



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

24th November 2024 is the feast of Christ the King and the Last Sunday of the liturgical year

In the first reading, once more we hear the prophet Daniel's vision of the End Times, when one like a son of man will be recognised as universal King, and the reign of God will be inaugurated, which will last forever. In the Gospel, from Saint John, we have Jesus' conversation with Pontius Pilate, where he explains to the incredulous Roman procurator that He is a King, but not in the worldly sense. His Kingdom is one founded on truth. Those who live in His Kingdom are on the side of truth. The coming of the Kingdom, for which we all long, is therefore the triumph of truth: the truth about God, and the truth about humanity. The Devil, by contrast, who opposes the Kingdom of God, is called the father of lies.

This Sunday there is a retiring collection for the Arundel Cathedral maintenance fund

Collectors, please take this as your invitation to stand with the baskets at both doors at the end of Mass.

Also this Sunday is the Winter Fair!

Liturgical notes

We are in the month of November, which is the 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. **Next Sunday is the First Sunday of Advent** and the start of the season of preparation for Christmas. **Monday** is the feast of Saint Catherine of Alexandria. She was martyred in the early 4th century at the hands of the emperor Maxentius. According to her hagiography, she was both a princess and a noted scholar who became a Christian around age 14, converted hundreds of people to Christianity, and was martyred around age 18. More than 1,100 years after Catherine's martyrdom, Joan of Arc identified her as one of the saints who appeared to and counselled her. **Saturday** is the feast of Saint Andrew the Apostle.

He is the patron saint of Scotland, among many other countries, and the brother of Saint Peter, who was martyred on an X shaped cross.

This coming Saturday, as last Saturday, we have the First Reconciliation (Confession) for our First Holy Communion Candidates, from 11am to 1pm. Fr Simon Hall will be here to help Fr Alexander hear the confessions of the children and any adults who wish to approach the sacrament as well. Next Saturday will be back to normal.

Brace Yourselves! Advent is Coming! What to look out for in Advent:

- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Advent is quite short. It consists of the four Sundays before Christmas and the intervening days, 24 days in all this year.
- ◆ Now is the time to buy yourself an Advent Calendar to help you count down the days until Christmas.
- ◆ Now is the time to prepare your Crib, either using a ready-made one, or creating one from scratch.
- ◆ But do not jump the gun. Advent ends/Christmas begins at sundown on 24th December. The Twelve Days of Christmas carry on until the feast of the Epiphany, celebrated this year on Sunday 5th January, after which Christmas decorations are removed – though Cribbs can be left up until 2nd February, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple.
- ◆ Advent is a time for going to Confession. Confessions are normally heard at 10.30am on Saturdays, and also on request. There will also be a penitential service at St Joseph's in Epsom on Wednesday 11th December at 7.30pm.
- ◆ In Advent, we shall have Mass at 7am on Tuesday mornings. 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.
- ◆ In Advent we will be singing some of the usual Advent hymns, which are familiar, even if they only come round once a year. We will put these hymns up on our Facebook page, as a taster.
- ◆ On the Second Sunday of Advent, we shall have a retiring collection for Christmas flowers.
- ◆ In Advent, at the start of the Church's new year, we will be using the new lectionary.

Christmas Sing-along

On Saturday 7th December, 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.

We decided to have the Parish Open meetings once every three months!

The next one is scheduled for the same time, after the 10.30am Mass, on Sunday February 9th

At the last meeting we discussed the idea of going on pilgrimage or going for days of retreat at some suitable place. With this in mind, we have arranged a day at Chilworth Abbey, on Saturday 29th March. The Abbey is extremely beautiful and set in lovely countryside; the meeting room there has a capacity of 30. A list will be opened nearer the time. In addition, we have made enquiries about a pilgrimage to Lisieux by bus for three nights in the summer, to be there for the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. We have received a quote from a specialist travel agent, and here are the details: Full coach services for the duration of the tour from your Parish; Ferry crossing Dover/Calais; Three nights half board accommodation at the L'Ermitage, Lisieux; Half day guided tour of Lisieux; Visit to Alencon; Tangney Tours courier throughout; Comprehensive travel insurance. PRICE: Minimum 20 paying passengers, £699.00 per person based on 2 people sharing. Minimum 30 paying passengers, £590.00 per person. Minimum 40 paying passengers £515.00 per person based on 2 people sharing. Single room supplement £30.00 per person for the duration. Do we have any expressions of interest?

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.

New Missals We now have a stock of Missals with the new translation of the readings. They will be at the Fair on Sunday or you can contact Pauline G (020 8394 0169) to place an order.

We have had our first Altar Servers' Evening of training Pizza and Games Many thanks to all the adult helpers who made it possible. The next one will be in three months' time at 6pm on Sunday 16th February. Note the date now!

The workers have been very productive with their grave cleaning, and **Fr O'Driscoll and Father Young's graves** are now all spick and span, well ahead of schedule; as a result the cleaning party scheduled for this Friday is not needed. You may have seen the pictures on our Facebook – truly a transformation. Well done to all involved.

Our next baptism course is on Thursday 9th January & Thursday 16th January 2025.

Do get in touch if you would like to take part, and have a baby to baptise.

Moderated Parish discussions begin

Last week five members of the parish core group had a meeting at St Andrew's school Leatherhead with other core groups in the deanery re the Moderated Parish as outlined in the Bishop's Pastoral Plan (2023) The meeting started with a talk about what is a parish and what is a community. We were then asked questions in smaller groups and discussed between ourselves before giving feedback. The discussions were lively and interesting and allowed Fr Bergin to produce a summary of each group's deliberations. A Deanery newsletter will be produced termly and the intention is to set up a formation team for the moderated parish to include clergy and the laity. Fr Bergin intends to invite Parish Office managers/administrators and Chair of finance committees to meetings where they can share good practice and begin to discuss the implications of a moderated parish. If you have any comments or queries please talk to any member of the core group, details on the Parish notice board.

Advent Reflection Course Fiona Perks is running an Advent reflection course on Friday 29th Nov & the following two 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/>

From the Weds 4th Dec & the following 2 Weds there will be an **Advent Reflection Group** in the Tivey Room from 11:15am-12noon. All Welcome. Also the same as above on Zoom from 4th Dec from 7:30pm-9pm. Details to follow.

Music news The Choir has had its first rehearsal, and will have another at 6.15pm on Wednesday. New members are welcome!

An **A to Z of Catholicism** takes place this Thursday after the 7pm Mass, with 'F is for Free Will'.

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. To the left of the Hall door is a key safe, the code will be given on application.

Dates For Your Diary

- 24 Nov Feast: Christ the King, Winter Fair **9am-2pm**
- 27 Nov Choir Practice in the Church **6.15pm**
- 28 Nov School Mass **2.15pm**
- 28 Nov A to Z of Catholicism: F is for Free Will **7.30pm**
- 30 Nov Feast of Saint Andrew.
- 30 Nov FHC Reconciliation Services **11am-1pm**
- 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

Mass Intentions November 2024

Sat 23	6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
Sun 24	8:30am	Our Lord Jesus Christ	Michael Diemer RIP
Sun 24	10:30am	Our Lord Jesus Christ	Elizabeth Keogh RIP
Mon 25	10am	St Catherine of Alexandria	WPLS int
Wed 27	10am	Mass for the Dead	WPLS int
Thu 28	7pm	Mass for the Dead	Andrea D Dent RIP
Fri 29	10am	Mass for the Dead	St Hugh's Intentions
Sat 30	6pm	Vigil Mass	Mick Gahan RIP
Sun 1	8:30am	1st Sunday of Advent	People of the Parish
Sun 2	10:30am	1st Sunday of Advent	Laura Dempsey RIP

Recovery and Well Being

Please pray for: 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.