

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 19th September

Welcome to our newsletter for the 19th September.

This Sunday is Riverhead Carnival and there is time to join us at 8am and 9:30 for worship before heading down to the Carnival. Some of our church family including parents from Sunday Club will be running stalls. Please do find time to go and support them from 12pm to 4:30pm. Thank you to all those who have been part of the organising of the stall and donated towards the stall this weekend.

We are not livestreaming our 9:30am service from the church this Sunday. This Sunday can I encourage those who cannot physically make it to the church building to join with St Lukes for their service at 10:15am. Please join and worship with them, as they came to our service over the August months. Please see below for the joining details.

Next weekend sees the ordination of Steve, our new Team Curate and on Sunday 26th September we have a 8am Service at St Marys Riverhead followed by a 10am Joint Team Service at St Mary's Kippington. There will be a communion service with activities for young people followed by refreshments. Please bring a mask to the service.

Finally, on the 3rd October we will celebrate Harvest as a church family. Please see below for information about the organisation we will be supporting during the service.

Please hold Steve (our Team Curate) and his wife Emma in your prayers this week as he journeys towards his ordination.

Best wishes,

Andy

Worship This Sunday 19th September

- 8am BCP Said Holy Communion
Church Only
- 9:30am Morning Prayer
Church only
- 10:15am St Luke's Parish Eucharist
Live streamed for those of our congregation
who physically cannot get to a service.
Meeting ID: 853 7627 9927
Passcode: 603432
- 2:45pm The Gathering
Dunton Green Primary School, Dunton Green.
- 6:00pm Churches Together Act of Worship with
Gospel Group "Contr4st"
Vine Baptist Church
Team Evensong will resume on the 26th September. -
Please see below.

Please join us at any of our services this weekend

Other Notices

Kent Ride & Stride - 11th September

This year's Ride and Stride was a resounding success. A huge thank you to all who supported us through sponsorship and kind wishes. Anna Lovelock, Isaac, Eliza and I had a fabulous walk and were blessed with beautiful weather. Many churches welcomed us with home made refreshments and a warm smile which definitely kept spirits high! All in all we walked 18 and a half miles and visited 13 lovely Kentish churches. Many thanks again to all. Here's looking forward to next year's event! Tess Fox.

Zoom Services

This Sunday (19th) there will be no livestreamed service from St Mary the Virgin Riverhead however you are invited to join with the live stream from St Lukes at 10:15am. See details above.

Over the coming weeks we have decided as a Team to offer one live streamed service a week from our 3 churches. This will enable us to bring together those of our online communities together to worship whilst ensuring the long term sustainability of zoom services. More details will follow of where the live stream will take place each week.

Churches Together for Sevenoaks and District/ Evensong: - THIS SUNDAY EVENING

The annual Churches Together autumn act of worship will be on Sunday the 19th of September at 6pm. Everyone welcome. The venue will be the Vine Baptist Church and the gospel singing group 'Contr4st' will lead people in worship. All welcome.

Because of the Churches Together worship, benefice Evensong will resume on the 26th of September at 6:30pm via Zoom.

The Ordination of Steve Osei-Mensah -NEXT SATURDAY (25th September)

Next Saturday, Steve, our new curate will be ordained Deacon in Rochester Cathedral. We look forward to Steve and his wife Emma joining the Team and will welcome him as part of the Team Service next Sunday (see more information below). Rochester Cathedral will be showing the service on the Diocese of Rochester Facebook Page. I do not have the link at present but will send out more information during the week. As we prepare for Steve to join us, let us be praying for him. You may wish to use the following prayer.

Grant your grace, O God our Father, to all those in this diocese who will be ordained Deacon next Saturday. 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.

NEXT SUNDAY - Sunday 26th September

Next Sunday morning 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.

There will be activities for our young people. Refreshments will follow in the Kippington Centre. Please bring a mask.

Please let Alison Bull know on Sunday if you are able to be there. It would be great to meet together across the Team.

Harvest 3rd October

As part of our All-Age Service at 9:30am on 3rd October we will celebrate Harvest.

During the service there is the opportunity to bring a gift to support a local organisation from within our community. This year we shall be supporting Sevenoaks Larder who run a branch within our parish on Tuesdays from the Dunton Green Pavilion. They are supporting a number of families from within our parish at this time, providing them with food on a regular basis.

If you wish to bring a gift to the service then Sevenoaks Larder have suggested they are in need of any of the following items:

Tinned tuna, tinned ham, tinned vegetables (but not pulses or beans), jam, peanut butter, honey, savoury crackers, sugar, tea, coffee, long life fruit juice. They DO NOT NEED pasta, baked beans or tinned soup as they have plenty of these at present. All food must be in date.

They would also be grateful to receive any fresh fruit and vegetables which can be distributed straight away amongst their clients.

Thanks.

Tots and Toddlers

Our Parent and Toddler group has reopened.

It meets on Mondays from 1:30-3:30pm. They offer a warm welcome to all babies and pre-schoolers, their parents and carers. Come along for a chat and refreshments, craft songs and play. Pre-booking is required. For more information see our website [here](#) or email: stmarystots@gmail.com

Sunday Club

We are looking for two more Parents to be able to help with the running of Sunday Club on a 2nd or 4th Sunday. You would not necessarily have to lead sessions but be there to encourage and help our young people in growing and developing their faith.

If this a way that you think you may be able to help and serve the Church then please have a chat with either Revd. Andy (revandyfinn@outlook.com), or speak to Tamar or Michele after the service as we would be keen to hear from you.

A DBS check would be required but this can be set up for you

Trinity School

I have received the latest prayer letter for Trinity School. The school asks for prayers for them this month as the Students return. They ask that we pray for:

- Students to settle in and to embed good routines.
- For those new students joining the school to feel welcome.
- For the new staff joining the school.
- That God would be glorified in all that they do.

Sevenoaks Counselling Annual Open Meeting - Wednesday 29th September 2021

Members of the congregation are warmly invited to our Annual Open Meeting on Wednesday 29th September 2021 at 7:30pm. It will take place at St Luke's Church and the guest speaker will be John Ellis.

ST. LUKE'S BOOK GROUP

With the easing of the Covid restrictions, the Book Group has been able to resume its meetings. We have recently read and discussed Dear England by Stephen Cotterill, the Archbishop of York, and God and Caesar by Shirley Williams. We are particularly fond of reading biographies and our next book is The Bishops by Frank Longford (LordLongford) and we shall be meeting to discuss this at the church on Friday, 5th November at 12 noon. Anyone who would like to join us will be very welcome.

Team Prayers – returning, but in a new way:

Each month a different church in the Team will be hosting a physical service of Team Prayers and then in the evening a half hour prayer time care of Zoom. We are encouraging people from across the benefice to come together once a month –

physically or on line – to pray for one another and for the Lord's guidance on our ministry and mission.

This month Team Prayers will be taking place from St Mary Kippington on Tuesday 28th of September. Physical service in church at 10am, followed by refreshments at 10:45am. At 6:45pm for a 7pm start time there will be Team Prayers via Zoom until 7:30pm.

Meeting ID: 815 0902 9021

Passcode: 218012

Pastoral Visiting and Home Communion

Following the lifting of restrictions it is possible for us to resume pastoral visiting and Home Communion. If you would value communion being brought to you at home, a home visit or even a zoom call then please do get in touch with Andy and I will arrange for myself or Daphne to visit.

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.

Events this week

Monday

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

1:30pm Tots and Toddlers

8:00pm PCC meets in Church Hall.

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 26th September

8am BCP Holy Communion
10:00am Joint service of Welcome for Steve at Kippington Church
2:45pm The Gathering
6:30pm Team Evensong.

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: revandyfynn@outlook.com
01732 669454

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