



OneBodyOneFaith



**St John's  
Pevensey  
Road**

**Pews News and  
Service Sheet for  
the Fifth Sunday of  
Easter  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

During the week  
**10am Midweek Mass -**  
**in St Peter's Chapel**  
**Online Zoom service\*:**  
**Wednesdays at 10am**  
**Morning Coffee/Warm**  
**Space: Fridays**  
**10 – 12 noon in Church**

**Drop in for  
Morning  
Coffee**



**... and to spend some time in this  
beautiful church**

**Fridays, 10.00 – 12noon**

**Welcome  
to Mass  
this morning**



Flowers in church today kindly  
sponsored by the Turners -  
THANKSGIVING FOR LONG  
AND INTERESTING LIFE

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

## St John's Prayer Cross

All are regularly prayed for by name



Ramona  
John H  
Don  
Bostik  
Diane  
Goldie  
Lorenzo

Arthur H  
Dulcie Zack  
Miri Peter  
Della Olli

Lori-Leigh M  
Maite & Chaz  
Janie H-D  
Michelle  
Helena O

Pauline  
Anna  
Geoff  
Michelle  
Jeannie  
& Audrey  
& family  
Xander  
Terry S

Nigel D

Thomas

Tia K

Everyone  
in the  
Holy  
Land  
under  
duress

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.

\*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.

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 : God be in my  
head - Walford Davies**

### **Opening Hymn**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven,  
to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temple leave.  
Thee we would be always  
blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above;  
pray, and praise thee,  
without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns  
before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

### **The Welcoming of the People**

*Priest* Alleluia. Christ is risen.  
*All* **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**  
Praise the God and Father of our  
Lord Jesus Christ.  
**He has given us new life and  
hope. He has raised Jesus from  
the dead.**

God has claimed us as his own.  
**He has brought us out of  
darkness. He has made us light  
to the world.**

Alleluia, Christ is risen.  
**He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

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* Jesus Christ, risen master  
and triumphant Lord, we come to  
you in sorrow for our sins, and  
confess to you our weakness and  
unbelief.

*Silence is kept*

*Dcn* We have lived by our own  
strength, and not by the power of  
your resurrection.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

*Dcn* We have lived by the light of  
our own eyes, as faithless and not  
believing.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help us.**

*Dcn* We have lived for this world  
alone, and doubted our home in  
heaven.

In your mercy, forgive us.

**Lord, hear us and help 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 Gloria in Excelsis is sung*

**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**

*Priest* Risen Christ, your wounds declare your love for the world and the wonder of your risen life; give us compassion and courage to risk ourselves for those we serve, to the glory of God the Father.

*All* Amen.

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

#### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*Acts 8. 26 - end*

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an

Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him.

Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?"

Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?"

He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his

way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **A Reading from the first letter of St John**

*1 John 4. 7 -end*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are

we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

**Lord of all hopefulness,  
Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever childlike,  
no cares could destroy,  
Be there at our waking,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord,  
at the break of the day.**

**Lord of all eagerness,  
Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were  
skilled at the plane  
and the lathe,  
Be there at our labours,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts,  
Lord, at the noon of the day.**

**Lord of all kindness,  
Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome,  
your arms to embrace,  
Be there at our homing, and  
give us, we pray,**

**Your love in our hearts, Lord,  
at the eve of the day.**

**Lord of all gentleness,  
Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment,  
whose presence is balm,  
Be there at our sleeping,  
and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord,  
at the end of the day.**

*Words: Jan Struther © Words: 1931, 1982  
Oxford University Press, CCLI Song Number  
4778835*

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

Jesus Christ is risen from the  
dead. **All Alleluia.**

He has defeated the powers of  
death. **All Alleluia.**

Jesus turns our sorrow into  
dancing. **All Alleluia.**

He has the words of eternal life.

**All Alleluia.**

**Deacon** 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 15. 1-8*

"I am the true vine, and my Father  
is the vine-grower. He removes  
every branch in me that bears no  
fruit. Every branch that bears fruit  
he prunes to make it bear more  
fruit. You have already been  
cleansed by the word that I have  
spoken to you. Abide in me as I  
abide in you. Just as the branch  
cannot bear fruit by itself unless it  
abides in the vine, neither can you  
unless you abide in me. I am the  
vine, you are the branches. Those  
who abide in me and I in them  
bear much fruit, because apart  
from me you can do nothing.

Whoever does not abide in me is  
thrown away like a branch and  
withers; such branches are  
gathered, thrown into the fire, and  
burned. If you abide in me, and  
my words abide in you, ask for  
whatever you wish, and it will be  
done for you. My Father is  
glorified by this, that you bear  
much fruit and become my  
disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

**Deacon** Let us declare our faith  
in the resurrection of our Lord  
Jesus Christ.

**All Christ died for our sins  
in accordance with the  
Scriptures;  
he was buried;  
he was raised to life  
on the third day in accordance  
with the Scriptures;  
afterwards he appeared  
to his followers,  
and to all the apostles:  
this we have received,  
and this we believe. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **The Peace**

**Priest** We are all one in Christ  
Jesus. We belong to him through  
faith, heirs of the promise of the  
Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always  
with you. Alleluia.

**All and also with you; Alleluia.**

*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.*

Be still, my soul:  
the Lord is on your side;  
bear patiently  
the cross of grief or pain;  
leave to your God  
to order and provide;  
in every change  
he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul:  
your best, your heavenly friend  
through thorny ways,  
leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul:  
your God will undertake  
to guide the future  
as he has the past.  
Your hope, your confidence  
let nothing shake;  
all now mysterious  
shall be clear at last.  
Be still, my soul:  
the tempests still obey  
his voice, who ruled them once  
on Galilee.

Be still, my soul:  
the hour is hastening on  
when we shall be for ever with  
the Lord,  
when disappointment,  
grief and fear are gone,  
sorrow forgotten,  
love's pure joy restored.  
Be still, my soul:  
when change and tears are past,  
all safe and blessed we shall  
meet at last.

*Katharina von Schlegel, tr Jane L Borthwick  
(1813-1897)*

**Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar**  
Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. In your loving care you spread before us the table of life and give us the cup of salvation to drink. Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour and our Shepherd, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All Blessed be God for ever.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer (E)**

*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* It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal Father, and in these days of Easter to celebrate with joyful hearts the memory of your wonderful works. For by the mystery of his passion Jesus Christ, your risen Son, has conquered the powers of death and hell and restored in men and women the image of your glory. He has placed them once more in paradise and opened to them the gate of life eternal. And so, in the joy of this Passover, earth and heaven resound with gladness, while angels and archangels and the powers of all creation sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

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

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

*Dcn* Jesus Christ is Lord

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.**

*Priest* Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with St John the Evangelist, St Peter, Mary the Mother of God and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **All Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Deacon* Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us, 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 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.*

**Jesus, Lamb of God:**

**have mercy upon us.**

**Jesus, bearer of our sins:**

**have mercy upon us.**

**Jesus, Redeemer of the world:**

**give us your peace.**

### **Giving of Communion**

*The priest says the invitation.*

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is



sacrificed for us.

**All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

*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: Sanctus - Schubert**

### **Hymn**

Be still,  
for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here;  
come bow before him now  
with reverence and fear:  
in him no sin is found-  
we stand on holy ground.  
Be still,  
for the presence of the Lord,  
the Holy One, is here.

Be still,  
for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around;  
he burns with holy fire,  
with splendour he is crowned:  
how awesome is the sight-  
our radiant King of light!  
Be still,  
for the glory of the Lord  
is shining all around.

Be still,  
for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place:  
he comes to cleanse and heal,  
to minister his grace-  
no work too hard for him.  
In faith receive from him.  
Be still,  
for the power of the Lord  
is moving in this place.

*David J. Evans (b 1957)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Priest* Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

**All Amen.**

**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* The God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the eternal covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight; 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

O Lord my God! when I in  
awesome wonder  
consider all the works  
thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout  
the universe displayed:

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art!  
How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee,  
how great thou art!  
How great thou art!*

When through the woods  
and forest glades I wander  
and hear the birds  
sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down  
from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook  
and feel the gentle breeze:  
*Refrain*

And when I think that God—  
his Son not sparing —  
sent him to die,  
I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross,  
my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died  
to take away my sin: *Refrain*

When Christ shall come  
with shout of acclamation  
and take me home—  
what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow  
in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, my God,  
how great thou art! *Refrain*

*Karl Boberg (1859-1940) tr Stuart K Hine  
(1899-1989)*

## 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...

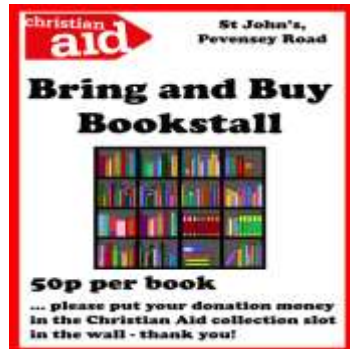
*All* and rise in glory. **Amen.**

*Deacon* With the power that raised  
Jesus from the dead at work within  
you, go in peace to love and serve  
the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.

*All* In the name of Christ. **Amen.**  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

*Organ voluntary: Sortie in E flat –  
Lefebure-Wely*

*Do stay a while!*



## **St John's Electoral Roll**

Our parish electoral roll is currently being updated. If you would like to be added to the roll and able to vote at the annual church meeting, please collect a form from the welcome desk and return it to me. Thanks,  
Clare Cooper

## **Our Annual Meetings**

The Annual Meeting for the Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held this year on Sunday 12th May 2024 after the 10:30 Mass and lasting about 45 minutes. It would be great to see as many as safely possible at these meetings which are important for the running of St John's.

If you are unable to attend but would like to see the Annual Report, please email Tina Garton on [admstjohns30@gmail.com](mailto:admstjohns30@gmail.com) and a copy will be emailed to you when it is available.



"For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grows old in the earth, and its stump dies in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant. (Job 14:7-9)

Have you ever seen a hedge layed in the south of England style? If not look behind the church hall. Done by Sally, Mary C and Libby. **Thank you to them for their great hard work and creativity!**

*On Tuesday 7 May 2024 at 19:00 (the eve of the Lesser Festival of Julian of Norwich) at All Saints' Church, Hastings Old Town*

*([www.oldtownparishhastings.org.uk](http://www.oldtownparishhastings.org.uk)).*

## **'Love was his meaning': a conversation about Julian of Norwich between Dr Claire Gilbert and Fr Eamonn Monson.**

Claire Gilbert wrote her doctoral thesis on Julian in relation to the ecological crisis, but when she was diagnosed with myeloma, a cancer of the blood, Julian stopped being the subject of her academic study and became her spiritual companion and guide through two and a half years of gruelling treatment. Claire wrote about this in letters to friends, published as *Miles to Go Before I Sleep*. At the end of the treatment she heard a call to tell Julian's story and wrote "I, Julian", a fictional autobiography which seeks to do justice to this extraordinary woman's life.

*Dr Claire Gilbert is the founding director of the Westminster Abbey Institute. She has worked for the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England as policy adviser in medical ethics and environmental issues, and is a lay Canon at St Paul's Cathedral. She co-founded the St Paul's Institute in 2003. Claire is visiting fellow at Jesus College, University of Cambridge, and has been a member of numerous public and advisory bodies. Fr Eamonn Monson, SAC, is parish priest of St Mary Star-of-the-Sea Roman Catholic Church, and was a great influence on Claire's books.*

Admission free. No booking necessary. For further information contact Fr. Mat Phipps, Priest-in-Charge of St Clement and All Saints, Hastings

([pic@oldtownparishhastings.org.uk](mailto:pic@oldtownparishhastings.org.uk)).