

The Ancient Mother Church of Brighton, St Nicholas of Myra



The Easter Vigil – 30th March 2024

Welcome. St Nicholas' is the original church of Brightelmston village, and the Ancient Mother Church of Brighton: a haven of peace and prayerfulness in the heart of our city. We celebrate diversity, and believe that God's unconditional love is for all. Children are very welcome here.

The Eucharist is celebrated on most days of the week in this church. *See notices inside.*

Instruction in the Christian Faith

Holy Baptism for children and adults

Sacrament of Penance (Confession)

Holy Matrimony and Thanksgiving after Civil Marriage

} by
arrangement
with
the Vicar

Vicar: Revd Dr Dominic Keech

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frdominickeech@gmx.co.uk

Day off: Monday

Lay Pastoral Minister

Veronica Thomason

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Churchwarden:

Rachel Chan

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Churchwarden & Safeguarding Officer:

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Director of Music:

Andrew Dickson

organist@stnicholasbrighton.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Joanne Morrell

parishoffice@stnicholasbrighton.org.uk

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Parish Office Hours:

Weds 12.30-5.30pm, Thurs 12.30-5.30pm

Fri 9.00-4.30pm

Parking is available at St Paul's School on St Nicholas' Road, for the 10.30am Parish Eucharist, from 8.45a.m. until 1.00pm.

If you would like to receive our **regular mailing**, please contact the Vicar.

Follow us online: www.stnicholasbrighton.org.uk / www.facebook.com/StNicsBrighton

THE EASTER VIGIL

The Service of Light

We gather in the churchyard, outside the south door, for the blessing of the New Fire.

*The celebrant blesses the fire and we respond: **Amen.***

*The paschal candle is marked with the sign of the cross, and the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet: A and Ω. At the end of the prayer we respond: **Amen.***

*Incense grains are inserted into the candle and the celebrant lights it from the new fire.
We respond: **Amen.***

The paschal candle is carried in procession into the church. Please join the procession, and spread the Easter light to your neighbour as the acclamation is sung:

The light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

The paschal candle is placed in the sanctuary and the Exsultet is sung.

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!...

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

...is alive and reigns for ever and ever.



A - men.

24 And delivered us from our • ene • mies;
for his • mercy • en • dures for • ever.

25 Who gives food to all • crea • tures;
for his • mercy • en • dures for • ever.

26 Give thanks to the • God • of heaven;
for his • mercy • en • dures for • ever.

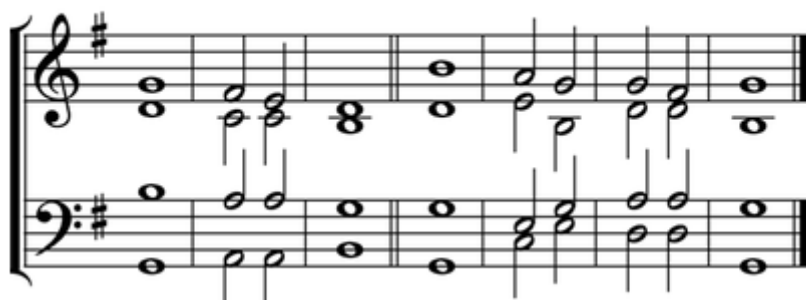
*We stand as the celebrant prays the Collect and we respond: **Amen.***

We sit for the second reading: Genesis 22.1-18, read by Jenny Leith.

*At the end of the reading we respond: **Thanks be to God.***

We sing psalm 16, led by the choir.

William Croft



1 Preserve me, O God, for in you have I • ta • ken • refuge;
I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my • good • de • pends • on • you.'

2 All my delight is upon the godly that are • in • the • land,
upon • those • who are • noble • in • heart.

3 Though the idols are legion that • many • run • after,
their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, neither make mention of their •
names • up • on • my • lips.

4 The Lord himself is my portion • and • my • cup;
in your hands a • lo-•ne • is • my • fortune.

5 My share has fallen in a • fair • land;
indeed, I • have • a • good • ly • heritage.

6 I will bless the Lord who has • given • me • counsel;
and in the night watches • he • in • structs • my • heart.

7 I have set the Lord • always • be • fore me;
he is at my right • hand, • I • shall • not • fall.

8 Wherefore my heart is glad and my • spirit • re • joices;
my flesh • also • shall • rest • se • cure.

9 For you will not abandon my • soul • to • Death
nor suffer your • faithful • one to • see • the • Pit.

10 You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the • fullness • of •
joy;
and in your right hand are • pleasures • for • ev • er • more.

We stand as the celebrant prays the Collect and we respond: Amen.

We sit for the third reading, Exodus 14.10-31; 15.20-21, read by Gavin Bennison.

*We sing the response to the Song of Miriam (Ex. 15) after the cantor, Charles Hugh Fisher,
and again after each verse:*

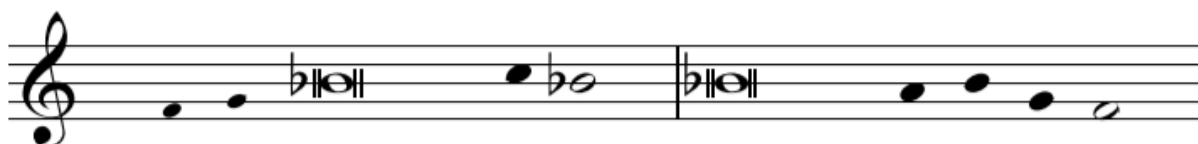


We stand as the celebrant prays the Collect and we respond: Amen.

We sit for the fourth reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14, read by Sorrell Clement.

At the end of the reading we respond: Thanks be to God.

We sing psalm 143, led by Vivienne McKay and Charles Hugh Fisher.



2 (All): Enter not into judgment with your • ser • vant;
for in your sight shall • no • one • living be • justified.

3 For my enemy has sought my life, he has crushed me • to • the ground;
he has made me live in dark places like • those • who • are long • dead.

**4 My spirit faints with • in • me;
my • heart • with • in me is • desolate.**

5 I remember the time past, I muse upon • all • your deeds;
I consider the • works • of • your • hands.

**6 I spread out my • hands • to you;
my soul gasps to • you • like a • thirsty • land.**

7 O LORD, make haste to answer me, my spirit • fails • me;
do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who • go • down • to the
• Pit.

**8 Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning, for I put my • trust • in
you;
show me the road that I must walk, for I lift • up • my • soul to • you.**

9 Deliver me from my • enemies, • O LORD;
for I • flee • to • you for • refuge.

**10 Teach me to do what pleases you, for you • are • my God;
let your good Spirit • lead me • on • level • ground.**

11 Revive me, O LORD, for your • Name's • sake;
for your righteousness' sake, • bring • me • out of • trouble.

**12 Of your goodness, destroy my enemies, and bring all my • foes • to naught;
for • truly • I • am your • servant.**

We stand as the celebrant prays the Collect and we respond: Amen.

We remain standing. A joyful fanfare is played; bells are rung; we sing the Gloria, and the lights in church are lit.

Choir: Glory to God, glory in the highest, peace to his people, peace on earth.

All: 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 sin 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 celebrant prays the Collect and we respond: **Amen.***

We sit for the epistle, Romans 6.3-11, read by Trevor Loveday.

*At the end of the reading we respond: **Thanks be to God.***

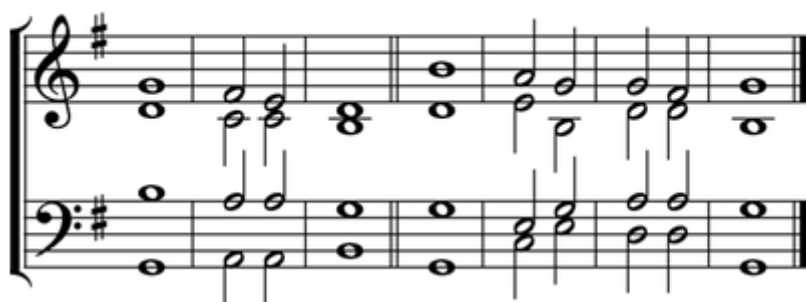
We stand to join in the three-fold Paschal Alleluia, repeating the chant after the celebrant.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

5
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

We remain standing to sing psalm 114, led by the choir.

William Croft



1 When Israel came • out • of • Egypt;
Jacob from a • people • of • for•eign • tongue,

2 Judah be • came • God's • sanctuary;
Is • ra • el • his • do • minion.

3 The sea • looked • and • fled;
the • Jor • dan • tur-• ned • back

4 the mountains • leaped • like • rams,
the • hi-•lls • li-•ke • lambs.

5 Why was it, sea, • that • you • fled?
Why, • Jordan, • did • you • turn • back?

6 Why, mountains, did you • leap • like • rams,
you • hi-•lls, • li-•ke • lambs?

7 Tremble, earth, at the presence • of • the • Lord;
at the presence • of • the • God • of • Jacob,

8 who turned the rock in • to • a • pool,
the hard rock • in • to • springs • of • water.

We join in the Alleluia to herald the gospel, Mark 16.1-8.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia... Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Reader: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit to listen to the homily.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

The celebrant addresses the congregation.

Celebrant: As we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ from the dead, we remember that it is through the Paschal mystery that we have died and are buried with him in Baptism, so that we may rise with him to new life within the family of his Church. This day, all of us who are baptised renew the promises made at our Baptism, affirming our allegiance to Christ, and rejecting all that is evil.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him. Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

I reject them.

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

I renounce them.

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

I repent of them.

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

I turn to Christ.

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

I submit to Christ.

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

I come to Christ.

The ministers and congregation process to the font. We sing:

We shall draw water joyfully, singing joyfully, singing joyfully;

We shall draw water joyfully from the well springs of salvation.

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

who keeps his promise for ever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The celebrant prays over the water

... might, majesty and authority are yours, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess together the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

All are sprinkled with holy water, as a reminder of the baptism we have received.

*The celebrant prays the Collects and we respond: **Amen.***

We return to our seats for the Prayers of Intercession, led by Louise Roddon, and respond:

We pray to the Father: **hear our prayer.**

*At the end: through Christ our Lord. **Amen.***

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

We stand for the Peace.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People: **And also with you.***

A collection is taken for the work of St Nicholas'; contactless donations may also be made after the Eucharist at the door. As the Offerings are brought to the altar we stand to sing:

Now is eternal life,

*We stand as the celebrant says the Prayer over the Offerings and we respond: **Amen.***

We remain standing for the Eucharistic Prayer.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

The celebrant praises God and we sing:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might:

Heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory, your power and might.

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

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

Blessed, blessed is he who comes; blessed, blessed is he who comes; blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

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

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

The celebrant recalls the Last Supper.

Let us proclaim the myst'ry of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is ris'n, Jesus Christ will come again.

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

*The celebrant continues the prayer and we respond: **Amen, amen, amen!***

People: **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.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.**

As the bread is broken, we sing:

Cantor: Jesus, source of everlasting life; Jesus, source of reconciling love:

All: Hear our prayer, have mercy; hear our prayer, have mercy; give us your peace.

Jesus, by whose suffering we are healed; Jesus, man of sorrows, friend of grief:

Hear our prayer, have mercy; hear our prayer, have mercy; give us your peace.

Jesus, crucified, transcending time; Jesus, Saviour, by whose death we live:

Hear our prayer, have mercy; hear our prayer, have mercy; give us your peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People: **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

All who are baptised and normally receive Communion are welcome to do so here. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward with this service booklet in your hands. If you are unable to stand, please wave your service sheet and communion will be brought to you.

Communion anthem: Victimae Paschali laudes – 11th century

*Christians, to the paschal victim
offer your thankful praises --
a lamb the sheep redeeming,
Christ, who only is sinless,
reconciling sinners to the Father.*

*Death and life have contended
in that combat stupendous;
the prince of life, who died, reigns immortal.*

*Speak, Mary, declaring
what you saw when wayfaring.
"The tomb of Christ, who is living,
the glory of Jesus' resurrection;
bright angels attesting,
the shroud and napkin resting.
My Lord, my hope, is arisen;
to Galilee he will go before you."*

*Christ indeed from death is risen,
our new life obtaining.
Have mercy, victor King, ever reigning!
Amen.*

We remain seated to sing:

At the Lamb's high feast we sing

*We stand for the Post-Communion Prayer and respond: **Amen***

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

*People: **And also with you.***

*The celebrant gives the blessing and we respond: **Amen. Amen. Amen. AMEN.***

Celebrant: Go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia!

*People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!***

We remain standing to sing:

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Voluntary after the mass: J.S. Bach - Fantasia in G Major: II. Gravement

***All are warmly invited to stay after the Eucharist to share in fizz, refreshments
and conversation***

Notices for the Coming Week

If you can spare some **small, plain choccie eggs** for the egg-hunt there is a basket on the table by the door: *thank you*.

And if you plan to come to the **bring and share lunch** on Easter Day, it would be helpful if you could write down what you'd like to bring on the sign-up sheet at the back of church.

The **Funeral Eucharist for John Hodges** will take place on Friday 19 April at 1.00pm. All are most welcome to attend. May our departed brother rest in peace and rise in glory.

Bishop Ruth will visit St Nicholas' on 14 May to celebrate the Deanery **Baptism and Confirmation** service. If you wish to be baptised and/or confirmed, please let Fr Dominic know.

The Wednesday music recital this week sees the welcome return of Kenny Fu, piano who will play Schumann (Humoreske op.20), Debussy (Image Book) and Rachmaninov (Sonata op.36 No. 2).

Revision of the Electoral Roll 17 March – 14 April 2024. The church's Electoral Roll will be updated in preparation for the APCM. To be on the Electoral Roll: you need to be sixteen and over; baptised and attend the church regularly (this does not mean every week). If you would like to go on the Electoral Roll please get a form from the Parish Office or Frances Lindsay-Hills, the Electoral Roll Officer, fmlindsayhills@gmail.com. Forms to be returned by Sunday 14 April.

If you might consider **volunteering as a sidesperson** (welcomer on the door) at the Eucharist from time to time, please let Fr Dominic or one of the Churchwardens know.

Please remember to continue to collect your used postage stamps and pass them on to Jo Baker who is collecting them for USPG, which is one of our charities.

The Friends of St Nicholas' It's the time of year for members to renew their membership subscriptions for 2024. If you are a member, you will have received an email from Louisa, the Membership Secretary. Memberships can be renewed by paying cash or contactless to Jo or Louisa in church, or by BACS directly into The Friends' account (details in Louisa's email, or to Jo or Louisa in church). £10 for a single membership; £15 for two people living at the same address. If you are not a member and would like to join, please pick up a leaflet from the information table near the south door of the church.

Save the date: the 2024 Summer Fair will be held on Monday 6 May. We will have the usual selection of stalls, the fabulous Hangleton Band and the dog show! Do you have any suitable bottles or unwanted gifts, then please put them aside for our tombola. If you can make jam/marmalade/chutney that would be great, please let Mark Alderson know if you need any jam jars. Our craft stall led by Frances, Susan and the sewing group will be happy to receive any other small handmade items for sale, e.g. macramé, needle point, patchwork, wood turning, pottery, carving etc. Please put aside any good quality books

and bric-a-brac too, sorry no clothes please. If you are planting seeds this spring, do a few extra for our plant stall or take some cuttings from your favourite plants. Other stalls will include chocolate tombola, cake stall, BBQ, bar, teas with home-made scones. If you have any questions, please speak to Mark Alderson.

Our sponsored charity this month is **Family Support Work (FSW)**, provides emotional and practical support to families in need. This includes listening, advice, advocacy, food parcels, support groups and play activities. FSW supports families struggling with issues such as poverty, ill health, learning difficulties, bereavement, family break-up and domestic abuse.

Attendance last Sunday – 8am 11 adults; 10.30am 95 adults and 9 children

Names for inclusion in the prayers can be sent to the Parish Office.

This Week at St Nicholas'

Sunday 31 st	EASTER DAY OF THE LORD'S RESURRECTION	10.00am Morning Prayer (Lady Chapel) <i>Special prayer at both masses for: People of the parish</i> 10.30am Parish Eucharist followed by an Easter Egg Hunt and a Bring and Share Lunch 6.00pm Evening Prayer and Benediction
Monday 1 st April	Easter Monday	12.00pm Eucharist 6.45-9.00pm Narcotics Anonymous 7.30-10.00pm Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 2 nd	Easter Tuesday	8.15am Eucharist (1662 BCP) followed by breakfast 7.00-10.00pm Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal
Wednesday 3 rd	Easter Wednesday	2.00pm Music Recital <i>Kenny Fu, piano who will play Schumann (Humoreske op.20), Debussy (Image Book) and Rachmaninov (Sonata op.36 No. 2)</i> 3.00pm Eucharist with Healing followed by tea and cake 4.00-5.00pm Open Church 7.00-10.00pm Five Rhythms Meditative Dance
Thursday 4 th	Easter Thursday	5.30pm Eucharist followed by silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament until 6.30pm
Friday 5 th	Easter Friday	12.00pm Eucharist – for the departed of April 12.30-2.00pm Open Church 2.00-4.00pm Sewing Workshop
Saturday 6 th	Easter Saturday	12.00pm Eucharist 12.30-3.00pm Open Church
Sunday 7 th	THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	8.00am Eucharist <i>Special prayer at both masses for: People of the parish</i> 10.00am Morning Prayer (Lady Chapel) 10.30am Parish Eucharist with Ministry of Healing followed by refreshments after the service 2.00-9.00pm Private Hire (Brighton Singers concert)