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18th January 2026

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

From Father Graham

What does it take to really know a person? We might have something in common, shared experiences or met many years ago. But we may still not know them. A person can be a mystery to us unless there is some deeper sharing, honesty and vulnerability. This "knowledge" of the other person is not merely intellectual. But at a deeper level, where the truth and the soul are exposed.

John the Baptist makes it clear (twice) that as Jesus approached him for baptism he "did not know Him". John had heard about Jesus, they had even met in the womb. But he had not seen Him until now. But John's use of the word "know" is not limited to not having met Jesus. Now he sees Jesus and he knows Him.

John experiences Jesus first as the "Lamb of God" and then as the "Anointed One" (Dove).

This is our quest and life's work: to know God in Jesus as the one who takes away our sins and the one who breathes the new life of God in us. In this order. Jesus is the lamb who is sacrificed as our Passover as we are set free from sin. Through His resurrection we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. In every cross in our life we experience the death of Christ and we come to know Him more as well as ourselves. As we are raised from the depths we experience the resurrection and the gentle infusion of the Holy Spirit leading us into the truth of ourselves and of God. It is only through these paschal experiences that we know ourselves, the sacraments, the scriptures and the God they reveal. We cannot know God or ourselves without knowing Jesus in His cross and resurrection.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 17 Jan	10.00	SP	Mass & Rosary	<i>Ints of Louise O'Kelly</i>
Sat 17 Jan	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 18 Jan	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Ints of Steph Hampton</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Graham Barton RIP</i>
Mon 19 Jan	09.00	SP	Adoration	<i>Ints of Peter & Christine Ransom</i>
<i>Feria</i>	09.30	SP	Mass	
	10.00	SP	Rosary	
	17.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	<i>[please note change of time]</i>
Tue 20 Jan	09.30	CTK	Rosary	<i>Holy Souls RIP</i>
<i>Feria</i>	10.00	CTK	Mass	
	10.30	CTK	Adoration & Confessions	
	17.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 21 Jan	17.30	TT	Mass	
Thur 22 Jan	09.00	SP	Adoration	<i>Ints of Kate</i>
<i>Feria</i>	09.30	SP	Mass	
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	SP	Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions	
Fri 23 Jan	09.00	SP	Adoration	<i>Christopher Thorpe RIP</i>
<i>Feria</i>	09.30	SP	Mass	
<i>Day of abstinence</i>	10.00	SP	Confessions	
	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>with Stations of the Cross</i>	
	17.30	TT	Mass	

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 24 Jan	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 25 Jan	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Bob Leary RIP</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Ints of Hazel Family</i>



United in our prayer for peace. May God bless you. Fr Graham

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

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OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH YOUR FAITH

Welcome to any newcomers or visitors 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: Tues 20th January 2026, 7.30pm. All are welcome.

OLQP Bible Group

The Bible Group meet on Saturday mornings at St Peter's (on weeks when there is a 10.00am mass). We are currently watching a new set of programmes set in the Holy Land with a new positive take on Christology. This will take us through Lent onto Easter and the last film called the Resurrection. All are welcome, whether you have been before or not.

From YouCat Daily

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

395: What is peace?

Peace is the consequence of justice and the sign of love put into action. Where there is peace, "every creature can come to rest in good order" (Thomas Aquinas). Earthly peace is the image of the peace of Christ, who reconciled heaven and earth.

Peace is more than the absence of war, more than a carefully maintained balance of powers ("balance of terror"). In a state of peace, people can live securely with their legitimately earned property and freely exchange goods with one another. In peace the dignity and the right of self-determination of individuals and of peoples are respected. In peace human coexistence is characterized by brotherly solidarity.

Mass Intentions: Why offer a Mass?

People have a Mass said for someone as a powerful form of prayer, offering the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus Christ for a specific intention, whether for the deceased (for their soul's purification in purgatory), the living (for healing, birthdays, anniversaries, or general well-being), or in thanksgiving, serving as a deep spiritual gift and expression of love for both the living and departed.

What is the significance?

- ◆ Most Perfect Prayer: The Catholic Church considers the Mass the highest and most powerful form of prayer, uniting believers with Christ's sacrifice.
- ◆ Act of Love: Requesting a Mass is seen as a profound gift, offering spiritual benefits beyond measure.
- ◆ Universal Application: Masses can be offered for anyone, living or dead, Catholic or non-Catholic, and for any worthy cause.

Speak to Fr Graham or Antonia in the office if you would like to have a mass said. You can also read more here: The Greatest Gift.

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)
6th & 20th January 2026
3rd & 24th February 2026
10th & 24th March 2026
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

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 the soul of Tony Rolph RIP who died last week. Please pray for Mary and all their family. Tony's Requiem Mass will be at St Peter's Church on Friday 6th February at 11am.

Please pray for our 1st Holy Communion families, Confirmation candidates, Come and See group and Enquirers, Saint Peter's school and our catholic schools, peace, vocations, Pope Leo's prayer intentions and the Cycle of Prayer for Ordinary Time winter (see back page)

From Right to Life

As we just enter a week of prayer for Christian unity, let us pray that all Christians might express our shared love of Christ in charity towards the most vulnerable, including the sick, the poor, and the unborn.

To Sing is to Pray Twice (St Augustin)

Two more seasonal pieces of music. The first 'Personent Hodie' beautifully sung by Schole Cantorum Gloriam Dei.

The second piece is a setting of 'The Three Kings' composed by Peter Cornelius in 1856.



Saint Agnes (feast on 21 January) prayed...

Christ made my soul beautiful with the jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to Him Whom the Angels serve.



HAPPENING THIS WEEK

EVENTS & NOTICES

Sat 17	SP, 9.30am: First Holy Communion children's session OLQP Bible Group
Sun 18	2nd Collection: Pax Christi <i>The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today</i>
Mon 19	Parish Finance meeting
Tue 20	SP Parish Room, 7.30pm: Come & See enquirers group, looking at <u>'The Greatest Act On Earth: The Liturgy'</u>
Thu 22	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: Coffee pop-in
Sat 24	Please note there is no morning mass at SP today
Sun 25	Sunday of the Word of God <i>The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends today</i>
Future dates for your diary	
31 Jan	SP Parish Room, 10.00am—1.00pm: J&P 'Live Simply' event
28 Feb	Catenians quiz night
7-8 Mar	World Apostolate of Fatima England & Wales visiting
12 Mar	Healing Service
23 Apr	Afternoon Tea for St George's Day

St Peter's School Ofsted Inspection: Mr English writes...

This week, St Peter's school was inspected by HMI Ofsted. It was a very positive experience. We are very proud of the children. We will share information with you all when we can. We thank you for your prayers and good wishes.

Peace Sunday

Peace Sunday will be held on Sunday 18th January. The Bishops' Conference encourage us all the use the day to reflect on the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace on the 1st January.

Pope Leo has said that the theme for his message which will be 'Peace be with you all: towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace'.

We will have a second collection this weekend to support Pax Christi's work which includes promoting nonviolence as a way of resolving conflict, advocacy and campaigning for peace and peace education in schools. If you are unable to give on the day then you can also donate via their website

www.paxchristi.org.uk/product-category/peace-sunday-appeal/



Worthing Area Justice & Peace 'Live Simply' event: 31st January, 10am—1pm

Working together with CAFOD and Live Simply we are using the latest Live Simply PowerPoint, also presentations from SVP (St Charles project), a project management tool as an aide memoire, a recent A&B Live simply parish assessment, and other parish ideas and literature. The aim of the event is to provide help and support starting up projects, promote existing community involvements and make available current resources. See poster in church porch or contact Ashley Ralston (ajralston37@gmail.com) for more information.

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) 10.30; Thursday (SP) 19.30; Friday (SP) 09.00

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

Adur Valley Catenians Quiz Night

Adur Valley Catenians are trying to raise money for 'Safe in Sussex', a women's refuge from domestic abuse.

Saturday 28th February, 6.30 for 7.00pm, at The Towers Convent, Henfield Road, Upper Beeding BN44 3TF

Buffet Supper / Licenced Bar / Raffle / Prizes for the winners / Teams of 4-6 people / £12.50 per person / £8.50 under 18s.

Tickets from: info@adurvalleycatenians.co.uk. Or call Adrian on 07976-913774, or speak to any of the Catenians after mass.

Readings: 2nd Sunday in OT A

1st Reading Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Psalm 40(39):2, 4ab. 7-8a. 8b-9. 10. R8a, 9a

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel John 1: 29-34

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DIOCESAN NEWS

Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Richard’s Ministry in Arundel & Brighton: 30 January, 6.30pm, Arundel Cathedral.

People across our diocesan family are invited to join a special cathedral Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated by Bishop Richard, followed by a reception in the Baron’s Hall, Arundel Castle, by kind permission of His Grace, the Duke of Norfolk. All are welcome.



MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) takes place each year from 18 to 25 January, providing an opportunity to focus our prayers on Christian unity and join with our sisters and brothers in Christ. WPCU takes Ephesians 4:1-13 as its central text this year, which includes the words “There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.” (Ephesians 4:4).

Prayers and reflections for WPCU 2026 have been prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic (Orthodox) Church this year, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches. These resources draw upon centuries-old traditions of prayer used by the Armenian people, with hymns that originated in the ancient monasteries and churches of Armenia - some of which date as far back as the fourth century. [Click here](#) to find out more.

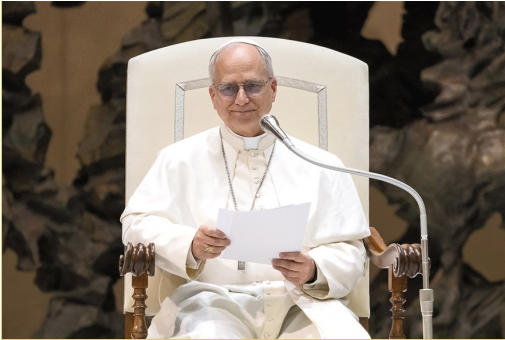
Crib Collection: For the Catholic Children’s Society’s A&B Crisis Fund

All are invited to come and spend some time at the Crib. Please take one of our prayer cards. If you are able to, please consider giving a donation at the crib. In recent years, the Arundel & Brighton Crisis Fund of the Catholic Children’s Society has been a tremendous help to many families in the Diocese. Thank you for your support.



Prayer to the Child Jesus

O Infant Jesus how tender and sweet you are! You are like any other little child; You want affection and love, You come to those who have time for you, You are innocent and pure, You spread these virtues wherever you go, You love peace and quiet, You love attention, You want to feel you are needed and loved. O Infant Jesus may I become a little child like you. Grant us all the graces we need through this prayer. Infant Jesus, pray for us and be our companion in time and eternity. Amen.



Pope Leo’s Prayer Intention for January 2026: “For prayer with the Word of God”

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us build a more fraternal and missionary church.

Please also join the Cycle of Prayer for Ordinary Time: Winter

- * Peace on Earth especially on the Day of Prayer for Peace (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time) and Racial Justice Day (3 Sundays before the 1st Sunday of Lent)
- * Christian Unity especially during the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity (18–25 January)
- * Victims of Human Trafficking especially on St Josephine Bakhita (8 February)
- * The Sick and those who care for them especially on World Day for the Sick (11 February)
- * The Unemployed especially on the Day of Prayer for the Unemployed (1 Sunday before the 1st Sunday of Lent)

