

Catholic Parish of Brighton and Hove: West Hub

Sacred Heart; St George's & St Theresa's; St Mary Magdalen's; St Peter's
Canon Colin Wolczak; Fr Paul Wilkinson; Fr Tony Milner; Fr Alphonse Kabore; Canon David Parmiter
Sunday 30th November 2025, First Sunday of Advent, Year A. Weekdays: Week 1 Psalter Week 1

Canon David writes...

We can think about Advent as a beginning, a chance for God to make all things new as the scriptures remind us, which is the promise we can hold in our hearts as life gets busier in the run up to Christmas. We try to keep these four weeks in a frame of mind which I would describe as 'spiritual expectancy'. With the celebration of the Nativity, at the end of the month, as an opportunity to increase our faith that God is with us always in the person of Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Then the great hope we also carry in our hearts that he will come again at the end of time in glory to bring to fulfilment in his kingdom. In this season we try to witness that there are two different senses of time. One is time as measured by the calendar and the other is time as a moment when God acts and we can encounter him. In this and in every Advent, we are not 'clock-watchers' counting down the days to Christmas gifts and a good lunch but God watchers, looking out for what he is doing and going to do in our communities and lives to make all things new. It is great news to welcome back from sabbatical leave Fr Tony, and he has a message for us below. Please keep him and all the clergy in your prayers as we enter a new Church year.



A message from Fr Tony ...

Dear Parishioners,

It is good to be back! First of all, huge thanks to Juliette, Fr Paul, Fr Celestine and Fr David for keeping St Theresa's and St George's thriving over the past months. Thanks also to all of you for your prayers. I have felt very supported by you all. I return after almost a year, which has been both enriching and challenging. My susceptibility to anxiety and depression has not gone away, but I have come to understand it better. To conclude my time of reflection I have recently completed the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius, a 30-day exploration of the way God is working in my life, and that was both very challenging and very enlightening. I hope to be able to share some of it as appropriate in the coming weeks, as some of the lessons learned and insights gained are fairly universal!

I will be starting my return by picking up most of the Masses. We won't be changing the schedule for now. I am also looking forward to working collaboratively with the other priests and communities of our new parish of Brighton and Hove as we seek to communicate the Good News of Jesus through our words and by our way of living. Do keep praying for me and for our parish.

God Bless, Fr Tony.

Rorate Masses at St Peter's will commence this week during the first week of advent at 7am on Wednesday 3rd at St Peter's and will replace the 10am Mass that day. A quick reminder a Rorate Mass is a traditional Votive Mass in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary celebrated during the season of Advent, usually in the early morning just before dawn. The mass is lit only by candlelight, symbolising Mary's role in bringing Christ, the Light of the World, into the darkness of the world. As the sun rises, the church progressively brightens, reflecting the spiritual expectation of Christ's coming. Saint Mary Magdalen's Rorate Masses will also take place at 7am on Saturdays 6, 13 and 20 December. All welcome to St Peter's and St Mary Magdalen's.

Community building at St Peter's During Advent at St Peter's at the beginning of Mass, I will be asking parishioners to turn to the person next to them and offer to pray for them during that Mass. If you don't know them it's also an opportunity to exchange first names and if you do know them, I am sure they will appreciate the support for our pilgrim journey. I hope you feel you will be able to take part in this preparation for the birth of Christ who came to walk alongside us each day and especially when we are at Mass. Canon David.

Sacred Heart, 39 Norton Road, BN3 3BF, 01273 732843, www.sacredheartrove.org.uk;
hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk. All Masses Live Streamed: www.sacredheartrove.org.uk/videos.html

St George's, Court Farm Road, BN3 7QR and St Theresa's, Old Shoreham Road, BN42 4RY, 01273 708227;
www.brightondeanerywest.org.uk; westhove@abdiocese.org.uk

St Mary Magdalen's, 55 Upper North St, BN1 3FH; brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk

St Peter's, Portland Road, BN3 5GD, 01273 733840, <https://www.stpeters-hove.org.uk/>; hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

For any other contact information, including Safeguarding, please see the relevant parish website or church noticeboards

Mass Schedule		
Sat 29	Nov	
12noon†	SMM	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SH	Ruby Finley RIP
6.00	SP	In thanksgiving
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 30	Nov	First Sunday of Advent
8.30 am	SP	Jude Fletcher RIP
9.00	ST	Shirley Carroll RIP
9.30	SH	People of the Parish
9:30	SMM	<i>Mass in Polish</i>
10.00	SP	Zoran & Pierre Families
11.00	SG	People of the Parish
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30	SH	Peter Francis RIP
11.30	SP	Deceased members of Reynauld family
5.00 pm	SP	<i>Brazilian Mass</i>
5.00	SMM	People of the Parish
Mon 1	Dec	
10.00 am †	SH	Anna Domagala RIP
Tue 2	Dec	
10.00 am	SG	Mary Sumner RIP
10.00 †	SH	Charles Emmaunel Osezua Int
10.00	SP	Sarah Bradden
6.00pm †	SMM	People of the Parish
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Wed 3	Dec	Saint Francis Xavier
7.00am	SP	Rorate Mass Caelie (candlelit) Wellbeing of Linda & John Wyatt
8.00am	SH	Bob White RIP
6.00pm †	SMM	People of the Parish
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Thurs 4	Dec	Saint John Damascene
10.00am	SP	Jayne Eillis
10.00 ‡	SG	People of the Parish
12 noon †	SH	Alfred Hodgson RIP
6.00pm †	SMM	People of the Parish
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Fri 5	Dec	
8.00 am	SH	Michael Logue RIP
10:00 AM	SP	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SMM	People of the Parish
7.00	ST	People of the Parish
Sat 6	Dec	Saint Nicholas
7:00am	SMM	Rorate Caeli Mass (candlelit)
12noon	SH	Margaret Smith Int
12noon†	SMM	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SH	Frank McHugh RIP
6.00	SP	John Lloyd RIP
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 7	Dec	Second Sunday of Advent
8.30 am	SP	Jude Fletcher RIP
9.00	ST	Cosme & Conception Rodrigues RIP
9.30	SH	Zsusana Agoston RIP
9:30	SMM	<i>Mass in Polish</i>
10.00	SP	People of the Parish
11.00	SG	Mrs Kathleen 'Kitty' McKenzie RIP
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30	SH	People of the Parish
11.30	SP	Eileen Russell
5.00 pm	SP	<i>Brazilian Mass</i>
6.00pm	SP	<i>Syrian Mass</i>
5.00	SMM	People of the Parish

SH: Sacred Heart; **SG:** St George's;
SMM: St Mary Magdalene's; **SP:** St Peter's; **ST:** St Theresa's;
† Adoration before; ‡ Adoration after

Regular Events

Weekly Reconciliation 5:15-5:45pm before Mass every Saturday at **Sacred Heart**, and **St Peter's**.

Prayer Groups

Tuesday Prayer Group – Sacred Heart Tuesdays at 10:30am in the Sacred Heart Parish Room. All welcome. Prayer requests may be left in the box at the back of the church.

Thursday Online Prayer Group Thursdays at 8pm via video link. A small and informal group praying and reflecting on Scripture together. To join or to 'come and see', please email westhove@abdiocese.org.uk for the meeting link. Prayer requests may be left in the box at the back of St Theresa's.

Friday Online Contemplative Prayer Group Fridays from 7:30 –8:30pm. All welcome. For more information, please email quietenginesprayer@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart Online Rosary Fridays at 11am, Rosary available online only. Please join via our livestream.

Bible Course at Sacred Heart- in the new year, we hope to run the great new video and discussion course from the Bible Society, likely on Wednesday (or Tuesday) evenings for eight weeks. More info soon, or ask faith@ag4.it

SYCAMORE **Advent Sycamore at St Peter's**
Would you like Wednesday evenings during Advent to add something special to the season? You are most welcome to join us on Wednesdays from 7.30pm for drinks, snacks short Advent focused films and lively discussion. We will consider Welcoming the Stranger as a key theme. Venture forth!

Social Groups

St George's Tea & Chat On the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, the 10am Mass at St George's is followed by a time of socialisation and activity, in the hall, aimed at the older people in the parish. No need to book. Just turn up! Next date is Tuesday 9th December.

Sacred Heart SVP Social Group Open to all parishioners. Enjoy soup, sandwiches, tea, cakes, entertainment, quizzes, and more after the 12 noon Mass. Next meeting: 4th Dec, and they will take a break. Next meeting is 8 January. All welcome.

St Peter's Social Group Fridays at 1:30pm in the parish hall. Join us for light refreshments and good conversation. All welcome.

Sacred Heart Film Club Saturday 6th December, after 12pm Mass in the Parish Rooms. We will be showing 'Fr Brown' starring Sir Alec Guinness. Refreshments served, all welcome.

Other Events / Notices

SMM Healing Service Sunday 7th December, 3pm-4:15pm, at St Mary Mags. All are welcome.



RCIA 2025/2026: Sacred Heart Church parishioners will formally welcome this year's participants in our RCIA programme (for people wishing to join the Catholic Church) during the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 7th December. Please come along and show your support – and after Mass join us in the Parish Room.

2025-2026 Confirmation Programme Application Forms – For West Hub

Application Forms must be completed & returned to your parish office before 9th December 2025.

Confirmation Programme – Call for New Catechists

The Confirmation programme, for the all the Churches in the West Hub, is currently run at the Sacred Heart. Our Catechist will be stepping down after the 2026 programme, and we are looking for some new Catechists to run the programme from 2027. Ideally the person will have skills such as the ability to communicate with young people and a passion for passing on the Catholic faith. It would be great if we have several people helping out so that we are not reliant on one person/parish and it would be the perfect opportunity to get involved and shadow our current Catechist during the 2026 programme which starts in February 2026 and runs on a Monday evening from 6-7pm. Support for this programme is offered by the Parish Office, with all of the learning materials provided, so you will not be expected to do everything

yourself. Please contact your local Parish Office if you feel you might be interested in finding out more.

Fire Marshal & Parking Marshal Volunteers Needed

On Wednesday 10th December at St Theresa's, our parish school, St Mary's, will be holding their annual Advent Service from 6–7pm, with children arriving from 5:40pm. This is always a very well-attended event, and we rely on a few kind volunteers to help everything run safely and smoothly. We are looking for helpers for two simple, one-off roles:

- Fire Marshals – keeping an eye on exits and assisting in the unlikely event of an evacuation.
- Parking Marshals – guiding cars safely into spaces between 5:30–6pm, and ensuring all emergency exits & access routes remain clear for emergency vehicles should they need to attend.

If you can give a little of your time, in either role, please let the parish office know. Your help really does make a big difference, and we are very grateful. Thank you.

Polish Mass at St George's – Time Change

On Saturday 6th December, the Polish Mass will take place at 5:30pm (instead of the usual 6:30pm). After the Mass, there will be a 60th birthday celebration for Fr Tadeusz in the hall.

Fundraising / Giving

Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School is sending a group of students on the HCPT Pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter. The pilgrimage takes children to Lourdes and those joining the pilgrimage often have special needs or disabilities. The students from Cardinal Newman will act as helpers to enable those children to enjoy the pilgrimage experience and to care for them whilst they are away from their families in Lourdes.

Several Cardinal Newman students visited our community last weekend and are returning this weekend to raise money through a cake sale to meet the cost of their pilgrimage. Please support them if you can in the hall after Mass at St Peter's this weekend as they continue to fundraise the cost of their trip. Thanks

to those of you have generously donated last weekend, you can now also donate via our dona machine if you wish or using the QR code the students have set up.



St Mary's PTA

will be selling raffle tickets after Mass, at the back of **St Theresa's** on Sunday 30th November. Cash or card welcome.

St Peter's Offertory Collection

1st Collection 16th November = £1,384.
2nd Collection Retired Priests = £168.

Update to the Aid to the Church in Need second collection:

The actual amount raised was £1,120.05 and not £631.34 as reported last week. This includes sales of Christmas Cards etc.

Sacred Heart Repository Christmas Cards are available in the Repository after weekend Masses. We also have Aid to the Church in Need items for sale too including rosaries and prayer books.

Card sale for Lewes Prison Chaplaincy

Paul Hebdon will be offering his Greetings Cards for sale after all Masses at **Sacred Heart** on 29th/30th November in aid of the Chaplaincy at Lewes Prison. Your past generosity to this cause has been greatly appreciated.

Karla's Curry Evening Karla is running a curry evening for ESSA, a Sri Lankan Charity, on the 13th December at 7:00pm in Sacred Heart Parish Rooms. Tickets are £15 and are available after weekend Masses at the Sacred Heart or call 07523 954494 to buy a ticket.

Soup Run Each week, from Mon to Fri, 7pm at the shelter next to the Angel of Peace on the seafront. Please consider giving your time to this valuable work of charity. For more information, please contact SMM office.

Please pray for... Clive Connor, Canon Colin Wolczak, Caroline Lamb, Cathy Howes, Cheryl Evans, Clive Holding, Eileen Kipling, Elena White, Hanorah & Mat Smith, Matt & Vince Neal, Rex Curd, Tom Piggins, & Winifred Wilde.

**Sunday 30th November 2025,
First Sunday of Advent**

First Reading: 2 Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say:

‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’ For out of Sion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Response

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14a

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

**Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.**

Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: ‘For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Profession of Faith

**I believe in one God,
the Father almighty, maker of heaven
and earth, of all things visible and
invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus
Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten,
not made,
consubstantial with the Father; through
him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he
came down from heaven,
(all bow during the next three lines)
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of
the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated
at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the**

**living and the dead and his kingdom
will have no end.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son, who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**I believe in one, holy,
catholic and apostolic Church.**

**I confess one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins and I look forward
to the resurrection of the dead and the
life of the world to come.**

Amen.

Prayer over the Offerings

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at
your hands, for the praise and glory of
his name, for our good, and the good of
all his holy Church.**

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he

who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of
the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of
God, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

Invitation to Communion

**Lord, I am not worthy that you should
enter under my roof, but only say the
word and my soul shall be healed.**

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