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23rd November 2025

Our Lord Jesus Christ the Universal King

Year C

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia

From Fr Graham

This last Sunday of the liturgical year draws our attention to our goal - the Kingdom of God where Jesus reigns as King. It was the most recorded phrase of Jesus in the gospels and so it must have been in the forefront of His mind too. His birth, death and resurrection were all to bring His Kingdom to birth. He already reigned and He was already crowned as the anointed one (Christos). Yet His Kingdom was and still is hidden.

To prove this point, the gospel chosen for today is a moment of what looks like defeat - the crucifixion of Jesus. But even here, Jesus is King and reigns. He is doing the Father's will and reconciling us to God. We hear the words addressed to the "good" thief: "today you will be with me in paradise". These are surely words that we are desperate to hear ourselves. Jesus speaks with great authority. He has the right to give the order for He is the ruler of this kingdom which is not of this world and cannot be perceived with the senses. Yet, His kingdom grows whenever He is placed "before all things" and when He is "pre-eminent." It is His rightful place and He shares it with whoever He wishes. So to be with Him we have to be like Him. He does not lord it over us even though He is Lord. He doesn't control us even though He is the creator of heaven and earth. He doesn't fight us even though He has armies of powers, dominions and angels. He is humble and full of truth and mercy in which the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.

With my daily prayer for you all. God bless you.

Fr Graham

Our Lord Jesus Christ the Universal King

Sat 22 Nov <i>Saint Cecilia</i>	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
	10.00	SP	Memorial Mass	<i>For the departed of our parish</i>
	10.30	SP	Rosary	
Sat 22 Nov	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 23 Nov	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Christopher Thorpe RIP</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>John Fowley RIP</i>
	11.00	SP	Holy Baptism: Molly Julie Turner	
Mon 24 Nov <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions</i>	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Ann-Marie Kelly RIP</i>
	10.00	SP	Rosary	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	
Tue 25 Nov <i>Feria</i>	13.30	CTK	Requiem Mass: Barbara Fisher RIP	
	17.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 26 Nov <i>Feria</i>	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
	11.00	TT	Requiem Mass: Terry Coyle RIP	
Thu 27 Nov <i>Feria</i>	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Margaret Jane Allen RIP</i>
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	SP	Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions	
Fri 28 Nov <i>Feria</i> <i>Day of abstinence</i>	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	<i>Holy Souls RIP</i>
	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>with Stations of the Cross</i>	
Sat 29 Nov	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	

First Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Sat 29 Nov	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all parishioners</i>
Sun 30 Nov	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Tom McCormack RIP</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Tony Clarke RIP</i>



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, ‘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.

Next session: Tuesday 2nd December, 7.30pm

Thinking about becoming a Catholic?

Or are you already a Catholic but would like to learn more about the faith?

Come and See

Upcoming dates (all start 7.30pm)

7th & 21st October 2025
4th & 18th November 2025
2nd & 16th December 2025

No need to book, just come along to any session.

Venue: St Peter's Church Parish Room, West Street, Shoreham-by-Sea, BN43 5WG
adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk / 01273 452654

November: Month of the Holy Souls

Throughout November, we will have the Books of Remembrance in the church. Please come and write in names of loved ones who have died in the past year (no need to rewrite names from previous years).

On 22nd November at 10.00am, please join us for a special Memorial Mass at St Peter's to pray in particular for loved ones who have died this year, and all those who are bereaved. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Parish Room. All are welcome.

From YouCat Daily <https://www.youcat.org/daily>

520: What does it mean to say, "Thy kingdom come"?

When we pray, "Thy kingdom come", we call for Christ to come again, as he promised, and for God's reign, which has already begun here on earth, to prevail definitively.

Mission Appeal Weekend: The White Fathers

Next weekend we are welcoming Fr Hugh Seenan. The Missionaries of Africa (a.k.a. The White Fathers), are an international team of priests, brothers and lay associates from Africa, Britain and many countries around the world. Any ministry which has a real relationship with Africa, no matter in what part of the world it may be, is considered by the Missionaries of Africa to be within the scope of the apostolate. Through parish work, building up small Christian communities, working with the media, involvement in justice and peace, agriculture, seminary training, education and social welfare the Missionaries of Africa aim to work in partnership with the Church in Africa . . . and above all else to help build up the leadership of the Churches."

There will be a 2nd Collection at masses next weekend to support their work.

Devotions, Adoration and Confessions this week

Rosary: Monday (SP) 10.00 & (Zoom) 19.30; Saturday (SP) after Mass

Confessions: Tuesday (CTK) 10.30; Thursday 19.30; or by appointment or request

Adoration: Monday (SP) 09.00; Thursday (SP) 09.00; Thursday (SP) 19.30; Friday (SP) 09.00

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Thursday (SP) 20.00; Friday (Zoom) 15.00 (with Stations)

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, Peter P and all who are sick.

Please pray for Barbara Fisher RIP. Her Requiem mass is on Tuesday 25th November, 1.30pm at CTK. Please also pray for Terry Coyle RIP. His funeral is at The Towers on Wednesday 26th November at 11.00am. Please pray for them and their families. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for PEACE, for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, vocations, enquirers to Catholicism and the sacraments, Saint Peter's school, the Holy Souls, our First Holy Communion children and families and confirmation candidates.

To Sing is to Pray Twice (St Augustin)

This week a piece in honour of the Feast of Christ the King by Claudio Monteverdi (1567-1643): [Christe, adoramus te](#)


Jesu, Saviour, to thy name we pray, we adore Thee and bless Thee, who by thy holy cross and Passion hath redeemed us.

From Right to Life

As we contemplate the kingship of Christ, we ask that He rule each of our hearts. We pray that He guides the hearts of parliamentarians to protect all human life, especially the most vulnerable: the unborn and the dying.

Saint Teresa of Ávila prayed...


Giving up on prayer and departing from the way (to God) are one and the same thing.





HAPPENING THIS WEEK

EVENTS & NOTICES

Sat 22	10.00am, SP: Memorial Mass for the deceased of our parish. <i>Please join us for refreshments afterwards.</i>
Sun 23	 Christ the King Patronal Feast Day <i>All are welcome for refreshments after the 11.00am mass at CTK</i> 2nd Collection: Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund
Tues 25	Meeting for First Holy Communion parents
Thur 27	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: Coffee Pop-in <i>Deanery Priests Meeting</i>
Sat 29	<i>No mass at St Peter's</i> Meeting of the Associates of the Blessed Peter Vigne Eucharistic Association at The Towers, from 2.00pm—4.00pm.
Sun 30	Mission Appeal Weekend: The White Fathers <i>We welcome Father Hugh Seenan</i>

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

7 Dec	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: SVP Christmas Gifts Sale. <i>2nd Collection: Christmas Flowers</i>
11 Dec	Parish Christmas Lunch—tickets on sale now. See posters for details.

Winter Afternoon Tea

Huge thanks to Ann, Julia, Mary, Dorothy, Cecilia, Steph, Sheila and all the team for hosting a lovely afternoon of sweet and savoury treats for parishioners and friends. Not only that, but they also delivered to parishioners who were unable to make the trip out. Here are some pictures of the day.



First Holy Communion

Applications are still open. Come along to the first meeting on **Tuesday 25th November, 7.30pm** to find out more about the programme. The First Holy Communion masses will be in June 2026.



SVP Christmas Parcels Campaign for local families in need

See donation points in the church porch. During November please bring any kinds of toiletries, or you can make a financial contribution via our card machines. We are also fundraising for this campaign with a Christmas Gifts sale on Sunday 7th December. See below for details. Thank you for your support.



SVP Christmas Gifts Sale: Sunday 7th December after 9.00am mass

Come and join us for coffee where there will be sweet and savoury treats on sale to enjoy with your coffee or take home. Also lots of Christmas gifts: jumpers, books, pyjamas, glittery outfits, plus a raffle.

All proceeds to the SVP Christmas Parcels Campaign.



Prayer for Holy Souls in Purgatory

According to tradition, Our Lord told St. Gertrude the Great that each time she piously recited the following prayer, it would greatly ease the suffering of those holy souls in purgatory:

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

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

SP | St Peter's Shoreham, BN43 5WG

44 (0) 1273 452654

Parish Office open Thursdays 09.00—13.00

CTK | Christ the King, Steyning, BN44 3PB

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

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

44 (0) 1903 812185



DIOCESAN NEWS

Worth Abbey - Advent Talk with Abbot Mark Barrett - Saturday 29 November 10:30–12:30pm Title: "Watching in Silence: A Benedictine Advent"

Abbot Mark will explore the quiet heart of Advent through the lens of Benedictine spirituality—a wonderful opportunity for reflection and preparation during this sacred season.

- 10:30 am – Arrival and light refreshments
- 11:00 am – Advent Talk and reflection
- 12:30 pm – Light lunch and Midday Prayer (optional)

To register: Contact Kelly at E: kohara@worth.org.uk

Gospel Non-Violence Open meeting

Speakers: Aisling Griffin (Pax Christi) and The Rev. David Mumford

7.30pm Thursday 4th December

Friends Meeting House, 34, Mill Road, Worthing BN11 5DR

Further details from David Mumford dmumford@phonecoop.coop

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](#)

Neurodiversity and our Faith research

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales (CBCWE) and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. If you are an adult neurodivergent Catholic or a caregiver of a neurodivergent Catholic, they would like to hear from you. Your experiences will help them to become more inclusive and responsive to your needs. To find out more and to complete the short surveys, please visit: www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergent-catholic-surveys/

If you have any questions about this research, please email E: fleur.dorrell@cbcew.org.uk.

Walsingham Financial Appeal

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

From Bishop Richard

Dear brothers and sisters,

The feast we celebrate this Sunday was instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925 - the 16th Centenary of the Council of Nicaea when the definition of Christ being consubstantial with the Father was made – an anniversary that the Church has been keeping again this year.

Jesus is our King – the word Christ means 'the anointed one' – and we are all called to share in His Kingship. Indeed, we are reminded of this at our baptism when we are anointed with Chrism in a prayer that speaks of our sharing in His Kingship.

In an age when there are so many challenges to the Christian Way, challenges to the Kingship of Christ, it is good for us to be able to celebrate this feast, for it reminds us of who we are, and it speaks of our destiny as the children of God.

Jesus, sprung from the race of David – who had been anointed by Samuel for his role as king – fulfils the Father's plan.

We read of this in today's second reading. All is brought to fulfilment in the One who died on the Cross and rose from the dead; Christ who is the Word of God, Who existed before all things and in Whom all is created. We are His body; He is the head. He is King.

The Gospel this Sunday speaks of that destiny in a most powerful way. Jesus tells the thief who recognises the Lord's goodness: "today, you will be with me in paradise." These are words we must all wish to hear, for when we do we have confirmation of our destiny, we know we shall share in the life of the Anointed One, Christ our King – that we shall live the fullness of what it means to be His.

With every blessing,

+ Richard

