

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Testimonies: Many of you will have testimonies of God's goodness in a myriad of ways over the last year. It would be so good to share it with your church family, please get in touch with Lisa or let her know.

Poor St Clares at Crossbush Taize Service 7pm last Friday of each Month and Taize Service 6pm first Sunday of the month at United Reform/ Trinity Church High Street Littlehampton.

Coffee/Tea rota and used stamps: There is a container for stamps near the door. The coffee tea rota is also there.

St Mary Magdalene regular service pattern at the moment

1st Sunday of the month 4pm All together communion
2nd Sunday 8 am BCP service and 11 am Communion
3rd Sunday 9.30 Family service 11am Parish communion
4th Sunday 11 am communion
5th Sunday 11 am Communion

Please Note There will not be a 4pm service on Easter Sunday its a joint service at 11am and Note that April's BCP service will be 8am on Easter Sunday not on the 2nd Sunday

Praying the News: As we read or watch the news, let it move us to prayer rather than despair. Each story is an invitation to bring our world, its leaders, and its suffering to God in hope and trust.

PRAYER LIST

Gill & Michael Lee, Barbara Evens granddaughter; Evie, Margaret Russell & Family, Gwen Marsh, Miriam, Carol Hatton's good friend Lynne Rule-Peters, Sue Arthur, Richard and his Father.

Please email names for prayer list to wickinformation@gmail.com

22 March 2026

'Hearing the Word of the Kingdom'

Our Purpose: Deeply know, love and follow Jesus

Welcome to St Mary Magdalene Church, Lyminster and to our church building which has been a place of worship for nearly 1,000 years. If you are visiting, or this is your first time here, please make yourself known to one of the welcomers.

We hope that you feel welcome and able to share in the good news of Jesus our risen Lord and Saviour. Please contact Lisa, priest in charge of St. Mary Magdalene and All Saints Wick, Churchwarden or welcomers if you'd like to, and please stay to get to know us better after the service. This week's service will be led by Revd. Bill Meyer.

ALL ENQUIRIES

Our Clergy

Rev'd Lisa Fairman-Brown Priest in charge
email rev.lyminsterwick@gmail.com
Mobile: 07925 275184

Viv Prior (Warden)

vivienneprior1@gmail.com 01903 716021

HYMN NUMBERS WILL BE ON THE BOARD

COLLECT for The Fifth 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 forever.

A Gentle Invitation to Live in Freedom

Lent offers us a simple and grace-filled pattern for living more closely with God. It is not about trying harder, but about returning, again and again, to the love we have been given in Jesus.

1. Believe the Gospel

We begin by resting in the good news. Our hope is not in what we do, but in what Christ has done for us. We are saved by grace, received through faith; faith is gift to be welcomed with thankful hearts (Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9).

2. Keep Turning Back to God

As we journey through Lent, we will become aware of the ways we fall short. This is not a cause for fear, but an invitation to return to the Lord. When we confess, he meets us with forgiveness and renewal (1 John 1:9; Acts 3:19).

3. Let God Shape Your Thinking

God's word gently reshapes us from the inside out. As we spend time in Scripture, we find our minds renewed and our hearts encouraged, learning to see life more as God sees it (Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:16).

4. Stand Firm in Faith

There are times when we feel pulled away from God's peace. In those moments, we are not alone. As we draw near to God and stand firm in faith, we find strength to resist what would lead us astray (James 4:7; 1 Peter 5:8-9).

5. Walk with the Spirit Each Day

Above all, Lent is about daily dependence on God. The Holy Spirit leads us step by step, helping us to live in freedom and to grow in love, joy, and peace (Galatians 5:16, 25).

May this season be a time of quiet renewal, as we walk together in the grace and mercy of Christ.

BIBLE READINGS

Verses of prophecy from the book of Isaiah: 6:9-10

9 He said, 'Go and tell this people: "Be ever hearing, but never understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving." 10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.'

Psalm 32

1 Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. 2 Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit. 3 When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. 4 For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.' And you forgave the guilt of my sin. 6 Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them. 7 You are my hiding-place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance. 8 I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. 9 Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you. 10 Many are the woes of the wicked, but the Lord's unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him. 11 Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!

Matthew 13:1-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. 2 Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: 'A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and

choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. 9 Whoever has ears, let them hear.’ 10 The disciples came to him and asked, ‘Why do you speak to the people in parables?’ 11 He replied, ‘Because the knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of heaven has been given to you, but not to them. 12 Whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. 13 This is why I speak to them in parables: ‘Though seeing, they do not see; though hearing, they do not hear or understand. 14 In them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: “You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving. 15 For this people’s heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.” 16 But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear. 17 For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it. 18 ‘Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19 when anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. 22 The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. 23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.’

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Next week’s service’s: 11am Communion service

Friday Coffee Mornings March 27th raising money for The Snowdrop Trust. Easter theme Tombola and Raffle. Any donations will be gratefully received

Retreat Day – All invited to the Holy Spirit Away Day, Bishop’s Palace, Chichester. Saturday 28th March, 10am–4pm. Please let Lisa or Liz know that you would like to come or simply book on at:

<https://allsaintswick.churchsuite.com/events/x0o3b8gf>

Electoral Roll Revision 2026 – If you have joined our church in the last year and either All Saints or St Mary Magdalene or both are now your church home, you are potentially eligible to join the Church Electoral Roll. Please speak to Lisa or one of the Churchwardens.



Giving in different ways: Thank you for all the ways that you are contributing to the life of St Mary Magdalene Church. Thank you that many of you give by serving on teams. We would absolutely love to welcome you to serve too. Please ask Viv where our various teams need strengthening Thank you for the way you give to all involved in our mission and ministry through your prayers for us, and for God’s mission through St Mary Magdalene. Finally, thank you, for your generous giving, and if you would like to find out about that, you can go to the giving page on our website or scan the code below. We do encourage you, if you consider yourself a regular worshipping member of St Mary Magdalene to consider this.

New Wine this summer – help/gifts You may have caught Kerry’s encouragement about how inspirational she found the New Wine Week was for her last summer. Many of you will know that from your own experience too, perhaps you’ve been and seen just how faith-building it can be. You may also be someone who hasn’t been, or can’t go this year, but would love to bless others to go. We know there are people in our church family who would dearly love to attend this summer but for whom cost or even not having camping equipment is a real barrier. We’ve set up a New Wine designated fund to help with that. If you’d like to contribute, please have a conversation with Lisa as soon as possible. Or if you’d love to go but are hesitating because of cost or equipment, please do come and have a conversation with Lisa. We would love, as far as possible, for everyone who wants to go to New Wine this summer to be able to do so. [Festival.new-wine.org](https://festival.new-wine.org)

National Day of Prayer & Worship (NDOPW) 32 days of continual Prayer was concluded at Midnight on Thursday, 5th February. However, you are invited to join NDOPW at 7am, Noon, 7pm and Midnight every day on Zoom. The link is: www.ndopw.com/dailyprayer (Read Ephesians 4:3-6)

Grateful thanks to all who generously gave to the Easter egg appeal, we will be able to spread a lot of christian joy this Easter

Holy Week Events:

Monday 7pm, Holy Week Reflection 1, All Saints Church

Tuesday 7pm, Holy Week Reflection 2, All Saints Church

Wednesday, 9.30am, Midweek Communion Service, All Saints Church

Maundy Thursday Passover Communion Meal, 6.30pm All Saints Church – Booking Essential – The Passover is an annual festival to celebrate the Exodus from Egypt that is celebrated by Jews all over the world. On Maundy Thursday, we will join in with the story, sing songs, share a meal and pray. Our evening incorporates some of the Jewish traditions, and we add to it the meaning Jesus initiated after His last supper with the disciples. During the evening we will have a meal – lamb casserole (vegetarian option available at time of booking)

Entry by Pre-Booked Ticket only. Bookings close 1 st April. Tickets are bookable at <https://allsaintswick.churchsuite.com/events/rgilacth> . Adults- £10; children- £5; family ticket (2 adults, 2 children)-£22. Cash beforehand or on the day.

Maundy Thursday Prayer Watch – The Passover Communion Meal will be followed by an opportunity to join the **Prayer Watch in the Garden Room**, a time to abide there in prayer (from 8pm) or please feel free to come to this only.

Good Friday Ecumenical Walk of Witness 11:00am Meet at St. Mary's Church, Church St, then walking through the High Street to Trinity Church for a short Service.

Good Friday Hour at the Cross, 2.30pm, St Mary Magdalene Church, Lyminster.

Easter Day Sunrise Service, 6.15am, East Beach (in front of East Beach Café) followed by hot drinks and hot cross buns/croissants.

Easter Day Celebration Service with Holy Communion, 10am refreshments, 10.30am start, Wick Hall.

Easter Services

Holy Week

Monday, 7pm. Holy Week Reflection, All Saints Church

Tuesday, 7pm. Holy Week Reflection, All Saints Church

Wednesday, 9.30am, Holy Week Communion Service

Thursday, 6.30pm, Passover Meal

Maundy Thursday Garden Watch

Good Friday, 11am, Ecumenical Walk of Witness

2.30pm, Hour at the Cross, St Mary Magdalene Church

Easter Sunday:

6.15am United Sunrise Service at East Beach

Littlehampton

United Celebration Service with Holy Communion,

10.30am, Wick Hall

Service of Holy Communion, 11am, St Mary Magdalene Church