



St John's, Pevensey Road



Pews News & Service Sheet for Sunday 12th February 2023

2nd Sunday before Lent



Welcome to today's Mass at St John's

This week:

Morning Prayer, 9 a.m. Friday in Church. Church open weekdays, if possible.

NO Midweek Mass:

Father David is on leave this week

Online "Zoom" service: Wednesday at 10 a.m. Please contact the church administrator on admstjohns30@gmail.com, to put you in touch for a link to join in.

Morning Coffee and Warm Space: Friday 10 - 12 noon in the Church Hall

Our prayers are asked for:

Andrew N, Holly H, Andy, Sue T, Don F, Helena, Ramona, Jackie N, Marie N, John T, Nigel & Carrie, Geraldine, and Della.

Please pray also for...

the repose of the souls of the departed, especially those whose Years Minds fall around this time: Violet Fisher, Norman Gray, Paula Pennington Hall, Bernard Clarke, Eunice Byrom, and Evelyn Fookes,

... and all who mourn.

The Story Group (home group featuring discussion around a story) has changed its meeting time to the 2nd Sunday of each month. So we meet tonight, Feb 12th, 7.30-9.00 p.m. *Pen W.*

LOAF Second Sunday Walk

TODAY, February 12th.
This is the route that was snowed off in December and will be

led by Ben Clayton.

Meet at 2 p.m. at the Viewpoint on Battery Hill at the junction with Peter James Lane. There is a small car park nearby but it may be necessary to park in the Country Park Car Park and walk down the hill from Fairlight Church. The Walk is about 4 miles long and has some very steep sections.

Roger Mitchell

You are invited to return your old Palm Crosses in preparation for Ash Wednesday, which this year falls on 22 Feb





PROCEEDS IN AID OF ST JOHN'S WORK IN OUR COMMUNITY

Introit: God so loved the world (Goss)

Opening Hymn

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam, thou silver moon with softer gleam, O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise him, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, ye lights of evening, find a voice; O praise him...

Thou flowing water, pure and clear, make music for thy Lord to hear, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright, that givest man both warmth and light, *O praise him...*

Dear mother earth, who day by day unfoldest blessings on our way,
O praise him, alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,
Let them his glory also show;
O praise him...

And all ye men of tender heart, forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, praise God and on him cast your care; O praise him...

And thou, most kind and gentle death, waiting to hush our latest breath, O praise him, alleluia! Thou leadest home the child of God, and Christ our Lord the way hath trod; O praise him...

Let all things their creator bless, and worship him in humbleness; O praise him, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit, three in One; O praise him...
St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) tr. William Draper (1855-1933)

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.

Prayer of Confession

Deacon God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

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.

Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Priest Let us pray:

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.

All 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 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,

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants

yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 8:18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

For the Word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Hymn

Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne; ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.

'Worthy the lamb that died,' they cry, 'To be exalted thus;' 'Worthy the lamb,' our lips reply, 'For he was slain for us.'

Jesus is worthy to receive honour and power divine; and blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for ever thine,

Let all creation join in one to bless the sacred name of him that sits upon the throne, and to adore the lamb.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia.
Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.
You have the words of eternal life.

All Alleluia.

Dcn The Lord be with you All And also with you

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew 6.25-end

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

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 to God, that he will bring to fruition all that he desires for his creation. Father, Lord of creation, All in your mercy, hear us.

You have created the universe by your eternal Word. and have blessed humankind in making us stewards of the earth. We pray for your world, that we may share and conserve its resources. and live in reverence for creation and in harmony with one another. Father, Lord of creation,

All in your mercy, hear us.

You have given the human race a rich land, a land of streams and springs, wheat and barley, vines and oil and honey.

We have made by sin a world of suffering and sorrow.

We pray for those who bear the weight of affliction.

that they may come to share the life of wholeness and plenty...

Father, Lord of creation,

All in your mercy, hear us.

In Christ you call us to a new way of life, loving our neighbours before ourselves. Help us to treat with care and respect the world as it is,

as we live in hope and anticipation of the world as it will be,

when your kingdom comes and your will is done.

Thank you for those, living and departed, who have shown a true respect for your creation ...

Help us to follow in their footsteps, until, with them, we see you face to face, where all is made new in Christ our Lord.

Merciful Father, All accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace is introduced

Christ is our peace.
He has reconciled us to God
in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

Life-imparting heavenly Manna, Stricken Rock with streaming side, heaven and earth with loud hosanna worship thee, the Lamb who died, Alleluia! Risen, ascended, glorified! G.H.Bourne (1840-1925)

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

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We exchange a sign of Peace with those around us

Hymn

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

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour, first-begotten from the dead, thou alone, our strong defender, liftest up thy people's head.
Alleluia!
Jesu, true and living Bread!

Here our humblest homage pay we, here in loving reverence bow; here for Faith's discernment pray we, lest we fail to know thee now.
Alleluia!

Thou art here, we ask not how.

Though the lowliest form doth veil thee as of old in Bethlehem, here as there thine angels hail thee, branch and flower of Jesse's stem. Alleluia!
We in worship join with them.

Paschal Lamb, thine Offering, finished once for all when thou wast slain, in its fullness undiminished shall for evermore remain, Alleluia!
Cleansing souls from every stain.

Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,

which earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

All Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,

fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation.

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.

A// We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

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.

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:

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

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.

A// 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.

Holy Communion is then distributed

The Body of Christ. Amen.

The Blood of Christ. Amen.

Anthem: Ave Verum Corpus (Elgar)

Hymn

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies, Refrain:
Christ our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light, *Refrain*

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and brain's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight, *Refrain*

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild, *Refrain*

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven, *Refrain*

For thy Bride that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore this pure sacrifice of love, *Refrain*F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

Prayer after Communion

Priest God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise,

and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:

may we who have been nourished at your table on earth

be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross, and enjoy the delights of eternity; 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

Priest The Lord be with you

All And also with you

May God, who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplied loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us, and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator now and through all eternity; 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

Angel voices ever singing round thy throne of light, angel harps, forever ringing, rest not day nor night; thousands only live to bless Thee and confess thee Lord of might.

Thou who art beyond the farthest mortal eye can scan, can it be that thou regardest songs of sinful man?
Can we feel that thou art near us and wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

For, we know that thou rejoicest o'er each work of Thine;
Thou didst ears and hands and voices for thy praise design;
craftsman's art and music's measure for thy pleasure all combine.

In thy house, great God, we offer of thine own to thee; and for thine acceptance proffer, all unworthily, hearts and minds and hands and voices in our choicest psalmody.

Honour, glory, might, and merit Thine shall ever be, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Blessed Trinity: of the best which thou hast given earth and heaven render thee. Francis Pott (1832-1909)

The Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you All And also with you

All May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the HolySpirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

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

All and rise in glory. Amen.

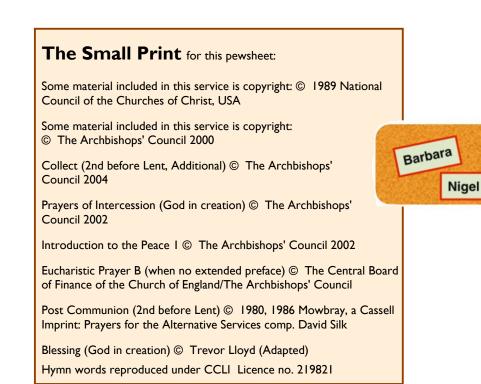
Deacon Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ, Amen.

Concluding voluntary: Festival March (Alec Rowley)



Please stay for coffee after today's Parísh Mass.



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!

This pewsheet is printed on 100% recycled paper

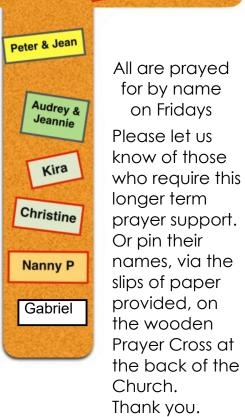
To contact us...

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Tina is our Administrator.

Usual office hours 09:00–13:00, Mon, Tues, Thurs. Please contact her also for **Church Hall bookings**



St John's

Prayer

Cross

Anna

Evangeline, Hope &

Patricia

Rob

Maddy

Benedict &

Savannah, &

baby Claire