

eighth century we find it observed not as a liturgical celebration, but as a time of fast and abstinence, from 15 November to the Nativity, which, according to Goar, was later reduced to seven days. But a council of the Ruthenians (1720) ordered the fast according to the old rule from the fifteenth of November. This is the rule with at least some of the Greeks. Similarly, the Ambrosian and the Mozarabic Rites have no special liturgy for Advent, but only the fast.

Confirmation starts in January and this year we are joining up with Sacred Heart. If you are interested in joining the programme and are in Year 10 or above, please go to their website and download the form and hand it in to the Sacred Heart parish office by Tuesday 12th December. Please note the deadline. Tell all your friends. The Confirmations themselves are scheduled for 3pm at Arundel Cathedral on June 30th 2024.

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.

Social Dancing takes place in the Hall at 8pm this Thursday. All are welcome.

The Social Club meets this Friday, in the Hall at 1.30pm.

Forthcoming Events

Sunday 3 rd Dec, Advent Sunday, First Holy Communion.
Tuesday 5 th Dec, 7am: Rorate Mass.
Wednesday 6 th Dec, 11am: Funeral Mass of Robert Koenig RIP.
Thursday 7 th Dec, 8pm: Social Dancing.
Friday 8 th Dec: Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Lady. Mass at 10am. Funeral of Doris Mitchell RIP at 10.45am.
Friday 8 th Dec, 1.30pm: Social Club.
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.
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: Masses at 6pm, 12 midnight, 8.30am, 10am, 11.30am. Portuguese Mass at 4.30pm.
Tuesday 26 th Dec: Feast of St Stephen, Mass at noon.
Tuesday 26 th Dec, 2pm: Eastern Orthodox Liturgy.

St Peter's Catholic Church Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Carlo Acutis.



Portland Road Hove
BN3 5GD
3 December 2023



Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith

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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 First Sunday of Advent. The prayers and readings are to be found in the aquamarine books on page 82. The first reading is from the Prophet Isaiah, and expresses the longing of the Chosen People for the coming of the Messiah, in these memorable words: 'O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence!' In the Gospel, from Saint Mark, the message is a very clear 'Stay awake!' in order to be ready when the Son of God comes.

At the Vigil Mass on Saturday, Oliver O'Shea will be making his First Holy Communion. On Sunday at 10am, Jake Morek, Poppy and Holly Goodman, Florence Ottaway, Elliott Langford, and Daisy Philpot will be making their First Holy Communion. At 11.30am, Alex Hacking, Sophia Bean, Iseult and Oscar Flanagan, Clemence Brown, Cleo Housely, Lola and Millie Roiser, Tiernan Boyce, Rosie Nikolli and Claudia Ibrahim, Shams and Massia Jarabanda, and George Mandreja will be making their First Holy Communion. Next Sunday, December 10th, Louie Monaghan, and Bubble and Mimi Oyesola will be making their First Holy Communion at the 10am Mass. Let us pray ardently for all these children and their families.

Mass intentions

Sat 2 Dec, 6pm: Ann Thorne RIP/ GE the Thorne family
Sun 3 Dec, 8.30am: Louise Logan RIP
Sun 3 Dec, 10am: For all parishioners
Sun 3 Dec, 11.30am: Margret McGoldrick RIP
Mon 4 Dec, 10am: Bernard Gallagher RIP
Tue 5 Dec, 7am: Private Intention (AG)
Wed 6 Dec, 11am: Funeral of Robert Koenig RIP
Thu 7 Dec: No Mass
Fri 8 Dec, 11am: Doris Mitchell RIP
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

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

Next Sunday, the Second Sunday of Advent, 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. If you have any NEW goods to donate, please do so; there will also be things like cake and home produce. If you would like to make a cake to donate, please do!

Liturgical notes

The Season of Advent is the time of waiting for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. This year, Advent, which is always four Sunday before Christmas and the weekdays in between, is the shortest it ever is, as Christmas falls on the Monday of the fourth week. 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.

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.

- Monday is the memorial of Saint John Damascene, priest and doctor of the Church.
- Wednesday is the memorial of Saint Nicholas, bishop, patron saint of children. The Mass will be the funeral of Robert Koenig and will take place at 11am, not the usual time of 10am.

- Friday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. The coffin of Doris Mitchell RIP will be received into the Church before Mass, and her funeral will Take place immediately after Mass.

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. We shall have an extra session of Confessions on Saturday 16th December from 3pm until 5.45pm, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Fr Colin and Fr Tony will be in attendance.

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.

The Carol Service is at 6.30pm on Sunday 17th December; 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. In the past we have had a retiring collection for some charitable endeavour. Perhaps this year we should make it for Aid to the Church in Need, as with the stall the previous Sunday?

As noted before, Christmas day falls 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: 6pm Vigil, 12 Midnight, 8.30am Dawn, and 10am and 11.30am Day. All will have music bar the Dawn Mass. In addition there is Mass in Portuguese on Christmas Day at 4.30pm.

This Advent, as last year, we will have one hundred £10 Sainsbury gift cards to give away as Christmas presents from the community of Saint Peter's. You may remember how this worked last year; ask your parish priest for a voucher and give it to anyone you think needs cheering up. This is financed by our Poor Fund.

Advent is a period beginning with the Sunday nearest to the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (30 November) and embracing four Sundays. The first Sunday may be as early as 27 November, and then Advent has twenty-eight days, or as late as 3 December, giving the season only twenty-one days.

With Advent the ecclesiastical year begins in the Western churches. During this time the faithful are admonished to prepare themselves worthily to celebrate the anniversary of the Lord's coming into the world as the incarnate God of love, and to make their souls fitting abodes for the Redeemer coming in Holy Communion and through grace, and in so doing to make themselves ready for His final

coming as judge, at death and at the end of the world.

It cannot be determined with any degree of certainty when the celebration of Advent was first introduced into the Church. The preparation for the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord was not held before the feast itself existed, and of this we find no evidence before the end of the fourth century, when, according to Duchesne [Christian Worship (London, 1904), 260], it was celebrated throughout the whole Church, by some on 25 December, by others on 6 January. We have two homilies of St. Maximus, Bishop of Turin (415-466), entitled "In Adventu Domini", but he makes no reference to a special time. The title may be the addition of a copyist. There are some homilies extant, most likely of St. Caesarius, Bishop of Arles (502-542), in which we find mention of a preparation before the birthday of Christ; still, to judge from the context, no general law on the matter seems then to have been in existence. The Gelasian Sacramentary notes five Sundays for the season; these five were reduced to four by Pope St. Gregory VII (1073-85). The collection of homilies of St. Gregory the Great (590-604) begins with a sermon for the second Sunday of Advent. In 650 Advent was celebrated in Spain with five Sundays. Several synods had made laws about fasting to be observed during this time, some beginning with the eleventh of November, others the fifteenth, and others as early as the autumnal equinox. In the Greek Church we find no documents for the observance of Advent earlier than the eighth century. St. Theodore the Studite (d. 826), who speaks of the feasts and fasts commonly celebrated by the Greeks, makes no mention of this season. In the

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

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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.

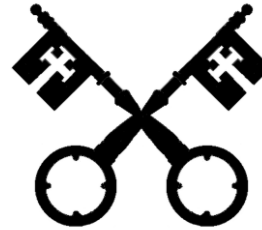
Music Tuition

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