



*Welcome to  
Mass  
on the  
Feast of the  
Epiphany*



**St  
John's  
Pevensey  
Road**

**Pews News and Service  
Sheet for Sunday  
5<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**

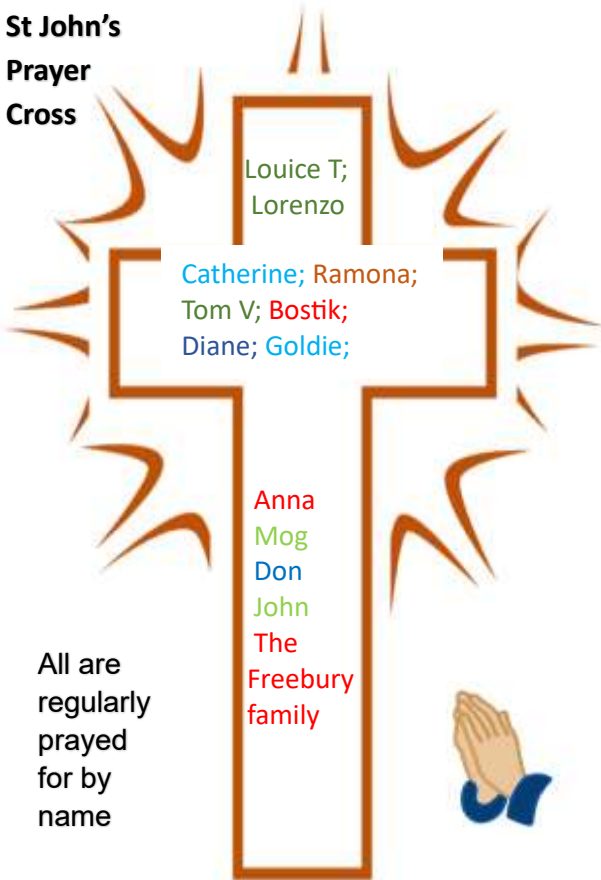
**Next Sunday 12th:  
10.30am Sung Mass  
(NO 8am Mass)**



**Our prayers are asked for:** Ken; John T;  
Helena O; Jackie N;

**Please also pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially David S, Royston H, Catherine M and Gill T, 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.



*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 for Epiphany**

*Priest* O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 Isaiah**

*Isaiah 60.1-6*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

#### **A Reading from the letter to the Ephesians**

*Ephesians 3. 1-12*

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--for surely you have already heard of the

commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

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

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

**Bethlehem, of noblest cities  
none can once  
with thee compare;  
thou alone the Lord from heaven  
didst for us incarnate bear.**

**Fairer than the sun at morning  
was the star that told his birth;  
to the lands their God  
announcing,  
seen in fleshly form on earth.**

**By its lambent beauty guided  
see the eastern kings appear;  
see them bend,  
their gifts to offer,  
gifts of incense, gold and myrrh.**

**Solemn things  
of mystic meaning:  
incense doth the God disclose,  
gold a royal child proclaimeth,  
myrrh a future tomb foreshows.**

**Holy Jesu, in thy brightness  
to the Gentile world displayed,  
with the Father and the Spirit  
endless praise to thee be paid.  
Amen.**

*Latin, Prudentius (348-410) Tr E Caswall (1814-78)*

**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 Matthew

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

## *Matthew 2. 1-12*

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him

gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*The three figures of the Magi may be placed at the crib.*

*The priest prays:* Bright Morning Star, your light has come and the birth of Jesus has overwhelmed us with joy. Like the magi of long ago may we be drawn to you, and offer you such gifts as we are able.

**All Amen.**

## **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.*

The first Nowell  
the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds  
in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay,  
keeping their sheep  
on a cold winter's night  
that was so deep:

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star,  
shining in the east,  
beyond them far;  
and to the earth  
it gave great light,  
and so it continued  
both day and night.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!*

And by the light  
of that same star,  
three Wise Men came  
from country far;  
to seek for a king  
was their intent,  
and to follow the star  
wheresoever it went.

*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!*

This star drew nigh  
to the north-west;  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
and there it did  
both stop and stay  
right over the place  
where Jesus lay:



***Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!***

Then entered in  
those Wise Men three,  
fell reverently upon their knee,  
and offered there  
in his presence  
both gold and myrrh  
and frankincense:

***Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!***

Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises  
to our heavenly Lord;  
that hath made heaven  
and earth of naught  
and with his blood  
mankind has bought:

***Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel!***

*Traditional*

### **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: The three Kings – Peter  
Cornelius**

## Hymn

Brightest and best  
of the sons of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness,  
and lend us thine aid;  
star of the East,  
the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant  
Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle  
the dew-drops are shining;  
low lies his head  
with the beasts of the stall;  
angels adore him  
in slumber reclining,  
maker and monarch  
and Saviour of all.

Say, shall we yield him,  
in costly devotion,  
odours of Edom,  
and offerings divine?  
gems of the mountain,  
and pearls of the ocean,  
myrrh from the forest,  
or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer  
each ample oblation,  
vainly with gifts  
would his favour secure:  
richer by far  
is the heart's adoration,  
dearer to God  
are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best  
of the sons of the morning,  
dawn on our darkness,  
and lend us thine aid;  
star of the East,  
the horizon adorning,  
guide where our infant  
Redeemer is laid.

*Reginald Heber (1783-1826)*

## Prayer after Communion

*Priest* Lord God, the bright splendour whom the nations seek: may we who with the wise men have been drawn by your light discern the glory of your presence in your Son, the Word made flesh, 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 in your pilgrimage to find the Lord.

*All Amen.*

May God, who has delivered us from the dominion of darkness, give us a place with the saints in

light in the kingdom of his beloved Son. **All Amen.**

May the light of the glorious gospel of Christ shine in your hearts and fill our lives with his joy and peace.

**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**

**We three kings of Orient are,  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain,  
moor and mountain,  
following yonder star:**

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading,  
still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.***

**Born a King on Bethlehem plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again:  
King for ever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign.  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
etc.***

**Frankincense to offer have I,  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising,  
all are raising:  
worship him, God most high.  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
etc.***

**Myrrh is mine: its bitter perfume  
breathes a life  
of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing,  
bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.**

***O star of wonder, star of night,  
etc.***

**Glorious now, behold him arise,  
King, and God, and sacrifice.  
“Alleluia”, “Alleluia”,  
earth to heaven replies.  
*O star of wonder, star of night,  
etc.***

*John Henry Hopkins (1822-1900)*

### **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*** We have seen his glory, the glory revealed to all the nations. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

***All*** Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

***Organ voluntary: War March of the priests - Mendelssohn***

*Do stay a while*

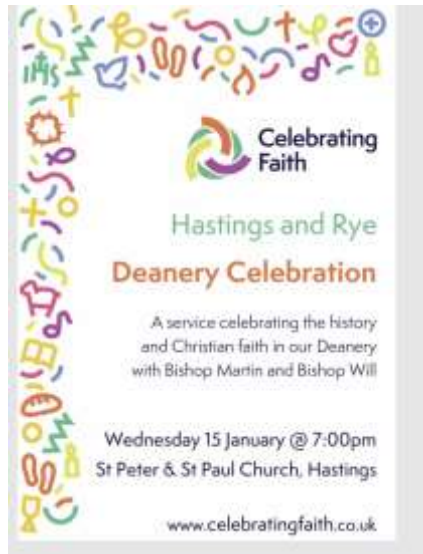


A big thank you to everyone who joined us for Carols in the care homes. The time given was appreciated by residents and staff. Thank you for taking part. Happy New year. Jenny

**Can you help us?  
The Friday  
morning coffee  
ladies are looking  
for **TWO**  
volunteers to set  
up and help serve  
coffees, teas,  
biscuits to our  
visitors **ONE**  
Friday a month  
between 9.15 am  
– 12 pm.  
Further details  
from the 'Two  
Sues'**



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#### **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.

This pew sheet is printed on 100% recycled paper.