

The Parish Church of Aldwick St Richard



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**WEBSITE: <https://paghamaldwickchurch.org>
<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4756/>**

Registered Charity Number 1206799

SUNDAY 17TH MAY 2026

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday 17th	08:00 Holy Communion
Easter 7	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
Sunday after Ascension	11:15 Parish Eucharist with Sunday School
Monday 18th	09:15 Morning Prayer (Pagham)
Tuesday 19th	18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)
St. Dunstan	19:00 Tuesday@7 (Pagham)
Wednesday 20th	09:30 Morning Prayer (St. Richard's)
Alcuin of York	18:00 Evening Prayer (Pagham)
Thursday 21st	10:00 Holy Communion (Pagham)
Friday 22nd	No public worship today
Saturday 23rd	No public worship today
Sunday 24th	08:00 Holy Communion
Pentecost	10:30 Coffee in the Mosse Hall
Whit Sunday	11:15 Parish Eucharist with Sunday School

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: 443 Rejoice, the Lord is King

Gradual: 130 Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluya (omit * verses)

Offertory: 332 All hail the power of Jesu's name (omit * verses)

Final: (Sheet) Christ triumphant

The Collect (Opening Prayer) for the Sunday after Ascension Day

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, 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 36.24-28

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Psalm 68.1-10, 32-end

New Testament Reading: Acts 1.6-14

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Gospel Reading: John 17.1-11

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in

your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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: Dennis Kirk, Betty Turner, Edna White (all 22nd)

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, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Next week's readings

Numbers 11.24–30; Psalm 104.26–36; Acts 2.1–21; John 20.19–23

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).

PCC vacancies: We are still looking to fill the post of PCC Secretary and there may be some additional vacancies on the PCC (Parochial Church Council) following this year's APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting). 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 It will take only a few minutes to complete, and it is open **until May 26th**. Responses are welcome from everyone.

Thy Kingdom Come: www.thykingdomcome.global is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost (**14th-24th May**) for more people to come to know Jesus. Prayer Stations have been 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

Coffee, Cake & Conversation: Our next monthly Coffee, Cake & Conversation will take place on **Saturday 30th May 10:30am – 12 noon** in the Mosse Hall. Please bring along your friends, neighbours and family. **If anyone would like to host one of our Coffee, Cake & Conversation mornings then please do get in touch with Christine Eaton-Hennah (christineeh13@sky.com).** We need volunteers for future dates. Full training on the coffee machine can be given and it only needs a couple of people at a time to make tea/coffee and provide milk and some yummy cakes.

Lunch on Sunday: The next Lunch on Sunday will be on **Sunday 7th June 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. Signup sheets will be available at the rear 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 Julie Broad or email the Parish mailbox (strichardsaldwick@gmail.com).

The Bear Necessities, a discussion group for women, meets on the second Monday of the month at The Bear Inn, Pagham. The next meeting is on **Monday 8th June at 7.30pm**. 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 11th June 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.

Sponsoring flower arrangements in church: If you would like to sponsor a flower arrangement in church, perhaps in memory of a loved one, or simply because you love to see the beautiful decorations created by our flower group, please do sign up - there is a rota on the noticeboard as you go into church. Please take an envelope, pop in your cash and leave it in the collection plate. Alternatively, if you'd like to donate by BACS transfer, please ask David, our treasurer, for the account details and use the reference: Flowers.

Hygiene Poverty: A Hygiene Bank has been set up in the church porch. The Hygiene Bank collects **new, unused, in-date personal care and household cleaning essentials.** For health and safety reasons, opened, half-used or products past their best-before date cannot be accepted. Leaflets about the scheme are available at the back of the church and further details are at <https://thehygienebank.com/give-products/what-products-do-we-collect/>

Newspapers: Brent Lodge have advised that they do not require any more newspapers until the Autumn, however the Cat and Rabbit Rescue will be delighted to receive them. Hence, we will continue to maintain a newspaper collection point in church. Please drop your newspapers (but NOT magazines, as they cannot be used) in the green box in the church porch.

Online shopping: When you are doing your online shopping, remember to use **easyfundraising** in support of St Richard's to help us raise additional funds, **at no cost to you.** If you're not sure how, please talk to David (treasurer) or Angela (church warden). Further details are available at: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/strichardsaldwick/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1

SUPPORT FOR THE FOODBANK IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.



Urgently needed this week: Shower gels, tinned rice puddings, tinned fruit, UHT milk (blue), UHT apple / orange juice. **We have plenty of:** pulses.