

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 In the first reading the prophet Jeremiah tells the people of the great joy that will very soon be theirs when they return from exile. All of them will be brought back: not just the important and 'useful' people who were taken to Babylon years before, but all of them, including the disabled, and mothers with children.

The psalm which follows is a meditation on this event.

In the second reading the writer tells how God the Father made His Son, Jesus, 'high priest' for ever, for eternity. At the time of Jesus, the high priest was the highest ranking person in all of Jewish society. Jesus, through his suffering and death, became the ultimate high priest for all mankind. Through him we will receive whatever blessings we ask for.

The Gospel today is the familiar story of the healing of blind Bartimaeus. We see Jesus giving the beggar what he asked so humbly and persistently for. But in many ways this poor blind man represents all of us. 'Master, let me see' the blind man asks. Whether we realize it or not, we all have a longing to 'see' the face of God. If we look to Jesus it is indeed the loving, healing face of God that we can see.

Take note of this: in the Gospel story, after the blind man was miraculously healed, Jesus tells him to 'Go'. But the blind man, now healed, follows Jesus instead. God has created us with the freedom to choose (free will). He will not do anything against our will, but, like any loving Father, He is there to help. Bartimaeus's choice was to go with Jesus. That is the choice we are offered each day too.

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

Deuteronomy 6: 2-6 Hebrews 7: 23-28 St Mark 12: 28-34

Friday 1st November - **All Saints Day** - 11 am Sung Mass

Saturday 2nd November - **All Souls Day** - 11 am Solemn Requiem

To contact the clergy:

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THE PARISH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

27th October 2024

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am Parish Mass (Hymns CHE 326, 343, 394, 631, 183) Intention: The Parish

6.00 pm Evening Prayer and Benediction

Monday 28th October 10.00 am Mass Christian teachers
St Simon and St Jude

Tuesday 29th October 6.30 pm Mass God's blessing on family life
Feria

Wednesday 30th October 11.00 am Mass Faithfulness
Feria

Thursday 31st October 9.00 am Mass The sick
Feria

Friday 1st November 11.00 am Sung Mass The Parish
All Saints

Saturday 2nd November 11.00 am Solemn Requiem Thre deaprted
All Souls

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: Merryl Talbot

Those whose anniversaries occur this week:

27 Sarah Ingarfell, Winifred Head, Graham Ridelles, Myra Tilsley

28 Violet Proctor

30 Winifred Hitchman, Alice Cocks, Frances Fenn

31 Louisa Sidney

1 Edna Card, Tony Daw, Jean Dean

2 Edith Elphick, Douglas Sexton, Frederick Sexton, Roland Chad, John Gray