



Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea

*Serving Southwick, Portslade,
Hangleton and West Blatchington*

St Theresa's: Old Shoreham Rd, Southwick, BN42 4RY

St George's: Court Farm Road, Hove, BN3 7QR

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Find out more: [https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/
safeguarding/home](https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/safeguarding/home)

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

Also serving the parishes:

Cottesmore: www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Cardinal Newman: www.cncs.co.uk



If you use Facebook, please join our group page,

Catholics West Hove

www.facebook.com/groups/1510048742698794/

Kathleen Bull — 1925 to 2023

Kathleen's family will be gathering at Portslade Cemetery to bury her ashes on Friday 5th April at 2:30pm. You would be welcome to join them if you remember her.

Gift Aid

If you are a Gift Aid Donor, please ensure that Juliette has your email address, so she can email your end of year tax statement. This will help the parish save costs with envelopes and postage. Please email:

ga.westhove@abdiocese.org.uk

Accommodation Needed

In the Portslade or Southwick area. Mature, single female looking for self contained accommodation to rent from the end of March. Practising Catholic and employed. Please contact Amanda at:

abuadi82@gmail.com

**17th March 2024: 5th Sunday of Lent, Year B:
Weekdays: Lent Week 5**

Fr Tony Writes:

Normally in our Sunday readings, the first reading relates clearly to the Gospel. But something different is happening in our Lenten readings. The Old Testament readings are following a narrative of their own. On the first Sunday of Lent we heard of the Covenant with Noah, symbolised by the rainbow. The following week we had the Covenant with Abraham. The third Sunday was the covenant with Moses in the form of the Ten Commandments. Last week we heard of the Exile of Israel because they had broken the Covenant, yet God did not abandon them entirely, but rather brought them back to their own land.

In today's first reading, God, through Jeremiah, speaks of a 'new Covenant'. But what exactly is a 'covenant'? It is an agreement between parties. Its origins lie in treaties between nations in the ancient world. It would include binding promises on both sides. This was a model for the relationship between Israel and God.

This was revolutionary for the period. For in it not only do the Israelites have obligations, so does God! God is committed to maintaining that relationship. Compare that with other religions of the period and region, where gods were capricious characters needing to be appeased!

Yet not only does God bind himself to his people, God remains faithful to his Covenant even when Israel is unfaithful. God constantly seeks to renew that Covenant. And an age is envisaged in today's reading where the Covenant will not be an external agreement, but rather an interior disposition. God's new Covenant is written in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, and sealed with his blood, the 'Blood of the new and eternal Covenant' as the words of the Mass say. So we renew that Covenant every time we come to Mass, and in a particular way when we celebrate Reconciliation. We come to know the God of mercy, who never abandons his people, and is always willing to forgive and renew his relationship with us.

World Day of Prayer

Thank you to all those who attended the service on Friday 1st March at St Michael's, Southwick, and to those that took part. £212.00 was raised.

Catholic School Vacancy

**Headteacher – St John the Baptist Catholic
Primary School, Brighton**

Following the retirement of the current Headteacher, the Governors of this welcoming and popular Catholic school, are seeking to appoint a new Headteacher. The successful candidate will be a practising Catholic, fully committed to developing and enriching the mission of our school. They will have vision, enthusiasm and the ability to motivate others, and a commitment to developing a learning community where everyone is empowered to achieve their personal best. Please see the School website for details:

www.stjohn.brighton-hove.sch.uk/school-information/vacancies



We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. More info: cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/international/countries/ukraine/

Please Pray For...

All who are sick in the parish, particularly:

Canon Colin, Cheryl Evans, Deacon Richard Harvey, and Winifred Wilde.

Those on our regular prayer list including:

Chris & Vince Neal, Eileen Kipling, Eileen McLoughlin, Elizabeth Hopkins and Elizabeth Smith.

Those who have died recently especially:

Patrick McCauley, Martin Siney, and Colette.

As well as those whose anniversaries occur this month.

A full list of sick parishioners and anniversaries can be found on the parish website.

Welcomers

We are in need of a few more welcomers at the 9am Mass at St Theresa's please. We are more than happy for families to do it together, so if you have little ones, don't let that put you off! Equally, if you would like to put yourself forward to be paired up with another volunteer, that would be great too! Please email the office.

Liturgy: Why We Do What We Do: Holy Week

St Theresa's Church, Southwick, Wednesday 20th March at 7:45pm, after 7pm Mass and refreshments, **led by Fr Paul.**

All are welcome.

Reflection & Formation for Ministers of Communion

St George's, Sat 23rd March, 3- 4:45pm

This will include a short talk, a period of adoration, and a session looking at how things are going so far, sorting out any difficulties, guidance on purifying the vessels, and on how to expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration.



Holy Week Events

Parish Penitential Service

With three confessors, at **St Theresa's, Palm Sunday, 24th March, 3pm.** *There is also a penitential service at St Mary's, Preston Park this Friday, 22nd March, at 7:30pm*

Good Friday Walk of Witness

There will also be a Good Friday Ecumenical Walk of Witness in Southwick, starting at **11:30am at the Community Church** and finishing in Southwick Square with a short act of worship led by local clergy including Fr Tony.

Children's Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross for children and their families, followed by Easter craft activities. **St Theresa's, Good Friday, 10am.** Refreshments included! Hot cross buns!

NB. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Weekly Timetable

Sat 16th March	10am—12pm FHC Session 5, St Theresa's 5:15– 5:45pm Confessions, St Peters 6pm Mass, St Peters	
Sun 17th March 5 th Sunday of Lent	9am Mass, St Theresa's <i>With FHC Families</i> 11am Mass, St George's 12pm Music Practice, St George's	<i>All Parishioners</i> <i>Bianca Somaweera RIP</i>
Tues 19th March <i>St Joseph</i>	10am Mass, St George's 7pm Mass, St Theresa's*	
Wed 20th March	7pm Mass, St Theresa's 7:45pm: Talk: <i>Fr Paul</i>	<i>Vocations</i>
Thurs 21st March	10am Mass, St George's <i>Adoration to 10:45</i> 7pm Mass, St Theresa's*	
Fri 22nd March	11am Funeral of Patrick McCauley, St Peter's 7pm Stations of the Cross, St George's 7pm Mass, St Theresa's*	<i>* with Fr Celestine</i>
Sat 23rd March	3pm EM Reflection, St George's 5:15– 5:45pm Confessions, St Peters 6pm Mass, St Peters	
Sun 24th March Palm Sunday	9am Mass, St Theresa's <i>With Children's Liturgy</i> 11am Mass, St George's 12pm Music Practice, St George's 3pm Penitential Service, St Theresa's	<i>All Parishioners</i>

Special Collections 2024

This weekend & Palm Sunday:	Easter flowers*
Good Friday:	The Holy Places
Easter Vigil & Easter Sunday	Easter Offering*
<i>* These can be gift-aided.</i>	(Your gift to Fr Tony)

The Easter Triduum will be held at St George's:

Thu 28th March	Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>Watching until midnight</i>	8pm
Fri 29th March	Commemoration of the Passion	3pm
Sat 30th March	The Easter Vigil	8pm

Parish Giving — Ways to Give

- ◆ By setting up a standing order using these details: Account name: RCD Arundel and Brighton Our Lady Star of the Sea. Sort Code: 40-05-20. Account number: 41076558.
- ◆ By putting a cheque in the collection or sending it to the Parish Office. Make the cheque payable to: *RCD Arundel and Brighton Our Lady Star of the Sea.*
- ◆ Online, by scanning the QR Code.

Remember to add giftaid if you are a UK tax payer.

