

# Pews News

## CHURCH IN VACANCY

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 @StThomasPagham

## Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 First Sunday after Trinity

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
The Birth of John the Baptist		<b>19:00</b>	<b>Tuesday @7</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
		<b>10:00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>28<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
Peter and Paul, Apostles			

## Hymns

Before the throne of God (on sheet)

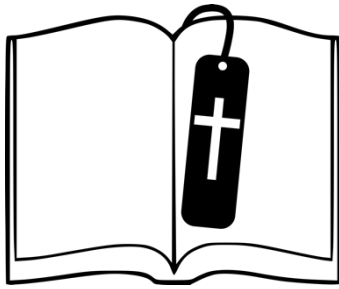
68. Be still my soul

349. Jesus Christ is waiting

626. Take up thy cross

**The Collect (Opening Prayer):** O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your

Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**



**First Reading: Isaiah 65.1-9** I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am', to a nation that did not call on my name. <sup>2</sup> I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; <sup>3</sup> a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; <sup>4</sup> who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; <sup>5</sup> who say, 'Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you.' These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. <sup>6</sup> See, it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps <sup>7</sup> their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. <sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it', so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. <sup>9</sup> I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

**Response to Psalm 22.19-28:** 'All the ends of the earth shall bow before him'

**Second Reading: Galatians 3.23-29** <sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. <sup>24</sup> Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, <sup>26</sup> for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. <sup>27</sup> As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. <sup>28</sup> There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup> And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 8.26-39** <sup>26</sup> Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup> As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, 'What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me'— <sup>29</sup> for Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' He said, 'Legion'; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup> Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons<sup>[d]</sup> begged Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup> Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus,

clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes<sup>[f]</sup> asked Jesus<sup>[g]</sup> to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus<sup>[h]</sup> sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> 'Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.' So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.



### **Prayers of Intercession**

**The sick and those who care for them:** Karen Cox, Sheila King, Dawn Spurway Pearson, Lucia, Pam Browning, Gary Edgington, Ian Turner, Michael King, Emily Maylon, Jim, Richard, Jenny, James, Andrew Naylor and Diane Townson.

**Anniversary of death:** 23<sup>rd</sup> - Elsie Smith, 26<sup>th</sup> - Lilian Goring, June Clement, 27<sup>th</sup> - Joyce Eddy, Archer Hart, Phyllis Smith, 28<sup>th</sup> - Dorothy Randall

**We pray** We pray for peace in all areas of conflict around the World, and we pray for peace in the Holy Land. For all those seeking safety and refuge in our Country.

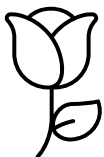
**For urgent prayer,** contact Sue Davis (01243 262915) to start the Prayer Chain.

**Post Communion Prayer:** Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; or the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

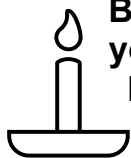


**Cursillo** You may have noticed that last weekend many regulars were missing from Sunday services. They were attending a Celebration Weekend marking 25 years of Cursillo in the Chichester Diocese. Cursillo is a movement of the Church providing a method by which Christians are empowered to grow through prayer, study and action and enabled to share God's love with everyone. Many of our church family are part of this movement and meet regularly to share fellowship, and to support and encourage one another on our Christian journeys. If you would like to know more please speak to Trudi or look at the British Anglican Cursillo website <https://anglicancursillo.uk>

**Licensing date for Julian McAllen** We are delighted to confirm that Julian McAllen will be licensed on Tuesday 2nd September @ 7.30pm. After meeting with the Churchwardens from St Richards, we are pleased to confirm that the service will be at St Thomas à Becket Church, more details nearer the time. Please continue to keep Julian, Monika, Joshua and Elizabeth in your prayers.



**A huge THANK YOU** to all those who helped to make the **Friends of Pagham Parish Church Flower Festival** such a great success. The church looked beautiful as it was skilfully filled with flowers, not to mention the delicious food on offer. Thank you to David and Sue Smith and Carole and Richard Druce for organising the event, to all the arrangers who created the beautiful displays, to Robin and Mandy Henderson for sourcing the plants from local growers and for organising the plant sale, to all those who assisted with setting up, stewarding, catering, running the raffle and much more. Finally a huge thanks to all who came and supported in any way helping us to raise in excess of £5000.

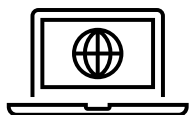


**Bishop Martin introduces *Inspiring Faith* - a new, on-line resource for sharing your faith.** In this 950<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the Year of Faith, we are celebrating Pentecost by the release of *Inspiring Faith*, a new, on-line resource for sharing your faith. Follow this link <https://inspiring-faith.com> This is the first in a series of four. It introduces the elements of Christian life: the Bible, prayer, worship in church, and who Christians are. The series will then continue to introduce what Christians believe about God the Father, and creation; God the Son, Jesus Christ, our Saviour; and God the Holy Spirit who sustains Christian living. Please pray for the people of all ages and circumstances who will use this new resource: Come, Holy Spirit, and kindle in us the fire of your love.



### **Family Camp! Calling families across the diocese!**

Join Bishop Will and families across the diocese for our first ever diocesan Family Camp from 11–13 July 2025 at Stedham Campsite in the stunning South Downs! A weekend of fun, worship, and quality time for families, especially those with primary school-aged children. Just £25 per person (under 5s free) with bursaries available. For more information visit: [www.celebratingfaith.co.uk](http://www.celebratingfaith.co.uk) or book now: at <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/73484?> Come and be part of something special!



Apologies that our website isn't working at the moment. We are looking into fixing this as well as updating our Churches Near You page. In the meantime, you will find updates on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasPagham>



**Coffee, Cake & Conversation** will take place on Saturday 28th June, 10:30am–12 noon in the Mosse Hall, St Richard's Church. Please bring along your friends, neighbours and family for some yummy refreshments and convivial conversation.

### **Please note the dates when our community groups will next meet:**

**Breakfast Club:** on 2<sup>nd</sup> July at 9.30 am at Manor Nursery.

**The Bear Necessities:** on 14<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 pm at The Bear Inn, Pagham

**Pints of View:** on 10<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30 pm at The Inglenook Pub, Pagham

**The Book Group:** on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm in St Andrew's Chapel

**Bell ringing:** on Mondays at 7.30 pm at St Thomas a Becket

**Please Note:** Churchwardens Mrs Sue O'Neill and Mr Alex Brockhurst's day off is Friday each week.

### **Next week's readings:**

1 Kings 19.15-16, 19-21

Psalm 16

Galatians 5.1, 13-25

Luke 9.51-62