

7th 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*

Rector's Ramble

*Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm does bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee for those in peril on the sea*

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 85.8-13; Romans 10.5-15; Matthew 14.22-33

Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but this week's news has had rather a lot of water in it. Our news reports are full of drought — reservoirs 15% lower than a month ago, hosepipe bans being enforced, the ground cracked and brown after weeks of "bone dry" weather, even after a few spatter's of rain this week, and our farmers facing record early harvests, way below the usual yields, and fertiliser prices nearly doubled on last year.

Then just a few miles away in the Channel, the water is doing the opposite of running dry: boat after small boat still setting out from the French coast, still capsizing, still costing lives, even as the politicians argue over what on earth to do about it. Too little water in one place; too much danger in the other. It struck me, sitting down to write this, how much water runs through our readings this week too.

Our testament reading gives us Joseph, thrown by his own brothers into a dry pit — and then, chillingly, sold on to strangers heading for a foreign land, treated as cargo rather than as a person. It is an old, old story, but it doesn't feel like ancient history this week. Anyone who has watched the news footage of people wading out to a smugglers' dinghy in the dark, or heard the flat, weary tone of another Home Office statement about deaths in the Dover Strait, will recognise something of Joseph's story in it: human beings being moved around as problems to be managed, rather than souls made in the image of God.

And we read of Joseph's brothers "sat down to eat" while Joseph cried out from the pit (Genesis 37.24-25) — an uncomfortable line to read alongside our own capacity, as a nation and as individuals, to carry on with breakfast while terrible things happen not so very far from our shores.

In Romans 10, Paul at his most expansive tells us: *"there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him"* (Romans 10.12). Whatever we each think about the rights and wrongs of border policy — and reasonable, decent people disagree honestly about that, Paul will not let us forget that in God's sight there is no "us" and "them" queuing up for grace. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. That's not a comment on immigration policy; it's a comment on the size of God's welcome, which is considerably larger than any of ours.

Matthew's Gospel puts us in a boat of our own, in the dark, in a storm, with Jesus walking towards us across the water and Peter — bless him — climbing out to meet him. He does beautifully for a few steps, and then he notices the wind, and he's sunk before he knows it. *"Lord, save me,"* he cries, and Jesus catches him at once. I love that Jesus doesn't wait to see if Peter can dog-paddle to safety first. The hand reaches out the moment the cry goes up.

I don't think it's stretching the lectionary too far to say that this week's readings, taken together, are about what we do with people who are perceived as a problem, whether that be on the water — whether that's Joseph in his pit, migrants in an overloaded dinghy, or Peter going under a few feet from the boat.

Scripture's answer, again and again, is you reach out your hand. You don't wait for the paperwork.

So whatever your view of the politics — and St Mary's and St Peter's, like the rest of the country, hold plenty of different views on it — perhaps this week we might hold in our prayer all those in peril on the

land and sea, the Border Force and RNLI crews who go out to help them, the families waiting on both sides of the Channel, our farmers and emergency services fighting drought and fire, and our own instinct to keep eating breakfast while others cry out from the pit.

Could we also keep the many volunteers at both churches in your prayers too — flower rota, churchyard mowing, Verger's and the bell ringers, Coffee Rota, Children's and families volunteers, pastoral care teams and everyone quietly keeping the show on the road through what has, weather-wise, been a rather parched summer for us as well.

If your own water butt is looking as empty as the local reservoirs, spare a thought — and a prayer — for those for whom water is a far more frightening and immediate concern.

As ever, do come and find me after the service, or give me a call, if there's anything on your mind — troubled water or otherwise.

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 at St Mary's

- ❖ **1222 - Eternal Father strong to save**
- ❖ **423 - O Lord hear my prayers x 5**
- ❖ **79 - Dear Lord & Father of Mankind**
- ❖ **519 - Take my life and let 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	

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**



Congratulations Mr & Mrs Buck!

Rev Paul was delighted to marry Lee and Gemma recently, and everyone at St Mary's sends love and best wishes for the start of their wonderful married journey together.

Enjoy the summer break and Lee -
we will see you back at NYC in September



A message from Patsy Bailey:

On behalf of St Mary's, I would like to send a big thank you to everyone for the contributions to the grey (food) boxes at the back of the Church.

These gifts are so valuable and show that people are not forgotten. It shows how much we value and care for the wellbeing of people in our community and those people are always so grateful. It is such a wonderful way of illustrating our faith.

A special thank you to the lovely person who supplied the Angel delight recently as the person who received it was so thrilled with it and they sent an extra vote of thanks when I delivered to them this week.

If you can spare anything for the grey boxes, please do as it is such a worthwhile and much needed cause.



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



♥ *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



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



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

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



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