

The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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Registered Charity Number 1206799

SUNDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2026 **THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT**

Sunday 8th	08:00 Holy Communion
2nd Sunday before Lent	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
	11:15 Parish Eucharist
Monday 9th	09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)
	19:30 The Bear Necessities (Bear Inn, Pagham)
Tuesday 10th	17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom
	19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)
Wednesday 11th	09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)
	17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom
Thursday 12th	10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)
	19:30 Pints of View (The Inglenook, Pagham)
Friday 13th	No public worship today
Saturday 14th	No public worship today
	18:00 - 21:00 Valentine's Ball (Mosse Hall)
Sunday 15th	08:00 Holy Communion
Sunday next before Lent	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
	11:15 Parish Eucharist

The Church is open for private prayer, Monday – Saturday 10.00-4.00 and until 4.00 on Sunday

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

If you wish to take part in the Zoom evening prayer services on Tuesday or Wednesday, please contact trudikearsley@hotmail.co.uk for the link.

Hymns

Introit: 376 I heard the voice of Jesus say

Gradual: 239 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy

Offertory: 263 All creatures of our God and King (omit * verses)

Final: 393 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament reading: Genesis 1: 1 – 2.3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day. And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day. And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth,

and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.’ And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Psalm 136

New Testament Reading: The Letter of Paul to the Romans 8: 18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 6: 25-end

‘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. ‘So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

Prayers of Intercession

The sick and those who care for them: Janet Lock, Peter Dickinson, Sue and family, Edna Nolson, Don Durrant, Betty Kernan, Molly Hendry, Bob Coyne, Sheila Chittenden, Jo Greenwood.

Recently departed:

Anniversary of death: Gail Clark (11th)

We pray for and with the people of Ukraine; for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank; for peace of the Holy Land; and for those who will weep, and fear, and die this day.

We pray for our vacancy – PCC Secretary.

Post Communion Prayer:

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Next week's readings

Exodus 24.12–end; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1.16–end; Matthew 17.1–9

Ash Wednesday and Lent Course: The Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:30pm on Wednesday 18th February at St Richard's. **The following Wednesday, 25th February, at 7:00pm** marks the beginning of our **five-week Lent course**. The Diocesan course for this year is called, 'The Year of Matthew'. Key themes that we will be looking at include, the birth of Jesus, the calling of the disciples, Jesus as teacher, his miracles, and his impending passion. This year's parish Lent course will be held in the St Andrew's Chapel, Thomas à Becket Church, Pagham. A sign-up sheet and flyer will be available at the back of the church on the Sundays leading up to Lent.

PCC vacancy. We are still looking to fill the post of PCC Secretary. If you may be interested, please contact Revd Julian or one of the churchwardens. Training will be offered.

Community Groups and Events

The Bear Necessities - a discussion group for women, will meet **tomorrow, Monday 9th February** at 7.30pm at The Bear Inn, Pagham. All ages welcome. All views welcome. This is a safe space to discuss 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 12th February at 7.30pm** in The Inglenook, Pagham. Buy yourself a pint and come have a chat on current affairs – no hidden agenda, a meeting of men of all ages.

Valentine's Ball: This fundraising event will be held in the Mosse Hall on **Saturday 14th February, 6pm-9pm**. Dress code - evening dress/dress to impress. Live music provided by Regis Rhythms. Love Quiz. Bring 'n' share buffet. Bring your own liquid refreshment. Bring a friend! Numbers are limited, so please book now using the sign-up sheets in church, or by emailing strichardsaldwick@gmail.com. Tickets are just £12 per person to include a glass of bubbly. You are asked to pay in advance to secure your booking. Pay by BACS transfer to Aldwick Parochial Church Council, Sort Code: 20-20-65, account number: 50759368, putting 'Valentine' as the reference. Alternatively pay Angela Purser or David Williams by cash or cheque made payable to Aldwick PCC Mosse Hall Account.

Lent soup 2026: Lent Soup Lunches are on offer again this year. **Thursdays 26th February and March 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th – 12noon-1.15pm**. A warm welcome, delicious home-made soup with a bread roll, tea and coffee at Pagham Parish Church Centre, Nyetimber Lane. All proceeds will be split between Chestnut Tree House, Mary's Meals, Grass Roots and Bognor Food Bank.

Knitted poppies: Following the success of our display of knitted poppies for Remembrance Sunday last year, Barbara would like to make an even bigger display this year – and there's no time like the present to get started! If you would like to help with this Mothers' Union project by knitting more poppies, please contact Carole (cmatthews@jrmail.co.uk) for the pattern, or pick a copy up at the back of church, and drop your poppies into church as you complete them

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.



Urgently needed this week: Tinned meat, tinned baked beans, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, UHT milk. **We have plenty of:** pulses.