

RC CHURCHES OF MAYFIELD & WADHURST

THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

REFLECTION

Father Raymond: The Unshakeable Love of God:

“Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you (Isaiah 54:10).

When the sea is calm, even the unskilled sailor may guide the ship; but when the waves rise high and the winds roar, then the true pilot is revealed. So it is with the soul: in times of ease, even the faint-hearted may seem steadfast; but in the hour of trial, only the one anchored in hope remains unmoved.

When the prophet speaks of mountains (in Isaiah 54:10) falling and hills turning to dust, he is not merely describing the crumbling of the earth, but the shaking of all that seems secure in our lives. Mountains are symbols of strength, permanence, and stability. Hills are the gentle guardians of our valleys. Yet even these, the prophet says, may pass away.

Hear the promise of the Lord: *“Yet my love will stand.”* This is not the love of man, which is often fickle and bound by conditions. This is the eternal, steadfast love of the Creator — the love that called the universe into being, the love that took on flesh in Christ, the love that endured the cross for our salvation.

If mountains fall, His love remains. If the hills turn to dust, His mercy endures. If the storms of life rage, His hand still upholds us. For His love is not built on the soil of this world, but on the unshakable foundation of His own divine nature.

Therefore, let us not anchor our hope in what can be moved, but in Him who cannot be moved. Let us remember that even in the ruins of our plans, the Lord is building something eternal.

And so, when the mountains of your life crumble, do not despair. Lift your eyes to the One whose love never fails, and you will find that even in the dust, there is life — for His love is the rock that no storm can break.

CONTACTS:

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HOLY WEEK MASSES:

(30th March - 5th April)

Maundy Thursday <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	8pm Sacred Heart
Good Friday <i>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</i>	3pm Mayfield School Chapel
Holy Saturday <i>Easter Vigil</i>	9.15pm Mayfield School Chapel
Easter Sunday	9am Sacred Heart 11am Mayfield School Chapel

Consider the thief upon the cross: in the very hour of death, when all seemed lost, he turned his eyes to the crucified and said, *“Remember me.”* And in that moment, hope blossomed in the barren soil of despair, and Christ Himself answered, *“Today you will be with Me in Paradise.”*

Do you see, beloved, how hope is not bound by time, nor crushed by circumstance? It is the bridge between the present trial and the eternal joy to come.

To Him be glory forever and ever. Amen.

PARISH NEWS:

Good Friday (3rd April):

The Churches Together in Wadhurst (CTIW) Good Friday Walk of Witness will start at Wadhurst Parish Church this year at 10.15am and end at Sacred Heart Church. There will be a Good Friday United Service of hymns and readings at Sacred Heart Church at 11am.

Nourish - Easter Donations:

We are asking parishioners to donate an Easter egg or Easter-themed treat per family for our Nourish contribution this year. These can be donated at the Sunday Masses on 15th or 22nd March. An Easter raffle for Nourish will also be drawn after Mass on March 29th. Tickets for this will be available on 15th and 22nd March. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Sacred Heart School Year 2 Performance:

Sacred Heart School warmly invite parishioners to join the school community on *Friday 27th March at 9am* in the school hall to see the Year 2 class act out the events of Maundy Thursday. This will include The Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane and Jesus's arrest through drama, dance and prayer. Year 6s are also leading Stations of the Cross at *11am*. It would be lovely to see as many parishioners as possible and you would be very welcome to come to either or both events.

Cafod Big Lent Walk:

Our next Big Lent Walk is this *Saturday, 21st March at Bewl Water*. In order to accommodate members of the choir who would also like to walk, the start will be at *10.45am*. The walk will be about 5km and should take no more than an hour and a half. So far we have raised over £200 of our target £750 that would fund a water project for a village. For those wishing to donate, the JustGiving fundraising page is

<https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/st-thomas-of-canterbury-and-sacred-heart-wadhurst-big-lent-walk>. Please contact either Sean Dexter, sean@the-dexters.com, or Chris Macklin cjmacka88@gmail.com to sign up for the walk.

Volunteers for Easter Services:

If you are able to read at any of the Easter services, or would be willing to be a Maundy Thursday foot-wash Volunteer, please add your name to the sign-up sheets at the end of Sunday Mass or contact Toni at wadhurst@abdiocese.org.uk. We need readers from both churches for all the Easter services and 12 volunteers for foot washing on Maundy Thursday.

Donations for Flowers:

Thank you to our flower arrangers for always making our church so beautiful; a collection for the flowers will be taken this Sunday.

Book Club:

Our parish book group is meeting at the Rose and Crown, Mayfield this *Monday, 16th March at 6pm* to discuss Peter J. Williams' "Can We Trust the Gospels?". Everyone is welcome.

Haydn's Meditation:

The Coralroot Ensemble will be performing Haydn's "The Seven Last Words of Christ", a meditation for string quartet on *Monday 30th March at 6pm* in St Dunstan's Church, Mayfield. It is a non-ticketed event, but with a retiring collection for Hospice in the Weald.

St Thomas's Keys:

Please could all those who have a key to St Thomas' Church, Mayfield contact Tom Treherne - trehernethomas@gmail.com.

Stations of the Cross in Lent:

Wednesday 18th March 6pm at Sacred Heart. The Ministry of Consolation will hold a Stations of the Cross focused 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.

Reconciliation Services:

Sunday 15th March 5-6.30pm at Holy Cross Priory - Cluster Reconciliation Service.

Sunday 22nd March 5pm at Sacred Heart.

Easter Vigil at Mayfield Convent:

Singers are invited to join the Mayfield Church choir for the Easter Vigil. Practices will be held at *9.15 on Saturdays 21st and 28th March at St Thomas Church.* If you are interested please come along. For more information contact Daphne (dbagshawe@outlook.com).

Adoration:

There will be adoration at St Thomas's every Wednesday at 6pm during lent.

Adoration every day at Sacred Heart from 3-4pm.

Stonegate Lent lunch:

Friday 27th March. Noel and Clare Kent are holding a lunch in aid of Nourish and Aid to the Churches in Need.

All are welcome. RSVP Clare at mapleclare@aol.com or 01580 200 450.

Rosary:

After Friday 10am Mass at St Thomas'

Before Wednesday 10am Mass at Sacred Heart (9.30am)

Mothers Prayers:

Monday after 10am Mass at Virginia Longin's Mayfield and every second Tuesday 9.30am Wadhurst

MASS TIMES:

SUNDAY	9am Sacred Heart, <i>Mothering Sunday</i> 11am Mayfield School Chapel, <i>Mothering Sunday</i>
MONDAY	10am St Thomas of Canterbury Mayfield
TUESDAY	6pm Holy Hour in Mayfield School Chapel, <i>Feast Day of St Patrick</i>
WEDNESDAY	10am Sacred Heart, <i>Feast Day of St Cyril of Jerusalem.</i> 6pm St Thomas of Canterbury Mayfield, Adoration. 6pm Sacred Heart, Stations of the Cross followed by 6.30pm Lent Group.
THURSDAY	<i>(PRIVATE MASS) The Solemnity of St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary.</i>
FRIDAY	10am St Thomas of Canterbury Mayfield
SATURDAY	<i>(PRIVATE MASS)</i>

CONFESSIONS:

After Monday, Wednesday or Friday mass or by appointment.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Please visit <https://sacredheartchurchwadhurst.org.uk/register/>