



St Clement's Church, Ewell

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Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Charity No. 252878

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

1st December 2024 is the First Sunday of Advent, and the start of the liturgical year

In the first reading, from the prophecy of Jeremiah, we hear God's promise that He will send the Messiah to His people Israel. In the Gospel, from St Luke, Jesus speaks of the End Times. Despite the fearful signs in the heavens and the terrible events to come, we are told to hold our heads high and be watchful, because our liberation will be at hand. Moreover, the Lord warns us not to let our hearts be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, but to be alert and prepared for the coming of the Son of Man.

Liturgical notes

We are in Advent, the season of preparation for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. Advent is a penitential season, and so the liturgical colour is Violet. In keeping with this, there are no flowers in Church, and the organ is only played to accompany the singing. The Gloria is omitted from the Mass on Sundays.

Do please note our Advent candles, the first of which will be lit this Sunday.

Tuesday is the feast of St Francis Xavier (1506 – 1552). He was one of the first Jesuits and a famous missionary in the Far East. **Wednesday** is the feast of St John of Damascus (675-749), Father of the Church, who wrote extensively on theology, law, philosophy and music. **Friday** is the feast of St Nicholas, bishop and martyr, patron saint of children, associated with the giving of gifts. **Saturday** is the feast of St Ambrose (339 – 397), bishop of Milan and Father of the Church. He baptised St Augustine, and is reputed to have invented silent reading.

This Week

On Tuesday Mass is at 7am. This is a Mass of Our Lady known as a Rorate Mass after the first words: "Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the just one." It will be dark and Mass will be celebrated by candlelight. The faithful are invited to bring their own candles. For safety's sake please bring them in a suitable container, such as a jam jar.

On Wednesday there is an Advent Reflection Group in the Tivey Room from **11:15am-12noon.**

All are welcome. The same meeting also happens on Zoom from **7:30pm-9pm.**

On Thursday, Mass is at 7pm and after Mass '**An A to Z of Catholicism**' takes place in the Tivey Room. This week it is '**G is for Guadalupe**' and we will talk about the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, where the Blessed Virgin appeared to an indigenous man, Juan Diego, in the year 1531.

On Saturday Confessions are at 10.30am, with Adoration, and continue until at least 11am.

On Saturday evening, at 7pm, we will be holding a Christmas Sing-along evening, singing a selection of well-known Christmas favourites and traditional carols. Doors open at 7pm and entrance is free. Included will be a welcome glass of wine and some festive nibbles. (Bring your own extra drinks.)

This event is for children too – we would encourage them to come in their nativity/Christmas costumes.

Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for Christmas flowers.

Huge thanks to all who came to, organised, ran and cleaned up after our Winter Fair

These events do not just happen, so thanks to all the devoted workers who made it happen. We raised at the time of writing the sum of £3,775.65, which is a good amount, and somewhat more than last year. It was very satisfying to see lots of people in the Hall, indeed, the Hall at full capacity for most of the time, and everyone enjoying themselves: this is of enormous benefit to the parish. Quite a few people were visitors, who will, we hope, take a good impression away with them. Many thanks to all those who helped advertise the event whether by posting online, displaying posters or word of mouth.

We have heard the sad news of the death of Maureen Ellis, which took place at the Priory Court Nursing Home on Sunday 24 November 2024, having received the Sacrament of the Sick and the Apostolic Pardon.

She was 87 years of age. The funeral will take place here at a date to be arranged. Let us pray for the repose of Maureen's soul and for her family at this sad and difficult time for them.

Welcomes and Baptisms

This Sunday at the 10:30am Mass **Clementine Lavanya Shepherd** will be Welcomed to the Congregation and next Sunday at 1pm Clementine will be Baptised by Fr Alexander, please remember the family in your prayers.

Our next baptism course is on Thursday 9th January and Thursday 16th January 2025. Please pick up a Sacrament of Baptism leaflet located in the Narthex if you would like to have your child Baptised and post it through the presbytery (the house behind the church) letterbox.

Music News The choir that sings at the 10.30am Mass are holding regular rehearsals in Church. The next one is on Tuesday 10th December at 6pm. If you feel called to sing with them, please do not hold back.

The Choir need a keyboard player to accompany them... could this be you?

Deanery Newsletter

As we begin the process of implementing Bishop Richard's Pastoral Plan in this area, a Deanery Newsletter has been prepared which is available at the back of the Church and on the parish website. Fr Chris Bergin, from St Michael's, Ashted, (who the Bishop has asked to serve as Moderator of the Clergy Team when the new Parish is formed) writes: *"I hope that this Deanery Newsletter, which we aim to produce termly, will be a useful way to keep everyone in our communities informed and engaged as we embrace the task the Bishop has given us: thinking creatively, working collaboratively, the better to fulfil the Mission of the Church to which each of us is called"*.

Our Church is open during the hours of daylight, every day, apart from Tuesday, so people can come in and pray or just visit. (Quite a few have done so already.) If the red 'sausage' is in the doorway, this means the door is unlocked.

**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.**

The New Missals are available to buy in the narthex

Also Bible Alive and My Day by Day for children and adults. A donation towards the cost of these would be welcome.

Welcome to the new liturgical year, and welcome to our new Parish Mass Books

They are purple, so easy to spot, and they have the word 'Revised' on the cover, to indicate that they are now using the new translation of the readings. One notices slight changes to the readings: for example this week, the Gospel uses the word 'dissipation' instead of the former 'debauchery'; there is a slight difference in meaning and emphasis between the two words! The first means bad and corrupting behaviour, while the second carries the note of wasting one's energies in such behaviour. One hopes that in these small ways the new translation will lead us to a deeper understanding of the Holy Scriptures. Please do use the purple books: they have the order of the Mass at the start, then the propers of the Sundays from First Advent through to Pentecost, followed by important feast; right at the back are some traditional prayers which we should all know and use from time to time.

16 Days of Activism International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Along with Caritas and Safe in Faith the NBCW are encouraging 16 Days of Activism with small actions you can take that can help vulnerable people in our communities. Please see poster on our noticeboard or login to: <http://www.nbcw.co.uk/international-day-for-the-elimination-of-violence-against-women/>

Vigil of The Immaculate Conception, Sat 7th December

Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. "And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it." (Jonah 3:5,10)

Please Invite others to join the day on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/1461899157815100/>

Our Facebook group is now 316 strong, a mere 4 months after it started. It is a very useful way of communicating, so please encourage other friends to join it. The more the merrier. It is very important for us to increase our Church's name recognition, and social media does help in this. Do share posts, particularly with local groups.

Recovery and Well Being



Please pray for:

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



Hall news

We have placed our Hall under management, and bookings are now being handled by Praetorium, who specialise in this field. We are obviously keen to take bookings. The office number is **01372457651**

email: office@lowcosthalls.co.uk.

The office is open 9-5 Mon-Fri.

The Key Safe Code will be given on application.

Dates For Your Diary

- 30 Nov Polish Culture evening **7pm-10pm all welcome**
- 1 Dec Advent begins.
- 3 Dec Rorate Mass **7am**
- 5 Dec A to Z of Catholicism: **G** is for Our Lady of Guadalupe
- 7 Dec, Parish Sing-along in the Hall **7pm**
- 8 Dec Retiring collection for Christmas flowers.
- 8 Dec Christmas Wreath Making. Hall **2 noon-2pm**
- 9 Dec Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- 10 Dec Rorate Mass **7am**
- 11 Dec Penitential service at St Joseph's Epsom **7.30pm**
- 12 Dec Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
- 12 Dec A to Z of Catholicism: **H** is for the Holy Spirit.
- 14 Dec Liturgy Committee. **9am**
- 14 Dec Confirmation I, Enrolment Mass **4pm-6pm**
- 17 Dec Rorate Mass **7am**
- 18 Dec St Clement's School Advent Service **7pm**
- 29 Dec Opening of the Holy Year.

Mass Intentions December 2024

Sat 30	6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
Sun 1	8:30am	Our Lord Jesus Christ	Michael Diemer RIP
Sun 1	10:30am	Our Lord Jesus Christ	Elizabeth Keogh RIP
Mon 2	10am	1st Monday in Advent	WPLS Intensions
Tue 3	7am	St Francis Xavier	Janusz Szkaradek RIP
Wed 4	10am	St John Damascene	Jason McGowan RIP
Thu 5	7pm	1st Thursday in Advent	Benedict Fonseka and Nita Wickramasinghe RIP
Fri 6	10am	St Nicholas	St Hugh's Intentions
Sat 7	6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
Sun 8	8:30am	2nd Sunday of Advent	Leo McNamee RIP
Sun 8	10:30am	2nd Sunday of Advent	Tony Bellino RIP