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14th December 2025

Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent

Year A

## WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

Alleluia alleluia.

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.*

Alleluia

## From Fr Graham

It is not every week that we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. You might be thinking that *Gaudete Sunday* is an unusual time to do this. But, every sacrament is an encounter and a meeting with Christ whom we wait to meet when He returns in glory. Every sacrament is *joyful* and we should be looking forward to seeing Him as He really is. In the sacraments "God comes to save us", as He did when He was born for us, as Isaiah reminds us. So the sacraments are about salvation.

We can prepare for Christmas as we prepare for meeting Jesus by "establish (ing) our hearts for the coming of the Lord is at hand".

What does this mean if not looking at our lives, examining our consciences, making a good confession and receiving absolution from a priest. This is not dreadful but another opportunity for God to save us. Our hearts and souls are purified that we may see the things of the Spirit and the Kingdom of God more clearly. Jesus tells His questioners to tell John the Baptist what they "hear and see". Jesus then tells them the things to look for, the signs of the Kingdom of God inaugurated by the very presence of Jesus. Look for these things in your own life and then you will come face to face with Jesus with whom we come face to face in the sacraments. What do you see?

With my prayer for you and your intentions in Advent. God bless you.

Fr Graham

## Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent (Year A)

## Mass Intention

Sat 13 Dec	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
St Lucy	10.00	SP	Mass & Rosary	World Apostolate of Fatima
Sat 13 Dec	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	Margaret & Michael Burchett RIP
Sun 14 Dec	09.00	SP	Mass	For all parishioners
	11.00	CTK	Mass	Reginald & Bridget Argent RIP
Mon 15 Dec	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
Monday of the 3rd week in Advent	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	For Vocations
	10.00	SP	Rosary	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	
Tue 16 Dec	09.30	CTK	Rosary	
Tuesday of the 3rd week in Advent	10.00	CTK	Mass	Holy Souls RIP
	10.30	CTK	Adoration & Confessions	
	17.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 17 Dec	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
Thu 18 Dec	09.00	SP	Adoration	
'O Adonai'	09.30	SP	Mass	Paul Morris RIP
	14.00	SP	St Peter's School KS2 Carol Service	
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	SP	Adoration, Divine Mercy & Advent Confessions	
Fri 19 Dec	08.00	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
'O Radix Jesse'	09.00	SP	Adoration	
	09.30	SP	Mass	For the sick & housebound
	10.00	SP	Confessions	
	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>with Stations of the Cross</i>	
Sat 20 Dec	08.30	TT	Mass <i>with Morning Prayer</i>	
'O Clavis David'	10.00	SP	Mass & Rosary	For Expectant Mothers

## Fourth Sunday of Advent 'O Oriens' (Year A)

Sat 20 Dec	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	For all parishioners
Sun 21 Dec	09.00	SP	Mass	René & Marie-Emilia Labelle RIP
	11.00	CTK	Mass	John Oliver Pitman RIP

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



HAPPENING THIS WEEK

PRAYER INTENTIONS, EVENTS, NOTICES

**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 George and Madeline** who will be sealed with the Holy Spirit as we celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 9am SP Mass. It is a wonderful moment for them and the Church as we all prepare to meet Christ, the anointed One. Are you yet to be Confirmed? It is never too late to complete your Christian Initiation. Ask or enquire after Mass or anytime.

**Please also 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.

From Right to Life

On Friday, we commemorated the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. We ask for the intercession of this patroness of the unborn, saying: ‘Let us implore the gift of children for families without children, respect for conceived life and the openness of hearts to Gospel values’.

Tue 16	SP Parish Room, 7.30pm: Come & See Group
Thur 18	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: Coffee Pop-in  SP, 7.30pm: Advent Confessions (with Fr Tony also here)
Sat 20	SP Choir Practice
Sun 21	Pray for Expectant Mothers

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).

**Next session: Tues 16th December, 7.30pm**



Christmas Flowers

Advent is a solemn, penitential season. Traditionally there are no flowers in the church during this time, however, one of the flower arrangers explains what you will see at CTK in Steyning during Advent:

- \* 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday: the advent wreath is blessed and the first candle is lit
- \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday: a simple arrangement of green foliage on the altar and the porch
- \* 3<sup>rd</sup> ‘Gaudete’ Sunday: a joyful day, variegated foliage is added to bring in some colour. Arrangements are added to the window sills.
- \* 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday: coloured berries are added as the preparation nears completion.
- \* Finally on Christmas Day, the birth of Jesus, and the flowers are added to complete the arrangements and bring joy to all.

*You can still donate to the Christmas Flowers fund at masses this weekend. Thank you for your support.*

From YouCat Daily

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

224: Why did Christ give us the sacrament of Penance and Anointing of the Sick?

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Christmas Eve at St Peter’s: 6pm Mass

If any children of the parish would like to take part in the mimed telling of the Gospel on Christmas Eve, please speak to Mrs Carter on Sunday, or contact the office: [adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk), so we can get an idea of numbers.

To Sing is to Pray Twice (St Augustin)

Two short Advent pieces of music this week. The first is a setting of Adam lay y bounden by Peter Warlock (1894-1930).

The second is A Tender Shoot by Otto Goldschmidt (1829-1907) a German composer who was born in Hamburg but moved to England and took British nationality in 1861.

Saint John of the Cross (1542-1591, Spanish Carmelite, mystic and Doctor of the Church) prayed...

*The eternal Father has spoken one word and this word was His Son; and He speaks it to us in eternal silence. And, in silence, the human soul shall hear this word.*