

Pews News

PRIEST-IN-CHARGE REVEREND JULIAN McALLEN (REST DAY - FRIDAY)

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  @StThomasPagham

Sunday 7th December 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

Sunday 7th	09:30	Parish Eucharist with provision for children
Monday 8th	09:15	Morning Prayer
	19:30	The Bear Necessities The Bear Inn
Tuesday 9th	17:30	Evening Prayer on Zoom
	19:00	Tuesday @7
Wednesday 10th	17:30	Evening Prayer on Zoom
Thursday 11th	10:00	Holy Communion
	19:30	Pints of View The Inglenook Pub
Friday 12th		No public worship today
Saturday 13th		No public worship today
Sunday 14th	09:30	Parish Eucharist with provision for children

Hymns

406. Long ago prophets knew
67. Be still for the presence of the Lord
295. How lovely on the mountains
438. Make way

Prayer for the Lighting of the Advent Candle

Advent 2 – The Prophets (purple)

Lord Jesus, light of the world, the prophets said you would bring peace and save your people in trouble. Give peace in our hearts at Christmas and show all the world God's love.

Amen.

The Collect (Opening Prayer): *O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.*



First Reading: Isaiah 11.1-10 A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Psalm 72.1-7,18,19*

Second Reading: Romans 15.4-13 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3.1-12 In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Post Communion Prayer: *Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



Prayers of Intercession

The sick and those who care for them: Karen Cox, Sheila King, Dawn Spurway Pearson, Lucia, Pam Browning, Ian Turner, Michael King, Emily Maylon, Jim, Richard, Jenny, Roger Lewis, Colin May, Revd. Keith Smith, Shelagh, Julie Green, Revd. Colin Wood, Tony May, Susie Usher and Marlene.

Anniversary of death: 8th - Dorothy Hender, 10th - Olive Bringan, Peggy June Dowding, 11th - Rose Bailey, 12th - Dorothy Player, 13th - Gladys Markworth

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.

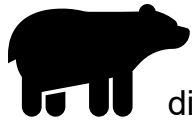


Christmas Fair: A huge thank you to all who contributed to a successful Christmas Fair last weekend, generously donating items for the stalls, lifting and carrying, setting up, running the stalls, putting up signs and helping to clear up so swiftly at the end. We also thank our local growers and supporters: Runcton Farm shop, Barfoots, Newey, Vitacress and to everyone that came. Some money is still coming in, but to date we have raised £1282. Sue and Trudi



Christmessy Family Fun Morning You are very warmly invited to our Christmas family fun morning 10.30 am – 12 noon, Saturday 13th December. There will be a range of activities available, from crafts and a scavenger hunt, to caroling and The Christmas Story, it's sure to get you in the Christmas spirit. Festive refreshments will be available. £3 per family. Please contact Emily with any queries or offers of help 07784398293

Christmas Quiz The Annual Christmas Quiz, raising funds for the Friends of Pagham Church, is available for £1.50 in church or from Mo Hatzfeld - 268576. The prize is a celebration hamper. Closing date is Sunday 4th January, with the winner being declared on Sunday 11th January.



The Bear Necessities at The Bear Inn, Pagham; 7.30 – 9.00 pm on 8th of December. A women's discussion group which meets on the second Monday of the month at The Bear pub in Pagham. A welcoming and safe space to discuss three current news topics and in doing so, get to know each other better.



Pints of view- a conversation for men. Meet with The Rev'd Clive Ashley on Thursday 11th December at 19:30 in the snug at The Inglenook. Buy yourself a pint and come have a chat on current affairs – no hidden agenda, a meeting of men of all ages. Please contact Clive cliveashley111@gmail.com for more information.



Join us for **Nine Lessons and Carols** with the joint choirs of Pagham and Aldwick at St Richard's Church, Gossamer Lane, Aldwick on Sunday 21st December 6.00pm

Carols at The Bear is back on Monday 22nd December 7.00pm. Please join us for lots of carols and merrymaking at The Bear Inn, Nyetimber.



Thank you to the knit and natter group who have donated blankets for use in Church on a Sunday, please feel free to use if you are chilly, and return after the service

Don't forget, the Church is open every day, usually between 10am & 3pm. It is a beautiful place for quiet prayer and reflection.

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

The Bear Necessities: on 8th December, 7.30 pm at The Bear Inn, Pagham

The Book Group: 2nd January, 2pm, in St Andrew's Chapel

Pints of View: on 11th December, 7.30 pm at The Inglenook Pub, Pagham

Breakfast Club: on 7th January at 9.30 am at Manor Nursery.

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

Next week's readings:

Isaiah 35.1-10, James 5.7-10, Matthew 11.2-11

*For any queries regarding our Pew Sheet, please contact Emily-
paghampew@gmail.com*