

RC CHURCHES OF MAYFIELD AND WADHURST

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Sunday, 4th January 2026, Second Sunday of Christmas

Mass at 9.00am at Sacred Heart, Wadhurst

Mass at 11.00am at Mayfield School Chapel

Services during the week

Monday 5th January – Mass at 10am at St Thomas's. Feast Day of St John Neumann.

Tuesday 6th January – Mass at 10am at St Thomas's. The Epiphany of the Lord, Solemnity.

Wednesday 7th January , Mass at 10am Sacred Heart. Feast Day of St Raymond of Penafort. Confession after Mass or by appointment.

Friday 9th January – Mass at 10am at St Thomas's. Feast Day of St Adrian of Canterbury. Confession after Mass or by appointment. Rosary Group following Mass.

Sunday 11th January. The Baptism of the Lord. Mass at normal times.

Pope Leo's World Day of Peace Message – 1 January. At the Angelus prayer for the World Day of Peace, Pope Leo called on the faithful to pray together for peace “first among nations bloodied by conflict and suffering, but also within our homes, in families wounded by violence and pain.” The Holy Father said that, with the coming of the new year, “the Lord invites us to renew our times by finally ushering in an era of peace and friendship among all peoples.” The full article is at <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2026-01/pope-leo-let-us-pray-for-peace-in-our-world-and-in-our-families.html> .

The Mayor's Toy Appeal. A big thank you to everyone who supported the Toy Appeal this year, we were able to help 648 children this year, we are so grateful for your continued support. And another huge thank you to Sacred Heart School for all their wonderful gifts too.

Stella Maris (formerly the Apostleship of the Sea) Sea Sunday Appeal. The CEO of Stella Maris has written to thank the St Thomas's parishioners for their generous donation for the annual Sea Sunday Appeal. He writes “For fishers and seafarers, life at sea can be extremely challenging. Our port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors provide a beacon of hope, demonstrating the love and care the Good Samaritan showed to the stranger that he found upon the road. We offer welcome, support and friendship to seafarers and fishers, bringing hope to those who feel forgotten or lonely and reminding them they are not alone.

Lecture on Lives of St Francis of Assisi and St Clare – 16th January. Richard Hungerford, a Wadhurst parishioner, will give a presentation on the life of St Francis and St Clare on Friday 16th January at 7.30pm in the Sacred Heart Annexe.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity - 18th to 25th January. This year the prayers and reflections for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the faithful of the Armenian Apostolic Church, along with their brothers and sisters of the Armenian Catholic and Evangelical Churches. These resources draw upon centuries-old traditions of prayer and petitions used by the Armenian people, along with hymns

that originated in the ancient monasteries and churches of Armenia, some of which date as far back as the fourth century.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2026 extends an invitation to draw upon this shared Christian heritage and to delve more deeply into our fellowship in Christ, which unites Christians worldwide. There will be lunchtime prayer sessions on Monday 19th January - Stonegate Church, Tuesday 20th January - Wadhurst (Carillon Cottage), Wednesday 21st January - Sacred Heart Church and Thursday 22nd January - Tidebrook Church. Each session includes a simple soup and cheese lunch. Further details and timings will be in next week's newsletter. There will also be a Service of Christian Unity at 6.30pm on Sunday 25th January in Sacred Heart Church. All welcome to attend.

Parishioner registration on Churchsuite. Thank you to all those who came forward to register at the School Chapel last Sunday, and thank you to those who helped with the registrations. We still have a few more to go. If you haven't registered please do go to <https://sacredheartchurchwadhurst.org.uk/register/>. If you need assistance to register, please speak to a member of the PCC after Mass who will be able to help you.

Event Reminders

Day of reflection for Ministers of the Word, 24th January, at St Michael's Church Worthing. Led by Bishop Richard on the weekend of the [Sunday of the Word of God](#), this day will include talks on the Scriptures, the Lectionary and its use in the Liturgy, the Liturgy of the Word, and preparing to minister as a reader. Arrival and refreshments from 10.30am. Sign up at <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/xqparvc5> . Places are booked up fast so book now!

Mental Health Awareness Training, 7 February. The number of people experiencing poor mental health is rising. This course will help attendees understand the impact and reality of poor mental health, enabling them to identify the early signs and symptoms and signpost people effectively. The course is from 10am to 3pm, at the St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley, (£40) Book your place <https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/ibgv7xjz>

Quiet Friday, 13 February, 10.15am-3.30pm, Worth Abbey RH10 4SB (Cost: £20). Quiet Fridays are designed to foster a peaceful environment of prayerful silence, offering you time to unwind, reflect, and deepen your awareness of God's presence. Go to <https://worthabbey.net/come-for-a-quiet-friday/> to find out more and book.

Recurring Notices

Mass Intentions. For anyone wanting to ask for an intention please put in an envelope and hand it in at the end of Sunday Mass. If you would prefer the intention to be private, please state this and Father Raymond will include it in his own Tuesday or Thursday Mass.

Parish Registration. For those new to the Parish and for those who have not yet registered, please register at <https://sacredheartchurchwadhurst.org.uk/register/> in order to receive the Parish Newsletter and news of Parish activities. **If you have any concerns about this process please speak to a member of your Pastoral Council.**

Ministry of the Eucharist. Please would you please let Father Raymond know of anybody who requires Holy Communion at home.

Mothers Prayers. Mothers Prayers in Mayfield are held every Monday after Mass at Virginia Longin's House. **The Wadhurst group now meets on the second Friday of the month** at 9.30. They meet in each other's houses. If you would like to come, please phone Clare on 07857 529690 or email Virginia at longinvirginia@yahoo.com

Lifts to Mass. Lifts to Mass can be arranged for anyone who has difficulty getting to Church. Please let Father Raymond or one of the Welcomers know if you need a lift. Also, please let a Pastoral Committee member know if you are able to offer a lift to someone who lives near you.