



The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Westerham

www.westerhamparishchurch.org.uk

Newsletter: August 23rd to August 29th

As things are changing quickly and regularly we are continuing with a weekly newsletter throughout the summer, rather than a monthly one. So please check...



Michael Barlow, 1940 – 2020

We were saddened to announce the death of our director of music, Michael Barlow, in our service last Sunday. Michael led our choir, played our organ and was well-known and well-loved by so many people in Westerham and beyond.

Many have called us to share their memories of a man with a passion for music; he composed, conducted, tutored and has encouraged many with his talent and personal warmth. And, by no means least, he was a man of faith.

Michael will be sadly missed by all of us at St. Mary's.

At the moment we have no details of his funeral but will provide updates as they become available.

If you wish us to pass any memories or other messages to Michael's next of kin these can be sent to our Parish Office where we can forward them on your behalf.

We have also learned recently of the death of **Marigold Arnstein**. Marigold had been a very long-standing member of the Church. Our pastoral Care Team visited her after she was unable to attend until she moved away a few years ago. Her funeral will be held at St Mary's in September.

Worship on Sunday

A service of Holy Communion at 10.30am in St Mary's Church building. See [here for more details.](#) For the changes we have made in the light of Church of England guidance regarding Coronavirus so you can make an informed decision on attending, [see here.](#)

It is now a legal requirement to wear a face covering in church apart from those exempted under Government restrictions, which includes those who are leading services, and those who assist them, (for instance by reading, preaching, or leading prayer).

For those who cannot attend we livestream the service on [our Facebook page](#); later in the day it is uploaded to [our YouTube channel](#). You can find the liturgy we use [here...](#)

The vicar's sermon is also available online – ["Thoughts on a Sunday..."](#)

There are also other opportunities for Sunday worship:

Weekly Reflection Bishop Simon, Bishop of Tonbridge explores Matthew 16, and whether first impressions prevent us from seeing someone's full potential. [YouTube.](#) [Transcript](#)

National Church Service. This Church of England national service premieres each week on the Church of England [Facebook page](#) at 9.00am on Sunday and [YouTube](#).

TV BBC1: 1.15pm Songs of Praise.

Radio Radio 4: 8.10am - Sunday worship.

Rochester Cathedral. the Cathedral Eucharist will not be broadcast live this Sunday; the next live stream will be **11.30am Sunday 6 September.**

Worship during the week...

Individual Private Prayer We are continuing to open for private prayer in the Katharine Chapel on Wednesdays; come and go between about **noon and 1.00pm. (NB Change in time).** This will now be unattended, but we do ask you to use the hand sanitizer and face coverings must be worn.

‘Virtual’ Morning Prayer... livestreamed from the Vicarage **Monday to Thursdays** at 8.30am. You can find the words we use - Morning Prayer (Contemporary) - on the Church of England site [here](#). You can also download the Daily Prayer app.

“Worship From Home” – Our [website page](#) is being updated regularly to help you worship at home. This page contains links to what our National Church and Diocese are doing. This includes videos, podcasts, audio feeds, documents, links to other websites etc for adults, families, and children to help us to worship, pray and study to build our faith.

Dates

There are no changes to the dates of these meetings, but guidance has changed regarding how these meetings will take place:

PCC Discussion - Wednesday 2nd September, 7.30pm via Zoom. The accounts and PCC report will be circulated beforehand and discussed, to be formally agreed by email / post.

APCM Meeting - Wednesday 7th October at 7.30pm. To vote for Church Wardens and PCC members, receive 2019 accounts and look at where we are as a church. This will take place in the church building and via Zoom.

This new date also requires us to re-open our electoral roll for revision.

Remembrance Day Wreath

It is traditional that a wreath is laid by St Mary’s church as part of the Remembrance Day service. If you would like to make a small donation for a wreath from St Mary’s church, please let Alyson in the office know. Thank you

Revd Kevin Barnard

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Day Off Friday