



## St George's & St Theresa's

*Serving Southwick, Portslade,  
Hangleton and West Blatchington*

**Parish** Fr Tony Milner

**Priest:** [tony.milner@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tony.milner@abdiocese.org.uk)

**Secretary:** Juliette Sutherland

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**Parish Hall:** St George's, Court Farm Road,  
W. Blatchington, E. Sussex, BN3 7QR

**Manager:** Sandra Durrant

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**School:** St Mary's, Church Road, Portslade  
[www.stmarys.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.stmarys.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Also serving the parishes:**

**Cottesmore:** [www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk](http://www.cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk)

**Newman:** [www.cnccs.co.uk](http://www.cnccs.co.uk)

### Musicians and Singers Wanted!

*A message from James!*



Guitarists, keyboard players, organists, flutes, clarinets, cantors, singers, etc. etc. wanted for Music Liturgy at Mass at St Theresa's and St George's. Especially as we come into Advent and Christmas.

Guidance can be given if desired.

We also would like volunteers to select hymns for St Theresa's Vigil Mass and St George's.

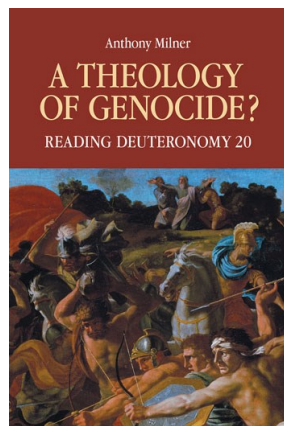
Contact James: [westsussexpianotuner@gmail.com](mailto:westsussexpianotuner@gmail.com)  
or Fr Tony via the Parish Office if you can help.

James is accepting Christmas Carol suggestions for Holy Mass on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm and Christmas Day at 9:00 am.

**21st November, Christ The King**  
**Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: Year 1, week 34**

### Fr Tony Writes

I am now a published author! Quoting from my preface: "As a seminarian on placement, I gave a Bible ... to a parishioner who did not have one. Some weeks later she came up to me and said, "That is a horrible book!" This set me thinking. The second stimulus was the terrible stories that came out of Rwanda in 1994, just a year after my ordination. The stories reminded me of the stories of slaughter in the book of Joshua. "How do we read such stories in the Bible after events such as that?"



I mulled over that question on and off for several years, and it eventually became the subject of my doctoral dissertation, which I defended in 2015. I have now revised and updated that, and it has been published by Sheffield Phoenix Press. Seeing the first printed copy was quite a thrill!

As an essentially 'academic' work, the list price is rather high. However if you go to the publishers website, individuals can get it at the 'scholars price' which is half the list price.

[www.sheffieldphoenix.com/showbook.asp?bkid=678](http://www.sheffieldphoenix.com/showbook.asp?bkid=678)

War, of course, features very frequently in the Bible. The Old Testament contains many stories of war and conflict, and even in the New Testament military images are used quite frequently. We in the 21st century are not the first to be troubled by this. In the third century, the great biblical scholar, Origen of Alexandria, when writing about the book of Joshua observed that, "Unless those physical wars bore the figure of spiritual wars, I do not think the books of Jewish history would ever have been handed down by the Apostles to the Disciples of Christ, who came to teach peace."

In fact once we explore the background to the writings, we find that most of the OT books reached their final form generations after the events they speak about, and were read in much the same way as we might read them today—as a metaphor for the spiritual struggle. Further, the sweep of the Old Testament seems to tell us that any attempt to establish God's kingdom by force will ultimately fail.

This takes us on to this weekend's feast of Christ the King. Here we see a king in a very different mould. Jesus explicitly distances himself from earthly kingship. Here we have a king on trial by earthly powers, as witness to the truth of God's love.

## Please pray for

All who are sick in the parish, those who have died recently, those who have been recently bereaved, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

## First Holy Communion Meeting for Parents

**Saturday 11th December, 6:15pm  
St Theresa's (after 5:30pm Mass)**



Preparation for First Holy Communion will begin in January. There will be six sessions, once a month, on Saturday mornings, with the candidates and their parents. The families will also be involved in the Sunday Masses on those weekends. Full details and a timetable will be given at the meeting.

The First Holy Communion celebrations will be (provisionally) on Sunday 3rd July 2022.



## CAFOD School Volunteers needed!

Looking for a new challenge?

Could you visit schools in your local area to deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work and encourage young people to take action, fundraise and pray with CAFOD?

No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided.

As well as using your skills to help the poorest people in the world, volunteers are inspired by young people, it strengthens their faith, develops their communication and presentation skills, plus much more.

If this of interest and you would like more information, please contact either:

**Jenny Finlayson**, Community Participation Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton Diocese, email: [arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk)

Tel: 01483 898866 Mobile: 07710 094448.  
Or, **Mike Dean** Education Volunteer Coordinator for Arundel and Brighton Diocese email: [mdean@cafod.org.uk](mailto:mdean@cafod.org.uk)

## Weekly Timetable

Saturday 20th Nov	Confessions 4:45-5:15pm 5:30pm Mass, St Theresa's	Ronnie Crossan RIP
<b>Sunday 21st Nov Christ the King</b>	9am Mass, St Theresa's 11am Mass, St George's	Agnelo Rato RIP Kitty McKenzie RIP
Tuesday 23rd Nov St Columban.	10am Mass, St George's Tea & Chat after Mass	Ena Dunn RIP
Wednesday 24th Nov St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions.	6:30pm Adoration 7:30pm Mass, St Theresa's	Elizabeth Rowllins RIP
Thursday 25th Nov St Catherine of Alexandria.	10am Mass, St George's	
Friday 26th Nov	10am Mass, St Theresa's	Marie Pearson RIP
Saturday 27th Nov	Confessions 4:45-5:15pm 5:30pm Mass, St Theresa's	
<b>Sunday 28th Nov First Sunday of Advent</b>	9am Mass, St Theresa's 11am Mass, St George's	Private intention All parishioners

## Upcoming events

**Sunday 21st November, 2:30 pm: Blessing of graves.**

Fr. Tony will bless graves at Southwick cemetery on Sunday, 21st November, from 2:30 pm.

**Saturday 11th December, 6:15pm: First Holy Communion Meeting.**

Information and sign up evening, for parents, held at St Theresa's.



**Pope Francis has called for a period of reflection and consultation in preparation for the Synod of Bishops in 2023.**

As part of that process, our diocese has prepared material to help us reflect and is offering it to groups that meet in the diocese.

We will have at least two groups in the parish. The **Thursday evening online prayer group** will be using the reflection material in December. Contact the parish office for a link. There will also be a **Wednesday Evening 'in person' group** at St Theresa's after 7:30pm Mass from 1st December. If anybody wishes to organise a group at another time, feel free to do so. Let the office know and we will provide the material and publicise the group.

For more information see [www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/synod)



From Fri 3rd - Sun 5th Dec, 10 am - 4 pm, St Michael and All Angels Church, South Street, Lancing, will host its first **Christmas Tree Festival**

with a number of Christmas trees decorated by local shops, businesses and community organisations. There will be entertainment from Lancing Brass and carol singing. Refreshments will be available throughout the festival, together with a tombola and grand draw. Admission free - donations welcome. All welcome!