

Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea Serving Southwick, Portslade, Hangleton and West Blatchington

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School: St Mary's, Church Road, Portslade www.stmarys.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Also serving the parishes:

Cottesmore: <u>www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk</u> Cardinal Newman: <u>www.cncs.co.uk</u>



If you use Facebook, please join our group page, Catholics West Hove

www.facebook.com/groups/1510048742698794/

Pastoral Plan Webinar

Bishop Richard is hosting a Pastoral Plan Webinar for people across our diocesan community this Wednesday, 10th Jan at 7:30pm. Please use the following link to join:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457734895.

This link will be available to 'click' on the front page of the parish website. We will also be 'screening' the webinar at St Theresa's after the 7pm Mass.

Printed copies of the Plan are available in the churches, and it can also be accessed on the diocesan website:

www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan.

7th January 2024: The Epiphany Weekdays: 1st Week in Ordinary Time, Year II

Fr Tony Writes:

The Bishops pastoral plan has been published! There are copies available in the church, and it is also accessible online (see below left).



The big takeaway is that, in the next couple of years, all the deaneries in the diocese will become 'moderated parishes'.

What does that mean? Well for us it means that our Deanery, which stretches for Rottingdean in the east to Southwick in the west, will be a single parish for which all the priests will have joint responsibility. So instead of eight, more or less independent parishes, in our deanery, there will be one big parish. A 'community of communities', as the Bishop said in his Pastoral Letter a few weeks ago.

How will this work? We don't quite know yet, as it is not 'one size fits all'! Rather it is something each deanery/ parish will have to work out, and because they will be doing this supported by the diocesan formation team, the roll out will be staggered over the coming year or so. Brighton deanery is last on the list (along with our neighbours, Worthing deanery) so the detailed planning will be in Jan/Feb 2025. But of course we will be reflecting and praying about it in the coming year.

It is likely that, as already foreseen, Brighton deanery/ parish will fall into two areas which will work much more closely together, and we will be working much more closely with St Peter's, Sacred Heart, and St Mary Magdalene's. In the long term, it is likely that there will be two full time parish priests for these churches.

Quite a bit of reflection and planning for this has already begun. We have regular meetings of the pastoral teams of Sacred Heart, St Peter's and ourselves to look to how we can work together. Expect some of the fruits of that to become more visible soon.

What is certain is there will be quite a bit of change in the next couple of years, and that might be difficult in some cases. The bishop has invited us, above all to pray, and in particular he wishes every community to have times of Adoration before the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament in prayer for the diocese over this time.

We have Adoration on Thursdays and Fridays after Mass, and we hope to be introducing a monthly Holy Hour at the weekends from February, in response to the bishop's call.



Please Pray For		We
All who are sick in the parish particularly: Cheryl Evans, Colette, Elizabeth Hopkins, Julie La Terry Phipps, Tom Hulse and Winifred Wilde. Those on our regular prayer list including:	Sat 6th Jan	5:15 6pm
Eileen McLoughlin, Maria Parente, Jean Ryan and Chri Vince Neal. Those who have died recently especially: Joyce Monasingh. As well as those whose anniversa	Sunday 7th Jan Epiphany of the Lord	9a <i>W</i> 11
occur this month. A full list of sick parishioners		10
anniversaries can be found on the parish website. FOOD A lif you would like to donate to the f bank this week we are most in need		7p
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Crisps; Tinned Custard; Tinned Fruit (not peaches please); Tinned Meat (e.g. corned beef, mince and onions);

Tinned Rice Pudding; Tuna; Washing Up Liquid

Donations may be dropped into the boxes at the back of either of our churches. Thank you for your support.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030.

Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.



First Holy Communion Prayer Sponsors

If you would like to be a prayer sponsor for one of our young people making their First Holy Communion in May 2024, please email the office or speak to Fr Tony.

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A series of talks on the **Gospel of Mark**

Wednesdays, 17th & 24th Jan & 7th Feb, St Theresa's, 7:45pm. (Mass 7pm, followed by refreshments.)

This year on Sundays we will be hearing the Gospel of Mark. It is the shortest and most dynamic of Gospels. It was probably written in Rome, for a small Church community that had known St Peter, and was now enduring persecution and seeing people falling away.

What was it like to hear the Gospel for the first time, possibly hidden secretly in a room in the city? The first session on the 17th January, will be a 'read through' of the whole Gospel, after a brief 'scene setting' to try to 'capture' its atmosphere. Then on the 24th January and the 7th February we will look more closely at key features and themes of Mark's story of Jesus.

Weekly Timetable		
Sat 6th Jan	5:15– 5:45pm Confessions St Peters, Hove	
	6pm Mass, St Peter's, Hove	
Sunday 7th Jan Epiphany	9am Mass, St Theresa's With Children's Liturgy	Cosme Rodrigues RIP
of the Lord	11am Mass, St George's	All Parishioners
Tuesday 9th Jan	10am Mass, St George's	
Wed 10th Jan	7pm Mass, St Theresa's Followed by Bishop Richard's Webinar	Anne Hurst RIP
Thurs 11th Jan	10am Mass, St George's Adoration to 10:45	
Fri 12th Jan	10am Mass, St Theresa's Adoration to 10:45	Mary Margaret Barry RIP
	10am First Communion Preparation, St Theresa's	
Sat 13th Jan	5:15– 5:45pm Confessions St Peters, Hove	
	6pm Mass, St Peters, Hove	
Sunday 14th Jan	9am Mass, St Theresa's	All Parishioners
2nd Sunday of Ordinary Time	11am Mass, St George's	

Mass Changes

There have been some changes to Masses in the area. The principle change for us is the amalgamation of the Saturday evening Masses at St Theresa's and St Peter's. There is no longer a 5:30 Saturday Mass at St Theresa's. Fr Tony now celebrates the 6pm vigil Mass at St Peter's, Hove. Confessions will be 5:15 — 5:45 at St Peter's.

Children's Liturgy Group

This takes place during the 9am Mass at St Theresa's (in the side chapel), during term time. Children from Reception Class to Year 3, are welcome to join the group. Our upcoming themes this half term are:

7th January; Feast of the Epiphany; Three Kings Visit Jesus 14th January; 2nd Sunday in ordinary time; Lamb of God 21st January; 3rd Sunday in ordinary time; Follow Me

28th January; 4th Sunday in ordinary time; The Power of Jesus 4th February; 5th Sunday in ordinary time; Jesus Cures the Sick 11th February; 6th Sunday in ordinary time; Jesus Cures the Leper



We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. For more information and ways to support them see: cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/international/countries/ukraine/