

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 26th March 2023

5th Sunday of Lent

Passiontide begins



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.

Morning Coffee: Friday 10 - 12 noon *in the Church*

Drop in for
**Morning
Coffee**



**NB: BACK IN CHURCH
Fridays, 10:00 - 12:00**



Our prayers are asked for:

Andrew N, Holly H, Andy, Jackie N, Marie N, John T, Nigel & Carrie, Geraldine, Della, Tim, Pat, Kathryn & Ian, Lesley, Amber, and Peter.

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the departed, especially Michael Aldridge whose Years Mind falls around this time:

... and all who mourn.



Help Colin the Coastguard run the Hastings Half
Colin Bewes (who sings in the choir) is running his 12th Hastings Half Marathon on 26th March 2023 to raise funds for the Coastguard Association. Please help him at bit.ly/ColinRunsHastings

Home Group Update

It's great that a number of home groups have been re-established and are growing. Some would welcome new members so please speak to Fr David or Dcn Mike if you are interested in joining one. This is a good way to meet new people and deepen our faith.

- The St Leonards group meets once a month: see Jenny B or Dcn Mike.
- The book group and Zoom group are currently full.
- The story group, featuring discussion around a story, welcomes new members. Speak to Pen W or Alison D.
- The Crightons/Bishop Laurie group is starting soon. MC

Dog walk for St Michael's Hospice.

Montgo wants to thank everyone who sponsored him for his 10 km dog walk last Saturday. He has raised £110 for the hospice so far. Please see me if you need to settle up as I am handling the money on his behalf. Mike C

Revision of the Church Electoral Roll takes place in April. If you are already named on the Roll you don't need to do anything. If you would like to join the Roll please take a form from the welcome desk and return it to Clare Cooper. Your participation enables you to vote at the annual church meeting in May and adds your name to our monthly cycle of parish prayers. CC

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!

Introit: O Saviour of the world
(Somervell)

Opening Hymn

It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heav'n,
and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept, and toiled, and mourned, and died
for love of those who loved him not.

But even could I see Him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love which, like a fire,
is always burning in His heart.

It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
but 'tis more wonderful to see
my love for him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love thee more and more,
until I see thee as thou art.

W. Walsham How (1823-97)

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 God shows his love for us
in that, while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

Let us then show our love for him
by confessing our sins
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:

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his
passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's
blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

A reading from the book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37.1-14

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.'

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into

them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.'

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 8.6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

Not the labours of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyes shall close in death,
when I soar through tracts unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

Augustus Toplady (1740-78)

Gospel Reading

Dcn Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Christ humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

Therefore God has highly exalted him and given him the name that is above every name.

**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 11.1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.'

After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.'

Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.'

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.'

Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.'

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe

that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in 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 bring to the Father our prayers of
intercession
through Christ who gave himself for the life
of the world.

For forgiveness for the many times we
have denied Jesus,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For grace to seek out those habits of sin
which mean spiritual death,
and by prayer and self-discipline to
overcome them,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For Christian people,
that through the suffering of disunity
there may grow a rich union in Christ,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those who make laws, interpret them,
and administer them,
that our common life may be ordered in
justice and mercy,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those who still make Jerusalem a
battleground,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those who have the courage and
honesty
to work openly for justice and peace,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those in the darkness and agony of
isolation,
that they may find support and encourage-
ment,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those weighed down with hardship,
failure, illness or sorrow,
that they may feel that God is near them...
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

For those who are tempted to give up the
way of the cross,
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

That we, with those who have died in faith,
may find mercy in the day of Christ...
let us pray to the Lord.
All Lord, have mercy.

**All Holy God,
holy and strong,
holy and immortal,
have mercy upon us. Amen.**

The Peace is introduced

Once we were far off,
but now in union with Christ Jesus
we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our 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 with
those around us**

Hymn

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

My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown
that they might lovely be.
O, who am I,
that for my sake
My Lord should take
frail flesh and die?

He came from his blest throne
Salvation to bestow;
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know!
But O, my Friend,
My Friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend!

Sometimes they strew his way,
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
is all their breath,
and for his death
they thirst and cry.

They rise, and needs will have
my dear Lord made away.
A murderer they save,
the Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes
that he his foes
from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing;
no story so divine,
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine!
This is my Friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend!

Samuel Crossman (1624-83)

Preparation of the Table

Jesus, true vine and bread of life,
ever giving yourself that the world might live,
let us share your death and passion:
make us perfect in your love.

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 just,
our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrec-
tion draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his
hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross
reveals the judgement that has come upon
the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.
He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and
archangels,
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.**

Communion is then distributed

The Body of Christ. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

*Anthem: We adore Thee, Lord Jesu
(Palestrina)*

Communion Hymn

When I survey the wondrous Cross,
on which the Prince of glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
save in the death of Christ my God;
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

See from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

His dying crimson like a robe,
spreads o'er his body on the Tree;
then am I dead to all the globe,
and all the globe is dead to me.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Prayer after Communion

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

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our brothers
and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, 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 crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
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

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

O loving wisdom of our God!
When all was sin and shame,
a second Adam to the fight
and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! That flesh and blood,
which did in Adam fail,
should strive afresh against the foe,
should strive and should prevail;

and that a higher gift than grace
should flesh and blood refine,
God's presence and his very self,
and essence all-divine.

O generous love! That he who smote
in Man for man the foe,
the double agony in man
for man should undergo;

And in the garden secretly,
and on the cross on high,
should teach his brethren, and inspire
to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height,
and in the depth be praise:
in all his words most wonderful,
most sure in all his ways.

John Henry Newman (1801-90)

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: Prelude and
fugue in C major BWV 531 (J.S. Bach)*

Coffee is available after the 10:30 Mass

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



The Small Print for this pewsheet:

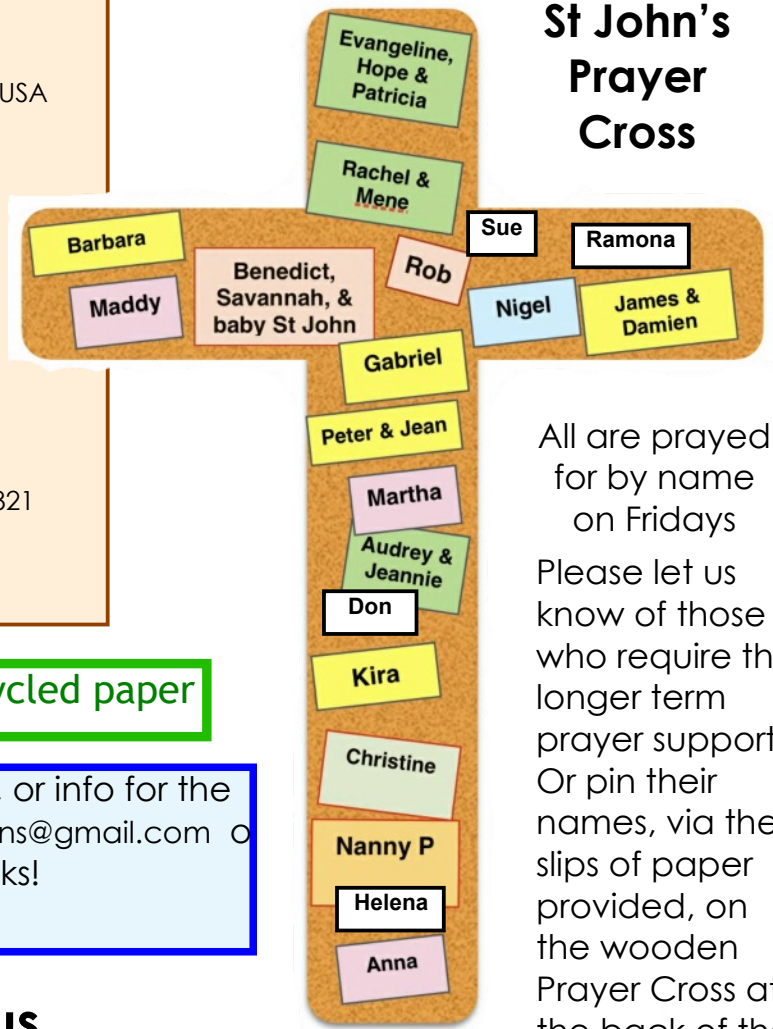
Some material included in this service is copyright:
©1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA

Some material included in this service is copyright
© The Archbishops' Council 2000, 2002, 2004, 2010

Collect (5th of Lent, Additional) © The
Archbishops' Council 2004

Invitation to Confession (5th Sun Lent until Weds
of Holy Week) © 1988 Continuum (Mowbray)
(Adapted)

The English Folk Song Mass - Malcolm Archer
Hymn words reproduced under CCLI Licence 219821



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.

This pewsheet is printed on 100% recycled paper

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

St John the Evangelist
Pevensey Road
St Leonards on Sea
TN38 0LF

To contact us...

Parish Office: (01424) 425942

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**