

# The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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*Registered Charity Number 1206799*

## **SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2026** **FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Easter 5**

**08:00 Holy Communion**  
**10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall**  
**11:15 Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**  
**12:45 Lunch on Sunday in the Mosse Hall**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>**  
**Eng Ss & Martyrs of Reformation**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>**

**No public worship today**

**18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)**  
**19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

**09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)**  
**09:30 Breakfast Club (Manor Nursery)**  
**18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>**

**10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**  
**Julian of Norwich**

**No public worship today**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>**

**No public worship today**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>**

**08:00 Holy Communion**  
**10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall**  
**11:15 Parish Eucharist with Sunday School**

**Easter 6**

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.*

### **Hymns**

**Introit: 205 Christ is made a sure foundation**  
**Gradual: (Sheet) The Servant King**  
**Offertory: 113 Love's redeeming work is done**  
**Final: 360 Firmly I believe and truly**

## **The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen 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: Genesis 8.1-19**

But God remembered Noah and all the wild animals and all the domestic animals that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided; the fountains of the deep and the windows of the heavens were closed, the rain from the heavens was restrained, and the waters gradually receded from the earth. At the end of one hundred and fifty days the waters had abated; and in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. The waters continued to abate until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains appeared. At the end of forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the raven; and it went to and fro until the waters were dried up from the earth. Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. Then he waited another seven days, and sent out the dove; and it did not return to him any more. In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from the earth; and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and saw that the face of the ground was drying. In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry. Then God said to Noah, 'Go out of the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—so that they may abound on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.' So Noah went out with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives. And every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out of the ark by families.

### **Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16**

### **New Testament Reading: Acts 7.55-end**

But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. 'Look,' he said, 'I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down

and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died.

### **Gospel Reading: John 14.1-14**

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

### **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, Joan Burt, Martin Lang, Catherine Allott.

**Recently departed:**

**Anniversary of death:** (Lewis) John Stanley (5<sup>th</sup>).

**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:**

Eternal God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life: grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth, and to share his risen life; who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Next week's readings**

**Genesis 8.20–9.17; Psalm 66.7-end; Acts 17.22-31; Mark 12.41-44**

### **Stewardship Sunday 2026**

Our Stewardship Sunday will take place this year on **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2026**. Please take time to think about your giving to the church.

*But when you give, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

*(Matthew 6:3)*

**Sunday School** is held during the 11.15am service, starting in the children's corner in church, then moves into the Committee Room in the Mosse Hall, returning in time for a blessing at communion. It is led by a rota of volunteers. All children welcome. If anyone would like to find out more, or maybe join the rota, please contact Julie ([juliebroad28@gmail.com](mailto:juliebroad28@gmail.com)).

**PCC vacancies:** We are still looking to fill the post of PCC Secretary and there are some additional upcoming vacancies on the PCC (Parochial Church Council) from this year's APCM (see below). Please pray for our vacancies and consider whether joining the PCC is a way in which you could serve our church community. For further information please speak to Revd Julian, one of the Church Wardens or another member of the PCC.

**Retirement of the Bishop of Chichester and the appointment of his successor:** Bishop Martin retires at the end of May, and as a diocesan family we are beginning the search for his successor. Have your say in the appointment at [tinyurl.com/next-bishop](http://tinyurl.com/next-bishop) It will take only a few minutes to complete, and it is open until May 26<sup>th</sup>. Responses are welcome from everyone.

Our **Ascension Day service** will be held at 7pm on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. It will be followed, in church, by our **APCM** (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) at 8pm, which will be accompanied by nibbles and bubbles. Please do come along to both of these important events in our church calendar.

**Thy Kingdom Come** [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global) is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost (**14<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> May**) for more people to come to know Jesus. Prayer Stations will be set up in St Thomas a Becket Church. Please take the time to visit the stations to pray for personal, local and global topics.

## Community Groups and Events

**Lunch on Sunday:** The next Lunch on Sunday takes place **today at 12.45pm** following the Parish Eucharist. A wonderful opportunity to enjoy a 2-course meal and fellowship together in relaxed surroundings, at just £10 for adults, children free. If you have not signed up but would like to attend, please ask if there is space. **We're looking for volunteers to organise lunches in the future.** Support will be provided. If you, along with some friends, would be interested in organising a lunch (you get to choose what's on the menu), please have a word with Angela Purser or Julie Broad or email the Parish mailbox ([strichardsaldwick@gmail.com](mailto:strichardsaldwick@gmail.com)).

**Breakfast Club** meets next on **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** at **Manor Nursery Palm Court café**, at 9.30am. The cost of breakfast at Manor Nursery is between £10 and £14. All are welcome to come along and enjoy a cooked breakfast with like-minded people with wide ranging conversation!! Any queries, please contact Alex Brockhurst 07792 544259.

**The Bear Necessities, a discussion group for women**, will meet next at 7.30pm on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May** 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 14<sup>th</sup> May** 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.

**Mothers' Union** – please note that there will be no meeting of Aldwick Mothers' Union in May.

## **SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.**



**Urgently needed this week:** Biscuits, tinned vegetables, tinned tomatoes, spreads, UHT milk (blue). **We have plenty of:** pulses.