

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 today's 1st reading the Israelites, on their long journey towards the Promised land, have complained bitterly about the conditions in which they are forced to live. God tells Moses to commission 72 men to help him keep the people in order. Two of them were not present when the commissioning took place, but they were blessed like the others. When Joshua complains about them Moses says he wishes all the people were filled with the Spirit - a wish that was to be fulfilled many centuries later on the day of Pentecost.

The 2nd reading is the final one in the series of readings from the letter of St James, which has been teaching us about the ideal Christian life. Here James is repeating, in different words, what Jesus has said about worldly wealth: the danger posed to the rich man of gaining the whole world and then losing his soul because of it. A warning that not only individuals but rich nations, too, should heed in their attitude to the poor of the world.

What Jesus says in the Gospel echoes Moses's instruction in the 1st reading: amongst the followers of Jesus there must be no 'us and them' - a warning to Christians of varying traditions in our own day. And he goes on to tell us, in a very direct way, that the true disciples of Jesus are those who cut off from their lives, without any compromise, all causes of sin.

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

Genesis 2: 18-24 Hebrews 2: 9-11 St Mark 10: 2-16

Fr Raymond's Funeral Mass is at 12 noon on Wednesday at St Michael's, Brighton.

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

Harvest Supper - next Saturday 5th October at 6.30 pm. Tickets £12.

To contact the clergy:

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THE PARISH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

29th September 2024

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am Parish Mass (Hymns NEH 377, 369, 461, 471, 463) Intention: The Parish

6.00 pm Evening Prayer and Benediction

Monday 30th September 10.00 am Mass Christian teachers
St Jerome

Tuesday 1st October 6.30 pm Mass Parish priests
St Thérèse of Lisieux

Wednesday 2nd October 11.00 am Mass The unwanted and unloved
Feria

Thursday 3rd October 9.00 am Mass The spread of the Gospel
Feria

Friday 4th October 10.30 am Mass at *St Andrew's* Franciscans
St Francis of Assisi

Saturday 5th October 9.30 am Mass Devotion to Our Lady
Feria

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:

- 29 Ethel Still
- 30 Beatrice Clifton, Edmund Salisbury
- 1 Jessie Robertson, James Dean, Mirian Iliffe
- 2 Brenda Riddles, Walter Spong
- 3 George Bell *bishop*, Brenda Yorke
- 4 Joy Levett, Reginald Tilsley
- 5 John Radcliffe