

### Breakfast!

**Women's Breakfast:** 3rd Sat of each month 9.00am-10.00am: **Next 20<sup>th</sup> Dec** If you would like to come along, let Reverend Caroline know.

**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. **Next 29<sup>th</sup> Nov**, 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, 28<sup>th</sup> Feb (taking a break in Dec).

### Sparks Sunday School at St Nicholas, Ash

The Church is a place where ALL are welcome, and that means we love to see children come along and be part of everything we do. Sparks is our children's group which runs in the side chapel of St Nicholas Church in Ash during the service, with fun, chat, craft and basic teaching about Christian values and Bible stories. The children then join the rest of the church family for the end of the service and refreshments after. The service lasts just over an hour and starts at 10.30 each week during term time. More info from canonryvicar@gmail.com or see our website.

**Ash with Westmarsh Parish Mag.** Available from Co-op and Poparound shops in Ash and St Nicholas Church. To subscribe and have the magazine delivered to your door please phone or email the editor Rebecca Smith on 07743 605873 [rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com)

### Deal Foodbank donation point at 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.

### Recycling fundraisers for local schools.

Collection boxes in the church porches at Ash (bread bags/batteries) and Goodnestone (batteries).

### 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/>

### For Canonry Benefice giving visit:

<https://thecanonrybenefice.org.uk/contact-us/finances-and-giving/> Every penny really counts and goes directly towards keeping our churches open.

### Parish Support Conference 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Come along and learn more about how churches in the Diocese can run more smoothly. From welcome to buildings to finance. A dedicated day designed to equip and inspire parish teams to make the most of your church buildings - hosted by the Generous Giving team and sponsored by Ecclesiastical.

**When? Thursday 21 May 2026 | 9:45am-3:30pm**

**Where? Lenham Community Hall**

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/parishsupport/generosity-giving/upcoming-events.php>

Safeguarding and Lone Working:

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

### Confirmation

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

If you would like to know more about getting confirmed please contact Reverend Caroline [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

### Interested in being a lay reader?

<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/ministry/reader-ministry/licensed-lay-ministry-reader>

### Benefice Churches open for private prayer

**Ash, Goodnestone, Nonington, Stourmouth:** daily in daylight hours **Chillenden:** weekends 10am-5pm **Elmstone, Preston:** upon request

**Weekly Prayer Group:** 9.30am every Weds at the Vicarage. Turn up or email [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

Scan to go to  
Benefice



The Canonry  
website



## The Churches within the Canonry Benefice

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

### 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 Sunday next before Advent

Today is **Stir up Sunday**, a special day including  
stirring pudding mix & welcoming Advent!

#### Readings

Jeremiah 23.1-6

Psalms 46

Colossians 1.11-20

Luke 23.33-43

#### Prayer

God the Father, help us to hear the call of  
Christ the King and to follow in his  
service, whose kingdom has no end; for  
he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory. Amen

**THIS SUNDAY SERVICES 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**  
**STIR UP SUNDAY**

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden  
Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash

Dating back to Victorian times, **Stir-up Sunday** is a British tradition that pinpoints the day to make your Christmas pudding on the last Sunday before Advent.

**NEXT SUNDAY SERVICE 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**  
**WHOLE BENEFICE SERVICE**

Holy Communion, 10.30am, Elmstone Church

**New! Walk Church starts THIS SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**November** - meet at Goodnestone church 1.45 for walk, talk and fellowship, and of course refreshments afterwards! Suitable for all the family, dogs welcome. It will be around the Serpentine, approx. 3 miles, flat walk, all weathers. Working to one of the 3 bold outcomes- to build new worshipping communities.  
<https://www.canterburydiocese.org/our-life/strategy/3-bold-outcomes/>

**Tuesday Morning Home Group:** 9.30am until 11.00 am at Marion and Denis' home. Continues on 2nd December & 16th December. Please ring Reverend Barbara on 07703 183980 for full information.

**Benefice Home Group Evening:** We meet on every first and third Tuesday at 7.30pm. The home group meets at Fiona Ridge's and sometimes at Delphine's. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709.

**Ash Village Warm Space in St Nicholas Church** has launched! We are gearing up for winter by offering a Warm, Welcome, FREE space to everyone in our village community each Thursday 11am-2pm. There will be a friendly welcome, free tea/coffee and a mug of hot homemade soup with a roll. Warm Welcome Spaces come in all shapes and sizes, but are places where people of all ages, cultures, backgrounds, faiths, and walks of life can come together. Last winter, more than 5,300 Warm Welcome Spaces hosted 2.6 million people.

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

A Big Thank you to Olea Grove for bringing home made pizza, bread and cookies to share!

**Reverend Caroline Writes:** Hello! The message is the same this week as we remain excited about the upcoming Advent season! For this to be the joy that we hope for, please get involved. You can spread the word about our upcoming events, help deliver our Benefice Christmas card which is being printed as we speak, listing all our services and events. And just come along to support our local churches.

Today is **Stir up Sunday** – join us at Chillenden or Ash for this special service and get stirring pudding mix whilst welcoming Advent. Then eat the cake on Christmas day with a shot of something festive! Then **WINTERFEST, in Ash**. This is coming around quickly so please could you support us on Sat 13th December by donating bottles, tombola prizes & teddies. please drop them off at the church or the vicarage in Ash. If you can help on the day please email [thecanonrybenefice@gmail.com](mailto:thecanonrybenefice@gmail.com).

**NEXT WEEK is a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month which means we hold our whole benefice service at Elmstone Church, 10.30am. All welcome from all our churches.**

**Wreath Making at St Nicholas, Ash** We still have spaces - last year was great fun and a wonderful way to get into the festive spirit in the beautiful, spacious surroundings of the church. A chance to benefit from the expertise of our talented flower arranging team. £30 to include all materials and refreshments. **WHAT A BARGAIN!** Raising money for the church. This is definitely one not to miss! For info and Email [festivearrangements@gmail.com](mailto:festivearrangements@gmail.com)

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

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

**Cribs from around the World:** Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Dec 2.30-4.30pm, St Mildred's, Preston.

**Lees Court Music Concert Elmstone:** 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5.30pm

**Bus Stop Carols:** Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Dec, 5pm, Preston Village

**Stourmouth:** Work on Stourmouth church tower is in progress. The **Christmas concert** will be Weds 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.30pm with Thanet Festival Choir.

**All Saints, Chillenden**

**www.chillenden.org.uk**

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

**Holy Cross, Goodnestone**

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

**Caritas Chamber Choir Eternal Chant:** 16<sup>th</sup> Nov 6pm

Directed by Benedict Preece. Tickets £10 on the door

**NEW!** Walk Church 1.45pm starting Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov

**Advent Carol Service** 30<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm. Music and readings for Advent

**Christmas Carol Service** 21<sup>st</sup> December 6.30pm

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

**St Mary's Nonington**

**Christmas Tree Festival** Dec 12/13/14/ 11am- 4pm

**Candlelit Carols:** 6pm 14<sup>th</sup> Dec mulled wine/mince pies.

**Coffeestop** Baptist Chapel Thursdays 10-12

**Happy Hour:** Monthly (3rd Fri) 6.30pm

**Compline:** Monthly Zoom, contact churchwarden

**Seekers:** Please check with churchwarden

Services 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month. (3rd & 4th Sundays' worship is shared at the Baptist Chapel)

**St Nicholas' Church, Ash**

**The Friends of St Nicholas Coffee Morning:** Sat 6<sup>th</sup> Dec 10-12, Stalls, raffle, refreshments, warmth and welcome! Cake and raffle prize donations please. They should be delivered to the village hall at 9 am on Saturday 6th December. Thank you!

**To mark St Nicholas' Day**, we are supporting Liberty House in Canterbury which provides accommodation for homeless young women who've experienced domestic abuse and are pregnant or have a young baby. We've been asked to collect Baby wipes, nappies, toiletries, new baby clothes/bedding, toys, gifts for the mums. There will be collecting boxes in church from 1<sup>st</sup> -7th Dec (by the Font)

**Sat 6th Dec** Wreath making workshop

**Sun 7th Dec** St Nicholas Day Service

**Sat 13th Dec** Winterfest Christmas Fayre 2-5pm

**Sat 14th Dec** Candlelit Carols 6.30pm

**Sat 20th Dec** Holy Dusting, est. time 9-11am

**Mon 22nd Dec** Community Carols outside church 6.30pm

**Weds 24th Dec** Parade from Pound Corner & Nativity.

**Church cleaning:** Can you spare an hour or two once a month? Flexible timings. Contact [spigott91@gmail.com](mailto:spigott91@gmail.com)

**Meal train:** We are running this for the Warm Space initiative. Can you help and be a soup volunteer and help us provide soup, bread etc for our new Warm Space Initiative? Let Sarah Pigott know.