

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

 DIOCESE OF  
CHICHESTER  
TO KNOW LOVE FOLLOW JESUS



# YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

ST MARY'S CHURCH SOMPTING IS RE-OPENING WITH A NEW VICAR AND NEW PARISH. FIND OUT WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOU AND HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED.



Greetings! I'm Father Felix Smith. I'm the Vicar of the newly formed Church of England parish of South Lancing and Sompting, comprising of the Churches of St Michael's Lancing, St Peter's Sompting and St Mary's Sompting. This is a new start for all the churches in our Parish, so this booklet will give you a sense of some of the exciting things happening in the future. If you need me for anything, don't hesitate to contact me!

Telephone: 01903 753653

Email: [vicar@stmichaelslancing.org](mailto:vicar@stmichaelslancing.org)

website: [www.somptingchurch.com](http://www.somptingchurch.com)

## FIND US:

- ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, SOUTH STREET, LANCING BN15 8AJ
- ST PETER THE APOSTLE, BOWNESS AVENUE, SOMPTING BN15 9TP
- ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHURCH LANE, SOMPTING BN15 0AZ

For the Parish boundary please visit [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)





St Mary's has been closed for services for some time, but we are now able to re-open for services once again. We're starting with a celebratory service of Sung Evensong at 5pm on the 15th August and the Bishop of Chichester, Dr Martin Warner, will be preaching. This will be followed by free beer and Morris Dancing from Sompting Village Morris. Everyone is welcome to join us for this wonderful event, as we celebrate services re-starting at this glorious church.

# ST MARY'S CHURCH IS RE-OPENING!

St Mary's will have a regular service at 9am every third Sunday of the month.

Everyone is welcome to come along.

19th SEPTEMBER

17th OCTOBER

21st NOVEMBER

DECEMBER/CHRISTMAS services to follow.

There will also be an Evensong, every 5th Sunday of month at 5pm. After the opening event on the 15th August, the next will be the 31st October.

KEEP AN EYE ON THE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

[www.somptingchurch.com](http://www.somptingchurch.com)



# ST MARY'S CELEBRATION WEEK

All events are free but you'll need to book!

St Mary's Celebration week will run from the 15th to the 22nd August, beginning with a 5pm Evensong on the 15th. All events are free. To book please call 01903 762793, email [somptingstmary@gmail.com](mailto:somptingstmary@gmail.com) or go online to [www.trybooking.com/uk/eventlist/stmaryscelebrationweek](http://www.trybooking.com/uk/eventlist/stmaryscelebrationweek). Everyone is welcome.

The church is open from 10am - 4pm each day this week. Come along to see our **Flower Festival** and **St Mary's 'History at Sompting Church' Photography Exhibition**.

Monday to Friday 2 - 4pm there are a **Discovery Hunt** for children and families.

Come and see what you can discover in the church and churchyard.

SUNDAY 15TH	<b>5pm</b> The Bishop of Chichester Dr Martin Warner joins us for Sung Evensong, with music and choir. This is followed by beer from the Stanley Ale House and entertainment from Sompting Village Morris
MONDAY 16TH	<b>10.30am-12pm</b> David Bone - 'Discovering the Ancient Stones of Sompting Church.' If wet, bring a brolly <b>4pm</b> Aedan Kerney 'Cross Words at the Organ.' Join Aedan to complete a fun musical crossword. Bring a pen and your answers to the clues will be in the organ music he plays
TUESDAY 17TH	<b>2-4pm</b> Quiz - come along for refreshments and a quiz in the Hospitallers' room
WEDNESDAY 18TH	<b>9.30am</b> Guided Walk from the Church up into the Downs (rough ground and steep slopes) with Mike Tristram. On return at Ilish, tea, cakes and tunes from the 'Strawberry Fair Folk Trio' <b>6pm</b> 'All the Birds of the Air,' by Vic and Tina Smith, a multimedia show about birds in song, tune, verse and folklore
THURSDAY 19TH	<b>4pm</b> Sussex Wind Quartet. Classical music from composers such as Vaughan Williams, Holst, Elgar and Dukas
FRIDAY 20TH	<b>2.30 or 3.30pm (two sittings)</b> Nick Munday takes you on a tour around his micro-vineyard and winery situated right next to the Church, with time for a taste at the end <b>7pm</b> Aedan Kerney's 'Song of the Seasons,' recorded by Worthing Choral Society; screened archive images of local horticulture; talks from Aedan and Nick Munday (Sompting Vineyard); songs from Sam Barton
SATURDAY 21ST	<b>10am-2pm</b> 'Living Stones' - A Reflective journey led by The Rev'd Canon Michael Hart. A time to pause in this holy place, be still and be with God. (Bring your own lunch)
SUNDAY 22ND	<b>6.30pm</b> Binsted Viols and Voices - 16th century songs of love and faith



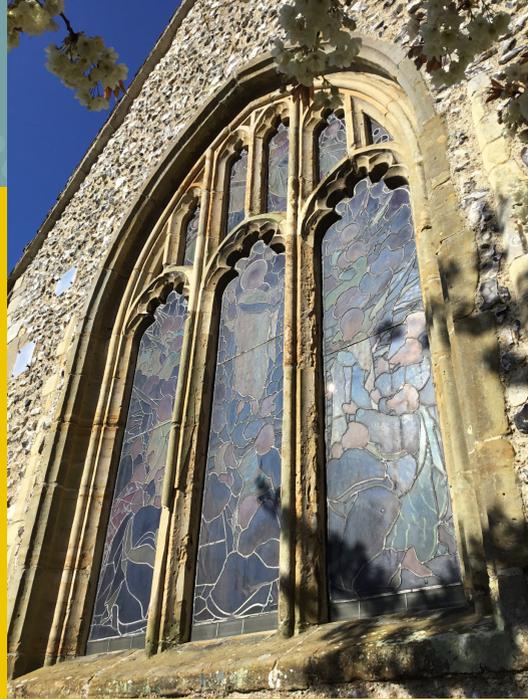
You may want to bring a cushion with you to performances!

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STANLEY ALE HOUSE



# HOW CAN I HELP ST MARY'S?

St Mary's has been a site of worship for almost a thousand years, but we need your help to ensure that it will be so for another thousand years. The Church costs thousands of pounds a month to keep running, and is in need of money spent in a number of key areas, such as repairing the organ, providing better disabled access, and keeping the walls dry and secure.



Please consider making a regular donation to St Mary's - even just £5 a month would make a huge difference - why not contact Fr Felix for a giving form today, and be part of caring for this wonderful building - 01903 753653.

Or, why not make a one-off donation to our building fund, so that we can begin to ensure the building is safe, accessible and inviting. Please send cheques to: 117 Penhill Road, Lancing, BN15 8HD, made payable to 'Sompting PCC' or donate online at [www.somptingchurch.com](http://www.somptingchurch.com)

Most of all, we need your support at services and events. If you would like to be added to the email list to hear about our events and services please email - [somptingstmary@gmail.com](mailto:somptingstmary@gmail.com) Or, are you able to help with the Welcome Week at St. Mary's, or with its ongoing care in the future? Alternatively, do you have experience singing in a church choir? If so, let us know.

THE PARISHES OF SOUTH LANCING AND SOMPTING ARE BEING  
JOINED TOGETHER - WHAT WILL THIS MEAN TO YOU?

## THE NEW PARISH AND YOU

St. Mary's Church is a special place to be shared by the whole community. Everyone is welcome to services and events, or come and spend some quiet time in this beautiful building. If you have ideas for future events at the church, or you'd like to be part of the choir or any other aspect of church life, please get in touch.

**Also, if you'd like more information about having a Baptism or Wedding at St. Mary's, or reserving a burial plot for the future, please contact Father Felix on 01903 753653 or at [vicar@stmichaelslancing.org](mailto:vicar@stmichaelslancing.org)**



There are spaces to book both our halls at St Michael's Lancing and St Peter's Sompting either for a one off session, or a regular booking, please contact Becca Connolly at: [hall.stmichaelslancing@gmail.com](mailto:hall.stmichaelslancing@gmail.com)



“One of my roles is ensuring the Diocesan graveyard regulations are kept at St Mary's Churchyard. There are strict rules around gravestones, trees and items left on gravestones.”  
For a copy of these regulations please contact Fr Felix. Please note that no gravestones can be erected without the permission of the Parish Priest.