

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

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

We trust and pray that you are all keeping well through this difficult time. We praise the Lord that we have this wonderful weather which helps make everything more bearable. If you need help please do follow up the offers on the front webpage.

Our thanks go to James and Paul for making our Sunday services available online, music included, and to James for daily morning and evening prayer on Facebook.

You will find some useful prayers on the next page to use in the current climate. Let us pray that before long we can be re-united in worship in our beautiful church.

Don't forget you can watch online services from Newick and Barcombe by visiting their webpages,

www.newick church.org
www.Barcombe.net/church

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NEWS IN THE PEWS

Welcome

SUNDAY 3rd May 2020

*The third Sunday after
Easter*

Liturgical Year A



Today's Readings

8am

1 Peter 2: 11-17

John 16: 16-22

10.00am

Acts 2: 42—end

John 10: 1-10

Page 1218 of your pew bible

Page 1084 of your pew bible

Page 1094 of your pew bible

Page 1076 of your pew bible

Please continue to fill your Smartie tubes. Should they overflow you can return them in a bag when church reopens. A very Happy Easter to everyone. We pray you stay safe and well. We miss you all.

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

Stephen & Julie, Julian and Troy, Gemma Peacock, Alesha Stepney, Suzi Novis, Pat Stepney, Chris Ruane, Paul Coles, John and Gaye Miller Maskell.

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.

SOME HELPFUL PRAYERS FOR OUR CURRENT SITUATION

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.

Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from
your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us to love our neighbour, and to care for those
in need as if we were caring for you.

In this time of anxiety, give us strength to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,
and to assure the isolated of our love, and your love, for your name's sake.

Amen.

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their
darkness, be their light; through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Merciful God, we entrust to your tender care those who are ill or in pain,
knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to
hold them safe.

Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Gracious God, give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the
sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.

Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored
to health;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

During Morning Prayer one day this week we were bidden to read Psalm 84. It begins with those
lovely words, "How lovely is your dwelling place, O God of hosts! My soul longs for the courts
of the Most High." My thoughts turned to the fact if it were not for the wretched virus I would
have been at Chailey on Sunday morning for both the services. As I walked the path to the Church
door I would have thought as I often do, "How lovely is this dwelling place." Then I remembered

St. Peter's would have been closed due to the work being carried out on its interior.
We would have met probably at Chailey Heritage. I went on to think how many
times I have heard people say 'it doesn't matter where you worship, God still listens.'
To the second part of that I can only agree but as to the first I do think it matters where
we worship. I believe that the stones formed into St. Peter's Church do matter. I be-
lieve they matter very much indeed. They are the symbol of many years of the Holy
people of God in and around Chailey, and indeed beyond. whose toil and talents as
well as their hard - earned money have enabled those stones to become a home to
those who have worshipped within its walls. It matters because it is where a commu-
nity gathers in so many differing ways. A place of worship generously shared with all
sorts of groups and remains vital in creating a community. A place where babies are
baptised and couples married, a place where we bring those who have died to be hon-
oured and celebrated. It is a place full of memories for many and a place where present
day worshippers sometimes represent families who have cherished it for generations.
So, it does matter.

It matters because as people enter its doors they change from "I" to "We". The holy
people of God show by example that we do depend on each other. I am my brother
and sister's keeper within that community. That community is the powerhouse that
gives me the insight and strength to care for my sisters and brothers beyond its walls.
Just as that building is a sign to the world pointing folk heavenward so those who see
it as home make real the presence of the Lord. When we hear the story of the washing
of the feet before the last supper we realise that our God given vocation is to serve
other people. But the wonder is that is whilst we wash the feet as servants we also
show the face of the Master. Our life within the Church is not some abstract thing;
not some emotional crutch to help us through life it is the means by which we engage
with God himself.

We are called to enter into a partnership with the Father to make Jesus known to the
world.

How wonderful a thing it is that he allows us to share in His mission. If you think that
implausible here are some reminders of how He needs human cooperation He needed
Mary's 'yes' for the Christ to be born. Jesus (God -with- us) needed Zacchaeus to
give him lodging for the night, he needed the Samaritan woman to give him water and
Simon of Cyrene to help him carry the cross. He needs each and every one of us to
make his name known. He has gifted us our parish church as the family home from
which and from whose members we gain the strength to follow him and to serve oth-
ers. So, the Church building is something that does matter. That's why I will find it
hard this Sunday morning not being within its walls sharing with you the joy of being
there. I will miss the sound of organ and singing, the readings, the occasional sound
of children (aren't they so good) and all the good and lovely things happen there. I
have been privileged to have been included in a small way as part of that household. It
is a privilege I truly cherish and can't wait until as our Queen assured us us recently
and the Dame from Ditchling sang, "We'll meet again." I pray to our generous and
loving father that he will keep you all safe. God Bless you all.

Fr. Martin

Lovely words from Father Martin Morgan.