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

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
Diocese LGBTQI+ Advisor Fr Denis,
email LGBTQI+adviser@diocant.org

Confirmation: 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/

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: Next dates 17th November, 1st & 15th December. All welcome. Contact Rev Barbara for information.
Evening Home Group Our Homegroup Autumn Term is at Delphine's. Next is November 17th. Social evening with meal on Tuesday December 1st. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709. All welcome.

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

Women's Breakfast 3rd Sat monthly 9-10am, The Vicarage. Next is 21st November.
Bacon Buddies: Men's group last Saturday of the month 9am, Staple. Dan 07753743020. Next 28th November.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Churches within the Canonry Benefice

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

Sunday 15th November
2nd Sunday before Advent

Readings

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

Prayer

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THIS SUNDAY 15th November
Safeguarding Sunday
Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone
Holy Communion, 9am, St Nicholas, Ash
Service of the Word, 10.30am, Elmstone Church
Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash
Afternoon Talk: The Augustine Camino Sun 15th November 2pm Pilgrimage walk through Kent by Andrew Kelly. Free entry, teas and coffees on sale.

NEXT SUNDAY 22nd November
Stir Up Sunday! Get stirring pudding mix whilst welcoming Advent. Then eat the cake on Christmas day with a shot of something festive!
9am, All Saints, Chillenden
10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash

SUNDAY 29th November
10.30am, Benefice Service, St Mildred's, Preston
6.30pm,Advent Carol Service,Holy Cross, G'dnestone

Afternoon Tea: Barbara, Helen and Stephen Way invite you to come to 17 Chequer Lane on Friday afternoon 27th November between 2 pm & 4.30pm in aid of the Motor Neurone Disease Association**.** Drop in or stay for a while and enjoy a cuppa and a slice of cake, a savoury quiche or a scone and please leave a donation in aid of MNDA, in aid of all the wonderful help they offer to people and to aid the ongoing research in the hope of a possible cure and meanwhile ways to enhance life for those suffering from MND. You will be very welcome. Thank you.

Community Christmas Meal St Nicholas, Ash
Saturday 12th December 6.30pm. A free event open to all – food, raffle and community spirit! Donations welcome on the day. Sign up sheet in church or via https://thecanonrybenefice.churchsuite.com/events/j303iggy

Our **NEW! Tots Praise** weekly on Thursdays 10-11am at St Nicholas, Ash.Story, snack, songs and play time. We are so excited to bring this to our church and look forward to meeting lots of families in a relaxed atmosphere. Stay on afterwards for a cup of tea at the Welcome Space Café which starts immediately afterwards.

Reverend Caroline writes: It's Safeguarding Sunday this week. I know some of you may inwardly groan at the thought of yet more safeguarding, but I want to remind us why it matters so much. At a time when we hear far too many stories of people abusing positions of trust and influence, and when the Church itself has some painful lessons to learn from its past, we have a real responsibility to make our churches among the safest places in our communities. When I took on this role, I was clear that safeguarding is a priority, and there is no grey area about that.

Our Warm Space has just celebrated its first birthday – happy birthday, Warm Space! It was set up to offer warmth, friendship and a place of belonging in the village of Ash. And that's exactly what we want our churches and community hubs to be: welcoming, inclusive and safe places for everyone.

Safeguarding is part of that welcome. So perhaps we can shift our response from 'Not another bit of training!' to 'What more can we do to make sure everyone feels safe, valued and cared for?' That's something worth investing in.

Remembrance: It was wonderful to see so many of the community attend and share in remembrance. Thank you to our church teams, volunteers and local youth groups.

Elmstone Church, St Mildred's Preston & All Saints, Stourmouth
Talk: The Augustine Camino Sun 15th November 2pm Pilgrimage walk through Kent by Andrew Kelly. Free entry, teas and coffees on sale.
Happy Hour Elmstone: 1st Friday of month 6.30pm We are pleased to announce a return visit by Lees Court. **Elmstone church Friday 18th December 5.30pm** It promises to be an excellent event!

All Saints, Chillenden
www.chillenden.org.uk
Fundraiser: "100 club" lottery scheme. Monthly draw. email 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
Art Show: 19th, 20th and 21st November 10-5pm with lovely art and refreshments! Funds raised go to the Friends of Nonington Church.
Coffeestop: Baptist Chapel Thursdays 10-12
Happy Hour: Monthly (3rd Fri) 6.30pm
Compline: Monthly Zoom, contact churchwarden
Seekers: Please check with churchwarden
13th December Candlelit Carols in Mary's at 6pm
18th December Happy Hour 6.30pm
19th December Crib Service in St Marys at 3pm
20th December Carols at the Baptist Chapel 10.30am
24th December Holy Communion in St Mary's at 11.30pm - "Midnight Mass"
Date for the diary! 17th January 2027 Plough Sunday. Choral Evensong in St Mary's with Goodnestone choir

Holy Cross, Goodnestone
News! 40 years now have a wonderful window in the tower with a fantastic view. We are hoping to do tower tours in the new year.
Hythe U3A Swing Band: Saturday 21st November 6.30pm. Live music, dancing in the aisles allowed! Details from Sue Baker. Pay on door card or cash.
Advent Carol Service: Sunday 29th November 6.30pm
Choir rehearsal Tuesday eves 7-8pm. For info: denyer@doctors.org.uk.
Post Office: in church Mondays 9-11am

St Nicholas' Church, Ash
Meal Train: We are supporting a local family, if you can help please contact Sarah Piggot or sign up https://mealtrain.com/9d693v
Warm Welcome Space Every Thursday 11-2 A FREE space to chat and meet others or spend time in church. 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*
Warm Welcome Space 1st Birthday celebration! on Thursday 3rd December 11-2pm
Village Hall Coffee Morning hosted by the Friends Sat 5th Dec 10-12, refreshments, stalls, raffle!
Wreath Tabletop Sale: Saturday 12th December in church 2-4pm. Made by our flower arrangers.