

**St John's Pevensey  
Road**



*Welcome to  
Mass  
on the Third  
Sunday of  
Epiphany*



**Pews News and  
Service Sheet for  
Sunday**

**26<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**During the week:**

**10am Midweek Mass -  
in St Peter's Chapel**

**Online Zoom service\*:**

**Wednesdays at 10am**

**Fridays 10-noon Morning**

**Coffee/Warm Space**

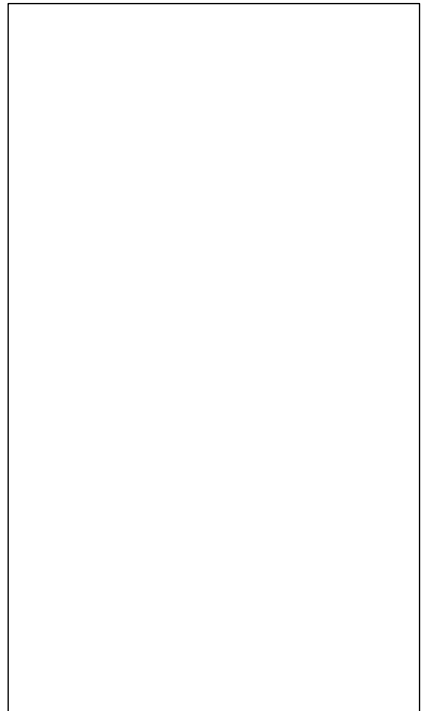
**Saturday 6.30pm – Film  
night in the church hall.**



**Next Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb:**

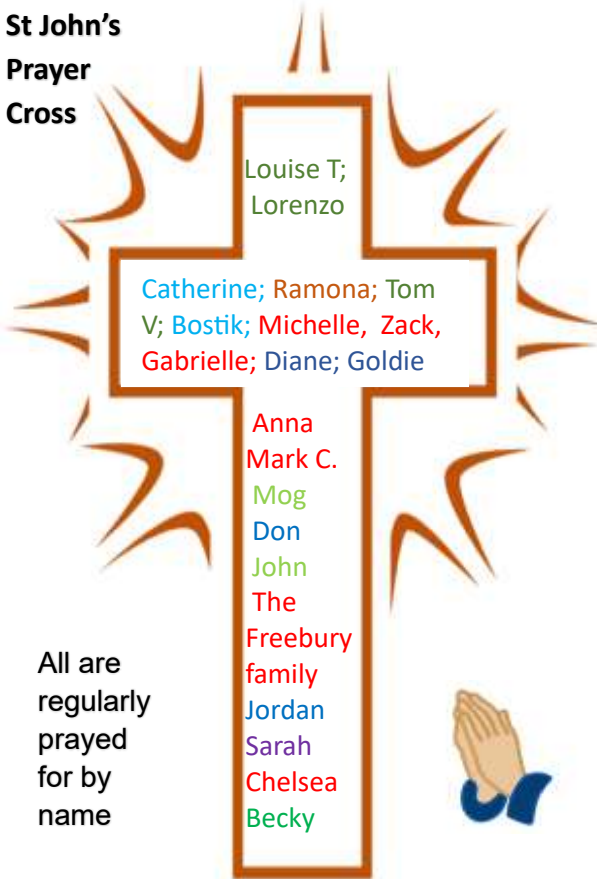
**8.00am Said Mass**

**10.30am Sung Mass**



**Our prayers are asked for:** Ken; John T; Helena O; Jackie N; Anne W; Gillian and Sue.  
**Please also pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially David S, Yvonne S and Peter D; for those whose Years Mind falls at this time, and for all who mourn.

**St John's  
Prayer  
Cross**



All are regularly prayed for by name

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:** *God so loved the world - Goss*

### **Opening Hymn**

**There's a wideness  
in God's mercy  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice  
Which is more than liberty.**

**There is no place  
where earth's sorrows  
Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place  
where earth's failings  
Have such kindly  
judgement given.**

**For the love of God is broader  
Than the scope of human mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.**

**But we make his love too narrow  
By false limits of our own;  
And we magnify his strictness  
With a zeal he will not own.**

**There is plentiful redemption  
In the blood that has been shed;  
There is joy for all the members  
In the sorrows of the Head.**

**There is grace enough  
for thousands  
Of new worlds as great as this;  
There is room  
for fresh creations  
In that upper home of bliss.**

**If our love  
were but more simple,  
We should take him at his word;  
And our lives  
would be all gladness  
In the joy of Christ our Lord.**

*F W Faber (1814-63)*

### **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 From the rising of the sun to its setting your name is proclaimed in all the world.**

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

### **Prayers of Penitence**

*Deacon* The grace of God has dawned upon the world through our Saviour Jesus Christ, who sacrificed himself for us to purify a people as his own. Let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept*

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make your face shine upon us:

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

May your ways be known on the earth, your saving power among the nations:

Christ, have mercy.

**All Christ, have mercy.**

You, Lord, have made known your salvation, and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord, have mercy.

**All Lord, have mercy.**

*Priest* May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself and cleanse you from all your sins, that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All Amen.**

**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* God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all

your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord. **All. Amen**

**The Liturgy of the Word all sit**

**A reading from the book Nehemiah**  
*Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10*

All the people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month.

He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law.....

<sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.....

<sup>8</sup> So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your

God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **A Reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians**

*1 Corinthians 12. 12 -31*

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-- Jews or Greeks, slaves or free-- and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body

be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honourable we clothe with greater honour, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles?

Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

**Jesus shall reign  
where'er the sun  
does his successive  
journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch  
from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax  
and wane no more.**

**People and realms  
of every tongue  
dwell on his love  
with sweetest song,  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings  
on his name.**

**Blessings abound  
where'er he reigns;  
the prisoners leap  
to lose their chains;  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all the humble poor  
are blest.**

**Let every creature rise and bring  
peculiar honours to our King;  
angels descend  
with songs again,  
and earth repeat the long amen.**

*Isaac Watts (1674-1748)*

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

Alleluia, alleluia. Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations and believed in throughout the world. **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 4. 14-21*

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Sermon**

**The Creed**

**Deacon** Let us declare our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed:

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord,  
Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were  
made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy  
Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death  
and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the  
Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father.

He will come again in glory to  
judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom  
will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds  
from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken  
through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic  
and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism  
for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection  
of the dead, and the life of the  
world to come. Amen.

## Prayers of Intercession

### The Peace

*Priest* Let the peace of Christ rule  
in your hearts, since as members  
of one body you are called to  
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.*

Dear Lord and Father  
of mankind,  
forgive our foolish ways!  
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust  
like theirs who heard,  
beside the Syrian sea,  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!  
O calm of hills above,  
where Jesus knelt  
to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;

**take from our souls  
the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives  
confess  
the beauty of thy peace.**

**Breathe through the heats  
of our desires  
thy coolness and thy balm;  
let sense be dumb  
let flesh retire;  
speak through the earthquake,  
wind and fire,  
O still small voice of calm.**

*John Whittier (1807-92)*

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

Lord, accept your people's gifts, not gold, frankincense or myrrh, but hearts and voices raised in praise of Jesus Christ, our light and our salvation. **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.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere, mighty creator, ever-living God, through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord: for at this time we celebrate your glory made present in our midst. In the coming of the Magi, the King of all the world was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism Jesus was revealed as the Christ, the Saviour sent to redeem us.

In the water made wine the new

creation was revealed at the wedding feast. Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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* Rejoicing in the presence of  
God here among us, 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.*

Christ is the true bread which has  
come down from heaven.

**All Lord give us this bread  
always.**

*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: Lord, for thy tender mercy's  
sake - Farrant**

### **Hymn**

**Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey,  
and companions on the road;  
we are here to help each other**

walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold  
the Christ-light for you  
in the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace  
you long to hear.

I will weep  
when you are weeping;  
when you laugh  
I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey  
through.

When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you;  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.

*Richard Gillard (b. 1953)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Priest* Almighty Father, whose Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ is the  
light of the world: may your people,  
illumined by your word and  
sacraments, shine with the  
radiance of his glory, that he may  
be known, worshipped, and  
obeyed to the ends of the earth; for  
he 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, who  
led the wise men by the shining of  
a star to find the Christ, the Light  
from light, lead you 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

The Church's one foundation  
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation  
by water and the word:  
from heaven he came  
and sought her  
to be his holy Bride;  
with his own blood  
he bought her,  
and for her life he died.

Elect from every nation,  
yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation  
one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses,  
partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses  
with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation,  
and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation  
of peace for evermore;  
till with the vision glorious  
her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great Church victorious  
shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union  
with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won;  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly,  
on high may dwell with thee.

*Samuel Stone (1839-1900)*

## 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 and people, facing the  
door*

*Dcn* To a troubled world

*All* Peace from Christ.

*Dcn* To a searching world

*All* Love from Christ.

*Dcn* To a dying world

*All* Hope from Christ.

*Dcn (to the people)*

Go in peace to love

and serve the Lord.

*All* Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Organ voluntary:** *Grand Choeur  
in B Flat major - Dubois*



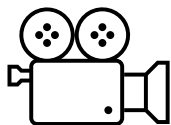
*Do  
stay a  
while*

\*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.

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**Join us for our first church film night - featuring “The unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry”. Saturday 1st February at 6:30 pm in the church hall.**

A seemingly unremarkable man named Harold learns his old friend Queenie is dying. He goes to mail a letter only to keep walking to Queenie’s hospice miles away. What happens on the way turns out to be remarkable. Starring Jim Broadbent and Penelope Wilton.

This is purely a social event, open to church members and non-members. £5 per ticket to cover costs. Snacks available to buy but bring your own bottle. Lifts may be arranged too. Please see Katy or Kate for further information or to buy tickets.

This pew sheet is printed on 100% recycled paper.

The funeral for David S will be held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30pm here at St John’s.

**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 via the box on the welcome desk or send them to Lucy in the church office.

Clare C Electoral Roll Officer.

**Diocesan Environment Day** -1st February 2025 - A day for all those people involved with or interested in equipping their church to care for God's creation through their worship, buildings, land, community engagement. Hosted by St Mary's Battle, on 1st February 2025. Further details and booking options on the Diocesan website.