



EASTRY AND WOODNESBOROUGH BENEFICE

Notices 9th August 2026

FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM - Rev H.Baldwin

On one of my many channel crossings the sea became so rough, and the wind so strong that the café, shop and bar were closed and passengers asked to stay seated. On entering Dover Harbour, the ship crashed against the harbour wall; the tug boats took control and with much banging, jolting and splintering of timber, safely docked the ship. Safe – relieved. The disciples were alone in the tossing boat that night when they were terrified by an apparition walking on the water, for that's what it seemed to be. They heard Jesus call, "Don't be afraid. It is I", Peter showed his trust in Jesus at once, asking to walk to him on the water. But as Peter miraculously walked on the water his focus of attention turned away from Jesus to his fear of the wind, and he began to sink. Although he took his eyes off Jesus, Peter didn't lose faith in Jesus. By turning his focus away from Jesus to fear of the wind, he allowed fear and doubt to affect the outcome. Our faith in Jesus or fear of the task before us is affected by choosing which to focus on. Thankfully Jesus knows how easily we sink, and today we are reminded that Jesus is willing and able to rescue us. Where is your focus? Is Jesus encouraging you to step out on the water in faith today and focus on him and his calling to you?

BENEFICE OFFICE

If you wish to contact the office please do so on:
eastry.benefice@gmail.com or 01304 611323 Office opening hours:
Wednesday 9am-12pm and Thursday 9am - 12pm

SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR August 2026

Please find below a schedule of services for August 2026.

Date	Day	Eastry	Northbourne	Staple	Tilmanstone	Woodnesborough
02/08/2026	Sunday	10am HC	10am HC	10am HC	8am BCP	10am Come and Praise
05/08/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
9/08/2026	Sunday	10am HC	10am Prayer and Praise 6:30pm Evensong			10am HC
12/08/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
16/08/2026	Sunday	10am Come and Worship	10am HC	10am HC	10am HC	
19/08/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
23/08/2026	Sunday	10am HC	10am Informal Service	10am Family Service		10am HC
26/08/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
30/08/2026	Sunday		10am HC BENEFICE SERVICE			

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

10th Sunday after Trinity

1 Kings 19. 9 - 18; Romans 10. 5 - 15; Matthew 14. 22 - 33

THE FUNERAL OF THE LATE JOHN LOWTHER

The funeral for John William Lowther will now take place in St Mary's Church, Eastry on Friday 14th August, not in St Mary's, Woodnesborough.

OTHER BENEFICE EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 11th August

10am Coffee Pot in Woodnesborough Church

2pm Tea & Natter - Holiday

Saturday 15th August

10am Coffee, cake and chat in Woodnesborough Church

FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Ill, Housebound & in need of support

Peter Coombe; Penny; Marian McCartney; Grace Wray; Dave and Doris Newman; Melanie and Alan North; Vera Hunt; Vera Mann; Rick Prior; Jo Smith; Alwn; Christopher Dent; Lee; Sylvia Sear; Hazel Marshall

Recently Departed

Brenda Burton; Colin Gothard; John Lowther; Bob Cock; Guy Calcutt

Please let the Benefice Office or Churchwardens know if you are aware of any of our congregation who are sick and would welcome a pastoral visit. Please also let the Benefice Office know when names on the sick list should be removed.

"THE BIBLE COURSE"

A new Bible Study group, Led by Sue Brearley, Wednesdays from 8th July 1.15 to 2.30pm in Eastry Church Hall, all Welcome, refreshments available. For more details please call Sue on 07843 739447

AFTERNOON TEA AT ST JAMES THE GREAT STAPLE

Join us for a delightful afternoon, with delicious cakes, andwiches and scones on Sunday 23rd August 1:30 - 4:30pm. Come and meet the Wildwood Trust. All in aid of Staple Church Fundraising

EASTRY MID-WEEK COMMUNION

Join us at 10am every Wednesday morning in Eastry Church Hall for our mid-week communion service. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served after the service.

PRAYER GROUPS

EASTRY

St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Eastry, every Friday at 11:30am. All welcome. For more information contact Sue Brearley on: 07843 739447

STAPLE

St James the Great, Staple, first Thursday of the month at 6pm in the Church for half an hour. In the winter the venue is in Ash - Please contact Vanessa for more details.

vanessanedderman@googlemail.com

NORTHBOURNE

St Augustine, Northbourne, every Thursday at 4:45pm. For more details please contact Anne Platt. anneplatt7@gmail.com

INEQE SAFEGUARDING GROUP

As you may be aware INEQE Safeguarding Group have been commissioned to conduct Independent Safeguarding Audits of the Church of England to make sure dioceses and cathedrals are doing all they can to create environments where everyone feels safe, valued and respected. As part of the audit process for Canterbury, INEQE hope to engage with parishioners and members of the parish community through an online survey which will act as a mechanism through which individuals can comment on any matters relevant to the Audit's focus. The survey is both anonymous (we are not seeking to identify you) and confidential (you will not be identified). We would therefore ask you to be open and honest with your responses. The survey results are received directly by INEQE's Audit Team and not by the Church of England.

The survey is now live and will close at 11.30 pm on Wednesday 2nd of September 2026.

To access the survey relevant to you please visit:
<https://ineqe.com/churchofengland/canterbury/>
or scan the QR code below.

