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# St Mary Greenhithe Newsletter

*27th July 2025*

**Sixth Sunday after Trinity**

8.30am Quiet Communion

Leading & Presiding :

Revd Bart

Sermunkle :

Revd Bart

10.30am - Service of the Word

Leading: Jen  
Preaching: Mandy

**3rd August 2025**

**Seventh Sunday after Trinity**

No 8.30am Quiet Communion

10.30am - Holy Communion and Baptisms

Leading, Preaching and Presiding:  
Archdeacon Sandra

ST MARY GREENHITHE  
**VISION STATEMENT**



We seek to be God's Church,  
where all are known and loved,  
purpose and hope are found,  
and lives are transformed by Christ.

St Mary Greenhithe

*Reflection  
For  
The  
Week*



Reflection by Mandy.

I don't know about you, but I find that when this time of year comes around and the thought of holiday comes to mind, my thoughts go to the often-quoted verse in Matthew 11:28 – “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” And that is no bad thing as the whole point of holiday is to put down your usual routine and spend time doing the things that bring you rest, relaxation, refreshment and renewal of your spirit.

But do you, like me, then find that as soon as we come back from our break it is straight back into whatever we did before and within a week, perhaps a fortnight, it can feel like we haven't had a break? The same routines, pressures, and so on.

Do you, like me, ever wish that you could stay on holiday? Our hotel room or apartment is easy to keep clean and tidy - probably because we have only a fraction of our belongings with us! Our days are less stressed and there is time to do most of what we want to do and to enjoy the people we are with. Yes, there is the knowledge in the background of having to return to work and all that brings with it, but for now it is about living in the moment and resting in it, freer and lighter.

In recent months we have been following the Practising the Way course and looking at nine practices that John Mark Comer suggests that we can incorporate into our daily, weekly, monthly rhythms of life that will help us restructure and refocus our priorities.

Practices of Sabbath, solitude, prayer, fasting, scripture, community, generosity, service and witness. These are the things, if we consciously build them into our lives by making them **the** priorities and **then** add in the world of work/school etc



around them, that can bring us closer to living the lives God has planned for us.

We talk about the belief that God has a plan for our lives, and we believe that he has given us talents and abilities that we are to use for the benefit of others.

Many times we are able to incorporate these in our workplaces and that is a good thing, but his real plan for our lives was that we live in a communion of life with him that is modelled in the Garden of Eden, where we are in daily contact, throughout the day and that he is our point of reference in all that we do. From that base we then go into the world to share the gifts and talents he has given us, to benefit others and to show his love to them, but always from the underpinning foundation of our relationship with him.

The passage I referred to, when read in The Message reads:

“Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the **unforced rhythms of grace**. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.” Matthew 11:28-30 (The Message)

The Practices are the ‘unforced rhythms of grace’. God does not force them on us, they are for us to decide to follow or not, it is our choice to pick up the yoke that Jesus offers. But he does promise that if we do choose it, yes, it will often be hard in different ways but walking in close relationship with him, he will give us the strength, the words, the insights that we need when we need them.

I am **not** saying that our life will be like one long holiday!!

In some ways it may be harder than before, because many things will try to push out the practices, but if we can persevere we will find that peace and calm and sense of his presence that makes every day lighter and freer.

So I plan, at this holiday time, to try and take stock, to enjoy those who are present with me and find a way to restructure so that that sense of freedom and peace and God's presence stays with me. I hope you can find some time this summer to do whatever you need to do to know his presence and the peace that lasts.

<sup>28</sup> 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.' (Matt 11:28-30 NIVUK).

Have a blessed summer

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Jen will deal with any matters arising when she returns on the 6th August



ST MARY. GREENHITHE

# CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

30TH AND 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST

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## *Monthly Service Pattern*

*1st Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*10.30am Holy Communion*

*2nd Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*10.30am Holy Communion*

*3rd Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Holy Communion*

*10.30am Family Café Church Service  
With Breakfast*

*4th Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*10.30am Service of the Word*

*5th Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*Joint service with St Peter & St Pauls*

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

01322 382031

[office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)



Bible study, discussions on faith  
and life, prayer & worship for 11-  
18 year olds.

# Ignited Youth

Sunday Mornings, 10.30am  
*St Mary Church, Greenhithe*

# Family Cafe Church Service

## 3rd Sunday of the Month at 10.30am



WORSHIP AND  
PRAYER



GOSPEL LED  
TEACHING



REFRESHMENTS  
FROM 10AM



INTERACTIVE



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



Life Groups are an essential part of our church life. They are an opportunity for all of us to grow together in faith and to support one another.



If you would like to join one of our Life Groups please speak to a member of the ministry team:-

Rev Charlie, Rev Bart  
Mandy or Jen.

### CURRENT LIFE GROUPS

<b>Mondays</b>	<b>2pm</b>	<b>The Church Centre, Swanscombe</b>
<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Knockhall Road</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>ON ZOOM</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Riverview Road, Greenhithe</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Hedge Place Road, Stone</b>

# Flower DONATIONS



Would you like to remember a loved one  
with flowers on their birthday,  
anniversary or other special occasion?  
You can do this by making a donation to  
the flower fund and flowers will be put in  
church by our team on the date  
requested. Please give 2 weeks notice.  
Contact Jen in the office in the first  
instance.





## CHURCH EVENTS

The 2 coaches are now fully booked, we are running a minibus on the day, which is already half full. Please remember to book through the Church Office and pay on booking.



**ST MARY GREENHITHE**  
*Annual Beach Trip*

**Ramsgate**  
**Tuesday 19th August**

The coaches will leave Bluewater coach park at 9.15am,  
return from Ramsgate will be 4pm

**£7 Per Person**  
**Payable upon booking.**

Subsidised by St Marys Church,  
and additionally subsidised  
by Dartford Lions



Dartford  
Lions Club  
(rtn)

Book via the Church Office ;  
[office@stmarygreenhithe.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.co.uk)  
**01322 382031**  
or in the Community Cafe & Seniors Afternoon Tea.



# Deanery Confirmation Service

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October  
at 3pm

St Barnabas, Istead Rise

## Confirmation Preparation Classes

Starting Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August  
6pm-7.30pm  
at The Church Centre, Swanscombe  
(with pizza ☺)



Pre-Confirmation Retreat Morning and Rehearsal

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 10am-1pm

St Barnabas, Istead Rise

Please speak to any of the Ministry Team for more information.

Email [office@stmarygreenithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenithe.com) or [admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk) to register

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# SAFEGUARDING



Training to help everyone engage positively with the protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults in both a practical and theologically informed way.

The Diocese of Rochester approved training is being offered at  
The Church Centre, 112 Swanscombe Street  
**Saturday 9th August 2025**

**FOUNDATION COURSE (C1) 10am to 12.30pm**  
**AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE 1.30pm to 3.30pm**

For more information and to book your place please email [jude@mckcharity.co.uk](mailto:jude@mckcharity.co.uk)

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**This amazing Ministry is really struggling for people to volunteer and support it. Please do pray into this situation - asking God to reveal those who can step in to work in this area**



## **HELPERS NEEDED !!**

**COULD YOU VOLUNTEER JUST ONE MORNING A MONTH TO JOIN THE STICKY FINGERS TEAM AND HELP KEEP THIS POPULAR MINISTRY GOING?**

**THIS GROUP IS HIGHLY VALUED BY THE COMMUNITY, BUT WE COULD DO WITH A COUPLE MORE PEOPLE ON THE TEAM. IT INVOLVES BEING THERE AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHURCH, TALKING TO THE PARENTS AND CARERS, HELPING SERVE THE SNACKS, AND HELPING WITH SET UP AND CLEARING AWAY. TALK TO JUDE (OR ANY OF THE TEAM) TO FIND OUT MORE**

**We are excited to be running an Alpha course starting in September. Is this something you would like to join or do you know someone who would love to come and find out more about God and our faith?**







# Curious about life and faith?

Join the conversation over  
**breakfast** as we explore  
life's big questions



**Starting Saturday  
13th September**

9.30am - 11.15am  
The Church Centre  
Swanscombe St.  
Text/Phone Bart  
07383 334 378



**Please Find the latest MCK Newsletter**  
**[HERE](#)**

### **MCK Food Banks**

**We really appreciate your support of the MCK food banks and are very grateful for all the donations we receive.**

**Currently we are low on tinned spaghetti, tinned hotdogs, tinned macaroni cheese, tinned ravioli and biscuits.**

**Please do not donate pasta at the current time as we have a huge excess.**



**Thank you, Jude.**

**Jude is again looking for volunteers to help run these Food and Fun events. If you like talking with families, sticking, gluing and colouring, serving food or setting up and tidying away please speak to Jude.**





**MCK**

Charity Reg No. 1204242



# SUMMER FOOD AND FUN

Stone St Mary's School

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August

Manor School

Swanscombe

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

St Mary Greenhithe

Church Hall

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August

Knockhall School

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August

To book a place contact

[jude@mckcharity.co.uk](mailto:jude@mckcharity.co.uk)

07512 460221

Please state names of children/ adults  
and any allergies. Most suitable for 3-11 year olds

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**Every Wednesday  
9am-1pm**

St Mary Greenhithe, Church Hall

Tea, Coffee, Soup, Bacon Rolls &  
Sausages, Homemade Cakes &  
Scones are available for a  
donation

*All are welcome*

Registered as a 'Warm Space'  
supported by

**DARTFORD** COMMUNITY  
BOROUGH COUNCIL FUND GRANT

01322 382031 | office@stmarygreenhithe.com

www.stmarygreenhithe.com | StMaryGreenhithe

Registered Charity No. 1180908



## Dartford's Health Walks

The Walk for Health Group meet every Wednesday at St Mary Greenhithe Community Café From 10.30am.

Share in a lovely walk around the area of Greenhithe then come back for homemade soup and cakes.







**Are you aged over 55,  
semi-retired, or retired?**

**Come and enjoy an afternoon  
with those of a similar age.**

**Every Tuesday from 2pm-4pm**  
at St Mary Greenhithe, Church Hall

Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches,  
Homemade Cakes  
& Scones are available, for a  
donation.

*Just come along for a chat*

Registered as a 'Warm Space'  
supported by

**DARTFORD** COMMUNITY  
BOROUGH COUNCIL FUND GRANT

01322 382031 | office@stmarygreenhithe.com

www.stmarygreenhithe.com | StMaryGreenhithe

Registered Charity No. 1180908



Join our Coffee and  
Craft Morning on  
the third Saturday  
of the Month

Alongside our Bicycle  
servicing session.

Come and meet with friends old and  
new, learn a new craft or continue with  
your own work, and enjoy a cuppa and  
homemade cake.

9.30-11.30am

[www.stmarygreenhithe.com](http://www.stmarygreenhithe.com) 01322 382031

Facebook: StMaryGreenhithe





# BICYCLE



NEXT SESSION  
↓

# SERVICING

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AT ST MARY GREENHITHE STARTING 9.30AM

COME AND JOIN US WITH YOUR BIKE  
SIMPLE REPAIRS AND SERVICING  
COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING

DETAILS - BART - 07383 334 378





# Home Communion



If you are unwell, or unable to get out and about, and would appreciate the opportunity to receive communion at

home, please contact

Revd Keith 01322 382444

Or email the church office

[office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)

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## PRAYER DIARIES

Please find the July prayer Diary  
[HERE](#)

Please find the Prayer Diary for August  
[HERE](#)

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# HAPPENING AT ST PETER AND ST PAULS

Friends Of  
St Peter & St Paul



Preserving  
Swanscombe's  
Heritage



St Peter & St Paul's is a grade 1 listed church with parts of the building dating back to the Saxon & Norman periods with much of the rest of the building being built during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

Whilst the church has stood for over 1000 years, the cost of maintaining this beautiful ancient building is enormous and an ongoing responsibility. If we are to preserve the building for future generations of

Swanscombe residents,

**WE WILL NEED YOUR HELP!**

## **Friends of St Peter & St Paul's**

Is a group of friends who will financially commit to support the maintenance of the church building.

Find out more at [swanscombechurch.co.uk](http://swanscombechurch.co.uk)

Or Scan the QR Code



**First Sunday of the month**  
7.30PM at Swanscombe Church Hall

**FOOD  
POOL  
DARTS  
GAMES  
FELLOWSHIP**

**The Man Shed**

**A Men's Ministry**

**Further details contact Rev. Bart on 07383 334 378**

Next meeting on the 7th September.



ST PETER & ST PAUL SWANSCOMBE

# WORD & WORSHIP

**SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH**

**4.30PM - 6PM**

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP  
BIBLICAL TEACHING  
FAMILY FRIENDLY



[WWW.SWANSCOMBECHURCH.CO.UK](http://WWW.SWANSCOMBECHURCH.CO.UK)

Next service is 14th September.



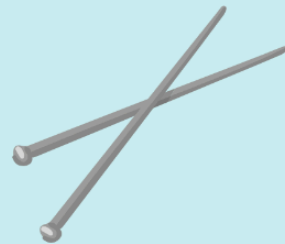
# Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



**GATHER TOGETHER FOR A RELAXING  
KNITTING EXPERIENCE**

Come share your passion for knitting  
with others!

Join us every 1st  
Tuesday of the  
month from 2-  
4pm. Bring your  
favorite yarn and  
enjoy a friendly  
atmosphere filled  
with creativity and  
inspiration.





## Monthly Coffee Morning

2nd Tuesday of the month  
from

10-11.30am

At St Peter & St Pauls  
Church Centre

With Hi-Kent in attendance  
for hearing aid support

Tea, coffee, cakes,  
biscuits available for a  
donation

07927546172  
[admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk](mailto:admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk)  
[www.swanscombechurch.co.uk](http://www.swanscombechurch.co.uk)



# QUIZ

A graphic of a scroll with a yellow background. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing text. The ends of the scroll are rolled up. The text is in a serif font. The title 'HISTORY GROUP' is in a larger, bold font. The meeting details are in a smaller font. The contact information is at the bottom.

# HISTORY GROUP

MEETS ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

7.15PM

AT THE CHURCH CENTRE, SWANSCOMBE ST.

£2 PER PERSON

CONTACT LESLEY HOWES FOR MORE INFORMATION 07774802880



**EBBSFLEET GARDEN CITY** **Summer pop-up events** **THE SALVATION ARMY**

**for young people**

**Frisbee Golf**

**Chill out zone - a place to hang out**

**Football**

**Snacks**

**30th July**  
Swanscombe Park

**6th August**  
Heritage Park, Swanscombe

**13th August**  
Jubilee Park, Castle Hill

**20th August**  
Rosherville Gardens, Cable Wharf

**27th August**  
Ebbsfleet Green Primary School

**Wednesdays 6.30-8.30pm**

Supported by: **Ebbsfleet** **EBBSFLEET GARDEN CITY TRUST**

For more information email [ebbsfleet@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:ebbsfleet@salvationarmy.org.uk), look for us on social media, or call or text 07918287959  
The Salvation Army is a Registered Charity No. 214779 and in Scotland SC009359

## **Diocese of Rochester Job Vacancies**

Click [HERE](#) for more information

## GIVE TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH

QUICKLY AND EASILY ONLINE



The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is an established service for managing Direct Debit donations, providing a simple and secure way for churches to receive regular donations to fund their mission and ministry.

Just like with telephone and paper donations, by choosing to give online, you can:



Give monthly, quarterly or annually by Direct Debit



Increase your gift annually in line with inflation



Enhance your gift with an optional 25% Gift Aid



Give anonymously



Donate securely

Use your smartphone or tablet to scan this QR code or visit the unique URL on any device to access your church's dedicated landing page on the PGS website. From here, it's simple to set up and manage your regular giving online.

Scan your code



Visit: <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/greenhithe-st-mary-dartford/>



Website: [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)

Email: [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) | Tel: 0333 002 1260

## Easy Fundraising.

What is easy fundraising ?

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/st->

mary-greenhithe/

By using the link above you can also generate a percentage of the sales across a wide variety of online stores, again with the proceeds coming to the church funds. Easy fundraising has over 4000 stores to choose from, so you can book a holiday, buy a toaster or much more , all while raising funds for the upkeep of the church.

You can use this service all year round as well, so please consider using it when you are looking for a special birthday or anniversary gift.

Even something as simple as your on line grocery shopping can help raise funds, as several supermarkets now offer the option of fundraising while you shop.





Thank you to those of you who have brought your old cartridges to be recycled. From our last box we have received £35.35.

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## **SERVICE ROTA.**

Please find the rota for July

**[Here](#)**

Please find the rota for August

**[Here](#)**

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## **MINISTRY TEAM**

### **PRIEST**

***Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans***

(Day off - Monday)

Email - [revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com](mailto:revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com)

Phone - 01322 383160

### **CURATE**

**Revd Bart Woodhouse**  
(Day off Friday)  
Email- [revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com](mailto:revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com)  
Phone- 07383 334378

**LICENSED LAY MINISTERS**

**Mandy Holloway**  
(Day off- Friday)  
Email - [mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com)

**Jen White**  
(Day off - Friday)  
Email - [jen@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:jen@stmarygreenhithe.com)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

**Jen White**  
Phone - 01322 382031  
Email - [office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)  
Office Hours - Wednesday 10am-2pm, Thursday 9am-2pm

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*If you would like to make a donation to the ongoing mission and ministry of St Mary, Greenhithe you can do so by clicking this button, which will take you to a payment portal. Thank you for your continued support of the church.*

**DONATE TO ST MARY**

**Our mailing address is:**

St Mary Greenhithe  
Church Office  
131 Mounts Road  
Greenhithe, Kent DA9 9ND  
United Kingdom

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

