



St Joseph's & St John the Baptist

PART OF THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF BRIGHTON & HOVE

www.eastbrightoncatholic.org.uk

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



Second Sunday of Advent (A) 7th December 2025

Psalter week 2

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 many ways you can get involved!

See our website www.eastbrightoncatholic.org.uk for more opportunities.

Message from Fr Kieron



Perhaps more than any other season, Advent invites us to reflect on God's revelation to us, which of course, reaches its fulfilment in the coming of his Son. In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah looks forward to an era of peace which is so profound, that, symbolically, the laws of nature seem to be suspended. The one who is to come will be anointed with the gifts of the Spirit; wisdom and understanding, counsel and

might and knowledge of the Lord. In the fullness of time, these gifts will be shared with all of God's people.

In the Gospel, as always for the Second Sunday of Advent, our attention is drawn to John the Baptist and his unique role in God's revealing purpose. If the new era foretold by Isaiah is to become reality, then the way for the Lord must be prepared. In our time, this translates into making time for God and for each other during these coming days. God's revelation of himself comes to those who make space in the clutter of life to create a straight path. Most of us try to navigate winding roads of disconnection as we simply cope with what life throws at us, however, during these days we can re-focus on those we most want to connect with and we could start with the relationship with Jesus from which all of life flows.



Christmas Party - Save the Date!

Our Parish Christmas Party is on **Thursday 18th December at 7pm** at the **Fitzherbert Community Hub**. Please bring a plate of finger food to share (savoury if possible) and your dancing shoes... DJ David Miller will bring the music! We look forward to seeing you there!



Second Collection for the Flower Fund – Sunday 7 December



We will be holding a **second collection on Sunday 7 December** to support our **Parish Flower Fund**, helping us provide beautiful flowers in our churches throughout Advent and Christmas. If you're not able to donate on the day, you can also give throughout **the month of December** using the **Dona machine** at the back of church. [or online here](#) Thank you for your generosity and for helping us keep our churches looking welcoming and festive.



Adoration, Reflection , Music and our Advent Reconciliation service

St Josephs - Friday 12th December - 6:45-7:45. Everyone is very welcome!



Mark Bassey's Jazz Jamboree Orchestra - FCH Fundraiser

SUNDAY 14th December - performance 2.00 - 4.00 at the Fitzherbert Community Hub

Join us for our fundraiser - all proceeds to the FCH.

Suggested donation £10 (pay on door) or £5 student / unwaged etc

Missio Red Boxes – Please Return

If you have a Missio Red Box, please bring it along to church on one of the next two Sundays. We need to bank any money collected before Christmas so that it can be included in this year's total. Thank you for your support.

Community Base Festive Market 2025 - Thursday 11 December - 4 - 8pm (*External Event*)

This year, the wonderful Over The Moon will be running a Christmas crafting Scrap Space special, with a smorgasbord of materials that would otherwise have gone to Newhaven incinerator. So come along and make an upcycled festive decoration before you peruse the selection of potential Christmas gifts. There will also be mulled wine and mince pies! And this year is extra special as we're also celebrating 30 years since our incorporation.

Location: Community Base (South Wing), 113 Queens Road, Brighton, BN1 3XG

Our New Parish Hub—Redevelopment of St Josephs Hall.

We are still awaiting final confirmation of the demolition date, but expect work to begin soon. We will share more details as soon as they are confirmed. A fuller project update is available [online here](#), and a few printed copies are available in the back of the churches.

Parish Foodbank – Donations Needed - Thank you for your support!

The foodbank is open **Mondays, 10:30-11:30am** at the SJB presbytery (front office). Please bring donations to Sunday Mass: Eggs, fresh fruit & veg, tins, dry goods, strong bags. ***Please remember! We can't store refrigerated food—please don't bring anything that needs a fridge!*** To donate to the **Foodbank Fund**, [click here](#).

CHRISTMAS MASSES

St Joseph's

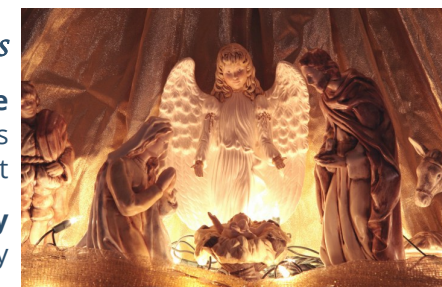
Christmas Eve

6:00pm Family Mass

10:30pm Mass of Christmas Night

Christmas Day

11:00am Mass of Christmas Day



St John the Baptist

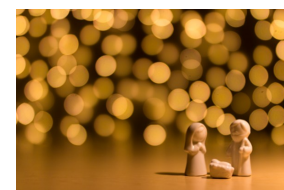
Christmas Eve

10:30pm Mass of Christmas Night

Christmas Day

9:00am Mass of Christmas Day

11:00am Mass of Christmas Day



Christmas Eve Family Mass with carols and a crib.

The children are invited to dress up as angels or shepherds.
6pm on 24th December at St Joseph's church.

YOUNG ADULTS/STUDENTS

We have a vibrant Student/Young Adults group in the parish called Deep Waters that gets together on Wednesday evenings 6:45pm next door in the basement of 6 Wellington Road. We share a meal, listen to a talk, have a time of prayer and then a social with drinks. On Sundays after the 11am Mass we also share lunch, and have some input, usually a personal faith story. This also takes place in 6 Wellington Rd. If you come to the back of church after Mass someone will find you and show you were to come!

For more info you can join our WhatsApp chat - for details email Claire on claireosullivan@brighton.ac.uk. Or follow our Instagram @brightonsussexatholic. We look forward to meeting you!

GROUPS / MEETINGS

Mothers Prayers We are a group of mothers meeting on Monday's at 5pm on zoom. For info contact the parish office.

Tuesday Evenings Join us online at 7:30 on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84005968178>

Praise and Worship Group TUESDAY evenings, 7-8pm. 6 Wellington Rd- all welcome! Contact 07833 614205

Wednesday Evening Perpetual Novena and Divine Mercy Chaplet Every Wednesday at 4:00pm at SJB Church (if Church is closed - please ring the doorbell to the Presbytery)

Thursday Morning Group meets on the 2nd and the last Thursdays of each month at 10:15 - in person in the parish meeting room at St Joseph's, and also accessible online.

Padre Pio Group Join us at 6:30pm, Thursday evenings at St Joseph's for Rosary & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Catenians - a monthly meeting of Catholic men at The Hove Club. For more info see <https://cateniansprovince18.org.uk>



PRAY WITH US

Morning Prayer at 9am: Monday - Saturday
Evening Prayer at 6pm: Monday - Thursday & 5pm on Saturday & Sunday
Advance notice: The Monastic community will be away on retreat from 15 - 19 December, so there will be no morning or evening prayer that week.

MIDDAY STILLNESS – last date before Christmas is next Friday 12 December.

An hour of music, prayer and reflection. Every Friday, 12 noon to 1pm

LECTIO DIVINA every Wed, 8-9 pm [Join online here](#) or see our website.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Parents & Toddlers We meet at St Joseph's (side door entrance) on alternate Monday mornings from 10 am to 12 pm

Monday 14 December , join us for fellowship, tea and coffee, play-time and an opportunity for adoration with or without children in the church. All welcome. Email Julia to join the WhatsApp group.



Family of Faith - Saturday 13th December

What is Family of Faith? Family of Faith is a parish group for families who wish to grow in their faith. Children and their parents will learn about the mass, how to pray, the liturgical calendar of the Church, and the teachings of the Catholic faith in the YouCat (youth catechism) for Kids, covering the entire catechism over a three-year cycle. The programme is suitable for all families with children of primary-school age.

Also suitable for families who are preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Communion & First Reconciliation, as well as those who have already received these sacraments and are preparing for Confirmation in the future.

Meetings take place on Saturdays once a month at the Fitzherbert Community Hub, there is still availability at the 11am - 12:30pm session. Contact Julia for more details / to register.

Messy Christmas! St Josephs Church 12.45 - 2.15 pm Sunday 14 December

Messy Church is a Christ-centred family event for our community to come together to eat, make friends, get creative in activities that don't involve a screen, and learn more about Jesus in a relaxed, messy environment. *Invite your grandparents, friends & neighbours to "come & see"!*



Proclaim youth group - next meeting is at 6.30pm on Mon 8 Dec at the Fitzherbert Community Hub (for ages 12-17)

Contact Julia at families.eastbrighton@abdiocese.org.uk for details on any of the above

CONTACT DETAILS

The Presbytery & Parish Office: 2 Bristol Road, Brighton, BN2 1AP Tel 01273 087839

Canon Kieron O'Brien
kieron.obrien@abdiocese.org.uk

Fr Aidan Murray
amurray@worth.org.uk

Fr Gabriel Dobson
gdobson@worth.org.uk

Br Anthony Brockman
abrockman@worth.org.uk

Julia Wingfield - Families Ministry

All enquiries about Baptism, First Holy Communion, Messy Church etc
families.eastbrighton@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Office (Mon, Wed & Fri, 9:30 -13:00)

Email: eastbrighton@abdiocese.org.uk

MASS TIMES

Saturday 6th December		
St John the Baptist	6:00pm First Mass of Sunday	Garen Saria Intentions (<i>Harpel</i>)
Sunday 7th December	Second Sunday of Advent	
St John the Baptist	11:00am Mass	Garen Saria Intentions (<i>Harpel</i>)
St Joseph's	11:00am Mass with Children's Liturgy	Lee Wright RIP (<i>Miriam</i>)
St Joseph's	5:30pm Mass	People of the Parish
Monday 8th December	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass	Leao & Thersa Pires RIP (<i>Celia Pires</i>)
Tuesday 9th December		
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass	Tara Rose - Get well
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Ann Cranny RIP
Wednesday 10th December		
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass	Mr Miller RIP (<i>Foundation</i>)
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Pam McDonnell RIP
Thursday 11th December		
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass	Ita Donlon RIP
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Margaret McEvoy RIP
Friday 12th December		
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass	Miss Saunders RIP (<i>Foundation</i>)
St Joseph's	6:00pm Mass	Paddy McDonnell RIP
Saturday 13th December	St Lucy	
St John the Baptist	9:30am Mass followed by Confessions	Toni Bonner RIP (<i>Renata Rudzka</i>)
St John the Baptist	10:00am Adoration for the Diocesan Plan	
St Joseph's	11:00am - 11:45am Confessions	
St John the Baptist	6:00pm First Mass of Sunday	People of the Parish
Sunday 14th December	Third 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent	
St John the Baptist	11:00am Mass	Johnrasa, Pragasi, Anthony, Alex RIP (<i>Vinogi Arulgnanaseelan</i>)
St Joseph's	11:00am Mass with Children's Liturgy	Lee Wright RIP (<i>Miriam</i>)
St Joseph's	5:30pm Mass	Mary Coone & family

The greatest gift you can give a loved one - living or deceased - is the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass.

To request a Mass, please complete a Mass Intention envelope (available in church) or contact the Parish Office. Donations may be made in cash or cheque (red letter box in the Sacristy), via the Dona machine ("Mass Intentions"), or by bank transfer (details from the Parish Office). If you need a specific date, please book early.

Please pray for the sick of our parish:

Moirra Hall, Agnes Manyingwa, Jean Small, Yenna VanHannover, Ann Callaghan, Tommy Maher, Claire Ashenden, Mary Howes Ewa Knebloch-Kozlowska, Barbara Garlington, Mary Howes, Phil McGrandles, Gordon Murray, Ian Tinlin, Marie Clare, Sue Bonner, Maria Rigby, Chris Pedroza, Shannon Grewal, Janet Alan, Jayveer Grewal, Anthony Price, Pete Weston, Gerald Grace, Michael Warner, José Luis Cabanas, Laurie Garlington, Helen Symmons, Anthony Warner, Maureen Croake, Ann Peyton, and Ian Brockwell. And all parishioners who need our prayers.

Those who have died recently especially Lee Wright and those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

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