

Announcement from the Rectory, St Mary's Newick, Advent Sunday 29th November

Dear Friends,

Some of you will Remember Bishop Richard's great commission to our church community back in 2015, when James and I were licensed, James as our Priest-in-Charge and me as your Curate shared with Barcombe.

In his address, Bishop Richard reminded us that neither James nor I could meet Bishop Martin's vision for us to grow Spiritually, Numerically and Financially on our own; but together, as a praying and serving community, with God at the centre, we could achieve anything for His glory.

Over the last five years, we have worked and grown together, following our Mission Action Plan to take our Good News out into our community and following our vision to:

1. Preach the Gospel
2. Understand the Gospel
3. Connect with Community
4. Build up the People of God
5. Share the Good News with others

We have successfully fulfilled Bishop Martin's vision for us and continue to develop that calling in terms of growing disciples, meeting our Parish Share and serving the Common Good.

We have continued to do this by showing love, compassion and encouragement; never has this been more evident than in the past 9 months. Our rewards have been many, and I am personally so very thankful for your continued commitment and support in enabling me, culminating in my appointment as your new Rector of St Mary's.

With this in mind, Bishop Martin has asked if we could extend that same spirit of collaboration and commitment; by inviting me to become Priest-in-Charge of St Peter's Chailey. This is an exciting opportunity for us to come alongside our brothers and sisters in a neighbouring parish, where we already have much in common and several shared aspirations, especially in terms of Children's, Youth & Families work.

I also believe this offers us here in Newick a greater opportunity for sustainable stipendiary ministry; with the possibility of an Associate Vicar or Curacy position becoming available in Chailey at some point in the future.

I have prayed unceasingly about this over the past few weeks, and feel that this is very much part of God's plan for both our communities; and I have therefore accepted Bishop Martin's invitation.

As Bishop Richard said some five years ago, this is not something I will be able to do alone, and we will all have our own part to play in this collaborative ministry between two wonderful worshipping communities, who already share so much together.

I ask for your continued prayers for our communities in both Newick and Chailey and hope that you will join me in thanksgiving for the faith-filled opportunity we have been given.

With much love and every blessing,

Paul

Rev'd Paul Mundy
Rector of St Mary's Church, Newick

The Rectory
36a Allington Road
Newick
Lewes
BN8 4NB

(01825) 723186
07717000281

church.newick@gmail.com

www.newickchurch.org

www.achurchnearyou.com/newick-st-mary/