



The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 21st January 2024 NEWSLETTER

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.

Sunday 28th January 2024 – The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

WEEK 4:

10.30am – Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church
10.30am – Morning Prayer at St Thomas Church.

3pm – Service for the Week of Christian Unity, St Thomas Church.

Tuesday 30th January 2024

10am – Northumbria Community Office of Morning Prayer, St Mildred's Church

The Iona Community Prayer Service. This service is held **every Friday** in the Quex Chapel, All Saints Church at 8.30am. All welcome.

The Common Worship Collect for Sung Eucharist and Morning Prayer Services.

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.

Bible Readings.

OT: Psalm 111; Deuteronomy 18.15-20.
NT: Revelation 12.1-5a; Mark 1.21-28.

NOTICES.

Please pray for the following people, all known to God, who need our prayers and for those who show them love and care: Pauline, Tracey, Peter, Joan, Mark, Andy, Clive and Jackie.

Rest in Peace: Jonathan. Please pray for Gini and family. Funeral details to follow. Also pray for June, a friend of an All Saints' congregation member.

Birchington CEP School. Please pray for the school as they seek to appoint a replacement for Kath Barham as Headteacher who will be retiring in the summer after 17 years of leading the school. We give thanks for her service and for her inspiring and transformational leadership.

Parochial Church Council (PCC). Please hold the 25th January meeting of the PCC in your prayers.

Volunteers - Bible Readers/Intercessors (Prayers). Do you feel that you would like to read from the Bible or lead our prayers during our Sunday Worship services? If so, please see Rev Mark, Loraine or Mike.

Fellowship/Bible Study Groups. If you are interested in setting up or leading a Fellowship/Bible Study Group, please speak to Rev Mark.

Lent Groups. Please see sheets at the back of Church or details in the February edition of the Parish Magazine if interested.

Fundraising Events.

Parish Breakfasts: ***Our first breakfast is on Saturday 24th February at 9am in Kearns Hall*** and our guest speakers will be George Kup and Reece Pugh. They will be talking about their lives as local councillors – the ups and downs and their role. It will be a non-party political talk. Breakfasts will be £7.50 per person and booking



will be required to assess numbers. Please let us know any specific dietary requirements. ***Please note that these events will only happen if they are well supported by the local community as guest speakers will be giving up their valuable time.***

Quiz: Saturday 17th February 2023 at 7pm at Church House. Please see Mike Little for details. All proceeds for Church Funds.

We need Fundraising Ideas! The Church needs to raise funds to pay for its running costs and backlog maintenance. There is a Fundraising Committee and if you have any fundraising ideas please contact Sara Gower, Treasurer.

The Big Gospel Sing-Along: St Mary Magdalene Church, Monkton, CT12 4JR. Saturday 17th February 2023 at 3pm. Free entry. Bookings must be made in advance by emailing: smmgospelchoir@outlook.com

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

Supper Club. About 50 people attend this activity which provides a 'warm place' for adults and children mainly from the local school. Donations of biscuits, baked beans and squash will be gratefully received. If anyone is interested in volunteering please see Loraine.

Gaza and Israel. Please pray for the tragic situation in the Middle East and for peace. Collection plates are in the back of our churches for donations to the Middle East Appeal organised by Christian Aid.

Ukraine. We continue to pray for peace, and donations can still be made in Church.

Singing for Wellbeing. Every Monday during term time at 1.45pm at St Thomas Church. All welcome.

Living Well Quiet Day. After the success of the Quiet Day in August 2023 we have rebooked for 2024 so please keep Saturday 10th August free if

you are interested in attending. It is anticipated that there will be a fee of £25 per person which includes lunch and support from their chaplains. Please speak to Rev Mark or Loraine if interested.

Pastoral Friends Lunches and Coffee Mornings. Our next coffee mornings will be held on **Tuesdays 23rd January and 13th February.** All are very welcome! Coffee mornings will be run on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The **next lunch** is on **Friday 16th February 2024** at Kearns Hall at **12.30 arrival for 1pm lunch.** If you wish to attend this lunch please contact Maureen on 07802 804134.

Parish & Booking Administrator. We look forward to welcoming Shani as part of our Team who will be starting in early March and here is her introduction:

"Hello, I'm Shani, I was born in Ramsgate and grew up in London. I've worked mainly in charities, helping to support services. Between us, we have eight children and six grandchildren in my family. I was very proud to attend my daughter's graduation recently. I love knitting, nature watching in Pegwell Bay and learning French. I'm looking forward to working with everyone and hope to meet you soon."

Church House Car Parking and Road Closures in The Square. Contrary to Facebook posts, Church House Car Park is **NOT** going to be used as the compound for works equipment and vehicles, and may continue to be used by users of Church House, the Church and school families walking their children to school.

Church House Roof. Good progress is being made and should be completed by the end of next week weather permitting.

Telephone Numbers and Contact Details.
Parish Office: (01843) 840777.
Rev Mark Ham, Priest-in-Charge, (01843) 844591 or 07857 897103. 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