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# St Mary Greenhithe Newsletter

*15th March 2026*

8.30am Quiet Communion

Leading & Presiding :

Revd Charlie

Sermunkle :

Revd Bart

10.30am - Family Café Church

Leading : Revd Charlie & Jen

ST MARY GREENHITHE  
**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 Rev Bart

### **The Message of Lent in a Difficult Season**

As we journey through Lent this year, the world around us feels unsettled.

News headlines speak of conflict between nations, political divisions, humanitarian crises, and deep uncertainty about the future. It can sometimes feel as though the noise of the world grows louder just as the Church invites us into quiet reflection. Yet perhaps this is precisely why the season of Lent matters so deeply.

Lent has always been a time when Christians step back, slow down, and look honestly at the state of our hearts and our world. Through prayer, fasting, and acts of generosity, we remember that our hope is not built on human power or political stability, but on God's enduring love. In a season of international unrest, that reminder becomes even more important.

The forty days of Lent mirror the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness. It was a place of testing, uncertainty, and solitude. But it was also the place where Jesus chose faithfulness over fear and trust over temptation. In many ways, our present moment can feel like a wilderness. We see suffering across the world and may wonder how peace can ever come. Yet the story of Lent tells us that God meets people in the difficult and sometimes lonely wilderness places, and I know this in a literal sense as I begin plans for my retreat into the Scottish Highlands this May!

As we approach Easter, we are reminded that the Christian story does not end with struggle or sorrow. The road to the cross is difficult, but it leads to resurrection. The promise of Easter is that light shines even in the darkest places, and that hope can rise where we least expect it.

This Lent, perhaps our calling is to become small signs of that hope. We can pray for those who live amid conflict. We can show kindness in our communities. We can choose patience over anger, compassion over indifference, and reconciliation over division.

The world may feel uncertain, but the message at the heart of our faith remains steady: God is at work even when we cannot see it clearly.

And so we continue our Lenten journey together, trusting that beyond the cross lies the empty tomb, and beyond every season of unrest lies the possibility of new life.

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## Monthly Service Pattern

*1st Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*10.30am Holy Communion*

*2nd Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*

*10.30am Holy Communion*

*3rd Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Holy Communion*  
*10.30am Family Café Church Service*  
*With Breakfast*

*4th Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*  
*10.30am Service of the Word*

*5th Sunday of the Month*

*8.30am Spoken Communion*  
*Joint service with St Peter & St Pauls*

[www.stmarygreenhithe.com](http://www.stmarygreenhithe.com)

01322 382031

[office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)

# Family Cafe Church Service

## 3rd Sunday of the Month at 10.30am



WORSHIP AND  
PRAYER



GOSPEL LED  
TEACHING



REFRESHMENTS  
FROM 10AM



INTERACTIVE



[www.stmarygreenhithe.com](http://www.stmarygreenhithe.com)



# **PRAYER**

**OUR MOST IMPORTANT MEETING OF THE MONTH**

**THIRD TUESDAY OF EVERY  
MONTH  
7.30-9pm  
PRAYING TOGETHER  
AS A COMMUNITY**

All other weekly meetings are asked  
not to meet on this third week of the  
month, so that this prayer meeting  
can be a priority.



A graphic consisting of two overlapping speech bubble shapes. The top one is orange and the bottom one is purple. The text 'UPCOMING EVENTS' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters inside the orange bubble.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**28th March - Spring Fayre, with Bike Repair**

**20<sup>th</sup> June - Summer raffle draw with BBQ**

**17<sup>th</sup> October - Quiz**

**28<sup>th</sup> November - Christmas Market**



[www.stmarygreenhithe.com](http://www.stmarygreenhithe.com)  
Facebook: StMaryGreenhithe  
01322 382031







JOIN US FOR OUR



# SPRING FAYRE

FUN GAMES | PRIZES | REFRESHMENTS |  
HOMEMADE CAKES | TOMBOLAS | THE  
TEDDY BEAR ZIP LINE

28TH MARCH 2026  
11AM - 2PM

AT ST MARYS  
CHURCH,  
GREENHITHE





The Events team are looking for your support in running our Spring Fayre.

We are in need of chocolate - any type, shape, size.  
Homemade cakes.

A simnel cake - decorated - for Guess the weight of the cake.

Volunteers on the day to help set up, run stalls and pack away.

If you are able to help and support in any way please speak to Jen, Marion, Margaret B or Margaret M.  
Thank you.



**TODDLER GROUP  
FOR 0-5'S**

**EVERY TUESDAY**  
DURING TERM TIME  
**9.30-11.30**

**ENTRANCE £3  
PER ADULT**

**COME ALONG AND MEET WITH  
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.**

**TOYS AND  
EQUIPMENT FOR A  
RANGE OF AGES**

**HEALTHY  
SNACK TIME**

**SONG TIME**



**CONTACT:**

**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 February 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 with most  
things, but we are always short of tinned  
meat products such as chilli, curry or chicken  
in sauce etc.**

**Did you know that you can also contribute**

financially which would help us with the  
everyday running costs of the charity.  
Donations can be made in cash or via the bank  
account;  
MCK  
Sort code 51-70-14  
Account Number 79029310

Thank you, Jude.

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**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

**DARTFORD** COMMUNITY  
BOROUGH COUNCIL FUND GRANT

01322 382031 | office@stmarygreenhithe.com

www.stmarygreenhithe.com | StMaryGreenhithe

Registered Charity No. 1180908



**ONE  
YOU**



## Dartford's Health Walks

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 soup and cakes.





**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

**DARTFORD** COMMUNITY  
BOROUGH COUNCIL FUND GRANT

01322 382031 | office@stmarygreenhithe.com

www.stmarygreenhithe.com | StMaryGreenhithe

Registered Charity No. 1180908

**Saturday 21st February**  
**There won't be any bike repairs until after**

# the Easter Fayre.



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](http://www.stmarygreenhithe.com) 01322 382031

Facebook: StMaryGreenhithe





# Home Communion



If you are unwell, or unable to get out and about, and would appreciate the opportunity to receive communion at home, please contact  
Revd Keith 01322 382444  
Or email the church office  
[office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)

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## PRAYER DIARIES

March Prayer Diary

[HERE](#)

Diocesan Prayer Diary for March

[HERE](#)

[Link to Sign up to Prayer Diary](#)

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## **HAPPENING AT ST PETER AND ST PAULS**

# FIVE STRING VOICES

Sunday 22nd March, 4 pm

Tadasuke Iijima, Violin



Colli Chan, Violin



Jordi Morell, Viola



Natalie Morell, Cello



Manuel dell'Oglio,  
Double Bass



Part of the proceeds go to  
**Big Church Repair fund**



*J.S. Bach Toccata and Fugue Dm*

*L. v. Beethoven Grosse Fugue*

*A. Dvorak Quintett Op.77*

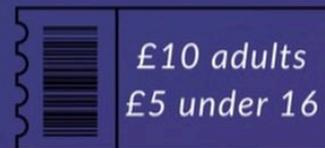
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SWAN ENSEMBLE

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St Peter & St Paul Church  
Swanscombe St, Swanscombe DA10 0BT



Tickets are limited, you can reserve yours at:  
[swan.concerts@gmail.com](mailto:swan.concerts@gmail.com)

07927546172 (Monday 11am-2pm and Tuesday, 9am-1pm)

[www.swan-ensemble.com](http://www.swan-ensemble.com)

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](http://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



the project and ways to donate on

our website.

[www.swanscombechurch.co.uk](http://www.swanscombechurch.co.uk)



**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

The main poster has a dark grey background. It features two circular logos at the top: 'ST MARY GREENHITHE' on the left and 'St Peter & St Paul Swanscombe' on the right. The central text is arranged in a curved banner for the event title and time, followed by a list of activities. A large, stylized black mustache graphic is behind the text. Below the mustache is a teal banner with the text 'The Man Shed' and 'A Men's Ministry' underneath it. At the bottom, contact information is provided.

Next meeting on the 5th April.

# 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



The Next Our Space will be in April – we are not meeting in March due to it being Mother's Day.

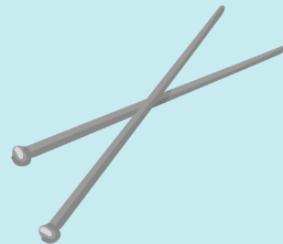
# Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



**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



# QUIZ



# BABY & ME



Expectant  
mum or have  
children under  
3?

Come and join  
us for fun,  
play and chat  
with friends



Thursday's  
in term time  
9.30am - 11.00am  
Church Centre,  
Swanscombe Street  
Cost £2 per adult  
All parents and  
carers welcome

Lots of fun and  
educational toys  
and song-time



As much tea and  
coffee as you like

Healthy snacks  
provided



Church Centre, Swanscombe Street  
admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk  
01773 546172



St Peter & St Paul

07921 51011  
[www.swanscombechurch.co.uk](http://www.swanscombechurch.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/StPeterStPaulSwanscombe](https://www.facebook.com/StPeterStPaulSwanscombe)



# HISTORY GROUP

MEETS ON THE FIRST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
7.15PM  
AT THE CHURCH CENTRE, SWANSCOMBE ST.  
£2 PER PERSON

CONTACT LESLEY HOWES FOR MORE INFORMATION 07774802880



**UPCOMING  
EVENTS**

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March -  
Taste of Home bring & share lunch**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March -  
Bingo**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June -  
Summer Fayre**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November -  
Christmas Fayre**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December -  
Star Service**





More information nearer each date on our  
website: [www.swanscombechurch.com](http://www.swanscombechurch.com)

## [Diocese of Rochester Job Vacancies](#)

Click [HERE](#) for more information

## **Diocese of Rochester Vision Update**

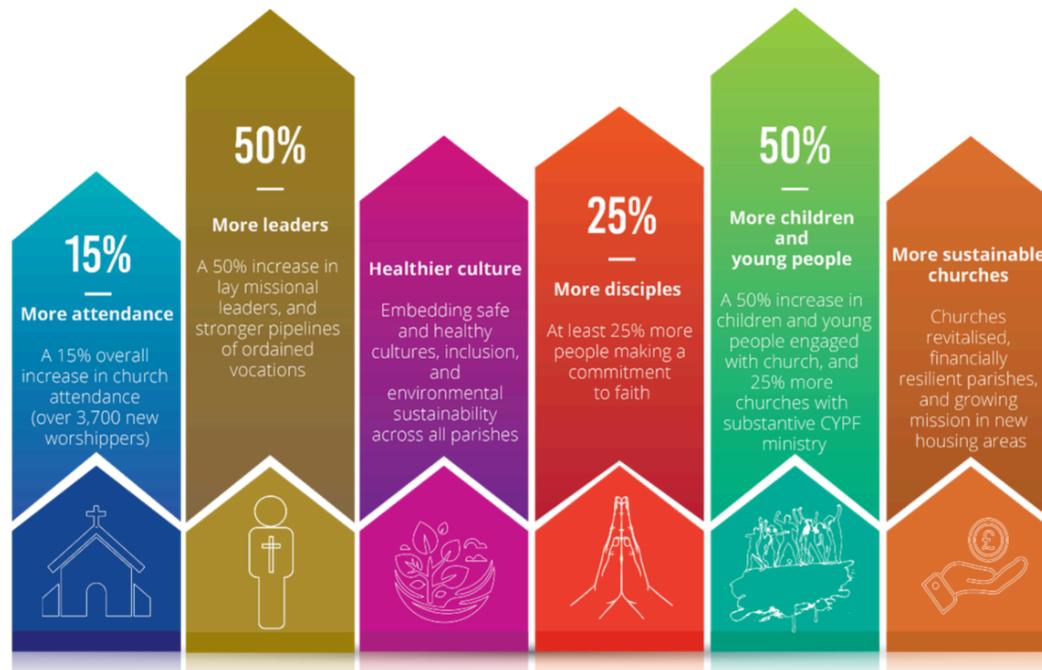
**Seeking first the Kingdom of God** we are called together by God to *change, serve and grow with compassion, courage and creativity.*

### **Called Together progress update now available**

In the latest update on the diocesan-wide Called Together vision, find out about the additional support now available to help support parishes in areas such as children and youth work, and care of buildings, as well as how we can pray for all

that is underway.  
Or pick up a printed sheet as you leave church  
today.

Please click [here](#) to go the website for more  
information.



## 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/greenhithe-st-mary-dartford/>



Website: [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk)

Email: [info@parishgiving.org.uk](mailto:info@parishgiving.org.uk) | Tel: 0333 002 1260

## 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 March rota  
[HERE](#)

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**MINISTRY TEAM**

**PRIEST**

***Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans***

(Day off - Monday)

Email - [revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com](mailto:revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com)

Phone - 01322 383160

**CURATE**

***Revd Bart Woodhouse***

(Day off Friday)

Email- [revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com](mailto:revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com)

Phone- 07383 334378

**LICENSED LAY MINISTERS**

**Mandy Holloway**

(Day off- Friday)

Email - [mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com)

**Jen White**

(Day off - Friday)

Email - [jen@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:jen@stmarygreenhithe.com)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR**

**Jen White**  
Phone - 01322 382031  
Email - [office@stmarygreenhithe.com](mailto:office@stmarygreenhithe.com)  
Office Hours - Wednesday 10am-2pm, Thursday 9am-2pm

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*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](#).



