

Fr Martin's Murmurations

The Readings for the Parish Communion this Sunday, the fifth after Trinity are both well known and yet difficult.

In the reading from the amazing book Genesis we learn three men arrive near Abraham's tent. Abraham bows before them yet addresses them as 'My Lord'. It has been suggested this is prophesy of God being three persons in one God. The reward for the hospitality Abraham offers them is the promise of a son to Sara who hitherto had been barren. That promise being fulfilled by the birth of Isaac.

The Gospel reading tells us Jesus is visiting his friends Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus. Here we find Martha busy preparing the house and food for their guest whilst Mary sits at the feet of Jesus listening on his every word. Martha is put out to be doing the manual stuff whilst Mary just sits and listens. When Martha complains Jesus seems to side with Mary.

We are very blessed in our both our churches because we can readily see the elements of hospitality and prayer in our lives. Our Rector and Priest in charge was imbued with a breadth of hospitality when he worked as 'mine host' in the pub trade and this gift has grown and matured throughout his priestly ministry. Hospitality is shown both at St Mary's and St Peter's in so many ways from coffee and cakes to barbecues and parish lunches. We drink both good coffee and excellent wines - not necessarily to be found in every parish church in the land!.

Harvest Suppers and parish lunches are restaurant quality. A foretaste, perhaps, of the banquet to come! Happily, the Rector has a team of helpers to make hospitality be seen as a sacramental of our church life. My point being that such hospitality is an outward and visible sign of the love which exists within our parish communities. As descendants of Abraham we do not forget his message. Hospitality is of God!

Recalling the story of Martha and Mary can we find other reflections of the life in our parishes? I am sure we can. We are open to all no matter who they are or where they come from. Strangers are welcomed as they enter the church and made to feel at home. They will notice some sitting quietly whilst others are, or have been, busy getting the service ready. Candles need to be lit, screens and music checked, making sure appointed readers are present, putting up the hymn boards and counting the number of hosts we will use at Holy Communion. All this and more after the church has been cleaned and prepared. Some are busy like Martha whilst others reflect Mary. But all present make up the whole assembly of God meeting together to worship Him.

I am reading a wonderful book by an American professor of Worship and Liturgical Theology, Jill Y. Cranshaw. Her book is called, 'When I in awesome wonder'. It is a work which distils liturgy from everyday life. Cranshaw tells us "Life is liturgy. Not just Sunday mornings or weekday prayer services. All of life. Even the commonplace happenings, places, and things of everyday living are liturgy, perhaps especially the common place things. Life is Liturgy". Thus, life is worship.

The apparent differences between Martha and Mary are not differences at all. The housework and the listening to Jesus are both acts of worship. The jobs people do of a Sunday morning are as much worship as the singing of hymns or the saying of the prayer of consecration.

If we stop to ponder we will surely find in both the churches hospitality and praise are hand in hand. Our task is to see life through God-tinted spectacles and the glory of God in all our activities. Having got to that stage of spiritual awareness the command from Jesus Himself is to show The Father's awesome wonder to others, so that they too might share His wonderful life.

Have an awesome week!

Much love and many prayers.

Fr Martin

Hymns St Mary's

Immortal invisible God only wise - SOF234

Lord of all Hopefulness - SOF902

O thou who camest from above - SOF451

At the name of Jesus - SOF32

As always, please remember those on our prayer list:

Francis Bailey, Cole Louise Blackman, Bernice Blundy, Karina Brown,
Beryl Campion-Smith, 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,
Cheryl Stewart, Marcus Thrower, Toni Warrilow, Sean Watson, Nasima Wright.

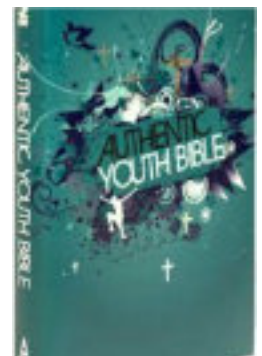


Would you like to sponsor a bible for a Primary School Leaver for just £14?

It's that time of the year again when you can have the honour of sponsoring a bible for one of our primary school leavers. We have 27 children in Newick who will be transitioning to secondary school this year. They will each receive a bible detailing who has sponsored it for them, and you will receive a bookmark prompting you to pray for them as they move schools.

If you would like to sponsor a bible please let Mandy know in person, or by email:
mandy.stockwell@btinternet.com

Many thanks for your support of our young people



SERVICES – JULY 2025

Sunday 6TH July Third Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher : Fr Martin 10am Holy Communion 2 Kings 5. 1-14 – Isaiah 66. 10-14 – Galatians 6. (1-6), 7-16 – Luke 10. 1-11, 16-20 Preacher: Fr Martin 6pm Evensong Leader: Reader Geoff Clinton Preacher: Ian Reekie
Sunday 13th July Fourth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher: Fr Martin 10am Family Worship Deuteronomy 30. 9-14 – Colossians 1. 1-14 – Luke 10. 25-37 Preacher: Reader Geoff Clinton 6pm Worship2 Leader: Mandy Stockwell
Sunday 20th July Fifth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion is at St Peter's Chailey Preacher: Fr Martin 10am Family Communion Genesis 18. 1-10a – Colossians 1. 15-28 – Luke 10. 38-end Preacher: Fr Martin
Sunday 27th July Sixth Sunday after Trinity	8am BCP* Holy Communion is at St Peter's Chailey Preacher: Fr Martin 10am Churches Together – Holy Communion at St Mary's Genesis 18. 20-32 – Colossians 2. 6-15, (16-19) – Luke 11. 1-13 Preacher: Reader Geoff Clinton
*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR C LECTIONARY READINGS PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.30 BARN CENTRE	

New House Group(s) forming.

We have a number of successful House Groups of long standing. Discussions are generally focused around religious themes chosen by the groups themselves, with Bible studies, video series on related topics or books often being employed.

But actual discussions at House Group range far and wide as the spirit moves members. Groups generally become quite close knit and caring and they pray together. Experience suggests that a maximum of around ten members is sensible. Our existing groups are around that level, hence our move to create more. I've been a member for going on a decade now, and the longer our house group goes on, the more rewarding it is. Try it!

JEREMY BURDETT will be coordinating this effort. If you are interested in joining or hosting a House Group, please let him know. He will be coordinating times that work for you and planning our way forward. Please contact Jeremy on 07957 869868, mail him at jeremy.burdett@farming.co.uk or chat to him at Church.

Christopher Hume

Special Service of Celebration on Sunday 27th July

On Sunday 27th we shall celebrate the 50th anniversary of Geoff Clinton's admission as a Lay Reader following two years of study and practice in Ipswich. Geoff moved to Newick in 1975 and since then has been a wonderful servant of our Lord and our congregation at St Mary's.

Geoff has been a man of many parts over and above his successful professional career.

As a Lay Reader Geoff has a right of place on both our PCC and its Standing Committee (SC). He also led our parish as Churchwarden for a time. His diligent and informed attention to the needs of St Mary's, his wise counsel and his quiet delivery of well thought out and telling contributions to PCC and SC business, have greatly benefited St Mary's for over half a century.

Geoff was a leading light in the setting up of the Newick Distress Trust which has served Newick extraordinarily well for over four decades.

Geoff has led and preached at many of our morning services over the years and has been a regular leader of our monthly Evensong Services on the first Sundays of each month. He has delivered many fine sermons and we are delighted that his excellent eight sermon series on the Beatitudes will be available in perpetuity on our website. If you haven't seen them yet - take a look [here](#).

Geoff has also led and preached services at St Peter's Chailey, particularly since our Rector Paul became Priest in Charge there.

He has been an inspirational member of our congregation and his life a splendid witness and example to our church and our community of a Christian life well lived.



We shall be serving some bubbles after the service and hope you can join us on the 27th and drink a toast to Geoff.



Thank you for for everything so far Geoff !!



St Peter & St James celebrates 50 years of supporting the community, and launches appeal to ensure they can support generations to come

This Summer, St Peter & St James Hospice in Mid-Sussex is celebrating 50 years of providing expert care to adults with life-limiting illnesses and those close to them. The hospice, which serves the areas of Haywards Heath, Burgess Hill, Lewes, Uckfield and the villages in between, has maintained the same vision throughout the decades; 'to provide the best possible care, in the right place, and at the right time, to everyone who needs us'.

Amanda Fadero, Interim Chief Executive at St Peter & St James Hospice, comments: "Whilst we are incredibly proud to be marking this important milestone in the hospice's story, it is just as critical that we continue to support, and be supported by, the community to help us create our next chapter. The charity is running a 50 year campaign to mark this milestone within the local community including; thank you events and awareness-raising activities as well as aiming to raise £50,000 through community group fundraisers, the big £50 individual donation appeal, corporate support campaigns and the 50 for £50k club for trustees, patrons and major donors."

The site, developed by Susan Dinnage as a nursing home initially, was created in loving memory of her husband and local farmer, Jim Dinnage who died in 1963, and their son, Peter, who died in childhood of Hodgkin's Lymphoma in 1957. The Dinnages had previously set up and run a donkey sanctuary, and so to this day there are still resident donkeys, (Dylan and Dudley) on site at the hospice. Throughout the early years, the hospice continued to expand and increase its capacity to care for those living with life-limiting conditions. Fast forward to 2025, and the hospice cares for more than 1,000 people each year, providing vital services in people's homes, on our in-patient unit and through our Living Well Centre.

The anniversary also gives the hospice an opportunity to raise awareness across the community about specialist palliative and end-of-life care, to make people aware of the support we offer, and to provide people with information and support, to help them live and die well, according to what matters most to them.

Dr Helen McGee, Medical Director at the hospice adds: "As we celebrate 50 years, it gives us the opportunity to make more people aware of what hospice care is, and ensure they know that all the specialist adult services we provide at St Peter & St James Hospice are completely free of charge for all, irrespective of age, religion, background or ethnicity. We would like to thank our community for all their support over the last 50 years, which enables us to provide holistic care, wrapping our arms not only around the patient, but their loved ones too, for as long as they need us. It costs £6.9m to run the hospice each year, and much of our income comes from donations and charity shop sales, rather than central government, so we simply couldn't continue to do what we do without the generosity of our supporters in the local community. Please donate to help ensure we can be here for future generations."

To donate to St Peter & St James Hospice please visit www.stpjhospice.org.

To let us know your memories or experiences of the hospice over the last 50 years, please email marketing@stpjhospice.org.

Alternatively, if you want to find out more, run a fundraiser for us or support us in some other way, please email fundraising@stpjhospice.org

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 - Wednesday's 12 - 3**

16th July, 20th August, 17th September, 22nd October, 19th November and 17th December

Lunch Club: Second Monday of the month in the Barn Centre at 12.30pm. to book Your place please ring 01825 722186

Mens Meeting: Monday mornings 7am - 8am in the Barn Centre

NYC & NCT: A fun club for the young people of the village. Where? The Barn Centre. When? Wednesday evenings during term-time. Time? 18.00 Juniors and 19.30 Seniors

- Juniors: 11-15 years
- Seniors: 16-18 years

More information: [HERE](#)

Email: youth.newick@gmail.com

Owls: Crafts, Bible story, fun and refreshments **Sundays 9.55am - 11am**

Email: childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church

**18th May - 15th June - 20th July -
21st September - 19th October - 16th November**

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

Prayer Meetings for Church Services: Sundays 9.30-9.45am
Barn Centre

Tea at Three: Third Thursday of the month at 3pm in the Barn Centre. For more information contact Patsy on 01825 722590

Owls and Owlets are taking a summer break over the holidays but there is still lots of fun to be had.....



Coming up.....



Holiday at Home

Come and enjoy a fun filled day at St Mary's Barn Centre
Wed 30th July & Wed 13th August
11am - 3pm

All are welcome (children need to be accompanied by an adult)

11.00am - 12.30pm
12.30pm - 1.30pm
1.30pm - 2.00pm
2.00pm - 2.30pm
2.30pm - 3pm

Arts and crafts (Drinks and biscuits provided)
Lunchtime (Please bring a packed lunch)
Performance by St Mary's Youth Choir
Dance performance by Shimmy and Shake
Huge Singalong!



To book a place, please contact Patsy (shimmyandshake@yahoo.co.uk)
Places limited, book early to avoid disappointment

FREE SESSIONS!
BOOK EARLY TO AVOID
DISSAPPOINTMENT

SUMMER 2025

**VOICE FOR LIFE
SINGING SESSIONS**

**Wednesdays 11-12pm
July 23rd and 30th
August 6th, 13th, 20th**

Venue- The Barn Centre
St Mary's Church
Church Road
Newick
BN8 4JZ

To book your place
Email
churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church
Tel: Cara 07944 344108

Two Trios

**Summer
CONCERT**

SATURDAY 2ND AUGUST

2-3PM

£12-pay on door

featuring

'The Cocktail Party' and the 'Harmonia Trio'

refreshments included

**VENUE ST MARY'S CHURCH,
CHURCH ROAD NEWICK BN8 4J**

**for further information
contact: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church
All proceeds to go to the Youth work of the Church**

**St Mary's
Newick's Church**

**Bubbles
& Broadway**

A celebration of Broadway hits with
complimentary glass of fizz and canapés

BROADWAY

**with
Jo Appleby
and
Andrew Rees**

**Saturday 30th August
7.00pm**

St Mary's Church, Newick, BN8 4JZ

**Tickets £18 (£20 on the night)
including a glass of fizz and canapés
(kids under 16 go free)**

SCAN ME

All profits from this event will go towards St Mary's Church, Newick



Owls Club



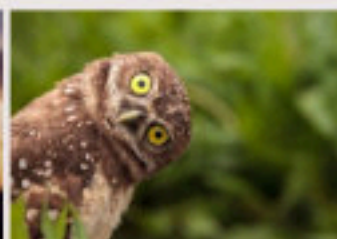
**Crafts, Bible Story, Fun!
& Refreshments**

9.55am - 11.00am

Next dates: 20 July, 21 September, 19 October

Feel free to be in contact -

Pam Mundy, childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church





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

Please visit our website stmarysnewicks.church for more information on the various organisations and events and activities available to you.

If you have any news you would like to share, any photos you would like to display, or any stories about St Mary's Newick or wider afield that you think the readers may enjoy - please mail us at:

churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church

The content deadline is 10am on Thursday

so please make sure you send anything to us in time. Anything received after 10am will be included the following week if appropriate.

Thank you.