



Parish Priest

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5th October 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

From Father Graham

The prayer of the rosary is for both the novice and experienced person of prayer, for the ABC beginner and contemplative. It is the prayer of saints and one that we are encouraged to pray daily. Sr Lucia of Fatima said that "The Most Holy Virgin in these last times.... has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the Rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families...that cannot be solved by the Rosary." This is a bold statement.

Our problems, personal and global, will not be changed without faith. Faith is not magic. The persistent daily prayer of the rosary, simple as it is, will increase our faith. Just as the apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith, we can grow in faith with each Ave on the small beads (mustard seed) of the rosary. It might seem slow but "wait for it, it will surely come". Faith is not about instant answers but endurance and trust in God.

Jesus expects us to pray and wants to hear our prayer of words and the heart. The simple rhythm and pattern of breath embeds itself in the mind so that our intentions lift to heaven as the mystery enters more deeply into the soul. Mind and heart united, heaven and earth conjoined, anxiety stilled and war intent hearts changed. Simple yet life changing and history yet to be written is defined. In this month of the Holy Rosary let us join Mary and the host of heaven in the contemplation of God made flesh, in Jesus. Let us be on the side of the angels.

With my prayer for you all every day. God bless you.

Fr Graham

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

Sat 4 Oct	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Saint Francis of Assisi (First Saturday)</i>	10.00	SP	Mass	<i>Martha Clarke RIP</i>
	10.30	SP	Rosary & Fatima Devotions	
Sat 4 Oct	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 5 Oct	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving, Lai Family</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Jenny Potter RIP</i>
Mon 6 Oct	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Feria (Saint Bruno)</i>	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Wellbeing of Robert John</i>
	10.00	SP	Rosary	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	
Tue 7 Oct	09.30	CTK	Rosary	
<i>Our Lady of the Rosary</i>	10.00	CTK	Mass	<i>For the faithful departed</i>
	10.30	CTK	Adoration & Confessions	
	17.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 8 Oct	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
Thu 9 Oct	09.00	SP	Adoration	
<i>Saint John Henry Newman</i>	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Michael Pulham RIP</i>
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	SP	Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions	
Fri 10 Oct	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Feria (Saint Paulinus)</i> <i>Day of abstinence</i>	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Fr Gerry Coates RIP</i>
	10.00	SP	Confessions	
	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>with Stations of the Cross</i>	
Sat 11 Oct	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
<i>Our Lady</i>	10.00	SP	Mass & Rosary	<i>Susan Atkins RIP</i>

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 11 Oct	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 12 Oct	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Anthony Hammonds RIP</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Thanksgiving, Kerry & Tricia Callaghan</i>

SP | St Peter's Shoreham, BN43 5WG

CTK | Christ the King, Steyning, BN44 3PB

TT | The Towers Convent, Upper Beeding, BN44 3TF

44 (0) 1273 452654

44 (0) 1903 812185

Parish Office open Thursdays 09.00—13.00

Please email/telephone to book an appointment at other times.

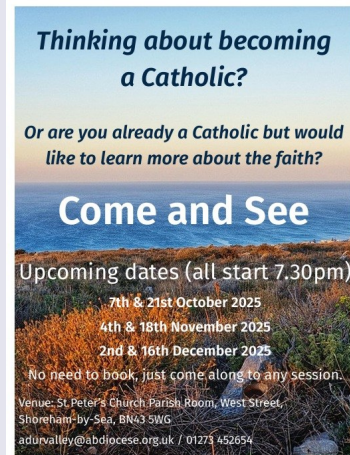


OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH YOUR FAITH

Welcome to any newcomers or visitors to our Parish

Welcome to our parish. Where are you on your faith journey? Do you have questions? Maybe it is useful for you to know that no one has all the answers. God does. We are all growing in faith, day by day. God bless you.

We have a group starting again on 7th October, 'Come & See', for people to come and discuss/learn more about our faith and ask questions in an informal setting (see posters and leaflets in the porch). In the meantime, please feel free to bring your questions to Father Graham or Deacon Simon.



From YouCat Daily

<https://www.youcat.org/daily>

489: What does it mean to praise God?

God needs no applause. But we need to express spontaneously our delight in God and the rejoicing in our hearts. We praise God because he exists and because he is good. We thereby join even now in the eternal praise of the angels and saints in heaven.

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Preparing for the Sacraments

There will be instruction starting in the coming weeks for the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. If you would like to express an interest at this stage or enquire (for you or your child), please speak to Father Graham, Deacon Simon or email the office: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk.

Dates for your diary:

First Holy Communion parents: Tuesday 25th November, 7.30pm

Confirmation candidates: Thursday 23rd October, 7.30pm.

To Sing is to Pray Twice (St Augustin)

In honour of the feast day of Saint John Henry Newman, a small excerpt from Elgar's 'The Dream of Gerontius', which sets the text of Newman's poem. The whole piece is worth a listen, but this extract is the scene with the priest and assistants gathered around the death bed of Gerontius:

Kyrie Eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Holy Mary, pray for him.

All holy Angels, pray for him.

Choirs of the righteous, pray for him.

All Apostles, all Evangelists, pray for him,

All holy Disciples of the Lord, pray for him.

All holy Innocents, pray for him.

All holy Martyrs, all holy Confessors,

All holy Hermits, all holy virgins, All ye Saints of God, pray for him.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for Christine, Mary, Margaret, June, Tommie, Sr Zita, Sarah, Christine B, Joanne, Anne C, Ian, Daisy, Lynn, Jenny, David, Michael C, Mary F, Margaret A, Pat O'C, Crispin M, Jennifer R, David R, Harvey R, Phil R, Michael H, Joan T, Joanna, Richenda, Rachel, Mike D, Ashley R, Mike & Jess D, Trish Y, Maureen C and all who are sick.

Please pray for the soul of Fr Alan Sharpe RIP. Please pray for all his family. Fr Alan's Requiem Mass is at the Towers Convent on Tuesday 14 October at 11am. May he rest in peace.

Please also pray for PEACE, for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, vocations, enquirers to Catholicism and the sacraments, St Peter's School, and the Cycle of Prayer for Autumn.

From Right to Life

The Church commemorated our Guardian Angels this week. Let us ask Our Lord to direct our Guardian Angels to watch over and care for all of us, and particularly those who are in need of special protection like little babies and children, and the unborn.

Saint John Henry Newman (Feast on Thursday) prayed...

All who follow the truth are on the side of the truth, and the truth will prevail. Few in number, but strong in spirit, despised by the world, the twelve apostles made their way, and while they suffered, they overwhelmed the power of darkness and built the Christian church.





HAPPENING THIS WEEK

EVENTS & NOTICES

Fri 3	CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day 10.30am, SP Parish Room: Mothers Prayers
Sat 4	OLQP Bible Study Group
Sun 5	2nd Collection: CAFOD SVP Booksale (after the 9.00am mass at SP)
Tue 7	SP Parish Room, 7.30pm: Come & See enquirers group. The topic is 'God and His Creation'.
Thur 9	SP Parish Room, 10.00: Coffee Pop-in SP Parish Room, 11.00: Digital Advice SP Parish Room, 12.00: OLQP Community Lunch Club
Sun 12	Prisoners' Sunday 2nd Collection: PACT

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2 Nov	Blessing of the Graves
15 Nov	Parish Afternoon Tea
22 Nov	Memorial Mass for the dead

SVP: Current needs

Beds, preferably doubles, in good condition. We can collect. Speak to Ann Olliver if you can help.



SVP National Raffle

The winning ticket numbers are on display in the porch. Thank you to all who donated to the appeal.

Confirmation 2026: from Deacon Simon...

The younger people of the parish are invited to participate in a series of seven meetups, some in person and some on-line, between now and next April, in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation in 2026. The sessions will last for no more than an hour and be held on Thursday evenings starting at 7:30pm. The first session will be an in person meeting on **Thursday 23rd October** in the Parish Room at St. Peter's Church, when the schedule and content of the programme will be discussed.

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day: Friday 3rd October 2025

This Sunday there is a second collection for CAFOD. Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours as they find lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges.



Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call **0303 303 3030**. You can also **text CAFOD to 70560** to donate £10.

Devotions, Adoration and Confessions this week

Rosary: Monday (SP) 10.00 & (Zoom) 19.30; Tuesday (CTK) 09.30; Saturday (SP) after Mass
Confessions: Tuesday (CTK) 10.30; Thursday (SP) 19.30; Friday (SP) 10.00; or by appointment or request
Adoration: Monday (SP) 09.00; Tuesday (CTK) 10.00; Thursday (SP) 19.30; Friday (SP) 09.00
Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thursday (SP) 20.00; Friday (Zoom) 15.00 (with Stations)

About First Saturdays (from Catholic Answers www.catholic.com)

What are the requirements for first Saturday devotions?
The Five First Saturdays Devotion is a request made by Our Lady of Fatima. The Blessed Mother promised to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all who, as an act of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, on the first five Saturdays of consecutive months:

- Go to confession
- Receive Holy Communion
- Say five decades of the rosary
- Keep Mary company for fifteen minutes meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the rosary

The sacramental confession can be received within twenty days either before or after the reception of Communion, as the Holy See's Apostolic Penitentiary has decreed, provided the communicant is in a state of grace for Communion.

Reception of Holy Communion must take place within twenty-four hours of the first Saturday. The reception of Communion need not be part of participating in a Mass.

The fifteen minutes of meditation are in addition to the recitation of the Rosary.



DIOCESAN NEWS

The New Worthing Parish

Please take a copy of the update from Fr Irek Stadler, about plans for the new Worthing Parish, in line with Bishop Richard's Pastoral Plan, The Word is Life.

October: Month of the Holy Rosary

Pope Leo is encouraging Catholics across the world to pray a daily Rosary for peace this October and to act as "instruments" of peace: "May you be faithful instruments of reconciliation in your daily lives".



Speaking on Tuesday the Pope referenced the military meeting attended by hundreds of US generals and admirals in Virginia - convened by United States Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth - which explored America's preparedness for war and the use of nuclear weapons: "This way of speaking is worrying," Pope Leo said, "as it reflects increasing tensions". On President Trump's decision to rename the US department from "Defence" to "War," the Holy Father added: "We hope it is just rhetoric" noting that it demonstrates a style of government "that uses force to exert pressure. We hope it works" he said, "but that there is no war; we must work for peace."

Saint John Henry Newman

The Vatican has announced that the proclamation of St John Henry Newman (1801-1890) as a Doctor of the Church will take place on 1 November, the Solemnity of All Saints, in St Peter's Square, during celebrations for the Jubilee of the World of Education.

St John Henry Newman was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in 2010 and canonised in 2019 by Pope Francis, who explained that St John Henry had chosen as his motto "*Cor ad cor loquitur*"—"Heart speaks to heart" because the Lord saves us by speaking from His heart to ours:

"This realisation", Pope Francis said, "led him, the distinguished intellectual, to recognise that his deepest encounter with himself and with the Lord came not from his reading or reflection, but from his prayerful dialogue, heart to heart, with Christ, alive and present. It was in the Eucharist that Newman encountered the living heart of Jesus, capable of setting us free, giving meaning to each moment of our lives, and bestowing true peace."

St John Henry Newman will become only the second British Doctor of the Church, after St Bede the Venerable (672-735).

Readings: 27th Sunday in OT C

1st Reading Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

Psalm 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

2nd Reading 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Gospel Luke 17:5-10

To see the readings for the coming week visit www.universalis.com.

From Bishop Richard

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We live at a time in which the world around us is threatened by so many things: war and conflict in many parts of the world, uncertainties and unrest closer to home, a continuing disregard for the dignity and wonder of life, financial worries for many. Yet, in the midst of this uncertainty we also see fresh green shoots of faith – more men and women coming forward for baptism, increasing numbers being confirmed and a renewed sense of mission.

These green shoots of faith are a response to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, calling us to the confident faith about which Jesus speaks in this Sunday's Gospel. Our times call us to show this faith to the world around us, to be confident in our mission, mindful that the life of the Church continues – and will continue – to the end of time.

As Christ's faithful people we must persevere in proclaiming the message of life in Him, even when the circumstances are difficult.

St Paul's words in this Sunday's second reading are as timely for us as they were for Timothy: "Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God." We may face misunderstanding and rejection on account of the Gospel, but let us continue in persevering trust and gentleness in our witness to Christ, for this is life for the world.

As we enter the month of October, the month of the Rosary, I ask you all to seek Mary's intercession for our troubled world, for peace, for harmony in our society, for a spirit of welcome for the stranger, asylum seeker and refugee and for a spirit of understanding in our homes, our towns and cities. Our Lady intercedes for us always, so let us ask her to support us in the mission given to us by her Son.

With every blessing

+ Richard

