

21st January 2024

Rectors Ramblings

Psalm 128, Revelation 19:6-10, John 2:1-11

Dear friends,

Please don't forget if you are feeling anxious about having the heating on in these cold times there is financial support available through the pastoral funds at both St Peter's and St Mary's and the Newick Distress Fund for those in the parish of Newick.

This week we read of the Wedding Feast at Cana, the first spectacular miracle recorded by John in his Gospel. Spectacular, in that making water into wine is an incredible talent, and yet it was somewhat less than spectacular, because we are told that even the head waiter didn't realise it had happened.

Some people did understand what had taken place, these were people who had the faith to recognise in this miracle a sign pointing to who Jesus was. They understood that they were in the presence of somebody who could not only turn water into wine, but was destined for something truly special.

Jesus said that his hour had not yet come, little did anyone know what it was that Jesus was preparing for – a much greater triumph, over death itself.

I'm going to leave you with sonnet from the wonderful poet Malcolm Guite written for this Sunday; Epiphany at Cana.

Malcolm writes

"The set readings for this Sunday in Epiphany tell the story of 'the first of the signs that Jesus did and manifested forth his glory'; the transformation of water into wine at the wedding at Cana. (John 2:1-11). I love this miracle, though John doesn't call it a miracle, he rightly calls it a sign.

It is a sign that points to so many profound and liberating things about the God whom Jesus reveals to us; His delight in and concern for our own personal life and loves, attested by His presence at the wedding feast, His abundant generosity in more than meeting our needs in the midst of everyday life, His call to us to move from the mere outward purity, symbolised by the water for ritual washing, to a transformation of inward joy, symbolised by the wine.

Epiphany at Cana

*Here's an epiphany to have and hold,
A truth that you can taste upon the tongue,
No distant shrines and canopies of gold
Or ladders to be clambered rung by rung,
But here and now, amidst your daily living,
Where you can taste and touch and feel and see,
The spring of love, the fount of all forgiving,
Flows when you need it, rich, abundant, free.*

*Better than waters of some outer weeping,
That leave you still with all your hidden sin,
Here is a vintage richer for the keeping
That works its transformation from within.
'What price?' you ask me, as we raise the glass,
'It cost our Saviour everything he has.'*

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

Please remember those on our prayer list:

**Francis Bailey, Brenda Bellis, Cole Louise Blackman, Beryl Campion-Smith,
Harri Gande, John and Elizabeth Gould, Rubie Geer, David Harmer,
Juliette Lucas, Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann,
Shirley Mansfield, Derek Marshall, Adrian, Andrea and Amber Pariss,
Gemma Peacock, Ron Perou, Dino Portelli,
Christine Ripley, Rubie (aged 11), Cheryl Stewart, Martin Tardif,
Marcus Thrower, Danielle Tora, Toni Warrilow,
Sean Watson, Arthur Wood, Nasima Wright.**

**If you would like to receive prayers, or know someone who would, please contact
Rev Paul Mundy on 01825 723186 or church.newick@gmail.com**



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

Services January 2024



*For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" **Jeremiah 29:11***

<p>Sunday 21st January 3rd Sunday of Epiphany</p>	<p>8am - Holy Communion BCP * <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>10am - Family Communion Psalm 128, Revelation 19:6-10, John 2:1-11 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>9.45am - Owls Club</p>
<p>Sunday 28th January 4th Sunday of Epiphany <i>Presentation of Christ at the Temple</i></p>	<p>8am - Holy Communion BCP* <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>10am - Candlemas Holy Communion Malachi 3:1-5, Hebrews 2:14-18 , Luke 2:22-40 <i>Preacher: Ian Reekie</i></p> <p>5pm - Healing Service with Holy Communion St Mary's Newick <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p>

Prayer Meeting for Church Service Every Sunday 9.30 - 9.45 Barn Centre

Services - February 2024

<p>Sunday 4th February</p> <p><i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i></p>	<p>8am - BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>10am - Worship & Praise Proverbs 8:1,22-31 Colossians 1:15-20 John 1:1-14 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>6pm - Evensong</p>
<p>Sunday 11th February</p> <p><i>Sunday before Lent</i></p>	<p>8am - BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i></p> <p>10am - Worship & Praise 2 Kings 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9 <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i></p> <p>6pm - Worship2 <i>Leader: Mandy Stockwell</i></p>
<p>Wednesday 14th February</p>	<p>7pm - Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion Joel 2:1-2,12-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 John 8:1-11 <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p>
<p>Sunday 18th February</p> <p><i>1st Sunday of Lent</i></p>	<p>8am - BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher:</i></p> <p>10am - Family Communion & Owls Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1: 9-15</p>
<p>Thursday 22nd February</p>	<p>7pm Lent Course at St Mary's <i>Leader Fr Martin Morgan</i></p>
<p>Sunday 25th February</p> <p><i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i></p>	<p>8am BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev Paul Mundy</i></p> <p>10am Holy Communion Genesis 17:1-7,15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38</p>
<p>Thursday 29th February</p>	<p>7pm Lent Course at St Mary's <i>Leader Fr Martin Morgan</i></p>

Lent Course 2024 lead by Fr Martin Morgan

“Come Follow Me”

The season of Lent begins on February 14th this year. Lent highlights the time Jesus spent in the desert where he went to discern his vocation to be obedient to God and reject the devil's temptations. The Lenten season is a time when Christians are encouraged to spend time examining their own relationship with God. This year the parishes of Newick and Chailey will again combine to journey together on both our individual and collective journeys.

Through baptism the Christian journey is transformed into pilgrimage. Pilgrimages are always made in the direction of holiness. Such travels need preparation, direction, and purpose. There is always a need for sustenance which we find in Holy Communion and Scriptures. When we look back on our travels hopefully, we will recognise that something within us has changed how we see ourselves, especially in relation to God who is the Holy One

Our Lent course this year is home made. We will begin by assessing where we are on now our journey to God. We will look deeply into the sustenance God provides for us in both Holy Communion and Holy Scripture. The Lord's command to go out to the whole world will be illustrated by the Reverend Martin Poole whose book, 'Church beyond Walls' is a best seller. Martin created a means of taking the Gospel out to the general population of Brighton and Hove by instigating events such as the Beach Hut advent calendar on Hove Seafront. He designed an amazing Stations of the Cross through the Lanes in Brighton and is a liturgical visionary. With the help of illustrations and readings and song we will join Jesus on his journey from Pilate's Palace to the tomb. Our course begins on 22nd February and takes place in **St Mary's Church**. Puddings will be served from 7pm and the course commences after that.

These weeks in Lent are to help us delve even more deeply into our response to Our Lord's call to “Follow Me”. It would be wonderful if you could join us.

Fr Martin Morgan.

Timing recap - 7pm St Mary's Church on:

***22nd February * 29th February**

***7th March *14th March**

***21st March**

The Friday Hub - pop along....

The weekly Friday Hub provides a warm welcome along with tea, coffee, and cake in the Community Centre.

It has been growing in strength and numbers since initially being set up to welcome our Ukrainian friends, and although some have moved on to other villages and towns, they often pop back to say hello and enjoy a morning with us. We have a great number of Village members now too though and it has become more successful than we imagined at the beginning.

Today, a guest who runs percussion groups came in to share with us just what fun making rhythms can be. We had a wonderful morning together and everyone enjoyed the unexpected experience.

As well as impromptu visitors, we are also planning to run a book and jigsaw exchange and we would love anyone who hasn't come along yet to drop in for a coffee and cake and a chat if passing by. Being in the Community Centre, we are in a handy position after visiting the bakers, village stores, the chemist or G.P. surgery.

Do come along - Fridays 9-12 we hope to see you there.

Patsy.





Dates for your diary!!

Owls - Sunday 21st January 9.45am Barn Centre

Candlemass - Sunday 28th January 10am St Mary's

Healing Service - Sunday 28th January 5pm St Mary's

**Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion -
Wednesday 14th February 7pm St Marys**

Lent Course - 7pm Barn Centre (then St Mary's)

22nd February - 29th February - 7th March - 14th March - 21st March

Newick Good Neighbours

"Plea for help"

We are a small group of friendly volunteers mainly offering transport for local residents who are in need of lifts for medical appointments, dentist, hairdresser, supermarket etc.

There is a desperate need for more volunteers - particularly drivers to run people to the Health Centre (or Centres now that there are various options for appointments).

If you feel you could help - Newick Good Neighbours would love to have you.

Please contact Patsy or Heather by email on: newick.goodneighbours@gmail.com



Youth work Appeal

St Mary's has a big job to do - to help our young people find, know, love and follow Jesus. It is the greatest gift we can give them. We must succeed for them, and for the future of St Mary's. That is our Youth Work.

We work hard with limited resources. We are fortunate to have dedicated members of our congregation who work tirelessly. We are fortunate to have, in our Rector Paul, one of the finest youth workers we could wish for. He is brilliant with young people. But we still need to buy in some part-time professional help. Ali Brown with the Owls, Lee Buck with the Newick Youth Club (NYC) and Cara Barseghian with our Youth Choir do great work with and for us, but it all costs money.

St Mary's financial outlook for 2024 is tight. We want to bolster the resources we can dedicate to Youth work. We share our Youth work with Chailey so they are appealing to their congregation too. Here at Newick we'd like to raise at least £10,000.

Where will it go? We are budgeting £20,000 for the combined Parishes for a Children and Families worker, and our NYC Youth Worker. We are budgeting £1200 for our (brilliant!) Youth Choir. We are budgeting £1500 for May Camp, £6,000 for NYC and Owls expenses and summer activities, and £750 for Holiday Club.

Please give this situation prayerful consideration, and help us as the spirit moves you, and as you are able. You can make a real difference with relatively small amounts. £15 pays the costs for one of the 50 children we expect at our important summer Holiday Club. £40 pays for one training session for our Youth Choir. £75 pays our expenses for one child at May Camp. £100 pays for one month for our Youth Choir. £300 pays for one of our "summer specials" on the rec for NYC.

Making contributions.

- ♦ You can send funds by **BACS** to our account no. **90773281**, sort code **09-01-54** in the name of Newick PCC. Please use the reference **Youth Appeal**.
- ♦ You can give cheques (payable to Newick PCC) or cash in a **sealed envelope marked Youth Appeal**, to our Rector Paul, Churchwarden Sara or another member of the PCC.

Thank you, and bless you all.

Christopher Hume

Legacies

The Church of England has always encouraged people to make wills, and at St Mary's we encourage that too. Making a will ensures that the assets in your Estate are distributed as you see fit. Many people will of course leave the bulk of their assets to their families, and favourite "good causes".

Please consider including St Mary's. We struggle to meet our expenses year by year, and have always relied on legacies to support our service to the community. The daunting costs of upkeep of our beautiful Grade 2 listed church must also be met. A key element of our work in the community is youth work and pastoral outreach.

How Do I Put a Legacy In Place?

First, make sure you have a will in place that includes how you would like to distribute your assets using either your own solicitor or the service provided by the Church of England.

(www.churchlegacy.org.uk)

Please contact Rev Paul Mundy or any member of our Treasurer's team if you would like assistance. Please remember that St Mary's is a charity, so gifts to St Mary's are free of Inheritance Tax.

If you would like to make a gift to our church in memoriam, please come and discuss this with us too.

Important changes...

**Take a look at the new Website for St Mary's
and save it to your favourites!**

[St Mary's Newick \(stmarysnewicks.church\)](http://stmarysnewicks.church)

**Please amend your contact lists to make sure your
email to the Church Office is never ignored:**

churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church