



# **St Clement's Church, Ewell**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith** [alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk)

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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**

## **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February is the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, or Candlemas**

The readings and prayers can be found in the purple books on page 296. All Masses this weekend will start in the Hall with the blessing and lighting of candles; we will then process into the Church with our lighted candles, the short way, if it is raining, the long way if it is fine. As the Gospel relates, forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple to present Him to the Lord in accordance with the Law of Moses. There He was recognised by Simeon and Anna as the Light of the World and the Messiah. Today's feast, among other things, recognises the joyous fact that the days are growing longer, noticeably so, and the darkness of winter is almost over. Candlemas is the feast of the 'quickenning of the year.' After the last Mass of Candlemas, the Crib will be dismantled. Next year we shall have new Crib. The old one is going to a new home.

## **Next Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, is the Parish Open Meeting**

In the Hall after the 10.30am mass, you are all invited to come and discuss matters to do with all aspects of Parish life. The curator of the minutes and the agenda is Fiona Perks. Do speak to her if there is anything you would like to put on the agenda. If you do not know who she is, please ask.

## **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 February is dedicated to the Holy Family, and on days when there is no feast, we shall celebrate a Votive Mass of Saint Joseph or a Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin.

**Monday is the feast of Saint Blaise**, bishop and martyr (died 316). The saint, on his way to execution, stopped to cure a child who had a fishbone caught in his throat, at the behest of the child's mother. He is thus invoked as the saint who helps those with throat disease, and on this day it is traditional to bless throats. This is usually done at the end of Mass, but because we have a funeral, this will be transferred to Wednesday.

**Wednesday is the feast of Saint Agatha**, (roughly 231-251), virgin and martyr. A native of Catania, she was martyred for her stout refusal to abandon her faith in Christ or her dedication to Him in virginity, and was subjected to horrible tortures. She is greatly revered in her native city and many other places besides.

The Blessing of Saint Blaise will be after Mass.

**Thursday is the feast of Saint Paul Miki and his companions**, the martyrs of Japan. Paul Miki was born into a wealthy Japanese family. He was educated by the Jesuits. He joined the Society of Jesus and became a well known and successful preacher – gaining numerous converts to Catholicism. The ruler of Japan, Toyotomi Hideyoshi, began persecuting Catholics for fear of the Jesuits' influence and intentions, and possibly that of European visitors.

Miki was arrested and jailed with his fellow Catholics, who were later forced to march 600 miles from Kyoto to Nagasaki, all the while singing the Te Deum. On arriving in Nagasaki – which today has the largest Catholic population in Japan – Miki had his chest pierced with a lance while tied to a cross on 5 February 1597.

He preached his last sermon from the cross, forgiving his executioners. Crucified alongside him were Joan Soan (de Gotó) and Santiago Kisai, also of the Society of Jesus, along with twenty-three other clergy and laity, all of whom were canonized by Pope Pius IX in 1862.



**Please remember that this week we have two funerals, that of Thomas Horgan at 1.30pm on Monday, which will replace the 10am mass, and that of Sean Carrig on Friday at 10am. You are all invited to both of them, as it is a pious action to be present at funerals. Let us remember the debt we owe Tom and Sean, both of whom were very active in getting this Church built. May they rest in peace and may their good works now be rewarded.**



**Daily Mass in the week is on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10am. On Thursday, Mass is at 7pm. Confessions are on Saturday from 10.30am until at least 11am, along with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.**

## **The Holy Year, or Jubilee, has begun, part 5**

The year calls Christians to action. Pope Francis called for "signs of hope" in the Jubilee Year, including the desire for peace in the world, openness to life and responsible parenthood, and closeness to prisoners, the poor, the sick, the young, the elderly, migrants and people "in difficult situations." Pope Francis has called on affluent countries to forgive the debts of countries that would never be able to repay them, and address "ecological debt," which he described as "connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time."

Please see the thank you letter on the noticeboard from the Stella Maris Charity for your kind donations of £239.13 plus Gift Aid. They are most grateful to you for helping them to continue their vital work supporting Seafarers.

### A date for the diary, Deaneary 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 please email: [ashtead@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ashtead@abdiocese.org.uk);

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

### Children's Books, Toys & Equipment Exchange 2nd March 9am-12noon

On Sunday 2nd March, from 9am to 12 noon, it is proposed to hold a Children's Books, Toys and 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, do start thinking of having a really good clear out, and please tell all your friends.

### Jubilee News

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!

### Forthcoming events

- 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 The A to Z of Catholicism,  
**'J is for Jesus.'**

### This Thursday the A to Z of Catholicism

This Thursday the A to Z of Catholicism starts again after its extended break, with 'I is for Images.' All are welcome. We shall be looking at the theology of icons, the role of art in Catholicism, and the differing ideas of our Jewish and Protestant brethren.

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

### Recovery and Well Being



Please pray for:

3 year-old Finlay Ewen, Rosa Undasan (Angelina True's Mum)  
Sheila Leech, 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 1        | 6pm           | Vigil Mass               | <b>Mary Northeast RIP</b>                      |
| Sun 2        | 8.30am        | Presentation of the Lord | <b>People of the Parish</b>                    |
| Sun 2        | 10.30am       | Presentation of the Lord | <b>Elizabeth Doyle RIP</b>                     |
| <b>Mon 3</b> | <b>1.30pm</b> | <b>Funeral Mass for</b>  | <b>Thomas Horgan RIP</b>                       |
| Wed 5        | 10am          | St Agatha                | <b>Available</b>                               |
| Thu 6        | 7pm           | St Paul Miki             | <b>Thanksgiving: Norton &amp; Maureen Lock</b> |
| <b>Fri 7</b> | <b>10am</b>   | <b>Funeral Mass for</b>  | <b>Sean Carrig RIP</b>                         |
| Sat 8        | 6pm           | Vigil Mass               | <b>GE of Morris Family</b>                     |
| Sun 9        | 8.30am        | 5th Sunday in OT         | <b>People of the Parish</b>                    |
| Sun 9        | 10.30am       | 5th Sunday in OT         | <b>Michael O'Connell RIP</b>                   |

### 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](mailto:ewell@abdiocese.org.uk).

### Offertory Collection

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