

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

Checkout [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](#) of all photo's

Rectors Ramble

Revelation 7:9-17, 1 John 3:1-3, Matthew 5:1-12

"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall ever be in my mouth."

Psalms 34

Dear Friends,

To those who couldn't be with us at St Mary's last week, I thanked all of you for your prayers and love for my residential training week at Ripon College Cuddesdon, in Oxford. It was a really informative experience and a great cohort to work with others from across southern England from Hereford to Colchester. This was the first of three residential courses I will be attending over the coming year as part of ILP or Incumbents Leadership Programme. ILP is a new and developing programme, (started in 2025) with the purpose of resourcing selected incumbents, from all church traditions, demographics, and resourcing both urban and rural communities. Enabling those taking part to better lead our churches into growth, specifically enabling our work with children, young people and families to grow. As two rural churches we are hoping and praying for this growth not just in numbers of under 18s and their families, but in depth of their commitment as disciples of Christ.

As I stood for the Eucharist in the chapel on the final day of our course, I was reminded of our reading this coming Sunday from Revelation 7, and how we are not told anything about those in white who worship and serve God, but they represent centuries of believers. There will be different characters and attitudes; and people with different traditions, different theological understandings, and of course politics. All are unified by their purpose to serve God.

This is a glimpse of what will be, but it's challenge is to consider how we can live to make it real *today*.

Saturday is All Hallows Eve and it is Newick's Bonfire Night, so I wish all of you a blessed, joyful and safe Bonfire Night. *(Regarding All Hallows Eve I've attached a little tongue in cheek guide posted by a friend of mine this week, reflecting on the imaginary parish of St Faithfuls, I hope you giggle as much as I did !!!)*

This Sunday we will be celebrating All Saints Day with a communion service at both churches and a baptism as part of the communion service at St Mary's, welcoming another saint into the church family and celebrating all those saints who have shaped our own journey of faith.

I've written a new service this week, and I hope it will give each of us across the generations, something to reflect on, to give thanks for, and find hope in. All are welcome and we would love to see you at St Mary's & St Peter's this Sunday.

All Saints' Day is also known as All Hallows' Day, hallow meaning to make holy, consecrate and honour. The theme of God's holiness permeates the entire Bible and as human beings we are invited to participate in the holiness of God through His Son, Jesus Christ. To be holy is to participate in the holiness of Jesus who is "the way, the truth, and the life". The Communion of Saints, the *communio sanctorum*, implies, first of all, communion, communion with Christ and through Him and the power of the Holy Spirit, communion and a relationship with our God, who is all holy.

Our own holiness starts then with a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, the mediator of all holiness. Our holiness also entails being in communion, part of our journey with one another and all the saints who have gone before us. Holiness therefore implies relationships; relationships which sometimes make it feel like it's very difficult to be holy!

But however challenging some of our relationships seem, it's impossible to be in communion alone. God's own holiness is part of being in communion, a communion of Father, Son, and Spirit dwelling together in love.

To enter into a relationship with God is to enter into a relationship with all who share in that same fellowship of God; past, present and future. Just as we are called into a relationship with God, we are called into a relationship with each other, the Communion of Saints, the Priesthood of all believers.

Our relationship and fellowship with Christ and with one another will never be complete in this life but is emphasised and strengthened as we together draw closer to him and to one another, and will be perfected in eternity. Together we are in union and communion with all the faithful saints, and as Christians we are called to live out that unity and communion, whatever our denomination or race or background.

We live in faith with all those who have gone before us, we, like they, are on a journey of faith, a pilgrimage which leads to God. Jesus takes us as we are, with all our diverse backgrounds, perspectives and relationships, takes us even though we often feel far from holy, and invites us to be holy, as He is holy, and to join with Him in the communion of saints.

Our Holy Communion links our holiness, our sainthood, to our daily experience. We start the Eucharist with contrite hearts, confess our sins, receive God's forgiveness and pray the Kyrie Eleison. We listen to the words of scripture from the bible and through the sermon. We confess our faith and give thanks to God in prayers and intercessions. We receive from God the body and blood of Jesus and together are sent out with the task of renewing the earth. Communion is not the end but the beginning of mission, mission as a Community of Saints, made whole and made holy through God and His gifts

In the same way that the saints that have gone before us, those from history and those who have influenced and encouraged us in our journey of faith, we constantly need to inquire of ourselves how we reflect and share with others the salt and light of God's love, His mercy, forgiveness, abundance and generosity, as God's present day saints?

A poem which is attributed to Cardinal John Henry Newman speaks of this lifegiving light we are called to share with others.

*Dear Jesus, help me to spread Your fragrance wherever I go.
Flood my soul with Your spirit and life.
Penetrate and possess my whole being so utterly,
that my life may only be a radiance of Yours.
Shine through me, and be so in me
that every soul I come in contact with may feel Your presence in my soul.
Let them look up and see no longer me, but only Jesus!
Stay with me and then I shall begin to shine as You shine,
so to shine as to be a light to others.
The light, O Jesus, will be all from You; none of it will be mine.
It will be you, shining on others through me.
Let me thus praise You the way You love best, by shining on those around me.
Let me preach You without preaching,
not by words but by my example,
by the catching force of the sympathetic influence of what I do,*

the evident fullness of the love my heart bears to You.
Amen.

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



✠ THE ST FAITHFUL'S GUIDE ✠ TO HALLOWEEN

As the nights draw in, the pumpkin appear and Mr Dobbs begins enquiring about spare bed linen, we offer the following guidance to the people of Havest.

1. WHAT IS HALLOWEEN?

The name comes from 'All Hallows' Eve', the evening before All Hallows, or All Saints' Day, on 1 November. To 'hallow' something is to make it holy, hence its application to people recognised as holy.

It's a time when Christians remember the saints: not just the ones in stained glass, looking peaceful while being attacked by arrows, but all those whose lives have shown us something of God's love.

The following day, All Souls, is a time to remember those we have loved and lost.

Older autumn customs, including the Celtic festival of Samhain, also form part of the story of this time of year. Over many centuries, traditions have mingled and changed. The Corp's infallible skeleton is a relatively recent addition.

2. ARE COSTUMES PERMITTED?

Yes. Dressing up, telling spooky stories and laughing together can be harmless fun. Facing our fears is a human need, and it is quite different from summoning the powers of hell into Havest. Mr Hargreaves' Toccata does that perfectly well on its own.

However, if your costume is so convincing that it frightens a small child, an elderly neighbour or a visiting bishop, please consider removing the mask.

If you are not wearing a mask, perhaps offer them a cup of tea.

3. WHAT ABOUT TRICK-OR-TREATERS?

This tradition was unheard of when I was a lad. I suppose we can blame Americans. However, if you enjoy answering the door, you might have a few treats ready. If you would rather not take part, that is fine too. And if you want to trick your callers instead, please do so with restraint. Perry is still cross about the bucket of cold porridge that was tipped over his Rolls last year.

Children: please visit with a responsible adult, be courteous, and don't keep knocking when there is no invitation to call.

Adults: please remember that dressing as a tax inspector may frighten Mark in Row 10 more than you intended.

4. THE CHURCHYARD

I can assure the people of Havest that Mr Dobbs has been banned, this year, from hiding behind gravestones dressed in a sheet and jumping out at passers-by. He maintains that last year's incident was a valuable demonstration of the resurrection. The gentleman walking his dog maintains that it was not.

Honest Palmer has offered to supervise Dobbs. I have asked Rev Sandy to supervise those.

5. FACING OUR FEARS

There can be something helpful about meeting a pretend monster and discovering that, underneath, it is your neighbour wearing a rubber mask. Perhaps it's a way of recognising the monster inside us all – the one we keep pressed down during church council meetings, perhaps.

The real world is more complicated. There are things happening on the world stage right now that are more frightening than any Halloween costume: war, hatred, threats and the suffering of people who have done nothing to deserve them.

We do not make those fears disappear by pretending they aren't there. But neither do we have to let fear have the final word.

The saints we remember were not people who never felt afraid. Many found the courage to love, speak or act despite their fear. We can do the same, even in small ways: checking on a neighbour, speaking up for someone, or refusing to join in when fear is used to turn us against one another.

And if you do encounter a ghost in the churchyard this Saturday, please do not be alarmed.

It is almost certainly Mr Dobbs.

Sandy will be close behind, to escort him home.

The Revd Dr Tim Keen
Vicar

✠ stfaithfuls.com ✠
Faithful, not Finished



Services – November 2026

Sunday 1st November All Saints Day	8am BCP* Holy Communion & Churches Together at St Mary's ❖ Reflective spoken service of Holy Communion following the King James Book of Common Prayer 10am Holy Communion & Baptism ❖ A service of worship and praise with celebration of a Baptism 5pm Evensong ❖ Following the BCPEveningPrayerwith Plain chant, sung psalms and hymns
Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday Third Sunday before Advent	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ Reflective spoken service of Holy Communion following the King James Book of Common Prayer 10:30am Remembrance Sunday ❖ A solemn service dedicated to honouring British and Commonwealth service members who died in the two World Wars and later conflicts. 6pm - There is no Worship 2
Sunday 15th November Second Sunday before Advent	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ Reflective spoken service of Holy Communion following the King James Book of Common Prayer 10am Morning Worship & Owls Club ❖ Serviceof worship and praise with KidsClub
Sunday 22nd November Christ the King Sunday next before advent	8am BCP* Holy Communion Churches Together at St Mary's ❖ Reflective spoken service of Holy Communion following the King James Book of Common Prayer 10am Morning Worship ❖ Joyfulcelebration of Worship& Praise, God's Word and Prayer
Sunday 29th November Advent Sunday	8am BCP* Holy Communion ❖ Reflective spoken service of Holy Communion following the King James Book of Common Prayer 10am Holy Communion ❖ ParishCommunion Servicewith Choir & Congregationalhymns involving the whole parish family 5pm Advent Carols ❖ Advent carols are hymns and songs that prepare hearts for the coming of Christ, blending themes of hope, anticipation, and celebration.
<p style="text-align: center;">*DENOTES STANDARD YEAR A LECTIONARY READINGS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PRAYER MEETINGS FOR CHURCH SERVICES EVERY SUNDAY 9.30 BARN CENTRE</p>	

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,
Rosie Hallett, Summer Kilgour, Juliette Lucas,
Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann, Shirley Mansfield,
Derek Marshall, George Morrison, Patricia Moss, Adrian, Andrea
and Amber Parris, Gemma Peacock, June 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



Evening Life group

Jane and Alex Von Der Becke, who regularly attend St Peter's Chailey and are often with us in St Mary's too, would like to host an evening life group, led by Jeremy Burdett.

They plan to meet weekly, on a evening to be decided, and welcome both committed Christians and those still with questions. The plan is to explore the Bible together and support each other through life.

If you might be interested, please email Jane and Alex at jvonderbecke@gmail.com and let them know:

- **the preferred nights of the week you could be available**
- **what time range on an evening would suit you.**

They will then set a date and time to start meeting and send you details.



If you have any questions do have a chat with Jeremy in St Mary's and he will be happy to help.

Flower Arrangers - We Need You!

Our Flower Team at St Mary's does a wonderful job with our important ministry of flowers in the Church. We have beautiful flower arrangements in the Church like these shown.

Flowers for our major festivals are a team effort – our Church flowers for Christmas, Easter and Harvest are truly wonderful and a key part of our worship and service to our village community.

We don't have flowers in the Church over the festival of Lent which gives the team a month off.

But each week for the rest of the year one of the team either provides or buys – the Church pays – flowers and makes two arrangements in the Church, one just inside the Church entrance, and one beside the pulpit at the front of the Church.



We are looking for one or two more flower arrangers to take on some of this weekly arranging. If you feel you can take on this rewarding role we'd love to have you join us. Please call me **Christopher Hume**, Churchwarden on **07770 771653** or **Gill Godsmark** who leads our flower team, on **01825 723394** if you care to join us.

Message from Tony and Patsy Bailey:

This year Patsy and Tony will be collecting for the Church especially pastoral care. Unfortunately due to our combined health issues we won't be in the parade which in any case is taking a different route but do look out for us on The Rough and The Green. Do save your pennies ready as before. NBS has always been generous to the Church, which definitely needs your support, thank you!

Remembrance Day Concert

Andy Rees will bring us another fine concert at 3pm on Remembrance Sunday 8th November.

Last year's was memorable and much enjoyed by a substantial and enthusiastic audience.

Not to be missed so please come along and enjoy a wonderfully nostalgic afternoon.

Wreath beautifully made by
Pupils from Newick School





Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 8th November - The Green and St Mary's Church

10:00 Meet on the Green

Gathering of Standard bearers, associations and societies

10:10 Procession to St Mary's

10:30 Service begins in Church

Armistice Day Act of Remembrance

Wednesday 11th November - The Green

10:45 Commencement

11:00 The Silence

11:10 Closing prayer



*At the going down of the sun, and in the morning
we will remember them.*

Please note two maroons will be fired from the Green on Wednesday 11th November marking the beginning and end of the Silence.

Men's Supper 20th November

**Citizens Advice: 10th November and 8th December -
Community Centre**



Message from Wendy Piccinini

Dear Friend,

“Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord”

I hope you're starting to warm up your voices, because Christmas is on its way! And to start the season in style, you are warmly invited to our annual carol service in London on Friday 4 December.

This is always one of my favourite events of the year. And it's a wonderful way to celebrate the joy of Christmas together.

There will be music from the Tredici Choir, seasonal refreshments, and a chance to browse handmade Christmas gifts. You'll also hear more about how you can be part of God's life-changing work at Chandkhuri Hospital in India.

The service is at St Giles-in-the-Fields Church, London, WC2H 8LG, starting at 1:00 pm. Friends and family are very welcome. There is limited space at the event this year, so early booking is recommended. You can book your free tickets [HERE](#).

The Fletching Singers present

'Twas the Night before Advent

Fletching Church, TN22 3SR. Saturday 28th November 2026 at 7.30pm

The Fletching Singers invite you to join us on 28th November for our autumn concert, 'Twas the Night before Advent . Alongside Charpentier's beautiful Messe de Minuit, for which the choir will be joined by a small ensemble of instruments, the programme will include a lovely mixture of music old and new, sacred and secular. We will take you from the beauty of night time into the wonderful period of expectancy and waiting that leads to Christmas. Directed by Ansy Boothroyd.

Tickets £15 on the door or £12.50 early bird until Tuesday 24th November. Available online at <https://www.fletchingsingers.co.uk> , from members, or info@fletchingsingers.co.uk, or 07802 855113

Retiring collection for St Peter & St James Hospice

Thursday 10th December 2026 -

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

ADVENT AT



29th November - Advent Carols 5pm

DECEMBER

10th - Youth Choir Christmas Concert (at Sx Barn) 5.30pm

11th - 13th Christmas Tree Festival

11th - Curry & Quiz Night 7pm

12th - Elf Workshop 10am-2pm

12th - BBQ Lunch 11am-2pm

12th - Andy's Annual Singalong 3pm

19th - East Sussex Concert Band 7.30pm

20th - Lessons and Carols by Candlelight 5pm

Christmas Eve -

Crib Service 4pm

Midnight Mass 11pm

Christmas Day -

BCP Communion 8am

Family Service and Communion 10am

Posters and flyers can be seen in this Newsletter, on our [WEBSITE](#) and on our Facebook Page.



Christmas Tree Festival

11th - 13th December

10am - 6pm Friday & Saturday

12pm - 4pm Sunday

Saturday

11am - 2pm

BBQ

Christmas Craft Workshop

Patsy's Emporium

Tombola

3pm

Singalong with
Andy Rees

Daily

Church Cafe

Hamper Raffle

Fundraising for:

St Mary's Church

and

St Peter & St James

Hospice



Christmas Quiz & Curry

Friday 11th 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
Paybar available

Email to Book

churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church





Christmas Craft Workshop

Sharing The Love This Christmas

To family • To neighbours • To the community

Saturday 12th December

Anytime from 11am until 2pm

In St Mary's Church

All are welcome



East Sussex Concert Band

conducted by Jonathan Bailey

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Saturday 19th December 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Newick BN8 4JZ



Tickets: £8, under 12s free
www.trybooking.com/uk/126235
scan the QR code or
eastsussexconcertband@hotmail.com



**East Sussex
Concert Band**

Supporting Live Music &
St Mary's Church, Newick



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 - follows the Children's Choir session on 1st Sunday of each month 11am-12pm £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

Citizens Advice:

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

Prayer Group:

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

Prayers for Church Services:

Sundays 9.30-9.45am Barn Centre