



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

10th November 2024 is the Thirty-Second Sunday of the Year

In the first reading, we hear the story of the prophet Elijah and the widow of Sidon, who generously shares her last meagre rations with the prophet, who is a stranger to her, and who is rewarded by God with the miracle of the jar of meal and the jug of oil not being spent. In the Gospel, from Saint Mark, we hear about another poor widow, who is donating a small amount to the Temple treasury, and who is praised by Jesus for giving everything she had to live on, rather than, like everyone else, giving from her spare cash. Both readings are telling us something about giving: we should, as Mother Teresa once said, give until it hurts. The quote in full is: "I must be willing to give whatever it takes to do good to others. This requires that I be willing to give until it hurts. Otherwise, there is no true love in me, and I bring injustice, not peace, to those around me."

This Sunday is Remembrance Sunday, being the Sunday closest to 11th November

The 10.30am Mass will be our Requiem for all the Dead of War. We will be wearing our black vestment, which is a gift from a benefactor. The Uniformed Groups of our parish will be represented and will lay a wreath at the start of Mass, and we will observe the 2 minutes silence. Do please wear your poppy. The other Masses that weekend will be of the 32nd Sunday of the Year. The readings are the same in all Masses.

This Sunday there is a retiring collection for the Retired Priests' Fund

Please give generously to this fund which is looking after the needs, among many others, of our own dear Fr Graham. Collectors, please take this as your invitation to stand at both exits of the Church with the appropriate baskets. Incidentally, for the usual collection, at the 10.30am Mass at least, we need four collectors: two can start at the front and two at the back, and they can meet in the middle. This will make things a little more expeditious.

Liturgical notes

We are in the month of November, which is dedicated to prayer for the faithful departed, otherwise called the Holy Souls in Purgatory, those who are being purified before they can see God. On days when there is no feast we shall be offering the daily Mass for the Dead. **Monday** is the feast of St Martin of Tours (336 – 397) who was the third bishop of Tours, and who is best known for the story of dividing his cloak with a poor beggar. While Martin was a soldier in the Roman army and stationed in Gaul (modern-day France), as he was approaching the gates of the city of Amiens, he met a scantily clad beggar. He impulsively cut his military cloak in half to share with the man. That night, Martin dreamed of Jesus wearing the half of the cloak he had given away. He heard Jesus say to some of the angels, "Martin, who is still but a catechumen, clothed me with this robe." The dream confirmed Martin in his piety, and he was baptised soon afterwards. **Tuesday** is the feast of St Josaphat, bishop and martyr (1580 – 1623). He laboured in the eastern part of Poland to reconcile many to the Church of Rome, and thus is considered one of the founders of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, a self-governing Church in union with the Holy See, whose liturgy is that of Constantinople. He was killed during an anti-Catholic riot. On Tuesday, the priests of the deanery are celebrating a Mass for the deceased clergy at St Michael's in Ashted at 11am, to which all are welcome.

Friday is the feast of St Albert the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church (1200-1280). A Dominican friar, he was one of the greatest scientists and philosophers of the Middle Ages.

Our parish open meeting last Sunday was a success, so much so that we decided to hold such meetings quarterly from now on. Watch this newsletter for news of the next one. The minutes are available for all to see on the board in the Narthex. Many thanks to the chair, & those who took the minutes. Among many things we discussed was how to do more for the youth of the parish, & how to involve St Clement's school in our parish life more. We also spoke of some 'big ticket' social events, such as pilgrimages & day retreats. In addition, we spoke of those who used to come to Saint Clement's but come no more. If you know such people, do ring them up, or go & see them, or stop them in the supermarket & engage with them, & invite them back. Here are a few personal reflections: There are quite a few pilgrimage spots near here, including the Tower of London, place of the martyrdom of St Philip Howard, & numerous other spots associated with the martyrs. Further afield are Walsingham (needs an overnight stay) and Aylesford in Kent. For day retreats, the shrine of Our Lady of Consolation at West Grinstead is lovely in warm weather, & the monastery at Chilworth is a beautiful spot. All of these can be easily arranged. We are going to invite the school choir to sing at one Mass on a Sunday. A youth-led fundraising project for Lent was mooted, which would chime in with the idea of Lenten alms. It would be a good idea to hold a Table Top sale in the Hall one Sunday. (We are too small for car boot sales, sadly). Another activity would be Christmas wreath making. Remember, if there is anything you want to get involved in, just ask! All our groups need fresh members. We have plenty of good ideas, now let us put them into practice.

Remembering Our Dead Our Memory Book will be on display in the church for the month of November, when we pray especially for our dead. If you would like a name to be added to the book, please write it clearly on a piece of paper and leave it in the basket, to be written in by our calligrapher.

The Winter Fair is coming up! 24th Nov 9am-2pm This is not purely a fund-raising exercise, but also a way of introducing local people to our parish & community without actually inviting them to a Church service. Lots of people like these sorts of occasions, so publicity is key. To this end, do please take a poster (from the back of the Church) and either display it in your window, or wherever people will see it; and/or ask friends, shopkeepers, public noticeboard, administrators to do the same. In addition, please invite friends & neighbours to come along; they may well appreciate the invitation. Word of mouth is invaluable, as is the personal touch. We have invitation sized notices as well for you to pass on. Finally, please share the poster on Facebook with your own friends or with local Facebook groups.

Advent Reflection Course Fiona Perks is running an Advent reflection course on Friday 22nd Nov & the following three Fridays at 2pm at St Clement's school. The course will follow the Sycamore programme as the Lent group. All parents and parishioners are welcome. If interested please let the school office know. For more info on the course content please use the following website link. <https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/advent-course/>

Final Call for your Red Boxes If you still have your Missio Red Box, please would you bring it in so that the contents can be counted and sent on to the Mission charity. Many thanks for your kind donations.

Christmas Sing-along

On Sat 7th Dec, we will be holding a Christmas Sing-along evening, singing a selection of well-known Christmas favourites & traditional carols. Doors open at 7pm, entrance is free. Included will be a welcome glass of wine & 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. Please gargle before you come as we'll be looking to identify the best singers!

Also on the music front, we have formed a small but powerful committee to pick hymns for the 10.30am Mass. If there are particular hymns we ought to be singing, and hymns you never want to hear again, then please do let us know. The Facebook group is possibly the best way of discussing this.

An A to Z of Catholicism is taking the week off, and this Thursday after the 7pm Mass the Core Group will be meeting. We will resume the talks next week, on the 21st November, with 'E is for the Eucharist'.

Catholics are urged to contact their MPs today to stop the legalisation of Assisted Suicide

To find out more about the Bill and contact your MP please visit: www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/act-now.

Thoughts on Assisted Dying/Suicide, part four. If you were an ill & vulnerable person, & perhaps dying, and someone suggested they could help you to end it all, so you would no longer be a burden to others, at present you can rebuke the person with the words 'What you are suggesting is illegal.' The law, as presently constituted, protects you, and protects your life; that is the function of laws: to protect the weak and vulnerable, and prevent them from being harassed & bullied into decisions they do not want to take. If the law is changed, then the protection of the vulnerable will be eroded. We are assured that safeguards will be in place to protect the vulnerable if the law is changed, but this is misleading. First of all, such safeguards can later be revoked & amended or just ignored; secondly, what has happened in Canada & Belgium is a sign of what may happen elsewhere: once euthanasia is legalised, once the principle of the protection of life at all stages is abandoned, euthanasia quickly becomes more common, and the criteria for its application become more and more loosely applied. Hard cases make bad law.



Recovery and Well Being

Please pray for: 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.



Mass Intentions November 2024

Sat 9	6pm	Vigil Mass	Frank Pawley RIP
Sun 10	8:30am	32nd Sunday in OT	Bruce & Ward Families RIP
Sun 10	10:30am	The War Dead	People of the Parish
Mon 11	10am	St Martin of Tours	WPLS Ints
Wed 13	10am	Mass of the Dead	Available
Thu 14	7pm	Mass of the Dead	Fr William J Bradley RIP
Fri 15	10am	At Albert the Great	WPLS Ints
Sat 16	6pm	Vigil Mass	Patrick & Joan Walsh RIP
Sun 17	8:30am	33rd Sunday in OT	People of the Parish
Sun 17	10:30am	33rd Sunday in OT	Available

Dates For Your Diary

Sun 10 Nov	Mass for the War Dead	10.30am
Tues 12 Nov	Mass for Deceased Clergy of the Deanery, at St Michael's Ashtead	11am
Tues 12 Nov	Deanery core groups: St Andrew's	7-9pm
Thu 14 Nov	Parish Core Group meeting,	7.30pm
Sat 16 Nov	FHC 4th Session,	11am-12pm
Sun 17 Nov	Altar Servers' training, pizza & games	6pm
Thu 21 Nov	A to Z of Catholicism: the Eucharist	7.30pm
Sat 23 Nov	FHC Reconciliation Services	11am-1pm
Sat 23 Nov	Feast of Saint Clement.	
Sun 24 Nov	Feast: Christ the King Winter Fair.	9am-2pm
Thu 28 Nov	School Mass	2.15pm
Sat 30 Nov	FHC Reconciliation Services	11am-1pm