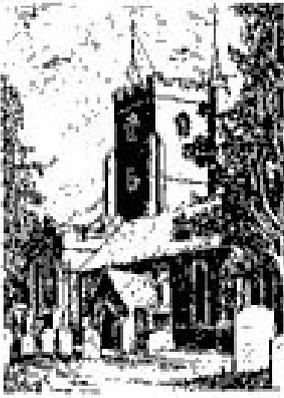


RENDEZVOUS



The Magazine of the Folkestone Town Benefice of
St Mary and St Eanswythe
with
St Saviour

Volume 50 No. 11 **November 2023** £1



Who's Who in the Parish

Clergy

Rev Dr John Walker, The Vicarage, Priory Gardens 07980 692813
 rev.dr.john.walker@gmail.com

St Mary & St Eanswythe's

Parish Administrator	Rosie Mockett		252947
	email: sainteanswythe@gmail.com		
Churchwardens	Tom Bertram,	07748 434341	01303 890986
	Andrew Plested, 201 Canterbury Road	07860 175123	241124
PCC Hon. Secretary			252947
Hon. Treasurers	} Pam Keeling, 13 Wellfield Road, Folkestone CT20 2PJ		244876
Planned Giving	} Jenny Coleman		
Gift Aid	}		
PCC Members	Jan Clarke	Jenny Coleman	
	Marilyn Edey	Vicky Friedrich (Synod Rep)	
	Catriona Hunter	Pam Keeling	
	Patricia Skelsted	David Wright	
	If you would like to get in touch with any member of the PCC please contact the Parish Office (01303 252947)		
Electoral Roll	Rosie Mockett		252947
Organist and Choir Director	Malcolm Munro	sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com	
Children's Church	Clare Tomlinson		07751 423796
Safeguarding Officer	Caroline Hayward	cazrolinehayward@gmail.com	07876 358918
Church Day Schools	St Mary's, Warren Road	Head Teacher - Amanda Wolfram	251390
	St Eanswythe's, Church Street	Head Teacher - Claire Jacobs	255516
Church Flowers	Jan Clarke and Jenny Coleman		
Church Welcomers	Judy Doherty	judy.doherty59@gmail.com	
Bell Ringers	Mike Godfrey, 6 Cauldham Lane, Capel-le-Ferne		242159
Rendezvous Advertising	Paul Furminger, 37 Dymchurch Road, Hythe (e-mail: epmfurminger@btinternet.com)		265547
Rendezvous Assembler	Andrew Plested (e-mail: andrew_plested@yahoo.co.uk)		241124
Rendezvous Distribution	Catriona Hunter (e-mail: trina@monrepos.org)		248006

St Augustine's Centre

Bookings: Carol Godden 07894 706971

Front Cover:

Deadline for the next Rendezvous Edition: 20th of the month, but December 10th for the January edition. Please submit articles in 16 point text - this shows you how much fits on a page once it is reduced for printing.

Please contact Andrew Plested as above

CALENDAR

Services and Events in November 2023

- Sun 5 **Fourth Sunday before Advent**
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY
10.30 THE EUCHARIST
- Wed 8 11.00 Lectio Divina & Silent Prayer
- Thu 9 10.30 Holy Communion
- Sun 12 **Third Sunday before Advent**
REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
10.30 THE EUCHARIST with CHILDREN'S CHURCH
- Wed 15 11.00 Lectio Divina & Silent Prayer
- Thu 16 10.30 Holy Communion
- Sun 19 **Second Sunday before Advent**
10.30 THE EUCHARIST
- Wed 22 11.00 Lectio Divina & Silent Prayer
- Sat 25 11.00 Ukrainian Hospitality
19.00 The Telling - Vision - Folkestone (Hildegard of Bingen)
- Sun 26 **Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**
10.30 THE EUCHARIST
12.30 Baptism of Dominic Frasier Allen-Fitt
- Mon 27 19.00 PCC Meeting
- Wed 29 11.00 Lectio Divina & Silent Prayer
- Thu 30 10.30 Holy Communion

December

- Sat 2 10.00 Christmas Fair
- Sun 3 **First Sunday of Advent**
10.30 THE EUCHARIST
16.00 Advent Carol Service

From the Parish Registers

Marriage
September

Those whom God has joined together
Lucy Janetta Roud and Neil Stephen Edwards



Don't forget the Donation Station!

There are so many ways that you can make donations or pay for our range of merchandise.

Cash and cheques can be placed in the box by the main door, and credit card payments can be made in several ways:

- by scanning the QR code on the weekly pew sheet or the back of Rendezvous;
- by clicking the Donate Button on our website; or
- by using the Donation Station adjacent to the sales table.

The Donation Station is a very easy way to donate or pay by credit card. It has a touch screen, works just like the card machines in shops and takes contactless and chip-and-pin payments. You can even add Gift Aid to your donation. If you need a hand with it the first time, just ask for help.

Why not subscribe to Rendezvous?

Save money. £10 for an annual subscription starting in January. Have it delivered or collect from church. Ways to pay - use the QR code on the back cover, the Donation Station in church, the Donate Button on our website, cash, or cheque inside a named envelope in the donation box. Or contact Catriona Hunter - details inside front cover.

Parking in the School Playground

We are grateful to the Headteacher of St Eanswythe's School for allowing us to use the school playground as a car park on Sundays and on other occasions. In order to protect the school's security, the gates will now be locked on Sunday morning at 10.25 and opened when the service is finished. On other occasions the gates will be locked 5 minutes before the service or concert begins and opened immediately afterwards. Parking permits for Sunday services are available from the Churchwardens.

Thank you for your co-operation.

The church is now open for private prayer. The schedule is:

- 11.00-13.00 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Church Hire

For information about hiring the church, with or without use of the grand piano please contact the Parish Office

sainteanswythe@gmail.com

01303 252947

The **Woodward Hall** is available for hire for Wedding Receptions, Family Parties, Club Meetings etc.

Details from Tracy Arnold at St Eanswythe's School on 01303 255516 during school hours



Priest's Letter

From Father John

Dear Friends

The Clocks have gone back, and the Autumn will soon be passing into Winter. It is, for me, a powerful transitional moment that I tried to capture like this:

The Transition

November the nineteenth
it was, one year;
that strange day
when Autumn elides
into Winter
and all creation
holds its breath
and prepares
to hibernate.

The last berries,
nuts and seeds
have ripened;
stores gathered;
leaves dropped;
growing ceased.

There is a hush,
a stillness, in the land
as we walk through it;
only people trespass
on this holy day
with feet shod,
ears deaf,
eyes blind.

And I feel a tug
in my ancient blood
to rebel against
the madness of
this season when,
in all defiance
of the rhythms
of the earth,
people become
even more manic.

To slow,
to still,
to rest.

The liturgies of our church echo this ancient rhythm this month. We experience the profundity and contingency of our fragile gift of life as we celebrate All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance Sunday. This is The Kingdom Season in which our liturgical red echoes the Autumn berries in their silent praise of Christ the King, through whom all is made and remade:

November Harvest

Vermilion,
Crimson,
Scarlet;
Puce:
fire and blood and wine
of the earth's bounty;
berries in the Fall.

And after the glory of Christ the King Sunday we, too, are hushed and quieted; readying ourselves for the season of Advent when we contemplate the coming of our King to us in the vulnerability and humility of our own human condition. We, too, will humble ourselves and prepare ourselves to receive the Christ Child afresh.

Fr John

**A Prayer for our church buildings
an inspiring gift from previous generations**

Creator God,
we thank you for the glory of all that you have made,
and for the skill that has led people through the centuries
to fashion things of beauty, as songs of praise in stone.
As we give you thanks for the inspiration that
countless pilgrims and visitors have found in this church,
open our eyes again, we pray,
that renewed in our own wonder for all that is around us,
we may praise you in worship,
in speaking words of gentleness
and in deeds of love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Rev Max Kramer
Chaplain Keble College Oxford*



Follow The Star

Join the Song

...with three travellers seeking wisdom this Advent.

MONDAY 4 DEC at 7pm: Fr John Tomlinson

MONDAY 11 DEC at 7pm: Vicky Friedrich

MONDAY 18 DEC at 7pm: Fr John Walker

Join us at the vicarage in Priory Gardens on Monday evenings this Advent as Fr John T, Vicky and Fr John W share some insights about what Advent and Christmas mean to them through words, art, film and music.

We'll enjoy some mince pies and mulled wine together and, if you're concerned about travelling home in the dark, we'll arrange some lifts to get you home safely afterwards.

Sign up by adding your name to the sheet at the back of church or by emailing Rosie at sainteanswythe@gmail.com

ADVENT REFLECTIONS AT
ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE FOLKESTONE



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND





**THE IMAGINED TESTIMONY OF THE EXTRAORDINARY
MEDIEVAL ABBESS, HILDEGARD OF BINGEN.**

7.45 pm SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2023
St Mary & St Eanswythe Parish Church Folkestone

***7.00 pm Pre-concert talk on St Eanswythe
by Folkestone History Society***

Early bird tickets: £5 - £18

www.thetelling.co.uk/events/vision-folkestone

Standard admission on the evening
Adult £20 - Concessions £16 - Children £5

A mesmerising concertplay - where music and theatre collide - by Clare Norburn.

Vision explores the extraordinary life of the visionary medieval abbess Hildegard of Bingen, providing an insight into the painful and visceral visionary experiences Hildegard suffered throughout her life. It is "an imagined testimony" as Hildegard, played by actor Teresa Banham, revisits and re-experiences meaningful memories alongside her haunting and distinctive chant, with full staging and stunning lighting. It is "an imagined testimony" as Hildegard, played by actor Teresa Banham, revisits and re-experiences meaningful memories alongside her haunting and distinctive chant, with full staging and stunning lighting.

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SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

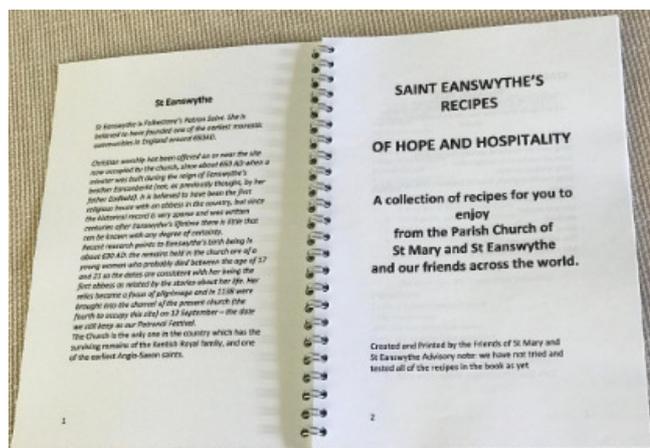
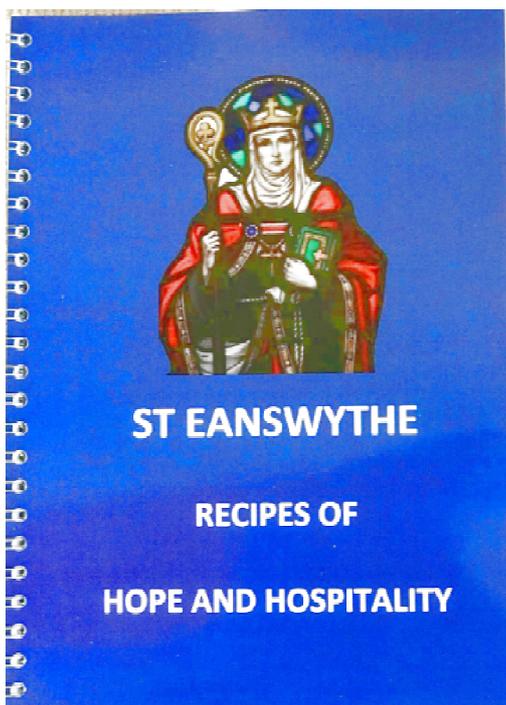
The Lady Chapel is now set apart for silent prayer and meditation on Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 12 noon. Fr John will be there most Wednesdays, and has written a guide available to anyone who would like to explore this ancient Christian way of praying. You will be most welcome to join us.

Recipes of Hope and Hospitality and Notelets

A collection of recipes from members of the congregation and many friends. The Recipe Book is available at £5 per copy from the sales table by the main door, [please use the Donation Station for card payments](#) or put the money in the box.

Notelets are available at £5 per pack – all photographs taken by members of the congregation.

All proceeds are used to take care of the Fabric of the Church.





Bookworm – What Catriona Has Been Reading

A Winter Grave – Peter May (2023)

This was a very good read. It's set mainly in the year 2051, in a remote area of Scotland, and is an exciting thriller with several twists in the plot and a moderate body count. Not to mention some interesting futuristic technological devices, which really set me thinking.

It's also about climate change. The weather has become so hot at the equator that no one can live there anymore, while Scotland is permanently under several feet of snow.

I can't really say much about the plot without spoilers. So I suggest you read it for yourself. You won't regret it.

The Good Left Undone – Adriana Trigiani (2022)

I do like a good family saga, so this was a perfect choice for my holiday reading, even though I found it a little hard to get into.

Matelda is dying and thinking back over her life. The good parts and the bad, of love found and love lost. Set in Italy, France and Scotland it tells of the last 100 years of her family, the Cabrellis.

Most of the action is either set in the present day or during World War 2 when Matelda's mother was a nurse. Based on fact, it tells of the shocking treatment given to male Italians living in the UK at the time. Deemed to be enemy aliens they were rounded up and shipped off to Canada and Australia and other distant places. Some were lucky and only got sent to the Isle of Man or Orkney.

This is well worth reading, as are all Adriana Trigiani's books.

The Great Passion – James Runcie (2022)

This is a different type of family saga altogether, an enjoyable and interesting novel about life in the household of Johann Sebastian Bach. It's set over a year between 1726 and 1727 and the story is told from the point of view of Stefan Silbermann, an 11 year old boy who is packed off to boarding school in Leipzig soon after his mother has died.

Stefan's father is an organ builder, so Stefan knows lots about organs and can play well. But his father wants him to learn to sing too. After running away from school to flee the bullies, Stefan finds himself living in the Bach household where Mrs Bach number 2 (Anna Magdalena) is almost continuously pregnant having one child after another. It is a happy place, full of music. He falls in love with one of the daughters and spends a lot of time worrying that his voice is about to break, which would spoil his singing voice.

Initially Bach is writing a cantata a week, but later in the book he starts writing the St Matthew Passion, which was first performed on Good Friday near the end of the book. Although I have sung some of the pieces mentioned, it has mostly been in English, so (to my shame) I didn't recognise the German titles or extracts.

Many thanks to Ian for lending me this book. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

Catriona Hunter

A poem for contemplation

Oh Lord, All The World Belongs To You
And You Are Always Making All Things New.
What Is Wrong, You Forgive, And The New Life You Give
Is What's Turning The World Upside Down.

The World's Only Loving To Its Friends,
But Your Way Of Loving Never Ends,
Loving Enemies Too; And This Loving With You
Is What's Turning The World Upside Down.

The World Lives Divided And Apart,
You Draw Men Together, And We Start
In Our Friendship To See That In Harmony We
Can Be Turning The World Upside Down.

The World Wants The Wealth To Live In State,
But You Show A New Way To Be Great:
Like A Servant You Came, And If We Do The Same,
We'll Be Turning The World Upside Down.

Oh Lord All The World Belongs To You
And You Are Always Making All Things New.
Send Your Spirit On All In Your Church Whom You Call
To Be Turning The World Upside Down.

Patrick Appleford (1925–2018)



The Art Haus is a brand new art supply store, event space and gallery located at 3 Grace Hill, between the Library and Market Square. For more info visit arthusfolkestone.com or contact info@arthusfolkestone.com

St Mary and St Eanswythe



Children's Church



Sunday 12th November
POPPIES.....



Extra Extra Extra Stir-Up Sunday

Sunday 26th November

We are going to make

BIRTHDAY CAKES FOR JESUS!



Sunday 10th December

CHRISTINGLE IN ADVENT



Children's Church begins in church at 10.30am.
We do hope you can join us for
singing,
making things,
learning about Jesus and much, much more!
To find out about it, ring Clare Tomlinson 07751 423 796

PS look out for our puzzles and colouring sheets in the Family Corner – there's a new one EVERY WEEK!



Jesus, please help us to pray

Sunday, 8th October was Harvest Festival at St Mary and St Eanswythe and we had the privilege of leading the prayers.

We wanted not only to thank God for all the wonderful harvest gifts we receive, but also, to pray for the people who make our harvests possible and who play their part in providing the things we need. The inspirations for our prayers were:

Vegetables – we prayed for farmers.

Tinned fish – we prayed for fishermen and every one who works at sea.

Biscuits – we prayed for shopkeepers.

Toilet paper – we prayed for lorry drivers who deliver things to shops and warehouse people who help to organise them.

Bandages and plasters – we prayed for doctors and nurses and for everyone who is ill.

A child's jumper – we prayed for everyone who hasn't enough clothes to keep warm, especially children in war zones. We prayed for peace.

A candle – we prayed for everyone who is sad because someone they love has died and we thanked God for being the light of the world

And all God's people said AMEN!

As part of our prayers of thanks, we decorated paper plates with good things – and stuck our Superman Prayer in the middle!



Thank you, God for giving us food!
Thank you, God for giving us food!
We're truly grateful for every plateful!
Thank you, God for giving us food!

St Eansywthe's Festival Weekend

Unfortunately there wasn't enough space in the last Rendezvous for photos...



Things to buy

Things to eat

The wonderful
Ukrainian
singers

Things for
children





Young musicians

And amazing models of The Bayle



Our band of bellringers would welcome reinforcements.
Contact Dave Robinson at david.m.robinson24@gmail.com

We have a ring of 8 Bells. They are rung before the 10:30 Service on Sundays and there is a practice on Tuesday evenings.

Independent Maintenance Solutions



All maintenance and repair work considered.

Carpentry, plumbing & electrical repair, painting & decorating, odd jobs, gardening and more...

NO JOB TOO SMALL

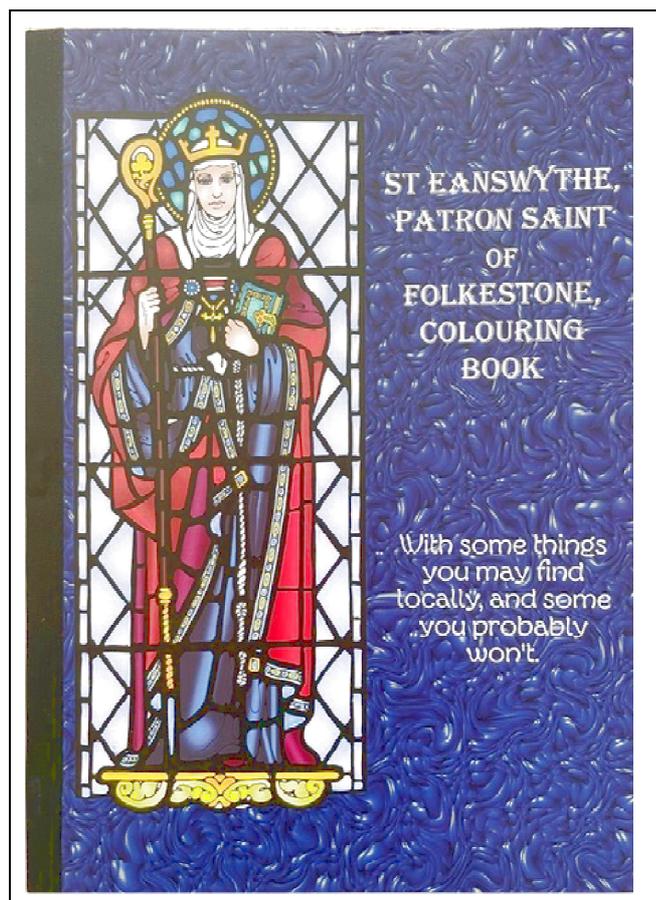
Free consultation
Call Warren on 07958 342 784
Email: imseastkent@gmail.com

St Eanswythe, Patron Saint of Folkestone, Colouring Book

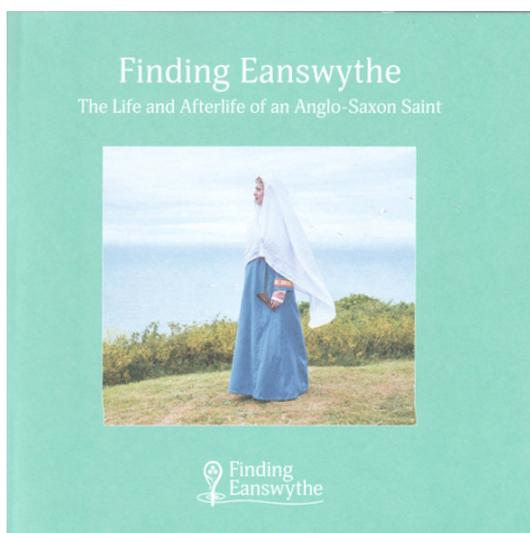
Once upon a time, not so long ago, when Marilyn and Catriona were on church welcoming duty, a father and his two young daughters came into the church. The girls wanted to do some colouring, but although there were plenty of crayons in the children's corner, there was nothing for them to colour in. This was how the idea for a St Eanswythe colouring book came about.

We have worked with local artist, Dandi Palmer, to create a beautiful colouring book with 40 varied pictures and something for all ages. We hope that it will give a true feeling of what you may be able to see in and around the church. You'll find pictures of St Eanswythe, the Reverend David Railton MC, the church organ, various plants and animals that you might find inside the church or in the churchyard, even the church mouse and one of the spiders. Though please forgive us our artistic licence over the likes of the kingfisher.

We are grateful to Rendezvous magazine for sponsoring the printing of the colouring book. You can buy the book at the sales table for **£5**, which we are sure you will agree is very good value indeed. Even if colouring isn't your 'thing', this is a book you will want for your coffee table.



Finding Eanswythe



Whilst the Finding Eanswythe Project has come to a conclusion, the working group will continue with their research. This book covers the findings over the six-year programme with a series of essays covering such topics as The Legend of St Eanswythe, A Minster in the early Mediaeval Landscape, Minster to Priory, Folkestone and the English Reformation, St Eanswythe's Water, St Eanswythe's Chapel, Matthew Woodward and Eanswythe Found. All by various members of the Research Group.

This 54 page book is available from our sales table priced at **£5**.

DO YOU LIKE SINGING?

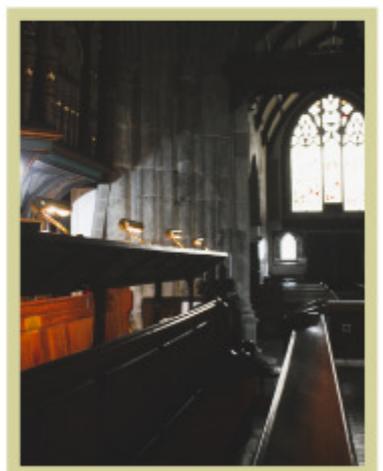
THE CHOIR OF ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!

We are a small, friendly choir with a wide repertoire. We are keen to hear from singers from all voice parts.

Experience can be an advantage but lots of support will be available.

For more details visit the church website or email Malcolm, our Director of Music

stmaryandsteanswythe.org
sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com



Sunday Eucharist and Red Letter Day Gospels

Sunday Eucharist Gospels

Sunday 5 November – 4th Sunday before Advent Matthew 24.1-14.

The one who endures to the end will be saved

Sunday 12 November – 3rd Sunday before Advent Matthew 25.1-13

When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

Sunday 19 November – 2nd Sunday before Advent Matthew 25.14-30

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.

Sunday 26 November – Christ the King Matthew 25.31-46

‘Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me Just as you did not do it to one of the least of these you did not do it to me’

RED LETTER DAYS

Wednesday 1 November – All Saints’ Day Matthew 5.1-12.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Thursday 30 November - Andrew the Apostle Matthew 4.18-22

*‘Follow me and I will make you fish for people.’
Immediately they left their nets and followed him.*



Ride and Stride 2023

Many thanks to those who supported Sylvie and Patricia. They raised £265. Half of this goes to the Friends of Kent Churches and the other half towards the maintenance of our church.

A Listening Ear and Prayers for Healing

at St Mary & St Eanswythe Folkestone

Would you like a home visit?

Do you know someone who would?

Would you like prayers for healing?

A Listening Ear - Why do we need this?

With Fr John often unwell and soon to retire, it's vital that we keep looking after one another.

Therefore, we now have a dedicated team of pastoral visitors to help give pastoral care and a listening ear to those who need it. At present, our Pastoral Care Team are:

David Wright (*Pastoral Visitor and Pastoral Care Co-ordinator*)

Jan Clarke (*Pastoral Visitor*)

Tom Bertram (*Pastoral Visitor*)

Listening well needs skill and time. Our team of pastoral visitors have been chosen because they've got both. They have all received training and have a clean DBS certificate.

But offering a listening ear also needs something else: we need to know who needs it! Very often we don't hear that someone needs a visit until it's too late. So we're asking you to help us.

How our Listening Ear Programme will work

Step 1

If you hear that a member of our congregation is ill or can no longer get to church, please contact the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator to let him know. If you know the person's phone number, please ask their permission to pass it to our Pastoral Care Team.

We're also happy to offer a listening ear to those who are connected with our church but don't necessarily attend services.

Our Pastoral Care Co-ordinator is:

David Wright - davidw1944@talktalk.net 07964 748961

Please also contact him if you would like a visit yourself!

Step 2

One of our team of Pastoral Visitors will be asked to make initial contact by phone to offer a visit. They will then make a visit, if that is agreed.

Step 3

If needed, the Pastoral Visitor can call on the Clergy or Pastoral Care Co-ordinator for support or a visit with the person's agreement; for example, to offer Home Communion or anointing for healing.

How you can help

- 1.** Look out for those who normally come to church and, if they're missing unexpectedly or you know they're unwell, alert the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator.
- 2.** If you know someone who would appreciate a listening ear, ask them if they'd like a visit from our Pastoral Care Team. If they say yes and give permission, pass their number to our Pastoral Care Co-ordinator.
- 3.** Please pray for those who are ill, grieving or housebound.
- 4.** If you are interested in becoming a pastoral visitor talk to the Pastoral Care Co-ordinator. He will explain the kind of skills you need. If you think that's you, you'll need his approval. If he disagrees, he'll tell you why.

Prayers for Healing

Tom and Anne Bertram have been trained at our Diocesan healing centre, the Living Well, to offer prayers for healing.

They will be offering prayers for healing at our Sunday Eucharist on the 1st Sunday of each month.

After receiving communion themselves, they will go to the Eanswythe Chapel. If you would like to receive prayers for healing of body, mind or spirit, then please go to the Eanswythe Chapel after you have received communion or a blessing.

Tom and Anne will pray with you and, if you wish, anoint you with the oil of healing.

Dear community of St Mary's and St Eanswythe with Saviours,

I can't believe it's already been over two months since we moved from Folkestone to Cuddesdon. Despite some hiccups with our flat in Folkestone and the moving, we are finally settled here. I moved on September 1st, and my wife arrived on 17th as she was sorting the last details on our flat in Folkestone whilst I was sorting our accommodation here in Cuddesdon. The last two weeks have been very busy with the induction here in Ripon College Cuddesdon and then at the University of Oxford.

Please pray that God will give me the strength and wisdom to manage all the commitments without sacrificing a good time as a couple. Becky, my wife, continues looking for a job, but sadly she hasn't found anything yet. It's been hard to find something suitable because of the side effects of her medications, which means that she can't drive. We live in a very rural area, and the closest bus stop is 2 miles from here. Please pray that she can find something, which will give her a sense of purpose, and also that she can work remotely. This term I will be covering four modules at Ripon College Cuddesdon: Introduction to preaching, Introduction to Worship, Pastoral Care and Elements of Ministry and Worship. In addition, I have to write four papers at Oxford: Doctrine, Context and Practice; An Experiential Project with Theological Reflection; Sociology of Religion and The Use of the Bible. After that, I need to write a dissertation of 20,000 words. I haven't decided my topic yet, but it will probably be on something related to the Holy Spirit and the marginalised in Luke-Acts.

I've been following the news with great happiness about St Eanswythe's reliquary. My prayer is that the community will continue to grow in its love for God and for our neighbours.

May the love of God be abundant in your lives, miss you all.

Andy Yan

News From The Rainbow Centre

I recently attended a Church Liaison Officer (CLO) Meeting. We were given a very interesting talk by Louise Gotch the Homeless Support Manager. She explained that the Homeless Support Service works within three areas of expertise.

1. An advice and advocacy service
2. The Day centre which includes the Breakfast Club. At present it is supporting approximately 47 rough sleepers and other vulnerable people. There is support from a nurse who is able to give individual advice and a charity dental van visits each quarter. There is also a regular podiatrist health van. Hopefully in the future there may be also a pharmacy service.
3. The Winter Shelter will be run on similar lines as last year. This is the final year of Government funding so new funding initiatives are being explored. Like across the rest of the country Folkestone has been hit by rising rents. A bedsit can cost £400 a month. Louise explained that recently the Rainbow Centre has organised events between landlords and estate agents to help tackle the problem. Clients are being given Life Skills Training to help show they can be responsible tenants.

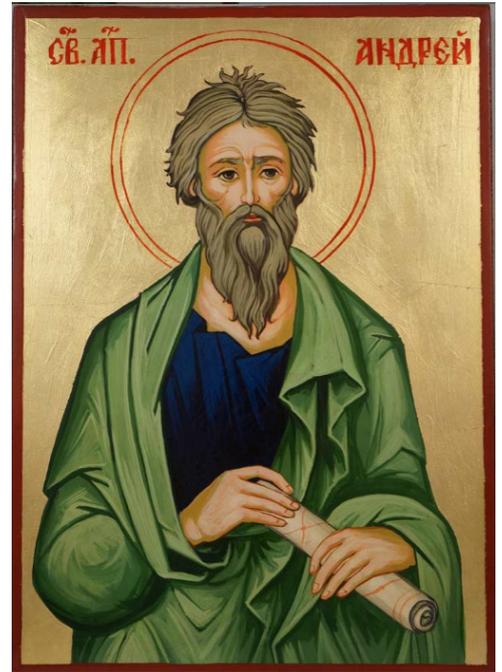
At the meeting we are encouraged to talk about our own Church's initiatives. It is amazing what goes on! Churches (Folkestone, Hythe and The Marsh) are involved in the foodbank, youth groups, a baby basics charity. urban pastor support, lunch clubs, and refugee support. Finally the annual Walk of Kings will take place on the 6th January. Details to follow.

Marilyn Edey

Commemoration of the Month

Andrew the Apostle, Patron Saint of Scotland 30 November

Though Andrew is named among the apostles in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, it is in John's gospel that most is learned about him. Andrew was a Galilean fisherman, mending his nets, when Jesus called him to follow him, which he promptly did. He then seems to have remained with Jesus until the end. He was there at the feeding of the five thousand and then later, when some Greeks in Jerusalem wanted to see Jesus, Philip brought them to Andrew who told Jesus of their desire. Tradition has him travelling on several missionary journeys and eventually being martyred by being crucified on an X-shaped cross. He became the patron saint of Scotland because of a legend that his relics had been taken there in the eighth century.



Collect

Almighty God,
who gave such grace to your apostle Saint Andrew
that he readily obeyed the call of your Son Jesus Christ
and brought his brother with him:
call us by your holy Word,
and give us grace to follow you without delay
and to tell the good news of your kingdom;
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.

Readings

OT-Isaiah 52.7-10 NT-Romans 10.12-18 Gospel-Matthew 4.18-22

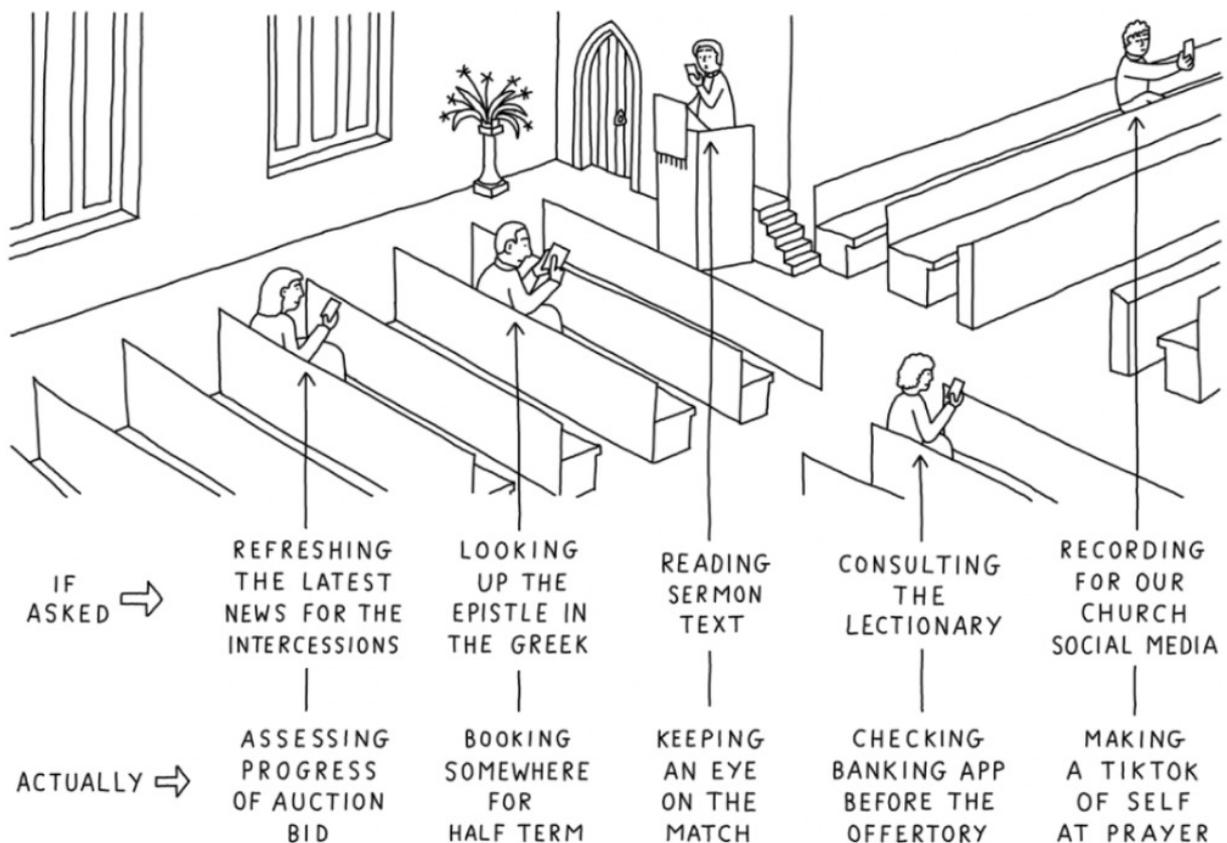
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Companions of Eanswythe – Holy Habits Part 2



The first Holy habit I would like to unfold is that of Eating Together, and that is because we have already begun to do this.

The tradition of people eating together being a sign of God's reign or kingdom goes way back into Judaeo-Christian history. It is a picture painted by the prophets and celebrated in the psalms:

'On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.' *Isaiah 25:6*

'You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.' *Psalms 23:5*

Jesus was rooted in and lived this tradition. Just as he shared food with all sorts and conditions of people as a sign of the inclusivity of God's kingdom, so too did the early church. The gatherings to eat together were earthly representations of the heavenly banquet imagery that had been reinforced by Jesus through his teaching as well as his actions. Following in the footsteps of Jesus, the table fellowship of the early Christians was warm and accepting. They refused to discriminate against the marginalised. All were welcome to partake of this basic human and yet deeply sacred activity.

The joy of eating together, the value of table fellowship for deepening relationships, the missional fruitfulness of shared meals and the opportunities for sharing faith, biblical study, prayer and worship around the meal table have all been rediscovered many times by both new and ancient forms of church.

Many of you stayed after the Harvest Festival Service for the first of our regular bring and share lunches, and I was delighted that we were also joined by a number of people who do not regularly attend any church. The idea of a bring and share lunch was born out of a conversation with a member of the congregation as a means to reduce the burden of organising such a lunch on just a few people. Everyone had a hand in making the lunch a success. We ended the lunch with the Benedictine Office of None (sometimes pronounced *known*). This is us exploring the Holy Habit of Eating Together and I sincerely hope you will join with the next bring and share lunch which is planned for **Sunday 10th December**.

Vicky Friedrich, Lay Reader in Training



Music Notes

The next Bayle Music concert will take place at The Grand on The Leas at 3 p.m. on Saturday 18 November. The performers will be the Grand Mansions Collective with pianist Marianne Kelly.

Tickets at £18 per head can be purchased online by visiting the Ticketsource website here: www.ticketsource.co.uk and searching for Bayle Music or on the door on the day from 2.30 p.m.

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The Community Room, 19 The Bayle

Where Dance Easy once used to stand in The Bayle, there is now a new building, sensitively designed to be in keeping with its companion residences along this very special street, at the heart of old Folkestone. Simply described now as 19 The Bayle, the front of this construction has a unique and special ingredient: The Community Room.

The former building meant much to local people, offering traditional tea dances, radical comedy stand-up, mindful yoga classes and many other activities all creating memories of good times. In its day, it was a sign of the community at play, leisure and pleasure, allegedly all thanks to a legacy from a Folkestone chocolate manufacturer.

Negotiations with the owner to secure the opportunity were part of the Bayle Residents Association response to changing times and the reality that Dance Easy was no longer viable.

The Community Room takes its name straight from the fire alarm system: that's what it says on the screen and that's what it says on the proverbial tin: it's a space designed to support community in a new way, reflecting the interesting times we live in.

Management is the responsibility of Sunflower House, a respected local charity who are responsible for the eponymous building on Foord Road, near the glorious railway viaduct.

There, a new regime has developed over the last two years working with partners to support the most vulnerable members of our community: the homeless, those struggling with life and with addiction, while providing new opportunity for all. Community Theatre, Repair Café, Warm Bank provision, Ukrainian Community School, BKK martial arts for the whole family, C3 Craft Group and much more besides.

The same approach is now being used to build a diary of activities at The Community Room and engage partners, including St Eanswythe School, the local TakeOff well-being support group, to facilitate writing workshops, talks and lectures, community art projects, councillor surgery and consultation sessions. By sharing the cost of the facility, Sunflower House also aims to empower our community – and that includes the very local community around The Bayle – with some valuable help already being offered by local people who can see the potential to be part of a wider community spirit.

It is a vision of Community Building, Building Community that we hope will spread into a larger network of community hubs in the next few years: a network of spaces which are committed to that same empowerment and opportunity across the district, all helping us to meet the challenges we can see rising up before us in 2023.

For further information, please contact Jon O'Connor via
Info@sunflowerhouse.org.uk

see photo overleaf

The Community Room in The Bayle




Sunflower House
community building
building community



Built on the site of the former
Dance Easy building



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