

The need for a Pastoral Distress fund was discussed and was approved by all. We are aware of a number of Chailey families in need, and those numbers are likely to rise. Newick are currently doing a lot to support them and it was felt St Peter's should also tackle the issue. This fund will rely on people donating to help others and will be a restricted fund used only to support that need. If anyone feels they can support this, no matter the amount, donations can be made via the churchwardens, the treasurer or directly to the bank. (Chailey PCC, Sort Code 09-01-55 Account 06923088 Please state 'Pastoral Fund')

#### Contact Information

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Priest in Charge: Revd Paul Mundy...01825 723186

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Teresa Wenban [teresa.wenban@btinternet.com](mailto:teresa.wenban@btinternet.com) or 01825 722586

Organist and Music Director: Andy Rees 01825 723863

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)

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

Topic: Church Cafe Zoom

Time: Jan 31, 2021 11:15 AM London

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86460942536?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86460942536?pwd=Q3RoWVhETEZpdzJCUiVxUytJQTdqZz09)

[pwd=Q3RoWVhETEZpdzJCUiVxUytJQTdqZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86460942536?pwd=Q3RoWVhETEZpdzJCUiVxUytJQTdqZz09)

Meeting ID: 864 6094 2536

Passcode: 184452

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## NEWS IN THE PEWS

# Welcome

SUNDAY 31st January 2021

*The fourth Sunday of Epiphany*

*Liturgical Year B*

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

NO SERVICES TODAY

TODAY'S READINGS

8am

1 Corinthians 9: 24—end

Matthew 20: 1-16

10am

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Revelations 12: 1-5a

Mark 1: 21-28



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, Kerry Dean, Suzi Novis, Chris Ruane and Ann Tillard**

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.

*Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:  
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,  
Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;  
A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.*

Dear friends,  
forty days ago, we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Candlemas marks the end of the Christmas season, now we recall the day on which He was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people.  
As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to Him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognised Him as their Lord, as we today sing of His glory, and speak of His Story

This special Sunday has been called by different names 'The Presentation of Christ in the Temple', 'The Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary', and 'Candlemas.'

Candlemas celebrates the many themes of these events, presentation, purification and light for the world. As we are told in our scripture the presentation of Jesus in the Temple took place 40 days after his birth. For us 40 days after Christmas Day falls on February 2, but it is celebrated in church on the Sunday nearest that date. Candlemas is a watershed in the church year, it marks the point at which we take a last look back at Christmas and then turn our minds firmly towards the Easter cross.  
We have been working through the Sundays of Epiphany, now we leave them behind and soon it will be Lent, for this reason it has been called a 'bitter-sweet Sunday.'

At Candlemas we will hear part of Simeon and Anna's story, of faithful watching and waiting, we will hear part of Joseph and Mary's story, of amazement and adoring parenthood, and we will hear the promise of Jesus' story of strength, wisdom and God's favour.

We will each have our own story to tell, and I've been struck by the daily messages of both hope and despair on the Radio 4 Today programme each morning. Sometimes, I guess it's important just to listen to one single story as we try to make sense of what is happening in our world right now. The story of Jesus offers us a message of hope in the midst of despair, love in the midst of grief, light in the midst of darkness

As we walk with Jesus from Candlemas this week, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

Pause for thought

*There is much in our lives at the moment which feels 'bitter-sweet':  
With 100,000 dead in the UK, 400,000 in the US and 2 million around the world, how do we even compute a statistic like that? We hear the world cry Kyrie Eleison.  
In the UK it is a story told 100,000 times of loved-ones lost; prayers unanswered; hospitals too full; funerals too empty; millions of broken hearts. We hear our nation cry Kyrie Eleison.  
God help us the day we become numb to this tragedy. I hear myself cry Kyrie Eleison*

*The constant we have in the midst of our, pain, bewilderment and suffering is you our God.*

*Lord, take our despair and make it a prayer; the necessary lament of love, as together we cry out Kyrie Eleison*

*Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch, or weep tonight,  
and give Your Angels and Saints charge over those who sleep.*

*Tend Your sick ones, O Lord Christ.*

*Rest Your weary ones.*

*Bless Your dying ones.*

*Soothe Your suffering ones.*

*Pity Your afflicted ones.*

*Shield Your joyous ones, and all for Your love's sake.*

*Amen.*

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/prayer-nation>

*The Government has asked us to stay at home to save lives and protect the NHS. Under the current regulations the Government has permitted public worship to continue, if it is safe to do so. Due to the current pressure on our local hospitals, both the PCC's of St Mary's Newick and St Peter's Chailey have decided to offer digital services only for the time being via.*

*St Mary's Church, Newick-Facebook*

<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarysnewick/>

<https://vimeo.com/stmarysnewick> or on the website <https://newickchurch.org/>