

Services this week

Trinity: 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 (20) TRINITY 16	Mass with Hymns (St Mary)	9 am
	Sung Mass	10.30 am
Monday (21) Matthew	Morning Prayer and Rosary	9 am
Tuesday (22) Feria	Morning Prayer	9 am
Wednesday (23) Feria	Morning Prayer	9 am
Thursday (24) Feria	Morning Prayer Mass	9 am 11 am
Friday (25) Lancelot Andrewes	Morning Prayer	9 am
Saturday (26) Wilson Carile	Morning Prayer Mass	9 am 9.30 am

SUNDAY (27) ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS	Mass with Hymns (St Peter)	9 am
	Sung Mass	10.30 am

Notices

Fr Ben's new appointment

Congratulation to Fr Ben on his appointment as Vicar of St Peter's Church, West Bromwich. Further details including a licensing date will be announced soon.

Net delivering

Thanks to everyone who helped to fold *The Net*. If you can help with delivering an unnamed bundle please take it to deliver.

Michaelmas celebrations next Sunday

Guest preacher for St Michael's Patronal Festival will be The Venerable Philip Jones. The service will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch. Sign up list available for what you can bring.

Autumn Sale at St Peter's

Saturday 3 October, 10 am – 12 noon for spring-flowering plants, bottle tombola, coffee/tea and cake. All welcome. Please donate bottles for the tombola and take posters to display.

Season of Creation Celebration

Saturday 3 October 3.30pm at Holy Family Church. Music and readings reflecting on God's goodness in His Creation and particularly the Water of Life, followed by refreshments.

Cakes needed for Time to Remember

Our annual service for bereaved people and families takes place on Sunday 11 October at 3 pm followed by tea and cake. Offers of cake to Sandy Tout (01903 762288).

Ladies invited to tea

Open invitation from Lancing Methodist Ladies Cameo club for ladies to attend their Anniversary Tea on Monday 26 October at 2 pm. Please let Sandy Tout know if you would like to attend.

Walsingham pilgrimage 2027

2027 Walsingham Pilgrimage: Monday 23 to Friday 27 August. Price will be around £475 (increase due to adding an extra day). If you would like to come see Amanda Upfield for more details.

Abseil for Kenya centre on 26 September

Peter Scofield (trustee) and Aaron Bell (volunteer) will abseil the Portsmouth Spinnaker Tower to raise funds for St Nicholas Children's Centre, Nakuru, Kenya (former parish charity of the year). To sponsor them go to <https://www.goodhub.com/go/friends-of-st-nicholas-childrens-centre-nakuru-kenya-fosn-211118>

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SUNDAY BULLETIN

Bulletin No. 469

20 September 2026

St Michael and All Angels, Lancing

St Mary the Virgin, Sompting

St Peter the Apostle, Sompting

Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity



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

Father Ben Scott is the celebrant in the
Parish of Mile Oak and Portslade today

Refreshments are available after both services.

For your prayers...

SICK OR IN NEED: Daphne Gaitley, Laurette Gaitley, Mark Gilbert, Rena Gaitley, Ben Hollins, Olive Leonard, Richard Thompson, Joan Goddard and # Julie Laraway # (#= due for renewal)

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Colin Edkins

THE DEPARTED COMMEMORATED THIS WEEK: Mary Kershaw and Ernest Brown (Priest)

PARISH: Organists and church choirs

THE LAMP BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT is sponsored this week for Shirley Coulstock RIP

THE LAMP BURNING BY THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY STATUE is sponsored this week for Susan and Patrick's 25th wedding anniversary

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

Tue: Mothers' Union 150th Anniversary Choral Evensong preceded by refreshments at the Bishop's Palace (Chichester Cathedral) – details from Sandy Tout

Thur: Mass with Anointing 11 am

Fri: Memory Lane Cafe 2 pm

Sat: Mass 9.30 am – Walsingham Cell members requested to attend

Sun: St Michael and All Angels: Mass 9 am (St Peter); Sung Mass 10.30 am followed by Michaelmas Lunch 12 noon. Preacher – The Venerable Philip Jones

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

SEPTEMBER

Sunday 13 Harvest Thanksgiving: Services at usual times
 Tuesday 15 Craft Club 10 am
 Wednesday 16 Evergreen 2 pm
 Thursday 17 Mass 11 am; Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary
Mass 7.30 pm
 Saturday 19 Mass 9.30 am; "The Net" (Autumn) folding
 10 am; Music Quiz 7 pm
 Sunday 20 Trinity 16: 9 am (St Mary) celebrating Harvest;
"The Net" (Autumn) distribution;
 Thursday 24 Mass with Anointing 11 am
 Friday 25 Memory Lane Cafe 2 pm
 Saturday 26 Mass 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
 Sunday 27 St Michael and All Angels: Sung Mass
 followed by Michaelmas Lunch 12 noon.
 Preacher – The Venerable Philip Jones

OCTOBER

Thursday 1 Church cleaning 9.15 am; Mass 11 am
 Friday 2 Mothers' Union meeting 2.30 pm
 Saturday 3 Mass 9.30 am; Autumn Sale 10 -12 (St Peter);
Blessing of Marriage of Ibeeth Fatima Valencia
Revatta and Luke Saint 1pm
 Sunday 4 Trinity 18: Services at usual times; Alive!
 (Children's group)
 Monday 5 "The Net" (Christmas) deadline
 Tuesday 6 Craft Club 10 am
 Wednesday 7 Ecumenical Morning Prayer 8 am (Holy Family);
Social Afternoon 2 pm (St Peter)
 Thursday 8 Mass 11 am; Standing Committee meeting
 7.30 pm
 Friday 9 Play rehearsal 7.30pm
 Saturday 10 Mass 9.30 am; Mini Market 10 am - 12 noon;
Chalk Spring Supper Club
 Sunday 11 Trinity 19: Services at usual times; Time to
Remember 3 pm
 Wednesday 14 Evergreen 2 pm
 Friday 16 Messy Church 3.15 – 5 pm; Play rehearsal
 7.30pm
 Saturday 17 Mass 9.30 am; Walsingham Festival 11-4pm
 (St Paul, Brighton)
"Zimbe! Come sing the songs of Africa" by The
 Boundstone Chorus 7.30 pm (Rehearsal 2-5 pm,
 hall booked from 12 noon)
 Sunday 18 Luke the Evangelist: Services at usual times;
 9 am (St Mary)
 Tuesday 20 Craft Club 10 am
 Thursday 22 Mass with Anointing 11 am
 Friday 23 Memory Lane Cafe 2 pm; Play rehearsal
 7.30pm
 Saturday 24 Mass 9.30 am (Walsingham Cell)
 Sunday 25 Bible Sunday: Services at usual times
 Friday 30 Play rehearsal 7.30pm
 Saturday 31 Mass 9.30 am; Saturday Afternoon Pictures
 2.30 pm (St Peter)

NOVEMBER

Sunday 1 All Saints' Sunday: Services at usual times;
 Alive! (Children's group)
 Monday 2 All Souls Day: time of services to be confirmed;
"The Net" (Christmas) printing
 Tuesday 3 Craft Club 10 am
 Wednesday 4 Ecumenical Morning Prayer 8 am (St James the
 Less); Social Afternoon 2 pm (St Peter)
 Thursday 5 Church cleaning 9.15 am; Mass 11 am
 Friday 6 Mothers' Union meeting 2.30 pm; Play rehearsal
 7.30pm
 Saturday 7 Mass 9.30 am; Rooted 5.30-7pm
 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

Fr Ben writes...

We begin September by honouring the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on 8 September. Mary's birth is a quiet yet momentous event — the dawn of our salvation. In the hidden life of a young girl in Nazareth, God prepared the way for the Incarnation. Her nativity reminds us that holiness often begins in the ordinary and the unnoticed. May we, like Mary, offer our lives to God with humble openness, trusting that He can bring forth great fruit from small and faithful beginnings.

On 14 September we celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. The Cross, once an instrument of shame, has become for us the tree of life and the throne of glory. In a world that often measures success by comfort and achievement, the Cross proclaims a different wisdom: that true love is sacrificial, and that victory is found through self-giving.

This feast holds particular significance for those of us priests who belong to the Society of the Holy Cross (SSC). Founded in the nineteenth century, the Society seeks to uphold Catholic faith and practice, and to support its members in living a disciplined priestly life centred on the Cross of Christ. On Holy Cross Day its members renew their commitment to the Cross as the pattern of their ministry. May all of us clergy and lay ask for the courage to embrace our own daily crosses with patience, hope, and love.

On 21 September, we keep the feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist. Matthew, the tax collector, was sitting at his customs post when Jesus simply said, "Follow me." He rose and left everything behind. His story is a powerful reminder that no one is beyond the reach of Christ's call. Whatever our past or present circumstances, the Lord continues to invite us into deeper discipleship. May St Matthew inspire us to respond generously whenever we hear that same voice in our lives.

Finally, at the end of the month, we celebrate the Patronal Festival of St Michael and All Angels on 29 September (transferred to 27 September). St Michael the Archangel, whose name means "Who is like God?", stands as a mighty defender of God's people against the powers of darkness. Together with the whole company of angels, he reminds us that we are never alone in our spiritual journey. As we honour our heavenly patrons, let us renew our trust in God's protection and ask St Michael to defend us in the battles of daily life — seen and unseen. We shall welcome Father Philip Jones (former Archdeacon of Hastings) to preach at the 10.30am Parish Mass which is followed by a bring and share lunch.

These September feasts encourage us to begin again, to take up our cross, to follow Christ more closely. I am deeply thankful for all the ways you continue to build up our parish community through prayer, service, and faithful presence.

May St Michael and all the angels pray for us and may the Cross of Christ be our strength and our joy.

Father Ben

Heritage Open Days at St Mary's

Judy Excell

In addition to the events already outlined there are a couple of updates with additional events as part of our Heritage Open Days at St Mary's.

On Saturday at 11.30 am there will be a short talk on Monastic sign language in the Chancel. This may be repeated on Sunday at 12.15 pm but hasn't been confirmed yet.

On both Saturday and Sunday at 3 pm / 3.15 pm the Lord's Prayer will be prayed in Old English and Latin so visitors get a sense of the language and sounds of the early church.

The planned tour at 2.30 pm on Saturday has been cancelled. Other tours on Saturday 10:30 and 12:30; Sunday 11:30 and 14:30 will go ahead as planned.

There will also be guided tours 10:30, 12:30, 14:30 every day from Tuesday 15 – Saturday 19 September and 11:30 and 14:30 on Sunday 20 September.

Supper Club

Katie Ayling

On August 15th, about 20 of us headed to the Perch on Lancing beach for the latest Chalk Spring supper club. We enjoyed the view over the beach and the buzzing atmosphere as we tucked into our freshly made pizzas and salads. Drinks and conversation flowed well, alongside the usual laughter and merriment. Why not join us for the next supper club on 10th October at Tosca in Shoreham?

Saturday Afternoon Pictures

Carole Godfrey

St Peter's began filling up with people from just after 2 pm. There were lots of new faces amongst the audience plus many of our regulars, it was lovely to see the hall packed with so many people.

The usual refreshments were on offer as well as a selection of delicious cakes and cookies, courtesy of Katie, and in the traditional manner we even had popcorn available thanks to Sandy.

We then sat down to watch the feature film, *The Choral*, written by Alan Bennett.

A poignant film exploring the confused feelings of fear and pride of the young men of a Yorkshire village preparing to go to France during the Great War and the effects on those they leave behind. Through the use of a resurrected village choral society, the story focusses on how community and the music of Elgar helps to heal invisible wounds and bring the village back together.

The overall reception of the film was very good and everyone seemed to enjoy the experience and we look forward to our next "Saturday Afternoon Pictures" event (*The Railway Children Return*: Saturday 31 October).

Parish finances

Please don't ignore this article. I've purposefully not put it at the end.

Firstly thank you to everyone who is regularly making a regular financial contribution to support the ministry of the churches in our parish. It is appreciated. However for various reasons our parish finances are not looking very healthy at the moment and each church is currently showing a deficit against the budget set by the Parochial Church Council for the year.

Each church has its own income through giving, fundraising, donations, occasional offices (weddings and funerals) and, as appropriate, hall hire and The Net. Then there is individual expenditure on gas and electricity, insurance, grass cutting, building maintenance and then shared costs on administration, cleaning, upkeep of services (wafers, wine etc), clergy expenses and what is paid to the diocese to cover the priest's stipend, training, housing and support from Church House (£70,549 in 2026).

The church deficits are currently St Michael's £-7022, St Mary £-1407 and St Peter £-3319 due to a combination of not getting enough in from hall hire or from fundraising, or occasional offices. Our weekly / monthly giving is just about on target. This is where we are at the moment but if we don't do something then these deficits will continue to grow.

We do have some time left before the end of the year to rectify this and so we're not forced to use up our limited reserves. If we could all support any forthcoming fundraising events taking place across the parish (eg Mini Markets, Music Quiz: 19 Sept, Autumn Plant Sale: 3 Oct, Saturday Afternoon Pictures: 31 Oct, Play: 21 Nov, Christmas Fair: 5 Dec) or if you have any other bright ideas for fundraising which might bring in money from outside the congregation please speak to Anne Gisby, Gill Kerney or Ian Tout.

Everyone who is part of our church congregations should be making a regular and realistic financial contribution to the mission and ministry of the church which is a commitment beyond putting some money in the plate if you're in church. If you aren't currently doing this either through the Parish Giving Scheme or weekly envelopes then please ask for a form, complete and send it off. If you are currently doing this then please prayerfully consider if you're able to increase it. If everyone does something, then this will have an impact.

Reflections on Walsingham

Carol Hatton

This year will be my fourth time visiting Walsingham. I had always wanted to go there, and a chance meeting with Amanda at a wedding reception gave me the opportunity.

She was telling me about Walsingham and I said I'd love to go, and she immediately said, "come with us!". So I did and I was made so welcome! I shall never forget the first time I saw the beautiful garden of Walsingham, and how startled I was to see the three crosses on the hill. That really was a "moment". So coming to Walsingham for me, will be a wonderful opportunity to take time and reflect, and feel closer to God.

I am also looking forward to spending time with my fellow pilgrims - a motley crew to be fair, with all their funny foibles (you know who you are Mr Wren!).

Well we arrived in good time and soon settled in our rooms and then gathered in the Holy House to bless our time at Walsingham. Just one hiccup - Dave forgot his shower gel so Lorraine kindly dispensed some for him in a washed-out yoghurt pot!

Supper, then sprinkling of Holy Water, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and Healing. After that we gathered in the Norton bar for drinks. A good first day.

On Wednesday morning we walked the Stations of the Cross (around the garden) with readings from the Bible. In the afternoon we visited Cromer, a seaside town, where fish and chips and ice cream were enjoyed!

In the evening we lit candles and followed a statue of Mary being carried round the garden and watched the benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Seeing the shrine lit by candlelight was really beautiful.

On Thursday it had started raining (as we feared). Mass and intercessions were held in the Barn chapel. A very intimate affair as it was such a small space. After the service we set off for Hornsey (with our packed lunches!). We enjoyed a boat ride and some of us partook in fish and chips and yet more ice cream! Gooseberry and elderflower a popular choice.

Friday morning a mass was held in the Shrine and we bid farewell to the Holy House (until next year).

Support abseilers for Kenya centre

On 26 September Peter Scofield (Trustee) and Aaron Bell (volunteer) will be abseiling the Portsmouth Spinnaker Tower as a sponsored event to raise funds to support the children and staff of the St Nicholas Children's Centre, Nakuru, Kenya. Money raised will go to the Friends of St Nicholas (UK registered charity and a former charity of the year in our parish) and wholly and directly benefit the children at the Centre.



If you would like to sponsor these intrepid abseilers please use the link or QR code below:

<https://www.goodhub.com/go/friends-of-st-nicholas-childrens-centre-nakuru-kenya-fosn-211118>

Michaelmas 2025

The guest preacher for St Michael's Patronal Festival this year (Sunday 27 September) will be The Venerable Philip Jones, former Archdeacon of Hastings. Philip was educated at The Leys School, Cambridge and Chichester Theological College. He was a solicitor from 1975 to 1992. He was ordained deacon in 1994, and priest in 1995. After a curacy in Horsham, he was Vicar of Southwater from 1997 to 2005 before being appointed as Archdeacon of Lewes and Hastings. He served in this role until 2014 and, after renaming, as Archdeacon of Hastings from 2014 to 2015. After stepping down from this role he was then Priest-in-Charge of Slindon, Eartham and Madehurst before retirement. The 10.30 am Sung Mass will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch which is being coordinated by Amanda Upfield.