



April 2025

Sunday Services in April

6 th	9am	St Mark's	Common Worship with Communion
	10.45am	St Mary's	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	All Saints	Informal Worship
13 th	10am	St Mark's	United Palm Sunday Communion
	10am	All Saints	Morning Worship with breakfast
	10.45am	St Mary's	Morning Worship with Communion
18 th (Friday)	10am	Handcross*	Walk of witness
	12pm	St Mark's	Hour at the Cross
20 th	9am	St Mark's	Common Worship with Communion
	10am	All Saints	Morning Worship with Communion
	10.30am	St Mary's	Easter Day Service + Baptisms
27 th	9am	St Mark's	Common Worship with Communion
	10am	All Saints	Morning Worship with breakfast
	10.45am	St Mary's	Morning Worship with Communion
	2.30pm	Woodgate Hub Café	Sundays at the Hub

*Meet at Handcross recreation ground

Weekly services are taking place at our churches, and **everyone is welcome**.

Our current plans are as published here, but they are subject to change. Please look out for email communication, and keep an eye on our social media pages, website, YouTube channel and weekly notice sheet.

The St Mary's services are put onto YouTube, and we hope they will be a blessing to those who cannot attend in person. They can be found here:

https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCBQ0W4r1m39ixogQWR3TxoA?fbclid=IwAR2vLqbms97lq9StSwn8qvgX_vTF11-tg0LV7z80cVFC8BZE034WNbNHhc4

You can subscribe to the sermons as a podcast too. All links are on the website at <https://www.stmarysparish.org.uk/podcasts/>.

Other Events

April

1 st	1pm	All Saints	Crochet & Handicraft Group
1 st	7pm	All Saints	Prayer gathering
2 nd	1pm	All Saints	Lent Bible study
2 nd	7pm	All Saints	Lent Bible study
4 th	10am	St Mary's	Creative Expressions art group
4 th	8pm	St Mary's	Bell ringing practice
5 th	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café
9 th	1pm	All Saints	Lent Bible study
9 th	7pm	All Saints	Lent Bible study
11 th	10am	St Mary's	Creative Expressions art group
11 th	8pm	St Mary's	Bell ringing practice
12 th	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café
15 th	1pm	All Saints	Crochet & Handicraft Group
19 th	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café
19 th	2pm	All Saints	Builder Church
19 th	7pm	All Saints	Family Film Night
25 th	10am	St Mary's	Creative Expressions art group
25 th	7.30pm	St Mary's	Bell ringing practice
26 th	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café
28 th	7pm	All Saints	Youth Club
29 th	1pm	All Saints	Crochet & Handicraft Group

May

2 nd	10am	St Mary's	Creative Expressions art group
2 nd	8pm	St Mary's	Bell ringing practice
3 rd	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café
5 th	7pm	All Saints	Youth Club
7 th	7pm	All Saints	Prayer gathering
8 th	10am	St Mary's	Retreat space
8 th	9.30pm	All Saints	Annual Parochial Church Meeting
9 th	10am	St Mary's	Creative Expressions art group
9 th	8pm	St Mary's	Bell ringing practice
10 th	9.30am	All Saints	Community Pantry & Café

Please contact the church office for details, or you can contact the following people about our regular events.

Community Pantry & Café: Barbara Butfoy at butfoybabs@hotmail.co.uk

Youth Club: Phil Hawksley at philhawksley@westwealdparish.org.uk

Locations for services and events

All Saints: Horsham Road, Handcross, RH17 6DF

St Mark's: Brantridge Lane, Staplefield, RH17 6EJ

St Mary's: Staplefield Road, Slaugham, RH17 6AG

Woodgate Hub: Grace Holand Avenue, Pease Pottage, RH11 9SL

Retreat Spaces 2025

@ St Mary's, Slaughtam



19

MARCH

LENT

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

8

MAY

EASTER: Resurrection

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

22

JUNE

SUMMER

7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

15

SEPTEMBER

NEW TERM

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

3&6

DECEMBER

ADVENT

10:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

To book your free place
or for more info:

retreats@westwealdparish.org.uk

www.westwealdparish.org.uk



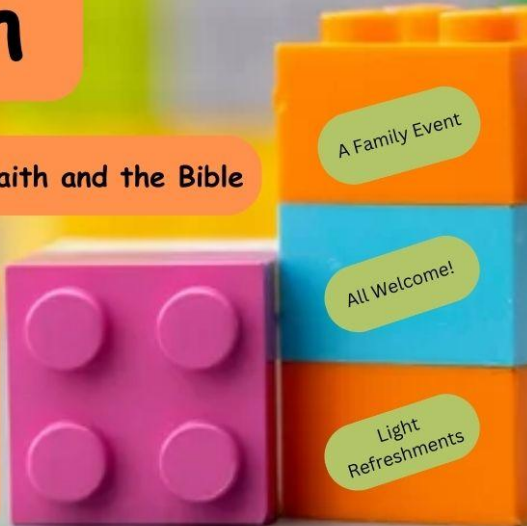
St Mary's Slaughtam, The Green,
Slaughtam, RH17 6AG

Builder Church



Using Lego® to explore faith and the Bible

All Saints Church
2-4pm
February 15th
March 15th
April 19th



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Movies to be announced

February 15th
March 15th
April 19th

All Saints Church - 7pm

Precious Sight

Dear Friends,

We had the privilege of working in Kagando Hospital, a Church of Uganda unit in Western Uganda, for many years, including during times of civil war and tribal conflict.

On one occasion our Community Health Team, visiting a village in the Rwenzori Mountains about 40 miles from Kagando, came across an elderly lady sitting on her own under a tree. She had decided that her time had come to die, as she no longer had useful sight – so she stopped eating in order to avoid being a burden to her family.

She responded enthusiastically to the team's suggestion that they take her back to the hospital to find out whether her sight could be restored. Examining her I found that she simply had advanced cataracts in both eyes, and I offered to operate and remove these – again, she agreed enthusiastically.

After I operated and removed the cataract in one eye her sight was dramatically restored. For the next week she sat on her bed clapping loudly all day, telling everyone that she had been given back her life!

I then removed her other cataract and fitted appropriate spectacles and, before we took her back home a few days later, she again sat clapping loudly, rejoicing that, in her words, she was “alive again”!

Eyesight is something which is precious to all of us. Blindness is recognised universally as a severe impediment to living a full life; although there are many aids to supporting such people, nothing compares to the gift of sight.

The term “sight” can of course refer to the physical ability to see with our eyes, but it can also refer to an ability to understand, to know the truth.

Jesus called some of the religious leaders of His day “Blind Guides” (Matthew 15:14), and again (Matthew 23:16) – “woe to you, blind guides”. He also condemned in the strongest terms those religious leaders who lead people astray (see Matthew 18:6, Mark 9:42 and Luke 17:2).

We desperately need our “Spiritual sight” even more than our precious physical sight. Remember Jesus also said, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31,32)

Precious sight indeed in these confusing days of “conflicting views”, “fake news” and “conspiracy theories”!

Rob and Jen (Morris)



Community Pantry

Free provisions
for the local community
(serving the residents of Handcross, Pease Pottage,
Slaugham, Staplefield & Warninglid)

Food Waste Reduction



Every weekend we partner with FareShare to help reduce food waste.

Come along to the Saturday cafe to help yourself to a selection of fresh and frozen produce.

Referrals

If you are in urgent need of food or provisions then we can help.

Referrals can be made for you to receive regular essential items for a limited time.

Referrals can be made by your GP (Ouse Valley Practice), a child's primary school, selected social & family support workers or the local churches.

Donations

If you would like to support the work of the West Weald Community Pantry then you can do so by making donations.

Non-perishable items can be donated via the wheelie bins located throughout the parish or in any of our churches.

Financial donations can be made via the churches. Please contact us for more information.

Free cafe open every Saturday 9:30am-11:30am
All Saints Church, Handcross

For more information please contact Barbara on
07853 228605
(Mon - Fri 9am - 4pm)

*Accept one another, then, just as
Christ accepted you, in order to
bring praise to God.*

Romans 15:7

West Weald Schools Team

Please pray for Carl and the team as they undertake the vital work in our schools, as well as for the staff and pupils.

Regular assemblies are:

Mondays	11am	Brantridge
Tuesday	9am	St Mark's Primary

Our local schools and headteachers are: Brantridge (Mr Dafydd Roberts), Handcross Park (Mr Jonnie Besley), Handcross Primary (Mrs Sharon Bondonno), St Mark's CofE Primary (Mrs Laura Kelsey) and Woodgate Primary (Mrs Sarah Neller).

Regular Notices

Hardship Fund

Financial support is available from the Hardship Fund if you or someone you know (living in the benefice) is in need. Forms can be collected from the hardware shop. If you cannot go out, please email Carl (handcrossrectory@gmail.com) and he will send a form electronically.

Gift Aid

Claiming Gift Aid on donations to our churches provides an important contribution to our income. If you are eligible under Gift Aid rules, please let Jane Moss (our treasurer) know. Regular giving is most efficient via the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) so please consider using that if you do not so do already. Please speak to Jane or Fae to know more.

Sunday service refreshments

At St Mark's, drinks are available after the service on the second Sunday of the month (and also sometimes the fourth).

At St Mary's, drinks are available after the service on most Sundays.

Parking at St Mary's

If you park in the car park for a Sunday morning service and are blocking in another car, please put a note in your car window to say who you are and that you are in church. This will make it easier (and much less stressful!) to identify who needs to move if anyone's car is trapped. Thank you.

Handcross Rosemary Club

The club warmly welcomes new members. Everyone is welcome but we particularly look out for isolated, vulnerable and older people in Handcross and the surrounding villages. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at 2.30-4.00 in the Parish Hall, Handcross, and most months we have an entertainer for about 45 minutes followed by home-made afternoon tea. At Christmas we have full Christmas Lunch in the hall, our AGM in February has fish and chips as well, and we aim to go on an outing during the year. Visitors are always welcome. Membership is only £15 for the year! For more information please contact the Chairman, Mrs Helen Arnold at mrshelenarnold@gmail.com or on 07540 816170.

Notice sheet distribution

If you do not already receive the notice sheet and other notices by email and you would like to do so, please email Fae at slaughtam@btinternet.com.

All details are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change.

CONTACT

Rev'd Carl Smith

Rector, West Weald Parish

01444 400221

rector@westwealdparish.org.uk

Phil Hawksley

Lay Apostolic Leader, All Saints

philhawksley@westwealdparish.org.uk

Fae Widdowson

Parish Administrator

01444 400221 churchoffice@westwealdparish.org.uk

Office hours: 9am-12pm Monday & Thursday
(term time only)

Helen Arnold

Safeguarding Officer

07540 816170

mrsheleenarnold@gmail.com

Churchwardens

St Mary's

Colin Tomlinson

nosnilmot@virginmedia.com

St Mark's

Helen Arnold

mrsheleenarnold@gmail.com

Website: www.westwealdparish.org.uk

Facebook: [West Weald Parish | Facebook](#)

