

[View this email in your browser](#)



St Peter and St Paul Newsletter

3rd May 2026

Fifth Sunday of Easter

10am Holy Communion

Leading, Preaching & Presiding

Revd Bart

Readings -

Acts 7:55-60

1 Peter 2:2-10

Gospel: John 10:1-10



Reflection by Rev Charlie

My life seems to be about organizing, tidying and sorting at the moment. This includes organizing all the various jobs to be done before I move, who I need to hand over what to, sorting my house, deciding what to keep and what needs to go etc...

Today I have been trying to sort out my emails. You may be very good at keeping on top of these things, but I have let them all get a bit out of hand. I have been getting those warning emails that my mailbox is full, but I know the vast majority of what is sitting in my mailbox is rubbish, some of it years old. I needed to get on top of it, both to ensure that everything I need to deal with in the next couple of months gets done, but also to try and get into good patterns of behaviour for the future. That is what happens when you face transition isn't it? It is a time for a clear out, with a determination to be better in the future. For me today it is about how I manage my emails, but tomorrow it may well be about the amount of clutter in my house that I am determined to clear out, and not allow it to build up again. Next week it may well be about all the jobs and responsibilities I have taken on, far more than I should have done, and my determination to do better in the future and focus my efforts and energies in the necessary places, not commit to too much, and ensure that I keep space for myself and my family. These are all good ambitions, I know, but talk to me again in a year and I will let you know how I am doing.

But as I have been working through the emails, deleting literally thousands of them, I have been reflecting on how much unnecessary clutter we keep in our lives, whether that be emails, pieces of paper (I have filled the recycling bin to the brim recently), general nik-naks and tat, or - the clutter of thoughts that pervade our minds. How much do we hold on to that we really do not need and should just cast away? How many old arguments or disagreements, do we still dwell on occasionally? How many old voices undermining or undervaluing us do we still play over in our heads? How many moments of disappointment do we still relive, even though they are well in the past? Clutter takes many forms, and it is not just physical stuff, or digital in the case of email clutter. Our minds get cluttered too. And the problem with clutter is that it obscured the important stuff. In the past couple of days I have discovered important emails that I needed information from, or I needed to reply to. I have discovered important documents that I really needed but couldn't lay my hands on, only to find them in the wrong in-tray, or under a pile of other stuff. It is only when we clear away the unnecessary and unhelpful clutter that these things come to light. If we do this in our minds as well, maybe we can start to hear the positive voices more, and dwell on the positive moments and relationships.

This is not always an easy task. It takes time and commitment. But it has rewards as well. God does not want us drowning in clutter, in our environments or our minds. Too often the voice that gets drowned out in our heads is His voice, telling us that He made us, He loves us, we are not a mistake, He knows every hair on our head, nothing about us is hidden from Him, and with that full

knowledge he sent his son to die to bring us into full relationship with him. Why not spend some time decluttering your mind today, so that that voice can speak to you as clearly as possible. It is the most important one to listen to.

Services



Sunday Service Monthly Pattern

- 1st Sunday - 10am - Service of the Word*
- 2nd & 3rd Sunday - 10am - Holy Communion*
- 4th Sunday - 9:30am - Spoken Holy Communion*
- 10:30am - Family Service in the Church Centre
- 5th Sunday - 10am - Joint Service with St Mary Greenhithe*
(Check Website or Facebook for details)

www.swanscombechurch.co.uk

Facebook: StPeterStPaulSwanscombe

Our next Monthly All-Age Service is
Sunday, 24th May - Pentecost



Monthly All-Age Service
For All the Family

**4TH SUNDAY OF
THE MONTH**


**INFORMAL,
INTERACTIVE
TEACHING**

**REFRESHMENTS
FROM 10AM**



**SING-A-LONG
SONGS**



**SERVICE STARTS
AT 10:30AM**

WWW.SWANSCOMBECHURCH.CO.UK
FACEBOOK: STPETERSTPAULSWANSCOMBE



St Peter & St Paul's



2nd & 3rd
Sunday
of the
Month

10-10.45
in the
Church
Centre



(4th Sunday
of every
Month we
have an All
Age Service)

Sunday School

Come and learn bible stories and about
Jesus through story, craft and song

Before joining
the end of the
service in
church

Pre-schoolers must be accompanied by an adult



ST MARY GREENHITHE

THY KINGDOM COME

ASCENSION TO PENTECOST

WHO WILL YOU PRAY FOR?

St Peter & St Paul Swanscombe

THURS 14TH MAY TO SUN 24TH MAY

OPEN CHURCH WITH PRAYER LABYRINTH

SATURDAY 16TH MAY

1PM-8PM AT ST MARYS

1PM-6PM AT ST PETER & ST PAULS

EVERY MON TO SAT THROUGHOUT

MORNING PRAYER

7.30 AM AT ST MARY, GREENHITHE

8.30AM AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S, SWANSCOMBE

EVENING PRAYER

5.30 PM AT ST PETER AND ST PAUL'S, SWANSCOMBE

7.30PM AT ST MARY, GREENHITHE

Please let Rev Charlie know before the end of May if you are planning on coming to her Licensing Service. Thank you

LICENSING OF
REV CHARLIE LLOYD-EVANS



AS VICAR OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, HUGHENDEN

21ST JULY 2026 AT 7.30PM

ALL ARE WELCOME.

PLEASE EMAIL REV CHARLIE IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON ATTENDING
SO THAT WE CAN INFORM HUGHENDEN CHURCH OF NUMBERS.

REVCHARLIELLOYDEVANS@GMAIL.COM

CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER DIARY

Prayer Diary for April

[HERE](#)

Prayer Diary for May

[HERE](#)

There is the option to receive each daily entry by email, which arrives about 5.30am, so is available for you to read whenever your normal prayer time is. If you would like to receive this daily email you can subscribe through the button below:)

Subscribe to Daily Prayer Diary

Due to the generosity of our Church family and the wider community we are in a much better financial position - but we are incurring further costs as the true extent of repairs are being revealed. Are you able to help in any way in reaching this milestone?



Our Big Church Repair

St Peter & St Paul

*Preserving Sacred Heritage
for Generations to Come*

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



Deanery Confirmation Service

Sunday 24th May
at 4pm
St Mary, Stone

If you are interested in coming for Confirmation please speak to a member of the Ministry Team in the first instance.



*For our next fundraising event - the SUMMER FAYRE on the 6th June-
the team are looking for donations of toys and games. Please bring
any donations and give to Carol.*

Thank you.



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.



CURRENT LIFE GROUPS

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mondays | 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 |



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

Rev Charlie, Rev Bart
Mandy or Jen.

'Friends of St Peter & St Paul'

For more information, see the leaflets in Church or contact Revd
Charlie, the Church warden or the Administrator.

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

Or Scan the QR Code

Flower DONATIONS



Would you like to remember a loved one with flowers on their birthday, anniversary or other special occasion? You can do this by making a donation to the flower fund and flowers will be put in church by our team on the date requested. Please give 3 weeks notice. Contact Jen in the office in the first instance.



UPCOMING EVENTS

REGULAR EVENTS in the Church Centre



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

healthy snacks
provided





Next meeting - 5th May 2026

Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



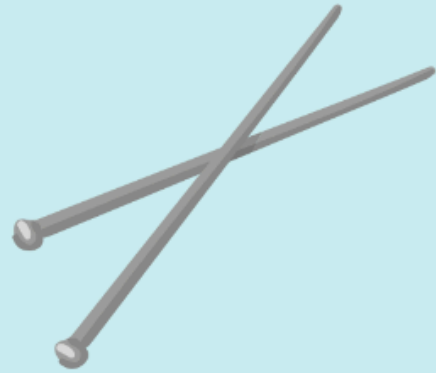
**GATHER TOGETHER FOR A RELAXING
KNITTING EXPERIENCE**

Come share your passion for knitting
with others!

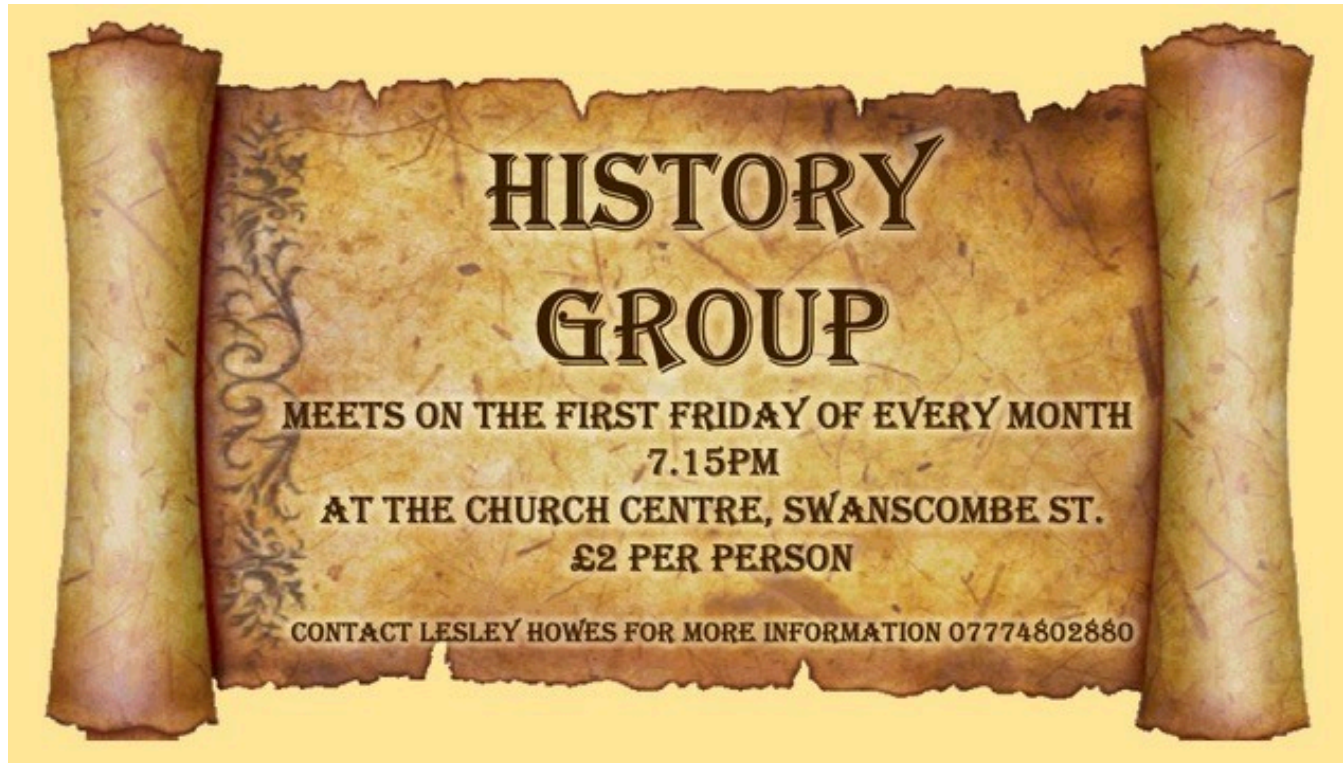
Join us every 1st
Tuesday of the
month from 2-
4pm. Bring your
favorite yarn and
enjoy a friendly
atmosphere filled



with creativity and
inspiration.



Next meeting 1st May 2026



Next meeting on Sunday 10th May



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

Next meeting Tuesday 12th May 2026



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

We will meet again on May 17th and have a Games night.

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



COMMUNITY INFORMATION



Do you have time on your hands and the ability to knit? Would you like to knit these special therapy toys for young children?

A worry monster is designed to discuss and reduce worries. Children write or draw their worry onto a piece of paper and then feed it to their worry monster. Once the monster has eaten it, the worry can then be discussed and shared with an adult. There are also self image monsters to help children work through these issues.

We are calling on all knitters to get involved in knitting these for donation to Walk Tall's Children's Therapy. Ann Duke, CEO of Walk Tall, says 'Our child-

specialist psychotherapists use them. Each child is given their own Worry Monster. It then becomes the child's friend and, as part of the therapeutic process, gobbles up all their worries. We have so many little Twinkles (from 3 years old upwards!!) who are in therapy because of the trauma/abuse/neglect they've suffered. The Worry Monsters are SO useful in externalising internal states.'

If you would like to knit these for donation to Walk Tall Children's Therapy, then the patterns are on our Church Website under News and Events. Or why not come along to St Peter and St Paul's Knit and Natter group on the first Tuesday of every month, from 2pm-4pm. Wool can be supplied. Please contact [Revd Charlie](#) if you would like more information.

[Click here for knitting patterns](#)

ACTIVITIES at ST MARY GREENHITHE



WEEKLY

Sticky Fingers

Every Tuesday 9.30am-11.30am (during term time)

Toddler group suitable from birth to 4 years.

Follow us on Facebook [SMG Family Ministry](#).

Seniors Afternoon Tea

Every Tuesday 2pm -4pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along for an afternoon of meeting and making friends and conversation.

Community Café.

Every Wednesday 9am-1pm. Do come and join us.

For more information see the [St Mary Greenhithe Facebook Page](#)

Monthly Coffee Morning
with crafts, Bike repairs and Edible Ebbsfleet planting
3rd Saturday of the month.
9.30-11.30am



**12th July - Summer raffle draw with
BBQ and farewell to Revd Charlie**

17th October - Quiz

28th November - Christmas Market





www.stmarygreenhithe.com
Facebook: StMaryGreenhithe
01322 382031



Current MCK Newsletter - February 2026

MCK Food Banks

We really appreciate your support of the MCK food banks and are very grateful for all the donations we receive.

We are currently well stocked due to the generosity of our community.

Did you know that you can always give financially to help with the everyday running costs of the charity. If you do wish to give this way please leave any donations in an envelope in the Church office.

Please do not donate pasta at the current time as we have a huge excess.

Thank you xx



MCK

Charity Reg No. 1204242

AFTERNOON TEA

SATURDAY 13TH JUNE 2026

2.00 – 4.30PM

£15 PER PERSON

(SPACES WILL BE BOOKED ON RECEIPT OF PAYMENT)

**HOSTED AT ST MARY GREENHITHE
MOUNTS ROAD DA9 9ND**

LIVE MUSIC

RAFFLE

Contact details for booking:



jude@mckcharity.co.uk

07512 460221

Rochester Diocese Vacancies

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.*

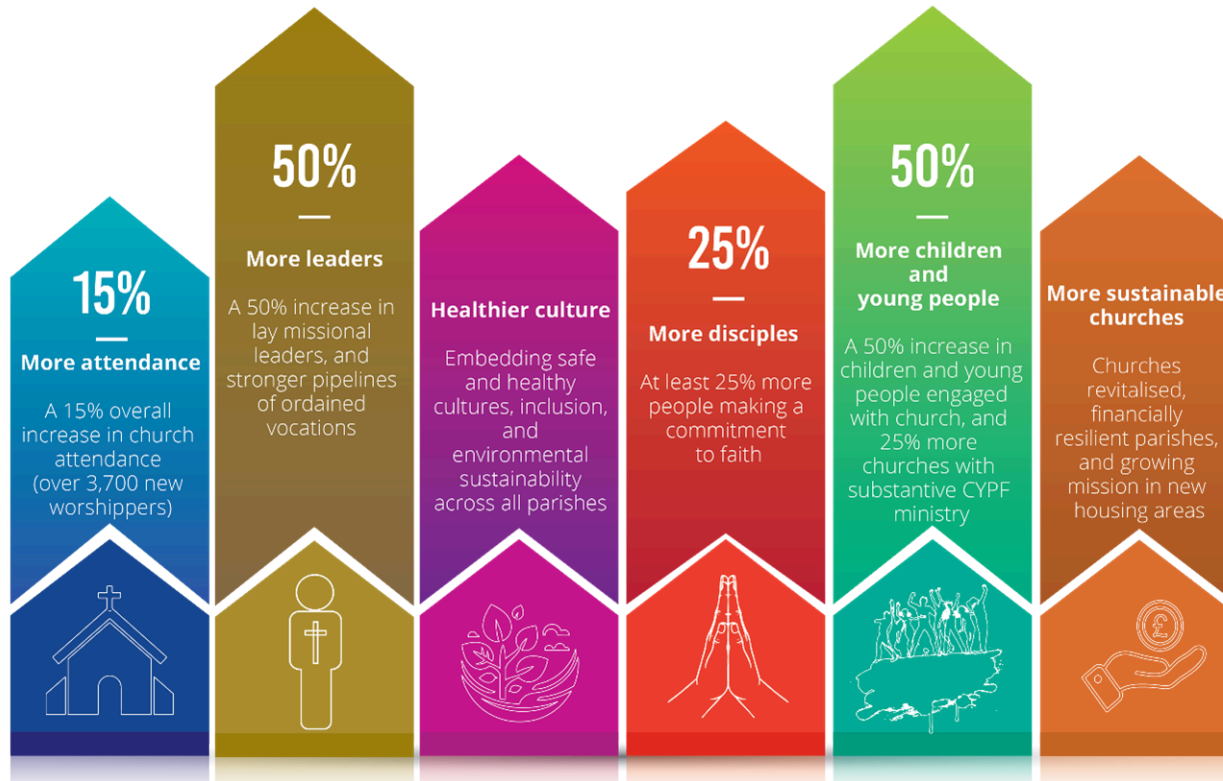
Did you know? In March 2025, the Diocese of Rochester secured nearly £11 million of funding from the National Church to support the Called Together vision.

This is a nine-year programme of work to grow missional churches, with missional leaders and missional disciples.

This is the largest external funding award the Diocese has received in support of mission and ministry. It is designed to enrich every church setting.

An update has just been shared about how work around the vision is progressing

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



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

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

Scan your code



church's dedicated landing page on the PGS website.
From here, it's simple to set up and manage your
regular giving online.



Visit: <https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/swanscombe-st-peter-w-st-paul-dartford/>



Website: www.parishgiving.org.uk

Email: info@parishgiving.org.uk | Tel: 0333 002 1260

Or donate here

DO YOU SHOP ONLINE? WOULD YOU LIKE AN EASY WAY RAISE FUNDS FOR ST PETER & ST PAUL?

If you answered yes to both of those questions then we would like to direct you to 'Easy Fundraising'. A huge range of online retailers have signed up with Easy Fundraising to donate a percentage of each purchase made with them to an organization of your choice. To take advantage of this you need to access the retailer through the Easy Fundraising page and then shop as normal.

(You get all prices and deals as normal 😊) Visit

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterstpaulswanscombe>



HELP US RAISE MORE FUNDS FOR
CHURCH - [we raised £20.75 with the
last batch of cartridges. Thank you.](#)

If you have a printer at home or at work and don't know what to do with the used cartridges, please drop them in the box in the Church Centre and we can receive up to £2 per cartridge.

Only print cartridges though no laser or
toner cartridges. Thank you to
everyone who donated.



We are an Eco-Church
Silver Award Winner!!

The overall aim of the Eco Church award scheme is to celebrate the ways that church communities have been engaging with caring for the earth as a key part of our Christian faith.

Have a chat with Steve, Helen or Charlie to find out more.

NEWSLETTER- SHARE THE NEWS

If you know of others who would be interested in receiving the St Peter and St Paul Newsletter, please ask them to email me. I do not have a comprehensive email list for the church, so I am relying on you sharing with others about this newsletter to expand its reach and ensure all are kept up to date with what is going on at St Peter and St Paul.

Thank you.

Revd Charlie

May 2026

| Date | Sunday | Leading/Preaching /Presiding | Old Testament | New Testament | Prayer | C/A | Chalice Server | Sidesperson | Refreshments | Tech | Open Church |
|-----------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------|--------|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 3rd May 10am | Fifth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion | Revd Bart | Lorna | Jackie | Hilary | Marion | x | Mary | Liz/Brenda | Andre | 7th May Carol Steve |
| 10th May 10am | Sixth Sunday of Easter Holy Communion & Baptisms | Revd Charlie Revd Bart | Steve | Odun | Daniela | x | Carol | Steve | Hilary/Mary | Dayo | 14th May Charlie Bart |
| 17th May 10am | Seventh Sunday of Easter Holy Communion | Revd Keith | Hilary | Andre | Steve | Marion | x | Mary | Helen/Margo | Andre | 21st May Hilary Norma |
| 24th May 9am 10am | Pentecost Spoken Communion Family Service | Revd Bart | x | x | Steve | x | Carol | Steve/Carol | Liz/Brenda | Dayo | 28th May Carol Steve |
| 31st May 10am | Trinity Sunday Joint Communion at SMG | Revd Charlie | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | |

CONTACT US

Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans

Priest-in-Charge

Day off is Monday

Email:- revcharlielloyddevans@gmail.com

Phone 01322 383160

Revd Bart Woodhouse

Curate

Day off is Friday

Email :- revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com

Phone 07383 334378

Church Wardens

Steve Groves

Email:- swgroves1@btinternet.com

Phone 01322 384184

Office Administrator

Jen White

Email:-admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk

Phone 07927 546172

Normal Office Hours are Monday 11am-2pm and Tuesday 9am - 1pm.

If you would like to make a donation to the ongoing mission and ministry of St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe, 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 PETER & ST PAUL

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Our mailing address is:

St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe The Rectory Swanscombe Street Swanscombe, Kent DA10 0JZ
United Kingdom

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