



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A | 26th July 2026

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

Deacon Tom Murray (tom.murray@abdiocese.org.uk)

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Holy Mass Open to Parishioners and Live-streamed

25th July – Saturday, St James, Apostle (Feast)

10:00 am Mass - Intentions for Bennett

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

2:30 pm - Knanaya Mission Mass

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - In Thanksgiving

26th July – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 am Mass - David Brown RIP (First Anniversary)

11:15 am Mass - Pro Populo

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

NO ITALIAN MASS

27th July – Monday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 17

12:00 noon Mass - Joseph Thomas RIP

28th July – Tuesday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 17

NO MASS

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

10:30 am to 3:00 pm - Adoration

29th July – Wednesday, Ss Mary, Martha and Lazarus (Memorial)

NO MASS

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

NO POLISH ADORATION

NO POLISH MASS

30th July – Thursday, St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor (Memorial)

12:00 noon Mass - Maria and Leonardo Borres RIP

31st July – Friday, St Ignatius Loyola, Priest (Memorial)

12:00 noon Mass - Sheelagh Urbanoviez RIP

Followed by Confession

7:00 pm - Rosary & Adoration

1st August – Saturday, St Alphonsus Ligouri, Bishop, Doctor (Memorial)

NO MORNING MASS

NO MORNING CONFESSION

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm - Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Intentions of Joan Sullivan

2nd August – Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:15 am Mass - Norah Hart RIP

11:15 am Mass - Alexander Bleach RIP

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

NO ITALIAN MASS

Useful Contacts

Horsham Parish Office
01403-253667 - Mon-Fri | 9:00 am - 2:30 pm
Sue Smith | Cozette Rice

Safeguarding
Michelle Downey - sg1.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk
Adeline Hawkes - sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Health & Safety
hst.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Hall Hire
Please inquire at the Parish Office

Baptism Team
horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Chair of Parish Finance
David Innes | stjohnsfin@gmail.com
SVP President A010810@svp.org.uk
07765778413

Bereavement Support
Please email 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

£2,854.13

(£1,104.13 Offertory;
£1,750 Standing Orders).

Second Collection

£1,608.08

Thank You

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

PLEASE NOTE: VIDEO RECORDING IS NOT ALLOWED DURING MASS WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION.

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

horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

While many pilgrims from our diocese (including myself and some of our parishioners!) are in Lourdes, we are invited this year to pray along with them to seek the intercession of Our Lady of Lourdes. Since the theme of this year's pilgrimage is the phrase "Hail Mary" (not particularly original, admittedly, but unquestionably valid!) we are invited to pray each day using the famous Catholic prayer of the Angelus, which you can find below. This prayer punctuates the day, and traditionally is said at 6am (or on rising), at noon, and then at 6pm.

St John Paul II said of these devotions: "By repeating the first words the angel addressed to Mary, [the Hail Mary, or *Ave Maria*] leads the faithful to contemplate the mystery of the Incarnation. The Latin word "*Ave*" translates the Greek word "*chaire*": it is an invitation to joy and could be translated "Rejoice" [...] In the "Hail Mary" the Blessed Virgin is called "full of grace" and is thus recognized for the perfection and beauty of her soul.

The phrase "The Lord is with thee" reveals God's special personal relationship with Mary, which fits into the great plan for his covenant with all humanity. Next, the statement "Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus" expresses the fulfilment of the divine plan in the Daughter of Zion's virginal body.

Calling upon "Holy Mary, Mother of God", Christians ask the one who was the immaculate Mother of the Lord by a unique privilege: "Pray for us sinners", and entrust themselves to her at the present moment and at the ultimate moment of death.

The traditional prayer of the "*Angelus*" also invites Christians to meditate on the mystery of the Incarnation, urging them to take Mary as their point of reference at different times of their day in order to imitate her willingness to fulfil the divine plan of salvation. This prayer makes us relive in a way that great event in human history, the Incarnation, to which every "Hail Mary" refers." [General Audience, Wednesday 5th November, 1997]

Let us bring the memory of Jesus' Incarnation - which is to save us - into the nitty-gritty of everyday life. With Mary, we seek His will on our earthly pilgrimage, towards our heavenly home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,
The Lord is with Thee;
Blessed art thou among women,*

*And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God,
Pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death.
Amen*

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done to me according to thy word.

Hail Mary. . .
V. And the Word was made flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary. . .

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray: *Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord,
Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom
the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR CAFOD-UK DEC VENEZUELA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL - You can help our neighbours affected by the 24 June earthquakes in Venezuela with emergency shelter, water and food. CAFOD is already working with local Church partners to support people who have lost their homes, but we need your support to help more survivors. Your donation will provide essential supplies and help families rebuild their lives. You can donate via the baskets or the card machines at the back of the church. You can also donate at cafod.org.uk/Venezuela or call 0300 999 0030 or scan the QR code on the poster at the back of the church. There are also Gift Aid envelopes at the back of the church if you would like to gift aid your donation. Please keep our neighbours in Venezuela in your prayers. Thank you.

CAR PARK CLOSURE - Please note the main Car Park will be **closed** from 6pm on Tuesday 11 August until 8am on Thursday 13 August. This is to allow the parking bays to be relined. We will also be adding markings to show where parking is not allowed. Any questions please contact the Parish Office.

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - is urgently raising funds to replace an ageing classroom hut that will be removed and replaced over the summer. The Diocese has kindly pledged support, but we still need to raise a substantial sum to fund a new modular classroom which is essential to school life. The new space will be much more than a classroom. It will provide structured small-group teaching, a calm room for counselling, dedicated therapy space for occupational therapy and speech & language work, music teaching, and daily lunchtime clubs for children who need extra structure and support. This facility will directly improve wellbeing, learning and inclusion for many of our pupils. If you're able to help, donations can still be made via the card machines at the back of the church or directly to:

Friends of St Johns School, Lloyds Bank

Sort code: 30-94-41

Account number: 00113180

Money is tight for many families, but any gift — large or small — will make a real difference to the children and families of St John's. Thank you for your prayerful and practical support. *Mrs Farr*

SUNDAY 26 JULY IS THE CATHOLIC CHURCH'S SIXTH WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND ELDERLY - So many of us remember with deep fondness our relationship with our grandparents as we grew up. The theme for the day is "I will never forget you (Is 49:15)," What a wonderful opportunity to encourage our youngsters to phone, visit or reach out to their grandparents, "parish" grandparents, or elderly relatives to show their love and affection. The link below takes you to the Pope's full letter for this day of celebration of life, experience, and love. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-06/pope-leo-xiv-for-sixth-world-day-of-grandparents-and-elderly.html> Many parishes have a grandparents' group, but if this is something you would like to know more about or explore, please email Deacon Simon South, Marriage and Family Life Adviser E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk.

SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED FOR COVENANT WITH THE POOR CHARITIES TO SUPPORT - Every year 10% of parish funds are donated to charities. There are 6 charities, 3 local and 3 International, with the funds split between them. This fulfils our pledge under the Covenant with the Poor to "Give to the Poor". Every 3 years the charities are up for renewal. This year the International charities are up for renewal. The process is administered by the Justice and

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Peace Group and we are asking all parishioners if they can recommend British registered international charities who may benefit from such support. It would be best if you or a family member have a direct link to the charity. Thank you.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA, 3RD AUGUST - On Monday 3rd August, we will have the great honour in Horsham of receiving the relics of St Gerard Majella, in the 300th anniversary year of his birth in 1726. Fr Royston Price of the Redemptorists has been touring parishes throughout the country with the relic, for people to venerate and invoke the intercession of St Gerard, who is the **patron saint of children, especially the unborn; expectant mothers; as well as those who suffer false accusations**. The relics will only be with us for one night, so please **join us for Confession and Personal Prayer from 6pm, with Mass at 7pm, followed by Blessings with the Relics. Refreshments will be available in the Hall after Mass – all are welcome**. In the run-up to the 3rd August, please pray this prayer each day, that the event will be a grace-filled time for all of us who need this saint's example and aid: "O Great Saint Gerard, beloved servant of Jesus Christ, perfect imitator of your meek and humble Savior, and devoted Child of the Mother of God: enkindle within my heart one spark of that heavenly fire of charity which glowed in your heart and made you an angel of love. O glorious Saint Gerard, because when falsely accused of crime, you did bear, like your Divine master, without murmur or complaint, the calumnies of wicked men, you have been raised up by God as the Patron and Protector of expectant mothers. Amen."

BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ - The next meeting of our Bereavement Cafe will take place in the Parish Hall on Saturday 8th August, from 11am. Please do mention this to people you know who may benefit from an informal chat over tea and coffee. There are leaflets at the back of the church with more information.

PAX CHRISTI FILM - You can sign up here <https://www.anordinaryinsanity.com/> for a film detailing the current threat to humanity of nuclear weapons and how we can reduce this threat.

THE TODDLER GROUP – has now broken up for the summer. Its next meeting will be on Wednesday 9th September.

A PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL AND SPAIN - Justyna Nowak, a Lewes parishioner, is organising a pilgrimage to Portugal and Spain 'in the footsteps of the Fatima apparitions and the life of the visionary, Sister Lúcia dos Santos'. Justyna is keen to open up the pilgrimage to any Horsham parishioners who might be interested. The group will fly from London Gatwick to Porto on 8 September, visit Braga, Santiago de Compostela, Pontevedra, Viana do Castelo, Fatima, Coimbra, Sintra, Cabo da Roca, Cascais, and fly back to the UK from Lisbon on 15 September. The cost of the pilgrimage is £1400 per person, which includes flights, half-board in 4* hotels, guides, transfers, and planned excursions. For further details and/or to book a place (limited to 25 pilgrims), please contact Justyna by emailing her via justyna.majk@outlook.com or by calling her on 07480241142.

✿ **YOUTH CLUB – COME AND BE PART OF SOMETHING NEW!** ✿ - We were delighted to see such enthusiasm and fantastic ideas at our first youth session at the parish! Those who attended shared what they would love to explore in a new Youth Club, including Bible studies, catechism, open debates, discussions on today's challenges, and even diving deeper into how we can understand and defend our faith through science and reason. It was truly inspiring to hear such thoughtful, curious and motivated voices from the young people in our parish. If you're in secondary school or aged 16–22 (and let's be fair—no older than 22! 😊), we'd love to hear from you. If you're older, don't worry—you can still join us as a helper and support the group. We're planning to launch on **18 September**, and will then meet **fortnightly during term time from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm**. More than anything, we want to create a welcoming community where friendships grow, faith deepens, questions can be explored freely, and everyone feels they belong. **Register your interest via this link www.shorturl.at/2ocEs (or you can get in touch via our parish office)**, and we'll be in touch with more details. Come along and be part of this exciting new chapter for the young people of our parish! 🙏 ✨

TURNING TIDES 'MAKING A MEAL FOR HARVEST' APPEAL – The "Making a Meal for Harvest" appeal calls on schools, churches, businesses and residents to help Turning Tides 'swell the shelves' at their Donations Hub. Their Harvest appeal aims to fill their shelves so they can feed hundreds of people throughout the year who haven't got a place to call home. Last year Turning Tides supported **978 people** experiencing homelessness in West Sussex alone, many of whom face significant barriers to stay nourished and hydrated. Their community hubs and outreach teams provide food for people rough sleeping and their supported residential services house around 250 people each year, who are waiting to find permanent accommodation. Moira Gardner, Donations Officer at Turning Tides, said: "We're asking people to think about how hard it would be to create a nutritious meal using only tinned and packaged food – without access to a cooker, kettle or even basic kitchen utensils. That's the reality for many people we support." Please see the poster at the back of the church for more information on how, and what, to donate or follow this link [Harvest Appeal | Turning Tides](#).

THE EPISCOPAL ORDINATION OF BISHOP-ELECT STEPHEN and "STATIONAL MASS" - The Episcopal Ordination of our Bishop-Elect will be celebrated in Arundel Cathedral at 12 noon on Monday 19 October, the Solemnity of Saint Philip Howard. Admission to the Cathedral will, necessarily, be by ticket only, and arrangements for that will be sent out in due course, once the guest list has been finalised. The event will be livestreamed but, recognising that the numbers will be limited for the Ordination, and wanting to meet as many people as possible soon after that day, our new Bishop will celebrate Mass at Worth Abbey at 11.30am on Saturday 24 October. Numbers for this will again be limited, and details about allocation will be published by the Diocese in due course.

PRAYER FOR OUR BISHOP-ELECT

'O God, eternal and loving Shepherd, we bless and thank you for the appointment of your servant, Stephen, to our Diocese of Arundel and Brighton.
May your Holy Spirit grace him with a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety, so that he may gently and courageously sanctify, teach and govern the Church of Arundel and Brighton as we work together to build up the kingdom of heaven.
May he be a shepherd after your own heart, who, with compassion and wise discernment, will care for and lead your people with the joy of the Gospel.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.'

LIVE SIMPLY "Live simply so others may simply live"

PLASTIC FREE JULY - Plastic Free July has one more week to run. So there's still time to think about your use of plastic and whether you can refuse it or reduce it. For example, use soap bars instead of liquid soap, and make use of refill services where available. Try the Green Hub for this. Where you have to use plastic, recycle what you can in your home recycling bin and take plastic bags and packaging to local supermarket recycling facilities.

Visit www.plasticfreejuly.org/ for more ideas.

Email livesimply_stjohnshorsham@yahoo.com with your Live Simply questions and ideas.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

THE COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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 (First Book of Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12)

In those days: The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.' And Solomon said, 'O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life, or riches, or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: O LORD, how I love your law!

You, O LORD, are my portion;
I have promised to obey your words.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than large quantities of silver and gold. **R**

Let your merciful love console me
by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight. **R**

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways. **R**

Your decrees are wonderful indeed;
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple. **R**

SECOND READING (Letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:28-30)

Brothers and Sisters: We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.

GOSPEL (Matthew 13:44-52)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glorify to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to the crowd: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into vessels but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

'Have you understood all these things?' They said to him, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

LET US PRAY FOR

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK INCLUDING

Alexandra Cherriman, Dave Wilson, Paul Wycliffe, Charlotte Curson, Edwina Slater, Tony Sefton, Baby Ruby, Sheila Pike, Bill Hughes, Geraldine Garvley, Ashley Elliott, Robin Sherfield, Pat Danielian, Anne Mullarky, Vilma Marshall, 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, Alan Frendo-Cumbo, and Katrina Sharpe.

WE PRAY FOR

Simone Westbrook RIP, Norah (Ruth) Steele RIP
and ALL HOLY SOULS.

COLLECTIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR THE
CAFOD-DEC VENEZUELA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**
(not eligible for Diocesan Gift Aid envelopes).

COFFEE AFTER 9:15 AM MASS HOST

FOR PARISH FUNDS.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Reading 1 - Prophet Isaiah 55:1-3

Psalm - Ps 145(144): 8-9.15-16.17-18. R. cf.16

Reading 2 - Letter of St Paul to the Romans 8:35, 37-39

Gospel - Matthew 14:13-21