

The Benefice of New Shoreham and Shoreham Beach

ST MARY'S NEWS

To know, love, follow Jesus

JANUARY 2022



Price 50p

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CHICHESTER
 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

WHO'S WHO IN THE PARISH OF ST MARY DE HAURA

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Worship & Services at St Mary de Haura

SERVICES IN CHURCH

Every Sunday at 8.00 am and 10.00 am—Every Tuesday at 11.00 am

There is now no need to book for any services in church

The 10.00 am Parish Eucharist in church will also be broadcast on our Facebook page on the first Sunday of the month and you can join from 9.50 am onwards by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarydeHauraShoreham>

**Ann's last service will be on
Sunday 23rd January at 10.00 am**

Evening Services

Jan 2nd - 4.00 pm Teatime Worship for young families

Jan 9th - 6.00 pm Compline, a short said service of Night Prayer

Jan 16th - 6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Jan 23rd - 6.00 pm Taize style evening prayer



Farewell to Canon Ann



WHERE? St Mary's Church

WHEN? Saturday January 22nd between 2.30 pm and 5.00 pm

Do drop into the church for a cup of tea / a glass of prosecco and cake during the afternoon. Ann would love to see you before she leaves Shoreham. Everybody welcome to the party!

First Thoughts

Before I was appointed vicar here in 2012, I came for a “recce” one November day in 2011 to have a look at the town. Like many people who don’t live here, I didn’t know Shoreham by Sea at all – living in Chichester it was a place I had bypassed a few times on the way to Brighton. Visiting the two magnificent churches of St Nicolas and St Mary de Haura, walking across the old wooden bridge and along the beach to the wonderfully positioned Church of the Good Shepherd by the sea, and taking in the houseboats, the river, Lancing College and the hills beyond, I began to hope and pray this would be my next posting. To my delight it was and I have had the privilege and joy of serving in this amazing community for nearly ten years.

It is time for me to move on now. I am retiring to Worcester at the end of January where I hope to continue my ministry by helping out in the local churches as and when needed. It will be a real wrench to leave this community where I have made so many friends and been made so welcome but I have lots of good memories which will always be with me.

As we start a new year, let me leave you with this thought. A question that is asked fairly frequently by visitors to St Mary’s when the crib is in place is “where are the Wise Men/Kings/Magi?” Well, we don’t put them in place until the Sunday Epiphany service (January 2nd this year) and that is because we know from Matthew’s Gospel that they came well after the birth of Christ and after the shepherds who were the first visitors to the manger.

The completion of the crib scene emphasises for me one of the most important aspects of the nativity and my faith. The shepherds and the Magi represent the poor and the stranger respectively, and emphasise God’s love for everyone; we are all welcome at his table. Occasionally I bump into a woman in the churchyard who feels she isn’t worthy to step inside the church, and yet this view misses the point. None of us is worthy but we are

all loved and cherished through the grace of God. And it is one of the great joys of being vicar of St Mary's that we can leave the church open every day unattended for anyone to pop in, as and when they wish to. I know how important this is to so many people in the town and also to our Parochial Church Council who have made that decision.



As we move into a new year, I wish you every happiness and blessing for the future. 2022 will be a time of change for the church, but the strong community that is St Mary's will ensure that the change and transition ahead will be harnessed for God's purposes here in Shoreham. Thank you for the friendship and love you have shown me which, alongside your prayers, have enabled my ministry here. It has been a privilege and joy to serve in this town and you will always be in my prayers.

With love and God's blessing,

Ann

Editor's Notes

Well, it's a sad start to the next year as we say a very fond farewell to Ann who is leaving for pastures new and a well deserved semi-retirement at the end of January. Thank you Ann for bringing such sparkle, humour, empathy and spirituality to our church community. You don't need me to tell you that you will be greatly missed, but I will say it anyway! Vaya con Dios.

Meanwhile, to take your minds off this departure I have given you all a brain boggling quiz, testing your attention to the events of 2021. Good luck!

May I wish you a joyful, peaceful and most importantly healthy New Year.

Gudrun

Malcolm Guite chose this poem as one of his poems for Epiphany in his book "Waiting on the Word" because, as he says, it is essentially a series of little epiphanies. Each of the three pictures are moments of epiphany, or "showings forth" of the glory of God in scripture. Belloc grew up in Slindon and spent most of his life in West Sussex and the poem's setting is Our Lady of England Priory in Storrington.

Courtesy, Hilaire Belloc

Of Courtesy, it is much less
Than Courage of Heart or Holiness,
Yet in my Walks it seems to me
That the Grace of God is in Courtesy.

On Monks I did in Storrington fall,
They took me straight into their Hall;
I saw Three Pictures on a wall,
And Courtesy was in them all.

The first the Annunciation;
The second the Visitation;
The third the Consolation,
Of God that was Our Lady's Son.

The first was of St. Gabriel;
On Wings a-flame from Heaven he fell;
And as he went upon one knee
He shone with Heavenly Courtesy.



Our Lady out of Nazareth rode -
It was Her month of heavy load;
Yet was her face both great and kind,
For Courtesy was in Her Mind.



The third it was our Little Lord,
Whom all the Kings in arms adored;
He was so small you could not see
His large intent of Courtesy.

Our Lord, that was Our Lady's Son,
Go bless you, People, one by one;
My Rhyme is written, my work is done.



Prayer of a little one—St Thérèse of Lisieux

For me, prayer is an uplifting of the heart a glance towards Heaven, a cry of gratitude and of love in times of sorrow as well as of joy. It is something noble, something supernatural, which expands the soul and unites it to God.

To secure a hearing there is no need to recite set prayers composed for the occasion. I have not the courage to search through books for beautiful prayers; they are so numerous, that it would only make my head ache, and besides, each one is more lovely than the other. Unable either to say them all or to choose between them, I do as a child would do who cannot read—I say just what I want to say to God, quite simply and he never fails to understand.

Recycling Restarting!



Good news! The church's recycling scheme will be restarting in mid-January. However it has been decided not to have the bins in St George's chapel as they were unsightly and were inappropriate in a chapel dedicated to private prayer. Until we can have a dedicated place of our own, we have accepted the offer from the Church of the Good Shepherd to join their scheme and use their bins. These are just inside their church porch and clearly labelled.

There will be some changes however to what we will be collecting. Clearly, we will not take things that you should be putting in your blue, recycling bin. However we shall no longer be accepting bread bags, food wrappers, crisp packets, pet food pouches etc as the good news is that the Co-op and Tesco have started to accept this type of soft plastic for recycling. *(In the Ham Road Co-op there is a special bin just on the left as you go in through the main entrance.)* This is very encouraging and we should all take full advantage of this new facility.

Please note, we shall no longer be taking Nespresso, Kenco or any other type of coffee pod as these have proved very bulky and heavy and are no longer being accepted by Sue Wellfare, our Terracycle contact in Lancing. *(The simple answer of course is that we should be discouraging the use of these products. Most of them contain not only plastic but virgin aluminium. There are many other cheaper, more environmentally ways of making a cup of coffee.)*



We have therefore decided to simplify what we shall be collecting at the Church of the Good Shepherd. There will be just three bins:

- Plastic milk bottle tops (all colours). *(No small bottle tops, please.)*
- Gloves (latex, vinyl, Marigold)
- Plastic pens, toothpaste tubes and trigger sprays *(Not the bottles themselves. These should go in your blue bin.)*

Please make sure you put your items in the right bin. They are clearly labelled.

However, we urgently need sorters to join those at Church of Good Shepherd once a month to make sure everything is in the right bag before it is taken across by us to our Terracycle contact in Lancing. If you are able to help with this or want to know more about the scheme, please contact Anthony Rathbone on 07773 363754 or rathbonear@gmail.com.

So please start collecting your recyclable things again and use the new scheme. We shall let you know when it is fully live again. For those who have not been there before, the Church of the Good Shepherd is in Kings Walk, Shoreham Beach, BN43 5LF and is open every day from 9am to 5pm.

Spread the word amongst your friends and family!

Anthony Rathbone

Please pray for:

Jane and Neil, marrying on January 7th



Christmas at St Mary's

Despite Covid restrictions we managed to hold a pop-up nativity, a crib service, three carol services and a Christingle service all of which, although having to follow the rules, managed to impart the joy and anticipation of Christmas.

A special thanks to Stuart for the beautiful sound of the augmented choir.





The Farmer's Market was fun too



Were you concentrating in 2021? - Take this quiz and find out!

1. In April, the Queen's husband Prince Phillip died. What vehicle did he choose to carry his coffin at his funeral?
2. A new £50 note entered circulation in June this year. Which scientist is celebrated on the new note?
3. A legal dispute hit the headlines in April when Colin launched legal proceedings against Cuthbert: Who are Colin and Cuthbert?
4. A ship blocked the Suez Canal for days causing worldwide delays: What was the name of the vessel?
5. A campaign was launched to save the life of an alpaca thought to be infected with TB: What was the name of the alpaca?
6. The Zoom meeting of the Handforth Parish Council went viral this year, with one guest memorably exclaiming "You do not have the authority....!" Who was the councillor concerned?
7. Who was the female tennis star from South London who won the US Open this year?
8. The latest variant uses one entry in the Greek alphabet. Which of the following is not to be found within that ancient alphabetic script's 24 letters? **a. Pi b. Phi c. Psi d. Si**
9. Merriam-Webster had no such hesitation and named "vaccine" its word of the year, but from which Latin word does it come?

a. Vacca, “cow” **b.** Vaco, “to be free from” **c.** Vacuus, “empty or void” **d.** Vaccilo, “to be in a weak condition”

10. Which European country this year voted to legalise same-sex marriage?
11. How many years did Angela Merkel serve as Germany's chancellor before she left office this year, 8, 12 or 16?
12. Which theme park did Boris Johnson visit this year?
13. Which country won the Eurovision Song Contest?
14. Leaders from across the world met in Glasgow to discuss climate change - what was the name of the conference?
15. Who won the Abu Dhabi Formula 1 Grand Prix?
16. What is the name of the latest Bond film?
17. Saudi Arabia famously banned 40 camels from their annual camel beauty contest - why?
18. Which Manchester United footballer was awarded an MBE after campaigning for vulnerable children?
19. Which country left the Commonwealth and became a republic?
20. Which variant of the coronavirus was first discovered in South Africa?

Answers on page 18



How Would You Live Then?

Mary Oliver

What if a hundred rose-breasted grosbeaks
flew in circles around your head? What if
the mockingbird came into the house with you and
became your advisor? What if
the bees filled your walls with honey and all
you needed to do was ask them
and they would fill
the bowl? What if the brook slid downhill just
past your bedroom window so you could listen
to its slow prayers as you fell asleep? What if
the stars began to shout their names, or to run
this way and that way above the clouds? What if
you painted a picture of a tree, and the leaves
began to rustle, and a bird cheerfully sang
from its painted branches? What if
you suddenly saw
that the silver of water was brighter than the silver
of money? What if you finally saw
that the sunflowers, turning toward the sun all day
and every day — who knows how,
but they do it — were
more precious, more meaningful than gold?



Time for lots of smiles from David Webb

A friend of mine was telling me he saw a cloud formation that resembled the fraction 22 over seven....

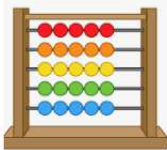
I said, "Really...?
That sounds to me
like pi in the sky!"

π

My father was a signaller in semaphore until he took early retirement. But retirement isn't suiting him so he's gone back to work and is now much happier having resumed his flagging career!



Ten soldiers on a rifle range are ordered to fire in sequence, one to ten. Everything's going along quite smoothly until soldier ten fires out of turn before soldier nine. Afterwards, the sergeant major yells to the offender..."You know what you did, son - it was bang out of order!"



The man who invented the abacus said:
"I'm sure in time to come this will be
used by millions - but of course one can
never count on these things!"

I saw a job advert that read: 'When you come for your interview, if you bring me a sample of my favourite food and you've guessed correctly, the job's yours!' When I arrived home after the interview my wife said, "Well? Did you get the job? I said, "Yes, you were right", It was a piece of cake!"



SIMEON AND ANNA

I've always found the story of Simeon and Anna, in St Luke's gospel, very moving. Here were two elderly people, each drawn to be in the temple at the same time Mary and Joseph took Jesus to be consecrated and each finding in Jesus a deep personal fulfilment and sense of completion.

Simeon, as Luke says, was a devoted and righteous man whose only desire was to see the promised Messiah before he died.

He had been assured by the Holy Spirit that he would and, although he was very old and time was running out, his faith was strong that this would happen. When Mary and Joseph turned up with Jesus, the Spirit moved him to go into the temple where the promise was fulfilled and he was overjoyed as he recognised the true nature of the baby, a force to create divine shockwaves throughout Israel and the world.

Anna was a prophetess having devoted her life to worship, fasting and prayer, living in the temple since her early widowhood. She, like so many, was also looking forward to the redemption of Israel and she found herself in the very temple that had been chosen for the consecration of Jesus. She also immediately recognised Jesus as the redeemer and thanked God.

Because of their faith, both had been guided by the Holy Spirit to be in the right place at the right time to witness the fulfilment of their hopes of Israel's release after years of distressing occupation and subjugation.

I think the main reason I find this story moving is that their simple, unerring devotion and faith was rewarded and they both found joy and a sense of completion in their recognition of Jesus as being the longed for saviour. Life can get so complicated and the clatter and worry of day to day existence can drown out the realisation that underpinning everything is a loving God who meets us at our time of need and fulfils His promises to us. How amazing is that.



Puzzle Corner—difficult!

Here's a difficult Sudoku for you this month— enjoy.

	1							3
				4	7		9	2
		4	3			1		
1							7	
	8			2			5	
	9							1
		5			2	9		
4	6		7	1				
9							8	

A difficult Futoshiki to test your brains!

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>	>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
		^			
2	<input type="text"/>	<	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
4	<input type="text"/>	<	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
					^
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	2

Answers to the Quiz

1. One of his beloved Land Rovers
2. Alan Turing, the mathematician who cracked the Enigma code
3. Caterpillar cakes, from Marks & Spencer and Aldi respectively
4. Ever Given
5. Geronimo
6. Jackie Weaver
7. Emma Raducanu
8. Si is not a Greek letter
9. Vacca, meaning cow, derived from its being developed to combat cowpox.
10. Switzerland
11. 16
12. Peppa Pig World
13. Italy
14. COP-26
15. Max Verstappen
16. No Time to Die
17. They had been given Botox and filler
18. Marcus Rashford
19. Barbados
20. Omicron

A Sufi prayer for peace

Send your peace O Lord, which is perfect and everlasting, that our souls may radiate peace.

Send your peace, O Lord, that we may think , act and speak harmoniously.

Send your peace, O Lord, that we may be contented and thankful for Your bountiful gifts.

Send your peace, O Lord, that amidst our worldly strife we may enjoy Your bliss.

Send your peace, O Lord, that we may endure all, tolerate all, in the thought of Your grace and mercy.

Send your peace, O Lord, that our lives may become a divine vision and, in Your light, all darkness may vanish.

Send your peace, O Lord, our Father and Mother, that we Your children on earth may all unit in one family.



Answers to Puzzles

6	8	7	4	3	5	1	2	9
5	3	2	9	1	7	8	6	4
4	1	9	2	8	6	5	3	7
5	9	4	2	1	6	3	9	5
9	5	3	2	1	4	7	8	6
8	7	6	3	5	9	2	1	4
2	7	1	8	9	3	4	5	2
8	9	5	7	4	1	6	3	8
3	4	8	5	2	6	9	1	7

2	3	4	5	1
1	5	3	2	4
3	1	5	4	2
4	2	1	3	5
5	4	2	1	3

FREE RE-CYCLE



This space is freely available to advertise unwanted items which can be offered free of charge to anyone who has a use for them. Please let Sue Clay (parish administrator) or Gudrun Hansen (magazine editor) know if you have any items to advertise. We will need a brief description of the item and a contact telephone number or email address.



Keep up to date with all the latest events and activities at St Mary de Haura. Take a look at the Facebook page. You don't need to be a member of Facebook to view the page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StMarydeHauraShoreham>



If you're getting married at St Mary's or have recently been married here, then join the Weddings at St Mary de Haura Facebook group to share photographs and keep in touch with other couples from the Loving for Life marriage preparation course:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1523449864564736>

St Mary's is on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/stmarydehaura>



Our website can also be found at :

<http://www.stmarydehaura.org.uk> where you can find weekly and monthly diaries of all events



Follow St Mary's on

Instagram
@shorehampilgrim

CCPAS
setting standards in safeguarding

Safeguarding is a priority here



At St Mary de Haura, we are committed to following government and CCPAS guidelines on safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and good working practice, including safe recruitment of workers. If you have any concerns regarding the safety or welfare of a child or vulnerable adult, please contact the safeguarding officer: Ash Sayers 07788190550

safeguarding.smdh@gmail.com