

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 10 th Dec: Santa Claus is coming to town, after 10am and 11.30am Masses.
Sunday 10 th Dec 6pm: Oriental Orthodox Liturgy.
Monday 11 th Dec: Clergy gathering at Amex Stadium re Pastoral Plan.
Tuesday 12 th Dec, 7am: Rorate Mass for the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.
Tuesday 12 th Dec, 8pm: Meeting of the Acutis Group.
Wednesday 13 th /Thursday 14 th : Crib building.
Thursday 14 th Dec, 8pm: Social Dancing.
Friday 15 th Dec, 1.30pm: Social Club Christmas party.
Saturday 16 th , morning: Christmas trees go up.
Saturday 16 th Dec, 3pm - 5.45pm: Confessions and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
Sunday 17 th Dec, 6.30pm: Carol Service.
Tuesday 19 th Dec, 7am: Rorate Mass.
Saturday/Sunday, 23 rd /24 th Dec: Fourth Sunday of Advent: said Masses at 6pm, 8.30am, 10am and 11.30am. Oriental Orthodox Liturgy at 1pm.
Sunday 24 th /Monday 25 th Dec: Christmas Day: Portuguese Mass at 4.30pm. Masses at 6pm, 12 midnight, 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am.
Tuesday 26 th Dec: Feast of St Stephen, Mass at noon.
Tuesday 26 th Dec, 2pm: Eastern Orthodox Liturgy.

Offertory Collection:

- 3 December 2023 £1382.
- 26 November 2023 £1353.

We have a permanent Book

Exchange in the Hall, which you will find by the windows above the cupboard to one side of the main entrance. Please help yourself to all the books you like the look of, as they all need good and appreciative homes. We have lots of books in stock at present, so please help yourselves! We are not particularly soliciting donations for the moment.

Fr Alexander's Leaving : We will host a gathering to wish him well on his next journey after 11.30am mass on December 31st in the hall, please join us. Over the next two weekends we are collecting money to present as a leaving gift for him, owing to time constraints we can only accept cash. Please donate if you wish using the envelopes attached to the newsletter and place either in the collection baskets or post through the Presbytery door.

Father Alexander will be leaving at the crack of dawn on 1st January. The new parish priest's identity and arrival date will be announced as soon as they are known. In the meantime, if you have a baby to baptise, or a wedding to arrange, it may well make things simpler if you speak to the new parish priest about these things when he arrives. Father Alexander is beginning to pack his stuff up, having received the thoughtful present of a 'moving pack' from our secondary organist Hamish (who wishes to remain anonymous) and will be looking for a place to store it. It is not possible at this late stage to fit in any more baptisms before Christmas.

St Peter's Catholic Church Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed



Carlo Acutis.
Portland Road Hove
BN3 5GD
10 December 2023



Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith

Priest's House, Shelley Road,
Hove BN3 5GD

Tel: 01273 733840

hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

www.stpeters-hove.org.uk

Parish Office Hours: Wed-Thurs 9-3.30pm,
Fri 9-1pm.

Safeguarding Rep: Anna Finlason

Email: sg1.hovestpeters@abdiocese.org.uk

Follow us on Twitter @HoveSaint Join us on Facebook: search for 'Saint Peter's, Hove'. Find our YouTube channel: search for 'Alexander Lucie-Smith'. We are doing a virtual Walking Tour Through the Bible in bite size chunks. We are currently in the midst of the minor prophets. Please visit our website which is constantly being updated.

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of

Advent. The prayers and readings are to be found in the aquamarine books on page 85. The first reading is from the Prophet Isaiah, in which the Lord promises to console his people for all the hardships they have had to endure. It then speaks of preparing a way for the Lord, which is something we are doing this Advent in our hearts, by making them ready to receive the Lord at Christmas. In the Gospel, from Saint Mark, we are told about John the Baptist, who comes to make people ready

for the Good News of Jesus by calling them to repentance.

This Saturday at the Vigil Mass, Yovina Senders will be baptised and confirmed and receive Holy Communion. Let us pray for her and her family at this important juncture of her life. This Sunday, Louie Monaghan, and Bubble and Mimi Oyesola will be making their First Holy Communion at the 10am Mass. At the 11.30am Mass it will be the turn of two older youngsters, Lea and Laura Fernandes. Let us pray ardently for all these children and their families.

There is no Children's Liturgy in the month of December.

This Sunday Santa Claus is coming to town, and Saint Nicholas will be in the Hall after the 10am Mass and the 11.30am Mass to give presents to children of all ages. Do come along to this fun event. In addition, we shall have a stall to raise funds for Aid to the Church in Need in Syria.

This coming Saturday from 3pm until 5.45pm, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Confessions. Fr Colin and Fr Tony will be in attendance.

Next Sunday the Carol Service takes place at 6.30pm; as in the past, we should aim to invite as many people as possible to come to this, as it is a thing that many non-religious people seem to enjoy and like. There will be a retiring collection for Aid to the Church in Need, earmarked for Syria. If you would like to bring wine and mince pies to the Hall afterwards, that would be greatly appreciated.

Would you like a £10 Sainsbury gift card to give to someone who might like it on behalf of the parish? Please ask Fr Alexander. We have a hundred such cards to disburse.

Mass intentions

Sat 9 Dec, 6pm: Laurence Effiom RIP
Sun 10 Dec, 8.30am: Holy Souls
Sun 10 Dec, 10am: For all parishioners
Sun 10 Dec, 11.30am: Jean and Larry Donnelly RIP
Mon 11 Dec, 10am: Eunice Claire Whitehead RIP
Tue 12 Dec, 7am: Agnes Grealish intention
Wed 13 Dec, 10am: Eileen M. Daly Iacono RIP
Thu 14 Dec: No Mass
Fri 15 Dec, 10am: Holy Souls
Sat 16 Dec, 6pm: Special Intention (JC)
Sun 17 Dec, 8.30am: GE UCM
Sun 17 Dec, 10am: For all parishioners
Sun 17 Dec, 11.30am: Ignacy Mackowiak (birthday) RIP

Liturgical notes

The Season of Advent is the time of waiting for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. The Advent wreath and its candles symbolise our waiting for the feast of Christmas. The vestments are purple, as this is a time of penance. There is no Gloria on a Sunday, and there are no flowers on the sanctuary.

Monday is the commemoration of Saint Damasus, pope.

Tuesday is the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. On Tuesday Mass is at 7am and held by candlelight, ending as dawn

breaks. Please bring your own candle. The Mass, known as a Rorate Mass, will be the votive Mass of Our Lady in Advent.

Afterwards you are all invited to come and have breakfast at Scottie's. There are no 10am masses on Tuesdays in Advent. Wednesday is the feast of Saint Lucy, virgin and martyr.

Confessions are heard after Mass on Friday morning, at 10.30am. On Saturday Confessions are heard before the evening Mass, at 5.15pm until 5.45pm. Advent is a time for going to Confession, as we prepare for Christmas. Please note the extra session of Confessions this Saturday from 3pm until 5.45pm, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

On Monday 11th December the clergy of the diocese are gathering at the Amex Stadium in order to hear the details of the Pastoral Plan. Let us pray for the success of the plan, and to help us do so there are prayer cards that we have received from the diocese, which can be found at the back of the Church.

The Acutis Group will meet on 12th December in order to discuss the Pastoral Plan revealed the day before and also to ready the parish for the new parish priest.

Christmas day fall on a Monday this year and Christmas Eve is a Sunday. To avoid confusion, all the Sunday Masses on 23rd and 24th December will be at the usual times, though there will be no music or little music (possibly some unaccompanied hymns, but no choir, organ or other accompaniment). There will be, as usual, five Christmas Masses: Mass in Portuguese at 4.30pm, 6pm Vigil, 12 Midnight, 8.30am Dawn, and 10am and

11.30am Day. All will have music bar the Dawn Mass.

Why go to Confession? We go to confession primarily to hear the words of absolution from a priest, and receive the forgiveness of God, knowing that God Himself, in His Son Jesus Christ, gave the apostles and their successors the power to forgive sins. So, going to confession gives us the certainty of knowing we are forgiven our sins, and the peace that flows from that certainty. But there are other reasons too.

The practice of going to Confession forces us to look at ourselves and examine our consciences. Quite often we would rather not look, but we do need to look at ourselves from time to time, take responsibility for our actions, ask pardon for the bad things we have done, resolve to turn over a new leaf, and generally evaluate our relationship with God. We need to do this with our human relationships as well. So, going to Confession is essential if we are to make progress in the spiritual life, and go from good to better.

Going to confession is also a useful reminder that some things are wrong (what we call venial sins) and some things are very wrong indeed (what we call mortal sins). We need to remind ourselves of this from time to time, and stop ourselves slipping into bad habits. Finally, God came on earth at Christmas to establish peace on earth and goodwill; we will feel both when our sins are wiped away. Going to confession is a sign of God's love, an act of receiving God's love. If we receive His forgiveness, we may find it easier to pass it on to others as well.

Think of going to Confession as a Christmas present to yourself.

News from the Monks at Saint John the Baptist: The last of the Monk Talks this season is on Tuesday, 12th December at 7:30pm. Abbot Stephen is not available, so the talk will now be given by Abbot Christopher Jamison OSB on Finding the Language of Grace (the title of his recent book). He is the author of two other books – Finding Silence and Finding Happiness, and a former Abbot of Worth. The last Midday Stillness at 12noon on a Friday will take place on 8th December and will resume on Friday 5th January. Our next programme will be available shortly and run from January to Easter.

The Crib is to be put up by our dedicated team on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th December. It is proposed to put up the Christmas trees on the morning of Saturday 16th December. If anyone wishes to help with the trees, please say so.

Social Dancing takes place in the Hall at 8pm this Thursday, for the last date of the year. All are welcome. The next occasion will be 11th January 2023.

The Social Club meets this Friday, in the Hall at 1.30pm. It is the Christmas party.

Clerk to Governors Cottesmore St Mary Catholic Primary School required. Part-time, permanent post NJC Scale 5 (Senior Clerk) £22,571 - £24,920 pro rata. 4 hours per week, plus extra hours for clerking working groups and panels. For further information contact (Chair of Governors–suehollow@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

Parish Notice Board

The Royal Sussex County Hospital Chaplain is Fr Celestine, and he can be reached via tel. 01273 696955 ext. 64122 or this email: celestine.nnolim@nhs.net. He is in the hospital from 8.30am to 4.30pm every weekday.

Children's Liturgy takes place at the 10am Mass. It is for children from year minus 1 to First Holy Communion age. Children and parents who wish to take part will be called up after the Gloria and Opening Prayer, and will then process into the Hall. They will return for the Offertory. Children's Liturgy is every Sunday, irrespective of school holidays, except in the months of April, August and December.

Please remember, if you have need of a baptism certificate, a confirmation certificate, or a marriage certificate, the email address you need to use is as follows: SaintPeterArchives@gmail.com

We have a permanent Book Exchange in the Hall, which you will find by the windows above the cupboard to one side of the main entrance. Please help yourself to all the books you like the look of, as they all need good and appreciative homes. We have lots of books in stock at present, so please help yourselves! We are not particularly soliciting donations for the moment.

Financial Adviser - Nick Lee

He would be delighted to help anyone with their Mortgage, Pension and Investment needs. You can contact him on 07500 660492 nicklee@pebble-financial.co.uk



Thank you for your offertory donations via the Dona device.

If you are an existing Gift Aid donor, you still need to opt-in for Gift Aid on this system – it is not linked to the envelope or standing order system. You can also donate directly to St Peter's via the Dona donations webpage on our website at <http://www.stpeters-hove.org.uk/donations/> Or just click on the Donate button on the home page and follow the instructions.

Thinking of driving lessons? Please contact Phil Harris (Bartholomew's Driving School) on 07711 688147.

Seagull Delivery - they deliver newspapers all over Brighton and Hove. If you want your paper delivered contact raj@seagulldelivery.co.uk

Social Dancing takes place on Thursdays in the Hall, starting at 8pm. Do come and join in the fun! Suitable for all ages, 19-99. The social Club meets in the Hall at 1.30pm on Fridays.

Music Tuition

Are you interested in learning to play the piano? Then contact John Byrne on 07989 413459. Theory, GCSE, etc.

Counselling Service. Contact Lara who is experienced with counselling people with substance abuse, sexual abuse, bereavement, couple counselling. Tel 07787 555168.

Catering Services

Please contact Victoria for your catering needs, she will be happy to talk and guide you through her menus which she tailors to each individual's needs. Please contact me Victoria Myall, Victoriamyall@hotmail.com or Tel 07788673097



List of Hall Clubs at St Peter's

Day	Event	Contact
Mon 9.15 - 10.15	Yoga	lee.spearpoint@googlemail.com
Mon 10.15 - 11.30	Tai Chi	stpetershallbn3@gmail.com
Tue 17.00-19.00	Brownies	http://girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter
Tue 19.15 – 21.00	Guides	http://girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter
Tue 14.30	UCM	Winter meetings time January - 11 April
Wed 9.45–11.45	Baby Ballet	brightonwestandhove@babyballet.co.uk
Wed 14.15-19.00	Alta Academy of Dance	info@altadance.co.uk
Wed 19.00-21.00	Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM)	wendywallis@ntlworld.com
Wed 09.30-12.00	Music with Mike	mike@musicwithmike.co.uk
Thu 15.30.-16.30	West Hove Dance Academy	Westhovedanceacademy@hotmail.com
Thu 09.30 - 12.00	Music with Mike	mike@musicwithmike.co.uk
Thu 15.30.-16.30	West Hove Dance Academy	Westhovedanceacademy@hotmail.com
Thu 16.45 -18.00	Rainbows	http://girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter
Thu 18.00 – 19.45	Brownies	http://girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter
Thu 20.00 – 22.00	Social Dancing	stpetershallbn3@gmail.com
Fri 9.30- 10.30	Pilates	nicolajhowarth@gmail.com
Fri 10.30.13.30	ESOL (English language lessons)	KWadham@wea.ac.uk
Fri 13.30- 15.30	Apostles Lunch Club	stpetershallbn3@gmail.com