



**ST CLEMENT'S CHURCH, EWELL**  
**Parish Priest: Fr. Graham Bamford**

Web Site: [www.stclementsewell.org](http://www.stclementsewell.org)  
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 Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton  
 Charity No. 252878



All Masses are now live streamed. Access via the Parish Website

**Sixth Week of Easter**

**Seventh Week of Easter**

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2024		Psalter Week 2 Cycle B
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Mary Northeast RIP
<b>Sunday 05 May 2024</b>	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Tim Sheehan RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	Sean Husain RIP
<b>Ascension of the Lord – Holy Day of Obligation</b>		
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	Special Intention
	<b>8.00 pm</b>	Florette Peres RIP
Friday	10.00 am	Raymond Darragh RIP

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2024		Psalter Week 3 Cycle B
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	All Parishioners
<b>Sunday 12 May 2024</b>	8.30 am	Edie Scott RIP
	10.30 am	Patrick Waters RIP
Wednesday	10.00 am	Mary Fitzgerald RIP
Friday	10.00 am	Dec'd – Noone & Byrne Fmlys
Saturday (Vigil)	6.00 pm	Mary, Felix & Vincent Edwardson RIP
<b>Sunday 19 May 2024</b>	8.30 am	All Parishioners
	10.30 am	Wellbeing – Mary Minnock

**FEAST DAYS: 5<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

**Thursday: Holy Day of Obligation**  
**The Ascension of the Lord**

**ANNIVERSARIES: 5<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

Maureen Pawley, Susannah White

**COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS**

Children's Liturgy

**FEAST DAYS: 12<sup>TH</sup> – 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

Tuesday: St Matthias, Apostle

**ANNIVERSARIES: 12<sup>TH</sup> – 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024**

Patrick Waters, Stefan Chalupka, Marjorie Turnbull, Carl Anderson, Catherine McVeigh, Richard Miller, Agnes Myers, Margaret Wells,

**COFFEE AFTER 10.30AM MASS**

Guides

**ASCENSION DAY: Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> May is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass in St Clement's will be at 10.00 am and 8.00 pm.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

**Saturday, 10.30 am – 11.00 am or by appointment**

**RECOVERY AND WELL-BEING:** Please pray for: Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Mel Alvarez, Shona Dane, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Marcia Bancroft, Kay Bryne

**BAPTISM** We welcome into our church community Arthur Sean Condon who will be baptised this weekend. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

**200 CLUB APRIL:** Mark McLoughlin No.206 £30 Andrew Perks No.140 £20 Congratulations!

**UPCOMING EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

11 <sup>th</sup> May	Family Skittles evening and bring and share meal	8 <sup>th</sup> June	Family Bingo Evening
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Summer Fair ( <b>Note change of Date</b> )	28 <sup>th</sup> July	Welcome to Fr Alexander Coffee Morning
10 <sup>th</sup> August	Parish Walk and bring your own picnic	15 <sup>th</sup> September	Thank you B-B-Q for Fr Graham
	Horton Country Park weather permitting	19 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Polish Culture Evening & Meal.
28 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Quiz		Bring desserts to share
	24 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Winter Fair	

**FAMILY FUN SKITTLES EVENING: 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024:** Tickets £5.00 cash go on sale this weekend to raise funds for hall kitchen refurbishment. Limited numbers, so first come first served basis. Bring and share light meal – please see list in narthex for contributions.

**SUMMER FAIR- 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY:** We would like some vouchers for meals, attractions, etc for use as prizes for the Grand Draw. If you can help with this please let us know.

**YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU:** Volunteers are needed in many areas within the Parish. If you are interested, please see the notice board in the narthex of the church for a form which gives you some ideas. Please fill in the form and return to Father Graham.

**THE HOLY BOOKSTALL** will be open at all Masses on 11th/12th May. There will be books suitable as First Holy Communion gifts and other books for all children.

**CAFOD:** Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal. You can donate online at [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal), via text or QR code. See the notice board in the narthex or the website for more details. Your donation will help support families with food and access to clean water. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

**REFLECTION:**

“We proclaim the resurrection of Christ When His light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able to share it with others”  
*Pope Francis*

features the Virgin and Child against a vivid gold background, and it's believed to be one of the "Luke images", copies of an original painting by the apostle himself. For many years the icon hung above the door of the baptistery chapel before Pope Paul V decided to build this chapel in its honour.



The icon has had an important role in several pontificates, including that of Pope Gregory XVI, who in the nineteenth century prayed before it for an end to the cholera epidemic that was then rampaging through the city. In the 1950s Pope Pius XII had the icon transferred to St Peter's to mark his decision to have Mary officially recorded as the Queen of Heaven. Pope John Paul II spoke about it during World Youth Day in 2000, and Pope Francis had it removed to the Vatican Museums for restoration and said a pontifical Mass to mark its return to the basilica in January 2018.

If you're ever near St Mary Major at 9 p.m., you'll hear its bell tolling. This references the legend of a young woman who found herself alone and afraid while visiting Rome, but after praying to Our Lady, she was comforted by the sound of the basilica's bell. In gratitude, she left a bequest asking that the bell be rung each evening to remind us that we are all pilgrims on this earth, and we all need reassurance, comfort and guidance.

## Mass text

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.**

FIRST READING **Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48**

PSALM **Psalm 97**

RESPONSE **I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.**

Or **Alleluia!**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **R.**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **R.**

3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **R.**

SECOND READING **1 John 4:7-10**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL **John 15:9-17**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.**

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Acts 1:15-17. 20-26  
1 John 4:11-16  
John 17:11-19



# SUNDAY BULLETIN

WIKING FAITH

## THE CHURCH OF THE SNOWS: SANTA MARIA MAGGIORE



There's a church in Rome that's had well over a hundred visits from Pope Francis. He goes there before he heads off on an overseas trip to pray all goes well. And when he's back, it's almost the first place he goes to give thanks that he's safely home. The church isn't St Peter's: it's Santa Maria Maggiore, a short drive across the city. It overlooks the Esquiline Hill, and it was the first church in the world to be dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

There's a story at the heart of the church, and it's the reason it's sometimes referred to as "Our Lady of the Snows". The story is that, on 5 August 358, Our Lady appeared in a dream to Pope Liberius and at the same moment to a Roman leader called John. She asked them to erect a church in the place where they could see snow. That night, though it was the height of summer, snow fell on the Esquiline Hill. John and his wife – who had no children – decided to spend their entire and considerable wealth on building a church there. Each August the story is recalled in the resulting building when parishioners drop white flower petals from the dome during the Mass to commemorate its foundation.

From an artistic point of view, the main reason to visit the church is to see its mosaics: it boasts a spectacular selection of work. The highlight is the apse mosaic, featuring Christ and Our Lady surrounded by the Tree of Life and the apostles. Another standout piece is the triumphal arch, with scenes from Christ's childhood.

The Basilica of St Mary Major, to give it its English name, is one of only four major basilicas in Rome: the others are St Peter's, St John Lateran and St Paul Outside The Walls. It's thought the present church dates back to the fifth century and retains the core of the original building. The basilica is sometimes called the Bethlehem of the West, owing to the presence below the main altar of a large and ornate reliquary, thought to contain a fragment of the stable crib where the newborn Christ was laid down to sleep.

Another important area of the basilica is the Paolina Chapel, built in the seventeenth century by Pope Paul V to house the icon of *Salus Populi Romani*, which can be seen atop its altar. This Byzantine icon

## Churches of the Eternal City



Continuing with our look at Rome's churches, this week we visit Santa Maria Maggiore – a church built to mark a snowstorm. It has a special place in the heart of Pope Francis, as Joanna Moorhead explains.

05 MAY 2024

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK II



For some months Michelangelo and his assistants laboured on the piece: but then he and Julius had an argument, and Michelangelo left Rome and returned to Tuscany. Soon afterwards, the artist Donato Bramante persuaded Julius to abandon work on the tomb and get Michelangelo to concentrate on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. He thought it would prove impossible for Michelangelo, removing him as a competitor. But despite being untrained in fresco work and the extreme difficulties of painting the ceiling, Michelangelo succeeded – and the rest is history.

He then returned to Julius' tomb, and he was still working on it in 1513 when Julius died. The contract was redrawn, and the tomb would now be a wall piece. Michelangelo had already finished the figure who would be most celebrated in the work: it is a bearded, brooding Moses, his head turned to one side, horns protruding from his hairline. Michelangelo's Moses is widely acknowledged as one of the most lifelike pieces of sculpture ever created. Legend has it that upon completing it, Michelangelo commanded it, "Now speak," as though that was the only thing the piece had left to do.

In the end the tomb monument was not erected at Julius's burial site in St Peter's in the Vatican but rather in St Peter's in Chains, so it does not function as a tomb. By then it was 1545, and Michelangelo's genius was already widely known. The Julius tomb piece remains one of the landmark pieces of Michelangelo's life's work, and its history, laced with power, money and ambition, reveals much about the Renaissance.

## Mass text

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;  
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;  
hide not your face from me, alleluia.**

FIRST READING Acts 1:15-17. 20-26

PSALM Psalm 102

RESPONSE **The Lord has set his sway in heaven.**

Or **Alleluia!**

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **R.**
2. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins. **R.**
3. The Lord has set his sway in heaven and his kingdom is ruling over all. Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels, mighty in power, fulfilling his word. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 John 4:11-16

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;  
I will come back to you, and your hearts  
will be full of joy.  
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL John 17:11-19

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**Father, I pray that they may be one  
as we also are one, alleluia.**

### Next Sunday's Readings:

Vigil Mass:  
Genesis 11:1-9  
Exodus 19:3-8, 16-20  
Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Joel 3:1-5  
Romans 8:22-27  
John 7:37-39  
Mass During the Day:  
Acts 2:1-11  
Galatians 5:16-25  
John 15:26-27; 16:12-15



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## WHERE MOSES COMES TO LIFE: ST PETER IN CHAINS

The Basilica of St Peter in Chains (San Pietro in Vincoli) is so named because it houses the chains that many believe were used to restrain St Peter when he was imprisoned in Jerusalem – legend has it these were given to Pope Leo I by Empress Eudoxia in the fifth century.

There's a very different feel in this church to many of the more ornate Roman places of worship: the interior of this St Peter's is stark and simple. But in the Eternal City, everywhere has its landmark art. Here there's an eighteenth-century ceiling fresco by Giovanni Battista Parodi commemorating the miracle of the chains. It illustrates the familiar story in Acts chapter 12 when St Peter was imprisoned by Herod Agrippa, grandson of Herod the Great: while Peter was in prison, likely awaiting execution, the apostle was saved when his chains were miraculously released by an angel.

For centuries, and still to this day, pilgrims visit this church believing the chains retain their miraculous properties and can help set people free from the many different kinds of prisons in which they find themselves.

The chains given to Leo were not, however, the only chains in Rome that had been used to shackle St Peter. There was also a set that had bound him during his imprisonment near the Forum. According to legend, these two sets inexplicably merged together when Pope Leo compared them side by side. So the chains visitors see underneath the main altar, in a golden box, are both sets.

But the main reason many people, especially art historians, visit this church is to see a huge piece of sculpture by one of the central figures of the Renaissance, Michelangelo – and it's a work with much to reveal about both the history of Rome and the history of art.

The story begins in 1505 when a young sculptor from Florence moved to Rome hoping for a commission from the new pope, Julius II. He was in luck: Julius was keen to get work started on his tomb, a freestanding monument, and Michelangelo was set to work. The piece would be for St Peter's Basilica, and it would be a showcase for the finest sculpture the artist could produce.



## Churches of the Eternal City



This week in our series on Rome's churches, Joanna Moorhead visits the church where you can see a Biblical sculpture so lifelike that its creator Michelangelo said the only thing it couldn't do was speak.

12 MAY 2024

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B

DIVINE OFFICE WEEK III