

## *Fr Hugh writes:*

We begin the new season of Advent today, I notice that secular calendars think Advent begins on 1st December! I suppose that's only about Chocolate rather than awaiting the Lord's coming.

So we begin reading from Isaiah in the liturgy of the word today and through the season which is of maximum length this year. In these early days of advent, our challenge is to respond to here and now as if the moment of the end of time has arrived. Our call is to stand ready, to be awake for the Lord's coming again.

Please do enjoy the season of quiet reflection and prayer, especially as it gets under way in this week.

This Sunday at 5.30pm is our Shared service at St Peter's, a great time of prayer together to begin this new church year, and of course our Penitential service on Monday 5th at 7pm. If you haven't been to 'Confession' for a while this may be a good opportunity, both Fr Tony and Canon Tim will be with us to help. This is an important Sacrament of healing as we move through the season of Advent.

Our Mass each day is very much of the season, interrupted by the feast of St Andrew on Wednesday, Patron of Scotland, and a major feast for all Andrews. It was worth noting I thought that the supreme court, doesn't allow a second referendum on Independence. A memoria of St Francis Xavier is on Saturday and in the following week on Thursday 8th the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass that evening as always at our Sisters home, Little Whaphams.

This Friday, our pastoral team meets again.

We have heard of the death of Fr Michael Creech who was a member of a religious community but for a number of years looked after the needs of the people of God at St John of Rochester, Egham Hythe, please as always pray for his repose.

Plans are formulating for us to provide a warm space for those who need it on the Sunday afternoons in January. We may need extra help depending on the needs in our village post Christmas.

I know that most people are hibernating from their gardens at this time of the year, but I seem to have a string of jobs, collecting all the fallen leaves, emptying a composter to get them all in, and of course other useful jobs. Hedges need tidying now that they are dormant and well before bird nesting time.

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## *Notices*

### **Would you like to join an Advent Group again this year?**

There will be two groups, both at Henfield Place, Upper Station Road, Henfield. Only three sessions each of 1 1/2 hrs.

**Monday Evenings at 8pm** starting this week on 28th November, but not on the following Monday (5th) as we have a Penitential Service at Corpus Christi. Then on the Mondays of the 12th and 19th December.

Also on **Thursday mornings at 10am** starting this week on 1st December then the following Thursdays of the 8th and 15th.

For more information please contact Jo Slaughter on 01273 493101 or email [Josephine.slaughter@btinternet.com](mailto:Josephine.slaughter@btinternet.com)

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## Notices cont/d...

**Mothers Prayers** meets this week on Wednesday 30th November, at 10.15am at Jill's home Kentwyns, Blackgate Lane. We meet to chat over a cup of coffee and pray about those we love. If you would like to join us, just turn up, you will be most welcome.

**Prayers for Ukraine:** Adoration for this intention continues at Henfield Convent from 2pm to 3pm each Tuesday afternoon and is open to everyone.

**Recent Collections** for which many thanks: Retired Clergy £151.60 and Cathedral Maintenance £40.

**Carols in the High Street on Friday 2nd December.** If you enjoy singing or playing a musical instrument, bring your talents along and join the carollers to sing your favourite Christmas Carols! No need for rehearsals. Meet at 6.15pm for Carol Singing from 6.30pm to 7.30pm outside Stevens Estate Agents and Henfield Eye Care during Henfield's High Street Christmas Evening. For more details please contact: Hilary Green ([hilanddick@gmail.com](mailto:hilanddick@gmail.com)) or Penny Ann McKeon (tel 0781 545 0774). All proceeds will go to the Children's Society (charity reg no. 221124).

**Individually guided residential retreat** from 2nd to 6th December at Sussex Heritage Centre. For more details or to book see [www.sussexheritage.co.uk](http://www.sussexheritage.co.uk) or phone Maria on 01903 413606.

**"The Quiet Word of God" – Mini Advent Retreats run by Kathy Bishop, Spiritual Director, from 10.30am to 12.30am at St Gabriel's, Billingshurst on:**

*Saturday 3rd December:* Part 1 – Creating quietness in your soul; Centering Prayer Methods, Part 2 – Praying with the Body.

*Saturday 10th December:* Part 1 – Lectio Divina: praying with Scripture or Sacred writing Part 2 – Visio Divina: praying with icons.

*Saturday 17th December:* Part 1 – The Jesus Prayer. Part 2 – The Prayer of Contemplation. All for a donation for Church costs if able. If not able, please come anyway!

**The Evangelical Free Church** are once again organising their Christmas Tree Festival on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th December. If a group of parishioners or a family who would like to decorate a tree this year to represent our parish of Corpus Christi please contact Pastor Andrew 07564 816789 or Karmel on 01273 959522 to reserve a space.

**Carol Singing at the Free Church.** You are also invited to join in their Carol Singing outside the church on Friday 9th December between 6.30pm to 7pm.

**Carol Singing on Sunday 18th December.** We are hoping that a large group from Corpus Christi will join us carol singing on Sunday 18th December from 4pm to 6.30 pm. The plan is to meet outside 35 Meadow Drive, enjoy some Christmassy nibbles, sing on the Green, (hopefully joined by some local residents) and then continue to Sobell Court and Upper Mead to bring some Christmas joy to the residents. Please join us. *MarieAnne*

**Missio Red Box Holders:** If your box hasn't already been emptied this year, please bring it to church in the next two weeks and hand it to Margaret Hollingsworth, so the money can be banked before the year end. Please collect your 2023 Mission Today calendar from the narthex if you haven't already done so.

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## **Notices cont/d...**

**Our Music Group** is thriving and we'd love to introduce some new music and mass settings into our parish repertoire! If you'd like to add your voice or an instrument please feel free to join us – all are welcome! For more information, speak to Suzie or email [suzie.newbold@gmail.com](mailto:suzie.newbold@gmail.com)

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**The Annual Diocesan Justice & Peace Assembly, 'Hungry for Change'**, takes place on 28th January 2023, from 9.30am to 1.30pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, RH10 6RP. Our annual Justice & Peace Assembly will explore how war contributes to world hunger with speakers from CAFOD, Pax Christi and the Ecological Conversion Group. [Register your free place here](#)

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## **Dates for your Diary**

### **TODAY Sunday 27th November**

Advent shared service of "Darkness to Light" at St Peter's Church, Henfield at 5.30pm.

### **Monday 28th November**

Monday Advent Group starts at Henfield Place at 8pm.

### **Wednesday 30th November**

Mothers Prayers at Kentwyns, Blackgate Lane at 10.15am.

### **Thursday 1st December**

Thursday Advent Group starts at Henfield Place at 10am.

### **Friday 2nd December**

High Street Christmas Evening, 4pm to 8pm. Carol Singing 6.30pm to 7.30pm.

### **Monday 5th December**

Advent Penitential Service at Corpus Christi at 7pm.

### **Friday 9th December**

The Free Church Christmas Tree Festival. Carol Singing 6.30pm to 7pm.

### **Sunday 18th December**

Carol Singing 4.30pm to 6pm at Meadow Drive, Sobell Court and Upper Mead.

### **Saturday 24th December**

7.30pm Midnight Mass of the Nativity.

### **Sunday 25th December**

10am Mass. The Nativity of the Lord.

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

