

14th August 2026

Sunday Service Leaders

8am - Rev Paul

10am - Rev Paul

NEWSLETTER



The content deadline is 10am every Thursday

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

Weekly Newsletter contents:

- Rectors Ramble/alternative
- Monthly Services
- Prayers
- General articles, requests and photo's
- Rolling diary of events
- Posters and Event adverts (St Mary's & beyond)
- Regulars: Babies, Tots, Toddlers and Teens
- Regulars: Adults

***Please remember to:** check out [St Mary's Website](#) which gives you everything you need to know about the Church and what is happening there and in the Barn Centre and - includes a [gallery](#) all photo's*

Rectors Ramble

*Twass grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!*

Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11.1-2a,29-32; Matthew 15.(10-20),21-28

Dear Friends,

Wow... what a scorcher of a week!

As I write this Ramble, I've just learned of a train derailment outside Lewes. We hold all those affected in our prayers.

Reflecting on this week's Old Testament reading, I couldn't help noticing that its context is a famine caused by crop failure. Not so long ago, hearing those words on the news, we would probably have thought of countries and continents far from Europe. Not so now.

With a fifth heatwave this week and fields the colour of deserts, crop failure has become a real issue here in the UK — and while famine may still be some way off, there's certainly growing talk of food shortages and global warming.

On a brighter note, did you catch the eclipse this week?

Some parts of the country saw something truly spectacular; in others, the results were less impressive. What you saw depended a lot on where you were standing.

In this week's reading, we hear of Joseph's reconciliation with his brothers. Joseph tells them that everything has worked out for good because God is in charge, yet his brothers remain unsure whether to believe him — it takes a lot of grace, after all, to forgive your own family for selling you into slavery. From where Joseph stood, having felt God's power at work in his life, he could see a way to forgive them. To his brothers, forgiveness seemed like the unlikeliest of outcomes.

Sometimes two people in the very same situation react quite differently to it — perhaps you've noticed this among those collecting exam results recently or moving school. Whatever fears Joseph's brothers carried, Joseph met them with love, mercy and grace. He helped them and wept with joy and relief. He understood their fear but responded with a love that dissolved it completely. We can't control how others react under pressure, but how we treat them once we recognise their feelings can make all the difference.

Which brings me neatly to this Sunday's Gospel reading. It's a striking fact that it was often the weakest and the most excluded in society who most readily understood who Jesus was. Matthew's gospel tells us of a Canaanite woman who came to Jesus — a woman, and a gentile too, meaning she had no business approaching him by the customs of the day; she simply wasn't of sufficient social standing. Yet this woman refused to believe that Jesus had come only for certain people, and it was her faith that carried her close to him, trusting he would help her against all the odds.

Even today, many people are treated as second-class citizens. Until recently, women could not hold equal rights within the Church of England, and in many churches, this remains true still. This story speaks to all who struggle to survive and who are looked upon less favourably than others — a reminder that Jesus looks beyond the things we use to diminish one another's worth. He looks past our gender, our race, our religious background, our politics. Jesus has no interest in the value society places upon us; he gives us all equal worth. The Christian Gospel is about liberation and transformation, and we are called to work, as Jesus did, for equality and liberty for all.

The Canaanite woman's faith transformed her life. Paul, writing to the Romans, describes the Jews as moving from being called "disobedient to God" to becoming "those who have received mercy" — transformed by God's grace. Ours is a God of transformation and new creation, and each time we celebrate Holy Communion we are reminded of this. God takes the realities of this world and uses them to convey the realities of the new creation.

Before the Eucharistic prayer, to the question "What is that?" the believer answers, "It is bread." After the prayer, to the same question, they answer, "It is truly the body of Christ, the bread of life." As we share Communion together — whatever our view of what happens to the elements during the service — we continue our transformational, re-creational journey of life, eating and drinking of the transforming, re-creating nature of Christ.

The Christian Gospel is all about liberation and transformation; we must be like Jesus and work for equality and liberty for all.

Please pray for our Vision Day at St Peter's next Saturday and its not too late to sign up if you are able to join us.

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

Hymns for St Mary's

- ❖ 234 Immortal Invisible
- ❖ 19 Amazing Grace
- ❖ 1775 Indescribable
- ❖ 21 And can it be

Services St Mary's August 2026

Sunday 2nd August The Ninth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Morning Worship and 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 9th August The Tenth Sunday After Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion ❖ A sung service with choir and hymns
Sunday 16th August Tenth Sunday after Trinity	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
Sunday 23rd August Eleventh Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Baptism ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns and Baptism
Sunday 30th August Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Churches Together Holy Communion at St Mary's Newick ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns
*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR C LECTIONARY READINGS PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.15 BARN CENTRE	

Services St Mary's September 2026

Sunday 6th September The 14 th Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Baptism ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns and Baptism 5pm Evensong ❖ A Book of Common Prayer sung service with choir and hymns
Sunday 13th September The 15 th Sunday After Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion and Owls Club ❖ A sung service with choir and hymns 6pm Worship2 ❖ A reflective service with contemporary songs
Sunday 20th September The 16 th Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion – St Peter's to join St Mary's ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Worship & Praise ❖ A mixed style of service, with both traditional and contemporary elements
Saturday 26th September Order of St Richard Awards	Please pray for Josh Stockwell from St Mary's and Anthony Meadows from St Peter's as they receive the Order of St Richard at Chichester Cathedral
Sunday 27th September The 17 th Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion – St Peter's to join St Mary's ❖ A beautiful said service in Traditional Language 10am Holy Communion ❖ A sung service with Choir and Hymns

*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR C LECTIONARY READINGS

PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.15 BARN CENTRE

Please remember those on our prayer list:

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

Our Prayer for Growth

God of Mission

**Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit**

**To give vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.**

**Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen**



Events **at** St Mary's

- 25th September - Men's Supper
- 10th October - Autumn Garden Day
- 6th November - Ladies Supper
- 20th November - Men's Supper
- 11th - 13th December Christmas Tree Festival
- 12th December - Andy Rees annual Singalong!
- 19th December - East Sussex Concert Band

Posters and information relating to the dates are either in this weekly Newsletter, or will be added as the dates get closer.

New events will be added through the year too, as well as any events being advertised outside of St Mary's so

Keep checking!!.....

CITIZENS ADVICE DATES - NEWICK COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday 14th July, Tuesday 11th August, Tuesday 8th September
Tuesday 13th October, Tuesday 10th November,
Tuesday 8th December

**A message from
Dorothy and Frank
Thrower**



Please join us after the 10am service on
Sunday 30th August, to celebrate
our 65th Wedding Anniversary
and **Dorothy's 85th birthday.**

No cards or presents please, but any
donations to St Mary's in lieu of
cards or presents would be appreciated.



Dorothy and Frank



♥ *Nightingales* ♥
RESIDENTIAL HOME

SUMMER FAIR!



SATURDAY

22ND AUGUST 2026



TIME: 11AM - 4PM



STALLS



**BBQ &
SWEET
TREATS**



**TOMBOLA
& RAFFLE**



**PUNCH
AND
JUDY**



**LIVE
ENTERTAINMENT**

♥ *please come
and join us* ♥

**EVERYONE
WELCOME!**

REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

Babies, Tots, Toddlers and Teens



Owlets Babies 'n Tots Group: Chat, refreshments and songs for Mums, Dads,

Grandparents, Carers and their Babies and Tots. Mondays 9.00-10.30am (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

Check the Owls Poster on Website, in Newsletters and up in the Church Porch for dates.



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 - every third Thursday of the Month - 4pm - 5pm in the Barn Centre. £5. Email: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church to register.



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

Wednesday evenings during term-time. More information: HERE

Email: youth.newick@gmail.com



REGULARS AT ST MARY'S

Adults:

Afternoon Club:

Usually second Thursday of the month. 2.30pm in the Barn Centre.
For detail contact Paddy Cumberledge on 01825 722154 or
Malcolm Smith on 01825 722705

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Citizens Advice:

Now at the Community Centre - details can be found in the Porch
of St Mary's or at the Community Centre.

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Lunch Club:

Second Monday of the month in the Barn Centre 12.30pm.
To book your place call 01825 722186

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Mens Meeting:

Monday mornings 7.30am - 8.30am in the Barn Centre

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Prayer Group:

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

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Prayers for Church Services:

Sundays 9.30-9.45am Barn Centre