



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH BARNEHURST

PARISH NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

Eucharist services each week at 10.30am followed by refreshments
The next non eucharist service will be on **Remembrance Sunday, 9th November**
All services are followed with refreshments
Click [here](#) for the full calendar of Family Services in 2025

ST MARTIN, OUR PATRONAL SAINT

Have you ever wondered why we don't have a Patronal day at St Martin's? It's not because we forget or choose to ignore it but because the feast day of St Martin is celebrated on 11th November which is now also Remembrance Day.

According to folklore, if the weather is warm on St Martin's Day, then a harsh winter will follow.

Saint Martin's Day, or Martinmas, is a Christian feast celebrated on November 11th to honour St. Martin of Tours. It was a major harvest festival in the Middle Ages, marking the end of autumn and the beginning of winter, with traditions that included feasting on goose or beef and drinking the first wine of the season. Today, it is still celebrated in many parts of Europe and in some schools, with festivals of lights, lantern walks, and acts of kindness

Martin of Tours was a Roman soldier who was baptised as an adult and became a bishop in Gaul. He is best known for the legend whereby he cut his cloak in half with his sword to give half to a beggar who was dressed in only rags in the depth of winter. That night Martin had a vision of Jesus Christ wearing the half-cloak and this inspired him to be baptised.

Following his conversion, Martin remained in the army, but refused to fight and was imprisoned on charges of cowardice, making him the first recognized conscientious objector in recorded history. He lived for a time as a hermit on an island but later returned to civilisation to found the first monastery in Gaul. Despite his protestations, he was eventually made Bishop of Tours but still lived the life of an unassuming monk. He was instrumental in reaching out to unchurched people in the countryside, bringing the Gospel to many who might not otherwise have heard it.

Because of his love of peace, St. Martin's feast day has traditionally been used as a day to sign peace treaties. One of the most significant of these was the Treaty of Versailles, which ended World War I.

The tomb of Saint Martin was rediscovered on 14 December 1860 and a basilica dedicated to him was built over his tomb in Tours

GOSPELS FOR NOVEMBER

2 nd November 2025	Luke 6.20–31
9 th November 2025	Luke 20.27–38
16 th November 2025	Luke 21.5–19
23 rd November 2025	Luke 23.33–43
30 th November 2025	Matthew 24.36–44

COLLECT FOR NOVEMBER

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow
their example with boldness and joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

In November we ask you to pray for everyone living or working in Ambleside Road, Eskdale Road, Francis Avenue, Keswick Road, Lavernock Road, St. Audrey Avenue, Swanbridge Road, The Green and Wenvoe Avenue

We also ask you to remember the following people in your thoughts and prayers. Andrew, Angela, David, Elizabeth, Joan, John, Joyce, Keith, Mary, Neil, Rob, and all who are suffering in body, mind and spirit.

If you have any specific prayer requests or an approaching significant special event, please let us know

Vicar: Father Gareth Bowen - Rest day: Monday
Vicarage: 93 Pelham Road, Barnehurst DA7 4LY
st.martins.barnehurst@gmail.com

fathergareth@me.com 01322 523344 / 07775 674504
St.Martin's Church: Erith Road, Barnehurst DA7 6LE
www.aChurchNearYou.com/saint-martins-barnehurst



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LISTEN AND SING

A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL AFTERNOON

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

2PM MAXIM ROOM

£5 (INCLUDES REFRESHMENTS)

**COME AND JOIN US AND SING YOUR
FAVOURITE CAROLS**

(raising funds for St Martin's)

www.shutterstock.com - 66004525

CAMEO (MU)

Our next CAMEO meeting is on **Monday 10th November at 1.30pm**. We will be planning the programme for next year and planning our December Christmas Social. We will also be collecting Advent Calendars for the children supported by Bexley Women's Aid.

**St Martin's Church,
Erith Road, DA7 6LE**

**FREE
ENTRY**

**11AM
TO 3PM**

**FESTIVE
FAIR**

13th Dec

- *SANTA'S GROTTO
- *FESTIVE ART GALLERY
- *GIFTS
- *GAMES
- *RAFFLE
- *TOMBOLAS
- *MULLED WINE
- *HOT & COLD FOOD
- ... AND MUCH MORE

Collection boxes are at the back of church for gifts of chocolate products, jigsaws, full bottles of wine and raffle prizes. Please give generously to fill our stalls and to raise funds at the fair to keep St Martin's running.

QUIZ NIGHT

Bring your friends and your brain power for an unforgettable night of trivia.

£6 per person - Teams of up to 8

SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

7PM START

DOORS OPEN 6:30PM
St Martin's Church Hall,
Erith Road, DA7 6LE

BOOK BY EMAIL
fundraising.stmartins@gmail.com

Please book online or sign up on the sheet at the back of church. Sign up for just yourself or with a couple of friends, or a whole table. We will build teams on the evening.

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX OPENING

Thank you to all who gave to The Children's Society Box Opening this year. We are a small group but, this year, have raised £594 between us, £9 more than last year!

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH MONTHLY DRAW - £1 Per ticket

Email: stmartins.monthlydraw@gmail.com

Drawn on Sunday 26th October 2025

£25 Richard Storey, £10 Deborah Ingram,

£5 Karen Ingram and Mark Jamieson



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Our uniformed groups have been busy in the Community recently. 6th Brownies held a Macmillan Coffee Evening and raised £360 and a group of girls from 2nd Barnehurst Guides and Rangers, 1st and 4th Barnehurst Rainbows and 4th Northumberland Heath (St Paul's) Rainbows took part in the 'Guiding for Good' event, litter picking around the church grounds and the surrounding streets, pulling up weeds in the church grounds and the area in front of church, cleaning the hall windows in the kitchen, the small hall doors and the mirrors in the ladies' and disabled toilets and descaled the urn. They also donated harvest items and decorated boxes to put the harvest items in for BWA.

Well done to all of you

REGULARS

**COFFEE SHOP – every Tuesday in the Maxim Room
from 10am to 12pm**

POSTAGE STAMPS AND PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES -
Please keep saving these. Collecting boxes are in the
church and hall

GARDENING WORKING PARTIES - If you can help to
keep our grounds tidy please contact Phil:
Philip.church@virgin.net

UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX MASS

St Martin's welcomes Bexley's Ukrainian residents as they hold mass each Sunday from 1pm to 3pm. The mass is in Ukrainian and is led by an Orthodox Priest or Presbyter

SAFEGUARDING

TRAINING - Saturday 15th November 10am to 12pm in the Maxim Room. A basic training for anyone with a role at St Martin's or anyone just interested in seeing what safeguarding is all about. Tea and cake provided



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY SERVICE - Sunday 16th November at 10.30am.

Contact st.martins.mag@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the mailing list or if you have anything that you would like included in the next issue