

Brighton and Hove Deanery: Western Churches

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

Canon Colin Wolczak, Dom Rod Jones OSB, Canon David Parmiter

Sunday 23rd February 2025, th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C. Weekdays: Week 7, Year I

Canon Colin Writes:

This week's scriptures remind us of the cost of discipleship. Jesus does not ask his disciples to fall in love with their enemies, that would be wholly unrealistic. The followers of Jesus are challenged to be determined about their enemy's welfare, to be stubbornly gracious, and to refuse to pay back violence with violence. Hatred can be defeated only by love; injury can be healed only by forgiveness; evil can be controlled only by goodness. That may not reflect conventional wisdom, but it is Jesus' wisdom in action. It was also David's response to King Saul's aggression. (In the first reading). In his own life Jesus had to work hard at honouring his own ethic. That process was not a painless or bloodless affair: it cost Jesus everything. He offered love first, even though he knew that the return would never measure up to what was offered; he never bargained love for love; he never became involved in stock-taking returns. Above all, he made a habit of confusing his enemies with love. Jesus expects us, his followers, to share the gifts we have received. Love is offered because someone somewhere is shuffling through a loveless life, Mercy is given because someone somewhere is cloistered in his wrongdoing. These are gifts which create worth in another person; they build temples in wasteland; they introduce people to the forgotten geography of paradise; they stop the spread of meanness. Love creates its own reality, its own force for goodness. It enables us, time after time, to refuse the offer of putting a spear through the heart of our sleeping victims.

Coffee

Sacred Heart coffee is available after all 9:30am Sunday Masses, in the Parish Rooms.

St George's & St Theresa's coffee is available after every Sunday Mass at both churches.

St Peter's coffee is available after the 10:00 Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sundays; coffee after 11:30 Sunday Mass every week. If your New Year's resolution is to help out, please let us know. Everyone is welcome.

If you are new or on your own, please ask the organisers who will be happy to introduce you to some new friends.

Weekly events

Sacred Heart Prayer Group: Every Tuesday after Mass at 10:30am, SH Parish Room. All Welcome.

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

All Masses Live Streamed: www.sacredheartrove.org.uk/videos.html

St Georges, 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, 55 Upper North St, BN1 3FH

stmarymagdalenbrighton.blogspot.com brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk

St Peter's, Portland Road, BN3 5GD, 01273 733840, www.stpeters-hove.org.uk hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

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

Mass Schedule

Sat 22nd	Feb	The Chair of St Peter the Apostle
6.00pm †	SH	Mrs Martha Alphonso RIP
6.00	SP	Zorzan & Pierre Families
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 23rd	Feb	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30 am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00	ST	Mary Miller RIP
9.30	SH	Moria & Family
9:30	SMM	
10.00	SP	Private Intention
11.00	SG	All Parishioners
11.00	SMM	
11.30	SH	People of the Parish
11.30	SP	Vera Lucia De Abreu RIP
5.00 pm	SP	Brazilian Mass
5.00	SMM	
Mon 24th	Feb	
10.00 am †	SH	John Clark RIP
Tue 25th	Feb	
10.00 am	SG	Len Pedroza RIP
10.00 am †	SH	Francesco Petraro RIP & Lucia RIP
10.00am	SP	Bernard Gallagher RIP
7.00pm	ST	
Wed 26th	Feb	
8.00am	SH	Keith Simpson
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
7.00pm	ST	Mr & Mrs Lloyd RIP
Thu 27th	Feb	
11.00am	SP	Funeral of Jude Fletcher
10.00am	SG	
12 noon †	SH	Nadine & Family
7.00pm	ST	
Fri 28th	Feb	
8.00 am	SH	Hazel Lumb RIP
10.00	SP	Wellbeing of Jean Murray
7.00pm	ST	
Sat 1st	Mar	St David
12noon	SH	Len Henley RIP
6.00pm †	SH	People of the Parish
6.00	SP	People of the Parish
6.30	SG	
Sun 2nd	Mar	8th Sunday in Ordinary time
8.30 am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00	ST	Bridgette Flaherty RIP
9.30	SH	Bob & Elena's Intentions
9:30	SMM	
10.00	SP	Leonidas Christides RIP
11.00	SG	All Parishioners
11.00	SMM	
11.30	SH	Pierrette Barbara Atallah RIP
11.30	SP	Audrey Fitzgerald RIP
5.00 pm	SP	<i>Brazilian Mass</i>
5.00	SMM	

SH: Sacred Heart; SG: St George's

SMM: St Mary Magdalene's

SP: St Peter's; ST: St Theresa of Lisieux

† Adoration before. ‡ Adoration after

Sacred Heart Rosary Group: Every Monday after 10am Mass (in person) in Lady Chapel, and on Friday's 11am (livestreamed only). All welcome.

Weekly Reconciliation: 5:15-5:45pm before Mass every Saturday at Sacred Heart, and at St Peter's.

St Mary Mags: Sanctuary of Prayer: The church will now be open from 3pm to 6:30pm each Friday afternoon. There will be a 'Holy Hour' with Adoration and Benediction between 5:30 and 6:30pm. You would be most welcome to come and spend a little time with the Lord, joining together in prayer for our deanery, our city and for our own personal intentions. Confession available during the Holy Hour.

Online Prayer Group

Thursdays at 8pm via video-link

A small and informal group, meeting to pray and read the scriptures together. If you'd like to join the group, or just 'come and see' you'd be very welcome. Just send an email to westhove@abdiocese.org.uk and you will receive the link for the meeting.

Regular events

St Peter's Social Group meets in the Hall. Fridays at 1:30pm, you are welcome to join this friendly group for good conversation and some light refreshment.

St Peter's Tai Chi term time, in the hall 10:30-11:30am on Mondays.

Tea and Chat, February 25th

This takes place on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, after the 10am Mass at St George's, offering a time of socialisation and activity, aimed at older people in the parish. No need to book. Just turn up!

Sacred Heart SVP Social Group 27th February

For all parishioners, (run by the Sacred Heart SVP). Soup, sandwiches, tea, and cakes. Entertainment- quizzes etc. At 12:30pm after Mass. All Welcome.

St Peter's UCM (Union of Catholic Mothers)

The Union of Catholic Mothers will not meet Tuesday 18th Feb 2pm as it stops for the half term. It will next meet Tuesday 25th Feb. at 2pm-4pm in the

Hall for refreshments and catch-up. Please come., all are welcome.

Our Lady Star of the Sea SVP Conference Meeting, 20th February, 6pm, St Theresa's

If anyone would like to get involved with our SVP, or learn more, please come to our next meeting, in the meeting room at the back of St Theresa's. All are welcome!

Sacred Heart Film Club 8th March

2025. The film showing will be "Quartet" starring Tom Courtenay, Pauline Collins, Maggie Smith and Billy Connolly as residents of a retirement home for musicians who plan the annual concert.

Refreshments available. Contact Michael Rainbows 07368958076 or David O'Brien 07741416501.



Eucharistic Healing Service

Sunday 2nd March 3pm – 4.15pm. St Mary Magdalen, Upper North Street, Brighton BN1 3FH (parking available on school playground off Spring Street) A time of prayer, reflection and music. Praying for the healing of our families, for those we know in need and for ourselves. All welcome.



Lenten Holy Hour - St Peter's

You are invited to spend time in prayer, face to face with Jesus in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: each Saturday (beginning 8th March) in Lent from 5pm, concluding with Benediction at 5.45 (Mass at 6pm as usual). Jesus is really present in the consecrated host, which is displayed on the altar throughout this time. You can pray with Scripture, the rosary, or simply in your own words as you enjoy His presence. Please pray especially for the pastoral plan and for our collaboration with other communities of faith across Brighton & Hove. The time of prayer concludes with a special blessing called 'Benediction'. Times of Adoration in other Churches are in the newsletter and on their websites.

World Day of Prayer Friday 7th March 2025 at the Community Church,

Southwick, at 2pm. The theme this year is the Cook Islands. All are welcome.

Newsletter by email If you would like to receive a copy to your inbox each week, please email Lisa, SH Parish Secretary:

hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk to be added to the distribution list, this list is for all our churches.

St Peter's Archive

For baptism, or confirmation certificates, please contact the archive team by email:

SaintPeterArchives@gmail.com.

Diocesan News

Assisted Suicide bill

Cardinal Nichols slams "deeply irresponsible" assisted suicide bill

Cardinal Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference and Archbishop of Westminster, has called the way in which the assisted suicide bill is being handled "deeply irresponsible" and a "shambles". Speaking to Christian Fellowship, a group at News UK, the Cardinal expressed serious concern that MPs had only spent a few hours debating assisted suicide, when they spent more than a hundred times longer debating banning fox hunting in 2004.

He said: "I believe it is deeply irresponsible of any government to allow a change of this magnitude to be carried out without due, proper, government-supported parliamentary process".

He added: "I think what's happening, if it came to pass, would be the biggest change that this country has seen for many, many decades at least, probably more. On the back of what – five, six, seven hours' debate? "I was told that the fox hunting bill [in 2004] endured 700 hours of debate." Despite these concerns, he hoped that the bill could still be defeated as it makes it way through the Houses of Parliament: "I don't think that story's over yet."

The Hunting Act 2004 passed after 700 hours of parliamentary debate and a government inquiry – the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) bill, passed on November 29 by 330 to 275 last year after five hours of debate.

Cardinal Nichols added that there was “something deeply lacking in a government that isn’t prepared to guide and sponsor, if it wants to, this process of legal change”.

In October last year, Cardinal Nichols issued a pastoral letter to his diocese, encouraging Catholics to contact their MPs ahead of the debate. In it, he raised concerns “the right to die can become a duty to die”. He said: “Once assisted suicide is approved by the law, a key protection of human life falls away. Pressure mounts on those who are nearing death, from others or even from themselves, to end their life in order to take away a perceived burden of care from their family, for the avoidance of pain, or for the sake of an inheritance”. He added: “The radical change in the law now being proposed risks bringing about for all medical professionals a slow change from a duty to care to a duty to kill.”

Fundraising

Karla’s Curry Evening ESSA Karla is holding her next charity curry evening for ESSA on Saturday 1st March in the Sacred Heart Parish Rooms at 7pm. Come and join us for one of Karla’s delicious Curry’s whilst raising money for such a good cause which is raising money to build homes for those who were victims of the Tsunami. Tickets £15 each available at the back of the church after weekend services, at the Sacred Heart.

Cash4Coins SVP The SVP would like to raise more funds to support some of our projects and one way we can do so is by asking people to donate their leftover, old coins, or holiday currency to the SVP. The scheme is called Cash4Coins. So often after a holiday abroad people have leftover currency which is not used, or they may have old coins and banknotes which are no longer legal tender. The SVP can collect :-

- All foreign coins and banknotes
- Current UK coins and banknotes
- Any old British and Irish money
- Obsolete currency, i.e. pre-decimal

Working with Cash4Coins, a currency service for charities, all the above can be converted into UK legal tender for the benefit of the SVP both locally and to support the wider work of the

Society. There are collection jars at St George’s and St Theresa’s.

Isabella Pyrgies CAFOD My name is Isabella Pyrgies and I was baptised, had my first holy communion and was confirmed in St Peters Church, and I attended Cottesmore St Marys, and Cardinal Newman Catholic School. I am now working for CAFOD in their Latin America team and came to know the work of CAFOD through the Church growing up. I will be running the London Marathon on April 27th 2025, to raise funds for CAFOD and I need to raise a total of £2,000 (I have currently raised £695). As many of you know CAFOD is the international development charity which I work for, and it works internationally in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America aiming to reach those living in poverty. While CAFOD is primarily funded by the Catholic community of England and Wales, CAFOD provides help to religious and non-religious charities alike. You can find the link to my gofundme page for CAFOD here, where you can read a bit more about my story: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/isabella-pyrgies-1725275396580>

Isabella
Pyrgies
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JustGiving
Page



Other News

Gift Aid: Please remember to only use your white envelopes in your own parish and if you wish to donate in another parish, please use the one off envelopes.

Volunteer Cleaners

Sacred Heart is looking for volunteer cleaners to help in the Church every other Friday at 8.30am. If you can do this, please contact the Parish Office who will put in you touch with the right person. Thank you.

Celebrate 2025 For those who may have missed the Celebrate festivals in recent years, see celebratetrust.org for the 'Witness of Hope' family-friendly residential festival in August 2025 at Worth School and give thanks that the gifts of Holy Spirit will continue to move hearts and guide minds in Sussex and beyond.

Have you ever been to Fatima?

Our parish has been chosen as the only church in our Diocese for a visit from the National Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, along with relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco. The day includes a procession, Mass, prayer, veneration of relics, adoration & a video presentation. There will be items for sale, and you are welcome to all or part of the day. Saturday 1st March, 09.45 until 16.45 St Peter’s Church, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5WG. (Tea/coffee available; please bring a packed lunch). Email: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk for more information

Hangleton and West Blatchington Food Bank

If you would like to make a donation this week, we would be very grateful for: Rice, Long life Juice, jars for Pasta Bake, tinned vegetarian meals (eg veg chilli or curry), tinned meat (eg stewed steak, mince & onions). We currently have plenty of pasta, soup, and baked beans so please do not buy us any more.

Please Pray For...Bob & Elena White, Cathy Howes, Marion Shannon, Noah Baker, Rebecca O’Brien, Rex Curd, Sally Harvey, Suzanne Grassie, and Tom Piggins.

Shirley Burrows had a stroke recently and is hospital, please pray for her.

Please tell your parish office if you would like to add someone to this list. Please also pray for all the sick and/or housebound members of our parishes, and all who have died recently, especially:

- Jude Fletcher who’s funeral takes place here at St Peter’s 27 February at 11.00am.
- Michelin Kendall her funeral will be held at St Peter’s on Tuesday 4 March at 11.00am.
- Susan Benyon who died on 29 January at the Martlets and was a member of this parish some time ago, please remember Sue and her family in your prayers. Her funeral will be here at 12.00pm, Friday 21 February.
- Denis Pirie, his funeral will take place at Hove cemetery at 1pm on Thursday 6th March.

**Sunday 23rd February 2025,
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Entrance Antiphon

**O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been
bountiful with me.**

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.

Collect

Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that, always pondering spiritual things,
we may carry out in both word and deed
that which is pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of
the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

In those days: Saul arose and went down to the wilderness of Ziph with three thousand chosen men of Israel to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph. David and Abishai went to the army by night. And there lay Saul sleeping within the encampment, with his spear stuck in the ground at his head, and Abner and the army lay round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'God has given your enemy into your hand this day. Now please let me pin him to the earth with one stroke of the spear, and I will not strike him twice.' But David said to Abishai, 'Do not destroy him, for who can put out his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?' So David took the spear and the jar of water from Saul's head, and they went away. No man saw it or knew it, nor did any awake, for they were all asleep, because a deep sleep from the Lord had

fallen upon them.

Then David went over to the other side and stood far off on the top of the hill, with a great space between them. David said, 'Here is the spear, O king! Let one of the young men come over and take it. The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and his faithfulness, for the Lord gave you into my hand today, and I would not put out my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Response

The Lord is compassionate and gracious.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15: 45-49

Brothers and Sisters: 'The first man Adam became a living being'; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

**A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord,
that you love one another, just as I have loved you.**

Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke Luke 6:27-38

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

'Be merciful, even as your Father is

merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Creed

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,

(all bow during the next three lines)

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.

Prayer over the Offerings

As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord, with the observance that is your due, we humbly ask you, that what we offer to the honour of your majesty may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Communion Antiphon

I will recount all your wonders,
I will rejoice in you and be glad,
and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

Prayer after Communion. Amen

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