

PARISH NOTICES

Welcome to St John's If you are new to the church, please make yourself known to one of the clergy or the welcomers. After the Parish Mass refreshments will be served at the back of church. Please stay if you can.

We will observe the **Act of Remembrance** at the end of the Parish Mass this morning.

Today's readings The first reading takes us to the time of King Ahab, who had turned to the worship of pagan gods. Elijah's mission was to bring the people back to God. During a period of drought he meets a woman who is about to prepare her final meal. He asks her for water and bread. Although on the brink of starvation she agrees to his request, and she, her son, and the prophet survive until the drought ends. A lesson in faith: like the prophet God may ask great things of his children, and asks that like the widow we respond generously.

Over the last several Sundays the writer of the Letter to the Hebrews has been teaching about the priesthood of Christ. He tells us that Jesus, as the eternal high-priest, offered himself as ransom for all mankind. The question the writer addresses is this: can there really be forgiveness of sin - our individual sins and the sins of the whole world? The answer 'Yes' - because one day on the hill of Calvary a man, God, offered his life to give eternal life to the children of God.

In the Gospel today Jesus gives us two vividly contrasting pictures. Scribes, the teachers people looked up to and admired, who were proud of their wealth and did nothing to hide their generosity. Then a poor widow who discreetly drops two almost worthless coins into the Temple collection box. Which does God prefer? A rabbi at the time of Jesus commented "Two turtle-doves offered by a poor person are worth more than a thousand sacrifices of a king". Jesus underlines this, applauding the widow's offering, and pointing us forward to the offering of his body and blood in the humble form of bread and wine.

Parish Bible Study All are welcome tomorrow (Monday), 3 pm in the café area in church, to study the scriptures for next Sunday:

Daniel 12: 1-3 Hebrews 10: 11-14,18 St Mark 13: 24-32

The **PCC** meeting on Thursday begins with Mass at 6.30 pm. No 9 am Mass today.

The **Christmas Fair** is on Saturday 7th December. There is a list of stalls by the south door waiting for the names of volunteers. Please don't disappoint it!

To contact the clergy:

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THE PARISH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

10th November 2024

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am Parish Mass (Hymns NEH 351, 341, 353, 305, 272) Intention: The Parish

6.00 pm Evening Prayer and Benediction

Monday 11th November 10.00 am Mass Peace
St Martin of Tours

Tuesday 12th November 6.30 pm Mass Persecuted Christians
St Josaphat

Wednesday 13th November 11.00 am Mass Thanksgiving
Feria

Thursday 14th November 6.30 pm Mass The PCC
Feria

Friday 15th November 10.30 am Mass at St Andrew's Teachers
St Albert the Great

Saturday 16th November 9.30 am Mass Those who care for the poor
St Margaret of Scotland

Next Sunday: Mass at 8 am; Parish Mass at 10 am; Evening Prayer & Benediction at 6 pm

Please pray for:

The sick: Wendy Oakeshott, Jack, Reg Parker, Ros Cole, Linda Fryar

The recently departed:

Those whose anniversaries occur this week:

10 Betty Adams

11 Mary Ledger, Edith Davies

12 Marjorie Harvey, Ann Arling

14 Marion Fairclough, Mararet Bolton, Sylvia Lancaster

16 Eileen Balgobin