



The Parish of All Saints', Birchington Sunday 4th December 2022

Welcome to our newsletter for the Parish of All Saints', Birchington. I hope that it is providing you with sufficient information as part of our worshipping community. Please let me know if it is not. ***This is a newsletter for our church congregations so please send any notices or events you would like publicised*** to Rev Mark preferably via email on the new email address: birchnewsletter5@gmail.com by **5pm on Wednesdays**. Thank you.

TODAY: 4pm: Birchington Churches Together Advent & Christmas Service at The Village Centre.

SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK:

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 11th December:

8am: Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion, All Saints.

10.30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints.

10.30am: Morning Prayer, St Thomas.

Tuesday 13th December:

10am: Office of Morning Prayer, St Mildred's.

All are welcome at our services.

The Collect (special prayer for the week) for BCP Holy Communion:

O Lord Jesu Christ, who at thy first coming didst send thy messenger to prepare thy way before thee; Grant that the ministers and stewards of thy mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready thy way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at thy second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in thy sight, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.

Bible Readings for BCP Holy Communion:

NT: 1 Corinthians 4.1-5; Matthew 11. 2-10.

The Common Worship Collect (special prayer for the week):

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give

us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings for Morning Prayer and Sung Eucharist:

OT: Psalm 146.4-10; Isaiah 35. 1-10.

NT: James 5. 7-10; Matthew 11. 2-11.

WEDDING:

Congratulations to Andrew and Sarah-Jayne who were married at St Thomas Church yesterday.

NOTICES:

Please pray for the following people who need our prayers: Rev Terry, Janet, Katie, Kath, Clare, Jane, Clive, Ronald, Ben, Peter, Stephen, Penny, Keith, Vera and Peter, James, Thelma, Louisa, Derek, Barbara and Philip, Barbara and Keith, Michael, Pat, Jill, Chenice and Janet.

And we pray for all those people suffering with and recovering from Covid.

Puzzle Club: If you are interested in joining please speak to Tessa Hinge on (01843) 842416.

The Storehouse:

Please consider The Storehouse in Birchington as part of your regular giving – there are boxes in all 3 of our churches.

Choose a hymn for the children to sing!

A big thank you to all those people who voted for a Christmas Carol for the children to sing. The winner was O Little Town of Bethlehem. Lucy and the children will now practice this carol



together and record it and we look forward to hearing it.

OTHER EVENTS:

Future events for your diary: If you have any ideas for fundraising, please let Sara Gower know.

Intergenerational Group: We will be meeting at Birchington CEP School on Thursday 8th December at 3.30pm. This is a worthwhile and exciting initiative and we encourage people to join the Group, and the children are looking forward to showing us around their school. Please ring Loraine on 07835 330562 if you wish to attend as we are sharing lifts.

St Thomas Church Christmas Tree Festival: We are delighted to be holding a **Christmas Tree Festival** once again and look forward to a richly decorated Church over the Christmas period. Please contact Margaret Hawkins for further details. St Thomas Church will be open for viewing the Festival from Monday 12th to Saturday 17th December as follows: 10.30 am – 12 noon on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday and from 5.30 pm – 7.00 pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Seasonal refreshments will be served. There will a Christmas Coffee Morning at 10.30 am on Saturday 17th December. The Christmas Tree displays will remain in the church until the New Year.

Rotary & Inner Wheel Carol Service:

The Rotary and Inner Wheel Clubs in Thanet will be presenting their Carol Service on Friday 16th December at 6.00 pm. in St Thomas Church. There will be a retiring collection to raise funds for local charities. Everyone is warmly invited to attend. Please speak to Chris Hedges for more information if you are interested.

Wednesday 14th December at 10.30am at The Vicarage - Christmas Coffee Morning hosted by Rev. Mark. All welcome but if you could sign up on the sheets at the back of our churches that would help me with planning this event.

Saturday 1st July 2023 - Parish Fayre : please do put this date in your diary now. We are looking for helpers to plan this event – speak to Rev. Mark, Sara or Loraine.

Please note that there are various notices on **Christmas Carol services** in our churches and in our noticeboards.

OTHER UPDATES:

Christmas Cards: Instead of sending Christmas Cards, Rev Mark will be making a donation to Porchlight, the charity for the homeless.

Pastoral Friends Lunches: The next lunch will be on **Friday 16th December 2022** at Kearns Hall which will have a Christmas theme - 12.30pm arrival for 1pm lunch – see or phone Maureen for a place on 07802 804134.. Lunches will be held on the 3rd Friday of every month. Our next coffee morning will be on **Tuesday 13th December at 11.00am in Church House.** The coffee mornings will run on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. All are very welcome!

Ukrainian Invasion: Please continue to hold the people of Ukraine and Russia in your prayers. If people wish to make a retiring donation after Sunday services collection plates are available.

Christmas Holly Wreath Demonstration at Kearns Hall: Saturday 10th December 2022 at 9.30am. £15 per person. All materials supplied. All proceeds will be used towards the purchase of flowers and candles for Christmas. Please contact Maureen if you are interested in attending.

Worship Service Patterns: Rev Mark is looking at service patterns across all three churches. If anyone has any views please let Rev Mark know on priestbmba@gmail.com.

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