

Catholic Parish of Brighton and Hove: West Group

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 27th September 2026 • 26th Sunday of the Year • Year A • Weekdays: Week 25 • Psalter Week 2

Harvest

Fr Tony writes...

In our second reading this week we continue to hear from St Paul's letter to the Philippians. Philippi, in the Roman province of Macedonia, now in NE Greece, was one of the first places Paul visited in Europe, after crossing from Asia Minor (modern day Turkey, cf. Acts 16:9-12). The letter is written several years later, when Paul was in prison, probably in Ephesus. Paul clearly had a particular affection for this community. The opening of his letter is very warm (try comparing it with the opening of the letter to the Galatians!).

Today's reading is particularly interesting because it includes a very early Christian hymn, in six verses of three lines. This was probably not written by St Paul himself – the vocabulary is a bit different to Paul's usual usage – but rather a hymn known both to Paul and to the community in Philippi. The hymn divides into two parts, each with three verses of three lines. Part 1 (vv 6-8) is a 'descent' – Christ comes down from heaven, then becomes a 'slave' to humanity, even to the point of heaven. In this part the obedience of Christ is contrasted with the disobedience of Adam, who did 'regard

equality with God as something to be grasped' in taking the fruit of the tree of knowledge. Paul underlines the 'totality' of the descent by adding the phrase 'even death on a cross', which breaks the structure of the hymn slightly. The second part of the hymn (vv.9-11), which is an 'ascent', also contains an allusion to the Old Testament. In Isaiah 45:22-23 the reference to 'every knee bowing and tongue confessing' is directed to God alone. Thus, in this hymn we see a very early affirmation of a key Christian doctrine, that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully human. But there is one further point to note. Christians are called, says Paul, to participate in this, and the implication is that if we are willing to imitate and participate in the humility of Christ, we too will be exalted with him.



This Week in Our Parish

Saturday 26th September

*Reconciliation: 5:15–5:45pm at Sacred Heart & St Peter's.

Sunday 27th September

- *Lauds (Morning Prayer): 8:30am at St Theresa's.
- *Refreshments after Sunday Masses.
- *Table Church: After the 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalen's.
- *Reconciliation: After 11am Mass at St George's, on request.
- *CAFOD Harvest Fast Day special collection.
- *Martlets Hospice Sale after 10am and 11:30am Mass at SP.

Monday 28th September

- *St Peter's Tai Chi: 10:30–11:30am in the hall, term time.
- *St George's Rosary Group: 6–7pm in the Lady Chapel.
- *RCIA continues at St Peter's, 7pm in the Upper Room.

Tuesday 29th September

- *Sacred Heart Prayer Group: 10:30am, Parish Room.
- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.

Wednesday 30th September

- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.
- *St Theresa's Vespers: 6:30pm at St Theresa's.

Thursday 1st October

- *10am – Florence Davis RIP – Funeral at St George's.
- *After 12 noon Mass – Sacred Heart SVP Social Group.
- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.
- *7pm – St Theresa's Patronal Feast – Feast of St Theresa of Lisieux – special Mass with music, followed by refreshments.
- *Digging Deeper. An online, lay-led study group, 7:30–8:30pm. Please email whdiggingdeeper@gmail.com.

Friday 2nd October

- *10am – Women's Rosary at St Mary Magdalen's Presbytery.
- *11am – Sacred Heart Online Rosary via livestream.
- *1–3pm – St Peter's Social Group
- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.
- *Reconciliation: After the 7:00pm Mass at St Theresa's.
- *7:30–9pm – St Peter's Prayer Group, in person and online quietenginesprayer@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart • hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk • 01273 732843

St Mary Magdalen • brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk • 01273 326793

Hospital Chaplain • Royal Sussex County Hospital • Fr Celestine Nnolim • 01273 696955 Ext. 64122 • celestine.nnolim@nhs.net

St George's & St Theresa's • westhove@abdiocese.org.uk • 01273 708227

St Peter's • hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk • 01273 733840

For safeguarding & other contact information, please see church noticeboards.

Mass Schedule		
Sat 26th	September	Saints Cosmas and Damian
12noon †	SMM	C.W. Tyerman RIP
6pm	SH	Winifred Donaghy RIP
6.00pm	SP	John & Rosemary Sheppard RIP
6.30pm	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 27th	September	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00am	ST	Phyllis & Michael Dixon RIP
9.30am	SH	People of the Parish
9.30am	SMM	
10.00am	SP	Alison Sykes RIP
11.00am	SG	Anthony Moonjappilly RIP
11.00am	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30am	SH	Catherine Harris RIP
11.30am	SP	Maria McCarthy RIP
5.00pm	SMM	Barbara's Intentions
Mon 28th	September	Saint Wenceslaus
10.00am †	SH	Gerard Eaton RIP
Tue 29th	September	Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael
10.00am	SG	<i>NO MASS</i>
10.00am †	SH	Michael Pye RIP
10.00am	SP	<i>No Mass today</i>
6.00pm †	SMM	Rev. Oscar Leake RIP
7.00pm	ST	Kathleen Natali RIP
Wed 30th	September	Saint Jerome
8.00am	CNCS	
8.00am	SH	Elena White's Intentions
10.00am	SP	Our Holy Father Leo XIV
6.00pm †	SMM	Graham Picketts
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Thurs 1st	October	Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus
10.00am ‡	SG	<i>Funeral of Florence Davis RIP</i>
10.00am †	SP	In Thanksgiving
12noon †	SH	Yvonne Hart Intentions
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	Joseph Cripps RIP
Fri 2nd	October	The Holy Guardian Angels
8.00am	SH	Catherine Helen Caperun RIP
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
7.00pm ‡	ST	Shirley Burrows & Patrick Atkinson RIP
6.00pm †	SMM	Joseph Gas Team
Sat 3rd	October	The Blessed Martyrs of Sussex
12noon †	SMM	
12noon †	SH	Magdalena Korzonek RIP
6pm	SH	Josh & Emily Rancan Intentions
6.00pm	SP	People of the Parish
6.30pm	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 4th	October	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00am	ST	People of the Parish
9.30am	SH	Gervaise & Ethna Mathews Intentions
9.30am	SMM	<i>Polish Mass</i>
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
11.00am	SG	Joseph Williams RIP
11.00am	SMM	Joseph Turner RIP
11.30am	SH	People of the Parish
11.30am	SP	Therese Hobden 90th birthday
5.00pm	SMM	

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



Sacraments

2026–2027 Sacramental Programmes Applications are available through your local parish office or church website. Please check individual deadlines and include a Baptism Certificate for First Holy Communion and Confirmation applications. At Sacred Heart, FHC and RCIA applications have now closed; the Confirmation deadline is 1st December.

RCIA at St Peter's The RCIA programme for adults wishing to explore Baptism or Confirmation is underway and continues on Mondays at 7pm in the Upper Room of St Peter's parish hall. Anyone interested in exploring the Catholic faith and the possibility of receiving the Sacraments is welcome.

Baptism Preparation at St Theresa's The next two Baptism Preparation sessions are Tuesday 24th November and Tuesday 1st December, 6:30–7:30pm at St Theresa's. Both sessions are required for parents and godparents preparing for Baptism. Contact the parish office for further information.

St Peter's Archive Team For a Baptism or Confirmation certificate, contact the St Peter's Archive Team. Please allow two weeks for documents to be processed, saintpeterarchives@gmail.com.

Our Schools

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Portslade Families considering the school for their child are warmly invited to visit and see how St Mary's encourages children to "Achieve their Ambitions." School tours are available by appointment. Please call 01273 418416 to arrange a visit.

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School and Nursery, Brighton Families considering the nursery or school for their child are warmly invited to visit. The nursery provides an opportunity for children to begin their educational journey within the school, with a seamless transition into Reception. School tours are available by appointment.

Cottesmore St Mary Catholic Primary School, Hove Families considering Reception entry in September 2027 are warmly invited to visit the school. Open Days will take place throughout November, beginning Tuesday 3rd November at 9am. Please email the school office with your preferred date(s) to arrange a visit.

Cardinal Newman Catholic School & Sixth Form College, Hove Families considering Year 7 entry in September 2027 are warmly invited to attend the school's Open Event on Thursday 22nd October 2026, with daytime and evening sessions available. Bookings open at 8am on Wednesday

30th September 2026 through the school's Year 7 Admissions page. The deadline for Year 7 applications is Saturday 31st October 2026.

Giving & Supporting Others

Join us at St Theresa's! *"He who sings, prays twice."* – St Augustine. We are looking for children and adults to join our singers, musicians and altar servers for Feast Days and School Masses. Please see Nancy, Paula or James.

Martlets Hospice Sale – St Peter's fundraising sale will take place on Sunday 27 September, after the 10am and 11:30am Masses, with plants, take-home cakes, homewares, gifts and a Prize Every Time tombola. Cash only, please.

Missio Boxes If you have a Red Box that needs emptying, please bring it to Moira at ST, Patricia at SG, or leave it in the outer sacristy at SH for Marilyn. Please make sure your name is clearly written on your box.

Karla's Charity Curry Evening at SH Join us for a charity curry evening on Saturday 31 October at 7pm in the Sacred Heart Parish Room, Norton Road. Come along to enjoy good food and company.

Hangleton & West Blatchington Food Bank This Harvest, please keep in your prayers all those who are struggling to put food on the table. If you are able, please consider donating to help keep the shelves stocked and support people in our community. Lists of items always needed are included in this week's newsletters at SG and ST. Donations can be left in the collection boxes at our churches. Please do not donate opened or out-of-date food. Latest list of items needed: www.facebook.com/hangletonfoodbank.

Soup Run Volunteers are needed Monday to Friday at 7pm at the Angel of Peace statue to serve hot soup, bread and kindness to those in need. Please contact SMM parish office for more info.

Welcomers Needed at St Theresa's & St George's We are looking for more Welcomers at St Theresa's and St George's to join the rota. Simply arriving a little early, offering a friendly smile and helping people feel comfortable can make a real difference. If you could spare some

time to join the Welcoming team, please speak to the Parish Office.

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Harvest 2026 Friday 2 October. This Harvest, we are invited to pray, eat simply and give generously to support communities overseas facing shortages of food and safe water. Your donation can help children like Tayla in Zimbabwe stay in school through nourishing meals, improved access to water and school gardens where food can be grown. Please take a CAFOD envelope from the church to donate and Gift Aid your contribution or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope.

Special Collections 2026
27 September – CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

Prayer & Remembrance

Cycle of Prayer During Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; human life; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; and seafarers.

Prayer List Anne Callaghan; Peter Cochlin; Clive Connor; Kathleen Davis; Julia Fleming; Rosaleen Gripper; Clive Holding; Elizabeth Houston; Margaret Keating; Eileen Kipling; Chris, Lucy, & Matt Neal; Mario Noah; Liz Perkins; Tom Piggins; Margaret Robinson; Dean Schwartz; Robert (Bob) Selwood; Hano-rah & Mat Smith; Elena White; Winifred Wilde; Canon Colin Wolczak.

Walking with Women Tuesday 29 September at 7pm. Join Chris Smith as she explores finding comfort in Catholic teaching on suffering and eternal life, grieving through faith, prayer and community, and honouring loved ones through remembrance and legacy. Register at NBCW.co.uk.

Feast of St Theresa of Lisieux Thursday 1 October is the Feast of St Theresa of Lisieux, our patronal feast. Please join us for a special Mass at 7pm at St Theresa's, with music, followed by refreshments in the Parish Room. All are warmly welcome as we celebrate our patronal feast together.

Healing Service at St Mary Magdalen's The monthly Healing Service takes place on the first Sunday of each month at 3pm, with Fr Rod and Fr Alphonse. The next service is Sunday 4 October at 3pm.

All are warmly welcome, and the car park will remain open until 6pm.

Florence Davis RIP Please pray for Florence, a much-loved member of the St George's community, who passed away peacefully aged 104. Her funeral will take place at St George's on Thursday 1 October at 10am. Please keep Florence and her family in your prayers.

Bridget Lavy RIP Please pray for Bridget, a much-loved parishioner of St Theresa's for around 65 years, who has passed away peacefully. Her Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St Theresa's on Thursday 8 October at 11am. Please keep Bridget and her family in your prayers.

Faith Formation

Digging Deeper An online, lay-led study group led by members of St George's and St Theresa's, exploring different aspects of our faith. We meet on Thursdays, 7:30–8:30pm, and topics have included the Holy Land in the time of Jesus, the life of David, the books of Samuel, and encountering Mother Teresa. Each session concludes with a time of prayer. If you'd be interested in joining us or would like to know more, please email whdiggingdeeper@gmail.com.

Magnifica Humanitas Join a new study group exploring Pope Leo's Magnifica Humanitas, considering human dignity in an age of rapidly advancing Artificial Intelligence and how AI is affecting our lives. The group will begin in the autumn, with the day and time to be agreed. To register, email Deacon Dominic Dring domdring14@gmail.com.
At St Peter's, Warren Vinall has also prepared a summary of key points from the document, which will be available for the next three Sundays.



The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. 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.

First Reading — Ezekiel 18:25-28

Thus says the Lord: 'You say, "The way of the Lord is not just." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Remember your compassion, O Lord.

Second Reading — Philippians 2:1-11

Brothers and Sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy; complete

my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me. Alleluia.

Gospel — Matthew 21:28-32

At that time: Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." And he answered, "I will not", but afterwards he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, "I go, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the

way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterwards change your minds and believe him.'

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 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.

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A warm welcome to all our visitors, we hope you enjoy your time in our parish community and feel at home among us.

Serdecznie witamy wszystkich naszych gości. Mamy nadzieję, że miło spędzicie czas w naszej wspólnocie parafialnej i poczujecie się wśród nas jak w domu. (Polish)

Damos as boas-vindas a todos os nossos visitantes. Esperamos que desfrutem do tempo passado na nossa comunidade paroquial e que se sintam em casa entre nós. (Portuguese)

Damos una cálida bienvenida a todos nuestros visitantes. Esperamos que disfruten de su tiempo en nuestra comunidad parroquial y que se sientan como en casa entre nosotros. (Spanish)

Un accueil chaleureux à tous nos visiteurs. Nous espérons que vous apprécierez votre séjour au sein de notre communauté paroissiale et que vous vous sentirez chez vous parmi nous. (French)