

St John's Pevensey Road

TO KNOW · LOVE · FOLLOW JESUS

Pews News and Service Sheet for 26thth November 2023 Feast of Christ the King

<u>This week</u>: 10am Wednesday: Mass in St Peter's Chapel Online <u>Zoom service</u>*: Wednesdays at 10am <u>Morning Coffee</u>: Fridays 10 – 12 noon in Church

Here at St John's 3pm Saturday 2nd December Seaview Concert All Welcome! ADVENT CAROL SERVICE Here at St John's -6pm next Sunday 3rd December

Sunday 10th December 3pm Lights of Love Service

Sunday 18th December 6pm Lessons and Carols for Christmas Christmas Eve 9am Said Eucharist 4pm Crib Service 6pm Carols in the Garden 11pm Midnight Mass

Our prayers are asked for:

Baby Frankie and her parents, Vivian, David S, Julia, Teresa, Holly H, Goldie, Lorenzo, Rachel T, Gladys, John T, Nigel and Carrie, Geraldine, Clare, Janet F, Tim, Basia S, Kathryn, Francisco M, Wendy, Lesley, Jack P, Sheila, Peter, and Marie N.

Please pray also for

the repose of the souls of the recently departed, ,
...and those whose Years Minds fall around this time including Jean Young, Reginald
Wartemberg, Meriel Curtis, Donald Palmer, Brian Webb and Jean Broscheit, and all who mourn.



As Christians we believe that when we pray for others we are sharing in Christ's intercession for them. That is partly why the Intercession list and Prayer Cross, both physical and on the Pews News, are much valued. We have been seeking how best to keep these ministries whilst trying to keep lists updated, and would like to suggest: The Prayer Cross: At the start of Advent and Lent each year we will remove all names and ask that if people would like the prayers of St John's to continue for people named there, a new piece of paper be used, and of course new prayer requests can be added at any time - this is mainly for those with longer term prayer needs. The Weekly Intercession list: names will be left on this urgent prayer list for 4 weeks, unless otherwise notified, but please would you let us know if the urgent prayer need continues, so we continue to include that

The Year's Mind list would include those notified to us each year, but not automatically include names from the list read out at All Souls' or in memory of whom Easter Lilies are given, as at present. These opportunities for remembrance at All Souls and Easter will of course be continued.

person.

Please use the email: <u>pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com</u> to give names or updates for the intercession lists and printed prayer cross. Thank you.

Opening Hymn (Psalm 104)

O worship the King all glorious above; O gratefully sing his power and his love; our shield and defender, the ancient of days, pavilioned in splendour and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space. His chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath founded of old: hath 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end! Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

O measureless Might, ineffable Love, while angels delight to hymn thee above, thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Robert Grant (1779-1838)

The Welcoming of the People

Priest In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *All* **Amen.** *Priest* The Lord be with you. *All* **and also with you.**

Prayer of Preparation

All Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon Jesus says, `Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.` So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

The kingdom is yours, but we turn away from your just rule: Lord, have mercy. *All* Lord, have mercy. The power is yours, but we trust in our own power and strength: Christ, have mercy. *All* **Christ, have mercy.**

The glory is yours, but we fall short of the glory of God: Lord, have mercy. *All* **Lord, have mercy.**

Priest Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon *you*, pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins, confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness, and keep *you* in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* **Amen.**

The Gloria in Excelsis is sung

Glory to God, Glory to God Glory to God in the highest Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks,

we praise you for your glory. Glory to God, Glory to God Glory to God in the highest

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,

Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, Glory to God Glory to God in the highest

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. *Glory to God, Glory to God Glory to God in the highest.*

The Collect

Priest God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory. *All* **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word all sit

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

Ezekiel 34. 11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.

As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.

I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.

I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.

I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice....

²⁰ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.

Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

For the Word of the Lord. *All* Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians

Ephesians 1.15-end

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come.

And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

For the Word of the Lord. *All* Thanks be to God.

Hymn during which the Gospel is brought amongst us.

The head that once was crowned with thorns is crowned with glory now: a royal diadem adorns the mighty victor's brow.

The highest place that heaven affords is his, is his by right, the King of kings, and Lord of lords, and heaven's eternal light;

The joy of all who dwell above, the joy of all below, to whom he manifests his love, and grants his name to know. To them the cross, with all its shame, with all its grace, is given: their name an everlasting name, their joy the joy of heaven.

They suffer with their Lord below, they reign with him above; their profit and their joy to know the mystery of his love.

The cross he bore is life and health, though shame and death to him; his people's hope, his people's wealth, their everlasting theme.

Thomas Kelly (1769-1854)

Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the Deacon says

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven.

All Alleluia.

Deacon The Lord be with you All And also with you. Dcn Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew All Glory to you, O Lord. Matthe 25, 21, and

Matt. 25. 31 -end

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory.

All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?'

And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed. depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to

one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

Deacon Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

All Though he was divine, he did not cling to equality with God, but made himself nothing. Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness. He humbled himself and was obedient to death. even the death of the cross. Therefore God has raised him on high, and given him the name above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession - led by the intercessor using their own words or ...

Let us with confidence present our prayers and supplications to the throne of grace.

We pray for all those in positions of power, that they may govern with wisdom and integrity, serving the needs of their people. May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church, the sign of

your reign, that it may extend your welcome to people of every race and background. May your kingdom come; Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for Christians of every denomination, that together we may come to understand the royal priesthood you bestowed on us in baptism. May your dominion come; Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for those whose commitment to truth brings them into conflict with earthly powers, that they may have the courage to endure. May your rule come; Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for this community of faith, that attentive to your word we may always worship in spirit and in truth. May your reign come; Lord, hear our prayer.

Loving God,

you have taught us that the power of the heart is greater than the power of wealth and might. Hear us as we pray for the fulfilment of your reign. We ask this through Jesus Christ our King; to him be glory and power for ever. *All* **Amen.**

The Peace

Priest To crown all things there must be love, to bind all together and complete the whole. Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The peace of the Lord be always with you All and also with you.

Deacon Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace.

Offertory hymn during which the altar is prepared, and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own: awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee, and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born, whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn: fruit of the mystic Rose, as of that Rose the Stem; the Root whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love! Behold his hands and side, rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified: no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise: his reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. Glassed in a sea of light, where everlasting waves reflect his throne - the Infinite! who lives - and loves - and saves.

Matthew Bridges (1800-94)

Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar

Blessed be God, who enthrones us with Christ in the heavenly realms. May we feed upon the bread of God and drink the royal wine of heaven.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The Eucharistic Prayer (A)

Priest The Lord is here. *All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God. For with the oil of gladness you have anointed Christ the Lord, your only Son, to be our great high priest and king of all creation. As priest, he offered himself once for all upon the altar of the cross. As king he claims dominion over all your creatures, that he may bring before your infinite majesty a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace. And so with angels and archangels and all the heavenly host, we proclaim your glory and join their unending hymn of praise: *All* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Accept our praises, heavenly Father, through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, and as we follow his example and obey his command, grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these gifts of bread and wine may be to us his body and his blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Therefore, heavenly Father, we remember his offering of himself made once for all upon the cross; we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; we look for the coming of your kingdom, and with this

bread and this cup we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.

Dcn Great is the mystery of faith

All Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Accept through him, our great high priest, this our sacrifice of thanks and praise, and as we eat and drink these holy gifts in the presence of your divine majesty, renew us by your Spirit, inspire us with your love and unite us in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

All Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Deacon Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray in the words you gave us: All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

The priest breaks the consecrated bread.

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.

We sit as Agnus Dei is sung by all.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Giving of Communion

The priest says the invitation.

I heard the voice of a great multitude crying, 'Alleluia'. The Lord our God has entered into his kingdom.

Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb. Alleluia.

Communion is received. Please bow your head if you prefer to receive a blessing. The Body of Christ. **Amen.** The Blood of Christ. **Amen.**

Anthem: King of glory, King of peace – J S Bach

Hymn

From heaven you came, helpless babe, entered our world, your glory veiled, not to be served but to serve and give your life that we might live.

This is our God, the Servant King; he calls us now to follow him, to bring our lives as a daily offering of worship to the Servant King.

There in the garden of tears my heavy load he chose to bear; his heart with sorrow was torn, 'Yet not my will, but yours,' he said. *Chorus*

Come see his hands and his feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice, hands that flung stars into space, to cruel nails surrendered. *Chorus*

So let us learn how to serve and in our lives enthrone him, each other's needs to prefer, for it is Christ we're serving. *Chorus*

Graham Kendrick; © 1983 Kingsway's Thankyou Music

Prayer after Communion

Priest Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people; that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by you be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

The Blessing

Priest The Lord be with you. *All* **And also with you**

Priest Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will, that you may reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be upon you all now and always. *All* **Amen.**

Final hymn

Rejoice! the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore; mortals, give thanks and sing; and triumph evermore: *lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice.*

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns, the God of truth and love; when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above: *Lift up your heart, etc.*

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given: *Lift up your heart, etc.*

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit, and bow to his command, and fall beneath his feet: *Lift up your heart, etc.*

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Priest The Lord be with you. *All* **And also with you**

All May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Priest May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace...

All and rise in glory. Amen. *Dcn* Following God's saints in the ways of holiness and truth, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *All* **Thanks be to God**.

Organ voluntary: March in D -Guilmant



<u>APPEAL</u> We are looking for the following items to boost the stalls at the Christmas Fayre

> Christmas foods Christmas goods (decorations etc.)

Jigsaws Bottles Cakes (on the day) or cash donations for prizes etc. Please leave them in the box at the back of the church or see Katy H. Thank you for making it an even bigger success! ORGANSTOPS 2023 Saturday 2nd December 3PM Church-in-the-Wood Hollington St Leonards-on-Sea TN38 9PB

> STEPHEN PAGE Seasonal organ music



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Saturdays 3-4pm E5 suggested donation Followed by refreshments

Short organ concerts supporting

*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom service by emailing: pewsnewsstjohns@g mail.com Also to this email address please send any updates for prayer lists or pews news asap. (The print deadline is dependent upon when Tina is in the office to do the printing. The emailed and online version can have a slightly later deadline.) The Small Print : Some material included in this

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Email: admstjohns30@gmail.com

Tina is our Administrator. Usual office hours 09.00 -13.00, Mon, Tues, Thurs.

Please contact her also for Church Hall bookings.

Safeguarding Officer can be contacted on safestjohn30@gmail.com

THE FLOOD St John's, Pevensey Rd: New Year 2024 event: Join the FLUDDE! Hot on the heels of Hansel and Gretel 2022:

We are thrilled to offer a wonderful chance for children, 6 yrs to 18 yrs old who would like to be involved as animals (all sizes!) or as vocal soloists and wear head-dress masks (animals)/sing/act and generally have fun, to join our fundraising event – Britten's "Noyah's Fludde" (based on a mediaeval miracle play). There is also a great opportunity for musically-talented young people up to the age of 18 with stronger voices, to sing/act the small solo parts.

Key moments include the animals entering the Ark, the Flood, the Storm and the Rainbow (not forgetting slung mugs and sandpaper for the real musicians...)

We are also looking for a budding dancer (boy or girl) to join our Dove as The Raven and additional keen actors to join the cast.

The dress rehearsal is on February 22nd and Performances are on February 23rd/24th at 7pm. Rehearsals will be in mid January and February, mainly at weekends either in St John's or 6 The Uplands, Maze Hill. There will also be the opportunity to help making masks in January. If you would like to join our happy band.. Please contact Lesley Ann on: <u>interopera.ltd@gmail.com</u> Or Alan Privett on <u>alanprivett@gmail.com</u>