

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 12th March 2023

3rd Sunday of Lent



Welcome to today's Mass at St John's

This week:

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, in St Peter's Chapel.

Church open weekdays, where possible.

Midweek Mass: Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Lent Course: Wednesday, 7 p.m., St Peter's Chapel

Online "Zoom" service: Wednesday at 10 a.m. Please contact the church administrator on admstjohns30@gmail.com, to put you in touch 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, Geraldine, Della, Tim, and Pat.

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the departed, especially those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Edith Murrills, Derek Alexander, Pat Keene, Christopher Annison, and Derek Reade,

... and all who mourn.

The Story Group (home group featuring discussion around a story) meets tonight, March 12th, 7.30-9.00 p.m. All welcome; Pen W or Alison D are the people to contact for info.

Please note a **new start date** for the **monthly evening service** at St John's. It will be a word service (not a Mass) and will include a series of sermons under the broad title of "Where is God when it hurts?". We will be looking at how our faith can make sense to us in the face of suffering and hardship. The service will include the opportunity to receive prayer for healing for yourself or others. Bishop Laurie will speak at the first service on **Palm Sunday, 2nd April**, at 4 p.m. MC

A poster for 'Beetle Drive' at St John's Church Hall, Brittany Road. It features a cartoon beetle character. The text says: 'Beetle Drive', 'Saturday 18th March', '3.00pm', 'Come and have an Afternoon of Fun with Friends, Games, Tea and Cake!', and 'Tickets £3 from Katy H'.

You are invited to buy an Easter Lily, £2.50, to form part of the Easter decoration of the church, in memory of a loved one. For further details, please take a form, which you will find at the back of church. KH



Church Together LOAF Second Sunday Walk - March 12th.

Today we meet at 2 p.m. At Sedlescombe Village Well on the green near the pub. The Walk will be led by Dr David Walker and will be 5 miles in length through some beautiful countryside and woodland. There will be mud so wear appropriate footwear!
Roger Mitchell

Introit: Thou knowest, Lord (Purcell)

Opening Hymn

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my Guide.

O let me hear thee speaking,
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten, or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where thou art in glory
There shall thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my Friend.

O let me see Thy footmarks,
And in them plant mine own;
My hope to follow duly
Is in thy strength alone.
O guide me, call me, draw me,
Uphold me to the end;
And then in heaven receive me,
My Saviour and my Friend.

John Bode (1816-74)

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.

Prayers of Penitence

Dcn The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart God will not despise.
Let us come to the Lord,
who is full of compassion,
and acknowledge our transgressions
in penitence and faith.

All Lord God,
we have sinned against you;
we have done evil in your sight.
We are sorry and repent.
Have mercy on us according to your love.
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us
from our sin.
Renew a right spirit within us
and restore us to the joy of your salvation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Then the Kyrie Eleison is sung:

All Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Christ have mercy upon us.
Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy,
Lord have mercy upon us.

The 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 Collect

Let us pray
Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of Christ's
sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All Amen.

A reading from the book of Exodus

Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb.

Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is the LORD among us or not?'

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 5.1-11

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

through whom we have now received reconciliation.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

All ye who seek a comfort sure
in trouble and distress,
whatever sorrow vex the mind,
or guilt the soul oppress:

Jesus, who gave himself for you
upon the cross to die,
opens to you his sacred heart;
O to that heart draw nigh.

Ye hear how kindly he invites;
Ye hear his words so blest:
'All ye that labour come to me,
and I will give you rest.'

O Jesus, joy of saints on high,
Thou hope of sinners here,
attracted by those loving words
to thee I lift my prayer.

Wash thou my wounds in that dear
blood,
which forth from thee doth flow;
New grace, new hope inspire, a new
and better heart bestow.

18th century Latin, tr. Edward Caswall (1814-78)

Gospel Reading

Dcn Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God,
O that today you would listen to his
voice.

Harden not your hearts.

**All Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.**

Dcn The Lord be with you

All And also with you

Dcn Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to John

All Glory to you, O Lord.

John 4.5-42

Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink," you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you

say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have

laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

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

We pray to the Lord for courage to give
up other things
and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

Give your Church the courage
to give up her preoccupation with herself
and to give more time to your mission in
the world.

May the blood and water flowing from the
side of Jesus
bring forgiveness to your people
and help us to face the cost of proclaiming
salvation.

Lord, meet us in the silence,

**All give us strength and hear our
prayer.**

Give your world the courage
to give up war, bitterness and hatred,
and to seek peace...

May the shoulders of the risen Jesus,
once scourged by soldiers,
bear the burden of political and military
conflict in our world.

Lord, meet us in the silence,

All give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up quarrels,
strife and jealousy
in our families, neighbourhoods and
communities...

May the presence of the risen Jesus,
his body once broken and now made
whole,

bring peace and direction as we live with
one another.

Lord, meet us in the silence,

All give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage

to give up our selfishness as we live for
others,

and to give time, care and comfort to the
sick...

May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his
healing touch,

and the light of his presence fill their
rooms.

Lord, meet us in the silence,

All give us strength and hear our prayer.

Give us the courage to give up our fear of
death

and to rejoice with those who have died in
faith...

May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once
nailed to the cross,

walk alongside the dying and bereaved in
their pain,

and walk with us and all your Church
through death to the gate of glory.

Lord, meet us in the silence,

**All give us strength and hear our prayer.
here and in eternity. Amen.**

The Peace *is introduced*

Since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our
Lord Jesus Christ,
who has given us access to his grace.
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 with
those around us*

Hymn

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

Jesu, Lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah, leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
more than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart;
rise to all eternity. *Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

Preparation of the Table

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
accept all we offer you this day;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
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
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and
discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.
Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.

Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the
world
and free our hands to welcome others
into the radiant splendour of your love.

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter feast
with joyful hearts and minds
we bless you for your mercy
and join with saints and angels
for ever praising you and singing:

**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
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

Trusting in the compassion of God,
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:

O Lamb of God, our Lord most holy,
who redeems us from our sin.
Have mercy on us, meek and lowly,
make us clean and pure within.
Grant us peace we humbly pray,
as we who worship you today
receive your body and your blood,
renewed in faith by heav'nly food.

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: Ave Verum Corpus (Mozart)

Communion Hymn

Lord, in this thy mercy's day,
Ere it pass for ay away,
On our knees we fall and pray.

Lord, on us thy Spirit pour,
Kneeling lowly at the door,
Lest it close for evermore.

By thy night of agony,
By thy supplicating cry,
By thy willingness to die.

By thy tears of bitter woe,
For Jerusalem below,
Let us not thy love forgo.

Grant us 'neath thy wings a place,
Lest we lose the day of grace,
Ere we shall behold thy face.

Isaac Williams (1802-65)

Prayer after Communion

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

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace
to withstand the temptations of the world,
the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow
you, the only God;
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

The Blessing

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,
and follow him;
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

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast."

I came to Jesus as I was,
weary, and worn, and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched,
my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise,
and all thy day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk,
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-89)

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: Toccata and
fugue in B flat major (Pachelbel)**

Coffee is available after the 10:30 Mass

The Small Print for this pewsheet:

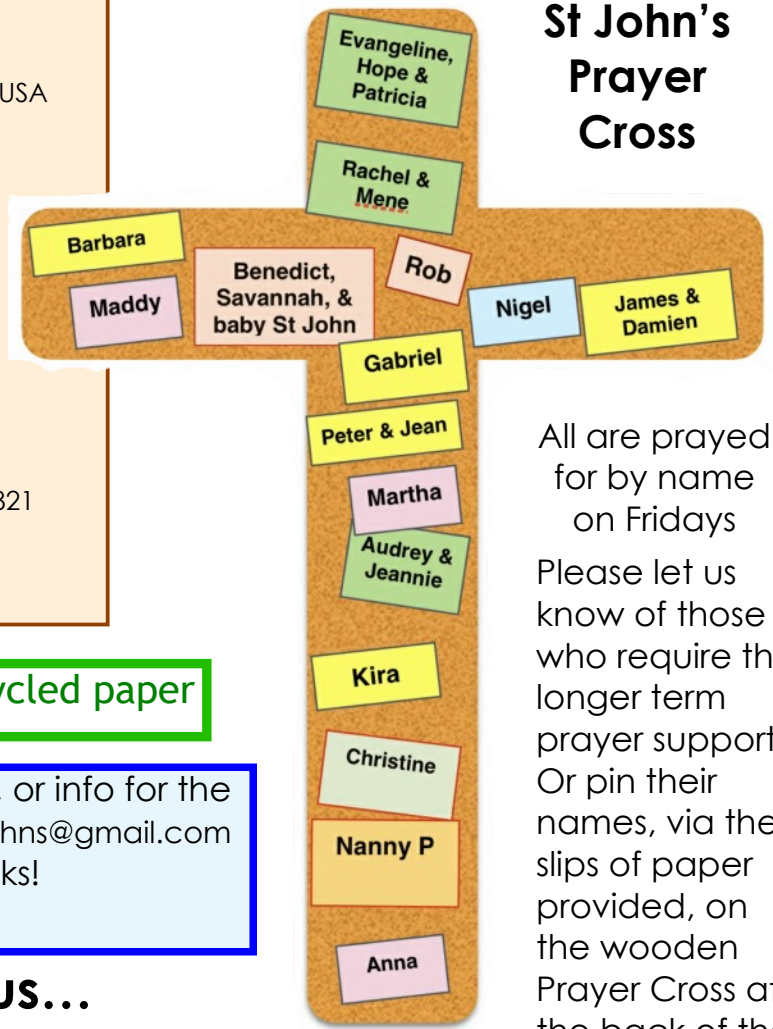
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St John's Prayer Cross

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.

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

To contact us...

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Tina is our Administrator.

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

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