



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

# The Buzz

January 2025

Monthly information for the  
Parish of Ifield



Thought for the Month

**HAPPY NEW  
YEAR!**



**Faith through the Good and the Bad “Jesus  
Conquers All”**

As we enter the new year of 2025, it's a time of hope and renewed commitment. The world around us is a tapestry woven with both light and shadows and as a church, we are called to navigate this landscape with faith as our guide.

In these times of uncertainty, we find countless reasons to celebrate the goodness that exists. Communities around the globe continue to demonstrate remarkable resilience and compassion. Acts of kindness and generosity abound whether through local initiatives that uplift the disadvantaged or global efforts that extend hope to those suffering from natural disasters and conflicts.

Within our church community, we have much to be grateful for. Our new service pattern and services have allowed us to express ourselves in many ways and to ensure the whole church community is involved. The start of the renewal of our Mission Action Plan has brought forth the fruits of its labour, with several new committees being set up to look at how we can best serve the people of Ifield. Mthr Christine continues to support our local church school, and I have recently completed a placement at the school which was both very educational and a lot of fun. This work is so important in serving our school community and it was so lovely to have them come to church for Harvest and Christmas.

The outpouring of support from our congregation has been incredible, showcasing the love that binds us together. Yet this has not been without sacrifice. The loss of Mave, our Administrator and Stephen, our Organist and Director of Music, due to financial constraints has been hard. However, to keep the doors of our church open, we must, must, must endeavour to pay our parish share. This means more commitment than ever to support our church and make it grow. Remember the words of 1 Chronicles 28 v 20: "David said further to his son Solomon, 'Be strong and of good courage, and act. Do not be afraid or dismayed, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the house of the Lord is finished.'"

Yet, as we celebrate the good, we must also acknowledge the challenges that persist. The world seems to be grappling with division, uncertainty, and anxiety. Conflicts and injustices continue to plague nations, and many people are spiralling into despair. Here at home, economic difficulties and mental health struggles have left some feeling isolated and burdened.

Some have experienced losses and heartaches. The passing of loved ones reminds us of the inevitable realities of life, and the emotional toll can feel overwhelming. It is during these moments that we must lean on one another for comfort and understanding. Mthr Christine along with Ballard and Shorthall Funeral Directors provided a service in November for those who had lost loved ones. This is an important part of the ministry of the church. And there was much appreciation for the way the service was planned and conducted.

In the face of both joy and sorrow, our faith acts as an anchor. We have a foundation that empowers us to face adversity with courage and grace. Scripture reminds us that although the world may bring challenges, our faith can conquer fear and uncertainty.

Let us draw strength from our time in prayer, worship, and community. As we navigate through the ups and downs, let us remember that we are not alone. The love of Christ dwells within us and empowers us to shine His light into the world. As we embark on this new year, let us reaffirm our commitment to serving others, standing up for justice, and being agents of change. Together, let us create spaces for healing, compassion, and love, embodying the teachings of Christ in all that we do.

May 2025 be a year where we witness the triumph of faith over adversity, the power of love over fear, and the promise of hope in the face of despair.

Wishing you all abundant blessings and peace in this new year.

In His love,  
Fr Dominic.

# SUNDAY SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am Sunday Celebration	11.00 am Parish Communion	2.00 pm Baptisms	3.00 pm Baptisms
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am <u>FiiSH</u> Service	11.00 am Parish Communion		
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>		11.00am Parish Communion		??? 3.30pm service
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30am Family Service	11.00 am Parish Communion		
<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	9.30 am Service of the Word	11.00am Holy Communion (BCP)		

Wednesdays

9.30 am

Said Eucharist

## PARISH HOUSE GROUPS



Mondays 10.30 am–12 noon at Tree House, Rusper Road

Please contact Jill Bell on 521699 for details

Tuesdays 7.30-9.30 pm

Venue may vary.

Please contact Jo Strutt [jo@bridgeham.com](mailto:jo@bridgeham.com) for details

New members are always welcome.

## EASTER TEAM FOODBANK

Current particular needs are for toiletries and household cleaning products.

Please leave items in the basket in church or contact [sue@ifieldparish.org](mailto:sue@ifieldparish.org) for collection.

# 200 CLUB

The latest 200 Club Building Fund draw took place on 17<sup>th</sup> November. The results are set out below:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bridgeham Pilates
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Liz Hall
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jenny Thomas

The next draw will be on 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Thank you for your valued and continued support - new members are most welcome!

Sing Along  
**Sing Along**

**Sing Along**

**Sing Along**  
**Tickets on sale in church after services**

**MAMMA MIA!**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 4pm**  
Hot Dogs, Popcorn glass of wine or soft drink  
Dressing up as a cast member is optional  
Prizes for best costume & 'Dancing Queen' Raffle

**NO TICKETS ON THE DOOR**  
Tickets £10      Children under 12, £5





As we start a new year, we wonder as always what challenges will face us. It's an exciting time as we have fresh ideas and new opportunities to develop our offering to families, but there always remains the concern around funding (as is felt by every charity).

Please do keep an eye out for information about our events calendar for

2025. Our Open Garden calendar will be running again with some new venues this year, as well as our Cuckmere Pilgrim Path sponsored walk following the successful inaugural event last year.

- Give thanks for the valuable time our staff spent with their families over the Christmas period
- Pray for all our families who are beginning the new year concerned about debt and affording the essentials, and pray that we are able to help them meet their needs

For more information, or to donate, please visit: [www.familysupportwork.org](http://www.familysupportwork.org)



## LITTLE DRAGONS

It's church, it's messy, it's for little ones, their parents and carers!

In church, 9 till 10.30am every Monday in term time

## OUR YOUTH GROUP

For more information, please contact the Rector

# WHO'S WHO IN IFIELD PARISH

Rector	Revd Christine Spencer	561283	<a href="mailto:rector@ifieldparish.org">rector@ifieldparish.org</a>
Curate	Revd Dominic Desouza-Campbell	01444 247388	<a href="mailto:curate@ifieldparish.org">curate@ifieldparish.org</a>
Reader	Jill Bell	521699	<a href="mailto:reader@ifieldparish.org">reader@ifieldparish.org</a>
Parish Wardens	Andy Ironside	07758 168411	<a href="mailto:andy@ifieldparish.org">andy@ifieldparish.org</a>
	Kevin Lawler	07792 809165	<a href="mailto:kevin@ifieldparish.org">kevin@ifieldparish.org</a>
PCC Secretary	Clare Wilson	416438	<a href="mailto:pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org">pccsecretary@ifieldparish.org</a>
PCC Treasurer	James May	529146	<a href="mailto:treasurer@ifieldparish.org">treasurer@ifieldparish.org</a>
Safeguarding	Heather Woolsey	07584 010576	<a href="mailto:safeguarding@ifieldparish.org">safeguarding@ifieldparish.org</a>
DBS Lead Recruiter	Andy Ironside	077581 168411	<a href="mailto:dbsleadrecruiter@ifieldparish.org">dbsleadrecruiter@ifieldparish.org</a>

## REST DAYS

Please note that Friday is our Rector's rest day  
Our Curate is only in the parish on Wednesday mornings (and Sundays)

## PLEASE NOTE

St. Margaret's weekly notices can be viewed on the parish website

## IFIELD PARISH WEBSITE

[www.ifieldparish.org](http://www.ifieldparish.org)

Please send any information/photos for publication on the website to  
Carl Peirce [carl@ifieldparish.org](mailto:carl@ifieldparish.org)

**Follow us:**

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmargaretsifield>

**Please send any updates for the February issue to Jill Bell**  
[reader@ifieldparish.org](mailto:reader@ifieldparish.org) **by 20<sup>th</sup> January**