



# ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Year A | 11th January 2026

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Parish Clergy: Fr Tristan Cranfield ([tristan.cranfield@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tristan.cranfield@abdiocese.org.uk))

Deacon Tom Murray ([tom.murray@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tom.murray@abdiocese.org.uk))

## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Holy Mass Open to Parishioners and Live-streamed

### 10<sup>th</sup> January – Saturday, Feria after the Epiphany

**10:00am Mass** – For all Holy Souls

*Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction*

**5:15 pm to 5:45 pm** - *Confession*

**6:00 pm Vigil Mass** - Paulose Vithayathil RIP and Devassy  
Kallrakkal RIP

### 11<sup>th</sup> January – Sunday, The Baptism of the Lord (Feast)

**9:15 am Mass** - Pro Populo

**11:15 am Mass** - Laurie Harding RIP (Fourth Anniversary)

**1:45 pm - Polish Mass**

3:30 pm - Baptism of Gianna Sedofia

**5:00 pm - Italian Mass**

### 12<sup>th</sup> January – Monday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 1

**12:00 noon Mass** - Alan Anderson RIP FM

### 13<sup>th</sup> January – Tuesday, St Hilary, Bishop, Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

**NO MASS**

**(9:30 am - Mass at St Gabriel's, Billingshurst)**

**10:30 am to 3:00 pm – Adoration**

*(Pray for Vocations to the Priesthood)*

### 14<sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 1

**NO MASS**

**(12:00 noon - Mass at Our Lady of Consolation and St Francis, West Grinstead)**

**6:00 pm - Polish Adoration**

**7:00 pm - Polish Mass**

### 15<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 1

**12:00 noon Mass** - Mary Gilbert RIP (First Anniversary)

(6:45 pm - Confirmation Programme Session 1 in the Parish Hall)

### 16<sup>th</sup> January – Friday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 1

**12:00 noon Mass** - Cheryl Taylor RIP

*Followed by Confession*

**7:00 pm - Rosary & Adoration**

### 17<sup>th</sup> January – Saturday, St Antony, Abbot (Memorial)

**10:00 am Mass** - Intentions of Helena Kochikkat

*Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction*

1:30 pm - First Holy Communion Programme Session 1

4:00 pm - Silent Prayer

*(Meet upstairs in the Parish Hall for refreshments, then proceed to the Church)*

**5:15 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession**

**6:00 pm Vigil Mass** - Margaret Sherfield RIP

### 18<sup>th</sup> January – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

**9:15 am Mass** - Pro Populo

**11:15 am Mass** - John Collins RIP (First Anniversary)

**1:45 pm - Polish Mass**

**2:45 pm - Syro-Malabar Rite Mass**

**5:00 pm - Italian Mass**

## Useful Contacts

**Horsham Parish Office**  
**01403-253667 - Mon-Fri | 9:00 am - 2:30 pm**

Sue Smith | Colette Rice

### Safeguarding

Michelle Downey - [sg1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Mark Beckett - [sg2.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg2.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)  
Adeline Hawkes - [sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)

### Health & Safety

[hst.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hst.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish Hall Hire

Please inquire at the Parish Office

### Baptism Team

[horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Chair of Parish Finance**  
David Innes | [stjohnsfin@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsfin@gmail.com)

**SVP** PresidentA010810@svp.org.uk  
07765778413

**Bereavement Support**  
Please email [stjhorsham@gmail.com](mailto:stjhorsham@gmail.com) or get in touch with the Parish Office.

**St John's Primary School**  
Finula Farr | 01403-265447

**St Robert Southwell Primary School**  
Helen Connor | 01403252357

**St. Wilfrid's Catholic Comprehensive, Crawley**  
Mike Ferry | 01293 421 421

Our parish relies on  
your generous donations,  
please click or scan here  
to donate.



## Last Week's Collection

**£3,064.24**

(£1,314.24 Offertory;  
£1,750 Standing Orders).

## Second Collection

No Collections

Thank You

You could add 25p to every £1  
you give by joining Gift Aid.

FOR NEWSLETTER ITEMS & ANNOUNCEMENT - PLEASE SEND BY WEDNESDAY 5:00 PM TO

[horsham@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:horsham@abdiocese.org.uk)

## FR TRISTAN WRITES

With the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, another major milestone is reached in what we might call the 'Christmas half' of the Liturgical Year. Centuries ago, this feast used to be one celebration commemorating three events in the Lord's life: the coming of the three Magi, the Baptism, and the miracle at Cana, and there are traces of this fact even in the liturgy of today. Jesus's Baptism in the Jordan is an important moment in His earthly life, because it again is a moment where His true identity as both man and God is 'manifested': that is, displayed to the peoples of the world. The Father's voice is heard proclaiming Him to be the Son, the Beloved, and through faith, as He rises from the water, we come to believe, just as the Magi believed when they saw him manifested to the world in the manger.

The light of faith, which thanks to Jesus's baptism, is also conveyed to us through sacramental washing with water, is greater than the light of the Epiphany star that shone so brightly all those years ago in Bethlehem. It inspires us from within, and shines not in one particular place, but everywhere the Church is present; it shines with the light of the Holy Spirit Himself who comes from the Father, and from the Son, teaching us not only who Jesus is, but how to manifest Him to others. Through this light which changes the direction of our lives, illuminates our conscience, and beautifies our actions, Christ is made visible here. Thus, when we are faithful to the promises of our baptism, we somehow show people the presence and reality of Jesus, God-with-us, and teach the true meaning of Christmas.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GRANDPARENTS GROUP** - The next meeting of the Grandparents group at St John's will take place in the hall on Thursday 15th January starting at 10.15, ending at 11.30.

**SILENT PRAYER** - Are you looking to deepen your prayer experience? You are invited to join us on a journey of exploring silent prayer through the saints of Mount Carmel, including St Therese of Lisieux, St Teresa of Avila, St John of the Cross and St Elizabeth of the Trinity. We will meet upstairs in the Hall at 4pm and then move across to the church and finish at 5.15pm. The first gathering will be on Saturday 17th January. If you have any queries, please contact the office.

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY, SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> TO SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** – Please see the poster at the back of the church for full details of the events being held during this week of prayer. In particular, we would like to encourage you to join the **United Service on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 6pm in St Mary's Church, The Causeway, Horsham RH12 1HE** – this will be led by Fr Tristan and he would love to see as many of St John's parishioners there as possible!

**BURNS NIGHT SUPPER 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY @ 7.30 PM** - Tickets are now available, after all Masses, for this evening. There is no fixed price just a donation on the night. Help would be appreciated on the day from 10.30am to set tables, peel tatties & neeps, catch the Haggis etc. Thank You in advance.

**MARY'S MEALS IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS** - Could you spare a few hours during the year to help? We are looking for parish reps, volunteer speakers (training and support provided!) and volunteers who can help at events. We are very much a volunteer-led movement, so any little you can offer will make a huge difference to the children we serve in some of the world's poorest communities. Please contact Roy Peachey ([roy.peachey@marysmeals.org](mailto:roy.peachey@marysmeals.org) or 07593 447297) if you can help. To find out more about Mary's Meals, please visit [marysmeals.org.uk](http://marysmeals.org.uk). Thank you for your support!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE WORD – Saturday 24 January 2026 11-4pm at St Michael's church, High Salvington , Worthing BN13 3AL.** Led by Bishop Richard and Catherine Christmas, Liturgy and Music Adviser. On the weekend of the [Sunday of the Word of God](#), this day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. There will be a time of Lectio Divina, and the day will conclude with the celebration of Mass. To book a place go to the Events page of the Diocesan website or use this link [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word \(24-Jan-2026\) . ChurchSuite Events](#). If you have any questions about this day, do not hesitate to contact Catherine Christmas at [catherine.christmas@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:catherine.christmas@abdiocese.org.uk).

**WORTH ABBEY PILGRIMS DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026** – Please see the poster at the back of the church. We begin our programme of events in 2026 with a Lent Talk from Abbot Mark on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February**, an event you will not want to miss. Abbot Mark is an exceptional speaker, and the feedback from those who attended his previous talks has been outstanding. **Facing What Is: Lent, Listening, and Hope in a Time of Change. At the beginning of Lent, this Saturday morning of reflection at Worth Abbey draws on the wisdom of the desert and the monastic tradition to explore how Christian faith learns to tell the truth, about ourselves, the Church, and God, without losing hope. Rooted in Scripture and monastic spirituality, this morning invites us to discover Lent not as escape or self-improvement, but as a gentle and faithful way of coming closer to God in a time of change.** The morning will follow the familiar structure of our Lent and Advent talks: 10:30 am – Coffee and registration, 11:00 am – Prompt start for the talk in the Unity Room. After the talk, you are welcome to join us for lunch (available at a small charge), followed by 1:00 pm – Midday Prayer with Abbot Mark and the community. **To reserve your place, please email [kohara@worth.org.uk](mailto:kohara@worth.org.uk) and let us know whether you would like to stay for lunch. For more information visit <https://worthabbey.net/latest-news/>**

**RETRouveille** - helps marriages. It can bring hope and healing to relationships. Next date: 12th February 2026. [www.retrouveille.org.uk](http://www.retrouveille.org.uk) Tel: 07887 296983.

**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS TRAINING – SATURDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2026 10-3PM AT THE ST PHILIP HOWARD CENTRE, CRAWLEY** - One of the challenges that we are experiencing in our modern world is the growing number of people, of all ages, experiencing the darkness and challenge of various mental health conditions. Thanks to the support of Mental Health England, we are able to offer this training, to explore the realities, symptoms and impact of living with these many debilitating conditions. Thanks to the support of the trainer, we are able to highly subsidise the event. Tickets are now £40 per delegate (usual price £120). To register scan the QR code, or go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: [www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events) If you have any questions about this course, do not hesitate to contact Simon South, Marriage & Family Life Adviser at E: [simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk).



**LIVE SIMPLY** “Live simply so others may simply live”

**THE LAUDATO SI MOVEMENT'S THEME FOR 2026 IS 'FROM HOPE TO ACTION.'** We are invited to spend the first days of 2026 in silence, wonder, and attention. To listen to the Word of God in Scripture and to God's gentle voice echoed in creation itself. In soil and water, in mountains and skies, we are reminded that “everything is, as it were, a caress of God” (Laudato Si’, 84). We pray that attentive listening may shape our hearts and guide our actions.

Email [livesimply\\_stjohnshorsham@yahoo.com](mailto:livesimply_stjohnshorsham@yahoo.com)  
with your Live Simply questions and ideas..

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well 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 (Prophet Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)**

Thus says the LORD: Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law.

'I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**R:** The LORD will bless his people with peace.

Ascribe to the LORD, you heavenly powers,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;  
bow down before the LORD, majestic in holiness. **R**

The voice of the LORD upon the waters,  
the LORD on the immensity of waters;  
the voice of the LORD full of power;  
the voice of the LORD full of splendour. **R**

The God of glory thunders;  
in his temple they all cry, 'Glory!'  
The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits as king for ever. **R**

**SECOND READING (Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38)**

In those days: Peter opened his mouth and said: 'Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ — he is Lord of all — you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.'

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia. The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father thundered: 'This is my beloved Son; listen to him'. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL (Matthew 3:13-17)**

The Lord be with you.

**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time: Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptised by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptised by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptised, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord,  
that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your  
children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**LET US PRAY FOR****PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK INCLUDING**

Charlotte Curson, Edwina Slater, Tony Sefton, Baby Ruby,  
Canon Lisa Barnett, Sheila Pike, Bill Hughes, Geraldine Garvley,  
Ashley Elliott, Diana Foley, Robin Sherfield, Helen Daly,  
Pat Danielian, Anne Mullarky, Vilma Marshall, Derek Warwick,  
Carolyn Whitefield, Sheila Budgen, Zoe Keane, Mark Wiesner,  
Brian Harris, Shane Campbell, Laura Rawlinson (Walshe),  
Grace Khushi, Amanda Molloy, Jarad Nunns, Gina Partridge,  
Margaret Georgeson, Jan Davies, and Katrina Sharpe.

**WE PRAY FOR**

Judy Moore RIP and  
ALL HOLY SOULS.

**Other Announcements**

**NEXT WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR PAX CHRISTI  
(not eligible for Diocesan gift aid envelopes).**

**Coffee After 9:15 am Mass Host****The SVP.****Readings for Next Week**

**Reading 1** - Prophet Isaiah 49:3, 5-6  
**Psalm** - Ps 40(39):2, 4ab.7-8a.8b-9.10. R. 8a,9a  
**Reading 2** - First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 1:1-3  
**Gospel** - John 1:29-34