

Parish Magazine

The Parish of Sutton
with Seaford

Parish News

Clergy Letter

Book Review

Mission News

Prayer Diary

Lunchtime
Concerts

And more...



February-March 2022

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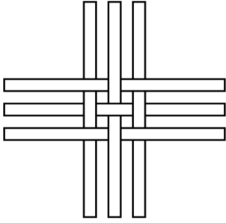
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Parish Magazine

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

February-March 2022


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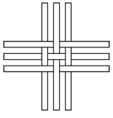
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Parish News

We're Back!

From Tuesday February 15th and fortnightly thereafter we will be resuming a Tuesday service at St. Luke's, starting with with coffee at 10.00am. This will be followed by a service of Prayer Ministry with Holy Communion lasting 45 minutes. Coffee will be available after the service for anyone who wants to stay for a chat. For more information contact Diana Woodcock 01323 891749 or Janet Fairchild 01323 872281.

Seaford Parish Women's Group

SPWG meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday evening and will restart on Monday 07th February in St Luke's at 7.30. This will be a combined meeting, electing new officers and discussing our future programme. We will also have a surprise raffle, followed by refreshments and cake. A big thank you for the bumper number of gifts you provided for the Stopover Service, carried out on a very wet December afternoon. We were very grateful to Diana Woodcock for presiding over the service and to hear an update on the charity by Connie Hughes, the Seaford Stopover representative. We look forward to welcoming you on Monday 7th February at 7.30 in St Luke's, please get in touch with one of the committee members if you need a lift.

Parish Magazine Copy Date

Items for the forthcoming April-May edition of the magazine should be sent by Tuesday 15th March to magazine@seafordparish.org.uk

Archbishop's Diocesan Visit

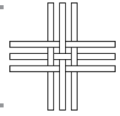
The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby is due to make an official visit to the Diocese from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th March 2022. An exciting programme will see Archbishop Justin meet community volunteers and business leaders, students, and young people across the Diocese. There will be several events where members of the public will be welcome to attend to meet the Archbishop and discuss questions of faith with him.

Lent Course 2022

The Bishop has commissioned a five-week Lent course for 2022. A Lent resource "Comfort ye my people" is being produced which will include a weekly programme for each of the five weeks of Lent featuring a verse of scripture, a reflection, a prayer and a work of art which Lent groups and individuals will be encouraged to reflect on. Resources supporting the course will be uploaded to the Diocesan website.

Parish Lunch

The next Parish Lunches will take place on Wednesdays, February 2nd and March 2nd in St.Luke's at 12.30pm for 12.45. Please wear a mask. Tickets are available from Sue Saunders (St Leonard's) and Jan Fairchild (St Luke's) for £6.00. All tickets sold for January's lunch, which was postponed, will be honoured. We look forward to restarting the lunches again. Any queries to Ann Fenwick 01323 893318.



ChurchSuite

ChurchSuite went live to all members of our churches on Sunday 23rd January. If we have your email address you will have received a message inviting you to create a password and log in. Please do join us on ChurchSuite if you are online, it's an easy way to keep in touch and informed. The Parish Magazine and fortnightly news sheet will of course continue to be available both electronically and in paper format.

Christmas 2021

As our Christmas celebrations become an increasingly distant memory it is timely to express our thanks to all who made our Christmas 2021 services something a little more like normality than in 2020. There are too many to name individually... but thank you.



Parish Magazine

Two years ago as we moved into the first period of lockdown due to Covid -19 The Parish Magazine became available in electronic format to everyone via our website, whilst we also continued to print a reduced number of paper copies. The online version became freely downloadable to anyone and everyone so we moved to a system where we asked for a donation to cover the magazine production costs (largely copying and paper). We plan to continue with this as we approach the time when annual subscriptions are due for renewal. If you receive a paper copy the suggested donation is £1.00 per issue or £6.00 if you pay annually. If you read the magazine electronically we ask for an annual donation of £4.00 (there are minimal production costs for the electronic version). We usually produce about 220 paper copies of each issue and last year there were 1202 downloads in total across the 6 issues. Payment for paper copies can be made in church or to your distributor and for the electronic version on the magazine download page. Go to www.seafordparish.org.uk/parish-magazine to download your copy.

From the Registers: Funerals

Margaret Sharp
Betty Landrock
Joy Edwards
Cheery Pook
Eric Styles



James Hollingsworth looks forward

How are your New Year's Resolutions going? My advice would be not to make any. At least not until we get to Ash Wednesday. I hope you kept your Nativity Crib set out at least as far as Candlemas and the end of January. I find the cheeriness of the whole scene gives me a bit of Christmas joy. I find the reminder that the good news of God's love came via singing angels to the hardworking forgotten types like the Shepherds encouraging. Someone suggested a modern equivalent might be akin to the night shift workers in a care home. I like that idea.

Covid-19

It's good that we have had no cases of Covid as a result of any of our services. That's encouraging. But it reminds us to keep cleaning our hands and to sing with masks on. At the moment we continue to have Holy Communion in wafer form only. I miss the chalice and pray that we will get back to it. For me it's not so much about the tiny sip of port as it is about the simple action that unites us all as we drink from the common cup. No doubt, by the time you are reading this advice will have changed. Nonetheless we will be encouraging face masks and especially singing with them for a bit longer. In the meantime, as the old saying goes, we keep alert.

Sermons

This year's sermons will often be exploring some familiar Old Testament stories, such as the non-sacrifice of Isaac, Jacob stealing Esau's blessing. I've never preached on them and over the last couple of years we have mostly focussed on the New Testament. I picked the stories by pulling off the shelf a children's bible and I wondered why do we tell our children these stories, after all they're quite complicated, scary, and show life in a fragmented family. Perhaps as we look at them, we will be able to go deeper and see the honesty and realism of the family of God trying to stay close to God, and to love one another, and not always succeeding. Texts of sermons can sometimes be found on my blog - <https://seafordparish.org.uk/springs-of-the-sea/>

St. Leonard's

This year we will also start to re-imagine the inside of St Leonard's Church. The hall has been closed now for over a year. It's good to remember that the hall was in need of significant investment to bring it up to scratch; that it wasn't so good at connecting people to the Church, to faith; and that it was costing us quite a lot to keep going. I still think that the wisdom of selling it and investing that into the building of St Leonard's Church will be good. We pray that it will give the building the investment that the fabric

desperately needs and that it will enable us to build inside a wheelchair accessible toilet and a couple of unisex toilets, as well as a kitchenette, and still have enough storage to keep the bits we need to keep. Can we reimagine St. Leonard's as being at the heart of the community, perhaps less as a space for multiple hirings and more as a space for the whole community. Do feed in your hope and fears. Do pray, do ask questions, do see how you can help.

The Meeting Place

At my licensing I will have vowed to my bishop to endeavour to preach the gospel afresh in each generation. We have taken some tentative steps to bridge the gap between Saturday Messy Church and Sunday morning services with a new family service using the familiar title of The Meeting Place. Oscillating between St. Luke's and St. Leonard's and having pre-service bacon sandwiches or pastries, we have started to see some families come into the Church for whom the idea of liturgy and structure is a novelty. Acts 15.19 springs to mind. Anyway, we pray that they may find it simple to join our family of faith.

Church History

I have started teaching Church History again. I teach it, on Zoom, to second term trainee Readers and Vicars. Twenty centuries in twenty hours! It is exhilarating and exhausting. I recorded on my YouTube channel, (I had one before it was trendy!) some short summaries of the different lecture sessions. I noticed how in the corner of the white board behind me the words: 2018 February 30.

This nonsensical date came about after a time of prayer. I wrote it up there and

when I looked a week later it made no sense so I kept pondering and praying and felt that the Lord was saying I had 30 months before I would leave my previous parish and go to another. I arrived here in September 2020. I will leave it to you to count the months in between. It made me smile as a simple reminder of God's hand at work in our lives. Sometimes we notice this, often we don't, sometimes we see it better from a distance. My prayer for you as you read this that you will from time to time glimpse flashes of angel wings and remember that the Lord is with you.

Confirmation

I remember when the Bishop said to me "Do you turn to Christ?". I was perhaps 12 years old in a school chapel and I thought: I don't really know. I had a sort of flash back epiphany moment so to speak. I had a momentary awareness of how God had been good and faithful to me through the various trials and bullies I had thus suffered and so I said to myself 'go on then' so I said "I turn to Christ". Of course, the whole thing took longer for you to read than happened to me but it changed my life. Bishop Ruth is coming here on Monday 9th May to lead us in a Confirmation service. If you've never been confirmed before then please do get in touch with Derreck or myself and perhaps we might have a chat about it.

Perhaps by the time you're reading this its okay to put your crib scene away. But I've been known to leave my Magi in another room, and the shepherds on another shelf and the holy family near a book end as a constant reminder that Jesus didn't just come for Christmas but for you and me and He is with us everyday.

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Lucy Hollingsworth's story: Part 1

Hello, my name is Rev'd Lucy Hollingsworth and I am married to James the Vicar. James has been telling you a bit about his journey in previous magazines and has suggested that now it is my turn. So in this magazine and in the next I will tell you a bit about me and my journey and maybe there will also be something in what I say that will serve as food for reflection.

It has been the strangest of all times this last couple of years, but hopefully by the time you read this we will be back to a cautious normal or a new normal as it is often being described. This then seems to be a good time for some reflecting and regrouping, sorting and planning and in sitting down to write this talk does feel like part of my reflection time. Thinking about what I do, who does that make me and how did I get here, as well as what may the future hold.

My title for this piece is Probate Prayer Priest, which could be seen as slightly cryptic. But for me they sum up the different hats that I wear on an

everyday basis. I am a priest in the Church of England. I am also a Probate lawyer. I am also me, an individual, a mum, a wife, a daughter, a Christian. And I would say that it is all held together with a lot of prayer.

Which Hat?

When I meet someone new I will quickly decide which hat is helpful for the encounter. In some situations it will be obvious who I am today, I'm at work or in church. In other situations I will make a quick choice as to how the conversation will go, which hat will work best for this encounter. This is after too many conversations that begin with a polite 'what do you do?' To which I can answer:

'Four days a week I work as a solicitor for a local solicitors specialising in writing wills and administering estates. I am also a Tax Technician which means that I spend some time filling in income tax returns. I have been doing this mostly from my home office since March 2020. Another two days a week I am a self-supporting priest (that means I don't get paid) so I lead

services or preach regularly in different churches around Seaford and Lewes. I am also the diocesan Bishops Advisor on Self Supporting Ministry which means I am part of a diocesan team supporting other self-supporting ministers. I'm also a Vicar's wife and a mum to three young adults. Oh yes, and am a part time student, currently writing essays on trusts and estates for another professional qualification.'

At which point very often the person I am speaking to glazes over and politely moves away.

It is so much nicer and more helpful to share one point, one hat, one point in my journey, that someone can relate to and have a lovely conversation. So now I've given you indigestion. How did I get here?

Becoming a Student

I grew up in Ipswich in Suffolk going to the United Reform Church that my grandmother and mother went to and my mother still attends. My schooling was the local state Comprehensive. I knew that I wanted to go to University, but neither my parents nor my school were particularly knowledgeable about how you might do this.

I really wanted to study Archaeology and be a female Indiana Jones and travel the world digging up ancient relics. This got absolutely no-where with my father who said I should do a practical degree, one where I would end up with a proper job. So we settled for a Law degree and I ended up at Southampton University.

Becoming a Christian

I vaguely dabbled in going to church for a while at University, my mum having told me that Christians were good

people to be friends with. There was however for me a moment sitting in an evening church service one wet, dark November night when what I had heard and what I felt came together and I just knew that I was so loved and so forgiven. A God moment when I knew what mattered made sense and the bits that didn't make sense could be dealt with later. In my story this is the moment from which I would positively describe myself as a Christian.

The church was a student friendly independent free church and the pastor would remember his turnover of student faces according to where they came from and their subject before getting to your name. One evening after church he was practicing this, so I got, Ipswich, Law, Lucy and a pause and the comment, there is someone else here from Ipswich... And so I first heard of James, my now husband of some 29 years. We were introduced by a mutual friend and James, who had a car, offered me a lift home for the Easter holidays. I turned him down flatly and probably quite rudely. But then a few days later had to phone him up and ask nicely for that lift. We say that we fell in love driving round the M25.



Becoming a Lawyer

After graduating I went to Law school in Chester for a year and James to Eastbourne on a year's scheme to see if he wanted to train as a priest. No geography was not a strong point of ours. We had got engaged earlier in the summer. But it was in a 50p pay phone call (do you remember those?) from him in London to me on holiday in Devon that he announced that he wanted to think about being a priest and was off to Eastbourne to work with a church.

Undaunted we married the following September and lived in Ipswich while I began training to be a solicitor at a local law firm. These two years were called 'articles' then and you did six months in each of four departments. It soon turned out that I was not called to be a criminal solicitor, although I enjoyed many hours taking many notes sitting behind the barrister in court, the day to day tumble of prison visits, magistrate's court and police interviews did not inspire me. I found however that although I liked people, I also liked order and detail, the technical niceties of both words and numbers and I found my niche in the Private client department of Probate, Wills and Trusts.



Becoming a Tax Technician

In the meantime James had had his calling to train as a Church of England priest and we left Ipswich to live in Cambridge for him to go to theological college. I tried commuting for a bit on the delightful A14 through Suffolk but felt that I really wanted to be able to live and work and make friends in the same city. So I took a job with the Personal Tax department of a big accountants, I studied for tax exams and learnt about the whole new world of tax while loving living in Cambridge.



I also enjoyed dipping in and out of theological college life while wondering if that calling could possibly be for me too. At that point women had only been able to be ordained as priests in the Church of England the previous year (1994) and were breaking new barriers all of the time. The conversations I had always ended with a maybe one day, but not yet. As part of this I did get confirmed which felt like an important part of my journey of accepting the Church of England as my home.

Next time I will share something about our family life and my vocation.



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Stefan Bracher



We have well and truly got off to a fantastic start to 2022!



Over Christmas we had a great time with lots of Messy Church events. We had around 300 people come along

to our Messy Church services throughout Christmas and we had various different ways of thinking about Jesus coming to walk with us on earth.

To kick this year off we launched a revised version of The Meeting Place in both St. Leonard's and St. Luke's, where we have seen more families come along to Sunday morning worship. This is one way that people are coming face to face with God and meeting with the rest of our church community. The families who have come to these services are from the church groups we are already running and it's been fantastic to see them join us more!

Messy Church has plans to continue to develop throughout the year and we have lots of ideas of how we can

continue to extend the Messy Church family. One we are considering is Messy Disciples, so please do keep an eye open and let us know if this is something your family or friends would be able to benefit from. Likewise if you have any other ideas please do get in touch.



Tots' Treats have been going from strength to strength recently with more and more parents and children coming along. We continue to think of ideas to ensure the groups and activities are fresh and appeal to the families that join us each week. Again if you have any thoughts about what additionally we can offer to families, we would love to hear from you. If you or someone you know would like to come along we offer a safe and secure place to relax with babies or toddlers. There are baby toys, ride on toys, painting, playdough, crafts, Lego Duplo, dressing up, story time, puzzles, music time and... oh, as much tea, coffee, juice and biscuits as you can manage!



You might remember me speaking about the Sparks group in previous editions of the magazine and the fact that we needed to split the group into two separate smaller groups to ensure that we had more age-appropriate content. We have been able to do this thanks to some additional volunteers to help with these groups and making use of all the available space in St. Luke's (as the groups run on the same evening at the same time). If you feel you are in a position to give one or two evenings a month to help with this group or any other group it will be greatly appreciated. We can add you to our rota in addition to our key volunteers who are there each week.



Ignite has been meeting each week with limited numbers and is currently the group we are mostly focusing on in terms of further development at the start of this year. Currently we are looking to explore a games evening (to run alongside a separate evening focusing mainly on Bible study) with pizza, games and so on. Of course making an additional group means we need a few more volunteers to help with this. Currently we have had one person come forward to volunteer with this new group, but we really need 2 others who would be willing to give an evening to help. The main reason for this split into these groups is to ensure we are reaching as many young people as we possibly can whilst allowing a safe and secure place for the young people to relax together.

Finally we are currently in the process of also developing another group for young adults. We have a number of young adults who are coming out of the youth group and attending church and we would like to develop a life group (similar to a home group), to support and encourage them. This would involve looking at faith together Bible exploration courses such as Scripture Union's Bible Course, Christianity Explored or Alpha. We need to bridge the gap between what is happening now in our churches to ensure these young adults feel supported and encouraged in their faith journey.

Of course for all these develops to succeed we need volunteers. We have a small army of regulars which is slowly growing, but dare I say it we need more. We need more people to help with setting up activities at group evenings, making refreshments, furniture moving, being an extra person for safeguarding, helping to lead others to faith and helping to answer some challenging questions. You don't need to be confident in answering questions (half the questions can take me a minute – or a week to get and answer back to the young people), you just need to be willing to share the love of Jesus with others. If you think you'll be able to help in any tiny way, please don't cast it to the side. Instead call or email me to discuss how you might be able to support our church family to grow.

Stefan Bracher
Children, Youth and Family Missioner
cyfw@seafordparish.org.uk
07506143476

PANCAKE PARTY

**Come and join us
in St Leonard's Church for our Pancake Party**

Shrove Tuesday (1st March 2022)
4.00-pm to 5.30pm

**There will be fun races, crafts, prizes
and of course**

PANCAKES



Families of all ages and sizes welcome

Mothering Sunday at The Meeting Place

**Join us at 8.30am on Sunday 27th March
at St. Luke's for a cooked breakfast**

(suggested £3 donation, but if that's not possible still come for breakfast)

There will be games, flowers, food and worship...
what a way to do Church!

Please tell Stefan, James or Derreck if you are planning to have breakfast
with us (just so we can make sure we have enough food).

Our service will then start at 9.30am.





We have joined easyfundraising as a means to raise additional income.

If you shop online you can help raise money for the parish donations by nominating us as your chosen charity and then logging in through easy fundraising whenever you wish to shop online. This gives access to over 6000 online shopping websites who when you place an order will give donations to us. Donations can be based a percentage of the price and depending on the type of purchase range from 0.5% to 5%. Others such as Money Supermarket and Go Compare will give as much as £15 if you choose to buy through them. Using EasyFundraising is free and the price you pay is just the same.

easyfundraising collect the donations and send these to us. No further details are passed on so all of your shopping remains completely confidential. You will however be able to see how much your own shopping activities have raised.

The range of retailers involved in easyfundraising is extensive and includes many well known high street brands, hotel groups and insurance companies.

To join EasyFundraising:

1. Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk where you can sign up and select St. Leonard's and St. Luke's Seaford as your nominated charity.
2. Start shopping!

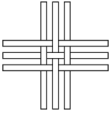
Alternatively visit your app store, search for easyfundraising and use that.

If you have any questions please ask Paul Waller (treasurer and easyfundraising co-ordinator) and he will be delighted to help you. Please join today.



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Finance News

Paul Waller

Our annual income to the end of November 2021 reached almost £208,000. The Parish Giving Scheme is becoming the preferred income channel with £79,000 (including gift aid) being received this way.

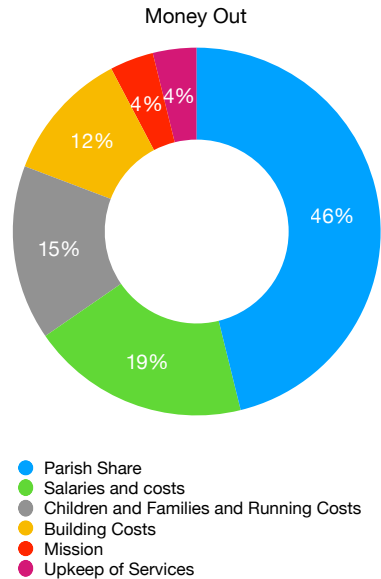
With expenditure in the region of £244,000 (and mission giving still to be included) a deficit of £45,000 is expected.

Looking forward to 2022 we expect total expenses to be in the region of £280,000 with an income of £274,000. This represents a significant increase over 2021 and would reduce our planned deficit at the end of 2022 to just £6000. We can only achieve this if we all prayerfully consider our giving in what for everyone are financially challenging times.

Money In	
Parish Giving	£200,000
HMRC @ 22%	£44,000
Donations	£30,000
Total income	£274,000

Money Out	
Parish Share	£120,000
Salaries and costs	£50,000
Children and Families and Running Costs	£40,000
Building Costs	£30,000
Mission	£10,000
Upkeep of Services	£10,000
Fees/Governance	£10,000
Clergy and Service expenses	£10,000
Total expenses	£280,000

Money Left Over	
Income minus expenses	-£6,000



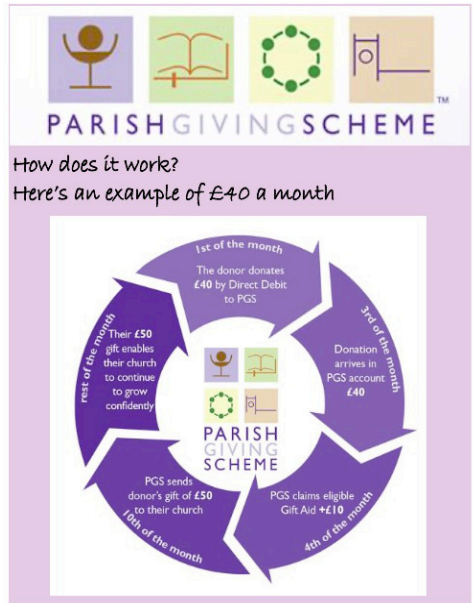
Parish Giving Scheme

We joined the Parish Giving Scheme in 2016. The income from donations made through PGS in the first full year was £57,136 which with Gift Aid brought the total to just over £69,000. The following years saw similar levels of income at £64803, £66329, £69941. At the start of 2021 we had 58 members of the scheme and in January 2021 we received a total of £5109 for the first month of the year. These 58 generous donors have contributed almost £222,000 since joining the scheme, a magnificent achievement. However we need to raise greater amounts to cover our budgets and with this in mind the Coffee Cup Fund was proposed.

The Coffee Club Fund inspired more parishioners to join our PGS and by the end of 2021 we had 94 members and our income for the 1st day of the New Year was £8410 with Gift Aid of £1850 which gave a record monthly total of £10260. The first month of the year has most of the quarterly donations so we might not reach £10000 again until the next quarterly income is received, unless we encourage more to join this scheme. Receiving income via PGS is much more beneficial above all the other methods of giving for a number of reasons. Firstly it arrives as one payment into our bank account on the 10th of the month, the Gift Aid has been calculated and claimed from HMRC, with no administration by us. It is easy to see the income that is generated rather than having to wait for the arrival of numerous standing orders and weekly cash collections.

Benefits for individual donors are that they can keep track of their own contributions and make alterations to the amount given directly to the PGS. They can include inflation proof giving by opting in to inflation increases. We currently have 40% of donors who are offered the chance to amend their gift, on the anniversary of joining, by the annual inflation rate, which they can accept or reject. The Direct Debit Guarantee from PGS gives peace of mind that any problems will be quickly resolved and debits can be changed more simply than standing orders.

If you would like to join please contact www.pariishgivingscheme.org.uk or collect a leaflet from the back of the church. You can also talk to one of the clergy, the wardens or the treasurer.



Find out more about the Parish Giving Scheme at www.pariishgivingscheme.org.uk



Lunchtime Concerts

2022 Season

St. Leonard's Church

February 19th

Sam Lewis (trumpet) www.samlewis trumpet.com
and **Adam Repa** (piano) www.adamrepa.wixsite.com/website

March 19th

Antonio Oyarzabal (piano) www.antoniooyarzabal.com

May 21st

Gerard Brooks (organ) www.gerardbrooks.org.uk

June 18th

Abi Heath (clarinet) www.abigailheath.com

July 16th

Clare Beesley (historical flute) www.clarebeesley.info
and Rosemary Kemp (piano)

August 20th

D'Arcy Trinkwon (organ) www.darcytrinkwon.com

September 17th

Mehreen Shah (soprano) www.mehreen-shah.com

October 15th

Adam Heron (piano) www.adamheron.com

November 19th

Lips Wind Quintet

**All concerts start at 1.00pm and last one hour.
Admission is free with a retiring collection**

Saturday 19th February Sam Lewis (trumpet)



Sam studied at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and was awarded MMus with Distinction in 2012, following his BMus with First-Class Honours the year before. Since graduating, Sam has pursued a performing career which has taken him across the UK and Europe, both as a soloist and ensemble member. He has worked alongside

some exceptional musicians and conductors including the late Sir Colin Davis. Recordings with English Symphony Orchestra have featured in the Classical Charts Top 10 and achieved tens of thousands of views on YouTube, while recent solo performances have included the *London Handel Festival* and *Festival de la Musique Sacrée*. Alongside his work as a performer, Sam is Head of Brass at Wetherby Senior School, where he has the great pleasure of working alongside Adam, who is Head of Keyboard.

Saturday 19th March Antonio Oyarzabal (piano)

Antonio Oyarzabal is a versatile concert pianist and sought-after musician based in London. He was born in Bilbao in 1989. He started his piano studies with Cecilia Keller and Guadalupe López-Castelo. Later, he entered in Musikene (San Sebastian), where he obtained his Bachelor degree, mentored by pianists Marta Zabaleta and Miguel Borges, and also trained in contemporary piano repertoire with Ricardo Descalzo. During this period Antonio also completed a harpsichord Diploma degree with Honours, training with Loreto F. Imaz. He complemented his studies with pianist and CNSM Paris professor Denis Pascal and Armenian pianist Anahit Simonian, with whom he trained in piano improvisation. After this, Antonio moved to London and graduated in Masters as a piano soloist at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, where he also recently obtained the exclusive Artist Diploma with Distinction, studying with Caroline Palmer.

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.

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.

A highly versatile musician, Adam is equally at home on the piano and organ, composing original works, arranging pieces and improvising.





Diana Dixon

Samara is in Syria at present and has been reporting on the work being done on the various projects. Over Christmas, 300 children attended the various Christmas parties organised at the first Outreach Centre and on New Year's Day, 50 orphans attended the second Outreach Centre which is nearly finished. The children had great fun and each child received a present.

Samara's Aid, a small charity with a limited income, can have a much larger impact on the vulnerable communities it serves by growing food for the orphans and widows who attend the Outreach Centres, as well as other vulnerable people in the area. The project focuses on using sustainable farming methods, such as solar power for the irrigation systems. The local community have got behind the project, excited to see the work that is being done and often offering their help for free, hoping ultimately for paid work as the farms will also provide employment. Growing food is so important because recent harvests have been very poor while the demand is high and food prices have increased significantly since the pandemic.

Samara has visited Syria on several occasions but this time she has been particularly struck by the sight of children and adults walking around

while it is snowing, in freezing conditions, wearing summer sandals with torn socks or shoes that are falling apart, some without even a coat. Living conditions for some of the families we help are appalling, many living like squatters in damaged buildings with bare breeze block walls, a blanket or two on the floor, no windows, no electricity and very little gas for heating or cooking. If they have a heater, they often cannot afford the fuel, which is scarce, rationed and expensive.

The problems are enormous, but we can help. Samara has organised a container that will leave for Syria in a few weeks, carrying badly needed wheelchairs, crutches and Zimmer frames provided by another charity, while Samara's Aid will fill the other half with 'dignity bags' containing items such as new underwear, socks, toiletries, brushes, towels, shoes and coats. A partner charity has also offered to donate new shoes and boots.

On this occasion, as a Church we are unable to organise dignity bags, however, if anyone would like to help, donations can be made to Samara's Aid general account, sort code 60-01-73, a/c 00218248 with the reference Dignity, and the money will be put towards the transport costs or given to a local church that has agreed to order and fill Dignity bags for Samara's Aid. To gift aid your donation there is a form on the Support page of the website: www.samarasaidappeal.org and if you would like to receive Samara's updates on the work being done direct to your inbox, please sign up on the contact page. For more information, please contact me on 01323 893527.

Book Review

Derreck Lee-Philpot

Unveiled by Clare Hayns,
Illustrations by Micah Hayns.
Publisher, Bible Reading Fellowship.
ISBN number 9781800390720



How many Old Testament women can you name? Well...Ruth and Esther who have their own books of course, Eve, Deborah the Judge, Miriam sister of Moses, Zipporah wife of Moses, er... Bathsheeba, Rahab the harlot. In 2018 we preached a series on several OT women including Sarah, Hagar, and Ruth. Beyond those? Memory gets a little foggy.

'Unveiled' briefly tells the outline story of 40 Old Testament women. It's done as a series of short easily read day by day reflections which makes it ideal for (but not limited to) a Lent or similar series. The stories of the well known and the barely remembered are told with frankness and humour exploring their circumstances and choices. Each one opens a new perspective on the familiar, or introduces us to the unknown, e.g. who knows of the (unnamed) first Mrs Samson simply called the 'Philistine woman', or, Susanna not strictly an OT woman as she is found in the Greek manuscripts of the book of Daniel (ch 13) and so appears in the Apocrypha – her story is as contemporary as it comes, or, Huldah prophetess of Jerusalem. These women have fascinating stories to tell and lessons to pass on, each chapter closes with a single paragraph reflection to stimulate our hearts and minds and a short prayer to enable us to respond in our hearts.

The illustrations are beautiful, drawn by Clare's son Micah who is a gifted artist who studied in the Florence Academy of Art.

I now have to make an admission, that I know Clare from my time in theological college, we studied in the same year. I unashamedly admit that I found Clare to be a personal inspiration because of her challenging circumstances at the time. She could be in this book, but instead wrote it! She doesn't know I have read and commend this book to you.

Clare is currently the Chaplain and Welfare Coordinator for Christ Church Cathedral Oxford. She is married to John and has three sons. Before ordination she earned her Masters in social work and was a social worker specialising in the homeless and those involved with substance abuse.

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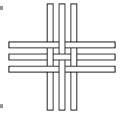
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This prayer diary offers a focus for our personal and corporate prayers and may be incorporated into our own Prayer and Bible Study times. Each month sections highlight prayer pointers for our mission partners.

Pray for Mission Partners during February

Homelink

- Pray that Homelink will have sufficient funds to help those needing a home. There has been an increase in people seeking help, together with a shortage of suitable housing in the Lewes district with in some areas, an increase in the cost of renting.
- For the successful recruitment of a Client Manager to help Gary in managing all aspects of the application process.
- That those who Homelink has agreed to help will be able to find suitable accommodation and be accepted as tenants.

Beachy Head Chaplaincy

- Pray for those Chaplains who are unwell and receiving hospital treatment. Also for four new Chaplains, having recently completed their classroom-based training are joining the frontline team.
- That Chaplaincy teams will be in the right place at the right time to reach out to all in crisis during the coming months.
- For the Chaplaincy trustees – God's protection, good health, renewed energy and Godly wisdom as they facilitate a moving forward with the vision and mission.
- Pray for God's peace, grace, strength and healing upon all those who have lost loved ones at Beachy Head.

Give thanks for: those who support our work with regular financial giving & with prayer support.

Samara's Aid

- Pray for rain in Syria where the wheat & food crops have been planted. The harvested crops are then used to feed children and their carers in the Outreach Centres, and others in need. Wheat is in such short supply.
- For the timely installation of irrigation and inputs for wheat growing.
- The recruitment of team members for the new Outreach Centre who share the vision to love and serve children and families
- Protection from sickness, harm or malevolent intent for all those working with Samara's Aid in Syria and the work they are doing.

Sunday- The Church Worldwide

- Pray for Archbishop Justin Welby (head of the worldwide Anglican Communion), the Pope (head of the worldwide Roman Catholic Church), international heads of orthodox and other Christian churches, for meaningful dialogue promoting gospel values.
- For a renewed hunger for the Word of God and for the presence and power of the Holy Spirit to fill the churches.
- For the body of Christ world-wide, that God will grant us the spirit of wisdom and unity, so that we may be one and demonstrate his love to the world.
- For all Christians to seek and know their calling within the Body as together we serve the Lord and our communities.
- A renewal of focus on the Church's mission to reach and disciple the lost.

Monday- The UK

- Pray for the effect of COVID on schools, absent teachers and students. The decision on whether significant exams will take place this year.
- With the prospect of rising gas and electricity prices, more are facing fuel poverty and forced to make difficult decisions as to heat or food, to avoid mounting debt. Pray for wisdom for the Chancellor and Business Secretary.
- Migrants continue to arrive in the UK seeking refuge and asylum. Pray for fresh approaches and international co-operation to bring a humanitarian resolution especially for unaccompanied children.
- Health secretary, NHS and Social Care services to bring about a restoration of full services despite COVID shortages, doctors, surgeons GPs and nurses.
- For the Prime Minister, The Cabinet, Members of Parliament and peers to demonstrate honesty and integrity and be committed to write policies which are fair and just.
- Pray that New Wine and other Christian festivals will be able to go ahead as usual this summer and not be affected by the pandemic.
- Give thanks for HM Queen Elizabeth 2nd celebrating 70 years since her accession to the throne.

Tuesday- Our Parish

- Families bringing children for baptism, to find a welcome and place within the Church.
- For those considering Confirmation - for joy and discovery in their preparation.
- James, Derreck, Stefan and all leaders for continuing vision and wisdom as they serve the Church.
- For homegroups as they continue to grow and learn together, despite limitations due to Covid.
- For the Parochial Church Council exploring feasible and effective options for the use of our buildings.

Wednesday- Children and Young people

- Give thanks for the leaders who help each week and pray for more leaders as we continue to develop the groups, so that we can help the adults of tomorrow know the power of Jesus in their lives.
- For the parents and caregivers to come to a deeper knowledge of the Gospel message for themselves.
- Pray for the development of working groups to help with setting children, youth and family events up in the church, i.e. create resources for Messy Church, search for available funding, planning group for holiday clubs.
- For the development of youth and young adult groups as we support those who find it hard to be a Christian at those ages and as our young adults leave our youth group to become part of wider church and move on to other opportunities for work.
- Development of services and the softening of hearts as we search for a more inclusive way to do Church, as one family.

Thursday- For those living in

February 3 rd	Esplanade, West View, Steyne Road and St John's Road
February 10 th	Causeway, Mallett Close, College Road and Ringmer Road,
February 17 th	The Boundary, Martello Road, Marine Crescent and Cricketfield Road
February 24 th	The Covers, Cliffe Road, Cliffe Gardens and Cliffe Close
March 3 rd	Fitzgerald Avenue, Lions Place, Fitzgerald Park, The Close and Corsica Road
March 10 th	Gerald Road, Maurice Road, Rother Road, Bracken Road and Links Road
March 17 th	Bramber Road, Heathfield Road, Dean Road, Ashurst Road and Steyne Close
March 24 th	Bramber Close, Crooked Lane, Bramber Lane and Southdown Road
March 31 st	Chyngton Road, Chyngton Place, Cuckmere Road, Arundel Road,

Friday- The Town of Seaford

- Give thanks for all local independent businesses in Seaford
- Local schools- for staff and students engaging in learning. For home schoolers.
- Care Homes- for staff and residents dealing with access restrictions and potential difficulties in retaining staff in nursing homes. For community carers.
- During the pandemic, many people's working lives have changed, some have lost their jobs, whilst others have had their incomes reduced. Pray for those who find themselves in debt. Give thanks for the local foodbank and the work of Christians Against Poverty, who support people with debts.
- For Mayor, Rodney Reed and Town Councillors. For wisdom in considering the best interests of the town and its residents.

Saturday- The World

- Give thanks for the nations who are sharing vaccine supplies with poorer nations. Pray that the vaccines will get safely to those most in need.
- Continue to pray for our Mission partners abroad living under lockdown and for their families based in the UK.
- For all caught up in tragedy and natural disaster.
- For those working with refugees and those who have no settled home
- Afghanistan is in the grip of a catastrophic food shortage – half of the population don't have enough to eat. The political situation and bitter cold weather of -20°C. further complicates this. Please pray for a humanitarian resolution to this intense need.

Pray for Missions Partners during March

Schools

- Please pray for the protection of pupils and staff from danger and disease.
- Wisdom for Leadership Teams and Governing Bodies as they respond to the pressures of directives from the government and teaching unions.
- The pupils, and their families who are not coping well at school in the current situation.
- That doors will open for churches to offer support to our schools.

Bible Society

- For sufficient funds to enable them to continue translating and distributing scripture around the world.
- For the volunteers finding innovative ways to continue communicating the gospel through the 'Open the Book' Programme in primary schools whilst not being allowed to visit in person.



**To join Saturday Prayers at 8.30am on Zoom use the following log in:
Meeting ID: 731 3210 2295 Passcode 1UWEx6**

A New Chapter!

It was in Spring 1967 that Rob and I first became associated with the Parish of St Leonards, Seaford. We were privileged to be involved in many aspects of Parish life and worship and experienced many changes; of personnel, of style of worship, of buildings and environment of music, etc. We always valued highly the community of people who comprise the church.

Just as in all things, evolution occurs and since Rob's death in 2017 I have been even more aware of the need to be resilient in the face of change. So now, I look forward to a new chapter in my life as I return to my native Wales. At the end of the month I will be moving to the small village of Graig Penllyn in the Vale of Glamorgan to be near the family.

So thank you all so much. I look forward to hearing your news and will forever cherish my memories of St Leonards and St Lukes.

Coralie Tiffin



The Christian Aid Lunch planned for Friday 18th February has been cancelled.



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Letter From Pakistan

Mark & Ali Gill

Like any Sunday morning at home, the traffic in Lahore was light. Ali and I had come down on the previous Wednesday as I had work in the design office. On Saturday we visited Nosheen-Rachel's family in Foreman Christian College. Nosheen-Rachel joined our parish last year and our home group. She didn't expect to find a connection to Lahore in St. Leonard's.... but here on Sunday morning, we came to the Cathedral of the Resurrection for the 8.30am service in English.



The Cathedral was built in the 1870's and consecrated on 25th January 1879 in a neo-gothic style, with two towers and all the usual features of a well planned Cathedral. We got a warm welcome from the Curate. As the congregation arrived, casually around the start time as is common

here, we noticed a few people standing up when an older couple arrived: I assumed it may be a retired bishop.



The service started following the familiar pattern and rhythm of an Anglican service. We were half way through at the peace when the President, whom we later found out was the Dean, welcomed us by name and asked us up to the front where Ali was given a bouquet of Gladioli. Similarly, Sunita, a regular member, was called up to be given a bouquet and we all sang Happy Birthday. Prayers and thanks for all and also a couple celebrating their 27th wedding anniversary, remembered well by the

Dean as it was the first wedding he conducted. The gentleman whom I thought might be the Bishop stood up and walked up from his pew to take over from the Dean, must be a Bishop, he was.



The Dean preached on the unity of the church and the unity of God referring to the parts of the body as one and the call of God to the angels of the churches in Revelation and to be united in the Spirit. The Cathedral had a couple of joint services planned with other denominations in the city.

On exiting the service, a cake was ready for cutting by the Bishop for those celebrating their life events, so time to chat: also the next congregation was starting to go in for the service in Urdu, with four baptisms. We met life-long friends of Nosheen-Rachel from their time in the youth fellowship and of course the Bishop and Dean knew of some of our CMS mission colleagues who had worked in Pakistan over the years. Bishop Alexander Malik was the longest serving Bishop, of 32 years, in the Lahore diocese and of course still presides and serves in his calling.

Although the weeks of thought for Christian Unity are for reflection and

encouragement between the denominations, we reflected that Ali and I from Seaford Parish were united in faith with these dear Christians in Lahore, to share in devotion and worship of God Almighty.



Pakistan is the world's fifth most populated country with 227 million people. Christianity is the third largest religion in Pakistan. At the 2017 Census the proportion of Christians in Pakistan was about 1.27% of the population. About half of these are Catholic and half Protestant.

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When did you make your faith your own?

Barry Ranger

The Patience of God



“We’re going to something called Crusaders. Do you want to come?” Well why not. I had no idea what it was about but these were my friends so I went along. I started in the Juniors. It seemed fun and the bible teaching was alright. I stayed with Crusaders until I reached the grand age of 19. Other boys were obviously Christians, they seemed to be happy with that and it was clearly a good idea. So I prayed to become one too. But somehow Jesus seemed to be out when I prayed but so what then. The trouble was that at nineteen, having been to a boy’s grammar school, I discovered the other half of the population, the one that wore skirts and so God took a back seat. For some time, about ten years.

I had taken up fencing. That with foils, épées and sabres. I was quite good at it becoming a silver medallist. Each year we would have an influx of beginners most of whom quickly realised it was not for them. But there was one called Kate who did not leave immediately. Some time later we married.

We set up home in Bishop’s Stortford and Kate introduced me to the high church. I loved it. I loved the ceremonial but by the end of our ten year stay no-one had told me I could

know Jesus. But, in those far off days we had a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and there were fringe meetings one of which we went to. It was a revelation! There were people there who did know Jesus. I had to look into this and bought a book by a man called Michael Green. At the end of all his books there is a prayer of commitment to Jesus and one sunny evening, Kate was out somewhere, I knelt down and committed my life to Jesus. That was just about the only time I can say I felt God saying something to me.

And we moved, to Billericay where there was a new vicar with a wife who was shortly to be among the first women to be ordained. They were a dream team and it was a wonderful time in my spiritual life. As a churchwarden I was part of the team that built a new church costing then, 30 years ago, £750,000. All of which came from the congregation.

All this changed when I retired, early, and we decided we would move to Chichester where the churches were not so exciting and very sadly our son died. We tried to live it out but were advised “You’ve given it your best shot but move on.”



Mission Update... and the way ahead for 2022

From the Mission Support Team

In the last magazine we told you how we will be supporting Mission during 2022.

You may remember that in the coming year we will no longer be giving regular donations as a parish to -

- Chris Chester's Re-wired Project with Mission Direct
- Grace and Festo with CMS
- Bible Society
- Mission Aviation Fellowship
- The Diocesan Caring and Sharing Scheme

So this is to remind you that if you would like to continue supporting any of these causes yourself here are the details you need...

Chris Chester's Re-wired Project with Mission Direct

Online donations can be made via the Mission Direct www.missiondirect.org
If funding is specifically for the Rewired Project please make that clear on donations then it will be ring fenced.

Alternatively you can write to: Mission Direct, 27 Bury Mead Road, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 1RT

Grace and Festo with CMS

Online donations for Festo and Grace can be made directly to CMS at www.churchmissionsociety.org/Kanungha or for general funds: secure.churchmissionsociety.org/giving

Otherwise ring: 01865 78740 or write to Church Mission Society, Watlington Road, Oxford, OX4 6BZ

Bible Society

Our bank details are as follows:
Account name: The British and Foreign Bible Society
Sort Code: 60 21 40
Acc: 38453800

Once you have made the payment the Bible Society would be most grateful if you could contact them either by email to contactus@biblesociety.org.uk stating the amount of the gift and where you would like it allocated or

Call 01793 418222. Alternatively you can write to The Bible Society, Stonehill Green, Westlea, Swindon, SN5 7DG

Mission Aviation Fellowship

To make online donations, either as a one off payment or to set up a standing order, go to: www.maf-uk.org

To donate by Bank Transfer please telephone 01303 852819 or by email supporter.relations@maf-uk.org

To make arrangements by post write to Mission Aviation Fellowship, Castle House, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2TQ.

The Diocesan Caring and Sharing Scheme

In the first instance please contact Jayne Bass.

www.caringandsharingeastsussex.org.uk

Whether you are able to offer financial support or not please continue to pray for these Mission Partners throughout the year. Remember that ten per cent of any donations you make to the parish will go towards our own Children's, Youth and Families Work as well as providing help for the Beachy Head Chaplaincy Team, Church Army, Sarah & Pola Chhin working with Cambodia Action, Diocesan Family Support Work, Homelink, LAMA Ministries in the Philippines, Samara's Aid working in Syria and WAVES.

Thank you for all your support.

Elizabeth Morgan-Jones



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Helping people into Housing

Loans

Loans are provided to help homeless people or those threatened with homelessness in obtaining private rental accommodation. Our clients are people in Lewes District who must be able to live independently but have little or no savings. Our loans, averaging £1450 are interest-free. Repayments are at an affordable rate - even as little as £20 per month. We made 86 loans in 2021 costing £126K, more than the 83 loans in 2020, but we missed our target of 100. What is most startling is that we offered 11 loans in December but none of those offered loans were able to find a tenancy. The reason is obviously the lack of housing to rent. However, we have had two tenancies in the first two weeks of this year so we hope for more successful clients.

Grants

Grants are given to those who are moving into housing, (local authority or housing association) , with some basic needs they cannot afford. The money pays for white goods; or basic furniture e.g. bed or chair; even floor covering. Our grants are for a maximum of £300 and average £250. We made 82 grants in 2021. As we have exceeded our budget, we often offer tenants only one item which they consider the most important, for example, a cooker at £190. Floor covering is a major

Terry Howell

problem because the cost is high, finding the size and shape is needed, and someone willing to fit it has to be arranged , all with a tight budget of £300.

For newly released PRISONERS, we provide up to two week's bed & breakfast accommodation for those coming out of prison. In 2021, we made 7 offers and 6 were taken up. This was well within our budget of £4k increased to 5k this year. I have been in zoom meetings with Jo and Gill who manage grants and it has made me grateful for the large amount of work done by these two volunteers in sorting out the details needed for this work.

Testimonial

Prisoners from Lewes Prison are often moved to Ford Prison before release. The Chaplain there has given us a glowing testimonial:- "The distress and hopelessness felt by prisoners when, in their final weeks before release no statutory agencies will commit to house them, is enormous. The uncertainty felt undermines rehabilitation and feeds a negative belief that nobody really cares. The outstanding support HOMELINK gives stands in this chasm, offering some immediate certainty, hope and care for desperate people needing a second chance. I have found their charity to be professional, communicative and diligent. And for the people we work with, quite literally a life line which I am certain has saved lives!"

New Client Manager

We need two part-time Client Managers but the recent withdrawal of our newly appointed Manager has meant that Gary has had to work on his own since April 2020. We are grateful to him for doing an excellent job working overtime and also doing some voluntary work from home. After advertising, we are interviewing two candidates and very much hope to make an appointment of a co-worker this January.

Our colourful autumn newsletter is available on our website www.leweshomelink.org.uk Do have a look at it.

Prayers

Please pray earnestly for a suitable replacement Client Manager to work with Gary. Pray for Gary as he helps people and his other responsibilities.

Pray for all facing homelessness and looking for a home.

Please give thanks for the excellent work of our staff and volunteers.

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.



Lewes, Seaford and District Branch



Please contact: Jean: 01 323 892930

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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

St. Andrew: the Men of Sussex Crying After Him

Andrew, what of the North?
In November shadows drear
We have heard thee marching forth
With songs of a glad new year.
Thou goest to mountains high,
To Picts in a Northern fen-
But, Andrew, tarry and hear the cry
Of the little Southern Men.

Down by the seas of Gaul,
Where the Roman eagles stand,
Anderida they call
Our shaggy forest land.
We have no saving health,
To us no Word comes forth,
On us the gods bestow no wealth-
Yet Andrew goes to the North.

Oh, stay and give us grace,
For our hearts are grey with dule,
As each man lifts his face
In the dreadful days of Yule,
When the burning Wheel stands still
In the black and dropping skies,
And the Long Man screams upon the
hill
With the human sacrifice.

Andrew, what of the North?
Our Druids tell sad tales,
Our arms have lost their worth
In the scrubby hills of Wales ;
But thy mighty banners go
Forward and pass us by,
As the Northern streamers fly and flow
On the red wings of the sky.



We hear strange tales of thee-
We hear thou preachest still
A Man more fair than Bald, a Tree
More tall than Ygdrasyl,
A Bread more strong than meat,
Water more fierce than wine-
Than the mead which drunken gods
find sweet
In the halls where Heroes dine.

To the little Southern Men
Saint Andrew answered he:
"I have heard from the Northern fen
Your moan from the Gaulish sea ;
And though I pass you by,
And may not see your face,
Yet my Lord hath heard your cry,
And he sends you hope of grace.

Three saints shall teach the land
That lies by the Southern sea ;
Three saints on your shores shall stand-
A thrice-noble company.

The Word that heals and saves,
Which to the Scots I send,
Wilfred shall teach by the waves
That beat on Manhood's End.

" On Havant's drawing tide,
Which round the island swells,
The solemn ships shall glide
To the chime of Richard's bells;
On Mayfield's hills the iron
Of Dunstan's anvil rings
As he hammers gates for Zion
And fights Unholy Things.

" So faint not-all is well,
And the price of hope is paid

By the Lord who hath harrowed hell,
And hath made the gods afraid.
Eternity keeps the hours
Till the Sussex Saints go forth-
Wilfred and Richard and Dunstan are
yours,
But Andrew goes to the North."

Sheila Kaye-Smith

First published in the book the Saints in
Sussex in 1923 and available online at
www.gutenberg.org

Image: Unknown artist.

Public domain via Wikimedia Commons

**For all the latest news and details of any changes please see the
weekly news sheet or subscribe to our news email at
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Life And More Abundant Ministries

LAMA



Dear Friends,

Thank you for praying! Thank you so much for your continued financial and prayer support.

The past 2 years we have had the happy company of 3 very hard-working men, Arnold, Erwin and Judy, who have renovated LAMA House and our own home. These builders were here at the beginning of LAMA House, from the very first handmade brick. They have also cultivated the land to grow vegetables and helped Ana build a chicken coop and duck coop! They are still with us, presently digging a new septic tank for our house, there is still work to do at LAMA House and ours - very thankful for the opportunity to get things finished. Hoping very much that we can soon get back to our normal – but, yet, no sign of that happening.

There was a recent typhoon in Siargao and the Southern Islands that left the place devastated. It didn't reach us thankfully but prayer is needed, that help will get through.

We have had so much bad news through the pandemic that we now expect it and brace ourselves. In the

last magazine we mentioned two of our 'boys, (both now adults). Some of you may know that I sent out prayer requests for Tony and Jeran. Tony was admitted to hospital a few weeks ago but is now back home with us.

It seems someone gave him drugs when he was at Christmas celebrations in the city – it was so difficult staying here at home, waiting for news, with the Covid restrictions prevented us from being there with him. The drug test was negative.

He is OK, and “promises” not to leave home again. Hope so!

A few days before Christmas Jeran had a motorbike accident. He is twenty two. This time we did get to the hospital at 1am. From there we took him to Lorma hospital for a cat scan. The Cat scan showed his face was shattered and needed reconstructive surgery. Lorma did not have the plates needed and it would take some weeks to order them so he was taken back to the regional hospital as they had the plates. Frustratingly, they had the reconstructive plates but due to Covid they had a long waiting list and could not operate. All hospitals are only admitting patients with life threatening conditions. He came home to LAMA

House for a few days then went to his girlfriend's home for Christmas. His jaw is broken and he cannot eat...so not such a happy Christmas! We can now report that Jeran had a follow up check and the Dr said he may not need reconstructive surgery as his face is healing well. Answer to prayers to our Creator God!



Now Asnar needs our prayers. You may remember his story. We do everything possible to obtain birth certificates and to locate parents, or any existing relatives of lost boys and reunite where possible. It is rarely possible but with God's help we have had some wonderful success. Asnar is One of these. Back in June 2014 Peter travelled by air to Cebu, another Island to try to find relatives. Asnar had been lost for 8 years when his grandpa brought him to this Island. All attempts to trace family though radio, National TV and newspapers had failed. We had very little information to go on and knew it would be like finding a needle in a haystack in sprawling Cebu. His family are Muslim, so that narrowed the search down to the Muslim

communities. Peter and Jong found a cousin first, then Asnar's Mother and sister.

They were so happy to see him, they said they thought he was dead or had been sold by a man they knew as "Terror." Asnar has now been living with them and working to support his mother. Sadly, his Mum died January 9th after a long illness, her lungs had filled with fluid. The hospital would not admit Asnar's Mum without a covid test and a deposit of payment, so they slept outside the hospital through the night of 8th. She died whilst waiting. Asnar accepted Christ some years ago while living with us at LAMA House. The family wanted to have a burial right away but that is not allowed in these difficult pandemic days. Please pray for Asnar and his sister that Jesus will reveal Himself to them, that Asnar's faith would be rekindled and for the Comforter to be with him in a very real way. They have been through a very difficult time as they were hit by the recent typhoon, then the house they evacuated to burnt down. We have been able to assist with the hospital fees and funeral costs.

Everything is very complicated when Doctors or Dentists are involved. Praying very much for our front-liners. Michael has been waiting a long time to get a wisdom tooth removed, still no further, and Simon has had problems with his ears affecting his hearing. Anything involving government offices has always been frustrating, no change there! We have been kept busy with the Securities and Exchange Commission; the Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Registry of Lands, and the Bureau of Internal Revenue to name a few -

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Life And More Abundant Ministries

sometimes with success but mostly only stress!

We have been able to help several of the former boys and girls regularly through the pandemic, some are doing well, others not. We had hoped to visit some of them but Omicron shut everything down again. We had a lovely surprise visit from the staff of the Youth Detention Centre, they brought a small thank you gift from their boys but told us they still cannot have visitors so our Worship services there are still on hold.

The Covid update here is that we have a lot of new cases and we are back in restrictions.

And so we continue to wait, to stay safe and protect those around us!

Please pray for Jeran, Tony, Fidel, Michael and Simon for miracles of healing.

One thing I know for sure is that GOD continues to work His purposes out, so prayer and worship remains the focus for us at this time; for the work here and for the church all over the world, particularly in countries that suffer persecution. His Kingdom come!

We continue to pray for you.

This comes with much love, Lesley, Peter and family.

The Five Star Wedding

Going to family weddings, when young, in the 1950s in Seaford was quite an experience!

The important things were to have the right people involved at St. Leonard's. First of all it had to be the vicar who would conduct the marriage, then the organist had to be Mr. Ringrose. The photographer must have been Raymond Austin and the bride driven to the church by Mr. Long in his posh car... and of course wearing his smart uniform! Usually an acceptable reception would have been held at a hotel or one of the golf clubs. This was then very much a five-star affair! If any of these items was missing (one would be acceptable) then the wedding was deemed to be not very good!



Graham Tubb

The Crown of Roses

When Jesus Christ was yet a child
He had a garden small and wild
Wherein he cherished roses fair
And wove them into garlands there.

Now once as summertime drew near
There came a troop of children by
And seeing roses on the tree
With shouts they plucked them merrily

“Do you bind roses in your hair?”
They cried in scorn to Jesus there
The boy said humbly “Take I pray
All but the naked thorns away

Then of the thorns they made a crown
And with rough fingers pressed it
down
Till on his forehead fair and young
Red drops of blood like roses sprung.

*Author unknown but often sung to
music by Pytor Ilyich Tchaikovsky.*



Remember Me...

*Remember me with affection
That's all I ask
When you have time for reflection
On days now past.
Forgive any imperfection
Your mind may grasp –
No life can bear an inspection
That is too harsh!
Yet, if through your recollection,
There chance to pass
Good things that need no correction
Then hold them fast.
Regard this not as a deception
But as the task
Of Love's sweet resurrection.*

Thomas A Davies

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February Calendar & Lectionary

Wednesday 2nd	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
Saturday 5th	3.00pm	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
Sunday 6th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am**	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Monday 7th	7.30pm	Parish Women's Group	St. Luke's
Wednesday 9th	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Friday 11th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Sunday 13th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am*	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
	4.00pm	Wholeness & Healing service	St. Leonard's
Tuesday 15th	10.00am	Prayer Ministry service	St. Luke's
Saturday 19th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
Sunday 20th	11.30am**	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Monday 21st	7.30pm	Parish Women's Group	St. Luke's
Wednesday 23rd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 26th	10.00am	Open Church Cafe	St. Leonard's
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Sunday 27th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am*	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's

*Bacon sandwiches 9.00am, service starts at 9.30am.

The Meeting Place

**Pastries from 11.00am, service starts at 11.30am.

6th February: 4th Sunday before Lent

Reading: Joshua 6:1-27

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

20th February: 2nd Sunday before Lent

Reading: Judges 7:1-18

Gospel: Luke 8:22-25

13th February: 3rd Sunday before Lent

Reading: Judges 4

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

27th February: 1st Sunday before Lent

Reading: Judges 15

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

March Calendar & Lectionary



Tuesday 1st	10.00am	Prayer Ministry service	St. Luke's
	4.00pm	Pancake Party	St. Leonard's
Wednesday 2nd	12.30pm	Parish Lunch	St. Luke's
	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday service	St. Leonard's
Saturday 5th	3.00pm	Messy Church	St. Leonard's
Sunday 6th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am**	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
Monday 7th	7.30pm	Parish Women's Group	St. Luke's
Wednesday 9th	10.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Friday 11th	2.00pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Sunday 13th	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am*	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's
Tuesday 15th	10.00am	Prayer Ministry service	St. Luke's
Friday 18th	2.30pm	Mothers' Union	St. Luke's
Saturday 19th	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert	St. Leonard's
Sunday 20th	9.30am	Holy Communion	Both churches
	11.30am**	The Meeting Place	St. Leonard's
	7.00pm	St. Luke's@7	St. Luke's
Monday 21st	7.30pm	Parish Women's Group	St. Luke's
Wednesday 23rd	11.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Saturday 26th	10.00am	Open Church Cafe	St. Leonard's
Sunday 27th	British Summer Time begins (the clocks go forward one hour)		
	8.00am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
Mothering Sunday	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Leonard's
	9.30am*	The Meeting Place	St. Luke's

6th March: 1st Sunday of Lent

Readings: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

20th March: 3rd Sunday of Lent

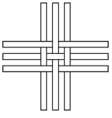
Reading: Esther 7:1-10
Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

13th March: 2nd Sunday of Lent

Reading: Numbers 13:26-12:24
Gospel: Luke 13: 31-35

27th March: 4th Sunday of Lent

Reading: Ruth 1
Gospel: Colossians 3:12-17



Parish Directory

Clergy

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

Kate Ranger	01323 899300	
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Wendy Ogilvie	07779 248730	
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Alan Thomas		
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Churchwardens

Fred Bass	01323 893054	fred@seafordparish.org.uk
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Lisa Hazle	07889 183435	lisah@seafordparish.org.uk
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Deputy Wardens

Janet Kent (St. Leonard's)	01323 490050	janet@seafordparish.org.uk
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Paul Waller (St. Leonard's)	01323 872088	
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Tony Gubbins (St. Luke's)		lucedeputy1@seafordparish.org.uk
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Parish Treasurer

Paul Waller	Contact Parish Office	atreasurer@seafordparish.org.uk
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Safeguarding Officer

Ruth Saunders		safeguarding@seafordparish.org.uk
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Hall Bookings

		bookings@seafordparish.org.uk
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Magazine

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