



# The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## 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 Mia preferably via email on the email address: **parishclerkasb@gmail.com** by **5pm on Wednesdays**. Thank you.

### Today's (Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>) Services:

10:30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church.

10:30am: Morning Prayer, St Thomas Church.

### Next Week's Services: WEEK 1: Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February–The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

8:00am: Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion, All Saints Church.

10:30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church.

### In need of space and a place of peace?

Why don't you try a midweek service:

### Morning Prayer in All Saints in St. Margaret Chapel: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 9am. All are welcome.

**"With Christ"** (Eucharist/Holy Communion Service) Tuesdays at 10am, Quex Chapel, All Saints Church. Come along and contemplate and pray with us. **Iona Community Morning Prayer** Fridays at 8:30am, All Saints Church.

### Common Worship Bible Readings (1<sup>st</sup> Feb)

OT: Psalm 24.[1-6] 7-end; Malachi 3.1-5.

NT: Hebrews 2.14-end; Luke 2.22-40.

### Common Worship Collect (1<sup>st</sup> Feb)

Lord Jesus Christ,  
light of the nations and glory of Israel  
make your home among us,  
and present us pure and holy  
to your heavenly Father,  
your God, and our God. Amen.

### BCP Bible Readings (1<sup>st</sup> Feb)

NT: *Galatians 4.1-7; Luke 2.22-40.*

### BCP Collect (1<sup>st</sup> Feb)

Almighty and everlasting God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**NOTICES** Please pray for the following people, **all known to God, who need our prayers and for those who show them love and care:** Josie, Tim and Sue, Ian, Susan, Bailey, Andy, John, Chris, Danney and family, Phil, Paul, Mark, Rev. David N., Ann, Ted, Rev. David R., and Stephen.

We pray for our world leaders and that they may work for the common good at this time.

We give thanks to God for all prayers that have been answered.

**RIP:** Donna. Please pray for Ben, Marina, Gavin, her close friend Christine, and her family. Donna's funeral is on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 10:00am in All Saints Church. All welcome.

### **NEW & UPDATED FEATURES & EVENTS**

#### **Project Consultative Questionnaire**

The latest edition of the Parish Council Magazine features a Project Consultative Questionnaire about your views of the potential reordering of All Saints Church. Please complete and remove the form from the magazine, and either post or hand it into the Parish Office in Church House by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February**. Alternatively, there are forms available in the Office which you can collect.

#### **Holocaust Memorial Day – 27<sup>th</sup> Jan**

Eternal God,  
we come before You  
to remember the victims of the Holocaust.  
We lament the loss of six million Jews  
who were killed in the Holocaust,  
the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution,  
and victims of all genocides.  
As we remember and lament  
all those whose lives have been lost,  
help us to work for a better future today.  
We pray for a day when all shall be free  
to live in peace, unity and love. Amen.



# The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## NEWSLETTER



### Week of Christian Unity (19th-25th January)

The week concludes today (**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>**) with the United Service at the Methodist Church at 3pm.

**Pastoral Friends Coffee Mornings** in Church House at 11:00am – **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January** and **10<sup>th</sup> February**. All welcome.

The next **Pastoral Friends Lunch** is on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February** in Kearns Hall – 12:30pm gather for 1pm lunch. Please contact Maureen on 07802 804134 to book and **let us know if you have any special dietary requirements in writing**.

### Lifts to Church or Church Events

If anyone would like a lift to Church services or events (e.g Pastoral Friends Coffee Mornings), please contact Rev. Mark or Loraine.

### Parish Share 2026

Our Parish Share for 2026 is £90,000, which contributes partly to clergy stipends and Diocese staffing costs including safeguarding. The Parish over the last 15-20 years has struggled paying its quota to the Diocese and anticipates that this year will be more challenging despite growth in attendance. This Parish has delivered much:

20% growth in Christmas attendance, on 2025 levels.

Supper Club in its outreach to young children and families.

Singing for Wellbeing.

Pastoral Friends Coffee Mornings and

Lunches for fellowship and support.

Plans to reorder All Saints Church.

Building and sustaining excellent working relationships with the school.

Our new Family Together service, and the Together service in the school.

Strengthening our community links, e.g. residential care homes.

An innovative solution to mission and worship in Acol.

If you are currently giving regularly to the Church, may I thank you for your generosity, and if you would like to increase the amount each week or month that would be appreciated. Or, if you do not give regularly, you may wish to consider doing so.

### Lent Groups

This coming Lent the Spirituality Group will be 'hosting' its own Lent Course. Starting on Thursday 26th February and then on every Thursday until 26th March; the theme will be the 'I am' passages as spoken by Christ in the Gospels. The sessions will be specifically for the church family at All Saints, St Thomas's and St Mildred's and will be an alternative Course to the one run by Birchington Churches Together. There will be more information in the New Year. Love and Prayers, **Paul, Angela and John**.

### Christmas Cards

If anyone would like to support an idea to raise funds by using old Christmas cards to make new ones ready for Christmas 2026, please speak to John Repsch.

### REMINDERS

**Safeguarding** *is everyone's responsibility*. If you have any safeguarding concerns or issues please contact Loraine, Parish Safeguarding Officer or Rev Mark as soon as possible who are the **designated safeguarding leads** for the Parish.

### FUNDRAISING EVENTS

**Parish Breakfasts** are returning! The first will be on **Saturday 21st February, 9am, Kearns Hall**. The speaker is Phil Morley, Birchington resident and Police Inspector, talking about policing and managing offenders in communities. Price: £8. Please book via Dave Alker or the Parish Office.

### Telephone Numbers and Contact Details

Mia Ottley, Parish & Booking Administrator, 01843 840777 Email: [parishclerkasb@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkasb@gmail.com)  
Rev Mark Ham, Priest-in-Charge, (01843) 840777 or (01843) 844591 Email: [priestbmba@gmail.com](mailto:priestbmba@gmail.com)  
Rev Jim Barber, Curate, 07389 126222 Email: [james-barber@sky.com](mailto:james-barber@sky.com)  
Loraine Bant, Churchwarden, 07835 330562 Email: [churchwardenlab@gmail.com](mailto:churchwardenlab@gmail.com)  
Paul Seymour, Churchwarden, 07889 150037 Email: [paul.660seymour@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.660seymour@btinternet.com)  
Sara Gower, Treasurer Email: [sara.gower@btinternet.com](mailto:sara.gower@btinternet.com)