

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

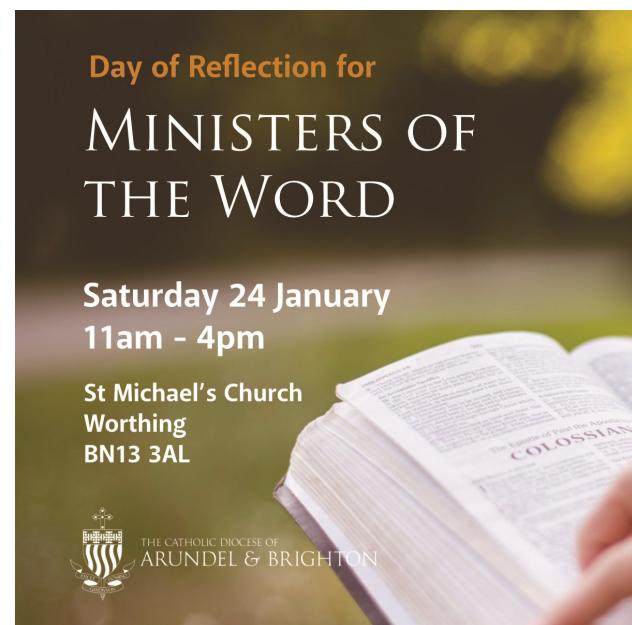
Sunday 18th January 2026, Second Sunday in Ordinary time, Year A. Weekdays: Week 2, Psalter Week 2

Canon Colin writes

Our Christmas celebrations are finally over, and we return to Ordinary Time to put into practice all that we have seen and heard. In today's Gospel we hear how John the Baptist recognised Jesus as the Lamb of God. When John's parents died, he may well have been still too young to be on his own. Zechariah and Elizabeth had been very old when John was born, so that would not have been a surprise, but apparently nothing was done to prepare for it, just the same. According to tradition, the rest of the family had gone north to Nazareth because of political problems, and John, left alone, was taken in by a group of old men who lived in a little village down by the Dead Sea. The place was called Qumran, and the men were known as the Essenes. No one agrees just where the Essenes came from originally, but most agree that they had come to Qumran to get away from the "corruption" they believed was taking place in the Temple in Jerusalem (a response to overwhelming corruption in secular life, copied during the following centuries, particularly in the second century by the Desert Fathers and Mothers, and in the Middle Ages, by those who founded and lived in the monasteries throughout Europe). You could say of both groups, that they were "religious fanatics" — or, more accurately, saints-in-the-making, who lived lives of penance and prayer and spent the days and nights copying Scripture with its prophetic scrolls about how one day, God was going to send His Messiah and flush that filth right out of Jerusalem. Since many of them were unmarried, it was common for them to "adopt" homeless children and raise them, teaching them to continue the Essene lifestyle. One of those homeless children may well have been the young boy, John. Years later, when he appears just a few miles north of Qumran, he preaches, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand!" These are Essene words, pure and simple. -- But even when he became a popular preacher, John still had the humility to acknowledge and introduce Jesus as "the Lamb of God" and the expected Messiah.



The next
Marriage Preparation course
begins on 2 March 2026
Details from
bh.marriage.prep@gmail.com
Apply before 31 January.



Sacred Heart, 39 Norton Road, BN3 3BF, 01273 732843, www.sacredhearthove.org.uk;
hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk. All Masses at SH are Live Streamed: www.sacredhearthove.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

Hospital Chaplain, Royal Sussex County Hospital, T. 01273 696955 Ext. 64122, email celestine.nnolim@nhs.net

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

Mass Schedule		
Sat 17	Jan	St Antony
12noon†	SMM	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SH	Anthony John Reynolds RIP
6.00	SP	Sarah B Fitzgerald RIP
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 18	Jan	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30 am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00	ST	George Shannon RIP
9.30	SH	Wendy Woodland RIP
09:30	SMM	<i>Polish Mass</i>
10.00	SP	Roger & Margaret Frow RIP
11.00	SG	People of the Parish
11.00	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30	SH	People of the Parish
11.30	SP	Yvonne Prengergast
5.00	SMM	People of the Parish
Mon 19	Jan	St Wulstan
10.00 am †	SH	Anthony Ball RIP
Tue 20	Jan	St Fabien
10.00 am	SG	People of the Parish
10.00 †	SH	Rt Rev Mgr Canon Thomas Connolly
10.30	SP	Funeral Mass of Jenny Shippam
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	<i>No Mass</i>
Wed 21	Jan	St Agnes
8.00am	SH	Jose Nery Alvis RIP
8.00am	CNCS	
10.00	SP	Thanksgiving
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	Mary Miller RIP
Thurs 22	Jan	St Vincent
10.00am	SP	No Mass
10.00 am ‡	SG	People of the Parish
12noon †	SH	Anne & John Manchett's Ints
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	<i>No Mass</i>
Fri 23	Jan	Friday
8.00 am	SH	Ottaline Henry RIP
10.00	SP	Ann Weston RIP
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00	ST	Stuart Austin RIP
Sat 24	Jan	Saint Francis de Sales
12noon†	SMM	
6.00pm †	SH	People of the Parish
6.00	SP	Anthony Lin RIP
6.30	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 25	Jan	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30 am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00	ST	Christine Roe RIP
9.30	SH	Charles Emmanuel Osezua Int
09:30	SMM	
10.00	SP	David Anthony Toscano & family through intercession of St Carlo Acutis
11.00	SG	Maria Patente & Family
11.00	SMM	
11.30	SH	Maureen Ashing Int
11.30	SP	Betty Hearne RIP
5.00	SMM	Louis and Margaret Branney

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



Lepra Appeal this Sunday at St Peter's:

This Sunday at St Peter's Bishop Richard has given permission for a collection to be taken for Lepra.

There is also a Catholic charity called

St Frances Leprosy Guild. World Leprosy Day is Sunday 25 January 2026.

For over a 100 years Lepra has worked to reduce the physical, emotional and social harm caused by leprosy and lymphatic filariasis (LF). We work directly with people in India and Bangladesh, prioritising marginalised and hard to reach communities to support people affected and refer them for treatment and care.

Leprosy is curable! 2024 Lepra's Centenary Year and for 100 years Lepra's research has led to new and innovative approaches to healthcare programmes. Lepra seeks to provide better detection and treatment to advocate for those without a voice, to challenge prejudice wherever it exists, to help provide sustainable healthcare in partnership with local communities. Now more than ever your support is needed, it costs £25 to change a life and if found early enough and treatment provided, the disease can be halted preventing disability. To donate please go to donate.lepra.org.uk or use the QR code.



SCAN ME TO



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Regular Events

Weekly Reconciliation Times

Sacred Heart & St Peter's Saturdays at 5:15pm, before Mass.

St Mary Magdalen Fridays during Holy Hour at 5:00pm, Saturdays at 11:00am, and on request.

St Theresa's Fridays after the 7:00pm Mass.

Prayer Groups

Tuesday Prayer Group – Sacred Heart Every Tuesday at 10:30am, SH Parish Room. All welcome. You may leave prayer requests in the box at the back of the church.

Online Prayer Group – Thursdays at 8pm via video-link. A small and informal group, meeting to pray and read the scriptures together. If you would like to join the group, or just 'come and see' you are very welcome. Just send an email to westhove@abdiocese.org.uk and you will receive the link for the meeting. You may leave prayer requests in the box at the back on St Theresa's, or in the basket at St George's church.

St Peter's You are warmly invited to join the online contemplative prayer group on Fridays from 7:30–8:30pm. For more information, please email: quietenginesprayer@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart Online Rosary: Friday's 11am Rosary, available online only. Please join via our livestream.

Social Groups

St George's Tea and 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 Tues 27th January.

Sacred Heart SVP Social Group For all parishioners: join us for soup, sandwiches, tea, and cakes, with entertainment, quizzes, and more after the 12 noon Mass. The next meeting is on 22nd January, and then every two weeks thereafter.

St Peter's Social group The St Peter's Social Group meets on Fridays from 1–3pm in the parish hall. Please do join us for light refreshments and friendly conversation. Please note the new time.

Sacred Heart Film Club The next Film Club will be held on **7th February** after 12.00pm Mass. The film showing will be 'Mr Jones' starring James Norton as a dauntless journalist who exposes Stalin's horrific treatment of Ukraine in the 1930's. Refreshments served, all welcome.

Faith Formation Group Thursdays, 6:45pm, St Mary Mags. This informal group is designed for those wishing to join the Church and is open to anyone who would like to learn more about the Catholic faith. Please contact the office for more information.

Other Events/Notices

'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 Archbishop-Elect 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 - abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/c5a7autc5a7aut

Write Prayers with Us Deepen your experience of written prayer by joining our Intercessions Rota. Sacred Heart currently has spaces for a couple of new contributors to join their diverse team. You would write Prayers of the Faithful for Mass once every six to eight weeks. Guidance, instructions, and theme suggestions will be provided, and support will be given as you find your way. To get involved, please contact faith@ag4.it.

St Peter's Repository Volunteer

Required We are looking for a volunteer to help run the Repository. No previous experience is required; the main part of the role is keeping an eye on stock control. Many thanks to Melitsa Bowen, who has generously given her time to restart the Repository and expand the range of stock. If you would like to help, please contact the parish office.

Charity Quiz Night – In Aid of SAFE IN SUSSEX The Adur Valley Catenians invite you to a Charity Quiz Night on Saturday 28th February at Towers Convent, Henfield Road, BN44 3TF, in support of SAFE IN SUSSEX, a local charity providing practical help and support to those affected by domestic abuse. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Tickets are £12.50 per adult and £8.50 for under 18s, to include a buffet supper. There will be a licensed bar, lottery and prizes, and teams are welcome. Tickets are available from

andrew.davey160@gmail.com or after the 9.00am Mass at St Theresa's. Sponsored by the Adur Valley Catenians.

Sacred Heart Repository: Copies of the Diocesan Directory and available for sale in the Repository.

Fundraising / Giving

Special Collections:

18th January – Pax Christi Sacred Heart, St Therese & St George.

Martlets Hospice fundraising at St Peter's Many of you will have known

someone who has benefitted from this wonderful resource, perhaps as a patient or receiving outreach services. We are fortunate to have this in our area but it relies on private financial support. Some hospices have waiting lists while beds are empty as they cannot afford to staff them. St Peter's has raised over £400 for the Martlets in the last few months, through coffee donations and small sales after Mass. Please support these – and go home with a bargain or a nice gift, or just pop in for a biscuit and M&S coffee!

Prayer List Please pray for those who are sick or in need of our prayers:

Cathy Howes, Clive Connor, Elena White, Tom Piggins, Canon Colin Wolczak, Annie Price, Cheryl Evans, Chris, Lucy, Matt and Vince Neal, Eileen Kipling, Hanorah and Mat Smith, Rex Curd, & Winifred Wilde.

Derek Dray RIP (SMM) The funeral of Derek Dray will be held on Friday, 24th January, at 12:30pm. Derek was a long-standing member of St Mary Magdalen's Church and a governor of the school. Please keep them and their families in your prayers.

We have heard of the death of **Anne Sumner**, a long time Parishioner at the Sacred Heart. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.

Christmas Crib Offering – Catholic Children's Society's (CCS) A & B's Crisis Fund

As usual, the Christmas Crib offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society. All funds raised will help local children and families in need. You can donate in Church, use the QR code on the posters, or via the CCS website: www.cathchild.org/crib

thecatenians.uk

"Do you wish there was a place for busy Catholic families from different parishes to meet & network"



Discover the friends you've yet to meet

 Find out more [https://cateniansprovince18.org.uk](http://cateniansprovince18.org.uk)

 CATENIANS

**Sunday 18th January 2026,
Second Sunday in Ordinary time**

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Collect

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him — for I am honoured in the eyes of the Lord, and my God has become my strength — he says: 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Response

Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Paul, called by the will of God to be an Apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us; to all who did receive him, he gave the authority to become children of God.

Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew John 1:29-34

At that time: John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me." I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptising with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John bore witness: 'I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptise with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptises with the Holy Spirit." And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.'

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.

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