



# The Parish of All Saints', Birchington

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 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 ([parishclerkasb@gmail.com](mailto:parishclerkasb@gmail.com)) by **5pm on Wednesdays**. Thank you.

### **Today's (Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>) Services:**

10:30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church.  
10:30am: Sung Eucharist, St Thomas Church.  
10:30am: Junior Church, Church House.

### **Next Week's Services: WEEK 1: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May – The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

8:00am: Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion, All Saints Church.  
10.30am: Sung Eucharist, All Saints Church.  
10:30am: Junior Church, Church House.

### **Morning Prayer in All Saints in St. Margaret Chapel: 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 Collect (3<sup>rd</sup> May)**

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **Common Worship Bible Readings (3<sup>rd</sup> May)**

NT: Acts 7.55-end; John 14.1-14.

### **BCP Collect (3<sup>rd</sup> May)**

O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **BCP Bible Readings (3<sup>rd</sup> May)**

NT: James 1.17-21; John 16.5-15.

**NOTICES** Please pray for the following people, **all known to God, who need our prayers and for those who show them love and care:** Ann, Josie, Danney and family, Cathy, Ann, Ian, Denise, Abdul, Carol, Keith, Stuart, and Susan.

Please pray for the pupils, staff and families at our village Church Primary School. We give thanks to God for all prayers that have been answered.

**RIP:** Tim. Please pray for Sue and Tim's family who mourn him.

**RIP:** Michael. Please pray for his family, and especially his children.

### **Easter Season Prayer**

Risen Lord,  
In the light of Your resurrection,  
we find hope that outshines every shadow,  
peace that calms every storm,  
and joy that renews our weary hearts.  
Roll away the stones of doubt and fear within us,  
so we may walk boldly in the path of Your love.  
Help us to see new beginnings in every ending,  
and to share the warmth of Your grace  
with all we meet.  
May this Easter season be a time  
of deep gratitude, renewed faith,  
and overflowing compassion.  
Amen.

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

#### **St George's Day with the School**

We were pleased to welcome Year R, 1, 2 and their parents and carers to All Saints on Thursday as the school celebrated St George's Day. The service was led by the School and Rev. Mark and Loraine also made contributions to the service.

#### **Freezer**

Thank you to Sheila and Roger for the kind donation and thank you to Tim M and his son for delivering the freezer to Church House. Many thanks to those who offered to help.



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### **Summary of Project Consultative Questionnaire on All Saints Church**

Thank you to everyone who completed this survey. All of your responses have now been collated. Overall, respondents felt that All Saints Church was greatly important to this community, with many wanting to see more family and children-focused events. The vast majority of respondents said that it was 'greatly important' to repair and improve All Saints Church, with most aware of its status as a Grade II listed building. We were also given much to think about from responses to the question 'Is there anything stopping you/putting you off coming into the building?' The words 'community', 'history/historic', and 'family' were most commonly mentioned when thinking about the Church. Your responses to all of these questions will be at the forefront of our decisions in how to reorder All Saints Church to suit the community's needs. Our Project Architect is currently working through options on reordering, so please continue to watch this space!

### **Iona Community Network Group**

This week the group has met to worship together, share lunch and listen to Rev'd Doctor Jonathan Arnold who we invited to speak to us about the work he does in the Diocese. He told us about one particularly exciting upcoming event:

**Courageous Communities: Sanctuary & Racial Justice Conference**, 10:00-16.00 Canterbury Cathedral Lodge. It is open to all, churches, organisations, and to those wishing to engage with refugee inclusion and racial justice. Hear stories of sanctuary, explore the Afghan Welcome Project, and join the Sanctuary & Racial Justice launch. Leave with next steps and deeper understanding and resources to own. Registration is now available on the Cathedral website.

### **Quex Gardens Garden Party, Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 11am-4pm**

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, Quex Gardens are hosting a Garden Party supported by the Birchington Parish Council in celebration of 100 years of the Powell-Cotton Trust. We will be hosting a stall there – please pray for this ministry, and come along and visit if you can.

**Pastoral Friends Coffee Mornings** in Church House at 11:00am – **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April** and **12<sup>th</sup> May**. All welcome.

The next **Pastoral Friends Lunch** is on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May** in Kearns Hall – 12:30pm gather for 1pm lunch. Please contact Maureen on 07802 804134 to book; **let us know if you have any special dietary requirements in writing**.

### **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**

**Birchington Silver Band Concert – The Steeple Appeal** Many thanks to all who came to the recent concert. In total, £650.00 was raised for the Steeple Fund.

### **Parish Breakfast**

Thank you to all who helped organise and attended yesterday's Parish Breakfast, and thank you to our speaker, John Bailey. The next Parish Breakfast is on June 13<sup>th</sup> where we will have a talk from the Community Warden on scams.

**Indoor Games and Afternoon Tea in Church House, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2pm-4pm.** Cards, scrabble, bagatelle, and much more!

Entry by ticket, £8 per head – contact Kath Porteous on 07957 846230 to book.

### **Telephone Numbers and Contact Details**

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