

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 The 1st reading tells part of the story of the call of Abraham. In obedience to what God has asked of him he has uprooted his wife and family and all his belongings, and moved them to a distant country. Now he is asking for some assurance that his obedience will be rewarded. The powerful sign God gives not only assures him, but makes a covenant, a solemn and binding agreement, with him and his descendants.

Having heard of Abraham's trust, the 2nd reading begins by giving us a warning about the consequences of the opposite. The people, who, unfortunately, do not have faith or trust in God, are, says St Paul, 'enemies of the cross of Christ'. Those who do remain faithful, though, are already 'citizens of heaven' and will see their existence transfigured into the likeness of the risen Christ. So the apostle encourages us to 'stand firm' in our faith, and trust in the Lord.

The Gospel gives us the familiar story of the Transfiguration of Jesus. He has warned his friends that discipleship will be costly: they will be required to 'take up their cross and follow' him. Now he takes three of them aside and gives them a glimpse of the reward that is in store for those who do remain faithful. On the mountain they see their Lord in glory. What Peter, John and James experience there for just a short while will become for all who remain faithful their (our) eternal destiny.

Parish Bible Study On Mondays in Lent instead of studying the scriptures for the following Sunday we will be using the Diocesan Lent Course 'I Believe' - a fresh look at the Nicene Creed as we celebrate its 1700th anniversary. 3 pm in church,

Wednesdays in Lent:

Stations of the Cross and Mass at 11 am, and Lent Lunch

Looking ahead: Tuesday 25th March

Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord - Sung Mass at 11 am

To contact the clergy:

Fr Roger 01903 268295 07814 765990 burmateak@aol.com

Deacon Rachel 07810 350098 rachelbennett@talktalk.net

THE PARISH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, WEST WORTHING

16th March 2025

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

8.00 am Mass

10.00 am Parish Mass (Hymns NEH 400, 178, 176, 389, 449) Intention: The Parish

6.00 pm Evening Prayer and Benediction

Monday 17th March 10.00 am Mass Ireland
St Patrick

Tuesday 18th March 6.30 pm Mass Humility
Lent feria

Wednesday 19th March 11.00 am Stations of the Cross and Mass
St Joseph The Church throughout the world

Thursday 20th March 9.00 am Mass The departed
Lent feria

Friday 21st March 10.30 am Mass at St Andrew's Victims of violence
Lent feria

Saturday 22nd March 9.30 am Mass The grace to forgive
Lent 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:

Those whose anniversaries occur this week:

16 Margaret Cheeseman, Francis Stanton, Myra Scupholme, Christine Gostling

17 Thomas Davidson, Dorothy Chapman

18 Gertrude Ratcliffe, Ray Woollett

19 Derek Keppel *priest*, Mildred Cutbush

20 Francis Greenwood, Elizabeth Stevens, Rosamond Fielding-Clarke

21 Evelyn Grocock

22 Edgar Pond, Helen Vickers