









St Mary Greenhithe Newsletter

12th October 2025

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

8.30am Quiet Communion

Leading & Presiding :
Revd Charlie
Sermunkle :

10.30am - Holy Communion

Leading & Presiding: Revd Keith

Preaching: Jen

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 By Revd Bart

Changing Seasons, Changing Lives

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." (Isaiah 40:8)

As the seasons shift from the warmth of summer to the crispness of autumn, we are reminded once again of the beautiful rhythm God has woven into creation. Trees release their leaves, the days grow shorter, and the earth gently prepares for rest. In this natural transition, we see a spiritual parallel to the seasons of our own lives. I have reached a season change, turning 50 this year and seeing our second child leave home for University, has reminded me that nothing stays the same and life looks a little different as I watch the leaves fall this October.

Just as nature doesn't resist the changing seasons, we too are invited to embrace the changes life brings, whether they be joyful or challenging. Ecclesiastes 3 tells us there is "a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens." Life is filled with beginnings and endings, growth and stillness, celebration and sorrow. Yet in each moment, God remains constant. The Psalms also give voice to every human emotion we might experience through life's seasons. In Psalm 1, we're encouraged to be like a "tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither." What a comforting image, even when the world around us changes, people move away, and our bodies remind us of our age, those rooted in God will remain nourished and strong in heart and spirit.

And in Psalm 23, perhaps the most beloved of all, David writes, "Even though I walk through the valley... I will fear no evil, for you are with me." Whether we are on the mountaintop or in a season of waiting, God is present, faithful, and near. And, this is the hopeful and sustaining promise that helps us through all the transitions and changes we may face during our lives.

As a church family, let us support one another through our changing seasons. Let's celebrate births and new beginnings (of which there have been a few recently!), comfort those in grief, and walk together through uncertainty. Most of all, let's keep our eyes fixed on the One who never changes, Jesus Christ, "the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). May we find peace in the transitions and strength in the promise that God's love endures through every season of life.



Monthly Service Pattern

1st Sunday of the Month

2nd Sunday of the Month

3rd Sunday of the Month

4th Sunday of the Month

5th Sunday of the Month

8.30am Spoken Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

8.30am Spoken Communion

10.30am Holy Communion

8.30am Holy Communion

10.30am Family Café Church Service

With Breakfast

8.30am Spoken Communion

10.30am Service of the Word

8.30am Spoken Communion

Joint service with St Peter & St Pauls

www.stmarygreenhithe.com

01322 382031

office@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.

Mondays





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

t Rev Charlie, Rev Bart **CURRENT LIFE GROUPS** Mandy or Jen.

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



CHURCH EVENTS

Our next session is October 19th

3rd Sunday of the Month



A Ladies Ministry The Church Centre, Swanscombe Street





PROGRAMME

21st Sep

Games Night Book Club & Take-away Night

16th Nov Movie & Pamper Night 21st Dec Christmas Meal & Bingo

The Church Centre, Swanscombe Street 7-9pm





www.office@stmarygreenhithe.com 01322 382031



T46





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.

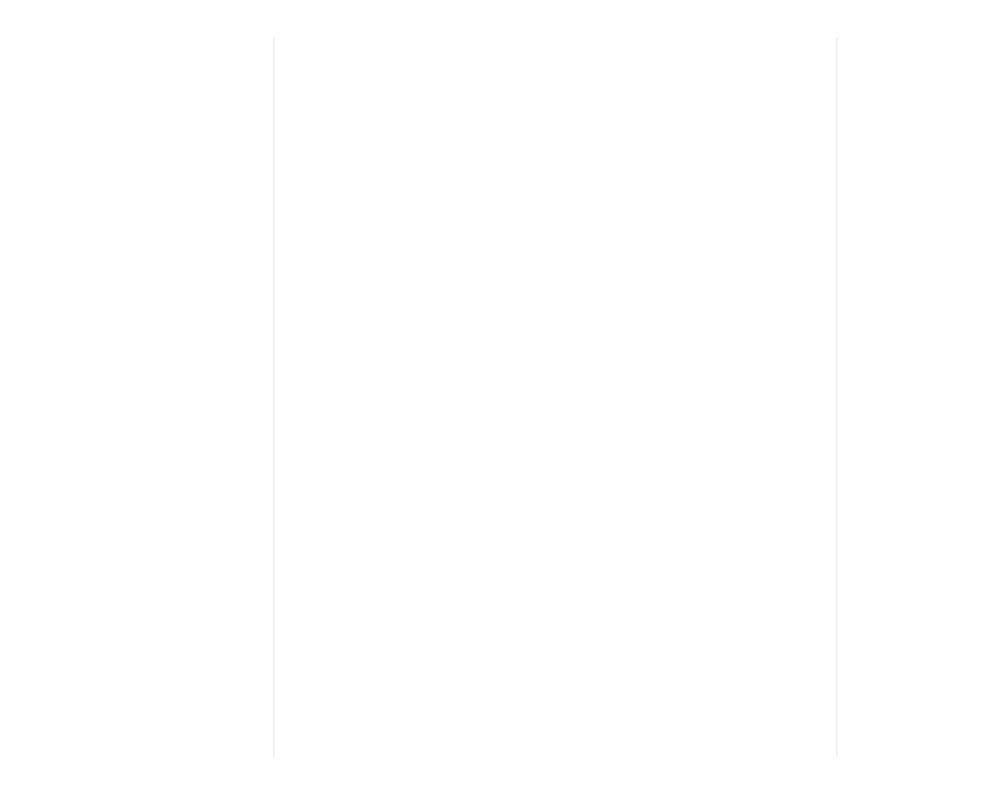
The cost of sending a shoebox has risen to £3.50 per box so monetary donations are also

welcome.

Boxes to be packed on 24th October.

The Events team are starting to plan the Christmas Market and are after donations of smellies and bottles of drink. We will also be looking for volunteers on the day and homemade cakes.

Please speak to one of the team for more information.







Books will be available for sale

Cash or card accepted

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



ST MARY'S CHURCH GREENHITHE, DA9 9ND

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



CONTACT HERE

margaret@woodingjones.net | 0777 571 2045







St Peter & St Paul's Church Centre Swanscombe 9.30am - 11.00am

Dates and topics:

September 13th "Is there more to life than this?"

September 20th "Who is Jesus?"

September 27th "Why did Jesus die?"

October 11th "How can I have faith?"

October 18th "How and why should I pray?"

October 25th "How and why should I read the Bible?"

November 1st "How can I be filled with the Holy Spirit?"

November 15th "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.







Please note that you must book for this training.



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 you place please email jude@mckcharity.co.uk

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



TODDLER GROUP FOR 0-5'S

EVERY TUESDAY
DURING TERM TIME
9.30-11.30

PER ADULT

TOYS AND EQUIPMENT FOR A RANGE OF AGES



HEALTHY SNACK TIME



OTHER PARENTS AND CARERS.
ENJOY AS MUCH TEA AND
COFFEE AS YOU LIKE, WHILE
YOUNGSTERS ENJOY A RANGE
OF EDUCATIONAL AND FUN
TOYS AND EQUIPMENT.

SONG TIME







ST MARY GREENHITHE CHURCH HALL

BEHIND THE CHURCH LONDON ROAD

OFFICE@STMARYGREENHITHE.COM
01322 382031
WWW.STMARYGREENHITHE.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYGREENHITHE



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 really well stocked due to Harvest festivals from churches and local schools.

However, if you would like to contribute to our Christmas parcels we would appreciate pouches of Celebrations/Heroes/Roses or financial donations.

Please do not donate pasta, baked beans or cereal at the current time as we have a huge excess.

Thank you, Jude.





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







Registered Charity No. 1180908



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







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









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.

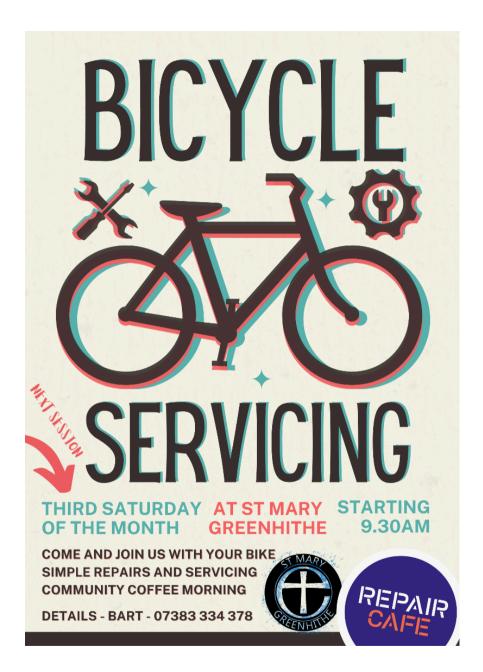
9.30-11.30am





www.stmarygreenhithe.com 01322 382031

Facebook: StMaryGreenhithe





PRAYER DIARIES

October Prayer Diary HERE

HAPPENING AT ST PETER AND ST PAULS



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



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





Next meeting on the 5th October.

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

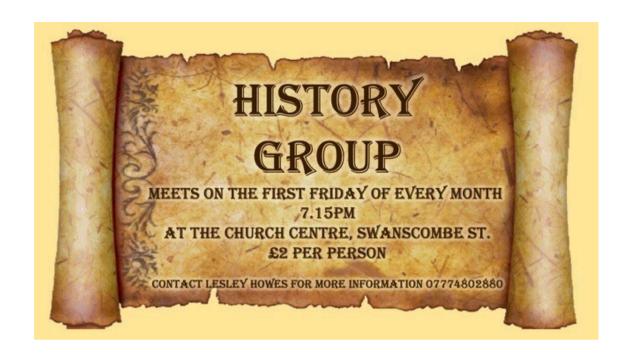
With Hi-Kent in attendance for hearing aid support

Tea, coffee, cakes, biscuits available for a donation

07927546172

admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk www.swanscombechurch.co.uk



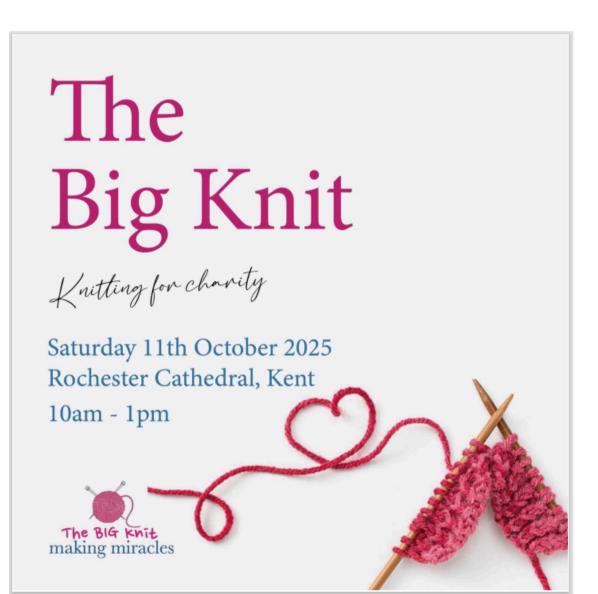


Diocese of Rochester Job Vacancies

Click **HERE** for more information

Job vacancy for Children and Young peoples Mission and Ministry advisor

Job Vacancy for Mission and Ministry team administrator



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



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 £26.10.



SERVICE ROTA.

Please find the October Rota <u>HERE</u>

MINISTRY TEAM

PRIEST

Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans

(Day off - Monday)

Email - revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com Phone - 01322 383160

CURATE

Revd Bart Woodhouse

(Day off Friday)

Email- <u>revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com</u> Phone- 07383 334378

LICENSED LAY MINISTERS

Mandy Holloway

(Day off- Friday)

Email - mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com

Jen White

(Day off - Friday) Email - jen@stmarygreenhithe.com

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Jen White

Phone - 01322 382031
Email - office@stmarygreenhithe.com
Office Hours - Wednesday 10am-2pm, Thursday 9am-2pm

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

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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.

