

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton

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Newsletter of the Catholic Parish of St. John the Evangelist Tadworth

59 The Avenue KT20 5DB

www.stjohnstadworth.org.uk

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The Parish Office is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 9.00 – 14.00

16th – 24th December 2023

Third "Gaudete" Sunday of Advent

Saturday 16th

11.00am **Baptism:** Ava Rose Pusnava
6.00pm Fred Green 80th Birthday Intentions

Sunday 17th

8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am **Baptism:** Luca Sean Hartland
Elizabeth Rowland 91st Birthday Intentions

Tuesday 19th

9.15am Lorna Murray 90th Birthday intentions

Wednesday 20th

10.30am **Requiem Mass:** John O'Leary RIP

Friday 22nd

9.15am Mary Boucher RIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday 23rd

6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 24th

8.30am Fr. Kenneth McCarthy RIP
10.30am **No Mass**

CONFESSION (or if you wish to speak with Fr. Stanislaw about spiritual guidance):

Saturdays 10.00am – 11.00am and 4.30pm – 5.30pm.

On request after weekday and Sunday Masses. Confession will be heard in the Sacristy.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:

Wednesdays 9.45am – 10.15am

ROSARY: Wednesdays 9.00am – 9.15am (May and October before every weekday Mass)

MORNING PRAYER (Breviary): Tuesdays and Fridays 9.00am



Dear Parishioners

On Christmas, the mystery of “so great a salvation” is not only remembered, but really lived.

The grace of this mystery is renewed for us: certainty in proportion to our inner disposition which allows us to be liberated from sin still conditioning us.

We pray to the Father for the grace to faithfully await the feast of His Son’s Nativity and to enable us to attain its joys.

There is a great joy in the voice of the prophet that cries in the wilderness because He got the grace to recognise the One who stands among us – unknown to them.

We are called to that joy which comes not only from the grace of recognising – knowing the Word of Life- but also from recognising His real presence in and receiving the Bread of Life.

With my prayers.

Fr. Stanislaw

Church Cleaning Tuesday 19th December after

9.15am Mass: Can you spare half an hour to help give the church an extra clean ready for all the Christmas celebrations? We would be very grateful.

Second collection this weekend: Christmas flowers.

Average weekly offertory collection for November: £1350.

Crib Collections: Will go to the Catholic Children’s Society which supports disadvantaged children and families across London, Hertfordshire and the South East. They work with individuals of all faiths and none; their sole aim is to help those in greatest need.

Christmas Offering: The collection at the Christmas Masses is your personal gift to the Parish Priest to say thank you for all he does for the parish. You can give by:

- Bank Transfer with the reference ‘Christmas Offering’ (see below for bank details).
- Gift Aid envelope (Blue) if you are a Gift Aider.
- Using the contactless device; select “Christmas Offering” on the front screen.
- Placing your offering in one of the collection baskets.

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Parish Carol Service - Thursday 21st December at 7.00pm:

A candlelight service of readings and carols to celebrate the coming of our Saviour. Led by our parish choir plus guest musicians, it’s a great opportunity to join in familiar carols, listen to beautiful Christmas music



and reflect on the wonderful gift that is the birth of Christ. Our service will be followed by tea, coffee, mulled wine and mince pies in the hall. There will be a retiring collection to support the work of Caritas Internationalis, the confederation of Catholic charities which includes CAFOD. Please join us with family and friends to make this a truly memorable occasion.

We would be grateful for donations of mince pies – please add your name to the list in the porch if you are able to help.



The Nativity of the Lord

Sunday 24th December

Christmas Eve 5.00pm Family Mass

Special Christmas Mass for families, with carols and Nativity Tableau. We warmly invite the children to come dressed as characters from the Christmas Story: angels, shepherds, kings, stars, animals.

Christmas Eve 8.00pm “Midnight Mass” preceded by Carols at 7.45pm. Join us afterwards for mulled wine & panettone.

Monday 25th December

Masses at 8.30am and 10.30am

Please note there is no 10.30am Mass on Sunday 24th December, Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Calling all children! There is still time to get involved in either/both the Nativity tableau and children’s choir at the Christmas Eve family Mass. Please see Phillipa after any of the Masses this weekend to sign up! Opportunity to practice for the children’s choir on Sunday 17th December at 4.00pm

Christmas Post Box: There is a box inside the little shop in the church porch where you can place or collect your Christmas cards to/from other parishioners. Please remember to check the box and pick up your cards; it's always very sad to see cards left there after Christmas that people have gone to the trouble of writing 😞.

St. John's Social Events – Dates for your diary 2024:

Saturday 13th January 7.00pm:

“Christmas” Tipples and Nibbles (postponed from 16th December)

Saturday 17th February 7.00pm:

Quiz night or Bingo night (tbc)

St. John's Bereavement Café first quarter 2024:

Saturdays at 11.00am in the church hall on –

13th January

17th February

23rd March

Whether you are recently bereaved, or suffered loss some time ago, you are very welcome to come along to this informal group for a chat, for mutual support or just to listen to others.

Diocese Mission – Invited: Episode 4 of our Invited mission will launch across our channels on Monday 18 December. You can either download the film or sign up to join an online discussion group. www.abdiocese.org.uk/invited. You can also still watch Episode 3 – Joy.

Pastoral Plan for the Diocese: Bishop Richard has written a new Pastoral Plan for the Diocese which will be released in the New Year: ‘The Word Who is Life: The Call to Mission’. As society becomes more secular our parishes must be ever-clearer beacons of light guiding people to Christ. The new Plan highlights how our community of faith can embrace this important time of renewal, forging diocesan parishes into communities of saints and strong, lively, and welcoming schools of discipleship. The Pastoral Plan will be released on the diocesan site on Tuesday 2 January: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan with hard copies available to read in each parish.

Bishop Richard met with members of Clergy earlier this week and will be hosting a Pastoral Plan Webinar for people across our diocesan community on Wednesday 10 January at 7.30pm. Please use the following the link to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457734895>.

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word –

Saturday 20 January 2024: Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Word at Sacred Heart Church, Cobham, 11.00am -4.00pm. See poster in the porch for more information.

Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist

– Saturday 10 February 2024: Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Eucharist at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing 11.00am-4.00pm. See poster in the porch for more information.

