Services this week

Ordinary Time: Sunday Cycle Year A

Services/Events are at St Michael's unless stated otherwise
St Michael's open: Monday-Friday 9 am - 4 pm
St Mary's open: Tuesday 10 am - 1 pm (March-December)

SUNDAY (8) **3 BEFORE** **ADVENT** Remembrance Sunday	Act of Remembrance and Mass with Hymns (St Mary) Sung Mass Laying of Wreaths Service of Remembrance	 9 am 10.30 am 2.45 pm 3pm
Monday (9) Margery Kempe	Morning Prayer and Rosary	9 am
Tuesday (10) Leo the Great	Morning Prayer	9 am
Wednesday (11) Martin	Morning Prayer	9 am
Thursday (12) Feria	Morning Prayer Mass	9 am 11 am
Friday (13) Charles Simeon	Morning Prayer	9 am
Saturday (14) Samuel Seabury	Morning Prayer Mass	9 am 9.30 am
SUNDAY (15) **2 BEFORE ADVENT**	Mass with Hymns (St Peter) Sung Mass	9 am 10.30 am

Notices

Response forms

It isn't too late to return your Giving Response form. Information packs and copies of the presentation are still available.

Christmas Grand Draw

The key to success will be for ALL of us 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 at the Christmas Fair on 5 Dec. Tickets available from Amanda Upfield.

All welcome to Evergreen

Wednesday 18 November 2pm - "An Afternoon with Mystic Ernie". £2pp to include refreshments.

Please help with folding The Net

The next edition of our community newsletter will be folded on Saturday 21 November from 10 am in the Church Hall. Help is needed with getting this delivered. Routes can be split if helpful.

The True Story of Good King Wenceslas – Sat 21 Nov

Doors open 7pm, play starts 7.30pm. Tickets £10 per adult / £5 per child including supper (bring your own drink). Tickets available from Amanda Upfield (until Sunday 15 November).

Farewell to Fr Ben - Sunday 22 November

There will be refreshments at St Michael's following the 10.30 am Sung Mass. No Mass at St Peter's.

Please pray as Jac approaches his confirmation

Jac Demmery will be amongst those to be confirmed by the Bishop of Lewes on Wednesday 25 November, 7pm at Chichester Cathedral. Please pray for him and support at the service if you can.

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 available from early December.

Donations requested for the Christmas Tombola

Please donate Christmas themed items (candles, decorations, toiletries, wrapped sweets and any kind of Christmas food). If everyone donates two items we'll have enough.

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

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 476 8 November 2026

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

Third Sunday before Advent



Welcome to our worship today.
9 am Celebrant and Preacher: Father Gerald Kirsch
10.30 am Celebrant and Preacher: Canon Michael Hart

Father Gerald is the celebrant at St James the Less

Refreshments are available after both services.

For your prayers…

BIRTHDAYS: Susan Walpole, Robert Rudwick

SICK OR IN NEED: Ben Hollins, Keith Parkinson, Fr Tony Davies, Olive Leonard, Richard Thompson, Brian Morley, Julie Laraway, # Daphne Gaitley, Laurette Gaitley, Mark Gilbert and Rena Gaitley # (#= due for renewal)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Joan Goddard

THE DEPARTED COMMEMORATED THIS WEEK: Albert Stoneman, Bob Pitcher, Michael Warr, Dorothy Bishop, Bobbie Peters and John Tibbs (Priest)

PARISH: Living Hope Ministries

THE LAMP BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is sponsored this week for Susan Walpole's 70th birthday

*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

Sun: **3 before Advent/Remembrance Sunday**: Laying of Wreaths 2.45 pm; Service of Remembrance 3 pm
Thur: Mass 11 am; Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting 7.30 pm
Fri: Play rehearsal 7.30pm
Sat: Mass 9.30 am; Mini Market 10 am - 12 noon
Sun: **2 before Advent**: Mass with Hymns 9 am (St Peter), Sung Mass 10.30 am

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 8	**3 before Advent (Remembrance Sunday)**: Services at usual times; 9 am (St Mary); Laying of Wreaths 2.45 pm; Service of Remembrance 3 pm
Thursday 12	Mass 11 am; Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting 7.30 pm
Friday 13	Play rehearsal 7.30pm
Saturday 14	Mass 9.30 am; Mini Market 10 am - 12 noon
Sunday 15	**2 before Advent**: Services at usual times; 9 am (St Peter)
Tuesday 17	Craft Club 10 am
Wednesday 18	Evergreen 2 pm
Thursday 19	Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary Requiem Mass 7.30 pm
Saturday 21	Mass 9.30 am; "The Net" (Christmas) folding 10 am; The True Story of Good King Wenceslas 7 pm
Sunday 22	**Christ the King**: Services at usual times; "The Net" (Christmas) distribution
Thursday 26	Mass with Anointing 11 am
Friday 27	Memory Lane Cafe 2 pm; Lancing Chamber Orchestra concert 7 pm; XYZ
Saturday 28	Mass 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
Sunday 29	**Advent 1**: Services at usual times; Morning Worship 9 am (St Peter); Choral Evensong 5 pm (St Mary)

DECEMBER

Tuesday 1	Craft Club 10 am
Wednesday 2	Ecumenical Morning Prayer 8 am (St Peter); Social Afternoon 2 pm (St Peter)
Thursday 3	Church cleaning 9.15 am; Mass 11 am;
Friday 4	Mothers' Union meeting 2.30 pm; Setting up for Christmas Fair
Saturday 5	**St Michael's Feast of Dedication (CII)**; Mass 9 am; Christmas Fair 10 am – 1 pm
Sunday 6	**Advent 2**: Services at usual times; Alive! (Children's group);
Thursday 10	Holy Hour 10am; Mass 11am; Standing Committee meeting 7.30 pm
Friday 11	Messy Church 3.15 - 5 pm
Saturday 12	Mass 9.30 am; Advent church cleaning 10 am; Saturday Afternoon Pictures 2.30 pm (St Peter); La Nativite Du Seigneur – organ recital 7.30 pm
Sunday 13	**Advent 3**: Services at usual times;
Monday 14	Gwen's Christmas Open House 10 am - 5 pm (49 Sompting Road)
Tuesday 15	Drumconner Carols 2pm, Globe Primary Academy Carols 5pm
Wednesday 16	Evergreen 2 pm, Globe Primary Academy Carols 5pm
Thursday 17	Seaside Primary School Carols 7 pm
Friday 18	Memory Lane Cafe 2 pm
Saturday 19	Mass 9.30 am; Christmas Celebration with The Boundstone Chorus 7.30 pm
Sunday 20	**Advent 4:** Services at usual times; 9 am (St Mary)
Thursday 24	**Christmas Eve**: Candlelight Crib Service 5.30 pm; Early 'Midnight' Mass 8 pm (St Peter); Midnight Mass 11.15 pm
Friday 25	**Christmas Day**: Mass with Carols 10.30 am
Sunday 27	**The Holy Family**: Services at usual times
Thursday 31	Mass with Anointing 11 am

JANUARY 2027

Friday 1	**The Naming of Jesus**: Mass 10 am
Sunday 3	**Epiphany**: Services at usual times
Monday 4	"The Net" (Spring) deadline
Tuesday 5	Craft Club 10 am
Wednesday 6	Ecumenical Morning Prayer 8 am (Methodist)
Thursday 7	Church cleaning 9.30 am; Mass 11 am
Friday 8	Mothers' Union social 12.30 pm
Saturday 9	Mass 9.30 am; Mini Market 10 am - 12 noon
Sunday 10	**Baptism of Christ**: Services at usual times
Thursday 14	Mass 11 am; Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting 7.30 pm

Fr Ben writes...

November is a month shaped by remembrance, the Church invites us to remember those who have gone before us, those whose lives have been lost in war, and those who continue to suffer. Yet Christian remembrance is never simply a looking backwards. It is held within the hope that, in Christ, neither love nor life is ultimately lost.

At All Saints' Day, we celebrate the great saints whose faith has inspired generations, but also the quieter holiness of countless ordinary Christians whose names are known only to God. We belong to a communion that reaches beyond the visible Church, and we are sustained by the prayers and example of that great company. We are not alone in our journey of faith.

All Souls' Day brings remembrance closer to home, as we commend our departed loved ones to God's mercy. Loss, grief, bereavement are deeply personal, as unique as the lives we hold in our hearts, and there is no single timetable for mourning. Our Requiem is an expression of both love and hope: we do not forget those who have died but entrust them to the God whose promise is resurrection and whose love is stronger than death.

Remembrance Sunday turns our thoughts towards those who have died in the two World Wars and in subsequent conflicts. The continuing suffering in Ukraine and the Middle East reminds us that war is not merely part of our history. Behind every statistic are human lives, families and communities changed for ever. We pray for those serving in the armed forces, for civilians caught up in violence, for those bringing aid, and for a peace founded on justice, dignity and reconciliation.

These different acts of remembrance belong together. Whether we mourn a loved one, honour the fallen, or pray for those suffering in present conflicts, we affirm that every human life matters to God. And we do so as people who are themselves remembered: by one another, by the whole company of saints, and above all by Christ.

The month reaches its liturgical culmination on the feast of Christ the King. Here we encounter a King whose glory is revealed not through worldly power, but through humble service and self-giving love. George Herbert's hymn calls him, "King of Glory, King of Peace". His peace is not an easy escape from the world's troubles, but the costly work of reconciliation, made possible through the Cross and Resurrection. The risen Christ bears the wounds of suffering, yet death does not have the final word.

As November gives way to Advent, we are reminded that our lives and our world remain within Christ's loving sovereignty. We do not yet see the fulfilment of God's purposes, but we are invited to travel towards it with hope, sustained by the prayers of the saints and called to share Christ's work of peace.

May Christ, King of Glory and King of Peace, reign ever more fully in our hearts, in his Church and in the world he came to save.

Father Ben

Our Lady of Walsingham Festival

Carol Hatton

On Saturday 17 October 13 of us boarded the "trusty 700" bus to Brighton, not all at once I hasten to add. The other passengers were treated to some very animated conversations along the way. After alighting at Churchill Square we headed to Pret A Manger, as Fr Ben said it was imperative he had coffee and a Pain de Raisin!

We walked down West Street and came to the entrance of St Paul's church. We had to walk along a corridor and it opened out with glass doors to a truly magnificent church with a stunning stained-glass window behind the altar.

The church was packed but we all managed to find a seat. The service started promptly at 11 (surprise) and a procession followed, led by the Bishop of Lewes (The Right Reverend William Hazlewood) who was the celebrant.

Father Ben Eadon, the priest administrator from the Shrine gave the address. He spoke of Mary's long journey to visit her cousin Elisabeth (even though she was pregnant and had to climb

mountains to get there!) because she felt Elisabeth needed her help as she was pregnant too, and getting on in years. It showed how loving Mary was to think of Elisabeth in her time of need.

During the service we had a chance to learn the Rosary, and were each given a rosary to keep, together with a booklet.

Lunch followed, a buffet, which was like feeding the 5000 (without the fish).

After lunch there was a short address by Bishop Will, with an opportunity to ask questions.

Then there was ministry of healing and the sprinkling of water from the well at Walsingham.

Holy Communion was celebrated during the service and the Blessed Sacrament was placed on the Altar and then returned to its tabernacle.

The service ended at 4pm so we walked down to Côte Brasserie for a nice meal, before boarding the bus home. A full-on day that was quite an experience!

Discover The True Story of Good King Wenceslas

Join the Angelic Players on Saturday 21 November for a performance of *The True Story of Good King Wenceslas*. Whether the title brings a familiar carol to mind or simply sparks your curiosity, this is your invitation to see a comedic look at the legends, historical realities and winter folklore surrounding the famous Christmas figure of Good King Wenceslas.

Doors open 7pm, play starts 7.30pm. Tickets £10 per adult / £5 per child including supper (bring your own drink). Tickets available from Amanda Upfield (until Sunday 15 November).

Make a date with live theatre and bring someone along to share the experience.

Supporting our parish together

Ian Tout

These are the highlights from Ian's finance presentation. The full text is available for anyone not present to hear it.

Thank you to everyone whose generosity supports worship, community care and the upkeep of our churches. Donations large and small have helped fund work to the church hall roof, St Mary's organ and St Michael's banner. Grants, fundraising and contributions of food and cakes have also supported parish life.

However, our everyday finances face a significant challenge. Three quarters of the way through the year, hall hire and fundraising have each brought in less than half their budgeted income. The loss of a major hirer at St Peter's has also contributed to the shortfall. Our deficit is just over £10,000 and could rise to £25,000 by the end of the year.

There is little scope to reduce essential spending on insurance, repairs, administration and utilities. Our largest expense, Parish Share, supports clergy stipends, training, pensions, housing and diocesan services. Paying our agreed contribution remains important during the vacancy: pooled resources sustain ministry across the diocese and demonstrate our commitment to a viable parish.

Our reserves can help meet the immediate gap, but they cannot resolve our reliance on uncertain income. Hall hire and fundraising account for 30% of our budget (£45,000). A more dependable balance is needed to sustain our shared mission.

Everyone is therefore invited to review their financial giving and make a fresh commitment. The reason for giving matters more than the method: together, we support the welcome, worship and community that we value.

Further information is available together with a response form. Our aim is to welcome a new priest who can concentrate on growing the church's mission in South Lancing and Sompting and not have to be concerned about our finances.

The Net

The Christmas edition of *The Net* will be folded and bundled on Saturday 21 November.

We really need volunteers to come forward and help with delivering this time please. Routes can be split if it would be helpful. This is a major missional tool for us in getting news and events about the parish getting into 2000 homes in South Lancing. Please help if you can.

"It's about time...."

Fr Michael Hart

I wonder if you say that: "It's about time to do something or visit someone.

For those seeking to live with the many commitments it is important to put everything into perspective: especially how we spend time.

To stop, to wait, to ponder helps correct our misuse of time and find deeper meaning. It has been said "The meaning is in the waiting": for to wait for the right time, the right moment to speak or do something.

At St Michael's we are having a Holy Hour on Thursday 10 December that offers the opportunity to stop, wait and ponder in the presence of Jesus in the Holy Sacrament.

You will find this a time of silence and stillness interspersed with short prayers and readings to help us. The hour begins at 10am ending at 11am; though you may wish to stay on for 11am Mass.

The meaning is in the waiting - one hour - if you have the time!

Messiaen's Christmas Masterpiece comes to Lancing

Experience one of the great landmarks of twentieth-century organ music when acclaimed organist Benjamin Chewter performs Olivier Messiaen's *La Nativité du Seigneur* at St Michael's on Saturday 12 December at 7.30 pm.

Composed in 1935, *La Nativité du Seigneur* is a cycle of nine vivid meditations on the Nativity. Its music ranges from hushed, luminous stillness to thrilling bursts of colour and power, drawing on birdsong, plainsong and Messiaen's unmistakable harmonies. Heard in the resonant space of St Michael's, the work promises an absorbing journey through wonder, joy and mystery.

Whether you already know Messiaen's music or are discovering it for the first time, this atmospheric performance offers a memorable way to begin the Christmas season. Come and hear the church's organ brought to life in a work of extraordinary imagination.

Tickets: £10 available from Aedan Kerney, contact 01903 762793, email stmichaelslancing@gmail.com or buy online at www.chalkspringchurches.org/coming-soon.

This is a fantastic way to start your Christmas and could also be a great fundraising opportunity for the church. Please encourage other people to attend.

Buy from Leprosy Mission to help church

20% from purchases go to your church. Take a brochure or look at www.theleprosymissionshop.com, note down the items you want to order including the 5-digit code and pass them to Ian Tout with your payment.

Intercessions board

Please use the intercessions board for prayers for the sick, departed, those in need or for thanksgivings. Requests are prayed for weekly on Thursdays at Morning Prayer and the monthly Healing Mass. Requests for inclusion on the Sunday Bulletin should be emailed to stmichaelslancing@gmail.com. Names are included for 4 weeks after which they have to be renewed in writing/by email.