



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 1st June is the Seventh Sunday of Easter

The readings and prayer for today are to be found on page 275 of the purple books. In the first reading, from the Acts of the Apostles, we are told about the martyrdom of Saint Stephen, the first Christian to be killed for the faith. The Gospel is from Saint John, and Jesus prays that His followers will be one, that they may keep the unity of the faith that they have received from Him. Today, having celebrated the Ascension, we are in the nine days of prayer leading up to Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, so we pray that we may be filled with the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit that is the soul of the Church and keeps us as one. Let us treasure the unity of the Church, spread as it is over many nations, but professing One Lord, and united in One Spirit. Let us be thankful for the ministry of Pope Leo XIV, who said at his inauguration: "Brothers and sisters, I would like that our first great desire be for a united Church, a sign of unity and communion, which becomes a leaven for a reconciled world. In this our time, we still see too much discord, too many wounds caused by hatred, violence, prejudice, the fear of difference, and an economic paradigm that exploits the Earth's resources and marginalizes the poorest."

We are now in the midst of the First Holy Communion season

Congratulations to those who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday, Sixth Sunday of Easter, at the 10:30am Mass: Raphael Conroy, Cerys Preston, Jacob Dawood, Erin Preston, Aniela Featherstone, Deandre Ramirez, Sheryl Ng, Dominic Richardson, and Bethan Preston. **Next Sunday**, which is Pentecost, it will be the turn of the following candidates: Emily Chandler, Elisabeth Ridpath, Hudson Currie, Joseph Ridpath, Daniel Hasan, Niamh Stanton, Aidan McMahon, Tristan Stone and Katie Pilkington. **This Sunday**, the Seventh Sunday of Easter, the following children will make their First Holy Communion at the 10.30am Mass: Milla Afonso, Kaiden Kerkhoff, Raffaella Afonso, Joslyn Hayhurst, Hannah Coutinho, Ferne Norman, Jack Cronin and Elliott Smith.

Thanks to all who brought books to the **Book Exchange** last Sunday, which can be judged a success, one hopes. Let us do this again next year. There are some left over books on the tables outside the Hall.

Do please take them, if you like or can.

The A to Z of Catholicism carries on this Thursday after the 7pm Mass

We shall be tackling S is for the Saints, and considering of the vital role of the Saints played in the life of the Church.

Why is honour paid to the Saints so important, and what do the Saints have to teach us? The following week it will be T is for Transubstantiation, one of the central doctrines of the Church, which deals with our understanding of the miracle of the Eucharist and the Real Presence.

We have finished our baptism course. We are going to hold the course three times a year, and the next course will be starting in September, so do watch out for the announcement of dates soon. When that happens, expressions of interest and registration to the parish office or to Fr Alexander in person or via email.

Do we have anyone else for RCIA? This is the course designed to prepare adults for baptism or prepare those who have already been baptised but wish to be confirmed, as well as those who have been baptised in other Christian communities and wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church.

Please approach Fr Alexander for more information.

As mentioned earlier, we are looking for new servers. The initial training is going to be on Sunday 13th July, from 6pm-8pm in Church and then the Hall. We shall have some training, and then fun and games and pizza. All current servers are invited and all beginners are most welcome.

A Biblical walk through the Mass. A short 5 session course which looks at the Biblical roots of the Mass. What it means and why it matters. A session involves a thirty minute video and some reflection questions on the video and Bible passages. **The course will start on the 18th June (and continue on the following 4 Wednesdays) on zoom at 7.30pm.** Please contact John Lodge on Johnlodge47@gmail.com to register.

Celebrating Success at St Clement's Catholic Primary School

We are delighted to share that St Clement's Catholic Primary School has recently received a very positive Ofsted inspection. The report highlights that pupils are "*safe, confident and happy*" and that they "*thrive through the roles and responsibilities the school affords them.*" The inspector praised the school's strong Catholic values, excellent behaviour, and high expectations for all pupils, including those with SEND. The report noted the school's commitment to reading as "*the pathway to the world,*" an ambitious curriculum, and a rich programme of extra-curricular activities. Children in all year groups, including Early Years, are well supported and eager to learn. Staff and leadership were recognised for their dedication, and the caring culture of the school was described as exemplary. We give thanks for the hard work of the staff, pupils, governors, and families in continuing to make St Clement's a place where we truly "*grow together in love and learning.*"

Liturgical notes

We are now entering the month of June, which is, by long tradition, the month dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the feast of which falls on Friday 27th June. After Pentecost, if there is no feast, we shall celebrate a Votive Mass of the Sacred Heart during the week. What does the Sacred Heart mean? The devotion centres on the long-suffering love and compassion of the Heart of Christ towards humanity. The popularization of this devotion in its modern form is derived from a nun from France, St Margaret Mary Alacoque, who said she learned the devotion from Jesus during a series of apparitions to her between 1673 & 1675, and later, in the 19th century, from the mystical revelations of another nun in Portugal, Mary of the Divine Heart, a religious sister of the congregation of the Good Shepherd, who requested in the name of Christ that Pope Leo XIII consecrate the entire world to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Predecessors to the modern devotion arose in the Middle Ages in various facets of Catholic mysticism, particularly with St Gertrude the Great. The Sacred Heart is often depicted in Christian art as a flaming heart shining with divine zlight, pierced by the lance-wound, encircled by the crown of thorns, surmounted by a cross, and bleeding.

Sometimes, The image is shown shining within the bosom of Christ with his wounded hands pointing at the heart. The wounds and crown of thorns allude to the manner of Christ's passion, while the flames represent a furnace of ardent love.

Monday is the feast of Sts Peter & Marcellinus, martyrs. St Marcellinus was a priest who lived about 300, probably in Rome. One day, an exorcist named Peter, who was in prison because of his faith in Jesus, asked Marcellinus to baptize the jailer and his family, whom Peter had converted. When the governor learned that Marcellinus had baptized Peter's converts, he called both men into court. He ordered them to offer incense to the false gods. When they refused, the governor commanded his soldiers to behead them. They were tortured before they were killed. Several years later, Constantine, the new Christian emperor, had a church built over the place where these martyrs were buried.

Tuesday is the feast of St Charles Lwanga and his companions, martyrs. Charles Lwanga was a young man, probably in his late teens, who was a page in the court of Mwanga, the kabaka of Uganda. After Mkasa, the Christian master of the court pages, criticized the king for his immoral acts and for murdering a group of missionaries, the king had him beheaded. On the same night Mkasa was martyred, Charles, a catechumen, was baptized. Charles replaced Mkasa as head of the pages and continued to encourage the young men to refuse to take part in the pagan customs of the country. Later a young page refused to become involved in the king's immoral acts and confessed that a page named Denis was instructing him to be a Christian. This angered the king so much that he sent for Denis and thrust a spear through his throat. Then Mwanga summoned all the pages and separated the Christian pages from the rest. He commanded his soldiers to kill Charles Lwanga and his friends. Most of the pages were under the age of twenty-five. The youngest was thirteen years old. In prison Charles inspired the others to be courageous and faithful. The boys were executed thirty-seven miles away. Three were killed on the road. Charles was burned alive. The others met the same fate or were beheaded. They prayed and sang enthusiastically at their deaths. This happened in 1886.

The place of execution, called Namugongo, is now a shrine that draws millions of pilgrims.

Thursday is the feast of Saint Boniface, bishop and martyr.

This Englishman was a monk who evangelised Germany and what is now Holland in the 8th century.

He was killed by a mob of angry pagans, along with 52 of his converts.

The 200 Club Winners for the May draw were:-

Jose Silva No.166 £30 and Siobhan Silk No.126 £20



Recovery and Well Being



Please pray for: Martina Savage, Rosa Undasan (Angelina True's Mum), Sally Mason, Shona Dane, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Joyce Daly, Mel Alvarez, Mary Bruce, Bob Parker, Kitty Cusack, Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Jocelyn Bowen, 3 year-old Finlay Ewen & Joseph Ewing.

Forthcoming Events

Sun 1 Jun	10.30am	FHC Mass
Thu 5 Jun	7.30pm	A to Z of Catholicism, S is for the Saints.
Sat 7 Jun	6pm	Mass including presentation of Confirmation certificates
Sun 8 Jun		Pentecost.
Sun 8 Jun	10.30am	First Holy Communion Mass
Thu 12 Jun	7.30pm	A to Z of Catholicism, T is for Transubstantiation.
Sun 22 Jun		Corpus Christi.
Sun 22 Jun	10:30am	FHC Celebration Mass, followed by Going Forth party in the Hall
Sat 28 Jun	9am	Finance Committee meeting.
Sun 29 Jun		Summer fair.
Sun 29 Jun	10.30am	Uniformed Groups, Church Parade.
Thu 3 Jul	7.30pm	Core Group meeting.

Mass Intentions from 31st May - 8th June 2025

Sat 31	6pm Vigil Mass	GE Christine Fairchild
Sun 1	8.30am 7th Sunday of Easter	St Hugh's Intentions
Sun 1	10.30am 7th Sunday of Easter	People of the Parish
Mon 2	10am Sts Marcellinus & Peter	Mary, Felix & Vincent
		Edwardson RIP
Wed 4	Weds after 7th Sunday of Easter	GE Cossou & Ryder
		Families
Thu 5	7pm St Boniface	Available
Fri 6	10am 7th Sunday of Easter	Hanns Grimm RIP
Sat 7	6pm Vigil Mass of Pentecost	GE of Morris Family
Sun 8	8.30am Pentecost	People of the Parish
Sun 8	10.30am Pentecost	Available

Thank you for your continued support of your parish, our new weekly total is £1,146