



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

19th January is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings and prayers can be found in the purple books on page 127. The Gospel comes from St John and describes the wedding at Cana in Galilee, where Jesus turns the water into wine. We are told that this miracle is significant, not just because it saved the wedding party, but because: 'This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And His disciples believed in Him.' Jesus's first miracle, like all His miracles, is designed to show His power as Son of God and to elicit our belief in Him as Son of God. The use of the word 'glory' (also used in the first reading from Isaiah) alerts us to the fact that this is the third showing forth of the glory of the Lord in as many weeks: the Epiphany, the Baptism of the Lord, and now the miracle of Cana. God lets His glory be seen, and we need to understand just what His glory is, and how we are called one day to share in it.

The Vigil Mass this Saturday is being celebrated by Father Simon Hall. Many thanks to him for helping out. Fr Alexander has a long-standing engagement chairing a meeting with a famous Catholic figure on Saturday evening.

Liturgical notes

We are in Ordinary Time and the vestments are green, the colour symbolic of growth. This will last until Wednesday 5th 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. Also at this time of the year, we are invited to pray for Christian Unity: unity amongst ourselves, and the realisation of unity with other Christian confessions.

Monday is the feast of St Sebastian (roughly 255 – 288). He was martyred during the persecution of the Emperor Diocletian. He was initially tied to a post or tree and shot with arrows, though this did not kill him. He was rescued and healed by St Irene of Rome. Shortly after his recovery he went to Diocletian to warn him about his sins, and as a result was clubbed to death. In the Middle Ages, he was invoked as a protector against plague.

In later centuries he became a popular subject for artists.

Wednesday is the feast of St Vincent, deacon and martyr, who is the first martyr of Spain. When the Roman Emperor Diocletian began persecuting Christians in Spain, Vincent and his bishop Valerius were brought before the Roman governor in Valencia. Though he was offered release if he would consign Scripture to the fire, Vincent refused. Speaking on behalf of his bishop, he informed the judge that they were ready to suffer everything for their faith, and that they could pay no heed either to threats or promises. His outspoken manner so angered the governor that he had every sort of torture inflicted on Vincent, until he died. During his martyrdom he preserved such peace & tranquillity that it astonished his jailer, who repented from his sins and was converted. The aged bishop Valerius was exiled.

According to legend, after being martyred, ravens protected Vincent's body from being devoured by vultures, until his followers could recover the body. His body was taken to what is now known as Cape St. Vincent where a shrine was erected over his grave, guarded by flocks of ravens. King Afonso I of Portugal (1139–1185) had Vincent's body exhumed in 1173 and brought it by ship to the Lisbon Cathedral.

Friday is the feast of St Francis de Sales, (1567 –1622), Bishop of Geneva. He was noted for his deep faith and his gentle approach to the religious divisions in his land resulting from the Protestant Reformation. He is known also for his writings on the topic of spiritual direction and spiritual formation, particularly the 'Introduction to the Devout Life' and the 'Treatise on the Love of God'.

Saturday is the feast of the Conversion of St Paul.

Daily Mass this week is on Wednesday at 10am, and will be celebrated by Canon Anthony Churchill. On Thursday, Mass is at 7pm, and will be celebrated by Father Simon Hall. On Friday, Mass is at 10am, and will be celebrated by Fr Chris Bergin, our moderator. Please do all you can to make our visiting priests welcome. There are no confessions this week, and the Mass on Monday is cancelled.

On Sunday 2nd March, from 9am-12 noon, it is proposed to hold a Children's Books, Toys & Equipment Exchange in the Hall.

The idea is to bring any stuff you no longer want and drop it off, and for others to help themselves to all the goodies that have been donated. (Bring as much or as little as you like and take as much or as little as you like.) Our School does not run one of these, so we will not be competing with them, and they have promised to help us publicise it. Any leftovers will go in the garage and then be taken to charity shops etc. So, please note the date, and do start thinking of having a really good clear out, and please tell all your friends.

The A to Z of Catholicism

Our A-Z resumes in February on Thursday evenings after the 7pm Mass, except the 13th, as there is a Core Group meeting. Our next topic is: '**I is for Images**', & after that '**J is for Jesus**' & then '**K is for Kyrie Eleison.**' Everyone is welcome to come along to these encounters, which will also be recorded and put up on our Facebook page.

The Holy Year, or Jubilee, has begun, part 3

The theme of the Holy Year is "Pilgrims of Hope." The papal bull, issued May 9 2024, that introduced the coming Jubilee Year is titled "Spes Non Confundit," or "Hope does not disappoint," drawn from Romans 5:5. "Everyone knows what it is to hope," Pope Francis wrote. "In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God's word helps us find reasons for that hope." Pope Francis also hopes the year draws Catholics toward patience, which he described in "Spes Non Confundit" as a "virtue closely linked to hope," yet can feel elusive in "our fast-paced world, [where] we are used to wanting everything now."



Let us continue to pray for Thomas Horgan RIP whose funeral Mass is here on Monday 3rd February at 1.30pm. Let us also continue to pray for Sean Carrig RIP, whose funeral Mass will be held here on Friday 7th February at 10am. Let us also remember Maria Riga, who lived in Ruxley Lane, and who died on 27th December at the age of 92. She was for many years an active member of this parish. She received the Sacrament of the Sick and the Apostolic Pardon before Christmas. Her funeral will take place at St Joseph's in Epsom on 29th January at 12 noon. Let us pray for the repose of her soul and for her family at this sad and difficult time for them.

HCPT- Discovery Hour, Tuesday 21st January, 7pm-8:30pm

Following the much appreciated & generous support of the Parishioners in December, the Charity is visiting us to thank us in person & to share some additional information about the charity, THIS IS NOT A FUND RAISER Only 1 hour of your time will be required - we will meet in The Tivey Room on the 21st Jan at 7pm. If you are available please confirm by email Julianhall28@gmail.com Or Mob txt 07801 827 805.

Jubilee News Saturday 17th May

We have booked our Jubilee Pilgrimage to London for Saturday 17th May. This will include a visit to Tyburn Convent near Marble Arch, the site of many Catholic martyrdoms, where there is perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Then we shall have a picnic in Hyde Park, and then walk to Westminster Cathedral to go through the Holy Door. (Those not up to the walk will take the bus.) Transport to and from London will be by train. More details to follow, nearer the time, but the idea is to make it activity-light and prayer rich. Please save the date now!

Sat 1st Feb International Bring & Share

Come along & enjoy a sociable evening & if you are able, please share your country's dish. Register your interest &/or your sharing dish in the narthex. From 7pm in the Church Hall, £3per person, £1.50 children. Further Info: Ann Hannan Lesley Squibb or any member of the social committee.

A date for the diary: Deanery Lent Retreat Days:

An opportunity not to be missed! Take some time aside this Lent to pray and reflect on the Passion of the Lord. Fr Alexander will lead parishioners from across the Deanery in reflection on the Stations of the Cross and the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary. In addition, there will be time for quiet prayer, prayer together, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Lent Retreat will be offered on two dates:
1) At Ladywell Convent, Godalming - Sat 15th March, 10.30am - 4.30pm; Cost: Ladywell £25, including lunch;
2) At St Augustine's Abbey, Chilworth - Sat 29th March, 10.30am - 4.30pm. Chilworth £10, bring a packed lunch.
To help with planning, please book a place by Sunday 9th February: for the Retreat day at Ladywell by emailing: ashtead@abdiocese.org.uk; for the retreat day at Chilworth by emailing: ewell@abdiocese.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you.

Forthcoming events

- 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 Finance Committee 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 9am Liturgy planning meeting
- Sat 8 Feb 11am-12pm: FHC Session 7
- Sat 8 Feb 4pm-7pm Confirmation IV
- Sun 9 Feb 10:30am FHC Celebration Mass

The 200 Club winners for January are:

Julian Hall	No.68	£30
Jane Goss-Vera	No.148	£20

Help in praying the Mass

Bible Alive (£3) contains reflections on Masses for every day. My Day by Day (£1) has the readings for each day. All are available in the narthex, and donations to repository can be put in the box on the wall or on the machine.

Mass Intentions for January 2025

Sat 18	6pm	Vigil Mass	GE of Morris Family
Sun 19	8.30am	2nd Sunday in OT	People of the Parish
Sun 19	10.30am	2nd Sunday in OT	Timothy Griffin RIP
Mon 20		No Mass	
Wed 22	10am	St Vincent	Ahline Lock RIP
Thu 23	7pm	Feria in OT	Caroline Marie Boore RIP
Fri 24	10am	St Francis de Sales	RIP Students & Staff University of York
Sat 25	6pm	Vigil Mass	Claire Kelly RIP
Sun 26	8.30am	3rd Sunday in OT	People of the Parish
Sun 26	10.30am	3rd Sunday in OT	Deirdre Finn RIP



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.