

NEWSLETTER

28TH November 2025



REMINDER FOR THIS SUNDAY (30TH) AT ST MARY'S

There are **no 8am Holy Communion Services this week** at either Church, and

our 10am is a **Churches Together Holy Communion Service**

at **St Peter's Chailey** with Preacher - The Reverend Chris Lawrence

.....AND.....

We also have **Advent Carols at 6pm in St Mary's**

followed by Mulled Wine with Sausage Rolls

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Rector's Ramble

Isaiah 2.1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13.11-14; Matthew 24.36-44

*"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."
Matthew 18:20*

Dear Friends,

As we stand at the threshold of the church year, may I begin by wishing each and every one of you a truly blessed Happy New Year. And with the start of the "silly season" (*I love it, I does*), a few notices for this weekend:

Please come along and support the fantastic **Christmas Craft Market at St Peter's Church** on **Saturday 11am – 3pm**, the team really do put on such a fantastic show and I'm sure you can find something for everyone for Christmas.

There is **no 8am service** on Sunday 30th November.

Instead, we encourage everyone from **both** churches to join us for a **10am Churches Together Holy Communion at St Peter's**, led by Rev'd Chris Lawrence. Why not bring a friend along?

On Sunday evening at **6pm at St Mary's**, I will be leading our **Advent Carol Service**, and we would be delighted to see a strong gathering from both congregations, and as many friends and family as you can muster.

On **Monday 1st at 6pm** the **Christmas Lights on The Green** will be switched on and we've been asked if St Mary's and the School would come along and lead the carol singing. Please join us if you are able.

Please also hold **Andy and Loz Jackson** in your prayers this weekend as they celebrate the marriage of Andy's daughter, Maddie, to Alan. Many from the village will be travelling to join them, and we pray that God's love may grow richly in Maddie and Alan's married life together.

This Sunday marks the start of the Church's liturgical calendar, leading us once again into Year A of the three-year lectionary. Throughout the months ahead, our Gospel readings will centre on the Gospel of Matthew, inviting us to listen afresh to the teachings, parables, and life of Jesus in a way that both grounds and inspires our discipleship.

Jesus once said, *"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them."* Those simple yet profound words remind us that whenever the Church gathers—whether few or many—the presence of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit fills the space. That is why stepping into church can feel, for many, like stepping into an atmosphere alive with warmth, peace, or gentle awe. Often people comment, *"There's something special here."* And indeed, there is. What they sense is the very presence of God in His own home.

This presents us with a wonderful opportunity. Over the coming weeks, our churches—St Mary's and St Peter's—will host a series of beautiful, meaningful services. Advent is a season designed for reflection and renewal, but also for welcome and invitation. So, I'd like to offer a small challenge for the year ahead: **invite someone new to come to church with you.**

Last week at the St Peter's Lunch Club, I found myself chatting with a lovely group about the topic of going to the pub—an unexpectedly frequent theme of conversation! It emerged that several people didn't like going to the pub alone and would always invite a friend. So, I asked, "How is it that many people come to

church on their own, then?” There was a thoughtful silence. One lady finally said, “That’s a really good point... why don’t we?”

We are quick to invite people to the cinema, out for a walk, to a football match, a show, or a meal. Yet inviting someone to church—somewhere filled with welcome, beauty, and the presence of God—often slips our minds. This Advent, perhaps we can change that.

Advent is a season unlike any other—a meeting place of history, myth, prophecy, and hope. Its strength does not lie in deciphering the details of Christ’s second coming, but in glimpsing God’s promise of salvation and healing. We are not instructed to worry about the timing of God’s arrival; rather, we are called to live faithfully in the meantime. God’s reign has already broken into our world through Christ’s incarnation, death, and resurrection. His Kingdom is near—already here, yet not fully realised. We await its fullness with watchfulness and readiness, knowing that God’s love often arrives quietly, whenever grace is shared in places that desperately need it.

This Sunday’s readings remind us that the extraordinary is always intertwined with the ordinary. God is at work in the vastness of the cosmos, guiding nations and shaping history. Yet He also moves in the small, unnoticed corners of our daily lives. We are part of God’s grand story even as we wash dishes, speak kindly to a neighbour, or offer a prayer in the quiet moments of the day. The ordinary and the supernatural meet within us.

Our Advent hope is not merely an idea—it is a way of living. Scripture calls us to peace, to transform instruments of conflict into tools of healing, a message especially resonant today. We are called to reflect God’s glory in the world, to live in a way that prepares not only for Christmas but for Christ’s return in glory. Advent invites us to readiness—a readiness expressed not in fear, but in faithful living.

Preparation in this season takes many forms. We decorate our homes, choose gifts, and set aside time for celebration. But Advent also invites inner preparation: reflection, prayer, and openness to God’s transforming work. It offers the chance for a fresh start. God’s great intervention in history began not with spectacle but with a baby—fragile, small, and seemingly ordinary—born into a chaotic world. In this slow and humble way, God showed His deep commitment to humanity, to our routines and challenges, to our whole earthly journey.

Even now, God continues to come to us through His Spirit, through Scripture, through Communion together, and through the quiet moments when the ordinary becomes extraordinary. Advent is a precious season restores, redeems, and renews the past, present and future, so I encourage you to embrace it with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.

As we watch and wait this Advent, may we also be aware that, just like the prophets, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds and the Magi, perhaps there is something new God is inviting you to begin—something that will nurture your faith or allow His love to shine more brightly through you in the year ahead.

To guide us on our way I’ll include a poem each week, which is guiding me, this week from Malcolm Guite;

[O Sapientia](#)

I cannot think unless I have been thought,

Nor can I speak unless I have been spoken.

I cannot teach except as I am taught,

Or break the bread except as I am broken.

O Mind behind the mind through which I seek,

O Light within the light by which I see,

O Word beneath the words with which I speak,

O founding, unfound Wisdom, finding me,

O sounding Song whose depth is sounding me,

O Memory of time, reminding me,

My Ground of Being, always grounding me,

My Maker's Bounding Line, defining me,

Come, hidden Wisdom, come with all you bring,

Come to me now, disguised as everything

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.

Rev Paul xx

Sunday 30th November Advent Sunday	<i>(There are no 8am Communion Services this Sunday)</i> 10am Churches Together Holy Communion at St Peter's Chailey Isaiah 2:1-5 - Romans 13:11-end – Matthew 24:36-44 Preacher: Rev'd Chris Lawrence 6pm Advent Carols Preacher : Reader Jeremy Burdett
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SERVICES – DECEMBER 2025	
Sunday 7th December Advent Two	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy 10am Holy Communion Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, Matthew 3:1-12 Preacher: Ian Reekie Seasonal Concert 4pm – music and readings for a Winter's evening
Sunday 14th December Advent Three	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher: Fr Martin 10am Holy Communion Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11 Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan 6pm Worship2 Leader: Mandy Stockwell
Sunday 21st December Advent Four	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher: Rev Paul 10am Family Communion & Owls Isaiah 7:10-16, Romans 1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25 Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy 5pm Carols by Candlelight Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy
Christmas Eve	4pm Crib Service Leader: Patsy Bailey 11pm Midnight Mass Isaiah 9:2-7, Hebrews 1:1-4, John 1:1-14 Preacher: Geoff Clinton
Christmas Day	8am BCP* Christmas Day Holy Communion Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy 10am Christmas Day Family Communion Isaiah 52:7-10, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2: 1-7 & 8-20 Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy
Sunday 28th December The Holy Innocents Christmas 1	8am BCP* Holy Communion Preacher: Father Martin Morgan 10am Morning Worship Jeremiah 31:15-17, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29, Matthew 2:13-18 Preacher: Jeremy Burdett
*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, 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.

Only two weeks to go until the Christmas Tree Festival weekend and Patsy is still collecting for her Recycled, Vintage and Bric-a-Brac Church stall in the Barn Centre on Saturday 13th (11am-2pm)

Have a look around and if you have anything that fits the bill - Patsy would love to have it.



Back by popular demand - Fr Martin's local goodies!

A lovely selection of locally produced goods, generously provided by Fr Martin, can be won in our Christmas Tree Festival 12th - 14th December raffle.

Tickets will be on sale right across that weekend, as well as on a Sunday after services in St Mary's (Christopher Hume will be selling them) so plenty of time to get your tickets and a chance to indulge in such lovely fayre. £1 a ticket.

**All in aid of St Mary's
and St Peter & St James Hospice**



The weekend is all about fundraising, so donations of cakes and biscuits for the Church Cafe across the weekend, and at the big BBQ lunch on Saturday, would be so very welcome.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL
CAKE AND BISCUIT DONATIONS**

It would be so pleasant if you were able to help support us in raising funds by donating cakes and biscuits to the table during the Tree Festival on 13th & 14th December. (Discussing which day you can bring your goodies would help too, so that you have can have an even spread across the weekend, particularly Saturday with the BBQ lunch and Church Caffe both running.)

Thank you so much.

[illegible]

We would really appreciate volunteers to come along and support the Church Café during it's opening hours Friday 12th – Sunday 14th December 2025.

you can spare some time to help us run smoothly and welcome you to the free please can you make your pledge below. Thank you.

DATE & TIME	NAME & CONTACT NUMBER	NAME & CONTACT NUMBER	NAME & CONTACT NUMBER
FRIDAY 10th 10:00 - 12:00			
12:00 - 1:00			
1:00 - 2:00			
2:00 - 3:00			
SAT 11th 10:00 - 12:00			
12:00 - 1:00			
1:00 - 2:00			
2:00 - 3:00			
SUNDAY 12th 10:00 - 12:00			
12:00 - 1:00			

To keep the Church cafe running smoothly and to welcome people in to view the lovely trees we are also in need of volunteers to come in for a couple of hours at a time (or whatever you can do) and there are **sign up sheets at the your kind time pledges.**

As always we really appreciate your support to help make the weekend another wonderful fundraiser.

any

A blue Christmas tree decorated with gold ornaments and garlands, with wrapped gifts at its base.

Lych Gate Water Tap Shut Down For Winter !



I am afraid we are unable to keep the Lych Gate water tap operating over the winter. We can't afford to have it freeze. Normal service will be resumed in the Spring - bring it on!

Christopher Hume

Do you play an instrument or do you know someone who does?

We would love to have a Worship Band in St Mary's and are really hoping that we can find people from the village or close to Newick who would enjoy starting out on a journey - forming, learning and growing a band together.

We welcome any age, church goer or not, with the main criteria being to want to have fun and play worship music in a beautiful setting - for an hour or so once or possibly twice a month..

We even have tea, coffee and cake.

Interested? Mail us at
churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church



Advent Calendar

- Advent Carols Sunday 30th November **6pm**
- Seasonal Concert in aid of The Bevern Trust Sunday 7th December **4pm**
- The annual Christmas Lunch Club Monday 8th December
- Christmas Tree Festival 12th-14th December incl:
 - *Curry and Quiz night in amongst the trees 7pm Friday 12th*
 - *Craft Workshop 10am - 2pm Saturday 13th*
 - *Andy Rees Singalong 2pm Saturday*
- East Sussex Concert Band with refreshments Saturday 20th December **7pm**
- Carols by Candlelight Sunday 21st December **5pm**
- Crib Service **4pm** and Midnight Mass **11pm** on Christmas Eve
- Early Communion Service **8am** and Family worship for all on Christmas Day **10am**



NEWICK SCHOOL PTFA



PRESENT

**NEWICK
PRIMARY
SCHOOL'S**

Christmas
FAIR

ALL WELCOME!

CHRISTMAS MARKET

GRAND RAFFLE

SANTA'S GROTTO

TOMBOLAS, TOY & BOOK SALE, GAMES & CRAFTS

FESTIVE CAFE SERVING TURKEY BAPS, CAKES & REFRESHMENTS

MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES

DANCE CLUB PERFORMANCE

SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER

FROM 11AM TO 2PM

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY
SAVILLS HAYWARDS HEATH





🦌 🍫 Hot Chocolate Reindeer
Are Back! 🍫 🦌

It's that time of year again!
Newick School PTFA are
delighted to bring back our ever-
popular hot chocolate reindeer
cones, raising funds to support
our school.

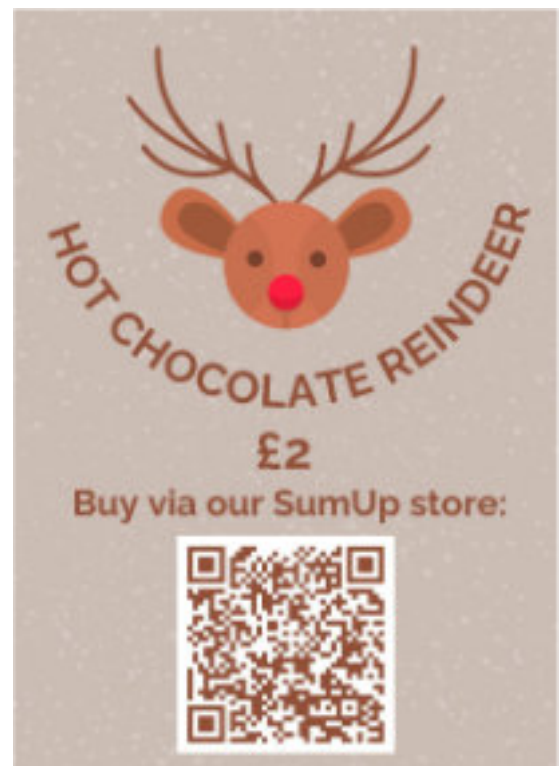
Each cone is £2 and packed with
Cadbury's hot chocolate, milk chocolate chips, and mini
marshmallows - just add hot milk for a deliciously cosy
treat! Perfect for stocking fillers, table gifts, or Christmas
Eve boxes.

🌟 Pre-order now via our online store:

[newick-school-ptfa.sumupstore.
com](https://newick-school-ptfa.sumupstore.com) (or by scanning the QR tag)

🎁 Reindeer cones will be ready
for collection from Saturday 6
December.

Thank you for supporting Newick
School PTFA!



A Seasonal Concert in aid of The Bevern Trust

Music & Readings for a Winter's Evening

Jingle Bell Rock - Joe Beal & Jim Boothe

Winter Wonderland - Felix Bernard & Richard B Smith

The Snow - Edward Elgar

Sleepers Awake - Johann Sebastian Bach

This is the Record of John - Orlando Gibbons

Seasonal Poetry

Soprano Soloist - Isabelle Peters

Tenor Soloists - John Baker & Norman Armstrong

Bass Soloist - Guy Minch

The Choir of St Mary's

Sunday 7th December 4pm

St Mary's Church Newick

Family Tickets £15

Adult Tickets £7.50

Children & Concession Tickets £5.00

Ticket price includes a glass of wine or soft drink, and a mince pie.

Reservations Contact:

jsfv@hotmail.co.uk

Thursday 11th December 2025 -

5:30pm

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The Sussex Christmas Barn invites you to join the Youth Choir from St Mary's Church Newick, for a selection of festive songs and a free glass of Mulled Wine.

The shop will be open for Christmas Tree & Decoration sales until 6:30pm



Gipps Barn, Spithurst Road, Barcombe,

BN8 5EH - 01273 401021

Christmas Tree Festival

12 - 14 December

10am - 6pm Friday & Saturday

12pm - 4pm Sunday

Saturday

11am - 2pm

BBQ

Elf Workshop

Bric a Brac Stall

Tombola

2pm - 3pm

Sing A Long with
Andy Rees

Daily

Church Cafe

Hamper Raffle

Fundraising for:

St Mary's Church
and

St Peter & St James
Hospice



GATHER YOUR TEAM AND BOOK
YOUR PLACE



St Mary's
Newick's Church

Christmas Quiz & Curry

Friday 12 December
7pm for 7.30pm

**Join Us At Our
Fun Fundraiser**
In aid of St Mary's Church

Teams Of Four
£15 per head

Food
Curry, rice & poppadoms

Drinks
Pay bar available

Email to Book
churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church

It's in the Church, amongst the trees and it's pay at the
door - cash or card on the night



Christmas Craft Workshop

Sharing The Love This Christmas

To family • To neighbours • To the community

St Mary's Church

Saturday 13 December

Anytime from 10.30am until 2pm

All are welcome



Come along and have some fun

And take your craft home when it's done

At Christmas Time the ELVE's are busy

So let's all help them be less dizzy

Amongst the trees the workshop will be found

And it's where love is shared all around

East Sussex Concert Band

conducted by Jonathan Bailey

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 20th December 7pm

St Mary's Church, Newick BN8 4JZ



Tickets: £7, under 12s free
www.trybooking.com/uk/96785
or scan the QR code
eastsussexconcertband@hotmail.com



**East Sussex
Concert Band**



*Supporting Live Music &
St Mary's Church, Newick*

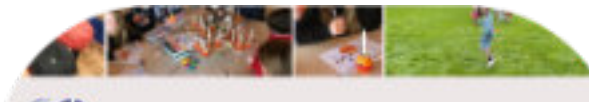


St Mary's Newick's Church

Owlets Club



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

St Mary's Newick's Church

Owls Club



Crafts, Bible Story, Fun! LEGO & Refreshments
 9.55am - 11.00am
 Next dates: 16 November, 21 December, 18 January
 Feel free to be in contact -
 Pam Mundy, childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church




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



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: Community Centre - Wednesday's 12 - 3. For all dates see the [Parish News](#)

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. The Barn Centre. Wednesday evenings during term-time. 18.00 Juniors and 19.30 Seniors:

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

More information: [HERE](#)

Email: youth.newick@gmail.com

Owlets: Chat, refreshments and songs. Term-time Mondays 9.30am - 10.30am in the Church

Owls: Crafts, Bible story, fun, Lego and refreshments. Third Sunday of each month 9.55am - 11am Email: childrenandfamilies@stmarysnewicks.church

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



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.