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St Peter and St Paul Newsletter

17th May 2026

Seventh Sunday of Easter

10am Holy Communion

Leading, Preaching & Presiding

Revd Keith

Readings -

Acts 1: 6-14

1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-10

Gospel: John 17:1-11



Reflection by Mandy.

The theme of this year's Novena of Thy Kingdom Come is 'God with Us', and how the Holy Spirit has been at work in the world.

Novena is the name for the nine days between Ascension and Pentecost and, since the beginning of the Church, they have been a time set aside for reflection and prayer. A time to watch and wait and pray, as the disciples did in Jerusalem, for what would happen next – the coming of the Holy Spirit.

In the introduction to this year's Novena booklet, Archbishop Sarah says that during that first Novena *"the disciples prayed for the coming of the Holy Spirit, that it would change them and give them the power to go out and share the good news."*

And that is what this year's Novena is about too.

Because prayer is not simply about asking God to change the world. I've come to realise that it's as much about asking God to change us."

We are encouraged to pray for five people close to us who don't yet know Jesus, or don't recognise his power in their lives.

But, as Archbishop Sarah says, *“prayer shapes the pray-er. God reshapes us, as the potter reshapes clay, moulding us into a truer reflection of his image...God wants to transform us into people who make the changes we want to see in the world. Because if we truly mean them our prayers have to be accompanied by action... with God's help, we hold the possibility of being the answer to our own prayer”*.

None of us can care more for the lives of our loved ones than God does. And He is in control. He has provided an answer to all that is wrong in the world through the death of his son Jesus. All sin and sickness and evil and selfishness – all that is wrong in the world was conquered through Jesus death, resurrection and ascension. Now he sits with his Father and calls his believers to sit with him, to praise and worship him and then to go out and be witnesses to others of the life and joy and peace that living with and worshipping him brings.

When Jesus was here on earth he set the example by praying regularly and often, sitting in God's presence, only then did he go out and do what his Father told him to do.

As we spend more time in God's presence we will become more like him, we will be transformed into a truer image of God and will reflect him to all who we meet and know.

As Teresa of Avila wrote:

*Christ has no body but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes with which he
looks compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which
He walks to do good.
Yours are the hands,
with which he blesses all the world
Christ has no body now on earth
but yours.*

For some quiet and reflective time during the next nine days come and visit the Prayer stations in both churches and the Labyrinth in St Mary's over the weekend. We will also pray Morning and Evening prayer in both churches every day except Sunday.

Have a blessed week.

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





**THURS
14TH MAY
TO
SUN 24TH
MAY**

**THY KINGDOM COME
ASCENSION TO PENTECOST
WHO WILL YOU PRAY FOR?**



**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**



Download the Free Thy Kingdom Come App



GET IT ON
Google Play



Download on the
App Store



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 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



Preserving Sacred Heritage
for Generations to Come



Join us for a

Cake Sale

on

Sunday 17th May

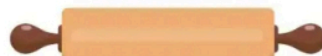
2026

11.30am - 12.30 pm

at

The Church Centre

Homemade cakes available to buy





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.





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



SUMMER FAIR

Saturday

*6th June 2026
1pm - 4pm*

We are kindly seeking donations of
the following items;

Sweets, new raffle prizes, bottles,
good condition childrens toys, good
quality bric a brac
cakes (on the day) prizes for games





Made with PosterMyWall.com





SUMMER FAIR



Saturday

*6th June 2026
1pm - 4pm*

The Church Centre

**RAFFLES GAMES HOT DOGS
SWEETS NEW KNITTED HOMEMADE CAKES
SUMMER RAFFLE PLANTS REFRESHMENTS
TOMBOLAS AND MUCH MORE !!!**



Made with PosterMyWall.com

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 - 2nd June 2026

Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



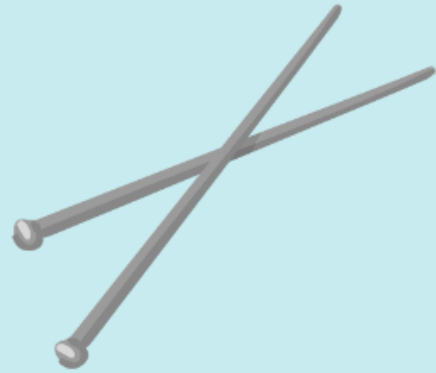
**GATHER TOGETHER FOR A RELAXING
KNITTING EXPERIENCE**

Come share your passion for knitting
with others!

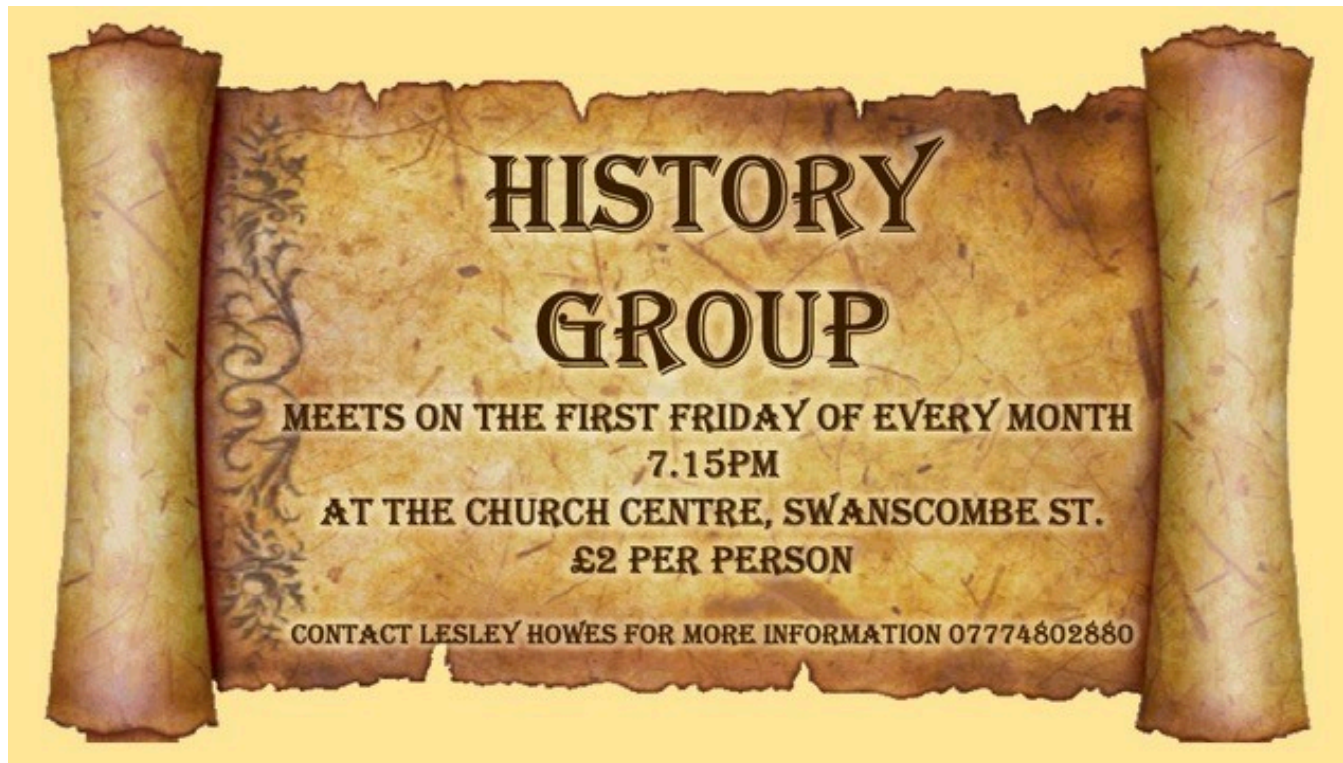
Join us every 1st
Tuesday of the
month from 2-
4pm. Bring your
favorite yarn and
enjoy a friendly
atmosphere filled



with creativity and
inspiration.



Next meeting 5th June 2026



Next meeting on Sunday 7th June



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 9th June 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



St Mary ✨
Greenhithe



Summer Raffle

Enter!
to win!

&
BBQ



ALONG WITH OUR GOODBYE TO CHARLIE & GARETH

12TH JULY 2026

12.30-4PM
ON THE CHURCH SITE.

£5 Per person
to cover food costs.

Please book via

www.stmarygreenhithe.com

01322 382031



ST MARY GREENHITHE *Annual Beach Trip*



**Broadstairs
Tuesday 25th August**

**The coaches will leave Bluewater coach park at 9.15am,
return from Broadstairs will be 4pm**

**£10 Per Person
Payable upon booking.**

**Subsidised by St Marys Church,
and additionally subsidised
by Dartford Lions**



**Book via the Church Office ;
office@stmarygreenhithe.co.uk
01322 382031**

or in the Community Cafe with Jen, Mandy or Bart.



**Dartford
Lions Club**

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.*

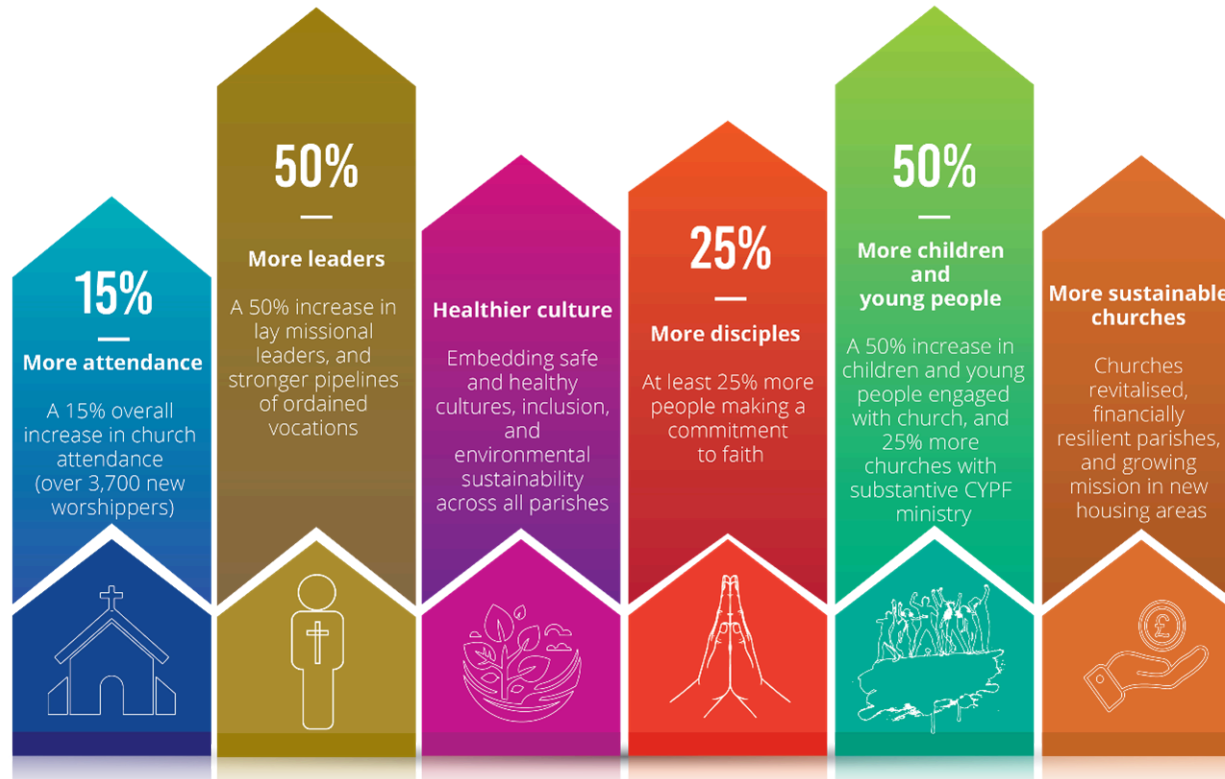
Did you know? In March 2025, the Diocese of Rochester secured nearly £11 million of funding from the National Church to support the Called Together vision.

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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