

## 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](mailto:rebeccasmith.ash@gmail.com)

## Recycling fundraisers for local schools.

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

\*Accepted: Any brand of bakery plastic packaging and bread bags/closures

Not accepted: Paper bags, wax packets, or combined paper-and-film window bag

## See our leaflet about volunteering with us!

There are so many ways to get involved. Also share your ideas

<https://thecanonybenefice.org.uk/get-involved/join-a-team/>

## For Canonry Benefice giving visit:

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

## Safeguarding and Lone Working:

<https://thecanonybenefice.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>

## Canterbury Diocese 'Together' Winter social

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 5pm, St Paul's Church Centre, Canterbury. Informal gathering, with light refreshments, praying for positive change. [www.togethercofe.org.uk](http://www.togethercofe.org.uk)

RSVP to [vicar@stalphege.org.uk](mailto:vicar@stalphege.org.uk).

## Deanery Candlemass Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2026

St Mary's Church Wingham. 2pm Scratch Choir - come and learn a new song or two to sing in the service at 4pm. Mulled wine, hot drinks, cake and chat! Bring candles from church or home to be blessed. A beautiful service for all ages to bring our East Bridge parishes together! If you need a lift or happy to car share let Rev Caroline know.

## 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. 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>

## Benefice Churches open for private prayer

### Ash, Goodnestone, Nonington, Stourmouth:

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

## Scan for The Canonry Benefice website



## The Churches within the Canonry Benefice

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

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3

### Readings

Jeremiah 1.4-10

Acts 9.1-22

Psalm 67

Galatians 1.11-16a

Matthew 19.27-end

### Prayer

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

## **THIS SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026**

Holy Communion, 9am, All Saints, Chillenden  
Holy Communion, 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash  
Organ recital, 6pm, Holy Cross, Goodnestone

## **NEXT SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2026**

Holy Communion, 9am, Holy Cross, Goodnestone  
Holy Communion, 10.30am, Elmstone Church  
Family Worship 10.30am, St Nicholas, Ash  
Holy Communion, 10.30am St Mary's, Nonington

## **Sparks Sunday School at St Nicholas, Ash**

The Church is a place where ALL are welcome, 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 & basic teaching about Christian values & Bible stories. The children then join the rest of the church family for the end of the service and refreshments. The service is just over an hour starting 10.30 each week during term time. More info [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

## **Ash Village Warm Space, St Nicholas, Ash**

A Warm, Welcome, FREE space to all 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.

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

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Jan – PC Bowler will join us for a drop-in clinic – no need to book.**

**Wednesday Morning Prayer Group:** 10am every Wednesday at The Vicarage. All welcome. Enquiries to the vicar, or just turn up!

**Can you help?** We need volunteers to help organise and run our Benefice Wedding Preparation Day on 7th March (Ash) - supporting our 2026 Benefice couples as they plan their weddings & blessings. Lots of ways to support.

email [thecanonybenefice@gmail.com](mailto:thecanonybenefice@gmail.com) if you can help or sign up on the sheet in Ash porch.

Epiphany is the time when we remember how Jesus was shown to the world like a bright light in the darkness. In our gospel this week we are assured that Jesus sees every good choice, even the small ones and that God's Rewards are deeper than material things and include love, joy, belonging, and being part of His forever family.

It is not too late to join us for the next session of our **Start Course on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 7pm**. The sessions are once a fortnight until Easter to explore what Christianity is really all about with the opportunity for some discussion, asking all the tricky questions, and hopefully discovering God's love along the way. Enquiries to [canonryvicar@gmail.com](mailto:canonryvicar@gmail.com)

## **Home Groups/Lent courses**

**Tuesday Morning Home Group:** 9.30am until 11.00 am (Ash) The Group will continue to meet for two more sessions before Lent **27<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> February**. Then we will be running a morning **Lent course** on Tuesdays during Lent - more info and exact dates soon. Contact Revd Barbara on 07703 183980

**Benefice Home Group Evening:** We meet on every first & third Tuesday at 7.30pm. Next is **3<sup>rd</sup> February**. Contact Andrew & Hilary 07510 358709.

This group will run as a **Lent course** in the lead up to Easter -17/2, 24/2, 3/3, 10/3, 17/3, 24/3.

**Women's Breakfast** 3rd Sat of each month 9-10am in Ash. Tea, croissants, fellowship, friendly faces! If you want to join let Rev 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 31<sup>st</sup> Jan** (same address but indoors!)

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

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

**Stourmouth Open Day & Cake sale:** Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Jan 2-4pm. Photos/displays of recent tower restoration. Free entry. Tea and cakes on sale.

## **All Saints, Chillenden**

[www.chillenden.org.uk](http://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

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

**Organ recital 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 6pm.** Benedict Preece. Retiring collection

## **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**

**Vote for our flower arrangers!** The Parish Council Annual Community Award is open for nominations! For individuals or groups who had made a contribution to the local community. Make a nomination for the Ash Flower Arrangers with just 30 words of support by the end of January – details here.

<https://ashparishcouncil.gov.uk/news/who-should-be-recognised-for-their-significant-contribution-to-the-parish-of-ash/>

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

**Meal train:** We are running this for the Warm Space initiative that we run every Thursday. 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.

**Rising Sun** – the local charity we supported for St Nicholas Day sent us a lovely letter – it's on the noticeboard. Thank you to all who donated items.