

**Pews News and Service
Sheet for Sunday 15th
December 2024**



**St John's
Pevensey Road**

During the week:

Wednesday 10am

Midweek Mass in St
Peter's Chapel.

Wednesdays at 10am

Online Zoom service*

Wed 18th and Thurs. 19th:

**Carol Singing in Care
Homes**

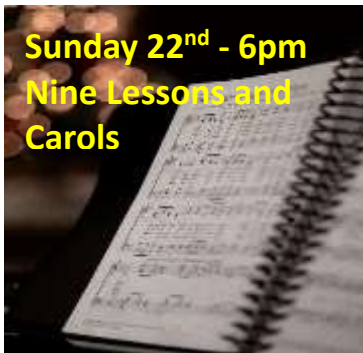
Morning Coffee: Fridays
10 – 12 noon in Church

Next Sunday, 22nd:

NO 8am Said Mass

10.30am Sung Parish Mass

**Sunday 22nd - 6pm
Nine Lessons and
Carols**

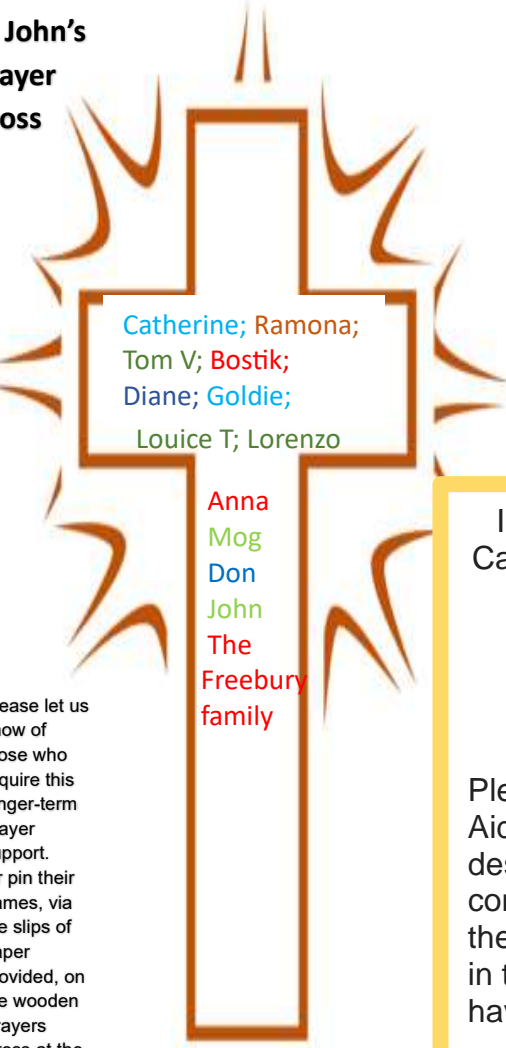


*Welcome to
Mass this
morning -
the Third Sunday
in Advent*



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 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; Ramona;
Tom V; Bostik;
Diane; Goldie;
Louice T; Lorenzo

Anna
Mog
Don
John
The
Freebury
family

Please let us know of those who require this longer-term prayer support. Or 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,
Royston H, John T

Please pray also for

the repose of the souls of the recently departed especially Catherine M ...and those whose Years Mind falls around this time, especially Richard Smallman, ... 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: Gaudete (trad)

Opening Hymn

**Hark! A herald voice is calling;
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
"Cast away
the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"**

**Startled at the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her Sun,
all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.**

**Lo! The Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon
down from heaven;
let us haste,
with tears of sorrow, L
one and all to be forgiven;**

**so when next he comes in glory,
and earth's final hour
draws near,
may he then as our defender
on the clouds of heaven appear.**

**Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit,
while unending ages run. Amen.**

From the Latin tr E. Caswall (1814-78)

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 third Advent Candle

Priest People of God: return!
You are called to be God's own.
From the mountains announce the
good news.
God comes in justice and peace,
to all who follow his ways.
You are God's children.

**All Lord, make us one in the
peace of Christ today and for
ever. Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon A voice cries out in the
wilderness, 'Make straight the way
of the Lord.'
So let us listen, and turn to the
Lord in penitence and faith.

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**

Prayer of Absolution

Priest Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with heartfelt repentance and true faith turn to him: have mercy on you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All Amen.*

The Collect

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. *All Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word *all sit*

A reading from the prophet Zephaniah

Zephaniah 3. 14 – end

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing

as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the letter to the Philippians

Philippians 4.4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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

**God of mercy, God of grace,
Show the brightness of thy face:
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine,
Fill thy Church with light divine;
And thy saving health extend**

Unto earth's remotest end.

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Be by all that live adored;
Let the nations shout and sing,
Glory to their Saviour King;
At thy feet their tributes pay,
And thy holy will obey.**

**Let the people praise thee, Lord;
Earth shall then its fruits afford;
God to us his blessing give,
We to God devoted live;
All below, and all above,
One in joy, and light, and love.**

H. F Lyte (1793-1847)

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 3.7 - 18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?"

He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize 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 granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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 In the tender compassion of
our God the dawn from on high
shall break upon us, to shine on
those who dwell in darkness and
the shadow of death, and to guide
our feet into the way of peace.

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.*

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed!
Great David's greater Son;
hail, in the time appointed,**

**his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**He comes with succour speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls,
condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down
like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains
shall peace the herald go;
and righteousness in fountains
from hill to valley flow.**

**Kings shall fall down
before him,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore him,
his praise all people sing;
to him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.**

**O'er every foe victorious,
he on his throne shall rest,
from age to age more glorious,
all-blessing and all-blest:
the tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand for ever;
that name to us is Love.**

*James Montgomery 1771-1854) based on
Ps 72*

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 you prepared the way of your Son Jesus Christ by the preaching of your servant John the Baptist, who proclaimed him as the Lamb of God, our Saviour.

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 John the Baptist, 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: Zion hears the watchmen's
voices – J. S. Bach*

Hymn

Bread of heaven,
on thee we feed,
For thy flesh is meat indeed;
Ever may our souls be fed
With this true and living bread,
Day by day
with strength supplied
Through the life
of him who died.

Vine of heaven,
thy blood supplies
This blest cup of sacrifice;
'Tis thy wounds

our healing give; May God t
To thy cross we look and live:
Thou our life! O let us be
Rooted, grafted, built on thee.
Josiah Conder (1789-1855)

Prayer after Communion

Priest We give you thanks, O Lord,
for these heavenly gifts; kindle in
us the fire of your Spirit that when
your Christ comes again we may
shine as lights before his face; who
is alive and reigns now and for
ever. **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 May God the Father, judge
all-merciful, make us worthy of a
place in his kingdom. **All Amen.**

Priest May God the Son, coming
among us in power, reveal in our
midst the promise of his glory.

All Amen.

Priest May God the Holy Spirit,
make us steadfast in faith, joyful in
hope and constant in love. **All Amen.**

and the blessing of God Almighty,
Creator, Redeemer, Sanctifier, be
upon you all now and always.

All Amen.

Final hymn

Ye servants of the Lord
Each for your Master wait,
Observant of his heavenly word,
And watchful at his gate.

Let all your lamps be bright,
And trim the golden flame;
Gird up your loins,
as in his sight,
For awful is his name.

Watch!

'tis your Lord's command,
And while we speak, he's near;
Mark the first signal of his hand,
And ready all appear.

O happy servants they,
in such a posture found,
who share their Saviour's
triumph day,
with joy and honour crowned.

Christ shall the banquet spread
with his own royal hand,
and raise each
faithful servant's head
amidst the angelic band.

Philip Doddridge (1702-51)

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: Chorale Prelude on 'Von Himmel hoch' - Pachelbel

Do stay for coffee!



TODAY



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>

Flowers in Church today:
for Richard
in loving memory of a
wonderful Husband, Father
and Grandfather



Christmas Eve:
4pm Crib service
6pm Carols in the churchyard
11pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day:
8am Said Mass
10.30am Sung Festival Mass



A massive thank you to Katy H, the social committee and all the stall holders who braved Storm Darragh to create a wonderful Christmas fair. Thank you to all who came and entered into the spirit of it all and also managed to raise over £1,400 for the church. A wonderful event.

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

pewsnewsstjohns@gmail.com

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



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 Feb 2025. Further details and to 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!"

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Parish office: 07831904321

Email:

admstjohns30@gmail.com

Lucy is our Administrator.

Please contact her also for
Church Hall bookings.

Safeguarding Officer can be
contacted on

safestjohn30@gmail.com

The Food Bank really needs more donations.

If you are able to bring
even one item,
everything helps, so
please donate

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.