

St Clement's Church, Ewell



Parish Priest: Fr. Alexander Lucie-Smith alexander.lucie-smith@abdiocese.org.uk

Web Site: www.stclementsewell.org 307 Kingston Road KT19 0BW Tel: 0208 393 5572

Parish Secretary: Jess Whitaker Email: ewell@abdiocese.org.uk **Office hours: Fridays 9am-2pm**
Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton Charity No. 252878

Sunday 19th October is the feast of Saint Philip Howard, the patron saint of our diocese. The readings are those for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday of the year to be found in the vermillion books on page 152. Today the celebrant at all Masses will be Fr Graham Preston, to whom Fr Alexander is very grateful for filling in for him while he is away. The first reading is from the Book of Exodus and tells the story of how the Israelites defeated the Amalekites only when Moses held his hands up in prayer. This is a parable about the power of the prayer of intercession. The Gospel from Saint Luke is also about the necessity of persistence in prayer.



Who was St Philp Howard, and why is he the patron of our diocese? Philip, Earl of Arundel, was born on 28 June 1557. He was the grandson of the poet Henry, Earl of Surrey, who was executed by King Henry VIII in 1547 for treason. Philip's father, Thomas, the 4th Duke of Norfolk, also suffered a similar fate, being beheaded by Queen Elizabeth in 1572. Growing up in a Protestant household, Philip's mother, Lady Mary FitzAlan, later returned to Catholicism and helped hide Catholic priests during a time when Catholicism was persecuted in England. These early influences played a significant role in shaping Philip's spiritual journey. At the tender age of 14, Philip married Anne, the daughter of Lord d'Acre. In 1574, Philip graduated from Saint John's College, Cambridge, and shortly after, he became a courtier to Queen Elizabeth. It was during his time at the royal court that Philip led a reckless and sinful life, indulging in the vices common among the aristocracy. However, witnessing the martyrdoms of Saint Edmund Campion and Saint Ralph Sherwin stirred within him a desire to reconsider his faith. In September 1584, Philip withdrew from the royal court and returned to his ancestral home in Arundel to reflect on his own beliefs and embrace Catholicism. He wanted to move abroad to practice his newfound faith freely. Unfortunately, his plans were thwarted when a servant betrayed him. On 15 April 1585, he was arrested and then imprisoned in the Tower of London on 25 April. The authorities subjected him to extensive interrogations, ultimately charging him with treason solely on the basis of his Catholic faith. Despite his harsh imprisonment, Philip remained steadfast in his devotion to Catholicism and spent long hours in prayer each day. His mistreatment and neglect led to his death from malnutrition on 19 October 1595. He was buried in the graveyard of the Tower church beside his father and grandfather. Eventually, his relics found a resting place in the Fitzalan Chapel, Arundel, and were later transferred to the Cathedral nearby, which was built by his descendant, the 14th Duke of Norfolk. His veneration grew over the years, culminating in his beatification on 15 December 1929 by Pope Pius XI. He was canonized on 25 October 1970 by Pope Paul VI.

Last week, for the fourth Sunday in a row, the congregation was counted. The numbers were as follows, with the previous three Sundays' figures in brackets: 6pm: 77 (72, 73, 83); 8.30am: 86 (82, 79, 83); 10.30am: 140 (251, 156, 179). That gives a total for the Sunday of 303 (405, 308, 345). This means that the averages are as follows, with last year's figures in brackets:

6pm Vigil Mass: 76.25 (87.75)

8.30am Mass: 82.5 (74.75)

10.30am Mass 181.5 (156.25)

Overall Sunday attendance: 340.25 (318.5)

The good news is that our overall attendance is up! This is very heartening. If anyone has any conclusions to share about these figures, please do so.

MISSION SUNDAY



Today is World Mission Sunday, which is celebrated in every Catholic parish in the world, along with the retiring collection for the Church's missions. (Collectors, please take this as your notification). Gift Aid envelopes available on benches in the church.

Junior Catechism and RCIA are on pause this week, but restart on Thursday 30th October, at 6pm and 7.30pm respectively.

Liturgical Notes

This is the month of October, which is dedicated to the Rosary and also to prayer for the Missions. This week, please note, all Masses are at the usual times and will be celebrated by Father Peter Andrews, to whom we are immensely grateful for helping out.

Wednesday is the feast of Saint John Paul II, Pope (1920-2005). Many of us will remember the late Holy Father as the pope of our youth. He was canonised in 2014, though at his funeral he was acclaimed as a saint by the many who had gathered in Rome. Saint John Paul is a great example of erudition, being a dedicated scholar, as well as pastoral zeal and religious devotion. He taught with great clarity and is remembered for thirteen encyclicals. Having grown up under first Nazi and then Stalinist tyranny, he was a champion of human rights and dignity, which he saw as being fully realised when people believe in Christ.

Thursday is the feast of Saint John of Capistrano (1386 –1456). This Franciscan friar was an itinerant preacher and missionary. His preaching and teaching countered the lax morals of his time. Towards the end of his life he preached a crusade and helped raise the siege of Belgrade which was being threatened by the Turks. He died of plague shortly afterwards.

Friday is the feast of Saint Anthony Mary Claret (1807-1870). One of the great missionaries of the Church, this Spanish priest served an itinerant preacher and later as Archbishop Santiago de Cuba. He was blessed with several mystical experiences, in which he was given warnings, among other things, of the dangers of Communism, then in its infancy.

On Saturday, there will be Adoration and Confessions, from 10.30am until at least 11am.

Confirmation in 2026

If you would like to make your confirmation next year and will be aged at least 15 by 31st August 2026 and are attending Mass regularly at St Clement's, application forms are available in the narthex (under the newsletters) for you to complete. The closing date for applications is Sunday 26th October 2025. Please submit the form as soon as possible so that we may begin to get an idea of numbers this year.

Parish Quiz Night

Our next social event will be our Parish Quiz Night at 7pm on Saturday 25th October. Entrance is just £1 which includes nibbles, tea, coffee and biscuits. There will, of course, be the obligatory raffle. Please come along for an evening of fun, laughter and ridiculously easy questions. Sign up sheets are located in the usual spot in the narthex. Any questions to our quiz master Robin Hannan or his glamorous assistant Ann Hannan.

Do you have any old wood that can be donated to our parish bonfire which is coming up on Saturday 8th November? You might like to check out your garage or shed and see what you can really do without. In addition, if you wish to bring refreshments of any sort to the Bonfire Party please feel free. Children are very welcome, but need to be accompanied by an adult. If you do have any old wood, please leave it by the presbytery garage. Many thanks to the Scouts for their huge contribution!

Richard's Tech Café: If you have any laptops, phones or other Tech that are not working properly or are really slow, please bring them to the church hall between the Masses on Sunday 2nd November. If I get it working, a small donation to the church would be welcome (but not necessary).



Recovery and Well Being



Please pray for: The Zilkha Family, The Whitaker Family, Elpedio Tavares, Nicholas Ward, Anne O'Connell, Mel Avarez, Bea O'Reilly, Bob Parker, Steve Kamm, Chris Williamson, Mary McGinn, Rui de Norbega, Jocelyn Bowen, Shona Dane, Joseph Ewing, Martina Savage, Rosa Undasan & Anne-Marie Evans

Forthcoming Events

Mon 20th Oct 7.30pm-9.30pm Parish Leadership team meets, in Leatherhead.
Sat 25th Oct 7pm Quiz night.
Sat/Sun 25/26th October Food Bank Appeal, all Masses.
Mon 27th Oct 11:30am Funeral Mass Richard Holland RIP.
Thur 30th Oct 6pm Junior Catechism.
Thur 30th Oct 7.30pm RCIA 2.
Sat 1st Nov 11am-4pm Day of Reflection for EMs. Christ the Prince of Peace, Weybridge.
Sat 1st Nov 11am-12pm FHC Session 4.
Sun 2nd Nov All Saint. Richard's Tech Café, between Masses.
Mon 3rd Nov All Souls, Mass at 10am and 7pm
Wed 5th Nov 10am Mass for James Connolly RIP.
Thur 6th Nov 7.30pm RCIA 3.
Sat 8th Nov 11am New Extraordinary Ministers training (Tivey Room).
Sat 8th Nov Bonfire Night (after 6pm Mass).
Sunday 9th November Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica and Remembrance Sunday.

Mass Intentions from 18th to 25th October

Sat 18th	6pm	Vigil Mass	GE Morris Family
Sun 19th	8.30am	St Philip Howard	People of the Parish
Sun 19th	10.30pm	St Philip Howard	Clifford Mandry RIP
Mon 20th	10am	Feria in OT	John & Margaret Morris RIP
Wed 22nd	10am	St John Paul II	Sydney Clark RIP
Thu 23rd	7pm	St John of Capistrano	Mick Ryan RIP
Fri 24th	10am	St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop Mary, Felix & Vicent Edwardson	RIP
Sat 25th	6pm	Vigil Mass	Richard Higgs RIP
Sun 26th	8.30am	30th Sun in OT	People of the Parish
Sun 26th	10.30am	30th Sun in OT	Norton Lock

Thank you for your continued support of your parish