



EASTRY AND WOODNESBOROUGH BENEFICE

Notices 13th September 2026

FROM THE MINISTRY TEAM - Rev. A. Brown

This month we join churches across the country in keeping the Season of Creation, from 1 September to the feast of St Francis on 4 October. The Bible focuses in on this in its opening pages. God places us in the garden "to till it and keep it". That Hebrew word Shamar is used for keep and is also the same word we hear in the blessing: "The Lord bless you and keep you". In this we are able to see that we are being asked to keep and care for the earth in the way that God keeps and cares for us. Last week at Northbourne we focused our thinking towards the identity of Christ in creation. How the world was created through him and all of it belongs to, and is part of him. That when we cause damage to creation and to each other we are inflicting that same wound on God. The Anglican Communion created what are known as the 5 Marks of Mission, of which one speaks of our calling as Christians to safeguard the integrity of creation. When we think of that word: safeguard we automatically apply it to people, and it is right to think of it in that way. But it belongs in the context of creation too. Caring for the earth is not merely a hobby for those who love gardening. It is part of loving Christ. So this month, go for a walk in and around the park, or at the seaside and for a moment stop and notice what beauty surrounds you. Then ask yourself how you might help to do your part for caring for creation and each other.

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 September 2026

Please find below a schedule of services for September 2026. If you require a gluten-free wafer at communion please let a Churchwarden know when you arrive for a communion service.

Date	Day	Eastry	Northbourne	Staple	Tilmanstone	Woodnesborough
02/09/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
06/09/2026	Sunday	10am HC	10am HC	10am HC	8am BCP	10am Come and Praise
09/09/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
13/09/2026	Sunday	10am HC	10am Prayer and Praise 6:30pm Evensong			10am HC
16/09/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
20/09/2026	Sunday	10am Come and Worship 5:30pm Patronal Festival Evensong	10am HC	10am HC	10am HC	
23/09/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				
27/09/2026	Sunday	8am HC 10am HC	10am Informal Service	10am Family Service		10am HC
30/09/2026	Wednesday	10am HC				

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

15th Sunday after Trinity

Genesis 50. 15 - 21; Romans 14. 1 - 12; Matthew 18. 21 - 35

OTHER BENEFICE EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tuesday 15th August

10am Coffee Pot in Woodnesborough Church

2pm Tea & Natter - Sing - a - long

Saturday 19th 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; Lee; Sylvia Sear; Hazel Marshall; Eastry House; The Old Vicarage Nursing Home, Tilmanstone;

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.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL EVENSONG

A Patronal festival evensong celebrating the feast of St Mary the Blessed Virgin will be held on Sunday 20th September at 5:30pm at St Mary the Blessed Virgin, Eastry. Preacher - Bishop Rose.

Refreshments will be held after the service. If you are interested in being part of the choir please contact the benefice office. All Welcome. If you would like to contribute a cake for the refreshments please bring it along to the church hall on Sunday 20th between 4 and 5pm.

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.

