

RC CHURCHES OF MAYFIELD AND WADHURST

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Sunday, 22nd February, 1st Sunday of Lent

Mass at 9.00am at Sacred Heart, Wadhurst

Mass at 11.00am at Mayfield School Chapel.

Fr Patrick O'Beirne from the Columban Missionaries, will be co-celebrating Mass on Sunday at both Sacred Heart and the School Chapel. There will be a retiring collection for the Columban Missionaries with gift aid envelopes available for those wishing to donate.

Services during the week

Monday 23rd February – Mass at 10am at St Thomas's. Feast Day of St Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr.

Tuesday 24th February – Holy Hour in the School Chapel at 6pm.

Wednesday 25th February – Mass at 10am at Sacred Heart. Feast Day of St Ethelbert. Confession after Mass or by appointment.

Thursday 26th February – Ministry of Consolation Stations of the Cross at 3.30pm in St Thomas's.

Friday 27th February – Mass at 10am at St Thomas's. Feast Day of St Gregory of Narek, Abbot, Doctor of the Church. Confession after Mass or by appointment. Rosary Group following Mass.

Sunday 28th February. Mass at normal times.

WARNING OF FRAUDULENT EMAILS! There have been several incidents in the last week of parishioners receiving emails purportedly from Fr Raymond asking for donations to "buy gift cards for his team". Father Raymond would like to reiterate again that he would never send any email asking you to give him money or donate money. Such emails can look very convincing, particularly when viewed from a smartphone where the actual email address is not shown. If in doubt do please check by emailing Fr Raymond at the email address in the newsletter header. If you have received or do receive an email please report it to either Tom or Toni in order for us to have an idea of the extent of the problem.

Sacred Heart Mass Livestreaming. Livestreaming of the 9am Mass at Sacred Heart is now available, for those who wish to access the livestream, for safe guarding reasons you need to register, please send an email to wadhurst@abdiocese.org.uk.

Stations of the Cross in Lent.

Wednesdays in Lent - Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart will be holding Stations of the Cross every Wednesday in Lent at 6pm.

26th February at 3.30pm at St Thomas's. The Ministry of Consolation will hold a Stations of the Cross focussed on "The journey through grief with our Lord's consolation". By walking through the Stations we connect our own struggles and sufferings with those of Christ.

Holy Week Masses, 30TH March – 5th April

Maundy Thursday (Mass of the Lord's Supper), at Sacred Heart, Wadhurst at 8 p.m.

Good Friday (Celebration of the Lord's Passion) at School Chapel, Mayfield at 3pm.

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at School Chapel, Mayfield at 9.15 pm

Easter Sunday - 5TH April. Mass at 9 am at Sacred Heart, Wadhurst. Mass at 11am at School Chapel, Mayfield.

Key symbols and their meanings in our Lent and Easter readings, worship and rituals. Fleur Dorrell from the "God Who Speaks" project explores the meanings of key symbols our Lent and Easter readings. She writes: "Symbols are important to us because they help us make sense of the world. Christian symbols create connections between the ordinary and the transcendent, the particular and the universal, the present moment and eternity. These symbols have the power to transform us and our understanding of Jesus – his life, death and resurrection. When we remember these symbols each year in our rituals and liturgies they reinforce our faith as individual believers and as the whole body of the Church." Her full reflection is at <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/symbols-in-lent-and-easter/> .

CAFOD Lent Appeal – Family Fast Day collection - Friday 27 February. This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope after Mass on Sunday to bless others with your support or donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

We Dare to Ask Lent Course - Wednesdays during Lent from 25th Feb until 25th March at 6.30pm at Sacred Heart. For small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions each helping to prepare us for Easter and focussing on the promises made at Baptism. All welcome.

The Big Lent Walk – first walk Saturday 7th March. Why not join us at Bedgebury on 7th March for the first Big Lent Walk day to raise money for a CAFOD for a drinking water project in Ethiopia by walking 200km during the 40 days of Lent. We need just 20 people to join us this challenge and to help raise money for CAFOD! Please contact either Sean Dexter, sean@the-dexters.com, or Joe Treherne, joseph.treherne@gmail.com, to sign up.

Lent Talk: The Theology of a Rule of Life, 25 February, 8-9pm, online. Join the Lay Community of St Benedict for this talk from Fr Mark Kenny, Anglican priest, who will share how his Rule of Life has impacted his personal journeys and the life of the community he belongs to. To book your place go to <https://laycommunityofsaintbenedict.churchsuite.com/events/qbzybf50?> .

"The Seven Last Words of Christ" performed by the Coralroot Ensemble - Monday 30th March at 6 pm in St Dunstan's Parish Church Mayfield. The "Seven Last Words of Christ" started as a Good Friday service in 1732 in Peru. From there it quickly spread to other countries; Catholics and Protestants embracing the devotion. It alternates between readings and music. In 1786, Josef Haydn was asked to compose music for the service which he did as a series of sonatas, each relating to one of the seven last words of Christ during the crucifixion. No ticket required but there will be a retiring collection for Hospice in the Weald.

Come & Sing: Louis Vierne Messe solennelle, 18 April, 11am-4pm, Worth Abbey (Cost: £10). Join the Abbey Choir for an afternoon of beauty and joy, preparing and performing Vierne's Messe solennelle, op. 16. Free entrance to the closing concert; retiring collection for our diocesan Schools Singing Programme. To book a place in the choir go to <https://worthabbey.net/come-and-sing-at-worth-abbey-on-saturday-18th-april/>

Appreciation from Fr Raymond Tumba, OSA. May I extend my sincere appreciation to the members of the Parish for your continuous benevolence and magnanimity and for the following 2025 Christmas donations. I am eternally grateful. May the blessing of Matthew 10:41 be your portion. The total donation was £4,093.21 of which the collection at Mayfield School Chapel was £3,035.96 and Sacred Heart, Wadhurst was £1,057.25.

Election of the Diocesan Administrator. On Monday 16 February, in accordance with Canon Law the diocesan College of Consultors, met at The St Philip Howard Centre in Crawley to elect Canon Jonathan Martin as Diocesan Administrator to provide stability and continuity, and to serve and guide the faithful of

the Diocese until a new bishop is appointed by the Holy Father. While no major decisions can be taken by the Administrator and College of Consultors which would affect the rights of a future bishop, the daily life and mission of the Diocese - its parishes, schools and diocesan offices - will continue steadily and faithfully in their care.

Event Reminders

Lourdes Pilgrimage. A reminder that applications for the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage is open. For those who are interested in going or have any questions about what it entails, Susan or Stephen Moir or Clare Kent would be very happy to talk to you about it. Further details and the application link can be found at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home?ct> .

World Day of Prayer - Friday 6 March. This year the service has been prepared by the women of Nigeria. Our service will be held in Colkins Mill Church. Please note the earlier time, 11.00, to be followed by soup and bread. Please see the poster at the end of the newsletter. All welcome.

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 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.



11am FRIDAY 6 MARCH

Colkins Mill Church

Station Road, Mayfield, TN20 6BT



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2026

**A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE PREPARED BY
THE CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF NIGERIA**

a service that speaks to our need for peace and solace, drawing on the faith and experiences of the women of Nigeria in a world filled with struggles and anxieties.

Join with us as we pray together and reflect on the theme:

'I WILL GIVE YOU REST'

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. It is celebrated in over 120 countries beginning in Samoa. Prayer, in native languages, then travels throughout the world --- through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

In Mayfield this provides a wonderful opportunity for our Churches to come together and this year we will be hosted by **Colkins Mill**.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN SERVICE TIME TO 11am

**A simple soup and roll lunch
will be available after the service.**

DO COME AND JOIN US!

For further information: <https://www.wwdp.org.uk/>