

Parish of Our Lady and the Saints of Sussex

12th December 3rd Sunday of Advent



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8-3.30pm Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri (8-12 Tues)

St Richard's of Chichester

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Our Lady of the Assumption

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St Peter

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Our Lady of Mount Carmel and St Wilfrid

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All latest info: 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://www.instagram.com/st.richard.church.chichester>

Urgent safeguarding issues: 01273859708
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Dear Friends in Christ,

The account of The Fall in the Book of Genesis begins with the statement '*the serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that God had made*' (Genesis 3:1). It was pointed out to us at the Seminary that we ignore these words at our peril!

If the strategy of the devil is to keep us from grace we can see how successful he has been when we consider how few people go to confession these days; even though Christ has given us a specific Sacrament of forgiveness. Many of us must also be aware that recent popes have all urged us to make good use of this sacrament; yet we are so adept at finding excuses for not going.

Part of the problem I think, especially if we have not been for a long time, is that we have the wrong mindset. We see it as a punishment, an ordeal, we feel ashamed (which is not a bad thing) and we question the value of dwelling on the darker side of our nature, which we would sooner forget. And yet in reality the very opposite is true, ask anyone who comes regularly to confession, and they will tell you what a positive experience it has been, and how it brings them relief, gratitude and joy, enabling them to experience in a deep personal way, the loving kindness of God.

Many parishes provide reconciliation services in Advent and Lent, which brings out the community aspect of sin as well as helping us to examine our conscience in the light of God's Word.

May I strongly encourage you to join us for our own service on Tuesday 21st December at 7pm. We are hoping 8 of us priests will be available for individual confessions after the short liturgy.

Finally, let's remember the devil is very subtle and, therefore, we need to be wary of finding 'good' excuses which will keep us away from this special moment with God. Let us pray for each other during this holy season.

Fr Tom

Sunday 12th December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading Zephaniah 3:14-18

The lord, the king of Israel is in your midst

Resp Psalm 12

Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One Israel

Second reading Philippians 4:4-7

The Lord is very near

Alleluia, alleluia! The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

Someone is coming who will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Bidding prayers for the week

www.strichardschichester.co.uk/intercessions

Mass Times Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Christmas Eve

Bosham	5pm	Angels and Shepherds Family Mass
Chichester	6pm	Christmas Eve Mass
Selsey	7pm	Christmas Night Mass
Witterings	8pm	Christmas Night Mass
Chichester	9pm	Christmas Night Mass*

Christmas Day

Chichester	8.30am	Christmas Dawn Mass
Witterings	9am	Christmas Day Mass
Chichester	10am	Christmas Day Mass*
Selsey	10am	Christmas Day Mass
Bosham	11am	Christmas Day Mass

*Masses streamed and available from:
[youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester](https://www.youtube.com/c/StRichardsChichester)

Ministries over Christmas

If you are able to offer to serve at the Christmas Masses either as extraordinary minister, or welcomer, reader, sacristan or altar server please let the people who organise the rotas know. This will, obviously, differ in each church. At St Richard's there will be sign up sheets in the sacristy, or preferably if you can, let us know your availability online www.strichardschichester.co.uk/events

Also, as many of us travel at Christmas, if you find you are not able to exercise your ministry on Boxing Day please let the rota organisers know in advance (or even better find a replacement yourself!).

New Parish Pastoral Council

Fr Tom is delighted to announce that the new Parish Pastoral Council has been appointed. The councillors are:

- Tina Darby and Joe Farrell from Our Lady of the Assumption
- Gio Grabowski and Erna Shaw from St Peter's
- Niki Harman and Ray McGlone from St Richard's
- Zina Neagle and Jan Turney from St Wilfrid's

Many thanks to all who submitted nominations to the Council. Let us pray that our new Council will help our parish to become truly united and ready to pursue the mission of sharing the Good News in our area. The first meeting will take place on 25 January at St Wilfrid's.

Our Parish Offertory

We are very grateful to all who are able to donate through standing orders, bank transfers and to support the offertory. Restrictions still remain at masses on handing round the offertory baskets and for parishioners who normally donate this way, there are a number of options to continue regular giving:

1. Set up a standing order online
2. Make a single payment by online banking or by cheque

Donations via cheque:

Made payable to: St Richard's Chichester; St Peter's RC Church; Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Wilfrid Selsey

Christmas Flowers

Second Collection 18th Dec

Next weekend we will have a second collection at all our churches for the Christmas flowers. The clergy would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people from our parish who work so hard on the flowers to make our churches look so beautiful, particularly at Christmas.

N.B Photos of all the Christmas flowers will be available on Facebook.

Advent Reconciliation Service

Our parish Advent reconciliation service will be held at St Richards at 7pm on Tuesday 21st December when many priests of our deanery will be joining us for the sacrament of forgiveness.

Other deanery reconciliation services for those who cannot join us: Bognor - Tuesday 14th December at 7.30pm, Midhurst - 18th 10am Petworth - 11th 12 noon; Storrington - Sunday 12th 4.00pm,

Jean Darby RIP - We pray for the repose of the soul of St Richards parishioner Jean who died on Saturday. Her funeral will be held at St Richards in the New Year.

Parish Community Fund Christmas Appeal

This week the Community Fund Committee will be sending out food hampers to families in need. Tesco vouchers will be given to others to help them through this season.

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** Reference: **Par Cm Fd *** **and add your surname**

Please add your name if your donation is eligible for Gift Aid. Please make cheques payable to 'St Richards Chichester'

Selsey Church Cleaning There will be a pre-Christmas cleaning session of the church on the 18th December at 10:00am. (January's clean will revert to the last Saturday of the month i.e. the 29th at 10:00am.)

Donations via bank transfer:

Reference: surname and offertory
Name: RCD A&B St Richard of Chichester
Sort Code: 40-05-20
Account No: 41076582
Name: RCD A&B St Peter's Wittering
Sort Code: 40-05-20
Account No: 71077716
Name: RCD A&B Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Wilfrid, Selsey
Sort Code: 40-05-20
Account No: 41076590

Chichester - Children's Liturgy

During the 10am this weekend (12th December), children from nursery up to year 3 (ages 3 to 8 or 9) will go out for their own Gospel and activity. All very welcome, we will be delighted for a parent or guardian to accompany them if they feel unsure.

Bosham Carol Service

The annual Bosham Meeting Point Ecumenical Carol Service will be held at the Holy Trinity Church this year, at 4pm on Sunday 19th December. It is a traditional carol service and anyone is welcome to attend. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service.

Foodbank There are many collection points for the Foodbank both in the larger supermarkets and in the porch at Selsey Church. Please donate if you possibly can. Selsey Food Bank co-ordinators would be grateful to receive any small, 'Christmassy items', small jars of Coffee etc, and they thank you all very much for all your generous donations.

St Peter's Roof repairs have satisfactorily been carried out repairing a hole in the lead flashing in the southern chimney. Thanks to Stefan for overseeing the work.

Justice & Peace Assembly Webinar: 'To a Safer Shore?' 15th January, from 9.45 am for 10 am to 1 pm, will now take place online. More details and to book at [To a Safer Shore? Spotlights refugees, highlighting what we can do to help. | Arundel & Brighton Catholic Diocese \(abdiocese.org.uk\)](#) or contact Tessa Ricketts at Tessa.Ricketts@abdiocese.org.uk

St Richards School Supplementary School Form Signing If you are applying for your child to attend St Richard's Primary School from September 2022 and you would like Fr Tom to testify that you attend Mass, please come along to the parish office on Thursday 6th January at 3.15. Please remember to bring a photocopy of the baptism certificate with the form.

Bosham - Table Top Sale After the 11am Mass this Sunday (12th December) we will be holding a table top sale in the Narthex at the Church. All contributions for the sale must be new, and can be left in the box in the sacristy.

Heating at St Richard's

As many of you will be aware, the heating system in the church at St Richards has failed. Our heating engineer has told us that we have no other option but to replace both boilers (serving both the church & parish rooms/presbytery) on safety grounds.

In order to find the right solution to resolve our heating needs, we have engaged independent heating consultants. In advising they will take into account heating sources both current and future and the impact on the structure of the church, which is a listed building. A feasibility report has been prepared by Chartered Service Engineers who recommend the replacement of both boilers with a single new boiler and a new roof top air handling unit. We have established a small team to advise on all aspects of the project, including a detailed breakdown of the costs. Obviously this work needs to be a priority.

When further information and the estimated costs are available, we will need to embark on a fundraising campaign. We will need your support to help finance the new heating system. For the time being, in order to heat the church, we are using 2 powerful temporary heaters, which are running on diesel, which is the most economic option.

Hospital Pastoral Care in Chichester

If you/your relative/friend is going to be in hospital in Chichester, please contact Amy at the parish office in advance. chichester@abdiocese.org.uk or 782343

Due to staff holidays the parish office at St Richard's will be closed from 27th December until Jan 9th. This will mean there will be a 3 week newsletter to cover the 3 weekends 26 Dec / 2 Dec / 9 Dec. If you would like anything included in this newsletter please send it to: chichester@abdiocese.org.uk

Infant Jesus Rosary

Infant Jesus Rosary is being said twice every day throughout December (until the 24th December) at St Richard's Church in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. After the 8am Mass every day, and at 2.55pm (just before the Divine Mercy at 3). Just turn up, all welcome.

Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Agnes Martin, Cyril Wass, David Mortby, David White, Dennis Chiles, Eamonn Hackett, Frank O'Donnell, Gerald McGregor, Gerry Beurgoyne, Helena Denis, Jan Thorpe, Jenny Edwards, Jill Serna, Joanne Donoghue, John Lord, Kay Howlett, Magda Gallanti, Majella Taylor, Margaret Beazley, Mary Eveleigh, Max Foreshow, Nell Collins, Nell Hassett, Nicola and Anthony Nageon De Lestang, Nicola Coutts, Patrick Hill, Paul Carney, Peter Habgood, Peter Thorpe, Rene Coutts, Rita Rooke, Robin Bowker, Samantha Holloway, Susan Line, Tom Lott, Tony Crist, Tony Whiting, Valerie Davis-White, Walter Hoppe,
Please let the office know of any changes

Masses				
Date	Church	Time	online	Mass Intention
Sat 11 Dec	Chichester	8am		In Thanksgiving (Emiteria Cauzerin)
	Selsey	5pm		Poppy Topp RIP
	Chichester	6pm	✓	Trafficked and abused children (C&J Hutchings)
Sun 12 Dec 3rd Sunday of Advent 'Gaudate Sunday'	Chichester	8.30am		Mrs Eve Goble RIP (Frank O Donnell)
	Witterings	9am		Veronica Brown RIP (G&G Breeze)
	Chichester	10am	✓	James Joseph Kilcoyne RIP (Mary Noble)
	Selsey	10am		The People of the Parish
	Bosham	11am		Wellbeing of Lucy, Tim and Family (MB Southward)
Mon 13 Dec St Lucy	Chichester	8am	✓	In Thanksgiving (Emiteria Cauzerin)
	Selsey	10am		For the wellbeing of Samantha Holloway
	Chichester	12.15pm		Pauline White RIP (David & Theresa Owgan)
Tues 14 Dec St John of the Cross	Chichester	8am	✓	In Thanksgiving (Sunny Family)
	Selsey	10am		Grazia Ferlisi RIP
	Bosham	10am		For Poland and its people (Kinga Buckley)
Wed 15 Dec	Chichester	8am	✓	Marie Marguerite RIP
	Selsey	10am		
	Chichester	7pm		Intentions of the Hutchings Family (C&J Hutchings)
Thur 16 Dec	Chichester	8am	✓	Tricia Green RIP (P. Green)
	Selsey	10am		
	Chichester	12.15pm		Patrick Doocey RIP
Fri 17 Dec	Chichester	8am	✓	Trafficked and abused adults (C&J Hutchings)
	Selsey	10am		
	Witterings	10am		Mona & Jack Culliton RIP (Monica Tourlmain)
Sat 18 Dec	Chichester	8am		
	Selsey	5pm		Jose and Georgina Rodrigues RIP
	Chichester	6pm	✓	Emmy Roblin RIP (David & Theresa Owgan)
Sun 19 Dec 3rd Sunday of Advent 'Gaudate Sunday'	Chichester	8.30am		Oliver Lynch RIP
	Witterings	9am		Lucretia Breeze RIP (Gill & Geoff Breeze)
	Chichester	10am	✓	Pauline White RIP (Julia Janiec)
	Selsey	10am		The People of the Parish
	Bosham	11am		Brendan Walls RIP (Clare Walls)
Please note that Mass times will change when Fr Maksym moves on from our Parish after Easter 2022. We will be introducing a Sunday evening Mass at 6.30pm at St Richards, Chichester in January.				

	Confessions	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Bosham	Tuesdays 9.25 – 10am	Tuesdays 9.25 – 10am
Chichester	Wednesdays 10-11am; 6-6.45pm & by appointment	Wednesdays 6-6.45pm
Selsey	20 minutes before Mass each day	Wednesdays 10.30-11.30am
Witterings	Fridays 9.25 – 10am	Wednesdays 9-12