

Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his
voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, may no
earthly undertaking hinder those who
set out in haste to meet your Son, but
may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the
unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever
and ever.

First reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow
and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on
for ever the beauty of the glory from
God. Put on the robe of the
righteousness from God; put on your
head the crown of the glory of the
Everlasting. For God will show your
splendour everywhere under heaven.
For your name will for ever be called by
God: 'Peace of righteousness and glory
of godliness'. Arise, O Jerusalem, stand
upon the height and look towards the
east and see your children gathered
from west and east, at the word of the
Holy One, rejoicing that God has
remembered them. For they went forth
from you on foot, led away by their
enemies; but God will bring them back
to you, carried in glory, as on a royal
throne. For God has ordered that every
high mountain and the everlasting hills
be made low and the valleys filled up to
make level ground, so that Israel may
walk safely in the glory of God. The
woods and every fragrant tree have
shaded Israel at God's command. For
God will lead Israel with joy in the light
of his glory, with the mercy and
righteousness that come from him.

Psalms Response

**What great deeds the LORD worked for
us! Indeed, we were glad.**

Second reading Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all
my remembrance of you, always in every

prayer of mine for you all, making my
prayer with joy, because of your
partnership in the gospel from the first day
until now. And I am sure of this, that he
who began a good work in you will bring it
to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

For God is my witness, how I yearn for
you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.
And it is my prayer that your love may
abound more and more, with
knowledge and all discernment, so that
you may approve what is excellent, and
so be pure and blameless for the day of
Christ, filled with the fruit of
righteousness that comes through Jesus
Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation—Luke 3:4, 6

**Prepare the way of the Lord, make his
paths straight; all flesh shall see the
salvation of God.**

Gospel- Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of
Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being
governor of Judea, and Herod being
tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother
Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea
and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch
of Abilene, during the high priesthood
of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God
came to John the son of Zechariah in
the wilderness.

And he went into all the region around
the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of
repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
As it is written in the book of the words
of Isaiah the prophet,

'The voice of one crying in the
wilderness: "Prepare the way of the
Lord, make his paths straight. Every
valley shall be filled, and every
mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level
ways, and all flesh shall see the
salvation of God."'

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 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 pleased, O Lord, with our humble
prayers and offerings, and, since we have
no merits to plead our cause, come, we
pray, to our rescue with the protection of
your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon
**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the
heights, and behold the joy which comes
to you from God.**

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual
nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O
Lord, that, through our partaking in this
mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely
the things of earth and hold firm to the
things of heaven. Through Christ our 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 8th December, Second Sunday of Advent, Year C. Weekdays: Advent Week 2

Canon David Writes:

As I was looking at the readings for this Sunday several thoughts struck me. What you are reading now is my attempt to make these thoughts coherent in terms of the opportunities the Lord is offering us at this time. Hopefully, this time next year, Advent 2025, we will be able to say 'What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.'

The opportunity for us as we establish, together, the new parish of Brighton and Hove is to see here in our city the words of the prophet Baruch come true. Our '...children gathered from west and east, at the word of the Holy One...' We are all children in this context, but we also have an eye on our mission, so we can hand on to the next generation a vibrant community of faith. As Bishop Richard says in the Pastoral Plan our communities can be forged into places: '...where young people grow in deep love for the Gospel, for the sacramental life of the Church and for prayer;...'

This will be the work of the Lord who invites our fullest participation. There will be difficulties and at times these may seem like mountains, hills, valleys, crooked paths and rough places. But we are preparing a way for the Lord and with his grace we can make his paths straight.

Where to start? In the wilderness, of course! The word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. If we are feeling bewildered because of the challenges ahead, or the secular world around us, this is a place where we can hear the word of God. Addressed to us, through our Bishop, who invites us to make this prayer: 'Lord, the word who is life. May all the people of our Diocese grow in openness to the power of the Holy Spirit, so that through a growth in understanding and courage, and truly open to your call, we may bear powerful witness to all around us, for you are Lord for ever and ever, Amen.'

Sussex Voiceworks Presents A JAZZY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Featuring Bob Chilcott's 'A Little Jazz Mass' and a selection of traditional carols, 5-7pm, Sunday 8th December
St Theresa of Lisieux Church. Adults £12, Children under 16 Free. Tickets online (see poster or fliers in church); from Fr Paul; or on the door.

St Mary's School Advent Service Wednesday 11th December, 6-7pm, St Theresa's church, Southwick.

Carols and Mince Pies

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

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

Sacred Heart, 39 Norton Road, BN3 3BF, 01273 732843, www.sacredheartrove.org.uk, hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk, Steamed 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.

Mass Schedule

		Advent Week 2	
Sat 7th	Dec	St Ambrose	
12noon	SH	Alice Lima RIP	
6.00 pm	SH	David Koenig RIP	
		1st Anniversary	
6.00	SP	Don Gatward	
6.30	SG	Polish Mass	
Sun 8th	Dec	2nd Sunday of Advent	
8.30 am	SP	Jean Margaret Henry	
9.00	ST	Cosme & Conception	
		Rodrigues RIP	
9:30	SMM	Polish Mass	
9.30	SH	Kayla Cavzeves RIP	
10.00	SP	James Lee RIP	
11.00	SG	Deceased Members of	
		the Alphonso Family RIP	
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish	
11.30	SH	Basil Reynauld RIP	
11.30	SP	Brazilian Mass	
5.00 pm	SP	Brazilian Mass	
5.30	SMM		
Mon 9th	Dec	Immaculate Conception	
10.00 am	SH	Margaret Hickey RIP	
Tue 10th	Dec	Our Lady Loreto	
10.00 am	SG	Mary Walsh RIP	
10.00	SH	Alphonso's Intentions	
10.00	SP	For Judy's Intentions &	
		Thanksgiving	
		(Fr Celstine)	
6.30 pm	ST	St Damasus	
Wed 11th	Dec	Toni Mascolo RIP	
8.00 am	SH	Anne Kelly RIP	
7.00am	SP	NO MASS	
7.00 pm	ST	Our Lady of Guadalupe	
Thu 12th	Dec	Denis & Catherine	
10.00 am †	SG	Broderick RIP	
10.00	SP	Mari Bahnam RIP	
12 noon	SH	Alice Purnell RIP	
7.00 pm	ST	(Fr Celstine)	
Fri 13th	Dec	St Lucy	
8.00 am	SH	Bob & Elena's Int's &	
		Holy Souls	
10.00	SP	Terry Henderson RIP	
11:00	SG	Funeral Mass	
		Barry Lawson	
		(Fr Celstine)	
7.00 pm	ST	St John of the Cross	
Sat 14th	Dec	People of the Parish	
6.00 pm	SH	Private Intentions	
6.00	SP	M Bowen	
		Polish Mass	
6.30	SG	3rd Sunday of Advent	
Sun 15th	Dec	All Parishioners	
8.30 am	SP	Glen & Michelle Evans	
9.00	ST	Polish Mass	
9:30	SMM	Lelia Murray RIP	
9.30	SH	Jean Margaret Henry	
10.00	SP	All Parishioners	
11.00	SG		
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		

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

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 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.

Christmas Eve Masses

10:00am, Sacred Heart

17:30pm Vigil, St Theresa's

18:00pm Vigil, Sacred Heart

18:00pm Vigil, St Peter's

21:30pm, St Mary Mags (Polish Mass)

Midnight Mass, (with Carols from

11.30pm), Sacred Heart

Midnight Mass, St Peter's

Christmas Day Masses

08:30am, St Peter's

09:00am, St Theresa's

09:30am, Sacred Heart

10:00am, St Peter's

11:00am, St George's

11:30am, Sacred Heart

11:30am, St Peter's

Boxing Day Masses

10:00am, St George's

12:00noon, Sacred Heart

10.am, St Peter's

Special Collections 2024

During the Christmas Season

Catholic Children's Society

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.

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 your name to the sign-up sheet and tell you about any rehearsals that may be happening.

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 parishes. For more details go to: www.stmarys.brighton-hove.sch.uk/admissions/

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.

SVP Social Group

For all parishioners, (run by the Sacred Heart SVP). Has moved to Thursdays. Next one is 12th December 12.30 to 2:30pm, which will be the Christmas one. The following date is 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.

Michael Dixon

(St Theresa's) is very unwell and is now in Romans care home, Southwick, should anyone want to visit him.

Margaret Guy (who used to attend St Theresa's Saturday evening Mass) is in the Princess Royal Hospital in Haywards Heath. She will probably be in

there for the next five weeks to recover from hip replacement surgery. If anyone would like to visit her, please call Twineham Ward on 01444 448735 beforehand, to check she is well enough for visitors, we are sure she would appreciate anyone who would like to visit.

Cardinal Newman News

Advent Service of Reconciliation

The students at Cardinal Newman School and College will be invited to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our personal preparation during Advent. This will be taking place on Friday 13th December and there will be many opportunities to receive the sacrament throughout the day.

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>

Food Bank Hangleton and West Blatchington

If you would like to donate this week we would be very grateful for: Tinned spaghetti, noodles, meat soup, jam, shampoo & conditioner, shaving gel, laundry tabs/pods.

We have more than enough baked beans, pasta and tea, so please do not bring us any more of these. Donations may be left at any of our churches. Thank you for your generosity.

Confirmation Programme 2025

Registration forms are available at <http://www.stpeters-hove.org.uk/sacramental/confirmation/> Completed forms to the parish office by the 10th December please.

Coffee

Available after 10:00 Mass at St Peter's on 2nd and 4th Sundays (8th and 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.

St Peter's Social Club Christmas Party

Friday 13 December 1:30 -3pm

All welcome for some festive cheer in the parish hall. The club meets every Friday in the hall term time only.

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!

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](#)

Dates for your diary

SH 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.

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. 12 of our college students will be joining members of the chaplaincy team on the HCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. We are very excited to represent our local area and are hoping our local parishes will be able to support our young people by helping with some of the financial cost of this pilgrimage.



St Peter's Volunteers Lunch

A warm thanks to the members of our Syrian community who provided delicious food and sweet treats to our parish after Mass on Sunday. The hall was full of people getting to know each other and sharing potential ideas on how to help keep our services running. Please don't worry if you couldn't join us, you can always contact the parish office if you wish to volunteer or find out more about the type of jobs we need help with.

Tea and Chat at St George's

The final tea & chat of the year will take place after the 10am Mass at St George's on Tuesday 10th December, with a Christmas Party! Tea and Chat will return in the New Year, on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, offering a time of socialisation and activity, aimed at older people in the parish. No need to book. Just turn up!

Memorial Mass Mari Bahnam

It is with great sadness we heard the news of death of Mari Bahnam who died on 1 December. Her memorial Mass will be held here at St Peters on Thursday 12 December at 10am. Please remember Mari and her family in your prayers.

Newsletter by email?

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 is for all churches.

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.

Eucharistic Healing Service

St Mary Magdalen - Sunday 8th December 3pm - 4:15pm

A time of prayer, reflection, and music. This is a moment to come before the Lord praying for the healing of our families, for those we know in need and for ourselves. All welcome. (Parking available behind the school - access off Spring Street).

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.

Please Pray For...

Bob & Elena White, Brenda Harle, Canon Colin, 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.