



COLLECTIONS:

10 Dec OLR & SG £2306 St Agnes: £295

17 Dec OLR & SG £2320 St. Agnes: £165

Second Collection: Christmas Flowers £441

Next Second Collection: 6 Jan Support of Christians in the Holy Land

The Christmas Offertory Collection

This is your personal gift to the Clergy.
Please use the envelopes provided.

The parish office will be closed from 22 Dec and re-open on 2 Jan

Prayers for the Sick

Sybil Glenister, Pauline Bosley, Pat Higgins, Joan Garbet, Valerie Downey, Gerald Shakespeare, Richard Kenton, Jean Butler, Kenneth McCann, Amelia Weyman and for all our sick & housebound.

For those who have recently died:

Maraide Carter, George Alves, Dario Masento, Edwin Andrews



Blessing before a Christmas Stable

Lord Jesus,
as I kneel before your manger in adoration,
let my first Christmas word be: *Thank you.*

Thank you, Gift of the Father,
for coming to save me

**THE PARISH OF OUR LADY OF RANSOM 2-4 Grange Road, BN21 4EU
ST GREGORY Victoria Drive BN20 8QY
ST AGNES 10 Whitley Road BN22 8NJ**

Parish Office Hours: Monday to Friday: 9.30am-1.30pm

Tel: 01323 723222 E-mail: eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish website: www.ourladyofransom.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Cheryl Wood

Safeguarding Coordinator: Alison Parsons: sg1.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Pastoral Assistant: Caroline Rother : pastoral.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk

Parish Clergy: Fr Kevin Dring (Parish Priest) Fr Bruno Witchalls (Assistant Priest)

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER 24 & 31 December 2023

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sat 23 Dec	OLR OLR OLR	10am 10.30am 6pm	Patrick Sloane RIP <i>Adoration & Confessions</i> Gilberto da Silva & Pedro da Silva RIP
Sun 24 Dec Fourth of Advent & Christmas Eve Vigil Masses	OLR St.G OLR St.A St.A OLR	10.15am 5pm 6pm 8pm 10pm Midnight	People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish People of the Parish Polish Mass People of the Parish
Mon 25 Dec The Nativity of The Lord	OLR St.G OLR OLR	8am 9am 10.15am 11.30am	Latin Mass: People of the Parish People of the Parish Peace in The Holy Land People of the Parish
Tues 26 Dec St Stephen's Day	OLR OLR	7.30am 11am	Latin Mass: Holy Souls Intentions of the Price family
Wed 27 Dec	OLR	11am	Melvin Moulding RIP
Thur 28 Dec	OLR	11am	Joan Kennedy RIP
Fri 29 Dec	OLR OLR	11am 6.30pm	Alfred Ojuri RIP Latin Mass: Doreen Bergin
Sat 30 Dec	OLR OLR OLR	11am 10.30am 6pm	Cieslak family RIP <i>Adoration & Confessions</i> Joan, Louis & Adrian Marolf RIP
Sun 31 Dec The Holy Family	St.G OLR St.A OLR	9am 10.15am 11.30am 5.30pm	Bernadette Briggs RIP People of the Parish Gordon family RIP Fr Joe Ware RIP
Mon 1 Jan: Mary Mother of God	OLR	11am	Douglas Ramsay RIP
Tues 2 Jan	OLR	7.30am	Latin Mass: Joan Kennedy RIP
Wed 3 Jan	OLR	11am	Leon McGinnes
Thur 4 Jan	OLR	11am	Mary Moriarty RIP
Fri 5 Jan	OLR OLR	11am 6.30pm	Melvin Moulding RIP Latin Mass: Fr Patrick Udotai

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 10.40-11.50am & 5-5.45pm (Our Lady of Ransom)

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10.30-11am;

Friday 11.30am – 6pm Benediction; Saturday 10.30am-12pm Benediction

ROSARY: Tuesdays 10.30am St G & Sunday after 9am Mass; OLR after Monday, Wednesday &

Thursday Mass. DAILY PRIVATE PRAYER: Our Lady of Ransom Church open daily 8am – 6pm

CHRISTMAS PEACE AND BLESSINGS

The feast of Christmas is one full of wonder for all ages. The wonder may begin for children with the gifts and treats they receive. Later as we grow up the wonder moves to the gift that is in the manger, the divine child, the greatest of all gifts ever given to us, the fulfillment of all true human longing, the Saviour, Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.' Everything else the world has to offer pales as nothing before the divine person and presence of Jesus Christ. As we celebrate the birth of the Lord amidst all the challenges and suffering faced in the world, we remember that God never forgets us. It is his world we live in and he has sent us the one who alone can give light and salvation to all people. May we each renew our love and thanks to him today. Thank you for all the kindnesses shown to us, and may God bless each of you and your families this Christmas and New Year, Fr Kevin & Fr Bruno.

TO VIEW LIVE STREAMED SUNDAY 10.15 AM AND WEEKDAY MASSES GO TO: www.youtube.com/ourladyofransom.

PARISH DIARY

Thurs 28 Dec – Prayers for Individual Healing in the Sacred Heart Chapel after 11 am Mass

Wed 3 Jan – St Thomas Becket School signing, 9 – 10 am OLR Hall

Sat 6 Jan – FHC Class – 9.00 – 10.15 am OLR Hall

Mon 8 Jan – Contemplative Prayer Group – PMR – 4 - 5.30 pm

Sat 13 Jan - Lumen Christi Meeting, OLR Hall, 4.45 – 5.45 pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Sunday 24 December – 4th Sunday of Advent

10.15 am – OLR (Vigil Mass 6pm Saturday evening, OLR)

Christmas Eve – Sunday 24 December

5.00 pm - St Gr Vigil Mass

6.00 pm - OLR Vigil Mass (Carols from 5.30)

8.00 pm - St Ag Anticipated Midnight Mass (Carols 7.30)

10.00 pm - St Ag Polish Mass

Midnight - OLR Midnight Mass (Carols from 11.30)

Christmas Day – Monday 25 December

8.00 am OLR Dawn Mass (Latin Mass)

9.00 am St Gr Shepherds' Mass

10.15 am – OLR Shepherds' Mass

11.30 am – OLR Mass of the Day

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

Bishop Richard has written a new Pastoral Plan for the Diocese which will be released in the New Year: 'The Word Who is Life: The Call to Mission'.

As society becomes more secular our parishes must be ever-clearer beacons of light guiding people to Christ. The new Plan highlights how our community of faith can embrace this important time of renewal, forging diocesan parishes into communities of saints and strong, lively, and welcoming schools of discipleship. The Pastoral Plan will be released on the diocesan website on Tuesday 2nd January: www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan

with hard copies available to read in each parish. Bishop Richard met with members of Clergy last week and will be hosting a Pastoral Plan Webinar for people across our diocesan community on Wednesday 10th January at 7.30pm. Please use the following-: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86457734895>

Our Crib Offering this year will support the Catholic Children's Society's A&B Fund which helps the many local families who are vulnerable and in crisis at this time. Please be as generous as you can. You can donate at the Crib or via www.cathchild.org.uk/crib and all monies will go to the Fund.

EDGH HOSPITAL : On the last Tuesday of month – EDGH Mass 12 noon in the Chapel. Please note however that there will be **NO** Hospital Mass in December. If you are in hospital or have a friend in hospital who would like a visit from a priest, please let us know.

CHRISTMAS CRACKER AMNESTY. Please do not throw away any left over crackers. Please bring in and give to Maura or Reception.

PRIMARY SCHOOL FORM SIGNING: Wed 3 January 2024, 9am to 10am in the Parish Hall.

ST AGNES: There will be NO lunch at St Agnes in January.

POLISH MASS: Every 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month at 6pm

PASTORAL & FAITH DEVELOPMENT

ROSARY FOR PEACE: is prayed every Thursday, during Exposition at OLR between 10.20 – 10.50am. Please join in.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER BLESSING:

May the peace of Christ reign in each of our hearts; may the message of Christ find a home in every one of us.

Happy New Year.

HOLY INNOCENCE – A REFLECTION: The peace of Bethlehem was shattered by the cries of the slaughtered children and the weeping of their mothers. The peace of the world was shattered by the cry of the Lamb on the cross. Yet through that death and mourning, an indestructible peace was reborn in the Resurrection of the slain Christ.

THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY reminds us that Jesus lived a real human life among real people of flesh and blood. The Son of God became the obedient son of a foster father and a Mother who, together, accepted him and walked obediently in God's mysterious ways, like the faith-filled family extolled in the psalm. But their Child's children, destined for the heavenly Jerusalem, fill the whole world.

A DAY OF REFLECTION for MINISTERS OF THE WORD – Saturday 20 January 2024 Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Word at Sacred Heart Church, Cobham, 11-4pm. Including Lectio Divina and Mass, plus talks on Sacred Scripture, the Liturgy of the Word, the Lectionary, and practical aspects of the ministry. Please register using the link W: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Word \(20-Jan-2024\)](#) · [ChurchSuite Events](#)

A DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST – Saturday 10 February 2024. Bishop Richard will lead a day of reflection and formation for Ministers of the Eucharist at St Michael's, High Salvington, Worthing 11-4pm. The day will include theological and practical talks, Eucharistic Adoration and Mass. Please register using the link W: [Day of Reflection for Ministers of the Eucharist \(10-Feb-2024\)](#) · [ChurchSuite Events](#)

Lives saved at Good Counsel Network, a Charity which offers women and girls the help and moral support they may need in deciding to keep their unborn child. Accommodation, financial help, baby clothes, nappies, plus friendship, advice and planning for the future are also offered. At this time of focus on the gift of the newborn Christ-child, please consider supporting their amazing work. You can donate and also find out more about the work of this special Charity via www.GoodCounselNetwork.com.

White Flower Appeal: In similar vein, your support is also needed to end the government's deadly pills-by-post abortion policy. Send an **urgent message** to the Health Secretary using one of the cards at the back of the Church or visit www.spuc.org.uk for more details. Please act now to end this policy.

GIFT AID: If you wish to join the scheme to benefit the Parish, please contact Nick Price at pfc.eastbourneolor@abdiocese.org.uk.

Next Newsletter: will be issued on 7 January. All items for this issue to be sent in by **Thurs 28 Dec. Entries after this date cannot be guaranteed.**

A WARM WELCOME: to all who join us for Mass, especially to any visitors. If you are new to the Parish, you too are very welcome.

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