

Notices

Community Café

The Community Café started well last week a great opportunity to meet new people whilst enjoying the refreshments on offer to purchase. The café will continue for the next 5 weeks.

Pre Advent-Lunch - The Advent Lunch at Newchurch House Restaurant on Romney March on Thursday November 23rd begins at Noon for 12:30pm. The postcode for the Restaurant, which is in the only street of the village off the through road is where the Church, is and the postcode is TN 29 0DZ and telephone number is 01303 872553.

Celebrating Life Festival from Friday June 21st to June 30th featuring a Flower Festival with events for schools, concerts and choirs, workshops, literary days, charities, and professional lectures in the fields of education, health, end of life care and dialogue re Christian ministry in a changing society as well as meals, daily prayer, and special Sunday Services. Specific timetabled details will be available by the end of the year.

Book these dates now...

Christmas across the Parish In December

At St Stephens

- **Sunday 10th** - 10am Morning Worship and making your christingle.

At St Philips

- **Wednesday 13th – 6.30pm** Christmas Cheer and Joy!
- **Sunday 17th 10am** Carol s and Readings around the Christmas Events
- **Monday 18th** from 6pm Carol Singing around the streets ending with soup and rolls.
- **Sunday 24th Christmas Eve 5pm** Community and Church Christingle
- **Sunday 31st 10am** Morning Worship to prepare for the New Year

At All Saints

- **Sunday 3rd – 10.00am** Parish Eucharist
- **3.30pm** Choral Evensong
- **Saturday 23rd-** 4.30pm The Carol Service
- **Sunday 24th – Christmas Eve 3.30pm** The Christingle Service
- **11.30pm** - The First Communion of Christmas
- **Monday 25th – Christmas Day 10am** Christmas Family Communion

The Parish of All Saints
With St Philip, Maidstone and
St Stephen, Tovil

Sunday 19th November 2023
The Second Sunday before Advent



10am Parish Eucharist at St Philips

Next Week's Service's

Sunday 26th November
Christ the King
Sunday Next before Advent

10.00am Christ the King
(This service will be a Litany for World Peace)
At St Stephens (Archbishop Courtenay School)

Collect

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed
to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs
of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope,
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great
glory we may be made like him in his eternal
and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons,
brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. For you yourselves
know very well that the day of the Lord will
come like a thief in the night. When they say,
'There is peace and security', then sudden
destruction will come upon them, as labour
pains come upon a pregnant woman, and
there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are
not in darkness, for that day to surprise you
like a thief; for you are all children of light and
children of the day; we are not of the night or
of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as
others do, but let us keep awake and be

sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with

interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Post Communion

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Special prayers

*Matt 5.3 'Blessed are the poor in spirit,
For theirs is the kingdom of heaven'*

*Daphne Holland, Mary Wheeler, Jane Sadler,
Sue Marks, Pamela Hocking, Claire & Family*

Deceased

John Fowler

*John Fowler died peacefully on Saturday evening
November 5th in his Nursing Home.
His Committal will be private and for family only.
However a Service of Thanksgiving for his life is
to be held in All Saints Church on Tuesday
December 5th at Noon to which all are welcome
to attend. We reassure Rosemary, Timothy and
Rachel and their close family of our prayers at
this challenging time when so many decisions
have to be made, that God of peace and comfort
will surround them in his love at this time.*

Vicar: All saints, Maidstone with St. Philip's, and St. Stephen's Tovil

The Very Revd. John S. Richardson
vicarjsr@icloud.com

Landline Number – 01303 980027

**Please note Revd John will be on Leave on
Wednesdays of each week.**

Church Wardens:

Denise Joy – denisejoy@maidstone.gov.uk

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