

St Saviour's Church, Brockley Rise:

an inclusive church

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER and OCTOBER 2026

A SEASON OF CREATION

Churches in this Diocese, and in many other places, have long marked a season of Creationtide at this time of year as an opportunity to thank God for creation and to think and pray about our Christian call to good stewardship of the environment.

But this year the General Synod of the Church of England has done a rare thing and approved a new Festival to be added to the Church calendar, The Festival of Creation in Christ, to be celebrated each year on the first Sunday in September. A 'Festival' on the Church's calendar is a day celebrated across the country with specially set readings and prayers provided. They mark out the central mysteries of the Christian Faith.

The Festival of Creation in Christ marks out our belief in God as Creator, the role of Father, Son and Holy Spirit in creation and the redemption by Christ and promised renewal of not just humanity but the whole of creation.

At St Saviour's we will keep the period from the beginning of September through to Harvest on 11th October as Creationtide, giving us a deeper opportunity to consider our response to God as Creator, including our own care of the environment and our shared endeavours through Eco Church.

The Festival of Creation in Christ will be celebrated at our 10am Parish Eucharist on Sunday 6th September. On Sunday 20th September our Messy Church (3-4pm in the Church Hall) will be creation themed and on Sunday 4th October we will have a special focus on Eco Church.

BACK TO SCHOOL, BACK TO CHURCH

Another September and another new school year! All sorts of activities are starting up again after a summer break, including our own Messy Church and Lunch Club.

To mark the restart and encourage us all to get back into church attendance and activities, we will once again be marking Back to Church Sunday with special invitations to our Parish Eucharist on Sunday 27th September, which will include the blessing of school and work bags and be followed by a Bring 'n' Share lunch - a picnic in the Churchyard if the weather is good. Do collect your invitation from church or take some to be delivered if you can, and do please come along and invite a friend to come with you.

PILGRIM COURSE

For six Thursdays this Autumn beginning on 15th October, St Saviour's will be hosting a module of the Church of England's Pilgrim Course about The Lord's Prayer.

Members of St Saviour's, St Hilda's and St Augustine's congregations are invited to take part in this simple study course which will be led by Fr David and Fr Julian from St Hilda's. Each session will start with a light supper followed by input and discussion. Course materials will be provided. The course is open to all and no prior knowledge is needed. Please let Fr David know if you would like to participate. You will get most out of it if you are able to attend all six sessions but are welcome even if you can't, or want to come to the first session to see what it's like before you commit to coming to the rest.

Pilgrim is the Church of England's own teaching and discipleship course. It aims to help every local church create a place where people can explore the Christian faith together and see how it can be lived out each day. It takes a different approach from other Christian programmes and approaches the great issues of faith not through persuasion, but participation in a pattern of contemplation and discussion.

HALL AND ROOMS FOR HIRE

We have lost a few of our regular lets this term and the Nursery have reduced their use from 5 days to 4 with a view to closing in December. We therefore need some new bookings to sustain our income.

The Church Hall is currently available for hire Monday, Thursday & Friday Evenings and Friday Daytime.

The Church and the room known as the "Choir Vestry" can also be hired at various times.

If you know of any groups looking for somewhere to meet, regularly or for a particular occasion. Please ask them to email savioursst@gmail.com or call 07561 287620.

We also hire the hall for Saturday Afternoon Children's Parties. These can be booked through Eric on 07598 040911

MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church starts again on Sunday 20th September with a special service focussed on creation and the environment to mark Creationtide.

Messy Church is really well received by the families that come but to make it sustainable, we want to attract more people. It's a really great event to invite people to who have little or no recent experience of church. It's a non-threatening, activity focussed way to explore faith ideas through playing games, doing crafts, hearing stories and sharing snacks. It's full of and features food! – refreshments for children and adults too.

If you have children or grandchildren of or near primary school age or younger bring them along! Or if you have friends that do, invite them to come. Join us 3-4pm on the third Sunday of every month in the Church Hall. All children are welcome accompanied by an adult.

DATES

Friday 4th September

Murder Mystery Dinner in church at 7:30pm.

Sunday 6th September

Festival of Creation in Christ, 10am Parish Eucharist

Sunday 13th September

Pub Club from 7:30pm in The General Napier.

Tuesday 15th September

Lunch Club, 12:30pm in the Scout Hut: Join us for a lovely home cooked lunch and great company! Please contact Kathleen or Kathryn to reserve a place.

Sunday 20th September

Messy Church Environment Special, 3-4pm in the Church Hall: Craft, stories, games and refreshment for children and their parents and carers. All Welcome, do invite others to come.

Tuesday 22nd September

PCC meeting, 7pm at the Vicarage

Thursday 24th September

Deanery Synod 7pm at St. Saviour's Church, followed by open meeting from 7:30pm with guest speaker, Paula Orr talking about her experiences as a human rights monitor in Palestine.

Saturday 26th September

Church cleaning, 10am

Sunday 27th September

Back to Church Sunday with Annual Bag Blessing, 10am Parish Eucharist. Followed by Bring n Share lunch – picnic if the weather is fine.

Sunday 4th October

10am Parish Eucharist focussed on Eco-Church

Thursday 8th October

Health and Safety Mission Working Group, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 11th October

Harvest Festival, 10am All-Age Parish Eucharist and Parade Service

Pub Club from 7:30pm in The Blyth Hill Tavern.

Thursday 15th October

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 1 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 18th October

Messy Church, 3-4pm in the Church Hall

Tuesday 20th October

Lunch Club, 12:30pm in the Scout Hut: Please contact Andrew, Kathleen or Kathryn to reserve a place.

Thursday 22nd October

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 2 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Thursday 29th October

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 3 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 1st November

All Saints' Day, 10am Parish Eucharist

Monday 2nd November

All Souls' Day, 7pm Requiem Mass

Tuesday 3rd November

Justice & Peace Mission Working Group, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Thursday 5th November

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 4 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday, 10am All-Age Parish Eucharist and Parade Service with Act of Remembrance.

Service of Thanksgiving for Loved Ones Departed, 5pm

Pub Club from 7:30pm in The General Napier.

Tuesday 10th November

PCC meeting, 7pm at the Vicarage

Thursday 12th November

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 5 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 15th November

Messy Church, 3-4pm in the Church Hall

Tuesday 17th November

Lunch Club, 12:30pm in the Scout Hut: Please contact Andrew, Kathleen or Kathryn to reserve a place.

Thursday 19th November

Pilgrim Course: The Lord's Prayer, Session 6 of 6, 7pm in the "choir vestry".

Sunday 22nd November

Patronal Festival of Christ the King, 10am Parish Eucharist followed by lunch.

JOKE

After a service, a stranger approached the priest and said "I'd like you to pray for my hearing".

The priest placed his hands on the man's ears and said a passionate, earnest prayer.

"How's your hearing now?" the priest asked.

Looking surprised, the man said "Well, it's not until tomorrow."

NEXT EDITION

The next newsletter will be for November and December. Any items for inclusion should be sent to Kathryn by Sunday 18th October.

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