

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

Disability Inclusion Conference: Sat 3rd October 10-4pm, St Mary Bredin Church, Canterbury. Many people in congregations may be neurodiverse and/or living with disabilities or health conditions. This conference invites church and worship leaders to explore what welcome and inclusion could look like in their church.

The day will include talks and workshops covering practical, spiritual and theological aspects of disability awareness and inclusion, with opportunities to: Explore accessibility options for buildings and worship, discuss the theology of disability, healing & wholeness, learn some practical tips to support people in your context, have a Q&A with the Disability Advisor to the Bishop of Dover and members of the ENABLE team who have a range of lived and professional experiences. There is no fee to attend, but a donation to support the work of the ENABLE Team would be much appreciated.

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/>



The Churches within the Canonry Benefice

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

**Sunday 20th September
Harvest**

16th Sunday after Trinity

Readings

Philippians 1.21-end

Matthew 20.1-16

Prayer

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIS SUNDAY 20th September (Harvest)

Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone
 Holy Communion, 9am, St Nicholas Church, Ash
 Service of the Word, 10.30am, Elmstone Church
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash

Cancelled: Benefice Praise evening 20th Sept 5pm, Ash. Apologies for any inconvenience.

NEXT SUNDAY 27th September

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden (Harvest)
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash
 Evensong, 6.30pm, All Saints, Stourmouth (Harvest)

Warm Welcome Space Thursdays 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>
October 1st: Fundraiser for MacMillan Cancer
 Head along for cakes for sale and a raffle from 11.00am - 2.00pm.

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

Women's Breakfast 3rd Sat monthly 9-10am, The Vicarage. The October venue will be confirmed.

Bacon Buddies: Men's group last Saturday of the month 9am, Staple. Dan 07753743020 **NEXT 26th September.**

Evening Home Group Our Homegroup Autumn Term starts this month at Delphine's. The dates are: September 22nd, October 6th and 20th, November 3rd and 17th. Social evening with meal on Tuesday December 1st. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709. All welcome.

Morning Home Group Six dates in the lead up to Christmas. Fortnightly Tuesdays 9.30 - 11 am: 6th & 20th October, 3rd & 17th November, 1st & 15th December. Venues to be announced. All welcome. Contact Rev Barbara.

Welcome to our Services today celebrating Harvest!

Rev Caroline writes: Being a Christian isn't just about going to church on a Sunday. It is more to do with our personal relationship with the living and ever-present God in our lives. When we start this journey of faith, it takes us deeper into something that enriches us, and enables us to be fully the people we were created to be. There are always so many opportunities to explore what that might be like - how that feels and what that means in practice. I believe that having a faith is not static; something fixed in time, but something that grows within us, sometimes to the point of bursting out, which is why we are church! So we can express this faith with one another and encourage each other to work out how to do this well.

I've been on holiday, and always set foot in any church along the way. Montenegro was no exception. I sought peace, I wanted to talk to God - to pray, and I wanted to be inspired to see what's next with God. I wonder what is next with God for each of you.

As you're reading this, what are you being challenged to take up in your daily life; to grow and deepen your faith? If you're not yet baptised, get baptised. If you want to make a commitment of faith, get confirmed. If you want to go deeper, get on the deepening discipleship course with the Diocese. Let's join in with what God is doing and praise Him for He is so so good!!!

What we do as the Canonry Benefice is full of life. We want to hear how God is shaking up our lives and the blessings we're experiencing. Thank you to Denyer for sharing in our Benefice Briefing what is going on with the music in Goodnestone - amazing. We need to hear from you all - less information, but more fun. Pictures and voices. Tell us what you're enjoying in church at the moment.

(join the weekly Benefice Briefing email list via our website or email thecanonrybenefice@gmail.com)

Saturday 21st Nov: The Benefice Big Breakfast Vision morning! 9am-1pm to share breakfast together and then chat together about our vision, direction and priorities for our churches and the Benefice as a whole. Our previous away day was amazing and fun, all welcome! More details to follow.

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

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: 1st Friday of month 6.30pm

Holy Cross, Goodnestone

Post Office: in church Mondays 9-11am

Choir rehearsal Tuesday eves 7-8pm. For info: denyer@doctors.org.uk.

St Nicholas' Church, Ash

Harvest Festival: Supporting The Salvation Army in Margate. Suggested donations of:

Non-perishable foods (Please ensure tinned products have ring pulls). Tinned tuna, tinned fruit, cuppa soups, pot noodles, instant coffee sachets, squash.

Long-dated perishable Foods Individual portions/variety pack of cereals. Individual 15g portions of spreads such as jam, marmalade, honey & Nutella. Crackers. Cheese sticks/bread sticks. Crisps. Cereal Bars. Paste (meat/fish)

Suggested Hygiene Products Hairbrushes/Combs. Toothbrushes / Toothpaste (travel size). Sanitary products. Travel Shampoo/Conditioner/Shower gel (Travel Size). Deodorant. Wet Wipes. Hats/gloves.

There will be collection boxes in the church porch until Sunday 20th September. Thank you