

**PARISH CHURCH OF  
ST. MARTIN  
St. Wilfrid & St Alban  
Lewes Road**

Website: [www.stmartinsbrighton.co.uk](http://www.stmartinsbrighton.co.uk)

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**Church Wardens:**

**Mrs Angela Way 07545 192102**

**Mr Dan Whittington 07871 667529**

**Safeguarding Officer:**

**Mrs Jan Hollingdale 07708 066875**

**The Holy Family**

**Year A**

**December 28<sup>th</sup> 2025**



**10.30 THE PARISH MASS**

**Opening Hymn** 577

Once in Royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed  
Mary was that Mother mild  
Jesus Christ her little child

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all  
And his shelter was a stable  
And his cradle was a stall  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our saviour holy

And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden  
In whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew;  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle,  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by  
We shall see him but in heaven  
Set at God's right hand on high  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around

*V* In the name of the Father, and of the Son, ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.  
*R.* **Amen.**

*V* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and  
the love of God and communion of the Holy Spirit  
be with you all.  
*R.* **And with your spirit.**

*The Celebrant introduces the Penitential Rite.*

*V:* Lord have mercy/Kyrie eleison  
*R.* **Lord have mercy/Kyrie eleison.**  
*V:* Christ have mercy/Christe eleison.  
*R:* **Christ have mercy/Christe eleison**  
*V:* Lord have mercy/Kyrie eleison  
*R* **Lord have mercy/Kyrie eleison**

*V:* May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.  
*R* **Amen.**

## **The Gloria**

Glory to God, glory in the highest.  
Peace to his people, peace on earth.  
**Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**  
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father.  
**Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**  
We worship you,  
**Glory in the highest.**  
Give you thanks,  
**Glory in the highest.**  
Praise you for your glory.  
**Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.  
**Have mercy on us;**  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer,  
**Receive our prayer.**  
Glory to God, glory in the highest.  
Peace to his people, peace on earth.  
**Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God,  
the glory of God the Father.  
**Glory to God, glory in the highest.**  
**Peace to his people, peace on earth.**  
Amen. **Amen.**

## **The Collect**

O God, who were pleased to give us  
the shining example of the Holy Family,  
graciously grant that we may imitate them  
in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of  
charity, and so, in the joy of your house,  
delight one day in eternal rewards.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen**

## **First Reading** (*Sir 3:2-6, 12-14*)

*'He who fears the Lord honours his parents.'*

A reading from the book of Sirach  
The Lord honoured the father above the children,  
and he confirmed the judgement of the mother over her sons.  
Whoever honours his father atones for sins, and whoever  
glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure.  
Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own  
children, and when he prays he will be heard.  
Whoever glorifies his father will have long life,  
and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother.  
O son, help your father in his old age  
and do not grieve him as long as he lives;  
even if he is lacking in understanding, show indulgence;  
in all your strength do not despise him.  
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,  
and against your sins it will be credited to you.

*V.* The Word of the Lord.

**R** **Thanks be to God.**

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**R. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways.**

Blessed are all who fear the Lord,  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be blessed and prosper. **R**

Your wife like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive  
around your table. **R**

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the husband who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Sion.  
May you see Jerusalem prosper  
all the days of your life! **R**

### **Second Reading** (Ref: Col 3:12-21)

*Theme: Family life in the Lord.*

A reading from the letter of S Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

*V. The Word of the Lord*

**R Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation*

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**O sing a new song giving praise to the Lord,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

### **Gospel** (Ref: Matt 2:13-15, 19-23)

*'Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.'*

*V. The Lord be with you*

**R. And with your spirit.**

*V. A reading ✠ from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

**R Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Out of Egypt I called my son.'

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.' And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

*V. The Gospel of the Lord.*

**R Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Please sit for the Address and then stand for the Creed and  
Prayer of the Faithful*

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The Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.  
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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The Prayer of the Faithful

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V: Lord, hear our prayer  
R **through our brother, Jesus Christ**

*Those in Need:*

Fr Keith, Pete Boyes, Valerie Clarke,  
Elle Deveson, Denise Edmunds, Emily Glass, Sue Korth,  
Maureen Lawrence, Pete Mac, Jen and Jez McAteer,  
Jo Rees-Davies, Terry Roberts, Chris Swetman, Julie Swetman, Dorothy Valder, Alex, Amy, Christine, John, Rachel, Ray,  
Rita, Timothy,

*The Recent Departed:*

*Year's Mind:*

(28) Henry Wells, Ann Richardson, Marjorie Crutcher  
(29) Edith Pearce, Mary Hobbs  
(30) Rose Baker, Charles Tapner, Audrey Morris,  
Ronald Kemp, Ruby Older  
(31) Sister Mary Christina (Sisters of Charity),  
Yanis Mannakis  
(1) Ire Meager, Ada Clarke, Joost de Blank (Bp)  
(2) Ralph Ives (Pr), Mary Stephens, Wilfred Golding,  
Geoffrey Ancell  
(3) Frederick Allen, Edith Roberts

## **Offertory Hymn 305**

In the bleak midwinter  
frosty wind made moan,  
earth stood hard as iron,  
water like a stone:  
snow had fallen,  
snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter,  
long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him whom cherubim  
worship night and day,  
a breastful of milk  
and a mangerful of hay:  
enough for him  
whom angels fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel  
which adore.

Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there,  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air,  
but only his mother,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the Beloved  
with a kiss.

What can I give him,  
poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb,  
if I were a wise man  
I would do my part,  
yet what I can I give him,  
give my heart.

V. Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours  
may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands  
for the praise and glory of his name, for our good  
and the good of all his holy Church.**

### **The Prayer over the Gifts**

V The Lord be with you  
**R. And with your spirit.**

V Lift up your hearts

**R We lift them up to the Lord**

V Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R It is right and just.**

### *The Proper Preface*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and God of might:  
Heaven and earth, heaven and earth  
are full of your glory, your pow'r and might.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heav'ns.**

**Blessèd, blessèd is he who comes,  
Blessèd, blessèd is he who comes;  
Blessèd is he,  
Blessèd is he comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna.....**

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

*The mystery of faith.*

**When we eat this living bread,  
when we drink this saving cup,  
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.  
Hosanna .....**

*The Eucharistic Prayer*

**Amen, Amen. Hosanna....**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come;  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**V** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,  
graciously grant peace in our days,  
that, by the help of your mercy,  
we may be always free from sin  
and safe from all distress,  
as we await the blessed hope  
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**R** **For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**V** Lord Jesus Christ,  
who said to your Apostles:  
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you,  
look not on our sins,  
but on the faith of your Church,  
and graciously grant her peace and unity  
in accordance with your will.  
Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**R** **Amen.**

**V** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R** **And with your spirit.**

**V** Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

### **The Agnus Dei**

Jesus, lamb of God, the Word made flesh:

Jesus, Son of God come down to earth:

**R. HEAR OUR PRAYER HAVE MERCY;  
HEAR OUR PRAYER HAVE MERCY;  
GIVE US YOUR PEACE.**

Jesus, King of Glory, Prince of peace:

Jesus, shining in our darkened world: R.

Jesus, king of angels, lord of joy:  
Jesus, born to save the world from sin: R.

Jesus, Lord of life and Lord of light:  
Jesus, here in form of bread and wine: R.

V        ✕ Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

R        **Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

*Please be guided to Communion by the Stewards*

*Silence will be kept after Communion*

### **The Post Communion Prayer**

### **Post Communion Hymn 630**

See, amid the winter's snow,  
born for us on earth below,  
see the tender Lamb appears,  
promised from eternal years.  
Hail! Thou ever-blessed morn!  
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!  
Sing through all Jerusalem,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Lo, within a manger lies  
He who built the starry skies;  
He, who throned in height sublime,  
sits amid the cherubim! [Refrain]

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,  
what your joyful news today;  
wherefore have ye left your sheep  
on the lonely mountain steep? [Refrain]

"As we watched at dead of night,  
lo, we saw a wondrous light;  
angels singing 'Peace on earth'  
told us of the Saviour's birth." [Refrain]

Sacred Infant, all divine,  
what a tender love was Thine;  
thus to come from highest bliss  
down to such a world as this! [Refrain]

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,  
by Thy face so meek and mild,  
teach us to resemble Thee  
in Thy sweet humility! [Refrain]

V:        The Lord be with you  
R:        **And with your spirit.**

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son✕ and the Holy Spirit.

V        Go forth, the Mass is ended.  
R:        **Thanks be to God.**

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### The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord brought the tidings to Mary  
R **And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,  
blessèd art thou among women,  
and blessèd is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners, now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.

V Behold the handmaid of the Lord.  
R **Be it unto me according to thy Word.**  
**Hail Mary....**

V And the word was made flesh.  
R **And dwelt among us.**  
**Hail Mary....**

V Pray for us, Holy Mother of God.  
R **That we may be made worthy**  
**of the promises of Christ.**

- *Collect.*

### School Theme for the Week

**‘Holiday’**

### Mass this Week

Mon	S Thomas of Canterbury	12.00*
Tue	In the Octave	12.30
Wed	In the Octave	12.00*
Thu	<u>Mary Mother of God</u>	12.00*
Fri	Ss Basil & Gregory	11.00
Sat	The Holy Name of Mary	11.00

### Next Sunday

**Christmass 2**

**PARISH MASS 10.30**

**CHANGE OF MASS TIMES**

Please note that Mass on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday will be at 12 noon and not the usual times.

**EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE**

Sunday, 4th January 2026 at 6 pm at St Paul's Church, West Street.

**WAGNER GROUP**

Please put the following dates in your diary:

**Epiphany—Tuesday, 6th January 2026**

There will be a said Mass here at 12.30 and a Solemn Mass at S Paul's at 6 pm.

**Presentation of the Lord—Monday, 2nd February**

There will be a said Mass here at 10.00 and a Solemn Mass at S Paul's at 6 pm.

**Easter Social**

This will take place on Pentecost Sunday—24th May with Benediction at S Paul's at 6 pm followed by the meal.

