

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 26th April
4th Sunday of Easter

Readings

Acts 2:42-end
John 10:1-10

Prayer

Risen Christ, faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathering into one flock, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THIS SUNDAY 26TH APRIL

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash
 Evensong, 5pm St Clement's, Knowlton – see info below

NEXT SUNDAY 3RD MAY

Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone
 Morning Prayer, 9am, St Nicholas, Ash (no 10.30 today)
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, Elmstone
 Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Mary's, Nonington
 followed by APCM

Bacon Buddies: Men's group: breakfast, chat, chillout in the woods. Last Saturday in the month 9am. Piglet Place, Fleming Road, Staple, CT3 1LG. Contact Dan on 07753743020 **25th April (NOTE THIS ONE IS AT THE VICARAGE), then 30th May.**

Women's Breakfast 3rd Sat of each month 9-10am at The Vicarage in Ash. **Next 16th May** Tea, croissants, fellowship, friendly faces!

Home Groups

The evening Home Group continues on Tuesday 21st April, 5th May, 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. We will be looking at different aspects of prayer.

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.

<https://www.warmwelcome.uk/find-a-space#map>

Could you be an Eco-church champion? - someone who can 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!

Rev Caroline writes:

Join us for the Come & Sing Choral Evensong this Sunday evening 26th April at St Clement's, Knowlton. These are organised by Phil Price, who lives in Sandwich. Phil is an experienced church music conductor and choral singer, and is hoping to attract the support of all who enjoy singing Choral Evensong and who love Kent's country churches. Rehearsal at 3pm.

Prayer Festival 30th May, West Malling: We recently held our Prayer Oasis Day for the Benefice which was a blessing to those who attended. Learning about prayer in a different way and enabling those who attended to try new things. Following from that, Susanne Carlsson, who heads up prayer in the Rochester Diocese, is leading this prayer festival which will be a treat for those who attend. I 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. If you are interested, please book yourself on using the link <https://tickets.myiknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzAxLTkwNA/t>, and let me know, as I will hopefully be coming along too.

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 - it's a great way to get to know one another better. 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. Please do join in with our Canonry Community walk.
Caroline

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! Last year it drizzled but we still had a good group!

Pentecost 24th May: The festival when Christians celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit. 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.

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
Friends' event: St Mildred's 14th June 2.30-4.30pm

Holy Cross, Goodnestone

Saturday May 2nd 7pm: An evening of Song with Catherine and Sabrina -classical duets for sopranos, retiring collection.
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

It is hoped the bellringers will give a display of ringing on the Sunday & Monday morning of the bank holiday weekend ahead of a district competition they are entering on 9th May!

Friends' Art Exhibition: 2nd to 4th May – see posters.

Sun 3rd 9am service to pray for our artists.

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

Sparks Sunday School back at Ash 10th May!

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.

Nonington APCM 3rd May after church

Ash APCM 10th May after church

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

Chillenden APCM Friday 29th May at the Village Hall 4pm

Goodnestone APCM Friday 29th May in church, 10.30am