

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 8th May 2022

4th Sunday of Easter



Welcome to today's Mass at St John's.

This week:

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday
Church open for private prayer, where possible.

Midweek Mass: Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Online "Zoom" service: Wednesday at 10 a.m.

Morning Coffee: Friday 10 - 12 noon in Church

Drop in for
Morning Coffee



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

Fridays, 10:00 - 12:00



Morning Prayer, and the Midweek Mass, are now taking place once again in St Peter's Chapel, downstairs.

Our prayers are asked for:

Geraldine, Amber, Don F, Sue T, Eve G, Alison N, Ana, Pat, David D, Denise H, Marion H, Mike, Jean & Geoff, Jackie N, and Gladys.

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Olga Russell, and those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Derek Warner, Vera Brown, Beatty McNulty, and Ernest Nunes,
... and all who mourn.

Our Annual Meetings

The annual meeting for the election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held this morning, after the 10.30 Mass and will last about 45 minutes.

Here this afternoon: Godly Play, 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Please enter via the St Peter's Chapel door. For more info please email: godlyplayonsea@yahoo.com

Today's LOAF Inter-Church Walk: Powdermills and Pepperingeye. Meet at 14:30 in the car park in Powdermill Lane. This is about a ¼ mile further on the right-hand side as you drive beyond the Powdermills Hotel towards Catsfield. The full walk is 4 miles long but you can drop out after about 2 miles if you wish. *Roger Mitchell*



Christian Aid Week this year is 15th - 22nd May. We are really excited to welcome Pete Moorey to the 10.30 Mass next Sunday, 15th May. He is Head of Campaigns and UK Advocacy at Christian Aid. Pete is an experienced campaigner, communicator and public affairs professional who has worked across the non-profit, private and public sectors. I am sure he will inform, encourage and challenge us in our support for Christian Aid. MC

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 Holy Spirit, Lord of grace*
(Tye)

Opening Hymn

Come, ye faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness;
God hath brought his Israel
into joy from sadness;
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
Led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

'Tis the spring of souls today;
Christ hath burst His prison,
And from three days' sleep in death
as a sun hath risen;
All the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
From His light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendour,
With the royal feast of feasts,
comes its joy to render;
Comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains
Jesu's resurrection.

Neither might the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
Nor the watchers, nor the seal
hold thee as a mortal;
But today amidst thine own
Thou didst stand, bestowing
That Thy peace which evermore
passeth human knowing.

*Greek, St John of Damascus (c 750)
tr. J.M. Neale (1816-66)*

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.

Priest Alleluia. Christ is risen.
All He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Prayer of Preparation

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

Prayer of Confession

Christ our passover lamb has been
sacrificed for us.
Let us therefore rejoice by putting away all
malice and evil
and confessing our sins
with a sincere and true heart.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence,
through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.

**We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son
Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

The priest says the Absolution

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:

***All* Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand
of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen**

The Collect

The priest introduces the Collect with the words 'Let us pray'

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into
one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

All Amen.

A reading from Acts of the Apostles

Acts 9.36-43

In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the book of Revelation

Revelation 7.9-17

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.

They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing,

'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom
and thanksgiving and honour
and power and might
be to our God for ever and ever!
Amen.'

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.'

For this reason they are before the throne of God,
and worship him day and night
within his temple,
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;
the sun will not strike them,
nor any scorching heat;
for the Lamb at the centre of the

throne will be their shepherd,
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

For the Word of the Lord
All Thanks be to God

Hymn during which the Gospel is brought amongst us

The King of love my Shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction, grace bestoweth;
and O, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days,
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.

H.W. Baker (1821-77)

Gospel Reading

Dcn Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the first and the last,
says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold
I am alive for evermore.

All Alleluia

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 10.22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

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

***All* 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

In joy and hope let us pray to the Father.

The following response may be used:

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer

...and at the end:

Merciful Father,

**All Accept these prayers,
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace is introduced

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said "Peace be with you!" Then were they glad when they saw the Lord. Alleluia!

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you

All and also with you. Alleluia!

Let us offer one another a sign of peace

All may exchange a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn

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

Jerusalem the golden,
with milk and honey blest,
beneath thy contemplation
sink heart and voice oppressed:
I know not, O I know not,
what social joys are there;
what radiancy of glory,
what light beyond compare!

They stand, those halls of Sion,
Conjubilant with song,
and bright with many an angel,
and all the martyr throng:
the Prince is ever in them,
the daylight is serene;
the pastures of the blessed
are decked in glorious sheen.

There is the throne of David;
and there, from care released,
the song of them that triumph,
the shout of them that feast;
and they who with their Leader
have conquered in the fight,
for ever and for ever
are clad in robes of white.

O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever see thy face?
O sweet and blessed country,
Shall I ever win thy grace?
Exult, O dust and ashes!
The Lord shall be thy part;
His only, his for ever,
Thou shalt be, and thou art!

*Bernard of Cluny (12th century)
tr. J.M. Neale (1818-66)*

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table

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 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, 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.**

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

Rejoicing in God's new creation,
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

Priest 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:

All Jesus, Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, bearer of our sins,
Have mercy on us
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
Give us your peace

Giving of Communion

The president says the invitation to communion.

Alleluia. Christ our passover is
sacrificed for us.

All Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia.

Communion is received.

*Anthem: Flocks in pastures green
abiding (J.S. Bach)*

Hymn

Faithful Shepherd, feed me
in the pastures green;
faithful Shepherd, lead me
where thy steps are seen.

Hold me fast, and guide me
in the narrow way;
so, with thee beside me,
I shall never stray.

Daily bring me nearer
to the heav'nly shore;
may my faith grow clearer,
may I love thee more:

Hallow every pleasure,
every joy and pain;
be thyself my treasure,
though none else I gain.

Day by day prepare me
as thou seest best,
then let angels bear me
to thy promised rest.

T.B. Pollock (1836-96)

Prayer after Communion

The priest prays the Post Communion for the day:

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ
to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us
to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
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

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

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung:
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their
worst,
And Jesus hath his foes dispersed;
let shouts of praise and joy outburst:
Alleluia!

On the third morn he rose again;
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain!
Alleluia!

He brake the age-bound chains of hell,
The bars from heaven's high portals fell;
Let hymns of praise his triumph tell.
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee,
from death's dread sting thy servants free,
that we may live, and sing to thee:

Alleluia! *Latin, 17th Century tr. Francis Pott (1832-1909)*

Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Dcn Go in the the peace of Christ.
Alleluia, alleluia

**All Thanks be to God.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Concluding voluntary: Fanfare (J. Lemmens)



Preparations for the Spring Fair continue apace! FYI, the list of stalls that you may feel able to contribute items towards includes Bric-a-Brac (Janet), Tombola (Mel & Jenny B), Raffle (Charmaine & Jocelyn), Crockery Smash (Kate, Bertie & Humph), and, nearer the time, Cakes etc (Carol C, Patricia, Evangeline).

In addition, there will be other attractive stalls and

sideshows on the day, including Coffee Shop, BBQ, Crafts, Jewellery, Pimms, Games & Puzzles, Dog and Cat Ball Racing Game, Plants, Honey. Perhaps you can help publicise the event by dropping a flyer or two through your neighbours' letterboxes? - Extra flyers are available at the back of church. Thank you!

In March, April and May this year the coloured frontal of the altar will have been changed many times – as will the colour of the priest's vestments.

Each colour – and there can be as many as six in a church's store – has a different meaning. They reflect the significance of that day or the season.

In March purple was used as a symbol of penitence, as we were in Lent and trying to prepare ourselves for Christ's final act of love for each of us.

Holy Week – the time of Christ's final journey – was denoted by the colour red. Red, the colour of blood, is used for feasts of martyrs as well as those for the Holy Spirit – when it more likely represents his flames of 'fire' which rested on those in the Upper Room.

Maundy Thursday, we switched to white for any Communion service, as this celebrates the remembrance of the first Communion with his apostles which he commanded us to continue.

Good Friday, and we were back to red.

Then on Easter Sunday, the day of the greatest Christian Celebration, we entered to an altar bedecked in gold or the 'whitest' with the most elaborate decoration the church possesses.

'Plain' White will be used for the Easter Season signifying purity and Christ's triumph over death until Ascension Day on 26th May. This, being a special and more significant day in the life, death and resurrection of Christ, goes to gold again: then immediately back to white for the next ten days.

On the day of Pentecost itself, Whit Sunday, 5th June, the colour will be? Yes, you got it – red for flames of fire.

Rev'd Dr Jo White

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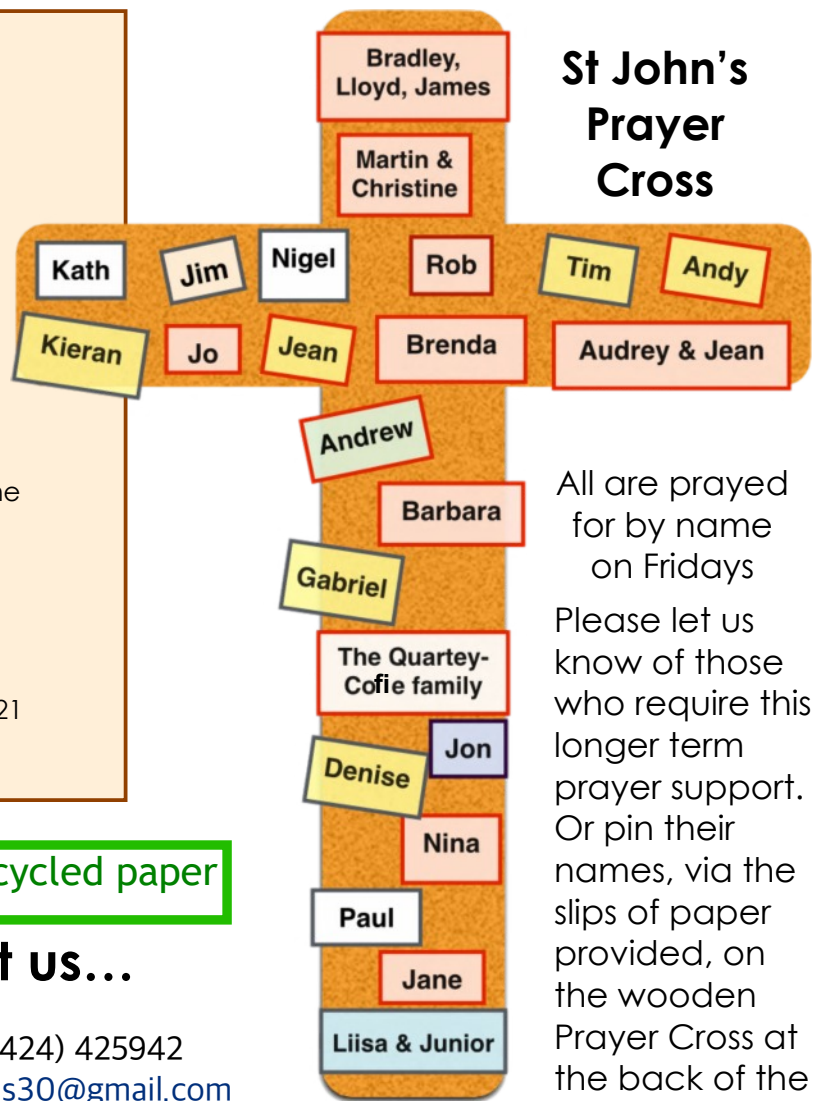
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St John's Prayer Cross

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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