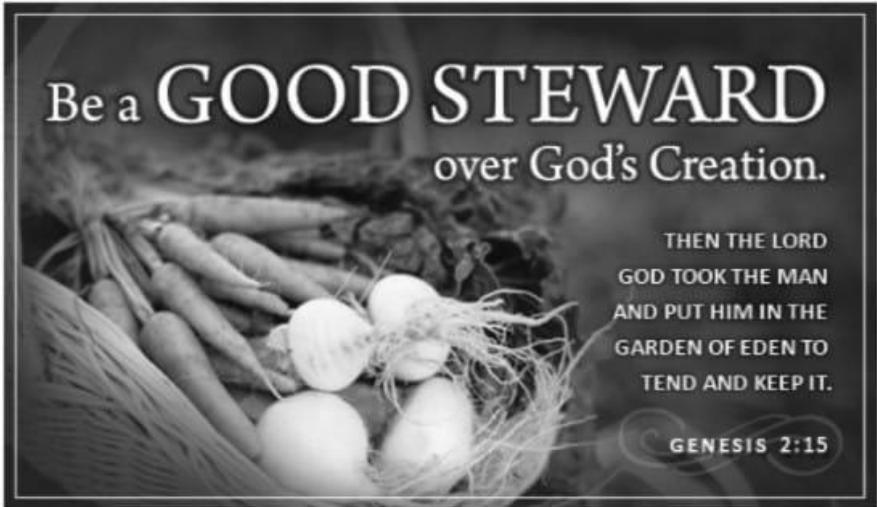


PARISH CHURCH OF ST MARY, PULBOROUGH



THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

8th February, 2026

10.30am THE PARISH EUCHARIST

We are very grateful that the service leaflets today have been generously sponsored.

**Giving thanks for all our special dates we celebrate in
February**

Sylvia and Paul

Welcome to the Parish Eucharist on this Second Sunday before Lent

Celebrant and Preacher: Fr Paul

Organist: Tony Hancock

Setting: The Pulborough Mass

The First Reading: Charlotte Kenyon

The Second Reading: Alyson Heath

The Intercessions: Hannah Holloway

Ministers of Communion: Tony Holloway and James Raynard

In this new calendar year to keep our church heated, **lit and insured and to pay our parish contribution for the ministry we receive**, is a weekly financial challenge for us.

By joining the **Parish Giving Scheme**, our Treasurer is assured of a regular income, even when you are **unable to attend church**.

Please consider using the PGS, details can be found at the back of the church. Cash is always welcome, please **ONLY** use a white gift aid envelope if you are tax payer and able to fill in your details on the front of the envelope.

We also have a **sum-up machine** at the back of the church for paying by card or you can use our **QR code to the right**.



Thank you so much for supporting our churches' ministry and mission

In the event of a fire or emergency in the Church, the exits available are: the West Door, the North Door, the South Door in the Chancel and the door through the Vestry. Please leave the building by an exit nearest to you

Refreshments are served after the service. Do join us.

Opening music: – “Gavotte in F”
William Boyce.

Please stand when the bell is rung

**The Entrance Hymn: NEH 440 (omitting * verses)
Joachim Neander (1650-1680), Catherine Winkworth
(1827-1878)**

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul, praise him, for his is thy health and salvation:
come ye who hear,
brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration.**
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously
reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth:
hast thou not seen
all that is needful hath been
granted in what he ordaineth?**
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work, and
defend thee
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
ponder anew
all the Almighty can do,
he who with love doth befriend thee.**
- 6 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath come now with praises
before him
Let the Amen
sound from his people again:
gladly for ay we adore him.**

✠ In the name of the Father, and
of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Greeting

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*Fr. Paul introduces the day's celebration and invites people
to make an act of penitence*

The Prayers of Penitence

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We are truly sorry
and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
who died for us,
forgive us all that is past
and grant that we may serve you in
newness of life
to the glory of your name. Amen**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all our sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the Highest, and
peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, Heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away
the sin of the world; have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the
Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy one,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the most high,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the
Glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Collect for the Day

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. **Amen**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please sit

The First Reading: Genesis 1.1 – 2.3

A reading from the Book of Genesis

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness.

And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Second Reading: Romans 8. 18-25

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labour, and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Please stand

**The Gradual Hymn: NEH 237
Eleanor Farjeon 1881-1965**

- 1 Morning has broken, like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word.**

- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven
Like the first dewfall, on the first grass
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

- 3 Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning
Born of the one light, Eden saw play
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day**



The Gospel Reading: Matthew 6. 25-34

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said, therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing?

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God^l and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

"So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came
down from heaven, was incarnate from
the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the
Scriptures; he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the
dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen**

Please sit or kneel

The Intercessions – the Prayers of the Church

The following responses may be used:

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Lord, hear us.
Lord, graciously hear us



The Intercessions conclude with the following

Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Please stand

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Fr. Paul introduces the Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Let us offer each other the sign of peace

*At this point in the service a collection will be taken for the running of St. Mary's Church. **Please only use a white Gift-Aid envelope if you are a tax payer and fill in the details on the front of the envelope.** Thank you.*

The Offertory Hymn: NEH NEH 285 (1st Tune)
Folliott Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)

- 1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*
- 2 For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light: *Chorus*
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and brain's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight: *Chorus*
- 4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: *Chorus*
- 5 For each perfect gift of thine,
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven: *Chorus*
- 6 For thy Church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
This pure sacrifice of love: *Chorus*

Pray my dear brothers and sisters that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

The Prayer over the gifts is said

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts
We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is right to give thanks and praise

Fr. Paul continues with the prayer

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**



**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Fr. Paul continues until the following is used:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:
**Dying you destroyed our death
rising you restored our life:
Lord Jesus, come in glory**

Fr. Paul continues and leads into the conclusion of the prayer:
**Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever
and ever. Amen**

Please kneel or sit

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body because we all
share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**



The Giving of Communion

Fr. Paul issues the invitation to communion in these or very similar words:

Jesus is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*Communion is administered in both kinds. Receiving consecrated wine directly from the chalice is offered for those who feel comfortable to do this. **Please do not dip the consecrated wafer into the chalice.***

Please wait to be directed to communion.

Choir Hymn: Creation sings the Father's song - Getty/Townend

*Creation sings the Father's song;
He calls the sun to wake the dawn
And run the course of day
Till evening falls in crimson rays
His fingerprints in flakes of snow
His breath upon this spinning globe
He charts the eagle's flight;
Commands the newborn baby's cry*

*Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing
Hallelujah! Fill the earth with songs of worship;
Tell the wonders of creation's King*

*Creation gazed upon His face;
The ageless One in time's embrace
Unveiled the Father's plan
Of reconciling God and man
A second Adam walked the earth
Whose blameless life would break the curse
Whose death would set us free
To live with Him eternally*

*Creation longs for His return
When Christ shall reign upon the earth;
The bitter wars that rage
Are birth pains of a coming age
When He renews the land and sky
All heav'n will sing and earth reply
With one resplendent theme: The glories of our God and King!*

**Post Communion Hymn: NEH 307
Francis Stanfield (1835–1914)**

- 1 Sweet Sacrament divine,
Hid in thine earthly home,
Lo, round thy lowly shrine,
With suppliant hearts we come;
Jesu, to thee our voice we raise
In songs of love and heartfelt praise:
Sweet Sacrament divine.**

- 2 Sweet Sacrament of peace,
Dear home for every heart,
Where restless yearnings cease
And sorrows all depart;
There in thine ear all trustfully
We tell our tale of misery:
Sweet Sacrament of peace.**

**3 Sweet Sacrament of rest,
Ark from the ocean's roar,
Within thy shelter blest
Soon may we reach the shore;
Save us, for still the tempest raves,
Save, lest we sink beneath the waves:
Sweet Sacrament of rest.**

**4 Sweet Sacrament divine,
Earth's light and jubilee,
In thy far depths doth shine
The Godhead's majesty;
Sweet light, so shine on us, we pray
That earthly joys may fade away:
Sweet Sacrament divine.**

The Prayer after Communion

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son
Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and
bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**

Notices are now given out

The Blessing

The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

The Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The Recessional Hymn: NEH 397 John Milton (1608-1674)

- 1 Let us, with a gladsome mind,
praise the Lord, for he is kind:
*For his mercies ay endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*
- 2 Let us blaze his name abroad,
for of gods he is the God: *Chorus*
- 3 He with all-commanding might
filled the new-made world with light: *Chorus*
- 4 He the golden-tressèd sun
caused all day his course to run: *Chorus*
- 5 And the hornèd moon at night
'mid her spangled sisters bright: *Chorus*
- 6 All things living he doth feed,
his full hand supplies their need: *Chorus*
- 7 Let us, with a gladsome mind,
praise the Lord, for he is kind: *Chorus*

*Concluding organ music: "Toccata in A"
Domenico Paradies.*



PALM CROSSES

Please bring back any of last years' palm crosses for the palms to be burnt in readiness for Ash Wednesday.
Thank you.

Lent



LENT Course 2026

We will be following the special Diocesan Lent Course for the **Year of Matthew.**

Groups will meet on Wednesday evenings or Friday mornings, venues to be confirmed.

Wednesday evenings at 7pm beginning the 25th February then 4th March, 11th March, 18th and 25th March

Friday mornings at 10am beginning the 27th, February then 6th March, 13th March, 20th March and 27th March

Please add your name to the list at the back of the church for the evening session or morning session.

ST MARY'S PASTORAL CARE TEAM

We are now setting up a team of people to support pastoral care within the congregation. If you would like to contact the team, or know someone who may need support, please speak to **Susie Hindman** (hindman_susan@hotmail.com).

For your prayers this week

For your prayers this coming week

We pray for Pope Leo XIV and his ministry to the world-wide church.

We pray for the Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury. We also pray for Martin, our Bishop as he prepares for his retirement.

This Sunday we pray for all working for Racial Justice and for all those who suffer from discrimination because of their racial background.

*In the **Anglican cycle of prayer** this Sunday we pray for:
The Church of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui*

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for:

The Communications Officers, Lisa Williamson, Amber Jackson (maternity leave) and Andria Allen

*We also pray for the **Venerable Dr. Tom Carpenter**, our Archdeacon*

We pray for the work of SPLASH in their work with young people across the Deanery.

We pray for our nation and government:

For King Charles and his family. We pray for our Government and all members of Parliament especially Andrew Griffith our own MP

We continue to pray for all those caught up in the conflicts in the Middle East, Ukraine and other troubled parts of the world.

*We pray for all **migrants and refugees** and all who have been driven from their homes. We pray for all world leaders, diplomats and ambassadors and all working for the common good.*

*We pray for the work of **Education West Africa**, the people of Sierra Leone and the work of the Church there remembering especially the Dioceses of Freetown and Bo.*

*We continue to pray for **the work of FSW** across the Diocese. We pray for our **local Care Homes**: Hillside Lodge, The Anchorage, Petworth Cottage Nursing Home, Rotherlea and Barlavington Manor*

Those who are now in need of healing:

Patrick Carr, Fr Barry Smart, Toni Hayes, Sarah and James Ross, Carole Brooke, Richard Cromwell, Jim Crowley, Charlie Goldsmith, Frances Usher-Smith, Matt and Don Hubert

Those who are in need of on-going prayer:

Peter Johnston, Helen Leeke, Rachel Webbe, Elizabeth Yates, James McDonagh, Victoria and Tim

Pray to rest in peace: Nicholas Smart and Margaret Scullard

Anniversary of death: Jerry Lees, Hugh Hubbard, Terence Mullaly, and Michael Spain

Village Prayers: Together with the other churches in the village we pray for all who live and work in Cray Lane, Blackgate Lane, Stall House Lane and The Toat, North Heath and Gay Street areas

Church and Liturgical Diary

Monday 9th: Feria

10am 'The Hub' meet at Pulborough Library
3.15pm – 4.15pm Kingfishers meet in school
7.30pm Tower Bellringing Practice

Tuesday 10th: St. Scholastica c543

9.30am Morning Prayer
10.30am -12noon – Bellringing practice led by Bill Avernell
7-8pm St Mary's Prayer Group meet at the Hermitage, Church Place

Wednesday 11th: Feria

9.45am Morning Prayer

10.15am The Holy Eucharist

11.15 The Holy Eucharist at The Anchorage

7.15pm Meeting of the 'Friends' Committee and Church Building Development Group

Thursday 12th: Feria

9.30am Morning Prayer

5pm Wedding Rehearsal in Church

7pm St. Mary's School Governors meeting

Friday 13th: Feria

12noon The Holy Eucharist

Saturday 14th: Sts Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries, patrons of Europe

12noon Holy Matrimony of Peter Hammacott and Samantha Kingscott

Sunday 15th: THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

8am The Holy Eucharist (Said)

10.30am THE PARISH EUCHARIST

Readings: Exodus 24. 12-end, 2 Peter 1. 16-end and Matthew 17. 1-9

LEAFLET SPONSORING FOR THE NEW CHURCH YEAR.

Do you have a special occasion or date in memory of a loved one
Do consider sponsoring one of the services.

We ask for a £25 donation, gift-aided, if possible, which helps us cover the cost of printing and paper

The dates we have for the first part of the year are:

Sundays in April: 5th Easter Day, 12th, 19th or 26th

Sundays in May: 3rd, 10th, 17th 24th or 31st

Do speak to Ann Kaiser if you can help

Lent REFLECTIONS

Please help! As last year, we would like to put together a collection of Lent reflections for everyone in the congregation. We would like everyone to suggest their favourite Bible verse, their favourite verse from a hymn, or quote from a book. For example:

Drop thy still dews of quietness, till all our strivings cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and let our ordered lives confess the beauty of thy peace”

(Dear Lord and Father of Mankind).

One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

(Psalm 27: 4)

If these could be given to me by **Monday 9th Feb**, that would be fab! Please email hindman_susan@hotmail.com

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY...PULBOROUGH PANCAKE DAY!

Pulborough Charity Pancake Day in Pulborough Village Hall **Shrove Tuesday 17th February**. All profits from the event will be divided between the Macmillan Palliative Care Unit based at Midhurst, Pulborough Lunch Club for Senior Citizens and Education West Africa – Supporting the school in the Diocese of Bo in Sierra Leone.

Pancake Tombola.....Just two weeks to go!

If you have any unwanted gifts Ann Kaiser would be so pleased to receive them! The tombola on Pancake Day is always a great part of the fund-raising event so your gifts will be most welcome.

Thank you.

ST MARY'S BELLS LOTTERY

At the moment we have just **2 bells available for 2026**. **The numbers are, 66, or 70** Please do consider taking a number, perhaps as a gift for grandchild or a family member or friend.

Ian Cockburn – Treasurer (01798 813102)