

# Parish Magazine

The Parish of Sutton with Seaford



THOMAS KELLY

April-May 2023

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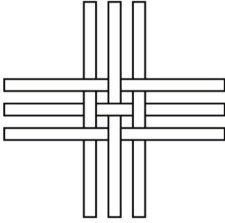
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# Parish Magazine

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

April-May 2023

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# Parish News

## **St Luke's @7**

St. Luke's@7 is moving to the 4th Sunday of each month. The next two will be on 23rd April and May 28th. About 25 people have been meeting beforehand at 5:45pm for supper together. We enjoyed soup and sandwiches in January then pizza and garlic bread in February. Everyone welcome, just contact Kate Steer to let her know. Details can be found on ChurchSuite.

## **Parish Lunch**

Parish Lunches will be served on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 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.

## **Seaford Parish Women's Group**

Seaford Parish Women's Group will meet on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March and Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm in St Luke's Walmer Road. New members are always welcome. In March we will have a talk by Sally Thompson on being a registrar and in April we will hear from Peter Gwilliam about Seaford Life Guards. In May we will hold our Annual Dinner (date & venue to be confirmed).

## **Mothers' Union**

**Not just for Christmas** is an afternoon fun quiz to raise money to support Brian Miller's work with the YMCA in Eastbourne. It will take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30pm at St Luke's Church. Tickets just £2 includes

refreshments. Prebook or just turn up. In October Brian came and told us about the young people he supports at the YMCA. We felt that we wanted to show these young people, most of whom have not had a happy experience of family life, that they are a loved and treasured member of God's family. We made up "Love in a box" boxes for Christmas and decided to fund raise to help Brian provide special meals during the year. Please come along, have fun and help us support this great cause.

## **So you thought you knew the Rev Lucy Hollingsworth**

We welcome Lucy as our speaker on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30 at St Luke's Church. Come along and find out some more about Lucy as she stars as our Desert Island Discs Celebrity. For further information please contact Janet Kent on 07739705911.

## **Coffee, Prayer Ministry & Communion**

You are welcome to join in our next Service of Prayer Ministry with Communion at St. Luke's on Tuesdays 11<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> May at 11.00am. Coffee will be available from 10.00am to 12.00pm

## **Parish Magazine**

The copy date for the June-July edition of the Parish Magazine is Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Items of news and articles of interest are most welcome and should be sent to [magazine@seafordparish.org.uk](mailto:magazine@seafordparish.org.uk). The magazine will be published as usual on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> May.



# *Easter*

## **Monday 3rd April**

7.00pm A Service of Compline in St. Leonard's Church

## **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April**

11.00am Matins in St. Leonard's

## **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April: Maundy Thursday**

7.00pm Holy Communion and Tenebrae in St. Leonard's

## **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April: Good Friday**

9.30am Messy Good Friday at St. Luke's

10.00am Walk of Witness begins at St. Leonard's

12.30pm Good Friday Meditations at St. Luke's (until 1.30pm)

7.00pm Seaford Choral Society: Olivet to Calvary in St. Leonard's

## **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April**

7.00pm Easter Vigil with Holy Communion in St. Leonard's

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Day**

8.00am Holy Communion in St. Leonard's

9.30am Parish Communion in St. Leonard's

9.30am Parish Communion in St. Luke's



**The Parish of Sutton with Seaford**  
*St. Leonard's & St. Luke's Churches*

**Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 3.30pm

St. Leonard's Church

*Agenda and Reports will be available prior to the meeting*



**St. Leonard's  
Open Church Cafe**

Free refreshments  
& conversation

**Saturdays April 22nd and May 27th**  
**10.00am to 12.30pm**

**On Saturday 27th May, there will be a few stalls for Christian Aid, mostly home made items and plants.**

**From the registers:  
Funerals**

Heather Willis  
Ros Godfrey  
Elsie Dennis

Elizabeth Dawson  
Pam Marsh  
Rosemary Heasman

## Ahead of the APCM Paul Waller explores the 2022 finances

A year ago I wrote my first report as treasurer on the previous year's finances and gave some projections for 2023. At the time I forecast we would have income of £274,000 and expenditure of £280,000 resulting in a deficit of £6000. In 2021 we had a deficit of £45,000 so 2022 was going to need a good deal of effort to secure something of a big turn around. So as we approach our Annual Parochial Church Meeting, how well did we manage?

We had an income of almost £308,000 which includes regular giving of nearly £190,000 together with gift aid. The Gift Day held in November 2022 raised just over £17,000 and we received three legacies totalling £39,000. Our fees for lettings and services were almost £15,000 and much improved on the COVID years. Events in our churches raised £2,000 thanks to the people who produced goods and distributed coffee to our visitors. The remainder came from an employee allowance from HMRC of £4,300, rental income of £18,000 and services of £11,500. Last of all we were given a grant towards our fuel costs from the Diocese of £12,235. Overall this was a splendid outcome and many thanks go to everyone who made a difference, however small or large.

The spending did also exceed the target of £280,000 by some £40,000 at £320,000 for the year.

Our major expense is on staff; we paid £120,000, as our Parish share which covers our two clergy, over £52,000 for our ten members of staff. With another £4300 for National Insurance contributions making up to over £176,000.

Our commitment to the Children and Family Mission work costs some £40,000 and the growth we see in this area of outreach makes this a truly worthwhile expenditure.

Our premises costs for utilities, insurance, repairs altogether is another £53,500.

This leaves us with the £13,600 we gave to our Mission Partners half of this we retain for the Children and Family Missioner costs, the other half is shared equally between eight charities locally, nationally and internationally.

We also spent £12,000 on repairs to the window surrounds at St. Leonard's.

Finally we had £24,200 expenditure on professional and planning fees in relation to the re-ordering of St Leonard's Church and the re-development of St. Leonard's Hall.

So we did not achieve our ambitious target of a £6,000 deficit, instead largely due to exceptional expenditure, we ended the year with one of £12,000.



## Welcome to April

We start April with Holy Week. Maundy Thursday, when Jesus turns the table on what leadership is about. It's not about having power over people but rather using the power you have to serve people. We're still not used to this idea of power and leadership and we still pray for it in those who lead us in Government, in our work places, wherever we find that people have power over us.

And then to Good Friday. I don't know when Christians first started referring to this day as Good. Someone said to me 'I bet Mary his mother didn't'. I note that in most European languages this time isn't called Easter but pâques (French), påskdag (Swedish) and so on and all these words are not far from the Greek and Latin pascha meaning Passover. Its a reminder that Christians have understood the death of Jesus through the lens of the rescuing of the ancient Israelites from ancient Egypt.

I've just finished reading *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. CS Lewis' allegory of Christ's death shows Aslan, 'a willing victim who had committed no treachery', resurrected and explaining that now 'Death itself

would start working backward'. St Paul wrote something similar: Death where is your sting? Grave where is your victory? The fictional characters Lucy and Susan are distraught at the death of their friend but they have only a few hours before their grief turns to joy. Mary had to wait three days. It must have been agony for her, though I suspect that from the first announcement from the Angel Gabriel, through the Magi's gifts, through the prophet Simeon and all the way through Jesus' life she has been dreading this moment.

Then came the Resurrection. So perhaps, in time, Mary did come to see that day as Good Friday.

## APCM

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> April at 3.30pm in St. Leonard's. By the time you're reading this I hope that our reports will be on the website and there will be some copies at the back of Church. It's a meeting that reflects back on what we did in the year 2022. So, in many respects it already feels out of date and it also tries to look a little ahead to how our Church is growing.

## **The Hall and Internal Reordering in St. Leonard's**

I had hoped to be able to write something more about this but we have heard that Lewes District Council have postponed because of their busyness, the reviewing of our application until April.

The drawings of where the kitchen and loos and cupboards might go in St. Leonard's have been up on display for some months now. If you've not seen them do pop in and have a look.

## **Welcome to May**

This will start with the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> we will have a 6.00pm Songs of Praise in St Leonard's so do come along to that.

Also in May there will be some local elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May. Pray for those who are standing, pray for those who are elected.

Two key Christian festivals in May are Ascension Day (Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May) and Pentecost (Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>). If you want to learn about why Ascension Day is so very important to Christians then you must learn to tune into our Thought for the Days which you can find on our Church facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/seafordparishsussex> Each Monday to Friday there is a short thought from me about life and faith and hope and love, and every evening I do a short moment of prayer at 6.00pm live on facebook.

May closes with Pentecost. I tried to explain this to an agnostic adult by talking about the powerful miracles, the wind and fire that came to the

Jerusalem disciples and brought about a life transforming church that led to a peaceful revolution across the known world, an end to crucifixions, an end to abandoning unwanted babies to the wolves, a beginning of hospitals, hospices, schools for the poor as well as the rich. This made no sense to him. So I simply said that Pentecost is a moment where we celebrate that God has not left us on our own. Ah, okay. That Jesus doesn't just die for our sins and say 'there you go, I've cleaned the slate you're on your own now' but in Pentecost, God comes to us to give us the Gifts we need to serve others and to help us change from inside so that we show the fruit of what it means to have Jesus in our lives – lives of gentleness, patience, joy and peace. That thought takes me back to my thoughts on leadership which was where we began in April.

## **Sabbatical**

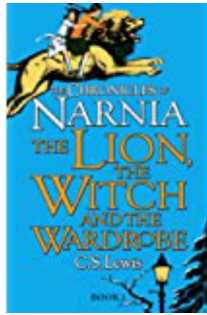
Every ten years a vicar is allowed three months off. It is now 13 years since I had my last sabbatical. For me it will be over June, July, August. You might see me about but mostly I hope to not be working and mostly I hope to be getting refreshed and recharged. I will spend ten days in Jerusalem, ten days in Iona, and one or two other weeks when I'm away.

## **Israel 2024**

Whilst I'm on the subject of Israel, I will be taking a tour group out in 2024 from September 25<sup>th</sup> until October 5<sup>th</sup>. We will be going to visit Nazareth and Bethlehem and Jerusalem, and see a variety of other places where Jesus went. More details later. If you're interested let me know ([vicar@seafordparish.org.uk](mailto:vicar@seafordparish.org.uk))



*The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, CS Lewis. I have no intention of writing a review on this, just go and read it. If you've never read it as an adult, then you must read it. If you haven't read it for five years then



you really should read it again. Yes it is for children, or at least children from 1950s but there's enough peril and wonder in it to make you glad again.

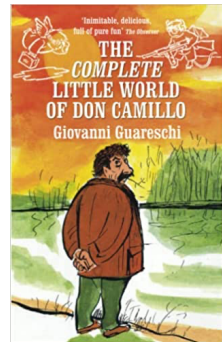
Don't bother buying *Four Thousand Weeks*. I was given this book because I bought it for my son-in-law who had mentioned it previously but had since bought a copy himself. He said it was so good I should read it. I don't really have time for reading books about time management which is perhaps why I found it tricky to read.

It starts with the reminder that your life is about four thousand weeks long. So, what are you going to do with it. For some, the reminder of our mortality has a paralysing effect: How can I make the most of my life? Have I left it too late and all that guilt. For others it is a liberating thought that says 'Okay so what do I think is worth doing?'. It contains some other uncomfortable truths such as this belief that we all have growing up, that the grown ups know what they're doing. They know how to run a business, run a country, not go to war, that sort of thing. And

then you realise that you're one of the grown-ups and actually you're bluffing as best you can and then you realise that probably so are most of the grown-ups.

At one point it quotes the Bible book of Ecclesiastes where the writer points out how everything is meaningless but this Christmas present closes with a call to be generous, to be quick in giving thanks and praise and money and encouragement and not to put things off.

Do read *The Little World of Don Camillo*. It's a bundle of comic short stories about a Roman Catholic priest set in a small village in post WW2 Italy who has a turbulent relationship with his friend the communist atheist mayor. Two things make this book brilliant for me. One is the simple way that Don Camillo converses with Jesus about anything and everything throughout his day and the good sense that the Lord tries to provide. The other reason is that the Pope reads it.



I liked *Run with Horses* because its Eugene Peterson's meditative reflection on the bible book of Jeremiah and you know that I like Jeremiah. In fact, anything by Eugene Peterson is excellent but unless you like biographies, I would skip *The Pastor*.



At dawn on the 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022, first contact between Russia's armed forces and Ukraine's occurred near Milove village at 03.40am Kyiv time. The invasion of Ukraine had begun. Many thought that it would be over in days, but the people of Ukraine had other ideas. A year later there was a bittersweet feeling in the air at St Leonard's on the anniversary of these tragic events. We had opened the church for an hour's vigil, giving the space for people to pray, to intercede for that hard-pressed nation, to add our own heart's cry to the chorus of prayer that was raised towards heaven from churches all over the world that evening.

Fifty of us gathered together to pray. Candles were lit, yellow ribbons tied onto an illuminated tree. The hour was divided into four fifteen minute prayer times bordered by a prayer written by

organisations such as 'Churches together in England', 'World Vision' and our own Archbishops of Canterbury and York. Scriptures were read to guide the silent prayers, and the Lord's Prayer said to open each fifteen minute slot, with its particular reference to God's pre-eminence in the situation, "... for the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever."

The Mayor joined us as did many from other churches in Seaford, To our great joy there was a party of Ukrainians that also took their place among us, and although there was the language barrier it was clear that they were welcome, and that they were highly appreciative of the standing together in prayer they experienced with us.

The situation is desperate, the circumstances are utterly appalling, there seems to be little we can do or say to bring any comfort to such a large and far away scene of suffering. Sometimes we can only go 'back to basics' and pray, placing all our concerns into His hands.

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."  
(Phil 4:6)*



### How do you grow?

As we grow up we have to eat the right food and pursue activity which helps the muscles and co-ordination to develop. It's all part of life. But how do we grow as Christians?

For some a question might be, "Do I need to grow as a Christian?" Being brought up in a Christian home means being baptised and regular attendance at church; Sunday School and services, as well as anything the family practices – night prayers and Christian stories. In the Church of England the service of Confirmation from about ten onwards can all too often bring to a close a person's faith growth. When this happens the Church ends up with stunted, half developed Christians whose practice of faith is arrested at the stage of a child.

Those who have had some sort of experience of God that has brought them to make a special commitment are often more enthusiastic to discover more about God and what being a follower of Jesus means.

Three legged stools are often the most stable. The Christian life is stable when resting on three pillars.

- Prayer is key and should be the Christian's frequent practice, as natural and frequent as breathing!

- Worship is also essential as it expresses our love and devotion to our God for what He has done for us, our adoration of Him.

- Then there is the study of scripture, God's word. To understand His inspired word enables us to function better as Christians. Sermons in church can help, but only setting aside time to study and read His word with the aid of the Holy Spirit will enable us to grow – and that is where House Groups come in.

As we join with others and read God's word so we learn and grow together, discovering that the questions we have are often shared with others. As answers are uncovered so we learn how to be the Christians that can fulfil God's call upon our lives to serve Him better.

Only then can our lives hope to make any sort of difference to the lives of those around us and those we meet day by day. It is how we fulfil Jesus' command in Matthew 28 to "go and make disciples of all nations". That is every Christian's duty to contribute to the mission the Lord Himself has given us.

So, how do you grow as a Christian?

*To explore how you could be involved in a group email our House Group co-ordinators, David or Pat on [homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk](mailto:homegroups@seafordparish.org.uk).*



I used to ask this question as a student. I wondered, who could make it in the world of science and still hold onto their faith? Soon enough I met a good number of successful scientists who were sincere Christians, some of whom were at my own university. So, what do people like this make of the opportunities and challenges that a life in science holds for a Christian?

Science is an exercise in observing and measuring things in the world, and coming up with general principles about the way things are. Exploring the world is a great thing to do to express our gratitude to the Creator. There is a sense of awe and wonder that comes when we expand our minds and our horizons by discovering things about the universe can feed into our worship.

Of course, there may be things in science that some Christians don't want to get involved in because of what they believe. But there should also be ethical issues that make them want to get stuck into new research that will help people, protect creation, or tackle injustices. I am glad to see that many senior scientists do their best to find appropriate ways to make their own faith visible, so that people like my younger self can find role models and mentors.

Another helpful thing about science is that although our beliefs may at times affect what we notice about the world and how we interpret our data, they shouldn't affect the outcome of experiments themselves. This means that a scientist can be respected by her colleagues for doing good work, regardless of what she believes and what her colleagues think of that worldview.

In my work at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, and my involvement with Christians in Science, I have the privilege of meeting a great number of scientists who are also Christians. One of the most famous living biologists is Francis Collins, who was Director of the project to decode the whole of human DNA. He wrote that it is "possible for the scientist-believer to be intellectually fulfilled and spiritually alive, both worshipping God and using the tools of science to uncover some of the awesome mysteries of His creation." (Francis Collins, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief* (Simon and Schuster, 2007)

*Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge.*



## 2023 Season in St. Leonard's Church

2023 will be the sixteenth series of Luncheon 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.**



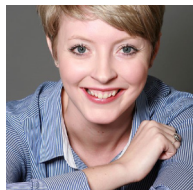
### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April**

**Gerard Brooks (organ)**

Gerard studied the organ with John Webster, and was elected Organ Scholar at Lincoln College, Oxford. After further studies with Susi Jeans, he was the first organist to win the Stephen Arlen Memorial Award; this together with further grants from the Martin Musical Foundation amongst others – enabled him to study for two years with Daniel Roth at Strasbourg Conservatoire in France, where he was awarded the Première Médaille in organ. On his return to the UK he spent a further postgraduate year in Cambridge, studying with Nicolas Kynaston. In 1987 he was appointed Associate Director of Music at All Souls Langham Place. During his time at All Souls he played regularly for BBC Radio 4's Daily Service and Songs of Praise, and toured with the All Souls Orchestra, playing in many concert halls, including the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall and Moscow Conservatoire. His other musical work has included playing in West End Musicals, and musical arranging and composition.

### **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May**

**Charlotte Wicks (mezzo soprano)**



Born in Manchester, Mezzo Soprano Charlotte Wicks studied at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Royal Academy Opera course graduating in 2009. She is an Independent Opera Fellow and graduate of the Solti, Te Kanawa Academia di Bel Canto. As a soloist, Charlotte has performed alongside conductors Trevor Pinnock, Sir Colin Davis, Sian Edwards and Vladimir Jurowski with the London Philharmonic Orchestra. A Samling scholar she has sung as a soloist at the Wigmore Hall, Cadogan Hall, St Martin in the Fields, St John's Smith Square, The Royal Albert Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room and The London Handel Festival, Charlotte was the Mezzo Soprano soloist at the 2013 Paxos international festival and is a regular soloist with London Festival Opera touring the UK and Central Europe. She teaches singing at St. Andrews Prep in Eastbourne and is co-founder of Intergenerational Opera.

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> 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

**We love holding  
weddings in our  
churches**

[www.seafordparish.org.uk/life-events/](http://www.seafordparish.org.uk/life-events/)



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND



Wow how time flies! We have had a brilliant start to 2023. We have seen our groups continue to thrive with the children and young people attending as well as making way for an adults group meeting with The Chosen.

Since June 2022 we have stayed at around 5 young people coming along to Ignite (youth group). Thanks to some very lovely donations we have managed to purchase a pool table, table football, basketball hoops and an air hockey table for use up at St Luke's church for Ignite. This has helped our numbers to grow up to 15(ish) a night, but if they all turn up each night we will have around 23 young people.



The group is currently run as a social group with the leaders setting good examples throughout an evening and building relationships with the young people. From there we plan to invite the group to a more of a faith exploration group with food, Bible discussion and of course the games tables!



Ignite is currently in need of two volunteers to help manage the group on a rota basis. Really it is being the eyes and ears of the group making sure that everyone is safe and then having some discussions with the young people where possible. It is about building relationships with the young people. Please do let me know if you are interested in this.

Sparkshave continued to have close to our limits of children (40 children is our limit in St Luke's). Recently they have been learning about parables and a good few of them attended our Pancake party (more on that later).

This year we are planning to attend our Sparks Summer camp with Generation Christian Camps at a Christian campsite in Chiddingfold. For me, this is one of the most amazing times. Simply because you see the children completely light up in a totally different way about faith and the belief in Jesus as they spend the week looking at passages and reflecting on them and then being

surrounded and supported by Christian leaders who show fantastic Christian values. Not to mention all of the fun adventures they get to go on!

At the moment, we have 10 children who would like to attend our Sparks summer camp in July, however half of those children will also need some additional financial support to help them attend. We are planning to apply for some limited funding for the children. However, if you would like to support a child you can click the link below and pay the costings for one child, although we will split that across all of the children who will need financial support. Of course you can chat with me about making any sized contribution towards supporting a child at camp too. <https://seafordparishchurch.churchsuite.com/events/um02ihwm>

Tots' Treats have been going very well over the past couple of months, however we have noticed a big drop off in St. Leonard's due to how cold it is. More recently we have had around 10 children attending, previously we would have 25-30 attending. You don't need me to tell you heating is a major issue in St. Leonard's, but it is more important when it comes to toddlers.

However the discussions we have been having with the parents in Tots' Treats have been really good, to the point where parents are slowly starting to ask us questions about our faith and why we believe in what we do and even requesting prayer during a Tots' Treats session. This is a step in the right direction and I ask that you pray this continues.



Messy Church had seen fewer children at the start of the year, but it has picked up again where we recently had around 80 people attend our Pancake Party on Shrove Tuesday in St. Luke's, where we learnt about Shrove Tuesday and Lent, whilst of course eating pancakes, playing games and making some crafts.

If you fancy getting involved with Messy Church and being part of the team we would love you to come along and join in. We are looking for people who can serve tea and coffee, sit and help children make some of the crafts and chat with parents about whatever they are getting up to! Let me know if you are interested in helping with this small but so important job role. This is held on the first Saturday of the month in St. Leonard's, 9.30am to 11.00am.

Something to look forward to is the garden in St. Luke's. Recently the PCC has agreed that a subsection of the children, youth and family team can take it over to create a place for growing fruit, vegetables, flowers and make it an inviting space to relax and reflect. The idea is once the garden has been regenerated, we will be opening it to children and young people for them to come in and try their hand at growing fruit, vegetables and flowers. Keep your eyes peeled for this slightly longer project!



# Children, Families & Youth



Finally, we have started a new adults group call 'The Chosen', meeting weekly on Thursday evenings 6.30pm-9.00pm, in St. Luke's Church. This is where we come together, talk a various amount of nonsense, have a meal together and then watch an episode of The Chosen, which is a TV show all about the life of Jesus and his followers. We then have a discussion afterwards about the episode. If you would like to come along please do let us know by talking to me or completing the online form by following the link below: <https://seafordparishchurch.churchsuite.com/forms/cmypsifs>. If you want to attend but feel you have missed out on the previous episodes and won't know where you are with it

all, follow the link below to watch the episodes for free: <https://watch.thechosen.tv/> or speak to me to see if you can borrow the DVD and watch them at home. It is amazing, you won't be disappointed!

Please do continue to pray for the children, youth and family team and the children and families they come into contact with. This is such a needy area of ministry, but such a worth while one when we get it right and we see children and parents flourish in the love of God, which is shown by the outreach hand of the Church.

You may have heard that Alice and I are expecting Baby Bracher in September! It feels a long way off but we have been assured that it will fly by and the sleepless nights will surely begin, but we are super excited! God is so so good! Thank you for all the lovely messages of support that have come through, it is really appreciated.

[cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk](mailto:cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk)



# Coronation of King Charles III

The Coronation is centred around a solemn religious ceremony and has remained largely unchanged for over a thousand years. For the last 900 years, the ceremony has taken place at Westminster Abbey, London and is conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury.



The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort is also a time for celebration across the nation and the Commonwealth, over a weekend of special events:

- Saturday 6th May the Coronation Ceremony takes place at Westminster Abbey, London.
- 6th-8th May will see Coronation Big Lunches up and down the country and across the Commonwealth.
- Sunday May 7th a spectacular Coronation Concert will be performed at Windsor Castle with iconic locations across the UK lit up using projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations.
- Monday 8th May a special Bank Holiday has been proclaimed by the Prime Minister in honour of the Coronation, giving everyone the opportunity to join in with their communities and good causes through Big Help Out activities.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 6.00pm**  
**Civic Service Songs of Praise in St Leonard's**

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## Our children need us...in church!

*It's good to learn from others' experiences and here's an article from a church's parish magazine written by their children and youth worker -*

"You may have heard me say before that, much like it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a church to raise a Christian. And, whether we know it or not, when we come to church on a Sunday we are all teaching the children. I don't mean you're unexpectedly on the Junior Church or Tots rota (you'll be pleased to know), but in everything we do the children are watching us and learning from us.

I had the privilege of going to church as a child, and so many of the things I take for granted as a Christian now are things I learnt from watching the adults and older children around me when I was young. Maybe as you think back to your childhood you can say the same. I learnt the importance of humble service from the woman in my church who came early every week to clean the toilets. I learnt that Christians love people who are different to them by watching loving friendships form between very different people. I learnt how precious the hope of Jesus' return is from a lady who had various mobility problems and spoke of how she would dance before Jesus one day. I learnt to sing

wholeheartedly from hearing the people around me do so week on week.

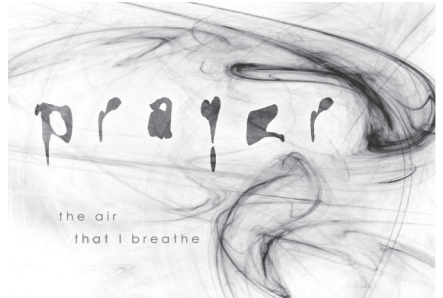
At our church we're doing the same, whether we realise it or not. When you come to church you are communicating something valuable to our children. By stepping through the door you're showing that it matters that God's people gather together. As you say the words of the confession you're teaching the children that we all need God's forgiveness, and we can always ask him for it. As you sing the songs (even if they're not to your taste) you're teaching the children what it looks like to praise God. As you say hello to someone you don't know you're teaching the children what it looks like to be hospitable. As you reach for the bibles in the pews you're teaching the children that we love to hear from God in his word. As you receive communion you're teaching the children that we remember Jesus' body and blood were broken and shed for us. We are all teaching the children.

I hope this thought encourages you the next time you come to church. You are helping the children to see what faith looks like at all different ages and stages of life. We're all involved in raising the next generation to know Jesus- what a wonderful task to share."



## 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 April

### WAVES – Supporting Seaford Families

- For new families attending the centre Drop-Ins and accessing our support services, that they may seek the help they need and find the support from other families as well as from the workers and volunteers within WAVES to enable them to move forward with hope and positivity.
- That families in need, on whatever level - emotional, practical, wellbeing - feel able to come forward and access WAVES support.
- For current and new listeners going into schools, that they may enable the children they work with to feel able to express themselves and in doing so have a positive impact on their wellbeing.
- For the health and wellbeing of all involved with the running of WAVES – workers, volunteers and trustees.
- For positive outcomes from funding applications and individual giving, to enable WAVES to continue to offer the valuable support our outreach workers deliver to families in need of direction, emotional and practical support.

### SARAH & POLA CHHIN working with CAMBODIA ACTION

- Praise and thanks that the whole family (Sarah, Pola, Laurie, Alice, Lye, Pich, Thida and Thideth)) are in their 'New Home' and can share it with wider family and guests after four years of not having enough room.
- That they will find a solution as to what to do with the little temporary house that now needs to be moved and if possible sold for re-use elsewhere.
- M'lup Russey have been recommended as a potential partner to a new Chinese donor based in Hong Kong - which is the reason Sarah has been learning Mandarin. Pray for a successful outcome to the early introductions that will result in the opportunity to apply for funding.

## **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 leads the world-wide Anglican Communion through challenging times trying to avoid painful division.
- 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 worships 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 economic time, and the negotiations with the EU over future trading and relations with Northern Ireland.
- 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. people smuggling, those crossing the channel in small boats.
- For the many Ukrainians who had fled their homes for safety in the UK.

## **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.
- Pray that 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**

- That there will be good engagement with the parents and carers who attend the Tots sessions plus fun and safety for the children.

- Givethanks for the increased numbers at Sparks and Ignite and pray that there will be sufficient volunteers to sustain these groups without a waiting list or rationed times. Strength and stamina for the leaders. Safekeeping for the children.
- That the newly formed Sunday School at St. Luke's and Messy Church (at St Leonard's) will enable those attending to grow in their faith.
- That all will hear and understand the true meaning of Easter.
- For increased opportunities to help and support the teaching of RE at Chyngton and Cradle Hill Primary Schools as well as at Seaford Head.

### **THURSDAY–For those living & working in:**

6<sup>th</sup> April: Chyngton Way, South Way, Mark Close, Newick Close, Hamsey Lane,

13<sup>th</sup> April: Fairways Road, Poynings Close, Fairways Close, Lullington Close

20<sup>th</sup> April: Field Close, Green Walk, St Wilfrid's Close, Kingston Green, Kingston Cl.

27<sup>th</sup> April: Kingston Way, May Avenue, Buckthorn Close, Rowan Cl, Badgers Copse

4<sup>th</sup> May: Eastbourne Road, Ash Drive, Sycamore Close, Elm Close, Willow Drive, Juniper Close,

11<sup>th</sup> May: Bainbridge Close, Sutton Avenue, Links Close, Darwall Drive,

18<sup>th</sup> May: Hazeldene, Headland Avenue Downsview Road, Hartfield Road

25<sup>th</sup> May: Wenthill Park, Wellington Park, Aquila Park, Downs Road

### **FRIDAY– Seaford**

- Churches of Seaford– as they come together on Good Friday to participate in the Walk of Witness, starting at St Leonard's at 10.00 am moving on through the Salts, returning along the seafront and finishing at the Life Church.
- Care Homes– give thanks that the majority of homes are once again able to host church services for residents: pray that the others will soon be able to open their doors.
- For our local doctors' practices– that there will be solutions to the pressures and stresses they are facing. For all their staff who care and serve our community.
- For those who maintain our local transport systems remembering especially the taxi and bus (both paid and volunteer) drivers.
- For the members of the local Emergency Services– Police, Ambulance, Fire & Rescue, Coastguards and Lifeboat volunteers.

### **SATURDAY–World**

- That the thousands of thousands affected by the earthquakes will continue to get the aid they require amidst the total devastation in which they are left
- That Israel's pause in building settlements on the West Bank will improve relationships with Palestine.

- For an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine. For those dealing with their shattered lives as a consequence of this conflict.
- For a united effort to resolve the problems of people trafficking and those fleeing their homelands as refugees.
- That world leaders and their governments will find workable remedies to cope with the changes in climate and the ensuing environmental problems. That the richer nations will offer help to the poorer nations so that there will be better use of the earth's finite resources.
- That we will all learn to love our neighbours as ourselves.

### **Pray for CHRISTIAN AID during MAY**

- Drought: This year Christian Aid Week [14th to 20th May] will focus on the plight of drought which numerous countries around the world face. It recognises that droughts have become more intense and more common because of the changing climate. The impact on the world population is great, as it means that millions of people around the world struggle to get the food and water that they need.
- Collectors: Pray for our envelope collectors joy and safety and those who fill the envelopes, generosity of spirit and money.
- Deliverers: Pray for those who feel unable to collect the money as well as delivering the envelopes.
- Church sitters and collection points: Pray for those sitting at the church to receive uncollected envelopes, [St Leonard's is to cover 10am to 4pm on Friday 19th May] that they may enjoy the experience, encouraging passers-by to contribute and answer questions they might raise.
- Service: That the service at 6pm on Sunday 14th May [venue yet to be decided], may be well attended, the speaker inspiring and that it be a prayerful and encouraging start to the week.

**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.



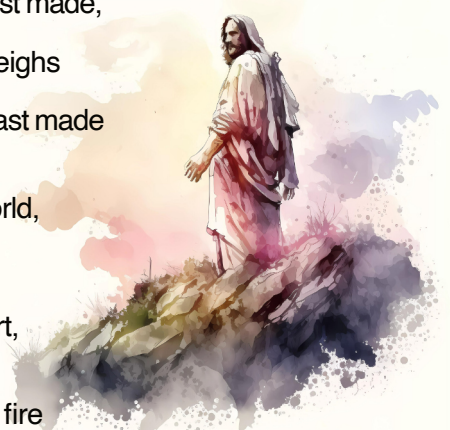
## Pain

The cry of man's anguish went up to God,  
'Lord, take away the pain!  
The shadow that darkens the world Thou hast made,  
The close coiling chain,  
That strangles the heart : the burden that weighs  
On the wings that that would soar -  
Lord, take away pain from the world Thou hast made  
That it love thee the more!

Then answered the Lord to the cry of the world,  
'Shall I take away pain,  
And with it the power of the soul to endure,  
Made strong by the strain ?  
Shall I take away pity that knits heart to heart,  
And sacrifice high?

Will ye lose all your heroes that lift from the fire  
White brows to the sky?  
Shall I take away love that redeems with a price,  
And smiles at its loss?  
Can ye spare from your lives that would cling unto mine  
The Christ on his cross?

*Anon*



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## Quotes...

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of mankind on this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life. *James Allan Francis*

The Resurrection is the central theme in every Christian sermon reported in the Acts. The Resurrection, and its consequences were the 'gospel' or good news which the Christians brought. *CS Lewis*



# Operation Mobilisation

## Martin & Matt Millar



In the last edition we introduced Matt Miller and his 'gap year' volunteering trip with the Christian mission organisation, Operation Mobilisation (OM). He is currently aboard the ship 'Logos Hope' where every member of the 300-strong crew is a volunteer – from the Captain to the cleaning team (where Matt is working!). The crew comprises members from around 60 different nations.

This is his update:

It has only been 4 weeks and I have already learnt so much about God, my relationship with him and how to serve him. I have also really enjoyed experiencing the new cultures I've

visited; living and working on a ship, in particular while it is sailing; and the opportunity to meet people on the ship from all across the world. It is a unique and truly special experience.

I arrived on the Logos Hope at 2am in Port Said, Egypt, on Friday 20th January. We were only in Egypt for a few days, before setting sail for Jordan. In Egypt I started my STEP training (Short Term Exposure Program,) along with everyone else in my STEP group. In Egypt we were lucky enough to visit the pyramids!

After our initial training we were allocated our work departments. I have joined the cleaning department, nicknamed the "Angels". Each week we work five days, have one 'Connection

Day' and have one day off. It doesn't always work out quite like that, but that's roughly what happens!

'Connection Days' are an opportunity to try to connect with locals and maybe help with a project in the community. For example, some groups have done beach clean ups and painted a school. So far I have not been involved in a practical project like this, but I have connected with people in the ship's book fair and done a prayer walk through Aqaba, Jordan. I really enjoyed the prayer walk, it was special to be able to be in this community and pray for it. While on the prayer walk God gave me an image. The ship was a heart and people from the ship going out into the city were like veins. Like the heart pumps blood around our bodies, carrying oxygen, the people of the ship going out into the community are

carrying the Holy Spirit, bringing light, hope and love into these communities. Please pray that this would be the case, that the ship really would be this blessing to every port it visits. In Jordan a few of us were also able to connect with local young people through playing football together, which was great!

Thank you so much to those who have expressed an interest in Matt's trip and for those of you who have been supporting him - and the work of OM worldwide - in prayer.

(The picture shows Matt on arrival in Jordan. Each member of the crew is encouraged to fly the flag of their own nation as a demonstration of global friendship to the particular host country).

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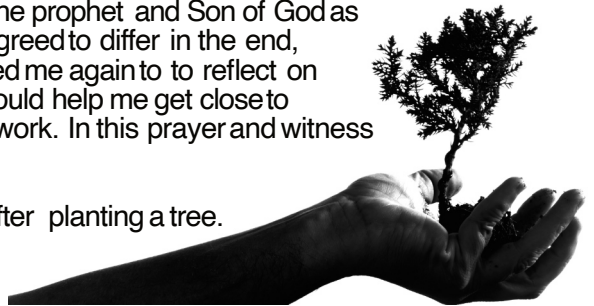
## News from Pakistan

## Mark Gill

I was invited today to a tree planting ceremony at a local school where with other local leaders we planted a dozen pine trees. The school kids were well turned out on the cricket field to witness the event. In a few words to the assembly there was an encouragement to keep the environment good every day, not just today when we plant a tree.

During the event I met a man who introduced himself as Muhammad Isa, Isa meaning Jesus...this led to an interesting conversation about Jesus the prophet as the Muslims believe or Jesus the prophet and Son of God as Christians believe. While we agreed to differ in the end, his paradoxical name challenged me again to reflect on my belief in Jesus and how it could help me get close to others to allow the Holy Spirit work. In this prayer and witness go together.

A good lesson to remember, after planting a tree.





## Nicola Ferguson

attend on the night.

Firstly, a Very Big Thank You to those who helped in any and all ways last year, to raise money for Christian Aid. As a result, Seaford sent £8,374.58 to Christian Aid, which was wonderful.

Thank You also for your emergency response to the Turkey-Syria earthquake appeal. The DEC charities and local partners with Christian Aid are in a new phase of the relief effort and focussed on shelter, medical treatment, heaters and winter kits with blankets, warm clothes with food and clean water. Protection kits are being distributed by Christian Aid partners. 665+ kits have been delivered with temporary shelter, food parcels. Emergency assistance also includes protection for children, cash for local communities and mental health support.

Thanks to your donations, the Parish has raised over £900 inside emergency envelopes, with more to come. The majority of these donations have been Gift Aided with some church members paying online. It was decided by the committee that all money raised this year up to the end of February would go to the Earthquake Appeal.

As usual, Christian Aid Week will commence with a 'Churches Together' service at 6pm on Sunday 14th May (Venue to be confirmed) and we hope to have a speaker from Christian Aid

"...one of the best ways of collecting money during the week, is for members to deliver envelopes in a designated road, then return to each house once or twice to collect the filled envelopes. It really is very easy, but it does take time...although not so productive financially, but still valuable, is to cover one of our roads by delivering the envelopes with a note inside (which we provide you with), telling households where the envelopes can be returned to..." - Colin.

If you have never collected for Christian Aid, just have a word with Colin Pritchard after a service at St Leonard's or ring him on 01323 894899. We are always needing new collectors and Colin will talk you through the process in a supportive way. We need as much support as we can muster to raise money for Christian Aid, so please help us this coming Christian Aid week if you are able.

### **Christian Aid Lunch** *(with raffle)*

**St. Luke's Church, Walmer Road**  
**Saturday 29th April**  
**12 noon to 1.30pm**

Tickets cost £8 and are available from  
Nicola Ferguson or Colin Pritchard  
*Call Colin on 01323 894899*



It may seem that we are always asking, asking, asking and then asking you for more donations and more help, but it's so important, that we **must** keep asking! There are a few collection points in town for filled envelopes. One will be the porch of St. Leonard's from 10.00am-4.00pm on Friday 19th May and there will be a sign-up list for people to sit, two at a time with the

churn and a smile for those passing by. Participating churches take it in turn to sit beside the churn on each of the other days between Wednesday 17th and Saturday 20th May.

A future date for your diaries: 10th June 2023 at 2.30pm - Cream Tea organised by St Andrew's in Bishopstone Village Hall. Tickets £5.



## Christian Aid Week 2023 Why peas?



“For thousands of farming families in Malawi, ‘Pigeon Peas’ are a route out of poverty. The mighty pigeon pea is drought resistant, so thrives in the dry fields of southern Malawi. It’s an essential part of the diet of millions of people around the world. This Christian Aid Week, we share the challenges experienced by communities in Malawi. Covid, climate change, conflict in Ukraine and the cost of living crisis mean that in Malawi, soaring costs of food and essentials are crushing dreams, keeping people in desperate poverty”.

So this May for Christian Aid week, ‘The Big Pea Challenge’ invites you to hold your own pea-themed fundraiser. Ham and pea soup and bread lunch perhaps?

I have just ordered 5x500g packets of dried Pigeon Peas (Cajanus Cajan) AKA

Gungo peas in Asian cookery and plan to try out some of the recipes that can be found on the Christian Aid website. On the evening of Thursday 18th May during Christian Aid Week, Stefan has said that I can bring some prepared dishes from the Pigeon Pea Recipe Book (Recipes from the book are available on the Christian Aid website as a resource) to contribute to the supper for ‘The Chosen’ film night. This will be an opportunity to try the recipes which are eaten in Malawi, as well as a chance to watch ‘The Chosen’ and donate to Christian Aid.

‘...Whether you’re a gardener, a cook or just up for a bit of fun with ‘The Big Pea Challenge’, go onto the Christian aid website where you’ll find resources to get out into the community and bring other good-hearted people into the Christian Aid movement...’ - [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)



### Hillside

I stood out on the hillside and looked up at the sky,  
Towhere they say 'a Heaven' is, yet I wonder why!  
For all I can see is sunshine through the cloud,  
So I shout "Where are you Lord?" good and loud,

For an earthly moment I am still, waiting for a reply,  
'Beside you even now!' I turn slowly, look and cry,  
And there you are I know it to be so,  
I smile and say "please don't ever go!"

### Candles Flicker

Candles flicker in the darkness, draughts unseen,  
An ill wind blows cold in lives so sad and mean,  
By God's Grace a light shone all around ,  
Deep in one's heart its warmth is found ,

Hot coals of hope comfort troubled souls,  
Walking along a road with many holes,  
The fires lit by the Holy Spirit burn,  
Christ travels beside at every turn .

### A Message from Above

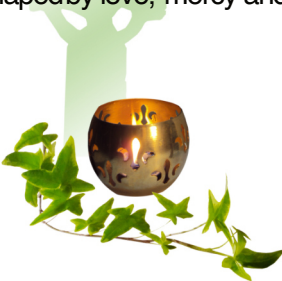
Upon years gone past, I can look back,  
On the compassion the leaders did lack,  
Too many guns , not enough tears,  
This is what the world often fears,

In a time when we are all struck numb,  
Who is to know the horror yet to come?  
For only God can know his many plans,  
Shaped by love, mercy and his hands,

### Altar

The silver on the cross is brighter on this day,  
Let us shine as bright for Christ when we pray,  
Let's show that warmth to others in this land,  
Might the Holy Spirit guide them to understand,

We pray our lives are transformed every day,  
As we sit in your presence come what may,  
let me focus on candles and cross,  
Especially when tempted or at a loss,





## Running for a Cause: Raising Awareness and Funds for the National Autistic Society

On April 23rd, I will be taking on the challenge of running the London Marathon. But this isn't just any marathon; it's a marathon for a cause. I am running to raise awareness about autism and funds for the National Autistic Society.

My journey to becoming a marathon runner and my decision to seek an autism diagnosis are different sides of my own personal lockdown story. Like many of us, I found myself searching for ways to manage my state of mind during lockdown. I turned to running and discovered its meditative properties that helped me focus on what really mattered. But during this time, I also realised that I was healing myself of what I now understand to be autistic burnout.

With the support of The University of Sussex, where I work, and my first marathon behind me, I received my diagnosis in the summer of 2022. While my support needs are relatively modest, I have found the resources provided by the National Autistic Society to be invaluable.

The National Autistic Society is a charity that provides information and



resources to support individuals and families affected by autism. They offer a supportive community and have an immeasurable impact. That's why I am running the London Marathon for the National Autistic Society, to raise awareness about autism and funds for this amazing charity.

I ask our community to support this cause and help me make a difference. Your donation will bring us one step closer to a world where everyone on the autism spectrum can reach their full potential. You can donate at <https://2023tcs.londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/lindsay-stirton>.

Let's come together to support this cause and help raise awareness and funds for individuals and families affected by autism.

## Helping people into Housing

### **New Chair**

Our Vice-Chair Ros Kellaway has taken over from Joan, who was chair for eleven years, half our life. Ros, a retired solicitor, is having to give up helping another charity to help us – for which we are very grateful.

In March, we are looking forward to the visit of Andrew Blackman, the Lord Lieutenant, a patron, to our office in Lewes. Our previous Lord Lieutenant was very supportive of our efforts.

### **New Interview System**

We are preparing to interview clients in face to face meetings as we did prior to Covid. Our method is to invite people to an interview in Newhaven or Lewes. We propose to give them a £4 food voucher to attend because it may cost travel e.g. bus fares to arrive. (The admin for food vouchers is easier than cash). The interview is held with a Client Manager and a Volunteer. These interviews are very valuable because it gives the volunteers, as well as Client Managers, an insight to the amazing variety of people who apply and their problems. (Until now interviews have been conducted by phone.) There are two criteria for ruling people out,

namely, large existing debts or being incapable of independent living. However, we do have leeway to refuse anyone who does not feel right, without giving reasons. This can be helpful if our reasons are challenged.

### **New Admin Officer**

We have appointed Wendy who started part-time work in February. She will do a wide range of jobs including, liaising with Lewes District Council, preparing agendas for meetings and applying for grants. We are applying to Enjoolata, Open Doors, Henry Smith and Sussex Community Association

### **New Prisoner Criteria**

We have given grants to those leaving prison without accommodation so they can have up to two weeks B&B. Originally, this was for those leaving Lewes Prison but we discovered that almost all prisoners spent time in Ford prison in West Sussex before leaving, so we gave grants to all those moving from Sussex to Sussex. However, there was a complaint that this was unfair to women who have no prison in Sussex: the nearest is Bronzefield in Surrey. So we are amending our criteria to insist that we will only help Prisoners with a Lewes connection - either with the Prison or the District whether they are men or women.

### **New Dates**

Please note that our AGM is at Crossways Church On Thursday May 25, starting at 7.00pm.

David Allan, Deputy Lord Lieutenant, has kindly allowed us to use his splendid Garden again. Barrack Cottage in Bishopstone will be open on Saturday June 24th. from 10.00am to 4.00pm (timing to be confirmed).

We ask for God's help: for Ros and Wendy in their new roles for those offered a loan and finding it difficult to find accommodation for those struggling to repay their loans for success in our grant applications.

### Prayers

**HOMELINK** is a registered charity led by a Board of Trustees (including one 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.



**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**



Life And More Abundant Ministries

# LAMA

## Lesley Gomez



**Dear Friends,**

Thank you for donations, prayers and encouragement. We are very excited as our ministry is opening up in new ways for us!

### **Regional Rehabilitation Centre for Youth: Detention Centre for Boys.**

At our recent Chapel service at the detention centre for boys Michael and Simon arrived early. They sang new songs with the theme of opening our eyes to his glory and majesty, ending with "None But Jesus."



Michael usually closes the service asking if anybody wants prayer, but this time he forgot! As they were packing up the instruments, a group of boys gathered at the front so he asked if he could pray for them - instead they replied together, "We want to pray for our friend (charged with homicide). The ghost of his victim haunts him, he can't sleep." They asked Michael if it was normal? How can it be stopped? He was

unsure what to say, then the Holy Spirit reminded him of the songs they had just sung. "It happens sometimes because of the trauma and shock of what happened," he explained.

"It will leave when you fill your minds with Jesus and the goodness of God." Without any hesitation, they laid their hands on him and started whispering their own prayers! The first time that has happened!

It is wonderful to watch how the Holy Spirit gives wisdom to answer difficult questions, without Him we don't have answers. Please pray that the false teaching from another minister would be halted as he is causing confusion and fear of judgement to their young minds. Pray too that Michael will be given more time to mentor the boys one-on-one as part of his online course in Contemporary Chaplaincy with Waverley Abbey College.

### **Pastor Baltazzar Caranay's Church**

It was great to attend the dedication of a new building for Endless Destiny with Christ Church in nearby Naguilian, pastored by Nida Caranay. Her late husband, Pastor Baltazzar Caranay gave his life to Jesus in prison in the 1980's. He pastored the inmates in his cell and led a revival in the prison that saw many

saved, including guards. When he was released after a long sentence we put him through Bible College, he married Nida and pioneered this church.



Now more than 30 years later the congregation have raised enough money for an impressive building. His adult children, Leah and Baltazzar Jr, are in LAMA House Worship team.

**Beach Mission**

We attended the opening of My Girl beach cafe near LAMA House, a new venture for Jong, (our new trustee), Sam’s daughter Nikki and husband Noel. The week following the first Beach mission service we asked if we could have a Worship Service at the Cafe one Sunday evening. They loved the idea! So, we set up our speakers and instruments and worshipped with whoever was there for drinks.

Groups of people sat around listening for over an hour as Michael, Simon and team sang about God’s love and how wonderful Jesus is!



Some have since asked when will we do it again, so we are planning weekly sessions. Jong is excited to share the Gospel next time.

**Playground: Children’s Mission**

I remember someone once told me they saw a ‘vision’ of the future where LAMA House was filled to overflowing with happy, laughing children! Lately, the children from the barrio have been coming to play in our playground - numbers have quickly grown. We have moved Cathy’s playground to the front so that parents and young people will also come in. Yesterday Peter counted 89 children! They run here from school every day, hang their school bags on the fence and play until supper time, on Saturdays they are here all day! Today 20 or so teenage boys are playing basketball too!



Kingdom Come Lord in their lives!  
The new playground 2023. So much fun and laughter!

Both Baltazzar’s story and Cathy’s Playground feature in my book, Have a Little Faith. We have copies available to purchase at £8.99. 50% of all proceeds will be donated to support the work of Children, Youth & Family Mission work in the Parish. Please contact Esther: 0782 8005568.

Bless you!  
Lesley and Peter Gomez, Michael and Jeli, Ana and Simon.

**Ministry email: [lama.min.org@gmail.com](mailto:lama.min.org@gmail.com)**



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## **Archbishop of Canterbury's recent speech on 'Living in Love and Faith'**

"We are not divided but we disagree, and that is very painful. And I will use again the words close to those I used to the Bishops gathered at the Lambeth Conference on a very similar debate.

"For some, to question the inherited teaching damages witness and is sinful: you point out that in many provinces across the Anglican Communion any change might make the church a victim of derision, contempt and even attack for being part of what is called the 'gay church'. For we are often seen as the Mother Church.

"For others, you have not arrived easily at the conclusion that we need to change. You are not careless about Scripture. You do not reject Christ and His authority. But to question this change makes the church here and abroad a victim of derision, contempt, and even attack for being part of the perceived 'homophobic church'.

"Listening and loving is about what has been brought forward by the House of Bishops. It has been consulted extensively with the primates and many others in the Anglican Communion. What we are seeking is what we understand from the Spirit is right, not what is convenient or easy. There are no convenient or easy ways forward.

"What we have in this conversation and the decision we make, is at its heart the chance publicly to witness to Christ in the most difficult, distinctive and radical way – to disagree passionately and yet to be clear that we uphold our need for one another, and for the world, to come to the knowledge of being loved by God in Christ.

"Let me be clear on this point, we do that by saying to the world: unity in Jesus Christ is our common identity, and difference must be worked out within that identity.

"Even things that are so important and so painful for us, are not as important as the essential-ness of others. That is our witness to a world that throws others away, excludes them, divides in the face of disagreement.

"I know there is fear of a slippery slope, of what may or may not happen at some point in the future, but let us not give in to the fear of a future which we can neither predict nor control.

**2<sup>nd</sup> April: Palm Sunday**

Psalm 118:1-2  
Matthew 21:1-11

**9<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Day**

Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18

**16<sup>th</sup> April: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
John 20:19-31

**23<sup>rd</sup> April: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2:14a, 36-41  
Luke 24:13-35

**30<sup>th</sup> April: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

2Samuel 6:1-22  
John 10:1-10

**7<sup>th</sup> May: 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 7:55-60  
John 14:1-14

**14<sup>th</sup> May: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ester**

Exodus 32:1-14  
John 14:15-21

**18<sup>th</sup> May: Ascension Day**

Acts 1:1-11  
John 24:44-53

**21<sup>st</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**

Acts 1:6-24  
John 17:1-11

**28<sup>th</sup> May: Pentecost Sunday**

Acts 2:1-21  
John 20:19-23

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“Each of us will answer to God at the judgement for our decisions on this matter. We are personally responsible. I am supporting these resources, not I think because I am controlled by culture but because of Scripture, tradition and reason evidenced in the vast work done over the last six years so ably by so many.

“I may be wrong, of course I may, but I cannot duck the issue any more than anyone else here. I ask each member of Synod to vote with their Spirit-inspired consciences, scripturally and spiritually guided, and not because groups or lobbies or outsiders have told you to.

“So let us decide as we each conclude the Lord desires. Above all, let us debate remembering that all Christians are indispensable members of God’s Church, all Christians, and whatever our views or theirs will remain so.

“And let us show that in how we speak, and let us show that in how we decide, and that we are above all the church that demonstrates the call of God to people whom He desires to know and love.”



# April

# Calendar



<b>Saturday 1st</b>	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 2nd Palm Sunday</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
<b>Monday 3rd</b>	7.00pm	Compline	St. Leonard's
<b>Wednesday 5th</b>	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
<b>Thursday 6th Maundy Thursday</b>	7.00pm	Holy Communion with Tenebrae	St. Leonard's
<b>Friday 7th Good Friday</b>	9.30am	Messy Good Friday	St. Luke's
	10.00am	Walk of Witness	St. Leonard's (dep)
	12.30pm	Meditations at the Cross	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	Seaford Choral Society: Olivet to Calvary	St. Leonard's
<b>Saturday 8th</b>	7.00pm	Easter Vigil	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 9th Easter Day</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
<b>Tuesday 11th</b>	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
<b>Wednesday 13th</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
<b>Friday 14th</b>	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
<b>Saturday 15th</b>	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
<b>Monday 17th</b>	7.30pm	Women's Group	St. Luke's
<b>Wednesday 20th</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	7.00pm	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
<b>Tuesday 25th</b>	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
<b>Sunday 30th</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's



# Calendar

# May



<b>Wednesday 3rd</b>	11.00am	Matins	St. Leonard's
	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
<b>Saturday 6th</b>	9.30am	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 7th</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	6.00pm	Coronation Civic Songs of Praise	St. Leonard's
<b>Wednesday 10th</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
<b>Friday 12th</b>	2.00pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
<b>Sunday 14th</b>	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
<b>Monday 15th</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	Women's Group	St. Luke's
<b>Tuesday 16th</b>	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
<b>Wednesday 17th</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
<b>Saturday 18th</b>	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 21st</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
<b>Wednesday 22nd</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
<b>Sunday 28th Pentecost Sunday</b>	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
<b>Tuesday 30th</b>	11.00am	Prayer Ministry & Communion	St. Luke's
<b>Wednesday 31st</b>	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's

For details of regular groups and events see page 42.



Login to ChurchSuite

for details of all church events



# 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 (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)

### Wednesdays

- 11.00am Matins: a quiet said service (1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday)
- 11.00am Holy Communion: a said service (other Wednesdays)



## Services in St. Luke's Church

### Sundays

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

### Tuesdays

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

<b>Sunday</b>	Glow (children's group)	9.30am	St. Luke's	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays
<b>Monday</b>	Women's Group	7.30pm	St. Luke's	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday
<b>Tuesday</b>	Bell Ringers	7.30pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
<b>Wednesday</b>	Tots	9.30am	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Parish Lunch	12.30pm	St. Luke's	1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday
<b>Thursday</b>	Tots	9.30am	St. Leonard's	Weekly*
	Choir	7.00pm	St. Leonard's	Weekly
	Mother's Union	2.30pm	St. Luke's	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday
<b>Friday</b>	Sparks	5.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
	Ignite	7.45pm	St. Luke's	Weekly*
<b>Saturday</b>	Messy Church	9.30am	St. Leonard's	1 <sup>st</sup> 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

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## Hall Bookings

	07425 936674	bookings@seafordparish.org.uk
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