

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 15th to 29th August

Welcome to this weeks Newsletter which covers this Sunday and the 22nd and 29th.

The order of service for this week and the readings for the next two weeks are included.

Please note that there is no BCP 8 o'clock service on the 22nd August at St Mary the Virgin however services will be taking place at St Lukes and St Mary's Kippington which you are welcome to join.

Although many of our activities are taking a break for the Summer please read below for details of upcoming events such as the Team Welcome Service for Steve, Ride and Stride as well as the Team Living in Love and Faith Course.

This Sunday (15th August) in our service of morning prayer we welcome the Durell Family for the Baptism of Amelie. Please be praying for them as a family as we welcome Amelie into the family of God. In our sermon, we continue thinking about Jesus as the Bread of Life.

Just a reminder, that before worship begins on Sunday we are going to ring the bell as we gather for worship at 9:20. I invite anyone who wishes to pray for our community and for the service to join me at this point in the Side Chapel.

The next Newsletter will be published for the 5th September.

Whatever we may be doing over the coming weeks, I pray that we will find rest and renewal,

Best wishes,

Andy

Worship This Sunday 15th August

- 8am** **BCP Said Holy Communion
Church Only**
- 9:30am** **Morning Prayer including a Baptism**
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**

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 order of service which includes a Baptism this week.](#)

[Click here to download the readings for the 15th August](#)

[Click here to find the hymns/readings sheet on our website](#)

Events over the next two weeks

Our Midweek Activities are on a break for the Summer and will return in September.

Sunday 22nd August

- 8am** **NO BCP Holy Communion**
(A BCP service is available at 8am at St Lukes or St Mary's Kippington.)
- 9:30am** **Holy Communion**
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

Sunday 29th August

8am BCP Holy Communion Service

9:30am Holy Communion

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

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 22nd August](#)

[Click here to download the readings for 29th August](#)

Requests for Prayer

Please remember in your prayers:

Cheryl Davies, John Jenkins, Geoff and Julia Holland, the family and friends of Beryl Houson and Pauline Stanley

We need you!!

We are rather short of people to undertake roles within our church community at present. In particular we really need sides people. This is an important role in welcoming people and to help with the smooth running of the services. If you think you can serve the church in this way then please do chat with Andy. It is not an onerous role and the more people who volunteer the easier it becomes!

Thank you.
Andy

Other Notices

Walk around the Parishes:

Our final parish walk will be on the **1st September** around the parish of St Mary's Kippington. It will be a good opportunity to have fellowship together and consider areas of the community which we could be praying for.

Please come along as we learn about the Parish and pray for the community too. The guide will be each of the Team Vicar's and we will start at the church (parking if needed). We will start at 7pm.

Compline

Many thanks for the feedback about Compline. As from September Compline will meet online (and occasionally in person but still zoomed out) at 9pm on Wednesdays ready to start at 9:05pm. We will aim to finish by 9:30pm. Compline will restart on the 8th September.

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.

Zoom Services

Please note that on the 5th September and the 19th September although a service will take place at St Mary the Virgin in the building, there will be no Zoom live stream. This is to give those who operate zoom a well deserved break for a couple of Sundays. On these dates St Lukes have invited those on zoom to join them for their 10:15 service which will be Live streamed from St Lukes.

8am service times during clergy holidays.

Please note that with the PCC's approval it was agreed that instead of arranging outside cover for an 8am service when team clergy are away, one of the 8am service times on that Sunday is cancelled. Each church's 8am service time being cancelled on an equal basis.

Please kindly note therefore:

Sunday 8th of August. **No 8am service at St. Luke's** (8am services at St Mary the Virgin and St Mary Kippington as normal)

Sunday 22nd of August. No 8am service at St. Mary the Virgin (8am services at St Luke's and St Mary Kippington as normal)

Sunday 29th of August. No 8am service at St. Mary Kippington (8am services at St Mary the Virgin and St Luke's as normal)

SAVE THE DATES!!

Below are two dates upcoming. Please save the date for these events.

Kent Ride & Stride

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

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.

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.

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 rfox@btinternet.com.

Advance service change - Sunday 26th November.

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. 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.

Steve

This September 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.

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

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