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5th April 2026

Easter Sunday

Year A

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

From Father Graham

It is easy to struggle with hope especially when we read the news. Yet hope is not merely a vague optimism. Hope is one of the three theological virtues of faith, hope and love. It is therefore much deeper than a feeling. It is a choice and a grace that comes from God.

This is where I struggle. My feelings waiver but I must continually choose to hope in God and to trust in Him. Otherwise, we can be led to despair. As Bonhoeffer said "Anyone who knows Easter cannot despair".

This is where our hope is founded. The despair of the cross of Jesus, the darkness of the tomb and mourning - a darkness like no other. If this week ended there then there would be no hope.

There is no real hope without Jesus.

But this is the crucified and risen Jesus. God does not avoid pain and suffering or even the reality of death. He faces it head on in Jesus who is really God and a man. So, we have hope in Jesus because He changes and gives meaning and even hope in all that oppresses us including sin and evil. Without the crucified and risen Jesus, we are still condemned.

This is also why the Divine Mercy Novena and chaplet is so powerful and meaningful to me. Saint Faustina was commissioned by Jesus to be His secretary of Mercy, to share this message around the world. The novena starts on Good Friday, from where all blessings flow. The concluding prayer speaks to me every time. It changes my despondency into hope. Please pray it and the Novena with me. Jesus is crucified and risen. To Him be glory for ever.

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Maundy Thursday

Thu 2 Apr	19.30	SP	Mass of the Lord's Supper	<i>Private Intention</i>
	20.30	SP	Praying & waiting with Jesus	<i>until 11.00pm</i>
	20.30	SP	Confessions	

Good Friday (Day of Fasting and Abstinence)

Fri 3 Apr	10.00	SP	Stations of the Cross (children/families welcome)
	10.30	CTK	Stations of the Cross (led by the Sisters)
	15.00	SP	Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion
	16.15	SP	Confessions

Holy Saturday

Sat 4 Apr	20.30	SP	The Solemn Vigil of Easter	<i>Parish Prayer Ints</i>
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The Season of Easter

Sun 5 Apr	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>Labelle & Joly Families deceased RIP</i>
Easter Sunday	10.00	TT	Mass	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Hugh Payne RIP</i>
Mon 6 Apr	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	
Tue 7 Apr	16.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 8 Apr	16.30	TT	Mass	
Thu 9 Apr	16.30	TT	Mass	
Fri 10 Apr	16.30	TT	Mass	
	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet	<i>with Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 11 April	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass (for Sunday)	<i>For all Parishioners</i>
Sun 12 Apr	09.00	SP	Mass	<i>John Yates RIP</i>
	11.00	CTK	Mass	<i>Ints of Deacon Seamus & family</i>
	15.00	SP	Divine Mercy Devotions & Confessions	
	16.00	SP	Benediction	

"Eternal God, in Whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion – inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself."

With my prayer for you all in the Easter Octave. God bless you, Fr Graham.

SP | St Peter's Shoreham, BN43 5WG

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Parish Office open Thursdays 09.00–13.00

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OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT WITH YOUR FAITH

Welcome to any newcomers or visitors to our Parish

Holy Week is a great place to start or come back to a 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 faith and ask questions in an informal setting.

Next date: Tuesday 14th April, 7.30pm in the Parish Room at St Peter's. All are welcome.



Divine Mercy Novena: starting on Good Friday

We will begin The Divine Mercy Novena on Good Friday, nine days of prayer in preparation for the feast on Sunday 12th April. You can follow the Divine Mercy Novena using the leaflets we have in the church porch, or a good online resource is PrayMoreNovenas.com to get a daily novena prayer sent to your inbox or ask Patsy at patsydaniels@gmail.com to send you details.

Divine Mercy Sunday: Sunday 12th April 2026

Starting at 3.00pm at St Peter's, Shoreham, we invite you to join us in observing a Holy Hour of Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Confessions, followed by Benediction at 4.00pm.



What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Jesus made a promise to us via St Faustina that the person who receives the Eucharist in a state of grace on the 8th day of the Octave of Easter (the Sunday after Easter) now known as Divine Mercy Sunday will have all sins and punishment forgiven, if he asks for it. This equates to a second baptism, as stated by Fr Chris Alar a Marian father at the Divine Mercy shrine in Massachusetts in this 3.5 minute video.

He suggests we say the following words or something similar when we return to our bench after receiving Holy Communion:

"Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, You promised St Faustina that the soul that has been to Confession [I have] and the soul that receives Holy Communion with trust in Divine Mercy [I have] will receive complete forgiveness of all sins and punishment. Lord, please give me this grace. Jesus I trust in You."

This feast incorporating this most generous of gifts was inaugurated by St John Paul II in the year 2000 when he instituted Divine Mercy Sunday.

From YouCat Daily

105: How did the disciples come to believe that Jesus is risen?

The disciples, who before had lost all hope, came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection because they saw him in a different way after his death, spoke with him, and experienced him as being alive.

The Easter events that took place in Jerusalem in the year 30 are not a made-up story. Following the death of Jesus and the defeat of their whole cause, the disciples fled ("We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel", Lk 24:21) or else barricaded themselves behind locked doors. Only their encounter with the risen Christ freed them from their paralysis and filled them with an enthusiastic faith in Jesus Christ, the Lord of life and death.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please continue to bring your personal prayer intentions to the new Prayer Boxes at SP and CTK. These prayer intentions will be offered at the Easter Vigil mass on Saturday evening

Please pray for Thomas Denman being received into full communion with the Church and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening.

Please pray for Anne-Mary Hancox RIP (Sue or Fifi) who has died recently. Her Funeral is on Monday 13th April at 12pm at St Peter's. Please also pray for her family.

Please pray for First Holy Communion families, our Confirmation candidates, Come and See group and Enquirers, Saint Peter's school and our catholic schools, peace, vocations and Pope Leo's prayer intentions for Lent.

From Right to Life

As we rejoice in the triumph of life over death, we pray for those carrying the heavy burden of a difficult pregnancy or medical diagnosis. May the joy of the Resurrection scatter their fears and grant them the hope and peace that

Holy Week Devotions

Adoration

Holy Thursday from 8.30pm

Confessions

Holy Thursday from 8.30pm

Good Friday from 4.00pm

Stations of the Cross

Good Friday 10.00am at St Peter's (families/children particularly welcome)

Good Friday 10.30am at CTK (led by the Sisters)

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PARISH NEWS

EVENTS & NOTICES

Wed 1	<i>The Parish Office closed until Thursday 9th April</i>
Fri 3	St Mary de Haura, 11.15am: Walk of Witness <i>Divine Mercy Novena begins</i> SP Parish Room, 4.30pm: 'New Passover, New Exodus' Lent film <i>2nd Collection: Holy Places</i>
Sat 4	SP choir practice
Sun 5	SP, 10.00am: Easter Egg Hunt <i>SVP Raffle Draw</i>
Mon 6	<i>Weekday masses at The Towers only this week</i>
Thur 9	SP Parish Room, 12.00pm: OLQP Community Lunch Club
Sun 12	SP, 3pm: Divine Mercy Sunday devotions

Future dates for your diary

23 Apr	Afternoon Tea for St George's Day at St Peter's <i>Tickets on sale at masses this weekend</i>
24 Apr	Quiz Night in aid of Turning Tides (formally Worthing Churches Homeless charity) <i>Tickets available from Dorothy on 07528 677810</i>

Easter Egg Hunt

Once again, there will be an Easter egg hunt for the children after the 9am mass on Easter Sunday. Please come and find us at



the back of the church straight after the service if you wish to join in. Mrs Crees and Mrs Hodge look forward to seeing you!



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has made the celebration of the Triduum and Easter in our churches so beautiful. For all the preparation of buildings and souls. For the flowers, music, serving, hospitality, welcoming and prayer. For the hidden and visible acts - they are all noticed and valued. God bless you.

Easter Flower Cross

The flowering of the cross is a Western Christian tradition. Dating from the Sixth Century, it is practised at the arrival of Easter, in which worshippers place flowers on the bare wooden cross. The barren cross, a reminder of Jesus' death, is transformed into an Easter symbol representing the new life that emerges from Jesus' death on Good Friday.

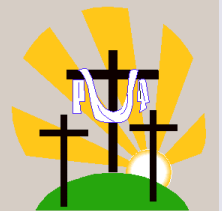


We would like to invite you to bring a flower on Easter Saturday to the vigil or on Easter Sunday, to place onto the cross, while saying a silent prayer (prayer cards available). Suggestions are a flower from your garden or from a supermarket bunch. Firmer stems (such as carnations, chrysanthemums, roses) work well in the floral foam. Spring flowers (for example daffodils, tulips, hyacinths) have softer stems and can be placed in the holders at the foot of the cross, rather than in the foam.

We will also have some flowers available in the Divine Mercy chapel for you to use.

Via Lucia - Stations of the Resurrection

As a follow up to the popular 'Way of the Cross' Lent sessions, on Wednesday 8th April at 10.00am we will meet in the Divine Mercy Chapel of St. Peter's to celebrate Easter by praying the Stations of the Resurrection.



Like the Stations of the Cross but following events along the way of light, Via Lucia, from the Resurrection to Pentecost led by Cecilia and Deacon Simon. All are welcome.

'New Passover, New Exodus' Film

All are welcome after the Good Friday service to watch a short film (approx. 25 mins), set in the Holy Land. With tea and hot cross buns included.

Diocesan Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

Please respond generously to this annual collection which is not only used to maintain the Holy Places but also for the needs of the local Christian communities who require our assistance.

Come and celebrate St George's Day

Tickets are on sale at masses this weekend for our St George's Day Cream Tea.

Thursday 23rd April, from 2.30-4.30pm

Tickets £7.50

Proceeds to the SVP. All are welcome.



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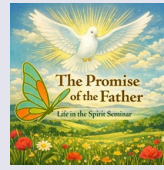
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DIOCESAN NEWS

The Promise of the Father Life in the Spirit Seminar from Redhill, April 2026

You are warmly invited to take part in the upcoming Life in the Spirit Seminar in support of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, taking place in Redhill starting April 2026. This journey over seven sessions is an opportunity to deepen your relationship with Jesus and to experience anew the abundant power of His Holy Spirit. Each session includes inspiring teaching from excellent speakers, personal testimonies, small group sharing and prayer.



A centre has been established for our deanery where all interested participants will be able to gather for the weekly Seminar sessions, which will take place from 14 April to 2 June every Tuesday. Hopefully this initiative can be the beginning of the prayer group across our new Parish.

See poster for more details, or email the office: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk.

Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor?

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and we are currently looking for those who are empathetic, understanding and have an enthusiasm for supporting adult relationships, to train on our Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) and volunteer with us. This is a great opportunity to make a real difference to couples and families. To find out more please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk.

Regina Caeli

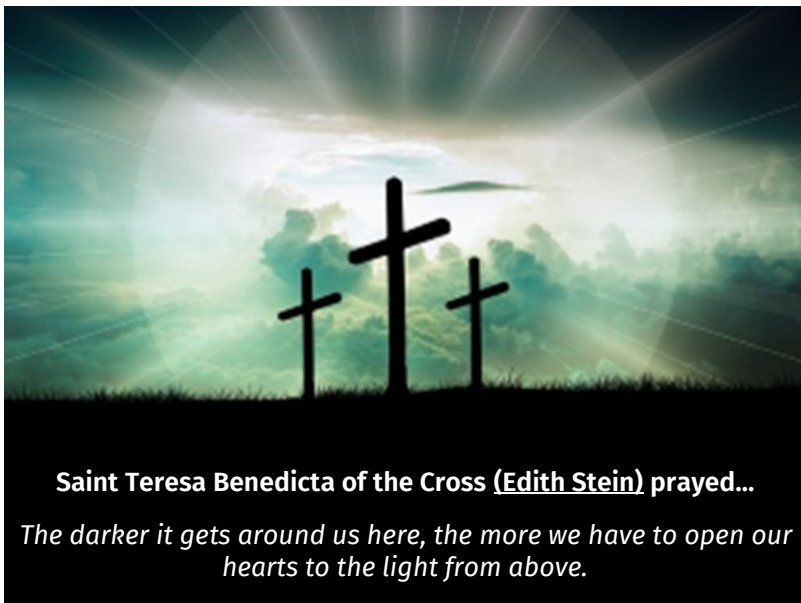
6. **R** Egina caeli * laetare, alle-lu-ia : Qui- a quem me-
ru- isti portare, alle-lu-ia : Resurrexit, sic-ut dixit, alle-
lu-ia : Ora pro no-bis De-um, alle-lu- ia.

"Regina caeli" or "O Queen of Heaven" is a musical antiphon addressed to the Blessed Virgin Mary, used in the liturgy during the Easter Season, from Easter Sunday until Pentecost.

- V.** Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia.
R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
- V.** Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.
- V.** Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord.

R. Amen



Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein) prayed...

The darker it gets around us here, the more we have to open our hearts to the light from above.

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

Readings: Easter Sunday A

1st Reading Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Psalm 118(117):1-2. 16-17. 22-23. R24

2nd Reading Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel John 20:1-9

*A very happy and blessed Easter to all parishioners and visitors.
May the joy of the Resurrection of Jesus fill your lives. Thank you for all your cards, prayers, gifts, sacrifices and support.*

Fr Graham, Deacon Simon, Fr Tony, Antonia and the Sisters.

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