



St Clement's Church, Ewell

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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

Sunday 4th August, 2024 This Sunday is the Eighteenth Sunday of the Year.

In the first reading, from the Book of Exodus, the people of Israel complain against Moses and Aaron because they have nothing to eat in the desert, and start to long for the pans of meat (the 'fleshpots') that they left behind in Egypt. God hears their cry and sends them quails, and then manna from heaven.

Jesus recalls this in the Gospel, and tells the people who have been fed by Him: 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

This is the heart of His teaching about the Eucharist, which we celebrate every Sunday.

Liturgical notes

We are in the month of August, dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

On days when there is no feast, we shall celebrate a Votive Mass of the Blessed Virgin.

Monday is the feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint Mary Major in Rome, the oldest Church dedicated to Our Lady in the west. It was dedicated by Pope Liberius on this day around the year 352.

Tuesday is the feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord.

Wednesday is the feast of Saint Sixtus II, Pope, and his companions, martyrs, which occurred in the year 258.

Thursday is the feast of Saint Dominic (1170 – 1221), founder of the Order of Preaching, known as the Dominicans.

Friday is the feast of Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (1891-1942), in the world Edith Stein, Carmelite nun and philosopher, who perished in Auschwitz on this day.

Saturday is the feast of Saint Lawrence (225 -258), deacon and martyr, who suffered on this day in Rome.

Daily Mass in the week is on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays at 10am.

Looking ahead, on Thursday 15th August we celebrate the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady which is a Holy Day of Obligation when the faithful are urged to go to Mass. It is proposed to have Mass here in the evening at 7pm. There are numerous Masses elsewhere during the day, including all the churches in central London for those who are working or visiting the city.

Confessions are on Saturday mornings at 10.30am, until 11am (at the earliest)

Fr Alexander writes:

Many thanks for the superb welcome party last Sunday. I greatly enjoyed myself & it was a wonderful opportunity to meet so many parishioners. Many thanks to the organisers, our superb social committee, & to all who came. The food was memorable, especially the Victoria Sponge & the cheese & pickle sandwiches, two of the glories of British cuisine! In addition, many thanks to all who helped on Loft Day, which took rather longer than expected. It was extraordinary how much was in the loft: but thanks to the joint effort by of lots people, the stuff has now either been disposed of, stored, sent to charity shops, or else put aside for the Winter Fair. Well done, one and all! It had to be done, and I am jolly glad that it is now done.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2025

Children wishing to make their First Reconciliation and Holy Communion next year please get in touch with the office via ewell@abdiocese.org.uk. Children must be at least 7/8 years old, baptized Catholics & attend Mass regularly. Closing date: **Saturday, 24th August.**

Jean Marshall RIP

We have heard the sad news of the death of Jean Marshall who died in Epsom Hospital on 26th July, at the age of 83, having received the Sacrament of the Sick and the Apostolic Pardon. May she rest in peace, and may God comfort her family at this sad and difficult time for them.

Funeral details will be announced when known.



The New Lectionary is coming, & will be with us on the First Sunday of Advent, which falls on 1st December 2024. Because we will be moving to a new translation of the readings (from the Jerusalem Bible to the English Standard Version) every lectionary & people's missal will become obsolete after that date. Of course, if you have a missal to which you are greatly attached, you can keep on using it, but while the prayers remain unchanged, the readings will be slightly different. But if you wish to change, & most will want to do so, what should one do? There are three possible solutions. First, subscribe to **universalis.com**, & receive the readings & prayers of the Mass on your phone. This cost is a one off fee of £10. This has many advantages, including being able to check the readings wherever you are; however, we know that not all people like looking at screens. If you prefer a book, the second option is to buy a new missal, a Sunday Missal, a Weekday Missal, or perhaps both. These will be coming onto the market in October, & at that time we shall have a good idea about costs, & other matters such as formats. The third solution, which does not preclude the first two, is for the parish to buy the new edition of the Parish Mass Book. This contains, in six volumes, the material that is present in every Sunday Missal; they are appreciated by many, but they have some disadvantages, namely storing the 5 volumes that are not in use, & they are relatively expensive, a single volume Missal being cheaper. Instead of buying the six volume Parish Mass Book, we could have a supply of single volume Missals for visitors. It is to be stressed that this is a purely practical matter, & of finding a way forward so that the maximum number of people may get the maximum understanding & appreciation from the readings at Mass.

Baptism

The parish is looking at a new, longer, course designed for parents to prepare them for their children's baptism. This course, which is face to face for some sessions & on Zoom for others (which makes it easier for parents with young children) requires a team to deliver it. In addition, the material asks us whether all of us, as a parish, are welcoming to families with young children. It asks several questions, which can be summarised: How do we greet families? Do we make eye contact & smile? Do we make sure parents know where everything is, & how Children's Liturgy works? Do we encourage families to join us for coffee afterwards? And beyond the times of Mass, do we support families with invitations to social events? Do we create opportunities to celebrate family life? Do we have a parents & child group? Do we offer any courses about parenting in faith?

All of these are very good questions! Here are a few observations:

- When we baptise babies, we are baptising them into a community, & that means we all have our part to play in making that community, the local Church, real & hospitable. This is not purely an 'after sales service', it is theological. We are called to be the Body of Christ, for everyone, young and old.
- Some parents with young children may feel a church, any church, is a hostile environment: they do not know what to do, where to sit, how to dress, how to 'behave', what is expected of them, & they fear their children's behaviour may be criticised. We need to lay these fears at rest.
- Activities for young children are an excellent idea. We have Children's Liturgy; we have our children's play area for after Mass; we can also make people feel included at Christmas with crib-making & a Posada (feel free to look that up).
- 'Children's Masses' are rather twee, but every Mass has to be child-friendly if at all possible.

The key ingredient, I submit, is music.

Parish Walk Saturday 10th August

Come & join us for a short walk around Horton Country Park. The walk is all flat & easy going so suitable for most. Meet in Horton Country Park car park at 11am, bring your own picnic for afterwards. If it's raining, we will cancel but we'll notify you either way via our Facebook site. Any questions, please speak to Robin or Ann Hannan.

Baptism

Certificates for baptisms up to end of June 2024 can be collected from Father Alexander.

CAFOD: Thank you for your generous response to the raffle & to the kind person who donated the Hamper Prize. £190 was raised to support CAFOD's work with the poor & vulnerable overseas.

The Hamper winner was Nikki Butcher.

Mass Intentions for August 2024

Sat 3	10:30am	Our Lady of Saturday	Adoration: Blessed Sacrament
Sat 3	6pm	Vigil Mass	GE: Suzanne Clarke & Family
Sat 4	8:30am	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	For all the Parish
Sun 4	10:30am	18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Nelson D'Souza RIP
Mon 5	10am	Ded: Basilica Saint Mary Major	David Owens RIP
Wed 7	10am	St Sixtus II, Pope	GE: Timothy Lucie-Smith & Family
Fri 9	10am	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	Ints: Alpera Family
Sat 10	10.30am	St Lawrence	Adoration: Blessed Sacrament
Sat 10	6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish
Sun 11	8:30am	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Ints: Consuelo Bermudez & Family
Sun 11	10:30am	19th Sunday in Ordinary Time	John Stratford RIP

Dates For Your Diary

10th Aug

Parish Walk bring your own picnic. Horton Country Park weather permitting

15th Aug

Feast of Our Lady's Assumption, Mass at 7pm

15th Sept

Thank you B-B-Q for Fr Graham