This was my first visit to the Cathedral and probably also for many of the other Altar Servers who came along from our parish. What a beautiful building; it is*



*faced with Bath stone and is in the French gothic style, there were plenty of very colourful stained glass windows too.*



*Bishop Kieran, 5  
Priests, Cathedral*

*Altar servers and Altar servers from neighbouring parishes, started off the Mass with the procession from the Sacristy leading around the pews and down the middle aisle. What a wonderful turnout -*





*there were at least 140 Servers in total to celebrate the Mass. It was really great to see so many other Servers all in one place.*



*The opening hymn was “Praise to the Most Holy in the Height”, words by Blessed Cardinal John Henry Newman’. The organ was very loud it sounded powerful, fantastic and amazing. We then began with the introductory rights, a greeting, and the Liturgy of the Word, reading only the First Reading which was from Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59; the Responsorial Psalm was sung by the Cantor. The Gospel Reading, Matthew 10:17-22, was read by the priest. After the Homily from the Bishop, he enrolled about 6 Altar Servers into the Guild of St Stephen.*



*While the cathedral Altar Servers were preparing the gifts to the altar, we sang “Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.” Then followed the Prayer over the Gifts, the Eucharistic Prayer and the Communion Rite.*

*The Post Communion hymn was “First of Martyrs, thou whose name” after which the Bishop pronounced the final Blessing and the Dismissal.*

*After Mass, the Servers from each parish had their photos taken with Bishop Kieran standing with them.*



*There was a gathering of all Servers at the back of the Cathedral as*

*St Mary's Hall is currently being refurbished. We all had drinks and ate plenty of chocolates to celebrate!*



*We then began our journey home where the parents were waiting for us in the church car park.*

*I look forward to next year's event which is going to be held at Westminster Cathedral. On behalf of the Servers that attended, thank you to all those who played a special part in getting us to this service at Arundel.*

*Christopher D'Souza*

