



The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 22nd January 2023

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 email address: birchnewsletter5@gmail.com by **5pm on Wednesdays**. Thank you.

SERVICES FOR THE COMING WEEK – 29th January 2023:

10.30am: Joint Parish Sung Eucharist, St Thomas Church.

3pm: Birchington Churches Together (BCT) United Service at Church House followed by tea, coffee and cake. All welcome.

The Common Worship Collect (special prayer for the week) for Joint Parish Eucharist Service:

God of heaven, you send the Gospel to the ends of the earth and your messengers to every nation: send your Holy Spirit to transform us by the good news of everlasting life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings:

For Joint Parish Sung Eucharist Service:

OT: Psalm 36.5-10; 1 Kings 17.8-16.

NT: 1 Corinthians 1.18-end; John 2. 1-11.

NOTICES:

Please pray for the following people who need our prayers: Peter; Brigette, Jackie, Wendy, Mary, Kath, Clare, Jane, Clive, Ronald, Ben, Stephen, Vera and Peter, Keith, James, Derek, Michael and Pat.

And we pray for all those people suffering with and recovering from Covid and flu. Please pray for our NHS and give thanks for all that it does.

Please hold in your prayers the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meeting which will be held on Wednesday 25th January.

Week of Christian Unity - Birchington Churches Together: 16th to 22nd January:

Thank you for all those who attended, led the devotionals, made tea and coffee and washed and tidied up.

'ROMP THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT'

on Saturday 4th February at Kearns Hall, Minnis Bay.

An inter-active day of exploration, new insights and fun! It doesn't matter how much you know, or don't know, about the OT!

Please bring a Bible, a pen and your lunch.

Drinks and all other materials will be provided. Bookstall available.

Also "**Magnifying Matthew**" on Saturday 18th February from 10am to 12.15pm at Holy Trinity Church, Northdown.

Please contact Sue Woan if interested in the above events.

Lent Lunches and Coffee Mornings:

Dates for the Lent Lunches and Coffee Mornings will be published in the forthcoming Parish Magazine and will be listed in this Newsletter in due course. Sign up sheets will be available in all three churches.



Intergenerational Group:

Thank you for all those who attended on 19th January. The next gathering is scheduled for **Thursday 2nd February at 3.15pm at St Thomas Church.** If anyone would like to join us you will be welcomed warmly.

First Aiders:

We are seeking volunteers to train to become First Aiders in our churches. If you are interested please speak to Mike or Loraine and arrangements for training will be made.

Breakfast Time (BT):

This popular initiative is helping many of our families in Birchington. From Monday 16th to Friday 20th January we have served between 27 and 46 people. Donations are gratefully received, please continue to pray for BT and if anyone would like to help please speak to Rev Mark or Loraine.

The Unknown Sailors' Graves: We respectfully ask that no flowers, plants or other items of remembrance are placed on these graves. Any Remembrance Day crosses should not be removed except by the person or an official representative from an organisation that is permitted to lay these crosses.

Friends of the Parish of Birchington (FoPB): A full programme of fundraising events is nearly finalised but a date for your diaries is for a Breakfast meeting on Saturday 18th February 2023 at 8.30am at Kearns Hall. If you wish to attend please contact Dave Alker in church or via his email address which is dave.alker@btinternet.com

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.

OTHER EVENTS:

Fundraising events for 2023: If you have any ideas for fundraising, please let Sara Gower know.

Quiz Night: There is a Quiz on Saturday 25th February 2023 to be held at Church House at 7pm. Tables of 8 and the cost is £7 each including some nibbles and a raffle. Please speak to Mike Little if interested.

Church House Office Tidy-Up: During the last week the office in Church House has been tidied and this will continue over the next few weeks. This is part of a plan to redecorate the office so that it can be open for meetings, work and 'drop-ins'. It is anticipated that the Committee Room will undergo this renovation too so that it can be used for church use and lettings once the office has been rejuvenated.

Noticeboards: The two remaining noticeboards which are to be updated will soon be renovated and will provide full information about activities and services in the Parish. Once this work has been completed at All Saints, it is anticipated that the main noticeboard at St Thomas Church will be refurbished. The noticeboard at St Mildred's Church will be replaced in due course.

OTHER UPDATES:

Pastoral Friends Lunches: The next lunch will be on **Friday 17th February 2023** at Kearns Hall. 12.30pm arrival for 1pm lunch – see or phone Maureen for a place on 07802 804134.. Our next coffee morning will be on **Tuesday 24th January 2023 at 11.00am in Church House.** All are very welcome!

Worship Service Patterns: Rev Mark will be outlining the work that he has carried out so far to the PCC on 25th January 2023 and his future work programme on this matter.

Telephone Numbers and Contact Details:

Rev Mark Ham, Priest-in-Charge, (01843) 844591.
E-mail: priestbmba@gmail.com
Loraine Bant, Churchwarden, 07835 330562.
Email: churchwardenlab@gmail.com



Mike Little, Churchwarden 07986 332005
Sara Gower, Treasurer
Email: sara.gower@btinternet.com