



**St John's  
Pevensey Road  
Pews News and  
Service Sheet for  
Sunday  
23rd March 2025**

**During the week:**

**Tuesday 7pm in the Lady  
Chapel: Lent course**

**Wednesday at 10am in the  
Lady Chapel: Said Mass**

**Wednesday at 10am**

**Online Zoom service\***

**Fridays 10-noon Morning  
Coffee/Warm Space**

**Lent course on Tuesdays -**

starting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March in the Lady Chapel at 7pm, led by the Rector and Deacon Michael, **Chichester Diocesan Lent Course 2025 - I Believe** - exploring big themes from the Nicene Creed. If you can't come in person, the materials are available for individuals on the Diocesan website. (Control & click)

[Lent 2025 - Diocese of Chichester](#)



*Welcome  
to Mass  
on the  
Third Sunday  
of Lent*



**Next Sunday 30th March,  
Mothering Sunday:**

**N.B. Clocks forward that  
night!**

**10.30am Sung Mass  
(NO 8.00am Mass)**

**Our prayers are asked for:** Ken; John T; Helena O; Jackie N; Gillian, Sue and Fr Andrew  
**Please also pray** for the souls of the recently departed, especially Ali Hammond, for those whose Years Mind falls at this time, and for all who mourn.

**St John's  
Prayer  
Cross**

Gill  
Don  
Mog  
John

Catherine; Ramona; Tom V  
Bostik; Michelle, Zack,  
Gabrielle; Diane; Goldie

Louise T  
Lorenzo  
Anne W  
Rona  
Anna  
Mark C  
Becky  
Chelsea  
Jordan  
Claire  
Roger  
Jean T  
Sarah



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

**Introit: O Lord, my God, to thee - Arcadelt**

## **Opening Hymn**

**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)*

## **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.**

## **Prayers of Penitence**

*Deacon* The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart God will not despise. Let us come to the Lord, who is full of compassion, and acknowledge our transgressions in penitence and faith.

*Silence is kept*

*Dcn* Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness and cleanse me from my sin. Lord, have mercy.  
**All Lord, have mercy.**

*Dcn* Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Christ, have mercy.  
**All Christ, have mercy.**

*Dcn* Cast me not away from your presence and take not your holy spirit from me. Lord, have mercy.  
**All Lord, have mercy.**

*The Kyrie Eleison is sung by choir and congregation*

**Lord have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.**

**Christ have mercy,  
Christ have mercy.**

**Lord have mercy,  
Lord have mercy.**

## Prayer of Absolution

*Priest* The God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by his Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. *All Amen.*

## The Collect

*Priest* Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified; mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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 55. 1-9*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts

For the Word of the Lord.

*All Thanks be to God.*

## A Reading from the first letter to the Corinthians

*1 Corinthians 10. 1-13*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might

not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come.

So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

For the Word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

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

**It is a thing most wonderful,  
Almost too wonderful to be,  
That God's own Son  
should come from heaven,  
And die to save a child like me.**

**And yet I know that it is true:  
He chose a poor and humble lot,  
And wept, and toiled, and  
mourned, and died  
For love of those  
who loved him not.**

**But even could I see him die,  
I could but see a little part  
Of that great love,  
which, like a fire,  
Is always burning in his heart.**

**It is most wonderful to know  
His love for me so free and sure;  
But 'tis more wonderful to see  
My love for him  
so faint and poor.**

**And yet  
I want to love thee, Lord;  
O light the flame  
within my heart,  
And I will love thee  
more and more,  
Until I see thee as thou art.**

*W. Walsham How (1823-97)*

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

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory. The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice. Harden not your hearts. **All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.**

**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 13. 1-9*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you

repent, you will all perish as they did.

Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them-- do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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* Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to his grace.

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.*

**My song is love unknown,  
My Saviour's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown,  
That they might lovingly be.  
O, who am I,  
That for my sake  
My Lord should take  
Frail flesh, and die?**

**He came from his blest throne,  
Salvation to bestow:  
But men made strange,  
and none  
The longed-for Christ  
would know.  
But O, my Friend,  
My Friend indeed,  
Who at my need  
His life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew his way,  
And his sweet praises sing;  
Resounding all the day  
Hosannas to their King.  
Then 'Crucify!'  
Is all their breath,  
And for his death  
They thirst and cry.**

**Why, what hath my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run,  
He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries!  
Yet they at these**

**Themselves displease,  
And 'gainst him rise.**

**They rise, and needs will have  
My dear Lord made away;  
A murderer they save,  
The Prince of Life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he  
To suffering goes,  
That he his foes  
From thence might free.**

**In life no house, no home,  
My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb,  
But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say?  
Heav'n was his home;  
But mine the tomb  
Wherein he lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing,  
No story so divine;  
Never was love, dear King,  
Never was grief like thine!  
This is my Friend,  
In whose sweet praise  
I all my days  
Could gladly spend.**  
*Samuel Crossman (1624-83)*

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

God of wisdom, may the light of  
your eternal Word, our Lord and  
Saviour Jesus Christ, lead us in  
holiness and guide us to glory; we  
ask this in his name. **All Amen.**

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

**Priest** The Lord is here.

**All His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our  
God. **All It is right to give thanks  
and praise.**

Father, you made the world and love your creation.  
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be our Saviour.

His dying and rising have set us free from sin and death.

And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels 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* Let us proclaim 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:** *Praise to thee, Lord Jesus -  
Schutz*

### **Hymn**

**Abide with me;**  
**fast falls the eventide;**  
**The darkness deepens;**  
**Lord, with me abide!**  
**When other helpers fail,**  
**and comforts flee,**  
**Help of the helpless,**  
**O abide with me.**

**Swift to its close**  
**ebbs out life's little day;**  
**Earth's joys grow dim;**  
**its glories pass away;**  
**Change and decay**  
**in all around I see;**  
**O thou who changest not,**  
**abide with me.**

**I need thy presence every**  
**passing hour;**  
**What but thy grace**  
**can foil the tempter's power?**  
**Who like thyself**  
**my guide and stay can be?**  
**Through cloud and sunshine,**  
**O abide with me.**

**I fear no foe**  
**with thee at hand to bless;**  
**Ills have no weight,**  
**and tears no bitterness.**  
**Where is death's sting?**  
**where, grave, thy victory?**  
**I triumph still,**  
**if thou abide with me.**

**Hold thou thy cross**  
**before my closing eyes;**  
**Shine through the gloom,**  
**and point me to the skies:**  
**Heaven's morning breaks,**  
**and earth's vain shadows flee;**  
**In life, in death,**  
**O Lord, abide with me!**  
*H. F. Lyte (1793-1847)*

### **Prayer after Communion**

*Priest* Merciful Lord, grant your  
people grace to withstand the  
temptations of the world, the flesh  
and the devil, and with pure hearts  
and minds to follow you, the only  
God; through Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **All Amen.**

**All** Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

## **Notices**

### **Blessing of the Congregation**

*Priest* The Lord be with you.

**All** And also with you

*Priest* Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, take up your cross, and follow him; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

**All** Amen.

### **Final hymn**

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)*

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

**All In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Organ voluntary: Toccata and Fugue in B Flat major - Pachelbel**

*Do stay a while*



Forms to request an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one are at the back of Church. The cost is £3 per Lily and it would be helpful if the names could be written clearly so that there are no opportunities for mis-spellings!

\*Please request a link to the Wednesday Zoom service by emailing Canon Val on [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.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2025

**Palm Sunday** (13<sup>th</sup> April)

10.30am Mass

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at 5.30pm – Evening Prayer in St Peter's Chapel

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 10am Said Mass in St Peter's Chapel

**Maundy Thursday** (17<sup>th</sup> April) at 7pm – Sung Mass with washing of feet and presentation of the Holy Oils

**Good Friday** 10.15am Walk of Witness beginning in Christchurch Courtyard  
12noon The Stations of the Cross in St John's.

1pm Silent Prayer Lunch

2pm The Last Hour with the Veneration of the Cross and administration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Holy Saturday** 8pm The First Mass of Easter

**Easter Day** 10.30am The Parish Mass on Easter Morning.

On Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March we will be having a small Easter Table Sale at the back of church after Mass, when a variety of Easter goodies will be available, so don't forget your money!

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**Saturday 5 April, 7pm,**  
Christchurch, St Leonards on Sea  
**Dvorak's Stabat Mater**  
Hastings Philharmonic Choir  
Hastings Philharmonic Orchestra  
Helen May, *soprano*; Julia Pinon,  
*contralto*; Leonel Pinheiro, *tenor*;  
Robert Winslade Anderson, *bass*  
Marcio da Silva, *conductor*  
Tickets: £22.50/£18/£13.50;  
Students, under 18s, JSA/Universal  
Credit recipients: £5/pay what you  
can  
Available via website or from The  
Bookkeeper, 1a Kings Road, St  
Leonards  
*Advance booking strongly  
recommended*  
[www.hastingsphilchoir.org.uk](http://www.hastingsphilchoir.org.uk)

**St John's has a walking group.** We walk some Fridays or Saturdays generally a distance around 6 miles. Sometimes we even stop for tea and cake ! If you would like to be emailed about walks as they are planned please give your email address to Kate Hill. There is no obligation to attend every walk, just come when it suits you. Any questions chat to Kate

This pew sheet is printed on 100% recycled paper.

## **DANCERS EXIT STAGE RIGHT, BUT VFA STEP IN TO PRESERVE YOUR ENTERTAINMENT!**

Sadly, owing to circumstances beyond our control we have had to cancel the lovely event planned for 17<sup>th</sup>

May. **HOWEVER** do join us on the afternoon of **April 5th at 3pm in the Church Hall**, to enjoy amazing photos of how VFA is rescuing the village of BH29 in Zimbabwe following Lesley Ann and Alistair's visit earlier this year. We will show you how your wonderful support is changing lives , you can meet the villagers you have been helping to feed and see the spectacular borehole being drilled. Entrance is entirely free, there will be tea and cakes etc and a tombola to enjoy. Learn our future plans devised with the villagers and how you can get involved in



changing lives and futures..  
Lesley Ann and the VFA Team

## **Urgently needed items for the foodbank include:**

Toilet Rolls, UHT Milk, Coffee,  
Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables.  
Other needed items include:  
Tinned fish, tinned potatoes,  
tinned rice pudding, toiletries.

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.