



ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, HORSHAM PARISH NEWSLETTER

First Sunday of Advent, Year A | 30th November 2025

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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

29th November – Saturday, Feria in Ordinary Time, Week 34

10:00 am Mass - Patsy Morrow RIP

NO CONFESSION, ADORATION & BENEDICTION

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm – Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Sean Doyle RIP

30th November – First Sunday of Advent, Year A

9:15 am Mass - Mrs Mary Jones RIP

11:15 am Mass - Pro Populo

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

5:00 pm - Italian Mass

1st December – Monday of the First Week in Advent

12:00 noon Mass - Graciano Felicidad RIP & Maximino Mamerta RIP

2nd December – Tuesday of the First Week in Advent

N.B. 7:00am 'Rorate' Mass – Intentions of Haydee Bravo

(Followed by breakfast in the Hall)

10:30 am to 3:00 pm - Adoration

(Pray for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan)

3rd December – Wednesday, St Francis Xavier, Priest (Memorial)

NO MASS

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

NO POLISH ADORATION

NO POLISH MASS

4th December – Thursday, St John Damascene, Priest, Doctor

(Memorial)

12:00 noon Requiem Mass for Vic Tompkins RIP

5th December – Friday of the First Week in Advent

12:00 noon Mass - Deceased Members of the Bostock & Odillo

Maher Families RIP FM

Followed by Confession

4:30 pm - Polish Adoration

5:00 pm - Polish Mass

7:00 pm - St John's Eucharistic Forum Adoration

(Followed by Conversations in the Spirit in the Parish Hall)

6th December – Saturday, St Nicholas, Bishop (Memorial)

10:00 am Mass - In Thanksgiving for Benita Benz

Followed by Confession, Adoration & Benediction

NO SIGNED MASS

2:30 pm - St John's Eucharistic Forum Adoration

(Followed by Conversations in the Spirit in the Parish Hall)

5:15 pm to 5:45 pm – Confession

6:00 pm Vigil Mass – Enrique Salonga RIP (First Anniversary)

7th December – Second Sunday of Advent

9:15 am Mass - Anna Smith RIP

11:15 am Mass - In Thanksgiving for 25th Wedding Anniversary for Shibu and Femina

(including Rite of Welcome for the Recently Baptised)

1:45 pm - Polish Mass

3:00 pm - Family Come and Sing Carols (in the Parish Hall)

5:00 pm - 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

Mark Beckett - sg2.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Adeline Hawkes - sg3.horsham@abdiocese.org.uk

Health & Safety

hst1.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

Last Week's Collection

£2,612.42

(£862.42 Offertory;
£1,750 Standing Orders).

Second Collection

£625.51

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

Welcome to Advent! We welcome the Coming of Christ in Advent - and in our Eucharistic Forum, our thoughts will turn to how we can welcome one another to our church. Please sign up to take part, and pray for a greater welcome in our church, particularly for those who will be joining us at Christmas - that they may see Christ in us, His people.

"Drop down dew, you heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the Just One!" (Isaiah 48:5) These words are heavily associated with the wonderful season we are now entering. The Latin word *rorate* (meaning "drop dew!") gives its name to a special kind of Mass we will be celebrating on **Tuesdays at 7am** here at St John the Evangelist during Advent. Popular in many countries (including Poland and the Philippines), the Rorate Mass is a celebration of a Mass honouring Our Lady that takes place close to dawn. Farmers would come with their families before setting out for the fields, or returning from milking, the church in darkness except for the many candles burning about the place and in the people's hands. The peaceful Mass evokes the light of Christ gently entering the darkness of the world, in the womb of Mary, before His revealing at Christmas. Furthermore, as at Mass on most occasions, both priest and people would turn eastwards together, facing the direction of the rising sun and mirroring the words of the Scripture "Look toward the east, O Jerusalem, and see the joy that is coming to you from God!" (Baruch 4:36) Jesus is described in many places as the *Oriens*, or 'Rising One' (cf Zach 6:12; Lk 1:78), or 'Sun of Justice' (cf Mal 4:2). His Advent is the coming of Day against the long Night of God's people waiting for salvation. All of us, in our human condition, cry out in the darkness for His truth, justice and peace, and thus we pray for Him to come soon.

Christ welcomes you too. Come to a Rorate Mass and experience this beautiful and peaceful way to begin your own Advent day, holding the candle you will be given, or, as I have seen European children do, bringing a coloured lantern. We will all pray together to the Father to 'rain down' His grace into our lives, as His Son, who came and will come again, already bursts into the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT IS HERE!

- Candlelit '**RORATE' MASSES** will take place on the **first three TUESDAYS of ADVENT** starting 2nd December at **7am**. **Please note the earlier start time.** The Mass will take no more than 30 minutes and be followed by breakfast served in Hall, so people have time to get to school and work afterwards. All are welcome to join us for this beautiful way to mark the Advent season.
- **ADVENT RECONCILIATION** - Advent is a good time to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so that, as He cleanses from the sin with which we all too often reject Him, we can welcome Him anew to be born into our hearts at Christmas, just as Mary, Joseph and the shepherds welcomed His birth into the world. **Canon Tim Madeley will be hearing Confessions here on Saturday 13th December from 10.30am.** Additional Advent times in our soon-to-be parish communities are:
 - HENFIELD – Monday, 8th December at 7.00pm (Fr Hugh)
 - WEST GRINSTEAD – Friday, 12th December at 7.00pm (Canon Tim & Fr Tristan)
 - BILLINGSHURST – Saturday, 13th December at 10.00am (Fr Tristan)
 - CRAWLEY – Friday, 19th December at 6.00pm (Fr Nelson, Fr Anthony, Fr Peter, Fr Joachim, Fr Tristan)
 - CRAWLEY – Saturday, 20th December at 10.30am (Fr Nelson, Fr Anthony, Fr Peter, Fr Joachim)
 - WORTH ABBEY – Monday, 22nd December at 7.30pm (Priests of the Benedictine community)
- **FAMILY COME AND SING CAROLS** - As we journey through Advent and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ at Christmas, we warmly invite you to our **Family Come and Sing Carols** event on **Sunday 7th December at 3pm in the Parish Hall**. Gather around the piano to sing favourite carols, with Advent-themed crafts for the children. We'd love it if you could bring a little something festive—like mince pies, cake, or mulled wine—to share. If you play an instrument, you're welcome to bring it along and join in the music-making. Let us come together as a parish community in joyful anticipation of Christmas.
- **'GAUDETE' SUNDAY, 14TH DECEMBER** – Please remember to **bring your crib figures and Nativity sets to Mass** on the weekend of 13th and 14th December, when they will be blessed at the end of all Masses. You will also be able to pick up some blessed straw on your way out of Church, for placing in your home Nativity scenes.

CAR PARK RENEWALS 2025/26 - Car parking Renewals for 2025-2026 are now due. This year's parking subscriptions for 1st Nov 2025 – 31st October 2026 are: £135 Short Term Carpark – 3 Hours; £405 Long Term Carpark – All day. Renewals can be made using the following link <https://www.stjohnshorsham.com/car-parking>. We would encourage those that do not have access to the internet to get family or close friends to help with the renewals, as the Parish Office is not involved in this process. Once we have an idea of the number of renewals, any registered parishioner who is interested in obtaining a fob, may be put onto a waiting list, which will be held by the parish office.

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP TALK – Today, Sunday 30th November 2025, St John the Evangelist Justice and Peace Group are hosting a talk by Edmund Adamus from Palestinian Christian charity Friends of the Holy Land. All are welcome! The hall will be open from

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12.30pm for teas and coffees and cake with the main talk starting between 13.00pm and 13.30pm. Parking may be limited on the day so please park in Swan Walk car park 7-8 minutes' walk from St John's.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND – Today, Sunday 30 November, Edmund Adamus of Friends of the Holy Land, will visit our parish and speak about the work of the Friends and the difference it makes to the small Christian population in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza (Palestine) and Jordan. There will be a retiring collection and they will bring some leaflets/newsletters about the work of FHL. For more information, visit www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR CHRISTMAS MASSES – There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the Church, for Sacristans, Co-ordinators, Welcomers, Readers, Offertory Collectors and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you are able to assist at any of our Christmas Masses, please add your name to the sheet, **by Sunday 7th December**. Thank you so much for your help with these important ministries.

SIGNING OF SCHOOL FORMS – Fr Tristan will be available on Monday 8th and Monday 15th December, between 4:30pm and 5:30pm, to sign Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) for 2026/27 admissions to St John's and to St Robert Southwell primary schools. There is no need to make an appointment – please just come along to the Parish Office and bring the completed form, together with a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate, with you.

VIDEOGRAPHY/RECORDING IN CHURCH - It has come to our attention that certain people have been filming/streaming during Mass on their phones; please be aware this is **not** permitted under safeguarding regulations.

SVP ADVENT SOUP LUNCHESES - The SVP would like to invite you to our Soup Lunches in the Parish Hall from 12.00-1.30 on Wednesday 3rd, 10th and 17th December. Any money donated will again go to SVP projects in South Sudan.

FAIRTRADE - There will be a Fairtrade stall in the Hall after 9:15am Mass on Sunday November 30th selling Christmas cards and gifts.

LAST CHANCE TO APPLY FOR 2026 CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME – Please note that the **closing date for applications is this coming Friday, 5th December**. You can pick up an Application Form from Fr Tristan. Completed forms, with supporting documents, must be with the Parish Office by 2:30pm on Friday 5th December. Late applications will not be accepted.

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.

THE COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM - seeks help to purchase a property to accommodate their growing community and further their apostolates of prayer, parish missions, hospitality, chaplaincy and youth work. Any amount, large or small is greatly appreciated and the community assure you of their prayers. Cheques payable to **COLW** can be sent to *House of the Divine Will, Neatherd Moor, Dereham, NR20 4AZ*. More information, as well as the option to donate online, can be found at: www.maryshouseappeal.org E: office@walsinghamcommunity.org T: 01362 692574.

YOU'RE INVITED! JOIN US FOR THE INAUGURAL ST JOHN'S EUCHARISTIC FORUM - Together, we'll reflect and discuss how we can grow as a parish that truly shares Christ's love. We'll gather in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, spending 30 minutes in Adoration to prepare our hearts, before entering into conversations in the Spirit on our Advent theme: "Welcome". Come along on **Friday 5th December (7-9 pm)** or **Saturday 6th December (2:30-4:30 pm)**. Everyone is welcome. **CHOOSE FROM 3 EASY WAYS TO SIGN UP:** 1) Scan the QR code using your smartphone camera; 2) Visit www.tinyurl.com/stjohnsEF; 3) Use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex or contact the Parish Office.



LIVE SIMPLY "Live simply so others may simply live"

COP30 ENDS - COP30, the UN's Climate Change Conference, has come to a close. Sadly with limited results. The conference did not agree the funding levels required for low income countries to adapt to the devastating impact of our changing climate. However, there was progress on agreeing a "just transition mechanism" to ensure that countries can shift away from fossil fuels and towards a greener future in a fair and democratic way. Read CAFOD's summary of COP30 here: <https://cafod.org.uk/news/campaigning-news/cop30-ends>.

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

THE COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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 2:1-5)

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Sion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.
As it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R**

For the peace of Jerusalem pray,
'May they prosper, those who love you.'
May peace abide in your walls,
and security be in your towers. **R**

For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, 'Peace upon you.'
For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will seek good things for you. **R**

SECOND READING (Letter of St Paul to the Romans 13:11-14a)

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia. Show us, O LORD, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.

GOSPEL (Matthew 24:37-44)

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore, you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

LET US PRAY FOR

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK INCLUDING

Edwina Slater, Tony Sefton, Baby Ruby, Canon Lisa Barnett,
Sheila Pike, Bill Hughes, Geraldine Garvley,
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

Patricia Cole RIP, Vic Tompkins RIP and ALL HOLY SOULS.

Collection Notice

THIS WEEKEND'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND

(not eligible for Diocesan gift-aid envelopes).

Next weekend's Second Collection is for Flowers for Christmas

(not eligible for Diocesan gift-aid envelopes).

Coffee After 9:15 am Mass Host

GRANDPARENTS' GROUP.

Readings for Next Week

Reading 1 - Prophet Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalm - Ps 72(71):1-2.7-8.12-13.17. R. cf.7

Reading 2 - Letter of St Paul to the Romans 15:4-9

Gospel - Matthew 3:1-12