

## Our Lady & the Saints of Sussex Newsletter 8th Dec (2nd Sunday of Advent)



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**St Richard's of Chichester**

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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](http://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/SaintsofSussexParish](https://www.youtube.com/c/SaintsofSussexParish)

**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)

Bishop Richard's response to The vote in favour of the "Assisted Dying Bill"

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the wake of the vote in Parliament earlier today, in favour of the "Assisted Dying Bill", may I take this opportunity thank all those who have written to MPs in recent weeks, alerting them to the dangers inherent in a vote in favour of the Bill, calling for increased levels of support for resources for palliative care, and for protection for the dignity of every person, at every stage in life.

The passing of this Bill represents a significant and very sad moment in the history of this country, and I ask you all to continue your prayers for those in government. As the statement from the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales states, this Bill is flawed in principle.

There is much that we can do before this Bill becomes law and continuing the call for compassion, proper availability and resourcing for palliative care, proper provision for conscientious objection for medical professionals, and protection for hospices and care homes, will be vital in the months ahead.

Let us keep in prayer all those who will be already feeling fearful as a result of this vote, their loved ones, and all who care for them.

Bishop Richard

**Second Sunday of Advent Year C**

**1st Reading** Baruch 5:1-9

God will show your splendour

**Resp Psalm** 126

What great deeds the Lord worked for us! Indeed, we were glad.

**2nd Reading** Philippians 1:3-6

Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ

**Gospel Accl** Alleluia, Alleluia! Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Luke 3:1-6

All flesh shall see the salvation of God.

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

### **Bambinelli/ Gaudete Sunday, NEXT SUNDAY**

We are inviting you to bring the infant Jesus from your cribs to church on the weekend of Gaudete Sunday. Beginning at the Vigil Mass at St Richard's on the 14<sup>th</sup>, we will bless the figurines. This tradition originates from Rome, and is known as Bambinelli Sunday. The blessing emphasizes the centrality of Christ in the Christmas celebration. It reminds families that the baby Jesus is the true "reason for the season." Bambinelli Sunday encourages families to gather around their nativity scenes at home, uniting them in prayer and reflection as they prepare for the birth of Christ. Celebrated on Gaudete Sunday, which means "Rejoice," Bambinelli Sunday highlights the joy and hope of Christ's coming. The pink candle of the Advent wreath is lit on this day, symbolizing joy amidst the waiting. After the blessing, the figurines are returned home but are not placed in the nativity scene until Christmas Eve, symbolizing the anticipation of Christ's birth. Get your figurines ready, and if you don't have a crib, maybe this would be an ideal time to think about getting one. They don't have to be expensive. You can even make your own.

### **Meeting Point and Parish Ecumenical Carol Service.**

Our annual service of traditional Christmas Carols and readings is at 4pm on Sunday **December 22nd** at Our Lady of the Assumption Bosham. We look forward to being joined by members of all our parish churches as well as fellow Christians from Holy Trinity and the local area. The service will be followed by Mulled wine / soft drinks and mince pies. A retiring collection for Stone Pillow and Voices in Exile.

**Tuesday Group Bosham** Our Lady of the Assumption, Bosham (follows 9.30am Adoration and 10am Mass). Join us as Bishop Barron looks at the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, followed by friendly discussion over refreshments. All very welcome.

**Las Posadas** The figurines of Joseph, Mary and the donkey are ready to go in our parish! We would like volunteers to host them in their homes between **December 15<sup>th</sup> (leaving at the end of the 09:30 Mass at St Richard's),** and returning for the **Vigil Mass (9 pm, St Richard's) on Christmas Eve.** **Anyone** can volunteer, an individual, a household or a family. The first of these to collect them has the responsibility to pass them on to the next family and then onto the next and so on from a rota we will prepare. The final host or hosts has the responsibility of returning them to the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Hopefully, there will be good spread throughout our community. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the parish office. If there is any date you can't do, please let us know when you sign up.

**Rorate Candlelight Masses** A Candlelit Rorate Mass will be celebrated next Thursday (12th Dec) at 7am in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in St. Richard's. If you would like to bring your own candlelit lantern, please do. This will be followed by a simple breakfast in the Lower Parish Room.

**Parish Reconciliation Service** St Richard's Church this Wednesday 11th December at 7pm. All welcome there will also be a number of priests from the deanery here, to also hear individual confessions.

**Christmas Flowers—Second collection—this weekend** Please donate either by cash in the baskets, on the dona machines or online using the QR code in the newsletter. Please give generously to make our churches look fitting for Christmas. We also give thanks to our wonderful flower arrangers in each of our churches.

**Young Adults - Join us** Every Sunday after the evening Mass in the Upper Parish Room at St Richard's. All Young Adults aged 18-30 are welcome. Friendship and fellowship guaranteed.

### **Parish Family Support Fund – Christmas**

For many of us, Christmas is a time of celebration when we are able to gather, feast and buy gifts for those we love. Yet, for some families in our extended parish, it is a time of continued hardship, as they struggle to provide for their children. Over the past five years, the Parish Family Support Fund has supported a large number of families, providing food vouchers and Christmas hampers. We need your continued support. If you are able to make a Christmas contribution to the fund, please do so by: cash or cheque (made payable to Saints of Sussex) in a marked envelope, a bank transfer using the reference 'parish support fund', or via the dona machines or QR code. Thank you for your kindness and generosity which will bring much-needed Christmas joy to others.

**St Richard's Holy Dusters'** next church cleaning session will be at 9.15am on Saturday, 21 December for a special Christmas cleaning session. Come along and help get the church as shiny and bright as possible, for Christmas. It will be a jolly couple of hours of cleaning, with refreshments when needed!

**Harbour Voices Fundraising Concert.** Sat 14th Dec 3-5pm Our Lady of the Assumption An afternoon of uplifting choral music with familiar numbers.

**The Christmas EVENT** - takes place on Thursday 19th December 12.15 at Our Lady of The Assumption Church, Bosham. There will be Mass with Anointing, followed by a Christmas fayre lunch. Entertainment will be a Christmas Quiz compiled by Richard France, a raffle and a special visit by Fr Christmas. Everyone welcome. If you need transport to the Event, please contact Tony on 07941949760 by Tuesday 17 Dec.

**Christmas Community Carols** Thursday 12th December 7-8pm at the Academy School Lane, Selsey, PO20 9EH Organised by all four of the Selsey Churches working together, it is free entry and will include the Seal School Choir, Puppets, Readings and Community Singing. This is a lovely way to start the Christmas season – why not join us.

**Children's Liturgy** at St Richard's 15th December and at St Peter's each week.

**Thursday Lectio Divina small group** Thursdays 7-8.30pm in the Upper Parish Room.

**Bridget Wells RIP** The Requiem Mass will be held on Friday 13th December at 11am at St Peter's.

The December edition of the Catholic Herald can now be purchased from the repository at St Richards

At the 5.30pm Mass on Sunday 8th December we are welcoming members from the Solent Sector of the Teams of Our Lady. **Teams of Our Lady** is an international Christian lay movement that works to enrich married spirituality for couples who seek to live their marriages sacramentally. Fr Sebastian Paul first gathered a group of couples in 2020 and we were supported by a couple from Fareham. We now meet monthly to increase and improve our prayer life, to support each other and to grow closer to God and to each other. Teams traditionally gather to celebrate The Feast of the Immaculate Conception and we are pleased to meet before this Mass to make a formal commitment as team. (Please contact the parish office for contacts if you are interested in this movement).

**Bible Study** Due to next week's Reconciliation Service, our next session will be at 7.30pm on **Wednesday 18th December**. All very welcome

### **Parish Pilgrimage to Knock and County Mayo.**

Following on from Fr David's very successful pilgrimages over the past few years. Next year he will be leading a Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025– 7th March. The cost will be £749.00 pps which includes the flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry. To Book contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email on [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com). You can see an expanded programme on the noticeboards at church, or enquire at the parish office to send you 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



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

| <b>Offertory</b>                          | <b>October 2024</b> |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Cash/Cheques/Envelopes</b>             | £4,633              |
| <b>Bankers Orders</b>                     | £7,595              |
| <b>Credit and debit card transactions</b> | £741                |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>£12969</b>       |
| <b>Gift Aid Rebate</b>                    | <b>£10,283</b>      |

**For details on current income and expenditure go to: [www.saintsofsussex.com/reports](http://www.saintsofsussex.com/reports)**

### **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](http://www.saintsofsussex.com/regular-giving.html)**

In additions generous donations totalled £1426.57 for Missio. Donations for Ukraine are still very welcome. Please also note the significant gift aid sum, which was achieved simply by eligible parishioners gift aiding their offertory and other contributions. Thank you all for your continuing generosity. It is greatly appreciated.

| Date  | Church            | Time          | online | Mass Intention  |
|---|-------------------|---------------|--------|---|
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                       | Chichester        | 8am           | ✓      | Emma Bishop RIP (Joelle Elwes)                                |
|   | Chichester        | 4.15pm        |        | Ordinariate Rite  |
|   | Chichester        | 6pm           | ✓      | Private Intention (Jane Partridge)                            |
| <b>Sun 8<sup>th</sup> Dec</b><br><b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b>  | Witterings        | 9am           |        | Jennifer Lee RIP  |
|   | Chichester        | 9.30am        | ✓      | Marguerite Affleck RIP  |
|   | Selsey            | 11am          |        | People of the Parish  |
|   | Bosham            | 11.30am       |        | Doris Million RIP   |
|   | Chichester        | 12noon        |        | Mass in Polish  |
|   | <b>Chichester</b> | <b>5.30pm</b> |        | Deceased members of the Parayidathil and Mangalathil Families |
| Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                       | Chichester        | 8am           | ✓      | Morning Prayer, rosary and Adoration (no Mass)                |
|   | Chichester        | 12.15pm       |        | Madeleine Crinion RIP (Judy and Gerald)                       |
| Tues 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                     | Chichester        | 8am           | ✓      | Tricia Green RIP  |
|   | Bosham            | 10am          |        | Vanda Dascalopoulos RIP (Margaret and Andrew Dascalopoulos)   |
| Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                      | Chichester        | 8am           | ✓      | Morning Prayer, rosary and Adoration (no Mass)                |
|   | Selsey            | 10am          |        | Holy Souls in Purgatory                                       |
|   | Chichester        | <b>7pm</b>    |        | <b>Reconciliation Service</b>                                 |
| Thur 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                     | Chichester        | <b>7am</b>    |        | <b>Rorate Mass</b> - Special Intention (Kate Siebert)         |
| Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                      | Chichester        | 8am           |        | Intentions of Sr Pat Walsh on her 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday   |
|   | Witterings        | <b>11am</b>   |        | Funeral Mass Bridget Wells                                    |
| Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec                                      | Chichester        | 8am           | ✓      | In Thanksgiving (Emiteria Cauzarin)                           |
|   | Chichester        | 4.15pm        |        | Ordinariate Rite  |
|   | Chichester        | 6pm           | ✓      | In Thanksgiving (Sunny Family)                                |
| <b>Sun 15<sup>th</sup> Dec</b><br><b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> | Witterings        | 9am           |        | Maud Jolly RIP  |
|   | Chichester        | 9.30am        | ✓      | Patrick Doocey RIP  |
|   | Selsey            | 11am          |        | People of the Parish  |
|   | Bosham            | 11.30am       |        | Brendan Walls RIP   |
|   | Chichester        | 12noon        |        | Mass in Polish  |
|   | <b>Chichester</b> | <b>5.30pm</b> |        | InThanksgiving to St Anthony (Thomas Rozario)                 |

|                   | Confessions  | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
|-------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>Bosham</b>     | Tues 9.30 – 10am;  | Tues 9.30 – 10am,                  |
| <b>Chichester</b> | Mon 11.15-12. Wed 6-7 (not this week) & Sat & Sun after Mass | Wed from 8.30am - 1pm & 6– 7pm     |
| <b>Selsey</b>     | Wed 9.30-10am  | Mon 9.30-10.30 & Wed 9.30-10am     |
| <b>Witterings</b> | Fri 9.30-10am  | Wed 9.00-12noon                    |

**Please pray for our sick parishioners:** Agnes Martin, Annabel Cottrell, Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Barry Buck, Brendan Martin, David Mortby, Denise Turner, Gerald McGregor, Jean Thorpe, Jill Serna, Joaquim Fernandes, Josh England, Kinga Buckley, Kitty Hall, Lois Bleasdale, Magda Gallanti, Maria Aldred, Margaret Beazley, Mary Eveleigh, Max Foreshow, Nell Hassett; Nuala O’Callaghan, Paul Carney, Ruiyang Xu, Rita Rooke, Roger Surrage, Sandra Bushell, Simon Buckley, Stephanie Parnell, Susan Line, Tony Morris, Trish Evans, Valerie Davis-White, *Please let the office know of any changes*

**Gluten-Free Hosts** If you require a Gluten-Free host, please advise the Welcomer (or Celebrant if a Welcomer is not available) before Mass begins. These will be placed in a small pyx in the Ciborium, on top of the other hosts. When you approach the Priest for Holy Communion, please ask for ‘Gluten-Free’ and they will hand the unopened pyx to you, saying, ‘The Body of Christ’, in the normal way. This removes the risk of contamination. Once you have responded, ‘Amen’, opened the pyx, and consumed the consecrated Gluten-Free host, please return the pyx to the Celebrant.