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One Body One Faith



St
John's
Pevenssey
Road



Pews News and Service
Sheet for Sunday
25th January 2026

Welcome to
Mass this
morning – the
Feast of the
Conversion
of St Paul

During the week:

NO 10am Midweek
Mass

Wednesday 10am
Online Zoom worship*
ask for a link.

Friday 10am – noon
Coffee morning in
church



Next Sunday 1st February:

Candlemas

8am Said Mass

10.30am Sung Mass

I am unfit to be called an
apostle,
because I persecuted the
church of God, but by
the grace of God I am
what I am.

Our prayers are asked for: Nigel, Xander, Michael, Gillian, Sue, Jenny

Please also pray for the souls of the recently departed, especially Ken Clapp, for those whose Years Mind falls at this time, and for all who mourn.

**St John's
Prayer
Cross**



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.

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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.

**The blessing of the children and
the lighting of the candle as they
go to Godly Play.**

Prayers of Penitence

Deacon We were once dead
through the trespasses and sins in
which we lived, but now we are
alive together with Christ.
Through him we have access in
one Spirit to the Father, to whom
we humbly confess our sins.

Silence is kept

Open our eyes to your presence in
our midst. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Turn our hearts from selfish ends.
Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Draw us into your company on the
way. Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Priest 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.**

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 Acts of the
Apostles***

Acts 9. 1-22

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him,

The Collect

Priest Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth;

"Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight."

But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name."

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name."

So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God." All who heard him were amazed and said, "Is not this the man who made havoc in Jerusalem among those who invoked this name? And has he not come here for the purpose of bringing them bound before the chief priests?"

Saul became increasingly more powerful and confounded the Jews who lived in Damascus by proving that Jesus was the Messiah.

For the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the letter of St Paul to the Galatians

Galatians 1. 11 – 16a

For I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel that was proclaimed by me is not of human origin; for I did not receive it from a human source, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ.

You have heard, no doubt, of my earlier life in Judaism. I was violently persecuting the church of God and was trying to destroy it. I advanced in Judaism beyond many among my people of the same age, for I was far more zealous for the traditions of my ancestors.

But when God, who had set me apart before I was born and called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, so that I might proclaim him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with any human being...

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. Many who are first will be last, and the last will be first. Alleluia. **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 19. 27 - end

Then Peter said in reply, "Look, we have left everything and followed you. What then will we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man is seated on the throne of his glory, you who have followed me will also sit on

twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and will inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Creed

Deacon Let us declare our faith in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures; he was buried; he was raised to life on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures; afterwards he appeared to his followers, and to all the apostles: this we have received, and this we believe. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The Peace

Priest Let the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

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 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.

Though with a scornful wonder
men see her sore opprest,
by schisms rent asunder,
by heresies distrest,
yet saints
their watch are keeping,
their cry goes up, 'How long?'
and soon the night of weeping
shall be the morn of song.

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)

Prayer at the Preparation of the Altar

Almighty Father, as we celebrate this holy sacrament of our redemption, may your Spirit fill us with the light of faith; by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

The Eucharistic Prayer (E)

The Lord is here.

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

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

It is indeed right and good, our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places to give you thanks and praise, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

For on this day he called to his service the blasphemer and persecutor of your Church.

Saul, who had resisted your grace, became Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles.

Because he was faithful and true in his ministry, you made him an example of patient service,

to instruct in the way of eternal life all those who heard his preaching and believed your word. Now, therefore, he who became your chosen instrument for the salvation of the nations has made us also eager to proclaim your mercy, and sing in union with all the powers of heaven the joyful hymn of your 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, St Paul, 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.

Draw near with faith. Receive the
body of our Lord Jesus Christ
which he gave for you, and his
blood which he shed for you. Eat
and drink in remembrance that
Christ died for you and feed on him
by faith with thanksgiving.

All Amen.

*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: O Saviour of the world –
Somervell
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)

Prayers after Communion

Priest Almighty God,
who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the
apostles with the wind from
heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness
to preach the gospel:
by the power of the same Spirit
strengthen us to witness to your
truth and to draw everyone to the

fire of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *All* Amen.

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off you met us in your Son and brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

Blessing of the Congregation

Priest The Lord be with you.

All And also with you

Priest May Christ who called Paul to his service, and to preach the good news to the world, strengthen you to witness to his grace and love. 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

O worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him,

his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him,
the Lord is his name!

Low at his feet
lay thy burden of carefulness,
High on his heart
he will bear it for thee,
Comfort thy sorrows,
and answer thy prayerfulness,
Guiding thy steps
as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter His courts
in the slenderness
Of the poor wealth
thou wouldest reckon as thine:
Truth in its beauty,
and love in its tenderness,
These are the offerings
to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
He will accept
for the name that is dear;
Mornings of joy
give for evenings of tearfulness,
Trust for our trembling
and hope for our fear.

O worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness!
Bow down before him,
his glory proclaim;
With gold of obedience,
and incense of lowliness,
Kneel and adore him,
the Lord is his name!

J. S. B. Monsell. (1811-75)

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.

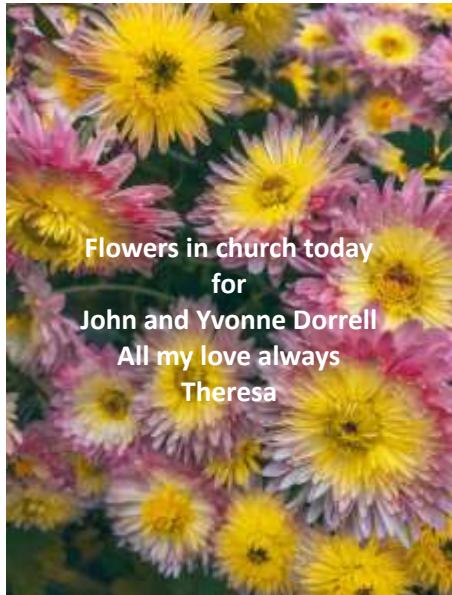
Priest May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of
God, rest in peace...

All and rise in glory. Amen.

Deacon We go into the world to
walk in God's light, to rejoice in
God's love and to reflect God's
glory. Go in peace to love and
serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Concluding 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
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.

Film night is back!

To cheer us up we are going for a
feel good movie with lots of
sunshine -
Mamma Mia.

Dressing up, Singing along and
dancing are optional but do get in
the mood.

Friday 20th February doors open
6pm for 6:30 pm start.
Greek inspired snacks and soft
drinks available to buy .Do feel free
to bring your own bottle.
Tickets £5.00 either tickets from
Katy H or on the door.

A million thanks to all at St John's and the wider community for your wonderful gifts on our retirement from the gardening team.



It has been uplifting to hear feedback over the years, which has made it all worthwhile." Blessings to you all from Sally and Libby

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.

**christian
aid** St John's,
Pevensey Road

**Bring and Buy
Bookstall**



50p per book
... please put your donation money
in the Christian Aid collection slot
in the wall - thank you!

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