



# **St Clement's Church, Ewell**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith** [alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk)

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Parish Secretary: Julie Young Email: [ewell@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ewell@abdiocese.org.uk) Office hours: **Weds, Thurs & Fri 9am-1pm**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Charity No. 252878

**All Masses are now live streamed. Access via the Parish Website**

**12th January 2025 is the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**, when Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. We are told, in the Gospel of Luke, that "the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'" Just as last Sunday's feast was an epiphany, a showing forth of the glory of God, so too this Sunday we have another epiphany. Jesus, the Messiah, the Anointed one, is anointed by the Holy Spirit and sent to do the Father's will. His baptism by John marks the beginning of His public ministry and the end of His hidden life. We are told elsewhere that Jesus was at this time about thirty years old, and that His public ministry lasted for three years. This Sunday marks the end of the Christmas season, and the beginning of Ordinary Time. This Sunday there will be no sermon: instead we shall be hearing a Pastoral Letter from Bishop Richard.

## **Liturgical notes**

From Monday we are in Ordinary Time and the vestments will be green, the colour symbolic of growth. This will last until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, when Lent begins. The month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus, which signifies that God saves us. According to St Paul (in Philippians 2:10): "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth". In Romans 10:13, Paul reiterates the salvific nature of the

Holy Name by stating that those who "call on the name of the Lord" will be saved.

**Monday is the feast of St Hilary** (roughly 310–367), bishop and doctor of the Church. St Hilary was bishop of Poitiers in Gaul, and a stern opponent of the Arian heresy, the mistaken belief that Jesus was a son of God rather than the Son of God, and not of the same substance as the Father. He wrote widely on the subject, refuting the heretics, and spoke truth to power, and was exiled for several years for his steadfast defence of Catholic truth.

**Friday is the feast of St Antony**, abbot. He was born in Koma in Lower Egypt in 251 to wealthy landowner parents. When he was about 20 years old, his parents died and left him with the care of his unmarried sister. Shortly thereafter, he decided to follow the gospel exhortation in Matthew 19: 21, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasures in heaven." Anthony gave away some of his family's lands to his neighbours, sold the remaining property, and donated the funds to the poor. He then left to live an ascetic life in the desert, placing his sister with a group of Christian virgins. Many others came to join in his life of prayer and solitude, and for this reason he is considered the father of all monks.

**Daily Mass in the week is on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays at 10am. On Thursday, Mass is at 7pm.**

**On Fridays we shall recite the Rosary after Mass. Confessions are on Saturday morning at 10.30am, until at least 11a,m, with adoration of the Blessed sacrament.**

**We have had three offers of a good home for the Crib, and we will flip a coin or otherwise come to an agreement about its destination. We have had an offer to do the flowers from Eunice.**

## **The Holy Year, or Jubilee, has begun, part 2**

The Jubilee opened on Christmas Eve, at 7 p.m., with the rite of the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican immediately before Pope Francis celebrated the Christmas Mass. Holy Doors were also opened at Rome's three other major basilicas: St. John Lateran on December 29, St. Mary Major on January 1, and St. Paul's Outside the Walls on January 5. A Holy Door was also opened on December 26 at Rebibbia Prison, which Pope Francis has visited twice before to celebrate Mass and wash inmates' feet on Holy Thursday. The doors represent the passage to salvation Jesus has opened for humanity, the same Jesus who says of Himself 'I am the door' (John 10:9). In 1423, Pope Martin V opened the Holy Door in the Basilica of St. John Lateran - the Diocese of Rome's cathedral - for the first time for a jubilee. For the Holy Year of 1500, Pope Alexander VI opened Holy Doors at Rome's four main basilicas. At the end of a Holy Year, the Holy Doors are formally closed and then bricked up by masons. There are Holy Doors at all English Cathedrals, so one does not have to go to Rome to pass through the Holy Door this year.

## **Advance notice**

Fr Alexander will be away from 20<sup>th</sup> January until the end the month. On the weekend he is away, the 'other' Fr Graham (Preston) will be celebrating the three Sunday Masses (including the Saturday Vigil Mass.) Many thanks to him for his availability. On Thursdays Fr Simon Hall will come over from Epsom to celebrate the 7pm Mass, and on Wednesdays Fr Anthony Churchill will come from Cobham to celebrate the 10am Mass. Many thanks to them as well. The other Masses, on Mondays and Fridays, will be cancelled. Pauline Groves will supervise the opening and closing of the Church, which will also be open during the hours the parish Secretary is here. Father Alexander will also be away on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January, thanks to a longstanding invitation to chair a meeting with a well known Catholic public figure in London. On that evening Fr Simon will celebrate the Mass.



**Thomas Horgan RIP**

We have heard the sad news of the death of Thomas Horgan, for many decades a faithful member of this parish, who died in hospital on Saturday 29th December, at the age of 94. His funeral Mass will be here on Monday 3rd February at 1.30pm, to be followed by committal for cremation at the Church door. Let us pray for the repose of his soul and for his family at this sad and difficult time for them. This will replace the 10am Mass on that day. (This notice has been amended.)

**Sean Carrig RIP**

We have heard the sad news of the death of Sean Carrig, for many years a faithful member of this parish, who lived at Southville Close and who died at Epsom Hospital on 2nd January, aged 88. His funeral Mass will be held here on Friday 7th February at 10am, followed by committal service at Epsom Cemetery. Let us pray for the repose of his soul and for his family at this sad and difficult time for them.

**Parish Quiz: Saturday 18th January**

Our next Parish Quiz is next Saturday 18th January. Hall open at 7pm. Please sign up in the narthex if you'd like to come along for another fun filled and sociable evening out. Please bring your own drinks. Entrance is £1 per person which will include nibbles, teas & coffees. For more details please contact Ann or Robin 07810 647733.

**HCPT- Discovery Hour**

Following on from the much appreciated and generous support of the Parishioners in December, the Charity will be visiting St Clements to thank you in person and share some additional information about the charity, THIS IS NOT A FUND RAISER - Only 1 hour of your time will be required - Venue: Meeting in The Narthex - Time 7pm. Date options : Jan Mon 20th or 27th Tue 21st January (Preferred date) or 28th Wed 22nd or 29th. Feb Mon 3rd Tue 4th Wed 5th. If you are available, to assist with the seating arrangements please confirm by email Julianhall28@gmail.com Or Mob txt 07801 827 805.

**New Year's Resolutions**

Why not try the Bible in a year podcast , Fr Mike Schmitz guides you through the whole Bible in a year . Readings and reflections. Or the Rosary in a year Podcast , Fr Mark Mary Ames guides you in praying not just saying the Rosary. Both podcasts can be accessed via Ascension press App, Spotify App and You tube.

**Forthcoming events:**

- Sat 11 Jan 4pm-7pm Confirmation II
- Sun 12 Jan 8:30am FHC Celebration Mass
- Thurs 16 Jan 7.30pm Baptism course.
- Sat 18 Jan 4pm-7pm: Confirmation III
- Sat 18 Jan 7pm Parish Quiz Night.
- Sat 25 Jan 11am-11:45am: FHC Session 6.
- Sat 1 Feb 9am Liturgy planning meeting.
- Sat 1 Feb 7pm International Evening.
- Sun 2 Feb Candlemas.
- Mon 3 Feb 1.30pm funeral Mass: **Thomas Horgan RIP**
- Thu 6 Feb 7.30pm A to Z of Catholicism. I is for Images.
- Fri 7 Feb 10am Funeral Mass: **Sean Carrig RIP**
- Sat 8 Feb 11am-12pm: FHC Session 7.

**Could the Gift Aid donor using envelope Box No 75 please contact julianhall28@gmail.com or by mobile on 07801 827 805.**

**Saturday 1st February International Bring & Share**

We have many parishioners from different countries & it would be wonderful to taste your food specialities. So, if you are able, please bring along a sharing dish of your home country's food (savoury or sweet) for all to sample. Or, just come along & enjoy a sociable evening with good food & company. Please sign up in the narthex if you'd like to come long and if you can provide a sharing dish. From 7pm in the Church Hall, £3 per person, £1.50 for children. Any questions, please ask Ann Hannan or Lesley Squibb or any member of the social committee.

**Parish Notice Diocesan Directory for 2025 available £5 each, available from the parish office.**

**Mass Intentions for January 2025**

- |        |         |                         |   |
|--------|---------|-------------------------|---|
| Sat 11 | 6pm     | Vigil Mass              | <b>Benedict Fonseka RIP</b>             |
| Sun 12 | 8.30am  | The Baptism of the Lord | <b>People of the Parish</b>             |
| Sun 12 | 10.30am | The Baptism of the Lord | <b>Agnes &amp; Peter Mitchell RIP</b>   |
| Mon 13 | 10am    | St Hilary               | <b>Wellbeing of Ellie Williams</b>      |
| Wed 15 | 10am    | Feria in OT             | <b>DM Farrell &amp; Wright Families</b> |
| Thu 16 | 7pm     | Feria in OT             | <b>Available</b>                        |
| Fri 17 | 10am    | St Antony Abbot         | <b>Available</b>                        |
| Sat 18 | 6pm     | Vigil Mass              | <b>GE of Morris Family</b>              |
| Sun 19 | 8.30am  | 2nd Sunday in OT        | <b>People of the Parish</b>             |
| Sun 19 | 10.30am | 2nd Sunday in OT        | <b>Timothy Griffin RIP</b>              |

**The A to Z of Catholicism** will resume on 13th February after the 7pm Mass, Our next topic will be 'I is for Images'.



**Recovery and Well Being**



Please pray for:  
Mary Bruce, Bob Parker, Kitty Cusack, Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Sally Mason, Shona Dane, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Marcia Bancroft and Mel Alvarez.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please do pick up one of the Mass Intention envelopes in the Narthex and pop it into the Parish Office. Alternatively, you can email your request to ewell@abdiocese.org.uk.