

Calendar of church events

Wednesdays 9:30am ... Morning prayer at St Nicholas Church (not 28th Oct)

Wed 30th Sep 11:00am ... LIFE Group at 70 Thanington Road

Sun 4th Oct 10:00am ... Morning Worship at St Nicholas Church

Mon 5th Oct 10:00am ... Clergy and warden's meeting at vicarage.

Wed 7th Oct 11:00am ... LIFE Group at Mill House, Station Rd, Chartham
8:00pm ... The Meeting Place team meeting at 26 Gipps Ave

Sun 11th Oct 10:00am ... Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church
6:00pm ... Pray for Thanington at St Faiths, New House Lane

Tue 13th Oct 7:30pm ... LIFE Group at Victoria Road.

Wed 14th Oct 11:00am ... LIFE Group at Mill House, Station Rd, Chartham.

Sun 18th Oct 10:00am ... Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church
2:00pm ... The Meeting Place at Saxon Fields (venue tbc)

Wed 21st Oct 7:00pm ... PCC meeting at St Nicholas Church hall (tbc)
11:00am ... LIFE Group at Mill House, Station Rd, Chartham

Sun 25th Oct 10:00am ... Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church
4:00pm ... Messy Church at St Nicholas Church

Tue 27th Oct 7:30pm ... LIFE Group at Victoria Road

Wed 28th Oct 11:00am ... LIFE Group at Mill House, Station Rd, Chartham

Thu 29th Oct 2:30pm ... Communion at Lark View Care home, Cockerling Rd

Looking Ahead

Sun 1st Nov 12:00pm ... Church Family Lunch after morning worship

Sat 7th Nov 11:00am ... Confirmation service at Canterbury Cathedral

Sun 8th Nov 10:00am ... Remembrance Sunday service at St Nicholas

Sun 20th Dec 6:00pm ... Carols by Candlelight



St Nicholas + St Faith

News sheet

October 2026



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From the vicar

***We are Thanington Parish Church:
A community of worship, welcome and witness to Christ,
who are learning from the past, living in the present and
looking to God's future.***

"How long will our new prime minister's honeymoon period last?" "When will the 'Burnham bounce' come back down to earth?" Britain has had six prime ministers in a little over a decade. Regardless of the performance of each person who took on that demanding role, many people agree that such a rapid succession of prime ministers doesn't encourage effective government.

Of course, there are times when leaders need to be challenged and held to account. And there are circumstances in which it is right for leaders to resign. Stability is not helpful if it simply prolongs poor leadership. However, we live in an age of rapid change, complex global issues, instant communication and relentless pressure for fast results. And there is a tendency to focus on what seems urgent at the expense of what is important. For a government to grapple with the biggest issues, they need to be in office long enough to take long-term decisions.

The Bible teaches the value of perseverance. For example, the apostle Paul writes, 'suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope' (Romans 5:3-4). Most important human qualities, such as patience, wisdom, trustworthiness, and faithfulness, develop slowly.

The late Chief Rabbi, Jonathan Sacks, often spoke of the need for a 'politics of hope' – a politics capable of looking beyond immediate frustrations towards a better future. Such hope is sustained not merely by promises of change, but by the patient work of delivering it. It requires leaders who stay the course, build trust over time, and undertake the slow work of renewal. And it requires the rest of us to be patient.

The same is true in the life and leadership of the church. If we want a more hopeful future for our church and our local community, we will need to work together for the long-term, acting with patience, perseverance and plenty of prayer.

Rev Nick White (vicar) Tel: 07562 560695 Email: revnickwhite@gmail.com

LIFE groups

Join a small group to explore the Bible together, talk about how it relates to everyday life, and encourage one another to Live In Faith Everyday.

- Every Wednesday 11am - 12:30pm, weekly, at Mill House, Station Rd, Chartham (home of John & Angela Field). But please note that on 30th September the venue will be 70 Thanington Road.
- Tuesday 7:30 - 9:00pm, on 13th and 27th October, at 16 Victoria Road (home of David and Elizabeth Weeks).

If you are interested in joining a group or just trying it out, please speak to Rev Nick in the first instance. And if you can't do Wednesday mornings or Tuesday evenings but are keen to be part of a LIFE group, please still speak to Rev Nick, as there may be scope to start a third group.

Church Family lunch

Our next church lunch will be on Sunday 1st November and you're invited! After the morning service, drinks will be served in the hall. Then we'll gather for lunch in the church around 12. No set charge but donations welcome. Sign-up sheet will be near the entrance.

Building Repairs

Repairs to the roof above the organ and to the nave ceiling / internal wall are progressing well. Hopefully the scaffold will be down by mid-October. A temporary roof repair has also been done above the side chapel. So the church building should be watertight as we move into autumn and winter.

Safeguarding matters

For all local church safeguarding matters, in the first instance please contact David Weeks (Parish Safeguarding Officer) on 07790 276642 or email safeguarding@thaningtonparishchurch.org.uk

Ways to give to Thanington Parish Church

The Bible encourages us to give gladly and generously, out of gratitude to God. There is a card reader available near the entrance. You can also give via our Parish Giving page by scanning this QR code or visit www.parishgiving.org.uk. Alternatively, you can put cash in the offering plate.

