

St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet
for Sunday 13th March 2022

2nd Sunday of Lent



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



Our prayers are asked for:

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

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Melvyn Dunford,
...and those whose Years Minds fall around this time - Pat Keene,
Christopher Anniston, and Derek Reade,
... and all who mourn.

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF **BIBLE & VIOLENCE**

The **Centre for the Study of the Bible & Violence** was established in late 2018 to address the violence in the Bible with the aim of increasing awareness of these "texts of terror" and offering ways of reading them which avoid further violence. The Centre engages with Biblical violence both at an Academic level, through conferences and publications, and on an Applied level through, amongst other things, resources for churches and a preaching blog. My own work as one of the Research Associates includes writing a couple of Bible Study Resources, which are freely available from the website, and overseeing the Preacher's Blog.

More information on the Centre can be found at: <https://www.csbvbristol.org.uk/>

Resources for churches and individuals can be found at:

<https://www.csbvbristol.org.uk/applied-arm/> The blog can be found at:

<https://www.csbvbristol.org.uk/blog/> and the specifically preaching-related posts at:

<https://www.csbvbristol.org.uk/category/sunday-sermon-monday-mourning/>

I hope you find this material stimulating and relevant, and that the sermon this morning helps to open up the importance of our work. Do let me know if you have any questions or suggestions concerning the Centre's work or my part in it.

Peter King

Today's Church Together "**Second Sunday Walk**", organised by LOAF Project starts at the bottom of the road leading up to Crowhurst Station, opposite the Parish Church. The Walk is circular, around Crowhurst Park, 3.5 miles long, and starts at 2 p.m.

Katy is looking to arrange a **Spring Fair** on Saturday 21st May, to be held in the Rectory Garden or in the Hall if it's wet. She is looking for stall holders and ideas for the event. Can you help her to get this idea "off the ground"?!

Mass for the Second Sunday of Lent

Introit: *Hide not thou thy face (Farrant)*

Opening Hymn

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away.
See, in this space, our fears and our
dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in - the lost and forsaken,
gather us in - the blind and the lame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
we are the old - who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of
history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in - the rich and the haughty,
gather us in - the proud and the strong.
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your
daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you.
Nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place, the new light is
shining;
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in - and hold us forever,
gather us in - and make us your own.
Gather us in - all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Marty Haugen

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

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.
Let us admit to God the sin which always
confronts us.

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.

Absolution

Priest Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Collect

Let us pray:

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

All Amen.

A reading from the book of Genesis

Genesis 15.1-12,17-18

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three

years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 3.17-4.1

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn

O Lord, all the world belongs to You
and You are always making all things
new.

What is wrong, You forgive,
and the new life You give
is what's turning the world upside down.

The world's only loving to its friends,
but You have brought us love that never
ends,
loving enemies too;
and this loving with You
is what's turning the world upside down.

The world lives divided and apart,
You draw men together, and we start
in your body to see
that in fellowship we
can be turning the world upside down.

The world wants the wealth to live in
state,
but You show us a new way to be great:
like a servant You came,
and if we do the same,
we'll be turning the world upside down.

O Lord, all the world belongs to You
and You are always making all things
new.

Send your Spirit on all,
In your church whom you call
To be turning the world upside down.

Patrick Appleford

Gospel Reading

Praise to you, O Christ,
King of eternal glory.
The Lord is a great God,
O that today you would listen to
his voice.
Harden not your hearts.

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

Dcn The Lord be with you

All And also with you

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 13.31-35

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord."'

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 pray for the Church and for the
world, and let us thank God for his
goodness

The response may be:

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

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

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*We may exchange a sign of Peace with
those around us*

Hymn

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

Love is his word, love is his way,
feasting with men, fasting alone,
living and dying, rising again,
Love, only love, is his way.
*Richer than gold is the love of my Lord:
better than splendour and wealth.*

Love is his way, love is his mark,
sharing his last Passover feast,
Christ at his table, host to the twelve.
Love, only love, is his mark.
Richer than gold...

Love is his mark, love is his sign,
bread for our strength, wine for our joy,
"This is my body, this is my blood",
Love, only love, is his sign.
Richer than gold...

Love is his sign, love is his news,
"Do this," he said, "lest you forget
all my deep sorrow, all my dear blood."
Love, only love, is his news.
Richer than gold...

Love is his news, love is his name,
we are his own, chosen and called,
family, brethren, cousins and kin.
Love, only love, is his name.
Richer than gold...

Love is his name, love is his law.
Hear his command, all who are his:
"Love one another, I have loved you."
Love, only love, is his law.
Richer than gold...

Love is his law, love is his word:
love of the Lord, Father and Word,
love of the Spirit, God ever one.
Love, only love, is his word.
Richer than gold...
Luke Connaughton (1919-79)

Preparation of the Table

God of mercy and compassion,
your Word calls us home to faith and love.
accept all we offer you this day;
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
All Amen.

The president takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here
All His Spirit is with us.
Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and good
to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.
For in these forty days
you lead us into the desert of repentance
that through a pilgrimage of prayer and
discipline
we may grow in grace
and learn to be your people once again.

Through fasting, prayer and acts of service
you bring us back to your generous heart.
Through study of your holy word
you open our eyes to your presence in the
world
and free our hands to welcome others

into the radiant splendour of your love.

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

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

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:

**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 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.**

The priest partakes of the consecrated bread - and wine on behalf of us all - to which we respond Amen.

Holy Communion is then distributed in one kind - The Body of Christ.

Anthem: Thou knowest, Lord (Purcell)

Communion Hymn

Come down, O love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path
illumining.

Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner
clothing:
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps
with loathing.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human
telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till he become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes his
dwelling.

Bianco da Siena (d.1434) tr Richard Littledale

Prayer after Communion

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

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of our-
selves to help ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended from all
adversities which may happen to the
body,
and from all evil thoughts which may
assault and hurt the soul;
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

Final hymn

One more step along the world I go,
One more step along the world I go;
From the old things to the new,
Keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn,
More and more about the world I learn;
All the new things that I see
You'll be looking at along with me.
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
Keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go,
You'll be telling me the way, I know.
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
Keep me loving though the world is tough;
Leap and sing in all I do,
Keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
You are younger than the life in me;
Ever old and ever new,
Keep me travelling along with you:
And it's from the old I travel to the new;
Keep me travelling along with you.

The Blessing & Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you
All And also with you

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,
and follow him;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you
always.

All Amen.

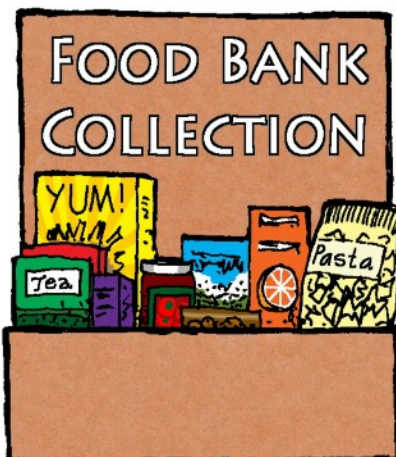
Dcn Go in peace to love and serve the
Lord
All In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Concluding voluntary: Allabreve in D
major (J.S. Bach)*

A prayer for Ukraine



Lord God,
We ask you to hold the people of
Ukraine deep in your heart.
Protect them, we pray;
from violence,
from political gamesmanship,
from being used and abused.
Give, we pray,
the nations of the world
the courage
and the wisdom
to stand up for justice,
and the courage too,
to dare to care - generously.
Lord in your mercy,
Teach us all how to live
in love
and peace
and dignity
and respect,
following your example.
In your name and for your sake,
Amen



The Hastings Foodbank, run by the Trussell Trust, provides individuals and families with three days' worth of nutritionally balanced, non-perishable food. Our donations, at the back of church, are collected by them fortnightly. Can you help by donating? Their current "Urgent" list is shown, right. Toiletries and household cleaning products are also very welcome.

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

UHT MILK FULL FAT (BLUE) AND SEMI (GREEN)

TINNED MEAT (BUT NOT CORNED BEEF OR PORK)

TINNED VEGETABLES (ESPECIALLY PEAS AND CARROTS)

TINNED FRUIT

TINNED SPAGHETTI IN SAUCE

Lent – a good time to deepen your prayer life

Lent is a time to take stock of ourselves spiritually. This includes setting aside extra time for prayer. Here are some helpful things to remember as you settle down to it:

People have been praying since Adam had a grandson named Enosh. The Bible tells us (Genesis 4:26) that it was during his days when 'people began to invoke the name of the Lord'. They have been doing it ever since.

People have had their prayers answered by God since Genesis, too. But if you want to read some beautiful prayers – and answers to them, browse through the Psalms. Again and again the psalmist writes: "the Lord heard my cry".

So – what do you need to bring to prayer? Just the tiniest amount of faith that God is even there.... Jesus assures us that even faith as big as a tiny mustard seed will be effective.

What gives you the right to come before Almighty God? Jesus does. The Bible is clear that "there is one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human". (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Bible makes clear that God does not stand on ceremony – in fact, God prefers our personal, spontaneous prayers. Jesus was very matter of fact about it: "When you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." (Matthew 6:6)

The Bible assures us that prayer will bring us good things: "we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need". (Hebrews 4:16)

Above all, prayer must be made with a pure heart. "If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened." (Psalm 66:18) That simply means that if you know you are doing something wrong, and intend to keep on doing it, don't waste your time praying.

Finally, what can be the results of your prayers this Lent? Well, here are seven, for starters...

1. Joy and deep happiness. (John 16:24)
2. Relief from your worry, stress and tension (Philippians 4:6,7)
3. Wisdom and more mental clarity (James 1:5,6)
4. Protection and deliverance from temptations (Matthew 26:41)
5. An ability to share the Good News of Jesus to other people (Matthew 9:38)
6. Strength to persevere when you feel under spiritual attack (Ephesians 6:18)
7. A growing thankfulness to God, who is worthy of all glory (Revelation 4:11)

Rev'd John Tyler

Keeping St Johns a safer place for all

You may be aware that we now have improved security lighting around the church hall and introduced CCTV around the church. Along with regular patrols from the Police Community Support Officers this has reduced the amount of drug related activity in the church grounds. Thanks to the superb work of the gardening team, the gardens are now a lovely space for the local community to enjoy. There is CCTV inside the church too which is not active during worship but does mean we can open the church during the day for anyone to come in and find peace, pray, or perhaps light a candle.

St Johns has received a grant from Safer Hastings Partnership JAG to enable us to install these security systems.

MC

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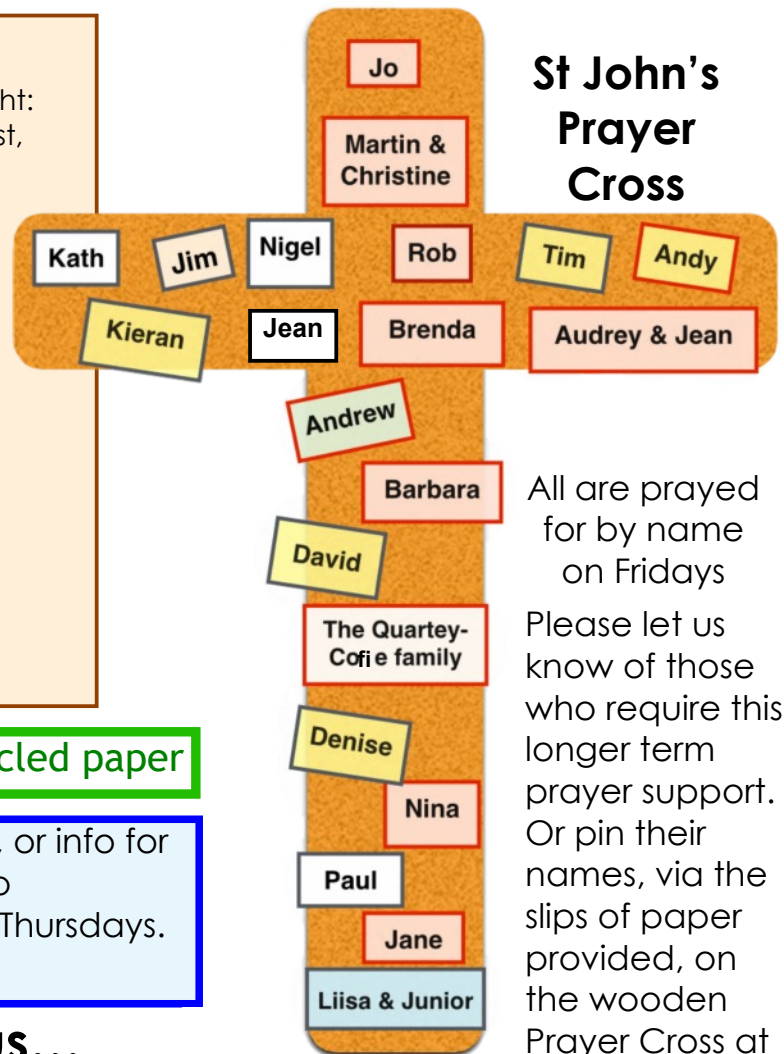
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219821

Prayer item from *Parish Pump*, Feb 2020

Ukraine prayer from the Church of Scotland



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 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**

Website: www.StJohnsPevenseyRoad.org.uk