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St Mary Greenhithe Newsletter

12th July 2026

8.30am Quiet Communion

Leading & Presiding : Revd Charlie

Sermunkle : Revd Bart

10.30am Joint Holy Communion

Leading, Preaching & Presiding :

Revd Charlie

Readings:

Genesis 25:19-34

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23



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
For
The
Week*



Reflection by Charlie

As I contemplated what to write in my final newsletter reflection as your priest, my very wise daughter suggested I look back on the very first reflection I wrote when I arrived. This was in a newsletter at the beginning of January 2021. I had

been here for about six weeks, and in that time, we had only managed to have a handful of physical services over the Christmas period, and we had just had to make the difficult decision to close the churches again and move back to online services. In some ways that feels like it was such a short time ago, but in others it feels like a lifetime. So much has happened in between. I look back at so many different things and changes through that time. There was the whole process of coming through the pandemic and re-establishing church services and activities. Starting up Baby and Me in Swanscombe. The roof project at St Mary's, and the amazing ways that God worked in that, uniting the church and the community around that goal, and bringing in the funds to allow it to proceed, and even bringing in the blessing of the changes in the church of removing the

uncomfortable pews and bringing in chairs, with all the flexibility that allows. As

I think back to that, it is the ways that we came together as a church that I particularly remember and feel blessed by. The massive job of removing pews (and some very enthusiastic destruction of some of them by the youth), and then the sanding down of the floor. This further then brings to mind the paint stripping in the chancel, another time of great church involvement together. As I think of St Peter and St Paul's I am reminded of the Font conservation project.

This was a project that the whole community supported in, as they were reminded of the long-standing beauty and heritage of the church, and the many generations of Swanscomites who had been baptised there. The focus on the heritage of the church continued as we began training up a new generation of bell ringers, and now the bells can be heard to ring out regularly across the town on Monday evening practice nights, as well many other celebrations across the year. Projects continued at Swanscombe, with the renovation of the car park, and more recently the major repair works to the church, which secured it for many more years to come. This is scheduled to finish by next Friday, my moving day. It is wonderful to see this coming to a conclusion before I move on. And at St Mary's the ongoing project of the heating and energy solution across the site continues, with blessing of significant help from the Church of England as we have been identified as a Demonstrator Church for Net Zero Carbon initiatives.

These are just some of significant activities over my time here, and there are many others – I have not even touched on the establishment and growth of the MCK charity. But if I look back over my time, and think what I have valued the most, it comes back to relationships. It is the people that I will miss; the times of worship and fellowship together; the sharing of life together; the support I received in times of difficulty; the celebrations in times of joy; the privilege of coming alongside you all in these times too. It all reminds me of the reason for which we are created, which is for relationship, with each other and with God.

As I looked back on that first reflection in January 2021, we were facing times of uncertainty and change, much like we are now. I had reflected on the difficulty I was having in getting to know you all during those times of enforced separation and isolation but was also looking towards the future when those relationships would grow. I had encouraged us all to look forward with confidence and expectation in what God would do among us, reminding us of his many blessings. Now we can look back on 5 ½ years of further blessings, and so can look forward too, knowing that our faithful God will continue the journey with us, even if our journeys take different routes for now. He has wonderful plans for us; new relationships to build; new opportunities to discover.

Thank you for the privilege of journeying with you all these past few years. I look forward to the times when our journeys will overlap in the years to come, and to the time when we meet again at our final destination. God Bless you all.



Joint Service of Holy Communion

At St Mary Greenhithe
12th July 2026
10.30

To Say our Farewells to Revd Charlie

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



Monthly Service Pattern

1st Sunday of the Month

8.30am Spoken Communion

2nd Sunday of the Month

10.30am Holy Communion

8.30am Spoken Communion

3rd Sunday of the Month

10.30am Holy Communion

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

01322 382031

office@stmarygreenhithe.com



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

Tuesdays 7.30pm

Wednesdays 7.30pm

Thursdays 7.30pm

The Church Centre, Swanscombe

Knockhall Road

ON ZOOM

Hedge Place Road, Stone



Swanscombe

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.

Anglican Daily Office Prayer



Monday & Friday
9.00am
St Mary Greenhithe

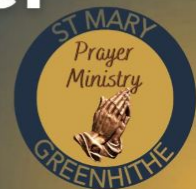
You are warmly invited to join us every

Wednesday at 7.30pm

Thursday at 6.30am

For gathered Prayer

St Marys Church, Greenhithe
All welcome



CHURCH EVENTS



**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





St Mary ✨
Greenhithe



Enter to Win!

Summer Raffle & BBQ

*TICKET
TICKET*

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

Raffle tickets are available from Jen, or a member of the Events team - Margaret B, Margaret M and Marion.



Alpha

GOOD
MORNING

GOT
QUESTIONS

TRY
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





**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



**ST MARY GREENHITHE
CHURCH HALL**
BEHIND THE CHURCH LONDON ROAD

CONTACT:-
OFFICE@STMARYGREENHITHE.COM
01322 382031
WWW.STMARYGREENHITHE.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STMARYGREENHITHE



Charity Reg No. 1204242

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 would like to be able to provide our families with snacky bits over the Summer Holidays – crisps, ice poles 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.



Summer Food and Fun

11am - 1pm

Friday 7th August - Manor School Swanscombe

Tuesday 11th August - St Mary Greenhithe Hall

Thursday 20th August - Church Centre Swanscombe

Tuesday 25th August - St Mary Greenhithe Hall

To book a place contact:
jude@mckcharity.co.uk or 07512 460221
stating names of child/ adult and any allergies.

Most suitable for 3 - 11 year olds



**Every Wednesday
9am-1pm**

St Mary Greenhithe

Tea, coffee, soup, bacon rolls & sausages, Homemade cakes & scones.

All are welcome along

Donations are welcome

Registered as a "Warm Space,"
supported by:

DARTFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY
FUND GRANT



01322 382031



office @stmarygreenhithe.com



www.stmarygreenhithe.com



StMaryGreenhithe



**ONE
YOU**



Dartford's Health Walks

The Walk for Health
Group meet every
Wednesday at
St Mary Greenhithe
Community Cafe
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 of
those with a similar age.**

Every Tuesday from 2-4pm

St Mary Greenhithe

Tea, Coffee, Sandwiches,
Homemade Cakes & Scones.

Donations are welcome

Just come along for a chat

Registered as a "Warm Space,"
supported by:

DARTFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITY
FUND GRANT



01322 382031



office @stmarygreenhithe.com



www.stmarygreenhithe.com



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



PRAYER DIARIES

July Prayer Diary
[HERE](#)

Link to Sign up to Prayer Diary

HAPPENING AT ST PETER AND ST PAULS



St Peter & St Paul

Swanscombe

BINGO NIGHT

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT
OF FUN AND GAMES
AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN WIN IN THE
BINGO OR THE RAFFLE 😊

FRIDAY 24TH JULY 2026

7.30 - 9PM

THE CHURCH CENTRE, SWANSCOMBE

£10 ENTRANCE
includes game book

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

Next meeting on the 2nd August

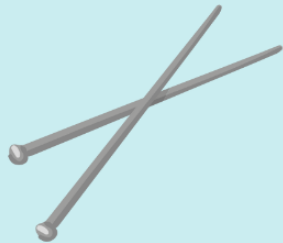
Join Our Cozy Knit & Knatter Group



**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

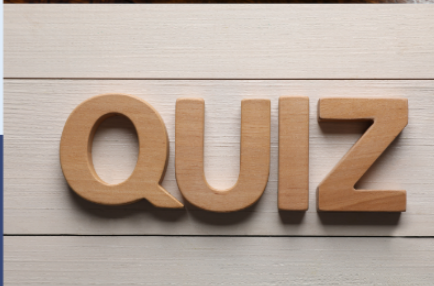
2nd Tuesday of the month
from
10-11.30am
At St Peter & St Pauls
Church Centre

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





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



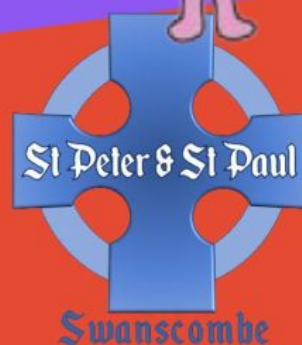
As much tea and
coffee as you like

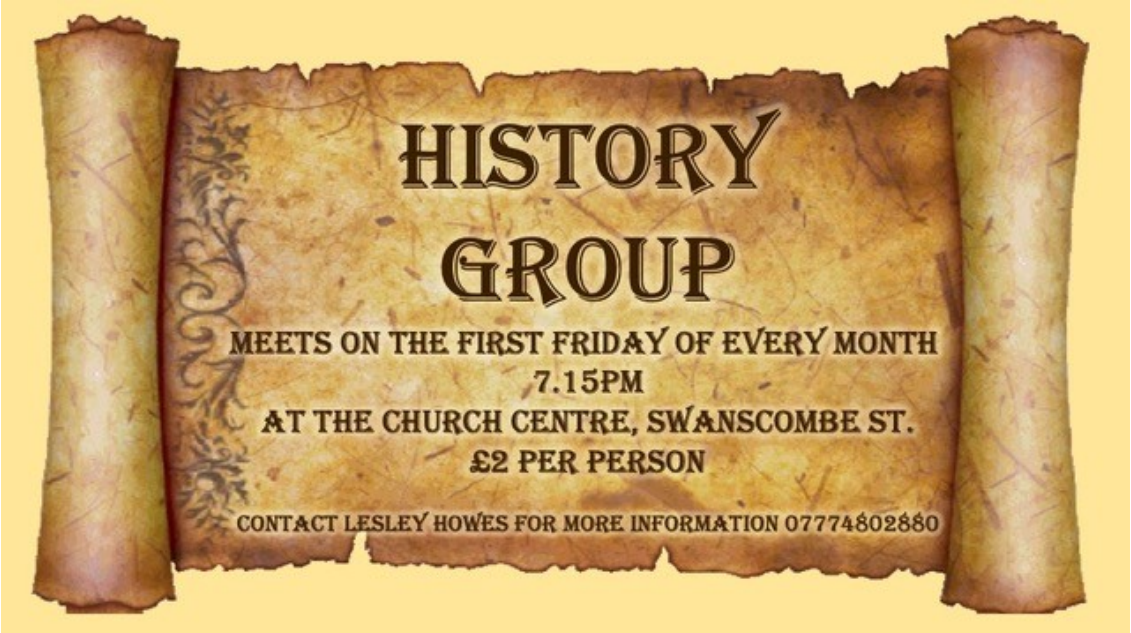
Healthy snacks
provided



Church Centre, Swanscombe Street
admin@swanscombechurch.co.uk
07927 546172

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





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 8th March -
Taste of Home bring & share lunch**

**Friday 13th March -
Bingo**

**Saturday 6th June -
Summer Fayre**

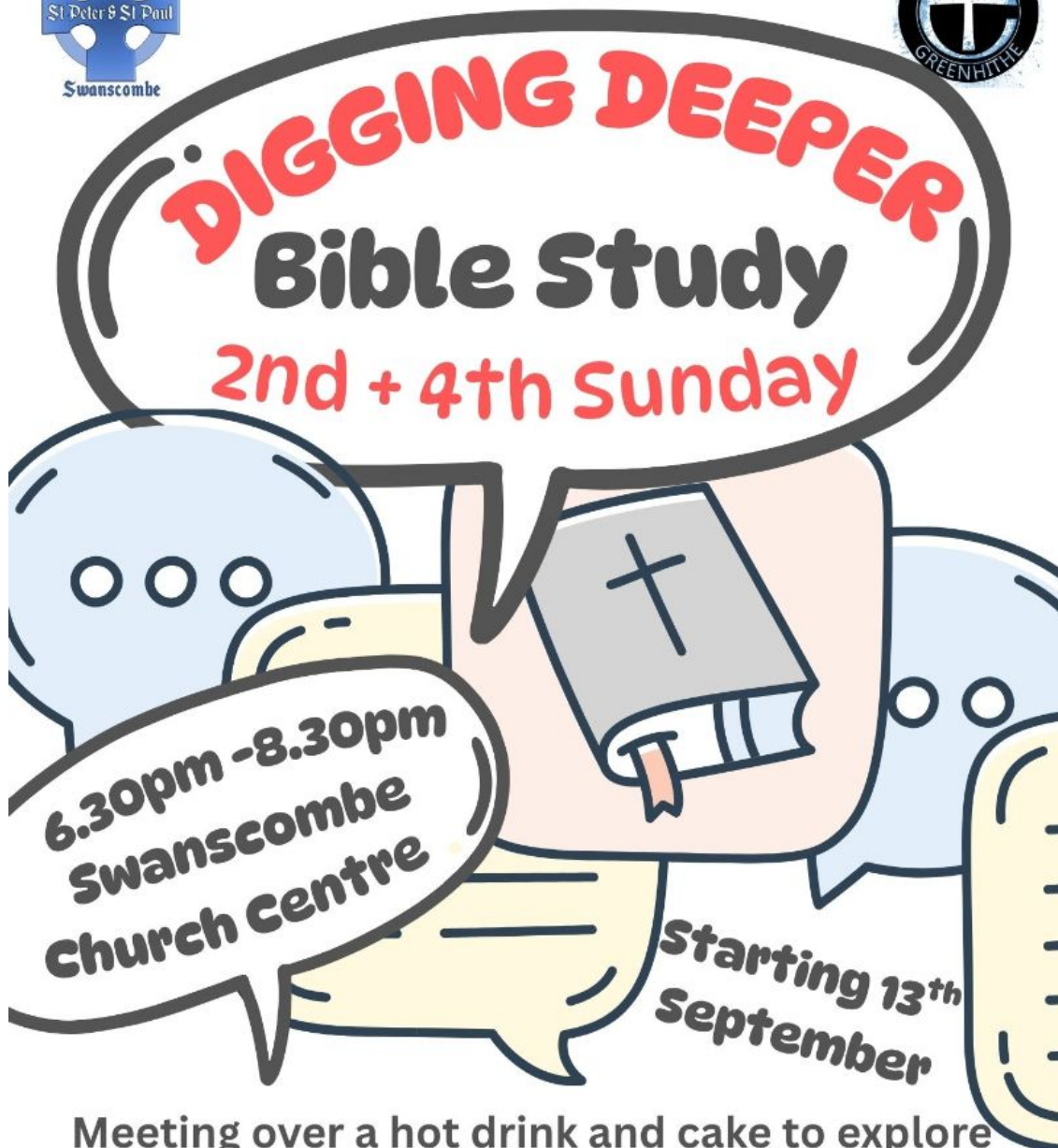
**Saturday 7th November -
Christmas Fayre**

**Sunday 6th December -
Star Service**



More information nearer each date on our
website: www.swanscombechurch.com

**This group will be starting in
September.**



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
Revd. Bart - 07383 334 378

[Diocese of Rochester Job Vacancies](#)

Click [HERE](#) for more information

Diocese of Rochester Vision **Update**

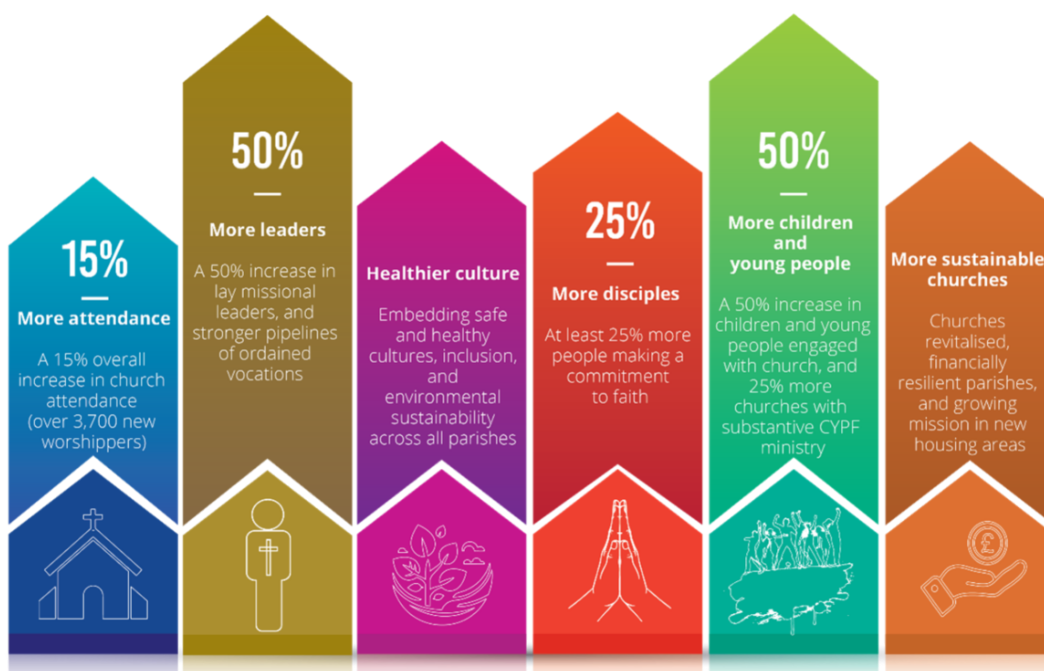
Seeking first the Kingdom of God we are called together by God to *change, serve and grow* with *compassion, courage and creativity*.

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

Email: 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 £18.45.



SERVICE ROTA.

Please find July's Rota

HERE

MINISTRY TEAM

PRIEST

Revd Charlie Lloyd-Evans

(Day off - Monday)

Email - revcharlielloyddevans@gmail.com

Phone - 01322 383160

CURATE

Revd Bart Woodhouse

(Day off Friday)

Email- revbartwoodhouse@gmail.com

Phone- 07383 334378

LICENSED LAY MINISTERS

Mandy Holloway

(Day off- Friday)

Email - mandy@stmarygreenhithe.com

Jen White

(Day off - Friday)

Email - jen@stmarygreenhithe.com

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Jen White

Phone - 01322 382031

Email - office@stmarygreenhithe.com

Office Hours - Wednesday 10am-2pm, Thursday 9am-2pm

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

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