

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 (17) THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	Sung Mass Choral Evensong (St Mary)	10.30 am 5 pm
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Monday (18) Feria	Morning Prayer and Rosary	8.45 am
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Tuesday (19) Feria	Morning Prayer	8.45 am
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Wednesday (20) Bernard	Morning Prayer	8.45 am
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Thursday (21) Feria	Morning Prayer Mass	8.45 am 11 am
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Friday (22) Feria	Morning Prayer	8.45 am
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Saturday (23) Feria	Morning Prayer Mass	8.45 am 9.30 am
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SUNDAY (24) BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE	Mass with Hymns (St Peter) Sung Mass	9 am 10.30 am
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Notices

Last chance to sponsor Dave

This is your last chance to sponsor Dave Wren who will be having a Short Back and Sides haircut and a Close Shave at Harv's Barbers today to raise money for The Children's Society, Turning Tides and DePaul UK.

No Memory Lane Café in August

The next meeting will be on Friday 26 September.

Church hall of games

Jonny Woodbridge will lead a gameshow evening on Saturday 6 September, 7.30pm in St Michael's Church Hall. Free but please sign up on list at back of St Michael's or contact Amanda Upfield (07787 369640). Bring your own drinks. Nibbles provided.

Support our riders and striders

Please consider sponsoring Kathy Goldstraw or Jonny Woodbridge who are raising money for St Michael's by walking around Sussex churches, Katie Ayling who is raising money for St Peter's by cycling around local Churches or Judy Excell who is raising money for St Mary's by being sponsored to be at St Mary's Church for the day. You can also donate online via Just Giving <https://www.justgiving.com/page/katieaylingstpeters>

No cooking supper club

Saturday 13 September - Prithi Raj at 7.30pm. Contact Amanda Upfield (07787 369640) if you would like to go. Deadline for names Sunday 7 September.

Herbal tea, chat and other activities

Evergreen's next get-together is on Wednesday 20 August, 2 pm in St Michael's Church Hall. Marian Gates will talk about herbal teas and its benefits. She will be bringing lots of different teas to try. There will also be a chance to play board games, do a jigsaw or just chat with friends. All good fun! £2pp to include refreshments. All welcome.

Cotillion folk band return to St Mary's

A year of folk music, song and verse from Candlemas to Wassail with Cotillion on Saturday 6 September, 2.30 pm. Admission free - retiring collection.

Two opportunities to sponsor a candle - only £5

New sheets are now available to sponsor the candle by the Blessed Sacrament or the candle by the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary - for a special prayer request, for a cause / charity / society, in memory of a loved one, or to mark an important date. The sheets cover dates up until January 2026.

Curate: Father Ben Scott
M: 07492 930704
E: chalkspringscurate@outlook.com

Parish Office
T: 01903 750286
E: office@chalkspringchurches.org

SUNDAY BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 413

17 August 2025

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

The Blessed Virgin Mary



Welcome to our worship today.

10.30am Celebrant and Preacher: Father Ben Scott

Father Michael Maine is the celebrant at St James the Less

**5 pm Officiant: Canon Michael Hart,
Preacher: Bishop Nicholas Reade**

Refreshments are available after both services

For your prayers...

BIRTHDAYS: Tim Weeks, Vytautas Kavaliauskis

SICK OR IN NEED: Daphne Gaitley, Olive Leonard, Richard Thompson, Laurette Gaitley, Mark Gilbert, Rena Gaitley, Julie Laraway, Brenda Wyatt, # Graham Nicholls and Michelle Edwards # (#= due for renewal)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Brian Fellowes

THE DEPARTED COMMEMORATED THIS WEEK: Arthur Hogan (Priest), Gwladys Heavens, Reg Picknell, Jean Heard, Cherry Gill and Jon Burton

PARISH: Busticle Lane, Steepdown Road, Valley Road

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 (Autumn) deadline
Tues: Craft Club 10 am; Home Group Social 7.30 pm
Wed: Evergreen 2 pm Marian Gates on herbal teas, plus board games, jigsaws and chat
Thur: Mass 11 am
Fri: Funeral Brian Fellowes RIP 1pm (St Mary)
Sat: Mass 9.30 am
Sun: Bartholomew the Apostle: Mass 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

AUGUST

Sunday 10 **Trinity 8:** Services at usual times
 Thursday 14 Gardening at St Michael's 9.30 am
 Sunday 17 **Blessed Virgin Mary:** Services at usual times (St Michael's); **Evensong** 5 pm (St Mary) - Preacher: Bishop Nicholas Reade
 Monday 18 **The Net** (Autumn) deadline
 Tuesday 19 **Craft Club** 10 am; **Home Group Social** 7.30 pm
 Wednesday 20 Evergreen 2 pm
 Friday 22 Funeral Brian Fellowes RIP 1pm (St Mary)
 Sunday 24 **Bartholomew the Apostle:** Services at usual times
 Thursday 28 Mass with Anointing 11 am
 Saturday 30 Mass 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
 Sunday 31 **Trinity 11:** Services at usual times; **Morning Worship** 9 am (St Peter)

SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 2 **Craft Club** 10 am
 Wednesday 3 **Ecumenical Morning Prayer** 8 am (Holy Family); **Social Afternoon** 2 pm (St Peter)
 Thursday 4 **Church cleaning** 9.15 am; Mass 11 am
 Friday 5 **Mothers' Union Meeting** 2.30 pm
 Saturday 6 Mass 9.30 am; "A Sussex Calendar" by Cotillion (St Mary) 2.30 pm; **Social / Quiz** 7 pm
 Sunday 7 **Harvest Thanksgiving:** Services at usual times; **Alive!** (Children's group)
 Monday 8 "The Net" (Autumn) printing
 Thursday 11 Mass 11 am; Parochial Church Council (PCC) Meeting 7.30 pm
 Friday 12 **Heritage Open Day** 10 am - 4 pm (St Mary)
 Saturday 13 Mass 9.30 am; SHCT Sponsored Ride and Stride; **Mini Market** 10 am - 12 noon; **Heritage Open Day** 10 am - 4 pm (St Mary)
 Sunday 14 **Holy Cross Day:** Services at usual times; **Baptism of Elliot Scott**
 Tuesday 16 **Heritage Open Day** 10 am - 4 pm (St Mary) **Craft Club** 10 am; **Home Group** 7.30 pm
 Wednesday 17 Evergreen 2 pm; XYZ
 Thursday 18 **Heritage Open Day** 10 am - 4 pm (St Mary)
 Mass 11 am; **GSS Mass** 7.30 pm (St John the Divine, Worthing)
 Friday 19 **Heritage Open Day** 10 am - 4 pm (St Mary)
 Saturday 20 Mass 9.30 am; "The Net" (Autumn) folding 10 am; Rise
 Sunday 21 **St Matthew:** 9 am (St Mary); "The Net" (Autumn) distribution; **Evening Worship** 6.30 pm (St Peter)
 Thursday 25 Mass with Anointing 11 am; **Deanery Synod meeting** 7.30 pm
 Friday 26 **Memory Lane Cafe** 2 pm
 Saturday 27 Mass 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
 Sunday 28 **St Michael and All Angels:** Sung Mass followed by Michaelmas Lunch 12 noon.
 Preacher – Bishop Christopher Morgan

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1 **Ecumenical Morning Prayer** 8 am (St James the Less); **Social Afternoon** 2 pm (St Peter)
 Thursday 2 **Church cleaning** 9.15 am; Mass 11 am
 Friday 3 **Mothers' Union meeting** 2.30 pm
 Sunday 5 **Trinity 16:** Services at usual times; **Alive!** (Children's group); **Baptism of Reggie King**
 Monday 6 "The Net" (Christmas) deadline
 Tuesday 7 **Craft Club** 10 am
 Thursday 9 Mass 11 am; **Standing Committee meeting** 7.30 pm
 Saturday 11 Mass 9.30 am; **Mini Market** 10 am - 12 noon
 Sunday 12 **Trinity 17:** Services at usual times; **Time to Remember** 3 pm
 Home Group 7.30 pm
 Tuesday 14 Evergreen 2 pm
 Wednesday 15 Mass 11 am; **Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary**
 Thursday 16 Mass 7.30 pm (St Mary)
 Friday 17 **Messy Church** 3.15 – 5 pm
 Saturday 18 Mass 9.30 am; **Play** 7 pm
 Sunday 19 **Trinity 18:** Services at usual times; 9 am (St Mary)

Fr Ben writes...

On August 15th the Church celebrates the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This great feast invites us to reflect deeply on Mary's unique role in our Salvation history and her glorious entry into heaven, body and soul, as a sign of hope for all believers. The Assumption, proclaims that Mary, at the end of her earthly life, was taken up into heaven to be with her Son, Jesus Christ. This belief rooted in centuries of tradition and theological reflection, emphasises Mary's unique grace as the Mother of God, preserved from original sin and filled with divine favour.

This feast is not merely a historical or theological event; it is a celebration of God's promise to humanity. Mary's Assumption points to the destiny that awaits all who follow Christ: the resurrection of the body and eternal life with God. Her journey from earth to heaven reminds us that our lives, too, are oriented toward eternity. As we honour Mary, we are called to imitate her total "yes" to God's will - with trust and humility.

We shall celebrate this great Feast with Mass at St Michael's on the morning of Sunday 17th and Evensong at St Mary's at 5pm. Whether through attending Mass, reciting the Rosary (Mondays after Morning prayer) or reflecting on Mary's life, we can draw closer to her example of faith, obedience, and love. Let us consider how Mary inspires us to live lives of hope, knowing that God's grace sustains us through every trial and leads us toward our heavenly home.

May we echo Mary's Magnificat: "proclaiming the greatness of the Lord who lifts up the lowly and fulfils His promises." Let us ask for the intercession of Mary to guide us in faith, so that, like her, we may one day share in the glory of heaven.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

With my prayers,

Father Ben

Prosecco corks popping at St Peter's

Pam Pashley

The end of June proved to be a rather bubbly time at St Peter's.

On Sunday 22 June, we marked Fr Felix's last day with prosecco and lovely strawberry and cream cakes. It made a bit of a 'send off' for him before the official barbecue.

The following Sunday, 29 June, we had Bishop Martin with us to celebrate the 60th birthday of our church, dedicated to St Peter the Holy Apostle. It was on the same day, 29 June 1965, that the foundation stone was laid.

In his sermon Bishop Martin told us about St Peter's Basilica in Rome, and how that had been a "new" church built over existing ruins in the 16th century - a bit before our St Peter's!

Margaret, the most long-standing member of the congregation was asked to cut the large, delicious chocolate cake, and prosecco was dispensed.

We toasted St Peter's, the congregation and anything else we could think of.

Bishop Martin told some of us that his first church as a curate was called St Peter's. It was in Plymouth, at the end of Union Street, which was the notorious Red Light district! I'm sure he'd only had one glass of prosecco!!

What a happy morning we all had, celebrating our church.

Back to normal the following Sunday. The usual friendliness and fellowship, even without intoxicants.

Nice cup of tea, anybody?

Blessing the Boats

Victor Oliver

On Sunday 13 July, about one-hundred people – not including passersby who stopped and stared – attended our annual Blessing the Boats service on Lancing's Beach Green. Father Ben Scott, Assistant Curate, led the service, with Father Jake Pass as guest preacher. Among other things, Fr Jake is Chaplain of the Royal Navy Reserve as well as Team Vicar of Christ Church, Waltham Cross in the Diocese of St Albans.

The Blessing the Boats service at Lancing, organised by St Michael and All Angels Church for over 30 years, celebrates the historic fishing community while embracing modern sea-based leisure. Held annually at Beach Green, the service includes hymns, prayers, and holy water blessings for boats and equipment, ensuring safety. It traces back to biblical times, honouring Jesus' fishermen disciples.

The hymns were accompanied by Lancing Brass conducted by 'Mr Music' himself, Aedan Kerney. Ian Tout reported in SussexWorld that items blessed included "boats from 3rd/5th Lancing Sea Scouts, a kayak from Matthew Ayling, fishing rods from Andrew Parkinson and Steve Gates, and two children's body boards...The boat permanently moored on Lancing's seafront and used as a flower display was also blessed."

The event did not pass without incident. As one of the boats was disassembled at the end, the mast fell, just missing Fr Jake who jumped out of the way in the nick of time. No wonder he later told me that the service was "memorable". But he greatly enjoyed the event.

Afterwards some of us walked up to St Michael's Hall for cream teas.

Choral Evensong at St Mary's

Aedan Kerney

On Sunday 17 August, our unique St Mary's Singers performing Lauridsen's "O magnum mysterium", Brahms' "How lovely is thy dwelling" and Stanford's "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis" in B flat. The Church's Patronal Festival celebrating a thousand years at the heart of the community. The congregation joining in prayers and three well-known hymns. A time of stillness and reflection. The Service followed by drinks and Morris-dancing.

Do: bring a cushion and sit in the north aisle with the best view of the choir and slightly bigger seats than in the nave. Bring a friend and/or family so that you can discuss the best bits on the way home. Try to get to the church a new way (on foot, through Sompting Village, via Steyning and over the Bostal Road). Find out a couple of new facts about this amazing church in our parish.

Don't: turn away from this opportunity. Limit your vision by ignoring this chance to experience God's glory through word and song.

Above all: "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth." – Psalm 96:1

And: Oh, by the way, it starts at 5pm

Putting mission on the MAP

At the beginning of May, members of the Parochial Church Council met at Church House Hove to review our current Mission Action Plan (MAP) and discuss what could be included in a new one. The day was led by The Reverend Dr Jack Dunn who is both Canon Chancellor at the Cathedral and Parish Development Officer for the diocese.

The three sections of our MAP are Church Growth, Reimagining Ministry and Contributing to the Common Good.

Each section was made up of three group and every member of the PCC was on at least one group (some of us were on several!).

With the knowledge of our impending Vacancy and because we're a busy parish, Fr Jack suggested we needed to do less because there would extra work to take on with Fr Felix's departure and also because a new priest would want to start new things and there needed to be space for this to happen.

Our new MAP has the same three sections but now only two groups in each. This has enabled the groups to be slightly larger to share the workload more. So under **Church Growth** we have Children, Young People and Families (this includes Alive Messy Church Rise Schools' ministry Uniformed organisations) and Welcome and Social (this includes all adult church groups and pastoral care). Under **Reimagining Ministry** we have Buildings / Fabric (covering the maintenance needs and missional opportunities of our buildings), and **Resourcing: Vocation and Finance** (looking at our resourcing needs and covering teaching, training and spiritual growth), and under **Contributing to the Common Good** we have Mission (encompassing Local, International, Eco Church, Foodbank and Fairtrade), and Communication (both internal and external, covering the website, the Net etc). Communications is also something for each group to consider how we communicate our work to the wider parish and how we pick up what is happening that we could be part of, plus discerning what further communications needs there are.

Each group has a designated group leader who will facilitate their meetings and the groups may decide to coopt non-PCC members if additional skills are needed (look out!). Each group will meet at least three times each year and report back to the PCC which meets six times.

Please pray regularly for the members of the PCC and that we will be led by the Holy Spirit in discerning what we need to do (and sometimes to stop doing) in our parish to further the mission and ministry of the Church.

Not Christmas already?!

Ian Tout

In February this year, according to our work planner I had to mention to Bishop Martin that we needed to start the planning for this year's Christmas card. It was clear from his reaction, despite having approved the work planner, that he thought February too early to be planning for Christmas.

Now we're in August and in the parish my thoughts are, perhaps belatedly, turning to our third Christmas Tree Festival which will be held at St Michael's from Friday 5 - Sunday 7 December with the grand 'switching on' on Thursday evening.

Each year we've staged the festival it has grown in popularity and in the number of trees, and what it raises for the mission and ministry of St Michael's. It would be great to see all that happen again this year. One successful element in 2023 was that trees were sponsored so that groups who might not necessarily have the money to sponsor a tree could take part and show their creativity. This enabled several of our schools to take part at a time when education budgets are severely stretched.

Please can you ask yourself "what can I do to help the Christmas Tree Festival?". Are you part of a group who could sponsor and decorate a tree? Would you like to personally sponsor a tree for £30 and donate it to be decorated by a local school or other organisation? What else could you do to ensure people know about the Festival and attend it? Please also pray for growth in all forms mentioned above 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.

By the way, we still haven't started planning the Bishop's Christmas card!