



St Clement's Church, Ewell

Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk

Web Site: www.stclementsewell.org 307 Kingston Road KT19 0BW Tel: 020 8393 5572

Parish Secretary: Julie Young Email: 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

26th January is the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The readings and prayers can be found in the purple books on page 130. The Gospel comes from Saint Luke, in which he explains his purpose in writing the book, and describes the first episode of Jesus' public ministry, His visit to the synagogue at Nazareth, and His announcement that He has come to fulfil the promises of the Old Testament.

In the first reading we have the episode of the reading of the Book of the Law to all the people of Jerusalem by Ezra.

The reading of this book, which we assume to be the Book of Deuteronomy, acts as a reminder to the Chosen People that they are called by God to observe His Law; the same applies to us, and we too must strive to be people of the Book, and people who keep the Law of God.

Today all the Sunday Masses are being celebrated by Fr Graham Preston, in the absence of Fr Alexander, who is on holiday, and who is very grateful to Father Graham for stepping in to help. Please make him welcome.

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 Angela Merici (1474-1540). With a group of companions, she took private vows and devoted her life to the education of girls. Later, her followers developed into the Ursuline order, the first order of nuns who worked in the world doing good works, rather than living a purely contemplative life in enclosed convents.

Tuesday is the feast of St Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), the greatest and most influential of Catholic theologians. He achieved a lasting synthesis between faith and reason, teaching that: *Gratia naturam supponit et perfecit eam* - 'Grace presupposes nature and brings it to perfection.' In so doing he banished fundamentalism from Catholic thought.

Friday is the feast of St John Bosco (1815-1888), who devoted himself to the education of youth, and who founded the Salesian Order. He spent his life working among poor and abandoned children in industrial Turin, helping them to find meaning in their lives, and providing them with love, training and education. His shrine is in that city.

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.



Candlemas

Next week, the feast of the Presentation of the Lord falls on a Sunday. This beautiful feast, known as Candlemas, commemorates the day, forty days after His birth, when Joseph and Mary took the infant Jesus up to the Temple to present Him to the Lord in accordance with the Law of Moses, and where He is hailed as the Light of the World by Simeon. Mass begins in the Hall with the lighting and blessing of candles; we will then process into the Church following the Cross. The details of the liturgy are in the purple books on page 296 and following.

The Holy Year, or Jubilee, has begun, part 4

Drawing on their Jewish roots, jubilee years emphasize the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. They also provide an opportunity for a special jubilee indulgence, which can remove the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ.

Thomas Horgan RIP Sean Carrig RIP Maria Riga RIP

 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 Saint 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. 

Diocesan Directory for 2025 £5 each, available from the Sacristy & the parish office.

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.**
Cost: Chilworth £10, bring a packed lunch

To help with planning, please book a place by Sunday 9th February:

For the Retreat day at Ladywell please email: ashtead@abdiocese.org.uk;

For the retreat day at Chilworth please email: ewell@abdiocese.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you.

Applications for this summer's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 24 July-1 August

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025 (25th-31st July by air or own transport) by coach/jumbulance are now open on the diocesan website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes>

Our pilgrimage to Lourdes is one of the most significant pastoral events in our annual Diocesan calendar. Pope Francis has declared 2025 is a Jubilee year, the Lourdes theme is 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'.

We are invited to set out on our pilgrimage journey with our Lady and St Bernadette, in the 'hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ.' (Pope Francis, Spes non Confundit 2025)

Forthcoming events

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
Sun	9 Feb	11.30am	Parish Open Meeting.
Thu	13 Feb	7.30pm	Meeting of the Core Group.
Sun	16 Feb	6pm-7.30pm	Altar Servers' Training, Pizza and Games
Thu	20 Feb	7.30pm	A to Z of Catholicism, 'J is for Jesus.'
Thu	27 Feb	7.30pm	A to Z of Catholicism, 'K is for Kyrie Eleison.'
Sun	2 Mar	9am-12noon	Children's Book, Toys & Equipment exchange.

A Year of Hope: Introduction to the Jubilee Year

How can we respond to Pope Francis' call to be "tangible signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year? Find out by watching *this inspirational event* (find it and other Jubilee resources at cafod.org.uk/jubilee). Featuring Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, CAFOD Director Christine Allen and more. Discover how we can act in faith and in love as pilgrims of hope this Holy Year.

The A to Z of Catholicism

The A to Z of Catholicism will resume in February on Thursday evenings after the 7pm Mass, apart from the 13th, when the Core Group is meeting. Our next topic will be '**I is for Images**', and after that '**J is for Jesus**' and '**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.

Recovery and Well Being

Please pray for:

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

Mass Intentions for January 2025

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
Wed	29	10am	Feria in OT	GE Mary Brue
Thu	30	7pm	Feria in OT	Mark Addison RIP
Fri	31	10am	St John Bosco	Claire Kelly RIP
Sat	1	6pm	Vigil Mass	Mary Northeast RIP
Sun	2	8.30am	Presentation of the Lord	People of the Parish
Sun	2	10.30am	Presentation of the Lord	Elizabeth Doyle RIP

Mass Intentions

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

Offertory Collection

Many thanks for your continued support of your parish, the Offertory has been calculated to an average weekly amount of: £543.50 SO, £75.38 Cash, & 155.67 Gift Aid Envelopes, A weekly total of £774.55