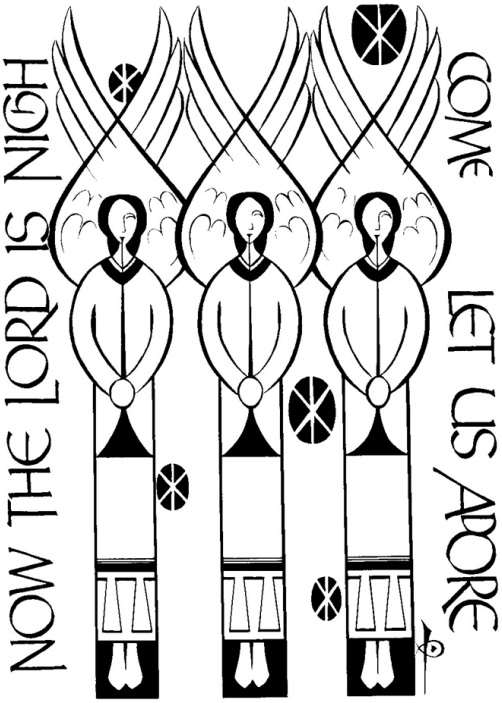
Parish of Our Lady & the Saints of Sussex

25th December 2022
Christmas Day



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Our website www.saintsofsussex.com
Regular news and insight:
instagram.com/saints.of.sussex
facebook.com/saints.of.sussex
Online Masses
youtube.com/c/SaintsofSussexParish
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We look to develop the Catholic faith of the community of Our Lady and the Saints of Sussex, to proclaim the Good News

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ
'BE NOT AFRAID.' A priest once told me what a comfort these words were to him having just heard he was terminally ill. They were words pronounced by Pope St John Paul II in St Peter's Square immediately after his election in 1978. Apparently in the gospels, Jesus uses these words no less than 32 times. They are words we need to hear again and again in our own day, where there are so many causes for fear and anxiety.

Here are some of the fears that come to mind: the ongoing war in Ukraine, the refugee crisis, economic hardship and the cost of living, climate change, global warming with the corresponding lack of commitment from so many of our world leaders and governments; the decline of Christianity and moral values in our western culture, the lack of vocations. It makes depressing reading, while on a more personal level we have additional fears: our sense of inadequacy, fear of failure, fear of losing control, fear of what others may think, fear of being unpopular, and there is always the fear of suffering and death.

It is reassuring, therefore, when experiencing these fears, to know that we are in the best company: Both Mary and Joseph had heard the Angel Gabriel tell them "Do not be afraid". On this great feast of Christmas we are given the REASON why we should not be afraid: that we have a God who loves us so much that He gave his only son to be our Saviour.

May I invite all of you throughout the Christmas season to ensure you spend time each day before the Crib, for it is only in silence and stillness that we can expect the Good News to penetrate our hearts.
"God is with us, do not be afraid."
May God bless you and all your families
Fr Tom

Please pray for our sick parishioners: Adrian Stringer, Agnes Martin, Brian Tyne, David Mortby, David White, Eamonn Hackett, Frank O'Donnell, Gerald McGregor, Gerry Beurgoyne, Jean Thorpe, Jenny Edwards, Jill Serna, Joanne Donoghue, Hilary Huffell, Kay Howlett, Kinga Buckley, Magda and Carlo Gallanti, Margaret Beazley, Mary Eveleigh, Mairad Hardy, Max Foreshew, Michael Cash, Nell Hassett, Nicola and Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Nicola & Rene Coutts, Patrick Hill, Paul Carney, Peter Habgood, Rita Rooke, Roz Davies, Susan Line, Valerie Davis-White, Virginia Maxwell *Please let the office know of any changes*

Weekday Masses at St Richard's.

Due to the very cold weather, all weekday masses will be held in the lower parish room until further notice. The room will be heated with electric heaters. This does mean, however, that we will be unable to stream these masses.

Tuesday Group, 10.30am, Bosham (follows Adoration at 9.30am and 10am Mass). SYNOD DISCUSSION – Following feedback from the Bishops of England & Wales, we are invited to submit our response to three further questions. We will be discussing these on Tuesday 10th January for urgent submission. Questions will be emailed in the new year – if you are not a regular please email christina-darby@virginmedia.com. All most welcome for coffee and friendly exchange of views.

Selsey Adoration and confessions

Adoration and confessions will be held weekly at Selsey from 9.30 - 10am every Monday.

Please pray for the following people of our parish who died last week: Anna Reynolds, Patrick Philo and Raymond Partridge. May they rest in peace.

Heating at St Richards update

The donations to the heating fund now stand at £82,161. A massive thank you to everyone for your continued donations, our final target stands at £165K incl VAT and consultancy fees) so we still need to ask you to be generous. The work on the heating project has started. We now have permanent external access to the roof, and we are very close to having central heating and hot water available for Fr Tom and Fr David in their home. With continued donations we hope to be able to have heat in the church by the end of February 2023.
For full details on the project go to:
Saintsofsussex.com/heating_appeal

Christmas Masses in our Parish

24th December (Mass of Christmas Eve)

5.00pm	Selsey
5.00pm	Bosham (Angels & Shepherds Children's Mass)
9.30pm	Chichester (Carols at 9.30pm, Mass at 10pm)

25th December (Mass of Christmas Day)

9.00am	Witterings
9.30am	Chichester
11.00am	Selsey
11.30am	Bosham

All money from collections on Christmas Eve, Night & Christmas Day go towards the annual income of Fr Tom and Fr David. All your donations can be gift aided using your usual envelopes, the Dona terminals, or the bright yellow ones found at the back of the church. Many thanks for your generosity.

The Crib Collections will be in aid of the Crisis fund for the Catholic Children's Society.

It provides immediate financial support for families facing a crisis in their lives. Parish Priests and Headteachers can apply to this fund on behalf of a family and we will respond within 24 hours. This support can make a huge difference to families in desperate situations when they have nowhere else to turn.

A few admin things…

1. The parish office will be closed from 24th Dec—9th January due to staff holidays
2. The new 2023 Diocesan directories are available. There should be some at the back of each of the churches at £5 each. There will be some spares in the parish office, if you can't get hold of a copy.

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

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	November 2022
Cash/Cheques/Envelopes	
Our Lady of the Assumption	£435
St Peter's	£925
St Richard's	£1,075
St Wilfrid's	£930
Bankers Orders	£7,445
Credit and debit card transactions	£815
Total	**£11,625**
Gift Aid Rebate	**£6,226**

In additions generous donations totalled £608 for the retired Priests' Fund, £354 for the Cathedral Maintenance Fund, £859 for Father Joe and £12.25 for the Education of Future Priests. Donations for Ukraine are still very welcome. Please continue where eligible, to gift aid your offertory and other contributions. Thank you all for your continuing generosity.

Our Parish and the Environment

"The urgent challenge to protect our common home, a concern to bring the Catholic family together to seek sustainable development for a future rooted in the gift that God gave us to care for, Earth." Pope Francis Laudate Si

We are planning three meetings where we will look at our response to Pope Francis' call. We are being asked to change our way of life and over the next few months, I would like to share a journey with one and all to make small changes to improve our ecology, to care for the environments that we call home. *Joe Farrell, Bosham parishioner and PPC Member*

The three sessions are:
Tues 10th Jan St Richard's 7pm - Aims, strategies and implementation. **Tues 7th Feb,** Session led by the Ecological Conversion Group St Richard's 7pm - Expanding horizons as stewards.
Tues 7th Mar St Philip Howard School, Barnham, open to the whole deanery 7pm

These sessions are open to all. If you have even the smallest interest, please do come along. Any queries please contact Joe (joefazz99@gmail.com) or the Parish office

Supporting the Bereaved of our Parish

Thursday 12th January at 10.00am St Peter's church hall for interested parishioners from the 4 churches, setting up a bereavement support group. For queries or more details ring Erna 01243 672374

Adoration at St Richard's On Wednesday 28th December Adoration will be suspended between 11am and 2pm on this day.

School form Signing for St Richard's Primary School 9 Jan 3.15pm In the parish room. Remember to bring a photocopy of the baptism certificate with the form. NB a charge will be made for replacement certificates.

Friday Jan 6th - The Epiphany of the Lord

The masses will be at the following times and places
5th January
7pm Chichester (Vigil Mass)
6th January
9.05am Chichester (Whole School Mass)
10am Witterings
12noon Selsey
7pm Bosham

St Peters Coffee, cake, chat and soup

On the first and third Thursday of the month from 10 till 12, on 5th and 19th January. All welcome suggested donation of £2.

Sunday Jan 8th - The Baptism of the Lord

On Sunday 8th January we warmly welcome all the families of children have been baptised throughout the year to St Richard's 9.30am Mass for a special blessing. And to refreshments afterwards in the lower parish room. At that mass, we also welcome new-born baby Peiris into our church for their baptism.

Sunday Jan 8th - Children's Liturgy St Richard's at the 9.30am mass

Come along with your family to Children's Liturgy at St Richards on Sunday 8th Jan. Join us in the lower parish room before mass, and you will be asked to fill in a form (if you haven't already done this).

Date for your diaries: There will be a **Service of Praise and Worship, 7pm, 31 January**, at St Richard's Church, using the music of Matt Redman, Matt Maher and other contemporary composers in worship of God. We hope to hold these services regularly next year.

Study Day – Saturday 14 January 2023

At Chilworth Abbey by Fr John Seddon OSB of Bishop Barron's 'Catholicism', Episode 5, 'The Indispensable Men' on Saints Peter and Paul. Mass 9am. Presentations and talks 10.15am-3.30pm. Bring a packed lunch and a friend if possible. See the website W: chilworthbenedictines.com for further details.

First Saturday Social Sat 7th Jan

After the 6pm Mass at St Richards we will be having our monthly drinks and nibbles. Do join us if you can.

Masses and services				
Date	**Church**	**Time**	**online**	**Mass Intention**
Sat 24th Dec *Christmas Eve*	Chichester	8am		
	Bosham	5pm		Mass of Christmas Eve - Angels and Shepherds
	Selsey	5pm		Mass of Christmas Eve – Intentions of Luigi Scripariu and family
	Chichester	9.30pm	✓	Mass of Christmas Eve – Mark Lucas RIP
Sun 25th Dec The Nativity of Our Lord	Witterings	9am		Mass of Christmas Day - Bob & Peggy Steele RIP
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Mass of Christmas Day – People of the Parish
	Selsey	11am		Mass of Christmas Day – Thomas Lott RIP
	Bosham	11.30am		Mass of Christmas Day – Pat & Philip Griffin RIP
Mon 26th Dec *St Stephen*	Chichester	10am		For the intentions of Sr. Pat Walsh
	Selsey	10am		Michelle Canny RIP
Tue 27th Dec *St John*	Chichester	8am		Shilpa RIP (Shilja)
	Bosham	10am		Jim Whelehan RIP
Wed 28th Dec *The Holy Innocents*	Chichester	8am		
	Chichester	12 noon		Wedding: Lauren Philips & Joe Eaton *(Adoration suspended between 11-2pm)*
	Chichester	7pm		Michael Shelley RIP (Jean French)
Thur 29th Dec *St Thomas Becket*	Chichester	8am		For Sally Minton's Intentions on her 70th birthday
	Chichester	12.15pm		The wellbeing of Lynette White (M&B Southward)
Fri 30th Dec *The Holy Family*	Chichester	8am		Private intention
	Witterings	10am		Anne-Marie Mclean RIP (Marie McNearney)
Sat 31st Dec	Chichester	8am		In Thanksgiving (Emiteria Cauzerin)
	Chichester	6pm	✓	
Sun 1st Jan Mary Mother of God	Witterings	9am		
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Kathleen & Thomas Richardson RIP (Sue & Pat)
	Selsey	11am		
	Bosham	11.30am		Brendan Walls RIP
	Chichester	6.30pm		People of the Parish
Mon 2nd Jan *Ss Basil & Gregory*	Chichester	10am		
	Selsey	10am		
Tue 3rd Jan *Most Holy Name of Jesus*	Chichester	8am		
	Bosham	10am		
Wed 4th Jan	Chichester	8am		
	Chichester	7pm		
Thur 5th Jan	Chichester	8am		Anurika Fernando RIP
	Chichester	12.15pm		The wellbeing of Lynette White (M&B Southward)
	Chichester	7pm		Vigil Mass Epiphany: Flo Neal RIP
Fri 6th Jan **Epiphany**	Chichester	9.05am		Epiphany Whole school mass
	Witterings	10am		Epiphany: Colin Beech RIP (Marie McNearney)
	Selsey	12noon		Epiphany
	Bosham	7pm		Epiphany

	Confessions	**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
Bosham	Tuesdays 9.25 – 10am	Tuesdays 9.25 – 10am
Chichester	Wed 10-11; 6-7; Sunday 7.15pm	Wednesday 8am-6pm
Selsey	Mondays 9.30-10am	Mondays 9.30-10am
Witterings	Fridays 9.25 – 10am	Wednesdays 9-12

Masses and services				
Date	**Church**	**Time**	**online**	**Mass Intention**
Sat 7th Jan	Chichester	8am		
	Chichester	6pm	✓	
Sun 8th Jan Baptism of the Lord	Witterings	9am		
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Anna Reynolds RIP (Marian and Will)
	Selsey	11am		
	Bosham	11.30am		Gina Poulter (Jane Burch)
	Chichester	6.30pm		People of the Parish
Mon 9th Jan	Chichester	8am		
	Selsey	10am		
	Chichester	12.15		Pam and Michael Dunne RIP
Tue 10th Jan	Chichester	8am		Private Intention
	Bosham	10am		
Wed 11th Jan	Chichester	8am		Eileen Wood RIP
	Chichester	12 noon		
	Chichester	7pm		
Thur 12th Jan *St Aelred of Rivaulx*	Chichester	8am		
	Chichester	12.15pm		In Thanksgiving
Fri 13th Jan	Chichester	8am		Daphne Edwards RIP
	Witterings	10am		
Sat 14th Jan	Chichester	8am		
	Chichester	6pm	✓	
Sun 15th Jan 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	Witterings	9am		
	Chichester	9.30am	✓	Philip Lloyd RIP
	Selsey	11am		
	Bosham	11.30am		
	Chichester	6.30pm		