

Parish Magazine

The Parish of Sutton with Seaford

Parish News

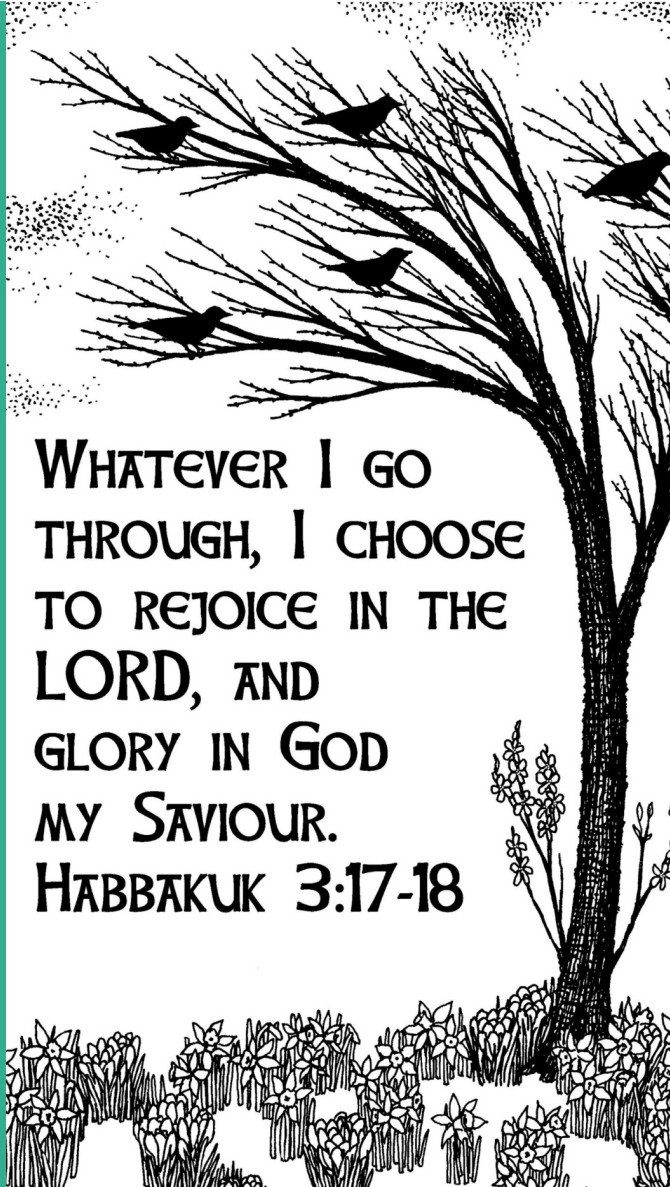
Clergy Letter

Book Reviews

Lunchtime
Concerts

What's On

**DUST +
GLORY**



WHATEVER I GO
THROUGH, I CHOOSE
TO REJOICE IN THE
LORD, AND
GLORY IN GOD
MY SAVIOUR.
HABBAKUK 3:17-18

February-March 2023

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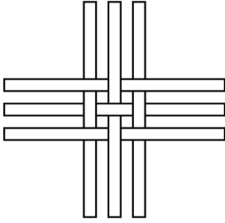
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Parish Magazine

St. Leonard's & St. Luke's Churches

February-March 2023

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Seaford Parish Women's Group

Following an AGM Seaford Parish Women's Group have decided to meet once a month, this will fall on the 3rd Monday of each month. Therefore the next meeting will be on the Monday 20th February starting at 7.30pm and we are delighted to welcome Charlie Grimble to give the group a presentation on Tide Mills. The programme for the next few months is under discussion, however, please make note that the date for the following meeting in March will be Monday 20th. Meetings are currently held in St Luke's starting at 7.30pm, visitors and new comers are always welcome to join. We enjoy fellowship, meeting together and closing our meetings with prayer.



Women's Groups last meeting in 2022 celebrated Hanukkah - festival of lights. They also sang traditional Carols and read Hanukkah poems.

Mothers' Union

Our next meeting will be on Friday 10th February at 2.30pm in St Luke's Church with AGM, 'Bettys memory box' and nibbles. All welcome.

Seaford Parish Men's Meal

Between twenty and thirty men in Seaford meet about every two months for a two course dinner followed by a speaker on a Christian related topic – not a sermon! The meetings start at 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. finishing at 9.0 p.m. They take place in local restaurants. Members come from a variety of backgrounds and conversation is lively. The next meeting is likely to be at the end of March. Details will be published in the Sunday pew sheets. Meanwhile, if you would like to be circulated. with these details please let Keith Carlisle know on 894548 or keithcarlisle@sky.com.

St. Luke's@7

Each month, at St Luke's @7, we will be having some supper together before the service. It will be served at 5:45pm and everyone is most welcome.

The 'menu' will be announced on our Facebook page a week in advance. Please do let us know if you'd like to join us by lunchtime on the day before, via Facebook (St Luke's @ 7); text; email; phone or even face to face! - all details on ChurchSuite - Kate Steer.

So far we've sampled jacket potatoes with cheese (November) the soup/ bread (January). It's been great to have a time of fellowship before worshipping together.

Looking forward to seeing you.

St. Leonard's Choir

We are looking to recruit singers to join St Leonard's Church choir which sings on Sundays at the 9.30am Communion Service and other special services throughout the year. We are a robed four part harmony choir of 15 singers who meet for rehearsal weekly on Thursday evenings from 7.00pm to 8.30/9.00pm in St Leonard's Church. Experience of a church choir is not necessary but it is an advantage to be able to read music. If you think you would like to join and would like more information on what is involved please contact me at either: stlensorganist@seafordparish.org.uk or 01323 893082 or speak to me at coffee after a 9.30am service.

John Baker Organist and Choirmaster.

Parish Lunch

Parish Lunches will be served on Wednesday 1st February and Wednesday 1st March starting at 12.30 in St Luke's. For more details and a ticket for the lunch contact Sue on 01323 480415, or Julia 895073.

Parish Magazine

The copy date for the April-May edition of the Parish Magazine is slightly earlier than usual. Items of news and articles of interest are most welcome and should be sent to magazine@seafordparish.org.uk by Tuesday 28th February. The magazine will be published as usual on Sunday 26th March.

From the registers: Funerals	Sheila Clarke Carol Vale Marlise Waugh Arthur Tidy	Daphne Kingswood Ronald Audus Wendy Simmons William Kneller
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DUST ✦
GLORY

Dust and Glory is the Church of England's Lent campaign for 2023. Offering 40 daily reflections for Lent on faith, failure and forgiveness, it invites you to find God in the mess of everyday life. Each week it considers the idea of failure from a different angle and explores the difference God's redeeming work in Jesus makes to the struggles and shortcomings of human life.

There are two booklets available:

The adult's edition offers daily Bible readings, short reflections, prayers and practical ideas to help you make sense of life's challenges and draw closer to God during Lent.

The child's edition provides an age-appropriate daily challenge to do, learn or think about something. There are also weekly themes, prayers and short Bible readings - all exploring the theme of Dust and Glory.

Failure by Emma Ineson can be read in conjunction with Dust and Glory and is reviewed on page 8.

Links to these can be found at www.seafordparish.org.uk/lent



James Hollingsworth



Welcome to February.

How are your New Years Resolutions going? My advice is not to bother. It's winter, it's cold, we've got colds, we're struggling financially, don't heap pressure and guilt on to yourself. Wait instead for February 22nd which Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent (there are services at 11.00am and 7.00pm in St Leonard's).

You might regard Lent as a challenge, to see if you can give up chocolate, wine or biscuits for 40 days. If you succeed then no doubt you will have strengthened both your own self-discipline muscles and also possibly gained a few bragging rights so that you can say 'Look how amazing I am'. Well done for you. Those of you who fail, well done, that was actually the point. The point of failing at Lent is to remind ourselves of how very much we need God's grace throughout our lives. If we struggle with little aspects of self-discipline, then how much more do we need God's help to deal with our sins. The aim of Lent was to help draw us closer to God in three ways.

Firstly, in prayer, in being aware of the presence of God with you throughout the day, in good times, in tough times. Draw close to God whenever you fall

short and say sorry and know that God hears you and through Jesus restores you. Take a moment each evening to give thanks to God for the blessings that you've seen, to give to God your worries sure in the knowledge that God 'neither slumbers nor sleeps' and will carry them while you rest. And awake each morning with the prayer 'Morning Lord! Where are we going today?' to help you remember that God is with you.

Secondly in almsgiving. This is a direct challenge to our fears about money. God invites us to be generous and so many are going through a tough time. Find a charity and support it. Think of the Food bank, of Mercread Youth Centre, of your Church etc. Money isn't an evil, but St. Paul's first letter to Timothy says that the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil and suggests that that can lead to all sorts of pain that money can't buy you out of. Being generous will help you in so many ways. Its good that before we get to Lent we have St Valentine's Day. We have no idea why a celibate Roman Catholic priest from the 3rd century should be the patron saint of lovers. My favourite story, unsubstantiated, is the idea that from his prison he had prayed for his Jailer and his daughter and sent her a

letter signing it ‘from your Valentine’. Nonsense no doubt but I like it. St. John reminds us that we love because God first loved us (1 Jn 4.19). So receive that divine love and then give it away. The more we try to hoard up love, the less we receive, the more we give it away, the more we love, the more love we receive.

The third discipline of Lent is fasting. Fasting is usually thought of as abstaining from food, perhaps for a meal, perhaps for a day. Lots of Christians have found this a useful discipline over thousands of years. Remember that the aim is not weight loss, the aim is to draw close to God. The aim is to take the time that you would have spent in cooking and eating, in drawing close to God, in prayer, in giving of your time and your money. If you were to fast from a meal

then set aside the monies saved as a gift to God.

Very often certain sorts of people with certain health issues are discouraged from this sort of fasting. So if you do do a food fast then please consider checking that this is okay with you and whatever tablets you might be taking. In which case consider what other sorts of fasts you might make. Some fast from Facebook and let go of their need for Social Media interaction. Ask anyone under thirty and see the pain on their face when you suggest it. It is just so very integral to the way we learn about the world and communicate with each other. Its as difficult as them suggesting you abstain from watching the News each day. It might not be a bad practice to abstain for a short while on so much bad news and negativity for a while. Or try fasting from gossip.

The gates of hell

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has “opened the gates of hell” and unleashed evil around the world.

So said the Archbishop of Canterbury during a recent interview on BBC1’s *Sunday with Laura Kuenssberg*. He told of how, during his recent visit to Ukraine, he had seen the mass grave in Bucha, and heard of the massacres and torture carried out by the occupying Russian forces. The Russians are driven by “an ideology of conquest” he said, their only goal is “getting historic Ukraine back.”

Justin Welby said it was important for Britain to continue to support Ukrainian resistance, and to recognise that “you can’t talk about reconciliation when the guns are firing, because people are just concentrating on whether they’re alive for the next 20 minutes.”

He said how the Ukrainians had told him that ““for us, that word (reconciliation) means surrender, and we’re not going to do that.” There was a way forward, said the Archbishop: “and that’s withdrawal and ceasefire by Russian forces.”

James Hollingsworth

A FAILURE of a Book Review.

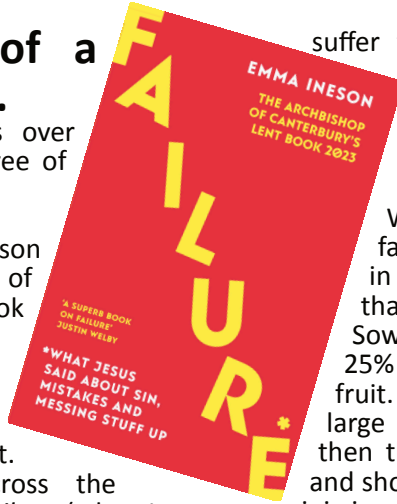
I got lots of books over Christmas. Here's three of them.

Failure by Emma Ineson (The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2023).

This is an excellent book for you to be reading over Lent. Boldly scrawled across the cover is the word *Failure* (what Jesus said about sin, mistakes and messing stuff up). It has 6 chapters so you could read it through Lent, starting on 22nd February, a chapter a week and you'd be done before Palm Sunday.

We have learnt to see failure as unconscionable. We must be winners and yet we know that failure is human, universal, inevitable. So, this is a book about dealing with when there is failure, how will we respond to it? How can we move on from our failures? Thomas Edison is said to have said 'I have not failed 10,000 times, I've successfully found 10,000 ways that will not work'. If we live in a culture that only allows success and cannot brook the risk of failure then how will we learn, grow?

Do you see sin as a poor personal decision, as an addiction, as an illness society corporately suffers from, we

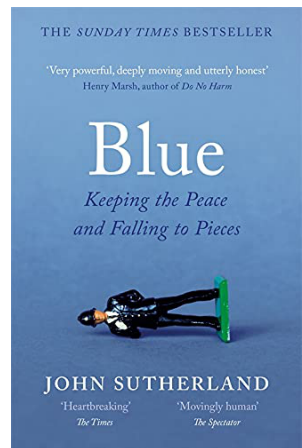


suffer from and contribute to? And how, in a cancel culture world, can we find redemption and forgiveness?

Was Jesus a success or a failure? I find some comfort in Bishop Ineson's reminder that in the parable of the Sower, Jesus expected only 25% of his words to bear real fruit. At one moment he has large crowds following him but then there's no more free food and shortly after they're happy to join in with the chant for his death. What sort of hero dies the death that Jesus died? This is a good book. Buy it.

BLUE, keeping the peace and falling to pieces by John Sutherland.

This is also a good book. Its not a Christian book but it might restore your faith in the police. It's written by a friend of a friend, and hence Lucy felt obliged to get it for me for Christmas. It tells the true story of a young man



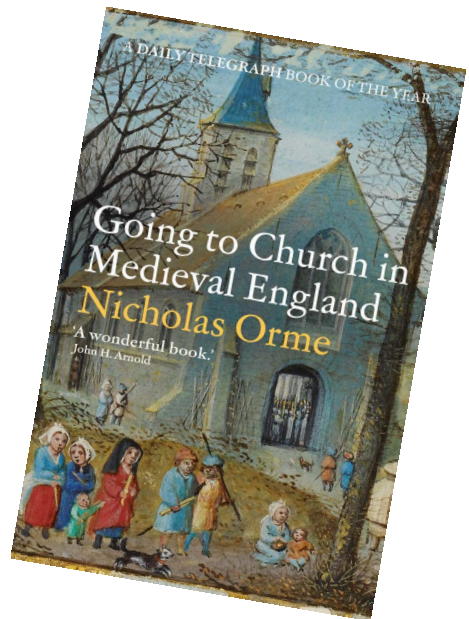


joining the police and doing very well until he burns out. Its very readable, altogether uplifting and oddly written in what scholars call the historic present tense. The Gospel of Mark uses the same idea except the translators feel the need to use the past tense when really Mark wrote the whole thing in the present tense. Jesus walks up a hill. He is transfigured. He walks down the hill. He exorcises someone. It makes for a very vivid reading. And, in *Blue*, there's a tiny glimpse of the author's faith shining through the difficulty of being a police officer. This is a good book. Buy it.

Going to Church in Medieval England by Nicolas Orme.

This is a book I bought and gave it to Lucy to wrap up for me for Christmas. The back cover explains how this is an accessible scholarly work, a phrase that is an obvious oxymoron. I should have seen through that.

It talks of the rise of the Churchwarden, of the danger of wearing swords in church, of a lack of seating resulting in restless wandering around during worship (perhaps even with a hawk on your wrist), of the understanding that the important people get to sit in the front row and the fights that might break out where there might be some dispute about who is more important than who; of genuflecting (pre reformation), and passing the pax-bede around – almost like an icon, to be



kissed, we see its remnant in today's exchanging the peace – the same words are said (Pax tibi, et cum spiritu tuo).

Its not an easy read. I won't be recommending it to my students as there isn't an essay question where this book could really helpfully contribute. If you've got the money for this book, you'd be better off buying a second copy of *Failure* and inviting someone to read it with you over Lent.



Book review

Derreck Lee-Philpot

How to eat bread

by Miranda Threlfall-Holmes

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton.

This delightful book sub-titled '21 nourishing ways to read the Bible' was recommended to me, and on reading it I have no qualms on recommending it to a church-wide readership.

If you are struggling with reading the Bible or finding it just plain boring (we all have at some time) this compact volume (192 pages) gives multiple perspectives on how to read and digest the 'bread of heaven' found within.

As a structure it uses the Anglican Scripture, Tradition, Reason framework to guide the reader through the many courses on offer. She amusingly uses food and cooking imagery to simply describe the three parts of the book.

Part One is entitled 'From the Larder' (Scripture), explaining the ways that scripture itself models and demonstrates different ways of reading, chapters on 'Arguing with God', 'Meditating on the Law', and 'The Devil quotes Scripture'.

Part Two is 'Grandmother's recipe book' (Tradition) showing different ways the Church has interpreted the Bible with chapters on, 'Literal interpretation', 'The inner life', and 'Ignatian imagination'.

Part Three is 'Molecular gastronomy (Reason) and offers the insights and methods of modern theological

thought, where she explores 'Liberation theology', 'Feminist interpretation' and, 'Dramatic theology'.

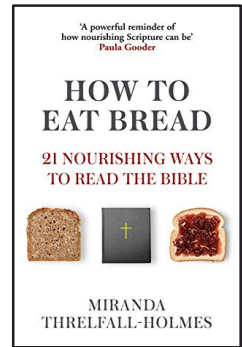
Don't be put off by some of the dense sounding

headings, the reader is led through them in simple language showing how each enables us to see more of the breadth and depth of Scripture. To go along with the food analogy, it is a little like being introduced to seasoning in food, it doesn't change the ingredients but wonderfully enhances the flavour.

In the introduction Miranda explains, "I don't want you to read it purely as an academic or intellectual exercise; I want you to try it out. Experiment. Treat it like a well-loved recipe book, making notes in the margins if you try a substitution that works well for you, or had a culinary disaster. Substitute ingredients or see what happens if you try out a new and experimental combination of two or more of the techniques given here."

This book has reminded me that according to the psalmist, 'You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.' (Psalm 23:5)

Miranda has provided the seasoning. Bon appetite.





Lent is a great time to join a Home Group. David Farey tells us more

David and Pat Farey were announced as our parish's "Home Group Champions" just before Christmas, which simply means that they have taken on the role of encouraging and supporting the home groups which meet in the parish.

What is a home group?

Our churches have a strong sense of fellowship and there is a lot on offer for any who come through the doors, either at St Leonard's or St Luke's. As Christians we need to learn and grow in faith and understanding of Jesus and how we can serve God and others in the world.

Home groups are where we can meet in small groups to learn more about God's word and explore together what it means to be a Christian in the 21st Century. We currently have around ten groups with meetings in the mornings,

afternoons and evenings, some weekly, some twice a month or monthly. Joining a group means you can ask questions and explore the Bible and learn more about how to live as a Christian; and enjoy getting to know one another, supporting and encouraging each other.

Lent

Lent is often seen as a time when extra effort is made to deepen our faith. David and Pat will be working to make our groups more accessible and if you are interested in joining a group then get in touch or speak to James or Derreck and they will pass your details on. We are happy to receive offers from anyone who would like to host a group and want to encourage more groups to form. To explore how you could be involved in a group email David or Pat on homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk.





St. Leonard's & St. Luke's: Reimagining our churches to better serve our community

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) as trustees of the Parish of Sutton with Seaford have recently applied for planning consent to redevelop the site of the old parish hall on Church Lane so that it can be offered for sale with permission granted. We feel it would be useful to explain our situation in the Parish and why we have decided to do this.

The parish hall was closed at the start of Covid as were all our buildings of course. The hall was already in need of significant maintenance, and it deteriorated rapidly. When in use it was losing a substantial sum every year as hiring it out never came close to covering the cost of running it.

The overall parish finances are in a difficult position. Our Church income comes mainly from the 300 or so people on our church electoral roll. This is then used to maintain our two Church buildings, and to fund our two vicars, our outreach in the parish with a youth worker, as well as pastoral care. We simply rely on the generosity of the members of our congregation, fund raising and a few kind legacies from time to time. With less people on the electoral roll and increasing expenses, the parish is losing money every year and the PCC as trustees are duty bound to do something about it as we will run out of money in about three years' time.

The PCC has therefore decided to reimagine the use of all our buildings and consolidate what we have. We have two churches, St. Luke's on Walmer Road and St. Leonard's in the centre of our town as well as the old parish hall.

St. Luke's is a relatively modern building, well insulated and easily heated so ideally suited to hiring out as well as being an intimate space for worship. We have moved the parish office to St. Luke's from the old hall as our administrative centre as well as focusing all of our hiring there.



The planning application for the old hall proposes that the part that was originally a Victorian house is returned to its original use as two town houses and that the flat roofed area alongside is replaced with another town house, these are all very much in keeping with most of the other buildings on Church Lane. The PCC are duty bound as trustees to realise the maximum value on sale and selling with permission

granted is the best way to do this. The monies from this sale will then pay for the proposed work in St. Leonard's Church.

We hope in time with this refurbishment to serve the community more effectively and to become sustainable financially.

St. Leonard's is the oldest building in Seaford. It is a beautiful ancient space for worship. It is a grade 1 listed building so the cost of maintenance is huge. As part of reimagining its use we want it not only to be a centre of faith but also be at the heart of our town serving the community by upgrading its facilities making it more attractive for all to use. This is where the sale of the hall comes in to raise funds to do just that, we want to create proper safe accessible toilet facilities, a kitchen area and a smaller meeting space in the side chapel that can easily be heated.

A photograph of a bride and groom walking down a church aisle, holding hands. The bride is wearing a white wedding dress and the groom is wearing a dark suit.

**We love holding
weddings in our
churches**

www.seafordparish.org.uk/life-events/

THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



2023 Season in St. Leonard's Church

2023 will be the sixteenth series of Lunchtime Concerts at St Leonard's Church. The Concerts remain free and self supporting by the donations given at the end of each concert by our generous audience, to whom we are deeply grateful.

All concerts begin at 1.00pm.



Saturday 18th February

Adam Repa (piano)

Adam gave his debut performance at Chopin's birthplace, Żelazowa Wola, aged ten. He has since performed throughout Poland and the UK, winning the Cambridge Competitive Music Festival in 2011 and playing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No.3 at West Road Concert Hall. Competition success continued in 2015, when Adam was declared the Winner of The Mrs

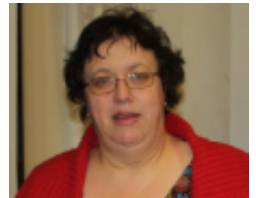
Sunderland Music Festival in Huddersfield. Adam completed an MA in Piano Performance at The Royal Academy of Music in 2019, where he studied with Professor Sulamita Aronovsky.

Saturday 18th March

**Phil Hopkins (classical chromatical harmonica)
and Rosemary Kemp (piano)**

In a thirty eight year career as a professional musician playing percussion and/or harmonica, Phil has played for more than 120 London theatre productions spanning over 4500 performances across the West End, Royal National Theatre, Shakespeare's Globe and Royal Shakespeare Company. Phil has toured the USA many times with various artists including performances at Carnegie Hall, New York's Lincoln Center and Symphony Hall, Boston. Phil has recorded for films such as Iris, Anonymous, The Merchant of Venice and Dance of the Steel Bars, as well as many TV productions including Only Fools and Horses, Wolf Hall and Allo Allo,

A former scholarship pupil and prize winner at the Royal College of Music London, she has performed and taught piano, harpsichord and electronic keyboard professionally.





Saturday 15th April
Gerard Brooks (organ)

Saturday 20th May
Charlotte Wicks (mezzo soprano)

Saturday 17th June
Larisa Trio
(violin, cello & piano)



Saturday 15th July
Sam Lewis (trumpet) &
Adam Repa (piano)



Saturday 19th August
D'Arcy Trinkwon (organ)

Saturday 16th September
Hammig String Quartet

Saturday 21st October
Julia Kemp (soprano) and
Rosemary Kemp (piano)

Saturday 18th November
Clare Beesley (historical flute) &
Peter Churchill (piano accordion)



We have been having a fantastic time at all of our groups since my last report back, of course learning about Christmas and why God became human and came to earth.

Over Christmas we had around 500-600 visits to the family friendly services, I says visits as some were the same people. This is based on Christmas Magic Messy Church, Messy Christingle, Messy Crib, Nativity Service and The Meeting Place Christmas Day service. We had all been kept very busy, but it was brilliant to see so many people!

For the first time in a good few years we also had a brilliant success in The Wellington Hotel with Beer and Carols, where we had around 70 people come and join us out in the community, some of those were people who we would not have otherwise been able to make contact with!

In 2023, we do need to keep focused on the groups we have whilst also looking to new groups too. Currently we are

not in the position to expand what we do, due to the lack of volunteers available to support new groups. One major group I feel we should be looking at as a must is breakfast club or after school club in St. Luke's Church serving the local children of all ages. This would take a lot of commitment but would be so worth while as a way of outreach.

The youth group are really enjoying their fantastic new games tables in St Luke's and have already brought in 3 new members. Our numbers at the youth group had stayed the same since July 2022, so its really nice to see some new faces coming along and join!

This year, we are also going to be trying something slightly different with our worship at St. Luke's Church. As you may know, we have been running The Meeting Place in St Luke's twice a month and in St Leonard's twice a month with something a bit special planned for any rouge fifth Sundays. St Luke's has had more of a regular set of families coming along to it, largely because the timing seems to suit better. So with that being said we are going to try a Sunday School in St Luke's on the days we do not have a 9.30am intergenerational worship service (family service).

This is to ensure that parents can always come along and do something with the children, in one place at the same time every week. In St Luke's it will work a bit like one week family service, the next week a eucharist



service but with a Sunday School, the next week family service and so on... not too sure just yet what we do with the fifth Sunday... but watch this space! The idea is this will give some consistency to meetings and timings for families. But of course this doesn't mean that families shouldn't be welcomed at any other service, it just means there might be more things for the children to actively do on a Sunday at St Luke's.

We have had 3 amazing people come forward and ask if they could help with Tots' Treats and Sparks. Thank you so very much for those people, it means that we will have an extra pair of hands on board to help. We do need some more helpers however to ensure the groups continue to run. This could be as part of a rota (i.e. once a month), but we need to ensure we can run groups safely.

As we look forward to this year with Tots' Treat, Sparks, Ignite and Messy Church, I ask that you pray for the team of volunteers who give as much as they can week in and week out. I ask that you pray for the children and their families, that the children will be able to go home and speak about what they have heard and spark conversations with their parents. I also ask that you pray for a renewed vision on how we

continue to outreach to children, youth and families, helping to keep our response modern and to never lose sight of what we are responsible for doing, spreading the word God.

But lastly, I ask that you pray not just for the word of God to spread through talking, but through action, I ask that you help us in that action by going out to the community and then engage with people. If you have an idea for something for us to be doing, tell James, Derreck or myself and let's warm hearts to want to know more about God.



One thing I have learnt in my past three years being here, is that we must meet people where they are and stop expecting people to always come to us, in both a physical means and faith means. But it means we need to get out of our own comfort zone and be a bit bolder and more confident with our own faith.

Please pray for the volunteering issue, ask God to guide you to do what you can to support the children, youth and family work. Contact me to find out more about what volunteering entails.

God bless,

E: cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
P: 07506143476



Tom Davies

As you may recall Tom died in February of 2021 and, because of lockdown, I was not able to hold a proper memorial for him in church. As some of you have read “Postscript” I would like to tell you a little about him.

He was born in 1927 in London, the third child of an ordinary working class family. He left school at 14 and went to work in the “counting house” of a large publishing firm. He was called up in 1946 (under war conditions although the war had finished) and was in the Royal Navy for 2½ years. While there, posted in Chatham, he co-edited a magazine for the base. One highlight of this period was a visit behind the scenes to the Windmill Theatre (where everything was very discreet) for an article. On leaving the navy, he had various jobs until he joined the underground side of London Transport in 1949 working in the depots on train maintenance. He was there for 42 years starting as a cleaner and worked his way up until he retired as a manager in 1991.



Beryl Davies

He was always a thoughtful man and started going to evening classes for philosophy, Greek, etc. but it was going to Sunday School anniversaries with his niece that eventually led him to the Lord. He read deeply into theology and whatever Christian books he could get his hands on. He led a Sunday School class and the Young People’s Fellowship and I am still in touch with some of the members of that group.

We married in 1959 and were blessed with two daughters, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. We lived in London, Tring, Saltdean and finally Seaford where we have been very happy. Tom had been writing poems, short plays and stories for many years and had two books published. After he died, I was tidying up his things and found some things I had not seen before in old notebooks, etc as well as other stuff which I had already typed up, so decided to print up all I could find as a memorial for him and called it Postscript. He was a lovely man with a great sense of humour (as you will see if you read his book) – kind, thoughtful, never a bad word to say about anyone.

His last few years were very difficult for him with his loss of sight, other physical problems and finally dementia but he never grumbled and was always grateful for whatever was done for him.

I miss him.

A nineteen thirties childhood

“Can we ‘ave our ball back, mister,
Can we ‘ave our ball?”
Six and out over the garden fence
Or over the garden wall.”

The sun was high, the day was hot;
The ball was soft, the pitch was not.
(Though the tarmac melted in the summer heat
And the watery bubbles fair popped a treat).
The players fielded by personal choice
Not overly keen, but finding voice
Whenever another dropped a catch.
The authoritative clicking of a latch
And stentorian voice, imperiously
Demanding the long-stop into tea.
A Hobbs or Sutcliffe next to leave
The lamp-post wicket, much aggrieved
By eighty to miss a maiden ton
By the interference of a mum.
One by one, the team diminishes,
The Test Match, inconclusive, finishes.

“Can we ‘ave our ball back, mister,
Can we ‘ave our ball?”
Six and out over the garden fence
Or over the garden wall.”

Tom Davies



Prayer hints this Lent

Prayer is instinctive for human beings, even those who don't regard themselves as religious. You are standing at a bus stop in the wind and the rain, thinking 'I do hope the bus will come soon'. It's an inner yearning. It defies logic: either the bus is coming, or it isn't. But we all do it. It's instinctive and it's the raw material of prayer. Hoping for something better is basic. Like all instincts, it needs to be trained.

To whom do we pray? What you pray, and the way you do it will be shaped by your view of God. Christian prayers are fashioned by what we know of Jesus and what He taught about prayer.

We pray by invitation. Again and again, Jesus encouraged His companions to pray. A couple of His parables on the subject have been misinterpreted as instructions to persuade a resistant God to do what we want. Have a look at Luke 18, verses 1-8, about a widow whose perseverance finally persuaded an unwilling judge to rule in her favour. The lesson is that God is not like that! Similarly, an unwelcome neighbour who persistently calls for

help in the middle of the night gets what he wants (Luke 11:5-13). The lesson? If tenacious lobbying can overcome human unwillingness, how much more our gracious God will heed His children's cry.

Pushing at an open door. Jesus is already praying for us. So, when we start to pray, we step on to an already moving staircase. Sometimes prayer seems tougher than it need be. Jesus invited us to be linked to Him, in the way an inexperienced bullock is yoked to a mature ox. Have a look at Matthew 11:28-29, which concludes "for my yoke is easy and my burden is light". When Marion Bartoli unexpectedly won the 2013 Women's Wimbledon final, she said "I believe if you put all your heart and effort into everything you are doing, then God is there to help you."

Is your prayer on the right lines? Try adding "for Christ's sake" at the end. "Please let my marrow win the Gardening Club competition"? No. "Not my will but yours" is the key. So when praying, don't give God instructions, just report for duty.

When you pray...

Words and wisdom of Jesus –
He doesn't say, *if* or *in case*,
He says, *when...* you pray.

And we will.

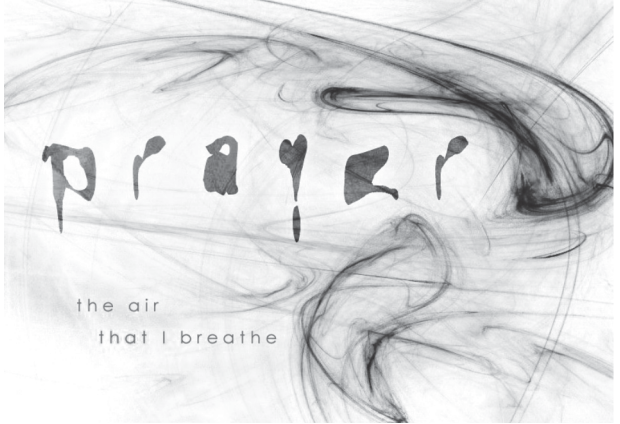
From deep within,
Our spirit calls out to God,
Created to communicate with the Creator.

Cinemas can ban,
Statistics can suggest we won't,
But Jesus says, *when* you pray...
Say, *Our Father*,
And when we do, he hears and answers
And pours out his love,
Always.

By Daphne Kitching



This prayer diary offers a focus for personal and corporate prayer



I will lift my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth. (Psalm 121: 1&2)

Pray for Mission Partners during February

BEACHY HEAD CHAPLAINCY TEAM

- For God's continued protection over the health, spiritual and mental welfare for the whole BHCT team.
- Those who return to Beachy Head on a regular basis: that they will encounter the healing and restoring power of Jesus.
- That the trustees will have good oversight for all aspects of the charity's organisation.
- For good relationships between the Chaplains and the partner agencies at Sussex Police and the Mental Health Triage Nurses.
- Those on the frontline prayer rota who pray to cover each of the Chaplain's shifts on a twenty four/seven basis.

SAMARA'S AID

- Prayers are needed for the newly opened medical centre in Syria:
- That they will be able to provide medical care for those in need, particularly the poor.
- That new staff will learn quickly and not be overwhelmed at the busiest times.
- For a continuous supply of the medical equipment needed at a low or no cost.
- For the hungry in Syria to be fed.

SUNDAY - The Church Worldwide

- Pray for the renewal of the Church in vision, service and the power of the Holy Spirit revealed through local churches in every land.
- Pray for Archbishop Justin Welby as he announces the £100m fund to “address past wrongs”. May it be used wisely for the maximum benefit.
- All Christian leaders across the world-wide Church. That they would lead righteously, with integrity, endowed with wisdom as they seek to grow their congregation in love, and witness to the world around.
- For the ‘persecuted church’. Christians living in fear of their lives oppressed by governments or other religions for believing in Jesus.
- As the Church worship’s today that we might all bring the best we can, listen for His voice, and know His presence.

MONDAY – The UK

- For the Prime Minister as he leads through a difficult time. For the government’s five promises, that they are achieved and bring greater economic stability and the right support for the needy.
- For the NHS and particularly the front-line staff that have to deal with the current conditions, with all the physical and emotional stress that brings.
- For peace and equitable agreements between those taking industrial action and their employers.
- Greater co-operation between UK and the EU to resolve mutual problems, e.g. Northern Ireland’s customs borders, people smuggling, those crossing the channel in small boats.

TUESDAY - Parish

- Pray for James and Lucy, Derreck and Corrinne as they lead the church, that they might have vision, wisdom and discernment.
- For Stefan as he works with the children and youth, especially for more volunteers to stand with him and help the work develop.
- The planning application for the sale and development of the Hall is approved by Lewes Council and the plans for St Leonards can go ahead providing enhanced facilities for the church and town.
- All those we love who are sick or in poor health, and those who are separated living apart from loved ones in care homes.
- The Churchwardens (Fred and Liz) and PCC as they deal with the practicalities of running the Parish. Thanking God for the time, commitment, experience and skills they bring to their role.

WEDNESDAY – Children & Young people

- The children and their families, that the children will be able to go home and speak about what they have heard and spark conversations with their parents.

- Remember the team of volunteers who give as much as they can week in and week out.
- For a renewed vision on how we continue to outreach to children, youth and families, helping to keep our response modern and to never lose sight of what we are responsible for doing, spreading the word of God.
- That the word of God will not just be spread through talking, but through action, and that each of us will help in that action by going out to the community and then engaging with people.

THURSDAY – For those living & working in

- 2nd February: Esplanade, West View, Steyne Road, St John’s Road, Causeway
- 9th February: Mallett Close, College Road Ringmer Road, The Boundary
- 16th February: Martello Road, Marine Crescent, Cricketfield Road, The Covers
- 23^d February: Cliff Road, Cliff Gardens, Cliff Close, Corsica Road
- 2nd March: Fitzgerald Avenue, Lions Place, Fitzgerald Park, The Close, Gerald Road, Maurice Road
- 9th March: Heathfield Road, Dean Road, Ashurst Road, Steyne Close
- 16th March: Bramber Close, Crooked Lane, Bramber Lane Bramber Road
- 23rd March: Rother Road, Southdown Road, Chyngton Road, Chyngton Place,
- 30th March: Cuckmere Road, Arundel Road, Bracken Road, Links Road

FRIDAY – Seaford

- Churches of Seaford – that they can work together to co-ordinate outreach.
- Care Homes – for strength and stamina for the staff as they cover for sickness at this time of year.
- For those facing redundancy as local businesses implement staff cuts/closure.
- For those struggling to get appointments with the local health services.
- For all staff working under pressure in our doctors’ surgeries.

SATURDAY – World

- Those who are suffering because of the recent weather catastrophes with loss of life and property.
- Those for whom the crops have failed or supplies are unobtainable and that those who live in plenty will share their resources.
- Those loyal to the west still in Afghanistan who were unable to leave the country when the Taliban took control and are in hiding.
- The people of Ukraine (in the face of ongoing devastation and disruption), the Prime Minister, Volodymyr Zelenskyy and the government for continued wisdom and fortitude to bring about peace.
- That world leaders and their governments will find workable remedies to the soaring energy prices to bring relief to households, businesses, financial and other serious problems.

Pray for Missions Partners during March

SCHOOLS IN THE PARISH

- Annecy Roman Catholic Primary School .
- Cradle Hill Community Primary School and nursery.
- Cuckmere House: an Academy Federated Special School for pupils with behavioural problems.
- Seaford Head School, Seaford Head Sixth Form Centre and Chyngton Primary School – from October 2022 have formed a new Multi Academy ‘Seaford Learning Trust’. Chair of Trustees – Jon Dilley.
- That James, Derreck and Stefan will continue to build good relations with these schools and that discussions with members of the Senior Management Team and RE teachers will lead to further opportunities to go into the schools to interact with the children.
- For James as he carries out his role as a governor at both Seaford Head and Cradle Hill.

DIOCESAN FAMILY SUPPORT WORK

- Phillippa Fleming, the local Practitioner serving families in Peacehaven, Newhaven and Seaford as she begins her new role as a Senior Practitioner with additional responsibilities as a Practice Educator supervising students on placement.
- The seven newest Practitioners now established in their Deaneries.
- The twenty paid Practitioners, both full and part time, and the 60 or so volunteers who work with the families throughout the Diocese.
- The 100 or so volunteers who fundraise including those belonging to the Deanery Committees.
- Judith Eggar as she chairs the Lewes Deanery Committee and makes arrangements for the Sponsored Easter Monday Walk around Alfriston and refreshments at the two forthcoming Open Gardens in Seaford.

Saturday Prayers at 8.30am each Saturday are on Zoom.

Use the following log in: Meeting ID: 731 3210 2295 Passcode 1UWEx6

Prayer@7 at 7.00pm on the second Sunday of each month at St. Luke’s

Prayer Ministry is available in the Holy Spirit Chapel at St. Leonard’s during Communion on Sunday and at St Luke’s at the end of each service.

Elizabeth Morgan-Jones

World Day of Prayer



Women, men and children of all ages are called to join in this day of prayer with the theme: -

“I HAVE HEARD ABOUT YOUR FAITH”

We do hope you will come to the service, followed by light refreshments, on **Friday 3 March at the Life Church, Steyne Road, (opposite the Wellington Pub) at 2.00 p.m.**

Our sisters in Taiwan are sending us blessings with the service they have prepared for World Day of Prayer 2023. Taiwan is an island rich in natural resources and culturally diverse. The women of Taiwan share the issues faced geographically, politically and socially and also their hopes for the future. Let us join with them as we give thanks for the beautiful island and people of Taiwan and encourage one another in our faith just as Apostle Paul did in his letters.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear the thoughts of women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans.

The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 120 countries. It begins in Samoa and



prayer in native languages travels throughout the world -through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later.

In order to cover costs and so that the offering taken at the service can be sent in its entirety to support the Christian organisations that are given grants from the WDP Funds there is to be a

COFFEE MORNING
with **CAKE & BRIC-A-BRAC STALLS**
ON SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY
10 a.m. to 12 noon
At the **CROSS WAY CHURCH**, Clinton Place, Seaford.

Do join us!
Janet Fairchild & Liz Morgan-Jones
(Representatives for our parish on the Seaford Committee)

Operation Mobilisation



Martin Miller

Matt Miller is a very new resident of Seaford, having moved here in the Autumn from Newhaven – where his dad was Vicar.

He has been very involved with St Peter's Church in Brighton where he was a member of the Media Team as well as being part of St Michael's, the local church in Newhaven.

Matt is now on a 'gap year' during which he wanted to spend some months as a volunteer in Christian ministry overseas. He was accepted onto the Operation Mobilisation 'STEP programme' for January to April on board their ship 'Logos Hope'. (OM is a Christian charity working primarily with young volunteers to share Christian good news in many different ways across the world.)

The 'Logos Hope' is the largest floating bookshop in the world and docks in different ports to work with local churches, schools and civic authorities in a variety of projects as well as inviting visitors on board. They stock a huge range of Christian books as well as books for people learning English as a second language.

The ship has a crew of around 300 from many

different countries and all are volunteers – from the Captain down. Matt expects to be involved in more humble duties - like kitchen work and cleaning (for which he has some experience – having worked at the Premier Inn in Newhaven last year!)

Matt would really appreciate our prayers for him, his crewmates and the people they will meet during his time away: *“Most of all I hope to draw closer to God through this time and learn to hear Him better, growing in my Christian faith and life,”* says Matt, *“and I’m looking forward to seeing different countries and ‘Living out Love’ [one of the OM mottos] within the Christian community on board and as we go out to others. I’m also hoping to do some videography which is one of my passions.”*

Matt is flying out with two other British young people to meet the ship in Egypt and then they are due to move to Jordan, Djibouti - and the United Arab Emirates by around Easter.

We hope to have an update in the next edition!



Matt Millar who will be working onboard Logos Hope.



OM was founded by three young students, still in their teens, in 1957, who took a Dodge truck full of Christian literature down to Mexico from Moody Bible Institute, Chicago. In 1960 the mission organisation, then called Send The Light (STL), began to work in Europe, opening a Christian book store in Spain despite religious restrictions imposed by General Franco. The pioneer workers went on to smuggle Bibles and Christian literature into Soviet Russia and Eastern Europe. Shortly afterwards the organisation was renamed Operation Mobilisation. During the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, OM teams travelled overland from Zaventem, Belgium, to the Middle East, North Africa and the Indian sub-continent.

In 1971 OM launched its first ship, Logos. This was followed in 1977 by the Doulos, then the world’s oldest still operating passenger vessel and largest floating bookshop. In 1988 the Logos sank off the coast of Argentina, resulting in the dramatic rescue of all on board. Within a year, Logos was replaced with Logos II, and in 2009 Logos II was replaced by a much larger ship, Logos Hope. OM ships have visited 483 different ports in more than 150 countries around the world. 48 million visitors have come on board.



A THANK YOU FROM CHRISTIAN AID

“Thank you for coming together for our neighbours near and far this Christmas. Fyness knows what a Christmas with no food was like, but thanks to you, this is not her reality anymore. After being trained in gardening and nutrition, Fyness is able to provide for her family, growing much needed foods like soya, peanuts and beans. Thank you for sharing the greatest Christmas gift of all – love. This will help more mums like Fyness in Malawi to leave hunger behind. Your church’s support is helping 15,000 people with the skills they need to build their resilience to climate shocks and to provide for their families.”

Did You Know?

Christian Aid Week is celebrated in the United Kingdom on the second week of May every year and this year, it will take place from May 14 to 20. It is spearheaded by the charity organization Christian Aid and its objective is to provide humanitarian relief and long-term development

support for poor communities worldwide, while highlighting suffering, tackling injustice, and championing people’s rights. Annually, Christian Aid holds an annual door-to-door fundraising drive in Britain and it has been held every year since 1957. A task of the thousands of volunteers is to post red collection envelopes to homes across the U.K. It is Britain’s longest-running fundraising week. This is one of the many wonderful humanitarian acts in the world and all Brits are encouraged to take part in it. Christian Aid in Seaford also organises events in the year, a Quiz night, 3 lunches, a cream tea and 2 coffee mornings all of which raise good money and are great social occasions. Each year we are able to send thousands of pounds to Christian Aid.

Lunches

The next event for Christian Aid in Seaford is on Friday 17th February 2023 St Peter’s Chapel Room, Belgrave Road. Tickets are available for either 12 noon to 1.00pm or 1.00pm to 2.00pm and will cost £8 and will be available from Nicola Ferguson or Colin Pritchard, or ring 01323 894899. A two-course lunch of a choice of salads followed by a choice of puddings with tea or coffee to follow.

Then, the next event will be the lunch at St Luke’s on Saturday 29th April from 12noon to 2pm with the same format as at St Peter’s. There will be a raffle.



Christian Aid Week 2023

The week this year will be May 14th to 20th. This year more than ever we shall be looking out for more collectors. Last year we just managed to cover in one way or another every road we are allocated. It is much more financially productive if we can both deliver AND subsequently collect the envelopes. Please give it some thought and talk to me. As always there will be collecting points for people to bring envelopes that are not being collected and again we shall have a list for two people at a time to sit by the half milk churn to accept the envelopes or loose cash. The work of aid agencies like Christian Aid is

increasingly vital for the millions of people that are helped – please do all you can to help raise money.

Representative Needed

We are still looking for someone to represent St Luke's for Christian Aid. As an absolute minimum it means just receiving posters, flyers and tickets, displaying the posters and selling tickets - even that would be brilliant. But best of all it would be good to have one or two people to do that and to attend the 3 meetings a year, to attend the events that the Seaford Committee organise and to play their part in the Coffee mornings and the planning.



Lewes, Seaford and District Branch



Please contact: Jean: 01323 892930

**KITTENS TO ELDERLY CATS
ALL NEED LOVING HOMES!**



Neutering

We can also help towards the cost of neutering your cats and kittens.

Please phone 01273 813111 (Option 3)
and leave a message including your phone number
so that we may contact you.



**DO YOU HAVE ROOM FOR A FURRY FRIEND?
-PHONE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION IF YOU CAN HELP**



Psalm 139

You are always there and do not move away,
When I can find a moment to pause and pray,
You created me and love me as a parent should,
When I ask you to move a mountain, you could,
I wish I could find thee when the sky falls in,
Or upon that second when I'm about to sin
I run back to your arms, suddenly aware,
your eternal mercy, comfort waiting there.

Bob Rice



The Gate of the Year

Minnie Louise Haskins.

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown".

And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way".
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

*So heart be still:
What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?
In all the dizzy strife
Of things both high and low,
God hideth His intention.*

*God knows. His will
Is best. The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature; In Him,
All time hath full provision.*

*Then rest: until
God moves to lift the veil
From our impatient eyes,
When, as the sweeter features
Of Life's stern face we hail,
Fair beyond all surmise
God's thought around His creatures
Our mind shall fill.*

"The Gate of the Year" is the popular name given to a poem by Minnie Louise Haskins. The title given to it by the author was "God Knows". She studied and then taught at the London School of Economics in the first half of the twentieth century.

Selected by Jim Holmes



Find your Sanctuary this Lent

Holy sites are special, places which have either had an experience of an encounter with God or else have been used for sacred activities over a protracted period of time. It is as if they become impregnated with some sort of 'holiness' which can be felt as you enter the space. Our ancient church buildings have often got that 'air of sanctity', an almost indescribable aura of peace and something other worldly.

They become places of pilgrimage and of special note by the people who visit them. So we have the pilgrimage routes, like to Canterbury, or Holy Island. There is locally the Cuckmere Pilgrimage Path that includes nearby village churches, as well as in the western end of the diocese the 'Jerusalem Trail' from Haslemere to Chichester Cathedral. Across the world there are many such pilgrimage trails, but the important aspect are the places visited enroute which all have a spiritual significance and can touch the soul, if the heart is open.

These sites can be sanctuaries of God's presence and they are sometimes referred to as 'thin places', where the membrane between this material world and God's spiritual presence is 'thin', and lines of communication are more real than elsewhere in our busy, internet and noise infested world. Places where it is easier to hear God.

But you don't always have to travel far

to find a sanctuary space. It's possible to make somewhere in your own space home. Perhaps a corner of a special room, with items that help you to focus your spirit. Have a notepad and pencil to hand, a Bible, a candle or something which helps you. Enter this space often and quieten the busy, everyday thoughts and focus upon your aids and let the Holy Spirit speak.

In our home we have a garden room where we have set up a cross and often go there for prayer and to offer times of worship. We call it the Beacon Sanctuary. As part of the Serving Africa Mission (David is a Trustee) we broadcast the cross on YouTube 24/7 and provide a short service on Sunday mornings for members scattered across the UK and Ghana. But the cross is there and is available for anyone to tune into and reflect and offer their own prayers and thoughts anytime of day or night.

So this Lent perhaps you can seek out a sanctuary, or create one, where you can rest in God's presence and receive from him in your own 'thin place'.

To watch go to YouTube and search for Beacon Sanctuary.





Terry Howell

‘Helping people into Housing’

A New Chair

After eleven years Joan Wignall is stepping down as Chair. She has been Chair for half the lifetime of HOMELINK ! For most of that time she has borne the burden and responsibility without a Vice-Chair. We owe her an immense debt of gratitude - especially because she has had to carry on in spite of wanting to retire but without anyone to replace her. She has been very supportive of staff and volunteers and ‘Thank you’ has been her most frequently used phrase. She has given very many thanks to many people but she herself deserves even more thanks. Fortunately, Joan will remain as a Trustee. We are expecting our Vice-Chair Ros Kellaway to take over at the January Board Meeting. She is newly retired as a solicitor and is having to give up helping another charity to help us – for which we are very grateful.

A New Client Manager

Shaun has settled in very well and passed his probationary review with flying colours. He is working as an equal with Gary: they each work 2 days a week with one half day in addition to liaise. The arrangement is going well and Shaun brings his experience of how another local authority housing department works to good effect.

A New Client

I reported that we supported our first Ukrainian refugee family with an interest-free loan for rent to move into private property. We are pleased that Government money has now arrived for this via the District Council. This shows that we can help not only with finance but also with speed. If necessary, we can get a cheque out to a landlord in a day whereas it will take far longer for a local authority after financial checks.

New Statistics

Our new loans for tenancies were down on last year: 55 compared to 85. This is mainly because of the difficulty in finding accommodation. We had 417 clients with a loan at the beginning of 2022 but these reduced to 389 by the end of the year. 57 loans were repaid which was good; sadly 19 had to be written off.

New Grants

We are giving more grants for white goods and carpets than before with 75 grants given this year to those moving into new accommodation. We have an annual budget of £20,000 for white goods but we have spent £23,000. In addition, we are using money from a charity called Enjoolata to give grants of up to £500 for carpeting. Unfortunately the Council and Housing Associations have a policy of removing all floor covering for health reasons when a good clean instead would save a lot of money.

New Income

The collection at the Ashdown singers excellent carol concert was £624 with a further £170 to come in gift aid. Late Night shopping in Lewes raised over £397.50; £377 was received from South Street Bonfire Society; £1.339 from PayPal .We also received generous amounts from St. Andrews in Bishopstone, and Christchurch in Lewes.

Please Pray for:-

- Our staff: Gary, Shaun, Gabrielle, our finance officer and Fran, our recovery officer
- Our new Chair Ros as she takes over;
- Success in finding someone to fill the new post of Administrator.
- The effectiveness of all we do to help others.

HOMELINK is a registered charity led by a Board of Trustees (including two from our Parish) and run by a Management Committee, all of whom are volunteers. Other volunteers help in a wide range of roles.

HOMELINK normally employ five part-time staff: two Client Managers; a Repayments Officer; a Finance Manager; and an Administration and Development Officer;

HOMELINK's office is rented from Age Concern in the House of Friendship in Lewes. Assessments are currently made by phone.

With Valentine's Day in mind...how do you define love?

A group of 4-to-8-year-olds was once asked: 'What does love mean?' The answers they gave were surprising for their depth of insight....

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." Rebecca - age 8

- "When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." Billy - age 4

"Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your chips, without making them give you any of theirs." Chrissy - age 6

"Love is what makes you smile when you're tired." Terri - age 4

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." Nikka - age 6 (We need a few million more Nikka's on this planet)

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day"
Mary Ann - age 4



Thank you for your support through another year. At present, we are moving our playground from the back of LAMA House to the front of the property. We have a lot of children coming in to LAMA House every day to play in the playground. They come after school and sometimes before! (*school starts at 7am*)

On Sundays, Ana teaches them Bible stories and does activities with them. The teenage boys come to play basketball. We have had a few parents visit too. So, that's why we decided to move the playground to the front, hoping the parents will also spend time relaxing here.

On Sunday, we took church to the beach, our friends have recently put up a small cafe and have invited us to do a beach mission. I remember my Dad loved to do the Church Army beach missions in the 1950's and later in the 1980's when living down in Bude. It is a great way to share the Gospel. We had such a great time. Lots of beach goers settled in to listen as we sang songs all about the name of Jesus and being saved by His grace. Didn't preach but will do next time!

Over an hour of worship and people stayed. One man sat at the front and

sang along and Pastor Fred's young folk came later. It is Sam's daughter, Nikki, and her husband together with Jong who own the cafe. Jong is Simon's friend, an artist and now one of our trustees at LAMA Ministries. He was so excited about it and so was Nikki. They have all been working abroad and came back home to stay. This is actually our vision, from before Covid, coming to pass - before the cafe was even an idea in their minds!

Unfortunately, Michael ripped the side mirror off his car when leaving the cafe in the dark. Last time after worship like that he knocked his bumper and still needs a new one. Can't afford to fix them at the moment. "Keep rejoicing" as Dad would say. We have had Vamos and Anthony staying with us, whilst looking for work – Vamos now has found work in Mindoro, Anthony is still here. Please pray he gets a good job nearby.

We had a brilliant Christmas celebration where many former boys and girls came for a party. We hope to make this a yearly tradition. That was followed by a Worship Concert at the end of the year.

Please continue to pray for Kevin in Tondo, Manila - that he would find a way to leave there and be safe.

We are still waiting for the go-ahead to take the Gospel and Worship into the Home for Girls. Please keep praying for them, for protection and complete healing.

Ana's latest story began in November. She has been thinking for some time about becoming a foster parent. I messaged Lineth, our former Social Worker, who now works in the fostering and adoption department, DSWD - I asked if she could visit sometime to talk to Ana about it. She said she would schedule a visit. The following week Lineth sent a link for an Adoption and Fostering forum - attendance was a part of the requirements. Just two days later, DSWD asked Ana to confirm if she was willing to be a foster parent to foster a newborn, Emergency Care. A newborn had been found abandoned in a grocery bag, hanging in a tree, its umbilical cord still attached.

Ana agreed and scrambled to finish the paperwork - references, forms, interviews, Police Clearance, Barangay Certificate, Medical Certificate...home assessment... and a bit of baby things shopping! Less than a week later she was licensed for emergency foster

care! The story of Hagar, Genesis 16, came to mind. In the wilderness God told her He had seen her suffering; she would be OK. Hagar called Him El Roi "You are the God who sees." Ana is doing well taking care of her foster baby. He is 2 months old already. Pray for the mother of the baby, who has not been found.

Also in November, Michael applied for an online course in Chaplaincy by Waverley Abbey College. The man who interviewed him said they were excited when he applied as they have been praying about the possibility of Waverley Abbey College expanding into Asia, he will be the first student from the Philippines. The course has started in January for one year. Pray for him as he gets back into studies online. We are excited to see where this leads for LAMA House.

My hand is still not completely recovered from the fall I had, still painful but is slowly improving.

Thank you for your prayers. Happy New Year to you!



An extraordinary testimony of lives changed through kindness, courage, prayer, and grace. Lesley's heart was broken at just twenty-two, by the hopelessness she saw in the faces of little children struggling to survive extreme poverty in the Philippines. She had volunteered from England as a nurse for six months, but stayed on to care for the street people. Now, with her husband Peter (a Filipino pastor), she has devoted her life to serving the poor, venturing into dire situations to rescue child prostitutes, criminals, addicts, and the homeless. Lesley established Life And More Abundant Ministries and LAMA House, a residential home for abandoned, neglected, or abused boys. This book tells their stories, and through them the story of God's amazing ways of grace and love.

To buy a copy please contact Esther: 07828005568



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Carbon emissions reduce as Church makes progress towards 2030 target



The Church of England saw a gradual but steady reduction in carbon in 2021, according to the latest data from its national Energy Footprint Tool (EFT).

Meanwhile, more than 400 churches across England are now reporting ‘net zero’ carbon emissions, an increase of 157 on the previous year, as part of the most comprehensive data collection to date.

The EFT was launched in 2019 to measure and record carbon emissions across the Church of England and is reporting data for the third time. For 2021, the data is now consolidated across all settings, including Church of England schools.

It estimates that overall carbon emissions were down by 5,000 tonnes CO₂e in 2021 to 410,000 tonnes overall, compared with 415,000 in 2020, despite buildings being open for more of the year than in 2020. The data also included travel-related emissions for the first time.

The 2021 report includes data from church schools, clergy housing, cathedrals, offices, theological education institutions, and work-related travel, in addition to the actual church buildings which were also recorded in 2020.

It also notes that Covid-19 mitigations, including lockdowns in 2020 and 2021, were likely to have had an impact on the figures, with churches closed for public worship and gatherings for some parts of both years.

The Bishop of Selby, John Thomson, who is the Church of England’s lead bishop for Net Zero Carbon, said: “There are some positive indicators that the Church of England is making progress towards our target, and every effort, small or great, is important and welcome.



February

Calendar

Wednesday 1st	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
Saturday 4th	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
Sunday 5th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 8th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Friday 10th	2.00pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Sunday 12th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	Prayer@7	St. Luke's
Tuesday 14th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 15th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 18th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
Sunday 19th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Monday 20th	7.30pm	Women's Group	St. Luke's
Tuesday 21st	4.00pm	Pancake Party	St. Luke's
Wednesday 22nd Ash Wednesday	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 26th	7.00pm	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Tuesday 28th	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
		Magazine Copy date	



ChurchSuite

Log in to ChurchSuite

for details of all church events



Wednesday 1st	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
Saturday 4th	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
Sunday 5th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
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Friday 10th	2.00pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
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	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Monday 20th	7.30pm	Women's Group	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 22nd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 26th	April-May Parish Magazine publication		
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
Tuesday 28th	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
Wednesday 29th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's

The Meeting Place

St. Luke's: Bacon sandwiches 9.00am, service starts at 9.30am.

St. Leonard's: Pastries from 11.00am, service starts at 11.30am.

For details of regular groups and events see page 46.



Regular Services & Groups



Services in St. Leonard's Church

Sundays

- 8.00am Holy Communion: a quiet said service
- 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with choir and hymns
- 11.30am The Meeting Place: informal worship (1st and 3rd Sundays) with pastries from 11.00am

Wednesdays

- 11.00am Matins: a quiet said service (1st Wednesday)
- 11.00am Holy Communion: a said service (2nd to 5th Wednesdays)



Services in St. Luke's Church

Sundays

- 9.30am Holy Communion: a service with hymns (1st and 3rd Sundays)
- 9.30am The Meeting Place: informal worship (2nd and 4th Sunday) with bacon rolls from 9.00am
- 7.00pm Prayer@7: a short time of worship followed by prayer (2nd Sunday)
- 7.00pm St. Luke's@7: Contemporary worship (3rd Sunday)

Tuesdays

- 11.00am Prayer Ministry and Communion (2nd and 4th Tuesdays) followed by refreshments

Monday	Women's Group	7.30pm	St. Luke's	3 rd Monday
Tuesday	Bell Ringers	7.30pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
Wednesday	Tots	9.30am	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Parish Lunch	12.30pm	St. Luke's	1 st Wednesday
Thursday	Tots	9.30am	St. Leonard's	Weekly*
	Choir	7.00pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
	Mother's Union	2.30pm	St. Luke's	2 nd Friday
Friday	Sparks	5.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Ignite	7.30pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
Saturday	Messy Church	9.30am	St. Leonard's	1 st Saturday
	Open Church	10.00am	St. Leonard's	See calendar

**Term time*



Clergy

Revd. James Hollingsworth	01323 893508	vicar@seafordparish.org.uk
Revd. Derreck Lee-Philpot	01323 893391	dlp@seafordparish.org.uk

Children, Youth & Family Missioner

Stefan Bracher		cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
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Parish Office- calls can be taken Monday to Friday 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Charlie Christie	07391 787130	admin@seafordparish.org.uk
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Churchwardens

Fred Bass	01323 893054	fred@seafordparish.org.uk
Liz Morgan-Jones	01323 890644	liz@seafordparish.org.uk

Deputy Wardens

Janet Kent (St. Leonard's)	01323 490050	janet.seaford@btinternet.com
Paul Waller (St. Leonard's)	01323 872088	
Joanne Lalla (St. Luke's)		joanne.lalla@btinternet.com

Parish Treasurer

Paul Waller	01323 872088	atreasurer@seafordparish.org.uk
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Pastoral Care Co-ordinator

Prayer Pastor

Sue Griffiths		prayerpastor@seafordparish.org.uk
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Safeguarding Officer

Ruth Saunders		safeguarding@seafordparish.org.uk
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Home Groups

David Farey		homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk
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Hall Bookings

	07425 936674	bookings@seafordparish.org.uk
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Magazine

Distribution	01323 892883	David and Hazel Bramley
Editor: Malcolm Anderson	01323 891252	magazine@seafordparish.org.uk

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