



**Pews News and Service Sheet for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**St John's Pevensey Road**

**Welcome to Mass this morning  
Second Sunday of**

During the week:  
**Mondays at 7pm**  
**Lent Gathering**  
**in St Peter's Chapel;**  
**Wednesday 10am**  
**Midweek Mass -**  
**in St Peter's Chapel;**  
**Wednesdays at 10am**  
**Online Zoom service;**\*  
**Fridays 10am – noon**  
**Morning Coffee/Warm**  
**Space**  
**This Saturday 8.30am**  
**Big Breakfast**



\*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom service by emailing [pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com)  
Also to this email address please send any updates for prayer lists or pews news sheet asap. (Print date is dependent on Tina's working days) Thank you.

**Big Breakfast Saturday March 2nd.**  
Please come to hear Pen Wilcock a local author and regular preacher here at St John's. We will meet at the church for croissants and coffee from 8.30am. All welcome.

**Our prayers are asked for:** David S, Tony G; Rachel T; Ken and Shirley K  
**Please pray also for** the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Patrick E. and Pauline ...and those whose Years Minds fall around this time, and all who mourn.

## St John's Prayer Cross



Ramona  
John H  
Don  
Bostik  
Diane  
Goldie

Zack  
Dulcie  
Miri  
Della  
Olli

Every-  
one  
in the  
Holy  
Land  
under  
duress

Lori-Leigh M  
Maite &  
Chaz  
Janie H-D  
Rev John B

Anna  
Lorenzo  
Jean &  
Geof  
Peter

Gill T

Terry S

Nigel D

Tia K

Jeannie  
&  
Audrey  
& family

All are  
regularly  
prayed  
for by  
name



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 Prayers Cross at the back of the Church. Thank you.

Parish office: 07831904321

Email:  
[admstjohns30@gmail.com](mailto:admstjohns30@gmail.com)

Tina is our Administrator.

Please contact her also for  
Church Hall bookings.

Safeguarding Officer can be  
contacted on  
[safestjohns30@gmail.com](mailto:safestjohns30@gmail.com)

**Introit:** *Lead me, Lord – S. S. Wesley*

### **Opening Hymn**

**Soldiers of Christ, arise,  
and put your armour on,  
strong in the strength which  
God supplies,  
through his eternal Son;**

**Strong in the Lord of Hosts,  
and in his mighty power:  
who in the strength of Jesus  
trusts  
is more than conqueror.**

**Stand then in his great might,  
with all his strength endued;  
and take,  
to arm you for the fight,  
the panoply of God.**

**Leave no unguarded place,  
no weakness of the soul:  
Take every virtue, every grace,  
and fortify the whole.**

**From strength to strength go on,  
wrestle and fight and pray;  
tread all the powers of darkness  
down,  
and win the well-fought day;**

**That, having all things done,  
and all your conflicts past,  
ye may o'ercome,  
through Christ alone,  
and stand entire at last.**

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

### **The 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.**

### **Prayers of Penitence**

**Deacon** 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.

**Silence is kept**

**Dcn** Wash me thoroughly from my  
wickedness and cleanse me from  
my sin. Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

**Dcn** Make me a clean heart, O  
God, and renew a right spirit within  
me. Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

**Dcn** Cast me not away from your  
presence and take not your holy  
spirit from me. Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

**The Kyrie Eleison is sung by choir  
and congregation**

**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.**

**Priest** May the God of love and  
power forgive you and free you  
from your sins, heal and  
strengthen you by his Spirit, and  
raise you to new life in Christ our  
Lord. **All Amen.**

## **The Collect**

*Priest* 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.*

## **The Liturgy of the Word *all sit***

### **A reading from the book of Genesis**

*Genesis 17.1-7; 15-16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous."

Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you...."

<sup>15</sup> God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

For the Word of the Lord.

*All Thanks be to God.*

### **A Reading from the letter to the Romans**

*Romans 4.13-end*

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void.

For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")-- in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do

what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

For the Word of the Lord.  
**All Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn during which the Gospel is brought amongst us.**

**My God, I love thee; not because  
I hope for heaven thereby,  
Nor yet because  
who love thee not  
Are lost eternally.**

**Thou, O my Jesus,  
thou didst me  
Upon the Cross embrace;  
For me didst bear the nails  
and spear,  
And manifold disgrace,**

**And griefs and torments  
numberless,  
And sweat of agony;  
E'en death itself; and all for one  
who was thine enemy.**

**Then why, O blessed Jesu  
Christ,  
Should I not love thee well,  
Not for the hope of winning  
heaven,  
Or of escaping hell;**

**Not with the hope of gaining  
aught,**

**Not seeking a reward;  
But as thyself hast loved me,  
O ever-loving Lord!  
E'en so I love thee, and will love,  
And in thy praise will sing,  
Solely because thou art my God,  
And my eternal King.**

*17<sup>th</sup> Century Latin Tr. E Caswall (1814-78)*

**Gospel Reading** *When the Gospel is announced the Deacon says*

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.**

*Deacon* The Lord be with you

**All And also with you.**

*Dcn* Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Mark 8.31-end*

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose

their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

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

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

*Deacon* Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**All Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Prayers of Intercession** *-led by the intercessor in their own words or.....* With confidence and trust let us pray to the Father.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church ...  
let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us**

For those preparing for baptism [and confirmation] ... and for their teachers and sponsors, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world ... that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer... for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or offended, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all those who have walked in the way of holiness

... let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**in your mercy hear us.**

God our Father,  
in your love and goodness  
you have taught us to come close  
to you in penitence with prayer,  
fasting and generosity; accept our  
Lenten discipline, and when we fall  
by our weakness, raise us up by  
your unfailing mercy; through  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

*Priest* Let the peace of Christ rule  
in your hearts, since as members  
of one body you are called to  
peace.

The peace of the Lord be always  
with you **All and also with you.**

*Deacon* Let us offer one another a  
sign of God's peace

**All may exchange a sign of peace.**

**Offertory hymn** *during which the  
altar is prepared, and bread and wine  
are placed upon it.*

**Dear Lord and Father of  
mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways!  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence praise.**

**In simple trust like theirs who  
heard,  
beside the Syrian sea,  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.**

**O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt to share with  
thee**

**the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!**

**Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
take from our souls the strain  
and stress,  
and let our ordered lives  
confess  
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats  
of our desires  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb let flesh  
retire;  
speak through the earthquake  
wind and fire,  
O still small voice of calm.**

*John Whittier (1807-92)*

**Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar**  
Merciful Father, turn us from sin to  
faithfulness and from disobedience  
to love, and prepare us to  
celebrate the death and  
resurrection of Christ our Saviour,  
who is alive and reigns, now and  
for ever. **All Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer (B)**

*Priest* The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

*Priest* Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the  
Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and  
praise**

*Priest* Father, we give you thanks  
and praise through your beloved  
Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
through whom you have created all  
things; who was sent by you in  
your great goodness to be our  
Saviour.



By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because you give us the spirit of discipline, that we may triumph over evil and grow in grace as we prepare to celebrate the paschal mystery with mind and heart renewed.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your  
glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he that 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.

*Deacon* Christ is the bread of life  
**All When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory.**

*Priest* 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 St John the Evangelist 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**

*Deacon* Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 the bread of life, and  
that life is the light of the world.

*All* God here among us  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.

*We sit as Agnus Dei is sung by all.*

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.*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people.

*All* Jesus Christ is holy  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

*Communion is received. Please bow  
your head if you prefer to receive a  
blessing.*

The Body of Christ. Amen.

The Blood of Christ. Amen.

*Anthem: Hide not thy face -  
Farrant*

### **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 fulfil thy law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears for ever 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  
are closed in death,  
When I soar  
through tracts unknown,  
See thee on thy judgement  
throne;  
Rock of ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in thee.

*Augustus Toplady (1740-78)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Priest* Almighty and everlasting  
God, you hate nothing that you  
have made and forgive the sins of  
all those who are penitent: create  
and make in us new and contrite

hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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.**

**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

*Priest* 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

**God is working his purpose out as year succeeds to year, God is working his purpose out and the time is drawing near;**  
**Nearer and nearer draws the time, the time that shall surely be,**  
**When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.**

From utmost east to utmost west where'er man's foot hath trod,  
By the mouth of many messengers goes forth the voice of God,  
'Give ear to me, ye continents, ye isles, give ear to me,  
That the earth may be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea.'

What can we do to work God's work, to prosper and increase  
The brotherhood of all mankind, the reign of the Prince of Peace?  
What can we do to hasten the time, the time that shall surely be,  
When the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea?

March we forth in the strength of God with the banner of Christ unfurled,  
That the light of the glorious gospel of truth may shine throughout the world;  
Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin, to set their captives free,  
That the earth may be filled with

the glory of God as the waters  
cover the sea.

All we can do is nothing worth  
unless God blesses the deed;  
Vainly we hope for the harvest-  
tide till God gives life to the  
seed;  
Yet nearer and nearer draws the  
time, the time that shall surely  
be,  
When the earth shall be filled  
with the glory of God as the  
waters cover the sea.

*A. C. Ainger (1841-1919)*

### **The Dismissal**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*All* And also with you

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

*Priest* May the souls of the  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace...

*All* and rise in glory. **Amen.**

*Deacon* This is love, not that we  
loved God

*All* but that he loved us and sent  
his Son.

*Dcn* He is the sacrifice for our sins

*All* that we might live through  
him.

*Deacon* If God loves us so much  
*All* we ought to love one another.

*Deacon* If we love one another

*All* God lives in us.

*Deacon* Go in the peace of Christ.

*All* Thanks be to God.

*Organ voluntary: Prelude and Fugue  
in A minor BWV551 – J. S. Bach*

*Do stay for coffee!*



### St John's social committee

Are you good at having  
ideas ? Are you good at  
organising things? We are  
relaunching the social  
committee to plan  
activities that fund raise  
for the church or help us  
get to know each other. If  
you would like to support  
this in any way you can  
then please chat with  
Katy or Kate.




10.30am at  
ST MATTHEWS CHURCH,  
LONDON ROAD,  
ST LEONARDS ON SEA,  
TN37 6PD.  
EVERYONE WELCOME.  
Prepared by the Christian women of Palestine.



**Christian aid** St John's,  
Pevensey Road

**Bring and Buy  
Bookstall**



**50p per book**  
... please put your donation money  
in the Christian Aid collection slot  
in the wall - thank you!

## A great tea-time concert at St Johns!

### Into the vortex:

French vocal and chamber music before the  
Great War

Saturday March 9, 4pm at St John the  
Evangelist

Tea is served from 3:30

**Jenny Miller, mezzo soprano, Francis  
Rayner, pianist,  
and Rachel Firmager, cellist.**

Experience a ravishing colorscape of poetry  
infused by inspired music,

including Debussy, Fauré and Du Parc

All profits to St John the Evangelist in thanks  
for their great support for Barefoot Opera

**Tickets £12.50 on the Barefoot Opera  
website**

[www.barefootopera.com](http://www.barefootopera.com)



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