

# St John's, Pevensey Road



## Pews News & Service Sheet for Sunday 21st February 2021

The First Sunday of Lent



Welcome to our Parish Mass service today - viewable via the Broadcast Page of our church website. [www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk/broadcast](http://www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk/broadcast)

**Due to the current Covid-19 situation, St John's is closed for public worship services & private prayer until further notice.**

**Sunday Parish Mass** is online only - recorded in the closed church and broadcast via our church website at 10:30 a.m, all being well.

**Online "Zoom" service:** 10 a.m. on Wednesday. Send Rev Jill or Deacon Michael an email and they will send you the necessary "link".

**People for whom our prayers are asked:**

Jean & Geoff, Geraldine, Brenda R, Jane G, Cynthia H, Jo, Amber, Shirley, Andrew N, Libby V, Kath Q, and Linda.

**Please pray also for...**

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Agatha, Barbara Missin, John Cairra and Bernard Clarke,

... and those whose Years Minds fall around this time:  
Eunice Byrom, Peter Harvey (Priest), Mila, Clive Riddell, Frank Jenkins, Jack Sampson, and Charlie Menzinger,

...and all who mourn.

**This year's Lent Course**, or Pilgrimage, will be presented by Fr David via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7 p.m, starting this Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February. He will be following the *Churches Together in Britain and Ireland* course. If you would like to take part, please send Fr David an email in order to receive the online signing-up details. Alternatively, Fr David is endeavouring to get printed versions for those not online to use at home as individual households. If you are online, but cannot make the Tuesday 7 p.m. timeslot, then the materials can be accessed via this link:

[ctbi.org.uk/lent-study-2021](http://ctbi.org.uk/lent-study-2021)

... or search for *CTBI*, and then for *Lent Course 2021* on their website.

**HYMN OF THE WEEK: *Forty days and forty nights***

Written by George Hunt Smyttan, clergyman, author and poet, *Forty Days and Forty nights* started out as a nine verse poem, published in the *Penny Post* in March 1856, under the title "*Poetry for Lent; As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing*". The Rev'd Francis Pott, who had to resign from his parish near Biggleswade due to deafness, adapted the hymn for one of his own collections. Pott also wrote original hymns, including '*Angel voices, ever singing*'. The hymn's German tune *Heinlein*, meaning '*Out of the deep*', is a seventeenth century composition, probably by Martin Herbst.

Based on Matthew 4:1-11, the hymn recalls the temptation of Christ in the wilderness, and goes on to exhort him to aid us in resisting our own worldly temptations. "*Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.*" (Hebrews 2:18)

# Mass for the First Sunday of Lent

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**All Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All and also with you.**

## Prayer of Confession

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.

**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*

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:

Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the powers of  
darkness,  
and grew closer to you in the desert:  
help us to use these days to grow in  
wisdom and prayer  
that we may witness to your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

## A reading from the Book of Genesis

*Genesis 9.8-17*

Then God said to Noah and to his sons  
with him, 'As for me, I am establishing  
my covenant with you and your  
descendants after you, and with every  
living creature that is with you, the birds,  
the domestic animals, and every animal  
of the earth with you, as many as came  
out of the ark. I establish my covenant  
with you, that never again shall all flesh  
be cut off by the waters of a flood,  
and never again shall there be a flood  
to destroy the earth.'



God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

For the Word of the Lord  
**All Thanks be to God**

### **A reading from the First Letter of Peter**

*1 Peter 3.18-22*

Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you – not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at

the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

For the Word of the Lord  
**All Thanks be to God**

### **Gradual Hymn**

Forty days and forty nights  
Thou wast fasting in the wild;  
Forty days and forty nights  
Tempted, and yet undefiled.

Sunbeams scorching all the day;  
Chilly dew-drops nightly shed;  
Prowling beasts about thy way;  
Stones Thy pillow; earth thy bed.

Let us thine endurance share  
And awhile from joys abstain,  
With thee watching unto prayer,  
Strong with thee to suffer pain.

And if Satan, vexing sore,  
Flesh or spirit should assail,  
Thou, his vanquisher before,  
Grant we may not faint nor fail.

So shall we have peace divine:  
Holier gladness ours shall be;  
Round us, too, shall angels shine,  
Such as ministered to thee.

Keep, O keep us, Saviour dear,  
Ever constant by thy side;  
That with thee we may appear  
At the eternal Eastertide.

*G.H. Smyttan (1822-70) and  
Francis Pott (1832-1909)*

## 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.**

The Lord be with you  
**All And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to Mark  
**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

### *Mark 1.9-15*

In those days Jesus came from  
Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized  
by John in the Jordan. And just as he  
was coming up out of the water, he  
saw the heavens torn apart and the  
Spirit descending like a dove on him.  
And a voice came from heaven, 'You  
are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am  
well pleased.'

And the Spirit immediately drove him  
out into the wilderness. He was in the  
wilderness forty days, tempted by  
Satan; and he was with the wild  
beasts; and the angels waited on him.  
Now after John was arrested, Jesus  
came to Galilee, proclaiming the good  
news of God, and saying, 'The time is  
fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has  
come near; repent, and believe in the  
good news.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**All We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

### Prayers of Intercession

With confidence and trust let us pray to  
the Father.

For the one holy catholic and apostolic  
Church ...

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

**All in your mercy hear us.**

For the mission of the Church,  
that in faithful witness

it may preach the gospel

to the ends of the earth,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

**All in your mercy hear us**

For those preparing for baptism and  
confirmation...

and for their teachers and sponsors,

let us pray to the Father.

Lord of compassion,

**All in your mercy hear us.**

For peace in the world ...  
that a spirit of respect and reconciliation  
may grow among nations and peoples,  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**All in your mercy hear us.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick,  
and all who suffer...  
for refugees, prisoners, and all in  
danger;  
that they may be relieved and protected,  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**All in your mercy hear us.**

For those whom we have injured or  
offended,  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**All in your mercy hear us.**

For grace to amend our lives and to  
further the reign of God,  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**All in your mercy hear us.**

In communion with all those who have  
walked in the way of holiness ...  
let us pray to the Father.  
Lord of compassion,  
**All in your mercy hear us.**

God our Father,  
in your love and goodness  
you have taught us to come close to you  
in penitence  
with prayer, fasting and generosity;  
accept our Lenten discipline,  
and when we fall by our weakness,  
raise us up by your unfailing mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All 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*

## **Preparation of the Table**

*The table is prepared and bread and  
wine are placed upon it.*

*Music: Double fugue in D minor  
(Pachelbel)*

God of our journey,  
as we walk with you on your path of  
obedience,  
sustain us on our way and lead us to  
your glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**All Amen.**

*The priest 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 saying:

**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**

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.**

### **Agnus Dei is said:**

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

### **Giving of 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.**

*Communion is received*

*Music: Fugue in D minor (Pachelbel)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God,  
you have renewed us with the living  
bread from heaven;  
by it you nourish our faith,  
increase our hope,  
and strengthen our love:  
teach us always to hunger for him who  
is the true and living bread,  
and enable us to live by every word  
that proceeds from out of your mouth;  
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 and Dismissal

**Priest** The Lord be with you  
**All** And also with you

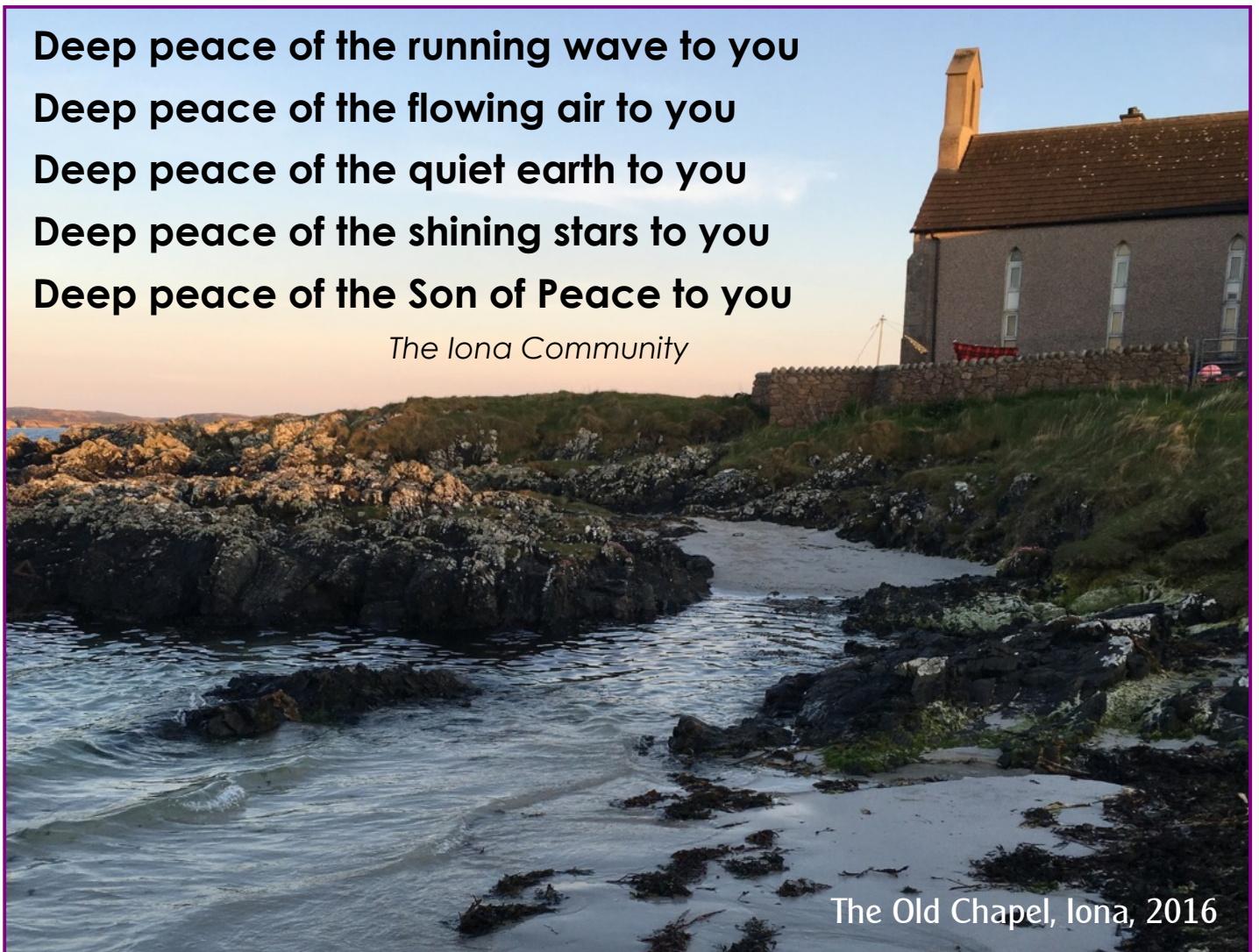
Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,  
to deny yourselves, take up your cross,  
and follow him;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.  
**All** Amen.

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

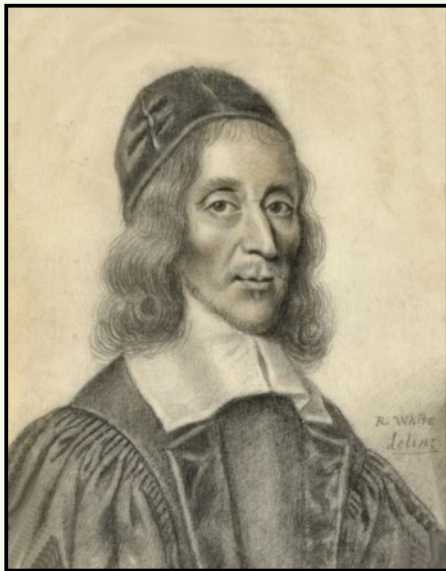
**Concluding voluntary:** *Toccata and fugue  
in B flat (Pachelbel)*

Deep peace of the running wave to you  
Deep peace of the flowing air to you  
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you  
Deep peace of the shining stars to you  
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you

*The Iona Community*



The Old Chapel, Iona, 2016



Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, is the “lesser festival” day of priest and poet **George Herbert** (1593-1633), writer of many popular and inspiring hymns, including 'Let all the World in Every Corner Sing', 'Teach me, my God and King', and 'King of Glory, King of Peace'. From a young age, Herbert wrote religious poetry, and for many students of English Literature he is the finest devotional poet, whose work has wide appeal to those both inside and outside the Anglican Church and the Christian faith.

George Herbert struggled for most of his life with conflicting desires. On the one hand, he was a gifted scholar who shone at school and university and for whom a glittering political career seemed to beckon. On the other, he was conscious of a constant leaning towards a calling to ordination as a priest. This persistent inner turmoil was the source and inspiration of much of his poetry.

Finally, at the age of 36, he embraced the priesthood and accepted the living of the small, insignificant parish of Fuggleston-cum-Bemerton in Wiltshire. Here he found inner peace at last, serving God and the local community, and here his poetic talent was able to flourish. Sadly, this tranquillity lasted for only three years, brought to an end by his early death just short of his 40th birthday.

As well as his many poems and hymns, Herbert was a prolific source of “proverbs” and one-liners, still recognisable and appropriate some 400 years on...

*He who cannot forgive breaks the bridge over which he himself must pass.*

*Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night.*

*Thou who hast given so much to me, give me one more thing... a grateful heart!*

*Storms make the oak grow deeper roots.*

*Life is half spent before we know what it is.*

*Where there is peace, God is.*

*Love your neighbour, yet pull not down your hedge.*

*Whose house is of glass, must not throw stones at another.*

*The fat man knoweth not, what the lean thinketh.*

*Light burdens, long borne, grow heavy.*

*Every mile is two in winter.*

*An old dog barks not in vain.*

*Do not wait; the time will never be 'just right.' Start where you stand, and work with whatever tools you may have at your command, and better tools will be found as you go along.*

*God heals, and the Physician hath the thanks.*

*None knows the weight of another's burden.*

*Good & quickly seldom meet.*

*The book of books, the storehouse and magazine of life and comfort; the Holy Scriptures.*



## History Corner: If a Map paints a thousand words...

OS Map from...1878



The Second ("Little Brick") Church

...1910



The Third Church

...1951



The "empty plot"

It is fascinating to see the history of the St John's Church buildings reflected in the Ordnance Survey maps of the area, from different years. The wartime bombing of the large "third church" had resulted in the rather poignant empty plot shown on the 1951 map, though that wasn't entirely accurate, as the tower was still standing, and the building work on the fourth church was well underway, having started in 1950.

The 1951 map also shows that an extra building has appeared in the churchyard - the parish hall, known affectionately as "Little St John's". Completed in 1949, it included kitchens, and a chapel for the congregation to use - since the bombing they had been meeting temporarily in a chapel in the Rectory. "Little St John's" was dedicated by the Bishop on the very day that the Diocese sent their permission for the building of the fourth church to commence.



The 4th Rector, Fr Moxon, in "Little St John's"

### This week's "Prayer for the Nation", 22nd - 28th February:

Lord Jesus Christ,  
in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.  
In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster.  
Do it again, we pray.

Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,  
Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and all our frontline workers.  
Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and all who grieve.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
in these dark and difficult days, turn your face towards us,  
have mercy upon us, and heal our land, we pray. Amen.

## The Small Print for this pewsheet:

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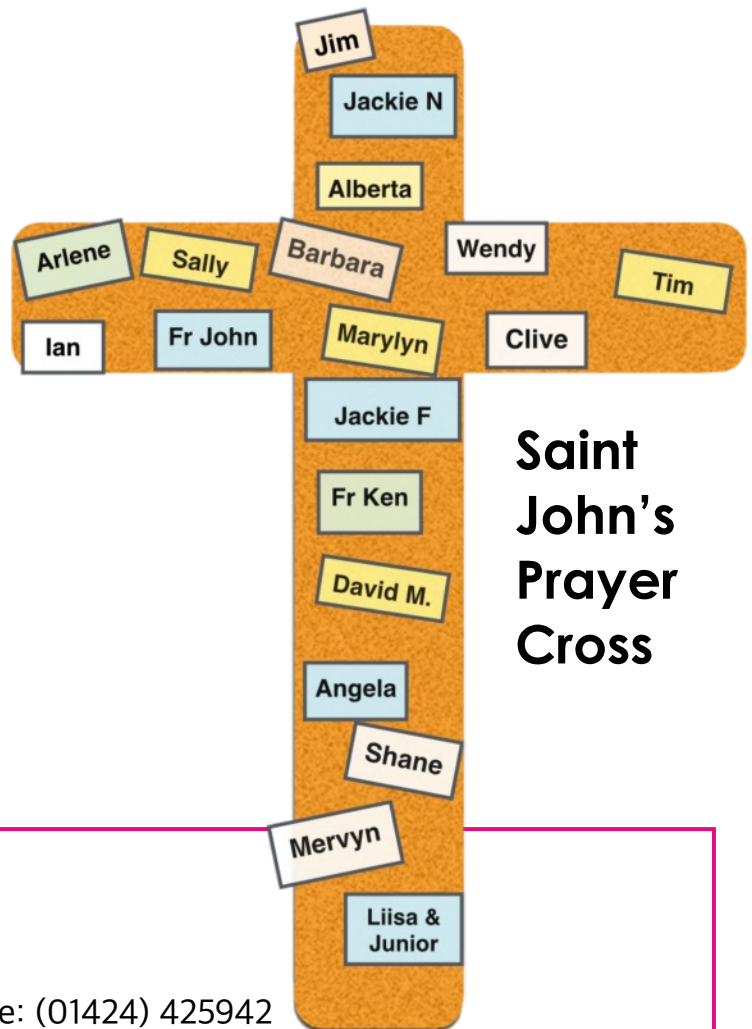
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Collect (First Sunday of Lent, Additional)  
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Information for the History Corner is taken from "St John the Evangelist - the First Hundred Years" by W.H. Dyer, 1965

George Herbert quotations from:  
[https://www.azquotes.com/author/6593-George\\_Herbert](https://www.azquotes.com/author/6593-George_Herbert)



## Saint John's Prayer Cross

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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**

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