

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet for Sunday 15th August 2021

The Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary



Welcome to this Parish Mass - held each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. broadcast via our church website later in the day.

This week:

Morning Prayer Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, at 9 a.m.

Church open for private prayer, weekday mornings

Midweek Mass Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Online "Zoom" service: 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

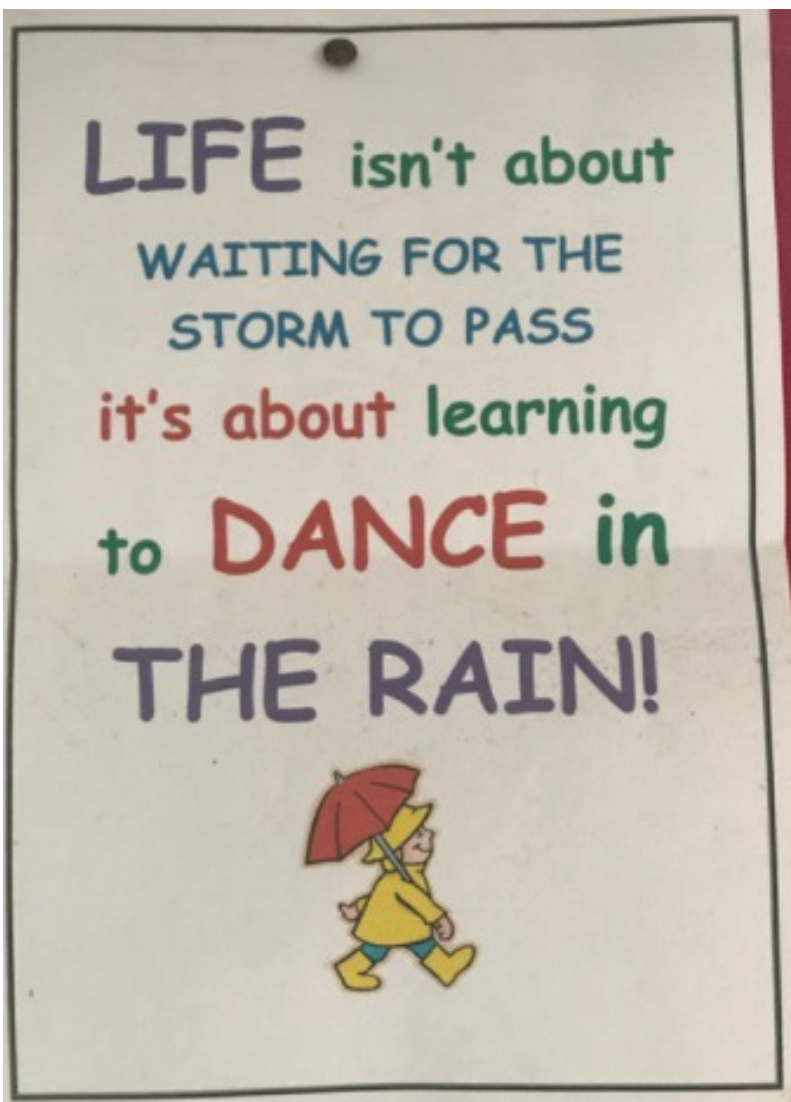
The 8 a.m. Mass resumes here next Sunday, 22nd.

Our prayers are asked for:

Jean & Geoff, Geraldine, Brenda R, Jane G, Jo, Amber, Shirley, Andrew N, Alison N, Don F, Sue T, Eve G, Sally L, Rob, Jenny H, Jon W, Luke, Roy, Andy, and Dawn, and staff and residents of Ridge House.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Joan McNulty, Elizabeth Kingsnorth, Sheila Johnstone, Eric Francome Farrer, Paul Cabban, Billy Allen, John McConnell, Mark Smallman, and Terri Danes, ... and all who mourn.



As it's holiday season the editor is taking a short break from producing the usual full version of the Pews News. Thank you for understanding!

Do you have an item, prayer list update, or info for the Pews News? Please send to pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com or phone/text 07525 186205 by 9 p.m. on Thursdays. Thanks!

← a church welcome notice seen by Mike C whilst on holiday recently

Worship at St John's.

We note that the Church of England has left Incumbents and PCC's in a difficult position regarding changes to the way we conduct public worship after 19th July 2021.

That said, we have consulted other churches across Hastings, St Leonards and Battle and Bexhill. A moderate and cautiously optimistic attitude is what seems to have been universally adopted, recognising the huge extremes of individual's responses to risk. At St John's our guiding theological principle is that of inclusion. We desire to make worship of God as accessible to as many people as possible. The difficulty is that some people quite rightly feel vulnerable for a variety of reasons and would therefore prefer tight restrictions upon what we do, whereas others find 'restricted' worship spiritually unsatisfactory and consequently depressing. As a Christian Church family, we need to find a way to accommodate everyone. This is frankly difficult!

So, with a great deal of extremely valuable and prayerful input from a number of people with widely differing views I think the following proposal may be helpful and should be reviewed in the first week of September.

1. None of what follows is legally enforceable, but as ever what is legal and what is right are not necessarily the same.
2. We shall invite Richard E our fabulous organist to reconvene our choir to lead the singing of hymns and to sing anthems and other items as liturgically desirable such as the Gloria. The choir will not need to mask as they will be more than 20 feet from the nearest worshippers. They may however mask if they wish. We shall not for the moment reinstitute liturgical processions.
3. We shall have a choir item for the Gradual, or a soloist as is the current practice. The congregation may join in with a 'processional' and a final hymn but for the moment masks will need to be worn whilst singing. This is the usual practice at local churches and is how major churches such as York Minster operate. We shall investigate the supply of singing friendly masks.
4. Whoever is the Liturgical Deacon will prepare the Altar at the Offertory.
5. The Peace will continue to be non-contact apart from those in a bubble.
6. We shall re-establish as soon as possible a rota for lesson readers and intercessors.

7. The Nave Altar will be returned to its normal position.
8. As members of the congregation move around St John's the expectation is that masks should be worn. Once seated and for all spoken responses masks may be off but a soft voice is encouraged. This is also the case for responses where we would normally stand, such as the Creed.
9. The western part of the Nave will have a socially distanced seating arrangement where people who are clinically vulnerable or who share a home space or workplace with those who are clinically vulnerable may wish to sit.
10. The eastern part of the nave will have undistanced seating for those who feel that is right for them.
11. We shall reinstitute the said 8 o'clock mass on a Sunday and will seek to establish another worship provision of either mass or evening prayer at 5 p.m. on a Sunday.
12. We shall continue to receive the blessed sacrament in one kind.
13. For those who worship seated at the west end it would be sensible to exit by that door. For those closer to the east end who may wish to stay and chat after the service they should be encouraged to leave by the organ door or if weather conditions permit to chat outside.
14. Lastly, whoever is presiding should explain the above for the first Sunday of changes (15th August) at least ten minutes before the service starts.

God be with you,

Fr D

Almost two thirds of UK churches plan to carry on streaming online, even after restrictions have been lifted.

According to a recent survey by the insurance group Ecclesiastical and The Bible Society, 93 % of churches have used new ways to keep in touch with their congregation and over two in five churches (43 %) saw an increase in attendance as a result.

Live streaming has undoubtedly helped churches keep their services going during the pandemic, but this research suggests most, 62 %, would like the new habit to stay. Indeed, here at St John's, the online worship offerings on Sundays and Wednesdays will be continued.

Mass for the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Introit: *Cantate Domino - Pitoni*

The Greeting

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All Amen.

The Lord be with you

All and also with you.

Prayer of Confession

We have done what was wrong in the
Lord's sight
and chosen what displeased him.
Yet as a mother comforts her child,
so shall the Lord himself comfort us.
So let us come to him who knows our every
deed and thought.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.

The priest says the Absolution

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all
your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all
goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

The Gloria is sung by the choir:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.**

Amen

The Collect

Let us pray:

Almighty God,
who looked upon the lowliness of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
and chose her to be the mother of your
only Son:
grant that we who are redeemed by his
blood
may share with her in the glory of your
eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

A reading from Isaiah

Isaiah 61.10,11

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments
of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of
righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a
garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with
her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown
in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteous-
ness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Galatians

Galatians 4.4-7

When the fullness of time had come, God
sent his Son, born of a woman, born
under the law, in order to redeem those
who were under the law, so that we might
receive adoption as children. And
because you are children, God has sent
the Spirit of his Son into our hearts,
crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no
longer a slave but a child, and if a child
then also an heir, through God.

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Sing we of the blessed Mother
Who received the angel's word,
And obedient to his summons
Bore in love the infant Lord;
Sing we of the joys of Mary
At whose breast that child was fed
Who is Son of God eternal
And the everlasting Bread.

Sing we, too, of Mary's sorrows,
Of the sword that pierced her through,
When beneath the cross of Jesus
She his weight of suffering knew,
Looked upon her Son and Saviour
Reigning high on Calvary's tree,
Saw the price of man's redemption
Paid to set the sinner free.

Sing again the joys of Mary
When she saw the risen Lord,
And in prayer with Christ's apostles,
Waited on his promised word;
From on high the blazing glory
Of the Spirit's presence came,
Heavenly breath of God's own being,
Manifest through wind and flame.

Sing the chiefest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to his heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary blessèd,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May your Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see his face.

G.B. Timms (b.1910)

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
My soul magnifies the Lord
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke
All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 1.46-55

'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the
lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will
call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things
for me,
and holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the
thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from
their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,

according to the promise he made to our
ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants for
ever.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Let us declare our faith in God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of
the Father.**

**He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,**

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

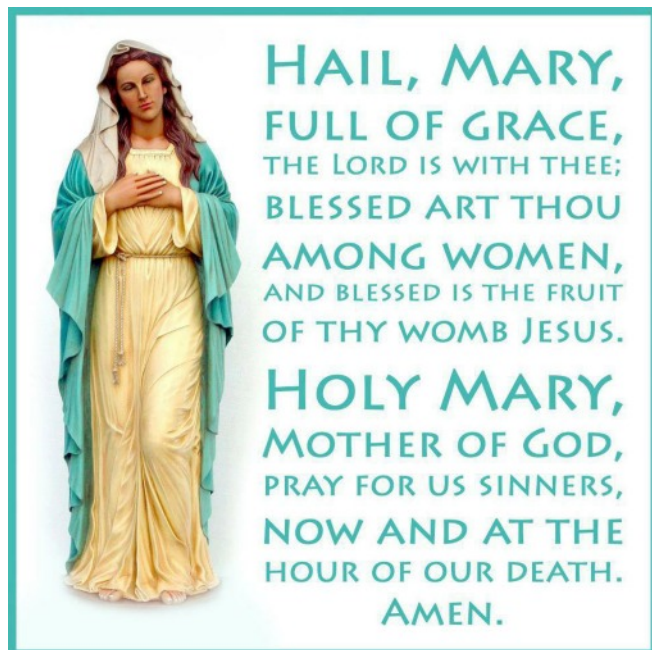
Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit
and in union with Christ,
let us pray to the Father.

The response to the petitions is:

God of love

All Hear our prayer



Merciful Father,

All accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

The Peace *is introduced*

Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Music: Ave Maria - Bach/Gounod

God our Father,
your handmaid Mary fed your Son at her virgin breast.

Nourish us at this table with the bread of heaven

and the cup of salvation.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The priest takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good,
our duty and our salvation,
almighty Father, ever-living God,
to give you thanks and praise
for the work of your grace in the Blessed
Virgin Mary.

For by the overshadowing of your Holy
Spirit
she conceived and bore the Word made
flesh.

At the cross she kept her vigil,
and saw the saving work of your Son
brought to its perfection.

She rejoiced in his resurrection,
and joining her prayers with those of the
apostles,
was filled with the gift of your promised
Spirit.

In her you show us the greatness of your
love,
and the wonderful purpose you intend
for all your children.

Therefore we join our voice with hers,
and all the company of heaven,
as they sing with joy the hymn of your
glory:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed,
the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy
Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood
of our Lord Jesus Christ;

who, in the same night that he was
betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples,
saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:

Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

Great is the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his
death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the
sins of the whole world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection
and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our
redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of
praise and thanksgiving,
we bring before you this bread and this
cup
and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Saint John
the Evangelist, Saint Peter, Mary the
Mother of God, and all the saints,
may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours,
almighty Father, for ever and ever.

All Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence
as our Saviour has taught us

All Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many,
we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

Agnus Dei is sung:

All Jesus, Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Give us your peace

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to
his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word,
and I shall be healed.

Communion is received

Music: King of Glory, King of Peace
- J.S. Bach (sung by the choir)

Prayer after Communion

The priest prays the Post Communion
for the day:

God most high,
whose handmaid bore the Word made flesh:
we thank you that in this sacrament of our
redemption
you visit us with your Holy Spirit
and overshadow us by your power;
strengthen us to walk with Mary the joyful
path of obedience
and so to bring forth the fruits of holiness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off,
you met us in your Son
and brought us home.
Dying and living,
he declared your love,
gave us grace,
and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup
bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights
give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope
you have set before us,
so we and all your children
shall be free,
and the whole earth live to
praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Final hymn

Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Mortals, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore.
*Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When he had purged our stains,
He took his seat above;
Lift up your heart...

His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart...

He sits at God's right hand
Till all his foes submit,
And bow to his command,
And fall beneath his feet:
Lift up your heart...
Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

May the Father,
who has loved the eternal Son
from before the foundation of the world,
shed that love upon you his children.

All Amen.

May Christ,
who by his incarnation gathered into one
things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with joy and peace.

All Amen.

May the Holy Spirit,
by whose overshadowing Mary became
the God-bearer,
give you grace to carry the good news of
Christ.

All Amen.

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you
and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Concluding Voluntary:
Nun danket alle Gott - Karg-Elert

The Small Print for this pewsheet:

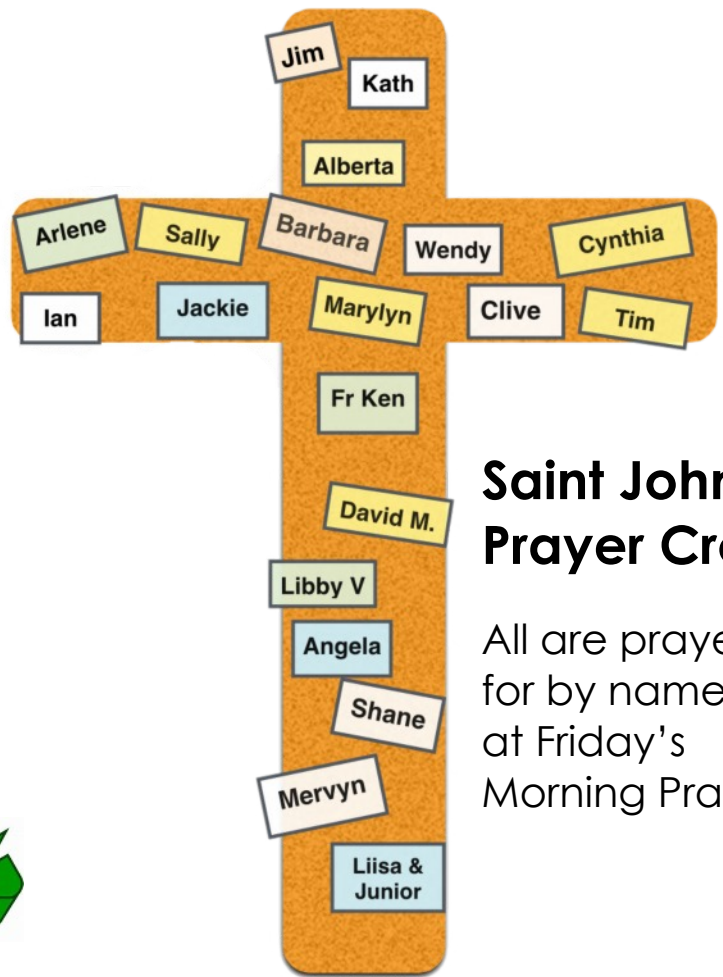
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Saint John's Prayer Cross

All are prayed for by name at Friday's Morning Prayer

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Please contact her also for **Church Hall bookings**

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