

The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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Registered Charity Number 1206799

SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2026 **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Sunday 22nd	08:00 Holy Communion
5th Sunday of Lent	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
Passiontide begins	11:15 Parish Eucharist with Sunday school
	18:00 Stations of the Cross (Pagham)
Monday 23rd	09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)
Tuesday 24th	10:00 Nyewood Junior School Service (Church closed in morning)
	17:30 Evening Prayer on Zoom
	19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)
Wednesday 25th	09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)
Annunciation of Our Lord to the BVM	19:00 Lent Course (Week 5) see page 4
Thursday 26th	10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)
	12:00-13:15 Lent Soup Lunch (Pagham Church Centre)
Friday 27th	No public worship today
Saturday 28th	No public worship today
	10:30-12:00: Coffee, Cake & Conversation (Mosse Hall)
Sunday 29th	08:00 Holy Communion
Palm Sunday	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
Holy Week	11:15 Parish Eucharist for Palm Sunday with Sunday school
	18:00 Stations of the Cross (Pagham)

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: 461 There's a wideness in God's mercy

Gradual: 83 Glory be to Jesus

Offertory: 90 O Sacred Head, sore wounded (omit * verses)

Final: 393 Lead us, heavenly Father

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the 5th Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.**

Old Testament reading: Ezekiel 37.1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord God, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord.' So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, 'Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.' I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, 'Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, "Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely." Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.'

Psalm 130

New Testament Reading: The Letter of Paul to the Romans: 8. 6-11

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Reading: John 11.1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it, he said, 'This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.' Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two

days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.' The disciples said to him, 'Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?' Jesus answered, 'Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.' After saying this, he told them, 'Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right.' Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, 'Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.' Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow-disciples, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.' When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, 'The Teacher is here and is calling for you.' And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!' The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

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, Joan Burt, Martin Lang, Catherine Allott.

Recently departed:

Anniversary of death: Sally Thomas (22nd), James Nolson (23rd), Nancy Redford (27th), Frank Joseph Nash (28th), Eric Redstone (28th).

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:

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Next week's readings

Matthew 21.1–11; Philippians 2: 5-11; Matthew 26.14 – end of 27

Sunday School is held in the children's corner in church, led by a rota of volunteers during the 11.15am service, with a view to moving into the hall longer term. All children welcome. If anyone would like to find out more, or maybe join the rota, please contact Julie (juliebroad28@gmail.com)

Community Groups and Events

Stations of the Cross: will be held on **Sundays, 22nd and 29th March** at St Thomas à Beckett at 6pm. All are welcome. During Holy Week there will be Stations of the Cross at 9.30am at Pagham on **Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st March**, and at St Richard's on **Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd April**.

Lent Course: Wednesday 25th March, at 7pm is the final session of our **five-week Lent course** 'The Year of Matthew', in St Andrew's Chapel, Thomas à Becket Church, Pagham. All are welcome.

Lent soup 2026: The final lunch is **Thursday 26th March, 12noon-1.15pm**. A warm welcome, home-made soup, bread roll, tea and coffee at Pagham Parish Church Centre, Nyetimber Lane. Proceeds will be split between Chestnut Tree House, Mary's Meals, Grass Roots and Bognor Food Bank.

Coffee, Cake & Conversation: takes place next on **Saturday 28th March, 10:30am – 12 noon** in the Mosse Hall. Please bring friends and neighbours. Volunteers are needed for future dates - please contact Christine Eaton-Hennah (christineeh13@sky.com) for information. Training can be given on the coffee machine. It only needs 2 people to make tea/coffee and provide milk and yummy cakes.

Good Friday Children's Workshop, 3rd April, a morning of fun and crafty activities for children and families **10am - 12noon** in the Mosse Hall. Children of all ages and their grown-ups are welcome! Ending with a short act of worship and hot cross buns!

Talk about Estate Planning – 'Tax, care and toy boys': This very entertaining and informative talk will be held on **Tuesday 7th April at 7.30pm**, in the Mosse Hall. The talk is free, but minimum numbers are needed for it to go ahead. Sign-up sheets are available in church. Refreshments will be provided by Aldwick Mothers' Union.

Lunch on Sunday: The next Lunch on Sunday will be on **12th April at 12.45pm** following the Parish Eucharist. Please note the change of date due to the first Sunday being Easter Day. **Volunteers are needed to organise this lunch and future lunches.** Support will be provided. Please contact Angela Purser for more details.

Newspapers We've been collecting newspapers for bedding for Brent Lodge for 3 years. We're now **looking for a new volunteer** to deliver them to Sidlesham or the shop in Bognor. If you could help, please contact Angela Purser. If no-one comes forward, we'll need to stop the collections in church.

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.



Urgently needed this week: Cereals, tinned vegetables, tinned tomatoes, tinned fruit, UHT milk (full fat). **We have plenty of:** pulses.