



The Benefice of Crockham Hill and Westerham

Services

Sunday 26th September, Fourth of Creationtide

8.00am, Traditional Language Communion at Westerham

10.00am, Holy Communion at Crockham Hill: a relaxed, welcoming service in modern language with hymns. Please join us for refreshments and a chat afterwards.

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in modern language with hymns. Please join us for refreshments and a chat afterwards.

Readings: [Exodus 17:1-7](#); [Matthew 21:23-32](#)

Diary

Day	Time	This week in our churches
Tuesday	9am	Morning Prayer (Crockham Hill): we gather to hear the bible and pray for the world and each other.
	10am – 12 noon	Coffee Time at Westerham Community Hub in the John Fryth Room (JFR). Join us for tea, coffee, snacks and friendship
	2pm	Burial of ashes of the late Mrs Jean Roberts (Westerham)
	7.45pm	Bellringing practice
Wed - Sat	9am	Morning Prayer (Westerham) in the Resurrection Chapel. (Not Friday)
Wednesday	10am	Midweek Communion: a said service in one of the chapels
	10am – 12 noon	Jigsaw Group at Westerham Community Hub in the JFR. Come along for refreshments and a chat
Thursday	11am	Funeral of the late Mrs Alison Nuttall (Westerham)
	7pm	Choir practice in the John Fryth Room
Saturday	10.30am to 12.30pm	Macmillan Coffee Morning at Fullers Hill Church in Westerham - refreshments and raffle

Sunday 4th October, Harvest Festival and Feast of St Francis

Don't forget your donations for the Foodbanks supported by our parishes. If you can't make it to church today, you can always drop your donation off during the day on Saturday. **If you are able to stay after the 10.30am to move/sort Harvest donations, please let Sharon know.**

Readings: [Micah 6:6-8](#); [Luke 12:22-34](#)

No 8.00am service at Crockham Hill

10.00am, Harvest Eucharist at Crockham Hill: a relaxed, welcoming service in modern language with hymns. Please join us for refreshments and a chat afterwards.

10.30am, Holy Communion at Westerham: in modern language with hymns. Please join us for refreshments and a chat afterwards.

6.00pm: Choral Evensong at Westerham: a quiet, reflective service to end the weekend; this month with a Franciscan theme as we bring to an the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis.

Readings: [Isa 55](#); [Matthew 10:5-22](#)

Notices



Confirmations: There is still time to join our group who will shortly start preparing for the Confirmation Service on 22nd November in Sevenoaks. This is a chance to reaffirm your baptismal promises (or if you're not baptised do that too) in the presence of the Bishop, friends and Christians from all round the area. **If you're** over 12 yrs old and would like to be confirmed please talk to Revd Dave or Revd Emma, or leave your contact details

with the office. **The next Confirmation service is in November** in Sevenoaks.

It's Your Calling is a day for exploring God's calling. It looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, plus the Biblical understanding of vocation. It's a chance to meet others on a similar quest and to explore your sense of vocation in a structured way.

After the day you will have a chance to contact a Vocations Adviser for an informal chat. **The next day is on 31st October.** Details are

on the Diocesan Website or [follow this link](#). You will need Revd Dave to complete a form so please speak to him ASAP.

News

We're now more than halfway through the Season of Creation. We've celebrated the first ever Feast of Creation in Christ, marked the season in our ongoing liturgy and are collaborating with community groups to take the message outside the church. The Christian distinctive, whenever we consider what is happening in the world, is that we do it in hope – hope in a peace that the world cannot give. I think that that might be one of the two great tasks of the Church in our time.

Last Saturday I attended the diocesan Eco Conference, co-hosted by Rochester and Canterbury at Rochester. Again the point was made that in a world in crisis, we are the voice of hope. There were great workshops on churchyard and building management, sustainable flower arranging, green energy and decarboning, fairtrade, the Poverty and Hope appeal and much more. It was heartening that the vast majority of attendees were not ordained: with the theme being *Think Globally, Act Locally*, we will only be effective for God's good creation if ordinary church members feel empowered to act.

Please download and read the new Church of England teaching document, *Hope for All Creation*. [click here](#), visit the Church of England's website or download it via their Everyday Faith app.

Don't forget the National Emergency Briefing showing at Westerham Hall on 16th October and if you can't make that, watch this space for news of one at Crockham Hill Village Hall to be confirmed.

2nd Sunday in Creationtide

On 13th September, Adults and children came together to celebrate God's generosity within this year's Creationtide theme of 'Living Water'. *2nd Sunday* is a monthly all age, informal service of word, prayer and praise for people across the Benefice and beyond.



This month our songs and hymns included *Lord of All Creation* and *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. Everybody can get involved at *2nd Sunday!* Several people gave bible readings; prayerful craft activities included 'thank you' prayers in paper plates (reminding us that God provides for our needs). Other members enjoyed the chance for bible discussion and private prayer.

Our next *2nd Sunday* is on 11th October at 10:30am. Our theme *I am a new creation* will focus on baptism. Come and enjoy a warm welcome, relaxed atmosphere and inclusive worship.



Westerham Jigsaw Group

got involved in Creationtide, too, with this jigsaw of edible flowers – food for thought.

Why not come along and join them on Wednesday morning?

New playground and Annual Colour Run:

On 11th September, Revd Dave with members of Holy Trinity and the wider community went to the school to celebrate the opening of the new, improved, playground. Pupils and some adults took part in the annual fundraising Colour Run, which the Vicar cunningly avoided by being the first to test the new equipment! Congratulations to everyone involved in making these changes possible.



More good news for the Westerham Organ Project!

We're two thirds of the way there! At the end of August we heard, to our delight, that the Organ Fund had been awarded £19,000 by the Benefact Trust, bringing the total raised so far to well over 60% of what we need! The Benefact Trust allocates profits from its financial businesses, which includes our insurer, Ecclesiastical Insurance, to grants to churches and Christian charities. We are indeed fortunate to have been awarded such a substantial grant.

But, of course, the work does not stop. As you read this another application is winging its way to another grant making foundation and we're keeping our fingers crossed for a favourable reply. We mentioned in our last news item how heartened we were by generous donations from individuals - and these have continued. A huge thank you to you all. Look out in our next article for further news, events and progress.

Thank you to Yvonne, the Flower Guild and everyone who organised, helped and came along to the **Plant Sale and Coffee Morning at Westerham** last Saturday. It was a great opportunity to meet and chat and all those with green fingers were able to share their knowledge. Just over £300 was raised for church funds.

Well done to Catharine, Barbara and everyone who helped out on the bric-a-brac stall at the Westerham Country Fayre last Saturday. Over £1,300 was raised for church funds. A wonderful effort!

A Prayer for Peace: God of peace and justice, we pray for the peoples of Ukraine, the Middle East, Somalia and Sudan today. We pray for all the world's war zones, for the laying down of weapons and an end to calls of violence; for all those fearing tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them; for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, asking you to hold, protect and provide for them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

**Please send news and notices to the Benefice Office
by 12pm on Wednesdays**

Contact Us

Benefice Office 01959 561330; office@chwbenefice.org

Open Mon, Tues, Wed and Fri, 9am to 1pm

Closed Thursday

Website: www.chwbenefice.org

Vicar: Revd David Fox-Branch (rest day: Monday)

Associate Priest: Revd Emma Wylie TSSF

(working days Sunday – Wednesday)

People's Emergency Briefing

On the climate and nature crisis

Westerham



Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue, TN16 1BG
16th October. Door and bar from 7.15pm

**Come along watch the film
and join the discussion**

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www.nebriefing.org

A RECITAL OF ENGLISH SONG

WHERE THE ROAD LEADS

*A journey through
three centuries of English song*

WORKS BY
DOWLAND
CLARKE
BRITTEN
IRELAND
QUILTER
FINZI
BUTTERWORTH
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

OLIVER DAVIS

BARITONE

DANIEL EATON

PIANO

FRIDAY
24TH
OCTOBER
2026



ST. MARY'S
WESTERHAM

6.00
PM

RAISING MONEY FOR THE ORGAN RESTORATION



CANCER RESEARCH BRIDGE AFTERNOON

**The annual CRUK Bridge Afternoon will take
place on FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER 2026
1.30pm – 4.30pm at CROCKHAM HILL
VILLAGE HALL.**

Please arrive by 1.15pm

£20 per person

A delicious tea, raffle and prizes will be provided

**If you would like to attend please make up a
table and contact Gilly Baxendell to reserve a
place on 07850 222696, or
gillian.baxendell@gmail.com**

**Please state if you will be playing Chicago or
Rubber Bridge**