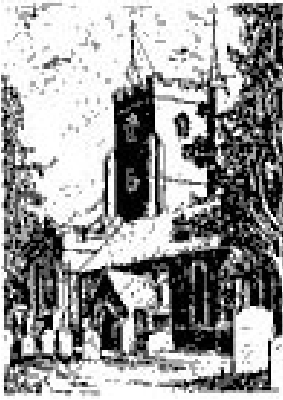


# RENDEZVOUS



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

Volume 53 No, 6    **June 2026**    **£1.20**



## Who's Who in the Parish

### Clergy

Priest-in-Charge Rev Christopher Johnson 07931 804952

vicar.mefolkestone@gmail.com

## St Mary & St Eanswythe's

Parish Administrator Santa Vessey Office Hours Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. 01303 252947  
email: [sainteanswythe@gmail.com](mailto:sainteanswythe@gmail.com)

Churchwardens Tom Bertram, 07748 434341 01303 890986  
Andrew Plested, 201 Canterbury Road 07860 175123 01303 241124

PCC Hon. Secretary Santa Vessey 01303 252947  
email: [sainteanswythe@gmail.com](mailto:sainteanswythe@gmail.com)

Hon. Treasurer } Jenny Coleman,

Gift Aid }

Planned Giving Pam Keeling

PCC Members Jan Clarke Jenny Coleman  
Marilyn Edey Vicky Friedrich (Synod Rep)  
Elaine Furminger Catriona Hunter  
Aïcha Mehrez (Synod Rep) Carol McBeath

If you would like to get in touch with any member of the PCC  
please contact the Parish Office (01303 252947)

Electoral Roll Santa Vessey 01303 252947

Organist and Choir Director James Brown [sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com](mailto:sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com)

Children's Church Clare Tomlinson 07751 423796

Safeguarding Officer Elaine Furminger [safeguarding.sme@gmail.com](mailto:safeguarding.sme@gmail.com) 07974 140713

Church Day Schools St Mary's, Warren Road Head Teacher - Richard Paez 251390

St Eanswythe's, Church Street Head Teacher - Claire Jacobs 255516

Church Flowers Jan Clarke and Jenny Coleman

Church Welcomers Pam Keeling [tpdkeel@aol.com](mailto:tpdkeel@aol.com)

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*Front Cover: Corpus Christi in stained glass*

**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

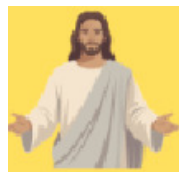
## Services and Events in June 2026

|     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Mon | 1  | <b>The Visitation</b><br>10:30 EUCHARIST                                    |
| Thu | 4  | Corpus Christi<br>10:30 Holy Communion BCP                                  |
| Sun | 7  | <b>Trinity 1</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST<br>12:00 765th Big Birthday Bash   |
| Mon | 8  | 8:30 St Eanswythe's school PTFA coffee morning                              |
| Tue | 9  | 19:00 - 21:00 Friends Quiz in the Woodward Hall                             |
| Thu | 11 | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sun | 14 | <b>Trinity 2</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST with Children's Church             |
| Thu | 18 | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sun | 21 | <b>Trinity 3</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST                                    |
| Wed | 24 | Ember Day<br>10:30 Eucharist  |
| Thu | 26 | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sat | 27 | 10:00-12:00 Ukranian Hospitality  |
| Sun | 28 | <b>Trinity 4</b><br>9:00 Said Eucharist<br>10:30 <b>Town Sunday Service</b> |



## JULY

|     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|
| Thu | 2  | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sun | 5  | <b>Trinity 5</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST                          |
| Wed | 8  | 8:45 School Eucharist<br>18:00 Friends meeting                    |
| Sun | 12 | <b>Trinity 6</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST with Children's Church   |
| Thu | 16 | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sun | 19 | <b>Trinity 7</b><br>10:30 SUNG EUCHARIST<br>16:00 Choral Evensong |
| Wed | 22 | <b>Mary Magdalene</b><br>10:30 Eucharist                          |
| Thu | 24 | 10:30 Holy Communion BCP  |
| Sun | 26 | <b>Trinity 8</b>  |



## 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 in 2026?

Subscriptions to Rendezvous run from January to December, and the annual subscription rate for 2026 is £12, which saves you £2.40 on the cost of 12 individual issues - or to look at it another way, buy 10 and get 2 free! Contact Catriona Hunter, Distribution Co-ordinator, for more information.

### 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.



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

- 11.00-13.00  
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](mailto: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 Chris



I wonder the places from whence you draw sustenance and encouragement in life? What are the things that 'give you energy'? As human beings we're each wonderfully made, yet very different too! The things that make one person tick could be very strange to the person sat next to them, for example, my taste in music and ability to sit through twenty-five days of *Test Match Special* each summer would test others' endurance! But none of this is a bad thing in and of itself – it's part of the great diversity of human life and existence.

We each have a complex mixture of physical, mental and spiritual needs that are met by a real variety of habits, opportunities, engagements and, sometimes, just sheer fun & joy (hopefully!). Keeping these things in check or in kilter can be an important part of our overall 'wellbeing' (to use the general buzz-phrase) and life as individuals and a community. It's important to pay attention to each of these things and there's plenty out there to encourage this.

Although many readers will regularly witness me beating a hasty path after a determined beagle (for the sake of heart, head, and staving off canine-boredom), perhaps it's no surprise that, as the parish 'Sky Pilot', I take a particular interest in the 'spiritual' aspect of life. I really encourage people to attend this dimension of themselves. Whether we have religious beliefs and affiliations or not, the spiritual aspect of human nature is undeniable and the beliefs and moral values that we hold play a big part in who we are and how we view the world and engage with it.

For Christians, spirituality isn't something that just falls into place and we can say 'job done' and breathe a sigh of relief like we've ticked a fitness goal off the list. Whilst the moral values and outlook inherent in Christianity help to shape our direction and purpose, it's a much broader brief than that as we seek to grow in relationship with God and to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We do so inspired and encouraged by the good example that we see in the Gospels and in his followers down the ages. It's something that can grow and develop as we do and, no matter what our age, we can still gain new inspiration and insights about God.

Whatever your religious or spiritual outlook, how might you pay attention to this part of you? I'm always very happy to chat and to encourage and I hope that St Eanswythe's might always be a place of welcome and peace where you can experience God's love and have the space to attend to your overall wellbeing as one of his beloved children.

With very best wishes,

## The Reader's Ramblings



### Holding On to the Places That Form Us

We all carry certain places within us - landmarks, buildings, and familiar views that become woven into our sense of who we are. They may not be grand or famous, but they are part of the quiet geography of our lives. When those places change or disappear, something in us shifts too.

For me, two such places have shaped my growing up: the Parish Church of St Clement in Leysdown, where I was baptised, and the unmistakable masts of the SS Richard Montgomery, rising from the sea like a strange and steadfast companion on the horizon. They could not be more different - one a place of worship and welcome, the other a wartime wreck - but both have been anchors in my memory.

St Clement's was lost suddenly in the Great Storm of 1987. Many will remember that night: the wind tearing through Kent, the shock of waking to fallen trees and broken roofs. For me, the news that the church had been destroyed felt like losing a piece of my own story. It was the place where water had been poured over my head in blessing, where my family had stood and promised to help me grow in faith. Even as a child, I sensed that something precious had gone.

And now, decades later, I hear that the masts of the Montgomery are to be removed. For most people they are simply part of local history, but for those of us who grew up looking out across the Swale, they have been a constant. A reminder of the sea's mysteries, of stories half told, of the way the horizon can hold both beauty and danger. To imagine that view without them is to imagine a childhood photograph with something quietly erased.

Scripture understands this kind of tenderness. The psalmist writes, "The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places" (Psalm 16:6), recognising that certain landscapes become gifts from God. And when those landscapes change, the Bible does not dismiss the ache. Lamentations opens with the stark words, "How lonely sits the city that once was full of people" (Lamentations 1:1). It is a reminder that grief for a place is still grief, and God makes room for it.

Yet Scripture also offers hope. Isaiah speaks of God's people as "Repairer of the Breach, Restorer of Streets to Live In" (Isaiah 58:12). Even when buildings fall or horizons alter, we are not left without purpose. We become the ones who carry the memory forward, who honour what was, and who help others find meaning in what remains.

Landmarks may vanish, but the stories they shaped do not. St Clement's still stands in the faith that has carried me into ministry. The Montgomery's masts may disappear, but the sea that taught me to look outward is still there.

And perhaps that is the quiet truth: the things we remember are not taken from us. They become part of the way we see the world, and part of the way we offer it back to God in love.

~ Vicky Friedrich ~



# THURSDAY STUDY CLUB

Thursday 7th May  
11.15am - 12.30pm.

Join us in church to discuss aspects of Christian faith and belief - we'll even get the good coffee and biscuits on!

Further information from Fr Chris  
[vicar.mefolkestone@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.mefolkestone@gmail.com) / 07931 804952

St Mary & St Eanswythe's Church



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

(Children must be brought by an adult, and under 5's must be supervised)

## SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

It's all about asking questions



## SUNDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY



It's all about loving Jesus - followed by the Children's Church Family Picnic!

## SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

It's all about team work



## SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY



It's all about growing with Jesus

# CHILDREN'S CHURCH IN MAY

It's all about **LOVING JESUS!**

Jesus' love is very wonderful, oh wonderful love!



Just as Jesus loves us, so we should love him, and, if we love Jesus, we will obey his commandments.

In Children's Church we thought about how to do this – here are some questions we considered together.

**1. Your friend is ill –**

DO YOU a) do nothing, b) send a card or c) ask how they are?

**2. You can't find your book bag –**

DO YOU a) pretend someone has taken it or b) tell the truth?

**3. You need a ball for a game and you haven't got one the right size –**

DO YOU a) play something that doesn't need a ball or b) take someone else's?

**4. Mum or Dad asks you to tidy up –**

DO YOU a) do it straight away, b) do it but only after being asked loads of times, or c) not do it at all?

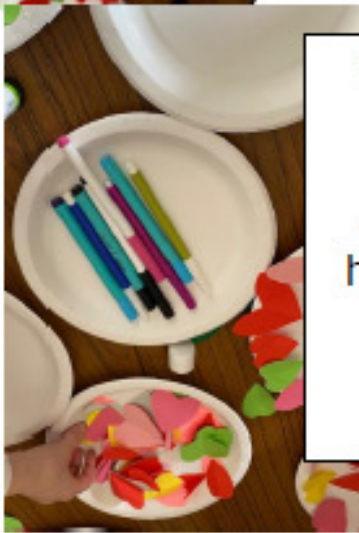
**5. Someone has made you upset and angry –**

DO YOU a) hit them or scream and cry, b) try to explain or c) go away to cool off.

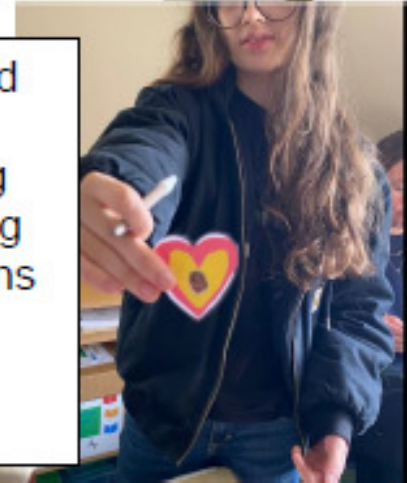
These are hard questions – you might like to think about them honestly too.

(No need to share your thoughts!)





We made mobiles and wreaths to help us remember that loving Jesus means following him too, and that means obeying his commandments.



**AND THEN.....** We were welcomed by Fr Chris and Laura to their beautiful garden for fun and games and the PICNIC!

A great time was enjoyed by all, despite the cold!



THANK YOU!

Next time – June 14<sup>th</sup> – it's all about team work!

Clare Tomlinson



## Saints Peter and Paul

On June 29 the Church celebrates the feast day of Saints Peter & Paul. As early as the year 258, there is evidence of an already lengthy tradition of celebrating both Saint Peter and Saint Paul on the same day. Together, the two saints are the founders of the See of Rome, through their preaching, ministry and martyrdom there.

Peter, who was named Simon, was a fisherman of Galilee and was introduced to Jesus by his brother Andrew. Jesus gave him the name Cephas (*Petrus* in Latin), which means ‘Rock,’ because he was to become the rock upon which Christ would build His Church.

Peter was the first to recognize that Jesus was “the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” The Acts of the Apostles illustrates his role as head of the Church after the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ.

He spent his last years in Rome, eventually being martyred in the year 64.

St. Paul was the Apostle of the Gentiles. Before receiving the name Paul, he was Saul, a Jewish Pharisee who zealously persecuted Christians in Jerusalem, being present at the martyrdom of St. Stephen.

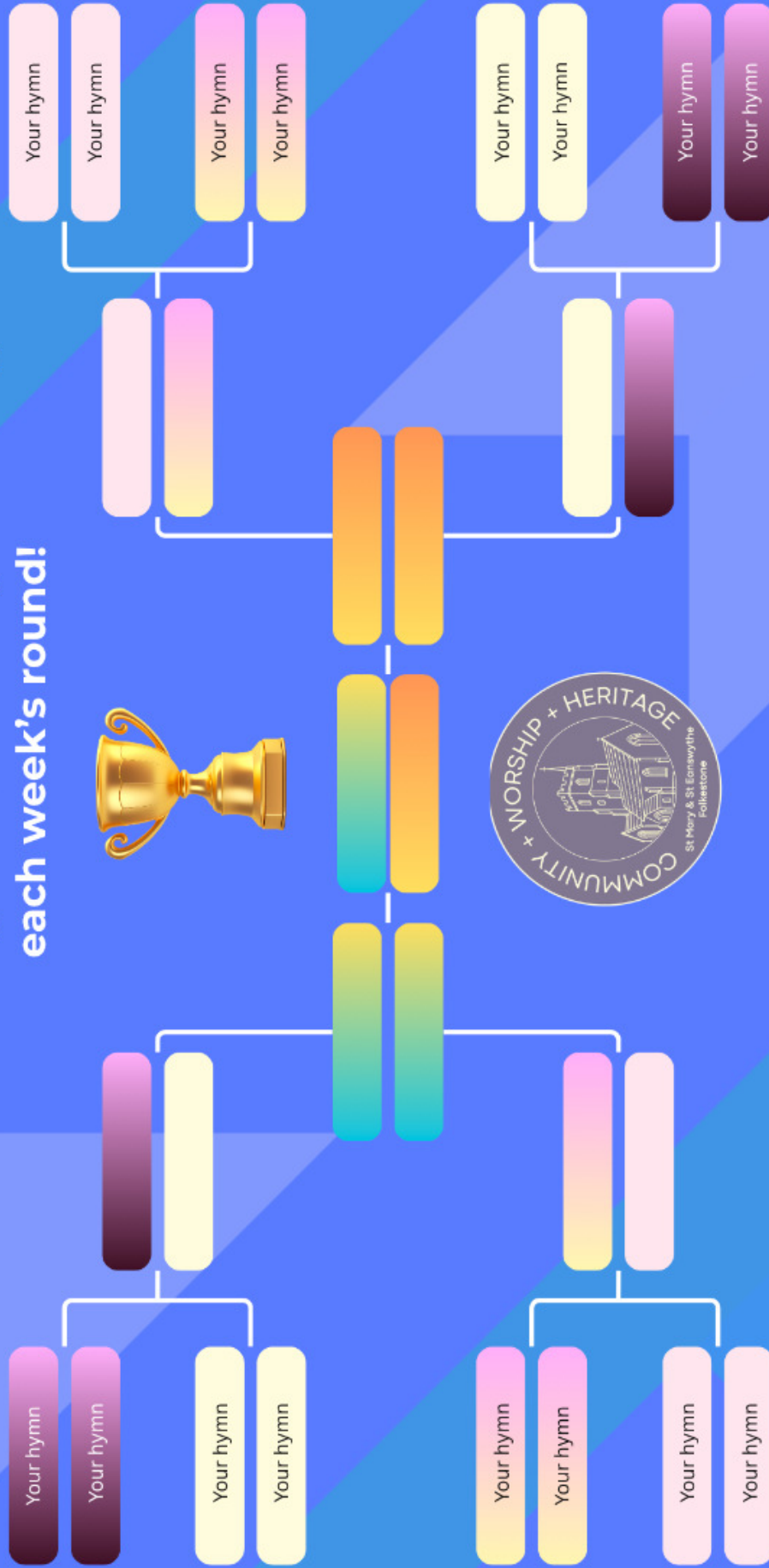
His conversion took place on his way to Damascus to persecute the Christian community there. He was suddenly surrounded by a great light from heaven and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” He answered: “Who are you, Lord?” Christ said: “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.”

Saul continued to Damascus, where he was baptized and his sight restored. He took the name Paul and spent the remainder of his life preaching the Gospel tirelessly to the Gentiles of the Mediterranean world. Paul was imprisoned and taken to Rome, where he was beheaded in the year 67.



# THE HYMN WORLD CUP 2026

Nominate your favourite hymn by Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June  
and vote for your favourite hymn through  
each week's round!



JOIN US FOR PIMM'S & HYMNS ON SATURDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY AT 3PM FOR 'FINALS DAY'  
WHEN WE'LL SING THROUGH THE TOP 8 AND CHOOSE A WINNER!

*Friends of St Mary & St Eanswythe*

## **QUIZ NIGHT 26**

**Join The Friends in what promises to be a night of fiendish questions to exercise your little grey cells and raise much-needed funds for our historic church**

**TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2026**

**7pm for 7.30 start**

**THE WOODWARD HALL**

**THE BAYLE, FOLKESTONE**

**£5 per person for tables of 6**

**Bring your own refreshments**

**Please book in advance by calling**

**01303 257248 or online**

<https://www.justgiving.com/charity/friendsofstmary-steanswythe>

**or pay on the night**

**Maximum of 10 tables – book now!**

**????????????????**



## **Bookworm: THE OLD ONES ARE THE BEST!**

This month I'm sharing with you a selection of books that I really thought I'd read 50+ years ago. And maybe I did, but I couldn't remember any of the plots in detail. All of them were a really good read.

### **What Happened to the Corbetts – Nevil Shute (1939)**

By 1939 the British public were expecting war to be declared fairly soon, but this prophetic novel was published 5 months before war broke out. It was considered to be such a good account of what might happen that on publication day 1,000 copies were distributed by the publishers, Heinemann, to those working in Air Raid Precautions.

Set in Southampton it tells the story of the Corbett family who wake up in the middle of the night to a terrifying cacophony of sound as Southampton is being bombed. No one even knew that war had been declared. Fairly soon the normal rules and infrastructure of society break down. There is a shortage of water, and no electricity, sanitation or newspapers. Milk, food and petrol are all in very short supply (although the Corbetts appear to have an endless supply of cigarettes!) and people resort to violence to get the items they desperately need.

Everyone, including the Corbetts, tries to escape from the city to the countryside, which they believe will be safer. But that brings its own challenges; cholera and typhoid.

The Corbetts decide to move onto their boat. Although Joan Corbett is desperate to retrieve her powder compact and lipstick from their house as she believes in the importance of "looking good". And Peter Corbett maintains his own standards by wasting (in my opinion) precious water on shaving every day. But this is 1939 and things were different then.

I was sure I had read this previously. It was a great read and I was reading it at every possible opportunity. Not only is it a good story, it is fascinating to see how the author thought life would be in wartime.

Definitely one that I recommend to you, and now ranked among my favourites of his books.

### **Five Little Pigs – Agatha Christie (1942)**

I know they say you only need a reading age of 9 or something to read Agatha Christie books, but who cares? They are so well constructed. And I have never managed to guess the murderer – though this time I was so, so confident I had got it. Until Poirot proved me wrong! Again.

I enjoyed this book particularly as it was one that Christie wrote at her holiday home, Greenway, in Devon. And having visited there a couple of times I could picture exactly the part of the garden where the murder took place.

There are other aspects of the author's life that also influenced the plot – her first husband left her for a far younger woman, his secretary, and she knew a lot about noisome things having worked in a hospital pharmacy during WW1.

Poirot is looking back at the events surrounding a murder that took place 16 years before when artist Amyas Crale was poisoned with coniine, which is a derivative of hemlock that I'd never heard of. The Five Little Pigs from the title are the five suspects whom Poirot interrogates and then draws his conclusions.

This was an exciting book, which I thoroughly enjoyed. It was a thought provoking but light read, and was just what I needed.

### **Pastoral – Nevil Shute (1944)**

This is a wonderful uplifting book and now rates among my other favourites by Nevil Shute. I truly thought I'd read all his books before, many several times, but recognised nothing in the storyline, so I think this may have been the first time. It certainly won't be the last.

Published in 1944 it's set in England during WW2, and while on the face of it it could be described as a gentle romance, there is far more depth to it than that, and it's not at all soppy. It focuses on the accelerated pace of romance in wartime, though within the strict moral code of the 1940s. And explores the dynamics of working relationships in aircrew (I mean of an individual regular crew of a plane), the impact of personal life on work, all with a significant amount of technical detail about flying and also fishing.

Peter Marshall is a bomber pilot who falls in love with Section Officer Gervase Robertson. They try to be discreet about their relationship to avoid gossip, but everyone on the station seems to be aware that they are courting. They enjoy the same spare time pursuits: fishing, nature, cycling, and shooting pigeons. But his dangerous flying missions put a lot of strain on their relationship (and the reader). I always read for about 45 minutes over breakfast, even on a work day, and one morning I found myself sobbing when one of his missions went wrong. I won't say any more as I don't want to spoil it if you haven't read this before.

I have just embarked on (re)reading some of Nevil Shute's lesser-known works. He really is one of my favourite authors and I find it sad that he isn't more widely read these days. If you like Nevil Shute, you'll love this one.

### **Ice Station Zebra – Alistair Maclean (1963)**

The old ones are the best! It's true. It must be the best part of 50 years since I last read any Alistair Maclean books, and this one certainly did not disappoint. After a slightly slow start it became a riveting read, full of tension and sinister undertones. It was a chilling story, both literally and metaphorically.

I don't know enough about nuclear submarines from 1963, when this was written, to know how much of the detail was fact or fiction. Though the author was in the Royal Navy during WW2. In any case, the submarine that is the centre of this story was allegedly the most advanced in the US Navy. At the time. There was a lot of technical detail, but what struck me more than anything is how the crew are freely allowed to smoke on board!

The exciting plot concerns a submarine searching in the Arctic for Drift Ice Station Zebra from where emergency radio messages have been coming sporadically. The submarine is on a mission to sail under the ice to find and rescue the men at the weather station Zebra. But when they get there, they discover that there has been a tragic fire in which several have died, and many are seriously wounded. After rescue it becomes clear that there was a murderer at Zebra, who is now on the submarine. The body count increases. (By the way, these are not spoilers because the back of the book tells as much.) No one is who they seem to be, and no one can be trusted. I can now feel a reread of lots of Alistair Macleans coming on. And the good thing is, it's so long since I read them, I can't remember any of the plots anyway.

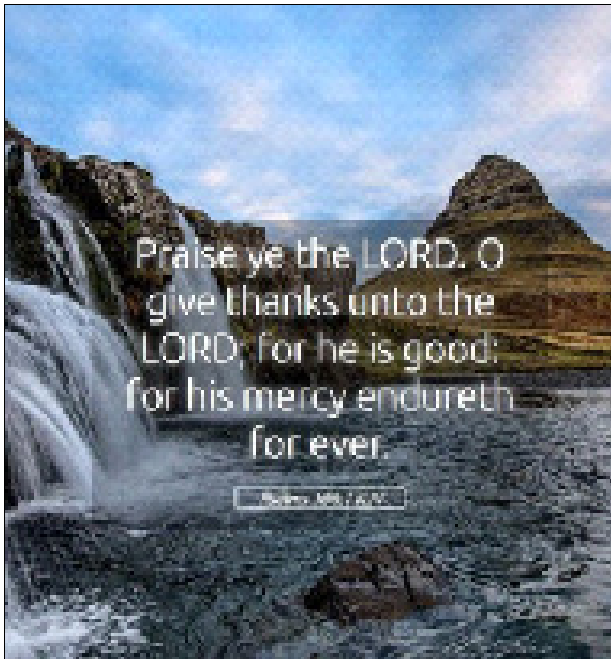
*Catriona Hunter*

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## Reflections on the Psalms – an Occasional Series

### Psalm 106

‘Alleluia. Give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious,  
for his faithfulness endures for ever.’



This might be seen as a song of praise but soon turns into a history of ancient Israel's stormy relationship with God. What becomes clear as the song progresses is that our security does not rest our fidelity towards God, but rather God's faithfulness towards us. The psalm ends with God seeing his people's adversity and remembering his covenant, his marriage with them. He is not going back on his vows.

*Based on a reflection by  
Mark Oakley Dean of Southwark*

**For those who missed the Translation Service  
or would like to see it again**

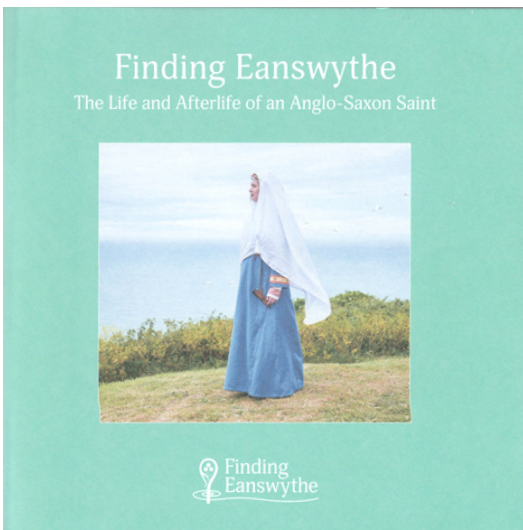
View the recorded service using the link  
<https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjBS9ny>

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We all love our church and its beauty and we want it to look as wonderful as possible as we are expecting lots of visitors.  
 We are desperate for helpers with the cleaning - we have a very small and dedicated team but **WE NEED MORE PEOPLE!**  
 Please get in touch with Jenny Coleman  
 email [sainteanswythe@gmail.com](mailto:sainteanswythe@gmail.com)

## 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**.

# **Sunday Eucharist and Red Letter Day Gospels**

## **Sunday 7 June – Trinity 1 - Matthew 9.9-13 & 18-26**

*‘Those who are well have no need of a physician,  
but those who are sick.’*

The compassion of God breaks through all problems that seem insoluble to us. He comes to the aid of the weak and vulnerable in their greatest need.

## **Sunday 14 June – Trinity 2 – Matthew 9.35-10.8**

*‘You received without payment; give without payment’.*

The mercy of God is not allocated by merit or achievement. It is absolute and unconditional.

## **Sunday 21 June – Trinity 3 – Matthew 10.24-39**

*‘Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.’*

No one can be a true follower of Christ without giving up the self-will that desires comfort and pleasure.

## **Sunday 28 June – Trinity 4 – Mathew 10.40-42**

*‘Whoever welcomes you, welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.’*

God has spoken through many people and supremely in Jesus Christ and for centuries through those who proclaimed the gospel.

## **Red Letter Days – days of special observation**

**Thursday 11 June – St Barnabas**

**See Commemoration of the month.**

**Wednesday 25 June – The Birth of John the Baptist.**

**Luke 1.57-66 & 80**

**Monday 29 June – Peter & Paul Apostles.**

**Matthew 16.13-19**

## Commemoration - 11 June - Barnabas the Apostle - The “Son of Consolation”

Though not named among the twelve apostles of the evangelists, Barnabas emerges in the Acts of the Apostles as one of the most significant of their number. He sold his estate and gave the proceeds to the Church, since all things were to be held in common, and clearly became a leader. He is described as a Levite from Cyprus so, like his friend Paul, was from the Greek world rather than that of Palestine, and he introduced Paul to the leaders of the Church in Jerusalem. He was sent to Antioch apparently to guide the Christians there in their relations with non-Jewish converts, promoting the concept of all being one in Christ. He broke with Paul to go to Cyprus and tradition has it that he was martyred there in the year 61.



### Collect

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts,  
who poured your Spirit upon your servant Barnabas  
and gave him grace to encourage others:  
help us, by his example,  
to be generous in our judgements  
and unselfish in our service;  
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-Job 29.11-16 NT-Acts 11.19-30 Gospel-John 15.12-17

---

## Food for thought

Your 'yes' to God requires your 'no'  
to all injustice,  
to all evil,  
to all lies,  
to all oppression  
and all violation of the weak and poor.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

## Dates For Your Diary

*Some forthcoming events in our church calendar. Please put these in your diary.*

|                        |            |  |
|------------------------|------------|--|
| Sunday, 7 June         | 12 p.m.    | Big Birthday Bash – 765 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party   |
| Tuesday, 9 June        | 7 p.m.     | Wit and Wisdom Quiz ( <i>Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe</i> )   |
| Sunday, 14 June        | 10.30 a.m. | Children’s Church – <i>It’s all about team work</i>  |
| Sunday, 28 June        | 10.30 a.m. | Town Sunday  |
| Sunday, 12 July        | 10.30 a.m. | Children’s Church – <i>It’s all about growing with Jesus</i>   |
| Monday, 13 July        | 7 p.m.     | PCC Meeting  |
| Tuesday, 8 September   |            | Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe<br>AGM<br><br>Guest Speaker: Dr Heidi Stoner “Early Church Buildings and the Kentish Royals as they Relate to Eanswythe” |
| Saturday, 12 September |            | Festival of St Eanswythe   |
| Monday, 21 September   | 7 p.m.     | PCC Meeting  |
| Sunday, 11 October     |            | Family Beetle Drive ( <i>Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe</i> )   |
| Sunday, 8 November     |            | Remembrance Sunday   |
| Monday, 23 November    | 7 p.m.     | .PCC Meeting   |
| Thursday 10 December   |            | Creative Quarter Carol Service   |
| Sunday, 20 December    | 4 p.m.     | Nine Lessons and Carols  |
| Thursday, 24 December  | 4 p.m.     | Crib Service   |
| Thursday, 24 December  | 11.30 p.m. | Midnight Mass  |
| Friday, 25 December    |            | Sung Eucharist   |



# SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY JUNE 7 AT  
12:00 PM  
(AFTER THE SERVICE)  
ST EANSWYTHE'S  
CHURCH  
ENTRY BY TICKET  
ONLY - £5 A HEAD

## 765TH BIRTHDAY PARTY!

(OR THEREABOUTS)

THIS YEAR THERE ARE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION HAVING BIG BIRTHDAYS! SO WE'RE HAVING A PARTY!



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now closed

10th & 11th

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5th & 6th

**JUNE**

Consignment deadline  
1st May

31st & 1st

**JULY & AUGUST**

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**Help Through Hardship** - to be assessed for a Shepway Foodbank Voucher and for other assistance **Telephone:** 0808 208 2138 Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### **Samaritans**

**National telephone:** 116 123 (this number is free to call)

**email:** Samaritans: jo@samaritans.org

### **The Salvation Army**

Canterbury Road Folkestone CT19 5NL **Telephone:** 01303 251379

**Website:** www.salvationarmy.org.uk

**email:** folkestone@salvationarmy.org.uk

### **Cruse Bereavement Care**

**Telephone:** 0844 8009104 **email:** southkent@cruse.org.uk

**National helpline:** 0808 808 1677

If you live in postcodes CT14 to CT22 and TN23 to TN30 you are located in the South Kent Area of Cruse and we are here to support you. Don't be put off because our Area Office is located in Ashford - in the majority of cases we travel to you.

### **Age UK**

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**Telephone:** 01304 272499 Opening hours Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

### **Citizens Advice**

For advice and assistance on benefits, Universal Credit, debt, employment, housing, legal issues.

**Telephone** 01304 353861 – for a local advice and call back service.

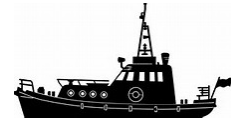
**Telephone** 0808 278 7961 - for free Kent advice line service

**Website** www.citizensadvice.org.uk

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## An exciting delivery!

In an effort to develop our hospitality and welcome further, we've taken delivery of some extra pew cushions. Huge thanks are due to the generosity of the *Friends of St Mary & St Eanswythe*, some Town & District councillors for ward grants, and an anonymous donor in memory of a loved one.

We now have pew cushions across almost the whole nave along with the north aisle. You can see some photos below, but why not join us for worship and give them a try?!



## Barcelona's Sagrada Família



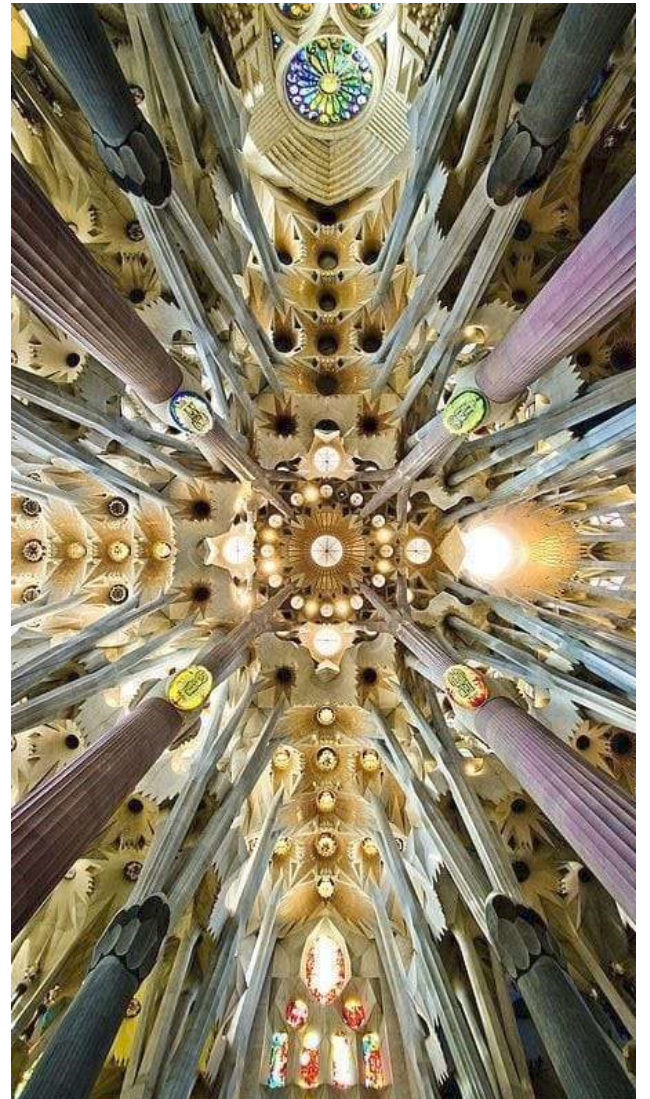
### Construction of Sagrada

Família began on 19 March 1882, under architect Francisco de Paula del Villar. In 1883, when Villar resigned, Gaudí took over as chief architect, transforming the project with his architectural and engineering style, combining Gothic and curvilinear Art Nouveau forms. Gaudí devoted the remainder of his life to the project, and he is buried in the church's crypt. At the time of his death in 1926, less than a quarter of the project was complete, only the eastern transept or Nativity facade was completed before he was run over by a tram.



I first saw Sagrada Família in 1994 when only the eastern Nativity Facade, the western Passion Facade and the apsidal northern wall that joined them stood, inside was a building site with no Nave walls.

The Nativity Facade is very ornate with many scenes devoted to the accounts of Christ's birth - there is even a Christmas Tree in the middle of the four bell towers! In the view above right, the star on the top of the Mary Tower appears to be on top of the tree! The Passion Facade, above, is very stark with no ornamentation. On the grey stone arch in the *Titulus*, but in full Latin words rather than the *INRI* seen on our crosses.



Relying solely on private donations, Sagrada Família's construction progressed slowly and was interrupted by the Spanish Civil War. In July 1936, anarchists from the FAI set fire to the crypt and broke their way into the workshop, partially destroying Gaudí's original plans. In 1939, Francesc de Paula Quintana took over site management, which was able to go on with the material that was saved from Gaudí's workshop and that was reconstructed from published plans and photographs. Construction resumed with intermittent progress in the 1950s. Advancements in technologies such as computer-aided design and computerised numerical control have since enabled faster progress, and construction passed the midpoint in 2010. In 2014, it was anticipated that the building would be completed by 2026, the centenary of Gaudí's death, but this schedule was threatened by work slowdowns caused by COVID. The basilica reached structural completion on 20 February 2026, when the final piece of the central Tower of Jesus Christ was installed. Works are not complete however as the southern Glory Facade is still at a very early stage and there are still numerous ornamentations to be added.

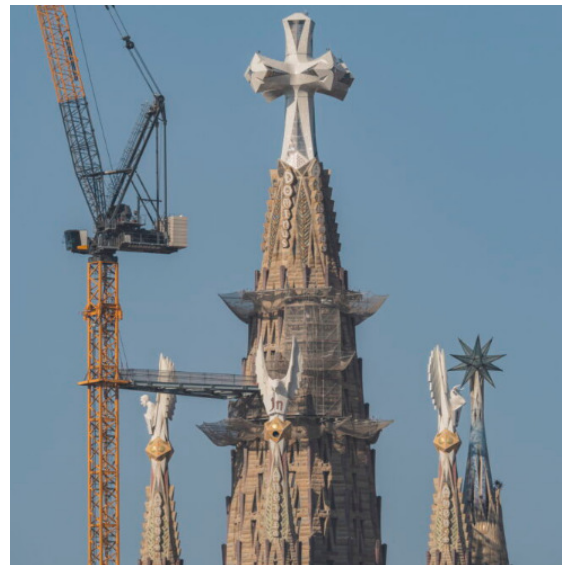
Barcelona is laid out in squares of buildings, mostly with corners omitted to make turning easier. The Basilica occupies one square with gardens in the squares to the East and West. Gardens are also supposed to be to the North and two to the South but these have been built on, so will these squares be cleared? This idea at the south was that a bridge would be built cross the road with a long flight of stairs down to the gardens. The whole building saga has had many problems and only recently has been given planning permission!

We holidayed on the Costa Brava for 13 years and most years we would visit Barcelona to see progress. There is an air-conditioned lift in one of the bell towers as well as a spiral staircase - well worth the queue to get a few minutes to chill!

There was then a gap until 2010 when we were on a cruise on the Queen Elizabeth when we made another visit. What a shock, the floor inside was beautiful polished granite with a few large pieces of cardboard to protect the floor from the lorry that was doing the last clean up as the Pope was due imminently to consecrate the Basilica. Going up in the left we saw the bases of the Mary, Four Evangelists Towers and the Jesus Tower that they surround, all this weight supported by the columns below - the view of the pillars and palm fronds 'ceiling' shows the four pink porphyry columns that support the Jesus Tower. Some natural light is funnelled into the ceiling.

The top right photo on the previous page shows the forest of towers, 22 when complete. From the left is the Mary Tower with the illuminated star on top. The Jesus Tower at 133 metres makes this the tallest church in the world but was limited to 33 meters by Gaudí so as not to be taller than God's creation, the mountain behind. You can climb up into the Cross and see the views through the windows in the arms. The Pope will do this in early June to bless the tower. This is surrounded by the four Evangelist Towers, each topped by a white symbol. All of these were completed in the past year.

*To be continued*



# The Friends of St Mary & St Eanswythe

The Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe were formed in 2014. The Friends are dedicated to the preservation of St Mary and St Eanswythe's church as a place of Christian worship and a focal point of historical interest for residents and visitors to Folkestone. All funds raised are devoted to the upkeep of the building and to the furtherance of public understanding of its history, architecture, and significance.

To find out more please visit <http://friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk>

Single Membership £10 per annum. Joint or Family membership £15 per annum  
Reduced income £5 per annum.

Cash or cheques made payable to The Friends of St Mary and St Eanswythe can be sent to Pam Keeling, 13 Wellfield Road, Folkestone, CT20 2PJ.

Electronically: Barclays Bank sort code 20-02-62: Account number 93016250

Please use your surname as the reference.

Email: [info@friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk](mailto:info@friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk)

For existing Friends annual subscriptions are due now and if you were uncertain how to pay please see the above details.

## New Membership Form

Full name: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's name \_\_\_\_\_

(Only fill this out if this is a joint membership)

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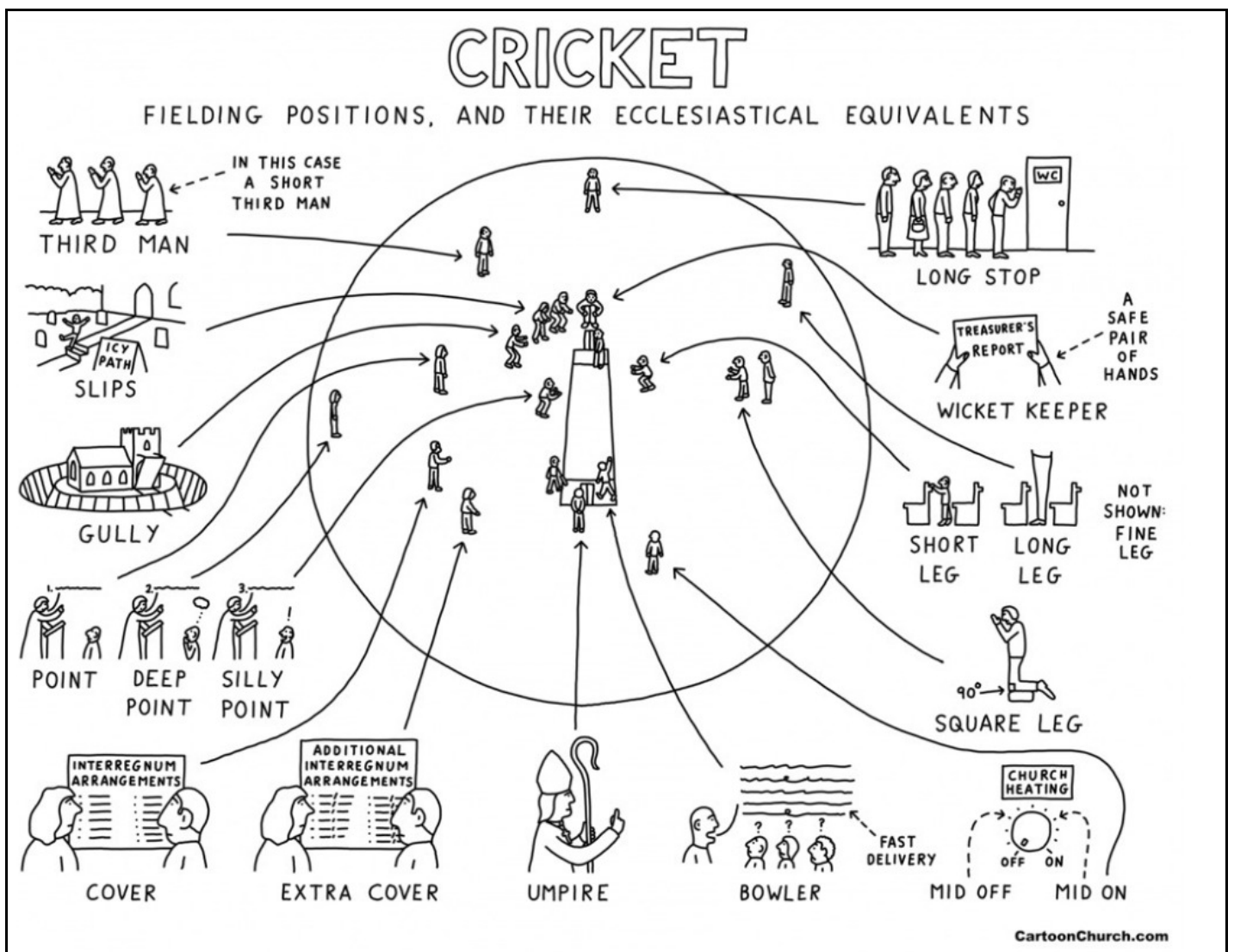
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**What would you like your legacy to be?** Leaving money to the church in your will is a wonderful way to ensure that our church will be here for future generations. There are also some benefits for your inheritance tax bill, too. So, if you're thinking of adding a charitable bequest in your will, here's what you need to know.

Big or small, your donation could be of huge help in keeping our beautiful church cared for in the future.

As you may already know, like money you leave to your spouse, gifts to charities aren't taxed. And if you leave at least 10% of your estate to a charitable cause, your inheritance tax rate drops from 40% to 36%. This means that for every £100 you leave to charity; it only really costs your family £24.

Please give this some thought





## Music Notes

The 2025-26 Bayle Music season culminates in two superb and beautifully contrasted concerts, here in St Mary & St Eanswythe's church.

On Saturday 27 June we welcome back the Kosmos Ensemble and on Saturday 25 July, Baroque violinist Walter Reiter.

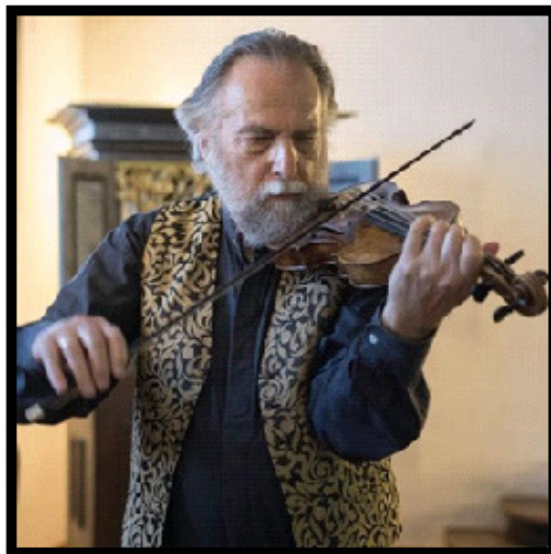
The concerts start at 3 pm and entry is £15 per head – under 18s and students free. Doors open at 2.30 and there will be limited parking available, courtesy St Eanswythe's school.

Full details at [www.soundsfolkestone.co.uk](http://www.soundsfolkestone.co.uk)

Advance bookings online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/bayle-music](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bayle-music)



*Kosmos Ensemble*



*Walter Reiter*

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We rehearse each Sunday at 9.30am, before the 10.30am Eucharist.

If you're interested or would like to come along and listen, contact

[sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com](mailto:sainteanswythemusic@gmail.com)

# Rainbow Centre Annual Meeting

**Monday 6 July 2026 at 7pm  
at Cheriton Baptist Church**

Cheriton High Street



We'd love for you to join the Rainbow Centre team and our Trustees as we celebrate a year of hard work, growth, and community. We can't wait to share with you, everything that has been achieved in the past year.

Guest Speaker

**Jon Kuhrt**



Empowering churches to end homelessness

He has 30 years experience of working in homelessness and is a former government adviser on how faith groups address rough sleeping. He has also worked for the West London Mission, Shaftesbury and Centrepont. He hosts the blog Grace+Truth.



# SUPPORTING ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE'S CHURCH FINANCIALLY

Our church life costs approximately **£1500 a week** to run (not including special projects like Eanswythe Found or major building repairs).

## BECOME A REGULAR DONOR

If you're tech-minded, there's this QR code or the website:  
[www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) (click 'Find your parish' and enter parish code:  
060606098)



You can also get a paper form from the Parish Office or call PGS directly on 0333 002 1271 and quote the parish code above.

If you have any questions or would like more information, do please get in touch with the Parish Office – contact details are inside the front cover of this magazine.

## COULD YOU REMEMBER ST MARY & ST EANSWYTHE'S CHURCH IN YOUR WILL?

Your generosity could have a massive impact on future ministry here – even whilst you're rejoicing on another shore! Get in touch with the Parish Office for more information or to discuss it further.



# News From St Eanswythe's School

Dear All

By the time you read this, we will be on 2 weeks half term holiday.

SAT's will be finished, year 6 will have been on their residential, and Key Stage 1 will be in the midst of their phonics screening test.

Although it is said in every letter I write, I will once again say that it had been an extremely busy term. There have been many outings and exciting events taking place in school, all giving the children a taste and example of new and unthought of experiences. A prime example was the Sacconi Quartet spending an afternoon with the children, which was so enjoyed by all.

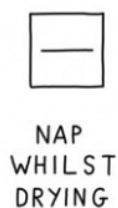
Please remember the staff, children and their families in your prayers that they may have a happy, restful half term and all return to school safely.

Love and prayers to you all, from all at School

*Kim*

## VESTMENTS

CARE INSTRUCTIONS



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### Mailing List

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[stmaryandsteanswythe.org](http://stmaryandsteanswythe.org)

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