

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 29th January 2023

**Presentation of Christ in the
Temple (Candlemas)**



Welcome to today's Mass at St John's

This week:

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs, in Saint Peter's Chapel. Friday in Church.

Church open weekdays, where possible.

Midweek Mass: Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Online "Zoom" service: Wednesday at 10 a.m. Please contact the church administrator on admstjohns30@gmail.com, to put you in touch with the organizer for a "link" to join in

Morning Coffee and Warm Space: Friday 10 - 12 noon in the Church Hall

Our prayers are asked for:

Andrew N, Holly H, Andy, Sue T, Don F, Helena, Ramona, Jackie N, Marie N, John T, Nigel & Carrie, and Della.

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Janet Benkyi, Betty, and Fr David Fentiman,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time, especially Helen Farrer, Rosemary Hughes and Doris Jenkins,

... and all who mourn.



Many people don't realise Leprosy still exists. **Today is World**

Leprosy Day, which aims to raise awareness of this challenging issue. Visit leprosymission.org.uk for more information and resources. *RT*

Rev'd David Fentiman's funeral will be here at St John's at 12.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8th February. All welcome.

Hansel & Gretel update...

We remain in great need of baking volunteers please. We cannot possibly have an evening of Hansel and Gretel without goodies, especially gingerbread men. Please help support this wonderful evening and contact Lesley Ann

Many thanks to all those who have offered to help on the ticket desk. We are still short on meet and greet and would welcome a couple more smiling faces for that task please!

LAD

HANSEL & GRETEL

presented as a Fairy Tale in two parts

by

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK

St John the Evangelist,
Pevensey Road,

St Leonards
TN38 0LF

Friday February 24th
Saturday February 25th
7:30 p.m.

Licensed bar
Mulled wine &
refreshments

Professional cast

Tickets: £15

accompanied under 12s: £10

Available in advance from the
church office (Mon. Tues. Thurs.
9am -1pm)

01424 425942

admstjohns30@gmail.com

*Rollicking good fun for all the family,
beautiful music and an early night:
book early to avoid disappointment!*

PROCEEDS IN AID OF ST JOHN'S WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Introit: *Creator of the stars of night*
(plainchant)

Opening Hymn

Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
in light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious,
thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting,
thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains
of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest,
to both great and small;
in all life thou livest,
the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish
but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee,
all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render:
O help us to see
'tis only the splendour
of light hideth thee.

W. Chalmers Smith (1824-1908)

Welcoming of the people

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

All Amen.

Priest The Lord be with you
All and also with you.

Prayer of Preparation

All Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Deacon Hear the words of our Saviour
Jesus Christ:
'I am the light of the world.
Whoever follows me shall never walk in
darkness
but shall have the light of life.'
Let us therefore bring our sins into his light
and confess them in penitence and faith.

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.

Absolution

Priest 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 in Excelsis is sung:

**All 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:

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel;
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God.

All Amen.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

Malachi 3.1-5

Thus says the Lord God: See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight – indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Hebrews 2.14-18

Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those

who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Hymn

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
Be all else but naught to me, save that
Thou art
Be Thou my best thought in the day
and the night
Both waking and sleeping, Thy
presence my light.

Be Thou my wisdom, be Thou my true
word
Be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee,
Lord
Be Thou my great Father, and I Thy
true son
Be Thou in me dwelling and I with Thee
one.

Be Thou my breastplate, my sword for
the fight;
Be Thou my whole armour, be Thou my
true might;
Be Thou my soul's shelter, be Thou my
strong tower,
O raise Thou me heavenward, great
power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Be Thou mine inheritance, now and
always
Be Thou and Thou only the first in my
heart
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure Thou
art.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright
sun
O grant me its joys, after victory is won;
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever
befall,
Still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Irish, 8th century, tr. Mary Byrne (1880-1931)

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
This child is the light to enlighten the
nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
All Alleluia.

Dcn The Lord be with you
All And also with you

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

Luke 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord. (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed

to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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

Sermon

The Creed

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

**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

Let us pray to the Father through Christ our light and life.

Father,
your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:
look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light ...

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Father,
your Christ in the Temple brings judgement on the world:

look in mercy on the nations who long for his justice ...

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Father,
your Christ, who was rich, for our sake became poor:

look in mercy on all who are in need and those who suffer with him ...

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Father,
your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace:

look in mercy on the whole Church, which glories in your salvation ...

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Father,
your Christ is the one destined for rejection:
look in mercy on us as we turn towards his passion.

Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Almighty Father,
you kept faith with Simeon and Anna,
and showed them the infant King.
Give us grace to trust your promises,
and patience to wait for their fulfilment;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Peace is introduced

In the tender mercy of our God
the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness,
and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way 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 exchange a sign of Peace with those around us

Hymn

During which the table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

O worship the King,
All glorious above,
And gratefully sing
His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender,
The Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendour,
And girded with praise.

O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy space,
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm.

This earth with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power
Hath founded of old:
Hath stablished it fast
By a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
Like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care,
What tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light;
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust,
And feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
Nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender,
How firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless Might,
Ineffable Love,
While angels delight
To hymn thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall sing to thy praise.

(Robert Grant (1779-1838))

Preparation of the Table

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a
light for the righteous;
accept the gifts we bring before you
and grant that Christ may shine in us
to the praise and glory of your name.

All Amen.

The president 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,
always and everywhere to give you thanks
and praise

through Jesus Christ, who is one with you
from all eternity.

For on this day he appeared in the temple
in substance of our flesh

to come near to us in judgement.

He searches the hearts of all your people
and brings to light the image of your
splendour.

Your servant Simeon acclaimed him as the
light to lighten the nations
while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for
your redemption.

Destined for the falling and rising of many,
he was lifted high upon the cross
and a sword of sorrow pierced his
mother's heart

when by his sacrifice he made our peace
with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name
that we, too, have seen your salvation
and join with angels and archangels
in their unending hymn of praise:

**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

The priest breaks the consecrated 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.**

We sit as Agnus Dei is sung:

**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

The priest says the invitation to 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.**

Holy Communion is then distributed

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

*Anthem: How beautiful upon the
mountains (Stainer)*

Hymn

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Chorus:

Christ be our light!

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Chorus*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed. *Chorus*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone. *Chorus*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come. *Chorus*

Prayer after Communion

*The priest prays the Post Communion for
the day:*

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of
Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts
beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he
comes to bring us to eternal life;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever
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

The Blessing

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace
to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
always.
All Amen.

Final hymn

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return
Till Thy mercy's beams I see;
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

The Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

All May the Grace of our Lord
Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Priest May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace...
All and rise in glory. Amen.

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

Concluding voluntary: Postlude in D
(Healey Willan)



Please stay for coffee after today's
Parish Mass.

St John's Prayer Cross

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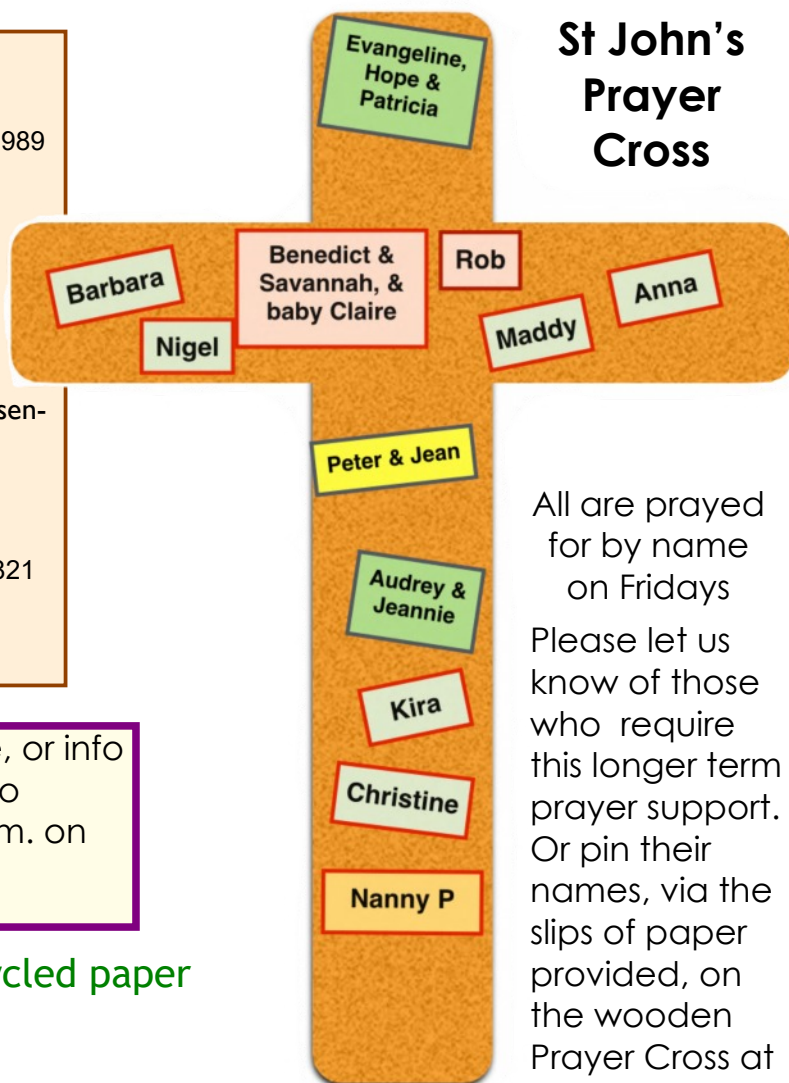
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for the Pews News? Please send to
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Email: admstjohns30@gmail.com

Tina is our Administrator.

Usual office hours 09:00-13:00, Mon, Tues, Thurs.

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

All are prayed
for by name
on Fridays

Please let us
know of those
who require
this longer term
prayer support.
Or pin their
names, via the
slips of paper
provided, on
the wooden
Prayer Cross at
the back of the
Church.
Thank you.