

NEWSLETTER

“

March, when days are
getting long, Let thy
growing hours be
strong to set right
some wintry wrong.

– Caroline May

The content deadline is 10am every Thursday

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

Rectors Ramble

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Romans 8:6-11, John:1-45

*Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord; O Lord hear my voice; let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.
Psalm 130*

Dear Friends,

Please continue to hold the Sclater family in our prayers as they prepare to commend John to God's keeping this Friday afternoon.

Please too, hold in your prayers all those who are walking through this season of grief or who have loved ones, who are seriously ill at this time.

This Sunday we have arrive at the 5th Sunday in Lent and our time of Lenten reflection and study is almost over.

This weekend, Passiontide begins and we turn our faces to begin the slow journey to Jerusalem, with the triumphant entry of Jesus marked next week on Palm Sunday and then, through Holy Week, Maundy Thursday Good Friday, Holy Saturday to Easter Sunday itself.

As we do so, Sunday's Gospel invites us once again to engage with the story of the raising of Jesus's friend, Lazarus, from the dead.

The raising of Lazarus is only found in the Gospel of John and, at its heart we find one of the great "I am" statements from Jesus that describe who he is. "I am the resurrection and the life" (v25). This passage also includes, in English translation, the shortest sentence in the Bible, "Jesus wept". It is certainly a key passage. It is the seventh and final miracle, or "sign", recorded in the Gospel of John, and it serves as a means too for the plot to kill Jesus to gain momentum.

Yet this is also a very human story of bereavement, sadness and grief but equally of perhaps confusion, maybe irritation and finally, hope.

This week, our own world has been rocked by an outbreak of meningitis in Canterbury, in which at least two young people have already died.

Antibiotics are being given to people who think they may be at risk and the Health Secretary has made a statement to update MPs about the outbreak.

Many students are worried they are getting antibiotics too late and about not being vaccinated against the disease. Everyone involved must be feeling fear and a sense of urgency to do something about the risk of infection. Covid will still linger in people's minds. Many will be scared and those families by bedsides where their loved ones are in a medically induced coma will hope desperately that they will wake up, be healed and be made whole again.

The story of Lazarus can help focus our emotions and sense of powerlessness when frail bodies meet serious illness.

Imagine how Mary and Martha sent that message to Jesus and what the wait was like for him to appear. What did they hope for? Or think would happen?

And how would they make sense of what Jesus does to glorify God in their home?

And what on earth was it like for Lazarus to wake up at God's command?

Which may leave us wondering, what does it take to know that Jesus has received the message of our prayers and that he will come to save, even if we don't know, when, why or how?

It is perhaps a little curious that John does not go on to record what happened to Lazarus after this but perhaps, with an even greater story to tell, he felt no need?

There is evidence that Lazarus went on to live for several years afterwards, until his final death. The raising of Lazarus is a miracle for his family, but it is also a sign, one that points us forward to another tomb and another day when the crucified Son of God will, himself, rise from death.

Our Christian faith teaches us that it is not just about a reward in the next life, Jesus is concerned about our lives now.

He calls us out from our darkest places, he calls us to leave the tomb and gives us the strength to live as his resurrected people.

What we can hold to is that Jesus will win over death and that carried him through from Good Friday to Easter. That also involved some waiting for those who had been so faithful to him.

Perhaps, therefore, we shouldn't be alarmed when we have to wait when answers are not immediate.

May God sustain you in whatever situation you find yourself at this time of trial, and in his strength may you find peace.

May we learn to trust God in our waiting, in times of difficulty, and, ultimately, in holding fast to the truth that Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

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:

- 1412 Lead us heavenly Father Lead us
- 215 I heard the voice of Jesus Say (Kingsfold)
- 780 How deep the Father's love for us
- Christ Triumphant Ever Reigning (no number)

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 Five- Monday 23rd 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

GARDEN DAY, SATURDAY APRIL 11TH

Spring has sprung, and very welcome it is.



Our churchyard is coming to life. The daffodils and crocuses we planted in years gone by are giving us a welcome display. More and more people are tending and decorating graves in the New Churchyard – it looks wonderful.

Now it's time to keep up the good work and continue the development. We have a number of projects this year:-

- Use membrane and wood chippings to improve the southeast bed where we planted trees (they are doing really well) and took out some shrubbery that was past its sell-by date at our autumn garden day. Well done and thanks again to the Dads and Kids who did so well that day.
- Refurbish our garden beds, and in particular use mulch to prevent weed regrowth.
- Refurbish the two mini-gardens at the Martin war grave and the Chemist's grave – he was our only civilian lost in WW2 to a stray bomb
- Clean up our paths, particularly around the Barn Centre and put down more fertiliser to assist our ailing central yew tree
- Have some fun! Our Garden Days are enjoyable Church family days with lots of happy youngsters doing their thing. There is a lovely spirit to the days, and that's the most important thing of all.



The day will begin with coffee and cakes from 9 o'clock until noon. Then we break for a Rector driven bbq and a happy social time. You don't have to work, just coming to encourage and be a welcome part of it all is a good contribution.



COME AND ENJOY!

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
- 15th April - NYC/NCT Get Hyped starts!
- 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
Hospice 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***



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 colorful 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'. 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' 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

NYC/NCT Get Hyped is coming !!

Starting 15th April with the first three dates being in the Barn Centre (6th May onwards are on the Rec) it's our NYC and NCT groups together each Wednesday 7 - 8.30pm



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 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