

News from Westerham

Sunday 12th October, 17th after Trinity

8.00am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in traditional language. **10.00am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill** in modern language with hymns. Grab a coffee when you arrive, and join us for a chat afterwards.

Readings: 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

10.30am, *2nd Sunday* **at Westerham:** our informal service of *word, prayer and praise*. Songs, worship and craft activities with snacks and drinks available throughout. This month our theme is *Stories of Jesus*. This service is a great way to try out church for the first time, so why not come along?

Day	Time	What's on at St Mary's this week?
Benefice Office closed from Monday to Friday		
Tues to Sat	9.00 - 9.30am	Morning Prayer in the Resurrection Chapel; a short service of prayer and readings
Tuesday	10am - 12.00pm	Coffee Time at Westerham Community Hub in the JFR. Join us for tea, coffee, snacks and friendship
	7.45pm	Bell ringing practice
Wednesday	10am	Midweek Communion: a said service
	10am to 12pm	Jigsaw Group at Westerham Community Hub in the JFR. Come along for refreshments and a chat
Thursday	12.30pm	Funeral of the late Barry Reid
	7pm	Choir practice in the John Fryth Room

Whoever you are, wherever you live, whatever church (if any) you consider yours; whatever life is like for you and however you experience yourself; regardless of money, status, (dis)ability or anything else, you are welcome at any and every service in the Benefice.

Sunday 19th October, 18th after Trinity

10.00am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in modern language with hymns.

Grab a coffee when you arrive, and join us for a chat afterwards.

Readings: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

What's on—week commencing 20th October

Tues to Sat: 9.00 - 9.30am—Morning Prayer in the Resurrection Chapel;

Tuesday: 10am - 12.00pm—Coffee Time at Westerham Community Hub in the

JFR. Join us for tea, coffee, snacks and friendship

7.45pm—Bell ringing practice

Wednesday: 10am—Midweek Communion: a said service

10am to 12pm—**Jigsaw Group** at Westerham Community Hub in the JFR. Come along for refreshments and a chat

Thursday: 7pm— **Choir practice** in the John Fryth Room

Sunday 26th October, the clocks GO BACK by 1 hour at 2am.

Sunday 26th October, Last after Trinity/Bible Sunday

8.00am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in traditional language.

10.00am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill: in modern language with hymns

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in modern language with hymns. Grab a coffee when you arrive, and join us for a chat afterwards.

Readings: 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 18:9-14

Sunday 2nd November at 6pm, Vespers for the Departed. Our beautiful annual service of prayer and thanksgiving for our loved ones. If you would like somebody remembered during the prayers, please add their name in the book or list at the back of either church. There will also be a chance during the service, to light a candle for them.

Harvest Festival. Thank you for all the donations at our services, which were gratefully received by Westerham Foodbank. It was wonderful to combine the generosity of everyone who came to the School's Harvest Service in church with donations from the congregation, and to see new members of the church helping to sort all the donations out on Sunday morning, too. Thanks are also due to the Flower Guild for their beautiful displays that helped to set the scene for our services.

Organ Update. During the summer, the Working Group finished going through the quotes from the specialist organ building firms who had been approached about for the organ restoration and reported to the PCC at the end of September. The Diocese has decided that we need a faculty, which our Churchwarden David is putting together with the Group. Meanwhile, the Working Group is planning the fundraising which will be needed, both by applying for grants and approaching the community. We will keep you updated with progress.

St Mary's Quiz Night: Thank you to Christina for organising another successful quiz night, Melvin for being quizmaster, and to all who supported it. Congratulations to The Clangers on winning. We made just over £700 towards church funds. Thanks also to everyone who donated raffle prizes—we had a wonderful response and everyone was impressed by the array of prizes.

Outcomes from PCC Meeting on 24th September:

The membership of the Joint Council for St Mary's was agreed as: Revd Dave, Anna Morris, Judy Duffield and Kerry Johnson. Revd Wendy has also volunteered until the Associate Minister is in post. The Joint Council will steer the mission and ministry of the Benefice, while the PCCs will focus on issues specific to each church.

The PCC reaffirmed its decision to carry out a full restoration of the Lewis organ and approved various requests from the Working Group.

The results of the Appreciative Inquiry exercise were discussed and combined with those from Crockham Hill PCC. Three themes emerged as valued and for building upon: worship, welcome and community. The results will be used by the Joint Council as part of the ongoing conversation to shape the mission and sense of identity for the whole Benefice.

The PCC discussed reducing blocks to participation, especially for people who are unfamiliar with church, have particular needs, or wonder if they are welcome. This included web presence, the start of services and trialling refreshments before worship, as for *2nd Sunday*, to create a less formal atmosphere.

Rachel Preston was appointed the Environmental Advocate.

A Prayer for Peace: God of peace and justice, we lift up to you the peoples of Ukraine, Gaza and Sudan today. We pray for all the world's war zones, for the laying down of weapons and end to calls of violence; for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them; for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, asking you to hold, protect and provide for them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

<u>Deadline for newsletter items: 12 noon on Wednesday</u> Contact Us

Benefice Office: 01959 561 330 / office@chwbenefice.org Open Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, 9am to 1pm. **Closed Thursday**

Website: www.chwbenefice.org

CHORAL VESPERS FOR THE DEPARTED



ST. MARY'S CHURCH WESTERHAM

SUNDAY 2ND NOVEMBER 2025 AT 6PM

Music to include three movements from the Faure Requiem, Magnificat by Orlando Gibbons and some well loved hymns

PLEASE DO JOIN US AND LIGHT A CANDLE FOR YOUR LOVED ONES