

St Joseph's Catholic Church
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Parish Priest: Fr Ian Vane ian.vane@abdiocese.org.uk Parish Office: dorking@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish office hours are 10.15 am until 2 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Friday.

The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity, Number 252878.

August 2025

Saturday 16th Weekday

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Saturday Evening Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

6.00 Celebrant's Int

Sunday 17th TWENTIETH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

8.00 People of the Parish

10.00 Celebrant's Int

Monday 18th Weekday

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Tuesday 19th Weekday

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Wednesday 20th Mem. St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Thursday 21st Mem. St. Pius X, Pope

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Friday 22nd Mem. The Queenship of Mary

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Saturday 23rd Weekday

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Saturday Evening Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time

6.00 Celebrant's Int

Sunday 24th TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

8.00 People of the Parish

10.00 Celebrant's Int

The Sacrament of Reconciliation / Confession

is available after the Saturday morning Mass and from 5.15 to 5.45 Saturday afternoon.

Each Saturday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & the Rosary follow on from Mass until 11.00 am

ROSARY CIRCLE FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS:- As we enter into the month of August there is a new 'Rosary Circle Chart' on the noticeboard, to encourage us all to pray for vocations to the Priesthood.

The 'Chart' lists the 20 decades of the Rosary and a number of columns for people to put their initial or a tick in a box to indicate they will commit to praying the particular decade each day for the month of August, and hopefully, this will create a number of 'circles' praying for this intention. This is a very simple spiritual exercise many of us could join in with; at least 20 people praying one decade of the Rosary each day, so the whole of the Rosary is prayed for this particular intention, thus creating a 'Rosary Circle'. Let it be said, however, that anyone can join the Rosary Circles at any time.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2025 /2026:- Application forms for next year's respective programmes are available at the entrances to the church. If you have a child in year 3 or above (First Holy Communion) or in year 9 or above, (Confirmation) then, **provided that you and your children are in regular attendance at Mass you and they will be able to join the programmes.** The deadline for returning application forms is mid-night pm on Sunday 5th October 2025, once this deadline has expired for both programmes, no child will be accepted onto either the First Holy Communion or Confirmation programme until the following year, 2026/2027.

If you know of families where children and young people should be preparing for these sacraments, PLEASE encourage them to be coming along to Mass and practicing their faith.

First Holy Communion catechist for 2025/26:- We need at least two people to help as catechist for First Holy Communion for the next academic year; a weekly commitment from late October to June is required to help our children to prepare for this wonderful Sacrament. If you are willing and able to help, please speak to Fr. Ian

IF YOU NEED A PRIEST URGENTLY please contact St. Joseph's, Epsom on 01372 723573 or St. Michael's, Ashstead on 01372 272267.

Diocesan Festival of Hope at Ardingly Showground on 20th Sept 2025: Firstly, celebrating the Jubilee Year of Hope designated by the late Pope Francis, secondly the 60th anniversary of the Diocese, and thirdly our renewed call to mission as laid out in Bishop Richard's Pastoral Plan.

As a parish we have been allocated 12 tickets for the event, coach transport is being organised so that people are collected and dropped back locally, anyone under the age of 18 is to be accompanied by an adult who will take responsibility for them across the day. If you would like to attend, mindful of the small number of tickets, please speak to Fr. Ian, who will be able to advise further.

Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill:- There are reports that the Bill will begin scrutiny in the House of Lords on September 12th. Baroness Hollins, President of the Catholic Union, has, from the outset, urged everyone to engage with their local representatives, community and media on this issue.

Amongst other things, the Catholic Union have provided [21 suggested points](#) to put in your own words in letters to your local newspaper, or newsletters of organisations that you belong to.

To give you some idea of the suggested points, this is point 5, by way of an example:

"5. Do we really want this in our NHS? This Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill mandates the creation of free of charge "Voluntary Assisted Dying Services" in England and Wales, while palliative care is still not properly funded or available to many dying patients."

Do have a look at the document and use it to write to members of the House of Lords, engage with those whom you know and do all you can to prevent the Bill from succeeding. (See: [21 Questions by the Catholic Union 2.08.25.pdf](#))

As this Bill has progressed, one notices there has been an increased agitation and silencing of Christian voices contributing to 'the public discussion' and at the same time, the family as the fundamental unit of society as well as any stand for traditional marriage, that is, between a man and a woman, has come under increasing attack. (See:- [Coalition For Marriage Home - Christian Concern](#) and [CitizenGO](#))

We cannot be silent in the face of these things, so by prayer, engagement and example we can and should do all we can to promote a Christian society. Just look at the Latin text on any UK coinage, whereby, the Monarch, as Supreme Governor of the Church of England is 'Defender of the (Christian) Faith'. If the Christian basis and roots of our society are not to be eroded, we cannot be silent. 'Bad things happen when good people do nothing.'

WELCOME TO ALL OUR VISITORS Bienvenue à tous nos visiteurs **Willkommen an alle unsere Besucher** Maligayang pagdating sa lahat ng aming mga bisita Witamy wszystkich naszych gości **Dobrodošli na vse naše obiskovalce** Bienvenidos a todos nuestros visitantes Ласкаво просимо всім нашим відвідувачам Benvenuti a tutti nostri visitatori **Caed mile failthe**

MASS INTENTIONS AND STIPENDS:- Every now and again the question about Mass intentions comes up in regard to having a Mass for a particular intention, e.g. the repose of someone's soul, a person's health or well-being, thanksgiving etc.

Priest are allowed to celebrate one Mass each day for a particular intention, such as those mentioned above, however it must be stressed that we cannot 'buy' a Mass! Remember, that the Mass, the Holy Eucharist, is the unbloody sacrifice of Christ upon the Cross, Jesus offers Himself to God the Father on our behalf; through the action of the Mass He unites us to our Heavenly Father especially through Holy Communion, the Mass then, is the perfect prayer of the Church and is not something we can 'buy'.

The 'Mass Stipend' or 'Mass Offering' is a gift to the priest, (normally financial) when a particular intention is requested, its roots are in the Old Testament and the Levitical priesthood. The tribe of Levi, were set aside by God through Moses to administer the Tent of Meeting which later became the Temple in Jerusalem. The Tent of Meeting / Temple was the place of the Holy of Holies which contained the Ark of the Covenant; it was here that the Levites served God on behalf of His people, they were 'set aside' for such work.

Part of the priestly work was to offer sacrifices to God, and the priests were allowed to take certain parts of the sacrificial animals so as to sustain themselves and their family (see Dt 18:1-8). In the same way, if we would like a Mass for a particular intention, we can always put details on a 'Mass Intentions' envelope (available at the back of the church) with an offering, and hand it to Fr. Ian or put it through the presbytery letter box. The financial offering, or 'Mass Stipend' is a personal gift to the priest and helps, as its roots suggest, in sustaining the priest personally for a day.

Act of Faith

My God, I believe in you and all your Church teaches, because you have said it, and your word is true.

Act of Hope

My God, I hope in you, for grace and for glory, because of your promises, your mercy and your power.

Act of Contrition

Oh! My God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you; and by the help of your grace, I will not sin again. Amen.

Act of Charity

My God, because you are so good, I love you with all my heart, and for your sake, I love my neighbour as myself.

