The Benefice of Crockham Hill and Westerham

Benefice Newsletter

Sunday 1st November, The Feast of All Saints

8.00am, Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion at Crockham Hill: a spoken service using the beautiful language of the Book of Common Prayer

10.00am, Family Service 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: 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

6.00pm, Choral Vespers for the Departed: a service of worship, prayers, hymns and music in memory of those we love but see no more in this world. Please join us to light a candle to remember loved ones

Diary

Day	Time	What's on in our churches this week
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
	11am	**Funeral of the late Mrs Sue Easton (Crockham Hill)**
	7.45pm	**Bellringing practice**
Wed - Sat	9am	**Morning Prayer (Westerham)** in the Resurrection Chapel.
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	7pm	**NO choir practice**

Saturday	1.30 - 3.30pm	**Confirmation Prep** in the John Fyth Room

Sunday 8th November, Remembrance

8.00am, Traditional Communion at Westerham: a said service
10.50am, Remembrance service at Crockham Hill
10.55am, Remembrance service at Westerham. Starting at the War Memorial for the Act of Remembrance, reading of the Roll of Honour and the Two-Minute Silence. The service will then continue in church.

Other Notices

The Benefice Pastoral Care Team is a group of trained, caring people here to help anyone in need of prayers or a home visit or Holy Communion at home. If you or somebody you know are unable to come, we can bring church to you, so don't hesitate to ask. You can contact us via the Benefice Office or Barbara on 01959 561809.

Saturday 7th November, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Royal British Legion Coffee Morning at Fullers Hill Church Hall. Raffles, refreshments and a cake sale.

Bottle donations requested! The Flower Guild will be running a bottle stall at the Christmas Craft Market on **Saturday 14th November**. If you have anything suitable to donate (wine, soft drinks, toiletries, etc), please give them to Yvonne or leave with the Benefice Office.

Please note that the **Benefice Office will be closed** from Monday 9th to Friday 13th November inclusive, to **all** visitors. **The only exception will be emergencies**. Thank you.

The next meeting of the **Westerham PCC** will be on Wednesday 18th November at 7.30pm in the John Fryth Room. Please send any agenda items, with supporting papers, to the Benefice Office **by Monday 9th November**.

Confirmations: Our confirmation candidates have started their preparation. Please pray for them as they prepare to meet the Bishop on 22nd November and, if you can, put the date of the service in your diary to come along and support them. It starts at 4.00pm.

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop, Saturday 28th November still has places available at the afternoon session (1.30 – 3.30pm) in the John Fryth Room. Price £40, all materials included, plus tea/coffee and homemade cake. To book, please call 07500 244 655.

Brass cleaning at Westerham – from Sandra Johnson: the brass in the church has been cleaned regularly on an ad hoc basis for 3 years now. I am so pleased that people from church have volunteered to clean it. I would like to say thank you to all those who have volunteered and to ask for your help as Christmas is coming and the following items need cleaning:

- High altar cross**
- High altar candlesticks x 2 **
- Processional cross **
- Retiring collection plate**

** are restricted access and so please contact the office first.
The altar rail, sanctuary candle stands and lectern still need to be kept going as they often do. The side wall brasses have been done recently by Jono in September. Please see me if you wish to do some cleaning or contact Alyson in the Benefice Office.

News

People's Emergency Briefing (PEB). On 16th October Rachel, Laura and Ben from St Mary's along with Revd Emma presented the PEB at Westerham Hall as guests of The Westerham Society. A really good discussion followed. **What next?** The PEB call to get people to ask the government to do a full televised briefing to the nation will now be debated in Parliament after signatures on the Parliament website petition topped 100,000. Please add yours - https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/767687 - and also write to your MP asking them to lobby the government for a briefing: https://www.nebriefing.org/parliamentary-call .So far, 166 MPs are supporting the call, but our local ones are not among them. This is not a party political campaign, it is about loving God, by loving his creation, and loving our neighbour as ourselves by taking action to protect people from the harm of climate change, just as we wish to be protected.

Locally, you can also come along to the first Crockham Hill and Westerham Climate Care Collective at 7pm on 27th November in the John Fryth Room at Westerham

If you missed the showing, there is likely to be one in Crockham Hill soon (date tbc) and we will be showing it again after church in Westerham, probably on 15th or 22nd November. **Or** arrange a showing yourself! You can do a small, private one for friends or family, or a larger public one. All the info is on www.nebriefing.org

From the Westerham Foodbank: On behalf of the foodbank, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the very generous Harvest gifts donated this year. We are very grateful for the support from our community which allows us to continue helping those in need. **Liz**

News from the Westerham Organ Group: The Organ Fund Goes Digital! The organ and all it enables us to do is so important that it deserves a place of its own to tell its story. With a lot of help from a professional, we will be going live with a Facebook page and subsequently a website telling the story of our historic organ, chronicling its restoration and remaining as a record for those who come after us. We'll probably do what's called in the business a 'soft launch' - we won't make a big song and dance about it when it goes live, but gradually you'll hear more and more!

A Prayer for Peace: God of peace and justice, we pray for the peoples of Ukraine, the Middle East, Sudan and Yemen 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 (note that Revd Dave is taking a much-needed rest this week)
Associate Priest: Revd Emma Wylie TSSF
(working days Sunday – Wednesday)

Our clergy work very hard to help run the benefice and care for our communities. Sometimes emergencies come along and you urgently need to speak to a minister – and please feel free to do so whenever that is the case - but otherwise, please care for them and their families, too, by respecting their rest days and trying not to call or visit on days they don't work, thank you.

CHORAL VESPERS FOR THE DEPARTED



ST. MARY'S CHURCH WESTERHAM

SUNDAY 1ST NOVEMBER 2026
6PM

Music to include three movements from the Faure Requiem, Magnificat by Orlando Gibbons and some well loved hymns

PLEASE DO JOIN US AND LIGHT A CANDLE FOR YOUR LOVED ONES


St Mary's Church
The Green, Westerham TN16 1AS
Christmas Craft Market
Saturday 14th November
11am to 3pm
A wide selection of stalls selling hand-crafted items - ideal for Christmas gifts
Refreshments available
Everybody's welcome

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Ceilidh
for Cancer Research in Crockham Hill

Saturday 14th November 2026
7.30 pm to 11.00 pm



Award winning caller John Carver

£35 (includes food)

Crockham Hill Village Hall

Email for tickets

oxtedwesterhamcruk@gmail.com