

[View this email in your browser](#)



St Peter and St Paul Newsletter

19th October 2025
Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

10am Holy Communion
Leading, Preaching & Presiding :
Rev Jean

Readings
Genesis 32:22-31
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8



Reflection By Mandy.

Recently I went to see a production of Jesus Christ, Superstar, (the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical), performed by DAODs (Dartford Amateur Operatic Dramatic Society). I had seen it before, and both times it was well done, but both times I left feeling a sense of disappointment.

The storyline follows the Passion of Christ, from the last Supper to the Crucifixion. There are some references to his teachings on the Mount but the focus is more on the humanity of Jesus, seeming to depict him as confused and conflicted about his purpose here on earth. It was at the end that I realised why I was disappointed (spoiler alert here if you haven't seen it)... it ends with Jesus

Crucifixion. No mention of what happened to the disciples (other than Judas who kills himself), no mention of the Resurrection. My immediate reaction was one of disappointment, why not show the Resurrection – Jesus ultimate triumph over sin and death and the revelation of God's sacrificial love in human form?

Why not make the point that Jesus, innocent and sinless, paid the ultimate sacrifice for us?

But then I got thinking that perhaps I am looking at this from the perspective of already knowing who Jesus is. Like having read the book before seeing the film!

What message is being given to those who see it for the first time, or even many times, who don't know who Jesus really is?

They see a man who appears to have a purpose, who has gathered followers by his teachings about God and heaven and love for all people, and who has been healing many people who in those days would have been untouchables, and telling everyone who will listen that God loves them. But by this point he is coming face to face with the ultimate truth of his mission and how hard and difficult it will be – to be able to show God's love in a meaningful way to all mankind, something has to be done about the obvious gap that appears between God and man (us) when man is not worthy of receiving the love and life that God promises. A price has to be paid to make it

right.

The musical highlights the humanity of Jesus at this point – all of which we see played out in the various Gethsemane scenes in the gospels. In Jesus we see fear, anguish, deep pain at the thought of what is to come – even an unwillingness, a request to “remove this cup from me”. But ultimately Jesus finds the strength and courage to stand up and walk into what he knows will be the worst things any human could go through. These are all human feelings and reactions that we can relate to.

Jesus Christ Superstar invites us to see Jesus not as a distant, untouchable figure, but as a man who knows fear, exhaustion, and loneliness. In His struggle, especially in Gethsemane, we glimpse the deep mystery of the Incarnation—God choosing to share our human weakness. His prayer, “Thy will be done,” is not spoken from strength but from trembling surrender, showing us that faith often means trusting amid confusion.

Even Judas’ torment reminds us how easily love can turn to misunderstanding, and how God’s mercy still reaches into our broken motives. Though the musical ends with the Cross, it leaves a holy silence—a space to ask the questions, *Why did this happen?* and *Who is Jesus for me?* It is in the answers, that revelation that leads to faith begins.

to gather others around him who will come to know God as their loving Father. To teach them and encourage them and empower them to carry on his mission, and to be able and willing to devote their lives to spreading the good news of the Kingdom of God on earth.

Services



Sunday Service Monthly Pattern

- 1st Sunday - 10am - Service of the Word
- 2nd & 3rd Sunday - 10am - Holy Communion
- 4th Sunday - 9:30am - Spoken Holy Communion
- 10:30am - Family Service in the Church Centre
- 5th Sunday - 10am - Joint Service with St Mary Greenhithe
(Check Website or Facebook for details)

www.swanscombechurch.co.uk

Facebook: StPeterStPaulSwanscombe

Our next Monthly All-Age Service **is Sunday, 26th October**

St Peter & St Paul Swanscombe

4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

REFRESHMENTS FROM 10AM

SERVICE STARTS AT 10:30AM

SING-A-LONG SONGS

INFORMAL, INTERACTIVE TEACHING

Monthly All-Age Service For All the Family

WWW.SWANSCOMBECHURCH.CO.UK
FACEBOOK: STPETERSTPAULSWANSCOMBE





St Peter and St Paul's needs repair to its roof, masonry, windows and rainwater goods. The cost of the project is over £125,000. We have already secured £100,000 through fundraising and grants.

Can you help us raise the extra £25,000?

Donations can be made using the QR Code, or find out more about the project and ways to donate on our website.

www.swanscombechurch.co.uk



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

Wednesday 22nd October 2025 7pm-9pm

FOUNDATIONS COURSE (C1)

Wednesday 29th October 2025 7pm-9pm

AWARENESS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE

For more information and to book your place please email jude@mckcharity.co.uk

Please do book either using the email on the flyer or through Jen in the office if you are planning on attending either Safeguarding training evening.



T4U



We are again planning to support T4U by making up shoeboxes to be sent to Eastern Europe.

There is a list of suggested items in both churches and church halls.

The cost of sending a shoebox has risen to £3.50 per box so monetary donations are also welcome.

Boxes to be packed on 24th October.



Come and Join us on
Friday 31st October
for a



Light Party

Party Food

6pm - 7.30pm

**The Church Centre
Swanscombe**

*Crafts
and Games*

Jesus is the Light of the World



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Saturday 8th November 2025

at 1pm – 4pm

The Church Centre

with

Craft stalls in the church

- Handmade gifts
- Bears in Bags
- Hot Dogs
- Christmas stalls
- Sweet Sleighs
- Homemade cakes
- Games
- New knitted
- Tombolas
- Christmas Hamper raffish

and lots more!!!

All money raised will go towards

Our Big Church Repair



Remembrance Services

Sunday 9th November

Church Service at 10am

with act of Remembrance at Church

Memorial at 11am

Further act of Remembrance in Swanscombe

Park

at 11.15am



Tuesday 11th November

Service and Act of Remembrance in

Swanscombe Park

Beginning at 10.40am

with the Year 6 Choir from Manor School

Followed by Refreshments at the

Church Centre.





**SWANSCOMBE
AND GREENHITHE
TOWN COUNCIL**
"TAKING PRIDE IN OUR TOWN"



**SWANSCOMBE PARK
SERVICE AND ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
STARTS AT
10.40AM**

**WITH THE YEAR 6 CHOIR FROM MANOR SCHOOL
AFTER THE SERVICE YOU ARE INVITED FOR
REFRESHMENTS AT
ST PETER & ST PAULS' CHURCH CENTRE**

(SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF REMEMBRANCE SERVICES ON SUNDAY 9TH
WWW.SWANSCOMBECHURCH.CO.UK)



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.



CURRENT LIFE GROUPS

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



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.

'Friends of St Peter & St Paul'

For more information, see the leaflets in Church or contact Revd Charlie, the Church warden or the Administrator.

**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

Or Scan the QR Code

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 3 weeks notice. Contact Jen in the office in the first instance.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Alpha

GOOD
MORNING

GOT
QUESTIONS

TRY
ALPHA

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



Alpha25

St Peter & St Paul's Church Centre Swanscombe

9.30am – 11.00am

Dates and topics:

September 13 th	"Is there more to life than this?"
September 20 th	"Who is Jesus?"
September 27 th	"Why did Jesus die?"
October 11 th	"How can I have faith?"
October 18 th	"How and why should I pray?"
October 25 th	"How and why should I read the Bible?"
November 1 st	"How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?"
November 15 th	"How can I make the most of the rest of my life?"

Remainder of the course will be offered to those who would like to continue after Christmas starting on January 10th 2026.



Sunday 19th October 2025

3rd Sunday of the Month



Friendship, Support, Discussion
Games, Activities, Refreshments
Themed Sessions, Film Nights
Book Clubs and more



A Ladies Ministry

The Church Centre, Swanscombe Street

7-9pm



PROGRAMME

21st Sep

Games Night

19th Oct

Book Club &

Take-away Night

16th Nov

Movie & Pamper Night

21st Dec

Christmas Meal & Bingo

The Church Centre, Swanscombe Street

7-9pm



Dates for your Diary

Sunday 7th December 6pm
Star Service

The events team are after donations for the Christmas Fayre;

Wrapped chocolate bars like Mars, 4 finger KitKats, Twix, Bounty etc.

They are also asking for donations of bottles and Christmas items for children and adults for our raffles and tombola.

Any and all help is really appreciated.

REGULAR EVENTS in the Church Centre

Next meeting - 2nd December 2025

There is no meeting in November due to the Church Centre windows being replaced.

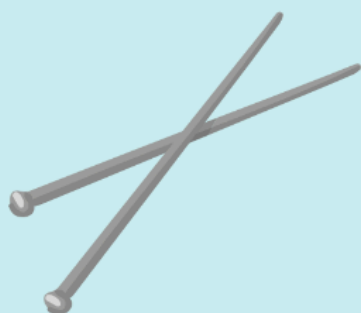
Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



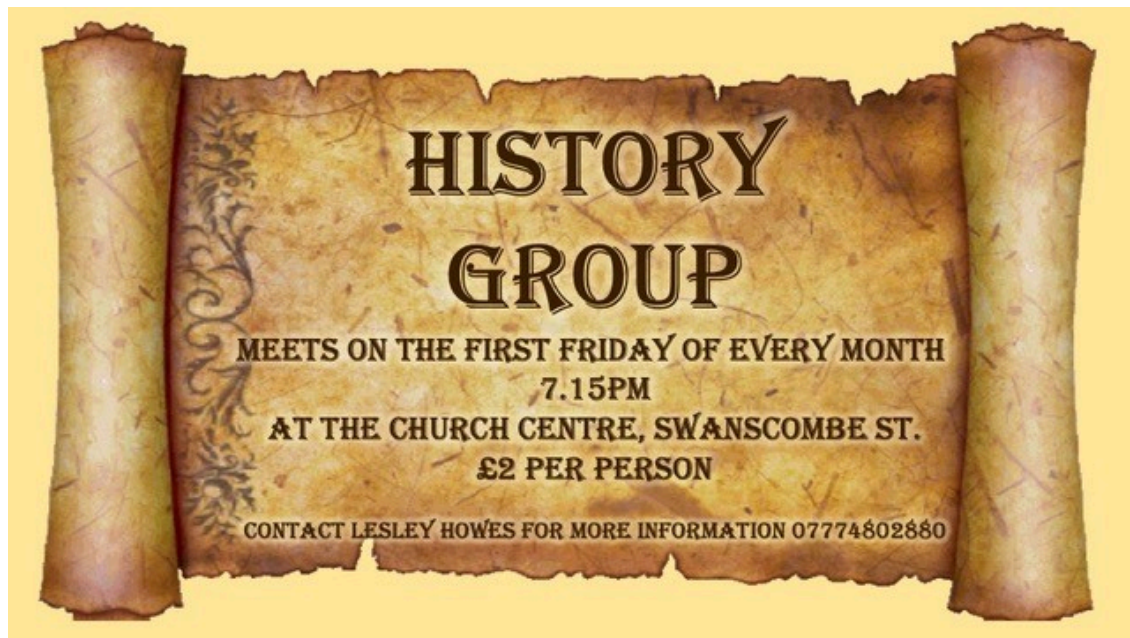
**GATHER TOGETHER FOR A RELAXING
KNITTING EXPERIENCE**

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.



Next meeting 7th November 2025



Next meeting Tuesday 11th November 2025



Monthly Coffee Morning

2nd Tuesday of the month
from

10-11.30am

At St Peter & St Pauls
Church Centre

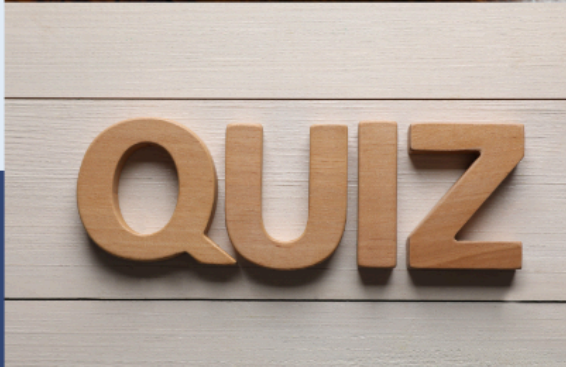
With Hi-Kent in attendance
for hearing aid support

Tea, coffee, cakes,
biscuits available for a
donation

07927546172

admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk

www.swanscombechurch.co.uk



Next meeting on Sunday 2nd November



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

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Help Community Wardens spread some Christmas magic to local children by donating to our Community Chest with pre-loved or new toys.



**To donate or for more information please call
KCC Community Wardens
Angela 07773396840 or Jak 07813713036**

ACTIVITIES at ST MARY GREENHITHE



WEEKLY

Sticky Fingers
Every Tuesday 9.30am-11.30am (during term time)
Toddler group suitable from birth to 4 years.

Follow us on Facebook [SMG Family Ministry](#).

Seniors Afternoon Tea
Every Tuesday 2pm -4pm.
Everyone is welcome to come along for an afternoon of meeting
and making friends and conversation.

Community Café.
Every Wednesday 9am-1pm. Do come and join us.
For more information see the [St Mary Greenhithe Facebook Page](#)

Monthly Coffee Morning
with crafts, Bike repairs and Edible Ebbsfleet planting
3rd Saturday of the month.
9.30-11.30am





**A night of quizzing and shared
supper of sausages in a roll and soup**

BYO Drinks

£5 per person

Saturday, 18th October 2025

6.30pm

St Mary's Church hall

JOIN US BY BOOKING

AT

www.office@stmarygreenhithe.com

01322 382031





Memorial Service

Sunday 2nd November 2025
4pm

Come to remember loved ones who are no longer
with us.

Everyone is welcome to attend.
If you wish to have your loved ones name read
out please contact the Church office on
office@stmarygreenhithe.com
01322 382031



BOOK LAUNCH

Margaret Wooding Jones warmly invites you to the
launch of her new book 'Quiet'.

The event will include author interview, a short guided
time of quiet, drinks & cakes and book signing.

QUIET
BY MARGARET
WOODING JONES

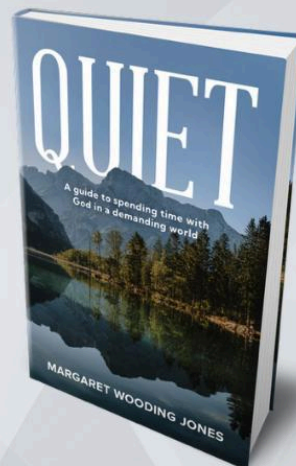


THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER
7PM



ST MARY'S CHURCH
GREENHITHE, DA9 9ND

*For catering purposes, please let me
know if you will be able to come*



Books will be
available for sale

Cash or card
accepted

CONTACT HERE

margaret@woodingjones.net | 0777 571 2045

Current MCK Newsletter

MCK Food Banks

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

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

Thank you xx

Rochester Diocese Vacancies

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

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/swanscombe-st-peter-w-st-paul-dartford/>



Website: www.parishgiving.org.uk

Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk | Tel: 0333 002 1260

Or donate here

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE? WOULD YOU LIKE AN EASY WAY RAISE FUNDS FOR ST PETER & ST PAUL?

If you answered yes to both of those questions then we would like to direct you to 'Easy Fundraising'. A huge range of online retailers have signed up with Easy Fundraising to donate a percentage of each purchase made with them to an organization of your choice. To take advantage of this you need to access the retailer through the Easy Fundraising page and then shop as normal.

(You get all prices and deals as normal 😊) Visit

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterstpaulswanscombe>



**Recycle Your
Ink Cartridges**
and help us raise money!



HELP US RAISE MORE FUNDS FOR
CHURCH - [we raised £20.75 with the
last batch of cartridges. Thank you.](#)

If you have a printer at home or at work
and don't know what to do with the
used cartridges, please drop them in
the box in the Church Centre and we
can receive up to £2 per cartridge.
Only print cartridges though no laser or
toner cartridges. Thank you to
everyone who donated.



We are an Eco-Church Silver Award Winner!!

The overall aim of the Eco
Church award scheme is to
celebrate the ways that church
communities have been
engaging with caring for the
earth as a key part of our
Christian faith.

Have a chat with Steve,
Helen, Charlie or Gareth to

find out more.

NEWSLETTER- SHARE THE NEWS

If you know of others who would be interested in receiving the St Peter and St Paul Newsletter, please ask them to email me. I do not have a comprehensive email list for the church, so I am relying on you sharing with others about this newsletter to expand its reach and ensure all are kept up to date with what is going on at St Peter and St Paul. Thank you.

Revd Charlie

October 2025										
Date	Sunday	Leading/Preaching /Presiding	Old Testament	New Testament	Prayer	C/A	Sidesperson	Refreshments	Tech	Open Church
5th October 10am	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity Service of the Word	Mandy	Lorna	Steve	Arne	x	Steve/Carol	Liz/Brenda	Andre	2nd October Bart
12th October 10am	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion & Baptisms	Revd Charlie Revd Bart	Hilary	Andre	Daniela	Marion	Mary	Hilary/Mary	Arne	9th October Carol/Steve
19th October 10am	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion	Revd Jean	Arne	Jackie	Hilary	Norma	Steve	Helen/Margo	Andre	16th October Charlie/Bart
26th October 9.30am 10.30am	Last Sunday after Trinity Spoken Communion Family Service	Revd Charlie Mandy	x	x	Steve	Marion	Mary	Liz/Brenda	Arne	23rd October Hilary/Norma

CONTACT US

Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans

Priest-in-Charge

Day off is Monday

Email:- revcharlielloyddevans@gmail.com

Phone 01322 383160

Revd Bart Woodhouse

Curate

Day off is Friday

Email :- revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com
Phone 07383 334378

Church Wardens
Steve Groves
Email:- swgroves1@btinternet.com
Phone 01322 384184

Office Administrator
Jen White
Email:- admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk
Phone 07927 546172

Normal Office Hours are Monday 11am-2pm and Tuesday 9am - 1pm.

If you would like to make a donation to the ongoing mission and ministry of St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe, 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 PETER & ST PAUL

Copyright © 2025 St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe
The Rectory
Swanscombe Street
Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0JZ
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](#).

