

Deal Foodbank donations: Ash Church

We are proud to be a donation point– the donation bin is through the main glass doors. Donations are collected by Deal Foodbank to distribute to those who come to them in need.

Ash with Westmarsh Parish Mag. Available from Co-op and Poparound shops in Ash and St Nicholas Church. To subscribe and have delivery please phone or email the editor Rebecca Smith on 07743 605873 rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com

Recycling fundraisers for C&K primary school. Collection box Ash church porch for Bread bags. **YES please:** Any brand of bakery plastic packaging & bread bags/closures **NO thank you:** Paper bags, wax packets, or combined paper-&-film window bag.

See our leaflet about volunteering with us! There are so many ways to get involved. Also share your ideas <https://thecanorybenefice.org.uk/get-involved/join-a-team/>

For Canonry Benefice giving visit: <https://thecanorybenefice.org.uk/contact-us/finances-and-giving/> Every penny counts and goes directly towards keeping our churches open.

Safeguarding and Lone Working: <https://thecanorybenefice.org.uk/about-the-canonry-benefice/safeguarding-statement/>

DON'T MISS! Canterbury Diocesan Conference - Leading your Church into Growth 15 & 16th June 2026, Seasalter Christian Centre. Zoom Follow-Ups – 21 September 2026, 11 January 2027, 12 April 2027, all 2pm-4pm. LyCiG' s focus is numerical & spiritual growth which aligns with our three bold outcomes for 2030: Double the number of children and young disciples, 200 new Christian communities, Every parish, benefice and deanery showing signs of revitalisation. Anyone in the church who wants to get involved and enable growth **please let Caroline know asap** so she can block book tickets.

Together: Join a faith community that embraces all, advocating for the full inclusion of everyone in our communities, ranging from highlighting racial injustice and disability advocacy to addressing class inequality and campaigning for the full participation of LGBTQIA+ people. Go to www.together.org.uk

Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives: The Church of England's 2026 Summer Campaign

This summer, the Church of England offers a new reflection campaign centred around pilgrimage. The reflections are available to pre-order as a booklet from Church House Publishing and the Everyday Faith app will feature them between 25 May and 20 June. If anyone wants to buy the booklet of daily readings - £3.50 per book – let Rev Caroline know.

Parish Support Conference 21st May 2026

Come along and learn more about how churches in the Diocese can run more smoothly. From welcome to buildings to finance. hosted by the Generous Giving team and sponsored by Ecclesiastical.

9:45am–3:30pm Lenham Community Hall
<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/parishsupport/generosity-giving/upcoming-events.php>

Confirmation

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmations/confirmation-faqs> If you would like to know more about getting confirmed please contact Reverend Carolinecanoryvicar@gmail.com

Interested in being a lay reader?

More information on Recognised Lay Worship Leading ministry can be found here (apply by 24th August)
<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/ministry/recognising-lay-ministry/worship/>

Benefice Bibles: we have raised enough money to ensure there are several bibles in our pews and for children as well. How wonderful! If you would like a personal thank you please indicate to our treasurer Andrew Collings.



The Churches within the Canonry Benefice

(Ash, Goodnestone, Chillenden, Nonington, Elmstone, Preston, and Stourmouth)

Sunday 10th May
6th Sunday of Easter

Readings

Acts 17:22-31
John 14:15-21

Prayer

Risen Christ, by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples: help your Church to obey your command and draw the nations to the fire of your love, to the glory of God the Father. Amen

Welcome to our wedding couples who are having banns read in the Benefice this Sunday. A special moment!

THIS SUNDAY 10TH MAY

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden
 Breakfast Church, 9.30am, St Mary's, Nonington
 Family Service, 10.30am, St Mildred's, Preston
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash (Sparks)
 (followed by APCM after the service)

NEXT SUNDAY 17TH MAY

Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone
 Holy Communion 9am, St Nicholas, Ash
 Holy Communion 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, Elmstone Church

IMPORTANT Electoral Roll in 2026

Sign up! Anyone who wants a vote in church matters.
 Forms in church If you did it last year no need to re-do.

Ash APCM 10th May after church

EP&S APCM 17th May at Elmstone Church after church

Chillenden APCM Friday 29th May, Village Hall 4pm

Goodnestone APCM Friday 29th May in church 10.30am

Home Groups

The evening Home Group continues 19th May, 2nd June, 16th June, 7th July with a break in August and restarting early September. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709. **The morning Home Group** will restart for four sessions during May and June. They are on Tuesdays from 9.30 am until 11 am on 12th May, 2nd June, 16th June and 30th June.

Following on from our Start Course we will be launching a **Moving On Course**, looking at discipleship. For info contact Rev Caroline canonryvicar@gmail.com

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group: 10am every Wednesday at The Vicarage. All welcome.

Ash Village Warm Space: A Warm FREE space to all in our community each **Thursday 11am- 2pm**. There will be a friendly welcome, free tea/coffee and a mug of hot homemade soup & a roll.

Women's Breakfast 3rd Sat of each month 9-10am at The Vicarage in Ash. **NEXT 16th May**

Bacon Buddies: Men's group last Saturday in the month 9am, Staple. Dan 07753743020 **NEXT 30th May.**

Rev Caroline writes: As we continue through Easter we look forward to Rogation Sunday. Joining together as a combined community is the lifeblood of this Benefice, giving its strength and vitality. See details below - invite others, neighbours, friends and family for an informal and lovely way to be church together. Also we mark Ascension day with a special early morning service and then Pentecost with a Wear Red theme!

Rogation Sunday 10th May: We will run a **special walk at 2pm**. On this day churches across the land will be praying for God's blessings on their communities, especially for farmers and for good crops this year. A tradition was to 'walk the bounds' of the Parish on the day, but as we have so many parishes in the Canonry Benefice, we're just doing a little. **We'll start at Goodnestone and end at Nonington, stopping at Chillenden along the way to pray.** It would be amazing to have people from each Parish represented so that we can pray for each other. All are welcome, especially children, and dogs. The walk time is 1hr 35mins with a more direct shorter route back. If you need to, please just walk shorter parts with us, and/or share lifts - park a car at Nonington so that you don't have to walk back to Goodnestone.

Thursday 14th May is the feast of the **Ascension**, the 40th day after Easter, celebrating the day Jesus ascended to heaven. **There will be a service from the top of Ash church tower at 8am!** Followed by croissants & coffee. The view is beautiful!

Pentecost 24th May: Celebrated on the Sunday 50 days after Easter, the name comes from Greek "Pentekoste", "fiftieth". Join at Chillenden, Ash, Stourmouth (evensong). Tradition is to wear Red & to celebrate that we are not left alone, the Holy Spirit lives in us.

The Art Exhibition at Ash brought together the community over the Bank Holiday Weekend. What amazing volunteers we have! Thank you to the Friends for making it happen. It was lovely to see so many people come through the door of the church to enjoy the art, the refreshments, the tower and the space itself. A prayer space was available throughout, there was a special morning prayer led by Rev Barbara and prayers were read regularly from the pulpit. Thank you to all our prayer voices for their support!

Could you be an Eco-church champion? can you get us to think about what it is to be good stewards of the environment as Church. Let Rev Caroline know or come along to the walk on 10th May and have a chat!

Prayer Festival 30th May, West Malling: Susanne Carlsson, who heads up prayer in the Rochester Diocese, is leading this prayer festival which will be a treat for those who attend. We cannot recommend Susanne highly enough, and Neville is preaching - many of you will have heard Neville preach across the Benefice before. This looks like a super day. Rev Caroline will be there Please book yourself on using the link <https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzAxLTkwNA/t>,

All Saints, Chillenden

www.chillenden.org.uk

Fundraiser: "100 club" lottery scheme. Monthly draw. email 100club@chillenden.org.uk

Elmstone Church, St Mildred's Preston & All Saints, Stourmouth

Happy Hour Elmstone: 1st Friday of month 6.30pm

Elmstone Village Fete & Open Church: Sunday 10th May 2.30pm. Stalls, BBQ, ponies, Games, Teas/cakes in The Church, All profits to Age Concern Sandwich and Friends of Elmstone & Preston Churches

Friends' event: St Mildred's 14th June 2.30-4.30pm. Teas, cakes and stalls. If you are able to help please let us know - cake donations welcome also!

Holy Cross, Goodnestone

Change Ringing event: We are proud to host this competition, which has been running since 1965! Bringing together lots of different bellringing groups, including those from our Benefice. Competition ringing will finish by 3.30, but there may be informal ringing until 6. There are training towers in the Benefice, if you are interested please ask.

Friday 15th May 7.30pm: Zvarder Trio, violin, piano, cell. Tickets £12

St Mary's Nonington

Coffeestop Baptist Chapel Thursdays 10-12

Happy Hour: Monthly (3rd Fri) 6.30pm

Compline: Monthly Zoom, contact churchwarden

Seekers: Please check with churchwarden

St Nicholas' Church, Ash

Sunday 17th May 3pm: Ringlemere Ensemble tickets £15 including refreshments. Students £7.