

Catholic Parish of Brighton and Hove: West Hub

Sacred Heart; St George's & St Theresa's; St Mary Magdalen's; St Peter's

Canon Colin Wolczak; Fr Paul Wilkinson; Fr Tony Milner; Fr Alphonse Kabore; Canon David Parmiter

Sunday 15th March 2026, Fourth 'Laetare' Sunday of Lent, Year A. Weekdays: Week 10, Psalter Week 4

Canon Colin Writes...

What are the "Scrutinies"? The Scrutinies are Rites celebrated on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent, by those people who are preparing to be baptised at Easter, known as "The Elect". They are important and special rites of the Church. Whenever they are celebrated the Scripture readings of Year A of the liturgical cycle are used.

The Gospels on the three Sundays on which the Scrutinies are celebrated, teach the elect about the mystery of sin and fill them with the Spirit of Christ.

1. The first Gospel (the Samaritan Woman at the well) tells us that Christ is the Living Water,
2. The second (healing of the man born blind), that he is the Light of the World, and
3. The third, (the raising of Lazarus from the dead), that he is the Resurrection and the Life.

Jesus described the purpose of his mission as "To give life in abundance" (John 10:10) Each of the Gospels proclaimed in the three Scrutinies illustrates this.

These are ancient rites and they may, at first, seem strange to us. But they are profoundly rooted in our human experience. We need to examine (scrutinize) how we are, the areas of our lives where we are tempted, or seriously sin - in what we do and what we fail to do. We really need healing and the strength that can come from the support of our communities.

Like most communities we at the Sacred Heart adapt the 2nd & 3rd Scrutiny to include the Candidates for reception and our adult confirmandi, when we present the Creed and The Lord's prayer to them. It is an opportunity for the congregation to recognise and pray for our new Catholics and to rejoice that our communities are flourishing.

Palm Sunday Reconciliation Service All are warmly invited to a joint Reconciliation Service for the western side of the Brighton & Hove Parish on Palm Sunday, 29th March, at 3pm at Sacred Heart. All parishioners in the parish are welcome to attend. Five priests will be available for confession, offering an opportunity for reflection and reconciliation as we prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Easter.

Holy Week & Easter Services across the parish

St George's & St Theresa's The Easter Triduum will be celebrated at St Theresa's.

Maundy Thursday, 2nd April, Mass at 8pm, followed by watching until midnight.

Good Friday, 3rd April, there will be a Children's Stations of the Cross and art activity from 10am-12pm, and the Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm.

Holy Saturday, 4th April, the Easter Vigil will take place at 9pm.

Easter Sunday, 5th April, Masses will be celebrated as usual at both churches.

St Peter's

Thursday 2nd April Mass of the Lord's Supper is at 7:30pm.

Good Friday, 3rd April Commemoration of the Lord's Passion at 3pm.

Holy Saturday, 4th April Easter Vigil at 8pm.

Easter Sunday: Masses time will be 8.30, 10 & 11:30am.

St Mary Magdalen

Maundy Thursday: 8pm Mass with Adoration until midnight.

Good Friday 3pm. Easter vigil: 8pm.

Easter Sunday: 11am only, no 5pm Mass, 1pm Polish Mass. Easter Monday: 1pm Polish Mass.

Sacred Heart

Maundy Thursday 2nd April at 8pm.

Good Friday 3rd April at 3pm. Easter Vigil 4th April at 8pm.

Easter Sunday 5th April at 9:30am & 11:30am.



Sacred Heart 39 Norton Road, BN3 3BF; 01273 732843; www.sacredheartrove.org.uk;

hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk. All Masses at SH are Live Streamed: www.sacredheartrove.org.uk/videos.html

St George's Court Farm Road, BN3 7QR and **St Theresa's** Old Shoreham Road, BN42 4RY; 01273 708227;

www.brightondeanerywest.org.uk; westhove@abdiocese.org.uk

St Mary Magdalen's 55 Upper North Street, BN1 3FH; 01273 326793; brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk

St Peter's Portland Road, BN3 5GD; 01273 733840; <https://www.stpeters-hove.org.uk/>; hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Chaplain Royal Sussex County Hospital; 01273 696955 Ext. 64122; celestine.nnolim@nhs.net

For any other contact information, including Safeguarding, please see the relevant parish website or church noticeboards

Mass Schedule

Sat 14	Mar	Saturday
12noon†	SMM	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SH	James Kendall RIP
6.00	SP	Thanksgiving
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 15	Mar	4th Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
8.30 am	SP	Holy Souls
9.00	ST	People of the Parish
9.30	SH	People of the Parish
09:30	SMM	People of the Parish
10.00	SP	Angela Crowley
11.00	SG	Bridget Flaherty RIP
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30	SH	Terence Melville Shrieves RIP
11.30	SP	People of the Parish
1.00pm	SP	<i>Arabic Mass</i>
5pm	SP	<i>Brazilian Mass</i>
5.00pm	SMM	People of the Parish
Mon 16	Mar	Monday
10.00 am †	SH	Leigh Saunders
Tue 17	Mar	St Patrick
10.00 am	SG	Marie and Peter Read RIP
10.00 †	SH	Antony John Reynolds RIP
10.00	SP	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SMM	Teresa Johnson
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Wed 18	Mar	St Cyril of Jerusalem
8.00am	SH	Countess de Borchgrave RIP
8.00am	CNCS	
10.00	SP	Gill Whitehead
6.00pm †	SMM	Kathy's intentions
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Thurs 19	Mar	St Joseph, husband of the Virgin Mary
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
10.00 am ‡	SG	People of the Parish
12noon †	SH	Daniela Kuzmova Snr RIP
6.00pm †	SMM	Peter Thompson
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Fri 20	Mar	Friday
8.00 am	SH	Audrey Yates Ints
10am	SP	Fr Enzo & Jane Noble
6.00pm †	SMM	Ashley Hawkins
7.00 ‡	ST	People of the Parish
Sat 21	Mar	Saturday
12noon†	SMM	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SH	Jose Nery Alvis RIP
6.00	SP	Vera Jordan RIP
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 22	Mar	5th Sunday of Lent
8.30 am	SP	Tony & Hazel Hayler RIP
9.00	ST	Pauline & Keith Kendall Golden Wedding
9.30	SH	Mr & Mrs Gillow RIP & Family
09:30	SMM	People of the Parish
10.00	SP	Richard Hayes RIP
11.00	SG	People of the Parish
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30	SH	People of the Parish
11.30	SP	People of the Parish
5pm	SP	<i>Brazilian Mass</i>
5.00pm	SMM	People of the Parish

CNCS: Cardinal Newman **SH:** Sacred Heart; **SG:** St George's; **SMM:** St Mary Magdalene's; **SP:** St Peter's; **ST:** St Theresa's;
 † Adoration before; ‡ Adoration after

Regular Events

Weekly Reconciliation Times

Sacred Heart & St Peter's Saturdays at 5:15pm, before Mass.
St George's After Sunday Mass, on request.
St Mary Magdalen Fridays at 5pm, and Saturdays at 11am.
St Theresa's Fridays after the 7:00pm Mass.

Prayer Groups

Online Prayer Group – Thursdays at 8pm via video-link
westhove@abdiocese.org.uk
St Peter's "Be still and know..." (Psalm 46:10). You are warmly invited to join an online and in person contemplative prayer group, Fridays at 7:30pm. Please email James quietenginesprayer@gmail.com for more information.
Sacred Heart Online Rosary: Friday's 11am Rosary, available online only. Please join via our livestream.

Social Groups

St George's Tea and Chat After 10am Mass on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, join us in the hall, next on 24th March.
Sacred Heart SVP Social Group Join us after 12noon Mass. Next date is 19th March, then every two weeks.
St Peter's Social group Fridays, 1–3pm in the parish hall. Join us for light refreshments and friendly conversation.
Sacred Heart Film Club The next Film Club will be held on 2nd May after 12pm Mass. The film showing will be announced in due course.
Faith Formation Group Thursdays, 6:45pm at St Mary Mags. For anyone interested in joining the Church or learning more about the Catholic faith. Contact the parish office for info.

Stations of the Cross During Lent will take place across our parish at the following times:

Sacred Heart During Lent, and continuing for six weeks, the usual Prayer Group following the 10am Mass at Sacred Heart will be replaced by Stations of the Cross, which will be held in the church. All are warmly welcome to attend.

St George's Every Friday at 7:30pm.

All are warmly invited to attend and to enter more deeply into this Lenten journey of prayer and reflection.

St Mary Magdalen's Every Friday after 6pm Mass.

St Peter's Every Friday at 7pm.

St Theresa's During Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday at 12 noon at St Theresa's, followed by a simple austerity lunch. Everyone is warmly invited to come and pray together. We are looking for a few kind volunteers who would be willing to make a vegetarian soup for the lunch (for around 15 people). If you feel able to help in this way, please speak to James after Sunday Mass at St Theresa's for more information. Thank you for your generosity.

Coffee and Cake After Sunday Mass each week, after the 10am and 11:30am Masses at St Peter's, after the 9:30 Mass at Sacred Heart, and after Sunday Mass at St Theresa's and St George's, and after 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalene's thanks to our wonderful volunteers. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact your parish office.

Other Events/Notices

Monks in the City – Walk of Witness (Good Friday) Friday 3rd April, 10-11am. Christians from across the city are invited to take part in the annual Good Friday Walk of Witness. The walk will begin at 10am at India Gate by Pavilion Gardens, proceeding towards St Nicholas Church. There will be a short “station” at the Chapel Royal along the route. The walk will conclude with a short outdoor service in St Nicholas Churchyard at approximately 10:45am, finishing by 11am. All are welcome.

Churches Together – Walk of Witness (Good Friday) Christians from across our local churches will gather for the annual Walk of Witness on Good Friday. We will leave St Theresa’s at 11:00am and walk to the Community Church, arriving at approximately 11:15am (11:30am at the latest). From there, we will continue together to the Methodist Church, arriving at around 11:45am. At this point, St Michael’s will join the group, and we will all proceed together to Southwick Square, where the Good Friday service will begin promptly at 12:00 noon. All are warmly welcome to take part in this public witness of faith.

Children's Stations of the Cross volunteers
Anyone 9yrs +

Who would like to plan and help with art and craft creations

or lead talking about one of the stations and support the activities

Then Please Contact Charlotte
Charlotte.conneely@yahoo.co.uk
by Sunday 22nd

Reclaiming Humanity: Attention & Love in a Fragmented World An afternoon exploring Catholic Social Teaching with Fr Toby Lees will take place on Sunday 22 March, 1:30–4:15pm at the Fitzher-

bert Community Hub. Fr Toby, a Dominican priest, moral theologian and Priest Director of Radio Maria England, will reflect on how today’s culture competes for our attention, weakens our capacity to love, and how we can remain grounded through contemplation, communion and generosity. All are welcome to join from 12:45pm for a shared lunch (please bring a packed lunch or a dish to share). No booking required. Donation only. Tea, coffee and cake will be provided. Venue: Fitzherbert Community Hub, St John the Baptist Church, BN2 1AP. More info joanna.gilbert@abdiocese.org.uk.

Southwick Churches Together We meet at 9:30 every Wednesday morning, at St Michael’s Church in Southwick, for a short service, led by people from churches in the local area. There are refreshments afterwards. All welcome

Golden Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to Pauline & Keith Kendall, who celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 20th March. Pauline and Keith were married in our very own St Theresa’s Church on 20th March 1976. We offer them our warmest congratulations and wish them every blessing as they celebrate 50 wonderful years of marriage.

Missio Red Boxes at Sacred Heart Please bring your Missio red box to church during the month of March to be counted. You can leave it in the Outer Sacristy for me. I will put it back in the Outer Sacristy after about a week, for you to collect. Many thanks, Marilyn.

Divine Mercy Sunday Healing Service The next Healing Service at St Mary Magdalene’s will take place on Divine Mercy Sunday, 12th April, at 3pm, with Fr Rod and Fr Alphonse. All are warmly encouraged to attend.

Fundraising / Giving

Special Collections 2026
3rd April (Good Friday) - The Holy Places
26 April - Education of Priests (Gift Aid)

Offertory Collection Reporting
Totals are reported monthly, in arrears.
SH offertory for Feb = £6, 370.
SG & ST offertory for Feb = £2,683.
SMM offertory for Feb = £3, 106.
SP offertory for Feb = £5,609.

Soup Run Each week, from Monday to Friday, 7pm at the shelter next to the Angel of Peace on the seafront. Please consider giving your time to this valuable work of charity. For more information, please contact SMM office.

Ray of Hope – Candles for Ukraine We are supporting the Ray of Hope initiative by collecting candles to help make “trench candles” for people in Ukraine. These simple candles, made from tins, cardboard and wax, can burn for many hours and provide light, warmth, and a way to heat food or drinks during power cuts. You can help by donating new candles, part-used candles, or candle stubs. Please place your donations in the collection boxes at St George’s and St Theresa’s. Thank you for helping bring a little warmth and light to those in need.

SVP Easter Raffle Thank you to everyone who supported the SVP Easter Sale and contributed so generously with donations. The sale has now finished, and we are very grateful for the wonderful support received from the parish community. Raffle tickets are still available for the Simnel cake, with the final draw taking place on 29th March. All proceeds will support much-needed causes within our local community and beyond. Thank you for your continued support of the SVP.

Hangleton & W Blatchington Foodbank If you would like to donate to the food bank this week, we are most in need of: **Washing up liquid; Tuna; Veg chilli; Creamy pasta sauce; Tinned mince and onions; Single toothbrushes.** Donations may be brought to SG hall on Wed 10:30 -11:45am, or the collection bins in any of our churches.

Prayer List During Lent, we are asked to pray for, Candidates for the sacraments; Women; the needy and hungry of the world; penitents; and wanderers. Please also pray for all who are sick, housebound, or in need of our prayers in our communities, including:

Annie Price; Canon Colin Wolczak; Cathy Howes; Cheryl Evans; Chris, Lucy, Matt, & Vince Neal; Eileen Kipling; Elena White; Hanorah & Mat Smith; Jean Goatcher; Rex Curd; Tom Piggins; Paddy Dixon and Winifred Wilde.

**Sunday 15th March 2026,
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In those days: The LORD said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him.' But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The LORD has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'
The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel Matthew John 9:1-41

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God

might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' And they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.

We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, 'Are we also blind?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'
The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from true God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day 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. I 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 adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Copyright notice Scripture quotations are from the English Standard Version of the Bible, Catholic Edition (ESV-CE), published by Asian Trading Corporation, copyright 2017 by Crossway. All rights are reserved. Excerpts from Abbey Psalms and Canticles are copyright 2018 USCCB.