

Introducing Father Thomas

We are pleased to announce that Fr Thomas Cotterill SSC has been appointed Priest-in-Charge of St Andrew the Apostle, Worthing and St John the Divine, West Worthing.

Fr Thomas is presently the Assistant Curate of St Bartholomew's and St Paul's, Brighton, where for the last 18 months he has been seeking to shepherd these parishes in their time of vacancy.

He grew up in the West Midlands, studied in Oxford, and moved to Sussex in July 2022 just ahead of his ordination as a Deacon and the beginning of his curacy in Brighton.



Fr Thomas will be licensed here in Worthing on Tuesday 28th April at 7.30pm, at St John's.

Given Fr Thomas will not be moving house for a little while, he will be continuing to live in Brighton and so will travel across to us here until the Vicarage is ready. As a result of this and in order that Fr Thomas can be visible and present in both of our parishes, he and the Churchwardens have already spoken about the need for some adjustment to our patterns of worship. These conversations will continue in the weeks ahead, leading to updated arrangements taking effect at the same time as Fr Thomas commences his ministry amongst us.

Fr Thomas wishes to convey his prayers for all of us here and at St Andrews and to express his joy and gratitude for the opportunity to serve us.

Your prayers, in turn, are asked for Fr Thomas, for the parishes in Brighton that he will be leaving and for our communities here as we prepare to receive a new parish priest.

Mass Times

From Sunday 26th April Mass times are changing in both parishes. Bishop Will is keen for this to happen so Fr Thomas can share his time evenly and be seen in both parishes, especially on Sundays. The times are as follows:

	St Johns	St Andrews
Sunday	08:00 09:30 17:00 Evening Prayer	11:15
Monday	10:00	
Tuesday	17:30	10:00
Wednesday	11:00	
Thursday	10:00	
Friday	10:00	
Saturday		10:00

Meet and Greet

Fr Thomas is very keen to meet the people of both parishes and has agreed to have a 'meet and greet' the day before his licensing. He feels with family and the Bishop and visitors to St John's on the night of his licensing he wouldn't get a chance to meet people in the way he would like.

The first meet and greet will be at St Andrews on Monday 27th April from 13:00 - 14:30, follow by Fr Thomas joining the Monday Bible study group at St John's with meet and greet afterwards; this will be from 15:00.