

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.

Today's readings This week's reading from Isaiah perhaps reflects the prophet's own experience, the opposition he may have faced as he delivered the message God had given him. For Christians it brings a vivid picture of what Jesus went through in his Passion - willingly, for like the prophet he 'made no resistance' to physical violence. But this is not confined to the prophet or to Jesus: the way of the cross is one which every follower of Christ must take.

In the 2nd reading St James teaches that the believer's faith is revealed in the way we behave. That said, we must respond to the needs that present themselves to us, not as an unfortunate necessity, an irksome duty, but simply because we love Jesus so much that we want to do what he would do, and so, in a very real way, make him present in the world and the circumstances of our lives.

Who is Jesus? Peter answers: 'You are the Christ' - the liberator, the saviour of the nation. But what does that mean? When Jesus talks of the consequences of his mission - suffering, rejection and death, Peter objects. Jesus reprimands him. Harsh words, perhaps; but it is what he requires of his followers: not short-lived enthusiasm or occasional devotion, but complete commitment. Impossible? In a sermon St Augustine says: "What he commands is neither hard nor painful when he himself helps us. For whatever seems hard in what is enjoined, love makes easy."

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

Wisdom 2: 12,17-20 St James 3:16 - 4:3 St Mark 9: 30-37

The church is being used for a Council by-election on **Thursday**, so there is no Mass here that day.

Harvest Appeal for Turning Tides: please pick up a list of items needed, and they can be brought to church over the next couple of weeks.

Harvest Supper is on Saturday 5th October at 6.30 pm. Please sign the list in church if you are intending to come. Tickets £12.

To contact the clergy:

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Deacon Rachel 07810 350098 rachelbennett@talktalk.net

THE PARISH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

15th September 2024

24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am **Parish Mass** (Hymns NEH 476, 172, 332, 275, 76) Intention: The Parish

6.00 pm **Evening Prayer and Benediction**

Monday 16th September 10.00 am Mass Persecuted Christians
St Cornelius and St Cyprian

Tuesday 17th September 6.30 pm Mass The bereaved
Feria

Wednesday 18th September 11.00 am Mass The departed
Feria

Thursday 19th September The grace to forgive
Feria

Friday 20th September 10.30 am Mass at *St Andrew's* Christians in Korea
St Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Companions

Saturday 21st September 9.30 am Mass Bishop Martin
St Matthew

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

The recently departed: Raymond Woodhams *priest*, Emma Perry

Those whose anniversaries occur this week:

15 Polly Peck, Geoffrey Fisher *bishop*

16 Elizabeth Eldridge

18 Ken Bennett, Amy Bateman

20 Constance Laudham

21 Eric Offen, Dorothy Wood