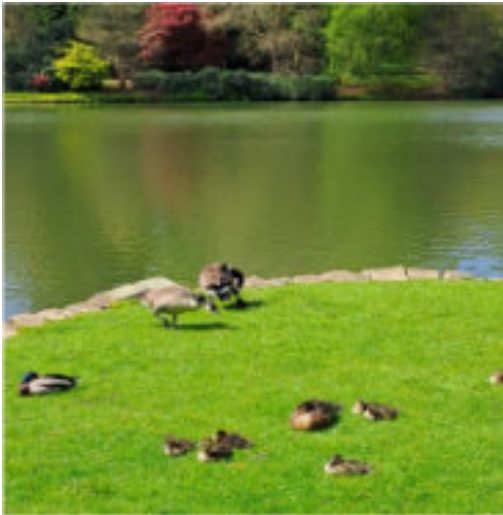
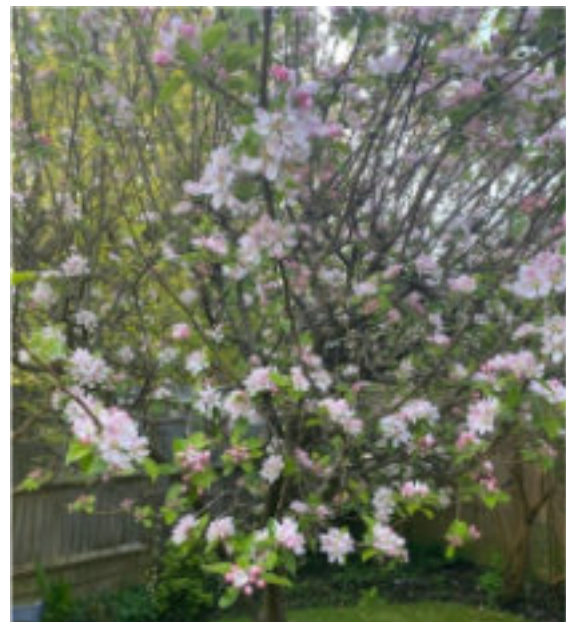


5th May 2024



The ducks are growing and the Peacock is still beautiful
Photos courtesy of Rebecca



And how beautiful is this Ellison Orange Apple Tree
Thank you Sue Clarke for these lovely photos

Rectors Rambles

Acts 10.44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5.1-6; John 15.9-17

Dear Friends,

What a challenging week it has been in our news. Sword attacks in North London, Palestinian ceasefire and hostage return negotiations intensify and reports continue of children killed. There are public protests around the world with citizens advocating for their governments to stop supplying arms; and the International Criminal Court investigates possible war crimes at Gaza hospitals.

Deaths continue amongst refugees crossing the channel in small boats, and although other countries in Europe receive and grant more asylum applications, the British government continues its controversial plan to transport asylum seekers to Rwanda.

As poverty continues to leave increasing numbers hungry in the UK, pubs as well as churches and other faith and community groups are running food-banks to support local residents.

In the midst of this, the local elections this week will provide an indication of how the major parties may fare in a general election, and I'm sure I'm not the only one thinking that this could well increase divisions and at a time when our world feels increasingly fractured!

But God is good and our scriptures this week remind us of the power of God's love.

On Wednesday morning I was teaching our young people at Newick & St Peter's Primary school about the 'Summary of the Law', when Jesus was tested by the Pharisees and Sadducees.

"Which Commandment is most important?" Jesus is asked.

"There is only one God" Jesus replies "and you should love our God with your whole being, with all your heart, your soul, your mind and your strength . . .but that's not all because the second command is just as important, to love your neighbour as you love yourself . . . Everything we know, understand and believe hangs on these two commands"

From countries at war to boundary disputes, there are many times that we find it hard to get on with our neighbours.

- ***Can we respond to the call from Jesus to bring peace (John 14:27) and love (John 15:17), even to situations of extreme conflict?***

In our reading from Acts, Peter is preaching the gospel in Caesarea, and – just as at Pentecost – people are filled with the Holy Spirit.

But these people are Gentiles.

Those with Peter are astounded, but Peter knows this is because the gospel is for all people. The people are baptised, and Peter stays with them for a while.

Stereotypes are nothing new. Early Church believers had fixed ideas about who was included in their community and their ideas were challenged so that the Church could grow.

- ***Can we open our minds, hearts and doors to new people?***

Like the apostle Peter, we may be surprised by what God has in store, because love can be advocacy and ally-ship as well as care.

- ***How can we be stronger allies to victims and the vulnerable, for example supporting campaigns addressing food poverty, benefits and the stigma of abuse and mental health?***

Local elections can help us to consider the neighbours in our community.

- ***Where do we give and receive love locally?***
- ***Are there any surprises?***
- ***How do we love those we disagree with, when there is controversy and strongly held beliefs?***
- ***What can God and the church bring to these often-polarised debates?***

We might consider putting up a display in both our churches with a selection of photos of a wide variety of people – different ages, genders, sexes, disabilities, ethnic identities, nationalities, backgrounds, beliefs, asking ourselves the following questions;

- ***Who do we most relate to as our neighbours?***
- ***Who do we struggle to accept and love?***

If you are struggling with these questions then I would encourage you to read our epistle this week as a point of reflection starting with the previous chapter from our reading.

“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

1 John 4:8

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

Sunday Hymns: 314: Joy to the World 278: I will sing the wondrous story
27: As the Deer Pants 1002: Sing to God new songs of worship.
Choir will sing “It is well with my soul”

As always, please remember those on our prayer list:

Daphne Awcock, Francis Bailey, Cole Louise Blackman, Bernice Blundy,
Beryl Campion-Smith, Harri Gande, John and Elizabeth Gould, Rubie Geer,
Juliette Lucas, Helen Lloyd, Spike MacGuire, Christina McCann, Shirley Mansfield,
Derek Marshall, George Morrison, Patricia Moss, Adrian, Andrea and Amber Pariss,
Gemma Peacock, June and Ron Perou, 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***

Prayers for Church - Barn Centre every Sunday 9.30-9.45

Prayer Group - Barn Centre every 1st and 3rd Monday 2pm

**Owing to the public holiday, the next Meeting is
Monday 20th May**

Services May 2024

| Services for May "Clap your hands together, all you peoples; O sing to God with shouts of Joy" Psalm 47 | |
|--|--|
| Sunday 5th May Easter 6 | 8am - BCP Holy Communion* <i>Preacher: Ian Reekie</i> 10am – All Age Worship <i>Psalm 98 --- Acts 10:44-48 --- John 15:9-17</i> <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i> 6pm - Evensong <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i> |
| Thursday 9th May | 7pm - Ascension Service <i>Daniel 7:9-14 -- Acts 1:1-11 -- Luke 24:44-53</i> <i>Preacher : Rev'd Paul Mundy</i> |
| Sunday 12th May 7th after Easter | BCP Holy Communion* <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i> 10am – Holy Communion <i>Ezekiel 36:24-28 -- Acts 1:15-17,21-26 -- John17:6-19</i> <i>Preacher: Fr Martin Morgan</i> 6pm - Worship 2 <i>Leader: Mandy Stockwell</i> |
| Sunday 19th May Pentecost Sunday | 8am - BCP Holy Communion* <i>Preacher: Ian Reekie</i> 10am Family Communion and Baptism <i>Ezekiel 37:1-14 -- Acts 2:1-21-- John 15:26-27,16:4b-15</i> Owls Club <i>Preacher: Rev'd Paul Mundy</i> |
| Sunday 26th May Trinity Sunday | BCP Holy Communion* <i>Preacher Fr Martin Morgan</i> Morning Worship <i>Isaiah 6:1-8 -- Romans 8 :12-17 -- John 3 :1-17</i> <i>Preacher : Reader Jeremy Burdett</i> |
| * Denotes standard Year B Lectionary Readings Prayer Meeting for Church Service Every Sunday 9.30 - 9.45 Barn Centre | |

Coming up



When: The 1st Sunday of the month
Time: 10-11am
Ages: All ages welcome
Where: Barn Centre, St Mary's Church, Newick

**Sing, have fun and
make friends**

Call: 01825 724006
Email: churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church
Web: stmarysnewicks.church/youthchoir



NYC/NCT GET HYPED



FABULOUS FUN COMING UP AT NYC/NCT 6.30 - 8.00

- 17th Apr – UV Bingo
- 24th Apr – Quiz night
- 1st May –Escape room/Games in Church
- 8th May – hunger games in the woods
- 15th May - Colour party
- 5th June – Car Wash
- 12th Jun – Water rounders
- 19 June – Combat Archery
- 26th Jun – Capture the Flag
- 3rd Jul –Skate Park session Swap
- 10th Jul - Welcome year 6's Swap
- 17th Jul – BBQ in the park + parents



Opera Gala Evening

Join us for an unforgettable evening with performers from Glyndebourne Opera, English National Opera and the Royal Opera House

Four professional opera singers and their accompanist perform a variety of popular operatic repertoire at

Sunday 12th May 2024, 7.30pm
St. Leonard's Church, Seaford BN25 1HG

Tickets are £15.00 per person. Reservations advised.
For ticket reservations call **Charlotte Wicks** on **07966 621229** or email intergenopera@gmail.com
Payment by cash or cheques on the night.

Proceeds are in aid of Dementia UK and Intergenerational Opera, a project which brings together primary school children with older people in the community through creative music making.

More details of Intergenerational opera can be found at
www.intergenerationalopera.com



Last call for anyone wishing to contribute to the 2025 exhibition at this stage...!!

A message from:

The Reverend Vanessa Baron - Canon Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral

2025 is a special year. It will mark 950 years since this Cathedral moved from Selsey to Chichester. It will also be the Diocesan Year of Faith, as it will be 1700 years since the Council of Nicea, one of the key defining moments in the Christian faith. Throughout 2025 we will be celebrating our faith, both in the Cathedral and across the Diocese. (There will be more detailed publicity about this later in the Spring and we look forward to sharing this with you).

The Cathedral needs your help. We are planning an exhibition in the Cathedral from February – November 2025 and we would like you, the parishes of the Diocese, to help us tell the story of our faith – what it means to us and why it matters.

We have four questions for you.

- 1) As you think back over the last 950 years of the Christian faith in the Diocese of Chichester, do you have any particular heroes or heroines? Who are they and why do they matter to you? (If your church is an Anglo-Saxon one, you can think back to the arrival of St Wilfrid in 681!)
- 2) Is there anyone or anything commemorated in your church that is unusual or that you find interesting? Who or what is it? How does it speak to you of the Christian faith? (For example, you may have a Bible donated in memory of someone who died in battle. You may have a memorial or tombstone to someone who did something memorable.)
- 3) Do you have any Christian memorabilia in your house or church? (For example, a pocket Gospel handed to a soldier on the beach at Dunkirk or a medieval pilgrim badge. Perhaps you have a cookery book in which someone has written prayers or a child's sampler with verses from Scripture.)
- 4) What makes an exhibition interesting for you? What would it need to include to make you visit the Cathedral?

Finally, if any church has any Medieval manuscripts or missals; if there are any Tudor or Stuart Bibles out there, please would you let us know.

The Revd Vanessa Baron, Canon Treasurer of Chichester Cathedral

Action:

If you would like to contribute to this exhibition - please let us know by emailing churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church. Anything sent must be with us by **close of business 12th May latest**. We will then collate everything and send it over to Reverend Baron.



A Splendid Tea Party

in aid of The Leprosy Mission

2 - 6pm on Saturday 1 June 2024

Brownbread Horse Rescue Centre,
Brownbread Street, Battle, TN33 9NX

Adults £6 Children £3
(includes tea/coffee and cake)

**Come and enjoy an afternoon of craft stalls, classic cars,
& entertainment from local performers.**



www.leprosymission.org.uk

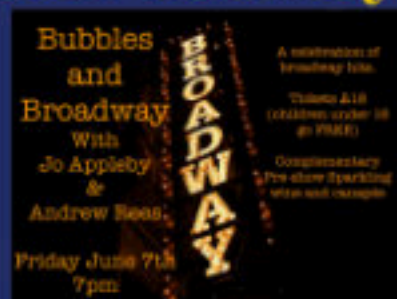


To buy tickets,
scan the QR code
below or call
Wendy Piccinini
on 07701 316470



Summer Concerts

Bubbles & Broadway



Friday 7th June
7-9pm

Tickets £18 (kids go free)
A celebration of Broadway hits with a complimentary glass of fizz and canapés.

Vivace!

Saturday 23rd June
2-3.30pm

Tickets £10 (kids go free)
A choir performing a wide range of music with Pimms, strawberries and cream.



Harmonia Trio



Saturday 3rd August
3.30-4.30pm

Tickets £10 (kids go free)
An acapella trio singing a selection of folk and early music, including cream tea.



Friday June 7th

3pm-7pm

£8 Entry

To book tickets please visit www.stpjhospice.org



Registered Charity Number: 1058114



Plus...

Carefully selected vintage clothes rail

Elizabeth Hunt Sussex watercolours

Michelle Harley pyrography

Parking in the field through the five bar gate.

To book tickets please visit the hospice website

OR pay at the gate on the day.

Parish Dates for your diary!!
(Outside the regular Sunday Services)

REGULARS

Friday Hub - Community Centre 10-12

Prayers for Church - Barn Centre Sundays 9.30-9.45

Prayer Group - Barn Centre 1st and 3rd Mondays of the Month 2pm

St Mary's Youth Choir - Barn Centre first Sunday of the Month 10am

Owls Club - Barn Centre third Sunday of the Month 10am

PLACEHOLDER IN YOUR DIARY

Uckfield Deanery Confirmation Service - Sunday 30th June 5pm St Mary's

If you have any news you would like to share, any photos you would like to display or any stories about St Mary's, Newick or wider afield that you think the readers may enjoy, please do mail us.



churchoffice@stmarysnewicks.church