



**SUNDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*We welcome Rev. Clay Knowles at 8am  
and Rev. John Morris at 10am*

***Hallelujah - Christ is Risen!***

<b>TODAY:</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist</b>
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7.45pm</b>	<b>Bell Ringing Practice</b>
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Locus Youth Club (Parish Room)</b>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Sat 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>MU Coffee Morning (Parish Room)</b>
<b>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Parish Eucharist with Sunday School</b>

**Mothers' Union Coffee Morning**

**Sat 14th April, 10am to 12 noon, Parish Room.**

Everyone is mostly warmly welcome to this event. As well as tea and coffee, there will be a cake stall, bric a brac and also a raffle.

**Daytime Bible Study House Group**

This is a daytime Bible Study House Group which meets on the last Wednesday morning of each month. The venue is Twittens, Oldlands Avenue, and the time **10.00am to 11.30am**. The next date is **Wed 25th April**. Anyone who wishes to join us will be very welcome. Please speak to Lorna Robinson or Rosemary Corder for any further details.

**100 Club**

The numbers will be drawn during coffee after our Family Services. If you would like to join the 100 Club, there are a few spare spaces. Cost is £60 per year (£5 per month). Prizes each month £100, £50 and £25 - doubled in December. The 100 Club raises money for St Mary's Church. Please speak to Rosemary or the Churchwardens.

**Website: [www.stmarys-balcombe.org](http://www.stmarys-balcombe.org)**

## **READINGS AND PRAYERS:**

### ***The Collect***

Almighty Father, you have given your only Son to die for our sins and to rise again for our justification: grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### ***The Old Testament Reading Exodus 14: 10-end***

<sup>10</sup> As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. <sup>11</sup> They said to Moses, ‘Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup> Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, “Let us alone and let us serve the Egyptians”? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.’ <sup>13</sup> But Moses said to the people, ‘Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. <sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still.’

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Why do you cry out to me? Tell the Israelites to go forward. <sup>16</sup> But you lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the Israelites may go into the sea on dry ground. <sup>17</sup> Then I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them; and so, I will gain glory for myself over Pharaoh and all his army, his chariots, and his chariot drivers. <sup>18</sup> And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gained glory for myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his chariot drivers.’

<sup>19</sup> The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup> It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

<sup>21</sup> Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup> The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup> The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup> At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup> He clogged<sup>[a]</sup> their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, ‘Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt.’

<sup>26</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers.’ <sup>27</sup> So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea.

<sup>28</sup> The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup> But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

<sup>30</sup> Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup> Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against

the Egyptians. So, the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

***The New Testament Reading 1 John 1: 1-2, 2***

1We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – 2this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – 3we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

4We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. 6If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; 7but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; 2and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

***The Holy Gospel John 20: 19-end***

19When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ 27Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ 28Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ 29Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

***The Post Communion Collect***

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

**THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READINGS:**

**Monday** Romans 5: 12-end    **Thursday** Colossians 2: 16-3: 11  
**Tuesday** Colossians 1: 15-end    **Friday** Colossians 3: 12-4: 1  
**Wednesday** Colossians 2: 1-15    **Saturday** Colossians 4: 2-end

**PRAYERS THIS WEEK:**

**All those who live in:** High Street, Jobs, London Road  
**All those who are sick, especially**

**The departed:** especially our own departed loved ones

**And those whose anniversaries occur during the week:**

## St. Mary's



### EVENTS AND NOTICES

**St. George's Songs of Praise Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 6pm**

We are holding a Songs of Praise Service on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 6pm for St George's Day. If there is a hymn or reading, that you would like to put forward, please let Rosemary Corder know (01444 400373 or email [damsonrose@ymail.com](mailto:damsonrose@ymail.com)) and we will do our best to include it in the service. Please hand in your suggestions by Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April.

**Birchanger Gardens Open Afternoon – Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

Please join us on the above date when the Worrall Family kindly open their beautiful gardens in aid of St Mary's Church. With gardens set over seven acres, you'll discover a wonderful display of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias, and magnolias, a grassy avenue, lake, lily-pond, pergola, Etruscan-style temple, herbaceous borders and much more. Afternoon tea and delicious cakes will be served. Sign up forms for helpers, and cake donations, will be at the back of the church nearer the event.

**"The Heart of Things" an exhibition of painting and sculpture by Paul Hobbs  
as part of Thy Kingdom Come. 10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018**

**St. Michael and All Angels Church, South Street, Lancing, BN15 8AJ.**

The exhibition will be open for four days (10-13 May) with Paul Hobbs in attendance, offering an opportunity for visitors to talk with an artist about his work. There will be opportunities for tours with the artist discussing the ideas in his work in an open and engaging way.