

Weekly services at St Thomas a'Becket

Sunday 8.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
9.45 am Parish Eucharist and Children's Groups
5.00 pm Evening Worship
Tuesday 7.00 pm Eucharist in Church
Each Second Tuesday Healing Service in Church during the Eucharist
Wednesday 10.00 am Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Morning Prayer is at 9.20am Monday – Thursday and Saturday, and at 8.30am each Friday.

We remember those who have died: Elizabeth Dove.

Pagham Luncheon Club: We meet every other Wednesday at St Ninian's Church Hall (next door to the Village Hall) for a 2 course lunch. Why not join us, you will enjoy good company and make lots of new friends. Transport can be provided. Please contact Jean (268818) or Derek (264966) for details.

Pagham Harbour WI meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Pagham Village Small Hall 2-4pm. Please phone 01243 262434 for information.

February 27th Speaker: Neil Murphy
Subject: Pagham Ponies
Competition: A Horse Brass

Wednesday Tots is a friendly welcoming place to bring your babies and toddlers to make friends and have a play. We have lots of great toys to play with and we like to spend time creating or exploring too. If you are looking for something to do with your small people come along and try us out. The Church Centre, opposite Pagham Football Club. Wednesday Afternoons 1.30- 2.45pm.

The Life Centre: A confidential space for survivors of abuse and their supporters to offload. If you are a survivor or wanting help in supporting a survivor you can use our help-lines to talk through any aspect of what you have gone through and how it is affecting you. *text helpline: 07717 989 022*
for adults tel: 0844 847 7879 for under 18s tel: 0808 802 0808

The Vicar, Mark Eminson can be contacted at the Vicarage on 262713

or email eminson.mark@gmail.com

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Good News February 2018

Year of Prayer

February's prayer:

*O Lord, Master of my life, preserve me from the spirit of sloth
and distraction
and the spirit of envy and vain speaking.
Grant instead to me your servant the spirit of purity and
humility
and the spirit of patience and love.
O Lord and King, give me grace to know my own sins
and not to think evil of my brothers
and sisters
for you are blessed for ever and
ever. Amen.*

(A Prayer of St Ephrem for Lent)



YEAR OF PRAYER 2018

The streets we will pray for throughout February:
Beech Close, Bishops Close, Boleyn Drive, Bowling Green Close, Bramble Close, Briar Close, Bridorley Close, Brookland, Brooks End, Buckland Drive, Canterbury Close, Cardinals Drive.

Ash Wednesday services at St Thomas a'Becket:

10am Holy Communion
4pm All-age simple Eucharist
8pm Sung Eucharist

all with Imposition of Ashes

Letter from the Vicar

The new year brings work. We have had the holiday season and the turning of a year means resolutions, new plans and projects and back to work or school. I know some parishioners are retired, but I am sure the memory is still with you and also that being retired doesn't usually mean doing nothing; very far from it! What being retired may mean is being your own boss. Sometimes I think I am my own boss (God excepted), but rightly there are always the needs of others and then there are bishops and the like. Such folk don't always get a great press (rather like politicians and others in authority), but this month my area bishop, the Bishop of Horsham has written a lovely little piece on this Year of Prayer, which I enclose below:

Early in February, the Church remembers Jesus being presented in the Temple. Wise and holy old Simeon utters the words of the Nunc Dimittis, including: to be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of your people, Israel. It is the proclamation that Jesus is not simply for those associated with him, the Israelites, but for everyone else as well, the non-Israelites, the Gentiles. Clergy get used to people casually referring to God and to prayer as 'your department' or 'your business'. 'Have a word with your boss' people joke; 'say one for me.' It is as if people acknowledge prayer as

valuable, even important, but consider it someone else's business. Perhaps there is too much truth in those jokes that imply prayer is for the specialists or professionals rather than everyone else. The 2018 Year of Prayer reminds us that prayer in the name of Jesus, like Jesus himself, is for everyone and not just for those most publicly associated with him. Certainly clergy should pray for their people daily at Morning and Evening Prayer, but they are also bidden to ring the church bell to tell everyone that it is happening. Church bells both announce that people are being prayed for and call them to join in whether in Church or elsewhere. If you cannot hear a church bell, you can set an alarm on your watch or mobile phone creating a regular reminder to pray. There are many opportunities to learn about praying this year, not least in Lent which also begins this month, but let me commend to you the Daily Prayer of the Church, which you can download to your PC, smart-phone or tablet. Just visit your App Store, search for Church of England, download and join in.

With prayers and good wishes,
Mark Horsham

So, sometimes bosses help and support one's own work, but clearly they are not there to get thee and me off the hook! Any of us can reach out to God and make time and space for prayer. And listen out for our bells...

Mark Eminson—Vicar

St. Thomas à Becket—Pastoral Care Team

You are welcome to contact us if you would like a visit. You – or someone you know – might be bereaved, lonely, unwell, housebound or simply welcome a friendly chat. Contact Trudi Kearsley on 263597 or email pastoralcare@paghamchurch.org and a visit will be arranged.

The Mulberries present *The Parlophones* with
The Sixties Never Sounded so Good on Saturday 24 February
at the Pagham Village Hall, Pagham Road, Pagham at 7.30 pm.
Tickets in advance £8-00/children £5-00 on 01243 697593.
Please bring your own food and drink. Proceeds to local charities.
Wheelchair access

FELPHAM & MIDDLETON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Tuesday 27th February at 7.30pm
Planning & Planting for the Year Ahead by Steve Austin
Steve trained at Writtle College and last year talked to us about Beth Chatto's garden.
This time he will be encouraging us to plan and plant for the coming year.
St Mary's Centre, Grassmere Close, Felpham, PO22 7NU
Visitors Most Welcome
Contact Paula Puleston on 01243 584843 or visit fandmhs.co.uk

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ in aid of Chestnut Tree House

Saturday 24th February 2018
St Mary's Centre, Grassmere Close, Felpham PO22 7NU
£10.00 per person to include a *Ploughman's Supper (bring your own drinks)*
6.15pm for 6.45pm
Teams of up to 8 people with Quiz Master Bob May
To book please contact Paula on 01243 584843 or Jenni on 07790375229
In aid of Chestnut Tree House, the only children's hospice for Sussex

Pagham Gardening Friends is your local daytime gardening club, meeting at Pagham Village small hall on the 3rd Monday afternoon, most months. We are a friendly group, enjoying guest speakers and occasional outings, and will make you most welcome, so give Patricia a call 01243263866 for details.
Our event on February 19th: Old Tools

You may like to sponsor an edition of Good News for a significant celebration or in memory of someone who has died. It costs about £50 to produce an issue. Cheques can be made payable to Pagham PCC and sent c/o The Vicarage, 38 Kings Drive, PO21 4PZ.
Many thanks.