

The Ancient Mother Church of Brighton, St Nicholas of Myra



Fourth Sunday of Advent – 22 December

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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Day off: Monday

Lay Pastoral Minister

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Parish Office

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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

Join us on Zoom: Meeting ID: 833 4639 2107 Passcode: 991506

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83346392107?pwd=T2lyRWtab1hHeVNHYjhCK3JLNXZsUT09>

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THE EUCHARIST

Before the Eucharist begins, we keep silence and pray together:

**Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We stand when the bell rings, to sing the hymn.

Of the Father's love begotten,

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

The celebrant introduces the liturgy, and we confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*The celebrant says the prayer of absolution and all respond: **Amen.***

We sing the Kyrie eleison:

**Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy. Christ have mercy.**

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

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

*We sit for the Scripture readings. At the end of the reading (Micah 5.2-5a) read by Jane Gray we respond: **Thanks be to God.***

We sing the response to the Advent Prose, led by Charles Hugh Fisher



Cantor: Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.

*People: **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.***

Verse...

*People: **Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness.***

We stand, joining in the acclamation to herald the gospel (Luke 1.39-55).

*Alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia ... **Alleluia alleluia alleluia alleluia.***

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

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

At the end:

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*People: **Praise to you, O Christ.***

We sit to hear the homily.

We stand together to declare our faith.

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

**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.
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.

We sit or stand for the prayers of intercession, led by Martin Auton-Lloyd, and respond:

Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer** *or:* Lord hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**
At the end: Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,**
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

We stand for the Peace.

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

People: **And also with you.**

Donations are collected for the work of St Nicholas'. Contactless donations can be made after the Eucharist at the door, or you can donate online using the QR code. If you would like to make a regular donation, please pick up a standing order form from the cupboard by the main door and return it to the parish priest, or Churchwarden.



As the Offerings are brought to the altar we stand to sing:

O come, O come, Emmanuel

*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 are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name,
He who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The celebrant recalls the Last Supper.

**Let us proclaim the myst'ry of faith.
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.
Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

The celebrant continues the prayer and we respond:
Amen. Amen. 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:

**Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Jesus, Lamb of God, Jesus Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace; grant us 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 let a Churchwarden or sidesperson know, and Communion will be brought to you.

Communion anthem: Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling – Herbert Howells

We remain seated to sing.

Creator of the starry height,

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

We sit for notices.

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.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

We remain standing to sing:

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord:

All are most welcome to stay after the Eucharist for refreshments.

Notices for the Coming Week

Fr Dominic is currently off sick, so, in the meantime, please contact the Churchwardens or Fr Pete about any matters.

Christmas leaflets are available for distribution around the parish. If you would be willing to deliver to a street (or more!), please take a pile on your way out. There are also some extra flyers available in case you want to invite anyone outside of the parish.

Wednesday's music recitals return on 15 January 2025, where we will be joined by Yohei Nakajima and Miho Sanou playing pieces for viola and piano.

Parking for Christmas services – the car park at St Paul's School will be open for every Christmas service (Carols on 22nd; Crib, Contemplative carols; and Midnight Mass on 24th, and Parish Eucharist on 25th). Access will be via the first gate as you approach the car park (not the usual main gate), and the gate will be open from 30mins before each service.

A Retreat Day on the Lord's Prayer at St Nicholas' on Saturday 11 January 2025 (9.45 to 3.30) led by Stephen Crowther. Organised by the Brighton & Hove group of the World Community for Christian Meditation, all are warmly invited to this quiet day of reflecting on our relationship with The Lord's Prayer and the meanings it might hold for us today. A poster detailing the full programme for the day is displayed at the back of the church. Suggested donation, £10. Please contact Felicity on 01273 553216 or felicity.stimpson@btinternet.com to confirm your place.

Our sponsored charity this month is **Family Support Work (FSW)**, which 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 7 adults; 10.30am 65 adults and 1 child.



Christmas at St Nicholas'

22nd

Carols by candlelight - 6pm

24th

Crib service - 4pm

a family service with carols and the Christmas story

Contemplative carols - 5.30pm

a chance to remember those we miss, especially at Christmas

Midnight Mass - 11pm

25th

Parish Eucharist - 10.30am



This Week at St Nicholas'

Sunday 22 nd	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	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
Monday 23 rd	Advent Feria	12.00pm Eucharist <i>Readiness for the Lord's coming</i> 6.45-9.00pm Narcotics Anonymous 7.30-10.00pm Bell Ringing Practice
Tuesday 24 th	Advent Feria NATIVITY OF THE LORD	*No 8.15am Eucharist* 4.00pm Crib service 5.30pm Contemplative Carols 11.00pm Midnight Mass <i>Those grieving at Christmas-time</i>
Wednesday 25 th	NATIVITY OF THE LORD	10.30am Sung Eucharist <i>Peace and hope</i>
Thursday 26 th	S. Stephen	*No mass* <i>Service of others</i>
Friday 27 th	S. John the Evangelist	*No mass* <i>Friendship</i>
Saturday 28 th	Holy Innocents	12.00pm Eucharist <i>Children living in places of war</i>
Sunday 29 th	FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS	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
Matins and Evensong: Tues 9.45am, Weds 4.30pm, Thurs 9.00am, Fri 5.30pm		