

## 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.

**There will be no Prayer group on the third Wednesday in January, we will resume in February.**

### St Mary Magdalene regular service pattern at the moment

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

**Please note changes 2nd Sunday 8am B C P and 3rd Sunday 11am service**

**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

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](mailto:wickinformation@gmail.com)

## 25 January 2026

### 'Light in Galilee'

### **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](mailto:rev.lyminsterwick@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 07925 275184

#### Viv Prior (Warden)

[vivienneprior1@gmail.com](mailto:vivienneprior1@gmail.com) 01903 716021

### HYMN NUMBERS WILL BE ON THE BOARD

### **COLLECT for The Third Sunday of Epiphany**

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; 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.

### **Light in Galilee**

Isaiah foresaw light rising not from the centre, but from Galilee, the overlooked region on the fringe. Matthew tells us that Jesus the true light found fishermen, the sick, the searching and his marvellous light still does. Christ's light exposes, yet it also warms and gathers. It calls us to leave our nets, our certainties, and follow.

It might have something to do with sharing the song 'Shine from the inside out' in a school assembly this week, but I have been wondering how many lumens are packed into these two verses of the gospel, Colossians 1:13-14, 'For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.' Those two verses arrest my attention every time, they are like an indescribable flood of light filling my inner being. Pause, take a moment and receive his marvellous light.

Now please don't just rush to read on. Instead pause and ask God where he might be shining today. Imagine with God that he might be shining his light in places we've dismissed, or people we've overlooked? Will we step into that light, or keep to the shadows?

### **BIBLE READINGS**

#### **Psalm 67**

1 May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us – 2 so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. 3 May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. 4 May the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you rule the peoples with equity and guide the nations of the earth. 5 May the peoples praise you, God; may all the peoples praise you. 6 The

land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us. 7 May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.

### **Verses of prophecy from the book of Isaiah: Isaiah: 9:1-2**

1 Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honour Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan – 2 The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

### **Matthew 4:12-25**

12 When Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, he withdrew to Galilee. 13 Leaving Nazareth, he went and lived in Capernaum, which was by the lake in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali – 14 to fulfil what was said through the prophet Isaiah: 15 'Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles – 16 the people living in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.' 17 From that time on Jesus began to preach, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' 18 As Jesus was walking beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter and his brother Andrew. They were casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 19 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' 20 At once they left their nets and followed him. 21 Going on from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, preparing their nets. Jesus called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him. 23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and illness among the people. 24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralysed; and he healed them. 25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.

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### **New Preaching Series Sunday: Isaiah Fulfilled – Meeting Jesus in**

**Matthew's Gospel** We will be focussing on the eye-witness account of Jesus in Matthew's gospel and seeing how he deliberately frames Jesus as the fulfilment of the prophecies given through Isaiah some 700 years earlier.

**As we begin 2026**, would you renew your commitment to pray and please pray for the strengthening of their faith and a deepening hope in God, that they may be filled with joy and peace as they trust in Him, knowing He has a purpose and a future for them.

**Holy Communion** – Each dipping their own wafer – unfortunately this practice may not continue. I realise this may be distressing for those who have been doing this now for some while since the pandemic and I apologise for not picking up on this before now. However the Church of England's guidance states that ordinary communicants should not dip the consecrated bread into the chalice themselves. This is because it is not an authorised Anglican practice in the normal liturgy of Holy Communion. Receiving in one kind (just bread or wine) when necessary still counts as full communion. Dipping by communicants is considered unhygienic and increases the risk of contamination of the chalice with germs or gluten from the bread, which could affect others.

**National Day of Prayer & Worship (NDOPW)** invites you to join the 32 Days of on-line (Zoom) 24/32 Prayer (5th Jan to 5th Feb). The link is: [www.ndopw.com/dailyprayer](http://www.ndopw.com/dailyprayer). You may join at any time.

**We are sad to announce that long standing member of our church family Tina Ward** was called home by the Lord on 15.12.25. Her funeral will take place on Monday 26th January at Worthing crematorium. Muntham Chapel @12.30. Tina regularly attended and served at the 8am service and served the church in a number of ways. Our prayers are with her family.