

**29th November 2020**  
**First Sunday of Advent (Year B)**



**St Richard of Chichester**  
**St Peter's East Wittering**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption,**

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**St Richard's Church**  
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Chichester, PO19 1XB  
**Our Lady of the Assumption**  
Fairfield Road, Bosham, PO18 8JH  
**St Peter's Church**  
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PO20 8PS  
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**All latest info**  
[www.strichardschichester.co.uk](http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk)  
**Online Masses**  
[youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester](https://www.youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester)

**Regular news and insight:**  
<http://www.facebook.com/strichards.parish>  
<https://instagram.com/st.richard.church.chichester>  
**Urgent safeguarding issues:** 01273859708  
[angela.mcgrory@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:angela.mcgrory@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Confessions**

At St Richard's on a Wednesday from 10-11am and from 6-7pm, and currently at Our Lady's during Tuesday's Adoration.

On the occasion of the 190th anniversary of the Marian apparitions to St. Catherine Labouré, Pope Francis blessed "the holy image of the Immaculate Virgin Mary of the Miraculous Medal" on November 11. This marked the launch of a Marian pilgrimage by a delegation of members of the religious community connected to the figure of St. Vincent de Paul.

Nearly 200 years ago the Virgin Mary appeared to a French Vincentian nun Catherine Labouré, in the chapel on Rue du Bac in Paris. To mark this anniversary, religious of the Vincentian family will travel to Italy from December 2020 to November 2021 to visit ecclesiastical communities of the Vincentian family. At a time when the world has been struck by the pandemic and is in the grip of "strong tensions," the spiritual children of St. Vincent de Paul wished to undertake "a journey of announcing God's merciful love," the press release explained.

On the nights of July 18 to 19, 1830, the Virgin appeared for the first time to Catherine Labouré, a religious sister belonging to the order of the Daughters of Charity of Saint Vincent de Paul, and asked her to come and pray at the foot of the altar where the tabernacle rested. A second apparition followed on November 27, 1830, during which the Virgin asked the nun to have the famous medal struck. The Mother of Christ appeared one last time to the French nun in December 1830. Far from being a "talisman," the function of the Miraculous Medal is to help the faithful to remember "the love of Jesus Christ and to increase our confidence in his Mother's help," says the website of the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal. The Virgin Mary is said to have "designed" the medal and to have attributed to it a "particular effectiveness."

"The people who wear it with confidence will receive great graces," the Virgin said to the nun during the apparitions. The time of Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas. The Church gives us two great figures in the liturgy who explain the significance of the upcoming celebration: the prophet Isaiah and St John the Baptist. However it is Our Lady who becomes our closest companion in the run-up to Christmas. She prompts us to pause in the busyness of life, to open our hearts and welcome her Son. That is why we like to keep her image in our mind's eye. Exposing holy pictures and statues of Our Lady during this season in our homes and keeping the Miraculous Medal or Rosary in our pockets, helps us to focus more on her deeds and to follow her guidance even more closely. During the Season of Advent we should try not only to renew our prayer life and deepen reflection but also to undertake works of charity. That is why we are spiritually supporting the "Mini Vinnies" who begin their activities at St Richard's School and all other works of charity and devotion which are suitable responses to the call of Advent.  
*Fr Sebastian*



	Livestreamed Mass Time and Intentions	Livestreamed Mass Time and Intentions
Saturday 28th November	8am Online weekday Mass	6pm Vigil Online Mass
	<i>John Siveter RIP</i>	<i>In thanksgiving for the love and support of Kay McHale</i>
Sunday 29th November <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Cycle B</b>	8.30am Online Sunday Mass	8.30am Online Sunday Mass
	<i>Deceased Family Members (M&amp;M Southward)</i>	
	10am Online Sunday Mass <i>Holy Souls in Purgatory (R France)</i>	<i>Deceased members of the Toner Family</i>
Monday 30th November <b>St Andrew</b>	8am Online weekday Mass	8am Online weekday Mass
	<i>For persecuted Christians</i>	
Tuesday 1st December	8am Online weekday Mass	8am Online weekday Mass
	<i>Deceased friends and relatives of Kate and John Siebert</i>	
Wednesday 2nd December	8am Online weekday Mass	8am Online weekday Mass
	<i>In Thanksgiving (Mary Downy)</i>	

**From Thursday Masses will be Public** (livestreaming will also continue)

	Mass and Church	public	l/s	Intention
Thurs 3rd December <b>St Francis Xavier</b>	8am St Richard's	Yes	Yes	<i>23rd Anniversary of Edward Lipski RIP</i>
	12 noon St Richard's	Yes	No	
Friday 4th December	8am St Richard's	yes	Yes	<i>Deceased members of the Bailey Family</i>
	9.30am St Peter's	<b>Confessions</b>		
	10am St Peter's	Yes	No	
Saturday 5th December	8am St Richard's	Yes	Yes	
	6pm St Richard's	Yes	Yes	<i>Deceased members of the Knights of St Columba</i>
Sunday 6th December <b>2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	8.30am St Richard's	Yes	No	<i>Mrs Marilyn Bannen RIP</i>
	9am St Peter's *Please book	Yes	No	<i>Veronica Brown RIP (Gill and Geoff Breeze)</i>
	10am St Richard's * Please book	Yes	Yes	<i>for the souls of unborn babies</i>
	11am Our Lady *Please book	Yes	No	<i>People of the Parish</i>

**Booking Sunday Masses for Dec and Jan**

Please book for the following Sunday Masses only:  
**9am St Peter's, 10am St Richard's, 11am Our Lady.**

[Book my weekend mass](#)

www.strichardschichester.co.uk/survey  
Email: chichester@abdiocese.org.uk

All other masses do not require booking. Just turn up. Stewards will ask you to use the track and trace on your smartphone if you can, if not, to write down your name and contact details.

Please remember that in order to celebrate Mass together we need to have a number of stewards to show people where to sit safely and people to wipe down the benches and handrails after Mass. Please offer to help if you can.

**Days and times of Private Prayer and Adoration at the start of next week**

	St Richard's	St Peters	Our Lady
<b>Monday</b>	8.30-11am (Private Prayer)	10-11 (Private Prayer)	
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.30-11am (Private Prayer)		10am-11am (Adoration)
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.30-7pm (Adoration)	9-12noon (Adoration)	

**Please pray for our sick parishioners:**

Paula Barrett, Ellie Butler, Jan Thorpe, Frank O'Donnell, Jo Scholes, Dennis Chiles, Kay Howlett, Peter Robson, Rene Coutts, Michael O'Neil, Patrick Hill, Rita & Eddie Rooke, Jenny Edwards, Walter Hoppe, Christopher Emerson, Peter Habgood, Agnes Martin, Majella Taylor, David White, Nicola and Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Gerald McGregor, Jill Serna, Robin Bowker, Helena Denis, Tony Whiting, Irene Ray-Crosby  
*Please let the office know of any changes to be made*

## Thank you Rosie

Rosie Beal has been the Manager of the St Richard's Nursery Unit for over 23 years and with her team of dedicated nursery staff has cared for many of our Parish pre-school children over the years. Rosie left the Nursery last Friday and we thank her for all her care and dedication to the children, her staff and to the Parish. She will be greatly missed.

The Nursery celebrates its 23rd anniversary this year and some of you will remember fundraising for the building for the Nursery Unit. Over the years Rosie has overseen the extension of childcare provision to wider age groups and to cover lunchtimes, and she has managed the expansion of the buildings and garden (not to mention the huge challenges of covid).

Diane Wynne, the new Nursery Manager, takes over on Monday and with the rest of the team will take the nursery forward on the firm foundations built by Rosie.

## Masses for Christmas

Masses will be at the following times:

### Christmas Eve

- 5.30pm - Mass at Our Lady (families are welcome to this Mass (not Angels and Shepherds))
- 6.00pm - Mass at St Richard's
- 8.00pm - Mass at St Peter's
- 9.00pm - Mass at St Richard's

### Christmas Day

- 8.30am - Mass at St Richard's
- 9.00am - Mass at St Peter's
- 10.00am - Mass at St Richard's
- 11.00am - Mass at Our Lady

**Spaces are limited, please book your place as soon as you can.**

[Follow this link to book online.](#)

[www.strichardschichester.co.uk/survey2](http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk/survey2)

If you can't book online, then please email [chichester@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:chichester@abdiocese.org.uk) or call 07521 697117



## Wednesday Adoration at St Richard's

While many of you have welcomed the relocation of Eucharistic Adoration to the BSC the growing number of adorers has raised concerns: Are we taking adequate precaution to ensure social distancing? Although we rejoice that more parishioners are involved in the Apostolate, we now feel it is prudent to return to the main part of the church. Not only does this provide far more space but leaving the top windows open should reduce any draft created by having both double doors wide open. Hopefully intimacy will be maintained by bringing the Blessed Sacrament forward to the edge of the Sanctuary.

Finally, a reminder in this cold weather to wear an extra layer.

## Sunday 29th November - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*First Reading Isaiah 63: 16-17*

O that you would tear the heavens open and come down  
*Responsorial Psalm 79*

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved

*Second reading 1 Cor 1:3-9*

We are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed  
*Gospel Acclamation*

Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

*Gospel: Mark 13:33-37*

If he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep.

## Children's Liturgy & Advent Resources

[Worksheets and colouring can be downloaded from our website, and you can find a video for you to go through with your children.](#)

Or it can be found at:

[www.strichardschichester.co.uk/social-children-families](http://www.strichardschichester.co.uk/social-children-families)

**Make a Jesse tree - [http://](http://www.catholicinspired.com/2015/11/printable-jesse-tree-ornaments-free-and.html)**

[www.catholicinspired.com/2015/11/printable-jesse-tree-ornaments-free-and.html](http://www.catholicinspired.com/2015/11/printable-jesse-tree-ornaments-free-and.html)

Or you might want to have a look at these advent calendars:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/> <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/For-families/Family-Advent-Calendar> <https://missiontogether.org.uk/calendar/advent-resources/>

## First Holy Communion Programme for

**2020/2021** We are now asking for applications for this year's First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation for children in Year 3 and above.

**The deadline for applications is 30th November, the introductory evening will take place on 7th December at 7.30pm via Zoom.**

The course comprises 8 sessions which, certainly for the first few months, will be held virtually via Zoom (except at St Peter's, where sessions will be held in person). As in previous years we will be following the Growing Up Catholic programme, and all the online sessions are completed with both the parent/carer and the child.

Using Zoom is free and very easy. You can use Zoom on a tablet, computer or smartphone. The catechists will guide you through the process for your classes. If you do not have access to one of these then it is possible to dial in via a normal phone call to listen to the class with your child. If you have any questions about the format of the course, or if you would like a paper copy of the application form then please contact the parish office.

You can sign up in a number of ways

1. [Sign up online](#)
2. [Download the application form from the website](#)
3. Request the parish office to email you a copy of the application form:

## BISHOP'S CATECHESIS FOR ADVENT

Bishop Richard will be offering talks at the Cathedral on the Fridays preceding the Sundays of Advent. These will begin at 7pm. The dates and themes are as follows and information will be included on the diocesan website and in e-news. The first will be livestreamed only, on account of the lockdown, but it will be possible for people to attend the other three and bookings can be made through the Cathedral office.

27<sup>th</sup> November: Advent - Waiting

4<sup>th</sup> December: John the Baptist - Witness

11<sup>th</sup> December: Gaudete - Rejoice

18<sup>th</sup> December: Mary - Openness

<https://abdiocese.org.uk/news/advent-with-bishop-richard>

## Consultation on Freedom of Expression

Freedom of Expression in faith and other areas of life is coming under increasing threat e.g. expressing pro-life views and acting in accordance with one's conscience in medical and other issues. Please respond to this parliamentary consultation so that the Catholic view is heard, in particular to questions 3 and 7. The closing date for submission is 6 December. See

<https://committees.parliament.uk/call-for-evidence/307/freedom-of-expression/>

## Our Parish Offertory

Thankfully our churches are now open for those able to attend Mass. We are very grateful to all who have responded generously through standing orders, bank transfers and other donations to support the offertory while unable to donate using their gift aid envelopes or the collection plate. For parishioners who normally donate this way, and are not yet able to do so, we are offering several options to continue regular giving:

1. Set up a standing order online
2. Make a single payment by online banking or by cheque
3. Make a donation through the Diocese JustGiving page

The details for our bank accounts and JustGiving are shown below.

Thank you very much for your continued support of our parish.

St Richard's, Chichester & Our Lady, Bosham	St Peter's, East Wittering
<b>Via credit / debit card</b> <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ChichesterwiththeWitterings">https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ChichesterwiththeWitterings</a>	<b>Via credit / debit card</b> <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ChichesterwiththeWitterings">https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ChichesterwiththeWitterings</a>
<b>Via bank transfer</b> Name: RCD A&B St Richard of Chichester Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 41076582 Reference: surname and offertory	<b>Via bank transfer</b> Name: RCD A&B St Peter's Wittering Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account No: 71077716 Reference: surname and offertory
<b>Cheques to:</b> 'St Richard's Chichester' Parish office, St Richard's Church	<b>Cheques to :</b> 'St Peter's RC Church' Sent to: 103 Stocks Lane, East Wittering PO20 8NU

## Parish Community Fund Christmas Appeal

Many families within our extended Parish Community have recently suffered financial hardship. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to offer some support to approximately 20 of the most needy families. All the requests for help have come from our Catholic schools. Christmas this year is likely to be a very difficult time for many and we aim to reach out with help in the form of hampers or food vouchers. These will go to families who find themselves unable to fulfil their most basic needs. We received a thank you from a recent recipient:

*Thank you very, very much. Without the additional support St Richard's Parish are offering, I don't know how I would have managed to feed my family during the last couple of months.*

If you are able to support this appeal please donate via bank transfer or cheque.

Via Bank Transfer

Name: RCD A&B St Richard of Chichester

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account No: 41076582 ref PCF

Please add your name if your donation is eligible for Gift Aid.

Please make cheques payable to 'St Richards Chichester PCF'

Please pray for the repose of the soul of St Richard's parishioner, Philip Pratley, who died last Wednesday. Please pray too for Terry and the family.

St Philip Howard Catholic School is currently recruiting for a Learning Support Assistant. An extremely fulfilling role: supporting the development of our learners and helping make a difference to their education and life chances. Please visit our website [www.sphcs.co.uk](http://www.sphcs.co.uk) for more details about this role, closing date and method of application.

## First Communion Programme, St Peter's

**ONLY** If you are interested in joining the new First Holy Communion class at St Peter's, or would like some more information, then please contact either Sylvie (0794 8826339) or Pat (07876 316326). Thank you.