

Services this week

Trinity: Sunday Cycle Year C

Services/Events are at St Michael's unless stated otherwise

St Michael's open: Monday-Friday 8.30 am - 4 pm

St Mary's open: Tuesday 10 am - 1 pm (not Jan-Feb)

SUNDAY (2)	Mass with Hymns (St Peter)	9 am
ALL SAINTS	Sung Mass	10.30 am

Monday (3)
Richard Hooker Morning Prayer and Rosary 8.45 am

Tuesday (4)
Feria Morning Prayer 8.45 am

Wednesday (5)
Feria Morning Prayer 8.45 am

Thursday (6)
Leonard Morning Prayer 8.45 am
Mass 11 am

Friday (7)
Willibrord Morning Prayer 8.45 am

Saturday (8)
Saints and Martyrs of England Morning Prayer 8.45 am
Mass 12 noon

SUNDAY (9)	Mass with Act of Remembrance	9 am
3 BEFORE	(St Mary)	
ADVENT	Sung Mass	10.30 am
Remembrance	Laying of Wreaths	2.45 pm
Sunday	Service of Remembrance	3 pm

Notices

Christmas Grand Draw launches next Sunday

Tickets for the Christmas Grand Draw are available today. The key to success will be for ALL of us to do all we can to sell as many tickets as possible. You don't have to buy tickets yourself but please take some to sell to family, friends, work colleagues or if you belong to a group/society. Draw takes place during Christmas Tree Festival.

The Boundstone Chorus - Saturday 15 Nov, 7.30 pm

The choir will perform Vivaldi's "Gloria" and Ola Gjeilo's "Sunrise Mass" - a great blend of classic and contemporary choral music. Tickets £10 (U16 £3) from Ian Tout, Aedan Kerney or online at www.theboundstonechorus.co.uk/booking.

Next No-Cook Supper Club meal (note date change)

Friday 21 November at Longshore, Shoreham. Please let Amanda Upfield know by 16 November if you wish to attend.

Fine tuned for health

Come along for a time of reflection and stillness on theme of health and healing led by Canon Michael Hart on Saturday 22 November, 9am - 1pm at St James the Less, Lancing.

Please help with folding the Net

The next edition of our community newsletter, The Net, will be folded on Saturday 22 November from 10am in the Church Hall.

Rooted - a new family event

Winter-themed food and fun on Saturday 22 November, 5.30 - 7 pm. Free but donations welcome. Further details available from Becca Connolly.

Donations requested for the Christmas Tombola

Please donate Christmas themed items (candles, decorations, toiletries, wrapped sweets and any kind of Christmas food). Tombola boxes at both St Michael's and St Peter's. If everyone donates two items we'll have enough.

Christmas card deliveries

We're producing a Christmas card for delivery to homes in the parish including details of Christmas services. We're targeting specific roads so please look at the sign-up sheet and indicate where you can deliver. Cards will be available from early December. All help gratefully received.

Thanks for Ride and Stride sponsors

Totals raised: St Michael's £255 (church gets £127.50), St Peter's £270 (church gets £135), St Mary's £75 (church gets £75). The other 50% goes to the Sussex Historic Churches Trust.

Please send all events in for the Bulletin

All church groups please email stmichaelslancing@gmail.com

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 423

2 November 2025

St Michael and All Angels, Lancing
St Mary the Virgin, Sompting
St Peter the Apostle, Sompting

All Saints



Welcome to our worship today.

9 am Celebrant and Preacher: Canon Michael Hart

10.30 am Celebrant and Preacher: Father Ben Scott

Father Michael is also the celebrant at St James the Less

Alive!, for children aged up to 11, meets today at 10.30 am in the Church Hall.

Refreshments are available after both services

For your prayers...

BIRTHDAYS: Evelyn Hyder, Nevill Colgate, Margaret Burton

SICK OR IN NEED: David Peskett, Olive Leonard, Richard Thompson, Graham Nicholls, Ben Hollins, June Kearsley, Ben Stanton and # Daphne Gaitley # (#= due for renewal)

THE DEPARTED COMMEMORATED THIS WEEK: Harry Tibbles, Gwyneth Tout, John Whiting, Elizabeth Pyne, Ken Ridgway, Robert Birmingham (Priest), Olive McPhee, Karyn Woolnough, Graham Salt, Lynda Long, Joyce Pembroke, Albert Stoneman and Bob Pitcher

PARISH: Bessborough Terrace, Lancing Park, West End Way

THE LAMP BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is sponsored this week for Graham and Jackie Salt RIP

THE LAMP BURNING BY THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY STATUE is sponsored this week for departed priests of the Society of Catholic Priests

Names of the sick are included on the Bulletin for 4 weeks after which they have to be renewed in writing.

Events this week

Full list of services on the back page

Services/Events are at St Michael's unless stated otherwise

Mon: "The Net" (Christmas) printing
Tue: Craft Club 10 am
Wed: Ecumenical Morning Prayer 8 am (St Peter); Social Afternoon 2 pm (St Peter)
Thur: Church cleaning 9.15 am; Mass 11 am
Fri: Mothers' Union meeting 2.30 pm
Sat: Mass 9.30 am; Mini Market 10 am - 12 noon; XYZ
Sun: 3 before Advent (Remembrance Sunday): 9 am Service of Remembrance and Mass (St Mary); Sung Mass 10.30 am; Laying of Wreaths 2.45 pm; Service of Remembrance 3pm

All items for inclusion in next Sunday Bulletin, in writing, to Ian Tout by Wednesday 12 noon. Please send emails to stmichaelslancing@gmail.com

www.chalkspringchurches.org

Calendar

NOVEMBER

Sunday 9	3 before Advent (Remembrance Sunday): 9 am <u>Service of Remembrance and Mass</u> (St Mary); <u>Sung Mass</u> 10.30 am; <u>Laying of Wreaths</u> 2.45 pm; <u>Service of Remembrance</u> 3pm
Thursday 13	<u>Mass</u> 11 am; <u>Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting</u> 7.30 pm
Saturday 15	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am; <u>The Boundstone Chorus Autumn concert</u> 7.30 pm (Rehearsal 2-5 pm)
Sunday 16	2 before Advent: Services at usual times; 9 am (St Peter);
Tuesday 18	<u>Craft Club</u> 10 am; <u>Home Group</u> 7.30 pm
Wednesday 19	<u>Evergreen</u> 2 pm
Thursday 20	<u>Mass</u> 11 am; <u>GSS Requiem Mass</u> 7.30 pm
Friday 21	<u>No Cook Supper Club</u> (Longshore)
Saturday 22	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am; <u>Fine tuned for health</u> - a time of reflection and stillness on theme of health and healing led by Canon Michael Hart, 9am - 1pm (St James the Less); <u>"The Net" (Christmas) folding</u> 10 am; <u>Rooted</u> 5.30 pm
Sunday 23	Christ the King: Services at usual times; <u>"The Net" (Christmas) distribution</u>
Thursday 27	<u>Mass with Anointing</u> 11 am
Friday 28	<u>Memory Lane Cafe</u> 2 pm; <u>Lancing Chamber Orchestra concert</u> 7 pm
Saturday 29	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
Sunday 30	Advent 1: Services at usual times; <u>Morning Worship</u> 9 am (St Peter); <u>Choral Evensong</u> 5 pm (St Mary)

DECEMBER

Tuesday 2	<u>Craft Club</u> 10 am
Wednesday 3	<u>Ecumenical Morning Prayer</u> 8 am (Sompting URC); <u>Setting up for Christmas Tree Festival; Social Afternoon</u> 2 pm (St Peter)
Thursday 4	<u>Church cleaning</u> 9.15 am; <u>Setting up for Christmas Tree Festival; Mass</u> 11 am; <u>Launch event for Christmas Tree Festival</u> 7 pm
Friday 5	<u>St Michael's Feast of Dedication - Clst Anniversary; Christmas Tree Festival</u> 10 am – 4 pm; <u>Mothers' Union meeting</u> 2.30 pm; <u>Setting up for Christmas Fair; Sompting Abbotts Carol Service</u> (St Mary)
Saturday 6	<u>Mass</u> 9 am; <u>Christmas Tree Festival</u> 10 am – 4 pm; <u>Christmas Fair</u> 10 am – 1 pm; <u>Sompting Abbotts Carol Service</u> (St Mary); <u>Concert by Worthing Community Concert Band</u> 5 pm
Sunday 7	Advent 2: Services at usual times; <u>Alive!</u> (Children's group); <u>Christmas Tree Festival</u> 12 noon – 4 pm; <u>Carol Praise</u> 4 pm
Tuesday 9	<u>Home Group Social</u> 7.30 pm
Thursday 11	<u>Standing Committee meeting</u> 7.30 pm
Friday 12	<u>Messy Church</u> 3.15 - 5 pm
Saturday 13	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am; <u>Advent church cleaning</u> 10 am
Sunday 14	Advent 3: Services at usual times;
Wednesday 17	<u>Evergreen</u> 2 pm
Thursday 18	<u>Seaside Primary School Carols</u> 7 pm
Friday 19	<u>Memory Lane Cafe</u> 2 pm
Saturday 20	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am; <u>Christmas Celebration with The Boundstone Chorus</u> 7.30 pm
Sunday 21	Advent 4: Services at usual times; 9 am <u>Mass with Hymns</u> (St Mary)
Wednesday 24	Christmas Eve: <u>Candlelight Crib Service</u> 6 pm; <u>Early 'Midnight' Mass</u> 8 pm (St Peter); <u>Midnight Mass</u> 11.15 pm
Thursday 25	Christmas Day: <u>Mass with Carols</u> 10.30 am
Saturday 27	<u>Mass</u> 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
Sunday 28	The Holy Family: Services at usual times

Curate: Father Ben Scott

07492 930704 chalkspringscurate@outlook.com

Parish Administrator: Heather Crookes

01903 750286 office@chalkspringchurches.org

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Gill Kerney

southlancingandsomptingpso@gmail.com

Fr Ben writes...

As the liturgical year draws to a close, Altar Hangings and Vestments change to Purple as we enter the Holy season of Advent, starting on Sunday 30 November we begin 4 weeks of spiritual preparation; a time of joyful anticipation, reflection, and renewal, inviting us to prepare our hearts for the celebration of Christ's birth and His promised return.

From the Latin 'adventus' meaning "coming," Advent calls us to embrace a spirit of watchful waiting. This season should be marked by activities which seek to deepen our faith and foster hope. Central to this is prayer, perhaps attending a weekday Mass or praying with the Advent wreath, we light one candle each week to symbolise hope, peace, joy, and love. The purple and rose candles reflect the themes of penance and joy.

Daily Scripture readings focus on prophecies of the Messiah and John the Baptist's call to "prepare the way." We are also encouraged to practice penance, such as fasting or almsgiving, to mirror the humility of Christ's coming. Confession during Advent offers a chance to seek forgiveness and start afresh. Sharing Christ's love through works of Charity like donating to the poor or volunteering. These deeds echo the season's call to readiness, reminding us of Christ's teaching that He is present in those in need.

Advent is a countercultural pause in a secular world rushing toward holiday festivities. By embracing simplicity perhaps forgoing excessive decorations or consumerism we are called to focus our hearts on the spiritual.

Keeping a Holy Advent transforms the season into more than a countdown to Christmas. It's an invitation to renew our faith, cultivate hope, and prepare for the coming of Christ, both in the manger and at the end of time.

Let us make room for the King who comes in humility and love.

With my prayers,

Father Ben

Walsingham Festival in Eastbourne

Victor Oliver

On 4 October several members of St Michael's took the train to Eastbourne to attend the Our Lady of Walsingham Festival at St Saviour's – a Grade II listed Victorian Gothic Revival church, renowned as a masterpiece of the Oxford Movement era, designed by George Edmund Street.

The day began at 10:30am with a Sung Eucharist, presided over by Bishop Will Hazlewood and with the sermon preached by Fr Philip Barnes, Master of the College of Guardians at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.

The day included informal talks by Giles Carpenter (Diocesan Director of Vocations) and Gregory Moore (Officer for Lay Ministry and Training), a light lunch, and an opportunity to participate in healing ministries.

Our Lady of Walsingham is a shrine in North Norfolk that commemorates the Annunciation where the Virgin Mary is said to have appeared to wealthy noblewoman Richeldis de Faverches in 1061 and asked her to build a replica of the Holy House of Nazareth in which Christ was raised. It is a major site of pilgrimage in England, symbolising the joy of the Incarnation and the role of Mary as the mother of Jesus. Pilgrims come to Walsingham to reflect on the life of Jesus and the Virgin Mary, and to find spiritual renewal.

There's still time to join our annual pilgrimage to Walsingham in 2026. Contact Amanda Upfield. For full board, transport and meals, the cost is just £380. There may be additional optional costs for visits and gift-buying.

During the Eastbourne service Fr Ben Scott took part in the sprinkling ritual. Gregory Moore reported that approximately 40% of the Church's stipendiary (paid) clergy are expected to retire over the next decade. Fortunately, Fr Ben is too young to retire.

Afterwards we repaired to a Wetherspoons where I discovered you can order a meal on an app that gets delivered to your table within five minutes. One lives and learns.

The Champagne Murder Church Play

Victor Olliver

Yes, I did it. I was the killer. And if you didn't attend our church play The Champagne Murder, you won't know what I am talking about. So, let's start again.

St Michael's Angelic Players put together the play based on a video game with (I hear) the help of AI. All the characters were based on Sixties celebs like Mick Jagger or Oliver Reed. The ghastly Lord Michael Jagged (played by no one because he was dead) died of a poison in his bubbly. Might his girlfriend Tamara Fara-Bucktooth (Margaret Burton) have dunnit? Or the slightly camp society photographer Terence Shrimp (Rebecca Dalley)?

All members of the cast were suspects – including my character Brian Sewer, a famously obnoxious wine critic on a London newspaper owned by Jagged. Apparently, I was the obvious choice to play this monster.

Sewer was the main suspect because he had already learned how to put poison in champagne. But that was too easy – plainly a red herring to fool the audience. Except he was the killer. Only three of the 30-odd audience members correctly identified me as the homicidal maniac. Plainly my acting skills have been overlooked by Hollywood.

Fr Ben, despite some initial resistance to being in the play at all, rose to the occasion as East End gangster 'Champagne' Charlie Bunson with the help of a tincture or two of gin. Matthew Ayling cross-dressed into a Barbara Windsor-type character. Attempts by his daughter Beth to affix glittery acrylic fingernails came to nothing after he popped off to the loo and accidentally flushed them down the pan.

I did say to his face that he was the least credible woman I ever did see, though Fr Ben seemed to enjoy his vertical embraces with Matthew's bimbo Babs Crayfish.

Many thanks to all who made the show possible, including Katie Ayling who brought some sanity to the dress rehearsal. Amanda Upfield wore tap shoes though she did not tap dance, and Edwina Weekes excelled as a Twiggy-lookalike in a peculiar monochromatic mod outfit that looked faintly illegal.

As ever, some improvisation saved the show, and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

Christmas Tree Festival update

Ian Tout

We now have twenty-four trees sponsored and ready to be decorated. We had twenty-five overall last time so we could be on for a record this year!

Prizes are also being collected for the Christmas Grand Draw which launches on the first Sunday of November. Please do what you can to sell tickets when they come your way.

We do need festival stewards to help out during the festival to welcome visitors, sell draw tickets and collect donations. You'll also be responsible for getting people to vote for their Top 10 Christmas Carols. The results will be totalled together and on Sunday afternoon we'll discover what the Top 10 carols are as we sing them.

Late on Saturday afternoon we'll have a concert by Worthing Community Concert Band.

If you have a link with a local group and you think they would like to be part of the Festival, please let me know (stmichaelslancing@gmail.com / 01903 762793) so I can make contact with all of the details.

Please also pray for the Christmas Tree Festival, its outreach and what could happen as a result of it.

If you would like to find out more about sponsoring a tree please speak to me or email stmichaelslancing@gmail.com.

The Christmas Tree Festival has the potential to be a great weekend, welcoming lots of people and raising much-needed funds for the mission and ministry of our church. Please do what you can to support it.

Who's Who

Assistant Curate: Father Ben Scott

Honorary Assistant Priests: Canon Michael Hart
Father Gerald Kirsch

Churchwardens: Becca Connolly, Anne Gisby

Deputy Churchwardens: Mike Tristram (St Mary)
Ian Tout (St Peter)

Assistant to Churchwardens: Cathy Allen

Parish Administrator: Heather Crookes

PCC Secretary: Katie Ayling

PCC Treasurer: Ian Tout

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Gill Kerney

For hall booking enquiries contact Heather Crookes

For all bulletin entries contact stmichaelslancing@gmail.com

New Archdeacon to visit

The Venerable Dr Tom Carpenter, the new Archdeacon of Chichester will visit St Michael's to celebrate the Mass and preach on Sunday 30 November.

Archdeacon Tom studied theology in Oxford and trained for ordination at the College of the Resurrection, Mirfield. He was a curate in his home diocese of Sheffield. Prior to becoming archdeacon he was Parish Priest of Holy Trinity and St Luke's Southport. It was here where he faced the outpouring of grief and violence that followed the murder of three young girls at their dance class.

He was also Rural Dean of North Meols, taking responsibility for supporting his neighbours as the Diocese of Liverpool addressed the serious challenges of finance and mission that face large parts of the Church of England.

Archdeacon Tom is married to Judith, who is also ordained and works for the Church Army. Together they have a six-month old baby son, Joseph.

What is 'Wrap Up'?

'Wrap Up' is a project run by various Rotary Clubs around the country.

Its sole aim is to provide coats, that go directly to people across the UK, who struggle to keep warm during the winter months. Coats are distributed via homeless shelters, refugee centres, organisations supporting the elderly, women's refuges, children's centres and other charities helping people in crisis.

The Worthing Rotary clubs are participating with "Wrap Up Worthing". From Monday 3 to Sunday 16 November, Worthing Leisure Centre will be a drop-off point for donations of winter coats and warm clothing to help homeless and vulnerable people in our community stay warm through the cold winter months.

Margaret Burton has agreed to collect coats and deliver to the leisure centre. If you have a coat you would like to donate, please pass it to Margaret.

Shop online to raise funds

You can now support all of our churches via easyfundraising who have over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation which doesn't cost you a penny extra!

Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ and add **stpeterssompington/** (St Peter), **stmichaelallangelsppcc/** (St Michael) or **stmaryssompington/** (St Mary) to sign up.

Download the Donation reminder that will prompt you to support the church every time you shop