



St Peter and St Paul Newsletter

5th July 2026

Fifth Sunday after Trinity

10am Holy Communion

Leading, Preaching & Presiding
Revd Charlie

Readings-

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-36



Reflection by Mandy.

There comes a time in life, for every single one of us, when change is on the horizon and ...

Change!!!!

As the joke goes "How many vicars does it take to change a lightbulb?
Change!! We don't do change!!"

But in the life of any parish congregation there is always change. Babies are born, seasons go by, children grow, people grow older, couples meet and marry, families move away, older members pass away. New people arrive, others leave. The face of a church and a community is always changing.

The biggest change in the life of a parish congregation is the movement of its clergy. Every priest-in-charge, vicar or rector makes their imprint on the fabric of the congregation (and sometimes of the building!) and our Charlie is no different.

Charlie came to be priest-in-charge for both our churches at a time when we could not meet in person. It was a difficult start for her as she could not easily meet her new congregations, certainly not all in one place, and we could not give her the welcome party and hospitality we would all have liked to have laid on.

But, that time passed as time does, and we were able to get to know Charlie and Gareth, Chloe, Heather and Megan better.

Charlie and Gareth have become good friends to many. There has been much laughter and tears, joys and sorrows as we have shared each other's ups and downs, much patient endurance and a few tantrums along the way but the imprint and legacy Charlie leaves is, I think, a pattern of two churches, who were openly uneasy about each other 6 years ago and now work more closely together to support each other's activities. There are joint Bible study groups, shared community outreach in MCK, growing friendships and warm welcomes, love and generosity. There have also been major works on each building, some of which are still ongoing, but which are protecting the churches for the future. Each place is better for Charlie having been here.

Through Charlie's guidance and example our two churches have, I feel, become closer and more tolerant of each other. Friendships and acquaintances have been formed and strengthened that will help us to continue to be stronger together than apart as we face this new season.

Charlie came to Swanscombe and Greenhithe in the certainty that this is where God wanted her to be. We chose her in the certainty that this who God wanted to be here. God has his purposes in every new leader that he brings along, and they are purposes for growth. Under Charlie's leadership both our churches have grown and we have hope for the future. And as she, and Gareth and their family, move on to follow God's calling to pastures new, let us give thanks for the love, care, friendship, joy, laughter and honesty that they have shown to us. And let's continue to keep that legacy alive for as long as God continues to bless us with each other, to watch and pray together to see what, and who God has for this next season, and to embrace the changes ahead with courage and faith.

May God bless you Charlie, Gareth and your family in this new season. And thank you!!!!

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



Joint Service of Holy Communion

At St Mary Greenhithe
12th July 2026
10.30

To Say our Farewells to
Rev'd Charlie

The Minibus will be running from Swanscombe to Greenhithe. Please meet at the Church Centre at 9.45am



St Mary ✨
Greenhithe



*Enter!
to Win!*

Summer Raffle & 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



CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER DIARY

Prayer Diary for July

[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?



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





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.



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.

CURRENT LIFE GROUPS

Mondays	2pm	The Church Centre, Swanscombe
Tuesdays	7.30pm	Knockhall Road
Wednesdays	7.30pm	ON ZOOM
Thursdays	7.30pm	Hedge Place Road, Stone

UPCOMING EVENTS

REGULAR EVENTS in the Church Centre

Our Baby and Me team are in real need of extra support.

Are you able to make tea and coffee?

Prepare fruit for snacktime?

Sing Nursey Rhymes?

Or come along to help set up the hall by putting out the carpets and toys?

Anything you can do to lighten the load for the team would be gratefully received.

Please speak to Revd Bart or Carol.

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
07927 546172
www.swanscombechurch.co.uk
www.facebook.com/StPeterStPaulSwanscombe

St Peter & St Paul
Swanscombe

Next meeting - 7th July 2026

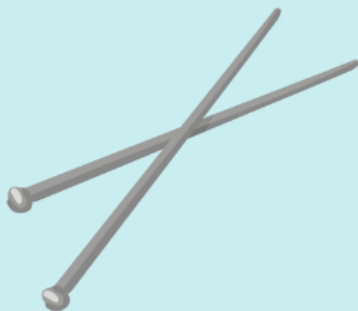
Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



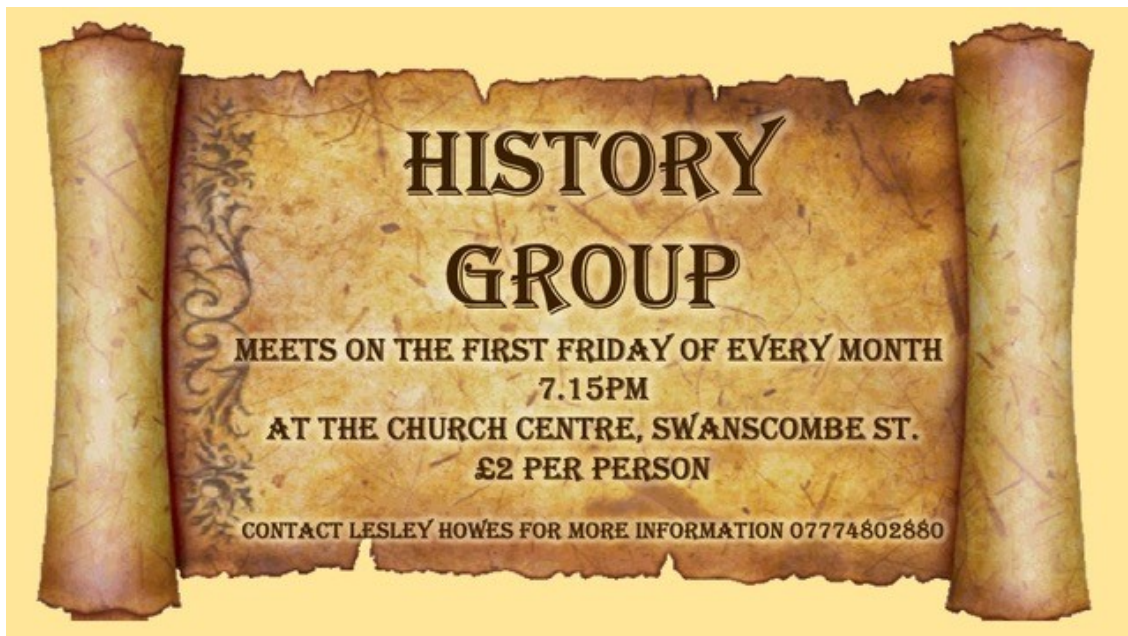
**GATHER TOGETHER FOR A RELAXING
KNITTING EXPERIENCE**

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 3rd July 2026



Next meeting on Sunday 5th July

A poster for 'The Man Shed' men's ministry. It features a dark grey background with a large, stylized black mustache graphic. In the top left corner is a circular logo for 'ST MARY GREENHITHE' with a cross. In the top right corner is a logo for 'St Peter & St Paul Swanscombe' featuring a cross. The main text is written in a white, slightly curved font:

First Sunday of the month
7.30PM at Swanscombe Church Hall
**FOOD
POOL
DARTS
GAMES
FELLOWSHIP**

A blue banner with white text is placed over the bottom of the mustache:

The Man Shed
A Men's Ministry

At the bottom, in white text, it says:

Further details contact Rev. Bart on 07383 334 378

Next meeting Tuesday 14th July 2026



Monthly Coffee Morning

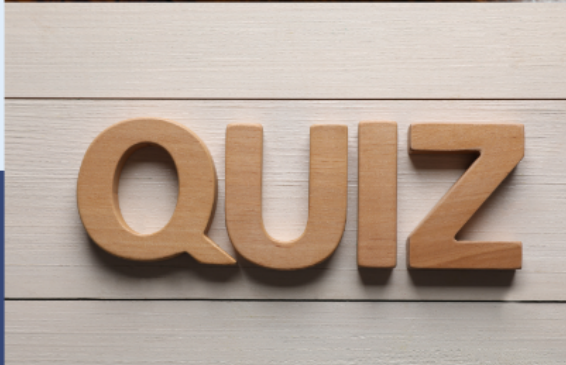
2nd Tuesday of the month
from
10-11.30am
At St Peter & St Pauls
Church Centre

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





Alpha



Curious about life and faith?

Join the conversation over **breakfast** as we explore life's big questions



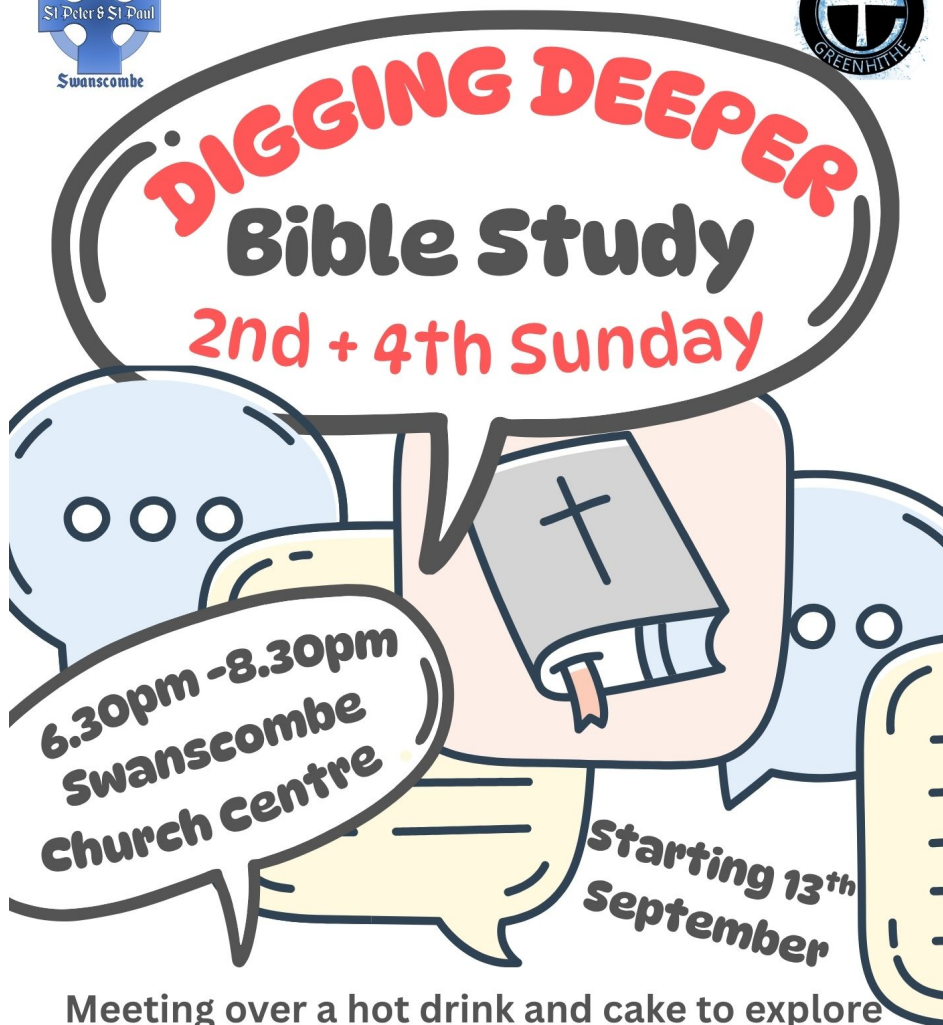
Starting Saturday
12th September

9.45am - 11.45am
The Church Centre
Swanscombe St.
Text/Phone Revd Bart
07383 334 378



Email: admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk





Meeting over a hot drink and cake to explore
Matthew's Gospel and have a conversation
about faith and ask our questions.

Contact - admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk
Rev. Bart - 07383 334 378

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.

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

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.*

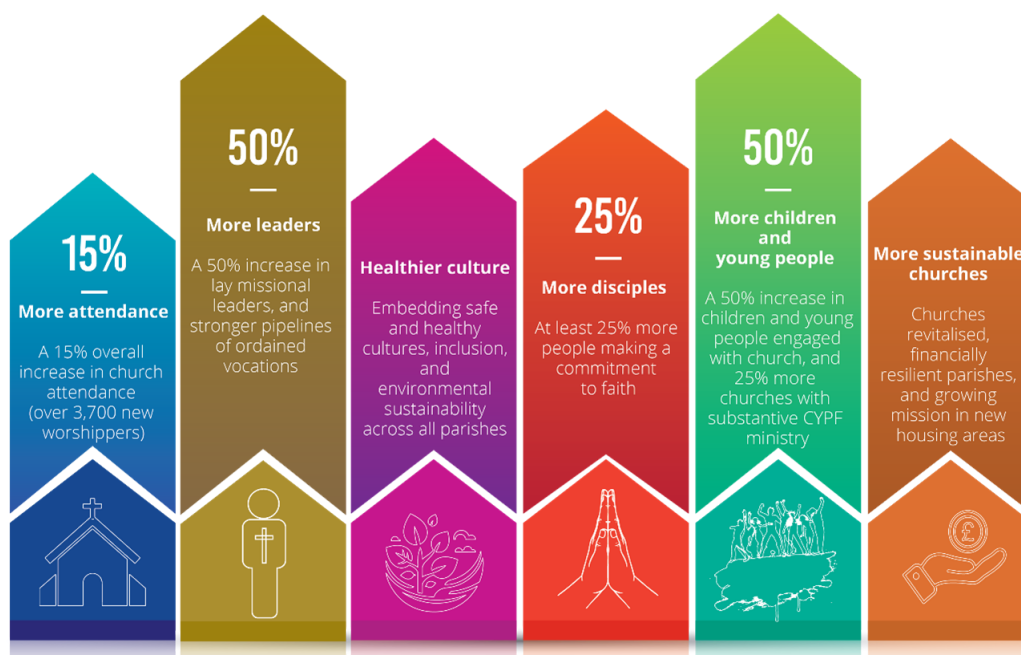
Did you know? In March 2025, the Diocese of Rochester secured nearly £11 million of funding from the National Church to support the Called Together vision.

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 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/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.

July 2026											
Date	Sunday	Leading/Preaching /Presiding	Old Testament	New Testament	Prayer	C/A	Chalice Server	Sidesperson	Refreshments	Tech	Open Church
5th July 10am	Holy Communion	Revd Charlie	Odun	Jackie	Hilary	Marion	x	Mary	Hilary/Mary	Andre	2nd July Charlie/ Bart
12th July 10.30am	Joint Holy Communion @ SMG	Revd Charlie	Steve	Lorna	x	x	x	x	x	x	9th July Hilary/ Norma
19th July 10am	Third Sunday after Trinity Holy Communion	Revd Bart	Hilary	Andre	Daniela	Marion	x	Carol/Steve	Helen/Margo	Dayo	16th July Bart
26th July 10.30am	Fourth Sunday after Trinity Family Service	Helen	x	x	x		x	x	Liz/Brenda	Andre	23rd July Carol/ Steve

CONTACT US

Ministry Team

Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans

Priest-in-Charge

Day off is Monday

Email:- revcharlielloydevans@gmail.com

Phone 01322 383160

Revd Bart Woodhouse

Curate

Day off is Friday

Email :- revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com

Phone 07383 334378

Mandy Holloway

Licensed Lay Minister

Email:- mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com

Jen White

Licensed Lay Minister

Email:- jen@stmarygreenhithe.com

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

Our mailing address is:

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

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

