

**St Joseph's Catholic Church**  
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Parish office hours: 10.15 am until 2 pm Monday, Tuesday and Friday. Parish Secretary: Maria O'Neil

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

## January 2026

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

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Saturday Evening **Baptism of the Lord**

6.00 Tom Mulhern R.I.P

17/0012

### Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Feast:- THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8.00 People of the Parish

10.00 Kathleen Kerr R.I.P

20/0011

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Weekday of Ordinary Time (Feria)** Weekday readings Year 2, Office of the Church: Psalter Week 1

No liturgy today

### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Feria

9.30 Liturgy of the Word

### Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Feria

No liturgy today

### Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> Feria

No liturgy today

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feria

No liturgy today

### Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> Mem. St. Anthony, Abbot

9.30 Celebrant's Int

Saturday Evening **Second Sunday of Ordinary Time**

6.00 Colin Peters Int (A.D.)

4/0012

### Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

8.00 People of the Parish

10.00 Michael Pinches R.I.P

21/0012

## 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 approach the New Year and the month of January, there is a new 'Rosary Circle Chart' on the noticeboard, to encourage us all to pray a decade of the Rosary each day 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 January, 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.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY at the 10.00 am Sunday Mass:-** The children's liturgy continues at the 10 am Mass this Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> January and then every two weeks until half term. Our thanks to all have supported and helped with this initiative over the last number of months. We look forward to growing this ministry this year!

**ADULT FORMATION:-** The programme is open to everyone, but especially those who wish to know more about the Catholic faith with a view to becoming a Catholic.

Having looked at the evidence for God, who we are as human beings, made to the image and likeness of God, the impact of 'Original Sin' or 'the Fall' an overview of where the Bible comes from, we continue on January 19<sup>th</sup> by looking at the Ten Commandments. We meet at 7.30 in the small hall.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2025 /2026:-**Just to keep this in our minds, the programme continues on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 7 pm in the small hall. Many thanks for being so prompt at our first meeting.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:-** The programme will continue on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 5 pm. The children should have looked Chapter 4 of their books, entitled 'Being Baptised' and worked their way through it for revision that day.

**Oil and Swarfega:-** An informal opportunity for those interested in cars and transport to meet, share experiences and perhaps teach and learn something in the university of life. An inaugural meeting for anyone interested will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 7 pm in the small hall. Francis, a seasoned rallying mechanic will give an audio-visual presentation on rallying across central Europe and North Africa. Light beverages will be available.

**BABY FEST:-** Having had a wonderfully successful first 'Baby Fest' whereby parents with small children had a shared lunch and an opportunity to talk about more than sleep or the lack thereof, it was agreed that this should be a regular event. To this end, shall we look at Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February, from 12 mid-day?

**The Pastoral Plan – The Word Who is Life** (From Fr. Chris Bergin):- *“Bishop Richard’s appointment as the next Archbishop of Westminster means there are some immediate consequences for us regarding the implementation of the Pastoral Plan in the Epsom Deanery. Whilst some things, by Church Law, are put on hold until a new Bishop arrives – particularly any decision to combine the existing nine parishes into one new parish – other key elements of the Plan remain as important for us as ever; prayer, formation and mission continue to be the priorities that shape our pastoral life. Whilst the parishioner meetings around the nine parishes will not now go ahead as planned (as a significant factor in the planning for these – particularly the timetable – was the proposed changes to structure), the Parish Leadership Team will be working on proposals to enable us to continue our reflections on mission, to celebrate and develop co-operation between our parish communities, and continue to invite all parishioners to get involved. You’ll be able to hear more about this in the next Deanery newsletter which will be available next weekend, 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> January.”*

Additionally, there's a piece on the Diocesan website about what happens (and doesn't happen) during sede vacante which may be of help: [Sede Vacante: Next steps for the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton | News](#)

**DORKING FOOD BANK:-** If you would like to contribute to the food bank, the Food Bank Box is by the side door of the Church and is for contributions of appropriate products as listed, which are gratefully received.

The box is emptied regularly and the products are delivered to the local Food Bank Depot, where they are labelled and St Josephs Parish is acknowledged.

Should you wish to help with the Food Bank a few more people are needed to assist occasionally with the weekly collection when the regular collectors are away. Volunteers would need to have their own transport to get the products to the actual food bank depot. Please let Maria know if you're willing to help.

**PAX CHRISTI:-** Next weekend there will be a second collection for the work of Pax Christi. Further details of their work can be found at [Peace Sunday 2026 – Pax Christi England and Wales](#)

**From ‘AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED’:-** The New Year in **Nigeria** has begun in bloodshed after bandits slaughtered innocent civilians in the country’s Middle Belt. In a wave of violence, heavily armed fighters killed 50 people during a series of assaults between 28th December 2025 and 3rd January 2026. The attacks climaxed in a massacre in the village of Kasuwan Daji where 42 people were killed when bandits struck late on Saturday (3rd January).

According to a report from Bishop Bulus Dauwa Yohanna of Kontagora, sent to Catholic charity Aid to the Church in Need (ACN), the attackers “set fire to the market and surrounding houses, slaughtering 42 men after tying their arms behind their backs.” The report said the victims were all men – both Christians and Muslims. The attackers also “kidnapped an unknown number of women and children”.

Smoke could be seen more than nine miles (15 kilometres) away in Papiri, where more than 200 schoolchildren were abducted in November.

Bishop Yohanna said a group of bandits had been “roaming freely across the northern part of Borgu Local Government Area in Niger State and the southern part of Shanga Local Government Area in Kebbi State, without being challenged by security forces”.

On 1st January the bandits “passed through Shafaci again and burned documents at the police station before spending the night in the bush”. The following morning, at around 10 am, the attackers entered the Catholic Church compound in Sokonbora and “destroyed a crucifix, pictures of the Stations of the Cross and musical instruments”.

The bishop said they also stole mobile phones, money, and two motorcycles from the compound, before occupying a nearby settlement belonging to the Kambari ethnic group. The bandits slaughtered and ate the locals’ livestock. They remained there until launching their attack on Kasuwan Daji the following day. Fear has spread among locals, leading to mass displacement, with families fleeing their homes and livelihoods, according to the report.

Expressing his “profound sorrow”, Bishop Yohanna told ACN: “This senseless, barbaric and inhuman act of violence is a grave violation of the sanctity of human life and human dignity.” (See:- [ACN UK Homepage](#) )