

**For Canonry Benefice giving visit:**

<https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/contact-us/finances-and-giving/> Every penny counts!

**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!

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/mission/caring-for-creation/what-are-we-doing-as-a-diocese>

**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](mailto:rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com)

**Together:** 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](http://www.together.org.uk) Diocese LGBTQIA+ Advisor Fr Denis, email [LGBTQIA+adviser@diocant.org](mailto:LGBTQIA+adviser@diocant.org)

**Confirmation:** Canterbury Cathedral is holding a confirmation service 7th November 2026. If you would like to know more about welcoming God through Jesus Christ more fully into your life, contact Rev Caroline.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/confirmations/confirmation-faqs>

**Interested in being a lay reader?** More info here:

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/ministry/recognising-lay-ministry/worship/>

**See our leaflet about volunteering with us!**

There are so many ways to get involved. Also share your ideas <https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/get-involved/join-a-team/>

**Safeguarding Statement**

The Canonry Benefice acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard & promote the welfare of all adults & children & is committed to ensuring safeguarding practises reflect statutory responsibilities as well as Government & Diocesan guidance thus complying with best practice. Our policy recognises that the welfare of adults & children is paramount. Regardless of age, ability or disability, gender reassignment, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation & social economic background everyone is welcome.

**Safeguarding and Lone Working:**

lone working policy ensures the safety and well-being of employees who work alone, giving guidance on how to stay safe what to do in emergency situations. If this applies to you, please take a moment to familiarise yourself with key steps to take when working alone and endeavour to always work in pairs if possible.

<https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/about-the-canonry-benefice/safeguarding-statement/>

**People's Emergency Briefing Film – Littlebourne**

On the climate and nature crisis.

**Saturday 17 October 2026**

Booking for free places to see the People's Emergency Briefing film in Littlebourne is opening this weekend.

[www.nebriefing.org](http://www.nebriefing.org)

<https://buytickets.at/fourvillageeco/2415574>

**The Churches within the Canonry Benefice**

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

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Trinity**

**Readings**

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

**Prayer**

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, now every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**NEXT SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> October**

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden  
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash  
 Family Service & HC, 10.30am St Mildred's, Preston  
 Breakfast Church, 9.30am, St Mary's, Nonington

**NEXT SUNDAY 18<sup>th</sup> October**

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

**NEW Family Group!**

**Tots Praise** is starting on 5<sup>th</sup> November and will continue weekly on Thursdays during term time. 10-11am at St Nicholas, Ash. A short service with puppets, story, snack and play time. Stay on for a cup of tea at the Welcome Space.

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

**Women's Breakfast** 3rd Sat monthly 9-10am, The Vicarage. Next is 17<sup>th</sup> October venue. For venue please check with Reverend Caroline.

**Bacon Buddies:** Men's group last Saturday of the month 9am, Staple. Dan 07753743020. Next 31<sup>st</sup> October

We have had a great start to our Autumn Homegroups! It's never too late to join.

**Morning Home Group** Six dates in the lead up to Christmas. Fortnightly Tuesdays 9.30 - 11 am: 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> December. All welcome. Contact Rev Barbara for venue information.

**Evening Home Group** Our Homegroup Autumn Term is at Delphine's. Next dates 20<sup>th</sup>, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Social evening with meal on Tuesday December 1<sup>st</sup>. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709. All welcome.

As we move through this season together, we're reminded that the gifts God gives us are never meant to be held tightly. Whether it's time, kindness, a listening ear, or practical help, sharing what we have strengthens our community and reflects Christ's love in action. **Proverbs 11:25** — "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

**Thank You!**

What a wonderful turnout for last week's **MacMillan fundraiser** at St Nicholas, Ash We raised £321.50. We couldn't have done it without our volunteers who helped on the day and in the preparation - and to those who donated cakes and raffle prizes. Thanks to all those who came along, bought raffle tickets or donated money, it will really help the charity. It was lovely to have so many people in the church today it was such a special atmosphere with lots of chat and many wrote messages to loved ones on the memory tree which will be kept in church until our All Souls service in November. Please do call in and write a message. Laurie - you won a raffle prize! Contact us to collect.

Thank you so much to **Mim Oliver from Porchlight** who came to speak to us in Goodnestone and Ash last Sunday. It was a thought-provoking talk about the realities of homelessness across Canterbury, and about the people and circumstances behind the statistics. Homelessness can happen for many different reasons, and Porchlight works alongside people facing some of the most difficult and challenging circumstances imaginable.

For 50 years, Porchlight has been working to tackle both the causes and consequences of homelessness, offering people safety, stability and respect, and helping them towards a future in which they can live the life they want.

Mim talked about the realities of homelessness in our own area, and, if you are able, give to support Porchlight's vital work. If you couldn't join us but would still like to make a donation, please contact Reverend Caroline and she can let you know how you can give.

**All Saints, Chillenden**

**www.chillenden.org.uk**

**Fundraiser:** "100 club" lottery scheme. Monthly draw. email [100club@chillenden.org.uk](mailto:100club@chillenden.org.uk)

**Evensong led by East Kent Evensong** at Chillenden on 22nd Nov. 3pm rehearsal for a 5pm start. We have had such lovely feedback from previous events and look forward to another great evening of singing.

**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

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

**Happy Hour Elmstone:** 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of month 6.30pm

**Holy Cross, Goodnestone**

**Next concert: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 7pm**

Goodnestone Choir. Organist Malcolm Kittle-Evans. A concert of sacred and secular Choral Music. Retiring Collection

**Choir rehearsal** Tuesday eves 7-8pm. For info: [denyer@doctors.org.uk](mailto:denyer@doctors.org.uk).

**Post Office:** in church Mondays 9-11am

**St Nicholas' Church, Ash**

**Warm Welcome Space** runs every Thursday 11-2 at Ash church. A FREE space to chat and meet others or simply spend time in church for a pause from busy schedules. Teas, coffees, rolls and cakes are served (no charge). If you are able to help or can drop in bread, milk, cakes etc please speak to Sarah Pigott or sign up <https://mealtrain.com/8nrk01>