



Rectors Rambling's

*“Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer ; you shall cry for help, and he will say,
Here I am” Isaiah 58:9*

Isaiah 58.1-9a,(9b-12); Psalm 112.1-9; 1 Corinthians 2.1-12,(13-16); Matthew 5.13-20

Dear Friend's,

What a wonderful Churches Together Service it was last Sunday. Thank you to Alla, Monica & Peter for supplying the Ukrainian delicacies of Borscht & Piroshki . . . delicious, and Ciaron loved it so much he took two piroshki back home to Bevern View.

It was a real time of much needed light and joy, especially important when, you only have to turn on the news, scan the newspaper headlines or spend five minutes on social media to be reminded just how dark the world can be. In many communities, people are experiencing this 'darkness' for themselves: financial pressures on families, redundancies, long waits for needed medical intervention, Covid-impact, refugees fleeing war-torn Ukraine.

At the end of a long winter, it can feel hard to hold on to hope. But that is exactly what Jesus says into this context, speaking directly to people living under occupation and oppression: *'You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world.'*

In this week's Gospel reading, Matthew presents Jesus issuing a call to his followers to make ourselves obvious. Comparing us with light, which is useless if no one can actually see it, he tells us in no uncertain terms that to have any impact on the problems and challenges facing God's world, we must make ourselves noticed for our good works.

Two things stand out here: First, this is a call to collective action. Although Jesus is addressing a large crowd of his followers, the word 'light' is singular. We are called as a body to be one big light, rather than lots of little individual lights. This is underlined by the image of the city on a hill (Matthew 5:14b), which is a large group of people visible to everyone for miles around, as opposed to lots of individual huts on their own little hills. Our city is the city of God, and we must always keep in mind that we are acting as parts of a greater whole (1 Corinthians 12:27), and not to have our own individual roles praised (Matthew 6:1-6). The light we shed is not for our own glory, but for the glory of God-in-Christ.

Second, we must be prepared to face opposition. If we are shining as Jesus would have us do, then our light will reveal much that those responsible for society's problems would rather remain hidden. This will, as Jesus has just warned (Matthew 5:10-11), almost inevitably bring us into confrontation with those who hold power but are reluctant to use it for the general good (Matthew 10:16-20). At the same time, we must recognise our own collective shortcomings, and seek continually to purge the Church of anything that fails to reflect God's unconditional love for all people.

No matter how dark the world may feel right now, no matter how dark our communities may feel, and

how insignificant we may worry that our light is, the darkness cannot extinguish even the smallest flame. If you feel too small to make a difference, find comfort in these words that God sees things differently. In God's strength, let us pray that we can bring that light to the dark places and shine for all to see. Keep the faith and keep doing the little things that make a difference to those you love and those in need and *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13*

Paul

Don't forget this Sunday 8:00 a.m. is at St Peter's and 6:00 p.m. Evensong will be at St Mary's followed by Holy Communion



Please remember those on our prayer list:

Francis Bailey, Rosemary Begbie, Cole Louise Blackman,
Sarah Byng, Beryl Campion-Smith,
Margaret Dale & family, Harri Gande, Juliett Lucas,
Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann,
Adrian, Andrea & Amber Pariss, Gemma Peacock,
Christine Ripley, Kevin Slipper, Cheryl Stewart, Martin Tardiff,
Marcus Thrower, Danielle Tora,
Toni Warrilow, Sean Watson, 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.

Parish News and Information

Diary Dates	
Evensong	Sunday 5 th February 6:00 p.m.
Worship 2	Sunday 12 th February 6:00 p.m. St Mary's
Audrey's Prayer Group	Monday 13 th February
Tea at Three	Thursday 16 th February - please note change of date

With warm greetings! Prayer requests from Katy Barnwell. Please pray

- * For good health, renewed strength, and safety for all members of the three Mbembe translation teams. John Afro is recovering well from his major hip operation. Pray for full healing and increased mobility.
- * For renewal of steady work on the Mbembe translations, including regular Zoom meetings
The Mbembe-Adun team are revising and polishing the Gospel of Matthew.
Some of the team are drafting 1 Kings.
The Mbembe-Okohm team has completed the consultant check of 2 Kings. They are now drafting Joshua.
The Mbembe-Osopong team are completing their work on 1 and 2 Kings.
- * For the use of the translated Scriptures, both printed copies and oral recordings, resulting in changed lives and much blessing.
- * For myself - for wisdom and self-discipline, using time and strength well.
- * For Nigeria, with important elections happening this month, for the appointment of godly leaders who will act with integrity, promoting justice and peace for the whole country.

Thank you for praying. Love and blessings,

KATY

E-mail katy_barnwell@sil.org or katy_barnwell@tSCO.org or katy.barnwell@wycliffe.org.uk

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Wycliffe Bible Translators U.K, PO Box 1643, Oxford, OX4 9PB, U.K.

*St. Mary's Newick
Barn Centre*

TEA at THREE (and cake)

A warm welcome awaits! Please join us!

*The third Thursday
each month*

— Transport can be provided —

More info:

*Patsy Bailey - 01825 722590
shimmyandshake@yahoo.co.uk*

The poster features a central illustration of a white teapot and a matching teacup, both decorated with a pink rose and green leaves. To the left of the teapot is a small glass of orange juice. To the right is a silver spoon. The entire design is framed by a decorative blue and white floral border.



Youth News



Owls Club Jan-April 2023

(Barn Centre, Newick Church)
Owls Club is back! Yippee!

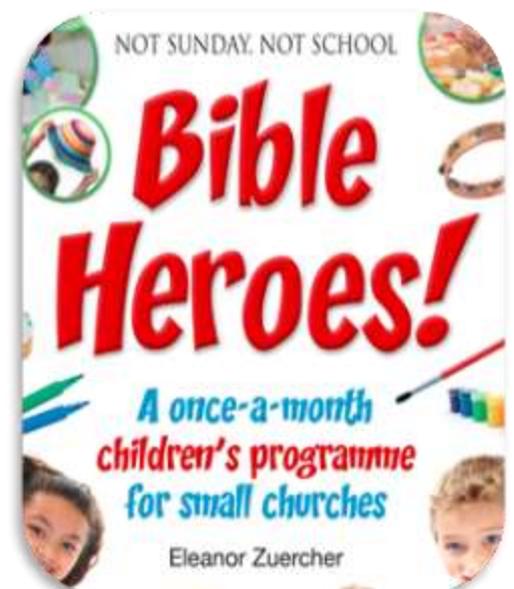
We meet on the 3rd Sunday of every month at Newick Church.

Every 3 rd Sunday	
Sunday 15 th January	The story of Abraham (Genesis 12, 17-18, 21) Faithful, trusting, willing, sense of humour!
Sunday 19 th February	The story of Joseph (Genesis 39-41) Faithful, trusting, resilient, brave!
Sunday 19 th March	The story of Ruth (Mothering Sunday) (Ruth 1-4) Faithful, trusting, caring, brave!
Sunday 16 th April	The story of Gideon (Judges 6-7) Faithful, trusting, determined, brave!



What are we thinking about in each session?

We are moving to a new series about Bible Heroes. Eleanor Zuercher. Eleanor Zuercher lives in a rural parish in the West Buckingham Benefice (a group of six rural parishes) where she developed and successfully ran workshops for children aged 3–12 for many years. Alongside this work, Eleanor oversaw all the children's work for her parish as well as being involved in planning and taking services until retraining as a teacher.



Questions?

Email Ali on alichurchinterparishfamily@gmail.com



St Mary's Church Services

February 2023

Sunday 5 th February <i>Third Sunday before Lent</i>	Holy Communion at St Peter's	8:00 a.m.
	Worship & Praise Isaiah 58:1-9a Matthew 5:13-20 <i>Preacher: Jeremy Burdett</i>	10:00 a.m.
	Evensong & Holy Communion <i>Leader: Alan Young</i> <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i>	6:00 p.m.
Sunday 12 th February <i>Second Sunday before Lent</i>	BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i>	8:00 a.m.
	Worship & Praise Genesis 1:1-23 Romans 8:18-25 Matthew 6:25-34 <i>Leader: Geoff Clinton</i> <i>Preacher: Alan Young</i>	10:00 a.m.
	Worship2 <i>Leader: Mandy Stockwell</i>	6:00 p.m.
Sunday 19 th February <i>Sunday before Lent</i>	BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i>	8:00 a.m.
	Family Communion & Owls Exodus 24:12-18 2 Peter 1: 16-21 Matthew 17:1-9 <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i>	10:00 a.m.
Wednesday 22 nd February <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion Joel 2:1-2,12-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Matthew 6:1-6, 6:16-21 <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i>	7:00 p.m.
Sunday 26 th February <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	BCP Holy Communion <i>Preacher: Ian Reekie</i>	8:00 a.m.
	Holy Communion Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4: 1-11 <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i>	10:00 a.m.

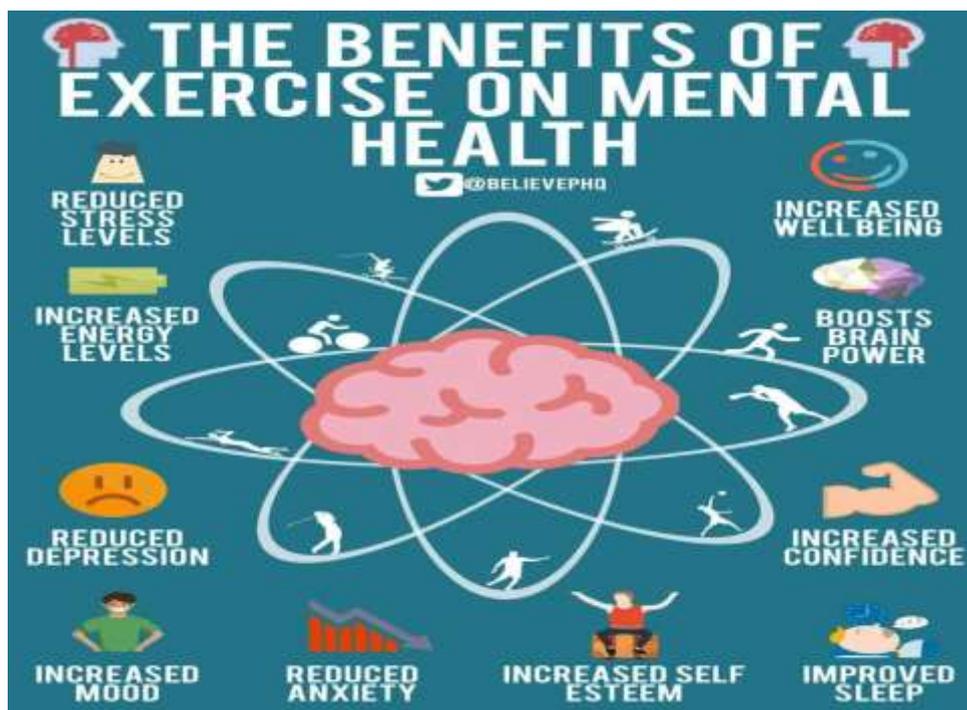
* *Denotes standard Year B Lectionary readings.*

All communion services are said and will be taken in one kind.

*Also live-streamed on <https://www.facebook.com/saintmarysnewick> and can be seen at [www.
https://newickchurch.org/services/](https://newickchurch.org/services/)

Contact Information for National and Local organisations

Mental Health Support	Local GP Service
UK-Wide Services	
MIND	https://www.mind.org.uk Mind Infoline 0300 123 3393
Samaritans	116 123 (suicide prevention)
Hope Line UK	0800 068 41 41 (under age 35 suicide prevention)
Independent AGE text SHOUT	0800 319 6789 (older age mental health) to 85258 (crisis text line)
Cruse	0808 808 1677 Bereavement Support
Combat Stress	0800 138 1619 (Ex-Service personnel)
CALM	0800 585858- Campaign Against Living Miserably
The Sue Ryder Online Bereavement Counselling Service	https://www.sueryder.org/online-bereavement-counselling
Missing People	for anyone who wants to go missing or those who are missing someone or to report a missing person Contact on 116 000 - Phone or Text
Sussex-Based Services	
Health-in-Mind	https://www.healthinmind.org.uk Tel: 0300 003 0130
Sussex Mental Health Line	0800 0309 500
Newick-Based Support	
Newick Trust	Advice and financial support Geoff Clinton - 01825 722512
Rev. Paul Mundy	01825 723186
Patsy Bailey	01825 722590



Please take a look at www.newickchurch.org

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Faith in Sussex Magazine	Click here
<p>If you would like to add anything to the newsletter or any details on the newsletter to be updated or amended please email churchoffice.newick@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Newick Memory Moments Café</p> 	<p>Meetings take place in the Community Centre Membership is limited though so please ring 01273 494300 to check availability. http://knowdementia.co.uk/moments</p>
<p>Lady Vernon Trust</p> 	<p>“Lady Vernon Trust” For information about grants for educational purposes for young people up to the age of 25 years. Please contact Linda Farmer 01825 722061 or email linda.farmer.1@btinternet.com</p>
<p>Newick Trust</p> 	<p>Relieving Poverty in Newick. For financial support in times of crisis. Contact Geoff 01825 722512</p>
<p>Newick Good Neighbours</p> 	<p>Following the support given through the pandemic via Newick Community Response, there is now a permanent group of volunteers set up via Newick Good Neighbours, who are providing lifts for medical appointments. contact newick.goodneighbours@gmail.com</p>
<p>What3words</p> 	<p>What3words is a geocode system for the communication of locations with a resolution of three metres. What3words encodes geographic coordinates into three dictionary words; the encoding is permanently fixed. For example, St Mary’s Church Newick is located with <code>///rehearsal.caressed.tweed</code> https://what3words.com</p>