



The Benefice of Crockham Hill and Westerham



News from Westerham

Sunday 21st December, Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00am, Book of Common Prayer Communion at Crockham Hill

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in modern language with hymns.
Please join us for refreshments and a chat afterwards. Everybody's welcome.

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25

6.00pm, Candle Lit Carol Service at Westerham

6.00pm, Nine Lessons and Carols at Crockham Hill

Wednesday 24th December, Christmas Eve

10am, Midweek Communion at Westerham—a said service

3pm, Crib Service at Westerham

4pm, Christingle Service at Crockham Hill

11.30pm, Midnight Mass at Westerham

Readings: Hebrews 1:1-4; John 1:1-14[16-18]

Thursday 25th December, Christmas Day

8am, Traditional Communion at Westerham

Readings: Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

10am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill

Readings: Hebrews 1:1-4; John 1:1-14[16-18]

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham (readings as at 8am service)

Sunday 28th December, First of Christmas/Holy Innocents

8am, Traditional Communion at Westerham

10am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham

Readings: Jeremiah 31:15-17; Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday 31st December

10am, Midweek Communion at Westerham

Sunday 4th January, The Epiphany

8.00am, Book of Common Prayer Communion at Crockham Hill

10.00am, Family Communion at Crockham Hill

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham

Readings: Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

No Choral Evensong

Wednesday 7th January

10am, Midweek Communion at Westerham

Sunday 11th January, Baptism of Christ

8am, Traditional Communion at Westerham

10am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill

10.30am, **2nd Sunday Service at Westerham**: our informal service of *word, prayer and praise*. This month our theme is the Epiphany. Come and join us – everybody's welcome. **Readings**: Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 3:13-end

Whoever you are, wherever you live, whatever life is like for you and however you experience yourself; regardless of money, status, (dis)ability or anything else, you are welcome to every service in both our churches.

Diary from Monday 22nd December to Saturday 10th January

Monday 22nd December at 12pm: Funeral of the late Mr Frederick Regan

Tuesday 23rd December at 7.45pm: Bell ringing practice

Wednesday 24th December and Tuesday 30th and Wednesday

31st December : 9.00—9.30am: Morning Prayer in the Resurrection Chapel

Our regular activities will now take a break as follows:

Tuesday Coffee Time until 6th January

No bell ringing practice on Tuesday 30th December

Wednesday Jigsaw Group until 7th January

Thursday choir practice until 8th January

The **Benefice Office will be closed** from 1pm on Christmas Eve until Monday 5th January.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to life at St Mary's over the past year and particularly for our special services, including during Advent and Christmas. None of what we do would be possible without many volunteers giving so generously of their time and talents.

Carol Concert—thank you from Dan: *I wanted to write to thank you all so very much for the role you each played in making Saturday evening such a success. It was, as ever, great fun and a wonderful way to kick off the festive season. I thought the choir and band sounded completely amazing and it was lovely to have a large, appreciative audience. Putting on something like that at this time of year is always challenging but working with such wonderful people makes it all so easy. You are all truly a delight to work with.*

Thank you to Dan, the choir, the Oxted Brass Band, those involved in organising and running the event, No 21 for selling tickets and everyone who attended.



Last weekend, we held our **December 2nd Sunday** service, where our theme was 'Jesus is the light of the world'. We had almost 60 adults and children coming together to sing, pray and do activities - including Christingle making. Thank you to everyone involved in our 2nd Sunday services. The next one is on Sunday 11th January at 10:30am, where the theme will be the Epiphany - everyone is very welcome to attend, and we look forward to seeing you there.

It's not too late to buy some St Mary's Christmas Cards! The specially designed card illustrates the Nativity scene in the east window and was crafted

by Bruce. Available in the coffee area after the 10.30 service on Sunday or from the Benefice Office: **£1 each**.

Bruce has kindly agreed for the design to be used for the **St Mary's single Christmas card**. It is available to sign at the back of the church on Sunday. You may remember that as an Eco Church we decided to have one card rather than sending individual ones - perhaps donate the money you save to your favourite charity (which could be St Mary's!).



Christmas Lights! Once again this year, Peter Cambridge is brightening London Road with his display of Christmas lights, and once again there's an opportunity to donate to Porchlight, a local Kent charity working with the homeless. The lights will be on **until Monday 5th January**. If you would like to donate, you can follow the link to the Just Giving page or use the QR code: [Christmas Lights for Porch-](#)

[light \(London Rd, Westerham\) - JustGiving](#)

Used postage stamps are being collected at Crockham Hill, in aid of the Bone Cancer Research Trust. If you have any to donate, please leave them in an envelope or bag on the table outside the Choir Vestry and we will pass them on.

Organ Update. Thank you to all of you who have supported the Organ Restoration Fund since it was launched. We're now waiting the grant of a faculty for the remainder of the work from the Diocese, and will be back raising funds in the New Year. In the meantime, a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year to you all.

It's Your Calling: The next day for exploring how God might be calling you is on **Saturday 28th February** at the St Benedict's Centre. God's people are a pilgrim people, and we are all called to on the move, spiritually and in vocation. The new year is the perfect moment to spend some time with others, asking God to show us what new thing he is calling us to. **Speak to Revd Dave if you think this might be for you.**

From Rev Dave: On top of all the thanks that other people have offered in this newsletter, I'd like to add mine. It's a privilege to minister among such a people of welcome and commitment to the loving purposes of God. As we prepare to welcome our new minister in 2026, I look forward to growing our vision of ministry and mission together as a Benefice.

A Prayer for Peace: God of peace and justice, we lift up to you the peoples of Ukraine, Gaza, the DR of Congo 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.



Deadline for newsletter items: 12 noon on Wednesday

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