

St. Mary's Church

*A still point in a
turning world.
T S Eliot*

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

 Diocese of
Rochester

The Parish Church of Riverhead with Dunton Green, Kent;
now part of the West Sevenoaks Team Ministry

Weekly Newsletter

Sunday 5th September

This weeks Newsletter is a big one! With many events starting up again and things to look to forward to over the coming weeks there are many different notices. Please take the time to read the whole email so you don't miss out.

This Sunday we join together at 8am and 9:30 for worship. 9:30am will be zoomed from the building for those who cannot physically make it to the church building. After a busy Summer period where some of us have been lucky enough to get away it will be good to resume meeting together. I have been encouraged this week by reading in Hebrews about the need for us to meet and to encourage one another in our faith.

As the writer of Hebrews writes:

" And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Best wishes,

Andy

Worship This Sunday 5th September

8am **BCP Said Holy Communion
Church Only**

9:30am **All Age Worship**
**This service is taking place in church and
live streamed on zoom for those who are vulnerable,
housebound or self-isolating.**
Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: Shoreham01

6:30pm **There is no Team Evensong Tonight.**
It will resume on the 12th September.

Please join us at any of our services this weekend

**Please find the readings for our service below. Bibles and Hymn books are
available in church, so you only need to print these out if you are joining us by
zoom. Hymn words will be displayed on the screen.**

[Click here to download the readings for the 5th September](#)
[Click here to find the hymns/readings sheet on our website](#)

Requests for Prayer
Please remember in your prayers:
Cheryl Davies,

Other Notices

Church Cleaning - THIS SATURDAY (4th September)

It's the first Saturday in the month which means it's church cleaning day! All help gratefully received We meet at the church from 9.00am. Thankyou.

Compline - STARTS AGAIN THIS WEEK.

This week we resume Compline on a Wednesday evening on Zoom. It will meet at 9pm on Wednesdays ready to start at 9:05pm. We will aim to finish by 9:30pm. For

our readings in Compline this term we are going to be looking at the first half of Luke's Gospel.

Coffee Morning on Zoom- STARTS AGAIN THIS WEEK.

Our Zoom Coffee morning recommences on Thursday at 11am. On Thursday 16th September I intend to hold a short communion service as part of the coffee morning. For the log in details please see Andy or Daphne.

Kent Ride & Stride - 11th September

This fantastic event will take place again this year on Saturday 11th September 2021 (Next Saturday!).

The Lovelocks and Foxes are taking part and if you would like to sponsor them then any sponsorship would be greatly received.

Please speak to Tess or you can sponsor them by clicking the link [HERE](#).

50% of all sponsorship money raised can go to the church or chapel of your choice, with the other 50% going to the Friends of Kent Churches, who distribute it by grant aid to help the most needy churches in the county.

Participants plan their own routes with the assistance of a printed list of churches and chapels [open](#). There are usually some 700 of these places of worship open, scattered right across this big county, and wherever you go you'll be assured of a warm welcome. Go individually, as a couple, with friends and family, with a cycling club, with your work colleagues, with school friends, with choirs, with a sports team – whoever you wish.

Tess Fox now has the sponsorship forms and if people are interested in taking part can they please let Tess know.

You can contact Tess on rtfox@btinternet.com.



YOU'RE INVITED

SUNDAY CLUB & FAMILIES

Desserts and games in
the vicarage garden.

Sat 18 September
2pm-4pm

RSVP: revandyfinn@outlook.com

Saturday 18th September 2-4pm

Andy would like to warmly invite all those from Sunday Club together with their families to an afternoon of games and desert to be held in the Vicarage Garden. Please RSVP to revandyfinn@outlook.com by the 15th September to book your place.

Riverhead Carnival - 19th September

The Riverhead Carnival is fast approaching and, as usual, we will be in need of some home grown and home made goods to sell on our St Mary's stall. Please would you let me know if you are able to help with provisions. The usual delicious home made cakes, biscuits and jams, etc will be wonderful. Probably best to bring them into church on the Sunday morning, or round to me beforehand. Alternatively, I am very happy to collect them from you if you let me know.

Sunday Club will be providing some entertainment and Sunday Club information.

Also Karen Forster-Pearce is providing a Minature Bottle Tombola. Karen would like donations of anything in a small bottle - with the size being anything up to a medium shampoo bottle.

Thanks,
Ronnie

Home Communion

With the lifting of restrictions we are starting to plan Home Communion visits. If you would value communion being brought to you at home then please do get in touch with Andy.

Meelis Suuld

Some of you may remember when Meelis joined us in June. Meelis is a member of the Harju-Risti parish in Estonia that we have a link with. During our conversation Meelis described his journey to ordination. On Saturday 11th September Meelis is going to be ordained in London. Members of our church family will be going to support Meelis on this day. Please pray for Meelis as he prepares to be ordained next Saturday.

Steve

In a couple of weeks, we look forward to Steve and his wife Emma joining the Team as Steve is ordained Deacon and serves his Curacy in the Team. As we prepare for Steve to join us, let us be praying for him. You may wish to use the following prayer.

A prayer for Steve, our Curate coming to join us in September: Grant your grace, O God our Father, to all those in this diocese who will be ordained Deacon this September. We pray for our new Curate Steve, and his wife Emma. Through his curacy with us make him what you would have him to be, so that by your blessing on the formation of his priestly ministry here, he may be made a blessing. May your guidance be upon all those in our Team who will help in Steve's training, and may he know from all of us the gift of our friendship and prayers, as we prepare to welcome him, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service change - Sunday 26th September

With the agreement of all three PCC's in the Team, following Steve's ordination at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday 25th of September, we are having one main morning service of welcome for him on Sunday 26th . Although each church will still have their 8am service time, all three main service times (9:30am St Mary the Virgin; 10:15am St Luke's and 10:30am St Mary Kippington) will not take place. Instead

there will be one 10am Team service of Welcome for our new Curate at St Mary Kippington. Refreshments will follow in the Kippington Centre. There will be a Team Choir (please speak to Janet if you are interested) and our young people will be joining together for activities together. More details to be announced.

Mothers Union

For many years this church has had a connection with Mother's Union. Before the pandemic there was a group which used to meet. Karen Forster-Pearce is looking at restarting this group with a look to a Team Mother's Union which meets with members from all 3 churches. If you would be interested in being part of this then please have a chat with Karen. Thank you.

Loaves and Fishes

Margaret Holman would like to thank everyone for the massive support which they have been giving to this worthy cause

Living in Love and Faith

The Church of England has produced a major course entitled 'Living in Love and Faith'. It's about sexuality, relationships and love, and how we as Anglicans, and as Christians, understand those and are able to support and encourage each other in these relationships. Issues around relationships and sexuality are not new within the Church. However, many people in our churches have been hugely affected by the deep, and sometimes painful, disagreements on these issues over the years. The course produced allows people 'in the pews' a structured and accessible way to engage and reflect on these issues in a sensitive, careful, and prayerful way, listening in grace to one another.

As a Team we resolved that we would only undertake the course in a physical setting and although there are five sessions to the course we are offering the first as a taster session on how we 'learn together' and giving an overview about the whole course. This will take place on Wednesday the 15th of September at either 10am or 7:30pm (venue tbc) and will last one and a half hours. People do not commit themselves by coming to attending the rest of the course. Those who come may decide the course is not for them; others who come will decide the opposite and commit themselves to the remaining four sessions.

All of the sessions will be led by a clergy member of the Team and the other sessions will be offered on the following dates – again both 10am and 7:30pm.

Session 2 Wednesday 6th of October. The theme is that of 'Identity'.

Session 3 Wednesday 20th of October. The theme is that of 'Relationships'.

Session 4 Wednesday 10th of November. The theme is that of 'Sex'.

Session 5 Wednesday 24th of November. The theme is that of 'Life together'.

As churches we are then encouraged to offer our thoughts and reflections on the range of subjects addressed and these will feed into the wider discussion the General Synod of the Church of England will have concerning identity, relationships, gender and sexuality in 2022.

I do encourage you to check out the 'Living in Love and Faith' course for yourself by going on www.churchofengland.org/LLF

In the meantime if you would like to come to the first session on 15th of September (no commitment to attend the rest of the sessions) please contact Sue Stockbridge at St Luke's Parish Office know on 01732 743045 or email: lukesevenoaks@btinternet.com

Mark

Events this week

Monday

9:45am Bible Study Group – Please contact Daphne for more information.

Tuesday

Wednesday

9:00pm Compline

Meeting ID: 616 146 1466 Password: Shoreham01

Thursday

11:00am Coffee Morning (zoom)

Please contact Daphne for the log in details.

Sunday 12th September

8am BCP Holy Communion

9:30am Holy Communion.
Sunday Club resumes - more information to follow.

If you need to contact us then please email:

Team Vicar : Rev Andy Finn,
St Mary's Vicarage, The Glebe Fields, Shoreham Lane, TN13 3DR – Email: revandyfinn@outlook.com
01732 669454

Churchwarden: Alison Bull, Email: alison-bull@hotmail.co.uk
Churchwarden: Rachel Wigley, Email: rachel.wigley@outlook.com