



Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Ricketts
01273 464048

graham.ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk

Also Resident: Fr. Tony Lovegrove

Parish Deacon: Deacon Simon Wright
simon.wright@abdiocese.org.uk

Safeguarding Rep: Georgina Carter
sg2.adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk

Administrator: Antonia Hyatt
01273 452654

adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk

6th September 2026

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

From Father Graham

It is difficult being a "watchman" or sentry. It is isolating being in a position where it is better to see at a distance. It comes with dangers and the need for vigilance means that the darkest moments of the night are the most important to be alert. Being "faithful to Christ" is like being a sentry, having the long term view of eternal life and seeing the dangers that might threaten it. The whole Church, every disciple, is called to live in such a way - in the world but not of the world.

The revived assisted suicide bill (Lauren Edwards), brought back to Parliament for a second reading on 11 September (even though it failed in the last session), is such a danger. It has consequences for the here and now and for the future.

The prophet Ezekiel describes the responsibility and consequences for speaking the truth to others concerning following a false way. The psalmist pleads that we do not harden our hearts. Jesus insists that it is the responsibility of the whole church, not just the clergy or religious, to give "evidence" of the truth. The consequences are not just about loss and gain of life but of souls for eternal life. Some might protest that to do the kind thing is to do the loving thing. But, "love does no wrong to a neighbour." It is a misconception to think that love allows anything to happen. Saint Augustine's "Love and do what you will" demands to understand what true love is. God is love. It is in Christ that we have true freedom.

With my prayer for every one of you.
God bless you.

Fr Graham

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intention

Sat 5 Sep	10.00	SP	Mass	Carol Labelle RIP
St Teresa of Calcutta	10.30	SP	Rosary & Fatima Devotions	
Sat 5 Sep	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	For all Parishioners
Sun 6 Sep	09.00	SP	Mass	John Yates RIP
	11.00	CTK	Mass	John Clancy RIP
Mon 7 Sep	09.00	SP	Adoration	
Feria	09.30	SP	Mass	Ints of Eva
	10.00	SP	Rosary	
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	Zoom	Rosary	
Tue 8 Sep	09.30	CTK	Rosary	
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	10.00	CTK	Mass	Private Intention
	10.30	CTK	Adoration & Confessions	
	16.30	TT	Mass	
Wed 9 Sep	16.30	TT	Mass	
Thu 10 Sep	09.00	SP	Adoration	
Feria	09.30	SP	Mass	Christopher Thorpe RIP
	16.30	TT	Mass	
	19.30	SP	Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions	
Fri 11 Sep	09.30	SP	Mass	World Apostolate of Fatima
Feria	10.00	SP	Adoration (no Confessions)	
Day of abstinence	15.00	Zoom	Divine Mercy Chaplet <i>with Stations of the Cross</i>	
	16.30	TT	Mass	

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat 12 Sep	17.30	TT	Vigil Mass <i>(for Sunday)</i>	For all Parishioners
Sun 13 Sep	09.00	SP	Mass	Kathleen McAllister RIP
	11.00	CTK	Mass	Juan Ramon López & Maritza Ortega RIP



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 faith and ask questions in an informal setting. Sessions are starting again on Tuesday 8th September. Pick up a flyer for the full list of dates. All are welcome.



If you are new to our parish, please complete one of our registration forms, which you can find in the church porch.

From YouCat Daily

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

144 What is the task of the bishops?

Bishops have responsibility for the local Church that is entrusted to them and a share in the responsibility for the whole Church. They exercise their authority in communion with one another and for the benefit of the whole Church under the leadership of the Pope.

Bishops must first of all be Apostles -faithful witnesses of Jesus, who personally called them to follow him and then sent them. So they bring Christ to mankind and mankind to Christ. This happens through their preaching, the celebration of the sacraments, and their governance of the Church. As a successor of the apostles, a bishop exercises his ministry by virtue of his own apostolic authority; he is not an agent or a sort of assistant to the Pope. Yet he acts with and under the Pope.

Right to Life: Call to Action

Now that the Assisted Dying Bill will be voted on again on 11 September it is essential to contact your MP to urge that they vote against the Bill, even if you contacted them last year. See next page for more information.

Volunteering or Service?

A parish relies on so many people to thrive. Many volunteers give time and energy behind the scenes to ensure we are a safe and welcoming parish. But **volunteering** is not really the right word. It would be better to see it as **service** - service to God. We can show our love for God in many ways. Parishioners have commented that when they serve God and the Church in this way, they relish the extra time with Jesus in the Church, and it becomes a prayer and a blessing not a burden. We all grow closer to Jesus when we serve Him.

Could you spare some time?

If you are a parishioner living in Steyning, we are looking for more people to help with opening/locking up the church during the week. This is done via a rota, so it needn't take up too much of your time.

We also need someone to help with cleaning the brass and candlesticks at St Peter's.

Please contact the office if you can help: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please continue to bring your personal prayer intentions to the Prayer Boxes at SP and CTK. These prayer intentions will usually be offered at the First Friday mass of the month.

Please also pray for PEACE, for the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, vocations, enquirers to Catholicism, our 1st HC children and families, our Confirmation candidates, the cycle of Prayer for Ordinary Time (summer) and Bishop-Elect Stephen (see prayer on back page).

To Sing is to Pray Twice (St Augustin)



A piece by the German composer and pianist Max Reger (1873-1916): [Nachtlied](#).

*"The night has come,
and in it we shall rest;
God ensures, to our benefit,
by his good will,
that we may lie down in peace."*

Saint (Mother) Teresa of Calcutta on Adoration...

We've got a lot of work to do. Our hospitals and mortuaries are full everywhere. When we began daily adoration, our love for Christ became much more intimate, our love for one another more understanding, our love for the poor more compassionate, and the number of vocations doubled.





PARISH NEWS

EVENTS & NOTICES

Sat 5 Sep	First Saturday. All are welcome to mass at St Peter's at 10.00am, followed by Fatima Devotions and Rosary. The Towers, 5.30pm: Adur Valley Catenians serving Pimms and canapés after the 5.30pm mass at the Towers . All are welcome
Sun 6	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: SVP Bookstall
Tue 8	SP Parish Room, 7.30pm: 'Come & See' enquirers group. All are welcome.
Thurs 10	SP Parish Room, 10.00am: Coffee Pop-in and Digital advice SP Parish Room, 12.00pm: OLQP Community Lunch Club
Fri 11	No confessions today
Sat 12	No mass at SP today
Sun 13 Sep	We will welcome Fr Dominic O'Hara this weekend. 2nd Collection: Education

SVP Summer Foodbank Campaign



Thank you to all who have donated to our Summer Foodbank Campaign. Please continue to bring any donations you can, and they will be delivered. You can see their 'wish list' items on their Facebook page.

Saint Carlo Acutis Exhibition: 17 October – 1 November 2026, St Peter's

Please save the dates. We will welcome the Relics Tour and Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition of Blessed Carlo Acutis, in the Parish Room at St Peter's this autumn. More details soon.

OLQP Community Lunch Club & Digital Advice: Thursday 10th September

All are welcome to join fellow parishioners and friends for a Fish & Chips lunch on Thursday 10th September, 12.00pm, in the Parish Room at St Peter's. No need to have been before. Please arrive no later than 12.15pm, so we can phone through the order for collection.

Thank you to the wonderful team of helpers who not only set up, serve and clear away, but who also provide a hearty soup for starter and lovely homemade desserts (you can opt to just have this if you prefer).

You can also bring any questions/problems you have with digital devices, email, websites etc. David will be on hand to help, both after mass and at lunchtime.

Stella Maris

Thank you for supporting the Sea Sunday appeal in July. Our Parish raised £328.00. Your generous gifts will ensure that Stella Maris chaplains can continue to be a friend for seafarers and fishers in times of need. To find out more about the work of Stella Maris, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk



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. First Holy Communion application forms are now available from the sacristy.

Mobile Phones to Donate—update from Deacon Simon

Thank you to everyone who has responded. I will be taking over 25 phones to my close friend Fr. Gregory from Ghana. The phones will be distributed to people in remote villages across Ghana. Deacon Simon.

Care for Creation

Please come and look at the resources going up in the Parish room, highlighting the 'Care for Creation' season, which lasts until October 4th. We will be praying for important issues during the monthly Prayers for Peace, at 4pm in the Divine Mercy Chapel on Friday September 4th and Friday October 2nd. All our welcome

Contact Ashley Ralston ajralston37@gmail.com for more information.

Call to Action: Please write to your MP before 11th September

Later this month, Parliament will again consider Assisted Suicide, after the previous Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill failed to progress in time. A new Private Member's Bill, similar in scope, has been introduced by MP Lauren Edwards, with a key vote scheduled for Friday 11 September. The Catholic Church continues to affirm the dignity of every human life from conception to natural death, strongly opposing Assisted Suicide and urging greater investment in palliative care so that those who are dying receive compassionate, ethical support.

Parishioners are encouraged to contact their MP ahead of the 11 September vote. If your MP previously opposed the Bill, consider writing to thank them and ask that they maintain their position. If they supported it, sharing your personal concerns or experiences can be influential, as many MPs changed their stance during earlier readings. Visit: www.righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote and follow the simple instructions.



DIOCESAN NEWS

Young Adult Retreat Day

Saturday 26 September, 10am-6.30pm, St Wilfrid's Church, Burgess Hill, RH15 9EN (Cost: £20). Young Adults (18-35) are invited to a jam-packed day of prayer, formation, friendship, and fun - praying to discover true peace within ourselves, to become peacemakers in the world around us, and to be renewed with an apostolic fire burning brightly within our hearts.

[Young Adults' Retreat Day \(26-Sep-2026\) · ChurchSuite Events](#)

Monks in the City

Saturday Sanctuary, 3 October, 11am-12.45pm, St John the Baptist, Brighton, BN2 1AP. A morning of fellowship, reflection, prayer and silence on selected Saturdays.

This session includes an Introduction to Spiritual Direction. See website for more details: www.monksinthecity.uk

MONKS
IN THE CITY

Memorial Concert

The Abbot Stephen Ortiger Memorial Concert is being held on 22 November at 7.15pm at Worth Abbey. Cost £16.50 per person.

Net proceeds from this event will be split 50:50 between the Fr Stephen Ortiger Bursary Fund and the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton Lourdes Pilgrimage. Composed by Julian Gairdner, an alumnus of Worth School, Abbatial Requiem will be performed by London-based choir Vox Cordis alongside Worthian singers. As Abbot Stephen was so dedicated to supporting the youth of the Diocese through the pilgrimage and his love of Our Lady, aptly, the work unusually incorporates 'Salve Regina'. See poster for details.

Mental Health Awareness training – Saturday 17 October 10-3pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley – cost £40

Thanks to the support of Mental Health England, we are able to offer this "Mental Health Awareness" training, to explore the realities, symptoms and impact of living with these many debilitating conditions. One of the challenges that we are experiencing in our modern world is the growing number of people, of all ages, experiencing the darkness and challenge of various mental health conditions. The training is being highly subsidised and tickets are just £40 per delegate (usual price £120). If you have any questions about this training do not hesitate to contact Deacon Simon South, Marriage and Family Life Adviser at E: simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk. To book your place go to the Events page of the Diocesan website W: www.abdiocese.org.uk/

Readings: 23rd Sunday in OT A

1st Reading Ezekiel 33:7-9

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

2nd Reading Romans 13:8-10

Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

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



Welcome
BISHOP-ELECT
STEPHEN WANG

Prayer for Bishop-Elect Stephen

O God, eternal and loving Shepherd, we bless and thank you for the appointment of your servant, Stephen, to our Diocese of Arundel and Brighton.

May your Holy Spirit grace him with a spirit of counsel and fortitude, a spirit of knowledge and piety, so that he may gently and courageously sanctify, teach and govern the Church of Arundel and Brighton as we work together to build up the kingdom of heaven.

May he be a shepherd after your own heart, who, with compassion and wise discernment, will care for and lead your people with the joy of the Gospel.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Fr Stephen Wang will be installed as the sixth Bishop of Arundel & Brighton on Monday 19 October at 12 noon. The Mass of Episcopal Ordination, which takes place on the Feast of St Philip Howard, will include invited representatives from across our community of faith and will be livestreamed from Arundel Cathedral.

Bishop Stephen will celebrate a special Mass of Welcome for people across our Diocese at Worth Abbey near Crawley on Saturday 24 October at 11.30am. Further details will be announced in due course.