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 **Elham Valley Group Newsletter – 20th July 2025**

“Spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all”

Find us online : [www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk](http://www.elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk) OR [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com)

**This week’s services : 5th Sunday after Trinity**

**8.30am – Said Holy Communion – St Mary & St Radegund, Postling**

**9.30am – Eucharist - St Mary the Virgin, Elham**

**9.30am – Morning Prayer – St Martin, Acrise**

**10am – Eucharist - St Mary & St Ethelburga, Lyminge**

**11.15am – New Day – St Mary Magdalene, Denton**

**4pm – Evensong – St Oswald, Paddlesworth**

 **Tuesday 8.30am - Morning Prayer- St Mary the Virgin, Elham**

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| **The Collect:** Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name;through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen** | **Post Communion Prayer:** Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**Amen**  |
| **Old Testament Reading:** **Genesis 18:1-10a**The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. **2**He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. **3**He said, ‘My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. **4**Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. **5**Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.’ So they said, ‘Do as you have said.’ **6**And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, ‘Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.’ **7**Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. **8**Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.**9**They said to him, ‘Where is your wife Sarah?’ And he said, ‘There, in the tent.’ **10**Then one said, ‘I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.’ And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. |
| **Gospel Reading:** **Luke 10:38-end**Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. **39**She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. **40**But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, ‘Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.’ **41**But the Lord answered her, ‘Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; **42**there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.’ |

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| Please Pray for *Gill Fitch,* *Joseph, Jenni Lister,* *Poppy Allard,* *John Meers, Jen,* *Scott McGuiness,* *Michael Kirk, Alison Mackonochie,* *Alice Mills,* *Martyn Bowles,* *Claire Laker.****Please contact the Benefice Administrator Alison Dale 07985025381 or*** ***beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk*** ***to add people to the prayers.***Please pray for the departed*, Derek Pemble, John Parsons,* and those for whom an anniversary of death falls at this time, *John Ames,* *Florence Sharp, William Cutlack, Charles Barker, Danny Norton, Alan Boughton and Mark Joy.* |
|  To arrange for Funerals, Thanksgivings, Blessings, Renewal of Vows and *all other services* please contact the Rector – revcarolbates@gmail.com 0777 239 4855For Baptisms and Weddings please contact the Benefice Administrator -beneficeadmin@elhamvalleygroupofchurches.co.uk 07985025381 |

**Parish Notices:**

***Funerals/Ashes Burial -* Christine McGarrick – Thu. 17th July at 11.30am–Lyminge**

***Weddings -* Laura Dartnell & Tobias Stone – Sat. 19th July at 1.45pm –Wootton**

**John Carr and Sally Lewis – Sat. 26th July at 3pm – Denton**

**Benefice Notices:**