



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

Christmas Newsletter

Welcome to our End of Advent and Christmas newsletter, which contains our programme of events for the Christmas season. A very happy Christmas celebration to you all, over the Twelve Days of Christmas, and a very Happy Year of Our Lord 2025 when it arrives.



Sunday 22nd December is the Fourth Sunday of Advent

In the first reading the prophet Micah extolls the not very important village of Bethlehem, hailing it as the place where the future ruler of Israel, the Messiah, is to be born. The Gospel, from Saint Luke, focusses on the Blessed Virgin, who is to bear the Saviour of the world, and who has rushed to see her cousin Elizabeth, who is also pregnant with John the Baptist, who, even in the womb, is aware of the Saviour's presence in Mary's womb.

Like John and Elizabeth, we too are preparing to welcome our Saviour with joy.

Monday 23rd December is the final Monday of Advent and Mass is at 10am

After Mass Confessions will be heard and the church will be cleaned & tidied. All are welcome to help!

Tuesday 24th December is Christmas Eve

Confessions can be heard on application in the Presbytery during the day. The Vigil Mass of Christmas is at 5.30pm; the readings and prayers can be found in the purple books on pages 94-97. We will use the Gospel from Mass during the Night. Mass during the Night is at 10pm, and the texts can be found on pages 97 to 99 of the purple books.

Wednesday 25th December is Christmas Day

The Dawn Mass will be at 8.30am (see the purple books pages 100-102), and the Mass during the Day will be at 10.30am (see the purple books pages 102-104).

At all of the Christmas Masses, in keeping with tradition, the offertory collection is the parish's gift to the priest, for his maintenance throughout the year. This is one of two collections for this purpose, the other one being at Easter.

Thursday 26th December, the second day of Christmas, popularly known as Boxing Day,

is the feast of Saint Stephen, the first martyr. Mass will be celebrated at 12 noon, and carols will be sung.

Saint Stephen is the patron saint of altar servers.

Friday 27th December, the third Day of Christmas, is the feast of Saint John the Evangelist,

the beloved disciple and the author of the Gospel that bears his name. Mass will be at 10am, and carols will be sung.

On Saturday 28th December and Sunday 29th December, the fourth and fifth days of Christmas,

we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The prayers and readings are to be found in the purple books on pages 105 to 108. Mass is at the usual times: 6pm on Saturday, and 8.30 and 10.30am on Sunday morning.

Monday 30th December is the sixth day of Christmas and will be a dies non,

that is to say the Church will be closed all day and Mass will not be celebrated.

Tuesday 31st December is the seventh day of Christmas and the feast of Saint Silvester,

pope, who baptised the Emperor Constantine, and was the first pope of a Church that was no longer persecuted. As it is the last day of the year of Our Lord 2024, New Year's Eve, it is customary to give thanks to the Almighty for all the graces and mercies that we have received this year, which means that at Mass we shall have the Te Deum, the traditional hymn of thanks. Mass will be at 10am.

Wednesday 1st January 2025 is the eighth day of Christmas and the feast of Mary, Mother of God

The readings and prayers are in the purple books on pages 109 to 111. On this day, the first of the year, it is customary to sing the Veni Creator, the Come Holy Spirit, to ask Almighty God to sustain all our hopes and projects for the New Year. Mass will be at 10am. Carols will also be sung.

Thursday 2nd January is the ninth day of Christmas,

and the feast of Saints Basil the Great and Saint Gregory Nazianzen. Mass will be at 7pm, after which the parish Core Group will be meeting.

Friday 3rd January, the tenth day of Christmas, is the feast of The Holy Name of Jesus, commemorating the naming of Jesus eight days after his birth. Mass will be at 10am.

On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th January, the eleventh and twelfth days of Christmas,

we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, marking the occasion when Jesus showed Himself to the Wise Men from the East. We shall be singing all the popular carols associated with the feast. Mass is at the usual times of 6pm on Saturday evening, and 8.30am and 10.30am on Sunday morning.

The readings and prayers for the feast are in the purple books on pages 114 to 118.

After Twelfth Night all Christmas decorations should be taken down,

though Cribs may remain until February 2nd, the feast of the

Presentation of the Lord in the Temple.



Parish Notices

The new Diocesan Directory for 2025 has arrived. As always it is packed full of useful information about the parishes of the diocese, the Curia, its central offices, and the liturgical calendar. We have several copies for sale at £5 each, available from the parish office.

A Thank You from the parish priest

Father Alexander would just like to say a few words, well, only two – Thank you to all the parishioners and friends of Saint Clement's who have made his arrival in the parish so easy. Sometimes the transition to a new parish priest can be difficult, but since July, I have experienced only kind and helpful people, who have made things so easy for me.

Many thanks to the altar servers, young and old, to the social committee for organising the welcome party and so many nice events subsequently, to those who help with the sacristy, and those who have helped so much with the physical structure of the house, Church and Hall. There have been quite a lot of things I did not know on arrival, particularly to do with practical matters, but I have had so many people to help me with the plumbing, the wiring and other things, that it has all been wonderful. Thanks to our enthusiastic catechists, our treasurer, our finance committee, our parish secretary, and all who have taken part in our parish projects. Thanks to all who helped move furniture, and thanks to our dedicated and devoted gardeners. Thanks to our flower arrangers and our church cleaners. Thanks to our choir and our musicians. Thanks to all who I may have inadvertently left out. Thanks to all the coffee and tea makers and the cake bakers and all who have produced such wonderful food on so many occasions. And the providers of the Kitkats after the 8.30am Mass. While on the topic, many thanks for all the Christmas cards and presents. All your kindness is deeply appreciated. We are, I hope well set for the New Year!

Fr Graham writes:

"I wish all Parishioners of St Clement's a very Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful 2025. My thoughts and prayers will be with you all this Christmas time."

Parish Statistics

We have just sent off our parish statistics for the year, as far as we are able to discern from the parish records, to the diocese. In 2024 there was one wedding in St Clement's, as well as 6 funerals. We have six Confirmation candidates and 25 First Holy Communion candidates. In the same year there were seventeen baptisms.

Forthcoming Events

Sun 29 Dec Opening of the Holy Year.
Happy New Year to All
Thu 2 Jan **7.30pm** Core group meeting.
Tue 7 Jan **7pm:** FHC Catechists Meeting.
Thu 9 Jan **7.30pm:** Baptism course.
Sat 11 Jan **11am-12pm:** FHC Session 5.
Sat 11 Jan **4pm-7pm:** Confirmation II.
Sun 12 Jan **8:30am:** FHC Celebration Mass.
Thu 16 Jan **7.30pm:** Baptism course.
Sat 18 Jan **4pm-7pm:** Confirmation III.
Sat 25 Jan **11am-11:45am:** FHC Session 6.
Sat 8 Feb **11am-12pm** FHC Session 7.
Sun 9 Feb **10:30am** FHC Celebration Mass.

HCPT Appeal

On behalf of The HCPT
I would like to thank you all for the generous donations received following the appeal. Once again The St Clements' Parish has responded in the best way possible and raised just over £1,600. A fantastic demonstration of community support, thank you!
Julian Hall



Happy Christmas



Update on New Missals

There are a few of the £13 Missals left, (with blue cover). No more will be available until mid February.

There are no more Redemptorist ones until mid January. Orders will be taken in the New Year.

Mass Intentions for December/January 2024/2025

Sat 21	6pm	Vigil Mass	GE of Morris Family
Sun 22	8:30am	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Patrick Brennan RIP
Sun 22	10:30am	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Laura Dempsey RIP
Mon 23	10am	Monday in G Advent	Available
Tue 24	5.30pm	Christmas Eve	Charles Snowden RIP
Tue 24	10pm	Christmas Eve	Available
Wed 25	8.30am	Christmas Day	People of the Parish
Wed 25	10.30am	Christmas Day	James Delahunt RIP
Thu 26	12 noon	St Stephen	Available
Fri 27	10am	St John	Available
Sat 28	6pm	The Holy Family	William & Johanna O'Halloran RIP
Sun 29	8:30am	The Holy Family	People of the Parish
Sun 29	10.30am	The Holy Family	Christopher Keogh RIP
Mon 30		No Mass	
Tue 31	Noon	7th Day in the Octave	Thanks: Norton & Maureen Lock
Wed 1	10am	Mary, Mother of God	Ints: Norton & Maureen Lock
Thu 2	7pm	Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen	Felix Cardoz RIP
Fri 3	10am	The Most Holy Name	Jack Martin 18th Birthday
Sat 4	6pm	The Epiphany of the Lord	Samantha Joanne Watkins RIP
Sun 5	8.30am	The Epiphany of the Lord	People of the Parish
Sun 5	10.30am	The Epiphany of the Lord	Alan Bryne 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.

