

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 9.00am Monday to Thursday, 8.30am Friday, 9.30am Saturday.
Evening Prayer is 5.00pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

We remember those who have died: Jean Thorpe.

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

January 22— *Speaker:* Sally Botwright

Subject: London Curiosities

Competition: Memorabilia of London

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.

Worth Domestic Abuse Advisors

0330 2228181 01903205111 ext 84395 07834 968539 (weekends)

WORTH Services is an Independent Domestic (IDVA) Service here to support people affected by domestic abuse in West Sussex. We are available 7 days a week 09.00-17.00hrs on the telephone numbers above.

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

or email eminson.mark@gmail.com

Church Website: www.paghamchurch.org

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Good News January 2019

Prayer for January

Almighty God, you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest
in you: pour your love into our hearts and draw
us to yourself, and so bring us at last to your
heavenly city where we shall see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

(Collect for the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity; after St Augustine)

The streets we will pray for this month are:

Abbotsbury, A'Becket's Avenue, Apple Grove, Arun Way, Avian Gardens, Barley Close, Barrack Lane, Barons Mead, Bartons Close, Bay Court, Beach Close, Beach Road.

St Thomas a Becket's Men's Group are hosting

BURNS NIGHT

on **Friday 18th January 2019** at 7pm at the **Church Centre**.

Haggis, tatties and neps, dessert/ cheese, shortbread and a couple of tots of malt whiskey. Dress code Tartan or Tweed.

A ticket only event, please put your name on the list in Church or via Stephen on 01243 266800.

Tickets are £15 for adults, £7.50 for children under 15.

Letter from the Vicar

New year greetings, Pagham! I do hope Christmas and holiday have gone well or that if for any reason it was a difficult time, you may have known God's presence. May that be true as well for 2019.

Across the churches of Sussex, including our own, 2019 signals a Year of Vocation. This may not be a frequent word on our lips and we may connect only some people with the word "vocation", such as doctors, lawyers, teachers, priests. However, what the word mostly gets at is that we are all called by God. This may end up being called into a particular way of life, but primarily it is about how we are called, first, into being and, second, into relationship with God and with one another.

When we were discussing all these things at a church council meeting, I presented the assembled with this punchy claim from the seventeenth century: 'Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever' (Westminster Catechism). Not all council members leapt for joy at this, as not all seven thousand souls in Pagham might so leap either! But let me explain. Think about how we as human beings do give glory to all sorts of things and people, whether it be money, power, military victory, celebrities, sports stars. These are more or less deserving, but perhaps it shows we are made to give glory, to

worship. The point about worshipping God first, therefore, is that it puts other things into proper perspective: only the Creator is worthy of worship, but we are also worshipping Him when we thank Him for His creation and see Him in each other.

This has been reinforced for me in the Year of Prayer we have just completed. I am very conscious that without prayer and worship, I can all too easily slip into thinking I am in control and my agency alone is getting things done. When I start with prayer and worship, I realise everything is God's gift, my heart increases in thankfulness, and I am better able to hear God's call amidst the busyness and distractions of life.

I know many of you will pray in all kinds of ways and at various times, so at the start of this Year of Vocation it seems appropriate to continue to offer a prayer through this Good News leaflet. I hope some of you found the monthly prayer last year helpful or thought-provoking: do let me know either way! The one I have chosen this month echoes words of St Augustine and captures nicely that sense of our yearning, wandering hearts and lives and how when they are rooted in God then our direction becomes clearer. May we all know in this Year of Vocation that we are made for God's love and for sharing it with others.

Mark Eminson

This edition of Good News is kindly sponsored by Ann Ashley in memory of her husband Peter Ashley.

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.

Monthly Teapot Café at St Ninian's Church Hall, Pagham Road.

This new enterprise set up by Pagham United Reformed Church, runs on the first Tuesday of the month, between 10 am and 12 noon. We welcome carers, those they care for, and anyone needing company, in a dementia friendly atmosphere.

Tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits are provided free.

The church has a large car park and disabled access.

Pagham Gardening Friends is your local daytime gardening club, meeting at Pagham Village small hall on the 3rd Monday afternoon, most months, from 2.15pm - 3.45pm. We are a friendly group, enjoying guest speakers and occasional outings, and will make you most welcome, so give Brenda a call on 01243 263437 for details.

Polymyalgia Rheumatica and Giant Cell Arteritis support group

We meet monthly on the second Thursday afternoon, from 2.15 - 3.45pm at the Pagham Village Hall's Committee Room, PO21 4NJ.

Contact Patricia on 263866 for more details.

My Sister's House (MSH for short)

We have recently moved to 3-6 Clockwalk, 7-11 High Street, Bognor Regis, PO21 1SG. Telephone number: 01243 697800.

We have started a 'craft room' and require volunteers to come along with your different crafts to help and demonstrate your skills. MSH still have our old premises at 108c London Road and have started a new project there, run by 'Step Forward'. This is a community hub where you can drop in and, for a donation, have a cup of tea or coffee and cake. Volunteers are people who are out of work and wish to get back into working again.