



**Pews News and Service  
Sheet for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>  
December 2024**

During the week:

**Wednesday 10am**

**Midweek Mass in St  
Peter's Chapel**

**Online Zoom service\*:**

**Wednesdays at 10am**

**Morning Coffee: Fridays  
10 – 12 noon in Church**

**Next Sunday, 15th:**

**8am Said Mass**

**10.30am Sung Parish Mass**



**St John's  
Pevensey Road  
Welcome to Mass  
this morning –  
The Second  
Sunday in  
Advent**

\*

**3pm today  
Lights of Love**

**A little further ahead in December:**

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup> and Thurs. 19<sup>th</sup>:**

**Carol Singing in Care Homes**

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>: NO 8am Said Mass**

**10.30am Sung Parish Mass**

**6pm Nine Lessons and Carols**

**Christmas Eve:**

**4pm Crib service**

**6pm Carols in the churchyard**

**11pm Midnight Mass**

**Christmas Day: 8am Said Mass**

**10.30am Sung Festival Mass**



Please do add names to the prayer cross in church if you wish the church to pray for someone with longer-term needs. To add names to this printed prayer cross or to the more `acute` intercessions list below, please email the PN editor on [pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com) Names will remain there for 4 weeks unless you notify us otherwise, and any `years mind` for one week. Thank you .

## St John's Prayer Cross

Catherine

The Freebury family

Louice T

Tom V

Please let us know of those who require this longer-term prayer support. Do pin their names, via the slips of paper provided, on the wooden Prayers Cross at the back of the Church. Thank you.

### Our prayers are asked for:

Helena O, David S, Ken, Gill

### Please pray also for

the repose of the souls of the recently departed, ...and those whose Years Mind falls around this time, and all who mourn.

Instead of our usual Christmas Card scheme here at St Johns we are simply asking throughout Advent for donations to

### The Christian Aid Christmas Appeal

Please put money in the Christian Aid box in the wall (or on the desk). If you wish to use the contactless system please make the donation then also put a note in the box with the amount you have given and the date.

*Prayer at the altar said by the choir:*  
.... grant that what we sing with our lips may we believe in our hearts and what we believe in our hearts may we show forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Introit: Break forth, O beautiful heavenly light! – J. S. Bach*

### **Opening Hymn**

O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
Redeem thy captive Israel,  
that into exile drear is gone  
far from the face  
of God's dear Son.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Wisdom  
from on high!  
Who madest all in earth and sky,  
creating man  
from dust and clay:  
to us reveal salvation's way.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, O come, Adonai,  
who in thy glorious majesty  
from Sinai's mountain,  
clothed with awe  
gavest thy folk the ancient law.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, thou Root of Jesse!  
Draw the quarry  
from the lion's claw;  
from those dread caverns  
of the grave,  
from nether hell,  
thy people save.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, thou Lord  
of David's Key!  
The royal door  
fling wide and free;  
safeguard for us the

heavenward road,  
and bar the way  
to death's abode.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, O come,  
thou dayspring bright!  
Pour on our souls  
thy healing light;  
dispel the long night's  
lingering gloom,  
and pierce the shadows  
of the tomb.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

O come, Desire of nations! show  
thy kingly reign on earth below;  
thou Corner-stone, uniting all,  
restore the ruin of our fall.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel...*

*Cologne 1710, based on the ancient Advent Antiphons; tr T A Lacey (1853-1931) et al*

### **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 at the lighting of the second Advent Candle**

*Priest* People of God: be glad!  
Your God delights in you,  
giving you joy for sadness  
and turning the dark to light.  
Be strong in hope therefore;  
for your God comes to save.  
You are God's children.  
*All* Lord, make us one in the  
love of Christ today and for  
ever. Amen.

## Prayers of Penitence

*Deacon* When the Lord comes, he will bring to light things now hidden in darkness, and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Therefore in that light, we confess our sins.

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament to strengthen us in holiness:

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory with salvation for your people:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

*Choir and Congregation sing:*

**Lord have mercy,**

**Lord have mercy**

**Christ have mercy,**

**Christ have mercy**

**Lord have mercy,**

**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.**

## Collect

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. **All Amen.**

## The Liturgy of the Word *all sit*

**A reading from the prophet Malachi**  
*Malachi 3. 1-4*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness.

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

**A Reading from the letter to the Philippians**

*Philippians 1. 3-11*

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now.

I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the

defence and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

**Hymn** *during which the Gospel is brought amongst us.*

**The Lord will come  
and not be slow,  
his footsteps cannot err;  
before him righteousness  
shall go,  
his royal harbinger.**

**Truth from the earth,  
like to a flower,  
shall bud and blossom then;  
and justice,  
from her heavenly bower,  
look down on mortal men.**

**Rise, God,  
judge thou the earth in might,  
this wicked earth redress;  
for thou art he  
who shalt by right  
the nations all possess.**

**The nations  
all whom thou hast made  
shall come, and all shall frame  
to bow them low  
before thee, Lord,**

**and glorify thy name.**

**For great thou art,  
and wonders great  
by thy strong hand are done:  
thou in thy everlasting seat  
remainest God alone.**

*John Milton (1608-74) cento Psalms  
85, 82, 86*

**Gospel Reading** *When the Gospel is announced the Deacon says*

Alleluia, alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **All Alleluia.**

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

**Dcn** Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**  
*Luke 3.1-6*

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

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 the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out 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 be made straight, and the rough

ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **The Creed**

*Deacon* We say together in faith

**Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come.**

We believe in God the Father,  
who created all things:

**All for by his will they were  
created and have their being.**

We believe in God the Son,  
who was slain:

**All for with his blood,  
he purchased us for God,  
from every tribe and language,  
from every people and nation.**

We believe in God the Holy Spirit:

**All the Spirit and the Bride say,  
'Come!' Even so come, Lord  
Jesus! Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **The Peace**

*Priest* The God of peace make us holy in all things that we may be ready at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ

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

*Deacon* Let us offer one another a sign of God's peace

**All may exchange a sign of peace.**

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

Longing for Light,  
we wait In darkness.  
Longing for Truth,  
we turn to You.  
Make us your own,  
your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.  
**Christ, be our Light!  
Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our Light!  
Shine in your Church  
gathered today.**

Longing for peace,  
our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your Word alone  
has power to save us.  
Make us your living voice.  
**Christ, be our Light! .....**

Longing for food,  
many are hungry.  
Longing for water,  
many still thirst.  
Make us your bread,  
broken for others,  
shared until all are fed.  
**Christ, be our Light! .....**

Longing for shelter,  
many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth,  
many are cold.  
Make us your building,  
sheltering others,  
walls made of living stone.  
**Christ, be our Light! .....**

Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts  
that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants  
to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

**Christ, be our Light! .....**

*Bernadette Farrel (b. 1957)*

### **Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar**

*The priest takes the bread and wine.*

Look upon us in mercy not in judgement; draw us from hatred to love; make the frailty of our praise a dwelling place for your glory.

**All Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer (B)**

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.**

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour. By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh; as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross; he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life; so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

And now we give you thanks because his future coming was proclaimed by all the prophets. The virgin mother bore him in her womb

with love beyond all telling. John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came. In his love Christ has filled us with joy as we prepare to celebrate his birth so that when he comes he may find us watching in prayer, our hearts filled with wonder and praise.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever praising you and singing

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth  
are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;

grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,

and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine

may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; 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. 🕯️

**Deacon** Great is the mystery of  
faith

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his  
death on the cross, his perfect  
sacrifice made once for the sins of  
the whole world; rejoicing in his  
mighty resurrection and glorious  
ascension, and looking for his  
coming in glory, we celebrate this  
memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of  
praise and thanksgiving, we bring  
before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us  
worthy to stand in your presence  
and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your  
people and gather into one in your  
kingdom all who share this one  
bread and one cup, so that we, in  
the company of St John the  
Evangelist, St Peter, Mary the  
Mother of God, and all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for  
ever, through Jesus Christ our  
Lord; by whom, and with whom,  
and in whom, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be  
yours, almighty Father, for ever  
and ever. **All Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Deacon** Let us pray with confidence  
as our Saviour has taught 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.*

**Jesus, Lamb of God:  
have mercy upon us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins:  
have mercy upon us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace.**

### **Giving of Communion**

*The priest says the invitation.*

Draw near with faith. Receive the  
body of our Lord Jesus Christ  
which he gave for you, and his  
blood which he shed for you.  
Eat and drink in remembrance that  
he died for you, and feed on him in  
your hearts by faith with  
thanksgiving.

*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: Come, thou Redeemer of the  
earth - Praetorious*



## Hymn

Hark the glad sound!  
the Saviour comes,  
the Saviour promised long:  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

He comes,  
the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass  
before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

He comes,  
the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure,  
and with the treasures  
of his grace  
enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas,  
Prince of peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved name.

*Philip Doddridge (1702-51)*

## Prayer after Communion

*Priest* Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; 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

### Blessing of the Congregation

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

*All* And also with you

*Priest* Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier, be upon you all now and always.

*All* Amen.

## Final hymn

On Jordan's bank  
the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
come then and hearken,  
for he brings glad tidings  
from the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every  
Christian breast;  
and furnished  
for so great a guest  
yea, let us each  
our hearts prepare,  
for Christ to come  
and enter there.

For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge,  
and our great reward;  
without thy grace  
our souls must fade,  
and wither like a flower decayed.

Stretch forth thine hand  
to heal our sore,  
and make us rise,  
to fall no more;  
once more  
upon thy people shine,  
and fill the world  
with love divine.

All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent  
sets thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore  
and Spirit blest,  
for evermore. Amen

*Charles Coffin (1676-1749) Tr John  
Chandler (1808-76)*

### **The Dismissal**

*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* As we await our coming  
Saviour, go in peace to love and  
serve the Lord.

*All* In the name of Christ. Amen.

*Organ voluntary: Prelude and  
Fugue in C major BWV 545 – J. S.  
Bach*

*Do stay for coffee!*



## **The Food Bank really needs more donations.**

If you are able to bring  
even one item,  
everything helps, so  
please do donate  
something if you can.

## **URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS**

UHT MILK FULL FAT (BLUE) AND SEMI (GREEN)  
BABIES' NAPPIES AND SANITARY PRODUCTS  
TINNED VEGETABLES (ESPECIALLY PEAS AND  
CARROTS) TINNED FRUIT; COFFEE

**OTHER NEEDED ITEMS ; TOILETRIES (SHOWER  
GEL, SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, TOOTHPASTE)  
TOILET ROLLS, TINNED FISH, TINNED  
POTATOES, TINNED RICE PUDDING, JAM, FRUIT  
JUICE-** If you are able to donate, please leave items  
in the container at the back of church and they will be  
collected by the Food Bank rep. Thank you.



*Parish of the Good Shepherd  
The Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury and English Martyrs  
Magdalen Rd. St. Leonards-on-Sea TN37 6BT*

## 'WAIT FOR THE LORD'

An Advent Service of  
Music and Prayer from Taizé

Sunday December 8th 4.00 pm



All welcome  
Please join us in praying for peace in our world

Anyone who would like to help lead the music is asked to come  
to a practice beforehand at 3.00pm in the Church.

# CHRISTMAS CAROLS

In aid of Village Force Africa  
(+ food collection for Hastings Food Bank)

Mulled wine, mince pies, the dancing Santas,  
ukelele, flute, keyboard, full lighting  
and much local fun.

Join us at Jctn 14 Knoll Rise/Cavendish Ave.  
Sunday December 15th at 3pm

<https://www.villageforceafrica.org>



*Carols for All, Saturday 14  
December 2024, 5pm - Christ  
Church, Silchester Road, St  
Leonards  
Tickets: £15/£12.50/£10  
Students, under-18s, JSA/Universal  
Credit claimants £3/free*

Available via their  
website: [www.hastingsphilchoir.org.uk/carolsforall2024](http://www.hastingsphilchoir.org.uk/carolsforall2024)  
or from The Bookkeeper, 1a Kings  
Road, St Leonards (open Thurs-Sat)

Christ Church, Hastings

Christmas Carol Service

*Messe de Minuit pour Noël*  
and join us in singing some favourite Christmas Carols

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.30

Christ Church, Hastings

St Mary's Church, Home Lane, St Leonards-on-Sea, TN37 6BT

Admission: Free & Refreshments available during the service



## **Diocesan Environment Day 2025**

*The next Environment Day is taking place in the east of the diocese, hosted by St Mary's Battle. on 1st June 2025. Further details and to book your place please see the Diocesan website – which says: “This event is essential for lay and ordained people or anyone who cares for creation or who needs encouragement and ideas to implement in your own church!”*

\*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom service by emailing

[pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com](mailto:pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com)

Also to this email address please send any updates for prayer lists or pews news sheet by **4pm Tuesdays. Thank you.**

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Parish office: 07831904321

Email:

[admstjohns30@gmail.com](mailto:admstjohns30@gmail.com)

Lucy is our Administrator.

Please contact her also for Church Hall bookings.

Safeguarding Officer can be contacted on

[safestjohn30@gmail.com](mailto:safestjohn30@gmail.com)

This pew sheet is printed on 100% recycled paper.