

### Contact Information

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WEBSITE: There is a lot of information on our website, which we keep updated. It can be found on [www.stpeterschailey.org](http://www.stpeterschailey.org)

Our Safeguarding Recruiter (child protection officer) is MaryJane Corver. She can be contacted on 01825 724687 / 07802 524313 / email [maryjane.corver@btinternet.com](mailto:maryjane.corver@btinternet.com)

We are pleased to be back in church for our 8am Holy Communion. This will be the case this week and then on 28th March we hope to hold our 10am Palm Sunday Communion as well. Services in Holy week will be Maundy Thursday 7pm Good Friday 2pm Easter Day 8am and 10am.

If you wish to attend the 10am on Easter Day please let the church wardens know your name and how many places. As with Christmas we will be limited to numbers so places will need to be booked.

We will again be reading out names of those you wish to be remembered so please let Teresa know if you have a request.

The APCM will not be held on 18th April but on a Sunday in May. Date to be confirmed.

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## NEWS IN THE PEWS

# Welcome

**SUNDAY 21st March 2021**

*The fifth Sunday of Lent*

*Liturgical Year B*

*Priest in Charge* Revd Paul Mundy (Rector of Newick)

*Visiting Priest*  
Father Martin Morgan



### TODAY'S READINGS

**8am (Service in church)**

Hebrews 9: 11-15

John 8: 46—end

**10am (NO service this week)**

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

Hebrews 5: 5-10

John 12: 20-33

Services are being live streamed on Facebook from St Mary's Newick during the current Lockdown, and can also be viewed on their webpage, [newickchurch.org](http://newickchurch.org)

In your prayers this week please remember those who are ill especially

**Stephen & Julie, Julian and Troy, Gemma Peacock, Donna Stepney, Betty Olbrich, Kerry Dean, Suzi Novis, Ray Ford, David Barnes, and Chris Ruane**

We pray too for the recently departed, and for all those whose anniversaries fall at this time, may they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Dear friends,

*Did you hear about the burglar who stole a calendar?  
He got twelve months.*

*I met my girlfriend whilst she was working at the zoo.  
There she was in her uniform - straightaway I knew she was a keeper...*

*Did you hear about the semi-colon that broke the law?  
He was given two consecutive sentences*

'Funny is power' is the theme for Red Nose Day 2021, and yes, okay those weren't that funny.  
If you have a better one send it in and I'll post it in next week's newsletter



Tonight ( Friday) the voice of comedy celebrates the healing power of laughter - and we all need that healing power, now more than ever!  
Comic Relief 2021 aims to give a voice to important issues including homelessness, hunger, domestic abuse and mental health, all of which have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic. These are voices that need to be heard, yet they are voices which might have become muted among the hubbub of the past year.

Incidentally, Tuesday 16th March marked one year since the beginning of the first lockdown in the UK in 2020, when Matt Hancock told the House of Commons that all unnecessary social contact should cease, but it was not until 23 March 2020 that Prime Minister Boris Johnson told the country that people 'must' stay at home and certain businesses must close. . . . . *What do you remember from exactly one year ago?*

Each year on Red Nose Day we reflect on those who give up so much for others in the name of charity.  
One particular fundraiser who is deservedly drawing much attention this year is professional racing driver and double-leg amputee, Billy Monger, who takes on a gruelling triathlon-inspired challenge for the benefit of others.  
In our gospel on Sunday we will hear that, when that voice came from heaven (John 12.27-33), Jesus said that this was not for his benefit, but for those who were gathered to listen. How might we see this experience in the light of all those who do so much for good causes such as Comic Relief?  
*How does God's voice inspire you to live and give your life for others?*

As well as Tuesday marking a year since restrictions began, the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 saw the launch of a campaign to 'Rebuild Childhood'. The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel De Souza said: 'children have in many ways made the biggest sacrifices for the least return' and that " the scale of the challenge is like reconstructing the social security system in the wake of World War Two."

Again in this weeks Gospel, Jesus indicates the sacrifice he will make on the cross in John 12.20-33: 'unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.' In spring, we see this idea of death and new life, as seeds which have been planted 'die' in the soil, pushing out with new growth.

*Have there been any sacrifices you have made in this time which have allowed you to grow in new ways?*

Are there also other things which have felt like the sacrifice Dame Rachel talks about: a great sacrifice but with very little return (or benefit)?

Dame Rachel plans to consult every child in England about how the pandemic changed their lives in a survey called '[The Big Ask](#)'. Please do take part when it launches!

Dame Rachel hopes that the result of this consultation will be to 'improve the chances of every single child, whatever their early standing in life and wherever they are' - putting children and young people on an equal footing, despite the sacrifices they have made and the challenges they have faced during this time.

*What is the most important thing you would want to share about your experience during the pandemic?*

Jesus also speaks of this being a result of his sacrifice on the cross as he says, 'I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself' (John 12.32). The result of Jesus' sacrifice is also this move towards equality for 'all people'.

Nobody will be held back from Jesus' love because of their schooling, their background or their start in life. Perhaps, even from this really difficult situation - where sacrifices have been made - some good can come, where leaders are striving for equality and the best opportunities for all children and young people.

As we move towards Holy week together:

*What might you ask God to help you 'rebuild'?*

Finally a huge thank you to both teams from Chailey and Newick who prepared and delivered the Mothering Sunday flowers, Teresa, Patsy, Chris and Rebecca you are amazing and I've had so many lovely messages of thanks.

Have a good week, keep safe and keep in touch.

Paul

Oh, alright then maybe just a couple more in light of the anniversary of the first lockdown

*Why did the chicken cross the road?*

*Because the chicken behind it didn't know how to socially distance properly!*

*This morning I saw a neighbour talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog - we laughed a lot.*

*If I keep stress-eating at this level, the buttons on my shirt will start socially distancing from each other!*

*Who's idea was it to sing "Happy Birthday" while washing your hands?*

*Now every time I go to the bathroom, my kids expect me to walk out with a cake.*

*I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch them with a barge pole" would become a national policy, but here we are*

*Knock knock. Who is there?*

*Seriously, don't touch my door and get back 2 meters*

St Mary's Newick is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: St Mary's Newick's Zoom Cafe

Time: Mar 21, 2021 11:15 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84954248926?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84954248926?pwd=WIU0aTFPbXd5UjNlXVhRb0YlZEVm9ndz09)

pwd=WIU0aTFPbXd5UjNlXVhRb0YlZEVm9ndz09

Meeting ID: 849 5424 8926

Passcode: 948577