

# The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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*Registered Charity Number 1206799*

## **SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**Easter 4**

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

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>**

**09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)**  
**18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)**  
**19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**St. Catherine of Sienna**  
**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>**

**09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)**  
**18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)**  
**10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May**  
**Ss. Philip & James, Apostles**  
**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**No public worship today**  
**Book Group (see page 4 for details)**  
**No public worship today**

**St. Athanasius of Alexandria**  
**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**

**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: 333 All my hope on God is founded**  
**Gradual: 374 How sweet the name of Jesus sounds**  
**Offertory: 282 Faithful shepherd, feed me**  
**Final: 457 The King of love my shepherd is**

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

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **Old Testament reading: Genesis 7**

Then the Lord said to Noah, 'Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and its mate; and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth. For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.' And Noah did all that the Lord had commanded him. Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth. And Noah with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. And after seven days the waters of the flood came on the earth. In the six-hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. The rain fell on the earth for forty days and forty nights. On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons, entered the ark, they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the Lord shut him in. The flood continued for forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred and fifty days.

### **Psalm 23**

## **New Testament Reading: Acts 2: 42-end**

Those who welcomed his message and were baptised, devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

## **Gospel Reading: John 10.1-10**

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.'

## **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:*** Ida Evans (27<sup>th</sup>), Robert Morsley (28<sup>th</sup>), Muriel Morsley (2<sup>nd</sup> May).

***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:**

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Next week's readings**

**Genesis 8.1–19; Psalm 31.1–5, 15–16; Acts 7.55–end; John 14.1–14.**

**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 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.

**90th birthday congratulations:** Congratulations to Dr Spencer Thomas who celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, in the company of Audrey, Andrew, Sarah and her husband, Arthur. Spencer was born on the birthday of the late Queen Elizabeth and was pleased that his birth was greeted by a 41-gun salute and the National Anthem! Unfortunately, Audrey and Spencer are no longer able to worship with us, after 58 years of continuous commitment, following Audrey's broken hip and replacement operation last May, and subsequent deterioration in their health, but they remain with us in spirit.

**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.

## Community Groups and Events

**The Book Group** meets next at 4, Swandean on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 2.00pm until about 3.30pm**. If you would like to be added to the Book Group's mailing list, or have any queries, please email Linda ([lindatempest@hotmail.com](mailto:lindatempest@hotmail.com)).

**Lunch on Sunday:** The next Lunch on Sunday takes place on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 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. Sign-up sheets are available at the back of the Church. **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 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 9.30 am. 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 7.30 pm 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.