



OneBodyOneFaith



**St John's  
Pevensey Road  
Pews News and  
Service Sheet for  
Sunday  
12<sup>th</sup> January 2025**



*Welcome to  
Mass  
on the  
Feast of the  
Baptism of  
Christ*

**During the week:  
10am Midweek Mass -  
in St Peter's Chapel  
Online Zoom service\*:  
Wednesdays at 10am  
Fridays 10-noon Morning  
Coffee/Warm Space**



**Next Sunday 19th:  
8am Said Mass  
10.30am Sung Mass**



**Our prayers are asked for:** Ken; John T; Helena O; Anne W; Jackie N; Ruth; Gillian and Sue.

**Please also pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially David S, Yvonne S, Peter D, Royston H and Catherine M, for those whose Years Mind falls at this time, including the Revd David Fentiman, and for all who mourn.

## St John's

### Prayer

### Cross



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)

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.

*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: Lead me, Lord – S. S. Wesley*

## **Opening Hymn**

Songs of thankfulness  
and praise,  
Jesu, Lord, to thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star  
To the sages from afar;  
Branch of royal David's stem  
In thy birth at Bethlehem;  
Anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest,  
and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding-guest  
In thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in power divine,  
Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.

Manifest in making whole  
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight,  
Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will,  
Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to thee address,  
God in Man made manifest.

Sun and moon  
shall darkened be,  
Stars shall fall,  
the heavens shall flee;  
Christ will then  
like lightning shine,  
All will see his glorious sign;

**All will then the trumpet hear,  
All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confest,  
God in Man made manifest.**

**Grant us grace to see thee,  
Lord,  
Mirrored in thy holy word;  
May we imitate thee now,  
And be pure, as pure art thou;  
That we like to thee may be  
At thy great Epiphany,  
And may praise thee, ever blest,  
God in Man made manifest.**

*Christopher Wordsworth (1807-85)*

## **The Welcoming of the People**

*Priest* In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son, and of the Holy  
Spirit. *All Amen.*

*Priest* Blessed are you,  
Lord our God, King of the universe.  
*All To you be glory and praise  
for ever.*

*Priest* From the rising of the sun to  
its setting, your name is  
proclaimed in all the world.  
*All To you be glory and praise  
for ever.*

*Priest* When the time had fully  
come you sent the Sun of  
Righteousness.  
*All In him the fulness of your  
glory dwells. To you be glory  
and praise for ever.*

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

## **The Gloria in Excelsis is sung**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.  
Amen.**

### **The Collect**

*Priest* Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour  
**All. Amen**

### **The Liturgy of the Word *all sit***

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**  
*Isaiah 43. 1-7*

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be

burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight, and honoured, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth-- everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*Acts 8. 14-17*

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

The sinless one to Jordan came  
To share our fallen nature's  
blame;  
God's righteousness  
he thus fulfilled  
And chose the path  
his Father willed.

Uprising from the waters there,  
The voice from heaven  
did witness bear  
That he, the Son of God,  
had come  
To lead his scattered people  
home.

Above him see  
the heavenly Dove,  
The sign of God the Father's  
love,  
Now by the Holy Spirit shed  
Upon the Son's anointed head.

How blest that mission  
then begun  
To heal and save a race undone;  
Straight to the wilderness  
he goes  
To wrestle  
with his people's foes.

Dear Lord,  
let those baptized from sin  
Go forth with you,  
a world to win,  
And send  
the Holy Spirit's power  
To shield them  
in temptation's hour.

On you  
shall all your people feed  
And know you are  
the Bread indeed,  
Who gives eternal life to those

**That with you died,  
and with you rose.**

*G. B. Timms (1910 – 1997)*

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

Alleluia, alleluia. This is my Son,  
the Beloved, with whom I am well  
pleased. **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 3.15-17, 21-22*

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."

.....  
<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

### Thanksgiving for Holy Baptism

*Water is poured into the font with these words*

*Priest* God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

**All Lord, give us this water and we shall thirst no more.**

*Priest* Praise God who made heaven and earth,

**All who keeps his promise for ever.**

*Priest* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*Priest* Father, we give you thanks and praise for your gift of water in creation; for your Spirit, sweeping over the waters, bringing light and life; for your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, baptized in the river Jordan. We bless you for your new creation, brought to birth by water and the Spirit, and for your grace bestowed upon us your children, washing away our sins.

May your holy and life-giving Spirit move upon these waters. Restore through them the beauty of your creation, and bring those who are baptized to new birth in the family of your Church.

Drown sin in the waters of judgement, anoint your children with power from on high, and make them one with Christ in the freedom of your kingdom. For all might, majesty, dominion and power are yours, now and forever:

**All Alleluia. Amen.**

*The Prayer over the Water is followed by this act of penitence and dedication.*

*Deacon* God of truth, you are faithful to the covenant you have made with us; look in mercy on your people. From all our sins, O Lord:

**All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have broken the pledges of our baptism, and failed to be your disciples.

From all our sins, O Lord: **All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Though we are saved by Christ and dead to sin through the deep waters of death, we have not witnessed to his grace by our manner of life.

From all our sins, O Lord: **All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have shown indifference to those in need and have been afraid to stand up for justice and truth. From all our sins, O Lord:

**All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

We have been slow to forgive, and have failed to remember your repeated forgiveness of our sins. From all our sins, O Lord:

**All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Today we rejoice and give thanks because your Son humbled himself to be baptized in the Jordan. Through the waters you have given us the mystery of baptism for the remission of our sins. From all our sins, O Lord:

**All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

Through water and Spirit you give us new life as the people of God, and pour out upon us the gifts of your new covenant. From all our

sins, O Lord: **All wash us, and we shall be clean.**

*Priest* Almighty God, in our baptism you have consecrated us to be temples of your Holy Spirit. May we, whom you have counted worthy, nurture your indwelling Spirit with a lively faith, and worship you with upright lives; through Jesus Christ.

**All Amen.**

*The water may be sprinkled over the people*

*Priest* 'Come', say the Spirit and the Bride. 'Come forward, you who are thirsty, receive the water of life, the free gift to all who desire it.'

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you your sins, and bring you to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **The Peace**

*Priest* God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

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.*

**From the eastern mountains, pressing on, they come,**

**wise men in their wisdom, to his humble home;  
stirred by deep devotion,  
hasting from afar,  
ever journeying onward,  
guided by a star.**

**There their Lord and Saviour  
as an infant lay,  
wondrous Light that led them  
onward on their way,  
ever now to lighten  
nations from afar,  
as they journey homeward  
by that guiding star.**

**Thou who in a manger  
once hast lowly lain,  
who dost now in glory  
o'er all kingdoms reign,  
gather in the peoples  
who in lands afar  
ne'er have seen the brightness  
of thy guiding star.**

**Gather in the outcasts,  
all who've gone astray,  
throw thy radiance o'er them,  
guide them on their way;  
those who never knew thee,  
those who've wandered far,  
guide them by the brightness  
of thy guiding star.**

**Onward through the darkness  
of the lonely night,  
shining still before them  
with thy kindly light.  
Guide them, Jew and Gentile,  
homeward from afar,  
young and old together,  
by thy guiding Star.**

**Until every nation,  
whether bond or free,**



'neath thy star-lit banner,  
Jesu, follows thee.  
O'er the distant mountains  
to that heavenly home,  
where nor sin nor sorrow  
evermore shall come.

*Godfrey Thring (1823-1903)*



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

Open the heavens, Lord our God,  
and send your transforming Spirit  
on us and on these gifts. May we  
who are baptized into Christ be  
ready to share his cup of suffering  
and be strengthened to serve him  
for ever. **All Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer (E)**

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 truly right and just, our duty  
and our salvation, always and  
everywhere to give you thanks,  
holy Father, almighty and eternal  
God. You celebrated your new gift  
of baptism in signs and wonders at  
the Jordan. Your voice was heard  
from heaven to awaken faith in the  
presence among us of your Word  
made flesh. Your Spirit was seen  
as a dove, revealing Jesus as your  
servant, and anointing him with the

oil of gladness to preach the good  
news to the poor. Therefore, as  
we celebrate the union of earth  
and heaven, we rejoice to echo the  
song of the angels in heaven, 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.**

We praise and bless you, loving  
Father, through Jesus Christ, our  
Lord; and as we obey his  
command, send your Holy Spirit,  
that broken bread and wine  
outpoured may be for us the body  
and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had  
supper with his friends  
and, taking bread, he praised you.  
He broke the bread, gave it to  
them and said:  
Take, eat; this is my body which is  
given for you;

do this in remembrance of me. 🕯

When supper was ended he took  
the cup of wine.

Again he praised you, gave it to  
them and said:

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. 🕯

So, Father, we remember all that  
Jesus did, in him we plead with



confidence his sacrifice made  
once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of  
life and cup of salvation, we  
proclaim his death and  
resurrection until he comes in  
glory.

*Dcn* Great is the mystery of faith

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

Lord of all life, help us to work  
together for that day when your  
kingdom comes and justice and  
mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,  
gather us in your loving arms  
and bring us with St John the  
Evangelist, Mary the Mother of  
God, St Peter and all the saints  
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ,  
and in Christ, in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit, all honour and glory  
are yours, O loving Father,  
for ever and ever. **All Amen.**

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

*Deacon* Believing the promises of  
God, 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 the bread of life, and  
that life is the light of the world.

**All God here among us  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*We sit as Agnus Dei is sung by all.*

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

### **Giving of Communion**

*The priest says the invitation.*

God's holy gifts  
for God's holy people

**All Jesus Christ is holy,  
Jesus Christ is Lord, to the  
glory of God the Father.**

*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: The three Kings – Peter  
Cornelius**

### **Hymn**

**Soul of my Saviour,  
sanctify my breast,  
body of Christ,  
be thou my saving guest,  
blood of my Saviour,  
bathe me in thy tide,**

wash me with water  
flowing from thy side.

Strength and protection  
may thy passion be,  
O blessed Jesu,  
hear and answer me;  
deep in thy wounds, Lord,  
hide and shelter me,  
so shall I never,  
never part from thee.

Guard and defend me  
from the foe malign,  
in death's dread moments  
make me only thine;  
call me and bid me  
come to thee on high  
where I may praise thee  
with thy saints for ay.

*Latin, 14<sup>th</sup> century translation anonymous*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Priest* Lord of all time and eternity,  
you opened the heavens and  
revealed yourself as Father in the  
baptism of Jesus your beloved  
Son: by the power of your Spirit  
complete the heavenly work of our  
rebirth through the waters of the  
new creation; 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* May God the Father, who  
led the wise men by the shining of  
a star to find the Christ, the Light  
from Light, lead you also in your  
pilgrimage to find the Lord.

*All Amen.*

May God the Son, who turned  
water into wine at the wedding  
feast at Cana, transform your lives  
and make glad your hearts.

*All Amen.*

May God the Holy Spirit, who  
came upon the beloved Son at his  
baptism in the river Jordan, pour  
out his gifts on you who have  
come to the waters of new birth.

*All Amen.*

And the blessing of God almighty,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be  
among you and remain with you  
always. *All Amen.*

### **Final hymn**

Lead us, heavenly Father,  
lead us  
o'er the world's  
tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us,  
keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;

yet possessing every blessing,  
if our God our Father be.

Saviour,  
breathe forgiveness o'er us:  
all our weakness  
thou dost know;  
thou didst tread this earth  
before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
self-denying, death defying,  
thou to Calvary didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,  
love with every passion  
blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy:  
thus provided,  
pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

*James Edmeston (1791-1867)*

### **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.

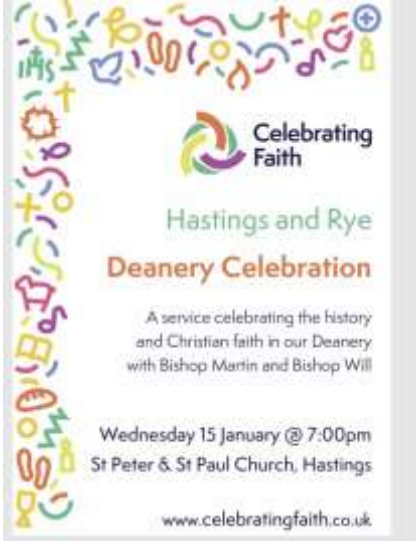
*Priest* May the souls of the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace...

*All* and rise in glory. Amen.

*Deacon* We have come to Christ,  
the living water. Go in peace to  
love and serve the Lord.

*All* In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Organ voluntary: Processional -  
Mathias**



**Celebrating  
Faith**

Hastings and Rye  
**Deanery Celebration**

A service celebrating the history  
and Christian faith in our Deanery  
with Bishop Martin and Bishop Will

Wednesday 15 January @ 7:00pm  
St Peter & St Paul Church, Hastings

[www.celebratingfaith.co.uk](http://www.celebratingfaith.co.uk)

### **Revision of the parish electoral roll**

This year all the parishes have to renew their electoral roll which means that current members have to opt back in and new people can be added.

Membership means that you can vote for churchwardens and PCC members at the annual church meeting. Those who are on the electoral roll will receive a form and a letter about this.

Anyone else who wishes to join can find a form on the welcome desk. Please return completed forms to Clare Cooper via the box on the welcome desk or send them to Lucy in the church office.

Clare C, Electoral Roll Officer.

*Do stay a while*



## 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.

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for Carols in the care homes. The time given was appreciated by residents and staff. Thank you for taking part. Happy New year. Jenny

## 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.

\*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 on Tuesdays**. (Printing, folding and stapling is done on Wednesdays) Thank you.



The poster is for a Christian Aid bookstall. It features the Christian Aid logo in the top left, which includes the text 'christian aid' and a red arrow pointing right. To the right of the logo, it says 'St John's, Pevensey Road'. The main title is 'Bring and Buy Bookstall' in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is a photograph of a bookstall with several shelves filled with books. At the bottom of the poster, it says '50p per book' in bold, followed by '... please put your donation money in the Christian Aid collection slot in the wall - thank you!' in a smaller font.

The Small Print : Some material included in this service is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2000; Hymn words reproduced under CCLI Licence 219821.

Picture on front page: Baptism of Christ  
From the *Rabbula Gospels*, Detail of a Canon Table with Miniature scenes, Syrian, Completed 586  
Florence, Biblioteca Medicea Laurenziana  
MS Cod. Plut. I, fol. ; Picture after hymn The Magi Follow the Star From the *St. Alban's Psalter* (aka *Psalter* of Christina of Markyate) English (St. Alban's Abbey), First Half of the 12th Century Hildesheim, Dombibliothek. fol. 24 Both from <https://imaginei.dei.blogspot.com/>

This pew sheet is printed on 100% recycled paper.