



Parish of St. Richard of Chichester

with Our Lady of the Assumption, Bosham

Parish of St. Peter, the Witterings

4th Sunday of Advent Year A

23rd December 2007

Thought for the Week:

Now the four weeks of Advent are coming to their climax as the feast of Christmas draws near. The Sunday readings have invited us to prepare by challenging us to admit our need of God and to really repent, not just our petty sins but of our smallness of mind and heart that constantly restricts our ideas of God and his infinite love. In a spirit of prayer and openness, we are now ready to pray with great hope and fervour: "O come, O come Emmanuel.

Ordination to the Priesthood

The Bishop of Arundel and Brighton has proposed Thursday 24th January 2008 in Arundel Cathedral for the Ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Malcolm commencing at 7.00 pm. A cordial invitation is extended to all parishioners of St Richard's Chichester, St Peter's Wittering, and Our Lady Bosham to be present on that occasion. Deacon Malcolm would greatly value your support and prayers. If you would be able and like to attend would you please place your name on the list at the back of the Church by 17th January 2008. The possibility of travel by coach will be looked into once numbers have been determined and cost obtained.

Christmas Offerings

The collection at the Christmas Masses is your opportunity to make a personal gift to the priests of the Parish. The Christmas and Easter collections provide a significant portion of the priests personal income.

Emmanuel Prayer Group will be having a break until January. During January we will be meeting at 9 Cooks Lane, Southbourne (Tel: 374390) on the 7th and 14th at 8 pm (Rosary at 7.45 pm) and at 80 Westgate, Chichester on the 21st (Tel: 784946). We will resume at 'Shalom', 28 Grosvenor Road, Chichester from 28th January.

All are welcome.

Mass in the Polish language

For a trial period, Fr. Waldemar Partyka will celebrate Mass in Polish at 12 noon at St Richard's Church on Sundays, starting on 23rd December.

Zapraszam serdecznie na Msze w języku polskim w Chichester, w kazda niedziele o godzinie 12.00 ks.

New Arundel & Brighton Directories

Are on sale in our churches price: £3.80.

Newsletter

Please note that this newsletter covers two weeks—see p.3 for mass times & intentions

Parish Office

During the period before a new permanent secretary is appointed the Parish Office **will only be open from 9.00—12.00, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.** The Office will be closed from 24th December until 2nd January.

New e-mail address for parish office

admin@st-richards.fsnet.co.uk

Parish Office Manager

Following the retirement of Julia Janiec, applications are invited for the new post of **Parish Office Manager**. This is a permanent part-time post (25 hours per week) based in St. Richard's Presbytery. Please contact Father Kieron for an application form and job description. Closing date 31st December 2007. Interviews will be held early in the New Year.

Please pray for the Sick

Deacon David Boyd, Maureen Eyles, Mick Finn, Gizella Gatford, Molly Linfield, Alastair Gordon, Keith Cartey & Ros Davies, Ashley Barratt, Jose Martinez-Lopez.

Christmas Vigil Mass at Bosham

Children attending the Family Mass at Bosham at 5 pm on Christmas Eve are invited to come dressed as shepherds and angels. If you wish your children to join the procession to the crib please arrive by 4.45 pm. There will be a practice on Saturday 22nd December at Bosham at 9am for any children who would like to sing or play their instrument.

The Big Parish Christmas Card is in the main porch at St Richard's. Please sign this to your friends in the Parish and contribute the money you save on sending individual cards to CAFOD.

Tea at West Dean

on Thursday 10th January at 3 pm. All welcome - please book by 7th January. Transport available. Please phone Maria on 782837.

Father Kieron O'Brien, Father Royston Pegley & Deacon Malcolm King Tel: 01243 782343
The Presbytery, Cawley Road, Chichester, W. Sussex PO19 1XB Fax: (01243) 782332
e-mail: kieron@chicathchurch.prestel.co.uk www.strichardschichester.co.uk

Congratulations to St Richard's Primary School

The School has recently been inspected under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005, which looks at Religious Education and the Catholic Ethos of a school. Once again, St Richard's has been described as an "outstanding school", achieving grade one (outstanding) in each of seven categories. This is a tremendous result and a wonderful testimony to the dedication, talent and hard work of all the staff and pupils. We wish them all a well-earned break for the Christmas holidays! Copies of the report are available from the Parish Office.

St Richard's Golden Jubilee The next meeting about the Golden Jubilee Celebrations will be on January 15th at 7.30pm (**Please note change of date**) in the Parish Rooms. You are welcome to come along and get involved! The Mass on 21st May with Cardinal Cormac and Bishop Kieran will be by ticket only. All parishioners will be invited to apply for tickets in February and these will then be allocated on a first-come first served basis, more details to follow.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18th—25th January 2008

UNITED SERVICE AND LAUNCH OF "HOPE 2008"

Sunday 20th January at 6.30 pm,

Chichester Cathedral, Preacher Ian Chisnail.

PRAYER WORKSHOP

Saturday 19th January, 10 am to 12.30 pm at 5 East Pallant.

Subject, 'Forgiveness' led by Geoff Poulter.

24/7 PRAYER

St Wilfred's Church, Parklands will host 24/7 prayer from Friday 19th to Thursday 24th January (excluding Sunday) from 8 am to 8 pm.

CLOSING SERVICE

Thursday 24th January, 7.30 pm at St Pancras Church.

St Richard's Car Parking Scheme The future of the car parking scheme for the spaces around St. Richard's Church will be reviewed in the New Year when we have additional admin support. In the meantime, please continue to use your 2007 discs and exercise consideration for others by only using the designated spaces and respecting the disabled parking bays.

Retreat Week

As is his custom, Fr. Royston will be going on his annual retreat to Quarr Abbey from Mon 28th Jan to Fri 1st Feb 2008. If any other men (aged 18+) would like to join him and experience life in a Benedictine Monastery, please let him know ASAP, as numbers may be limited.

The Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

continues on Thursdays at 8 pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All are welcome.

'Busy' Box in the Chapel

A small quantity of children's books are available in the Chapel for use by our young parishioners, during Mass, when Children's Liturgy is not available. Please look after them and return them to the box so others may use them too.

Parish Youth Council

If you are a young person, of secondary school age, or older and would like to help shape the future for young people in the Parish, come and join the first meeting of the Parish Youth Council on Thursday 3rd January at 6 pm in the Presbytery.

CATHOLIC BIBLE SCHOOL

"OPEN DOOR PRAYER MEETING" recommences Wednesday 9 January 2008 at 7.45 pm – all welcome.

WITH BEST WISHES FROM ALL AT THE CATHOLIC BIBLE SCHOOL FOR A BLESSED AND HOLY CHRISTMAS - thank you for your support during 2007.

Visit the CBS website www.catholic-bible-school.org for more information and weekly reflections on the Sunday Mass Readings or Tel: 371766.

The Holy Family Indian Prayer Meeting

will be held each Saturday in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel from 3.30 pm. All are welcome.

Welcome to Life

Discover who you are in Christ's eyes. A retreat for young adults aged 20 –35. Friday 1st to Sunday 3rd February 2008 at Worth Abbey Benedictine Monastery, Sussex. For more information and booking form contact: Elmgrovecommunity@yahoo.co.uk on 01273 245096.

Are you new to our Parish?

Welcome! Please complete a new parishioner's form and return it to the Parish Office for our records. There are Parish Directories available free from all porches, with details of all the Parish activities.

Work Needed

Helena, a Catholic Slovakian au pair, is available for cleaning, babysitting or dog walking. Please contact her on 07726 509233.

Oaklands Staff Vacancies

Oaklands Catholic School in Waterlooville have the following vacancies:

Required for February 2008 –A suitably qualified graduate teacher of English to teach Year 7 to 11 in a temporary capacity to cover maternity leave. This is a part time post 0.6 (3 days). For further information please contact Mr Matthew Quinn, Headteacher at the school on 023 92259214.

Required for January 2008 –A kitchen assistant/cleaner is also required for our school kitchen for 4.5 hours per day (1.30 pm –5.45 pm) This is a temporary post to cover long term illness. For further information, please contact Mr Geoff Briggs, Business Manager on 023 92259214.

MASS INTENTIONS

Two weeks commencing Sunday 23rd December 2007

4th Sunday of Advent Year A

Vigil	6.00 pm	Patrick Joseph & David Murray RIP (Mrs Kate Murray)
Sun 23rd	8.30 am	Charles Hay RIP (Josephine Hay, Kate Jackson & Family)
<i>Witterings</i>	9.00 am	<i>see overleaf</i>
	10.00 am	George Rafferty RIP (Wardrop Family).
Bosham	11.00 am	Bridie & Patrick McGreal RIP.
Mon 24th	8.00 am	Celebrants Intention
Christmas		
Vigil	5.00 pm	For the People of the Parish
<i>Witterings</i>	8.00 pm	<i>Vigil see overleaf</i>
	10.30 pm	Celebrants Intention
Tues 25th	8.30 am	Dec'd members of the Neill & Cullimore Families & Charles Hay RIP (Bridie Neill & Family)
<i>Witterings</i>	9.00 am	<i>see overleaf</i>
	10.00 am	Patrick Gooderson RIP (Family)
Bosham	11.00 am	Jack Grant RIP (Eileen Grant)
Weds 26th	10.00 am	Win & Bill Harris & Jim Boyd RIP (Mary Boyd)
Thur 27th	10.00 am	Patsy Cox & Family (Emmanuel Prayer Gp)
Fri 28th	8.00 am	NO MASS
	10.00 am	<i>Wittering - see overleaf</i>
Sat 29th		NO MASS or confessions

The Feast of The Holy Family

Vigil	6.00 pm	Stephen, Ita & John Hirt RIP (Flaxbeard Family)
Sun 30th	8.30 am	Tommy & Kathleen Richardson RIP (Sue & Pat)
<i>Witterings</i>	9.00 am	<i>see overleaf</i>
	10.00 am	Celebrants Intention
Bosham	11.00 am	For the People of the Parish
Mon 31st	10.00 am	Celebrants Intention
Tues 1st	10.00 am	(Bosham)C le Morvan RIP (Maura Sands)
Weds 2nd	12.15 pm	Requiem for Marjorie Ross-Palmer RIP
Thurs 3rd	12.15pm	Requiem for Josephine Hay RIP
Fri 4th	10.00 am	<i>Wittering -see overleaf</i>

The Epiphany of the Lord

Sat 5th Vigil	6.00 pm	Edmund Boland RIP (Flaxbeard Family)
Sun 6th	8.30 am	Bridie McGreal RIP (McGreal Family)
<i>Witterings</i>	9.00 am	<i>see overleaf</i>
	10.00 am	Well-being of the Cookson Family
Bosham	11.00 am	Celebrants Intention

4th Sunday of Advent

Year A

Psalter Week 4

First Reading:

Isaiah 7:10-14

The maiden is with child

Responsorial Psalm

No. 23

Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

Second Reading:

Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, descendant of David, Son of God

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us" Alleluia! Matthew 1:23

Gospel:

Matthew 1:18-25

Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

Next weekend

Feast of the Holy Family

First Reading:

Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6 12-14.

Second Reading:

Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel:

Matthew 2:13-15 19-23

Please read the Scriptures at home and listen to them at Sunday Mass.

The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust
is a Registered Charity
No. 252878

ST PETER'S

13 Church Road East Wittering P020 8PS

Parish Priest (resident in Chichester): Fr. Kieron O'Brien STL.

St Richard's Parish Office Telephone 01243 782343.

St Peter's Parish Office open 10 to 12 on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Telephone 01243 673194.

E-mail: stpeterswittering@tiscali.co.uk

Mass

SUNDAY 23 DECEMBER 2007

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 30 DECEMBER 2007

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Refreshments available afterwards, all welcome.

PARISH E.MAIL

stpeterswittering@tiscali.co.uk

PARISH WEBSITE

www.strichardschichester.co.uk

Sacraments

Sundays: Mass 9.00 am

Fridays: Mass 10.00 am.

Holy days of obligation: Mass 10.30am

Sacrament of Penance:

First Friday of the month at 9.30 a.m. or at St Richard's at the following times:

Saturday: 10.30 - 11.15 a.m. and 5 to 5.30 p.m.

Baptism: By Appointment

Marriage: 6 months' notice.

It is with great sadness we announce the deaths of **Bridie Lewington** and **Marjorie Ross-Palmer**. May they both rest in peace. Please pray for them and for their families.

ADVENT MUSIC & POETRY FESTIVAL

Thank you to Geoff for helping to get the church ready, Casey for giving out the programmes, Harrie for managing the music. Frances, Angela, Lynda and Daphne for singing and playing. To Chrissie, Veronica, John and Jack for their rendition and to everyone who came to make Friday evening a success. We raised £41.39 for World Youth Day.

UNITED REFORM CHURCH On Sunday 6 Jan we welcome members of the URC whose church building is about to be demolished and rebuilt. Work starts on 3 Jan and will last 6 months. During this time URC will use St Peter's church for their Sunday services (10.30am to 12 MD). Please will parishioners help keep the church clean and tidy by taking their Newsletters home or replacing them in the church porch. An area will be set aside for URC hymnbooks. Please respect this area.

THIS FORTNIGHT'S FEASTS:

Sunday - Today is a day of prayer for Expectant Mothers.

Monday 24 Dec - Christmas Eve: First Mass of Christmas, Vigil Mass 8.00 pm, Carols will be sung during Holy Communion.

Tuesday 25 Dec - Christmas Day - The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. Mass 9.00 am

Wednesday 26 Dec - St Stephen, Deacon and Proto-martyr of the Church.

Thursday 27 Dec - St John, Apostle and Evangelist.

Friday 28 Dec - The Holy Innocents, Martyrs. Mass 10.00 am.

Tuesday 1 Jan - Solemnity of Mary Mother of God.

Wednesday 2 Jan - St Basil the Great and St Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church.

THIS FORTNIGHT'S MASS INTENTIONS:

Sunday 23 December - Special Intentions (Jo Scholes)

Monday 24 December - Mary Kite RIP (Lucy Clayton)

Tuesday 25 December - Buckley Family (Mary Buckley)

Friday 28 December - Mary Riddle RIP (Christopher Riddle)

Sunday 30 December - Leslie Buckley RIP (Mary Buckley)

Friday 4 January - Margaret Bingham RIP (Christine Bingham).

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY The Christmas offertory collection on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is your personal gift to the priests of the parish. Please give generously to show your appreciation for the work that our clergy do for us, our parish and the church in the Witterings.

CHILDREN'S NATIVITY The Children will be dressing up as usual for the Nativity procession on Christmas Day at 9.00 am Mass. If any children want to join in, please come to Children's Liturgy (we have the costumes).

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS This Christmas we will again be decorating the Church with Poinsettias. Parishioners are invited to dedicate some flowers in memory of a family member or loved one. There is a book in the Church Porch for you to write down the names, and donations for the flowers may be put in the tin.

CRIB COLLECTION There will be a Crib Collection over the Christmas season in aid of the Catholic Children's Society. This collection does not qualify for Gift Aid.

CONFESSION There will be Confession at St Peter's on Friday 4 January at 9.30 am.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Hilda Brooker, Christopher Browne, Peggy Carney, Angela Connor, Minnie Guest, Jean Hood, and Norma Taylor.

THIS WEEK'S ANNIVERSARIES

Please pray for the souls of our departed parishioners whose anniversaries occur this week:

Mary Catherine Kite (1999), Elsie Parker (1995), Mary (Mollie) Riddle (1996), William (Bill) Flynn (2005), Charles Berwick (1992)

The Arundel & Brighton Diocesan Trust is a Registered Charity No 252878