



**St John's  
Pevensey Road  
Pews News  
and Service Sheet  
23<sup>rd</sup> November 2025**

**During the week**  
**2.30pm Explore the Faith  
with Bishop Laurie**  
**10am Wednesday: Mass  
in St Peter's Chapel**  
**Wednesdays at 10am:  
Online Zoom service\***  
**Fridays 10 – 12 noon in  
Church: Morning Coffee**

*Welcome  
to Mass  
this  
morning -  
the feast of  
Christ the King*



**Next Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Advent Sunday**  
**(NO 8am Said Mass)      10.30am Sung Mass**  
**6.00pm Advent Carol Service**

**Our prayers are asked for:** Gillian; Sue; Jenny; Michael;  
**Please pray also for** the repose of the souls of the recently departed,  
especially Adam T, Tim M, Barbara B, Sister Jean CGA, the Revd Charlie  
Hill...and those whose Years Minds fall around this time, and all who mourn.

## St John's Prayer Cross

1 DECEMBER 2025



*Prayer said by  
the choir: ....*  
grant that what  
we sing with our  
lips we may  
believe in our  
hearts and what

Rachel, my  
daughter.  
Kiss to  
heaven.

Michelle, Louise T,  
Jackie, Ramona,  
Lorenzo, Irene,  
Valerie, Jamie F,  
Audrey, Jeannie &  
family

Dan and children,  
Jack and Lily,  
whose Mum,  
Chloe, has died,  
aged 31yrs.

All  
affected  
by  
HIV/AIDS

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.

Zack  
Theresa  
Liisa  
John  
Jan,  
Nigel  
Sarah

All  
desperately  
needing  
help

All are  
regularly  
prayed  
for by  
name



### St John's Personnel

Rector: Fr David Hill;

[rectorstjohns30@gmail.com](mailto:rectorstjohns30@gmail.com)

Safeguarding Officer: 07340

268598 [safestjohns40@gmail.com](mailto:safestjohns40@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator and PCC

Secretary: Lucy W

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

Office: 07831904321

Please contact Lucy also for **Church  
Hall Bookings**. Website:

[www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk](http://www.stjohnspevenseyroad.org.uk)

Postal Address: St John the  
Evangelist, Pevensey Road,  
St Leonards on Sea, TN38 0LF

we believe in our hearts we may show forth  
in our lives, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

*H.W. Baker (1821-77)*

**Introit:** *Cantate Domino - Pitoni*

## Opening Hymn

The King of love  
my shepherd is,  
whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his  
and he is mine for ever.

Where streams  
of living water flow  
my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where  
the verdant pastures grow  
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish  
oft I strayed,  
but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing,  
brought me.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff  
my comfort still,  
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table  
in my sight;  
thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight  
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all  
the length of days  
thy goodness faileth never:  
Good Shepherd,  
may I sing thy praise  
within thy house for ever.

## 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

Almighty God, to whom all  
hearts are open, all desires  
known and from whom no  
secrets are hidden: cleanse the  
thought 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.

*Silence is kept*

**All** O King enthroned on high,  
filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name, Lord God  
almighty. In our sinfulness we  
cry to you to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak  
your word, through Jesus Christ  
our Lord. Amen.

## Absolution

*Priest* Almighty God, who in Jesus  
Christ has given us a kingdom that  
cannot be destroyed, forgive you  
your sins, open your eyes to God's  
truth, strengthen you to do God's

will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **All Amen.**

*The Peruvian Gloria is sung*

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father.  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Father.  
To God be glory forever.  
To God be glory forever.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
Son of the Father.  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
Son of the Father.  
To God be glory forever.  
To God be glory forever.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Spirit.  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to the Spirit.  
To God be glory forever.  
To God be glory forever.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia, amen.  
Alleluia amen.**

### **The Collect**

*Priest* Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of

the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **All Amen.**

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

#### **A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

*Jeremiah 23. 1-6*

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

#### **A Reading from Paul's letter to the Colossians**

*Colossians 1. 11 - 20*

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers-- all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

**Will you come and follow me  
If I but call your name?  
Will you go**

**where you don't know  
And never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown?  
Will you let my name be known  
Will you let my life be grown  
in you  
And you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind  
If I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
And never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
Should your life attract  
or scare?  
Will you let me  
answer prayer in you  
And you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see  
If I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free  
And never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
And do such as this unseen  
And admit to what I mean in you  
And you in me?**

**Will you love the "you" you hide  
If I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
And never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
To reshape the world around  
Through my sight and touch  
and sound in you  
And you in me?**

**Lord your summons echoes true  
When you but call my name  
Let me turn and follow you  
And never be the same  
In your company I'll go  
Where Your love  
and footsteps show**

**Thus I'll move and live  
and grow in you  
And you in me.**

*John Bell and Graham Maule*

**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 Luke

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Luke 23. 33 - 43*

When they came to the place that  
is called The Skull, they crucified  
Jesus there with the criminals, one  
on his right and one on his left.  
Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive  
them; for they do not know what  
they are doing." And they cast lots  
to divide his clothing. And the  
people stood by, watching; but the  
leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He  
saved others; let him save himself  
if he is the Messiah of God, his  
chosen one!" The soldiers also  
mocked him, coming up and  
offering him sour wine, and saying,  
"If you are the King of the Jews,  
save yourself!" There was also an  
inscription over him, "This is the  
King of the Jews." One of the  
criminals who were hanged there  
kept deriding him and saying, "Are  
you not the Messiah? Save  
yourself and us!" But the other  
rebuked him, saying, "Do you not  
fear God, since you are under the  
same sentence of condemnation?  
And we indeed have been

condemned justly, for we are  
getting what we deserve for our  
deeds, but this man has done  
nothing wrong." Then he said,  
"Jesus, remember me when you  
come into your kingdom." He  
replied, "Truly I tell you, today you  
will be with me in Paradise."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

**Dcn** 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**

**The Peace**

**Priest** Blessed is the king who  
comes in the name of the Lord.  
Peace in heaven and glory in the  
highest. 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.*

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**

Holy God, holy and strong, holy  
and immortal, give us the bread of  
everlasting life, and make us  
branches of the true vine.

**All Amen.**

**The Eucharistic Prayer (B)**

**Priest** The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

**Priest** Lift up your hearts.

**All We lift them to the Lord.**

**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 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 Christ is the victim who dies no more, the Lamb, once slain, who lives for ever, our advocate in heaven to plead our cause, exalting us there to join the angels and archangels, with all the company of 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, Hosanna,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, Hosanna,  
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. 🕯

**Dcn** Jesus Christ is Lord

**All Lord, by your cross and resurrection you have set us free. You are the Saviour of the world.**

**Priest** And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; 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 be 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** Being made one by the power of the Spirit, 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.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you emptied  
yourself, taking the form of a  
servant.

**All** Through your love, make us  
servants of one another.

*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.

**All** 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*

### **Communion 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.

**Refrain**

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

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.  
**Refrain**

*Graham Kendrick (b.1950)*

### **Prayers after Communion**

**Priest** Stir up, O Lord, the will 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, Father, Son and Holy  
Spirit be amongst you and remain  
with you always.

*All* Amen.

### Final hymn

Come, let us join  
our cheerful songs  
With angels round the throne;  
Ten thousand thousand  
are their tongues,  
But all their joys are one.

'Worthy the Lamb that died,'  
they cry,  
'To be exalted thus;'  
'Worthy the Lamb,'  
our lips reply,  
'For He was slain for us.'

Jesus is worthy to receive  
Honour and power divine;  
And blessings  
more than we can give  
Be, Lord, for ever thine.

Let all creation join in one  
To bless the sacred name  
Of him that sits upon the throne,  
And to adore the Lamb.

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

## 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  
departed, through the mercy of  
God, rest in peace and rise in  
glory. Amen.

*Deacon* Go in peace to love and  
serve the Lord.

*All* In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Concluding voluntary:** Crown  
Imperial - Walton

*St Johns LGBT+ Group  
invite you to stay for cake  
and browse the World  
Aids Day display after  
Mass today.*



### **Archdeacon welcome - today**

The Welcome and Collation of the Revd Russell Dewhurst, as Archdeacon of Hastings, will take place in the context of Choral Evensong at St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield, on Sunday 23 November at 4.00pm.

**The Bishop's Certificate** is being piloted from January 2026 in various locations.

The Bishop's Certificate is an exciting opportunity for lay people across the diocese to deepen and grow in their understanding of Christian faith. Whether you're exploring lay ministry or seeking to enrich your discipleship, this course is designed to support and inspire you.

**Course Overview** : Duration: 20 weeks + 3 study days, over three terms. Local to us: Ss Peter & Paul Church Hall, Parkstone Rd, Hastings TN34 2NT. Start date, Monday 26th January 7.30pm – 9pm  
Joint study days for all participants at a central location, location TBC:  
Term 1, Saturday March 14th; Term 2, Saturday June 6th ; Term 3, Saturday 14th November. Further details and an application form can be found on the diocesan website - [Bishop's Certificate - Diocese of Chichester](#)

### **Special services for Advent and Christmas**

**Sunday 30 November:**

**Advent Carol Service 6.00pm**

**Sunday 7 December:**

**Lights of Love service 3.00pm**

**Sunday 21 December:**

**Christmas Carol service 6.00pm**

**Wednesday 24 December –**

**Christmas Eve:**

**Christmas Crib service 4.00pm**

**Carols in the Churchyard 6.30pm**

**Midnight Mass 11pm**

**Thursday 25 December:**

**Christmas morning 10.30am**

**Harvey Gillman** will address the **Hastings and Rye Interfaith Forum** at their AGM on **'Spiritual exploration at a time of anxiety'.**

The event will take place at the **Unitarian Church**, 7 South Terrace, Hastings, on **Tuesday, December 2**, beginning at **7 p.m.**

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## 100 miles in November for Fr Andy Perry

In memory of Fr Andy Perry, who recently died following a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, Joe Padfield is taking on the mighty challenge of cycling 100 miles in all weathers this

November to raise funds for Pancreatic Cancer UK. Andy was loved by many in the diocese, as a mentor, friend and colleague. Please consider supporting Joe if you are able.

[https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Joe1761744175601?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Joe1761744175601?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

### EXPLORE THE FAITH with BISHOP LAURIE

2:30 pm every Tuesday  
All Saints room  
(under St John's Church)

All welcome!  
(No 'homework', reading aloud, etc)  
Tea, Coffee, biscuits provided.

## St John's first Christmas tree festival. November 29th, 30th and December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>



We are excited to be holding our first Christmas tree festival. It will incorporate all the elements of our usual **Christmas fair on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December** but with the extra of beautiful and fun trees to decorate our church as people come through to see them and for carols services over the 2 weekends. As usual we are looking for **donations of items** for our tombola for adults and children, items for our Christmas food and chocolate Hampers, Christmas treasures or unwanted Christmas gifts for our Christmas treasures stall and foliage for Christmas wreaths. **There will be boxes at the back of church for donations.** Please speak to Kate Hill about foliage. **We would also value offers of cakes, mince pies and soup for refreshments** for those visiting, and there is a **signup sheet** if you could spare 2 hours to sit in our beautiful church and **welcome visitors** to the festival.

\*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.