

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

Collect

O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgements against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Fear not, O Sion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach.'

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalms Response

Shout aloud and sing praise, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Second reading Philippians 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor. Alleluia.

Gospel- Luke 3:10-18

At that time: The crowds asked John, 'What, then, shall we do?' And he answered them, 'Whoever has two tunics

is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.' Tax collectors also came to be baptised and said to him, 'Teacher, what shall we do?' And he said to them, 'Collect no more than you are authorized to do.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what shall we do?' And he said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.'

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, 'I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, At the words that follow up, up to and including 'and became man' all bow and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism

for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer over the Offerings

Be May the sacrifice of our worship, Lord, we pray, be offered to you unceasingly, to complete what was begun in sacred mystery and powerfully accomplish for us your saving work. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

Prayer after Communion

We implore your mercy, Lord, that this divine sustenance may cleanse us of our faults and prepare us for the coming feasts. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Next week's Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

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Brighton and Hove Deanery: Western Churches

Sacred Heart, St George's & St Theresa's, St Mary Magdalen, St Peter's
Canon Colin Wolczak, Fr Tony Milner, Dom Rod Jones OSB, Canon David Parmiter
Sunday 15th December, Third Sunday of Advent, Year C. Weekdays: Advent Week 3

Canon Colin Writes:

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath, signifying a shift in the Advent season from a focus on penance to a joyful anticipation of Christmas, with the rose colour representing this change from the usual purple of Advent which symbolizes reflection and preparation.

The prophet Zephaniah says, "Rejoice and exalt with all your heart". St Paul writing to the Philippians says "Brothers and Sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice". The scriptures couldn't be clearer we are called to bring joy and hope to our troubled world.

As Christmas approaches, the Church reminds us of the joy which should be in our hearts as we reflect on what the birth of the Christ child means for us, and we are called to share that message with all whom we meet. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing near when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead us into His kingdom. May our prayer be Come, Lord Jesus.

God Bless

Canon Colin & Titch 🐾

Cardinal Newman Advent Service

You are all warmly invited to join us for a very special Advent Service of Readings and Carols on **Thursday 19th December at 6pm** in our school chapel. This is a ticketed event but all proceeds will go to helping support the homeless through our wonderful local charity, 'Off the Fence - Antifreeze'. Please follow this link to book your places! <https://ticketpass.org/event/EGQMZX/advent-carol-service>

Sacred Heart, 39 Norton Road, BN3 3BF, 01273 732843, www.sacredheartrove.org.uk, hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk, Streamed www.sacredheartrove.org.uk/videos.html
St Georges, Court Farm Road, BN3 7QR and **St Theresa's**, Old Shoreham Road, BN42 4RY 01273 708227, www.brightondeanerywest.org.uk, westhove@abdiocese.org.uk
St Mary Magdalen, 55 Upper North St, BN1 3FH stmarymagdalenbrighton.blogspot.com brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk
St Peter's, Portland Road, BN3 5GD, 01273 733840, www.stpeters-hove.org.uk hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

For any other contact information, including Safeguarding, please see the relevant parish website or church noticeboards.

Carols and Mince Pies

Saturday 21st December, 2pm, at St George's. All are welcome.

Crib Blessing & Decorating of Trees

Sunday 22nd December, 9am at St Theresa's, and **11am at St George's** Children and their families will be invited to help put the figures in the cribs during Mass, and to decorate the trees after Mass.

Advent Penitential Service

Sunday 22nd December, 3pm, at St Theresa's. A short service followed by

Mass Schedule		
Advent Week 3		
Sat 14th	Dec	St John of the Cross
6.00 pm	SH	People of the Parish
6.00	SP	Melitsa Bowen Private
6.30	SG	(Polish Mass)
Sun 15th	Dec	3rd Sunday of Advent
8.30 am	SP	All Parishioners
9.00	ST	Glen & Michelle Evans
9.30	SMM	Polish Mass
9.30	SH	Lelia Murray RIP
10.00	SP	Leo Faivre-Bueno
11.00	SG	All Parishioners
11.00	SMM	
11.30	SH	Bishop John Hine RIP
11.30	SP	Ignacy Mackowiak RIP
5.00 pm	SP	Brazilian Mass
5.30	SMM	
Mon 16th	Dec	Monday of the 1st Week of Advent
10.00 am	SH	Flora Lucy Freeman RIP
Tue 17th	Dec	
10.00 am	SG	Cheryl Evans Ints
10.00	SH	Anthony John Reynolds RIP
10.00	SP	Bridgit, Wellbeing
7:00 PM	ST	(Fr Celestine)
Wed 18th	Dec	
8.00 am	SH	Mary Mathews RIP
7:00am	SP	Melitsa Bowen Private
7.00 pm	ST	
Thu 19th	Dec	
10.00 am ‡	SG	Sabino Rato RIP
10.00	SP	All Parishioners
12 noon	SH	Elizabeth Mary Cronin & Family
		(Fr Celestine)
7.00 pm	ST	
Fri 20th	Dec	
8.00 am	SH	Keith Simpson RIP
10.00	SP	All Parishioners
10.00 ‡	ST	
7.00 pm	ST	(Fr Celestine)
Sat 21st	Dec	
6.00 pm	SH	Jose Nery Alvis RIP
6.00	SP	Jean Margaret Henry
6.30	SG	(Polish Mass)
Sun 22nd	Dec	4th Sunday of Advent
8.30 am	SP	Freda & John McAtamney RIP
9.00	ST	Suzanne Muggeridge
9:30	SMM	Polish Mass
9.30	SH	People of the Parish
10.00	SP	Maureen Hardiman RIP
11.00	SG	All Parishioners
11.00	SMM	
11.30	SH	Benjamin Charles RIP & Ludmella Harrison RIP
11.30	SP	Giuseppe Sassi RIP
5.00 pm	SP	Brazilian Mass
5.30	SMM	

SH: Sacred Heart; SG: St George's

SMM: St Mary Magdalene's

SP: St Peter's; ST: St Theresa of Lisieux

‡ Adoration before. † Adoration after

adoration and the opportunity for individual Confessions.

St Peter's Carol Concert

Sunday 22nd December at 6:30pm with a reception in the hall afterwards, please do come and join us.

Advent weekday Mass at St Peter's (Candlelight) 7am, Wednesday 4th/11th/18th December. Please note these Masses will replace the usual 10am Mass on that day.

The Christmas Offering is your gift to your Parish Priest. It is also one of his principal sources of personal income, so please be generous if you can! It can be Gift-Aided in the normal way.

Christmas Eve Masses

10:00 am, Sacred Heart
17:30 pm Vigil, St Theresa's
18:00 pm Vigil, Sacred Heart
18:00 pm Vigil, St Peter's
19:00 pm Vigil, St Mary Mags
21:30 pm, St Mary Mags (Polish Mass)
Midnight Mass, (with Carols from 11:30 pm), Sacred Heart
Midnight Mass, St Peter's

Christmas Day Masses

08:30 am, St Peter's
09:00 am, St Theresa's
09:30 am, Sacred Heart
10:00 am, St Peter's
11:00 am, St George's
11:00 am, St Mary Mags
11:30 am, Sacred Heart
11:30 am, St Peter's
13:15 pm, St Mary Mags (Polish Mass)

Boxing Day Masses

10:00 am, St George's
12:00 noon, Sacred Heart
10:00 am, St Peter's

Special Collections 2024

During the Christmas Season
Catholic Children's Society

Sacred Heart Christmas Choir

Anyone interested in supporting the choir in the choir loft at one of the sung Christmas masses? We will be singing carols and mass parts at the 18:00 Christmas eve mass, the Midnight mass and the 9:30 Christmas morning mass. If you are interested in joining the choir in the choir loft at one of these masses, please contact Cees (csbrkl@gmail.com) or Scott (scottmarlow@hotmail.com), who will add you name to the sign-up

sheet and tell you about any rehearsals that may be happening.

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School and Nursery

StMM's Catholic Primary School and Nursery is a vibrant, inclusive community school reflecting the beauty of our city and wider world. Our children and families come from a variety of backgrounds, faiths and abilities where everyone is celebrated, respected and nurtured. Why not join us for a tour and discover this hidden gem for yourself.



St Mary's school Admissions Consultation

St Mary's school are making some small adjustments to their admissions policy, and are required to consult all interested parties, which of course includes the parish. For more details go to: www.stmarys.brighton-hove.sch.uk/admissions/

Southwick Churches Together

We meet at 9:30 every Wednesday morning, at St Michael's Church in Southwick, for a short service, led by people from churches in the local area. There are refreshments afterwards. All are welcome!

SVP Social Group

For all parishioners, (run by the Sacred Heart SVP). Next one is Thursday 2nd January and every fortnight thereafter. Soup, sandwiches, tea, and cakes. Entertainment- quizzes etc. All Welcome.



Children's Liturgy at St Peter's

is looking for more help. If you would like to volunteer, please don't hesitate to contact the office. A quick reminder that Children's liturgy takes place on a term time only basis. Children are welcome up to secondary school age, those of secondary school age are to be encouraged to stay in the Mass. Parental consent forms will be available this coming weekend for parents to complete and return to the parish office or the children's liturgy volunteer. If the ratio of adults to children are not sufficient we will have to ask some parents to join the group at that point in the Mass before the children go out. If parents don't come forward then the liturgy will not be able to take place.

Food Bank Hangleton and West Blatchington

If you would like to donate this week we would be very grateful for: Tinned spaghetti, rice, Chinese style cooking sauce (e.g. sweet & sour, Chinese Curry), pasta sauce, tinned custard, tinned rice pudding, crisps. We currently have plenty of pasta baked beans and tea, so please do not bring us any more. Donations may be left at any of our churches. Thank you for your generosity.



Brazilian Mass

5pm every Sunday at St Peter's

If you would like to attend, please join them.

Coffee at St Peter's available after 10:00 Mass on 4th Sunday (22nd December). Coffee is available after 11.30 Mass every week, in the hall. Everyone is welcome. If you are new or unsure, please ask any of the organisers, who will be happy to introduce you to some new friends. **Sacred Heart Coffee** available after all 9:30am Sunday Masses, in the Parish Rooms.

St Peter's Gift Aid Envelope Users :-

From April next year we are aiming to move away from envelopes to a standing order payment system only for

our scheme, please could any envelope users contact the office for further information.

St Peter's Archive

For a baptism, or confirmation certificate contact the archive team by email: SaintPeterArchives@gmail.com.

Statement on Second Reading of Assisted Suicide Bill

Following the decision of MPs to vote in favour of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill at the Second Reading today (29 November), Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues, said: "We are disappointed that MPs have voted in favour of the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill progressing through parliament. We believe that this bill is flawed in principle and also contains particular clauses that are of concern. We ask the Catholic community to pray that members of parliament will have the wisdom to reject this bill at a later stage in its progress." To read more go to Statement on Second Reading of Assisted Suicide Bill - Catholic Bishops' Conference

Lourdes Pilgrimage

Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School is very keen to send a group of students on our annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes next Summer. This is an amazing opportunity and often a life-changing experience for young people in Years 10/11 to join as 'Redshirts', or Years 12/13, as 'Purple shirts' in a week of fun, friendship, service and faith. It is a really incredible experience. We have several Cardinal Newman students in our parish and we would love to encourage and support them. If you have a child that wishes to take part please see the links and sign up to express your interest. For further information: www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/redshirts.



Dates for your diary

Sacred Heart Prayer Group: Every Tuesday after Mass at 10:30am, SH Parish Room. All Welcome.
Weekly Reconciliation: 5:15-5:45pm before Mass every Saturday at Sacred Heart & St Peter's Church.

Newsletter by email?

If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter to your inbox each week, please email Lisa, SH Parish Secretary: hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk to be added to the distribution list., this list if for all churches in our parish.

St Mary Mags: Sanctuary of Prayer

The church will now be open from 3pm to 6:30pm each Friday afternoon. There will be a 'Holy Hour' with Adoration and Benediction between 5:30 and 6:30pm. You would be most welcome to come and spend a little time with the Lord, joining together in prayer for our deanery, our city and for our own personal intentions. Confession available during the Holy Hour.

Sacred Heart Film Club:

Saturday 4th January 2025. Join us in the Parish Rooms at the Sacred Heart from 12.30pm for the showing of 'A Month in the Country' (starting 1pm) Starring Colin Firth, Kenneth Branagh and Natasha Richardson, about two WW1 Veterans working on the murals and archaeology of a rural Church; followed by 'The Murals of Challock' about the creations of murals in a remote Kent church around 1950/2000. Refreshments available. Contact Michael Rainbows on 07368 958076 or David O'Brien on 07741 416501.

CCRS South

14 January onwards, 3.45-5.45pm
Cardinal Newman School, Hove, The two-year Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies will run on Tuesdays with five session modules delivered over a term. Teachers, TAs, catechists and anyone wishing to develop their understanding of the Faith are welcome. To book, go to www.abdiocese.org.uk.

CAFOD — Introducing Jubilee online session – 18th January 2025: 10:30am-12 noon. Join us for An introduction to the Jubilee Year with special guests Fr Jan Nowotnik, Director of Mission for the Catholic Bishop's

Conference, Christine Allen, CAFOD Director, and Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Africa Programmes. Hear how we're celebrating Jubilee as a global Church and how we can be tangible signs of hope, building a better world together throughout this holy year. Register at www.cafod.org.uk/news/events/a-year-of-hope-an-introduction-to-the-jubilee-year

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word:

25 January, 11am-4pm, St Wilfrid's Parish Centre, Burgess Hill. Join Bishop Richard for talks on the Scriptures, Lectionary, Liturgy of the Word and preparing to minister as a reader; includes Lectio Divina & the celebration of Mass. Reserve your place here



St Peter's Parking

The space alongside the church in Shelley Road is church property and it can be used by those on parish business if they cannot find on street parking. Please respect this practice.

St Peter's — We have heard the sad news of the death of John Lloyd who died last week. John has been a member of St Peter's for many years please remember John and his family in your prayers at this sad time.

St Peter's parish website

We are experiencing technical difficulties with our website so are unable to upload the parish newsletter. Alternatively, you can find it on the websites of the other churches!

Please Pray For...

Bob & Elena White, Cathy Howes, John Lloyd, Lucy, Margaret Guy, Michael Dixon, Noah Baker, Rebecca O'Brien, Sally Harvey, Lucy, Rex Curd, Suzanne Grassie, and Tom Piggins.

Please also pray for all the sick and/or housebound members of our parishes, and all who have died recently. Please tell your parish office if you know of anyone who needs to be added to this list.