

# Pews News

**PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REVEREND JULIAN McALLEN**

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  @StThomasPagham

## Sunday 21st September 2025 Harvest Thanksgiving

<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b> Harvest Festival
Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist		
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>18:00</b>	<b>Evening Prayer</b>
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:00</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
	<b>10:00</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup></b>		<b>No public worship today</b>
<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>09:30</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>

### Hymns

133 Come ye thankful  
Lord of the harvest (song sheet)  
558 praise and thanksgiving  
914. Care for your world.

**The Collect (Opening Prayer):** Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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: Joel 2:21 - 27** Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green, the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing-floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

**Response to Psalm 126** 'Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.'

**Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6 - 10** Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

**Gospel Reading: Matthew 6:25 – 33** Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.



### **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 Sarah Wilson.

**Anniversary of death:** 21<sup>st</sup> - Alan Swan, 22<sup>nd</sup> - Thelma Hughes, Dorothy Denyer, 23<sup>rd</sup> - Ethel Baldwin, Evelyn Jenner, George Harrison, 24<sup>th</sup> - Alice Julius, Elsie Billing, 25<sup>th</sup> - George Summerside, Leonard Vallerine, 26<sup>th</sup> - Beryl Hurst, 27<sup>th</sup> - Winifred Williams

**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:** Lord of the harvest, with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom: by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us and make us generous and wise stewards of the good things we enjoy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



**Harvest Appeal** This year our church will be supporting the Diocese of Chichester Harvest Appeal for Friends of the Holy Land, a UK-based, non-political, ecumenical Christian charity with a deep commitment to sustaining a hopeful future for Palestinian Christians. Rooted in the mission of supporting the Christian presence in the land of Christ's birth, the charity also works with compassion across religious lines, providing humanitarian help to people of all faiths. The funds raised through this year's appeal will go directly to support families facing severe deprivation. In Gaza City and the surrounding areas, where conditions have become desperate, £25 can provide a hygiene kit for a displaced family, and £50 can deliver food to last a week. This emergency care is being given in addition to the long-term work of providing education, supporting employment, and advocating for the region's Christian community. Thank you so much for being part of this effort to see over £10,000 raised to help people in severe need. <https://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/appeal/harvest-appeal2025> We will have a retiring collection on Sunday for Bishop Ruth's appeal.



**Harvest Donations.** We will celebrate Harvest Festival with a **Parish Eucharist on Sunday 22nd September at 09:30** with a collection of food for the Bognor Regis Foodbank.



**Bishop Luffa** School Foundation Supplementary Information Forms are available for completion on the school website for 2026 admissions. Those applying for Foundation Places should make an appointment with Reverend Julian via his email so the Church Support Form can be completed.

**Tuesday@7 returns on 30<sup>th</sup> September!** Mid-week, 40 minutes and family friendly.



An informal church service suitable for Children and Families, accessible readings and a short reflection, A welcoming and inclusive invitation for those looking for a different way to worship and explore their faith. A great option for those with busy Sunday mornings. Everyone is welcome!



**Our Lady of Walsingham Festival** Join Bishop Will for a day of worship, fellowship and teaching on Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> of October at St Saviour's Church, Eastbourne. The day will begin at 10:30 with a Sung Eucharist, presided at by Bishop Will Hazlewood, and be followed by informal talks, lunch, healing ministries and conclude with Benediction. The Our Lady of Walsingham Festival has become a much-loved annual event in the Diocese of Chichester. Last year's gathering at Boxgrove Priory welcomed over 150 people from across the diocese. This year, we are delighted to be holding the festival at the beautiful St Saviour's Church, Eastbourne. Everyone is warmly invited to this day of Christian celebration as we reflect on Mary's call from God, her faithful response, and how her 'yes' continues to inspire and guide our lives and the life of our churches today. <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/85624>



Apologies that our website isn't working at the moment. We are looking into fixing. 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.



**Support for the FoodBank is more important than ever.** Urgently needed this week: tinned fruit, tinned meat, tinned tomatoes, tinned vegetables, tinned/packet soup.

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

**The Bear Necessities:** on 13<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30 pm at The Bear Inn, Pagham

**The Book Group:** on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2pm in St Andrew's Chapel

**Pints of View:** on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30 pm at The Inglenook Pub, Pagham

**Breakfast Club:** on 1<sup>st</sup> October at 9.30 am at Manor Nursery.

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

**Next week's readings:**

Amos 6.1a,4-7, Psalm 146

1 Timothy 6.6-19, Luke 16.19-31