

# Services this week

Ordinary Time: 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)

<b>SUNDAY (16) 2 BEFORE ADVENT</b>	Mass with Hymns (St Peter) Sung Mass	9 am 10.30 am
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Monday (17)  
Hugh Morning Prayer and Rosary 8.45 am

Tuesday (18)  
Elizabeth Morning Prayer 8.45 am

Wednesday (19)  
Hilda Morning Prayer 8.45 am  
Funeral *David Ould RIP* 11 am

Thursday (20)  
Edmund Morning Prayer 8.45 am  
Mass 11 am

Friday (21)  
Feria Morning Prayer 8.45 am

Saturday (22)  
Cecilia Morning Prayer 8.45 am  
Mass 9.30 am

<b>SUNDAY (23) CHRIST THE KING</b>	Mass with Hymns (St Peter) Sung Mass	9 am 10.30 am
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## Notices

### Have a tea on Amanda

Amanda Upfield has sponsored the tea and coffee at St Michael's today in thanks for continuing friendship.

### Organ tuning at St Michael's

This will take place on Friday (21 November) from 10 am for around two hours. The organ-tuner will need complete silence in the church to do his job properly.

### Please help with folding the Net

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

### Funeral of Graham Nicholls

Graham's funeral will take place on Tuesday 25 November, 2 pm at St Michael's.

### Archdeacon of Chichester to visit

Archdeacon Tom Carpenter will be the celebrant and preacher on Advent Sunday (30 November) at St Michael's.

### Advent Sunday (30 November) in Sompting

9 am Morning Worship at St Peter's. Choral Evensong 5 pm at St Mary's with guest preacher Venerable Chris Skilton, former Archdeacon of Croydon. Both followed by refreshments.

### Help publicise Christmas Tree Festival

Please take posters and flyers about the Christmas Tree Festival events to display wherever you can.

### Christmas Grand Draw

Please do what you 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.

### 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.

### Christmas card deliveries

More help is required to deliver Christmas cards (including details of Christmas services) to homes in the parish. We're targeting specific roads so look at the sign-up sheet and indicate where you can deliver. Cards available from early December.

### 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.

All items for inclusion in next Sunday Bulletin, in writing, to Ian Tout by Wednesday 12 noon.

Please send emails to [stmichaelslancing@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelslancing@gmail.com)

# SUNDAY BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 425

16 November 2025

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

## Second Sunday before Advent

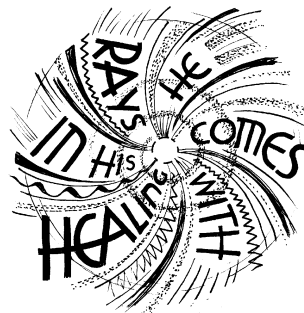
Welcome to our  
worship today.

9 am Celebrant and Preacher:  
Father Gerald Kirsch

10.30 am Celebrant and  
Preacher: Father Ben Scott

*Father Michael Maine is  
the celebrant at  
St James the Less*

Refreshments are available  
after both services



## For your prayers...

**BIRTHDAYS:** John Kinyua, Destiny Atiti, Maggie Mayor

**SICK OR IN NEED:** Susan Walpole, Daphne Gaitley, Laurette Gaitley, Mark Gilbert, Rena Gaitley, Olive Leonard, Richard Thompson, # David Peskett and Ben Hollins # (#= due for renewal)

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Richard Main, Pam Wise, Audrey Fyles, Graham Nicholls and David Ould

**THE DEPARTED COMMEMORATED THIS WEEK:** Reg Poulson, Vera Sheldon, Paul Upfield, Gladys Williams, Julia Marks and Anthony Jeffery

**PARISH:** Chartwell Road, Blenheim Road, Spencer Road

**THE LAMP BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** is sponsored this week for Paul Upfield RIP

**THE LAMP BURNING BY THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY STATUE** is sponsored this week Robert Coulstock RIP

## Events this week

*Full list of services on the back page*

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

- Tues: Craft Club 10 am; Home Group 7.30 pm  
Wed: Funeral 11 am *David Ould RIP*; Evergreen 2 pm: display of war-related items and everyday experiences of the '40s, '50s and 60s  
Thur: Mass 11 am; GSS Requiem Mass 7.30 pm  
Fri: Organ tuning 10 am; Supper Club (Longshore)  
Sat: Mass 9.30 am; Fine tuned for health - a time of reflection and stillness on theme of health and healing led by Canon Michael Hart, 9am - 1pm (St James the Less); "The Net" (Christmas) folding 10 am; Rooted - a new family event of winter-themed food and fun 5.30 - 7 pm  
Sun: Christ the King: 9 am Said Mass with Hymns (St Peter); Sung Mass 10.30 am; "The Net" (Christmas) distribution

Curate: Father Ben Scott

07492 930704 [chalkspringscurate@outlook.com](mailto:chalkspringscurate@outlook.com)

Parish Administrator: Heather Crookes

01903 750286 [office@chalkspringchurches.org](mailto:office@chalkspringchurches.org)

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Gill Kerney

[southlancingandsomptingpso@gmail.com](mailto:southlancingandsomptingpso@gmail.com)

[www.chalkspringchurches.org](http://www.chalkspringchurches.org)

## Calendar

### NOVEMBER

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

### DECEMBER

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

Curate: Father Ben Scott

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/) and add **stpeterssompting/** (St Peter), **stmichaelallangelsppc/** (St Michael) or **stmaryssompting/** (St Mary) to sign up.

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