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St Richard's of Chichester

The Presbytery, Cawley Road,
Chichester, PO19 1XB

Our Lady of the Assumption

Fairfield Road, Bosham, PO18 8JH

St Peter Church Road,

East Wittering, PO20 8PS

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

& St Wilfrid

12 Church Road, Selsey, PO20 0LS

Our website www.saintsofsussex.com

Regular news and insight:

[instagram.com/saints.of.sussex](https://www.instagram.com/saints.of.sussex)

[facebook.com/saints.of.sussex](https://www.facebook.com/saints.of.sussex)

Online Masses

[youtube.com/c/SaintofSussexParish](https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintofSussexParish)

Safeguarding

Parish checks and training

Sg.chichester@abdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding concerns:

01273 859708

angela.mcgrory@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish bereavement support

Request a callback via the Office

Hall & church availability

[www.saintsofsussex.com/
church-and-hall-availability](http://www.saintsofsussex.com/church-and-hall-availability)

5th Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 10:25-26 *The pagans have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have*

Responsorial Psalm 97 The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10 *Let us love one another, since love comes from God*

Gospel Accl: Alleluia, alleluia! *Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'*
Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:9-17 *You are my friends if you do what I command you*

Bidding prayers: [www.saintsofsussex.com/
intercessions](http://www.saintsofsussex.com/intercessions)

*It can lift you up, never let you down
Take your world and turn it all around
Ever since time nothing's ever been found
That's stronger than love.*

These words are from the song *A Thing Called Love* by Johnny Cash. Of course, Cash was talking about romantic love, but the sentiments can equally be applied to the love of God, in fact even more so. In theological language, this heavenly love is called *agape*. It denotes the highest form of love, a love that is sacrificial and transcendent. By its nature, it is self-giving, an outpouring for others. It is the centre from which all else flows, as the second reading reminds us. *Agape* itself is a Greek word, originally used as an expression of love for the dead, and then it's variant in Hebrew evolved to express love for

another. In scripture, the word crops up in many places, most noticeably, perhaps, in the Sermon on the Mount, and in the Gospel of John, which we listen to as our Gospel this Sunday. It is important to reflect on how Jesus, in this context, does not demand we simply love God or Jesus, just because we feel we owe them something for that love. Rather, the command is that we love one another just as we have been loved. No pressure there then! We all know how hard it can be to love another at the best of times. On a human level, if love can lift us up, it can also dash us against a wall, throw us to the lions, or pit us against the waves. The strange thing is, though, that when we try to love others, a transformation takes place, and this is the clearest evidence of *agape* we can have this side of the grave. We transform ourselves by love, a love that does not see others as simply objects for our desires, our wants, our needs. We love them, because they, like us have come into existence by the breath of love of God. As we begin to prepare for Pentecost, we begin to reflect more on that breath and its power. The first reading tells us the amazing things that can happen when the Holy Spirit comes down on those who invoke and receive him. As Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote:

*And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs —
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.*

Johnny Cash to Gerard Manley Hopkins, that's quite a jump, but the Holy Spirit moves in all kinds of people in all kinds of ways!

Fr David



**Our Lady & the Saints
of Sussex
5th May 2024
6th Sunday of Easter**

PARISH DAY MASS This year our whole parish will celebrate their annual Mass together on **7th July at 11am**. As usual, it will be held on the school field of St Richard's and it will replace the weekend Mass for all other Masses and churches (except the Vigil Mass on Saturday at 6pm)

Please bring a picnic and something to sit on. (Teas and coffees will be served, but food stalls will not be available this year). This is our opportunity to celebrate Mass together as our whole community, and where the children and young people will be awarded with their certificates for First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please consider helping out. We would like people from all churches to contribute where possible, and specific requests for help will follow.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy is taking place this weekend at St Richard's. If your child is in Nursery up to year 3 or 4 and would like to attend, please bring them to the lower parish room before the start of Mass to sign the weekly register (or complete a full registration form if they have not attended before).

At **St Peter's**, children's liturgy is available every week. Your child will be called to join in during mass.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Gerry Burgoyne, a Selsey parishioner, her funeral will be held at St Wilfrid's 17th May 12 noon

Tuesday Discussion Group at Our Lady of the Assumption, Bosham (follows Adoration and 10am Mass). Many people think that the Church opposes happiness, but what is happiness, and what does the evidence show? Join us as we listen to a third talk from the Word on Fire Institute discussing Jesus's teaching and recent sociological research over refreshments, followed by discussion. All most welcome.

Friday Faith Cafe at St Peter's Join us for tea and coffee in the hall after the 10 am Mass next Friday during which we will explore *The First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians: Living the Gospel*. Everyone is very welcome so do come and join us.

Service of Christian Unity Sunday

26th May 2024 - 3pm at St Paul's Church, Chichester, PO19 6FT. Followed by refreshments. This year's theme is of local mission.

Tea for those suffering a loss, Sunday 12th May 3.00pm - 4.30pm at Our Lady Bosham. All parishioners welcome to meet friends from the parish and members of the Ministry of Consolation.

Prayer Service for Vocations We invite you join us for a service of readings, prayer, and music on Thursday 23rd May at 2:30 pm at St Peters to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Refreshments in the hall following the service.

Pop-in Prayers (monthly) at Our Lady of the Assumption, Bosham – Wednesday 8th May at 2.30pm. Join us as we pray with Jesus's words in the Gospel, offer our personal petitions and pray the Rosary. All are welcome – refreshments follow.

Drinks after the 6pm Mass this Week

Please join other parishioners for drinks and a social after the 6pm Vigil Mass at St Richards this Saturday.

Parish Pilgrimage Walsingham 25-27th Sept

Thanks to those who have put their views forward on the proposed pilgrimage in September. Application forms will be out by May 18th. No application can be considered without a deposit securing the booking.

The Sudan Crisis Appeal Thank you all for your generosity last weekend—we will still be collecting this weekend, on behalf of CAFOD in case some of you weren't able to donate last weekend. The war in Sudan has forced millions of people to flee their homes, creating one of the world's largest displacement crises. The situation is desperate and those caught up in the middle of the conflict are facing yet another crisis – hunger. As families fleeing their homes to escape the violence run out of food, water and medicine, the UNCHR reports that, in total, approximately 24.8 million Sudanese (nearly half of the country's population) are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance. Money can be donated via the Dona machines in your churches. Or in a marked envelope in the collection, or via the [CAFOD website](#) (where you can gift aid your donation).

Selsey Men's Breakfast This Saturday 4th May - We meet for breakfast at 09.00 in the Boulevard, Selsey. Be there and bring a friend (or two).

The Monthly EVENT takes place at Our Lady of The Assumption Church, Bosham on the third Thursday of the month and parishioners from all our 4 churches are welcome to come along. It commences at 12.15 with Mass/prayers followed by a lunch of sandwiches/sausage rolls/cake/tea and coffee, including a raffle ticket. The cost is £3 to cover expenses. This is then usually followed by a presentation/talk, quiz or DVD lasting around 30-40 minutes. If mobility is difficult, transport can be provided, if requested.

This month's Event takes place on 16th May, and there will be a Marian presentation by John Hutchings, entitled 'Lovely Lady dressed In Blue.'

Santa Marta Group – Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Presentation – Sat 29 June at St Peter's Hall, Shoreham Places can be booked through the events page on the Diocesan website. If you wish to discuss before booking please contact Tessa Ricketts, tessa.ticketts@abdiocese.org.uk

The Catholic Church's annual Day for Life is on **Sunday 16th June** (in addition to being the Feast Day of St Richard) . The focus this year will be on assisted suicide. Resources to come. See: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>

Cake and Plant Sale Saturday 11 May 10 to 11am at St Richard's Catholic Church, Top Road, Slindon, BN18 0RH in support of Pro Life causes. Everyone welcome, also donations. Please phone Maria on 01903 413606 for collection.

Friends of Fr Chris Ingle are invited to his Ruby Jubilee Mass on Friday, 17th May at 6pm at St Michael's, 19 Hayling Rise, Worthing, West Sussex BN13 3AL. If you would like to attend, please rsvp to Fr Chris on worthing@abdiocese.org.uk. Fr Chris was ordained in Selsey, and his family lived in Sidlesham.

Children's Liturgy training day - Saturday 18 May 10-1pm at the St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley Following on from the success of our previous Children's liturgy training event, we are repeating the day. Please join us for a morning exploring an exciting style of delivering the liturgy of the word for children. Lucy Hall will be demonstrating a hands-on, tactile approach to wondering about the Gospel. Whether you have been working in this ministry for a long time or if you are new, come to be enthused by Lucy and to meet others who share your passion. Please sign up here at: [Liturgy of the Word with Children - Leaders' training \(18-May-2024\) · ChurchSuite Events](#) If you wish to discuss your engagement with this event before booking please contact Katherine Bergin, Diocesan Advisor E: katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk

Oaklands Catholic Secondary School are recruiting a Teacher of Business Studies and a Teacher of Mathematics both starting in September: www.oaklandscatholicschool.org

Allan, Debbie, Suzie and Paula would like to thank all those that were able to attend Pat Ware's funeral. It was heartwarming to see so many familiar faces in the congregation.

Our Parish Offertory

via bank transfer:

Name: Saints of Sussex

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account No: 41076582

Reference: offertory

Via cheque made payable to: Saints of Sussex



Donations by Credit or Debit card

Can be made in person via the terminals in all our churches, or by scanning the QR code above to donate online.

For regular giving by bank standing order and for information on gift aid visit:

www.saintsofsussex.com/regular-giving.html

Our Lady and the Saints of Sussex Offertory collections and other fund raising

Offertory	March 2024
Cash/Cheques/Envelopes	
Our Lady and the Saints of Sussex	£4841
Bankers Orders	£7557
Credit and debit card transactions	£877
Total	£13,275
Gift Aid Rebate	£0

In addition, generous donations in March totalled £695 for the Parish Community Fund, £406 for Sanctuary, £588 for Easter Flowers and £830 for Holy Places. Donations for Ukraine are still very welcome. Please remember to gift aid your donations if you are eligible, they are very valuable to the Parish. Thank you all for your continuing generosity.

Date	Church	Time	online	Mass Intention
Sat 4 th May <i>The English Martyrs</i>	Chichester	8am		In Thanksgiving (Ginu and Mathew)
	Chichester	6pm	✓	People of the Parish
Sun 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter	Witterings	9am		Wellbeing of Tom Govan
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Anurika Fernando RIP
	Selsey	11am		Charlie Wilkins RIP
	Bosham	11.30am		Frances Messenger RIP (Frank & Sally)
	Chichester	6.30pm		Patrick Doocey RIP
Mon 6 th May	Chichester	10am	✓	In Thanksgiving (Ginu and Mathew)
Tues 7 th May	Chichester	8am	✓	For the intentions of Emily
	Bosham	10am		For the intentions of all our parishioners (Susan Line)
Wed 8 th May	Chichester	8am	✓	Kathleen Healy RIP
	Selsey	10am		Ella Hughes RIP
Thur 9 th May Ascension Day	Chichester	8am	✓	In Thanksgiving for Baby Jason
	Chichester	9.05am		SCHOOL MASS
	Witterings	9am		
	Selsey	10am		
	Bosham	7pm		
Fri 10 th May <i>St John of Avila</i>	Chichester	8am		Gerard Considine RIP (McEwan Family)
	Chichester	12 noon		Wedding: Charlotte and Matthew
Sat 11 th May	Chichester	8am		Special intention
	Chichester	6pm	✓	Maurice Pollock RIP (Judy and Gerald)
Sun 12th May 7th Sunday of Easter	Witterings	9am		
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Pat Ware RIP (Marion and Will and Family)
	Selsey	11am		Edmund Hughes RIP
	Bosham	11.30am		People of the Parish
	Chichester	6.30pm		Dr Anthony Eisinger RIP (Clare Apel)

	Confessions	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Bosham	Tues 9.30 – 10am;	Tues 9.30 – 10am,
Chichester	Wed 10-11am & Sat/Sun after Mass	Wed from 8.30am – 8pm
Selsey	Wed 9.30-10am	Mon 9.30-10.30 & Wed 9.30-10am
Witterings	Fri 9.30-10am	Wed 9.00-12noon

Please pray for our sick parishioners: Agnes Martin, Annabel Cottrell, Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Brendan Martin, David Mortby, Denise Turner, Gerald McGregor, Jean Thorpe, Jenny Edwards, Jill Serna, John Partridge, Hilary Huffell, Kinga Buckley, Kitty Hall, Lois Bleasdale, Magda Gallanti, Margaret Beazley, Mary Eveleigh, Max Foresheew, Nell Hassett, Norah Hough, Paul Carney, Fr Peter Johnstone, Ruiyang Xu, Rita Rooke, Roger Cluff, Sheila Lyons, Simon Buckley, Susan Line, Tony Morris, Valerie Davis-White, *Please let the office know of any changes*