

NEWSLETTER



The content deadline is 10am every Thursday

Anything received after 10am will be included the following week, if appropriate. Thank you

Rector's Ramble

Exodus 2:1-10, Colossians 3:12-17, Luke 2:33-35

Isaiah 66.13

As a mother comforts a child so will I comfort you, says the Lord.

Dear Friends,

Yay, Yay, Yay Praise the Lord St Peter's is back!!!

Services this week are:

- 8am BCP Holy Communion at St Mary's and St Peter's
- 10am Mothering Sunday St Mary's Worship & Praise with Owls Club
- 10am Mothering Sunday Eucharist St Peter's Chailey

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of our services this weekend.

Thank you to everyone who has been praying for the works at St Peter's and who has supported our services together and at St Martin's and The Five Bells, its been a wonderful time of outreach and exploration, and it feels entirely right that the "Coming Home Service" of Mothering Sunday will be our first service back in St Peter's.

In many churches the fourth Sunday in Lent is celebrated as Mothering Sunday, because, in 1913 Constance Penswick-Smith (1878-1938), the daughter of the vicar of Coddington, Nottinghamshire, caught the vision to celebrate Mothering Sunday. Later in 1921 Constance wrote a booklet asking for a full revival of Mothering Sunday, eventually founding The Society for the Observance of Mothering Sunday and spending more than 25 years promoting the celebration of the festival.

Thanks mainly to Constance's efforts, Mothering Sunday - which has its roots in the pre-Reformation Church - has been widely observed and re-established across the Church of England, and celebrated in wider society.

There are traditions associated with Mothering Sunday in England which date back as long ago as the 16th century. It is told, that this was the day when people were encouraged to return to worship in their 'mother church where they had been baptised'. People who usually attended the local parish church, would make a longer journey to the 'mother church' or cathedral of the Diocese.

Girls in domestic service would bake to show their mothers their new skills in the form of a gift, traditionally a simnel cake. On this day many girls who were in service were allowed time off from domestic chores to visit their mothers and their family.

Today Mothering Sunday is a popular day when Christians choose to use the occasion to think about all things which concern motherhood. We give thanks for the Church as Mother, the Virgin Mary as the mother of Jesus, we remember that God cares for us like a mother and last but not least we give thanks for our own mothers. Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Lent and it is a time of special for thanksgiving. Sunday is the one day of joy in Lent, when flowers abound in all churches and when people are allowed a time off from the penitential season. It is also known as Mid-Lent Sunday, Refreshment Sunday or Laetare Sunday. The Latin name of Laetare, means rejoice.

Reflecting on our current times, I'm extremely thankful for the readings this Sunday from Exodus and Luke because they don't shy away from some of the pain of family life. This feels perhaps particularly important to acknowledge on Mothering Sunday, a day which can be full of very mixed emotions, depending on our experiences of family life - of parenting, or being parented, especially where things haven't turned out as we might have hoped.

Of one mother's act of love demonstrated in risking her son to the water, trusting him to God's care. A love that pierces souls but also quietly trusts.

And as I have reflected on this Mothering Sunday on the nature of the loving care to which Moses is entrusted, I have had the opening words of this Sunday's post communion prayer particularly in mind:

"Loving God, As a mother feeds her children at the breast You feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life."

Metaphors of God as Mother are peppered throughout the Scriptures. One of my favourites is the image of a hen who gathers her brood under her wing in Luke 13. I know that for some of us these ideas may feel challenging, however for me, I find that a breadth of images and metaphors for God, alongside that of God as Father, expands my understanding and provides new points of connection.



In the fourteenth century Julian of Norwich, the first woman to write in modern English, experienced and understood the motherhood of God in her visions. Mothering Sunday is a good day to share her vision and recognise that although we are distinguished by our gender, God is not.

Instead, God is both mother and father to us.

‘As truly as God is Father, so just as truly is he our mother.’ Julian of Norwich.

I’ll finish with a Sonnet by Malcolm Guite for Mothering Sunday

At last, in spite of all, a recognition,
For those who loved and laboured for so long,
Who brought us, through that labour, to fruition
To flourish in the place where we belong.
A thanks to those who stayed and did the raising,
Who buckled down and did the work of two,
Whom governments have mocked instead of praising,
Who hid their heart-break and still struggled through,
The single mothers forced onto the edge
Whose work the world has overlooked, neglected,
Invisible to wealth and privilege,
But in whose lives the kingdom is reflected.
Now into Christ our mother church we bring them,
Who shares with them the birth-pangs of His Kingdom.

Have a good week, be joyful, keep the faith and keep doing the little things that make a difference to those you love and those in need.

Paul xx

Services St Mary's – March 2026

Sunday 1st March Second Sunday in Lent	8am BCP* Holy Communion: ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Worship & Praise: ❖ A mixed style of service, with both traditional and contemporary elements. 5pm Evensong: ❖ A Book of Common Prayer sung service with choir and hymns
Sunday 8th March Third Sunday in Lent	8am BCP* Holy Communion: ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion: ❖ A sung service with choir and hymns 6pm Worship2: ❖ A reflective service with contemporary songs
Sunday 15th March Mothering Sunday Fourth Sunday in Lent	8am BCP* Holy Communion: ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Family Worship & Owls: ❖ A service for all with songs and activities
Sunday 22nd March Passiontide Fifth Sunday in Lent	8am BCP* Holy Communion: ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion: ❖ A sung service with choir and hymns
Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday & start of Holy Week	8am BCP* Holy Communion: ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion: ❖ A sung service with choir and hymns
Lent Course 7-9pm <i>Let the Redeemed tell their Story Psalm 107</i> 2nd March - 9 th March - 16 th March - 23 rd March	
*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR A LECTIONARY READINGS PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.30 BARN CENTRE	

Please remember those on our prayer list:

Francis Bailey, Cole Louise Blackman, Bernice Blundy, Karina Brown, Gabi Brunner,
 Beryl Campion-Smith, Jebby Dyson, Harri Gande, Morris Gee, John and Elizabeth Gould,
 Rubie Geer, Juliette Lucas, Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann, Shirley Mansfield,
 Derek Marshall, George Morrison, Patricia Moss, Ann Parker, Adrian, Andrea and Amber Parris,
 Gemma Peacock, June and Ron Perou, Christine Ripley, Rubie, Yvette Smith, Cheryl Stewart,
 Marcus Thrower, Felicity Veasey, Toni Warrilow, Sean Watson, Nasima Wright.

Services St Mary's – April 2026

<p>Thursday 2nd April Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>At St Peter's Chailey 7pm Maundy Thursday and Service of the Shadows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A Service of Holy Communion followed by Christian liturgy that meditates on Christ's passion through readings, music, and the symbolic extinguishing of candles.
<p>Good Friday 3rd April</p>	<p>11am At the Cross</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A Contemplative time of song and scripture as we reflect on the Passion of Jesus Christ
<p>Easter Day 5th April</p>	<p>05:45 am Sunrise Service 8am BCP* Holy Communion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language <p>10am Easter Day Communion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns
<p>Sunday 12th April First Sunday After Easter</p>	<p>8am BCP* Holy Communion at St Peter's Chailey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language <p>10am Holy Communion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns <p>5pm Evensong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A Book of Common Prayer sung service with Choir and Hymns
<p>Sunday 19th April Second Sunday after Easter</p>	<p>8am BCP* Holy Communion St Peter's Chailey to join St Mary's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language <p>10am Worship & Praise Owls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A service for all with songs and activities
<p>Sunday 26th April Third Sunday after Easter</p>	<p>8am BCP* Holy Communion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language <p>10am Holy Communion with Baptism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns which includes a Baptism

*Denotes standard Year A Lectionary Readings

Prayers for Church Services – barn Centre 9.30am every Sunday

Lent Course Week Four- Monday 16th March

7.00pm for Pudding and 7.30pm start

Easter Lily Donations -

Traditionally members of the congregation have made donations to the Easter Lilies / Flowers in memory of loved ones, if you would like to contribute to these this can be done by any of the following options:

Option 1

By putting your donation in one of the envelopes marked East Lilies Donation,

these can be found on all of the pews and in the appropriately labelled box at the back

of the church, these can either be placed in the box provided for collection or handed to

Christopher Hume or posted through his letterbox at:

Marbles

7 High Street,

Newick

BN8 4LG

Option 2

Using BACS to donate:

Account: The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary Newick

Sort code 09-01-54

Account number 90773281

Please put Easter Lilies as your reference.

Option 3

Using the card reader at the back of the church. Christopher will be there on Sunday's to man it.

If donating by BACS or Card you can write the **name(s) you want remembered on the list at the back of the church.**



Gill

*Events and Regulars coming
up at St Mary's and further
Afield....*



DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES!

Events coming to St Mary's - rolling list

- 31st March - Lift High the Cross 6.30pm
- 4th April - Easter Egg Trail and Craft Morning
- 11th April - Garden Day
- 3rd May - Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) followed by lunch
- 15th May - Ladies Supper
- 17th May - Intergenerational Opera Evening
- 13th June - Vivace choir 4pm
- 19th June - Mens Supper
- 11th July - Bubbles and Broadway 7pm
- 19th July - Combined Churches Choral Evensong

Posters and information relating to the dates are either in the following pages, or will be added as the dates get closer.

St Peter & St James Hospice



St Peter & St James Hospice
Respite care in the heart of Sussex

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Yeehaw!

Grab ya Boots & Hat's and join us
for a night of line dancing!

No experience needed - No partner required!

Friday 20th March '26

8pm - 10pm

(Doors open 7.30pm)

Newick Village Hall
1 Western Road
Newick, Sussex BN8 4LE

LICENSED BAR & RAFFLE

in association with

Tickets £10 each

Message Jenny on 07801 437755

Dance Central
Dance! Drink! Fun!

H Very English Organ

Gala Concert

To celebrate the restoration of Fletching's 1880 pipe organ

Friday 20th March, 7.30 pm
Fletching Parish Church

Daniel Moulton
"Exhilarating musicianship"
"an outstanding organist"
"brilliant technique... a world-renowned reputation"

Tickets £15 (Students £5)
Book at www.fletchingorgan.org

110021

NIGHTINGALES

RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME

EASTER FAIR

SATURDAY

28TH MARCH 2026

TIME: 2 - 4PM

COME AND JOIN
US FOR A

**Wonderful
AFTERNOON!**

CAKES



POPCORN



EASTER EGG HUNT



TOMBOLA



MUSIC



STALLS • GAMES • MUSIC • FUN!

ADDRESS:

38 WESTERN ROAD, NEWICK, BN8 4LF

Lift High the Cross

Music and Readings for Holy Week
Tuesday 31st March 6.30pm
St Mary's Newick



Newick School PTFA

Children can follow the Easter Egg Trail with a prize at the end! before heading into the Barn Centre for some creative Easter crafts. It's always such a lovely, relaxed morning and a great way to celebrate the Easter holidays with friends.

Tickets are £5.50 per child and must be purchased in advance.

Book here: <https://pta.events/easter-trail-2026>



The poster features a central wreath of flowers and a blue rabbit. At the top, it says 'NEWICK SCHOOL PTFA' with a logo of five colorful figures. To the right is a circular logo for 'Newick Pre-School' with illustrations of children. The main title 'Easter Egg Trail & Craft Morning' is in large, bold, orange and red letters. Below the title, the date and time are 'SATURDAY 4 APRIL | 10AM - MIDDAY' and the location is 'THE BARN CENTRE ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NEWICK'. The price is '£5.50 per child' in red, with 'ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY PLEASE' in black below it. In the bottom left, there is a paragraph of text. In the bottom right, it says 'TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW:' next to a QR code. At the very bottom right is the logo for 'St Mary's Newick's Church'.

NEWICK SCHOOL PTFA

Newick Pre-School

Easter Egg Trail & Craft Morning

SATURDAY 4 APRIL | 10AM - MIDDAY

THE BARN CENTRE
ST. MARY'S CHURCH, NEWICK

£5.50 per child

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY PLEASE

Please arrive between 10am - 11am for an Easter Egg trail around the Churchyard, followed by crafts and a cake & refreshment sale in The Barn Centre.

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW:



St Mary's
Newick's Church

Uckfield Model Railway Club Open Day 2026

The Club's Open Day will be held on 11th April from 10:00 am to 4:00pm at The Luxford Centre, Library Way, Uckfield, TN22 1AR. Admission is £2 to include a free cup of tea or coffee (other refreshments will also be available), under 16s are free. The Centre is a 10-minute walk from Uckfield railway or bus station and there is free car parking in the public car park adjacent to the Centre.

On display will be the Club's layouts Arnold Layne (O), Framnock Bay (OO) and Stoney Bottom (N) plus part of the P4 layout, Chart Sutton, which is currently under construction. Other layouts include College Halt (OO), Upton Church (N) and Atterbury Road (OO). Also on display will be entries in the Club's annual modelling competition of layouts or dioramas based on the PECO Rail 200 baseboard.



A&N Models will have models for sale and there is also a members' Bring & Buy stand. There will be several demonstrations showing various aspects of railway modelling including 3D printing. Bentley Miniature Railway will also be showing what they have to offer.

FLETCHING SINGERS' SPRING CONCERT

Fletching Church, TN22 3SR. Saturday 25th April 2026 at 7.30pm

Fletching Singers will be celebrating spring with some joyful music by Vivaldi, Durante and Pergolesi. Vivaldi's *Gloria* is a work often performed and much loved by singers and audiences alike, full, as it is, of both dancing rhythms and soulful melodies.

Durante's *Magnificat* was, until recently, thought to be by Pergolesi and is similarly filled with a lovely energy. The lesser-known *Laudate Pueri*, by Pergolesi, is for soprano soloist with choir and we are looking forward to performing this with soprano Helen Groves, formerly a member of The Sixteen. We are joined by keyboard, baroque cello and theorbo for what is sure to be a delightful evening.

Directed by Ansy Boothroyd.

Tickets £15 on the door or £12.50 early bird until Tuesday 21st April. Available online at <https://www.fletchingsingers.co.uk>, from members, or info@fletchingsingers.co.uk or 07802 855113

REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

Children's Choir: 1st Sunday of each month 10am - 11am Barn Centre

Email: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church

Web: stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir)

RSCM Voice for Life Sessions with St Mary's Youth Choir - every third Thursday of the Month - 4pm - 5pm in the Barn Centre. £5. Email: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church to register.

Citizens Advice: Now at the Community Centre

Lunch Club: Second Monday of the month in the Barn Centre 12.30pm.

To book your place call 01825 722186

Mens Meeting: Monday mornings 7.30am - 8.30am in the Barn Centre

NYC & NCT: Fun clubs for the young people of the village. Barn Centre.

Wednesday evenings during term-time:

- NYC - Year 7 - 6 to 7.30pm
- NYT - Years 8-11 - 7.30 to 9pm

More information: [HERE](#)

Email: youth.newick@gmail.com

Owlets Babies 'n Tots Group: Chat, refreshments and songs for Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers and their Babies and Tots. Mondays 9.15-10.30am (term time only) in St Mary's Church. Feel free to contact Pam Mundy for more information

childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church

Owls: Crafts, Bible Story, Fun LEGO and Refreshments - usually third Sundays 9.55am - 11am, Feel free to contact Pam Mundy for more information childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church

Next dates - check the Owls Poster on Website, in Newsletters and up in the Church Porch

Prayer Group: 1st and 3rd Monday 2pm Barn Centre (unless otherwise notified)

Prayers for Church Services: Sundays 9.30-9.45am Barn Centre



Owlets Babies 'n Tots Group



Chat, Refreshments & Songs

For Mums/Dads/Grandparents/Carers and their Babies and Tots!

Mondays, 9.30am - 10.30am

in St. Mary's Church

(term time only)

Feel free to be in contact -

Pam Mundy, childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church



Owls Club



Crafts, Bible Story, Fun! LEGO & Refreshments

9.55am - 11.00am

Next dates 15th February 15th March

Feel free to be in contact -

Pam Mundy, childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church



St Mary's Newick's Youth Choir



When: The 1st Sunday of the month
Time: 10-11am
Ages: All ages welcome
Where: Barn Centre, St Mary's Church, Newick

Sing, have fun and make friends

Call: 01825 724006
Email: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church
Web: stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir

NEWICK YOUTH CLUBS! NYC & NCT

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (TERM TIME)

The Barn Centre, Church Road, Newick

6.00 - 7.30PM Year 7

7.30 - 9.00pm Year 8 onwards

Go to our [WEBSITE](#) for full details