



St Joseph's & St John the Baptist

CATHOLIC PARISH EAST BRIGHTON

Loving Jesus, living and sharing our Faith, welcoming all.

First Sunday of Advent (A) 29th November 2020

Psalter week 1

WELCOME

Welcome to St Joseph's and St John the Baptist! We are a vibrant and welcoming Catholic community in Brighton, with a vision to form disciples of Jesus Christ, to love others, and to serve our city.

Everyone is welcome, and there are loads of ways you can get involved!
See our website for more opportunities.

Message from Fr Kieron

The image of *the light at the end of the tunnel* is an over used cliché these days but as we enter into the joyful Season of Advent, our minds should be focussed on the coming of a different kind of light. Even (or perhaps, especially) in the darkness of a pandemic, the prospect of the eternal Son of God coming into a real time and a real place should lift our spirits. The invitation of the Gospel for this week is to be vigilant and stay awake. As we rejoice that our churches can once again open for mass, we are aware that at one level we still need to be vigilant about the virus and respect each other's need for space and safety. At another level, whether we are able to come to mass in person, or whether we participate from the safety of our homes, we are all called to make this season holy by active and joyful anticipation. As no doubt, our Christmas celebrations may be rather more subdued than usual, this year, so our Advent preparations might be more reflective and prayerful.

There is indeed real hope for the light at the end of the Covid tunnel, but there is certainty about the light at the end of our Advent journey.

Join our online ALPHA on Wednesday.

We have run a number of Alpha courses in the parish, which a great number of people have now enjoyed and found important and useful. They seem to have been equally appropriate to lifelong Catholics, and to people who have never been to church but want to explore what the Christian faith has to offer.

[Click here for more info](#) and to get in touch so we can answer your questions and give you full details - and tell your family and friends! As we are online we don't need to be near our churches to participate!

www.eastbrightoncatholic.org.uk



RETURNING TO OUR CHURCHES

Mass from Wednesday 2nd December

We are streaming mass as we have been for the few weeks on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday – times are below, and then we are resuming masses. The same restrictions are in place as before this lockdown.

They are

- Face masks/coverings are compulsory (unless you are exempt)
- You must either scan the QR code, or leave your name and phone number.
- You must use hand sanitiser as you enter and leave the Church
- Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place.
- You must not socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble while you are indoors. This applies especially as you arrive and leave the Church. We know it's hard to not stop and chat to your parish friends – but it is vital that households do not mix either inside the church or outside. We really think this is where our parishioners are at most risk.
- Your offertory remains as important as ever. We will have collections baskets at the back of the church, and also the option to pay by contactless payments. We have also added simple ways to give online and by phone - [click here to find out how to support us](#)

Welcomers for all Masses

It is very important that we all thank the small group of welcomers that we have – we cannot emphasise enough that without welcomers we cannot have Mass. Full stop!

Please think about if you are able to help with this very important ministry.

We need to have three or four people at every mass. The welcoming team's duties include:

- Welcoming people into the church, taking contact details, ensuring there is sanitiser for people entering and leaving the church.
- Ensuring the collection baskets are placed by the exits, and taking contactless offertory payments at Sunday masses.
- Cleaning after mass – both churches now have fogging machines which are quick and easy to use – so some one needs to use the fogger, while the others wipe over the touch points – the bench tops and door handles.
- PPE is provided – aprons, gloves and masks.

We will always make sure anyone who hasn't done this before will be on a team with people who know what they are doing. We desperately need more welcomers. If you want to give it a go to see what it involves – this is fine too!

Please contact the Parish Office to volunteer, or if you have any questions.

Christmas Masses

As we are entering Advent, and following on from the plea for welcomers above – we have been looking ahead to our Christmas Masses.

We hope to have the following services:

Christmas Eve (Thursday)	6:00pm and 10:30pm – at both Churches
Christmas Day (Friday)	9:00am and 11:00am – St John the Baptist 9:30am and 11:30am – St Joseph's
St Stephen's Day (Saturday)	10:00am – St John the Baptist
Sunday	9:00am and 11:00am - St John the Baptist 11:30am and 5:30pm - St Joseph's

However - we need to have Welcomers for all these masses before we can confirm them.

We are also looking into how we can ensure we do not have too many people at each mass – so there will need to be a booking system of some sort. We are hoping to have more information about this next week.

Please note – if you are a Welcomer you are guaranteed a spot! Please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible to volunteer – and secure your place!!

YOUNG ADULTS/STUDENTS

Keep an eye on our Deep Waters on Facebook here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/deepwatersbrighton/> or email youngadults@wellspring.org.uk for more details.

GROUPS / MEETINGS

Thursday Group - every Thursday at 10am

The Thursday group meets online every week - details on the website news page. This is a friendly group for people of all ages meeting to go deeper in faith, friendship & community, and encouraging each other in mission.

Mothers Prayers

We are a group of mothers who meet weekly to pray for our children & grandchildren. We have set up a Zoom meeting which enables us to be together spiritually in prayer. Contact Jill O'Rourke 01273 687642 for more info.

Pray the Novena - an invitation from The Wellspring Community

On the feast of the Immaculate Conception, 8th of December 2020, we will be consecrating our community to the Holy Spirit and will be praying a Novena, nine days of prayer, leading up to this and are inviting all of you to join in with us.

The heart and purpose of this Novena and consecration is to renew our baptism and to become more open to the gifts God has given and continues to give through our baptism. We are inviting you to join in with us and renew your own baptism. [Click here to find out more and how you can get involved](#)

Brighton and Hove Deanery Bereavement Support - We're here to help.

For support from one of our trained bereavement volunteers, please contact care4bereavement@gmail.com

Petition to help protect B&H Mental Health Services

We are part of 'Brighton and Hove Citizens' - an alliance of faith, educational and community organisations across the city working together for local change. [Click here to read a letter and sign a petition from Citizens UK](#) to the NHS Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group urging them protect Brighton and Hove's mental health services.

SCHOOLS

St Joseph's School

The children continued to reflect on the Feast of Christ the King through artwork and even learnt about the traditions behind Stir up Sunday and the symbolism of making a Christmas pudding!

As we enter Advent, we have chosen to involve our families in a Follow the Star initiative. We will be holding our first STAR Trail this December. The idea is that our families will display a STAR (drawing, painting, model, Christmas decoration etc.) in their windows for families to look at throughout Advent and the Christmas season.

The message and idea behind this action is to unite and remind our neighbours about this special season, especially on the back of a very challenging year with the pandemic. A STAR is an affirmation of joy and celebration, the star of Bethlehem representing the guidance of God. 'Star of wonder, star of night, guide us to thy perfect light'.

We are hoping all our families will take part, so please send in your photo of your displayed star to myhomework@st-josephs.brighton-hove.sch.uk.

Help St Joseph's twinkle throughout the parish and school community. Please join in! ★

Gill Foan

(Acting) Headteacher

CONTACT DETAILS

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Parish Office

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MASS TIMES

See below for the masses which will also streamed on our YouTube channel.

[Click here to view streamed masses](#)

Sunday 29th November	First Sunday of Advent	
Streamed Mass	11:30am Mass (click here to watch)	People of the Parish
Monday 30th November	St Andrew	
Streamed	10:00 Mass (click here to watch)	Ivy Chapell and Reginald Chapell
Tuesday 1st December		
St John the Baptist	11:00am Requiem Mass Not open to the public	Angelo Gisonni RIP
St Josephs	6:00pm Mass	For the McCann Family
Wednesday 2nd December		
St John the Baptist	10:00am Mass (click here to watch)	Mission of the Parish
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Martha Keller RIP (<i>Geraldine O'Sullivan</i>)
Thursday 3rd December	St Francis Xavier	
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Sabrina McCann's Intentions
Friday 4th December		
St John the Baptist	10:00am Mass (click here to watch)	Diane Christelle RIP (<i>Maguy</i>)
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Deceased Members of the Carroll Family
Saturday 5th December		
St John the Baptist	10:00am Mass (click here to watch)	Holy Souls
St Joseph's	11:00am—11:45am Confessions	
St John the Baptist	6:00pm First Mass of Sunday	Mel, Delores and Marie
Sunday 6th December	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	
St John the Baptist	9:00am Mass	Mr Patricio Borro RIP and Nestor Jereza RIP (<i>Borro and Jereza Families</i>)
St John the Baptist	11:00am Mass	People of the Parish
St Joseph's	11:30am Mass (click here to watch)	Martha Keller RIP (<i>Geraldine O'Sullivan</i>)
St Joseph's	5:30pm Mass	Breda Clements RIP (<i>Noreen O'Sullivan</i>)

Private Prayer

St John the Baptist will be open for Private Prayer on Monday 30th November from 10:30 – 12:00pm – please note the church is not open for Private Prayer on Tuesday due to a funeral - which is not open to the public.

Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Leao Pires, Angela Bowler, Jose Cabanas, Vivien Appleby, Charles Appleby, Ella O'Driscoll, Clive Coates, Tommy Maher, Dermot O'Hara, Ian Brockwell, Angela Hubert, Maria Rigby, Frank Mansbridge, Patsy Regan, Ray Mason, Patrick Sweeney, Moira Hall, Margaret Lamb, Tony Wallace, Jean Ghazal, Mary Berry, Deirdre St John, Vivien Edney and Ray Mason.

Those who have died recently especially Joan Cook and Angelo Gisonni and those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

To be added to the sick list contact the Parish Office. Please contact Fr Kieron or Fr Sebastian if you are going into hospital.