



The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 14th December 2025

NEWSLETTER



Welcome to our newsletter for the Parish of All Saints', Birchington. I hope that it is providing you with sufficient information as part of our worshipping community. Please let me know if it is not. ***This is a newsletter for our church congregations so please send any notices or events you would like publicised*** to Mia preferably via email on the email address: **parishclerkasb@gmail.com** by **5pm on Wednesdays**. Thank you.

WEEK 3: Sunday 21st December–The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00am: Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion, All Saints Church.

9:30am Breakfast, 10:00am service: Christmas Family Together, Church House.

10:30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church.

10:30am: Christmas Sung Eucharist, St Thomas Church.

Running on empty?

Why don't you try a midweek service for some peace and calm:

Morning Prayer in All Saints in St. Margaret Chapel: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 9am. All are welcome.

"With Christ" Our "With Christ" services will be returning on 6th January 2026, but on **Tuesday 23rd December** we will be holding a special service on the theme of the Incarnation in **All Saints Church at 12:30PM.** If you enjoy Iona Community Worship, please do join us. There will be a shared lunch afterwards.

Advent Prayer

God of mercy,
help us to listen to your voice,
a voice that speaks of peace to all people.
Let the sound resonate within us,
until a whisper becomes a shout
which cannot be ignored.
Move us with your love,
so that our actions echo your peace,
and we may bring comfort
to those touched by conflict.
Fill us with your hope, O Lord, and
quiet the fear and hatred which divides us,
as we seek to build a future together,
of true and lasting peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Prince of
Peace,
Amen.

Catherine Gorman/CAFOD

Common Worship Bible Readings

OT: Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20 *or* 80.1-8; Isaiah 7.10-16.

NT: Romans 1.1-7; Matthew 1.18-end.

Common Worship Collect

Eternal God,
as Mary waited for the birth of your Son,
so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangs of this present
age
to see, with her, our great salvation
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BCP Bible Readings

NT: *Philippians 4.4-7; John 1.19-28.*

BCP Collect

O Lord, raise up (we pray thee) thy power, and
come among us, and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness,
we are sore let and hindered in running the race
that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and
mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through
the satisfaction of thy Son our Lord, to whom with
thee and the Holy Ghost be honour and glory,
world without end. Amen.

NOTICES Please pray for the following people,
**all known to God, who need our prayers and
for those who show them love and care:** Ian,
Susan, Bailey, Andy, John, Chris, Danney and
family, Phil, Paul, Mark, Rev. David N., Ann, Ted,
Rev. David R., and Stephen. We pray for the
homeless at this time of year. We give thanks to
God for all prayers that have been answered.

RIP: John. Please pray for Jean, his family and
friends.

RIP: Margaret. Please pray for her family and
friends.

RIP: Donna. Please pray for Ben, Marina, Gavin,
her close friend Christine, and her family.



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NEW & UPDATED FEATURES & EVENTS

Saturday 20th December: Carols by Candlelight, 6pm, All Saints Church

We do hope that you can join us as we hear the Christmas story and sing many of our favourite carols as we count down the days to Christmas Day. Enjoy the beauty of our candlelit church as we join together as a community.

Christingle Helpers

Thank you to all who have volunteered to make our Christingles for our service on Christmas Eve. We will be gathering on **Tuesday 23rd December at 9:30am in Church House** to make them.

PCC 'Reporting Back'

A Reporting Back Summary from the meeting held on 27th November is now available at the back of our church.

Coffee and Mince Pies at the Vicarage

Many thanks to all who came to the coffee and mince pies gathering. It was good to hear so much conversation and for new people to get to know others. Thank you too for the donations which will go towards the All Saints Restoration Fund.

St. Thomas Christmas Tree Exhibition

It was good to go along to the Christmas Tree Exhibition. So many varied trees and from different community organisations too. It was a joy to spend some time with the Rainbows on Wednesday evening and with our local primary school on Thursday afternoon. Thank you to Margaret and to all those who set up trees, supported and attended this event. All donations will be made to Christian Aid.

An Evensong Network.

Following a request from a member of our Consultative Forum for Evensong, from January 2026 we will be offering a Sunday Service at All Saints Church once a month at 4pm. Rev Mark will be contacting the Deanery to see if we could establish an Evensong Network.

If you would like to make a donation to support the life and work of our parish, please scan here:



Christmas Cards

Loraine will not be sending out Christmas cards this year, but will be making a donation to The Salvation Army for their Christmas appeal.

Churchyard Volunteers/War Grave Guardians

Rev Mark and the Churchwardens hosted a "thank you" event for the volunteers who tend the churchyard.

Project Architect – Thomas Ford

We are delighted to confirm that John Bailey, our Quinquennial Architect, has been appointed to this new role. He will lead the reordering plans at All Saints Church in our bid for National Lottery Heritage Funds.

Pastoral Friends Coffee Mornings in Church House at 11:00am – **Tuesday 13th and 27th January**. All welcome.

The next **Pastoral Friends Lunch** is on **Friday 16th January** in Kearns Hall – 12:30pm gather for 1pm lunch. Please contact Maureen on 07802 804134 to book and **let us know if you have any special dietary requirements in writing.**

REMINDERS

Safeguarding *is everyone's responsibility.*

If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues please contact Loraine, Parish Safeguarding Officer or Rev Mark as soon as possible who are the **designated safeguarding leads** for the Parish.

Telephone Numbers and Contact Details

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