



ST MARTIN'S CHURCH BARNEHURST

PARISH NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025

Eucharist services each week at 10.30am followed by refreshments
The next non eucharist Family Service will be our Harvest Service on 12th October
All services are followed with refreshments
Click [here](#) for the full calendar of Family Services in 2025

VICARS VIEW

Celebrating the Harvest: A Season of Gratitude

As the days shorten and the leaves begin to turn, we find ourselves once again in the season of harvest, a time traditionally marked by thanksgiving, community, and reflection.

Harvest is more than just the gathering of crops; it is a moment to pause and give thanks for the abundance of God's creation. In our busy modern lives, it's easy to overlook the rhythms of the natural world. Yet the harvest reminds us that we are deeply connected to the land, to each other, and to the God who provides for all our needs.

In the Bible, harvest is often used as a symbol of blessing and spiritual fruitfulness. Jesus himself spoke of the fields "ripe for harvest" (John 4:35), urging his followers to be workers in the spiritual fields of compassion, justice, and love. Whether or not we work the land ourselves, harvest invites us to reflect on the fruits of our own lives. What have we sown this past year? What has grown? And what can we share with others?

As we gather in church and in our communities this harvest season, may we do so with thankful hearts, not only for food and shelter, but for friendship, faith, and the opportunity to serve one another. And may we be moved to share our blessings with those in need, echoing the generosity of the God who gives so freely.

"You shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the Lord your God for the good land he has given you."
— Deuteronomy 8:10

Wishing You, Love, Life, Peace and Blessings
Fr. Gareth

GOSPELS FOR OCTOBER

5 th October 2025	Luke 17. 5-10
12 th October 2025	Luke 17. 11-19
19 th October 2025	Luke 16. 1-13
26 th October 2025	Luke 18. 1-8

COLLECT FOR OCTOBER

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness, and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
Amen

In October we ask you to pray for everyone living or working in Bedonwell Road, Bowness Road, Heversham Road, Lane End, Long Lane, Masons Close, Pelham Road, Rydal Drive, Silverdale Road and The Chase

We also ask you to remember the following people in your prayers and keep them in your thoughts: Andrew, Angela, David, Elizabeth, Joan, John, Joyce, Keith, Mary, Neil, Rob, and all who are suffering in body, mind and spirit.

If you have any specific prayer requests or an approaching significant special event, please let us know when so that we can add it to our prayer list at the appropriate time.

Vicar: Father Gareth Bowen - Rest day: Monday
Vicarage: 93 Pelham Road, Barnehurst DA7 4LY
st.martins.barnehurst@gmail.com

fathergareth@me.com 01322 523344 / 07775 674504
St.Martin's Church: Erith Road, Barnehurst DA7 6LE
www.aChurchNearYou.com/saint-martins-barnehurst



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HARVEST FESTIVAL

Our Harvest service is at 10.30am on Sunday 12th October when we will once again be supporting Bexley Women's Aid. Helen, a member of the local refuge staff and an excellent speaker, will be taking the sermon slot.

Helen will tell us about the refuge but she will also explain the preventative work the staff are doing with children and young adults to help them understand healthy relationships and to spot any warning signs of the beginning of a controlling situation which could lead to Domestic Abuse.

Helen will be bringing leaflets and prompt cards for people to take away. Some are aimed at teenagers and some are to help parents or grandparents see the signs to look for. Please come along yourselves and invite friends & family to join us, especially teenagers & young adults. It will be a service of hymns and prayers, but no Eucharist, so all should be able to feel comfortable.

We are collecting items of cleaning cloths, antibacterial sprays, washing up liquid, tea, coffee, hot chocolate, foil and cling film for the refuge staff to give as starter packs for new families arriving and also for those leaving the refuge to set up on their own. Helen will be taking all contributions away after the service.

Please come if you can, we would love to see you

CAMEO (MU)

Our next CAMEO meeting is on **Monday 13th October at The Travellers' Home at 12.30pm**. If members would like to join us, please let Jackie know by Wednesday 8th October, when she will be making the booking. Jackie's details are in the latest email sent to the group.

FUNDRAISING

Last week's Quiz night for the Samaritans and St Martin's Players raised £474 and sales of books and jigsaws at the recent Book Fair and Family Fun Day raised £75

Thanks to everyone who supported these events

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOX OPENING

If you still have a donation you would like to send to The Children's Society, any cash or cheques made payable to the society would be very welcome in the next two weeks. Please pass money or cheques to Heather.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH MONTHLY DRAW - £1 Per ticket

Email: stmartins.monthlydraw@gmail.com

Drawn on Sunday 31st August 2025

£25 Elizabeth Miller, £10 Jan Hailstone, £5 Julia Jamieson

£5 Heather Suggitt

Drawn on Sunday 28th September 2025

£25 Richard Storey, £10 Mark Jamieson, £5 Deborah Ingram

£5 Jan Hailstone

Contact st.martins.mag@gmail.com to add or remove someone from the mailing list or if you have anything that you would like included in the next issue



If you would like to volunteer to help at this event please add your name to the list at the back of church or reply to the Newsletter email address