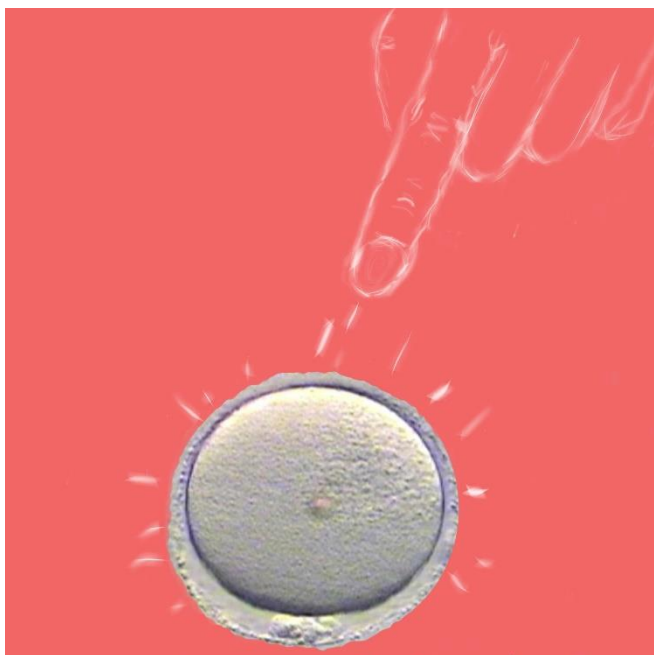




## The Baptism of Christ 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025



*'I have called you by name, you are mine.'* Isaiah 41.1.  
Image by Revd Jess, see Bible Art below for commentary.

As part of the Epiphany season, we celebrate the baptism of Christ this Sunday, commemorating Jesus's baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. It's a good opportunity for us to reflect on the significance of our own baptisms. All are welcome.

### Collect

Heavenly Father,  
at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son:  
may we recognize him as our Lord  
and know ourselves to be your beloved  
children;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

### Readings

Isaiah 43.1-7

Psalm 29

Acts 8.14-17

Luke 3.15-17,21,22



**Sea Lights** meets in the hall this Sunday at 10am. New children area are welcome to join.

**New Church Treasurer** Chris Diebel takes over from Barry Ward as treasurer this year. We are very grateful to Barry for all his many years of service as treasurer. We hold Chris in our prayers as she begins her work as treasurer. Chris has a new email for any correspondence relating to church finance.  
[cogstreasurer2025@gmail.com](mailto:cogstreasurer2025@gmail.com).

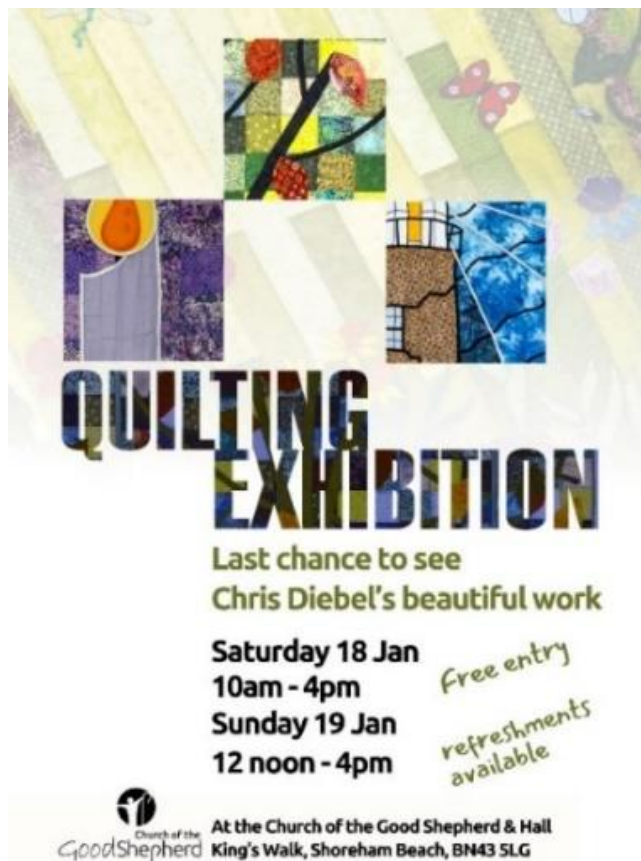
### Bible Art (see image at top of newsletter)

**Isaiah 43 1-7** *Do not fear, I have called you by name, you are mine.*

My painting shows a newly fertilised human egg. Round it are the flashes of light which it has been shown to be emitting when newly fertilised. The hand represents our creator God calling it by name. I was intrigued to read that when a human egg is fertilised *in vitro* it emits tiny sparks of light, and that these indicate a healthy egg which is more likely to survive when implanted in the mother's womb. I was thinking that those flashes of light are a metaphor for the first response of a human being to the Holy Spirit working within it and the egg answering the God who has called it by name. I was thinking about

Psalm 139 and the whole idea of us being known (and named) by God whilst still within the womb. **Revd Jess**

**Quilting Exhibition** A chance to see all of Chris Diebel's wonderful work in one exhibition. Refreshments and craft stall. Donations are welcome towards the church.



### Quilt Raffle



Jenny Stride will be selling raffle tickets from this Sunday for a lovely handmade quilt as a church fundraiser.

### Bob's Card Sales for 2024

We managed to raise £528.70 for COGS. I would sincerely like to thank everyone for their continued support. (Any old cards for recycling would be much appreciated.)

#### Bob Caffyn

*We give thanks to Bob for this tremendous achievement and all his creative work with the card sales.*

**Join the flower team** The flower team would be very happy to welcome anyone wishing to join us.

We work on a rota basis and always have a fellow team member working a long side us. Training if required will be given.

If you would like further information, please contact Linda Caffyn: [lindacaffyn@gmail.com](mailto:lindacaffyn@gmail.com)

**Healing Prayer** is offered most Sundays after the 10am in one of the side chapels.

A poster for Celtic Evening Prayer. The background is a light teal color with a large, textured stone Celtic cross in the center. The text reads: "Celtic Evening Prayer", "Wednesday 6pm", "A peaceful 20 minute online service with liturgy from the Iona Community". At the bottom, it says "See the weekly newsletter for the Zoom link or email Revd Jane Bartlett: [bartlett.jane@ntlworld.com](mailto:bartlett.jane@ntlworld.com)" and includes the Church of the Good Shepherd logo.

**Celtic Evening Prayer**  
**Wednesday 6pm**  
A peaceful 20 minute online service with liturgy from the Iona Community

See the weekly newsletter for the Zoom link or email Revd Jane Bartlett: [bartlett.jane@ntlworld.com](mailto:bartlett.jane@ntlworld.com)

Church of the GoodShepherd





# Celebrating Faith

**Year of Faith** 2025 is the year of celebration of the Christian faith across Sussex.

It marks the 950th anniversary of the formation of the Diocese of Chichester and Chichester Cathedral and 1700 years since the Nicene Creed first emerged. Each deanery has a celebration. The Hove Deanery service is Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm at St Leonards in Hove. All welcome.

There is a website for information about, and links to, the events and celebrations which will form part of this special year for both diocese and cathedral:

[www.celebratingfaith.co.uk](http://www.celebratingfaith.co.uk)



## Godly Play for Children

*An open and creative way to explore Christian story. Making space for questions about the meaning and purpose of life.*

**Sundays 10am: 19th January,  
16th February, 16th March, 13th April**



**Authorised Lay Ministry Training** We are delighted that two members of our congregation are taking up ALM training with

the diocese this year. Judy Short is taking the 'Worship and Liturgy' module and Amy Coke is taking 'Youth and Children'. Please hold them in your prayers as they begin these trainings on behalf of the Good Shepherd. We have heard that the ALM module in 'Chaplaincy' might not run because of lack of applicants. If chaplaincy work is of interest to you, look at the website and speak to Revd Jane. Late applicants can still apply.

[Authorised Lay Ministry - Diocese of Chichester](#)

## And finally...



It was a dark and frozen winter morning last Friday, but the 8am meditation with morning prayer group were not deterred. Some were waiting outside St Mary's door, eager for it to be unlocked, keen to meditate! What a wonderful way to start a Friday. Coffee and croissants follow in the parish centre for those who wish to stay on, with an opportunity to reflect on the morning's Bible passage. Newcomers are always welcome to this weekly benefice service.

*I work half-time and the usual days when I am available are Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday mornings, Revd Jane*

# Services this week

## Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January

**8am – Holy Communion** with Revd Jane.

**10am – Parish Communion** with Fr Jerry.

This service will be live streamed onto our You Tube channel.

You Tube page [CLICK HERE](#)

Please note that we don't stream our all-age service on the first Sunday of the month.

## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January

**9.30am – Holy Communion** with Revd Peter.

## Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

**6pm Celtic Evening Prayer** on

Zoom [CLICK HERE](#)

Meeting ID: 868 1252 3106 Passcode: 960274

## Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

**8am – Meditation with Morning Prayer** A benefice service at St Mary de Haura

## Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January

**8am – Morning Meditation** – in the Good Shepherd and on Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81286470381>

Meeting ID: 812 8647 0381

Church website:

[www.goodshepherdshorehambeach.org.uk](http://www.goodshepherdshorehambeach.org.uk)

If you are reading this newsletter on a paper copy and would like to receive it each week through email please contact: [cogsenews@gmail.com](mailto:cogsenews@gmail.com)

### Contacts

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**Safeguarding Officer David Edey Tel:**

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[davidedey17@gmail.com](mailto:davidedey17@gmail.com)

**Treasurer Chris Diebel Email:**

[cogstreasurer2025@gmail.com](mailto:cogstreasurer2025@gmail.com)

**Parish Centre** [smdh.office@gmail.com](mailto:smdh.office@gmail.com)

01273 440202. Open: Tues, Thurs 10am-1pm.

**Good Shepherd Hall bookings**

[goodshepherdhall@gmail.com](mailto:goodshepherdhall@gmail.com)

Tel: 01273 440202

**Prayer chain (for emergency prayer) Liz Beeston** 01273 454685



To donate to the Church of the Good Shepherd online [CLICK HERE](#) Thank you