



St John's Pevensey Road

Pews News and
Service Sheet for
Sunday 7th
December 2025



*Welcome to
Mass this
morning -
Advent 2*

During the week:

**EXPLORE THE FAITH
with BISHOP LAURIE**

**NO MEETING AGAIN
THIS YEAR.**

**WATCH THIS SPACE
FOR OUR NEXT
GATHERING IN
THE NEW YEAR.**

**Wednesday 10am -
Midweek Mass in St
Peter's Chapel**

**Online Zoom service*:
Wednesdays at 10am.**

**Wednesday: Sussex
Combined Cadet Force
Concert.**

**Morning Coffee: Fridays
10 – 12 noon in Church**



**This afternoon at
3pm –
Lights of Love
service.**

Next Sunday – Advent 3 – 14 December
8am – Said Mass
10.30am – Sung Parish Mass

Our prayers are asked for: Our prayers are asked for: Gillian; Sue; Jenny; Michael; **Please pray also for** the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Tim M, ...and those whose Years Minds fall around this time, especially Catherine M, and all who mourn.

St John's Prayer Cross

All
desperately
needing
help

Michelle, Louise T,
Jackie, Ramona,
Lorenzo, Irene,
Valerie, Jamie F,
Audrey, Jeannie &
family

Dan and children,
Jack and Lily,
whose Mum,
Chloe, has died,
aged 31yrs.

Rachel, my
daughter.
Kiss to
heaven.

All are
regularly
prayed
for by
name

All
affected
by
HIV/AIDS

Zack
Theresa
Liisa
John
Jan,
Nigel
Sarah

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.



The Food Bank really needs more donations. If you are able to bring even one item, everything helps, so please do donate something if you can. Thank you.

Instead of our usual Christmas Card scheme here at St Johns we are simply asking throughout Advent for donations to

The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Please put money in the Christian Aid box in the wall (or on the desk). If you wish to use the contactless system please make the donation then also put a note in the box with the amount you have given and the date.

Prayer said by the choir: ...grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Introit: Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light – J.S. Bach

Opening Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel!
Redeem thy captive Israel,
that into exile drear is gone
far from the face
of God's dear Son.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Wisdom
from on high!
Who madest all in earth and sky,
creating man from dust
and clay:
to us reveal salvation's way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, O come, Adonai,
who in thy glorious majesty
from Sinai's mountain, clothed
with awe
gavest thy folk the ancient law.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, thou Root of Jesse!
Draw the quarry
from the lion's claw;
from those dread caverns
of the grave,
from nether hell,
thy people save.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, thou Lord
of David's Key!
The royal door
fling wide and free;
safeguard for us the

heavenward road,
and bar the way
to death's abode.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, O come,
thou dayspring bright!
Pour on our souls
thy healing light;
dispel the long night's
lingering gloom,
and pierce the shadows
of the tomb.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...

O come, Desire of nations! show
thy kingly reign on earth below;
thou Corner-stone, uniting all,
restore the ruin of our fall.

*Cologne 1710, based on the ancient Advent
Antiphons; tr T A Lacey (1853-1931) et al*

The Welcoming of the People

Priest The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *All* and also with you.

Prayer at the lighting of the second Advent Candle

Priest People of God: be glad!
Your God delights in you,
giving you joy for sadness
and turning the dark to light.
Be strong in hope therefore;
for your God comes to save.
You are God's children.

All Lord, make us one in the
love of Christ today and for
ever. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon When the Lord comes,
he will bring to light things now
hidden in darkness, and will

disclose the purposes of the heart.
Therefore in that light, we confess
our sins.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather
the nations into the peace of your
kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

You come in word and sacrament
to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

You will come in glory
with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Choir and Congregation sing:

Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy

Christ have mercy,

Christ have mercy

Lord have mercy,

Lord have mercy

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

Almighty God, purify our hearts
and minds, that when your Son
Jesus Christ comes again as judge
and saviour we may be ready to
receive him, who is our Lord and
our God. *All Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word *all sit*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 11. 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the
stump of Jesse, and a branch shall
grow out of his roots. The spirit of
the LORD shall rest on him, the
spirit of wisdom and
understanding, the spirit of counsel
and might, the spirit of knowledge
and the fear of the LORD. His
delight shall be in the fear of the
LORD. He shall not judge by what
his eyes see, or decide by what his
ears hear; but with righteousness
he shall judge the poor, and decide
with equity for the meek of the
earth; he shall strike the earth with
the rod of his mouth, and with the
breath of his lips he shall kill the
wicked. Righteousness shall be
the belt around his waist, and
faithfulness the belt around his
loins. The wolf shall live with the
lamb, the leopard shall lie down
with the kid, the calf and the lion
and the fatling together, and a little
child shall lead them. The cow
and the bear shall graze, their
young shall lie down together; and
the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over
the hole of the asp, and the
weaned child shall put its hand on
the adder's den. They will not hurt
or destroy on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the
knowledge of the LORD as the
waters cover the sea. On that day
the root of Jesse shall stand as a
signal to the peoples; the nations
shall inquire of him, and his
dwelling shall be glorious.

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the letter to the Romans

Romans 15. 4 -13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Hymn during which the Gospel is brought amongst us.

**The Lord will come
and not be slow,
his footsteps cannot err;
before him righteousness
shall go,
his royal harbinger.**

**Truth from the earth,
like to a flower,
shall bud and blossom then;
and justice,
from her heavenly bower,
look down on mortal men.**

**Rise, God, judge thou
the earth in might,
this wicked earth redress;
for thou art he
who shalt by right
the nations all possess.**

**The nations
all whom thou hast made
shall come, and all shall frame
to bow them low
before thee, Lord,
and glorify thy name.**

**For great thou art,
and wonders great
by thy strong hand are done:
thou in thy everlasting seat
remainest God alone.**

*John Milton (1608-74) cento Psalms
85, 82, 86*

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

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **All Alleluia.**

Deacon 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 3. 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the

granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Deacon We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy
is the Lord God almighty,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,
who created all things:

**All for by his will they were
created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,
who was slain:

**All for with his blood,
he purchased us for God,
from every tribe and language,
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**All the Spirit and the Bride say,
'Come!' Even so come, Lord
Jesus! Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

The Peace

The priest introduces the Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high shall break upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

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

Deacon Let us offer each other a

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

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

Longing for Light,
we wait In darkness.
Longing for Truth,
we turn to You.
Make us your own,
your holy people,
Light for the world to see.
Christ, be our Light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our Light!
Shine in your Church
gathered today.

Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your Word alone
has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.
Christ, be our Light!

Longing for food,
many are hungry.
Longing for water,
many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
shared until all are fed.
Christ, be our Light!

Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth,
many are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
Christ, be our Light!

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts
that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants
to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our Light!

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar *The priest takes the bread and wine.*
Look upon us in mercy not in
judgement; draw us from hatred to
love; make the frailty of our praise
a dwelling place for your glory.
All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer (B)

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

Priest Father, we give you thanks
and praise through your beloved
Son Jesus Christ, your living Word,
through whom you have created all
things; who was sent by you in your
great goodness to be our Saviour.
By the power of the Holy Spirit he
took flesh; as your Son, born of the
blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and
went about among us; he opened
wide his arms for us on the cross; he
put an end to death by dying for us;
and revealed the resurrection by
rising to new life; so he fulfilled your
will and won for you a holy people.
And now we give you thanks
because his future coming was
proclaimed by all the prophets. The
virgin mother bore him in her womb
with love beyond all telling. John the

Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came. In his love Christ has filled us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth so that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise. . 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, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna,
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. 

Dcn 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 St John the Baptist, St John the Evangelist, St 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

Deacon 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 by all.*
Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the
sin of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The priest says the invitation.

Draw near with faith. Receive the
body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his
blood which he shed for you.
Eat and drink in remembrance that
he died for you, and feed on him in
your hearts by faith with
thanksgiving.

*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: *Myn Liking – R.R. Terry*

Hymn

Hark the glad sound!
the Saviour comes,
the Saviour promised long:
let every heart prepare a throne,
and every voice a song.

He comes,
the prisoners to release
in Satan's bondage held;
the gates of brass
before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes,
the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures
of his grace
enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas,
Prince of peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring
with thy beloved name.

Philip Doddridge (1702-51)

Prayers after Communion

Priest Father in heaven, who sent
your Son to redeem the world and
will send him again to be our
judge: give us grace so to imitate
him in the humility and purity of his
first coming that, when he comes
again, we may be ready to greet
him with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Generous God, you have fed
us at your heavenly table. Set
us on fire with your Spirit that
when Christ comes again we

may shine like lights before his
face, who with you and the Spirit
lives for ever. Amen.

Notices

Blessing of the Congregation

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

Priest Christ the Sun of
Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before
your path, and make you ready to
meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God Almighty,
Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier, be
upon you all, now and always.

All Amen.

Final hymn

On Jordan's bank
the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
come then and hearken,
for he brings glad tidings
from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every
Christian breast;
and furnished
for so great a guest
yea, let us each
our hearts prepare,
for Christ to come
and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,
our refuge, and our great
reward;
without thy grace
our souls must fade,
and wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand
to heal our sore,
and make us rise,

to fall no more;
once more
upon thy people shine,
and fill the world
with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee
whose advent
sets thy people free,
whom with the Father we adore
and Spirit blest,
for evermore. Amen

*Charles Coffin (1676-1749) Tr John
Chandler (1808-76)*

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

All and rise in glory. Amen.

Dcn As we await our coming
Saviour, go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Organ voluntary: Fugue in D minor
(Dorian) BWV 538 – J.S. Bach*



St Johns LGBT+ Group will be
meeting after Mass 12.30, in
the All Saints Room, today,
Sunday 7th December. Further
details from Barbara.

R.I. P.

There will be a Requiem Mass
for Tim M in St John's at 4pm
on Thursday 18th December

Special services for Advent and Christmas

**Tuesday 16 and Wednesday
17 Dec – afternoons:
Carol singing in Care Homes.**

**Sunday 21 Dec 6.00pm:
Christmas Carol service.**

**Wednesday 24 December –
Christmas Eve:**

**Christmas Crib service
4.00pm**

**Carols in the Churchyard
6.30pm**

Midnight Mass 11pm

**Thursday 25 December:
Christmas morning 10.30am
Festival Eucharist.**

St John's Personnel

Rector: Fr David Hill;

rectorstjohns30@gmail.com

Safeguarding Officer: Beryl H;
07340 268598

safestjohns40@gmail.com

Parish Administrator and PCC

Secretary: Lucy W

admstjohns30@gmail.com; Parish

Office: 07831904321

Please contact Lucy also for **Church
Hall Bookings.** Website:

www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk

Postal Address: St John the

Evangelist, Pevensey Road,

St Leonards on Sea, TN38 0LF

Hastings Philharmonic Choir's popular traditional Carol Concert.

This year they will be

joined by the HPO

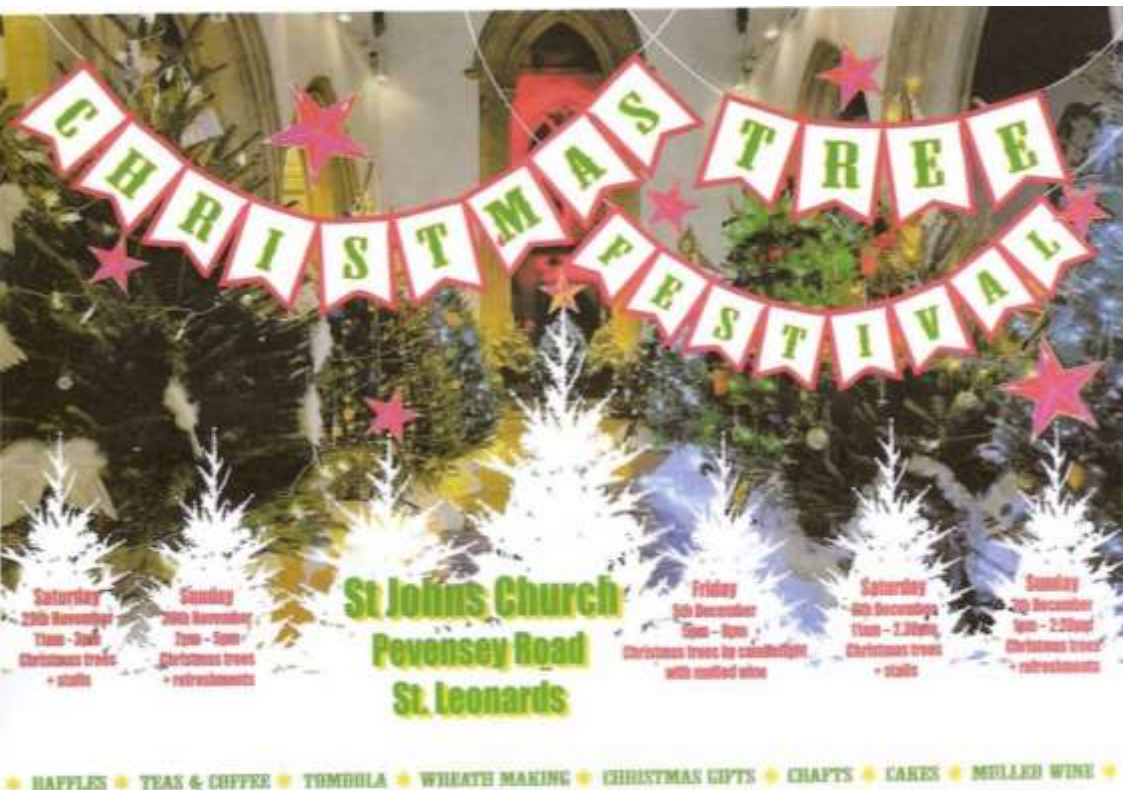
Songbird's children Choir

and Cromwell Brass

5:00 pm, Sat 13th Dec

Christ Church, St Leonards

*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom
service by emailing pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com
Also to this email address please send any updates
for prayer lists or pews news sheet by 4pm on
Tuesdays. (Printing, folding and stapling is done on
Wednesdays) Thank you. The Pew Sheet is printed
on 100% recycled paper.



Do you use Facebook?

There are some good things happening at St Johns and we would like to be better at informing people about these events.

We are working on improving the church website and keeping it up to date. We are also hoping someone could post things on our Facebook page. If you could help with this in some way please speak to Fr David or contact Lucy our

administrator at admstjohn30@gmail.com

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