

# Pews News

## CHURCH IN VACANCY

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 @StThomasPagham

## Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2025 Sixth Sunday after Trinity

<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
	<b>10:00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup></b> August		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Family Eucharist</b>

## Hymns

590. Seek ye first

161. Father hear the prayer we offer

379. Lead us Heavenly Father

409. Lord for the years

**The Collect (Opening Prayer):** Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love

toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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: Genesis 18.20-32** Then the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing—to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous in the city of Sodom, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it if I find thirty there." He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

**Response to Psalm 138:** 'When I called, you answered me, O Lord.'

**Second Reading: Colossians 2.6-15[16-19]** As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

**Gospel Reading: Luke 11.1-13** He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask 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, Richard, Jenny, James and Andrew Naylor.

**Anniversary of death:** 28<sup>th</sup> - Phyllis Taylor, Wilfrid Tribe, 29<sup>th</sup> - Laura Hart, Frank Jeune, Roy Gristwood, Daphne Standen, Madge Breakspear, 30<sup>th</sup> - Ellen Bell, Bill Gulliver, Betty Riddle, 31<sup>st</sup> - Sidney Harris, John Ramsay, Roland Ell

**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:** God of our pilgrimage, you have led us to the living water: refresh and sustain us as we go forward on our journey, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**Art Exhibition 2025:** The Annual Art Exhibition will take place in church on the **23rd /24th /25<sup>th</sup> August**. We need your help to spread the word. Please add your name to the lists on the white noticeboard if you are able to help with catering or stewarding. Entry forms are available at the rear of church. For details - Trudi Kearsley 07703597353 or [trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk)

**Tuesday @7** takes a break now for the summer holidays but we would love to welcome you at any of our services and events. And don't forget- churches make lovely cool places to be on a hot summer's day!



**Ride + Stride** is an annual event that raises more than £1.5 million for churches across the country. It's a lot of fun, giving everyone the chance to explore some of Sussex's unique historic buildings while also raising vital funds. Funds raised are shared equally between the Trust and the place of worship nominated by each participant. This year, Ride + Stride is taking place on Saturday, September 13 from 9am to 5pm. The goal is to have at least 200 places of

worship take part in 2025. Ride + Stride is open to all! Get your friends and family to sponsor you and then visit as many different churches as you can throughout the day. You can choose any route you want and any mode of transport – **walk, run, cycle, ride – or even drive** – between the different churches on the route you've chosen. You can be sponsored either based on the number of churches you manage to visit or by a flat donation. After the event, you can collect the sponsorship money personally or collect sponsorships online via our [JustGiving page](#). We would like to offer refreshments on the day and will put up a note for volunteers nearer the time. Please contact Emily 07784398293 or Sue if you would like more information.



**Quiet Day.** Join us for a day of quietness and peace, away from the busy-ness of life. There is time for reflection and discussion. Come and explore the themes of forgiveness, peace and joy. To be held on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2025 11 - 3pm at St Thomas a Becket, Pagham. Tea and coffee provided, but bring your own lunch.



**Easyfundraising:** Did you know that whenever you buy anything online, you could be raising free donations for St Thomas a Becket Church with easyfundraising? There are over 8,000 retailers on board ready to make a donation, including eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, ASOS, [Booking.com](#) and All you need to do is: Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/paghamchurch/> and join for free. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to St Thomas a Becket Church, at no extra cost. There are no catches or hidden charges and St Thomas a Becket Church will be grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.



Apologies that our website isn't working at the moment. We are looking into fixing this. In the meantime, you will find updates on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StThomasPagham> or on A Church Near You <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5079/>



**The Collection Plate** If you would like to make an offering, please use the contactless Payaz machine or the collection plate, both can be found by the door. Thank you for your generosity.

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

**The Bear Necessities:** on 8<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30 pm at The Bear Inn, Pagham

**The Book Group:** on 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm in St Andrew's Chapel

**Breakfast Club:** on 6<sup>th</sup> August at 9.30 am at Manor Nursery.

**Pints of View:** on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30 pm at The Inglenook Pub, Pagham

**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:**

Ecclesiastes 1.2,12-14; 2.18-23, Psalm 49.1-12\*

Colossians 3.1-11, Luke 12.13-21