

Catholic Parish of Brighton and Hove: West Group

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 6th September 2026 • 23rd Sunday of the Year • Year A • Weekdays: Week 22 • Psalter Week 3

Canon Colin writes...

Today in his passage from his letter to the Romans, St Paul reminds us that to fulfil the law we must love one another. With all the atrocities we see on the news each day it is easy to wish that the perpetrators get the punishment that we believe is their destiny, however as Christians that is not the way a follower of Christ should think or act. I remember, many years ago reading a book. By Garrie F. Williams, "Welcome, Holy Spirit." On the life of Corrie ten Boon.

"Corrie often thought back over the horrors of the Ravensbruck concentration camp. How could she ever forgive the former Nazis who had been her jailers? Where was love, acceptance, and forgiveness in a horror camp where more than 95,000 women died? How could she ever forget the horrible cruelty of the guards and the smoke constantly coming from the chimney of the crematorium? Then in 1947 Corrie was speaking in a Church in Munich, and when the meeting was over, she saw one of the cruellest male guards of Ravensbruck coming forward to speak to her. He had his hand outstretched. "I have become a Christian," he explained. "I know that God has forgiven me for the cruel things I did, but I would like to hear it from your lips as well. Fraulein, will you forgive me?" A conflict raged in Corrie's heart. The Spirit of God urged her to forgive. The spirit of bitterness and coldness urged her to turn away. "Jesus, help me," she prayed. Then she knew what she must do. "I can lift my hand," she thought to herself. "I can do that much." As their hands met it was as if warmth and healing broke forth with tears and joy. "I forgive you, brother, with all my heart," she said. Later Corrie testified, "it was the power of the Holy Spirit" Who had poured the love of God into her heart that day—I don't know any other way true forgiveness can take place. We turn our hurt over to God. We ask God for the ability to forgive".

Fortunately, most of us have not been tested like those in the concentration camps during the second world war, but we must examine our attitude to refugees fleeing war and torture. Do we join the media and condemn them or put out a hand of friendship and be prepared like Corrie ten Boon to put out a hand of friendship and forgiveness.

This Week in Our Parish

Saturday 5th September

- *Sacred Heart Film Club: After the 12noon Mass at Sacred Heart, showing The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry.
- *Reconciliation: 5:15–5:45pm at Sacred Heart & St Peter's.

Sunday 6th September

- *Lauds (Morning Prayer): 8:30am at St Theresa's.
- *Coffee & Cake: Refreshments after Mass at:
 - St Theresa of Lisieux – after the 9am Mass.
 - Sacred Heart – after the 9:30am Mass.
 - St Peter's – after the 10am and 11:30am Masses.
 - St George's – after the 11am Mass.
 - St Mary Magdalen's – after the 11am Mass, in the hall.
- *Table Church: After the 11am Mass at St Mary Magdalen's, in the community hall. This young adults' group meets for refreshments, to discuss life and share faith and experiences.
- *Reconciliation: After 11am Mass at St George's, on request.
- *Healing Service: 3pm at St Mary Magdalen's. All are most welcome. The car park will remain open until 6pm.

Monday 7th September

- *St Peter's Tai Chi: 10:30–11:30am in the hall, term time.
- *St George's Rosary Group: 6–7pm in the Lady Chapel.

Tuesday 8th September

- *St George's Tea & Chat: Following the 10am Mass in the hall. Join us for socialising and activities. No need to book.
- *Sacred Heart Prayer Group: 10:30am, Parish Room. Prayer requests can be left in the box at the back of the church.
- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.

Wednesday 9th September

- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.
- *St Theresa's Vespers: 6:30pm at St Theresa's.

Thursday 10th September

- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.

Friday 11th September

- *St Mary Magdalen's Women's Rosary: 10am in the Presbytery, followed by tea and refreshments.
- *Sacred Heart Online Rosary: 11am, online only.
- *St Peter's Social Group: 1–3pm in the parish hall. Join us for light refreshments and friendly conversation.
- *Reconciliation: 5pm, St Mary Magdalen's, during Holy Hour.
- *Reconciliation: After the 7:00pm Mass at St Theresa's.
- *St Peter's Contemplative Prayer Group. 7:30–9:00pm, in person and online. Contact quietenginesprayer@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart · 39 Norton Road, Hove, BN3 3BF · 01273 732843
St George's · Court Farm Road, Hove, BN3 7QR
St Theresa's · Old Shoreham Road, Hove, BN42 4RY · 01273 708227
St Mary Magdalen · 55 Upper North St, Brighton, BN1 3FH · 01273 326793
St Peter's · Portland Road, Hove, BN3 5GD · 01273 733840

Sacred Heart: hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk
St George's & St Theresa's: westhove@abdiocese.org.uk
St Mary Magdalen's: brightonstmarymag@abdiocese.org.uk
St Peter's: hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Chaplain – Royal Sussex County Hospital: Fr Celestine Nnolim · 01273 696955 Ext. 64122 · celestine.nnolim@nhs.net

For safeguarding & other contact information, please see church noticeboards.

A warm welcome to all our visitors. We hope you enjoy your time in our parish community and feel at home among us.

Serdecznie witamy wszystkich naszych gości. Mamy nadzieję, że miło spędzicie czas w naszej wspólnocie parafialnej i poczujecie się wśród nas jak w domu. (PL)

Damos as boas-vindas a todos os nossos visitantes. Esperamos que desfrutem do tempo passado na nossa comunidade paroquial e que se sintam em casa entre nós. (Portuguese)

Damos una cálida bienvenida a todos nuestros visitantes. Esperamos que disfruten de su tiempo en nuestra comunidad parroquial y que se sientan como en casa entre nosotros. (Spanish)

Nous souhaitons la bienvenue à tous nos visiteurs. Nous espérons que vous passerez un agréable moment au sein de notre communauté paroissiale et que vous vous sentirez chez vous parmi nous. (French)

Mass Schedule		
Sat 5th	September	Saint Teresa of Calcutta
12noon †	SMM	Josefina Centino and Severino Mayol
12noon †	SH	Holy Souls
6pm	SH	Deceased Members of the Donaghy Family RIP
6.00pm	SP	Henry Gabriel Tan RIP
6.30pm	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 6th	September	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00am	ST	Members of the SVP
9.30am	SH	People of the Parish
9:30am	SMM	<i>Polish Mass</i>
10.00am	SP	Ronald & Elsie Garner RIP & Sylvia Garner GE
11.00am	SG	Members of the SVP
11.00am	SMM	People of the Parish
11.30am	SH	The Lavaud Family
11.30am	SP	People of the Parish
5.00pm	SMM	People of the Parish
Mon 7th	September	Monday
10.00am †	SH	Mr Henshall's Relatives
Tue 8th	September	The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am	SG	People of the Parish
10.00am †	SH	Catherine & Edward Quin Garden
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	George L. Goad RIP
Wed 9th	September	Saint Peter Claver
8.00am	CNCS	-
8.00am	SH	Fr Michael's Intentions
10.00am	SP	Sylvia Garner's intention
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	Deceased members of the Cripps family RIP
Thurs 10th	September	Thursday
10.00am ‡	SG	Mary Margaret Barry RIP
10.00am †	SP	People of the Parish
12noon †	SH	Yvonne Hart Intentions
6.00pm †	SMM	
7.00pm	ST	People of the Parish
Fri 11th	September	Friday
8.00am	SH	Frances M. Therese Scott
10.00am	SP	People of the Parish
7.00pm ‡	ST	People of the Parish
6.00pm †	SMM	
Sat 12th	September	The Most Holy Name of Mary
12noon †	SMM	
6pm	SH	Mrs Leslie Cohen's Intentions
6.00pm	SP	People of the Parish
6.30pm	SG	<i>Polish Mass</i>
Sun 13th	September	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8.30am	SP	People of the Parish
9.00am	ST	Mary Wells Birthday
9.30am	SH	People of the Parish
9:30am	SMM	
10.00am	SP	Anthony Basil Reynauld RIP
11.00am	SG	People of the Parish
11.00am	SMM	
11.30am	SH	Anna & James Kendall RIP
11.30am	SP	Maria Colewell
5.00pm	SMM	

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



Sacraments

Baptism Preparation The next baptism preparation sessions will take place on Tuesday 8th September and Tuesday 15th September 2026, both from 6:30–7:30pm at St Theresa's. Families must attend both sessions.

2026–2027 Sacramental Programmes Applications for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA are now available for all churches in the West Group. Please contact your local parish office or visit their website for an application form. Completed forms should be returned to the relevant parish office by the deadline stated on the form to avoid disappointment.

Marriage Preparation The next Marriage Preparation Course begins 5th October 2026. Couples wishing to take part should apply by 11th September 2026. For further details or to register, email bh.marriage.prep@gmail.com.

St Peter's First Holy Communion Certificates are ready for collection from the sacristy collection tray after Mass.

Children, Young People & Schools

Children's Liturgy – Can You Help? Children's Liturgy is a valued part of Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart, St Peter's and St Theresa's, helping children hear and respond to the Gospel in ways that connect with their everyday lives. Children up to secondary school are welcome; older children are encouraged to stay in Mass. We are looking for a few more volunteers to support this ministry. Full support is provided, and you only need to help at your own church. To get involved or find out more, please contact your parish office.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Portslade Come and see how at St Mary's we do it differently! The school warmly invites prospective families to visit and discover how they encourage children to "Achieve their Ambitions." Please call the school on 01273 418416 to book a tour.

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School and Nursery SMM's Nursery is the perfect start to your child's educational journey. Feeding into the main school, it offers a fantastic opportunity for children to experience a seamless transition into Reception, helping them feel confident and prepared for their next steps in learning. Why not arrange a tour and discover this hidden gem for yourself?

Cottesmore St Mary Catholic Primary School Prospective parents with children looking to start Reception in September 2027 are warmly invited to visit the school during their

Open Days in November 2026. Please email office@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk with your preferred date or dates to arrange a visit. Further information can be found on the school's Admissions page.

Giving & Supporting Others

St Peter's Money Counters Volunteers are needed to help with counting the weekly collections. Training will be provided, and counters work in pairs.

Thank You for Supporting the Martlets Hospice - A huge thank you to everyone who donated to and supported the sales at St Peter's over the last two Sundays of August. Over £300 was raised, including a very generous £100 donation of jewellery. With Gift Aid, this brings the total raised to enough to provide two full 24-hour stays with all services, as well as several care-at-home sessions. The next sale will be at the end of September, featuring plants, cakes and other items. Donations are very welcome and can be given to Monica or Mary.

Missio Boxes There are still several empty Missio boxes in the outer sacristy at Sacred Heart waiting to be collected. Please collect a box and, if you can, fill it with your loose coins. Filled boxes can be collected by Marilyn throughout September. Thank you for your support.

Cash4Coins – Supporting the SVP The SVP is collecting leftover coins, old currency and foreign money through the Cash4Coins scheme to raise funds for SVP projects. Collection jars are available at St George's, St Peter's and St Theresa's. Thank you for helping the SVP continue its valuable work.

Missionary Society of St Columban Appeal We welcome the Missionary Society of St Columban for their annual appeal. Fr Kevin McDonagh will celebrate the Masses and make the appeal at St Theresa's and St George's on 13th September, while Fr Patrick O'Beirne will celebrate the Masses and make the appeal at St Peter's on 19th/20th September. The appeal raises awareness of the Columban missionary vocation and supports their missionary work around the world. Your prayers and generous support are greatly appreciated.

Special Collections 2026

6 September – SVP (SG & ST)

13 Sept – Columban Mission (SG & ST)

13 Sept – Education Sun (SH, SMM, SP)

Hangleton and West Blatchington Food Bank

The food bank would be very grateful for donations of Fray Bentos pies, plain noodles, shampoo and matching conditioner, and tinned meat such as corned beef or ham. Donations can be placed in the collection baskets at Waitrose Hove or brought to St George's Hall on Wednesday mornings after 10.30am. If you are unable to deliver your donation, please call 07990 631892 as collection may be possible. Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting local families in need.

Soup Run Volunteers are needed at the Angel of Peace statue, Monday to Friday at 7pm, to help serve hot soup, bread and kindness to those in need. Please contact the parish office at St Mary Magdalen for more information.

Prayer & Remembrance

Cycle of Prayer During Ordinary Time, we are asked to pray for a deeper understanding between Christians and Jews; human life; those who suffer persecution, oppression and denial of human rights; Europe; and seafarers.

Global Week of Prayer – 6–13 September 2026 Christian Action Brighton invites individuals and churches across Brighton & Hove to pray for our city and join a continuous 24/7 rhythm of prayer throughout the week. There will also be daily online prayer at noon and two opportunities to gather in person.

Southwick Churches Together Join us at 9:30am every Wednesday at St Michael's Church, Southwick, for a short service led by people from churches across the local area, followed by refreshments. All are welcome!

Prayer List Anne Callaghan; Canon Colin Wolczak; Chris, Lucy & Matt Neal; Clive Connor; Dean Schwartz; Eileen Kipling; Elena White; Elizabeth Houston; Hanorah & Mat Smith; Julia Fleming; Kathleen Davis; Liz Perkins; Margaret Keating; Margaret Robinson; Mario Noah; Melvin Shirkie; Paulina Podsiadly; Peter Cochlin; Robert (Bob) Selwood; Rosaleen Gripper; Tom Piggins & Winifred Wilde.

Bridget Lavy RIP We are very sorry to announce the death of Bridget Lavy, who passed away peacefully on 31 August. Bridget was a much-loved parishioner at St Theresa's for around 65 years and will be fondly remembered by many in our community. Please keep Bridget and her family in your prayers. Her Requiem Mass will take place at St Theresa's; details will be shared when arrangements have been confirmed.

Gerard Eaton RIP We are sad to announce the death of Gerard Eaton, a regular parishioner and Altar Server at Sacred Heart. His funeral will take place on Thursday 24th September at 12 noon at Sacred Heart.

Events & Opportunities

Mental Health Awareness Training Saturday 17 October, 10am–3pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. This subsidised Mental Health Awareness course explores the realities, symptoms and impact of mental health conditions. £40 per delegate (usual price £120). To book, visit the Events page of the Diocesan website or contact Deacon Simon at simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk.

Groups & Fellowship

Ecumenical Men's Breakfast Club Men from all Christian churches and denominations are warmly invited to meet for friendship, conversation and fellowship. The next meeting is Monday 21 September at 10:00am at the Royal George Pub, Stoney Lane, Shoreham. For further information, contact Andrew Macpherson on 07500 587107.

Catenian Association A monthly meeting of Catholic men at The Hove Club. For more information, please visit the Catenian Province 18 website.

Other News & Information

St Peter's Archive Team For baptism or confirmation certificates, please contact the volunteer team at saintpeterarchives@gmail.com. Please allow two weeks for documents to be processed.

Newsletter by Email Would you like to receive a copy of the newsletter in your inbox each week? Please email hovesacredheart@abdiocese.org.uk to be added to the distribution list. This list covers all churches in the west group.



Sunday 6th September 2026
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The 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.

First Reading — Ezekiel 33:7-9

Thus says the Lord: 'So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.'

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Second Reading — Romans 13:8-10

Brothers and Sisters: Owe no one anything, except to love each other. For the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet', and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.
Alleluia.

Gospel — Matthew 18:15-20

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.'

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, (at the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man, all bow) 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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